

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

1091 Coronation Avenue, Kelowna, BC V1Y 7A8

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Facebook page: *DormitionKelowna Parish*: <https://www.facebook.com/dormitionkelowna.parish.5>

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



**Успення Пресвятої Богородиці
Українська Католицька Церква**

Pastor: Rev. Fr. Pavlo Myts / о. Павло Миць

Parish web-site: <http://kelowna.nweparchy.ca/>



**THE GLORIOUS RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD, GOD
AND SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST, EASTER SUNDAY – PASCHA
Воскресіння Господа, Бога й Спасителя нашого Ісуса Христа,
Великдень – Пасха April 9th, 2023 A.D.**

“What does it mean that Jesus is risen?”

**It means that love of God is stronger than evil and death itself;
it means that the love of God can transform our lives and
let those desert places in our hearts bloom. The love of God can do this!”**

– Pope Francis 1st reminds all people in the World today

Christian Greetings: (April 9th - May 17th): Christ Is Risen! - Indeed, He Is Risen!

Chrystos Voskres! - Voistynu Voskres! Христос Воскрес! - Воістину Воскрес!

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

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US BY PRAYING TO THE ALMIGHTY GOD AT THE CHURCH AND ON-LINE!

Welcome, pray, greet, and wish you and all your dear ones to be guided by the Holy Spirit, blessed with joy, peace, good health, unity, and Christian love and respect today and always!

This church letter / bulletin has been thoughtfully prepared for you to pray, read, spiritual growth and as Christians with conscious, constant awareness of The Divine Creator to evangelize daily and by responsibly and honestly sharing with all people the Good News/Gospel of Our Lord, God and Saviour Jesus Christ in the World today!



Daily Liturgical and Sacramental Services celebrated during week:

APRIL 9th, 2023 A.D. – THE GLORIOUS RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST, EASTER SUNDAY – PASCHA (Church services in Kelowna, BC)

in Kelowna, BC at 7:30 a.m. – Paschal Procession, Easter Matins, the Divine Liturgy, and blessing of the Easter Food in baskets (Eng./Ukr.)

in Vernon, BC at 1:00 p.m. Easter Services (Eng./Ukr.) (at Saint Josaphat Parish in Vernon, BC)

BRIGHT MONDAY April 10th at 10:00 a.m. – The Divine Liturgy: *God's blessings for all our parishioners, relatives and friends.*

BRIGHT TUESDAY April 11th at 9:00 a.m. – The Divine Liturgy: *God's blessings for all our parishioners, relatives and friends.*

BRIGHT THURSDAY April 13th at 9:00 a.m. – The Divine Liturgy: *God's blessings for Mrs. Veronica Chernesky*

BRIGHT FRIDAY April 14th at 9:00 a.m. – The Divine Liturgy: *God's blessings for Mrs. Albina Bonogofski*

7:00 p.m. Rosary: for Peace in Ukraine / Вервиця: за Мир в Україні

Paschal Stychyras / Пасхальні Стихири, Sacrament of Reconciliation / Confession / Сповідь

BRIGHT SATURDAY April 15th (Bible Studies, Church Services and Spilne Sviachene/ Parish Easter Dinner in Penticton, BC) at 3:40 p.m. Lectio Divina / Bible Studies:

4:00 p.m. The Divine Liturgy: *God's blessings for all our parishioners, relatives and friends.* (Eng./Ukr.)
After the Liturgy will be distributing of the Artos /the Blessed Bread and myrovania / blessing with Holy Oil

THOMAS SUNDAY April 16th at 8:15 a.m. Rosary: (Service in Kelowna, BC)

at 9:00 a.m. The Divine Liturgy: *God's blessings for all our parishioners, family members, all relatives and friends* (Eng./Ukr.)

After the Liturgy will be distributing of the Artos /the Blessed Bread and myrovania / blessing with Holy Oil. Spilne Sviachene / Parish Easter Potluck Dinner is after services at the church hall. Please, let us know about your attendance at our Parish Easter Lunch by signing up a list located at the entrance to the church in the vestibule, phoning or sending an email our parish office manager by no later than 3 p.m. on Wednesday of April 12th, 2023 A.D. It will truly help us to know the amount of food to be prepared for the parishioners and guests attending.

1:00 p.m. The Divine Liturgy: *God's blessings for all our parishioners, relatives and friends.* (Eng./Ukr.) (Church services in Vernon, BC)



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 bless your home with annual traditional and pastoral blessings visiting you, your relatives or friends at their home, hospital or care homes, call or email the pastor in advance to arrange time and a day.

Liturgical propers in English language:

*Liturgical Instruction: After the priest exclaims "Blessed is the Kingdom" and we have responded "Amen," the clergy sing the following Troparion once and the people repeat it. Then the clergy sing the first half, and we conclude it. This is done every day until the Wednesday before Ascension Thursday. **Christ is risen from the dead, conquering death by death, and to those in the tombs He granted life.** (3x)*

First Antiphon:

Verse 1: Shout to the Lord, all the earth, sing now to His name, give glory to His praise (Ps 65:2).

Refrain: Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Saviour, save us.

Verse 2: Say unto God, 'How awesome are your works! Because of the greatness of Your strength Your enemies will flatter you' (Ps 65:3).

Refrain: Through the prayers of the Mother of God...

Verse 3: Let all the earth worship You and sing to You, let it sing to Your name, O Most High! (Ps 65:3)

Refrain: Through the prayers of the Mother of God...

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. Now and for ever and ever. Amen.

Only - Begotten Son ... (page 23)

Third Antiphon:

Verse 1: Let God arise, and let His enemies be scattered; let those who hate Him flee from before His face (Ps 67:2).

Troparion: Christ is risen from the dead, conquering death by death, and to those in the tombs He granted life.

Verse 2: As smoke vanishes, let them vanish, as wax melts before the fire (Ps 67:3).

Troparion: Christ is risen from the dead...

Verse 3: So let sinners perish before the face of God, but let the righteous be glad (Ps 67:3-4).

Troparion: Christ is risen from the dead...

At the Small Entrance:



Priest: **Wisdom! Stand aright!**

Entrance: In the churches bless God, the Lord from the fountains of Israel (Ps 67:27).

Troparion: Christ is risen from the dead, conquering death by death, and to those in the tombs He granted life.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. Now and for ever and ever. Amen.

Kontakion (tone 8): Though You descended into a tomb, O Immortal One, yet You destroyed the power of Hades; and You rose as victor, O Christ God, calling to the myrrh-bearing women: Rejoice! and giving peace to Your apostles: You, who grant Resurrection to the fallen.

*Instead of "Holy God...": **All you, who have been baptized into Christ, you have put on Christ! Alleluia!** (x3)*

Prokimenon (tone 8): This is the day which the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it (Ps 117:24).

Verse: Give thanks to the Lord for He is good for His mercy endures forever (Ps 117:1).

Prokimenon (tone 8): This is the day which the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it (Ps 117:24).

