



Українське Православне Слово

Ukrainian Orthodox Word

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Ukrainian Orthodox Word
Українське Православне Слово



His Eminence Metropolitan ANTONY

His Grace Bishop DANIEL - Consistory President

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EPISTLE

of the Permanent Conference of Ukrainian Orthodox Bishops Beyond the Borders of Ukraine

Feast of the Nativity of our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ 2014/2015

To the Venerable Clergy, Monastics and Faithful of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church Beyond the Borders of Ukraine and to our Brothers and Sisters of the Faith in Ukraine:

Beloved brothers and sisters:

Christ is Born!

“Do not be afraid...”

These are the words of the angel to the shepherds when he announces that a Savior has been born for us. “Do not be afraid” is also the greeting the angel gave to Zechariah in announcing the birth of John the Baptist and to the Mother of God in announcing the birth of Jesus. Finally, the Lord in His own words often tells people not to be afraid: “Fear is useless; what is needed is trust.”

There are many reasons for us to be afraid this sacred Nativity (Christmas) time. The atrocities of the world have displaced countless people and devastated many homes. The unspeakable tragedy in the ancestral homeland of Ukraine has left us reeling at the force of evil.

It is in this context that we, the bishops of the Church address you this sacred Nativity/Christmas season. Yet, we are together in spirit of Christ with the suffering world around us. It is good that we are together. It is good that we hear words of hope in the midst of fear. It is understandable that we are afraid and that we question where God is in the midst of so much tragedy.

On this day of glorious celebration for the Nativity of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, we send our warm and heartfelt greeting to all the children, youth, adults and seniors of our Holy Ukrainian Orthodox Church throughout the world. We prayerfully want you to know that the love and prayers of your spiritual fathers surround you during this Nativity/Christmas holiday as you gather for prayer and fellowship with friends and family.

Nativity of Christ is the feast of light. On Christmas Eve, the glory of the Lord enveloped the shepherds with the pure light of heaven and they were filled with great fear as the angel of the Lord gave them the Good News of the birth of the Savior. The God child born at Bethlehem is the Word of God made flesh, the true light that enlightens all who are born into this world.

Nativity of Christ is the feast of peace. The angels from heaven proclaimed it so, as they announced the birth of the Son of God, and sang in the very first Christmas carol: “Glory to



God in the highest and peace to his people on earth.” Every Nativity season, the words “Sleep in heavenly peace” are sung in our churches, in our homes, in the streets and at Bethlehem.

Nativity is the feast of love. It is a mystery for which we need wide-open eyes and a renewed heart to adore the Love of God. His love compels us to love our brothers and sisters, especially the ones who suffer most the consequences of disasters and economic crisis and those who suffer loneliness, pain and infirmity. Remember, Nativity/Christmas experience does not happen where there is no love, because the message of the birth of Jesus is the message of the love that was born and gave of itself for the salvation of the world.

During these days of the year, the Lord reminds us that only those who love and have the heart of a child understand and live Nativity/Christmas experience, which is the mystery of sharing. Those who do not love and who enclose themselves in their selfishness, will go through Christmas without celebrating it in their hearts and in their lives.

A child – born for us! Life! Light! Joy! Peace! These are the images we treasure during this holy season. Yet, as He lies in the wooden manger, we can already foresee the impending suffering of the wood of the Cross with the senseless slaughter of the Holy Innocents to appease the vanity of Herods of the modern age.

Our lives are a mix of good and evil, of joy and sorrow, of hope and despair, of happiness and pain. As we look upon this Child with awe, we are only too aware of the death of children who never get a chance! This Child causes us to fall down in worship, praise and thanksgiving; the holy innocents of our own time cause us to question the values of a world where one person’s choice trumps another person’s life!

Nativity/Christmas is a time to rejoice and give thanks for the gift and blessings of life. It is also a time to be generous toward others who may not be so blessed – so that the life of each one and of all might be nurtured and supported – and together we might turn to the Author of Life and give profound thanks. May your prayer, worship and acts of charity to those in need this Christmas lead you to a profound encounter with Christ!

Beloved clergy, brothers and sisters in Christ, we send you our sincere Nativity of our Lord greetings, and we pray that the light of the first Nativity shines on you and your loved ones. We pray that He may grant you the gift of deep faith and the enduring joy of a new appreciation of God’s great love for you and your loved ones.

May you have a merry and holy Christmas and a blessed New 2015 Year of our Lord!

With hierarchical blessings,

† **YURIJ**, Metropolitan

Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada

† **ANTONY**, Metropolitan

Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA

Locum Tenens Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Diaspora

† **IOAN**, Archbishop

Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Diaspora

† **JEREMIAH**, Archbishop

Ukrainian Orthodox Eparchy of Brazil and South America

† **ILARION**, Bishop

Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada

† **ANDRIY**, Bishop

Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada

† **DANIEL**, Bishop

Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA

ПОСЛАННЯ

Постійної Конференції Українських Православних Єпископів поза Межами України

Свято Різдва Господа Бога і Спаса нашого Ісуса Христа 2014/2015

*Преподобним отцям, монашеству та усім вірним
Української Православної Церкви поза межами України
та нашим братам і сестрам по Вірі в Україні:*

Улюблені брати і сестри:

Христос Рождається!

«Не бійтеся ...»

Це слова ангела до пастухів, коли він звістив їм, що для нас народився Спаситель. «Не бійся» також було привітанням ангела до Захарії, звіщаючи йому про народження Іоана Хрестителя. З таким же привітанням ангел звістив Богородиці про народження Ісуса Христа. Господь наш Ісус Христос у Своїх словах також часто говорить людям не боятися: «Страх є марним; все що потрібно – довіра.»

В цю священну Різдвяну пору у нас є багато причин щоб боятися. Жахливі події світу заставили незліченну кількість людей втікати з свої домівок залишаючи їх спустошеними. Трагедія на нашій прабатьківщині Україні, яку неможливо описати і від якої важко оговтатися, сильно потрясла нас у боротьбі зі злом.

Саме в цьому контексті ми, єпископи Церкви звертаємося до вас в цей священний Різдвяний час. У душі Христовому ми тримаємося разом з страждаючим світом навколо нас. І це добре, що ми разом. Добрим є те, що ми чуємо слова надії в хвилини страху. Самозрозумілим є те, що ми боїмося, сумніваємося а часом навіть запитуємо себе де є Бог в такий важкий час.

У цей урочистий день славного Різдва Господа нашого і Спаса Ісуса Христа, ми шлемо наші теплі та сердечні вітання всім дітям, молоді, дорослим та людям похилого віку нашої Святої Української Православної Церкви по всьому світі. Ми молитовно хочемо, щоб ви знали, що любов і молитви ваших духовних отців перебувають з вами в час цих Різдвяних свят, коли ви разом з своїми друзями та родиною збираєтеся на спільну молитву.

Різдво Христове це свято світла. В Навечір'я Різдва, слава Господня огорнула пастухів світлим небесним сяйвом, і вони наповнилися великим страхом, коли ангел Господній звістив їм благу вістку про народження Спасителя. Бог-дитя, що народився у Вифлеємі є Словом Божим, що воплотилося, істинним світлом, яке просвічує всіх, хто народжується на цей світ.

Різдво Христове це свято миру. Так проголошували ангели з неба, коли вони звіщали про народження Сина Божого, та співали першу Різдвяну колядку: «Слава во вишніх



Богу, і мир людям на землі.” Кожного Різдва, слова “Спочиває в тихім сні”, що означає “спочиває в мирі” чути в наших церквах, в наших будинках та на вулицях Вифлеєму.

Різдво це свято любові. Це тайна, для якої нам потрібні широко відкриті очі та оновлене серце щоб величати Любов Божу. Його Любов заставляє нас любити своїх братів і сестер, а особливо тих, хто страждає від наслідків стихійних лих, економічної кризи, самотності, болю та немочі. Пам'ятаймо, що якщо у нас не буде любові, ми не відчуємо яким є правдиве Різдво, тому що Христос, з любові до нас, народився і віддав себе заради спасіння світу.

У ці дні року, Господь нагадує нам, що тільки ті, хто любить і має серце як у малої дитини розуміють таємницю Різдва. Ті, хто не вміє любити та відокремлює себе від інших своїм егоїзмом, Різдва ніколи правдиво не святкуватимуть ні в своєму серці, ні в житті.

Дитя – народилося для нас! Життя! Світло! Радість! Мир! Це чесноти, які ми повинні цінувати в час цієї святкової пори року. Дивлячись на це Немовля, яке лежить у дерев'яних яслах, ми бачимо страждання, які в майбутньому чекають на Нього на Хресному Древі, та жорстоке вбивство невинних дітей нашого часу сучасними царями Іродами, щоб заспокоїти своє самолюбство.

Наше життя складається з добра і зла, радості і смутку, надії і відчаю, щастя і болю. Дивлячись з благоговінням на це Дитя-Христа, задумаймося над смертю усіх тих дітей, які ніколи не отримали можливості жити! Це Дитя заставляє нас припасти на коліна з поклонінням, молитвою, похвалою та подякою; убиті діти нашого часу змушують нас сумніватися над цінностями модерного світу, де вибір однієї людини може забрати життя іншої людини!

Різдво/Різдвяні свята є порою радості та подяки за усі благословення у нашому житті. Це також час, бути доброзичливим до тих, хто не є настільки благословенним як ми – щоб життя кожного зокрема та усіх разом могло розвиватися і підтримуватися - і ми разом могли б звернутися до Сотворителя Життя з щирою подякою. Нехай ваші молитви та добрі діла для тих, хто потребує в це Різдво приведе вас до ближчого розуміння з Христом!

Всечесні отці та дорогі брати і сестри у Христі, ми шлемо Вам щирі вітання з нагоди Різдва Христового, і ми молимося, щоб світло першого Різдва світило на вас і ваших ближніх. Ми молимося, щоб Христос обдарував Вас глибокою вірою та довготривалою радістю цінування безмежної любові Божої до вас та ваших рідних.

Радісного та благословенного вам Різдва Христового та Нового 2015 року Божого!

З архиєрейськими благословеннями,

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Української Православної Церкви Канади

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14 New Year's Resolutions for Orthodox Christians

Around this time of year, many people start thinking about ways they can change for the better. While New Year's resolutions are not particularly a feature of the Orthodox faith, change certainly is, and resolving to change based on times and seasons is certainly part of our liturgical tradition. So adapting the cultural custom of New Year's resolutions to become a better Orthodox Christian seems perfectly fine to me. Anyway, here are some suggestions for Orthodox Christians resolving to change for the better in the New Year, things every Orthodox Christian can do.

(Obviously, adjust as needed according to the direction of your father-confessor and pastor.)

1 Get serious about coming to church (more).

While many who read this are no doubt at least every-Sunday attenders at church, it is statistically true that only 26% of Orthodox Christians in America come to church weekly (the statistic is drawn from people who are actually involved in parish life, not from anyone who was ever baptized Orthodox; that statistic would be much worse). That's really a horrible percentage. If you're not coming to church weekly, why not? There are probably some good reasons out there, but most of those 74% almost certainly do not have good reasons. If you're not serious about coming to church weekly, it's time to get serious. This is eternal life we're talking about, not a religious club.

And if you're already coming to church weekly, consider adding at least one service per week. Most parishes are doing Vespers and/or Matins at least once a week (usually Saturday night or Sunday morning). What are you normally doing when those services are going on? Your priest and other parishioners are there praying, including praying for



you. Why don't you join them? You won't regret it.

And while we're at it...

2 Come to church on time.

It's kind of an in-joke that Orthodox people are always late to church. But why is that?

We too often accept the excuse that we function on "Greek time" or "Syrian time," etc., but even Greeks and Syrians (and whoever else; insert your preferred culture here) seem to be able to adapt to show up to nearly everything else on time. Why can we show up on time for work, sporting events, movies, doctor's appointments, etc., but reserve our tardiness for an encounter with the King of Kings?

There are some kinds of events for which it doesn't much matter if you come at a particular time—parties, various kinds of social gatherings, etc.—but church services aren't one of them. There is a definite beginning and a definite ending. If you show up late, you are late. And if you leave early, you are skipping out.

What you show up on time for tells the world what you find important. It's what you find indispensable. And when you show up late to church, it also tells your

fellow parishioners that you don't consider church very important.

And it also communicates it to your kids. And you can be assured that they will imitate you.

Come at least ten minutes early. That says you are serious. You know what also says you're serious?

3 Tithe.

Nothing says you're serious like giving 10% of your income to something.

Giving 10% to God sounds crazy to a lot of people, but the reality is that it's actually totally normal for many Christians—even for generations. Orthodox people in the US aren't used to tithing (10%) or even giving some other percentage, mainly because many of their forebears across the sea gave to their churches just by paying their taxes. That doesn't work anywhere in the English-speaking Orthodox world. Your taxes do not go to support your church. (I know of one church where a parishioner was shocked to discover that the electric company would turn off the electricity if the church didn't pay its bill. Who would do that to a church?)

And other parishioners inherited a system based on union



dues. So many may think that giving \$500 a year (less than \$10/week) is a lot. But if you have a parish of 100 families and each family only gives \$500 a year, then you only have an annual income of \$50,000. With that, you cannot support your priest, and you certainly cannot pay for a building and its maintenance. Other people are picking up the slack for you. If they're not, your priest may be on food stamps or welfare. I know some who are.

But if those 100 families each made the median household income for the US (about \$52,000), and they all tithed, that same 100-family parish would have \$520,000 to work with. If they even gave just 5%, they'd have \$260,000.

Meanwhile, you are probably spending a lot more just on cable TV. Or Internet access. Or your smartphone. Or eating out. Or coffee. Or a lot of other things.

But the most important thing about pledging and tithing is not about meeting parish budgets or supporting your priest like the hardworking, educated man he is. It's about worship. Your heart is where your treasure is (Matt. 6:21). Where's your treasure? Follow the money, find the heart.

If you're not up for 10% yet, then try 8%. Or 6%. Or whatever. But go on record, and get disciplined about giving. Don't give until it hurts, but until it actually feels good.

4 Pray at home.

Even if all you do is say the "Our Father" when you wake up (saying it three times a day is the

most ancient known prayer rule), you will notice a change in how you think and feel about your faith. It will become more present for you and will define you more.

Oh, and, parents? It will have a huge impact on your kids. Watching parents pray at home and (in time) joining them in that prayer is one of the biggest contributions that kids can receive toward their long-term spiritual viability.

If you don't bring the faith home, you can forget about it mattering in the long run, either for you or your kids.

5 Sing along at church. And stand more.

The choir and chanters are there to lead you in prayer, not to entertain you or pray instead of you. Yes, it is possible to pray with them silently, but there are few things more spiritually invigorating than singing your prayers. So if you're able, you should.

And while you're at it, why don't you stand up a bit more? It's certainly easier to sing while standing. And it's also the 2000-year-old tradition of the Orthodox Church to stand during worship. So there's that.

Update: I've received several comments which include strong opinions on the issue of congregational singing. I know that it's a subject of some debate. Obviously, this note of encouragement here is meant to be taken in terms of the caveat I originally posted at the top of this piece—check with your father-confessor and/or pastor as to what is appropriate in your community.

Because I'm not interested in hosting a debate about congregational singing, I won't be publishing any further comments about it.

6 Memorize a psalm.

Memorizing Scripture is a great thing for many reasons, but psalms are especially powerful, because they are all prayers. Pick your favorite one to memorize. Lots of Orthodox love Psalm 50 ("Have mercy on me, O God..."). But there are plenty to choose from. Pick a short one or a long one. Just make it your own. Try praying it every day.

7 Encourage your priest.

Yes, he should be willing to do his job without getting any encouraging words. And many priests do. That wouldn't be so bad if they didn't get so many complaints. While some priests (like me!) aren't constantly barraged with complaints, some never can seem to escape them, even while they pour their lives out for their people. And I would actually have to say that I probably get more complaints than I do encouraging words. My brother priests mostly say the same thing.

Your priest is a human being just like you are. And while he shouldn't live for praise, you can help him see that his hard work is appreciated by telling him so. Your job isn't to tell him that he shouldn't want praise—he has a father-confessor to tell him that. Your job is to love him. And saying encouraging things to him is part of that love. You don't have to shower him with compliments. Just tell him that what he's doing matters to you.

