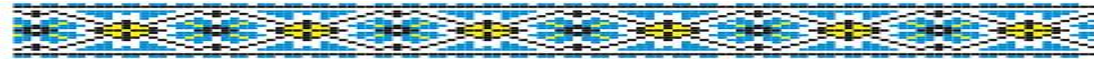


**Dormition of The Mother of God
Ukrainian Catholic Church**



**Українська Католицька Церква
Успення Пресвятої Богородиці**

1091 Coronation Avenue, Kelowna, BC V1Y 7A8 Tel.: 250-860-7295 Email: dormitionkelowna@gmail.com
Parish web-site: <http://kelowna.nweparchy.ca/> Pastor: Rev. Fr. Pavlo Myts / о. Павло Миць
Facebook page: *DormitionKelowna Parish*: <https://www.facebook.com/dormitionkelowna.parish.5>
Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of New Westminster: www.nweparchy.ca



8th SUNDAY after PENTECOST
8^{ма} НЕДІЛЯ після ЗІСЛАННЯ СВЯТОГО ДУХА
July 18th, 2021 A.D.

**“Christ leads us to go out from ourselves more and more,
to give ourselves and to serve others!”**

– teaches, guides and reminds us all His Holiness Pope Francis 1st today

Christian Greetings: Glory to Jesus Christ! – Glory to Him Forever!
Slava Isusu Chrystu! – Slava na Viky! Слава Ісусу Христу! – Слава на Віку!
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 7, text from book “*The Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom*”; pages 103-105

Epistle: A reading from the First Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians: (1 Cor 1:10-18)

Brothers and Sisters, I beg you, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to agree in what you say. Let there be no factions; rather, be united in mind and judgment. I have been informed, my brethren, by certain members of Chloe's household that you are quarreling among yourselves. This is what I mean: One of you will say, “I belong to Paul,” another, “I belong to Apollos,” still another, “Cephas has my allegiance,” and the fourth, “I belong to Christ,” Has Christ, then, been divided into parts? Was it Paul who was crucified for you? Was it in Paul's name that you were baptized? Thank God, I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, so there are none who can say that you were baptized in my name. Oh, and I baptized the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I am not aware of having baptized anyone else. For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel – not with wordy “wisdom,” however, lest the cross of Christ be rendered void of its meaning!

Gospel: (Matthew 14:14-22)

At that time, Jesus saw a large crowd, his heart was moved with pity, and he cured their sick. As evening drew on, his disciples came to him with the suggestion: “This is a deserted place and it is already late. Dismiss the crowds so that they may go to the villages and buy some food for themselves.” Jesus said to them: “There is no need for them to disperse. Give them something to eat yourselves.” “We have nothing here,” they replied, “but five loaves and a couple of fish.” “Bring them here,” he said. Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. He took the five loaves and two fish, looked up to heaven, blessed and broke them and gave the loaves to the disciples, who in turn gave them to the people. All those present ate their fill. The fragments remaining, when gathered up, filled twelve baskets. Those who ate were about five thousand, not counting women and children.

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.

Літургійні частини Українською мовою:

Глас 7, текст з книги "*Божественна Літургія Святого Івана Золотоустого*"; стт. 102-104

Апостол: До Коринтян першого послання св. Апостола Павла читання: (Кор. 1, 10-18)

Браття і Сестри, благодаю вас ім'ям Господа нашого Ісуса Христа, щоб ви всі те саме говорили; щоб не було розколів поміж вами, але щоб були поєднані в одному розумінні й у одній думці. Я бо довідався про вас, мої брати, від людей Хлої, що між вами є суперечки. Кажу ж про те, що кожен з вас говорить: «Я – Павлів, а я – Аполлосів, а я – Кифин, а я – Христові.» Чи ж Христос розділювався? Хіба Павло був розп'ятий за вас? Або хіба в Павлове ім'я ви христилися? Дякую Богові, що я нікого з вас не охрестив, крім Криспа та Гаїя, щоб не сказав хтось, що ви були охрищені в моє ім'я. Охрестив я теж дім Стефана; а більш не знаю, чи хрестив я когось іншого. Христос же послав мене не хрестити, а благовістити, і то не мудрістю слова, щоб хрест Христа не став безуспішним. Бо слово про хрест – глупота тим, що погибають, а для нас, що спасаємося, сила Божа.




