

УКРАЇНСЬКЕ ПРАВОСЛАВНЕ СЛОВО
UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX WORD

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE USA

ОФІЦІЙНЕ ВИДАННЯ УКРАЇНСЬКОЇ ПРАВОСЛАВНОЇ ЦЕРКВИ В США

ХРИСТОС ВОСКРЕС!



CHRIST IS RISEN!



VOL LXVII ISSUE IX,
JANUARY - APRIL, 2018

PIK LXVII ЧИС IX,
СІЧЕНЬ - КВІТЕНЬ, 2018



His Eminence Metropolitan ANTONY

His Grace Bishop DANIEL - Consistory President

Founded in Ukrainian
as “Українське Православне Слово” in 1950

Founded in English
as “Ukrainian Orthodox Word” in 1952

Editor-in-Chief
Elizabeth Symonenko

Editorial Office:
UOW
PO Box 495
South Bound Brook, NJ 08880
Tel.: (732) 356-0090
Fax: (732) 356-5556
E-mail: fr.i.synevsyky@uocusa.net

The Ukrainian Orthodox Word
is published **bimonthly**
by the Office of Public Relations
of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA.

*All articles submitted for publication,
typed no longer than two pages double spaced,
should be mailed to the UOW on a disk or e-mailed as
an attachment to the Editor-in-Chief. Photos become the
property of the UOW and are not returned. Comments,
opinions and articles are welcomed but must include the
author's full name and address. Articles are published at
the discretion of the Editorial Staff, which reserves the
right to edit, and may not necessarily reflect the views of
the Editorial Board and/or the UOC of USA.*

*The deadline for each issue is the 1st of the month prior to
the publication date.*

Please send address changes to:
Ukrainian Orthodox Word
PO Box 495
South Bound Brook, NJ 08880



Icon of CHRIST'S DESCENT IN TO HADES Explained

Christ's cape/robe is flowing upward, this symbolizes his radical descent into Hades to save those who have died in the flesh.

The golden "bars" by his feet are the gates of Hades, which he has broken and torn apart. There are keys floating in the abyss below, which symbolizes that he has entered and conquered both death and Hades.

The skeletal figure who is chained up: that is Death and/or Satan. He has been bound and killed by Christ, which is why all throughout Pascha we sing "Christ has trampled down death by death." The icon depicts Hebrews 2:14, "that through death he might destroy him who has the power of death, that is, the devil." The power of the devil and death have been destroyed through the life-giving death of our Savior.

The two figures whom Christ has grasped and is pulling from tombs are Adam and Eve, symbolizing that his victory redeems all mankind, even back to the beginning. It also foreshadows the general resurrection of the body before the Final Judgment.

To the left, we see three individuals: David and Solomon, two of his ancestors according to his fleshly nature. We also see, closest to him, John the Baptizer, who was his forerunner in both life and death.

The other figures are Old Testament prophets and saints. Moses is usually depicted on the right as well as other prophets.

The blue shape around Christ is called the Mandorla, which represents the uncreated and eternal light of Christ.

The Mandorla becomes progressively darker as it moves toward its center, which is Christ. Those who seek God will find that the more they know Him, the less they comprehend Him. To know God, to experience Him, is to walk in the darkness of His light, to enter into the mystery of His presence.



The Paschal homily of **SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM**

If any man be devout and love God, let him enjoy this fair and radiant triumphal feast. If any man be a wise servant, let him rejoicing enter into the joy of his Lord. If any have labored long in fasting, let him now receive his recompense. If any have wrought from the first hour, let him today receive his just reward. If any have come at the third hour, let him with thankfulness keep the feast. If any have arrived at the sixth hour, let him have no misgivings; because he shall in nowise be deprived thereof. If any have delayed until the ninth hour, let him draw near, fearing nothing. If any have tarried even until the eleventh hour, let him, also, be not alarmed at his tardiness; for the Lord, who is jealous of his honor, will accept the last even as the first; he gives rest unto him who comes at the eleventh hour, even as unto him who has wrought from the first hour.

And he shows mercy upon the last, and cares for the first; and to the one he gives, and upon the other he bestows gifts. And he both accepts the deeds, and welcomes the intention, and honors the acts and praises the offering. Wherefore, enter you all into the joy of your Lord; and receive your reward, both the first, and likewise the second. You rich and poor together, hold high festival. You sober and you heedless, honor the day. Rejoice today, both you who have fasted and you who have disregarded the fast. The table is full-laden; feast ye all sumptuously. The calf is fatted; let no one go hungry away.

Enjoy ye all the feast of faith: Receive ye all the riches of loving-kindness. let no one bewail his poverty, for the universal kingdom has been revealed. Let no one weep for his iniquities, for pardon has shown forth from the grave. Let no one fear death, for the Savior's death has set us free. He that was held prisoner of it has annihilated it. By descending into Hell, He made Hell captive. He embittered it when it tasted of His flesh. And Isaiah, foretelling this, did cry: Hell, said he, was embittered, when it encountered Thee in the lower regions. It was embittered, for it was abolished. It was embittered, for it was mocked. It was embittered, for it was slain. It was embittered, for it was overthrown. It was embittered, for it was fettered in chains. It took a body, and met God face to face. It took earth, and encountered Heaven. It took that which was seen, and fell upon the unseen.

O Death, where is your sting? O Hell, where is your victory? Christ is risen, and you are overthrown. Christ is risen, and the demons are fallen. Christ is risen, and the angels rejoice. Christ is risen, and life reigns. Christ is risen, and not one dead remains in the grave. For Christ, being risen from the dead, is become the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. To Him be glory and dominion unto ages of ages. Amen.

THE PASCHAL ENCYCLICAL OF THE PERMANENT CONFERENCE OF UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX BISHOPS BEYOND THE BORDERS OF UKRAINE

Christ is Risen!

Indeed He is Risen!



To the Beloved-of-God Pastors, Venerable Monastics, and all the Faithful Children of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in the Diaspora and in Ukraine,

“It is the day of Resurrection, let us be illumined O people! Pascha, the Lord’s Pascha; for Christ God has led us from death unto life, and from earth to heaven, as we sing a song of victory.” (Paschal Canon)

Very Reverend and Reverend Fathers! Dear Brothers and Sisters!

CHRIST IS RISEN!

Today the visible and invisible worlds rejoice, today human voices unite themselves with the voices of the Holy Angels who glorify the Saviour of the world, Christ, risen from the dead. By His resurrection Christ opened to us the path to eternal and blessed life. He, as the Sun of Righteousness, shines His Divine Radiance upon the entire universe, pouring out the rays of His salvific light on all who with faith and love approach Him.

St. Gregory the Theologian, in his paschal sermon, declares: “Pascha - this is the feast of feasts and the festival of festivals, which outshines all other solemnities as much as the sun outshines the stars.”

The entire Orthodox world has just recently experienced the events of Passion week. All we Orthodox Christians have spiritually experienced the derision and suffering which Christ experienced during the final days of His earthly life. One of His disciples betrayed Him; though innocent, He was condemned, scourged, spat upon, mocked, and crucified upon the Cross. It seemed that death, hatred, and evil had triumphed. Some believed that the Saviour would have no followers, for He was no longer among the living.

But we see that Christ, through His Resurrection, was victorious over the enemy of the human race, He destroyed the gates of hell, “by death He trampled down death,” and opened to us the doors of the Heavenly Kingdom.

By His Resurrection Christ showed forth His Divinity, and offered us the promise of our own future resurrection.

The Resurrection of Christ is the foundation of our faith, and faith is that which is most important and necessary in the life of every person. The faith of the apostles was strengthened by the Resurrection of Christ, which was renewed in them by the Holy Spirit and gave them the strength and inspiration to preach the word of God, and to establish the Church of Christ on earth.

The holy apostles speak of the Resurrection of Christ not only as an event in the earthly life of the Saviour, but as an event in the life of each of us who receive the good news of Pascha: "If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit which dwells in you" (Rm. 8:11).

Through His death on the cross Christ accomplished the cleansing of the sins of the entire human race. The Resurrection of the Saviour has granted eternal life to each of us. But faith in the suffering and resurrection of Jesus Christ is, by itself, insufficient. A deep unity with God in all aspects of our life is absolutely necessary. The Holy Apostle Paul teaches us: "For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the sinful body might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin" (Rm. 6: 5-6).

Our earthly life, and our attitude towards God and neighbour, should bear the seal of an unbreakable unity with the Lord God. St. John the Theologian says: "If any one serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there shall my servant be also; if any one serves me, the Father will honor him" (Jn. 12:26).

Observing the actual state of things in the world we see the spiritual and moral decay of humanity. Hatred and wickedness rule in the world, which leads to murder and war. The contemporary person runs after material values, ignoring the spiritual. So let us not forget about our youth and children - let us call them to their natal Church and to God. For they are our future. May the Risen Christ help all of us to conquer sin and enter onto the path of salvation.

During this year we will mark the 100th anniversary of our Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Canada and of the USA. Let us prayerfully remember all the founders, benefactors, and builders of our temples and strive to continue their work for the benefit of the Holy Church.

Dear Brothers and Sisters! The Holy Evangelist John the Theologian writes that the first words of Christ the Saviour to His disciples after His Resurrection from the dead were "Peace be to you" (Jn. 20:19). We should receive these words with special feeling today, because it is exactly peace and concord which the contemporary world needs. "When we lose peace, we then become enemies of those who heard from Christ 'Peace be to you,'" says St. John Chrysostom.

And so let us strive to protect this peace, and in our prayers to ask the Risen Christ that He would rule in Ukraine, in our communities, families, and most importantly in the souls of each one of us. During this magnificent feast of the Holy Pascha of the Lord we prayerfully beseech the Christ the Risen Saviour and our God, that He would bless our Ukrainian nation and grant it unity, peace, spiritual and economic growth.

May the Risen Christ strengthen our faith, fill our hearts with spiritual joy, and increase love, that we would be able to enjoy the joy of the bright Paschal days in complete fullness.

May the Blessing of the Risen Christ be with all of you!

Truly, Christ is Risen!

With Archpastoral Blessings,

+YURIJ, Metropolitan of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada
+ANTONY, Metropolitan of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA and Diaspora
+JEREMIAH, Archbishop of the Ukrainian Orthodox Eparchies of Brasil and South America
+DANIEL, Archbishop of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA and Western Europe
+ILARION, Bishop of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada
+ANDRIY, Bishop of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada

ПАСХАЛЬНЕ ПОСЛАННЯ ПОСТІЙНОЇ КОНФЕРЕНЦІЇ
УКРАЇНСЬКИХ ПРАВОСЛАВНИХ ЄПИСКОПІВ ПОЗА МЕЖАМИ УКРАЇНИ

Христос Воскрес!



Воістину Воскрес!



Боголюбивим пастирям, чесному чернецтву, та всім вірним дітям Української Православної Церкви в Діаспорі і в Україні.

“Воскресіння день, просвітімось люди! Пасха Господня Пасха! Бо від смерти до життя, і від землі до Небес Христос Бог нас перевів, що пісню перемоги співаємо.” (Канон Пасхи)

Високопреподобні і преподобні отці! Дорогі брати і сестри!

ХРИСТОС ВОСКРЕС!

Сьогодні радіє і торжествує видимий і невидимий світ, сьогодні голоси людей поєднуються з голосами святих Ангелів, які прославляють Воскреслого з мертвих Христа Спасителя світу. Своім Воскресінням Христос відчинив нам шлях до вічного і блаженного життя. Він, як сонце правди, Своім Божеством опромінює весь світ, розливаючи промені Свого спасительного світла на всіх, що з вірою і любов'ю приходять до Нього.

Святий Григорій Богослов у своєму пасхальному слові говорить: “Пасха - це празників празник і торжество торжеств, яке настільки перевищує всі інші торжества, наскільки сонце перевищує зірки”.

Нещодавно весь православний світ переживав події Страстної седмиці. Всі ми, православні християни духовно відчували, яких принижень і страждань зазнав Христос в останні дні свого земного життя. Його зрадив один з учнів, безвинно судили, бичували, опльовували, принижували і розіп'яли на Хресті. Здавалося смерть, ненависть та злоба святкували свою перемогу. Деякі думали, що Спаситель не буде мати послідовників, бо Його вже немає на землі.

Але як бачимо Христос Своім Воскресінням переміг ворога роду людського, зруйнував ворота пекельні «смертю смерть подолав» і відкрив нам двері до Царства Небесного.

Своім Воскресінням Христос засвідчив своє Божество і дав нам за поруку нашого майбутнього воскресіння.

Воскресіння Христове - це основа нашої віри, а Віра є найважливіша і потрібна в житті кожної людини. Саме через Воскресіння Христове утвердилася віра апостолів, яка відновила їх Духом Святим і дала їм силу і надхнення проповідувати слово Боже і утверджувати Церкву Христову на землі.

Святі апостоли про Воскресіння Христове говорять як про подію не лише в земному житті Спасителя але і в

житті кожного із нас, хто приймає Пасхальне благовістя: “ А коли живе у вас Дух Того, Хто воскресив Ісуса із мертвих, то той хто підняв Христа з мертвих, оживить і смертельні тіла ваші через Свого Духа, що живе у вас” (Рим. 8, 11).

Своєю хресною смертю Христос звершив очищення гріхів, усього роду людського. Воскресіння Спасителя дарувало кожному із нас вічне життя. Але однієї лише віри у страждання і Воскресіння Ісуса Христа недостатньо. Необхідно, щоб наше земне життя у всіх його проявах було у тісному єднанні з Богом. Святий апостол Павло навчає нас:”Бо коли ми з’єдналися з Ним подобою смерті Його, то повинні бути з’єднані і подобою Воскресіння, знаючи те, що давній наш чоловік був розп’ятий з Ним, щоб знищене було тіло гріховне, щоб нам не бути вже рабами гріха (Рим. 6:5-7).

Наше земне життя і наше ставлення до Бога і до ближнього, повинно носити на собі печать нерозривного єднання з Господом Богом. Св.Іоан Богослов говорить:”Хто Мені служить, нехай Мене наслідує, і де Я, там і слуга Мій буде” (Ін 12,26).

Споглядаючи на реальний стан речей в світі ми бачимо духовно-моральний занепад людства. В світі панує ненависть і жорстокість, яка супроводжується вбивствами і війнами. Сучасна людина обирає матеріальні цінності, відкидаючи духовні. Тому не забуваймо про нашу молодь і дітей закликаймо їх до рідної Церкви і до Бога. Бо вони є наше майбутнє. Нехай Воскреслий Христос допоможе всім нам перемогти гріх і стати на дорогу спасіння.

В цьому році ми будемо відзначати 100-літній Ювілей нашої УПЦ в Канаді і УПЦ в Америці. Згадаймо у своїх молитвах всіх фундаторів, жертводавців і будівничих наших храмів і стараймося продовжувати їхню працю на користь Святої Церкви.

Дорогі браття і сестри! Святий євангелист Іван Богослов пише, що першими словами Христа-Спасителя своїм учням після воскресіння з мертвих були „Мир Вам” (Ів.20,19). І ми повинні прийняти їх сьогодні з особливим почуттям, бо саме миру і спокою потребує сучасний світ.”Коли ми згубимо мир-то будемо ворогами тим, котрі почули від Христа-Мир Вам”- каже Св.Іоан Золотоустий.

Тому стараймося зберігати цей мир і своїми молитвами просити Воскреслого Христа, щоб Він запанував в Україні, в наших громадах, родин, сім’ях і найголовніше в душах кожного з нас.

У це величне свято Святої Пасхи Господньої ми молитовно просимо Воскреслого Христа Спасителя і Бога нашого, щоб Він Благословив наш український народ і подав йому єдність, мир, духовне і економічне зростання.

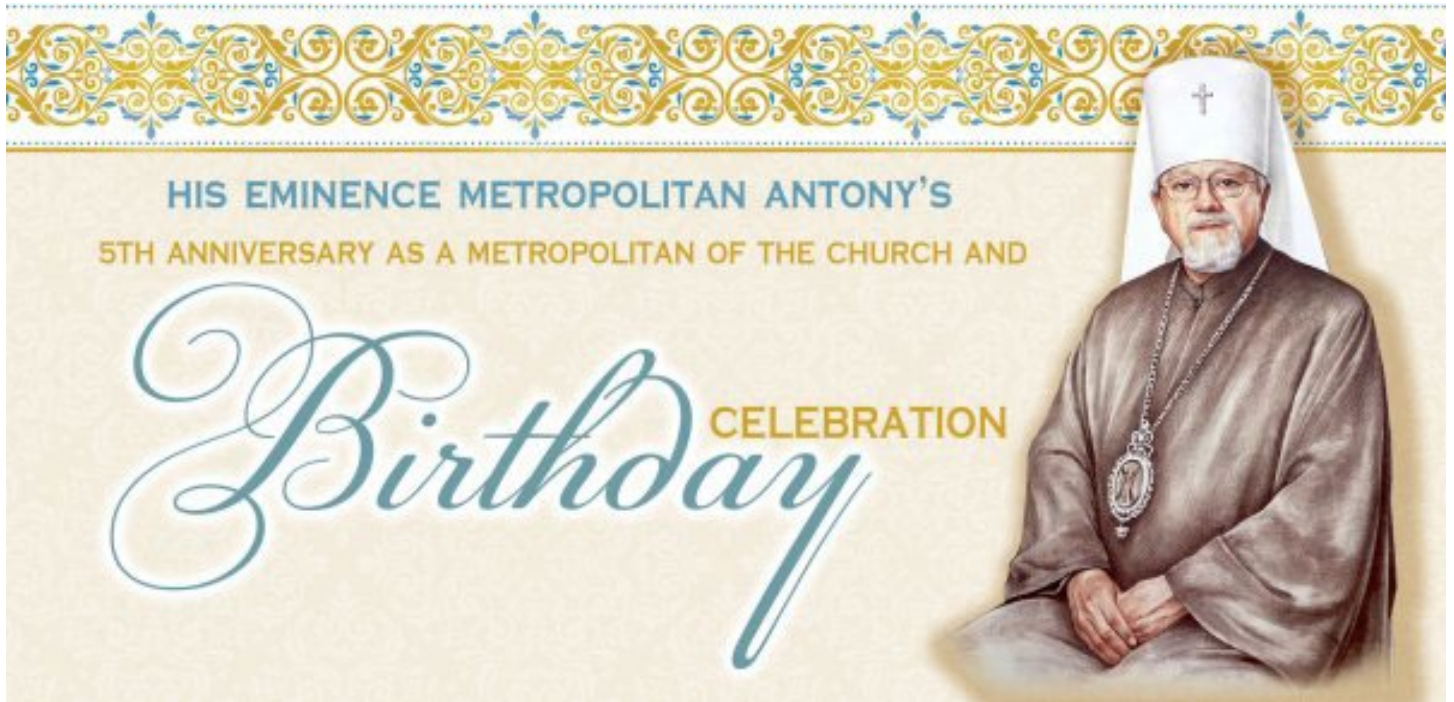
Нехай Воскреслий Христос зміцнить нашу віру, наповнить наші серця духовною радістю, примножить любов , щоб у всій повноті ми змогли насолодитися радістю світлих Пасхальних днів.

Благословення Воскреслого Христа нехай буде з усіма Вами!

Воістину Христос Воскрес!

З архипастирським благословенням,

† **ЮРІЙ**, Митрополит Української Православної Церкви Канади
† **АНТОНІЙ**, Митрополит Української Православної Церкви США і в Діаспорі
† **ЄРЕМІЯ**, Архiepіскоп Української Православної Єпархії Бразилії та Південної Америки
† **ДАНИЇЛ**, Архiepіскоп Української Православної Церкви США і Західної Європи
† **ІЛАРІОН**, Єпископ Української Православної Церкви Канади
† **АНДРІЙ**, Єпископ Української Православної Церкви Канади



AXIOS! CELEBRATIONS HONORING THE METROPOLITAN OF THE CHURCH



Tuesday, the 30th of January dawned cool and crisp, with gentle snowflakes floating through the air, as the Metropolia Center awoke to a day of celebration. Today, the clergy and faithful of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA honored their Spiritual Leader, His Eminence Metropolitan Antony who was celebrating his birthday, along with the 5th anniversary of being enthroned as the Metropolitan of the Church, as well as his Name's day.

As the large snowflakes slowly twirled in the breeze and made their way down to the earth, people began to arrive at the St. Sophia Ukrainian Orthodox Seminary, where a Divine Liturgy would be served in honor of Metropolitan Antony. With smiles on their faces everyone walked through the seminary and found their way to the Three Holy Hierarchs Chapel. The chapel gleamed in the candlelight, the halos of the saints on the icons glowing warmly. On the center tetrapod was an icon of St. Anthony the Great, along with his relics, making it so that one could almost imagine that the saint himself was present among us.

As His Eminence Metropolitan Antony and His Eminence Archbishop Daniel approached the seminary, Seminarian Subdeacon Volodymyr Yavorskyi greeted Vladyka Antony, thanking him for his guidance and support of the students. Seminarian Oleh Krawchenko presented His

Eminence with the traditional bread and salt in the narthex before the hierarchs proceeded in to the chapel, where they were greeted by Very Reverend Anthony Perkins, who would be concelebrating the Divine Liturgy, along with about 25 priests in attendance, assisted by Deacon Adrian Mazur and Deacon Ivan Tchopko.

Surrounded by the clergy and faithful who traveled great distances to honor their beloved hierarch, His Eminence Metropolitan Antony, along with His Eminence Archbishop Daniel entered the chapel engulfed by voices raised in song, glorifying and praising the Lord.

The Divine Liturgy ebbed and flowed, almost carried on eagle's wings, as the faithful rejoiced, and then became retrospective, and once again hopeful. The Reading was from the Gospel according to Luke, Chapter 17, when Christ taught the Beatitudes, "Blessed are you poor, For yours is the kingdom of God..." Metropolitan Antony read the Gospel in Ukrainian, and Archbishop Daniel in English, so that everyone gathered could avail themselves of the richness of the teaching.

As the senior clergy faculty member of the Seminary, Very Reverend Bazyl Zawierucha gave the sermon. He stressed the importance of the Beatitudes in our daily lives, and how as we come nearer to Great Lent we need to think daily upon our actions, and focus more on these teachings, working on our humility, meekness, and godliness. He continued by explaining that we are an example to others. Our actions, and words make an impact, and that we are blessed to have at the helm of our Spiritual Ship a man such as His Eminence Metropolitan Antony. He beseeched us to take a moment and ponder the heavy cross, responsibility and burden Vladyka Antony carries on our behalves. His Eminence has been chosen by God for this role in life, and we need to pray for him during all our church services, and in our private prayers; for by praying for His Eminence, and beseeching God's mercy and Grace upon him, Vladyka Antony's prayers for us are all the more powerful.

Father Bazyl implored us to realize that we are participating in a Liturgy in the presence of two bishops, that we will be partaking of the Eucharist in the presence of two bishops, and that we ought to be humbled at the mere realization of what is before us. Since the days of St. Ignatius to the present time, "where the bishop is, there is the Church." Thanking His Eminence for his many years of dedication, service and sacrifice, Father Bazyl concluded the sermon, and the Liturgy continued, as those present contemplated with greater realization and awe what they were a part of today, and every day.

