


KRAJANSKÉ OBCHODY A SLUŽBY

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VĚSTNÍK

IN ENGLISH

Czech Mission

www.czechchurch.org

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



**O Mary, we crown thee with blossoms today,
Queen of the Angels, Queen of the May**

CALIFORNIA / MAY 2012

May is month of Mary.



GARNET ROSARY

At home "May devotions" are still held in many parishes. Usually in the evening, these are characterized by the singing of Marian songs, with a talk or sermon on the life and significance of the Virgin Mary in salvation history. Many homes have a private altar with a statue of Mary. Sometimes in the past a young girl was chosen to crown the statue with flowers. This month emphasizes the frequent, even daily, praying of the rosary.

On 1 May we celebrate the feast of St. Joseph, the laborer

On 13 May we celebrate International Mother's Day.

On 17 May is Ascension Day, celebrated Sunday, May 20.

On 27 May is the feast of Pentecost.

On 28 May is the national holiday, "Memorial Day"

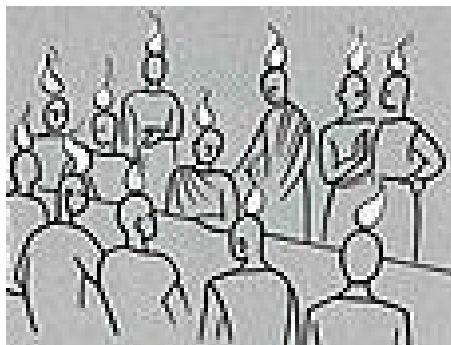
Gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit

Underpinning the Christian moral life are the gifts of the Holy Spirit. These are permanent dispositions which positively influence human beings to be willing to act in accordance with movements of the Holy Spirit.

The seven gifts of the Holy Spirit are: wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude,

knowledge, piety and fear of the Lord. They complement and bring to perfection the virtues of those who receive them.

The fruits of the Spirit are perfected in us by the Holy Spirit, constituting the first fruits of eternal glory. The tradition of the Church calculates twelve: "love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness, faithfulness, modesty, long-suffering, temperance, purity" (*Galatians 5.22-23*).



APRIL 2012

Total collections for operation of the California missions: \$3,827.00

SD collection \$605.00, for *Velehrad* \$0.00 LA collection \$1,617.00, meal \$623.00, for *Velehrad* \$70.00; SF collection: \$982.00; for *Velehrad* \$.347.00 .

Mission Expenses: \$2,425.00

\$1,000.00 Bishop's salary; 375.00 (rent for Polish Center 200; SF 125 and the hall in San Diego 50; 360.00 (travel to SF, gas, car maintenance); LA meal 279; *Věstník* publication : \$147.00 +264.00 (postage).

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: RC Czech Mission, or Czech Center Building Fund, or if you wish it to go to the Bishop or to North American Pastoral Center for Czech Catholics: Bishop Peter Esterka, or 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.

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ÚMYSLY NA MŠE SVATÉ:

KVĚTEN • MAY

1. + Raymond Srnka - Bertha Srnka
2. +Danielu Kypťovou (+5.února) - Josef Kyntl a přátelé
3. +Miloslav Marik - manželka Edith
4. +Petra Vranu - manželka Jarka
5. +Vaclav Pavelka - přítel
6. +Gary Hill - Bertha Srnka
7. + za rodiče Annu a Jana Vad'urovi. - manželé Hrobařovi
8. +Premysla Tůmu - Elizabeth Khodabakhshi
9. +Rose Anne a Josef Hrobařovi - manželé Hrobařovi
10. +George Martinku - Jean Hoard
11. +Jaroslava Kytýra - dcera Milena Kytýrová
12. +Emilii Křížovou - syn Vladimír
13. +Marie Wagner a Hedy Srnka - Bertha Srnka
14. +dcera Marii Hrobařová - manželé Hrobařovi
15. +Dr. Lud'ka Kozlíka - manželka Brigitte
16. +za rodiče Marii a Jana Hrobařovy - manželé Hrobařovi
17. +Ludmilu Hudečku - Milada Vegvary
18. +Raymunda Dvorského - manželka Marie
19. +syna Jaromíra Hrobaře - manželé Hrobařovi
20. +Veronica Sujak - Jean Hoard
21. + Jiřinu Jordánovou - manžel Pavel
22. +Albína a Vlastu Žabkovic - dcera Marta
23. +Marii Jordánovou - syn Pavel
24. +Karla Nováka - manželka Inka a dcera Irenka
25. +Jiří Spinka - Mirek Vondruš
26. +Zdenka Šafaříka - manželka Libuše a dcera Jana
27. za živé a zemřelé členy české síně Karlín - Joe Kocáb
28. +J.V. Reicherta - manželka Jana
29. + Dr. D.E. Slavoje - Eva Sajanová
30. +Alfred Srnka - Bertha Srnka
31. +Milada Kozak - přítel

Memorial for Frank J. Marlow - Irene Marlow
„Your family misses you forever.“

FROM THE DESK OF BISHOP ESTERKA

Dear Friends of our Czech Mission in California



● According to plan our next Mass in San Francisco should be on Sunday, 27 May, but due to the fact (and for this many of our regular participants apologized) that they go on holiday, and also because the Golden Gate Bridge will be closed that weekend, I have decided that the Czech Mass for that day in San Francisco will have to be canceled . This means that our next Mass in San Francisco will be held on 10 June. Please, remind your friends about this change.

