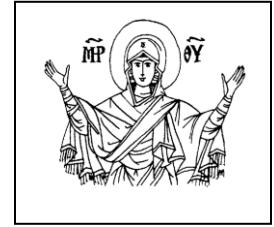


**Вісті Української Католицької Парохії Святої Покрови**

**St. Mary's Church Bulletin**



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Pastor: Fr. **Petro (Peter) Bodnar**

**DIVINE LITURGY:**

**SUNDAY:** 9:30 a.m. (Ukrainian)

**SATURDAY : 4 pm SUNDAY 11:00 a.m.** (English)

**Confession:** Every first Sunday of the month at 3:30 pm on Saturdays, 9:00 am and 10:30 am on Sundays or anytime upon request.  
**Baptisms & Marriages:** By prior arrangement (at least 1 year before the marriage date), through the parish office.  
**Visitations & Anointing of the Sick:** Please notify the office if a member of your family is in need of a visit.

**December 1 , 2013 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

**Epistle: Ephesians 2:4-10** see explanation on page 440

**Gospel: Luke 8:26-39** see explanation on page 158

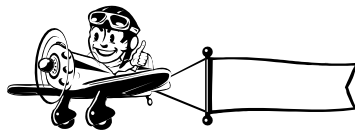
Propers for the Divine Liturgy: Page 349

**Prayer Intentions**

**Monday** 6:00 p.m. No Divine Liturgy  
**Tuesday** 6:00 a.m. No Divine Liturgy  
**Wednesday** 6:00 p.m. Feast of Entrance of Blessed Virgin Mary into Temple /Вхід Пресвятої Богородиці  
**Thursday** 6:00 p.m. +Jean Parcey – Mr. Mrs. E. Lekun  
**Friday** 6:00 p.m. Health of Maria Evaniuk  
**Saturday** 4:00 p.m. +Fedor Jackiw – Daria Sereda  
**Sunday** **11:00 am** +Volodymyr Semeniuk – Family (with Panakhyda)

**ROOF DONATIONS:** St. Mary's Mens Club \$200.00; Mr. & Mrs. K. Stonley \$100.00; Anonymous \$200.00  
**Жертводавцям складаємо щирю подяку! Thank You for you generosity!**

**"FELLOWSHIP":** You are warmly invited to the hall after the Ukrainian Divine Liturgy for fellowship to visit with one another enjoying a simple sweet, and coffee/tea.



**BULLETIN ADVERTISING:**

Anyone wishing to help off set the cost of printing our Sunday Bulletin is invited to place an advertisement in the Bulletin for the year 2014. Please call the Parish Office for details: 705-675-8244. Ads will be printed from January to December 2014.

**ST. NICHOLAS BRUNCH**– will take place on Sunday, December 22<sup>th</sup> , 2013. The brunch will begin at 12:00 Noon and will be followed by the visit of St. Nicholas. All are invited. Tickets are \$10.00 adults, children under 10 free.

**PARISH 2014 CALENDARS** – are available from the parish office and are **\$5.00** each. Proceeds will go to the Roof Fund. Thank You for your support!

**CONFESSION TIMES** – There will be opportunity for confession every First Sunday of the month at 3:30 pm on Saturdays; 9:00 am and 10:30 am on Sundays or upon request.

**PILGRIMAGE to FATIMA and LOURDES** - You're invited to join Fr. Marian Struc on a spiritual journey to Fatima and Lourdes from May 25 – June 3, 2014. For more info contact Renata at 705-688-1131 or [renatatravel@sympatico.ca](mailto:renatatravel@sympatico.ca) Special Travel Presentation, Tuesday, December 10, 2013 at 7:00 pm in St. Mary's Church Auditorium by Collete – Religious Tours.

### **APOSTOLIC EXHORTATION *EVANGELII GAUDIUM* OF THE HOLY FATHER FRANCIS**

1. THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL fills the hearts and lives of all who encounter Jesus. Those who accept his offer of salvation are set free from sin, sorrow, inner emptiness and loneliness. With Christ joy is constantly born anew. In this Exhortation I wish to encourage the Christian faithful to embark upon a new chapter of evangelization marked by this joy, while pointing out new paths for the Church's journey in years to come.

#### **I. A JOY EVER NEW, A JOY WHICH IS SHARED**

2. The great danger in today's world, pervaded as it is by consumerism, is the desolation and anguish born of a complacent yet covetous heart, the feverish pursuit of frivolous pleasures, and a blunted conscience. Whenever our interior life becomes caught up in its own interests and concerns, there is no longer room for others, no place for the poor. God's voice is no longer heard, the quiet joy of his love is no longer felt, and the desire to do good fades. This is a very real danger for believers too. Many fall prey to it, and end up resentful, angry and listless. That is no way to live a dignified and fulfilled life; it is not God's will for us, nor is it the life in the Spirit which has its source in the heart of the risen Christ.

