Dormition of The Mother of God Ukrainian Catholic Church



Українська Католицька Церква Успення Пресвятої Богородиці

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

Pastor: Rev. Fr. Pavlo Mvts / о. Павло Миць Parish web-site: http://kelowna.nweparchv.ca/ Facebook page: DormitionKelowna Parish: https://www.facebook.com/dormitionkelowna.parish.5

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



27th SUNDAY after PENTECOST on November 28th, 2021 A.D. 27^{та} НЕДІЛЯ після ЗІСЛАННЯ СВЯТОГО ДУХА

"All human persons — all of us — are important in God's eyes!"

teaches, reminds, and strongly emphasises Pope Francis Ist 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,

Amen.

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.

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.

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 Ephesians: (Eph. 6:10-17)

Brothers and Sisters, draw your strength from the Lord and his mighty power. Put on the armor of God so that you may be able to stand firm against the tactics of the devil. Our battle is not against human forces but against the principalities and powers, the rulers of this world of darkness, the evil spirits in regions above. You must put on the armor of God if you are to resist on the evil day; do all that your duty requires, and hold your ground. Stand fast, with the truth as the belt around your waist, justice as your breastplate, and zeal to propagate the gospel of peace as your footgear. In all circumstances hold faith up before you as your shield; it will help you extinguish the fiery darts of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the spirit, the word of God.



Gospel: (Luke 13:10-17)

At that time, Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues. There was a woman there who for eighteen years had been possessed by a spirit which drained her strength. She was badly stooped - quite incapable of standing erect. When Jesus saw her, he called her to him and said, "Woman, you are free of your infirmity." He laid his hand on her, and immediately she stood up straight and began thanking God. The chief of the synagogue, indignant that Jesus should have healed on the Sabbath, said to the congregation, "There are six days for working. Come on those days to be cured, not on the Sabbath." The Lord said in reply, "O you hypocrites! Which of you does not let his ox or ass out of the stall on the Sabbath to water it? Should not this daughter of Abraham here who has been in the bondage of Satan for eighteen years have been released from her shackles on the Sabbath?" At these words, his opponents were covered with confusion; meanwhile, everyone else rejoiced at the marvels Jesus was accomplishing.

At the conclusion of every Divine Liturgy, we say an additional prayer for peace in Canada and 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 2, текст з книги "Божественна Літургія Святого Івана Золотоустого"; ст. 90-92

<u>Апостол</u>: До Ефесян послання Святого Апостола Павла читання: (Еф. 6, 10-17)

Браття і Сестри, кріпіться в Господі та в могутності Його сили. Одягніться в повну зброю Божу, щоб ви могли дати відсіч хитрощам диявольським. Нам бо треба боротися не проти тіла і крови, але проти начал, проти влади, проти правителів цього світу темряви, проти духів злоби в піднебесних просторах. Тому візьміть повну зброю Божу, щоб за лихої години ви могли дати опір і, перемагаючи все, міцно встоятися. Стійте, отже, підперезавши бедра ваші правдою, вдягнувшись у броню справедливості, і взувши ноги в готовість проповідування Євангелія миру. А над усе візьміть щит віри, яким зможете згасити всі розпалені стріли лукавого. Візьміть також шолом спасіння, тобто слово Боже.

Євангеліє: *(Лк. 13, 10-17)*

В той час навчав Ісус в одній з синагог у суботу. І ось була жінка, що мала духа недуги вісімнадцять літ, була скорчена, і не могла ніяк випростуватися. Побачивши її Ісус, покликав і сказав: Жінко, ти звільнена від недуги твоєї. І поклав на неї руки; і зараз випростувалася і славила Бога. Озвався ж старшина збору, нагадуючи, що в суботу зцілив її Ісус, і сказав до народу: Є шість днів, в які годиться працювати, у ці, отже, приходьте зцілятися, а не в день суботній. Відповів же йому Господь і мовив: Лицеміре, чи ж не відв'язує кожен з вас в суботу свого вола чи осла від ясел і не веде напувати? А цю дочку Авраамову, що її зв'язав сатана ось уже вісімнадцяте літо, чи не годилося, щоб визволилася вона від узів цих у день суботній? І як Він це говорив, стидалися усі противники Його, а всі люди радувалися всім славним, що діялося через Нього.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH! ЩИРО ВАМ ДЯКУЄМО!

