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UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



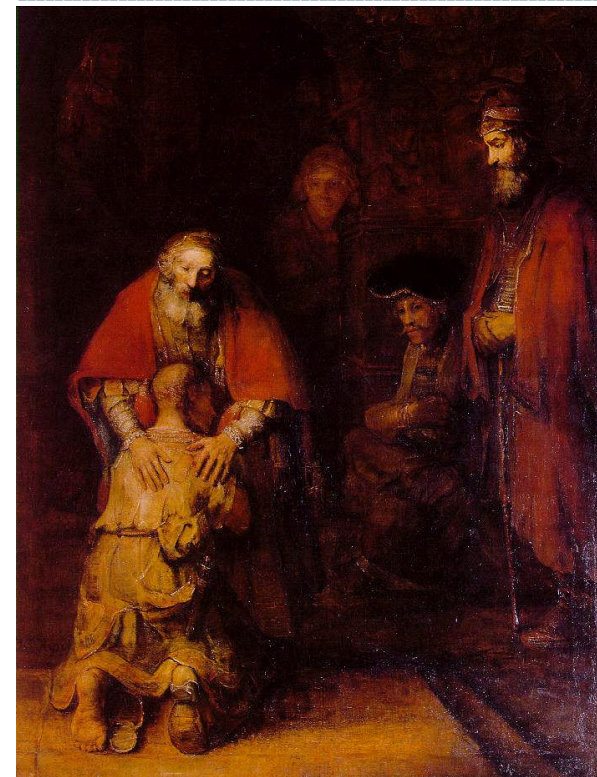
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UNDER THE PROTECTION
OF MOTHER OF GOD



ПІД ОПІКОЮ ПРЕЧИСТОЇ
ДІВИ МАРІЇ ОДІГІТРІЇ

CHURCH BULLETIN - N^o07
February 12 - 2012 - 12 Лютого
ЦЕРКОВНИЙ ВІСНИК - Ч. 07



REMBRANDT van Rijn: The prodigal son
Рембрандт, Поворот Блуд. Сина, р. 1662

Батьки завжди тішаються своїми дітьми. Стараються постійно виховувати їх у страсі Божій, щоб вивести їх в люди. Вчать їх завжди чесно працювати, Богові повсякчасно молитися, старших поважати і молодшим давати добрий приклад. Нікого не кривдити, шанувати чуже і свого не цуратися.

Ми всі бажаємо найкращого для своїх дітей, ми всі мріємо про щасливу родину, в якій Господь перебував би і не було би роздору, ані сварки, у якій любов панувала би, де була би взаємна пошана, виrozumіння. Де помилки не привели би до погіршення відносин, але до призадуми над способом покращання родинного життя.

Незадовго увійдемо у Великий піст. Це буде прекрасна нагода до роздумування над тим, якими ми є батьками і якими ми є дітьми, і що можемо змінити, щоб все діялося так, як Бог приказав, тобто – щоб жити по Христу.

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Feb. 12: Meat-Fare S. – М'ясопус. Н. 12

12:00 PM +Petro Hrynczak
(Mary Hanuszczak)

Mon., February 13 – Пон., 13 Лютого
8:15 AM +Євген Ференцевич (О. Чмола)

Tue., February 14 – Вівторок, 14 Лютого
9:00 AM +Katherine & Michael Chort
(Marianne)

Wed., February 15 – Середа, 15 Лютого
See Julian

Thu., February 16 – Чет., 16 Лютого
9:15 AM +Олександра Грета і пан.
(Лев і Роман Кузмінський)

Fri., February 17 – П'ятниця., 10 Лютого
10:00 AM За прославу Сл. Б. Патр. Йосифа
For beatif. of Patriarch Josyf Slipu

Sat., February 18 – Субота, 18 Лютого
9:00 AM В нам. Р. Шиян (І. Гіль)
4:30 PM +Walter Osadciw (A. Wojczak)

Feb. 19: Cheese-Fare S. – Сироп. Н. 13

12:00 PM For Parishioners – За Парохіян

St. Valentines Chinese Auction and Lunch
at St. Basil's Ukrainian Catholic Church
3653 Walden Ave., Lancaster NY
Hearty Chicken Soup all you can eat \$8
(\$4.50 a Quart take home)

12 to 4 PM

Homemade Pies

Door Prizes and fun for all

Eternal Light burns for
+Pylyp & Justyna
Requ. By Tekla Moczerniak

ПОР'ЯДОК СВ. ЛІТУРГІЙ

12 Лютого: Н. Митаря і Фарісея 12

10:00 р. +Ольга Басараб (СУА)

15 Лютого: СТРИТЕННЯ Г.Н.І.Х.