At the conclusion of the service, everyone joined in a rousing rendition of "Mnohaya Lita/Many Years" for His Eminence Metropolitan Antony. With a smile upon his face, Vladyka thanked everyone for their participation, but, did not miss the opportunity to teach, and to save his flock. His Eminence quoted his patron saint, St. Anthony the Great, "Whoever hammers a lump of iron, first decides what he is going to make of it, a scythe, a sword, or an axe. Even so, we ought to make up our minds what kind of virtue we want to forge, or we labor in vain."

His Eminence explained, that if the craftsman starts his work, without first realizing what the final product will be, he destroys the material, and by the time he finally decides what it should be, there is not enough material left to create it. He urged us to also decide on our end goal, which should be to listen to the Lord and follow His teachings. He urged us to decide, and work towards that goal, one day at a time, chiseling away, until we have our end product.

The morning services concluded with the Troparian to St. Anthony the Great, as everyone came up to venerate his relics, "Emulating the demeanor of the zealous Elijah, and following the Baptist with forthright steps, O father Anthony, thou wast a dweller in the desert, and hast made the whole world steadfast by thy supplications. Wherefore, entreat Christ God, that our souls be saved."



With smiles upon their faces, everyone felt renewed, refreshed and re-energized as they slowly made their way to the Seminary Dining Room. After the prayer, everyone happily came up to the His Eminence Metropolitan Antony to greet him personally, express their gratitude and well-wishes, and shower him with flowers and gifts. Vladyka stated how overwhelmed he was with all the greetings, not only by those present, but, the messages on his phone, and social media from all around the world.

As everyone enjoyed the meal (prepared by Sr. Sophia Seminary Chef Mariya Morozovska), they also had the opportunity to chit chat, catch up with old friends, share the latest news, and thoroughly enjoy each other's company. The meal concluded with the seminarians bringing out two cakes for His Eminence, one to celebrate his birthday, and the other in honor of his 5-year anniversary as Metropolitan of the Church. Once again the room exploded in a rousing rendition of Mnohaya Lita, as everyone settled down to enjoy the delicious cake prepared by Natalia Hlushko and Pani-matka Oksana Pasakas, of Short and Sweet Treats prepared by pani-matka Olena Shak.

Slowly the seminary began to empty, as the people with final hugs and kisses, made their way back to their homes. Their stomachs were full, and their souls were overflowing. What a wonderful way to celebrate His Eminence Antony, Metropolitan & Prime Hierarch of UOC of the USA and Diaspora. May God grant him many healthy and happy years! Eis polla eti Despota!!!

Axios! Celebrations Honoring the Metropolitan of the Church

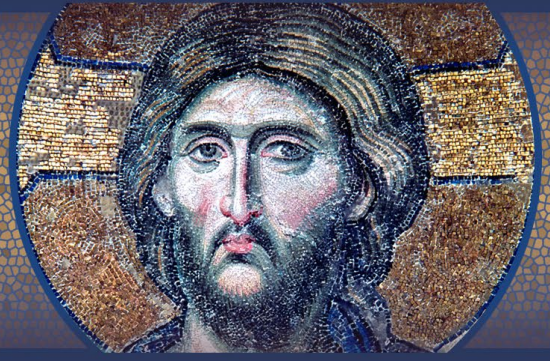
[Click to view](#)

Text and Photos by Elizabeth Symonenko



PASTORAL

REFLECTIONS



Prepare yourselves for spiritual combat

Fr. Michael Kochis

Once again, God, in His great mercy, has brought us to the threshold of another Great Lent. Once again, we hear the words “Let us set out with joy upon the season of the Fast and prepare ourselves for spiritual combat. Let us purify our soul and cleanse our body. As we fast from food, let us abstain also from every passion.” How do we respond?

For many of us, perhaps, living in modern American culture of the 21st century, the words “joy” and “Fast” are two that we would never pair up together. We have become accustomed to indulging in every pleasure, gratifying every urge – we internalize the attitude that the world exists for me and for my needs, that “my” money can be spent however I please, that “my” time can, and should, be spent only in the pursuit of my enjoyment – the idea of limits, of self-control, of abstinence, even of sharing – is something that we find distasteful, if not downright dangerous and even physically and psychologically unhealthy. Certainly not joyful.

For many of us, perhaps, Great Lent is seen as an outside obligation imposed upon us by the Church, something that temporarily interrupts the rhythm of our lives, without really being integrated into our identity. If we live with this attitude, the next 40 days of Great Lent and then Holy Week will certainly NOT be a time of joy. Yet, if we can perceive this time for what it is – a blessed opportunity given to us for us to follow the example of the Prodigal Son – for us to come to our senses and return to the Father, then we will experience the real joy the hymnographer wrote about. Great Lent is chance for us to “recalculate”, in the words of the GPS units we so often rely upon, and get ourselves headed back in the right direction.

This implies, of course, that we must admit we have been going in the wrong direction. We must have the moral and spiritual maturity to look ourselves in the mirror and acknowledge that our choices and decisions have drawn us away from God, and that we need to change direction. Quite simply, we must REPENT. We must lay aside our ex-

cuses and self-justifications, and realize, hopefully aided and inspired by our attendance at the Great Canon services this week, that we are sinners. We need to confess our mistakes and sins, our missed opportunities, and begin anew. We need to experience the joy of God’s forgiveness, and offer forgiveness to those close to us. And then to aid and encourage us during this Great Lent, we have the three great nutrients of spiritual growth and renewal: prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

Prayer is certainly a chief feature of Great Lent. Think about it – don’t we all want to spend time with the ones we love? That’s what prayer is – spending time with The One we love, and Who loves us. There will be so many opportunities for us to gather together in corporate prayer and worship in our Parishes as faithful sons and daughters of our Holy Orthodox Church – the Great Canon services this first week, which set before us the myriad Scriptural examples of repentant sinners; the beautiful Liturgies of the Presanctified Gifts which nourish our souls while our bodies fast; the poignant poetry of Akathists to the Passion of Christ or to the Most-Holy Birthgiver of God; and, the Soul Saturdays, which give us the opportunity to remember in prayer the souls of our loved ones who have gone before us. Let’s make the effort to attend, and not just as an afterthought, but let each day’s service be the priority – let’s arrange the rest of our day around it, to assure we have the time and physical and mental energy to actively participate. And yet we cannot neglect private prayer, either. The supreme Lenten prayer is, of course, the Prayer of St. Ephraim, and we can incorporate this into our daily prayer rule (or if, as part of our Lenten introspection, we realize we don’t have a daily prayer rule, we can develop one, with the guidance of our Spiritual Father). We can pray waiting at the bus stop, we can pray sitting at a red light (but never while driving!), we can pray waiting in line at the supermarket, and what we just might find out, is that we don’t want to stop when Great Lent is over! Glory to God!

For many of us fasting is the main feature of Great Lent; and yet, do we have the proper understanding of fasting? Too often, we fixate on ingredients. Simply put, the fasting guidelines of our

Orthodox Faith call for a vegan lifestyle during the Great Lent – no meat or meat by-products, no dairy, eggs, or fish which have bones or scales while alive. Maybe, this sounds intimidating. Quite frankly, it is easier now (and even trendier now) to keep this kind of fast than ever before, given the food options available to us. (Sorry folks, there is no “senior citizen” exemption in Orthodoxy.) There may be of, course mitigating medical factors and in such situations one should consult with his or her Spiritual Father. And yet many will correctly question, how can simply changing our diet benefit us spiritually? It can't. If our fasting becomes a cause of pride, it becomes a sin. Along with monitoring what we are eating, we must struggle to maintain the correct internal attitude. Otherwise, Great Lent is just a 40-day diet. As we limit and simplify our physical intake of food, we are called to live in humility, with a greater awareness of our dependence on God; we are reminded that “man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God”. We remember that Adam's original transgression against God, which resulted in corruption and death entering in to the perfection of God's creation, came about as a result of eating something which was not permitted, because Adam lost humility and decided to overrule God Himself. And, while we humble ourselves through fasting, through simplifying our menus, this frees up resources which can be put to better use.

This brings us to the third component of a responsible observance of Great Lent: almsgiving. The 40 days of Great Lent are approximately one-tenth of the year- a tithe; we know that God has always called His faithful sons and daughters to offer back a portion of the gifts He has entrusted to us. We can use these days to offer back to the Lord the money we save through fasting and limiting frivolous expenditures- to His Church through our Parishes, through our Orthodox charitable agencies such as IOCC, FOCUS, OCMC, OCPM, Zoe for Life, the St. Andrew's Society; even through secular charities if they have values compatible with our Faith. Last Sunday we were reminded of the crucial importance of feeding the poor, clothing the naked, caring for the sick, and visiting the imprisoned. We can do this indirectly through financial support (the “easy” way), or directly, by offering our time. Let's make the effort to turn off the television, step away from the computer

and social media, and use that time to visit a nursing home, or home-bound parishioners, to volunteer at a soup kitchen or shelter, to share God's love and mercy with the world around us. This way, we add responsible stewardship of our treasures and time into our Lenten equation.

While we refer to today as Cheesefare Sunday and Forgiveness Sunday, a more subtle Liturgical theme for this day is the casting out of Adam (and Eve!) from Paradise. The Church calls on us to realize that as children of Adam and Eve, we are living outside of where we are meant to be – the existence we experience as normal is, in fact, abnormal. God did not create us to live out of Paradise. We are exiles. Great Lent is a blessed opportunity for us to return home to the overflowing love and mercy of the Father's embrace. Through prayer, fasting, almsgiving and the Grace of God, we can return. If we can accept this as our calling, we really will be filled with joy as we journey through this Great Lent. A blessed Great Lent to you all.



Неділя Хрестопоклонна

“Хресту Твоєму поклоняємося, Владико,
і святе Воскресіння Твоє славимо”

о. Павло Боднарчук



В третю неділю святого великого посту Церква вшановує святий Хрест, на якому був розп'ятий Господь наш Ісус Христос. Від цього дійства та від євангельського читання цієї неділі походить і назва цієї неділі серед неділь великого посту - неділя Хрестопоклонна.

Власне, ця неділя є серединою посту і Святий Животворчий Хрест Господній вшановується в цей час середп'яття щоб укріпити нас в нашій великоп'сній духовній мандрівці, щоб показати нашому духовному зору знаряддя перемоги життя над смертю... Євангельське читання цієї неділі нагадує нам про ще один важливий аспект нашого життя, про необхідність нести свій власний хрест всім тим, хто прагне йти вслід за Господом: “Коли хоче хто йти вслід за Мною, хай зречеться самого себе, і хай візьме свого хреста та й за Мною йде!” (Мр. 8,34)

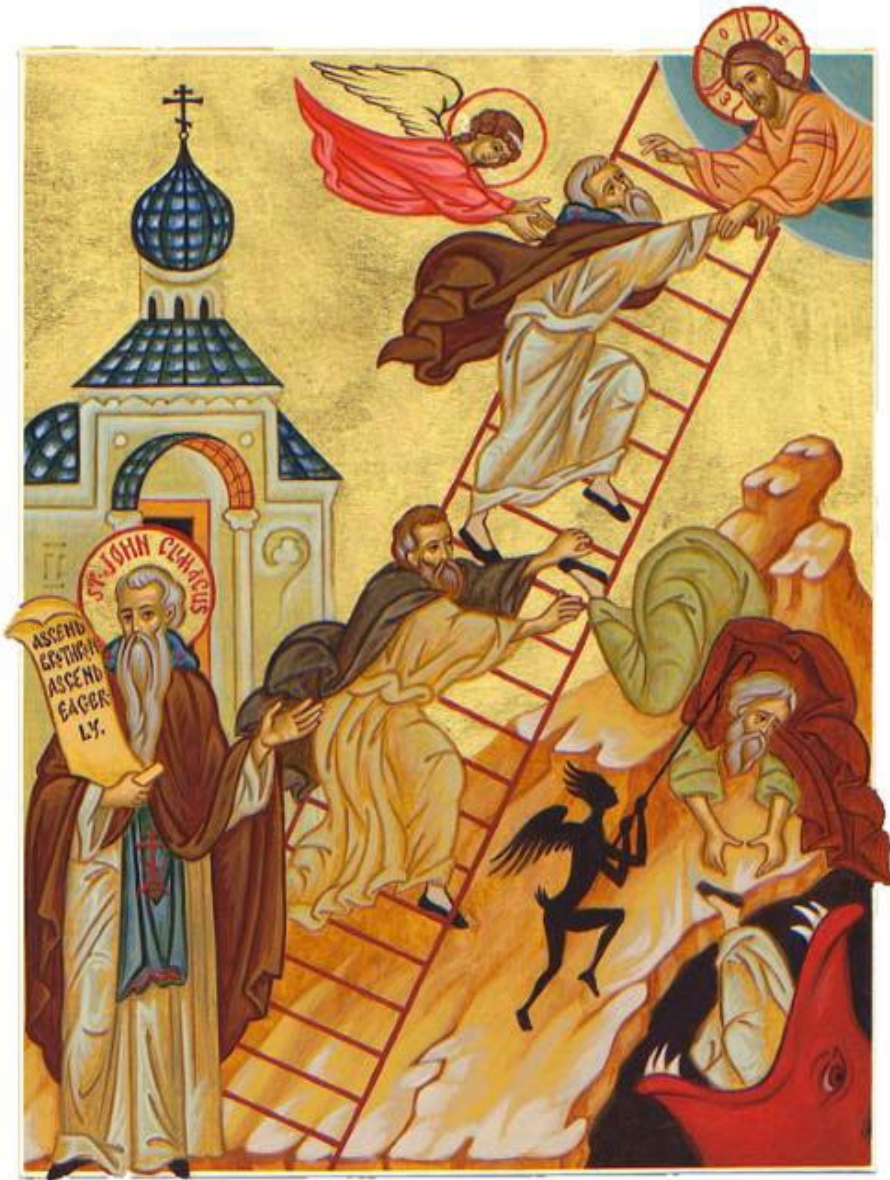
Розмірковуючи над цими словами Святого Письма, Свт. Феофан Затворник говорить наступні слова: “За Господом Хрестоносцем не можна йти без хреста і всі, хто слідує за Ним, неодмінно йдуть з хрестом.” Чим же є наш хрест? Наш хрест - це всякого роду незручності, тяготи і скорботи, які налягають на людину ззовні і зсередини, при добросовісному виконанні заповідей Господніх. Святитель говорить далі, що такий хрест є невід'ємною стороною життя християнина: “де християнин - там і хрест цей, а де немає хреста - немає і християнина”. Ми не повинні забувати, що ми є на полі боротьби з сильним і підступним ворогом. Тому без труднощів, незгод та ран нам не обійтись! Більше того, ми повинні втішатись відчуваючи той хрест на собі, бо це і той знак, що ми йдемо вслід за Христом, йдемо дорогою спасіння, йдемо до Царства Божого, яке Милосердний Господь приготував для нас. Потерпи ж, людино, трішечки!

Та проте, нам зовсім не хочеться терпіти та нести ті свої хрести. Нам важко, радше знову не хочеться, збагнути чи зрозуміти необхідність цього. Більше того, кожен з нас зосереджує чи не всі свої можливі і неможливі зусилля власне тільки для того, щоб ... позбутись свого життєвого хреста: тихе, спокійне, безтурботне, сите та достатнє життя, наповнене всілякими “насолодами” світу цього - це те, чого наше, людське “єго” у своїй простоті завжди прагне. Проте, таке наше прагнення, в певній мірі цілком зрозуміле прагнення кожної живої істоти, дуже скоро стає єдино тим, що формує стереотипи нашої поведінки, окреслює, наповнює сенсом всі сторони нашої діяльності, і таким чином зовсім нівелює духовну сторону нашого життя чим і зводить людину до рівню потреб життя виключно тваринного світу...

Апостол Павло нагадує нам: “Хіба ж не знаєте, що ваше тіло – храм Святого Духа, який живе у вас?” (ІКор. 6, 19) Тілесне не є єдиним на потребу людині. Надмірність наших тілесних прагнень витісняє в нас духовність, затьмарює в нас образ богосинівства, умертвляє в нас дух послуху Богу. Святитель Микола Сербський (Велимирович) дає нам наступну пораду: “Зречися надмірної тілесності, що витіснила в тобі духовність! Зречись пристрастів, що витіснили в тобі чесноти! Зречись рабського страху, що затьмарив у тобі образ богосинівства! Зречись богохульних нарікань, що умертвили в тобі дух послуху Богові. Зречися злих думок, злих бажань і злих справ ... Зречись всього, що, як ти вважаєш, є тобою, але насправді ж є дияволом, гріхом, тлінном, обманом та смертю”.

Час Великого Посту це особливий час внутрішньої боротьби і покаяння, час великих зусиль і тіла і душі християнина на шляху очищення та відновлення образу і подоби Божої в наших душах і серцях. Хай же ж, Хрест Господній, що лежить у наших храмах в ці святі дні, буде для нас не тільки спогадом надмірних страждань Спасителя заради нашого спасіння, не тільки німим свідком Його Божественної любові до кожного з нас, але нехай він стане і зціляючим лікарством для наших зраних душ і сердець, нахай він буде тією непереможною зброєю проти диявола та лихих задумів його проти нас! Але пам'ятаймо, що тільки з чистим, щирим, сповненим віри серцем, несучи свій життєвий хрест, ми можемо отримати всі ці дари, та поміч від Бога. Непереможна і божественна сила Чесного й Животворчого Хреста Господнього, не покинь нас грішних, але силою твоєю вкрий нас від усяких спокус душевних і тілесних. Амінь.

Homily on the Sunday of St. John of the Ladder



The Challenge: take the Gospel Seriously

Saint John of the Ladder: challenges us to take the Gospel seriously. As such, it continues last week's message: Deny Yourself, pick up your cross, and follow Christ. Why? Because the world has fallen, and we have fallen with it; and it takes energy to restore things to their proper state. It takes a lot of effort to fix something that has been broken. When we refuse that challenge, we are really saying that we prefer things the way they are; that we are comfortable with the mess we have made of this world and of the mess we have made of our lives. More importantly, we are saying that it is not worth the bother to help others recover from all their pain and suffering. That we prefer sitting in our own warm filth too much to get up and lend a hand to people in desperate need of help. Because that is what it means to follow Christ: it means to put

the needs of others before our own. What else is love than the denial of the self in service to another? This is the love God has for all His children, and it is the same love He expects us to have for one another. And He expects this of us 24/7.

Recap of Last Week

This was the point I was trying to make last week: we are not just called to serve one another or worship God during our spare time; every moment of every day must be directed towards the pursuit of holiness and love. This is the only way to become what we were created for: children of the light, beings of utter love, true servants of the Most High. And no, this does not mean you get to quit your job or leave your family: you are called to holiness within the communities and families God has blessed you with. But what it does mean is that you must allow the spirit of your work and time spent with family and friends to be transformed so that every moment is infused with selfless sacrificial love and prayer. You may think that this is impossible. On our own, it would be, but in Christ all things are possible. It will take a lot of effort, but God's grace will perfect what is lacking.

St John's Method: put your back into it!

St. John of the Ladder's book teaches a method for achieving this – and none of the thirty steps are easy. [provide background on the book] He was writing for monks, so some of the specific advice will not work for us (e.g. obedience to your elder in everything), but that doesn't mean we get a pass from hard work. We need to fast, we need to pray, we need to stop being lazy in our obligations to our community, we need to humble ourselves so that we can really learn to love someone apart from what it offers to us in return.

[Commitment: the door opens both ways]

[St. John describes how monks who refused to take their obligation seriously would be drummed out of the monastery. This is because a lack of commitment set such monks up

for failure and would be like poison to their brothers. We have similar rules in our Church – anyone can join, but when you do, you commit yourself to a certain way of life and a certain purpose. And while the “certain way of life” is the certain path to health and perfection, and while the “certain purpose” is the one that will bring the sure restoration of this world, the door is open not only to those who would join Christ in this great effort, but also to those who would forsake Him and it.]

Half-hearted commitment bears bad fruit – blessings become curses

The Ladder really pushes this point: half-hearted commitment does not bear good fruit. Is this surprising? An un-tended garden – even when cleared well, planted with the best of seeds, and fertilized with the best compost – is soon overgrown with weeds. The most beautiful of weddings soon becomes drudgery if the couple does not take the effort to sustain and nourish it. Children with the best of genes and successful parents still require attention and training to grow up to become successful themselves. Very few good things happen on their own – they require effort.

Without such effort, things that should be blessings to us instead become curses. The man or woman stuck in a marriage that was allowed to rot through inattention and selfishness regrets being married at all. Recent surveys show that people with lukewarm faith – those who occasionally attend church and rarely follow any kind of prayer rule – are actually less satisfied with their lives than those who have no faith at all. Those who actually live out their faith are better off than either group.

It isn't enough to plant a gardener to enjoy the benefits of being a gardener; it isn't enough to have a wedding to enjoy the fruits of having a good marriage. It isn't enough to have babies to enjoy the fruits of family life. Nor is it isn't enough to get baptized or meet your minimum obligations to enjoy the fruits of Christianity. It takes effort to do anything well – this is especially true when it comes to love. A good gardener has abundant harvests; the apathetic one does not. The implications for the Christian are clear; how much harder than the gardener should we work considering the blessings that

await those who deny themselves, pick up their cross, and follow Christ?

With prayer and fasting come power... and more

It requires prayer. It will take fasting. It will take complete commitment. But when you offer yourself in this way as a living sacrifice to Love – even the demons will be subject to your command. But more importantly, you will have been transformed, your name will be written in heaven (St. Luke 10:7-20), and you will be a blessing to this world.

“So let us not be deceived by proud zeal, and seek prematurely what will come in its own good time; that is, we should not seek in winter what comes in summer, or at seed time what comes at harvest; because there is a time to sow labours, and a time to reap the unspeakable gifts of grace. Otherwise, we shall not receive even in season what is proper to that season”

-St. John Climacus, The Ladder of Divine Ascent



ST. MARY OF EGYPT

Fr. Theophan Mackey

St. Job Parish, Los Alamos NM

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

“You will indeed drink the cup that I drink, and with the baptism I am baptized with you will be baptized;” Christ admonishes His disciples. When in the Garden of Gethsemane, Jesus prays, “let this cup pass from me...” Let me avoid this suffering. His human will is fearful of the pain which He will endure and this is the cup that the disciples will share. All but one of the disciples, all but the beloved Saint John, met their end in the death of martyrdom.

Through this time of the Great Fast, we have been called upon to take up our cross and follow Christ. We have been called to be less self-centered; we have been called to be more attentive to our physical and spiritual habits. Now, however, we are being called, if we would be disciples of Christ, to lay down our lives.

As we have discussed before, many of the Christians in the early Church were martyred. It was a very dangerous thing to live the Christian life. When, in 312, the Emperor Constantine made Christianity the state religion, instead of persecuted minority, it became fashionable and easy to be a Christian in public. As a result, a new type of Christian arose: a nominal Christian. A person who voiced Christian values and teachings, but had no deep conviction or attachment to Christ.

In effect, Christianity became weaker when threat of death was removed because it was easier to be a Christian.

But this weakening also gave rise to a new form of spirituality: monasticism. People of deep faith, wanting to become more like Christ and wanting to live a more integrated life than the nominal Christian, shunned the world and started living separated from the world. These became the first monastics.

