



Christ is Born!

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ!

Christmas is filled with spiritual mystery, with wonderful carols, and Christmas traditions, one of which is a supper with 12 Lenten dishes, symbolizing the 12 apostles.

This year, each of us will celebrate Christmas in a different way, experiencing it in the difficult conditions of the coronavirus pandemic, which has significantly affected all of us, including our parishes, which have faced direct restrictions on their own activities.

Celebrating the New Year 2021 and Christmas will be unusual for us. The pandemic has torn us from the routines with which we were so familiar.

In spite of ourselves, we begin to think about things which we do not usually have time to ponder in the whirlwind of our daily responsibilities. Above all, we begin to see the value of life in a new way and note that the boundary between health and disease is actually quite porous and that in an instant everything can change. We see our relatives and friends in a different light - and we understand how dear and important they are to us.

We realize how wrong it is of human pride to consider ourselves the "crown of creation" and "masters of the universe", when a microscopic creature - a virus - can so overturn the lives of an entire civilization. In such moments we understand that everything is in God's hands, we understand the value of life itself and we begin to respect what we had, until now, not noticed or rather ignored.

Christmas is a source of victory over the fears of modern man: over fear of the future and the unknown, over fear of others, over fear of death. If "God is with us" then who can intimidate us, who can take away or enslave our will, who can take away hope in our Lord, Who said to the Apostles, "Fear not, for I have overcome the world."

I greet all the parishioners of St Sophie's, the Church council, the volunteers, the donors, the sick and lonely, the youth and all the organizations in our parish with the coming Feast of the Nativity of Christ. May the light of this star lead us to the newborn Jesus, Who calls people to be a sign of God's presence, to manifest goodness and mercy. The light of this celestial star is like the angel addressing the shepherds: "Fear not for I announce to you a great joy that will be for all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord "(Luke 2:10-11).

As St. John the Evangelist says: "There is no fear in love, but, on the contrary, perfect love drives away fear, because there punishment in it, and he who is afraid is not perfected in love." Only within the embrace of God's Love and joy can humans fully develop and truly become themselves.

May the spirit of the Nativity of Christ embrace each of us, filling us with the hope of God's mercy, lifting us out of our beds, and granting healing to the seriously ill who are in hospitals and nursing homes. Let us pray to our Lord that the New Year 2021 may bring us hope for a victorious end to the war in eastern Ukraine and restore peace to our long-suffering Motherland.

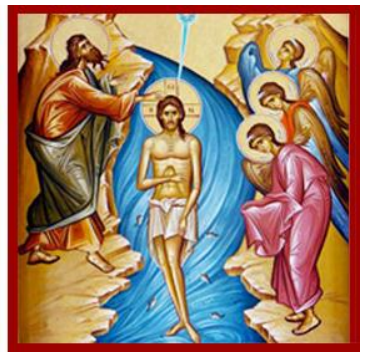
A joyous holiday to you all!

Christ is Born! We glorify Him!

Archpriest Fr. Volodymyr



THE NATIVITY SEASON



St. Sophie Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral January/janvier 2021 Schedule of Services

**CHRISTMAS SERVICES REGISTRATION ACCEPTED
BETWEEN JANUARY 3 AND 6, TILL 12PM (Anna 514-232-2818)**

Sunday/dimanche, January 3 janvier

9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy

11:00 a.m. Service of Typika • Office des Typiques (EN/FR)

Wednesday/mercredi, January 6 janvier

9:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Great Compline

Thursday/jeudi, January 7 janvier - Nativity of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ

10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

Saturday/samedi, January 9 janvier Holy Protomartyr and Archdeacon Stephen

9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy

Sunday/dimanche, January 10 janvier

10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

Thursday/jeudi, January 14 janvier - Circumcision of our Lord, St Basil the Great

New Year, according to the Julian calendar

9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy

Sunday/dimanche, January 17 janvier- Synaxis of the 70 Lesser Apostles

10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

**THEOPHANY SERVICES REGISTRATION ACCEPTED
BETWEEN JANUARY 13 AND 16, TILL 12PM (Anna 514-232-2818)**

Monday/lundi, January 18 janvier - Eve of Theophany

6:00 p.m. Great Compline; 7:00 p.m. Great Blessing of Water

Tuesday/mardi, January 19 janvier - Theophany of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy - Great Blessing of Water

Sunday/dimanche, January 24 janvier - Leavetaking of the Feast of Theophany

10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

Sunday/dimanche, January 31 janvier Sts. Athanasius & Cyril

10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

St. Sophie Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The celebration of Christmas is a joyous occasion this time of year not only for us but for those with whom we share this joy. We share not only material gifts with family and friends, but also the gifts of time, effort and work, as do many of our parishioners for our church.

King and Prophet David, in his beautiful Psalm 72 foretold kings bringing Jesus gifts: "Give the king thy justice, O God, and thy righteousness to the royal son! ... may the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts!"

Athanasius, bishop of Alexandria observed: "For the Son of God became man so that we might become God."

The miracle of Christ's birth brings hope and God's infinite love and grace, even in this difficult time of the COVID-19 pandemic. Please take time to examine your heart and make your own offering in His Name. May the blessings of this Holy Season be with you always. On behalf of the Parish Council and myself, I wish you a joyous Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and a peaceful and healthy New Year 2021.

Simon Kouklewsky,
Parish Council President

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We thank those of you who have paid your dues for 2020. If you have not done so, kindly submit your offering before **Monday, December 23, 2020** in order for your payment to qualify for a 2020 income tax receipt. Any donations received after that date will be credited to the year 2021.

When you send in your offering, to help with our record keeping, please complete the tear-off form printed below and send it along with your cheque made out to **St. Sophie Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral**, in the envelope provided.

Thank you for your kindness & generosity.



Name (please print): _____ **Membership number:** _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Please mark the appropriate box and enter the amount:

Membership for the year 2020:

Single (\$180) or Family (\$300) Full Payment or Partial Payment Amount _____

Heating Amount _____

Koliada Amount _____

General Operating Funds Amount _____

TOTAL AMOUNT _____



St. Sophie Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral



LOOKING FOR VARENYKY FOR THE HOLIDAYS?

Due to the current pandemic, the Ukrainian Women's Association Daughters of Ukraine of St Sophie Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral will not be offering homemade varenyky during this upcoming holiday season.

We have however collaborated with **Zytynsky's Deli** to offer you **Supreme Pierogies** in the following flavors:

- Cottage cheese & potato
- Cheddar cheese & potato
- Cheddar cheese, bacon & potato
- Pork
- Potato & onion
- Sauerkraut & mushroom
- Blueberry
- Strawberry



www.supremepierogies.ca

Prices are \$6 per dozen.

Several flavors available at the store. If you would prefer to order to guarantee the flavors that you need, please place your order with Luba Pukas either by phone (514) 231-7947 or by email lpukas@bell.net

Orders must be placed by end of day on Monday to be received on Friday of that week (or Thursday, if closed on Friday for a holiday) at **Zytynsky's Deli**.

A portion of the proceeds will be donated St. Sophie Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral and we are very grateful to **Zytynsky's Deli** for this generous offer to help us to get you the homecooked taste that you love!

The store is located at **3350, rue Beaubien Est, Montréal, QC H1X 3A6**

Holiday Hours:

Monday to Friday – 11:00 – 16:00

Saturday – 10:00 – 16:00

Closed December 25th & 26th

Closed January 1st & 2nd

*Wishing you and your families a safe and healthy Holiday Season.
May 2021 bring prosperity to us all!*