

# Ukrainian Catholic Church of the Dormition of the Mother of God Українська Католицька Церква Успення Пресвятої Богородиці



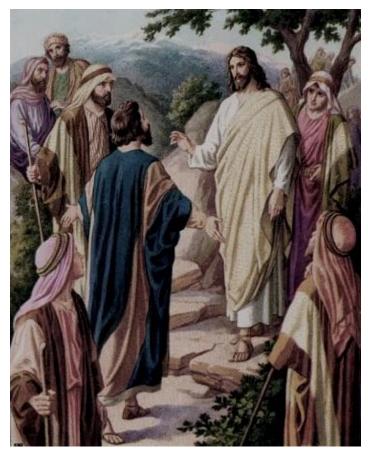
1091 Coronation Avenue, Kelowna, BC V1Y 7A8 Tel.: 250-860-7295, Email: dormitionkelowna@gmail.com

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



**30<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost** – January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2019 A.D. 'Jesus' love goes before us, His look anticipates our needs. He can see beyond appearances, beyond sin, beyond failures and unworthiness. He sees beyond our rank in society. He sees beyond this,

to our dignity as sons and daughters, a dignity at times sullied by sin, but one which endures in the depth of our soul.



- teaches Pope Francis I

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

"All the challenging circumstances of our life on earth – these are for us an invitation to active love, which is an expression of

living faith!" - Pastoral Letter of His Beatitude Sviatoslav Shevchuk "The Vibrant Parish"

"Всі ці прикрі явища нашого земного життя – це для нас запрошення до чинної любові, яка є виявом живої віри." -Пастирський Лист Блаженнішого Святослава Шевчука "Жива Парафія"

**Christian Greetings:** 

(Christmas Season is from Dec. 25<sup>th</sup> until Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup>): Christ Is Born! - Let us glorify Him! Chrystos Rozhdaiet'sia! – Slavimo Yoho! Христос Рождається! - Славімо Його! Christ is among us! – He is and will be!

# Liturgical and Sacramental celebrations during this week:

Tue., Jan. 22<sup>nd</sup> – 9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy: God's blessing for Mr. Roman Myts and Family

Wed., Jan. 23<sup>rd</sup> - 9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy: Peaceful repose of the souls of Emmett, Margaret, Angus & Mary Brady
Thurs., Jan. 24<sup>th</sup> - 9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy: Peaceful repose of the souls of Emmett, Margaret, Angus & Mary Brady
Fri., Jan. 25<sup>th</sup> - 9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy: Peaceful repose of the souls of Emmett, Margaret, Angus & Mary Brady
Saturday, Jan. 26<sup>th</sup> - 3:40 p.m. Lectio Divina / Bible Studies: (Studies and Service in Penticton, BC)
- 4:00 p.m. The Divine Liturgy: God's blessings for all parishioners

Sunday, Jan. 27<sup>th,</sup> – 8:15 a.m. Rosary:

- 9:00 a.m. The Divine Liturgy: God's blessings for all parishioners. (*in English language*)
- **11:00** a.m. The Divine Liturgy: God's blessings for all parishioners. (*in Ukrainian language*)

**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.

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

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# Liturgical Propers in English language:

Tone 2, text from book "The Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom"; pages 91-93

**Epistle**: A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Colossians: (Col. 3:12-16)

Brothers and Sisters, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe vourselves with compassion,

kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be



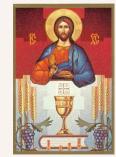
thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God.

#### **Gospel**: (*Luke 18:18-27*)

At that time, a certain ruler asked Jesus, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: 'You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; Honor your father and mother." He replied, "I have kept all these since my youth." When Jesus heard this, he said to him, "There is still one thing lacking. Sell all that you own and distribute the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me." But when he heard this, he became sad; for he was very rich. Jesus looked at him and said, "How hard it is for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God! Indeed, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God." Those who heard it said, "Then who can be saved?" He replied, "What is impossible for mortals is possible for God."

