



MINISTRY UPDATE 2021



LETTER FROM BISHOP DAVID

Dear Friends,
Glory be to Jesus Christ!

As 2021 reaches its end, we are encouraged to call to mind the many blessings from God received during this past year. While it has been another year of twists and turns, it has also been one of great inspiration and joy.

The ministries at the Pastoral Centre are many and are served by the Pastoral Centre staff with sincere dedication and love in support of our parishes, our parishioners, and our clergy in their ministry to the faithful of the Eparchy of Edmonton. From support in various aspects of pastoral care and religious education, including online gatherings, workshops, retreats, the continuing development of the Image to Likeness Religion program, our Lay Leadership and Diaconal Formation Program as well as ongoing clergy formation to assistance in parish finance and administration, grant applications and special funding for parishes, insurance-related issues, as well as web-design and communications, we have much to celebrate and be grateful for.

This year we will launch our exciting new Office for Family and Life Ministries. I invite you to join us at the Armchair Gala 2.0 on December 9th. We will share our plans to respond to the pastoral needs of families and help them to live out the grace of the sacraments in their daily lives.

May God bless you and your family as we prepare to celebrate the Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.



Bishop David Motiuk
Eparchial Bishop



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

Religious Education

- **Catechetical Resource Centre Catalogue:** launched online searchable catalogue with over 1500 books, study programs, DVDs, and audio and video resources, including a children's library.
- **Image to Likeness:** continued development of the new Ukrainian Catholic Religion Program to be used in Ukrainian Bilingual Schools, parishes, and at home.
- **Ministry Events:** coordinated Men's Conference, Women's retreat, Family Faith and Friends Parent group, Children's Care for Creation Poster Contest, Virtual Lenten Series presentations, Virtual Catechist Conferences, Social Mission of the Church Retreat, Domestic Church virtual sessions, and Table for Two.
- **Saints in Our Lives:** launched video series of interviews with people around the eparchy about the saints and holy people they can turn to.
- **Faith Forward Content:** supported faithful in the eparchy by writing numerous educational faith articles, created faith resources for families, parishes and individuals including podcasts, liturgical year activities, and Sunday Gospel-based children's lessons. Compiled and distributed the Eparchial Program Guide, provided Social Mission of Church resources, prayer resources and more!



*Bernadette
Mandrusiak*



*Victoria
Kostyniuk*

Eparchial Library

- **Eparchial Library:** re-catalogued over 5,000 books and periodicals and created website to search and sign out books.



*Oksana
Maszczak*



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

Communications

- **Eparchial Logo:** coordinated development of new eparchial logo that specifically represents our common mission of the Church, to evangelize and share the Good News of the Gospel of Jesus Christ with everyone, no matter where they are on their faith journey.
- **St. Macrina Bookstore:** launched online component to store to make materials more accessible to parishes and individuals where people from across Canada can order Eastern Christian-specific resources in a safe and secure manner.
- **Ask a Priest:** coordinated popular blog where priests answer questions submitted anonymously (over 15,000 views).
- **Bishop's Thank-You Campaign:** coordinated campaign where individuals in the Eparchy who have provided exceptional service to the community were acknowledged.
- **Video Edits:** for clips that garnered over 40,000 views in 2021.
- **Faith Conversations:** connected with individuals new to our Ukrainian Catholic Church on social media and mailed out welcome packages throughout Alberta.
- **Between the Pews:** facilitated this Ukrainian Catholic podcast which explores various faith topics related to everyday life.



*Ben
Windsor*



*Olivia
Vandekerckhove*

Safe Environments

- **New Webpage:** launched and designed to make it easy for parishes and faithful to navigate and understand why the Eparchy's Safe Environments Policy is important and how it applies to them.
- **Online Training:** developed new online safe environment training modules for those volunteers, employees within the Eparchy who require it.



*Andrea
Leader*



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

Chancery

- **Parish Hub:** launched online webpage where individuals can access and share information directly related to developing, growing, and managing parishes.
- **Lay Leadership and Diaconal Formation Program:** launched in 2021 to foster “active disciples” whereby the faithful – laity, consecrated, monastic, and clergy alike – use their God-given gifts and talents to build up the Kingdom of God as active participants, not just spectators, both in their own faith journey as well as in the life of the Church.



