



Sunday, May 1, 2022

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

Parish Priest: Fr. Vasyl Tymishak
Cell Phone: 306-519-9030

E-mail: vasyltymishak@gmail.com

Parish Office: 306-543-8008

E-mail: stathanasius@sasktel.net

Website: www.st-athanasius.ca

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

Parish Council President – Len Markewich

Cell phone (call or text) : 306-536-4252

UCWLC President – Iryna Baran

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

ROSARY: Sunday – 9:10 a.m. (livestreaming)

DIVINE LITURGY: Sunday - 9:30 a.m. for the faithful. (livestreaming)

Weekday Liturgies – as scheduled

Confessions before every Divine Liturgy & Week Day Liturgies – As per the schedule

MEMBERSHIP AT ST. ATHANASIUS PARISH is recognized by participating in the Sunday Divine Liturgy and by fulfilling your baptismal responsibility in contributing 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: 1-416-262-9670

Parish Council Trustee – Arun Abraham Phone: (1-306-891-4302)

E-mail: abru.arun@gmail.com

MASK FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENT

Please respect each other's choice whether or not they wear a mask.

Thank you for your consideration.



UPDATE ON PUBLIC HEALTH ORDERS FOR SASKATCHEWAN

Effective February 28, 2022

>> All COVID-19 public health orders have now ended for everyone in Saskatchewan.

- Masking is no longer mandatory in all indoor public spaces including schools, establishments, businesses and event venues.
- Rapid test kits will continue to be available at over 600 locations across the province.

saskatchewan.ca/COVID19 #COVID19SK

Saskatchewan



Although masks are not mandatory in our parish, we encourage you to continuing wearing a mask!

Welcome to all visitors and parishioners who are celebrating the Liturgy with us today. All are invited to the auditorium for coffee, juice, cookies and socializing.

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. As our video will stream on Facebook, we will comply with that website's regulations.

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.



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>

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.*

Христос Воскрес! Воистину Воскрес! 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.

SUNDAY OF THE MYRRH-BEARING WOMEN

TROPAR (Tone 2): When You went down to death, O Life Immortal, You struck Hades dead with the blazing light of Your divinity. When You raised the dead from the nether world, all the powers of heaven cried out: “O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory be to You!”

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 2): By your Resurrection, O Christ our God, You told the women bringing ointment to rejoice; and You stilled the weeping of Eve, the first mother. You instructed the women to announce to your apostles: “The Savior has risen from the tomb.”

PROKIMEN (Tone 6): Save Your people, O Lord, and bless Your inheritance.

VERSE: To you, O Lord, I call; O my Rock, be not deaf to me.

EPISTLE: A reading from the Acts of the Apostles (6:1-7)

In those days, as the number of disciples grew, the ones who spoke Greek complained that their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution of food, as compared with the widows of those who spoke Hebrew. The Twelve assembled the community of the disciples and said, “It is not right for us to neglect the word of God in order to wait on tables. Look around among your own number, brothers, for seven men acknowledged to be deeply spiritual and prudent, and we shall appoint them to this task. This will permit us to concentrate on prayer and the ministry of the word.” The proposal was unanimously accepted by the community. Following this they selected Stephen, a man filled with faith and the Holy Spirit; Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus of Antioch, who had been a convert to Judaism. They presented these men to the apostles, who first prayed over them and then imposed hands on them. The

word of God continued to spread, while at the same time the number of the disciples in Jerusalem enormously increased. There were many priests among those who embraced the faith.

ALLELUIA VERSES: *You have favored, O Lord, your land; you have restored the well-being of Jacob.*

Kindness and truth shall meet; justice and peace shall kiss.

GOSPEL: Mark 15:43 -16:8

At that time Joseph from Arimathea arrived--a distinguished member of the Sanhedrin. He was another who looked forward to the reign of God. He was bold enough to seek an audience with Pilate and urgently requested the body of Jesus. Pilate was surprised that Jesus should have died so soon. He summoned the centurion and inquired whether Jesus was already dead. Pilate released the corpse to Joseph. Then, having bought a linen shroud, Joseph took him down, wrapped him in the linen, and laid him in a tomb which had been cut out of rock. Finally, he rolled a stone across the entrance of the tomb. Meanwhile, Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Jesus observed where he had been laid. When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought perfumed oils with which they intended to go and anoint Jesus. Very early, just after sunrise, on the first day of the week they came to the tomb. They were saying to one another, "Who will roll back the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" When they looked, they found that the stone had been rolled back (It was a huge one.) On entering the tomb they saw a young man sitting at the right, dressed in a white robe. This frightened them thoroughly, but he reassured them: "You need not be amazed! You are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, the one who was crucified. He has been raised up; he is not here. See the place where they laid him. Go now and tell his disciples and Peter, 'He is going ahead of you to Galilee, where you will see him just as he told you.'" They made their way out and fled from the tomb bewildered and trembling: and because of their great fear, they said nothing to anyone.

