

PARISH BULLETIN - May 22, 2022

**Sixth Sunday after Pascha - Sunday of the Man Born Blind
НЕДІЛЯ СЛІПОНАРОДЖЕНОГО**

Welcome! Bienvenue! Вітаємо! Welcome to St. George's Church!

Our mission is to know, love and serve our Lord & Saviour Jesus Christ.

Here at St. George's Church, the center of our life is the Sunday and daily Divine Liturgy.

It is here where we come to know Christ in each other, in the Sacred Scriptures and through participation in the Holy Sacraments.

A life of Christian Catholic stewardship includes a strong commitment toward the sacramental life through prayer, Liturgy and active ministry.

We are called to become the image and likeness of Christ God in all we say and do.

Website: <http://www.stgeorgessarnia.ca>

Email: pastor@stgeorgessarnia.ca

Pastor: [Fr. Bohdan Winnicki](#)

Office: [519-542-9903](tel:519-542-9903)

Pastoral Emergency: [416-419-1097](tel:416-419-1097)

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS / ПРОСИМ О МОЛИТВУ ЗА ЗДОРОВ'Я

... all our parishioners who are in the hospitals, care homes, shut-ins and those who are not able to join us actively due to health reasons.

Anyone wishing to have a home visit from Father Bohdan or know of a parishioner who would like to have a visit please contact the parish office to book a time.

Please CALL - especially in this time of the Pandemic. *Visiting, praying for and reaching out to the sick and lonely is one of the works of mercy taught by Christ.*

Please Remember to Support Your Parish.

If your preference is to use a debit or credit card, please find the [DONATE Link](#) on our website main page.

May Our Lord reward you a hundredfold for your generosity.

Дякуємо за вашу щедрість!

LAST WEEK COLLECTION:

Sunday envelopes collection - \$905.00

Special Donation to Church - \$340.00

Special Envelopes - \$0.00

Votive Candles - \$29.00

Coffee and Fellowship After Divine Liturgy.

Come join us!

Divine Liturgies this week:

DATE :	TIME OF SERVICE :	INTENTION :	OFFERED BY :
Saturday, May 21 st	5:00 PM	<i>(This Divine Liturgy will be recorded and posted on Parish Website)</i> Prayer for peace in Ukraine	
Sunday, May 22 nd	9:30 AM	Prayer for Peace in Ukraine	
Thursday, May 26 th	9:00 AM	The Ascension of our Lord, God and Saviour Jesus Christ Prayer for Peace in Ukraine	

LITURGY INTENTIONS

You can request Father Bohdan to celebrate Liturgies for your intentions. Please contact the parish office: 519-542-9903 to book a Liturgy.
The suggested stipend for a Divine Liturgy is \$20.00

Why do we stand, and not kneel, from Easter to Pentecost?

It is the tradition of our Byzantine Church that from Easter to Pentecost we typically would not kneel at any time during the Divine Liturgy but rather stand. Kneeling is a penitential and humbling moment which is an appropriate posture for us towards God, however Easter beckons something different. During this Easter moment the theological understanding is that we as resurrected children, now stand before God as friends, with dignity and respect for Jesus Christ, who became human and won salvation for us.

Fr. Bohdan will be away from Wednesday May 18th until Thursday May 26th.

Fr. Andrew Kormanik from Toronto will be staying in rectory, so no changes to our Divine Liturgy schedule.
For all spiritual emergencies please contact Fr. Andrew Kormanik directly at the rectory.

Divine Liturgy Books:

If you wish to purchase a copy of "The Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom", the liturgy book normally found in the pews, we have copies available to be purchased for your own domestic church! They are available at \$10 each.

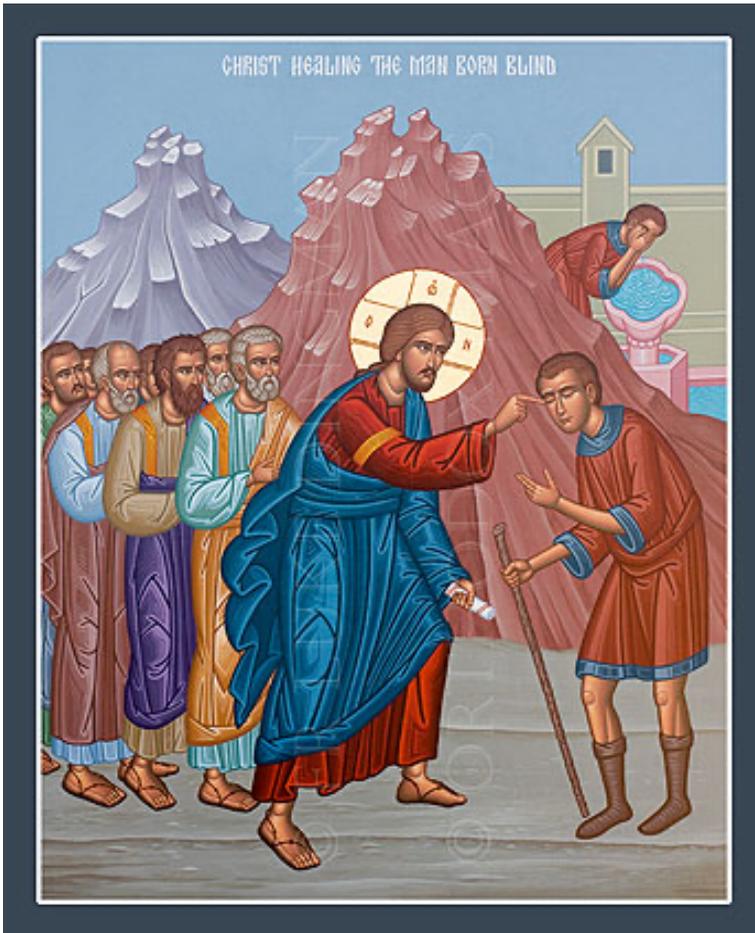
*For everyone keeping close tabs on what is happening in Ukraine: For Cogeco customers - two free channels: 1106 and 1107 directly from Ukraine.
Watch when you can, and keep praying mightily for peace.*

