

**ST. JOHN THE THEOLOGIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
**(BYZANTINE-UKRAINIAN RITE)**

91 Lakeshore Rd. St. Catharines, ON L2N 2T6  
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St. John's Kitchen tel. (905) 937-1616

**3rd Sunday of Advent**



**Third Sunday of Advent**

Dear God, as we light this candle, we rejoice. We know how the first act of the story ended – with the birth of Jesus the Messiah. And we know that he will come again in glory. So even though the story isn't over, we rejoice in our hope.

We wait for you, rejoicing! Amen!

Pastor: Rt. Rev. Msgr. Anton Szymychalski - Mitred Archpriest  
In retirement: Rev. Basil Kondusky  
Parish Secretary - Mrs. Chrystyna Tymczyszyn

Parish office is open Tuesday - Friday from 8:30 a.m.- 12:00 noon for phone calls only!  
No visitors please!

After hour EMERGENCIES ONLY please call (905) 327-3563

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Sunday Divine Liturgies will be livestreamed on our Facebook site (St. John Byzantine Ukrainian Church) every Sunday at 10 a.m.

Sunday Divine Liturgy at 10:00 a.m. Attendees must be preregistered

December 14th 2020 - 3rd Sunday of Advent  
Epistle: Gal. 3:4-11 Gospel Reading: Lk. 14:16-24

## **DIVINE LITURGY SERVICES:**

Sun. Dec. 13th: 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy - 3rd Sunday of Advent  
Mon. Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>: 7:00 p.m. Forgiveness Vespers  
Sat. Dec. 19th: 4:15. p.m. Divine Liturgy  
Sun. Dec. 20th: 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy - 4th Sunday of Advent

## **OFFERINGS:**

Sunday Donations: Dec. 6th: \$2,325.00 Automatic debit donations: \$1,195.00  
Church Donations in memory of +Marion Hanysh: M. Lewicki \$25.00; J. Badiuk \$25.00;  
D. & L. Osadec \$25.00; Z. Lewicki \$20.00; B. & H. LaCombe \$20.00; Anonymous \$30.00

**We are most grateful to all of you who have been donating for the support of the church.**

**God bless you and keep you in His loving care.**

## **PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK AND SHUT-IN:**

Kateryna Dacko, Alexandra Matychuk, Lesia Melnyk, Olga Onyschuk, Stephania Zubatiuk, Bob French, Helen Brodoway, Rose Kondusky, Matteo Niickolai Grochowina-Totolo, Sharon Cybulak, Greg Kondusky, Heidi Walters, Fr. Basil Kondusky, Tena Wowchuck, Sharon Hudgen, Paula Kozachenko, Sawyer Christie, Phyllis Romak, Ricki Holubowsky, Walt Cybulak, Helen Kokotka, Fr. Walter & Mary Dacko, Nicole Demers, Ellen Ternowski & Colette Saranchuk.

*Lord, Jesus Christ, You who traveled throughout Galilee healing the sick, enabling the blind to see and the lame to walk, bring healing to Your people who need it this day. Give peace to the minds of those who are tortured by mental illness and anxiety. Comfort those who are alone in their illness. May Your people reach out to them and all who are in need this day. Send grace to the caregivers, that they might be effective and gentle agents of Your loving mercy. May our sufferings be united with Yours to bring healing to people throughout the world. Amen*

## ***THIS WEEK OUR SANCTUARY CANDLES BURN FOR GOD'S BLESSINGS UPON THE SICK AND SHUT-IN OF OUR PARISH.***

Please remember if you need to visit the parish office, you must first make an appointment. No walk-ins!!

The following Parish Council positions are up for election in January: Vice-Chairperson and Treasurer. If you are interested in putting your name forward for either position or have any questions regarding the duties of the positions, please speak with Fr. Anton or Christine in the parish office. Please remember that Parish Council works to promote unity - keeping the parish together by enabling people to think, pray, work and play together.

Anyone wishing to purchase Christmas candles in memory of a loved one or for a special intention, is asked to please call the parish office during the week with your intentions or you may place your request in a separate envelope marked "**Christmas Candles**" and put it the collection basket. Candles will be lit on Christmas Eve and cost \$5 each. Candle requests will be taken until Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>.

St. John's Store will not be taking any orders from now until Christmas, **no exceptions!** Make your purchases on Thursday & Friday only from 9 a.m.- 5 p.m. The kitchen will be closed from Dec. 21st and will reopen Jan. 4th so our volunteers can have a well deserved break.

