



Українська Католицька Парафія
Покрова Пресвятої Богородиці

Protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian
Catholic Parish

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*The No. 1 priority for ... the church is evangelization:
"Preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ in today's world."*

04 Серпня, 2013

Volume 58 No. 31

August 04, 2013

Служби Божі/Divine Liturgies

В Неділю/Sunday

8:30 am partially sung

10:30 am sung

У Свята/Holy Day of Obligation

10:00 am and 7:00 pm

Щодня/Daily Scheduled

8:20 am in church

First Friday - 8:20 am Divine Liturgy followed
by Moleben to the Sacred Heart of Jesus or
Mother of God

Сповіді - 30 хвилин перед Службою Божою
або наперед домовитися під час тиждня

Confessions - 30 minutes before the Divine
Liturgy or by appointment during the week

Baptism by appointment - membership in
Parish is required

Marriages by appointment made at least six
months in advance. Membership in Parish is
required

Funerals by arrangement in the Parish Office

**оо. Василян / Basilian Fathers serving this
Parish**

Father Josaphat Tyrkalo, OSBM, Pastor

Email: pastor@stmarysbc.com

Most Rev. Severian Yakymyshyn, OSBM

Bishop Emeritus

11 Неділя по Зісланні Святого Духа

Матя 18:23-35



11 Sunday after Pentecost

Matthew 18:23-35

**SPECIAL NOTICE – Do not park in the
RESERVED stalls in front of St. Mary's
Gardens when you come for the Sunday
Divine Liturgy. Your car will be towed.**

Парафія Покрова Пресвятої Богородиці вітає всіх гостей, приятелів та рідних які зєдналися сьогодні разом брати участь в цій Службі Божі. Нехай наш Господь через заступництво Покрова Пресвятої Богородиці благословить Вас і Вашу родину.

Місячний намір Святішого Отця Папи Римського – на Серпень

Загальний намір: Батьки і виховники. Щоб батьки виховники допомагали молодим поколінням зростати в доброму сумлінні і послідовності.

Місійний намір: Церкви Африки поширюють справедливість. Щоб Помісні Церкви Африки, вірні Євангелії, поширювали будову миру і справедливості.

- Тропарі і читання в рожевій книжці на стор. 1 і 2 .

- Кава і солодке сьогодні після Служби Божої у вітальні під церквою.

В цьому часі тільки один священник служить в парафії. Щоби вз'яти участь у Св. Сповіді, заохочуємо Вас приходити до церкви 30 хвилин скоріше перед Св. Літургією. Ви можете також наперед домовитися і прийти до Каплиці в резиденції під час тиждня.

Спеціальне прохання: після закінчення Служби Божої просимо замкнути молитвенники і співаники і поставити їх на відповідне місце. Рівнож просимо не залишайте бюлетенів і других матеріалів в лавках. Будьмо господарними в нашій церкві і допоможим, щоби наші лавки були чисті й акуратні.

Сьогодні, Неділя, 4 Серпня:

- Парафіяльна Катехитична програма під час Служби Божої в 10:30 рано і буде продовжуватися кожної неділі.

Вівторок, 6 Серпня: Преображення Г. Н. І. Христа

- 10:00 год. ранку – Служба Божа і благословення овочів

- 7:00 год. вечора – Служба Божа і благословення овочів

Неділя, 11 Серпня:

- Парафіяльна Катехитична програма під час Служби Божої в 10:30 рано і буде продовжуватися кожної неділі.

Четвер, 15 Серпня: Обов'язуюче Свято - Успіння Пресвятої Богородиці

- 10:00 год. ранку – Служба Божа і благословення зілля і квітів

- 7:00 год. вечора – Служба Божа і благословення зілля і квітів

Неділя, 18 Серпня:

- Парафіяльна Катехитична програма під час Служби Божої в 10:30 рано і буде продовжуватися кожної неділі.

Неділя, 25 Серпня:

- Парафіяльна Катехитична програма під час Служби Божої в 10:30 рано і буде продовжуватися кожної неділі.