Євангеліє: (Мт 14,14-22)

У той час, вийшовши, Ісус побачив силу народу і змилювався над ними та вигоїв їхніх недужих. Якже настав вечір, підійшли до нього його учні й кажуть: «Пусте це місце та й час минув уже. Відпусти людей, нехай ідуть по селах та куплять собі поживи.» А Ісус сказав їм: «Не треба їм відходити: дайте їм їсти.» Вони ж мовлять до нього: «Ми маємо тут тільки п'ять хлібів і дві риби.» Тоді він каже: «Принесіть мені їх сюди.» І, звелівши народові посідати на траві, взяв п'ять хлібів і дві риби, підвів очі до неба, поблагословив і розламав ті хліби, і дав учням, а учні – людям. Всі їли до насити й назбирали куснів, що zostалися, дванадцять кошів повних. Тих же, що їли, було яких п'ять тисяч чоловіків, окрім жінок та дітей. І зараз же спонукав учнів увійти до човна й переплисти на той бік раніше від нього, тим часом як він відпускав народ.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

ЩИРО ВАМ ДЯКУЄМО!

 **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 inside and outside our parish by keeping and sharing their Christian love, respect and unity in Christ by looking after and graciously supporting our Christian, Catholic Church communities!

Holy Resurrection of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ Parish in Penticton, BC

- ✓ Sunday (July 4th) Divine Liturgy donation was \$ 102.00
- ✓ Sunday (July 11th) Divine Liturgy donation was \$ 421.40


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 dormitiontransfer2020@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)

CONGRATULATIONS!

ЩИРО ВАМ ВІТАЄМО!

 **May The Almighty God bless** in good health and salvation in many, happy and blessed years of life to Mr. Ron and Mrs. Lydia Pfof on their wedding anniversary (July 18th), Mrs. Diana Wilson on her birthday (July 20th), Jacob Verhelst on his birthday (July 22nd), and to all our parishioners and family members 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: *DormitionKelowna Parish*: <https://www.facebook.com/dormitionkelowna.parish.5>

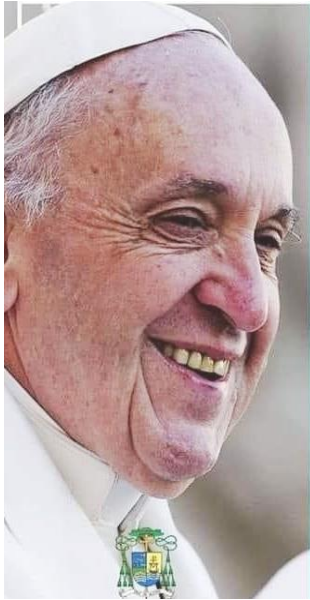
 Please also welcome to visit our Cathedral Facebook page for live-stream videos of the liturgical services at Holy Eucharist Cathedral: <https://www.facebook.com/holyeucharistcathedral/>

Your spiritual father-pastor is praying privately for all of you daily! Please pray for one another and especially for those who are ill, suffering be being affected by wildfires and other disasters, 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!



“ Rivers do not drink their own water; trees do not eat their own fruit; the sun does not shine on itself and flowers do not spread their fragrance for themselves. Living for others is a rule of nature. We are all born to help each other. No matter how difficult it is...Life is good when you are happy; but much better when others are happy because of you.

Pope Francis

Daily Liturgical and Sacramental Services celebrated during this week:

Sunday, July 18th 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 Eng. and Ukr.)

Monday, July 19th at **10:00 a.m.** The Divine Liturgy: Repose of the soul of Mrs. Anne Wyshynsky (*requested by Mrs. Olga Bohun and Mrs. Pat Kohut*)

at **4:15 p.m.** Vespers

Tuesday, July 20th (**SAINT PROPHET ELIAS**) at **10:00 a.m.** The Divine Liturgy: *God's blessings for all our parishioners, family members, all relatives and friends* (in Eng. and Ukr.)

Blessings of cars and other vehicles will be held following the Divine Liturgy today.

Wedn., July 21st **NO SERVICES.** Please respect your pastor's day-off today.

Thursday, July 22nd at **10:00 a.m.** The Divine Liturgy: Repose of the soul of Mrs. Anne Wyshynsky (*requested by Mrs. Olga Bohun and Mrs. Pat Kohut*)

Friday, July 23rd at **10:00 a.m.** The Divine Liturgy: Repose of the soul of Mrs. Anne Wyshynsky (*requested by Mrs. Shirley Mathias*)

Saturday, July 24th at **4:00 p.m.** The Divine Liturgy: *God's blessings for all our parishioners, relatives and friends.* (church services in Penticton, BC)

Blessings of cars and other vehicles will be held following the Divine Liturgy today.

