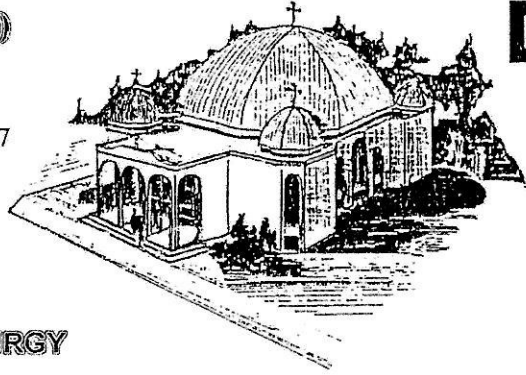


ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

(Byzantine-Ukrainian Rite)

293 St. George's Avenue East
Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario
P6B 6E8 Phone: (705) 942-1377

Established in 1917



DIVINE LITURGY

Saturday: 4:15 pm. - all in English
Sunday: 9:30 am. - all in Ukrainian
11:00 am. - all in English

BAPTISM: by prior arrangement

MARRIAGE: Please call the parish office
3 months notice is required.

RECONCILIATION:

Saturday: 3:15 - 3:45 pm.
Before & after weekday Liturgy
Anytime by appointment

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

HOME VISITATION:

Please call the parish office to make
arrangements.

WELCOME to our parish...Enter expectantly...

Breathe prayerfully....

Worship reverently...

Relax restfully...

Greet others in love...

Leave touched by God, & come again soon!

Parish Priest: Rev. Michael Hayes Cell Phone: 705-297-7489
fathermichaelhayes@gmail.com

Office Manager: Charlotte Conrad

Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday 10am-4pm
Closed on statutory holidays

Parish Office Phone: 705-942-1377
Parish Email: soostmaryukr@bellnet.ca
Website: www.stmarysukrsm.ca
Facebook: www.facebook.com/StMarySoo

*We are each of us angels with only one wing...
And we can fly embracing each other...*

Luciano DeCrenzenzo

December 31, 2023 – Sunday after the Nativity of Christ; Commemoration of the Holy and Righteous Joseph the Betrothed, David the King, and James, Brother of the Lord. Octoechos Tone 6; Leavetaking of the Nativity of Christ; Our Venerable Mother Melania the Roman (439).

AT DIVINE LITURGY

Antiphon 1

I will confess You, Lord, with all my heart,* I will declare all Your wondrous deeds. *Through the prayers of the Mother of God,* O Saviour, save us.*

In the council of the just and the congregation,* great are the works of the Lord, conforming to His will in every way. *Through the prayers of the Mother of God,* O Saviour, save us.*

His work is filled with praise and majesty,* and His righteousness endures forever. *Through the prayers of the Mother of God,* O Saviour, save us.*

Glory... Now... Only-Begotten Son...

Antiphon 3

Come, let us sing joyfully to the Lord, let us acclaim God, our Saviour. *Son of God, born of a Virgin, save us who sing to You: Alleluia.*

Let us come before His face with praise, and acclaim Him in psalms. *Son of God, born of a Virgin, save us who sing to You: Alleluia.*

For God is the great Lord, and the great king over all the earth. *Son of God, born of a Virgin, save us who sing to You: Alleluia.*

Entrance

Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ. *Son of God, born of a Virgin, save us who sing to You: Alleluia.*

Troparia and Kontakia

Troparion, Tone 6: Angelic powers were upon Your tomb* and the guards became like dead men;* Mary stood before Your tomb* seeking Your most pure body.* You captured Hades without being overcome by it.* You met the Virgin and granted life.* O Lord, risen from the dead,* glory be to You!

Troparion, Tone 4: Your Nativity, O Christ our God,* made the light of knowledge dawn on the world:* through it, those who worshipped the stars were taught by a star* to worship You, the Sun of Righteousness,* and to know You, the Dawn from on the high.* Glory to You, O Lord.

Troparion, Tone 2: O Joseph, announce to David, the ancestor of God, the news of the miracle:* You saw a virgin giving birth.* With the shepherds, you gave praise and with the Magi you worshipped;* they too were warned by an angel.* Pray to Christ our God to save our souls.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

Kontakion, Tone 3: Today the divine David is filled with gladness;* Joseph along with James offers praises* for having received a crown through their kinship with Christ they rejoice* and sing of the One who inexpressibly was born on earth,* crying out, "O Gracious One, save those who worship You."

Now and for ever and ever. Amen.

Kontakion, Tone 3: The Virgin today gives birth to Him who is above all being;* the earth offers the cave to Him whom no one can approach;* Angel with shepherds give Him glory,* while Magi make their way with a star,* for to us is born a little Child – the pre-eternal God.

