

December 2011: The Liturgical Services Calendar - Grande Prairie Pastoral District - www.GPDormition.com

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
May the uncreated light of God, which shown in the cave, from a little babe for our salvation, also shine in your hearts and bring you joy and salvation. From our family to yours, may you have a blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year! Christ is Born! Glorify Him! Fr. Roman: (780) 513-1175 (<i>Home</i>) or (780) 933-4468 (<i>Cell</i>) Please Note: Confession is scheduled after all vesper services and also by appointment before or after any liturgical service.				1	2	3 7 PM GRANDE PRAIRIE: GREAT VESPERS and Confession
4 25 th Sunday after Pentecost – Tone 8 The Great-Martyr Barbara (286-305); Our Venerable Father John of Damascus (749). 10 AM GRANDE PRAIRIE 4 PM MANNING	5	6 <i>St. Nicholas the Wonderworker, Archbishop of Myra in Lycia</i> 7 PM GRANDE PRAIRIE: DIVINE LITURGY	7 <i>Holy Father Ambrose of Milan (397)</i> 7:30 AM GRANDE PRAIRIE: MATINS	8 <i>Eve of the Conception of St. Anna</i> 7 PM GRANDE PRAIRIE: GREAT VESPERS and Confession	9 <i>Conception of Saint Anna, When She Conceived the Mother of God</i> 7 PM GRANDE PRAIRIE: DIVINE LITURGY <i>* Caroling Practice *</i>	10 7 PM GRANDE PRAIRIE: GREAT VESPERS and Confession
11 26 th Sunday after Pentecost – Tone 1 <i>Sunday of the Holy Ancestors; Our Venerable Father Daniel the Stylite (493</i> 10 AM GRANDE PRAIRIE 2:00 PM HINES CREEK - Agape Meal after Unity Service at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church	12	13	14 <i>The Holy Martyrs Thyrsus, Leucius (249-51)</i> 7:30 AM GRANDE PRAIRIE: MATINS	15	16 7 PM GRANDE PRAIRIE: Emmanuel Moleben and Confession <i>* Caroling Practice *</i>	17 7 PM GRANDE PRAIRIE: GREAT VESPERS and Confession
18 27 th Sunday after Pentecost – Tone 2 Sunday of the Holy Fathers; the Holy Martyr Sebastian and His Companions 10 AM GRANDE PRAIRIE - Agape Meal after Divine Liturgy with St. Nicholas celebration and visit.	19	20	21 <i>Forefeast of the Nativity of Christ; the Holy Martyr Juliana of Nicomedia (284-305)</i> 7:30 AM GRANDE PRAIRIE: MATINS	22	23 7 PM GRANDE PRAIRIE: Royal Hours and Confession <i>* Caroling Practice *</i>	24 <i>Eve of the Nativity of Our Lord (Strict Fast)</i> (Confession 1H Before Each Service) 3:00 PM HINES CREEK: COMPLINE and DIVINE LITURGY 10 PM GRANDE PRAIRIE: COMPLINE and DIVINE LITURGY
25 <i>The Nativity in the Flesh of Our Lord, God and Saviour Jesus Christ</i> 10 AM GRANDE PRAIRIE	26 <i>Holy and Rigueous Joseph; King David; and James, Brother of the Lord; Synaxis of the Mother of God</i>	27 <i>Post-Feast of the Nativity; Holy Apostle, 1st Martyr and Archdeacon Stephen</i> 7 PM GRANDE PRAIRIE: DIVINE LITURGY	28 (NO FASTING) 11 AM HIGH PRAIRIE: DIVINE LITURGY 3 PM RENO (Nampa – St. Charles): DIVINE LITURGY	29	30 NO FASTING	31 <i>Leave-taking of the Feast of the Nativity Eve of the Circumcision</i> 7 PM GRANDE PRAIRIE: VESPERS and Confession

SVYATA VECHERYA - HOLY SUPPER (Ukrainian traditions on Christmas Eve) by Orysia Paschak Tracz



1. Strict Fast in preparation for the Feast
2. At dusk, youngest son announces the first star of sunset:

**Zvizdal Bo'a zvizda na nebil!
The star God's star is in the sky!**

3. The father (or son) lights candle on the "Palanytsya/Ritual Bread", saying:
**Shine, righteous sun,
for the holy souls and for us living.
Warm for us mother earth, our fields, our animals....**

4. Husband and wife (carrying the "Palanytsya" or "Kutya") go to the door.

5. Husband goes out to where the "Didukh" (sheaf of grain which represents the Ancestors) is kept. He bows before it, Crosses himself, picks it up and stands beside his wife. Then, he says:

**O sun, moon, stars and rain,
and you, the spirits of our Ancestors,
come, and join us this Holy Evening!**

6. The wife, offering the "Palanytsya" or "Kutya", says:
**And you, frost and Wind, drought and storm,
join us now I'm calling you!
If you do not come now, then don't come at all –ever!**

7. Upon returning into the house, the "Didukh" is placed in the Icon Corner. All face the icons, cross themselves, and sing the Tropar of the Nativity (*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.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. Now and forever and ever. Amen. Lord Have Mercy (3).

Christ our God bless the food and drink of your servants for you are holy now and for ever and ever. Amen.

As we sing, the father of the house offers everyone present a piece of "Prosphora" and honey, greeting each with the words: "Khrystos Razhdayetsyal/Christ is Born!" to which we reply: "Slavite Yoho/Glorify Him!"

8. Between each of the courses offered, a "Kolyada" is sung.
9. Two plates are set aside, one for absent family members, the other, for the Ancestors. A small portion of each food is placed on them.
10. After the "Svyata Vecherya/Holy Supper", all Sing •Slavo Bohu•, the last verse of "Boh Predvichnyj" and go to church to celebrate in community there.