

VĚSTNÍK

ENGLISH
Catholic Mission
www.czechchurch.org

sv. Jakuba v San Diegu – sv. Františka v San Francisku - sv. Cyrila a Metoděje v Los Angeles



California ~ June 2017

Annual Father's Day Picnic
Information inside on page 5.

YOU ARE INVITED!

The Eucharist



TO CZECH MASS

In SAN DIEGO our Holy Mass in June has been canceled. Please join us at our annual Father's Day picnic at Bishop's house.

In LOS ANGELES our Holy Mass will be celebrated on Sunday 18th of June at 1:15pm, in the back yard of our Velehrad, 344 Koch Ave, Placentia CA 92870. After Mass our picnic will continue.

In SAN FRANCISCO our Holy Mass in June has been canceled. Please join us at our annual Father's Day picnic at Bishop's house.

Mark your calendars for next Mass:

SD August 19th - LA August 20th - SF August 27th

(No mass in July)



See page 5

June 2017 - Overview for the Month



The month of June is dedicated to The Sacred Heart of Jesus. This month falls within the liturgical season of Ordinary Time, which is represented by the liturgical color green. This symbol of hope is the color of the sprouting seed and arouses in the faithful the hope of reaping the eternal harvest of heaven, especially the hope of a glorious resurrection. It is used in the offices and Masses of Ordinary Time. The last portion of the liturgical year represents the time of our pilgrimage to heaven during which we hope for reward.

A Time of Love

Following Pentecost, the Church begins her slow descent from the great peaks of the Easter Season to the verdant pastures of Ordinary Time, the longest of the liturgical seasons. Like the lush June growth all around us, the green of the liturgical season points to the new life won for us by the Redemption of Jesus Christ, the new life of Charity. For Our Lord came to cast the fire of His love on the earth, and to that end, sent His Holy Spirit at Pentecost in the form of tongues of fire.

Ordinary Time is the hour to “go out to all the world and tell the good news.” The feasts of June highlight this expansion of the Church. At least ten times, the Church vests in the red of the martyrs whose blood is the very seed of her growth. She also celebrates the feasts of the apostles Peter and Paul, and the birth of St. John the Baptist, proto-disciple and prophet.

We too are called to be witnesses like the apostles and martyrs. May the Heart of Jesus inflame our hearts so that we may be worthy of our Baptismal call to holiness. Immaculate Heart of Mary, pray for us.

Source: *CatholicCulture.org*
(<http://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/overviews/months/06.cfm>)

Pope Francis' Intention of the Month



MONTH OF JUNE

Theme: National Leaders

That national leaders may firmly commit themselves to ending the arms trade, which victimizes so many innocent people.

MONTH OF JULY

Theme: Lapsed Christians

That our brothers and sisters who have strayed from the faith, through our prayer and witness to the Gospel, may rediscover the merciful closeness of the Lord and the beauty of the Christian life.

CZECH MASS OUTDOORS! FATHER'S DAY PICNIC, STEAKS, SWIMMING!

June 18th 2017 - 1:15 to 6pm

After Holy Mass in the back yard of our Velehrad, dinner will be served, consisting of steak from the grill or half rotisserie chicken with side dishes. SINGING, CONVERSATION, TOMBOLA!



**Velehrad
344 Koch Ave.
Placentia CA 92870**

IMPORTANT: WE MUST HAVE YOUR RESERVATIONS AND CHECKS BY MAIL, BY JUNE 16th, IN ORDER TO HAVE THE STEAKS MARINATED AND THE CHICKENS PREPARED IN SUFFICIENT NUMBERS. SEND TODAY!



I/We will attend the June 18th annual Mass and picnic at Velehrad:
Send with check to: Bishop Peter Esterka, 344 Koch Ave, Placentia,
CA 92870

Name: _____

Preferred entree @ \$15.00 per person: ___Steak ___Chicken

Tel.number or email _____

Amount enclosed: _____

Check should be made out to Czech Catholic Mission

N.B.: This picnic is a fundraiser for our mission. So I hope you will be very generous in your orders.

Thank you.

