

Our First Bishop



The Story of Blessed
Bishop and Martyr
Nykyta Budka -
First Bishop for Ukrainian
Catholics in Canada

A Learning Guide for Young Students

● Publication Information ●

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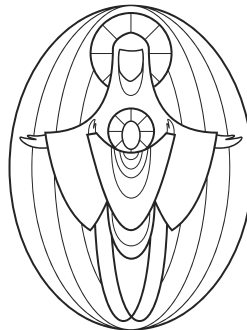
КАТОЛИЦЬКА
ФУНДАЦІЯ
МАНІТОБИ



ST. VOLODYMYR MUSEUM
МУЗЕЙ ІМ. СВ. ВОЛОДИМИРА
Preserving our Ukrainian Catholic Heritage



The
Ukrainian
Catholic
Archeparchy
of Winnipeg



Thank you to
Immaculate Heart of Mary School
(formerly St. Nicholas School, est. 1905)

Children's drawings were created by students of Immaculate Heart of Mary
School, Winnipeg, MB. The drawings were used at school events during the
100th anniversary celebrations of the arrival of Bishop Budka to Canada in 1912.

Aspen tree graphic/storyline created
by N. Radawetz, Curator, St. Volodymyr Museum.

This publication is available at www.archeparchy.ca

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the First Ukrainian Catholic Bishop of Canada* by Athanasius D. McVay, Edmonton 2014

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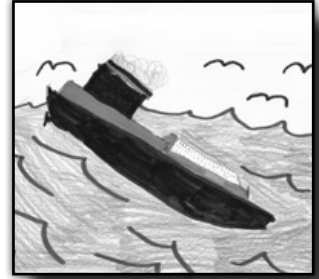
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Introduction

The Ukrainian people started coming to Canada as early as 1891 and settled all across the prairie provinces (Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta). They came from western Ukraine (Halychyna & Bukovyna) and made the long journey by train and ship to the 'new' land of Canada. At that time, they were citizens of the Austro-Hungarian Empire.



"Quick – comfortable – safe.
Save money and time.
Purchase tickets for ship
voyage to Canada."
Glenbow Museum Archives.
<http://www.glenbow.org>

It was a different time. People had little information or idea about where they were heading. There were no televisions, no smart phones, and no computers. Their dreams of a better life came from something they saw in a newspaper or a poster showing pictures of 'free land', or 'the land of milk and honey', for those willing to work hard and settle the 'wild west'. The desire was so great (many were very poor, had little education and political rights), that approximately 180,000 Ukrainians left all they had to begin a new life.



"160 acres of free land
in Canada," Library
and Archives Canada



The Ukrainian immigrants could not imagine a life without prayer, God, and church. The first years were very difficult, because there were no priests. Even so, the people started to build their own churches very soon after they arrived. They also prayed in their homes or outdoors before their churches were built. A few years later several Ukrainian Catholic priests did come to serve the faithful, but there were not enough of them to cover the large area of Canada where thousands of Ukrainians settled and built church communities. There became a great need for a spiritual leader. Their spiritual leader in Ukraine, **Metropolitan Andrej Sheptytsky**, realized he could not help the settlers enough from so far away. He knew he had to send someone who would help organize and give encouragement. He knew the Ukrainian Catholic faithful in Canada needed a bishop of their own.

Go to...



● Nykyta Budka - The Beginning ●

Nykyta Budka was born in the village of Dobromirka, in Western Ukraine. If you travelled to Ukraine today, this would be in the Ternopil Province of Ukraine. At that time (in 1877) it was part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire.



Nykyta's birthday was June 7, 1877. His parents, Mykhailo and Maria, were **peasants**. The Budka family had a good farm. Nykyta's father was very **strict**. He helped prepare young men for the army, helped the village **reeve**, and was the head of the Ukrainian reading club in the village. He was well educated and this was not common amongst peasant families in the late 1800's. Nykyta had five **siblings**.

Nykyta liked to learn and attended school regularly. He graduated from high school in 1897, with **honours**. It was a great achievement to simply graduate, because schooling cost money. Nykyta's parents could not pay for his education, so Nykyta had to find work to pay for his second and third year of high school himself. In Nykyta's final year of high school he received a **calling to the priesthood**.

The area in which Nykyta grew up (Zbarazh District) was very **patriotic** and supportive of Ukrainian language and culture. The people also worked hard to make sure they were treated fairly and with respect.



Go to...
page 22
for
Timeline
Facts

Children at the Window, Nikolai Bogdanov-Belsky

Nikolai Bogdanov-Belsky. Mental Calculation. In: Public School of S. A. Rachinsky, 1895.

Nykyta's father, Mykhailo, fell very ill after Nykyta graduated from high school. He was unable to work for two years and this meant that Nykyta was not able to go to the **seminary** to begin his studies for the priesthood. In order to earn some money he became a private **tutor**. He also entered Lviv University and studied Law. After two years he went to tutor the four children of Princess Teresa Sapieha (1864-1954). During this time he was able to travel to Russia (where he learned the Russian language).



Sapieha family palace in Lviv

In 1901, finally, he was able to enter the seminary (accepted by Metropolitan Archbishop Andrej Sheptytsky). The law, however, required him to complete one year of military service first. He did so, in Vienna. After that, he was able to enter the seminary in Innsbruck, Austria. While at the seminary, he used the name Viktor which is Nykyta in Latin.



Misery, Bogdanov-Beisky

Nykyta's parents were still unable to give enough money to pay for his schooling. Metropolitan Andrej Sheptytsky and Princess Sapieha helped Nykyta with his school expenses. Nykyta was always thankful for their help. He visited the Sapieha family throughout his life, whenever he had the opportunity.

Did you know that Nykyta means victorious in Greek?

Nykyta loved his life at the seminary, although he did suffer difficult times. While he was there, his sister Anna died (she was eighteen). He returned home for her funeral and stayed with his parents for a while. He also had health problems. He had hearing problems and also weak lungs. When he worked hard, which he did often, he became more ill.

In 1905, his final year of studies, Nykyta suffered from serious **influenza** (stomach and lung problems). It took many weeks to recover. Even so, he did not fully recover. The doctors believed he may not live long. Metropolitan Sheptytsky **ordained** Nykyta to the priesthood early, during his third year of studies, upon the advice of the school directors.



An alpine outing c. 1903 with fellow university students; UCAWA



Go to...
page 22
for more
about
Nykyta



Nykyta Budka was ordained a priest on the Feast of the Protection of the Mother of God, on October 14, 1905.



Go to...
bottom of page 19,
for info about feast day

● God's Plan for Nykyta ●

After Nykyta became a priest, he continued his studies at the University of Innsbruck in Austria. He graduated in 1909 with a Doctorate Degree in Sacred Theology. (He could now be called, "Doctor".) He continued



Metropolitan Andrej Sheptytsky of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church from 1901-1944.
Source: St. Volodymyr Museum, Winnipeg

his work as priest and helped Metropolitan Andrej Sheptytsky (leader of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church) in Lviv. He offered excellent advice on how to make the seminary in Lviv better for the students. He was highly respected among his fellow priests. One important job assigned to Father Nykyta was to assist the thousands of Ukrainian **emigrants** leaving Galicia (Halychyna) in search of a better life. They were going to other countries in Europe, South America, the United States and to Canada.