I have some people in my parish who say encouraging things to me. I don't live for their kind words, but they help to keep me going, because it reminds me that what I'm doing matters.

There is nothing better for a parish's health than an encouraged priest. If he feels like what he's doing matters, he will love doing it. And he will also strive to get better at it, too. So even if you do feel like he needs to improve, the best way to help

him do that is to inspire him, not to complain at him.

8 Invite someone to church.

Did you know that 82% of the unchurched say that they would come if invited? Did you know that only 2% of church members invite someone to church in a given year? (source)

If your parish is dying (and many Orthodox parishes in the US, especially in the Northeast, are indeed dying), don't you think it's time you invited someone to church? If your parish is healthy, don't you think it's time it gave birth to another healthy one?

Do you really believe that you've found the true faith, seen the true light and received the heavenly Spirit, like you sing near the end of the Liturgy?

Then why are you keeping it to yourself? Think of at least one person you know who isn't in church. Make him or her a spiritual priority this year. Pray every day for that person. And when the time is right, give the invitation. Statistically speaking, they are probably going to say yes.

And when you make the invitation, don't say, "You should come to church with me sometime." "Sometime" is no time. Say, "We're celebrating the Divine Liturgy this Sunday at 9am at my church. Can I pick you up and bring you with me?"

9 Visit a monastery.

You won't believe how amazing monastic visits are until you go on one. There are few things that underline for us how much is really possible in the Christian life like visiting people who are actually making a go at being 24/7/365 Christians.

And don't you think that people who practice prayer that much might know a thing or two about it?

Monasteries aren't just for monks and nuns. They're for all Christians. They are not only spiritual havens but also spiritual powerhouses. And don't just visit once and say you did it. Develop a relationship.

And maybe if you're really

blessed, one of your kids will join a monastery and pray for you a whole lot. I hope one of mine does.



10 Read the Old Testament.

Yes, we should read the whole Bible, but the truth is that most Orthodox Christians are crypto-Marcionites—we don't know almost anything about the Old Testament. Marcion was a 2nd century heretic who taught that the Old Testament was a book for Jews and had nothing to do with Christians. He was really wrong. The Old Testament is about the thousands of years of preparation before the coming of Jesus Christ. It is what sets the stage for His appearance. Jesus is everywhere in the Old Testament, but you have to know how to look for Him.

The Old Testament is filled with all kinds of fascinating stories, prayers, songs, poetry, etc. But most of us have almost no idea that it has much other than Adam and Eve, Noah and Jonah. And we're probably a little fuzzy on some of those details.

But if God prepared the world for the coming of Jesus by what He did in the Old Testament, how can we think we'll be prepared for His coming into each of our own lives without any of that same preparation?

Want a plan that will get you through the whole Bible in one year? Here's one. There are others, too.

If you need help getting through it all (especially because it's way bigger than the New Testament), why don't you ask your priest to start a

Bible study going over some of the Old Testament books? He'll probably be smiling so much after he gets up off the floor in shock that he won't know what to do with himself.

So, that makes me think of something else.

11 Attend an adult education class.

It's actually kind of crazy how uneducated many Orthodox people are in their own faith. I sometimes hear the excuse that that stuff is just for seminarians and clergy, that it's too intellectual, too far above the heads of the average parishioner, etc. But the very same people can give you detailed information about what the rules and records in the Super Bowl are, what their least favorite politician has done to wreck the country, and what the latest gossip is on various celebrities, all in remarkable detail. But when it comes to what will last into eternity, we are suddenly the dumbest people on the face of the earth.

Don't sell yourself short. You are probably pretty smart about many things. Why don't you use that same talent to get smart about your faith?

It's also quite frankly true that most Protestants are far more educated about their Protestant faiths than Orthodox are about their own. Are we really supposed to believe that Protestants are just smarter? They're not. But they've developed a culture of education. A culture of education is not a uniquely Protestant thing. It's Orthodox, too. It's been part of our tradition for 2000 years. It's just that some of us have forgotten it. It's time to bring it back.

12 Volunteer.

Do something in your parish or in your community that benefits other people without giving you any kind of material gain. And do it without expecting recognition. Your recognition will come from God in His Kingdom. You don't need it from anyone else.

Not only will selfless volunteering help you be grateful for all that God has given to you, but it will set an example of what a Christian is for your kids and your

friends, and it will also help you to be humble, something we know is necessary for entrance into the Kingdom of Heaven.

13 Go to confession.

There are lots of Orthodox Christians who go to confession only once a year—or maybe even never. Like people who never go to the doctor, what that means is that you think everything is perfectly fine and you need no help. Literally, it means that you do not think you need the gift of forgiveness that comes in the sacrament of absolution.

I don't know about you, but I'm a sinner. I mean, I sin every day. I have a problem. I'm a sinner. I need to confront my sins directly in confession. And I want the sacrament of absolution that goes with it.

I try to go once during each of the four fasts (though I will admit that I don't always keep my rule very well), and I always dread going before I go, because I don't like thinking about how I am a sinner. And then I always wonder what took me so long after



I go. It's really wonderful, actually. Thank God for confession.

14 Read a spiritual book.

There are few things that get us into another story, another way of looking at life, like a good book. And a good spiritual book can help to retrain your mind to become

like the mind of Christ. Most of us do not have the mind of Christ. We have the mind of something else. Our minds are filled with distractions, necessities and the cares of this world.

But the extended meditation on what is good and true and beautiful that can come from a good spiritual book can help to change all that. And you know what? That change helps to bring us peace. And that's something that each of us needs a whole lot more of.

Okay, so those are some of my ideas for ways to change positively in the new year.

What are yours?

by Fr. Andrew Stephen Damick

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Християнська символіка нашого Святого Вечора – Надвечір'я Різдва Христового

Наближається Перший Святий Вечір або Свята Вечеря перед Різдром Христовим. Часто-густо, дотримуючись звичаїв Святого Вечора, у своїх хатах навіть не замислюємося над їхнім значенням. Часом чуємо різні дивовижні пояснення того чи іншого звичаю, який скидається скоріше на магію чи поганство, аніж на вираз християнських переконань нашого люду.

Тож спробуймо пригадати християнське тлумачення того, що майже кожен з нас чинитиме в часі Святої Вечері.

Вічнозелена ялинка, яку ставимо у своїх домах, є символом вічного життя, яке стало доступне людам через Христа. Колись, у старих часах, ялинку прикрашали яблуками, горіхами, цукерками і свічечками. Тепер їх замінили шклянні та пластикові прикраси, електричні гирлянди. Це – символ Божих ласк і милостей. Солодкість цих прикрас – символ небесних радостей і радостей християнського життя. У тому сенсі, прикрашена ялинка є символом дерева життя, до якого людам відкрився доступ через Христа. Світло – символ Христа – Світла, яке просвітило юдеїв і поган.

У Галичині, напередодні Святого Вечора, господар хати приносив зі стодоли сіно, яке розстеляли на долівці світлиці, в якій вечеряли, та солому, яку розстеляли на столі, а зверху накривали білим вишитим обрусом. Сіно на долівці символізує сіно вертепу, в якому народився Месія, солома на столі – ясла, в які Марія поклала Ісуса, а білий обрус – пелени, в які Христа сповито.

На одному з кутів стола кладуть під обрус або три зубці,



або три головки часнику – символ приходу трьох царів.

За старим звичаєм родина (кілька сімей з одного кореня) збирається у батьківському домі та з появою на небі першої зірки сідає до вечері. Очікування першої зірки є згадкою про очікування людством Спасителя перед першим приходом Христа на землю. Нам, християнам, це очікування нагадує і про те, що й ми з радістю чекаємо Повернення Того, Хто прийде у славі судити живих і мертвих, і чиєму Царству не буде кінця. До того ж очікування першої вечірньої зірки є згадкою про прихід трьох мудреців, яких зірка провадила на їхньому шляху до Вифлеєму (на гебрійській Бет-Лехем – дім хліба), де вони вклонилися довгоочікуваному Месії.



Як і годиться в християнській родині, Вечерю розпочинають з молитви, а опісля найстарший в домі розділяє всім присутнім за столом просфору, яку попередньо благословив в церкві священник, вмочену в мед з побажанням кожному того, чого він найбільше потребує.

Хліб (просфора) є згадкою про Хліб життя – Євхаристійного Христа, а також і символом нового життя, яке Христос приніс людам.

Мед символізує те, що Христос, як новий Мойсей, відкрив новому Божому народові вхід до Обіцяної землі – небесної Батьківщини, куди стремить кожне людське серце.

Частим був звичай, щоб на свят-вечірньому столі горіло три свічки – як символ Пресвятої Тройці. Часто ці свічки не ставили на свічник, а в посудину, наповнену збіжжям. Це збіжжя згодом висівали в посудини за кілька днів до Великодня, щоб проросле жито було символом Христового Воскресіння.

Кутя – символ багатства небесного столу, символ духовного багатства християнського життя, є важливим елементом святвечірнього столу.

Пісність страв Святого Вечора є символом того, що навіть найкраще в земному житті є всього лишень постом і приготуванням до Гостини Вічного Агнця.

Отже, треба знову відкрити для себе багатство символів нашої народної традиції, щоб пригадати собі наші християнські корені, нашу закоренілість в Христовому Євангелії.

о. Опесст

Хрещення Господнє

Якщо Різдво Христове започаткувало нову еру людства, то Хрещення Господнє - це подія, яка остаточно провела межу між Старим і Новим Заповітами. Маленька річка Йордан немов поділила історію планети на якийсь час до Христа і християнську епоху, в якій, хочеться сподіватися, ми живемо і зараз.

Прихід Месії був обіцяний Старим Заповітом, євреї чекали Його. Тому багато хто прийняв за Спасителя світу дивну людину, що жила в пустелі, носила простий одяг з верблюжої шерсті і живилася тим, що знайде серед каменів. Він закликав євреїв покаятися, очиститися від гріхів, вчинивши ритуальний обряд обмивання в річці Йордан. Цю людину звали Іоанн Хреститель.

Але він, звичайно, не був Спасителем – він був останнім старозавітним пророком, якого Бог послав на землю, щоб попередити людство, що Спаситель ось-ось прийде, що Він вже народжений і ходить по цій грішній землі. Природно, знав про це і сам Іоанн, якого ще називають Предтечею, - тому що він прийшов з проповіддю раніше («перед») Христа. Предтеча із старослов'янського - «попередник, передвісник».

Тому, коли до нього прийшов Христос і попросив хрестити Його у водах Йордану, Іоанн здивувався: «Мені потрібно хреститися від Тебе, і чи Ти приходиш до мене»? На що Ісус відповів: «Належить нам виконати всяку правду» (Лк. 3: 21). В тому сенсі, що Бог через пророків Старого Завіту передбачив саме такий порядок явища людям Свого Сина.



Іоанн хрестив Ісуса. І тут же, як далі розповідає євангелист Лука, «відкрилось небо, і Дух Святий зійшов на Нього в тілесному виді, як голуб, і був голос з небес, що мовив: Ти Син Мій Улюблений; у Тобі Моє благовоління!» Таким чином Бог ясно і недвозначно повідомив людей – а їх на річці Йордан поряд з Іоанном збиралося досить багато – що Спаситель вже прийшов, більше того, Він поряд з ними.

Хрещення – це перша подія у громадській діяльності Христа. Про те, як Він жив і що робив до хрещення в Йордані, нам майже нічого невідомо. (За переказами, Ісус був теслярем – але це ґрунтоване на тому, що Його названий батько, святий Йосип, був теслярем). Проте саме хрещення в Йордані стало (не для Христа – Він-то прекрасно знав, що

з Ним станеться далі – а для усіх нас) тим моментом, від якого, за великим рахунком, почалася євангельська історія, наша Церква і наша віра.

Адже після цього, буквально наступного дня, до Христа приєдналися найперші Його учні. «На інший день знову стояв Іоанн і двоє з учнів його. І, побачивши Ісуса, що йде, сказав: ось Агнець Божий. Почувши від нього ці слова, обидва учні пішли за Ісусом», - розповідає євангелист Іоанн. «Обидва учні» - це апостол Андрій, названий Первозванним саме тому, що першим пішов за Христом, і його брат Симон, якого Ісус назвав Петром. По Палестині тут же рознеслася звістка про Христа. «Великий пророк повстав між нами, і Бог відвідав народ Свій. Така думка про Нього поширилася по усій Юдеї і по усій околиці», - пише євангелист Лука. І учнів у Христа з кожним днем ставало все більше.

А Сам Ісус пішов в пустелю – Він повинен був усамітнитися, щоб підготуватися до виконання тієї Мисії, для якої Він і прийшов на землю. У пустелі Христос сорок днів «там диявол Його спокушав, і нічого не їв в ці дні» (Лк. 4: 2). Диявол і його підручні борються за душу кожного з нас, але складно собі уявити – як запекло вони боролися за Його душу. «І сказав Йому диявол: якщо Ти Син Божий, то скажи цьому каменю зробитися хлібом. Ісус сказав йому у відповідь: написано, що не хлібом одним житиме людина, але всяким словом Божим. І, звівши Його на високу гору, диявол показав Йому усі царства всесвіту в мить часу, і сказав Йому диявол: Тобі дам владу над усіма

цими [царствами] і славу їх, бо вона віддана мені, і я, кому хочу, даю її; отже, якщо Ти вклонишся мені, то все буде Твоє. Ісус сказав йому у відповідь: відійди від Мене, сатана; написано: Господові Богові твоєму поклоняйся і Йому одному служи. І повів Його в Єрусалим, і поставив Його на крилі храму, і сказав Йому: якщо Ти Син Божий, кинься звідси вниз, бо написано: Ангелам Своїм заповідає про Тебе зберегти Тебе; і на руках понесуть Тебе, та не спіткнешся об камінь ногою Твоєю. Ісус сказав йому у відповідь: сказано: не спокушай Господа Бога твого. І, закінчивши усю спокусу, диявол відійшов від Нього до часу» (Лк. 4-13).

Для простоти те, що сталося на річці Йордан, ми називаємо хрещенням. Хоча, звичайно, яке ж хрещення без Христа, Його Розп'яття і Вознесіння на Небо? Це прекрасно розумів і сам Іоанн Хреститель. Він говорив: «Я хрещу вас водою на покаяння, але Той, Хто йде за мною, сильніше мене; я не гідний понести взуття Його; Він хреститиме вас Духом Святим і вогнем» (Мф. 3,11). Тобто хрещення від Іоанна – це хрещення покаяння, інакше кажучи – хрещення попереднє. Адже без щирого покаяння людям закритий

шлях у Царство Небесне. Але без Святого Духа немає і справжнього християнського хрещення.

Таїнство Хрещення в Православній Церкві майже в точності повторює те, що сталося два тисячоліття тому на річці Йордан, в усякому разі – зовні. Людину занурюють у купіль, він зрікається диявола і «поєднується» з Христом. Це «поєднання», тобто, по суті, присяга у вірності Христу і Його вченню, і є головна відмінність нашого хрещення від того, що прийняв Христос.

Від найдавніших часів Церква вважає освячену Йорданську воду великою святістю та приписує їй чудодійну силу для душі і тіла.

У проповіді на празник Богоявлення св. Іван Золотоустий пише: «У цей празник опівночі всі, зачерпнувши води, приносять її додому та зберігають увесь рік... І діється дивне явище: та вода у своїй істоті не псується від довготи часу...»

Часто Йорданське Водосвяття відбувається на ріці, якщо в цей день – великий мороз та є крига, то прорубують ополонку у вигляді хреста. Вірні можуть скупатися в освячених водах ріки.

В день Хрещення віруючі

бажають викупатися в ополонці – щобвилікуватися від недуг. Традиція купання на Хрещення є у всіх християнських країнах. Священники та віряни йдуть до заздалегідь прорубаної ополонки, яка у них асоціюється з річкою Йордан. Після того, як отець освятить воду в ополонці, триразово занурюючи хрест, запалюючи вогонь і читаючи молитву, бажаючи занурюються у воду з головою три рази, хрестячись і вимовляючи молитву.