**Pope Francis will be traveling to Canada from 24 - 30 July,
and will visit the cities of Edmonton, Québec and Iqaluit.**



**Let us remember † Our Dearly Departed
Panachyda at Our Lady of Mercy Cemetery (June 5th)
In front of the big cross at 12:00pm, Michigan Avenue, Sarnia
PLEASE CONTACT FR. BOHDAN FOR SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS TO GO TO
LAKEVIEW OR RESURRECTION CEMETERY**





Gospel Reflection - John 9: 1-38

As Jesus passed by he saw a man blind from birth...

He spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva, and smeared the clay on his eyes, and said to him, "Go wash in the Pool of Siloam" – which means Sent –. So he went and washed, and came back able to see.

John 9:1, 6-7

"Blindness" is our inability to see the hand of God at work all around us. We struggle to see the daily miracles of God's grace alive in our lives and alive in the lives of others. So the first thing we should do with this Scripture is strive to see our lack of sight. We should strive to realize that we so often do not see God at work. This realization will inspire us to desire a spiritual healing. It will invite us to want to see God at work.

The good news is obviously that Jesus cured this man, as He willingly cures us. To restore sight is easy for Jesus. So the first prayer we should pray as a result of this story is simply, "Lord, I want to see!" The humble realization of our blindness will invite God's grace to work. And if we do not humbly acknowledge our blindness, we will not be in a position to seek healing.

How He heals this man is also significant. He uses His own spit to make mud and smear it on this man's eyes, which is not immediately that appealing. But it does reveal something quite significant to us. Namely, it reveals the fact that Jesus can use something exceptionally ordinary as a source of His divine grace!

If we look at this in a symbolic way we can come to some profound conclusions. Too often we look for God's action in the extraordinary. But He so often is present to us in that which is ordinary. Perhaps we will be tempted to think that God only works His grace through heroic acts of love or sacrifice. Perhaps we are tempted to think that God is not able to use our daily ordinary activities to perform His miracles. It is precisely those ordinary actions of life where God is present. He is present while washing the dishes, doing chores, driving a child to school, playing a game with a family member, carrying on a casual conversation or offering a helping hand. In fact, the more ordinary the activity, the more we should strive to see God at work. And when we do "see" Him at work in the ordinary activities of life, we will be healed of our spiritual blindness.

What if your family started to pray this prayer together every day?

A FAMILY PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS: Heavenly Father, increase our family's love for one another. May we honour each other in times of happiness or hardship, bearing with one another in love, just as you love us. In a special way, help us strive for holiness in our current states of life. Should You call some of us to the priesthood, diaconate or religious life, help us to respond with courage and joy. Together, we make heaven our goal, and pledge, with your grace, to help each other on life's journey to you. We ask this through the intercession of the Holy Family: Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. Amen.

A father was approached by his small son who told him proudly, "I know what the Bible means!"

His father smiled and replied, "What do you mean, you 'know' what the Bible means?"

The son replied, "I do know!"

"Okay," said his father. "What does the Bible mean?"

"That's easy, Daddy..." the young boy replied excitedly, "It stands for 'Basic Information Before Leaving Earth."



Sunday of the Man Born Blind

“Neither this man nor his parents sinned, but that the works of God should be revealed in him” (John 9:3). These words were heard during the reading of the Gospel for this Sunday. It would seem that a great misfortune had afflicted this man: he was born blind, and he never saw the beauty of God’s world. When people saw this man blind from birth, they immediately thought that God had sent him this misfortune as a severe punishment for his sins, or those of his parents, because children are often punished for their parents’ sins. And so the Apostles thought when they saw the blind man, and they asked the Savior: “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents that he was born blind?” (John 9:2). They heard the unexpected reply from his lips: “neither this man nor his parents sinned, but that the works of God should be revealed in him” (John 9:3). At first glance this is hard to understand: why should an innocent man be afflicted with such a misfortune? We are used to seeing God’s glory and mercy in blessings that he sends us, not in misfortunes, sorrow, and afflictions; we thank the Lord when we receive His blessings and generosity, not what He sends us afflictions. When we meet with even the slightest reverse we cry out: “O Lord, why have you punished us!”

But then a joyful day came for the blind men, for the sun rose in the heavens for him, and he saw the sky and earth. What a great joy for him, who so thirsted to see God’s world! “For since the world began it has been unheard of that anyone opened the eyes of one who was born blind” (John 9:32), the blind man said after he was healed. But, he saw not only simple, physical light, but his spiritual eyes were opened, and with the eyes of faith he saw the Light of Truth, the Sun of Righteousness - the Savior. Through God’s mercy he who been blind, both physically and spiritually, apprehended the Fountain of Goodness - Christ. Moreover, this Eternal Light was revealed and became accessible to all. The long suffering a one blind men served to open the eyes of many to God’s glory.

Have you ever noticed how people who have always enjoyed good health and are outwardly very successful, people who had little cause to suffer in life, are often insensitive, cruel, and blind to the sufferings of others? But if a misfortune befalls them, they cease to be proud and arrogant, and become kind - hearted, tender, and attentive to their brothers and sisters. Is it often the case that illness or unhappiness makes us better, and opens our minds to many things that we did not see before?

