



# UNITY 2017

for Young Adults of the Catholic Faith (ages 18-35)

## FOCUS ON FAITH BEYOND THE HORIZON

August 17-20<sup>th</sup> at St. Peter's Abbey in Muenster, SK  
hosted and sponsored by the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Saskatoon

Registrations: \$295

Deadline for Registration: August 1, 2017

More and information and Register online at: <http://skeparchy.org/ucya/unity/>

For more information please contact:

Sarah Buchko, Youth and Young Adult Minister

Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Saskatoon

Cell: 1-306-380-5765; email: [uwitness2youth@gmail.com](mailto:uwitness2youth@gmail.com)

DATE	TIME	EPISTLE	CANTOR	USHERS	ORGANIST	GREETERS
SAT JUNE 24	4:30 pm* English	Julian Abrametz	Laurie Fedorowich Ron Wizniak	Paul Shewchuk Andy Mathuik	Iris Skehar	
SUN JUNE 25 <i>Vidpust Sunday</i>	10:00 am Ukr/Eng	Ivan Bachynskyy	Colette Karapita	Ukrainian Catholic Brotherhood		
SAT JULY 1	5:00 pm English	Delores Oucharek		Bill Krywulak Lionel Fedorowich		
SUN JULY 2 <i>4th Sunday after Pentecost</i>	10:00 am Eng/Ukr	Elizabeth Zahayko	Laurie Fedorowich Ron Wizniak	Ukrainian Catholic Brotherhood	Iris Skehar	

SUNDAY COLLECTION JUNE 18 2017	Received in 158 Regular Envelopes .....	\$ 2,693.00
	Loose Collection .....	\$ 80.00
	Received in 35 Other Envelopes .....	\$ 459.00

**COVENANT OF CARE ~ ABUSE AND MISCONDUCT PROTOCOL**  
Parish Coordinator of Care: Geraldine Koban 306-782-0270

### CONTACT INFORMATION

OFFICE: [st.mary.yorkton@sasktel.net](mailto:st.mary.yorkton@sasktel.net)

PASTOR: [blukie@gmail.com](mailto:blukie@gmail.com)

WEB: [www.saintmarysyorkton.com](http://www.saintmarysyorkton.com)

EPARCHY OF SASKATOON: [www.skeparchy.org](http://www.skeparchy.org)

EPARCHIAL PASTORAL COUNCIL - Pat Thompson 306-782-9425 Geraldine Koban 306-782-0270

PARISH COUNCIL PRESIDENT - Gwen Bilyk 306-782-4093

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS - Bill Prybylski 306-782-5259 UCWLC - Doreen Rathgeber 306-782-1527  
UCBC - Larry German 306-782-2461 CULTURAL CENTRE - Russ Thompson 306-782-9425  
GOLDEN AGERS - Verna Moroz 306-783-6293 CULTURAL CENTRE MANAGER - Stan Shymanski 306-782-1010

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY OFFICE - Phone: 1-204-799-1060 EMAIL: [rymcssr@gmail.com](mailto:rymcssr@gmail.com)

## ST. MARY'S UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

Церква Матері Божої Неустанної Помочі

Our Mother of Perpetual Help

155 Catherine Street, Yorkton, SK S3N 0B9

VOL. 54, No. 26

PARISH BULLETIN

JUNE 25, 2017

Christ is Among Us !  
He is and will be !

Христос Посеред нас !  
Є і буде !



The parish community of St. Mary's extends a warm  
*Welcome - Bitaemo*  
to everyone who is with us today, especially all visitors.  
We are pleased that you have come to pray with us this Sunday. May the Lord bless You.

### Pastoral Care of the Ukrainian Redemptorists

Fr. Bohdan Lukie, CSsR - Pastor

Fr. Raymond Lukie, CSsR - Assistant Pastor

Fr. Methodius Kushko, CSsR - Assistant Pastor

OFFICE HOURS Monday - Friday  
9:15 am - 12:00 pm 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Office 306-783-4594  
Info Line 306-782-0654

SICK CALLS - Anytime

BAPTISMS & MARRIAGES\* by Appointment

\*Please contact the pastor at least six  
months before the wedding date.