Metropolitan Sheptytsky & Nykyta celebrating Divine Liturgy (IHMS)

In 1910, Metropolitan Andrej Sheptytsky visited Canada to see for himself how the Ukrainians were **adapting** to their new homeland. He very quickly saw how thousands of **immigrant** families were in need of spiritual leadership. Many communities and churches were being built, but there were not enough priests to serve and guide them. Priests from other faiths were assisting and some were even trying to change their beliefs so they would leave the Ukrainian Catholic church and join theirs. The people needed help and guidance. They needed a leader to come and stay with them in Canada.



Ukrainian Immigrants leaving Winnipeg for their homestead in Manitoba, 1898
Source: (Manitoba Archives) via Red River Ancestry.ca

Metropolitan Sheptytsky knew exactly who that leader would be.

On July 10, 1912 Father Nykyta Budka was chosen and appointed bishop for Ukrainian Catholics in Canada by Pope Pius X. He was **ordained** by Metropolitan Andrej Sheptytsky on October 14, 1912 (Feast of the Protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary) in St. George's Arch-Cathedral in Lviv.

On November 12, 1912 Bishop Nykyta Budka departed Lviv for Canada. He left his family, his country, and his work in Ukraine, to serve God and help the Ukrainian Catholic people in Canada.



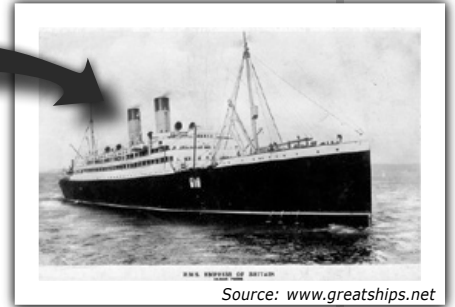
St. George Archcathedral, Lviv

Go to...
activity
pages
18 & 19



Coming to Canada

Bishop Nykyta boarded the Canadian Pacific ship, "Empress of Britain" on November 29, 1912 in Liverpool, England.



Source: www.greatships.net

Did you know that the Titanic sank (April 15, 1912) the same year Bishop Budka sailed to Canada?

After seven days of sailing across the Atlantic Ocean (it was a rough voyage), he arrived in Halifax, Nova Scotia on December 6 (Feast day of St. Nicholas). From there he took a train and made a stop in Montreal, Quebec on December 8, where he celebrated his first Divine Liturgy on Canadian soil.

His next stop was in Ottawa, Ontario where he had dinner with the Prime Minister of Canada, Sir Robert Borden, on December 16, 1912.

Prime Minister Robert Borden is the man on the Canadian \$100 dollar bill. He was Canada's eighth Prime Minister and served from 1911 to 1920.



Bishop Nykyta was scheduled to arrive in Winnipeg (where he would live while in Canada) on December 18, 1912.

However, there was a snowstorm and his train was delayed. He arrived at the train station on Higgins Avenue one day late, on December 19, 1912. Most of the people, who had come to the train station the day before to welcome him, had left.

What must he have thought when he arrived to a very small welcoming group of faithful?

On Sunday, December 22, 1912, at St. Nicholas Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church on McGregor Street (across the street from present day Sts. Vladimir & Olga Cathedral in

Winnipeg), Bishop Nykyta Budka was officially **installed** or **enthroned** as Bishop of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church in Canada.

Later that evening, he attended a concert presented by the students of St. Nicholas School (now called Immaculate Heart of Mary). The school, (which was established in 1905, seven years before the arrival of Bishop Budka),

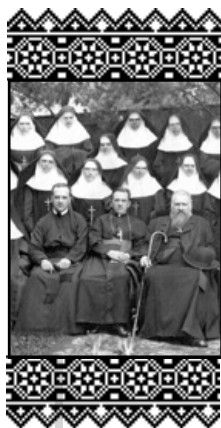
Bishop Nykyta left Lviv on November 22 and arrived in Winnipeg on Dec. 19. How long did he travel? (27 days by train and ship)



Parishioners of St. Nicholas Church. Source: UCEC

Bishop Nykyta Budka. Source: UCAWA





was **administered** by the **Sister Servants of Mary Immaculate** (SSMI). The bishop loved the performance and told the children that when there were children around him, he would always feel joy... even during hard and difficult days (as was written in a newspaper article about this event). He blessed them and gave them holy cards.



For a short while Bishop Nykyta stayed in a house at 612 Flora Avenue (very near where the present day Immaculate Heart of Mary School is located). Then he moved to a house on Dominion Street in Winnipeg (off Portage Avenue). This became his Winnipeg home, but he was hardly there. He travelled a lot!



Bishop Budka travelled by horse and cutter to many churches across Canada. He used heated stones to keep him warm.

100 years ago travel was not the same as it is today. The fastest way to travel was by train, but the trains did not go everywhere. Bishop Budka visited Ukrainian Catholic churches all across Canada and many of these churches were in the rural areas. Other ways people travelled were by horse and buggy in summer, or sleigh (cutter) in winter, and by walking. Often, there were no roads to the churches. He endured much suffering in his travels and often got sick. He also visited hospitals, orphanages and many schools. He blessed buildings, celebrated Divine Liturgies and other services, and attended countless meetings with other bishops, clergy and even politicians.

Go to...
pages 10 & 11
to see
children's
drawings

Go to...
pages 16, 17 & 22
to see photos

Bishop Budka wrote special letters to the Ukrainian Catholic people called, "**Pastoral Letters**". These letters had words of **advice** for the people on how to live their Ukrainian Catholic faith in the new, and sometimes not so friendly, environment of Canada.

Bishop Budka knew how important education was. He encouraged and helped set up many Ukrainian Catholic schools across Canada, including **bursas** (Ukrainian Catholic seminaries).

One very important thing Bishop Budka did was establish a **Corporation**. Churches were being built all across Canada. They needed one place to belong to. This place was call the Ukrainian Catholic Episcopal Corporation of Canada which was officially **established** in 1913.

By 1922 there were over 160 Ukrainian Catholic churches listed in the corporation, which still exists today.



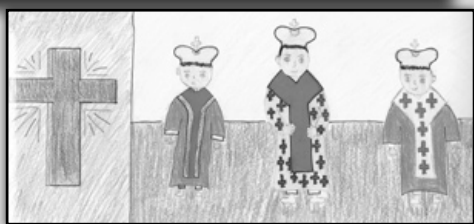
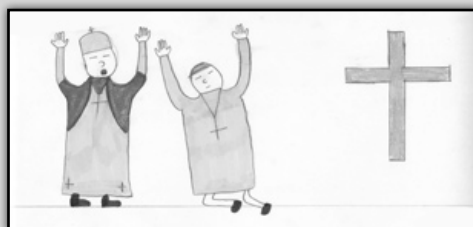
Signature and Episcopal Stamp of Bishop Nykyta Budka (top)
Official letterhead used by Bishop Budka (bottom)
Source: UCAWA

What did Bishop Nykyta Budka do in Canada?

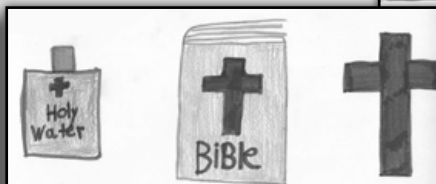
He
blessed
homes and
churches.

