

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

27 Січня, 2013 Volume 58 No. 04 January 27, 2013

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Служби Божі/Divine Liturgies

B Неділю/Sunday 8:30 am partially sung 10:30 am sung

У Свята/Holy Day of Obligation

10:00 am and 7:00 pm

Щодня/Daily Scheduled

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

oo. Bacuліяни/Basilian Fathers serving this Parish

Father Josaphat Tyrkalo, OSBM, Pastor Most Rev. Severian Yakymyshyn, OSBM Bishop Emeritus Неділя Блудного Сина Луки 15:11-32



Sunday of the Prodigal Son Luke 15:11-32

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 Січень

Загальний намір: Пізнати Христа, свідчити віру. Щоб у цьому Році християни поглиблювали пізнання таїнства Христа і свідчили радісно свою власну віру.

Місійний намір: Щоб спільноти Середьного Сходу прийняли від Святого Духа силу вірности і витривалости, особливо тоді, коли вони дискриміновані.

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.

Тропарі і читання в жовтій книжці на - стор. 4, 5 і 6

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

Сьогодні - Неділя, 27 Січень: 10:30 рано - Парафіяльна Катехитична програма зараз по Євангелії під час Служби Божої.

Четвер, 31 Січень:

- 7:00 вечора - Біблійні Студії: Програма охоплює "Одкровення".

П'ятниця, 1 Лютень: Перша П'ятниця

- 8:25 рано - Служба Божа а відтак Молебень до Серця Христового.

Субота, 2 Лютень: - Свято - Стрітення Господа нашого Ісуса Христа - 10:00 рано - Служба Божа і свячення свічок.

Неділя, 3 Лютень: 10:30 рано – **Парафіяльна Катехитична програма зараз по Євангелії** під час Служби Божої.

Четвер, 7 Лютень:

- 7:00 вечора - Біблійні Студії: Програма охоплює "Одкровення".

Субота, 9 Лютень: - 6:00 вечора - Пущення і забава.

Неділя, 10 Лютень: 10:30 рано – **Парафіяльна Катехитична програма зараз по Євангелії** під час Служби Божої.

Понеділок, 11 Лютень: - Перший день посту - стримуємося від м'яса і молочних продуктів.

- 8:25 рано і 7:00 вечора, Служби Божі. Заохочуємо Вас почати Великий Піст і просити Бога за ласки потрібні нам, щоби жити життям більше згідним з Божим світом. Церква також заохочує нас більше постити і молитися під час цього часу.

BEGINNING - February 14 YOU ARE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE

"THE CREED" A NEW STUDY DURING THIS YEAR OF THE FAITH"

This twelve (12) part series - "The Creed - is A Journey through the Catechism" This will be the first of four parts or Pillars

The Creed makes the Catechism of the Catholic Church come alive, showing you how your personal journey of faith fits into the amazing story of salvation told in the Creed. Far more than a list of "faith facts" the Catechism provides a sure map for your journey of faith, which can be easily navigated and deeply enriching with the right tools.

In this Series - "THE CREED" - you will:

1. Learn why the Catechism should be treated less like a fact book and more like a roadmap for our faith journey.

- 2. Learn what God's innermost secret is and how we are called to participate in it.
- **3.** See that our journey of faith is a journey from *Blessing to Blessing*, that the God who made us **wills that we return to Him.**
- **4.** Discover how the Catechism can be seen as a new Catechesis for the **New Evangelization.**
- **5.** Learn how what we believe emerges from the living story of salvation history.
- **6.** Discover the role the angels play in aiding our salvation, and how they are truly present to us. and much more

To purchase a workbook for the program - \$ 29.00/each - contact Susan Lazaruk or come to the Parish office.

П'ятниця, 15 Лютень: - 7 вечора - Заупокійні Служби Божі і Сорокоусти.

Заупокійні Служби Божі і Сорокоусти за померлих членів Ваших Родин будуть відправлятися кожної п'ятниці о год. 7 вечора під час Великого Посту, починаючи від 15-го Лютого. Зробіть відповідні зарядження. Ковертки з пожертвами за відправлення сорокоустних парастасів находяться в притворі церкви. Просимо зложити їх на недільну тацу під час Служб Божих, або передати їх Отцям, чи занести до парафіяльної канцелярії.

