



# FULLY ALIVE

A Bishop Velychkovsky Martyr's Shrine Publication

## ETERNITY

### LENTEN REFLECTION

The Great Lent is a time to reflect upon the great truths of our faith. The following is an excerpt from one of Blessed Vasyl's sermons to a group of underground priests in Ukraine given in 1965.

"Eternity – this is a truth of our faith, to which are closely tied the four last things: death, judgment, heaven and hell. Only in the context of eternity do these truths of faith have a unconquerable power to move the soul to make all types of sacrifice. God desires to make you holy. Let us look deeper into this saving truth and see what eternity is, and what type of eternity awaits us.

Eternity exists. It would be good to contemplate this often within the context of living faith. This truth brings great consolation to the just, but brings great fear to the sinner. Our passions would like to downplay this truth, even deny it, but that is impossible. For what is the use of closing one's eyes before the rays of the sun and say that it does not exist. The sun's rays are not lessened by this denial. Likewise by not wanting to think about eternity, you do not diminish in any way the truth of its existence. Our soul is eternal. God's revelation tells us and convinces us that when the body resurrects and is united with its soul, from that moment we become eternal.

As we say during the Symbol of Faith: *I believe in eternal life, I believe and await the resurrection of the dead and in life without end, Amen.* I believe Lord in your Word which you give me through your Church, that when this temporal time, where all things pass, is complete, I will enter eternity where all is permanent. The heavens and the earth which you have created all will be destroyed, they will disappear, but you O God will remain. And I will also. I will be with you in your radiance. Your days will never pass, neither will mine for I will be with you. You remain forever. And with you, I will be forever according to your will."



### GRACES AND BLESSINGS

*I am writing to inform you of a "little miracle" that I experienced on Saturday, August 19, 2006, through the intercession of Blessed Martyr Vasyl Velychkovsky.*

*On Friday, August 18, 2006, I was in the laundry room of my apartment and a heavy metal stepladder tipped over and fell on my foot. At first, I thought that I broke a bone or two, but after I was able to move all my toes and still walk, I felt reasonably sure that nothing was broken.*

*The next day my foot was in a great deal of pain, there was more swelling and it hurt to move my toes. I immediately called my doctor's office only to find out that the office was closed until Monday.*

*Then, by the grace of God, I was inspired to appeal to Blessed Martyr Vasyl Velychkovsky. I applied his relic to my injured foot and said the customary prayer. Within an hour I noticed a significant change in*

*my injury. I was able to walk without any pain, I could move my toes without any pain, and the swelling and redness disappeared!*

*At once I thanked Almighty God and Blessed Vasyl. I attribute this "little miracle" to Blessed Vasyl's great love for God and for God's people.*

*Sincerely in Christ,  
Celeste Korecky Chalfont, PA*

Please notify the Shrine of any grace received through the intercession of Blessed Vasyl. This greatly helps the cause of his canonization.

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## A TRIBUTE

The Bishop Velychkovsky Martyr's Shrine lost one of its most devoted volunteers, Paul Hrankowski, who passed away suddenly on November 16, 2006 at the age of 60 years. Paul became a Shrine Volunteer as soon as the museum and chapel opened to the public. This calling came when he and his brother Myron heard about the beatification of Blessed Vasyl. He shared with me that it was curiosity that led him to come to St. Joseph's Ukrainian Catholic Church and participate in the celebrations of the transfer of the holy relics. His parents were once members of St. Joseph's Church and after they died, Paul and his brother rarely went to church. Having participated in the weekend events of the enshrinement and transfer of relics, Paul realized how much he had missed. Paul was overwhelmed that weekend and found himself drawn to Blessed Vasyl. He wanted to learn everything he could about this Blessed Martyr. He and Myron began attending church regularly. Paul anxiously awaited his turn to volunteer at the Shrine. His faith grew and so did his hours spent volunteering. Whenever I needed to replace a volunteer Paul eagerly took that spot and even asked for more hours so he could spend time in prayer with Blessed Vasyl. He welcomed pilgrims to the Shrine with enthusiasm and with love. He shared the life of Blessed Vasyl with the pilgrims who came to visit. His warmth drew pilgrims to him. Not only did he urge them to continue to visit the Shrine but also encouraged pilgrims to come and worship on Sundays here at St. Joseph's. Some have become parishioners as a result.

A blessing that Paul shared with me, happened when he and his brother Myron first started volunteering. Paul had prayed to Blessed Vasyl for a healing for Myron, who is intellectually and physically challenged as a result of a stroke he suffered during surgery. This left Myron basically unable to speak-although he tried, only sounds and not words were uttered. Through the intercession of Blessed Vasyl, Paul's

prayers were answered. Myron began to speak not only words but in sentences. So much so that Paul would say "Myron, you talk too much".

Paul's faith in God continued to grow. He became very active in the parish. He sat on the parish council, read the epistle daily at the Divine Liturgies, assisted in perogy making every month, and always lend a helping hand wherever needed. Whether it was trimming the shrubs on the church grounds or shampooing the church carpet, he was there to do it. The church was his home and his life. He often reminded us that it was Blessed Vasyl who brought him back to his Ukrainian Catholic Church and gave him strength to be the caregiver to his brother. He became a close friend to us all, sharing his life's experiences and his dreams. The Shrine volunteers miss him dearly. He has left a void in the Shrine that will be difficult to fill. But he lives on spiritually in each one of our hearts. I am sure that Paul is watching over us and reminding his fellow shrine volunteers how blessed we are to have the holy relics of Blessed Martyr Vasyl Velychkovsky, a gift from God.



