

July 30, 2017

Slovak Catholic Parish



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*Zvelebujem Ťa, Otče,  
Páne 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.*



**Ak človek** nevie rozlišovať medzi dobrým a zlým, môže sa mu stať, že zablúdi v duchovnom živote. Salamún prosil o dar rozlišovania, ktorý potrebujeme takisto aj my. V našej dobe, keď sa stretávame s toľkými rozličnými duchovnými prúdmi a hnutiami, ho možno potrebujeme ešte viac ako Salamún. Dar rozlišovania je ovocím svedomia, ktoré je prebudené a osvietené Božím Slovom.

Moderný svet i kresťania v ňom doplácajú na svoju naivnú otvorenosť voči všetkému bez rozlišovania. Obrazne by sa dalo povedať, že chceme behať bosí po lúke, na ktorej žijú hady. Nechceme prijať svet, ako nám ho podáva biblia, ako priestor zápasu. Svet, v ktorom prebieha triedenie duchov. Svet ako „údelie rozhodnutia“.

Sv. Ignác hovoril, že ľudia, ktorí ešte nemajú duchovné skúsenosti, považujú za dobré všetko, čo im prekáža. Podobajú sa rozmazanému mládenčovi, ktorému sa zdajú dobrí všetci, čo mu pochlebujú, a naopak, tí, čo ho napomínajú, sa mu zdajú zlí. Aby nepodľahol tejto slabosti, Ignác si stanovil prvé pravidlo, ktoré pochádza z prostej a jednoduchej úvahy, mohli by sme povedať, že je ovocím zdravého sedliackeho rozumu: „Kto to s nami myslí dobre, pomáha nám, keď ideme správne. Kto nám chce škodiť, dodáva nám odvalu, keď ideme po zlej ceste.“

U osôb, ktoré idú od jedného ťažkého hriechu do druhého, má nepriateľ obyčajne vo zvyku, že im predkladá zdanlivé potešenia. Predstavujú si zmyslové radovánky a rozkoše. Tým ich lepšie udrží a dokonca spôsobí, že ešte pokročia v neresti a hriechu. U takýchto osôb pôsobí zasa dobrý duch opačne. Znepokojuje ich, pôsobí výčitky svedomia mravným súdom rozumu.

U osôb, ktoré sa usilovne očisťujú zo svojich hriechov a postupujú od dobrého k lepšiemu v službe Boha, je tomu zasa opačne ako v prvom prípade. Zlý duch nerobí nič iné, iba vyčíta, zarmucuje, kladie prekážky a znepokojuje klamnými dôvodmi, aby človek nepostupoval dopredu. Dobrý duch naopak dáva myslí silu, útechu, slzy, vnuknutia, pokoj. Všetko uľahčuje, odstraňuje prekážky, aby človek pokročil dopredu v konaní dobra.“

Slaboch sa dokáže rozhodnúť len podľa toho, „čo mu je príjemné“. Pravidlá sv. Ignáca predpokladajú opak. Nie všetko príjemné je aj užitočné. Zážitok príjemnosti závisí aj od toho, ako sme nasmerovaní, či k Bohu a či k Zlému. V prevrátenom človeku príjemnosť vyvoláva vrhlosť. Človek sa nemá v konečnom dôsledku orientovať podľa príjemnosti, ale podľa mravnej hodnoty skutku.

**The two** parables in today's Gospel have the same message. In each of them, the protagonist makes a great discovery, in one case a treasure of enormous value and in the other a pearl of incalculable price. Both of them react in the same way: joyfully and decisively selling all that they have to obtain that treasure or pearl. According to Jesus, that's the way to react when we discover the Reign of God.

Seemingly Jesus is afraid that people follow him with all kinds of interests, without discovering what's most vitally important: the Father's passionate project that consists in leading humanity toward a more just, fraternal, happy world, thus walking toward their definitive salvation in God.

What can be said today after so many centuries of Christianity? Why do so many good Christians live such a narrow religious practice, feeling that they have-

n't discovered anything to treasure? What is the root cause of that lack of enthusiasm and joy in all too many aspects of our church, incapable of attracting to the nucleus of the Gospel so many men and women who are leaving her, without thereby renouncing either God or Jesus? After the Council, Pope Paul VI made this broad affirmation: "Only the Reign of God is absolute. Everything else is relative." Years later, Pope John Paul II reaffirmed this by saying: "The Church exists not just for herself, since she is oriented toward the Reign of God, of which she is the seed, sign and instrument." And now Pope Francis repeats this clearly for us: "Jesus' project is to inaugurate the Reign of God."

If this is the Church's faith, why are there Christians who haven't even heard tell of that project that Jesus called "the Reign of God"? Why don't they know that the passion that fueled Jesus' whole life, his reason to be, the objective of all his work, was to announce and promote the Father's humanizing project: seek the Reign of God and God's justice?

