

Predica la Hramul Parohiei – 20 August 2017

Iubitii mei frati si surori in Domnul, bine ati venit!

**My dear and beloved brothers and sisters in the Lord, welcome!**

Dupa traditia Noii Zeelande de a intampina si a vorbi mai intai in limba Maori, pentru a prezenta limba si cultura Maori, in cele ce urmeaza vom adresa cuvantul nostru mai intai in limba Romana, dorind a prezenta limba si cultura noastra, o cultura veche de peste 7300 de ani, urmand ca apoi sa vorbim in limba Engleza pentru oaspetii nostri.

**According to New Zealand's tradition to greet and to talk first in Maori, to present the Maori language and culture, in the following we will address our sermon first in Romanian, wishing to present our language and culture, an over 7300 years old culture, afterwards talking in English for our valued guests.**

Cu ajutorul lui Dumnezeu ne aflam in Duminica a 11-a dupa Rusalii, zi in care sarbatorim Hramul Parohiei noastre, in lumina pildei datornicului nemilosiv. In Evanghelia de astazi se zice:

**With God's help, we are in the 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday after the Pentecost, day in which we celebrate our Parish Patron Saint, in the light of the unmerciful debtor's parable. In today's Gospel is said:**

Zis-a Domnul: ascultați pilda aceasta: asemenea este împărăția cerurilor cu un împărat care a hotărât să facă socoteala cu slujitorii săi. Și, începând să facă socoteala, au adus la el pe un datornic cu zece mii de talanți. Dar neavând el cu ce să plătească, domnul său a poruncit să-l vândă pe el și pe femeia lui, pe copii și toate câte avea, ca să se plătească datoria. Atunci acel slujitor, îndrăznind, a ingenunchiat și se închina lui, zicând: doamne, mai îngăduiește-mă și-ți voi plăti ție tot. Iar domnul slujitorului aceuia, milostivindu-se de el, i-a dat drumul și i-a iertat și datoria. Dar, când a ieșit de acolo, slujitorul acela a găsit pe unul dintre impreuna slujitori, care îi era dator o sută de dinari, și, punând mâna pe el, îl strângea de gât și-i zicea: plătește-mi ce-mi ești dator. Atunci slujitorul acela, căzând în genunchi la picioarele lui, îl ruga, zicând: mai îngăduiește-mă și-ți voi plăti tot. El însă n-a vrut, ci, ducându-l, l-a băgat în temniță până când va plăti datoria. Atunci ceilalti slujitori, văzând cele ce s-au petrecut, s-au întristat foarte și, venind, au spus domnului lor toate cele întâmplate. Atunci, chemându-l, domnul său i-a zis: slujitor viclean, toată datoria aceea ți-am iertat-o, pentru că m-ai rugat; oare, nu se cădea să ai milă de cel impreuna slujitor cu tine, precum și eu am avut milă de tine? Și, mâniindu-se, domnul său l-a dat pe mâna chinuitorilor, până ce va plăti toată datoria. Tot

așa va face și Tatăl Meu cel ceresc cu voi, dacă fiecare din voi nu va ierta fratelui său, din inimă, greșelile lui. (Matei 18. 23 – 35)

**The Lord said: listen to this parable: the kingdom of heaven is like a king, who went over his accounts with his servants. And at the start, one came to him who was in his debt for ten thousand talents. And because he was not able to make payment, his lord gave orders for him, and his wife, and his sons and daughters, and all he had, to be given for money, and payment to be made. So the servant fell down on his face and gave him worship, saying: Lord, give me time to make payment and I will give you all. And the lord of that servant, being moved with pity, let him go, and made him free of the debt. But that servant went out, and meeting one of the other servants, who was in debt to him for one hundred pence, he took him by the throat, saying: Make payment of your debt. So that servant fell down on his face, asking him and saying: Give me time and I will make payment to you. And he would not; but went and put him into prison till he had made payment of the debt. So when the other servants saw what was done they were very sad, and came and told to their lord of what had been done. Then his lord sent for him and said: You evil servant; I made you free of all that debt, because you asked me. Was it not right for you to have mercy on the other servant, even as I had mercy on you? And his lord was very angry, and put him in the hands of those who would give him punishment till he made payment of all the debt. Likewise shall my Father in heaven do to you, if you do not everyone, from your hearts, give forgiveness to his brother. (Matthew 18. 23 – 35)**