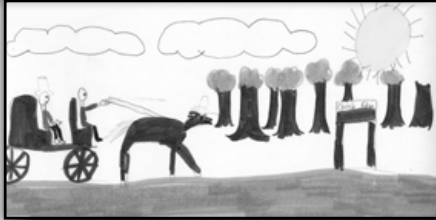
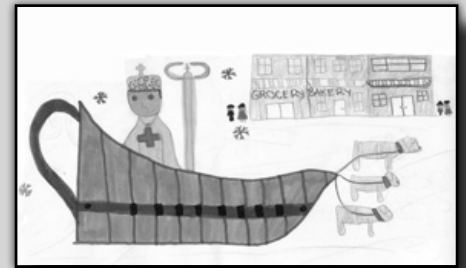
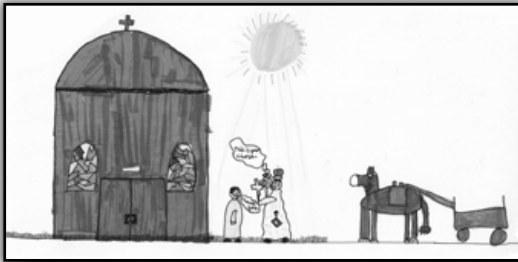


He ordained priests
and had meetings
with other bishops.

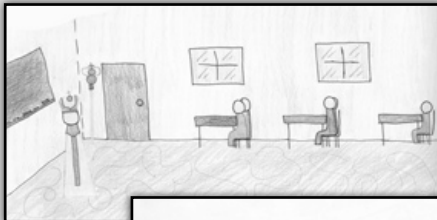
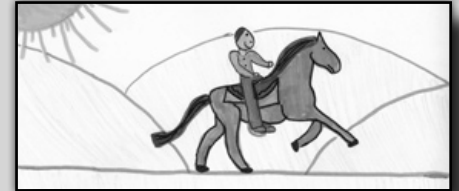


He celebrated
Divine Liturgies.

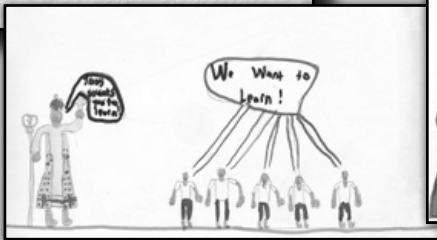




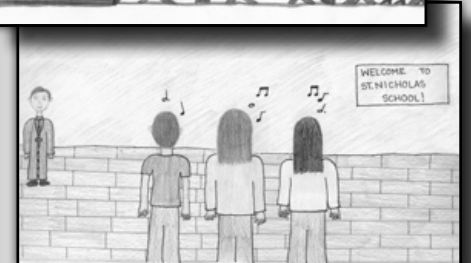
He travelled across Canada and visited many churches and communities.



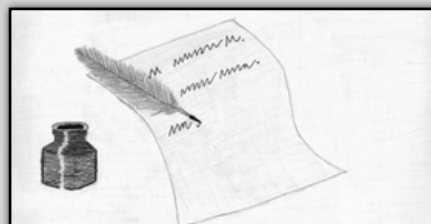
He encouraged children to learn.



He attended concerts.



He wrote pastoral letters.



● From Bishop to Martyr ●

Bishop Budka spent fifteen years in Canada as a **pioneering** bishop. He cherished the years he spent serving the Ukrainian Catholic people in Canada. He had great love and affection for the Ukrainian Catholic people in Canada. He even became a Canadian citizen!

It is said that he once sent a little **souvenir** to his **mentor**, Metropolitan Andrej Sheptytsky in Lviv, Ukraine. It was a moose head from Winnipeg. Perhaps one could still find this souvenir in a Lviv museum today?



Although he loved his work in Canada, there were many difficulties. Between the years 1914 and 1918 (First World War), he was accused of being a **traitor**, arrested, and put on trial. But all charges were dropped and he was **exonerated**. The judge in his case apologized and praised the bishop for his patriotism.

Before WWI (World War One) broke out he sent a letter to his Ukrainian Catholic faithful encouraging them to support their mother country of Ukraine, thinking there would be a war between Russia and Austria (Ukrainians at that time would serve Austria because Western Ukraine was part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire). One week after he sent the letter, war broke out between Britain and Germany. Canada was on the side of Britain and the Austro-Hungarians were the enemies. When Bishop Budka became aware of this, he sent another letter saying that the Ukrainian people in Canada now owed their loyalty to Canada and Britain. They should, therefore, support their new homeland.



WWI poster asking men to fight for Britain.

The whole ordeal was very stressful for Bishop Budka and only added to the many other problems he faced. Everyone came to him with complaints and problems, many of which had to do with finances. Also, there were many people (leaders of various groups and organizations), who did not want him in Canada and made things difficult for him. He was not a very healthy man to begin with, but the constant stress made him more ill. At times he would travel to warmer places to rest. His favourite was the New Jersey Shore in the United States.

By 1927 he became so ill, he felt it would be best that he **resign** and return to Ukraine. He thought that once he got better he would return to Canada, but he never did.

When Bishop Budka returned to Lviv he served as a helper to Metropolitan Andrej Sheptytsky at the Cathedral. He also helped serve some surrounding parishes. He was especially devoted to and spent many hours caring for Zarvanytsia Shrine, a place which holds the miraculous holy icon of the Blessed Virgin Mary shrine, (not far from Lviv).

How old is this icon? It dates back to the 13th century. That makes it over 800 years old!!!



Source: www.artemariadumonde.org



Go to...
page 21 for
"What is a
Holy Icon?"

On April 11, 1945 Bishop Budka, along with many other Ukrainian Catholic bishops, priests, nuns and cantors, was arrested and deported (sent out of the country). World War II was ending and things were changing in Ukraine. The Communist Party was forcing people to give up their religious beliefs (Communists do not believe in God). Those who did not obey were imprisoned in Russian labour camps.



Bishop Nykyta Budka was never released (set free) from prison, because he refused to deny the Pope as the head of the Church. Even after enduring torture, **he refused to give up his Ukrainian Catholic Faith.**

He died after 4 years of hard farm labour in the Karazhar prison camp near Karaganda, Kazakhstan, on September 28, 1949. He was buried in the prison camp cemetery.

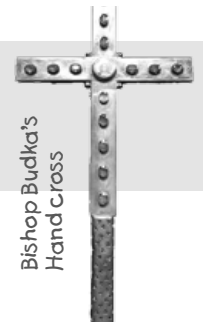
Bishop Nykyta Budka was **beatified** with a group of Ukrainian Catholic martyrs (people who suffer and die for their faith) by Pope, Saint John Paul II, on June 27, 2001. This means that he could now be given the title, 'Blessed'. We now call him, "**Blessed Nykyta Budka, Bishop and Martyr**".

His grave, to date, has never been found. There is no gravesite, nor shrine to visit. However, there are numerous 'second class relics' (items he used while he lived...books, clothing etc.) which we can **venerate**.



Bishop Budka's Mitre

Relics are tools we use to help us connect with God and aid us in our prayer.



Bishop Budka's Hand Cross



Go to...
page 21 (icons) &
page 14 (holy relics)

Steps to Sainthood

- 1) Named '**Venerable**' - a person of noted prayerfulness and holiness in his/her life; recognized by the Pope.
- 2) Named '**Blessed**' (beatified) - a person in whose name one miracle has occurred after death and/or has died a martyr.
- 3) Named '**Saint**' (canonized) - a person in whose name a second miracle has occurred after beatification.

Did anyone replace Bishop Budka in Canada after he left?

Bishop Vasyl Ladyka became the second Bishop for Ukrainian Catholics in Canada in 1929.