### DIVINE LITURGY SCHEDULE

**\*\*Summer Schedule In Effect\*\***

#### SUNDAY

Saturday 5:00 pm English  
Sunday 10:00 am English/Ukrainian

#### HOLY DAYS

9:00 am

#### WEEKDAYS

8:00 am Monday - Friday  
9:00 am Saturday

Dear St. Mary's Parishioners and Guests,

This weekend we celebrate two priests who never expected to serve and celebrate **50 years** of priesthood, but they are happy to be here with all of you. We, **Frs. Leonard Ratushniak** and **Bohdan Lukie**, are most delighted to celebrate, to pray and to rejoice with each of you! We sincerely *thank you* for your constant support and your never-ending prayers. Truly we love all of you and thank you wholeheartedly for the 'gift' of your love and your prayers!

As you well know, we are living in a secular society that discourages prayers and any signs of faith in our schools, our organizations and in our daily lives. We commend these young active and creative students who protest in a most positive way!



## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

### **The Sneeze**

*They walked in tandem, each of the ninety-two students, filing into the already crowded auditorium. With their rich maroon gowns flowing and the traditional caps, they looked almost as grown up as they felt.*

*Dads swallowed hard behind broad smiles, and Moms freely brushed away tears.*

*This class would NOT pray during the commencements, not by choice, but because of a recent court ruling prohibiting it.*

*The principal and several students were careful to stay within the guide-lines allowed by the ruling. They gave inspirational and challenging speeches, but no one mentioned divine guidance and no one asked for blessings on the graduates and their families.*

*The speeches were nice, but they were routine until the final speech received a standing ovation.*

*A solitary student walked proudly to the microphone. He stood still and silent for just a moment, and then it happened.*

*All 92 students, every single one of them, suddenly SNEEZED!!!*

*The student on stage simply looked at the audience and loudly said, "God bless you all!"*

*And he walked off the stage...*

*The audience exploded into applause. This graduating class had found a unique way to invoke God's blessings on their future with or without the secular court's approval.*

*This is a true story; it happened at the University of Maryland.*

As we joyfully and prayerful celebrate our **Annual Vidpust**, we fondly recall the large crowds of pilgrims who travelled from near and far to strengthen their Catholic faith. As the song goes, *"Those were the days..."*.

May we all grow in faith and love as we praise our loving God...,

## UPCOMING EVENTS

July 2	Ukrainian Catholic Brotherhood Bingo	1:00 pm
July 6	Divine Liturgy at Yorkton & District Nursing Home	10:30 am
July 8	Knights of Columbus Bingo	1:00 pm
July 13	Holy Rosary Hour	
July 27	Golden Agers Birthdays and Anniversaries	1:00 pm
August 6	<i>Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord</i>	
August 9	Ukrainian Catholic Brotherhood Bingo	1:00 pm
August 15	<i>Feast of the Dormition of the Mother of God</i>	
August 22	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament resumes	1:00 pm
September 1	<i>New Ecclesiastical Year</i>	
September 3	Regular Divine Liturgy Schedule resumes	9:00 am & 11:00 am
September 4	Knights of Columbus Meeting	7:00 pm
September 11	UCWLC Meeting	7:00 pm
September 11	Cultural Centre Board Meeting	7:30 pm
September 18	Ukrainian Catholic Brotherhood Meeting	7:00 pm
September 19	Parish Council Meeting & Divine Liturgy	7:00 pm

### Letters from the Old Country: Archiving Ukrainian Canadian History

- ➡ Do you have a collection of old letters from the 'old country' and you don't know what to do with them?
- ➡ Talk to us. We are seeking archival donations of letters from the 'old country'.
- ➡ In 2017, to celebrate Canada's 150th anniversary we are offering free digitization of qualified 'old country' letter collections in exchange for archival donation of digital images.



### PRAIRIE CENTRE FOR THE STUDY OF UKRAINIAN HERITAGE

St. Thomas More College 1437 College Drive, Saskatoon, SK S7N 0W6  
Tel: 306-966-6456 pcuh@stmcollege.ca



You are cordially invited

BY THE GRACE OF GOD AND THROUGH THE LAYING OF HANDS  
BY HIS EXCELLENCY BISHOP BRYAN BAYDA, CSSR  
TO THE ORDINATION OF THE HOLY PRESBYTERATE  
OF THE REVEREND DEACON WARREN FRANCIS DUNGEN  
The Feast of St. Elias ~ Thursday, July 20<sup>th</sup>  
Episcopal Divine Liturgy 4:30 pm

Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of St. George (210 Avenue M South, Saskatoon)

AXIOS

Reception to follow at Cathedral of the Holy Family Hall (123 Nelson Road, Saskatoon)  
Cocktails 7:00 pm Supper & Program 7:30 pm

