

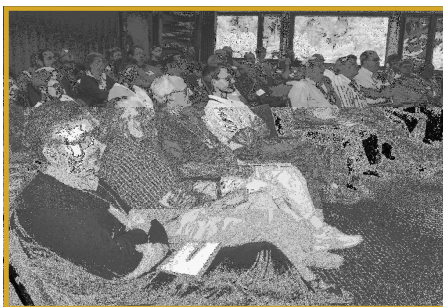
FULLY ALIVE

A Bishop Velychkovsky Martyr's Shrine Publication

CELEBRATING THE 5TH ANNIVERSARY OF BEATIFICATION

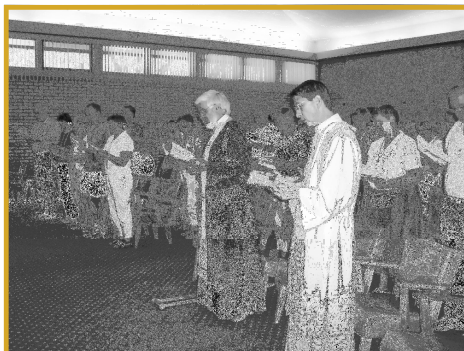
Redemptorist Spiritual Pilgrimage

This year marks the fifth anniversary of the beatification of Blessed Vasyl Velychkovsky, C.Ss.R.. On June 27th 2001, in Ukraine, Pope John Paul II Beatified Blessed Nicholas Charnetskyy and Companions, among them was Blessed Vasyl. To celebrate this event and the 100th Anniversary since Redemptorists have served in the Eastern Rite in Canada, the Yorkton Province of Redemptorists hosted a Spiritual Pilgrimage/Workshop for Redemptorists from across North America. It was held in Winnipeg at Villa Maria Retreat Centre.



Redemptorists and laity attending the workshop.

Some 50 Redemptorists and Lay Collaborators met together for four days of workshops in June. One day was dedicated to the story of our Ukrainian Martyrs and in particular that of Blessed Vasyl. Through a power-point presentation, Fr. John Sianchuk, shared the stories, of Blessed



The presenters, Fr. John Sianchuk, C.Ss.R. and Fr. Dennis Billy, C.Ss.R., during the Divine Liturgy

Zenon Kowalyk, C.Ss.R., who was found crucified on the prison wall at the age of 37; Blessed Ivan Ziatyk, C.Ss.R., who was for a brief time in charge of the underground Ukrainian Catholic Church, arrested and beaten to death on Good Friday in 1952; Blessed Nicholas Charnetsky, C.Ss.R., a beloved bishop, who had compassion for all, but especially the poor, has continued even after his death through the numerous miracles occurring through his intercession; and our Blessed Vasyl Velychkovsky, C.Ss.R., whose courage and apostolic enthusiasm, resurrected the underground church into a strong spiritual force in the face of atheistic communism.

The rest of the week was dedicated to the relationship of St. Alphonsus, the founder of the Redemptorists, and the Eastern Church spirituality, especially as it is found in the Eastern Fathers of

the Church. Fr. Dennis Billy, C.Ss.R., a professor from the Alphonsian Academy in Rome, gave excellent presentations. He showed what profound insight St. Alphonsus received from the Eastern Fathers, especially in some of his key theological and spiritual concepts. One of the Eastern Fathers that Alphonsus leaned heavily upon was St. John Chrysostom, a bishop who had a heart for the poor and who described God as One 'madly' in love with humanity.

The highlight of the Redemptorist Pilgrimage was the participation



Pilgrims attending the Moleben Service on the Feast Day

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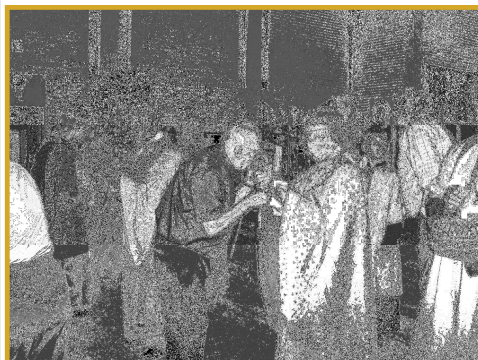
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The Rosary being led by various groups on the Feast Day.

by the Redemptorists and laity on the Feastday on June 27th. This year there was a noticeable increase of attendance at the feast-day, especially during the day. After the morning Divine Liturgy, at which Fr. Yaroslav Dybka, C.Ss.R. preached, the rosary was led by various parishes and groups. The students from Immaculate Heart Ukrainian Catholic School came and led one of the decades of the rosary. After the Moleben service, the pilgrims were anointed for healing with the holy oil blessed with the relics of Blessed Vasyl.