3. I invite all Christians, everywhere, at this very moment, to a renewed personal encounter with Jesus Christ, or at least an openness to letting him encounter them; I ask all of you to do this unfailingly each day. No one should think that this invitation is not meant for him or her, since "no one is excluded from the joy brought by the Lord".<sup>[1]</sup> The Lord does not disappoint those who take this risk; whenever we take a step towards Jesus, we come to realize that he is already there, waiting for us with open arms. Now is the time to say to Jesus: "Lord, I have let myself be deceived; in a thousand ways I have shunned your love, yet here I am once more, to renew my covenant with you. I need you. Save me once again, Lord, take me once more into your redeeming embrace". How good it feels to come back to him whenever we are lost! Let me say this once more: God never tires of forgiving us; we are the ones who tire of seeking his mercy. Christ, who told us to forgive one another "seventy times seven" (Mt 18:22) has given us his example: he has forgiven us seventy times seven. Time and time again he bears us on his shoulders. No one can strip us of the dignity bestowed upon us by this boundless and unfailing love. With a tenderness which never disappoints, but is always capable of restoring our joy, he makes it possible for us to lift up our heads and to start anew. Let us not flee from the resurrection of Jesus, let us never give up, come what will. May nothing inspire more than his life, which impels us onwards!

4. The books of the Old Testament predicted that the joy of salvation would abound in messianic times. The prophet Isaiah exultantly salutes the awaited Messiah: "You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy" (9:3). He exhorts those who dwell on Zion to go forth to meet him with song: "Shout aloud and sing for joy!" (12:6). The prophet tells those who have already seen him from afar to bring the message to others: "Get you up to a high mountain, O herald of good tidings to Zion; lift up your voice with strength, O herald of good tidings to Jerusalem" (40:9). All creation shares in the joy of salvation: "Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth! Break forth, O mountains, into singing! For the Lord has comforted his people, and will have compassion on his suffering ones" (49:13).

Zechariah, looking to the day of the Lord, invites the people to acclaim the king who comes "humble and riding on a donkey": "Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem! Lo, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he" (9:9).

Perhaps the most exciting invitation is that of the prophet Zephaniah, who presents God with his people in the midst of a celebration overflowing with the joy of salvation. I find it thrilling to reread this text: "The Lord, your God is in

your midst, a warrior who gives you the victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing, as on a day of festival” (3:17).

This is the joy which we experience daily, amid the little things of life, as a response to the loving invitation of God our Father: “My child, treat yourself well, according to your means... Do not deprive yourself of the day’s enjoyment” (Sir 14:11, 14). What tender paternal love echoes in these words!

5. The Gospel, radiant with the glory of Christ’s cross, constantly invites us to rejoice. A few examples will suffice. “Rejoice!” is the angel’s greeting to Mary (Lk 1:28). Mary’s visit to Elizabeth makes John leap for joy in his mother’s womb (cf. Lk 1:41). In her song of praise, Mary proclaims: “My spirit rejoices in God my Saviour” (Lk 1:47). When Jesus begins his ministry, John cries out: “For this reason, my joy has been fulfilled” (Jn 3:29). Jesus himself “rejoiced in the Holy Spirit” (Lk 10:21). His message brings us joy: “I have said these things to you, so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete” (Jn 15:11). Our Christian joy drinks of his brimming heart. He promises his disciples: “You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn into joy” (Jn 16:20). He then goes on to say: “But I will see you again and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you” (Jn 16:22). The disciples “rejoiced” (Jn 20:20) at the sight of the risen Christ. In the Acts of the Apostles we read that the first Christians “ate their food with glad and generous hearts” (2:46). Wherever the disciples went, “there was great joy” (8:8); even amid persecution they continued to be “filled with joy” (13:52). The newly baptized eunuch “went on his way rejoicing” (8:39), while Paul’s jailer “and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God” (16:34). Why should we not also enter into this great stream of joy?

6. There are Christians whose lives seem like Lent without Easter. I realize of course that joy is not expressed the same way at all times in life, especially at moments of great difficulty. Joy adapts and changes, but it always endures, even as a flicker of light born of our personal certainty that, when everything is said and done, we are infinitely loved. I understand the grief of people who have to endure great suffering, yet slowly but surely we all have to let the joy of faith slowly revive as a quiet yet firm trust, even amid the greatest distress: “My soul is bereft of peace; I have forgotten what happiness is... But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: the steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning. Great is your faithfulness... It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord” (Lam 3:17, 21-23, 26).