Сенс обряду в тому, що вірні готові піти за Христом, приймаючи хрещення і християнську віру. Він виключно добровільний, оскільки немає жодного обов'язку занурюватися в холодну воду. Прийняття причастя в водохресний день вже буде доказом любові до Господа.

У навечір'я Богоявлення, за традицією, родини збираються за столом вечеряти, ця вечеря називається в народі «Голодна кутя» (перша – «Багата кутя» – на Святвечір 6 січня, друга – «Щедра кутя» – в навечір'я обрізання Господнього). Родичі та знайомі відвідують одні одних у ці дні, звіщаючи радісну подію, зокрема і через щедрівки та колядки

На Йорданській річці

Фа мажор

Обробка прот. Кирила Стеценка

1. На Йор-дан-ській річ - ці ти - ха во - да сто - я - ла,
 2. А ску- пав - ши, у шов ко - ве спо - ви - ла,
 3. А над ти - ми яс - ла-ми сі - рі во - ли сто - я - ли,
 4. На Ди - тят - ко Бо - же сво - їм ду - хом ди - ха - ли,

ой, там Ма-ти Бо - жа Су - са Хрис - та ку - па - ла,
 а спо- вив - ши, у я сель - ця по - кла - ла,
 на Ди - тят - ко Бо - же сво - їм ду - хом ди - ха - ли,
 по - ки Йсу-са Хрис - та із я се - лець у - зя - ли.

Elevation to the rank of Protodeacon of Deacon Michael Sawarynski



Sunday, 16 November, 2014 was a day of grace for the parish family of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Northampton, Pennsylvania. His Eminence Antony, Metropolitan of the U.O.C. of U.S.A., visited his spiritual children and bestowed upon them the blessings of Christ Himself through the celebration of the Eucharistic Banquet at the Holy Altar of the Lord.

In the presence of the parish community, His Eminence elevated to the rank of Protodeacon, deacon Michael Sawarynski, in honour of his decade long intrepid and dedicated service to the Lord and His spiritual flock of Orthodox Christians in Northampton. Protodeacon Michael has been a beacon of Orthodox evangelism and witness in the Lehigh Valley for many years; but it is through his zealous liturgical and pedagogic presence in the parish and St. Sophia Ukrainian Orthodox Theological Seminary that his true love for the Faith has shone forth. After thirty-five years of teaching at the Northampton

High School, where his renown as an excellent pedagogue was second to none, Protodeacon Michael dedicated himself, with the enthusiastic 'blessing' of his beloved wife Martha and extensive family of children and grandchildren, to the calling of the Church to serve the Lord and His Holy Orthodox Flock.

The luncheon following the Hierarchic Divine Liturgy was attended by parishioners, friends and, most importantly, by his family: wife Martha; children and their spouses: Matthew, Andrea, Christine, Paul, Cheryl; grandchildren: Anthony, Andrew, Nicholas, Adrianna, Gabriel, Isabelle, John; his beloved daughter Maria and her husband Mark as well as their children Zachary, Patrick, Tristan and Brendan who live in Arizona, were spiritually present in Protodeacon's prayers.

We pray that the Lord of Hosts will continue to grant Protodeacon Michael many more years of service at His Holy Altar. MANY YEARS – MNOHAJA LITA!

95th Anniversary of the Holy Trinity Parish in Trenton, NJ

On Sunday, November 2, 2014 the parish family of the Holy Trinity Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Trenton, NJ celebrated their 95th Anniversary. On that blessed day His Eminence Metropolitan Antony led the clergy and the faithful in the Divine Liturgy, giving thanks and glory to God for His mercy and love. Also that day, the parish community prayed for all of those who established the parish and for the current parishioners.

It is a great joy that we are celebrating together the 95th Anniversary of the Holy Trinity Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Trenton, NJ. All these years, hundreds of people were able to feel God's divine love in this church. We remember and greatly thank all the pioneers who worked hard to establish this parish 95 years ago. This is the first Ukrainian Church in this area.

Prayerfully we remember all the bishops and priests who have served in this church to God and His people.

It is a great joy to see new parishioners who are willing to accept the Orthodox Faith and continue the good work in this church for the glory of God.

Thanks to God for the new immigrants who became active members of this parish. And an even greater joy is to see the second and even third Ukrainian-American generation praying and working together with those who just arrived from Ukraine and together we are forming a strong Ukrainian Orthodox community.

Welcome everyone who came today to celebrate with us our 95th Anniversary. Thank you for your prayers



and support. Let us give thanks to God for His mercy and blessing upon us all. Happy 95th Anniversary!

95 річниця заснування Парафії Святої Трійці у місті Трентон

У неділю 2 листопада, 2014 р. парафіяльна родина та гості святкували 95 річницю заснування церкви Святої Трійці у місті Трентон, Нью Джерсі. В цей благословенний та радісний день наш дорогий Владика Митрополит Антоній очолив Божественну Літургію. Разом з священниками та парафіянами вони молилися за всіх тих вірних людей які заснували цю парафію та за тих хто продовжує їхню благочестиву працю у Божому винограднику.

Це велика радість, що ми разом святкували 95 річницю

заснування Української Православної Церкви Святої Трійці у місті Трентон. За всі ці роки сотні людей змогли відчути божественну любов у цій церкві. Ми пам'ятаємо всіх тих людей які заснували цю парафію і дякуємо їм за їхній дарунок та тяжку працю. Це є перша українська церква у цій околиці.

Молитовно ми згадуємо всіх єпископів і священників, які служили і служать в цій церкві Богові і Його людям.

Це велика радість бачити серед нас нових парафіян які з'єднали своє життя з святою церквою і продовжують робити добрі діла на славу Бога.

Слава Богу за нових імігрантів які стають активними членами цієї парафії. Приємно бачити як друге і навіть третє покоління наших людей які вже народилися у С.Ш.А. моляться і працюють разом з тими, хто щойно приїхав з України. Ми разом формуємо сильну, історичну, українську православну громаду.

Щиро дякуємо всім хто прийшов, щоб разом відсвяткувати та розділити нашу радість, та дякуємо за ваші молитви і підтримку. Віддаймо подяку Богові за Його милість і благословення на всіх нас.



Свято Миколая в Школі українознавства



У неділю, 14 грудня, Школа українознавства при Українському Православному Катедральному Соборі св. кн. Володимира відзначала свято Миколая. Як і завжди, учні та учителі почали готуватись до цієї події заздалегідь. Вже кілька тижнів поспіль вони вчили вірші, співали колядки та готували театралізовані сцени.

Та ось довгожданий день настав: по-святковому одягнуті у вишиті сорочки, щасливі та усміхнені, діти прийшли до парафіяльної зали зі своїми батьками, бабусями і дідусями.

Одразу ж після початкової молитви, яку виголосив настоятель собору отець Іван, програму розпочали найменші – учні передшкілля та першого класу. Тут лунали і традиційні колядки, і нові, тільки що привезені

з України, а також віршики про святого Миколая та Різдво. Учні третього і четвертого класів виступили зі сценкою «Ніч перед Миколаєм», а старшокласники інсценізували «Свято Катерини». Тут глядачам були представлені традиції цих зимових святкувань.

Усі вірші, які звучали на святі, були написані поетесою Ольгою Винничук, яка ласкаво погодилась бути присутньою на нашій

імпрезі. Так, діти мали можливість зустрітись з автором поезій та подякувати п. Олі за її мистецтво.

Найбажанішим гостем на святі став сам святий Миколай, що завітав до нас з чудовими подарунками, які йому допомогли приготувати магазин Rich's Deli та батьківський комітет школи. По закінченні програми всі мали можливість почастуватися канапками та солодким, які були приготовлені батьками наших учнів.

Свято Миколая в українській школі поклато добрий початок цілій низці зимових святкувань, які ми всі так любимо – і дорослі, і діти.

автор: Добродійка Лілія Лимар, Чикаго. Спеціально для «Час і Події» (номер #2014-51)



Children of Znamynka Orphanage Treated to a Special Gift

Every year around the celebration of the feast of Holy Wonderworker Nicholas, the faithful of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA offer a special seasonal gift to those for whom the Lord Himself directed to care and pray.

Fulfilling the mandate of Christ and with the blessing of the spiritual father of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA His Eminence Metropolitan Antony, Bishop Daniel, who is presently visiting Ukraine with the mission to assist the wounded soldiers and refugees of the armed conflict in Ukraine, visited with the children of Znamianka orphanage, presenting them with several gifts on behalf of the clergy and faithful of the UOC of the USA.

Every single year, mission teams of the Church travel to Ukraine in order to bring a touch of Christ's presence and love to the children of various orphanages. This year the gift of love was different from the usual visits. Outside of sponsoring an annual Nativity visit of Kropyvnytsky State theater to the orphanage and offering Nativity season greetings and gifts to the children and workers



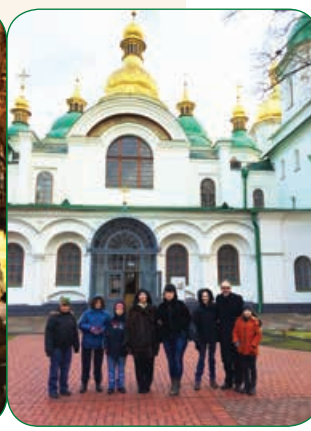
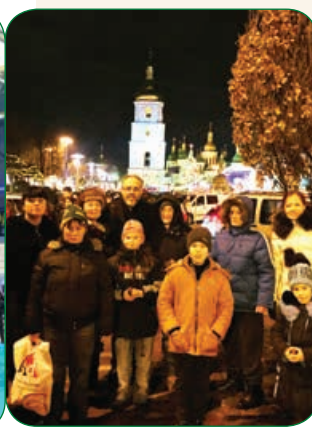
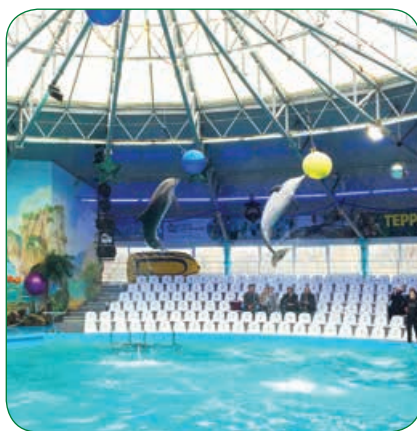
of the orphanage, Vladyka Daniel, acting on behalf of the UOC of the USA, treated several children to a visit to the capital of Ukraine - Kyiv.

Early hours of Saturday morning (December 20, 2014) brought a bus from the orphanage (the minivan, which was sponsored by the generosity of the faithful of the Church and presented to the

institution a few years ago) to Kyiv. During the full day of activities, organized by Maryna Voronovych, the children visited Kyiv City "Nemo" Aquarium, participating in Christmas show, featuring dolphins. Moreover, the children were treated to a tour of St. Sophia Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral, Holy Archangel Michael Monastery, Independence Square - Maydan.

The children joyfully in unison selected a place for meals - everyone wanted to be treated to a full McDonald's experience.

The day concluded with several hours of visit to the annual Christmas tree village in downtown Kyiv. Witnessing dozens of children's choirs caroling on the streets of Kyiv, the pilgrims - children of Znamyanka orphanage - to the ancient capital of Kyiv Rus-Ukraine learned at length about the spiritual significance of Nativity of our Lord and prayerfully departed for Znamyanka in the late hours of Saturday, sharing the joy of a four hours trip, leading to a special visit to the orphanage of the long-time friend - His Grace Vladyka Daniel, bishop of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA.



Українці Америки на Святій Землі

З 10 по 22 листопада з благословення глави Української православної церкви США, митрополита Антонія 25 паломників під духовним проводом єпископа Даниїла, правлячого архієрея Західної єпархії та голови Консистоїї УПЦ США, здійснили прощу на Святу землю й до Константинополя (нині – столиця Туреччини Стамбул). Під час 13-денної мандрівки паломники відвідали найбільш значущі місця, що згадуються в Новому Заповіті.

«Паломництво на Святу Землю дає рідкісну точку відліку. Бо це місце, де Ісус Христос зійшов з неба на землю і залишив на цьому місці, в пісках пустелі, відбиток божественності. Божа присутність пронизує тут сам ґрунт, яким ступали Вчитель та його послідовники. Життя кожного паломника, який також торкнувся цих слідів, не може не змінитися, бо перетворюється на досвід», – сказав владика Даниїл, вирушаючи зі своєю групою з нью-йоркського летовища імені Кеннеді до ізраїльського Тель-Авіву.

Українські паломники із США відразу ж почали свою мандрівку з подорожі до Назарету й навколишніх районів довкола гори Фавор, яку віруючі християни називають горою Преображення. Саме на ній сталося велике диво – Преображення Господа і Спаса нашого Ісуса Христа, описане в Євангеліях явлення його Божественної величі й слави перед трьома найближчими учнями під час молитви на цій горі. «І преобразився перед ними й просяяло його обличчя, як сонце, а одяг його зробився білим, як світло...» І почувся голос з неба: «Це Син мій улюблений, в якому моє благовоління; Його слухайтеся».



Сьогодні на вершині цієї гори розташована християнська церква Преображення Господнього, ордену францисканців, збудована в 1924 році італійським архітектором Антоніо Барлуччі. Церкву збудовано на руїнах візантійської церкви IV-VI століть та пізнішого храму хрестоносців, збудованого в XII столітті за часів «Єрусалимського королівства». Залишки обох старих храмів можна бачити перед будівлею сучасної церкви. Скромна грецька православна церква Святого Ілії знаходиться трохи нижче від великої католицької церкви.

Назарет – священне для кожного християнина місто в Галілеї, в якому, за Євангелієм, провів дитинство Ісус Христос та від назви якого носив прізвисько Ісус Назорейський. Тому на Сході іноді християн називають назорянами

від назви цього міста.

Місто Назарет християни справді дуже шанують як місто, де зростав Христос до відкритого служіння, й куди повернулися з Єгипту Йосип та Марія з маленьким Ісусом. У ньому дуже багато церков, включаючи величний католицький храм Благовіщення, найбільший храм на Близькому Сході, який височіє в центрі міста. Цей храм стоїть на тому місці, де було трикімнатне житло Богородиці в гроті, і як вважають християни, ангел Гавриїл явився перед Марією та розповів про майбутнє народження Христа. За питною водою Богородиця ходила до поруч розташованого джерельця (джерело Святого сімейства), на якому пізніше, в період Святої Олени, було споруджено православний храм Архангела Гавриїла. У Назареті також збереглася теслярська майстерня святого Йосипа, в якій навчався ремеслу теслі Ісус, та руїни синагоги, де Ісус читав пророцтва Ісаї про Себе Самого. Невеличке тоді місто лежало на жвавій торговельній дорозі з Дамаска до Єгипту, що й не могло не накласти гіркого відбитку на вдачу його мешканців. В усякому разі, згодом рідне місто Спасителя виявилось найбільш ворожим до Його проповідей: у назаретській синагозі Ісуса мало не побили камінням. У період хрестоносців у Назареті було влаштовано митрополічу катедру Назаретського єпископа, перенесену зі Скифополя. У 1837 році Назарет дуже постраждав від землетрусу.

Нині це переважно мусульманське місто, в якому, втім, на кожному кроці відчуваєш колишню присутність Ісуса. Вражають мозаїки й серед них – образ Зарва-



ницької Богородиці, оточений двома постатями в гуцульських строях та візерунками. Поруч різні народи світу помістили зображення чудотворних ікон Матері Божої зі своїх країв. Тут можна побачити колоритних темношкірих Мадонн африканців та азійців й Діву Марію американців у білому капелюсі.

Протягом наступних кількох днів прочани УПЦ США відвідали священні місця в Капернаумі, здійснили поїздку на човні Галілейським морем (хоч географічно це озеро), яким Христос ступав, немов по землі, не боячись втопитися, і води якого втихомирював, коли його учні, налякані штормом, думали, що загинуть.