After lunch, the pilgrims watched the EWTN documentary "Steadfast and Faithful" on Blessed Vasyl's life. This was followed by the Acatnist Service which was beautifully sung by the pilgrims. In the evening after the Divine Liturgy, at which Metropolitan Law-



Veneration of the 1st Class Relics of Blessed Vasyl and anointment with the holy oil

rence Huculak presided and preached, the pilgrims went on a pilgrimage walk to the Chancery, the place of residence for Blessed Vasyl while he lived in Canada. During the walk, the rosary was

recited. At the Chancery a short pray service was held. The evening concluded again in the church with everyone being anointed with the special 'Blessed Vasyl' holy oil.

The day was filled with God's blessings and grace. All the pilgrims were elated. The Redemptorists, who came from across North America to be at this Spiritual Pilgrimage, still continue to praise this week as a highlight of their year.



Redemptorists enjoying a river cruise during the Spiritual Pilgrimage/ Workshop

SUMMER HELP FOR THE SHRINE



Maryna Konstantiuk is a graduate from Garden City Collegiate. An honour roll student who enjoys drawing, computer web-design and gardening. Maryna was hired this summer to assist in the Shrine office duties and to

conduct pilgrimage tours in the Museum. She will begin university studies this fall hoping to graduate with a teaching degree. We wish Maryna God's blessings in her future endeavours. We thank her for all the work she was able to accomplish for the Shrine.



Nataliya Markevych is a University of Manitoba student in the faculty of medicine. She was hired this summer to transcribe the number of interview tapes brought from Ukraine as well as documents. Her knowledge of the Ukrainian, Polish and Russian languages were of great

benefit to the Shrine especially in the museum tours for pilgrims. Coming from a priestly family and her knowledge of Blessed Vasyl, Nataliya understood the importance of documenting the religious life of our Ukrainian Catholic martyrs. We wish to thank Nataliya for all her work that she accomplished for the Shrine and we wish her God's blessings as she continues to reach her goals.

TESTIMONY OF GRACES RECEIVED

July 20, 2006

Blessed Velychkovsky Martyr's Shrine

Since the first week of March, I have been suffering with a very painful heel spur. It is like walking on a thumb tack or a nail in the heel. I have not been able to walk very far these past 4 ½ months without having to sit down and rest my foot. I have tried many things to relieve the pain and start the healing. I wear thick sponge and gel heel pads; I used ice and heat; I am going for massage therapy, acupressure, and acupuncture. None of these treatments has relieved the pain.



On June 27th, 2006, in the evening, I attended Bishop Vasyl's 5th Anniversary. I forgot that there was to be a Pilgrimage Procession from St. Joseph's Church to the Bishop's Residence on Scotia Street and back to the Church. I didn't want to go by van, and I knew that I couldn't walk that distance, so I decided I would just stay behind and wait in the Church.

I don't know how to explain what happened next. I was overcome with a warm feeling that told me if I made the effort to walk the Procession, I would have no pain in my heel. Saying yes, I got up and joined the Procession. I walked the entire distance there and back with hardly any discomfort.

When I got back to the Church, and sat down in the pew, I was completely overwhelmed, amazed and in awe at what had just occurred. I had just walked with no pain for the first time in over 4 months. I truly believe that someone had interceded for me.

It is now one month later. While I still have some pain and discomfort in my foot, the pain isn't as intense.

I believe, because I attended Bishop Vasyl's 5th Anniversary, my heel spur is on the mend. June 27th, 2006, was truly a beautiful evening for me. It left me glowing.

