



VESTNIK

SLOVENSKA ŽUPNIJA SV. GREGORIJA VELIKEGA | ST. GREGORY THE GREAT SLOVENIAN CHURCH

49/58

Številka - Number / Leto - Year

4.12.2022

**2. ADNENTNA
NEDELJA**

**2ND SUNDAY
OF ADVENT**

PO SPREBRNENJU LAHKO SPET UPAMO

Današnji evangelij nas pripravlja na Gospodov prihod s pomembnim sporočilom in močnim klicem k sprebrnjenju. Janez Krstnik kaže strogo in v nekem smislu silovito podobo. Spada namreč med preroke, ki so naredili močan vtis: »Imel je obleko iz velblodje dlake in usnjen pas okoli ledij in njegova jed so bile kobilice ter divji med.« Janez Krstnik, ki je živel v Judejski puščavi, je nenavaden človek, ki ima nalogo oznanjati pomembno in temeljno sporočilo: »Sprebrnite se, nebeško kraljestvo se je približalo!«



Božji poseg je blizu in Janez ga predstavlja kot nekaj zelo zahtevnega za vse grešnike. K njemu so prihajali mnogi farizeji in saduceji, da bi jih krstil. Znani so bili kot ugledni ljudje, toda Krstnik jim je vrgel v obraz: »Gadja zalega!« Prerok vidi v njihova srca in ve, da v resnici niso tako odprti za Gospoda.

Zgodi se, da so ravno ugledni ljudje v globini svojega srca naduti, ošabni, samovšečni; ni jim mar za Boga, marveč iščejo lastno uresničitev.

Krstnik strogo graja te ljudi; »Kdo vam je zagotovil, da boste ubežali prihodnji jezi?« Ni dovolj, da prihajajo zaradi krsta z vodo, marveč morajo »obroditi vreden sad pokore«. Pokora (sprebrnjenje) pa ni v opravljanju verskih obredov, marveč v globoki osebni preobrazbi, ki od gluhotе za Boga prehaja v iskreno poslušnost v vseh stvareh od najmanjših do najpomembnejših. Biti sprejemljiv za Boga v ljubezni, v tem je resnično sprebrnjenje. Ljudje težko uresničimo takšno sprebrnjenje, ker smo preveč zaverovani v lastno voljo, v samovšečno ljubezen.

Janez Krstnik izpostavlja farizeje in saduceje, ki prihajajo k njemu: »Ne morete reči drug drugemu: imamo Abrahama za očeta.« Pred Bogom ne velja nobeno ponašanje, kajti on vidi v globine srca. Kajti on »lahko iz kamnov prikljče Abrahamove otroke« ...

Dalje Janez Krstnik oznanja prihod tistega, ki je večji od njega. »Jaz vas krščujem z vodo, da bi se spokorili; ta, ki pride za menoj, pa je močnejši od mene in jaz nisem vreden, da bi mu odvezal obuvalo; on vas bo krstil s Svetim Duhom.« Predstavlja ga tudi kot sodnika: »Velnico ima v roki. In bo očistil gumno ...«

Vemo, da se Jezus ni predstavil v luči sodnika, kakor ga je napovedal

Fr. Drago Gačnik, SDB
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Krstnik. Predstavil se je kot človek, poln božjega usmiljenja. Res je, da je napovedal sodbo, toda ta je v drugotnem planu, medtem ko je v prvem planu dar božjega usmiljenja.

Prvo berilo govori o Mesiju z navdušenimi besedami. Prerok Izaija napove, da bo iz Jesejeve korenine, to je iz Davidovega rodu, »pognal poganjek ... Na njem bo počival Gospodov duh: duh modrosti in razumnosti, duh sveta in moči, duh spoznanja in strahu božjega.« Ta oseba je Jezus, ki bo ob svojem prihodu na svet napolnjen z darovi Svetega Duha.

Njegovo delo bo čudovito delo odrešenja, zlasti ubogih in zatiranih Mesija bo odrešenik; da bi pa mogli biti odrešeni, moramo doživeti stisko. Kdor ni potreben odrešitve, ne potrebuje Mesija.