На сучасній мапі це озеро розташоване на південному заході Сирії (провінція Ель-Кунейтра) та північному сході Ізраїлю. Воно на цілих 212 метрів нижче від рівня моря (одна з найнижчих ділянок суходолу на землі), має площу 165 кв. кілометрів і глибину до 48 метрів. Саме з цього озера витікає річка Йордан. Рівень води в озері змінюється протягом року залежно від опадів і вжитку води.

Капернаум – це в стародавньому Ізраїлі значний торговельний і промисловий центр, дощенту зруйнований під час Юдейської війни в I ст. н.е. Селище назване на честь пророка Наума мешканцями Тіверіади, котрі оселилися тут після падіння Єрусалиму.

Після Назарету Ісус став мешкати саме в Капернаумі, тому це місто стали звати «Його місто». Капернаум за днів Ісуса був одним з найбільших міст на березі Галілейського моря. На початку Своєї місії Господь багато разів проголошував на його берегах Слово і чинив чудеса. Одного разу, перебуваючи в Капернаумі, Ісус сказав: «А ти, Капернауме, що до неба піднісся, аж до пекла ти зійдеш», маючи на увазі зруйнування цього міста. Так і сталося – Капернаум було знищено як місто, і таким він (у руїнах) залишився до наших днів.

Нині над руїнами будинку апостола Петра в Капернаумі споруджено нову католицьку церкву Святого Петра. Серед руїн Капер-



наума є синагога (так звана «Біла синагога», споруджена у IV ст. н.е.), але це не та стара синагога, в якій Ісус проповідував.

Відвідали православні християни української Америки й Кану Галілейську – історичне село в Галілеї, відоме з біблійного сюжету про весілля в Кани Галілейській.

Традиція, що відома з VIII століття ідентифікує Кану Галілейську як місце теперішнього поселення Кафр-Кана арабською мовою (Кфар-Кана на івриті), розташованого за неповних 5 км від Назарету. У Євангелії від Івана зазначено, що учень Христа Нафанаїл був родом з Кани Галілейської. Більшістю богословів він ототожнюється з апостолом Варфоломієм. І саме по розмові з ним, на третій день прийшов Ісус разом з учнями до Кани Галілейської, де вже була й Мати Його. Саме тут, за Євангелієм від Івана, Господь зробив перше чудо свого суспільного служіння – перетворення води на вино. Сталося це під час весільного бенкету, на якому був присутній Ісус разом з Марією.

На 4-й день прощі на Святу землю були відвідини річки Йордан та місця Хрещення Господа Іваном Хрестителем. Преосвященніший єпископ Даниїл разом з преподобним отцем Володимиром Стеляком і кількома паломниками ввійшли у води Йордану, щоб випробувати благодать хрещення Христа в цій річці.

Прочани Української православної церкви США помолилися в церкві Гробу Господнього, а також під час Божественної літургії в храмі Різдва нашого Господа у Вифлеемі – місті народження Ісуса Христа. Того дня, о 5-й годині ранку, православні віряни з усього світу (України, Румунії, Польщі, Греції, Росії та

інших країн) зібралися на місці народження Христа Спасителя. Єпископ Даниїл разом з кількома ієрархами інших православних церков головував на Божественній Літургії в церкві Різдва. Йому співслужили з місцевим грецьким православним митрополитом Єрусалимського Патріархату отці Володимир Стеляс і Антоній Перкінс.

Паломники відвідали також древній монастир преподобного Сави, поле пастухів, над яким з'явився Ангел з благою звісткою про народження Спасителя, Церкву Святого Хреста та інші, священні для християн місця.

Вузенькі вулички старого Єрусалиму привели прочан до храму Гробу Господнього – однієї з найвеличніших святинь християнства. Храм побудовано на місці, де було розіп'ято Ісуса Христа і де Він потім воскрес. За довгу історію міста храм кілька разів було зруйновано й відбудовано. Ним володіли то християнські, то мусульманські правителі. Останній раз храм було відновлено в 1810 році, після великої пожежі. Сьогодні храм Гробу Господнього складається з трьох головних споруд: каплички Гробу Господнього, храму на Голгофі і храму Воскресіння. За домовленістю, прийнятою у 1852 році, територія храму поділена між шістьма християнськими конфесіями. Кожна конфесія має свою зону відповідальності та свій час для молитов. Такий поділ час від часу, на жаль, стає причиною конфліктів між представниками різних конфесій, тому з 1192 року ключі від храму зберігаються в одній мусульманській родині, а члени іншої кожен день відчиняють та зачиняють його двері. Ось вже багато років ключі традиційно передаються в цих родинях від батька до старшого сина.

У храмі, на мармуровій підлозі лежить камінь Помазання, де колись Йосип та Никодим помазали миром тіло Ісуса. Паломники стають навколішки біля каменю, моляться. Ліворуч від каменю, у великій ротонді центральної частини храму, у центрі знаходиться мармурова капличка – Кувуклія. Вона розташована над печерою

Гробу Господнього і має дві частини: притвор Ангела (місце явлення Архангела жінкам-мироносицям) та власне Гроб Господній. У стіні є два отвори, звідки у Велику Суботу, перед Великоднем, віруючим передається Благодатний вогонь, після його чудесного сходження. Гроб Господній нагадує маленьку печеру з кам'яним ложе, куди служитель пропускає по 3-4 особи. Перед входом горить лампадка, де бажаючі можуть запалити від Благодатного вогню придбані свічки, зв'язані по 33 штуки, і потім їх погасити.

Друга святиня храму – Голгофа. До вершини гори, де було розп'ято Ісуса Христа, ведуть сходи. На Голгофі відмічено місце, де було закопано хрест і поруч – хрести двох розбійників, страчених разом з Ісусом. Під склом можна побачити тріщину в скелі, яка з'явилася при останньому подихові Христа.

Третя святиня храму Гробу Господнього – храм Воскресіння. У його центр встановлено кам'яну вазу, яка символізує «пуп» або центр Землі. Ця кам'яна ваза, всередині якої знаходиться куля з викарбуваним на ній хрестом посередині прямої лінії, яка з'єднує вівтар катедрального храму Єрусалимського Патріархату та Кувуклію. Паломники прагнуть обов'язково доторкнутися до цієї святині.

Далі шлях українсько-американських паломників проліг до Вифлеєму, що за 10 кілометрів від Єрусалиму. Там батьківщина царя Давида та місце народження Спасителя.

Печера, де народився Спаситель світу, є підземним храмом базиліки. Тридцять сходинок ведуть до місця народження Ісуса Христа. Підлога викладена мармуром, в ніші знаходиться престол, під ним – відома на весь світ срібна Зірка, довкола якої напис латиною: «*Nic de Virgine Maria Jesus Christus natus est*» (Тут від Діви Марії народився Ісус Христос). Паломники стають на коліна й моляться.

З благословення Блаженнішого Феофіла III, Патріарха Святого Града Єрусалима і всієї Палестини, Преосвященніший єпископ Даниїл, о. Володимир Стеляк і о.

Антоній Перкінс взяли участь у Божественній літургії в церкві Гробу Господнього. Молитви пролунали грецькою, англійською, українською та церковно-слов'янською мовами й торкнулися душ більш ніж 50 священників і понад 300 віруючих.

Шукаючи відповідь на запитання «Що означає бути православним християнином в Єрусалимі?» паломники Української Православної Церкви США відвідали древній Єрусалимський Патріархат. Отримавши благословення з рук Блаженнішого Теофіла III, Патріарха Єрусалимського і всієї Палестини, паломники провели близько години з Патріархом, дізнавшись про історію Патріархату, орден Братства Гроба Господнього і життя православних християн в Єрусалимі та прилеглих до нього районах, які знаходяться під духовною опікою Блаженнішого. «Для нас, українських православних християн зі Сполучених Штатів Америки, – сказав владика Даниїл, передаючи вітання від Високопреосвященного митрополита Антонія, – велика честь бути на Святій Землі в ці дні...»

Блаженніший Теофіл III запевнив паломників, що в своїх молитвах просить миру й злагоди в Україні. По закінченні зустрічі владика Даниїл разом з протоієреєм Володимиром Стеляком і преподобним отцем Антонієм Перкінсом подарували Патріарху копію ікони «Піднесення перших плодів» із зображенням святих Володимира та Ольги. У свою сергу, Блаженніший Патріарх Єрусалимський Теофіл нагородив єпископа Даниїла патріархальною панагією та наперсним хрестом духовенства паломництва. А кожен паломник УПЦ США отримав від Блаженнішого Патріарха Єрусалимського благословення.



мав від Блаженнішого Патріарха Єрусалимського благословення.

Наступного дня американсько-українські паломники вирушили до Константинополя, на прадавню батьківщину Православної церкви, де 21 листопада мали зустріч з Вселенським Патріархом Варфоломієм. Наступні три дні було присвячено оглядові та вивченню історичної та духовної значимості старого Константинополя – колишнього центру візантійського світу. Паломники мали нагоду відвідати численні історичні місця, серед яких Палац Топкапи, резиденцію й адміністративний центр колишньої Османської імперії. Унікальним було те, що можна було підходити до мощів святого пророка Івана Хрестителя, які донині не перенесено до музею. Цікавими були й відвідини церкви Святої Ірини, Влахернської церкви Богородиці, церкви Святого Спасителя в Хорі (музей Каріє), яка вважається одним з найкрасивіших збережених прикладів візантійської традиції.

Але найголовніше, паломники з Америки взяли участь у Божественній літургії у знаменитій на весь світ, величній і неповторній в своїй красі Святій Софії, яку правив Святіший Патріарх Варфоломій. У другій половині дня він провів спеціальну аудієнцію з паломниками Української православної церкви США.

Звертаючись до них, предстоятель Константинопольської Церкви сказав, що завжди з нетерпінням чекає паломників Української Православної церкви як зі Сполучених Штатів Америки так і з України.

Отримавши благословення від Вселенського Патріарха, прочани, наповнені враженнями й силою Святої землі, щасливо повернулися додому.

Українська православна церква США організовує прощі на Святу землю й до Константинополя щороку. Детальнішу інформацію можна отримати на сайті: uocofusa.org або за телефоном: (732) 356-0090. Прес служба УПЦ США

*Із газети «Nova Газета»
за 4 грудня, 2014 р.*

UOC of the USA Delivers Aid to the Wounded Soldiers and Refugees of Ukraine



Once again, fulfilling the mandate of the faithful of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, who answered the Archpastoral Appeal of the Council of Bishops, the Consistory of the Church sent additional \$20,000 to the Military Medical Clinical Centers of Ukraine as well as the refugee Camps of displaced persons from Donbas region of Ukraine.

With the blessing of His Eminence Metropolitan Antony, His Grace Bishop Daniel, President of the Consistory of the UOC of the USA traveled to the capital of Ukraine in

order to finalize the paperwork for prospective seminarians of St. Sophia Ukrainian Orthodox Theological Seminary, used the opportunity of being in Kyiv and visited the medical facilities of Ukrainian Armed Forces in Central and Eastern Ukraine.

On the feast day of Holy Wonderworker Nicholas, December 19, 2014 - Vladyka Daniel, escorted by professor Taras Myronyuk of Kyiv Hrinchenko University and Dr. Yuriy Marchenko, visited two medical facilities in Kyiv, where a number of wounded Ukrainian soldiers receive medical treatment. Meeting with families of the wounded the bishop related the love, prayerful support and solidarity of the entire Ukrainian-American, and especially Ukrainian Orthodox communities with the people of Ukraine. His Grace stated: "For over a year now, the faithful of the UOC of the USA gather in their parishes to hold prayer services for the suffering, wounded and deceased. Today, I visit these brave men with a profound sense of gratitude for their service

and the ultimate sacrifice that so many of them have made. Today, I bring with me the prayerful well wishes of the clergy and the faithful not only of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, but also the clergy and faithful of the Ukrainian Orthodox communities of Australia and New Zealand. Representing our Prime Hierarch Metropolitan Antony and the clergy with the faithful of Ukrainian Orthodox Christians throughout the world I bow down in front of you, yet praying the Almighty God for your healing, both physical

➤ *Continued on p. 23*



Parish feast Day in Minneapolis, MN!

Святкування храмового свята в м. Мініаполіс



В суботу, 1 Листопада 2014 р. Б. парафія святих Архистратигів Михаїла та Юрія в Мініаполіс штат Мінесота, була благословенна візитом свого правлячого архиєрея Єпископа Даниїла. В аеропорту Владика, котрий прибув на парафію у супроводі іподиякона Володимира Суканця, зустрічали члени парафіяльної управи громади. Після зустрічі Владика супроводили на зутріч із членами парафіяльної управи щоб почути від нього повчальні слова. Під час вечері Владика Даниїл не тільки насолоджувався стравами, які були приготовлені, але і розмовою, яку підтримували всі хто був у залі. Присутні мали багато питань до Преосвященішого Владика і він, як духовний пастир, відповідав на всі запитання та давав духовні настанови щоб члени парафіяльної управи були достойними лідерами у Винограднику Христовому.

В неділю, 2 листопада 2014 р. Б всі вірні парафії на чолі з отцем парохом та головою парафіяльної управи, а також дітьми зустрічали Преосвященнішого Владика з

традиційними хлібом, сіллю та квітами на порозі храму. Щирі привітання лунали в сторону Владика в цей день храмового свята парафії. Літургія, яку очолював Єпископ Даниїл з отцем Євгеном Кумкою та отцем Петром Сівком була наповнена присутністю Духа Святого, благовінно наповнювала душі побожних Християн благодаттю Божою. На виголоси духовенства відповідав чудовий парафіяльний хор (диригент Андрій Каркоць), який своїм благовгодним співом доповняв божественне дійство біля престолу Божого. Після прочитання Святого Євангелії Владика Даниїл доніс вірним Слово Боже. Суть якого навів наприкладі з сучасного життя. Під час служби Преосвященніший Владика молився за мир і злагоду в Україні та й у цілому світі, беручи до уваги політичну і економічну нестабільність у світі.

В кінці Літургії, Преосвященний Владика Даниїл, звертаючись до парафіян громади від імені Собору Єпископів УПЦ США, передав

церковну нагороду БЛАГОДІЙНИКА УПЦ США Анатолію Лисому (посмертно), його дружині та вдові - Дарії. Цитуючи слова нагороди під час 19 Звичайного Собору Української Православної Церкви США, владика Даниїл зачитав: "БЛАГОДІЙНИКИ НАШОЇ СВЯТОЇ УКРАЇНСЬКОЇ ПРАВОСЛАВНОЇ ЦЕРКВИ". Ця нагорода є надана тим особам, як духовенству так і мирянам, які все своє життя присвятили церкві і своєю діяльністю стали прикладами для інших. Ця нагорода буде проводитися щороку і надаватися не більше п'ятьом особам, чия присвята буде очевидна для кожного із нас." П'ять номінантів цієї нагороди було вибрано, котрі отримали медальйон із іконою св. Андрія Первозваного, основоположника



Христової Церкви в Україні, із словами: "Великий Благодійник" на переді, а ззаду із надписом "Продовжуйте справу св. Андрія Первозваного". Наступні особи отримали цю нагороду:

**ПРОТОПРЕСВІТЕР ВАСИЛЬ ДЯКІВ
ОМЕЛЬЯН СКОЧИПЕЦЬ
ВАЛЕНТИНА КУЗЬМИЧ
НАДІЯ МІРЧУК**

**ДОКТОР АНАТОЛІЙ ЛИСИЙ -
ПОСМЕРТНО**

1. Член Ради Митрополії
2. Член комісії Ради Митрополії по міжконфесійній відносинах в Україні.



3. Активіст Української Громади — представляючи нашу Церкву на різних подіях

4. Парафіянин та благодійник парафії св. Михаїла ум. Міннеаполіс, МН із дружиною Дарією та родиною. Вічна йому пам'ять!

Після Служби Божої всі перейшли до церковної залі, надзви-

чайно красиво оформленої Парафіянами та сестрами Павлюк, де учні школи українознавства виступили з невеликим концертом, який розпочався молитвою "Отче наш". Діточки своєю щирістю радували серця парафіян, потім всі мали можливість трохи підживитись смачним обідом. Під час обіду Владика Даниїл мав слово де, зокрема,

він розповів про відвідування біженців та поранених солдатів в Україні, передаючи їм фінансову допомогу, зібрану парафіянами УПЦ США. Тут же була організована збірка на благодійний фонд Церкви. Всього було зібрано біля двох тисяч доларів. Подякувавши людям за їхню жертвність Владика сказав, що любов і тепло їхніх сердець допоможуть тим хто потребує простої щоденної допомоги, беручи до уваги військовий стан в Україні.