Epistle: A reading from the Acts of the Apostles (Acts 1:1-9)

In my first account, Theophilus, I dealt with all that Jesus did and taught until the day he was taken up to heaven, having first instructed the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit. In the time after his suffering he showed them in many convincing ways that he was alive, appearing to them over the course of forty days and speaking to them about the reign of God. On one occasion when he met with them, he told them not to leave Jerusalem: "Wait, rather, for the fulfillment of my Father's promise, of which you have heard me speak. John baptized with water, but within a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

While they were with him they asked, "Lord, are you going to restore the rule to Israel now?" His answer was: "The exact time it is not yours to know. The Father has reserved that to himself. You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes down on you; then you are to be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, yes, even to the ends of the earth." No sooner had he said this than he was lifted up before their eyes in a cloud which took him from their sight.

Alleluia (tone 4): When You rise, You will have compassion on Zion (Ps 101:14). The Lord looked down from heaven to earth to hear the groans of the prisoners, to set free the sons of those put to death (Ps 101:20). Alleluia! (x3)

Gospel (John 1:1-17)

In the beginning was the Word: the Word was in God's presence, and the Word was God. He was present to God in the Beginning. Through him all things came into being, and apart from him nothing came to be. Whatever came to be in him, found life, life for the light of all. The light shines on in darkness, a darkness that did not overcome it. There was a man named John sent by God, that through him all might believe- but only to testify to the light, for he himself was not the light. The real light which gives light to everyone was coming into the world. He was in the world, and through him the world was made, yet the world did not know who he was. To his own he came, yet his own did not accept him. Any who did accept him he empowered to become children of God. These are they who believe in his name - who were begotten not by blood, nor by carnal desire, nor by man's willing it, but by God. The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us, and we have seen his glory: the glory of an only Son coming from the Father, filled with enduring love. John testified to him by proclaiming: "This is he ahead of me, for he was before me." Of

his fullness we have all had a share – love following upon love. For while the law was given through Moses, this enduring love came through Jesus Christ.

Instead of "It is truly...": The Angel cried out to the One full of Grace: O chaste Virgin, rejoice! And again I say, Rejoice! Your Son has risen from the tomb on the third day, and raised the dead. Let all people rejoice!

Irmos (tone 1): Shine, shine, O new Jerusalem! for the glory of the Lord has risen upon you! Exult now and be glad, O Zion! And you, O chaste Mother of God, take delight in the resurrection of your Son.

Communion Verse: Receive the body of Christ; taste the fountain of immortality. Alleluia! (x3)

Instead of "Blessed is He...": **Christ is risen from the dead, conquering death by death, and to those in the tombs He granted life.**

Instead of "We have seen the true light...": Christ is risen from the dead, conquering death by death, and to those in the tombs He granted life.

Instead of "Let our mouths..": Christ is risen from the dead, conquering death by death, and to those in the tombs He granted life. (x3).

Instead of "Blessed be the name of the Lord...": Christ is risen from the dead, conquering death by death, and to those in the tombs He granted life. (x3).

Troparion: Christ is risen from the dead, conquering death by death, and to those in the tombs He granted life. (x3).

Priest: And to us He has granted life eternal!

Faithful: We bow down before His resurrection on the third day!

Літургійні частини Українською мовою:

Літургійні рубрики: Після того, як священник виголошує "Благословенне Царство" й люди відповідають "Амінь", священники співають Тропар один раз, а люди його повторюють. Далі священники співають першу половину, а люди завершують другу. Так робимо щодня, аж до середи перед четвергом Вознесіння. Христос воскрес із мертвих, смертю смерть подолав, і тим, що в гробах, життя дарував (x3).

Антифон 1

Стих 1: Воскликніте Господеві, вся земле! Співайте ж імені його, віддайте славу хвалі його.

Приспів: Молитвами Богородиці, Спасе, спаси нас.

Стих 2: Скажіте Богові: Як страшні діла твої, задля великої сили твоєї підлещуються тобі вороги твої (Пс 65, 3).

Приспів: Молитвами Богородиці, Спасе, спаси нас.

Стих 3: Вся земля нехай поклониться тобі і співає тобі, нехай же співає імені твоєму, Всевишній (Пс 65, 4).

Приспів: Молитвами Богородиці, Спасе, спаси нас.

Слава Отцю, і Сину, і Святому Духові. І нині, і повсякчас, і на віки вічні. Амінь.

Єдинородний Сину ... (ст. 22)

Антифон 3

Стих 1: Нехай воскресне Бог і розбіжаться вороги його, і нехай тікають від лица його ті, що ненавидять його (Пс 67, 2).

Тропар: Христос воскрес із мертвих

Стих 2: Як іще зає дим, нехай іще згаснуть, як тане віск від лица вогню (Пс 67, 3). Тропар: Христос воскрес із мертвих

Стих 3: Так нехай погинуть грішники від лица Божого, а праведники нехай возвеселяться. Тропар: Христос воскрес із мертвих.

Вхідне співаємо, коли священник виголошує "Премудрість, прости".

Вхідне: В церквах благословіть Бога, Господа, ви – з джерел ізраїлевих (Пс 67, 27). Тропар: Христос воскрес із мертвих

....

Слава Отцю, і Сину, і Святому Духові. І нині, і повсякчас, і на віки вічні. Амінь.

Кондак (глас 8): Хоч і у гріб зійшов ти, Безсмертний, та адову зруйнував ти силу, і воскрес еси як переможець, Христе Боже, жінкам-мироносицям звістивши: Радуйтеся, і твоїм апостолам мир даруеш, падшим подаєш воскресіння.

Замість Трисвятого: Ви, що в Христа хрестилися, у Христа зодягнулися. Алілуя! (3х)

Прокімен (глас 8): Це день, що його створив Господь, возрадуємося і возвеселімося в нім.

Стих: Сповідуйтеся Господеві, бо він благий, бо на віки милість його.

Апостол: Діянь Святих Апостолів читання (Дн. 1, 1-8):

Першу книгу я написав, о Теофіле, про все, що Ісус робив та що навчав від початку аж до дня, коли вознісся, давши Святим Духом накази апостолам, яких собі вибрав. Він показував їм себе також у численних доказах живим після своєї муки, з'являючись сорок день їм і розповідаючи про Боже Царство. Тоді ж саме, як споживав хліб-сіть із ними, він наказав їм Єрусалиму не кидати, але чекати обітниць Отця, що її ви від мене чули; бо Йоан хрестив водою, ви ж будете хрещені по кількох цих днях Святим Духом. Отож, зійшовшися, вони питали його: «Господи, чи цього часу знову відбудуєш Ізраїлів царство?» Він відповів їм: «Не ваша справа знати час і пору, що їх Отець призначив у своїй владі. Та ви приймете силу Святого Духа, що на вас зійде, і будете моїми свідками в Єрусалимі, у всій Юдеї та Самарії й аж до краю землі.»

Алілуя (глас 4): Ти, воскресши, помилуєш Сіона (Пс. 101,14). Господь з неба на землю споглянув (Пс.101,20).