Просимо всіх Парафіян приносити продукти для потребуючих, які не псуються (nonperishable) в першу і трету неділю кожного місяця. Просимо допомагати!

Школа Української Спадщини при храмі Пресвятої Євхаристії хоче подякувати всім тим, що взяли участь в нашій програмі для організації "Карітас-Україна" під назвою "Різдвяна Свічка". Завдяки Вашим щедрим внескам діти нашої школи зібрали \$2,500, які будуть відіслані для потребуючих дітей та сиріт в Україні.

The Protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish welcomes all 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!

Monthly Papal Intentions for January

General Intention: The Faith of Christians - That in this Year of Faith Christians may deepen their knowledge of the mystery of Christ and witness joyfully to the gift of faith in him.

Mission Intention: Middle Eastern Christians - That the Christian communities of the Middle East, often discriminated against, may receive from the Holy Spirit the strength of fidelity and perseverance.

Tropar, Kondak & readings in the yellow booklet - pages: 4, 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.

Sunday, January 27: 10:30 am - Parish Catechism Program for Pre-Schoolers following the reading of the Gospel during the Divine Liturgy.

Thursday, January 31:

- 7 pm - BIBLE STUDIES: We are taking "Revelations" in the Fellowship Room.

Friday, February 1: - First Friday

- 8:25 am Divine Liturgy followed by Moleben to the Sacred Heart.

Saturday, February 2: - Holy Day - Presentation of our Lord in the Temple - 10:00 am - Divine Liturgy and Blessing of Candles.

Sunday, February 3: 10:30 am - **Parish Catechism Program for Pre-Schoolers** following the reading of the Gospel during the Divine Liturgy.

Thursday, February 7:

- 7 pm - BIBLE STUDIES: We are taking "Revelations" in the Fellowship Room.

Saturday, February 9: PUSHCHENNIA in the Auditorium. Doors open 6:00 pm.

Sunday, February 10: 10:30 am - Parish Catechism Program for Pre-Schoolers following the reading of the Gospel during the Divine Liturgy.

Monday, February 11: First day of Great Lent - abstain from meat & dairy products; and World Day of the Sick (remember the sick and infirm)

- 8:25 am and 7 pm Divine Liturgy. You are encouraged to begin Great Lent by asking our Lord for the graces needed to live a life more in-tune with God's Word. The church also encourages us to fast and pray more during this time.

Thursday, February 14: "THE CREED" A NEW STUDY DURING THIS YEAR OF THE FAITH" BEGINS at 7 pm in the Fellowship Room. Come and participate in this wonderful new series that will help each of us grow in our faith.

Friday, February 15: - 7 pm Memorial Divine Liturgy and Sorokousty.

Memorial Divine Liturgy and Sorokousty for the deceased of individual family members will be celebrated every Friday during Great Lent at 7 pm beginning February 15, 2013. Arrange to have the deceased members of your family remembered during these Services. Special envelopes are available in the vestibule. Please fill them out and place them in the Sunday collection plate, or give to Father, or bring to the Parish Office.

Saturday, February 16:

- UCWLC Executive of the New Westminster Eparchy are hosting their Fifth Annual Hearts and Flowers Fair from 10:00 am-3:00 pm at Holy Eucharist Cathedral Hall, 501 4th Avenue New Westminster. Admission: \$3.00. Lunch available, Silent Auction, Door prizes, Bingo, Children's prizes, White Elephant and more. For information contact Eparchial President Lillian Saranchuk at 604 936 4972 or e-mail:l_rsaranchuk. Prize donations always gratefully accepted. Come join us and have some fun.

Holy Eucharist Ukrainian Heritage School would like thank all who took part in our global fundraising program for "Caritas-Ukraine", entitled: "Christmas Candle" or "Різдвяна свічка". Because of all your generous donations, the children were able to raise \$2,500 all of which will be sent to help needy, disadvantaged, disabled and orphaned children in Ukraine.

