

Dec 14, 2014

Slovak Catholic Parish



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*Duch Pána je nado  
mnou; poslal ma  
hlásať radostnú zvest'  
chudobným.*

• • •

*The spirit of the Lord is  
upon me; he has sent  
me to bring good news  
to the poor.*



# Slovenský kostol Sv. Cyrila a Metoda

## Sts. Cyril and Methodius Parish

### 3. Adventná Nedeľa 3rd Sunday of Advent

*Duša mi plesá v mojom Bohu.  
My soul shall exult in my God.*

**Dnešné evanjelium** nám potvrdzuje, že ľudia ako dnes tak aj v tých časoch žili v anonymite a asi im príliš nezáležalo, čo robí ten druhý a ako sa má. Presne tak to cítil aj Mesiáš. Ľudia vedeli, že príde, čakali ho, ale nezaujímalo ich, či už prišiel. Práve to správanie im vyčíta Ján Krstiteľ: Medzi vami stojí ten, ktorého nepoznate. On prichádza po mne a ja nie som hoden rozviazať mu remienok na obuvi. Bol to Ján, ktorý rozvíril hladinu okolo Ježiša. Všetkým teda vyčítal, že hoci Mesiáša čakajú a hoci už prišiel, nejavia o neho záujem.

Uvažujeme, či sa Jánove slová nedotýkajú aj nás? Kol'kokrát ľudia pochybujú či ten, ktorý prichádza v tej alebo onej podobe, je naozaj On. Neistota je v nich preto, lebo človek nie je ochotný pripustiť, že Boh stojí na strane tých, ktorí prehrávajú, že spolu s ním by mali prichádzať o svoje pohodlie, bezpečnosť, a aj životy. Alebo sa pýtajú: Existuje Boh, keď je vo svete toľko nepravosti, hladu, vojen...? A čo, keď sa dostavia nepríjemnosti v rodine, v manželstve, vo finančnej situácii, nestane sa, že aj my sa pýtame, ako sa na to Boh môže pozerat'?! Či v takejto chvíli nepatrí výčitka Jána Krstiteľa aj nám? Ježiš je tu a vy ho nechcete vidieť a poznať!

Ježiš bol vždy nepoznaný: ako dieťa v Jozefovom a Máriinom dome, aj keď ohlasoval Božie kráľovstvo, ba aj po zmŕtvychvstaní. A my si musíme priznať, že tiež nám je historicky vzdialený a po jeho nanebovstúpení zasa aj bytostne vzdialený. On ale nie je ani ďaleko, ani vysoko od nás. Svätý Pavol to vystihuje takto: V ňom žijeme, hýbeme sa a sme. Musíme teda priznať, že Jánova výčitka sa dotýka aj nás, a preto je na mieste otázka: Kde môžeme Krista stretnúť a v čom ho spoznáme? V jeho slove, vo sviatostiach, v bratoch a sestrách. Keď to dokážeme, budeme ho poznať, milovať a slúžiť mu.

Volal sa Marcel Callo. Jeho priateľ o

ňom povedal, že nemal dve tváre, ale iba jednu, tú kresťanskú, a tú všade so sebou nosil. Do Francúzska prišla 2. svetová vojna. Nemci odvádzali tisíce Francúzov do koncentračných táborov. Marcel šiel so svojimi rodákmi dobrovoľne do tábora. Dôvod? Chcel im duchovne pomáhať, aby nestratili vieru v Krista, lebo iba on je ich záchranca. Marcel vedel, že ak ho prichytia pri jeho laickom apoštoláte, zomrie. Podarilo sa im ho odhaliť. Mučili ho v koncentračnom tábore, kde zomrel tesne pred koncom vojny, ako mučeník za katolícku vieru. Mal len 24 rokov. Snažil sa Ježiša vždy vidieť a nachádzať. Posilňoval sa jeho Slovom a Telom, aby mal dostatok síl vidieť ho v bratoch a sestrách. Pre neho Ježiš nebol ani ďaleko, ani vysoko, bol pri ňom a v ňom. Nech je tak aj v našom živote. Žime v myšlienke, že Ježiš je tu, vo svojom slove, vo sviatostiach, v bratoch a sestrách.

**Happiness** is one of the greatest needs we have in life. The quest for happiness is probably the most powerful drive we have within us. And so we should ask the question: When have we been happy? Have we ever been happy when we have been preoccupied with our own self? If we're honest, we have to say never. Neither have others who are forced to live with us.

John the Baptist gives us a clue to the secret of human greatness. The lives of the saints give us insights into the way to respect and esteem. To be genuinely loved by others, to receive the affection and appreciation that we all crave, we simply must forget our selves and dedicate our lives to some thing or some one that transcends our selfish interests and human pride. We have to give ourselves over to something that is superior. All of the really great people we've known are people who have been astonishingly careless about their own importance. In fact

they really don't even know that they are important. Great people are often surprised when people pay them tribute.

All of this is to say that greatness finds you. You don't find greatness. If you seek it you will never find it. Greatness, the esteem of the crowd, human accolades, the recognition of your nobility finds you. And it finds you only where it can, when you are located in the center of a life dedicated to a transcendent value or goal; when you are found engaged in the task of doing your Heavenly Father's work here on earth.

