

ST. ATHANASIUS UKRAINIAN
CATHOLIC CHURCH
55 MCMURCHY AVENUE
REGINA SK. S4R 3G3

Parish Priest: Fr. Vasyl Tymishak E-mail: vasyltymishak@gmail.com

Cell Phone: 306-519-9030

Parish Office: 306-543-8008 E-mail: stathanasius@sasktel.net

Website: www.st-athanasius.ca

Facebook: https://facebook.com/reginaukrainiancatholicnorth/live

Parish Council President – Kevin Korchinski - Cell phone (call or text) @ 306-539-3935

E-mail: kevin@osac.ca

UCWLC President - Josie Vantour Seniors' Club President - Angie Lawryk UCBC President - Mark Woitas Ultimate A&B Youth - Lesia Lazurko

Knights of Columbus – James Empey, Grand Knight

Parish Coordinator of Care (PCC) - Mary Lou Senko @ 306-525-6437

DIVINE LITURGY: Sunday - 9:30 a.m. Service in English; TEMPORARILY by preregistration Weekday Liturgies – as scheduled; **preregistration required** by calling Fr. Vasyl Tymishak (306-519-9030)

MEMBERSHIP AT ST. ATHANASIUS PARISH is recognized by <u>participating</u> in the Sunday Divine Liturgy and by fulfilling your baptismal responsibility in <u>contributing</u> to our Church Community activities by using your time, talents and treasures. Regular financial donations by use of Sunday envelopes is necessary for our parish to grow and prosper.

Please contact Fr. Vasyl if you know of any parishioner who is sick and wants to be visited.

St. John Paul II Syro-Malabar Parish – Fr. Daris Cherian

E-mail:

daris.cherian@gmail.com Phone: 1-647-680-2415

Parish Council Trustee – Saneesh A. Sunny (Phone: 306-807-5454) E-mail:

sachandilsunny@gmail.com

May 2, 2021 Vol. 49, No. 18

MASKS ARE MANDATORY UPON ENTERING THE CHURCH AND DURING DIVINE LITURGY. THE BULLETINS CANNOT BE LEFT ANYWHERE IN THE CHURCH.





On Tuesday April 13, 2021 the province of Saskatchewan, along with Dr. Saqib Shahab, Saskatchewan's Chief Medical Health Officer, announced the new measures in response to the New measures for all Saskatchewan

These restrictions apply to all places in Saskatchewan. Both of these measures are a return to the guidelines in effect earlier this year.

- 1. Effective Friday, April 16th, all places of worship in Saskatchewan will be limited to a maximum capacity of 30 persons. All existing provisions including 2 metre distancing, hand sanitizing, masking, and contact tracing will remain in effect: (Places of worship guidelines). For clarity: the regulations permit concurrent meetings, but the combined capacity within the facility may not exceed 30 persons; the capacity limit applies to all persons within the place of worship except clergy/religious leadership and key staff/volunteers. Please keep this number as low as possible.
- 2. Effective immediately, April 13th, all private indoor gatherings are prohibited immediately. Residents may not expand their household "bubble". All indoor gatherings are restricted to immediate household members only.

Reminder: outdoor public gatherings are limited to 10 people, provided physical distancing between households can be maintained.

These measures are included in the current public health order that expires on Monday, May 10th, 2021.

Please note: Due to the revised Public Health order regarding places of worship, St. Athanasius Church will allow 30 people to attend services as per Public Health Act of Saskatchewan. **Please continue to register for all services.**

SUNDAY LITURGIES: If you wish to attend Liturgy on Sundays, please contact Rosanne Miller, 306-543-5773, to confirm your attendance **(preferably by Noon on Saturday)**. This is a reminder that this process must be followed for **EACH** Sunday. You can leave a message for Rosanne if she is not home, and she will confirm whether or not there is space for you. Thank you for your cooperation.

