

**WELCOME TO ALL PARISHIONERS & GUESTS WHO HAVE JOINED US TODAY!**



**ST. NICHOLAS THE WONDERWORKER PARISH  
ПАРАФІЯ СВ. МИКОЛАЯ ЧУДОТВОРЦЯ**



**Pastor: Fr. Yuriy Vyshnevskyy**

Emergency: 250.891.4507

Church: 250.384.2292 Hall: 250.384.2255

Facebook: [facebook.com/stnicholasvictoria](https://facebook.com/stnicholasvictoria)

1112 Caledonia Avenue, Victoria, BC V8T 1G1

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**Tue-Fri DL - 9am; Sun DL - 10am**

*The Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of New Westminster  
Bishop: Most Rev. Ken Nowakowski  
[www.nweparchy.ca](http://www.nweparchy.ca)*

**SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
СЬОМА НЕДІЛЯ ПІСЛЯ П'ЯТИДЕСЯТНИЦІ**

Most glorious Procopius, your name was given you from heaven as to a preacher to the nations! Enlightened in mind, you forsook the darkness of idolatry, becoming a lamp for the faithful, brightening the ends of the earth with the divine radiance of your struggle, glory and boast of the martyrs!

First you subdued the uprisings of the flesh with abstinence; then you set yourself apart for the contest with a courageous mind, through the power of the spirit, not sparing your flesh, blessed Procopius! You endured all kinds of tortures, ascending with your crown to the choirs on high!

As an invincible commander armed with the Cross, you drowned all the power of the enemy in the streams of your blood! You richly poured forth showers of healing, wondrous one, from the well-springs of salvation, watering all who are held fast in the flame of the passions, divinely inspired one!



*Holy Great-Martyr  
Procopius*

**PLEASE JOIN US FOR COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP AFTER DIVINE LITURGY!**

<b>SUNDAY HYMNS</b>			
OPENING HYMN	Увійди Єрею / Come My Friends pg. 238-239		
COMMUNION HYMN	Витай Між Нами / With Solemn Greeting. pg. 244-245		
CLOSING HYMN	Наче Повний Голос Дзвону / Having Shared Your Loving Kindness pg. 270-271		
<i>Please join us today in singing our Sunday hymns!</i>			
<b>SUNDAY &amp; DAILY SCHEDULE</b>			
SUNDAY, July 8	Divine Liturgy - for the Parishioners of St Nicholas Parish		10:00 AM
MONDAY, July 9	NO SERVICE		
TUESDAY, July 10	Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom		9:00 AM
WEDNESDAY, July 11	Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom		9:00 AM
THURSDAY, July 12	Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom		9:00 AM
FRIDAY, July 13	Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom		9:00 AM
SATURDAY, July 14	NO SERVICE		
SUNDAY, July 15	Divine Liturgy - for the Parishioners of St Nicholas Parish		10:00 AM
<i>Please Note: to request a Divine Liturgy for a special intention, please see Fr. Yuriy to arrange for it!</i>			
<b>SUNDAY EPISTLE READERS</b>			
DATE	READING	UKRAINIAN	ENGLISH
SUNDAY, July 8	Rm. 15: 1-7	Yuliya Pelekhata	Bryan Melnyk
SUNDAY, July 15	1 Cor 1:10-18	Dmytro Maksymiv	Carol Chapman
SUNDAY, July 22	1 Cor. 3:9-17	Glikeria Iwanuck	Peter Iwanuck
SUNDAY, July 29	Rm. 15:1-7	Andrij Pelekhaty	Caroline Smudy
<i>Thank you, Epistle readers, for your service in proclaiming God's Word!</i>			
<b>2018 PARISH COUNCIL EXECUTIVE</b>		<b>PASTORAL MINISTRY &amp; HOLY MYSTERIES</b>	
CHAIRPERSON.....Alec Rossa - 250.472.3374		CONFESSIONS.....1/2 hour before Liturgy	
SECRETARY.....Richard DeMerchant - 250.893.3484		EUCARIST.....for the sick - any time	
TREASURER.....William Vanderven - 250.478.1458		BAPTISMS.....by appointment	
FINANCIAL SECRETARY.....David Newberry - 250.598.8197		MARRIAGES.....six months notice should be given to the parish priest, and he should be contacted before any other arrangements are made	
FUNDRAISING/HALL RENTAL.....Robert Herchak - 250.386.7872		FUNERALS.....by appointment	
MAINTENANCE.....Murray Chapman - 250.658.4769		ANOINTING.....any time	
LITURGICAL COMMITTEE...Motria Koropecy - 250.658.3051		HOSPITAL VISITS.....any time	
MEMBER AT LARGE.....Cindy Lazaruk - 778.677.9072			
<p><b>Bequests &amp; Wills:</b> Leaving a bequeath is a process of giving a donation through your will. It is simply a distribution from your estate to a charitable organization through your last will and testament. It can be as small or as large a donation as you wish. It is important that you talk to your lawyer about the process. In your kindness please remember St Nicholas the Wonderworker Ukrainian Catholic Church in your bequeath and will. If anyone wishes to make such a bequeath in their will, the following clause may be included or added to a will: "I give, devise, and bequeath to St Nicholas the Wonderworker Ukrainian Catholic Parish - 1112 Caledonia Avenue, Victoria BC, V8T 1G1, the sum of \$ _____ (or _____% of my estate), to be used for the benefit of the parish and it's pastoral activities."</p>			

