

**Pope to young people at World Youth Day 2023 in Lisbon, Portugal:
God calls your authentic, not virtual, self.**

Before a sea of waving flags representing countries large and small from across the globe, Pope Francis told some 500,000 singing, shouting and swaying young people that God has called each person to him by name, not their social media handle.



"You are not here by mistake," he told the mass of people in Lisbon's Eduardo VII Park Aug. 3 for the welcome ceremony for World Youth Day. "You, you, you, over there, all of us, me, we were all called by our names."

While social networks know young people's names, tastes and preferences, "all this does not understand your uniqueness, but rather your usefulness for market research," he said at his first World Youth Day event.

The "illusions" of the virtual world "attract us and promise happiness" but later show themselves to be "vain, superfluous things, substitutes that leave us empty inside," the pope said. "I'll tell you something, Jesus is not like that; he believes in you, in each one of you and us, because to him each one of us is important, and that is Jesus."

In the church, Pope Francis said, "there is space for everyone, and when there isn't, please, let's work so that there is -- also for who makes mistakes, for who falls, for who it is difficult."

Departing from his prepared speech, he asked all the young people to "repeat with me: 'Everyone, everyone, everyone!'" before waves of "todos, todos, todos" -- "everyone" in Spanish and Portuguese -- spread throughout the crowd. "That is the church," he said, "the mother of all; there is room for all."

Pope Francis urged the young people to never stop asking themselves questions and to bring them before God in prayer. "Life goes on giving answers, we just have to wait for them," he said.

"I invite you think -- this is so beautiful -- that God loves us as we are, not how we would like to be or how society wants us to be, as we are," he said looking up from his prepared text. "He loves us with the limits we have, with the defects we have, and with the desire we have to keep moving forward in life!"

"God loves us like that; believe it, because God is the Father," he said over cheers from the crowd. He then gestured toward an icon of Mary alongside him onstage. "It's not easy," he said, but "we have a great help in the mother of the Lord. She is our mother, too."

**• TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION –
"Ring of the Fisherman"**

Long ago, a signet ring was an essential part of the wardrobe of influential people. A letter or document would be sealed with hot wax, and a signet ring pressed into the wax would affirm the origin of the document. In the case of the pope, at least from the thirteenth century, the ring was used to seal public documents with hot lead, saving the red wax for private letters. The public documents were called bullae after the Latin name for the lead stamp, and we still call them "papal bulls." It is not surprising, therefore, that a signet ring has long been bestowed as part of the inauguration of a pope. The ring is called the Pescatorio, or "Ring of the Fisherman." It reminds the wearer of his link with Peter, and his responsibility to continue the apostolic ministry of "fishing for human beings." Until 1842 it actually functioned as a signet ring. Now, each pope receives a new gold ring at the beginning of his ministry. It goes on the fourth finger of his right hand and bears some fisherman design, usually St. Peter casting nets from a boat, as well as the pope's name in Latin. A custom that endures for the pope, but not so much for bishops, is for people being introduced to him to kiss the Pescatorio as a sign of respect for his teaching authority. Another enduring custom is for the ring to be smashed and defaced at the pope's death, originally a way of preventing counterfeit deathbed documents.

**• TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION—
"The Crosier"**

Perhaps the most familiar traditional symbol that identifies bishops is the crosier that they carry. We see the shepherd's staff and immediately rich images from scripture come to mind, as well as the recollection that the first to respond to Christ's presence in our world were the shepherds. The staff is more than a walking stick; its crooked top is useful in snaring errant sheep but also in keeping the flock united. Bishops carry the curve outward, indicating their ministry to the wider flock, while abbots (and some abbesses, too) carry the crosier with the curve pointing in, indicating that their ministry is to the monastery alone. The crosier was once also carried by the pope, but was phased out centuries ago. You may recall that in pre-"popemobile" days, the pope was often carried around on a portable throne called a sedia gestatoria. Since he didn't do much walking, the need for a crosier was minimal. Pope Paul VI introduced the innovation of a walking staff in the 1960s, and everyone remembers Pope John Paul II's walking staff, not a crook, but a delicately sculptured crucifix. Thus, the pope carries a "pastoral staff" rather than a crosier. Precisely because the pope's ministry is universal, to the whole world, popes will likely leave crosiers in the hands of the bishops they commission for care of specific flocks.