Свято завершилось на великому піднесенні, люди ще довго не відпускали Владика Даниїла, кожний старався висловити свою прихильність і бажання частіших таких зустрічей в майбутньому, але доля, яку дав Господь Владиці, кличе його до пересохлої пустелі людського відношень, щоб Христовим словом давати життя новим паросткам у Божому Винограднику.

Після подячної молитви, яку очолив Преосвященніший Владика Даниїл усі вірні заспівали: Іс полла еті, деспота!

Іподиякон Володимир Суканець

UOC of the USA Delivers Aid to the Wounded Soldiers and Refugees of Ukraine

► *Continued from p. 21*

and spiritual..." At the end of his visit, Vladyka Daniel approached each soldier to personally offer a blessing and while at the refugee camp, the bishop prayed a small Moleben service, bestowing upon over 180 individuals, especially the children, many of whom were born in the Camp and named in honor of the patron saint of Vladyka Daniel - Holy Prophet Daniel, the blessing of the Lord.

Over 200 wounded Ukrainian soldiers became recipients of over \$200,000 since the beginning of war in Ukraine. This time around a number of soldiers and refugees of

the local displaced persons camp, located at Logos Christian center under the leadership of Rev. Fr. Mykola Ilnytsky, received financial help, provided by the clergy and faithful of the Church.

The Consistory Offices of the Church offer sincerest gratitude to every person, organization and parish community of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA and Diaspora for their sincere and generous donations that were received and continue to be delivered in order to provided additional assistance to those in need. God's blessing be with each one of you!



Patron feast Day at St. Andrew Memorial Church, South Bound Brook, NJ

It was a special day of thanksgiving at Holy Apostle Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Memorial Church in South bound Brook, NJ, Sunday, December 14, 2014, as the entire Metropolia Center of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA celebrated the feast of St. Andrew the First-Called Apostle, Founder of Christ's Church in Kyiv Rus-Ukraine.

It was, as always, a most spiritual day, on which many guests joined with the local faithful to welcome His Eminence Metropolitan Antony and His Grace Bishop Daniel and, most importantly, to offer sincere gratitude to God Almighty for another year of abundant blessings upon us all.

The arrival of His Eminence Metropolitan Antony and His Grace Vladyka Daniel was excitedly anticipated by the young children of the local Ukrainian School with bouquets of flowers. As they entered the Church, escorted by the Subdeacons-seminarians, the children rushed forth with sparkles in their eyes to present the flowers to both bishops of the Church, who must have seemed so very tall to them, but they bent down to greet and bless each one of them. It was a moment they will long remember. In fact, following the formal presentation, the children in their usual disarming way, randomly approached the bishops giving them hugs and reaching for the archpastoral panagias to venerate. The Parish of Pokrova Sisterhood, assisted by the members of the sisterhood, welcomed the hierarchs



with the traditional offering of a beautiful ceremonial bread and salt, asking them to pray for all the founders and benefactors of the community. Responding to the greetings, both bishops expressed gratitude to the members of the communities' sisterhood for their dedication and work, especially for the generous donations aiding the suffering refugees and wounded soldiers of Ukraine.

Very Rev. Yuriy Siwko, the pastor of St. Andrew Memorial Church, assisted by the Starosta (Elder) of the Memorial Church - Dmytro Kozliuk, welcomed His Eminence and His Grace, asking them to pray for all his predecessor hierarchs and parish priests - especially as the community

celebrates the patron feast day.

The church was filled with people from various generations of Ukrainian Orthodox Christians: parishioners that arrived to the US a decade ago, their children and grandchildren, as well numerous faithful of the Church that recently arrived from Ukraine. Chanting the responses to the Divine Liturgy were the members of St. Andrew's Church Choir under the leadership of Dr. Michael Andrec.

Following the Divine Liturgy His Eminence offered an inspiring sermon centered on the topic of each person's ability and call to dedication in the service of God and others, the community, nation, etc. He will, if we open our hearts and souls to Him, enable us to become more than we could ever imagine being.

At the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy, His Grace Bishop Daniel spoke to the membership of the parish family about the most recent repairs done at the Memorial Church and the dedication of so many parishioners that volunteered their time and financial assistance. Moreover, His Eminence Metropolitan Antony expressed the most sincere gratitude to the work crew under the leadership of Metropolia's Center Petro Rudy for their dedication and work. In addition, Vladyka presented to the entire parish community, the newly installed icons of Holy Apostles Peter and Paul, Holy Prophet John the Baptist and St. Nicholas the Wonderworker, that were placed in the Memorial



Church as a memorial gift from the Holy Trinity Ukrainian Orthodox parish in Dearborn, MI.

Following the liturgical celebrations of the day, a delicious Lenten meal awaited all present, having been prepared by Pokrova sisterhood under the leadership of Panimatka Lesia Siwko. There was no admission fee for the lavish banquet because this is simply a time when we want our whole family gathered together with our Spiritual Fathers – our Metropolitan and Bishop – to celebrate what God has provided for us. Even though no admission fee is required, many present made significant donations on a voluntarily basis.

The afternoon became even more celebratory, once the children of Ukrainian Language and Religion School of the Memorial Church, under the leadership of Principal Halyna Stadnytska and teachers, presented a small concert program honoring the feast day of the parish and the forthcoming celebrations of St. Nicholas and the

Nativity of our Lord. Moreover, the youth of the local Barvinok Dance studio entertained everyone with a small presentation about the upcoming Nativity season. In conclusion, a very significant presentation was announced and presented to His Grace Bishop Daniel, as the president of the Consistory of the UOC of the USA, for the repairs at the Memorial Church in the amount of \$10,000. It was presented by Panimatka Lesia Siwko, on behalf of the entire membership of Pokrova Sisterhood that with love and dedication spend numerous hours cooking and organizing charitable events in order to benefit

the Memorial Church community.

The presence of our bishops - His Eminence Metropolitan Antony and His Grace Bishop Daniel - is always most important to our annual Patron Feast Day. This is evident by the obvious love that emanates from them for our children and family members. This same love is evident in the relationship that emerges now between the leadership of our parish family with all the members and visitors. This sincere love is so evident now, not only on this one day, but at every step of our parish community life and provides a sense of security for the future of our parish and, in turn, for our entire Church.

It is almost palpable when one spends any real time with our parish family. We pray that others "know that we are follower of Jesus Christ by this love we have for one another". We are grateful to God for such blessed moments as our annual Feast Day in our lives and the opportunities it offers for us to "be of one mind in confessing the Holy Trinity – Father, Son and Holy Spirit – one in essence and undivided".



Ordination Anniversaries

January / February

May God grant to them many, happy and blessed years!

His Eminence Metropolitan Antony	January 26, 2013
V. Rev. Myron Mykhaylyuk	January 02, 1977
V. Rev. Pavlo Bodnarchuk	January 03, 1993
Rev. Andriy Matlak	January 09, 2013
V. Rev. Gerald Ozlanski	January 25, 1987
V. Rev. Harry Linsinbigler	January 25, 2003
V. Rev. Myroslav Schirta	January 30, 1998
Protopresb. Taras Chubenko	February 03, 1980
Rev. Vasyl Dovgan	February 12, 2013
V. Rev. Oleh Hucul	February 12, 1995
V. Rev. Volodymyr Muzychka	February 22, 1982
V. Rev. Rostyslav Tsapar	February 24, 2002
Protodn. Joseph Hotrovich	February 29, 1948

Hierarchs of the UOC of the USA Meet with Patriarch of Antioch John X

The Patriarch of Antioch, His Beatitude John X, (who is the head of one of the oldest Christian Churches in the world) traveled from Damascus, Syria to the United States of America for the enthronement of His Eminence Metropolitan Joseph as the new spiritual father of the Antiochian Orthodox Church in North America.

The enthronement took place on Saturday, December 6, 2014 at 4:30 p.m. at the Church's St. Nicholas Cathedral in Brooklyn, NY.

Metropolitan Joseph was selected by the Holy Synod of Antioch on July 3, 2014 to succeed Metropolitan Philip of blessed memory, who reposed in the Lord on March 19, 2014. Metropolitan Joseph was formerly the Bishop of the Diocese of Los Angeles and the West.

He now heads the entire Antiochian Orthodox Church in North America, with nine bishops, over 400 clergy, and 266 parishes and missions throughout the United States and Canada.

Both hierarchs of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA – His Eminence Metropolitan Antony and His Grace Bishop Daniel were present at the enthronement service at St. Nicholas Antiochian Orthodox Cathedral in Brooklyn, NY. Following the liturgical service, the bishops of the UOC of the USA were among the honored guests of the Antiochian Archdiocese at the formal banquet. In their congratulatory letter the hierarchs of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA stated:

“On behalf of the clergy and faithful of the Ukrainian Orthodox



Church of the USA, we would like to express our best wishes and congratulation upon your election to the great and sacred responsibility of a chief shepherd of the flock of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America. We look forward to your service to the Gospel and Body of Christ in United States of America, which with God's help, will be inspirational, bringing life-giving impulses also to the efforts toward unity in the Holy Orthodox Church on North American continent.

Your Eminence, we pray for you in the realization that the clergy



and faithful of the entire Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America gather around their bishop, to ensure that the ministry of Christ will continue to bear the beautiful and sweet fruit of new and eternal life. We are of one mind and heart, praising and glorifying the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

May we always work together in brotherly love, peace, and harmony as we seek to fulfill God's Holy

Will and share in the joy of God's blessings upon you and all your faithful flock in this moment. We pray for the successful beginning and continuation of your service in the spiritual leadership of God's people in America.

May all the saints that have labored for the Church in Antioch continue to intercede for you as you follow in their footsteps and continue the work that they began – for the glory of God.”

The Antiochian Orthodox Church worldwide is headed by the Patriarch of Antioch John X and is the largest Arab Orthodox Christian church in the world, with churches in the Middle East, Europe, North and South America and Australia. It was founded by Ss. Paul and Barnabas in 42 A.D. and its first bishop was Holy Apostle Peter.

The Bible states in Acts 11:26 “And the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch.”

The Patriarchate is one of the four ancient Patriarchates within the Orthodox Church today – the others being the Patriarchates of Constantinople (Istanbul, Turkey), Jerusalem and Alexandria (Egypt).

His Eminence Metropolitan Antony Visits St. Nicholas Mission Parish in Dover, Delaware



On Sunday, November 23, 2014, His Eminence, Metropolitan Antony, Primate of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA and Ruling Hierarch of the Eastern Eparchy, made his third Archpastoral visitation as Ruling Hierarch and first Archpastoral visit as Metropolitan to St. Nicholas Ukrainian Orthodox Mission Parish in Dover, Delaware. Accompanying his Eminence were Subdeacon Ivan Chopko, Subdeacon Volodymyr Yavorsky, Subdeacon Volodymyr Sukanets and Seminarian Ruslan Rolnyj - all from our Saint Sophia Ukrainian Orthodox Theological Seminary in South Bound Brook, New Jersey.

Standing with the youth of the Parish, Nicholas Biddle, greeted His Eminence first on their behalf. Presenting white roses, Nicholas thanked His Eminence for his presence and his prayers on this special occasion. Presenting His Eminence with the traditional tray of bread and salt, Mr. Edward Zabowski, Parish Treasurer, offered greetings on behalf of the Parish. He also thanked His Eminence for his presence and his prayers and assured him that we shall also always remember him in our prayers. Father Stephen then greeted and thanked his Eminence for his foresight and permission to allow St. Nicholas Mission Parish to be formed and accepted under his omophor. It is a Parish of many ethnicities which share their traditions and cultures knowing full well that it is their Orthodox Faith that binds them together. After six years, the Mission Parish is growing and looking for a larger and more permanent home to allow more space for its worshipping community. The Mission Parish believes that with his Eminence's continued prayers, all of this will become a reality.

His Eminence preached on the Sunday Gospel message of the "Good Samaritan". He spoke of our obligation to see Christ in all whom we meet. He told us that unfortunately our society does not place any value

on helping others. But we as Orthodox Christians must take the words of the Lord seriously. We can no longer just seek to justify ourselves as the young man in the Gospel but must go the extra mile to be the people that the Lord has called us to be. He reminded us that we are in his prayers and that he hopes that his next visit will be in our own space for worship.

Following the Liturgy, the Mission Parish family rose to the occasion to prepare a dinner for all who participated. As always, it was a great feast with desserts that went beyond all imagination. Special thanks are offered to all who helped in any way.

HISTORY OF OUR MISSION PARISH

For many years, people inquired why there was no Orthodox Parish in the state capitol of Dover, Delaware. A letter of inquiry was sent by Father Stephen Hutnick on behalf of the people of Dover, to the then, Archbishop Antony, President of the Consistory and Ruling Hierarch of the Eastern Eparchy of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA. His Eminence responded that a meeting should be held to discuss the feasibility of such an endeavor.

After publishing ads in the local paper for three weeks, a meeting was held on Saturday, January 26th, 2008 at the home of Edward and Cheryl Zabowski to talk about the possibility of forming an Orthodox Mission Parish. The meeting began following Great Vespers and it was chaired by Very Rev. Stephen Hutnick with twelve people in attendance: Edward Zabowski, Cheryl Zabowski, Sylvia Holt, Frank Biddle, Sonja Biddle, Robert Perrine, Veronica Perrine, Norman Kristic, Vince Spelock, Dana Spelock, Ralph Vurgich, and Esther Belliveau.

During the meeting, Father Stephen spoke about the necessary commitment spiritually, financially and physically that was needed in order to make the Mission Parish a reality. Attendance at services is a requirement and a place of worship would need to be found. A Committee consisting of Father Stephen, Robert Perrine, Edward Zabowski, Norman Kristic and Sylvia Holt agreed to look at the Dover Century Club to rent for the Divine Services. Father Stephen stated that he would celebrate Divine Liturgy on one Sunday of the month and a Vespers Liturgy would be celebrated on one Saturday of the month. After meeting there on Monday, January 27, 2008, the Dover Century Club has served as the home for our Mission Parish.

A letter dated February 12, 2008, was sent to His Eminence reporting to him the results of the meeting. It had been decided that a budget of at least \$700.00 monthly would be needed to begin services in Dover. As



per the directive of His Eminence, a Treasurer needed to be appointed. Robert Perrine volunteered for the position and he was unanimously accepted by the attendees. After prayer and contemplation, a motion was made and unanimously accepted to place the Mission Parish under the Patronage of Saint Nicholas of Myra.

The plans to form the Mission Parish were forwarded to His Eminence, Archbishop Antony and a petition was included that the new Mission Parish would be placed under his omophorion. A joyful letter of acceptance by His Eminence was received and an antimension with the relics of Saint Charalampus was entrusted to Father Stephen for the new community. The first Divine Liturgy was celebrated on Sunday, February 25, 2008. There were 30 people in attendance.

St. Nicholas Mission was blessed in its first year with a \$500.00 monthly gift from our Church's Mission Fund. After the first year, the Mission Parish continued to work very hard together in order to be financially responsible for its existence.

The Parish continues to grow from its 12 original members to a membership of 36 adults and 14 youth. We celebrate our Patronal Feastday as our Anniversary on the Sunday following December 19.

During the summer of 2008, a "Family Day" was celebrated at one of the parks in the Dover area. It was a great day of prayer and fun for everyone in attendance.

His Eminence, Archbishop Antony made his first Archpastoral visit on Sunday, December 22, 2008 to celebrate the Mission's first patronal feastday. Although the day started with snow, there were 60 people in attendance, including some of the Parishioners from our sister parishes of Sts. Peter and Paul in Wilmington, DE and Holy Trinity in Whaleyville, MD. His Eminence spoke about what it meant to be an Orthodox Christian during his sermon and that we needed to stand up

for our faith and be examples to the community and the world. After the Ambon prayer, His Eminence celebrated Lytia, blessing the loaves presented by the Parishioners for their health and salvation. He also celebrated Panakhyda (Memorial Service) for the deceased of the Parish members and blessed the zhyto (koliva) which was also distributed after the Liturgy.

