



Protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church

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Celebration of the Holy Mysteries

RECITATION OF THE HOLY ROSARY AND CONFESSIONS: ½ HR BEFORE DIVINE LITURGY

BAPTISM & CHRISMATION / ANNOINTING OF THE SICK / COMMUNION CALLS & VISITATIONS:
CONTACT FR. IHOR TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS

MARRIAGE PREPARATION:
CONTACT FR. IHOR AT LEAST SIX MONTHS PRIOR TO SETTING THE ACTUAL WEDDING DATE

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN:
CONTACT MRS. CHRISTINA VOGEL AT (603) 686-2092 TO REGISTER YOUR CHILDREN

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE LITURGIES:
SUNDAYS: 10 AM (September thru May) MON THRU SAT: AS NOTED IN WEEKLY BULLETIN
 9 AM (June thru August) HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION: 7 PM

DIVINE LITURGY AND VESPERS SCHEDULE FOR WEEK OF NOVEMBER 6, 2022

Sunday, November 6th – Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

Divine Liturgy: 10 AM

Propers: Tone 5

Vestments: Bright

Epistle: Galatians 6: 11-18

Gospel: St. Luke 8: 41-56

Intention: For all Parishioners

Saturday, November 12th (10 AM): For the blessed repose of the soul of **+John and +Pelagia** Babski with Panakhyda, offered by the Morales Family

Saturday, November 12th (7 PM): Vespers Service

Divine Liturgy and Vespers Services Schedule and Intentions for November and December

Sunday, November 13th (10 AM): For all Parishioners followed by Panakhyda for the blessed repose of the souls of all **Deceased +Veterans of Our Armed Forces**

Saturday, November 19th (10 AM): For the blessed repose of the souls of **Deceased +Members of Samaruk Family** with Panakhyda, offered by the Samaruk Family

Saturday, November 19th (7 PM): Vespers Service

Sunday, November 20th (10 AM): For all Parishioners followed by Panakhyda for the blessed repose of the souls of all **+Victims of the 1932-33 Holodomor in Ukraine**

Thursday, November 24th (10 AM): **Thanksgiving Day**

Saturday, November 26th (10 AM): For the blessed repose of the soul of **+Romana Khrystyna Maksymowych** with Panakhyda, offered by the Maksymowych Family

Saturday, November 26th (7 PM): Vespers Service

Sunday, November 27th (10 AM): For all Parishioners

Saturday, December 3rd (7 PM): Vespers Service

Sunday, December 4th (10 AM): For all Parishioners

Saturday, December 10th (10 AM): For the blessed repose of the souls of **+Irena, +Hryn', +Volodymyr, +Ivan, +Paranya, +Nazar and +Cheryl** with Panakhyda

Saturday, December 10th (7 PM): Vespers Service

Sunday, December 11th (10 AM): For all Parishioners

Saturday, December 17th (7 PM): Vespers Service

Sunday, December 18th (10 AM): For all Parishioners

Christmas Week and Theophany Services:

Saturday, December 24th (10 AM): Liturgy of St. Basil the Great followed by Liteeya Service

Saturday, December 24th (4 PM): Christmas Eve Divine Liturgy (All English Language Liturgy)

Sunday, December 25th (10 AM): Nativity of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ (Holy Day of Obligation)

Monday, December 26th (7 PM): Synaxis of the Holy Mother of God

Tuesday, December 27th (7 PM): Feast of St. Stephen, Protomartyr

Saturday, December 31st (7 PM): Vespers Service

Sunday, January 1st (10 AM): Liturgy of St. Basil the Great - Feast of the Circumcision of Our Lord

Friday, January 6th (7 PM): Feast of Theophany with Great Water Blessing (Holy Day of Obligation)

Saturday, January 7th (10 AM): Christmas Day according to the Julian Calendar (All Ukrainian Language Liturgy)

