



The Most Holy Trinity Ukrainian Catholic Church

Saints Peter and Paul Ukrainian
Catholic Church in Grindrod, BC

Parishes Administered by Rev. Fr. Pavlo Myts

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Holy Trinity Parish Executive Council Chairperson: Mr. Matt Dmyterko, UCWLC President: Mrs. Adelle Dmyterko - Tel: 250-554-3107, Parish Cantor: Mr. Myron Musey; Saints Peter and Paul Parish Executive Council Chairperson: Ms. Leah Blain.

Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of New Westminster: Most Rev. Ken Nowakowski, www.nweparchy.ca



The Lord's Entrance into Jerusalem: Flowery or Palm/Willow Sunday – April 9th, 2017 A.D.

Greetings: "It is not I who strike you but the willow branch, and in one week it will be Easter!"



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

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.



On the Sunday before the Feast of Great and Holy Pascha and at the beginning of Holy Week, the Church celebrates one of its most joyous feasts of the year. Palm Sunday is the commemoration of the Entrance of our Lord into Jerusalem following His glorious miracle of raising Lazarus from the dead. Having anticipated His arrival and having heard of the miracle, the people went out to meet the Lord and welcomed Him with displays of honor and shouts of praise. On this day, we receive and worship Christ in this same manner, acknowledging Him as our King and Lord.

The church services are the continuation of the service of Lazarus' Saturday. During the all-night service of the feast, prophecies from the Old Testament about the Messiah-King and Gospel passages about the entry of Jesus in Jerusalem are read. At the matins, branches, held by the faithful, are consecrated. This symbolizes that they meet the Lord who is invisibly coming and greet Him as the Victor over hell and death as they hold the symbols of victory, the branches and candles.

It is popularly believed that willow branches have healing and purifying power and that a beating with the branches protects one from illnesses. On that day, children are lightly beaten with the branches with the following words: "You are beaten not by me but by the willow. Easter is coming in a week." The consecrated branches are kept behind the icons at homes.

"...Open the doors of your hearts and your homes to Christ, allow His Holy Spirit to transform you, purify and strengthen you in God's love!" - Pastoral Letter of His Beatitude Sviatoslav Shevchuk "The Vibrant Parish"

"...Відчиніть двері своїх душ і домівок Христові, дозвольте Його Святому Духові вас перемінити, очистити і скріпити Божою любов'ю!" - Пастирський Лист Блаженнішого Святослава Шевчука "Жива Парафія"

Christian Greetings: *Glory to Jesus Christ! – Glory to Him Forever! Slava Isusu Chrystu! – Slava na Viky! Слава Ісусу Христу! – Слава на Віки!* **Christ is among us! – He is and will be!**

Liturgical Propers:

First Antiphon:

Verse 1: I am filled with love for the Lord will hear the voice of my plea (Ps 114:1).

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

Verse 2: For He has inclined His ear to me, and I will call to Him all the days of my life (Ps 114:2)

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

Verse 3: The pangs of death encircled me, the trials of Hades befell me (Ps 114:3).

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

Verse 4: I met with anguish and pain, and called upon the name of the Lord (Ps 114:3-4).

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)

Third Antiphon:

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

Troparion (Tone 1): Assuring us before Your Passion of the general resurrection, You raised Lazarus from the dead, O Christ God: and so, like the children, we also carry signs of victory and cry to You, the conqueror of death: Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Verse 2: Therefore, let the house of Israel say that He is good, for His mercy endures forever (Ps 117:2).

Troparion (Tone 1): Assuring us before Your Passion...

Verse 3: Therefore, let the house of Aaron say that He is good, for His mercy endures forever (Ps 117:3).

Troparion (Tone 1): Assuring us before Your Passion...

Verse 4: Let all who fear the Lord say that He is good, for His mercy endures forever (Ps 117:4).

Troparion (Tone 1): Assuring us before Your Passion...

At the Small Entrance:

Priest: *Wisdom! Stand aright!*

Entrance Verse: Blessed is He Who comes in the name of the Lord, we bless you from the house of the Lord; the Lord is God and has appeared to us (Ps 117:26-27).

Troparion (Tone 1): Assuring us before Your Passion of the general resurrection, You raised Lazarus from the dead, O Christ God: and so, like the children, we also carry signs of victory and cry to You, the conqueror of death: Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

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

Troparion (Tone 4): Buried with You through Baptism, O Christ our God, we have been granted immortal life by Your resurrection, and we sing Your praises, crying out: Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Now and for ever and ever. Amen.