Просимо всіх Парафіян приносити продукти для потребуючих, які не псуються (non-perishable) в першу і третю неділю кожного місяця.

Food Bank Donations: We encourage all parishioners to contribute to the Food Bank on the first and third Sundays of every month. PLEASE ADD YOUR SUPPORT.

Це пригадка для всіх вірних. Просимо приходити вчасно на Службу Божу. Будьмо готові разом заспівати початковий гімн. Зрозумійте, якщо Ви прийдете до Церкви після Великого Входу, Ви пропустили більшу частину Служби Божої, і дійсно не вислухали приписаної Служби Божої на неділю.

Церковна Етика: Будьмо свідомі, що беручи участь у Св. Літургії ми мусимо одержати кінцеве Благословення перед тим як ми залишимо Службу Божу. Ми рівнож просимо не виходити з Церкви перед закінченням Служби Божої. Ми просимо Вас не спілкуватися в Церкві перед, під час і після Служби Божої. Прошу це робити в притворі Церкви або у Вітальні під церквою. Залишім наву (Nave) церкви для вірних які моляться.

CAMP ST. VOLODYMYR August 18 – 25th, 2013 Camp St. Volodymyr will be celebrating its 30th anniversary. We have been enriching campers in their Ukrainian Catholic Faith and Culture since 1983. Located in Kelowna, campers spend a week participating in age tailored activities such as Ukrainian dancing, arts & crafts, singing, catechesis, sports and water activities. Camper fees: \$310 after July 5. 3rd/4th child from same family is \$150 each. Bus transportation is available from New Westminster. Registration forms can be downloaded from the eparchial website at www.nweparchy.ca/. For more information contact Jennifer Sawka @ 604.876.5691 jennsawka@hotmail.com. Register early. Space is limited!

Support our Camp! Donations are always greatly appreciated. We are always happy to accept food donations of vegetables, fruits, cereals, and treats for children, as well as monetary donations. Tax receipts can be issued with donations of \$25 or more.

YEAR OF FAITH Heavenly Father, we ask for Your blessings as we celebrate this Year of Faith that we may deepen our personal encounter with Christ, that we may be more able to share our faith with those around us; to share our love for the Church and its people as Christ showed His love for us. By this, we renew our baptismal call by living out our daily moments with faith, hope and love. We ask through the prayers of the Most Holy Mother of God and all the saints. Amen.

Special Petition for Evangelization – *Let us ask our Heavenly Father for His gifts of wisdom & courage in our efforts of spreading the Good News and building up God's kingdom on earth, let us pray to the Lord.*

YEAR OF FAITH Heavenly Father, we ask for Your blessings as we celebrate this Year of Faith that we may deepen our personal encounter with Christ, that we may be more able to share our faith with those around us; to share our love for the Church and its people as Christ showed His love for us. By this, we renew our baptismal call by living out our daily moments with faith, hope and love. We ask through the prayers of the Most Holy Mother of God and all the saints. Amen.

The Protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish welcomes all guests, friends, visiting relatives and Parishioners in celebrating this Divine Liturgy together. May our Lord, through the intercession of our Blessed Lady, the Mother of God, bless you and your family!

Monthly Papal Intentions for August

General Intention: - Parents and Teachers - That parents and teachers may help the new generation to grow in upright conscience and life.

Missionary Intention: The Church in Africa - That the local Church in Africa, faithfully proclaiming the Gospel, may promote peace and justice.

- **Tropar, Kondak & readings** in the pink booklet pages 1 & 2.

- **Coffee and sweets** are available today following the 8:30 am and 10:30 am Divine Liturgies in the Fellowship Room. **All guests and parishioners are invited.**

UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE - only one priest is serving the parish. To receive the Mystery of Reconciliation, (Confession), you are encouraged to come thirty (30) minutes before the Divine Liturgy. You may also make an appointment to come during the week to the chapel in the rectory.

A SPECIAL Request: At the conclusion of each Divine Liturgy, please close all Liturgy and/or hymnbooks and return them to their proper place. Also, please do not leave any church bulletins or other reading material in the pews. Each and every participant is invited to do their part to be true stewards of our parish church by helping to keep the church pew pockets and pews clean and neat. Thank you.

