



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.*

25 Листопад, 2012

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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/Утреня 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

Сповіді 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

оо. **Василіяни/Basilian Fathers**
serving this Parish

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

26-а Неділя
Після Зшестя Святого Духа
Лука 12:16-21



Twenty-sixth Sunday
after Pentecost
Luke 12:16-21

**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.**

25 Листопад, 2012

26-а Неділя Після Зіслання Святого Духа

Парафія Покрова Пресвятої Богородиці вітає всіх гостей, приятелів та рідних які зедналися 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 вірності розп'ятому і воскреслому Христові".

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

- Тропарі і читання в жовтій книжці на стор. 5 і 6.

- Кава і солодке Сьогодні після Служби Божої о год 8:30 і 10:30 рано у вітальні під церквою.

Спеціальне 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, 25 Листопад:

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

Понеділок, 26 Листопад:

- Парастас за душу покійного Василя Бакевича о год. 7:00 вечора.

Вівторок, 27 Листопад:

- Похоронна Св. Літургія за душу покійного Василя Бакевича о год. 10:00 рано.

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

Неділя, 2 Грудень:

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

Четвер, 6 Грудень: Біблійні Студії о год. 7:00 веч: Програма охоплює "Одкровення".

П'ятниця, 7 Грудень: Перша П'ятниця

- 8:30 ранку по Службі Божі Молебень до Серця Христового.

Субота, 8 Грудень: 9:30 ранку Сходина Л.У.К.Ж.К. піchnуться молебнем до Пречистої Диви Марії а відтак засідання у вітальні під церквою.

Неділя, 9 Грудень:

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

Четвер, 13 Грудень:

- Біблійні Студії о год. 7:00 веч: Програма охоплює "Одкровення".

Неділя, 16 Грудень:

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

November 25, 2012

Twenty-sixth Sunday after Pentecost

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: 5 & 6.**

- 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.

Sunday, November 25:

- **Parish Catechism Program for Pre-Schoolers** during the 10:30 am Divine Liturgy.

Monday, November 26:

- **Prayer Services** for the late **William Bachewich** at 7 pm.

Tuesday, November 27:

- **Funeral Divine Liturgy** for the late **William Bachewich** at 10:00 am.

Sunday, December 2:

- **Parish Catechism Program for Pre-Schoolers** during the 10:30 am Divine Liturgy.

Thursday, December 6: - **BIBLE STUDIES: "Revelations"** at 7 pm - Fellowship Room.

Friday, December 7: First Friday

- 8:25 am Divine Liturgy & Moleben to Sacred Heart of Jesus.

Saturday, December 8:

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

Sunday, December 9:

- **Parish Catechism Program for Pre-Schoolers** during the 10:30 am Divine Liturgy.

Thursday, December 13: - **BIBLE STUDIES: "Revelations"** at 7 pm - Fellowship Room.

Thank you to all Parishioners and friends for your help in the preparations and proceedings of this year's Bazaar. We have strengthened our bonds of friendship and faith by working together as a Parish Family. We have been good models of Christian spirit to all that came in through the door to purchase and taste our offerings. May our Lord, Jesus Christ, through the intercession of His Mother, continue to bless you and guide you toward His Eternal Kingdom!

Це пригадка для всіх вірних. Просимо приходити вчасно на Службу Божу. Будьмо готові разом заспівати початковий гімн. Зрозумійте, якщо Ви прийдете 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!

The children of Holy Eucharist Ukrainian Heritage School have decided to begin an annual appeal to help children in need in Ukraine. The school has decided to take part in a global fundraising program sponsored by "Caritas" in Ukraine, and entitled. **"Christmas Candle"** or **"Різдвяна свічка"**. In Ukraine, the Christmas Candles are handmade by people with special needs, and distributed at the start of the Christmas Fast (or Pylipivka) through Parishes in Ukraine with the hope that the candles will be a part of the Christmas celebrations. The Funds collected by the regional Lviv Caritas branch, which we are working with, are used to help needy, disadvantaged, disabled and orphaned children.

