

THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



*Icon of the Call of the First Disciples*





### ***Steadfast and Faithful: A Martyr's Journey***

The story of Blessed Vasyl Velychkovsky, a Ukrainian Bishop who spent several years as a prisoner in Soviet gulags for refusing to deny his Catholic faith. This documentary will be shown on EWTN on June 30<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 AM and 6:30 PM. June 30<sup>th</sup> is also his feast day according to the liturgical calendar of our Ukrainian Catholic Church.

A brief biography of Blessed Vasyl is reproduced in this bulletin.

**Thank You** to Lorena and Volodymyr Bachynsky for their dedication in teaching our youth last week at the “Generations of Faith” session. The youth had a great time and learned a lot. Lorena and Volodymyr’s hard work deserves a “Kudos” from all of us.

*The second collection today, June 14, is for “Peter’s Pence.” Next month’s second collection will be for “Priests in Need.”*

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	<i>Sunday Collection: May 10, 2009:</i>	
10:00 AM		\$911.00
<u>2<sup>nd</sup> Collection (Patriarchal Synod)</u>		<u>55.00</u>
<b>Total:</b>		<b>\$966.00</b>
	<i>Sunday Collection: May 17, 2009:</i>	
8:00 AM		\$262.00
<u>10:00 AM</u>		<u>\$454.00</u>
<b>Total:</b>		<b>\$716.00</b>
	<i>Sunday Collection: May 24, 2009:</i>	
10:00 AM		\$578.00
	<i>Sunday Collection: May 31, 2009:</i>	
8:00 AM		\$205.00
<u>10:00 AM</u>		<u>\$450.00</u>
<b>Total:</b>		<b>\$655.00</b>
	<i>Sunday Collection: June 7, 2009:</i>	
10:00 AM		\$881.00
	<i>Miscellaneous:</i>	
Mother’s Day Luncheon		\$196.00
Rummage Sale		<b>\$1850.75</b>

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## Worthy acting head

Bishop and martyr Vasyl (Velychkovsky) was born June 1, 1903, in Ivano-Frankivsk. In 1920 he entered the seminary in Lviv. In 1925 in Holosko, near Lviv, he took his first religious vows in the Order of the Most Holy Redeemer and was ordained a priest. Father Vasyl became a missionary in Volyn. In 1942 he became the hegumen (prior) of the monastery in Ternopil, where he was arrested in 1945. He was then taken to Kyiv. His death sentence was soon commuted to 10 years of imprisonment and hard labor. He returned to Lviv in 1955, where he continued his pastoral work.

In 1963 he was secretly ordained an archbishop in a Moscow hotel by Metropolitan Josyf (Slipyj), who, on his way to exile in Rome, passed Bishop Velychkovsky the responsibility for the catacomb Church. Predicting his own possible arrest, he ordained new underground bishops in 1964. Among them was his successor, Archbishop Volodymyr (Sterniuk), who eventually led the Church out of the underground. In 1969 Bishop (Velychkovsky) was arrested a second time, but after three years of imprisonment he was deported outside the USSR. He died in Winnipeg, Canada on June 30, 1973, as a consequence of serious heart disease which began when he was in prison.

"After many years spent in prisons and labor camps, how pleasant it is to be free with my fellow Ukrainians. What joy to go to pray freely in a Ukrainian church, where no one will send you to the camps or prison because of your prayers. The prisons and camps ruined my health and my strength, but this was my fate, the Lord God placed this cross on my shoulders."

- *From the last speech of Bishop Vasyl to the faithful in Canada, June 17, 1973.*

## Гідний містоблюститель

Священномученик Василь (Величковський) народився 1 червня 1903 р. у Станиславові. 1920 року вступив до Духовної Семінарії у Львові. У 1925 р., у Голоско біля Львова, склав перші монаші обіти в Чині Найсвятішого Ізбавителя й прийняв Св. Тайну Священства. Працював як місіонар на Волині. У 1942 р. став Ігуменом монастиря в Тернополі, де його й було заарештовано в 1945 р. та відправлено до Києва. Смертний вирок невдовзі замінили на 10 років ув'язнення й каторги. У 1955 р. повернувся до Львова, де продовжував душпастирську працю. Архиєрейські свячення прийняв таємно 4 лютого 1963 р. в московському готелі з рук Митрополита Йосифа (Сліпого), який, виїхавши до Риму, передав Кир Василю відповідальність за катакомбну Церкву. Той, у свою чергу, передбачаючи можливий арешт, висвятив у 1964 р. нових підпільних єрархів, серед яких і свого наступника, Архієпископа Володимира (Стернюка), якому судилося вивести Церкву з підпілля. У 1969 р. Владика Василя (Величковського) заарештували вдруге, а після трирічного ув'язнення - депортували за межі СРСР. Помер внаслідок важкої хвороби серця, на яку занедужав у в'язниці, 30 червня 1973 р. у Вінніпезі (Канада).

*"Після стільки літ, перебутих у тюрмах і засланнях, як мило бути разом з українськими людьми на волі. Яка радість ходити молитися вільно до української церкви, де ніхто не засилає до таборів і тюрем за молитву... Тюрми й табори знищили моє здоров'я і мою силу, але така моя доля, це Господь Бог вложив на мої плечі хрест".*

З останньої промови Кир Василя перед вірними в Канаді, 17 червня 1973 р.

**Українська Католицька Парафія Матері Божої Неустаючої Помочі**

Церква Святого Пророка й Предтечи Йоана Хрестителя  
Святиня Святого Миколая, Архієпископа Мір Лікійського, Чудотворця

***Ukrainian Catholic Parish of Our Lady of Perpetual Help***

Church of the Holy Prophet, Forerunner and Baptizer John  
Shrine of St. Nicholas the Wonderworker, Archbishop of Myra in Lycea

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***Jesus Chose the Lowly to Show Divine Grace***

Oh, blessed are those fishermen whom the Lord chose from among so many doctors of the law and scribes, from among so many sages of the world, for the task of divine preaching and the grace of the apostolate! Worthy of our Lord, indeed, and appropriate for His preaching was that choice, so that in the preaching of His name all the greater might be the wonder of praise as the humble and lowly of the age preached his word – not that they might capture the world through the wisdom of the word but that they might liberate the human race from the error of death through the simple preaching of the faith, as the Apostle says: “That your faith may not be in human wisdom but in the power of God.”

And in another place: “But the foolish things of the world has God chosen to put to shame the wise, and the weak things of the world has God chosen to put to shame the strong, and the base things of the world and the despised has God chosen, and the things that are not, to bring to nothing the things that are.” Therefore He has not chosen the noble of the world or the rich, lest their preaching be suspect; not the wise of the world, lest people believe that they persuaded the human race with their wisdom; but He chose illiterate, unskilled and untutored fishermen, so that the Savior’s grace might be open.

*St. Chromatius*