FROM THE ORIENTAL CHURCHES:

- The Holy Father, with the recommendation of Synod of Bishops of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, elevated the apostolic exarchate for the Ukrainian faithful of the Byzantine rite resident in Great Britain, to the rank of eparchy with the title "Holy Family of London". He appointed Bishop Hlib Borys Sviatoslav Lonchyna, M.S.U., as first bishop of the new eparchy. Bishop Lonchyna, previously apostolic exarch of Great Britain (Ukrainian) and titular of Bareta, was born in 1954 in Steubenville, Ohio, USA, was ordained to the priesthood in 1977, and received episcopal ordination in 2002.
- The Holy Father, with the recommendation of Synod of Bishops of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, elevated the apostolic exarchate for the Ukrainian faithful of the Byzantine rite resident in France, to the rank of eparchy with the title "Saint Wladimir-Le-Grand de Paris des Byzantins-Ukrainiens". He appointed Bishop Borys Andrij Gudziak, previously apostolic exarch of France (Ukrainian) and titular of Carcabia, as first bishop of the new eparchy. Bishop Gudziak was born in 1960 in Syracuse, New York, USA, was ordained to the priesthood in 1998, and received episcopal ordination in 2012.
- On 18 January 2013 (VIS) The Synod of Bishops of the Coptic Catholic Church meeting in Cairo, Egypt, from 12 - 16 January, having consulted the Holy Father, accepted the resignation from office presented by His Beatitude Antonios Naguib, Patriarch of Alexandria of the Copts, in accordance with canon 126 para. 2 of the Code of Canons of the Eastern Churches.
- On 15 January, the same synod canonically elected His Beatitude Ibrahim Isaac Sidrak as Patriarch of Alexandria of the Copts and the Holy Father granted the

"Ecclesiastica Communio" requested of him by His Beatitude in accordance with canon 76 para. 2 of the Code of Canons of the Eastern Churches. Born in 1955 in Beni Shiqeir in the Eparchy of Asyut, Egypt, ordained to the priesthood in 1980, and ordained to the episcopate in 2002, the patriarch-elect was previously bishop of Minya (Ermopoli Maggiore: Minieh, Coptic), Egypt.

POPE CONGRATULATES NEW PATRIARCH OF ALEXANDRIA OF THE COPTS

On 21 January 2013 (VIS) - The Holy Father has written a message to the new Patriarch of Alexandria of the Copts, His Beatitude Ibrahim Isaac Sidrak, in which he writes that his election to the patriarchal throne is "an important event for the entire Church". In the same letter he grants the "Ecclesiastica Communio", "in conformity with the custom and the desire of the Catholic Church".

"I am sure," continues the pontiff, "that, with the power of Christ, victor over evil and death by His resurrection, and with the cooperation of the fathers of your patriarchal synod, in communion with the college of bishops, you will have the courage to guide the Coptic Church. ... May the Lord help you in your ministry as 'Father and Head', to proclaim the Word of God, so that it may be lived and celebrated with piety according to the ancient spiritual and liturgical traditions of the Coptic Church and may all the faithful find comfort in the paternal care of their new patriarch."

SUNDAY, February 24, at Richmond Funeral Home from 1 pm - 4pm. We will explore the ethical teaching of the Catholic Church on dying, the process of grieving and our Services for the Dead. Registration before February 10. Forms are available on the Eparchy website @ nweparchy.ca.

PRAYER FOR EVANGELIZATION 'YEAR OF FAITH' - O God, who wills that all should be saved and come to the knowledge of truth, pour out Your Spirit upon us and grant that we may respond zealously to Your urgent call to lead back to the Church those who have strayed. Prepare their hearts and minds to be receptive to the saving Gospel of Your Son. Send us workers to gather in Your abundant harvest, so that all Your people, obedient to the Word and sustained by the power of the Sacraments, may advance in the way of Salvation and love. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

"CATHOLICS COME HOME" - ads began on December 13. For the next six weeks these compelling TV commercials (Sponsored by the Archdiocese of Vancouver) will be aired on Citytv, CTV, Global and ethnic televisions stations inviting viewers to "Come Home to Christ and the Church." We anticipate that many will come to the Divine Liturgies in the following weeks in response to these ads, and we need to offer them a warm and friendly welcome. In the weeks ahead, pray for those you know who have stopped practising their faith, and say a friendly hello to unfamiliar faces. To view the commercials and for more information about this initiative, visit www.rcav.org.

