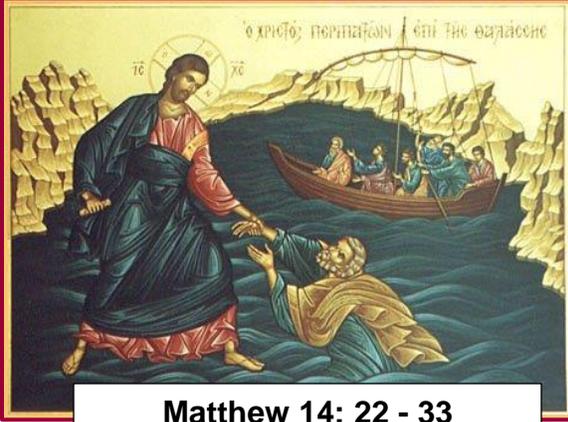




WESTERN EPARCHY NEWSLETTER

WESTERN EPARCHY
UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH
OF CANADA

Issue 33: Autumn, 2019



Matthew 14: 22 - 33
The Outstretched Hands

With The Blessing Of His Grace Bishop
Ilarion Of Edmonton & The Western
Eparchy, Youth Of The Western Eparchy
(8-18) Are Invited To Attend A Summit



Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada Youth Summit

October 23-26, 2019

St. John's Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral
Edmonton, Alberta

All Ukrainian Orthodox Youth are asked to
register by visiting: www.uoccyouth.com

For further information please contact

Fr. Dr. Timothy Chrapko

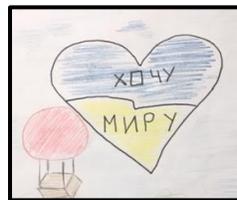
780-818-4175 or fr.t.chrapko@gmail.com

"... Always be ready
to make your
defence to anyone
who demands from
you an accounting
for the hope that is
in you;" - 1 Peter 3:15

Orphanage Project in Ukraine



Art by children at Orphanage in Ukraine



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The Outstretched Hands

(Excerpt from: **THIS IS MY BELOVED SON, LISTEN TO HIM**, by Anthony M. Coniaris, Light and Life Publishing Co, Minneapolis, MN. 1988)

We read in the Holy Gospel that Jesus took the cold, clammy hand of the daughter of Jairus, who was dead and said “*‘Child arise’ and her spirit returned and she got up at once, and He directed that something should be given to her to eat.*” This was not the first time Jesus stretched forth His hand to bring healing. When Peter began to sink in the waves, “*Jesus immediately reached out His hand and caught him: (Matthew 14:31)* When Peter’s mother-in-law was ill with fever, Jesus “*came and took her by the hand and lifted her up, and the fever left her.*” (Mark 1:31.) When sick people came to Him, the blind, the deaf, and dumb, He “*laid His hands*” upon them and healed them. (Mark 6:5, 7:34.)

The hands of Jesus have not been withdrawn from us. They are still stretched out waiting for us to grasp them that they may bring us healing power and forgiveness. God the Father has His two hands constantly stretched out to us., beckoning us to grasp them, one hand, he says is Jesus; the other is the Holy Spirit. Thus, the entire Trinity is reaching out to embrace us in love. What is prayer but reaching out with the hand of faith to grasp the already outstretched hands of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.” What is the Eucharist but reaching out to grasp not just the hand but the whole of Christ, in both the Body and the Blood that He may make us His living presence in the world?

Those loving hands have never been withdrawn from us. We hear God saying in Isaiah: “*All day long I have held out my hands to a disobedient and contrary people.*” (Romans 10:21). Although the people were disobedient, God did not withdraw His hands from them. It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God, says the Bible. But is it not an even more fearful thing to fall out of God’s hands.”

Listen as Jesus speaks to John 10:27-28. “*My sheep hear my voice, and I know them and they follow me, and I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish, and no one shall snatch them out of My hand.*” If you are Christ’s, “*No one shall snatch you out of My hand.*”

Faith is not merely our holding on to God. It is even more so, God holds on to us. He will not let you go, if you will let Him hold your hand. “*And no one shall snatch them out of my hand.*”

When we fall—and how often we fall! — it is never the end, because His forgiving hand is there to raise us up and restore us.

