## Dormition of The Mother of God Ukrainian Catholic Church



# 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





3<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY after PENTECOST 3<sup>-тя</sup> НЕДІЛЯ після ЗІСЛАННЯ СВЯТОГО ДУХА June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021 A.D.

# "Our life must be centered on what is essential, on Jesus Christ! Everything else is secondary."

teaches, guides and reminds us all His Holiness Pope Francis I<sup>st</sup> today

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!

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

### **Prayer During the Coronavirus Outbreak:**

Lord, Our God,

We thank you for the life that is your gift, For the providence that sustains us.

And for your wisdom that directs the course of our days.

The threat of an infection of coronavirus is upon us today.

This disease causes fear among us and has claimed lives.

We humbly beg you, loving Lord,

Dispel our fear and deliver us from this and other diseases.

Heal those who are afflicted and stop the spread of the virus. Strengthen us in charity to care for one another.

For You are a God of mercy, kindness, and love, and we glorify You Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever. Amen.

### Молитва у Часі Спалаху Коронавірусу:

Господи, Боже наш,

Дякуємо Тобі за життя, яке є Твоїм даром,

За провидіння, яке нас підтримує,

І за Твою мудрість, яка спрямовує хід наших днів.

Сьогодні перед нами загроза зараження коронавірусом.

Ця хвороба викликає страх серед нас і забирає життя.

Ми смирено просимо Тебе, люблячого Господа,

Розвій наш страх і позбав нас від цієї та усіх інших хвороб.

Вилікуй тих, хто страждає, і зупини поширення вірусу.

Зміцнюй нас у благодаті, щоб ми дбали одні про одних.

Бо Ти - Бог милосердя, доброти та любові, і ми прославляємо

Тебе Отця, Сина і Святого Духа, нині, і повсякчас і на віки вічні. Амінь.

Please contact Fr. Pavlo if you want to have the Divine Liturgies celebrated in your special intentions, such as: In Thanksgiving for Favours Received, the Infirm, General Intentions, Repose of the Deceased, Help of the Holy Spirit, for the Travelers, Students, Workers, etc. In case of emergency phone (250) 299-7249. If you would like to come to Confession, meet with the parish priest individually at the church or parish office, receive spiritual care and support via telephone or internet, want him to visit you, your relative or friend at their home, hospital or care homes, please, call or email the pastor in advance to arrange time and a day.

### **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 Romans (Rm. 5:1-10)

Brethren, now that we have been justified by faith, we are at peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through Him we have gained access by faith to the grace in which we now stand, and we boast of our hope for the glory of God. But not only that – we even boast of our afflictions! We know that affliction makes for endurance, and endurance for tested virtue, and tested virtue for hope. And this hope will not leave us disappointed, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit Who has been given to us.

At the appointed time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for us, godless men. It is rare that anyone should lay down his life for a just man, though it is barely possible that for a good man someone may have the courage to die. It is precisely in this that God proves His love for us: that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Now that we have been justified by His blood, it is all the more certain that we shall be saved by Him from God's wrath. For if, when we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to Him by the death of His Son, it is all the more certain that we who have been reconciled will be saved by His life.

Gospel: (Matthew 6:22-33)

The Lord said: 'The eye is the body's lamp. If your eyes are good, your body will be filled with light; if your eyes are bad, your body will be in darkness. And if your light is darkness, how deep will the darkness be!

No man can serve two masters. He will either hate one and love the other or be attentive to one and despise the other. You cannot give yourself to God and money.

I warn you, then; do not worry about your livelihood, what you are to eat or drink or use for clothing. Is not life more than food? Is not the body valuable than clothes? Look at the birds in the sky. They do not sow or reap, they gather nothing into barns; yet your

Heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not more important that they? Which of you by worrying can add a moment to his life-span? As for clothes, why be concerned? Learn a lesson from the way the wild flowers grow. They do not work; they do not spin. Yet I assure you, not even Solomon in all his splendour was arrayed like one of these. If God can clothe in such splendour the grass of the field, which blooms today and is thrown on the fire tomorrow, will He not provide much more for you, o weak in faith!