**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.

\* 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.



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.

## **M**

## Літургійні частини Українською мовою:

Глас 2, текст з книги "Божественна Літургія Святого Івана Золотоустого"; ст. 90-92

#### Апостол: До Колосян послання Святого Апостола Павла читання: (Кол. 3, 12-16)

Браття і Сестри, вдягніться, отже, як вибрані Божі, святі й любі, у серце спочутливе, доброту, смиренність, лагідність, довготерпеливість, терплячи один одного й прощаючи одне одному взаемно, коли б хтось мав на кого скаргу. Так, як Господь простив вам, чиніть і ви так само. А над усе будьте в любові, що є зв'язок досконалости, і нехай панує в сериях ваших мир Христовий, до якого ви були покликані, в одному тілі, та й будьте вдячні. Слово Христове



нехай у вас перебуває шедро: навчайтесь у всякій мудрості й напоумлюйте одні одних, співаючи Богові з подякою від свого серия псалми, гимни та духовні пісні.

#### **Євангеліє**: (Лк. 18,18-27)

У той час приступив до Ісуса один знатний і спитав: "Учителю благий, що мені робити, щоб успадкувати життя вічне?" А Ісус озвавсь до нього: "Чому мене звеш благим? Ніхто не благий, хіба один Бог. Ти заповіді знаєш: не перелюбствуй, не вбивай, не кради, не свідкуй ложно, шануй свого батька і матір." Той же відповів: "Все це я зберіг змалку." Почувши те Ісус, сказав до нього: "Одного ще тобі бракує: продай усе, що маєш, і роздай бідним, і будеш мати скарб на небі; тоді прийди і йди слідом за мною." Почувши це, той засмутився вельми, бо був дуже багатий. Глянув Ісус на нього й мовив: "Як тяжко тим, що багатства мають, увійти в Царство Боже! Легше пройти верблюдові крізь вушко в голці, ніж багатому ввійти в Царство Боже." А ті, що слухали, сказали: "Хто ж тоді може спастися?" Він відповів: "Неможливе в людей, можливе є в Бога."



**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.



#### >>>> ТНАК 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, talents and treasures, volunteer and organize coffee and socials, make donations, (Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> and Dec. 16 Christmas Flower donations collected \$147.00 and December 2018 Christmas Poinsettias flowers purchases at \$103.87), knowingly and unknowingly for the other people thoughtfully care and help our parish community, parishioners welcoming our guests and visitors, help with cleaning, and actively participate at

different parish projects and programs, 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 Alexander Sora on his birthday (Jan. 22<sup>nd</sup>), Mr. Edward Kaskiw on his birthday (Jan. 24<sup>th</sup>), and all those



parishioners who celebrate their birthdays, heavely patron's /saint's name-days, wedding anniversaries and any other special anniversaries this week – Mnohaya i Blahaya Lita!

#### **NEWS and ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

#### 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 TO COME AND PARTICIPATE IN OUR PARISH COFFE AND FELLOWSHIP AT THE CHURCH HALL TODAY FOLLOWING THE DIVINE LITURGY TODAY! Christmas Carolling All English and

Ukrainian speaking parishioners wishing to participate at our parish Christmas carolling visitations or to be visited, please contact Mrs. Olena Fedorov, Dob. Marichka or Rev. Fr. Pavlo Myts. Please, sign up the list.

Refrigerator at the Parish Kitchen is Needed: If you have a used but still good working regrigerator and can donate it toward our parish kitchen use – it will be truly appreciated

**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.

Volunteers for Sunday coffee socials and clean-ups are needed – please continue putting your name on the calendar posted in the church hall. If you can help out, please, let us know. Your help is truly appreciated!

