



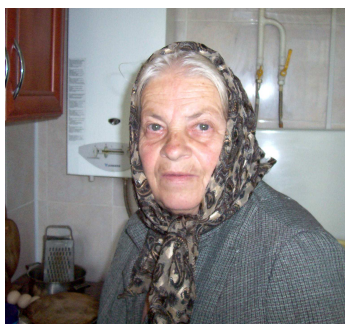
FULLY ALIVE

A Bishop Velychkovsky Martyr's Shrine Publication

A HEART FOR THE POOR

Orphan Ministry in Ukraine

"He was like a father to me." Oksana, a teenaged orphan, recalled her time during World War II in Ternopil. The city was being shelled. How frightened she was! Blessed Vasyl would take her by the hand and walk with her down the streets of the city to comfort and console her. She experienced genuine care from Blessed Vasyl. She recalled that after his arrest and imprisonment, when he had returned in 1955, Blessed Vasyl sought her out to see if she was doing well. He would often visit her on his trips to Ternopil in subsequent years.



Oksana, an orphan from Ternopil, cared for by Blessed Vasyl

Blessed Vasyl, a Redemptorist, had a heart for the poor. He was a powerful preacher of the Word of God, and he always put it into practice. The Redemptorists are called to seek out the "most abandoned" and bring them Good News, - to become Good News for them. This call has been lived by the Redemptorists through the centuries. In recent years, the late Fr. Yaroslav Dybka, C.Ss.R. would



Fr. Yaroslav Dybka, C.Ss.R. and Mary Jane Kalenchuk with orphans in 2007

go every summer to Ukraine to give retreats for the Sisters. Through them, he was introduced to orphanages, some very poor ones, where he saw first hand the plight of the "most abandoned". He began a "Canadian Redemptorist ministry" in Ukraine by supporting these orphans. While doing research on Blessed

Vasyl in Ukraine, we, Mary Jane Kalenchuk and Fr. John Sianchuk, C.Ss.R. were introduced to these "most abandoned" through Fr. Dybka and that is how our journey began working with orphanages in Ukraine. We soon realized that as poor and desperate some of the orphans were, the real problem arose when they were "forced" to leave the orphanage at 16 years of age. Many had no place to go and there was little or no opportunity for them. Through the generosity of donors from Canada, we were able to make a difference in some of their lives by offering education and housing. Unfortunately, especially the girls, fall into great danger with human trafficking.

Blessed Vasyl encountered a similar situation in Ukraine in the late 1930's. While pastor in Ivano Frankivsk, he saw the plight of village girls who were becoming corrupted by wealthy city men making them their "slaves". Blessed Vasyl organized them, catechized them, supported them and evangelized them. They were so grateful for this. When Blessed Vasyl was arrested and detained in that city in 1940, the young women came to his defense, and demanded his release. He was released from the Soviet police.



Blessed Vasyl's portrait in 1940 when he was in Ivano Frankivsk

About a year and a half ago, Sister Julia, whom we know well and have been supporting her work, began a new ministry for orphan girls who ended up on the streets of Lviv. Financially, she has no resources, but depends on charity. She has

In This Issue:

- A Heart for the Poor - 1**
- Visitors to the Shrine - 3**
- Ministry in Ukraine - 3**
- Graces and Blessings - 4**
- Donors - 4**
- Feast Day Celebrations - 6**
- Website Info - 6**

Blessed Velychkovsky Martyr's Shrine

250 Jefferson Avenue Winnipeg, Manitoba Canada R2V 0M6

Tel: 204-338-7321 Email: info@bvmartyrshrine.com Website: www.bvmartyrshrine.com

taken these girls off the street and lives with them in a house obtained through generous donors. The girls are mostly teenagers. The youngest was 12 years old. The latter was found living with her older sister in an abandoned warehouse. Sister took them in. Another was being prostituted and made to carry drugs by her mother. She too was rescued and lives in this home. All the girls have no financial means. All the basic necessities must be provided for them: clothing, food, school supplies, tuitions, medical needs, etc. Sister seeks through her love and care to restore their worth and dignity. When not at school, she has found them part-time jobs to learn responsibility and to give them life skills. She offers them psychological counseling and other programs for their self-growth. Sister relies on the generosity of donors like you to care for these girls. Through donations for the orphans which we have received from donors in the past, we have been able to provide for these needs. However, the funds are now low.

