

March 26, 2017

Slovak Catholic Parish

Slovenský kostol Sv. Cyrila a Metoda

Sts. Cyril and Methodius Parish

4. Pôstna Nedeľa.

4th Sunday of Lent.

Pán je môj pastier, nič mi nechýba.

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.



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*Ja som svetlo sveta,
hovorí Pán; kto mňa
nasleduje, bude mať
svetlo života.*

*I am the light of the
world, says the Lord;
whoever follows me
will have the light of
life.*



Veľmi často sa nám stáva, že keď chceme ospravedlniť Boha, tak musíme obviňovať človeka. Tak uvažovali aj apoštoli v dnešnom evanjeliu: „Rabbi, kto zhršiel? On alebo jeho rodičia, že sa narodil slepý?“ Apoštoli uvažovali asi takto: „Narodiť sa slepý nie je určite dobré a nie je to maličkosť, môžeme to chápať len ako Boží trest, preto ako on nezhršiel, tak museli zhršiť jeho rodičia. V opačnom prípade by sme museli aspoň na chvíľu priznať, že Boh nie je spravodlivý a to by bolo strašné. To by sme ako veriaci nemohli unieť.“

Celá chyba nášho uvažovania spočíva v tom, že poznáme len jednu formu príčinnosti. Vieme len to, že minulé skutky ovplyvňujú budúcnosť. Ale nevidíme, že určité veci sa ozrejmiť až v budúcnosti. Ich zmysel leží v budúcnosti, nie v tom, čo bolo a je teraz, ale v tom, čo bude. Budúcnosť mnoho vecí vysvetlí a ospravedlní. Naše uvažovanie sa dá vyjadriť jednoducho vetou: je to tak „preto, lebo“. Božie myslenie by sme mohli vyjadriť takto: je to tak „preto, aby“. Pán Ježiš vyslovene hovorí, že zmysel jeho choroby je v tom, že sa majú na ňom prejaviť Božie skutky. Teda nehľadá zmysel v hriechnej minulosti ale vo svetle budúcej Spásy.

Je pravda, že keby sme históriu jeho choroby skúmali, určite by sme došli na to, že aj apoštoli mali kus pravdy. Choroba prichádza ako ovocie hriechu, ak nie osobného tak prvotného alebo sociálneho. V raji predsa nebola ani smrť ani choroba. Ale sám Ježiš vyhlasuje tohto človeka za nevinného: „ani on nezhršiel, ani jeho rodičia.“ Hoci Božie Slovo vyhlasuje „všetci zhršeli a sú ďaleko od Božej slávy!“, predsa keď ide o konkrétneho človeka, hovorí to isté Božie Slovo: „ani on nezhršiel, ani jeho rodičia“.

Akoby nám chcel Boh povedať: „Nie je tvojou úlohou pátrať po hriechu blížneho. Nie je tvojou úlohou ospravedlňovať Boha tým, že obviňuje človeka!“ Tvojou úlohou je umožniť každému, aby sa na ňom zjavila dobrota Božia. Zmysel zla je aby sa v ňom zjavila Božia dobrota. Zmysel tmy je, aby v nej raz zasvietilo svetlo. Krása púšte je v tom, že kdesi skrýva prameň a oázu.

Pán Ježiš opravil nesprávne názory svojich učeníkov. Potom zvolil taký spôsob uzdravenia, akým by sa slepý prirôdzený nikdy nemohol uzdraviť. Co urobil? Napľul na zem, zo slín a prachu spravil blato, ktorým potrel slepému oči. Potom mu prikázal, aby išiel k jazeru Siloe a zmyl si blato z očí. Jeho spôsob nám môže pripomínať Božiu činnosť pri Stvorení Adama. Boh vytvoril Adama z prachu zeme. Možno je v tom posledné znamenie pre neveriacich farizejov. Dnes by sme to vyjadřili tak, že Ježiš použil techniku Stvoriteľa človeka na výsmech ľudskej vedy.

Božie skutky sú tie skutky, v ktorých sa zjavuje dobrota a moc Boha. Sú to tie skutky, v ktorých človek zjavne prekročil sám seba, svoje EGO. Božie skutky sú tie, ktoré sa nedajú konať z ľudskej sily a ukazujú na moc a činnosť Boha.

It's hard to know why Jesus went through the ritual of the spittle, the mud, and the water, in order to heal the man who was born blind. We are told that he healed other blind people with a touch, or simply a word. He sent the ten lepers on their way, and they were healed as they journeyed along. He sent the centurion home and, before he reached home he got word that his servant was healed. It might well have been a test of this man's faith. Maybe

this is how Jesus heals many of us. We ask for his healing, and nothing seems to happen immediately. Maybe, after asking for his healing, we should go on our way, and expect to notice the healing taking place gradually as time goes by.

As today's story unfolds, we notice that the man's eyes were really opened, and that includes the eyes of his soul. Clearly Jesus was intent on healing the total person. We don't imagine him healing someone, and then having that person going away still filled with resentment against another. Such a person would not really be healed in depth. The man in today's gospel was totally healed, and he ended up on his knees, worshipping Jesus.

