

Dormition of The Mother of God Ukrainian Catholic Church

1091 Coronation Avenue, Kelowna, BC V1Y 7A8

Pastor's office / residence Tel.:(250) 860-7295

Church Office Manager: Mrs. Oksana Udalova: dormitionofficemanager@gmail.com

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>

Saint Josaphat Vernon: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61551660554811>

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

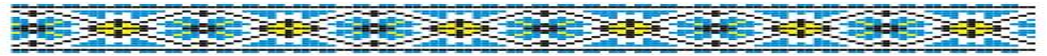


Успення Пресвятої Богородиці Українська Католицька Церква

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

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

Cellphone: (250) 801-9077



THOMAS SUNDAY / ТОМИНА НЕДІЛЯ - April 7th, 2024 A.D.

"I can see, thanks to the light of the Sun; but if I close my eyes, I can not see, and this is no fault of the Sun, it is my own fault, because by closing my eyes, I prevent the sunlight from reaching me!"

– Saint Thomas Aquinas reminds all people in the World today

Christian Greetings: (March 31st - May 9th): **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!

Your pastor has thoughtfully prepared this church weekly letter/bulletin 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:

THOMAS SUNDAY April 7th 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.

Mon. April 8th at **6:30 p.m. - 6:55 p.m.** Sacrament of Reconciliation / Confession

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

Tue. April 9th at **9:30 a.m.** The Divine Liturgy: *repose of the soul of Mr. William Shuya* (Funeral service is requested by The Family)

Thurs. April 11th at **9:30 a.m.** The Divine Liturgy: *God's blessings for Mr. Ted and Mrs. Amelia Malfair*

Fri. April 12th at **9:30 a.m.** The Divine Liturgy: *God's blessings for The Emery Family*

Saturday, April 13th at **3:40 p.m.** Lectio Divina / Bible Studies: (Bible Studies, Catechism, Confession, Church Services

at Holy Resurrection of Our Lord Ukrainian Catholic Parish (361 Wade Avenue West) in Penticton, BC)

4:00 p.m. The Divine Liturgy: *God's blessings for all our parishioners, family members, all relatives and friends* (Eng./Ukr.)

SUNDAY April 14th 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.)

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.

Please, let us know about your attendance at our Parish Easter Potluck Lunch after the 9 a.m. bilingual Divine Liturgy on Sundy of April 14th, 2024 A.D. 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 10th, 2024 A.D. It will truly help us to know the amount of food to be prepared for the parishioners and guests attending.

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)*

Troparion (Tone 1): Though the stone was sealed by the Judeans and soldiers guarded Your most pure body, You arose, O Savior, on the third day, and gave life to the world. And so the heavenly powers cried out to You, O Giver of Life; Glory to your resurrection, O Christ! Glory to Your kingdom! Glory to Your saving plan, O only Lover of Mankind.

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

Kontakion (Tone 8): With his searching hand, Thomas explored Your life-giving side, O Christ God. For when You entered while the doors were shut, he called out to You with the rest of the Apostles: You are my Lord and my God!

Now and for ever and ever. Amen.

Kontakion (Tone 4): By Your own choice, O Christ our God, You were lifted on the cross. Grant Your mercies to Your new community that bears Your Name. By Your power gladden the faithful people, and grant them victory against enemies. May they have the help of Your instrument of peace, the invincible sign of victory.

Prokimenon (Tone 1): Let Your mercy, O Lord, be upon us, as we have hoped in You (Ps 32:22).

Verse: Praise the Lord, for a psalm is good; may praise be sweet to our God (Ps 146:1).

Prokimenon (Tone 3): Great is the Lord and great is His strength; and of His knowledge there is no end (Ps 146:5).

Epistle: A reading from the Acts of the Apostles (Acts 5:12-20)

In those days, through the hands of the apostles, *many signs and wonders occurred among the people. By mutual agreement they used to meet in Solomon's Portico. No one else dared to join them, despite the fact that the people held them in great esteem. Nevertheless, more and more believers, men and women in great numbers, were continually added to the Lord. The people carried the sick into the streets and laid them on cots and mattresses, so that when Peter passed by at least his shadow might fall on one or another of them. Crowds from the towns around Jerusalem would gather, too, bringing their sick and those who were troubled by unclean spirits, all of whom were cured.*



The high priest and all his supporters (that is, the party of Sadducees), filled with jealousy, arrested the apostles and threw them into the public jail. During the night, however, an angel of the Lord opened the gates of the jail, led them forth, and said, "Go out now and take your place in the temple precincts and preach to the people all about this new life."

Alleluia (Tone 8): Come, let us sing joyfully to the Lord, let us acclaim God our Saviour (Ps 94:1). For God is the great Lord and the great king over all the earth (Ps 94:3). Remember Your congregation which You acquired from the beginning (Ps 73:2).