We commemorate one of our great monastics today: Saint Mary of Egypt. She lived in sixth century, in Alexandria. She was a prostitute for 17 years.

Once, when she heard of that a group of sailors was traveling to Jerusalem, to venerate the Holy Cross, she was intrigued and set sail with them. When she arrived at the church, an invisible force kept her from entering. She tried three times to enter, but



was barred each time. She then threw herself on the mercy of the Theotokos and prayed before her icon. She promised to reform her life and live only for Christ. After entering and worshipping in the church, she fled into the desert, renouncing her previous life and living as an ascetic.

We only know of her life because she recounted it to Elder Zosima, another ascetic, who encountered her after she had lived in the desert for 47 years. Her life is recounted in the Canon of Saint Andrew during the Great Fast.

We often talk about monastic saints in the Orthodox faith, not because the monk is essentially better than the rest of us, not because their work is harder or their conviction greater, but because they set up for us a goal, a pinnacle towards which we should strive: 100% Christian, 100% of the time.

Should we flee from our lives like Saint Mary? Not necessarily. The responsibilities of our lives are given to us by God. But, should we flee from our former sinful ways like Saint Mary? Leaving them behind and starting a new life centered on the Holy things of God? Should we live more simply? Should our public lives match what we profess here in Church? Absolutely.



This is the challenge of the Orthodox Faith, true Christianity, not nominal Christianity. Faith that informs all of our lives, not merely a Sunday morning visit. Faith that brings under control our wild emotions and sets up boundaries for our secular encounters. Faith that is the center of our lives, not an expendable hour or two, used to salve a guilty conscience.

Kindness to family, friends, and strangers. Regular and frequent church attendance. Attention to the present moment and to our immediate neighbors. Regular, financial offerings to the work of God and His Church. Continual prayer, spiritual reading, fasting according to tradition. These are the physical exercises which gain spiritual benefits. Purification, illumination, and theosis.

This is our faith. Christ calls us to give our lives. As Creator, they are already His by right. Who can say they made themselves? Even the “self-made” man was given the ability, the access and the opportunity by God’s providence. It is He that hath made us, and not we ourselves.

Will we turn a deaf ear to Christ’s call for an offering of ourselves, our souls and bodies to the one who has already given us everything we have and did not spare His own human life?

Let us commend ourselves, one another, and all our life unto Christ our God.

Kontakion — Tone 3

Having been a sinful woman, / you became through repentance a Bride of Christ. / Having attained angelic life, / you defeated demons with the weapon of the Cross. / Therefore, most glorious Mary, you are a Bride of the Kingdom!

Преподобна Марія Єгипетська

Amen!

Сьогодні ми згадуємо преподобну Марію, через те що вона через молитву і пожертву до Бога вимолила для себе Царство Небесне. Ці бажання і віра оправдали її надії. Хто така праведна Марія Єгипетська, це звичайна жінка того часу, маємо на увазі часи четвертого – п’ятого століття нової ери. Зайшовши одного разу в Храм Божий, вона відчула, що може в своїм житті щось змінити на краще, із Божою поміччю отримати Царство Небесне. Вона відчула, що на даний час вона є загублена і немає ніякої цінності, ні тілесної, ні духовної, ні віри Ісуса Христа. І тоді вона вирішила змінити своє життя і посвятити його для спасіння своєї душі.

Це рішення є дуже важливе, коли людина хоче змінитись, хоче духовно жити, як навчає Святе Євангеліє, як навчає Святе Боже Слово. Такий вибір є найважливіший в своїм житті, бо тільки так людина може пізнати сама себе. Такий приклад є найголовніший для кожної людини, це є живий приклад, приклад для цього світу.

Преподобна Марія відреклась від світу, але живе в ньому, іде в пустинню і молиться Господу Богу за свою душу. Звісно просить Бога допомоги і просить Його присутності. Бо без Божої допомоги ніяка людина не змогла б змінитись. Коли людина себе жертвує для Божого життя, то Бог і посилає людині благодать допомоги і Ангела хоронителя. Така людина і стає праведною і преподобною, вона вже живе в світлі Господнім і тільки чекає коли перейде в Царство Небесне.

Цей приклад Преподобної Марії Єгипетської є важний і для сьогоднішніх вірних, які ходять в Церкву Божу і хочуть всепрощення від Бога, але не можуть само-пожертвувати себе для чистої святості, як це зробила Преподобна Марія.

Ми залишаємось із самим собою, із своїм мирським життям. Отже приймімо приклад Преподобної Марії, в цей постовий час, пошануймо свою душу, своє духовне життя. Просімо теж і для себе Божої Благодаті, як просила Марія Єгипетська. І Господь відгукнеться, він не залишить нас, бо і ми теж можемо бути праведними, преподобними, блаженними, бо Його Царство Небесне теж є і для нас. Тож молімо Господа Бога, щоб він був серед нас, був у наших житті, в наших серцях.

Шукаймо скоріше Царства Небесного і все решта Господь Бог дарує нам.



ІВАНА 12:1-18

1 Шість днів перед Пасхою прибув Ісус у Витанію, де перебував Лазар, якого воскресив був з мертвих. 2 Там, отже, справили йому вечерю, і Марта прислужувала; а й Лазар був серед тих, які разом з ним посідали до столу. 3 Марія ж узяла літру мира з щирого нарду, вельми дорогого, помазала ноги Ісуса й обтерла їх волоссям своїм; і наповнився дім пахощами мира. 4 Каже тоді один з його учнів, Юда Іскаріотський, що мав його зрадити: 5 «Чому не продано це миро за триста динарійів і не роздано бідним?» 6 Сказав же так не тому, що піклувався про бідних, але тому, що був злодій: із скарбнички, яку тримав при собі, крав те, що туди вкидувано. 7 Тож Ісус промовив: «Лиши її. На день мого похорону зберегла вона те миро. 8 Бідних матимете з собою повсякчас, мене ж матимете не завжди.» 9 Тим часом дізналася сила народу, що він там, то й походились - не тільки Ісуса ради, а й щоб побачити Лазаря, якого він з мертвих воскресив. 10 Тоді первосвященики ухвалили і Лазаря вбити, 11 численні бо юдеї залишили їх із-за нього й увірували в Ісуса. 12 Наступного дня сила людей, що прийшли на свято, зачувши, що Ісус іде в Єрусалим, 13 узяли пальмове гілля й вийшли йому назустріч з окликами: «Осанна! Благо-словен той, хто йде в ім'я Господнє, ізраїльський цар!» 14 І знайшовши ося, Ісус сів на нього, - як ото написано: 15 Не страхайся, дочко Сіону, ось іде твій цар верхи на жереб'яті ослициному. 16 Не збагнули того спершу його учні, але коли Ісус прославився, згадали вони, що то було написано про нього й що то з ним таке вчинено. 17 Але й народ, що був при ньому, коли то він був викликав Лазаря з гробу та його з мертвих воскресив, - про те свідчив. 18 Тим то, власне, народ і вийшов йому назустріч: довідався бо, що він учинив те чудо.

ВО ІМ'Я ОТЦЯ І СИНА І СВЯТОГО ДУХА СЛАВА ІСУСУ ХРИСТУ

Дорогі у Христі брати і сестри!

Цієї неділі, останньої неділі перед початком Страсного тижня ми, дорогі брати і сестри у Христі, святкуємо урочистий вхід Господа нашого Ісуса Христа в Єрусалим.

Тож в чому полягає ця урочистість? І наскільки урочистим це свято є для кожного із нас в 21-му столітті? Яку ж роль покладаємо ми на себе, називаючи себе Христовим наслідником?

Місія перебування Христа на землі наближається до кінця. Проголошена Нагірна проповідь, нагородовано тисячі людей, розказано притчі, пояснено Писання. Господь наш Ісус Христос завершує свою земну мандрівку до Єрусалиму – до свого Розп'яття і Воскресіння, двома великими подіями: воскресінням Лазаря та триумфальним в'їздом до Єрусалиму.

Христос вчинив чудо, воскресив Лазаря, щоб людям було легше повірити в Його воскресіння. Ісус Христос воскресінням Лазаря і в'їздом до Єрусалиму показує, що він – правдивий цар і переможець смерті і диявола. Ця картина в'їзду Господнього відбувається в кожній нашій душі. У тайні Святого Хрещення ми, християни, відрікаємося від сатани і всіх діл його, складаємо присягу Христові, обіцяємо Христа любити, виконувати Його заповіді, і це нагадує ті радісні вигуки «Осанна!». А слова в цьому сенсі такі мають вагу. Ви напевне знаєте, що Богу відомі не тільки вчинки, але й наші слова, думки та наміри. Бог знає про них ще тоді, коли ми ми й гадки про це не маємо. Бувають такі моменти, коли ми молимося довго і щось вперто просимо, а Бог нам не відповідає. Невже це тому, що у Бога є якийсь недолік? Що ж сталося таке, що Той, Хто завжди чує і знає про все, враз не відповів на наші прохання? Безперечно, що в стосунках з Творцем надзвичайно багато залежить від нашої волі та сили віри. Бог завжди готовий йти назустріч нам.

Дорогі браття і сестри! Читаючи євангельський уривок про те, як жителі Єрусалиму з захопленням вітали і стелили дорогу пальмовим віттям та своїм одягом, в знак любові та пошани до Спасителя. Кожен із нас, повинен замислитися над тим, яка наша роль у згаданій біблійній події. Де і з ким ми сьогодні перебуваємо? Які слова з нашого серця лунають до Бога? Чи я справді хочемо привітати Господа, що йде в Єрусалим прийняти за нас страшні страждання? Слухаючи про те, як жителі Єрусалиму в радості вітали Спасителя, а потім, через декілька днів, злословили і хулили Його, ми задаємо собі питання: як могла відбутись така переміна в їхніх серцях? Але натомість осуду, варто звернутися до самих себе й подивитися, чи не відбувається подібне з нами. Бо чи ж наше щорічне великопосне покаєння та сповідь, наше причастя Святих Таїн не являються торжественною зустріччю Господа і Спасителя, подібнодо тієї, яку приготував Йому Єрусалим? Жителі Єрусалиму виголошували: «Благословен, Хто йде в Ім'я Господнє», і ми, приступаючи до Святої Чаші, чуємо ці ж слова і відповідаємо на них молитвою: «Вірую, Господи, і визнаю!» І Господь кожного разу, зі Свого невимовного довготерпіння і милосердя, подає нам Свої Святі Тіло і Кров. Та чи довго ми зберігаємо вірність нашим обітницям? Проходить час – і ми повертаємося до колишніх гріхів, того ж недбалства за свою душу, і цим ми знову розпинаємо Спасителя. І скільки раз в житті відбувається з нами таке падіння! Богу потрібно віддавати честь і славу не один день в році, а постійно. Як і юдеї ми стелимо Христу це віття один раз в році, а у всі інші дні свого життя ми служимо власним пристрастям, скверним вчинкам.

Тому сьогодні, коли весь світ вийшов вітати Небесного

Царя, спішімо також привітати Його не тільки зеленими вербовими галузками, але покладімо Йому до ніг наші плоди покаєння, молитви та посту. І на відміну від мешканців Єрусалиму, вітаймо Його з розумінням та переконанням, щоб коли Ісус буде піднесений на хресті, ми змогли побачити в ньому нашого Царя, піднесеного на свій трон. І тоді, в ту божественну ніч переходу від смерті до життя зможемо заспівати словами царя Давида: «Хай Воскресне Бог і розбіжаться вороги Його! І хай тікають від Його лица ті, що ненавидять Його» (Пс. 68.2). Нехай сьогодні наша радість буде справжня, а пісню слави співають не лише уста, але і розум і воля. Нехай все наше життя стане прославою Того, Хто відкупив нас від смерті, бо коли приймаємо Христа у своє життя, називаючись християнами, то будьмо вірними Йому і в радості і в смутку. Нехай нашу вірність не захитають ніякі терпіння та випробовування, бо знаємо, що Господь близько. «І мир Божий, що вищий від усякого уявлення, берегтиме серце і думки наші у Христі Ісусі» (Фил. 6.7), а наше життя стане піснею прослави і благословення: «Того, Хто іде в ім'я Господнє» (Пор. Мт. 21.9; Амінь.

о.Василь Довган
Парафія Св. Миколая, Трой, Нью-Йорк



HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST... OR HYPOCRACY IN THE HIGHEST



THE GOSPEL FOR MATINS OF PALM SUNDAY:
MATTHEW 21:1-11, 15-17:

1 And when they drew nigh unto Jerusalem, and were come to Bethphage, unto the mount of Olives, then sent Jesus two disciples, 2 Saying unto them, Go into the village over against you, and straightway ye shall find an ass tied, and a colt with her: loose them, and bring them unto me. 3 And if any man say ought unto you, ye shall say, The Lord hath need of them; and straightway he will send them. 4 All this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying, 5 Tell ye the daughter of Sion, Behold, thy King cometh unto thee, meek, and sitting upon an ass, and a colt the foal of an ass. 6 And the disciples went, and did as Jesus commanded them, 7 And brought the ass, and the colt, and put on them their clothes, and they set him thereon. 8 And a very great multitude spread their garments in the way; others cut down branches from the trees, and strawed them in the way. 9 And the multitudes that went before, and that followed, cried, saying, Hosanna to the son of David: Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest. 10 And when he was come into Jerusalem, all the city was moved, saying, who is this? 11 And the multitude said, this is Jesus the prophet of Nazareth of Galilee. 15 And when the chief priests and scribes saw the wonderful things that he did, and the children crying in the temple, and saying, Hosanna to the son of David; they were sore displeased, 16 And said unto him, Hearest thou what these say? And Jesus saith unto them, Yea; have ye never read, Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings thou hast perfected praise? 17 And he left them and went out of the city into Bethany; and he lodged there.

Two millennia ago, the residents of Jerusalem welcomed Christ as the savior of the Jewish people—a worldly ruler who would free them from the yoke of the Roman empire. Their Messiah would be a king in the conventional sense—with royal purple robes, a crown encrusted with precious stones, a scepter to show his earthly position, and a sword to lead his armies into battle and victory over all who would oppress his people.

Instead, Christ entered Jerusalem as a symbol of a different kingship—that of the Kingdom of Heaven—a kingdom of peace and love, of meekness and kindness, of a hand reaching out to help rather than holding a physical weapon. His rule would certainly not be what the people expected...nor what they wanted. Temporal power and strength were the visible signs that the Jews looked for in their Messiah...not a humble and quiet man who taught them peace, love, and REPENTANCE!

Throughout the ages, human beings have sought a better life...many times not realizing that what looks better to them is truly worse FOR them! The old adage that “the grass is always greener on the other side of the fence” is true regardless of the date on the calendar. We yearn for something more grand, shinier, prettier, bigger, better, faster, and at times anything other than what we have now. We forget that many times we have struggled to get there—sacrificed time, effort, and money—only to look at our neighbor to see the “new and improved model” of whatever we have!

Those who welcomed Christ did not have an easy life—there was no internet, HDTV, smartphone, iPad, iPod, iPhone, or other gadgets that make our lives easy today. They struggled to feed their families and to have a roof over their heads. The Roman authorities knew one way to rule—FEAR! They constantly had to show everyone that they could—and would—crush anyone or anything which they saw as a threat to their power. Any hint at a popular leader rising from among the Jews was met swiftly and decisively with action... banishment, prison, and death were the typical solutions.

Crucifixion was the “prime-time” solution—threats, or perceived threats—were quickly tried and the execution was slow, painful, and very visible to all—the victims were tortured and hung along the roads of Jerusalem, so all might see the power of Caesar! Intimidation and fear were the constant companion to those who lived in the days of Christ...whether from the Roman soldiers or the Jewish authorities who were in league with them. The bodies of those crucified were left to rot in the hot sun, then taken

down to be eaten by the wild animals—a visible reminder to anyone who would dare think of challenging the status quo.

When Christ appeared, hope came to the Jews—here was a man who would take away their daily sufferings—free them from the yoke of the Roman eagle and the high priests... They looked for a better life in this world and saw Jesus as the one who would lead them to that life. They never realized that the kingdom that Christ brought was not of this world, but that of His Father in Heaven!

Christ was also a very real threat to the priests and elders who were beholden to the Roman authorities for their power... and their standard of living. As long as they kept order among their people, the Romans would allow them a large amount of freedom. If, however, the populace began to grumble and showed signs of discontent, the Roman governor would immediately send his troops to stop it—whether indirectly, by removing the Jewish leadership, or directly by going into the city and removing the leaders of the insurgents.

This was the reality of the time when Christ came to Jerusalem to confront the temporal rulers...Caiaphas and Pontius Pilate would both be challenged by Jesus. He would be tried and led out to the people along with Barabas—one of them would be released by Pilate. Those same people who had welcomed Him with palms and branches of trees—who had taken off their cloaks and laid them upon the road as He entered Jerusalem—would cry out “Crucify him! Crucify him!” when prompted by the leaders of the Jews.

How easily the people were transformed—from love and happiness to hate and anger...because they did not get what they wanted—immediately! We must be careful that we do not imitate them—we must trust that our welcoming Christ into our lives is sincere and honest—that we know He will be with us and will lead us to His Heavenly Father and the Kingdom that He has prepared for us. Palm Sunday can be a wonderful opportunity to welcome Christ into our hearts—and our lives—or it can be the hollow going-through-the-motions event that it was so many years ago.

We are the only ones who control how we act—will we be those who truly welcome Jesus of Nazareth as our king and leader, or will we expect Him to be our personal servant—giving us what we want and when we want it?

Think carefully—the answer you give determines how you live your life and how you will have to answer before the Dread Judgment Seat!

May our Lord and Savior fill your heart and your whole life with is Light! God Bless your journey to Pascha.

Father Robert Popichak
Holy Ghost Parish, Slickville, PA





NATIVITY CELEBRATIONS IN CHICAGO, IL PARISHES WITH ARCHBISHOP DANIEL

The Nativity of our Lord celebrations became more festive and spiritually uplifting for the faithful of Chicago Deanery of the Western Eparchy of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, as His Eminence Archbishop Daniel visited the parish communities of Holy Trinity Ukrainian Orthodox parish in Bensenville, IL on January 6-7, 2018; St. Volodymyr Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in Chicago, IL on January 8, 2018; and Sts Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox parish in Palos Park, IL on January 9, 2018.

On Nativity/Christmas Eve – January 6, 2018, Vladyka Daniel led a Great Compline service at Holy Trinity Ukrainian Orthodox parish in Bensenville, IL. Assisting the archbishop were Very Rev. Fr. Bohdan Kalynyuk, pastor of the parish family and Very Rev. Fr. Andriy Shelvakh. In his sermon the hierarch greeted the faithful of the cathedral community on the most glorious Feast of the winter season of the Church's Calendar – the Nativity of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, stating: "...Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people." These words of the angel of the Lord to the shepherds in Luke's gospel (2:10) are not referring to the past but addressed to you and to me today. The angel spoke into a world where poverty, injustice, violence, sickness and death were daily present. Has anything changed since then? Are we not despite all the technical and scientific progress suffering the same problems?

I had the chance to visit the orphanages in Ukraine that are sponsored by our Church this past December. To see the missionaries of our Church working among disabled children with that charming smile of love when you can see the indifference of the world to the needs of the poor

and disabled revealed me the powerful message of the angel into a broken world: "Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people" not only for a few. And here is also the reason: "For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Messiah and Lord" (Luke 2:11). The Savior does not appear as warrior to clean the world with power and might. No, he came among us as a disarmed child – and he remained disarmed until he stretched out his arms on the cross to embrace the whole world in a divine act of love.

The "humility of God" goes so far that saint Paul in the first letter to the Corinthians dares to say: "For our sake (God) made (Jesus) to be sin who did not know sin, so that we might become the righteousness of God in him" (2 Cor 5:21). Beloved brothers and sisters in Christ, the basic conditions of the world and our daily life may still be the same like at the times of Jesus' birth. What should have changed in the meantime is the heart of those who listen carefully to the message of the angel and believe in it: "Do not be afraid – a Savior has been born for you... Don't you think that the world around you would become a little bit better and brighter if you acted with a heart that is really touched by the divine love in the crib who seems to tell us of the Divine reason for His Incarnation... I wish you and your families a Christmas in peace and joy. "Do not be afraid ... a Savior has been born for you!"

Following the liturgical celebrations of this year's Christmas Eve, Vladyka Daniel joined the faithful of the parish community for a Christmas Eve supper, featuring 12 traditional dishes, which were deliciously prepared



by Sisterhood members of the parish family. Lighting the traditional Christmas Eve candle on behalf of the entire parish, Vladyka Daniel and Fr. Bohdan dedicated it in memory of the newly reposed child of God Evhen from Zaporizhia. Later in the evening, the youth of the parish presented a Nativity play – “Vertep” to their bishop and the faithful of the community.

On January 7, 2018 – the feast day of the Nativity of Christ, His Eminence led a Divine Liturgy at Holy Trinity parish, while the pastor Fr. Bohdan Kalynyuk, Very Rev. Andriy Shelvakh, and over a dozen of altar serves and seminarians of St. Sophia Ukrainian Orthodox Theological Seminary (South Bound Brook, NJ) Ivan Venhryn, Oleh Kravchenko, Myroslav Mykytyuk, Yaroslav Bilohan concelebrated and assisted the bishop. The parish temple was prayerfully overwhelmed by the presence of the faithful of the Church who joined their spiritual father and hierarch for the celebration of the Nativity of Christ.

In his sermon Vladyka stated: “Our faith reminds us that the infant Jesus came to share with us more than a smile, and more than a moment of affection. This infant, born of the Virgin Birth-Giver of God, comes full of grace and truth, and filled with enduring love. This infant is here to break down our fears, to overcome our sins, to dispel our apathy, to save us from the brokenness of our world and our lives – and to show us that because we are precious in God’s eyes, although wounded, we are loved. Indeed, through the birth of this infant, we are given the blessed

opportunity to come to know the God who has given us life... The times in which we live continue to be filled with challenges, which cause us to search desperately for meaning and purpose, for consolation and peace in our lives. May the blessing of Christmas be that we are not too proud or sophisticated to look upon the face of Jesus and find that for which we hope. Indeed, his plan for us is quite simple. In his birth and in his life, Jesus offers us a pattern for how we are to live. When we are humble and wise enough to follow his example of selfless love and to open our lives in service to one another, God’s love is given room to abound all the more within our hearts, to create therein a true and lasting peace, and to establish the path that leads to our salvation... Thank you for the privilege of serving as your Bishop and for allowing me to journey with you in faith. Thank you as well for your willingness to embrace the life of Christ and to respect and treasure his presence as he comes to us each day in his Word, in the Most Holy Eucharist and in his people: those created in his image and likeness. In so doing, you keep alive the true meaning and the real work of Christmas/Nativity.”

Following the Liturgy, the His Eminence chanted traditional Christmas Carols with the faithful and presented them with the Nativity icon cards.

