



Українська Католицька Едмонтонська Єпархія

Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Edmonton

PASTORAL CENTRE - COMMUNICATOR

April 15, 2020

Христос Воскрес! Воістину Воскрес! Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!

We hope that everyone within your parishes had a joyous Easter and that you were able to celebrate along with the beautiful livestreaming liturgical services. We also pray with our sisters and brothers who have entered Holy Week and will be celebrating the Resurrection of our Lord this Sunday.

In this second installment to our COVID-19 communication, we would like to share information that was confirmed by the Federal Government regarding the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS) and how this subsidy will support our Church, and particularly our parishes. We will also provide an update on a number of other important areas related to parish life.

1. Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS)

The Federal Government passed legislation to provide eligible employers a 75% wage subsidy for their employees for up to 12 weeks, retroactive to March 15, 2020. The Eparchy with all parishes, will be eligible for this subsidy, for pastors and pastoral staff, provided we as an organization show a decline in revenues from non-arms length (i.e. parishioner donations) sources of at least:

- 15% in March 2020 (compared to March 2019 revenue)
- 30% decline in April and May 2020 (compared to April and May 2019 revenues)

The Eparchy will be applying for the CEWS on behalf of all parishes, as the Eparchy is the legal employer of all clergy and staff. The parishes are considered “non-arms length” from the Eparchy.

What **we require from all parishes is to complete the attached Revenue Summary spreadsheet for the period January, February and March 2019 and 2020.** This details a comparison of your monthly revenue for this year (2020) and the prior year (2019). Based on parish revenues, other Eparchial arms length revenues, cemetery revenues and Camp Oselias’s revenues, we will calculate the total drop in overall Eparchial revenues and proceed to apply for the subsidy assuming we are eligible.

Parishes that continue to contribute all or a portion of their priest's salary/benefits to the Eparchy will receive back from the Eparchy their share of the wage subsidy received from the Government, proportionate to the amount that the parishes have contributed on account of their priest's salary/benefits.

It is most important that all information provided is complete and correct to preserve the program's integrity. Penalties for fraudulent claims will be severe. **In this regard, we ask that each pastoral council treasurer attest that the information presented is complete and accurate.** This can be done in the email when the Revenue Summary spreadsheet is forwarded to the Eparchy.

The CEWS application portal will be available sometime next week. Please complete the Revenue Summary and send it back to bookkeeping@eeparchy.com by Monday, April 20, 2020. We will ask for the April and May totals in the coming months.

2. Online Donations through the Eparchy Website – an update

In the last Communicator, we included options for parishioners to donate to their parish online via the Eparchial Website. As of today, 15 people have made donations to six different parishes! This is a wonderful beginning! We will email each of the parishes (to the pastor, pastoral council chair and treasurer) by the end of the week with a summary of their donations and donors. Parishes can either hold funds in their account with the Eparchy, or receive a cheque. We receive notification of the donation immediately and funds are deposited into our bank within two weeks. We will continue to offer this option for as long as it benefits our parishes. Please note that donation receipts for donations received through the Eparchy website will automatically be issued to the donors. Therefore, please **DO NOT** issue a donation receipt from the parish, as these donation amounts **MUST NOT** be duplicated by the parishes involved..

3. Insurance coverage for vacant premises

As a reminder to parishes insured through the Eparchial Insurance Program (CapriCMW Insurance broker), your policy covers closures/vacancies up to 60 consecutive days. Please continue to practice reasonable risk management to reduce the chance of claims during any closures, by inspecting the church periodically (daily if possible), paying particular attention to areas with plumbing and electrical equipment. More information on properties management will be forthcoming.

Thank you for your continued support, kind words, messages and prayers. If you have any questions, please call us at the Pastoral Centre.

God Bless. 3 Богом!

Iryna Laschuk

Chancellor and Director of Finance

email: accounting@edmontoneparchy.com