



# THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF THE DORMITION

OF THE MOST HOLY MOTHER OF GOD  
ΠΑΡΑΦΙΛΑ ΥΣΠΙΝΝΙΑ ΠΡΕΣΒ. ΒΟΓΟΡΟΔΗΤΙ  
A PARISH OF THE UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC EPARCHY OF EDMONTON

## Address:

15608 -104 Avenue,  
Edmonton, AB  
T5P 4G5

**Please register  
online or by  
phone to attend  
services.**

## Services:

Sunday Divine Liturgy  
(Ukr & Eng) at 10 am  
for June: (English) at 12 noon  
& soon to return Melkite (Arabic)  
D.L. at 2 pm

## Parish Website:

<http://dormition.eeparchy.com>

## Twitter:

@dormitionparish

<https://twitter.com/dormitionparish>

## Eparchial Website:

[www.eeparchy.com](http://www.eeparchy.com)

## Pastor:

Fr. Bo Nahachewsky

## Fr. Bo's cell phone:

780-340-FR.BO (3726)

## Fr. Bo's Emails:

[fr.bo.nahachewsky@gmail.com](mailto:fr.bo.nahachewsky@gmail.com)  
and  
[fr.nahachewsky@eeparchy.com](mailto:fr.nahachewsky@eeparchy.com)

## September 27, 2020

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost, Tone 8; Holy Martyr Callistratus and His Companions;  
Our Venerable Father Nilus, Founder and Hegumen of the Grottaferrata Monastery

**Welcome to Dormition Parish. We are glad to have you with us.**

## Support a Seminararian!



During the month of September, the  
Eparchy of Edmonton conducts its annual  
Vocations and Seminary Collection.

"It takes a whole village to raise a child." It likewise takes the support of the whole Church to form a deacon, priest, religious, monastic and lay member for ministry in the Church. It also takes our support to offer on-going education and formation for those already in sacred orders or involved in lay ministry.

The faithful can acknowledge the role they play in nurturing vocations by offering their financial support to help defray such expenses as formation programs, retreats, conferences, seminars, tuition, books, and room and board.

The suggested donation amount is \$25.00 per family.

Thank you for your generosity! May God bless you and your families!

## Youth Programming Restarting in our Parish

Starting this Friday, October 2, and every other Friday, at 7:30 pm till 8:30. I will be doing some things with our youth.

**We will obviously follow ALL the rules about covid.**

Because I'm working with some others, we will do things for all school age (& even young adult) young people.

If you have some young people in your household who would like to join us, give me a call. - Fr. Bo

## Senior's Programming?

Because Covid 19 hits the elderly and those poor in health the hardest, it is very difficult to see some of our seniors. Even though some of our seniors are extra lonely and a few are of declining health, access to senior's residences are **extremely** limited.

Phone calls however are very okay.

If you want to say hello to one of our elderly parishioners, ask me for a phone number.

- Fr. Bo

# How to Donate Online

Glory Be to Jesus Christ! Слава Ісусу Христу!

With the closure of our churches, we recognize that parishioners who normally donate through Sunday collections may wonder how they can continue to support their parishes financially. The Eparchial Pastoral Centre is suggesting three options for parishioners to donate to their parishes if online options are not available to them directly:

## I. Mail a donation by cheque;

Please do not send cash in the mail. Mail it to the (Ukrainian Catholic) Pastoral Centre and we will forward all donations to the parish. Our address is:

Eparchy of Edmonton Pastoral Centre

9645 108 Avenue NW, Edmonton, AB T5H 1A3 .

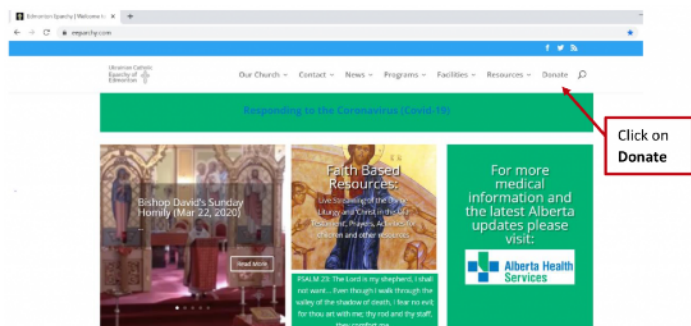
(Please do not mail things to Dormition Parish directly as our mailbox is not sufficiently secure.... It's good enough for bills, but not incoming funds.)

