

FATHER ANTON'S WORD'S OF WISDOM: After the wonderful Liturgy and dinner for our Praznyk (Parish Feast) last week, it coninute's to be a busy place. As we return to regular parish life and I see the number of hands getting less each year, I am reminded how blessed we have been and continue to be in our parish. Our volunteers are aging (albeit gracecefully) and many hands are arthritic and painful, and many are now experiencing health challenges. Despite all of this they continue to come out faithfully week after week to work for the need of their church. It is becoming more difficult to keep going, yet somehow we know that God will provide. There are a few new folks taking on some tasks, so trusting in God we move forward. In the midst of this I am reminded of the need to live a grateful life. By grateful I mean to make every effort possible to recognize how much my life is blessed. I have never forgotten my very humble beginnings in a small northern Ontario mining town and my life's journey that has led me to this day. Never as a child in my wildest imagining could I have thought that I would be where I am. I have been fortunate to have positive people in my life, supportive of me in every step of my journey. I was lucky enough to have a University education even though it took a lot of hard work to get there, and many years ago I was led to this parish under the guidance and example of its founder Fr. Walter.



This weekend we celebrate THANKSGIVING and my favourite saying bears repeating and that is; “True thanksgiving is ‘THANKSLIVING’” This should be the spirit of all who claim to believe, all who call themselves Christian. Christianity is not a religion for whiners; rather it is a way of life for those who have found in Christ the ability to celebrate their lives regardless of what besets them. Christians never live in despair, but in hope. Christians never live in want, but are thankful for what they have. Christians never seek to be held in high esteem, but rather accept all as God’s children. Christians do not seek to be wealthy or better than others, but live their lives in gratefulness. Christians do not judge others, since only God knows the hearts of others and their life’s journey. Christians don’t hold grudges and are quick to forgive. Christians swallow their pride and take responsibility for their actions. Christians love others because God’s loves them and has shown the greatness of that love in the person of Jesus. Each and every moment of every day should be filled with gratitude. God is faithful and keeps his promises; He truly is a loving father.

Let us pray:

Loving God, this weekend we I celebrate Thanksgiving. Help me to live my life recognizing how blessed my life is by "Thanksgiving." May I be grateful every moment of my life's journey? In my darkest moments never let me feel alone, give me the courage to whisper Your name and together we can see them through. Help me to be a positive influence in the lives of others that they might meet Christ in me. For all I am, for all I have and for all I can become in your... Thank you! Amen.