Gospel (John 20:19-31)

At that time, on the evening of that first day of the week, even though the disciples had locked the doors of the place where they were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood before them. "Peace be with you," he said. When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. At the sight of the Lord the disciples rejoiced.

"Peace be with you," he said again. "As the Father has sent me, so I send you." Then he breathed on them and said: "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive men's sins, they are forgiven them; if you hold them bound, they are held bound."

It happened that one of the twelve, Thomas (the name means "twin"), was absent when Jesus came. The other disciples kept telling him: "We have seen the Lord!" His answer was, "I will never believe it without probing the nail prints in his hands, without putting my finger in the nail marks and my hand into his side."

A week later, the disciples were once more in the room, and this time Thomas was with them. Despite the locked doors, Jesus came and stood before them. "Peace be with you," he said; then to Thomas: "Take your finger and examine my hands. Put your hand into my side. Do not persist in your unbelief but believe!" Thomas said in response, "My Lord and my God!"

Jesus then said to him: "You became a believer because you saw me. Blest are they who have not seen and have believed."

Jesus performed many other signs as well – signs not recorded here – in the presence of his disciples. But these have been recorded to help you believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, so that through this faith you may have life in his name.

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: Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem. Praise your God, O Zion (Ps. 147, 1). *Alleluia!* (3x).

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 “Аміль”, 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** (х3).

Тропар (глас 1): Хоч запечатали камінь юдеї і воїни стерегли пречисте тіло Твоє, воскрес Ти, Спасе, на третій день, даруючи життя світові. Тому сили небесні зивали до Тебе, Життєдавче: Слава воскресінню Твоєму, Христе, слава царству Твоєму, слава провидінню Твоєму, єдиний Чоловіколюбче!

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

Кондак (глас 8): Допитливою десницею життєдайні твої ребра Тома провірив, Христе Боже, бо, хоч замкнені були двері, як ти увійшов, він із іншими апостолами кликав до тебе: Господь еси і Бог мій.

Прокімен (глас 3): Великий Господь наш і велика сила його, і розумові його немає міри (Пс. 146, 5).

Стих: Хваліте Господа, бо благодій псалом, Богові нашому нехай солодке буде хваління.

Прокімен (глас 3): Великий Господь наш і велика сила його, і розумові його немає міри (Пс. 146, 5).

Апостол: Діянь Святих Апостолів читання (Дн. 5, 12-20):

Тими днями руками апостолів робилося багато знаків і чудес у народі. Усі вони перебували однодушно у притворі Соломона, і ніхто сторонній не насмілювався до них пристати; однак народ хвалив їх вельми. Віруючих дедалі більше й більше приставало до Господа, сила жінок і чоловіків; так, що й на вулиці виносили недужих і клали на постелях і на ліжках, щоб, як ітиме Петро, бодай тіль його на когонебудь з них упала. Сила людей збиралась навіть з довколишніх міст Єрусалиму, несучи хворих та тих, що їх мучили нечисті духи, і вони всі видужували. Устав тоді первосвященик і всі ті, що були з ним, – то була секта садукєїв, – і, повні заздощів, наклали руки на апостолів і вкинули їх до громадської в'язниці. Але вночі ангел Господень відчинив двері в'язниці й, вивівши їх, мовив: «Ідіть і, ставши в храмі, говоріть до народу всі слова життя цього.

Алилуя (глас 8): Прийдіте, радісно заспіваймо Господеві, воскликнім Богу, Спасителеві нашому.

Стих: Бо Бог – великий Господь і цар великий по всій землі (Пс. 94, 3).

Євангеліє: (Ів. 20, 19-31)

А як звечоріло, того самого дня, першого в тижні, – а двері ж були замкнені там, де перебували учні: страхались бо юдеїв, – увиходить Ісус, став посередині та й каже їм: «Мир вам!» Це промовивши, показав їм руки й бік. І владувались учні, побачивши Господа. І ще раз Ісус їм каже: «Мир вам!» Як мене послав Отець, так я посилаю вас.» Це промовивши, дихнув на них і каже їм: «Прийміть Духа Святого! Кому відпустите гріхи – відпустяться їм, кому ж затримаєте – затримаються.» Тома ж, один з дванадцятьох, на прізвисько Близнюк, не був з ними, коли то прийшов був Ісус. Тож повідали йому інші учні: «Ми Господа бачили.» Та він відрік: «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!» По вісьмох днях знову були вдома його учні, а й Тома з ними. І ввіходить Ісус, – а двері були замкнені! – стає посередині та й каже: «Мир вам!» А тоді промовляє до Томи: «Подай сюди твій палець і глянь на мої руки. І руку твою простягни і вклади її у бік мій. Та й не будь невірющий, – а віруючий!» І відказав Тома, мовивши до нього: «Господь мій і Бог мій!» І каже йому Ісус: «Побачив мене, то й віруєш. Щасливі ті, які, не бачивши, увірвали!» Ще й інші численні чудеса, що їх не списано у цій книзі, вчинив Ісус на очу своїх учнів. А ції – списано, щоб увірвали ви, що Ісус – Христос, Син Божий, а вірувавши, – щоб мали життя в його ім'я.