REFLECTION ON ATTENDING THE CZECH MASS IN SAN FRANCISCO



“Every time we have Czech Mass I feel like we are the first Christians.” The comment came from Gita Dedek as we sat waiting for her husband Jan Dedek, co-president of the San Francisco Czech Mission, and Bishop Peter Esterka to come to the altar to begin Mass. Gita went on to explain that her sense of community with the earliest Christians

came from the fact that always, when they got there, nothing was prepared. The people themselves had, basically, to create anew the conditions for the Church to emerge through the celebration of the Eucharist. They arrived each time to find auditorium bare and empty. They had to find and position chairs and prepare a table which could be dressed as the altar. They brought the wine and bread, and set up another table in back for some refreshments after Mass. If they did not show up, there would be no Mass, no community. In other words, they did not come, as in their American parishes, to an already constituted and maintained institution. This contrast provided a way, monthly, to return to the realization that people constitute the Church and if they do not perform it into existence in their lives and their Sunday Eucharist, it does not survive.

This insight hit me like a stroke of lightning. As a student of the

early church I have always been impressed by the engagement of those first Christians. They did not see their Sunday gathering as optional, but as the only way to make Christ present in today's world. They were deeply invested in this reality of their lives. We create the church wherever we go. And if we do not, it is not.

I have long thought that our Czech mission has something to teach the local established churches. Some theologians maintain that the future will see more like-minded communities who gather voluntarily to worship, and fewer geographical parishes which tend to invite local people with little in common and try to make a community of them. Perhaps the church of the future will be more resourceful, less dependent on the clergy, less concerned with details and rubrics, more conscious of the people's

own power to create, neglect or destroy the strength of Christ in the world. In such a situation there will also be frustration because no community is without its weakest links, but frustration itself is a sign of one's deep investment in the project.



I left the Mass at the Star of the Sea auditorium in awe and gratitude to be a part of this profound, yet sometimes tawdry, artless, and tone-deaf enterprise. What we are doing here is no less than continuing, as best we can, the work of the first Christians.

Joan Timmerman
March 27, 2017

Křesťanská mezinárodní solidarita čs z.s.

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6th Easter Sunday - Sunday of prayers for persecuted Christians
We celebrated 6th Easter Sunday (5/21), Which was dedicated to
prayers for persecuted Christians in the Catholic Church.

“How many of our brothers and sisters in faith endure oppression, violence, and are hated for Jesus! I will tell you one thing: there are more martyrs today than there were in the first centuries. When we read the history of the first centuries here in Rome, we see a lot of cruelty committed on Christians, but I’m telling you that today there is the same or more frequent cruelty committed on Christians. “Pope František, 12.26.2016

Religious persecution is a global phenomenon in the world even after the end of the Cold War and it is intensely worsening. The Pew Research Center study shows that Christians are now more persecuted in the world than any other religious community. According to Pew, Christian discrimination occurs in 108 countries. There are also countries with a significant share of Christian population, such as China, India, Indonesia and Pakistan. The forms of persecution range from non-violent legal discrimination and social disadvantages to direct violence. We especially encounter the growing sectarian terrorism in the Muslim majority zone that stretches from northern Nigeria in the west, through the Islamic Middle East region to Indonesia in the east. In addition to Islamic fundamentalism (mostly funded by Saudi Petrodollars), Christians are struggling with with increasing Hinduism and even Buddhist fundamentalism. We have reported attacks by Buddhist monks on Christians in Sri Lanka. In the year 2016, 90,000 Christians were killed in the world for the sake of faith. More than 500 million Christians have been persecuted or discriminated against by various forms. According to Open Doors, the country with the toughest pursuit has been for years DPRK (Democratic People’s Republic of Korea). Following are Somalia, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Sudan and nine other countries with an Islamic majority. The 15th place of the shameful list is India (www.opendoorsusa.org/christian-persecution/world-watch-list). The new persecution of Christians also appears in Western secular democracies.

Blasphemy laws instrument to violent Islamization.