● What is a Holy Relic? ●

A holy relic is a tool we use to connect with God and aid us in our prayer.

A holy relic is the presence of Christ. (The Divine Liturgy cannot be celebrated without a holy relic in the antimension or altar.)

There are three kinds of relics:

First Class Relics – real pieces of a holy artifact or Saint, for example the wood of Christ's cross or the body or body part of a Saint.

Second Class Relics – items that are related to a Saint...usually something he/she personally owned, like clothing, a book he/she used or some prayer beads.

Third Class Relics – any item the Saint touched or that has been touched to a first, second or even a third class relic. It is common to have pieces of linen touched to the body of a Saint and then given to the faithful, so they can have relics of Saints in their homes.

Holy relics do not have power in and of themselves.

Any healing or blessing that comes from a relic is always from God.

Connect the Second-class relics of Blessed Nykyta Budka to the correct word.

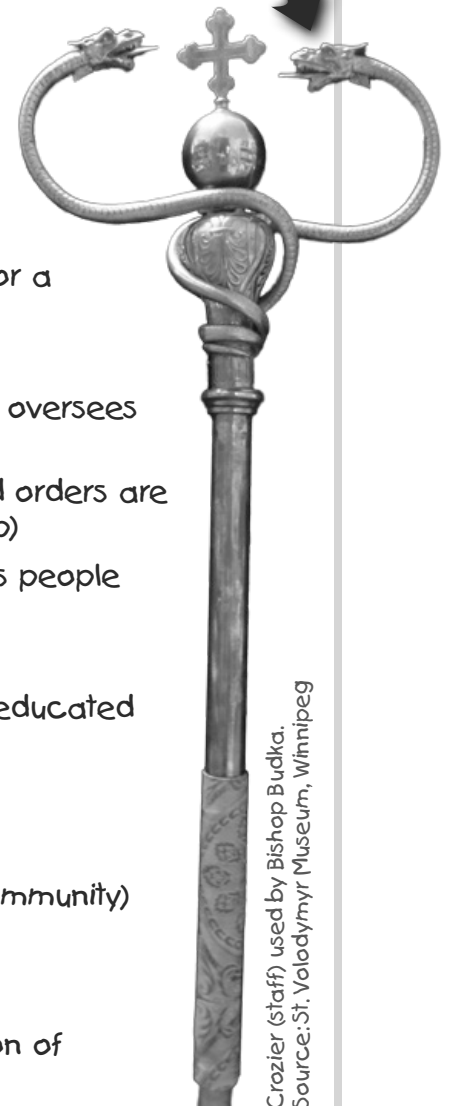


- Mitre
- Crozier (staff)
- Handcross
- Hat



Words to Know

- adapting — getting used to; getting to know a new environment
- advice — helpful idea
- administered — managed; be in charge of
- beatified — a special ‘naming’ by the pope — a step to becoming a saint
- bursas — Ukrainian Catholic seminaries
- calling to the priesthood — When God calls or invites a person to serve Him
- Corporation — united group under the law (they have a legal right to exist)
- emigrants — people leaving a country
- establish — set up; organize
- exonerated — to clear from a charge of wrongdoing
- honours — a special recognition given to good students who graduate with high marks
- immigrants — people entering a country
- influenza — a disease affecting the lungs (the ‘flu’)
- installed (or enthroned) — officially welcomed as a bishop for a particular area
- mentor — someone you look up to and admire.
- Metropolitan — official title or name for an Archbishop who oversees a large number of faithful
- ordained — became a priest (when the official blessing and orders are given, for someone to start his job as a priest or bishop)
- pastoral letter — written words of ‘advice’ by a bishop to his people or followers
- patriotic — loyal to one’s country
- peasant — an old word to describe a poor farmer, usually uneducated
- pioneering — the first time for something
- reeve — title for the person in charge of a town or county
- resign — to give up (a job or position)
- rural — outside the city where fewer people live (farming community)
- seminary — school for those studying to be a priest
- siblings — sisters and brothers
- Sister Servants of Mary Immaculate — group or congregation of Ukrainian Catholic nuns which was started in Ukraine
- souvenir — an item which brings back a memory of a visited place
- strict — very strong with rules; making sure the rules are followed
- traitor — one who betrays his country
- tutor — private teacher
- venerate — pay special respect to (to kiss, bow or make a sign of the cross)



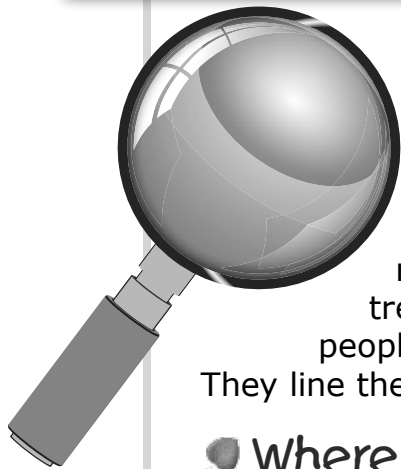
Crozier (staff) used by Bishop Budka.
Source: St. Volodymyr Museum, Winnipeg

● Waiting for the Bishop ●



Source: Library and Archives Canada, Ottawa

Borschiv, Alberta (1916)
Southwest of Vegreville



● **Look** at the photograph closely.

Have you ever been so excited waiting for something that you actually trembled or shook? The people in the photograph have been waiting many years for a Ukrainian Catholic bishop to come and lead them in their new homeland of Canada. Just as the leaves on the aspen trees tremble and flutter in the wind, so do the hearts of the people as they wait for the bishop to visit their church parish. They line the driveway leading to the church to welcome him.

- **Where** was the photograph taken?
- **Who** do you think took the photograph?
- **When** was the photograph taken?
- **What** are the people wearing?
- **How** do you think the people and the bishop arrived here?



Go to...
back cover for
facts about
aspen trees



1916 Camera

● The Bishop has arrived! ●



Source: Basilian Fathers Museum, Mundare, Alberta.

Did everyone
fit inside this
church?

Congregation in front of Borschiv Church, Borschiv, Alberta, 1916.