### Vibrant Parish Prayer

O God, Creator of Heaven and Earth! Because of your indescribable love for us, you sent your Only-Begotten Son, Our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ - The Way, The Truth, and The Life - and our Salvation. In His name, we turn to You. Strengthen our hearts and minds in Christian love and in unity of purpose as we strive to build a Vibrant Parish. Give us the grace to model our lives according to the Word of God. Instill in us the desire to pray and to celebrate the Holy Mysteries as one Christian Family in our Parish Community. Inspire us to follow Your great command to be a servant to the less fortunate among us! Grant this, O Lord, through the mercies and love for mankind of Your Only-Begotten Son with whom You are blessed, together with Your All-Holy, Good and Life-Giving Spirit, now and forever and ever. Amen!



#### ST. NICHOLAS PARISH

#### A PLACE TO ENCOUNTER THE LIVING CHRIST

Through the word, the Holy Mysteries & Prayer,  
Serving One's Neighbor, Leadership  
Fostering & Serving Unity and Missionary Spirit  
(His Beatitude Sviatoslav)



### Молитва Живої Парафії

Господи Ісусе Христе, Пастирю Добрий, як колись Ти пригорнув заблуканих овечок, щоб вони пізнали Твій голос і були Твоїм стадом, так і сьогодні глянь ласкаво з небесних висот на нашу парафію та зішли на неї Твого Святого Духа, щоб вона була місцем пізнання радості Доброї Новини. Скріплюй нас Твоєю присутністю та єднай нас кожночасно в молитві. Даруй нам духа служіння ближньому, щоб у нашій парафії кожний міг зустріти Тебе, милостивого Бога. Благослови наш духовний провід Твоєю мудрістю і дай, щоб ніхто з нас не шкодував ні часу, ні талантів, ні матеріальних дібр для розбудови Твого царства. Єднай нас у мирі та злагоді, щоб ми були Твоєю спільнотою любові. Всели в нас місійного духа, щоб ми стали тим світилом євангельського слова, молитви і добрих діл, що кличе кожного до участі в Божественному житті, щоб славилось, Спасе, Твоє Ім'я з безначальним Твоїм Отцем та пресвятим, благим і животворящим Твоїм Духом нині, і повсякчас, і на віки віків. Амінь.

### DIVINE LITURGY PROPERS

*The Divine Liturgy - An Anthology for Worship: Liturgy - pg. 270-318; propers - pg. 349*

*The Liturgy prescribed for today is that of St. John Chrysostom.*

**Troparion, Tone 6:** Angelic powers were upon Your tomb\* and the guards became like dead men;\* Mary stood before Your tomb\* seeking Your most pure body.\* You captured Hades without being overcome by it.\* You met the Virgin and granted life.\* O Lord, risen from the dead,\* glory be to You.

**Glory: Kontakion, Tone 6:** With his life-giving hand\* Christ our God, the Giver of life,\* raised all the dead from the murky abyss\* and bestowed resurrection upon humanity.\* He is for all the Saviour,\* the resurrection and the life, and the God of all.

**Now: Theotokion, Tone 6:** Undaunted patroness of Christians,\* O steadfast intermediary with the Creator,\* turn not away from the suppliant voices of sinners,\* but in Your kindness come to help us who cry out to You in faith.\* Be quick to intercede, make haste to plead,\* for You are ever the patroness of those who honour You, O Mother of God.

**Prokimenon, Tone 6:** Save Your people, O Lord,\* and bless Your inheritance. *Verse:* Unto You I will cry, O Lord my God, lest you turn from me in silence.