On the second day of Christmas, the Synaxis of the Most Holy Birth-Giver of God, Archbishop Daniel visited Holy Equal to the Apostles Great Prince Volodymyr Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in Chicago, IL, where he served the Divine Liturgy and visited with the clergy and parishioners of his cathedral. Very Rev. Fr. Ivan Lymar, pastor of the cathedral; Rev. Fr. John Charest and Protodeacon Andriy Fronchak assisted the archbishop in the liturgical celebrations and shared in the joy of watching the faithful of the parish family embrace with



their hearts the true meaning of the Nativity of Christ in their lives. Dobrodijka Lilia Lymar, assisted by Volodymyr and Olena Lymar and several parishioners prayerfully chanted responses of the liturgical celebration for the second day of the Nativity of our Lord.

In conclusion of the Divine Liturgy, greeting the faithful of the parish with the feast of the Nativity of our Lord, the archbishop stated that "...One of the amazing effects of Christmas – Jesus Christ becoming one of us - is that it transforms and enlarges all our relationships. If the Lord of the Universe, of all Creation, chooses to change his relationship with us by becoming one of us, in principle all our relationships with each other are changed and deepened... Understandably, the relationships which we call 'family' will always have a privileged place in our thinking about what it means to be human. Human beings are deeply affected, and hopefully enriched, by who their parents and siblings are." Vladyka Daniel called upon the parishioners of the parish family, and especially the youth, to treasure their parents and honor them with love and respect.

On the third day of Nativity, the feast day of Protomartyr Stephen, His Eminence Archbishop Daniel visited Sts. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Palos Park, IL.

The Liturgy was served by Vladyka Daniel, Very Rev. Fr. Vasyl Sendeha (pastor of Sts Peter and Paul parish), Very Rev. Fr. Ivan Lymar and Protodeacon Andriy Fronchark (clergy of St. Volodymyr Ukrainian Orthodox cathedral, Chicago, IL) in prayerful simplicity with the congregation singing the responses to the Litanies under the leadership of Subdeacon George Cepynsky. After the reading of the Gospel for the feast of Protomartyr Stephen, His Eminence stepped into the center of the church to preach amongst the people, reflecting upon the life and sacrifice of Protomartyr Stephen and how it can be applied to today's journey of an individual.

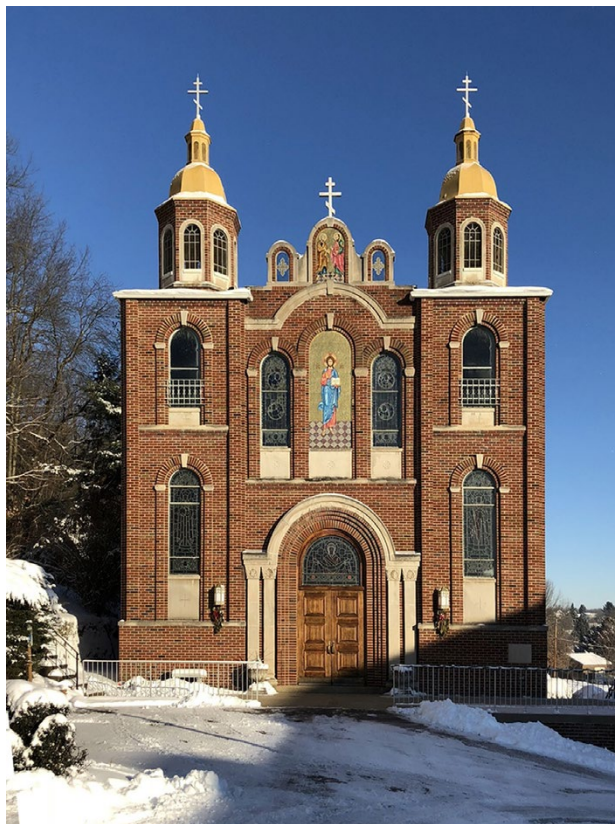
Following the Liturgy, Archbishop baptized the newly-born child of God Nikolai Pierog-Zmysly and welcomed him into the family of the Holy Orthodox Church via Sts Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox parish family in Palos Park, IL.

Photos by Olena Lymar, Seminarians Yaroslav Bilohan and Myroslav



ARCHPASTORAL VISIT OF HIS EMINENCE ARCHBISHOP DANIEL TO SAINTS PETER AND PAUL UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH IN LINDORA, PA

On Sunday, January 14, the Leave-taking of Theophany (according to Gregorian Calendar), Saints Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Lindora, PA was blessed by the Archpastoral visit of His Eminence, Archbishop Daniel, Ruling Hierarch of the Western Eparchy of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA. Braving the very cold and snowy weather, we gathered to enjoy a very spiritually uplifting and warm celebration of our faith and to welcome His Eminence and the seminarians from Saint Sophia's Ukrainian Orthodox Seminary Ivan Venhry, Myroslav Mykytyuk and Yaroslav Bilohanas they came to be with us on this special day.



This Archpastoral visit began with the Greeting of His Eminence with flowers by Marleena Hassler on behalf of her fellow students of the Parish Church School and all the children of the Parish community. His Eminence was then welcomed with the traditional gift of bread and salt by Karen Sheptak, President of the Parish Executive Board, welcoming His Eminence and thanking Him for coming to share this time of prayer and fellowship with the faithful of this parish community. Then Father Paisius McGrath, pastor of Saints Peter and Paul, welcomed our Archpastor on this visit on behalf of all the clergy, monastics and faithful from Saint's Peter and Paul, Saint Anthony's Orthodox Church (Antiochian), Saint Andrew's Orthodox Church (OCA), Transfiguration Monastery from Ellwood City, and other visitors. In his responses to the greetings, His Eminence stressed his joy and pleasure to be here to worship and pray with the faithful of this community.

The Hierarchical Divine Liturgy was then led by Archbishop Daniel and concelebrated by Father Paisius McGrath and Father Bogdan Bocur of St. Anthony's Orthodox Church, and assisted by the seminarians and the Parish altar servers led by Lee Vordos. The Hierarchical Divine Liturgy is always a joyous occasion because we are able to participate and witness

the fullness of our Liturgical celebration in being led by our beloved Hierarch and to see the ranks of the clergy working together for the glory of God! This occasion was especially meaningful for the parish community in that at the Small Entrance, His Eminence, with the blessing of His Eminence, Metropolitan Antony, elevated our parish pastor, Father Paisius McGrath to the rank of Protopriest, with the right of wearing the gold cross. In his kind and generous words on this occasion, Archbishop Daniel, reminded Father Paisius of the responsibility of being a faithful shepherd of those placed in his spiritual care and of continuing to be continue in being faithful in the call to minister in the parish

and in the many other ways he is called to be a minister and pastor. All present sang Axios and thanked God for this generous honor bestowed on our pastor and by extension to us as a parish community. Throughout the Divine Liturgy the Church rang with the wonderful voices of the Choir of Saints Peter and Paul, several visiting choir members- under the direction of Parish Choir Director, Eric Prokopchak and assisted by Bob Shott.

In his wonderful and inspiring Homily, Archbishop Daniel spoke of the importance of living out our faith in the daily circumstances of our lives. He spoke of how we live in a world that is adrift and the faithful children of God are beset on every side by challenges in a society that has become secular and turned away from the spiritual values of our Christian faith in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. He spoke of the necessity and vital role that we must play in practicing our faith in the midst of our daily lives and through lives of faithful service sharing the grace and salvation of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ to a world in desperate need of this. He challenged all present to not just believe but to live our belief and in so doing to truly live out the Gospel message.

As the day ended everyone who was present was very

thankful and overjoyed to have received our Archbishop as he came to our small corner of the world and for bringing the blessing of God to us in a special way. All the faithful from Saints Peter and Paul and the other local Orthodox parishes who were present were blessed to have come and have learned much from Archbishop Daniel about the importance of continued faithfulness in every aspect of our lives as witnesses to the salvation which we have received from our Lord and Savior Jesus. Our parish and community looks forward very much to the next time that Archbishop Daniel will again be able to visit our small corner of our world.

Photos by Seminarian Yaroslav Bilohan



THE FEAST OF THEOPHANY AT ST. VLADIMIR UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL PARMA, OHIO



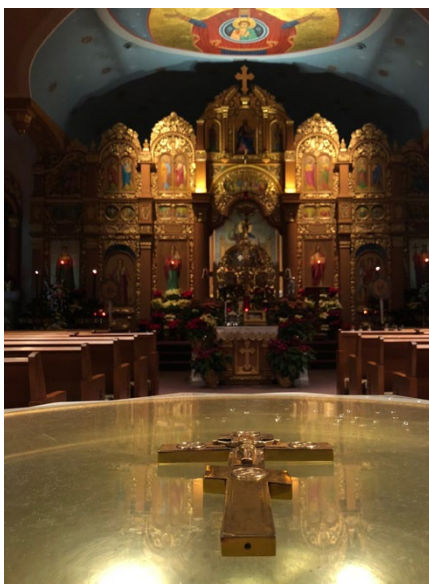
The Holy Theophany is one of the 12 Great Feast Days of the Holy Orthodox Church that follows after the Feast Day of Naming of our Lord Jesus Christ. On that day our Savior was baptized in the Jordan River by St. John the Baptist. “As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.” (Mt. 3, 16-17) This event shows for all of us that God is one in the Holy Trinity. Saint John Chrysostom said: “Why then is this day called Theophany? Because Christ made Himself known to all - not then when He was born – but then when He was baptized. Until this time He was not known to the people. And that the people did not know Him, who He was, listen about this to John the Baptist, who says: “Among you stands one you do not know.” (Jn. 1,26)

On the eve of the feast-day of Theophany (January 18) Ukrainian Orthodox Christians parishioners from Parma, OH gathered at St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral to celebrate the traditional Theophany Eve and the Great Blessing of the Water. This event is part of Theophany/Epiphany celebrations by Orthodox Christians around the world and this year it was liturgically served and observed by the clergy and faithful of the cathedral with His Eminence Archbishop Daniel leading the services of the day.



“At Your Baptism in the Jordan, Lord, the Worship of the Trinity was Made Manifest...”

In his sermon, Vladyka Daniel, reflecting of the Sacred season of Nativity of our Lord stated: “...The challenge of the Nativity/Theophany season is to take all that we believe and live it 365 days a year ... do it for the poor and the sick and the lonely and the unemployed. Do it for those who feel life isn’t worth living anymore... The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord marks the beginning of what is called the “public” ministry of Christ. He was thirty years old. He died His redemptive death at Golgotha when He was only thirty three. However, He also spent thirty redemptive years of life in what writers have sometimes called His “hidden years” in Nazareth’s school, “growing in wisdom and stature”. (Luke 2:52) Those years were not hidden in the sense of unimportant. It simply means that we do not find much about them in the Gospel accounts. However, they are rich with meaning, revealing the deeper truths of our faith and its invitation to each one of us who bear the name Christian to live our lives now in a new way by living them in Him... This Feast - together with Pascha and Pentecost - make up the three great Feasts of the ancient Church. Through the Baptism of the Lord the Most Holy Trinity has been revealed to the world. God the Father spoke from Heaven about the Son. The Son was baptized by the Lord’s holy Forerunner, John. And the Holy Spirit descended upon the Son in the form of a Dove...”



As the early hours of Friday morning (January 19, 2018) arrived, the Feast of Theophany of Christ, about 150 faithful of the parish family gathered in the cathedral for the liturgical celebration. The pastor of the cathedral parish community, Fr. John Nakonachny, along with Fr. Michael Hontaruk (assistant pastor), Fr. Roman Yatskiv (pastor of St. Nicholas Ukrainian Orthodox parish in Monessen, PA), Fr. Dmitri Belenki (pastor of the Dormition of the Birth-Giver of God Ukrainian Orthodox parish in Lorain, OH) Fr. Vasyl Pasakas (pastor of the Nativity of the Birth-Giver of God Ukrainian Orthodox parish in South Plainfield, NJ) and Protodeacon Ihor Mahlay, along with the seminarians and subdeacons of St. Sophia Ukrainian Orthodox Theological Seminary (South Bound Brook, NJ) joined the bishop for the liturgical service.

“We’re blessing the waters as a physical reminder of the responsibility we have to care for the earth,” said the bishop in his homily during the Liturgy. “Each year, we place a cross into the waters asking Jesus Christ to send down the Holy Spirit for the cleansing and sanctification of the water... The triple miracle which took place on this occasion — the opening of the heavens, the descent of the Holy Spirit in the form of a dove and the testimony of God the Father — completely convinced Saint John that Jesus Christ was the awaited Messiah. The visible descent of the Holy Spirit on the Messiah was exactly what Saint John was waiting for, because at the very beginning, when he was sent to preach as a prophet, God told him: “Upon whom you see the Spirit descending, and remaining on Him, this is He Who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.” Consequently, from that moment John the Baptist could unmistakably and without the slightest doubt testify to all that Jesus is the Messiah and the Lamb of God that takes upon Himself the sins of the world. Soon after the Baptism of our Lord Jesus Christ, John sent some of his disciples to Him: the brothers Andrew (the First-called Apostle) and Peter and the brothers James and John (the Theologian). They joined Christ and became His first disciples and apostles... The Feast of the Theophany, or the Baptism of our Lord Jesus Christ, is, along with Pascha, one of the most ancient Christian holidays. It is dedicated to our Lord’s Baptism in the Jordan River. From ancient times Christians celebrated this feast day with great enthusiasm, because it reminded them of their own baptism and stirred them to a deeper consciousness of the power of this Mystery... As we celebrate today the baptism of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Jordan, let us thank God for the free gift of salvation through the grace of baptism. Let us also earnestly ask him for the grace to keep us faithful to our baptismal promises to say no to Satan and all his false promises and to say yes to God even unto death.”

Following the Divine Liturgy, Vladyka Daniel, assisted by the clergy led the traditional Great Blessing of Water, which is perhaps the most memorable part of the Theophany services. Water, as a symbol of purification and cleansing connected explicitly with the blessing of the Jordan River, which occurred at the baptism of the Lord.

Once the service concluded, Archbishop Daniel ,assisted by the clergy in attendance, blessed the 10 foot Ice Cross, which once again graced the front of the cathedral church and enhanced the Holy Day traditional celebrations. This annual tradition is appreciated and admired by thousands of people who drive by the cathedral church daily.



Following the Great Blessing of Water and the blessing of the Ice Cross, the hierarch, clergy and faithful in attendance shared in a meal - Annual Orphanage Brunch that was organized by Protodeacon Ihor Mahlay.

On January 22, 2018, St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in Parma, OH was blessed with a visit from His Eminence Metropolitan Antony, who presided over the liturgical service of the Sunday of Zaccheus. Archbishop Daniel lead the Divine Liturgy with the participation of Fr. John Nakonachny, Fr. Michael Hontaruk, Protodeacon Ihor Mahlay - the clergy of the cathedral parish community, as well as Fr. Vasyl Pasakas of Nativity of the Birth-Giver of God Ukrainian Orthodox parish in South Plainfield, NJ and Fr. Andriy Matlak of Holy Trinity Ukrainian Orthodox parish in Seattle, WA, and a good contingent of parishioners who admirably made the effort to participate in the celebration of the Great feast of Theophany. The cathedral choir was directed by Maestro Markian Komichak.

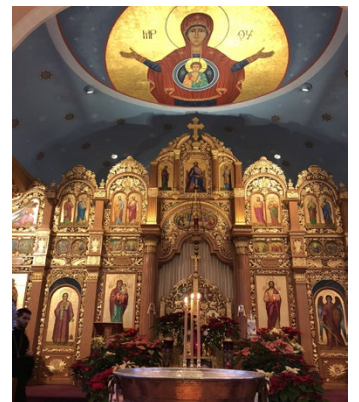
Following the Liturgy, Archbishop Daniel led a Baptism service for the child of God Emilia, a daughter of Fr. Vasyl and Dobrodijka Oksana Pasakas.

All appreciated the time Vladyka spent with the parish, manifesting the episcopal ministry through his prayer, teaching, encouragement, and fellowship, and especially on this, the Great Feast of Theophany.

Christ is Baptized! In the Jordan River!

Photos by Seminarian Yaroslav Bilohan and Elizabeth Symonenko





Февраль

ARCHPASTORAL VISIT TO ST. NICHOLAS PARISH IN TROY, NY



A few images from St. Nicholas Ukrainian Orthodox parish in Troy, NY (Fr. Vasyl Dovgan - pastor), where in the presence of numerous parishioners and children of the parish community we held a Memorial Service for the fallen heroes of Kryty Battle (January 29, 1918) as well as for those who have lost their lives in the service of the ancestral homeland Ukraine and the United States of America.

Photos by Deacon Adrian Mazur and Paula Taylor

Нещодавно, 28 січня, у Неділю про митаря і фарисея, архієпископ Західної Єпархії Української Православної Церкви США Даниїл, очолив Літургію у храмі Святого Миколая Чудотворця міста Трой, Нью Йорк.

За Божественною Літургією Його Високопреосвященству співслужили настоятель ієрей Василь Довган та диякон Адріан Мазур із Свято-Троїцького Українського Православного кафедрального собору міста Нью Йорку.

На воскресну молитву зібралось чимало православних українців околиці. Особливо багато в цей день прийшло діточок, серед котрих майже усі приступили до святих Христових Таїн.

Після проголошення Святого Євангелія, владика Даниїл звернувся до присутніх зі словами архіпастирської проповіді, у якій зауважив, що уже розпочався період нашого духовного і тілесного приготування до Великого посту.

Цієї неділі Церква нагадувала усім одну відому притчу - притчу про митаря і фарисея, яка описується у Євангельському слові дня від Луки (XVIII, 10-14). Владика розповів про значення цієї притчі та вказав на те, як Господь схвалює смирення та щире покаяння митаря та засуджує горду фарисейську молитву.

Також архієрей звернув увагу на наступні неділі, які готуватимуть вірних до входження у Великий піст і дав свої настанови та поради щодо того, на чому потрібно в першу чергу зосередитися у цей підготовчий період.

Після закінчення богослужіння архієпископ Даниїл відслужив Панахиду, де численні парафіяни і діти парафії помолились за полеглих героїв битви під Крутами (29 січня, 1918), а також і за тих, хто віддав своє життя за волю і незалежність України та США.



MEATFARE SUNDAY LITURGICAL SERVICES AT THE METROPOLIA CENTER М'ЯСОПУСНА НЕДІЛЯ



Архієпископ Даниїл очолив Божественну літургію в Духовному осередку УПЦ США

11 лютого, у м'ясопусну неділю, наша Свята Українська Православна Церква згадує та роздумує над Євангельським уривком про Страшний Суд.

Високопреосвященний Владика Даниїл, архієпископ Західної Єпархії УПЦ США прибув до храму – церкви-пам'ятника на честь Святого Апостола Андрія Первозванного та очолив літургійні богослужіння. Його Високопреосвященству співслужили протоієрей Юрій Сівко, протоієрей Іван Лишик, ієрей Мирон Коростіль та диякон Іван Чопко. Парафіяльний хор під керівництвом др. Михайла Андреця молитовно звеличив недільний день. Семінаристи Свято-Софіївської Української Православної Богословської Семінарії допомагали у служінні богослужінь, виконуючи обов'язки іподияконів.

Під час богослужіння Високопреосвященний архієпископ Даниїл звернувся до вірних з повчальним архіпастирським словом, у якому, зокрема, відзначив: «Христова Церква, пригтовляючи нас до доброго пережиття Великого посту, минулої неділі притчею про блудного сина закликала нас до щирого покаяння і навернення, повернення до Бога, пригадуючи нам про безмежну любов і милосердя Бога до нас. Хоч як би тяжко ми не образили Бога і далеко відійшли від Нього, але коли ми каємося за свої провини, Бог, як добрий і люблячий батько, постійно чекає на нас і завжди готовий прийняти нас назад до себе, наново дарувати нам свою любов і милосердя, повернути нам втрачену ласку освячення і спасіння, гідність дітей Божих.

Наука Ісуса Христа про страшний суд відкриває нам неначе другу сторону медалі, пропонує нам переглянути нашу любов до Бога через любов ближнього, діла любові і милосердя ближнім, які є виявом нашої любові до Бога. Бо як навчає Христос, все, що ми робимо нашим ближнім в душі любові і милосердя, ми робимо самому Христові, виявляємо на ділі свою любов до Нього: „Усе, що ви зробили, одному з моїх найменших братів, ви мені зробили” (Мт. 25, 40)...

...Служіння ближнім і в них Христові, свідчить про те, що можливості здобути для себе Божу любов, ласку спасіння є близько нас, і їх є багато у житті. Наше служіння ближнім, котрі потребують матеріальної чи духовної допомоги, доброго слова, підтримки, розради є нагодою, джерелом, де ми можемо отримати для себе Божу любов, потрібну для нашого спасіння...

...Своєю наукою про страшний суд Ісус не має жодного наміру страшити нас вічними карами і муками, а вказує нам на важливість заповіді любові ближнього, діл милосердя і закликає відповідально до цього поставитися, бути завжди готовими на прихід Христа і могти без перешкод увійти в Царство Небесне. Адже ніхто з нас не знає коли саме Бог покликає нас із цього земного життя до життя вічного: „Тому і ви будьте готові, бо Син чоловічий прийде тієї години, про яку ви й не думаете” (Мт. 24, 44). Бо той, хто творить милосердя ближнім, той в нагороду отримає милосердя від Бога у вічності, радість вічного життя згідно слів Ісуса Христа: „Блаженні милосердні, бо вони зазнають милосердя” (Мт. 5, 7).

Розповіддю про страшний суд Ісус також навчає, що людина способом земного життя сама визначає собі долю по смерті, у вічності, сама є суддею собі, а діла любові і милосердя є її захисником на Божому суді. То голос сумління людської душі сам визначить її місце у вічності відповідно до діл, які людина зробила за земного життя, як пише апостол Павло: „Кожний з нас сам за себе дасть відповідь Богові” (Рм. 14, 12), „Всім нам треба з'явитися перед судом Христовим, щоб кожний прийняв згідно з тим, що зробив, як був у тілі: чи добро, чи зло” (2 Кор. 5, 10).

Просімо в наших молитвах Христа, щоб постійно зміцнював нас духовно і допомагав завжди бути готовими робити вчинки добра і милосердя ближнім, котрі у хвилині нашої смерті стануть для нас ключем, яким зможемо відчинити собі двері Царства Небесного.»

Після закінчення богослужіння, усі бажаючі мали змогу поспілкуватися з архієреєм, отримати його благословення та індивідуальні настанови на час Великого Посту.

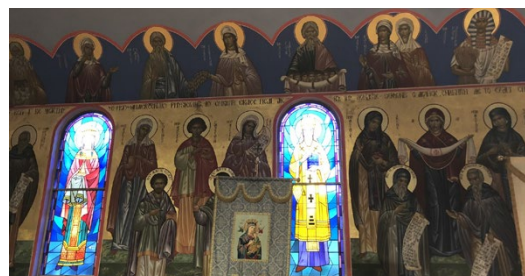
День закінчився обідом у залі Сестрицтва Покрова Пресвятої Богородиці, котрий був приготовлений сестрицями Сестрицтва Покрова Пресвятої Богородиці (добродійка Леся Сівко - голова) перед початком Великопосного періоду.

