



VESTNIK

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

49/59

Številka - Number / Leto - Year

3.12.2023

1. ADVENTNA NEDELJA

1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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Prpravite pot Gospodu

Adventni čas je čas pričakovanja: pripravljamo se na Gospodov prihod. K nam bo prišel v božičnem prazniku in mi moramo biti pripravljeni. Današnja tri berila nam govorijo prav o tem pričakovanju. V prvem prerok Izaija izraža gorečo željo po Gospodovem prihodu: »Vrni se zaradi svojih služabnikov, zaradi rodov, ki so tvoja dediščina. O da bi predrl nebo in stopil dol, da bi se pred teboj tresle gore!« V drugem berilu nas Pavel vabi, naj pričakujemo »razodetje našega Gospoda Jezusa Kristusa«. V evangeliju nas Jezus spodbuja k budnosti, da bi bili pripravljeni, da bi ga sprejeli, ko bo prišel.

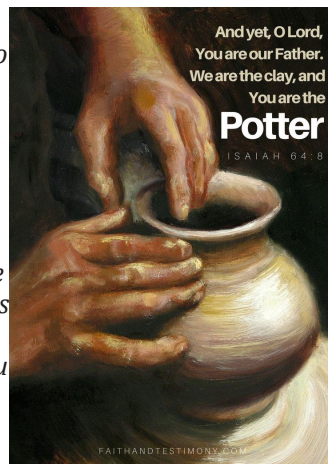
Poklicani smo k budnosti. Jezus nam v evangeliju pravi: »Pazite in bedite, ker ne veste, kdaj pride ta čas! ... Bodite torej budni, ker ne veste, kdaj pride hišni gospodar - zvečer, opolnoči, ob petelinjem petju ali ob zori.« Zato moramo biti vedno pripravljeni.

Žal mi velikokrat zaspimo. Namesto da bi bilo naše duhovno življenje goreče, je slabotno. Tako ne pričakujemo Gospoda, nismo pripravljeni sprejeti njegove volje, njegovih želja; ne odgovarjamo na to, kar od nas zahteva. Moramo se torej prebuditi, da »bomo prihajajočemu Kristusu šli naproti z dobrimi deli«, kakor pravi današnja glavna mašna prošnja.

Prvo berilo z vso močjo izraža željo po Gospodovi vrnitvi. Prerok nam da razumeti, da ljudstvo živi v žalostnih razmerah: zdi se, da ga je Bog zapustil in dopustil, da blodi daleč od njegovih potov.

Želja po Gospodovi vrnitvi je rasla ob spominu na njegova pretekla dejanja: »Narodi so trepetali pred teboj, ko si delal strašne reči, ki jih nismo pričakovali.« Gospod je mogočen, dober in mi pričakujemo razodetje njegove moči in njegove dobrote.

Ta želja v vernikih zbujala žalost zaradi njihove nezvestobe. Če si v resnici želimo srečanja z Gospodom, zavest naših grehov postane zelo živa v nas in izzove v naših srcih obžalovanje. Izaija pravi: »Ti si se srdil



in mi smo grešili.«

Vedno se znajdemo v tem bolečem stanju nezvestobe Gospodovemu klicu. On nam kaže dobro pot, pot vere in ljubezni, mi pa svojo srečo iščemo drugod. Zato, pravi prerok, »smo postali kakor umazanec, vsa naša pravična dela kakor umazana obleka. Vsi smo oveneli kakor listje, naša krivda nas je odnesla kakor veter.«

Kljub trpljenju, ki ga je izzval greh, lahko še naprej zaupamo, ker je Gospod naš Oče: »Ti, Gospod, si naš Oče. Naš odkupitelj iz davnine ti je ime«; »In zdaj, Gospod, si ti naš Oče. Mi smo glina, ti si naš upodabljavec, vsi smo delo tvojih rok.«

Bog je od vedno naš odkupitelj. Zato grehi ne morejo biti resnična ovira za naše srečanje z njim. Brž ko se oddaljimo od njih, nam Gospod pomaga in gremo lahko z zaupanjem naprej.

Toda potrebna je molitev, kakor nas spominja Izaija: »Nikogar ni, ki bi klical tvoje ime, ki bi se prebudil, da bi se te držal.« Če ne kličemo Gospodovega imena, ne pripravljamo njegovega prihoda. Gospod nam ne more podeliti milosti priprave, ki je tako pomembna za naše srečanje z njim.