Sincerest gratitudes to all Christians who has been praying, expressing their care and heartfelt condolences to Fr. Pavlo Myts and The Family! Mr. Roman Myts (Fr. Pavlo's father) has fallen asleep in the Lord on Wed. of Nov. 24th, 2021 A.D. in Ukraine. May our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ place our brother in Christ Roman's soul in the place where all the saints abide, and may his memory be everlasting with the Lord and our prayers! – Vichnaya Pamyat'! / Everlasting Memory!

Gratitudes to all our parishioners, guests, visitors and all Christian people of the good will who by their kindness share time, talents and treasures, help to clean inside and outside our church building, and every person who knowingly or unknowingly for the other people thoughtfully make donations, volunteer by making delicious food, and help our parish community in various ways and projects inside and as Christian missionaries reaching out 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 Parish in Penticton, BC: Sunday (Nov 20th) Divine Liturgy donation was \$ 154.00

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, no security question is needed</u>) **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. Lydia Gudz-Zagaliouk on her birthday (Nov. 29th), Mrs. Marilyn Daulat her birthday (Dec. 1st), Mr. Brian Posthumus on his birthday (Dec. 2nd), Dob. Krystyna Werbowy her birthday (Dec. 3rd), Mr. John and and Mrs. Manda Hill on their wedding anniversary (Dec. 3rd), Saint Andrew the Apostle and other heavenly patron's name-days, and to every person celebrating birthdays, name days / heavenly patron's feastdays and any other special anniversaries this week Mnohaya i Blahaya Lita / Many Blessed Years of Life!

NEWS and ANNOUNCEMENTS:

SUNDAY CATECHISM SCHOOL: "And they were bringing to Him also the infants, in order that He may be touching them; but after the disciples saw it, they rebuked them. But Jesus called them to Himself and said, Let alone the little children to come to Me, and cease hindering them; for of such is the kingdom of God." (Matthew 19:14) We are happy to welcome all children to our Dormition of the Mother of God parish catechism program. We want your children to learn more about their orthodox faith in the Catholic Church, sacred scripture, feast days, icons, tradition, singing and religious practices and customs of the Ukrainian Catholic Church. "We will start catechism classes this Sunday, September 19 for ages 4 to 12. Older children are very welcome to volunteer their help with the



younger children and their efforts will be recognized and rewarded. Each class will start after Communion during the English Liturgy and end just before the beginning of the Ukrainian Liturgy. We will be following protocols similar to those used in our elementary schools. Individual snacks and learning materials will be provided. We are looking forward to meeting our parish children and providing a safe, fun, and interesting experience in learning about our Catholic faith. If you have any questions or concerns, please email Marilyn Daulat at marilyn_daulat@hotmail.com or call at 250-801-7538. Z Bohom! Marilyn Daulat" If you have any questions, please, do not hesitate to contact our parish catechism teacher Mrs. Marilyn Daulat or pastor Rev. Fr. Paylo Myts.

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

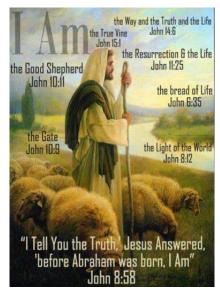
Please also welcome to visit our Cathedral Facebook page for live-stream videos of the liturgical services at Holy Eucharist Cathedral: https://www.facebook.com/holyeucharistcathedral/

Your spiritual father-pastor is praying privately for all of you daily! Please pray for one another and especially for those who are ill, suffering be being affected by 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, November 28th 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 relatives and friends* (in English.)