TODAY, Sunday, August 4:

- **Parish Catechism for Pre-Schooler's** during the 10:30 am Divine Liturgy.

Tuesday, August 6: Feast of the Transfiguration

- 10:00 am and 7:00 pm - Divine Liturgy and **Blessing of Fruit**

Sunday, August 11:

- **Parish Catechism for Pre-Schooler's** during the 10:30 am Divine Liturgy.

Thursday, August 15: Dormition of the Blessed Virgin Mary - Day of Obligation

- 10:00 am and 7:00 pm - Divine Liturgy and **Blessing of Herbs and Flowers.**
All able bodied persons are obliged to attend.

Sunday, August 18:

- **Parish Catechism for Pre-Schooler's** during the 10:30 am Divine Liturgy.

Sunday, August 25:

- **Parish Catechism for Pre-Schooler's** during the 10:30 am Divine Liturgy.



Saturday, August 17, 2013 - Pilgrimage to the Grotto of our Lady of Lourdes, Fraser River Heritage Park, Mission, BC. - You are invited by St. Joseph's Parish in Mission to take part in the Divine Liturgy at 1:00 pm. celebrated by **Most Rev. J. Michael Miller, CSB, Archbishop of Vancouver** and assisting clergy.

Confessions are heard on site between 10:00 am and 1 pm. After the Divine Liturgy there will be a procession to the Grotto, where the Rosary is prayed, followed by Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament. Picnic and Fellowship to follow. Even though there is a food concession on site, **please bring your own picnic lunch and chairs.** Details on poster on the Hallway Board before entering the Fellowship Room.

To Request Prayers for: yourself, your family, or a friend - please submit the name to the Parish Office or place a note on the collection plate.

Пам'ятайте помолитися: за Вашу родину, за членів Парафії, а особливо за тих які знаходяться в лікарнях, або тих що очікують Божої відповіді на їхні молитви, або радіють Божою відповіддю, або за тих які відзначають уродини, або роковини, або за тих що покликані до їхньої вічної винагороди, або за родину яку вони залишили.

Remember to pray for: your family; fellow parishioners; those confined to their hospital beds or their homes; those seeking God's guidance or rejoicing with God's favour; or for those celebrating a birthday or anniversary; or have been called to their eternal reward or for the family they leave behind; as well as any other need.

Please remember in your prayers: Bishop Severian Yakymyshyn, OSBM, Fr. Josaphat Tyrkalo, OSBM, Fr. Steven Basarab, Mary Balsevicius, Joseph Bayduza, Frances Bethune, Elizabeth Duda, Mary Earl, Quenten Fabiano, Catherine Hladij, Alice Humenick, Bohdan Karpinski, Emily Kuzyk, Bodzie and Shirley Lawryshyn, Ben Marchinkow, Joseph Nadelko, Roma Nowakowski, (Bishop Ken's mother), Orest Obuck, John Pura, Mary Scott, Dave Shelast, Tiny Zarski.

Please Visit: our Parishioners that in the hospital or have difficulty getting around in their homes. They need your visit, your phone call, as well as your prayers.

Please pray for vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

If there are people you visit requesting prayers, or a visit from the Priest, please inform the Parish office.

A SPECIAL NOTE to ALL PARISHIONERS: Please come on time for the Divine Liturgy. Realize that when you come into the Church proper after the Great Entrance, you have missed most of the Divine Liturgy and have not really attended the prescribed service for a Sunday.

Church Etiquette: Just a reminder that to have attended the entire Divine Liturgy one must be in Church and have heard the reading of the Gospel as well as the homily, participated in the responses for the consecration and received the final Blessing before leaving the church. We also ask that you do not visit in the main part of the Church (the Nave) before during or after the Service. Please use the Vestibule or the Fellowship room to conduct your conversations - leave the Church proper for those that want to pray.