## 2. Donate using the Eparchial Website.

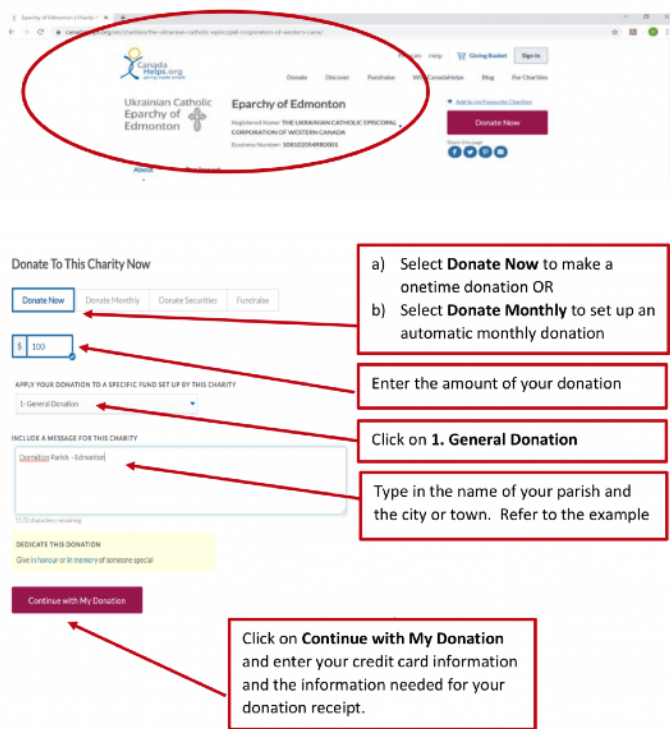
Our Eparchy accepts online donations through Canada Helps. You will receive a donation receipt directly from Canada Helps and the Eparchy will receive notification of the donation with all of the details and will allocate the funds to your parish. The following steps will help first time users with the online process:

Steps for making an online donation to your parish

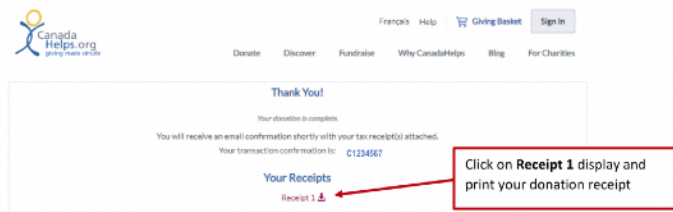
**A.** Access the Eparchy website at [www.eeparchy.com](http://www.eeparchy.com) and click on the Donate button.



**B.** You are automatically transferred to the Canada Helps site for the Eparchy of Edmonton. Scroll to the Donate to this Charity Now area and complete the required fields:



**C.** Once you have typed in the required information, click on the Complete Donation button. A message will appear thanking you for your donation and providing a confirmation number. You will also be able to directly print your charitable receipt.



**D.** Your donation is complete. The Eparchy will receive notification of the donation and will allocate the donation for your parish. You may close your browser.

## 3. Donate by credit card

– Please call our Pastoral Centre at 780.424.5496 during office hours (hours may be limited but you can leave a message and we will call you back). You will be asked for you name, credit card number, name of your parish and the city/town. A donation receipt will be issued from the Eparchy of Edmonton and proceeds allocated to your parish.

Thank you for your continued support of our Church though these unprecedented times. If you have any questions, comments or suggestions please call our Pastoral Centre at 780.424.5496



# Ask A Priest

## Full question:

Hello,

I am a huge fanatic of the fictional character Catwoman (Selina Kyle) who appears in American comic books published by DC Comics. However, I was baptized in a Catholic Church as an infant. I was raised Catholic. Since Catwoman represents one of the seven deadly sins, which is lust, I think that the Catholic Church would forbid viewing this comic. This is super tough for me due to the fact that I love the comic books. I am not sure what to do about this. What should I do about this?

Sincerely,

Anonymous

Hi there fellow fan of fiction and fantasy,

Jesus Himself often taught using parables (fictional stories). Stories help us know and explore our human nature. Comic books, fairy tales, movies, story-based table top games, and other such are not bad, as some people would have you believe, but are reflections of our world that can help us explore and find meaning in our lives. Think of the “Chronicles of Narnia” by C.S. Lewis, or “The Lord of the Rings” by J.R.R. Tolkien; these are two examples of great literature that are positively theologically inspiring. Tolkien writes in his essays that “fables can depart from the physical world and the created universe, but not from the moral order.” He goes on to say, however, that fables should not portray “a reality in which the moral and spiritual structure are inverted or confused, a world in which evil is good.”

