Dormition of The Mother of God Ukrainian Catholic Church

1091 Coronation Avenue, Kelowna, BC V1Y 7A8

Pastor's office / residence Tel.:(250) 860-7295 Email: dormitionkelowna@gmail.com

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

Успення Пресвятої Богородиці

Українська Католицька Церква

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

Church Office Manager: Mrs. Oksana Udalova: dormitionofficemanager@gmail.com Cellphone: (250) 801-9077

Church parish office / cultural centre-hall and kitchen Tel: (250) 763-7447 Church Office open: Monday-Friday: from 12:30 pm to 4:30 pm Facebook page: DormitionKelowna Parish: https://www.facebook.com/dormitionkelowna.parish.5

SaintJosaphat Vernon: https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61551660554811

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





SUNDAY after CHRISMAS / НЕДІЛЯ після РІЗДВА SUNDAY before THEOPHANY / НЕДІЛЯ перед БОГОЯВЛЕННЯМ December / Грудня 31^{st,} 2023 A.D.

'God does not love us because we are valuable. We are valuable because God loves us."

Venerable Archbishop Fulton J Sheen teaches, guides and reminds us all today

Christian Greetings: Christ Is Born! - Let us glorify Him!

Христос Рождається! — Славімо Його! Chrystos Rozhdaiet'sia! — Slavimo Yoho! 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!

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Daily Liturgical and Sacramental Services celebrated during week:

SUNDAY on December 31st at 8:15 a.m. Rosary: (Eng./Ukr.) (Church Services in Kelowna, BC)

9:00 a.m. The Hierarchical Divine Liturgy: God's blessings for all our parishioners, family members, all relatives and friends 1:00 p.m. The Hierarchical Divine Liturgy: God's blessings for all our parishioners, relatives and friends (Eng./Ukr.)

(Church Services at Saint Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Church (2210 - 40th Avenue) in Vernon, BC)

9:00 p.m. Moleben to Our Lord, God and Saviour Jesus Christ: Thanksgiving for God's blessings, protection and graces received in 2023 A.D. (Services in Kelowna, BC)

May God bless and keep all of you in His tender care at this Christmas time, Peaceful New 2024 Year of The Lord!

Mon., Jan. 1st Naming of Our Lord, Saint Basil The Great, New Year's Day

at 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy; Myrovania/Blessing with Holy Oil (Services in Kelowna, BC)

Tue., Jan. 2^{nd at} **10:00 a.m.** The Divine Liturgy: repose of the soul of Mrs. Larissa Fearns (4th Year Memorial

Service requested by Mrs. Marilyn Daulat and The Family)

Wedn., Jan. 3^{rd at} 4:30 p.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation / Confession / Сповідь

5:00 р.m. Rosary: for Peace in Ukraine / Вервиця: за Мир в Україні

Fri., Jan. 5th at 4:30 p.m. – 4:55 pm Sacrament of Reconciliation / Confession

5:00 p.m. Royal Hours Services

Saturday, January 6th FEAST OF THE THEOPHANY / ЕРІРНАНУ / БОГОЯВЛЕННЯ (ЙОРДАН)

at **10:00 a.m.** Divine Liturgy; Jordan Blessing of The Water Myrovania/Blessing with Holy Oil (Services in Kelowna, BC) 4:00 p.m. The Hierarchical Divine Liturgy: God's blessings for all our parishioners, family members, all relatives and friends (Eng./Ukr.) The Great Blessing of Jordan Water (Church Services at Holy Resurrection of Our Lord Ukrainian Catholic Parish (361 Wade Avenue West) in Penticton, BC)

SUNDAY on January 7th at 8:15 a.m. Rosary: (Eng./Ukr.) (Church Services in Kelowna, BC)

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

1:00 p.m. Divine Liturgy: God's blessings for all our parishioners, relatives and friends (Eng./Ukr.)

The Great Blessing of Jordan Water (Church Services at Saint Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Church (2210 - 40th Avenue) in Vernon, BC)

Please contact Fr. Paylo 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.



Sunday liturgical propers in English language:

1st Antiphon

Verse 1: I will confess You, Lord, with all my heart, I will declare all Your wondrous deeds (Ps. 9:2).

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

Verse 2: In the council of the just and the congregation, great are the works of the Lord, conforming to His will in every way (Ps 110:1-2).

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

Verse 3: His work is filled with praise and majesty, and His righteousness endures forever (Ps 110:3).

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

+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)

3rd Antiphon

Come, let us sing joyfully to the Lord, let us acclaim God, our Saviour.

Refrain: Son of God, born of a Virgin, save us who sing to You: Alleluia.

Let us come before His face with praise, and acclaim Him in psalms.

Refrain: Son of God, born of a Virgin, save us who sing to You: Alleluia.

For God is the great Lord, and the great king over all the earth.

Refrain: Son of God, born of a Virgin, save us who sing to You: Alleluia.

Small Entrance

Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ. (page 25)

Refrain: Son of God, born of a Virgin, save us who sing to You: Alleluia.

Troparion (tone 6): Angelic powers were upon Your tomb* and the guards became like dead men;* Mary stood before Your tomb* seeking Your most pure body.* You captured Hades without being overcome by it.* You met the Virgin and granted life.* O Lord, risen from the dead,* glory be to You!

Troparion (tone 4): Your Nativity, O Christ our God,* made the light of knowledge dawn on the world:* through it, those who worshipped the stars were taught by a star* to worship You, the Sun of Righteousness,* and to know that You, the Dawn from on the high.* Glory to You, O Lord.