WEEKDAY LITURGIES: If you wish to attend weekday Liturgies, please register by calling Fr. Vasyl at 306-519-9030.

Please join our services by visiting our website and clicking on the Livestream icon: https://st-athanasius.ca/ or on Facebook:

https://facebook.com/reginaukrainiancatholicnorth/live

TO ALL PARISHIONERS: During our Livestream and Videotaping, the video may capture the likeness of those parishioners sitting in the pews during our services. This video will be kept for a maximum of 45 days. Other than those who choose to view the livestream as it happens,

the video will not be released to third parties.



If you are uncomfortable being on video, please advise the Greeters when you enter the church and they will place you in a pew where you will not be captured.

Христос Воскрес! Bоістину Bоскрес! Christ is Risen! Indeed, He is Risen!

EASTER REFRAIN: Christ is risen from the dead, by death He conquered death, and to those in the graves He granted life.

END OF LITURGY: He granted us eternal life, we exalt and glorify His Resurrection

NOTE: Please remember that from Resurrection Sunday up to Ascension Thursday, we stand to pray. Note also that from Easter Sunday to Ascension Thursday, at daily Liturgies, the Sunday antiphons are recited and the tropar, kondak, etc. are read from the preceding Sunday bulletin. The Epistle and Gospel are of the day.

Please join us at 9:15 a.m. for the praying of the rosary followed by Divine Liturgy at 9:30 a.m.

SUNDAY OF THE SAMARITAN WOMAN - Fifth Sunday After Pascha

TROPAR (Tone 4): When the disciples of the Lord learned from the angel the glorious news of the resurrection and cast off the ancestral condemnation,* they proudly told the apostles:* "Death has been plundered! Christ our God is risen* granting to the world great mercy."

PRAZNYK TROPAR (Tone 4): The truth of your deeds made you, for your flock, a rule of faith and an image of meekness, a teacher of continence. And so you gained the heights through humility, riches through poverty, Father and Bishop Athanasius, intercede with Christ our God for the salvation of our souls.

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

KONDAK (Tone 8): When the Samaritan woman came to the well with faith, she beheld You, O Water of Wisdom. You allowed her to drink in abundance and glorified her eternally, for she inherited the heavenly kingdom.

PROKIMEN (Tone 3): Sing to our God, sing; sing to our King, sing.

Verse: All you peoples, clap your hands, shout to God with cries of gladness.

EPISTLE: A reading from the Acts of the Apostles (11:19–26; 29-30)

In those days those in the community who had been dispersed by the persecution that arose because of Stephen went as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus and Antioch, making the message known to none but Jews. However, some men of Cyprus and Cyrene among them who had come to Antioch began to talk even to the Greeks, announcing the good news of the Lord Jesus to them. The hand of the Lord was with them and a great number of them believed and were converted to the Lord. News of this eventually reached the ears of the church in Jerusalem, resulting in Barnabas' being sent to Antioch. On his arrival he rejoiced to see the evidence of God's favour. He encouraged them all to remain firm in their commitment to the Lord, since he himself was a good man filled with the Holy Spirit and faith. Thereby large numbers were added to the Lord. Then Barnabas went off to Tarsus to look for Saul; once he had found him, he brought him back to Antioch. For a whole year they met with the church and instructed great numbers. It was in Antioch that the disciples were called Christians for the first time. This made the disciples determined to set something aside, each according to his means, and send it to the relief of brothers who lived in Judea. They did this, dispatching it to the presbyters in the care of Barnabas and Saul.

ALLELUIA VERSE: Bend your bow, prosper and reign for the sake of truth, meekness and justice.

You love justice and hate wickedness.