Євангеліє: (Ів. 1, 1-18)

В началі було Слово, і Слово було в Бога, і Слово було Бог. З Богом воно було споконвіку. Ним постало все, і ніщо, що постало, не постало без нього. У ньому було життя, і життя було світло людей. І Світло світить у темряві, і темрява його не поїняла. Був чоловік, посланий Богом, якому ім'я Іван. Прийшов він свідком, щоб свідчити про Світло, щоб усі через нього увірували. Не був він Світло, був лише, щоб свідчити про Світло. Справжнє Світло було те, що просвічує кожну людину. Воно прийшло у цей світ. Було у світі, і світ постав через нього, і світ не пізнав його. Прийшло до своїх,



і свої його не прийняли. Котрі ж його прийняли, тим дало змогу дітьми Божими стати – тим, що вірують в ім'я його, які не з крові, ні не з тілесного бажання, ні з похоті чоловічої, але від Бога народилися. І Слово стало тілом, і оселилося між нами, і ми бачили його славу – славу Єдинородного від Отця, повного благодаті та істини. Іван свідчить про нього і проголошує, кажучи: Ось той, про кого я говорив: Той, що йде за мною, існує передо мною, був раніш за мене. З його повноти ми всі прийняли – благодать за благодать. Закон був даний Мойсеєм, благодать же та істина прийшла через Ісуса Христа.

Замість Достойно: **Ангел сповіщає Благодатній:** Чистая Діво, радуйся. І знову кажу: Радуйся. Твій Син воскрес триденний із гробу, і мертвих воздвигнув він; люди, веселіться.

Ірмос (глас 1): Світися, світися, новий Єрусалиме, слава бо Господня на тобі возсіяла. Радій нині і веселися, Сіоне. А ти, Чистая, красуйся, Богородице, востаням рождення твого.

Причасний: Тіло Христове прийміть, джерела безсмертного споживіть. Аلیلуя (х3).

Замість Благословен, хто йде в ім'я Господнє: Христос воскрес із мертвих, смертю смерть подолав, і тим, що в гробах, життя дарував.

Замість Ми бачили світло істинне: Христос воскрес із мертвих, смертю смерть подолав, і тим, що в гробах, життя дарував.

Замість Нехай сповняться: Христос воскрес із мертвих, смертю смерть подолав, і тим, що в гробах, життя дарував (х3).

Замість Будь ім'я Господнє: Христос воскрес із мертвих, смертю смерть подолав, і тим, що в гробах, життя дарував (х3).

Під час відпусту "Христос воскрес" співається один раз (на просту мелодію) замість "Слава Отцю..." Тоді знову співається Тропар "Христос воскрес", як і на початку Літургії, але з додатковим закінченням. **Христос воскрес із мертвих, смертю смерть подолав, і тим, що в гробах, життя дарував** (х3).

І нам дарував життя вічне, поклоняємось його триденному воскресінню

THANK YOU VERY MUCH! ЩИРО ВАМ ДЯКУЄМО!



Dormition of The Mother of God Parish in Kelowna: Easter Food Sale on April 1st, 2023 A.D.: \$10,092.30

We Help Ukraine: \$ 1,053.00



Big thanks to every person who thoughtfully shared their gifts of time, care, support, volunteering and working hard many hours and days and active participation at our parish annual Easter Ukrainian Food Sale We Help the Church and Ukraine fundraisers, Holy Week Services, Church Property Cleaning and Church Decorations!

Gratitude 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 to every person who knowingly or unknowingly for the other people thoughtfully make donations, participate at our parish community projects and ministry, volunteered by helping our parish community and via our Christian church in various ways supporting Ukraine at the time of war and projects inside and as Christian missionaries praying and reaching outside our parish to very challenging and unpeaceful World today by keeping and sharing their Christian love, respect and unity in Christ by looking after and graciously supporting our Christian, Catholic Church communities!

DONATIONS! Amid war in Ukraine and Covid-19 Pandemic causing many difficulties and challenging times we continue to rely on your Christian care, understanding, support and generosity! **Please continue to support our parish financially by e-transfer (it is a direct deposit, no security question is needed) via dormitionetransfer2020@gmail.com or mailing a cheque payable to Dormition of the Mother of God Ukrainian Catholic Church** 1091 Coronation Ave., Kelowna, BC V1Y 7A8 Thank you for your support and care at this uneasy time for us all! **"Remember, O Lord, those who bear fruit doing good works in Your holy churches and remembering the poor. Send down Your mercy upon all of us!"** (A Prayer from the Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom)



HUMANITARIAN AID TO THE PEOPLE IN UKRAINE: Daily Breaking News of Russian Federation State Terrorist aggression, daily military attacks and causing War in Ukraine today, thousands of people are killed and wounded, millions of people saving their human lives left their homes, hiding in bomb shelters, forced to become refugees, ... All these tragic and life-threatening, dangerous daily attacks of the enemy highlight the need for an emergency humanitarian response on our part towards the purchase of food, water, basic hygiene, medicine, psychological support, shelter, evacuation, protection, and so on and on. Can you help your brothers and sisters in need as Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ asks each and everyone of you to?

Parishes are invited to take up an emergency humanitarian collection to aid the people in Ukraine.

The donated funds are to be sent to the Pastoral Centre, who in turn will forward them to our partner Catholic Near East Welfare Association (CNEWA Ottawa), who are coordinating humanitarian relief efforts with Caritas Ukraine.

Please donate to the **"Aid for Ukraine"**. All donations will be directed to regional organizations in Ukraine, who support all people in need including refugees fleeing their homes to other parts of Ukraine. The funds will be forwarded to [Caritas Ukraine](https://www.caritasukraine.org/), a charitable organization with over 20 offices in Ukraine. They supply aid by accessing and delivering food, shelter, medical supplies and providing spiritual and psychological support for those in need. A generous family has pledged to match all donations in support of humanitarian aid in Ukraine up to \$500,000. Help us meet this goal. Make cheques payable to **Dormition of the Mother of God Ukrainian Catholic Church** 1091 Coronation Ave., Kelowna, BC V1Y 7A8 with memo **'Aid for Ukraine'**. You can also donate cash or via e-transfer to (email dormitionetransfer2020@gmail.com address). By putting your generous donation in cash or cheque, please remember to write your name, address, amount of your donation, memo **'Aid for Ukraine'**, parish registration number (if you are a registered parishioner) on a church donation envelope located at the church vestibule. Please donate generously! We help Ukraine! The Ukrainian Catholic Church in Canada has partnered with the Catholic Near East Welfare Association in Canada (CNEWA) to provide immediate humanitarian support for the people of Ukraine. With the threat of further invasion by Russia, the already 8-year war in Ukraine has placed several million people in desperate need for food, shelter, medical attention, and more. Will you help your brother and sister in need? Please pray. Stay informed. Donate. <https://cnewa.org/ca/campaigns/ukraine/> https://www.catholicregister.org/item/34002-caritas-prepared-should-tanks-roll?mc_cid=839560d5dd&mc_eid=995513d2e2

GREETINGS!**ЩИРО ВАС ВІТАЄМО!**

May the Almighty God bless in good health, peace, love, joy and salvation in many, happy and blessed years of life to Mr. Larry and Mrs. Lorraine Pasemko on their wedding anniversary (March 27th), Mrs. Lesia Achtymichuk on her birthday (April 10th), Mrs. Oksana Dankanych on her birthday (April 12th), Mrs. Monica Schaumleffel on her birthday (April 10th), Mrs. Patricia Hamilton on her birthday (April 13th), Mrs. Pauline Trakalo on her birthday (April 13th), Mrs. Kayla Bowie on her birthday (April 13th), Zachary Pfof on his birthday (April 13th), Lukas Pfof on his birthday (April 13th), Mr. Ron Ewanchuk on his birthday (April 14th), and all Christians celebrating Easter, their birthdays, heavenly patron's name-days, wedding anniversaries, and any other special anniversaries this week Mnohaya i Blahaya Lita / Many Blessed Years of Life!