7. Sometimes we are tempted to find excuses and complain, acting as if we could only be happy if a thousand conditions were met. To some extent this is because our “technological society has succeeded in multiplying occasions of pleasure, yet has found it very difficult to engender joy”.<sup>[2]</sup> I can say that the most beautiful and natural expressions of joy which I have seen in my life were in poor people who had little to hold on to. I also think of the real joy shown by others who, even amid pressing professional obligations, were able to preserve, in detachment and simplicity, a heart full of faith. In their own way, all these instances of joy flow from the infinite love of God, who has revealed himself to us in Jesus Christ. I never tire of repeating those words of Benedict XVI which take us to the very heart of the Gospel: “Being a Christian is not the result of an ethical choice or a lofty idea, but the encounter with an event, a person, which gives life a new horizon and a decisive direction”.<sup>[3]</sup>

8. Thanks solely to this encounter – or renewed encounter – with God’s love, which blossoms into an enriching friendship, we are liberated from our narrowness and self-absorption. We become fully human when we become more than human, when we let God bring us beyond ourselves in order to attain the fullest truth of our being. Here we find the source and inspiration of all our efforts at evangelization. For if we have received the love which restores meaning to our lives, how can we fail to share that love with others?

### **Оздоровлення геразинського біснுவатого**

Щойно ми чули чудову євангельську розповідь, яка віщує про діяння апостолів, адже чоловік з Геразинського краю, з цілковито поганської землі, першим був посланий звітувати Євангеліє Господа Ісуса серед своїх, так само, як самарянка серед самарян.

Чоловіка опанував диявол, тобто той, через кого у світ увійшла смерть. Ісус звільнив його. І ми також у хрещенні отримали звільнення від закону, від гріха, від смерти, від диявола. Саме задля цього перед хрещенням священик читає молитви екзорцизму. Ми немов здобули імунітет, але мусимо бути пильними, тому просимо Отця: «Не введи нас у спокусу, але ізбав нас від лукавого». Спокусник застосовує єдину тактику – обман. Бо саме обманом він викликає недовіру, вселяє страх у серце (див. Бут. 3).

Але ми, відроджені до свободи через Христа, маємо Святого Духа, Духа істини, Який наповнює нас і вчить розпізнавати те, що керує нашим серцем. Іноді у ньому сидить «легіон», і тоді ми перебуваємо в сум’ятті. Тоді ми вже не знаємо, що робимо – пелена заступає наш погляд. Ми стаємо рабами страху і дозволяємо йому вести нас. Ледве бачимо, бо наше серце вже не слухає голосу Отця. Ми ховаємося від Нього. Страх

заступає нам Його обличчя; якщо ж ми з ним, то в нашому серці панує мир і довіра, – почуття, які непомилково засвідчують єдність із Богом.

Нехай під час молитви Утішитель поверне нам усвідомлення свободи. Як і тому чоловікові, нам слід сидіти, але не бездіяльно, а слухаючи Слово Боже. Така постава не раз згадана в Євангелії: згадаймо Марію з Витанії, яка «сівши в ногах Господа, слухала Його слова» (Лк. 10, 39). Якщо ми в тайні серця слухаємо Ісуса, Святий Дух зодягає нас, але не в одяг, а в самого Христа. До того чоловіка повернувся здоровий розум. Саме через слухання до Божих дітей повертається духовне здоров'я, яким би не було їх каліцтво. Ісус є тим живим середовищем, в якому ми відроджуємося. В Ньому ми вже не загублені, а віднайдені.

Кожному з нас, що творимо Церкву, творимо Тіло розп'ятого й воскреслого Господа, дано отримати звільнення і бути посланими «розказати все те, що Бог зробив» нам (див. Лк. 8, 39). Розповідати слід не про себе, а про Нього, нашого чудотворця, нашу «Добру Новину» (Мт. 11, 5), яку Отець подарував для всіх. Жан Корбон, Це називається світанком, Львів, Свічадо 2007

**КАВА І СОЛОДКЕ** – щиро запрошуємо всіх у кожную неділю на каву і солодке після Божественної Літургії.

**НАГОДА ДО СПОВІДІ** – До сповіді можна приступити у кожную першу неділю місяця, пів години перед Божественною Літургією. У першу суботу місяця о год 3:30, у кожную неділю місяця о год. 9:00 і 10:30 ранку.

**СВЯТИЙ МИКОЛАЙ І БРАНЧ** – запрошуємо всіх на смачний бранч у неділю 22 грудня о год. 12 обіду. Після бранчу Св. Миколай відвідає нашу парафію і принесе подарунки для добрих діточок. Квитки 10 доларів від особи.

**ЦЕРКОВНІ КАЛЕНДАРІ НА 2014 рік** – вже готові. В цьому році ціна календарів 5 дол. за календар. Прихід з продажі календарів призначений на покриття коштів виміни нового даху на церкві. Щиро дякуємо.

**Церква Покрова Пресвятої Богородиці  
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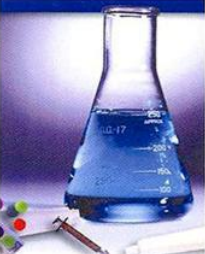



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