

Українська Католицька Парафія Покрова Пресвятої Богородиці

Protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Parish

The No. 1 priority for ... the church is evangelization: preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ in today's world.

4 Листопад, 2012 Volume 57 No. 45 November 4, 2012

550 West 14 Avenue Vancouver, BC V5Z 1P6

E-Mail: office@stmarysbc.com

23-а Неділя

Після Зіслання Святого Духа

Fax:

Website: www.stmarysbc.com

Phone: 604.879.5830

604.874.2727

Служби Божі / Divine Liturgies

В Неділю / Sunday 8:30 am recited – Bilingual 10:30 am sung – Ukrainian

У Свята / Holy Day of Obligation

10:00 am and 7:00 pm

Щодня / Daily Scheduled

7:30 am Matins/Yтреня in chapel

8:25 am in church

First Friday - 8:25 am Divine Liturgy followed by Moleben to the Sacred Heart of Jesus or Mother of God

Cnosidi починаючи десять хвилин перед Службою Божою

Confessions begin ten minutes before the Divine Liturgy or by appointment

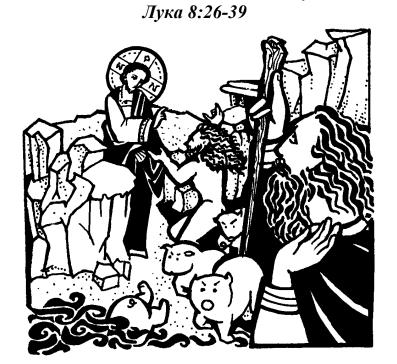
Baptism by appointment - membership in Parish is required

Marriages by appointment made at least six months in advance. Membership in Parish is required

Funerals by arrangement in the Parish Office

oo. Bacuліяни/Basilian Fathers serving this Parish

Father Josaphat Tyrkalo, OSBM, Pastor Most Rev. Severian Yakymyshyn, OSBM Bishop Emeritus



Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost Luke 8:26-39

SPECIAL NOTICE – Do not park in the RESERVED stalls in front of St. Mary's Gardens when you come for the Sunday Divine Liturgy. Your car will be towed. Парафія Покрова Пресвятої Богородиці вітає всіх гостей, приятелів та рідних які зєдналися сьогодні разом брати участь в цій Службі Божі. Нехай наш Господь через заступництво Покрова Пресвятої Богородиці благословить Вас і Вашу родину.

Місячний намір Святішого Отця Папи Римського – на Листопад

Загальний намір: "Щоб єпископи, і всі служителі Євангелії давали відважне свідчення вірности розп'ятому і воскреслому Христові".

Місійний намір: "Щоб паломництво Церкви на землі сяяло, як світло народів".

- Тропарі і читання в жовтій книжці на стор. 1 і 2.
- Кава і солодке Сьогодні після Служби Божої о год 8:30 і 10:30 рано у вітальні під церквою.

Спеціяльне прохання: після закінчення Служби Божої просимо замкнути молитвенники і співаники і поставити їх на відповідне місце. Рівнож просимо не залишайте бюлетенів і других матеріалів в лавках. Будьмо господарними в нашій церкві і допоможім, щоби наші лавки були чисті й акуратні.

Сьогодні, Неділя, 4 Листопад:

- Парафіяльна Катехитична програма під час Служби Божої в 10:30 рано і буде продовжуватися кожної неділі.

Четвер, 8 Листп: Біблійні Студії о год. 7:00 веч: Програма охоплює "Одкровення".

Субота, 10 Листопад: - 9:30 ранку Сходини Л.Ү.К.Ж.К. <u>пічнуться молебнем до</u> <u>Пречистої Діви Марії</u> а відтак засідання у вітальні під церквою.

Неділя, 11 Листопад: Святого Священномученика Йосафата, Архиєпископа

- Поминальний День Воїна Панахида відправиться по 10:30 Службі Божій.
- Парафіяльна Катехитична програма під час Служби Божої в 10:30 рано і буде продовжуватися кожної неділі.

Середа, 14 Листопад: Святого Апостола Пилипа

Четвер, 15 Листопад:

- Початок "Пилипівки" (перед Різдвяним Постом).
- Біблійні Студії о год. 7:00 веч: Програма охоплює "Одкровення".

