



Sunday, December 18, 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

UCBC President - Mark Woitas

Ultimate A&B Youth - Lesia Lazurko

Knights of Columbus – Curtis Stechyshyn, Grand Knight

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

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

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

DIVINE LITURGY in Ukrainian – the first Sunday of each month at 11:30 a.m.

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

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.

We have completed the installation of our security system for the parish complex and rectory. Please be advised there is 24 hour video coverage of the church facility and rectory.

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>

DECEMBER GREETERS		DECEMBER TABULATORS
Dec. 18	Maggie Stephen & Bernice Bzdell	Carl Korchynski & Cliff Rakochy
Dec. 24	Terry & Rosanne Miller	(Ushers) Walter Brigidear & Art Wytrykush
Dec. 25	Volunteers	(Ushers) Volunteers

DECEMBER ROSARY		DECEMBER READERS
Dec. 18	Byzantine Joyful: Karen Woitas	Karen Woitas
Dec. 24	Christmas Compline	Peter Federko
Dec. 25	Christmas Compline	Phyllis Lukey (Eng) Alla Tymishak (Ukr)

Glory Be To Jesus Christ! Glory Be Forever! Слава Ісусу Христу! Слава на віки!

SUNDAY BEFORE THE NATIVITY OF CHRIST
- The Holy Fathers

TROPAR (Tone 3): Let the heavens be glad, let the earth rejoice, for the Lord has done a mighty deed with His arm. He trampled death by death; He became the first born of the dead; He saved us from the abyss of Hades and granted great mercy to the world.

TROPAR OF THE HOLY FATHERS (Tone 2): The three young men who are the great guides of the faith, rejoiced in the pit of flame as if they were in a water of rest; and the prophet Daniel appeared as a shepherd to the lions. O Christ God, save our souls for their sake.

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

KONDAK OF THE HOLY FATHERS (Tone 6): You did not worship a man-made image, O thrice-blessed youths, but were glorified in the test of fire, protected by a power beyond description. From the searing flames you cried out to God, saying: Hasten to help us, O merciful Lord, for in your greatness You can do whatever You will.

PROKIMEN (Tone 4): Blessed are you, and praiseworthy, O Lord, the God of our fathers, and glorious forever is your name.

VERSE: For you are just in all you have done.

EPISTLE: A reading from the Epistle to the Hebrews (11: 9-10; 17-23; 32-40)

Brothers and Sisters! By faith Abraham sojourned in the promised land as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs of the same promise; for he was looking forward to the city with foundations whose designer and maker is God. By faith Abraham, when put to the test, offered up Isaac; he who had received the promises was ready to sacrifice his only son, of whom it was said, "Through Isaac shall your descendants be called." He reasoned that God was able to raise from the dead, and so he received Isaac back as a symbol. By faith Isaac invoked for Jacob and Esau blessings

that were still to be. By faith Jacob, when dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, and worshipped God, leaning on the head of his staff. By faith Joseph, near the end of his life spoke of the Exodus of the Israelites, and gave instructions about his burial. By faith Moses' parents hid him for three months after his birth, thereby disregarding the king's edict because they saw that he was a beautiful child. What more shall I recount? I have no time to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets, who by faith conquered kingdoms, did what was just, obtained the promises; they broke the jaws of lions, put out raging fires, escaped the devouring sword; though weak they were made powerful, became strong in battle, and turned back foreign invaders. Women received back their dead through resurrection. Others were tortured and would not receive deliverance, in order to obtain a better resurrection. Still others endured mockery, scourging, even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, sawed in two, put to death at sword's point; they went about garbed in the skins of sheep or goats, needy, afflicted, tormented. The world was not worthy of them. They wandered about in deserts and on mountains, they dwelt in caves and in holes of the earth. Yet despite the fact that all of these were approved because of their faith, they did not obtain what had been promised. God had made a better plan, a plan which included us. Without us, they were not to be made perfect.

ALLELUIA VERSES: O God, our ears have heard, our fathers have declared to us. But you have saved us from our foes, and those who hated us you put to shame.