Kontakion (Tone 6): Mounted on the throne in heaven, O Christ God, and on a colt here on earth, You accepted the praise of the angels, and the hymn of the children who cried to You: Blessed are You, who have to call Adam back.

Prokimenon (Tone 4): Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord; God the Lord has appeared to us (Ps 117:26-27).

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

Prokimenon (Tone 4): Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord; God the Lord has appeared to us (Ps 117:26-27).

Epistle: *A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians* (Philippians 4:4-9)

Brethren, rejoice in the Lord always! I say it again. Rejoice! Everyone should see how unselfish you are. The Lord is near. Dismiss all anxiety from your minds. Present your needs to God in every form of prayer and in petitions full of gratitude. Then God's own peace, which is beyond all understanding, will stand guard over your hearts and minds, in Christ Jesus.

Finally, my brethren, your thoughts should be wholly directed to all that is true, all that deserves respect, all that is honest, pure, admirable, decent, virtuous, or worthy of praise. Live according to what you have learned and accepted, what you have heard me say and seen me do. Then will the God of peace be with you.

Alleluia (Tone 1): Sing to the Lord a new song, for He has worked wonders (Ps 97:1). All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God (Ps 97:1).

Gospel: (John 12:1-18)

At that time, six days before Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, the village of Lazarus whom Jesus had raised from the dead. There they gave him a banquet, at which Martha served. Lazarus was one of those at table with him. Mary brought a pound of costly perfume made from genuine aromatic nard, with which she anointed Jesus' feet. Then she dried his feet with her hair, and the house was filled with the ointment's fragrance. Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one about to hand him over), protested: "Why was



not this perfume sold? It could have brought three hundred silver pieces, and the money have been given to the poor.” (He did not say this out of concern for the poor, but because he was a thief. He held the purse, and used to help himself to what was deposited there.) To this Jesus replied: “Leave her alone. Let her keep it against the day they prepare me for burial. The poor you always have with you, but me you will not always have.” The great crowd of Jews discovered he was there and came out, not only because of Jesus but also to see Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. The fact was, the chief priests planned to kill Lazarus too. Because many Jews were going over to Jesus and believing in him on account of Lazarus.

The next day the great crowd that had come for the feast heard that Jesus was to enter Jerusalem, so they got palm branches and came out to meet him. They kept shouting: “Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the King of Israel!” Jesus found a donkey and mounted it, in accord with Scripture: “Fear not, O daughter of Zion! Your king approaches you on a donkey’s colt.” (At first, the disciples did not understand all this, but after Jesus was glorified they recalled that the people had done to him precisely what had been written about him.) The crowd that was present when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead kept testifying to it. The crowd came out to meet him because they heard he had performed this sign.

Instead of “It is truly...”: O my soul, magnify Christ who is seated on a foal. **Irmos** (Tone 4): The Lord is God and has appeared to us: together let us celebrate. Come with great rejoicing; let us magnify Christ with palms and olive branches, and with songs let us cry aloud to Him: Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, our Saviour.

Communion Verses: Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise Him in the highest (Ps 148:1). Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord; God the Lord has appeared to us (Ps 117:26-27). Alleluia! (3x)

Our Eparch, Bishop Ken is requesting that at the conclusion of every Divine Liturgy we say an additional prayer for Peace in Ukraine until the end of the war. For peace in Ukraine, let us pray: Our Father ... Hail Mary ... Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever. Amen.

GRATITUDE

- * to all sisters and brothers in Christ who volunteered and worked hard during various parish projects, work bees and Easter Bake Sale! Your care for the church by work and time are greatly appreciated!
- * to all who participated and welcomed Rev. Monsignor Jeremiah Desmond in this year’s parish Great Fast/Lenten Mission!
- * to everyone who generously donated for needs of our church in Ukraine!
- * to all our parishioners, guests, visitors and all people of the good will who by their kindness, time, donations, knowingly and unknowingly, organize and lead praying with rosaries, attend services, share their time and work at the parish projects, organize socials, clean the church, look after and graciously support our Christian, Catholic parish community! Thank you very much! May the Almighty God always keep you in His tender care by generously blessing and rewarding your care, time and generosity!

CONGRATULATIONS

* AXIOS! AXIOS! AXIOS! – our Holy Trinity Parish would like to congratulate a newly ordained Rev. Fr. Mykhailo Ozorovych to the priesthood by our Eparchial Bishop Most Rev. Ken Nowakowski, that took place on Lazarus Saturday (yesterday), Apr. 8th, at Holy Eucharist Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral in New Westminster, BC. May the blessings of the Lord be upon Fr. Mykhailo, his family and priestly ministry – Многая Лита!