A Lenten Banquet to honor Archbishop Antony's first visit to the Parish was celebrated at the Betsy Ross Restaurant in Dover. His Eminence visited each and every one of the tables and met with all the people in attendance.

On December 19, 2010, His Eminence made his second visitation to the Mission Parish. This was in honor of the Mission Parish's third anniversary. The Parishioners themselves made a Lenten Feast for all who participated. Everyone was impressed by the way the faithful were able to convert the hall from Church to Banquet Hall in fifteen minutes.

Services continue to be celebrated one Sunday and one Saturday every month at the Dover Century Club. Beginning in 2009, the Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts is celebrated every Thursday in the Great Fast and Vespers for Good Friday are celebrated at 3:00 in the afternoon with a procession with the Holy Shroud around the Green. Resurrection Matins are celebrated at 6:00 AM followed by the Paskal Divine Liturgy. Please check our Bulletin or scheduling page of the website for the times and dates of all of our services.

It is our hope and prayer that this Mission Parish under the patronage of Saint Nicholas of Myra will one day soon be considered a full Parish. If you would like to donate towards the success of our Mission, please write to us at: St. Nicholas Ukrainian Orthodox Mission, c/o 1406 Philadelphia Pike, Wilmington, DE 19809. For more information, please do not hesitate to contact Father Stephen at (302) 798-4455 or at his e-mail address: otche@aol.com



80th Anniversary of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish!



On November 8, 2014 at 9:30 AM, the bell at the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Orthodox Parish in South Plainfield was joyfully ringing, welcoming the ruling bishop of the Eastern Eparchy His Eminence Metropolitan Antony to the parish. Metropolitan Antony was coming for an Archpastoral visit to his spiritual children—the flock entrusted into his hands by Christ Himself—who were celebrating the 80th anniversary of their parish.

Upon entering the Church, Metropolitan Antony was greeted by two representatives of the parishioners and guests gathered—Anita Anderson, Parish Board Treasurer, greeted the Metropolitan with a bouquet of roses and Andrew Olear, Parish Board President, with the traditional Ukrainian bread. Fr. Vasyl Pasakas, pastor of the parish, greeted His Eminence with a cross and Holy Water, expressing spiritual joy on the occasion of his visit and asking for intercessory prayers for this parish community. Fr. Vasyl invoked the Archangel Michael and the other Bodiless Powers, who's

Feast Day was commemorated that day, for guidance and guardianship in the days ahead.

From the vestibule, Metropolitan Antony entered the nave, walking towards the center of the Church from where he would preside during the beginning of Liturgy. His Eminence bestowed his blessings upon those gathered in Church and gave his blessing to begin the Divine Liturgy. The Archpastoral Divine Liturgy was co-celebrated by local clergy: V. Rev. Oleh Hucul, from Holy Ascension Parish in Maplewood, NJ and Deacon James Cairns, from Saint Demetrius Cathedral in Carteret, NJ. V. Rev. Yuriy Siwko, from St. Andrew Memorial Church in South Bound Brook, NJ, joined the congregation at the celebratory luncheon after his own services at St. Andrew's ended. The clergy were assisted by Seminarians of Saint Sophia Seminary—Subdeacons Ivan Chopko, Volodymyr Yavorski and Volodymyr Sukanets, and altar boy James (JD) Cairns.

During the sermon, Metropolitan Antony spoke about the importance

of paying attention to the spiritual things in our lives, as many people today are preoccupied with busy lives and on the earthly matters—just like in the parable about Martha and Mary. He emphasized on the faith of the forefathers and founders of this parish; the faith that drew them to God, their self-sacrifice, and their calling to build this church and community, as well as their desire to pass the legacy and devotion to the future generations. This 80th anniversary celebration is also about this parish family just as much as it is about the founders of the community back in the 1930s---the founders preserved the faith and now it is the responsibility of everyone, not just the priest, to pass on the faith to the next generation.

During the Liturgy, prayers were offered for the repose of the souls of pastors who had served at the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, for the repose of the founders of the Parish- Catherine Dorosh, Paul Owsinik, Michael Polehonki, Nicholas Sawczak, Julia Sharyk and Andrew Zahuta, and for all the departed

AKIOS!

Metropolitan Antony Celebrates 42nd Anniversary of the Holy Priesthood!

On Wednesday, November 26, 2014 – the feast day of St. John Chrysostom, His Eminence Metropolitan Antony, First Hierarch of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA marks the 42nd anniversary of his ordination to the Holy Priesthood of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA through the laying on of hands of His Beatitude Metropolitan Constantine (of blessed memory).

The clergy along with the members of the Council of Metropolia, the Consistory and the plentitude of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA offer prayerful congratulations



and gratitude to His Eminence for his selfless service and exemplary ministry during the past forty-two years.

We wish you spiritual strength, wisdom and inexhaustible assistance of our Lord Jesus Christ, through the intercession of holy prayers of your predecessor and heavenly patron – Venerable Anthony the Great - in your upcoming endeavors.

May our great Hierarch, Our Lord Jesus bless your work for the good of the Church and grant you joy and peace, strengthening you spiritually and physically for many blessed years.

May God grant you many years, Master!

► *Continued from p. 29*

80th Anniversary of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish!

members of the Parish. The responses for the day's service were led by Mr. Raymond Mastroberte, whose pious and melodic responses made the service truly divine. At the conclusion of Liturgy, Fr. Vasyl expressed words of gratitude to His Eminence Metropolitan Antony for touching everyone's hearts and souls with this spiritual visit.

The celebration continued after Liturgy, as everyone present was welcomed to a catered luncheon in the parish hall. The event was enhanced with pictures of the history of the parish, a basket raffle, remarks on the history of the parish, and greetings from V. Rev. Raymond Sundland (former pastor of the parish) and from Michael Komichak, national president of the Ukrainian Orthodox League on behalf of the League.



Victims of Genocidal Famine in Ukraine Remembered!

The walls of the 19th century St. Patrick Cathedral in New York, NY were filled with several thousands of people and solemn chanting of a Memorial service, honoring the memory of about 10 million people, the victims of the artificially created Genocide-Famine in Ukraine of 1932-1933.

On Saturday, November 22, 2014, the Ukrainian community, under the leadership of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA) held its now annual requiem service to commemorate the 81st Anniversary of Ukraine's Genocide of 1932-1933, known in Ukrainian as the Holodomor. The clergy and hierarchs of the Ukrainian Orthodox and Catholic Churches (His Eminence Metropolitan Antony of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA and His Grace Bishop Paul Chomytsky of Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Stamford, CT) led this year's Memorial Pahankhyda for the repose of the souls of the millions of innocent victims of the Ukrainian Genocide of 1932-1933.



Following the requiem service, representatives from the United States government were offered an opportunity to deliver remarks. Among the speakers were His Eminence Metropolitan Antony, the Ruling Hierarch of the Eastern Eparchy and Primate of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, Tamara Gallo Olexy, president of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, His Grace Bishop Paul Chomytsky, Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Stamford, CT, Ambassador of Ukraine to the United Nations Yuriy Sergeyev and Consul General of Ukraine in NY Igor Sybiga to name a few. A statement from

President Obama in remembrance of the 81st anniversary of the Holodomor was also read. The Dumka Choir, under the direction of maestro Vasyl Hrechynsky chanted solemn responses to a Memorial Panakhyda for the Famine victims.

The Genocide of 1932-1933 is one of the darkest pages in the history of the Ukrainian nation. Up to 10 million innocent victims were starved to death through a

deliberate Soviet policy aimed at crushing the nationally conscious Ukrainian peasantry. The Ukrainian Genocide ranks among the worst cases of man's inhumanity towards man and is perhaps the most extreme example of the use of food as a weapon.

Earlier in the month, the Permanent Conference of Bishops of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church Beyond the Borders of Ukraine issued a Statement on the Occasion of the 81st Anniversary of the Genocidal Famine in Ukraine.

Photos by Irene Rejent Saviano



UOC of the USA Pilgrims

Meet With the Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew of Constantinople

A 25-member group of pilgrims from the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA safely departed Tel-Alvin, Israel following a 10-day pilgrimage to the sacred sites of Holy Land.

On Wednesday, November 19, 2014 the group of pilgrims under the leadership of His Grace Bishop Daniel arrived in Constantinople (Istanbul, Turkey).

The itinerary of this year's pilgrimage placed the faithful of the Church at the ancient homeland of the Holy Ukrainian Orthodox Christian Church. The following three days of the pilgrimage were dedicated to the historical and spiritual importance of the old city of Constantinople, the center of Byzantine world. Vladyka Daniel, assisted by the tour guides of Select Travel International, visited numerous historical sites of the city, among which the Topkapi palace, the residence and administrative center of the fallen Ottoman Empire. The highlight of the visit to the palace/museum was the ability to approach the relics of Holy Prophet John the Baptizer that until this day are housed at the museum.

The itinerary of the following two days of the pilgrimage included visits to the church of Holy Peace (Hagia Eirene), which was dedicated by the Emperor Constantine the Great to the peace of God, and is one of the three shrines which the Emperor devoted to God's attributes, together with Hagia Sophia (Wisdom) and Hagia Dynamis (Force); The Church of Panagia Blachernae - Protection of the Mother of God, The Church of the Holy Savior in Chora, which is considered to be one of the most beautiful surviving examples



of a Byzantine church, and most importantly to the Great Church of Holy Wisdom – Hagia Sophia.

With the blessing of His All-Holiness Patriarch Bartholomew I, the pilgrims of the Church attended the Divine Liturgy for the feast day of the Entrance of the Birth-Giver of God into the Temple (Gregorian calendar - as the faithful of the Slavic tradition celebrated the feast day of Holy Archangel Michael (Julian Calendar), at the patronal feast of the Church of Panaghia in the Pera (Beyoğlu) district of Istanbul. Concelebrating with His All-Holiness were members of the Holy and Sacred Synod of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, as well as hierarchs of the Ecumenical Throne.

Later in the afternoon the patriarch held a special audience with the pilgrims of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA.

After greeting pilgrims personally, he presented them with a small golden cross to mark the occasion. Addressing the pilgrims, the Primate of the Church of Constantinople said in particular, 'You have been blessed this journey by the two Patriarchs – a blessing from His Beatitude Theophilus III, Patriarch of Jerusalem and All Palestine and me. It means your journey was a success. I always look forward to receiving Ukrainian Orthodox pilgrims both

from the United States of America and Ukraine. Some of the greatest Fathers of the Church lived and worked in your ancestral homeland... We extend our sincerest greetings and assurance of prayers to your spiritual father – His Eminence Metropolitan Antony, under whose pastoral care you seek the kingdom of God. Marching faithfully with your spiritual fathers – Metropolitan Antony and Vladyka Daniel you will always feel the grace of God and his caring love for you and the God-loving people of Ukraine and the United States of America'.

In conclusion of the meeting, Vladyka Daniel, assisted by Very Rev. Volodymyr Steliac and Rev. Anthony Perkins presented the Patriarch with the copy of the icon of the "Offering of First Fruits" depicting Sts Volodymyr and Olga holding a model of the Desyatyna Church of the Dormition of the other of God, symbolic of St. Volodymyr's determined effort to donate 10 percent of his income and wealth to the Lord.

The icon was a gift of iconographer Cheryl Pituch and her husband Eugene and his brothers in memory of parents Eugene and Julia Pituch. It is being utilized by the clergy of the UOC of the USA to educate their faithful about tithing of their own treasure, talent and time for the glory of God and the building of His Kingdom on earth.

Biding farewell to the Patriarchate, Vladyka Daniel and the pilgrims of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA received a blessing from His All-Holiness for a safe trip to the United States of America, thus concluding the 2014 Pilgrimage to Holy Land and Constantinople.

Pilgrims of the Church Visit the Church of Nativity of our Lord in Bethlehem!



On November 18, 2014, His Grace Bishop Daniel and a group of pilgrims of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, who are in Holy Land on their annual pilgrimage, participated in a celebration of the Divine Liturgy at the Church of the Nativity of our Lord in Bethlehem.

In the early hours of the morning (5am) when the Orthodox Church from around the world gathered at the place of birth of Christ the Savior, Bishop Daniel (along with several other hierarchs of various Orthodox Churches) presided over the Divine Liturgy in the Church of the Nativity. Praying at the service were hundreds of pilgrims from Ukraine, Romania, Poland, Greece, Russia and other countries. Concelebrating with the local Greek Orthodox Metropolitan (Patriarchate of Jerusalem) were Very



Rev. Fr. Volodymyr Steliac and Rev. Fr. Anthony Perkins.

During and after the Liturgy, the pilgrims of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA prayerfully chanted the responses and various hymns in Ukrainian and English languages. In conclusion of the visit to Bethlehem, Vladyka Daniel stated:

"I am glad to have an opportunity, upon the blessing of

His Beatitude Patriarch Theophilos of Jerusalem and Palestine and His Eminence Metropolitan Antony (UOC of the USA), to participate in the Divine Liturgy at this holy place, where the Orthodox Church throughout the world travel to receive a blessing of the Savior."

Later in the day, the pilgrims visited the ancient St. Sabbas Monastery, the Shepherds' field, the Church of the Holy Cross and other sacred places for Orthodox Christians in particular and for Christians in general.

That same evening, the pilgrims paid their last farewell to Holy Land as they continue their journey to the ancient city of Constantinople (Istanbul, Turkey), where the meeting with his All-Holiness Patriarch Bartholomew is scheduled for Friday, November 21, 2014.

Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA Pilgrims Pray at the Church of the Holy Sepulcher



Lighting a candle is a way of extending one's prayer to Almighty God and showing solidarity with the person on whose behalf the prayer is offered.

In lighting of candles we remember and truly live the words of Our Lord: "I am the Light of the World." The Light of Christ was truly experience by the pilgrims of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA in the early hours of Sunday morning, November 16, 2014, when surrounded by several thousands of pilgrims from around the world, three bishops led a procession to the grave of the Savior for the celebration of the Holy Mystery of Eucharist.

Prior to that, in the last hours of Saturday evening the group of Ukrainian Orthodox pilgrims left the hotel to visit the Holy Sepulcher for the Divine Liturgy. The walled city was empty, the maze of pathways, dark and narrow, are normally full of people of all faiths, crisscrossing each way, during the day.

The pilgrims walked along the slick marble and imperfect steps, and entered the Holy Sepulcher, arguably the most important religious site on the globe. Dark, decrepit, crumbling

...overwhelmingly humble is this site. In Washington, D.C., the Smithsonian museums, a testament to modern humanity's accomplishments, are the Ritz Carlton of museums. In Jerusalem, the site of Jesus Christ's crucifixion and tomb...one has an overwhelming feeling that humanity may forget soon...when one sees the humble, dilapidated condition of the Holy Sepulcher. As Bishop Daniel noted, the site's humility, if that is what one can call neglect, mirrored Christ's humility and divine perfection. The contrast will bring you to your knees.

With the blessing of His Beatitude Theophilos III, Patriarch of the Holy City of Jerusalem and All Palestine, His Grace Bishop Daniel, Very Rev. Fr. Volodymyr Steliac and Rev. Fr. Anthony Perkins participated in the Divine Liturgy at Holy Sepulcher Church. The prayers of three bishops, among which was His Grace Bishop Daniel, representing Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, proclaimed the petitions in Greek, English, Ukrainian and Church-Slovanic languages. With over 50 priests and over 300 faithful receiving Holy Eucharist, the prayers of the faithful touched every soul not

only in the Church of Sepulcher but also throughout the world...

...Church of the Holy Sepulcher - Church of the Anastasis (i.e. Resurrection) is the most important site in Christendom. The structure, which has been destroyed by invaders and rebuilt by the Greek Orthodox Christians, with cooperation of the emperors throughout the ages, holds within it the authentic places of Jesus Christ's crucifixion and resurrection. Renovations and restorations have been made as recently as the last two centuries, and even presently.