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, востанням рождення твого.

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

Замість Благословен, хто йде в ім'я Господне: 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. Нехай сповняться: Христос воскрес із мертвих, смертю смерть подолав, і тим, що в гробах, життя дарував (х3).

Замість Будь ім'я Господне: 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 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, respect and unity in Christ by looking after and graciously supporting our Christian, Catholic Church communities in Okanagan Valley!

“Rev. Fr. Pavlo Myts and Family, Parish Council and All Parishioners. Thank you for thinking of my years of service to our parish. I appreciate the generous gift and kind thoughts on my 90th Birthday. I also wish to thank Rev. Fr. Andriy Werbowy and his Family for remembering my achievements. May God bless you all! In Christ, Mrs. Helen Hut.”

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 10th year 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 Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of New Westminster, 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

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 Vira Horbova on her birthday (April 1st), Iryna Mazur on her birthday (April 6th), Katya Posthumus on her birthday (April 8th), 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 Pfob on his birthday (April 13th), Lukas Pfob on his birthday (April 13th), and to all Christians at this very important, salvific spiritual journey of the Easter Sunday and Bright Week, and to all the faithful Christians celebrating their birthdays, heavenly patron's name-days, wedding anniversaries, Family Weekend and any other special anniversaries and 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: *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/>
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 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 Ostopowich, Keyton A., Shelley M., Fanny Kim, Danny M., Jordan M. Torin S., Sabre S., Keyton M., Dylan M., Bernard M., Darrin M., Kit C., Shirley C., George Dashkewych, 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 Tomashevskaya and The Family, Shane Bettin, Patricia Sawadsky, Michael Shykula, Robert Emery, Anne Dressler, Lorraine Pasemko, Rose Gaba, Bill Boitson, Walter Achtymichuk, Mary Harasymyshyn, Veronica Chernesky, Helen Hut, Elizabeth Hnylycia, Leah 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.

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: 1) 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

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: bvmartyrshrine.com

Call 204-338-7321

Email: info@bvmartyrshrine.com



cooperation and support. Pray for Ukraine. Slava Ukraini! YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFDrZoGsYeJG1IqgdZyfyMA>

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 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.**

On behalf of our Christian church family, assurance of our prayers and deepest sympathy are to The Family, all relatives and friends of Mr. William Shuya! May our Risen Lord, God and Saviour Jesus Christ place Mr. William Shuya's soul in the place where all the saints abide, and may his memory be everlasting with the Lord and our prayers! – Vichnaya Pamyat'! – Everlasting Memory!

Christian prayers-petitions for Ukraine: «*Ще молимося, щоб Господь Бог у своєму милосерді споглянув на весь наш український народ, у цей час війни захистив щитом своєї всемогутньої опіки наші міста і села, зцілив рани терплячих, подав свою вселаскаву допомогу всім потребуючим та дарував нам свій благословенний мир.*

Господи, вислухай і милостиво помилуй.

We also pray that the Lord God in His mercy will look upon our Ukrainian people, in this time of war and safeguard all cities and villages with His almighty protection, heal the wounds of those who suffer, grant His all-merciful help to all those in need and grant us His blessed peace.

Lord, hear us and mercifully have mercy.

Ще молимося, щоб всемилостивий Господь укріпив силою своєю українських воїнів, які захищають Батьківщину від російського агресора. Благаємо, щоб вони були збережені від ворожих нападів і всякої смертоносної рани та здобули перемогу в боротьбі за волю і гідність нашого народу. Господи, вислухай і милостиво помилуй».

We also pray that our all-merciful Lord will strengthen those defending the freedom of Ukraine and convert the hearts and souls of the Russian aggressors. We pray that those defending the freedom of Ukraine will be protected from enemy attacks and any deadly wound and will win the fight for the freedom and dignity of our people. Lord, hear us and have mercy.