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.

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! Alleluia!

INSTEAD OF 'Blessed is He who come....', '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!
or

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!

At the conclusion of Liturgy:

EASTER REFRAIN: Christ is risen from the dead, by death He conquered death, and to those in the graves He granted life. (3X)

ENDING: He granted us eternal life, we exalt and glorify His Resurrection.



NOW THAT COVID restrictions have been lifted and we start to see a return to some normalcy, we are looking for volunteers to be tabulators, (to open and count the envelopes after Sunday Liturgy). There is still time to enjoy a coffee afterwards. All interested **ladies** and **gentlemen** are asked to provide their names, e-mail addresses, and phone numbers to Rosanne Miller who will then prepare a schedule. Please contact Rosanne via email at gtmiller@myaccess.ca or by phone at 306-543-5773. No experience necessary as training is available!



COFFEE SCHEDULE: Coffee and socializing after Sunday Divine Liturgy has resumed. Please, if you can sign up for a Sunday to serve coffee, juice and cookies this would be very much appreciated. Coffee schedule sign up sheets are located in the front foyer desk and on the kitchen table. If no one signs up for serving this would be an indicator no one is interested in having coffee after Sunday Divine Liturgy and will be discontinued. Also, the parish is looking for someone to be in charge of purchasing supplies for this weekly event. If you have questions, Carl and Linda Korchynski would be able to answer them. Please, help out when you can.

APRIL/MAY GREETERS	
May 1	Maggie Stephen & Len Markewich
May 8	Mark & Karen Woitas
May 15	Terry & Rosanne Miller
May 22	Carl & Linda Korchynski

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE May 2– May 8, 2022

Monday, May 2 - Our Father Among the Saints Athanasius the Great (373) the Patron of Our Church [Acts 6:8-7:5](#), [47-60](#); [John 4:46-54](#)

10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy for all faithful of St. Athanasius Parish – **livestreaming**

Tuesday, May 3 - The Repose of our Venerable Father Theodosius, of the Caves at Kyiv. [Acts 8:5-17](#); [Hebrews 13:7-16](#); [John 6:27-33](#); [Matthew 11:27-30](#)

10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy for repose of the soul of +Mary Skolney 40 days memorial

Wednesday, May 4 - The Holy Martyr Pelagia [Acts 8:18-25](#); [John 6:35-39](#)

10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy for health and God's blessing upon Rosanne Miller -**livestreaming**

6:00 p.m. Moleben to the Blessed Virgin Mary - **livestreaming**

6:30 p.m. Marriage Preparation

Thursday, May 5 - The Holy and Glorious Martyr Irene (321-23); Our Venerable Father Nicephoras, Hegumen of the Monastery at Medicius [Acts 8:26-39](#); [John 6:40-44](#)

10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy for health of Cynthia Misko, requested by Tony & Joanna Mazyn

Friday, May 6 - The Holy, Just and Long-suffering Job Abstention from meat and foods that contain meat. [Acts 8:40-9:19](#); [John 6:48-54](#)

No service scheduled

Saturday, 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); the Holy Martyr Acacius (286-305) [Acts 9:20-31](#); [John 15:17-16:2](#)

4:00 p.m. Divine Liturgy in Moose Jaw

Sunday, May 8 - Fourth Sunday after Pascha – Sunday of the Paralytic. Octoechos Tone 3. The Holy Apostle and Evangelist John the Theologian; Our Venerable Father Arsenius the Great (408-50); Arsenius the Great (450) Matins Resurrectional Gospel 4. [Acts 9:32-42](#); [1 John 1:1-7](#); [John 5:1-15](#); [John 19:25-27](#); [21:24-25](#)

9:10 a.m. Rosary **livestreaming**

9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy for faithful - **livestreaming**

3:00 p.m. Divine Liturgy in Glentworth

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR MAY: *For faith-filled young people*

We pray for all young people, called to live life to the fullest; may they see in Mary's life the way to listen, the depth of discernment, the courage that faith generates, and the dedication to service.

