

# Northern Colorado Byzantine Catholic Newsletter

1201 S Elizabeth St, Denver, CO 80210 Office: 720-910-3084



## Holy Protection of the Mother of God, Denver

And the Byzantine Catholic Outreach of Fort Collins

### **Pastor's Reflection**

#### Who is my parishioner?

When the scribe asked Jesus, "Who is my neighbor?", the Lord answered with the parable of the Good Samaritan. The punch line of the parable is that the command to love my neighbor as myself must be understood as meaning that I must be a neighbor and show mercy to anyone I meet who needs my mercy. For me, the question "Who is my parishioner?" does not reach the breadth and depth of this common human obligation to neighborliness, but it has been a painful one when I encounter situations in which I do not have the authority or freedom to fully address the needs in front of me.

It is a joy to be part of a small community and to share the Divine Liturgy with others who are excited to be there. This is what I think of first when I think of our parish and its members: I think of a lively group of Christians who have chosen to worship together at Holy Protection Denver.

Nonetheless, the *Code of Canons of the Eastern Churches* does not regard a parish as an intentional, self-selecting body. Rather any ascribed member of the Ruthenian Byzantine Catholic Church living in Colorado or Wyoming is a member of Holy Protection Denver. If they ever have a pastoral need and reach out to me for my help, I will have an obligation to care for them to the best of my ability. One becomes an ascribed member of a ritual church at baptism or through the process of transfer of ritual, *sui juris* churches. Members of other churches *sui juris* would belong to the parish within the boundaries of which they live. Consequently,

when it comes to the sacramental aspects of pastoral care this territorial and ascription-based answer must be taken into account.

If Latin Catholic parents ask for the sacraments of initiation for their children, I should seek permission from their Latin territorial pastor to baptize; and for chrismation/confirmation, I must seek permission from their territorial bishop before administering that sacrament. The necessity is even stricter for the sacrament of matrimony. Fortunately, for distributing Holy Communion and administering the sacraments of healing, Reconciliation, and Anointing, I have greater freedom to serve any Catholics who may request my priestly ministry.

For years now, many of our Eparchy's parish communities have been made up of committed members canonically ascribed to a variety of churches *sui juris*. According to our eparchy's *Pastoral Handbook*, any Catholic who believes the teachings of the Catholic Church may register as a "member" of Holy Protection. And if they are faithful in their attendance on Sundays and feast days, and faithfully contribute financially to the support of the parish, they have a right to expect me to care for their pastoral needs, understanding that I must observe all the canons that govern the administration of the sacraments.

The Second Vatican Council has called Eastern Catholics to care for their rites—their unique "liturgical, theological, spiritual, and disciplinary heritage" (CCEO Can. 28)—as treasures of the universal heritage of the Catholic Church. It calls us to clear away Latinizations and return to deeper and more authentic sources of our Ruthenian, Slavic, Byzantine, Catholic ritual tradition. Like the *Novus Ordo* of the Latin rite, our reformed Divine Liturgies and Divine Praises have been revised to serve the mission of the Church—the Lord's mission—for the life of the world. Even though we are small in numbers compared with the vast populations of the Latin Church, the Second Vatican Council emphatically affirmed the equal dignity of all the rites of the Catholic Church and thereby called Eastern Catholics to full partnership in the mission of the universal Church.

Almost everything I have said about the Ruthenian Byzantine Catholic Church and its ritual heritage also holds true for the "liturgical, theological, spiritual, and disciplinary heritage" of the Russian Greek Catholic Church, to which our sister community Saints Cyril and Methodius belongs. In a time when Russia has made war on its sister nation Ukraine, we enjoy a rare blessing and opportunity here in Denver to bear witness to the true, inner harmony of the authentic spiritual traditions of Holy Russian with the other ritual traditions of the Catholic Church!

The very fact that I feel the need to ask the question, "Who is my parishioner?", is a testimony to the blessings we at Holy Protection Denver have enjoyed in our pursuit of this conciliar vision of renewal for the Eastern Catholic Churches and their mission in Colorado and Wyoming.

May the Lord continue to bless us through his grace and lovingkindness.

-Fr Joel

## Contact Information

**Fr Joel Barstad**

Parochial Administrator

Email: [frbarstad@ephx.org](mailto:frbarstad@ephx.org)

Office: 720-910-3084

Mobile: 720-910-3082

### ***Making Appointments with Fr Joel***

1. Office hours: MTWF afternoons (<http://www.calendly.com/frbarstad>)
2. Other times: Call/text or email

## Calendar

Our website includes a calendar where you can find the most current information about liturgical services. It can be found at <https://holyprotection.org/about/calendar/> .

