



St. Michael the Archangel Ukrainian Orthodox Church

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July, August, September 2025 Parish Bulletin

No. 28

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“Blessed Are The Pure in Heart”

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God” ([Matthew 5:8](#)). Jesus spoke this during His famous Sermon the Mount. So what did He mean by “pure in heart?”

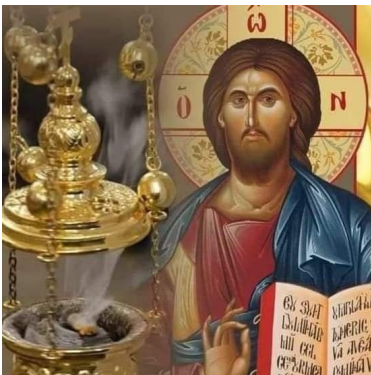
The Greek word for “pure” in [Matthew 5:8](#) is *katharos*. It means to be “clean, blameless, unstained from guilt.” Interestingly, the word can refer specifically to that which is purified by fire or by pruning. John the Baptist told people that Jesus would baptize with the Holy Spirit and fire ([Matthew 3:11](#)). Malachi speaks of the Messiah as being like a “refiner’s fire” ([Malachi 3:2](#)). Jesus refers to believers as being the branches and to Himself as being the vine ([John 15:1-17](#)). For a vine to produce fruit, it must be pruned. Those who are truly “pure,” then, are those who have been declared innocent because of the work of Jesus and who are being sanctified by His refining fire and His pruning.

The Greek word for “heart” in [Matthew 5:8](#) is *kardeeah*. This can be applied to the physical heart. But it also refers to the spiritual center of life. It is where thoughts, desires, sense of purpose, will, understanding, and character reside. So, to be pure in heart means to be blameless in who we actually are.

Being pure in heart involves having a singleness of heart toward God. A pure heart has no hypocrisy, no *guile*, no hidden motives. The pure heart is marked by transparency and an uncompromising desire to please God in all things. It is more than an *external* purity of behavior; it is an *internal* purity of soul.

The only way we can be truly pure in heart is to give our lives to Jesus and ask Him to do the cleansing work. [Psalm 51:10](#) says, “Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.” God is the one who makes our hearts pure – by the sacrifice of His Son and through His sanctifying work in our lives (see also [1 John 3:1-3](#)).

Join Us



Blessed Be Our
Lord God!

St. Michael's Ukrainian Orthodox Parish

Summer Services 2025

4th Sunday After Pentecost, July 6th—Liturgy, 10 a.m.

- ◆ Epistle: Rom. 6:18-23
- ◆ Gospel: Matt. 8:5-13

6th Sunday After Pentecost, July 20th—Liturgy, 10 a.m.

- ◆ Epistle: James 5:10-20
- ◆ Gospel: Luke 4:22-30

8th Sunday After Pentecost, August 3rd—Liturgy, 10 a.m.

- ◆ Epistle: 1 Cor. 1:10-18
- ◆ Gospel: Matt. 14:14-22

10th Sunday After Pentecost, August 17th—Liturgy, 10 a.m.

- ◆ Epistle: 1 Cor. 4:9-16
- ◆ Gospel: Matt. 17:14-23

12th Sunday After Pentecost, August 31st—Liturgy, 10 a.m.

- ◆ Epistle: 1 Cor. 9:2-11
- ◆ Gospel: Matt. 19:16-26

Ecclesiastical New Year—September 1

14th Sunday After Pentecost, September 14th ... *'Exaltation of the Holy Cross'*—Liturgy, 10 a.m.

- ◆ Epistle: 1 Cor. 1:18-24
- ◆ Gospel: John 19:6-11, 13-20, 25-28, 30-35

16th Sunday After Pentecost, September 28th—Liturgy, 10 a.m.

- ◆ Epistle: Heb. 4:14-5:6
- ◆ Gospel: Mark 8:34-9:1

18th Sunday After Pentecost, October 12th ... *"Thanksgiving Celebration"*—Liturgy, 10 a.m.