As a show of support the children of our school will have these special Christmas Candles available starting in early December at all of the lower mainland parishes in the New Westminster Eparchy. Please consider supporting them with a minimum donation of \$5 per candle and lighting them as part of your Christmas Eve celebrations. 100% of the proceeds go to Caritas Ukraine, which is an organization that is supported and approved by His Beatitude Sviatoslav Shevchuk and His Excellency Bishop Ken Nowakowski.

Please help our children in their mission to help disadvantaged children in Ukraine. For more information, please contact Fr. Yuriy Vyshnevskyy [604.526.1261](tel:604.526.1261) or Dana Lupynis [604.274.8631](tel:604.274.8631) or email holyeucharistschool@gmail.com

Учні Української Школи Пресвятої Євхаристії вирішили розпочати щорічний заклик на допомогу потребуючим дітям в Україні. Школа бере участь у міжнародній програмі збору коштів, яка спонсорується організацією "Карітас" в Україні і носить назву "Різдвяна свічка". В Україні свічки вручну виготовляють люди з особливими потребами і на початку Різдвяного посту (Пилипівки) їх розповсюджують по парафіях в Україні з надією, що свічки стануть частиною святкування Різдва. Кошти, зібрані львівським відділом Карітасу, з яким ми співпрацюємо, використовуються для допомоги потребуючим, бідним, дітям з особливими потребами та сиротам.

Як вияв підтримки, діти з нашої школи будуть продавати ці особливі Різдвяні Свічки від початку грудня у парафіях Нью-Вестмінстера, Ванкувера, Річмонда та Суррі. Просимо розглянути можливість підтримки пожертвою не менше \$5 за свічку і засвітити ці свічки вдома на Святвечір. Усі зібрані кошти будуть передані в Карітас України, організацію, яку підтримує та схвалює Блаженніший Святослав Шевчук та Преосвященний Владика Кен Новаківський.

Допоможіть нашим дітям у їхній місії для потребуючих дітей в Україні. За додатковою інформацією просимо звертатися до о. Юрія Вишневського [604.526.1261](tel:604.526.1261), Дани Лупиніс [604.274.8631](tel:604.274.8631), або на email holyeucharistschool@gmail.com

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 відповіддю, або за тих які відзначають 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 Balevicius, 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, Wasył 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.

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/

Annual Ukrainian Christmas Carol Festival and Sing-along, Sunday, Dec. 16 at 3 pm.
3150 Ash Street, Vancouver. Tickets \$12, \$11, \$10, under 12 Free. Refreshments served. For information/Christmas Caroling at your home: 604.929.2581, 604.985.7972. Sponsored by Svitanok Chorus.

Річний Фестівал Укр. Коляд, 16-го грудня, год. 3 popol. в Укр. Катол. Центрі. Вступ: \$12, \$11, \$10, діти менше 12 років вступ вільний. Кава і солодке після концерту.

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 registered in the Parish, attend the Divine Liturgy regularly and make regular contributions to maintain the Parish.

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.

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.**

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.

STUDYING VATICAN COUNCIL II FROM THE ARCHIVES

Vatican City, 2 October 2012 (VIS) – A conference was held in the Holy See Press Office this morning to present an International Academic Conference: "Vatican Council II in the Light of the Archives of the Council Fathers, on the Fiftieth Anniversary of its Opening (1962–2012)". The event has been organized by the Pontifical Committee for Historical Sciences in collaboration with the "Vatican Council II" Centre for Research and Study of the Pontifical Lateran University, and will take place from 3 to 5 October.

Participating in this morning's presentation were Fr. Bernard Ardura O. Praem, president of the Pontifical Committee for Historical Sciences, and Philippe Chenaux, director of the "Vatican Council II" Centre for Research and Study of the Pontifical Lateran University and a member of the Pontifical Committee for Historical Sciences.

Fr. Ardura explained how a global project has been organized in view of the anniversary of Vatican Council II, involving an examination of the personal archives of the Council Fathers, the aim being to produce original and academically valid research and to favour an increasingly deep understanding of an event "which has profoundly marked the life of the Church over the last half century".