GOSPEL: (John 4:5-43)

At that time Jesus came to a Samaritan town named Shechem near the plot of land which Jacob had given to his son Joseph. This was the site of Jacob's well. Jesus, tired from his journey, sat down at the well. The hour was about noon. When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." (His disciples had gone off to the town to buy provisions.) The Samaritan woman said to him, "You are a Jew. How can you ask me, a Samaritan and a woman, for a drink?" (Recall that Jews have nothing to do with Samaritans.) Jesus replied: "If only you recognized God's gift, and who it is that is asking you for a drink, you would have asked him instead, and he would have given you living water." "Sir," she challenged him, "you do not have a bucket and this well is deep. Where do you expect to get this flowing water? Surely you do not pretend to be greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us this well and drank from it with his sons and his flocks?" Jesus replied: "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again. But whoever drinks the water I give him will never be thirsty; no, the water I give shall become a fountain within him, leaping up to provide eternal life." The woman said to him, "Give me this water, sir, so that I shall not grow thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water." He said to her, "Go, call your husband, and then come back here." "I have no husband," replied the woman. "You are right in saying you have no husband!" Jesus exclaimed. "The fact is, you have had five, and the man you are living with now is not your husband. What you said is true." "Sir," answered the woman, "I can see you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you people claim that Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship God." Jesus told her: "Believe me, woman, an hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You people worship what you do not understand, while we understand what we worship; after all, salvation is from the Jews. Yet an hour is coming, and is already here, when authentic worshipers will worship the Father in

Spirit and truth. Indeed, it is just such worshipers the Father seeks. God is Spirit, and those who worship him must worship in Spirit and truth." The woman said to him: "I know there is a Messiah coming. (This term means Anointed.) When he comes, he will tell us everything." Jesus replied, "I who speak to you am he." His disciples returning at this point, were surprised that Jesus was speaking with a woman. No one put a question, however, such as "What do you want of him?" or "Why are you talking with her?" The woman left her water jar and went off into the town. She said to the people: "Come and see someone who told me everything I ever did! Could this not be the Messiah?" At that they set out from the town to meet him. Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi, eat something." But he told them: "I have food to eat of which you do not know." At this the disciples said to one another, "Do you suppose that someone has brought him something to eat?" Jesus explained to them: "Doing the will of him who sent me and bringing his work to completion is my food. Do you not have a saying: 'Four months more and it will be harvest!'? Listen to what I say: Open your eyes and see! The fields are shining for harvest! The reaper already collects his wages and gathers a yield for eternal life, that sower and reaper may rejoice together. Here we have the saying verified: 'One man sows; another reaps.' I sent you to reap what you had not worked for. Others have done the labour, and you have come into their gain." Many Samaritans from that town believed in him on the strength of the woman's word of testimony: "He told me everything I ever did." The result was that, when these Samaritans came to him, they begged him to stay with them awhile. So he stayed there two days, and through his own spoken word many more came to faith. As they told the woman: "No longer does our faith depend on your story. We have heard for ourselves, and we know that this really is the Saviour of the world."

Instead of 'It is truly right': The Angel greeted You O full of grace, O purest Virgin rejoice and again I say rejoice. Your Son has risen from the tomb on the third day, and has raised all who were dead. O mankind rejoice!

Shine O Shine, O new Jerusalem for the glory of the Lord has surrounded you; be happy now and rejoice O Zion. And you pure Mother of God, exalt and rejoice in the Resurrection of Him who was born of you.

INSTEAD OF "Blessed is He Who comes..." Христос Воскрес! (tropar)

COMMUNION HYMN: Receive the Body of Christ; partake of the source of immortality. Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest. Alleluia! Alleluia!

SPECIAL NOTE: For those who are in church today, we will be reciting the regular prayer before communion.

For those who are watching via livestreaming, please recite the prayer below:

BYZANTINE ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

O Lord, I believe and profess that you are truly Christ, The Son of the living God, who came into the world To save sinners of whom I am the first.

Although I cannot now be a partaker of your mystical supper, O Son of God,

Come at least spiritually into my heart by your Divine Grace for the healing of my soul and body.