Troparion (tone 2): O Joseph, announce to David, the ancestor of God, the news of the miracle: You saw a virgin giving birth.* With the shepherds, you gave praise and with the Magi you worshipped; they too were warned by an angel.* Pray to Christ our God to save our souls.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

Kontakion (tone 3): Today the divine David is filled with gladness;* Joseph along with James offers praises* for having received a crown through their kinship with Christ they rejoice* and sing of the One who inexpressibly was born on earth,* crying out, "O Gracious One, save those who worship You."

Now and for ever and ever. Amen.

Kontakion (tone 3): The Virgin today gives birth to Him who is above all being;* the earth offers the cave to Him whom no one can approach;* Angel with shepherds give Him glory,* while Magi make their way with a star,* for to us is born a little Child – the pre-eternal God.

Prokeimenon (tone 4): God is wonderful in His saints, the God of Israel. (Ps. 67:36)

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

Prokeimenon (tone 4): God is wonderful in His saints, the God of Israel. (Ps. 67:36)

Epistle: A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Galatians: (Gal. 1:11-19)

Brothers and Sisters, I assure you, the gospel I proclaimed to you is no mere human invention. I did not receive it from any man, nor was schooled in it. It came by revelation from Jesus Christ. You have heard, I know, the story of my former way of life in Judaism. You know that I went to extremes in persecuting the Church of God and tried to destroy it; I made progress in Jewish observance far beyond most of my contemporaries, in my excess of zeal to live out all the traditions of my ancestors.

But the time came when he who had set me apart before I was born and called me by his favor chose to reveal his Son to me, that I might spread among the Gentiles the good tidings concerning him. Immediately, without seeking human advisers or even going to Jerusalem to see those who were apostles before me, I went off to Arabia later I returned to Damascus. Three years after that I went up to Jerusalem to get to know Cephas, with whom I stayed fifteen days. I did not meet any other apostles except James, the brother of the Lord.

Alleluia (tone 6): Lord, remember David and all his meekness. (Psalm 131:1) How he swore an oath to the Lord, and vowed to the God of Jacob. (Psalm 131:2)

Gospel: (Matthew 2:13-23)

When the wise men had left, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph with the command: "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you otherwise. Herod is searching for the child to destroy him." Joseph got up and took the child and his mother and left that night for Egypt. He stayed there until the death of Herod, to fulfill what the Lord said through the prophet: "Out of Egypt I have called my son."

Once Herod realized that he had been deceived by the astrologers, he became furious. He ordered the massacre of all the boys two years old and under in Bethlehem and its environs, making his calculations on the basis of the date he had learned from the astrologers. What was said through Jeremiah the prophet was then fulfilled: "A cry was heard at Ramah, sobbing and loud lamentation: Rachel bewailing her children; no comfort for her, since they are no more."



But after Herod's death, the angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt with the command: "Get up, take the child and his mother, and set out for the land of Israel. Those who had designs on the life of the child are dead." He got up, took the child and his mother, and returned to the land of Israel. He heard, however, that Archelaus had succeeded his father Herod as king of Judea, and he was afraid to go back there. Instead, because of a warning received in a dream, Joseph went to the region of Galilee. There he settled in a town called Nazareth. In this way what was said through the prophets was fulfilled: "He shall be called a Nazorean."

Hymn to the Mother of God: O my soul, magnify Christ the King born in a manger.

Irmos: A strange and glorious mystery do I behold:* the cave is heaven;* the Virgin, the throne of the cherubim;* the manger, a dwelling place* in which is laid Christ, the God Whom nothing can contain.* Singing His praises, we magnify Him.

Communion Hymns: Praise the Lord from the heavens;* praise Him in the highest (Psalm 148:1).* Rejoice in the Lord, O you just;* praise befits the righteous (Psalm 32:1).* **Alleluia, alleluia.**

Instead of "Blessed is He who comes..." we sing: All creation is filled with rejoicing today, for Christ is born of a Virgin.

Instead of "We have seen the true light..." we sing: All creation is filled with rejoicing today, for Christ is born of a Virgin.

Instead of "May our mouths..." and "Blessed be the Name..." we sing: All creation is filled with rejoicing today, for Christ is born of a Virgin. (3)

Недільні літургійні частини Українською мовою:

1-й Антифон

Стих: Ісповімся тобі, Господи, всім серцем моїм, розповім про всі чуда твої. (Пс. 9:2).

Приспів: Молитвами Богородиці, Спасе, спаси нас.

Стих: На раді праведних і соньмі – великі діла Господні, явлені в усіх волях його.

Приспів: Молитвами Богородиці, Спасе, спаси нас.

Стих: Ісповідування і велич – діло його і правда його перебуває повік віку.

Приспів: Молитвами Богородиці, Спасе, спаси нас.

+ Слава Отцю, і Сину, і Святому Духові. І нині, і повсякчас, і на віки вічні. Амінь. Єдинородний Сину: (сторінка 22)

3-й Антифон

Співаємо звичайні третій антифон (сторінка 24), але з приспівом:

Спаси нас, Сину Божий, що родився від Діви, співаємо тобі: Алилуя.

Тропар (глас 6): Ангельські сили на гробі Твоїм* і сторожі омертвіли;* Марія ж стояла при гробі,* шукаючи пречистого тіла Твого.* Полонив Ти ад і, не переможений від нього,* зустрів Ти Діву, даруючи життя.* Воскреслий з мертвих, Господи, слава Тобі!

