



*Statue of St. Michael the Archangel that stands above Kyiv's Independence Square. St. Michael is patron saint of the Ukrainian capital.*



### **ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL**

Defend people of Ukraine in battle; be their defence against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and to you, O Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan and the other evil spirits who are trying to invade Ukraine.  
Amen.

~ 30 April 2023 ~  
~ НЕДІЛЯ РОЗСЛАБЛЕНОГО ~  
~ SUNDAY OF THE PARALYTIC ~  
~ 431<sup>ST</sup> DAY OF WAR IN UKRAINE ~



Notice that the paralytic did not call out to Christ to help him; instead, the Lord reached out to him, asking “*Do you want to be made well?*” That may seem like a strange question, for presumably anyone waiting by a pool for healing after 38 years of illness would want to be made well. But think for a moment about how we have all learned to adapt to our favourite sins, how we have become comfortable with whatever forms of corruption have become second nature to us over the years. By virtue of coming to Church, we are apparently religious people, but that does not mean that we truly want to be healed. For to be healed means obeying the Lord’s command to this fellow: “*Stand up, take your mat and walk.*” It requires making the effort to rise up in obedience, to be transformed personally in how we live each day, and to grow in holiness. It would not have sufficed for that man to have remained on his bed and have warm feelings about how Christ had healed him. Just as anyone who lies motionless for a long time will become weak and unable to rise up and walk on his own power, the same will be true of us spiritually.

## SUNDAY HYMNS

OPENING HYMN	Согласно Заспіваймо/Let Us Sing and Chant Our praise (pg.188-190)
COMMUNION HYMN	Христос Воскрес! Радість з Неба / Let All Profess (pg. 200-202)
CLOSING HYMN	Христос Воскрес! Ликуйте Нині/Rejoice! Rejoice! (pg. 196-197)

## SUNDAY & DAILY SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, Apr 30	Divine Liturgy // Божественна Літургія	10 AM
MONDAY, May 1	NO SERVICES	
TUESDAY, May 2	NO SERVICES	
WEDNESDAY, May 3	NO SERVICES	
THURSDAY, May 4	NO SERVICES	
FRIDAY, May 5	NO SERVICES	
SATURDAY, May 6	NO SERVICES	
SUNDAY, May 7	Divine Liturgy // Божественна Літургія	10 AM

**NOTE:** to request a Divine Liturgy, please speak with Fr. Yuriy

**E-TRANSFER - [st.nicholas.victoria@gmail.com](mailto:st.nicholas.victoria@gmail.com)**

### SUNDAY EPISTLE

### APRIL 23 DONATIONS

DATE	READING	
SUNDAY, Apr 30	Acts 9:32-42	Coffee: \$152.00; Vigil lights: \$10.00; Loose collection: \$105.00; Envelope collection: \$360.00; Pre-authorized donations Apr 17 to Apr 23: \$185.00  <b>TOTAL: \$812.00</b>  <i>May God bless and reward you abundantly for your generosity!</i>
SUNDAY, May 7	Acts 11:19-26, 29-30	
SUNDAY, May 14	Acts 16:16-34	
SUNDAY, May 21	Act 20:16-18, 28-36	

**DONATE ONLINE - [www.stnicholasparish.org/donate](http://www.stnicholasparish.org/donate)**

### PASTORAL MINISTRY & HOLY MYSTERIES

CONFESSIONS.....time before or after services  
 BAPTISMS.....by appointment  
 MARRIAGES.....six months notice should be given to the parish priest, and he should be contacted before any other arrangements are made  
 FUNERALS.....by appointment  
 ANOINTING.....by appointment  
 HOSPITAL VISITS.....any time; call emergency number **250.891.4507**

*Apostolic Administrator ~ Bishop David Motiuk ~ [www.nweparchy.ca](http://www.nweparchy.ca)*



ST. NICHOLAS  
THE WONDERWORKER

†  
СВ. МИКОЛАЯ ЧУДОТВОРЦЯ



Church: 250.384.2255  
Rectory: 250.384.2292  
Emergency: 250.891.4507

[www.stnicholasparish.org](http://www.stnicholasparish.org)  
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1112 Caledonia Ave.  
Victoria, BC V8T 1G1



~ Priest ~  
Fr. Yuriy Vyshnevskyy

HELP THE PEOPLE OF UKRAINE TO  
SURVIVE THE WAR

DONATE FOR UKRAINE

ПОЖЕРТВУЙ НА УКРАЇНУ

[www.stnicholasparish.org](http://www.stnicholasparish.org)  
Victoria, BC Canada

**DONATE TO HELP UKRAINIANS ARRIVING ON SOUTH VANCOUVER ISLAND** - Make cheques payable to 'St. Nicholas church' with memo 'Help arriving Ukrainians'. You can also donate cash or via e-transfer to [st.nicholas.victoria@gmail.com](mailto:st.nicholas.victoria@gmail.com). Click **DONATE** button on the parish website [www.stnicholasparish.org](http://www.stnicholasparish.org) to donate via CanadaHelps. Tax receipts will be issued.