● Look at the photograph closely

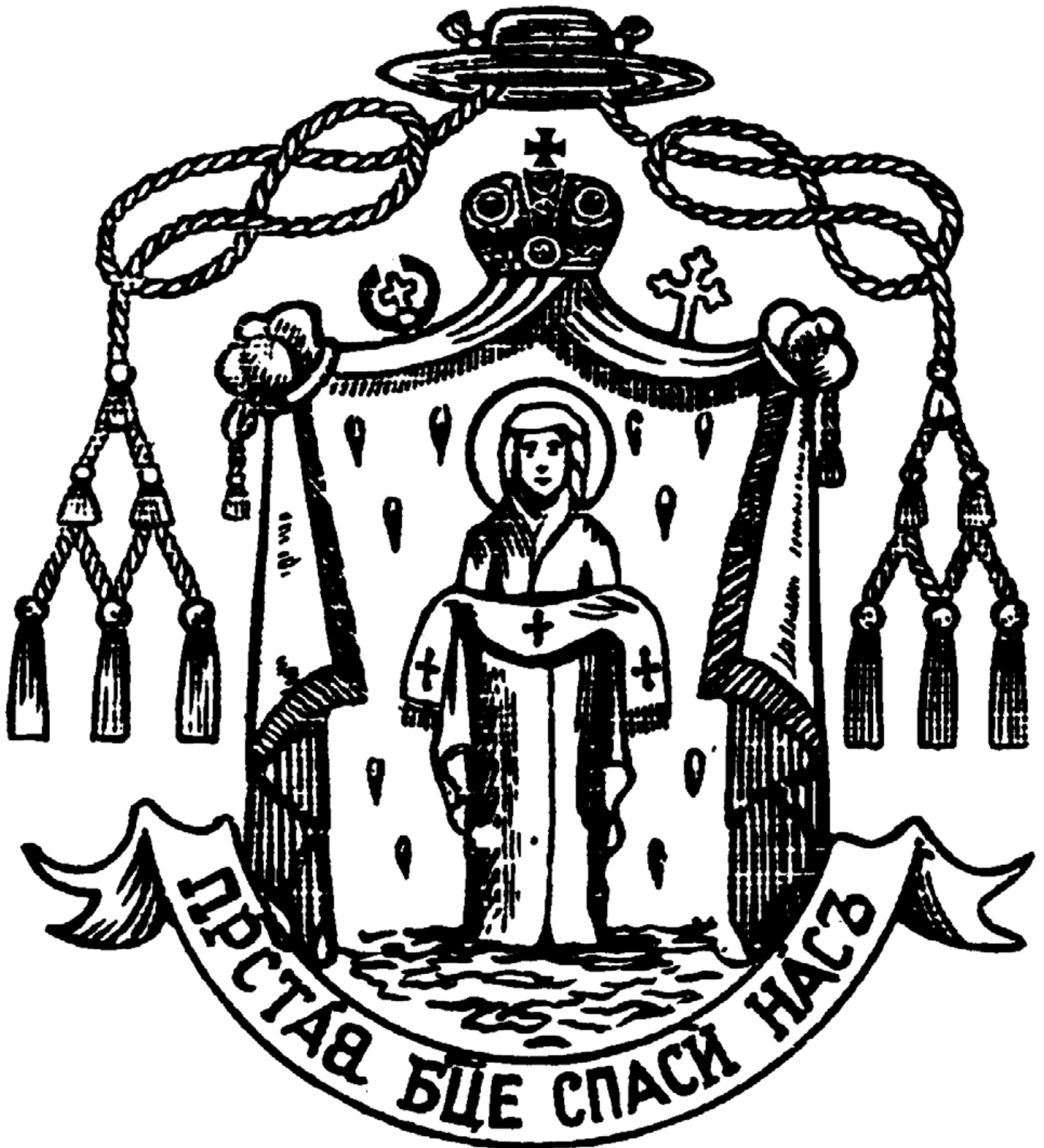
The members of this church community are gathered around the entrance of the church for a photograph, (same event and location as the photograph on page 16). An archway is decorated with tree branches (most likely, aspen/poplar) and church banners are held: all signs that this is a special occasion. The attire (clothing) of the people also suggests that this is an important event, for example, the men are wearing suits. There is a mix of old-country and new Canadian fashion influences. The reason for this event is the visit of Bishop Budka. The people have just celebrated Divine Liturgy with their bishop.

What to look for in the photograph...

- Bishop Budka
- Church banner
- Babushka (woman's kerchief)
- Mustache
- Canadian clothing



Coat of Arms
Blessed Martyr & Bishop
Nykyta Budka



What is a Coat of Arms?

Every bishop has his own '**coat of arms**' ('Герб', in Ukrainian, pronounced 'herb' with the 'e' sounding like 'a' in the word 'share').

A 'coat of arms' is a collection of symbols which show what was most important to the person or group of people. It can also tell the story of their background. Who would have their own 'coat of arms'? Members of royalty, (kings and princes) and leaders of the Church, (popes and bishops) all have their own 'coat of arms'. In some cultures, families have their own 'coat of arms' or 'family crest'.

Blessed Bishop Nykyta chose the 'Protection of the Mother of God' for his coat of arms, because it was on this feast day that he was ordained a priest and bishop (on October 14, 1905 and 1912). The banner on the bottom reads, "Mother of God, Save Us."



The background (behind Mary), shows the Bishop's mantle or cape. It is made of ermine fur (weasel), and was popular with royalty at that time (early 1900's).

The cross on the top right is the bishop's cross (one bar). On the left is the 'crozier' (bishop's staff) or 'zhezl'. In the center is the Byzantine (Eastern Rite) 'mitre' (bishop's hat).

The very top shows the bishop's ceremonial hat with six tassels on either side, showing the rank or position of the bishop. This hat is always green.



Source: Painting by Yuri Lesiuk, 2009, UCAW

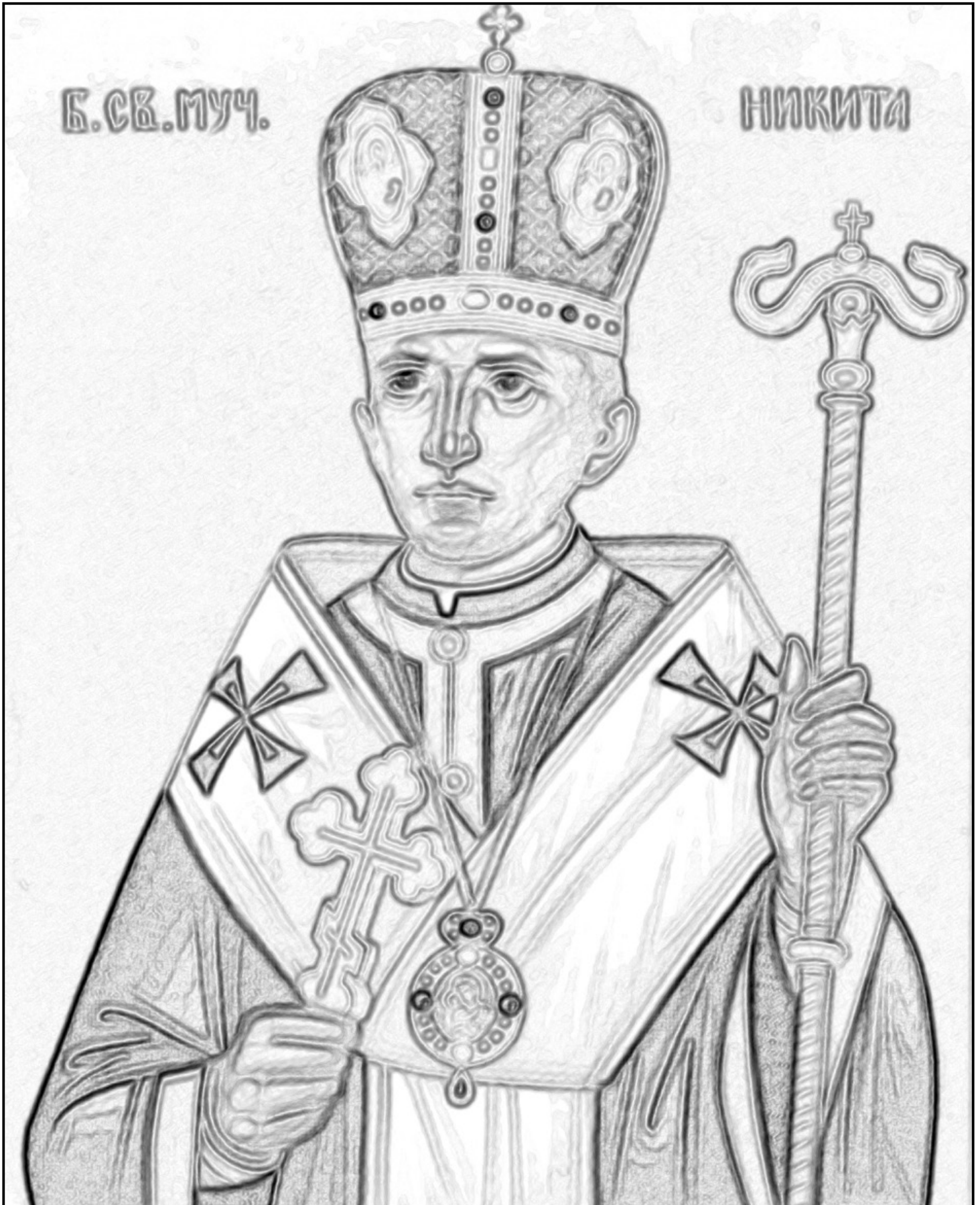
Did you know?