Pastor's Corner

• What's the purpose of the repetition in our services?

There are three main reasons why repetition is used in our services: separation, concentration and transformation.

By repeating elements of our services, we separate ourselves from the rest of the world for a time. We put ourselves into the 'otherness' of being. We situate ourselves apart from the humdrum existence in which we live. Our repetition is different by virtue of holiness. The repetition is limited, so it stands out when it comes.

Repetition allows us to concentrate on the service, the singing, the motions. It gives us time to think about what is happening and to relax into what we are doing. It frees us, for a time, from worrying about the world around us. And it is a form of emphasis, putting stress on words or thoughts.

And finally, repetition transforms us. It changes us into being separate from the world so that we become heavenly entities for a brief while. It makes us free of earthly cares and joins our singing to the angelic choirs. Repetition is the foundation of ritual.

Musically, the repetition of various prayers functions like punctuation marks. Sometimes it shows the development of a new theme or direction. The Latin saying 'repetitio mater studiorum est' ('repetition is the mother of learning' or 'repetition is the best teacher') shows us that we learn best and most easily when we repeat things again and again.

• Can I change godparents?

No. You can no more change godparents than you can change blood relatives. If you think about it, you'll see that there's no way to do it – you were baptized, you entered the Church, and godparents were witnesses to that act, they sponsored you for membership in the Church. The baptism is unalterable – so are the witnesses. In fact, the Greek word for godparent is 'witness.' If your godparents have fallen away from the Church, they must answer for their behavior at the Judgment Day, just like everyone else. But it becomes your duty to pray for them, to try to encourage them to return to Church by the example of your good behavior, and to continue to love them and to be a good god-child, to the best of your ability.

• What is Bojhe Veliki song and why do we sing it so often after the Liturgy?

Bojhe Veliki is a traditional prayer for our homeland (Vkraina / Krai) and for us as her sons and daughters. No doubt, many of us remember singing it (in part) to beseech God to relieve the yoke of foreign communist rule over Ukraine. However, its stirring melody and poetic language call us to remember more than our physical, ancestral, and spiritual homelands here on earth: they evoke within our hearts the deeper nostalgia and yearning for our True Home, the place that our Lord Himself has prepared for us in glory. For instance, when it asks our Lord to "enlighten us through knowledge and learning" so that the "pure love for our homeland might flourish within and among us", it is asking our Lord to grow us into proper children of His inheritance. Please stand attentively and join the choir as we sing this beautiful prayer at the end of Divine Liturgy

• Can a penitent give the priest permission to discuss what was said in the confessional? Specifically, could I allow him to use a situation I confessed as an example in a homily or in everyday conversation if he does not reveal my name? Also, does the seal of confession hold even after the death of the penitent?

No, one may not give the priest permission to break the seal. But you can discuss the matter with him outside of confession, and then he could talk about that conversation. The seal holds even after the death of the penitent.

• Is chewing gum considered "food" for purposes of Eucharistic fasting?

Yes, it is considered food. We should not chew it while preparing for Communion, in church (regardless of whether we plan to Commune), or immediately after taking Communion.

• Why does the priest have his back to the congregation?

Actually, he is facing to pray in the same direction as the worshipping faithful. The priest is the representative of the congregation. The sanctuary and tabernacle are the heavenly throne of God, so the priest faces God, the object of our prayers, and he speaks to God on our behalf.

Ювілей 20-ліття Священства.



Запрошуємо парафіян та гостей нашого храму відсвяткувати 20-ліття Священства нашого пароха о. Івана Турика.

Подячна Божественна Літургія буде відправлена у нашій церкві у Неділю 24 Вересня о 11:00 - год ранку. Після Літургії запрошуємо на святочний обід і концерт у шкільній залі. Квитки вже в ПРОДАЖІ, їх можна придбати в притворі церкви після Літургії, на каві, або задзвонившу до церковного офісу 723-826-0767.

Квитки коштують 40 доларів за дорослого, 20 доларів за дитину 5-17 років, діти до 5 років безкоштовно. Квитки необхідно купувати заздалегідь (квитки не продаватимуться на вході) у день свята. На цій Літургії будуть присутні батьки о. Івана з України. Прийдіть на Літургію і обід, попросити Господа щоб Він і надалі благословляв о. Івана і його невтомну працю у Христовому винограді, даруючи здоров'я та силу.