Неділя, 18 Листопад:

- Парафіяльна Катехитична програма під час Служби Божої в 10:30 рано і буде продовжуватися кожної неділі.

Середа, 21 Листопад: Входу в Храм Пресвятої Богородиці

- Служба Божа у 8:30 рано.

Четвер, 22 Листп: Біблійні Студії о год. 7:00 веч: Програма охоплює "Одкровення".

Субота, 24 Листопад: - Парафіяльний Базар від 11 ранку до 7 вечора

Неділя, 25 Листопад:

- Парафіяльна Катехитична програма під час Служби Божої в 10:30 рано і буде продовжуватися кожної неділі.

Четвер, 29 Листп: Біблійні Студії о год. 7:00 веч: Програма охоплює "Одкровення".

The Protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish welcomes all our guests, friends, visiting relatives and Parishioners in celebrating this Divine Liturgy together. May our Lord, through the intercession of the Protectress, the Blessed Mother of God, bless you and your family!

Papal General Prayer Intention for November: "Pray that bishops, priests, and all ministers of the Gospel may bear the courageous witness of fidelity to the crucified and risen Lord".

Mission Intention for November: "Pray that the pilgrim Church on earth may shine as a light to the nations".

- Tropar, Kondak & readings for today in the YELLOW booklet pages: 1 & 2.
- Coffee and sweets are available today following the 8:30 am and 10:30 am Divine Liturgy in the Fellowship Room. All guests and parishioners are invited.

A SPECIAL Request: At the conclusion of each Divine Liturgy, please close all Liturgy and/or hymnbooks and return them to their proper place. Also, please do not leave any church bulletins or any other material in the pews. Let each of us do our part to be true stewards of our parish church by helping to keep the church pews clean and neat. Thank you.

Today, Sunday, November 4: Catechism for Pre-Schoolers during 10:30 Div. Liturgy.

Wednesday, November 7: Bazaar Meeting in Main Auditorium - 7 pm

Thursday, November 8: - BIBLE STUDIES - "Revelations" at 7 pm - Fellowship Room.

Saturday, November 10:

- UCWLC Meeting begins at 9:30 am with Moleben to the Mother of God followed by the monthly meeting in the Fellowship Room.

November 11: Feast of Bishop-Martyr Josaphat, Archbishop of Polotsk and REMEMBRANCE DAY

- Panachyda for all fallen soldiers will be celebrated after the 10:30 Divine Liturgy.
- Parish Catechism Program for Pre-Schoolers during the 10:30 am Divine Liturgy and will continue as the schedule dictates.

Wednesday, November 14: Feast of St. Philip the Apostle

- "Philipiwka" begins today the pre-Christmas fast.
- 8:30 am Divine Liturgy.

Thursday, November 15: - BIBLE STUDIES: "Revelations" at 7 pm - Fellowship Room.

Sunday, November 18:

- Parish Catechism Program for Pre-Schoolers during the 10:30 am Divine Liturgy.
- **GENERATIONS OF FAITH** at Holy Eucharist Cathedral from 12:30 4:00 pm with the theme: "The Holy Mystery of the Anointing of the Sick". You can look forward to an explanation of various anointings; the significance of the Mystery of Anointing; types of healing and the gospels readings of healing found in the bible.

Wednesday, November 21: Feast of Presentation in the temple of BI V M

- 8:30 am Divine Liturgy

Thursday, November 22: - BIBLE STUDIES: "Revelations" at 7 pm - Fellowship Room.

Saturday, November 24: - Parish BAZAAR from 11 AM to 7 PM. Ukrainian Food served all day as well as other activities and sales - see Poster

Це пригадка для всіх вірних. Просимо приходити вчасно на Службу Божу. Будьмо готові разом заспівати початковий гімн. Зрозумійте, якщо Ви прийдети до Церкви після Великого Входу, Ви пропустили більшу частину Служби Божої, і дійсно не вислухали приписаної Служби Божої на неділю.

Церковна Етика: Будьмо свідомі, що беручи участь у Св. Літургії ми мусимо одержати кінцеве Благословення перед тим як ми залишимо Службу Божу. Ми рівнож просимо не виходити з Церкви перед закінченням Служби Божої. Ми просимо Вас не спілкуватися в Церкві перед, під час і після Служби Божої. Прошу це робити в притворі Церкви або у Вітальні під церквою. Залишім наву (Nave) церкви для вірних які моляться.