- ◆ Epistle: 2 Cor. 9:6-11
- ◆ Gospel: Luke 5:1-11



Receiving Communion, also known as the Eucharist, is a central act of worship in many Christian traditions, symbolizing the body and blood of Jesus Christ. It's a moment of spiritual nourishment and unity with the



A Blessed Thanksgiving!

In the month of October we will celebrate Thanksgiving Day. It is a shame that we have only one day set aside each year to give thanks to God as a nation. We should have some time set aside each day, to give our praise to Him who has blessed us so richly.

But as God's people it is fitting that we should focus our thoughts, not only now but often, upon the goodness of God and offer our gratitude to Him for who He is and for all He has done for us. Thus, today and every day in fact in fact we need to be focusing on the theme of Thanksgiving.

When was the last time you stopped to consider all His benefits? Do you enjoy those benefits? Have you ever experienced forgiveness? Are you living a meaningful life, a satisfied life? Does your soul have diseases that need to be healed? Are you living with an eternal purpose?

Psalm 81, 92, and many, many others are songs of praise to the Lord. David was serious about praising the Lord. It wasn't something he only did at the temple during religious ceremonies. It was part of his everyday experience. He was grateful to the Lord and he could not help but praise him. We need to give consideration to this when it comes to the way we sing our songs of praise.

St. Michael the Archangel Ukrainian Orthodox Parish President's Message—Dorothy Stachniak

The past three months, April, May and June, have been very busy. There have been many preparations to celebrate the Easter season, all in celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. People from other parishes have supported us at some of these services. The Saturday blessing of paska was very well attended by people outside our parish and then again on Sunday morning Divine Liturgy and blessing of paska was very well attended. I especially extend my heartfelt thanks to all the guests who chose our church to celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. I invite you to check our website for the dates of our services and special celebrations. You will be welcome!

Within the past three months, two of our members have passed away. My sincere condolences to the families of:

Nadine Brow, December 18, 1932 – May 14, 2025

She has always been a member of the Orthodox church and a very active member in the Women's Association. She was interested in the work that the Women's Association do and when her health allowed, participated in our workshops and events. May her memory be eternal?

Patricia Truchan, August 6, 1938 – May 26, 2025

Pat and her late husband John, were members at St. Michael's for more than 30 years. In addition to raising three sons, Terry, Brian and Thomas, she was a very active 30-year member of St. Michael's Ukrainian Women's Association. She was a skilled baker and very generous with her products. When asked to contribute her time or product, she would say *I can do that*. She truly believed in doing things the proper way.

Once again, I remind all parish faithful to pay their annual membership fee of \$150.00 per person.

Your generous donations and the revenue earned from parish rentals, pays the bills of this beautiful facility. New large batteries have been purchased for the floor washer. This is an essential piece of equipment to keep all the floors in top condition. The broken pavement (pothole) in the north parking lot has been repaired. Maintenance is ongoing. Thank you for all donations and of course a bigger thank you to your commitment of time, all for the upkeep of this parish. There will be some rentals during the next three months and your help will be appreciated. A very special thank you to all the volunteers who have committed their time to work at Century Casino on July 2 and 3. Your valued time is greatly appreciated.

I wish all our seniors and shut-ins good health. Thank you to your friends or family who take the time to bring their loved one to church for a special occasion. To see the joy on the face of a senior who is attending a special event in our parish, reminds us why it is so important to have faith and support our church. If we remember where we came from, there is a future!

The next Church Board meeting will be on Saturday, September 13, 2025 at 9:30 a.m. Should you have any concerns or suggestions, please contact any of the Board members and the issue will be discussed.

SOME DATES TO REMEMBER
Ukrainian Self Reliance League of Canada (USRL) National Triennial Convention
July 6-9, 2025 Winnipeg, Manitoba
(A convention of delegates representing UWAC, CYC, CYMK from across Canada)

XXV Sobor of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada
July 9-13, 2025, Winnipeg, Manitoba
(This is a convention of clergy and parish delegates from across Canada)

Ukrainian Women's
Association of Canada
St. Michael's UWAC Branch

Mary Pafzat, Branch President



Since Easter, my time has been dominated by personal matters, UWAC duties, and parish activities.