GOSPEL: Matthew 1: 1-25

A family record of Jesus Christ, Son of David, son of Abraham. Abraham was the father of Isaac. Isaac the father of Jacob. Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers. Judah was the father of Perez and Zerah, whose mother was Tamar. Perez was the father of Hezron, Hezron the father of Ram. Ram was the father of Amminadab, Amminadab the father of Nahshon, Nahshon the father of Salmon. Salmon was the father of Boaz, whose mother was Rahab, Boaz was the father of Obed, whose mother was Ruth. Obed was the father of Jesse, Jesse the father of King David, David was the father of Solomon, whose mother had been the wife of Uriah. Solomon was the father of Rehoboam, Rehoboam the father of Abijah, Abijah the father of Asa. Asa was the father of Jehosaphat, Jehosaphat the father of Joram, Joram the father of Uzziah. Uzziah was the father of Jotham, Jotham the father of Ahaz, Ahaz the father of Hezekiah. Hezekiah was the father of Manasseh, Manasseh the father of Amos, Amos the father of Josiah. Josiah became the father of Jechoniah and his brothers at the time of the Babylonian exile. After the Babylonian exile Jechoniah was the father of Shealtiel, Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel. Zerubbabel was the father of Abiud, Abiud the father of Eliakim, Eliakim the father of Azor. Azor was the father of Zadok, Zadok the father of Achim, Achim the father of Eliud. Eliud was the father of Eleazar, Eleazar the father of Matthan, Matthan the father of Jacob. Jacob was the

father of Joseph the husband of Mary. It was of her that Jesus who is called the Messiah was born. Thus the total number of generations is: from Abraham to David, fourteen generations; from David to the Babylonian captivity, fourteen generations; from the Babylonian captivity to the Messiah, fourteen generations. Now this is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about. When his mother Mary was engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found with child through the power of the Holy Spirit. Joseph her husband, an upright man unwilling to expose her to the law, decided to divorce her quietly. Such was his intention when suddenly the angel of the Lord appeared in a dream and said to him: "Joseph, son of David, have no fear about taking Mary as your wife. It is by the Holy Spirit that she has conceived this child. She is to have a son and you are to name him Jesus because he will save his people from their sins." All this happened to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: "The virgin shall be with child and give birth to a son, and they shall call him Emmanuel," a name which means "God is with us." When Joseph awoke he did as the angel of the Lord had directed him and received her into his home as his wife. He had no relations with her at any time before she bore a son, whom he named Jesus.

COMMUNION HYMN: Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest. Exult, you just, in the Lord; praise from the upright is fitting. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

PRE-CHRISTMAS CONFESSIONS - will be held at St. Basil's on Tuesday, December 20nd, at 7:00 p.m. with Confessions by Fr. Vasyl Tymishak from St. Athanasius. Wednesday, December 21st, at 7:00 p.m. Moleben at St. Athanasius with Confessions by Fr. Warren Dungen from St. Basil's. Fr. Vasyl is also available before or after Sunday services as well as during the week.

POPE's PRAYER INTENTION FOR DECEMBER: *For Volunteer Not-for-Profit Organizations.* We pray that volunteer no-profit organizations committed to human development find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international cooperation.

DECEMBER FOOD BANK ITEM – Baby Food

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE December 19 – December 25, 2022

Monday, December 19 - The Holy Martyr Boniface (230) Nativity Fast. [Hebrews 3:5-11, 17-19; Luke 20:27-44](#)
No service scheduled - No Catechism – Clergy day off

Tuesday, December 20 - Forefeast of the Nativity of Christ; the Holy Priest-Martyr Ignatius the Godbearer (110) Nativity Fast. [Hebrews 4:1-13; Luke 21:12-19](#)

7:00 p.m. Liturgical Service at St. Basil's with Confessions by Fr. Vasyl Tymishak

Wednesday, December 21 - Forefeast of the Nativity of Christ; the Holy Martyr Juliana of Nicomedia (284-305) Nativity Fast. Abstention from meat and foods that contain meat. [Hebrews 5:11-6:8; Luke 21:5-7, 10-11, 20-24](#)

