

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



29th SUNDAY after PENTECOST on December 12th, 2021 A.D.

Sunday of the Holy Ancestors (the Forefathers from Adam, Biblical Patriarchs and the Prophets up to Saint John the Baptist)

29^{TA} НЕДІЛЯ ПІСЛЯ ЗІСЛАННЯ СВЯТОГО ДУХА

Неділя Святих Праотців

“In a very real way, the poor are our teachers. They show us that people’s value is not measured by possessions or how much money they have in the bank. A poor person, a person lacking material possessions, always maintains his or her dignity. The poor can teach us much about humility and trust in God!”

– teaches, reminds, and strongly emphasises 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

**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!

Why Go To Church?

- One cannot avoid this moral duty and go on unaffected. When one stops participating in Sunday service:
- He loses the gifts of the Holy Spirit
- His conscience soon becomes deadened
- This leads to a deterioration in attitudes and conduct

Daily Liturgical and Sacramental Services celebrated during this week:

Sunday, December 12th 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.)

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

Saturday, Dec. 18th **Advent Mission by Rev. Fr. Wayne Pfliger**
(**Confession starts at 3:30 p.m.**)

3:40 p. m. Lectio Divina / Bible Studies: (**Bible Studies and Church Services in Penticton, BC**)

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

Sunday, December 19th **Advent Mission by Rev. Fr. Wayne Pfliger**
(**Confession starts at 8:00 a.m.**)

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 Eng. and Ukr.)

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 Letter of Saint Paul to the Colossians: (Col. 3:4-11)

Bothers and Sisters, when Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory. Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. But now you must get rid of all such things—anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but Christ is all and in all!



Gospel: (Luke 17:12-19)

At that time, as Jesus entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, they called out, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" When he saw them, he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were made clean. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. He prostrated himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus asked, "Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" Then he said to him, "Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well."

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

Апостол: До Клосян послання Святого Апостола Павла читання: (Кол. 3, 4-11)

Браття і Сестри, коли ж Христос, ваше життя, з'явиться, тоді й ви з ним з'явитесь у славі. Умертвлюйте, отже, ваші земні члени: розпусту, нечистоту, пристрасті, лиху пожадливість, зажерливість – що є ідолопоклонство. За все це падає гнів Божий на неслухняних. Ви самі нещодавно поводитися так само, коли жили в тому. Тепер же відкиньте й ви все те геть від себе: гнів, лють, злобу, наклеп, сороміцькі слова з ваших уст! Не говоріть неправди одне одному, бо ви з себе скинули стару людину з її ділами й одягнулися в нову, що відновлюється до досконалого спізнання, відповідно до образу свого Творця. Тим то немає грека, ні юдея, ні обрізання, ні необрізання, ні варвара, ні скита, ні невольника, ні вільного, а все й у всьому – Христос.

**Євангеліє:** (Лк. 17, 12-19)

У той час, коли Ісус входив в одне село, вийшло йому назустріч десять прокажених, що стояли здалека. Вони піднесли голос і казали: "Ісусе, Наставнику, змилуйся над нами!" Побачивши їх, він промовив: "Ідіть та покажіться священикам." І сталось, як вони йшли, очистилися. Один же з них, побачивши, що видужав, повернувся, славлячи великим голосом Бога. І припав лицем до ніг Ісуса, почав йому дякувати. Він був самарянин. Озвався Ісус і каже: "Хіба не десять очистилось? Де ж дев'ять? І не знайшовся між ними, щоб повернутись, Богові хвалу воздати, ніхто інший, окрім цього чужинця?" І він сказав до нього: "Встань, іди: віра твоя спасла тебе."

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, help to clean inside and outside our church building, and every person who knowingly or unknowingly for the other people thoughtfully make donations, donated toward Christmas flowers project, participated at our parish Saint Nicholas celebration, 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!

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

- August: income: \$11,606.00. expense: \$5,217.90.
- September: income: \$16,496.88. expense: \$7,432.71.
- October: income: \$21,222.25. expense: \$19,902.83. (October 1, 2021-2022 Annual Property Insurance: \$12,700.45)

We are grateful to the Parking lot and Hall rentals to put the Parish in the positive financial position!

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 ВАС ВІТАЄМО!

May the Almighty God bless in good health and salvation in many, happy and blessed years of life to Mrs. Oksana Makovych on her birthday (Dec. 7th), Mrs. Albina Bonogofski her birthday (Dec. 9th), Mr. Dominic Verhelst on his birthday (Dec. 12th), Mr. Kevin Hillman on his birthday (Dec. 14th), Mrs. Olga Bohun on her birthday (Dec. 16th), Mrs. Nina Sora on her birthday (Dec. 16th), 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. Pavlo 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 or 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

For your attention the [new requirements by the Provincial Health Officer](#) from November 30, 2021.