A SPECIAL NOTE to ALL PARISHIONERS: Please come on time for the Divine Liturgy. Realize that when you come into the Church proper after the Great Entrance, you have missed most of the Divine Liturgy and have not really attended the prescribed service for a Sunday.

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

Almighty and Merciful God, Inspire those You have chosen To hear and answer Your call to the Priesthood and Religious Life. Give them the courage to be the prophets for our times. Give them the wisdom and openness to live their personal call. Give them the strength to be ready witnesses of Your love and care for the world. May they find support and encouragement in our words and in our prayers. Through the intercession of Mary, the Mother of God and all the Saints. Amen.



Prayer for the Beatification of the Servant of God Metropolitan

Andrey: Our Lord Jesus Christ, You always reward Your faithful servants, not only with special gifts of Your love, but also with the eternal reward of the saints in heaven, and in many cases You grant them the recognition of sanctity by Your Church here on earth. We humbly pray: grant that Your faithful servant Metropolitan Andrey be numbered among the saints. Throughout his just life, "full of suffering and trials," he was a good shepherd for his flock and a great labourer for Christian unity. And through his beatification and intercession, grant our entire people the great gift of unity and love. Amen.

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PRAYER FOR A VIBRANT PARISH – O God, Creator of Heaven and Earth! Because of your indescribable love for us, you sent your Only-Begotten Son, Our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ – The Way, The Truth, and The Life – and our Salvation. In His name, we turn to You: Strengthen our hearts and minds in Christian love and in unity of purpose as we strive to build a Vibrant Parish. Give us the grace to model our lives according to the Word of God. Instill in us the desire to pray and to celebrate the Holy Mysteries as one Christian Family in our Parish Community. Inspire us to follow Your great command to be a servant to the less fortunate among us! Grant this, O Lord, through the mercies and love for mankind of Your Only-Begotten Son with whom You are blessed, together with Your All-Holy, Good and Live-Giving Spirit, now and for ever and ever. Amen!



GENERATIONS OF FAITH 2011/2012

Come and join us for lunch, conversation and prayer
Register now for the next Generations of Faith session featuring

"The Holy Mystery of the Anointing of the Sick"

SUNDAY, November 18, at Holy Eucharist Cathedral

501-4th Avenue, New Westminster, from 12:30pm - 4:00pm

There will be a separate session for the children

TODAY IS LAST DAY FOR EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION RATES! Please register in advance for this event by November 12

Registration forms are available at the back of the church or on the Eparchial website at: www.nweparchy.ca. They can be submitted to your parish office or contact person.

For more information, speak to: **Carol Achtemichuk** @ 604.980.4680 *Rides are available to New Westminster*

Request for Prayers: for you, your family, or friend – please submit the name to the Parish Office or submit a note and place on the collection plate.

Пам'ятайте помолитися: за Вашу родину, за членів Парафії, а особливо за тих які знаходяться в лікарнях, або тих що очікують Божої відповіді на їхні молитви, або радіють Божою відповідю, або за тих які відзначують уродини, або роковини, або за тих що покликані до їхньої вічної винагороди, або за родину яку вони залишили.

REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR: your family; your fellow parishioners; the shut-ins or those in hospital; those seeking God's guidance or rejoicing with God's favour; or for those celebrating a birthday or anniversary; or have been called to their eternal reward or for the family they leave behind; as well as any other need.

Please remember in your prayers especially: Bishop Severian Yakymyshyn, OSBM, Fr. Vincent Prychidko, OSBM; Fr. Steven Basarab, Mary Balsevicius, Joseph Bayduza, Frances Bethune, Mary Earl, Catherine Hladij, Alice Humenick, Bohdan Karpinski, Brian Kluchkowsky, Karlo Kozy, Victoria Kuzik, Emily Kuzyk, Bodzie and Shirley Lawryshyn, Oscar Lyseyko, Ben Marchinkow, Jason Obuck, Orest Obuck, John Pura, Mary Scott, Wasyl Saik, Kaiya Williams, Leon Woznow.

PLEASE VISIT our Parishioners or those confined to their homes. They need your visits, your phone calls, as well as your prayers.