Two months ago, a young mother, an orphan whom we had helped in the past, deperately called Sister for help. She was living with a man who was sexually abusing her children. One day she arrived at Sister's door with her three children (ages 1, 3 and 5 years old). She was seeking help from Sister to look after her children. Sister turned around to get some food for them. When she turned back, the mother was gone and the three children abandoned. Sister received these children, but discovered that they were sick and needed medical attention. Presently, they have been placed into a government institution for children. But this is no place for them. Sister

hopes to be able to remove them from this institution and provide them with tangible human love and care.

I am reaching out to you, who have supported the Bishop Velychkovsky Shrine so faithfully, for financial assistance so that we could do this Redemptorist ministry in Ukraine for these



"most abandoned". If you are so inclined to donate to the Redemptorist orphan fund, please make the check payable to **"Ukrainian Catholic Mission"** and in the memo write

"orphan fund". If you are sending the check through a separate envelope, please indicate on the envelope "Orphan Fund in Ukraine". A tax receipt will be issued for your generous donation.

We thank you in advance for your support for this worthy cause. In this way we continue in the spirit of our founder St. Alphonsus Liguori and of Blessed Vasyl Velychkovsky, who had a heart for the poor and in particular for orphans and girls in need. Together we can continue Blessed Vasyl's work by supporting this Redemptorist Ministry in Ukraine.

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



Fr. Achille Delaere, C.Ss.R. founder of the eastern rite branch of Redemptorists

CELEBRATING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY

This year, 2018, the Redemptorists are celebrating the 150 anniversary of Fr. Achille Delaere, C.Ss.R. 's birth. He was born April 17, 1868 in Belgium. As a young Redemptorist he heard the invitation to come and bring the Good News to the Slavic immigrants in Canada. In 1899, after surviving a shipwreck off the coast of Labrador, he arrived in Brandon, Manitoba. As he began to serve the rural Slavic immigrants, he found that the majority were ethnically Ukrainian and belonged to the Ukrainian Catholic Rite. Since there were no priests of their rite who were arriving in Canada and for the sake of these Ukrainian immigrants, Fr. Delaere, learnt their language and the rite. In 1906 while serving the people in the Yorkton area, he officially became Ukrainian Catholic. He became the first Ukrainian Catholic Redemptorist. Others joined him. He was instrumental in obtaining the first Ukrainian Catholic Bishop for Canada, Bishop Nicetas Budka, later beatified a martyr. When Metropolitan Andriy Shyptytsky toured Canada in 1910 and saw the exemplary work done by Fr. Delaere, he invited the Redemptorists to come to Ukraine. The Redemptorists arrived in Ukraine in 1913, just before the great World War. A few short years later, Blessed Vasyl joined this young Redemptorist missionary congregation. One can say that it was through the dedication, enthusiasm, courage and apostolic spirit of Fr. Delaere, that now we have, as his legacy, the martyr Blessed Vasyl Velychkovsky. Fr. Delaere spent a year in Ukraine in 1930-31. Perhaps these two great giants of faith and apostolic missionary spirit met that year. So far we have found no concrete evidence of this, however, both of them shared in the missionary dynamism of the Redemptorist Congregation and both died and were buried in Canada.

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VISITORS TO THE MUSEUM/SHRINE IN WINNIPEG



Grades 7 & 8 students from Christ the King School spend a day at the Shrine. As a project, they made rosaries from bread similar to what Bl. Vasyl made in prison.



Fr. Warren Dungen (Kamsack, SK) & Subdeacon Dr. Brian Butcher (Ottawa, ON)



St. Joseph's Ukr. Cath. Seniors, Wpg



Seminarian Jay Korban with his wife Sophia and son Benjamin from Ottawa. Jay was a long-time volunteer at the Shrine and has dedicated his son to Blessed Vasyl.