10:00am Divine Liturgy for + Walter Carl (Wally) Hook, requested by UCWLC of St.A's Branch

7:00 p.m. Service at St. Athanasius with Confessions by Fr. Warren Dungen

Thursday, December 22 - Forefeast of the Nativity of Christ; The Holy Great-Martyr Anastasia (305) Nativity Fast. [Hebrews 7:1-6; Luke 21:28-33](#)

Church decorating for Christmas - No service scheduled

Friday, December 23 - Forefeast of the Nativity of Christ; Nativity Fast.

10:00 a.m. The Royal Hours

Saturday, December 24 - Eve of the Nativity of Christ, [Galatians 3:8-12; Luke 13:18-29](#)

10:00 a.m. Christmas DL in Glentworth

1:00 p.m. Christmas DL in Hodgeville

4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve DL in Moose Jaw

9:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Divine Liturgy at St. Athanasius – livestreaming

Sunday, December 25 - The Nativity in the Flesh of Our Lord, God and Saviour Jesus Christ Christmas Feast of our Lord. Holy Day of obligation. [Galatians 4:4-7; Matthew 2:1-12](#)

10:00 a.m. Christmas Divine Liturgy at St. Athanasius followed by VERTEP/Ukrainian Christmas Theatre – livestreaming

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.

December 11 Donations: 36 Regular Sunday envelopes - \$1530; 4 Building Fund envelopes - \$820; 4 Christmas Flower envelopes - \$90; 1 Visitor envelope - \$20; 2

Aid to Ukraine envelopes - \$907.14; 8 Memorial Tree envelopes - \$390; Loose Change - \$75.

E-Transfer Donations: 5 donations - \$270; 2 Memorial Tree donation - \$75



Dates for St. A's Carollers - Dec. 26 or Dec. 27, 2022

Are you interested in having few of us from the Choir come to your home and sing a couple carols with you this Christmas Season? We are gauging the interest from our Parishioners to see if we should do this.

In past years, our personal circumstances and the pandemic certainly waylaid carolling plans along with everything else. This year – 2022, as tough as it's been for many in our parish family – let us together proclaim the Holy Birth of Christ, Our Saviour, our Victory!

Times (weather permitting)– starting *about* 5:45 PM to *about* 8:45 PM (we will be squeakier later but might actually sound better)

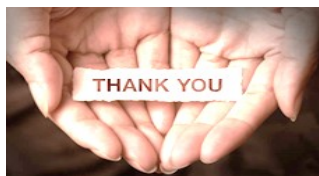
Dates – Mon. Dec. 26 and Tues. Dec. 27

Wish to have us stop by?

Contact by email, phone, or text - Phyllis Lukey, pllukey@gmail.com; cell # 306-529-8152 (leave a message please)

Please give **your name, address, phone number, email (if you have), and the date that might work** best for you.

If there is much more interest than we can handle in two evenings, we might add another evening or two sometime during the Holy Season if people are available.



Glory Be to Jesus Christ

Glory Be Forever

A sincere thank you to everyone who came to clean our church on December 10. The event went very well with 17 people coming to help.

God Bless you all for volunteering your time and energy.

PEROGIES & CABBAGE ROLLS: Thank you to all the parishioners who came out to help with the making of perogies. Orders are being accepted for the sale of perogies. Cost is \$12/2 dozen bag. The perogies and cabbage rolls (made and sold by the UCWLC) will be available for pick up on Wednesday, December 21, from 6:30-9:00pm.



DONATIONS FOR PONSEITTAS to decorate our church for Christmas are now being accepted. Please use either the specifically marked envelopes provided at the back of the church, etransfers, or include with your regular donations and indicate “Christmas flower donation”. Thank You!



CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL TREE: Once again the memorial tree is set up in the front foyer. Christmas is a time to spend with loved ones, family and friends, and to remember those who are no longer with us in person but are with us in spirit. If you wish to donate, you may do so by placing your money and family names in the marked envelopes at the back of the church and then placed in the Sunday collection basket. E-Transfers are accepted, please indicate in the message field the names of the deceased member/members for whom you are donating. Fr. Vasyl will have the Panakhyda for all those departed family and friends on Thursday, January 26, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. All funds received will be directed to purchase icons for the church.



THEOPHANY SUPPER: Plans are now underway to have our annual Theophany supper. It will be held on Thursday, January 5, 2023, following the blessing of holy water at 5:00pm. Tickets will be on sale today, following liturgy and MUST BE purchased or reserved by January 2, 2023. Ticket costs are \$20/adult, \$15/youth (6-12 years), and free for children under 6 years. To purchase or reserve your tickets, please see Rosanne after Liturgy or contact her at 306-543-5773.

2023 SUNDAY DONATION ENVELOPES are available for pick up during scheduled Divine Liturgy services or during office hours, Tuesday – Thursday, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Please phone 306-543-8008 during office hours to arrange for pick up of your donation envelopes. If there is an error or if you did not receive a set of envelopes, please contact the office. Although you may make your donations through e-transfers or are set up on pre authorized givings, **the designated box of envelopes belong to you and we would like them picked up at your earliest convenience.** Also, we would appreciate if you could include your e-mail address and any changes to your current address on your first donation envelope.

YEAR END IS FAST APPROACHING: If you wish to give a donation to the parish, all donations must be received in the parish office by *Monday, December 26th*, in order to be included on the 2022 tax receipt. Any donations received after that date will be included on the 2023 receipt.

PRIEST's CHRISTMAS GIFTS: Tax receipts cannot be issued for the *monetary gifts* given to a priest. This is a "gift of love" with no service rendered. If you are using a cheque, the cheque must be made payable to Fr. Vasyl Tymishak.



St. A's UCWLC are selling 2023 Musèe Ukraina Museum calendars after Sunday Liturgies. Contact Lena Bihun 306-543-3283 or Marie Brigidear 306-949-7493 to pick up your lucky calendars. Lottery #RR22-0403

Support MUM



2023 Julian and Gregorian Calendars are available at the parish. We have a limited amount of calendars, therefore, we encourage one calendar per family. If you know of someone who is in a care home or is not comfortable to attend church but would like a calendar, please do not hesitate to take a calendar for them.



SAVE THE DATE!

The 2023 Lock-in Retreat will take place Friday, January 27, 2023 and Saturday, January 28, 2023 at St. Basil's Parish Centre in Regina, SK.

The theme this year is "Refocus".

More details to come in January 2023!

In the mean time if you have questions, please email Lesia/Maggie at ultimateaandb@hotmail.com.

**COME JOIN AND CELEBRATE UKRAINIAN
CHRISTMAS THEATRE (VERTEP) and SOCIAL
AT ST. ATHANASIUS PARISH**

Saturday, January 7th, 2023. Celebration will begin after the 11:00 A.M. Ukrainian Divine Liturgy. Dinner will be catered by Charlotte's Catering. Tickets are being sold before and after Sunday, Divine Liturgy. All tickets must be purchased by Sunday, January 1st, 2023.

Adult Tickets: \$30, Youth: 7 – 12yrs - \$15.00, Under 6 – Free

St. Athanasius Displaced Ukrainian's do not have to purchase a ticket however they are required to register in order to obtain a ticket. Tickets are available from Gerry Syrota phone – 306-533-9914 or Father Vasyl Tymishak – 306-519-9030.



HELP TO UKRAINIANS ARRIVING IN REGINA: St. Athanasius Social Justice Committee wants to hear from the Displaced Ukrainian who have arrived in Regina. The front desk at the church has envelopes addressed to Ukrainian Refugees. Inside of the envelope is a form to be completed with the items you may need such as clothing, household items, food etc. Once you have completed the form, please place your sealed envelope in the basket or give to Father Vasyl and the Social Justice Committee will be in contact with you. All forms completed will remain confidential.

