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Priblížilo sa Božie
kráľovstvo. Kajajte sa
a verte evanjeliu.

• • •

The kingdom of God
has come near: repent
and believe the good
news!



Slovenský kostol Sv. Cyrila a Metoda

Sts. Cyril and Methodius Parish

3. Nedel'a v Cezročnom Období.

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time.

**Ukáž mi, Pane, svoje cesty.
Lord, make me know your ways.**

Pred obchodom kráčala matka s malým dieťaťom. Držalo sa jej za ruku a pokoje si džavotalo. Zrazu sa pustilo maminej ruky a keď uvidelo množstvo cudzích ľudí okolo seba, rozplakalo sa. Stačil okamih, pocit, že ho matka nedrží za ruku a nasledoval pláč. Vtom sa matka obrátila a povedala: Tu som, pod' za mnou, podaj mi rúčku a nepláč. Dietá prestalo plakať, rozbehlo sa k matke a ešte silnejšie sa jej chytilo za ruku. Podobnú výzvu sme viačkrát počuli aj v dnešnom evanjeliu. Keď Ježiš šiel po brehu Galilejského mora, videl veľké zástupy a dobre vedel, o čo im ide. Chceli poznáť pravdu o nebeskom kráľovstve. Ježiš ich túžbu spočiatku riešil tak, že si sadol do lodky a vyučoval, ale po čase videl, ako sa zástupy rozrastajú a bude potrebovať pomocníkov. Jednoduchými slovami pozýva tých, ktorí svi vysvetlili, aby ho nasledovali a nevysvetlili im, kto je, ani odkiaľ má právo takto hovoriť. Pre Ježiša nejestvuje nijaké vysvetľovanie. Apoštoli spociatku aj jeho pozvanie tak brali a doslova za ním kráčali. Nerozumeli dobre, čo od nich žiada, ale presne vedeli, že ho musia nasledovať. Tak sa stali svedkami jeho slov, skutkov, zázrakov... A keď videli, čo robí, tým sa posilňovala ich viera a pomáhalim im zmeniť doterajšie mysenie a cítenie. Pod vplyvom viery začali mať aj iný pohľad na život a na svet. Pozerali sa už na všetko Ježišovými očami, rozumom a cítením. To bol pre nich tak silný motív, že preň sa zriekli sietí a lodí, rodičov a priateľov, manželiak a detí. Pre Ježiša dokonca neváhali obetovať aj vlastné životy. Peter bol ukrižovaný dolu hlavou, Pavol státy, Filip bol tiež ukrižovaný, Jakuba ukameňovali, Jána vhodili do vriaceho oleja, Barnabáša upálili.... Uvedomujem si, že aj môj život sa podobá životu apoštолов? Aj v nôm bol okamih, keď mi Ježiš povedal: Pod' za mnou. Ako som vtedy reagoval? Ako teraz reagujem na jeho

výzvu? Ježiš čaká, že za ním vykročíme, aj keď nebudem všetkému rozumieť.

Ak to dokážeme, naša viera bude postupne narastať, silnieť a pre Ježiša dokážeme zanechať veci, ktoré máme radi, a čohosi sa zrieknuť. A tak pomaly sa budeme stávať rybármí, ktorí do sietí nebeského kráľovstva budú loviti stále nových a nových ľudí.

Stará povest rozpráva o troch ženách, ktoré sa vybrali po vodu k studni. Pri studni sedel starček a počúval ich. Hovorili o svojich synoch. Prvá vrvá: Môj syn je taký obratný, že v tom predstihne všetkých ostatných. Druhá: Môj syn spieva krásne, ako slávik. Tretia mlčala. Preto sa jej pýtali: Aký je tvor syn, čo dokáže? Ona odpovedala: Je úplne obyčajný. Ženy sa na ňu pozreli s iróniou a chystali sa na cestu späť. Vtom im naproti bežali traja chlapci. Prvý robil akrobatické kúsky, druhý krásne spieval a tretí bežal rovno k matke, zobrajal jej vedro plné vody a niesol ho domov. Ženy sa obrátili na starčeka a pýtajú sa: Čo hovoríte na našich synov? Starký sa nechápavo spýtal: Na synov? Ale ja vidím iba jedného... Ak chceme byť rybármí ľudí a kráčať za Kristom, nechajme silné reči a vycháľovanie a konajme skutky lásky, aby sme boli magnetom pre iných.

Jesus lived as we do in a troubled world. Into all of this, God sent Jesus Christ to help us have the light of vision, to give us the faith, the hope, the love, and the courage to make our world become everything God dreamed it could be when He created it in the first place. Jesus resolved to accomplish that purpose one life at a time. The mission of Christ was to make us responsible for ourselves first. My first responsibility is to make something good and decent out of me. Life is God's gift to me. What I do with it is my gift to God.

It is also my gift to those around me.