If there are people you visit requesting our prayers, please call the Parish office. Please remember to pray daily for vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

BAZAAR NEWS - PARISH BAZAAR - NOVEMBER 24, 2012 - Doors open - 11 am

Наш Парафіяльний Базар зближається чим-раз ближче. Базаровий Комітет ласкаво просить Вас, якщо Ви приготовляєте консерви цього літа, то просимо зробіть декілька "екстра" на наш Базар. Ваша поміч буде оцінена.

- I 1. The Bazaar "Preserves and Baking" Committee is requesting any extra preserves that you will be making over the summer. Please bring as many as you can spare to the Auditorium kitchen on Tuesdays. They will be sold at our Parish Bazaar. Your help is greatly appreciated.
- 2. **They are also** asking for **Home baking** such as brownies, breads and buns, pies, cakes, cinnamon buns, cookies and any other baking that does not include fillings such as cream or cheese or other dairy products.
- 3. **The Bazaar "Silent Auction" Committee** is asking **for donations** of all things (ie: Hockey tickets, dinners for two, wine box, etc.) to be bid on **at the Silent Auction**. Please bring them as soon as possible to the Parish Office or place them in the "Silent Auction" box in the Church Fellowship Room.
- 4. The Bazaar "Paper Lottery" Committee is asking for donations of new items for the children and adult "Paper Lottery". Your help is needed before and during the bazaar. For more information, call Pat Oleksiew at 604.278.1429. Your help is greatly appreciated.
- 5. The Bazaar "Crafts" Committee is asking for items for the Crafts Corner; such as small wooden ornaments or boards, knitting, home decorated aprons and other such useful items, and things for scrapbooking. Drop them off at the Fellowship Room.
- 6. The Bazaar "Rummage Sale" Committee need items for the Rummage Sale such as clean slightly used clothing, clean kitchen utensils (pots and the like), household items (picture frames, ornaments and the like). Drop them off at the Fellowship Room. We will not accept used TVs, electronic devices, big living room furniture, or any other item that can carry unwanted creatures.
- 17. Making Cabbage rolls Monday November 5 at 8 am.

For more information call Henriette Ukrainetz at 604.291.0087.

For any other information call the Parish Office or Dr. Michael Myckatyn, Bazaar Chairperson, so that we can direct your call to the right person.

REQUEST from the HISTORY and PICTORAL COMMITTEE: To all Parishioners – we are looking for pictures of any priest who served at St Mary's Ukrainian Catholic Church before the year 2000. Please provide Orest Kernycky with any pictures, he will copy them and return them to you the following week. You can also put them into the collection basket, in an envelope with your name, phone number, the name of the priest, and the year the picture was taken. Thank you for your assistance.

ALSO: Parishioners are encouraged to submit, to the parish office, a short biography of individual persons and/or families who have contributed to the life and growth of the Parish. These will be compiled into a book as a history of our Parish.

HIS BEATITUDE SVIATOSLAV HAS INVITED YOU TO KYIV IN 2013!

His Beatitude, our Patriarch Sviatoslav, has invited the faithful of the Ukrainian Catholic Church to make a pilgrimage to Kyiv in 2013 to celebrate the 1,025th anniversary of the baptism of Kyivian–Rus, Ukraine! The major celebration will be a special Divine Liturgy on Sunday August 18 at the Holy Resurrection Sobor in Kyiv. Join Metropolitan Lawrence Huculak, OSBM of Winnipeg and Bishops David Motiuk of Edmonton, Ken Nowakowski of New Westminster and Bryan Bayda, C.Ss.R. of Saskatoon on an official pilgrimage to Ukraine 7–21 August. The Pilgrimage will begin in Western Ukraine visiting Lviv, Zarvanytsia, and Ternopil before proceeding to Kyiv for the major celebrations. In the next few weeks more details will be announced as soon as the program is finalized. Solaway Travel has been commissioned to assist our Church in arranging for our travel plans and accommodations on this pilgrimage. To express your interest in being part of this very exciting pilgrimage with our Bishops please contact:

Myrna Arychuk of Solaway Travel: 3819 Sunset Street, Burnaby, BC V5G 1T4 Tel: 604.430.6789 Fax: 604.430.2244. Myrna – myrna@solawaytravel.com, or Solaway Travel www.solawaytravel.com/

PRAYER OF JOHN PAUL II when he visited the Greek Catholic Church of St. Nicholas - TO OUR LADY OF ZARVANIZA - Saturday, 23 June 2001

O Blessed Virgin Mary, Our Lady of Zarvaniza, I thank you for the gift of my visit to the 'Kyivan Rus'. From where the light of the Gospel spread through this whole region. Here before your miraculous icon, kept in this church of Saint Nicholas, I entrust to you, Mother of God and Mother of the Church, my apostolic journey to Ukraine.