**Epistle - Rm. 15:1-7 - A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Romans:** Brothers and sisters, we who are strong ought to bear with the failings of the weak, and not to please ourselves; let each of us please his neighbour for his good, to edify him. For Christ did not please himself; but, as it is written, "The reproaches of those who reproached thee fell on me." For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, therefore, as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

**Alleluia, Tone 6:** *Verse:* He who lives in the aid of the Most High, shall dwell under the protection of the God of heaven. *Verse:* He says to the Lord: You are my protector and my refuge, my God, in Whom I hope.

**Gospel - Mt 9:27-35 -** At that time, as Jesus passed on from there, two blind men followed (him), crying out, "Son of David, have pity on us!" When he entered the house, the blind men approached him and Jesus said to them, "Do you believe that I can do this?" "Yes, Lord," they said to him. Then he touched their eyes and said, "Let it be done for you according to your faith." And their eyes were opened. Jesus warned them sternly, "See that no one knows about this." But they went out and spread word of him through all that land. As they were going out, a demoniac who could not speak was brought to him, and when the demon was driven out the mute person spoke. The crowds were amazed and said, "Nothing like this has ever been seen in Israel." But the Pharisees said, "He drives out demons by the prince of demons." Jesus went around to all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, and curing every disease and illness.

**Communion Verse:** Praise the Lord from the heavens;\* praise Him in the highest. Alleluia, alleluia,\* alleluia!

**Prayer After Holy Communion:** Having been made worthy to partake in a mystical way of Your immaculate Body and precious Blood, O Christ our God, I acclaim and bless, worship and

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glorify You, and proclaim the greatness of Your saving acts, now and for ever and ever. Amen.  
(more Prayers After Holy Communion on pg. 324-326 in the Anthology book).



**Тропар, глас 6:** Ангельські сили на гробі Твоїм\* і сторожі омертвіли;\* Марія ж стояла при гробі,\* шукаючи пречистого тіла Твого.\* Полонив Ти ад і, не переможений від нього,\* зустрів Ти Діву, даруючи життя.\* Воскреслий з мертвих, Господи, слава Тобі!

**Слава: Кондак, глас 6:** Животворною рукою Життєдавець, Христос Бог,\* воскресив з темних безодень всіх померлих\* і подав воскресіння людському роду.\* Він бо усіх Спаситель,\* воскресіння, життя і Бог усіх.

**І нині: Богородичний, глас 6:** Заступнице християн бездоганна,\* Посереднице до Творця незамінна,\* не погорди молінням грішних,\* але випередь, як Блага, з поміччю нам, що вірно Тобі співаємо.\* Поспішиш на молитву і скоро прийди на моління,\* заступаючи повсякчас, Богородице, тих, що Тебе почитають.

**Прокімен, глас 6:** Спаси, Господи, \* людей Твоїх \* і благослови спадкоємство Твоє. Стих: До Тебе, Господи, взиватиму; Боже мій, не відвертайсь мовчки від мене.

**Апостол - Рм. 15:1-7 - До Римлян послання Святого Апостола Павла читання:** Браття сестри, ми, сильні, мусимо нести немочі безсильних, а не собі догоджати. Кожний із нас нехай намагається догодити ближньому: на добро, для збудування. Бо й Христос не собі догоджав, а як написано: «Зневаги тих, що тебе зневажають, упали на мене.» Все бо, що було написано давніше, написано нам на науку, щоб ми мали надію через терпеливість й утіху, про які нас Письмо навчає. Бог же терпеливості й утіхи, за прикладом Христа Ісуса, нехай дасть вам, щоб ви між собою однаково думали за Христом Ісусом; щоб ви однодушно, одними устами славили Бога й Отця Господа нашого Ісуса Христа. Тому приймайте один одного, як і Христос прийняв вас у Божу славу.

**Алилуя, глас 6:** Стих: Хто живе під охороною Всевишнього, під покровом Бога небесного оселиться. Стих: Скаже він Господеві: Ти заступник мій і пристановище моє, Бог мій, на котрого я надіюся.