10:00 р. +Гриць Святківський
(Роман Кузмінський)

19 Лютого: М'ясопусна Неділя 13

10:00 р. +Ярослав (М. Л. Стасюки)

Вічне Світло в честь ПДМ горить
в нам. Пана Михайла Мохнача
з нагоди 95-ліття. Многая Літа!

Пожертви на Патріяший
Фонд - можна передати:
п. Онуфрієві Білоголовському
або п. Миколі Паславському.

SITCH DINNER MEETING

Sunday, March 25, 2012

at Joseph Hriczko Post,
Clemo St., Buffalo, NY after

12:00 pm Liturgy for the reposed and
living members of Sitch at

St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church
COCKTAILS at 1:00 pm DINNER at

1:30 pm includes refreshments

Meeting to be held after dinner.

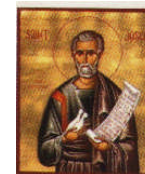
Dinner cost is \$10.00 for members
and \$15.00 for guests.

Membership dues of \$5.00 for the 2012
year **must be current** and may be paid at
the door. For reservations call:

Mike Liskiewicz 837-0285 or

Maria Malaniak 668-5105

Reservation deadline is March 18, 2012



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UPCOMING CHURCH EVENTS

Просимо звернути
увагу на дати:



Sunday Coffee Hours: If any one would like to volunteer to host a Sunday, please contact Elaine, Dora, Emily, Mary (B.) or Anna.

- **KITCHEN** – is open Fridays 11 AM - 3 PM. Thank you for your help and patronage.
- **Coffee Hour** - Usually Every Sunday after Liturgy in Church Hall. Please join us!

Christ is Born! Glorify Him!

TOP'S GIFT CARDS:

Please help us raise money for our Church by purchasing



Top's Gift Cards from us. If you buy in Tops anyway, why not help. You do not lose or gain anything by doing this, but our Church will benefit greatly. We receive back 5% of your spending. To take advantage of this program, see Mary Bodnar or call 655-3810, or call the rectory. Thank you and God Bless!

Please note: You can purchase gasoline with this card at Tops Gasoline Station.

У нас успішно продаються Карточки з крамниці "Топс". Купуючи їх ви помагате церкві. Для Вас не робить різниці чи ви платили грішми чи карточкою, але церква дістане від „Топс” 5%. На \$1,000 церква одержить \$50. Що б закупити слід звертатися до п. Марії Боднар, або до канцелярії. Дякуємо! Також можна цією карточкою купувати бензину.

CHURCH BULLETIN is published weekly. Deadline for information is Friday Evening.

ЦЕРК. ВІСНИК видається тижнево
Інформації подавати до четверга вечора.

**SAINT NICHOLAS
UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
УКРАЇНСЬКА КАТОЛИЦЬКА ЦЕРКВА
СВЯТОГО МИКОЛАЯ
(ПІД ОПІКОЮ ПРЕЧИСТОЇ
ДІВИ МАРІЇ ОДІГІТРИЇ)**

Parish E-Mail: stnbuffalo@yahoo.com

Web Page: <http://www.stnbuffalo.com>

Dioc. Web: <http://www.stamforddio.org>

308 Fillmore Avenue, Buffalo, N. Y. 14206

Rectory: (716) 852-7566

Fax: 855-1319 ~ **Kitchen:** 852-1908

Confession: Before Liturgies

Сповідь: Перед Св. Літургіями

Baptism: By appointment

Хрещення: За домовленням

Marriage: Contact 6 months in advance

Вінчання: Голоситися 6 місяців скорше

Religion classes – Релігійна Програма

Saturday 11:45 AM – Субота 11:45 р.

Ministry to the sick - Опіка над хворими

Family members should call the Rectory

Родина повинна повідомити священика

IN EMERGENCY CALL ANY TIME

В разі потреби завжди можна закликати

Rev. Raymond Palko, visiting priest

V. Rev. Marijan Procyk, pastor & dean

**Please call if you are hospitalized,
homebound and need a priest.**

**Просимо закликати якщо ви у
лічниці або приковані до ліжка!**

DONATIONS TO ST. NICHOLAS

Donations Towards Coffee Hour

*(Coffee Hour Benefits-Yearly
Communication Assessment Fee)*

Maria Plotycia

Andrij & Maria Petryshyn

In memory of Daria Wojtowych

Anna Hanicki 20

Anna Teluk 20

Wasylyna Ostaszuk 20

Thank You! Дякуємо!