For I will not reveal your mystery to your enemies, Nor will I give you a kiss as did Judas, But like the thief I profess to you:

- Remember me, O Lord, when you come in your kingdom.
- Remember me, O Master, when you come in your kingdom.
- Remember me, O Holy One, when you come in your kingdom.

O Lord, I also believe and profess, that this, Which I would receive, and which is now here present with us in Mystery, Is truly your most precious Body, and your life-giving Blood. May I one day partake of your mystical supper again For the remission of all my sins and for life everlasting. Amen

- + O God, be merciful to me, a sinner.
- O God, cleanse me of my sins and have mercy on me.
 O Lord, forgive me for I have sinned without number.

With Ecclesiastical Approbation. Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Phoenix

INSTEAD OF "We have seen the true light...", "May our mouths be filled..." and "Blessed be the name":

Khrystos Voskrese Khrystos voskrese voskrese, voskrese, iz mertvykh, Smerti-u, smert' poprav, Smerti-u, smert' poprav, Isuschym vo hrobikh, Isuschym vo hrobikh, zhyvot, zhyvot, zhyvot daryvav!

Arise and Rejoice! Arise and rejoice,

Arise, arise with the risen Lord. Through His death, death has gone Through His death, death has gone! Everyone who was dead, Everyone, who was dead, Ever, everlasting life has won!

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE May 2 – May 9, 2021

Monday, May 3 - The Repose of our Venerable Father Theodosius, Hegumen of the Monastery of the Caves at Kyiv and Organizer of the Cenoebitic (Common) Life in Rus' (1074) and the Holy Martyrs Timothy and Maura (286-305); Polyeleos Feast. Acts 12:12-17; Hebrews 13:7-16; John 8:42-51; Matthew 11:27-30

No service scheduled

Tuesday, May 4 - The Holy Martyr Pelagia; Acts 12:25-13:12; John 8:51-59 **10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy** for health and God's blessing upon Quentin Johnston, requested by Karen Johnston (preregistration by calling Fr. Vasyl @ 306-519-9030) *livestreaming*

Wednesday, May 5 - The Holy and Glorious Martyr Irene (321-23); Our Venerable Father Nicephoras, Hegumen of the Monastery at Medicius; <u>Acts 13:13-24</u>; <u>John 6:5-14</u>

10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy for repose of the soul of Josephine Mackow, requested by Dennis and Cathy Zakaluzny (preregistration by calling Fr. Vasyl @ 306-519-9030)

Thursday, May 6 -The Holy, Just and Long-suffering Job; Acts 14:20-27; John 9:39-10:9

10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy for repose of the soul of Josephine Mackow, requested by Diane Okraincee and Family (preregistration by calling Fr. Vasyl @ 306-519-9030) livestreaming

Friday, May 7 - Commemoration of the Appearance of the Sign of the Precious Cross over Jerusalem at the Third Hour of the Day during the Reign of Constantine (351); Acts 15:5-34; John 10:17-28

10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy for repose of the soul of Josephine Mackow, requested by Dianne Deschytsa (preregistration by calling Fr. Vasyl @ 306-519-9030)

Saturday, May 8 - The Holy Apostle and Evangelist John the Theologian; Acts 15:35-41; 1 John 1:1-7; John 10:27-38; John 19:25-27; 21:24-25

11:00 a.m. Baptism (preregistration by calling Fr. Vasyl @ 306-519-9030)

Sunday, May 9 - Sixth Sunday after Pascha – Sunday of the Man Born Blind, Tone 5. Acts 16:16-34; Hebrews 13:17-21; John 9:1-38; Luke 6:17-23

9:15 a.m. Rosary (preregistration by calling Rosanne at 306-543-5773) livestreaming

9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy for faithful (preregistration by calling Rosanne at 306-543-5773) *livestreaming*

1:30 p.m. Divine Liturgy in Moose Jaw (preregistration)

MAY GREETERS	
May 2 (today)	Mark & Karen Woitas
May 9	Maggie Stephen & Bernice Bzdell
May 16	Kevin Korchinski & Len Markewich
May 23	Terry & Rosanne Miller
May 30	Mark & Karen Woitas

Schedule of singers for upcoming Sundays/Feast Days, etc. subject to change as needed. We will continue having only limited households at one time, each sharing a microphone while respecting distancing requirements, until the spread of Covid-19 is no longer a risk.