When you are troubled and anxious, reach out for the hand of Jesus. Let Him put His arms around you. Once embraced by those everlasting arms, you need never worry about anything again. He will either shield you from suffering, or He will give you unflinching strength to bear it. “*Father, I am too weak to hold your hand. You take my hand.*”

When you feel inadequate and begin to ask, “Am I big enough for this job?” extend your hand out to the waiting hand of Jesus and hear Him say to you: “No, you are not big enough to do it all alone. But here is My hand; take it and together we’ll succeed.”

There is a hand reaching out to you today from the heart of the universe; it is the hand of Jesus. Reach out and grasp it. Invite Him into your life. Walk with Him and you will have fullness of life, the “life that is life indeed.” (St. Paul). And when it comes your time to leave, you will not leave alone, His hand will be there to take your hand and lead you “to dwell in the house of the Lord forever.”

**“Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.”
“Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you
will find rest for your souls.”**

“ For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.”

.... Matthew 11: 28-30



60th Anniversary of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of St. Elia, Edmonton, AB
August 4, 2019



60 YEAR MEMBERS



Nancy Demchuk

Tillie Ostrowerka

Not present but acknowledged: Laura Brodyk, Olga Brusnyk, Bessie Buzak, Sonia Buzak, Anne Emsky



50 YEAR MEMBERS

Terry Holubetz
Walter and Pearl Marceniuk
Mary Shewchuk
Justina Trush

40 YEAR MEMBERS

Michael and Phyllis Charuk
William and Hilda Ewanec
Orest and Jean Macyk
John and Mary Shupenia
Edith Reutow
Frank and Mary Holyk

In Loving Memory

DOBR. AVIS MARANCHUK



**Memory Eternal!
Вічна Її Пам'ять!**

Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Sts. Peter and Paul
KELOWNA, BC - September 29, 2019

His Grace Bishop Ilarion blessed the
UOCC Centennial monument.





ORPHANAGE PROJECT IN UKRAINE



“ The rich man is not one who has much but one who gives much. For what he gives away, remains his forever.”
... St. John Chrysostom

We continue to do humanitarian and charitable work in our homeland Ukraine by helping some of the most vulnerable children, the orphans, especially in these times when a war rages in the eastern part of their country, they are in an unstable environment, and their basic needs are difficult to meet at this time. But they have us, the generous and thoughtful people in the Western Eparchy who have informally adopted them and help them.

We continue to provide much-needed assistance.

Please make donations to the Western Eparchy UOCC, and state: **orphans in Ukraine** in the memo line.

Tax Receipts for Revenue Canada will be issued.
**THANK YOU FOR THE CONTINUED SUPPORT OF
THE ORPHANS IN UKRAINE**

*“May you see the face of Christ in everyone you meet.
May everyone you meet see the face of Christ in you.”*

“ Find Jesus at the door of your heart, and you will discover Paradise.”
....St. John Chrysostom

OTHER WAYS HE COMES

Faith, repentance, obedience, prayer, and contemplation are not the only ways by which we open the door to Jesus.

We have not even mentioned Holy Communion: “ He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood lives in me and I in him.”

We have not even mentioned God’s word in the Sacred Scriptures through which He speaks to us and comes to dwell in our hearts richly.

In His great love for us God has given us more than one way to open the door He knocks on, seeking entrance to our heart.

He comes also through the liturgy. And, as we know, there is really not one but three liturgies: first, the INNER LITURGY, which takes place in the chapel of the heart, consisting of prayer, meditation, and contemplation; secondly, the CORPORATE LITURGY, that is celebrated in church every Sunday; thirdly, the LITURGY AFTER THE LITURGY, that takes place in the world where we continue the liturgy that began in church as we perform acts of love and *diakonia* (service) in the name of Christ. Each one of these liturgies is a way of opening our hearts to let Jesus enter.

From: PARADISE AT YOUR DOORSTEP, by Anthony M. Coniaris, Light and life Publishing, Minneapolis, MN, 1996.