

# 1948-2018 - celebrating its 70 years Dormítion of the Mother of God Ukraínían Catholic Church



#### Українська Католицька Церква Успення Пресвятої Богородиці

1091 Coronation Avenue, Kelowna, BC V1Y 7A8 Tel.: 250-860-7295 Email: dormitionkelowna@gmail.com

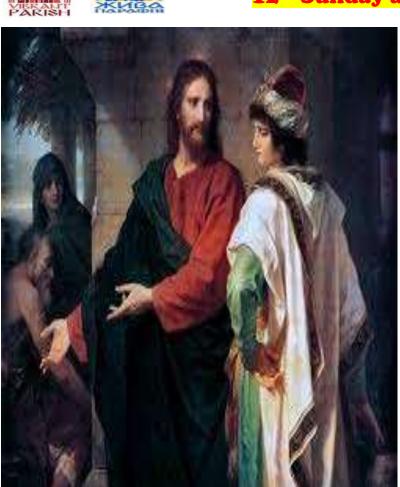
Parish web-site: http://kelowna.nweparchy.ca/ Pastor: Rev. Fr. Pavlo Myts / о. Павло Миць

Facebook page: **DormitionKelowna Parish**: https://www.facebook.com/dormitionkelowna.parish.5

If you need to meet with the parish priest, please, call or email in advance to arrange time and a day.

Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of New Westminster: www.nweparchy.ca

12th Sunday after Pentecost, - August 12th, 2018 A.D.



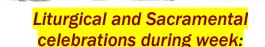
THE VIBRANT PARISH - A PLACE TO ENCOUNTER THE LIVING CHRIST: Through the Word, the Holy Mysteries & Prayer, Serving One's Neighbour, Leadership, Fostering & Serving Unity and Missionary Spirit – Pastoral Letter of His Beatitude Sviatoslav Shevchuk

"...Open the doors of your hearts and your homes to Christ, allow His Holy Spirit to transform you, purify and strengthen you in God's love!" - Pastoral Letter of His Beatitude

Sviatoslav Shevchuk "The Vibrant Parish"

"...Відчиніть двері своїх душ і домівок Христові, дозвольте Його Святому Духові вас перемінити, очистити і скріпити Божою любов'ю!" - Пастирський Лист Блаженнішого Святослава Шевчука "Жива Парафія"

Christian Greetings: Glory to Jesus Christ! — Glory to Him Forever! Slava Isusu Chrystu! — Slava na Viky! Слава Ісусу Христу! — Слава на Віки! Christ is among us! — He is and will be!



Contract to the second second

Mon., August 13<sup>th</sup> – 9:30 a.m. The Divine Liturgy:

for the repose of the soul of Mr. Mahade Daulat

(requested by Mrs. Marilyn Daulat and the Family)

– 5:30 p.m. Moleben to the Mother of God.

7:30 p.m. Parastas and Panakhyda / Memorial Evening Prayers: for the repose of the soul of Mrs. Andria
 Gwozdecki-Harron (requested by Mrs. Arlene Gallant and the Family)

Tue., Aug. 14<sup>rd</sup> – 11:00 a.m. The Funeral Day Divine Liturgy: for the repose of the soul of Mrs. Andria Gwozdecki-Harron (requested by Mrs. Arlene Gallant and the Family)

- **7:00 p.m.** Vespers

Wed., Aug. 15<sup>th</sup> – (DORMITION BVM) 10:00 a.m. The Divine Liturgy: God's blessings for all parishioners (Eng./Ukr.)

Thurs., Aug. 16<sup>th</sup> – NO SERVICE Fri., Aug. 17<sup>th</sup> – 9:30 a.m. The Divine Liturgy:

Saturday, Aug. 18th (Parish Praznyk/Feast Day and 70th Parish Anniversary)

- 3:00 p.m. The Divine Liturgy: God's blessings for all parishioners and guests (Eng./Ukr.)

Sunday, Aug. 19th, – 5:00 p.m. The Divine Liturgy: (service celebrated at the Eparchial Camp Saint Volodymyr)

**Pastoral and Sacramental Ministry:** Baptisms: by appointment. Funerals and Memorials: by appointment.

Marriages: six months' notice should be given to the parish priest, and he should be contacted before any other arrangements are made.

Holy Unction (Anointing of the Sick): Those anticipating surgery, hospitalization or treatments and who would like to receive anointing (by appointment, any time)

**Reconciliation**: on Sundays and Holy Days: before Liturgies and other days, by appointment.

Holy Communion: for the sick, by appointment, any time \* Please, contact Fr. Pavlo if you want to have the Divine Liturgies celebrated in your special (such as: In thanksgiving for favours received, the Infirm, General Intentions, the Deceased, Help of the Holy Spirit, for the Travelers, etc.) intentions.

