

March 8 2015

Slovak Catholic Parish



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Boh tak miloval svet, že dal svojho jednorodného Syna; každý, kto v neho verí, má večný život.

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God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life.



Slovenský kostol Sv. Cyrila a Metoda

Sts. Cyril and Methodius Parish

3. Pôstna Nedeľa.
3rd Sunday of Lent.

*Pane, ty máš slová večného života.
Lord, you have the words of eternal life.*

Človek sa najlepšie prejaví v kritických životných situáciách. Vtedy sa z pokojného a mierumilovného občana stáva ktosi, koho nik nepozná a začína konať tak, ako by asi nikto nepredpokladal. Keď však nastane krízová situácia, sused na susedovi dokáže páchať také veci, ktoré by ho nikdy nenapadli.

Mnohí ľudia pri predstave Ježiša si vykreslia jemného človeka. Dnešné evanjelium nám ho však predstavuje inak. V kriticknej situácii sa zmenil na rozhnevaného výtržníka, ktorý sa preženie nádvorím chrámu, kričí, hrozí, prevracia stoly, stánky a s bičom v ruke vyháňa dobytok, obchodníkov a peňazomencov. Nik sa mu nedovolí postaviť do cesty. Všetci tušia, že koná oprávnené. Len veľkňazi si dovoľia položiť otázku: Aké znamenie nám ukážeš, že môžeš toto robiť? Ježiš im dáva zašifrovanú odpoveď: Zborte tento chrám a za tri dni ho postavím. Prečo vlastne boli v chráme obchodníci? Židia pri návšteve chrámu mali Bohu obetovať zvierat. Pretože ho bolo treba kúpiť, v nádvorí chrámu si vyarendovali miesto obchodníci so zvieratami. Okrem tejto povinnosti mal každý Žid platiť chrámovú daň. Lenže vo vtedajšej Palestíne boli v obehú viaceré meny. Platili grécke, rímske, sýrske aj egyptské peniaze. V chráme sa preto muselo platiť chrámovou menou. Preto sa zasa v nádvorí usadili peňazomenci, ktorí premieňali rôzne valuty na chrámovú menu. Postupne sa však z týchto predavačov stali podvodníci, ktorí vykorisťovali pútnikov. Nik sa proti nim nedokázal vzoprieť, lebo sa z nich vytvorila akási mafia, ktorú chránila rodina veľkňaza Annáša, lebo mala z ich obchodov zisky. Preto sa väčšina ľudí tešila, že Ježiš týchto vydieračov vyhnal. A na otázku, ako

si to dovoľuje, odpovedá: Zabite ma a ja o tri dni vstanem z mŕtvych. Všimli ste si, že Ježiš neargumentuje zázrakmi, ktoré vykonal? Ježiš argumentuje svojím zmŕtvychvstaním.

Z tejto udalosti plynie pre nás poučenie, že aj v našom živote musí byť viera vo zmŕtvychvstanie Ježiša Krista najdôležitejšou skutočnosťou. A hoci teraz v pôste máme pred očami trpiaceho a ponížovaného Krista, treba si uvedomiť, že to nie je podstatné v jeho živote. To je iba príprava a podmienka jeho víťazstva nad smrťou. Preto máme jeho utrpenie a smrť vnímať prežiarené slávou jeho zmŕtvychvstania.

Istý kňaz navštevoval na prvé piatky jednu babku, ktorá mala obrovské bolesti. Nikdy sa však nestázovala, ale hovorievala: Čo je to oproti bolestiam Pána Ježiša? Jeho bolesti raz prestali a prestanú aj moje a potom budem s ním. Som si vedomá a šťastná, že cez moje bolesti môžem pomáhať iným. A keď sa od bolesti nevládzem modliť, obetujem Bohu za nich svoje utrpenie.

Tak dokáže viera vo zmŕtvychvstanie Ježiša prežiarit život človeka, jeho utrpenie i smrť. Týmto spôsobom nás Ježiš cez dnešné evanjelium vedie k viere v slávne vzkriesenie, aby táto radostná pravda prežiarila celý náš pozemský život.

Today's Gospel account is about the abuse of the Jewish Temple in Jerusalem. Jesus was very angry, turning over the moneychangers' tables, making a whip, driving them, along with the animals they were selling, out of God's holy Temple. They were provoked and challenged Him, which gave Him the opportunity to speak of the temple of His own body. Indirectly He was also speaking of our bodies. Our bodies are made, in God's plan, for Him to dwell in so that through us we can bring His presence, power, and love to those around us. Our bodies are

temples of His presence.