Тропар (*елас 4*): Різдво твоє, Христе Боже наш,* засвітило світові світло розуміння:* в ньому бо ті, що звіздам служили, від звізди навчилися* поклонятися тобі — Сонцю правди,* і пізнавати тебе — Схід з висоти.* Господи, слава тобі.

Тропар (*глас 2*): Благовістуй, Йосифе, чудеса Давидові, богоотцю.* Ти бачив Діву, що родила;* з пастирями славословив Ти,* з волхвами поклонився Ти, від ангела вістку прийнявши.* Моли Христа Бога спасти душі наші.

+Слава Отцю, і Сину, і Святому Духові.

Кондак (глас 3): Днесь радости сповняється божественний Давид,* а Йосиф хвалу з Яковом приносить;* вінець бо прийнявши через споріднення з Христом, радуються,* і несказанно на землі родженого оспівують, і кличуть:* Щедрий, спасай тих, що Тебе почитають.

І нині, і повсякчас, і на віки вічні. Амінь.

Кондак (глас 3): Діва днесь преістотного родить* і земля вертеп неприступному приносить.* Ангели з пастирями славословлять,* а волхви зо звіздою подорожують,* бо ради нас родилося дитя мале – предвічний Бог.

Прокімен (глас 4): Дивний Бог у святих своїх,* Бог Ізраїлів. (Пс. 67, 36).

Стих: В церквах благословіть Бога, Господа, ви– з джерел ізраїлевих. (Пс. 67, 27).

Прокімен (глас 4): Дивний Бог у святих своїх,* Бог Ізраїлів. (Пс. 67, 36).

Апостол: До Галатів послання Святого Апостола Павла читання: (Гл. 1, 11-19)

Браття та Сестри, сповіщаю вам, що Євангеліє, яке я вам проповідував, не від людей; бо ж я його не прийняв, ні навчився від людини, а через об'явлення Ісуса Христа. Ви чули про мою поведінку колись у юдействі, про те, що я жорстоко переслідував Церкву Божу та руйнував її. Я визначався серед багатьох ровесників з мого роду, бувши запеклим прихильником передань моїх предків. Та коли Той, хто вибрав мене вже від утроби моєї матері і покликав Своєю благодаттю, зволив об'явити в мені Сина Свого, щоб я проповідував Його між поганами, я негайно, ні з ким не радившись, не пішов у Єрусалим до тих, що були апостолами передо мною, але пішов в Арабію і потім повернувся в Дамаск. Три роки після того пішов я в Єрусалим відвідати Петра. Іншого з апостолів я не бачив, крім Якова, брата Господнього.

Алилуя *(глас 4)*: Пом'яни, Господи, Давида і всю кротость його (Пс 131, 1). Бо клявся він Господеві, обіцявся Богові Якова (Пс. 131,2). **Євангеліє**: *(Мт. 2,13-23)*

Коли відійшли мудреці, то ангел Господній у сні явився Йосифові, кажучи: Встань, візьми дитя і матір Його, і втікай в Єгипет, і будь там, поки скажу тобі, бо Ірод хоче шукати дитя, щоб погубити Його. А він, вставши, взяв дитя та матір Його вночі і відійшов у Єгипет. І був там до смерти Іродової, щоб збулося сказане від Господа пророком, що говорив: 3 Єгипту



визвав Я сина Мого. Тоді Ірод, побачивши, що був поруганий волхвами, розгнівався дуже і післав повбивати всіх дітей, що були у Вифлеємі і всіх околицях його, від двох років і нижче, згідно з часом, про який докладно розпитав у мудреців. Тоді збулося сказане Єремією пророком, що говорить: Голос в Рамі чути було, плач і ридання і голосіння велике. Рахиль — оплакуюча дітей своїх: і не хотіла утішитися, бо їх немає. І коли помер Ірод, то ангел Господень у сні явився Йосифові в Єгипті, кажучи: Встань, візьми дитя і матір Його і йди в землю Ізраїлеву, бо вимерли ті, що шукали душі дитяти. А він, вставши, взяв дитя і матір Його і прийшов в землю Ізраїлеву. Та почувши, що Архилай царює в Юдеї замість Ірода, батька свого, побоявся туди йти, а прийнявши вість у сні, відійшов в сторони галилейські. І прийшовши, поселився в городі, званім Назарет, щоб збулося сказане пророками, що Назарянином назветься.

Замість Достойно: Величай, душе моя, у вертепі народженого Царя — Христа. *Ірмос (глас 1):* Таїнство чудне бачу і преславне: небо — вертеп, престол херувимський — Діву, ясла — вмістилище, в яких возліг невмістимий Христос Бог. Його оспівуючи величаємо.

Причасні: Хваліте Господа з небес,* хваліте Його на висотах (*Пс. 148,1*). Радуйтеся, праведні, у Господі, правим належить похвала (*Пс. 32,1*). **Алилуя** (х3).

За Галицьким звичайем співаємо: Всесвіт днесь радістю сповняється, Христос родився від Діви. Замість "Благословенний, хто йде в ім'я..." (1х) "Ми бачили світло істинне..." (х1) "Нехай сповняться уста..." (х3) і "Нехай буде ім'я..." (х3).

THANK YOU VERY MUCH! ЩИРО ВАМ ДЯКУЄМО!