● In May our Czech Mass in San Diego will be celebrated on the 19th at 4:00 PM in the church hall of St John's Church, as always. This month the Czech Mass for LA will have to be in our Velehrad Center, 344 Koch Ave., Placentia, 92870 at 1:30 PM. After the Mass the kitchen and back yard will be open for lunch (pork schnitzel with potato salad and dessert) for the usual price. Hopefully we'll have nice weather.

● We do not have our Czech Masses in California in July since so many are traveling. We will start up again in August 2012.

● Recently we have had several weddings and baptisms of young children. It is evident that we should focus on the preparation for Holy Communion for the little ones. If any of you parents are not sending your children for this preparation in the parish in which you live, I would be very glad to help you either by preparing them myself or arranging that your children be accepted into the program of preparation for this Sacrament in your parish.

Again and again the rosary has played a role in more recent revelations Why? Perhaps because we love to pray to Mary, and not to Christ and the Father? On the contrary! The Rosary is important because we have watched with Mary pondering the mystery of Jesus' life. Our eyes are blurred and blunted. We have to see through Mary's eyes to see the Messiah accurately. She gave birth to him physically, lived with him and endured his fate to the crucifixion and all the way to the throne of God.

(Hans Urs Von Balthasar) 3

Please mark your calendars for Saturday, June 9, 2012.

Members of the San Diego Mission are offering the second Czech-Moravian-Slovak Festival. For information, call Anka (619) 992-9831

Meditation: The Art of Living

"The art of living" is of course no single artistic discipline, is not taught at any art school, and requires a versatile talent each of us. And just as we are different people, so diverse are our life and creations. For some their whole life "sketches" only the very basic images. But honestly from the heart, we forgive those who do not reflect any great artistic growth, but only the purity of the artist's soul.

Others, by contrast, go around spewing monumental masterpieces and complex compositions, but sometimes they really do not understand themselves at all. Unfortunately, there are also many works in the gallery that show we still lack vitality, because we fear it, or some form of evil itself is evoked. Fortunately there are still life-artists, whose works we are very happy to go and ponder repeatedly, opening for us a real feast.

Why is it so, and why are the authors so close to our souls?

Is it the harmonious palette of colors, which fits well with our world view? Is it because some mysterious light illuminates the surrounding dark background with unabashed hope? Is it those concise, sophisticated accents of love, or rather the pristine clarity and clear concept of the whole composition, underlining the known life-wisdom : "in simplicity is beauty?"

The main reason is that even the most loving work is not always harmonious with the perfect and holy work "of the Supreme Artist." When we have life in his eyes making it "I am the way, truth and life," we feel that our work has some meaning, it is much better for us, and our life is really spent creating something true, beautiful and loving - not only for ourselves, but also for others. Conversely, at any time in this journey we may take somewhere a direction such as existentialism and nihilism which could begin to dominate our life and art. Why? so that we each can create our earthly life into that eternal "God Gallery" of honest artistic creations - no matter how small, but always valuable.

Gracious Lord, I humbly ask you to give us this day which love helped create. Amen to that.

*Hlas, Czech Mission in Germany:
Jaroslav Verner, Munich 2012*

"I love the Church because. . ."

The poet Jan Zahradníček wrote: 'Fortunately for poets and for the whole human race, there is a community in which to store all the great values of the past, which can breathe deeply and freely - and that is the Church! The Church opens its hands full of inexhaustible resources peace, joy and freedom. It is in the world but not of this world. Therefore it can not understand infidelity and the Blockheads (Balaam's Ass)

The Church is obviously a storehouse of books and written documents. But alongside the dry phrases most theologians know, Fr.



Fr. Bernard Häring

- and always gives me hope" (*Being in the Church*).

