

Aug 23, 2015

Slovak Catholic Parish



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*Tvoje slová, Pane, sú  
Duch a život. Ty máš  
slová večného života.*

*Your words, Lord, are  
Spirit and life; you  
have the words of ever-  
lasting life.*



# Slovenský kostol Sv. Cyrila a Metoda

## Sts. Cyril and Methodius Parish

21. Nedeľa v Cezročnom období.

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time.

*Skúste a presvedčte sa, aký dobrý je Pán.*

*Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.*

**Život nás často postaví** do situácie, keď sa musíme slobodne rozhodnúť. Bude záležať len na nás, ako sa rozhodneme. Boh nám dal slobodu, nebude nás obmedzovať v jej vykonávaní.

Po vystúpení Krista v synagóge, kde ohlásil ustanovenie Eucharistie, veľa učeníkov opustilo Učiteľa, pretože jeho slová o eucharistickom tajomstve sa im videli ťažko prijateľné. Pri Ježišovi zotrvali iba tí najoddanejší a Pán teraz očakáva opätovné potvrdenie ich priateľstva a bezpodmienečnej dôvery v neho. Obracia sa teda na tých, čo ho deň čo deň verne nasledovali a pýta sa ich: „Aj vy chcete odísť“? A Peter v mene všetkých odpovedá: „Pane, a ku komu by sme išli? Ty máš slová večného života. A my sme uverili a spoznali, že ty si Boží Svätý“ (Jn 6,68-69). A apoštoli povedali ešte raz áno. Položme si otázky: Čím by boli apoštoli bez Ježiša? Kam by zamierili svoje kroky? Kto by splnil túžby ich srdca? Život bez Krista ani teraz nemá zmysel.

Aj my sme navždy povedali „áno“ Ježišovi. Prijali sme Ježiša Pravdu, Život, Lásku a Slobodu. Ale naša sloboda nám neslúži iba na to, aby sme sa bezcieľne motali po ceste. Služí nám na zameranie sa na konkrétny cieľ: na Krista. Vtedy s údivom odhalíme radostný rozmer slobody, ktorá si volí Ježiša a všetko to, čo nás k nemu približuje, a odvrhne to, čo nás od neho vzdaluje. Ale sloboda sama osebe nestačí, potrebuje sprievodcu – Polárnu hviezdou. Polárka nášho života, naším krokom, smerom je Pán. Čím by sme vyplnili svoje dni, ktoré nám Boh dal? Čo sa bez neho vôbec oplatí?

Mnohí ľudia pod slobodou rozumejú toľko, ako nechať sa strhnúť svojimi vášňami a inštinktívnymi chůtkami. Títo ľudia zabúdajú, že sloboda je zaiste nepopierateľným a základným ľudským právom, necharakterizuje ju však možná voľba zla, ale

možnosť zodpovedného konania dobra, ktoré uznávame a po ktorom ako takom túžime. Človek s dvojakým chápaním slobody odmieta každú pravdu, ktorá prezentuje platný a záväzný cieľ pre celé ľudstvo, pretože sa mu bude zdať nepriateľom jeho vlastnej slobody. Boh stvoril človeka ako slobodnú bytosť. Z toho vyplýva, že človek je slobodný. A kde sa hovorí o slobode, tam musia byť aj možnosti – najmenej dve, z ktorých si je možné vybrať. Boh človeku túto slobodu nikdy neodníme. To je základ, ktorý robí človeka človekom. Od toho, ako sa rozhodneme, závisí naša zodpovednosť pre slobodné rozhodnutie.

Apoštoli sa slobodne rozhodli ísť za Ježišom. Ani Boh nás nenúti, aby sme sa rozhodli pre neho. Boh nám dáva slobodu rozhodnutia. Záleží len na nás. Preto pred každým rozhodnutím prosme Boha, aby naša myseľ bola čistá a slobodná od hriechu.

**Every day** we consider choices presented to us, and then make our decisions. There comes a moment when our consideration ends and we raise a choice to the level of our wills, and thereby make it a freely chosen decision.

A decision can be of a short-term sort, or one intended to last over a long period of time or a “forever” decision. Some of those permanent decisions are raised to the level of vows. They are placed in the hands of God; they are made and given in God’s presence, power, and love.

Being human we all suffer from a weakness imbedded deep within us, namely the original sin. Choices, decisions, and commitments are rarely, if ever, lived out in tranquility, without difficulties, without trials. Our decisions and commitments need from time to time to be renewed, to be made new again. This may be especially so as a consequence of sin, when our vows have

been corrupted or even broken.

In today’s second reading we hear St. Paul’s words addressed to the Christians in Ephesus who were surrounded by people who indulged themselves in sensuality, men who used women...

The word “submission” in this reading needs our attention because we are likely to interpret it to mean “subservience.” Actually it means something quite different. Submission really means “under the same mission.” St. Paul is asking married men and women to work under the same mission and purpose of marriage, particularly Christian marriage. Christian marriage is entered into with choices and decisions that are placed in the hands of God; Christian marriages are made with vows, with decisions that are intended to last until death. Christian marriage is made with two commitments, the spouses to each other and both of them to God.