* May the Almighty God bless in good health and salvation in many, happy and blessed years of life to Mr. Romeo Paramchuk on his birthday (Apr. 3rd), Mrs. Kierstin Mujcin on her birthday (Apr. 15th), and to all our parishioners, guests, visitors, your family members who celebrate their heavenly patrons’ feast-days/name-days and especially to everyone who celebrate their birthdays, anniversaries or any other important events this week – Mnohaya i Blahaya Lita!



ANNOUNCEMENTS

A WARM WELCOME TO OUR PARISHIONERS, GUESTS AND VISITORS WHO HAVE JOINED US IN THIS DIVINE LITURGY. THANK YOU FOR PRAYING WITH US AT THE CHUCH TODAY. WISHING YOU A BLESSED, RESTFUL WEEKEND AND FRUITFUL, HEALTHY AND SAFE WEEK! EVERYONE IS VERY WELCOME TO COME AND PARTICIPATE IN OUR PARISH SOCIAL AT THE CHURCH HALL TODAY!

Special Petitions:

- * We also pray to be blessed with generous hearts to contribute to our Bishop’s initiatives and programmes, such as: the support of parishes, the education of parishioners, and the formation of seminarians, Lord hear us and have mercy.
- * 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.

REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR: yourselves, Most Reverend Bishop Severian Yakymyshyn, Fr. Steven Basarab, Fr. Edward Evanko, Monsignor Jeremiah Desmond, Fr. Serabion ElMakary, Steve and Bernice Usipuik, Ann Kuz, Ann Derzak, Dave and Mary Emery, Elsie Kinaschuk, John and Mildred Kolody, Joseph Mychaluk, Zonia Rurka, Eugene Palsitt, Adeline Palsitt, Orest Hrycewich, Myron and Myrna Wizniak, Elsie Zachary, Matt Dmyterko, Allan and Sharon Ludwig, Jesse Pawlyshyn, Olga Burkatsky, Orest Kociuba, Kalyna Kociuba, Allan Bodnaruk, Maria Chorny, Katrien Sobhy, Marg Musey, Kathleen Musey, Jacob and Ann Dressler, Rosemary Pellizzon, Bronie Huska, Peter Huska, Mary Borrett, Stanley and Roma Nowakowski (Bishop Ken’s parents), Larry and Valray Necedor, Lawrence and Ping Beaton, Red Mackay, Theresa Munro, Michelle New, Martin

Schinkelwitz, Claud and Eva Gosselin, Adam Laniel, Cryss O'Donnell, Rose Ostopowich (Fr. Joe Ostopowich's mother), Sandra and Mike Jones, Peter Balla, members of our parish and those who are not able to join actively in our community, your families, relatives, friends; governments and armed forces, especially the shut-in or those in the hospitals, traveling, working or studying, nursing and senior homes, those seeking God's answer to their prayers or those rejoicing with God's answer; those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries; those called to their eternal reward and for the family they leave behind; widows and widowers, orphans, homeless and all people who have asked us pray for them. Please, also in your kindness keep praying daily for vocations to the priesthood and religious life. Remember to ask for special blessings to all Christian families!

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 AWARENESS: Dear parishioners, if our brother / 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 / her know that our parish community misses him / her!

* **Blessing and distributing** of willow branches and myrovania / blessing with Holy Oil of all the faithful is After the Liturgy today.

Ukrainian Catholic Easter Traditions

By Rev. Fr. Anthony Holowaychuk

For many Ukrainians, Easter would not be Easter without the traditional Easter Basket. Going back in time we discover that in our tradition, Lent used to be a time of strict fasting and abstaining from meat, eggs and dairy products for the whole season. To show joy and thanksgiving at the end of Lent, the faithful took foods to be blessed at the Easter Morning Divine Liturgy and, bringing it home, the entire family shared it to "Break-the-Fast". The first food to "Break-the-Fast" was the blessed egg.

Eggs are a sign of hope and resurrection. Jesus comes from the tomb as the chick breaks the shell at birth. Because of the special meaning, it is fitting that the eggs should be decorated with symbols of Easter, and blessed.

Meats and Sausage represent the animals used for sacrifices in the Old Testament. They remind us of Christ who, in the New Testament, as a Lamb, sacrificed himself on the cross for our salvation. The sausage represents the links of the chains of death, which Christ broke by His Resurrection.

