

Slovenský kostol Sv. Cyrila a Metoda

Sts. Cyril and Methodius Parish



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*Ukáž nám, Pane, svoje
milosrdenstvo a daj
nám svoju spásu.*

*Show us, Lord, your
steadfast love; and
grant us your salva-
tion.*



Vstúpili sme do obdobia adventu. Adventné obdobie má dvojaký význam: je časom prípravy na slávnosť Narodenia Pána, v ktorom sa pripomína prvý príchod Božieho Syna medzi ľudí a zároveň je to čas, v ktorom sa touto pripomienkou zameriava naša pozornosť na očakávanie druhého Kristovho príchodu na konci vekov. V našom ponímaní je to čas, ktorý sa nám aj podľa čítaného evanjelia môže javiť ako čas hrôzy a katastrof. Katastrofou je pre tých, ktorým oťaželo srdce pozemskými starosťami, ktorí akosi zabudli myslieť na koniec a na Pánov príchod. Ale pre tých, ktorí bdejú a očakávajú Pána platí: „Vzpriamte sa, zodvihnite hlavu, lebo sa blíži vaše vykúpenie.“

Toto obdobie nás má prednostne upozorniť na skutočnosť Vtelenia Božieho Syna v plnosti času, na jeho príchod na túto zem, na jeho narodenie. Treba ho prežívať v pohľade na celé dejiny spásy, počnúc prísľubom Spasiteľa, ktorý dal Boh v raji po hriechu prvých rodičov, cez všetkých prorokov, ktorí predpovedali jeho príchod a udalosti s tým spojené, taktiež pozerajúc na jeho predkov, ale najmä na Máriu, ktorá je Najsvätejšia, Najčistejšia a Najslávnejšia Bohorodička, vždy Panna.

Položme si otázku: „Kto je v centre pozornosti v rodine pred narodením dieťaťa?“ Predovšetkým je to jeho matka. Na ňu je upätá všetka pozornosť. Ju skúmajú pohľadmi a zvýšeným záujmom sleduje manžel, rodina i okolitý svet. Ťažko to možno utajiť. Najbližší sledujú s matkou prvé pohyby plodu ešte v jej lone, tak ako sa to stalo pri stretnutí Presvätej Bohorodičky so sv. Alžbetou. Sledujú ako plod rastie a hlási sa k životu. Adventné obdobie má teda aj mariánsky ráz.

To isté máme prežívať aj my počas Adventu. On je radostným očakávaním Spasiteľa s konkrétnym

pohľadom na tú, ktorá je jeho Matkou, ktorá ho už nosí pod srdcom. Tá, na ktorej sa plnia všetky proctvá, od predpovede ustanovenia nepriateľstva medzi diablom a ženou a jej potomstvom, ktoré porazí diabla, ktorá ako panna počne a porodí, až po pozdrav Alžbety: „Požehnaná si medzi ženami a požehnaný je plod tvojho života.“

Panna Mária nám môže pomôcť naučiť sa, ako sa aj my môžeme stať matkami Ježiša Krista. Toto je podstatná a najdôležitejšia úloha človeka v adventnom období, aby sa aj v nás narodil živý Ježiš Kristus ako v Márii. Cirkevný učiteľ Origenes hovorí: „Čo mi prospeje, že sa Kristus raz narodil v Betleheme, ak sa nenarodí vierou v mojej duši.“ Máriino Božské materstvo sa realizuje v dvoch rovinách, telesnej a duchovnej. Mária je nielen Božou Matkou, pretože nosila telesne Boha vo svojom lone, ale tiež preto, že ho najsamprv počala vierou vo svojom srdci.

We spend enormous amounts of our resources, time, and energy on things that give us a sense of security. We buy expensive insurance policies to protect ourselves from any and every sort of disaster. And still we are not secure. Moreover, no amount of money, protection systems, medical effort, or bodyguards can protect us from the ultimate confrontation we each will individually face. For each one of us will one day stand face to face before Christ at the end of our earthly existence. Yet we live our lives awash in distractions, busily engaged in a whole lot that's seemingly very important to us now. Our eyes are torn away from what lies ahead of our time here on earth.

Jesus gives us fair warning at the end of today's Gospel account. "Pray constantly for the strength to escape whatever is in prospect and to stand

secure before the Son of Man."

Stand secure before the Son of Man? How can we stand secure? We will be standing there before Him without our bank accounts, our statements of net worth, our alarm systems, and with no security fences surrounding us. And we will not be looking into the eyes of closed circuit television monitors. No. We will instead be looking into the eyes of the Son of God. His judgment of what we did with our lives will be upon us.

What securities will we have? All we will have at that moment when we face the Son of God will be our memories. It is from them that we will draw up our accounts; it is in them that we will find the records of our lives.

The season of Thanksgiving and Christmas is a season of reflection, a time of examination, a time when we look ahead with expectant hope for the Son of God's coming to us. When we meet Him face to face at the end of our own personal lives, we will be filled with awe, that's for sure.

But will we be filled with terror or will we be filled with love and the sense of security that undergirds love? The answer, of course, depends upon the fabric of our lives, the contents of our relating to others, and the memories that we bring with us to that event.