"Following the path laid down by Blessed Pope John XXIII in his opening address to the Council, all available archive material must be submitted to careful historical scrutiny, in order to ensure that people do not, as the Pope himself said, 'act as if they had nothing to learn from history, which is a teacher of life'. The consultation and publication of diaries, memories and correspondence of important figures who

participated in Vatican Council II has already contributed to the development of an hermeneutic of the Council; ... that 'hermeneutic of reform in continuity' identified by Benedict XVI as the way to ensure authentic ecclesial interpretation.

"In this light", Fr. Ardura added, "we have begun researching the private archives of the Council Fathers, in order to identify and catalogue the documents they produced: diaries, notes on the various meetings of commission, ... and all the documents that may help us to understand how the Council Fathers experienced the great event, how they viewed it and how they reacted to the various opinions expressed".

The current conference is to be the first of two events on Vatican Council II. It aims to "present the current state of research and to highlight, for example, the difficulties encountered in searching the archives". Of the Council Fathers, 2,090 were from Europe and the Americas, while 408 were from Asia, 351 from Africa and 74 from Oceania. A large number of the latter came from mission lands and belonged to missionary institutions, for which reason much of their documentation is held in convents. Moreover the 'cult of the archive' which is habitual in Europe and America is not equally widespread in Asia and Africa, although the archives of the Congregation for the Evangelisation of Peoples do, to some extent, make up for these shortcomings".

Fr. Ardura explained that "the intention of the Pontifical Committee is to promote, in the light of the Holy Father's Magisterium and following a strict historical-critical methodology divorced from any ideology, a pondered and academically grounded historiographical re-reading of what was undeniably 'the great event' of Vatican Council II".

The conference will begin with a documentary prepared by the Vatican film library, and an opening address by two speakers. The first of these will be Cardinal Angelo Scola, archbishop of Milan, Italy, who will focus on the months between the announcement and the opening of the Council because, Fr. Ardura said, "the preparatory period offers many keys to understanding the subsequent development of the Council". The other opening speaker will be Professor Philippe Chenaux himself, who will discuss historiography with relation to Vatican Council II. In order to recall the ecumenical dimension, "strongly underlined" by Blessed John XXIII, one representative from the Patriarchate of Moscow and one from the Protestant churches will also attend the conference.

The results of the research of recent years, and of the conference, "will be a preliminary inventory of the Council Fathers' archives. This will be fed into an online database which may be consulted free of charge on the website of the Pontifical Council".

For his part, Philippe Chenaux explained that "the attempt to write a history of Vatican Council II involves not only research into the sources, ... but also interpretation, the so-called conciliar 'hermeneutic'. In other words, the historians who devised this project of the history of Vatican II have 'excogitated' the Council, whence have emerged two interpretative criteria which guided their work: the Council as 'event' and the Council as 'rupture'".

"The fundamental challenge for historians of the Council is, then, how to reconcile these two opposing readings of Vatican II and its decisions. This does not mean writing a 'counter history' of Vatican Council II. Rather, more modestly, it means resuming historical research on the basis of the widest possible documentation and with no ideological bias. It means avoiding the manipulation of conciliar history for ends other

than the history itself, in order to achieve a more balanced and shared understanding of the event and its decisions. 'Starting again from the archives', that is the challenge underlying the great research project of into the archives of the Council Fathers", he concluded.

IT IS FAITH WHICH GIVES US A HOME IN THIS WORLD

Vatican City, 4 October 2012 (VIS) – Benedict XVI today made a pastoral visit to Loreto, Italy, where he entrusted to the Blessed Virgin – venerated in the famous Marian shrine there – two impending ecclesial events: the Synod of Bishops on new evangelization which is to run from 7 to 28 October, and the Year of Faith which will begin on 11 October. The Holy Father's visit today was also intended to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of Blessed Pope John XXIII's pilgrimage to Loreto during which, on the eve of the inauguration of Vatican II, he entrusted the Council to the Virgin.