NEWS and ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **LIVE STREAMING of church services from Dormition of the Mother of God Ukrainian Catholic Church** in Kelowna, B.C.: Please join our Christian prayerful community at <https://www.facebook.com/dormitionkelowna.parish.5>

You can also view 24 / 7 many inspiring videos, articles, pictures, etc. are regularly published by the pastor. Please visit our parish Facebook page: *DormitionKelowna Parish*: <https://www.facebook.com/dormitionkelowna.parish.5>

- Please visit and pray via our Cathedral Facebook page for live-stream videos of the liturgical services at The Holy Eucharist Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral in New Westminster, BC: <https://www.facebook.com/holyeucharistcathedral/>

Your spiritual father-pastor is praying for all of you daily! Please pray for one another and especially for those who are ill, suffering or being affected by disasters, war in Ukraine! Let us always be co-responsible to ensure that we are all well.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR: Lucy D., Janet F., Volodymyr P., Ivan L., Ray Saranchuk and Family, Cameron V., Rose Ostowich, Keyton A., Shelley M., Kathleen S., Chelsea M., Carmella M., Bernard M., Darrin M., Kit C., Shirley C., Olga Kuzyk, George Dashkewytch, Kay Ilnitski, Kalyna Kociuba, William Shuya, Bronie Huska, Peter Huska, Roma Nowakowski, Barbara and Vincent Pasternak, The Hillman Family, Joseph Stetch, Rosa Maria Santos, Anita N., Ron and Verna Shoemaker, Jonas and Anne, Alyssa and Adam, Teresa Huculak, Mark and Asia, Karen Feniuk, Volodymyr Melnyk, Shelley Zemliak, Ron Horon, Adeline Sorochuk, Aretta Manion and The Family, Daniella-Daryna Tomashevskaya and The Family, Shane Bettin, Patricia Sawadsky, Robert Emery, Jacob and Anne Dressler, Lorraine Pasemko, Rose Gaba, Bill Boitson, Walter Achtymichuk, Pauline Rabbitskin, Mrs. Veronica Chernesky, Mrs. Albina Bonogofski, Mr. Walter Kociuba, for peace in the World, for all people defending Ukraine and all refugees at the time of war, Rev. Fr. Volodymyr Dmyterko and The Family, Rev. Fr. Yuriy Vyshnevskyy 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.

The Bishop Velychkovsky Martyr's Shrine is praying the rosary for Ukraine every Wednesday at 1:30 pm (CDT), at Saint Joseph's Ukrainian Catholic Church. We are inviting all Catholic churches to join us in prayer. We thank you in advance for your cooperation and support. Pray for Ukraine. Slava Ukraini! YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFDrZoGsYeJG1lqgdZyfYMA>

**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 at the church-house of prayer to the Lord Our Almighty and Omnipresent God, please do not leave any items in the pews. Always love, pray and be respectful toward other people! 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.**

SUNDAY CATECHISM SCHOOL: "Слава Ісусу Христу! Glory to Jesus Christ!

Шановні батьки та о. Павло, / Dear parents and Fr. Pavlo,

Пані Наталія Тесля запропонувала навчити наших парафіяльних дітей весняному танцю чи двох, щоб діти виконали їх на нашому Великодньому обіді (Спільне Свячення) 16 квітня!

У неділю, 26 березня, ми мали коротку практику з кількома дівчатами. Все пройшло добре, але можливо, більше дітей хоче приєднатися, і дівчата зможуть удосконалити свій танець. Будь ласка, зателефонуйте пані Теслі за номером 250-899-7205 або Мерилін Даулат за номером 250-801-7538, якщо ви можете привести своїх дітей до церковного залу у вівторок, 11 квітня, з 6:30 до 7:30. Mrs. Тесля – вчителька танців із Мелітополя, Україна, яка добре знає українські танці. Ми з нетерпінням чекаємо на зустріч з вашими дітьми 11 квітня! Нехай вас Бог благословить !

Mrs. Natalia Teslia has offered to teach our Parish children a spring dance or two for the children to present at our Easter Dinner (Spil'nye Sviachenye) on April 16!

We had a short practice with a few girls on Sunday, March 26. It went well but perhaps more children would like to join and the original girls could perfect their dance. Please call Mrs. Teslia at 250-899-7205 or Marilyn Daulat at 250-801-7538 if you can bring your children to the Church Hall on Tuesday, April 11, from 6:30 to 7:30.

Mrs. Teslia is a dance teacher from Melitopol, Ukraine, who is very knowledgeable about Ukrainian dance. We look forward to seeing your children on April 11. God bless you! Best regards, Marilyn Daulat



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. One day every one of us will end his or her earthly journey. Every day we are all getting closer to that moment. No person will be able after physical death to use his or her earthly temporal treasures anymore. Always remember that, continue to be honest, loving, carrying, supportive, positive and generous! God bless all you! 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 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)

Bequests and Wills: Leaving a bequest is a process of giving a donation through your will. It is simply a distribution from your estate to a charitable organization through your last will and testament. It can be as small or as large a donation as you wish. It is important that you talk to your lawyer about the process. In your kindness please remember Resurrection of Jesus Christ Ukrainian Catholic Parish in Penticton, BC and Dormition of the Mother of God Ukrainian Catholic Church in Kelowna, BC in your bequests and wills. If anyone wishes to make such a bequest in their will, the following clause may be included or added to a will: "I give, devise, and bequeath to Dormition of the Mother of God Ukrainian Catholic Church at 1091 Coronation Avenue, Kelowna, BC V1Y 7A8 or to Resurrection of Jesus Christ Ukrainian Catholic Parish in Penticton, BC, the sum of \$ _____ (or ____% of my estate), to be used for the benefit of the church/parish and it's needs and pastoral ministry."

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED AND ALWAYS TRULLY APPRECIATED, BE A STEWARD OF GOD'S VARIED GIFTS AND GRACES THE HEAVENLY CREATOR GRACIOUSLY ENTRUSTED TO YOU: Have you ever wondered what more can you do to help our Christian 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, church singing, projects, welcoming and reaching toward other people, etc.