Prokeimenon, Tone 8

Let all the earth worship You and sing to You; let it sing to Your Name, O Most High.

Repeat: Let all the earth worship You and sing to You; let it sing to Your Name, O Most High.

verse: Shout to the Lord, all the earth, sing now to His name, give glory to His praise.

Repeat: Let all the earth worship You and sing to You; let it sing to Your Name, O Most High.

Epistle

Galatians 1:11-19

Alleluia, Tone 1

verse: The heavens tell the glory of God, and the firmament declares the work of His hands.

verse: Day announces its message unto day and night proclaims its knowledge unto night.

Gospel

Matthew 2:13-23

Hymn to the Mother of God, in the place of It is truly right

O my soul, magnify Christ the King born in a manger. A strange and glorious mystery do I behold:* the cave is heaven;* the Virgin, the throne of the cherubim;* the manger, a dwelling place* in which is laid Christ, the God Whom nothing can contain.* Singing His praises, we magnify Him.

Communion Hymn

Praise the Lord from the heavens;* praise Him in the highest.* The Lord has sent deliverance* to His people.* Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia,* alleluia.

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Monday, Jan 1 Circumcision of our Lord, God and Saviour Jesus Christ. Our Father Among the Saints Basil the Great, Archbishop of Caesarea in Cappadocia (379).	Colossians 2:8-12; Hebrews 7:26-8:2 Luke 2:20-21, 40-52; Luke 6:17-23	3pm	Divine Liturgy
Tuesday, Jan 2 Pre-feast of Theophany. Our Holy Father Sylvester, Pope of Rome (335).	Hebrews 12:25-26; 13:22-25 Mark 10:2-12		
Wednesday, Jan 3 Pre-feast of Theophany. Holy Prophet Malachi (5th c. BC). Holy Martyr Gordius (313-24).	James 1:1-18 Mark 10:11-16	10am	Rosary and Divine Liturgy

Thursday, Jan 4	James 1:19-27			
Pre-feast of Theophany. Synaxis of the Seventy Holy Apostles. Our Venerable Father Theoctistus, Hegumen of the Cucomo Monastery in Sicily.	Mark 10:17-27			
Friday, Jan 5	1 Corinthians: 9: 19-27	10am	Royal Hours of Theophany	<i>Day of fasting from meat and meat products</i>
Theophany Eve. Holy Martyrs Theopemptus and Theonas (284- 305). Venerable Syncletica.	Luke 3: 1-18			
Saturday, Jan 6	Titus 2:11-15; 3:4-7	10am	Festal Divine Liturgy	
The Theophany of our Lord, God, and Saviour Jesus Christ	Matthew 3:13-17	4:15pm	Divine Liturgy (for Sunday)	Intention: Parishioners
Sunday, Jan 7	Ephesians 4:7-13	10am	Divine Liturgy (Bilingual) and Great Blessing of Water followed by Parish Theophany Meal	Intention: Parishioners
Sunday after Theophany	Matthew 4:12-17			

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. **PEROGY/CABBAGE ROLL making** resumes January 11th. Free on Thursday mornings? Consider helping with this work in the new year. "Many hands make work light!"
2. Just a reminder about our **FOOD DRIVE**. Donations placed in our blue basket in the vestibule are delivered to the Salvation Army Food Bank regularly. Donations of personal care and cleaning products needed as well. Jesus said: "Whatsoever you do to the least of my brethren you do unto me."
3. **HOLY DAY THIS WEEK: The Feast of Theophany** on Saturday. This is the most important feast day of the Church year that doesn't have to be on a Sunday (it's even more important than Christmas!). The Church expects us to treat this as a Sunday—attend the Divine Liturgy if possible and avoid unnecessary work. Royal Hours of the Feast on Friday morning at 10am; Liturgy for the Feast Saturday morning at 10am.
4. **Water blessing and Theophany meal next week!** The Great Blessing of Water will take place at the end of the Liturgy next Sunday and this will be followed by our parish Theophany supper. Please plan to stay!
- 4b. **Help needed to prepare for meal!** Please come by on THURSDAY at 10am to help set up the hall for Sunday's parish meal.
5. **CHURCH ENVELOPES:** There was an unexpected delay in printing. They should arrive this week coming.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK AND SHUT-INS