The shrine of Loreto, which has been a pilgrim destination since the fourteenth century, conserves the house where Mary lived in Nazareth, the which, according to popular pious tradition, was transported by the angels to Loreto in 1294, shortly after the definitive expulsion of the Crusaders from the Holy Land. Recent examinations of documents and archaeological remains (excavations under the Holy House), as well as philological and iconographic studies, are giving increasing weight to the hypothesis that the stones of the Holy House were transported to Loreto by ship at the initiative of the aristocratic Angelos family which then ruled the region of Epirus. Divine assistance in this undertaking remained as a symbol in the presence of angels. The House is the place where the Virgin was born, lived with St. Joseph, received the Annunciation from Gabriel and conceived the Son of God. It is therefore associated with the Mystery of the Incarnation.

Mary's house in Nazareth was composed of two parts: a grotto, which is still to be seen in the Basilica of the Annunciation in Nazareth, and a house with three stone walls. Comparative studies between the Holy House of Loreto and the grotto of Nazareth have revealed the coexistence and contiguity of the two. Another recent study on the way in which the stone has been worked – in the manner used by the Nabateans which was widespread in Galilee at Jesus' time – also confirms the popular tradition. When the three walls of the Holy House arrived in Loreto they were set up, without foundations, in a public street, but almost immediately they became the object of the extraordinary measures of care and protection afforded to a precious relic.

Benedict XVI departed from the Vatican by helicopter at 9 a.m. and arrived in Loreto an hour later, where he was welcomed by the local civil and religious authorities. He then visited the shrine where he greeted the community of Capuchin Friars before going on to adore the Blessed Sacrament and pray before Our Lady of Loreto.

At 10.30 a.m. he celebrated Mass in the Piazza della Madonna di Loreto, pronouncing a homily ample extracts of which are given below.

"On 4 October 1962, Blessed John XXIII came as a pilgrim to this Shrine to entrust to the Virgin Mary the Second Vatican Ecumenical Council, due to begin a week later. ... Fifty years on, having been called by divine Providence to succeed that unforgettable Pope to the See of Peter, I too have come on pilgrimage to entrust to the Mother of God two important ecclesial initiatives: the Year of Faith, which will begin in a week, on 11 October, on the fiftieth anniversary of the opening of the Second Vatican Council, and the Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops, which I have convened this October with the theme "The New Evangelization for the Transmission of the Christian

Faith”.

"As I said in my Apostolic Letter announcing the Year of Faith, "I wish to invite my brother bishops from all over the world to join the Successor of Peter, during this time of spiritual grace that the Lord offers us, in recalling the precious gift of faith". It is precisely here at Loreto that we have the opportunity to attend the school of Mary who was called "blessed" because she "believed". ... Mary offered her very body; she placed her entire being at the disposal of God's will, becoming the "place" of His presence, a "place" of dwelling for the Son of God. ... The will of Mary coincides with the will of the Son in the Father's unique project of love and, in her, heaven and earth are united, God the Creator is united to His creature. God becomes man, and Mary becomes a "living house" for the Lord, a temple where the Most High dwells.

"Here at Loreto fifty years ago, Blessed John XXIII issued an invitation to contemplate this mystery. ... He went on to affirm that the aim of the Council itself was to spread ever wider the beneficial impact of the Incarnation and Redemption on all spheres of life. This invitation resounds today with particular urgency. In the present crisis affecting not only the economy but also many sectors of society, the Incarnation of the Son of God speaks to us of how important man is to God, and God to man. Without God, man ultimately chooses selfishness over solidarity and love, material things over values, having over being. We must return to God, so that man may return to being man. With God, even in difficult times or moments of crisis, there is always a horizon of hope: the Incarnation tells us that we are never alone, that God has come to humanity and that He accompanies us.

"The idea of the Son of God dwelling in the "living house", the temple which is Mary, leads us to another thought: we must recognize that where God dwells, all are "at home"; wherever Christ dwells, His brothers and sisters are no longer strangers. ... So it is faith which gives us a home in this world, which brings us together in one family and which makes all of us brothers and sisters. As we contemplate Mary, we must ask if we too wish to be open to the Lord, if we wish to offer Him our life as His dwelling place; or if we are afraid that the presence of God may somehow place limits on our freedom, if we wish to set aside a part of our life in such a way that it belongs only to us. Yet it is precisely God, Who liberates our liberty, He frees it from being closed in on itself, from the thirst for power; ... He opens it up to the dimension which completely fulfills it: the gift of self, of love, which in turn becomes service and sharing.

