



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

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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](http://www.nweparchy.ca)

### **14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost** **Sunday after the Exaltation of the Holy Cross Неділя** **після Воздвиження Чесного Хреста**

- September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019 A.D.

“The Church witnesses liturgically to this in the Feast of the Exaltation of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross (September 14/27), when we contemplate the Life-Giving Cross in the light of Holy Pascha: “To your Cross, O Master, we bow in veneration; and we glorify your holy Resurrection.” The Lord voluntarily took upon himself the sin of the world and transfigured the cross of death into a sign of the Resurrection, having trampled death by death, and granted us eternal life.” – № 140, *Christ Our Pascha: Catechism of the Ukrainian Catholic Church*

**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: Glory to Jesus Christ! – Glory to Him Forever! Слава Ісусу Христу! – Слава на Віку!**  
**Slava Isusu Chrystu! – Slava na Viky! Christ is among us! – He is and will be!**

### ***Liturgical and Sacramental Celebrations:***

Mon., Sept. 16<sup>th</sup> - 6:30 p.m. Moleben to Blessed Virgin Mary

Tue., Sept. 17<sup>th</sup> - 9:30 a.m. The Divine Liturgy: *God's blessing for Mr. Roman and Mrs. Sofia Myts and Family*

Thurs., Sept. 19<sup>th</sup> - 9:30 a.m. The Divine Liturgy: *Special intention for Sr. Katherine Godfrey*

Fri., Sept. 20<sup>th</sup> - 9:30 a.m. The Divine Liturgy: *repose of the soul of Mr. Stefan Gudz*

(40<sup>th</sup> Day Memorial service requested by Mrs. Krystyna Werbowy and Family)

Sat., Sept. 21<sup>st</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, September 22<sup>nd</sup> – 8:15 a.m. Rosary: **(Service in Kelowna, BC)**

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

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

### **Liturgical Propers in English language:**

#### *First Antiphon:*

*Verse 1:* O God, my God, hear me; why have You forsaken me? The words of my transgressions put salvation far from me (Ps 21:2).

*Refrain:* Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Saviour, save us.

*Verse 2:* O God, I will call to You by day but You will not listen; and by night, yet it will not be foolish of me (Ps 21:3).

*Refrain:* Through the prayers of the Mother of God O Saviour, save us.

*Verse 3:* But You, the praise of Israel, dwell in the holy place (Ps 21:4).

*Refrain:* Through the prayers of the Mother of God O Saviour, save us.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. Now and for ever and ever. Amen.**

**Only-Begotten Son...** (p. 23)

Third Antiphon:

Refrain after every verse: **Son of God, crucified in the flesh, save us who sing to You: Alleluia.**

**Troparion** (Tone 5): Let us the faithful acclaim and worship the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, and born of the Virgin for our salvation. For He willed to be lifted up on the cross in the flesh, to suffer death and to raise the dead by His glorious resurrection.

**Troparion** (Tone 1): Save Your people, O Lord, and bless Your inheritance. Grant victory to Your faithful people against enemies and protect Your community by Your cross.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.**

**Kontakion** (Tone 4): By Your own choice, O Christ our God, You were lifted on the cross. Grant Your mercies to Your new community that bears Your name. By Your power gladden the faithful people and grant them victory against enemies. May they have the help of Your instrument of peace, the invincible sign of victory.

**Now and for ever and ever. Amen.**

**Theotokion** (Tone 5): Rejoice, O impassable door of the Lord! Rejoice, O rampart and protection of those who have recourse to You! Rejoice, O tranquil haven and Virgin, who have birth in the flesh to Your Maker and God! Fail not to intercede for those who sing and worship the Child You bore.

