



FULLY ALIVE

A Bishop Velychkovsky Martyr's Shrine Publication

IN HIS HONOR

A DREAM COME TRUE

In the city of Ivano-Frankivsk, after years of struggle and prayer, a church was finally built on the plot of land, formerly belonging to the Redemptorists which the Soviets confiscated. Blessed Vasyl was the religious superior of the monastery and had plans for this new church



The new church of our Nativity of the Mother of God in Ivano-Frankivsk

when World War II disrupted all his plans. (For the story of its history, refer to the December 2009 newsletter.) On September 21, 2010, Mary Jane Kalenchuk and Fr. John Sianchuk, C.Ss.R. were present at the blessing of this new Church. It was a glorious experience. The new church named after the Nativity of



Bishop Volodymyr Vityshyn blessing the faithful.

the Mother of God was consecrated by Bishop Volodymyr Vityshyn, the Eparch of Ivano-Frankivsk. A number of diocesan priests were present for this celebration and about 800 faithful crammed into this moderately sized church. The altar was consecrated with a triple washing of holy water, wine, and rose water and then sealed in the four corners with Holy Chrism. Then the church building itself was blessed throughout with holy water and the Bishop "sealed" the church by anointing the four walls of the church with holy oil. The Divine Liturgy continued and was gloriously sung by a choir.

A 1st Class Relics of Blessed Vasyl and his icon were brought from Canada to

this newly consecrated church. The faithful were able to come and venerate the relics and each received a third class relic and a holy card. The people eagerly received these "gifts" and were honored to have a Blessed Martyr as their patron. Blessed Vasyl was born and baptized in their city, and he served here from 1935 to 1941. Many



The 1st Class Relics of Blessed Vasyl incased in the cross on the tetrapod

of the elderly people remembered or had heard of the Redemptorists who were their pastors and spiritual fathers.

This new church is situated near the university and a women's hospital. May its ministry to these people grow and be fruitful. May God grant this new parish many years of blessings!
Многая Літа!

NEW BEGINNINGS IN LVIV

On September 11, 2010 in Lviv, Mary Jane and I began to distribute museum brochures to various churches. We came to the church of Transfiguration and left them on a ledge near the church kiosk. On Monday, September 13, we happened to be passing by this church again. We decided to go in and see if our brochures were still there. The brochures were gone. The sacristy door was partly opened so Mary Jane and I entered and saw a priest whom I did not know. I asked him whether he had seen the brochures. He responded that he had brought them into the sacristy and in clear english began asking us whether we were from the Velychkovsky Shrine in Canada. He explained that he was intending to build a new church/parish in Lviv. He was going that Wednesday to Archbishop Ihor Wozniak to obtain permission for this project and to confirm the name of this church. Originally, he wanted to name it Ss. Peter and Paul, but when he saw our brochures he began considering to name the church "Blessed Vasyl Velychkovsky

In This Issue:

A Dream Come True - 1

New Beginnings - 1

Thanks to Contributors - 3

Shrine Photos - 4

Prayer to Blessed Vasyl - 4

Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church". I immediately gave him reasons why it would be historically important to have a church in Blessed Vasyl's honor.



Fr. Ivan Kolodiy with his wife, Maria and Fr. John Sianchuk, C.Ss.R.

Fr. Ivan Kolodiy was very serious about starting this new church. In our discussion, we mentioned the former Redemptorist Church in Zboisk and our struggles to restore it. He shared with us his experience with city officials and the process necessary in dealing with such matters. He was willing to help us in obtaining this church. We agreed that after his visit with the archbishop on Wednesday, we would visit the ruined church in Zboisk. We were overwhelmed



The ruined church in Zboisk

what had just occurred as this was definitely the Providence of God.

On Wednesday morning, we met with Volodymyr, a carpenter, who was to rebuild the balcony at the Blessed Vasyl apartment/museum. We mentioned that we were going later that day to see the church in Zboisk. He told us that his aunt knew the history of the church and had documents concerning its present ownership. After receiving news from Fr. Ivan that Archbishop

Ihor was delighted to have a new parish named after Blessed Vasyl Velychkovsky, we decided to meet in Zboisk at the aunt's house.

She shared with us her relationship with the Redemptorists. Her husband was the brother of Bro. Irenij, who lived with Blessed Vasyl in the apartment in Lviv. She described her family coming to Lviv and settling near the Zboisk Redemptorist monastery.