CHRISTMAS FOOD COLLECTION – we will continue to collect canned and dried food until Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> for the Community Care Christmas Food Drive. Please drop off your donations into the bin provided. This year we will not be collecting toys, but if you would like to make a cash donations, please call the parish office.

PLEASE NOTE - The parish office will be closed from December 21<sup>st</sup> – January 4<sup>th</sup>. Phone messages will be checked regularly, but the office will be closed to visitors.

**A very sincere THANK YOU to George and Colette Saranchuk for their generous donation of funds to purchase 3 new altar crucifixes along with 6 matching candle holders in memory of +W.M. (Bill) Saranchuk QC. We will have a formal blessing of these items at a later date.**

**Schedule of Christmas Services:**

**Monday Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> – 7 p.m. – Forgiveness Vespers**

**Thursday Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> – 9:00 p.m. Eve of The Nativity Of Our Lord**

**Friday Dec. 25<sup>th</sup> – 10:00 a.m. – Nativity of Our Lord (pre-recorded)**

**Saturday Dec. 26<sup>th</sup> – 10:00 a.m. – Feast of the Most Holy Mother of God (pre-recorded)**

**Sunday Dec. 27<sup>th</sup> – 10:00 a.m. – Feast of St. Stephen**

**Please note, that to attend Forgiveness Vespers and Christmas Eve you must register your spot, since we are only allowed to have a maximum of 50 in attendance .**

**Forgiveness Vespers**

**Why is it we have this service in the midst of this busy season, when we have so much on our minds already and not nearly enough time to get ready for Christmas?**

**It is precisely because we are so busy getting ready for Christmas that we need time to meditate and draw ourselves closer to God.**

**Take the time to recharge your spirits, cleanse and heal your minds and reawaken your love for God. We also will be taking donations of non-perishable food items that evening, so please remember to bring your donations.**

**Forgiveness Vespers will be held Monday December 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. for parishioners only. You must pre-register to attend!!**

**Please call the parish office to add your name to the list.**

***Just a reminder that everyone must wear a mask when inside the church. This is for the safety of everyone.***



***Please note the procedure when attending Divine Liturgy on Saturdays and Sundays.*** We will continue to streamline one service at 10:00 a.m. for those who prefer or cannot attend. Your safety is our greatest concern but you must comply with the rules.

**Those who have the following Coronavirus related symptoms should stay home:**

1. a fever above 37.5 C,

2. breathing problems,
  3. coughing
  4. those who have traveled outside the country in the last 14 days,
  5. those who have had contact with a person with Coronavirus,
  6. those who have had contact with a person who traveled internationally and has a breathing problem.
- On Sunday we will have volunteers at the entrance of the church, who will be asking everyone about their health. Each person will have to sign a form that they are healthy. Forms will be provided if you don't have one.
  - Everyone will enter through the center doors and go out through the side doors.
  - You will have to sit where you are asked to sit. (Church will be sanitized after every service)
  - There will be no prayer books in church so you must bring your own or you can purchase one for \$1.00 which you can keep and bring with you every week.
  - All people are required to wear masks in church for the protection of others.
  - People from the same household may sit together. People from different households must practice the 2-meter distancing.

**We remind everyone that they must pre-register to attend any Liturgy. This must be done every time, since we only have room for 50 people. Please call the parish office (905) 937-3393 during the week to reserve your spot.**

Thank you to all those who have been coming in to volunteer in our Kitchen. We are happy to be back to our "new normal". Since the region has been approved to proceed to Stage 3 of Covid restriction, we are now able to have more people in the kitchen. We will continue with the same procedures that have been in place. Volunteers will have to sign in and have their temperature taken, wear a mask and sanitize their hands. Your safety is our greatest concern and if we all comply with the rules, we will all stay safe.

The new schedule for the kitchen is as follows:

- Monday a.m.:**      pyrohy & pie dough  
                               apple peeling
- Tuesday a.m.:**    potato boiling & balling  
                               cabbage rolls
- Wednesday a.m.:** pies
- Thursday a.m.:**    Pyrohy

Meatsticks, soups, shepherd's pie and lasagnas are not made on a set date, only when needed. Our store will be open Thursdays & Fridays only from 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

**We thank everyone in advance for their continued support of St. John's, especially during this time.**