Ukrainian National Association Inc. Life Insurance, Coverdells & Annuities

Judie Hawryluk Secretary Branch 360 Chair of Buffalo District UNA, Inc.



79 Southridge Drive West Seneca, NY 14224 Tel.: 716-674-5185 Branch360UNA@verizon.net



1550 William Street Buffalo, NY 14206 Tel.: 895-1404

Proud to Support St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church



Buszka Funeral Home Director Peter D. Stachowski

2005 Clinton Street at S. Ogden Buffalo New York 14206 (716) 825-7777 www.busszkafuneralhomeinc.com

Our Church Web-Page Is:

http://www.stnbuffalo.com

Buffalo Community Web-Page Is: http://www.ukrainiansofbuffalo.com

Please Support our Sponsors

Підтримаймо наших спонзорів



Wilhelmina E. & Janine Klimeczko Michael A. Klimeczko, Licensed Directors

<u>Pietszak</u>

FUNERAL HOME and Orlowski-Pietszak Funeral Home

(716) 852-4499

2400 William St. Cheektowaga, NY 14206 806 Clinton St. Buffalo, NY 14210

PHONE 893-1025



Kuhn's Monuments, Inc. (ROLAND J. KUHN)

ASK FOR TOM

2398 GENESEE ST. BUFFALO, N.Y. 14225

Thanks are extended to all Sponsors

O SAINT NICHOLAS UKRAINIAN GATHOLIG CHURCH



українська католицька церква святого миколая

V. Rev. Marijan Procyk, pastor/dean Rev. Raymond Palko, visiting priest

Parish E-Mail: stnbuffalo@yahoo.com

Web Page: http://www.stnbuffalo.com
Dioc. Web: http://www.stamforddio.org

308 Fillmore Avenue, Buffalo, N. Y. 14206

Rectory: (716) 852-7566

Fax: 855-1319 ~ <u>Kitchen</u>: 852-1908

Confession: Before Liturgies

<u>Сповідь</u>: Перед Св. Літургіями

Baptism: By appointment **Хрещення:** За домовленням

Marriage: Contact 6 months in advance Вінчання: Голоситися 6 місяців скорше

Religion classes — Кляси Релігії
Saturday, 11:45 AM — Субота, 11:45 р.
Ministry to the sick - Опіка над хворими
Family members should call the Rectory
Родина повинна повідомити священика
IN EMERGENCY CALL ANY TIME

В разі потреби завжди можна закликати



June 26 – 2011 – 26 Червня



Saints Peter & Paul — CBB. Hetpo i Habjo Holy Apostles Saints Peter and Paul are named by the church as the first supreme apostles. They are such not because of advantage over other disciples and followers of Christ, but in virtue of their great zeal, great love, great proceedings executed in the name of the Lord. In spite of the fact that their way to Jesus Christ was different they are the evidence of God's wisdom and real Church pillars. Saint Peter and Saint Paul — Pray for us!

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE ПОР'ЯДОК СВ. ЛІТУРГІЙ

June 26: 2 S. Aft Pent. - 2 H. По ЗСД Т1

10:00 AM +о. Андрій і Емілія Стасюки (М. Л. Стасюк)

12:00 РМ За Парохіян-For Parishioners

Mon., June 27 – Понеділок, 27 Червня

8:15 AM +Богдан Мороз (А. Паращій) **Тие., June 28 – Вівторок, 28 Червня**

8:15 АМ В нам. Романа Кобрина (І. Гіль)

10:00 AM Moleben – Молебень Хр. Чол.

Sts Peter & Paul – Свв. Петра і Павла

Wenesday, June 29 — Середа, 29 Червня 9:00 AM Health of Slawko Klaczany

(V. & Ch. Chebeniak)

Thursday, June 30 – Чет., 30 Червня

8:15 AM +Володимира Гіль (р. Кобрин)
12:00 AM Intention of Chrystyna and Damian (wedding anniversary) req L. Steeb

Christ Lover of Menkind – Xp. Чолов.