Sunday, July 25th 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 Eng. and Ukr.)

Blessings of cars and other vehicles will be held following the Divine Liturgy today.

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 Dashkewych, 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.

SPIRIT OF CHRISTIAN AWARENESS: *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 Martyr Vasyl Velychkovsky: Every Wednesday at 7:00 pm (CDT), 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 єдною 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. Єдною нас у мирі та злагоді, щоб ми були Твоєю спільнотою любові. Всели в нас місійного духа, щоб ми стали тим світилом евангельського слова, молитви і добрих діл, що кличе кожного до участі в Божественному житті, щоб славилася, 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)

Parish Pastoral Council Guidelines: “Building up the Community of Believers” a special workshop is blessed by Most Reverend Bishop David Motiuk and will be guided by Rev. Fr. Andrzej Wasylenko at our church parish hall in Kelowna, BC at 5 pm on Monday to July 19th, 2021 A.D.

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.**

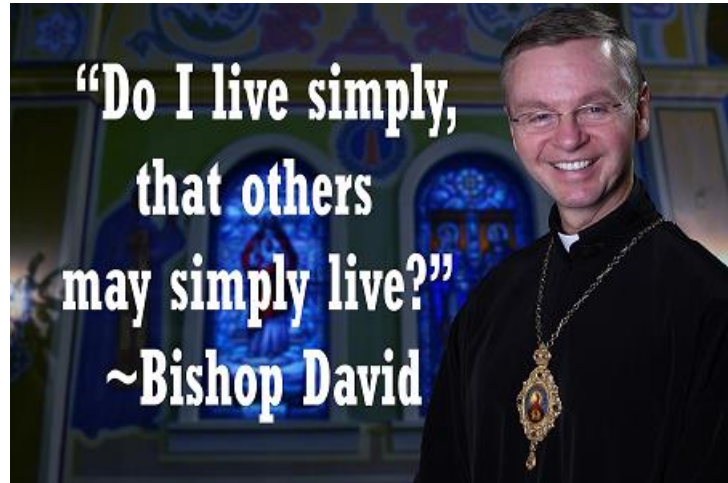
YOUR PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY AND RESPECT OF OTHERS: After each Divine Liturgy and every church service, please, keep silence in the House of the Lord as some of the faithful are still praying at the church as well. In consideration of other Christians, please do not leave any items in the pews. Let each of us do our part to be true stewards of our parish church by helping to keep the church building safe and clean. Thank you very much for your understanding, help and care!

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 tournaments, 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, positive and generous!**



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 its needs and pastoral ministry."

Pope Francis teaches about Future

22.06.13 Holy Mass Santa Marta Matthew 6:24-34, Matthew 13: 22

No one can serve two masters.... You cannot serve God and mammon (Mt 6:24-34)

The parable of the sower (Mt 13) helps us to understand this. The seed that fell upon thorny ground was choked. But who choked it? Jesus says '[riches](#) and [worldly concerns](#)'. We see that Jesus had clear ideas on this. Riches and worldly concerns therefore choke the word of God, they prevent it from growing and the word dies choked because it is not tended.

What do these riches and concerns do to us? They merely cut us out of [time](#). Our whole life rests on three pillars: one in the [past](#), one in the [present](#) and another in the [future](#). This is clear in the Bible; the pillar of the past is the choice.... The Lord chose us. Each one of us can say: 'the Lord chose me, he loved me, he said come, and in Baptism he chose me to follow a path, the Christian path'. The future is the promise Jesus made to humankind. He chose me to walk towards a promise, he made a promise to us. Lastly, the present is our response to this God who is so good, who chose me, who makes me a promise and suggests a covenant to me; and I make a covenant with him.

Choice, promise, covenant; these are therefore the three pillars of the entire history of salvation. However it can sometimes happen that when our heart enters this, which Jesus explains to us, it cuts out time. It cuts out the past, it cuts out the future and is confused in the present.

This happens because those who cling to riches are not concerned with either the past or the future. they have everything. Wealth is an [idol](#). It has no need of a past, a promise, an election or a future, it needs nothing. What we worry about is what can happen.