DOPOMOHA: Donation Centre is located at 1660 Park Street for furniture, bedding and clothing, across the street clothing items at 1629 Park Street open from **1:00 P.M. – 3:00 P.M., SATURDAY ONLY**. Miscellaneous items at 3303 Grant Road, open from **3:30 P.M. – 5:30 P.M., SATURDAY ONLY**. Displaced Ukrainian refugees may shop at these locations, however, you need to register with UCC at 1860 Lorne Street, Office 106, Regina Sk. to get tickets for entry access.

To Donate Items such as new bedding, excellent condition furniture and winter outer wear clothing can be taken to at 1660 Park Street, **SUNDAYS BETWEEN 1:00 P.M. – 3:00 P.M.**

Items such as new toiletries, cleaning supplies, tools, household items will be accepted at 3303 Grant Road, **SUNDAYS BETWEEN 3:30 P.M. – 5:30 P.M.**



Message from the Archbishop's Office

Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Winnipeg

Upon recommendation of his health specialists, Metropolitan Lawrence Huculak recently underwent day surgery for a coronary angiogram at Winnipeg's Saint Boniface Hospital. Following the successful procedure, he will require time to recuperate before returning to his regular pastoral ministry. Metropolitan Lawrence expresses his sincere appreciation to the medical personnel for their dedicated and professional service at all levels, as well as to the faithful for their prayers and support.

9 December 2022

Age 8-14

February 19-25, 2023

Co-ed

\$300

Limited Space

Come & Join US!

WINTER CAMP 2023

Activities Included:

At Madge Lake Saskatchewan

Down Hill Skiing Skating tobogganing
Snow Shoeing Cross Country Skiing

St. Michael's Camp

To register visit our website or email us at
camp@stmichaelscamp.com



UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC FOUNDATION OF SASKATCHEWAN CORPORATION

"SHARE THE SPIRIT" 50/50 LOTTERY DRAW (Lottery License - #LR22-0081)

THANK YOU so very much to all who supported the **"Share the Spirit" 50/50 Lottery Draw**. The response to the lottery has been outstanding this year as well. The total number of tickets sold was **2,872** for a total amount of **\$57,440.00**. This means that the lucky winner of the 2022 "Share the Spirit" Lottery Draw, **Paul & Helen Gingara of Nipawin SK** will receive **\$28,720.00**.

In addition, the amount allocated to the Designated Beneficiaries from the 2022 "Share the Spirit" Lottery Draw will be **\$14,360.00**. The total amount that has been allocated to the Designated Beneficiaries since the inception of the "Share the Spirit" 50/50 Lottery Draw, including the amount for this year, is **\$76,500**. The Ukrainian Catholic Foundation of Saskatchewan, as a member of the Eparchial family, is delighted and proud to be able to share the proceeds of the lottery with the Designated Beneficiaries.

It is important to remember that under the Lottery License rules UNSOLD lottery ticket books ***must be returned to the UCFSASK Office. If you have not already done so, please return the unsold tickets books in the postage paid self-addressed envelope provided in your package.***

Again, **THANK YOU**, for your support of the "Share the Spirit" 50/50 Lottery Draw where the proceeds will not only go towards assisting the Eparchy with offering of the Eparchial Ministries, but also in helping Parishes/Missions and Eparchial Organizations through the Designated Beneficiaries program.

For more detailed information on the "Share the Spirit" 50/50 Lottery, including the list of Designated Beneficiaries, please visit the UCFSASK Website at www.ucfsask.org or call the UCFSASK Office at 306-653-0138, ext 223.

YOU ARE INVITED...



AMONG OUR MOST PRIZED SPIRITUAL CUSTOMS
DURING THE CHRISTMAS SEASON IS CAROLLING:
PROCLAIMING THE BIRTH OF OUR SAVIOUR
WITH OUR NEIGHBOURS AND FRIENDS!
A BLESSING TO BOTH GIVE AND RECEIVE!