Friday, July 1 – П'ят., 1 Липня

9:15 AM +Софія Волчук і Юрій Волчук (Олег Борачок)

10:00 AM Moleben – Молебень Хр. Чол.

Saturday, July 2 – Субота, 2 Липня

9:00 АМ +Володимир Петрівський (Леся)

T2

4:30 РМ За Парохіян-For Parishioners

July 3: 3 S. Aft. Pent. - 3 H. По ЗСД

10:00 AM +Дануся Литвин (Влодьо і Ненси)

12:00 PM For all sick in the parish

Eternal Light burns for +Paraska Smetaniuk Requ. By. Joanne Bader

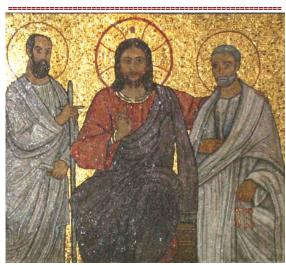
In the Beginning . . .(cont.)

(week 13) Chris now has teeth buds for all 20 teeth. Teething will come later. Chris is almost 3 inches long and weighs in at one ounce. Chris is still exercising and practicing inhaling and exhaling. All Chris's nourishment is now coming through the placenta. Vocal cords begin to form, and although they may not be ready for a rock band, Chris will use them immediately following birth for that first cry!

Now mother usually feels better and has more energy. She's spreading the good news

"God blessed them (Adam and Eve), saying to them, 'Be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth..."

Chris' body is forming, just like The Body of Christ was formed in the womb of Mary.



St. Peter and Paul Pray for us! Святі Верховні апостоли Петре і Павле, моліть Бога за нас!

Вічне Світло в честь ПДМ Горить на Славу Божу



St Joseph School For Boys Bookstore

Ronda Doucette

Specializing in Eastern Christian Gifts and Books www.easterngiftshop.com

saintjoseph@roadrunner.com

There is still space for your ad. Маємо місце для Вашого оголошення

DNIPRO



ДНІПРО

Ukrainian Cultural Center
562 Genesee St. Buffalo, NY 14204 856-4476

www.UkrainiansOfBuffalo.com
Hall and bar rentals are available.
See your old friends on Friday night.
Help rebuild our Ukrainian Home.
Please Contribute to the
\$100,000 Building Fund.
Donations are tax deductible.

EURO DELI AND GIFTS



4166 Union Road 2321 Millersport Hwy (Airport Plaza) (Getzville Plaza) Cheektowaga, NY 14225 Amherst, NY 14068 Tel. 716-630-0131 Fax 716-630-0133 tel. 716-688-1495

Сердечна подяка усім спонзорам! Просимо їх підтримати!

Ukrainian Home Dnipro Federal Credit Union

562 Genesee St., Buffalo, NY 14204 (716) 847-6655 (716) 847-6988

www.uhdfcu.com

info@uhdfcu.com



"The credit union with a heart"

Free checking

Competitive rates on CD's and savings account
Low rates for Visa Credit cards
ATM Visa Debit cards
Direct Deposit and Online Banking
IRA Traditional and Roth accounts
Free Life Insurance (some restrictions apply)
We financially support Ukrainian causes

Свій До Свого По Своє

Join now and become a member of our Ukrainian Credit Union Family!

Please support our sponsors!

ДЯКУЄМО – THANK YOU!

The Colonial Memorial Chapels, Inc. of Ukrainian Heritage, Serving Western N.Y.

Simon Pasnik & Matthew Pasnik

3003 South Park Avenue

Lackawanna, New York 14218

(716) 824-3007

Melvin J. SLIWINSKI

FUNERAL HOME 85 George Urban Boulevard Cheektowaga, N. Y. 14225 5090 Transit Rd, Depew, NY 14043

(716) 894-1772





Sunday Coffee Hours: If any one would like to volunteer to host a Sunday, please contact Elaine, Dora, Emily, Mary (B.) or Anna.