Bernard. Häring, a German Redemptorist priest and moral theologian, has composed a beautiful, warm expression of his relationship to the Church of the 20th century : "I love the Church, because I also love Christ who loves it to the extreme. I love her even where I find painful attitudes and oppressive structures that seem to me inconsistent with the gospel. I love her for who she is, because Christ loves me

despite all my imperfections, all my shadows

Peter the Fisherman, who was entrusted with the keys to the building of the Church, speaks of the "chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people, which is owned by God, the people of God." (1 Peter 2:9)

The conclusion should be clear: The Church is God's work of art - and also our own, the Christian "we" who are not just members, but Members of the Mystical Body of Christ. And its history is a symphony that has its adventurous and exciting course, engrossing, but also provocative, which has its score, its author and director, who never abandons her - if only because he is still her head. Always the infallible predictions are still challenged by a great enemy of God - in vain, and he is repeatedly defeated, which is the scenario used for the constant refinement and purification of the Church - to achieving the triumphant closing chord. A summit, a unique feature: its director - his love for her and humanity - for it is he nailed to the cross!

The Donkey and the Dry Well

One day an old donkey fell into an empty well. The unfortunate animal cried for hours and the owner tried in vain to figure out how to save him. Eventually he realized that the well is dry and the useless donkey is also already useless. He decided, therefore, to fill the well with donkey in it. He asked neighbors for help. Each took a shovel and began to throw dirt into the well, sand, trash, The donkey moaned loudly for a time, but then went completely silent. They threw a few shovels and looked down. What they saw was completely unexpected: When dirt and debris fell on the donkey, the donkey always shook it off, and moved his feet until he was always a bit higher. They threw stuff on and on until the donkey came to the surface, happily jumped up, and ran off to graze.



What us the lesson of this story? Life also occasionally throws all kinds of dirt and clay on us. The art of living is to overcome it and go on our way again. Each of our problems are small steps, after which we can go higher. We can climb out from the deepest abyss. Only we must not give up, always step up and out of the pit.

Five simple suggestions for a harmonious and peaceful life:

First Liberate your heart from hatred, forgive those who have hurt you.

Second The past or the future do not matter: the past has changed, and what will be we do not know.

Third Rejoice in what we have.

Fourth Give more.

Fifth Expect less.

And do not forget to smile! It costs nothing, but gains us friends.

Hlas Misie, Easter issue (Czech Mission in Switzerland)

GOD WAS LOOKING FOR ME

Three young men completed the study in the school of the great masters. Before they parted, they gave a promise to travel through the world, and meet again a year later in the same place to show what possessions they had found.

The first was clear: he knew of a rare gem and wanted to get it. Soon he found it, bought it, and returned.

Then he waited for the others. The second came shortly and brought with him a beautiful girl, whom he soon married.

It was many years later but the third still had not returned. I almost forgot, he said, when he appeared. Tired, but happy. First, they showed off their catch, and then asked:

“Where were you and what did you do all that time? You had to find something really valuable to look as radiant as you do now.”

“I went looking for God,” he said. “I have been discussing with the most famous scholars, read, studied, thought, conferred ... but God found me. One day, exhausted with all the searching and studying, I sat in the grass on the shore of the lake. I have long observed the duck, as in the reeds looking for ducklings that departed from her. Tirelessly until sunset the duck worried the reeds until she had the last of her offspring under her wings ... And so my search is over. ”

"So you really found him?"

“NO! But I understood that he sought me until I finally was found by him!”

The Bible testified that God is still looking for man: From Adam, through the prophets, apostles ... up until now. He searches for each person. And what we should do is so simple: Let God find us!

God, bring us “the wilderness:” Take all that distracts us and takes us away from you ...

God, bring us the wilderness: Warm the coldness of our hearts...

God, bring us the wilderness: But do not let us alone, because we are scared by ourselves ...

God, bring us the wilderness: Heal our hearts and give us room to experience joy ...

God, bring us the wilderness: Remain with us, we want to be even closer to you ... Amen!



***SAN DIEGO
EASTER***

*Left:
Elias Lang
was a big win-
ner in the first
ever Easter
egg hunt at the
San Diego
Czech-Slovak
Mass.*

*Below:
Nicholas
Semancik
smiles with his
grand-
father Peter
Bachraty.*



You are invited to attend

**OUR
CZECH
LITURGY**

In SAN DIEGO our Mass will be on Saturday, May 19 at 4:00 in the afternoon at St. John's Church on the corner of Normal and Lincoln. Refreshments follow.

In LOS ANGELES our Mass will be on Sunday, May 20 at 1:30 in the afternoon at our Velehrad, 344 Koch Ave, Placentia, CA 92870. Immediately after Mass a meal of wienerschnitzel with potato salad will be served. A donation of \$10.00 is requested, \$5.00 for parky.

IN SAN FRANCISCO there will be no Mass in May.
Mark your Calendars for June: SF 10, SD 16, LA 17 (steaks at Velehrad.)

The LA/OC Czech mission has a new kind of tombola. After each Mass a ticket is given to every person who purchases the ten dollar meal. A drawing determines that one of those people gets a free meal the following month. You must be present to win!



Yorba Linda: Joseph Martinez and Adrian Babicka are left and center at the annual Easter egg hunt on the grounds of the Polish Center.