Holy Mother of God, spread your maternal mantle over all Christians and over all people of good will who live in this great nation.

Lead them to your Son, Jesus, who is for everyone the way, the truth and the life.

ПРОСИМО ДОПОМОГТИ В НАВЧАННІ НАШИМ МАЙБУТНІМ СВЯЩЕНИКАМ І ГРОМАДСЬКИМ ДІЯЧАМ! Єпископи Української Католицької Церкви у Канаді, покровителі Інституту ім. митр. Андрея Шептицького і Семінарія Святого Духа в Оттаві, постановили що, під час місяця листопада в кожній парафії відбудеться збірка. Щиро просимо бути щедрими у Вашій підтримці. Для отримання додаткової інформації відвідайте нашу веб сторінку: www.sheptytskyinstitute.ca

OUR FUTURE PRIESTS AND LAY LEADERS NEED YOUR SUPPORT! The Ukrainian Catholic Bishops of Canada, are the patrons of the Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky Institute and HOLY SPIRIT SEMINARY in Ottawa. They have authorized a collection to be taken up in each parish during the month of November. The education of our future priests and lay leaders depends upon your generosity. For more information on the Institute, you are invited to visit their website at: www.sheptytskyinstitute.ca.

PLEASE MAKE YOUR CONTRIBUTION IN THE ENVELOPE PROVIDED in the vestibule.

DO YOU LIVE IN GREATER VANCOUVER? HAVE YOU MOVED INTO GREATER VANCOUVER RECENTLY?

We encourage you to register your name and address and e-mail with the parish. People come to arrange for baptisms, marriages, funerals, or special blessings. Only then do the fathers discover that they have been participating in the Liturgical Services for years but have not registered as Parishioners. We may recognize you, we may see you in church but we do not know your name or address. Please print your name, address, telephone number, e-mail and postal code on your donation envelope, or contact the Parish Office.

REMEMBER: To be considered a member of this Parish one must be registerd in the Parish, attend the Divine Liturgy regularly and make regular contributions to maintain the Parish.

Church Etiquette: Just a reminder that to have attended the entire Divine Liturgy one must be in Church and have heard the reading of the Gospel as well as the homily, participated in the responses for the consecration and received the final Blessing before leaving the church. We also ask that you do not visit in the main part of the Church (the Nave) before during or after the Service. Please use the Vestibule or the Fellowship room to conduct your conversations – leave the Church proper for those that want to pray.

SPECIAL ENVELOPES FOR "FLOWERS and other Church Decorations". Before Christmas and before Easter, a collection is taken up for Flowers and other decorations needed for the season. Your offering is greatly appreciated. Please use a special envelope to designate your donation.

Bulletin Announcements must be in the office by Wednesday noon. It is your responsibility to notify the office, do not think that 'well they know', Father or the Secretary may know but do not always remember to put it in the bulletin!

Monthly Calendar Announcements for the next two months must be in the office by the 20th day of this month.

SPECIAL ENVELOPES FOR THE EDUCATION OF BASILIANS FOR PRIESTHOOD and MISSIONARY WORK

Please make your contribution in the special envelope provided in your box of envelopes (the yellow envelope marked "Basilian Fathers Education Fund" dated November, 2012) or use the envelope marked "Basilian Fathers Missionary Fund" that is provided in the vestibule.

The Basilian Students aspiring to the priesthood and Missionary work live and receive their religious formation at the "Basilian House of Studies" in Edmonton. The studies or university degrees are attained through Newman Theological Seminary, which is part of the University of Alberta. We invite you to pray for vocations and that the present students may be strengthened in their calling. Also offer your material and monetary help in providing this education for our future priests. And, pray for new vocations from our parish.

Ukrainian or English?

Many Ukrainian Catholic leaders serving the faithful outside the homeland face a dilemma: Do they serve the needs of the new immigrants and elderly by using Ukrainian in liturgies, or do they minister in English to keep younger people coming to church?