Panakhyda / Memorial Service for victims of Holodomor/Genocide by Starvation organized by USSR government in 1932-1933 A.D.

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

Panakhyda / Memorial Service for victims of Holodomor/Genocide by Starvation organized by USSR government in 1932-1933 A.D.

at 1:00 p.m. Historical Movie: Bitter Harvest

Mon., Nov. 29th at **9:00 a.m** The Divine Liturgy: for repose of the soul of Mr. Ivan Lisotskyy (40th Day Memorial service requested by Mr. Ihor Lisotskyy and The Family)

at 11:30 a.m. Moleben to the Emmanuel

Tue., Nov. 30th at **9:30 a.m.** The Divine Liturgy: *for repose of the soul of Mr. Martin Ostopowich* (6th year memorial service requested by Rev. Fr. Joseph Ostopowich and Mrs. Rose Ostopowich) Wed., Dec. 1st at **9:30 a.m.** The Divine Liturgy: *God's blessings for Mr. Roman and Mrs. Lillia Mykhnevych and The Family*

Thurs., Dec. 2nd at **9:30 a.m.** The Divine Liturgy: for repose of the soul of Mr. Roman Myts (9th Day Memorial service) at **12:30 p.m.** Moleben to the Emmanuel

from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Confession / Sacrament of Reconciliation

Fri., Dec. 3rd at 9:30 a.m. The Divine Liturgy: Intentions of Pulkauninkas and Budininkas families

Saturday, Dec. 4th at 3:40 p. m. Lectio Divina / Bible Studies: (Bible Studies and Church Services in Penticton, BC)

at **4:00 p.m.** The Divine Liturgy: God's blessings for all our parishioners, relatives and friends.

Sunday, December 5th at 8:15 a.m. Rosary: (Services in Kelowna, BC)

and friends (in Eng. and Ukr.)

Annual Christian Celebration of Saint Nicholas Day will take place at our parish after one bilingual Divine Liturgy today on Sunday, of Dec. 5th, 2021 A.D.

at 9:00 a.m. The Divine Liturgy: God's blessings for all our parishioners, family members, all relatives

at 6:00 p.m. Vespers



PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR: Lucy D., Janet F., Volodymyr P., Ivan L., Ray Saranchuk, Cameron V., Rose Ostopowich, Keyton A., Shelley M., Kathleen S., Chelsea M., Carmella M., Bernard M., Darrin 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, Joseph Stetch, Rosa Maria Santos, Anita N., Ron and Verna Shoemaker, Jonas and Anne, Alyssa and Adam, Mark and Asia, Karen Feniuk, Volodymyr Melnyk, Shelley Zemliak, Ron Horon, Adeline Sorochuk, Taras Hryb, relatives of The Burachok Family, Aretta Manion and The Family, Rev. Fr. Pavlo Myts and The Family, and all members of our Christian 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 come blessing. Please indicate that for to the priest vou would like receive blessing.

<u>Pastoral and Sacramental Ministry:</u> 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.

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 and cleant. Thank you very much for your understanding, help and care! Please always remember that we come together to the church to glorify Lord Our God and spiritually grow as a Christian community and church as house of prayer helps us during our temporal life journey.

→ 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, і на віки віків. Амінь.

On behalf of our church family, assurance of our prayers and deepest sympathy are to Mr. Yuriy and Mrs. Mariya Matsychko, relatives and friends! May our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ place our sister in Christ Mrs. Halyna Chyhin's soul in the place where all the saints abide, and may her memory be everlasting with the Lord and our prayers! – Vichnaya Pamyat'!

On behalf of our church family, assurance of our prayers and deepest sympathy are to relatives, good neighbours and friends of Mrs. Agnes Annie Branon! May our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ place our sister in Christ Mrs. Agnes Annie Branon's soul in the place where all the saints abide, and may her memory be everlasting with the Lord and our prayers! – Vichnaya Pamyat'!