PLEASE, REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR: yourselves, Most Reverend Bishop-Emeritus Severian Yakymyshyn, Lucy D., Janet F., Alex R., Volodymyr P., Ivan L., Ray Saranchuk, Cameron V., Rose Ostopowich, Keyton A., Ric B., Rocio A., Kit C., Shirley C., Peter Dranchuk, Sandra Sh., Patricia U., Olga Kuzyk, Anthony and Victoria Huziak, George and Mary Dashkewytch, Olga Romanyshyn, Myron Stec, Kay Ilnitski, Kalyna Kociuba, William Shuya, Bronie Huska, Peter Huska, Stanley and Roma Nowakowski (Bishop Ken's parents), Barbara and Vincent Pasternak, Dorothy Scott, Lorraine Turcotte, Dr. Nadia Popil, the Hillman Family, Ann Boitson, Sandra Shynkaryk, John and Ann Bulych, Rosa Maria Santos and 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 or her know that our parish community misses this brother or sister at the church very much and prays for them daily!** 

We also pray for the people of Ukraine, that with the help of the Holy Spirit, they may obtain social peace, political harmony and economic stability: Lord, hear us and have mercy.

**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.

Theophany/Jordan Home Blessing and Pastoral Annual Visitations sign up list to arrange the actual date between January 9<sup>th</sup> and January 31<sup>st,</sup> 2019 is available at the entrance to the church and at the church hall.

#### Why Do We Bless Homes?

The blessing of homes constitutes an invocative blessing, meaning that by his prayer and by the sprinkling of Holy Water the priest invokes God's blessings and protection upon the home and those living in it. We bless homes for many reasons:

*†* to reveal the home as what God had created it to be, a way to Heaven

to rid the home of every evil  $\dagger$  to show that the family is a small Church unit in Christ  $\dagger$ 

*†* to consecrate the home and all activity in it to God *†* to fill the home and all who live in it with the fullness of God

Bless our home as we come and go.

Bless our home as our children grow.

Bless our families as they gather in;

Bless our home with love and friends.

Traditionally, the priest personally visits all his parishioners each year to pray with them in the place where they live, and to bless their surroundings with the newly sanctified water of Theophany. By sanctifying our homes we extend the grace of God to our individual dwellings.

Just as our souls, so also our homes become tainted by the sins of those living in them and consequently lose God's protective power. We cleanse our souls of sins at least once a year and the church is blessed with the newly blessed water every year, so should our homes be sanctified with Holy Water to invoke God's blessings and protection on it and its inhabitants. As we renew the insurance on our home every year, so we should renew our insurance of God's protection and His blessing which is of greater importance and more effective. *What should we do during a home blessing?* As we welcome our priest during the holy season of Theophany to bless our home, let us be mindful that he is bringing to us the "blessing of the Jordan," and that unless God protects and blesses our home, we "labour in vain." (Ps. 12 7:1)

Each family is considered a small church and the family table is the home altar. When the priest comes, have as many family members there as possible. If you do not have an icon corner, ensure that you set up a place for prayer either

at the kitchen or dining table. On the table include an icon and a lit candle. You may also include anything that you may want to have blessed (i.e. icon, cross, personal item, etc.) Make sure that the lights are on in every room. The priest will begin the blessing at the icon corner or table. If you have children, they may lead the priest, while holding a candle, to each room in the house. This is also a wonderful time for you and your priest to visit and to get to know each other better.

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! *Every parishioner is personally responsible before God for our spiritual home-parish-church!* 



**BE A STEWARD**: Have you ever wondered what more can you do to help our parish-church? 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!

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)

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.

Please, share to Kelowna Food Bank. A special box is located at the church vestibule.



ZABAVA: an evening of dance, fun, and socializing at our Ukrainian Cultural Centre/ parish hall on Saturday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019 A.D. Doors are open at 5 pm, Potluck Supper at 6 pm, Tickets \$ 5 per person (all donations will be going to support our church), Children FREE. Everyone is welcome!