V drugem berilu je Pavel pred bolj pozitivnim stanjem - gre za stanje kristjanov v Korintu - ki nalaga stalno zahvaljevanje. Apostol se razveseli ob ugotovitvi, da je oznanjevanje evangeliju v Korintu prineslo obilne sadove. Obilje milosti zbuja še močnejše pričakovanje dokončnega razodetja našega Gospoda Jezusa Kristusa. Prizadevati si moramo torej, da bi bili brez graje, da bi šli naproti Gospodu, ki prihaja.

Vendar nas prizadevanje, ki se od nas zahteva, ne sme prestrašiti, saj nam bo Gospod podelil tudi milost, da ga bomo uresničili. Pavel zatrjuje: »On vas bo tudi do konca utrdil, da boste brez krivde na dan našega Gospoda Jezusa Kristusa.«

Bog je zvest: poklical nas je in ne bo pustil, da bi nam kaj manjkalo, da bi ustrezali svoji krščanski poklicanosti, naj postanemo »sveti in brezmadežni v ljubezni«. Zato gremo lahko z velikim zaupanjem naproti Gospodu, ki prihaja.

Božja beseda, ki jo poslušamo danes, mora v nas prebuditi drže, ki so potrebne, da bi resnično sprejeli Gospoda, da bi ga srečali in da bi to odločilno srečanje spremenilo vse naše življenje.

(prim. Oznanjevalec 2009, št. 1)

1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

R: Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

First Reading Isaiah 63:16-17; 64:1. 3-8

The Prophet cries out for God to tear the heavens open and come down to save us.

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

St Paul constantly thanks God for the graces his converts received in Corinth.

Gospel Mark 13:33-37

Jesus entrusts the Church, his followers, with our own special tasks as we live out our personal Christian vocations.

“Let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.”



Illustration

“O that you would tear the heavens open and come down!” This desperate cry for help is heard wherever war, violence and the breakdown of order inflicts terror and suffering on innocent people. It is heard in the silent, sobbing pleas of millions in refugee camps; human beings surviving in terrible conditions.

These are the people the Church asks us to remember and pray for today, Migrants' Sunday. The urgent appeal for God to sort out the mess of human affairs, “to tear the heavens and come down to save us”, is the constant plea of the Old Testament prophets, the prophets to whom pay attention in Advent.

This appeal comes from the Prophet Isaiah in our first reading: why doesn't God stop all this evil?



“Why, Lord, leave us to stray from your ways?” Isaiah goes on. “Return for the sake of your servants.” Isaiah continues to cry out for the sake of all who are suffering; people close to us or maybe in our own family; neighbours and friends who sometimes have a secret anguish in their heart, like someone who has been hurt and damaged in childhood. “Return for the sake of your servants.” Isaiah goes on. “Why, Lord, leave us to stray from your ways?” That is the cry of someone who longs to find the way forward. “You hid your face from us and gave us up to the power of our sins.” This is the cry of many a recidivist criminal who goes back to prison again and again, too weak to change. Or it can be the crushed and tearful prayer of an addict, someone addicted, perhaps, to gambling or drugs or alcohol.

Gospel Teaching

“O that you would tear the heavens and come down!” But God has. Isaiah’s prayer was heard. God did tear the heavens and come down. God was born of the Blessed Virgin Mary. He has not left us to stray from his ways: he came to be our Good Shepherd who seeks out the stray, saves the lost sheep, bandages the wounded, makes the weak strong; someone who doesn’t just teach us, but who puts out his hand to save us.

St Paul was one of the first he saved. Converted by a blinding light Paul suddenly realised that

Christ had set him free from his awful past. It no longer controlled him and he began living in a new way for Christ, saving others like himself. In the reading today, he exudes a strong confidence. Jesus Christ “will keep you steady and without blame until the last day, the day of our Lord Jesus Christ, because God by calling you has joined you to his Son, Jesus Christ, and God is faithful.”

The last day is, of course, the day when he will return. Meanwhile, as Jesus says in the Gospel today, it is as though he has now gone abroad, leaving his servants in charge, each with their own tasks. To his servants, the Church, he gives the task of proclaiming the message of salvation, and for 2000 years, both the Church and individual Christians have been so doing, bringing hope and help to others. People do repent like Paul and change. Sometimes world leaders listen to the Pope. When they are deaf, he never stops calling to them, like Isaiah.