- KITCHEN is closed for the Summer. Thank you for your help and patronage.
- Coffee Hour Usually Every Sunday after Liturgy in Church Hall. Please join us!
- August 7: Church Picnic. Please help!!!

TOP'S GIFT CARDS:

Please help us raise money for our Church by purchasing



Top's Gift Cards from us. If you buy in Tops anyway, why not help. You do not lose or gain anything by doing this, but our Church will benefit greatly. We receive back 5% of your spending. To take advantage of this program, see Mary Bodnar or call 655-3810, or call the rectory. Thank vou and God Bless!

Please note: You can purchase gasoline with this card at Tops Gasoline Station.

У нас успішно продаються Карточки з крамниці "Топс". Купуючи їх ви помагаєте церкві. Для Вас не робить різниці чи ви платили грішми чи карточкою, але церква дістане від "Топс" 5%. На \$1,000 церква одержить \$50. Що б закупити слід звертатися до п. Марії Боднар, або до канцелярії. Дякуємо! Також можна цією карточкою купувати бензину.

CHURCH BULL&TIN is published weekly. Deadline for information is Friday Evening.

ЦЄРК. ВІСНИК видається тижнево Інформації подавати до четверга вечора.

SAINT NICHOLAS

UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH УКРАЇНСЬКА КАТОЛИЦЬКА ЦЄРКВА СВЯТОГО МИКОЛАЯ (під опікою пречистої діви марії одігітрії)

Please call if you are hospitalized, homebound and need a priest. Просимо закликати якщо ви у лічниці або приковані до ліжка!

Коли плянуєте дату вашого вінчання чи хрещення то просимо поговорити з парохом, щоб потім не було непорозуміння. Може статися, що в цей день буде неможлуво відбути запляноване.

If you are planning a Baptism or Wedding, please contact Pastor about the date before making other arrangements.

V. Rev. Marijan Trough

Are you listening "Good Samaritan" **Ukrainian Radio Program** on W.J.JL 1440 AM Every Sunday at 2:00 PM?

Thanks for donations!

Чи слухаєте нашу радіо передачу «Милосердний Самар'янин» Неділя, 2 год. на WJJL 1440 AM? Дякуємо за пожертви!

DONATIONS TO 2011 Stamford Bishop's Appeal

Mary Hanuszczak - \$200.00 William & Irene Burda - \$100.00

> Vasiliv Deputat - \$100.00 Rose Serediuk - \$100.00

Nancy Weigand - \$100.00

Katervna Kocaj - \$60.00

Lubomyr & Sophia Holowatyj - \$50.00

Olena Czmola May - \$50.00

Anna Hanicki - \$25.00

Anastasia Wojchak - \$15.00

Total collected as of June 13, 2011 - \$7,840.00

We reached our Goal, but if you still wish to contribute, you cann do so, because there is always a need. Thank you!

Donations Towards Coffee Hour To benefit Communication Assess-

ment Fee **Eva Kowtalo Luba Joven**

DONATIONS TO ST. NICHOLAS "Special Appeal"

IMO Diana (Hawryluk) Burns Harry & Emily Swiatkiwsky - \$20.00

IMPORTANT!

PICNIC MAILING MEETING, TUESDAY, JULY 5, 2011 AT 4:00PM. ----- HELP IS NEEDED IN MAILING OUT THE RAFFLE BOOKS, PLEASE VOLUNTEER TO HELP.

SAVE THE DATE!!!!!

Annual Parish Summer Picnic Sunday, August 7, 2011 12:00PM - ? On the Church Grounds Volunteers needed to help!

ANNUAL PARISH PICNIC

On Sunday, August 7, 2011 our parish will be holding it Annual Picnic on the Church Grounds beginning at noon.

As always we are asking for your help and support in make this year's picnic a success.