VOLUNTEERS HELP IS ALWAYS NEEDED AND TRULY APPRECIATED: to help out with weekly cleaning in the church inside and outside, security, maintenance, receiving donations for We Help Ukraine church projects, welcoming visitors, etc. If you can help out, please, let us know. Please, contact Mrs. Lydia Gudz-Zagaliuk 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 send it by email to the office at dormitionofficemanager@gmail.com by no later than 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday.**

If you have our parish hall or parking rental inquiry, please contact directly our Church Office Manager Mrs. Oksana Udalova: dormitionofficemanager@gmail.com Phone: (250) 801-9077 Church parish office / cultural centre-hall and kitchen Tel: (250) 763-7447 Church Office open: Monday-Friday: from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm

If you wish to help or have any questions, suggestions, ideas about our Christian community life, please, contact our parish executive council chairperson Mrs. Lydia Gudz. Email: dormitionofficemanager@gmail.com or phone: (250) 763-7447

We do pray and sincerely welcome and help Ukrainian refugees coming to Kelowna, BC! Молимося, вітаємо й допоможемо Вам! Please contact our parish We Help Ukraine commette at The Dormition of The Mother of God Ukrainian Catholic Church. Our parish WE Help Ukraine commettee volunteers has thoughtfully serched for, bought, organized and prepared a special gifts for new Ukrainian families receintly arrived and warmly welcomed at our Christian community.

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 for sale at our parish: If you need more information or to place your order, please contact email directly to our church kitchen at dormitionkitchen@gmail.com Tel: (250) 763-7447



CAMP ST. VOLODYMYR Sunday, August 20 – Saturday, August 26, 2023 A.D.:

Dear Camp St. Volodymyr Family!

I am excited to announce that we will once again be able to offer camp to children in our Eparchy. Founded in 1983, this will be our 40th anniversary of Camp St. Volodymyr. The camp is open to children aged 7 to 15 as of December 2023. Registration for campers will take place in May so start planning your summer holidays now! Please note camp will now end on Saturday.

Volunteers Needed: If you are interested in volunteering as a counsellor, kitchen help, nurse/doctor, or lifeguard please forward your name by May 1.

Camp T-shirt: Camp St. Volodymyr is also seeking input to design our 40th anniversary T-shirt. Please share your logo and design ideas! The chosen design will receive a complimentary t-shirt.

For more information, contact me at jennsawka@hotmail.com or 604.220.0584

Thank you for your ongoing support!

Jennifer Caldwell, Camp Director



Rachel's Corner: *"I was able to reconcile my actions and subsequent self-condemnation and unforgiveness. This has helped me destroy the walls around my heart, allowing me to forgive myself and fully accept God's mercy."*
- Testimonial

There comes a point where we can see how we are condemning ourselves and creating a barrier to forgiveness of self and others. Join us on a Rachel's Vineyard™ Retreat and watch the walls around your heart shatter as you welcome His mercy.

Come on a Rachel's Vineyard™ Retreat and re-discover what it feels like to have hope in your life again as you encounter His mercy. info@rachelvineyardkelowna.com f Rachel's Vineyard Kelowna 250-762-2273 Confidentiality assured.



VIBRANT PARISH PRAYER: O Lord Jesus Christ, our Good Shepherd, as you once gathered lost sheep that they might hear Your voice and be your flock, so also today graciously look down from heaven upon our parish community, and send down on it your Holy Spirit, that it might be a place to receive the joy of Your Good News. Strengthen us with your presence, and always gather us together in prayer. Grant us the spirit of serving others, so that in our parish all might encounter You, the merciful God. Bless our spiritual leaders with Your wisdom, and inspire us to generously give of our time, talents and treasure for the building up of Your Kingdom. Unite us in peace and harmony, as befits Your community of love. Instill in us a missionary spirit, and let our parish community shine with the light of the Gospel, with prayer and good works, inviting all to share in the divine life, so that Your Name, O Saviour, may be praised, together with Your eternal Father, and Your most-holy, good and life-giving Spirit. Amen.



МОЛИТВА ЖИВОЇ ПАРАФІЇ: Господи Ісусе Христе, Пастирю Добрий, як колись Ти пригорнув заблуканих овечок, щоб вони пізнали Твій голос і були Твоїм стадом, так і сьогодні глянь ласкаво з небесних висот на нашу парафію та зішли на неї Твого Святого Духа, щоб вона була місцем пізнання радості Доброї Новини. Скріплюй нас Твою присутністю та єдай нас кожночасно в молитві. Даруй нам духа служіння ближньому, щоб у нашій парафії кожний міг зустріти Тебе, милостивого Бога. Благослови наш духовний провід Твоюю мудрістю і дай, щоб ніхто з нас не шкодував ні часу, ні талантів, ні матеріальних дібр для розбудови Твого царства. Єдай нас у мирі та злагоді, щоб ми були Твоюю спільнотою любові. Всели в нас місійного духа, щоб ми стали тим світлом евангельського слова, молитви і добрих діл, що кличе кожного до участі в Божественному житті, щоб славилось, Спасе, Твоє Ім'я з безначальним Твоїм Отцем та пресвятим, благим і животворящим Твоїм Духом нині, і повсякчас, і на віки віків. Амінь.



+ The people of Ukraine need your help. As we mark the one-year anniversary of the war in Ukraine, millions of the country's inhabitants are in dire straits. Constant bombardment, frigid temperatures, fluctuating power, lack of food, shelter and other basic necessities. As part of your Lenten sacrifice, kindly consider making a donation towards providing emergency services and humanitarian and pastoral support to Ukrainians by offering care, medical supplies, food, clothing and shelter to displaced persons, the elderly and the sick, as well as educational programs and support to local priests. For example, for only \$25, an emergency food package can provide much needed relief. \$100 can buy four packages. Each package will feed 2 persons for 1 week.

Donations may be made through your local parish, the Eparchy of Edmonton, or directly to Catholic Near East Welfare Association - Canada (cnewa.ca). For information on how your donation is making a difference, see Catholic Near East Welfare Association's [2022 Campaign Report: Ukraine Emergency Relief](#). May God bless you and your family for your generosity.



+ **Easter Flowers donations are very welcomed to help decoration The House of The Lord our parish church.**

+ **Holy Resurrection** Parish Easter Dinner / Spilne Sviachene will be held after the Divine Liturgy on Saturday, April 15th at Red Wings Resort in Penticton, BC. Please advise Mrs. Veronica Chernesky if attending as numbers are required.



Tickets go on sale Tuesday, April 11th

JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT IS THE FAMILY EVENT OF THE YEAR, SHOWCASING THE STUDENTS AND FINE ARTS PROGRAM OF ST. JOSEPH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL. (SUITABLE FOR AGES 5+)

Performances

- May 17th 6:30 pm
Featuring Grade 4-6 Choir, *Grade 4 students*, and Grade 7 cast
- May 18th 12:00 pm
Featuring Grade 4-6 Choir, *Grade 6 students*, and Grade 7 cast
- May 18th 6:30 pm
Featuring Grade 4-6 Choir, *Grade 5 students*, and Grade 7 cast

Be sure to purchase tickets for the performance that features someone you know!