**Євангеліє - Мт 9:27-35 -** У той час, як Ісус відходив звідти, слідом за ним пустилися два сліпці й кричали: “Помилуй нас, сину Давидів!” І коли він увійшов до хати, сліпці приступили до нього, а він спитав їх: “Чи віруєте, що я можу це зробити?” – “Так, Господи!” – кажуть йому ті. Тоді він доторкнувся до їхніх очей, мовивши: “Нехай вам станеться за вашою вірою!” І відкрились їхні очі. Ісус же суворо наказав їм: “Глядіть, щоб ніхто не знав про це.” Та ті, вийшовши, розголосили про нього чутку по всій країні. А як вони виходили, приведено до нього німого, що був біснுவатий. Коли ж він вигнав біса, німий почав говорити, і люди дивувалися, кажучи: “Ніколи щось таке не об’являлося в

Ізраїлі!” Фарисеї ж говорили: “Він виганяє бісів князем бісівським!” Ісус обходив усі міста і села, навчаючи в їхніх синагогах, проповідуючи Євангелію царства та вигоюючи всяку хворобу й недугу.

**Причасний:** Хваліте Господа з небес,\* хваліте Його на висотах. Алилуя, алилуя, алилуя!

**Молитва По Святім Причастю:** Таїнственно удостоївшись бути причасником Твого пречистого тіла і чесної крові, Христе Боже, оспівую і благословлю, поклоняюся, і славлю, і величаю спасіння Твої, Господи, нині і повсякчас, і на віки вічні. Амінь. *(більше Молитов По Святім Причастю на ст. 80-87 в маленькій книжечці “Божественна Літургія”).*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ◆ **HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to DARRYL HUCULAK and all those who celebrated their birthdays this past week. May the Lord Our God continue to bless you abundantly and the Holy Mother of God protects you at all times. Многая Літа!
- ◆ **VICTORIA FOLK FEST** is now Folktoria. On Sunday July 8 at 6:00 LUNA will be performing at Centennial Square.
- ◆ **INVITATION FROM THE CATHEDRAL:** Three important events to celebrate at our Cathedral. \* On 16 May Bishop Ken celebrated his 60<sup>th</sup> Birthday (in lieu of gifts Bishop Ken asks that donations would be made to the beautification of our Cathedral). \*Andriy Malysch was ordained to the subdiaconate (May 14) and diaconate (May 20) for our Eparchy by Bishop Ken in Lviv. *(Personal gifts may be presented directly to Deacon Andriy at this time).* \*Holy Eucharist Cathedral Parish has hosted three very talented iconographers (Oleksii, Serhii and Dmytro) from Lviv who have now completed several new icons in our Cathedral. To celebrate we would like to invite you to a Vespers service and the official unveiling of our icons at the Cathedral on Saturday 14 July 6:00PM to be followed by supper. Donations will be welcome for the supper and no advance tickets are required but please RSVP (to [cathedral.nwe@gmail.com](mailto:cathedral.nwe@gmail.com)) your attendance by Sunday 8 June so we can be prepared to host you.
- ◆ **PRAYER REQUEST:** Please keep in your prayers GORD HRYHORyshEN, CORNELL BABIE and other members of our parish, our family and friends who are ailing, in hospitals, nursing homes and those who are not able to join actively in their community.
- ◆ **ST. NICHOLAS BOOK STORE:** The Divine Liturgy An Anthology of Worship - **\$25**; “Christ Our Pascha” Catechism of the Ukrainian Catholic Church/“Христос Наша Пасха”

Катехизм Української Католицької Церкви - **\$25**; “Sing to Our God” hymn book - **\$15**; Молитовник “Прийдіте Поклонімся” - **\$10**.