Food Bank Donations: We encourage all parishioners to contribute to the Food Bank on the first and third Sundays of every month. PLEASE ADD YOUR SUPPORT.

 YOU ARE ENCOURAGED TO submit a short biography of individual persons and/or families who have contributed to the life and growth of the Parish. This can be your own family or of other members who may not be in the Parish today. These will be compiled into a book as a history of our Parish.

REQUEST 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.

PLEASE SUBMIT ALL PICTURES and INFORMATION to a member of the Parish History and Pictorial Committee or to the parish office.

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!

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.

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. www.sheptytskyinstitute.ca

- **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. Steven Basarab, Mary Balsevicius, Joseph Bayduza, Frances Bethune, Mary Earl, Catherine Hladij, Alice Humenick, Bohdan Karpinski, Brian Kluchkowsky, Karlo Kozy, Emily Kuzyk, Bodzie and Shirley Lawryshyn, Oscar Lyseyko, Ben Marchinkow, Jason Obuck, Orest Obuck, John Pura, Mary Scott, Kaiya Williams, Leon Woznow, Tiny Zarski.
- **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.

Pre-order your historic DVD of Major Archbishop Sviatoslav's visit to our parish on September 1. The cost of this commemorative DVD is \$10. This DVD contains the complete Divine Liturgy celebrating Bishop Budka's hundredth anniversary of arrival to Canada. Please indicate how many copies you would like. The DVD will be available sometime in February of 2013.

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.

The Catholic Health Association of BC will be awarding two bursaries valued at \$250 each to two 2013 graduating students enrolled in a Catholic secondary school, or who are a member of a BC or Yukon parish and enrolled in a public secondary school, or who are home-schooled. Students are asked to submit a 500 word essay that demonstrates an awareness and understanding of the significance of Spirituality in Health Care. Submissions must be received on or before March 15th, 2013. For further details, please refer to the poster on display in the vestibule of the church, or check the CHABC website at www.chabc.bc.ca under upcoming events.

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@solawaytravel.com, or Solaway Travel www.solawaytravel.com/

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.

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.

POPE TO THOSE AFFLICTED BY SICKNESS: YOU ARE THE LIVING IMAGE OF CHRIST –Vatican City, 8 January 2013 (VIS) – "Go and do likewise" is the theme chosen by the Holy Father for his message on the 21st World Day of the Sick to be celebrated 11 February, the liturgical feast of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Lourdes, which will take place this year at the Marian Shrine of Altotting, Germany. In the message the Pope writes that "this Day represents for the sick, for health care workers, for the faithful and for all people of goodwill 'a privileged time of prayer, of sharing, of offering one's sufferings for the good of the Church, and a call for all to recognize in the features of their suffering brothers and sisters the Holy Face of Christ, who, by suffering, dying and rising has brought about the salvation of mankind'."

"On this occasion," the pontiff continues, "I feel especially close to you, dear friends, who in health care centres or at home, are undergoing a time of trial due to illness and suffering. May all of you be sustained by the comforting words of the Fathers of the Second Vatican Council: 'You are not alone, separated, abandoned or useless. You have been called by Christ and are his living and transparent image'."

"So as to keep you company on the spiritual pilgrimage that leads us from Lourdes, a place which symbolizes hope and grace, to the Shrine of Altotting, I would like to propose for your reflection the exemplary figure of the Good Samaritan. The Gospel parable recounted by Saint Luke is part of a series of scenes and events taken from daily life by which Jesus helps us to understand the deep love of God for every human being, especially those afflicted by sickness or pain. With the concluding words of the parable of the Good Samaritan, "Go and do likewise", the Lord also indicates the attitude that each of his disciples should have towards others, especially those in need. We need to draw from the infinite love of God, through an intense relationship with him in prayer, the strength to live day by day with concrete concern, like that of the Good Samaritan, for those suffering in body and spirit who ask for our help, whether or not we know them and however poor they may be".

"This is true, not only for pastoral or health care workers, but for everyone, even for the sick themselves, who can experience this condition from a perspective of faith: 'It is not by sidestepping or fleeing from suffering that we are healed, but rather by our capacity for accepting it, maturing through it and finding meaning through union with Christ, who suffered with infinite love', Benedict XVI counsels, citing his encyclical "Spe Salvi".