Paska (Easter Bread) is symbolic of Jesus who said: "I am the Bread of Life". He gives Himself as food in the Eucharist saying: "Whoever eats of this Bread will have life everlasting".

Horseradish represents the bitter herbs prescribed in the original Passover Meal as a reminder of the bitterness of life in the captivity of Egypt. Today it reminds us of the bitterness of Christ's Passion, the pains of crucifixion by which He entered into the glory of Resurrection.

Salt is the symbol of perseverance of faith, according to the words of Christ: "You are the salt of the earth" (Mt. 5:13)

Cheese and Butter are related to prosperity, abundance and peace in the Promised Land. They remind us of the abundance of graces and peace granted to us by the Risen Christ.

All the foods were traditionally blessed in church early Easter Morning following the Divine Liturgy... Each basket should have a lighted candle as a symbol of the radiance of the Resurrected Christ, who said: "I am the Light of the World" (Jn. 8:12).

OUR CHURCH YARD CLEAN-UP – starts at 8:30 am on Wed. – Apr 12th, 2017. In preparation for Easter, there will be a work bee to spruce up the outside of the Church and property.

* **Sunday (Apr. 2nd) faithful offerings/donations:** \$ 817.00 in Kamloops; \$ 235.00 in Grindrod.

* **The Mass of Chrism** will be celebrated at **10 am on Tuesday, April 11th, 2017** at Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Cathedral.

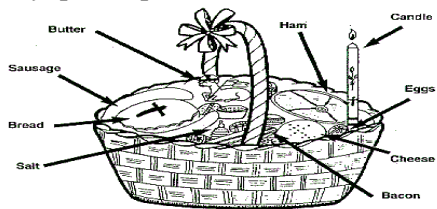
* **We invite you to our Pro-Life Fundraising Dinner and Silent Auction**, on April 29th, 6:30p.m., at the OLPH Parish Centre, 635 Tranquille Rd. in Kamloops, BC. *You will hear first-hand stories on adoption and end-of-life care.* Tickets: \$30; phone 778-220-5584

* **PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND:** Oct. 12-24, 2017 Walk in the footsteps of Jesus; an unforgettable experience with Fr, Joe Ostapowich, Sr. Angelica SSMI, brother & sister pilgrims. For details and price call

Mrs. Myrna Arychuk at 604 - 617 - 7200

* **FAITHFUL GIVING...** Remember that we never take a day off or a vacation from God, or from our obligation to attend Divine Liturgy on Sundays. When traveling, working 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. Please remember as well, that while parishioners may be away and on vacation, the parish is not. Expenses continue as they do throughout the year. Please, remain consistent in your gifts to parish. Your weekly Sunday offering is important to our financial well-being. If you are away, we appreciate it when you forward your "make-up" donations. The financial stability of the parish counts on regular Sunday contributions. Please, continue to be generous!

"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!" (Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom)





* BE A STEWARD: Have you ever wondered what more can you do to help our parish? Here are some suggestions: Steward of property security; Steward of grounds cleaning; Steward of cleaning church; Steward of church linen; Steward of outreach; Steward of caring; Steward of prayer; Steward of service. Quite often, our homebound or senior members, once active in their younger years, want to find purpose in their senior years. It's not only about doing but about "BEING" present to others.

Please, feel very welcome to participate in our church choir singing, reading of the Epistle, holding the candles during the Gospels readings, processions, parish cleaning, projects, etc.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: to help out with weekly cleaning in the church and organizing of coffee social after the Divine Liturgy on Sundays, work-bees, etc. If you can help out, please, let us know.

Contact Fr. Pavlo or Mr. Matt Dmyterko for more information. You will be amazed how "BEING" can make a difference!

EPARCHY OF NEW WESTMINSTER VIBRANT PARISH APPEAL SHARE YOUR HEART

"...We need your urgent and immediate support to guarantee the viability of our Eparchy for future generations of your children and grandchildren. We want to ensure the survival of pastoral services including the celebration of the sacraments in the Ukrainian Catholic tradition, such as Divine Liturgies, Baptism, Marriages, Funerals and the great Feasts, which means so much to us..."

+Ken (Eparchial Bishop of New Westminster)

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The Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy (Diocese) is getting ready to welcome Archbishop Cyril Vasil' S.J. from the Vatican 16-23 April.