Молитва Митрополита Андрея Шептицького за українську родину

Боже великий, Боже отців наших! Дай нашому народові якнайбільше добрих, святих християнських родин. Дай нам таких батьків, які голосно й відверто признавалися б до божественної Твоєї Євангелії і до Твоєї служби. Дай нам батьків, які для своїх дітей були б прикладом християнського життя, правдивими опікунами та добрими провідниками в житті. Дай нам таких матерів, що вміли б добре, по-християнськи виховувати своїх дітей, а для своїх чоловіків були б поміччю, потіхою та доброю радою. Дай нам таких дітей, які були б потіхою та славою батьків і красою свого народу. Благослови, всемогутній Боже, український нарід. Даруй йому ласку вірно Тобі служити і доступити колись вічної нагороди в небі, бо Тобі, Боже, у Святій Тройці єдиний, Отче, Сину і Духу Святий, належить вся слава, честь і поклін навіки вічні. Амінь.

Prayer by Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky for Ukrainian Families

God Almighty, O God of our Fathers! Grant to our nation many good and holy Christian families. Give us fathers who will loudly and openly confess your holy Gospel and be in Your service. Give us fathers who will be a good example of Christian life for their children, true protectors and good leaders in life. Grant us mothers who are capable of bringing up their children in a Christian way, and are a joy and help as well as good advisors for their husbands. Grant us children who will be the pride and joy of their parents and the splendour of their nation. Almighty God, bless our Ukrainian nation. Grant her the grace to faithfully serve You and one day to be granted the eternal reward in heaven. For You are a good and loving God, and we give glory to You, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS - Almighty and Merciful God, inspire those You have chosen to hear and answer Your call to the Priesthood and Religious Life. Give them the courage to be the prophets for our times. Give them the wisdom and openness to live their personal call. Give them the strength to be ready witnesses of Your love and care for the world. May they find support and encouragement in our words and in our prayers. Through the intercession of Mary, the Mother of God and all the Saints. Amen.

PRAYER FOR EVANGELIZATION 'YEAR OF FAITH' - O God, who wills that all should be saved and come to the knowledge of truth, pour out Your Spirit upon us and grant that we may respond zealously to Your urgent call to lead back to the Church those who have strayed. Prepare their hearts and minds to be receptive to the saving Gospel of Your Son. Send us workers to gather in Your abundant harvest, so that all Your people, obedient to the Word and sustained by the power of the Sacraments, may advance in the way of Salvation and love. Through Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

You may purchase a DVD of Major Archbishop Sviatoslav's visit September 1, 2012. The cost of this commemorative DVD is \$10 each. This DVD contains the complete Divine Liturgy celebrating Bishop Budka's hundredth anniversary of arrival to Canada in our Protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary (St. Mar's) Parish. You can purchase copies of this DVD in in the Parish office.

You will be remembered in a very special way during every Divine Liturgy. In order for this to happen you are invited to make a donation towards the purchase of Deacon, Lector, and Acolyte vestments.

We are planning to purchase three sets of Deacon/Lector vestments in the following colours: Gold, Blue and Red: each set will cost \$800 (plus) and one set of white vestments at a cost of \$1,000 (plus). We also need to purchase one set of White Acolyte (Altar Server) vestments (for taller servers) at a cost of not more than \$1,000/set. **(Note: if more donations are received we will also purchase two complete green Deacon vestments.)** Total cost – \$3,400. **plus.**

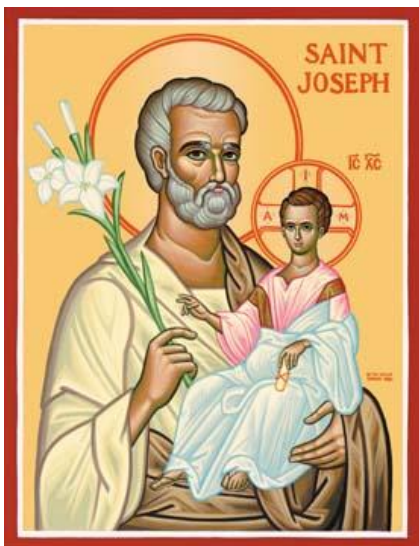
Each time the Deacon, Lector or Altar Server vests, they include in their prayers the persons that have provided them with the vestment.

