

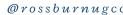




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# December 2025



## A time to Prepare our Hearts and our World

As we enter into December (and actually as this bulletin is published) we enter into the time of St. Philip's Fast or Pylypivka, sometimes also referred to as the Nativity Fast. This fasting period lasts for 40 days leading up to the feast of the Nativity and is meant as a time of preparation. Traditionally in our Church, during times of fasting and preparation, we change our temples to reflect this. You'll notice in Sacred Heart Parish, the linens have been changed from our usual gold to red. This is a visual reminder that we are not yet in a time of feasting (when the linens will change to bright white) but rather in a

time of fasting when we are called to prepare our hearts to welcome our Lord into this world. Another change you'll notice is that the icon at the centre of the church has changed to the icon of Christ Immanuel. An icon of Immanuel depicts Jesus Christ as a young man or youth, often with mature facial features to show his divine nature. This icon title, meaning "God with us," (which we sing a lot of at Christmas) emphasizes the Incarnation and is a central theme in our liturgical art, appearing as early as the 6th century. The figure is usually shown with a wise and serious expression, sometimes holding a scroll, and is a reminder that Christ was divine from the moment of his birth.

As Eastern Christians, we wait until the moment has arrived for us to celebrate! On that day of Nativity, we start singing out God is with us! God Eternal! Christ is Born! This is when we truly celebrate and as usual, we continue to celebrate for the next 40 days. So when the secular world celebrates before, in the church world we celebrate after. I invite all of our faithful to put this into practice. Not only try your best to withhold all those Christmas decorations and festivities as late as possible, but let us focus on truly preparing our hearts to welcome Christ into this world. Let us take time to reflect on what it means that our God becomes incarnate, taking on that human nature while fully remaining God.

May you all have a blessed fast of St. Philip as you journey towards Christmas!



### Sacred Heart Parish Wish List



Sacred Heart Parish in
Rossburn is looking to add or
replace a number of liturgical
items. This is an excellent

opportunity to make a donation to the parish to help with the purchase of these items. You can make the donation in honour of someone living or in memory of someone who has passed on. You may also simply choose to just make a donation without a cause.

A list of items is available on the bulletin board at the entrance of the church with prices listed. If you have any questions, please talk with Fr. Jay.



Venerating the Gospel: Ever notice that sometimes during the Little Entrance, kids come up and kiss the Gospel book? Did you know that everyone is welcome to come and do the same even if you are over the age of 12? And even if there are no kids present, feel free to step forward and venerate the Gospel. It may even encourage others through your example, including the kids!



**District Changes** 

As of December 1, Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish (St. Mary, Russell) will be transferred to the Gilbert Plains Pastoral District with Fr. Ivan Hnativ.

This transfer will be on a trial basis for the next few months.

On behalf of the Rossburn District, we want to thank the parishioners of Russell for the nearly 30 years they have spent as part of our district and we offer our prayers for a smooth transition.

Growing Ministry We are excited to announce that this past week, Fr. Jay has taken on the role of team chaplain for the Waywayseecappo Wolverines. His Grace, Metropolitan Lawrence gave his blessing this past summer to Fr. Jay to apply for the position.



Fr. Jay is very excited to grow his ministry in this manner. He has had previous exposure to sports ministry with the Winnipeg Goldeyes and the former Ottawa Champions in the world of professional baseball.



# Vigil Candle Intentions for the month of December December 1 - 5 Icon of Our Lord For all parishioners Icon of the Theotokos For all parishioners December 8 - 12 Icon of Our Lord For all parishioners Icon of the Theotokos For all parishioners **December 15 - 19** Icon of Our Lord For all parishioners Icon of the Theotokos For all parishioners **December 22 - 26** Icon of Our Lord All family and friends travelling for the holidays Icon of the Theotokos For a peaceful Christmas for all parishioners

Please remember in your prayers all of our parishioners who are in our local care homes and feel free to visit them whenever!

### **Rossburn PCH:**

Kay Luba Helen Sidoryk Pauline Sidoryk

### Shoal Lake PCH:

Frances Susinski Donnie Drozda Olga Bomak Tony Woychyshyn Anne Kowal Eileen Ewachewski Olga Melnyk

### Sandy Lake PCH:

Anne Macksymchuk Sophie Raginski Eugene Yanick Zenon Gerelus Matt Kowalchuk Ernie Dmyterko Teenie Buternowsky

### Liturgical Schedule and Sacraments -- SCHEDULE CHANGES PENDING FOR 2026!

1st Sunday: Shoal Lake at 9am & Rossburn at 11:30am; 2nd Sunday: Oakburn at 9am & Russell at 11:30am. 3rd Sunday: Rossburn at 9am & Shoal Lake at 11:30am; 4th Sunday: Russell at 9am & Oakburn at 11:30am.

2nd Saturday: Mountain Road @ 10:30am; 4th Saturday: Sandy Lake @ 10:30am

Tuesday - Fridays: 10am - Rossburn

**Confessions:** By appointment (always available!)

Baptisms & Funerals: By appointment. Please contact Fr. Jay to arrange.

**Weddings:** By appointment with minimum 6 months notice.

Anointing of the Sick: By appointment. Please contact Fr. Jay for emergencies.

Fr. Jay Korban
rossburnugcc.ca
Facebook | Instagram | YouTube
@rossburnugcc



Call/Text: 204.859.3025 Email: pastor@rossburnugcc.ca 81 Victoria Ave. E. Rossburn, MB. P.O. Box 216 ROJ 1V0



# Ukrainian Catholic Pastoral District DECEMBER 2025

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Sun. After 28 Nativity 10:00am - Oakburn	Sun. Before 21 Nativity 9:00am - Shoal Lake 11:30am - Rossburn	Holy Forefathers 14 10:00am - Oakburn	26th Sunday 7 9:00am - Shoal Lake 11:30am - Rossburn & Catechism		SUNDAY
29	22	15 Blue Christmas at Erickson Lutheran 7:00pm	&	1	MONDAY
30 Divine Liturgy 10:00am	Divine Liturgy 10:00am For Korban Family by Mychasiw's	Divine Liturgy 10:00am Health & Blessings of for Sytnyk Family by Nellie Juba	Conception of 9 Anne Divine Liturgy 10:00am	2	TUESDAY
31	NATIVITY 24 NATIVITY 24 10am - Sandy Lake 8pm - Rossburn	17 Rossbum PCH 10:00am	Divine Liturgy Divine Liturgy 10:00am Health & Blessings for Michael Sytnyk by Nellie Juba	3	WEDNESDAY
	FEAST OF THE 25 NATIVITY 10am - Oakburn	18 Shoal Lake PCH 10:00am	11 Divine Liturgy 10:00am +Monique by Laura Youth Alpha - 6pm	4 Youth Alpha - 6pm	THURSDAY
	26	19 Divine Liturgy 10:00am +Annie Dobush by Andrusiak Family	12 Erickson PCH 10:00am	St Sabbas 5 Sandy Lake PCH 10:00am Great Vespers 6pm	FRIDAY
	St. Stephen 27 Divine Liturgy 10:00am	20	13 10:30am - Mtn. Rd. +Annie Dobush	St. Nicholas 6 Family Movie Night - 6pm	SATURDAY