

April 23, 2017

Slovak Catholic Parish



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*Tomáš, uveril si,
pretože si ma videl,
hovori Pán;
blahoslavení tí, čo
nevideli, a uverili.*

*You believe in me,
Thomas, because you
have seen me, says the
Lord; blessed are they
who have not seen me,
but still believe!*



Slovenský kostol Sv. Cyrila a Metoda

Sts. Cyril and Methodius Parish

2. Veľkonočná Nedeľa.

2nd Sunday of Easter.

Oslavujme Pána, lebo je dobrý, lebo jeho milosrdenstvo trvá naveky.

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, his love is everlasting.

Každý rozumný človek od života niečo očakáva. Niektoré očakávania majú ľudia spoločné, iné rozdielne, v závislosti od rozličných životných okolností. Iné od života očakávajú mladí, iné starí ľudia. Iné zdraví, iné chorí. Iné bohatí, iné chudobnejší. Život však prináša aj čosi, po čom nikto netuží — rozličné rany.

S ranami na svojom oslávenom tele sa po zmŕtvychvstaní zjavuje aj Ježiš. A práve dotyk a pohľad na Ježišove rany si dal ako podmienku apoštol Tomáš, aby uveril v jeho zmŕtvychvstanie. Bola to zaujímavá podmienka. Skôr by sme očakávali, že povie: „Chcem ho objasniť.“ Alebo: Chcem ho na vlastné oči vidieť pri stolovaní.“ Preto práve dotknúť sa jeho rán? Ak sa myšlienkami vrátime na Kalváriu, pochopíme Tomášovu požiadavku. Nedá sa predsa uveriť, aby človek, ktorému spôsobili toľko rán, mohol ešte žiť. Klincami prepichnuté ruky a nohy, kopijou prebodnuté srdce nemôžu spôsobiť nič iné, iba smrť. A zrazu apoštol Tomášovi oznámi, že tento dorážaný Ježiš žije. Ako mohol uveriť takejto správe? A preto sa chce dotknúť jeho rán a vložiť ruku do jeho boku, aby mal istotu, že je to pravda.

Ježiš mal porozumenie pre Tomášovu podmienku. Dovoľuje mu, aby sa dotkol jeho rán a zbavil sa pochybností. Tomášovi nič iné neostávalo, iba zvolat: „Pán môj a Boh môj!“ V tej chvíli nielen uveril, že Ježiš žije, ale aj spoznal, že život je mocnejší ako smrteľné rany.

Neexistuje život bez rán. Ak si spomenieme na hociktorú oblasť života, musíme povedať, že každá spôsobuje rany. Manželské či rodinné súžitie. Nádeje vkladané do detí. Pracovné neúspechy. Zrada priateľov... Zijeme a sme zdraví, no zrazu prichádza osudový úder: choroba, nešťastie, smrť

najbližších. Znova pocítujeme rany a krvácame. Keby nám niekto pri kolíske povedal, čo nás v živote stretne, možno by sme ani nechceli žiť. Azda by sme si povedali, že sa to nedá prežiť. A predsa sme to prežili. A možno aj teraz zijeme s nejakou ranou na tele alebo na duši. Bolí nás to, ale zijeme — preto, lebo život je mocnejší ako naše rany. Tomáš uveril, lebo sa dotkol Ježišových rán. Aj naše rany sa môžu stať pre iných cestou k viere. Chce to od nás iba jedno: ukázať trpiacim, že sa dá žiť aj s ranami. Je to jedno z najcennejších svedectiev nášho života a viery.

Pravoslávny starec Izidor učil svoje duchovné deti modlitbu k piatim ranám Spasiteľovým: Polož ruku na čelo a povedz: Pane, trňovým vencom na hlavu do krvi a mozgu korunovaný pre moje hriechy; polož ruku dole na pravú nohu a povedz: Ježišu, na pravej nohe pribitý železným klincom pre moje hriechy; zdvihni ruku na pravé plece a povedz: Synu, na pravej ruke pribitý železným klincom pre moje hriechy; prenes ruku na ľavé plece a povedz: Boží, aj na ľavej ruke pribitý pre moje hriechy; i na rebrách kopijou prebodnutý z hrude prelievajúci krv a vodu na vykúpenie a spasenie našich duší; skrze Bohorodičku osviet môj rozum! Obráť sa tvárou k ikone Matky Božej a povedz: A Tebe samej meč prenikne dušu, aby sa v mnohých srdciach otvoril prameň kajúcnych a vďačných úprimných slz celého ľudstva.

The figure of Thomas as the disciple who refuses to believe has been very popular among Christians. The Gospel account, however, says much more about this skeptical disciple. The Risen Jesus addresses him with some words that are associated with an urgent call, and with a loving

invitation, too: *Do not be unbelieving, but believe.* Thomas, who has refused to believe for a week, responds to Jesus with the most solemn confession of faith that we could ever read in the Gospels: *My Lord and my God.*

What has this disciple experienced in the Risen Jesus? What is it that has transformed this man, doubting and hesitant until then? What inner journey has brought him from skepticism to trust? What is surprising is that, according to the account, Thomas gives up on touching Jesus' wounds in order to verify the truth of the resurrection. What opens him to faith is Jesus himself with his invitation.