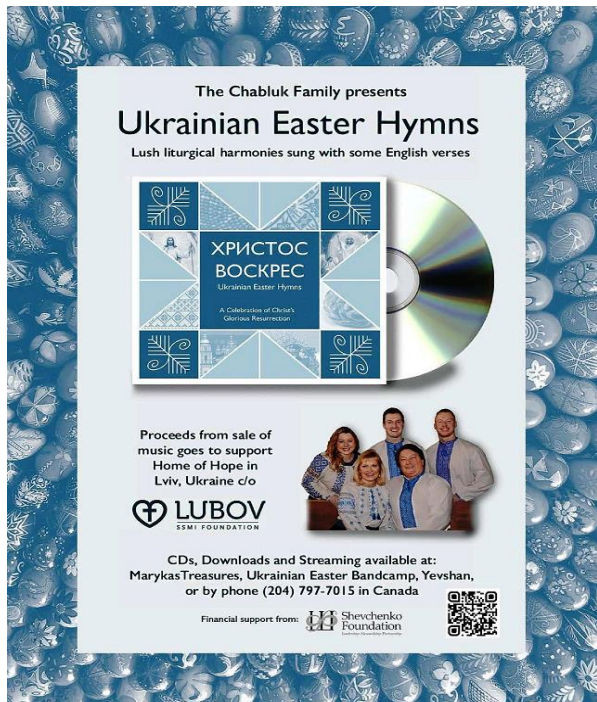
FAITHFUL GIVING ... Please, remember that we never take a day off or a vacation from God, or from our obligation to attend Divine Liturgy on Sundays and Holy Days. When traveling, working, participating in different sport's tournaments, activities or studying, please, make sure you check out the service 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 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 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 leader volunteering and forming Christian 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 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 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: irgudz@gmail.com Tel.: (250) 300 - 1742



2024 Annual Parish General Meeting will take place on Sunday, April 14th, 2024 A.D. after the 9:00 am Divine Liturgy
We are now preparing for the election of Parish Council
for the year 2024 – 2025 A.D.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, we are inviting and encouraging our parishioners to volunteer and help Mrs. Lydia Pfof, Mrs. Anne Boitson and Mrs. Yvonne Crawford forming the Nominating Committee and suggest candidates for our Parish Executive Council and Committees members.

Position of an auxiliary, advisory, executive parish council officer is a blessing and wonderful opportunity to show your Christian care, honesty and respect before God and our church community, talents, knowledge, experience and care serving the best to the Almighty God in our spiritual, Christian family of the Dormition of the Mother of God Ukrainian Catholic Church in Kelowna, BC!

Parish Constitution states saying: 'The Parish Council must be representative of the faithful of the parish and of the various parish-related organisations that exist within its boundaries. Potential members of the Parish Council should have certain basic qualifications such as a keen desire to help, as well the ability to listen, reflect, and express themselves with care.' (Chapter III, Article 1, Sections 1 and 2)

Descriptions of responsibilities and ministry (see by carefully and as honest Christian responsibly reading underlined at Our Parish Constitution, Chapter III, Articles 2, 3, 4, 5,) **of each officer-member of the parish council are:**

Chairperson of the Parish Council is elected at the Annual General Meeting. He/She is responsible for drawing up the agenda; calling for, directing and chairing

parish council meetings; seeing that the program of activities decided upon and ratified by the pastor are implemented; is a signing officer, an ex-officio member of all parish committees. He/She prepares the chairperson's report for presentation at the AGM.

Vice-Chairperson is elected at the Annual General Meeting. He/She is presiding at the all Parish Council Meetings in the absence of the Chairperson; carrying out such duties as are assigned by the Parish Council, the Chairperson or Pastor.

Recording Secretary is elected at the Annual General Meeting. He/She is keeping the minutes of all Parish Council Meetings; together with the Pastor and the Chairperson signs the adopted minutes of the Council.

Treasurer is elected at the Annual General Meeting. He/She is greatly helping the financial secretary to monitor all funds received by the parish and ensure that all such funds are deposited in the parish bank account; keeping accurate records of all income and expenditures (paying all invoices-bills and reimbursements); keeps in in order and preserves documents, records and books of parish finances. He/She is a signing officer, together with the pastor, for property approved financial transactions.

It is also very important, vibrant and vital for our Christian community-family to have active and carrying representatives (a leader and helpers) at different Parish Committees such as: Liturgical, Spiritual Care, Educational, Children Ministry, Youth Ministry, Senior Ministry, Decoration / Beautification, Maintenance, Social / Public Relations, Parish Polices Updates and Procedures.

Spilne Sviachene/ Holy Resurrection Parish Easter Potluck Dinner in Penticton, BC. Please, let Mrs. Veronica Chernesky know about your attendance at our Parish Easter Lunch after the 4 p.m. bilingual Divine Liturgy on Saturday of April 13th. 2024 A. D.

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 commettee at The Dormition 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 recently arrived and warmly welcomed at our Christian community.

CAMP ST. VOLODYMYR: Dates: Sunday, August 18 – Friday, August 23, 2024 @ Camp Tulahead in Princeton, BC
 Ages: 7-15 as of December 2024

We are excited to announce that we are planning for an alternative location to host this year's Eparchial Camp as Camp OAC rebuilds. We are gathering numbers to see the interest in this year's summer camp.