Photos by Seminarian Yaroslav Bilohan

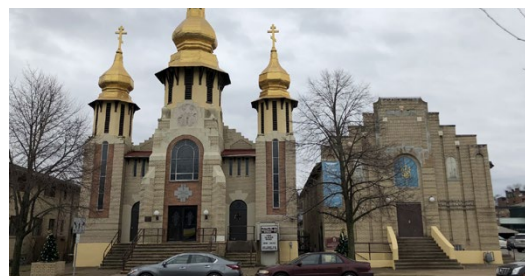


ARCHBISHOP DANIEL LEADS LITURGICAL SERVICES IN CARNEGIE, PA FOR THE FEAST OF THE MEETING OF THE LORD

On Thursday, February 15, the great feast of the Meeting of the Lord, His Eminence Archbishop Daniel, spiritual father of the Western Eparchy of the UOC of the USA, led the liturgical services of the feast day at Sts Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Carnegie, PA. His Eminence was co-served by pastor Very Rev. Fr. Steven Repa and Deacon Evan O’Neil with the assistance of Reader Michael Kapeluck.



In his sermon on the feast of the Meeting of the Lord, which coincides this year with the entire week of Meatfare Sunday (the Sunday of the Dread Judgment), Vladyka Daniel reminded the faithful of the reality of the Dread Judgment, which very few, even among Orthodox Christians, take time to contemplate. “The feast of the Meeting of the Lord is in accord with the meaning of the Sunday of the Dread Judgment,” His Eminence noted. “The Righteous Simeon long awaited Christ, and now he receives the Savior in the Temple of God, and he no longer fears proceeding into life eternal.” Archbishop Daniel added that the Righteous Simeon is an example for us of how we should receive Christ into our own temple, for our bodies are the temple of God: “If we will be with Christ, then we have nothing to fear from the Dread Judgment. On the contrary, we will rejoice with Christ in life eternal, as in it rejoiced the Mother of God, the Righteous Simeon, and other saints.”



During the Liturgy, Archbishop chanted Memorial Litany for the victims of the horrific shooting that took place in Parkland, Florida on February 14, 2018, stating on behalf of the Council of Bishops of the UOC of the USA: “...once again we are faced with the unspeakable violence in Florida, which reminds us of how precious human life is...”



Wednesday’s school shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Fla., was the 18th school shooting of 2018 — a year that’s not even two months old... While many of these incidents — including the most recent before Wednesday’s shooting, one on Feb. 8 at New York City’s Metropolitan High School — did not result in any fatalities or injuries,



schools nationwide have been rocked by gun violence in recent days. According to the news networks, there have been school shootings in 13 states so far this year... our prayers are with the victims, their families and all those affected by this terrible act... please join me this morning in praying for the victims of violence, and their families and loved ones, in Florida... the merciful love of Christ calls us to solidarity with the suffering and to ever greater resolve in protecting the life and dignity of every person.”

Many parishioners gathered for the weekday feast. Upon completion of the Liturgy, Vladyka Daniel led traditional service of blessing of candles, stating in his remarks that everyone must become an opportunity for internal transformation and transfiguration. “This Apostolic Feast is an invitation leading to God, light and hope, which fills our hearts and souls with love and warmth; once again reminding us of meeting the Lord, evaluating our lives by Him, and the necessity of having the Eternal Light of our Lord inside us. Today more than ever we need the light of God, so that the darkness of ignorance disperses. Therefore, we won’t be only the bearer of light, but be the light around us, showing by our example the sweetness of being a member of Christianity and the Church”, noted the Archbishop.

In honor of the feast, the traditional festal luncheon with pancakes was served in the parish social hall. Archbishop Daniel, clergy and parishioners enjoyed the opportunity to meet and interact with one another over a delicious meal.

Photos by Reader Michael Kapeluck



FORGIVENESS SUNDAY VESPERS IN NJ/NY DEANERY

In the evening of Cheese-Fare Sunday, February 18, 2018, clergy and faithful of the NJ/NY Deanery of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA gathered in prayer at the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary parish in South Plainfield, New Jersey for Sunday of Forgiveness Vespers. Four days before that, on Wednesday at Vespers we greet Lent with this beautiful Hymn:

The Lenten spring has come!
The light of repentance;
Let us, brothers, cleanse ourselves from all evil,
Crying out to the Giver of Light:
Glory to Thee, O Lover of man.

Serving around the altar and led by V. Rev. Oleh Hucul clergy were: Rev. Vasyl Pasakas - parish pastor, V. Rev. Zinoviy Zharsky, Rev. Myron Korostil, Rev. James Cairns, Deacon Ivan Tchopko and Deacon Richard Jendras. Responses were prayerfully sung by the Deanery Choir and student body of St. Sophia Ukrainian Orthodox Theological Seminary, perfectly directed by Natalia Honcharenko of St. Andrew Memorial Church. As every year, this time around as well the words from this beautiful service made us to think that we are like Adam:

Adam was expelled from paradise through food;
Sitting, therefore, in front of it he cried:
“Woe to me...
One commandment of God have I transgressed,
Depriving myself of all that is good;
Paradise holy! Planted for me,
And now because of Eve closed to to me;
Pray to thy Creator and mine
That I may be filled again by thy blossom.”
Then answered the Savior to him:
“I wish not My creation to perish;
I desire it to be saved and to know the Truth;
For I will not turn away him who comes to Me...”

At the conclusion of the service, as one family in Christ, we asked God and each other for forgiveness, and with those words hoping for the most spiritually rewarding pilgrimage we took our first steps into Great Lent with clean hearts keeping in mind that as from food, we must abstain from all passion.

Following Vespers, a light Lenten luncheon, prepared by Dobrodijka Oksana Pasakas, Anita Anderson and Ginny Yavorskiy, was served.

As is in previous years, the NJ/NY Deanery journeys through the Great Lent together, visiting each local parish on a weekly basis for Presanctified Liturgy. Together as one Church family, we prepare ourselves spiritually for the Resurrection of our Lord.

Photos by Seminarian Yaroslav Bilohan



REMEMBERING HEAVENLY HUNDRED

with the Students and Teachers of the Ukrainian School of St. Volodymyr
Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in Chicago, IL

On Saturday, February 24, 2018 His Eminence Archbishop Daniel visited the Ukrainian School of St. Volodymyr Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in Chicago, IL.

Meeting with the leadership and teachers of the School, Vladyka Daniel offered his gratitude for their investments in the upbringing of Chicago based Ukrainian Christian youth. At the school, some 90 children, age 6 months to 16 years, study Ukrainian Language, art, music, history and religion.

Escorted by the pastor of St. Volodymyr Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral, Archbishop Daniel visited all classrooms and spoke to all teachers and children of the parish school. Presenting everyone with an icon card, Vladyka reflected upon the meaning of the sacred images/icons in the life of a Christian. Moreover, Archbishop Daniel took part in some learning activities of the classrooms, trying his knowledge in history, Ukrainian language and even music.

Later in the day, in the presence of teachers and parents, the children of the Ukrainian School surrounded His Eminence Archbishop Daniel in the middle of St. Volodymyr Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral for a Memorial service, commemorating the sacrifices of the Heavenly Hundred – students and young people of the Ukrainian Revolution of Dignity.

Speaking to the children, parents and teachers, Vladyka stated: “...What the world needs to comprehend is that, which the people of Ukraine have known for generations: “Heroes do not die!” (“Heroyi ne vmirayut!”) They live on in the collective memory of the nation and give rise to future heroes who will continue to stand firm in “truth”. I ask all of you to remember that such heroism is never wasted or useless. It reaches not only the minds of the nation’s population but the minds of the world – in particular the commandants, “unidentified” invaders and even the presidents who refuse to accept the new world reality and want to recreate



empires. They speak to proclaim: “we will not die!” No longer will you be free to murder millions of us through starvation, by freezing us during long cold winters or dropping your abundance of destructive bombs. Beneath all the attempts to wipe the Ukrainian nation out of existence and off the world map, the Ukrainian self-identity has survived and always resulted in the rebirth of a stronger nation. “Heroes do not die!”

Honor the memory of the fallen and live your life by being honest, charitable, kind... children, listen and learn from your parents and teachers; teachers – do not fail your students, - teach them the Truth about life and equip them with the necessary knowledge about our past, our present; so that we can succeed in the future... As for you parents: be the loving guardians and teachers of your children. love them and be the first rays of light in the their life, a they face the world of moral, spiritual and political decay..”

Celebrating the feast of the Holy Martyr Theodore Tyro, Archbishop Daniel told a story of the saint’s life and in the conclusion of the service blessed kolyvo and shared prosphora with the children and those in attendance.

Photos by Olena Lymar



THE MEMORY OF THE HEAVENLY HUNDRED HONORED IN CHICAGO

Небесну сотню Господи, прийми!

The Memory of the Heavenly Hundred Honored in Chicago, IL

У пам'ять Героїв Небесної Сотні була відслужена Екуменічна Панахида в катедрі св Миколая в Чикаго за участю духовенства Православної та Греко-Католицької Церков, учнів та вчителів Рідної Школи в Чикаго. 24 лютого 2018.

On Saturday, March 24, 2018 - the Ukrainian community of Chicago, IL honored the memory of the Heavenly Hundred - the over a hundred young unarmed protesters who were killed by Russian-sponsored snipers in February 2014 during the Maidan Revolution of Dignity. They protested the government's dictatorship and corruption and demanded their human rights and dignity. These heroes and their sacrifice will be forever honored by generations to come. Heroes never die. Archbishop Daniel of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA Bishop Benedict Aleksyichuk of the Ukrainian Catholic Church and led the Memorial Service at St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral in Chicago, IL.



З ініціативи Українського Конгресового Комітету штату Ілліной та Школи Українознавства Рідна Школа ім. В. Стуса, громада міста Чикаго вшанувала Героїв Небесної Сотні в Українській Греко-Католицькій Катедрі св. о. Миколая. Єпископ Дієцезії св. Миколая Владика Венедикт Алесійчук, привітав Владику Даниїла, архієпископа Української Православної Церкви Сполучених Штатів Америки, та із духовенством відслужили поминальну Панахиду щоб вшанувати пам'ять героїв Небесної Сотні. Були присутні представники громадських організацій, Генконсул України Лариса Герасько, діти Школи Українознавства зі своїми учителями, та громадські активісти.

Спільна молитва в катедрі святого о Миколая єпископів, священників разом з школярами школи українознавства Рідна школа є символом єднання з Україною, головним уроком виховання для маленьких українців. Як правило, діти чекають щоб якнайшвидше закінчилися уроки в школі чи Служба Божа у церкві... а сьогодні вони залишалися в храмі після відправи, не поспішали виходити. Перед царськими воротами стояли фотографії з Майдану Віктора Гурняка, молодого хлопця, який після Майдану одягнув військову форму, став Воїном світла, віддавши життя за Україну. Він був пластуном і раптом упродовж усієї відправи за його фотографією додолу нахилений пластунами прапор. Попередньо ніхто не знав про те, що Український Національний Музей принесе сюди Вікторові фотографії. А далі



наймолодші пташенята обступили архієпископа Даниїла, який буквально приклякнув перед ними, відповідаючи на питання, чому на українському прапорі Кров? чому ним когось накрили...я стояла поруч, заледве стримуючи сльози. А владика далі вів розмову про силу, якою наділені Герої, про правду, про те, як побороти страх. - А тепер, діти, давайте попросимося з нашими Героями, повторіть за мною - Вічна Пам'ять!, - сказав владика Даниїл. Діти повторили і тихесенько попрямували у напрямку своїх батьків. Ось так складається життя, з маленьких кроків маленького хлопця з українським прапором в революцію, з молитви за Віктора та сотень інших, що вже за межею, з миті, яка вже у маленьких серцях дітей, народжених українцями. Віримо, що Ангели усміхнулися, вони чекали на цю молитву.

Катедра заповнилася любов'ю та відчуттям гідності за яку боролися на Майдані. Вшанували героїв, їм шана й молитви. Їх назвали Небесною Сотнею –вони загинули за честь, за волю, за право бути українцем і за свою Батьківщину. Героїчна Сотня полинула у вирій вічності. Герої не вмирають!

Text by Marta Farion and Maria Klimchak

Photos by Olena Lymar



SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY SERVICES IN CHICAGO

On Saturday, February 24, Archbishop Daniel paid an archpastoral visit to Holy Equal-to-the-Apostles Great Prince Volodymyr Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in Chicago, IL.

On Sunday, February 25, the feast of the Triumph of Orthodoxy, Archbishop Daniel celebrated Divine Liturgy in the cathedral. His Eminence was co-served by Vey Rev. Fr. Ivan Lymar (pastor of St. Volodymyr Cathedral), Rev. Fr. John Charest and Protodeacon Andriy Fronchak. Subdeacon Mykola Zomchak, a seminarian of St. Sophia Ukrainian Orthodox Theological Seminary (South Bound Brook, NJ) and the altar servers of St. Volodymyr Cathedral, provided the necessary liturgical assistance during the Divine Liturgy led by the archpastor.

It is a spiritual traditional for the faithful to commune of Christ's Holy Mysteries during the journey of the Great and Holy Lent. At the service, a multitude of parishioners and students of the parish's Ukrainian Language School took Holy Communion. Vladyka Daniel addressed the faithful with a sermon, in which he reminded those present of the meaning and significance of iconography in the life of the Church. Vladyka stated: "...for us Orthodox Christians the presence of icons in our churches and in our homes bears witness to the Incarnation of God and His presence in our lives. Icons also remind us of His invitation to draw closer to Him. Sunday of Orthodoxy and the weeks that follow in Holy and Great Lent help facilitate our effort to become united to Jesus Christ, our Lord. It is my heartfelt prayer that through the veneration of holy icons a doorway to Christ will be opened unto us, permitting us to enter into the fullness of God (Eph. 3:19).

Addressing the parents and children in attendance of the service, Archbishop Daniel prayerfully instructed the faithful to care for the younger generation by investing in them not only via toy gifts and video games, but by verbal communication and prayerful atmosphere; teaching the youth of the Church and our society the timeless moral and spiritual values of Christianity.

Following Holy Communion, all the clergy and faithful, lead by the youth of the cathedral's community gathered around the icon stand in the middle of the church, bearing in their hands the icons of Christ, the Birth-Giver of God and various saints. The entire congregation joined the clergy of the cathedral, led by Archbishop Daniel, in chanting a Memorial service, honoring the sacrifices of the Heavenly Hundred- innocent students that lost their lives during the Revolution of Dignity in Kyiv in 2014.

Holding the sacred icons in their hands, the children prayerfully listened to the archpastor, as he explained the sacrifices of modern day saints of our society, numerous Christians, who because of persecutions in various parts of the world have lost their lives for their Faith, remaining true to their Christian way of life.

One by one parishioners of the cathedral approached the children and lowered themselves to their height, as the youth of the parish extended their hands holding the sacred images – icons for veneration.

In conclusion, Archbishop Daniel stated: "... my beloved, perhaps now more than ever before, it is important to declare our Orthodox Christian Faith, for the world is suffering and desperately searching for peace and reconciliation. As the world produces distorted images of the truth, we must share the beauty of the Gospel. As the world resorts to violence and hatred, we must respond with love and forgiveness. And as the world falls deeper into despair, let us ask God to grant us courage to endure and to allow us to serve as icons of hope for our neighbor.



Wishing all of you, on behalf of His Eminence Metropolitan Antony, the abundant blessings of the Lord, I fervently pray that He grant to all of us the courage, the power and the wisdom to proclaim His eternal and saving Orthodox Faith to all people, both those who are far off and those who are near (Eph. 2:17).”

In the church hall, the ladies of the cathedral prepared a festal lenten luncheon for everyone in attendance as the cathedral community held their annual General Parish Meeting.

Photos by Olena Lymar



FORGIVENESS SUNDAY ARCHPASTORAL SERVICES IN PALOS PARK, IL



On Saturday and Sunday, February 17-18, 2018 the entire parish family of the Sts Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Palos Park, IL experienced a triple celebration in the life of the community: the leave-taking of the holy feast of Presentation of our Lord, beginning of the Holy and Great Lent and a Baptist of Amilia Grace Sendeha, daughter of Very Rev. Fr. Vasyl and Dobrodijka Olenka Sendeha.

The parish celebration was led by the Eparchial hierarch of the Western Eparchy of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA – His Eminence Archbishop Daniel. Vladyka was truly welcomed by the Windy City’s winter extravaganza: Saturday morning presented itself as a real mid-February day with several inches of snow.

On Saturday morning, Vladyka Daniel visited parochial School of Ukrainian language and Religion. Expressing his gratitude to the teachers and parents of the parochial school, Vladyka Daniel spoke of the investment of the youth in the life of the Church...

Later in the day, a child of God Amilia Grace was Baptized and Chrismated. Vladyka called everyone’s attention to the fact of a white winter day that brings to mind the call to Christian brightness of a newly baptized. Holding the baby in his arms, Archbishop Daniel led the churching service by which the newly baptized baby was welcomed into the Orthodox Christian community.

Sunday morning was a day of liturgical prayers that concentrated on the importance of the Lenten journey, calling the entire congregation to repentance and forgiveness. Archbishop Daniel led the clergy and the faithful in the Forgiveness Rite, during which every person in attendance asked for and offered forgiveness.

Prior to the beginning of the Divine Liturgy, upon the recommendation of the pastor of the parish family, Very Rev. Fr. Vasyl Sendeha, His Eminence Archbishop Daniel tonsured altar server Panagiotis John Gordon as Reader for Sts Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox parish community.

In his sermon, Vladyka stated: “... in a few short moments we shall enter the Great Fast, the Church in her wisdom calls us to reflect on the essential elements of a truly Lenten effort. Prayer is a part of every Orthodox Christian’s life — it almost goes without saying. That prayer becomes the foundation of everything else we do during Great Lent. Besides our personal prayer, the Church calls us to more corporate worship, giving us the Eucharist as many as four times a week to strengthen us in our efforts.

But the Lord brings our attention to the other great tools of true spiritual effort. First, fasting. The true fast does not find fruits in following mere “rules.” “What can I eat? Does this have any milk in the ingredients? When can we have fish, wine or oil?” Those rules are there as guidance and not as ends in themselves. We can feel so proud that we have “followed the rules.” But the self-denial of fasting also leads to peace, calm, a new look at the things we too often see as important. In our consumer society, we never deny ourselves anything at any time. We have truly come to believe that man does “live by bread alone.” The lengthy, and sometimes grueling, fast strips us of the superfluous and leaves only the essential. We learn to eat to live, and not live to eat.

The Lord also brings our attention to treasure. Almsgiving — the act of giving to those less fortunate — is an essential part of the fast. Knowing that we have more than enough and that God calls us to divest ourselves of some of that treasure as a “letting go” to realign our hearts to the true Treasure is an essential part of fasting. St. John Chrysostom reminds that the wealthy (which most of us are in comparison to much of the world) hold their riches in trust for the poor.

Finally, we are called to forgive, for forgiveness — true, sincere forgiveness, holding nothing in our hearts against anyone — is the concrete action that makes us reflect God more than any other action. It is also perhaps the most difficult task that the Lord demands of us. Being offended so easily in our world of social media and instantaneous actions and reactions is perhaps the greatest temptation that we must fight. If our hearts are destroyed by holding onto the “wrong” treasure, what destruction is being wrought when we feel justified in

holding anything dark or evil in our hearts about another? We examine ourselves and confess our sins, expecting forgiveness from God, but often feel completely justified in hatred and anger against one of God's creatures for "slights" and "insults," when our very actions are a slight and insult to God Himself. Brothers and Sisters, let it not be so!

Let us bow down before each other and seek (and grant) forgiveness as we enter into this time of the year. Let us pray personally, and corporately, with a sincere and humble heart. Let us place our treasures where they belong. May we fast in order to create a space for the One who is going to His Passion and Resurrection for us. I wish for all my faithful parishes and each and every one of you a most fruitful and joyous Fast. May we all rejoice in the celebration of the Lord's Resurrection at the end of these most holy days..."

Archbishop Daniel's message had touched many of those participating in the service and had set a tone of forgiveness and acceptance into their Great Lent journey. The service concluded with the entire parish asking for forgiveness from the hierarchy, pastor and each other so they could better prepare for the upcoming Feasts of Feasts, Holy Pascha.

As the liturgical day came to conclusion, everyone in attendance partook in a pancake luncheon prepared by the local parish Boy Scout troops, thus supporting the organization (Boy Scouts of America) that throughout the years of its existence has made an enormous investment into the future generation of patriotic citizens of the United States of America.

Photos by Donna Hammond Saunders Nevels



March

PAN-ORTHODOX LENTEN RETREAT HOSTED BY HOLY PROTECTION ORTHODOX CHURCH, DOVER, FLORIDA A GREAT SUCCESS!

The “Need for Repentance in an Un-Sorry World” was the theme of a Pan-Orthodox Lenten Retreat hosted by Holy Protection Orthodox Church of Dover, Florida under the sponsorship of the Ukrainian Orthodox League. The Lenten Retreat was held at Bethany Center in Lutz, Florida just north of Tampa on Friday February 23 and Saturday February 24, 2018.

His Eminence Metropolitan Antony, Prime Hierarch of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of USA, was in attendance at the sessions and provided the overall spiritual guidance for the Retreat. The Retreat featured enlightening, thought-provoking, and often entertaining presentations by four esteemed clergy:

- V. Rev. Dr. Harry Linsinbigler (Assistant Professor of Theology at St. Sophia Seminary; Priest at Holy Protection Orthodox Church; Canonist and Consistory Director of Religious Education for the UOC of USA; Faculty member for the Denver College of Nursing in Ethics and Critical Thinking)
- Rev. Fr. Joseph Ciarciaglino (Pastor of St. Philip the Apostle Orthodox Church in Tampa, FL; a US Army Veteran and highly experienced Attorney at Law; founder of a clinic in Uganda in cooperation with the OCMC and the Orthodox Church of Uganda, Patriarchate of Alexandria)
- Rev. Fr. Dr. Gregory Edwards (Assistant Professor of Missiology at St. Vladimir’s Seminary; Presiding Priest at St. George Parish in New Port Richey, FL; translator and editor of numerous scholarly and faith publications; formerly a priest of the Church of Greece)
- Protopresbyter Athanasios Haros (founder of “Be Transfigured Ministries,” an Internet ministry which produces, publishes, and promotes online Orthodox Christian ministries including Bible studies; Dean of St. Nicholas Cathedral in Tarpon Springs, FL)

The speakers offered their unique perspectives on the Lenten Journey in general and on the Retreat theme in particular. The program finished with a Q&A panel discussion, after which Metropolitan Antony offered closing thoughts. His Eminence thanked the speakers and observed that all of them in their own way had fed his spirit during this remarkable and inspiring event.

In addition to the sessions, the Retreat featured several opportunities for communal prayer and fellowship. At the outset on Friday evening, His Eminence Metropolitan Antony celebrated a Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts in

the Bethany Center’s St. James Chapel. The Chapel is in an especially picturesque Florida setting, with expansive views of Lake Mary directly behind the altar. Saturday began with morning prayers in the lecture room, and concluded with Vespers in the Chapel celebrated by Fr. Harry with Metropolitan Antony in attendance. His Eminence was the main celebrant at a Divine Liturgy at Holy Protection in Dover, Florida on Sunday morning, which, as the first Sunday of the Great Fast, commemorates the Triumph of Orthodoxy. All of these services were spiritually uplifting and especially meaningful given the prayerful and reflective nature of the whole Retreat weekend.