In every story there are characters. Rarely is a character pure good or pure evil. Most characters fall somewhere in between – in the realm of being able to choose and act. Catwoman is a brilliantly written character who has some powerful flaws which she struggles with. She is often thought of as a villain, but I believe she is really more of a tragic hero. She is conflicted. She struggles. She often does the wrong thing while trying to do right. If we can’t appreciate her as a “person” (albeit a fictional one) because she struggles and yet often sins, then we can’t really appreciate anyone because we all struggle and do bad things from time to time.

As followers of Christ we are called to pray for and love everyone, and not to judge them. In real life this is difficult. People who hurt us and/or others are often very hard to love. However we must always remember: “Love the sinner, not the sin.” Catwoman herself is not “Lust”, but is a fictional character that often falls into the sin of lust and often makes others do so. She indeed struggles with morality, however this struggle itself is something good. It is much better than not struggling and simply giving into evil all the time.

Can your being a fan of Catwoman become a problem? It sure can. It is easy to let things get out of hand. It is okay to like comic books, but is not okay to be obsessed and therefore ignore your neighbours, parents, the poor, nor God, nor is it okay to hoard posters and comic books when people around you are hungry and homeless. If this is the case, I recommend confession and spiritual counselling.

Can your being a fan of Catwoman become a blessing for you? I believe so. Look for the positive everywhere (including in fiction), and then apply it in the real world. Perhaps even your hope for Catwoman to convert to doing good will help you have faith and patience with real people too. (Although, don’t hold your breath, if all of Batman’s “opponents” become good, then the comic book series would become boring and not sell well.)

On your other non-written but implied question: your struggles with the Church indeed show that you are more part of the Church than you think. We all struggle. Struggle is good and forms character. Above all, it leads us to rely more on God’s grace.

I want to conclude with an awesome image and quote from St. Paisios of Mt. Athos. “Be the Bee”.

*“Some people tell me that they are scandalized because they see many things wrong in the Church. I tell them that if you ask a fly, “Are there any flowers in this area?” it will say, “I don’t know about flowers, but over there in that heap of rubbish you can find all the filth you want.” And it will go on to list all the unclean things it has been to.*

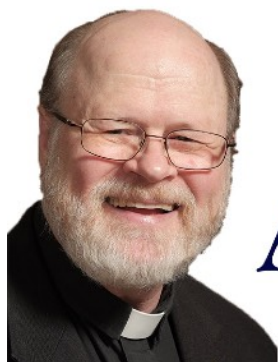
*“Now, if you ask a honeybee, “Have you seen any unclean things in this area?” it will reply, “Unclean things? No, I have not seen any; the place here is full of the most fragrant flowers.” And it will go on to name all the flowers of the garden or the meadow.*

*“You see, the fly only knows where the unclean things are, while the honeybee knows where the beautiful flowers are.*

*“As I have come to understand, some people resemble the honeybee and some resemble the fly. Those who resemble the fly seek to find evil in every circumstance and are preoccupied with it; they see no good anywhere. But those who resemble the honeybee only see the good in everything they see.*

+ St. Paisios of Mt. Athos





# Ask A Priest

## Question:

**If someone argues that the Eastern Churches are not truly Catholic, how can we prove to them that the Eastern Churches are legitimate Catholic churches?**

**Answer from:** Fr. Stephen

Thank you for your many-faceted question. I say that it has many sides to it because I am not quite certain what you mean by “Eastern Churches” or who that someone is who is presenting the argument. There is also the matter of what we mean by the term “Catholic.” As to the first point, I gather that you mean the “Eastern Catholic Churches”, that is, those Eastern Churches which are in full communion with the Latin Church, and not the various churches of Eastern Christianity who mainly describe themselves as Orthodox (the Assyrian Church of the East does not use “Orthodox” in its official title).

The word “Catholic” has a complicated history. It is Greek in origin and comes from the phrase, *kata holon* which means “according to the whole.” It was used initially in response to heretical teachers who emphasized only certain elements of the Church and her faith. Today we would regard it as an expression of “organic unity.” As the Greek term entered the Latin language as *catholica*, it began to take on the meaning of being the Church that extends throughout the whole world, that is, “universal.” In modern Ukrainian, the term is rendered as *soborna* which emphasizes “coming together” and “communion.” More technically, it means “conciliarity” which is the principle of seeing the Church as a council with Christ as its head and led by the Holy Spirit. Different churches put this principle into practice in different ways. However we look at it, these expressions of the word “catholic” have their own genius. They are not so much opposed to each other as being complementary.