The League of Ukrainian Catholics,
Niagara Frontier Council will hold a
meeting on Monday,
February 13, 2012 at
7:00PM in the
Church Hall. The
report of the Con-
vention is on the
agenda. All members
and any prospective
members are invited to attend.



Засідання Ліги Укр. Католиків буде
у понеділок, 13 лютого.

**ПРОЩА ДО ЛЮРДУ І СВ. ЗЕМЛІ
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Woodstock, ON Canada N4S 8X8

49 Відділ Союзу Українок

повідомляє, що з першого Лютого 2012 року розпочинаємо щорічну збірку на стипендії для незаможної молоді в Україні. Чеки можна виписувати на Ukrainian National Women's League.



Минулорічні звіти є у реф. Стипендій.
За інформаціями просимо звертатися до референток 49-го Відділу:

Зоряни Яцишин-Банчі – 668-9504

Оксани Салдит – 832-9331

Стипендійна Акція 49 Відділу СУА

The Blessings of Homes
Father will attempt to bless as many homes as possible this year. If for some reason he does not make it to your home and you want your house blessed, or if you would like a certain time of day, please let Father know.

Постараюся відвідати з благословенням домів. Якщо не буду у вас а хотіли би, що б я прийшов, або є проблема часу через працю – просимо дати знати і постараємося прийти у відповідний час.

**Please say a prayer
for the vocation!**

**Просимо помолитися
за священичі покликання!**

Запрошуємо на концерт
присвячений творчості нашого
легендарного поета, художника
та борця за волю українського
народу

Тараса Григоровича Шевченка

Який відбудеться в
Неділю, 11 березня 2012 року
о 1-шій годині

в залі Української Православної
Церкви Святої Тройці,
200 Como Park Boulevard,
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Будемо вдячні за
добровільні датки!

Celebration of Taras Shevchenko

You are cordially invited to
help celebrate our poet, artist
and our freedom fighter

To be held on

**Sunday, March 11, 2012
At 1 pm**

At Holy Trinity
Ukrainian Orthodox Church
200 Como Park Boulevard
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Program has been prepared by
**School of Ukrainian Studies
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After the concert,
the Parents Committee
Will be serving

**Ukrainian Sandwiches, coffee
and homemade sweets**

**Donations will be
greatly appreciated!**



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USA

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February 9, 2012

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Слава Ісусу Христу!

I write to you concerning an alarming and serious matter that negatively impacts the Church in the United States directly, and that strikes at the fundamental right to religious liberty for all citizens of any faith. The federal government which claims to be “of, by, and for the people” has just dealt a heavy blow to almost a quarter of those people – the Catholic population – and to the millions more who are served by the Catholic faithful.

The US Department of Health and Human Services announced recently that almost all employers, including Catholic employers, will be forced to offer their employees health coverage that includes sterilization, abortion-inducing drugs and contraception. Almost all health insurers will be forced to include these “services” in the health policies they write. And almost all individuals will be forced to buy that coverage as a part of their policies.

In so ruling, the Administration has cast aside the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, denying to Catholics our Nation’s first and most fundamental freedom, that of religious liberty. And as a result, unless the rule is overturned, we Catholics will be compelled and must be prepared either to violate our consciences, or to drop health coverage for our employees (and suffer the penalties for doing so). The Administration’s sole concession was to give our institutions one year to comply.

Despite intense pleas from thousands of Americans, Catholics and non-Catholics alike, to reconsider this plan, the Administration has forged ahead and insisted on implementing this mandate. Its consequences will be dramatic and devastating, not only for Catholics, but for the many non-Catholics who are served by Catholic health care and educational facilities.

We cannot – we will not – comply with this unjust law. People of faith cannot be made second class citizens. We are already joined by our brothers and sisters of all faiths and many others of good will in this important effort to regain our religious freedom. Our parents and grandparents did not come to these shores to help build America’s cities and towns, its infrastructure and institutions, its enterprise and culture, only to have their posterity stripped of their God given rights. In generations past, the Church has always been able to count on the faithful to stand up and protect her sacred rights and duties. I hope and trust she can count on this generation of Catholics to do the same. Our children and grandchildren deserve nothing less.