Your donation is greatly appreciated. May the Mother of God continue to intercede for you before the throne of God!

DONATIONS:	UCWLC	1,000.
	Parishioner: Anonymous	1,700.
	Parishioner: Anonymous	100.
	Ben & Bonny Marchinkow	100.
	Bessie Lashin	<u>100.</u>
Total donations to date:		3,000.

Monthly Calendar Announcements for the next two months must be in the office by the 20th day of this month.

ПРОСИМО щоб оголошення до наступного дво-місячного календаря треба подати до канцелярії не дальше як 20-го дня цього місяця.



St. Joseph, guardian of Jesus and chaste husband of Mary, you passed your life in loving fulfillment of duty. You supported the holy family of Nazareth with the work of your hands. Kindly protect our fathers who trustingly come to you. You know their aspirations, their hardships, and their hopes. They look to you because they know you will understand and protect them. You too knew trial, labour and weariness. But amid the worries of material life your soul was full of deep peace and sang out in true joy through intimacy with God's Son entrusted to you and with Mary, his tender Mother. Assure those you protect that they do not labour alone. Teach them to find Jesus near them and to watch over them faithfully.

PRAYER FOR A VIBRANT PARISH - 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 for ever and ever. Amen!

DO YOU LIVE IN GREATER VANCOUVER?

HAVE YOU MOVED INTO GREATER VANCOUVER RECENTLY?

ARE YOU NEW TO THE PARISH? HAS IT BEEN A WHILE SINCE YOU WERE HERE? After the service, do not hesitate to introduce yourselves to Fr. Josaphat and find out more information regarding St. Mary's Ukrainian Catholic Church.

Often the Pastor discovers that you have been participating in the Liturgical Services for years but have not registered as Parishioners. We may recognize you, we may see you in church but we do not know your name or address and when you come to arrange for baptisms, marriages, funerals, or special blessings we finally come to know who you are. **We encourage you to register your name, address, phone number and e-mail with the parish. Please print your name, address, telephone number, e-mail and postal code** on your donation envelope, or contact the Parish Office.

REMEMBER: To be considered a member of this Parish one must be registered in the Parish, attend the Divine Liturgy regularly and make regular contributions to maintain the Parish.

If Parishioners or visitors would like to arrange a meeting with the Pastor, please approach Rev. Fr. Josaphat after the Divine Liturgy or call him at 604-879-5830, or email him to: Pastor@stmarysbc.com. Fr. Josaphat would be pleased to meet with you to discuss: Home or Hospital visits to the sick, plan for your Marriage, Baptism, Funeral or help to prepare for any other Service. Or you may need Spiritual Support or help to be a full member of the Parish. What ever your need please approach Fr. Josaphat.

Reminder to Families or Individuals Admitted to Hospital - If you or a family member is admitted to a hospital and you wish to have a priest visit, please be sure to have someone call the rectory at 604-879-5830, to make this request. Your pastor may have no other way of knowing that you or your loved one is in hospital. Remember privacy legislation restricts the information that can be given out by the hospital.

Please note: parish members requesting the celebration of a Divine Liturgy for a special intention (Thanksgiving, the Infirm, General Intentions, the Deceased, Help of the Holy Spirit, for the Travellers, or any other intention) please see Fr. Josaphat following the Divine Liturgy or call the Parish office to arrange for it.



The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

By: Father Michael Venditti @ ByzantineCatholicPriest.com

The Divine Liturgy, Part Eleven

“I will not reveal Your mysteries to Your enemies.”



One of the most familiar parts of the Divine Liturgy is the Creed. We touched on the subject briefly in the beginning of the summer by way of example. In talking about our old friend, St. Germanus of Constantinople, who wrote that magnificent treatise on the Liturgy which has proved so important over the years, we used his remarks about the Creed to illustrate how there are some things done in the Liturgy which we will never understand. St. Germanus remarks about the priest waving the veil over the gifts during the singing of the Creed, and tells us that, while there are many different theories about what it means, the truth is we do not really know for sure what it is all about.