Upon entering the Church, there lies the stone where the body of Christ was anointed before burial. A colorful mosaic behind the anointing stone illustrates the events leading up to the resurrection. To the right, up a steep stairway, one comes upon Golgotha, also known as the "place of the skull," where Jesus was crucified.

According to tradition, this is the skull of Adam, buried there by Noah after the flood brought the ark to its resting place. By divine providence, the messiah was crucified in the same spot, his blood symbolically washing away the sin of Adam. At each side of the altar, preserved



behind glass, lies the stone from the original site. Underneath the altar table, thousands of people each day venerate the hole in the ground where the True Cross once stood.

Down the stairs, to the left side of the anointing stone stands the aedicule marking the site of the tomb where Jesus Christ was buried after his crucifixion. Thousands of people come to venerate and visit the site each year. As the main custodians of the shrine, the Brotherhood of the Holy Sepulcher, the monastic order of the Greek Orthodox Church, ensures that the shrine remains open to all people regardless of ethnicity or religion.

Across from the All-Holy Tomb is the Greek Orthodox katholikon, which is centered in between dreadful Golgotha and the Life-Giving Tomb, and is the largest church in the Holy Sepulcher. Liturgies are celebrated throughout the week, including nighttime vigils, in both Golgotha and the Tomb. Holy Week and Pascha are the culmination of the entire ecclesiastical year, especially in the Holy Land. At the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, the ceremony of the Holy Light is watched by the world. It is a miraculous event in which the Greek Orthodox Patriarch enters the empty aedicule wearing only a white garment, and is sealed inside, where he prays. Throughout history, an unexplained fire has spontaneously lit the candles of the Patriarch, or sometimes pilgrims waiting outside. The fire, which jubilantly announces

the resurrection, is shared with the other five Christian representations of the Holy Sepulcher and is also carried to every corner of the globe.

Other important sites within the Church of the Holy Sepulcher include the prison of Christ, where Jesus was held before being led to Golgotha for crucifixion, the site of his flagellation and the crowning of thorns. The sound of whipping and grunting has reportedly been heard by pious Christians who venerate the site, especially on Great Holy Friday. Down a stone stairway, deep within the enormous structure of the church, lies a cave-like chapel marking the place where St. Helen found the True Cross. A piece of the Cross can be found inside the office of the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, open for all to venerate, as well as significant relics from saints such as Mary Magdalene, St. John the Baptist, St. Basil the Great, St. Panteleimon, as well as many others.

Although invaders throughout the centuries wreaked havoc on the original, once larger structure, the magnificence of the church lies in its enormity. It encapsulates within its great stone walls, the sites where God, through his own sacrifice, offered salvation to his entire creation...

... On the way out, at 4:30 am, one sees nuns and common folk alike, young and old, some not able to walk, some strong, all kneeling to kiss the stone and pray, without ever looking up, at the slab that Christ's

body was placed upon after he was taken off the cross. If you wonder how they know whether the events of the crucifixion occurred, you have only to see the guardians of the tomb, and imagine two thousand years of unbroken dedication to protecting, sharing, fighting for, and preserving Christ's messages, even when no one listened or listens...

As Bishop Daniel was leaving the Holy Church of Sepulcher, hundreds of Orthodox Christians (including those of Ukraine, USA, etc.) approached to receive a blessing; a blessing of a spiritual father of the Church, who following in the footsteps of Christ, minutes before proclaimed the words of Christ at the Holy Supper: "Take, eat - this is My Body, which is broken for many for the remission of sins! Drink of it, all of you; this is My Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the remission of sins..."

In the courtyard of the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, the pilgrims of the Church joyfully chanted in Ukrainian and English languages: "Christ is Risen from the dead; trembling death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!"

As this years pilgrims of our Holy Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA we wish you could see it with your own eyes... Consider embarking on the life-changing and spiritually uplifting trip next year. For more information, call the office of His Grace Bishop Daniel at (732) 356-0090.

Pilgrims of the Church Visit Patriarchate of Jerusalem



News

Reflecting upon the answer to the daily question of the pilgrimage: "What does it mean to be an Orthodox Christian in Jerusalem?" the pilgrims of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA visited the Ancient Patriarchate of Jerusalem.

His Grace Bishop Daniel, the Ruling Hierarch of the Western Eparchy and President of the Consistory of the UOC of the USA led a group of 25 pilgrims on a visit to the Patriarchate on November 15, 2014.

Having received a blessing from the hands of His Beatitude Theophilos III, Patriarch of Jerusalem and All Palestine, the pilgrims of the Church spent about an hour with the Patriarch, learning about the history of the Patriarchate, the Order of the Brotherhood of the Holy Sepulcher and about the life of Orthodox Christians in Jerusalem and the surrounding areas that are under spiritual protection of the His Beatitude.

"For us, Ukrainian Orthodox Christians from the United States of America", said Vladyka Daniel, "a great honor indeed, the fact that we find ourselves in the Holy Land these

days... His Eminence Metropolitan Antony expresses his most sincere prayerful greetings and gratitude for your Beatitude's time spent with us... You are the spiritual father, guardian and keeper of the All-holy sites of pilgrimage, and we respect and pray for you".

Responding to His Grace, His Beatitude assured the pilgrims of his prayers especially mentioning the ongoing war conflict in Ukraine.

In conclusion of the meeting, Vladyka Daniel, assisted by Very Rev. Volodymyr Steliac and Rev. Anthony Perkins presented the Patriarch with the copy of the icon of the "Offering of First Fruits" depicting Sts Volodymyr and Olga holding a model of the Desyatyna Church of the Dormition of the other of God, symbolic of St. Volodymyr's determined effort to donate 10 percent of his income and wealth to the Lord. The icon was a gift of iconographer Cheryl Pituch and her husband Eugene and his brothers in memory of parents Eugene and Julia Pituch. It is being utilized by the clergy of the UOC of the USA to educate their faithful about tithing of their own treasure, talent and time for the glory of God

and the building of His Kingdom on earth.

Following the presentation of the icons, His Beatitude Patriarch Theophilos bestowed upon His Grace Bishop Daniel patriarchal panagia and pectoral crosses to the clergy of the pilgrimage. Moreover, the Patriarch hosted the group of pilgrims with some tea and pastries and in conclusion of which each pilgrim of the UOC of the USA approached His Beatitude to receive a blessing, while being presented with a gift of an icon from the hands of Patriarch Theophilos.

Biding farewell to the Patriarchate, Vladyka Daniel and the clergy of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA received a blessing from the Patriarch to participate in the service of Divine Liturgy in the Church of Holy Sepulcher (The site of the Church of the Holy Sepulcher in Jerusalem is identified as the place both of the crucifixion and the tomb of Jesus of Nazareth. The church has long been a major pilgrimage center for Christians all around the world) and the Church of the Nativity of the Lord in Bethlehem.

Sacred Holy Land Pilgrimage 2014



With the blessing of His Eminence Metropolitan Antony, 25 pilgrims of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA under the spiritual leadership of His Grace Bishop Daniel traveled to Nazareth (Israel) to begin a spiritual journey of the UOC of the USA to Holy Land.

Following a short meeting at JFK International Airport in NY City, the pilgrims of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA began a 13-day journey to Holy Land and Constantinople, learning about the life of Christ and the salvations ministry of the Great Church of Christ.

Gathered from all around the country, the pilgrims of the Church embarked upon the journey trusting in the Divine Providence of God and the spiritual leadership of Bishop Daniel, who began the

pilgrimage with the following note to the participants of 2014 UOC of the USA pilgrimage: "Let me begin, by welcoming you to this sacred journey during which we are all going to share the same title: pilgrim..."

A pilgrimage to the Holy Land creates a rare vantage point for the one who makes the journey. It is a glimpse of a place where heaven came down to earth and left on that spot the indelible mark of divinity in the dust of the desert. God's presence permeates the very soil on which the footsteps of the Master trod. A pilgrim who follows in those footsteps cannot help but be changed and have his life transformed by the experience.

A pilgrimage with sponsored by the Church affords a unique opportunity to deepen one's spiritual life. It is truly a Christian pilgrimage from beginning to end. The holy sites of Jesus' life are experienced from their connection to Sacred Scripture, the Mysteries of the Holy Church and the Holy Eucharist.

This pilgrimage is the journey of a lifetime that every present day disciple of Jesus should make to the earthly Jerusalem.

When at last we reach the summit of the mountain on the journey of life, we will be able to look back with satisfaction and see that this pilgrimage to the Holy Land was one of the most spiritually fruitful experiences of our lives. It is then that we will be ready to exchange our experience of the earthly Jerusalem for the heavenly Jerusalem whose light is the Sun of Justice, the Lamb once slain who lives forever..."

The journey of faith that took the pilgrims to the birth place and ancestry of our Lord Jesus Christ began on November 10, 2014 with a twelve hour flight to Gurion Airport, Tel Aviv. A journey bedecked with enthusiasm and expectations. As some of the pictures will depict, many of the areas visited still retain that ancient glamour and holiness which surrounds the stories about Jesus Christ which we read in the scriptures.

Upon arrival to Tel Aviv International Airport, the group immediately started its journey traveling to Nazareth and the surrounding areas of the Mount of Transfiguration – the Mount Tabor. One of the pilgrims of this year's pilgrimage shared her thoughts: "These were two great first days. The pilgrims all arrived in good shape at the Ben Gurion Airport in Tel Aviv. We jumped on our comfortable bus and





headed to Galilee. What a great group of authentic Ukrainian Orthodox Christians ready to experience the life of Christ and the Holy Mysteries of the Church as we travel the land of Christ the Savior and the Birth-Giver of God, the Apostles and prophets, kings and martyrs."

The first two days brought the pilgrims of the Church to a prayerful reflection, as they visited the Mount Tabor (Greek Orthodox Monastery of Transfiguration), Church of Annunciation and the Grotto of the Birth-Giver of God, Church of Cana of Galilee, Mt. Precipice and the entire Yizrael Valley.

During the next few days the pilgrims of the Church visited the following sacred sites of Mount Tabor, Capernaum, the Sea of Galilee, took a boat ride learning about the call of the disciples and visiting the sacred churches of the Twelve Apostles, etc. Among other sites were:

Cana (modern name Kafr Kanna; also known as Khirbet Cana) is a Galilean town five miles northeast of Nazareth. Its population of 8,500 includes both Muslims and Christians.

Long revered as the site of Jesus' first miracle or turning water into wine at a wedding, Kafr Kanna has good historical support for its authenticity as ancient Cana.

This, the first of his miraculous signs, Christ performed in Cana of

Galilee. He thus revealed his glory, and his disciples put their faith in him. (John 2:1-11)

On the third day a wedding took place at Cana in Galilee. Jesus' mother was there, and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine was gone, Jesus' mother said to him, "They have no more wine." "Dear woman, why do you involve me?" Jesus replied, "My time has not yet come." His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."

Nearby stood six stone water jars, the kind used by the Jews for ceremonial washing, each holding from 20 to 30 gallons. Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the jars with water"; so they filled them to the brim. Then he told them, "Now draw some out and take it to the master of the banquet."

They did so, and the master of the banquet tasted the water that had been turned into wine. He did not realize where it had come from, though the servants who had drawn the water knew. Then he called the bridegroom aside and said, "Everyone brings out the choice wine first and then the cheaper wine after the guests have had too much to drink; but you have saved the best till now."

Sea of Galilee: During his ministry Jesus also performed some miracles here, including walking on water, calming the storm and making

the miraculous catch of fish. "Jesus crossed to the far shore of the Sea of Galilee (that is, the Sea of Tiberias), and a great crowd of people followed him." (Jn 6:1-2) "When they had rowed three or three and a half miles, they saw Jesus approaching the boat, walking on the water." (Jn 6:19)

Mount of Beatitudes: This name is given to the place where Jesus delivered the "Sermon on the Mount", beginning with the Beatitudes. The scene of this discourse is traditionally located on Karn Hattin (or Kurun Hattin), the Horns of Hattin, a mountain which receives its name from the little village at its northern base and from the two cones or horns which crown its summit. Karn Hattin is in Galilee in easy distance of Nazareth, Cana, and Mt. Tabor to the southwest, of Tiberias and Lake Gennesaret to the east, and of Capharnaum to the northeast, in the center, therefore, of much of the ministry of Jesus.

The first stop of Day 4 was a visit to **Jordan River** – and the place of Baptism of our Lord by St. John the Baptist. His Grace Bishop Daniel along with Very Rev. Volodymyr Stelaik and a few pilgrims entered the waters of Jerusalem in order to experience the grace of Christ's Baptism in the River Jordan.

Please visit this page again to find out about the journey of the Church's Pilgrims to Holy Land in the next few days.



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Holy
Baptism...
as of 12/16/2014



Barto, James David chrismated on August 19, 2014 in St. Vladimir Church, Ambridge, PA. Child of David Barto and Leslie Kmit. Sponsor: Gary Kmit. Celebrated by Fr. Michael Kochis.

Beaudean, Ana Victoria baptized and chrismated on November 9, 2014 in Sts. Peter and Paul Church, Wilmington, DE. Child of Keith Raymond Beaudean and Tijana Vidanovic. Sponsors: Fr. Stephen Hutnick and Pani Dobrodiyka Elizabeth Hutnick. Celebrated by Fr. Stephen Hutnick.

Bochniak, Danica Lynne baptized and chrismated on November 28, 2014 in Sts. Peter and Paul Church, Wilmington, DE. Child of Jason Evan Bochniak and Domanie Lynne Carley. Sponsors: Renfro Paul Carley and Kathleen Martincavage. Celebrated by Fr. Stephen Hutnick.

Cayon-Rodriguez, Daniel Luis baptized and chrismated on October 26, 2014 in Sts. Peter and Paul Church, Millville, NJ. Child of Oscar Luis Cayon-Rodriguez and Olga Cayon-Rodriguez. Sponsors: Juaddicetts Hinojosa and Judith Morales. Celebrated by Fr. Anatoliy Dokhvat.

Cucci, Alexander Jack Joseph baptized and chrismated on October 26, 2014 in Sts. Peter and Paul Church, Palos Park, IL. Child of Sue Ellen Cucci. Sponsors: Ray Fischer, Artie Cucci, Christina Cucci-Fischer, and Christina Cucci. Celebrated by Fr. Vasyl Sendeha.

Dickson, Ariel chrismated on November 9, 2014 in St. Katherine Church, Arden Hills, MN. Child of Dave Dickson and Trina Mirza. Sponsors: Mike Mirza and Tanya Mirza. Celebrated by Fr. Peter Siwko.

Gardiner, Hazel Makenzie baptized and chrismated on November 29, 2014 in Sts. Peter and Paul Church, Palos Park, IL. Child of Nick Gardiner and Aileen Rak. Sponsors: Anthony Gardiner, Michael Gardin, Amber Rak, and Barbara Duckworth. Celebrated by Fr. Vasyl Sendeha.

Gutierrez, Nevaeh Sophia baptized and chrismated on December 7, 2014 in Sts. Peter and Paul Church, Palos Park, IL. Child of Diego Gutierrez and Britney Wanek. Sponsors: James Nevels, Rodrigo Gutierrez and Deanna Wright. Celebrated by Fr. Vasyl Sendeha.

Ivanchov, Makar baptized and chrismated

on November 29, 2014 in St. Volodymyr Cathedral, New York, NY. Child of Sergiy Ivanchov and Yuliya Ivanchova. Sponsors: Alexei Shehovsov and Irina Baysara. Celebrated by Fr. Volodymyr Muzychka.

Kimeridze, Emily baptized and chrismated on November 23, 2014 in St. Volodymyr Cathedral, New York, NY. Child of Shota Kimeridze and Zoia Pashchak. Sponsors: Yevhen Lysyy and Liliia Geints. Celebrated by Fr. Volodymyr Muzychka.

Ladan, Kristina Olehivna baptized and chrismated on December 6, 2014 in St. Michael and St. George Church, Minneapolis, MN. Child of Oleh Ladan and Alla Yakovenko. Sponsors: Eugene Volovik and Elena Zhuk. Celebrated by Fr. Evhen Kumka.

