

4th Sunday of the Great Fast;



Commemoration of St. John Climacus; 4-а Неділя Посту. Неділя Преподобного Івана Ліствичника.

The Holy Martyrs Justin the Philosopher

And His Companions – forty-two officers of the Byzantine Empire were put to death on March 6, 848. They had been captured 10 years earlier when Amorium fell to the Arabs.

Sunday, March 6th, 2016

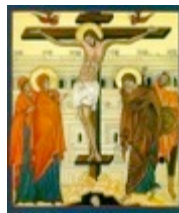
Daily Liturgical Services

Monday, March 7 * 9:00 a.m.** Lenten Service

Wednesday, March 9 * 3:30 p.m.**
Liturgy of the Pre-Sanctified Gifts

Thursday, March 10 * 9:00 a.m.** Lenten Service

Saturday, March 12 * 9:00 a.m.** Div. Lit.: Special Intention for the Year of Mercy



The Liturgy prescribed for today is that of Saint Basil the Great.

Troparion, Tone 8: You came down from on high, O Merciful One,* and accepted three days of burial* to free us from our sufferings.* O Lord, our life and our resurrection,* glory be to You.

Troparion, Tone 1: O John, our God-bearing father,* you were shown to be a citizen of the desert,* an angel in bodily form,* and a worker of miracles.* Through fasting, prayers and vigils you received heavenly gifts* to heal the sick and the souls of those who, in faith, run to you.* Glory to Him who gives you strength.* Glory to Him who crowned you.* Glory to Him who works healing for all through you.

+Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever. Amen.

Kontakion, Tone 4: On the heights of true abstinence,* the Lord established you as a reliable star,* giving light for guidance to the ends of the earth,* O father John, our teacher.

Prokeimenon, Tone 7

The Lord will give strength to His people;* the Lord will bless His people with peace.

verse: Bring to the Lord, O you sons of God; bring to the Lord young rams.

Prokeimenon, Tone 8: The venerable ones will exult in glory* and they shall be joyful in their beds. (Psalm 149:5)

Epistle: A reading of St. Paul's letter to the Hebrews (6: 13 – 20):

Brethren, when God made his promise to Abraham, since He had no one greater to swear by, he swore by himself, saying, "*I will surely bless you, and will surely multiply you.*" And so, after patient waiting, Abraham obtained the promise. For men swear by one greater than themselves, and an oath given as a guarantee is the final settlement of all their disagreements. Hence God, meaning to show more abundantly to the heirs of the promise the firmness of his will interposed an oath, so that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to deceive, we may have the strongest comfort – we who have sought refuge in holding fast the hope set before us. This hope we have, as a sure and firm anchor of the soul, reaching even behind the veil where our forerunner Jesus has entered for us, as he became a high priest forever according to the order of Melchisedek.



Alleluia, Tone 7: It is good to give praise to the Lord; and to sing to Your name, O Most High.

verse: To announce Your mercy in the morning, and Your truth every night.

verse: They who are planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God.

Gospel: Mark 9:17-31:

At that time, someone from the crowd answered him, “Teacher, I brought you my son; he has a spirit that makes him unable to speak; and whenever it seizes him, it dashes him down; and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid; and I asked your disciples to cast it out, but they could not do so.” He answered them, “You faithless generation, how much longer must I be among you? How much longer must I put up with you? Bring him to me.” And they brought the boy to him. When the spirit saw him, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. Jesus asked the father, “How long has this been happening to him?” And he said, “From childhood. It has often cast him into the fire and into the water, to destroy him; but if you are able to do anything, have pity on us and help us.” Jesus said to him, “If you are able! —All things can be done for the one who believes.” Immediately the father of the child cried out, “I believe; help my unbelief!” When Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, “You spirit that keeps this boy from speaking and hearing, I command you, come out of him, and never enter him again!” After crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse, so that most of them said, “He is dead.” But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he was able to stand. When he had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, “Why could we not cast it out?” He said to them, “This kind can come out only through prayer.” They went on from there and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, “The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again.”

Communion Hymn: Praise the Lord from the heavens;* praise Him in the highest.

The just man shall be in everlasting remembrance;* of evil hearsay he shall have no fear.* Alleluia, alleluia,* alleluia.



ANNOUNCEMENTS:

“Prayer is a continuous ascension to heaven... Repentance is the daughter of hope and the denial of despair.” **St. John Climacus**



Please Pray for health of ... Bonny H., Ric B., Shirley C., Andriy H., Sandra Sh., Sofia B., Verna H., Mike W., Anne B., Walter G., Patricia U., Sophie S., Rose O., Yvette U., Lily-Ann S., Myron G., Peter D., Peter S., Ann M., and all other parishioners and family members who need God's healing at the present time.