Дорогоцінний спадок непохитної віри.

Мої спогади про дитинство асоціюються з бабусею, мамою моєї мами. Я проводив із нею ціле літо у маленькому селі, де вона проживала сама.

Вона була низенька, худенька від важкої праці дівчиною у Німеччині, а згодом у радянському колгоспі, неписьменна, але вона дуже багато вклала в моє виховання.

Може здатися, що я пишу абсурдні речі, мовляв: що там могла дати бабуся-селянка?!

От якби вона обіймала якусь високу посаду, залишила багатий спадок, була якоюсь впливовою особою, тоді можна було б говорити про те, що пощастило з бабусею. Проте я не помиляюся. Мені дійсно пощастило з бабусею, тому що вона щиро любила Бога і із раннього мого дитинства передала мені те найдорожче, що може мати людина – віру в живого Бога! Так, бабуся не купувала мені дорогих подарунків, бо в неї була мізерна пенсія, не купила мені навіть ровер - мрія усіх дітлахів, не водила мене в ресторани а, приготувавши просту їжу киді з картоплі, сідала біля мене і розповідала мені про Ісуса та інших біблійних персонажів, бо ж прочитати не могла – була неписьменна. Наш день обов'язково починався і закінчувався з молитов які бабуся знала на пам'ять.

Для сучасності може видатись дивно, що небагата й неписьменна людина могла передати скарб віри у майбутні покоління. Але це правда! Бабуся відійшла у вічність вісім років тому, коли я уже був священником в Америці, і я не був на її похороні, але в моєму серці продовжує жити віра в те, що бабуся живе з Богом на небі, а я продовжую йому служити на Землі.

Завдяки її простій науці я не можу розпочати свій день без молитви і досі дякую Богові, що в мене не було багатой та впливової бабусі, а була неписьменна бабуся Олена, що мала Бога у серці і відкрила його для мене.

Я бажаю, щоб усі бабусі у нашій парафії Успіння Богородиці, хто має внуків, змогли передати їм найцінніший та найдорожчий скарб – справжню віру в живого Бога! Цей спадок збагатить їх на все їхнє життя!

о. Іван Турик - онук :)

Запитайте Священника

- **Хто був першим Українським Католицьким Єпископом у США?**

Першим Єпископом у США в 1907 був Єпископ Сотер Ортинський. Він помер 24 березня 1916. Єпископська позиція залишалася вакантною до 1924 року.

- **Я є греко-католичка, але чому коли священник виходить з дарами на Літургії то говорить "...і всіх вас ПРАВОСЛАВНИХ християн..." Чому саме православних, ми ж католики?**

Сам термін "православ'я" не можна розуміти, як поняття конфесійне (тобто як належність до якоїсь із Православних Церков). У своїй суті він означає правдиву прославу Бога, яку чинять тільки християни, бо сам Господь нам себе об'явив. Щодо його вжитку на богослужінні слова ПРАВОСЛАВНИХ ХРИСТІЯН, треба зазначити, що фактично всі Католицькі Церкви його використовують під час відправ, оскільки таким чином підкреслюється істинна віра і правдиве богочитання, яке вони звершують

- **Чому єпископи і священники носять чорний одяг?**

Чорний одяг свідчить про їх "смерть" до світу і до мирських цінностей, Чорний одяг постійно нагадує їм про дану обіцянку послуху, чистоти та святості. У деяких більш тропічних місцях священники носять білий одяг для гігієни і комфорту. Коли священники відпочивають або займаються спортом то вони носять інший відповідний одяг.

- **Що символізує Дискос та Чаша на Літургії?**

Дискос символізує гріб в який тіло Господа нашого було покладене після його смерті а також символізує ясла в яких Христос народився. Чаша нагадує нам про посудину, котру Господь використав на Тайній Вечері де встановив Таїнство Євхаристії. Це також символ духовних труднощів нашого Господа, котрі Спаситель пережив у той час як він молився в Гетсиманському саду

- **Чи потрібно до церкви приводити маленьких дітей?**

Обов'язково потрібно. Сам Христос говорить: "Пустіть дітей до мене, не бороніть їм приходити до Мене, бо таких є Царство Небесне". Вважаю, що дітей від малечку потрібно брати до церкви. Звичайно, 3 або 4-річна дитина не зможе нерухомо простояти або просидіти всю Святу Літургію (було б дивно, якби могла), нехай трохи походить, позагалядає... Хоча за певними рамками батьки повинні слідувати, дитина мусить знати що не все, що їй хочеться можна.