MAY FOOD BANK ITEM - *CRACKERS*

Parishioners who are unable to attend Sunday Liturgy on a regular basis can now receive Communion in their homes. If you know of someone who is sick or home bound and requires a visit from Fr. Vasyl or one of the Ministers of Communion please contact Fr. Vasyl Tymishak @ 306- 519-9030 or the parish office @ 306-543-8008.

NOTICE: Although though there are no restrictions on numbers who can attend church services, some people are not comfortable in group settings, therefore we continue our livestreaming of services. Our parish expenses continue and it would be very much appreciated if you could continue to support 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@sasktel.net. PLEASE COMPLETE THE MESSAGE FIELD and DO NOT USE ALIAS NAMES WHEN SENDING AN E-TRANSFER DONATION.

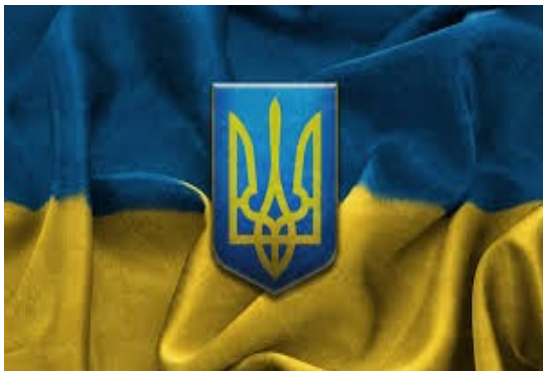
April 24 Donations: 26 Sunday donation envelopes - \$910; 6 Easter Offering envelopes - \$400, 2 Holy Land envelopes - \$50; 2 Aid to Ukraine envelopes - \$65; Decals & Ribbons - \$10; 2 Building Fund envelopes - \$45; 3 Visitor envelopes -\$60; Loose Change - \$30.

E-Transfers – 4 regular donations - \$140; 1 Easter Offering donation - \$250; 1 Holy Land donation - \$25.

HELP TO UKRAINIANS ARRIVING IN REGINA: Fr. Vasyl and the parish office have received calls, emails, and inquiries regarding what help is needed, and how can I help? People are willing to donate/provide housing, food, household goods, toiletries, etc. A database has been created at our parish where the information of the donors and donations are being stored. When a person or family arrives in Regina, we can search the data base for what is needed, and make arrangements to contact the person/people who are willing to provide what is required, and make arrangements to pick the items up. If you wish to be included in this data base, please contact the parish office either by email (stathanasius@sasktel.net) or phone (306-543-8008) and leave your name, and contact information (email, telephone).



ST. A'S APPEAL FOR AID TO UKRAINE



As we witness the horrors occurring throughout Ukraine many are asking, how they can help.

St. Athanasius has created the Aid for Ukraine Appeal that will run throughout April. Anyone who wishes to donate can do so in person, using the Aid for Ukraine envelopes available at the church, or online using "Aid for Ukraine Appeal" and your envelope number in the message box. All donations will be included on your 2022 Income Tax receipt. Also, you may e-transfer, to stathandeposit@sasktel.net. Please note, if you are non-parishioner making a donation, please to **complete the message field** stating donation to

Aid to Ukraine, your complete name and address so we can mail a receipt to you at the end of the year.

As the needs of millions of refugees continues to evolve, Father Vasyl has asked that we adapt our donations to help those refugees arriving in Regina or forwarded for those in need in Ukraine and we will be working with local and provincial organizations to have those valuable dollars have the maximum impact.

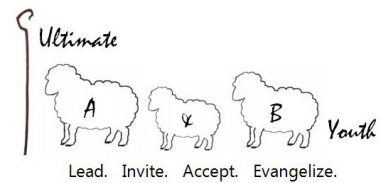
Thank You and God Bless,
St. Athanasius Parish Council

NOTICE OF YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT EVENTS!



G.A.N.G Young Adults – Lunch and Learn on Saturday, May 14 beginning at 11:30am. Location will be announced closer to the event. We will order lunch in and view the topic "Who is Mary?" from the Chosen series

Ultimate A & B Youth – Next event is **Friday, May 13 from 7:15-9:15pm at St. Athanasius Parish**. All the activities for the evening will be focused on Mary, Jesus' mother!