Application

When it comes to individuals crying out for help, the Church, (our Christian communities and parishes) is there. By evangelisation we bring them salvation, as Paul did to those who were not Christians, or deepen the lives of those who are. And we also offer our love to help people, maybe at some personal cost, especially when they are falling apart or sick.

Pope Francis, in his call for Synodality, is asking us to increase the sense of community in our parishes, to watch out for people, to be aware when they need our help. The Collect, with which Mass began, is not empty words but a real prayer: “Grant your faithful, we pray, almighty God, the resolve to run forth to meet Christ with righteous deeds... so that we may be worthy to possess the heavenly kingdom.”

We mostly do this quietly on our own. But sometimes righteous deeds are better done with others in the Church working together. God has torn the heavens open and come down. He has not left us straying from his ways. Jesus Christ is our life, our way, our hope! Let us rise and follow him as we wait for his return!

St. Gregory the Great - Hamilton

With the support of Moya Financial – Invites you to Celebrate

2024
HAPPY NEW YEAR
3

Admission Includes

Reserved Seating

A complimentary welcome drink

Appetizers - Dinner - Late Night Buffet

Music by:

Early Bird tickets - \$100
(until December 17th)

Dec. 18th - Ticket price
will increase to \$120



18 yrs and under \$75

For Reservations contact:
Heidy at 905-317-6002
novakhsn@gmail.com

St. Gregory the Great - 125 Centennial Pkwy. N. Hamilton

An event and facility presented for members and supporters of St. Gregory the Great Slovenian Parish and Hamilton Diocese



Children's Liturgy of the Word

We are excited to welcome the children of St. Gregory the Great Slovenian Church to our first Children's Liturgy of the Word! This is a special time for children ages 3-11 to gather together to celebrate the Word of God in a caring and kid-friendly way.

*Our first Children's Liturgy of the Word will take place on
Sunday, **December 10th, 2023.***

Where? **St. Gregory the Great Slovenian Church**

125 Centennial Pkwy N, Hamilton, ON L8eE 1H8

When? **Sundays at 11:00 a.m. Mass**

Ages? **3-11 years old**



Sobota, 25. nov. 2023, pri društvu Bled na tradicionalnem »Lovskem banketu«. Dva lovca sta bila »za vzorec« oblečena v lovške obleke. Kuhinja se je dobro odrezala z bogato ponudbo hrane; prav tako je ansambel Golden Keys uspel mnoge zvesti izza miz na plesišče. Bar so dobro založili.



Da je bilo na banketu veselo, povedo že same slike. Tudi starejši so se radi zavrteli ob nostalgичnih melodijah.





Christmas Social

BLED HALL

4650 SOUTH SERVICE RD., BEAMSVILLE, ONTARIO

SUNDAY, 10TH DECEMBER 2023 AT 12:30

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A LIGHT LUNCH AND SOME CHRISTMAS CHEER

COOKIES AND STRUDEL FOR SALE

BAR WILL BE OPEN

FOR INFORMATION PLEASE CALL SYLVIA (905) 518-2457 OR MILENA (905) 393-6594

\$15.00/LUNCH

WWW.BLED.CA

POTICA BAKINGS SESSION & ORDERS

Now that we are into December, Christmas will soon be here and a lot is going on.

As previously mentioned I will be hosting a **Potica Baking session on Saturday, December 9th** in the lower hall. Potica freezes very well, so by starting early, you can be ready with this wonderful tradition ahead of time. If you are interested in baking your own potica for the Holidays, please call or text me at 905-317-6002 by Wednesday to save your spot and join us as we bake and have some Christmas fun. I will purchase ingredients and the cost will be divided by those in attendance. I will send an email with a list of what to bring to anyone interested in participating. This baking session will start at 9am this coming Saturday, so tie your hair back, bring your aprons and come make some Potica for Christmas.



I am also taking orders for those who would prefer to just buy a Potica for the Christmas Holidays. The plan is to make potica for sale at a selling price of \$35 each (I can make a traditional round mold or a straight loaf sized Potica - your choice) I will be freezing the potica so that you can thaw them for whenever works best for your Family Christmas celebration. Because planning and preparations are required, those interested in ordering a potica for the holidays should let me know by the latest Tuesday, December 12th. Depending on the number of orders, pick-up will be coordinated between December 16th and 20th. If you would like more information, please contact me at 905-317-6002

NEW YEAR'S EVE CELEBRATION

After Christmas we will be gearing up for New Years!