In today’s gospel some of Jesus’ own disciples, after hearing him speaking, turned and left Him, declaring that what He taught them were hard words. Jesus did not go after them telling that He was only speaking symbolically. He didn’t qualify what He was claiming. He simply let them go away and then turned to the Twelve Apostles and asked, “Do you also want to leave?” Simon Peter answered him, “Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.”

Peter and the Twelve were renewing and reaffirming their original decision to follow Jesus. Theirs were lifetime commitments, that needed reaffirming in spite of their difficulties in understanding what Jesus was teaching.

Our lives are determined by our decisions. We are who we are due to our decisions, some of them made for lifetime, and some of them renewed when necessary.

## Bulletin Announcements

**\*August 23 - 21<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time** "If it does not please you to serve the Lord, decide today whom you will serve...As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord." (Joshua 24:15) When we commit to serve the Lord, we must be willing to become a partner in the work of the Lord. A partner is a person who invests their time, talent and treasure. If we say we serve God, we must actually do something and not merely talk about it!

**\*Unfiltered Workshop for Men on Internet Pornography** Internet pornography is arguably the most deadly influence on families today. As the saying goes, an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. So, as a follow-up to Man Alive, we're holding a showing for men of "Unfiltered: Equipping Parents for an Ongoing Conversation about Internet Pornography" on Wednesday, Aug. 26, from 7:30-9:00pm at St. Mary's Parish, Vancouver (basement). Unfiltered is a simple-to-run, video-based workshop designed by Covenant Eyes that is a helpful tool for educating parents. A short video presentation speaks of the brain science connected with pornography, a simple overview of the Theology of the Body, and practical measures families can take to protect and educate children. Our hope is that men will then take it back to their parishes and communities and use it to educate others. Please RSVP at [evangelization@rcav.org](mailto:evangelization@rcav.org) by no later than Monday, Aug. 24.

**\*Classical Concert:** On Friday, August 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm in St. Michael's Church, the same day at 1:00 pm at Holy Rosary Cathedral and **August 30th at 12:30pm in St. Cyril & Methodius Church** a group of young musicians form the Czech Republic will give a performance. They are graduates of the Prague Conservatory, visiting Vancouver, and will play music of JS Bach, Handel, Schubert, Dvorak, Franck, and others for organ, flute and voice. Admission is free, but a small offering would be greatly appreciated.

**\*The Fall 2015 Session of the Catholic Bible Seminar** will be held at Holy Trinity Parish, North Vancouver, on the weekend of September 11, 12 & 13, 2015. The topic is **"The GOSPEL of JOHN"** presented by well-known Biblical Scholar Father Jim Nisbet from California. Rates are \$55 for one adult and \$100 for a married couple, for all three days. Single day rates are \$10 (Friday) and \$25 (Saturday/Sunday), with a \$10 discount for youth and students on the full days. For more information visit <http://biblestudies4.wix.com/biblecentre> or email [biblestudies@shaw.ca](mailto:biblestudies@shaw.ca) or call Adrian at 604-380-2575 604-380-2575 FREE (after 7 PM) or pick up a flyer at the church entrance.

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

### Sunday's Collection from the Last Week

Our Weekly Goal	\$1,500
Sunday's Collection	\$1,140
Weekly (Excess) Shortfall	<b>-\$360</b>

### Thank You. Vďďaka. God Bless Your Generosity.

Modlitba príhovoru v našom kostole počas letných prázdnin nebude.

There will be no prayer ministry during the summer holiday in our church.

Sun 23 9:00am	<b>21st Sunday in Ordinary Time;</b> Jos 24:1-2a,15-17,18b; Eph 5:21-32; Jn 6:60-69	+ Jozef Astrab jnr.	Rodina Astrabová
Sun 23 11:00am	<b>21.Nedeľa v Cezročnom období;</b> Joz 24:1-2a,15-17,18b; Ef 5:21-32; Jn 6:6p-69	Za farníkov	Fr. Juraj
Mon 24 8:00am	St. Bartholomew; Rev 21:9b-14	Sr. Agneška a Karmela	Fr. Juraj
Tue 25 8:00am	St. Louis of France; St. Joseph Calasanz; 1Thes 2:1-8; Mt 23:23-36	Za Božie požehnanie a ochranu	
Wed 26 8:00am	Our Lady of Czestochowa; 1Thes 2:9-13; Mt 23:27-32	Za Božie požehnanie pre Norberta s rodinou	
Thu 27 8:00am	St. Monica; 1Thes 3:7-13; Mt 24:42-51	Za obrátenie pre Jozefa, Ondreja, Kristinu a Elianu	mama
Fri 28 8:00am	St. Augustine; 1Thes 4:1-8; Mt 25:1-13	Na úmysel	Fr. Juraj
Sat 29 9:00am	<b>The Martyrdom of St. John the Baptist;</b> 1Thes 4:9-11; Mk 6:17-29	+ Anna Lesayová -1.výr.	Syn Miroslav
Sun 30 9:00am	<b>22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time;</b> Dt 4:1-2,6-8; Jas 1:17-18,21b-22,27; Mk 7:1-8,14-15,21-23	+ Michal Jánoška	Rodina Astrabová
Sun 30 11:00am	<b>22.Nedeľa v Cezročnom období;</b> Dt 4:1-2,6-8; Jak 1:17-18,21b-22,27; Mk 7:1-8,14-15,21-23	Za farníkov	Fr. Juraj