Jezusovo delo je opisano v idealni podobi in s prepričljivimi podobami: »Volk bo prebival z jagnjetom, panter bo ležal s kozličkom; tele, lev in ovca bodo skupaj; majhen deček jih bo gonil.« To pomeni, da ne bo več napetosti in sovražnosti, marveč mir in čudovita ubranost. Jezus je namreč prišel, da bi ljudem prinesel vesoljno spravo, spravo z Bogom in med ljudmi.

Vse to pa, jasno, zahteva, da zavržemo hudobijo. Izaia pravi: »Nič zlega ne bodo storili, nič pogubnega naredili na vsej sveti gori. Zakaj dežela je polna Gospodovega spoznanja, kakor vode pokrivajo morsko gladino.« Takšno Izaijevo videnje nas napolnjuje z upanjem in veseljem. Gre za ideal, ki ga ni tako lahko uresničiti, toda k njemu moramo biti vedno usmerjeni.

V drugem berilu apostol Pavel pravi, da je »Kristus postal služabnik obreze zaradi božje zvestobe, da bi tako spolnil obljube, dane očetom«. Bog je po prerokih dal čudovite obljube svojemu ljudstvu, Kristus pa jih je dopolnil. Postal je služabnik izvoljenega ljudstva, da bi tako pokazal zvestobo Boga danim obljubam.

Pavel nadaljuje, da je Kristus prišel, da bi tudi poganom prinesel odrešenje. To dejstvo presega obljube, dane izvoljenemu ljudstvu.

Ne smemo pozabiti, da smo tudi mi med narodi, ki so bili nekdaj poganski. Božični praznik, kateremu se približujemo, utrjuje v nas čudovito upanje v božji načrt. Ta načrt se, kljub težavam, ki se vrstijo v svetu, uresničuje v Kristusu. Gospod prihaja, da bi nas (od)rešil v meri, v kakršni mu odpremo svoja srca. Smemo biti prepričani, da smo resnično odrešeni, to je, da bomo dosegli veselje, mir in polnost njegove ljubezni in bomo tako z njegovo milostjo preoblikovali današnji svet.

(Prim. Oznanjevalec - A_2007/8, štev. 1)

First Reading *Isaiah 11:1-10*

The descendant of Jesse will usher in an age of peace such as the world has never known.

Response: In his days may righteousness flourish and peace abound forever.

Second Reading *Romans 15:4-9*

Inspired by the scriptures, Christ's followers are called to be examples of tolerance for the world to follow.

Gospel *Matthew 3:1-12*

John the Baptist calls for repentance because the judge is coming.

"If you are repentant, produce the appropriate fruit."



Illustration

The story goes that someone once asked the Pope what would he do if he looked up in the sky and saw Christ descending from heaven in glory, with all the angels heralding his second coming as the world comes to an end. After thinking for a moment, the Pope said, "Look busy." You sometimes see the words "Jesus is coming, look busy" on bumper stickers too. The joke is not just that there's no point trying to fool Jesus, but that when the second coming is here, the time for busyness is past. To say the least, big changes are coming! But there can be a comfort in routine, and when big changes come along there is always a temptation to keep our heads down and focus on "business as usual".

This is especially so when the change that's coming threatens a situation that we've grown comfortable with. Perhaps we have got



used to certain perks or privileges. Imagine a shake-up like this, maybe at work or at school, in your family life perhaps... everyone else seems happy about it, but what about you? It's easy to imagine how we might smile and go along with it, while secretly being determined not to get knocked off our perch, not to let go of our comfortable life.

Gospel Teaching

John the Baptist's preaching took place in the desert, the wilderness. In the Old Testament, the wilderness is an in-between place, a place of journeying. The people of Israel entered it through the Red Sea when they escaped from Egypt, a place of slavery; but it was not their final destination: this was to be the Promised Land, and to enter that land they had to cross the River Jordan. This is why the Baptist performed his ministry there: to show that by repenting of their sins the people could at last truly enter that land. Whatever side of the river they lived on, their true homeland was nowhere other than with God in heaven.