Stop worrying, then, over questions like, 'What are we to eat, or what are we to drink, or what are we to wear?' The unbelievers are always running after these things. Your Heavenly Father knows all that you need. Seek first His Kingship over you, His way of holiness, and all these things will be given you besides.

At the conclusion of every Divine Liturgy, we say an additional prayer for peace in Ukraine, and healing of the World 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.

### Молитва Духовного Причастя

Мій Ісусе! Я вірю, що Ти присутній у цих Святих Дарах! Люблю Тебе над усе і моя душа тужить за Тобою. Не можу зараз Тебе прийняти в Євхаристії, тому хоча б духовно прийди до мого серця! Запрошую Тебе, відчиняю навстіж двері мого серця, згадаючи Твої слова: «Ось стою під дверима і стукаю. Якщо хто почує Мій голос і відчинить двері, Я увійду до нього, і буду вечеряти з ним, а він зі Мною». Я увесь єднаюся з Тобою. Ісусе, моє найвище Добро й моя солодка Любове! Торкнись мого серця і запали його, щоб воно завжди палало любов'ю до Тебе! Амінь.

### **Prayer of Spiritual Communion**

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in these Holy Gifts! I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot receive You now, I place before You my whole life and hope, O loving Master; and I ask, pray, and entreat You: Make me worthy to partake in a mystical way and with a pure conscience of Your awesome and heavenly Mysteries: for forgiveness of sins, for the pardon of offenses, for communion of the Holy Spirit, for the inheritance of the kingdom of heaven, for confidence before You, and not for judgment or condemnation.

I embrace You as You enter and abide in me, and I unite myself completely to You. Permeate my soul and body, and never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

### Літургійні частини Українською мовою:

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

### Апостол: До Римлян послання Святого Апостола Павла читання: (Рм. 5, 1-10)

Браття і Сестри, оправдані ж вірою, ми маємо мир з Богом через Господа нашого Ісуса Христа, через якого ми вірою одержали доступ до тієї ласки, що в ній стоїмо і хвалимося надією на славу Божу. Та й не тільки це, але ми хвалимось і в утисках, знаючи, що утиск виробляє терпеливість, терпеливість — досвід, а досвід надію. Надія ж не засоромить, бо любов Бога влита в серця наші Святим Духом, що нам даний. Христос бо, тоді як ми були ще безсилі, у свою пору, помер за безбожних. Воно навряд чи хто за праведника вмирає; бо за доброго, може, хтось і відважився б умерти. Бог же показує свою до нас любов тим, що Христос умер за нас, коли ми ще були грішниками.

Отож, тим більш тепер, оправдані його кров'ю, ми спасемося ним від гніву. Бо коли, бувши ворогами, ми примирилися з Богом смертю Його Сина, то тим більше тепер, примирившися, спасемося його життям.

**Євангеліє**: (Мт. 6, 22-33)

Сказав Господь: "Світло тіла – око. Як, отже, твоє око здорове, все тіло твоє буде світле. А коли твоє око лихе, все тіло твоє буде в темряві. Коли ж те світло, що в тобі, темрява, то темрява – якою ж великою буде! Ніхто не може двом панам служити: бо або одного зненавидить, а другого буде любити, або триматиметься одного, а того знехтує. Не можете Богові служити – і мамоні. Ось чому кажу вам: Не турбуйтеся вашим життям, що вам їсти та що пити; ні тілом вашим, у що одягнутись. Хіба життя не більш – їжі, тіло – не більш одежі. Гляньте на птиць небесних: не сіють і не жнуть, ані не збирають у засіки, а Отець ваш небесний їх годує! Хіба ви від них не вартісніші? Хто з вас, журячись, спроможен добавити до свого віку хоч один лікоть? І про одежу чого ж вам клопотатись? Гляньте на польові лілеї, як ростуть вони: не працюють і не прядуть. Та я кажу вам, що й Соломон у всій своїй славі не вдягався так, як одна з них. І коли зілля польове, яке сьогодні є, а завтра вкидають його до печі, Бог так одягає, то чи не багато більше вас, маловірні? Отож не турбуйтеся, промовлявши: Що будемо їсти, що пити й у що зодягнемося? Про все те побиваються погани. Отець же ваш небесний знає, що вам усе це потрібне. Шукайте перше Царство Боже та його справедливість, а все те вам додасться."