**Prokimenon** (Tone 5): You, O Lord, will guard us and will keep us from this generation, and forever (Ps 11:8).

**Verse:** Save me, O Lord, for there is no longer left a just man (Ps 11:2).

**Prokimenon** (Tone 7): Exalt the Lord our God, and bow in worship at the footstool of His feet for it is holy (Ps 98:5)

**Epistle: A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Galatians (Gal. 2:16-20)**

Brothers and Sisters, knowing that a man is not justified by legal observance but by faith in Jesus Christ, we too have believed in Him in order to be justified by faith in Christ, not by observance of the law; for by works of the law no one will be justified. But if, in seeking to be justified in Christ, we are shown to be sinners, does that mean that Christ is encouraging sin? Unthinkable! If, however, I were to build up the very things I had demolished, I should then indeed be a transgressor. It was through the law that I died to the law, to live for God. I have been crucified with Christ, and the life I live now is not my own; Christ is living in me. I still live my human life, but it is a life of faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.



**Alleluia** (Tone 5): Your mercies, O Lord, I will sing forever; from generation to generation I will announce Your truth with my mouth (Ps 88:2). For You have said: Mercy shall be built up for ever; in the heavens Your truth shall be prepared (Ps 88:3). Remember Your congregation which You acquired from the beginning (Ps 73:2).

**Gospel: (Mk. 8:34-9:1)**

The Lord said: "If a man wishes to come after me, he must deny his very self, take up his cross, and follow in my steps. Whoever would preserve his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will preserve it. What profit does a man show who gains the whole world and destroys himself in the process? What can a man offer in exchange for his life? If anyone in this faithless and corrupt age is ashamed of me and my doctrine, the Son of Man will be ashamed of him when he comes with the holy angels in his Father's glory." He also said to them: "I assure you, among those standing here there are some who will not taste death until they see the reign of God established in power."

Instead of "It is truly...": **O my soul, magnify the most precious Cross of the Lord.** Irmos (Tone 8): You are a mystical Paradise, O Mother of God, who though untilled, have brought forth Christ. He has planted upon earth the life-giving Tree of the Cross. Therefore, today as we raise it on high we bow low and we magnify you.

Communion Verses: Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise Him in the highest (Ps 148:1). Let the light of Your countenance, O Lord, shine upon us (Ps 4:7). Alleluia! (3x)

Upon completion of the Liturgy we venerate the Holy Cross: **To Your Cross, O Master, we bow in veneration, and we glorify Your holy Resurrection** (3x).

**Літургійні частини Українською мовою:****Антифон 1:**

Стих 1: Боже, Боже мій, зваж на мене, чому Ти оставив мене? Далеко від спасення мого слова гріхопадінь моїх (Пс. 21,2).

Приспів: Молитвами Богородиці, Спасе, спаси нас.

Стих 2: Боже мій, закличу вдень і не вислухаєш, і вночі, і не в безумство мені (Пс. 21,3).

Приспів: Молитвами Богородиці, Спасе, спаси нас.

Стих 3: А Ти у святому живеш, хвало ізраїлева (Пс. 21,4).

Приспів: Молитвами Богородиці, Спасе, спаси нас.

**Слава Отцю, і Сину, і Святому Духові, і нині, і повсякчас, і на віки віків. Амінь.**

**Антифон 3:**

Приспів: Спаси нас, Сину Божий, що плоттю розп'явся, співаємо Тобі: Алілуя.

**Тропар** (глас 5): Рівнобезначальне з Отцем і Духом Слово, що від Діви народилося на спасіння наше, прославмо, вірні, і поклонімся, бо Воно благозволило тілом зійти на хрест і смерть перетерпіти, і воскресити померлих славним воскресінням Своім.

**Тропар** (глас 1): Спаси, Господи, людей Твоїх і благослови насліддя Твоє, перемоги благовірному народові на супротивників даруй і хрестом Твоїм охорони люд Твій.

**Слава Отцю, і Сину, і Святому Духові.**

**Кондак** (глас 4): Вознісся Ти на хрест волею Своєю. Новому людові Твоєму, що Твоє ім'я носить, даруй щедроти Твої, Христе Боже. Возвесели силою Твоєю благовірний народ, перемоги на супротивників дай йому, що за посібник має Твоє оружжя миру, непоборну перемогу.

