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St. Aidan Orthodox Church

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Kootenay Spotlight >>>

Local Farmer's Markets

Saturday, May 27th

Cranbrook, BC

Saturdays, 10am – 1pm

10th Ave South (beside Rotary Park)

May 27 – June 10, June 24 – Oct 7



Kimberley, BC

Thursdays, 5pm – 7:30pm

June 15 – Sept 14

Creston, BC

Saturdays, 9am – 1pm

April 22 – Dec 23

Father's Desk

There Will Be Your Heart Also

As committed Orthodox Christians we have faith that God has blessed our Elevator Addition as God-pleasing work for His purposes, and God will certainly see that it is completed. At this time, Glory Be to God; He has arranged to provide most of the remaining needed funds to complete the project.

Your generous loans and donations have been an investment opportunity in God's work! As Christians we understand that God has entrusted us with wealth to use for His purposes and for our salvation;

And remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"
(Acts 20:35)

It is not the magnitude of what you give or what you do for others. As Christ made clear with the widow's mite, the benefit to our souls is less related to the size of our offering than to the sacrifice involved and is of more benefit to us than to whatever project we might be supporting!

We do still need to pay back our mortgages and loans and so we will be fundraising for some time yet into the future. Please get in touch with us about any ideas you have to raise money for this most worthy cause.

(Matt. 6:19-21) "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there will be your heart also."

Any donation of any size is greatly appreciated and of course supporting God's work in any way is always a solid investment, paying eternal dividends.

Christ is Risen!!!

We thank you for your prayers and help.
May God bless you! Fr. Andrew

The last Sunday in May celebrates our great and venerable Fathers in Christ of the 1st Ecumenical Council. These 318 bishops from every part of the Christian world gathered in the first large universal meeting since the earliest days of the Church. They came to faithfully pass on the fullness of agreed tradition with which they had been entrusted by those who went before them – all the way back to the apostles. This particular council established for all time that Christ is fully human and fully God and that any other definition is describing a different God and not Christ. This council did not come to invent theology, but to faithfully pass on and record that which had been given to us the Church from the beginning, and which will stay as our guiding principles and boundaries. That's our heritage in the Orthodox Church. All must be seen through the victory of the cross which completed man's formation and allowed us all to enter into the fullness of true life.

This is the original purpose and plan when God created us to dwell with Him, and it was never lost or in question. The cross and our death has always been from the beginning – the end; completing our formation into sons of God. Death becomes life! Everything is as usual a paradox, and if we find our life and live only for ourselves we lose it; but if we lose our life – in laying it down, serving others and not living for our own passions and selfishness, in the end through death itself, in Christ we find true and everlasting life.

This is the gospel, this is the teaching of the fathers of the 1st ecumenical council and this is the great mystery of life and death itself as understood in the Church.

Christ is Ascended!
He is ascended in glory!

Fthr. Andrew, May 20, 2018

Upcoming Events >>>



May 6 – Great Vespers, 5:30pm

May 7 – Sunday of the Paralytic, 10:30am

Wed. May 10 – No service: Midfeast of Pentecost, midpoint of the 50 days between Pascha and Pentecost

May 13 – Great Vespers, 5:30pm

May 14 – Sunday of the Samaritan Women, 10:30am

May 20 – Great Vespers, 5:30pm

May 21 – Sunday of the Blind Man, 10:30pm

Th. May 25 – No service: Ascension of Our Lord

May 27 – Great Vespers, 5:30pm

May 28 – Sunday of the Commemoration of the Holy Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council

Church School

All of life is a gift, a free gift, given to us by God. This one basic truth frames our relationship with God and one another. It also contains the most important truth about stewardship. Jesus has given us charge of His creation by calling us to be good stewards of this world -- to care for it, preserve it, and protect it. This month we have two festivals in our area that focus on the stewardship of local wetlands, and all of the wildlife within them.

May 8-11 is the Wings Over the Rockies Nature Festival, with 100 events from Golden to Wasa. The Upper Columbia River Wetlands is one of the largest intact wetlands on the continent, encompass 16 habitat types (such as marshes, open waters, shrub levees and floodplain forest), and shelter elk, deer, wolves, cougars, grizzly bears, fish, amphibians, insects, more than 260 bird species and nearly 40 threatened animal and plant species.

May 12-14 is the Creston Valley Bird Festival, with 19 guided bird tours by kayak, foot, car, and bus to various locations in the valley, which supports over 300 avian species.

God gives us many gifts (or talents) for which we thank Him, and using those gifts in a way that is pleasing to Him is a special way to give back to God. Christ shared His gifts of healing with many people. What gifts has He given you, that you could use to help keep our world healthy?



dce.oca.org

Ask Father >>>

Q: *Why is Pascha not on the same day as Easter?*

A: In 325 AD the First Ecumenical Council established a unified observance of Orthodox Easter (i.e. Pascha). It decreed that Pascha would be held on the first Sunday after the first full moon occurring on or after the vernal equinox. March 21 is used as an approximation of the vernal equinox. Pascha is delayed by a week if the full moon is on Sunday.

Church Youth

When spirit and truth unite, it is like a great fireplace which warms all who come close.