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

Sincerest thanks and blessings to every person and families who thoughtfully greeted, generously supported the fundraiser (via facebook) and prayed as Christians for Fr. Pavlo on his 40th birthday celebrattion! Thank you and may God bless you!

Gratitudes to all our parishioners, guests, visitors and all Christian people of the good will who by their kindness share time, talents and treasures, every person who knowingly or unknowingly for the other people thoughtfully make donations, care and help our parish community in various ways and projects insede and outside our parish by keeping and sharing their Christian love. unity by looking after and graciously supporting our Christian, Catholic Church communities!

Donations to Dormition of The Mother of God Ukrainian Catholic Church in Kelowna, BC:

- ✓ Sunday of June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021 A.D. Divine Liturgies at 9:00 am: \$215.00 at 11:00 am: \$245.00
- ✓ June 4<sup>th</sup> June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021 A.D. Mail/drop off: \$1, 308.88 E-transfers: \$100.00

DONATIONS! Amid Covid-19 outbreak causing these difficult and challenging times we continue to rely on your generosity! Please continue to support our parish financially by e-transfer (it is a direct deposit, no security question is needed) via dormitionetransfer2020@gmail.com or mailing a cheque payable to Dormition of the Mother of God Ukrainian Catholic **Church** 1091 Coronation Ave., Kelowna, BC V1Y 7A8 Thank you for your support and care at this uneasy time for us all.

> "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)

ЩИРО ВАС ВІТАЄМО! Congratulations to a newly baptized Brother in Christ Mr. Michael Hinz, as he has received the Mysteries/Sacraments of Christian Initiation: The Baptism, The Confirmation and The Holy Eucharist at our Dormition of the Mother of God

Ukrainian Catholic Church on Friday of June 11th, 2021 A.D.! May the Almighty God lead and bless, our newly baptized brother in Christ, his wife, relatives, godparents, friends and whole our spiritual Christian family by blessing Mr. Michael Hinz and The Family for many, happy, healthy years of life - Mnohaya i Blahaya Lita!

May The Almighty God bless in good health and salvation in many, happy and blessed years of life to Christina Achtymichuk on her birthday (June 16th), Mr. Walter and Mrs. Lesia Achtymichuk on their wedding anniversary (June 17th), Mr. Walter Achtymichuk on his birthday (June 17th), Mrs. Karen Lalach on her birthday (June 17th), Mr. Chris Billinton on his birthday celebration (June 17th), Mr. Robert Kwiatkoski on his birthday (June 19th), and to all Christians celebrating their heavenly patron's name days, and any other special anniversaries this week Mnohaya i Blahaya Lita / Many Blessed Years of Life!

### **NEWS and ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

### LIVE STREAMING of church services from Dormition of the Mother of God

Ukrainian Catholic Church in Kelowna, B.C.: https://www.facebook.com/dormitionkelowna.parish.5 You can also view 24 / 7 many inspiring videos, articles, pictures, etc. are regularly published by the pastor. Please visit our parish Facebook page: DormitinionKelowna Parish: https://www.facebook.com/dormitionkelowna.parish.5

Please also welcome to visit our Cathedral Facebook page for live-stream videos of the liturgical services at Holy Eucharist Cathedral: https://www.facebook.com/holyeucharistcathedral/

Your spiritual father-pastor is praying privately for all of you daily! Please pray for one another and especially for those who are ill, pre-register to come and pray at the church following Covid-19 Pandemic safety plan, participate via facebook streamings and other on-line church services, stay healthy and safe!

Let us be responsible to ensure that we all stay safe and healthy.

https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/covid-19-provincial-

support/restrictions?utm\_campaign=20201118\_GCPE\_AM\_COVID\_1\_NOTIFICATION\_BCGOV\_BCGOV\_EN\_BC\_\_NOTIFICATION#social-gatherings

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US BY PRAYING TO THE ALMIGHTY GOD AT THE CHURCH AND ON-LINE! Wishing you and all your dear ones to be guided by the Holy Spirit, blessed with joy, peace, good health, unity, and Christian love today and always!