Please let your parish priest know if you are interested by April 15, so we can plan accordingly. If you are interested in volunteering as counsellor email csv.nweparchy@gmail.com for an application. For more information, contact Jennifer Caldwell at csv.nweparchy@gmail.com 604.220.0584.

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> Дивен Світ.: <https://dyvensvit.org>
- Камехизм 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.

While the hall is undergoing renovations, we will have a short catechism lesson (10 to 15 minutes) in the Church and sometimes in the choir loft. We will learn about the icons in the Church, other symbols of our faith, and some carols and songs. Hopefully renovations will be complete by Willow (Palm or Kvitna) Sunday and the children will be ready to help bring in the willows into the Church!

Поки зал ремонтується, ми матимемо короткий урок катехизи (10-15 хвилин) у Церкві та інколи на хорі. Дізнаємося про ікони в Церкві, про інші символи нашої віри, про деякі колядки та пісні. Сподіваємося, ремонт завершиться до Вербної (Вербної) неділі, і діти будуть готові допомогти принести верби до Церкви! All children are welcome!

Запрошуються усі діти! 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 gave all to Our Lord, and He broke the chains, and I am free now. I feel more at peace and a deep feeling of joy and hope that I can one day be with my child, my God and with Jesus. That is the hope I had one day lost and now have again." - Testimonial

Have you lost hope that you could ever be free of the chains that have imprisoned you since your loss due to an abortion decision? Come on a Rachel's Vineyard™ Retreat and hand those chains to Him. Be free again.

Join the men and women on a Rachel's Vineyard© Retreat. and let Him show you.

info@rachelsvineyardkelowna.com www.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.

+ **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.

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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 Твоєю присутністю та єднай нас кожноразно в молитві. Даруй нам духа служіння ближньому, щоб у нашій парафії кожний міг зустріти Тебе, милостивого Бога. Благослови наш духовний провід Твоєю мудрістю і дай, щоб ніхто з нас не шкодував ні часу, ні талантів, ні матеріальних дібр для розбудови Твого царства. Єднай нас у мирі та злагоді, щоб ми були Твоєю спільнотою любові. Всели в нас місійного духа, щоб ми стали тим світлом євангельського слова, молитви і добрих діл, що кличе кожного до участі в Божественному житті, щоб славилася, Спасе, Твоє Ім'я з безначальним Твоїм Отцем та пресвятим, благим і животворящим Твоїм Духом нині, і повсякчас, і на віки віків. Амінь.



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**

*O my Saviour, living and unconsumed sacrifice!
As God, you offered yourself willingly to the Father,
And you raised with you the forefather of all, Adam,
Having risen from the tomb.
Ode 6, Paschal Canon*

Christ is Risen!

Beloved in Christ!



As we celebrate Christ's Pascha again amid the horrors of a full-scale war, now in its third year, we enter ever deeper into the great mystery of sacrifice offered by the Lord Jesus for our salvation. The Son of God, becoming man, gives back to the Father that which is the most precious—his life! The essence of Pascha's power, the only thing capable of overcoming violence, abuse, and death, is revealed to us in the voluntary self-sacrifice of Christ. This is beautifully stated in the anaphora of the Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great: "And when He had descended through the Cross into Hades, so that He might fill all things with Himself, He loosed the pangs of death, and rose on the third day, and paved the way for all flesh by the resurrection from the dead, for it was not possible for the Prince of life to be mastered by corruption."

O my Saviour, living and unconsumed sacrifice!

Today, our hearts are filled with the joy of the resurrection of Christ, who emerges in radiance from the grave. The empty tomb reveals to us the fullness of life in the Lord to which we are called in the joy of God's children. This joy is given to all who see in the wood of the cross the door to renewed life in the resurrection. Because Christ, being the living God, out of great love for us, chose to voluntarily accept suffering, crucifixion, and death, in order to resurrect fallen human nature with himself, and to give us eternal life in his resurrection. By uniting with Christ crucified on the cross, we receive the fruit of his sacrifice in the resurrection from the dead.

In proclaiming this Paschal Mystery, the Church today also directs us to our forefather Adam, whom Christ, in his resurrection, frees from the shackles of hell, and reveals to us the truth—that for humankind life after death really exists! In the person of Adam all humanity is depicted—past, present, and future. The risen Christ is the one who gives meaning to the fullness of human history, which leads from sin and the fall, slavery and bondage, to repentance, conversion, liberation, and salvation. In celebrating Christ's Pascha, today we reach beyond the limits of our time and space, and enter into the eternity of God. In the Risen Christ, we can boldly say: "Behold, now is a favourable time, behold, now is the day of salvation" (2 Cor. 6:2).