The Bethany Center provided hearty Lenten meals on Friday and Saturday. After Liturgy on Sunday, the Holy Protection Parish hosted a delicious Lenten lunch in the church hall for all attendees.

Over the course of the weekend, approximately 35 people attended this Lenten Retreat at the Bethany Center. While most participants were from the local Tampa area, several people took advantage of the occasion to escape the wintry weather in the Northeast and enjoy the summer-like weather of Florida: Pam Scannell from St. John the Baptist Parish in Johnson City was there with her father Dr. Peter Hatala; Lynne and Dan Gulak, and Daria Pishko and Michael Komichak made the trip from Holy Ascension Parish in Maplewood, NJ; and Janice Meschisen travelled from St. Michael Parish in Woonsocket, RI.



Thanks to all who made this Retreat such a success. Fr. Harry, Pani Carrie, and the local Holy Protection Retreat committee chaired by Natalie Brennan and Parish Board President Beverly Gursky worked very hard to organize this first Lenten Retreat in their area, and they are looking forward to building on this success next year. If your parish is interested in holding a Lenten Retreat like this in the future, the UOL is ready to help you in that effort. Please contact Education Commission Chair Teresa Linck (auditor@uolofusa.org) or Daria Pishko Komichak (vp1@uolofusa.org) for more information.

In addition to this Retreat in the Tampa, Florida area, the UOL is sponsoring two other Lenten Retreats this year: one in the Ohio / Western PA region, which was held on March 3, and another in Bethlehem, PA which will be on March 24. For details about these and future Retreats, please visit uolofusa.org.



MYRRH-STREAMING KARDIOTISSA ICON OF MOTHER OF GOD VISITS MORE PEOPLE

On March 9, hundreds of Orthodox faithful from area churches gathered at St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in Silver Spring, MD, to venerate the myrrh-streaming Kardiotissa Icon from Taylor, PA. This was a Lenten retreat for which planning had begun over a year earlier. Visitors were already taking their seats an hour in advance, in anticipation of seeing the miraculous icon. For the next sixteen hours, Church services would continue, comprised of the Liturgy of Pre-Sanctified Gifts, a Supplication Service to Bohorodytsia, and an All-Night Vigil. Local clergy from Ukrainian, Greek, Romanian and Serbian Orthodox parishes, in ecumenical unity, were part of all services conducted. The Cathedral choir was also joined by choir members from local Orthodox parishes.

During the Liturgy of Pre-Sanctified Gifts, the Icon of the Tender- Hearted Mother of God was carried into the Church, greeted by a procession of the clergy and the awe of the faithful. One could immediately feel the Icon's holy presence. Following the Supplication Service, Fr. Mark Leasure engaged those present with stories of how the icon came to Taylor and the miracles that have been attributed to the Kardiotissa. The Icon itself had a moisture and warm glow under glass and exuded a lovely fragrance. Those in attendance were anointed with the streaming myrrh by members of the clergy and were also able to pray before the icon, touch it, and collect myrrh on cotton to take home. The veneration line would continue in a steady stream until 1:00 am, with many others visiting throughout the night into the morning.

The overflow crowd was able to observe the service on a large screen in the Church Hall as the service was live-streamed. The live-stream also meant that people from all over the country could join in the veneration. A beautiful Lenten dinner was served by the Sisterhood to hundreds in the Church Hall and coffee was available to sustain those who chose to visit or keep a vigil throughout the night. The Church remained open, and people continued to come until morning, when the Icon was taken back. People of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds were drawn to the Icon, some returning to the Icon again and again. It was truly a spiritual experience to remember.



LENTEN MISSION WEEKEND AT ST. ANDREW UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF BOSTON

By Jane Yavarow

On Saturday, March 17 and Sunday, March 18, 2018 St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Boston held its annual Lenten Mission with special guest, His Eminence Metropolitan Antony of the UOC of the USA. The Mission began on Saturday evening with Vespers led by Very Reverend Roman Tarnavsky of St. Andrew's and assisted by visiting clergy, Very Reverend Stephen Masliuk from Bridgeport, CT, Reverend Borislav Kroner and Deacon Paul Cherkas both from Woonsocket, RI. The responses were rendered by Archdeacon Vasyl Janick, Deacon Michael Abrahamson, both from Woonsocket, RI and the choir of St. Andrew's. After Vespers attendees partook of a Lenten supper prepared by St. Olha's Sisterhood. Many parishioners contributed their Lenten specialties for all to enjoy.

Dinner was followed by the highlight of the evening, a Lenten talk by Vladyka Antony. His Eminence used the penitential prayer of the Judean king, Manasseh, as the basis of the first part of his talk. "...I bow the knee of my heart, beseeching thee for grace. I have sinned, O Lord, I have sinned, and I acknowledge mine iniquities; but I humbly beseech thee, forgive me, O Lord, forgive me, and destroy me not with mine iniquities. Be not angry with me for ever, by reserving my evils for me; neither condemn me to the lower parts of the earth; for thou, O Lord, art the God of them that repent; and in me wilt thou show all thy goodness; for thou wilt save me that am unworthy, according to thy great mercy. And I will praise thee henceforth all the days of my life..." Through the exploration of this prayer, Vladyka reminded those in attendance of the way we can all seek atonement as we humbly ask God's forgiveness.

Vladyko Antony also emphasized that a very important part of our daily life should be to seek our true religious inner soul as well as "theosis," or union with God. He encouraged the audience to read the book, *The Way of the Pilgrim*. In this fictional account, a pilgrim journeys through the land trying to find a way to pray unceasingly. Metropolitan Antony's message to us was that if we pray unceasingly we will be mindful and grateful to God for all that we have. A quote from the book sums this up. "The Apostle says: 'pray without ceasing; that is, he teaches constant remembrance of God at all times, in all places, and under any circumstances. If you are busy doing something, you must remember the Creator of all



things; if you see light, remember Him who gave it to you. If you look at the sky, the earth, the waters and all that is in it, marvel and glorify the Creator of all. If you are putting your clothes on, remember Him whose gift they are and thank Him who provides everything in your life. In short, let every action be an occasion for you always to remember and praise God. And before you know it you are praying unceasingly and your soul will always rejoice in this.”

His Eminence’s talk was thought provoking and well received, a good prescription for those 40 guests in attendance seeking to be spiritually uplifted during Great Lent.

On the following day, Sunday, March 18, 2018, His Eminence Metropolitan Antony celebrated a Hierarchical Divine Liturgy for the faithful of St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Boston. He was welcomed with flowers presented by the children of the parish and greeted with bread and salt by Jane Yavarow, Parish Board President. Pastor of St. Andrew’s, Fr. Roman Tarnavsky, presented him with the cross and asked for his blessing. From the first “God, Grant you Many Years, Master!” to the final “Amen,” responses were beautifully rendered by the dedicated 18 member church choir under the direction of Jane Yavarow. During Vladyko Antony’s sermon he emphasized the importance of praying the prayer of St. St. Ephraim not only during Great Lent but every day as a guideline for the way we should live our daily lives.

After the Liturgy, all were treated to a Lenten Luncheon prepared by St. Olha’s Sisterhood under the leadership of co-presidents Vera Geba and Valentina Dingle. At the conclusion of the dinner, a donation of \$1,000, raised from Lenten soup sales and funds from the Parish Board and Sisterhood, was presented to Vladyko Antony to be used for the wonderful work our Consistory does to support orphanages in Ukraine. As the day drew to a close, many of the faithful, filled with a renewed spirit divined from the Lenten Mission, came forward to seek the blessing of His Eminence



LUBA IN ACTION

In the spirit of this Lenten season, “LET US BE ATTENTIVE!” (LUBA) is a call to be attentive to our neighbor, to our community, to our parish family and to Christ! This year, as a Lenten Project, parishioners of St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Boston undertook a charitable activity to assist the International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC) in shipping emergency hygiene kits to those in need around the world. Imagine a child being so poor that soap and washcloths are considered luxury items. Imagine being a refugee who has fled from home with only the items he carries in his hands. Imagine being the victim of a natural disaster and losing all of your possessions. For the faithful of St. Andrew’s, assembling and sending these emergency kits was a practical and tangible way to provide aid and to make life a bit better for those in need.



During the first four weeks of Great Lent, parishioners donated items needed to make the hygiene kits including hand towels, washcloths, combs, nail clippers, soap, toothbrushes and Band-Aids. After the Liturgy on Sunday, March 25, 2018 enthusiastic volunteers assembled the items and prepared the kits for shipping. Since this year marks St. Andrew’s 60th anniversary as a parish, donors set a goal of assembling sixty kits for the 60th! As it turned out, 83 kits were assembled, far exceeding the goal.



Over this past year, St. Andrew’s has followed the recommendations of the Consistory’s “LUBA” initiative. The Church has made monthly donations to various charities ranging from the American Kidney Foundation to the Greater Boston Food Pantry as well as to the organizations of the UOC of the USA. Assembling the kits was a great next step in getting the parish actively involved in charity work.



ARCHBISHOP DANIEL VISITS St. Nicholas PARISH FAMILY IN MONESSEN, PA



On Lazarus Saturday, March 31, 2018 the St. Nicholas Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Monessen, PA (Very Rev. Fr. Roman Yatskiw – pastor) was visited by His Eminence Archbishop Daniel, the Ruling Hierarchy of the Western Eparchy and President of Consistory of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA.

A small Pittsburgh suburban town, with 7,720 population was blessed to receive a visit from the hierarchy of the Church. Upon the entrance to the temple, several parishioners of the parish community who arrived on Saturday afternoon for a meeting with their bishop welcomed Vladyka Daniel. Following the formal greetings Archbishop Daniel related greetings and the archpastoral blessing of the Primate of the UOC of the USA - Metropolitan Antony. As Vladyka Daniel served the Moleben Service, the church was filled with warmth as seminarians of St. Sophia Ukrainian Orthodox Theological Seminary (Subdeacon Mykola Zomcha, Subdeacon Ivan Venhryn, seminarian Myroslav Mykytuyk and seminarian Yaroslav Bilohan) sang the responses.

His Eminence offered his Archpastoral prayers for all clergy, people, the sick, the suffering, and especially to all of the armed forces who have served, are serving, or those who have given their lives for the freedom of all.

In his sermon, Vladyka reflected upon the spiritual meaning of Lazarus Saturday and talked about the importance of assisting and showing love to those in need, to show more kindness, humility, and more compassion, to show what one can accomplish when working for the glory of God.

Following the services, all gathered at the parish house, where once again all shared in the love and fellowship with each other and the blessing of His Eminence. During the luncheon, a conversation took place about the strategic plan for ministerial opportunities of the parish community. Both the parishioners and their spiritual father discussed various projects and ideas in order to further the ministry of the parish in the town that according to the US Census of 1990 had the population of 13, 026 versus the 2010 Census data of 7,720. Upon the guidance of Archbishop Daniel the parish family took upon itself the task of development of various active ministerial steps for the parish until the end of 2018.

This visit of Archbishop Daniel is a blessing that the parishioners of St. Nicholas Parish will cherish and always remember.



WHO AND WHAT ARE YOU CALLED TO BE? THE CALL OF PALM SUNDAY AT ST. VLADIMIR UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL IN PARMA, OH

Hundreds of Orthodox Christians of Ukrainian descent packed a downtown Parma, OH St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral on Sunday morning, as Archbishop Daniel, the spiritual father of the Western Eparchy of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA led the Palm Sunday services, prayerfully entering into the Sacred and Holy Week leading to the Bright Feast of Pascha.

“It’s all about unleashing the Gospel,” Archbishop Daniel said during his homily. “Not only in your life, but in your world: the world of your home, the world of your workplace, the world of your neighborhood... Today is most significant time for the liturgical year for the church.”

Palm Sunday marks the start of Holy Week -- the final days of Lent for Orthodox Christians and others. “This is the time where we follow the passion, the death and resurrection of Christ,” Vladyka Daniel said.

As parishioners held palm branches and pussy willows, the hierarch explained that this is a time to celebrate Christ’s triumphant entrance into Jerusalem. “We begin with kind of a sense of the joyfulness of Christ, but within a very short period of time, the turning on Christ and his condemnation and death on the cross,” Archbishop Daniel said.

It is only through embracing the cross that the resurrection is understood. As Holy Week continues, the pastor of St. Vladimir Cathedral, Fr. John Nakonachny says it’s important the faithful attend as many services as possible.

“Each of the days represents, if you want, a continuous action of following Christ from the upper room. On Holy Thursday right through the suffering on the cross on Good Friday to the glorious resurrection on Pascha (Easter) Saturday -- the Pascha Morning, which is a celebration of the empty tomb and resurrection of Christ... During Holy Week,” Vladyka Daniel says “...it’s crucial to integrate spirituality into one’s life and contemplate God’s love for us.”

“Think in terms of a God that so loves us he becomes one with us and enters into every aspect of our life, our suffering, our death -- everything Christ identified with us except for sin. Therefore by doing that it’s a statement that God is never apart from us in everything we experience in life,” Archbishop Daniel stated to the parishioners of the cathedral.

Prior to the beginning of the Divine Liturgy, His Eminence Archbishop Daniel tonsured Ryan Michael Sima as Reader for St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in Parma, OH.



10 years ago, Reader Ryan chanted the Epistle reading at the archpastoral Consecration of Vladyka Daniel using Braille. Reader Ryan is physically blind, but at every liturgical Service he sings in the choir and chants/reads utilizing Braille system.... Reader Ryan is the first physically blind Reader of our Holy Church!

The entire parish family embraced the new Reader and it became evident when Fr. John Nakonachny, pastor of St. Vladimir's along with Fr. Michael Hontaruk and Protodeacon Ihor Mahlay, both clergy of the cathedral family, hugged Reader Michael and exchanged words of love and Christian care.

Vladyka Daniel concluded the Divine Services of Pal Sunday with the following words: "... As in the past, with the palm branches in our hands, the society welcomes the Lord saying "Hosanna!"... but yet the same society tends to scream out loud "Crucify Him!"... And we all have done it with palms in our hands and the echoes of "Hosanna" in the air.

So, each year we need this PALM Sunday to remember this reality. And we need these palms and pussy willows as a reminder – and a challenge.

They remind us that we are called to be heralds of Christ – to celebrate Him the way they did that day in Jerusalem.

And these palms challenge us to keep crying "Hosanna," to keep proclaiming the Good News – even when the world tempts us to do otherwise, even when it seems like it would be easier to go with the crowd and simply choose Barabbas.

These palms challenge us to not turn our back and walk away. They challenge us to not step over Christ, or ignore him. And they challenge us not only to remember what we have done to him, but what he has done for us. That is what this week is about.

Before we look ahead to next Sunday, and the big plans and the big meal, etc. - look back. And look within. And look to these palms.

Look at what we are called to do...and who we are called to be."



HOLY TUESDAY LITURGICAL SERVICES AT THE DORMITION OF THE MOTHER OF GOD UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX PARISH IN LORAIN, OH

The faithful of the Greater Cleveland, OH Metropolitan area of the Western Eparchy of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA were blessed to pray with His Eminence Archbishop Daniel, while attending the liturgical services of the Holy Tuesday at the Dormition of the Mother of God Ukrainian Orthodox Parish in Lorain, OH



On Holy Tuesday the Church calls to remembrance two parables, which are related to the Second Coming. The one is the parable of the Ten Virgins (Matthew 25:1-3); the other the parable of the Talents (Matthew 25:14-30). These parables point to the inevitability of the Parousia and deal with such subjects as spiritual vigilance, stewardship, accountability and judgment.



His Eminence Archbishop Daniel presided over the Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts, while being assisted by Very Rev. Fr. Dmitri Belenki, pastor of the Dormition of the Birth-Giver of God Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Lorain, OH; Very Rev. Fr. Dennis Kristof, pastor of St. Nicholas Ukrainian Orthodox Pro-Cathedral in Lakewood, OH; Very Rev. Fr. Michael Hontaruk of St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in Parma, OH and Rev. Fr. Sinisha Chrvachevych, pastor of the local Lorain, OH Serbian Orthodox parish community.



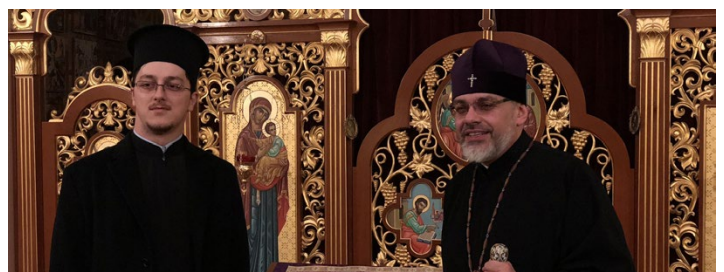
In his sermon, Vladyka Daniel reflected upon the spiritual meaning of the Holy Week, and especially the sacred themes of Holy Tuesday:



“From these parables we learn at least two basic things. First, Judgment Day will be like the situation in which the bridesmaids (or virgins) of the parable found themselves: some ready for it, some not ready. The time one decides for God is now and not at some undefined point in the future. If “time and tide waits for no man,” certainly the Parousia is no exception. The tragedy of the closed door is that individuals close it, not God. The exclusion from the marriage feast, the kingdom, is of our own making. Second, we are reminded that watchfulness and readiness do not mean a wearisome, spiritless performance of formal and empty obligations. Most certainly it does not mean inactivity and slothfulness. Watchfulness signifies inner stability, soberness, tranquility and joy. It means spiritual alertness, attentiveness and vigilance. Watchfulness is the deep personal resolve to find and do the will of God, embrace every commandment and every virtue, and guard the intellect and heart from evil thoughts and actions. Watchfulness is the intense love of God.”



The Archpastoral visit concluded with a small reception in honor of Archbishop Daniel and with the participation of everyone in attendance.



HOLY UNCTION SERVICE IN CHICAGO DEANERY OF THE WESTERN EPARCHY OF THE CHURCH



Is any among you sick, let him call for the presbyters of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; and the prayer of faith will save the sick man, and the Lord will raise him up; and if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. (James 5.14–16).

On the afternoon or evening of Great and Holy Wednesday, the Mystery of Holy Unction is conducted in Orthodox parishes. The Sacrament of Holy Unction is offered for the healing of soul and body and for forgiveness of sins. At the conclusion of the service of the Sacrament, the body is anointed with oil, and the Grace of God, which heals infirmities of soul and body, is called down upon each person. The Sacrament is performed by a gathering of priests, ideally seven in number, however, it can be performed by a lesser number and even by a single priest.

Seven local Ukrainian Orthodox clergy of the greater Chicago Metropolitan area, representing parishes of Chicago Deanery, gathered together with the bishop of Western Eparchy, His Eminence Archbishop Daniel, for the celebration of the Mystery of Holy Unction at St. Volodymyr Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in Chicago, IL.

The mystery of Holy Unction provides both physical and spiritual healing with holy oil blessed by the Holy Spirit, and is usually celebrated during Great Lent, but private services are also common. Everyone in a parish who prepared oneself may be anointed with the holy oil for the healing of spiritual and bodily ills. As this is one of the sacraments of the Orthodox Church, it may be administered only to Orthodox Christians.

As one of the Holy Mysteries (Sacraments) of the Church, the oil carries God's grace both to renew the body and to cleanse the spirit. This service follows the Apostolic tradition mentioned in the New Testament: "...let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; and the prayer of faith will save the sick man, and the Lord will raise him up; and if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven" (James 5:14-15).

Holy Unction is a mystery that provides spiritual comfort to the faithful Christian, and while seeking healing, asks for faithful to seek patience to accept the will of God whatever the physical outcome.

The full service is composed of psalms from the Old Testament, hymns of direct supplication to God, and prayers to the saints to intercede for the petitioner. In addition, there are seven readings from the Gospels preceded by seven other New Testament writings, notably the epistles of St. Paul and St. James. After each set of scriptural readings, a prayer is offered on behalf of the penitent by the priest asking for forgiveness and the sanctification of the oil. Traditionally, the service is celebrated by seven priests, but where fewer than seven priests are available it will be served by at least one.

At the end of the service, the priest puts holy oil on the forehead, eyes, ears, nostrils, lips, chest, and hands of the parishioners in the form of the cross, saying: “O Holy Father, physician of our souls and bodies, heal Your servant [name] from every physical and emotional affliction” or “The blessing of our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ: for the healing of the soul and body of the servant of God, [name], always: now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.”

Very Rev.Fr. Ivan Lymar, the cathedral pastor, welcomed Archbishop Daniel, the gathering of priests, and many Orthodox faithful from across the Illinois, Indiana and Wisconsin.

As the service neared the conclusion, the bishop, assisted by the clergy, holding the Holy Gospel over the faithful gathered in the parish temple, recited the prayer of Anointing for the healing of soul and body. Following the dismissal, the faithful approached the hierarch and the clergy (Very Rev. Fr. Ivan Lymar – pastor of St. Volodymyr Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in Chicago, IL; Very Rev. Raymond Sundland – pastor of Holy Archangel Michael Ukrainian Orthodox Pro-Cathedral in Hammond, IN; Rev. Fr. Walter Hwostik – pastor of Annunciation of the Birth-Giver of God Ukrainian Orthodox parish in Milwaukee, WI; Very Rev. Fr. Gregory Jensen of Madison, WI Ukrainian Orthodox Mission; Very Rev. Fr. Vasyl Sendeha – pastor of Sts. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox parish in Palos Park, IL; Rev. Fr. Silouan Rolando – pastor of Holy Trinity Ukrainian Orthodox parish in Goshen, IN; Rev. Fr. John Charest of Chicago Deanery) for anointing, while the responses and hymns were chanted by Pani-matka Lilia Lymar joined by singers Ania Kreinina, Volodymyr Lymar and Subdeacons Mykola Zomchak and Ivan Venhryn. Altar servers, assisting Vladyka Daniel were seminarians of St. Sophia Ukrainian Orthodox Theological Seminary Myroslav Mykytyuk and Yaroslav Bilohan.

His Eminence Archbishop Daniel addressed the faithful of the Church with his remarks prior to the beginning of the service, teaching the faithful about the spiritual meaning of this sacred service. Vladyka stated: “The express purpose of the Sacrament of Holy Unction is healing and forgiveness... In Holy Unction, blessed oil and wine is mixed. The wine represents the Blood of Christ, spilled on the Cross for the salvation of all people, while the oil is an ancient form of medicine in its own right, and represents the mercy of God...”



HOLY THURSDAY LITURGICAL SERVICES AT STS PETER AND PAUL UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX PARISH IN PALOS PARK, IL

There are four events commemorated on Thursday of Holy Week: the washing of the disciples' feet, the institution of the Holy Mystery of the Holy Eucharist at the Last Supper, the agony in the garden of Gethsemane, and the betrayal of Christ by Judas.

The faithful of Chicago Deanery of the Western Eparchy of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA were blessed to experience all four of these sacred commemorations, while attending the liturgical services of the day at Sts Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Palos Park, IL.