Reception Tickets can be purchased in Advance only until July 14

Tickets: \$30 ~ 12 & Under: \$15 ~ 2 & Under: Free

Contact Cornelia Kyba at (306) 653-0138 X 221

admin.skeparchy@sasktel.net or wdungen@gmail.com



**CHRIST THE TEACHER CATHOLIC SCHOOLS NEWS**  
For the week of June 26-30

	SACRED HEART	ST. ALPHONSUS	ST. MARY'S	ST. MICHAEL'S	ST. PAUL'S	ST. THEODORE'S
MON		Year End Mass @ St. Gerard's Student Recognition awards		Service Awards	Year End Liturgy & Academic Awards Gr. 6-8 Dance	Awards Night 7:00 pm
TUES				Year End Mass Gr. 8 Awards Gr. 8 SCC Luncheon	Service Awards K-Gr. 3 Play Day	
WED		Last Day of School Progress Reports	Last Day of School Progress Reports	Last Day of School Progress Reports	Last Day of School Progress Reports	Last Day of School Progress Reports
THURS						
FRI						



**YOUNG PEOPLE, THE FAITH AND VOCATIONAL DISCERNMENT LIME SURVEY**

Survey for youth. Our Pope wants your input...

The goal of this questionnaire – aimed at young people throughout the world from 16 to 29 years of age – is to provide you with the opportunity to communicate, express and recount who you are and what you want to say about yourself. Youth . . . please take the opportunity to take the survey at: <https://survey-synod2018.glauco.it/limesurvey/index.php/147718>

**YORKTON DISTRICT PARISHES**

**DNIEPER** - Divine Liturgy and Grave Blessing at Transfiguration of Our Lord Ukrainian Catholic Church on Sunday, July 30<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm. Please bring your lawn chairs. Lunch will be supplied. For more information please call John at 306-783-3734.

**Schedule of Services in the Yorkton Pastoral District**

**\*\*Please note: this schedule is subject to change, please check regularly\*\***

BEVERDALE	Sunday, July 16	10:00 am	Divine Liturgy
CALDER	Sunday, July 30	10:00 am	Divine Liturgy
DNIEPER	Sunday, July 30	1:00 pm	Divine Liturgy & Grave Blessing
JEDBURGH	Sunday, July 16	(after Beaverdale)	Grave Blessing Only
MODEL FARM	Sunday, July 23	10:00 am	Divine Liturgy
PARKERVIEW	Sunday, September 3	10:00 am	Divine Liturgy & Grave Blessing
TUFFNELL	Saturday, July 15	10:30 am	Divine Liturgy & Grave Blessing
WHITESAND	Sunday, July 9	10:00 am	Divine Liturgy & Grave Blessing
WILLOWBROOK	Sunday, July 30	10:00 am	Divine Liturgy - Praznyk

**VIDPUST SUNDAY / CHRIST THE LOVER OF MANKIND JUNE 25, 2017**

The theme of Sunday is always Resurrection.  
We invite you to refrain from kneeling during the Divine Liturgy.

Today's special liturgical parts & readings are found in the Tropars, Kondaks, Epistle & Gospel Readings booklets that are found at the entrances of the church.  
Next Week's Readings: Epistle - Romans 6:18-23 Gospel - Matthew 8:5-13

**THIS WEEK AT ST. MARY'S**

<b>SUN</b>	<b>Vidpust Sunday / Christ the Lover of Mankind</b>
	9:00 am ..... Vidpust Confessions
	9:30 am..... Vidpust Recitation of the Holy Rosary
	10:00 am..... Vidpust Divine Liturgy
	..... Blessing of Water & Religious Articles to follow
	12:00 Noon..... Vidpust Brunch (Tickets at the Door)
<b>MON</b>	7:00 pm..... Ukrainian Catholic Brotherhood Bingo
<b>THU</b>	<b>Feast of Ss. Peter &amp; Paul</b>
	9:00 am..... Divine Liturgy
	10:30 am..... Divine Liturgy at Gladstone Seniors' Residence
	1:00 pm..... Golden Agers Birthdays and Anniversaries
<b>SAT</b>	9:00 am..... Divine Liturgy
	5:00 pm..... Divine Liturgy

**WEDDING PLANS ??-** If you are planning to be married at St. Mary's or any of the Yorkton District parishes, **please contact Fr. Bohdan (306-783-4594) at least six months before the wedding date.**

**OFFERINGS** - to assist the Parish Accountant in recording your offerings correctly, please write the amount of your offering on the outside of your envelope.