As God, you offered yourself willingly to the Father!

The resurrection of the Son of God demonstrates that his voluntary self-sacrifice is not the end but a new beginning of life for each of us. Christ's voluntary death on the cross is terrible, real, but life-giving, because it is a "living and unconsumed sacrifice." Indeed, we are not called to death and nothingness but to life and joy in God. Whoever sacrifices oneself not for the purpose of fulfilling one's own ambitions, personal goals, or human intentions but gives oneself voluntarily to the Father—is already risen! In this is found the essence of every true sacrifice—to give the Creator one's everything, that is, to return to God that which is God's because we are the creation of his hands! That is the meaning of human life itself: we received it as a gift from God and we are called to return it to him alone! By sacrificing ourselves to the Father, we complete ourselves fully in God's eternal love. By giving ourselves we do not lose anything, but on the contrary, we rise together with Christ! That is why we often repeat in our liturgical services: "let us commend ourselves, and one another, and our whole life to Christ our God." In the Risen Christ, the value and purpose of every human self-sacrifice is revealed.

Today, Ukraine is a victim-sacrifice of Russia's criminal war against our people. We often ask ourselves: is our fight really worth such a high price? Over these past years for what do we sacrifice that which for us is the most precious: our sons and daughters, brothers and sisters, fathers and mothers; our cities and villages, our land and everything we possess? For what purpose do we live and die today? In response to this cry of anguish and tears of Ukraine, today the Risen Saviour comes forth from the empty tomb as a "living and unconsumed Sacrifice." It is He, the Victor, who speaks to us today in the voice of fallen heroes: "We fell so that you may live! We sacrificed our lives as an offering to God and to you! In our sacrifice the Lord's Pascha is proclaimed!" Our victory over the enemy is as certain and inevitable as the day that always follows the night, as the dawn of that morning when Christ was risen, changing the weeping and tears of the myrrh-bearers into the peace and joy of every person who today proclaims to the whole universe: "Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and to those in the tombs giving life!"

You raised with you the forefather of all, Adam, having risen from the tomb!

In his resurrection, Christ destroyed death and fear before those who carry it. The Apostle to the Nations states that it was through the fear of death that the devil held the human race in his slavery: "Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood,

he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery” (Heb. 2:14-15). The Lord destroyed this fear once and for all, destroyed the power of the devil, the bearer of death, and that is why we call out to him today: My Saviour!

Today Ukrainians sense that in the third full-scale year of a ten-year war, which, in fact, has been going on for centuries, the time has come to destroy once and for all, in Europe and the world, the realm of deathly fear, carried by the insatiable Russian slavemaster and colonizer, to destroy the rule of those who for centuries kept in this slavery to fear our people and other enslaved nations. Today in Ukraine, the one who rains death onto the field of life is losing power. The power of Christ's Pascha put an end to the power of the devil, the author of slavery, insolence, falsehood, and violence. Indeed, in Christ we voluntarily give ourselves to the Father as a living and life-giving sacrifice. Today in the Paschal Victory the pascha of Ukraine is fulfilled. Today, Christ rises in our struggle against evil, in our efforts, in the flesh and blood of our people, in order to raise up humanity of the third millennium and give hope to the world – for in Ukraine, Christ is Risen!

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ! On this radiant day, one of victory of life over death, good over evil, truth over falsehood, I urge you to abide in the faith, hope, and love that the Risen Lord brings us. In the joy of the Resurrection, I greet our military heroes, sons and daughters of Ukraine, who defend us at the frontlines, are ready to sacrifice everything out of love for their land and their people. We believe in your God-given strength, we revere your resistance to evil, over which we shall inevitably prevail.

I greet all those who have suffered from the war—physically, materially, morally. Let today's feast above all feasts, and festival of festivals, be for you a balm in your suffering. In a special way, I embrace with my paternal love the families of the fallen, expressing my personal gratitude and the gratitude of all God's people to you, as you bear in the depths of your heart the indescribable pain of losing your son or daughter, brother or sister, husband or wife, father or mother. I embrace the wounded. You carry the seeds of resurrection together with Christ, for He too carried the wounds of the crucifixion on His hands and feet. May the joy of Pascha pave the way to your physical and moral healing. To the families of our prisoners and those missing in action, who are celebrating Easter today in tears, I express my compassion, support and prayerful closeness. To all those who have been deprived of their homes by the war and expelled from their hometowns or villages, to all internally displaced persons, and to all those who found temporary sanctuary outside their homeland, I wish you spiritual comfort and confidence, that where the Risen Lord is, there we are always at home.