The Fathers of the church say that God sends afflictions to those whom he loves (Proverbs 3:12). He who is successful in everything and has no need of anything is forgotten by God. And indeed, all the righteous suffered, but the Glory of God shown even more brightly in them.

“Blessed is the man whom you chastise, O Lord” (Psalm 94:12). If the clay the Savior made to heal the blind man and his command to the blind man to wash his eyes in the pool of Siloam accomplished this great miracle, then the spiritual healing power of the Word of God, which opens and illumines our souls through the Light of Revelation, will act even more beneficially on us. In asking for God’s mercy, let us say to the Lord in the words of the hymn: “I come to You, O Christ, blind from birth in my spiritual eyes, and call to You in repentance: You are the most radiant Light of those in darkness!”

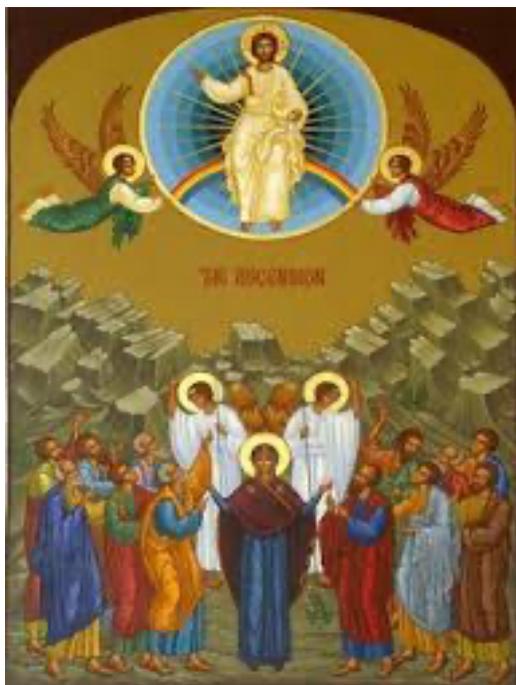
~ V. Rev. Gerald Ozlanski ~

THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD - (May 26th)

On this day we celebrate the glorious moment when our Lord returned to His Father in Heaven.

Before Jesus ascended into heaven He left us with three important promises and gifts:

- ◆ He promised that He would be always with us. He gave us the gift of His Body and Blood of which we may partake in at every Divine Liturgy.
- ◆ He promised to send us the Holy Spirit to teach us and guide us to live according to His will. We receive a filling of the Holy Spirit each time we worthily partake in any of the Sacraments, especially the Sacrament of Chrismation (Confirmation)
- ◆ He promised that He would come back for us *“so that where I am, you may also be.”* We look forward with hope to spending eternity with Jesus.



Ascension of our Lord

“I am going away and coming back to you”. (John 14:28)

Ascension was the final Resurrection appearance to the Disciples and Mary, the Mother of God, and it marked a new beginning in all their lives. The Feast itself commemorates when, on the fortieth day after His Resurrection, Jesus led His disciples to the Mount of Olives. After blessing them and asking them to wait for the fulfillment of the promise of the Holy Spirit, “He was lifted up before their eyes in a cloud which took Him from their sight”.

The Feast is a celebration of the return of our Redeemer to Heaven. It is a day of victory for our Lord, a day of triumph that He fully merited. Christ left the throne of His

Father, humbled Himself in the womb of the Virgin, lay in Bethlehem in a rough stable, fled from His own people into Egypt and spent years in Nazareth as a common labourer. Tirelessly He searched for the lost sheep of the house of Israel. His own brethren repaid Him with nothing but unkindness and misunderstanding. Then, beginning on the Mount of Olives and ending on Golgotha, He patiently paid the price of our redemption. All this He did because He loved us, because He sought to free us from Satan’s power. This work is now complete. He returns to heaven as a conqueror. The Son stands before the Father by whom He was sent and whose will He so perfectly performed.

By His ascension, Jesus is able to be with us in His fullness, so that His mind and life becomes our mind and life. It is the Holy Spirit that brings about the change of the bread and wine into the body and blood of our Lord. By receiving Jesus in this holy mystery, He fills our life with His presence, abiding in all of us. He desires that we glorify Him in the world by living according to His example.

Adapted with from:

http://www3.telus.net/public/josaphat/Moveable_Feasts/Post_festive_period_bottom.htm

THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD

For forty days of the Great Fast we journeyed with Christ along the solemn road that led up the mount of Golgotha to the Cross. There we experienced the agony of the Lord's suffering and death, followed soon by the ecstasy of His glorious resurrection. Then came forty days of exultation as we rejoiced in the victory of Christ over mankind's greatest enemies - Sin and Death. Now has come the time of the Lord's triumphant return to the Father, His solemn Ascension. His work on earth was done, so He prepared to go to His eternal home. Have you ever bid goodbye to a loved one? You accompany him to the place of departure, the airport or train station: you listen to his final words, and then you gaze as the vehicle bearing the loved one disappears in the distance. It was like that when Jesus bid farewell to His beloved friends. How graphically the Gospel depicts His leaving: Christ led the Apostles to a mount towards Bethany; this was as far as they could go. The Lord spoke to them for the last time -- "... wait here in the city until you are clothed with power from on high... You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you shall be My witnesses ... to the end of the earth ... Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them ... teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Then, as Christ blessed them, He was parted from the group, a cloud enveloped Him as He rose, and Angels came to minister to the Apostles. They, in turn, returned to Jerusalem "with great joy," remembering the Lord's promise to abide with them and to send the Holy Spirit upon them.