*Iryna
Laschuk*

Inter-eparchial Marriage Tribunal

- Through the declaration of nullity process, continuing the ministry of journeying with those who are divorced and hope to remarry in the Church.



*John
Vizza*

Youth Ministry

- **Distributed 4 grants:** youth evangelization fund grants were awarded.
- **Research:** and planning was dedicated to the development of the eparchy’s future “Family and Life Ministries” department.
- **Consultations:** were held with youth and youth ministers to identify some of the needs of parishes moving forward.



*Alicia
Chichak*

New: Family and Life Ministry

Coming 2022, under the direction of Andrea Leader and Bernadette Mandrusiak, the Office for Family and Life Ministry will respond to the pastoral needs of families by providing resources and support for family spirituality, marriage preparation and post-sacramental care, formation for young people, and the domestic church, to help families live out the grace of the sacrament in their daily lives.



OUR NEW SYMBOL OF FAITH AND HOPE



As a part of the Edmonton Eparchy's Evangelize 2021 campaign, we reached out to our community to help us design a new logo for our Eparchy, an image that specifically represents our common mission of the Church, to *evangelize and share the Good News of the Gospel of Jesus Christ with everyone, no matter where they are on their faith journey.*

What it represents...

The golden church dome under a vivid blue sky was a steadfast symbol of faith and hope for the Ukrainian Catholics who ventured into the harsh conditions of the new world. Today, it remains a recognizable image that is familiar and welcoming to all Albertans, no matter their background.

In this representation, logo designer Julian Hayda modelled his dome after St. Mary Ukrainian Catholic Parish in Waugh, Alberta. He explains, "What you see here are two paths, beginning at both East and West, and converging at a pinnacle as two hands holding one cross together." He is referring to Eastern Catholics in full communion with Rome, joined in the one Catholic Church. The arms reaching upward also reflect our ardent desire to enter into communion with the awesomeness of God through the sacrificial love of Christ represented by the cross.

Here, as in classical iconography, the colour blue also represents divinity. The darker the blue, the more deeply we enter into the life of the Holy Trinity. The circle stands for the eternal nature of God – without beginning or end. As such, God's love for us is eternal – a mystery beyond our understanding. In contrast, the golden dome reflects the glory of God, the Divine Light visible to us. Its shape reminds us of the vault of heaven where we experience the embrace of the living God, especially through the Holy Mysteries, the Eucharist in particular.

Finally, an invitation, "Come follow me." Christ who called the first disciples, also calls each and every one of us to follow him. A relatable and inspiring image, the logo of the Eparchy of Edmonton reflects the mission of the Church, to evangelize and share the Good News of the Gospel of Jesus Christ with everyone, no matter where they are on their faith journey.



HOPES AND DREAMS FOR 2022

God chooses to reveal God's self by coming into the world through a family. At his birth, Jesus, the Son of God, is born into a family, Mary and Joseph, that is, the Holy Family. Like the Holy Family, our families form the first Church, the "Domestic Church," where God's love accompanies us in the unfolding of God's plan of salvation for humankind.

Now more than ever, the Church is called to accompany families in the joys and challenges in what it means to be a family today, especially in the family's mission as the domestic church in passing on the faith to children and grandchildren.

Join the us at the Armchair Gala 2.0 on December 9th to hear Bishop David speak about the Eparchy of Edmonton's new Office for Family and Life Ministries.

Family and Life Ministries will respond to the pastoral needs of families by providing resources and support for family spirituality, marriage preparation and post-sacramental care, formation for young people, and the domestic church, to help families live out the grace of the sacrament in their daily lives.

SUPPORT THE MISSION

One way to support our Eparchial Ministry is to become a month-to-month supporter. Starting 2022, we will include updates regarding our Family and Life Ministry in our month-to-month supporter mail-out letters. Any amount donated to this year's Gala will directly support this vital Family and Life Ministry.

