

УКРАЇНСЬКА ПРАВОСЛАВНА ЦЕРКВА В КАНАДІ UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF CANADA L'ÉGLISE ORTHODOXE UKRAINIENNE DU CANADA

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TO THE CHILDREN, BOYS AND GIRLS OF THE UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF CANADA DURING THE TIME OF THE CORONOVIRUS PANDEMIC #4

"People were bringing little children to Jesus for him to place his hands on them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." And he took the children in his arms, placed his hands on them and blessed them." (Mark 10:13-16)

Glory to Jesus Christ!

Dear Children, Beloved Boys and Girls,

I have been meaning to talk to you during the last few weeks, but I needed to talk to the adults about a few things first.

As you know from talking to your parents, from television and the internet, that there is a sickness going around the world, that is making many people sick, and some of them are even dying. The doctors say, that the sickness is passed from person to person or from a surface to person by a little thing, that we can't see, called a virus. That is why the doctors say, that we must wash our hands often, try not to touch our face, and stay away from people who do not live in our house. This is why you are not going to school and you have more time to be with your parents, to play and even to do some learning. Unfortunately, you can't be with your friends and other family members, like your grandparents, if they don't live in your house. Especially at this time you must listen to your parents.

First, I want to say, that I, your parents, your grandparents, other family members, your priest and teachers all love you and care about your health and safety. And our Lord, Jesus Christ loves you the most.

This is why I am writing to you. I need your help, because, right now you may be the most important part of our Church. Jesus listens to the prayers of adults, but let's face it, He likes you more. He once even said, that if anyone should harm you, a mill-stone (Google it. Your parents probably have to look it up too) should be hanged about their neck and they should be drowned in the depth of the sea. That's how much He loves you!

I want you, together with all the other children in our Church, to raise your voice in prayer at least once a day so, that they hear you in Heaven. Your parents will help you say this prayer:

"In the Name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen!" (3 times)

Jesus, Son of God, have mercy on us. We love You and we believe, that You love us. We know, that You love Your Father and the Holy Spirit, you Mother, Mary, your friends, the Holy Apostles, the Holy Myrrh-Bearers and many others. WE also love many people. Protect us, our mama and tato, our babuni and didusi, our whole family, our Church, our country, our nation and the whole world from the virus, that is making people, that we love, sick. Hear us Lord, and have mercy on us.

Amen.

"In the Name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen!" (3 times)

I am sure, that Jesus will hear your prayer. Thank-you for your help and your readiness to help me and the Church, that you love. May the Lord bless you and keep you for many, many blessed years!

With love in Christ,

+YURIJ, Metropolitan

+ Yury, Metropoliton

Winnipeg, Canada

March 30, 2020

*To be read by children or by their parents to them.