"Faith lets us reside, or dwell, but it also lets us walk on the path of life. The Holy House of Loreto contains an important teaching in this respect as well. Its location on a street is well known. ... It is not a private house, ... rather it is an abode open to everyone placed, as it were, on our street. So here in Loreto we find a house which lets us stay, or dwell, and which at the same time lets us continue, or journey, and reminds us that we are pilgrims, that we must always be on the way to another dwelling, towards our final home, the Eternal City, the dwelling place of God and the people He has redeemed.

"There is one more important point in the Gospel account of the Annunciation which I would like to underline, one which never fails to strike us: God asks for mankind's "yes"; He has created a free partner in dialogue, from whom He requests a reply in complete liberty. ... God asks for Mary's free consent that He may become man. To be sure, the "yes" of the Virgin is the fruit of divine grace. But grace does not eliminate freedom; on the contrary it creates and sustains it. Faith removes nothing from the

human creature, rather it permits his full and final realization".

"On this pilgrimage in the footsteps of Blessed John XXIII – which comes, providentially, on the day in which the Church remembers St. Francis of Assisi, a veritable "living Gospel" – I wish to entrust to the Most Holy Mother of God all the difficulties affecting our world as it seeks serenity and peace. ... I also wish to place in the hands of the Mother of God this special time of grace for the Church, now opening up before us. Mother of the "yes", you who heard Jesus, speak to us of Him; tell us of your journey, that we may follow Him on the path of faith; help us to proclaim Him, that each person may welcome Him and become the dwelling place of God".

ANGELUS: THE RICH MUST ENTER INTO THE LOGIC OF GOD

Vatican City, 14 October 2012 (VIS) – "God can conquer the heart of a person with many possessions and lead him towards solidarity and sharing with the poor and needy, so that he can enter into the logic of giving", said the Pope commenting on today's Gospel reading which narrates Jesus' meeting with a rich young man.

"Jesus teaches that it is very difficult but not impossible for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God", said the Holy Father in his remarks before praying the Angelus. "Indeed, through the 'the logic of giving', a person may follow the path of Jesus Christ Who, as the Apostle Paul wrote, 'for your sake ... became poor although he was rich, so that by his poverty you might become rich'".

Benedict XVI went on to remind faithful gathered in St. Peter's Square that the young man in question had scrupulously observed all the commandments of God's Law, but "had not found true happiness. For this reason, he asked Jesus 'what must I do to inherit eternal life?' On the one hand he was attracted, like everyone else, to the fullness of life; on the other, being used to his wealth, he thought he could somehow 'buy' eternal life, perhaps by observing some special commandment".

Christ was aware of the man's desires but also of his weakness, "his sense of attachment to his great riches". Therefore He suggested giving everything to the poor so that "his treasure – and therefore his heart – should be in heaven and not on earth. Jesus told the man: 'Come, follow me!' However, instead of welcoming Jesus' invitation with joy, he went away sadly because he could not give up his possessions, which could never give him happiness and eternal life".

It was at this point that Jesus pronounced the famous phrase: "It is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for one who is rich to enter the kingdom of God". However, seeing His disciples' perplexity he added: "For human beings it is impossible, but not for God. All things are possible for God". Commenting on this parable, St. Clement of Alexandria wrote: "Let it teach the prosperous that they are not to neglect their own salvation, as if they had been already condemned, nor, on the other hand, to cast wealth into the sea, or condemn it as a traitor and an enemy to life, but learn in what way and how to use wealth and obtain life".

"The history of the Church", the Pope concluded, "is full of examples of rich people who have used their wealth evangelically, even attaining sainthood. Suffice to mention St. Francis, St. Elisabeth of Hungary and St. Charles Borromeo".

After praying the Angelus the Pope mentioned yesterday's beatification in Prague, Czech Republic, of Frederic Bachstein and thirteen companions of the Order of Friars Minor, who died for their faith in 1611. "They are the first blessed of the Year of Faith, and martyrs", he said. "They remind us that believing in Christ also means being ready to suffer with Him and for Him".