Agee, Anastasia baptized and chrismated on October 22, 2014 in St. Andrew Church, Los Angeles, CA. Child of Ronald Michael Agee and Natalia Ivanivna Dovgal. Sponsors: Donaldo Reed and Alena Saul. Celebrated by Fr. Vasyl Shtelen.

Malyarchuk, Katherine baptized and chrismated on October 26, 2014 in St. Andrew Church, Boston, MA. Child of Andriy Malyarchuk and Svitlana Korsunyyuk. Sponsors: Yuriy Melnychuk, Roman Malyarchuk, Oksana Asanova, and Anna Tushakovska. Celebrated by Fr. Roman Tarnavsky.

Perchyshyn, Elko Earl Gunter chrismated on November 2, 2014 in St. Michael and St. George Church, Minneapolis, MN. Child of Elko Perchyshyn and Deanna Marie Gustafson. Sponsors: Yaroslav Bryn and Janey Atchison. Celebrated by His Grace Bishop Daniel.

Rockwell, Ilya baptized and chrismated on November 22, 2014 in Protection of the Holy Theotokos Church, Allentown, PA. Child of George Rockwell and Nicole Taylor. Sponsors: Sergei Yaralov and Lia Gamzardia. Celebrated by Fr. Myron Oryhon.

Shushakov, David baptized and chrismated on November 15, 2014 in St. John the Baptist Church, Portland, OR. Child of Yuriy Shushakov and Nadiya Malets. Sponsors: Serhiy Nahursky and Oksana Fita. Celebrated by Fr. Volodymyr Zinchyshyn.

Skulina, Genevieve Elise baptized and chrismated on August 17, 2014 in St. Nicholas Church, Lakewood, OH. Child of Robert William Skulina and Maria Zinaida Swerchowsky. Sponsors: Nicholas Swerchowsky and Kathryn Skulina. Celebrated by Fr. Dennis Kristof.

Woloschak, Mila Grace baptized and chrismated on December 6, 2014 in Sts.

Peter and Paul Church, Youngstown, OH. Child of Charles Woloschak Jr. and Ashley Nicole Schreckengost. Sponsors: David Woloschak and Christina Buccino. Celebrated by Fr. John W. Harvey.

Wright, Isla Day baptized and chrismated on November 16, 2014 in Sts. Peter and Paul Church, Palos Park, IL. Child of Nathan William Wright and Alicia Danielle Oryhon. Sponsors: Joshua M. Oryhon and Ana V. Oryhon. Celebrated by Fr. Myron Oryhon and Fr. Vasyl Sendeha.



Mykhaylo Krychun and Orysia Salapata in St. Vladimir Parish, Parma, OH on November 16, 2014, witnessed by Protodeacon Ihor Mahlay and Iryna Mahlay. Celebrant: Fr. Michael Hontaruk.

Taras Panchyshyn and Kateryna Syrota in St. Panteleimon Parish, Brooklyn, NY on October 5, 2014, witnessed by Sergei Solovei and Elena Bazevich. Celebrant: Fr. Mykola Fylyk.

Kyle K. Ross and Adrienne N. Borachuk in Sts. Peter and Paul Parish, Palos Park, IL on October 25, 2014, witnessed by Chad Mease and Melissa Jernigan. Celebrant: Fr. Vasyl Sendeha.

Brian Patrick Slagel and Jessica Renee Andrews in Sts. Peter and Paul Parish, Youngstown, OH on November 29, 2014, witnessed by Kevin Semchee and Stephanie Rimedio. Celebrant: Fr. John W. Harvey.



Belonick, Anna of New Britain, CT on October 6, 2014 at the age of 96 years, officiating clergy Fr. Andrii Pokotylo of St. Mary Parish, New Britain, CT.

Bilyk, Jr., Ivan of Arlington Hts, IL on October 19, 2014 at the age of 99 years, officiating clergy Fr. Vasyl Sendeha of Sts. Peter and Paul Parish, Palos Park, IL.

Bindas, Adeline of Schererville, IN on November 11, 2014 at the age of 86 years, officiating clergy Fr. Raymond Sundland of St. Michael Parish, Hammond, IN.

Donchez, Frank of Orlando, FL on November 14, 2014 at the age of 88 years, officiating clergy Fr. Myron Oryhon of Protection of the Holy Theotokos Parish, Allentown, PA.

Feshchenko, Victor of Syracuse, IN on November 30, 2014 at the age of 81 years,

officiating clergy Fr. Silouan Rolando of Holy Trinity Parish, Goshen, IN.

Hura, Tatiana "Terry" of Seven Hills, OH on November 3, 2014 at the age of 79 years, officiating clergy Fr. John Nakonachny and Fr. Michael Hontaruk of St. Vladimir Parish, Parma, OH.

Kawecki, Katheryna of Youngstown, OH on December 7, 2014 at the age of 86 years, officiating clergy Fr. John W. Harvey of Sts. Peter and Paul Parish, Youngstown, OH.

Koc, Rose M. of Boardman, OH on September 27, 2014 at the age of 92 years, officiating clergy Fr. John W. Harvey of Sts. Peter and Paul Parish, Youngstown, OH.

Latiuk, Walter of Greece, NY on March 16, 2014 at the age of 74 years, officiating clergy Fr. Igor Krekhovetsky of St. Mary the Protectress Parish, Rochester, NY.

Laudenslayer, Catherine of Allentown, PA on November 26, 2014 at the age of 95 years, officiating clergy Fr. Myron Oryhon of Protection of the Holy Theotokos Parish, Allentown, PA.

Loj, Alexander of N. Hutchinson Island, FL on October 11, 2014 at the age of 69 years, officiating clergy Fr. Igor Krekhovetsky of St. Mary the Protectress Parish, Rochester, NY.

Powell, Leslie "Lee" S. of Darlington, PA on November 2, 2014 at the age of 77 years, officiating clergy Fr. Michael Kochis of St. Vladimir Parish, Ambridge, PA.

Prozik, Peter of Ontario, NY on December 1, 2014 at the age of 89 years, officiating clergy Fr. Igor Krekhovetsky of St. Mary the Protectress Parish, Rochester, NY.

Rawlinson, Stephanie S. of Parma Heights, OH on November 17, 2014 at the age of 95 years, officiating clergy Fr. Michael Hontaruk of St. Vladimir Parish, Parma, OH.

Skic, Anna of Perinton, NY on November 20, 2014 at the age of 92 years, officiating clergy Fr. Igor Krekhovetsky of St. Mary the Protectress Parish, Rochester, NY.

Sobolewskij, Jurij of Brighton, NY on January 26, 2014 at the age of 91 years, officiating clergy Fr. Igor Krekhovetsky of St. Mary the Protectress Parish, Rochester, NY.

Szawranskyj, William of Webster, NY on July 22, 2014 at the age of 67 years, officiating clergy Fr. Igor Krekhovetsky of St. Mary the Protectress Parish, Rochester, NY.

Worona, Anne K. of Hermitage, PA on November 20, 2014 at the age of 96 years, officiating clergy Fr. Andrew Gall of St. John the Baptist Parish, Sharon, PA.

Zaruba, Nikolaj of Brooklyn, OH on October 31, 2014 at the age of 88 years, officiating clergy Fr. John Nakonachny and Fr. Michael Hontaruk of St. Vladimir Parish, Parma, OH.

Zgudzinskyj, Michail of Chicago, IL on October 21, 2014 at the age of 79 years, officiating clergy Fr. Mykola Dilendorf of St. Volodymyr Cathedral, Chicago, IL



January - Січень

- 28th 1942 - PROTOPRIEST ISIDORE KOSTIUK
- 27th 1955 - PROTOPRIEST JOSEPH BODNAR
- 6th 1958 - PRIEST STEFAN VULCHYN
- 9th 1968 - PROTOPRESBYTER JOHN SAWCHUK
- 9th 1968 - PROTOPRESBYTER LEV WESOLOWSKY
- 26th 1974 - PROTOPRESBYTER ALEXANDER DOWHAL
- 9th 1984 - PROTOPRIEST MYKOLA UHORCZAK
- 28th 1990 - PROTOPRESBYTER JURIJ HULEY
- 17th 1996 - PROTOPRIEST TYT MELNYCHUK
- 13th 1996 - PRIEST GREGORY WOLKOWYNSKY
- 19th 1999 - PROTOPRIEST MYKOLA HODYNSKY
- 10th 2002 - PROTOPRESBYTER PETRO BUDNYJ

February - Лютий

- 17th 1965 - PROTOPRIEST ANTONY BERYK
- 12th 1966 - PRIEST LEONTIJ KWARTYRIUK
- 16th 1986 - PRIEST JOHN ZAZWORSKY
- 18th 1989 - PROTOPRIEST DMYTRO SAWKA
- 2nd 1990 - PROTOPRESBYTER ANDREW BECK
- 20th 1991 - PROTOPRESBYTER MYKOLA CHERNIAWSKY
- 25th 1991 - PROTOPRIEST MYRON PACHOLOK
- 6th 1999 - PRIEST JAMES MILLER
- 13th 2006 - MITRED PROTOPRIEST MYROSLAW HLYNSKY
- 26th 2013 - PROTOPRESBYTER MICHAEL ZEMLACHENKO

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The Historical and Educational Center wishes our friends and supporters all of the best in this holiday season, and hope that your New Year be happy, healthy, prosperous, and creative. May your continued support of the Center and its educational mission be rewarded with God's blessings. Christ is Born! Glorify Him!

Read the Center's Year-End Newsletter Online!

www.UkrHEC.org/news/newsletters

In this year's issue:

An album of museum building construction progress

The Center's Family History Group genealogy events

Many new museum and archives acquisitions

UkrHEC News

Новини з Центру

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Ukrainian Historical and Educational Center of New Jersey

Український Історично-Освітній Центр шт. Нью-Джерсі

Winter 2014-2015

Зима 2014-2015



Museum construction is in its final push!

Thanks to your continued support, the final push towards completion of the new home of the Patriarch Matyslav Museum continues in earnest. While paving and electrical work is going on outside, the trimming-out of the balcony and atrium columns and fire-suppression system installation is being done inside. The elevator shaft is completed and ready for machinery installation, plumbing rough-in is ongoing, and the main staircase and balcony rails are being fabricated.



Above: Pouring concrete for sidewalks. Right: Pipes for fire suppression system.

Музейне будівництво підходить до фіналу!

Завдяки вашій фінансовій підтримці, завершення будівництва нового будівлю Музею ім. Патріарха Метислава інтенсивно продовжується. Поки зовні кладеться бруківка та прокладається електричні роботи, всередині монтується балкони й колонни в атриумі та встановлюється система пожежогашіння. Шахта ліфта вже готова до встановлення механізму. Слюсарі монтують сантехніку та водопроводи, а різьбярі почали роботу над головними парадними сходами та поруччям навколо балконів.



Ukrainian
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Camping
Ministry



All Saints Camp

Staff Opportunities

Staffing positions ranging from full summer employment to weekend commitments.

Program Staff - Paid and Volunteer Positions

- Cabin Counselors
- Media Coordinator
- Events Coordinator
- Special Interest Programming
- Weekend Support Staff
- Program Staff

For information on Program Staff contact the Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministry at uocyouth@aol.com or 412-279-1076.

Facility Staff - Paid and Volunteer Positions

- Property Maintenance
- Cook / Kitchen Staff
- Lifeguard
- Special Project Volunteers
- Work Weekend Volunteers

For information on Facility Staff contact ASC Manager at 412-331-2014.

2015 Camping Sessions

- Session 1 Clergy Family Retreat
June 15 - 19
- Session 2 Diocesan Church School Camp
June 21 - July 3, Ages 9-13
- Session 3 Sts. Joachim & Anna Parent Retreat
July 5, Parents of Teenagers
- Session 4 Teenage Conference
July 5 - 20, Ages 13-18
- Session 5 Mommy & Me/Daddy & Me Camp I
July 27 - 31
Ages 4-8 and Parent(s)
- Session 6 Family Fest - Labor Day Weekend
September 4 - 7
All Ages!

Volunteer Work Weekends

April 24-26, 2015
Additional work weekends will be announced in 2015. Keep updated at the Consistory website at www.uocofusa.org

Rent All Saints Camp for your event or retreat!



Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA
Camping Ministry
For more information or to contact us:
www.uocyouth.org/uoccp
uocyouth@aol.com
info@allsaintscamp.org
412-977-2010



"Camp is what I look forward to every year and it has affected me every time. It is not only just the regular things like friends, sports, and a mass majority of people like you coming together but it's a big family. I have learned through the nine years of going to the encampments that it's more of a spiritual mindset I am able to achieve. Camping at ASC is also something that helped me overcome some things such as asking questions about religion. I was a bit embarrassed to ask questions about my faith and would think some of them were silly. The friends, even more like family, that I made helped me overcome the loss of my mother. They talked to me and reassured me that God had different plans, even though it seemed like the worst plans, in that moment in time when I lost her. There is a lot more. But why don't you go and see how it affects you, because I'm sure that it will impact you in many ways." Julianna, 17

Ensure that more youth realize experiences like Julianna's. A donation to the UOC Camping Ministry is an investment in the future of Christ's Church!

I would like to make that investment in the following way:

- Diocesan Church School Camp _____
- Teenage Conference _____
- Mommy & Me/ Daddy & Me _____
- All Saints Camp General Care _____
- Metropolitan Constantine Scholarship Fund _____

Your donation is graciously accepted by check in the order of UOCCP and sent to UOCCP, PO Box 869, Carnegie, PA 15106. Donations are also accepted via Paypal at www.uocyouth.org.

Calling all Camp Alumni! Make a difference during the month of February!

Missionaries of
U.O.C. of the U.S.A.

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5 P.M.

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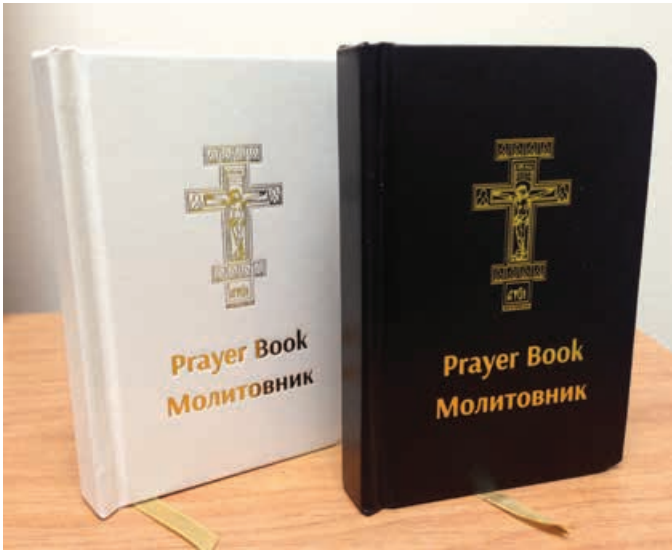
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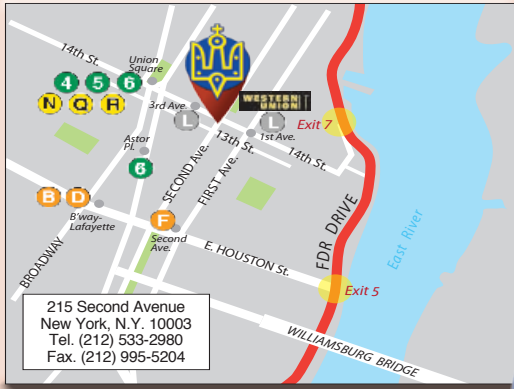
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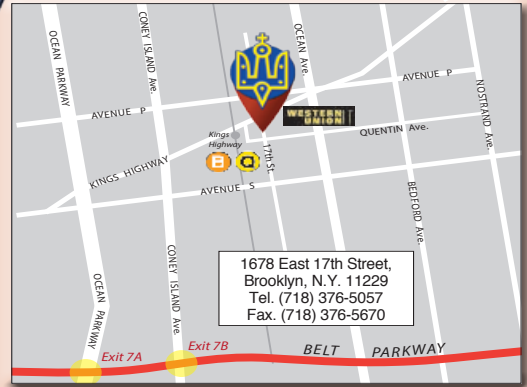
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