Don't We All

I was parked in front of the mall wiping off my car. I had just come from the car wash and was waiting for my wife to get out of work. Coming my way from across the parking lot was what society would consider a bum. From the looks of him, he had no car, no home, no clean clothes, and no money. There are times when you feel generous but there are other times that you just don't want to be

bothered. This was one of those "don't want to be bothered times."

"I hope he doesn't ask me for any money," I thought.

He didn't.

He came and sat on the curb in front of the bus stop, but he didn't look like he could have enough money to even ride the bus.

After a few minutes he spoke.

"That's a very pretty car," he said.

He was ragged but he had an air of dignity around him.

I said, "thanks," and continued wiping off my car.

He sat there quietly as I worked. The expected plea for money never came. As the silence between us widened something inside said, "ask him if he needs any help." I was sure that he would say "yes" but I held true to the inner voice.

"Do you need any help?" I asked.

He answered in three simple but profound words that I shall never forget. We often look for wisdom in great men and women. We expect it from those of higher learning and accomplishments. I expected nothing but an outstretched grimy hand. He spoke the three words that shook me.

"Don't we all?" he said.

I was feeling high and mighty, successful and important, above a bum in the street, until those three words hit me like a twelve-gauge shotgun.

Don't we all?

I needed help. Maybe not for bus fare or a place to sleep, but I needed help. I reached in my wallet and gave him not only enough for bus fare, but enough to get a warm meal and shelter for the day. Those three little words still ring true. No matter how much you have, no matter how much you have accomplished, you need help too. No matter how little you have, no matter how loaded you are with problems, even without money or a place to sleep, you can give help. Even if it's just a compliment, you can give that.

You never know when you may see someone that appears to have it all. They are waiting on you to give them what they don't have. A different perspective on life, a glimpse at something beautiful, a respite from daily chaos, that only you through a torn world can see.

Maybe the man was just a homeless stranger wandering the streets. Maybe he was more than that. Maybe he was sent by a power that is great and wise, to minister to a soul too comfortable in themselves.

Maybe God looked down, called an Angel, dressed him like a bum, then said, "go minister to that man cleaning the car, that man needs help."

Don't we all?????????

On Church Growth

The Church is not simply a building or edifice, nor is it an organization or institutional structure. It is essentially a community of people who are supposed to be of God and imbued with His Spirit. In the words of St. John Chrysostom, "The Church is a community made up of the souls of people and cannot be built by stone and mortar, but must be built by the spiritual growth of its members into the full reality of Jesus Christ." This is what Church growth is all about and how we must understand it.

Haven't Seen Someone in a While?

Give them a call. See how they are doing. Let them know that you not only miss them but also care enough to see if everything is okay. A kind word can go a long way.



Ivan Ziatyk was born on 26 December 1899 in the village of Odrekhova, some 20 kilometers south-west of the town of Sanok (now a territory of Poland). His parents, Stefan and Maria, were poor peasants. When Ivan was 14, his father died. The burden of bringing up the child was taken up by his mother and elder brother Mykhailo, who took the place of his father for Ivan.

During his studies in the gymnasium, Ivan's academic performance was very good and his behaviour excellent. In 1919 Ivan Ziatyk entered the Ukrainian Catholic Seminary in Peremyshl, and he graduated with distinction on 30 June 1923. That same year, after having completed his theological studies, Ivan Ziatyk was ordained a priest.

Fr. Ivan Ziatyk was a person of great kindness, obedience, and spiritual depth. He always made a deep impression on those around him. Fr. Ziatyk for quite a long time had had a desire to join a monastery. Although this intention was not welcomed by his Church superiors, on 15 July 1935 Fr. Ivan Ziatyk made the final decision to join the Redemptorist Congregation.

After completing his novitiate in Holosko (near Lviv) in 1936, Fr. Ziatyk was sent to the monastery of Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Stanislaviv (now Ivano-Frankivsk). However, he did not stay long: in autumn of 1937 Fr. Ziatyk moved to Lviv, to the monastery at Zyblykevycha, 56 (now Ivana Franka) Street. There, he took charge as economo of the monastery. Fr. Ziatyk's duty also was to substitute the superior, Fr. De Vocht, in his absence. In 1934 the Redemptorists opened their Seminary in Holosko, and Fr. Ziatyk joined its faculty as a professor of Scripture and Dogmatic Theology. From 1941 - 1944 Fr. Ziatyk was superior of the monastery of Dormition of Mother of God in Ternopil, and from 1944 - 1946 he was

superior of the monastery of Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Zboiska (near Lviv), where the Redemptorist gymnasium ("Juvenate") was based.

The end of World War II was the beginning of a terrible period in the history of Ukraine, of the Greek-Catholic Church, and of the Lviv Province of CSsR. Having arrested all the Greek-Catholic bishops, in the spring of 1946 Soviet secret police gathered Redemptorists from Ternopil, Stanislaviv, Lviv, and Zboiska to Holosko, and placed them in a non-heated wing of the monastery. Fr. Ziatyk was among those gathered in Holosko. Redemptorists stayed there for two years under constant surveillance of the secret police. Their presence was checked three or four times a week. The confreres were often taken for interrogation, in the course of which they were promised various benefits in exchange for the betrayal of their faith and monastic vocation. On 17 October 1948 all the Redemptorists staying in Holosko were told to board trucks which transported them to the Studite monastery in Univ.

Soon thereafter, the Redemptorist Provincial Fr. Joseph De Vocht was deported to Belgium. Before his departure, he transferred his duties of Provincial of the Lviv Province and of Vicar General of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church to Fr. Ivan Ziatyk. This caused the police to pay special attention to Fr. Ziatyk. On 5 January 1950, a decision was made to arrest him, and on 20 January the warrant was issued. After numerous interrogations, on 4 February 1950 Fr. Ivan Ziatyk was accused: "Ivan Ziatyk indeed has been a member of the Redemptorist order since 1936; he promotes the ideas of the Roman Pope of spreading the Catholic Faith among the nations of the whole world and of making all Catholics".

