



BICHNIK 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 08, 2026

Vol. 59, No. 06

Sunday of Meat-fare

Matthew 25:31-46



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.

(Continued from last week)

The celebration of The Meeting of the Lord in the church is not merely a historical commemoration. Inspired by the same Holy Spirit as Simeon, and led by the same Spirit into the Church of the Messiah, the members of the Church also can claim their own “meeting” with the Lord, and so also can witness that they too can “depart in peace” since their eyes have seen the salvation of God in the person of his Christ.

In the figure of the venerable Simeon, Jesus’ presentation in the temple, also reminds us that prayer and contemplation are not just a waste of time or an obstacle to charity. On the contrary, time could not be better spent than in prayer as true Christian charity is a consequence of a solid interior life. Only those who pray and offer penance, like Simeon and Anna, are open to the breath of the Spirit. They know how to recognize the Lord in the circumstances in which He manifests Himself because they possess an ample interior vision, and they have learned how to love with the heart of the One whose very name is Charity.

The Feast Day of the Encounter is the meeting of the Old and New Covenants. Jesus is the fulfillment of the Old Covenant and gives to us the New Covenant through the Eucharist.

On this Feast, each one of us ought to be a Temple of God to which Mary brings Jesus. And each should, like Simeon, take the Child in our arms and say to the Father: My eyes have seen Your salvation. And having seen and touched the Saviour, we are released from the hold that sin has on us and in peace we can experience freedom from the power of sin.

Candles are blessed on that day in commemoration of the words of Holy Simeon concerning Christ: “a light to the revelation of the Gentiles” (Luke 2).

The blessing of candles on the Feast of the Encounter is closely related to the Gospel narrative, introducing Jesus as the “Light of the people” (Lk. 2, 32) The burning candle symbolizes the abiding presence of Jesus Christ in the midst of the Christian community.

The burning candles also create a more prayerful atmosphere in the churches. They remind us that our prayers should come from a heart burning with love of God and they should be directed toward heaven, where God abides in the “inaccessible light.”

In homes, the blessed candles are lighted and placed before a holy icon in time of serious sickness or the threat of a storm to implore Divine protection, as the family is gathered in prayer. It is also used by the parents to dispel the fear in children caused by darkness or thunder.

As we celebrate the Eucharist, we rejoice to know the Lord comes to us to nourish us and offer us guidance as we make our journey in faith. Rejoicing to be so loved by God we renew our commitment to live as recipients of Jesus’ light and committed to sharing his light with everyone.



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.

Sorokousty 2026:

On Fridays during Lent, beginning on February 20th, 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!

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Great Lent Services:

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

- Wednesday, February 18 & 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 20 & 27th
- March 6, 13, 20, & 27th

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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.

Upcoming Catering Work Bees – Volunteers Needed!

- Tue., February 10th: Perohy Making Bee** at 9:00 a.m. Everyone is welcome.
- 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.

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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 Vegreville Academy of Ukrainian Dance Razom on January 24th, 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 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!

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.

You are welcome to attend any or all of the sessions. No registration required.

Thursdays from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

March 12 – Fr. Julian Bilyj

Themes:

- “Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.”
- “Truly, I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.”

March 19 – Fr. Orion Weibe

Themes:

- “Woman, here is your son... here is your mother.”
- “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”

March 26 – Fr. Gabriel Haber

Themes:

- “I am thirsty.”
- “It is finished.”
- “Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.”

LOCATION: 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.



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.

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Candle Offering Reminder:

Lighting a candle is a beautiful symbol of our prayers ascending to Heaven. To help cover the cost of the candles, we kindly remind everyone to please donate the suggested offering amount at the time of lighting. You may place your offering in the donation receptacle below the candles, or if preferred, on a monthly basis in the Sunday collection. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Parish Weekly Donations:

- Sunday Offerings – February 01: \$2,295.00

PARISH EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Saturday, February 7th, 14th, 21st, & 28th:

- 5:00 p.m. – Divine Liturgy

Sunday, February 8th:

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

Tuesday, February 10th:

- Please note: **No 8:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy** on this day
- 9:00 a.m. – **Perohy Making Bee** in the Parish Hall.
Volunteers needed; please come out to help!