May 2 (today): Peter & Marion Federko; Alla Golf-Tymishak

May 9: Phyllis Lukey; Len & Anna Markewich

May 13 (Ascension): Phyllis Lukey; TBA

May 16: Phyllis Lukey; Peter & Marion Federko

May 23 (Pentecost): Phyllis Lukey; Alla Gof-Tymishak

May 30: Peter & Marion Federko; Len & Anna Markewich



St. Michael's Camp at Madge Lake is very excited this year to announce our Summer Day Camps. This year is going to look a little different from other years at camp, but one thing we know for sure is that they will have an experience they will remember forever! Our registration will open up on May 1. We have limited spots available due to COVID-19 restrictions, so please be sure to register early to guarantee a spot. This year we have different themes for each day of Camp. Due to demand, we have also brought back our Family Camp. This is a time where the whole family can spend the day together at Camp. It does not matter how old or young you are, as we will have activities for the whole family

experience

with you!!!

to enjoy.

To register, please go to www.stmichaelscamp.com.We can't wait to share a fantastic summer

Day Camp Ages 7-15 July 5 - Typical Day at Camp July 6 - Ukrainian Dance Camp July 7 - Tie Dye Day Camp July 8 - Sports Day Camp July 12 - Outdoor Survival Day Camp July 13 - Goofy Olympics Camp Friday July 9 - Sunday July 11 Friday July 16 - Sunday July 18

Muzyka Ukraine on CJTR FM radio



"Muzyka Ukraine" on CJTR 91.3 FM

Every Wednesday 11:30am to 12:30pm

CJTR Regina Community Radio features "Muzyka Ukraine"

You can listen to Muzyka Ukraine by;
Dialing 91.3FM on your radio dial (if you live in Regina)
Channel 806 on Max TV
Channel 700 on Access TV

or

you can listen from anywhere in the world on the internet at http://cjtr.ca

Muzyka Ukraine features a variety of contemporary and popular Ukrainian music for your listening enjoyment



NEW APPOINTMENTS OF DUTIES FOR THE UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC EPARCHY OF SASKATOON

From His Excellency Most Rev. Bishop Bryan Bayda, CSsR – April 19-2021



Kolosnjaji, Very Rev. Janko, Vicar General; Chancellor; Rector, St. George's Cathedral; Dean-Saskatoon Deanery; Administrator – Cudworth District; Humboldt-All Saints; North Battleford-Hafford District

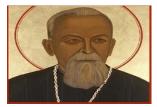
Administrator Humboldt-All Saints - Effective April 20, 2021



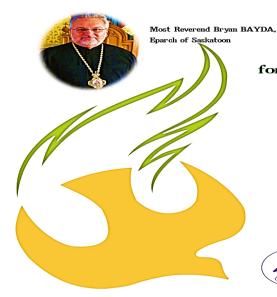
Nahachewsky, Rev. Ivan, Saskatoon, Vice Chancellor; Vicar of Eparchial Properties; Eparchial Substitute Priest; Military Chaplain

Vice Chancellor Eparchy of Saskatoon - Effective May 1, 2021

Letters of Official Appointments by His Excellency Most Rev. Bishop Bryan Bayda, CSsR, will be posted on the Eparchial Website www.skeparchy.org



Devotions to Blessed Vasyl Velychkovsky, CSsR Live-streamed from the Shrine in Winnipeg, MB Every Wednesday evening at 6:00 pm (Saskatchewan time) Please join us in prayer. Here is the link to the broadcasts: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFDrZoGsYeJG1lqgdZyfYMA