Також, мамусі або бабусі, не повинні нести до церкви цілий арсенал іграшок, денний запас солодощів, мовляв, щоб дитині там скучно не було. Це вже і показує відношення самих родичів до духовних справ. Батьки повинні сказати дітям, що місце в яке вони йдуть, чи перебувають є чимось особливим і діти не повинні бігати і кричати, бо вони прийшли до Бога в гості і повинні старатися бути чемними.

- **Я молюсь на колінах. але коли лягаю в ліжку беру з собою вервичку і читаю її лежачи, інколи під час молитви засинаю. Чи це є гріхом? Я чула що навіть папа Франциск сказав, що іноді засинає за молитвою.**

Ні про який гріх не може йти мови! Святий апостол Павло заповів нам: "Моліться безперестанку" (1 Сол. 5:17), тобто всюди і завжди, де матимемо змогу. Винятком із цього не може бути і наше ліжко та момент підготовки до сну. Більше того, богослужбова книга "Часослов" прямо говорить про те, що останні хвилини дня ми маємо провести у молитві та богоугодних роздумах: "Також перехрестись і з молитвою засни, роздумуючи про день судний, як маєш постати перед Богом".

DIVINE LITURGIES FOR THIS WEEK

Transfiguration of Our Lord, August 6, 2023

9:00 AM - Lit. For God's Blessings on Our Parishioners

11:00 AM - Lit. + Peter Dzioba r/by Family

*Myrovannia and blessing of fruits following Liturgies***Saturday, August 12, 2023**5:00 PM - Lit. Health and Blessings for Stefania & Leonid
r/by sister, Halyna Lavriv**11TH Sunday After Pentecost, August 13, 2023***Epistle - 1 Cor 9:2-12; Gospel - Mt 18:23-35*

9:00 AM - Lit. For God's Blessings on Our Parishioners

11:00 AM - Lit. + Peter, Matthew r/by Anna



2023 Parish Summer Bible Camp Recap!
In three days of camp, there were lots of good food, amazing Faith formation projects and lots of new friendships made.

Anniversary Banquet

This year our Pastor celebrates his 20th anniversary of his priestly ordination and Assumption parish will hold a celebratory banquet in the school hall at 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, September 24th following ONLY ONE Divine Liturgy at 11:00 a.m.

Tickets are on SALE and can be purchased in the church vestibule or at coffee hour following Liturgies.

Tickets are \$40 per adult, \$20 per child age 5-17, children under 5 free. Everyone attending must have a ticket so we have enough seating. Tickets must be purchased in advance (no tickets sold at the door). We are looking forward to this celebration, and expect Fr. Ivan's parents to attend.

LITURGY INTENTIONS.

You can request Fr. Ivan to celebrate Liturgies for your intentions. As of now, there are no Liturgy intentions left for Father to celebrate liturgies in our parish. Requests may be submitted to the Church Office by mail, phone or email.

Church Office

Summer office hours are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday Mornings, 9 to 12. Please call ahead.

On Vacation - Our Pastor, Fr. Ivan Turyk will be on vacation through August 17. Fr. Vasyl Vladyka of Carteret, NJ will celebrated Divine Liturgies next Saturday at 5:00 p.m. and on the Feast of Assumption (Dormition of Mary), August 15. Rev. Petro Dyriv and Deacon Paul will substitute for him on Sunday.

Baptism Congratulations.

Congratulations and Best Wishes are extended to EVERLY JAMES LEITHAUSER, child of James Leithauser and Nicole Lis upon receiving the Holy Mysteries of Christian Initiation: Baptism, Chrismation and Holy Eucharist.

ASK PASTOR: Why do we bless fruit on the Feast of the Holy Transfiguration?

The feast of the Holy Transfiguration is celebrated late in summer, at the time of the first fruits, which remind us of God's great goodness and His infinite bounty. To express our recognition and gratitude to God for His generosity we bring some of these first fruits to the church for blessing.