And therefore, I would ask of you two things. First, as a community of faith we must commit ourselves to prayer and fasting, especially during the upcoming season of the Great Fast, that wisdom and justice may prevail, and religious liberty may be restored. Without God, we can do nothing; with God nothing is impossible. Second, I would also recommend visiting www.usccb.org/conscience to learn more about this severe assault on religious liberty, and how to contact Congress and voice your support for legislation that would reverse the Administration’s decision.

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Rev. Paul Chomnycky, OSBM
Eparch of Stamford

З радія "Милосердний Самарянин"

Сьогодні розважимо про євангеліє від Луки (15.1-32), що вміщує притчу про Блудного сина, яку б можна також назвати притчюю про Милосердного батька або притчюю про самолюбного брата. Послужимось матеріялами диякона Євгена Станішевського з веб сторінки нашої церкви у Львові.

Молодший син звертається до Батька, вживаючи слово батько в кличному відмінку. Тут, це звернення не стільки підкреслює позитивні синівські почуття, скільки, радше, юридичну доцільність вимоги про наслідство. Право отримати наслідство для нього є більш важливим від правил родинного співжиття, яке для нього, мабуть, стало обтяжливим, і він вирішує отримати спадок ще при житті батька. Він хоче зробити так, щоб позбутися батьківської опіки, щоб його життя стало незалежним. Батько вдовільняє його бажання і він відходить у далекий край.

На перший погляд виглядає, що молодший син не залишає вдома нічого, але це не так. Він залишає найбільш суттєве: батьківську любов, даром якої є це все, що він забрав.

За деякий час син все розтрачає ма тзв. приятилів, а коли гроший у нього не стало, то і приятилі зникли, і голод запанував.

Коли маємо гроші то здається і приятилів багато і все йде в порятку, але коли гроший не стане і приятилі зникають, б показується, що вони насправді не були добрими друзями. А друзів не можна за гроші купити.

Той, хто виступає проти Бога, або йде далеко від Нього, не може собі як слід дати ради. Людина по своїй природі не є самовистарчальною, вона як сотворіння, що має співпрацювати із своїм Творцем, щоб уподобитися до нього, повинна мати його перед собою. Тільки тоді, коли Бог є перед нею вона здатна виконати це завдання, що їй було поставлене. Коли ж людина відходить від Бога, який їй залишає свободу вибору, вона обов'язково буде спог-

лядати на когось, чи на щось, що стає її ідолом, предметом її поклоніння. Споглядаючи на ідола, що займає місце Творця, людина вже буде уподібнюватися йому, служити йому, з кожним кроком віддаляючись від того, хто її створив на свій образ (Бут 1, 27). Це якраз стається з молодшим сином. Він наймається на служіння до одного з мешканців далекого краю і той посилає його вирощувати, плекати те, що мало б бути осоружним для людини. У єврейському середовищі свині вважалися тваринами нечистими. Той, хто їх вигодовував, спричинявся до зросту, побільшення нечистоти. Зусилля, що їх прикладає син, який відійшов від Батька, ідуть на побільшення нечистоти.

В людині замученій голодом виникає страшне бажання наповнити шлунок, навіть тим, що їдять свині, але і того ніхто не давав йому, хіба самому брати їх від свиней, і то тоді коли того ніхто не бачить.

І так молодший син стоїть перед вибором не тільки їсти чи не їсти, але радше – признатися самому собі ким він є насправді. Бо від того, ким вважає себе людина, залежить вид їжі, що її може задовільнити, вид страви, що може втамувати її голод. Бути голодним – це ще само по собі не є прокляттям. Більше того, Ісус каже: «Блаженні голодні нині, бо ви насититесь» (Лк 6, 21). Так людина, яка відчуває голод, але не падає на їжу, що їй не може бути корисна, є блаженною, бо терплячи голод, вона шукає правдивої поживи, тої, що може дати їй можливість зростати як Людина. Голод цей полягає у віддаленості від Бога, у незмозі почути слова Господні (Ам 8, 11). І коли людина відходить надто далеко від творця, він посилає їй змогу підкріпитися, бо тільки він може це зробити, він посилає свого Сина, що є хлібом життя (Йо 6, 32-35). Ісус стається поживою, дорогою, життям, і тільки через нього можна прийти до Отця (Йо 14, 6)...