*Sincerely,
Val Galay*

**Please notify the Shrine of any graces received
through the intercession of Blessed Vasyl.**

Excerpt from Blessed Vasyl Sermon given in 1965 in Ukraine

"My dear brothers, the Kingdom of God is the inner life. The Kingdom of God that Jesus proclaimed and established – it is the reign of God's love in human hearts. In other words, the Kingdom of God is the inner life. What is this inner life? The author of "The Imitation of Christ" says: "It means to have God present in your heart always and not to be attached to anything else." In other words – it is the practice of complete intimate union. This is the inner life.

"Even more: it means to see Jesus within you. As St. Paul, the apostle, said about himself: "The life I live now is not my own; Christ is living in me" (Gal. 2:20). These same words should be said by each true disciple of Christ. Each Christian should live this spiritual inner life so that they may also say as the apostle Paul said: "the life I live now is not my own; Christ is living in me."

Why is this inner life so essential? – Because of its great benefits. The inner life offers the greatest good. And there is nothing more splendid than the inner life. It is so natural for a person to strive for happiness, and the human heart is created to be happy. People seek happiness through human praise, wealth and splendour. The heart seeks it, but doesn't seek it where it really is. Human glory disappears as smoke. But the inner life gives true glory. It raises the soul of a Christian to higher things."

Patron of the Weather – a special gift of Blessed Bishop & Martyr Vasyl

Many saints and blessed are known for the special spiritual gifts they have with regards to intercessory prayer. For example, we all know that if we lose something we should pray and ask St. Anthony. If we have some hopeless cause, then we pray to St. Jude. Well, although Blessed Vasyl has already answered many prayers and petitions, as witnessed by the pilgrims who come to him, including cures from cancer, back and eyes ailments, foot aches, healing of legs, emotional and relational healings, and many others, one particular gift stands out. It has been noted that he has power over the weather.

In the Gospel we find Jesus several times showing his power and authority over the weather. When he was in the boat asleep in the stern, a storm arose, the boat began to take on water and the apostles became very afraid. In a panic they awoke Jesus and petitioned him to help. He arose and immediately calmed the storm, leaving the apostles filled with amazement.

Several stories have come to us about Blessed Vasyl's influence over the weather. One story comes from Ukraine. In 1966 during the feast of Pentecost,



Mrs. Kaspryshyn, the priest's wife, who witnessed the miracle.

Blessed Vasyl was giving a retreat for three candidates who were to be ordained deacons at the conclusion. As the retreat began Friday evening, it rained very heavily. The lady of the house (who told us the story) said to Blessed Vasyl that it was unfortunate that it was raining so



Blessed Vasyl's missionary cross

hard. He in turn responded that it was good because the KGB would not be coming around in such weather. The rain continued all weekend. On the last day after the celebration of the Divine Liturgy and the ordinations completed, Blessed Vasyl took his missionary cross and went to the door of the house. It was still raining outside. He opened the door and made a sign of the cross over the sky. Immediately the rain stopped and in a few seconds the clouds parted and the sun began to shine. All those in the house were filled with amazement.

The next several incidences happened in Winnipeg after his beatification. The night before the enshrinement of his holy relics, **September 21, 2002**, it had been raining quite heavily and

storming. That evening the Divine Liturgy was being celebrated. After the Liturgy the newly built shrine chapel and the museum were to be blessed. As the Metropolitan was blessing these rooms at that very same time, with the rain still pouring, the sky in the West opened up and the sun lit up the domes of the church with its rays. **A most brilliant complete rainbow appeared over the church.** All those who were outside, the janitor and others, were filled with amazement at the brightness of the rainbow and of the timing. It was interpreted as a sign of God's blessings upon this future shrine.

On the first feast day for Blessed Vasyl after the enshrinement, **June 27, 2003**, after the evening Divine Liturgy, an outdoor procession was planned from the Church to the Metropolitan's Residence (where Blessed Vasyl lived in Canada). That evening the weather was threatening. There were **dark clouds** in the West and strong winds moving towards Winnipeg. Since the rain had not yet started, it was decided to have the procession in hope that it doesn't rain. Pilgrims processed to the Chancery and back. It didn't rain. We were told later that day by a priest from the Chancery that he was watching the weather on the internet and was quite concerned about the success of the procession. He saw the large cloud approach Winnipeg from the West. **Then as it came to Winnipeg, it began to divide.** One part of the cloud went north of the city and another went south. After it crossed Winnipeg, the two parts again joined together into one cloud. Blessed Vasyl allowed us

to have a beautiful dry procession in his honour on this feast day. So far, on every feast day we have been able to have a procession.