Your help and support is needed in many wavs:

- We need Theme Baskets to donate contact Mary Beth Sukmann 824-1433 before July 24, 2011.
- Items for Kitchen Jar Table such as: paper towels, sugar, flour, kitchen gadgets etc. (Make sure items are new and please watch the Expiration dates)
- Help is needed during the week preceding the picnic preparing the food. Contact Anna Melnyk to volunteer your services.
- Baked Goods are also needed, to sell in the kitchen and the baked goods table. It would be nice if each family could donate some sort of baked good.

Please remember

We DO NOT need items for Attic Treasures. since we do not have this booth at the Picnic. If you have any ideas or can help in any way, Please contact Lesia Petriwsky at 826-7321.

REMEMBER: THIS PICNIC IS ONE OF **OUR MAJOR FUNDRAISING EVENTS** OF THE YEAR. PLEASE SUPPORT US!

End of the Kitchen Year Pork Chop Dinner Today, June 26, 2011 – After the Liturgy

Український Конгресовий Комітет Америки — Відділ Боффало запрошує Вас на Святкування УКРАЇНСЬКОГО ДНЯ В неділю 21-го Серпня, 2011 р. При Українському Домі "Дніпро" 562 Дженесі Вул. Боффало, Н.Й. Початок о 1 год. (Спільний молебень в наміренні Українського Народу о 1:45.) Програма Дня:

Проклямація Української Самостійности, Українська музика і танці, смачні страви, різні напитки, льотерія, гра і забави. За інформаціями просимо дзвонити на:

821-0711 – Василь Середюк

856-4476 – Укр. Дім "Дніпро"

674-4916 — Акація Бельмега

632-4212 – Др. Андрій Дякун

* * *

Th Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, Inc. – Buffalo Branch Invites everyone to attend Our Annual UKRAINIAN DAY
On Sunday, August 21, 2011.
Ukrainian Cultural Center "Dnipro"
562 Genessee St., Buffalo, NY
Beginning at 1 PM (Moleben at 1:45 P.M.)
Featuring Traditiona Ukrainian foods, pastries, beverages, music, crafts, lottery, raffles.
Free Admission – Ample Parking available.

For more Information contact:
Dr. A. Diakun: <u>632-4212</u>;
A. Belmega: <u>674-4916</u>;
W. Serediuk: <u>821-0711</u>;
Dnipro: <u>856-4476</u>

Thanks are extended to
Westermeier Martin Dental Care
for providing FREE DENTAL C A R E
To low or fixed income individuals
who would normally go without.



+Rt. Rev. Mykola Komar (22-6-1916 – 24-6-2011)

Funeral Services will be held at Sts. Cyril & Methodius Church in St. Catharines

> Parastas -Part I Monday at 7:00 p.m.

> Parastas - Part II Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.

Funeral Divine Liturgy with Bishop Stephen and concelebrating clergy Wednesday, June 29, 10:00 a.m.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of late Fr. Mykola. May his memory be eternal.

An Evening with Dr. "Bo" Dejneka (Thursday, July 21st)

We would like to invite all families to spend an evening with local Ukrainian pediatrician, Dr. Bohdan Dejneka, who will be present from 6 – 7:30 PM on Thursday, July 21st, in St. Nicholas Church Hall to meet with parents, grandparents, children, and expectant moms. Dr. 'Bo" is fluent in English and Ukrainian and able to answer any questions that parents or even expectant parents may have regarding healthcare issues, pediatric health concerns, and any other topics related to how we can raise healthy and happy children. Hope to see you there.

The 73 Annual Convention

of the League of Ukrainian Catholics will be held in Buffalo October 7, 8, 9, 2011 at the Airport Holiday Inn. We ask the support of our local Ukrainian community in this endeavor. We especially ask that our organizations not schedule any events that weekend. Thank you!