**І нині, і повсякчас, і на віки вічні. Амінь.**

**Богородичний** (глас 5): Радуйся, Брамо Господня, непрохідна! Радуйся, Охороно і Покрове тих, що до Тебе приходять! Радуйся, тиха Пристане і Вседіво, що Свого Творця і Бога тілом породила! Молись безупинно за тих, що прославляють і почитають Народоженого від Тебе.

**Прокімен** (глас 5): Ти, Господи, збережеш нас і захистиш нас від роду цього і повік. (Пс. 11, 8).

Стих: Спаси мене, Господи, бо не стало праведного (Пс. 11, 2).

**Прокімен** (глас 7): Возносіть Господа Бога нашого і поклоняйтеся підніжжю ніг Його, бо святе воно (Пс. 98,5).

**Апостол: ДО ГАЛАТІВ ДО ПОСЛАННЯ СВ. АПОСТОЛА ПАВЛА ЧИТАННЯ** (ГАЛ. 2,16-20)

*Браття і Сестри*, довідавшись, що людина оправдується не ділами закону, а через віру в Ісуса Христа, ми й увірували в Христа Ісуса, щоб оправдатися нам вірою в Христа, а не ділами закону; бо ніхто не оправдається ділами закону. Коли ж, шукаючи оправдання у Христі, виявилось, що й ми самі грішники, – то невже Христос – служитель гріха? Жадним робом! Бо коли я знову відбудовую те, що зруйнував був, то я себе самого оголошую переступником. Я бо через закон для закону вмер, щоб для Бога жити: я – розп'ятий з Христом. Живу вже не я, а живе Христос у мені. А що живу тепер у тілі, то живу вірою в Божого Сина, який полюбив мене й видав себе за мене.



**Алилуя** (глас 5): Милості Твої, Господи, оспівуватиму повік, і з роду в рід сповіщу устами моїми Твою вірність. (Пс. 88, 2). Бо сказав Ти: Повік милість збудується, на небесах приготується істина Твоя. (Пс. 88, 3). Пом'яни соньм Твій, що його придбав Ти издавна (Пс. 73, 2).

**Євангеліє:** (Мр 8,34-9,1)

*Сказав Господь: "Коли хтось хоче йти за мною, хай зречеться себе самого, візьме на себе хрест свій і йде слідом за мною. Бо хто хоче спасти свою душу, той її погубить; а хто погубить свою душу мене ради та Євангелії, той її спасе. Бо яка користь людині здобути світ увесь, а занепастити свою душу? Що бо людина може дати взамін за власну душу? Хто, отже, буде соромитися мене й моїх слів перед цим родом перелюбним та грішним, того посоромиться і Син Чоловічий, коли прийде у славі Отця свого з святими ангелами." І сказав їм: "Істинно кажу вам: Є деякі з отут присутніх, що не зазнають смерти, аж поки не вздріють Царства Божого, що прийде у могутності."*

**Замість Достойно співаємо:** Величай, душе моя, Господа, пречесний хрест Господень.

**Ірмос:** Таїнственный рай Ти, Богородице, що неводільно виростила Христа. Він на землі насадив хресне життєносне древо. Йому, що Його нині возносять, поклоняючись, Тебе величаємо.

**Причасний:** Хваліте Господа з небес, хваліте Його на висотах. (Пс. 148, 1) Знаминувалося на нас світло лица Твого, Господи (Пс. 4, 7). Алилуя (х3).

**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.**

**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, talents and treasures, volunteered at parish projects, volunteered, make donations, spent many hours by fixing the church door, cut the lawn, helped at the church kitchen, beautifully decorated the cross, everyone who knowingly and unknowingly for the other people thoughtfully care and help our parish community, parishioners welcoming our guests and visitors, prayerfully participate at the church services, 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 Mr. Ivan and Mrs. Tetiana Kalynych on their 10<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary (Sept. 5<sup>th</sup>), and to all who celebrate their birthdays, heavenly patron's name-days and all our parishioners and family members who celebrate their birthdays, heavenly patron's /saint's name-days, wedding anniversaries and any other special anniversaries this week – Mnohaya i Blahaya Lita!