As things finally start to settle, your parish council is working hard to create an amazing **New Year's Gala event** to ring in the 2024 year with family and friends.

We are happy to offer **early bird pricing of \$100 per ticket** and have them ready to go. Early bird pricing will only be here until December 17th, after that, starting on the 18th, the ticket prices will increase to \$120. We have special pricing of \$75 for those aged 18 years and younger.

Tickets need to be paid for upfront, so be sure to come to church and secure your spot.

You can also contact Heidy Novak at no-vakhsn@gmail.com or 905-317-6002 and pay by e-transfer using the password "Celebration".

If paying by e-transfer, please be sure to include your name, number of tickets and email address in the message box so that I can confirm your tickets with you.

We hope that everyone will plan to join us as we prepare to ring in the 2024 New Year together.

Let us not forget that **Slo Beat** will be playing, so we know the music will be good.



We hope that everyone takes advantage of this great deal \$100/person and plans to participate in our New Year's event on December 31, 2023.

Wishing a Happy Sunday to all!

Heidy Novak

Na račun »Eno Srce, Ena Duša« - »One Heart, One Soul« ste za našo slovensko župnijo sv. Gregorija Velikega do 1. dec. 2023 pripevali: **\$187,112.- Hvala vsem, ki ste že prispevali. Naš cilj je, da dosežemo vsoto 200.000,-**



KRST - BAPTISM

V nedeljo, 26. novembra 2023, je med angleško sveto mašo zakrament svetega krsta prejel deček **Malcom Louie Foster**. Oče dečka je Matthew Richard Foster, mati pa Melanie Jessica, rojena Kopač. Iskrene čestitke staršema ob krstu drugega otroka. Naj družino spremlja božji blagoslov in priprošnja nebeške matere Marije.



Hvala Olgi Glavač in sinu Marjanu, da je naša cerkev dobila začetek adventne okrasitve.

Gospa Olga vedno najde kakšno novo idejo, kako se lahko drugače adventno okraši.



OBVESTILA - ANNOUNCEMENTS

KOLENDAR DOGODKOV

- **Dec. 03 - Lipa Park** - Santa Clause & Festive luncheon
- **Dec. 03 - Slovenska Šola - St. Gregory the Great** - Miklavževanje - Mass: 10:00 a.m.
- **Dec. 10 - Bled** - Christmas Social & Cookie Sale
- **Dec. 17 - Breslau** - Mass 1:00 p.m.
- **Dec. 17 - London** - Mass 4:00 p.m.
- **Dec. 24 - St. Gregory the Great Parish:**
 - **9:30 a.m.** - Slovenian Mass
 - **6:00 p.m.** - Christmas Eve Mass - English
 - **9:00 p.m.** - Sveti večer - Slovenska maša
- **Dec. 25 - St. Gregory - Christmas Day:**
 - 9:30 a.m. - Slovenian Mass
 - 11:00 a.m. - English Mass
- **Dec. 31 - St. Gregory the Great** - New Year's Eve
- **Jan. 1 - Lipa Park** - New Year's Day Luncheon

CLEANING OF THE CHURCH

- Dec. 9th - Lojzka Novak & team
- Dec. 23rd - Lukežič and Volčanšek team

BRALEC - READER

Slovenian - Terezija Sarjaš
English - Mary Ann Demšar

GIFT BEARERS AT SLOVENIAN MASS

- Dec. 3rd - Family Tran
- Dec. 10th - Jose Hapke & Mary Holder

OGNJIŠČE

Naročnina za revijo Ognjišče ostane enaka kot lansko leto in sicer \$91.- Če ne boste odpovedali računam, da boste še naprej naročniki na revijo za leto 2024.

CWL - KŽZ

Our next general CWL meeting will take place on Wednesday, December 6th after 7:00 PM Mass. We thank our members for renewing their membership in our league. We would also like to wish our parish community a blessed Christmas and all the best in the New Year.

Blagoslovljene božične praznike in srečno novo leto.