Those attached to wealth therefore cut off their relationship with the future.... However this does not lead them to a promise so they remain confused and lonely. Let us not cut out the past. We have a Father who has set us on our way. And the future is joyful too, for we are journeying toward a promise and no concerns surface. The Lord is faithful, he does not disappoint. And so, let us go onwards. Let us remember well: the seed that falls among thorns is choked... by riches and worldly concerns: two elements that make us forget the past and the future; so we have a Father but we live as though we did not have one and our future is uncertain.

Ask the Lord for the grace not to err by giving importance to the concerns and idolatry of riches, but always to remember that we have a Father who chose us and promised us something good; we must therefore walk toward that promise, taking the present as it comes.



Pope Francis 02.02.18 Feast of the Presentation of the Lord
22nd World Day for Consecrated Life, Vatican Basilica Luke 2: 22-40

Forty days after Christmas, we celebrate the Lord who enters the Temple and comes to encounter his people. In the Christian East, this feast is called the "Feast of Encounter": it is the encounter between God, who became a child to bring newness to our world, and an expectant humanity, represented by the elderly man and woman in the Temple.

In the Temple, there is also an encounter between two couples: [the young](#) Mary and Joseph, and [the elderly](#) Simeon and Anna. The old receive from the young, while the young draw upon the old. In the Temple, Mary and Joseph find the roots of their people. This is important, because God's promise does not come to fulfilment merely in individuals, once for all, but within a community and throughout history. There too, Mary and Joseph find the roots of their faith, for faith is not something learned from a book, but the art of living with God, learned from the experience of those who have gone before us. The two young people, in meeting the two older people, thus find themselves. And the two older people, nearing the end of their days, receive Jesus, the meaning of their lives. This event fulfils the prophecy of Joel: "Your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions" (2:28). In this encounter, the young see their mission and the elderly realize their dreams. All because, at the centre of the encounter, is Jesus.

Let us look to our own lives, dear consecrated brothers and sisters. Everything started in an encounter with the Lord. Our journey of consecration was born of an encounter and a call. We need to keep this in mind. And if we remember aright, we will realize that in that encounter we were not alone with Jesus; there was also the people of God, the Church, young and old, just as in today's Gospel. It is striking too, that while the young Mary and Joseph faithfully observe the Law – the Gospel tells us this four times – and never speak, the elderly Simeon and Anna come running up and prophesy. It seems it should be the other way around. Generally, it is the

young who speak enthusiastically about the future, while the elderly protect the past. In the Gospel, the very opposite occurs, because when we meet one another in the Lord, God's surprises immediately follow.

For this to occur in the consecrated life, we have to remember that we can never renew our encounter with the Lord without others; we can never leave others behind, never pass over generations, but must accompany one another daily, keeping the Lord always at the centre. For if the young are called to open new doors, the elderly hold the keys. An institute remains youthful by going back to its roots, by listening to its older members. There is no future without this encounter between the old and the young. There is no growth without roots and no flowering without new buds. There is never prophecy without memory, or memory without prophecy. And constant encounter.

Today's frantic pace leads us to close many doors to encounter, often for fear of others. Only shopping malls and internet connections are always open. Yet that is not how it should be with consecrated life: the brother and the sister given to me by God are a part of my history, gifts to be cherished. May we never look at the screen of our cellphone more than the eyes of our brothers or sisters, or focus more on our software than on the Lord. For whenever we put our own projects, methods and organization at the centre, consecrated life stops being attractive; it no longer speaks to others; it no longer flourishes because it forgets its very foundations, its very roots.

Consecrated life is born and reborn of an encounter with Jesus as he is: poor, chaste and obedient. We journey along a double track: on the one hand, God's loving initiative, from which everything starts and to which we must always return; on the other, our own response, which is truly loving when it has no "ifs" or "buts", when it imitates Jesus in his poverty, chastity and obedience. Whereas the [life of this world](#) attempts to take hold of us, the consecrated life turns from fleeting riches to embrace the One who endures forever. The life of this world pursues selfish pleasures and desires; the consecrated life frees our affections of every possession in order fully to love God and other people. Worldly life aims to do whatever we want; consecrated life chooses humble obedience as the greater freedom. And while worldly life soon leaves our hands and hearts empty, life in Jesus fills us with peace to the very end, as in the Gospel, where Simeon and Anna come happily to the sunset of their lives with the Lord in their arms and joy in their hearts.