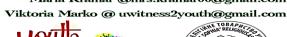
"Heavenly King"

Online Gathering for ESL Youth Ministry Instructors (Ukraine), Courses of Christian Animators (Sambir) Youth of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Saskatoon

When: Saturday, June 12, 2021
Time: 10.00 a.m. (Saskatoon)/

12 p.m. (Philadelphia)/ 7 p.m. (Kyiv)

Registration (by June 1): Maria Kramar @mrs.kramar00@gmail.com







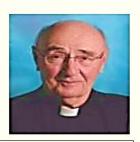
Update on "THE CONVERSATION": The weekly Zoom sessions of **"The Conversation"** have taken a break until September. We encourage you to watch the recorded videos of this past season on: **Tranquillight Calling** https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCf39034kKgMTZI hacrM9nA, and to show your support by subscribing to the Tranquil light YouTube Channel. Stay tuned for information on the start-up date in September.



Our Clergy of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Saskatoon Celebrating Milestone Anniversaries in 2021







Rt. Rev. Andrew Muzyka 1956 - May 13 - 2021





Deacon Myron Yamniuk 1991 - September 8 - 2021





Rev. Demetrius Wasylyniuk 1996 - June 29 - 2021





Rev. Yevhen Zadorozhnyi, CSsR 1996 - October 13 - 2021

We are truly grateful to all of you for your years of loyal and loving service in the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Saskatchewan and wherever you had been called to serve.

May the Lord smile on you and be gracious to you.

May the Lord look kindly upon you and give you peace for many years to come.

Многая і Благая Літа!

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR MAY: *UNIVERSAL INTENTION – The world of finance:* Let us pray that those in charge of finance will work with governments to regulate the financial sphere and protect citizens from its dangers.

MAY FOOD BANK ITEM: CRACKERS

NOTICE: Our parish expenses continue, even though there are no large church services. Therefore, it would be very much appreciated if you could continue your support of the parish. There are a few options available to you: drop off your envelope at 54 McMurchy Avenue, mail in your cheque to 55 McMurchy Avenue, Regina, S4R 3G3, or you can also do an e-transfer to stathandeposit@sas-ktel.net. **PLEASE COMPLETE THE MESSAGE FIELD and DO NOT USE ALIAS NAMES WHEN SENDING AN E-TRANSFER DONATION.**

April 25: 11 regular envelopes - \$615; 2 Building Fund envelopes - \$70; 1 Visitor envelope - \$50; Loose Change - \$20.

Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!

As a Parishioner of St. Athanasius you should have received a package outlining the 2021 Eparchial Appeal. We would encourage all of you to donate if you are able. The theme this year of "Give & it will be Given Unto You" and supports many important ministries and programs throughout the Eparchy of Saskatoon.

As in past years the Eparchy has set a goal for each Parish of approximately \$100 per household, for St. Athanasius that means \$13,000. The good news is that 75% of all the money raised by us above that will be returned to the Parish. The envelope in the package is a self addressed stamped envelope so you only need to include the donation stub and your donation.

If you are joining us via our livestream and would like to donate online please visit <u>UCFSASK</u> <u>| Ukrainian Catholic Foundation of Saskatchewan Corporation</u>. Just indicate St. Athanasius as the Parish.

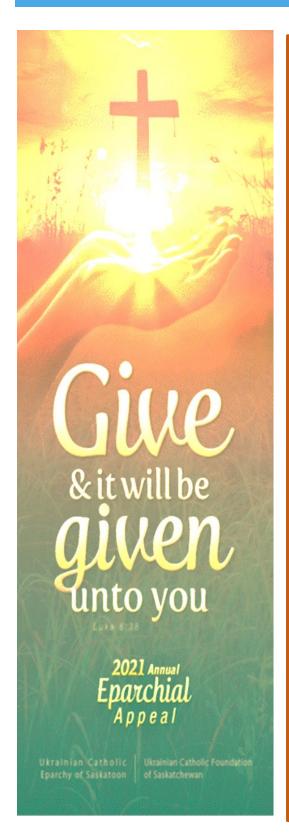
The deadline is the end of May.