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, organized, participate at our parish community Christian ministry, volunteered by helping our parish community and via our Christian church in various ways helping people, supporting people of 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, shared the meal and joyfully attended our parish Christmas Day dinner, caroling and welcoming our church carollers, 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 to dormitionetransfer2023@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: 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.

Help Ukraine! 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



May the Almighty God bless in good health, peace, love, joy and salvation in many, happy and blessed years of life to our Eparchial Bishop of Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of New Westminster His Excellency Most Rev. Bishop Michael Kwiatkowski, newly ordained Rev. Fr. Curtis McKenzie, SJ., and to all parishioners, friends, guests and visitors and Christian family members who celebrate Christmas/Nativity in the Flesh/Birthday of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, New Year's Day, birthdays of Mrs. Sayvonne McBride on her birthday (Jan. 1st), Ms. Marion McAreavy on her birthday (Jan. 2nd), Nicole Nikilchyk on her birthday (Jan. 2nd), Mr. Steven Popyk on his birthday (Jan. 3rd), Ms. Donna Peake on her birthday (Jan. 4th), and to all Christians celebrating their birthdays, heavenly patron's name-days saint's Blessed Virgin Mary (Dec. 26th) and Saint Joseph (Dec. 26th), Saint Steven (Dec. 27th), Saint Basil/Vasyl' (Jan. 1st) wedding anniversaries, and any other special celebrations 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: DormitinionKelowna Parish: https://www.facebook.com/dormitionkelowna.parish.5

Discover Canada's 2nd National Martyr's Shrine



The Bishop Velychkovsky National Martyr's Shrine is located at St. Joseph's Ukrainian Catholic Church at 250 Jefferson Avenue in Winnipeg Manitoba.

Come and experience this prayerful, peaceful atmosphere of holiness before the precious Holy Relics of Blessed Martyr Vasyl Velychkovsky. You can also tour

the Museum and visit the Gift Shop to learn more about this modern day martyr and how he was such a great witness to the truth of the Gospel.

Open: Tuesday to Friday – 10 am to 5pm

Saturday - 10 am to 1 pm

Sunday - after 10 a.m. Liturgy

Also every Wednesday:

1:30 pm Praying for Ukraine

7 p.m. Devotional Service

For more information:

Visit the website: bymartyrshrine.com

Call 204-338-7321

Email: info@bvmartyrshrine.com



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

Please, be assured that Rev. Fr. Pavlo Myts, as your spiritual father-pastor, is gratefully praying to The Almighty God, loving, thinking and spiritually carrying for all of you daily! Please pray for one another and especially for those who are ill, suffering be 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 Ostopowich, Keyton A., Shelley M., Kathleen S., Chelsea M., Carmella M., Bernard M., Darrin M., Kit C., Shirley C., George Dashkewytch, Kay Ilnitski, Kalyna Kociuba, William Shuya, Peter Huska and Family, 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 Tomashevska and The Family, Shane Bettin, Patricia Sawadsky, Michael Shykula, Robert Emery, Jacob and Anne Dressler, Lorraine Pasemko, Rose Gaba, Bill Boitson, Walter Achtymichuk. Pauline Rabbitskin, Mary Harasymyshyn, Veronica Chernesky, for peace in the World, for all people defending Ukraine and all refugees at the time of war, Dmyterko Families, Fr. Yuriy Vyshnevskyy and The Family, Fr. Pavlo Myts and The Family, and all members of our Christian parochial family and those who are not able to join actively in our community, your families, relatives, friends and neighbours; governments and armed forces, especially the shut-in or those in the hospitals, traveling, working or studying, nursing and senior homes,

seeking God's answer to their prayers or those rejoicing with God's answer; your spiritual fathers, those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries; those called to their eternal reward and for the family they leave behind; widows and widowers, orphans, homeless, those who love us and those who hate, use & hurt us; and all people who have asked us pray for them. Please, also in your kindness keep praying those daily for vocations to the priesthood and religious life. Remember to ask for special blessings to all Christian families and yourselves! **REMINDER** for families of individuals, who are admitted to hospital. If you or a family member is admitted to hospital and you wish to have a priest visit, please be sure to have someone call our parish rectory office to make this request. Your pastor may have no other way of knowing that you are in hospital, as privacy legislation.

<u>SPIRIT OF CHRISTIAN AWARENESS</u>: Dear parishioners, if our brother or sister in Christ, who usually sits next to you, is not in the Church today, please phone him / her and ask how he / she is doing. Let him or her know that our parish community misses his or her at the church very much and prays for them daily! We also pray for the people of Ukraine, that with the help of the Holy Spirit, they may obtain social peace, political harmony and economic stability: Lord, hear us and have mercy.

Basic Guidelines for Reception of Holy Communion: You are a member of the Catholic Church (faithful of the Orthodox churches are very welcome to receive Holy Communion); 2) You have participated in the Sacrament of Confession at least during the Easter or Christmas seasons this past year if not more frequently; 3) You attend Divine Services regularly; 4) Your lifestyle is consistent with the teaching of the Catholic Church; 5) You have kept the Liturgical fast – no food at least one hour prior to the Divine Liturgy (water and medicine does not break the fast). 6) You have been in church from the beginning of the service, or at least heard the Gospel. 7) To the best of your ability, you are in the state of Grace. If for any of these or other reasons you cannot receive Holy Communion, you are very welcome to come for a blessing. Please indicate to the priest that you would like to receive his blessing.