The judgment we receive at the end will not so much be God's judgment of us, but our own. It is WE, not God, who are forging our image, our character, our personality, and our personhood, all that we take to God at the end of the lives we have fashioned here on earth. The content depends not so much upon God as it does upon us. Let's take time to reflect upon our "securities". Our earthly securities and our securities that we bring before the Son of Man at the end of our lives.

Bulletin Announcements

***November 29 - 1st Sunday of Advent** "But when these signs begin to happen, stand erect and raise your heads because your redemption is at hand." (Luke 21:28) We celebrate Advent each year in preparation of the birth of Jesus, His first coming, as we await his second coming. In this Advent season, use the sacrament of Reconciliation to strengthen your relationship with Jesus. It's never too late.

***Opening Mass for Jubilee Year of Mercy** Pope Francis has announced the celebration of an extraordinary Holy Year dedicated to Mercy, starting Dec. 8, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, and concluding Nov. 20, 2016, the Solemnity of Christ the King. The Year of Mercy begins with the opening of the "holy door of mercy" at St. Peter's Basilica by Pope Francis. Join us on Sunday, Dec. 13 at 3 p.m. for the opening of the Holy Door at Holy Rosary Cathedral, Vancouver with Mass and official blessing of the door. All Cathedrals in the world will open their doors on this day.

***Annual Christmas FOOD HAMPER Project** - November 1st-November 29th 2015. Please donate as your heart allows you: CASH or PC (Superstore) GIFT CARDS. ONLY these DRY FOOD items: FLOUR, RICE, PASTA, PASTA SAUCE, DRY WHITE BEANS, YELLOW and GREEN DRY SPLIT PEAS, DRY LENTILS-all types, COFFEE and variety of TEA BAGS. Your donations can be given to Andrea Machula (604-479-2112), Fr. Juraj (604-526-7351) or to either Eleanore Mattias or Joanne Espenhain. Receipts for the amount of \$50 and more can be issued upon request. Thank you very much!

***Love & Life Ministry: Christmas Card Fundraiser** This Christmas, spread the message of life by sending pro-life Christmas Cards. A portion of the sale of these cards helps support crisis pregnancy centers and other pro-life organizations including the Love & Life Ministry. The cards will be sold every Sunday in November after the 11AM mass by Mariana (604-584 9292) in the parish hall. For those not attending the Slovak Mass, please contact Joanne (604-522 8917), she will have the cards in the church every day- until sold out. Cards are sold in the packs of 10 cards for \$10.

***Svätý Mikuláš** — Aj tento rok zavíta do nášho kostolíka Svätý Mikuláš—v nedeľu 6.decembra po svätej omši. Vstupné \$8.00 na dieťa. Prihlásiť sa môžete u M.Demčák na **778-593-9565**.

***15th Annual Christmas Bake and Craft Sale** is approaching on December 12th and 13th, 2015. Please help with your donation (all funds raised go to our church). For more information call Gabriela 778-355-2250 or Bertha 604-936-4669.

***No Adoration** - there will be no adoration in our church this Thursday.

Sunday's Collection from the Last Week

Our Weekly Goal	\$1,500
Sunday's Collection	\$1,136
Weekly (Excess) Shortfall	-\$364

Thank You. Vďaka. 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 29 9:00am	1st Sunday of Advent-Year C; Jer 33:14-16; 1Th 3:12-4:2; Lk 21:25-38, 34-36	For parishioners	Fr. Juraj
Sun 29 11:00am	1. Adventná Nedeľa-Rok C; Jer 33:14-16; 1Sol 3:12-4:2; Lk 21:25-28,34-36	Za zdravie a Božiu pomoc pre Vilmu	Rodina Trochanová
Mon 30 8:00am	St. Andrew; Rom 10:9-18; Mt 4:18-22	Za B.pož. pre o.Andreja 2. Miroslav a Evka 40.výr.	Fr. Juraj Fr. Andrej
Tue 1 8:00am	Is 11:1-10; Lk 10:21-24	+ Ján košláb 2. požehnanie pre syna	Anne Radzo Mama
Wed 2 8:00am	Is 25:6-10a; Mt 15:29-37	+ Richardo T. Marcos 2. požehnanie pre syna	Family Javier Mama
Thu 3 6:00am	St. Francis Xavier; Is 26:1-6; Mt 7:21,24-27	Pož. pre diakona Laryy 2. požehnanie pre syna	Rodina Starostová Mama
Fri 4 8:00am	First Friday; St. John Damascene; Is 29:17-24; Mt 9:27-31	+ Josefa	Family Javier
Fri 4 7:30pm	Prvý piatok; Iz 29:17-24; Mt 9:27-31	+ Mary Horvat	Dcera s rodinou
Sat 5 9:00am	Is 30:19-21,23-26; Mt 9:34-10:1,5a,6-8	+ Veronika Ondrušová	Rodina Trochanová
Sun 6 9:00am	2nd Sunday of Advent; Bar 5:1-9; Phil 1:3-6,8-11; Lk 3:1-6	For parishioners	Fr. Juraj
Sun 6 11:00am	2. Adventná Nedeľa; Bar 5:1-9; Flp 1:4-6,8-11; Lk 3:1-6	Za zdravie a Božie požehnanie pre Lukáša	Brat s rodinou