How good it is for us to hold the Lord "in our arms" (Lk 2:28), like Simeon. Not only in our heads and in our hearts, but also "in our hands", in all that we do: in prayer, at work, at the table, on the telephone, at school, with the poor, everywhere. Having the Lord "in our hands" is an antidote to insular mysticism and frenetic activism, since a genuine encounter with Jesus corrects both saccharine piety and frazzled hyperactivity. Savouring the encounter with Jesus is also the remedy for the paralysis of routine, for it opens us up to the daily "havoc" of grace. The secret to fanning the flame of our spiritual life is a willingness to allow ourselves to encounter Jesus and to be encountered by him; otherwise we fall into a [stifling life](#), where disgruntlement, bitterness and inevitable disappointments get the better of us. To encounter one another in Jesus as brothers and sisters, young and old, and thus to abandon the barren rhetoric of "the good old days" – a [nostalgia](#) that kills the soul – and to silence those who think that "everything is falling apart". If we encounter Jesus and our brothers and sisters in the everyday events of our life, our hearts will no longer be set on [the past](#) or [the future](#), but will experience the "[today of God](#)" in peace with everyone.

At the end of the Gospels, there is another encounter with Jesus that can inspire the consecrated life. It is that of the women before the tomb. They had gone to encounter the dead; their journey seemed pointless. You too are journeying against the current: the life of the world easily rejects poverty, chastity and obedience. But like those women, keep moving forward, without worrying about whatever heavy stones need to be removed (cf. Mk 16:3). And like those women, be the first to meet the Lord, risen and alive. Cling to him (cf. Mt 28:9) and go off immediately to tell your brothers and sisters, your eyes brimming with joy (cf. v. 8). In this way, you are the Church's perennial dawn. You, dear consecrated brothers and sisters, are the Church's perennial dawn! I ask you to renew this very day your encounter with Jesus, to walk together towards him. And this will give light to your eyes and strength to your steps.

Pope Francis 10.02.21 General Audience, Library of the Apostolic Palace
Catechesis on prayer - 24. Prayer in daily life Col 3: 16,17

Dear brothers and sisters, good morning!

In the preceding catechesis we saw how Christian prayer is "anchored" in the Liturgy. Today, we will shed light on how the Liturgy always enters daily life: on the streets, in offices, on public transportation... And there it continues the dialogue with God: the person who prays is like someone in love who always bears the beloved in his or her heart wherever they go.

Essentially, everything becomes a part of this dialogue with God: every joy becomes a reason for praise, every trial is an opportunity to ask for help. Prayer is always alive in our lives, like embers, even when the mouth does not speak, but the heart speaks. Every thought, even the apparently "profane" ones, can be permeated by prayer. There is even a prayerful aspect in the human intelligence; it is, in fact, a window peering into the mystery: it illuminates the few steps in front of us and then opens up to the entire reality, this reality that precedes it and surpasses it. This mystery does not have a disquieting or anxious face. No, knowledge of Christ makes us confident that whatever our eyes and the eyes of our minds cannot see, rather than nothing being there, there is someone who is waiting for us, there is infinite grace. And thus, Christian prayer instils an invincible hope in the human heart: whatever experience we touch on our journey, God's love can turn it into good.

Regarding this, the Catechism reads: “We learn to pray at certain moments by hearing the Word of the Lord and sharing in his Paschal Mystery, but his Spirit is offered us at all times, in the events of each day, to make prayer spring up from us. Time is in the Father’s hands; it is in the present that we encounter him, not yesterday or tomorrow, but today” (n. 2659). Today I meet God, today is always the day of the encounter.

There exists no other wonderful day than the day we are living. Those who live always thinking about the future, in the future: “But it will be better...”, but do not take each day as it comes: these are people who live in their fantasy, they do not know how to deal with concrete reality. And today is real, today is concrete. And prayer is to be done today. Jesus comes to meet us today, the day we are living. And it is prayer that transforms this day into grace, or better, it transforms us: it appeases anger, sustains love, multiplies joy, instils the strength to forgive. Sometimes it will seem that it is no longer we who are living, but that grace lives and works in us through prayer. It is grace that awaits, but always this, don’t forget: take today as it comes. And let’s think about when an angry thought comes to you, of unhappiness, that moves you toward bitterness, stop yourself. And let’s say to the Lord: “Where are you? And where am I going?” And the Lord is there, the Lord will give you the right word, the advice to go ahead without that bitter, negative taste. For prayer is always, using a profane word, is positive. Always. It will carry you ahead. Each day that begins is accompanied by courage if it is welcomed in prayer. Thus, the problems we face no longer seem to be obstacles to our happiness, but appeals from God, opportunities to meet Him. And when a person is accompanied by the Lord, he or she feels more courageous, freer, and even happier.