Saturday Services

Fr. Ihor is celebrating Vesper services every Saturday at 7 PM. All parishioners are invited to attend this beautiful service. Those who wish to have a Divine Liturgy celebrated for a loved one whether living or deceased or for a private intention are still able to do so. Please request your Divine Liturgy by contacting Fr. Ihor at (860) 617-6357 or cantor Jerry Maksymowych at (603) 627-2042. Please note that Saturday Divine Liturgies will now be celebrated only at 10 AM whenever they are requested. If no Divine Liturgy has been requested for a particular Saturday, then none will be celebrated on that day. The Divine Liturgy schedule in the bulletin will only show 10 AM Divine Liturgies on Saturdays when they have been requested. If the bulletin does not show a 10 AM Divine Liturgy for a given Saturday, then this means that particular Saturday is available for your request.

Суботні Богослужіння

Отець Ігор святкує Вечірню кожної суботи у 7-мі годині вечером. Ласкаво просимо усіх парафіян до участі. Парафіяни які бажають замовити Божественну Літургію в суботу для померших або на особисті інтенції можуть дзвонити до о. Ігоря на номер (860) 617-6357 або до дяка п. Ярослава Максимовича на

номер (603) 627-2042. Суботні Божественні Літургії будуть відслужені тільки о годині 10-тій ранком коли замовлені. Якщо Літургія в певну суботу не буде замовлена, то в цей день не буде жодна відправлена. Порядок Богослужінь в бюлетені покаже тільки ті суботні Служби Божі які є замовлені. Якщо в бюлетені не відображається Божественна Літургія на дану суботу, то це означає, що ця субота доступна на Ваше замовлення.

Liturgical Propers, Readings and Sermon for Sunday

Liturgical Propers for the Twenty-Second Sunday After Pentecost

Resurrectional Tropar – Tone 5: Come, believers, let us praise and worship the Word. With the Father and the Spirit, He has no beginning. Though He was born of a virgin for our salvation, and He willingly ascended the Cross and suffered death, He raised the dead by His glorious resurrection.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and always and forever. Amen.

Resurrectional Kondak – Tone 5: You descended into hell, my Savior. Being almighty, You shattered its gates. In rising as Creator, You also raised the dead. You rescued Adam from the curse. So we sing to You, loving Christ: “Save us, O Lord!”

Prokimen – Tone 5: You, O Lord, will keep us and preserve us always from this generation, always from this generation.

VERSE: Save me, O Lord, for faith has vanished from among men.

Prokimen – Tone 5: You, O Lord, will keep us and preserve us always from this generation, always from this generation.

Апостол (Гал 6: 11-18)

До Галатів послання св. апостола Павла читання.

Браття, гляньте, якими буквами пишу вам власною рукою. Ті, що хочуть показатися гарними тілом, - вони силують вас обрізатися, щоб тільки уникнути переслідування за хрест Христа. Бо й самі обрізані, не додержують закону, а хочуть, щоб ви обрізувалися, щоб їм хвалитися вашим тілом. Мене ж, не доведи Боже, чимсь хвалитися, як тільки хрестом Господа нашого Ісуса Христа, яким для мене світ розп'ятий, а я - світові; бо ані обрізання, ані необрізання є щось, лише - нове створіння. На тих, які поступають за цим правилом, мир на них і милосердя, а й на Ізраїля Божого. На майбутнє нехай ніхто мені не завдає клопоту, бо я ношу на моїм тілі рани Ісуса. Благодать Господа нашого Ісуса Христа нехай буде з вашим духом, брати! Амінь.

Epistle Reading for the Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost (Galatians 6: 11–18)

A reading of the letter of St. Paul to the Galatians.

Brethren: See, I write to you in my own large handwriting! Those who are trying to force you to be circumcised are making a play for human approval – with an eye to escaping persecution for the cross of Christ. The very ones who accept circumcision do not follow the law themselves. They want you to be circumcised only that they may boast about your bodily observance. May I never boast of anything but the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ! Through it, the world has been crucified to me and I to the world. It means nothing whether one is circumcised or not. All that matters is that one is created anew. Peace and mercy on all who follow this rule of life, and on the Israel of God. Henceforth, let no man trouble me, for I bear the brand marks of Jesus in my body. Brothers, may the favor of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen.