- ◆ **TRAVELING ICON:** Anyone interested in gracing their home with Christ The Teacher Icon can call Darlene DeMerchant at 250.727.3837.
  - ◆ **PARISH CALENDAR OF BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES:** If you would like to be included in our Parish Calendar of Birthday and Anniversary celebrations, please put date in our calendar located at the church vestibule. Each week, we will list the names in our parish bulletin so we can celebrate these happy occasions together!
  - ◆ **JOIN OUR CHOIR:** Do you enjoy singing? Please consider joining our St Nicholas Parish Choir and remember that we ALWAYS looking for new members! Contact Motria Koropecky for details at 250.658.3051.
  - ◆ **CATECHISM ANNOUNCEMENT:** *"And they were bringing to Him also the infants, in order that He may be touching them; but after the disciples saw it, they rebuked them. But Jesus called them to Himself and said, Let alone the little children to come to Me, and cease hindering them; for of such is the kingdom of God."* We are happy to welcome all children to our St. Nicholas The Wonderworker catechism program. Weekly classes are scheduled Sunday morning during Divine Liturgy. We want your children to learn more about their Catholic faith, sacred scripture, feast days, and religious practices and customs of the Ukrainian Catholic church. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Marian Chalifoux at 250.507.1005.
  - ◆ **THRIFTY'S PRE-PAID FOOD CARDS** - We all have to buy groceries. Why not have 6% of it returned back to the church at no extra charge! Cards are available in \$100, \$200, and \$500 denominations. Talk to Alec after today's liturgy to pre- order your cards. We need to sell A LOT of them! We encourage you to consider purchasing them for yourselves as gifts too.
  - ◆ **BE A STEWARD:** Have you ever wondered what more can you do to help our parish? Here are some suggestions: **Steward of property security**; **Steward of grounds cleaning**; **Steward of cleaning church**; **Steward of church linen**; **Steward of outreach**; **Steward of caring**; **Steward of prayer**; **Steward of service**. Quite often, our homebound or senior members, once active in their younger years, want to find purpose in their senior years. It's not only about doing but about “BEING” present to others. Contact Fr. Yuriy **OR** Darlene DeMerchant for more information. You will be amazed how “BEING” can make a difference.
  - ◆ **PARISH LIBRARY:** please visit our parish library and browse through the books on spirituality, church history, iconography, history of the Ukrainians in Canada, children's books and more... The library is located in the church vestibule. Please use a library book sign out form when borrowing a book.
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◆**SUNDAY COFFEE VOLUNTEERS** act as hosts and serve light refreshments following the Sunday morning Divine Liturgy, providing an opportunity for the faithful to socialize with friends and visitors following their shared worship experience. We thank all of our parishioners who kind volunteer to serve refreshments. Whether you are new to the Parish, or are a long-time members, please join us for coffee. Please speak with Robert if you would like to volunteer.

◆**WE SHARE THE AIR:** Please keep it healthy and fragrant free. Someone in this area is scent-sitive. The chemicals used in scented products can make some people sick, especially those with fragrance sensitivities, asthma, allergies and other respiratory ailments. PLEASE DO NOT \*wear perfume, cologne, lotion, aftershave and other fragrances; \*USE unscented personal care products. Be Sensitive to Others. Thank you for your understanding. *St. Nicholas parish.*

◆**JULY 1, SUNDAY DONATIONS** - Coffee: \$35.85; Vigil lights: \$6.00; Loose collection: \$55.00; Envelope collection: \$362.00; Pre-authorized donations June 25 to July 1: \$245.00  
**Total: \$703.85**

### **CAMP ST. VOLODYMYR - August 19-26, 2018**

Start planning your summer holidays now! Come join us to celebrate our 34<sup>th</sup> year of camp for children in our Eparchy! Camp St. Volodymyr is a great place to be physically active, build self-confidence and self-esteem, develop life-long skills while reconnecting with nature and building friendships. Our camp is also a wonderful opportunity to experience God through nature and the companionship of others.

Campers will learn about the Ukrainian language and culture along with games, hiking, sports, arts and crafts, camp fires, water activities and much more!

If you are between the ages of 7-15 this is a summer must do! Registration is \$380. Book by July 4 to save \$50. Bus transportation is also available to and from New Westminster. Register online using Eventbrite. Search "Camp St. Volodymyr BC 2018." For more information contact Jennifer Caldwell @ 604.220.0584 or jennsawka@hotmail.com.

**WAYS TO SUPPORT OUR CAMP:** Camp St. Volodymyr is a nonprofit camp, run on a volunteer basis. Please contact Jennifer if you are interested in helping.

**VOLUNTEER as a Camp Counsellor:** We are seeking between 8-10 individuals to help plan and organize our camp activities. Apply online using Eventbrite. Search "Camp St. Volodymyr BC 2018." Applications due May 15, 2018. All volunteers will be subject to a criminal record check and must sign the camp code of conduct.



**VOLUNTEER as a Camp Chef:** We are seeking between 4-6 individuals to help us each day in the kitchen. It is your opportunity to get creative and be a part of the campers top 5 things at camp; The Food!

**VOLUNTEER as our Camp Nurse:** We are looking for an individual to be our camp nurse. This is a wonderful opportunity to get to know the children in our Eparchy. This position would require valid first aid and nursing certification. Responsibilities would include administering medications brought by campers/staff as well as recording all incidents and treatments. Supplies and medications are provided by the camp.

**DONATE Food:** We are always happy to accept food donations of fresh fruits and vegetables, breakfast items; cereal, syrup, pancake mix, jam, Nutella, lunch items; chicken soup, Kraft dinner, cheese, drinks; juice boxes, powdered drinks, brownie/cake mixes, Jello, snack bars, cookies or treats. Gift certificates to Superstore and Costco are also welcomed.