His Grace, Most Reverend Archbishop Cyril Vasil', S.J. will be visiting the Eparchy (Diocese) of New Westminster from 16-23 April. Archbishop Vasil' is the Secretary of the Congregation for Oriental Churches in the Vatican. The Congregation for Oriental Churches is the office in the Vatican that assists the Eastern Catholic Churches, including the Ukrainian Catholic Church in its relationship with the Pope and the Vatican. The head of the Congregation is known as the Perfect and the prefect of the Congregation is Cardinal Sandri. Archbishop Vasil' is the second person responsible for the day-to-day work of the Congregation.

This will be Archbishop Cyril's first visit to British Columbia. He will be arriving in Vancouver on Easter Sunday in the afternoon.

While in the Vancouver area he will have an opportunity to visit our parishes in the Lower Mainland and meet with our clergy and religious and lay-faithful. On Easter Monday, 17 April Archbishop Cyril and Bishop Ken will celebrate Divine Liturgy (Mass) at Holy Cross Ukrainian Catholic parish at 10:00 am and on Tuesday, 18 April Archbishop Cyril and Bishop Ken will celebrate Divine Liturgy at Holy Eucharist Cathedral in New Westminster at 8:30 am.

From 18-21 April Archbishop Vasil' will join Most Reverend Ken Nowakowski, bishop of New Westminster for Ukrainian Catholics in BC & Yukon and the clergy of the Eparchy of New Westminster at their annual clergy spiritual retreat in Cache Creek.

On Saturday morning 22 April Archbishop Cyril and Bishop Ken will celebrate Divine Liturgy at 8:00 am at Holy Trinity Ukrainian Catholic parish in Kamloops. On Sunday 23 April Archbishop Cyril and Bishop Ken will celebrate Divine Liturgy at St. George's Ukrainian Catholic parish at 10:00 am in Prince George. Both bishops will be returning to Vancouver Sunday evening.

It will be a very exciting time for the clergy and lay-faithful of the Eparchy of New Westminster to be able host such a distinguished guest from the Vatican.

Archbishop Cyril Vasil was born on 10 April 1965 in Slovakia. He was ordained a priest in 1987 and holds a doctorate in Eastern Canon Law and held the position of Rector of the Pontifical Oriental Institute in Rome until his appointment as Secretary of the Oriental Congregation. He was concentrated an archbishop on May 7th 2009.

* **Pysanka/Easter Eggs Writing Workshop** will be presented and lead by Mrs. Zonia Hadym (tel: 250-374-5734) and Mrs. Michele Huston at **1:00 pm in our church hall today on Sunday, April 9th, 2017.** Every person interested in learning how to write an own pysanka is very welcome to attend this (approximately 2-3 hours long) workshop. Donations of \$5.00 per person to cover expenses for materials and also some donations to support our parish church expenses are also greatly appreciated.



Camp Saint Volodymyr 2017 on August 20-27, 2017. The purpose of camp is to provide an opportunity for youth to experience God through nature and the companionship of others. Children will experience Ukrainian language and culture during camp along with games, religious activities, hikes, sports, arts and crafts, camp fires, water activities and other summer camp activities. This marks the 34th year of our Ukrainian Catholic Summer Camp. Camp will take place in Kelowna at the OAC facility. Camp offers a wide range of activities for campers aged 7-15 (as of December 31, 2017). Registration will be available online via Eventbrite "Camp Saint Volodymyr BC 2017." Early bird registration Ends July 6th, 2017.

WAYS TO HELP VOLUNTEER Camp St. Volodymyr is a nonprofit camp, run on a volunteer basis. If you are interested in helping at this year's camp as a counsellor, chef, arts & crafts or cultural coordinator please contact Jennifer. Applications forms for counsellors are due May 15, 2017. All volunteers will be subject to a criminal records check and must sign the camp code of conduct. **For more information contact Jennifer Caldwell @ 604.220.0584 or jennsawka@hotmail.com.** Visit our webpage via www.nweparchy.ca

DONATE: We are always happy to accept food donations of vegetables, fruits, cereals, and treats for children such as cakes, cookies, as well as monetary donations. Tax receipts can be issued with donations of \$25 or more.

PALM SUNDAY PASTORAL LETTER OF HIS BEATITUDE SVIATOSLAV TO YOUTH

Dear Beloved Youth in Christ!