Liturgical Propers in English language:

Tone 3, text from book "The Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom"; pages 93-95

**Epistle:** A reading from the First Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians: (1 Cor. 15:1-11)

Brothers and Sisters, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and in which you stand firm. You are being saved by it at this very moment if you hold fast to it as I preached it to you. Otherwise you have believed in vain. I handed on to you first of all what I myself received, that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures; that he was buried and, in accordance with the Scriptures, rose on the third day; that he was seen by Cephas (Se-fas), that by the Twelve. After that he was seen by five hundred brothers at once, most of whom are still alive, although some have fallen asleep. Next he was seen by James; that by all the apostles. Last of all was seen by me, as one born out of the normal course. I am the least of the apostles; in fact, because I persecuted the church of God, I do not even deserve the name. But by God's favor I am what I am. This favor of His to me has not proved fruitless. Indeed, I have worked harder than all the other, not on my own but through the favor of God. In any case, whether it be I or they, this is what we preach

**Gospel:** (Matthew 19:16-26)

At that time, a young man came up to Jesus and said, "Teacher, what good must I do to possess everlasting life?" He answered, "Why do you question me about what is good? There is One who is good. If you wish to enter into life, keep the commandments." "Which ones?" he asked. Jesus replied, ""You shall not kill;" "You shall not commit adultery;" "You shall not steal;" "You shall not bear false witness;" "Honor your father and your mother;" and "Love your neighbor as yourself."" The young man said to him, "I have kept all these; what do I need to do further?" Jesus told him, "If you seek perfection, go, sell your possessions, and give to the poor. You will then have treasure in heaven. Afterward come back and follow me." Hearing these words, the young men went away sad, for his possessions were many. Jesus said to his disciples: "I assure you, only with difficulty will a rich man enter into the kingdom of God. I repeat what I said: it is easier for a camel to pass through a needle's eye than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." When the disciples heard this they were completely overwhelmed, and exclaimed, "Then who can be saved?" Jesus looked at them and said, "For man it is impossible; but for God all things are possible."

Our Eparch, Bishop Ken is requesting that at the conclusion of every Divine Liturgy we say an additional prayer for Peace in Ukraine until the end of the war. For peace in Ukraine, let us pray: Our Father ... Hail Mary ... Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever. Amen.



and this is what you believed.

VIBRANT PARISH PRAYER: O Lord Jesus Christ, our Good Shepherd, as you once gathered lost sheep that they might hear Your voice and be your flock, so also today graciously look down from heaven upon our parish community, and send down on it your Holy Spirit, that it might be a place to receive the joy of Your Good News. Strengthen us with your presence, and always gather us together in prayer. Grant us the spirit of serving others, so that in our parish all might encounter You, the merciful God. Bless our spiritual leaders with Your wisdom, and inspire us to generously give of our time, talents and treasure for the building up of Your Kingdom. Unite us in peace and harmony, as befits Your community of love. Instill in us a missionary spirit, and let our parish community shine with the light of the Gospel, with prayer and good works, inviting all to

share in the divine life, so that Your Name, O Saviour, may be praised, together with Your eternal Father, and Your most-holy, good and life-giving Spirit. Amen.

❖ Basic Guidelines for Reception of Holy Communion: You are a member of the Catholic Church (faithful of the Orthodox churches are very welcome to receive Holy 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 and 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 very welcome to come for a blessing. Please indicate to the priest that you would like to receive his blessing.

#### Літургійні частини Українською мовою:

Глас 3, текст "Божественна Літургія Святого Івана Золотоустого"; сторінки 92-94

**Апостол**: До Коринтян першого послання св. Апостола Павла читання: (1 Кор. 15, 1-11) Браття і Сестри, пригадую вам Євангелію, яку я вам проповідував, яку ви і прийняли,

в якій і стоїте. Нею ви також спасаєтеся, коли держите її такою, як я вам проповідував; інакше ви увірували надармо. Я бо вам передав найперше те, що й сам прийняв був: що Христос умер за наші гріхи згідно з Писанням; що був похований, що воскрес третього дня за Писанням; що з'явився Кифі, потім дванадцятьом; опісля ж з'явився він більш, як п'ятистам братів разом, більшість яких живе й досі, деякі ж померли. Опісля з'явився Якову, згодом усім апостолам. А наостанку всіх, немов якомусь недоносові, з'явивсь і мені; бо я

найменший з апостолів, я недостойний зватись апостолом, бо гонив Церкву Божу. Благодаттю Божою я  $\epsilon$  те, що  $\epsilon$ , а благодать його в мені не була марна; бож я працював більше всіх їх, та не я, але благодать Божа, що зо мною. Чи то я, отже, чи то вони, — так ми проповідуємо, і так ви увірували.