But were they really willing to make that journey? John seems sceptical when the Pharisees and Sadducees come to him for baptism, and warns them of the danger of presumption. Perhaps they were coming to be baptised just because John's

movement was popular, and they didn't want to seem out of touch with the latest religious fashion. They were, after all, the leaders and opinion-formers of the Jewish people, and here was a popular movement they couldn't afford to ignore. They would let themselves be immersed in the water, but then go back home to carry on fighting among themselves for power and influence, their hearts and minds unchanged. But this makes a mockery of baptism, which is supposed to be an outward sign of our belonging to God's coming kingdom. That kingdom is what Isaiah promises us in our first reading, a kingdom of peace that the world cannot give. For those unwilling to live in such a land, to be gathered into God's barn, the alternative is a fire that will never go out: carrying on as they are is not an option.

Application

The same challenge is presented to us today: do we truly want to live in the kingdom of God, to be citizens of heaven, or – if we are honest – would we be happy just to carry on as we are? Do we go through the motions of our religious rituals because it seems like the right thing to do, because it's how we were brought up, because our friends and family are doing it? Or do we sincerely desire to be part of God's harvest? Although in some ways we are still making our journey through the wilderness of life, and the busyness of the world has its calls upon us, Christians are called to live already as children of the kingdom.

The call of John the Baptist to show the fruit of repentance is echoed by St Paul, who invites the Christians in Rome to glorify God by their love for one another. We want those outside the Church to believe that our faith is more than empty words and meaningless rituals, so we might ask ourselves whether people can look at us and see that we behave as citizens of heaven. Do we show one another patience, tolerance, compassion and mercy? The changes the Gospel invites us to make can be hard to contemplate, but if we encourage and support one another we can truly embrace God's kingdom.

MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS FOR THE XXXVII WORLD YOUTH DAY 2022-2023

“Mary arose and went with haste” (Lk 1:39)

Healthy haste drives us always upwards and towards others

A healthy haste drives us always upwards and towards others. Yet there is also an unhealthy haste, which can drive us to live superficially and to take everything lightly. Without commitment or concern, without investing ourselves in what we do. It is the haste of those who live, study, work and socialize without any real personal investment. This can happen in interpersonal relationships. In families, when we never stop to listen and spend time with others. In friendships, when we expect our friends to keep us entertained and fulfil our needs, but immediately look the other way if we see that they are troubled and need our time and help. Even among couples in love, few have the patience to really get to know and understand each other. We can have the same attitude in school, at work and in other areas of our daily lives. When things are done in haste, they tend not to be fruitful. They risk remaining barren and lifeless. As we read in the book of Proverbs: “the plans of the diligent lead surely to abundance, but everyone who is hasty comes only to want” (21:5).

When Mary arrives at the home of Zechariah and Elizabeth, a marvellous encounter takes place! Elizabeth herself had experienced miraculous intervention from God, who gave her a child in her old age. She would have had every reason to begin by talking about herself, yet she was not “full of herself”, but anxious to welcome her young cousin and the fruit of her womb. As soon as she heard Mary’s greeting, Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. Such surprises and outpourings of the Spirit come about when we show true hospitality, when we put others, not ourselves, at the centre. We see this too in the story of Zacchaeus. In the Gospel of Luke we read that “when Jesus came to the place [where Zacchaeus was], he looked up and said to him, ‘Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today’. So he

hurried down and was happy to welcome him” (19:5-6).

Many of us have had the unexpected experience of meeting Jesus and for the first time having a sense of closeness and respect, a lack of prejudice and disapproval, a loving gaze that we never encountered in any other. Not only that. We have also realized that, for Jesus, it was not enough to glimpse us from afar; he wanted to be with us and to share his life with us. The joy of this experience made us hasten to welcome him, to feel the need to be with him and to get to know him better. Elizabeth and Zechariah welcomed Mary and Jesus into their home. Let us learn from these two elderly persons the meaning of hospitality! Ask your parents and grandparents, and the oldest members of your communities, what it meant for them to have welcomed God and others into their lives. You will benefit from hearing the experiences of those who have gone before you.

