



March 2026

Celebrating the Sundays of Lent

Great Lent in the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church is a seven-week journey of purification, prayer, and fasting that leads to Pascha (Easter). While weekdays have a strict, penitential character, each Sunday is dedicated to a specific theme or saint to encourage the faithful with "joyful sadness." Below is a brief explanation of the five Sundays of Great Lent that we encourage everyone to reflect upon as we arrive at each week.

1. The Sunday of Orthodoxy - Theme: The Triumph of the True Faith.

This day commemorates the restoration of the holy icons to the churches in 843 AD, marking the victory over iconoclasm (the destruction of icons). It celebrates the true faith and reaffirms that God became human in Jesus Christ, making it possible to depict Him in icons.

2. The Sunday of St. Gregory Palamas - Theme: The possibility of knowing and uniting with God.

The Church honors St. Gregory Palamas, a 14th-century Archbishop of Thessalonica. He is celebrated for teaching that through prayer and fasting, human beings can participate in the uncreated light of God's divine glory (theosis). This Sunday serves as a second "triumph" of Orthodoxy, confirming the Lenten effort.

3. The Sunday of the Veneration of the Cross - Theme: Encouragement through the Cross.

Falling in the middle of the Lenten journey, the Cross is brought out into the center of the church for veneration. It is placed there to remind the faithful of Christ's suffering and to provide strength, inspiration, and encouragement to continue the, sometimes difficult, fast.

4. The Sunday of St. John of the Ladder - Theme: The spiritual ladder to heaven/ascetic effort.

St. John Climacus (of the Ladder) is commemorated on this day. He was a 6th-century abbot who wrote "The Ladder of Divine Ascent," a classic guide to spiritual growth and ascetic effort. His example encourages Christians to persist in their struggle against sin and passions.

5. The Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt - Theme: Repentance and transformation

The final Sunday is dedicated to St. Mary of Egypt, a former harlot who repented and lived a life of intense austerity in the desert. She is presented as the ultimate model of repentance and a reminder that it is never too late to return to God.



Sorokousty Lists

Lent is a time when we specifically prayer the deceased. We call these services, *sorokousty* services. As we prepare for those services, we ask that if you have any names to add to your lists, please find the Sorokousty binder at the entrance of each parish on Sundays. Find your family page under the corresponding parish section and write in any names you wish to add. ***Sorokousty will be served on Friday evenings following the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts.***

Rosburn Wishlist Update

To help celebrate his birthday in February, Fr. Jay ran a small fundraising campaign on Facebook for the Parish Wishlist. We are happy to share that over \$700 were raised! With that money, we are looking at purchasing a few of the items from the wishlist from Ukraine. Fr. Jay wishes to thank all those who supported the mini fundraising campaign for their generosity.

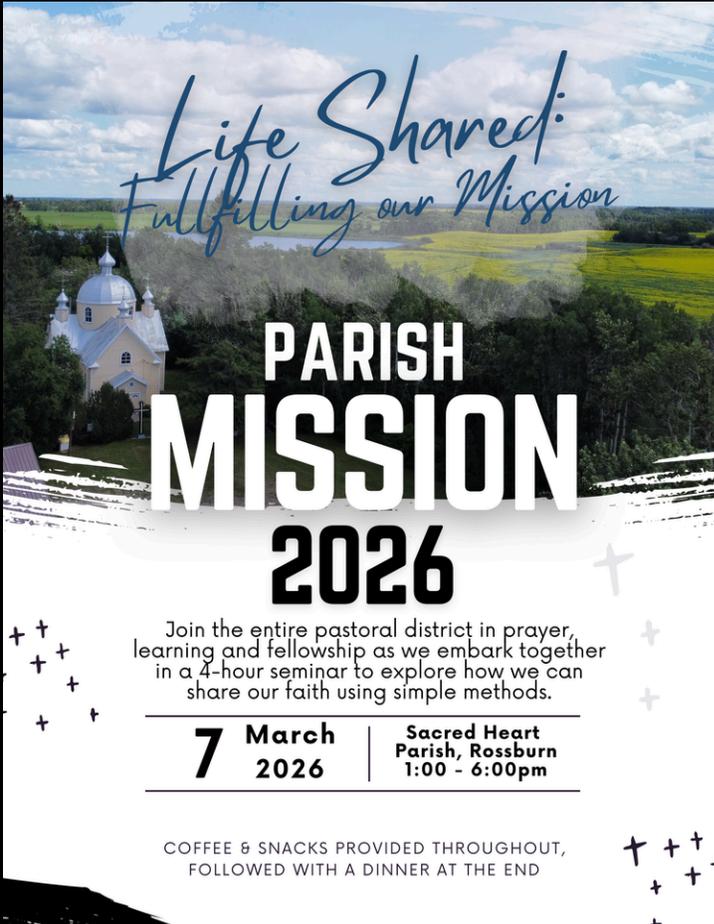
Live-streaming Upgrade

Last month, we started to experience a few technical issues with our live-streaming and it's audio. After trying to figure out the problem, it was discovered that a new camera would be the only solution. We want to thank the anonymous donor who stepped up to pay for the new camera. We recognize the importance that live-streaming provides for many of our elderly and shut-ins, and are happy we are able to continue this.

The old camera still has a perfectly fine video function, so on occasion you might see a second camera angle being added into our live-streaming. We will see if this enhances our online experience or not.