**DONATE Monetarily:** Each year the Eparchy sponsors several children to attend. You can help send a deserving child to camp through your donations. Donation can be made through the Eparchy or online at our Eventbrite page. Tax receipts can be issued for donations of \$25 or more.

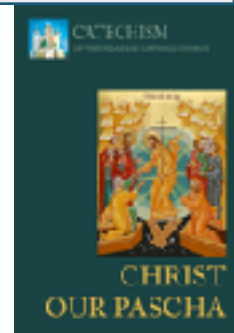
[nweparchy.ca](http://nweparchy.ca)

## READING THE CATECHISM “CHRIST - OUR PASCHA”



### 3) *The Rite of Chrismation*

**#428** The Rite of Chrismation is performed immediately after Baptism because where there is life, there is breath. Holy Chrism, a fragrant mixture of oils and other aromatic components, symbolizes the richness and diversity of the spiritual gifts which the Holy Spirit grants to the newborn in Christ.



Beware of supposing that this oil [i.e., Chrism] is mere ointment. Just as after the invocation of the Holy Spirit the Eucharistic bread is no longer ordinary bread but the Body of Christ, so this holy oil, in conjunction with the invocation, is no longer simple or common oil but becomes the gracious gift of Christ and the Holy Spirit, producing the advent of his divinity.

Holy Chrism is consecrated on Holy Thursday by the head of a self-governing Church for use by priests, which evidences the unity of the Church.

**#429** During the Rite of Chrismation, the priest anoints the newly baptized on the forehead, eyes, nostrils, lips, ears, breast, hands, and feet. He proclaims: “The seal of the gift of the Holy Spirit.” Thus, “in every word and deed” the newly baptized is to please God and become “a son (daughter) and heir” of his kingdom. The Holy Spirit transfigures the thoughts, feelings, and deeds of those who are members of the kingdom.

**#430** The words “The seal of the gift of the Holy Spirit” witness to the fact that the Christian belongs to God. Christians are his possession because we “were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God’s own people, to the praise of his glory” (Eph 1:13-14). It is through the power and the action of the Holy Spirit that the Christian lives in Christ: “The anointing that you received from him abides in you, and so you do not need anyone to teach you. But as his anointing teaches you about all things, and is true and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, abide in him” (1 Jn 2:27).

### *c. The Mystery of the Eucharist*

**#431** The Mystery of the Eucharist (Holy Communion) is the third of the Mysteries of Christian initiation. In the Eucharist the newly baptized, who was born in Christ and filled with the Holy Spirit, receives the communion of the Body and Blood of Christ at the holy Eucharistic table. But unlike Baptism and Chrismation, which we receive only once, we receive the Mystery of the Eucharist throughout our lives, since it is through this Mystery that we grow in the grace received in Baptism and Chrismation - the grace to be sons and daughters of God. For this reason our Church offers Communion to the newly baptized.

**#432** In the Mystery of Holy Communion, Christ gives us his very self, his Body and Blood, as nourishment for our growth in the new life. At the Mystical Supper (Last Supper) Christ offered himself for us so that we might be able to offer our lives for our neighbour, as he offered his life (see Jn 13:34). Receiving Communion in the Lord’s Body and Blood, we receive a pledge of life eternal: “Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day” ( Jn 6:54). Partaking of the Body and Blood of Christ, we already have eternal life, the fullness of which will be revealed in the glorious second coming of Christ. “For since he bestowed on us his own image and his own spirit and we did not guard them, he took himself a share in our poor and weak nature, in order that he might cleanse us and make us incorruptible, and establish us once more as partakers of his divinity.”

<p><b>POPE TO UKRAINIAN GREEK-CATHOLIC CHURCH: THANKS FOR YOUR WITNESS TO UNITY OF CHRIST’S CHURCH</b></p>
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*Pope Francis met with His Beatitude Sviatoslav the morning of July 3, 2018, at Casa Santa Marta in the Vatican. The meeting was held at the request of the Head of Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church (UGCC), on the occasion of the celebration of the 1030th anniversary of the Baptism of Rus’-Ukraine.*

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His Beatitude Sviatoslav has told the Pope that the road travelled by the UGCC was a path of martyrdom, a “testimony of the unity that Christ’s Church enjoyed in the First Millennium, at the time of the Baptism of Saint Volodymyr, and a particular witness of martyrs and confessors for Church unity, – in the 20th century.” “Our Church’s path of martyrdom consists in a recognition of the particular mission of the Successors of the Apostle Peter as visible servants of the unity of Christ’s Church,” the Head of the UGCC declared in his conversation with the Holy Father.