Dear young people, now is the time to set out in haste towards concrete encounters, towards genuine acceptance of those different from ourselves. This was the case with the young Mary and the elderly Elizabeth. Only thus will we bridge distances – between generations, social classes, ethnic and other groups – and even put an end to wars. Young people always represent the hope for new unity within our fragmented and divided human family. But only if they can preserve memory, only if they can hear the dramas and dreams of the elderly. “It is no coincidence that war is returning to Europe at a time when the generation that experienced it in the last century is dying out” (Message for the 2022 World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly). We need the covenant between young and old, lest we forget the lessons of history; we need to overcome all the forms of polarization and extremism present in today’s world.

/Continues in the next Vestnik/



NEW YEAR'S EVE at St. Gregory the Great will be happening this year.

As announced last week, St. Gregory the Great WILL BE hosting a New Years Eve celebration this year. As promised, here are a few more details:

Ticket cost will be \$120 per person and \$90 for those 21 years of age or younger.

Ticket prices will increase by \$20 per ticket on Wednesday, December 21st.

Reservations can be made by calling Heidi Novak at 905-317-6002.

You are welcome to reserve tickets individually, or you can reserve full tables.

Tickets are to be **purchased and paid** for in order to guarantee your reservation – payments can be made by cash, cheque or e-transfer. Reserved tables may be amended slightly at the discretion of Parish Council, depending on ticket sale numbers and the number of tables required.

Your **ticket includes** entry to our New Year's Eve celebration, a complimentary drink, appetizers, dinner, late night buffet, party favours, a live band and perhaps some unexpected surprises.

We hope that everyone will join us with their family and friends and help make this a New Years celebration to remember.

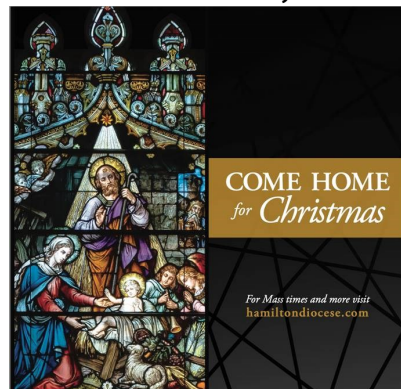
As noted before, **we will need help** putting all this together. Please contact me if you are interested or able to volunteer. We need kitchen help, bar help, servers, set-up and clean-up help as well as dishwashers.

We are hopeful for an unforgettable New Year's Eve celebration!

Heidi Novak, 905-317-6002



COME HOME FOR CHRISTMAS is a concerted effort undertaken by The Stewardship and Development Office to invite parishioners to return to the celebration of Mass – especially at Christmas. Parishes are receiving letter templates, posters and postcards, bulletin announcements, social media resources and various other materials. Billboards will soon appear in larger centres throughout the Diocese. Mass times and Confession opportunities in our Parishes will be available on our Diocesan Website. All this in the hope that our Churches will be filled at the many Masses offered at Christmas – and beyond.



OBVESTILA - ANNOUNCEMENTS

DOGODKI: - DECEMBER

- **Dec. 4, 2022 - Slovenian School - St. Gregory the Great** - Miklavževanje
- **Dec. 16, 2022 - St. Gregory the Great** - Začetek božične devetdnevnice
- **Dec. 18, 2022 - Breslau** - Mass at 1:00 p.m.
- **Dec. 18, 2022 - London** - Mass at 4:00 p.m.
- **Dec. 24, 2022 - St. Gregory the Great** - **Božični večer - Christmas Eve** Masses: 6:00 p.m. (English), 10:00 p.m. (Slovenina)
- **Dec. 25, 2022 - St. Gregory the Great** - **Božič - Christmas Day** - Masses: 9:30 a.m. (Slovenian), 11:00 a.m. (English)
- **Dec. 31, 2022 - St. Gregory the Great** - Mass at 5:30 p.m. - **New Year's Eve celebration** in the Hall at 6:00 p.m.
- **Jan. 1, 2022 - St. Gregory the Great - Novo leto - Marija, sveta Božja Mati** - Masses: 9:30 a.m. (Slovenian), 11:00 a.m. (English)
- **Jan. 1, 2023 - Lipa Park** - New Year's Day Celebration - home-style luncheon.