The Church can't be renewed to her foundations if she doesn't discover the "treasure" of the Reign of God. What is the point of calling Christians to collaborate with God in the grand project of making the world more human, if we live distracted by practices and customs that cause us to forget the true nucleus of the Gospel?

Pope Francis is telling us that "the Reign of God places demands on us." This call reaches us from the very heart of the Gospel. We must heed it. Surely the most important decision that we need to make today in the Church and in our Christian communities is that of recovering the project of the Reign of God joyfully and enthusiastically.

# Slovenský kostol Sv. Cyrila a Metoda

## Sts. Cyril and Methodius Parish

17. Nedeľa v Cezročnom Období.

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time.

*Páne, tvoj zákon veľmi milujem.*

*Lord, I love your commands.*

## Bulletin Announcements

**\*July 30<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time** *"Love is shown more in deeds than in words."* — Ignatius of Loyola

**\*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](http://www.oc-summer.ca)

**\*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.

**\*Project Advance 2017** in our Parish has now passed our Diocesan Goal of \$7,000. The latest total from last Sunday, July 23, shows that \$7,075 has been contributed to this year's campaign. Thank you sincerely to all who have contributed thus far. You have helped our Parish exceed its Diocesan Goal for the eighteenth consecutive year. It is a feat that everyone should be proud of. If you have not as yet contributed this year, please remember that either Ed Starick or Heather Charest is available to receive donations at any time until the month of December.

**\*In Memory of Blessed Zdenka** Today, July 30, the Church honours the memory of Blessed Zdenka Schelingova, a Slovak nun from the Congregation of the Sisters of Mercy of the Holy Cross, who was beatified as a martyr in 2003 by the late Holy Father John Paul II. The story of Blessed Zdenka's courage, suffering and terrible torture is well-known. Her attitude, her inner readiness to help others and her remarkable devotion to the Lord and his Church serve as an example for all of us to follow. A portrait of Blessed Zdenka can be seen on the back wall of our church.

### Sunday's Collection from the Last Week

Our Weekly Goal	\$1,500
Sunday's Collection	\$1,110

**Thank You. Vďaka. God Bless Your Generosity.**

### PRAYER MINISTRY

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

### ADORATION

There will be no adoration this Thursday in our church. We will have an adoration on First Friday 9:00am - 7:30pm.

<b>Sun 30</b> 9:00am	<b>17th Sunday in Ordinary Time;</b> 1Kg 3:5-12/ Rom 8:28-30/ Mt 13:44-52	For Parishioners	Fr. Juraj
<b>Sun 30</b> 11:00am	<b>17. Nedel'a v Cezročnom Období;</b> 1Kr 3:5-6a,7-12/ Rim 8:28-30/ Mt 13:44-52	+ Peter Stavný	Dcéra Marta s rodinou
Mon 31 8:00am	St. Ignatius of Loyola; Ex 32:15-24,0-34/ Mt 13:31-35	Na úmysel	Fr. Juraj
Tue 1 8:00am	St. Alphonsus Liguori; Ex 33:7-11,34:4b-9,28/ Mt 13:36-34	+ Štefan, Mária a Stanko, Jurko	Marta Knapík
Wed 2 8:00am	St. Eusebius of Vercelli; St. Peter Julian Eymard; Ex 34:29-35/ Mt 13:44-46	+ Anne Shelling and Mrs. Lofaj	Family Michalec
Thu 3 8:00am	Ex 40:16-21,34-38/ Mt 13:47-52	Za zdravie a B. požehnanie pre Martu - operácia	Fr. Juraj
Fri 4 8:00am	<b>First Friaday;</b> St. John Mary Vianney; Lev 23:1,4-11,15-16,27,34b-37/ Mt 13:54-58	+ Josefa Javier	Family Javier
Fri 4 7:30pm	<b>Prvý Piatok;</b> Lv 23:1,4-11,15-16,27,34b-37/ Mt 13:54-58	+ František a Mária	Rodina Krupová
Sat 5 9:00am	Dedication of St. Mary Major; Lv 25:1,8-17; Mt 14:1-12	+ Zuzana	Rodina Oravcová
<b>Sun 6</b> 9:00am	<b>The Transfiguration of the Lord;</b> Dan 7:9-10,13-14/ 2Pt 1:16-19/ Mt 17:1-9	+ Felix Adrias	Tina and Tita
<b>Sun 6</b> 11:00am	<b>Premenenie Pána;</b> Dan 7:9-10,13-14/ 2Pt 1:16-19/ Mt 17:1-9	Za zdravie a B. požehnanie pre Vilmu Oravcovú	Marta Knapík