



BICHUK BULLETIN

HOLY TRINITY UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

5705-51 St. Vegreville, AB T9C 1H8
Ph.: 632-3433 Fax: 632-7907 Hall: 632-2370
Email: ucveg@telusplanet.net

February 22, 2026

Vol. 59, No. 08

1st Sunday of Lent

John 1:43-51



Divine Liturgies:

Sundays: 9:00 a.m. (Ukrainian) & 11:15 a.m. (English)

Monday-Friday: 8:00 a.m.

Saturdays: 5:00 p.m.

Holy Days of Obligation: 10:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

Baptisms & Funerals: By arrangement.

Marriages: By arrangement eight months in advance.

NOTE: Marriage preparation course required.

Confessions: 20 minutes before Sunday Divine Liturgies, or by appointment.

Pastor: Fr. Iryney Valyavka, OSBM

Assistant Pastor: Fr. Yosafat Oliynyk, OSBM

Parish Secretaries (part time): Lorraine Stoyko & Michelle Yakimetz

HOLY TRINITY PARISH OFFICE HOURS (Monday - Friday)
9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The first week of Great Lent is coming to an end—a week during which each of us tried to pray more, creating space for communication with the Lord, who is the source of our renewal. Having lived in silence and listened to God's voice, we can now see how important it is to be filled with the Spirit of God. When we limit ourselves to listening to human voices, we give ourselves the opportunity to hear God.

Today we celebrate a Sunday called Orthodoxy Sunday. It is the Sunday of the fullness of the Christian faith. It is so important for us to understand that the fullness of that treasure of faith is nothing other than the real, complete, and even visible presence of the Persons of God, God in the Trinity, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, among His people. Therefore, today, on this Sunday, we will solemnly honor the holy icons. Because it is the icon that allows us to contemplate the face of God through the power of the Holy Spirit's grace, to contemplate the face of God in the human face, which reveals to us a foretaste of this eternal happiness and peace.

Indeed, when someone stands before a consecrated icon, they feel that God's face is turned toward them. That divine radiance rests upon us, and that ancient arch priestly blessing, with which the Lord God taught Aaron and Moses to bless people, is performed upon us today. God's blessing, peace, tranquility, and protection are found in those who are truly able to feel God's presence in a holy icon. That is why we place lamps before holy icons, which seem to tell us that an icon is a mystery of the presence of a Person, because through the icon, the Person depicted is truly present here among us.

In today's Gospel, we hear the words that Christ says to Nathanael: "You will see heaven open and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man." The holy icon is precisely the open heavens. But the icon is only the beginning of the spiritual journey for us,

because it seems to transform and change the eyes of those who gaze upon it and teaches them to see the invisible.

We must learn to see deeper than what is immediately visible to the physical eye. It is important that those who venerate holy icons and understand that holy persons are present in them may see the presence of God in every person, for every person is made in the image and likeness of God.

We sincerely wish all of you who have begun this Lenten spiritual journey, this path to Christ's resurrection, to make good use of God's presence in icons and thus take step by step toward the face of God that is prepared for all of us in eternity.



2025 Tax Receipts:

Tax Receipts for the 2025 fiscal year are available in the vestibule. **To save on mailing costs, please pick up your tax receipt.** If you would like to pick yours up during the week, please call the Parish Office so it would be ready when you arrive.

UCWLC Membership Fees (\$20.00) Due:

For anyone who hasn't yet submitted their membership fees, please place in an envelope marked "UCWLC Membership" in the collection plate or bring to the Parish Office. Thank you.

The Holy Father's Prayer Intention for February 2026:

For children with incurable diseases: Let us pray that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope.

Parish Annual Meeting:

The Parish Annual Meeting is planned to take place on **Sunday, March 8th**, with lunch, meeting, and fellowship immediately following the **10:00 am bilingual Divine Liturgy**. All parishioners are encouraged to attend to show their interest in and support of the Parish.

Notice to all Parish Council Members: Please hand in your annual reports to the office *by Friday, February 27th*, so as to allow the office staff enough time to prepare handouts for the meeting. Thank-you!



God Speaks from the Cross – Eparchial Lenten Series

What do Jesus' words from the Cross mean for us today?

Join us for this series of 3 evenings meant to inform and encourage reflection as we prepare ourselves for Great and Holy Pascha. Together we will explore the profound meaning of the seven statements spoken by Christ from the Cross and how they can transform our lives and deepen our relationship with God.

Thursdays from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

LOCATION: In person at St. Basil's Cultural Centre, 10819-71 Ave., Edmonton.

If you are not able to attend in person, you may join on Zoom at this link:
<https://tinyurl.com/Lenten26> .

Contact: Bernadette.mandrusiak@eeparchy.com, or call 780-424-5496 if you have any questions.

Upcoming Catering Work Bees – Volunteers Needed!

- **Wed., February 25th: Perohy Supper.** Help is needed through the hours of 9:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. Any amount of time you can put in is greatly needed to help this fundraising event be successful.
- **Tue., March 10th: Perohy Making Bee** at 9:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall. Volunteers needed; everyone is welcome!