READERS - BRALCI BERIL

December 4, 2022

Slovensko branje - Terezija Sarjaš
English reader - Mary Miklavčič

GIFT BEARERS - SLOVENIAN MASS

Dec. 4 - Bartolac Family
Dec. 11 - Milena Volčanšek & Majda L.
Dec. 18 - Jožica Vegelj & Terezija Sarjaš

CLEANING OF THE CHURCH - ČIŠČENJE CERKVE

Dec. 3rd - Groznik, Erzar, Lukežič
Dec. 17th - Lojzka Novak team
Dec. 30th - Lukežič, Volčanšek team

CWL - KŽZ



CWL membership envelopes will be available from Pamela Gosgnach as of Wed. Nov. 23rd. These envelopes can be returned to Pamela or placed in the collection box in the vestibule.

Please note that membership fees have gone up and are now \$35. \$25 is directed to national office, \$3 to the provincial office, \$6 to the Hamilton Diocese and \$1 covers insurance. Rationale for this increase includes a significant decrease in membership and an increase in operation costs.

Our CWL council voted against this increase in fees but since a majority of councils voted in favour of the motion it was passed. Thank you for your understanding.

Our next CWL general meeting will take place on Wed. Dec. 7th after 7:00 PM Mass.

OGNJIŠČE

Prosimo, da potrdite naročnino za prihodnje leto za revijo Ognjišče. Naročnina za leto 2023 je \$ 91.-

ZAHVALA

Roza Kolenko in družina se ob pogrebu Jožeta Kolenko, iskreno zahvaljuje vsem, ki ste jim stali ob strani, izrazili sožalje, prišli in se od njega poslovili v Funeral home na Lake Avenue, ste se udeležili molitve rožnega venca, prišli k pogrebni sveti maši in ga pospremili k zadnjem počitku na pokopališče Gate of Heaven. Posebna zahvala pevcem in gospodu župniku za molitve, mašo in obred na pokopališču..

DAROV - DONATIONS

Marija Žvan z družino je darovala \$50 za gradbeni sklad v spomin na pok. Alojza Lesica.

Oltarnemu društvu sta za rože darovali:

- \$50 Marija Žvan v spomin na vse pokojne

- \$100 Jožica Hapke

Hvala za vaš dar.

VIDEO-MARMORA - MOLITEV - MAŠA

V ponedeljek, 4. decembra 2022 bo ob 2:00 p.m. bo v cerkvi ob Marijinih pesmih PowerPoint predstavitev slik iz raznih romanj v Marmoru; po predstavitvi bo molitev pred izpostavljenim Najsvetejšim molitve božjega usmiljenja, litanije in rožni venec. Ob 3:30 p.m. bo sveta maša., zato zvečer ob 7h zato NE BO svete maše.



SPOVED PRED BOŽIČEM - CONFESSIONS

Letošnjo duhovno pripravo pred Božičem bomo imeli **v sredo, 21. decembra zvečer**. Priložnost za sveto spoved ob **od 5h popoldne do večerne maše in še po maši** če bo potrebno. Ob 7h zvečer pa je večerna maša s kratkim nagovorom. Spovedoval bo g. Leopold Valant, župnik župnije Brezmadežne iz Toronto.



V tem tednu so naslednje obletnice smrti faranov, ki so zapisani v naših knjigah:

Prebil	Ciril	December 6, 1977
Božič	Adolf	December 6, 1995
Rejc	Maria	December 6, 2012
Bitežnik	Michael	December 9, 2001
Marušich	Frank Radivoj	December 9, 2013
Mešiček	Dragica	December 10, 2001
Sevšek	Franc	December 10, 2006
Bolko	Karolina	December 10, 2010
Dolar	Rozalija	December 10, 2020
Kremesec	Anthony	December 11, 1983
Gomboša	Anton	December 11, 2008