Ukrainian "has revived a little with the new immigrants," who want their native language used in church so their children will know how to speak it, said Archbishop Stefan Soroka of Philadelphia. Some places, he added, place an "inordinate emphasis" on Ukrainian language liturgies.

Yet, especially among teens and younger Americans, "even those who speak Ukrainian do not want to go to a Ukrainian service," he said. Parents tell priests they are tired of arguing with their children about going to a service they do not understand.

"You do not hear them protesting - they just walk away," he told Catholic News Service.

In large Ukrainian Catholic parishes, liturgies are offered in Ukrainian and English. Of his 67 parishes, he said, only two would not offer bilingual homilies.

But the Philadelphia Archdiocese's situation is even a bit more complicated: Many immigrants are from Eastern Ukraine, and their language is Russian, so priests minister to them in their native language. This upsets Ukrainian nationalists, Archbishop Soroka said, "but we cannot hold back evangelization because of Ukrainian nationalists."

"If we do not reach out to them," Russian-speaking Ukrainians will go to Orthodox or evangelical churches, he said.

In Chicago, which has a large ethnic Ukrainian population, some fourth-generation Ukrainians still speak their homeland's language, and many young people are forced to learn it, said Bishop Richard Seminack.

Yet after about age 15, "you become adapted to the American culture" and lose the language, he said, If liturgies are offered only Ukrainian, young people "leave the church or go to the Roman Catholic Church or no church at all."

Bishop Seminack, whose diocese includes the whole Western United States and extends into Hawaii, said in other Midwestern communities and along the West Coast, parishes have adapted English into the liturgy. But in Chicago, three of the Sunday liturgies at the cathedral use only Ukrainian, and only one is celebrated in English.

In the diocese that includes Great Britain and Ireland, "We still do not have liturgies in English ... in all our churches," said Bishop Hlib Lonchyna.

"It is a problem and it is a blessing," he said. "It is a blessing because - especially in London - new immigrants feel at home in the church."

But some parish priests cannot speak English well enough to celebrate English-language liturgies, and some elderly Ukrainian Catholics "get very tense when things get celebrated in English," he told Catholic News Service.

"Because of this mentality, we have lost a lot of people," he added.

Bishop Peter Stasiuk of Melbourne, Australia, said language is not an issue in his diocese, which includes Australia and New Zealand. Most immigrants from Ukraine arrived after World War II, and "we have integrated into the Australian community very well," he told Catholic News Service.

The church has been using primarily English "for quite a while" and uses Ukrainian only "where people request it and where it is necessary."

"The church's role is to evangelize the people, not to teach language," he said, adding, "Our biggest problem is not language, it is secularization."

The concept of what gives the Ukrainian Catholic Church its identity is "a work in progress," said Winnipeg Archbishop Lawrence Huculak. Liturgy, music, icons, traditions vestments all "work to attract people to the faith," he said. But church leaders must balance those items' importance against the faith itself, he said.

When Ukrainian Catholics prepare traditional Easter food and bring it for a blessing Holy Saturday or early Easter morning, it is a unique combination of food, culture, tradition and prayer life," he said. Some items from Good Friday might still be set up in the church and "it just all works together."

"The culture has stayed alive and found new creativity," he said. "Unfortunately, perhaps language is the most difficult (cultural aspect) to maintain."

Archbishop Huculak noted that French-Canadian Catholics face similar language problems.

The head of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, Archbishop Sviatoslav Shevchuk of Kiev-Halych, Ukraine, spent years working in Argentina.

"Our most vibrant parishes in Argentina are Spanish-speaking," he said.

When Archbishop Shevchuk met with young people at a Winnipeg parish, Sept. 7, he told them not to worry about not being able to speak Ukrainian.

"This is not a church of Ukrainians, it is a church of Christ," Archbishop Shevchuk said. "We are a global church. We are a church of the Ukrainian tradition." (CNS) Printed in the Progress Newspaper Sept 30/2012.

Ukrainian Catholic bishops discuss next steps in vibrant-parish plan By Barb Fraze - Catholic News Service, printed in the Progress Newspaper Sept 30/12

WINNIPEG, Manitoba (CNS) — Ukrainian Catholic bishops from around the world gathered in Canada to discuss how to make their parishes more vibrant — especially through the involvement of laypeople. How they do that requires solutions as varied as the parishes that represent more than 4 million Ukrainian Catholics on four continents.