Perohy and Pereshke for Sale:

To order, please call the Parish Office at 780-632-3433. Potato & cheddar and potato & cottage cheese perohy- \$7.00/dozen, packaged in bags of 5-dozen.

For a limited time, Pereshke will be available for \$10.00/dozen, packaged in bags of 2-dozen.

Please remember to bring a bag to carry your order in.

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Volunteer Corner:

A huge thank you to all volunteers who have assisted with the preparation for and catering of the recent events, such as the recent memorial, wedding, the Vegreville Academy of Ukrainian Dance Razom, and all other work bees and events. Thank you for your generosity assisting with these important fundraising opportunities for our parish!

Thank you to all those who take care of all other volunteer duties, including but not limited to Altar Care, ushering, lectoring, assisting with liturgies, First Holy Communion preparation class, money counting, etc.

Also, thank you to everyone who took down the Christmas decorations at the end of the Christmas Season.

Everyone's unique talents and contributions are greatly appreciated in the life and functioning of our Parish!

Local Event: Fourth Anniversary of Russia's Full-Scale Invasion of Ukraine

Come to see: "**Horizons of Belonging**" documentary film screening, on **Sunday, February 22** at 3:00 PM at the Vegreville Alliance Church, 4606 – 55 Ave.

What does it mean to be a Ukrainian newcomer in Alberta?

"Horizons of Belonging" follows four Ukrainian families over the course of a year in Edmonton and Calgary as they rebuild their lives after escaping Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine. Through deeply personal stories of displacement, resilience, and identity, the film explores what it means to be a Ukrainian today—and what it truly means to start over in a new country.

Everyone welcome to attend and support Ukrainian people's right to live free and in peace in their own land.

Tickets are \$10 CASH at the door.

Organized by UCC Vegreville Branch and the Vegreville and Area Stands with Ukraine Committee.

Local Event: Prayer for Ukraine Service

Tuesday, February 24, 5:30PM at St. Vladimir's Ukrainian Orthodox Church. Fellowship to follow in the church basement.

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Elk Island Catholic Schools Registration:

2026–2027 Registration is now open!

St. Martin's Catholic School: Grades Pre–K – 6

- 780–632–2266 | stmn@eics.ab.ca

St. Mary's Catholic School: Grades 7–12

- 780–632–3934 | stmy@eics.ab.ca

Register online at: eics.ab.ca .

Great Lent Services:

Akathist to the Passion of Christ: 7:00 p.m.

- Wednesday, February 25
- Wednesday, March 4, 11, & 25th

Matins with Prostrations:

- Wednesday, March 18th at 7:00 p.m.

Divine Liturgy & Sorokousty: 7:00 p.m.

- Friday, February 27th
- March 6, 13, 20, & 27th

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2026 Lenten Mission with Fr. Mark Sych

Friday, March 13th

- at the 7:00 p.m. Sorokousty. Everyone is welcome for fellowship and refreshments in the Parish Hall following the service.

Saturday, March 14th

- at the 5:00 p.m. Divine Liturgy

Sunday, March 15th

- at the 9:00 & 11:15 a.m. Divine Liturgies

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Sorokousty 2026: On Fridays during Lent, Memorial Divine Liturgy & Sorokousty will be celebrated at 7:00 p.m. for the deceased of individual families. Please arrange to have the deceased members of your family remembered during these services. For your convenience, specially-marked envelopes are available in the vestibule. Please **list only the names of the deceased during the past year (if your family had a list in previous years), with a suggested donation of \$20.00** and place in the collection plate, or hand it to the Father, or bring it to the Parish Office. Thank you!

Please note: *during Lent, there will **not** be an 8:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy on Fridays.*

PARISH EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

During Lent, the weekday Divine Liturgies are celebrated Monday–Thursday @ 8 AM (not on Fridays).

Saturday, February 21st:

- 5:00 p.m. – Divine Liturgy

Sunday, February 22nd:

- 9:00 a.m. – Divine Liturgy (Ukrainian)
- 10:15 – 11:10 a.m. – First Holy Communion Class
- 11:15 a.m. – Divine Liturgy (English)

Wednesday, February 25th:

- 7:00 p.m. – Akathist to the Passion of Christ

Friday, February 27th:

- 7:00 p.m. – Divine Liturgy & Sorokousty

Saturday, February 28th:

- 5:00 p.m. – Divine Liturgy

Sunday, March 1st:

- 9:00 a.m. – Divine Liturgy (Ukrainian)
- 11:15 a.m. – Divine Liturgy (English)

Saturday, March 7th:

- 5:00 p.m. – Divine Liturgy

Sunday, March 8th:

- 10:00 a.m. – ONLY ONE Divine Liturgy (bilingual)
- **Lunch and Parish Annual Meeting** immediately following the Divine Liturgy
- 10:15 – 11:10 a.m. – First Holy Communion Class

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Liturgy Service at Senior's Homes:

Tue., February 24th: 10:00 a.m. at Vegreville Care Centre

Thu., February 26th: 10:00 a.m. at Vegreville Manor

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Parish Weekly Donations:

- Sunday Offerings – February 01: \$2,295.00
- Sunday Offerings – February 08: \$1,565.00
- Sunday Offerings – February 15: \$ 735.00

February Total Donation: \$4,595.00

Неділя 22 лютого: Перша Неділя Посту

Тропар воскресний, глас 4: Світлую воскресіння проповідь від ангела взнавши* і прадідне осудження відкинувши,* Господні учениці, хвалячись, апостолам мовили: * Повалилася смерть, воскрес Христос Бог,* даруючи світові велику милість.