#### $\star$ Knights of Columbus invite you to join them at

their 45<sup>th</sup> annual service club banquet (Brotherhood Banquet) on Wednesday, February 6<sup>th</sup>. 2019 at the **Rutland Centennial Hall (180 Rutland Road North).** The evening will start with dinner at 6:30 pm followed by introduction of dignitaries and a guest speaker. Cost of \$ 20.00 per (payable at the door). Everyone welcome. For more information call Victor at 250-860-7612

**Holy Resurrection Parish in Penciton, BC 2019 Annual Parish General Meeting will take place after the Divine** Liturgy on on Saturday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019 A.D.

Rachel's Corner: "I came here full of fear and discovered that I could release all my pain here, and now I feel an immense



peace and relief. I have learned on this retreat, that I am worthwhile...what I did is in the past and does not define who I am." -Testimonial from Retreat

Have you believed that your abortion experience defined who you were? Come on a Rachel's Vineyard<sup>TM</sup> Retreat and release all that keeps you from His tender and merciful love, which is the only definition you need.

**Healing after Abortion Ministry**: 250-762-2273 info@rachelsvineyardkelowna.com or information and registration visit: www.rachelsvineyardkelowna.com, Facebook: *Rachel's Vineyard Kelowna* 

**Traditional and Very Delicious Ukrainian Food is available for sale at our parish**: Perogies - \$ 6.00 per dozen, Cabbage Rolls (and filled in with rise and buckwheat, cooked) - \$ 6.00 per dozen, Borshch - \$ 7.00 per a jar, For more information, please contact Mrs. Alice Pelechaty at 250-763-4870.

2019 Annual Parish General Meeting will take place on Sunday, February 24, 2019 after the 9:00 am Divine Liturgy On that day there will be only one bilingual Divine Liturgy. We are now preparing for the election of the new Parish Council for the year 2019.

Brothers and Sisters in Christ, we are inviting and encouraging parishioners (especially all our wise and experienced seniorparishioners) to volunteer and form the Nominating Committee and suggest candidates for replacement council. Until nomination committee finalized suggestions for candidates may be placed in the Suggestion Box located in our church hallway or personally passed to Council Chairperson Mr. Neil Lalach or pastor Rev. Fr. Pavlo Myts. Position of our Parish Council Officer is a blessing and wonderful opportunity to show your talents, knowledge, experience and care serving the best to the Almighty God in our spiritual, Christian family of the Dormition of the Mother of God Ukrainian Catholic Church in Kelowna, BC!

Parish Constitution states saying: 'The Parish Council must be representative of the faithful of the parish and of the various parish-related ogranizations that exist within its boundaries. Potential members of the Parish Council should have certain basic qualifications such as a keen desire to help, as well the ability to listen, reflect, and express themselves with care.' (*Chapter III, Article 1, Sections 1 and 2*)

#### **Descriptions of responsabilities and ministry** (cf. Chapter III, Articles 2, 3, 4, 5,)

#### of each officer-member of the parish council are:

**Chairperson of the Parish Council** is elected at the Annual General Meeting. He/She is responsible for drawing up the agenda; calling for, directing and charing parish council meetings; seeing that the program of activities decided upon and ratified by the pastor are implemented; is a signing officer, an ex-officio member of all parish committees. He/She prepares the chairperson's report for presentation at the AGM.

**Vice-Chairperson** is elected at the Annual General Meeting. He/She is presiding at the all Parish Council Meetings in the absence of the Chairperson; carrying out such duties as are assigned by the Parish Council, the Chairperson or Pastor.

**Recording Secretary** is elected at the Annual General Meeting. He/She is keeping the minutes of all Parish Council Meetings; together with the Pastor and the Chairperson signs the adopted minutes of the Council.

**Financial Secretary** is elected at the Annual General Meeting. He/She is monitoring all funds received by the

# Fundraising CONCERT

To benefit our refugee families.

