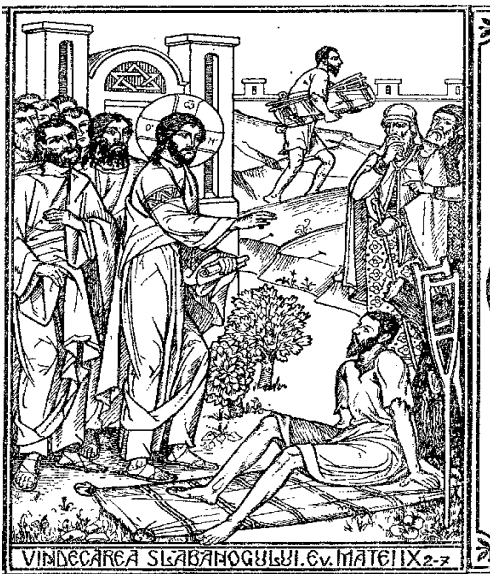


July 31, 2016: The 6th Sunday after Pentecost (The healing of the paralytic of Capernaum)

Epistle: Romans 12:6-14:

We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully. Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse.

Gospel: Matthew 9:1-8:



Jesus stepped into a boat, crossed over and came to his own town. Some men brought to him a paralyzed man, lying on a bed. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the man, "Take heart, son; your sins are forgiven." At this, some of the teachers of the law said to themselves, "This fellow is blaspheming!" Knowing their thoughts, Jesus said, "Why do you entertain evil thoughts in your hearts? Which is easier: to say, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Arise and walk'? But I want you to know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins." So he said to the paralyzed man, "Arise, take your bed and go home." Then the man got up and went home. When the crowd saw this, they were filled with awe; and they praised God, who had given such power to men.

Two weeks ago, on the Sunday of the healing of the centurion's servant, we've touched on the importance of the intercessory prayer. Then, the centurion was praying to Christ for the healing of his servant who severely ill at home. Here, on this Sunday, we see again how the love and faith of the men who brought the paralytic before the Lord were rewarded with the healing of their friend: *When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the man...* When we do good deeds we make our faith visible.

It is clear from the gospel reading that the cause of the paralytic's suffering was his sinful state: *"Take heart, son; your sins are forgiven."* Together with the forgiveness of sins, the Savior restores the quality of sonship in man: *Take heart, son.* This is exactly the reason for the Lord's coming into the world: to forgive our sins (to reconcile us with our Creator) and to make us the sons of God by grace: *"Therefore, you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ"* (Gal. 4:7).

Let us, too, make our faith visible by praying for one another and helping those who are going through trying times!

Fr. George Bazgan

SUMMER SCHEDULE OF CHURCH SERVICES

Due to the fact that Fr. George will be away between June 30 - August 2, there will be some changes regarding our Church services.

The church will be open every Sunday and Fr. Deacon Severian will serve the Akathist at 10:00 AM.

On Sunday, July 24, the Divine Liturgy will be celebrated by Fr. Mircea.

For any emergency, please call Fr. Mircea at 456-7737.

Have a pleasant Summer!

Holy Virgin's Dormition Fast

During the two-week fast (August 1-15), besides the regular Sunday Liturgy, the following services will be held in our church:

- Friday, August 5: Akathist to the Holy Virgin at 7:00 PM.
- Saturday, August 6: Divine Liturgy at 10:00 AM.
- Saturday, Aug. 6: Vespers at 6:00 PM.
- Friday, August 12: Akathist to the Holy Virgin at 7:00 PM.
- Saturday, Aug. 13: Vespers at 6:00 PM.
- Sunday, August 14: Vespers at 6:00 PM.
- Monday, August 15: Divine Liturgy at 10:00 AM.

Those who want to have their confession heard, can do so after any of these services.

The Sermon on line

The Sunday's Sermon is being posted on line.
To access it, go to our parish's website (bisericaedmonton.org),
click on "Multimedia" and then on "Audio."

Heritage Days Volunteers

Those who want to volunteer for the Romanian Pavilion at the
Heritage Days (July 30-Aug. 1), are kindly asked to sign up
in the sign-in sheet at the church.

Thank you very much

MEMBERSHIP

The Board of Directors extends a warm appeal to all supporters of our
parish, asking them to pay their membership as soon as possible.

This way we can ensure that we have the necessary funds to fulfill our
financial obligations during the Summer months and for the rest of the year as
well.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

Spread the word

We make an appeal to all of you, subscribers to our weekly electronic Bulletin, to invite your family members and friends to submit their email address and join the list of our parish subscribers.

This is so we can reach as many people as possible.

Thank you for your help!

Our Family

**We would like to add something new to our website.
All members and supporters are asked to send in a picture
of their family, with the names of all members.
All pictures will available under this category: *Our family.***

Thank you for your participation!