

Feb 19, 2017

Slovak Catholic Parish



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*Kto zachováva
Kristovo slovo, v tom je
Božia láska naozaj
dokonalá.*

*Whoever keeps the
word of Christ, the love
of God is truly
perfected in him.*



Slovenský kostol Sv. Cyrila a Metoda

Sts. Cyril and Methodius Parish

7. Nedeľa v Cezročnom Období.

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time.

Milostivý a milosrdný je Pán.

The Lord is kind and merciful.

Počuli sme ako Ježiš hovorí svojim učeníkom, a teda aj nám: „Neodporujte zlému. Nepomstite sa, nesúďte sa, dávajte i požičajte ..“ A vrchol všetkého: „Milujte svojich nepriateľov a modlite sa za tých, čo vás prenasledujú, aby ste boli synmi svojho Otca, ktorý je na nebesiach. Veď on dáva slnku vychádzať nad zlých i dobrých a posielá dažď na spravodlivých i nespravodlivých.“ Nič nie je tak cudzie našej skazenej prirodzenosti, ako slová, ktoré sme práve v evanjeliu počuli. Blížšie je nám to, čo dovolil Mojžiš, kvôli tvrdosti ľudského srdca: „Oko za oko, zub za zub!“. Zdá sa nám, že to má v sebe určitú logiku. Ale prichádza Pán a učí: „Počuli ste, že bolo povedané: Oko za oko a zub za zub. No ja vám hovorím: Neodporujte zlému.“

Prečo sa nemáme protivíť tomu, kto nám robí zlo, a prečo nemáme zlo odplatiť zlom? Filozofia nás učí, že zlo je nedostatkom dobra. Zlo nemá svoju vlastnú podstatu, ale existuje z negácie, z nedostatku dobra. Keď chceme zlo premôcť zlom, konáme tak, ako keď sa niekto snaží zlikvidovať jamu tým, že ju od základu vykope. Vytvorí ešte väčšie jamu. Ak chceme zlikvidovať jamu, môžeme ju jedine zaplniť. Zlo je nedostatkom dobra, jeho likvidácia je v naplnení dobrom. A naopak zlo sa zlom šíri a živí sa pomstou. Ak ho chceme skutočne zničiť, musíme ho zastaviť, pretrpieť. Boh sám takto postupuje. Nekoná v zmysle ľudskej spravodlivosti. Na najväčší zločin, ktorého sa ľudia dopustili Ukrižovaním Božieho Syna, odpovedá dobrom, Spasou a odpustením hriechov. Dobro víťazí skrze kríž.

Ak poslúchneme Boha, ktorý má nad všetkým nekonečný nadhľad a koná a učí múdrejšie ako náš obmedzený rozum a

naše obmedzené skúsenosti, nájdeme znovu harmóniu sveta i svojej vlastnej bytosti. Ak sa naučíme takto rozmyšľať a ak sa budeme riadiť týmto Božím Slovom, zistíme, že každý okamih, keď sme sa neriadili svojou chytrosťou, ale Božou mudrosťou, sa stáva pre nás milostivým časom a dňom spásy. Ak apoštol Ján hlása, že Boh je Láska, tak vlastne tvrdí, že Láska je spôsob Božieho Bytia. Človek môže milovať i nenávidieť, ale Boh je Láska. Láska je Božou Podstatou. K Bohu sa môžeme priblížiť len Laskou. Kto miluje, pozná Boha, kto nemiluje, nepozná Boha. Keď nemilujeme, vzdalujeme sa Bohu, svojej Spásy, svojmu Blahu. Láska je našou Blaženosťou, nenávisť nás zraňuje a ničí, nielen vtedy, keď sme jej objektom, ale i vtedy, keď ju nechávame skrze seba vstúpiť do tohto sveta.

The call to love is always seductive. Many must have welcomed Jesus' call to love God and love our neighbour, as the best synthesis of the Law given through Moses. What they couldn't imagine is that one day he would speak to them about loving their enemies; but Jesus did just that. Jesus proclaimed this demand with absolute clarity: "Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who persecute you".

His language is outrageous and surprising, but completely coherent with his experience of God. The Father isn't violent: God loves even the wicked and does not seek anyone's destruction. God's greatness doesn't consist in the power to condemn but in unconditionally loving everyone. Whoever wishes to be a child of that God will bring into the world neither hatred nor anyone else's destruction. Of course we may – and should – pray for the conversion of the

wicked.

Love of enemy isn't a secondary teaching for Jesus, directed only to people who are called to a heroic perfection. His challenge is to introduce into history a new attitude in the face of those we feel to be our enemy because his whole desire is to eliminate hate and destructive violence from the world. Whoever is like God will not nourish hate against anyone, but will seek the good of all, including their enemies.

But Jesus knows what life is like. When he speaks of love of enemy, he isn't asking us to nourish feeling of affection or sympathy or tenderness toward anyone who has done evil to us. The enemy continues being someone from whom we can expect harm, and it's difficult for us to be able to change the feelings of our heart.