General Admission Only: The Mary Irwin Theatre will open 30 minutes prior to showtime. Ushers will assist to ensure everyone is seated comfortably. Concession is available at intermission of evening performances.

Important Dates

- April 11th Tickets Go on Sale
- April 19th Amazing Technicolor Spirit Day
- April 21st Disco Costumes due (all students in Grade 4-7)
- May 10th Closing date for online ticket sales with credit card

How to Purchase Tickets: [Credit Card](#)

Ordering tickets and paying with credit card (Please note that you will be charged a credit card transaction fee.)

Website: www.stjoseph.buyticketsnow.net If you **do not** have a **Hot Lunch** account.

HOW TO REGISTER: Select the REGISTER tab on top of the menu bar.

Create an account by using the **SCHOOL ACCESS CODE: SJCC.**

If you are already registered for hot lunch please use your current User ID and Password.

HOW TO PLACE AN ORDER: Select the ORDERS tab. Click on ORDER FORM, place your ticket order.

HOW TO PAY FOR YOUR TICKETS: Select the PAY ONLINE tab. Enter your credit card information and pay. Payment must be made immediately or order will be automatically deleted within 6hrs.

E-transfer: Ordering tickets and paying with e-transfer

Email request to sjkbk@cisnd.ca with e-transfer to sjk.activities@cisnd.ca (in memo please note performance time).

Cash or Cheque Ordering tickets and paying with cash or cheque On site in the school atrium or parking lot.

Wed. April 12th - after school 2:15pm to 3pm

Fri. April 14th - after school 2:15pm to 3pm

Wed. April 19th - before school 8:15am to 9am after school 2:15pm to 3pm

Thurs. April 20th - after school 2:15pm to 3pm

Ticket Pick Up: Paid tickets can be picked up on Wednesdays and Fridays from 2:30 pm to 3 pm.

If tickets can not be picked up in advance there is a will call at each performance.

EASTER PASTORAL LETTER OF HIS BEATITUDE SVIATOSLAV

Most Reverend Archbishops and Bishops,

Very Reverend and Reverend Fathers,

Venerable Brothers and Sisters in Monastic and Religious Life,

Dearly Beloved Laity in Christ of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church

Christ is Risen!



*Having kept its seals intact,
You rose from the grave, O Christ,
Who preserved the Virgin's keys in Your birth,
and opened for us the doors of Paradise.*

Ode 6, Paschal Canon

Beloved in Christ!

Once again, we celebrate the Pascha of Christ amid incredible suffering associated with the horrors of open warfare. Over the past year, there has been so much pain and trauma, so many deported and wounded, captured and missing in action, so many broken lives in every corner of Ukraine and in various countries where our people have settled! So many of our dead—our fathers and mothers, brothers and sisters, sons and daughters—have sowed our land, the black-earth of Ukraine, with their bodies, as if with life-giving seeds! Sometimes we simply cry out to the Lord in pain: “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my groaning?” (Ps 22:1). Our Saviour, crucified on the

cross, also prayed with these words! But today, on this bright and joyful feast of Resurrection and life, the great mystery of victory opens up before us—of joy over sadness, truth over falsehood, glory over insult and mockery, light over darkness, good over evil, life over death. The crucified Lord lives! The Good Shepherd, tortured to death, reigns forever! Christ is risen – eternal joy!

Having kept its seals intact, You rose from the grave, O Christ...

It's difficult to seek healing when deep wounds afflict our body and soul. It is not easy to speak of the joy of resurrection when we see suffering and death everywhere. But let us note that the risen body of Jesus, whom we encounter today in our communities, still bears all the wounds of the crucifixion. After He appeared to His disciples for the first time on the day of Resurrection, the Apostle Thomas, who was absent on that occasion, did not want to believe: "Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe" (Jn 20:25). However, Christ tells Thomas when he finally meets him: "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe" (Jn 20:27). He who was crucified and died is the same Lord who rose from the dead. As the Risen One, the conqueror of death, He allows Himself to be recognized by disciples of all nations and generations precisely by His wounds!

At the same time, the body of the risen Saviour is no longer subject to the usual laws of nature: it passes through the stone with which the entrance to the tomb was blocked, without breaking its seals. It passes through the locked door to the upper room, where the disciples hid for fear of the Jews (see Jn 20:19). The risen Christ bears the traces of a terrible death on his glorified body, but death no longer has power over him! Only in order to reveal the emptiness of Christ's tomb, the angel descends, moves away the stone, breaks the seals and says to the myrrh-bearers: "Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; he is not here. See the place where they laid him" (Mk 16:6).

Faith in the Resurrection of Christ is the basis for our belief in the resurrection of every person. What our resurrected bodies will be like in God's glory is hard to even imagine. However, celebrating the Lord's Pascha, we can be sure that it will be a glorification of the abused, a restoration of the broken and destroyed, a healing of the wounded. Today, the Risen Christ extends His life-giving and wounded right hand to a wounded Ukraine. His glorified wounds touch our wounds, which still bleed and hurt. The Crucified and Risen One makes our wounds His—and in the resurrection of Ukraine they become the glorified wounds of the victors!

To celebrate Easter for us today means to feel the healing touch of Christ's life-giving hand, which is pierced by His glorified wounds. This touch to our wounds infuses into us the strength of the wounds of the Risen One, the breath of the One who overcame death and gave life to those in the graves. On this great day, let's remember the words of the Apostle of the nations: "For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his" (Rom 6:5). The wounds of those who were wounded with Christ will inevitably turn into the wounds of the glorified Lord: because Christ is risen!

... Who preserved the Virgin's keys in Your birth, and opened for us the doors of Paradise.

In our tradition, we do not reproduce the Resurrection event itself in iconography. For us, the image of "The Descent into Hades" is the icon for the feast. One notes that in this icon at the bottom there are keys—a symbol of Christ's victory over death and the power of hell. For God everything is open: a virgin's womb, a tombstone, a locked door, human hearts... The Lord sees our affliction—we can be sure of His closeness in times of trouble. With His Passover, He has already opened the doors of paradise for us, but in order for us to enter, He needs our cooperation and our trust. So, let us firmly believe: just as neither the seals of the tomb nor the military guard could restrain Christ in His glorified body, so no aggressor and occupier will be able to defeat our wounded Ukraine. We will defeat the enemy, rebuild our destroyed cities, towns, and villages, heal our wounds by the power and action of the Holy Spirit—because Christ is risen!

The light of Christ's Resurrection transforms our sadness and our tears into the joy of Pascha, as it was for the sorrowful myrrh-bearing women at the empty tomb of the Saviour. And today we see that what seems impossible and hopeless from a human point of view emerges victorious to the glory of the One who, having opened the doors of paradise, gives us eternal life.

If Christ on the cross, in the midst of incredible suffering, was able to raise His eyes to the Father with a hope that dispels despair, then let us have the courage today to speak to the resurrected Saviour together with the Psalmist: "For he has not despised or abhorred the affliction of the afflicted, and he has not hidden his face from him, but has heard, when he cried to him.... Posterity shall serve him; it shall be told of the Lord to the coming generation; they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people yet unborn, that he (the Lord) has done it" (Ps 22, 24, 30–31).