**PLEASE NOTE:**

There will be only one Parish Bulletin printed for July and one for August.  
**Deadline for the July Bulletin is Tuesday, June 27<sup>th</sup>.**



**EMAIL BULLETIN** - If you would like to have the Bulletin emailed to you please send your request to: [cssrmonastery@sasktel.net](mailto:cssrmonastery@sasktel.net)

**ADORATION TO THE BLESSED SACRAMENT** - There will be no Adoration to the Blessed Sacrament from Tuesday, June 27<sup>th</sup> until Tuesday, August 15<sup>th</sup>. It will resume on Tuesday, August 22<sup>nd</sup> 1:00 - 4:00 pm.



**A SPECIAL COLLECTION**

will be taken for the Missionary during Vidpust.  
Please use the envelopes provided at the entrances.

## DIVINE LITURGY INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, JUNE 25

**Feast of Christ, Lover of Mankind** **Hebrews 2:11-18 ~ John 3:13-17**

**MON June 26 Venerable David** **Romans 9:18-33 ~ Matthew 11:2-15**

8:00 am +Peter & Anne Beblow.....Michael & Agnes Geysen

8:00 am +Matt Boychuk & Deceased Family Members.....Evelyn Boychuk & family

8:00 am +Lorne, +Metro & +Nettie Sakundiak, +Max & +Polly Diakow.....Olga Sakundiak

**TUE June 27 Martyrs Nicholas Charnetsky & Companions** **Ephesians 6:10-17 ~ Luke 21:12-19**

8:00 am Health & Recovery for Norman Yasinsky.....Family

8:00 am Health & God's Blessings for Vi Hnatiuk.....Prayer Partner

8:00 am Health for Mary & Roman Spilchak.....Doreen Pohorelic

**WED June 28 Venerable Martyrs Cyrus & John** **Romans 11:2-12 ~ Matthew 11:20-26**

8:00 am +Mike & Josephine Misko.....Walter & Ethel Misko

8:00 am +Fr. Boris Kyba, CSsR.....Ukrainian Catholic Brotherhood

8:00 am +Angie Grunert.....Vi & Eugene Hnatiuk

**THU June 29** **2 Corinthians 11:21-12:9 ~ Matthew 16:3-19**



**9:00 am Feast of Ss. Peter & Paul**

**FRI June 30 Synaxis of the 12 Apostles** **1 Corinthians 4:9-16 ~ Mark 3:13-19**

8:00 am Reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.....Blue Army

8:00 am Birthday Blessings for Gloria Lischynski.....Prayer Partner

8:00 am God's Blessings for Bernice Usipiuk.....Mary

**SAT July 1 Cosmos & Damian** **Romans 6:11-17 ~ Matthew 8:14-23**

9:00 am +Mike Chopty (40 Days) .....Alice & family

5:00 pm God's Blessings for Fr. Methodius Kushko, CSsR (85th Birthday)...Andy & Eunice Mathiuk

**DIVINE LITURGY INTENTIONS** - If you are making an offering for this service by cheque, please make your cheque payable to: Ukrainian Catholic Mission



### CANA CONTINUES!

**FAMILY CAMP AT ST. MICHAEL'S  
AT MADGE, DUCK MOUNTAIN PROVINCIAL PARK  
AUGUST 13-19, 2017**

Experience families evangelizing families in nature with our beautiful Eastern spirituality.  
Parents and children, come and see!

For more info, see our webpage: <http://skeparchy.org/flo/ministries/our-cana-camp/>  
Contact Deborah Larmour [ucfamilylifeoffice@sasktel.net](mailto:ucfamilylifeoffice@sasktel.net) or 306-717-2756 for registration application.

**Registration deadline July 10!**

## Saint Mary's Building Fund Donations



*In Memory of Metro Mosiondz*

Martha Mosiondz \$100.00

**Balance of the Fund to date: \$ 322,229.74** **Thank you very much**

Donations may be given anytime.  
All funds collected will be used for the future renovations of our church.  
Building Fund Envelopes are available at the entrances of the Church

### ST. MARY'S CHURCH DONATIONS

*On Occasion of 60<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary*

Peter & Verna Moroz \$60.00

#### CHURCH DONATIONS

To ensure that your donation is properly recorded and acknowledged, please mark your envelope and the memo line on your cheque *"In memory of..."* or *"On the occasion of..."*