Tone 5: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Verse: The mercies of the Lord I will sing forever; I will show forth Your truth with my voice from generation to generation.

Tone 5: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Verse: It has been said that mercy shall be built up forever in the heavens. Your truth shall be prepared in them.

Tone 5: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Verse: Милості Твої, Господи, оспівуватиму повік, і з роду в рід сповіщу устами моїми Твою вірність.

Tone 5: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Verse: Бо сказав Ти: Повік милість збудується, на небесах приготується істина Твоя.

Tone 5: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

22-а НЕДІЛЯ ПО ЗІСЛАННІ СВ. ДУХА

Євангелія (Лк 8: 41-56)

У той час прийшов чоловік, Яір на ім'я, який був головою синагоги. Припавши до ніг Ісуса, він почав його просити зайти до нього в хату, бо була в нього дочка одиначка, яких дванадцять років, і вона вмирала. І як Він ішов туди, люди тиснулися до Нього.

Аж тут жінка якась, що була хвора дванадцять років на кровотечу й витратила на лікарів увесь свій прожиток, і ніхто з них не міг її оздоровити, підійшовши ззаду, доторкнулась краю його одежі й умить стала здоровою - спинилась її кровотеча. Ісус спитав: "Хто доторкнувся до мене?" А що всі відпекувались, Петро мовив: "Наставнику, то люди коло Тебе юрмляться і тиснуться." Ісус же сказав: "Хтось доторкнувся до мене, бо я чув, як сила вийшла з мене." Побачивши жінка, що не втаїлася, тремтячи підійшла й, упавши йому до ніг, призналася перед усіма людьми, чому до нього доторкнулась і як негайно одужала. Сказав їй Ісус: "Дочко, віра твоя спасла тебе, йди в мирі!"

Він говорив ще, як приходить хтось від голови синагоги й каже: "Твоя дочка померла, не турбуй більш Учителя." Ісус, почувши це, озвався до нього: "Не бійся, тільки віруй і вона спасеться." Прийшовши до хати, Він не пустив нікого з собою в середину, крім Петра, Івана та Якова з батьком та матір'ю дитини. Всі плакали за нею і голосили. Він же мовив: "Не плачте, вона не вмерла, вона тільки спить." І ті сміялися з Нього, бо знали, що вмерла. А Він узяв її руку й голосно промовив: "Дівчино, пробудися!" І дух її повернувся до неї, і вона миттю стала. Тоді Він звелів дати їй їсти. Батьки ж її були здивовані вельми, та Він наказав їм нікому не говорити, що сталося.

Gospel Reading for the Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost (St. Luke 8: 41-56)

At that time, a man named Jairus, who was chief of the synagogue, came up and fell at Jesus' feet, begging that He come to his home because his only daughter, a girl of about twelve, was dying. As Jesus went, the crowds almost crushed Him. A woman with a hemorrhage of twelve years duration, incurable at any doctor's hands, came up behind Him and touched the tassel of His cloak. Immediately her bleeding stopped. Jesus asked, "Who touched me?" Everyone disclaimed doing it, while Peter said, "Lord, the crowds are milling and pressing around you!" Jesus insisted, "Someone touched me; I know that power has gone forth from me." When the woman saw that her act had not gone unnoticed, she came forward trembling. Falling at His feet, she related before the whole assemblage why she had touched Him and how she had been instantly cured. Jesus said to her, "Daughter, it is your faith that has cured you. Now go in peace."

He was still speaking when a man came from the ruler's house with the announcement, "Your daughter is dead; do not bother the Teacher further." Jesus heard this, and His response was: "Fear is useless; what is needed is trust and her life will be spared." Once He arrived at the house, He permitted no one to enter with Him except

Peter, John, James, and the child's parents. While everyone wept and lamented her, He said, "Stop crying for she is not dead but asleep." They laughed at Him, being certain she was dead. He took her by the hand and spoke these words: "Get up, child." The breath of life returned to her and she got up immediately; whereupon He told them to give her something to eat. Her parents were astounded, but He ordered them not to tell anyone what had happened.

