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



PRAY FOR UKRAINE



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.

13th SUNDAY after PENTECOST 13^{та} НЕДІЛЯ після ЗІСЛАННЯ СВЯТОГО ДУХА August 22nd, 2021 A.D.

"How many kinds of moral and material poverty we face today as a result of denying God and putting so many idols in His place!"

– teaches, guides and reminds us all His Holiness Pope Francis I^{st} today

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

- teaches His Beatitude Patriarch Sviatoslav Shevchuk

Christian Greetings: Glory to Jesus Christ! – Glory to Him Forever! Slava Isusu Chrystu! – Slava na Viky! Слава Icycy 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

Молитва у Часі Спалаху Коронавірусу: Господи, Боже наш, Дякуємо Тобі за життя, яке є Твоїм даром, За провидіння, яке нас підтримує, I 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 4, text from book "The Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom"; pages 95 - 97

Epistle: A reading from the First Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians: (1 Cor. 16:13-24)

Brothers and Sisters, be on your guard, stand firm in the faith, and act like men. In a word, be strong. Do everything with love. You know that the household of Stephanus is the first fruits of Achaia and is devoted to the service of the

saints. I urge you to serve under such men and under everyone who cooperates and toils with them. I was very happy at the arrival of Stephenas, Fortunatus, and Achaicus, because they made up for your absence. They have refreshed my spirit as they did yours. You should recognize the worth of such men.



It is I, Paul, who send you this greeting in my own hand. If anyone does not love the Lord, let a curse be upon him. O Lord, come! The favor of the Lord Jesus be with you. My love to all of you in Christ Jesus.

<u>Gospel</u>: (Mt. 21:33-42)

The Lord told this parable: "There was a property owner who planted a vineyard, put a hedge around it, dug out a vat, and erected a tower. Then he leased it out to tenant farmers and went on a journey. When vintage time arrived he dispatched his slaves to the tenants to obtain his share of the grapes. The tenants responded by seizing the slaves. They beat one, killed another, and stoned the third. A second time he dispatched even more slaves then before, but they treated them the same way. Finally he sent his son to them, thinking, "They will respect my son.' When they saw the son, the tenants said to one another. 'Here is the one who will inherit everything. Let us kill him and then we shall have his inheritance!' With that they seized him, dragged him outside the vineyard, and killed him. What do you suppose the owner of the vineyard will do to those tenants when he comes?" They replied, "He will bring that wicked crowd to a bad end and lease his vineyard out to others who will see to it that he has grapes at vintage time." Jesus said to them, "The stone which the builders rejected has become the keystone of the structure. It was the Lord who did this and we find it marvelous to behold'"

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 4, текст з книги "Божественна Літургія Святого Івана Золотоустого"; стт. 94 - 96

Апостол: До Коринтян перше послання Святого Апостола Павла читання: (1 Кор. 16, 13-24):

Браття і Сестри, чувайте, стійте у вірі, будьте мужні, кріпіться. Нехай усе у вас діється в любові. А благаю вас, брати: Ви

знаєте родину Степани, що вона первісток Ахаї і що вони віддали себе святим на службу; то щоб і ви також піддавалися таким людям і кожному, хто трудиться та працює з ними. Я тішуся приходом Степани, Фортуната й Ахаїка: вони вашу неприявність заступили, бо заспокоїли мій дух і ваш. Отож, шануйте таких. Вітають вас Церкви азійські, Вітають вас у Господі сердечно Акила і Прискилла з їхньою домашньою Церквою. Всі брати вас вітають. Вітайте один одного святим цілунком. Привіт моєю рукою,



Павловою. Як хтось не любить Господа, анатема на нього! "Маран ата!" Благодать Господа Ісуса з вами! Любов моя з усіма вами у Христі Ісусі. Амінь.

Евангеліє: (Мт. 21, 33-42)

Сказав Господь притчу оцю: "Був один чоловік-господар, що насадив виноградник. Він обвів його огорожею, видовбав у ньому чавило, вибудував башту, винайняв його виноградарям і відійшов. Коли ж настала пора винозбору, послав він слуг своїх до виноградарів, щоб узяти від них плоди, йому належні. А виноградарі, схопивши його слуг, кого побили, кого вбили, кого ж укаменували. Тоді він послав інших слуг, більше від перших, але ті вчинили й з ними те саме. Наприкінці послав до них свого сина, кажучи: Матимуть пошану до мого сина. Та виноградарі, узрівши сина, заговорили між собою: Це спадкоємець. Нумо, вб'ємо його й заберемо собі його спадщину. І взявши його, вивели геть з виноградника й убили. Отож, коли прибуде господар виноградника, що зробить з тими виноградарями?" "Лютих люто вигубить", – відповіли йому, – "а виноградник винаймить іншим виноградарям, що будуть давати йому плоди його своєчасно." Тоді Ісус сказав їм: "Чи в Письмі не читали ви ніколи: Камінь, що відкинули будівничі, став каменем наріжним? Від Господа це сталось і дивне в очах наших."

ТНАМК 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, organized and attended out parish Praznyk/ Annual Feastday/ Birthday celebration, 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!