Putem intelege cu usurinta ca cei doi slujitori ne reprezinta pe noi toti oamenii, care suntem datori inaintea lui Dumnezeu, unii mai mult, altii mai putin. Este trist inasa atunci cand cei care datoreaza mai mult lui Dumnezeu si primesc de la El iertare, nu arata mai departe iertare pentru fratii lor, care le vor fi gresit, poate, cu ceva.

**We can easily understand that the two servants represent all of us, which are in debt to God, some of us more, some of us less. It is sad though when those who are in bigger debt to God and achieve forgiveness from Him, do not show likewise forgiveness to their brothers, who might have done something wrong to them.**

Trebuie sa luam aminte la noi insine ce fel de dragoste si buna vointa aratam fratilor nostri. Daca noi am primit daruri multe si alese de la Dumnezeu, dar inca nu am aratat recunostinta necesara, nu trebuie sa uitam ca Dumnezeu este ingaduitor cu noi si ca asteapta ca intr-o zi sa-I returnam darurile dublat. Si daca se intampla ca vreunul din fratii nostri sa ne ramana dator pentru vreo binefacere pe care i-am daruit-o, sa nu ne

asemanam datornicului nemilostiv, ci sa ne facem asemenea lui Dumnezeu, aratand celorlalti rabdare, intelegere, buna vointa si dragoste crestineasca.

**We have to be take care about ourselves of what kind of love and good will we show to our brothers. If we have received many and chosen gifts from the Lord, but we did not show the due gratitude, we should not forget that God is understanding with us and is waiting that one day we return His gifts doubled. And if it will happen that one of our brothers may get into a debt to us for any kind of good deed we offered to him sometime, let us not become alike to the unmerciful debtor, but become alike God, showing patience, understanding, good will and Christian love to the others.**

Cineva ar putea spune ca pentru cei bogati e mai usor sa arate buna vointa fata de fratii lor mai saraci. Altii ar putea spune ca cei saraci pot arata mai usor buna vointa catre cei bogati in cele pamantesti, dar saraci duhovniceste. Pentru a arata ca realitatea nu este chiar asa, va voi spune o mica povestioara.

**Someone might say that it's easier for the rich people to show good will towards their poor brothers. Others could say that the poor people could easier show good will to those who are materially rich, but spiritually poor. To demonstrate that the reality is not quite so, I will tell you a little story.**

Era odata intr-un orasel un baietel sarac de vreo 9 ani, care nu avea cu ce sa se incalte, decat numai o pereche de papuci vechi si rupti. Si-ar fi dorit sa aiba si el o pereche de pantofi mai buni, ca sa nu se mai raneasca la picioare pe strazile orasului.

**Once upon a time, in a small town, there was a little poor boy, around 9 years old, who had no foot wear, but a pair of old and broken slippers. He would desire to have some better shoes to put on, that he might hurt no more his feet on the town's streets.**

Intr-o zi a vazut un baietel bogat de aceeasi varsta ca si el, care purta pantofi noi de piele si se oprise la un lustragiu pentru a-si lustrui pantofii. Baietelul cel sarac il privea cu luare aminte. Dupa ce a terminat de lustruit pantofii, baietelul cel bogat a plecat spre gara, impreuna cu tatal lui. Numai ca in graba lui spre tren, acest baiat a pierdut un pantof din picior. Vazand aceasta, baietelul cel sarac a alergat si a luat pantoful, fugind apoi in urma calatorilor si strigand dupa ei pentru a le inapoia pantoful. Copilul cel bogat si tatal lui s-au urcat in graba in trenul care tocmai pleca din gara. Copilul cel sarac a alergat in urma trenului, dar vazand ca nu mai poate ajunge, a aruncat pantoful spre baiatul bogat.