The investigation of Fr. Ziatyk's case lasted for two years. Fr. Ziatyk spent the entire period in the Lviv and Zolochiv prisons. During the period from 4 July 1950 to 16 August 1951 alone, he was interrogated 38 times, while the total number of interrogations he underwent was 72. Despite the cruel tortures that accompanied interrogations, Fr. Ziatyk did not betray his faith and did not submit to the atheist regime, although his close relatives were accustomed to persuade him to do so. He was sentenced to 10 years imprisonment for "cooperating with an anti-Soviet nationalistic organization and anti-Soviet propaganda". During his imprisonment, Fr. Ziatyk suffered terrible tortures. According to witnesses, on Good Friday 1952 Fr. Ivan Ziatyk was heavily beaten with sticks, soaked in water, and left unconscious outside, in the Siberian frost. Beating and cold caused his death in a prison hospital three days later, on 17 May 1952. Fr. Ziatyk was buried in the Taisht district of Irkutsk region. The Great Architect laid another precious tile into the great mosaic of martyrdom...

Taking into account the testimonies of Fr. Ivan Ziatyk's virtuous life, and particularly his endurance, courage and faithfulness to the Christ's Church during the period of persecution, the beatification process was started on the occasion of the Jubilee Year. Holy Father John Paul II signed a decree of beatification of Fr. Ivan Ziatyk on 24 April 2001.

from <https://www.cssr.news>

To Change, Give Yourself Away in Love

“Just as our bodies have many parts and each part has a special function, so it is with Christ’s body. We are many parts of one body, and we all belong to each other.”

Romans 12:4-5

If you want lasting change in your life, you must fill your life with love.

Love is the only thing that can change the unchangeable. Love heals, uplifts, strengthens, energizes, refreshes, and renews. Love is the most powerful force in the universe because, as 1 John 4:8 says, *“God is love”*.

As a Christian, where do you find this kind of love? In community with other Christians.

God wired the universe in such a way that we need each other. I need you, and you need me. The phrase “one another” is used 58 times in the New Testament. It says things like love one another, care for one another, encourage one another, support one another, pray for one another, greet one another, share with one another.

God never meant for you to go through life by yourself. The Bible says in Romans 12:4-5, *“Just as our bodies have many parts and each part has a special function, so it is with Christ’s body. We are many parts of one body, and we all belong to each other”*.

What does it mean to “belong to each other”? It means you need the people around you, and they need you. You become each other’s spiritual family. You help each other toward your goals and encourage each other as you become more like Christ.

The Bible is clear about what love looks like in a spiritual family: *“Don’t just pretend to love others. Really love them. Hate what is wrong. Hold tightly to what is good. Love each other with genuine affection, and take delight in honouring each other”* Romans 12:9-10.

“Take delight in honoring each other” – I love that! You know what that means? It means when people in your community have a win in their health, finances, or any goal they’ve set, you celebrate with them. And when life is difficult, your community of believers is the first to comfort and support you.

Here’s the amazing thing: God has wired the universe so that when you help other people, God simultaneously works on your problems. There is healing in giving back.

Remember when Job lost everything, including his health, his family, and his wealth? At the end of the story, God gave it all back to Job – because Job prayed, not for himself but for his friends. The Bible says, *“After Job had prayed for his friends, the Lord restored his fortunes and gave him twice as much as he had before”* Job 42:10.

~ Rick Warren ~

A SPECIAL REQUEST

At the conclusion of our Sunday Divine Liturgy please close all Liturgy books and/or hymn books/brochures and return them to their proper place. Also, please do not leave any church bulletins or other reading material in the pews. Let us all do our part to be true stewards of our parish church by helping to keep the pews clean and neat. Thank you very much for your understanding and cooperation.



To destroy the fetus 'is something worse than murder.'

The one who does this 'does not take away life that has already been born, but prevents it from being born.'

~ Saint John Chrysostom ~

I've noticed that everyone who is for abortion has already been born.

~ Ronald Regan ~

Moleben

A **Moleben** is a liturgical service of supplication or thanksgiving. Unlike the Divine Liturgy and the offices of the daily cycle, it can be celebrated at any time and in a variety of locations. This service is particular to the Slavic churches of the Byzantine Rite; while Byzantine Rite Christians in Greece and the Middle East celebrate the Paraklesis as their primary service of supplicatory prayer, the Slavs created a variety of such services as described in the article. The word *moleben* comes from the full title of the Paraklesis service in Slavonic: the Service of the Canon of Supplication ("*kanon molebni*") to the Theotokos.

The origin and history of the moleben

It is altogether natural for Christians to express their petitions to God, and to thank him for his blessings. It is common as well to ask the saints for their prayers to God on our behalf. While these desires are expressed in the Church's regular cycle of liturgy, there are at least two reasons why additional services might be desired:

By tradition, the Divine Liturgy is only celebrated once per day in a given place, and not at all on some days. Similarly, the other services of the daily cycle (such as Vespers and Matins) are celebrated at fixed times, and all of these services are held in church. So if there is a desire for several services of supplication or thanksgiving, services on a day when the Divine Liturgy is not celebrated, or services in the home or outdoors, some other rite or prayer must be used.

The petitions of the Church's official liturgy, while universal, are also somewhat general. It is natural for someone in great need, or in a particular instance of great thanksgiving, to desire the celebration of a service in which these particular needs or blessings can be mentioned.