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO CAROL THIS CHRISTMAS OR
WISH TO HOST CAROLLERS BETWEEN THE DATES OF
DEC 25 - JAN. 10,
PLEASE CONTACT HOLLY PALUCK AT 306-501-9700.
A SCHEDULE WILL BE CREATED BASED ON
REQUESTS AND AVAILABILITY OF CAROLLERS
OVER THE HOLIDAYS.

DONATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR
THE NEEDS OF ST. ATHANASIUS PARISH;
THOSE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$20 OR GREATER WILL BE
ELIGIBLE FOR A TAX RECEIPT.
FAITH, FUN, & FELLOWSHIP - WHAT COULD BE BETTER!
GOD IS WITH US!

Ви запрошені.....

СЕРЕД НАШИХ НАЙЦІННІШИХ ДУХОВНИХ ЗВИЧАЇВ
У РІЗДВЯНИЙ СЕЗОН Є КОЛЯДУВАННЯ:
ПРОГОЛОШУЮЧИ НАРОДЖЕННЯ НАШОГО
СПАСИТЕЛЯ З НАШИМИ СУСІДАМИ ТА ДРУЗЬЯМИ!
БЛАГОСЛОВЕННЯ ЯК ДАВАТИ, ТАК І ОТРИМУВАТИ!
ЯКЩО ВИ БАЖАЄТЕ КОЛЯДУВАТИ ЦЬОГО РІЗДВА
АБО БАЖАЄТЕ ПРИЙНЯТИ КОЛЯДНИКІВ У ПЕРІОД З
25 ГРУДНЯ ПО 10 СІЧНЯ,

ЗВ'ЯЖІТЬСЯ З ХОЛЛІ ПАЛЮК ЗА НОМЕРОМ
306-501-9700. РОЗКЛАД БУДЕ СТВОРЕНО НА
ОСНОВІ ЗАПИТІВ ТА НАЯВНОСТІ КОЛЯДНИКІВ У
СВЯТКОВІ ДНІ. ПРИЙМАТИМУТЬСЯ ПОЖЕРТВИ НА
[ПОТРЕБИ ПАРАФІЇ СВ. АФАНАСІЯ].

ТІ, ХТО МАЄ СУМУ 20 ДОЛАРІВ АБО БІЛЬШЕ,
МАТИМУТЬ ПРАВО НА ПОДАТКОВУ КВИТАНЦІЮ.
ВІРА, ВЕСЕЛОЩІ ТА СПІЛКУВАННЯ - ЩО МОЖЕ
БУТИ КРАЩЕ??
З НАМИ БОГ!

Christ is Born! Glorify Him!



Христос Рождається! Славимо Його!

SUNDAY BEFORE THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD



Icon of the Holy Ancestor

The Story of the Origin of Jesus Christ, Son of David, and the Rest of the Names

Matthew's genealogy is extraordinarily comprehensive in his theology of the roots of Jesus' story in the Old Testament. But that is only one part of the story of Jesus Christ. The story has a sequence as well; and the continuing sequence is what makes the genealogy "good news" for Matthew's audience and for us. Human beings have been empowered to preserve, proclaim, and convey the salvation brought by Jesus Christ throughout history. The God who wrote the beginnings with crooked lines also writes the sequence with crooked lines, and some of those lines are our own lives and witness.

A God who did not hesitate to use the scheming as well as the noble, the impure as well as the pure, men to whom the world herkened and women upon whom the world frowned - this God continues to work through

the same melange. If it was a challenge to recognize in the last part of Matthew's genealogy that totally unknown people were part of the story of Jesus Christ, it may be a greater challenge to recognize that the unknown characters of today are an essential part of the sequence. The proclamation of that genealogy in the Advent liturgy is designed to give us hope about our destiny and our importance.

By stressing the all-powerful grace of God, the genealogy presents its greatest challenge to those who will accept only an idealized Jesus Christ whose story they would write only with straight lines and whose portrait they would paint only in pastel colors. If we look at the whole story and the total picture, the Gospels teach us that Jesus' ministry was not thus; the history of the church teaches us that the sequence as not thus. God's grace can work even with people like us.

Father Raymond E. Brown, S. S.