<u>Pastoral and Sacramental Ministry:</u> Baptisms: by appointment. Marriages: six months' notice should be given to the parish priest, and he should be contacted before any other arrangements are made. Reconciliation: by appointment. Holy Communion: for the sick, by appointment, any time. Holy Unction (Anointing of the Sick): Those anticipating surgery, hospitalization or treatments and who would like to receive anointing (by appointment, any time). Funerals and Memorials: by appointment.

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

The Bishop Velychkovsky National Martyr's Shrine is located in Winnipeg. We invite those that might be traveling this summer to plan a spiritual pilgrimage to spend time before the Holy Relics of Blessed Vasyl Velychkovsky!

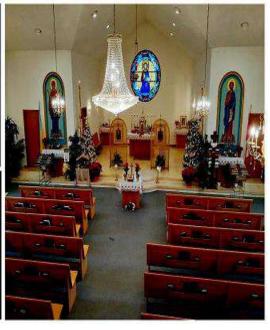
The Redemptorist TV team: www.redemptorist.tv

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







"Не бійтесь, бо я звіщаю вам велику радість, що буде радістю всього народу!" (Євангеліє від Святого Луки 2, 10)

"Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people!"

(Gospel according to Saint Luke 2:10)

Христос Рождається! - Славімо Його! Chrystos Rozhdaiet'sia! - Slavimo Yoho! Christ Is Born! Let us glorify Him!

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, Friends!

May Our Lord, God and Saviour Jesus Christ keep blessing, protecting and guiding You and all Your dear ones with His Divine Peace,

Love and Joy at Christmas

and throughout New 2024 Year of The Lord!

Нехай Новонароджений Спаситель
Господь наш Ісус Христос благословить Вас миром, радістю та усім добром!
Бажаємо Вам Веселих Свят та Мирного,
Шасливого Нового 2024 Року Божого!

Let us continue to pray and help Ukraine at the time of war today!

With Christian love, prayers and gratitude sincerely Yours in Christ,

Veronica, Nazariy, Mariia and Rev. Fr. Pavlo Myts

(Vernon-Kelowna-Penticton, BC)

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.

We also pray for our newly-ordained father and bishop (Kyr) Michael, that he may preach the gospel with boldness as a faithful shepherd, laboring for the sanctification of the Church and faithful in this eparchy: we pray You Lord, hear us and have mercy.

Молимося також за нашого нововисвяченого отця і єпископа Кир Михаїла, щоб він з відвагою міг проповідувати євангеліє як вірний пастир, що працює для освячення Церкви і вірних цієї єпархії: молимося Тобі Господи, вислухай і помилуй

Petition for the Sanctity of Human Life: We also pray for an end to euthanasia and assisted suicide in Canada; that the Lord God grant us courage to seek out and visit the sick and lonely; that healthcare workers may have fortitude in upholding the moral law; and that He grant hope to those in despair, humility to those who insist on control, and a renewed sense of dignity to those who have lost sight of their inherent worth; Lord, hear us and have mercy!

Petition for the victory of the Ukrainian armed forces: We also pray for the people of Ukraine, that they may be granted peace, freedom, and unity; for strength, protection, and divine assistance for the Ukrainian armed forces; and that Russian invaders would be converted and turn away from all war and violence; we pray you, Lord, hear us and have mercy!

Petition for peace throughout the world: We also pray for the people of Israel and Palestine, that they may be delivered from this violent conflict; for divine assistance and mercy for the injured and all hostages, for those who mourn, and for all who have been driven from their homes; that those who pursue revenge and violence may forsake hatred and terror; and that those who labour for peace may be strengthened; we pray you, Lord, hear us and have mercy. Молимось також за народи Ізраїлю і Палестини, щоб вони змогли подолати цей жорстокий конфлікт; за

божественну опіку над пораненими і полоненими; за тих, хто оплакує померлих і за тих, хто втратив домівки; щоб ті, хто слідує шляхом помсти і насильства зреклися ненависті і терору; і щоб ті, хто трудиться заради миру були скріплені на силах, молимось Тобі Господи, вислухай і помилуй. підтримку, відвагу і наполегливість, молимось Тобі Господи, вислухай і помилуй.

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 ______________________ for the benefit of the church/parish and it's needs and pastoral ministry.

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED AND ALWAYS TRULY 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 (a lady and a gentlemen faithful leaders volunteering and forming Chrisrian brothers and sisters prayerful groups at our parish; 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, 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 or Fr. Pavlo for more information. You will be amazed how "BEING" can make a difference at our spiritual, parish life! Every Christian parishioner is personally responsible before God for our spiritual home-parish church! NOTE: 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

₩e 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 Dorminition of The Mother of God Ukrainian Catholic Church. Our parish WE Help Ukraine commettee volunteers has thoutfully serched for, bought, organized and prepared a special gifts for new Ukrainian families receintly arrived and warmly welcomed at our Christian community.