Sermon for the Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

Glory to Jesus Christ! My Dear Brother and Sisters in Christ!

In the Gospel narrative today, our Lord assures Jairus, "Do not be afraid; only have faith." So we see the natural consequence of faith is an absence of fear. It is not because we are so faith-filled today that we have no fear, it is because faith involves our complete confidence and trust in God.

And here, even today's Gospel speaks about faith. To some degree we all possess it. But because it is imperfect, our faith is often subject to temptations. And the most terrible, the strongest of such temptations, is the death of a person near and dear to us. I think that the majority of those present here have already lived through, or are now living through, this incurable grief. But if not, it is something, which will inevitably come. Today's Gospel gives us a classic example of how, in spite of all the difficulties of such an experience, it is possible to endure it. And at the same time it shows us again how much we need faith. For only through faith does God give us and will give us His power of Grace not to fall spiritually in such a terrible moment.

Yes, according to human understanding it was all over for Jairus' daughter. Why trouble the Master? Anything is possible to mend, but not death. Death alone is irreversible. Before it even the Teacher is powerless. Yes, this is so according to human understanding, but not according to God's understanding. And Jesus, after He heard this, said to Jairus: "Fear not: Believe only, and she shall be made whole" (Lk. 8:50). And in this moment Jairus rejected human understanding and accepted God's understanding. Now before him stood not just a Teacher, but the Savior of the world, the Son of God — God Himself, Who alone has power over life and death.

Jairus accepted within himself Jesus' words: "Fear not: believe only!" From this very moment Jairus lived only by these words and continued following after Christ. They entered the house. And again we see two sides: the human side — "All wept and bewailed her." And the Divine side: Christ said, "She is not dead, but is sleeping." And again the human side: "And they laughed at Him, knowing that she was dead." But in the soul of Jairus there was an unspeakable calm. He had faith. And faith conquered his fear. "Little girl, arise!" exclaimed Christ, and her spirit returned to her and she immediately got up and was united with her parents (Lk. 8:52-55).

An example of unwavering faith in the face of great adversity is seen in the Holy Prophet Job. Job lost his family, his lands and his health but remained faithful to God. Even his wife told him to "curse God, and die." (Job 2:9) Job's response to all his suffering was "shall we receive good at the hand of God, and shall we not receive evil?" (Job 2:10) Job did not want to experience the difficulties he had in his life. However, he had faith that God would give him what he needs. Job surrendered his will to God's will and emptied himself so that God could fill Job with Himself.

The sick woman, after having lost any hope in an earthly cure, touches with faith the edge of Jesus Christ's vestments — and becomes healthy again! God did not create us to be miserable; He never wanted us to be unhappy or get sick or die. The sick woman touches Jesus Christ and receives from Him the power to live. This Divine Power defeats her long-term disease. By virtue of her faith in God, the Heavenly Healer, she became healthy and whole again.

In order to make the girl recover from death, Our Lord Jesus Christ enters the house of her father Jairus, the ruler of the synagogue, who had invited Him to come. At the presence of just a few witnesses Jesus takes the

girl by her lifeless hand and says to her: “Talitha cumi”, which is, “My child, I say to you, get up!” (Mark, 5:41). The girl, quite oppositely to the disobedient Eve, obeys God. She gets up from the bed and starts to eat. Death runs from her, and life returns to her again.

This story clearly teaches us a lesson that if we want to be healthy and have eternal life, we should always obey God, and live in compliance with His Old Testament Commandments, and according to His New Testament teachings. We should always be with Christ in His Holy Church! Let us endlessly touch Jesus Christ and constantly reconcile ourselves with God by kissing and venerating His Holy Cross. Let us invite Jesus Christ to enter the house of our heart at the moment of Holy Communion when we receive the Immortal Mysteries of His Holy Body and Precious Blood during the Divine Liturgy. Amen.