Тропар (1 неділя посту), глас 2: Пречистому образу Твоєму поклоняємося, Благий,* просячи відпущення гріхів наших, Христе Боже;* бо Ти добровільно зволив вийти тілом на хрест,* щоб вибавити тих, що їх Ти створив, від неволі ворожої.* Тому вдячно співаємо Тобі:* Ти радістю наповнив усе, Спасе наш, що прийшов спасти світ.

Слава Отцю, і Сину, і Святому Духові, і нині, і повсякчас, і на віки віків. Амінь.

Кондак (1 неділя посту), глас 8: Неосяжне слово Отця,* прийнявши від Тебе, Богородице, людську природу,* стало досяжним і, повернувши до первісного стану осквернений образ, * з'єднало його з божественною красою.* Визнаючи спасіння,* ділом і словом ми це виявляємо.

Прокімен, глас 4: Благословенний Ти, Господи, Боже Отців наших,* і хвальне, і прославлене ім'я Твоє на віки.

Стих: Бо Ти праведний у всьому, що вчинив єси нам.

Прокімен, глас 4: Благословенний Ти, Господи, Боже Отців наших,* і хвальне, і прославлене ім'я Твоє на віки.

Апостол: До Євреїв послання святого апостола Павла читання (11:24–26; 32–12:2)

Хор: Алилуя! Алилуя! Алилуя!

Стих: Мойсей і Арон між Його священиками, і Самуїл між тими, що Його ім'я прикликають.

Хор: Алилуя! Алилуя! Алилуя!

Стих: Вони Господа прикликали, і Він відповідав ім.

Хор: Алилуя! Алилуя! Алилуя!

Євангелія: Від Йоана 1: 43–51

Замість 'Достойно....': Тобою радується, Благодатная, все творіння, ангельський собор і людський рід, освячений храм і раю словесний, дівства похвало, із якої Бог воплотився і младенцем став – перед віками сущий Бог наш. Лоно бо твоє престолом сотворив і утробу твою просторішою небес учинив. Тобою радується, Благодатная, все творіння, слава тобі.

Причасний: Хваліте Господа з небес, хваліте Його во вишніх. Радуйтеся, праведні, у Господі, правим належить похвала. Алилуя! Алилуя! Алилуя!

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Sunday, February 22: First Sunday of Lent

Sunday troparion, tone 4: When the disciples of the Lord learned from the angel* the glorious news of the resurrection* and cast off the ancestral condemnation,* they proudly told the apostles:* "Death has been plundered!* Christ our God is risen,* granting to the world great mercy."

Troparion (1st Sunday of Lent), tone 2: We bow before Your most pure image, O kind Lord,* and beg pardon for our sins, O Christ our God.* Of Your own will You consented to ascend the Cross in the flesh to free Your handiwork from enslavement to the enemy.* In thanksgiving we cry aloud to You:* by coming to save the world, our Saviour, You filled all things with joy

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever. Amen.

Kontakion (1st Sunday of Lent), tone 8: The uncircumscribed Word of the Father* became circumscribed when He took flesh of you, O Mother of God,* and when He restored the divine image to its ancient glory,* He suffused it with the beauty of God.* Therefore, confessing our salvation in deed and word,* we portray it in images.

Prokeimenon, tone 4: Blessed are You, Lord God of our fathers,* and praised and glorified is Your Name for ever.

Verse: For You are righteous in everything You have done to us.

Prokeimenon, tone 4: Blessed are You, Lord God of our fathers,* and praised and glorified is Your Name for ever.

Epistle: A reading from the Epistle to the Hebrews (11:24–26; 32–12:2)

Faithful: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Verse: Moses and Aaron are among His priests and Samuel among those who call upon His name.

Faithful: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Verse: They called on the Lord, and He heard them.

Faithful: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Gospel: John 1:43–51

Instead of 'It is truly right': In you, O Full of Grace, all creation rejoices: the angelic ranks and all the human race. Sanctified temple and spiritual paradise, virgins' pride and boast, from whom God is made flesh and became a little Child; and He who is our God before all ages, He made your womb a throne, and He made it wider than all the heavens. In you, O Full of Grace, all creation rejoices. Glory be to you.

Communion Hymn: Praise the Lord from the heavens;*
praise Him in the highest. Rejoice in the Lord, O you just;*
praise befits the righteous. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

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