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

August 2 – August 8, 2021 A.D.:	9:00 am:	\$1,030.00	Etransfers:	\$0.00
August 9 – August 15, 2021 A.D.:	9:00 am:	\$635.00	Etransfers:	\$150.00

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 (<u>it is a direct deposit</u>, 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)

CONGRATULATIONS! ЩИРО ВАС ВІТАЄМО!

May the Almighty God bless in good health and salvation in many, happy and blessed years of life to Mrs. Bohdanna Bodnar on her birthday (August 16th), Jacob Schaumleffel on his 4th birthday celebration (August 20th), Mr. Mark and Mrs. Janneth Holick on their 28th wedding anniversary (Aug. 21st), Tasha Hillman on her birthday (Aug. 25th), Mr. Kevin and Mrs. Carol-Ann Hillman on their wedding anniversary (Aug. 25th), Carolina Posthumus on her birthday (Aug. 26th), Mark Fantych on his birthday (Aug. 26th), Mr. George Dashkewytch on his birthday (August 28th), Cheryl Shynkaryk on her birthday (Aug. 28th), and

to all our parishioners and family members and to all Christians celebrating their heavenly patron's name days, blessing on the 30th Anniversary of Ukraine's Independence celebration (Aug. 24th) 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 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

4 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!

Daily Liturgical and Sacramental Services celebrated during this week:

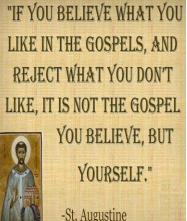
Sunday, August 22nd at 8:15 a.m. Rosary: (Services in Kelowna, BC) "IF YOU BELIEVE WHAT YOU at 9:00 a.m. The Divine Liturgy: God's blessings for all our parishioners, family members, all *relatives and friends* (in Eng. and Ukr.) LIKE IN THE GOSPELS, AND at 11:30 a.m. The Divine Liturgy: God's blessings for all our parishioners, relatives, and friends. (Service in Vernon, BC) REJECT WHAT YOU DON'T at 3:00 p.m. The Divine Liturgy: God's blessings for all our parishioners, relatives, and friends. (Service in Grindrod, BC) Thursday, August 26th at 7:00 p.m. Moleben to Our Lord, God and Saviour Jesus Christ: God's YOU BELIEVE, BUT blessing on the 30th Anniversary of Ukraine's Independence celebration (Service in Kelowna, BC) Saturday, August 28th at 4:00 p.m. The Divine Liturgy: God's blessings for all our parishioners, YOURSELF." relatives and friends. (Church services in Penticton, BC) Sunday, August 29th at 8:15 a.m. Rosary: (Services in Kelowna, BC) at 9:00 a.m. The Divine Liturgy: God's blessings for all our parishioners, family members, all -St. Augustine relatives and friends (in Eng. and Ukr.)

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, Alix W., 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, Taras Hryb, relatives of The Burachok Family, 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.



МОЛИТА 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, i на віки віків. Амінь.

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 itemsl 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 cleant. Thank you very much for your understanding, help and and care! 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 <u>by no later than 3:00 p.m. on Thursday</u>.

JOIN OUR CHURCH CHOIR: Do you enjoy singing? Please consider joining our Dormition Parish Choir and remember that we are looking for new members! Contact Mrs. Lesia Achtymichuk for more information and details.

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

Rev. Fr. Pavlo Myts and his family take a part of annual vacations from August 23rd to August 27th, 2021 A.D. In case of emergency, please, call Roman Catholic Church.



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 Mrs. 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: **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, possitive and generous!**



Rachel's Corner: "*The gift of Grace increases as the struggle increases*.' - St. Rose of Lima – Feast Day, August 23 Perhaps your struggle has been increasing, as you have had more awareness of how much your abortion decision has affected you in so many ways. Maybe it is harder and harder to hide from others. Join us on a Rachel's Vineyard Retreat[™] and encounter the embrace of mercy itself.

Join men and women on a Rachel Retreat of healing. www.RachelsVineyardKelowna.com info@rachelsvineyardkelowna.com Like us on Facebook: Rachel's Vineyard Kelowna

Pope Francis teaches about All Nations....

28.07.2013 A.D. 28th World Youth Day Waterfront Mass Rio de Janeiro Rom. 10:9 1 Cor. 9:16,19 Jer. 1:7,8,10 Mt. 28:20 Ps. 95:1

Dear Brothers and Sisters, Dear Young Friends,

"Go and make disciples of all nations". With these words, Jesus is speaking to each one of us, saying: "It was wonderful to take part in World Youth Day, to live the faith together with young people from the four corners of the earth, but now you must go, now you must pass on this experience to others." Jesus is calling you to be a disciple with a mission! Today, in the light of the word of God that we have heard, what is the Lord saying to us? What is the Lord saying to us? Three simple ideas: *Go, do not be afraid, and serve.*

1. Go. During these days here in Rio, you have been able to enjoy the wonderful experience of meeting Jesus, meeting him together with others, and you have sensed the joy of faith. But the experience of this encounter must not remain locked up in your life or in the small group of your parish, your movement, or your community. That would be like withholding oxygen from a flame that was burning strongly. Faith is a flame that grows stronger the more it is shared and passed on, so that everyone may know, love and confess Jesus Christ, the Lord of life and history (cf. *Rom* 10:9).