His Beatitude drew particular attention to the UGCC’s relations with those other Churches that were heirs to the Baptism by Saint Volodymyr. He told to the Holy Father that it is a painful reality that the Orthodox Churches in Ukraine are divided. He also recounted several “shameful incidents where the Holy Mysteries (Sacraments), in particular the Mystery of Holy Baptism, had been used to humiliate or deny the Christian identity of faithful belonging to certain denominations.”

His Beatitude Sviatoslav once again expressed to the Holy Father the position of the UGCC, regarding the discussions taking place between the Orthodox Churches and the Ecumenical Patriarch, for healing divisions and uniting Ukrainian Orthodoxy: “We look positively upon the efforts to overcome the divisions in Ukrainian Orthodoxy, according to the ancient principal *salus animarum lex suprema est* (the salvation of souls is the highest law). At the same time, we regard these processes as internal Orthodox matters and, – on no account, – do we ever interfere in them or take part in them. We believe that the civil authority must ensure that conditions exist that allow for the freedom of all churches, in our country. We also believe that is unacceptable for the state, – to treat any Church as an official state church.

During the discussion, the Head of the UGCC touched upon the topic of so-called “uniatism.” He recalled that, already in 1993, the UGCC had already undergone the process of reception of the Balamand Agreement. Accordingly, it rejects “uniatism” as a method for achieving the unity of Christ’s Church. “In particular, – he declared, it is obvious that the ultimate act of uniatism, in the 20th century, was the 1946 Lviv pseudo-council. Accusations of uniatism directed at the UGCC, due of its active ecumenical position and its invitation to seek paths of unity with the Orthodox, are nothing less than a manipulation of the facts. The Eastern Catholic Churches, in and of themselves, are not “some sort of method,” but are living members of Christ’s Church, which not only have the right to exist but are also called to engage in mission and in the work of evangelization,” – His Beatitude stressed.

Pope Francis, for his part, thanked the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church for its martyrdom “as a confession of the Christian Faith and a testimony that the Successor of Peter the Apostle has a special mission of service to Christian unity.” He assured the UGCC of his support and expressed gratitude for its dynamic development and ecumenical openness.

The Holy Father agreed that any accusations of uniatism against the UGCC are absolutely without foundation. He also thanked the UGCC for its active participation in

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rebuilding Ukrainian society based on the principles of Catholic Social teaching doctrine, while not interfering in the political process. He thanked the Church for its promotion of authentic Christian patriotism which, under no circumstances, should be used or manipulated for particular ecclesiastical or ideological goals. Pope Francis placed great value on the fact that the UGCC had shunned nationalism, and that it condemned xenophobia and racism.

The Holy Father also expressed his closeness to the Ukrainian nation which, as the victim of unjust aggression, is living through a painful period of its history. He assured His Beatitude that he constantly thought of and prayed for Ukraine.

Pope Francis drew particular attention to the issue of Polish-Ukrainian reconciliation, especially this year when both nations are celebrating the centenary of their restoration of statehood, and the seventy-fifth anniversary of the Volyn Tragedy. He thanked His Beatitude Sviatoslav for the the book *“Dialogue Heals Wounds,”* which the Pope considered to be an important step in healing old wounds, – in the relations between the two nations. The Pope supported the idea of the Roman Catholic Church and the Ukrainian Catholic Church, in Poland and Ukraine, issuing a joint pastoral letter, and declaring Pope Saint John Paul II patron saint of Ukrainian-Polish reconciliation.

His Beatitude assured the Holy Father that the UGCC will unite itself with him and with all the participants of the joint ecumenical act of prayer for peace in the Middle East, due to take place on July 7 in Bari (southern Italy). The Pope promised that, during this prayer, he will also remember Ukraine.

Pope Francis was in full agreement with His Beatitude’s idea to organize, next year in Rome, a meeting of Eastern Catholic bishops of Europe (COCE). The Pope promised to participate at this gathering, of which the main theme will be *“The Ecumenical Mission of the Eastern Catholic Churches of Europe Today.”*

At the conclusion of the audience, the Father and Head of the UGCC presented Pope with the book *“Persecuted for the Truth”*, published by the Ukrainian Catholic University, and asked for the Apostolic Blessing upon the Ukrainian nation.