From the desk of Fr. Ray Palko

CHRIST IS BORN!

February 12, 2012

GLORIFY HIM!

Glory to Jesus Christ!

Dear (say your name here for your very own personal letter),

Good Morning to you! And it is already a very beautiful morning as I begin to write your letter. The sun is not yet up, but the sky is clear and beautiful as the light begins to flow over the eastern horizon. According to the weather forecasters, it is going to be a pleasant and comfortable winter day, as it's been for most of the week.

The cloud free skies have been absolutely gorgeous the past few days. At night it has been such a joy to walk in the cold winter air under the bright light of the full moon and look up to the myriads of stars shining in the heavens. I often pray for you on those walks. I hope you, too, were able to see some of those heavenly gifts of our good God.

It seems as if the ol' groundhog, "Punxsutawney Phil," got his forecast correct last week. The storm that made the news out in the west, moved across the country giving many a real, and in some cases, almost the first taste of winter. We're supposed to have a wintry weekend here on the Niagara Frontier, but by the time you read this, it will have passed. He said hopefully.

As with most of the US, our winter has been unusually mild and virtually snow free till now. Lake Erie is not even frozen over for the first time in many, many years. "Labatt's," the beer company, sponsors an annual 'pond hockey' tournament down at the harbor about this time. This year it won't happen due to "lack of ice." There's a bunch of money, and a lot of "serious" teams involved so the event won't/can't be cancelled. It is now called "The Street Hockey Tournament," and the players will be wearing running shoes instead of skates.

While it's not snowing very much in the USA this year, other parts of the world seem to be getting our share. It's been a very snowy winter in

Japan, and all of Europe. The eastern European countries, in particular Ukraine, have been suffering through, and then digging out of, one storm after another. Making matters worse the storms are accompanied by icing conditions, strong winds and extremely cold temperatures. A combination of that sort is always a recipe for disaster, and that is exactly what's been happening over there. Many injuries and deaths are being reported as a result of the harsh wintry weather. Let's whisper a prayer for them.

At this time of year our parishes are completing end of the year reporting and also preparing for annual parish meetings. We will have ours in Niagara Falls next week after the regular Sunday liturgy. Another excellent tribute to the people of "Holy Protection" is the fact that our meeting is actually held in the church proper. In this way we emphasize the fact that all that we do, i.e., whatever business we have, whatever earthly things to be considered, or whatever we "must render unto Caesar," we do for the good of the parish, the Church and unto the glory of God.

With the meetings either scheduled or completed, a number of our parishes are having their "last fling events" prior to the start of the Great Fast. Here on the Niagara Frontier, St. John the Baptist parish had a St. Valentine's Day Dinner-Dance and St. Basil's in Lancaster will be having a lunch and silent auction this Sunday, February 12.

From a quick glance at other bulletins from around the Metropolia it is evident that a lot of other people and parishes have the same idea. Gotta do the Mardi Gras thing!

What I'm saying, I guess, is the holy time of Great Lent is fast approaching with the first day falling on February 20 for those who pray according to the new calendar. This is the week of "Meatfare," or "bye-bye to meat." According to the way of fasting as taught by our ancestors, we would abstain from meat and dairy products for the entire Great Fast and Holy Week. Our regulations have been very much relaxed in recent

years, and we no longer are required to do that. But believe it or not, there are many, many people who try to keep the strict fast of no meat and no dairy. So this is the week to clean out the freezer, use up the meat or give it to the poor. And speaking of last flings, this is the week to indulge in that can of Spam! A little personal Mardi Gras! ☺☺

A thank-you and a reminder: Thank you for all your donations to the Franciscan Center. Remember to keep up the donations. Things have slowed a bit after Christmas, but you always manage to place something in the box, or even send a check in the mail for the kids. Those Frannie priests have one tough job, but they are helping and saving one kid after another. And we whisper another prayer for the Friars over there.

So with this letter I want you to know we are all doing well and hopefully you are too. Even when we can say, "We're doing ok" we all know that the spiritual warfare goes on. Much of it unseen as we battle the forces of darkness, but much of it VERY clearly visible when that evil one manifests himself in society, politics and government. We must be strong and never become discouraged. We CAN do something about it. Besides fervent and heartfelt prayer, we can vote! All the noise and controversy that is going on these days is ALL ABOUT LIFE! We must learn to be strong, faithful Christians and Catholics. We must know our faith and live it and fight for it.