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 Dashkewych, Kay Ilnitki, 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.

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.

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! ***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.***

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 підтримав за Твою мудрість, яка спрямовує хід наших днів.

Сьогодні перед нами загроза зараження коронавірусом. Ця хвороба викликає страх серед нас і забирає життя. Ми смиренно просимо Тебе, люблячого Господа, розвій наш страх і позбав нас від цієї та усіх інших хвороб.

Вилікуй тих, хто страждає, і зупини поширення вірусу. Зміцни 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.



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 Твою 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 Твою 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 Твоею 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 славилось, Спасе, Твоє Ім'я з безначального Твоїм Отцем та пресвятим, благим і животворящим Твоїм Духом нині, і повсякчас, і на віки віків. Амінь.

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.

Volunteers' help is needed to make food for sale in support of our parish fundraisers starting:

- Potato and cheese preparation at 9 a.m. on Friday of Dec. 17th, 2021 A.D.
- Pierogies making at 9 a.m. on Saturday of Dec. 18th, 2021 A.D.

Following Covid-19 protocols we help our parish fundraisers. Please come and help!

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!**

Rev. Fr. Pavlo Myts is taking his last part of this year vacations from Dec. 7th to Dec. 17th, 2021 A.D. In case of emergency, please, call his mobile phone: (250) 299-7249

Rachel's Corner: *"In the inner stillness where meditation leads, the Spirit secretly anoints the soul and heals our deepest wounds."* - Saint John of the Cross- feast day December 14

After having suffered a loss due to an abortion decision, the deepest of wounds can be submerged in complete silence and shame. Join us on a Rachel's Vineyard® Retreat and allow the Spirit to anoint your soul and heal you of what has caused you such great pain. info@rachelsvineyardkelowna.com www.rachelsvineyardkelowna.com f Rachel's Vineyard Kelowna: 250-762-2273



Since 2012 the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of New Westminster has been collecting funds to help underprivileged and orphaned children in Ukraine through our Christmas Candle appeal. Our fundraising program, **"Christmas Candle/Різдвяна свічка"** is part of a larger global appeal sponsored by Caritas Ukraine. The appeal is once again taking place for the month of December and we encourage everyone to remember these children during our Christmas season with a donation. Donations can be made at any Ukrainian Catholic Parish in BC or mailed and payable to the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of New Westminster and clearly marked with "Christmas Candle Project" on the envelope and cheque. For more information, please contact Dana Koren Lupynis, Natalia Lupynis or Emelia Lupynis at nweparchy.christmascandle@gmail.com and follow us on Facebook at *Caritas "Christmas Candle/Різдвяна свічка" Campaign, sponsored by NWEparchy.* **When you take – you fill your hand, When you give – you fill your heart.**

Pope Francis teaches about Advent

Angelus 28.11.21 First Sunday of Advent

"The Gospel of today's liturgy, the First Sunday of Advent, speaks to us about the Lord's coming at the end of time. Jesus announces bleak and distressing events, but precisely at this point He invites us not to be afraid. Why? Because everything will be okay? No, but because He will come. Jesus will return as He promised. This is what he says: "Stand erect and raise your heads because your redemption is at hand" (Lk 21:28). It is nice to hear this encouraging Word: stand up straight and raise our heads because right during those moments when everything seems to be coming to an end, the Lord comes to save us. We await Him with joy, even in the midst of tribulations, during life's crises and the dramatic events of history.

But how do we raise our heads and not become absorbed with difficulties, suffering and defeat? Jesus points the way with a strong reminder: “Beware that your hearts do not become drowsy... Be vigilant at all times and pray” (Lk 21:34, 36).

“Be vigilant”: vigilance. Let us focus on this important aspect of the Christian life. From the words of Christ, we see that vigilance is tied to alertness: be alert, do not get distracted, that is, stay awake! Vigilance means this: not to allow our hearts to become lazy or our spiritual life to soften into mediocrity. Be careful because we can become “sleepy Christians” – and we know there are many Christians who are asleep, who are anesthetized by spiritual worldliness - Christians without spiritual fervour, without intensity in prayer, without enthusiasm for mission, without passion for the Gospel; Christians who always look inwards, incapable of looking to the horizon. And this leads to “dozing off”: to move things along by inertia, to fall into apathy, indifferent to everything except what is comfortable for us. This is a sad life going forward this way since there is no happiness.