Let us remember that our victory depends not only on our military ability to resist the Russian troops, but also on our ability on the spiritual front to open ourselves to the power of the Resurrection and become an instrument of healing and peace in the Lord's hands:

Peace is brought by Christ Himself,
Peace proclaimed to us from heaven,
Let God's peace be shared among us,
Let God's grace be given glory,
Divine miracle of miracles:

Christ is Risen! Christ is Risen! (see: Ukrainian Easter Hymn, *Khrystos Voskres! Radist z neba.*)

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ! I greet you on the feast of Christ's victory over every evil and over death itself. Let our confidence in victory be a healing balm for all our wounds, spiritual and physical. In the joy of the Resurrection of our Lord, I greet all our defenders-heroes who are on the front lines today or who have been wounded. Open your heart to Christ, who sees your sacrifice and your pain, and makes them His own.

I embrace the families of our soldiers, especially of prisoners of war and those missing in action. I pray that your relatives will be found and will return home as soon as possible. Be joined with them through prayer because the Lord is always close to them.

I unite myself spiritually to those who are in the occupied territories and do not have an opportunity to go to their Church today but are waiting for liberation and pray for Ukraine's victory. In the hope of the resurrection and with tears in my eyes, I embrace those who mourn their dead, both soldier-heroes and peaceful civilians who became victims of the criminal actions of the occupier. I greet our refugees and displaced persons who foster the hope of returning home after victory and rebuilding their native city or village.

With gratitude I greet our volunteers, our military and medical chaplains, each in their own place working to bring our common victory closer; those who labour to support a neighbour in need, both in Ukraine and abroad. You are awesome and we are proud of you! I embrace all Ukrainians—children, adults and the elderly, men and women. In sharing the Easter basket, may you experience profound joy, God's mercy and blessings. I embrace with a fatherly love all the clergy, religious, and faithful in Ukraine and throughout the world, and sincerely wish you all a blessed Easter feast, a tasty sharing of our traditional blessed egg, and a Paschal joy that is full of light.

The grace of our Risen Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Christ is risen! Truly, He is risen!

† SVIATOSLAV

Given in Kyiv at the Patriarchal Cathedral of the Resurrection of Christ, on the Day of the Holy Martyrs Sabinus and Papas
March 29 (16), 2023 A.D.



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Христос воскрес!

*Зберігши цілими печаті,
воскрес Ти із гробу, Христе,
що ключів Діви не порушив у різдві Твоім,
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Пісня 6 Канону Пасхи*

Дорогі в Христі!

Знову ми святкуємо Пасху Христову серед неймовірного терпіння, пов'язаного з жахіттям відкритої війни. За минулий рік стільки болю і травм, стільки депортованих і поранених, полонених і зниклих безвісти, покалічених у кожному куточку України та в різних країнах нашого поселення! Стільки загиблих – наших батьків і матерів, братів і сестер, синів і дочок – засіяли своїми тілами, немов життєдайним зерном, нашу землю, українські чорноземи! Деколи ми вже просто з болю звиваємо до Господа: «Боже мій, Боже мій, чому мене покинув? Стоїш далеко від спасіння мого, від слів мого зойку» (Пс. 22, 2). Цими словами також молився наш Спаситель, розп'ятий на хресті. Та сьогодні, у це світле й радісне свято Воскресіння і життя, відкривається перед нами велике таїнство перемоги—радість над смутком, правди над неправдою, слави над наругою і знуцанням, світла над темрявою, добра над злом, життя над смертю. Розп'ятий Господь живе! Добрий Пастир, замучений на смерть, царює повік! Христос воскрес – радість вічна!

Зберігши цілими печаті, воскрес Ти із гробу, Христе...

Шукати зцілення важко, коли на нашому тілі й нашій душі ятряться глибокі рани. Говорити про радість воскресіння нелегко, коли скрізь бачимо терпіння і смерть. Але зауважмо, що тіло воскреслого Ісуса, якого ми зустрічаємо сьогодні в наших спільнотах, усе ще носить на собі всі рани розп'яття. Після того як Він уперше з'явився перед своїми учнями в день Воскресіння, відсутній на той момент апостол Тома не хотів нікому повірити: «Якщо не побачу на Його руках знаків від цвяхів і не вкладу свого пальця у місце, де були цвяхи, а й руки моєї не вкладу в бік Його, – не повірю!» (Ів. 20, 25). Однак Христос говорить Томі, коли нарешті його зустрічає: «Подай сюди твій палець і глянь на Мої руки. І руку твою простягни і вклади її у бік Мій. Та й не будь невіруючий, – а віруючий!» (Ів. 20, 27). Той, хто був розп'ятий на хресті й помер, – це той самий Господь, який воскрес із мертвих. Як воскреслий, переможець смерті, Він дає себе пізнати своїм учням усіх часів і народів саме своїми ранами!

Водночас тіло воскреслого Спасителя вже не підлягає звичайним законам природи: воно проходить крізь камінь, яким був завалений вхід до гробу, не порушуючи печатей, проходить через замкнені двері до світлиці, де учні переховувалися зі страху перед юдеями (див. Ів. 20, 19). Воскреслий Христос носить на своєму прославленому тілі сліди жадливої смерті, але смерть над ним влади вже не має! Лише для того щоб виявити порожнечу Божого гробу, ангел сходить, відсуває камінь, ламає печаті й каже до мироносиць: «Не жахайтесь! Ви шукаєте Ісуса Назарянина, розп'ятого. Він воскрес, Його нема тут. Ось місце, де Його були поклали» (Мр. 16, 6).

Віра у Воскресіння Христове є основою для нашої віри у воскресіння кожної людини. Якими будуть наші воскреслі тіла у Божій славі, важко навіть собі уявити. Проте, святкуючи Пасху Господню, ми впевнені, що це буде прославлення зневаженого, відновлення розбитого і знищеного, оздоровлення зраненого. Воскреслий Христос сьогодні простягає свою життєдайну і зранену правцю до зраненої України, Його прославлені рани торкаються наших ран, які ще кровлять і болять. Розп'ятий і Воскреслий робить наші рани Своїми – і вони у воскресінні України стають прославленими ранами переможців!

Святкувати Пасху для нас сьогодні означає відчутти цілющий дотик Христової життєдайної десниці, яка пробита Його прославленими ранами. Цей доторк до наших ран вливає в нас силу ран Воскреслого, подих Того, хто смерть подолав і тим, що в гробах, життя дарував. Цього великого дня згадаймо слова Апостола народів: «Бо якщо ми з'єднані з Ним подобою Його смерті, то будемо і подобою воскресіння» (Рим. 6, 5). Рани тих, кого поранено з Христом, неминуче перетворяться на рани прославленого Господа: бо Христос воскрес!