"Various Fathers of the Church saw Jesus himself in the Good Samaritan; and in the man who fell among thieves they saw Adam, our very humanity wounded and disoriented on account of its sins. Jesus is the Son of God, the one who makes present the Father's love, a love which is faithful, eternal and without boundaries. But Jesus is also the one who sheds the garment of his divinity, who leaves his divine condition to assume the likeness of men, drawing near to human suffering, even to the point of descending into hell, as we recite in the Creed, in order to bring hope and light. He does not jealously guard his equality

with God but, filled with compassion, he looks into the abyss of human suffering so as to pour out the oil of consolation and the wine of hope".

"The Year of Faith which we are celebrating is a fitting occasion for intensifying the service of charity in our ecclesial communities, so that each one of us can be a good Samaritan for others, for those close to us. Here I would like to recall the innumerable figures in the history of the Church who helped the sick to appreciate the human and spiritual value of their suffering, so that they might serve as an example and an encouragement. Saint Therese of the Child Jesus and the Holy Face, 'an expert in the scientia amoris', was able to experience 'in deep union with the Passion of Jesus' the illness that brought her 'to death through great suffering'."

Also, "the Venerable Luigi Novarese, who still lives in the memory of many, throughout his ministry realized the special importance of praying for and with the sick and suffering, and he would often accompany them to Marian shrines, especially to the Grotto of Lourdes. Raoul Follereau, moved by love of neighbour, dedicated his life to caring for people afflicted by Hansen's disease, even at the world's farthest reaches, promoting, among other initiatives, World Leprosy Day. Blessed Teresa of Calcutta would always begin her day with an encounter with Jesus in the Eucharist and then she would go out into the streets, rosary in hand, to find and serve the Lord in the sick, especially in those 'unwanted, unloved, uncared for'."

"Saint Anna Schaffer of Mindelstetten, too, was able to unite in an exemplary way her sufferings to those of Christ: 'her sick-bed became her cloister cell and her suffering a missionary service. Strengthened by daily communion, she became an untiring intercessor in prayer and a mirror of God's love for the many who sought her counsel'. In the Gospel the Blessed Virgin Mary, stands out as one who follows her suffering Son to the supreme sacrifice on Golgotha. She does not lose hope in God's victory over evil, pain and death, and she knows how to accept in one embrace of faith and love, the Son of God who was born in the stable of Bethlehem and died on the Cross. Her steadfast trust in the power of God was illuminated by Christ's resurrection, which offers hope to the suffering and renews the certainty of the Lord's closeness and consolation".

The Pope offers "a word of warm gratitude and encouragement to Catholic health care institutions and to civil society, to Dioceses and Christian communities, to religious congregations engaged in the pastoral care of the sick, to health care workers' associations and to volunteers. May all realize ever more fully that 'the Church today lives a fundamental aspect of her mission in lovingly and generously accepting every human being, especially those who are weak and sick'."

Benedict XVI then concludes, entrusting the 21st World Day of the Sick "to the intercession of Our Lady of Graces, venerated at Altotting, that she may always accompany those who suffer in their search for comfort and firm hope. May she assist all who are involved in the apostolate of mercy, so that they may become good Samaritans to their brothers and sisters afflicted by illness and suffering".

CONVERSION OF THE HEART - 'The Way of Repentance'

By Irma Zaleski, 2003 Novalis, St. Paul University, Ottawa, ON,

Preface to the New Edition

When I heard that Novalis was planning to reprint my short book of reflections on repentance (The Way of Repentance), I was glad to have this opportunity to make some revisions to my original text. The trouble with reflections is that they can never end. We can never stop reflecting, especially about things that matter to us most and yet always remain a mystery to our rational, "thinking" minds. We can never say, "Now I can stop thinking about it. Now I have solved the mystery. Now I understand it all!"

So it is not surprising that a few years after the book was first published, there were some things in it I wanted to change, express a little differently or place in a clearer focus. As I reflected further on the way of conversion and repentance that has been so significant in my own life, and as I tried to respond to some questions and comments from my readers and friends, I realized two things even more clearly than ever before: how great is the lack of understanding of this ancient Christian way to holiness (especially) among Western (thinking) Christians and, consequently, how frequent is our misunderstanding of repentance. We view it too often as a way of guilt and self-blame rather than a way of love and communion with God.