#### **Євангеліє**: (Мт. 19, 16-26)

У той час один юнак приступив до Ісуса й каже: "Учителю! Що доброго маю чинити, щоб мати життя вічне?" Ісус сказав до нього: "Чому мене питаєшся про те, що добре? Добрий є один тільки (Бог). Як хочеш увійти в життя, додержуй заповідей." "Яких?" — питає його. А Ісус до нього: "Не вбивай, не чини перелюбу, не кради, не свідкуй криво, поважай батька-матір і люби ближнього твого, як себе самого." Каже юнак до нього: "Все це я зберіг ізмалку. Чого мені ще бракує?" "Якщо хочеш бути досконалим", — сказав Ісус до нього, — "піди, продай, що маєш, дай бідним, і будеш мати скарб на небі; потім приходь і йди за мною." Почувши це слово, юнак відійшов смутний, мав бо велике майно. Тоді Ісус сказав до своїх учнів: "Істинно кажу вам: Трудно багатому ввійти в Небесне Царство. Іще кажу вам: Легше верблюдові пройти через вушко в голці, ніж багатому ввійти в Боже Царство." Почувши це, учні здивувалися вельми і сказали: "Хто ж тоді може бути спасенний?" Ісус глянув на них пильно й мовив: "У людей це неможливо, Богові — все можливо."



Молитва Живої Парафії: Господи Ісусе Христе, Пастирю Добрий, як колись Ти пригорнув заблуканих овечок, щоб вони пізнали Твій голос і були Твоїм стадом, так і сьогодні глянь ласкаво з небесних висот на нашу парафію та зішли на неї Твого Святого Духа, щоб вона була місцем пізнання радості Доброї Новини. Скріплюй нас Твоєю присутністю та єднай нас кожночасно в молитві. Даруй нам духа служіння ближньому, щоб у нашій парафії кожний міг зустріти Тебе, милостивого Бога. Благослови наш духовний провід Твоєю мудрістю і дай, щоб ніхто з нас не шкодував ні часу, ні талантів, ні матеріальних дібр для розбудови Твого царства. Єднай нас у мирі та злагоді, щоб ми

були Твоєю спільнотою любові. Всели в нас місійного духа, щоб ми стали тим світилом євангельського слова, молитви і добрих діл, що кличе кожного до участі в Божественному житті, щоб славилося, Спасе, Твоє Ім'я з безначальним Твоїм Отцем та пресвятим, благим і животворящим Твоїм Духом нині, і повсякчас, і на віки віків. Амінь.

#### >>>>> THANK YOU VERY MUCH! ЩИРО ВАМ ДЯКУЄМО! <<<<<

Gratitudes to all our parishioners, guests, visitors and all people of the good will who by their kindness share time, volunteer and organize coffee and socials, make donations, knowingly and unknowingly for the other people thoughtfully care and help our parish community, welcomed guests and visitors, volunteered sharing time and care helping at the coffee-socials, cleaning and organizing, cutting parish lawn and helping at other parish projects, looking after and graciously supporting our

Christian, Catholic Church community! May the Almighty God bless and abundantly reward your time, care and generosity! "Remember, O Lord, those who bear fruit doing good works in Your holy churches and remembering the poor. Send down Your mercy upon all of us!" (A Prayer from the Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom)

#### **CONGRATULATIONS!!!**

❖ May the Almighty God bless in good health and salvation in many, happy and blessed years of life to Mr. Ross and Mrs. Shannon Siebert on their wedding anniversary (August 3<sup>rd</sup>), Julia Lalach on her birthday (August 6<sup>th</sup>,), Mrs. Irene Popyk on her birthday (August 15<sup>th</sup>), and to all who celebrate their birthdays, heavenly patron's name-days, wedding anniversaries and any other special anniversaries this week − Mnohaya i Blahaya Lita!

#### 

**\*** WARM WELCOME TO OUR PARISHIONERS, GUESTS AND VISITORS WHO HAVE JOINED US IN THIS DIVINE LITURGY. THANK YOU FOR PRAYING WITH US AT THE CHUCH TODAY! WISHING YOU A BLESSED,

RESTFUL WEEKEND AND FRUITFUL, **HEALTHY AND SAFE** WEEK! EVERYONE IS VERY WELCOME COME **AND** TO **PARTICIPATE** IN **OUR PARISH** COFFEE-SOCIAL AT THE CHURCH HALL TODAY.

We also pray for the people of Ukraine, that with the help of the Holy Spirit,

## "Teacher, what good deed must I do to have eternal life?" The young man's question in today's Gospel tells us that he approaches God in the same manner he approaches the rest of life. If he wants

God in the same manner he approaches the rest of life. If he wants something, then he works hard until he achieves it. "What must 'I' do to have eternal life" tells us that the young ruler believes he can gain eternal life on his own.

TODAY'S GOSPEL REFLECTION:

The response of our Lord, Jesus Christ, is interesting. "If you want to 'enter life', - He says, - keep the commandments." Jesus doesn't talk about 'eternal life' but rather about 'entering life'!