Among Slavic Christians of the Byzantine Rite, a number of such services came into being. All of them are derived from the service of prayer and petition to the Mother of God known as the Paraklesis. The Paraklesis is in turn based on the morning service of Matins, so all molebens resemble Matins to a greater or lesser degree.

In the late 19th and early 20th century, new molebens were written which added certain additional elements, mostly of popular piety. These "devotional molebens" existed side-by-side with the services in the official liturgical books. Because they were composed in an era of Latinization in the Greek Catholic churches, they were often combined with devotional services borrowed from the Latin Rite, such as Benediction.



Hymns and Prayers from the Moleben to the Mother of God

“Let us sinners humbly and diligently have recourse to the Mother of God. Prostrate in repentance, let us cry out from the depth of our soul: O Queen, in Your compassion, come to our aid. Hasten, for we are perishing from the multitude of our sins. Do not turn away Your servants empty-handed, for we have no protection besides You.”

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever. Amen.

Unworthy as we are, we shall never cease to proclaim Your power, O Mother of God. If You no longer intercede for us who will deliver us from so many misfortunes? Who will keep us free? We shall never leave You, O Queen; O blessed Lady, You always save Your servants from every calamity.

“Gracious Lady, You pray for all those who with faith take refuge in Your powerful protection. We sinners, ever in misery and affliction, have no other recourse to God than You. We are burdened by many sins, O Mother of God. We bow before You. Save Your servants from every calamity.”

“O Joy of all the afflicted, Patroness of the persecuted, Sustainer of the hungry, Consolation of those in exile, Haven to the storm-tossed, Comfort to the sick, Protectress and Patroness of the weak, Staff of the aged, O Mother of God, You are most pure. Hasten to us, we pray, that Your servants may be saved.”

Humbly bowing our heads and bending our knees, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

“Our ever-Gracious Queen, O Mother of God, our Hope, Refuge of orphans, Defence of the harbourless, Joy of the afflicted, Patroness of the harassed, You see our misery and our afflictions, help us because we are weak; lead us because we are strangers in this valley of tears, for You know our sufferings. Help us to overcome them, for we have no other helper but You. We have no other defender, no other gracious consoler but You, O Mother of God; guard and protect us forever. Amen.”

Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal

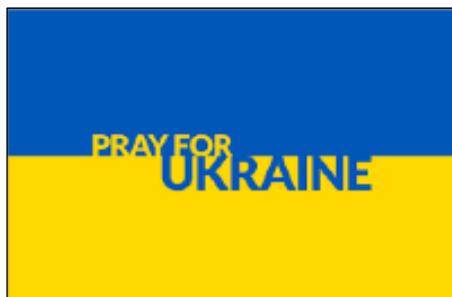
Russia invaded Ukraine on Thursday, February 24, 2022 and is posing the largest threat to international global security since WW II. The Ukrainian people will fight to defend their homeland and in doing so, will prevent the spread of Russian aggression.

Russian aggression will result in one of the largest humanitarian crises of this century. Hundreds of thousands, if not millions, of Ukrainians will be displaced.

If you wish to make a donation to provide humanitarian aid to Ukraine, please donate through the Catholic Near East Welfare Association (CNEWA), and specify that your donation is for Ukraine - <https://cnewa.org/ca/donate/>

You may also donate directly to St George's Church, the money will directly to charity efforts for Ukraine.

Simply send an E-Transfer to tosaveukraine@stgeorgessarnia.ca



Prayer For Peace in Ukraine

Heavenly Father, You Son taught us “Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called the sons of God.” We fervently pray in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, that you inspire men to become peacemakers. May mankind seek reconciliation and peace as is Your Will in this world. May tranquility be restored to all nations and especially Ukraine.

God, Our Father, we beseech You to comfort the suffering, heal the wounded, and accept the souls of the dearly departed into Your heavenly kingdom. May the Most Holy Mother of God extend Her Mantle of Protection over Ukraine and the whole world. May each of us always live our lives as instruments of Your peace, in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.



PRAYER FOR THE AFFLICTED PEOPLE OF UKRAINE IN TIME OF WAR

O Lord Jesus Christ, our God, we entreat You to hear the earnest prayer of Your beloved Church of Kyivan Rus' for her deeply afflicted children abiding in the land of Ukraine. Behold their grave sorrow and grievous plight, and speedily come to their aid. Deliver Your vulnerable people from unjust aggressors, foreign invasion and the terror of war. Strengthen courageous defenders of the nation to fight virtuously, inspired more by love of those they protect than hatred of the enemy. O compassionate Lord, shelter the displaced, heal the wounded, console the orphan, protect the widow, comfort those who mourn, and mercifully receive into Your Kingdom those who have nobly died guarding their homeland against every aggression. Quickly make cease the spilling of blood of friend and foe alike, yet stir many to bravely struggle for that true justice which alone can bring lasting peace. O kind-hearted Lord, as You are our peace, soften the hearts of the unmerciful and convert those who promote hostilities toward reconciliation, so that Your beloved children of the land of Ukraine, may abide in that tranquility, justice and freedom which reflects your Kingdom, where You reign with Your eternal Father, and Your most holy, good and life-giving Spirit, now, and forever and ever. Amen.

A Prayer for the Beginning of the Day

O Lord, grant that I may meet this day and all it shall bring with spiritual peace. Grant that I may submit myself completely to Your holy will. In every hour of the day, be my support and guide. Whatever news I may receive today, teach me to accept it with a peaceful soul and with the firm conviction that Your will governs all things. In all my deeds and words, guide my thoughts and feelings. In unforeseen events, let me not forget that all are sent by You. Teach me to act firmly and wisely without embittering and embarrassing others. O Lord, give me the strength to bear the fatigue of the coming day with all that it shall bring. Direct my will. Teach me to pray, to believe, to hope, to endure all things, to forgive and to love. Amen.