On the second anniversary of the enshrinement **September 22, 2004**, (a Wednesday) people were in the Church celebrating a devotional service in Blessed Vasyl's honour, the pastor was outside and noticed a rainbow appear over the church, even though there was no rain in sight. He was able to capture this rainbow by camera.

This next event was experienced by myself and it is only my interpretation of the events. On **August 20, 2006** as I was coming home from the Cooks Creek Pilgrimage, I noticed a cloud quickly forming north and west of Winnipeg. By the time I arrived home the cloud was almost over the northern part of the city. It did not look good. I went to my room and was working on my computer. The large window in my office faces the north so every so often I would glance at the cloud and observe it. Several years ago, while in Rome, I had seen a tornado over the Mediterranean Sea. Since that time I have always observed clouds carefully to see if there are any **early signs of a possible tornado** coming. This particular cloud had those signs. There was a lot of activity in the cloud and small funnels were popping in and out of it. As I worked on my computer the thought came to me, what if a tornado did come. Surely the presence of the Martyr's relics in the church next door would save us. Then at about 4:36 pm I looked at the cloud and **I saw a definite funnel**, large and thick. From my window I saw it pointed sideways and then it began to



The tornado just north of Winnipeg on August 20, 2006

turn towards the ground. Because there were trees in the way I could not see if it touched the ground. I looked closely at it and was able to see the ripples on the side of the funnel moving upwards. Then I realized that I was seeing a real tornado which was only a few miles away. Fear seized me. I know many people who live just where this tornado seems to be. In my desperation and helplessness, I cried out to Blessed Vasyl: "Blessed Vasyl, please protect those people from this tornado." Within five seconds, the form of the funnel became fuzzy and within thirty seconds it was transformed to a cloud. At first I was disappointed that it disappeared so quickly, because I enjoy observing such phenomenon. Only later did I realize that this happened immediately after the prayer and I thanked Blessed Vasyl for saving the people. That tornado never did touch the ground. About two hours later a tornado did touch down just south of Winnipeg. This tornado hit a farm yard and destroyed the house completely. Inside the house was a young 26 year old

pregnant woman. All the walls and most of the furniture was completely blown away and destroyed. Only a fridge and the deep freeze were left. She was by the refrigerator completely unharmed. I am wondering if Blessed Vasyl did not save her also as a result of that prayer.

Our Saints and Blesseds desire to be asked. They are there to help us, not only with phenomenon as is recorded in this article, but even more important to lead us to salvation. Let us never tire in bringing our petitions before Blessed Vasyl for his powerful intercession.

Come and join us every Wednesday evening at 7:00 pm for a devotional service in honour of Blessed Vasyl. At the end of the service the petitions written by pilgrims are lifted up in prayer and all are anointed for healing with the Holy Oil blessed with Blessed Vasyl's 1st Class Relics.

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 May 1st until August 31st 2006.