Holy Thursday morning started at the church with the Vespereal Liturgy of St. Basil the Great, which was celebrated by the clergy of the Chicago Deanery with His Eminence Archbishop Daniel. This Liturgy commemorates the institution of the Holy Eucharist, and it was spiritually uplifting to see the clergy of the Deanery (Very Rev. Vasyl Sendeha, Very Rev. Ivan Lymar, Very Rev. Raymond Sundland, Rev. Silouan Rolando, Rev. Walter Hvoshtik, Rev. Gregory Jensen, Rev. John Charest) pray together at the Altar of Sts Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox parish. The hierarch in his remarks reminded the faithful in attendance that "The Eucharist is at the center of the Church's life. It is her most profound prayer and principal activity. It is at one and the same time both the source and the summit of her life. In the Eucharist the Church manifests her true nature and is continuously changed from a human community into the Body of Christ, the Temple of the Holy Spirit, and the People of God... Our new life in Christ is constantly renewed and increased by the Eucharist. The Eucharist imparts life and the life it gives is the life of God."

Drawing near the conclusion of the Vespereal Liturgy, an ancient and sacred Rite of Washing of Feet took place in the nave of the church. It appears that the Early Church had a ceremony of the Washing of the Feet annually on Great Thursday in imitation of the event at the Last Supper. For the most part, it was limited to Cathedral Churches and certain monasteries. In time, the service fell into disuse except in certain areas. It is now being recovered by many dioceses throughout the Orthodox world. The service is elaborate, dramatic and moving.



GREAT AND HOLY THURSDAY - 12 GOSPEL READINGS

The bishop with the clergy processed from the sanctuary to the nave of the church in order to spiritually put into action the very example of humility and service to others that was preached by our Savior. By washing the feet of His disciples, the Lord summarized the meaning of His ministry, manifested His perfect love and revealed His profound humility. The act of the washing of the feet (John 13:2-17) is closely related to the sacrifice of the Cross. While the Cross constitutes the ultimate manifestation of Christ's perfect obedience to His Father (Philippians 2:5-8), the washing of the feet signifies His intense love and the giving of Himself to each person according to that person's ability to receive Him (John 13:6-9).

The eparchial bishop, having taken off his outer vestments approached each priest and in Christ like manner washed the feet of his clergy, dried them up with a towel and prayerfully kissed them, thus as a spiritual father of the Eparchy and a successor to the Apostles he instructed the clergy and the faithful in attendance the importance of humility, love and sacrifice in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

On Thursday evening, His Eminence Archbishop Daniel led the service of the Passions of our Lord - the Reading of the 12 Gospels at St. Volodymyr Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in Chicago, IL. Serving with the bishop were the pastor of the cathedral parish family - Very Rev. Ivan Lymar, Rev. John Charest and Protodeacon Andriy Fronchak, assisted by the seminarians of the Church Subdeacons Mykola Zomchak and Ivan Venhryn, and seminarians Myroslav Mykytyuk and Yaroslav Bilohan as well as the altar servers of the cathedral.

The evening entered those in attendance into the celebration of the holy, saving and awesome Passion of Christ. To take away our sins, Christ willingly endured the spitting, scourging, buffetings, scorn, mocking and the purple robe; the reed, sponge, vinegar, nails, spear and, above all, the Cross and Death. The confession from the cross of the penitent thief, crucified with Christ, is celebrated. This service is usually long, but its content is dramatic and deeply moving for the devout Christian.

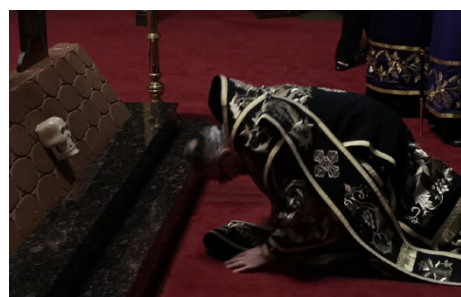


Following the conclusion of the service, Vladyka Daniel stated that "...The narrative of our Lord's Passion — His suffering, death and resurrection — begins in earnest on Holy Thursday after supper. And we therefore began to read and meditate on it today. We read together the words of all four evangelists, woven into 12 composite texts that tell nearly the entire account of the Passion from Christ's last words to His disciples at the supper table to his burial by Joseph and Nicodemus. After each reading, we sing hymns meditating on what we have just read, so that the significance of these events might pass into our hearts and we might give glory to our Lord and Savior. This service, which lasts about 3 hours, is a wonderful opportunity to learn who our Lord is, to learn something about His love and humility which truly surpass our understanding...

I am constantly reminding myself: I am ONLY able to love because He (Christ) loved me FIRST! Our Lord tells us, "there is no greater love than to lay down one's life for one's friend" (John 15:13). We remember our Lord's suffering and submission to death in order to save us. It is truly a somber reminder, when we listen to the gospels and hymnology during the services of Holy Week.

May our Lord grant that, through prayerful attention during these services, we may each come to love Him more."

Those, in attendance at St. Volodymyr Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in Chicago, IL, had an opportunity to once again participate in the prayers and the historical sequence of the events, as related in the Gospels and hymns, providing a vivid foundation for the great events yet to come.



A REFLECTION FROM THE 2018 ORTHODOX YOUTH & CAMP WORKER CONFERENCE



By Fr. Anthony Perkins

I just returned from a wonderful experience at the pan-Orthodox Youth Ministers and Camp Directors Conference in Atlanta, Georgia. It was my first time going to this conference. The UOC-USA and Carpatho-Russian Youth and Camping Departments co-hosted this year. Fr. Alexander Goussetis, the Director of the Center for Family Care, was the keynote speaker. He spoke about the necessity of gratitude in ministry and how critical it is that our teachers, youth directors, and camp workers balance their lives and continually invigorate their life in Christ. Eight other speakers gave shorter talks on various aspects of Youth Ministry (mine was on framing our relationship with parents in a way that leads us away from judgment towards genuine support) and experts in youth ministry (like our own Director of Youth Ministry, Natalie Kapeluck-Nixon) lead break out groups for in-depth conversations. The experience was inspiring for many reasons. I'll stick to the more practical ones:

It was inspiring to be in the same time/place with ninety people who have dedicated their lives to ministering to children so that we could share our love of God, the Church, children and share practical lessons/experience with one another. I learned a lot and I am sure everyone else did, as well. The programs and talks were excellent.

It was inspiring to learn in what high esteem our camp, our camping programs, and our UOC-USA Youth Director, Natalie Kapeluck-Nixon are held throughout America. The theme of the conference was gratitude, and we in the UOC-USA have much to be grateful for (glory to God).

It was inspiring to see that there is a HUGE under-utilized resource (i.e. this conference and the networking opportunities it provides) for our parish teachers, Jr. UOL advisors, and youth ministers. It really is worth encouraging every parish to send someone to this conference and take advantage of the many on-line opportunities that the Orthodox Youth & Camp Workers Conference offers. Lord willing, next year's conference will be at the Antiochian Village.

Lord willing, the videos of the talks (most of which were live-streamed on Facebook) will available soon at <http://orthodoxycc.org>.



Council Of Metropolia Meets At The Spiritual Center

On a clear crisp day, as the geese huddled against the brisk cold wind, the Metropolia Center once again hummed with activity as the members of the Metropolitan Council gathered for their annual meeting. Once a year the members gather to meet and discuss various aspects of the life of the Church. With smiles for each other, everyone clasped hands, hugged and exchanged warm greetings upon seeing one another after so many months.

The meeting began as scheduled at 10 a.m. with a Moleben celebrated by His Eminence Metropolitan Antony and His Eminence Archbishop Daniel. Present also for the service were the Seminarians of the St. Sophia Ukrainian Orthodox Theological Seminary along with Fr. Vasyl Pasakas. Having prayed for God's guidance and asked for discernment, the members of the Council settled down for the first of many sessions to be held.

His Eminence Metropolitan Antony called the meeting to order and taking the podium started the conference with a reflection on the Holy Spirit. Vladyka began by reminding everyone that during baptism, when the hymn "As many have been baptized into Christ, have put on Christ" is sung, and the newly baptized is carried/led in a circle by the priest, this symbolizes the newly illumined individual taking up their cross and following Christ. The individual is led around the center tetrapod three times (representing the Holy Trinity), in a circle (representing the eternity of God). Through theosis we attempt to become united with God, who became us, in order to enable us to share in His energy.

At our baptism we were given the gift of the Holy Spirit, however, too often we cast that priceless gift aside. We need to rely on His guidance in every situation. Today we live in a modern Babylon, surrounded by materialism, secularism and discrimination. The messages being touted today push beliefs that stand contrary to the teachings of Christ. This modern age, and its misguided views, has made people self-centered, and apathetic to the suffering of others around them.

We, as Orthodox Christians, must not bow to secular pressures, but, must seek in silence the voice of the Lord, and allow the Holy Spirit to guide us in our actions. He is there and waiting, since the moment of our baptism, but, we must allow Him to act in our lives, and not block Him out.

With everyone ponding the deeper meaning to the words of His Eminence, Vladyka Daniel took the podium. His Eminence Archbishop Daniel gave a detailed account of the Western Eparchy, and the 40+ parishes which are under his guidance. His Eminence was glad to report that the parishes in the Midwest and West are doing well. Currently there are two mission parishes, with a third in the works. All this points to the faithful wishing to connect with their God, their Church, and each other.

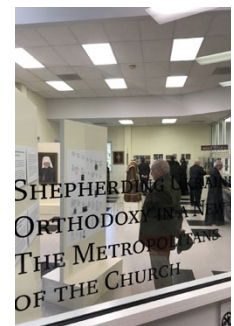
Following the report of on the Western Eparchy, His Eminence Metropolitan Antony gave a report on the standing of the Eastern Eparchy. His Eminence went through the list of 50+ parishes, one by one, and explained what is occurring in the life of each church. While some hardships do exist, the overall picture is bright. The parishes, large and small, serve the faithful in their areas providing spiritual nourishment, and Christian fellowship.

Once again, His Eminence Archbishop Daniel took the microphone to present the Consistory President's Report. His statement covered the Offices of Ministry, including Stewardship, Youth and Young Adult Ministry, Orphanage Mission Program, Religious Education, Christian Charity, Liturgical Publications, Clergy Development, Public Relations and Archives and Historical Information. Vladyka continued by giving an update on the St. Andrew Cemetery and Holy Resurrection Mausoleum, as well as the library and bookstore. The day's session concluded with a review of the Financial Report, various funds and audits, concluding with the Seminary Report.

Friday, everyone arrived early to the Cultural Center, eager to hear all about the plans for this year. The meeting began with a report from John Holowko, President of the Ukrainian Orthodox League. The report was positive, stressing the importance of the UOL and JrUOL in the lives of our parishioners. The League brings everyone together, forms bonds, cements Christian values and is critical in keeping our children in our Church, not only through their youth, but as adults.

Protodeacon Dr. Ihor Mahlay was up next and gave a positive review of the St. Andrew Society, of which he is president. He explained how the society has aided countless people in Ukraine through charitable works and soup kitchens. The St. Andrew Society is a great way to make a positive difference in the world, and he urged everyone to join.

Other reports in the morning revolved around All Saints Camp, the Historical and Educational Complex, various additional aspects of Church life, and finally the Strategic Plan of the Church presented by Dr. Gayle Woloschak. The Strategic Plan has been in place for over a year now and while it had a slow start it is picking up and positive results are visible. Among the various aspects of the Strategic Plan are several goals which have been devised in order to improve various areas of Church life. Task Forces have been implemented to cover different facets such as administration, clergy, communications, education, family & youth, healthy parishes, outreach & evangelism, stewardship and technology. While all the goals are moving forward, the progress would proceed faster and would be more robust if more individuals participated and donated of their time and skills towards the effort. Once again, Metropolitan Antony urged everyone to participate, whether to a large extent or just with smaller tasks, because everyone has something to offer, and it is all for the good of the Church, and future generations.



After lunch, the members of the Metropolitan Council walked over to the temporary exhibit of the Ukrainian History and Education Center - "Shepherding Ukrainian Orthodoxy in a New Land: The Metropolitans of the Church" located in the temporary museum exhibit room of the St. Sophia Library. This exhibit documents the lives of the Church's prime hierarchs, the historical and cultural contexts in which they lived and worked, and their legacies through photographs, museum items, archival documents, and audio recordings. As the members viewed the exhibit, they were awed by the vestments worn by the various Metropolitans, their heralds, and various articles and historical data presented about their lives.

Once again the council members returned to the business at hand and having reviewed and approved the 2018 budget, the focus of the meeting turned to the UOC of USA Centennial Celebration preparations. Several ideas and programs were discussed, as well as dates and venues. The main celebration will take place in South Bound Brook on Saturday, July 28. That same week the UOL will have their annual Convention at the Metropolia Center to coincide with the Centennial Celebration. It promises to be a memorable event. Save-the-Date postcards were mailed out months ago, and invitations will be sent out soon.

Metropolitan Antony offered the closing remarks, once again stressing the importance of everyone's participation in the efforts of the Church. We are not to be complacent, but, active. Now is not the time to become lax. The Lord awaits and watches.

His Eminence Archbishop Daniel closed the session and gave the Benediction, ending the official proceedings, but the work is not completed, it is just beginning. Everyone went home realizing what is required of them, comprehending that the tasks are great, but, with the help of the Lord and guidance of the Holy Spirit, and the participation of many eager hands, the work will be done successfully.

The members of the Metropolitan Council once again exchanged handshakes and warm hugs, promising to keep in touch and work together to accomplish various assignments. With final waves and smiles, the area cleared as the geese flew in under the rising full moon, to find shelter for the night. Just as the geese fly in a flock for warmth, safety and conservation of energy, so the members of the Church should walk in step with each other, helping each other under the guidance of the Lord, "For where two or three gather together in My name, there am I with them." Matthew 18:20

Photos by Fr. Vasyl Pasakas and Elizabeth Symonenko





CAROLING FOR CHRIST - ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL EVENT AT THE METROPOLIA CENTER OF THE CHURCH

From near and far, people once again began to congregate at the Metropolia Center on a bright Saturday afternoon. “Caroling for Christ” has become an annual event, eagerly anticipated by the local parishes and faithful. Each year people gather at the Ukrainian Cultural Center located on the grounds of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA in South Bound Brook, NJ. The event usually takes place in January, however, due to the remodeling of the center the date needed to be pushed back to February. The wait was well worth it as the new renovations added flare to the event, especially the new side lights which glowed a variety of colors, adding a sense of colorful excitement to the occasion.

Awaiting commencement of the program, people milled about the various vendor booths which displayed a myriad of Ukrainian items, ranging from shirts, cups and decals, to CD’s, and books. The St. Sophia Ukrainian Orthodox Seminary booth offered icons, service books, prayer ropes and a variety of religious items for sale. Along the other wall of the Cultural Center the St. Andrew Memorial Church school of Ukrainian Studies had tables set up selling innumerable baked goods. There were cupcakes, tortes, pies, cakes, cookies and almost any type of baked good imaginable - all homemade with love.

As the crowd quieted and hundreds of people settled down in their seats in anticipation of the concert, the hierarchs arrived and found their places in the front, eager to watch the performance.

The official program began with emcee, Olenka Hoshovska-Dorozhynska, thanking everyone for attending and participating in the fourth annual “Caroling for Christ” concert. She asked His Eminence Archbishop Daniel to start the proceedings with a prayer. Vladyka Daniel came out on stage, also thanked everyone for coming to participate in this 4th annual concert at the Metropolia Center. He reminded everyone that in Ukraine it is customary to greet each other with the Christmas holidays all the way through the 15th of February, and therefore, with that in mind he greeted everyone, led those present in the Lord’s Prayer, and opened the stage for the performance to commence.



With Reverend Father Vasyl Pasakas assisting with the English announcements, the first group to dazzle the audience made their way on stage. Very Rev. Todor Mazur's parish of Holy Trinity Cathedral from New York, NY, with Artistic Director Olenka Dorozhynska-Hoshovska was well represented by a group of young children who sang "Z Kolyadoyu Idemo/We go caroling". The adorable little children sang loudly as the audience smiled and clapped enthusiastically.



The second set of performers were the seminarians from St. Sophia Ukrainian Orthodox Theological Seminary, directed by the instructor of Church Music, Very Rev. Taras Naumenko. The seminarians' deep voices spun various chords around the onlookers who were mesmerized by the richness of their performance. As their first number, they sang an old Ukrainian traditional carol "Dobrij Vechir Tobi/Good Evening to you" and finished with an American classic of "In the Town of Bethlehem".



The third number was by the 3rd, 6th and 8th grade classes of St. Andrew's Ukrainian School, of the St. Andrew Memorial Church in South Bound Brook, NJ, under the directorship of Yaroslava Danyschuk. The Artistic Directors Oksana Nalyvajko and Natalia Moroz did themselves proud as the children had the audience smiling as the sweet young voices sang a variety of songs. Impressed with their performance, His Eminence Archbishop Daniel handed each child a paper icon of the Nativity of Christ as they walked off stage as a memento of the day's event.

and languages were represented in the program. While the audience had enjoyed songs and numbers in Ukrainian and English, they were now regaled with a few songs in Romanian sung by members of the St. Andrew the First-called Apostle, from Jamaica, NY. Joining his parishioners on stage was parish priest Fr. Ivan Protesa as they sang a number of Christmas related songs in Romanian and English. The audience was awed by the beautiful voices echoing off the tall walls. Accompanied by a pan flute, the soprano sang a solo of "O Holy Night" that hushed the room with awe, in addition to "Ce Bucurie Ar Fi, finishing with Pe Stapanul si Arhiereul nostrum (Our Master and our Priest)".

The fourth group to stun the crowds were the 6th 7th and 8th grade classes from the Assumption Catholic School Chimmetteers, from Assumption Catholic School in Perth Amboy. Under the tutelage of Art Director Melania Lawrence, the children played melodies on bells including "Silver Bells", "Jingle Bells" finishing with "Carol of the Bells", before posing for a photo with Fr. Taras Naumenko, who once attended the school.

Sometimes the best is left for last, and this time one of the best performances did come last in the form of a Nativity Play by the parishioners of Holy Trinity, from New York, NY, with Artistic Directors Fr. Todor Mazur and Natalia Maksymyshyn. The audience enjoyed the play with the elaborately costumed performers representing the shepherds, the Magi, Caesar, Roman soldiers, gypsies, etc. Laughing at the comedic performance, with a spiritual undertone, the final number finished on a high note.

The music stopped long enough for the youngsters from St. Andrew Memorial Church to sing a short Christmas Carol "On these Christmas holidays", declaring well wishes for the New Year, with an added flare of His Eminence Archbishop Daniel assisting the young boy in tossing grains of wheat with well wishes, at the audience members.

At the conclusion of the performance, His Eminence Metropolitan Antony was surprised as Fr. Todor congratulated him on his birthday, the 5th anniversary of his enthronement as Metropolitan and his namesday, while the children came around the corner with a large birthday cake decorated with glitter and reading, "Blessings on the day of your ordination. May Christ, our Lord, bless you abundantly in your ministry."

As Christ was born to save all nations, many nations



Expressing his gratitude for the recognition and the cake, His Eminence Metropolitan Antony walked out on stage to present awards to the performers and their directors. With smiles on their faces, and Christmas Carols on their lips everyone gathered around their beloved hierarchs, Metropolitan Antony and Archbishop Daniel, to take a final group photo.

The crowd was reluctant to disperse, lagging behind to speak with the hierarchs, take photos, and bask in the radiance of the moment. The children ran around regaled in their Ukrainian finery, ribbons flying as they chased each other and enjoyed showing off their costumes. With music still playing in the hall, the vendors were making last minute sales, as the cars began to pull up to pick up family members at the door. With final hugs and kisses, exchanges of addresses and phone numbers, old friends and new parted ways to make their way back to their homes. Tonight, those homes will once again be lit with the Light of Christ, as each person whether aware or not, took a bit of Christmas joy home with them in their hearts, to warm their hearth and their home.

Christ is Born! Glorify Him!

Photos & Text by Elizabeth Symonenko



THE YOUTH OF THE CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA PRAYERFULLY REMEMBERS THE HEROES OF UKRAINE



Surrounded by the children of the Church, His Eminence Archbishop Daniel presided over the Memorial Service at St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Cemetery in South Bound Brook, NJ reflecting upon the sacrifices of thousands of brave souls that have sacrificed their lives in the service of the ancestral homeland Ukraine.

Over a hundred students from St. Andrew School of Ukrainian Language and Religion (South Bound Brook, NJ), came to the very heart of the historic spiritual center of the UOC of the USA, marking a sad event of Ukrainian history - the ultimate sacrifice of young students in the service of the Ancestral Homeland Ukraine.

On 22nd January 1918, the Ukrainian Central Rada proclaimed an independent Ukraine, under the name of the Ukrainian National Republic. This Act would give the indigenous population the freedom and equal rights they had been denied for centuries whilst under occupational and Soviet rule.

On 29th January 1918, only seven days after the declaration of independence, almost 400 Ukrainian university students chose to block the route of the Bolsheviks into the city of Kyiv, by positioning themselves at the railway station at Kruty. The young scholars, with no military training and limited weapons at their disposal, were physically no match for the Bolshevik army, and nearly all 400 men died in battle.

Reflecting upon the ultimate sacrifice of Kruty students, Vladyka Daniel made references to the historic struggle of Ukrainian people for their independence, yet linking his reflection to the ongoing historic battles and present wars that are being fought in the ancestral homeland Ukraine - ensuring that the God-given rights of freedom and political, economic and religious unity are preserved and passed to the next generation of Ukrainians throughout the world.

Standing at the main Memorial Cross of the Cemetery and chanting



the solemn Memorial Service, Vladyka Daniel, clergy and children of the Church prayer for the heroes of Kruty, the fallen men and women of the ongoing conflicts in Ukraine as well as those who sacrificed their lives in the service of the United States of America.



Pointing to the icon of the Birth-Giver of God, Protectress of Ukrainian Soldiers, Archbishop Daniel explained to the students the meaning of Church's prayer for the brave defenders of the homeland. Looking at the images of the fallen soldiers, which were presented for observations at the cemetery, Vladyka encouraged the children with their parents and teachers to never forget the tragic events of the past, while striving for the better and peaceful future of generations to come.



The commemorative program concluded with the chanting of a few national patriotic folk songs by the students of the school as well as by the seminarians of St. Sophia Ukrainian Orthodox Theological Seminary (South Bound Brook, NJ).



Photos by Seminarians Yaroslav Bilohan and Myroslav Mykytyuk



SOUPED BOWL OF CHARITABLE LOVE ORGANIZED BY ST. SOPHIA SEMINARY UOL CHAPTER



It truly was a super Sunday, on the 4th of February at the Metropolia Center of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, in South Bound Brook, NJ. As the bells of the St. Andrew Memorial Church chimed, the faithful ascended the steps to the church rushing to participate in the Divine Liturgy celebrated by His Eminence Archbishop Daniel. It was the third Sunday before the start of Great Lent and after the Gospel reading Vladyka gave a moving sermon on the meaning of the Prodigal Son. He explained that father in the story represents God, and we are the two sons. Sometimes we take our free will too far and we fall, but, realizing our mistakes we yearn to come back, and humbly we repent seeking to come close again to our Father. Sometimes we are like the elder son, outwardly pious, even to our own minds, but, inwardly we are jealous, judgmental and self-centered. His Eminence instructed us to take a moment and listen to our inward thoughts and conversations, and reflect upon them. Are they positive, filled with joy, thanksgiving and forgiveness, or are we constantly thinking negatively? Do we take for granted the “bread” (Eucharist) which is available to the servants in our Father’s house and go in vain searching for what we perceive to be a better life? Do we use the gift of free will given to us by the Father wisely, or do we squander it? As the Liturgy continued, everyone prayed more fervently, Vladyka’s words having hit home.