**WWW.UKRAINEHELPVI.CA** - the website is designed to connect people and organizations on Vancouver Island to help the people of Ukraine.

**ACCEPT PEOPLE FLEEING UKRAINE ON VANCOUVER ISLAND** - please complete [this form](#) if you can accept people fleeing Ukraine. Please share this with your friends and neighbours!

**JOB POSTING** - employers who wish to support Ukrainians with offers of employment to register these offers on [Jobs for Ukraine](#).

**DO YOU NEED FOOD?** - Help Ukraine Vancouver Island Society has created Food Share programs to ensure that all Ukrainians have access to good quality food across Vancouver Island every week. Please visit the HUVI website for details and how to register in your area [HERE](#).



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## PRAYER FOR THE AFFLICTED PEOPLE OF UKRAINE IN TIME OF WAR



**O** Lord Jesus Christ, our God, we entreat You to hear the earnest prayer of Your beloved Church of Kyivan Rus' for her deeply afflicted children abiding in the land of Ukraine. Behold their grave sorrow and grievous plight, and speedily come to their aid. Deliver Your vulnerable people from unjust aggressors, foreign invasion and the terror of war. Strengthen

courageous defenders of the nation to fight virtuously, inspired more by love of those they protect than hatred of the enemy. O compassionate Lord, shelter the displaced, heal the wounded, console the orphan, protect the widow, comfort those who mourn, and mercifully receive into Your Kingdom those who have nobly died guarding their homeland against every aggression. Quickly make cease the spilling of blood of friend and foe alike, yet stir many to bravely struggle for that true justice which alone can bring lasting peace. O kind-hearted Lord, as You are our peace, soften the hearts of the unmerciful and convert those who promote hostilities toward reconciliation, so that Your beloved children of the land of Ukraine, may abide in that tranquility, justice and freedom which reflects your Kingdom, where You reign with Your eternal Father, and Your most holy, good and life-giving Spirit, now, and forever and ever. Amen.

## МОЛИТВА ЗА МНОГОСТРАЖДАЛЬНИЙ УКРАЇНСЬКИЙ НАРОД У ЧАС ВІЙНИ

**Г**осподи Ісусе Христе Боже наш, благаємо Тебе, вислухай ширу молитву Твоєї улюбленої Церкви Київської Русі за важко страждаючих дітей українського краю. Споглянь милостивим оком на їх лихоліття та ласкаво поспіши на допомогу. Звільни свій беззахисний народ від несправедливих загарбників, нашествия агресорів та терору війни. Зміцни силою Твоєю усіх доблесних і відважних захисників для добросердечної боротьби, щоб вони радше керувалися любов'ю до беззахисних, аніж ненавистю до ворогів. О Премилосердний Господи, захорони переселенців, зціли поранених, борони сиріт, підтримай вдів, потіш скорботних та ласкаво прийми до Твого Царства всіх, хто благородно віддав своє життя в обороні Батьківщини від нападів ворогів. Поспіши зупинити кровопролиття як друга, так і недруга та запали серця багатьох до мужньої боротьби за істинну справедливість, що є джерелом тривалого миру. О добросердий Господи, Ти – наш мир, пом'якши зачерствілі серця, наверни тих, хто сприяє воєнним діям, до примирення, щоб Твій улюблений українській народ втішався миром, справедливістю та свободою – ознаками Твого Царства, в якому Ти царюєш з Предвічним Твоїм Отцем, і Всесвятим, Благим і Животворним Твоїм Духом, нині, і повсякчас, і на віки віків. Амінь.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

✓ **HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to JOHN SHAVCHOOK and all those who celebrated their birthdays this past week. May the Lord Our God continue to bless you abundantly and the Holy Mother of God protects you at all times. *Христос Воскрес!*