ПРОПОВІДЬ НА ДВАДЦЯТЬ-ДРУГУ НЕДІЛЮ ПІСЛЯ ЗІСЛАННЯ СВЯТОГО ДУХА

Слава Ісусу Христу! Дорогі в Христі браття і сестри!

Цієї неділі маємо Христову науку не у вигляді притчі, а з конкретної життєвої історії, яку богослови називають чудом в чуді. Євангеліє розповідає про оздоровлення кровоточивої жінки та воскресіння Ісусом дочки Яіра. Ці події дуже наближені до реалій нашого життя, бо й сьогодні люди хворіють на різні хвороби, а також вмирають.

З опису сьогоднішньої євангельської події бачимо, що ніщо не зупинило жінку в дорозі до Спасителя. Бажання оздоровитися з кровотечі і сильна віра у всемогутність Христа дали їй силу протиснутися крізь натовпу людей, щоб доторкнутися до краю Його одєжі і стати здоровою.

Дорога до Ісуса, як бачимо у Євангелії, не завжди легка, як у жінки чи Яіра. У дорозі до дому Яіра Ісуса затримує жінка, Яіра затримує слово про смерть дочки і страх, сумнів за її життя. Цей епізод сьогоднішнього Євангелія запитує нас: а що затримує мене у дорозі до Ісуса? Чи моя віра завжди провадить мене до Ісуса Христа у молитві і у Святих Тайнах?

Тема оздоровлення завжди актуальна в житті, особливо його способів осягнення, як для нас, так і для ближніх. Бажаючи оздоровитись самому з фізичних чи духовних недуг, або допомогти комусь у його фізичній чи духовній хворобі, повернути до Бога, у нас виникають різні запитання: що і як зробити, щоб покращився стан людини, змінилася ситуація. Якщо хочемо з Божою допомогою оздоровити когось, повернути до Бога, до Церкви, то потрібно дотримуватися такої засади: спочатку маємо відкрити людині Господа Бога – джерело і мету оздоровлення, а тоді пропонувати необхідні для цього середники.

Ближньому треба показати Христа як когось близького й важливого для нього, а тим самим допомогти йому відкритися на Бога – Його правду та ласку. Працювати в цьому напрямку потрібно одночасно словом та вчинками. Людині треба донести правду про всемогутність, любов, прощення, милосердя Бога до нас, небезпеку гріха та важливість спасіння. Робити це слід розсудливо, поступово, без зайвого психологічного чи морального тиску, щоб ще більше не відвернути ближнього від Христа; дивитися наскільки він відкритий на Божу правду, готовий прийняти її і нею жити.

Працю над наверненням чи оздоровленням ближніх треба завжди поєднувати з молитвою за них. Бо оздоровлення чи навернення є найперше Божим даром. Тому ці ласки потрібно спочатку випросити в Бога молитвою, а потім донести їх ближнім словом та вчинком. Маємо пам'ятати, що Тим, хто повертає і оздоровляє людину, є найперше Господь Бог, щоб часом в цій справі не брати багато ініціативи на себе й цим не поставити Ісуса на другому місці.

Пізнати Бога – означає відкрити для себе унікальний факт, що Він перший полюбив нас (пор. 1 Йо 4:19) й що саме Господь є той котрий шукає мене і тебе аж поки не знайде (пор. Лк 15:4) та що Його бажанням є утерти кожну сльозу й звільнивши нас від скорботи, плачу, смутку та болю (пор. Одкр 21:4), дарувати нам повноту життя (пор. Йо 10:10) та бути всім і у всьому (1 Кор 15:28).