I now have an even greater sense of the importance and urgency of the call of Christ to conversion than ever before. More and more, I see this conversion as the fundamental vocation of Christians: 'a call to the daily struggle with evil in our own hearts and lives, a call to turn away from ourselves and learn how to love.' Most of us, most of the time, are not very successful at loving as Christ commanded us to do. We perhaps do not even realize how much and how often we fail at it and how much we need to learn it! And even fewer understand that repentance is the way – for some of us, the only way – of learning it. Repentance is our school of love.

I have therefore revised the original text to reflect this new sense of urgency. I have added some sections and revised a few others. The new title of the book, 'Conversion of the Heart: The Way of Repentance', indicates, I hope, more clearly what I have tried to say here. Irma Zaleski

CONVERSION OF THE HEART - 'The Way of Repentance'

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Introduction Conversion of the Heart

It is a clear teaching of the Gospel and of the whole Christian Tradition that the source of all evil and sin in our world must be found in the "heart" – not our physical heart, but the innermost center of our being. For this reason, as long as we are in this world, our struggle with evil can never be finished; the battle can never be finally won. We can fight this battle only through love. Force, coercion or fear cannot conquer evil, because they cannot transform the heart. The heart can only be transformed by love. It is this transformation that is the fundamental

call of every Christian.

The Fathers of the Church – the early Christian teachers and saints – whose interpretation of the Gospel laid the foundations of the Christian way to God, referred to this necessary transformation as 'metanoia', a Greek word usually rendered in the English versions of the Bible as "repentance." It might be better to translate it as "conversion," as it was rendered in Latin (conversio) and is still so translated in many modern languages. For 'metanoia' literally means a "change of heart" (or "mind," as the Greek word could mean both). It means a fundamental con–verting – turning our lives around, away from our preoccupation with ourselves, and directing them towards Cod.

But whatever word we use, the essential meaning remains the same. 'Metanoia' is the process of prayer, regret and love through which we realize that our hearts have turned away from God, repent of it, and allow God to heal us, transform us and bring us back into communion with him. It is allowing God to take away our "hearts of stone" and recreate in us our "hearts of flesh." (Ezekiel 11:19)

Conversion of the heart cannot be achieved in a moment. It is not just one shining, miraculous event, one single act or experience as a result of which we leave our old life behind and begin a totally new life, as we often understand it today. It is not just one moment of blinding insight when we seem to understand our faith in a totally new light, to encounter God in some new and radical way and recognize him as the Lord and Saviour of our lives.

Although it is possible and even right to talk of such an experience as true conversion and a decisive moment of our lives, we should never assume that in this one moment we have reached the end of our way – that, once converted, we stay converted and never sin again. This happens very rarely, if ever. The moment of conversion, however wonderful and genuine it may have been, is for most of us only the beginning of the process of our conversion, not its end.

The true, final aim of conversion is to become holy – to become whole, totally open and available to God. It is to be transformed into "a new creation" (2 Corinthians 5:17), one with Christ and, in him, one with God. For a Christian, the path of holiness must always mean an unending struggle to live the life of love to which Christ has called us: love of God, love of neighbour and also true love of ourselves. It is because we so often fail in love – because we are so often centered only on ourselves that we must turn back to God and be converted again and again.

It is this process of daily conversion, of daily turning away from ourselves and returning to God daily trying to love – that in the Christian Tradition is properly known as repentance. We might say that if conversion is the goal of the Christian life, repentance is the daily path we must walk in order to reach it. To walk the way of repentance – conversion of the heart – means turning away from ourselves and, moment–by–moment, living the life of conversion. It is to this life that the Gospel calls us.

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For further information on any Generations of Faith event, or to arrange for transportation to the event speak to your parish contact person:

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Це є наше прохання щоби Отець відвідав нас зі Святою Водою

This is our request for Father to visit and Bless our home PLEASE PRINT

Name:	
Address:	
Phone:	
Найкращий день тижня	
Best day of the week	
Після полудня	
Afternoon	
Вечером	
Evening	

Отець починає відвідини домів після 21-ого Січня, 2013 - під час тижня від понеділка до п'ятниці

Father will begin visiting homes after

January 21, 2013 - during the week

from Monday to Friday