

## Fr. Orłowski's Ordination

By David Reid



**Most Reverend Adam Exner, OMI Archbishop Emeritus of Vancouver**

There is no question that history was made in Vancouver on 28<sup>th</sup> November, 2004 when His Grace Abp. Adam Exner ordained Fr. Orłowski as a Priest according to the order of Melchisedech.

Not only was this the Archbishop's first Pontifical High Mass in the Tridentine Rite but it is also the first time in about 40 years that the Cathedral has seen such an ordination.



### **Choir Loft**

The setting was perfect as the ordination was performed in our Cathedral which is also a Marian shrine. The Church was opened on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, December 8, 1900. In 1916, the “Church of Our Lady of the Holy Rosary” was declared a Cathedral.

The Cathedral, was built in 490 days, is Gothic in style with the pointed arch, vaulted ceiling, clerestory windows, buttresses, and large stained glass windows.

Holy Rosary Cathedral is built of sandstone from Gabriola Island on foundations of local granite.

**Joseph Orłowski Soon to be Fr. Orłowski**





## **The Priestly Office**

In order to appreciate what we witnessed on Saturday it is necessary to understand what happened in the Cathedral and what Fr. Orłowski became.

According to the teaching of Revelation, not only did Christ bring to mankind new knowledge of God and of His demands, but He also removed the abyss between God and mankind which had been made by sin. Christ effected this reconciliation of fallen mankind with God through His Priestly office.

The Council of Ephesus (431) teaches with St. Cyril of Alexandria, that the Word Himself stemming from God became our High Priest, when He became man and flesh like us.

In the Old Covenant Christ's priesthood is foretold in Ps. 109,4: "The Lord hath sworn and He will not repent: Thou art a Priest forever according to the Order of Melchisedech."

Christ's Priesthood begins with the Hypostatic Union. The proper task of the Priest consists in being a mediator between God and men. The ontological middle position which is a presupposition for the exercise of the mediating activity, belongs to Christ by reason of the Hypostatic Union.

Christ's Priesthood is of eternal duration, as the sacerdotal dignity of Christ founded in the Hypostatic Union remains for ever.



**The Moment Has Arrived**

## **The matter of the Sacrament**

Oremus, fraters carissimi, Deum Patrem omnipotentem, ut super hos famulos suos, quos ad Presbyterii munus elegit, caelestia dona multiplicet; et quod ejus diagnatione suscipiunt, ipsius consequantur auxilio. Per Christum Dominum nostrum. Amen. {Dearly beloved brethren, let us implore God the Father almighty to increase His heavenly gifts in this His servant whom He has chosen for the office of the Priesthood, that by His help he may attain to what he now undertakes through His gracious call. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.}

Turning to the Ordinand, the Bishop continues:

Exaudi nos, quaesumus, Domine Deus noster, et super hos famulos tuos benedictionem Sancti Spiritus, et gratiae Sacerdotalis infunde virtutem, ut quos tuae pietatis aspectibus offerimus consecrandos, perpetua muneris tui largitate prosequaris. {Hearken to us, we beseech Thee, O Lord our God, and pour down on this Thy servant the blessing of the Holy Ghost, and the power of priestly grace, that he whom we present to Thy loving kindness for consecration may ever enjoy the unfailing abundance of Thy favour.}

When the Bishop calls down the Holy Ghost there is a special conferral of divine gifts, in such a way that the sacramental “character is imprinted by ordination.”

## **The form of the Sacrament**

Da, quaesumus, omnipotens Pater, in hos famulos tuos Presbyterii dignitatem; innova in visceribus eorum spiritum sanctitatis; ut acceptu a te, Deus, secundi meriti munus obtineant, censuramque morum exemplo suae conversationis insinuent. {Grant, we beseech Thee, almighty Father, to this Thy servant the dignity of the Priesthood; renew within him the spirit of holiness, that he may keep the rank in Thy service which he has received from Thee, and by his conduct may afford a pattern of holy living.}



**Fr. Orłowski blesses Fr. Deprey**



**It's all in the hat**

### **A Priest Forever According to the Order of Melchisedech**

Juravit Dominus, et non poenitebit eum: Tu es sacerdos in aeternum secundum ordinem Melchisedech. {The Lord hath sworn, and will not repent: Thou art a Priest forever after the order of Melchisedech.}



Now Fr. Orlowski is an alter Christus and acts in persona Christi and as Archbishop Exner said in his sermon he will never have an identity crisis.

Fr. Orlowski's first Mass was celebrated at St. Francis of Assisi on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> November.



**The Orlowski's family**

The Ordination, the reception, the dinner at Our Lady of Fatima, the first Mass and the following reception were all filled to capacity.

We wish to take this opportunity to thank his Grace the Most Reverend Adam Exner, OMI Archbishop Emeritus of Vancouver for all his many kindnesses and generosity to our community over the years and for performing Fr. Orlowski's ordination.

Thanks also to all those who helped to make this occasion such a resounding success.