I embrace all children, adults and the elderly, men and women—and my wish for you is that in sharing the Easter basket, you may experience profound joy, God's mercy and blessings. I embrace with a fatherly love all the volunteers and workers involved in works of charity, our clergy, religious, and faithful in Ukraine and throughout the world, and I 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 Feastday of the Annunciation of the Most Holy Theotokos on March 25, 2024 A.D.



ВЕЛИКОДНЕ ПОСЛАННЯ БЛАЖЕННІШОГО СВЯТОСЛАВА

**Високопреосвященним і преосвященним владикам,
всесвітлішим, всечеснішим і преподобним отцям,
преподобним ченцям і черницям, дорогим у Христі мирянам
Української Греко-Католицької Церкви**

*Спасе мій, жива і незаколена жертво!
Як Бог, Ти сам себе приніс добровільно Отцеві,
а з собою воскресив Ти праотця всіх – Адама,
воскреснувши із гробу.
Пісня 6 канону Пасхи*

Христос воскрес!

Дорогі в Христі!

Святуючи знову Пасху Христову серед жахиття повномасштабної війни, яка триває вже третій рік, ми щоразу глибше входимо у велике таїнство жертви, принесеної Господом Ісусом, спасіння нашого ради. Божий Син, ставши людиною, віддає Отцеві найцінніше — своє життя! Суть пасхальної сили, яка єдина спроможна долати насильство, знуцання і смерть, об'являється нам у добровільній Христовій самопожертві. Прекрасно про це мовиться в анафорі Літургії святого Василя Великого: «І, зійшовши через хрест до аду, щоб наповнити собою все, Він розривав болізни смертні, і воскрес у третій день, і путь простелив усякій плоті воскресінням з мертвих, бо неможливо було, щоб тління держало начальника життя».

Спасе мій, жива і незаколена жертво!

Сьогодні наші серця сповнені радістю воскресіння Христа, який виходить у сяйві із гробу. Порожній гріб розкриває нам повноту життя людини в Господі, до якого [життя] ми покликані в радості Божих дітей. Ця радість дана всім, хто бачить у хресному дереві двері до оновленого життя у воскресінні. Адже Христос, будучи живим Богом, з превеликої любові до нас вирішив добровільно прийняти страждання, хресне розп'яття і смерть, щоб воскресити із собою впалу людську природу та у своєму воскресінні дарувати нам життя вічне. Єднаючись із Христом, розп'ятим на хресті, ми отримуємо плід Його жертви у воскресінні з мертвих.

Оспівуючи це пасхальне таїнство, Церква сьогодні вказує нам також на нашого праотця Адама, якого Христос у своєму воскресінні звільняє від кайданів аду, та відкриває істину про те, що життя людини після смерті справді існує! В особі Адама зображене все людство — минуле, сучасне і майбутнє. Воскреслий Христос — це той, хто дає сенс повноті людської історії, яка веде від гріха і падіння, рабства і поневолення до покаяння, навернення, визволення та спасіння. Святкуючи Пасху Христову, ми нині виходимо за межі нашого часу та простору і входимо у вічність Божу. У Христі воскреслому можемо сміливо сказати: «Ось тепер час сприятливий, ось тепер – день спасіння» (II Кор. 6, 2).

Як Бог, Ти сам себе приніс добровільно Отцеві...

Воскресіння Сина Божого показує, що Його самопожертва є не кінцем, а новим початком життя кожного з нас. Христова добровільна смерть на хресті страшна, дійсна, але живоносна, як «жива і незаколена жертва». Покликані-бо ми не до смерті та небуття, а до життя та радості в Бозі. Хто жертвує собою не в ім'я задоволення власних амбіцій чи людських ідей, а віддає себе добровільно Отцеві – той уже воскресає. У тому ж суть кожної справжньої жертви – віддати Творцеві своє все, тобто віддати Богові Боже, бо ми ж творіння Його рук. У тому й сенс самого людського життя: його як дар ми отримали від Бога і лише Йому покликані його повернути. Жертвуючи себе Отцеві, ми вповні реалізуємо себе у вічній Божественній любові: віддаючи себе, нічого не втрачаємо, а навпаки – воскресаємо разом із Христом. Ось чому ми часто повторюємо в наших богослужіннях: «Самі себе, і один одного, і все життя наше Христу-Богові віддаймо». У Христі воскреслому відкривається цінність і мета кожної людської самопожертви.