1000 +

In memory of William Kalyniuk

Dr. Borislav & Dorothy Bilash

Merven & Nancy Chuback

Eyer family

Basil & Judy Galarnyk

Tamikon Hisanaga

Zorian & Leona Hudyma

Olexandra Hwozdulych

Eugene & Zorianna Hyworon

Irene Kalyniuk

John Kizlyk

Pauline Kolton

Edith Kotyk

Eva Liss

Stefan & Nina Luhowy

Christine & Angela Mazur

Marcel & Viola Pelletier

Sears Management & Staff

Sears Social Club

Christina Sikorsky

Jean Small

Ed Stefanyshyn

Helen Stockburn

Harry & Marika Szkwarek

Chris Topor

Protodeacon Michael and Olga

Woroby

Walter & Nellie Wowczuk

In memory of Lidia Kotowycz

Brian & Victoria Adams

John & Martha Baluta

Leo & Oksana Baluta

Anna Banera

Dr. Borislav & Dorothy Bilash

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Ostap & Tatiana Hawaleshka

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Stefania Skocen

Dr. T. G. Snihurowycz

Danny & Betty Somers

Harry & Marika Szkwarek

Christine Walker

Marianne Wawrykow & Chris Kowal

Roman & Olga Zubach

Slovak Redemptorist Fathers

500+

In honour of Katie Karalash's 95th Birthday

Children, grandchildren, great grandchildren

In memory of Johanna & Stephan

Pazak

Bishop John Pazak

100+

In memory of Nick Banera

Halia Dmytryshyn

Walter Dudych

In memory of Bishop Basil Filevich

Augustus & Catherine Korchinsky

Grace Lashyn

Vi Zabinsky

Dan & Bella Kalenchuk

Fr. Vladimir Kolpakov, C.Ss.R.

In memory of Fr. Volodymyr Korba, C.Ss.R"

Ituna Sacred Heart UCWLC

Grace Lashyn

Vi Zabinsky

In memory of Helen Lukie

Patricia & Stanley Clapa

Larry & Doreen Trach

Ukrainian Catholic Women's League,

Beausejour, Manitoba

In memory of husband Russell

Marie Yalowega

<100

Doreen Baddon & Josephine Luckiw

Jennie Bailley

In memory of Terry Banera

Leo & Oksana Baluta

George Kotovych

In memory of Gen Berezowski

Therese Allard & Paulette Roach

William & Genevieve Berezny

Hazel Borodey

In memory Nellie Boychuk

Orest & Margaret Fedorchuk

Kathleen Warrenchuk

In memory of Thelma Braun

Louis & Elaine Bowman

In memory of Eva Buczulak

Buczulak family

Anton & Anne Burdeniuk

Mary Buriak

Bohdan & Jayne Buryan

Paul & Adeline Carbotle

Mike & Margaret Chemerika

Cludina Cruz

Luz Cruz

In memory of daughter Diane

Irene Cwiak

Lena Derkach

Marianne Derkach

In memory of Morris Dick

Patricia Dick

For the health of Carol Dobko

William & Kathleen Zambrick

Veronica Domingo

In honour of Helen Ezinicki

Nell Lupyrpa

In memory of husband Floy

Veronica Domingo

David & Teresa Egan

Lew & Lubow Figol
 Frank Fisanich
 Val Galay
 Herman and Eileen Gartner
 Robert & Diane Gingera
 Gloria Green
 Greg Hafichuk
 In memory of John & Effie Halayda
Myron Halayda
 Kevin Hale
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 Holy Resurrection Parish Catechetical
 Program
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 Helen Herman
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 In memory of John Kozoriz
John & Martha Baluta
Anna Banera
Lidia Kotowycz
 In memory of Herman Laskowich
Louis & Elaine Bowman
 In memory Monica MacLean
Paul Kalyniuk
 Fr. Michael & Marilyn Krochak
 In memory of family
Erika Kszyk
 Stephanie Kupskey

Michael & Mary Kuzminski
 In memory of Mary Kuzyk
Walter & Anna Pollock
 Rose-marie Kycia
 In memory of Julia Lega
Garr & Helene Kukura
 For health of Fr Larry Lehotsky
Larry & Evelyn Tycholis
 Deacon Luigi Licari
 Darlene Litchie-Brown
 Maileen Lucena
 Michael & Fenna Maydeychuk
 Manitota Society of Seniors
 Mary Sinclair
 W. Michalchuk
 Simone & Mona Minalabag
 In memory of Helen Moroz
Stan & Eileen Dudzic
Orest & Margaret Fedorchuk
Edith Kotyk
 Helen Musgrove
 Metro Nazar
 In memory of Steven Nebozenko &
 Ksenia Chrynowski
Olive Nebozenko
 Joseph O'Day
 In memory of husband Dan
Anne Obuck
 R. Paley
 Rosalia Pernarowski
 Justin Reany
 Redemptorists of Concord
 Ivan & Natalia Roman
 In memory of husband Michael
Jean Roshko