The Creed itself, however, we do know something about. The word “creed” comes from the first word of the text in Latin, *credo*, which means: “I believe.” And that is essentially what a creed is: it is a statement of what we believe. We could spend an entire afternoon discussing creeds and their origins and meanings; but to sum it all up much too quickly, the Church composes creeds in order to define its faith in a time of crisis. The Apostle’s Creed, for example, defines those articles of faith the apostles thought needed explanation and defense at the time; the Nicene Creed, which we sing in church, was composed at the Council of Nicea to give a definitive answer to the heresies of Arius and the Gnostics and the Nestorians — whom we have talked about before — which is why it places so much emphasis on Jesus being of one substance with the Father. There are dozens of creeds composed by the Church over the centuries. The shortest creed, composed in the second century, is a single sentence stating simply that Jesus is God. The longest creed was composed by our late Holy Father, Pope Paul VI, and is several pages long — you ought to be glad we do not have to sing that one on Sunday! ** We sing the Creed of Nicea on Sunday only because it has that combination of both important content and relative brevity that makes its use in the Liturgy easy. It states most of the important dogmas of Christianity, particularly about the nature of Christ Himself; and, yet, it is short enough that it does not take until Thursday to sing it. And when you look at the

heresies that the Council of Nicea was dealing with — some of which, as I said, we have discussed — it is also the creed that can be said to have had the most profound impact on the life of the Church. It is interesting to note that, in the Latin Church, the Nicene Creed is the one most often used during their Mass, but the priest has the option of using the Apostle's Creed as well, particularly in Masses celebrated with children, since memorizing the Apostles Creed is usually part of their catechism.

But what I would like to offer for your reflection today is not anything about the content of the Creed or which creed is the best one to use in the Liturgy; but rather the question of where the creed is placed in the context of the service; because, as we shall see, in almost every form of Eucharistic Liturgy, whether Roman or Syrian or Coptic or whatever, the creed is sung or recited at about the same time during the Liturgy. But in the Constantinopolitan or Byzantine Liturgy it is in a different place, and has a special place of importance.

Two weeks ago, you will remember, we spoke about the Dismissal of the Catechumens after the first part of the Liturgy; because in the early Church, only full-fledged members of the Church were allowed to participate in the Eucharist. And

we mentioned how the whole Liturgy is, thus, divided into two parts: the Liturgy of the Catechumens, consisting of the opening litany, the antiphons, the readings, the homily; and the Liturgy of the Faithful, consisting of the Consecration and Holy Communion. In almost every Eucharistic Liturgy in Christianity, the Creed takes place during this first part of the Liturgy. Those who have been to a Roman Catholic Mass will recall that after the priest is done giving his homily, he will say something like, “Let us now make our profession of faith,” and everyone stands up and recites the Creed. It is the same in almost every rite you can find, except one: in the Byzantine Rite, the Creed is sung not in the first part of the Liturgy, but in the second, just before the Consecration. It is not a minor point; and it is a very good illustration of how the Byzantine Liturgy is so



much closer to the actual practice of the Apostles and the early Church than most other Liturgies used today.

The explanation is very similar to what we discussed two weeks ago concerning the catechumens. In the early Church, there was a great deal of concern about one having to be a real member of the Church in order to participate in the Eucharist. That is why the catechumens, who were not yet baptized, had to get up and leave after the sermon. The Churches of the East coming out of Constantinople — in other words, the Byzantine Churches — believed, as we do today, that to be a member of the Church it was not enough to just show up, you had to believe what it was the Church taught and believed. You could not reject the teaching of the Church and still call yourself a member. That would be hypocrisy! So, from the earliest recorded Liturgies, on the singing or reciting, the Creed was directly linked to the Eucharist itself, taking place not after the sermon but, as an actual part of the entire prayer of Consecration. In other words, the prerequisite for witnessing the miracle of bread and wine becoming the flesh and blood of Christ was that you first had to stand up and say, “I believe in this, and this, and this and this.” Because if you do not believe this, then you have no business being here and are not entitled to see what we are about to do here. It is perhaps the most striking example of how the Byzantine Liturgy differs from all other liturgies in the Church: that the Creed is linked to the Eucharist. It is the Eucharist that makes us members of the one Body of Christ; and you cannot be a member of the one Body of Christ if you do not believe.