The figure of the temple applies not just to the Temple in Jerusalem but also to the temple that is the Body of Christ, the Church, as well as to our own bodies. All three are intended by God to bring us His presence. Woe, then, to those who sell out on God's purposes and intentions. Woe, then, to those who corrupt them and use them for their own purposes, those who attempt to use them for their own gain. God's holiness cannot be bought and sold without causing Him to act. He will not allow His intentions and purposes to be corrupted and used by us for our own profit, our own gain, our own purposes. Those who attempt to do so will face a cleansing from God.

Jesus calls us to rid our hearts and souls of all that we think we can buy and sell. Jesus calls us to cleanse our hearts and souls, God's temple, God's place of dwelling within us, and to purify them so that we are filled with the Spirit of God rather than those things for which we have sold Him out for our own gain. "What profit is there," Jesus asked, "for one to gain the whole world and yet lose his immortal soul?" Selling out on our own beliefs, selling out on God, puts us in serious jeopardy.

We must always bear in mind that we are "being redeemed sinners," that God has sent His Son among us not to condemn us but to save us, particularly to save us from ourselves. He knows human nature; He knows what we have been, who we are now, and what we can be. He made us to be temples of His love. "Do you not know that your are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? For the temple of God, which you are, is holy." How we regard our bodies and what we do with them matters very much in the eyes of God.

Bulletin Announcements

***March 8 - 3rd Sunday of Lent** "You shall not carve idols for yourselves in the shape of anything..." – Exodus 20:4 How many "gods" do you put before God? "Idols" do not always take the shape of physical things, things we can touch and feel. Those are easy to recognize. Many times they take the form of things we cannot touch and are much harder to spot - pride, power, ego, comfort or health.

***Stages in the Christian Meditation Journey** Christian Meditation is a prayer of the heart. It leads to an experience of silence, stillness, and simplicity. This is a path beyond thought and imagination into the presence of the risen Christ who dwells in our hearts. When we meet challenges on the spiritual path, overcoming is often "letting go and letting God". Learn how the practice of Christian meditation reveals the love and generosity of the Holy Spirit available to each one of us. Presented by the World Community for Christian Meditation-Canada, under the direction of Colleen Donald, National Coordinator, WCCM-Canada. Saturday, March 28, from 10am to 4pm, Rosemary Heights Retreat Centre, Surrey. Cost: \$40, includes lunch and snacks. To register visit www.rosemaryheights.com/events/ or call 604-576-8802. Please register early; spaces are limited.

***Church Cleaning** We are preparing a new schedule for our church cleaning for this year. The cleaning will be scheduled based on the number of participating people, preferably every two weeks; resulting in 2-3 cleanings per person (or group) per year. Please contact the parish office at 604-526-7351 if you are willing to participate.

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

***Love & Life Ministry:**

Spread the pro-life message through positive imagery! Order a T-Shirt from our 'Life Is Precious' line, a great conversation-starter and witness. Cost will be \$15-\$20 depending on the number of orders received. Email us at loveandlifeministry@gmail.com to order or call Mariana 604-584 9292. Deadline 18th of March, 2015

Sunday's Collection from the Last Week

Our Weekly Goal	\$1,500
First & Second Sunday's Collection	\$ 1,480

Thank You. Vď'aka. God Bless Your Generosity.

Modlitba príhovoru v nedeľu 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 8 9:00am	3rd Sunday of Lent; Ex 20:1-17; 1Cor 1:22-25; Jn 2:13-25	For parishioners	Fr. Juraj
Sun 8 11:00am	3. Pôstna Nedeľ'a; Ex 20:1-17; 1Kor 1:22-25; Jn 2:13-25	Požehnanie pre farníkov a priateľov	Vilma Oravcová
Mon 9 8:00am	St. Frances of Rome; 2Kings 5:1-15b; Lk 4:24-30	Tony	Maureen
Tue 10 8:00am	Dan 3:25,34-43; Mt 18:21-35	+ Eva	Dcéra s rodinou
Wed 11 8:00am	Dt 4:1,5-9; Mt 5:17-19	+ Precy Ranche	Soli Salonga
Thu 12 8:00am	Jer 7:23-28; Lk 11:14-23	+ Ashley Katagiri	Maureen
Fri 13 8:00am	Hos 14:2-10; Mk 12:28-34	+ Mary Horvát	Rodina Štefaňák
Fri 13 7:30 pm	Hos 14:2-10; Mk 12:28-34 Krížová cesta + sv.omša	Na úmysel	
Sat 14 9:00am	Hos 6:1-6; Lk 18:9-14	Za požehnanie a zdravie pre Boriska	Boris Striženec
Sun 15 9:00am	4th Sunday of Lent; 2Chron 36:14-16,19-23; Eph 2:4-10; Jn 3:14-21	For parishioners	Fr. Juraj
Sun 15 11:00am	4. Pôstna Nedeľ'a; 2Krn 36:14-16,19-23; Ef 2:4-10; Jn 3:14-21	+ Jozef a Zuzana Otrošina	Bertha and family