В цю неділю на прикладі зцілення кровоточивої жінки та воскресіння дочки Яіра, Лука засвідчує, що ти і я є дуже цінними для Ісуса, бо Він не тільки може дарувати нам більше ніж ми просимо і розуміємо (пор. Еф 3:20), але й з любові віддав за наші гріхи Своє життя (пор. Гал 1:4; 2:20; Еф 5:25), й тепер сівши праворуч Отця заступається за нас (пор. Рим 8:34), й бажає, щоб ми пізнали оцю Його надзвичайну любов, котра перевищує розум, і щоб ми сповнилися всякою Божою повнотою (пор. Еф 3:19). Амінь!

Communion Verse: Хвалить Господа з небес, хвалить Його на висотах. Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Communion Hymn: This Sunday, we will sing hymn #12 on page 5 and 5a: "Назарета любий цвіте / Nazareta lyubij tsveete".

Parish Announcements

We Welcome You!

If you are visiting our church today, our parish family is delighted to welcome you here! Thank you and God bless you for visiting with us today! We welcome all our visitors and guests who worship at our parish. We invite families and individuals who wish to become members to register by calling Fr. Ihor at (860) 617-6357.

Вітаємо Вас!

Якщо Ви відвідуєте нашу церкву сьогодні, наша парафіяльна громада рада вітати Вас тут! Щире спасибі Вам, і нехай Бог благословить Вас за Ваші відвідини з нами сьогодні! Ми запрошуємо сім'ї та осіб, які бажають стати членами, зареєструватися у нас по телефоні о. Ігоря на номер (860) 617-6357.

Please Pray for our Sick and Homebound Parishioners

Fr. Ihor Papka, Fr. Zbigniew Brzezicki, Oleh and Valentina Babski, Michaelle Baker, Marylou Blaisdell, Luba Dyky, Carmel Horangic, Christine Kolagji, John Koromaus, Helen Kucman, Martha and Ray Majkut, Karen and Jaroslaw Maksymowych, Jean Mandych, Sherri Martel, Katherine Masso, Jennifer McMillan, Katharine McNaughton, Jackie Morales, Lauren Morales, Tanya and Ronald Morales, Alice Morris, Elizabeth Mozina, Olympia Pasicznyk, Billie Sheesley, Derek Stanley, Pauline Stanley, John Terninko, Elisha Wallace, Cindy Wilson, Dr. Mark Windt, Lauren Zelenski. Please contact Fr. Ihor or a Trustee if you would like to add a friend or loved one to this prayer list.

November Birthdays and Wedding Anniversaries

The following parishioners are celebrating a birthday or wedding anniversary this month:

November 1 – Doug V.

November 6 – John T.

November 6 – Yuriy S.

November 15 – Laurent M.

November 17 – Pamela Y.

November 21 – Katarina V.

November 25 – Cassie G.

November 28 – Richard Y.

November 30 – Mila B.

November 30 – Maria and Andrew B. (wedding anniversary)

Our parish community wishes this month's birthday and anniversary celebrants peace, joy, love and good health on their special day as well as throughout the year. May our dear Lord grant all of you many more healthy, happy and blessed years. Happy Birthday, Happy Anniversary and На Многая літа! (Na Mnohaya Lita!).

October, 2022 Financial Summary

Total Income from October Donations: \$4,184.00

Total Expenditures for October: \$4,663.92

Deficit for October: \$479.92

Average attendance in October: 36

Thank you and God bless you for your generous support of our parish.

Fire Extinguishers

New fire extinguishers have been installed at all church entrances, the altar area, in the kitchen, in the hall and in the rectory. Please take a moment to locate them for your safety.

Bishop's Annual Charity Appeal

The Bishop's Annual Charity Appeal is now underway thru November 6th. The funds raised by parishes throughout the Eparchy help to fund Bishop Paul's Episcopal service and ministries. This year our parish has been tasked with the goal of raising \$1200 for this worthwhile cause. Special envelopes marked with parishioner surnames are located at the back of the church and include a donation slip. Please contribute to the Bishop's Charity Appeal by making your check payable to "Byzantine Rite of Stamford" and returning the completed slips (yellow and white) along with your check in the envelope provided. Kindly put your donation along with your completed donation slips into the envelope and place it in Sunday's collection basket. **Please do NOT send your donation directly to Stamford** because our parish will not receive credit for it. Please be generous keeping in mind that if we fall short of our \$1200 parish goal, the difference must be paid out of the parish treasury. Please see a Trustee if you have any questions regarding this fundraiser. Thank you and God bless you for your generosity.