To love our enemy means above all to not do him evil, to not even wish harm to him. We don't need to get upset if we don't feel any positive love for him. It's natural that we feel ourselves wounded or humiliated, but we try not to keep feeding hate and the thirst for vengeance. Eventually we can take another step forward and actually be willing to do him good if we find him in need. We need to remember that we are at our noblest and best when we forgive rather than when we rejoice at another's misfortune. Sincere forgiveness of enemies isn't easy, and in some circumstances we could find it practically impossible to avoid thirsting for vengeance. No one needs to judge anyone else from the outside. Only God understands the heart and forgives unconditionally, even when we aren't able to do so ourselves. But it remains the challenge set out by Jesus, and a grace which we should always pray to receive.

Bulletin Announcements

***February 19th - 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time** "A person's rightful due is to be treated as an object of love, not as an object for use." - Pope John Paul II

***Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius for Men (Silent Retreat)** Returning for a second year (4th retreat), the priests of Miles Christi will be here to offer their signature Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius. Two priests will work directly with retreatants in this silent retreat for men. Join us March 24-26 at Westminster Abbey, Mission. Cost is \$210. Space is very limited, so please register early. For more info or to register, please contact Jody Garneau at adultfaith@stannsabbotsford.ca or 604-576-8802. "Spiritual retreats are particular graces, they are privileged opportunities, where the soul, separated from the busyness of daily life, may dispose itself to listen to God, place itself under the direction of the Holy Spirit, and totally correct itself to establish the Kingdom of Jesus Christ in it, in order to love Him and serve Him more." – Miles Christi Constitutions. For more info. visit www.stannsabbotsford.ca/2016/12/silent-ignatian-retreats/4509

***Development and Peace Share Lent 2017: Women at the Heart of Change** Matthew's Gospel emphasizes the Lord's commandment to refrain from acts of anger and violence. South Sudan, the youngest nation on earth, has been overwhelmed by violence and civil conflict since its independence in 2011. Development and Peace – Caritas Canada continues to support Caritas South Sudan in its efforts to foster peace, democracy and reconciliation in the region. Thanks in part to your continued generosity, our partners are able to provide food, water, healthcare and access to education for those affected by the conflict. For more information on support for South Sudan please visit www.devp.org/en/emergencies/south-sudan

***Healing from the Heart of Jesus** – Three evenings with Dr. Margaret Schlientz (MA Theology/Spirituality, MA Clinical Psychology, PhD Psychiatric Nursing) at St. Luke Parish, 20285 Dewdney Tr. Rd. Maple Ridge:
 Sunday, March 5, 7PM (Mass 5:30PM) – *Jesus Invites Us To Open Our Hearts and Receive His Love*
 Monday, March 6, 7PM – *Healing from Fear, Anger, Resentment – Beginning to Forgive*
 Tuesday, March 7, 7PM – *Healing through Forgiveness of Betrayal, Loss of Love, Grief, and Father/Mother Wounds*
 For more info: 604-465-5383, 604-460-0114 or visit stlukesparish.wordpress.com or drmargaretschlientz.com

***Skupinka dobrovoľníkov pri farnosti sv. Cyrila a Metoda v New Westminsteri vás srdečne pozýva na Fašiangovú zábavu pod Oravským zámkom, ktorá bude 25.februára 2017 vo farskej hale o 6:30pm. Cena \$25. Lístky predáva Anka Štvtecká: 604 941-0280 (Živá hudba, histor.video, segedínský guláš, šišky, tombola...)**

Sunday's Collection from the Last Week

Our Weekly Goal	\$1,500
Sunday's Collection	\$1,420

Thank You. Vďaka. God Bless Your Generosity.

THURSDAY ADORATION

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

PRAYER MINISTRY

in our church will be the following dates:
February 19, 2017 from 12:30pm to 1:30pm
March 5, 2017 from 12:30pm to 1:30pm

Sun 19 9:00am	7th Sunday in Ordinary Time; Lv 19:1-2,17-18; 1Cor 3:16-23; Mt 5:38-48	For parishioners and benefactors	Fr. Juraj
Sun 19 11:00am	7. Nedel'ä v Cezročnom Období; Lv 19:1-2,17-18; 1Kor 3:16-23; Mt 5:38-48	+ Vincent Rechner	Manželka s rodinou
Mon 20 8:00am	Sir 1:1-10; Mk 9:14-21	Na úmysel	
Tue 21 8:00am	St. Peter Damian 2:1-11; Mk 9:30-37; Sir	For the souls in purgatory	Joanne
Wed 22 8:00am	Chair of St. Peter; 1Pt 5:1-4; Mt 16:13-19	+ Anne Shelling	Michalec Family
Thu 23 8:00am	St. Polycarp; Sir 5:1-8; Mk 9:41-50	Za zdravie a Božiu pomoc pre Lubomíra	Rodina Balúchová
Fri 24 8:00am	Sir 6:5-17; Mk 10:1-12	For parishioners and benefactors	Fr. Juraj
Sat 25 9:00am	Sir 17:1-4,6-8,10-15; Mk 10:13-16	Za zdravie a Božiu pomoc pre Máriu a Jána	Dcéra Mirka
Sun 26 9:00am	8th Sunday in Ordinary Time; Is 49:14-15; 1Cor 4:1-5; Mt 6:24-34	Na úmysel	Janka
Sun 26 11:00am	8. Nedel'ä v Cezročnom Období; Iz 49:14-15; 1Kor 4:1-5; Mt 6:24-34	Za dobrodincov	Rodina Demčáková