"We have parishes that are growing" and need pastoral, financial and structural support, said Canadian Bishop Ken Nowakowski of New Westminster, who heads the Ukrainian Catholic Church's implementation team for its strategic plan, "Vision 2020." Some urban parishes have an aging population and declining numbers, and synod members must decide how to support the parish priest who spends so much time visiting the sick and officiating at funerals, said Bishop Nowakowski. At the other end of the spectrum, the bishops must consider how to help keep priests in busy, large parishes from burning out.

The vibrant parish initiative was approved by the synod in 2011 when the bishops met in Brazil. Their first steps have included making sure that clergy understand the plan and representatives of each of the Ukrainian Catholic eparchies, or dioceses, designated a priest-representative to help introduce the plan within the diocese.

Winnipeg's Ukrainian Archbishop Lawrence Huculak said as bishops from other countries arrived for the synod, they were impressed with the involvement of Canada's laity. Even the synod's organizational committee has laypeople on it, he said. "It is not just the bishops ... the people are taking part and helping to organize it," he said.

Ukrainian Catholics in Canada have women's, men's and youth groups. Lay groups have national conventions, elect leaders and participate in the life of the church.

Last December, the head of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, Archbishop Sviatoslav Shevchuk of Kiev-Halych, Ukraine, outlined his vision in a pastoral letter to Ukrainian Catholics worldwide. In the letter, "The Vibrant Parish -- A Place to Encounter the Living Christ," he spoke of the elements needed to "grow in holiness and unity in Christ Jesus."

Archbishop Shevchuk said people of all ages must continue to learn about the faith — not only from the Bible, but also from the Catechism of the Catholic Church. Priests must teach and laity have a responsibility to learn because "permanent and continuous formation for various age groups ... is an essential component of the vibrant parish." Parishioners must participate regularly in the sacraments, and families must once again become "a school of prayer". "Our parishes can become places where care is given to the orphan, protection for the widow, help for the poor, and where the suffering of the sick is shared."

Parishes must have active pastoral and parish councils as well as "well-formed and mature co-workers who assist the priest in leading catechetical schools, church brotherhoods, charitable works, youth organizations and prayer groups," he said. "One of the most important responsibilities of leadership in the parish community is discerning God's will and searching for the best ways of implementing it in the life of the parish."

Be An Angel

Being an angel does not always mean you have to do something amazing for others. Sometimes just supporting them as they pursue their dreams is all they need.

We all have dreams, but few of us have the self-love and courage to let our special talents make themselves known to the world. When we have a good friend who acts as our encourager, it allows us to release our inner light and glow.

Sometimes we teach others to shine their special light by example by expressing our own gifts and talents. Other times, we might be needed to keep someone from giving up. That is when a good, strong pair of faith wings works wonders.

Living angelically is especially important when dealing with children who need to be encouraged to express their gifts from an early age. Letting children know they are special when they are young makes it much easier for them to go after their dreams when they reach adulthood. We can be those instigators of joy, self-esteem, and belief.

So encourage the next person you meet to let their light shine free, bold, and mighty. Be their angel, and chances are it will inspire them to be someone else's angel in return.

Alas, where has all our innocence gone? While I sat in the reception area of my doctor's office, a woman rolled an elderly man in a wheelchair into the room. As she went to the receptionist's desk, the man sat there, alone and silent. Just as I was thinking I should make small talk with him, a little boy slipped off his mother's lap and walked over to the wheelchair. Placing his hand on the man's, he said, "I know how you feel. My mom makes me ride in the stroller too".

Out bicycling one day with my eight-year-old granddaughter, Carolyn, I got a little wistful. "In ten years", I said, "you will want to be with your friends and you will not have the time to go walking, biking, and swimming with me like you do now". Carolyn shrugged. "In ten years you will be too old to do all those things anyway".



Ukrainian Food Fair and Bazaar

75 Annual Saturday November 24, 2012 Ukrainian Food Served All Day 11:00 am - 7:00 pm

Purchase To Go: Perogies, Cabbage Rolls,
Sausage Rings, and Sauerkraut

Other tables: Silent Auction, Raffles, Baking, Preserves, Christmas Items, Crafts, Rummage, Kids Korner, and more!

FREE Admission and Parking!

St. Mary's Ukrainian Catholic Centre 3150 Ash Street, Vancouver (16th and Ash)