Catechetical online resources in English and Ukrainian languages:

• Royal Doors with daily readings and reflections, UGCC

- Catechism online, articles,

etc.: https://www.royaldoors.net/

• Formed: Christian movies, TV shows, prayers,

etc.: https://watch.formed.org/browse

• Dynamic Catholic. Beautiful resource for the whole family with Catechism for children, marriage, enrichment programs, etc.: https://dynamiccatholic.com

Живе ТВ.: https://zhyve.tv
 Світ.: https://dyvensvit.org
 Катехизм

УГКЦ.: http://catechismugcc.org/



SUNDAY CATECHISM

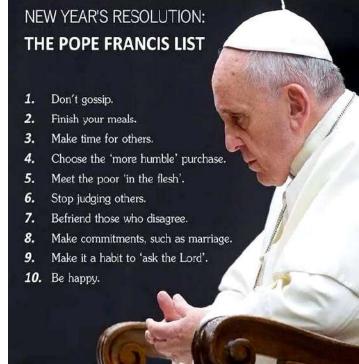
SCHOOL: "And they were bringing to Him also the infants, in order that He may be touching them; but after the disciples saw it,

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 welcome all children to our Dormition of the Mother of God Parish Catechism program.

The children will learn about their Christian orthodox faith in the Catholic Church, sacred scripture, feast days, icons, tradition, singing, religious practices and customs of the Ukrainian Catholic Church.

Ukrainian - speaking volunteers are needed for children, ages 4 to 6. These children come with so much enthusiasm and joy' but they do



need more supervision and attention. If we can have several people volunteer, they can take turns helping. Your help would be appreciated very much!! Materials will be provided for the children.

Also there is usually another table set up for the older children for any activity or socialization they would like.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please do not hesitate to call our parish catechism teacher, Mrs. Marilyn Daulat 250- 801-7538 or pastor Fr. Pavlo Myts.

Діти дізнаються про свою християнську православну віру в Католицькій Церкві, Святе Письмо, свята, ікони, традиції, співи, релігійні обряди та звичаї Української Католицької Церкви. Для дітей віком від 4 до 6 років потрібні україномовні волонтери. Ці діти приходять із великим ентузіазмом і радістю, але вони потребують більше нагляду та уваги. Якщо ми матимемо декілька людей волонтерів, вони можуть по черзі допомагати. Будемо дуже вдячні за вашу допомогу!! Дітям будуть надані необхідні матеріали. Крім того, зазвичай для старших дітей накривають інший стіл для будь-якої активності чи спілкування, які вони бажають. Якщо у вас є запитання чи пропозиції, будь ласка, не соромтеся зателефонувати нашій парафіяльній вчительці катехизму пані Мерилін Даулат 250-801-7538 або пастору о.Павлові Миць

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.



Rachel's Corner: "I am so happy I have been able to receive Communion after so many years! I am not more than God to not forgive myself and I need to learn to see myself as God does." -Testimonial Join the men and women on a Rachel' Vineyard Retreat, and let God show you how He sees you, loves you and wants to restore you to the son and daughter He created you to be. Come on a Rachel's Vineyard™ Retreat and let Him show you. info@rachelsvineyardkelowna.com f Rachel's Vineyard Kelowna 250-762-2273 Confidentiality assured.

If you have our parish hall or parking rental inquiry, please contact directly our Church Office Manager Mrs. Oksana Udalova: dormitionofficemanager@gmail.com Cell phone: (250) 801-9077 Church parish office / cultural centre-hall and kitchen Tel: (250) 763-7447 Church Office open: Monday-Friday: from 12:30 am to 4:30 pm.





Thank you for your generosity donation!

But, for a moment we don't accept donation as: clothing, furniture, and any items for a home. Please don't hesitate to contact us for any questions tel. 250-763-7447

Запрошую ваших дітей на заняття з сучасного танцю!

Заняття кожну суботу
13.30-14.30 середні 8-11років
14.30-15.15 молодші 4-7 років
15.15-16.30 дорослі 12+
Потрібно мати змінне взуття (кросівки)
Гімнастичний килимок та гарний настрій)"

Natalia Teslia

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 FOOD SALES is also available at Earthly Creation Floral, 2630 Pandosy Street, Kelowna, BC V1Y 1V6 open 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. from Monday to Friday.



'KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS' - as part of our parish fundraiser these special magnets are available for purchase at a donation of \$ 10.∞. By placing on our cars, a magnet KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS, prepared by the Knights of Columbus, we evangelize silently and

verbally through this wonderful Christian symbol. In addition, by purchasing this magnet we also support our parish, since all money collected in our parish for these magnets are donated by the Knights of Columbus to our parish.

Our parish church, hall inside building, cleaning up before our Parish 3-month Hall Renovation starts. Please, come and help at 11 am on Tue., Jan. 2nd. 2024 A.D. More parishioners come to help – more joyful, easier and faster the work will be done! Your time and care are truly appreciated!



Слава Iсусу Христу! Glory to Jesus Christ!

THE PARISH COUNCIL IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE A MAJOR RENOVATION OF THE PARISH HALL. This is a very exciting project and will provide our church with a beautiful facility to gather as a Christian family, host events, and rent out as a source of revenue. We are also pleased to report that the <u>full cost of the renovation was donated</u> by one of our parishioners, so it will not financially impact our church.

The parish hall was built in the '80s, and several items are in need of upgrading or complete replacement because they no longer work. This renovation will include the following items.