VISITORS TO MUSEUM/APARTMENT IN UKRAINE AND PRESENTATIONS IN UKRAINE



Venerating the icons and relics at Ss. Peter & Paul Church, Velyki Polyhiv



Iryna Kolomiyets, George & Christine Welleck (Austin, Texas), Yuri & Lesya Lysi: Blessed Vasyl's relatives



Parishioners from the Mother of God Parish in Davidiv



After a presentation at Holy Trinity Parish in Dolynivka



Praying the Acatist Hymn to Blessed Vasyl in Opavchik



Sister Monica OSBM with her mother Olha



Parishioners from St. Michael's parish in Smozhe



Venerating the relics in St. Cosmian & Damian Parish in Zastavne



During a presentation in St. Michael's Church in Kozava

GRACES & BLESSINGS

On Christmas Day 2017, in the evening I suffered a subarachnoid hemorrhage and was taken by ambulance to the HSC Emergency and placed into the ICU step-down for 12 days. I woke up in the unit with no major physical challenges apart from damage to my optic nerve resulting in double vision and minor memory problems. I was released from hospital on January 6, going home with an eye patch over one eye so I could walk without losing my balance. The doctor indicated to me that the vision could correct in time but because of the damage to the nerve, it might be a very long time or not at all. The following week, I saw my personal optometrist who checked my eyes and told me that they were extremely misaligned and her prism correction lenses were not enough to correct my problem at that time. Every day following that appointment I would wake up and have my tea at the kitchen table. I would gaze at the picture on the wall to determine if my double vision was correcting itself even slightly but it wasn't. I was resigning myself to the possibility that this is the best it's going to be. I wasn't able to drive myself and need to wear a patch in order to walk without losing my balance.

This went on for weeks as I tried to reengage myself back into my commitments in the community. On January 23rd I had a St. Joseph's Parish Visioning committee meeting and as usual needed a ride to the meeting. My wife Gayle agreed to take me there and a very good friend of mine Harry Szwerek volunteered to drive me home. When Harry dropped me off later that evening, he gave me a small bottle of Bishop Velychkovsky's blessed oil to try. I indicated that I would try anything at this point since I was becoming quite frustrated and down, realizing that the double vision might be a permanent disability. **I applied the oil that evening to my eyelids and went to sleep.** The next day as I sat at the kitchen table, I removed my patch and stared at the same picture again to see if there were any changes taking place. I thought I saw the double vision slightly improve but discounted it as hopeful thinking and my imagination.

Not giving up on the oil, I continued to apply it to my eyelids and forehead, praying for hopefully more improvement. Every morning the double vision was coming closer and closer together and over the next to weeks it was completely corrected. Today, with the help of Bishop Vasyl's Holy Oil and the countless number of prayers said on my behalf, I have recovered completely from the brain hemorrhage.

April 10, 2018

Don Cilinsky

Winnipeg

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 March 1st 2018 until May 15th, 2018.

+25,000

Estate of Fr. Boris Kyba, C.Ss.R.

+1000

Peter Boychuk

In memory of Roy Gulenchin

Gulenchin Family

In memory of Fr. Peter Pidskalny, C.Ss.R.

Jane Chorney

+500

In memory of Nelson Remenda

Elsie Remenda

+100

Rev. Michael Bechard

Christ The King School

Sofia Hull

William & Phyllis Kobitowich

Henry & Iris Spilchuk

>100

Dr. Kenneth & Josie Bessant

Katherine G. Danko

Marianne Derkach

James Dozorec

Arnie & Theresa Filipi

Wirlana Holowka

Julian & Barbara Koziak

Bernard Lapchuk

John & Pat Lewak

Richard & Marietta Persian

Archbishop Gerard Pettipas

Dirk Schmid

John & Yvonne Sirdar

Iris Smellie

St. Gerard School

St. Nicholas Ukr. Cath. Church, Wpg

Gabriel & Alisha Sweeney-Muller

Miroslaw Wasylanko

In Memory Of...