### Daily Liturgical and Sacramental Services celebrated during this week:

Sunday, June 13th at **8:15 a.m.** Rosary: (church services in Kelowna, BC)

at 9:00 a.m. The Divine Liturgy: God's blessings for all our parishioners, family members, all relatives and friends. (in English) 11:00 a.m. The Divine Liturgy: God's blessings for all our parishioners, family members, all relatives and friends. (in Ukrainian)

While you're sanitizing and wiping everything down, be sure to wipe the hatred and jealousy out of your heart. That's a virus too

Monday, June 14th at 10:00 a.m. The Divine Liturgy:

Tuesday, June 15th NO SERVICES. Please respect your pastor's day-off today.

Wedn., June 16<sup>th</sup> at **10:00 a.m.** The Divine Liturgy:

Thursday, June 17<sup>th</sup> at **9:00 a.m.** The Divine Liturgy:

Friday, June 18th at 10:00 a.m. repose of the soul of Mrs. Maria Darmoris (9th day memorial service)

at 7:00 p.m. Moleben to Our Lord, God and Saviour Jesus Christ

Saturday, June 19th at 3:40 p.m. Lectio Divina Bible Studies ((church services

at 4:00 p.m. The Divine Liturgy: God's blessings for all our parishioners, relatives and friends. (in Eng. and Ukr.)

Sunday, June 20th at **8:15 a.m.** Rosary: (church services in Kelowna, BC)

at 9:00 a.m. The Divine Liturgy: God's blessings for all our parishioners, family members, all relatives and friends. (in English) 11:00 a.m. The Divine Liturgy: God's blessings for all our parishioners, family members, all relatives and friends. (in Ukrainian)

### Catholic Education Prayers of the Faithful for June 2021 A.D.

- For Catholic Education: That our Catholic schools may reveal the glory of God in all that they do, we pray to the Lord.
- For Catholic Education: That the teachers in our Catholic schools may be strengthened for their important task in our world, we pray to the Lord.
- For Catholic Education: That our Catholic schools may celebrate the richness of the Catholic faith that we have inherited, we pray to the Lord.
- For Catholic Education: That our Catholic schools may inspire students to a life of love and service, we pray to the Lord.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR: Most Reverend Bishop-Emeritus Severian Yakymyshyn, Lucy D., Janet F., Volodymyr P., Ivan L., Ray Saranchuk, Cameron V., Rose Ostopowich, Keyton A., Keyton A., Dylan A., Torin S., Sabre S. Ryder M., Kit C., Shirley C., Olga Kuzyk, George Dashkewytch, Olga Romanyshyn, Kay Ilnitski, Kalyna Kociuba, William Shuya, Maria Pylypchuk, Bronie Huska, Peter Huska, Roma Nowakowski, Barbara and Vincent Pasternak, Lorraine Turcotte, Dr. Nadia Popil, the Hillman Family, John 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, Marilyn Daulat and Family, Shelley Zemliak, Ron Horon, Adeline Sorochuk and all members of our parochial family and those who are not able to join actively in our community, your families, relatives, friends and neighbours; governments and armed forces, especially the shut-in or those in the hospitals, traveling, working or studying, nursing and

senior homes, seeking God's answer to their prayers or those rejoicing with God's answer; your spiritual fathers, those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries; those called to their eternal reward and for the family they leave behind; widows and widowers, orphans, homeless, those who love us and those who hate, use & hurt us; and all people who have asked us pray for them. Please, also in your kindness keep praying those daily for vocations to the priesthood and religious life. Remember to ask for special blessings to all Christian families and yourselves! **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.

<u>SPIRIT OF CHRISTIAN AWARENESS</u>: Dear parishioners, if our brother or 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 his or her 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**: 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.

♣ Devotional Services to Blessed Vasyl Velychkovsky: Every Wednesday at 7:00 pm, Live-Streaming on the YouTube Shrine Channel: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Og0D2DhlpU Website: Bishop Velychkovsky National Martyr's Shrine: https://bvmartyrshrine.com/





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.



**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.

Please be aware and remember that your help is always appreciated, and we still need more parishioners to volunteer!