- Rosemary Šušteršič



DAROVI - DONATIONS

Za gradbeni sklad so darovali

V spomin na pok. Franka L. Gimpelj Jr.:

- \$500.- mama Elizabeth z družino
- \$100.- Anica Letnik

V spomin na pok. Matija Škerl:

- \$750.- Family Škerl
- \$200.- Ivan in Mary Miketič

Hvala vsem za vaše darove in podporo.

ZAHVALA - THANK YOU

We would like to sincerely thank our extended family, friends, and the Slovenian community for your kindness and expressions of condolences for our husband, father, and grandfather Matija Škerl.



Our gratitude to Father Drago Gačnik for administering the Anointing of the Sick sacrament a week prior to Matija's passing, leading us in prayer at the funeral home, and for a lovely funeral service - it brought us much comfort.

Thank you to the choir for making the funeral mass special. Thank you to Nancy Dundek for preparing a nice luncheon, to Tony Horvat for his work at the bar, and to all those that contributed with desserts and setting up and cleaning the hall.

Thanks to our dear family and friends that consoled us during this difficult time, your help and support during this time will always be remembered.

Sincerely, Angelca, Frank, Marianne, Eric, Leah, and Mark Škerl

ADVENT - Božič

Danes smo s prvo adventno nedelja vstopili v štiri tedensko pripravo na Božič. Letos je res samo 4 tedne, ker je na četrto adventno nedelja zvečer že Sveti večer.

Prihodnjo nedeljo boste imeli na razpolago koledarje: Slovenski Marijanski koledar in Angleški misijonski. Prav tako boste lahko vzeli zavitek nedeljskih kuvert za prihodnje leto. Če jih kdo do sedaj ni uporabljal, pa bi jih rad v prihodnje, naj mi sporoči.

Ta teden je 41. obletnica posvetitve naše cerkve, ki se vršila 5. decembra 1982.

Svete maše - Masses

Ta teden je v petek, 8. decembra praznik Marijinega brezmadežnega spočetja. 16. decembra bomo pri večerni maši začeli božično devetdnevnicu. Vabljeni da se je udeležite.

V teh dneh bo na razpolago tudi kadilo, da boste na svete večere lahko pokadili prostore svoje hiše.

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

Halas	Ivan (John) Daniel	Dec. 4, 1976
Andrec	Theresa	Dec. 4, 1983
Napast	Stanislav	Dec. 4, 2010
DiPietro	Antonio	Dec. 4, 2011
Vrstovšek	Stanislav, Stane	Dec. 4, 2022
Prebil	Ciril	Dec. 6, 1977
Božič	Adolf	Dec. 6, 1995
Rejc	Maria	Dec. 6, 2012
Bitežnik	Michael	Dec. 9, 2001
Marušich	Frank Radivoj	Dec. 9, 2013
Doma	Ivan	Dec. 9, 2022
Mešiček	Dragica	Dec. 10, 2001
Sevšek	Franc	Dec. 10, 2006
Bolko	Karolina, Dragica	Dec. 10, 2010
Dolar	Rozalija	Dec. 10, 2020
Žigon	Ivan	Dec. 10, 2022
Majzelj	Marica	Dec. 10, 2022

1. ADVENTNA NEDELJA 1ST SUNDAY OF AD- VENT 3. DECEMBER <i>Frančišek Ksaver, red.</i>	       	Za žive in rajne župljane Alojzija Novak, obl. Anton Vinčec Jože Zadravec Štefan in Marija Kovač Izidor Fujs Frank L. Gimpelj Jr. Janez Kokalj, obl. Miklavževanje	MASS IS ONLY AT 10:00 A.M. 12:00	----- Sin Frank z družino Vera Lackovič z družino Fran in Ljudmila Zadravec Hči Ljudmila in Franc Zadravec Aranka z družino Mary in Robert Kure Sestra Ana Upper Hall - Slovenska šola

 **SV. MAŠE - MASSES:** Mon. to Fri.: 7:00 P.M.; Saturday: 5:30 P.M. (Slo); Sunday: 9:30 A.M. (Slo); 11:00 A.M. (Eng) - From July to Fall Banquet only 10:00 A.M. - **KRSTI / BAPTISMS:** For an appointment, call one month before. **POROKE / MARRIAGE:** By appointment, call one year before the wedding date. **SPOVED / CONFESSIONS:** First Friday of the month 6 to 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

DON BOSCO

SVETE MAŠE - MASSES

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