Svete maše - Masses

<p>2. ADVENTNA NEDELJA 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT 4. DECEMBER BARBARA, MU;ENKA JANEY, DUH-UČ.</p>	<p>† † † † † † †† †† †† †† †</p> <p>Za žive in rajne župljane Peter Lenarčič Stane Napast, obl. Manja Erzetič Franc Ferenčak, 30. dan Vladimir Dim Manja Erzetič Anna in Franc Ferenčak Magda Udovč Saveta in Ilija Vojko Mrak MIKLAVŽEVANJE V DVORANI</p>	<p>MASS ONLY AT 10:00 A.M.</p> <p>12:00 NOON</p>	<p>----- Elizabeth Gimpelj z družino Družina Pinter Nadja Madronich Albina in Joe Antolin z družino Mirko Kolmanič z družino Ana Gergyek z družino Emilia Mertuk z družino Jožica Novak z družino Son Družina Rev SLOVENSKA ŠOLA</p>
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DON BOSCO

SVETE MAŠE - MASS TIMES: Monday to Friday: 7:00 P.M., Saturday: 5:30 P.M. (Slovenian-Sunday Mass); Sunday: 10:00 A.M. from July to Fall Banquet (Slovenian/English) - **KRSTI / BAPTISMS:** For an appointment, call one month before. **POROKE / MARRIAGE:** For an appointment, call one year before the wedding date. **SPOVED / CONFESSIONS:** First Friday of the month 6 - 7:00 P.M. (or by appointment) **BOLNIKI** - Sporočite, če je kdo bolan ali v bolnišnici, da ga obiščemo. You are welcome to call for a personal conversation with your priest – please call for an appointment. Tel: 905-561-5971 or Cell: 905-520-2014

PONEDELJEK - MONDAY 5. DECEMBER <i>Saba, opat</i>	†† †	Za verne duše v vicah Za pokojne duhovnike Eileen MacKenzie	3:30 P.M.	Prayer group Helena Kwasniewska N.N.
TOREK - TUESDAY 6. DECEMBER <i>Nikolaj (Miklavž), škof</i>	† ††	Rozina Vučko Frank Pinter	7:00 P.M.	Marija Hočevar Društvo sv. Jožefa (3)
SREDA - WEDNESDAY 7. DECEMBER <i>Andrej, apostol</i>	† † †	Joža Šušteršič Stane Zupančič, obl. Alojzija Novak, obl.	7:00 P.M.	CWL - KŽZ Sestra Jožica Hapke Sin Frank Novak z družino
ČETRTEK - THURSDAY 8. DECEMBER <i>Brezmadežno spočetje Device Marije</i>	††† † †††	Stari starši Marija Horvat Za zdrave Franc in Ana Ferenčak	7:00 P.M.	Helen Špiler Tony Horvat Ivan in Angela Antolin Štefan in Francka Antolin
PETEK - FRIDAY 9. DECEMBER <i>Valerija, mučenka</i>	† †	Na čast Kristusove krvi Milka Skale Zoltan Gergyek	7:00 P.M.	Ana Tadić Franc in Marija Tomšič Božo in Magda Rimas
SOBOTA - SATURDAY 10. DECEMBER <i>Judita, sp. Žena Loretska Mati Božja</i>	† ††† † † † † †	Jakob Muhič, Jr. Anton in Marija Rosi Dolar, obl. Karolina D. Bolko, obl. Joe Kolenko Franc Ferenčak Jože Kolenko	5:30 P.M.	Družina Muhič Hči Marija Košir Družina Kodarin Matilda Prša Regina in Martin Nedelko Družina Raduha Družina Raduha
3. ADVENTNA NEDELJA 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT GAUDETE SUNDAY 11. DECEMBER DAMAZ I., PAPEŽ	††† ††† ††† † † ††† † †	Za žive in rajne župljane Starši, bratje in sestre Paula in Franc Pelcar Martin in Marija Dominko Frank Pavlakovič Ana Nedelko Ana Nedelko Franc in Ana Ferenčak Susan Gentilcore Jožef Gerič, obl.	9:30 A.M. 11:00 A.M.	----- Martin Malevič z družino Stan Pelcar & Josie Dubé z druž. Jože in Albina Antolin Mirko Kolmanič z družino Tyler in Elizabeth Clarke Jože in Marija Magdič Jože in Marija Magdič English Choir Joe Gerič z družino