Our Parish Executive Council Meeting is at 12 p.m. on Monday, November 29th, 2021 A.D. Any parishioner who wishes to attend as a listener and share Christian ideas at the meeting is also very welcome!

Parish cleaning up and Annual Christmas decorations will take place at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, of Dec. 4^{th,} 2021 A.D. Following Covid-19 protocols please come and help!



There will be a collection for Christmas flowers on Sunday of December 5^{th,} 2021 A.D. The collection basket will be located in the Vestibule. Please, support this wondrerful annual project.

Our Parish Hall / Ukrainian Catholic Centre is rented. Please be aware, respect, cooperate and understand that no one during the church services and after the church services is allowed in the hall during this time. We must rent the hall to the organizations and raise funds to help our parish church pay bills and other operation expences.

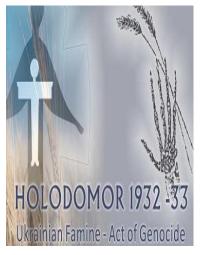
If you wish to help or have any questions, suggestions, ideas about our parish community life, please, contact our parish executive council chairperson Mrs. Yvonne Crawford. Email: Donoharmclinic@gmail.com or phone: 250-212-4899

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.



Traditional and Very Delicious Ukrainian Food is available for sale at our parish: Kovbasa / Garlic Sausage - \$ 10.00 per ring, Cabbage Rolls - \$ 8.00 per dozen; Perogies - \$ 8.00 per dozen; Apple, Rubar, Strawberry Pies - \$ 10.00 each. 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!



HOLODOMOR AWARENESS WEEK: NOVEMBER 21st – 28th, 2021 A.D. Commemoration of the 88th Anniversary of the Holodomor Famine- Genocide of 1932-1933 A.D. International Holodomor Memorial Day is on Saturday, November 27th at 7:32 p.m. (19:32) local time we are invited to pause for a moment of silence and honour the memory of the victims by lighting a candle of remembrance in our homes. In our parish on after the Divine Liturgies on Sunday, November 28th we will celebrate the Panakhyda for the victims of this genocide and all the deceased.

INFO: Ukrainians were starved to death by the Soviet government and regime led by USSR comrade Joseph Stalin. All grain and food were forcibly seized, and the boarders were shut. In little more that a year, a quarter of the population pesished. This crime of genocide by starvation is a historical fact and known as the Holodomor. In 2008, the Government of Canada recognized the Holodomor as an act of Genocide against the Ukrainian people and established the fourth Saturday of November as the National Ukrainian Famine and Genocide (Holodomor) Memorial Day. The provinces of Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario and Quebec have adopted similar legislation. British Columbia officially has recognized the annual day of remembrance for Ukraine's Holodomor on Thursday, October 31, 2019 A.D.

Pope Francis teaches about Human Dignity

12.08.20 General Audience, Library of the Apostolic Palace Catechesis: To Heal the World - 2. Faith and Human Dignity Genesis 1: 27, 28 2: 15



"Dear brothers and sisters, good morning!

The pandemic has highlighted how vulnerable and interconnected everyone is. If we do not take care of one another, starting with the least, with those who are most impacted, including creation, we cannot heal the world.

Commendable is the effort of so many people who have been offering evidence of human and Christian love for neighbour, dedicating themselves to the sick even at the risk of their own health. They are heroes! However, the coronavirus is not the only disease to be fought, but rather, the pandemic has shed light on broader social ills. One of these is a distorted view of the person, a perspective that ignores the dignity and relationship of the person. (la sua refers to person, not his or her) At times we look at others as objects, to be used and discarded. In reality this type of perspective blinds and fosters an individualistic and aggressive throw-away culture, which transforms the human being into a consumer good (cf. Apostolic Exhortation Evangelii Gaudium, 53;

Encyclical Laudato Si', [LS], 22).

