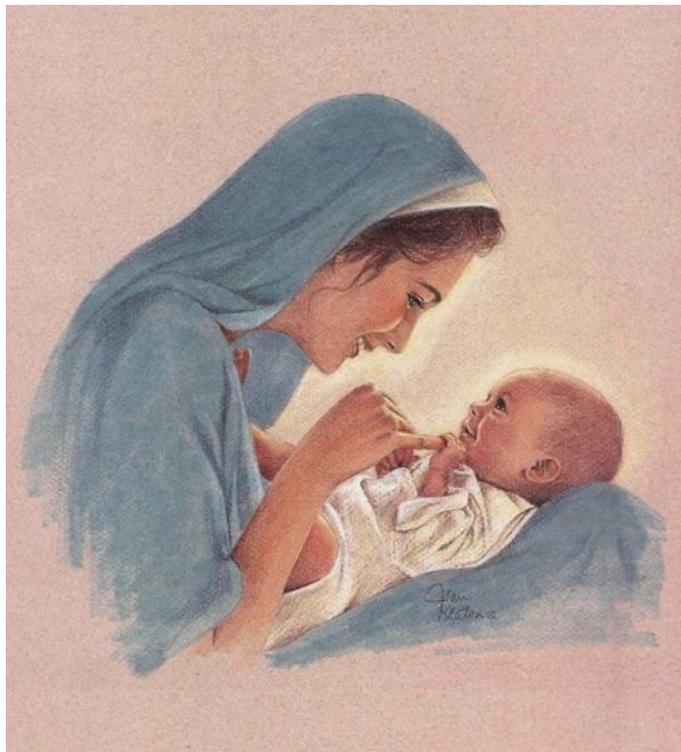


Honouring the Theotokos

At the Council of Ephesus (451), Mary, the mother of Jesus was proclaimed as Mother of God or Theotokos, acknowledging the very Godhead of her Son, Jesus Christ. Under this noble title she is still honored by most Christians around the world, and today's feast invites us to lay our hopes and plans for the new-starting year in her motherly care. We entrust to her our personal concerns and those of our era, with all its conflicts and glaring injustices, the unequal wealth and opportunity, the war in Syria and Iraq; in short, all that troubles peace and fairness in our world at this time.

In spite of every-year of 2018 with high with a sense of wonder can share in the spirit of tainside, when he said be here." Such wonder of Mary, our Mother in believer in Jesus her flesh-and-blood person working young woman and willing to be of ser-to imagine her as a na, serene and immo-background with hover-age is simply not true to Gospels. The real Mary riches nor a privileged lived, suffered and died marked by a strong and



thing, we start this new hopes, looking to God and trust. Somehow we Saint Peter on the moun- "Lord, it is good for us to and gratitude was typical the faith, the first devoted son. But Mary was also a of her times, a hard-from Nazareth, cheerful vice to others. It is foolish Christmas-card Madon- bile against a golden ing angels. Such an im- her life-story as told in the of Nazareth knew neither lifestyle. Nobody has ever in greater simplicity, simple faith.

As she saw herself, Mary was the handmaid of the Lord, trusting in Providence and sustained by the goodness of God. Indeed, she stands out among the Lord's anawim, the humble hearts who confidently trust that God has everything in hand (Lumen Gentium 55). In the first four Christian centuries, Church writers emphasized Mary's faith rather than her divine motherhood. As St Augustine put it, "She conceived Jesus in her heart before conceiving him in her womb." Also venerated as Mother of Good Counsel, Our Lady can be our guide and counsellor in the area of faith. She wants to beget faith in us, to be our Mother in faith. That is why, in the gospel of John, she is present at the beginning and the end of Christ's public life.

John is the only evangelist to record Mary's presence at Calvary, by tersely stating, "Near the cross of Jesus stood his Mother" (Jn 19:25). Although the miracles and message of Jesus seemed a delusion to many, his mother stood there faithful to him to his last breath, still believing in God's power to save. Her faith was not built upon his miracles, but upon childlike trust in the mysterious ways of God our Father. Nor did her role as mother cease then, for with his dying words Jesus gave it a new focus with the instruction: "Behold your son..... Behold your mother." The mother of Jesus will henceforth be mother to all his disciples, sharing with us her strong and simple faith.

Liturgical schedules/Bohoslužobný poriadok		Cycle B	www.cyrilmetod.ca
31. 12. – SUN/NE The Holy Family / Najsvätejšia rodina Sir 3.2-14; Col 3.12-21; Lk. 2.22-40	9 a.m. mass For parishioners	Fr. Rastislav	
	11 a.m. SK omsa Bozie pozehnanie rodicom Jozefovi a Marii	Rod. Eskut	
	5 - 6 p.m. Adoration of thanksgiving for 2017	Fr. Rastislav	
01. 01. – MON/PO Mary, The Holy Mother of God Num 6.22-27; Gal 4.4-7; Lk 2.16-21	9 a.m. mass + Terezia Bobokova	Rod. Astrabova	
	11 a.m. SK omsa na umysel	A. Rolnikova	
02. 01. – TUE/UT Mem-St. Basil the Great 1 John 2.22-28; John 1.19-28	8 a.m. + Veronika a duse v ocistci	Syn Pavol	
03. 01. – WED/ST 1 John 2.29,3.1-6; John 1.29-34	8.00 a.m. mass + Robin Chu	Javier Family	
04. 01. – THU/ŠT 1 John 3.7-10; John 1,35-42	6.30 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration		
	7.30 p.m.mass + Josefa javier	Javier Family	
05. 01. – FRI/PI First Friday of the month 1 John 3.11-21; John 1.43-51	8 a.m. mass Divine Word Missionaries	Fr. Rastislav	
	2.30 pm Eucharistic Adoration		
	7.30 pm SK omsa na umysel	J. Zeliskova	
06. 01. – SAT/SO First Saturday of the month 1 John 5.5-13; Mark 1.4-5, 7-11	8 a.m. Eucharistic Adoration		
	9 a.m. mass podakovanie a Bozie pozehnanie pre Alenku	J. Jurkovicova	
	5.30 p.m. SK omša s nedelnou platnostou + Andrej Cassty	Cedik Family	
07. 01. – SUN/NE Epiphany of the Lord Sir 3.2-14; Col 3.12-21; Lk. 2.22-40	9 a.m. mass + Eric Adrias	Tina and Tita	
	11 a.m. SK omsa za farnikov	Fr. Rastislav	
Sacrament of reconciliation 30 minutes before every mass.			
Announcements/Oznamy			
*Last Sunday's and Christmas collection: \$3830. Hall rental income \$1080. May God reward your generosity.			
*A new furnace has been installed into the church. The entire cost was \$2940. Its efficiency is 92%.			
*First Friday of the month Adoration will be shorter and starts at 2.30 pm. I ask volunteers to sign up.			
*First Saturday of the month Adoration will start at 8 am.			
*Registration of mass intentions for February will start from January 1, 2018.			
*Pastoral family visits on Sundays at 5pm will continue. Interested families may sign up.			
*Thanks to Ruzena Starostova for making a list of readers /lectors/. She wants to pass it onto someone else. In the meantime there is a schedule and the volunteering lectors may sign up.			
*Subor SLAVICEK pozýva 7. januara 2018 na vystupenie po omsi o 12.15 p.m. v hale kostola. Zisk z obeda a bottle drive je urceny na podporu Slavicka. Vystupi aj host - spevacky zbor MORAVENKA.			