**NEWS and ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**A WARM WELCOME TO OUR PARISHIONERS, GUESTS AND VISITORS WHO HAVE JOINED**

**US IN THIS DIVINE LITURGY. THANK YOU FOR PRAYERFUL PRESENCE AND FULLFILLING GOD'S COMANDMENT BY COMING TO THE CHUCH:**

**EVERYONE IS VERY WELCOME TO COME AND ATTEND CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP AT THE CHURCH HALL TODAY!**

**Wishing you to be guided by the Holy Spirit, blessed with joy, peace and Christian love always!**

**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., Deanna M, Danny M, Jordan M., Kit C., Shirley C., Peter Dranchuk, Olga Kuzyk, Anthony and Victoria Huziak, George and Mary Dashkewytch, Olga Romanyshyn, Myron Stec, Kay Ilnitski, Kalyna Kociuba, William Shuya, Maria Pylypchuk, Bronie Huska, Peter Huska, Stanley and Roma Nowakowski (Bishop Ken's parents), Barbara and Vincent Pasternak, Lorraine Turcotte, Dr. Nadia Popil, the Hillman Family, John and Ann Bulych, Joseph Stetch, Rosa Maria Santos, Anita N., Ron and Verna Shoemaker, Jonas and Anne, Alyssa and Adam, Mark and Asia, Karen

Feniuk, Volodymyr Melnyk and all members of our parish family 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.*

❖ **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.*

#### Pastoral and Sacramental Ministry:

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

**Reconciliation:** on Sundays and Holy Days: before Liturgies and other days, by appointment. **Holy Communion:** for the sick, by appointment, any time, **Holy Unction** (Anointing of the Sick): Those anticipating surgery, hospitalization or treatments and who would like to receive anointing (by appointment, any time)

**Funerals and Memorials:** by appointment. \* 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.*

❖ **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 Mrs. Yvonne Crawford or Fr. Pavlo for more information. You will be amazed how "BEING" can make a difference at our spiritual, parish life!

❖ **CATECHISM ANNOUNCEMENT:** "And they were bringing to Him also the infants, in order that He may be touching them; but after the disciples saw it, they rebuked them. But Jesus called them to Himself and said, Let alone the little children to come to Me, and cease hindering them; for of such is the kingdom of God." ([Matthew 19:14](#)) We are happy to welcome all children to our Dormition of the Mother of God parish catechism program. We want your children to learn more about their orthodox faith in the Catholic Church, sacred scripture, feast days, icons, singing and religious practices and customs of the Ukrainian Catholic Church. If you have any questions, please, do not hesitate to contact Mrs. Marilyn Daulat or Rev. Fr. Pavlo Myts.

❖ **UKRAINIAN LANGUAGE PARISH SCHOOL:** If you want your child or grandchild to learn Ukrainian language during this 2019-2020 school year – please, contact Mrs. Olena Fedorov or Dob. Mariia Myts.





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!***

❖ **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!

❖ **If you wish to help or have any questions, suggestions, ideas about our parish community life, please, contact our parish executive council chairperson Mrs. Yvonne Crawford.** Email: [Donoharmclinic@gmail.com](mailto:Donoharmclinic@gmail.com) or phone: **250-212-4899**



**Rachel's Corner:** *"There is no sin God cannot forgive. Only the ones who refuse God's mercy cannot be forgiven, like someone who wants light and warmth but avoids the sun."*

- Rev. Fr. Joseph Rinaldo, SDC/ Now and at the Hour Magazine

Have you been avoiding facing your involvement in an abortion decision? Come on a Rachel's Vineyard Retreat and receive God's mercy and forgiveness.