✓ **CAMP ST. VOLODYMYR - Sunday, Aug 20 – Saturday, Aug 26, 2023.** We invite you to save the date and join us this August to celebrate our 40th anniversary of Camp St. Volodymyr! The camp is for children in our Eparchy aged 7 to 15 as of December 2023. Camp St. Volodymyr is a great place to be physically active, build self-confidence and self-esteem, and develop outdoor skills. While reconnecting with nature, the children will grow spiritually and build life-long friendships. Registration will open in mid-spring, so start planning your summer holidays now! The camp is run on a volunteer basis. If you are interested in volunteering as a counsellor, chef, nurse/doctor, or lifeguard please forward your name. Camp St. Volodymyr is also seeking input to design our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary T-shirt. Please share your logo and design ideas! The chosen design will receive a complimentary t-shirt. For more information, contact Jennifer Caldwell at [jennsawka@hotmail.com](mailto:jennsawka@hotmail.com) or 604.220.0584

✓ **WE NEED YOUR HELP** - recently we had to buy a new freezer for our parish as the old one broke down. We would welcome any donations to offset the cost of buying a new freezer at the cost of \$1,000. In addition we replaced our industrial cooler at the cost of \$4,000. Please consider this as you donate toward our kitchen appliances.

✓ **SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION // СПОВІДЬ** - before and after daily (9AM) & Sunday (10AM) Liturgies / СПОВІДЬ - перед і після щоденної Літургії о 9 год і недільної о 10 год.

✓ **PRAYER REQUEST** - Please keep in your prayers ED, WAYNE, TERESA and other members of our parish, our family and friends who are ailing, in hospitals, nursing homes and those who are not able to join actively in their community.

✓ **BEQUESTS & WILLS** - Leaving a bequeath is a process of giving a donation through your will. It is simply a distribution from your estate to a charitable organization through your last will and testament. It can be as small or as large a donation as you wish. It is important that you talk to your lawyer about the process. In your kindness please remember St Nicholas the Wonderworker Ukrainian Catholic Church in your bequeath and will. If anyone wishes to make such a bequeath in their will, the following clause may be included or added to a will: "I give, devise, and bequeath to **St Nicholas the Wonderworker Ukrainian Catholic Parish - 1112 Caledonia Avenue, Victoria BC, V8T 1G1**, the sum of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (or \_\_\_\_\_% of my estate), to be used for the benefit of the parish and it's pastoral activities."

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## DIVINE LITURGY PROPERS

*The Divine Liturgy of our Father among the Saints John Chrysostom.*

*Scripture readings from the New Testament are taken from the*

*New Revised Standard Version Catholic Edition.*

*Українською - у перекладі Івана Хоменка.*

*After the priest has exclaimed, Blessed be the Kingdom... and the people have responded, Amen, the clergy sing the Paschal Troparion once and the people repeat it. Then, the clergy sing the first half, and the people conclude it.*

**Paschal Troparion:** *Christ is risen from the dead,\* trampling death by death,\* and to those in the tombs\* giving life.*

**Troparion, Tone 3:** Let the heavens be glad, let the earth rejoice,\* for the Lord has done a mighty deed with His arm.\* He trampled death by death. He became the first-born of the dead;\* He saved us from the abyss of Hades\* and granted great mercy to the world.

**Troparion, Tone 3:** O James, worthy of all praise,\* chosen apostle of Christ and only brother of the beloved theologian.\* Ask God to bestow on those who hymn you forgiveness of sins\* and to grant our souls great mercy.

**Kontakion, Tone 3:** Lord, as of old You raised the Paralytic,\* lift my soul by Your divine presence,\* for by many sins and foolish actions,\* I, too, am now afflicted and crippled.\* Raise me, that being saved I may cry to You:\* Glory to Your power, O merciful Christ.

**Glory: Kontakion, Tone 2:** When you heard God's voice calling out to you,\* you spurned the love of your father\* and fled to Christ with your kinsman, O glorious James.\* With him you were favoured to see the Lord's divine transfiguration.

**Now: Kontakion, Tone 8:** Though You descended into a tomb, O Immortal One,\* yet You destroyed the power of Hades,\* and You rose as victor, O Christ God,\* calling to the myrrh-bearing women: Rejoice!\* and giving peace to Your Apostles:\* You, who grant Resurrection to the fallen.