ST. MARY'S CULTURAL CENTRE

### Perogie Bee

**Tuesday, June 27<sup>th</sup> 8:00 am**

*Please come out to help if you are able.*

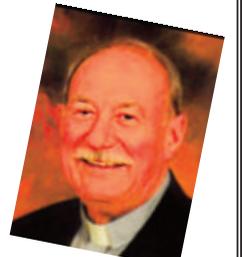


Congratulations to



**Fr. Bohdan Lukie, CSsR**

&



**Fr. Leonard Ratushniak, CSsR**

**On their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Priesthood**

Многая Літа

May God Grant Them Many Years

Многая Літа

## INNER-CITY MINISTRY COORDINATOR POSITION

Seeking an individual interested in a leadership position for The Welcome Home – A Mission of St. Alphonsus an inner city ministry in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Founded by the Ukrainian Redemptorists over 20 years ago, the Welcome Home is a faith based community that responds to the material, emotional and spiritual needs of people on the periphery.



The Welcome Home Coordinator is a full-time position that is responsible for ensuring all aspects of the ministry are in place including building relationships with those in need, volunteer co-ordination, programming, communications and promotions. The Welcome Home serves the neighborhood with the help of a live-in community, the Coordinator works with and participates in the life of the live-in community especially through community prayer and planning the work of the ministry.

### Qualification:

- A desire to work in an inclusive environment with those who can be overlooked in society, the poor and most abandoned
- Committed practicing Catholic
- Leadership skills that demonstrate your ability to build relationship and motivate others
- Experience in planning, coordinating and implementing programs for various age groups

Interested in knowing more details about this full-time position, contact Fr. Larry Kondra, CSSR at [whome01@mymts.net](mailto:whome01@mymts.net) or 204-339-5737 **Application deadline July 14, 2017**

The Welcome Home 188 Euclid Avenue Winnipeg MB R2W 2X4 [www.thewelcomehome.ca](http://www.thewelcomehome.ca)

## RETIREMENT CELEBRATION FOR FATHER YURIJ LAZURKO

Sunday, July 2, 2017 at Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish - 625-5th Ave SW, Moose, Jaw, SK. Liturgy at 10:30 am with his Excellency Bishop Bryan Bayda, CSsR, followed by a catered luncheon and program in our basement parish hall. Tickets: Adults - \$20; Children 5-12 - \$10; Children 4 & under - Free. To reserve your ticket contact: Crystal Zakaluzny at 306-630-4616 [czak@sasktel.net](mailto:czak@sasktel.net) or Harry/Horejda at 306-693-1324 [hshorejda@shaw.ca](mailto:hshorejda@shaw.ca). Deadline for tickets is Monday, June 26th.



### Come discover life possibilities, while helping others in need...

Consider joining us at the Welcome Home – A Mission of St. Alphonsus an inner city ministry in Winnipeg, where we work together to always be inclusive of those who can be over-looked - the poor and the most abandoned. Founded by the Redemptorists over 20 years ago, the Welcome Home works to build a community that embraces the material, emotional and spiritual needs of those in need. ***The Welcome Home is now accepting applicants for the live-in community commencing September 2017. We ask for a 10 month live-in commitment however the length of stay is negotiable and can be a little as 4 months.***

Interested in exploring the possibilities of living in community, giving of your time and talents while receiving the gift of a life changing experience? Get more information at [www.thewelcomehome.ca](http://www.thewelcomehome.ca) or contact the Welcome Home at 204-946-5352 or [whome01@mymts.net](mailto:whome01@mymts.net)

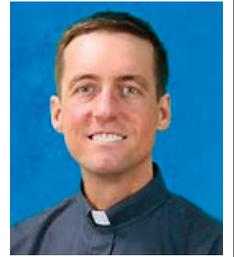
*We wish to welcome our missionary*

**Rev. Fr. Andre Lalach**

*to St. Mary's Parish*

*for our Annual Vidpust.*

*Thank you for sharing your very inspirational message with us.*



Catholic Education In Saskatchewan: A People of Faith  
[www.catholicedspirit.ca](http://www.catholicedspirit.ca)



## SCSBA Theodore Court Case Appeal Fund Raising Campaign “Catholic Education Matters”

On April 28, the Saskatchewan Catholic School Boards Association (SCSBA) announced that an appeal of the recent decision in the Theodore court case will be filed on behalf of Christ the Teacher School Division. The decision to appeal has been unanimously endorsed by all eight Catholic school boards in the province.

In partnership with Christ the Teacher RCSSD No.212, the SCSBA is asking for your financial support to ensure that all parents who desire a faith-based education for their children will continue to have the opportunity to access Catholic Education into the future.