Si pantoful a cazut pe ... peron. Vazand tot efortul baiatului sarac, baiatul cel bogat si-a scos celalt pantof din picior si l-a aruncat catre sarac.

**One day he saw a little rich boy, of about his own age, who was wearing a pair of new leather shoes and had stopped at a shoe-shine boy to have his shoes polished. The poor boy was looking at him attentively. After finishing the shoe polishing, the rich boy went off to the rail station, together with his father. Only that in his rush to the train, this boy lost a shoe. Seeing what happened, the poor boy went quickly and took the shoe, running afterwards behind the travelers and shouting at them to take back the shoe. The rich boy and his father in a hurry climbed up the train, which was just departing from the station. The poor boy ran and ran behind the train, but seeing he cannot reach any more, he threw the shoe towards the rich boy. And the shoe fell ... on the platform. Seeing all the effort of the poor boy, the rich boy took off his other shoe and threw it to the other boy.**

Asa s-a indeplinit dorinta baiatului sarac de a avea o pereche de pantofi mai buni. Amandoi acesti baieti au dat dovada de foarte multa buna vointa, intelegere si compasiune, in ciuda starii materiale in care se aflau.

**This way came true the desire of the poor boy to have a better pair of shoes. Both these boys have proven a lot of good will, understanding and compassion, despite their material situation.**

Pentru ca vrem sa fim recunoscatori lui Dumnezeu pentru binecuvantarile Sale revarsate peste noi cu prisosinta si tuturor oamenilor (crestini, enoriasi, ctitori, binefacatori si calatori de departe veniti astazi in Wellington pentru sarbatoare) pentru tot sprijinul, ne-am adunat aici astazi pentru a sarbatori Hramul Parohiei noastre. Pentru preotul paroh aceasta este a cincea sarbatorire a Hramului, iar pentru Parohie este a 43-a.

**Because we wish to be grateful to God for His blessings poured upon us abundantly and to every people (Christian believers, members, founders, benefactors and travelers from far away who came today in Wellington for the celebration) for all their support, we gathered here today to celebrate our Parish Patron Saint. For the Parish Priest this is the 5<sup>th</sup> celebration and for the Parish this is the 43<sup>rd</sup>.**

Romanii veniti in Noua Zeelanda intre anii 1951 – 1952 pentru a scapa de sub regimul comunist si-au gasit aici a doua casa, aducand cu ei credinta si cultura lor. Iar pentru a-si alina dorul de tara natala, au fondat aceasta Parohie, prima Parohie ortodoxa romaneasca in Noua Zeelanda, reusind prin eforturi sustinute sa cumpere cladirea si sa

amenajeze Biserica. Urmand exemplul inaintasilor, noi cei de astazi, facem eforturi dupa puterea noastra pentru a intretine si a pastra aceasta Biserica, sperand ca intr-o zi vom vedea implinirea viselor si a eforturilor noastre si ale inaintasilor.

**The Romanians who came to New Zealand between 1951 – 1952 to escape from under the communist regime found here their second home, bringing with them their own faith and culture. To comfort their hearts for missing their home country, they founded this Parish, the first Romanian Orthodox Parish in New Zealand, managing with sustained efforts to buy the building and to transform it into a Church. Following their example, we also make efforts according to our possibilities to maintain and to keep this Church, hoping that one day we will see the accomplishment of our and our ancestors' dreams and efforts.**

Dumnezeu sa va binecuvanteze cu sanatate si cu darurile Sale cele bogate si sa va rasplateasca buna vointa, intelegerea si dragostea ce le aratati pentru comunitatea noastra si pentru Biserica Sa!

**May God bless you all with good health and His abundant gifts and reward your good will, understanding and love, which you show towards our community and His Church!**