# ARNIE'S ANGELS PLUS ONE

#### Featuring:

Arnold Draper, piano; St. Charles Garnier's own Karen Krout, Violin; Annette Brower, Viola; Hilary Langton, Viola; Bonnie Hrabchuk, Cello





Who's the Plus One?

Christine Moore, Principal Flute Okanagan Symphony Orchestra.

# Sunday, February 10th, 2019 2:00 p.m. St. Charles Garnier Church <sup>3645</sup> Benvoulin Road, Kelowna, BC By donation.

parish and ensure that all such funds are doposited in the parish bank account; keeping accurate records of all income and expenditures; keeps in in order and preserves documents, records and books of parish finances. He/She is a signing officer, together with the pastor, for property approved financial transactions. He/She presents at the AGM the statements of income and expences, as well as the balance sheet, for the calendar year as prepared by him or her or, where necessary, by an independent accounting firm.

**Treasurer** is elected at the Annual General Meeting. He/She is greatly helping the financial secretary to monitore all funds received by the parish and ensure that all such funds are doposited in the parish bank account; keeping accurate records of all income and expenditures (paying all invoices-bills and reimbursments); keeps in in order and preserves documents, records and books of parish finances. He/She is a signing officer, together with the pastor, for property approved financial transactions.

It is also very important to have active and carrying representatives (a leader and helpers) at different Parish Comeettees such as: Liturgical, Pastoral, Educational, Youth Ministry, Maintance, Kitchen, Social, Public Relations.

# **Pope Francis teaches:**

## Word of God is not ideology, it is life that makes us grow

What does it mean for a Christian to have a "perverse heart," a heart that can lead to faintheartedness, ideology, and compromise? That was the theme of Pope Francis' homily Thursday morning at the Mass at Casa Santa Marta.

"Take care, brothers, that none of you may have an evil and unfaithful heart, so as to forsake the living God." This is the harsh "message", the "warning" as Pope Francis calls it, that the author of the Letter to the Hebrews addresses to the Christian community in today's liturgy. The Pope warns that the Christian community, in all its components - "priests, nuns, bishops" - runs this danger of "slipping towards a perverse heart".

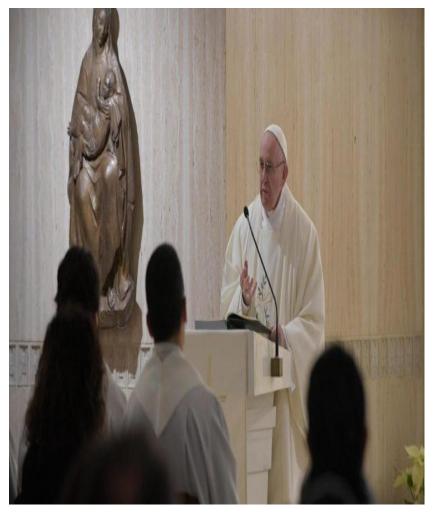
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But what does this warning mean to us? The Pope focuses on three words, again taken from the First Reading, which can help us to understand: "hardness", "obstinacy", and "seduction".

Fainthearted Christians, without the courage to live

A hard heart is a "closed" heart, "that does not want to grow, that defends itself, that is closed in on itself". In life this can happen because of many factors; as, for example, a "great sorrow", because, as the Pope explains, "blows harden the skin". It happened, he said, to the disciples of Emmaus, as well as to St Thomas the Apostle. And whoever remains in this "bad attitude" is "fainthearted"; and a "cowardly heart is perverse": *We can ask ourselves: Do I have a hard heart; do I have a closed heart? Do I let my heart grow? Am I afraid that it will grow? And we always grow with trials, with difficulties, we grow as we all grow as children: we learn to walk [by] falling. From crawling to walking, how many times we have fallen! But we grow through difficulties. Hardness. And, what amounts to the same thing, being closed. But who remains in this? "Who are they, father?" They are the fainthearted. Faintheartedness is an ugly attitude in a Christian, he lacks the courage to live. He is closed off…* 

