

Saint Mary's Romanian Orthodox Church



Romanian Orthodox Episcopate of America (O.C.A.)

3511 3rd Avenue SW, Calgary T3C 0A7

Hierarch: **The Most Reverend Archbishop Nathaniel**

Pastor: **Reverend Father Lucian Constantin**

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November Bulletin 2018

Services' Schedule / Programul Slujbelor

Sunday, November 4th—*Ven. Joannicius the Great; Hieromartyrs Nicander and Hermas; St. Sylvia, mother of Gregory Dialogus. 22nd Sunday after Pentecost. Epis. Galatians 6:11-18. Gos. Luke 16:19-31 (Rich man and Lazarus). Tone 6.*

9:10 am — *Matins/Utrenia*

10:00 am — *Holy Liturgy/ Sfanta Liturghie*

11:30 am — *Memorial Service*

Thursday, November 8th — *+) Synaxis of the Archangels Michael and Gabriel and all the heavenly powers*

6:00 pm - *Akatist , Spiritual Counseling and Confession/ Acatist Consultanta Spirituala si Spovedanie.*

Sunday, November 11th — *+ Great-martyr Menas; Martyrs Victor, Vincent & Stephanida; Ven. Theodore the Studite. 25th Sunday after Pentecost. Epis. Ephesians 4:1-7. Luke 10:25-37 (Good Samaritan). Tone 7.*

9:10 am — *Matins/Utrenia*

10:00 am — *Holy Liturgy/ Sfanta Liturghie*

11:30am - *Pre- Lent lunch*

Thursday, November 15th — *+) Ven. Paisius (Velichkovsky) of Neamtz; Martyrs and Confessors Gurias, Samonas and Habibus the deacon (Beginning of Nativity Fast)*

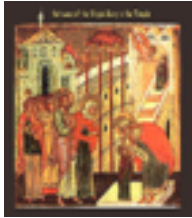
Saturday, November 17th — *Holy Hierarchs Gregory the Wonderworker*

5:00 pm - Vespers/ Vecernia ,Spiritual Counseling and Confession/ Consultanta Spirituala si Spovedanie.

Sunday, November 18th — Martyrs Platon, Romanus & Zacchaeus. 26th Sunday after Pentecost. Epis. Ephesians 5:8-19. Gos. Luke 12:16-21 (Parable of the rich man who hoarded possessions). Tone 8

9:10 am — Matins/Utrenia

10:00 am — Holy Liturgy/ Sfanta Liturghie



Wednesday, November 21st - (+) Entrance of the Birthgiver of God in the Temple

6:00 pm - Akatist and Confession/ Acatist si Spovedanie

Saturday, November 24th - Hieromartyrs Clement, bishop of Rome and Peter, bishop of Alexandria

5:00 pm - Vespers/Vecernie, Spiritual Counseling and Confession/ Consultanta Spirituala si Spovedanie.

Sunday, November 25th - + Great-martyr Catherine; Great-martyr Mercurius (Leave-taking of Entrance of Birthgiver of God in Temple). 30th Sunday after Pentecost. Epis. Colossians 3:12-16. Gos. Luke 18:18-27 (The rich aristocrat). Tone 1.

9:10 am — Matins/Utrenia

10:00 am — Holy Liturgy/ Sfanta Liturghie

Volunteers are needed in several areas. Being involved in your parish helps to build community and form new friendships! Please consider helping out. Call Father Lucian for more information about any of our volunteer roles.

*Altar Servers

*Flowers/Altar Decor

*Lady Auxiliary Committee

*Sunday School Teacher

Your church needs your financial support. Please consider donating regularly and charitably to support YOUR church. "Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously...for God loves a cheerful giver" 2 Corinthians 9:6-7

The Mustard Seed is very happy to receive loaves of sandwiches. We will also be collecting toiletries (tooth brushes, soap, toothpaste,) granola bars, etc. Please be charitable for those less fortunate

Sources of Christian Doctrine

Revelation

Every morning at its Matins Service the Orthodox Church proclaims: "God is the Lord and has revealed Himself unto us; blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord" (Ps 118.26–27). The first foundation of Christian doctrine is found in this biblical line: God has revealed Himself to us.

God has shown Himself to His creatures. He has not disclosed His very innermost being, for this innermost essence of God cannot be grasped by creatures. But God has truly shown what men can see and understand of His divine nature and will.

The fullness and perfection of God's self-revelation is found in His Son Jesus Christ, the fulfillment of the gradual and partial revelation of God in the Old Testament. Jesus is the one truly "blessed . . . Who comes in the name of the Lord."