Ліга Українців Католиків повідомляє, що Конвенція Ліги відбудеться тут у нас в Жовтні. Просимо в цей час не влаштовувати своїх імпрез.

For those who want to order pictures from Solemn Holy Communion please go to

Taras Muzychko Potography web page: http://tarasphotofocus.com/galleries/firstcommunion/

or E-mail him at info@tarasphotofocus.com



St. Nicholas-Solemn Holly Communion

З радія "Милосердний Самарянин"

У сьогоднішному євангельскому читанні чули ми як Христос вибирає перших своїх учнів. Побачив Він насамперед двох братів, Андрея і Симона, що якраз закидали мережі в озеро, бувши рибалками, і закликав їх словами: "Ідіть за мною і я зроблю вас рибалками людей." Змістя покинули вони свої мережі і пішли вслід за Христом.

На іншому місці у євангелії читаємо, що ці два брати ловили рибу цілу ніч і нічого не зловили, а Христос ранком каже їм, щоб ще раз закинули свої мережі, і вони наловили так багато риб, що мережі рвалися. Петро побачувши це наявне чудо припав до ніг Ісусових і сказав йому: "Відійди від мене, бо я грішна людина." Христос не тільки що не відійшов від нього, але закликав його іти за ним. І то в час коли здавалося все добре іде, бо ж ловитва виявилася успішною.

Поклик Христовий не одержуємо тоді коли нема іншого виходу, але тоді коли маємо можливість вибору, бо

іти за Христом має бути добровільно, маємо цього бажати, і старатися ніколи від Господа не віддалюватися, не звертаючи увагу що одержамо, або що стратимо, не дивлячися чого нам треба відректися...

Часами, коли трудніщі прийдуть, було б вигідно залишити усе і піти далеко, шукати за спокоєм де інде. Але спокою не може бути якщо ми не сповни-

мо свої обов'язки супроти своєї родини, супроти тих, які на нас покладають надію.

Буває так, що ми ціле життя трудимося, щоб знайти своє щастя. Нераз починаємо сумніватися, а чи ми є доволі сильними, щоб перебороти усі труднощі, які виринають на нашому життєвому шляху. Часто опиняємося в положению з якого здається немає виходу. Чи ми зможемо нести ті хрести шо їх покладено на нас. А ми їх мусимо нести і донести до кінця. Несім свої хрести достойно, а по дорозі до єдности з Христом допоможім іншим нести їхні хрести, щоб ми разом прославляли Господа тут на землі і перебували разом у Царстві Божім, де не має болісті ні печалі ні зітхання. але життя безконечне.

Христос нам по дорозі допоможе. Він кожного і кожну з нас, так як тих апостолів, кличе: "Іди за мною". Ідучи за Христом ми осягнемо це чого наше серце бажає. Робім так як він робив. Своїми ділами проповідуймо розпятого і воскреслого Хреста. Хай інші у нашій любові до них побачать любов Христову до нас усіх.

Ми також є апостолами на тому місці де нас Господь покликав і доручив завдання виконати. Апостоли виконали Господні доручення і дали нам добрий приклад як і ми можемо сповнити свої. Ми не можемо сто процентово наслідувати кого небудь зі святих. Кожний і кожна з нас своєю дорогою має іти за Христом, а всемилостивий Господь дасть нам вистарчально сили на цій дорозі.

From the desk of Fr. Ray Palko

GLORY TO JESUS CHRIST! GLORY FOREVER! J

June 26, 2011

Dear ______,

(Your name here, for your very own personal letter)

Good Morning to you! Right off the hat

Good Morning to you! Right off the bat let me get some very unpleasant and disturbing news out of the way – "Father John Corapi." Thousands and thousands of good people have felt devastated, abandoned, betrayed, and yes, I suppose, more than a few even have had their faith shaken at the almost unbelievable news that he has left the priesthood. It's been a real nightmare for believers! His departure came last Sunday, the 20th anniversary of his priesthood, as a result of his being charged with "actions not befitting a priest." Translate that to: sex and drugs.