**Prokeimenon, Tone 1:** Let Your mercy, O Lord, be upon us, as we have hoped in You. *Verse:* Rejoice in the Lord, O you just; praise befits the righteous. (*Psalm 32:22,1*)

**Prokeimenon, Tone 8:** Their utterance has gone forth into all the earth, and their word unto the ends of the world.

**Epistle - Acts 9:32-42 - A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.** In those days, as Peter went here and there among all the believers, he came down also to the saints living in Lydda. There he

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found a man named Aeneas, who had been bedridden for eight years, for he was paralyzed. Peter said to him, “Aeneas, Jesus Christ heals you; get up and make your bed!” And immediately he got up. And all the residents of Lydda and Sharon saw him and turned to the Lord. Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, “Please come to us without delay.” So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, “Tabitha, get up.” Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord.

**Alleluia, Tone 1:** *Verse:* Of Your mercies, O Lord, I will sing forever; with my mouth I will proclaim Your truth from generation to generation. *Verse:* For You have said, “Mercy will be established forever.” (*Psalm 32:22,1*) *Verse:* The heavens shall confess our wonders, O Lord, and Your truth in the church of the saints. (*Psalm 88:6*)

**Gospel - John 5:1-15** - *At that time,* Jesus went up to Jerusalem. Now in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate there is a pool, called in Hebrew Beth-zatha, which has five porticoes. In these lay many invalids — blind, lame, and paralyzed. One man was there who had been ill for thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had been there a long time, he said to him, “Do you want to be made well?” The sick man answered him, “Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; and while I am making my way, someone else steps down ahead of me.” Jesus said to him, “Stand up, take your mat and walk.” At once the man was made well, and he took up his mat and began to walk. Now that day was a sabbath. So the Jews said to the man who had been cured, “It is the sabbath; it is not lawful for you to carry your mat.” But he answered them, “The man who made me well said to me, ‘Take up your mat and walk.’” They asked him, “Who is the man who said to you, ‘Take it up and walk?’” Now the man who had been healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had disappeared in the crowd that was there. Later Jesus found him in the temple and said to him, “See, you have been made well! Do not sin any more, so that nothing worse happens to you.” The man went away and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had made him well.

*Instead of “It is truly...” we sing:* The Angel cried out to the One full of Grace: O chaste Virgin, rejoice! And again I say, Rejoice! Your Son has risen from the tomb on the third day, and raised the dead. Let all people rejoice! Shine, shine, O new Jerusalem, for the glory of the Lord has risen upon you! Exult now and be glad, O Sion! And you, O chaste Mother of God, take delight in the resurrection of your Son.

**Communion Hymn:** Receive the Body of Christ;\* taste the fountain of immortality.\* Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise Him in the highest (Psalm 148:1).\* Their utterance has gone forth

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into all the earth,\* and their word unto the ends of the world.\* Alleluia, alleluia,\* alleluia. (Psalm 18:5)

*Instead of “Blessed is He” we sing:* Christ is risen from the dead, trampling death by death, and to those in the tombs giving life (1x).

*Instead of “We have seen the true light” we sing:* Christ is risen from the dead, trampling death by death, and to those in the tombs giving life (1x).

*Instead of “Let our mouths be filled” we sing:* Christ is risen from the dead, trampling death by death, and to those in the tombs giving life (3x).

*Instead of “Blessed be the name of the Lord” we sing:* Christ is risen from the dead, trampling death by death, and to those in the tombs giving life (3x).

*At the end of the Liturgy we sing:* Christ is risen from the dead, trampling death by death, and to those in the tombs giving life (3x).

And to us he has granted life eternal;\* we bow down before his resurrection on the third day.



**Тропар, глас 3:** Нехай веселяться небесні, нехай радуються земляни,\* бо показав владу рукою Своєю Господь,\* Він смертю смерть подолав,\* первістком з-поміж мертвих став,\* визволив нас із глибин аду,\* і подав світові велику милість.

**Слава: Кондак, глас 3:** Душу мою, Господи, у гріхах всіляких\* і безглуздими діяннями тяжко розслаблену,\* воздвигни божественним твоїм заступництвом,\* як і розслабленого воздвигнув ти древньо,\* щоб я кликав до тебе, спасаючись:\* Слава, Христе, владі твоїй.

**І нині: Кондак, глас 8:** Хоч і у гріб зійшов ти, Безсмертний,\* та адову зруйнував ти силу,\* і воскрес еси як переможець, Христе Боже,\* жінкам-мироносицям звістивши: Радуйтеся,\* і твоїм апостолам мир даруєш,\* падшим подаєш воскресіння.

**Прокімен, глас 1:** Будь, Господи, милість твоя на нас,\* бо уповали ми на тебе. *Стих:* Радуйтеся, праведні, у Господі, правим належить похвала.