In the year 911 the city of Constantinople was being attacked. The people were terrified and went to the church of the Holy Wisdom to hide and pray. They prayed to the Blessed Virgin Mary for her protection. St. Andrew, Disciple for Christ and St. Theophanius (from Ukraine) were there. They prayed all night while the Christian army fought against the attackers. In the morning, St. Andrew and St. Theo saw the Blessed Virgin Mary with outstretched arms begging for God's mercy upon the army and people. She held a veil over the attacked city, as if to protect it. The city was saved and the Christian army was victorious. When St. Andrew and St. Theo returned home, they spoke of the miracle they witnessed. Thus the **feast day of 'Pokrova'...the Protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary** observed on October 1/October 14. Not too long after the victory in Constantinople, in 988, Ukraine and Russia officially became Christian nations.*

**Note: St. Andrew, Disciple for Christ (not the Apostle), worked in Constantinople (but was born a Slav) and died in 939.*

Blessed Martyr & Bishop Nykyta Budka



What is an icon?

The word 'icon' comes from the Greek word, 'eikon' which means image or likeness. It is a holy (sacred) picture of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Mother of God (Theotokos), a saint, or a feast day. A **holy icon** is a window into God's world. It is not meant to show the actual physical appearance of a person, but rather, the inner or spiritual qualities of a person. When we pray we look into the eyes and are invited to look beyond this world and into that world where those who have been faithful to God now see Him in His glory.

A **holy icon** is a spiritual symbol that we place in our homes and churches; a symbol that we approach with reverence and respect. When we **venerate a holy icon** by making the sign of the cross and kissing it, we show our love for the saint and ask the saint to pray for us.



Did you know?

Blessed Nykyta Budka was the first Bishop for the Ukrainian Catholic people in Canada.

He was given the title of 'Blessed' by Pope, Saint John Paul II in 2001, because he died a martyr's death (he died for the Ukrainian Catholic faith).

Let's do the math....

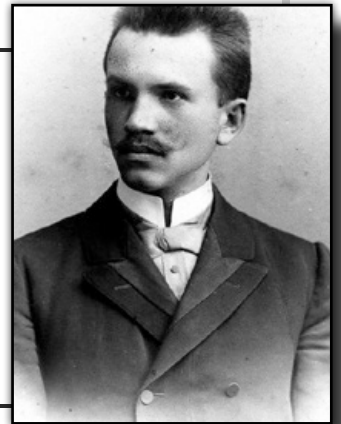
- If Bishop Nykyta Budka was born in 1877, how old would he be today?
- Bishop Nykyta Budka came to Canada in 1912. How old was he?
- Bishop Nykyta Budka left Canada in 1927. How long was he in Canada?
- Bishop Nykyta Budka died in 1949. How old was he?



Go to...
page 26
for answers

● Did you know? ●

Nykyta was 180 centimetres tall (five feet, eleven inches). He had a darker complexion, brown eyes and brown hair. For most of his life, beginning as a young child, he was not healthy. In high school he had a hearing problem and often suffered from inflammation of the lungs. Because he worked hard (over-worked), these symptoms often would worsen. He also suffered from stomach ailments and had to maintain a special diet. Today, these maladies could very well have been asthma and gluten and/or lactose intolerance. In Nykyta's case, it is now known that he suffered from asthma, as did his father.



Timeline Facts

What was happening in Canada and around the world when Nykyta Budka was young?



Ten years before Nykyta was born... Canada became a country. Happy birthday to Canada!! July 1, 1867

Nykyta Budka was eight years old when the Canadian Pacific Railway (CPR) was completed in 1885.



Nykyta Budka was 14 years old when the first Ukrainians came to Canada in 1891.

During the first 20 years of Nykyta Budka's life, the automobile, telephone, lightbulb, airplane, camera, and movies were invented.

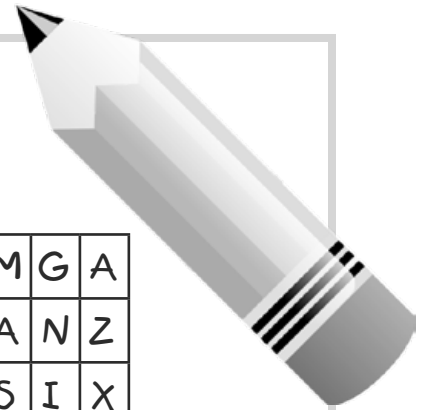


Bishop Budka walks in a procession to the church. Sifton, MB. 1913

● Do you see a clue which shows you where Bishop Budka is in the crowd of people?

Look for the bishop's crozier

Wordsearch



M	U	F	R	T	V	G	D	E	S	S	E	L	B	J	M	G	A
Z	X	B	O	N	M	E	T	R	O	P	O	L	I	T	A	N	Z
H	W	S	A	W	Q	Y	K	S	T	Y	T	P	E	H	S	I	X
Z	V	B	K	K	T	D	C	F	M	U	K	R	A	I	N	E	P
Z	C	S	D	A	G	A	O	N	R	N	C	A	U	W	C	A	S
S	R	E	U	Z	P	G	E	B	X	Y	C	W	I	L	T	N	S
T	O	E	B	A	W	S	M	A	R	T	T	N	L	V	C	I	O
A	Z	Y	Y	K	R	X	Q	I	Y	O	N	R	Q	I	E	A	R
T	I	M	S	H	E	H	V	F	T	I	M	Z	A	V	A	D	C
Y	E	B	I	S	H	O	P	U	P	R	F	I	E	M	R	R	D
K	R	I	B	T	L	B	F	E	C	T	E	G	R	V	F	O	N
Y	E	I	U	A	E	A	G	R	V	Z	H	Z	L	K	A	E	A
N	L	S	W	N	C	I	L	O	H	T	A	C	J	S	A	W	H
E	I	Y	A	V	G	C	H	U	R	C	H	C	A	N	A	D	A
B	C	Y	L	O	H	G	H	H	J	B	N	E	H	W	Y	L	X

