

# PASTORAL CENTRE - COMMUNICATOR



Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Edmonton  
Українська Католицька Едмонтонська Єпархія

March 31, 2022



## *Слава Ісусу Христу*

## *Glory Be To Jesus Christ! Glory Be Forever!*

As we continue our lenten journey with fasting, alms giving and prayer, our hearts turn to the atrocities occurring in Ukraine resulting from the invasion of the Russian Federation. Our parishes, parishioners and friends have showed their support of our brothers and sisters through a major donation campaign. In this Communicator we will provide some information about these donations and other financial matters important to your parishes.

### **1) Donations for Humanitarian Aid**

As of March 25, 2022, the Eparchy, through its generous donors, has raised over \$1.6 million dollars towards Humanitarian Aid for Ukraine. The response has been overwhelming. Bishop David has directed these monies to “follow the people” where the need is greatest. Most funds are going directly to Ukraine through the Catholic Near East Welfare Association (CNEWA) who disburses funds to our church in Ukraine, Caritas Foundation, and other Catholic organizations aiding the displaced families in Ukraine with food, shelter, medical supplies and spiritual support. Donations will also support the Ukrainian people who are fleeing the war to other countries in Europe and those coming to Alberta. To date, over 3.5 million citizens have left Ukraine.

Parishes are receiving donations for Humanitarian Aid from parishioners and concerned neighbours and we ask that cheques be made out to the parish so that you can write the donation receipt. These funds may then be sent to the Eparchy every two weeks or monthly. If cheques are made out to the Eparchy, please forward the cheques to the Pastoral Centre and we will issue the receipt for these donors.

If the parish is requesting donations to support families arriving from Ukraine, ensure that your donors know the purpose of the funds as some donors would like their donations go to help those in Ukraine whereas others are open to support those seeking refuge in Canada.

## **2) Supporting families from Ukraine**

There are many ways to help families fleeing the war in Ukraine. As an Eparchy, we are working closely with the Ukrainian Canadian Congress and Ukrainian Social Services to understand the needs of those who are arriving and how we can help those settling in Alberta. A few things to keep in mind, as guidelines from CRA:

- It is not appropriate to give cash from the parish to individuals
- The parish must have some “direction and control” over the funds they disburse for charitable purposes
- Providing a family with actual goods (groceries, personal or household items, paying for utilities) are all acceptable expenditures under the Charities act
- If the parish decides to give gift cards (i.e. grocery store, or a visa gift card etc.), the parish should ask the recipient family to provide receipts for the items purchased. These receipts would be maintained as support for the expense by the parish.

## **3) Fundraising for Humanitarian Aid for Ukraine**

We are so grateful for the outpouring of support from our parishes who are organizing fundraisers and preparing to accept displaced families. If you are planning a fundraiser or would like to share your story of fundraising efforts on our website, please send your posters and write ups to our communications coordinator Ben Windsor ([communications@eeparchy.com](mailto:communications@eeparchy.com))

## **4) Issuing Charity Receipts for Donations in Kind**

In addition to cash donations, parishes may receive gifts in kind including supplies, household items, furniture etc. This may become overwhelming in certain circumstances, particularly with the humanitarian crisis and the needs of the people of Ukraine. Attached to this email is a recommendation based on CRA guidelines on when you should (and shouldn't) issue a donation receipt for gifts in kind. If you have any questions regarding this type of receipt, please contact our offices.

## **5) Donation limits to Qualified Donees and CRA**

CRA Charities Directorate guidelines requires that charities (i.e. parish) retain at least 50% of their income for their own charitable purposes. For the Eparchy and our parishes, normally most donations and fundraising dollars stay within our parish communities. However, this last month has seen a significant increase in donations towards Humanitarian Aid in Ukraine. As these funds are being sent to the Eparchy or CNEWA, some parishes are concerned that they may be offside with this CRA guideline. We contacted the Charities Directorate and they confirmed as this is an unprecedented situation, not in the usual operations of the Eparchy/parish. We may continue receiving donations and sending them to the Eparchy or to CNEWA. Our support of the Ukrainian people during this time of great need is beautifully presented in Christ Our Pascha:

*The mission of our church (eparchy and parishes) is to provide religious service presented within the seven-corporal works of mercy which are: to feed the hungry, to give drink to the thirsty, to clothe the naked, to shelter the homeless, to minister to the sick, to visit the imprisoned and to bury the dead.*

This is what we do. We hope that an end to this war is near, with a victory for Ukraine, and we will evaluate our level of support and CRA guidelines within the year.

## 6) Financial Statements and Charity Return for 2021

We remind all parishes to send their **year end financial statements, list of pastoral council members and their Charities Return (T3010)** to the Pastoral Centre office by **April 30, 2022**.

This year, the Canadian Council of Catholic Bishops (CCCB) is preparing their next triannual budget which requires all eparchies and diocese to submit financial information. We appreciate your timely attention to this matter by sending in your financials on time.

When completing your parish's Charity Return (T3010), we remind you of two reporting items:

- a) report the parish as subordinate to the Eparchy, as all eparchial parishes are registered under an Act of Parliament. A sample is provided:

**A1** Was the charity in a subordinate position to a head body? ..... **1510**  Yes  No  
If yes, give the name and BN/registration number of the organization.

Name	BN (9 digits, 2 letters, 4 digits. Example: 123456789RR0001)
Ukrainian Catholic Episcopal Corporation of Western Canada	108102054RR0001

- b) Donations to the Eparchy or any other charities must be listed on Form T1236, Qualified donees worksheet (check yes on Line 210 of the Charity Return). Please note that donations made to CNEWA by your parish are not considered a gift towards Activities outside of Canada. CNEWA is a registered charity in Canada and would simply be listed as a Qualified Donee. Their charities number is BN 867757502 RR0001

As we approach Pascha, let us remember that we are a people of light, and we look to Christ our Saviour to raise Ukraine and our whole Church to a glorious resurrection. May our Good Shepherd continue to protect the people of Ukraine and bless our eparchial parishes with good works, kindness, and love.

3 Borom! Yours in Christ,

*Iryna Laschuk*

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