That's life here and now. It's about living life the way God intends; that's what the commandments are about. The commandments are meant to be life-giving, not life-denying. By keeping them (comendments) we honour God and respect the dignity of all people!

they may obtain social peace, political harmony and economic stability: Lord, hear us and have mercy.

- \* REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR: yourselves, Most Reverend Bishop-Emeritus Severian Yakymyshyn, Fr. Mark Fesniak., Lucy D., Janet F., Alex R., Volodymyr P., Ivan L., Fr. Edward Ewanko., Ray Saranchuk, Cameron V., Rose Ostopowich, Keyton A., Ric B., Shirley C., Peter Dranchuk, Sandra Sh., Patricia U., Olga Kuzyk, Antholy and Victoria Huziak, George and Mary Dashkewytch, Carlos Chernesky, Olga Romanyshyn, Kalyna Kociuba, Bronie Huska, Peter Huska, Stanley and Roma Nowakowski (Bishop Ken's parents), Barbara and Vincent Pasternak, Dorothy Scott, Lorraine Turcotte, all members of our parish and those who are not able to join actively in our community, your families, relatives, friends; governments and armed forces, especially the shut-in or those in the hospitals, traveling, working or studying, nursing and senior homes, those seeking God's answer to their prayers or those rejoicing with God's answer; those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries; those called to their eternal reward and for the family they leave behind; widows and widowers, orphans, homeless and all people who have asked us pray for them. Please, also in your kindness keep praying daily for vocations to the priesthood and religious life. Remember to ask for special blessings to all Christian families! **REMINDER** for families of individuals, who are admitted to hospital - If you or a family member is admitted to hospital and you wish to have a priest visit, please be sure to have someone call our parish rectory office to make this request. Your pastor may have no other way of knowing that you are in hospital, as privacy legislation. SPIRIT OF CHRISTIAN AWARENESS: Dear parishioners, if our brother / sister in Christ, who usually sits next to you, is not in the Church today, please phone him / her and ask how he / she is doing. Let him /her know that our parish community misses him / her very much!
- ❖ On behalf of our church Christian family, assurance of our prayers and deepest sympathy are to Mr. Peter Gwozdecki, Mrs. Arlene Gallant, their relatives and friends! May our Lord, God and Saviour Jesus Christ place Mrs. Andria Gwozdecki-Harron soul in the place where all the saints abide, and may her memory be everlasting with the Lord and our prayers! − Vichnaya Pamyat'!

- ❖ PARISH 70th ANNIVERSARY COMETEE MEETING is at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, August 13th, 2018 A.D.
- **Please, see our parish June 2018 Financial Statement** presented at the church vestibule and parish hall.
- Please, share to Kelowna Food Bank. A special box is located at the entrance to the church.
- JOIN OUR CHOIR: Do you enjoy singing? Please consider joining our Dormition Parish Choir and remember that we are looking for new members! Contact Mrs. Lesia Achtymichuk for more information and details.



**Dormition of the Mother of God Ukrainian Catholic Church Praznyk/Feast Day and 70<sup>th</sup> Parish Anniversary will be celebrated on Saturday, August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2018 A.D.** The Hierarchical Divine Liturgy will be celebrated at 3:00 p.m. Banquet/Reception to follow at the church hall. (Clergy and Religious − FREE, Adults - \$30, Youth (age 12-18) - \$15, Children (11 years of age under) - FREE). Please, let us know about your participation.

Please RSVP - call or email one of the following contacts if you plan to attend:

Mrs. Ann Boitson - Tel.: 250-763-2419, Email: wboitson@shaw.ca

Mrs. Mary Cacchioni - Tel.: 250-765-3419, Email: marycacchioni@gmail.com

Dormition Parish office - Tel.: 250-860-7295,

Email: dormitionkelowna@gmail.com

We are looking forward to pray, welcome and share the blessings and joy of this wonderful parish celebration with all of you!

**Traditional and Very Delicious Ukrainian Food is available for sale at our parish**: Perogies – \$ 6.00 per dozen, Cabbage Rolls – \$ 6.00 per dozen uncooked, Borshch – \$ 7.00 per a jar, Pies – \$ 9.00. For more information, please contact Mrs. Alice Pelechaty at 250-763-4870.

❖ A SPECIAL REQUEST: After each Divine Liturgy and every church service, please, keep silence in the House of the Lord as some of the faithful are still praying at

the church. As well. please, do not forget close all Liturgy and/or hymnbooks and return them to their proper place. Also, please do not leave any church bulletins or any other material in the pews. Let each of us do our part to be true stewards of our parish church by helping to keep the church building clean and neat. Thank you very much!

❖ BOX FOR USED CHURCH BULLETINS – since our Sunday bulletins contain Sacred Scripture readings & icons, they need to be disposed of properly/respectfully after use. Please do not throw them into the garbage but recycle them after shredding if possible. In order to assist with this request, we have provided a special box for used bulletins at the church entrance.