- · Stretch ceiling to cover the spray-on ceiling, including LED lights and larger fans.
- Sand and refinish the hardwood floor.
- New electrical outlets, new light switches, and replace all the floor vents. Millwork to hide pipes and electrical.
- Paint all the walls and ceilings of the foyer, bathrooms, kitchen, and large hall walls.
- New LED lights in the kitchen, hall, and foyer.
- New swamp cooler in the kitchen, which currently is disconnected and not functional.
- Replace the main air conditioner unit in the hall, which is not working anymore, and extend the ducting to
 provide better cooling.
- Service the existing furnaces and clean out the entire ducting system, which has not been done in years!
- A new upgraded Audio and Visual package, including wireless microphones, Bluetooth connectivity, an automatic screen, and an HD projector mounted from the ceiling.
- New roller shades for the kitchen.
- Storage cabinets along the east wall by the kitchen, with countertops.
- Extended bar and kitchen counters.
- A new coffee station with upgraded coffee machines!
- Bathroom upgrades, including new LED lights, paint, and upgraded plumbing (which is currently below building code), along with new sinks and toilets.

In addition, THE FIRE INSPECTOR RECENTLY FAILED OUR ENTIRE FIRE ALARM SYSTEM as it is not functioning properly. This "fail" grade by the fire department means that if a fire damages our church, we will not be eligible for insurance coverage. As such, we will upgrade the entire system, including a new Fire Control Panel and 11 new smoke detectors, upgraded fire extinguishers, and a new fire suppression system in the kitchen, which currently does not work.

This exciting and necessary list of repairs and upgrades will take approximately 90 days to complete. We are going to start this project on <u>January 2</u>, <u>2024</u>, and will be done before Easter week on <u>March 24th</u>. <u>During this time</u>, the hall will <u>be inaccessible</u>. We appreciate your patience during this time and ask that you understand that several of these items need to be replaced and fixed. If you have any questions, please contact any member of the parish council.





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Goto: www.kofc.org/joinus

PROMO CODE: BLESSEDMCGIVNEY



After joining online, please check your inbox for confirmation.

Knights of Columbus Лицарі Колумба - Free 1 Year On-Line Membership. You can enjoy the benefits of being a Knights of Columbus member including Accidental Death Benefit, access to Faith Formation e-books and videos, and receiving the famous monthly Columbia Magazine. Go to: www.kofc.org/joinus Promo Code: BLESSEDMCGIVNEY Enter the name of our Parish in the applicable field. After joining, please check your INBOX for confirmation. For more information, please contact Adrian Kopystynski at adk.bckofc@gmail.com



VIBRANT PARISH PRAYER: O Lord Jesus Christ, our Good Shepherd, as you once gathered lost sheep that they might hear Your voice and be your flock, so also today graciously look down from heaven upon our parish community, and send down on it your Holy Spirit, that it might be a place to receive the joy of Your Good News. Strengthen us with your presence, and always gather us together in prayer. Grant us the spirit of serving others, so that in our parish all might encounter You, the merciful God. Bless our spiritual leaders with Your wisdom, and inspire us to generously give of our time, talents and

treasure for the building up of Your Kingdom. Unite us in peace and harmony, as befits Your community of love. Instill in us a missionary spirit, and let our parish community shine with the light of the Gospel, with prayer and good works, inviting all to share in the divine life, so that Your Name, O Saviour, may be praised, together with Your eternal Father, and Your most-holy, good and life-giving Spirit. Amen.



молитва живої парафії: Господи Ісусе Христе, Пастирю Добрий, як колись Ти пригорнув заблуканих овечок, щоб вони пізнали Твій голос і були Твоїм стадом, так і сьогодні глянь ласкаво з небесних висот на нашу парафію та зі шли на неї Твого Святого Духа, щоб вона була місцем пізнання радості Доброї Новини. Скріплюй нас Твоєю присутністю та єднай нас кожночасно в молитві. Даруй нам духа служіння ближньому, щоб у нашій парафії кожний міг зустріти Тебе, милостивого Бога. Благослови наш духовний провід Твоєю мудрістю і дай, щоб ніхто з нас

шкодував ні часу, ні талантів, ні матеріальних дібр для розбудови Твого царства. Єднай нас у мирі та злагоді, щоб ми були Твоєю спільнотою любові. Всели в нас місійного духа, щоб ми стали тим світилом євангельського слова, молитви і добрих діл, що кличе кожного до участі в Божественному житті, щоб славилося, Спасе, Твоє Ім'я з безначальним Твоїм Отцем та пресвятим, благим і животворящим Твоїм Духом нині, і повсякчас, і на віки віків. Амінь.



PRAYER FOR PEACE IN UKRAINE

O Lord Jesus Christ, our God, we entreat You to hear the earnest prayer of Your beloved Church of Kyivan Rus' for her deeply afflicted children abiding in the land of Ukraine. Behold their grave sorrow and grievous plight, and speedily come to their aid. Deliver Your vulnerable people from unjust aggressors, foreign invasion and the terror of war. Strengthen courageous defenders of the nation to fight virtuously, inspired more by love of those they protect than hatred of the enemy.

O compassionate Lord, shelter the displaced, heal the wounded, console the orphan, protect the widow, comfort those who mourn, and mercifully receive into Your Kingdom those who have nobly died guarding their homeland against every aggression. Quickly make cease the spilling of blood of friend and foe alike, yet stir many to bravely struggle for that true justice which alone can bring lasting peace.

O kind-hearted Lord, as You are our peace, soften the hearts of the unmerciful and convert those who promote hostilities toward reconciliation, so that Your beloved children of the land of Ukraine, may abide in that tranquility, justice and freedom which reflects your Kingdom, where You reign with Your eternal Father, and Your most holy, good and life-giving Spirit, now, and forever and ever. Amen.

