

## Pascha at the Protection Convent in Canada

**ON PASCHA**, the Very Reverend Mother Ambrosia, Abbess of the Convent of the Holy Protection of the Mother of God in Bluffton, Alberta, Canada, and her sisterhood celebrated the Feast of the Resurrection. This was the first time in more than a half decade that they have had a Priest for Paschal services, which were conducted by Protopresbyter David Cownie, one of the married Priests serving the parish of Sts. Cyprian and Justina, in Etna, California.



*Pascha*

The Protection Convent entered the American Exarchate of our Church last year, after the Russian Orthodox Church Abroad, to which it belonged, opened communion with the Moscow Patriarchate. In the cemetery of the historical convent (the first monastic community founded by the Russian Orthodox Church Abroad), one can find the graves of some of the great figures of that Church's earlier and heroic past.

Mother Ambrosia and her nuns settled, some years ago, in what was a mere remnant of the original convent, overseeing its reconstruction



*Convent cemetery*

and the construction of a large facility for housing the nuns. Located in a remote and beautiful part of the Province of Alberta, the magnificent grounds remind one of the birch and evergreen forests of Russia.

Father Gregory Telepneff, from our Exarchate's parish of St. John Chrysostomos in Saugus (Boston), Massachusetts, has also been serving the convent on occasional Feast Days. Archbishop Chrysostomos is especially fond of the community and the scenic isolation which it provides.