Сьогодні Україна є жертвою злочинної війни росії проти нашого народу. Ми часто питаємо себе: чи дійсно варта наша боротьба такої великої ціни? В ім'я чого ми вже котрий рік щодня віддаємо найцінніше, що маємо: наших синів і доньок, братів і сестер, батьків і матерів, наші міста і села, нашу землю та все, що посідаємо? В ім'я чого нам варто жити і вмирати? У відповідь на цей крик болю і сліз України воскреслий Спаситель нині виходить із порожнього гробу як «жива і незаколена жертва». Це Він, Переможець, нині промовляє до нас голосом полеглих героїв: «Ми полягли, щоб ви жили! Ми поклали своє життя, щоб дати його Богові й вам! У нашій жертві – Пасха Господня!». Наша перемога над ворогом є такою ж певною і неминучою, як день, що завжди приходиться на зміну ночі, як світанок перед ранком Воскресіння Христового, що перемінив плач і сльози мирносиць на мир і радість кожної людини, яка сьогодні звіщає Всесвітові: «Христос воскрес із мертвих, смертю смерть подолав, і тим, що в гробах життя дарував!».

... З собою воскресив Ти праотця всіх – Адама, воскреснувши із гробу

У своєму воскресінні Христос знищив смерть і страх перед її носіями. Апостол народів стверджує, що саме страхом перед смертю диявол тримав у своєму рабстві людський рід: «А що діти були учасниками тіла і крові, то й Він подібно участь у тому брав, щоб смертю знищити того, хто мав владу смерті, тобто диявола, і визволити тих, що їх страх смерті все життя тримав у рабстві» (Євр. 2, 14–15). Господь раз і назавжди знищив цей страх, зруйнував владу диявола, носія смерті, і тому Ми його кличемо сьогодні: «Мій Спасе!».

Українці мають нині відчуття, що на третьому повномасштабному році десятилітньої війни, яка насправді триває століттями, настав слухний час раз і назавжди знищити владу страху Європи і світу перед смертю, що її несе ненаситний російський колонізатор, – знищити владу тих, хто тримав у рабстві цього страху наш народ та інші поневолені народи. Сьогодні в Україні втрачає владу той, хто сіє простір смерті серед простору життя. Сила Пасхи Христової поклала край силі диявола, автора рабства, зухвалості, брехні й насильства. І саме ми в Христі віддаємо себе добровільно Отцеві в живу і живоносну жертву. Нині в пасхальній перемозі довершується Пасха України! Христос воскресає в нашій боротьбі проти зла, у наших зусиллях, у тілі та крові нашого народу, щоб із собою воскресити людину третього тисячоліття і дарувати надію світові – бо в Україні Христос воскрес!

Дорогі в Христі браття і сестри! У цей світлий день перемоги життя над смертю, добра над злом, правди над неправдою закликаю вас впевнено перебувати у вірі, надії та любові, які нам приносить воскреслий Господь. У радості Воскресіння вітаю наших воїнів-героїв, синів і дочок України, які захищають нас на фронті й готові жертвувати усім з любові до своєї землі та рідного народу. Ми віримо у вашу в Бозі силу, ми цінуємо вашу стійкість перед злом, над яким неминуче здобудемо перемогу.

Вітаю всіх, хто постраждав від війни — фізично, матеріально, морально. Нехай нинішній празник над празниками і торжество всіх торжеств слугує бальзамом для вашого терпіння. Огортаю своєю батьківською любов'ю родини загиблих. Висловлюю вам особисту вдячність і вдячність всього Божого люду, адже в глибині серця ви відчуваєте

невимовний біль втрати сина чи доньки, брата чи сестри, мужа чи дружини, батька чи матері. Обіймаю поранених. Ви носите насіння воскресіння разом із Христом, бо Він теж мав рани розп'яття на руках та ногах. Нехай пасхальна радість простелить вам дорогу до фізичного і морального зцілення. Усім рідним наших полонених і зниклих безвісти, які сьогодні в сльозах святкують Пасху, виявляю свою увагу, підтримку і молитовну близькість. Усім, кого війна позбавила домівки та вигнала з рідного міста чи села, внутрішньо переміщеним особам і тим, хто знайшов тимчасовий притулок поза Батьківщиною, бажаю духовної розради та впевненості, що де воскреслий Господь, там ми завжди вдома.

Обіймаю всіх: дітей, дорослих і похилих віком, чоловіків і жінок—і зичу вам, щоб, ділячись свяченим нашого великоднього кошика, ви відчули глибоку радість, Божу милість і благословення. Волонтерів і працівників наших благодійних організацій, наше духовенство, наших 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

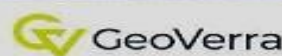
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LORD OUR GOD,
GREAT AND ALMIGHTY, WE YOUR SINFUL CHILDREN TURN TO YOU WITH
HUMILITY IN OUR HEARTS AND BOW OUR HEADS LOW BEFORE YOU. WE
BESEECH YOUR LOVING KINDNESS AND ABUNDANT BLESSINGS UPON THE
NATION – THE PEOPLE – OF UKRAINE DURING THESE DAYS OF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



Patriarch Josyf Cardinal Slipij 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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