Sarah Catherine Adams

Peter Adams

Genevieve Berezny

William Berezny

Helena Bialas

Olga Szutiak

John Bodnar

Frances Bodnar

Helena Chuckree

Christine Gushuliak & Virginia

Gushuliak

Darlene Sidak

Stan & Luba Sirdar

Dennis & Steffie Wawrykow

Anne Colgan

Helen Jakimeczko

Mike & Theresa Demjanew; Louis

& Andrew Suknacki; Pauline Lee

Sophia Demjanew

Theresa Marie Desequin/Erstelle

Peter and Marlene Skyrinski

Liz Drost

Steve Prokop

Darlene Sidak

Helen Stockburn

Kay Zawortny

Dubowits mothers

Leslie & Caroline Dubowits

John Fedoruk

Alexandra Fedoruk

Ollie Gurica

Florence Blanchard

Sylvia Hnatiuk

Mary Jane Kalenchuk

Stan & Luba Sirdar

Vladimir & Marlene Solman

Helen Stockburn

Myron Halayda

Stan & Luba Sirdar

Mary Harack

Marilyn Krawchuk

Richard Korban

Mary Jane Kalenchuk

Virginia & Marvin Kuzmiak

Elizabeth Paziuk

Fr. Boris Kyba, C.Ss.R.

Sophia Pisiak

Helen Stockburn

Stella Laskowich

Helen Dziedzic

Ernie & Joan Shume

Leschyshyn & Keyowski families

Leonard & Kasie Leschyshyn

Walter Lukie

Anne Andrychuk

Anna Banera

Don & Janina Barrett

Dennis & Patricia Beyak

Mary Glicaria Bilinsky

Florence Blanchard

Dr. Zenon Boyko

Rick & Cynthia Bryant

Isadore & Vivian Burdeniuk

William & Marika Chabluk

Dolores Daniels

Myroslawa Diakiw

Edward & Anne Faseruk

Orest & Margaret Fedorchuk

Ivan & Maria Fil

Fr. Shyshkowich Council #8925

Marie Gwozd

Orysia Hull

Helen Jakimeczko

Mary Jane Kalenchuk

Jim & Donna Keller

Rose Kozak

Dorothy Labay

Gordon & Joan Lasko

Metro Lukie

Paul & Maryann Lee

Rudy & Josephine Macsymach

Dennis & Joyce Maksymetz

Sophie Manulak

Ian & Adele Mayberry &

Michael Lukie

Marian Moshansky

Norris & Jenny Pawlychka

Steve Prokop

Bev Rolston

Helen Schentag

Phyllis Shindak

Phyllis Sianchuk

Darlene Sidak

Stan & Luba Sirdar

Lillian Skazyk

Iris Smellie

Audrey Smith

Kaye Snatenchuk

Vladimir & Marlene Solman

Helen Stockburn

Harry & Marika Szkwarek

Alicia Topor

Larry & Doreen Trach

Dennis & Steffie Wawrykow

Chris & Mary Winchar

Rose Woloshyn

Glenn & Valerie Wowryk

Evelyn Zaboroski

Orest & Elizabeth Zahayko

Kay Zawortny

Joseph & Nellie Lysyshyn

Joseph & Rose Zegalski

Jean Maksymchuk

Sofie Dzuba

. Lynne McNicholl

Baldwin Malec

Marilyn Krawchuk

Michael Matwichyna

Violet Matwichyna

Helen & Jacob Nechwediuk

William J. Karlicki

grandparents

Fr. David Misbrener

Bill Orfino

Marilyn Krawchuk

Walter Ozechowski

Marilyn Krawchuk

Fr. Peter Pidskalny, C.Ss.R.