Lorraine Wilson, Anita Lutes, Msgr. Anton Szymchalski, Fr. Jaroslaw Lazoryk, Wanda Duczmal, Debbie Bromeley, Antoinette Blunt, Katheren Pasternak, Walter Borowicz, Pat Stratichuk, Elsie Barrett, Betty Pauliuk, Doris Lebel, Jo-Anne Stone, Nikolaos Georgas, Denise Jacques, Reg Beaudette, Phil Marinelli, Mike Plastino, Theresa Barsanti, Patty-Ann Bellerive, Jim Parniak, Connie Sampson, Lee DeMelo, Fr. Oleh Yuryk, Fr. John Barszczyk, Dorothy McIntyre, Pauline Baiocchi, Andrea Stone Pietramale, Lynn Dunne, Fr. Andrew Kormanik, Ray Robinson, Hunter Stone, Gavin Stone, Gerard Dosko, Anderson Knight, Ron Barasanti, Peter Harlow, Larisa Pochmursky, Elizabeth Cepecawer, MaryAnn Spadoni, Paul Taillefer, McGill Perry, Erin, Lucille Paolini, Luke, Ron Lapointe

Lord, Jesus Christ, You Who travelled throughout Galilee healing the sick, enabling the blind to see and the lame to walk, bring healing to Your people who need it this day. Grant relief to the ones who suffer pain and physical torment. Give peace to those whose minds are tortured by mental illness and anxiety. Comfort those who are alone in their suffering; may Your people reach out to them and to all the

needy this day. Send Your grace to the caregivers that they may be gentle and effective agents of Your loving mercy. May our sufferings be joined with Yours to bring healing throughout the world. Amen.

DONATIONS: Sunday, December 24/Monday, December 25

Thank You!!

Offering: \$1,640.00

Building Fund: \$405.00

Christmas: \$848.00

Special Christmas wishes for Mrs. Pochmursky from the Pinder Family: \$50.00

“ON CALL” PRIEST

A priest is available in the city for emergencies 24/7. You can notify the chaplain, nurse or nursing home coordinators to contact the priest ON CALL. (705-256-6675)

What are the Royal Hours?

A special service called ‘Royal Hours’ is appointed to take place on three occasions during the year: Christmas Eve, Theophany Eve, and Good Friday. It is a version of the daily public prayer services that can take place in the morning, mid-morning, mid-day, and mid-afternoon but include readings from scripture and additional hymns pertinent to the day. We will take an abbreviated version of this service on Friday, the Eve of Theophany, at 10am. It should take 45 minutes to an hour. It’s a great way to enter into this great and glorious feast. Give it a try!

This is a true story New Year’s Day story from 1863:

LINCOLN ENDS SLAVERY

This is a familiar event in history, certainly, but it’s interesting to know that the Emancipation Proclamation – the document that issued a military-based executive order to declare slaves in the rebel states free – was signed by Abraham Lincoln on New Year’s Day, 1863. Abolitionists everywhere rejoiced. No doubt the date was picked for its symbolic meaning. Their meaning was clear: it was a new day for humanity to throw off the chains of slavery and start afresh. Lincoln said these words after signing the Proclamation: “I never in my life felt more certain that I was doing the right thing, than I do in signing this paper. If my name goes into history, it will be for this act, and my soul is in it.”

This story encourages us and reminds us that in Christ there is always a new beginning available to us, no matter how things have gone in our lives. New Year’s Eve and New Year’s Day is more than just a time for resolutions of weight loss and exciting fireworks and celebrations. It is a time to remember the greatest freedom of Christ’s limitless grace that saves us from the slavery of sin and opens the door for an eternity of joy with God – the ultimate New Year’s Day!!

As we head into 2024, let’s allow the Holy Spirit to scrawl the word “Eternity” across our hearts as we fix our eyes above, as Colossians 3: 1-4 says:

Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above,
where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things
above, not on earthly things. For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ
in God. When Christ, who is your life, appears with him in glory.

This is one of three inspiring and uplifting New Year’s stories by Kevin Ott/ Dec.27, 2017/ General Christian Topics /Archives 2020 (Rockin’ God’s House). 2nd story next week.

A LITTLE HUMOUR

On New Year's Eve, Daniel was in no shape to drive, so he sensibly left his van in the car park and walked home. As he was wobbling along, he was stopped by a policeman. "What are you doing out here at four o'clock in the morning?" asked the police officer.

"I'm on my way to a lecture," he answered.

"And who on earth, in their right mind, is going to give a lecture at this time on New Year's Eve?" enquired the constable sarcastically.

"My wife!"

A BAD DREAM?

Jemima was taking an afternoon nap on New Year's Eve before the festivities. After she woke up, she confided to Max, her husband, "I just dreamed that you gave me a diamond ring for New Year's present. What do you think it all means?"

"Aha, you'll know tonight," answered Max smiling broadly.

At midnight, as the New Year was chiming, Max approached Jemima and handed her a small package. Delighted and excited, she opened it quickly. There in her hand rested a book entitled: 'The Meaning of Dreams'.