VICHNAYA PAMYAT ETERNAL MEMORY

By Mary Jane Kalenchuk, Shrine Administrator

## THANK YOU!!!

*Your generous donations make it possible for us to conduct our ministry at the Shrine and to promote the knowledge of Blessed Vasyl throughout the world. Thank you to all the contributors to the Bishop Velychkovsky Martyr's Shrine. May Blessed Vasyl bless each one of you.*

*Contributions listed below are from November 16th 2006 until February 28th, 2007*

### 1000+

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In memory of Paul Hrankowski  
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*Lyna and Gregory Yakimischak*

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For the health of Ostafichuk and Fedor-  
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David and Ewhenia Gnutel  
Mary Goshulak  
Dan and Bella Kalenchuk  
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*Michael and Ollie Komarnicki*  
In memory of Stella Hrynyszyn  
*Augustus and Catherine Korchinsky*  
In memory of Lidia Kotowycz  
*Wsevolod Andrew Shpytkovsky*  
In memory of husband Stefan Kotyk  
*Edith Kotyk*  
Fr. Andrew Krafchik, C.Ss.R.

In memory of Steve and Katie Kyba  
*Sr. Nestor Kyba*  
Beverly Kyle and David Sokolowski  
For the health of the Saturday Morning  
Breakfast Club  
*Frank and Cynthia Lischynski*  
Dr. Joe S. and Janice Mezibroski  
Gerard and Regina Muench  
Adrian and Vera Olenick  
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*Kathleen Warrenchuk*

**<100**

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For the health of Mary Kohuch

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*Peter and Glikeria Iwanuck*  
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Walter Lukey  
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For the health of son Perry  
*Ed and Nettie Nakonechny*  
In memory of Elko Nakonechny  
*Olga Nakonechny*  
In memory of parents Kocaj and Nosyk  
*Yuri Nosyk*  
Albert and Margaret Otchenash  
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*George and Olga Palmer*  
Jadwiga Paprocka  
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Fr. Joel Rama  
Michael and Verna Rawlyk  
In memory of Michael Roshko  
*Jean Roshko*  
For the health of Migel and Maria  
*Manuela Rubio*  
Helen Schentag  
Ernest and Jean Shewchuk  
D. Sikora  
Mary Sinclair  
Dr. Zenon Sosmowski  
Henry and Iris Spilchuk  
Sts. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic  
Church  
Jenny Swydneycky  
Danny and Gloria Szun  
Deacon Jude von Mann  
John and Bernice Voworoznyk  
A. Winkler  
Marcel and Nellie Wozny  
William and Kathleen Zambrick  
William and Mary Zaporzan

**Correction from the December 2006  
newsletter:**

In memory of Walter and Pearl Huchko  
and John and Anna Rogaski  
*Adam and Jennie Huchko*

## SHRINE PILGRIMS



Sts. Peter & Paul Catechism students, teachers and parents visit the Blessed Vasyi Shrine



A seniors' group from Holy Ghost Roman Catholic Church were given a pilgrimage tour in Polish by Fr. Ihor Kolisnyk, C.Ss.R.

### Shrine Volunteers are still needed

If you can spare 2 hours a week taking pilgrims on a spiritual journey through the museum and in pray with them in the Shrine, please contact the Shrine office at 338-7321. A beautiful way to share with others in promoting the Martyr's Shrine! What a blessing it is to be in the presence of the Holy Relics of Blessed Martyr Bishop Vasyi Velychkovsky!

### Call in Prayer Requests

For a special intention or prayer request you may phone or email us. Your prayer request will be placed in the Shrine and remembered in prayer every Wednesday evening after the service in honour of Blessed Vasyi.

### SHRINE SCHEDULE

**Monday:** Shrine is closed  
**Tuesday to Friday:** 10 am to 5 pm  
**Saturday:** 10:00 am to 1:00 pm  
**Sunday:** opened until 1:00 pm

Shrine is open to the faithful during the times of Liturgical Services. The Museum is opened on weekends after each Divine Liturgy.

Group tours are available.  
For pilgrimage group tours call for reservations  
**204-338-7321** or e-mail: [bvshrine@mts.net](mailto:bvshrine@mts.net)

**EVERY WEDNESDAY EVENING 7:00 pm**  
**Liturgical Service to Blessed Vasyi**  
**(Acatlist or Moleben) followed by an anointing with Holy Oil blessed by his relics.**

### Prayer to Blessed Martyr Bishop Vasyi

*O Lord God, You are praised by the whole world for the marvelous works in your saints. I thank you for the grace you gave to **Blessed Martyr Vasyi Velychkovsky** to be a faithful witness to You unto the point of death. Through his intercession I ask for the following favour \_\_\_\_\_ for your Name is glorified forever. Amen.*

Please inform the Shrine of any favors received:  
Fr. Provincial  
250 Jefferson Avenue  
Winnipeg, MB R2V 0M6  
Canada

**Bishop Velychkovsky Martyr's Shrine**  
250 Jefferson Avenue Winnipeg, Manitoba Canada R2V 0M6  
Tel: 204-338-7321 Fax: 204-339-1062 Email: [bvshrine@mts.net](mailto:bvshrine@mts.net) Website: [www.bvmartyrshrine.com](http://www.bvmartyrshrine.com)