**All donations are eligible for an official receipt for income tax purposes.**

For more information and to donate, please click on:

[https://www.catholicedspirit.ca/?page\\_id=111](https://www.catholicedspirit.ca/?page_id=111)



## SUMMER SCHEDULE

Starting on **June 25<sup>th</sup>** and for the months of July and August  
the weekend Divine Liturgy schedule will be  
**Saturday evening at 5:00 pm and Sundays at 10:00 am only.**

## St. Michael's Ukrainian Catholic Church Camp ~ Madge Lake

Most summer camps have very slim budgets and receive community support to help put on a memorable summer camp experience for the kids and ours is no exception to this rule. We are reaching out for support and looking for donations of food items. If you are interested in making a donation of food or money towards this please email us at [info@stmichaelscamps.com](mailto:info@stmichaelscamps.com) for more information. Please call Tracie Bugera @ 306-533-8229. We appreciate all donations and no donation is too small.



# Eparchy of Saskatoon Family and Life Office Bulletin: June 2017



*“The future of the world passes through the family”*

*St. John Paul II, Familiaris Consortio, 79*

Many parents are concerned about their children and other family member who have either left the Church or do not practice their faith. This is the first of a series of articles addressing this challenging issue that almost every family deals with. There is hope and there are practical things we can do to make a difference in the lives of those we love.

*Deborah Larmour, Family and Life Office*

## Becoming Witnesses of the Living Christ

### Part I: The Power of God's Love

Often when those we love take positions that we do not agree with we respond with disappointment at their choices and perspectives. Sometimes we combine this with advice that is generally not well received. Often we do this without ever really listening to their reasons. Sometimes we say nothing, not wanting to argue. We are often completely frustrated and feel it is no use; there is nothing we can do. So what is the answer?

The key to our relationships with those we love is honesty. Honesty with ourselves about who we are and where we are at is always a good place to start. We cannot control the choices of others, so it is often best to start with ourselves. What is our relationship to God? Is it a close intimate relationship that profoundly changes us and affects every aspect of our lives or is it somewhat distant—limited to Church on Sunday? Is even that short time together formal and somewhat uncomfortable? Do we honestly talk to God? Do we listen? Do we follow Him with all our heart?

Once we can be honest with ourselves about how we can grow in our relationship with God, we are ready to be honest with those we love. Pope Francis challenges us: “The questions I would put to parents are these: ‘Do we seek to understand ‘where’ our children really are in their journey? Where is their soul, do we really know? And above all, do we want to know?’ *Amoris Laetitia, 261*

Many of us are afraid to ask our kids these questions because we are afraid of the answer. When we feel this way we need to remind ourselves of the power of God and His desire to pour out His grace and healing on both our children and us. Sometimes we believe in the love of God but forget the incredible power of that Love, which is not just

a feeling but is rather the most powerful force in the universe.



We just came out of the Easter Season, which teaches us that the power (love) of God can bring the dead back to life. At Pentecost the powerful love of God gave birth to the Church by giving courage and wisdom to the fearful and weak disciples. The powerful love of God turns bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Christ, and then Christ offers himself to be united with us, our body and blood, changing our hearts and transforming us into the men and women we were created to be—WOW! We just celebrated that in the Feast of the Eucharist. The list of feasts goes on— be assured that as God gave John the Baptist or Sts. Peter and Paul the courage to live fearlessly and proclaim the beauty of truth, He wants to give you that courage as well.

### This is personal! Where do we start?

1. Start at the next (or even this) Divine Liturgy. When Fr. says “Let us commend ourselves, each other and our whole life to Christ our God.” Make your response of “To you O Lord” the prayer of your heart. Take note every time you say this in every Divine Liturgy. Think specifically about your life and the lives of those you love— name those you are praying for.
2. Don't stop there. Every day, commend (that just means “to entrust”) yourself, all your relationships, and your whole life—everything you do, to Christ, our God. Entrust your loved ones by name whenever you pray, while you work or when you are giving thanks before meals.
3. As you entrust your adult children, and other loved ones to Christ, remember that God doesn't just want them to go through the motions – He wants their hearts. If they are not going to Church, if they are not living a Christian life, let go of worrying about that and pray for the conversion of their hearts—the rest will follow. Understand that God gives them (and us) freedom so that we have the power to choose to respond to the love of God.
4. Work at living your own faith with joy and unwavering commitment. Attend Divine Liturgy more often, participate actively, join a Bible Study, or consider joining the Lay Formation program. © DPL