Prayer in the Evening

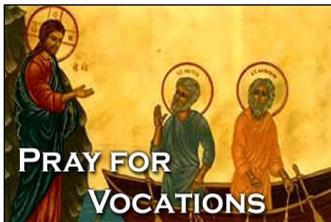
O eternal God and Ruler of all creation, You have allowed me to reach this hour. Forgive the sins I have committed this day by word, deed or thought. Purify me, O Lord, from every spiritual and physical stain. Grant that I may rise from this sleep to glorify You by my deeds throughout my entire lifetime, and that I be victorious over every spiritual and physical enemy. Deliver me, O Lord, from all vain thoughts and from evil desires, for yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever, and forever. Amen.

Prayer of Saint Francis of Assisi

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace. Where there is hatred, let me bring love. Where there is offence, let me bring pardon. Where there is discord, let me bring union. Where there is error, let me bring truth. Where there is doubt, let me bring faith. Where there is despair, let me bring hope. Where there is darkness, let me bring your light. Where there is sadness, let me bring joy. O Master, let me not seek as much to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love, for it is in giving that one receives, it is in self-forgetting that one finds, it is in pardoning that one is pardoned, it is in dying that one is raised to eternal life.

PRAYER FOR THE SICK AND SHUT'INS

O God and Father, we pray to restore physical health to our parishioners who are weakened with illness, peace to those troubled with worry, and comfort to those discouraged with problems. Help them find strength, faith and trust in You and a love for one another to guide them through any health challenge they may face. Amen.



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 Sheptytsky

Our Lord Jesus Christ - You always regard 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. O Lord, in your mercy grant me the favour that I ask for through the intercession of the Servant of God, Andrey Sheptytsky. Amen.

Sunday, May 22, 2022

Sixth Sunday after Pascha - Sunday of the Man Born Blind. Octoechos Tone 5.
The Holy Martyr Basiliscus (286-305)

After the priest has exclaimed, Blessed be the Kingdom... and the people have responded, Amen, the clergy sing the Paschal Troparion once and the people repeat it. Then, the clergy sing the first half, and the people conclude it.

Paschal Troparion

Christ is risen from the dead,* trampling death by death,* and to those in the tombs* giving life.

Troparia and Kontakia

Troparion, Tone 5: Let us the faithful acclaim and worship the Word,* co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit,* and born of the Virgin for our salvation.* For He willed to be lifted up on the cross in the flesh, to suffer death* and to raise the dead by His glorious resurrection.

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

Kontakion, Tone 4: Blinded in the eyes of my soul,* I come to You, O Christ, like the man who was blind from birth,* and I cry in repentance:* You are the brilliant light of those in darkness.

Now and for ever and ever. Amen.

Kontakion, Tone 8: Though You descended into a tomb, O Immortal One,* yet You destroyed the power of Hades;* and You rose as victor, O Christ God,* calling to the myrrh-bearing women: Rejoice!* and giving peace to Your Apostles:* You, who grant Resurrection to the fallen.

Prokeimenon, Tone 8

Pray and give thanks to the Lord our God.

verse: In Judea God is known; His name is great in Israel. (*Psalm 76:12,2*)

Epistle - Acts 16:16-34

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

In those days, it happened, as we, Paul and Luke, went to prayer, that a certain slave girl possessed with a spirit of divination met us, who brought her masters much profit by fortune-telling. This girl followed Paul and us, and cried out, saying, "These men are the servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to us the way of salvation." And this she did for many days.

But Paul, greatly annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And he came out that very hour. But when her masters saw that their hope of profit was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged *them* into the marketplace to the authorities.

And they brought them to the magistrates, and said, "These men, being Jews, exceedingly trouble our city; and they teach customs which are not lawful for us, being Romans, to receive or observe." Then the multitude rose up together against them; and the magistrates tore off their clothes and commanded *them* to be beaten with rods. And when they had laid many stripes on them, they threw *them* into prison, commanding the jailer to keep them securely. Having received such a charge, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks.

But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were loosed. And the keeper of the prison, awaking from sleep and seeing the prison doors open, supposing the prisoners had fled, drew his sword and was about to kill himself. But Paul called with a loud voice, saying, "Do yourself no harm, for we are all here."

Then he called for a light, ran in, and fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. And he brought them out and said, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?” So they said, “Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household.” Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. And he took them the same hour of the night and washed *their* stripes. And immediately he and all his *family* were baptized. Now when he had brought them into his house, he set food before them; and he rejoiced, having believed in God with all his household.

Alleluia, Tone 8

verse: Look upon me and have mercy.

verse: Direct my steps according to Your word. (*Psalm 118:131-132*)

Gospel - John 9:1-38

At that time, as *Jesus* passed by, He saw a man who was blind from birth. And His disciples asked Him, saying, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?”

Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned, but that the works of God should be revealed in him. I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; *the* night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.”

When He had said these things, He spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva; and He anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay. And He said to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which is translated, Sent). So he went and washed, and came back seeing.

Therefore the neighbors and those who previously had seen that he was blind said, “Is not this he who sat and begged?”

Some said, “This is he.” Others *said*, “He is like him.”

He said, “I am *he*.”

Therefore they said to him, “How were your eyes opened?”

He answered and said, “A Man called *Jesus* made clay and anointed my eyes and said to me, ‘Go to the pool of Siloam and wash.’ So I went and washed, and I received sight.”

Then they said to him, “Where is He?”

He said, “I do not know.”

They brought him who formerly was blind to the Pharisees. Now it was a Sabbath when *Jesus* made the clay and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also asked him again how he had received his sight. He said to them, “He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and I see.”

