



Українська Католицька
Едмонтонська Єпархія

Ukrainian Catholic
Eparchy of Edmonton

PASTORAL CENTRE - COMMUNICATOR

June 5, 2020

Слава Ісусу Христу! Слава На Віки!
Glory Be to Jesus Christ! Glory Be Forever!

Such wonderful news to hear of the successful reopening of a number of our churches! Much appreciation is extended to our pastors and pastoral councils for their careful consideration, planning and management for a safe reopening according to The Alberta Health and Eparchial directives. We also respect those parishes that are postponing their reopening in consideration of the safety of parishioners. In this newsletter, we have further updates on several areas related to COVID-19 and our parishes.

1. Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS)

Our Eparchy submitted the second subsidy for the payroll period of April 12 to May 9, 2020 on behalf of all parishes (except for parishes served by our Basilian Fathers who are managing subsidies separately). We expect to receive the 75% of the pastor's salary (to a maximum of \$3,388 for a full-time pastor on the payroll).

The next submission for the payroll subsidy (May 10 to June 6, 2020), will require us to requalify, proving that our revenues for April and May 2020 are down at least 30% down from the same period in 2019. **We require all parishes who want to continue to participate in the CEWS, to submit their financial revenue results for April and May 2019 and 2020 by Monday June 15, 2020.** Please use the spreadsheet that was sent previously or if you need another copy please contact our office (Iryna or Sheila) and we will send you a new form. Thank you for prioritizing this task.

Also, Finance Minister Bill Morneau announced that the Government of Canada will extend the CEWS by an additional 12 weeks (to August 29, 2020), for those organizations and businesses meeting the 30% decrease in revenue for these periods. We will continue to monitor the details as they are released and make the applications for our Eparchy.

2. Payroll invoices through August 2020

Most parishes have received, or will be receiving, their invoices for the pastor payroll. The invoices detail amounts owing to date including the allocation of the first subsidy received from the Government of Canada (displayed as a credit memo). The email lists the amount due for the June 15 payroll and the expected parish payments for July and August (net of the anticipated subsidies). If you have any questions, please contact Sheila or Iryna.

3. Eparchial Website – a new look and lots of content

With the temporary closure of our churches, many faithful have been flocking to our website to access livestreaming liturgical services and faith-based resources. How wonderful it is that we could continue to pray together, even from our own homes.

You may have noticed that the look of our website has changed to a more modern and interactive model. It has taken much effort to deliver the website, and we look forward to adding more content and making it more user friendly to use. Enjoy!

4. Online Donations through the Eparchial Website – an update

To date we received over \$8,000 in donations for 8 of our parishes through the Eparchial website. Cheques are issued monthly to these parishes (net of the fees charged by the Canada Helps organization). If any parish, with an active website, would like to register and set up their own “Canada Helps” donation option, please call our office after June 15. Ben Windsor, our communications and website specialist, will help you with this set up. There are several companies that offer these services, and all charge similar fees.

5. Financial health of your parish

Although the CEWS subsidy for pastor payroll is a great relief, this is an opportune time to evaluate the financial health of our parishes considering reduced donations, no income from gaming proceeds (bingos and casinos will most likely be postponed 6 to 12 months) and reduced ability to hold fundraisers. Please take time, with your pastoral councils, to reforecast the next year of parish operations and address any concerns well in advance. In subsequent newsletters we will provide some guidance on this important matter and be available to help with future financial decisions.

God Bless. 3 Borom!

Iryna Laschuk

Chancellor and Director of Finance

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