

July 23, 2017

Slovak Catholic Parish



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*Zvelebujem Ťa, Otče,
Pán neba i zeme, že si
zjavil maličkým
tajomstvá nebeského
kráľovstva.*

*Blessed are you,
Father, Lord of heaven
and earth; you have
revealed to little ones
the mysteries of the
kingdom.*



Slovenský kostol Sv. Cyrila a Metoda

Sts. Cyril and Methodius Parish

16. Nedeľa v Cezročnom Období.

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time.

*Ty, Pane, si veľmi dobrý a láskavý
Lord, you are good and forgiving.*

Pán Ježiš nám podobenstvom „O rozsievачovi“ chce dať odpoveď na jednu základnú otázku: Odkiaľ sa vo svete zobralo zlo? Je to otázka, ktorá zaujíma každého človeka, veriaceho i neveriaceho. Každý sa so zlom stretá. Zlo nás mátie a zraňuje. Cítíme, že sme určení pre dobro. Dobro je pre nás normálne a samozrejme. Na dobro sme nastavení, po dobre túžime. Viera, ktorú Boh od nás očakáva, predpokladá dobro. Dobro vedie k viere. Boh je nekonečne Dobro a všetky jeho diela sú dobré. A predsa sa nikto z nás nevyhne skúsenosti s utrpením, so zlom v sebe i v prírode. Odkiaľ sa tu vzalo zlo? Do úžasného Božieho diela Stvorenia sa vlúdiť hriech. Vzbu- ra stvorených bytostí.

Boh všetky duchovné bytosti obdaroval darom slobody, lebo ich stvoril pre lásku. O láske sa nedá hovoriť tam, kde nie je možnosť slobodnej voľby. Pán Boh by nás mohol naprogramovať podľa svojej vôle. Ale vtedy by sa nedalo hovoriť o láske. Láska existuje len tam, kde sa jedna osoba slobodne odovzdáva druhej. Sloboda je rizikom, ale zároveň nutným predpokladom lásky. Táto možnosť slobodnej voľby viedla prvé stvorené bytosti ku vzburе. Ako sa z dobrej bytosti môže stať bytosť zlá. Absolútne nestvorené Dobro, ktorým je Boh, sa nikdy nemôže zvrhnúť na zlo. Ale dobrota ostatných, teda stvorených bytostí, je dobrota darovaná a v každom momente závislá od Boha. Akonáhle sa stvorenie uzatvára pred Bohom, stráca svoju dobrotu. Satan a jeho anjeli si podrezali životodárnu tepnu, ktorou je poslušnosť Bohu a jeho Slovu. Stratili kontakt s Pravdou, Láskou, Životom i Krásou.

Prečo Boh nestvoril svet taký dokonalý, že by v ňom nemohlo jestvovať nijaké zlo? Vo svojej

nekonečnej moci by Boh mohol vždy stvoriť niečo lepšie. Ale vo svojej nekonečnej múdrosti a dobrote chcel Boh slobodne stvoriť svet, ktorý je „na ceste“ k svojej dokonalosti. Anjeli a ľudia, rozumné a slobodné stvorenia, musia kráčať k svojmu poslednému určeniu skrze slobodnú voľbu a hlavne lásku. Teda môžu poblúdiť. A skutočne, zhrešili. Takto vstúpilo do sveta mravné zlo, neporovnateľne ťažšie ako fyzické zlo. Boh nie je v žiadnom prípade príčinou mravného zla. Ak ho dovoľuje, tak len preto, že rešpektuje slobodu svojho stvorenia a tajomným spôsobom dokáže z neho vyvodit' dobro: Lebo všemohúci Boh, keďže je nanajvyšší dobrý, by nikdy nedovolil, aby v Jeho dielach jestvovalo akékoľvek zlo, keby nebol dosť silný a dobrý, žeby zo samotného zla nepovstalo dobro. Takto, časom, môžeme objaviť, že Boh vo svojej všemohúcej prozreteľnosti, môže spôsobiť dobro aj z následkov zla. Veď z najväčšieho mravného zla, akého sa človek vôbec dopustil, z vraždy Božieho Syna, Boh svojou prekypujúcou milosťou, vyvodil najväčšie dobro: oslávenie Krista a naše Vykúpenie. Zlo sa premenilo na ešte väčšie dobro.

Through the centuries, Christianity has been much damaged because of triumphalism, the thirst for power, and the eagerness to impose oneself on our enemies. There are still Christians who yearn for a powerful Church that fills church buildings, conquers the streets and imposes our faith on the whole of society.

We need to go back to two small parables where Jesus makes clear that his followers' task isn't to construct a powerful religion, but rather to put themselves at the service of the Father's humanizing project (God's

Reign), sowing small «seeds» of the Gospel, and mixing themselves into society as a bit of «leaven» in human life.

The first speaks of a mustard seed that is sown in a garden. What's special about this mustard? That it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it grows, it becomes a bush bigger than the other vegetables. The Father's project has some very humble beginnings, but its transforming force can't be imagined even now.