Be strong, be faithful, be blessed, my dear one.
Z Nami Boh! God is with us!
"Go with God! Stay with God!"

In His Love,

Fr. Ray

From "Good Samaritan" Ukr. Radio pr.

Of all the beautiful Churches in the world, the Sistine Chapel in Vatican City is one of the most well-known and admired. It is also the place where all of the Cardinals gather to elect a new Pope to lead the Church. But what you may not know is that one entire wall of this chapel, directly behind the main altar,

is devoted to Michelangelo's fresco of the day of Last Judgment. Several years ago, while visiting Rome, I spent hours just admiring the sheer beauty of Michelangelo's many frescos, but none are as powerful as his Last Judgment, because it compels one to really consider how the Lord will one day judge each of us. What will our merits be? Where did the roads lead us that we traveled on? I imagine that while all the great religious

leaders of the Catholic Church have at one time or another passed through those walls, none could do so without contemplating their life's course and wondering if they will one day find a place in the Kingdom of God. "Christ will separate His people, one from another, as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats - placing his sheep on his right and the goats on his left" (Matthew 25:32). It is our love or our lack of love by which we will one day be judged. A 19th century painting shows a long row of beggars waiting in a soup line. They are all ragged and dirty looking. But around the head of one, barely perceptible, is a halo. One of them is Christ! You may see no halo around the heads of your brothers and sisters in need, yet to serve them is to serve the Lord, for Christ is hidden within them. It is not a question that they do not have, but rather a question that we do not see. The call of God is to become per-



sonally involved in the lives of others. Before the judgment seat of Christ, we will be judged not by how much we have done, but rather by how much we could have done. No man or woman gives at all, until they have given all.

There is a story about a man who boarded a bus intending to go to Detroit. After a long day's journey, he got off the bus and discovered that he was not in Detroit but rather in Kansas City. He

had caught the wrong bus. This story illustrates the fact that the destinations to which we come in life are not determined by our desires and intentions alone, but by the roads we actually travel. Examples of this fact are all around us. Nobody desires to get lung cancer or emphysema, but millions

travel down the road of cigarette smoking that brings them there. I doubt that anyone ever establishes the goal of becoming an alcoholic or drug addict, but millions follow the road of self-medication with alcohol or drugs that ends at that destination - or sometimes even worse, they bring others down that road with them. Each one of us wants to be able to look back upon our life with gratitude, but we often travel roads that lead to remorse and regret. We take the wrong bus, and do not realize it until we end up at the wrong destination. If we are not on the road to Eternal life, Jesus calls on us to make that change today, to repent, to make a U-turn as soon as possible, just like the Prodigal Son did in last week's Gospel reading - in order to return to our Father in Heaven. St. Paul made a complete turnaround after he met Jesus on the road to Damascus. If we are active Christians who follow the teachings of Christ, then the direction our life should lead needs to move toward serving others, daily repentance, toward giving and prayer, toward the Church, and ultimately toward a closer and more personal relationship with God. While these are often the roads



less travelled, they are indeed the journeys worth making.

There once was a man who was sick and tired of all the horror he saw in the world. Day after day, he heard stories of holy wars, violence, and hatred. He asked God if he could have a talk with Him face to face. God said, "Yes, of course, my child." The man said to God, "I can't believe you! This world you created is filled with senseless violence. People kill and torture one another. They hate each other and declare war on one another in the name of money, power, religion, and intolerance. There is famine all over the world. Our environment is on a collision course with disaster. There are innocent people suffering from all kinds

of diseases, and our streets are filled with thieves, rapists, child abusers, drug dealers, murderers, you name it. Why don't you do something about it? Why don't you send someone down here to make this world of yours a better place?" God looked at the man calmly and said, "I did, my child - I sent you." God is calling each of us to loving service because the reality is - God did not just send His Son into the world that we might be saved - Jesus came so that in being saved, we would also go out into this world and spread the word of God to all nations.

Our Lord's question to us on judgment day will not be whether we have acknowledged Him as our Savior, but rather, 'Having acknowledged Christ as our Savior, what did we do with our life?' He will assess the reality of our faith on that basis. St. Paul warns us, "No one makes a fool of God. A person will reap exactly what he sows" (Gal. 6:7). God is love and by His very nature cannot do anything evil, hateful or destructive to anyone. Each of us makes a choice about our Eternal destination - by the roads we choose to travel down and the way in which we live.