

## Freedom in Christ

**John 8:32- And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.** (KJV)

Knowing, living in and experiencing the Lord Jesus Christ frees the believer. Jesus Christ's goodness, mercy and love frees the believer from bonds of sin, Jesus Christ is always present, worshipped and glorified in God's Holy Church. The hunger in the soul receives constant necessary nourishment from Jesus Christ. Joy arises in the heart, mind and soul from the freedom experienced in Christ.

**Romans 6:22- But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life.** (KJV)

Freedom from sin through Christ comes through the Holy Mysteries in the Church. When sin occurs after Holy Baptism, freedom is restored through repentance. Repentance, confession and communion enable the believer to once again be free. Joy is restored and accompanies the freedom afforded through sincere repentance. Confession and the Lord's forgiveness frees the believer from the shackles of sin.

**Romans 8:2-For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.** (KJV)

The Lord is due everlasting gratitude for showing mercy, forgiveness and love. Indebtedness to Jesus Christ comes to mind when freed of sin through forgiveness. God's greatness, goodness and mercy exceeds the capacity of the human mind. God's love, goodness and mercy transcends the known limits of measurement. Being abundantly grateful to the Lord is the healthy way to respond to forgiveness.

**I Corinthians 9:19- For though I be free from all men, yet have I made myself servant unto all, that I might gain the more.** (KJV)

Being a fervent servant of the Lord actualizes gratitude for God's mercy and love. God's love and mercy are freely given and enable freedom for the repentant. Prayer and initiating interest in the Lord Jesus Christ are possible every day. God's Holy Church is full of Jesus Christ's abundant and life-granting teachings. The Church offers direct experience with Jesus Christ through the Holy Mysteries.

**Galatians 5:1- Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.** (KJV)

Effort and vigilance to remain free in Christ are required throughout all of life. Love and freedom in Christ are authenticated in daily personal relationships. Life's challenges, hurdles and dangers to the soul are overcome through Christ. Being freed from the bondage of sin through Jesus Christ inspires gratitude. Opportunities to show gratitude to Christ arise each day in personal relationships.

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Holy Martyrs Manuel, Sabel and Ismael. June 17/30, 2022. Hidden Valley, Pennsylvania. Father Rodney Torbic