Every year on Palm Sunday I rejoice that I have the opportunity to address you with this pastoral address and together with you to experience the Lord's Entrance into Jerusalem – the feast of the Lord's triumph, which leads us into the Paschal Mystery of the sufferings, death and resurrection of Christ in order to be with the Lord in His eternal victory in one week. I confess to you that I receive great joy and inspiration from every encounter with you both in Ukraine and in the diaspora. These encounters give hope and faith for the future of our Church, country, and the world. I thank you for your openness, your sincerity in conversation, your love towards your own Church and people, and I hope that the opportunity for encounters with you will grow even more! In particular, I am delighted with the encounters with young people in the diaspora, because by your lives and activity you bear witness to the global dimension of our Church and to your deep rootedness in her spiritual, liturgical, and cultural traditions. It is known that the youth of today on different continents is experiencing a vast amount of hardships and challenges, however, at the same time, in the very Person of Jesus Christ they find sound and true guides for their own lives, and His Holy Church wants to be right beside them and to accompany young people in their searching.



In describing the event of Palm Sunday, which we are experiencing today, the evangelists give many details that allow us to re-create the scene and the awareness of those days, to feel the context, to imagine the main heroes. During the course of three years Christ teaches in various corners of Palestine, preaches about the Kingdom of Heaven, performs miracles – heals the sick, casts out demons, eventually He raises the dead – and He becomes very well known. For His people and even for His occupiers Jesus Christ is not just an unknown carpenter: the people see in Him their Messiah – Saviour and Deliverer. The people experience His power and follow Him. This power scares away some, inspires others, for He Himself does not simply repeat the regulations of the Old Testament Law, but He teaches with full authority as the Son of God in the power of the Holy Spirit. Christ's teaching is always relevant and fresh, and every time it exceeds all the latest attitudes and trends.

And here God's Anointed One enters Jerusalem for the Jewish Passover, where at this time a lot of people gather from the various places of the great Roman Empire. Above all, young people recognize and accept Christ; they place before Him palm branches and garments. They meet Him, shouting: *Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!* But alongside these who accept and recognize are those who complain and disassociate themselves from the new reality that is about to come! They complain about Jesus Himself, saying: *Teacher, rebuke Your disciples!* The elite of that time learned to live within the conditions of Roman domination, within the conditions of internal divisions; it already was used to negotiate, to dodge and receive some dividends. And right here something absolutely new happens, something that these teachers of the Law themselves teach and what they await, but what they do not understand and cannot control. Christ answers: *I tell you, if these were silent, the very stones would cry out.* On the contrary, He closes the mouths of those who complain, of those who are not pleased with Him and the youth, but He supports those who accept the new reality, those who do not want to play according to the old rules, to put new wine into old wineskins (cf. Mt. 9:17).

Young people feel that there is novelty and power in Christ. They are drawn to Him and accept Him. They accept the new, just revealed Messiah, who enters Jerusalem as the Prince of Peace sitting upon a foal, but not as the triumphant conqueror, whom, possibly, the representatives of the old elite awaited. Young people do not complain but act – they meet Christ – sincerely and loudly, clearly and openly. Young people do not fear, the spirit of bondage and fear has not yet managed to enslave them!

Let us look today at ourselves. We often complain, especially about something new, something unknown. We hang on to old schemes, we hide in the convenient confines of our lives, we are afraid to change a thing. In caring for our own comfort zone, we discourage life and renewal. Being young in age, we often regret the past and act as “the old in spirit”, setting ourselves apart from the world around us, instead of changing it, we are afraid of the new, instead of understanding it, and we complain about everything that provokes us to live fully and to grow.

Last year during World Youth Day in Krakow, the Pope called these girls and boys “young couch potatoes”, young people “who [already] go into retirement at the age of 20”! Therefore, today I urge all of you: Don't complain!

Let us not complain about our shortcomings, because we can overcome them. Let us not complain but let us work, listening to the words of the Venerable Metropolitan Andrei Sheptytsky: *Not by the rolls of one minute but with the efforts and sacrifices to bloodshed does our people move. And it is easier at times to shed blood in a moment of enthusiasm than to fulfil one's obligations toiling many years and enduring the intense heat of day, and the temperature of the sun, and the anger of people and the hatred of enemies, and the absence of trust among one's own, and the lack of aid from those close by, and amid this kind of work to finish one's task right to the end, not waiting for laurels before the victory or for a reward before merit* (Pastoral Letter to Young People, 1932).