The good solid dry wood stacked in the safety of the fireplace is the truth, the solid doctrine which has been carefully passed down to us through all the ages, from the Apostles through all the saints. The flame is the spirit. What we believe needs to square with what has always been taught by the Church, everywhere, and throughout all the ages. The wisdom of 2000 years of continuous Church understanding can be trusted. Our own new inspiration or the latest “revelation” of what God is doing – not so much.

Truth however remains dead and lifeless or even worse, cruel and judgemental without the flame of the Spirit! But spirit running enthusiastically outside of the fireplace, the boundaries of the truth, produces either a flash in the pan which quickly goes out, or worse, ignites anything in its path, having no discretion for the type of material (truth) it consumes. This produces a flaky, frenzied destructive fire that eventually crashes and burns out, taking along friends and family as casualties. Spirit and truth in balance are key. The fruits of the Spirit are, (Gal. 5:22) “...love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control...” not necessarily enthusiasm, ecstasy, and fervor.

Fthr. Andrew, May 22, 2022.

Elevator Addition Build Update



The build is coming along nicely. The plumbing, heating and electrical are all completed. The insulation is in, the drywaller is almost done and the basement is ready for finishing.

Dcn Kurt has been building the iconostasis, and Fr. Moses and Fr. Larry are both working on icons for the iconostasis.

Fthr. Andrew has submitted an application for a Heritage BC grant of \$50,000. If successful, this will come to us in May to help pay the trades!

We are still in need of funds to complete the project. Please pray and consider helping!

Funds may be e-transferred directly to saintaidan201@gmail.com

Credit Cards:
<http://www.saintaidan.ca/donate/>

We are in the final stages of the major church building addition and renovation we began in 2021 here at St. Aidan Orthodox Church in Cranbrook, BC. Our budget estimate to complete our project, adjusted in the summer of 2022 was +/- \$700,000. Despite our small size, God blessed us, and we raised the funds for this budgeted amount.

However, there has been a dramatic 40% inflationary increase in costs throughout the construction industry since we began, and we are experiencing this difference first-hand. We have a cost increase of \$250,000 to complete our building project above our \$700,000 budget (now: \$950,000 total). The need is urgent as we are in the final stage and are scheduled to finish construction this June. Glory be to God, we have received donations and loans to cover the increase but we need to pay back our supporters.

We are therefore reaching out to you, our friends and family, and brothers and sisters in Christ for help! If you are willing and able to help, we would be most grateful! Our contact information is below. Please give me a call to discuss if you are able to contribute so we can plan accordingly. In Canada, all donations are tax deductible, and can be carried forward for 5 years.

Thank you for your prayers and donations, they are most appreciated! May God bless you, and may your contributions accrue directly into your heavenly investment account!

Check out our building project progress at:

<http://www.saintaidan.ca/about-us/projects/elevator-building-addition/> or

<https://staidando-a-thon2022.blogspot.com/2022/06/may-2022-build-begins.html>

Outreach Ministry Updates ...

Church Garden

The new church compost bins are now set up and ready to use.

Anyone who would like to bring their kitchen compost bag/pail to add to the church compost bin if they do not have their own are welcome.

Please follow the guidelines posted on the bins, which will lessen the work for the garden volunteers.

Bin #1 is the Active Composting Bin. The goal is to have it break down quickly so we can use it this Fall so make sure pieces are SMALL. Layer brown materials from Bin #2 (straw, newspaper, sawdust, etc) in between the green layers (grass, coffee/tea, veg/fruit, eggshells, manure, etc).



Email us for more detailed composting instructions.

. Inside the Garden gate is a black compost bin for leaves only.

Thank you for your cooperation. We look forward to an abundant harvest this summer.

May Retreats



Pan-Orthodox Youth Retreat

This month our Church Youth will be attending the 2nd annual Pan-Orthodox Youth Retreat in Saskatoon on the May Long Weekend, May 19-22, 2023, joining Orthodox youth in Gr.7-12 from across Western Canada.

Last year, in 2022 they had a total of 50 youth from across the Western provinces: BC, AB, SK and MB. They had an amazing time and many new friendship bonds and connections were formed.

Orthodox Men's Retreat of St. John the Baptist

Rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem: restoring Jewish-Christian relations and the Jewish heart of Christianity today.

The relationship between Christianity and Judaism is central to the identity of Christians and the church. Yet for much of the past two millennia, from the "parting of the ways" in the early centuries, the story of Christians and Jews has been difficult and troubled, culminating in the tragic events of the 20th century. In the aftermath of the Holocaust, there has been a renewed engagement between the two traditions.

Facebook/Instagram

Please do check out our Website and our Facebook and Instagram pages for daily schedule updates and Scripture readings.



Also watch for posts with birthday and anniversary wishes, and donations made to the Elevator Build Fund on the day of your Saint's name-day.



Upcoming Events . . .

June 4 – Pentecost

June 18 – Synaxis of the Saints of North America:

On the second Sunday after Pentecost, each local Orthodox Church commemorates all the saints, known and unknown, who have shone forth in its territory. Accordingly, the Orthodox Church in America remembers the saints of North America on this day.

June 24 – Nativity of the Forerunner and Baptist, St. John.

Contact us at (250) 420-1582 or frandrewapplegate@gmail.com

Saint Aidan Orthodox Church (NEW temporary location)
120 7 Ave S
Cranbrook, BC V1C 2J4

Saint Aidan Orthodox Church (Under
201 7 Ave S
Cranbrook, BC V1C 2J6