All of us have changed much inside over the years. We have become more skeptical, but also more fragile. We have become more critical, but also more insecure. Each one of us has to decide how we want to live and how we want to die. Each one of us has to respond to that call which, sooner or later, whether unexpected or whether a fruit of an inner process, comes to us from Jesus: *Do not be unbelieving, but believe.*

Maybe we need to awaken more our desire for truth, to develop that inner sensibility we all have to perceive the presence of the Mystery that sustains our lives, beyond the visible and tangible. It is no longer possible for us to live as people who know everything. It is not true. All of us, believers and nonbelievers, atheists and agnostics, walk through life enveloped in darkness. As Paul of Tarsus says, we seek God *graping for him.*

More than one believer today feels that faith has become something increasingly unreal and unsubstantiated. Maybe now that we can no longer find support for our faith, we are learning to seek God with a more humble and sincere heart.

Bulletin Announcements

***April 23rd - 2nd Sunday of Easter** "Proclaim that mercy is the greatest attribute of God. All the works of My hands are crowned with mercy." - The Diary of Saint Sister Faustina

***MARIAPOLIS weekend retreat** will be held on May 20-22 2017 at the Trinity Western University, Langley, BC. This year's theme is JESUS FORSAKEN-Suffering and what we do with it? It is 3 days of fun, creativity and learning the "Christian way". Mariapolis is an absolutely great retreat for any age, individuals or family. Children work with their leader in groups according to age and join adults at certain times. All meals are included. If you have any questions about Mariapolis, call Mariana (778-240-3837) or Andrea (604-760-9815). You can register online at <https://goo.gl/r8XWeA>. For more information: 778-980-2470 or e-mail: focolare.vancouver@gmail.com

***What Catholics Should Know about their Faith** An informational and enriching introduction to the Catholic faith and theology, this course will enable you to take greater responsibility in promoting the life and mission of the Church. This two-part course covers the four pillars of the Catechism of the Catholic Church -- Creed, Morality, Prayer, and Sacraments. Part II explores the moral life and prayer. Course cost is \$40 and includes lunch on Saturday, April 29, from 10am to 4pm at Holy Cross Secondary, Surrey. For more information and registration visit: <http://rcav.org/oc-spring>.

***12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care** Join the Catholic Women's League (CWL) for 12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care on May 4, 2017 and be a profound witness to the sanctity of human life. On this day, we encourage everyone to pray either at home or with your CWL parish council for palliative care and sign the petition to the House of Commons asking that hospice and palliative care be included as a defined medical service under the Canada Health Act. Petition is available online or at select parishes. Visit <http://rcav.org/palliative-care/> for more info.

***Mužské stretnutie - v piatok April 28, o 7:30 pm** bude mužské stretnutie v basemente fary. Všetci muži farnosti sú srdečne pozvaní.

Sunday's Collection from the Last Week

Sunday's Collection	\$2,056
Good Friday	\$735
Easter Vigil	\$1,004

Thank You. Vďaka. God Bless Your Generosity.

THURSDAY ADORATION

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

PRAYER MINISTRY

in our church will be the following date:
April 23, 2017 from 12:30pm to 1:30pm
May 7, 2017 from 12:30pm to 1:30pm.

Sun 23 9:00am	2nd Sunday of Easter - Sunday of Divine Mercy; Acts 2:42-47; 1Pt 1:3-9; Jn 20:19-31	+ Edward Pardek	Margaret Pardek
Sun 23 11:00am	2. Veľkonočná Nedel'a - Božieho milosrdenstva; Sk 2:42-27; 1Pt 1:3-9; Jn 20:19-31	+ Edward Oravec	Manželka s rodinou
Mon 24	St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen; Acts 4:23-31; Jn 3:1-8	NO MASS	
Tue 25 8:00am	St. Mark; 1Pt 5:5b-14; Mk 16:15-20	Za zdravie a Božie pož. pre pani Mederovú	Marta Mudry
Wed 26 8:00am	Our Lady of Good Counsel; Acts 5:17-26; Jn 3:16-21	+ Enrique Javier	Family Javier
Thu 27 8:00am	Acts 5:27-33; Jn 3:31-36	God's blessing for Chandra & Dolph	Joanne
Fri 28 8:00am	St. Peter Chanel; Acts 5:34-42; Jn 6:1-15	Pod'akovanie za Mirku a Vlada Plavakových	Dušan a Marta
Sat 29 9:00am	St. Catherine of Siena; Acts 6:1-7; Jn 6:16-21	Za zdravie a Božiu ochranu pre Luboša	Mrs. Sentivani
Sun 30 9:00am	3rd Sunday of Easter; Acts 2:14,22b-28; 1Pt 1:17-21; Lk 24:13-35	+ Mary Kohar	Daughter Monica
Sun 30 11:00am	3. Veľkonočná Nedel'a; Sk 2:14,22b-33; 1Pt 1:17-21; Lk 24:13-35	Za farnikov	Fr. Juraj