МОЛИТВА ЗА МИР В УКРАЇНІ

Господи Ісусе Христе Боже наш, благаємо Тебе, вислухай щиру молитву Твоєї улюбленої Церкви Київської Русі за важко страждаючих дітей українського краю. Споглянь милостивим оком на їх лихоліття та ласкаво поспіши на допомогу. Звільни беззахисний народ від несправедливих загарбників, нашестя агресорів та терору війни. Зміцни силою Твоєю усіх доблесних і відважних захисників для доброчесної боротьби, щоб вони радше керувалися любов'ю до беззахисних, аніж ненавистю до ворогів. О Премилосердний Господи, захорони переселенців, зціли поранених, борони сиріт, підтримай вдів, потіш скорботних та ласкаво прийми до Твого Царства всіх, хто благородно віддав своє життя в обороні Батьківщини від нападів ворогів. Поспіши зупинити кровопролиття як друга, так і недруга та запали серця багатьох до мужньої боротьби за істинну справедливість, що є джерелом тривалого миру. О добросердий Господи, Ти – наш мир, пом'якши зачерствілі серця, наверни тих, хто сприяє воєнним діям, до примирення, щоб Твій улюблений українській народ втішався миром, справедливістю та свободою - ознаками Твого Царства, в якому Ти царюсш з Предвічним Твоїм Отцем, і Всесвятим, Благим і Животворним Твоїм Духом, нині, і повсякчас, і на віки віків. Амінь.

"Ukraine stands and will stand firm. Ukraine battles — and will win its battle. Ukraine prays - and will receive from the Lord God what it prays for": His Beatitude Sviatoslav

The UGCC Department for Information on December 21, 2023 A.D. Source: https://ugcc.ua/en/data/ukraine-stands-and-will-stand-firm-ukraine-battles-and-will-win-its-battle-ukraine-prays-and-will-receive-from-the-lord-god-what-it-prays-for-his-beatitude-sviatoslav-822/

YouTube Video: #Відкрита_Церква з Блаженнішим Святославом: підсумки року. #47, 21.12.2023 A.D.: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ym6xel-AQNI

Ukraine is preparing for the second Christmas since Russia's all-out invasion of Ukraine - the "great war," as it is termed, although this war and invasion has been lasting for ten years. The world seems to have adjusted to the fact that Ukraine is at war: the subject of Ukraine is still in the headlines and news feeds of the world's media, but this news is not as "hot" as it was in early 2022. Statements by European and American politicians are becoming more and more ambiguous. The issue of financial and military aid to Ukraine is becoming a "trump card" in the political game. It is becoming increasingly difficult for Ukraine.



Nonetheless, every day, the Head of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, His Beatitude Sviatoslav, recounting the General Staff's report on the progress of this great war, states: "Ukraine stands. Ukraine fights. Ukraine prays." These words are heard throughout Ukraine and the world; they are heard in the occupied territories and where the front line now runs. Perhaps these words represent the central outcomes of this year and what Ukraine is carrying into the celebration of the Birth of God's Son.

In the final program of the Open Church, the Father and Head of the UGCC, His Beatitude Sviatoslav, once again highlighted these focal points for Ukraine:

"We do have good news that the world should be aware of. The fact that Ukraine is standing is not only a human miracle but also a God-given one. Despite our challenges and the desire of some for our collapse, we persist. This resilience of Ukrainians impresses the world.

Perhaps we are also becoming more aware of ourselves: we genuinely understand that we are a nation of great heroes who can speak about great things to the whole world. The world has adjusted to the reality that there is a war in Ukraine, but the world has not forgotten about us or no longer supports us. On the contrary! I think the Ukrainian Churches, including our Church, volunteers, diplomats, and politicians, are doing everything to ensure that the world sees us standing.

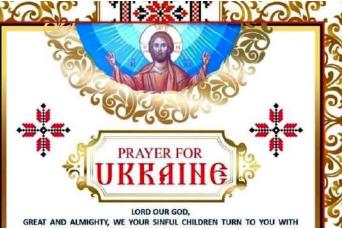
We are fighting. And our fight has not lasted two years, or even nine or ten. Our battle, the battle against the colonizer who comes from Moscow, has been raging for centuries. This year, we commemorated the Holodomor, the genocide, and the 90th anniversary of this great tragedy, when we were doomed to destruction. But we are still fighting to this day! They tried not just to take our lives but to kill our will to live, our will to freedom. But we possess it, and this will is forged like steel, even when it brings us trials and tribulations.

And we pray. Moreover, the way Ukrainians conduct themselves and profess their Christian faith in times of war is also something to be admired by the world. Many European bishops told me that Europe has experienced more than one war, both

European and world wars. Yet, European Christianity did not develop a spirit of Christianity during the war. Thus, Ukraine, and our Church as well, gives this testimony of professing the Christian faith, an ability not only to be a human being but also to be a Christian in inhuman and absolutely non-Christian circumstances. This testimony is incredibly important and valuable today.

Therefore, Ukraine stands and will stand firm. Ukraine battles — and will win its battle. Ukraine prays — and will receive from the Lord God what it prays for," His Beatitude Sviatoslav emphasized.





HUMILITY IN OUR HEARTS AND BOW OUR HEADS LOW BEFORE YOU. WE BESEECH 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.

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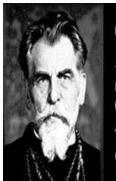
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Патріарх Йосиф Сліпий:

«Нині віра в Бога, в Христа – це найважніша 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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