Christ makes it perfectly clear that we are responsible to unselfishly care for others. But He also tells us that we are to love our neighbor as we love our selves. Therein lies the key to God's plan to change our world. It all begins with a decent self-respect. It begins by each one of us loving our selves enough to make something good out of our selves. "Get a grip," God tells us. "Take charge of yourself first, then you can know how to take care of someone else."

How can I expect a better world unless I first expect a better me? Society is the sum total of its individual parts. If we live in a corrupt social order we can begin the clean-up campaign by first ridding the corruption that comprises the junkyards within our own souls. How can I deal with the moral failures of others unless and until I deal with the moral failures within my own self? How can I know how to help others become better persons until I first learn how to make myself a better person?

It is my belief that society has no problems that cannot ultimately be traced back to the individuals who make it up. That is the way Jesus saw it. That is the way, the truth, and the life He challenges us to live in so that we can change the world around us. So if we want to change the world, are we willing to change our own selves? How can I have the energy to change the huge systems around us unless I have the energy to change myself?

Taking life by the yard is hard, but life taken by the inch is a cinch. Take life as it is one day at a time. Expect perfect happiness in the next life only after being reasonably happy in this life.

Bulletin Announcements

***January 25 – 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time** There exists in our parish community a diversity of unique gifts. God has provided these gifts in order to advance His Kingdom. Our sisters and brothers in other Christian denominations have also been blessed with unique gifts that are being used for the same purpose. Today, January 25th, the Annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity comes to a close. We pray that all Christians be good stewards of their relationships with one another, seeking to listen to and to understand each other, being always patient and humble, so that the Body of Christ may be truly united.

***Priest, Prophet, King** How well do you know Jesus? Join us as we deepen our relationship with Jesus Christ through Fr. Robert Barron's new DVD series Priest, Prophet, King and explore their biblical archetypes and see how Jesus is the fulfillment of each one. You will also realize your own priestly, prophetic and kingly mission. We begin on Thursday, Feb. 5 at 7pm at St. Matthew's Parish, Surrey. Register at Parish office or by email at bible_study@live.com. Cost: \$30, includes workbook.

***Bible Study: 7 Deadline Sins, 7 Lively Virtues** This course, based on Dante's writings, aims to increase understanding, promote reflection, and encourage practical action. The seven deadly sins correspond to the seven stories of Dante's Mt. Purgatory and are all presented as patterns of dysfunction within us that lead to unhappiness. Fr. Barron shows (DVD) how to counteract these sinful patterns through a conscious process of opposition, which are the seven lively virtues. Every Wednesday evening beginning, Feb. 11 to April 1, from 7-8:30pm, Holy Name Parish Hall, Vancouver. Cost: \$15. For more info. contact parish at 604-261-9393.

***Adoration** - spend a blessed hour with Jesus on Thursdays at our church from 7:15pm - 8:15pm.

***Hodinka s Ježišom** - prídeťte stráviť hodinku s Ježišom v našom kostole vo štvrtky od 19:15h - 20:15h.

***Sunday Lunch- February 1st**, after second Mass, everyone is welcome.

Sunday's Collection from the Last Week

Our Weekly Goal	\$1,500
Sunday's Collection	\$1,280
Weekly (Excess) Shortfall	-\$220

Thank You. Vďaka. God Bless Your Generosity.

Modlitba príhovoru v nedel'ú v našom kostole od 12:30pm do 1:30pm.

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

Sun 25 9:00am	3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time; Jon 3:1-5,10; 1Cor 7:29-31; Mk 1:14-20	Za Božie požehnanie a zdravie pre Anku	
Sun 25 11:00am	3. Nedel'a v cezročnom období; Jon 3:1-5,10; 1Kor 7:29-31; Mk 1:14-20	+ Mária	Rodina Eškutová
Mon 26	St. Timothy & Titus; 2Tim 1:1-8; Mk 3:22-30	NO MASS	
Tue 27 8:00am	St. Angela Merici; Heb 10:1-10; Mk 3:31-35	Margarete Bradley	Anonymous
Wed 28 8:00am	St. Thomas Aquinas; Heb 10:11-18; Mk 4:21-25	Na úmysel	Mária
Thu 29 8:00am	Heb 10:19-25; Mk 4:21-25	+ Joshua RIP	Angie
Fri 30 8:00am	Heb 10:32-39; Mk 4:26-34	Safe travel for friends	Bertha
Sat 31 9:00am	St. John Bosco; Heb 11:1-2,8-19; Mk 4:35-41	Za Božie požehnanie pre rodinu	Rod. Trochanova
Sat 31 1:00 pm	Funeral Mass	+ Neil Jason Cabahug	Family
Sun 01 9:00am	4th Sunday in Ordinary Time; Dt 18:15-20; 1Cor 7:32-35; Mk 1:21-28	For deceased family	Nina
Sun 01 11:00am	4. Nedel'a v cezročnom období; Dt 18:15-20; 1Kor 7:32-35; Mk 1:21-28	Za Božie požehnanie a zdravie pre Luboša s rodinou	Brat Jozef s rodinou