A practical and simple prayer is "Lord, that I may see." It is a short prayer, but when it comes from the depths of my heart, it is a powerful prayer. Remember that other blind man named Bartimeus? He was told that Jesus was passing by, and he was determined to get his attention. Those around him tried to silence him, but he shouted all the louder. And he also was cured. To another man Jesus asked the pointed question, "Do you want to be healed?"

The greatest way we can do good for others is not by giving them money, though that can at times be what is needed, but in helping them appreciate what they already have. It is good to affirm others and make them feel both loved and worthwhile. Many people have grown up with a poor self-image, and they just cannot see the good in themselves. This is another form of blindness, and it is a blindness in others that any one of us can have power to heal. The most certain proof that the Spirit of God lives in us is our willingness and ability to affirm and bring a blessing to other people.

Bulletin Announcements

***March 26th - 4th Sunday of Lent** "We are not the sum of our weaknesses and failures; we are the sum of the Father's love for us and our real capacity to become the image of His Son." - St. Pope John Paul II

***Focolare Annual Event, Mariapolis** - The Mariapolis will be held on May 20-22, 2017 at Trinity Western University, Langley BC. Suffering is a fact of life and it comes to us in so many ways. Do we put up with it? Do we avoid it? Or does it have a deeper value? At Mariapolis 2017, we will explore these questions in the context of the spirituality of unity. Register online at: <https://goo.gl/r8XWeA> More info at 778-980-2470, E-mail: focolare.vancouver@gmail.com, Web: www.focolare.ca, Facebook: Mariapolis BC 2017. Early Bird registration by April 9th

***Raising Children in a Digital World** Are you struggling with the effects of technology on your family life? Deborah MacNamara, counsellor and speaker who teaches on the relational-developmental approach of Dr. Gordon Neufeld, can shed light on this issue. The digital world is here to stay, changing our society in a way that has far-reaching consequences for our children. Learn more on Saturday, April 8 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Ann's Parish Gym, 33333 Mayfair Avenue, Abbotsford. Admission by donation (\$5 recommended) and childminding available for children 3 years+ (upon request). No registration required. For more info., please contact stannsfamilygroup@gmail.com

***Learn How to Parent Teens.** From meeting your teen's needs to helping them make good choices, the ALPHA Parenting Teenagers Course has much to offer! This is an opportunity to get help with the challenges you may be facing when raising a teen! Enjoy dinner and a first-class parenting video-and-discussion program, running for five Fridays starting April 21, from 6:30-9:00 p.m. at St. Ann's Parish, Abbotsford. All parents and caregivers are invited. Cost: \$20/person. To register or for more info., visit <http://rcav.org/event/alpha-parentingteens/>

***Lenten Penitential Service** in our parish will be on **March 29, 2017 at 7PM.**

***Spoločná veľkonočná sv.spoved'** v našej farnosti bude **29. marca 2017 o 19:00 hod.**

***Duchovná obnova s adoráciou** pre slúžiacich v Prayer Ministry bude na prvú sobotu 1.apríla o 8:00am.

Sunday's Collection from the Last Week

Our Weekly Goal	\$1,500
Sunday's Collection	\$1,550
Langoše Fundraising	\$513.

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 date:
April 2, 2017 from 12:30pm to 1:30pm

Sun 26 9:00am	4th Sunday of Lent; 1Sam 16:1b,6-7,10-13; Eph 5:8-14; Jn 9:1-41	For parishioners and benefactors	Fr. Juraj
Sun 26 11:00am	4. Pôstna Nedel'a; 1Sam 16:1b,6-7,10-13a; Ef 5:8-14; Jn 9:1-41	+ Veronika Poláková	Rodina Bírošová a Balúchová
Mon 27 8:00am	Is 65:17-21; Jn 4:43-54	Na úmysel	
Tue 28 8:00am	Ez 47:1-9,12; Jn 5:1-16	+ Enrique Javier	Javier family
Wed 29 8:00am	Is 49:8-15; Jn 5:16-30	Požehnanie pre Bohumila (80.rokov)	Lenka
Thu 30 8:00am	Ex 32:7-14; Jn 5:18,31-47	Za zdravie a Božie požehnanie pre Luboša	Marta
Fri 31 8:00am	Wis 2:1a,12-22; Jn 7:1-2,10,25-30	+ Patrik Manguera	Alice
Fri 31 7:30pm	Krížová cesta + Sv. Omša	Na úmysel	Mária
Sat 1 9:00am	Jer 11:11:18-20; Jn 7:40-53	+ Milan Vavřík	Rodina Plaváková
Sun 2 9:00am	5th Sunday of Lent; Ez 37:12-14; Rm 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45	For parishioners and benefactors	Fr. Juraj
Sun 2 11:00am	5. Pôstna Nedel'a; Ez 37:12b-14; Rim 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45	Za dušu zosnulěj Otílie Žákovej	Rodina Machulová