#### CAMP STAINTVOLODYMYR on August 19-26, 2018 A.D.

If you are between the ages of 7-15 this is a summer must do! Camp St. Volodymyr is a great opportunity for campers to experience God through nature and the companionship of others. Campers will learn about the Ukrainian language and culture along with games, hikes, sports, arts and crafts, camp fires, water activities and much more!

Come join us August 19-26, 2018 in celebrating our 35<sup>th</sup> year of offering camp to children in our Eparchy! Register today and use the promo code **July 2018** to get \$50 off your registration. Register online using Eventbrite. Search "Camp St. Volodymyr BC 2018."

For more information contact Jennifer Caldwell @ 604.220.0584 or jennsawka@hotmail.com.

WAYS TO SUPPORT OUR CAMP: DONATE Food: We are always happy to accept food donations of fresh fruits and vegetables, breakfast items; cereal, syrup, pancake mix, jam, Nutella, lunch items; chicken soup, Kraft dinner, cheese, drinks; juice boxes, powdered drinks, brownie/cake mixes, Jello, snack bars, cookies or treats. Gift certificates to Superstore and Costco are also welcomed. DONATE Monetarily: Each year the Eparchy sponsors several children to attend. You can help send a deserving child to camp through your donations. Donation can be made through the Eparchy or online at our Eventbrite page. Tax receipts can be issued for donations of \$25 or more.

Visit our website: www.nweparchy.ca

BE A STEWARD: Have you ever wondered what more can you do to help our parish? Here are some



suggestions: Steward of property security; Steward of grounds cleaning; Steward of cleaning church; Steward of church linen; Steward of outreach; Steward of caring; Steward of prayer; Steward of service. Quite often, our homebound or senior members, once active in their younger years, want to find purpose in their senior years. It's not only about doing but about "BEING" present to others! Please, feel very welcome to participate in our church choir singing, reading of the Epistles and others inspiring Bible texts, holding the candles during the Gospels readings, processions, welcoming, parish cleaning, projects, etc. VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: to help out

with weekly cleaning in the church and organizing of coffee social after the Divine Liturgy on Sundays, work-bees, etc. If you can help out, please, let us know. Please, Contact Mr. Neil Lalach or Fr. Pavlo for more information. You will be amazed how "BEING" can make a difference at our spiritual, parish life!

**Glasses Prescription Box for Ukraine** is placed and located at the left side by the entrance to the parish hall. Please, feel free to participate in and support this important project.



**Sunday Coffee Co-ordinators:** 

August 12: Sandra Vedress & Nadia Pobran August 26: **PLEASE, Help.....** 

Rachel's Corner: Come on a Rachel's Vineyard™ Retreat and let him show you His merciful love. Healing after Abortion Ministry 250-762-2273 info@rachelsvineyardkelowna.com or information and registration visit: www.rachelsvineyardkelowna.com, Facebook: Rachel's Vineyard Kelowna Strict confidentiality assured.

Rachel's Vineyard Retreat: Our next retreat, for anyone suffering from an abortion experience, will take place October 12, 2018. It is not too early to register. Please contact us at <a href="mailto:info@rachelsvineyardkelowna.com">info@rachelsvineyardkelowna.com</a>, 250-762-2273. Strict confidence assured.

- \* FAITHFUL GIVING ... Please, remember that we never take a day off or a vacation from God, or from our obligation to attend Divine Liturgy on Sundays and Holy Days. When traveling, working, participating in different sport's tornaments, activities or studying, please, make sure you check out the service schedule for the area churches at our eparchial website: www.nweparchy.ca and attend the Divine Liturgy. Remember as well, that while parishioners may be away and on vacation, the parish-church is not. Expenses continue as they do throughout the year. Please, remain consistent in your gifts to parish. Your weekly Sunday offering is important to our financial well-being. If you are away, we appreciate it when you forward your "make-up" donations. The financial stability of the parish counts on regular Sunday contributions. Please, continue to be supportive and generous! "Remember, O Lord, those who bear fruit doing good works in Your holy churches and remembering the poor. Send down Your me rcy upon all of us!" (Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom)
  - Please circulate to Ukrainian Catholic parishes in British Columbia help us save a unique Ukrainian Canadian internee cemetery: Help us save a unique Ukrainian internee cemetery. We've almost reached 1,000 signatures on our on-line petition to save the Spirit Lake internee cemetery. If you haven't already done so please sign the petition (<a href="https://petitions.ourcommons.ca/en/Petition/Details?Petition=e-1643">https://petitions.ourcommons.ca/en/Petition/Details?Petition=e-1643</a>) and then circulate this message to others. The last date for signing is 15 August. We need your help. Thanks! Dr. L. Luciuk



ST. KATERI PASTORAL CENTRE ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF WHITEHORSE

5119 – 5th Avenue Whitehorse, YT Y1A 1L5 Phone: (867) 667-2052 Fax: (867) 667-4713

Prot.#: 080818 August 8, 2018

Dear Msgr. Leo,

#### RE: Update on Telegraph Creek, BC Fire Situation

As a follow-up to my letter to the Apostolic Nuncio of Canada, Most Rev. Luigi Bonazzi, I would like to provide you with an update on the wildfire situation in Telegraph Creek, BC which has a population of about 300 people. The Diocese of Whitehorse has a mission parish there which is served by Joshua and Denise Grimard and their five (plus one) children.

