

FULLY ALIVE

A Bishop Velychkovsky Martyr's Shrine Publication

CELEBRATING FIVE YEARS

REFLECTING BACK

Five years ago on June 27th, 2001 before a crowd of 1.5 million people in the city of Lviv, the late Pope John Paul II beatified the martyrs Nicholas Charnetsky and 24 Companions. The beatification was a moving experience for me as I stood with several thousand priests and heard the words "With our apostolic authority we permit that the

ferred so much and was buried in Winnipeg, was now to be known and venerated as Blessed Vasyl Velychkovsky.

"No one lights a lamp to put it under a bushel basket; they put it on a lampstand where it shines for everyone in the house...your light must shine...that they may give praise to your Father in heaven." (Mt 5:15-16) Soon after the beatification, preparations began to have Blessed Vasyl's holy relics exhumed from All Saints Cemetery near Winnipeg and brought into St. Joseph's Ukrainian Catholic Church where a chapel-shrine was built to receive them. On the day of the enshrinement, thousands of pilgrims escorted the fully-intact holy body of Blessed Vasyl to the Shrine-Chapel. Then the work of the shrine began.

A shrine co-ordinator was hired. Volunteers were gathered and trained to begin welcoming the pilgrims that were coming to the Shrine. A weekly Wednesday evening devotional service began which included special prayers and an anointing for healing and blessing. Since that time, the Shrine has received pilgrims daily who come and visit the museum and learn about Blessed Vasyl's holy life. In the shrine, pilgrims spend time in prayer and intercession before his Holy Relics. Scores of groups of pilgrims have come to the shrine from across North America. Knowledge of Blessed Vasyl is slowly growing. More and more graces

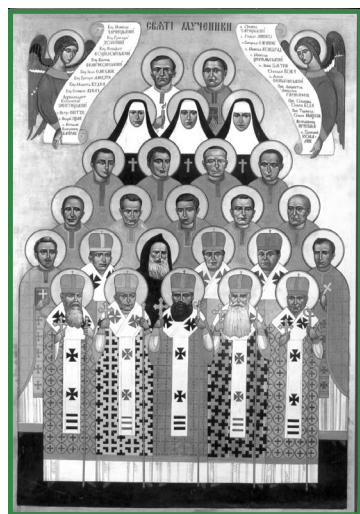
received through his intercession are being recorded, including some powerful healings. The Shrine has become truly a light that is shining in the darkness of our world. Blessed Vasyl has not left us or-

"No one lights a lamp to put it under a bushel basket; they put it on a lampstand where it shines for everyone in the house...your light must shine...that they may give praise to your Father in heaven." (Mt 5:15-16)

phans but is with us and intercedes for us. Through the Shrine we are learning about the powerful presence of the Witness to Christ and the challenge that comes to each one of us to live our lives fully and in obedience to the will of God.

As we celebrate this 5th Anniversary of Blessed Vasyl's Beatification we thank God for raising such a powerful Witness in our midst and that we are honoured to have Blessed Vasyl walk with us and guide us in our spiritual journey.

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



Icon of Nicholas Charnetsky & 24 Companion Martyrs blessed by Pope John Paul II at the beatification.

Servants of God Nicholas Charnetsky and the 24 Companion Martyrs, from now on be celebrated as Blesseds". In these words I heard the words of Peter, the first chief apostle and the authority he received from Jesus "Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven." (Mt 16:19). Joy filled my heart to know that our Redemptorist confrere and bishop, who had suf-

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A TREASURE FOUND: BLESSSED VASYL'S BOOK ON THE MOTHER OF GOD

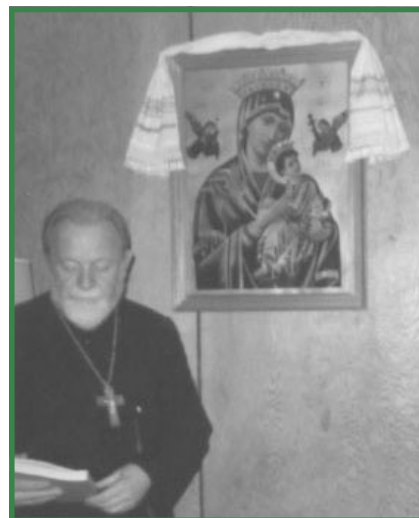
When Blessed Vasyl was arrested (the final time) on January 27, 1969 by the Soviets, one of his 'crimes' was that he had written a book about the History of the Icon of our Mother of Perpetual Help. At the time of the arrest, the book was complete and being corrected but was never published. As we began our research to find this book, we discovered that the Soviets had once displayed it in the Museum for Atheism in Lviv. Although it was no longer on display, it was found in their warehouse. We were fortunate to obtain a copy. This 250 page book is now being prepared for print in Ukrainian and hopefully in the near future an English translation. Blessed Vasyl expressed his heart in this book and revealed his personal love for the Mother of God. There are many beautiful parts of this book that will be shared in the future. Here are two prayers from the book.