Thank you for your support and care at this uneasy Covid-19 Pandemic time for us all.

"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)

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 HELP IS ALWAYS APPRECIATED: to help out with weekly cleaning in the church, cutting the grass and maintaining the lawn, 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! Every parishioner is personally responsible before God for our spiritual home-parish church! NOTE: If you wish to place your message or announcement into our weekly parish bulletin, please sent it by email to the office at dormitionkelowna@gmail.com by no later than 3:00 p.m. on Thursday.

# Stewardship Prayer

O God, the Father of every gift, all that we are and have comes from your hand.

In Jesus Christ, your Son, you have given us the greatest of all gifts.

Fill our hearts with his love, so that we may be parish communities of faithful, caring people.

Grant us the grace to be good stewards who, in the name and spirit of Jesus, share our gifts of time, talent and treasure for the building up of your Kingdom in our Diocese and throughout the world.

May we see Our Pilgrimage of Faith Appeal as our way to live gratefully and give generously for your honor and glory.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen

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 or phone: 250-212-4899

**Traditional and Very Delicious Ukrainian Food is available for sale at our parish**: Kovbasa / Garlic Sausage - \$ 10.00 per 1-pound ring, Pie - \$ 9.00. If you need more information or to place your order, please contact Mrs. Alice Pelechaty at 250-763-4870 or Olena Fedorov at 778-821-0759.

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: <a href="https://www.nweparchy.ca">www.nweparchy.ca</a> 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, possitive and generous!** 

Rachel's Corner: "The pain of loss feels helpless because it comes from the past, and the past is a place where we have no power. We can't do anything about the past because it is already over. It no longer exists for us to control. Loss is very painful until we cross over. We must cross over form the past to the present, from what we had to what we have." - The Black Swan by Susan Anderson

Have you been suffering from that pain of loss since the day of the abortion decision? Join us on a Rachel's Vineyard™ Retreat and invite healing into that wound. Join us on a Rachel Retreat. Join men and women on a Rachel Retreat of healing. www.RachelsVineyardKelowna.com info@rachelsvineyardkelowna.com Like us on Facebook: Rachel's Vineyard

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."



# **Christian community**

Pope Francis 21.08.19 General Audience, Paul VI
Audience Hall, Rome Catechesis on the Acts of the
Apostles - General Audience Acts 4: 32-37, 5: 1-10

Dear Brothers and Sisters, Good Morning!

The <u>Christian community</u> is born from the superabundant outpouring of the Holy Spirit and it grows thanks to the leaven of sharing among brothers and sisters in Christ. There is a dynamism of solidarity which builds up the Church as the family of God, for whom the experience of koinonia is central. What does this strange word mean? It is a Greek word which

means "pooling one's goods", "sharing in common", being a community, not isolated. This is the experience of the first Christian community, that is, "communality", "sharing", "communicating, participating", not isolation. In the primitive Church, this koinonia, this communality, refers primarily to participation in the Body and Blood of Christ. This is why when we receive Holy Communion, we say that "we communicate", we enter into communion with Jesus, and from this communion with Jesus we reach a communion with our brothers and sisters. And this communion in the Body and Blood of Christ that we share during Holy Mass translates into fraternal union and, therefore also into what is most difficult for us; pooling our resources and collecting money for the mother Church in Jerusalem (cf. Rm 12:13, 2 Cor 8-9) and the other Churches. If you want to know whether you are good Christians, you have to pray, try to draw near to Communion, to the Sacrament of Reconciliation. But the sign that your heart has converted is when conversion reaches the pocket, when it touches one's own interests. That is when one can see whether one is generous to others, if one helps the weakest, the poorest. When conversion achieves this, you are sure that it is a true conversion. If you stop at words, it is not a real conversion.