At the moment, the impact of the wildfire and the future of the community of Telegraph Creek is still unknown. Currently, the situation is as follows: All residents have been evacuated safely and there are no casualties. We have lost the church in Telegraph Creek, along with the rectory. Many people have lost their homes. At the Dease Lake community centre where Telegraph Creek residents are being told of the status of their homes, many people are in complete distress and broken because they are finding themselves left with nothing.

Furthermore, many of these people are going to other BC communities, including Iskut, Terrace, Smithers, and Kamloops, to distance themselves from the situation and to try to cope with the grief of their loss. With these circumstances in mind, I would like to make an appeal to the bishops in our neighbouring dioceses where residents of Telegraph Creek are heading, and ask them for their assistance with these people and their loss. My intention is that once information becomes available, I will be able to provide my fellow Bishops in these dioceses with more details as to which communities people are going to, and what services they require.

In closing, I would like to request that this letter be forwarded to all Canadian Bishops, particularly those whose diocese is next to ours. In this way, they may be made aware of the situation and help in whatever way they can, whether through prayer, material assistance and/or provision of services.

I will keep you updated with any further news. I remain,

Yours in Christ, Bishop Héctor Vila

### Keynote address of His Beatitude Sviatoslav (Shevchuk) at the States Dinner of the Knights of Columbus Baltimore, MD, August 7, 2018

The Knights of Columbus in the twenty-first century are called to continue to be the Knights of Charity, as was the vision of venerable Fr. Michael McGivney. But they were also called to be the Knights who watch over and defend the truth. Our world, often called a "post-truth" world, desperately needs our active involvement in the defense of truth. The mission of a Knight today is to be "the light of the world" following the footsteps of our Savior Jesus Christ who said: "Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free" (John 8:32).

"Your Eminences, Your Excellences, Worthy Supreme Knight Carl and Mrs. Dorian Anderson Dear Brother Knights, Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ!

#### Slava Isusu Chrystu! - Glory be to Jesus Christ!

There is a book by an Italian author titled Siamo le persone che incontriamo which means: "We are the people whom we meet." Indeed, many encounters in our lives profoundly contribute to who we are. In fact, the history of Christianity began from an encounter of the Master with His disciples two thousand years ago in Galilee. Whether we are aware of it or not – encounters are a fundamental part of our lives, and our existence is a repeated set of encounters.

Let me share with you a story about one such encounter. It happened almost exactly seven years ago, in November 2011, right here in Baltimore after my meeting with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' Assembly. It was my great honor and a unique opportunity, as the newly elected Head of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church (imagine, I was just forty-one at that time!), to address my dear Brothers in episcopal ministry, on behalf of the largest Eastern Catholic Church. After I delivered my address, and received kind words of gratitude from Cardinal Timothy Dolan, only a very few people know what happened afterwards... I was approached by a Ukrainian American man who said that an important person was seeking a brief meeting with me. Knowing about the importance of encounters, I gladly accepted this invitation. I entered a large, dimly lit banquet hall (which apparently was being prepared for a reception), hotel personnel were busy setting up chairs, and nothing indicated that this would be a historic meeting with an important outcome. When I entered the room, I was introduced to a well-respected Catholic gentleman who told me that he was heading the largest Catholic fraternal organization in the world. And this man happens to be sitting alongside me here today. Mr. Anderson, in the manner of a polite Catholic gentleman, asked me one simple question: "Your Beatitude, your predecessor Cardinal Lubomyr Husar at our Convention in Chicago in 2005 invited the Knights of Columbus to establish our Order in Ukraine. Would you give the 'green light' to such an idea?" "Yes, definitely! – I replied – We would be very excited to have the Knights of Columbus established in Ukraine and assist our men to become more actively involved in the life of the Church."

Believe it or not, from that simple "Yes", the adventurous story of the Knights of Columbus in Ukraine began — and this also began the involvement of many other people as well. If you will allow me to say, this endeavor of the Knights of Columbus was no less risky than the historic voyage Christopher Columbus undertook when he sailed to the New World. Why? Because unlike most of the Knights of Columbus jurisdictions, Ukraine is not a predominantly Catholic country. Nevertheless, this certainly has become one of those "success stories" that began with a simple encounter and an agreement between two gentlemen. I, together with Archbishop Mokrzycki, the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Lviv in Ukraine, and four other priests, were among the first to be enrolled in the Order in Ukraine. And today, seven years later, we are witnesses to a historical event — Ukraine being granted the status of State jurisdiction, joining the worldwide community of the Knights of Columbus with equal rights and responsibilities as other members.