**Апостол - Дія. 9:32-42 - 3 книги Діань Святих Апостолів читання:** *Тими днями* Петро, обходячи всі усюди, прибув і до святих, що мешкали в Лідді. Там він знайшов одного чоловіка, на ім'я Еней, що лежав на ліжку вісім років і був паралітик. Петро сказав до нього: «Енею, Ісус Христос тебе оздоровляє. Устань і сам постели собі ліжко!» І вмить той підвівся. І бачили його всі мешканці Лідди та Сарону, і на вернулися вони до Господа. Була ж у Яффі одна учениця, на ім'я Тавита, що значить у перекладі Дорка (Сарна). Вона була повна добрих діл та милостині, що чинила. І сталося тими днями, що вона занедужала й

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умерла. Обмили її і поклали в горниці. А що Лідда лежить близько Яффи, учні, почувши, що Петро там, послали двох чоловіків з проською до нього: «Не отягайся прийти аж до нас!» Петро негайно рушив з ними. І як прийшов, вони його повели наверх у горницю, де всі вдови оточили його з плачем, показуючи йому туніки й плащі, що їх робила Дорка, будучи з ними. Велівши всім вийти з хати, Петро став на коліна й почав молитися, а повернувшись до тіла, мовив: «Тавито, встань!» І та відкрила свої очі й, побачивши Петра, сіла. Він же подав їй руку та й підвів її і, прикликавши святих та вдів, поставив її живою. Довідалась про це вся Яффа, і багато повірило в Господа.

**Алилуя, глас 1:** *Стих:* Милості твої, Господи, повік оспівуватиму, з роду в рід. *Стих:* Бо сказав ти: Повік милість збудується.

**Євангеліє - Івана 5:1-15** - *У той час* Ісус прибув до Єрусалиму. А є в Єрусалимі при Овечих воротах купелеве місце, по-єврейському воно зветься Витесда, що має п'ять критих переходів. Лежала в них сила недужих, сліпих, кривих, усохлих, які чекали, коли то зрушиться вода: ангел бо Господній сходить час від часу в купелеве місце та й заколював воду, і хто, отже, перший поринав по тому, як вода заколювалася, то одужував, – хоч яка б там була його хвороба. Один чоловік там був, що нездужав тридцять і вісім років. Побачив Ісус, що він лежить, а довідавшись, що було воно вже дуже довго, каже до нього: «Бажаєш одужати?» «Не маю нікого, пане, – одрікає йому недужий, – хто б мене, коли ото вода зрушиться, та й спустив у купіль: бо ось тільки я прийду, а вже інший передо мною поринає.» Мовить Ісус до нього: «Устань, візьми ложе твоє і ходи!» Відразу ж і одужав той чоловік, і взяв ложе своє і почав ходити. Був же той день – субота. Юдеї і кажуть до одужалого: «Субота адже ж! Не личить тобі ложе носити!» А той їм у відповідь: «Візьми ложе твоє і ходи, – сказав мені, хто мене оздоровив.» Спитали його: «Хто він – той, що сказав тобі: Візьми і ходи?» Та одужалий не знав, хто він, бо Ісус зник у натовпі, що юрмився на тому місці. Щойно потім знайшов його Ісус у храмі й мовив до нього: «Оце ти видужав, – тож не гріши більше, щоб щось гірше тобі не сталось.» Чоловік пішов і оповів юдеям, мовляв, той, хто його оздоровив, – Ісус.

*Замість “Достойно” співаємо:* Ангел сповіщав Благодатній: Чистая Діво, радуйся. І знову кажу: Радуйся. Твій Син воскрес тридневний із гробу, і мертвих воздвигнув він; люди, веселіться. Світися, світися, новий Єрусалиме, слава бо Господня на тобі возсіяла. Радій нині і веселися, Сіоне. А ти, Чистая, красуйся, Богородице, востанням рождення твого.

**Причасний:** Тіло Христове прийміть,\* джерела безсмертного споживіть. Хваліте Господа з небес,\* хваліте Його на висотах. Алилуя, алилуя, алилуя!

*Замість “Благословен, хто йде в ім’я Господнє” співаємо:* Христос воскрес із мертвих, смертю смерть подолав, і тим, що в гробах, життя дарував (Іх).

*Замість “Ми бачили світло істинне” співаємо:* Христос воскрес із мертвих, смертю смерть подолав, і тим, що в гробах, життя дарував (Іх).

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*Замість “Нехай сповняться” співаємо:* Христос воскрес із мертвих, смертю смерть подолав, і тим, що в гробах, життя дарував (3х).