Sophia Pisiak

Prociuk & Happpychuk family members

Peter & Sonia Prociuk

Grace Prokop

Steve Prokop

Jean Rubel

Helen Jakimeczko

Olga Seychuk & Peter Kokolski

Mary Kokolski

Frank Shymko

Anne Shymko

Mercil Solomon

Alexandra Solomon

Douglas Stoski

Casper & Violet Stoski

Victor Szadiak

Florence Blanchard

John & Mary Hykawy

. Helen Jakimeczko

Mary Jane Kalenchuk

Stan & Luba Sirdar

Vladimir & Marlene Solman

Francis Winkler

Duane & Darlene Dahl

Protodeacon Michael

Helen Stockburn

John & Jessie Zegalski

Joseph & Rose Zegalski

In Honor Of...**Glicaria Bilinsky's Birthday**

Peter & Glikeria Iwanuck

In thanksgiving

Christopher Corpuz

Frank & Elaine Grzenda

Blessings for the Obirek Family

Robert & Leanna Obirek

For the Health Of...**Irene Bosiak**

Ken & Irene Bosiak

Joseph Gretchen & Remy Buchan

Ron & Angeline Gretchen

Happpychuk Family

Gene & Elizabeth Happpychuk

Haughton, Thorkelson, Peck & Agus families

Elizabeth Haughton

Jessop family

. Sophia Demjanew

Carol Lesniak

Merv Lastiwka

Jack & Pat Lewak

Lawrence & Nettie Chuckree

Yvonne Mason

Joanna Mason

Matsalla family

Bernie & Delia Matsalla

Don Melnyk

Iris Smellie

Obuck grandchildren & great-grandchildren

Anne Obuck

Ortynski family

Irvin & Marge Ortynski

Prociuk & Happpychuk families

Peter & Sonia Prociuk

Volodymyr & Mariya Shynke

Shynke family

Hazel Stack

James & Elaine Mandziuk

Fr. Michael & Dolores Tkachuk

Beverly Litkowich

William Tkachuk

Starr Tkachuk

Natalia Werbeniuk

Vera Werbeniuk

Winchar grandsons (Kolia, Gavin, Brad, & Cory)

Chris & Mary Winchar

Joseph Zeleny

Joseph & Susan Zeleny

Omission from March Newsletter 100+ Anne Shymko

THE BLESSED VELYCHKOVSKY NATIONAL MARTYR'S SHRINE

Invites you to celebrate our Feastday

**Wednesday
June 27, 2018**

Day Program

9:00 Divine Liturgy
10:00 Rosary
10:30 Moleben to
Blessed Vasyl
with anointing

Lunch available

1:15 Video Presentation
2:00 Acafist Hymn
in honor of Blessed
Bishop and Martyr
Vasyl Velychkovsky, C.Ss.R.

Evening Program

7:00 Divine Liturgy
Pilgrimage Procession
Veneration of Relics
Anointing for Healing



ST JOSEPH'S UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
BISHOP VELYCHKOVSKY MARTYR'S SHRINE
250 Jefferson Avenue, Winnipeg, MB
for more information call: 204-338-7321

IN THANKSGIVING

I am writing to you to let you know of an answer to our prayers from Bishop Velychkovsky.

My brother-in law David had to have brain surgery to remove a tumour the size of a golf ball. We prayed for a successful surgery and were worried about possible paralysis or loss of memory. We used the oil from Bishop Vasyl to anoint David. His surgery was long but went well. After his surgery he was supposed to be in a special recovery room to be monitored for twenty four hours. However, the hospital were in need of the special area bed and felt David was stable enough to be moved to a regular bed even though his surgery was only eight hours prior. His recovery was better that expected so far. He was supposed to be in the hospital for a week, but he was doing so well they sent him home in four days. We felt that through Bishop Vasyl, prayers were answered in an amazing way. We saw David improve so well and so quickly after such a serious surgery without any loss of paralysis or any other complications.

God bless you for all your work with the shrine.

Rosanne Lastiwka

**Visit our
Online Gift Shop
for our latest gift shop
items.**

www.bvmartyrshrine.com

SHRINE SCHEDULE

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

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

Group tours are available.

For pilgrimage group tours call for reservations
204-338-7321 or e-mail: info@bvmartyrshrine.com
Website: www.bvmartyrshrine.com

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.

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 to:
Bishop Velychkovsky Martyr's Shrine
250 Jefferson Avenue
Winnipeg, MB R2V 0M6
Canada
or E-mail: info@bvmartyrshrine.com