Since September 2001, jihadists have committed tens of thousands of terrorist attacks in the world. While the Islamic people are condemning the endless series of terrorist attacks, the laws against “blasphemy” are pushed in. States of the Islamic Co-operation Organization (the association of all Muslim majority countries) repeatedly attempts to enforce universal blasphemy laws at the United Nations, blocking freedom of speech across the entire Islamic world, and directing primarily against reforming Muslims and members of religious minorities. Even in “tolerant” Indonesia these days, a Christina have been sentenced to two years in prison for alleged blasphemy - Governor Jakarta. More brutal is the pressure on minorities through “blasphemy”, for example, in Pakistan, where there are threats of death penalty. The accused are often lynched by a fanatic crowd even before they can be convicted. Even some western countries (Canada) are contemplating the introduction of the blasphemy law.

Middle East - Genocide of Christians

The situation of Christians in the Middle Eastern countries is particularly tragic. Destabilization of the region has brought rise to the influence of jihadist groups. As a result of sectarian violence, the number of Iraqi Christians has fallen from 1,300,000 to 200,000. With great concern, we are following the fate of Christians in Syria thwarted by civil war. The main participants of the six-year conflict are the Asad government army (supported by Russia, Iran and Hezbollah) and the jihadist opposition supported by Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Turkey and the West. In addition to supporting jihadists, the EU imposed sanctions on Asad’s Syria. Their purpose is to weaken and defeat Asad’s regime. By defeating the Asad regime, Syrian Christians would lose a single place where they are in (relative) security. CSI seeks to save Syrian Christians and supports the attitude of the Czech Foreign Minister L. Zaorálek in his attempt to preserve the Czech Embassy in Damascus.

Pope Francis asked the Christians to pray for their persecuted brothers and sisters. “They are persecuted and killed because they are Christians. I ask you, how much do you pray for persecuted Christians? Join me to support them with prayer and material help. “Let’s join this effort at least this 6th Easter Sunday!

Monika Kahancová

výkonná ředitelka CSI ČS

HOLY MASS INTENTIONS:

JUNE 2017

- 4.+ Peter J. Uhlř - children Keely & Conor Uhlř
- 5.+ Peter J. Uhlř - mother Josephine (Jessie) Uhlř
- 8.+ Agnes & Stanley Brozek - přátelé
- 9. za Marii Bednářovou - Anna Zemánková
- 10. za Ludmilu Mrázkovou - Anna Zemánková
- 13.+ Tom Cengr - manželka Marti Cengr
- 15.+ Rosemary - Anna Zemánková s rodinou
- 16.+ Monika & Ferdinand Stachura
- 17. za živé a zemřelé členy české síně Karlín - Joe Kocáb
- 18.+ Raymunda Dvorského - manželka Marie
- 22.+ Jiřinu Jordanovou - manžel Pavel
- 23.+ Mirka & Frank Miksa - Pavel & Marta
- 24.+ Luboš Jednorožec - Milada Jednorožec
- 25.+ rodiče Václav a Milada Vilímkovi - Milada Jednorožec
- 26. za rodinu Jednorožcovu - Milada Jednorožec



Bishop Esterka gratefully acknowledges a bequest from the Stanley and Agnes Brozek trust. We will not forget them in our Czech Masses.

MAY / 2017

We will publish, according to the practice of Catholic parishes, the amount of the collections, not distinguishing between the separate Masses, and also the amount received by mail that month. There will no longer be a monthly report of expenses. The balance sheet is published annually in our February Vestnik. If anyone has questions please call Bishop Esterka at 714 524 0092 and leave a message.

Mass collections: \$787; Mail: \$1,052.

May God reward you for your generosity.

Please take care to make out your checks so that they will match the names on our accounts: 1. Velehrad California Czech Catholic Mission or VCCCM. Our bank will no longer accept checks without the legal title Velehrad or VCCCM on the payable-to line. 2. If you wish your donation to go to the North American Pastoral Center for Czech Catholics: Make it out to NAPCCC.

OUR MISSION WILL CONTINUE TO EXIST ONLY AS LONG AS WE SUPPORT IT FINANCIALLY.

YOUR TRUST OR WILL: Please remember Czech ministry in your trust or will. Our legal title is: North American Pastoral Center for Czech Catholics, 344 Koch Avenue, Placentia, CA 92870. For information call Bishop Esterka, 714 524 0092.

MISSION CONTACTS

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