

# FULLY ALIVE

A Bishop Velychkovsky Martyr's Shrine Publication

## RETURNING HOME

#### A HOMECOMING



Church of the Dormition of the Mother of God in Probizhnia

On August 28, the feast of the Dormition of the Mother of God, the Holy Relics of Blessed Vasyl Velychkovsky were solemnly brought and enshrined in the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Parish in Probizhnia, Western Ukraine. Prohizhnia is the childhood village of Blessed Vasyl, where his grandfather Fr. Nicholas Teodorowych was

the pastor. It is also the place where Blessed Vasyl did his first few years of schooling from 1909 to 1911. This enshrinement coincided with the Praznyk of the church (the Dormition) and was attended by the neighboring clergy (10) and hundreds of faithful from Probizhnia and the neighboring villages.

The enshrinement also coincided with the 100th anniversary since the death of Blessed Vasyl's grandfather, Fr. Nicholas, in 1917. His grave is still being visited in the parish cemetery. Fr. Nicholas Teodorowych was a great parish priest, an author, a poet, a historian and a great composer of sermons. His in-

tense and true faith-life can be surmised by the vocations that were present in his children. His five sons all became priests, three entered the



Fr. Nicholas's gravesite

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Basilian order and two became diocesan priests. Of the three daughters, two became Basilian Sisters and became superiors of monasteries. Blessed Vasyl's own mother also



Fr. John Sianchuk passing on the Holy Relics to Fr. Zenovy, the pastor



Parishioners at the praznyk

joined the Basilian Sisters after the death of her husband Fr. Volodymyr Velychkovsky. Blessed Vasyl has a rich legacy of priestly and religious vocations in his ancestry.

The enshrinement of his Holy Relics could be considered a homecoming for Blessed Vasyl, because this village and this parish church had a great influence on his life. It is here in May of 1911, that he was consecrated to the Mother of God during a parish mission. In a poem he wrote in 1938, he eloquently described this spiritual event:

"He kneels beside his mama, heart beating more alive, eyes looking with some shining immersed in the icon of Mary.
And the monk-missioner recites the prayer, consecrates them to Mary, Mother of God.....
How fortunate that day forever!
And mama whispers:
'Little son, you belong now to Her, the dearest Mother of God: to Her I have offered all of you.
A Child of Mary never is lost: and you are a child of Mary from this day forth'."



Altar of our Lady before which Bl. Vasyl was consecrated

edged it when She directed me later to the monastery of the Most Holy ReFrom his autobiography we read: "Thus from seven years old I am publicly consecrated and belong to the dear Mother of God; and She received this dedication, and publicly acknowl-



Veneration of the Holy Relics during the praznyk

deemer, where she is the greatest patroness."

It was most fitting that Blessed Vasyl's Holy Relics were brought and given to this parish in Probizhnia on the great day of Her feastday, the Dormition - the church, where he received a "second" mother, who guided him through-



Inside Bl. Vasyl's childhood Parish Church

out his life, who led him through his arrests and imprisonments to give his whole life to Jesus, Her Son.

## YOUTH RALLY IN KAMIANETZ-PODILSKY



Bl. Vasyl as Patron for the Youth festival

From July 27-30, 2017, a youth rally was held in the beautiful ancient city of Kamianetz-Podilsky. Some 280 youth from the various Redemptorists parishes gathered for a bi-annual festival called "Being Called to the Kingdom". The patron chosen to guide the youth of this journey was Blessed Vasyl Velychkovsky. Blessed Vasyl himself had come to Kamianet-Podilsky as a missionary in 1941. He writes of this event in detail in his autobiography. The festival was filled with singing, fellowship,

teachings, prayer, drama presentations etc.
One morning

was dedicated to Blessed

Vasyl's story. Sister Tadea, a Redemptorist, gave a moving account of Blessed Vasyl's life which brought all the participants to tears.



Youth at the weekend rally



Youth from all of Ukraine gather in Kamianetz-Podilsky for the festival



Sr. Tadea, Redemptorist, giving a presentation on Bl. Vasyl



Fr. Myhaylo, C.Ss.R. anointing the youth with oil blessed by the relics of Bl. Vasyl

## **VISITORS TO THE SHRINE**



**Pilgrims from Winnipeg** 



Fernandez family from Winnipeg



**Redemptorist novices from Toronto** 



Paul & Lynne Kyba (Calgary) & Bruce and Cornelia (Kyba) Bobinski (Saskatoon)



Lazuruk sisters from B.C. with their brother David from Winnipeg



Members of the River East Menonite Church, Winnipeg



Mares Go from Winnipeg with Fr. Dindo Pepino of the Philippines



Deacon Hyland Frase with family and friends from Alberta



Seminarians from the Fraternal Society of St. Peter, Denton, Nebraska

Sisters of the Alliance of the Hearts of Jesus and Mary on pilgrimage throughout Canada with the Fatima Statute



#### **SUMMER STUDENT**

Andriy Andriyeshyn, a Ukrainian Catholic seminarian from Winnipeg and studying in Ottawa, was our student worker this past summer. We thank him for all his help and wish him God's blessings as he furthers his studies.

# **THANK YOU!!!**

Your generous donations make it possible to conduct the ministry of the Shrine and promote the knowledge of Blessed Vasyl throughout the world. Thank you. 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 May 16th until September 15th, 2017.

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+ 1000

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In memory of Fr. Boris Kyba, C.Ss.R Paul & Lynne Kyba St. Joseph's U.C.W.L.C.

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Steve, & Helen, Christina Zelisney

Joan Turek

**Donations to the Shrine** can be made ONLINE

www.bvmartyrshrine.com

#### BISHOP VELYCHKOVSKY PILGRIMAGE TO UKRAINE

### A spiritual journey– following a martyr's life

July 8-29, 2018



We will walk in the footsteps of Blessed Vasyl —visiting the sites where he lived, worked and suffered.



Pilgrimage includes: Lviv, Ternopil, Ivano-Frankivsk, Kamianetz Podilsky, Kyiv, Zarvanytsia (participating in the weekend vidpust) and other points of interest such as the Carpathian Mountains, Kolomeya, villages & an orphanage



Cost: 4,500.00 CDN (includes airfare from Winnipeg, meals, accommodations and travel throughout Ukraine)

Deadline for registration: March 1, 2018 (limited to 17 pilgrims)

#### For more information & registration contact:

Mary Jane Raienchuk of Fr. John Sianchuk, C.Ss.R.
Bishop Velychkovsky Martyr's Shrine 250 Jefferson Avenue, Winnipeg, MB R2V 0M6

Tel: 204-338-7321 email: info@bvmartyrshrine.com

#### SHRINE SCHEDULE

Monday:Shrine is closedTuesday to Friday:10:00 am to 5:00 pmSaturday:10:00 am to 1:00 pmSunday: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@mymts.net** 

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

#### **SPECIAL GUESTS**

#### George & Christine Welleck,

(Welyczkowsky) from Austin Texas, visited the Shrine in August. George's grandfather, Dionis, was Bl. Vasyl's father's (Volodymyr) brother. It was a



great pleasure to meet Bl. Vasyl's relative. George has left us much material about the Velychkovsky (Welyczkowsky) family, including family history, many photos and a detailed family tree back to 1766.

## **Call in Prayer Requests**

For a special intention or prayer request you may phone, email us or request through our website. Your prayer request will be placed in the Shrine and remembered in prayer every Wednesday evening after the service in honour of Blessed Vasyl.

## 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 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

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