Shirley Wozimirsky and I attended a UWAC-APE meeting at St. John's Cathedral in May. The discussions focused on planning for the 100th anniversary of our women's organization. A committee was formed to do the necessary planning to make this anniversary memorable.

We are saddened to have lost Pat Truchan, caused by her failing health. She was a very dedicated member of our UWAC branch for 30 years. Pat will be remembered for her dedication to St. Michael's parish, helping in every way that she could. She assisted in food work bees, bazaars, and volunteered at parish bingos. With her Christian lifestyle and excessive volunteerism, she was a role model for our members. I

Thank you to the 7 women who held candles at her coffin. May her memory be eternal.

Our parish has been granted a casino for July 2,3. I have been scheduled to work there, along with several other members of the 5 Ukrainian Orthodox parishes in Edmonton. The casino funds are extremely helpful with parish expenses. We are grateful to Joe Bodnar for recruiting all workers required.

Summer Salad Day

Sunday, July 20
Fellowship
Bring a bowl of salad ready to eat!
6 to 8 people
To be shared with all guests after Divine Liturgy



SUGGESTIONS
Potato salad
Lettuce salad
Macaroni salad
Carrot salad
Bean salad
Veggie & Dip
Coleslaw
Broccoli salad
Special salad

Buns will be provided.

Prayer for Healing and Restoration

Heavenly Father, I come to you in prayer, knowing that you are the LORD who heals me (Exodus 15:26). I ask that you take away sickness, infirmity and pain from me and restore me to health (Psalm 103:2-3). I thank you for sending your Son into the world, who drove out evil spirits with a command and cured all who were sick (Matthew 8:16-17). Your love and compassion have not changed (Lamentations 3:22-23). You are the same yesterday, today, and forever (Hebrews 13:8). I ask for your Holy Spirit to flow through me and for the destruction of Sa-

tan's work in my life (Ephesians 6:12). I bless you, Father, and forget none of your benefits. I trust in your promise to forgive all my sins and heal all my diseases (Psalm 103:3). I believe that by Jesus' wounds, I have been healed (Isaiah 53:5). I give you all the glory and praise (Revelation 5:13). Amen.

**HARVEST
SUPPER & DANCE**

Saturday, November 1st, 2025
Music by
THE SPARKLING TONES

St. Michael's Parish Hall
12918 – 121 Street NW, Edmonton
DOORS : 5:00 P.M.
SUPPER: 6:00 P.M.
Dance to follow
LATE LUNCH SERVED

Advance Tickets: \$60.00/person
Jim: 780-474-4394
Korneil: 780-475-3951
Gladys: 780-456-5272
Dwayne: 780-914-0843

Sponsored by
St. Michael's Ukrainian Orthodox Parish 12104 – 129 Ave., Edmonton AB T5L 3J1
<https://uocc-stmichael.ca>



*Beautiful sky at sunrise with clouds
and sun. Heavenly light rays breaking
through clouds. Divinity light.
Easter morning. Biblical scene,
heaven, sign from God. Resurrection
and ascension of Christ*

What does it mean to have the light of God in you?

We have his light in us, not our own. We are united to his flame. Only those who believe in Jesus have his light inside them, **guaranteeing by the Spirit their eternal communion with God.** I say that the Son of God is the wick of our candle because it is only in him that we can do anything. May your candle burn in the Grace of God.