All-Parish AGM

As our many of our AGMs have now come to an end for the year, we shift our focus to the district AGM. The meeting will be held on Wed. March 4, starting with the Akathist to the Divine Passion at 6pm. All are encouraged to attend the service before the meeting. If you can't, we'll aim to start the meeting around 7pm. ****Please note that at time of printing, there was still no official word from the Metropolitan re: district boundaries.****



*Life Shared:
Fulfilling our Mission*

PARISH MISSION 2026

Join the entire pastoral district in prayer, learning and fellowship as we embark together in a 4-hour seminar to explore how we can share our faith using simple methods.

**7 March
2026** | Sacred Heart
Parish, Rosburn
1:00 - 6:00pm

COFFEE & SNACKS PROVIDED THROUGHOUT,
FOLLOWED WITH A DINNER AT THE END

Restoring Candle Practices

In our parish in Rosburn, it was decided at our AGM to return to the practice of having the faithful light candles during liturgical services.

In our parish history, it became the practice for the Sisterhood to light all the candles in the church prior to our services, while doing a separate candle collection at the beginning of the service. We thank them for their years of dedicated service adding to the beauty of our worship! As they are no longer active, today we will begin a new/old practice of having the faithful come forward and light candles as they wish. We already had this practice with the beeswax tapers for the last few years, but now we invite you to also light candles on the large vigil stands as you wish.

In the Eastern Church, lighting candles is a profound, non-verbal prayer that symbolizes the faith, hope and devotion of the believer. When we light candles, we offer a tangible, sacrificial gift to God that represents our own needs or the needs of others.

As we try this practice for a few months, we encourage that if you wish to light a candle, you consider a donation of around \$1 per candle.



Unpack the Christian faith together.

*Alpha continues on Thursday evenings in Rossburn.
Everyone is welcome to join us and bring a friend!*



On behalf of the entire Rossburn Ukrainian Catholic Pastoral District, we wish to extend our deepest condolences to the family and friends of those who have passed away in our districts over the last month.

+Diane Mackadenski (Oakburn) - Feb. 8

We extend our prayers as a community for all those who have passed. Eternal Memory - Вічна Пам'ять!

Paschal Celebration Preparations

In preparation for the Holy Week and the celebration of Pascha, we will hold a couple of practices for the singers and the servers. Any and all available singers are invited to join us on Monday, March 23 at 10:00am, to go refresh our minds with some of the services. As well, on Monday, March 30 at 6:30pm, we'll have a practice for servers and elders in preparation for the unique services we experience throughout Holy Week.

Tentative Holy Week & Pascha Schedule

At the time of publishing, we were unsure of the results of the trial period of our district realignment. Due to the uncertainty as to whether or not the Russell parish will be part of our district at the time of Holy Week or not, we wish to put out a tentative schedule. Great & Holy Friday & Pascha services will be celebrated in Sandy Lake (Friday/Saturday) and Rossburn & Oakburn (Friday/Sunday). We hope to further discuss and confirm this schedule at the All-Parish AGM on March 4th.

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
Olga Bomak
Winnie Danyluk
Anne Kowal
Eileen Ewachewski
Olga Melnyk

Sandy Lake PCH:
Anne Macksymchuk
Eugene Yanick
Zenon Gerelus
Ernie Dmyterko
Teenie Buternowsky
Lena Kalyniak

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

1st Sunday: Shoal Lake at 9am & Rossburn at 11:30am; **2nd Sunday:** Oakburn at 9am & Rossburn at 11:30am.

3rd Sunday: Rossburn at 9am & Shoal Lake at 11:30am; **4th Sunday:** Rossburn at 9am & Oakburn at 11:30am.

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

Tuesday - Fridays: 10am - Rossburn (check schedule)

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.

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Ukrainian Catholic Pastoral District
Український католицько-пасторський округ Росберн

Rosburn

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MARCH 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<i>Gregory of Palamas</i> 1 9:00am - Shoal Lake 11:30am - Rossburn	2	Lenten Matins 10:00am	4 6:00pm Akathist to the Divine Passion All-Parish AGM to follow	5 Alpha - 6:30pm	6 Sandy Lake PCH 10:00am Presanctified Liturgy 6:00pm	7 PARISH MISSION IN ROSSEBURN 1-6pm
<i>Sunday of the Cross</i> 8 9:00am - Oakburn 11:30am - Sandy Lake	9	Lenten Matins 10:00am	11 Stations of the Cross 6:00pm	12 Alpha - 6:30pm	13	14 10:30am - Mtn. Rd. Healing & good health for Andrusiak family
<i>John Climacus</i> 15 9:00am - Rossburn 11:30am - Shoal Lake	16	Lenten Matins 10:00am	18 Rosburn PCH 10:00am Akathist to the Divine Passion with Life of St. Mary of Egypt - 6:00pm	19 Shoal Lake PCH 10:00am Alpha - 6:30pm	20	21
<i>Mary of Egypt</i> 22 9:00am - Shoal Lake 11:30am - Angusville	23 Cantors Practice 10:00am	Lenten Matins 10:00am	25 <i>Feast of the Annunciation</i> Divine Liturgy 6:00pm	26 Confessions 4-5pm & 6pm Alpha - 6:30pm	27 Presanctified Liturgy 6:00pm	28 10:30am - Sandy Lake
<i>Palm Sunday</i> 29 9:00am - Oakburn 11:30am - Rossburn	30 <i>Great & Holy Monday</i> Bridgroom Matins 10:00am Altar Servers 6:30pm	31 <i>Great & Holy Tuesday</i> Bridgroom Matins 10:00am				