In the light of faith we know, instead, that God looks at a man and a woman in another manner. He created us not as objects but as people loved and capable of loving; He has created us in His image and likeness (see Gen 1:27). In this way He has given us a unique dignity, calling us to live in communion with Him, in communion with our sisters and our brothers, with respect for all creation. In communion, in harmony, we might say. Creation is the harmony in which we are called to live. And in this communion, in this harmony that is communion, God gives us the ability to procreate and safeguard life (see Gen 1:28-29), to till and keep the land (see Gen 2:15; LS, 67). It is clear that one cannot procreate and safeguard life without harmony; it will be destroyed.

We have an example of that individualistic perspective, that which is not harmony, in the Gospels, in the request made to Jesus by the mother of the disciples James and John (cf. Mt 20:20-38). She wanted her sons to sit at the right and the left of the new king. But Jesus proposes another type of vision: that of service and of giving one's life for others, and He confirms it by immediately restoring sight to two blind men and making them His disciples (see Mt 20:29-34). Seeking to climb in life, to be superior to others, destroys harmony. It is the logic of dominion, of dominating others. Harmony is something else: it is service.

Therefore, let us ask the Lord to give us eyes attentive to our brothers and sisters, especially those who are suffering. As Jesus's disciples we do not want to be indifferent or individualistic. These are the two unpleasant attitudes that run counter to harmony. Indifferent: I look the other way. Individualist: looking out only for one's own interest. The harmony created by God asks that we look at others, the needs of others, the problems of others, in communion. We want to recognise the human dignity in every person, whatever his or her race, language or condition might be. Harmony leads you to recognise human dignity, that harmony created by God, with humanity at the centre.

The Second Vatican Council emphasises that this dignity is inalienable, because it "was created 'to the image of God'" (Pastoral Constitution Gaudium et Spes, 12). It lies at the foundation of all social life and determines its operative principles. In modern culture, the closest reference to the principle of the inalienable dignity of the person is the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which Saint

John Paul II defined as a "milestone on the long and difficult path of the human race", [1] and as "one of the highest expressions of the human conscience". [2] Rights are not only individual, but also social; they are of peoples, nations. [3] The human being, indeed, in his or her personal dignity, is a social being, created in the image of God, One and Triune. We are social beings; we need to live in this social harmony, but when there is selfishness, our outlook does not reach others, the community, but focuses on ourselves, and this makes us ugly, nasty and selfish, destroying harmony.

This renewed awareness of the dignity of every human being has serious social, economic and political implications. Looking at our brother and sister and the whole of creation as a gift received from the love of the Father inspires attentive behaviour, care and wonder. In this way the believer, contemplating his or her neighbour as a brother or sister, and not as a stranger, looks at him or her compassionately and empathetically, not contemptuously or with hostility. Contemplating the world in the light of faith, with the help of grace, we strive to develop our creativity and enthusiasm in order to resolve the ordeals of the past. We understand and develop our abilities as responsibilities that arise from this faith,[4] as gifts from God to be placed at the service of humanity and of creation.

While we all work for a cure for a virus that strikes everyone without distinction, faith exhorts us to commit ourselves seriously and actively to combat indifference in the face of violations of human dignity. This culture of indifference that accompanies the throwaway culture: things that do not affect me, do not interest me. Faith always requires that we let ourselves be healed and converted from our individualism, whether personal or collective; party individualism, for example.

May the Lord "restore our sight" so as to rediscover what it means to be members of the human family. And may this sight be translated into concrete actions of compassion and respect for every person and of care and safeguarding of our common home."

- [1] Address to the General Assembly of the United Nations (2 October 1979).
- [2] Address to the General Assembly of the United Nations (5 October 1995).
- [3] Cf. Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church, 157.
- [4] Ibid. Internet source: https://sites.google.com/view/pope-francis-homilies/human-dignity



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