It was important to stress these various understandings of the word because it is not only the Catholic Church as an institution that uses this term to identify itself. Many Orthodox churches and some Anglican and Lutheran churches use “Catholic” as part of their official name. My hunch, however, is that you are referring to the Catholic communion of churches, of which the Latin Catholic Church is, by far the largest, while the Ukrainian Catholic Church is the largest of the Eastern Catholic Churches.

If your partner in dialogue is a Roman Catholic, then you can assure him or her that the Eastern Churches in

communion with Rome are indeed Catholic in every sense of the word. You need to go no further than two critical documents of the Catholic Church to be convinced of this. The first is from the pronouncements of the Second Ecumenical Council held in the Vatican from 1962 to 1965. This council was comprised of the Pope with all the Catholic bishops of the world (including those of the Eastern Churches in communion with the Latin Church). The document in question is the Decree on the Catholic Eastern Churches (in Latin, *Decretum De Ecclesiis Orientalibus Catholicis*), promulgated in 1964. The title itself should be proof positive of their being Catholic. Furthermore, the decree states that “The Catholic Church values highly the institutions of the [Catholic] Eastern Churches” (par. 1), and that the “individual churches both Eastern and Western ... are of equal rank, so that none of them is superior to the others” (par.4).

The second document is truly an inspired appreciation of the tradition and mission of the Eastern Churches in general and the Eastern Catholic Churches in particular. Pope St. John Paul II issued his encyclical, *Light of the East* (in Latin, *Oriente Lumen*) in 1995. Among the many expressions of esteem he offers, St. John Paul II makes special mention of the Eastern Catholic Churches. He declares,

... conversion is also required of the Latin Church, that she may respect and fully appreciate the dignity of Eastern Christians, and accept gratefully the spiritual treasures of which the Eastern Catholic Churches are the bearers, to the benefit of the entire catholic communion; that she may show concretely, far more than in the past, how much she esteems and admires the Christian East and how essential she considers its contribution to the full realization of the Church’s universality. (par. 21)

And if words do not convince them, then you just need to point to the witness of Eastern Catholics as they were persecuted over the last century and a half: Eastern Catholics in Armenia, Egypt, Ethiopia, the Maronites, churches of the Syrian East (from Lebanon to India), and the crushing persecution of Ukrainian Catholics and other Slavic Catholics under the Soviet regime. How many countless martyrs there were – all because they lived and professed their faith in Jesus Christ, much of the time because they were Catholics. And the persecutions continue to this day, especially in northern Africa and the Middle East.

Sometimes what appears to be a straightforward question can be quite complicated in terms of how one should respond. I am grateful that you are engaging in what has often been called “the dialogue of love” where two partners (be they individuals, or individual churches, or representatives of whole traditions) are truly seeking mutual understanding and a commitment to “speak the truth in love” (Ephesians 4:15). God bless your goodness and efforts.

Father Stephen Wojcichowsky

## Martyr Callistratus and 49 companions

Saint Callistratus was a native of Carthage. An ancestor of Saint Callistratus, Neochorus, had served under the emperor Tiberius in Palestine, under the command of Pontius Pilate, the procurator of Judea, and was a witness to the suffering on the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, His voluntary death and glorious Resurrection.

The saint's father was a Christian, and he raised his son in faith and piety. Also like his father, Saint Callistratus became a soldier and excelled among his pagan military comrades by his good conduct and gentle disposition.

At night when everyone slept, he usually stayed up at prayer. Once, a soldier sleeping nearby heard Saint Callistratus invoking the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and he reported this to the military commander, who in turn summoned Callistratus, interrogated him and wanted to make him offer sacrifice to idols. The saint resolutely refused to do this, so the military commander ordered that the saint be beaten. Then, covered with wounds, the saint was dragged over sharp stones. The beating and the torments did not sway the firm will and brave endurance of the sufferer.

The saint was sewn up in a leather sack and drowned in the sea. By God's mercy, however, the sack struck a sharp rock and was

torn open. Saint Callistratus came to dry land unharmed, carried by dolphins. Viewing such a miracle, forty-nine soldiers came to believe in Christ. Then the military commander threw Saint Callistratus and the believing soldiers into prison. Before this, all of them were subjected to innumerable floggings.