## Upcoming

**Philip's Fast** in preparation for Christmas: **November 15 through December 24**. This is one of our Metropolia's penitential seasons, but the fast that goes with it is observed voluntarily by those who wish to keep it, whether partially or in its entirety. Beginning on Nov 15 it was customary to keep a strict abstinence (no meat, dairy, fish, wine, or oil) on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday and a mitigated abstinence (allowing wine and oil) on Tuesday and Thursday. In some traditions, the strictness increases from Dec 10 or from Dec 20 on, with strict abstinence daily and mitigated abstinence on Saturday and Sunday.

**Feast of the Archangel Michael and All Angels:** Tuesday November 8

**Feast of the Entrance of the Theotokos:** Monday November 21

**St. Nicholas Celebration** - See flyer below: Sunday December 4

# Financial Statement

11/01/22

## Holy Protection of the Mother of God Profit & Loss

October 1 through November 1, 2022

Oct 1 - Nov 1, 22

Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
4000 · HPMG Income	
4100 · HPMG Collections Income	
4110 · Tithes - Adults	6,029.00
Total 4100 · HPMG Collections Income	<u>6,029.00</u>
4400 · HPMG Special Inc.(Non Cath.)	
4470 · Candles/Votives	65.95
Total 4400 · HPMG Special Inc.(Non Cath.)	<u>65.95</u>
Total 4000 · HPMG Income	<u>6,094.95</u>
Total Income	<u>6,094.95</u>
Gross Profit	6,094.95
Expense	
5000 · Holy Protection Expenses (Regular)	
5100 · HPMG Parish Admin. & General	1,396.18
5200 · HPMG Church Operating Costs	1,411.18
5400 · HPMG Personnel Expenses	4,669.74
Total 5000 · Holy Protection Expenses	<u>7,477.10</u>
Expenses Due to Transitional Period	
5115 · Moving Expenses	4,454.57
5153 · Professional Services	1,458.85
5242 · Equipment Purchase	284.07
5264 · Repairs & Maintenance	257.08
5399 · Other Rectory Expenses	360.00
Total - Transitional Expenses	<u>6,814.57</u>
Total Expense	<u>14,291.67</u>
Net Ordinary Income	<u>-8,196.72</u>
Net Income	<u><u>-8,196.72</u></u>

**A note on the Financial Statement:** Thank you for your faithful giving! We feel it is important to update the parish monthly with a clear picture of our financial situation. Please remember, though, that we are still getting past the transitional months, which included extraordinary expenses. As you can see, even if we ignore the transitional expenses, our operating expenses for October were about 23% greater than our income. As we learn which expenses can be trimmed (for example, we recently eliminated the \$240/month that we were spending on a storage unit for the parish) and which ones will have to remain, we can develop a budget for our monthly and annual expenses so that parishioners can understand the church's needs and adjust their giving. In the meantime, if you have general questions, please direct them to Fr. Joel. If you have specific questions, please direct them to Melanie at [admin@holyprotection.org](mailto:admin@holyprotection.org). -Fr Joel

## Ways to Give

King Soopers Community Rewards - If you haven't already designated Holy Protection as your local charity and you shop at King Soopers, please follow the steps here.

<https://www.kingsoopers.com/i/community/community-rewards>

We are listed as Holy Protection Byzantine Catholic Church. Thank you!

AmazonSmile - If you haven't already designed Holy Protection as your charity and you use Amazon, please follow the steps here.

<https://www.aboutamazon.com/news/community/how-to-sign-up-for-amazonmile>

We are listed as Pastor of Holy Protection of the Mother of God Byzantine Catholic. Thank you!

## Prayer Requests

### For those who are sick or in special need of prayer

- Chelsea Wegman
- Lisa Caples
- Alexis Kiechlin
- Isaac Ferreira
- Dorothy Chabin
- Andrew Bonn
- Lucy
- Sarah
- Pat
- William
- Claire
- Jerry
- Annita
- Willis
- Carol
- David
- Kaydee

### For the departed

- Anders Mundhenke
- Christina Curwen
- Delores Lorraine Davies Mansfield
- Lois Davies
- Richard Davies
- George Shannon
- Helen Kmeck
- James
- Margaret
- Sharon
- Mariella
- Nicolás
- Rosa

## Holy Mysteries

**Canonical Ascription:** Every Catholic is a member not only of the universal Catholic Church, but also of one of the 22 particular, ritual, *sui juris* churches that comprise the Catholic Church. The largest of these churches is the Latin Church. Holy Protection Denver is a parish of the Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Phoenix, which is part of the *sui juris* Byzantine Catholic (Ruthenian) Metropolitan Church of Pittsburgh. The Saints Cyril and Methodius Russian community is part of the Russian Greek Catholic Church.