Metropolitan

Sheptytsky

Bishop

Nykyta

Budka

Winnipeg

Lviv

Canada

Ukrainian

Catholic

Ordain

Church

Mitre

Handcross

Crozier

Kazakhstan

Martyr

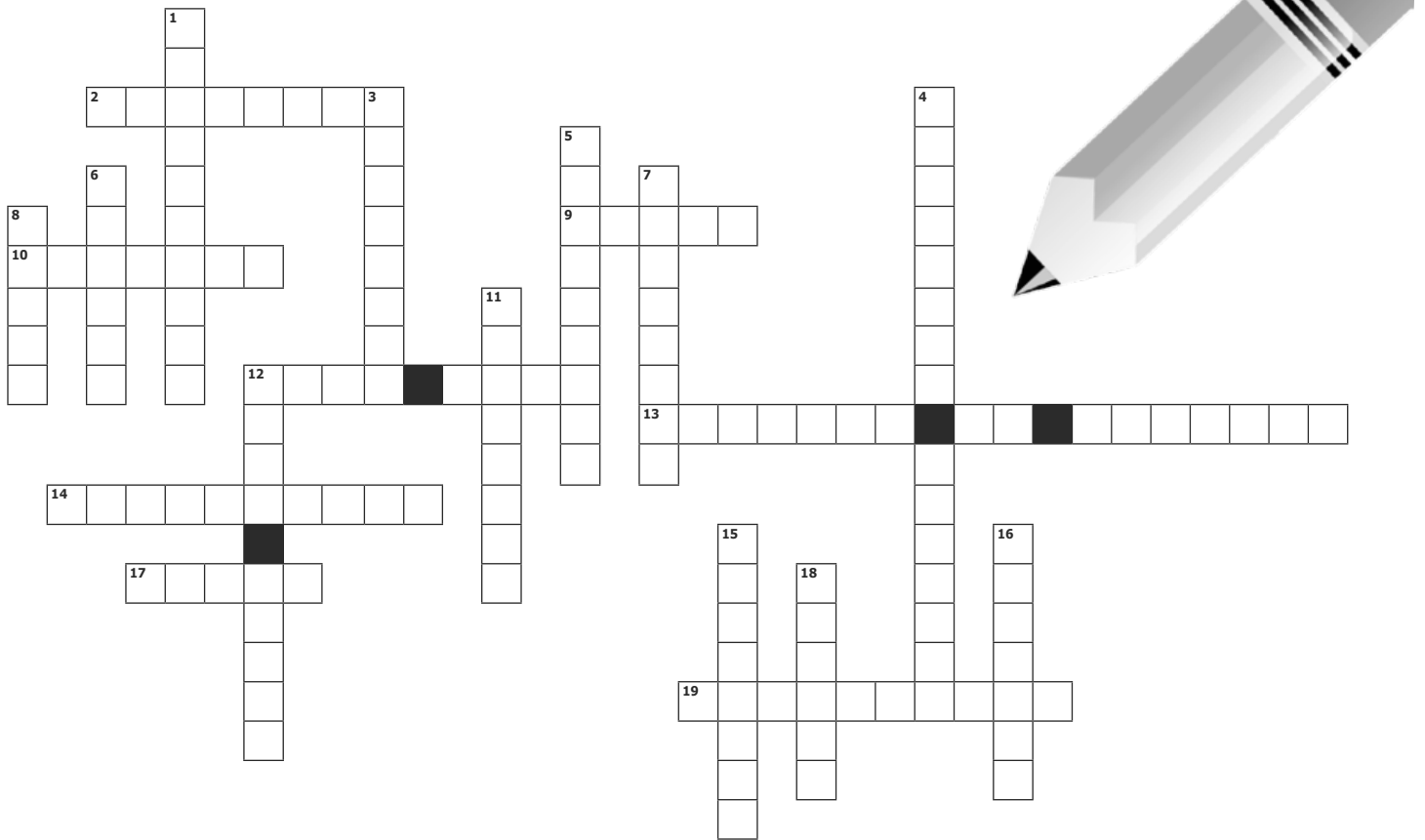
Blessed

Drobromirka

Holy

Relic

Crossword Puzzle



Across

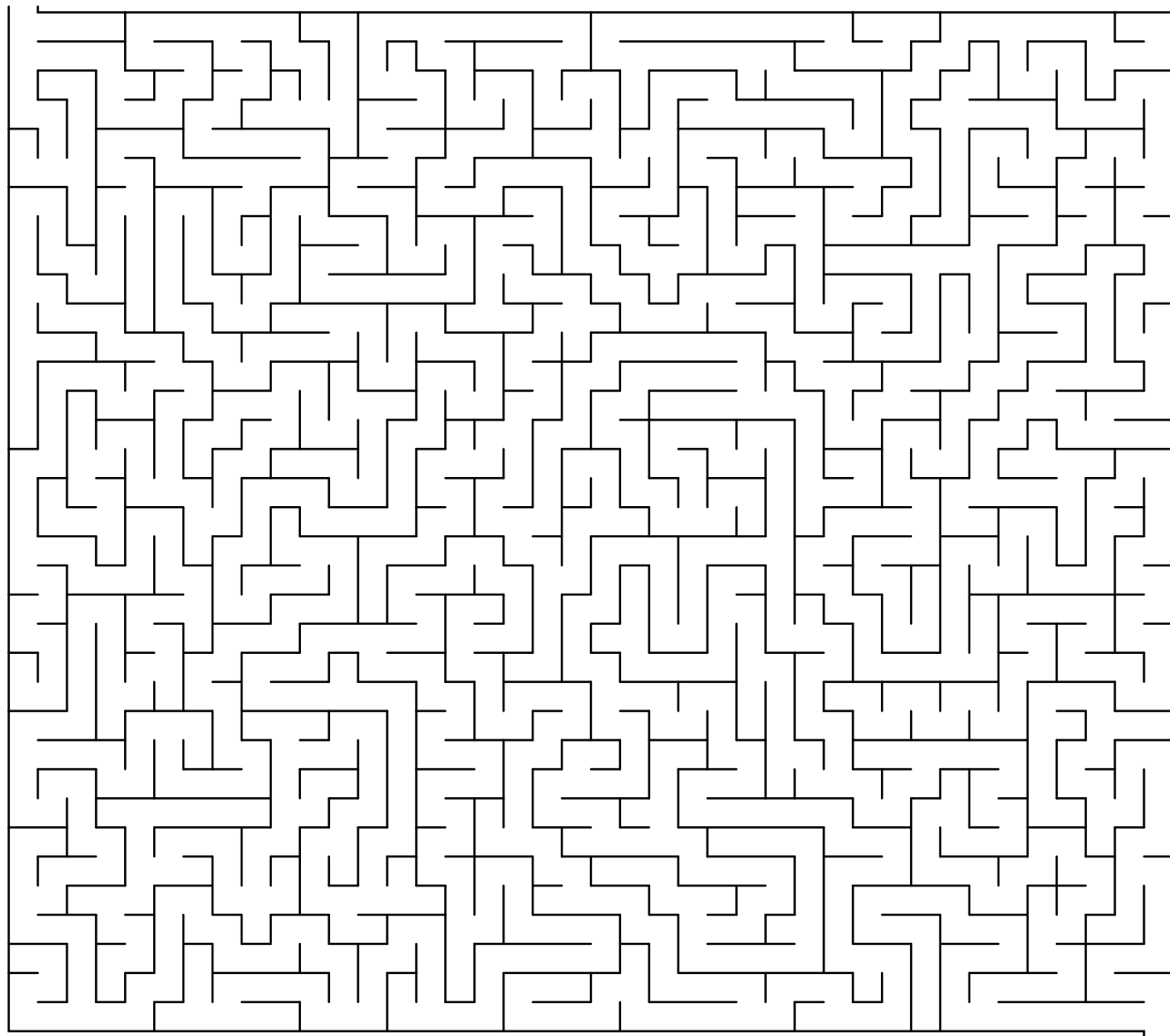
2. Nykyta had five of them.
9. Bishop Budka refused to give this up when he was sent to prison.
10. Country in which Nykyta was born.
12. A window into God's world (2 words).
13. Name of ship on which Bishop Budka sailed to Canada (3 words).
14. Leader of Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church in early 1900's (last Name).
17. Crown or headpiece worn by a bishop.
19. Country where Bishop Budka died.