Let us pray always, then, for everyone, even for our enemies. Jesus counselled us to do this: “Pray for your enemies”. Let us pray for our dear ones, even those we do not know. Let us pray even for our enemies, as I said, as the Scriptures often invite us to do. Prayer inclines us toward a superabundant love. Let us pray above all for people who are sad, for those who weep in solitude and despair that there still might be someone who loves them. Prayer works miracles; and the poor then understand, by God’s grace that, even in their precarious situation, the prayer of a Christian makes Christ’s compassion present. He, in fact, looked with great tenderness on the weary and lost crowd who were like sheep without a shepherd (cf Mk 6:34). The Lord is – let’s not forget – the Lord of compassion, of nearness, of tenderness: three words never to be forgotten regarding the Lord. Because this is the Lord’s style: compassion, nearness, tenderness.

Prayer helps us love others, despite their mistakes and sins. The person is always more important than their actions, and Jesus did not judge the world, but He saved it. What a horrible life is that of the person who always judges others, who is always condemning, judging... This is a horrible, unhappy life, when Jesus came to save us. Open your heart, pardon, give others the benefit of the doubt, understand, be close to others, be compassionate, be tender, like Jesus. We need to love each and every person, remembering in prayer that we are all sinners and at the same time loved individually by God. Loving the world in this way, loving it with tenderness, we will discover that each day and everything bears within it a fragment of God’s mystery.

Again, the Catechism reads: “Prayer in the events of each day and each moment is one of the secrets of the Kingdom revealed to ‘little children,’ to the servants of Christ, to the poor of the beatitudes. It is right and good to pray so that the coming of the kingdom of justice and peace may influence the march of history, but it is just as important to bring the help of prayer into humble, everyday situations; all forms of prayer can be the leaven to which the Lord compares the kingdom” (n. 2660).

The human person – men and women, all of us, – the human person is like a breath, like a blade of grass (cf Ps 144:4; 103:15). The philosopher Pascal once wrote: “There is no need for the whole universe to take up arms to crush him: a vapour, a drop of water is enough to kill him.”[1] We are fragile beings, but we know how to pray: this is our greatest dignity and it is also our strength. Have courage. Pray in every moment, in every situation so the Lord might be near to us. And when a prayer is said according to the heart of Jesus, it obtains miracles.

[1] Thoughts, 186.

Internet source: [Future - Pope Francis Homilies](#)



Young Adults Gathering – Unity 2021

Stillness In The Chaos

August 6 – Saturday August 7, 2021

<https://eeparchy.com/2021/06/30/young-adults-gathering-unity-2021/>

This past year has been incredibly difficult for so many, and this topic is more important than ever.

We will have sessions on:

Mental health, Having a relationship with God, What it means to be Ukrainian Catholic, the Divine Liturgy, Theology of the body and dating, Wellness of Body, Mind and Spirit, Evangelism and the leadership of Jesus Christ, and Catholicism and non-traditional families.

Unity 2021 will be offered **ONLINE**, and all sessions will be held over Zoom. There is **NO COST** to attend this event.

[Register Now](#)

Unity is a national gathering of Ukrainian Catholic young adults (18 to 35 years old) to further understand, embrace and celebrate the Ukrainian Catholic faith through prayer, education, and fellowship. Unity promotes and strengthens Christian religious life and social outreach traditionally through faith-based activities and workshops. Unity has been held across Canada since 1996, with hundreds of young adults from across the country being enriched by the experience. This meaningful weekend offers spiritual guidance, community service, and opportunities to deepen one's faith through catechetical enrichment.

This year Unity will be held online on Friday, August 6, 2021 from 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm (EST) and Saturday, August 7, 2021 from 11:00 am to 7:00 pm (EST). Should Covid-19 restrictions be lifted in person events may be held in each eparchy. Unity will feature Key Note speakers, breakout sessions, a Bishops' panel and fellowship.

Unity is being hosted by the Eparchy of Toronto and Eastern Canada and planned by a committee made up of members involved in Youth and Young Adult Ministry from across Canada.

Registration opens on Sunday, June 6, 2021 and closes Monday, August 2, 2021.

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