

March 19, 2017

Slovak Catholic Parish



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*Pane, ty si naozaj
Spasiteľ sveta; daj mi
živú vodu, aby som už
nebola smädná.*

*Lord, you are truly the
Savior of the world;
give me living water,
that I may never thirst
again.*



Dnešné čítanie z listu sv. apoštola Pavla Rimanom nám odhaľuje podstatu nášho náboženstva. „Bratia, pretože sme ospravedlnení z viery, skrze nášho Pána Ježiša Krista, žijeme v pokoji s Bohom.“ Cele hlásanie Pána Ježiša stojí na tom istom základe: „Kto uverí a dá sa pokrstiť, bude spasený!“ My by sme sa radi pred Pánom Bohom niečím vykázali. Radi by sme si Spásu zaslúžili, ako niečo, čo by sme mohli nazvať „naš výkon“. Výkon, ktorým by sme sami sebe i Bohu dokazali, že sme niekto, že nie sme nejaké béčka. Chceme sami pred sebou dokázať, že sme lepší ako druhí. Ťažko nám je prijať názor, že spásu potrebujeme tak, ako chorý človek potrebuje operáciu. Spása je Božia operácia nutná k tomu, aby sa môj slušný život stal dobrým životom. Božie Slovo i Učenie Cirkvi nám hovorí, že do Božieho Kráľovstva vstupujeme vierou. A to vierou, akú objavujeme u praotca Abraháma: „Abrahám uveril Bohu a bolo mu to počítané za spravodlivosť.“ Jeho vieru a teda aj našu vieru nesmieme zamieňať so štúdiom a znalosťou teológie. Studovať teológiu v našom katolíckom prostredí môžu len tí nadanejší a po prípade sa vyžaduje morálna bezúhonnosť u uchádzačov, ale veriť ako veril Abrahám môže aj mentálne zaostalý, alebo na smrť odsúdený lotor, ba dokonca prostitútka. Viera Abraháмова to je predovšetkým dôvera v Boha, v dobrotu Boha, v Božie milosrdenstvo. Viera Abraháмова to je koniec urážania Boha ustavičným podozrievaním a zazeraním. Ako malé deti sme dostali do vienkia schopnosť veriť. Táto schopnosť veriť nám umožňuje žiť v tomto svete. Keby sme neverili, ani by sme sa po prvý krát nenadýchli, asi by sme sa neodvážili piť materské mlieko, lebo čo ak je vzduch alebo mlieko otrávené. Na základe

Slovenský kostol Sv. Cyrila a Metoda

Sts. Cyril and Methodius Parish

3. Pôstna Nedeľa.

3rd Sunday of Lent.

Pane, daj, aby sme počúvali tvoj hlas a nezatvrdzovali si srdcia.

If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

viery funguje život. Telesný život potrebuje prijímanie potravy, vzduchu, tekutín, duševný život zase žije prijímaním informácií, vedomostí a vytváraním vzťahov. Každé prijímanie zasa vyžaduje otvorenosť a to je podstatná vlastnosť viery.

Preto aj viera a odpustenie idú spolu, lebo práve neodpustenie pôsobí uzatvorenie. Toto je viera, ktorou žije každý človek, či je nábožný alebo nenábožný. Toto je viera, bez ktorej sa nedá žiť vo svete. Ako deti sme ňou oplývali. Ako dospievajúci ju postupne strácame vplyvom tohto sveta, o ktorom píše sv. Ján evanjelista, že „svet (človeka) leží v moci Zlého“. Sami to považujeme za znak dospelosti a múdrosti, povieme „že už nie sme naivní“. Zmúdreli sme. Svet nás čomusi naučil. Za najmúdrejšieho v tomto svete sa považuje ten, kto povie: „Ja už neverím nikomu a ničomu.“ Ale my sa nazývame „veriaci“. Sú náboženstva, ktoré stoja na ľudskej skúsenosti a vôbec nevyžadujú vieru. Naše náboženstvo však stojí na Božom Slove. Nie na tom, čo vymysleli ľudia, ale na tom, čo hovorí Boh. Ak sme skutočne veriaci, môžeme podobne povedať, ako povedali Samaritáni v dnešnom evanjeliu žene, ktorá ich priviedla ku Kristovi: „Už neveríme, len pre tvoje slová, ale sami sme počuli a vieme, že toto je skutočne Spasiteľ sveta.“ Veríme pre Božie Slovo. Ak sme uverili v Ježiša Krista, tak sme uverili v Dobrotu nášho Boha, ktorý tak miluje človeka, že dáva svojho jediného Syna pre nás a za nás a v ňom sa dáva sám Otec.