A person's ascription is generally determined at baptism or by the formal process of transfer from one church *sui juris* to another. A person's canonical ascription can significantly impact the administration of the holy mysteries of initiation and crowning, regardless of where one regularly attends Divine Liturgy and for how long one has done so. Therefore, please allow ample time to address these issues when you request baptism or marriage.

**Sacraments of Initiation:** Full Byzantine initiation—Baptism, Chrismation, and First Communion—is the norm, even for infants, for ascribed members of the Eastern Churches belonging to the Byzantine liturgical family. Latin Catholics baptized as infants normally receive Confirmation and First Communion separately and at a later age. A Byzantine Catholic priest can baptize a person who will be an ascribed member of the Latin Church with the permission of his or her territorial pastor; permission to Chrismate/Confirm, however, comes from the local Latin bishop.

**Mystery of Crowning:** The Eparchy requires a preparation period of at least six months. For couples both of whom are Latin Catholics, the local archdiocese requires a preparation period of eight months, which will be followed in this parish to allow time for requesting the extra permissions required in such a case. Marriages should not be celebrated during the Fasting Seasons of the Church, but especially not during the Great Fast.

**Funerals:** Please contact Fr Joel to arrange funerals and other memorial services.

**Sick Calls/Anointing/Hospital Visits:** Please contact Father Joel directly at 720-910-3082 if you or a family member needs Holy Communion, Anointing of the Sick, or a visit at home, a hospital, or a care facility. The Mystery of Holy Anointing will also be offered in the church once during each of the four penitential seasons.

**Mystery of Holy Penance:** The Mystery of Holy Penance will be celebrated an hour before evening feast day Divine Liturgies and, for now, on Wednesdays at noon and Saturday mornings; this service includes time for individual confessions. Individual confessions may also be scheduled at other times by appointment.

**Divine Liturgy:** Generally, Divine Liturgy will be celebrated on Sundays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, as well as on feast days. For obligatory and solemn feasts, a Vespereal Divine Liturgy will, if possible, be celebrated in the evening before the day and a regular Divine Liturgy on the day itself. In addition, the Divine Praises, mainly Matins and Vespers, will be celebrated most weekdays but especially in preparation for Divine Liturgies.

## Safe Environment

The Victim Assistance Coordinator for the Eparchy of Phoenix is available to help anyone who has been abused or victimized by someone representing the Catholic Church. We will listen to your needs and support you. We will also help you make a formal complaint and arrange a personal meeting with the Bishop or his delegate if desired.

VICTIM ASSISTANCE COORDINATOR: Dcn. Michael Hanafin  
(cell) (480) 307-5182 -- (email) [vac@ephx.org](mailto:vac@ephx.org)

The Safe Environment Coordinator for the Eparchy of Phoenix is available to answer any inquiries and to receive reports regarding Safe Environment-related observations or concerns.

SAFE ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM COORDINATOR: Sdcn. Paul Kilroy  
(office) (602) 861-9778, ext. 204 -- (Cell) (480) 745-0316  
(email) [sbdcnkilroy@ephx.org](mailto:sbdcnkilroy@ephx.org)

## Saints Cyril and Methodius Russian Greek Catholic Community

At St John Francis Regis Chapel, Regis University, Denver, CO 80221



**Congratulations:** Baby Leonid was baptized, chrismated, and received first Eucharist on October 2. Luke and Megan Wiedel are his godparents. Many years to Leonid and his family!

**Vespers and book club:** Join us each Monday at 7:30 pm on Zoom to pray vespers and learn about faith and spirituality. We are currently reading Alexander Schmemmann's book *The Historical Road of Eastern Orthodoxy*. We will begin a new book during Philip's Fast beginning November 28. [Join Zoom Meeting](#)

**St. Nicholas Day Party:** Join our fellow Byzantine Catholic communities to celebrate on Dec 4. See flyer below.



HOLY PROTECTION OF THE MOTHER OF GOD  
**ST. NICHOLAS BANQUET**



Sunday Dec. 4th, 5PM

Most Precious Blood Hall

3959 E. Iliff Ave. Denver, CO 80210

Suggested Donation \$10/Single or \$30/family  
Checks payable to Holy Protection, memo: banquet



[Click Here to RSVP](#)