I. Prayer for protection from sin

"Mother of Perpetual Help! I thank You that You have implored God for the forgiveness of my sins that I have committed in my life. I thank You for Your protection from other sins I would have most certainly committed if it was not for Your help. Unfortunately, the fight with the enemies for my salvation has not yet ceased. Temptations haunt me, and if You do not assist me, I will fall into making the very same mistakes I used to make before. Help me, my Mother, always help me! Because of Your love for Jesus, let me refer to You in the moments of temptations, saying: "My Mother, help me! Mother of Perpetual Help! Help me never to be separated from Jesus Christ by committing a deadly sin. Amen."

II Prayer for a family.

"Mary, Perpetual Help of Christian families! I implore You, protect my family which I entrust to You with the greatest confidence. Protect it from every evil, and grant its members all essential things for their salvation. Make it a place of cultivation of Christian values, so that the spirit of our Lord Jesus Christ could rest upon it. Bless it, my Mother. Receive it under Your perpetual protection; protect it as Your property, and through Your help make all its members live in peace and mutual understanding. Amen."



PILGRIMS AT THE SHRINE



St. Joseph's Gr. 8 catechism



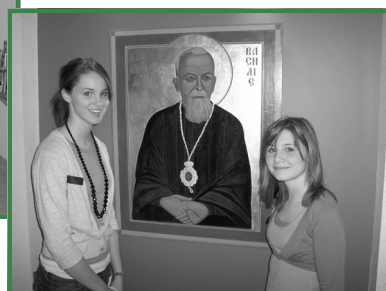
Catechism Children & parents from Ukr. Cath. Church of the Resurrection, Dauphin



St. Gerard Catholic School
Gr. 4 students



Aboriginal High School Students
from Fort Alexander



Students from St. Mary's Academy
completing their Christian Services



Fr. Winn anointing Catechism children & parents from Holy Eucharist Church

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. We are grateful to those who have named the Shrine as a beneficiary in memory of their loved ones. May Blessed Vasyl bless each one of you.

Contributions listed below are from March 1st 2006 until April 30th, 2006

500+

Don & Denise Chipilski
Don & Karen Solman

100+

Genevieve Berezny
Wasyi & Olena Gusztak
Holy Eucharist UCWLC
Holy Family Ukr. Cath. Church UCWLC
Knights of Columbus-Holy Eucharist
Council #11330
Geraldine Koban
In memory of husband Stefan
Edith Kotyk
In memory of Adam Lega
Natalie Storozuk
In memory of Helen Lukie
John & Marta Baluta
Alexander & Olga Boychuk
Orest & Margaret Fedorchuk
Stan & Luba Sirdar
Lillian Yuryk
Emil M. Maybo
St. Anne's Ukr. Cath. Church UCWLC
Laura Tait
In memory of deceased family members
Michael & Sophie Tataryn
UCBC Holy Eucharist Branch

<100

Josefina Barcelo
Gene & Sylvia Bodnar
In memory of Florence M. Bouderau
Stan & Eileen Dudzic
For the health of Msgr. V. J. Bozyk
Minn Karabin
In memory of husband Nat
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Lew & Lubow Figol
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For health of Anne Harasymchuk
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Orest & Margaret Fedorchuk
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In memory of Nell Kozoriz
Minn Karabin
In memory of mother Anne Eleanor Bilinsky
Robert & Dolly Kuzyk
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Olga Nakonechny
Metro M. Nazar