Thank you for your consideration.

St. Athanasius Parish Council

2021 ANNUAL EPARCHIAL APPEAL

WEEK 4 - (May 1st /May 2nd, 2021)



Our 2021 Annual Eparchial Appeal journey continues. Thank you to all who have supported the Appeal to date. It is very uplifting to see our Parishioners support the Eparchial Ministries.

Today the Parish Bulletin Insert features programs offered through the Eparchial Family and Life Office – the Dying Healed Program; Crown Them with Honour & Glory Marriage Preparation Programs in addition to support & referrals which are provided to families or individuals with the spiritual or religious Ukrainian Catholic perspective and direction. Please take this opportunity to learn about the Family and Life Office Ministry and see how this Ministry provides significant benefits, not only to our Eparchy, but more particularly to our own Parish

More information concerning the 2021 Annual Eparchial Appeal is available on the Ukrainian Catholic Foundation of Saskatchewan website at www.ucfsask.org. Particularly, please take the opportunity to watch the Eparchial Appeal Video again at home to see how these Eparchial ministries and programs have benefited the lives of some of the people in our Eparchy.

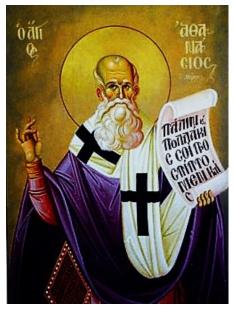
Did you know that there is more than one way to give to the Annual Eparchial Appeal? You can:

- ✓ Make a one-time gift.
- ✓ Make a pledge and spread out your pledge over 12 (or less) monthly payments.
- ✓ Have your donation matched by your company with a Corporate Matching Gift
- Online donations using the QR code which links directly to the UCFSask website.



If you have not yet made your pledge, we humbly and respectfully please ask you to consider making a pledge or one-time gift. Your gift to the Annual Eparchial Appeal will help continue the vital ministries and programs offered throughout the Eparchy.

If you have any questions or comments regarding the Eparchial Appeal or the Foundation itself, please contact the **Foundation Office at 306-653- 0138, ext 223.**



Faith.

ST. ATHANASIUS THE GREAT

Athanasius was born to pagan parents. When he was in school, he saw a group of Christians acting out services and when he asked to join them, they refused. From then on, he declared himself a Christian. The patriarch at that time Pope Alexander, predicted that he would eventually hold a great position.

Before reaching the age of 20, Athanasius wrote a treatise entitled *On the Incarnation*, affirming and explaining that Jesus Christ was both God and Man. In about 319, when Athanasius was a deacon, a presbyter named Arius began teaching that there was a time before God the Father begat Jesus when the latter did not exist. Athanasius responded that the Father's begetting of the Son, or uttering of the Word, was an eternal relationship between them not an event that took place within time. Thus, began catholic Christianity's fight against the heresy of Arianism.

Athanasius fought consistently against Arianism all his life. As a deacon, he accompanied Alexander of Alexandria to the First Council of Nicea in 325, which produced the Nicene Creed and anathematized Arius and his followers. The Coptic church maintains a tradition that Athanasius was the main author of the Nicene Creed and has therefore given him the title of Defender of the

On May 9, 328, he succeeded Alexander as bishop of Alexandria, becoming the 20th Patriarch of the Church of Alexandria, a position which he held for 45 years, 16 of which he spent in exile. As a result of rises and falls in Arianism's influence, he was banished from Alexandria only to be later restored on at least five separate occasions, perhaps as many as seven. This gave rise to the *expression Athanasius contra mundus*, *et mundum contra Athanasium* or "While the world is set against Athanasius, Athanasius is equally set against the world." During some of his exiles, he spent time with the Desert Fathers, monks and hermits who lived in remote areas of Egypt.