Careful, though! Jesus did not say: "go, if you would like to, if you have the time", but he said: "Go and make disciples of all nations." Sharing the experience of faith, bearing witness to the faith, proclaiming the Gospel: this is a command that the Lord entrusts to the whole Church, and that includes you; but it is a command that is born not from a desire for domination, from the desire for power, but from the force of love, from the fact that Jesus first came into our midst and did not give us just a part of himself, but he gave us the whole of himself, he gave his life in order to save us and to show us the love and mercy of God. Jesus does not treat us as slaves, but as people who are free, as friends, as brothers and sisters; and he not only sends us, he accompanies us, he is always beside us in our mission of love.

Where does Jesus send us? There are no borders, no limits: he sends us to everyone. The Gospel is for everyone, not just for some. It is not only for those who seem closer to us, more receptive, more welcoming. It is for everyone. Do not be afraid to go and to bring Christ into every area of life, to the fringes of society, even to those who seem farthest away, most indifferent. The Lord seeks all, he wants everyone to feel the warmth of his mercy and his love.

In particular, I would like Christ's command: "Go" to resonate in you young people from the Church in Latin America, engaged in the continental mission promoted by the Bishops. Brazil, Latin America, the whole world needs Christ! Saint Paul says: "Woe to me if I do not preach the Gospel!" (*1 Cor* 9:16). This continent has received the proclamation of the Gospel which has marked its history and borne much fruit. Now this proclamation is entrusted also to you, that it may resound with fresh power. The Church needs you, your enthusiasm, your creativity and the joy that is so characteristic of you. A great Apostle of Brazil, Blessed José de Anchieta, set off on the mission when he was only nineteen years old. Do you know what the best tool is for evangelizing the young? Another young person. This is the path for all of you to follow!

2. Do not be afraid. Some people might think: "I have no particular preparation, how can I go and proclaim the Gospel?" My dear friend, your fear is not so very different from that of Jeremiah, as we have just heard in the reading, when he was called by God to be a prophet. "Ah, Lord God! Behold, I do not know how to speak, for I am only a youth". God says the same thing to you as he said to Jeremiah: "Be not afraid ... for I am with you to deliver you" (*Jer* 1:7,8). He is with us! "Do not be afraid!" When we go to proclaim Christ, it is he himself who goes before us and guides us. When he sent his disciples on mission, he promised: "I am with you always" (*Mt* 28:20). And this is also true for us! Jesus never leaves anyone alone! He always accompanies us .

And then, Jesus did not say: "One of you go", but "All of you go": we are sent together. Dear young friends, be aware of the companionship of the whole Church and also the communion of the saints on this mission. When we face challenges together, then we are strong, we discover resources we did not know we had. Jesus did not call the Apostles to live in isolation, he called them to form a group, a community. I would like to address you, dear priests concelebrating with me at this Eucharist: you have come to accompany your young people, and this is wonderful, to share this experience of faith with them! Certainly, he has rejuvenated all of you. The young make everyone feel young. But this experience is only a stage on the journey. Please, continue to accompany them with generosity and joy, help them to become actively engaged in the Church; never let them feel alone! And here I wish to thank from the heart the youth ministry teams from the movements and new communities that are accompanying the young people in their experience of being Church, in such a creative and bold way. Go forth and don't be afraid!

3. The final word: *serve*. The opening words of the psalm that we proclaimed are: "Sing to the Lord a new song" (*Psalm* 95:1). What is this new song? It does not consist of words, it is not a melody, it is the song of your life, it is allowing our life to be identified with that of Jesus, it is sharing his sentiments, his thoughts, his actions. And the life of Jesus is a life for others. The life of Jesus is a life for others. It is a life of service.

In our Second Reading today, Saint Paul says: "I have made myself a slave to all, that I might win the more" (*1 Cor* 9:19). In order to proclaim Jesus, Paul made himself "a slave to all". Evangelizing means bearing personal witness to the love of God, it is overcoming our selfishness, it is serving by bending down to wash the feet of our brethren, as Jesus did.

Three ideas: *Go, do not be afraid, and serve. Go, do not be afraid, and serve.* If you follow these three ideas, you will experience that the one who evangelizes is evangelized, the one who transmits the joy of faith receives more joy. Dear young friends, as you return to your homes, do not be afraid to be generous with Christ, to bear witness to his Gospel. In the first Reading, when God sends the prophet Jeremiah, he gives him the power to "pluck up and to break down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant" (1:10). It is the same for you. Bringing the Gospel is bringing God's power to pluck up and break down evil and violence, to destroy and overthrow the barriers of selfishness, intolerance and hatred, so as to build a new world. Dear young friends, Jesus Christ is counting on you! The Church is counting on you! The Pope is counting on you! May Mary, Mother of Jesus and our Mother, always accompany you with her tenderness: "Go and make disciples of all nations". Amen.



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