Eucharistic life, prayer, the preaching of the Apostles and the experience of communion (cf. Acts 2:42) turn believers into a multitude of people who — the Book of the Acts of the Apostles says — are of "one heart and soul" and who do not consider their property their own, but hold everything in common (cf. Acts 4:32). It is such a powerful example of life that it helps us to be generous and not miserly. This is why the Book says, "there was not a needy person among them, for as many as were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the proceeds of what was sold and laid at the apostles' feet; and distribution was made to each as any had need" (Acts 4:34-35). The Church has always had this gesture of Christians who stripped themselves of the things they had in excess, the things that were not necessary, in order to give them to those in need. And not just money: also time. How many Christians — you for example, here in Italy — how many Christians do volunteer work! This is beautiful. It is communion, sharing one's time with others to help those in need. And thus: volunteer work, charity work, visits to the sick; we must always share with others and not just seek after our own interests.

In this way, the community, or koinonia, becomes the new way of relating among the Lord's disciples. Christians experience a new way of being and behaving among themselves. And it is the proper Christian method, to such an extent that Gentiles would look at Christians and remark: "Look at how they love each other!". Love was the method. But not love in word, not false love: love in works, in helping one another, concrete love, the concreteness of love. The Covenant with Christ establishes a bond among brothers and sisters which merges and expresses itself in the communion of material goods too. Yes this method of being together, of loving this way, 'up to the pocket', also brings one to strip oneself of the hindrance of money and to give it to others, going against one's own interests. Being the limbs of the Body of Christ makes believers share the responsibility for one another. Being believers in Jesus makes us all responsible for each other. "But look at that one, the problem he has. I don't care, it's his business". No, among Christians we cannot say: "poor thing, he has a problem at home, he is going through this family problem". But "I have to pray, I take him with me, I am not indifferent". This is being Christian. This is why the strong support the weak (cf. Rom 15:1) and no one experiences poverty that humiliates and disfigures human dignity because they live in this community: having one heart in common. They love one another. This is the sign: concrete love.

James, Peter and John, the three Apostles who were the "pillars" of the Church in Jerusalem, take a decision in common that Paul and Barnabas would evangelise the Gentiles while they evangelised the Hebrews, and they only asked Paul and Barnabas for one condition: not to forget the poor, to remember the poor (cf. Gal 2:9-10) Not only the material poor, but also the poor in spirit, the people with difficulty who need our closeness. A Christian always begins with him/herself, from his/her own heart and approaches others as Jesus approached us. This was the first Christian community.

A practical example of sharing and communion of goods comes to us from the testimony of Barnabas. He owns a field and sells it in order to give the proceeds to the Apostles (cf. Acts 4:36-37). But beside this positive example, there is another that is sadly negative: After selling their land, Ananias and his wife Sapphira decide to hand over only part of the proceeds to the Apostles and to keep part of the proceeds for themselves (cf. Acts 5:1-2). This deceit interrupts the chain of freely sharing, serene and disinterested sharing and the consequences are tragic. They are fatal (Acts 5:5-10). The Apostle Peter exposes Ananias and his wife's deceit and says to them: "why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and to keep back part of the proceeds of the land? ... You have not lied to men but to God" (Acts 5:3-4). We could say that Ananias lied to God because of an isolated conscience, a hypocritical conscience, that is due to an ecclesial belonging that is "negotiated", partial and opportunistic. Hypocrisy is the worst enemy of this Christian community, of this Christian love: pretending to love each other but only seeking one's own interests.

Falling short of sincere sharing, indeed, falling short of the sincerity of love means cultivating hypocrisy, distancing oneself from the truth, becoming selfish, extinguishing the fire of communion and choosing the frost of inner death. Those who behave in this manner move in the Church like a tourist. There are many tourists in <a href="the Church">the Church</a> who are always passing through but never enter the Church. It is spiritual tourism that leads them to believe they are Christians whereas they are only tourists of the catacombs. No, we should not be tourists in the Church but rather one another's brothers and sisters. A life based only on drawing gain and advantages from situations to the detriment of others, inevitably causes inner death. And how many people say they are close to the Church, friends of priests, of bishops, while they only seek their own interests. Such hypocrisy destroys the Church!

May the Lord - I ask this for all of us - pour over us his Spirit of tenderness which vanquishes all hypocrisy and generates that truth that nourishes Christian solidarity, which, far from being an activity of social work, is the inalienable expression of the Church, the most tender mother of all, especially of the poorest.