*Obstinate Christians, ideologues.* The second word is "obstinacy": In the Letter to the Hebrews we read, "Exhort each other every day, as long as this today lasts, so that none of you may be obstinate"; and this is "the accusation that Stephen makes to those who will stone him afterwards". Obstinacy is "spiritual stubbornness": an obstinate heart – explains Pope Francis - is "rebellious", is



"stubborn", is closed in by its own thought, is not "open to the Holy Spirit". This is the profile of "ideologues", and of the proud and the arrogant: Ideology is a [kind of] obstinacy. The Word of God, the grace of the Holy Spirit is not ideology: it is life that makes you grow, always, [that makes you] go forward, and also opens your heart to the signs of the Spirit, to the signs of the times. But obstinacy is also pride, it is arrogance. Stubbornness, that stubbornness that does so much harm: closed-hearted, hard – the first word – those are the fainthearted; the stubborn, the obstinate, as the text says the ideologues are. But do I have a stubborn heart? Each one should consider this. Am I able to listen to other people? And if I think differently, do I say, "But I think this..." Am I capable of dialogue? The obstinate don't dialogue, they don't know how, because they always defend themselves with ideas, they are ideologues. And how much harm do ideologues do to the people of God, how much harm! Because they close the way to the work of the Holv Spirit.

Compromising Christians, slaves to seduction. Finally, in order to help us understand how not to slip into the risk of having a perverse heart, the Pope reflects on the word "seduction": the seduction of sin, used by the devil, the "great seducer", "a great theologian but without faith, with hatred", who wants to "enter and dominate" the heart and knows how to do it. So, concludes the Pope, a "perverse heart is one that lets itself be seduced; and seduction leads him to obstinacy, to closure, and to many other things": And with seduction, either you convert and change your life or you try to compromise: but a little here and a little there, a little here and a little there. "Yes, yes, I follow the Lord, but

I like this seduction, but just a little..." And you're starting to lead a double Christian life. To use the word of the great Elijah to the people of Israel at that moment: "You limp from both legs". To limp from both legs, without having one set firmly. It is the life of compromise: "Yes, I am a Christian, I follow the Lord, yes, but I let this in...". And this is what the lukewarm are like, those who always compromise: Christians of compromise. We, too, often do this: compromise. Even when the Lord lets us know the path, even with the commandments, also with the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, but I prefer something else, and I try to find a way to go down two tracks, limping on both legs.

The Pope concludes, "may the Holy Spirit, therefore, enlighten us so that no one may have a perverse heart: a hard heart, which will lead you to faintheartedness; a stubborn heart that will lead you to rebellion, that will lead you to ideology; a heart that is seduced, a slave to seduction".

By Vatican News: https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope-francis/mass-casa-santa-marta/2019-01/word-of-god-is-notideology-it-is-life-that-makes-us-grow.html





• **Bequests and Wills:** Leaving a bequest is a process of giving a donation through your will. It is simply a distribution from your estate to a charitable organization through your last will and testament. It can be as small or as large a donation as you wish. It is important that you talk to your lawyer about the process.

In your kindness please remember Resurrection of Jesus Christ Ukrainian Catholic Parish in Penticton, BC and Dormition of the Mother of God Ukrainian Catholic Church in Kelowna, BC in your bequests and wills. If anyone wishes to make such a bequest in their will, the following clause may be included or added to a will: "I give, devise, and bequeath to Dormition of the Mother of God Ukrainian Catholic Church at 1091 Coronation Avenue, Kelowna, BC V1Y 7A8 or to Resurrection of Jesus Christ Ukrainian Catholic Parish in Penticton, BC, the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_(or \_\_\_% of my estate), to be used for the benefit of the church/parish and it's needs and pastoral ministry."