As of now no one knows if he is guilty or innocent and, in a way, that's even beside the point. What needs to happen now is that each and every one of us once again must confirm our own faith in our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ and, as we say in our Liturgy, "commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God." And in the words of our Savior to Peter when Peter asked Him, "What about him? (referring to St. John) John 21:21 The Lord answered by saying, "....what does it matter to you? You are to follow Me." John 21:23 Basically, Jesus was telling Peter that he should mind his own business. In other words: "Peter, you have heard my message, you have said you love Me three times, vou have said vou will follow Me. Now just do it. Don't worry about anybody else."

We do not know for sure what is going on right now, but it is a story that will defi-

nitely be continued. As for now, all of us need to remain faithful and prayerful (for ourselves, for each other, for Fr. John, for the Church, and for all those involved) and take to heart and listen to the words of our Savior, so often repeated by Pope John Paul II, "Be not afraid! Be of good courage!" Let us be faithful and continue on...

we have said we love HIM, we will follow HIM, now let us just do it! Things are so often confusing and mixed up but we know only HE is "the Way, the Truth and the Life." HE has the words of eternal life. "It doesn't matter what the crowd believes about the Lord. What matters is: Do you believe what God says in His word?" (anonymous)



OK, and life goes on...sure is a battle sometimes though. What's that about "persevering to the end?" Right now it is early Thursday morning on this first full day of summer. I'm sitting with "ol' Mr. Mac," enjoying that first cup of coffee and the early morning sights and sounds of a glorious day. A pleasant breeze is making the curtains dance to the music of the wind chimes in the tree outside my door. We no longer have any kids in grade school or teachers in our house so I'm not sure exactly when is, or was, the last day of school. From the sounds late last night and even this morning I would say it's VACATION! I can hear those wonderful "happy voices" in several of the yards around us.

I like to mention our visitors to "Holy Protection" whenever we have them. Yesterday we had Liturgy at noon, and just as I was finishing and closing the Royal Doors, there was a loud call from the back of the church that we had a visitor. "There's a bird in the church!"

It was a bit warm so we had the main door open and the little chickadee flew in. He must've been Roman Catholic because he didn't want to stay long and was trying to get back out. © © Fortunately, he stayed in the vestibule, and after a few attempts, and a few tricks by those who were at the Liturgy, Father in all his vestments, was able to pick up the poor, scared little thing and release him out to the 'wilds' of the Niagara streets. He was so happy that he had attended our Liturgy when I went outside afterwards he was on the roof and actually followed me to the back of the Church singing his little song as I locked gates, etc. I translated his chirping to mean, "Thanks for your help! Nice Mass, Fodder!" And then he flew away! St. Francis pray unto God for us! © ©

I'm sure your calendar is jam-packed with all kinds of things for these summer days and weekends. I know ours is. Weddings, anniversaries, birthdays, parades, picnics, etc., etc., are all on the agenda. How about breakfast on the patio? Or 'just sittin' on the back porch! And don't forget that vacation when we are supposed "to rest and "re-create ourselves." As a matter of fact we all have those weekends when there are just too many things going on and we have to decide which event is most important.

I hope you can enjoy some of these happy times with family and friends. In all our comings and goings we praise the Lord for

His many gifts and blessings to us, especially the gift of Life. In all our days, let us walk with Him, giving thanks as we sing: "This is the Day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it!. Have a safe and happy summer, wherever you go and whatever you do!

God willing and the creek don't rise (and there have sure been a lot of rising creeks these days) I'll write again next week. May God bless you and cause His face to shine upon you! May our Holy Lady protect you!

In His Love

Father Ray

To All Visitors, Friends **And Parishioners:**

Welcome to our Ukrainian Catholic parish of Saint Nicholas. Make yourself at home.