2025



**Special Donations to the Church
March, April, May, June, 2025**

In Memory of Nadine Brow
Elaine & Ron Kluchka

In Memory of Andrew & Mary Ann Euchak
Carol Lynn Moss

In Memory of Olga & Boleslaw Stelmaschuk
Russell & Sandy Sawchuk

In Memory of Andy Topolnitsky
Irene Topolnitsky
Ivan & Vera Tkaczuk

In Memory of Patricia Truchan

Henry & Olga Hutchinson
Lynne Hutchinson
Elain & Ron Kluchka
Linda & Mike Konwicki
Lorri Labrecque
Tammy Labrecque-Huber
Gladys Marie Magega
James, Shelley & Family Nimcan
Marlene Nimcan
Kornell & Natalka Ozipko
Gayle & Ron Roemer
Dorothy Stachniak
Frances Tarnowetz
Ivan & Vera Tkaczuk
Irene Topolnitsky
Brian Truchan
Tom Truchan
Your Good Company– Gloria (Caregiver)

In Memory of Sylvia Yarmuch
Ted & Ruby Yarmuch

General Donations for Church Operations

Daniel Abera
Jar Balan & Lesia Boychuk
Ed & Nina Barabash
Omar Lazarowich
Marian Pimak
Chris Sumka
Ivanna V. Tataryn
Patricia Truchan
Dianne & Robert Wood

*Your significant generosity is greatly appreciated,
Thank you!*

*If anyone was missed, please forgive us,
All donations are greatly appreciated to financially
support our parish operations,*

Gladys Marie Magega, Parish Treasurer

Why Light Candles In Church?



Candles in Church hold symbolic and practical meanings. They represent the light of Christ, God's presence, and prayer. Lighting a candle can also be a way to express specific intentions, like praying for the sick, the deceased, or for personal needs.

Candles are often seen as representing Jesus Christ, the "Light of the World", and the light of God's Presence in the world.

Lighting a candle can be a way to express specific prayers and intentions.

The act of lighting a candle is a tangible sign of faith, a visible representation of one's belief and devotion of God, Jesus Christ or Virgin Mary.

Candles are often used in liturgical rituals, such as baptisms, weddings, and funerals, where they symbolize various aspects of the Christian faith.

Orthodox Christians have a rich tradition of prayer, encompassing morning and evening prayers, prayers before and after meals, and prayers for specific needs and occasions. Common prayers include the Jesus Prayer, "Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me," and the Lord's Prayer, "Our Father, who art in heaven...". Additionally, prayers to the Theotokos (Mother of God), Guardian Angels, and one's patron saint are frequently recited

**Check out our Parish Website
uocc-stmichael.ca
for updated information.**



Hall For Rent

St. Michael's Parish Hall
12918 – 121 Street

Wheel Chair Accessible

Air Conditioned

Seats 180 for Banquet

Plenty of Parking

In house catering & bar service available.

\$500.00 rent plus damage deposit

For more information & booking contact

Jim Kniazky – 780-474-4394

What do Orthodox Christians Believe?

The Orthodox Church throughout the ages has maintained a continuity of faith and love with the apostolic community which was founded by Christ and sustained by the Holy Spirit. Orthodoxy believes that she has preserved and taught the historic Christian Faith, free from error and distortion, from the time of the Apostles. She also believes that there is nothing in the body of her teachings which is contrary to truth or which inhibits real union with God. The air of antiquity and timelessness which often characterizes Eastern Christianity is an expression of her desire to remain loyal to the authentic Christian Faith. Orthodoxy believes that the Christian Faith and the Church are inseparable. It is impossible to know Christ, to share in the life of the Holy Trinity, or to be considered a Christian, apart from the Church.

It is in the Church that the Christian Faith is proclaimed and maintained. It is through the Church that an individual is nurtured in the Faith.

The Holy Scriptures are highly regarded by the Orthodox Church. Their importance is expressed in the fact that a portion of the Bible is read at every service of Worship. The Orthodox Church, which sees itself as the guardian and interpreter of the Scriptures, believes that the books of the Bible are a valuable witness to God's revelation. The Old Testament forty-nine books of various literary styles which expresses God's revelation to the ancient Israelites. The Orthodox Church regards the Old Testament as a preparation for the coming of Christ and believes that it should be read in light of His revelation.

The New Testament is centered upon the person and work of Jesus Christ and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in the



Your Prayer Corner!