Weekly Reflection:

Learning about Our Catholic Faith – The Dead Will Rise!

"That the dead will rise even Moses made known in the passage about the bush, when he called 'Lord,' the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob; and He is not God of the dead, but of the living, for to Him all are alive." Luke 20:37-38

The third and final coming is when Jesus returns to Earth in splendor and glory. It will be "the end of the world as we know it." It will be a time when His permanent Kingdom is established. There is much to say about this moment in history and it is actually quite fascinating to reflect upon.

If you were to read the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* paragraphs #671-677, you would discover that it almost reads as a deeply intriguing futuristic science fiction mystery novel. The only difference is that it is all true, it is all glorious, and it is all beyond any mystery we will ever be able to comprehend until it actually takes place. And it will take place at one definitive moment in time to come!

So what does this all mean? It means that Jesus will be returning in all His splendor and glory. He will physically return to Earth one day radiant and glorious. We will see Him, and the world as we currently know it will come

to an end. At that moment in time God will establish His permanent Kingdom and both Heaven and Earth will be united as one. It will be “a new Heaven and a new Earth” (Revelation 21:1). The former Heaven and Earth will pass away and the new order will be established.

But that’s not all! At that moment in time all the dead shall rise. That’s right, all people who have ever died will rise. This means that everybody who has been “laid to rest” in a cemetery or elsewhere will be brought back to life, given a new glorified body, and that body will be rejoined to his or her soul.

The *Catechism* also states: *When he comes at the end of time to judge the living and the dead, the glorious Christ will reveal the secret disposition of hearts and will render to each man according to his works and according to his acceptance or refusal of grace. (#682)*

This is a fascinating thought, and a bit scary, too! It means that all that is hidden will come to light. This can be good or bad depending upon what is hidden. The thought should both fill us with a bit of holy fear, and it should also fill us with a holy joy. The holy fear is actually a gift from God to help us eliminate any secret and hidden sin we have now or have struggled with in the past. Since it will in fact all come to light one day, we might as well deal with it now so that our sin is no more. If we do, even our sin is turned into virtue and grace. And then, at the end of time that grace and virtue is what will be made manifest. This manifestation of our virtue will be the cause of holy joy not only for us but also for others to whom it is manifested.

We will be judged, then, based on what is there within our conscience. It will no longer just be exterior. We will not be able to put on a good face and pretend we are someone we are not. The full truth will come out and will be made manifest for all to see in accord with God’s plan.

Another thing to note is that at the Final Judgment even those who are in Hell will rise. Why? Because as humans we are meant to eternally be united with our bodies. We are, in essence, body and soul. So even the dead will receive their bodies back. But sadly, they will then suffer eternally not only spiritually but also physically. What this actually entails we do not know. But it will be a real pain of loss; loss of God and loss in that the body and soul will not be able to share in life with God. This can seem harsh and unfair but we should remind ourselves that God is perfectly just and perfectly loving and however this eternal loss and eternal suffering is lived, it is right and just.

What will this new life look like for those who share in the Resurrection to new life? It will be life with God, physically and spiritually, as well as life with each other. The Book of Revelation speaks symbolically of this new life as a city where God is on the throne in the center of the city. Light shines forth from Him so there is no need for the sun or moon. The streets are gold. The gates filled with precious stones. And there is so much more. This symbolic language should not be taken literally, rather, it should be seen as imagery that helps us understand the beauty, the splendor, and the magnificence of the life that awaits us. It is the new Heaven and the new Earth.

Let us pray: *Lord, may I always be ready to greet You when You come. I thank You for Your perfect promise of raising all from the dead and bringing forth new life. Use me to gather many into this future and glorious Kingdom, dear Lord. Jesus, I trust in You. Amen.*