Pope Francis 21.04.20 Holy Mass Casa Santa Marta (Domus Sanctae Marthae) Tuesday of the Second Week of Easter Acts 4: 32-37, John 3: 7-15

In this time there is so much silence. You can also hear the silence. May this silence, which is a little new in our habits, teach us to listen, make us grow in our ability to listen. Let us pray for it.

"To be born from above" (John 3:7) is to be born with the strength of the Holy Spirit. We cannot take hold of the Holy Spirit for ourselves; we can only allow him transform us. And our docility opens the door to the Holy Spirit: it is he who makes the change, transformation, this rebirth from above. It is Jesus' promise to send the (cf. Acts 1:8). The Holy Spirit is capable of doing wonders, things that we cannot even think of.

An example is this first Christian community, which is not a fantasy, what they tell us here: it is a model, which can be achieved when there is docility and let the Holy Spirit in and transform us. We can say that this is an "ideal" community. It is true that soon after this problems will begin, but the Lord shows us how far we can go if we are open to the Holy Spirit, if we are docile. In this community there is harmony (cf. Acts 4:32-37). The Holy Spirit is the master of harmony, he is capable of doing it and he has done it here. He must do it in our hearts, he must change so many things about us, to make harmony: because he himself is harmony. The harmony between the Father and the Son and he is also the love of harmony, He. And with harmony he creates things such as this harmonious community. But then, history tells us – the Book of Acts of the Apostles itself – of so many problems in the community. This is a model: the Lord has allowed this model of an almost "heavenly" community to show us where we should go.

But then the divisions began in the community. The Apostle James, in the second chapter of his Letter, says: "May your faith be immune from personal favouritism" (James 2:1): because they were there! "Don't discriminate": the apostles must go out and warn this. And Paul, in the first Letter to the Corinthians, in chapter 11, complains: "I have heard that there are divisions among you" (cf. 1Cor 11:18): internal divisions begin in communities. This "ideal" must be arrived at, but it is not easy: there are many things that divide a community, whether a Christian parish or diocesan community or of priests or religious. So many things come in to divide the community.

Seeing the things that have divided the first Christian communities, I find three: first, money. When the Apostle James says this, not to have personal favouritism, he gives an example because "if in your church, in your assembly someone enters with a golden ring, and they immediately bring him to the front of the community, and the poor person is left on the side" (cf. James 2:2). Money. Paul himself says the same: "The rich bring food and they eat, and the poor standing" (cf. 1Cor 11:20-22), we leave them there as if to say to them: "Take care of yourselves as you can." Money divides, the love of money divides the community, divides the Church.

Many times, in the history of the Church, where there are doctrinal deviations – not always, but often – behind it is money: the money of power, both political power, and cash, but it is money. Money divides the community. For this reason, poverty is the mother of the community, poverty is the wall that guards the community. Money and self-

interest divide. Even in families: how many families have ended up divided by an inheritance? How many families? And they never speak anymore ... How many families ... An inheritance ... They divide: money divides.

Another thing that divides a community is <u>vanity</u>, that desire to feel better than others. "I thank you, Lord, because I am not like the others" (cf. Luke 18:11), the prayer of the Pharisee. Vanity, makes me feel this ... And even the vanity to be seen, vanity in habits, in dressing: how many times – not always but how many times – the celebration of a sacrament is an example of vanity, who goes with the best clothes, who does that and the other ... Vanity ... For the biggest party ... That's where vanity comes in. And vanity divides. Because vanity leads you to be like a peacock and where there is a peacock, there is division, always.

A third thing that divides a community is <code>gossip</code>: it is not the first time I have said this, but it is reality. It's reality. That thing the devil puts in us, like a need to talk about others. "But what a good person he is ..." – "Yes, yes, but ...": immediately the "but": that is a stone to disqualify the other person and right away I say something that I have heard and so the other person is diminished a little.

But the Holy Spirit always comes with his strength to save us from this worldliness of money, vanity and gossip, because the Spirit is not of the world: is against the world. He is capable of doing these miracles, these great things.

Let us ask the Lord for this docility to the Spirit so that he may transform us and transform our communities, our parish, diocesan, religious communities: transform them, to always move forward in the harmony that Jesus wants for the Christian community.

Sourse: Christian community - Pope Francis Homilies



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