Athanasius is also the first person to identify the same 27 books of the New Testament that are in use today; up until his Easter letter, various similar lists were in use. However, his list was the one that was eventually ratified by a series of synods and came to universally recognized as the New Testament canon.

He also wrote a biography of Anthony the Great that later served as an inspiration to Christion monastics in both East and the West. The Athanasian Creed is traditionally ascribed to him, though it is likely not his work.

Athanasius was also the first to introduce the forty-day Lent to the Greek Churches in Egypt through his writing of Festal Letter XII around 337.

Over the course of his life, Athanasius was banished five times and spent 17 years of his life in exile for the defense of the doctrine of Christ's divinity.

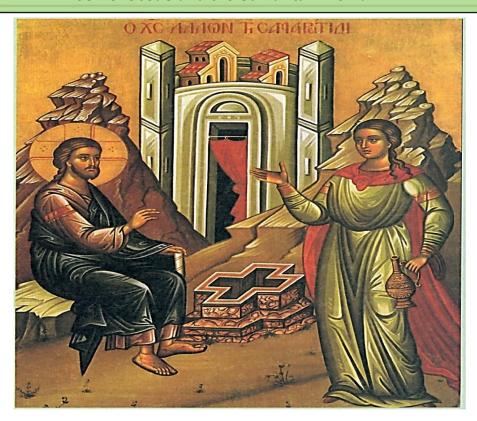
However, the last years of his life were peaceful and he died on May 2, 373 in Alexandria. His body was transferred first to Constantinople then to Venice.

The saint was originally buried in Alexandria. His holy body was later transferred to Italy, Pope Shenouda III restored the relics of St. Athanasius to Egypt on 15 May 1973, after his historical visit to the Vatican and meeting with Pope Paul VI. The relics of St. Athanasius the Great of Alexandria are currently preserved under the new St. Mark Coptic Orthodox Cathedral in Deir El-Anba Rowais, Abbassiya, Cairo, Egypt.

St. Athanasius is often shown as a bishop arguing with pagan, a bishop holding an open book or a bishop standing over a defeated heretic. He is a patron saint of theologians, and faithful Orthodox and Roman Catholic Christians and hailed to this day as a great Defender of the Faith.

Our parish celebrates St. Athanasius feast day on May 2.

FIFTH SUNDAY OF PASCHA – SUNDAY OF THE SAMARITAN WOMAN - Icon of Jesus and the Samaritan Woman



Water Gushing Up to Eternal Life

The woman who came to the well represents the Church, not as already made upright but as still needing redemption. She comes in ignorance and finds Christ. It is part of the prefiguration that she should come of an alien people, for the Church would be drawn from nations that were strangers to Israel. Let us recognize ourselves in this woman and, through her, thank God in our own behalf. For she was a shadow, not reality, or, rather, she herself passed from shadow to reality when she believed in Christ and showed us the way.

The woman had brought her own water jar with her and was surprised therefore at Christ's request, for Jews did not use the utensils of foreigners. But he who asked for a drink was really thirsting for the woman's faith.

Christ thus asks for water and promises water. He is in need and wants to receive; he is rich and wants to quench the thirst of others. "If you only knew God's gift," he says. God's gift is the Holy Spirit. But Christ is still speaking in a veiled fashion and only gradually makes his way into the woman's heart. He is teaching her, but how gently and kindly! "If you only knew God's gift and realized who asks you for a drink, you would perhaps be asking him instead, and he would be giving you living water." What water is this but the water the psalmist speaks of: "in you is the fountain of life?" Christ was promising therefore the quenching of thirst which the Holy Spirit brings.

From the Commentary on St. John by St. Augustine