Therefore some of the Pharisees said, “This Man is not from God, because He does not keep the Sabbath.”

Others said, “How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?” And there was a division among them.

They said to the blind man again, “What do you say about Him because He opened your eyes?”

He said, “He is a prophet.”

But the Jews did not believe concerning him, that he had been blind and received his sight, until they called the parents of him who had received his sight. And they asked them, saying, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?”

His parents answered them and said, “We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but by what means he now sees we do not know, or who opened his eyes we do not know. He is of age; ask him. He will speak for himself.” His parents said these *things* because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had agreed already that if anyone confessed *that* He was Christ, he would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”

So they again called the man who was blind, and said to him, “Give God the glory! We know that this Man is a sinner.”

He answered and said, “Whether He is a sinner *or not* I do not know. One thing I know: that though I was blind, now I see.”

Then they said to him again, “What did He do to you? How did He open your eyes?”

He answered them, "I told you already, and you did not listen. Why do you want to hear *it* again? Do you also want to become His disciples?" Then they reviled him and said, "You are His disciple, but we are Moses' disciples. We know that God spoke to Moses; *as for this fellow*, we do not know where He is from." The man answered and said to them, "Why, this is a marvelous thing, that you do not know where He is from; yet He has opened my eyes! Now we know that God does not hear sinners; but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does His will, He hears him. Since the world began it has been unheard of that anyone opened the eyes of one who was born blind. If this Man were not from God, He could do nothing." They answered and said to him, "You were completely born in sins, and are you teaching us?" And they cast him out. Jesus heard that they had cast him out; and when He had found him, He said to him, "Do you believe in the Son of God?" He answered and said, "Who is He, Lord, that I may believe in Him?" And Jesus said to him, "You have both seen Him and it is He who is talking with you." Then he said, "Lord, I believe!" And he worshiped Him.

Hymn to the Mother of God

The Angel cried out to the One full of Grace: O chaste Virgin, rejoice! And again I say, Rejoice! Your Son has risen from the tomb on the third day, and raised the dead. Let all people rejoice! Shine, shine, O new Jerusalem, for the glory of the Lord has risen upon you! Exult now and be glad, O Sion! And you, O chaste Mother of God, take delight in the resurrection of your Son.

Communion Hymn

Receive the Body of Christ;* taste the fountain of immortality.* Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise Him in the highest.* Alleluia, alleluia,* alleluia. (*Psalm 148:1*)

Instead of Blessed is He Who comes... *we sing:*

Christ is risen from the dead,* trampling death by death,* and to those in the tombs* giving life.

Instead of We have seen the true light... *we sing:*

Christ is risen from the dead,* trampling death by death,* and to those in the tombs* giving life.

Instead of May our mouths be filled... *we sing three times:*

Christ is risen from the dead,* trampling death by death,* and to those in the tombs* giving life.

Instead of Blessed be the name of the Lord... *we sing three times:*

Christ is risen from the dead,* trampling death by death,* and to those in the tombs* giving life.

At the dismissal, instead of Glory be to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and ever. Amen. *we chant:*

Christ is risen from the dead,* trampling death by death,* and to those in the tombs* giving life.

After the final Amen, the Troparion Christ is risen *is sung as at the beginning of the Liturgy, but with the addition:*
And to us He has granted life eternal;* we bow down before His resurrection on the third day.





Who cannot accept Holy Communion in the Catholic Church?

It is forbidden by Church Law and the Will of the Lord Jesus Christ to accept Holy Communion for:

Unbaptized people.

People that did not have Holy Confession in preparation for Easter.

Heretics.

People that are in a state of sin: unmarried couples, homosexual couples, lesbian couples, public fornicators.

People that agree, support and propagate abortions.

Any baptized person that is in a state of a mortal sin.

In general, all these people are welcomed to church, but at Liturgy service **CAN NOT** come to Holy Communion. Repentance of the sins is needed! Church is the Spiritual Hospital that can heal any spiritual illness if the person wants to be healed. If people do not change any occasions that provide opportunities to sin, those people have NO good will to make peace with God and follow His will. By this way a person is in opposition to Holy God and that is why he or she cannot touch the Holy Sacrament of Holy Communion (Holy Body and Blood of Jesus Christ).

St. Theophan the Recluse: When going to the Holy Mysteries, go with . . .

When going to the Holy Mysteries, go with simplicity of heart, in full faith that you will receive the Lord within yourself, and with the proper reverence towards this. What your state of mind should be after this, leave it to the Lord Himself. Many desire ahead of time to receive this or that from Holy Communion, and then, not seeing what they wanted, they are troubled, and even their faith in the power of the Mystery is shaken. The fault lies not with the Mystery, but with superficial assumptions. Do not promise yourself anything. Leave everything to the Lord, asking a single mercy from Him – to strengthen you in every kind of good so that you will be acceptable to Him. The fruit of Communion most often has a taste of sweet peace in the heart; sometimes it brings enlightenment to thought and inspiration to one's devotion to the Lord; sometimes almost nothing is apparent, but afterward in one's affairs there is a noted a great strength and steadfastness in the diligence one has promised.



Prayer of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in these Holy Gifts!

I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot receive You now, I place before You my whole life and hope, O loving Master; and I ask, pray, and entreat You:

Make me worthy to partake in a mystical way and with a pure conscience of Your awesome and heavenly Mysteries:

For forgiveness of sins, for the pardon of offenses, for communion of the Holy Spirit, for the inheritance of the kingdom of heaven,

For confidence before You, and not for judgment or condemnation.

I embrace You as You enter and abide in me, and I unite myself completely to You.

Permeate my soul and body,

and never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.