Down

1. Village where Nykyta was born.
3. School for studying to be a priest.
4. Nykyta suffered from this disease.
6. Someone who dies for their faith.
7. City where Bishop Budka lived while in Canada.
8. Private teacher.
11. Month Bishop Budka arrived in Canada.
12. Tool used to connect with God and aid in prayer (2 words).
15. Nykyta's father (first name).
16. Poor farm worker.
18. Officially bless a new priest or bishop.

● Help Bishop Budka find his Mitre ●

 start



Finish 

Answer Key

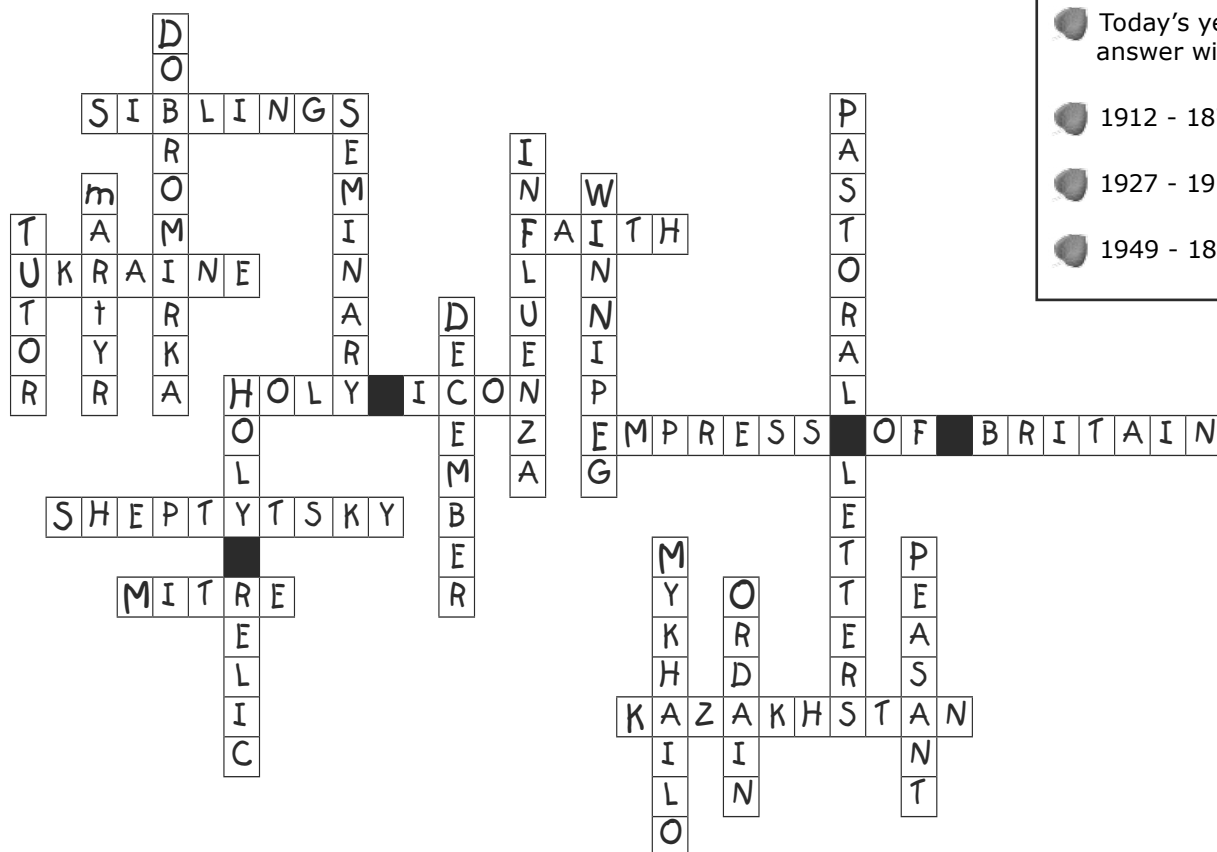
Answers to
'Let's Do the Math'

Today's year - 1877 = ?
answer will vary

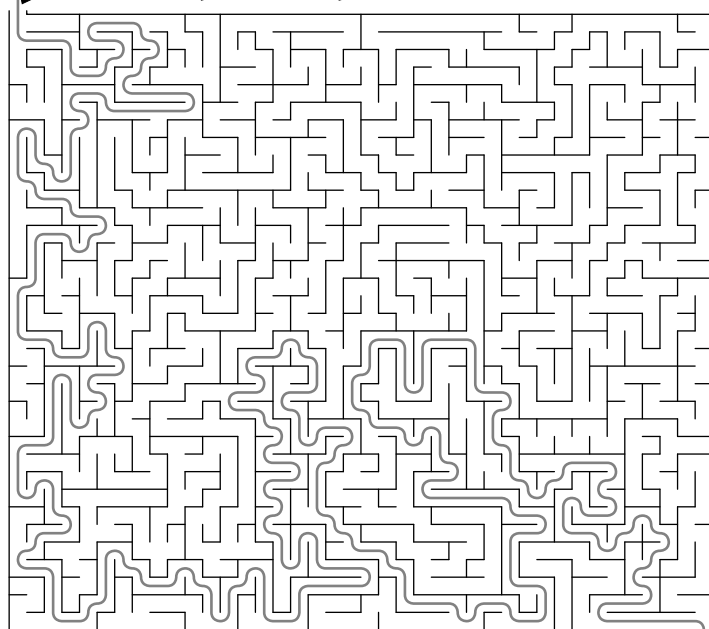
1912 - 1877 = 35

1927 - 1912 = 15

1949 - 1877 = 72




Start



Finish





Blessed Bishop Budka,
please pray for us...

(print your prayer intention)

Source: Basilian Fathers Museum, Mundare, Alberta



Do you think the children were cooperating when this photo was taken?

Exaltation of Holy Cross Ukrainian Catholic Church, Innisfree, Alberta, 1914

● Learning From Nature ●

'Just as the leaves on the trembling aspens flutter in the wind, so do the hearts of the people as they await the arrival of the bishop.' (see photo on page 16)

The early Ukrainian settlers in Canada lived in the treed parkland regions, which included the aspen/poplar tree. Trees provided many important resources, which ensured their survival: firewood, building material, food and protection from wind & storm. Similarly, they looked to Bishop Nykyta Budka for spiritual strength and protection.

Throughout the world the aspen tree is known as a positive symbol. It stands for bravery (overcoming fear & doubt) and for determination. The Ukrainian immigrants needed these traits to survive the harsh life on the Canadian prairie.

Aspen trees grow by sprouting 'shoots' from their roots, which allows them to grow in groups, clumps or groves. Even fire cannot destroy a grove of aspens if the roots remain alive.

Aspens are healthiest when trees of different ages fill their groves. In the same way, the Ukrainian Catholic faith and heritage is strongest when there are active community members of all ages: children, young adult, middle-aged and senior. Everyone has an important role to ensure the survival of a fruitful community life!

Did you know that aspen groves can reach the age of 1000 years?