*Замість “Будь ім’я Господнє” співаємо:* Христос воскрес із мертвих, смертю смерть подолав, і тим, що в гробах, життя дарував (3х).

*Наприкінці Літургії співаємо:* Христос воскрес із мертвих, смертю смерть подолав, і тим, що в гробах, життя дарував (3х).

І нам дарував життя вічне, поклоняємось його триденному Воскресенню.

## CONSECRATED WIDOWS: AN ORDER OF WOMEN IN THE APOSTOLIC CHURCH (*Acts 9:32-42*)

All the widows stood around him, crying...” (Acts 9:39). The description of the recently deceased Dorcas or Tabitha does not mention that she was a widow. It does note, however, that those who mourned her were not her relatives but widows. It is likely, then, that Dorcas herself was a widow.

As we know from the institution of deacons, care for widows was one of the first functions that the earliest Christians undertook. It was not long before these women were organized into formal groups with specific responsibilities in the Church.

St Paul’s First Epistle to Timothy, written 20 to 25 years later, includes a chapter devoted to overseeing the formal group of widows in the Church at Ephesus. The epistle indicates that this group should include:

**Widows Who Had No One to Care for Them** – *“Give proper recognition to those widows who are really in need. But if a widow has children or grandchildren, these should learn first of all to put their religion into practice by caring for their own family and so repaying their parents and grand-parents, for this is pleasing to God. The widow who is really in need and left all alone puts her hope in God and continues night and day to pray and to ask God for help. But the widow who lives for pleasure is dead even while she lives. Give the people these instructions, so that no one may be open to blame. Anyone who does not provide for their relatives, and especially for their own household, has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever”* (verses 3-8).

**Widows Known for Doing Good** – *“... and is well known for her good deeds, such as bringing up children, showing hospitality, washing the feet of the Lord’s people, helping those in trouble and devoting herself to all kinds of good deeds”* (verse 10).

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Dorcas is described in the Scripture as “*always doing good and helping the poor*”. We do not know what else she did but we do know that she made “*robes and other clothing*” because the mourners displayed them to Peter. Handiwork was a preferred occupation for women in the Church for centuries, lay and monastic. In nineteenth-century Britain a “Dorcas Society” was founded to provide clothing and other necessities to the poor. Chapters that continued to exist since then diversified to include other forms of community service.

Widows’ institutes continued to be a feature of Church life in the second and third centuries. In *The Testament’s* order for the Oblation (Liturgy), the widows are positioned “within the veil” on the left side of the sanctuary, behind the presbyters. The widows are directed to receive the Eucharist after the deacons, but before the readers and subdeacons.

This is the last reference to an order of widows that survives from the early Church. It is assumed that this order, like those of virgins and deaconesses, was absorbed in the newer institution of monasticism. Women monastics would exercise many of the same functions as these earlier women both in their monasteries and in the churches of the people.

## ПЕРЕПОЛОВЕННЯ П'ЯТДЕСЯТНИЦІ

У середу після неділі Розслабленого, коли буде половина П'ятдесятниці, а саме між Пасхою і празником Зіслання Святого Духа,

Східна Церква святкує празник Переполовлення. Основу цього празника Церква взяла зі святого Євангелія, де сказано, що Ісус Христос в половині свята Кучок “увійшов у храм і почав навчати” (Йо. 7, 14). Він говорив про Своє Боже післанництво та про таїнственну воду: “Моя наука не моя, — казав Христос, — а того, хто послав мене... Коли спраглий хтось, нехай прийде до мене і п'є! Хто вірує в мене, як Писання каже, то ріки води живої з нутра його потечуть!”. “Так Він про Духа казав, що його мали прийняти ті, які увірували в Нього” (Йо. 7, 16 і 37-39).

Цей празник уже був у практиці за часів святого Йоана Золотоустого († 407). Укладення служби празника Переполовлення приписують Анатолію, царгородському патріархові 458), святому Андрієві Критському († 740), святому Йоану Дамаскину († к. 749) і святому Теофану Ісповіднику († 817).

Празник Переполовлення має на меті скріпити нашу віру у воскреслого Христа, заохотити до виконання Божих заповідей та приготувати до Господнього Вознесення і Зіслання Святого Духа. На хвалитних стихирах утрєні цього дня співаємо: “Просвітившися, брати, Воскресенням Спаса Христа, і досявши переполовлення Господнього празника, щиросеречно зберігаймо Божі заповіді, щоб ми стали достойні і Вознесення празнувати й одержати прихід Святого Духа”.

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