On behalf of the Ukrainian Knights, I am deeply grateful to the Supreme Council, and, in particular, to our Supreme Knight Mr. Carl Anderson, for this recognition and for his willingness to take such a risk with our country.



You know that Christopher Columbus is not such very famous person in Ukraine (like soccer player Shevchenko or world champion boxer Klichko, let's say), but the idea of knighthood is very relevant and alive among the Ukrainian people. A knight is someone who represents higher values and is eager to sacrifice even his own life for these ideals. So when our men first heard about the four principles of the Order—charity, unity, fraternity and patriotism—they found them very close to their hearts. That is why this invitation to knighthood was, and continues to be, so attractive to more than one thousand knights in Ukraine.

I find that it was truly providential that the first council of the Knights of Columbus

was established in Ukraine's Capital City — Kyiv, five years ago, just before the beginning of the Maidan, or "Revolution of Dignity" as we call it in Ukraine, and our Brother Knights demonstrated courage and charity by joining hundreds of thousands of other men and women who wanted to defend their right to live in a just society where human dignity would be respected.

But soon after the former President of Ukraine fled to Russia, and then unexpectedly war knocked at our doors, initiated by our eastern neighbor. ... It started at the moment when no one was ready for it; nobody knew how to deal with it — neither the newly chosen government, nor the people protesting in the streets, not only in Kyiv but indeed throughout Ukraine's towns and cities.

Starting with the annexation of Crimea in Spring 2014 and continuing with the occupation of the eastern regions of Donetsk and Luhansk, our country has been a victim of relentless military aggression. In the last four years, Ukraine has lost eight percent of its territory due to this war. More than one point five million people have been forced to flee their homes in eastern Ukraine, leaving behind all their property because of fighting or intimidating coercion. This war has already claimed more than ten thousand lives and left more than twenty-four thousand people injured, with unimaginable destruction. Many of our brave young soldiers returning home from the frontlines suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder. Although we do not have an exact number, we know that around one hundred prisoners, including political prisoners, are denied fair and transparent trials.

The most famous of these prisoners, the renowned Ukrainian film-director Oleh Sentsov, has been on a hunger strike for nearly eighty days, demanding from Russian authorities the liberation of all political prisoners who are unlawfully imprisoned. Sentsov, the outspoken opponent of Russia's seizure of Ukraine's Crimean Peninsula, is serving a 20-year sentence on a conviction for planning terrorist acts. He denies the charges and has the backing of much of the world community.

Besides all these casualties and human tragedies, there is still another hidden danger of the war in eastern Ukraine: This region is at risk of suffering a dire long lasting ecological catastrophe due to flooded mines and contaminated drinking water, which is comparable in scale to the Chernobyl nuclear reactor disaster of 1986. Experts are warning that as many as four million people might be left without safe drinking water in the region. And notice, I am not talking about

the sad events of the past — all of this is happening right now, in Ukraine, the largest country in Europe, comparable in size to the state of Texas or to the country of France. The war, in fact, has already caused the biggest humanitarian crisis on the European continent since the end of the Second World War. And yet, this is a silent and forgotten war. Because it is a "frozen conflict," no one speaks loudly about the war in Ukraine anymore. The attention of the media has been shifted, and as it often happens, to other conflict zones in the world. But we plead with the international community not to neglect Ukraine and that we not be left alone with a much bigger and more powerful aggressor.

How does the Catholic Church in Ukraine, and in particular our Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, respond to the needs of the millions of people suffering from the consequences of war? The aid provided by the Church can be summarized in one word — **diakonia**, that is, serving to one's neighbor, taking care of those afflicted by the war, by providing them with spiritual guidance and often with social service as well. In fact, it was the main theme of the annual meeting of the Synod of Bishops of our Church two years ago when all of our Bishops from Ukraine and from throughout the world reflected on how to provide better social care to our suffering brothers and sisters who are victims of this war. Diakonia stems from charity, and charity is rooted in disinterested love for every single person. Charity is an antidote to egoism and indifference. I would say that charity is also a key to understanding the success of the Knights of Columbus in Ukraine.