The church and the Redemptorists became a haven of hope and comfort for them. She saw the church in Zboisk go into ruins and heard that it had become a warehouse. Before the Redemptorists were forced to leave, the icons and all the artifacts from the church were taken and hidden in various houses. In 1991 (when the church was again granted freedom) this property could not be reclaimed because it was in a military zone. There were attempts again made to obtain the property after the military left. By this time however, the Redemptorists had already started so many building projects that they were afraid to take on any more. Some time past and before long the property was bought by some businessmen (mafia). The aunt formed a group, who began to search means of reclaiming this church, however, they encountered many obstacles. Although, high-rise apartments have now been built surrounding this church, **the church remains untouched.** We were told that the person who built the apartments would renovate this church, but as such there has been no action. From information found in documents she had in her possession, Fr Ivan was able to contact the owners. They were willing to exchange this property for apartments. However, we were reluctant to deal with them further since it seemed that they could not be trusted. We are



Fr. John blessing the walls of the sanctuary of the church in Zboisk

praying that these "businessmen" would simply hand over the property.

Fr. Ivan, Mary Jane and I walked over to see this church in ruins. Fr. Ivan was shocked. He could not believe that in this day and age the Church has not yet acted and has allowed this holy property to remain in such a state of abuse. (The sanctuary is still used as storage for tires.) **THIS CHURCH NEEDS TO BE RESTORED.** It is a scandal that we Catholics would have a blind eye to the abuse of this holy ground.

When the church was freed in the 1990's, many churches were found to be in this state. The government returned most of the properties and the church restored them. This important historical church has remained untouched since the fall of the Soviet Union. We prayed here and asked that God soon find a solution so that this church would again be a place of worship. Both Blessed Vasyl and Blessed



The property in Lviv of the new Blessed Vasyl Velychkovsky Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church

Zenon Kowalyk were ordained to the priesthood here, as well as so many other Redemptorists. Blessed Nicholas Charnetsky helped to build this church.

On our last day in Ukraine, Fr. Ivan and his wife took us to the property where Archbishop Ihor Wozniak had given permission to build a church, naming it Blessed Vasyl Velychkovsky Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church. Let us pray that both of these churches – the new church to be built and the historic church in Zboisk that needs to be restored – be completed according to God's holy will.

Blessed Vasyl intercede for us!

Submitted by Fr. John Sianchuk, C.Ss.R.

THANK YOU!!!

Your generous donations make it possible for us to conduct our ministry at the Shrine and to promote the knowledge of Blessed Vasyl throughout the world. Thank you to all the contributors to the Bishop Velychkovsky Martyr's Shrine. May Blessed Vasyl bless each one of you.

Contributions listed below are from August 15th until November 15th, 2010

+ 1000

Andrew & Pat Sirski

+500

In memory of Gertie Adamko

Jim & Helen Adamko

Anonymous

In memory of husband Hnat, Nicholas &
Matrona Pisiak & Nicholas & Anastasia Zawada
Sophia Pisiak

+100

William & Genevieve Berezny
Folk Arts Council of Winnipeg Inc.
Mychajlo & Anna Gembarsky
Katie Karalash
Walter & Isabel Lukie
E.M. MacIsaac
Anne Michaluk
Gerard & Regina Muench
Judy Odger
John Pidskalny
Redemptorist Novitiate
Betty Romano
Joe & Liz Senderewich
Henry & Iris Spilchuk
Mary Stasiuk
Phyllis Trach

>100

Fr. Volodymyr Bashutsky
Sylvia Biletski
Hazel J. Borodey
Ron & Evelyn Cinch
Stan Drozd
Glen Dube
Renee Forredst
Elizabeth Haughton
Wirlana Holowka
Sofia Hull
Bonita Hunter-Eastwood
Laurie Kais
Albert Kosowan
Iris Kozarchuk
Stephanie Kupskay
Marusia Labay
Bernard & Marjorie Lapchuk
Dr. Joseph Lozinsky
Our Lady of Victory School
Richard & Marietta Persian
Patricia Puchniak
Evelina Quinto
Solito Roque
Winnie Rumore
Helen Schentag
Frank & Anne Shymko
Darlene Sidak

D. Sikora
Mary Sinclair
Iris Smellie
Ken & Bertha Stoyko
Harvey & Gloria Winn
Peter Wozney
Fr. Nestor & Stella Yakiwchuk
Ann Zulak

In Memory of ...