...Що ключів Діви не порушив у різдві Твоїм, і відчинив нам райські двері

У нашій традиції ми не відтворюємо в іконописі самої події Воскресіння. Для нас празничною іконою є зображення «Зішестя в ад». Слід зауважити, що внизу на цій іконі лежать ключі—символ Христової перемоги над смертю та силою пекла. Для Бога все відкрите: дівиче лоно, надгробний камінь, замкнені двері, людські серця... Господь бачить нашу біду — ми можемо бути впевненими в Його близькості в час тривоги. Своєю Пасхою Він уже відчинив нам райські двері, але, для того щоб ми могли ввійти, Він потребує нашої співпраці та нашого довір'я. Отож вірмо твердо: як не стримали Христа в Його прославленому тілі ні гробні печаті, ні військова сторожа, так само нашої зраненої України не буде здатним поконати жодний агресор і окупант. Ми переможемо ворога, відбудуємо наші зруйновані міста і села, залікуємо наші рани силою і діянням Святого Духа: бо Христос воскрес!

Світло Воскресіння Христового перетворює наш смуток і наші сльози на пасхальну радість, як це сталося із печаллю жінок-мироносиць при порожньому гробі Спасителя. І ми сьогодні бачимо, що те, що з людського погляду неможливе, безнадійне, стає переможним, перетворюється на прославу Того, хто, відчинивши райські двері, дарує нам життя вічне.

Якщо Христос на хресті, серед неймовірних страждань, зміг підвести свої очі до Отця з надією, яка розвіює відчай, то й ми маймо нині сміливість промовити до воскреслого Спасителя разом із псалмоспівцем: «Бо Він не гидував, не гордував бідою бідака, і не ховав обличчя свого від нього; і коли той зивав до Нього, — слухав... І душа моя для Нього житиме; моє потомство буде Йому служити, і розповість про Господа прийдешньому родові; прийдуть, оповістять про Його добрість народові, що має народитись: Таке вчинив Господь!» (Пс. 22, 25. 29–32).

Пам'ятаймо, що наша перемога залежить не тільки від військової спроможності протистояти російським військам, а й від нашої здатності на духовному фронті відкритися Божій силі воскресіння і стати знаряддям зцілення та миру в Господніх руках:

Мир нам сам Христос приносить,

Мир нам небо днесь голосить,

Мир той Божий всі вітаймо,

Ласку Божу прославляймо,

Чудо Боже всіх чудес:

Христос воскрес! Христос воскрес! (Пісня «Христос воскрес! Радість з неба»).

Дорогі в Христі браття і сестри! Вітаю вас зі святом Христової перемоги над будь-яким злом і над самою смертю. Хай упевненість у перемозі буде цілющим бальзамом на всі наші рани, душевні й тілесні. У радості Воскресіння Господнього вітаю всіх наших захисників-героїв, які сьогодні на фронті та які зазнали поранення. Відкрийте серце Христові, який бачить вашу жертву та ваш біль і робить їх Своїми.

Обіймаю родини наших військових, особливо полонених і зниклих безвісти. Молюся, щоб якнайшвидше ваші рідні були віднайдені та повернулися додому. Єднайтеся з ними через молитву, бо Господь завжди близько до них.

Духовно об'єднуюся з тими, що перебувають на окупованих територіях і не мають можливості сьогодні піти до своєї Церкви, але чекають на звільнення і моляться за перемогу України. У надії на воскресіння та зі сльозами на очах обіймаю тих, хто оплакує загиблих, і воїнів-героїв, і мирних громадян, які стали жертвами злочинних дій окупанта. Вітаю наших біженців і переселенців, які плекають надію на повернення додому після перемоги та на відбудову рідного міста чи села.

Із вдячністю вітаю наших волонтерів, військових і медичних капеланів, кожного, хто на своєму місці наближає нашу спільну перемогу, хто трудиться для того, щоб допомогти ближньому в біді, як в Україні, так і в країнах поселення. Ви сильні і ми пишаємося вами! Обіймаю всіх українців—дітей, дорослих і похилих віком, чоловіків і жінок—і зичу вам, щоб, ділячись великоднім кошиком, ви відчували глибоку радість, Божу милість і благословення. Усе духовенство, усіх богопосвячених осіб і мирян в Україні та на поселеннях огортаю батьківською любов'ю. Щиро бажаю вам благословенних Великодніх свят, смачного свяченого яйця та світлої пасхальної радості!

Благодать воскреслого Господа нашого Ісуса Христа, любов Бога Отця і причастя Святого Духа нехай будуть з усіма вами!

Христос воскрес! Воістину воскрес!

† СВЯТОСЛАВ

Дано в Києві, при Патріаршому соборі Воскресіння Христового,

у день Святих мучеників Савина й Папи,

29 (16) березня 2023 року Божого


PRAYER FOR UKRAINE

LORD OUR GOD,
 GREAT AND ALMIGHTY, WE YOUR SINFUL CHILDREN TURN TO YOU WITH HUMILITY IN OUR HEARTS AND BOW OUR HEADS LOW BEFORE YOU. WE BESECH YOUR LOVING KINDNESS AND ABUNDANT BLESSINGS UPON THE NATION – THE PEOPLE – OF UKRAINE DURING THESE DAYS OF GREAT DANGER TO THEIR SAFETY AND WELL-BEING.

OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS, LORD, ARE ONCE AGAIN THREATENED BY AGGRESSORS WHO SEE THEM ONLY AS SIMPLE OBSTACLES BLOCKING THE PATH TO THE COMPLETE DOMINATION OF THE PRECIOUS LAND AND RESOURCES OF THE COUNTRY OF UKRAINE. STRENGTHEN THE PEOPLE AS THEY FACE THIS GREAT DANGER, TURNING TO YOU IN THE IMMEASURABLY DEEP FAITH, TRUST AND LOVE THEY HAVE PLACED IN YOU ALL THEIR LIVES. SEND YOUR HEAVENLY LEGIONS, O LORD, COMMANDED BY THE PATRON OF KYIV, ARCHANGEL MICHAEL, TO CRUSH THE DESIRES OF THE AGGRESSOR WHOSE DESIRE IS TO ERADICATE YOUR PEOPLE.

GRANT UNITY OF MIND, HEART AND SOUL, O LORD TO ALL LEADERS IN PUBLIC SERVICE WITH THOSE THEY SERVE. UNITE THEM ALL INTO ONE, GREAT CHRISTIAN FAMILY, SO THAT TOGETHER, AS BROTHERS AND SISTERS, THEY MAY GLORIFY YOUR MAJESTIC NAME – GOD IN THE HOLY TRINITY – FATHER, SON AND HOLY SPIRIT, NOW AND EVER AND UNTO THE AGES OF AGES.
 AMEN.



Патріарх Йосиф Сліпий:

«Нині віра в Бога, в Христа – це найважливіша річ. Скільки тратить віру, байдужніє, не здаючи собі справи, що людина без віри стає звіриною»

(том XII, стор. 293)

Patriarch Josyf Cardinal Slipyj teaches and reminds all:
 “Today faith in God, in Christ – is the most important thing. How many people lose their faith, become careless, do not even realize, that a human person without faith becomes an animal.” (vol. XII, page 2)

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