Many people, especially lately, find themselves far away from God, without even knowing what is really going on inside of them. By now God ends up 'something strange' to them. Everything connected to God

seems to them to be empty and meaningless: a childish world, fading into the past. I understand them. I know what they might be feeling. I too find myself further and further away from such a «God of my childhood» that used to awaken in me so many fears, grief, unease. Probably without Jesus I never would have met a God who for me today is a Mystery of goodness: a presence that is friendly and welcoming, one whom I can always trust.

The task of proving my faith with scientific evidence has never attracted me: I believe it's mistaken to regard the mystery of God as if it were a laboratory project. But neither have religious dogmas helped me to really meet God. I simply have let myself be led by a confidence in Jesus that has continued growing over the years. I can't explain exactly how my faith sustains me today in a religious crisis that affects me as much as everyone else. I would only say that Jesus has brought me to live a faith in God in a simple way from the depth of my being. If I listen, God isn't silent. If I open myself, God isn't closed. If I entrust myself, God welcomes me. If I give myself, God sustains me. If I fall down, God raises me up.

I believe the first and most important experience is to find a way to enjoy God as a *saving presence*. When a person knows what it is to enjoy God because, in spite of our mediocrity and selfishness, God welcomes us as we are, then it would be difficult to abandon the faith. Many people today are abandoning God without ever having known God. If they knew the experience of God that Jesus spreads, they would be seeking God. If they recognized the *gift* that God is, they wouldn't abandon God. They would find themselves *enjoying* God.

Bulletin Announcements

***March 19th - 3rd Sunday of Lent** "I had many friends to help me to fall; but as to rising again, I was so much left to myself, that I wonder now I was not always on the ground. I praise God for His mercy; for it was He only Who stretched out His hand to me. May He be blessed for ever! Amen." – St. Teresa of Avila

***Men's Discernment Night/Vocations In Progress** Do you have questions about discerning God's call for your life? Vocations in Progress (V.I.P.) for men is an opportunity to meet priests, ask questions, and learn about their life and spirituality. This informal event will include prayer, dinner, and discussion. Join us on March 22, from 7-10 p.m. at St. Patrick's Parish, Vancouver. For more info visit www.vocationsvancouver.ca/events/vip

***Made In God's Image** What is God's intention for relationships? What does it mean to be a sexual being? Who does God say that I am? This event combines teaching and people sharing their stories of dealing with same-sex attraction and with pornography. Thursday, March 23, from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Cedar Grove Church, Surrey. No registration required. Event is free.

***Journey 101** Journey Canada exists to help people find hope and live life through experiencing Jesus in their relationships, sexuality and identity. Join us for Journey 101, an introductory six-session discipleship program to help individuals understand the issues they will have to walk through in their journey. This program is available to anyone interested in beginning a process of healing. April 13 to May 18, from 7-9 p.m. at New Life Chinese Lutheran Church, 6215 Main St, Vancouver. Cost: \$60. Apply by contacting Journey Canada at bc@journeycanada.org.

***Dialogue with Lutherans** Join the conversation on March 18 and 25, as we discuss, study, and pray "Together in Christ." This resource was jointly released by the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB) and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (ELCIC). Sessions encourage the faithful to reflect prayerfully on the past 500 years, offering thanksgiving to God for the progress made in efforts toward reconciliation. Event is free, no registration required.

• Commitment to Communion: March 25, from 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m., at All Saints Catholic Church, Coquitlam

Sunday's Collection from the Last Week

Our Weekly Goal	\$1,500
Sunday's Collection	\$1,435

Thank You. Vďďaka. 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:

March 19, 2017 from 12:30pm to 1:30pm

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

Sun 19 9:00am	3rd Sunday of Lent; Ex 17:3-7; Rom 5:1-2,5-8; Jn 4:5-42	For parishioners and benefactors	Fr. Juraj
Sun 19 11:00am	3. Pôstna Nedel'a; Ex 17:3-7; Rim 5:1-2,5-8; Jn 4:5-42	+ za rodičov	Jarka s rodinou
Mon 20 8:00am	St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary; 2Sam 7:4-5a,12-14a,16; Mt 1:16,18-21,24a	Za Božie požehnanie pre Jozefa	Mama
Tue 21 8:00am	Dan 3:25,34-43; Mt 18:21-35	Za zdravie a Božiu pomoc pre Luka	Rodina Volentier
Wed 22 8:00am	Deu 4:1,5-9; Mt 5:17-19	Na úmysel	Mária
Thu 23 8:00am	St. Turibius of Mogrovejo; Jer 7:23-28; Lk 11:14-23	Za Božiu pomoc a zdravie	
Fri 24 8:00am	Hos 14:1-9; Mk 12:28b-34	Za Božiu pomoc a pož. pre Jána, Ayumi a Emu	
Fri 24 7:30pm	Križová cesta + Sv. Omša	Veronika - zdravie a Božie požehnanie	Marta
Sat 25 9:00am	The Annunciation of the Lord; Is 7:10-14,8,10d; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38	+ Alojz Vorlíček	Mrs. Vilma Oravec
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