In different situations we come into contact with people who tempt us to complain, they offer us cheap populism – to gain without much effort that which is convenient and comfortable, that which flatters our ear but is an empty promise without any sense of responsibility, that which sounds great but does not give life and strength for positive building. Politicos often manipulate our feelings, they think about narrow corporate goals, about ratings, about future elections, instead of seriously working for the future of their own people and for the common good. Let us not support those who speculate on difficulties and challenges! Let us not throw up our hands but let us follow Christ, and let us build our renewed future ourselves! Let us be with those who create new things, who are the guarantee of a new, reinvigorated, vibrant Ukraine.

Dear young people! I assure you that the Church is with you, with those who do not complain but who act, who see the future and work for it. The Church preaches Christ who enters Jerusalem and who by the power of the Holy Spirit brings us great change and supports those who accept change. I thank you for your openness and boldness to bear witness to Christ and to act according to this witness. For witness always anticipates activity. In addressing the young people this year, the Holy Father Pope Francis encourages them to be active: *The Church and society need you. With your plans and with your courage, with your dreams and ideals, walls of stagnation fall and roads open up that lead us to a better, fairer, and more humane world.* The Roman Pontiff considers the question of young people so important that the upcoming Synod of Bishops of the Catholic Church will be dedicated to youth, faith, and vocational discernment. Together with our Pope, I wish to encourage you to be active, to the fruitful use of the gift of youth, its constructive voice, to which the Church lends her support.

Palm Sunday is a special time – the words of our poet, Oleksandr Oles', truly communicate today's spirit: *With sadness a joy was embracing...* We rejoice at the glorious entrance to Jerusalem, while at the same time understanding that we stand together with Christ on the threshold of sufferings. Passion Week, which begins tomorrow, speaks so much to us about the human person – betrayal, sufferings, fear, doubts and death. But at the same time it tells us about the great and compassionate God, who by death conquers death.

I urge you, dear young friends, to live through next week in faith and in your personal trust in God so great, who for us becomes small and dies for us on the Cross in order to rise and grant us everlasting life. May your faith become power for you that will help you to overcome various challenges and tests that will occur along the way. May the Most Holy Mother of God accompany us on this way, for she is the example of actively answering the Lord's call.

The blessing of the Lord be upon you!

+ SVIATOSLAV

Given in Kyiv at the Patriarchal Cathedral of the Resurrection of Christ, *on the Saturday of the Akathist Hymn, 1 April 2017 A.D.*

Ukrainian Catholic Bishops of western Canada: Ad limina

(Vatican Radio) Pope Francis met this week with the members of the Assembly of Western Catholic Bishops (AWCB) of Canada, who are in Rome for their regular *ad limina* visits.



Ukrainian Catholic Bishops David Motiuk, of the Eparchy of Edmonton, and Ken Nowakowski, of New Westminster, came to Vatican Radio where they spoke with Christopher Wells about their meeting with the Pope.

"I felt very much that it was a meeting between brothers," said Bishop Nowakowski. "Instantly we felt at ease and instantly there was no strangeness."

Bishop Motiuk agreed, describing the Pope's "beautiful welcome" as "fraternal." "We played a game of soccer," the Bishop said, with a smile. The Pope said, "Here's the soccer ball, we'll put it down in the midst, and whoever wants to kick it first, we can begin our dialogue, our discussion. A beautiful image!"

"I think it was very much a time of listening to each other," Bishop Nowakowski added. Pope Francis, he said, told the group "Being a bishop is hard," and said he appreciates the work the Bishops are doing. Nowakowski said the Holy Father emphasized the need for Bishops to be close to their people, and the importance of solidarity: "being in a close relationship with our faithful, with our parish priests, with the Bishops, and with the Holy Father." It's a concept, the Bishop said, that the Eastern Catholic Churches understand well.

As an example of the importance of listening, Bishop Motiuk pointed to the next Synod of Bishops, set for October 2018, which will focus on youth. "It's a huge challenge for the Ukrainian Catholic Church to engage our young people in the ministry of the Church," he said. "They're so preoccupied with so many other things. But it's encouraging us to find ways to have conversations with our young people... What are their considerations, aspirations, their hopes for the future?" It can be difficult for a Bishop to listen, he said – "We like to do all the talking!" – but "it's so important to listen."