Join us on a Rachel's Vineyard™ Retreat. Join us on a Rachel's Vineyard Retreat and let the healing begin. Life can be so much better. Give yourself the chance. Join us on a Rachel's Vineyard™ Retreat and come alive again as you are warmed by the rays of His healing mercy. [www.RachelsVineyardKelowna.com](http://www.RachelsVineyardKelowna.com) [info@rachelsvineyardkelowna.com](mailto:info@rachelsvineyardkelowna.com)

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**CANADIAN CONFERENCE  
OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS**

**September 2019 | Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops | Permanent Council After the Plenary Assembly of Bishops itself, as the second highest instance of authority within the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB), the Permanent Council, acting on behalf of (and reporting to) the former, is authorized to speak on behalf of the entire membership of the CCCB between plenary meetings, among its other responsibilities. Elected for a two-year term by the members present at the Plenary Assembly, the Council is composed of a minimum of 12 Bishops, equally represented by English and French speaking parts of the country. Voting as Catholics: 2019 Federal Election Guide © Concacan Inc., 2019. All rights reserved. This resource may be reproduced without permission for noncommercial purposes by dioceses/ eparchies, parishes and other religious organizations. For all other usage, please contact [permissions@cccba.ca](mailto:permissions@cccba.ca). Code: 185-130 ISBN: 978-0-88997-863-8 Legal Deposit: Library and Archives Canada, Ottawa**

## **VOTING AS CATHOLICS 2019 Federal Election Guide**

### **Voting: A Right and Responsibility**

Canadian Catholics are being called upon as citizens to exercise their right to vote. The Church encourages and reasserts its belief in "the political freedom and responsibility of citizens."<sup>1</sup> By exercising their right to vote, citizens fulfill their duty of choosing a government and at the same time send a clear signal to the candidates being presented by their political parties for election. The important time leading up to an election also provides Canadians with the opportunity to interact with fellow voters, one's neighbours, and the candidates themselves (particularly during their visits to neighbourhoods), raising awareness about the values, views, and concerns shared by Catholics across the country.

Political candidates are citizens, too. In addition, they assume responsibility for the well-being of the public. Their commitment and dedication are a generous contribution to society's common good. Indeed, the purpose of the political community is itself the common good, namely, "the sum of those conditions of [...] social life whereby people, families and associations more adequately and readily may attain their own perfection."<sup>2</sup>



### ***Working to Build a Better Society***

While Christian beliefs do not constitute a political platform, they can be seen as a prism through which to analyze and evaluate government policies, laws, and programs. The principles of respect for life from conception to natural death and of the dignity of the human person should influence how Christians assess a party's position on key moral issues. Choosing life also means being always concerned for the weakest among us – physically, economically, and socially. It likewise implies the protection of the most fundamental human rights, including the right to religious freedom and freedom of conscience.

A more just society is also built when we live in solidarity and dialogue with different social partners, including Indigenous Peoples, as well as by supporting families and ensuring adequate funding for education, healthcare, housing, and the prevention and treatment of addictions.

Working with fellow citizens to address social concerns is fundamentally built on a view of the person inherently belonging to a community. To ensure our communities are truly welcoming and humane, we must also combat all forms of poverty, which inevitably result in the segregation and isolation of individuals.

### ***Canada in the World: Providing Leadership for Justice and Peace***

Believing in justice and peace includes daring to take a stand against the arms trade and against human trafficking, which exploits young people and workers. It means entering into international treaties that respect the planet, our common home, as well as tirelessly working for the expansion of peace everywhere.

### ***Voting Means Using Your Judgment***

Exercising the right to vote means making informed and discerning judgments about the options available. There are times, however, when making a decision about who to vote for may prove very difficult. The Church reminds us that “in this context, it must be noted also that a well-formed Christian conscience does not permit one to vote for a political program or an individual law in which the fundamental content of faith and morals is replaced by the introduction of proposals differing from this content or opposing it.”<sup>3</sup>

It is a sign of a healthy democratic community when informed and responsible citizens engage in an ongoing dialogue on major social issues with their political leaders. This is precisely the kind of community we should strive to support and develop. No less is expected of us, since all are called to take an active part in morally shaping the societies we inhabit and, Christians in particular, to defend the rights of those who are most vulnerable.

1. Second Vatican Council, *The Church in the Modern World*, n. 76.3.

2. Second Vatican Council, *The Church in the Modern World*, n. 74.1.

3. Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, *Doctrinal Note: On Some Questions Regarding the Participation of Catholics in Political Life*,

4. See also the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, n. 2242.



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