The Knights of Columbus in Ukraine have responded generously and wholeheartedly to the most basic need of Ukrainian society – service to one's neighbor, diakonia. The Order has been very instrumental in mobilizing Ukrainian men to helping people in need. The first Ukrainian councils in Kyiv and Lviv immediately after the war began, started a campaign to raise much needed and urgent funds and for the purchase of first aid temporary traumatic wound treatment, like Celox, to save the lives of Ukrainian soldiers. The Knights in the city of Ivano-Frankivsk, in western Ukraine, continue to organize summer rehabilitation camps for wounded soldiers, war veterans, and their families. The Knights accompany the families of our fallen soldiers and visit wounded soldiers in military hospitals. Our Brother Knights in Melitopol, in south-eastern Ukraine, hold Christian youth summer camps located in the immediate proximity to the combat zone (less than a hundred kilometers from Russian occupied territory). The Knights in Ukraine also support priestly vocations by awarding scholarships to the seminarians unable to afford tuition fees. Along with our chaplains, they support prison ministry for young prisoners. Hundreds of physically disabled people in Ukraine have received wheelchairs from the Knights of Columbus and the Canadian Wheelchair Organization free of charge.

It is truly admirable that our Brother Knights in Ukraine of both Churches — the Roman Catholic and Ukrainian Greek Catholic Churches — learn how to cooperate together, showing a wonderful example of the unity of the Catholic Church in Ukraine, so much needed in Ukrainian society today. I am really proud of the great job the Knights of Columbus are doing in Ukraine!

Thank you, my dear Brother Knights, for helping us mobilize our best men to become Knights of Columbus and Knights of Charity!

On this occasion, I would also like to express our gratitude to the Supreme Council of the Knights of Columbus for a generous donation given to our Churches in 2015. Thanks to this help, our local councils in Ukraine were able to purchase hospital supplies and to support internally displaced persons from the occupied territories by distributing, along with Caritas Ukraine, food and hygiene products, with a total weight of more than eighty-two tons and in the amount of four hundred thousand U.S. dollars. Also thanks to your generous donations, we are about to launch a rehabilitation center in Briukhovychi, near Lviv, where people injured during the war will be able to receive professional medical treatment. In this way, the Knights of Columbus have made a special contribution to the mission of the Church that is to comfort and to care for those who are wounded. But we also hope that, with your help, we will be able to develop the full spectrum of rehabilitation — both medical and psychological — involving thousands of professionally trained specialists who will continue to heal the wounds of the suffering ones all over our country.

Our society probably does not yet realize the full scale of trauma caused by the war and that is why we, as a Church and as Knights of Columbus, need to invest so much of our energy and resources into the field of rehabilitation, in order to be able to heal the wounds of our people.

I would like to bring to your attention yet another hidden aspect of this "silent war" which is happening in Ukraine. Many specialists nowadays call this war in Ukraine a "**hybrid war**," that is, a war where not only traditional weapons are used on battle fields, but where all means of destruction, including economic and information warfare, are employed. Thanks to information technologies, modern wars are not limited to specific territories; they are not confined to one continent, without any consequences to those who seem to be far away. Everyone in the Western world today experiences the consequences of this information war, which targets truth by disseminating "fake news" and molding public opinion

according to dishonest goals. Unfortunately, not even your country or other developed countries in Western Europe have been spared from these attacks. Please remember: it is not only our war — it is the war for humanity!

Dear Brother Knights and my Dear Friends gathered here this evening, the truth is under assault today! For us Christians, truth is not a mere theoretical notion of what is right, but it is a person, the person of Jesus Christ, Who paid a high price for our salvation. If we disengage from the truth, we will be similar to a ship trying to cross the ocean without a compass. So, my brothers and sisters, we must remain ever vigilant in this battle for truth. As Saint Paul reminds us, "our struggle is not with flesh and blood, but with the principalities, with the powers, with the world rulers of this present darkness, with the evil spirits in the heavens" (Ephesians 6:12). On behalf of the Ukrainian people we appeal to you to stand up for truth, to spread the truth about the suffering and pain of the Ukrainian people, to deliver our message to the societies of the countries where you come from.

We are immensely grateful to the Knights of Columbus for your prayerful and financial support, through which we were able to realize so many charitable activities. Paradoxically, because of the war, many internally displaced persons from eastern Ukraine, who used to have a hostile attitude toward the Catholic Church as a result of Soviet propaganda, have encountered the loving face of the Catholic Church, which cares for its people regardless of their ethnic background or religious beliefs.

Besides providing internally displaced persons with material aid, our Church organizes pilgrimages and spiritual guidance for these people to help heal their wounds inflicted by the war. There is still so much for all of us to do because there is so much chaos, hostility and fear in the world. Let us not tire in doing everything possible to ensure that politicians will not place economic gains or political benefits above human life, the sanctity of which is manifested by the Creator himself. If we fail to do that, then Christ will once more be betrayed for "thirty pieces of silver."

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"We love you! We pray for you! Please pray for us! Vivat Jesus!"

Source: https://www.skeparchy.org/wordpress/ugcc-keynote-address-of-his-beatitude-sviatoslav-shevchuk-at-the-states-dinner-of-the-knights-of-columbus/