If you have questions about either event above or would like to be added to our email list, please email Lesia at ultimateaandb@hotmail.com.

LIFE ON PURPOSE 4-PART SERIES

Beginning on Thursday, May 19, 2022, there is the opportunity to participate in a 4-part series entitled "Life on Purpose."

This series is designed to help equip and inspire you to live a full life of purpose and meaning in Jesus.

Just a brief overview:

When? Thursday nights (May 19, 26, June 2 and 9) from 7:00-8:30pm (Note dates are subject to change)

Topics: This is For You; Joining His Heart; Our First Response; An Invitation can go a long way

Who? Anyone ages 15 and older

Where? Virtually on MS Teams



To register/Questions: Email Lesia/Maggie (ultimateaandb@hotmail.com) by May 16

PROLIFE Personal Prayer Intentions to Pentecost 2022

May 1 - 3rd Sunday of Easter, Myrrh-Bearing Women



Like the Myrrh-Bearing Women, we pray that we will generously bring to the Lord our gifts of prayer and acts of mercy for all those who are vulnerable to abortion and euthanasia. May we take our responsibilities to reverence and protect human life as seriously as the Myrrh Bearers took their responsibilities towards your Holy body, and that we may overcome every fear, to powerfully radiate the life and the resurrection of our Lord.

NOW HIRING: St. Michael's Camp Staff for July 4-23, 2022!

Available positions include counsellors (16+) and camp director (21+). Come gain experience working with children and youth, build your resume, receive an honorarium, grow in your faith and build your leadership skills! Apply by sending your resume to camp@stmichaelscamp.com by May 15th.



St. Michael's Summer Camps

Come join us for days full of canoeing/kayaking, swimming, arts/crafts, spiritual growth, campfire singing, outdoor games, great food and create long lasting friendships!

MINI Youth Camp (July 7-10) ages 8-13, \$155

Day Camp (July 7, 8, 9) ages 8-13, \$40/day, 9:30am -8:00pm Youth Camp (July 10-16) ages 8-13, \$300 (early bird \$250) Teen Camp (July 17-23) ages 13-16, \$300 (early bird \$250)

EARLY BIRD PRICING BEFORE MAY 1st! To register-email camp@stmichaelscamp.com
Interested in donating to our child/youth summer camp programs? Contact us at camp@stmichaelscamp.com to find out how. All donations are greatly appreciated!

Easter CD: "Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen! Христос Воскрес! Воістину Воскрес!"



St. Athanasius Parish, Regina, Sk. is very pleased to offer a CD of traditional Easter songs and hymns, in both English and Ukrainian! You can enjoy our traditional Easter songs in this Pasqual Season till May 25 this year.

This recording was completed by members of our Parish Choir in 2021. The music that resulted is a heartfelt expression of the Joy of the Resurrection that we wish to share with you!

If a digital download is your preference, please contact Fr. Vasyl at

vasyltymishak@gmail.com and a link will be sent to you for a

download. Words to these songs are on St. Athanasius website:

<https://st-athanasius.ca/nl/liturgical-text>.

Here is a sample of the kind of hymns you can expect to hear on this Easter CD <https://st-athanasius.ca/nl/new-easter-cd-2021>

The Physical CD's are available by contacting us at stathanasius@sasktel.net or by calling parish office at 306-543-8008 (Tuesday-Thursday 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.)

We wish you Peace and Joy this Easter Season and beyond!

Singers & Fr. Vasyl



Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Saskatoon
Українська Католицька Єпархія Саскатуну

214 Avenue M South Saskatoon, SK S7M 2K4 Canada
Office: (306) 653-0138 email: admin.skeparchy@sasktel.net
Fax: (306) 665-2569 personal email: bishopbayda@icloud.com

022 #009

Christ Is Risen ! Indeed He Is Risen!