So today is a good moment to ask ourselves: what weighs on my heart? What weighs on my spirit? What makes me go to sit in the lazy chair? What are the mediocrities that paralyze me, the vices that crush me to the ground and prevent me from raising my head? And regarding the burdens that weigh on the shoulders of our brothers and sisters, am I aware of them or indifferent to them? Apathy is a type of laziness that makes us slide into sadness, it takes away zest for life and the will to do things. It is a negative spirit that traps the soul in apathy, robbing it of its joy. It starts with sadness sliding downwards so that there is no joy.

The secret to being vigilant is prayer. Prayer is what keeps the lamp of the heart lit. This is especially true when we feel that our enthusiasm has cooled down. Prayer re-lights it, because it brings us back to God, to the centre of things. Prayer reawakens the soul from sleep and focuses it on what matters, on the purpose of existence. Even during our busiest days, we must not neglect prayer. The prayer of the heart can be helpful for us, repeating often brief invocations. For example, during Advent, we could make a habit of saying, “Come, Lord Jesus.” Only these words, but repeating them: “Come, Lord Jesus”.

And now we pray to the Madonna: may she who awaited the Lord with a vigilant heart accompany us during our Advent journey.....”

Pope Francis Message for the International Day of Persons with Disabilities on 03.12.21

“As we celebrate your International Day, I would like to speak directly to all of you who live with any condition of disability, to tell you that the Church loves you and needs each of you for the fulfilment of her mission at the service of the Gospel.

Having Jesus as a friend is an immense consolation. It can turn each of us into a grateful and joyful disciple, one capable of showing that our frailties are no obstacle to living and proclaiming the Gospel.”

Internet source: <https://www.popefrancishomilies.com/news>



✚ Please, continue to pray this special inspirational EMMANUEL moleben prayer service (sent to you in pdf by email earlier or if you would like to have a printed copy please talk to the pastor) at 9:00 pm every evening until Dec. 24th to Our Lord, God and Saviour Jesus Christ which we are praying during Advent / Saint Philip's Fast before Christmas. Your Christian prayerful Novena intentions for peace, faith and unity in our families, communities and countries in the World are very important and truly appreciated!

Canadian Bishops, Assembly of First Nations, Métis National Council, and Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami Provide an Update on Delegation to Rome

December 7, 2021 – After careful assessment of the uncertainty and potential health risks surrounding international travel amid the recent spread of the Omicron variant, the Canadian Bishops, Assembly of First Nations, Métis National Council, and Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami have jointly decided to reschedule a delegation to the Vatican in December 2021 to the earliest opportunity in 2022.

The decision to postpone was a heartbreaking one, made after careful consultation with delegates, family members, community leaders, public health officials and the leadership of each of the three National Indigenous Organizations. Particularly for many elderly delegates as well as those who live in remote communities, the risk of infection and the fluid nature of the evolving global situation presents too great a threat at this time.

We take comfort in the desire, conveyed to us by the Holy See, that the safety of the delegation should inform any decision to move forward. It is also important to note that the delegation is postponed not cancelled.

Currently, the world's health experts are still learning about the transmissibility of the Omicron variant. As more information becomes available, we will continue to assess the feasibility of future travel plans, based on guidance from the Canadian government and relevant international authorities.

Our shared commitment to walking together towards healing and reconciliation remains strong. We understand that the Holy See is very much committed to rescheduling this visit in the new year and we look forward to the opportunity for Indigenous Elders, knowledge keepers, residential school survivors, and youth to participate in private meetings with Pope Francis.

Internet source: <https://www.cccb.ca/announcement/canadian-bishops-assembly-of-first-nations-metis-national-council-and-inuit-tapiriit-kanatami-provide-an-update-on-delegation-to-rome/Tuesday>,



Kyiv, 8 December 2021
Prot. N. 21/349

Most Reverend David Motiuk
Apostolic Administrator
Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of New Westminster

Glory to Jesus Christ!

Your Excellency,

Over the last few weeks, we have all seen the news with images of the devastating effect on the lives and livelihood of so many people in British Columbia due to recent torrential rains, floods and landslides. Seeing the images of the floods in the Fraser Valley, I recalled my own travels in August 2012 from Vancouver to Kelowna through that very same area and over the Coquihalla highway. I was amazed at the stunning natural beauty of British Columbia with its farmlands and the majesty of the mountains. My thoughts are very much with those who are suffering today because of the magnitude of this past summer's forest fires and now with the destruction from the recent floods.

Please share my message to the clergy, religious and lay-faithful of the Eparchy of New Westminster, that with the ongoing challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic and the task of rebuilding homes, businesses and infrastructures made more difficult by the cold winter weather, I am praying that Our Lord will send you and the people of British Columbia all His comfort and grace.

Placing you under the protection of the Most Holy Mother of God, I remain,

Sincerely yours in the Lord

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