In jail Saint Callistratus continued to preach the Word of God to the soldiers and he bolstered their spirits for martyrdom. Summoned again before the military commander, the sufferers firmly confessed their faith in Christ, after which they were bound hand and foot and thrown into the depths of a great lake behind a dam. But there their bonds broke, and with bright faces the holy martyrs stood in the water, rejoicing in their Baptism, which coincided with the act of martyrdom.

Beautiful bright crowns appeared over their heads, and all heard a voice: "Be brave, Callistratus, with your company, and come rest in the eternal habitations." At the same time, the earth shuddered and an idol standing nearby fell down and smashed. Seeing this, another 135 soldiers also believed in the Lord Jesus Christ. The military commander, fearing a mutiny in the army, did not put them on trial, but again imprisoned Saint Callistratus with his

49 companions, where they fervently prayed and gave thanks to the Creator for giving them power to endure such sufferings.

At night the martyrs were cut to pieces with swords by order of the military commander. Their holy relics were buried by the 135 soldiers who remained alive. Later, a church was built on the spot of their sufferings, as Saint Callistratus had foretold.

### Parish News & Beyond:

- We pray for the health and well-being of all the servants and handmaidens of God who need our prayers: **Fr. Josaphat Turkalo, Edward, Verna Hnatiuk, Miranda Mayko, Jean Miskew, Sarah Komar, Marge Woitas, Katie Bunio, Ann Horsman, Louis Pewar & Rosa Maria Santos.** (If you know any other people who should be on this list: please email me.)
- This week we wish Happy Birthday to **Robyn Orysiuk (28), Diane Woitas (28), Anne Prokop (30)** and **Acey Lonsberry (2)** who both celebrate this week. May God bless you both abundantly. Many Happy Years.
- A BIG Thank-You to all those who have been supporting our parish with online, sent in, and in person donations. Your support is helping us to keep moving forward in this unprecedented time. You are all the greatest.

2020  
7-9 pm OCTOBER  
1  
15  
29

healthy  
*Sex*  
in  
*Lifetime Love*

3 session  
ONLINE EVENT  
\$90 per person/couple

Register at:  
[http://www.queenshouse.org/?page\\_id=4399](http://www.queenshouse.org/?page_id=4399)

Leah Perrault  
leahperrault.com

QUEEN'S HOUSE  
LITURGICAL AND MUSICAL CENTER  
KNOWLEDGE YOUR OWN - NURTURE YOUR SPIRIT



**Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost, Tone 8;  
Holy Martyr Callistratus and His Companions;  
Our Venerable Father Nilus, Founder and  
Hegumen of the Grottaferrata Monastery**

**Troparion:** You came down from on high, O Merciful One,\* and accepted three days of burial\* to free us from our sufferings.\* O Lord, our life and our resurrection,\* glory be to You.

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

**Kontakion:** When You rose from the tomb,\* You also raised the dead and resurrected Adam.\* Eve exults in Your resurrection,\* and the ends of the world celebrate Your rising from the dead,\* O most merciful One.

Now and for ever and ever. Amen.

**Theotokion:** To you, O Mother of God,\* the invincible leader,\* we, your servants, ascribe these victory hymns\* in thanksgiving for our deliverance from evil.\* With your invincible power free us from all dangers\* that we may cry out to you:\* "Hail, O bride, and pure Virgin!"

**Prokeimenon:**

Pray and give thanks to the Lord our God.

**verse:** In Judea God is known; His name is great in Israel.

**Epistle: 2 Corinthians 6:16-7:1 (NRSV)**

*Brothers and Sisters,* What agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God; as God said, "I will live in them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Therefore come out from them, and be

separate from them, says the Lord, and touch nothing unclean; then I will welcome you, and I will be your father, and you shall be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty." Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and of spirit, making holiness perfect in the fear of God.

**Alleluia, Tone 8**

**verse:** Come, let us rejoice in the Lord; let us acclaim God our Saviour.

**verse:** Let us come before His countenance with praise and acclaim Him with psalms.

**Gospel Matthew 15:21-28 (NRSV)**

*At that time,* Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

**Communion Hymn**

Praise the Lord from the heavens;\* praise Him in the highest.\* Alleluia, alleluia,\* alleluia.



**See these, and other beautiful pieces of art by kids in our Eparchy.**

Click here: <https://eeparchy.com/2020/09/22/edmonton-eparchys-childrens-poster-contest-submissions/>