April 21, 2022

To all clergy and staff of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Saskatoon,

1. Effective Monday, March 16, 2022, the Government of the Province of Saskatchewan has announced the end of public masking requirements in most non-medical settings. We anticipate that local municipalities will follow the lead of the province in removing bylaws requiring masks, but you have to verify with the local health authority. Accordingly, our churches, halls and offices will also no longer require masking, unless stipulated otherwise by municipal authorities. *(This change will be stressful for some members of our community and we ask that you continue to pastorally help those who are isolated, sick and afraid, as you have done throughout the pandemic. Some people will still want to wear masks in churches and offices, and they should not be discouraged from doing so).*
2. **Revoking the letter of March 13, 2020, on-line participation in Divine Liturgy is no longer considered a fulfillment of one's obligation for Sundays and Feasts, with the exception of those in poor health, who would be unable to attend church in normal circumstances.**
3. The use of **individual chalices (for clergy) and individual spoons** for distribution of Holy Communion is to continue until further notice.
4. Only **non-contact veneration** of icons and crosses (e.g. for the Sunday of the Cross) is permitted (i.e. no kissing of sacred objects) and it is to continue until further notice.
5. The use of **hand sanitizer** upon entry to the church and/or parish hall remains a best-practice and is encouraged. Therefore, it is recommended that sanitizing stations remain in place and signage regarding use of hand sanitizer continue to be posted in parishes at this time.
6. Parishioners should be encouraged to continue **self-screening for Covid-19** symptoms and stay home if they have any symptoms.

In Christ,

✠ Bryan Bayda, CSsR

Fr. Ivan Nahachewsky Chancellor

STEWARDSHIP

Much will be required
of those to whom
much
is given
Luke 12:48

2022 Annual
Eparchial
APPEAL

Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Saskatoon | Ukrainian Catholic Foundation of Saskatchewan Corporation

***“For much will be required of those to whom much is given”
(Luke 12:48).***

The 2022 Annual Eparchial Appeal has now begun in earnest. Over the next 4 weeks we will feature one of the Eparchial Ministries/Organizations supported by the Annual Eparchial Appeal through the Parish Bulletin Inserts.

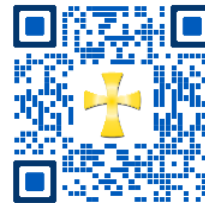
Today, the Parish Bulletin Insert features the program offered through the Ukrainian Catholic Religious Education Centre – the Eparchial Faith Formation Program. Please take this opportunity to learn about this ministry and all it has to offer. They provide significant benefits, not only to our Eparchy as a whole, but more particularly to your Parish.

In addition, if you want more information concerning the Annual Eparchial Appeal, or if you would like to listen to some of the testimonials from individuals who have participated in the various Eparchial Ministry programs, please go to the Ukrainian Catholic Foundation of Saskatchewan’s website at www.ucfsask.org or view the Eparchial YouTube channel playlist:

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLk1Hh7jwlTmHskhbSm3dilyUvgiWwM_Bz

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.



Please give prayerful consideration to supporting the Annual Eparchial Appeal. Your gift to the 2022 Appeal will make a significant difference and will serve as a powerful witness of our God’s love and mercy.

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.**



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 Faith.

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 Christian 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 2nd.

SUNDAY OF THE MYRRH-BEARING WOMEN



Icon of the Myrrh-bearing Women

The Myrrh-Bearing Women

The Sunday of the Myrrh- Bearing Women ... reminds us that the love and faithfulness of a few individuals shone brightly in the midst of hopeless darkness. It calls us to ensure that in this world love and faithfulness do not disappear or die out. It judges our lack of courage, our fear, our endless and servile rationalizations. The mysterious Joseph and Nicodemus, and these women who go to the grave at dawn, occupy so little space in the gospels. Precisely here, however, is where the eternal fate of each of us is decided.

Today, I think, we are especially in need of recovering this love and basic human loyalty. For we have entered a time when even these are being discredited by harmful concepts of the person and human life now prevailing in this world. For centuries, the world still had the weak, but still flickering and shining, glow from that faithfulness, love and co-suffering which was silently present at the sufferings of the Man cast aside by all. And we need to cling, as if to a last thread, to everything in our world that still thrives on the warm light of simple, earthly, human love. Love does not ask about theories and ideologies, but speaks to the heart and soul. Human history has rumbled along, kingdoms have risen and fallen, cultures have been built and bloody wars fought, but what has remained unchanging on earth and in this troubled and tragic history is the bright image of the woman. An image of care, self-giving, love, compassion. Without this presence, without this light, our world, regardless of its successes and accomplishments, would be a world of terror.

Father Alexander Schmemmann