Every married couple or single person over 18 years old should be registered with the parish. Your donations to support our parish indicate your willingness to be a member of St. Nicholas Parish. In other words, to be considered a member of this parish attendance and support is strongly recommended. We use the system of envelops. In the case you decide not to use envelopes, you can choose other method of supporting the parish, but your support is appreciated and much needed. May good Lord bless you all!

Вітаємо до нашої і Вашої Церкви Св. Отця Нашого Миколая. Двері завжди відкриті. Господній дім є нашим домом. Хай Господь благословить усіх!

Подружжя і самітні особи понад 18 років можуть зарегіструватися. Якщо ви не бажаєте вживати систему коверт, будь ласка дайти нам ваші адреси і телефони, щоб могти з вами сконтактуватися по потребі.

From "Good Samaritan" Ukr. Radio pr.

One day St. Francis was giving out money which he had collected for the poor, to those in the community who were suffering from famine, poverty, and disease. A wealthy man who had done some building work in a Church for St. Francis saw this and was envious. He went up to St. Francis asking for money on the basis that he had been underpaid for his work. St. Francis simply filled the builder's hands full to overflowing with coins and told him to come back if the money was insufficient. The builder left and did not return for some time. He had wanted this money more than anything; he had even planned on how he would use this money for his own benefit. But before the builder could even spend a single coin, a tremendous feeling came over him, and he knew right away what he must do. When the builder returned to St. Francis, he had sold all he owned, he gave the money to St. Francis to give away to the poor, and he joined the religious order. Sometimes giving can seem like giving in, like loosing. even like madness, but only God can give us the wisdom and power for this sort of giving. We will always be amazed by the wondrous things that can happen when we place our trust in the hands of the Lord.

Christ's power to give came from His intimacy with God and it is this same intimacy that we Christians are offered through the Holy Spirit. With the Holy Spirit dwelling inside of us, we can grow an inner knowledge that God's ways are not only right - but good. Then, knowing by experience the goodness of His righteousness, we find we can agree with the will of God much more easily. There is no order to obey but a divine 'yes' to follow, and it fills us with Christ's innate ability to give. We too can want to give, see the goodness and righteousness in giving, and be empowered to give, if we ask Jesus to transform our hearts and minds for the better. When Nelson Mandela was a political prisoner in South African jails for twenty some vears, he discovered even there he had something he could give to others: dignity and respect. The privileges he fought hardest for were things which would give the prisoner's in general, some small amount of dignity and respect. And as a result he became their spokesman. And even when he was taunted, abused and beaten by his captors, he tried with all his might to treat even the abusers with dignity and respect, and encouraged others to do the same. This spirit gave both prisoners and guards hope, and significantly reduced the violence that occurred. It also marked Mandela as a man who could be respected and trusted, a man with whom the government could negotiate the hand over of political power with safety. And what an incredible change it made for the people of South Africa...

The worst thing in life is not failing, but rather succeeding in a worldly pursuit that leaves no room for God in our lives. There have been times in the life of every Christian when we recognize that the greatest thing we can do with our life is to bring someone else closer to Christ. The call of the first disciples was to make them "fishers of men's souls" - a discipleship that would bring people closer to Christ and ultimately closer to God the Father. We all know people that we have wanted to give up on in life, because we forget to consider the following: Jesus wants us to be someone whose heart is moved to reach out to all the people around us and bring them closer to the Lord. But in order to accomplish this goal in life, are we willing to lay aside our personal ambitions and plans in order to fully follow Christ? We witnessed in today's Gospel, that the first disciples did just this. They left everything behind them, every worldly pursuit that had, and followed Christ. God is always calling, always summoning us into being - our Lord is never inactive, never uninvolved. I believe our Lord is always calling out to each of us, saying: 'Come and follow Me'. In the same way St. Paul once wrote, "Let us cease in fighting one another, so we may learn to forgive and love one another". It is the personal duty of every Christian to demonstrate this kind of love to everyone...