The custom to bless the first fruits passed to us from the Old Testament, since the Jews at the very beginning of their exodus were ordered by Almighty God: "*You must bring the best of the first-fruits of your soil to the house of the Lord, your God.*" (Ex. 23:19) St. Gregory of Nazianz (d. 389) calls the practice to bless the fruits in church a "just and holy" custom. (cf. P.G., 37, 119)

The Christian practice to bless the fruits in church can be traced back to Apostolic times. The oldest prayer for the blessing of fruits is registered by the Apostolic Constitutions in the fourth century. But there is also an older Prayer of Thanksgiving for the new fruits in the work of St. Hippolytus, the Apostolic Tradition, composed about 220 A.D. St. Hippolytus mentions the following fruits usually blessed: grapes, figs, pomegranates, pears, mulberries, peaches, and almonds.

On this day, often the first fruits of the harvest, such as grapes were brought to the church to be blessed by the priest. In the land of our ancestors, in Ukraine, the fruits of the season were apples, plums, and pears. These usually were brought to the church and blessed. We pray that through the consumption of these blessed fruits that they will transform us to holiness, i.e to be transfigured to be divine!

MONDAY: As you can see, there is no stop in our parish calendar this summer. Just two weeks ago we completed 4 weeks school camp and now started the parish Bible Summer Camp and that is good thing. The first day started out at our school hall with Fr. Ivan leading twenty-eight children in prayer to Almighty God. Then a day was filled with a variety of fun activities that included a visit to Assumption Church where our parishioner Mrs. Melanie Fedynshyn gave a church tour to our campers who were eager to learn about their faith and strengthen relationships with one another. Sisters Servants of the Lord and the Virgin of Matará taught three groups of children about the Holy Eucharist, St. Tarcisius the patron saint of all altar servers, played Bingo and various games outside. The students made crafts, played soccer with Father, made bracelets and had snacks/ lunch together. Culinary groups 1 and 2 had a delicious time making and eating dirt today. Of course the dirt was made of pudding and oreos with a little whipped cream. Everyone topped off their dirt with a gummy worm. The 3rd group ventured into the world of baking funfetti cake.

This amazing spiritual experience is an incredible gift to the children of our parish and it could not be given without the help our parish volunteers, the Assumption Catholic School teachers, Sisters and Father. Our parish continues to grow and deepen in our commitment to make disciples of Jesus, increase our prayer, build community, and reflect genuine love to one another.

TUESDAY: The young people from around the world have gathered in Lisbon, Portugal for the World Youth Day 2023 for five days of worship, activities, and fellowship. Assumption Church young people also gathered today for the second day the Summer Bible Camp. Participants attended morning liturgy celebrated by Fr. Ivan, learned from the Sisters Servants of the Lord and the Virgin of Matará about the Lady of Fatima and how the angel appeared to the children and encouraged them to pray and make sacrifices as a way of drawing down peace on their country, played various games outside, had a good time with friends and learned new and exciting activities. The children were separated into groups according to their age and each group also participated in Culinary activities. Group 3 spent the afternoon preparing baked ziti, while groups 1 and 2 made yummy cereal treats. In arts and crafts, groups made personal paintings of Jesus, 3 - D crosses that light up, and the last group painted frames with a picture of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Great second day and we'll continue to help our parish children to share their values and faith in God.

WEDNESDAY: As the saying goes, all good things must come to an end. Sadly, for students and teachers alike ACSBC had their last day on Wednesday. Our campers spent their morning making Smores, stained glass cross, beaded bracelets and finishing their paintings. Each group was given a tour of the convent by our Sisters, they prayed together in the chapel and learned about St. Peter.

After a full morning of faith and creativity, the children were ready for lunch from "Fr. Ivan's Chef Kitchen", which has become a final day of Bible Camp tradition. This year's treat included hot dogs, hamburgers, potato tots, chips, strawberries, watermelon, and ice cream. After lunch, the children had time to play in a bouncy house and participated in a form party.

Fr. Ivan would like to extend especial thanks to all the parents who allowed their children to participate in this year's camp, also the following volunteers for their great support: Sr. Veronica, Sr. Svitanku, Sr. Trijtsia of Servants of the Lord and the Virgin of Matará, our parishioners Mrs. Fedynshyn, Mrs. Derevenska and Assumption Catholic School Staff Mrs. Shumny, Mrs. Flores. Miss Shumny, Mrs. Pickering, Andrew Shumny and everyone else who contributed towards the camp.