Jesus' activity in Galilee of sowing deeds of goodness and justice isn't anything grandiose and spectacular: neither in Rome nor in the Jerusalem Temple are they aware of what's happening. The work that his followers are doing today is insignificant: the power centers ignore it. Even we Christians can think that it's useless to work for a better world. Human beings keep on committing the same horrors over and over again, seemingly forever, and we are incapable of catching on to the slow growing of God's Reign.

The second parable speaks of a woman who mixes a little leaven into a large mass of flour. Without anyone knowing how, the leaven goes about working silently until the whole mass is fermented.

That's what happens with God's humanizing project. Once it is introduced into the world, it goes about quietly transforming human history. God doesn't act by imposing Self from outside. God humanizes the world by attracting the consciences of God's children to a more worthy life, one that is more just and fraternal.

God's Reign is always something humble and small in its beginnings, but God is still working among us, promoting solidarity, the desire, justice and a happier world. We need to collaborate with God by following Jesus.

Bulletin Announcements

***July 23rd - 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time** "To the one who has faith, no explanation is necessary. To the one without faith, no explanation is possible." - St. Thomas Aquinas

***Save the Date: Men's Retreat** The Men's Retreat is for every man searching for a deeper relationship with God and a fuller understanding of what it means to live as a son of the Father. Get away from the busyness and demands of our schedules to personally encounter God the Father and experience His generous love. Join us from Sept. 29 to Oct. 1, at Rockridge Canyon, Princeton, 2000 Willies Ranch Rd. Registration opens Aug. <http://rcav.org/mensretreat/>

***Who Am I? PRH Workshop** Are you longing to discover the richness within yourself? Improve your relationships? Increase your happiness and productivity? Then this workshop is for you! Join us Aug. 11 to 14, 9 to 5 p.m., at Spirit of Formation, 24283 16 Ave, Langley, B.C. To register, please contact Jane Waldock at 778-997-4672 or email jane.k.waldock@gmail.com

***Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity** How would you answer someone who asked the question: "Where does the Church stand on issues of sexual orientation and gender identity?" Learn how to dialogue with your co-workers, neighbours, and family members about hot topics, without raising your voice. Catholic Voices will guide you through defending your faith. Peter Nation, coordinator for Catholic Voices Academy will facilitate a training session at the upcoming Summer Institute on Saturday, Aug. 26 at Holy Cross Secondary School. To register or for more course offerings, visit www.oc-summer.ca

***Annual Marian Pilgrimage to Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes** Come to Fraser River Heritage Park, 7494 Mary Street, Mission, to pray and celebrate in honour of Our Lady of Lourdes on Saturday, Aug. 19, from 10am to 4pm. Confessions begin at 10am, celebration of the Eucharist at 1pm by Bishop Emeritus of Kamloops David Monroe. After Mass, there will be a procession to the Grotto where Rosary is prayed followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. For transportation information, please contact Teresita Nixon at 604-940-7006. Please bring picnic baskets and chairs. www.rcav.org/missionpilgrimage/

***Sunday Collection** - If you attend mass in another parish and wish to support our parish, you can still use Sts. Cyril and Methodius Sunday Offering Envelopes for Sunday collection and this envelope with your donation will be sent to our parish.

Sunday's Collection from the Last Week

Our Weekly Goal	\$1,500
Sunday's Collection	\$1,300

Thank You. Vďaka. God Bless Your Generosity.

PRAYER MINISTRY

There will be no prayer ministry during summer in our church until further notice.

THURSDAY ADORATION

Spend a blessed hour with Jesus on Thursdays 7:15pm-8:15pm.

Sun 23 9:00am	16th Sunday in Ordinary Time; Wis 12:13,16-19/ Rom 8:26-27/ Mt 13:24-43	For Parishioners	Fr. Juraj
Sun 23 11:00am	16. Nedel'a v Cezročnom Období; Mud 12:13,16-19/ Rim 8:26-27/ Mt 13:24-43	+ Zuzana Sušienková	Rodina Bebjaková
Mon 24	St. Sharbel Makhulf; Ex 14:5-18/ Mt 12:38-42	NO MASS	
Tue 25 8:00am	St. James; 2Cor 4:7-15/ Mt 20:20-28	+ Maria Knapíková	Vnuk Dušan
Wed 26 8:00am	St. Anne and St. Joachim; Sir 44:1,8,10-15/ Mt 13:16-17	+ Enrique Javier	Family Javier
Thu 27 8:00am	Ex 19:1-2,9-11,16-20b/ Mt 13:10-17	+ Michal Krupa	Manželka s rodinou
Fri 28	Ex 20:1-17/ Mt 13:18-23	NO MASS	
Sat 29	St. Martha; Ex 24:3-8/ Jn 11:17-21	NO MASS	
Sun 30 9:00am	17th Sunday in Ordinary Time; 1Kg 3:5-12/ Rom 8:28-30/ Mt 13:44-52	For Parishioners	Fr. Juraj
Sun 30 11:00am	17. Nedel'a v Cezročnom Období; 1Kr 3:5-6a,7-12/ Rim 8:28-30/ Mt 13:44-52	+ Peter Stavný	Dcéra Marta s rodinou