Slawomyr & Alexandra Pihut
Patricia Puchniak
Redemptorists of Venice, FL
In memory of husband Michael
Jean Roshko
M. Anne Shpak
For the health of Fr. John Sianchuk
Alexander & Olga Boychuk
Orest & Margaret Fedorchuk
In memory of John J. Shewchuk
Stan & Luba Sirdar
Iris Smellie
Henry & Iris Spilchuk
In memory of Katerina & Luka Staranczak
Ewhen & Stephanie Brenycz
For health of Joyce Stelnicki
Minn Karabin
Jenny Swydneyck
In memory of Mary Trach
B. Walus
Carmela Versace
In honour of Ed & Nan Weber
Vincent & Marianne Artymko
Frank & Nellie Zeaton

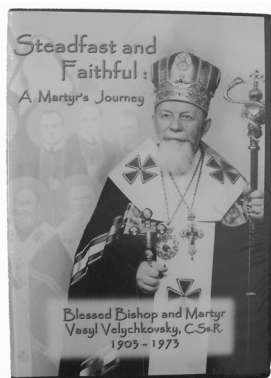
Correction from last Newsletter

In memory of husband William
Adeline Dudar

DOCUMENTARY ON TV

A new documentary produced by Ignatius Productions about Blessed Martyr Bishop Vasyl Velychkovsky called "Steadfast and Faithful: a Martyr's Journey" will be aired on **EWTN** (Mother Angelica's TV Network) on **Friday JUNE 30, 4:30 pm CDST**. **EWTN** is a Catholic TV

Newtwork that broadcasts throughout the whole world. Please tune in.



A copy of this documentary is available at the museum gift shop. The DVD also includes the devotional service of the Acathist Hymn in honour of Blessed Vasyl.

To order the above item, check our website or e-mail the Shrine office.

Contributions to the Shrine are cumulative. Once a Donor has contributed a total of \$1000, their name is **placed permanently** on the beautifully designed Donor Wall in the museum. The other categories are: Sponsor \$5,000+; Benefactor \$10,000+; and Patron \$25,000+.

Please remember the Shrine in your estate or in memory of your loved ones.



Ukrainian Redemptorists 100 years

ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE CELEBRATIONS

for the
Feast Day of the Ukrainian Catholic Martyrs
NICHOLAS CHARNETSKY and COMPANIONS
at Bishop Velychkovsky Martyr's Shrine
5th Anniversary of Beatification

TUESDAY JUNE 27, 2006

DAY PROGRAM

9:00 Divine Liturgy
10:00 Rosary
10:30 Moleben to the Martyrs
with anointing

Lunch available

1:15 "Steadfast & Faithful"
DVD Presentation
2:30 Acafist Hymn in honor of
Blessed Bishop and
Martyr Vasyl Velychkovsky,
C.Ss.R. with anointing



EVENING PROGRAM

7:00 Divine Liturgy
Pilgrimage Procession
Moleben to Blessed Vasyl
Veneration of Relics
Anointing for Healing

LOCATION: St. Joseph's Ukrainian Catholic Church
Bishop Velychkovsky Martyr's Shrine
250 Jefferson Ave. Winnipeg, Manitoba
for more information call: 338-7321

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 Vasyl
(Acathist or Moleben) followed by an anointing
with
Holy Oil blessed by his relics.

Prayer to Blessed Martyr Bishop Vasyl

*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
Vasyl Velychkovsky** to be a faithful witness to
You unto the point of death. Through his inter-
cession I ask for the following favour _____
for your Name is glorified forever. Amen.*

Please inform the Shrine of any
favors received:
Fr. Provincial
250 Jefferson Avenue
Winnipeg, MB R2V 0M6
Canada

BLESSINGS AND GRACES

If you have received a blessing or grace through the
intercession of Blessed Vasyl, please contact the
Shrine Office1q
at (204)338-7321. It is important that they are re-
corded as they help in the process of the canoniza-

Call in Prayer Requests

For a special intention or prayer request you
may phone or email us. Your prayer request
will be placed in the Shrine and remem-
bered in prayer every Wednesday evening
after the service in honour of Blessed Vasyl.

HAPPY FIFTH ANNIVERSARY
Come and Celebrate the Feastday with us

Bishop Velychkovsky Martyr's Shrine
250 Jefferson Avenue Winnipeg, Manitoba Canada R2V 0M6
Tel: 204-338-7321 Fax: 204-339-1062 Email: bvshrine@mts.net Website: www.bvmartyrshrine.com