[zenit.org](http://zenit.org)

<p><b>PATRIARCH SVIATOSLAV TELLS THE POPE ABOUT POTENTIAL UNIFICATION OF UKRAINIAN ORTHODOXY AND THE ATTITUDE OF UGCC TOWARDS THIS PROCESS</b></p>
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His Beatitude Sviatoslav met with Pope Francis. The meeting took place at the initiative and at the request of the Head of the UGCC on the occasion of the commemoration of the 1030<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Baptism of Rus-Ukraine, the website of the Kyiv Archdiocese of the UGCC has reported citing the Secretariat of the Head of the UGCC in Rome.

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His Beatitude Sviatoslav paid special attention to the relations of the UGCC with other Churches that are heirs of St Volodymyr's Baptism. He told the Holy Father about the painful divisions between the Orthodox Churches in Ukraine and the "shameful facts of the instrumentalization of the Holy Sacraments", in particular the Holy Baptism, to humiliate or deny the Christian identity of the faithful of certain denominations."

According to the Secretariat of the Head of the UGCC in Rome, during this conversation, His Beatitude Sviatoslav once again expressed to the Holy Father the position of the UGCC concerning the negotiations between the Orthodox Churches and the Patriarchate of Constantinople in healing divisions and unification of Ukrainian Orthodoxy:

"We are positively evaluating the efforts aimed at overcoming the split in Ukrainian Orthodoxy. Simultaneously, we consider these processes as an internal affair of the Orthodox side and in no case we interfere with these processes, neither do we participate in their development. We are convinced that secular authorities should ensure necessary conditions for unobstructed development of all churches in our state and it is inadmissible on their part to treat any Church as a state church," the Head of the UGCC emphasized.

[risu.org.ua](http://risu.org.ua)

<p><b>THE HEAD OF THE UGCC SOLEMNLY PROCLAIMED THE FEAST OF OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP</b></p>
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*Ukrainians should pay tribute to the Mother of God's Perpetual Help for the fact that, despite various factors and weaknesses of human life in the Ukrainian society, our state exists! After all, God's power is revealed in the history of our people.*

The Head and the Father of the UGCC, His Beatitude Sviatoslav spoke about this during the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy, on Sunday, July 1, during his sermon in the temple of the Mother of God's Perpetual Help in Ternopil.

He was joined by numerous Bishops and priests from various eparchies. In addition, representatives of the city authorities, in particular, the Mayor of Ternopil, Serhiy Nadal, attended the Liturgy.

"When we discover the books of the Scriptures, we hear the word of God that reveals to us the face of the Living God and proclaims that the Heavenly Father in whom we believe is God of relentless help. Interestingly, this unceasingness of God's help to a man has two signs. First of all, the Almighty never ceases to come to the person with His help. Moreover, His relentless help for us does not depend on whether we know about it, whether we are looking for it, or forget about it, and even when we do not know whether we should pray for it ...," with such words the Head of the UGCC appealed to the faithful.

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Subsequently, the Head of the Church mentioned the second sign of God's relentless help to us. "Heavenly Father is never exhausted to help us; it is us who are tired to seek and ask for it. The Lord never gives up to forgive us. Rather, we are tired of confessing our sins before Him, we are tired of loving God and our neighbor," said the preacher.

According to the Head of the UGCC, the Lord has an initiative, because He knows what we need even before we ask for something.

According to him, on that day Ternopil went out and told the Most High to help us, because we believe in His help.

It is worth noting that on that day the Head of the UGCC solemnly proclaimed the Feast of the Mother of God's Perpetual Help, which is why we are going to celebrate it now every year on the first Sunday of July.

Among the faithful of the UGCC there is a very widespread cult of the Mother of God's Perpetual Help. Now we can find the icon of the Mother of God's Relentless Assistance in many homes of our country and other states, regardless of denominations. That is why She is so important and produces deep meanings for the Ukrainians.

According to the preacher, the world falls into the state of the Third World War, which is, above all, a lie. As the philosophers say, the world lives now in the period of post-truth. "We, by our Christian faith and painful history, want to testify the truth about God's relentless help, active through His Precious Mother," said the Head of the UGCC.

"Let us pray on this day that we become witnesses, preachers, bearers of the hope of a new Ukraine by the power and grace of the Mother of God's Perpetual Help," said His Beatitude Sviatoslav in the end.

It is worth noting that at the end of the joint prayer, the Head of the UGCC sincerely thanked all the clergy and faithful for attending and honoring this holiday.