Both Bishops spoke of celebrating the Divine Liturgy, in the Rite of the Ukrainian Church, at the altar of St Josaphat in St Peter's Basilica, as highlight of their *ad limina* visit. St Josaphat, Bishop Nowakowski said, "really was a remarkable man in many ways... He died for Christian unity, for wanting the Eastern Church in the territory of Ukraine and what is now Belarus to be fully united, in Eucharistic Communion, with the Holy See. And that's an incredible thing." He said opportunity to celebrate the Divine Liturgy, in the rites of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, "with our Latin brothers" was "a great sign" of unity. He pointed to the excellent relations between Eastern and Latin Bishops in Canada, as a model "that could be followed anywhere in the world." "That was one of my proudest moments during this *ad limina*," Bishop Motiuk said, "where the 22 [Greek and Latin] bishops [of western Canada] were able to gather in the celebration of the divine liturgy, according to the Ukrainian church, and to pray for Christian unity." Pope Francis, he said, reminded the bishops that "the *ad limina* visit is a very visible sign of communion with the bishops throughout the world, with Pope Francis, but [also] with others." Often times, he said, "in a parish or in an eparchy or in a diocese, we get caught up in the day to day life of our local church. But here was a concrete symbol and action of the unity of the Catholic Church in action, and especially in prayer. It was just a beautiful moment for me."

Listen to the full interview with Bishop David Motiuk of Edmonton, and Bishop Ken Nowakowski of New Westminster: http://en.radiovaticana.va/news/2017/03/31/ukrainian_catholic_bishops_of_western_canada_ad_limina_/1302402



Liturgical celebrations during week:

"If salvation is by grace, someone will say, 'Why is it that we are not all saved?' Because you did not will it. For grace, even though it be grace, saves only the willing, not those who are not willing and turn away from it and constantly fight against it and oppose themselves to it." – Saint John Chrysostom

Bible Readings for Holy Week:

Mon.: Ezekiel 1:1-20; Exodus 1:1-20 & Job 1:1-12 Tues.: Ezekiel 1:21-28; Exodus 2:5-10 & Job. 1:13-22

Wed.: Ezekiel 2:3-3:3; Exodus 2:11-22 & Job 2:1-10

Thur.: Jer. 11:18-23; 12:1-5, 9-11, 14-15; Ex. 19:10-19 & Job 38:1-21; 42:1-5



Mon., Apr. 10th – 4:00 p.m. The Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete (Eng./Ukr.)

Tue., Apr. 11th – 4:00 p.m. The Way of the Cross, followed by Sorokousty/Lenten Memorial Service for the deceased. (Eng./Ukr.)

Wed., Apr. 12th – 4:00 p.m. The Divine Liturgy of Pre-Sanctified Gifts:

Thurs., Apr. 13th – 7:00 p.m. Matins of the Passion/Strasti (Reading of 12 Gospels of the Passion of Jesus Christ)

April 14th, 2017 – **GOOD FRIDAY** **NB.: Day of Strict Abstinence: No meat, dairy or poultry products.**

2:00 p.m. Holy Thursday, Mission and Holy Friday Services (*served by Rev. Fr. Joseph Ostopowich at Saints Peter and Paul Parish in Grindrod, BC*)

3:00 p.m. – Vespers of Christ's Burial. The Exposition of the Holy Shroud (*at Holy Trinity Parish in Kamloops, BC*)

/Procession with Plashchanytsia (Eng./Ukr.)

4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. – Confession, Church open for prayer

April 15th, 2017 – **HOLY SATURDAY** - 9:00 a.m. – Matins of Holy Saturday/Jerusalem Matins (Eng./Ukr.)

10:00 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. – Confession,

11:00 a.m. – Church open for prayer before the Shroud.

6:00 p.m. Easter Services (*at Saints Peter and Paul Parish in Grindrod, BC*)

APRIL 16th, 2017 – **THE GLORIOUS RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST, EASTER SUNDAY – PASCHA**

8:00 a.m. – Paschal Procession, Easter Matins, the Divine Liturgy after the Liturgy blessing of the Artos and blessing of the Easter Food in baskets (Eng./Ukr.).

* Please, contact Fr. Pavlo if you want to have the Divine Liturgies celebrated in your special (such as: In thanksgiving for favours received, the Infirm, General Intentions, the Deceased, Help of the Holy Spirit, for the Travelers, etc.) intentions.

Pastoral Ministry and Sacraments: Reconciliation: on Sundays and Holy Days: before Liturgies and other days, by appointment.

Holy Communion: for the sick, by appointment, any time. **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. **Funerals and Memorials:** by appointment. **Holy Unction** (Anointing of the Sick): Those anticipating surgery, hospitalization or treatments and who would like to receive anointing or to **meet with parish priest, please call or email Fr. Pavlo in advance to arrange a time and a day.**

***Basic Guidelines for Reception of Holy Communion:** You are a member of the Catholic Church (Orthodox faithful are 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.**