Joe & Liz Senderewich
 Lillian Sianchuk
 Mike & Darlene Sidak
 D. Sikora
 Mary Sinclair
 Terry & Gladys Sloboda
 Lena Smaluck
 Iris Smellie
 Dr. Zenon Sosmowski
 St. Joseph's Catechism
 St. Joseph's Seniors
 St. Michael's UCWLC
 S. Stasiewicz
 In memory of Donald Stebeleski
D. Labay
 Rev. George M. Svoboda
 In memory of husband Zenon
Jennie Swydneycky
 H. Tomchuk
 Bill & Rose Uchacz
 Ukrainian Catholic Parish of the
 Blessed Virgin Mary
 Deacon Jude von Mann
 For health of Marilyn Hamulka
*Marianne Wawrykow & Chris
 Kowal*
 Peter Wozny
 Joe & Irena Zadravec
 Natalie Zalusky
 Ann Zimmerman
 In honour of the Zulak family
Ann Zulak



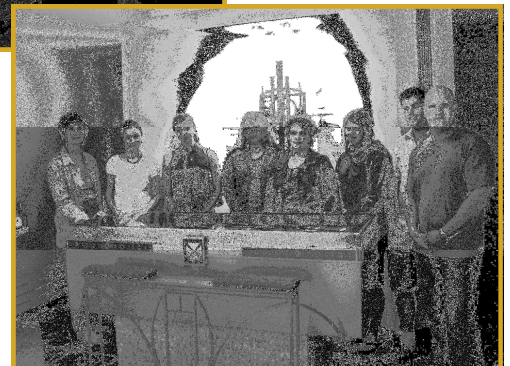
**Holy Rosary RC Parish
 Seniors from Detroit
 Lakes, MN
 visit the Shrine**



**Parishioners from Holy
 Eucharist UC Parish
 pray before the relics of
 Blessed Vasyl**



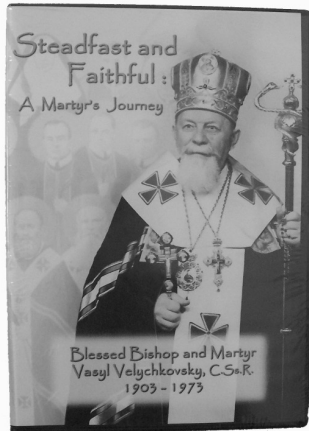
**Catechism class from Christ the King RC
 Parish spend a Saturday morning learning
 about Blessed Vasyl**



**Executive for Unity '06 from the
 Eparchy of Saskatoon**

DOCUMENTARY ON TV

A new documentary produced by Ignatius Productions about Blessed Martyr Bishop Vasyl Velychkovsky called "Steadfast and Faithful: a Martyr's Journey" was aired this past June by EWTN, a world-wide Catholic TV network, and by Salt & Light, a Catholic TV station out of Toronto.



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

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

NEW VOLUNTEERS are always needed to welcome pilgrims to the Shrine/Museum. Please contact the Shrine Coordinator.

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

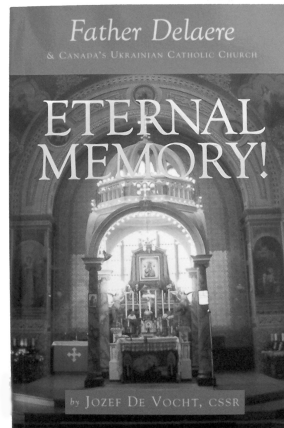
Shrine is open to the faithful during the times of Liturgical Services. The Museum is opened on weekends after each Divine Liturgy.

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

COMMEMORATING 100 YEARS

The Redemptorists of the Yorkton Province celebrate their 100th Anniversary this year. A Belgian Redemptorist, Father Achiel Delaere, C.Ss.R., adopted the Eastern Rite and celebrated his first Divine Liturgy in that Rite on September 26, 1906. A book on the glorious life of Fr. Delaere was written in Flemish in 1956. An English translation is now available called: **"Eternal Memory"**.



Copies of this book are available from our gift shop for \$25.00.

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 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:
Fr. Provincial
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: 204-339-1062 Email: bvshrine@mts.net
Website: www.bvmartyrshrine.com