In today’s world, this concept is a lot more important than you might think. We live today during a time in which the most prevalent moral philosophy is one of relativism: what is good for you may not be good for me; what is right for you is not necessarily right for me; what is immoral for me is perfectly OK for you; what is true for me does not have to be true for you. Good and bad, right and wrong, moral and immoral, true and false are all based on how someone feels about it. Every time someone brings up a topic like abortion or gay marriage or any of today’s hot-button issues, what do you hear? “How can you impose your personal beliefs upon someone else?” **Even among Catholics you sometimes hear this, almost as if the teachings of our Lord and His Church are being presented in the form of some sort of theological salad bar, where we just pick out what we like and leave what we do not.** The early Christians were smart: they knew this was a problem during the persecutions, and they knew it was going to continue to be a problem even after the persecutions were over. They knew that Christians would always be tempted to follow the path of least resistance and bend on moral issues and issues of faith. And that is why, in the earliest Liturgies of the Church, particularly those of Byzantium, they put the Creed right into the prayer of Consecration, so that no one would be able to approach for Holy Communion without first standing up and saying, “I believe in One God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth, and in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten of the Father, and I believe in this and I believe in

that..." If you do not believe what we believe, then you are not one of us, and you are not going to receive anything.

You might remember, after Pope John Paul's funeral, Cardinal Ratzinger concelebrated a Mass in St. Peter's with all the Cardinals the day before they went into the conclave. And he preached this hell-fire and brimstone German-Lutheran sermon about Christian culture and how all of Europe was going to hell in a handbag. And he said that he would much prefer to see a small Church of committed faithful believers than a large Church full of people whose faith was marginal. And all sorts of bishops and priests and magazine editors in this country got all excited and upset about this old codger from medieval Bavaria and his twisted vision of the future. And everyone was saying how he does not understand us; and, here, we are about meeting people where they are at and accommodating everyone we can, blah blah blah. Well, the old codger is now pope, and his vision is not twisted, it is crystal clear. It is, in fact, the vision of the early Church. And you may have noticed, those of you who are old enough to remember other papal installations from John Paul II, John Paul I, Paul VI, John XXIII — some may even remember the coronation of Pius XII just before World War II — at the installation of Pope Benedict the XVI, the patriarchs and Metropolitans of the Eastern Catholic Churches had a much bigger role than they have ever had. It was the heads of the Eastern Churches that escorted the new pope to the *Confessio* under the altar of St. Peter's, to take from the tomb of the Apostle the pallium that signifies the office of the Vicar of Christ. These things were not by accident. Nor is it an accident that this man is an expert on the writings of St. Augustine. Pope Benedict's vision for the future of the Church is the faith and fervor of the early Christians — that same faith and fervor that is expressed so beautifully in the Divine Liturgy of the Byzantine Rite.

So, as we sing the words of the Creed today, let us remember that what we are singing is far more important than just the meaning of the words. It is a symbol of an undying faith, a faith that could not be destroyed by 300 years of persecution, and that will not be trivialized by a thousand years of indifference and pressure to conform.

** Motu Proprio *Solemni hac Liturgia* (Credo of the People of God), June 30, 1968.



Another Prayer For Vocations – Lord, Jesus Christ, You are the Saviour of the world.

Please manifest in Your church, the Spirit whom You also abundantly bestowed on Your apostles. Call many to the priesthood and religious life especially from our Parish families. May zeal for Your glory and for the salvation of the world inflame those You have chosen. May they be saints in Your likeness. May Your Holy Spirit strengthen them. May they be priests and religious according to Your own Heart.
Amen

Bulletin Announcements must be in the office by Wednesday noon. It is your responsibility to notify the office, do not think that 'well they know', Father or the Secretary may know but do not always remember to put it in the bulletin!