Therese Alarie
Leo Alarie
Agnes Bilowus
Barbara Pawlyshyn
Maria Borowec
Michael Borowec
Alex Bugera
Eileen Dudzic
Alice Fidkalo
Stan & Luba Sirdar
Sophie Gillies
Anna Banera
Dr. Bronislaw Gorski
Stan & Luba Sirdar
Lauretta Gulenchin
Roy Gulenchin
Hnat & Kateryna Hawryluk
Anne Michaluk
Adam Huchko
Jennie Huchko
Dr. M.S. Jahanger
Carol Jahanger
Kardynal & Hydeman families
Harry & Evelyn Kardynal
Kawcuniak/Chomyn family
Paul & Anne Kawcuniak
Michael Kszyk
Erika Kszyk
Fr. Sylvester Kutzel
Kolin & Ela Berglund
John & Olga Mezibroski
Dr. Joe S. & Janice Mezibroski
Michael Michalshyn
Dr. Joe S. & Janice Mezibroski
Peter Minski
R. Paley
Edward & Perry Nakonechny
Nettie Nakonechny
Olga Pekarsky
Victoria McAuley
Barbara Pawlyshyn
Marcia Pawlyshyn
Michael Robert Sidak
Darlene Sidak
Sts. Peter & Paul Seniors Org.
Sts. Peter & Paul Senior Org.
Shpytkovsky & Kotovych family
Wsevolod Andrew Shpytkovsky

Zenon Swydneycky
Jenny Swydneycky
Catherine Torbiak
Vladimir & Marlene Solman
Mary Wach
Nadia Trafananko
Steve Wuschenny
Pauline Wuschenny
Nellie Zeaton
Ken & Julia Bailey
Dolores Daniels
Stan & Luba Sirdar

In Honour of ...

Rose Allin
Eileen Dudzic
Baehnk children & grandchildren
Harold & Roseanne Baehnk
In honour of our 65th Wedding Anniversary
Nicholas & Regena Blocka
Marianne Derkach
Hazel J. Borodey
Buzma family
Stefanie Buzma
Fedorchuk & Ostafchuk families
Orest & Margaret Fedorchuk
Bob & Diane Gingera
Mary Kokolski
Gene, Liz, Irene, Barry, Glen & Tony
Gene & Elizabeth Hapychuk
Rev. Walter Klimchuk
Casper & Violet Stoski
Meagan
Paul & Adeline Carbotte
Sr. Beverly Nonte, CSJ
Richard & Alice Small
Renee Perry
Delphine Pawlak
Jody Yakabowski
Metro Lukie

Please consider Bishop Velychkovsky Martyr's Shrine when planning your estate. This will help to secure the future of this ministry and for the process of his canonization. Thank you.

SHRINE PILGRIMS



Our Lady of Victory School Grade 5 Class
in Winnipeg, MB



55 Plus Bus Tour Group from
Edmonton, AB



Catechism children from Dauphin, MB make
a pilgrimage to the Shrine



Shrine Volunteers receiving anointing during
Volunteer Appreciation Evening



Novices from the North American
Redemptorist Novitiate in Toronto, ON

SHRINE SCHEDULE

Monday: Shrine is closed
Tuesday to Friday: 10 am to 5 pm
Saturday: 10:00 am to 1:00 pm
Sunday: opened until 1:00 pm

Shrine is open to the faithful during the times
of Liturgical Services. The Museum is opened on weekends
after each Divine Liturgy.

Group tours are available.
For pilgrimage group tours call for reservations
204-338-7321 or e-mail: bvshrine@mts.net

EVERY WEDNESDAY EVENING 7:00 pm
Liturgical Service to Blessed Vasyi
(Acatist or Moleben) followed by an anointing with
Holy Oil blessed by his relics.

Prayer to Blessed Martyr Bishop Vasyi

*O Lord God, You are praised by the whole world for the
marvelous works in your saints. I thank you for the
grace you gave to **Blessed Martyr Vasyi
Velychkovsky** to be a faithful witness to You unto the
point of death. Through his intercession I ask for the
following favour _____ for your Name is glorified
forever. Amen.*

Please inform the Shrine of any favors received:
Bishop Velychkovsky Martyr's Shrine
250 Jefferson Avenue
Winnipeg, MB R2V 0M6
Canada
Tel: 204-338-7321 or e-mail: bvshrine@mts.net

*Wishing all of our supporters and their families
a blessed Christmas and a peaceful and healthy New Year*

Bishop Velychkovsky Martyr's Shrine
250 Jefferson Avenue Winnipeg, Manitoba Canada R2V 0M6
Tel: 204-338-7321 Email: bvshrine@mts.net Website: www.bvmartyrshrine.com