John the Baptist was a great man. Jesus Christ said of him: "Of all of the men born of women, none was greater than John the Baptist." THAT was quite a statement, considering its source! And what did John the Baptist say about Jesus? "I must decrease, He must increase." In other words, John the Baptist's awareness was centered on the presence of God in our midst.

Are you that much different from John the Baptist? In a lot of ways we are but we have some things in common. John was a messenger sent on assignment. So are you. John was on a divine mission, but so are you. We, along with John the Baptist are sent into our world to point to God's very presence among us. We have a high purpose for living. Your life is not a mere accident. Every life is given by God to accomplish His purposes, to bring His loving presence into a suffering world, to make His kingdom real by realizing it in how we live and how we treat people.

Let's examine the question: To whom and to what is my life dedicated? For that is where I will find honor and respect. That is where I will find happiness.

## Bulletin Announcements

**\*December 14 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent** "Give thanks in all circumstances"; St. Paul tells us in today's second reading. Gratitude...this is the tipping point to an abundant life, the life Jesus promises. Find something to be grateful for every day. It's not hard considering how blessed we are. Gratitude to God is the virtue that opens the door to a life filled with peace and contentment; a life free of anxious worries and fears, and a life of generous stewardship.

**\*ONE Conference 2015** So many of us live with a hole in our hearts or see it in the people around us. Maybe you already know what fills that hole and want to learn how to share it with others, or you might feel like you need to be refilled yourself. At the ONE conference we invite you to ignite your faith life and spread the good news to others. Come and Start Joy in your world by listening to great speakers, celebrating Mass with Archbishop Michael and worshipping as ONE. Sat. Feb. 14, 2015 at the Vancouver Convention Centre. Tickets can be purchased online at rcav.org/one or at any parish.

**\*Christian Unity: Have We Answered the Call?** Archdiocese of Vancouver will mark the 50th anniversary of Vatican II's Decree on Ecumenism with an ecumenical prayer service. Keynote speakers: Fr. Tom Rosica, CSB, and Sr. Donna Geernaert, SC. Topics: Canadian and worldwide overview of ecumenism before and after Vatican II's Decree, importance of dialogue, and practical ideas on how to start ecumenical cooperation. Saturday, Jan. 17, [St. Francis Xavier Church, Vancouver](#). For more info visit [rcav.org/christian-unity-have-we-answered-the-call](#), call 604-683-0281 ext. 229, or email [ecumenism@rcav.org](#).

**\*Adoration** - spend a blessed hour with Jesus on Thursdays at our church from 6:00pm - 9:00pm.

**New Year's Eve Party** December 31, 2014 7pm. \$25 Contact for tickets: [mariamikusova@yahoo.com](mailto:mariamikusova@yahoo.com), 778 859-5373

**2014 Advent Penance services for the New Westminster Deanery. All Services begin at 7pm**

**Tuesday December 16<sup>th</sup>** St. Luke's Maple Ridge , **Wednesday December 17<sup>th</sup>** Our Lady of Lourdes

**Thursday December 18<sup>th</sup>** St. Joseph's – Port Moody, **Sunday December 21<sup>st</sup>** St. Michael's – Burnaby

**Tuesday December 23<sup>rd</sup>** Our Lady of Fatima - Coquitlam

### Sunday's Collection from the Last Week

Our Weekly Goal	\$1,500
Sunday's Collection	\$1,424
Weekly (Excess) Shortfall	-\$76
Youth Ministry	<b>\$321</b>

**Thank You. Vďaka. God Bless Your Generosity.**

Modlitba príhovoru v našom kostole každú nedeľu od 12:30pm do 1:30pm.

Prayer Ministry every Sunday in our church from 12:30pm to 1:30pm.

<b>Sun 14</b> 9:00am	<b>3rd Sunday of Advent;</b> Is 61:1-2a,10-11; 1Thes 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8,19-28	For parishioners	Fr. Juraj
<b>Sun 14</b> 11:00am	<b>3. Adventná Nedeľa;</b> Iz 61:1-2a,10-11; 1Sol 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8,19-28	Za zdravie a B.pomoc pre Kvetku Prochazkovu	Rodina Prochazková
Mon 15 8:00am	Num 24:2-7,15-17a; Mt 2:23-27	Božie požehnanie pre mamínu Janku a Denisu	Rodina Vargová
Tue 16 8:00am	Zeph 3:1-2, 9-13; Mt 21:28-32	+ Jozef Demčák	Syn Jozef s rodinou
Wed 17 8:00am	Gen 49:2, 8-10; Mt 1:1-17	Christ Blessing and Health	Rodina Astrabová
Thu 18 <b>6:00am</b>	Jer 23:5-8; Mt 1:18-25	Za zdravie a Božie požehnanie pre Juraja	Andrej a Evka Cassty
Fri 19 8:00am	Judg 13:2-7,24-25a; Lk 1:5-25	Sr. Agneška a Karmela	Fr. Juraj
Sat 20 9:00am	Is 7:10-14; Lk 1:26-38	Ján Mikeš	Lenka
<b>Sun 21</b> 9:00am	<b>4th Sunday of Advent;</b> 2Sam 7:1-5,8b-12,14a,16; Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38	+ Carlos Paras	Christy Paras
<b>Sun 21</b> 11:00am	<b>4. :1-5,8b-12,14a-Adventná Nedeľa;</b> 2Sam 7:1-5,8b-12,14a,16; Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38	Podakovanie za dobrodincou	Marta s rodinou