Please let Fr. Andrzej know if you would like to add new names to the prayer list and also notify him about any sick and/or hospitalized parishioners and family members.

Thank you – everyone for coming to help with **baking ‘babkas’** and for all the other voluntary work done at the church premises. May God richly bless you all!



Okanagan Deanery Welcomes Fr. Bohdan Lukie CSSR, pastor of St. Mary's church in Yorkton, SK.

Lenten Mission Schedule – Kamloops, Friday, March 4th at 2:00 p.m.; Vernon, Saturday, March 5th at 10:00 a.m.; Penticton, Saturday, March 5th at 4:00 p.m.; **Kelowna, Sunday, March 6th at 9:00 a.m.** & Grindrod, Sunday, March 6th at 2:00 p.m.

One Bilingual Divine Liturgy – will be celebrated on Sunday, March 6 (Lenten Mission); Sunday, March 13 (Honoring Taras Shevchenko); Sunday, March 20 (Palm Sunday); Easter Sunday, March 27 & on Sunday April 3rd.

Special Choir Practices – in preparation for Holy Week & Easter Services, we will hold choir practices on Tuesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. The next practice will take place this coming **Tuesday, March 8th**.

Taras Shevchenko – a special celebration to honour our great Ukrainian poet, **Taras Shevchenko** will take place next **Sunday, March 13th** after the Divine Liturgy at 9:00 a.m.

Daylight Saving Time begins – next **Sunday, March 13, 2016** - when local standard time is about to reach Sunday, March 13, 2016, **2:00:00 AM** clocks are turned **forward** 1 hour to **3:00 a.m.** local daylight time instead.

Bible Study – The Bible Timeline - will continue on **Monday, March 14th**, at 7:00 p.m. in the parish hall. Please join us.

Pysanka Writing Workshop for Children – regrettably will not take place this year.

Saturday March 19th - Easter Food Sale – starting at 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. or as long as the food products last.

Special Collection for church decorations for Easter – will take place on **Sundays, March 13th & 20th**. Thank you for your support.

Parish Council Meeting – will take place on **Monday, March 21st** at 7:00 p.m.



Merciful Like the Father – Dormition Parish Social Project – following suggestions from parishioners, our Parish Council voted to designate the 2016 “Coffee” proceeds for the support of St. Joseph’s new school building fundraising campaign. We collected the following amounts: Sunday, Jan. 10th - **\$44.80**; Sunday, Jan. 17th -

\$68.60; Sunday, Jan. 24th - **\$56.15**; Sunday, Jan. 31st, - **\$57.90**;

Sunday, Feb. 7th - **\$108.10**; Sunday, Feb. 14th - **\$50.00**; Sunday, Feb. 21st, - **\$69.70**. Thank you for your support.

House Blessing & Pastoral Visits – will continue this coming week. Please assist Fr. Andrzej in planning these visits by letting him know your most convenient time. Thank you.

Special Display of various Ukrainian items – has been provided by one of our parishioners in the church entrance. They are on sale with ½ of the profit designated for church flowers.

Food Bank Collection - Along with fasting and prayer, almsgiving is another way that we can practice our Lenten good works. As in previous years, we are encouraged to participate in collecting non-perishable goods to be donated to the Kelowna food bank. Please bring your non-perishable items and drop them off in the special box located in the church entrance.

Dormition Parish Stewardship: Sunday, Feb 21 - \$1,263.00 (includes \$550 for Ukraine) & Sunday, Feb. 28 - \$1,572.00 (Includes \$825 for Ukraine)

Special Petition – *“We also pray to be blessed with generous hearts to contribute to our Bishop’s initiatives and programs, such as: the support of parishes, the education of parishioners, and the formation of seminarians, Lord hear us and have mercy.”*

Special Petition to reject recommendation entitled: “Medical

Assistance in Dying: A Patient-Centered Approach” – is available at the church entrance. Please sign before it will be send to Federal MP, the Hon. Mark Warawa, who will present it to the Members of Parliament. Below are posted new resources on the issue of Euthanasia:

1. The Coalition for HealthCARE and Conscience has launched the *Respect for Conscience* project, on the website <http://www.canadiansforconscience.ca/>. The project involves a detailed proposal on how the conscience rights of doctors and health-care facilities can be respected without interfering with the patient’s choice for assisted death. The Coalition brings together the Archdiocese of Toronto, the Christian Medical and Dental Society of Canada, the Catholic Organization for Life and Family, the Canadian Federation of Catholic Physicians’ Societies, the Canadian Catholic Bioethics Institute, and Canadian Physicians for Life. It also represents some 5,000 physicians across Canada. The website, in English only, allows concerned Canadians to indicate their support for the *Respect for Conscience* proposal, as well as providing an opportunity to write to the appropriate officials in each province or territory with respect to its plans to protect the conscience rights of health-care workers and institutions.
2. Almost 30 Canadian agencies involved in health care and work with the disabled have developed the *Vulnerable Persons Standard*. Released this March 3, it is a series of safeguards to ensure that Canadians requesting assistance from physicians to end their life can do so without jeopardizing the lives of vulnerable persons who may be subject to coercion and abuse. More information is available in both English and French on the website <http://www.vps-npv.ca/>. Among the agencies involved in developing the *Vulnerable Persons Standard* are the Catholic Health Alliance of Canada, L’Arche Canada, and the Physicians Alliance against Euthanasia.
3. Intended to coincide with the *Vulnerable Persons Standard*, Mr. Jean Vanier, founder of L’Arche, and Ms. Hollee Card, National Leader of L’Arche Canada, have issued a letter on assisted suicide dated this past February 25. Addressed to all Canadians, Senators and Members of the Parliament of Canada, the letter is available in English at http://www.larchecommons.ca/f/nf4675ca/vanier_oped_on_physicianassisted_dying.pdf.
4. An article has been recently published by *Bioethics Matters* (March 2016, Volume 14, number 2), entitled “The Health Care Professional as Person: The Place

of Conscience”, by Bridget Campion, PhD. The text, in English only, is attached in PDF format.

****** *Lenten Scriptural Readings for this week* ******

Monday: Genesis 13:12-18; Proverbs 14:27-15:4; Isaiah 37:33-38:6

Tuesday: Genesis 15:1-15 Proverbs 15:7-19 & Isaiah 40:18-31

Wed.,: Genesis 17:1-9; Proverbs 15:20-16:9 & Isaiah 41:4-14

Thurs.,: Genesis 18:20-33; Proverbs 16:17-17:17 & Isaiah 42:5-16

Friday: Genesis 22:1-18; Proverbs 17:17-18:5 & Isaiah 45:11-17



Laudato Si' by Pope Francis (continuation) –

161. Doomsday predictions can no longer be met with irony or disdain. We may well be leaving to coming generations debris, desolation and filth. The pace of consumption, waste and environmental change has so stretched the planet’s capacity that our contemporary lifestyle, unsustainable as it is, can only precipitate catastrophes, such as those which even now periodically occur in different areas of the world. The effects of the present imbalance can only be reduced by our decisive action, here and now. We need to reflect on our accountability before those who will have to endure the dire consequences.

162. Our difficulty in taking up this challenge seriously has much to do with an ethical and cultural decline which has accompanied the deterioration of the environment. Men and women of our postmodern world run the risk of rampant individualism, and many problems of society are connected with today’s self-centered culture of instant gratification. We see this in the crisis of family and social ties and the difficulties of recognizing the other. Parents can be prone to impulsive and wasteful consumption, which then affects their children who find it increasingly difficult to acquire a home of their own and build a family. Furthermore, our inability to think seriously about future generations is linked to our inability to broaden the scope of our present interests and to give consideration to those who remain excluded from development. Let us not only keep the poor of the future in mind, but also today’s poor, whose life on this earth is brief and who cannot keep on waiting. Hence, “in addition to a fairer sense of intergenerational solidarity there is also an urgent moral need for a renewed sense of intragenerational solidarity”.^[125]

CHAPTER FIVE

LINES OF APPROACH AND ACTION

163. So far I have attempted to take stock of our present situation, pointing to the cracks in the planet that we inhabit as well as to the profoundly human causes of environmental degradation. Although the contemplation of this reality in itself has already shown the need for a change of direction and other courses of action, now we shall try to outline the major paths of dialogue which can help us escape the spiral of self-destruction which currently engulfs us.



Basic Guidelines for Reception of Holy Communion:

1. *You are a member of the Catholic Church (Orthodox faithful are welcome to receive Communion);*
2. *You have participated in the Sacrament of Confession at least during the Easter or Christmas seasons this past year if not more frequently;*
3. *You attend Divine Services regularly;*
4. *Your lifestyle is consistent with the teaching of the Catholic Church;*
5. *You have kept the Liturgical fast – no food at least one hour prior to the Divine Liturgy (water & medicine does not break the fast).*
6. *You have been in church from the beginning of the service, or at least heard the Gospel.*
7. *To the best of your ability, you are in the state of Grace.*
If for any of these or other reasons you cannot receive Holy Communion, you are welcome to come for a blessing. Please indicate to the priest that you would like to receive his blessing.

****A Reminder about appropriate reception of Holy Communion - when approaching to receive the Holy Eucharist, the faithful are reminded to open their mouth wide and tilt their head back. Also, please avoid licking the spoon. ****