Sunday, February 15th:

- 9:00 a.m. – Divine Liturgy (Ukrainian)
- 11:15 a.m. – Divine Liturgy (English)
- **Knights of Columbus Brunch:** 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Monday, February 16th: First Day of Great Lent

(Day of strictly abstaining from all meat & dairy products)

- 8:00 a.m. – Divine Liturgy
- Parish Office closed for Family Day statutory holiday.

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)

Sunday, March 1st:

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

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Knights of Columbus Brunch:

Sunday, February 15th from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

in the Parish Hall. Admission: \$10.00/person.

Everyone welcome!

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Liturgy Service at Senior's Homes:

Mon., February 9th: 9:00 a.m. at Homestead Lodge

Thu., February 12th: 10:00 a.m. at Heritage House

Thu., February 19th: 10:00 a.m. at Century Park

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

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

Неділя 8 лютого: Неділя М'ясопусна

Тропар воскресний, глас 2: Коли зійшов Ти до смерти,
Життя безсмертне,* тоді ад умертвив Ти зблиском
божества.* Коли ж і умерлих із глибин підземних
воскресив Ти,* всі сили небесні взивали:/* Життедавче,
Христе Боже наш, слава Тобі.

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

Кондак М'ясопусна, глас 1: Коли прийдеш, Боже, на
землю у славі* і все затремтить, а ріка вогненна перед
судом потече,* книги Ж розкриються і таємниці
виявляться,* захорони нас тоді від вогню невгасного*
і сподоби нас праворуч Тебе стати, Судде
найсправедливіший.

Прокімен, глас 3: Великий Господь наш,* велика Його
сила,* і розумові Його немає міри.

Стих: Хваліте Господа, бо добрий! Співайте Богу
нашому, бо миць!

Прокімен, глас 3: Великий Господь наш,* велика Його
сила,* і розумові Його немає міри.

**Апостол: До Коринтян первого послання святого
апостола Павла читання (8:8-9:2)**

Хор: Алилуя! Алилуя! Алилуя!

Стих: Приидіте, радісно заспіваймо Господеві,
восхлиknім Богу, Спасителеві нашему.

Хор: Алилуя! Алилуя! Алилуя!

Стих: Прийдім з похвалами перед обличчя Його і
псалмами восхлиknім Йому.

Хор: Алилуя! Алилуя! Алилуя!

Євангелія: Від Матея 25:31-46

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



Sunday, February 8: Sunday of Meat-fare

Sunday Troparion, tone 2: When You went down to death, O Life Immortal,* You struck Hades dead with the blazing light of Your divinity.* When You raised the dead from the nether world,* all the powers of heaven cried out:/* "O Giver of Life, Christ our God, glory be to You!"

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

Kontakion (Meatfare), tone 1: When You come on earth, O God, in glory,* and the universe trembles,* while the river of fire flows before the seat of judgement,* and the books are opened and all secrets disclosed,* then deliver me from the unquenchable fire,* and count me worthy to stand at Your right hand,* O Judge who are most just.

Prokeimenon, tone 3: Great is our Lord and great is His strength;* and of His knowledge there is no end.

Verse: Praise the Lord, for a psalm is good; may praise be sweet to Him.

Prokeimenon, tone 3: Great is our Lord and great is His strength;* and of His knowledge there is no end.

Epistle: A reading from the First Letter of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Corinthians (8:8–9: 2)

Faithful: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Verse: Come, let us rejoice in the Lord; let us acclaim God our Saviour.

Faithful: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Verse: Let us come before His face with praise, and acclaim Him in psalms.

Faithful: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 25:31–46

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!