The first title given to Jesus by the people is that of Rabbi, which literally means teacher. In the English New Testament the word Master also issued in relation to Jesus in the sense of one who teaches, such as a schoolmaster or holder of a master's degree. Jesus' followers are also called disciples, which literally means students or pupils.

Jesus came to men first of all as the Teacher sent from God. He teaches the will of God and makes God known to men. He reveals fully—as fully as men can grasp—the mysteries of the Kingdom of God.

The coming of Jesus as teacher is one aspect of his being Christ the Messiah. The word Christ in Greek is the word for the Hebrew Messiah which means the Anointed of God. For when the messiah would come, it was foretold, men would be "taught by God" (Is 54.13, Jn 6.45).

Jesus comes to men as the divine teacher. He claimed on many occasions that his words were those of God. He spoke as 'one having authority' not like the normal Jewish teachers (Mt 7.29). And he accused those who rejected his teachings as rejecting God Himself.

He who believes in me, believes not in me but in him who sent me. And he who sees me sees Him who sent me. I have come as light into the world . . . for I have not spoken on my own authority; the Father who sent me has himself given me commandment what to speak. What I say, therefore, I say as the Father has bidden me (Jn 12.44–50).

Jesus taught men not only by his words, but also by his actions; and indeed by his very own person. He referred to himself as the Truth (Jn 14.6) and as the Light (Jn 8.12). He showed himself not merely to be speaking God's words, but to be himself the Living Word of God in human flesh, the Logos who is eternal and uncreated, but who has become man as Jesus of Nazareth in order to make God known to the world.

Jesus, the divine Word of God in human flesh, comes to teach men by his presence, his words and his deeds. His disciples are sent into the world to proclaim Him and His Gospel, which means literally the "glad tidings" or the "good news" of the Kingdom of God. Those whom Jesus sends are called the apostles, which means literally "those who are sent." The apostles

are directly inspired by God's Holy Spirit, the Spirit of Truth (Jn 15.26), to "make disciples of all nations" teaching them what Christ has commanded (Mt 28.19).

The early Church, we are told, "devoted themselves to the apostles' doctrine" (Acts 2.42). Doctrine as a word simply means teaching or instruction. The apostles' doctrine is the doctrine of Jesus and becomes the doctrine of the Christian Church. It is received by the disciples of every age and generation as the very doctrine of God. It is proclaimed everywhere and always as the doctrine of eternal life through which all men and the whole world are enlightened and saved.

At this point it must be mentioned that although God's self-revelation in history through the chosen people of Israel—the revelation which culminates in the coming of Christ the Messiah—is of primary importance, it is also the doctrine of the Christian Church that all genuine strivings of men after the truth are fulfilled in Christ. Every genuine insight into the meaning of life finds its perfection in the Christian Gospel. Thus, the holy fathers of the Church taught that the yearnings of pagan religions and the wisdom of many philosophers are also capable of serving to prepare men for the doctrines of Jesus and are indeed valid and genuine ways to the one Truth of God.

In this way Christians considered certain Greek philosophers to have been enlightened by God to serve the cause of Truth and to lead men to fullness of life in God since the Word and Wisdom of God is revealed to all men and is found in all men who in the purity of their minds and hearts have been inspired by the Divine Light, which enlightens every man who comes into this world. This Divine Light is the word of God, Jesus of Nazareth in human flesh, the perfection and fullness of God's self-revelation to the world.

It cannot be overstressed that divine revelation in the Old Testament, in the Church of the New Testament, in the lives of the saints, in the wisdom of the fathers, in the beauty of creation . . . and most fully and perfectly in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is the revelation of God Himself. God has spoken. God has acted. God has manifested Himself and continues to manifest Himself in the lives of His people.

If we want to hear God's voice and see God's actions of self-revelation in the world, we must purify our minds and hearts from everything that is wicked and false. We must strive to love the truth, to love one another, and to love everything in God's good creation. According to the Orthodox faith, purification from falsehood and sin is the way to the knowledge of God. If we open ourselves to divine grace and purify ourselves from all evils, then it is certain that we will be able to interpret the scriptures properly and come into living communion with the true and living God who has revealed Himself and continues to reveal Himself to those who love Him.

Saint Mary's Announcement

This weekend would be a good one for a yard clean up at church.

Please come out if you are able to, also if you have leaf rakes to bring would be helpful. it may be the last good weekend. Saturday Nov 3rd starting at 9:30 Am.

Thank you to everyone who helped in the kitchen for the month of October

Pre Lent Lunch November 11th. Please contact Anne Lipon at : areview@platinum.ca

God bless you all!

Yours in Christ,
Father Lucian

