

First Sod To Be Turned Sunday For New Church

The first sod for the new Holy Eucharist Ukrainian Catholic Church, Watt and Munroe, will be turned Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock by Mayor J. Les. Bodie.

Officiating at the ceremony will be Rev. I. G. Shpytkovsky, parish priest. He will be assisted by other clergy.

Blessing of the site of the new church will commence at 8.30 a.m. with Low Mass in the old church at Watt and Montrose. At 10.30 a.m. High Mass will be followed by a procession to the four altars and the blessing of water.

At 2.30 p.m. a procession will bear the cross from the old church to set it in the new site for the blessing ceremony. The whole congregation and guests will form the procession.

Actual work on the building will start on Monday at 8 p.m. with the excavation of the basement.

The present church was built in 1919 at a cost of \$6,000. The church was blessed by Bishop Nykyta Budka on Oct. 26, 1919. The first parish priest was Rev. Michael Felech.

At present the parish consists of 235 members; 125 children with an average attendance of 60 at catechism and 30 at Ukrainian school.

The new church will be built of brick, 116 feet long, 36 feet wide and 56 feet wide at the cross section. Seating capacity will be 400.

On the site of the old church the parish plans to erect a large brick parish hall for the use of parishioners and the organizations affiliated with the parish. The hall in the basement of the new church will be used exclusively for Ukrainian school, cultural and educational work.

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Ukrainian Catholic Church Official Opening Sunday

On Sunday, at 3 p.m. His Grace Bishop Maksym Hermaniuk, Bishop-Coadjutor of the Ukrainian Catholic Exarchate of Central Canada, will officially open the new Ukrainian Catholic Church of the Holy Eucharist, corner Watt and Munroe.

The opening ceremony will consist of High Mass at which Bishop Hermaniuk will be assisted by the Winnipeg clergy and those of neighboring districts.

The building of the new church was commenced on June 21st, 1954, under the direction of the well-known architect, Very Rev Canon Phillip Rhue, O.M.I. of Cook's Creek, Man.

General contractor was Steve Zulak.

Built in the form of a cross, the new church is of brick construction measuring 116 feet by 36 feet, with the cross section measuring 56 feet in width. The domes are copper covered. To date the cost of construction is \$125,000.

A large auditorium with a seating capacity for over 400 forms the basement of the new building.

The new building is situated six blocks north of the old church, which had served the community since 1918 at the corner of Montrose and Watt, but which had been found inadequate for the present needs of the constantly growing congregation.

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About

July 1, 2006 by [Father Michael](#)

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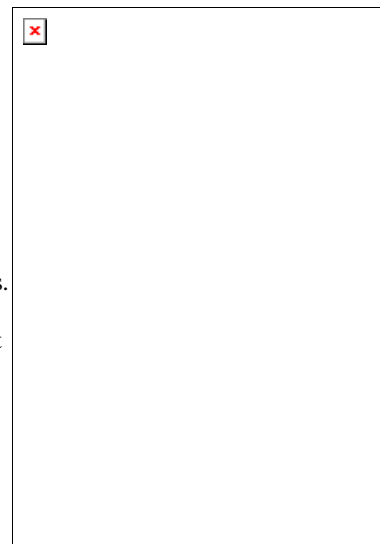
Brief History

Four months after an initial meeting in the house of Andrew Smaha, on August 11, 1918 Frs. Peter Oleksiw and Nicholas Shumsky called an organizational meeting to form a Ukrainian Catholic parish in East Kildonan. Acting on the advice of Bishop Nykyta Budka, property at the corner of Watt Street and Montrose (now Larsen) Avenue was purchased for \$1200. By July 1919, a small church (100'x25') was completed. Holy Eucharist Ukrainian Catholic Parish, the third Ukrainian Catholic church in Winnipeg, was blessed by Bishop Nykta on October 29, 1919. The first parish priest was Fr. Michael Pelech.

By the late 1940s, with the continued growth in the East Kildonan area, the church became inadequate to the needs of the growing congregation. A campaign was begun for a new church. Under the direction of the Fr. Ihor Shpytkovsky, a triangular parcel of land was purchased at Watt Street and Munroe Avenue, just a six blocks north of the first church building. The new church, designed by the the famous Belgian priest, Fr. Philip Ruh, OMI, was built in 1954.

Organizers of our Parish 1918 and Visiting Priests

Fr. Peter Oleksiw
 Fr. Nicholas Chumsky
 Fr. Vladimir Charney
 Fr. John Kolsun



Fr. Michael Pelech, 1919-1920
 Fr. Evhen Andruhovich, 1920-1921
 Fr. Peter Oleksiw, 1921-1922

Pastors

Fr. Michael Hryhorichuk, 1922-1925
 Fr. Michael Olenchuk, 1925-1926
 Fr. Nicholas Bartman, 1925-1926
 Fr. Josphe Fylyma, 1926-1927
 Fr. Paul Suliatelycky, 1927-1929
 Fr. John Holowka, 1929-1930
 Fr. Anthony Luhovy, 1930-1932
 Fr. Canon Panteleimon Bozyk, 1932-1938
 Fr. Michael Syrnyk, 1938-1940
 Fr. Ihor Shpytkovsky, 1940-1966
 Mitrat Stephen Semczuk, 1967-1972
 Fr. Joseph Fornalchuk, 1967-1972
 Msgr. Vladimir Bozyk, 1972-1994
 Mitrat Gregory Oucharyk, 1994-1999
 Fr. Darren Kawiuk, 1999-2005
 Fr. Michael Winn, 2005-present

Assistant Pastors

Fr. Marian Dawydko
 Fr. Alexander Baran
 Fr. Eugene Rudachek
 Fr. Vladimir Olach
 Fr. Roman Zakrewsky
 Fr. John Sholdak
 Fr. Andrew Zayac

Deacons

Fr. Deacon John Melnyk
 Fr. Deacon Michael Strilec
 Fr. Deacon Morris Kowalchuk
 Fr. Deacon Nicholas Kohuch
 Fr. Deacon Victor Humniski

2 Responses to “About”

1. *on January 22, 2007 at 10:18 am*[1](#) *Richard Lebrun*

Hi Fr Michael,

Great to see you at that gathering last night. I mentioned trying to attend the Vespers service at your parish on Saturday night. My apologies, but when I checked my calendar, it turns out we will be attending the St. Paul's College Alumni Dinner that evening. I'll be sorry to miss your service.

Take care,

Richard

2. *on December 20, 2007 at 11:40 am*[2](#) *[Michelle](#)*

Seasons greetings!

I would like some information regarding Christmas Mass. I don't know if that is what it is called or if I would even be allowed to attend. I am not catholic as you can tell.

I would like to know if I may bring my children to one of your services before Christmas. Can you give me information on that? I would appreciate it very much.

Thank you and Merry Christmas
Michelle

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