Upon the conclusion of the service, His Eminence asked that everyone walk over to the Sisterhood Hall to partake in the first annual SOUPer Bowl Sunday event, hosted by the UOL Chapter of the St. Sophia Ukrainian Orthodox Seminary. The SOUPer Bowl Sunday, is an event organized by the Ukrainian Orthodox League, on “Super Bowl Sunday” as a fundraiser for the Saint Andrew Society. This society collects funds which are utilized to ease the lives of struggling people in Ukraine. Over the years the society has provided funds to injured soldiers in Ukraine and their families, to the elderly, the homeless and the orphans. Through the years over 1 million dollars has been donated to assist those in need.

Even before entering the hall, one could tell that something good awaited inside, as the savory aroma swirled and tickled the nostrils through the cold breeze outside. Inside the seminarians were busy setting up to serve the “soup” lunch. The young men had worked to

prepare a variety of four soups. There was the traditional Ukrainian borsch, pea soup, meatball and veggie soup, and finally solyanka (a salty broth with olives and veggies).

As everyone milled about deciding which soup to try, the hierarchs arrived and His Eminence Bishop Daniel lead everyone in prayer. His Eminence Metropolitan Antony was the first to be served as he tried some borsch. Suddenly the line was overflowing as everyone was reaching for a bowl of soup. The seminarians were busy ladling the soups, adding a bit of sour cream, a smile, some parmesan, or parsley to each bowl of steaming and aromatic goodness. At the end of the table was a basket, where individuals were able to donate funds. There was no set sum, people donated whatever they could, and if they could not, then they were still able to enjoy a warm and tasty bowl of soup on a cold day.

With spoons clinking against bowls, those gathered thoroughly enjoyed the various soups, getting up numerous times for refills, or to try a different soup. As the people ate, Protodeacon Ihor Mahlay, president of the St. Andrew Society, took the opportunity to say a few words. He explained in detail how valuable the organization is in helping those in need and expressed his gratitude to the UOL for hosting this event. He further explained that in addition to assisting orphans, and the elderly, the society also provides medicine to those in need in Ukraine, as well as scholarships financial and logistical assistance to seminaries in Ukraine and scholarships for theological students to study abroad.

Having eaten their fill of soup, everyone enjoyed the variety of “football” themed desserts, including chocolate covered strawberry footballs, cupcakes and cakes. With smiles on their faces everyone listened intently as His Eminence Archbishop Daniel stood to thank the seminarians for working so hard in preparing the meal, including Subdeacons Mykola Zomchak, Volodymyr Yavorskyi, Ihor Protsak, Yurii Bobko and Ivan Venhryn, Myroslav Mykytyuk, Yaroslav Bilohan and Oleh Krawchenko. Vladyka also thanked Maria Morozovska, the seminary cook, and Pani Matka Lesia Siwko for this assistance in preparing the soups. Moreover, His Eminence also thanked Dobrodijka Oksana Pasakas, Pani Matka Olena Shak, and Ginny Yavorskyi for preparing the sweets. Later in the afternoon, Metropolitan Antony announced that \$1,000 was raised towards the charitable ministry of St. Andrew’s Society by the efforts of the student body of St. Sophia Ukrainian Orthodox Theological Seminary and through the charitable donations of those in attendance of the luncheon.

With stomachs full everyone wondered outside in to the cold breeze. While it was cold outside, on the inside they were bodily warmed by the soup, and spiritually warmed by the Grace of God received through the Eucharist, the “bread” of their Father’s house. Rejoicing inwardly and outwardly the faithful returned to their homes, in time to watch the Super Bowl football game and root for the underdog team. It was truly a super Sunday.

CHRIST IS BORN! GLORIFY HIM!!!



SAINT SOPHIA SEMINARY CELEBRATES PATRONAL FEAST OF THE THREE HIERARCHS



On Monday 12th of February, 2018, the faculty and students of St. Sophia Ukrainian Orthodox Theological Seminary, along with the clergy and faithful of NY/NJ/PA/CT surrounding parishes, celebrated the feast of their heavenly intercessors and stalwarts of theological study, the Holy Three Universal Teachers and Hierarchs: Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian, and John Chrysostom.

Divine services were led by the Ruling Hierarchy of the Western Eparchy and President of Consistory of the UOC of the USA, His Eminence Archbishop Daniel, and co-served by His Grace Bishop Sabas of the Georgian Orthodox Church of North America.

Entering the chapel of the Three Holy hierarchs, Archbishop Daniel and Bishop Sabas were greeted by Subdeacon Yurii Bobko and Seminarian Ivan Venhryn, who presented the hierarchy with the traditional bread and salt asking for prayers and blessings in both English and Ukrainian languages. Theologically sound in their presentations, seminarians of the Church academic institution asked the hierarchs of the Church to pray for them and as two seminarians take their first steps towards the Holy Priesthood, while being tonsured and set aside as Readers and Subdeacons. Inside the chapel, the hierarchs were greeted by V. Rev. Fr. Anthony Perkins (Vocations Director), assisted V. Rev. Fr. Stephen Hutnick, V. Rev. Yurii Siwko, V. Rev. Fr. Vitalii Pawlykivsky, Very Rev. Fathers Matthew and Arseniy of the Georgian Orthodox Church, Rev. Fr. Vasyl Dovgan, Rev. Vasyl Pasakas, Rev. Fr. Myron Korostil, Rev. Fr. Vasyl Shak, Rev. Fr. Philip Harendza, Deacon Adrian Mazur, Deacon Ivan Tchopko and Deacon Richard Jendras.



Responding, Archbishop Daniel greeted the faculty, students, guest clergy and faithful on behalf of the Rector of St. Sophia Ukrainian Orthodox Theological Seminary His Eminence Metropolitan Antony. He expressed his gratitude to Almighty God for the blessings bestowed upon the Seminary, its seminarians and professors, who invest themselves in securing the future of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA in preparing those who will lead parish life as pastors of local parishes.

Prior to the beginning of the Divine Liturgy, with the blessing of His Eminence Metropolitan Antony, Archbishop Daniel tonsured and set aside as Readers and Subdeacons seminarians of St. Sophia Seminary Ivan Venhryn and Constantin Dancu.

The Divine Liturgy, led by the archpastors of Christ's Church truly embraced the spirit of the feast of the Holy Three Universal Teachers and Hierarchs: Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian, and John Chrysostom. The deacons chanted litanies in Ukrainian, English, Georgian, Portuguese Greek and Romanian



languages representing the rich liturgical tradition of the Holy Orthodox Church and ethnic origin of many visitors and students of the Seminary.

Following the chanting of the Holy Gospel, Very Rev. Fr. Stephen Hutnick, who serves as Treasurer of St. Sophia Seminary, deliver a sermon. The theme of Fr. Stephen's homily centered on both a text from the Gospel for the day, "You are the light of the world" [Matthew 5], and a text from the writings of Saint Gregory the Theologian, "The mystery of godliness is for those who are willing, not for those who are overpowered."

Attending the celebration were many people from the local community: workers of the Consistory and St. Andrew's Cemetery, alumni of the Seminary and teachers of the Seminary. The choir was led by seminarians Subdeacons Ihor Protsak, Mykola Zomchak, Yurii Bobko, Valentine Olijnyk and Oleh Kravchenko. Serving in the altar and assisting the hierarchs throughout the entire liturgical service were the newly set aside Subdeacons Constantin Dancu, Ivan Venhryn and Subdeacon Volodymyr Yavorsky as well as seminarians Myroslav Mykytyuk and Yaroslav Bilohan.

Following the dismissal, Archbishop Daniel welcomed on behalf of His Eminence Metropolitan Antony, Bishop Sabas to the Spiritual Center of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA in South bound Brook, NJ and presented him with a memorable gift.

The liturgical celebration concluded with the melodious chanting of "God grant many years..." to the hierarchs of the Church, her clergy and her faithful, and especially to all those who ere in attendance and named after the Holy Universal Teachers Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian, and John Chrysostom. Moreover, Archbishop Daniel greeted Fr. Vasyl Dovgan on a triple celebration of the day: his birthday, Name's Day and the 5th anniversary of ordination to the Holy Priesthood, while seminarians of the Church presentd Fr. Vasyl, a graduate of St. Sophia Seminary with a birthday cake.

Following the Liturgy, the participants took part in a splendid luncheon, which was prepared by the seminary's cook, Mrs. Maria Morozovska.

During the feast, the seminarians and faithful were able to venerate the relics of over 40 saints that were installed in the Three Holy Hierarchs Seminary chapel for veneration and prayerful protection of the seminarians of the Church as they further their academic studies.

Photos by Seminarian Yaroslav Bilohan



FIRST DAYS OF HOLY AND GREAT LENT

THE CANON OF SAINT ANDREW OF CRETE



For the first four days of Holy and Great Lent, the Holy Orthodox Church conducts the Great Canon of Saint Andrew of Crete at the Orthodox parishes across the country and throughout the world. It is one of the most spiritually uplifting and inspiring in the Holy Tradition of our Church.

With the blessing of His Eminence Metropolitan Antony, Vladyka Daniel presides over the Reading of the Canon of St. Andrew of Crete and the Liturgies of Presanctified Gifts during the First Week of Great Lent at St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Memorial Church and Three Holy Hierarchs Chapel of St. Sophia Ukrainian Orthodox Theological Seminary in South Bound Brook/Somerset, NJ. Concelebrating with the Archbishop the services of the First Week of Lenten journey are Very Rev. Fr. Yuriy Siwko, Very Rev. Fr. John Lyszyk, Rev. Fr. Vasyl Pasakas, Rev. Fr. Vasyl Shak, Deacon Ivan Tchopko and the student body of St. Sophia Ukrainian Orthodox Theological Seminary.

The Great Canon of Saint Andrew, Bishop of Crete, is the longest Canon in all of our divine services, and is associated with Great and Holy Lent, since the only times it is appointed to be read in church are the first four nights of Holy and Great Fast through Clean Thursday, at Great Compline when it is serialized and at Matins for Thursday of the Fifth Week of Holy and Great Lent, when it is read in its entirety (in the latter service, the entire life of Saint Mary of Egypt is also read).

There is no other sacred hymn which compares with this monumental work, which Saint Andrew of Crete wrote for his personal meditations. Nothing else has it extensive typology and mystical explanation of the Holy Scripture, from both the Old Testament and the New Testament. One can almost say that this solemn hymn of the Church is an exposition of the Old Testament. Its other distinctive features are a spirit of solemn humility, hope in God's mercy,

and exquisite Trinitarian Doxologies and hymns to the Mother of God in every Ode.

The holy Canon is a "dialogue between St. Andrew and his soul." The ongoing theme is an urgent exhortation to change one's life or in other words to repent. Saint Andrew always mentions his own sinfulness placed side by side to God's mercy, and uses literally hundreds of references to good and bad examples from the Old Testament and the New Testament to "persuade himself" to repent.

A Canon is an ancient liturgical hymn, with a very strict format.

In his remarks, following the chanting of the Canon, Archbishop Daniel stated: "Saint Andrew wrote the Canon to challenge the faithful spiritually. For Orthodox Christians, all spiritual exercises are designated to heighten our perception of basic reality: Sin is much more serious than we think, and God's forgiveness is much more vast than we think. Left to ourselves, we go around with Playskool impressions of what is at stake. So the goal of all spiritual disciplines are to cultivate charmolypi--to use a Greek term coined by the 6th century abbot of the monastery on Mt. Sinai, Saint John Climacus (of the Ladder). Charmolypi means the kind of penitence that flips into joyous gratitude, "joy-making sorrow," repentance shot through with gold.

There is a tone of awe and mystery that runs throughout its expression--a sense of seriousness and urgency for the restoration from the Old Adam to the New Adam based on the incarnation. The great Canon provides the faithful with the tools not only to approach God but more importantly, to unite with Him. Its main theme is: repentance, the return from sin or the unity of the cosmos and the human race--as one creation united in love--to its Creator. The great Canon invites the faithful to utilize all aspects of their existence including all their senses to communicate with their Creator, in order to live with Life itself."

Vladyka Daniel further reflected upon the General Themes of the Great Canon:

How we should think about ourselves

Where shall I begin to lament the deeds of my wretched life? What first-fruit shall I offer, O Christ, for my present lamentation? But in Thy compassion grant me release from my falls.

Desire to change--dialogue with the my soul

Come, wretched soul, with your flesh, confess to the Creator of All. In the future refrain from your former brutishness, and offer to the Almighty God tears of repentance and contrition.

Recognizing the inevitable Reality

The end is drawing near, my soul, is drawing near! But you neither care nor prepare. The time is growing short. Rise! The Judge is at the very doors. Like a dream, like a flower, the time of this life passes. Why do we bustle about in vain?

How to pray - Laments and Supplications to God

Thou art the Good Shepherd; seek me, Thy lamb, and neglect not me who have gone astray.

Old Testament and New Testament examples of righteousness and unrighteousness, for the purpose of emulation or avoidance.

Do not be a pillar of salt, my soul, by turning back; but let the example of the Sodomites frighten you, and take refuge up in Zoar. (Genesis 19:26)

I have reviewed all the people of the Old Testament as examples for you, my soul. Imitate the God-loving deeds of the righteous and shun the sins of the wicked.

The most important thing to know about the Great Canon

The Great Canon was written by a Saint of the Church to teach himself the orthodox way to live. We cannot benefit from it unless we make it a priority to stand in prayer, in the church, and listen to it, with a great desire and expectation for God's grace to teach us and heal us. Our Orthodox Christian theology is first and foremost--experienced and prayed, and not only "studied."

THE LIFE OF SAINT ANDREW OF CRETE

Born in Damascus of Christian parents, he was dumb until



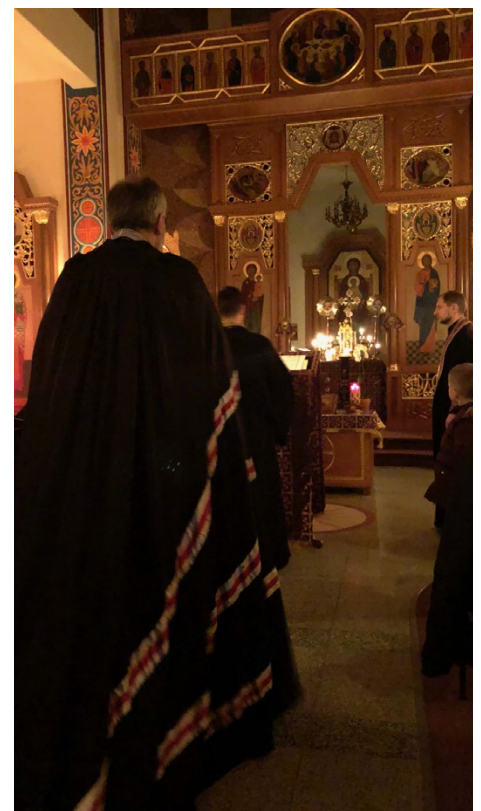
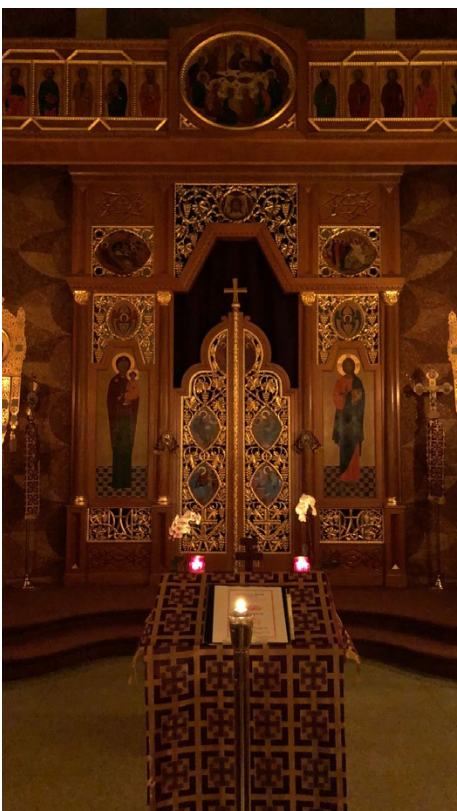
the age of seven. When his parents took him to church for Holy Communion, the power of speech was given to him. Such is the divine power of Holy Communion. He went to Jerusalem at the age of fourteen and was tonsured in the Monastery of Saint Savva the Sanctified. In his understanding and ascesis, he surpassed many of the older monks and was an example to all. The Patriarch took him as his secretary. When the Monothelite heresy, which taught that the Lord Christ had no human will but only a Divine one, began to rage, the Sixth Ecumenical Council met in Constantinople in 681 AD, in the reign of Constantine IV. Theodore, Patriarch of Jerusalem, was not able to be present at the Council, and sent Andrew, then a deacon, as his representative. At the Council, St. Andrew showed his great gifts: his articulateness, his zeal for the Faith and his rare prudence. Being instrumental in confirming the Orthodox faith, St. Andrew returned to his work in Jerusalem. He was later chosen and enthroned as Archbishop of the Greek island of Crete. As Archbishop, he was greatly beloved by the people. He was filled with zeal for Orthodoxy and strongly withstood all heresy. He worked miracles through his prayers, driving the Saracens from the island of Crete by means of them. He wrote many learned books, poems, and canons, of which the best-known is The Great Canon of Repentance which is read in full on the Thursday of the Fifth Week of the Holy and Great Fast. Such was his outward appearance that, 'looking at this face and listening to the words that flowed like honey from his lips, each man was touched and renewed.' Returning from Constantinople on one occasion, he foretold his death before reaching Crete. And so it happened. As the ship approached the island of Mitylene, this light of the Church finished his earthly course and his soul went to the Kingdom of Christ, in about the year 740 A.D. [Source: The Prologue from Ochrid]

Please note: We as Orthodox Christians have an enormous spiritual Christian wealth that for some is still undiscovered. There is also a great liturgical tradition that has existed for centuries to serve the Orthodox Christian faithful to prepare spiritually and to be edified by it throughout the ecclesiastical year. There is much more than the Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom conducted on most Sundays of the year.

If one is interested to learn more about the Faith there are many sources, books, etc. that are available to you today. The best way of course is attend and participate in the divine services of our Holy Church.

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God and Father, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen.

Photos by Deacon Ivan Tchopko



AXIOS SUBDEACON VOLODYMYR YAVORSKYI ORDAINED TO DEACONATE

Three Holy Hierarchs Chapel of St. Sophia Ukrainian Orthodox Theological Seminary of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA (South Bound Brook, NJ) was once again a place of the solemn and joyful liturgical celebration on Saturday, March 10, 2018, as Archbishop Daniel ordained seminarian Subdeacon Volodymyr Yavorskyi as a deacon of the Church.

Assisting the Archbishop as the main celebrant and ordaining hierarch were Very Rev. Fr. Oleksandr Yatskiw, Rev. Fr. Vasyl Dovgan, Rev. Fr. Vasyl Pasakas, Rev. Fr. Miron Korostil, Rev. Fr. Ihor Melnyk, Rev. Fr. Philip Harendza, Rev. Fr. James Cairns, Protodeacon Ihor Rusyn, Deacon Adrian Mazur, Deacon Paul Czerkas, Deacon Ivan Tchopko, Deacon Richard Jendras, along with Very Rev. Fr. Volodymyr Muzychka, Rev. Fr. Michael Danczak, Rev. Fr. Vasyl Shak in attendance.

The Seminary chapel was filled with solemn sacred music chant by the Seminary quartet.

As the Archpastoral Divine Liturgy of the Second Memorial Saturday of the Great and Holy Lent started, Vladyka Daniel led the congregation in prayer, remembering the mothers and fathers of the Church throughout centuries that have reposed in the Lord. Taking into consideration the ordination of Subdeacon Volodymyr to Deaconate, Vladyka Daniel led a Memorial Service of the day in memory of Ester Ulbricht, the mother-in-law of the soon to be ordained deacon, calling to remembrance the spiritual and national heroes of the United States of America and Ukraine, among whom the great poet of Ukraine – Taras Shevchenko.

Following the Gospel readings of the day and standing before the congregation in attendance and the family members of subdeacon Volodymyr, Archbishop Daniel made it abundantly clear what was in store for him: “Sacred Scripture has a very particular character in telling us what God will do... The great saving works of God did not end with the death of the last Apostle; they continue today through the power of the Holy Spirit. The work of Christ continues in our midst, today, through you.”

Vladyka Daniel explained that it was the Almighty God, through the Grace of the Holy Spirit, consecrating Subdeacon Volodymyr to a life of service to the Church.

“We know more about what consecration to God’s service is from the night of the Last Supper and Jesus’ own self-sacrifice,” Archbishop Daniel said. “It’s about self-giving, nothing held back. This is the truth in which you’re about to be consecrated. It



isn't about finding results, it isn't about method and programs. It's about laying down your life in love to those entrusted in your care."

"...The ministry of servanthood to which you are ordained today is a ministry to all people, but as a deacon you are to give particular attention to the poor, the weak, the sick, and the lonely. Subdeacon Volodymyr, this means that you will have to train your ears to listen carefully and intently to the world around you.

...You are called to a life of holy listening that is rooted in the Great Commandment: love of God, love of neighbor, and love of self. You will become skilled at discerning where and how to minister the love of God by studying, reflecting on, and praying with the scriptures. And you will need to hear not only with your ears, but with your eyes and with your inner being. It is when you love as God loves you that you can seek and serve Christ in all persons and come to respect the dignity of every human being.

As you pattern your life after Christ, remember that he was more comfortable living with those on the margins, than in the halls of power and authority. The offering of yourself you make today, asks you to proclaim the resurrected Christ in word and deed, within the community of faith and in the world at large.

...Remember that the work of a deacon is not solitary work. It did not take long for the apostles to realize they could not carry on Jesus' mission by themselves, and to select the first seven assistants. You must engage others to work with you. You are called to a ministry of word and action. It is a prophetic ministry as well as a responsive ministry, in which you bring the needs of the world to the Church and call the Church to give her gifts to the world...

...The work of ministry is hard work, and while not solitary, it can be lonely. Seek support of your wife; develop relationships with other priests and deacons whom you trust and who will listen to you, and who will speak the words of encouragement and hope you will need to persevere. Most of the time ministry is joy-filled work in which we seek not our own glory, but the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. So Subdeacon Volodymyr, chosen deacon in the Church of God; what kind of "deacon/preacher/pastor and in the future priest" will you be?"

Following the consecration of the Holy Gifts, in an ancient gesture, the archbishop laid his hands on the bowed head of subdeacon Volodymyr – prayerfully conferring the gift of the Holy Spirit. He offered a prayer of ordination, asking God to dedicate the subdeacon presented for Deaconate to the service of the Holy Church.



At the end of the Divine Liturgy, subdeacons Yurii Bobko and Ihor Protsak, speaking on behalf of the Student Body of St. Sophia Seminary, greeted the newly ordained Deacon Volodymyr and his wife Ginny calling upon them to remember to serve the Lord in the prayerful fear of His love and presence in the lives of the Christian flock.

Addressing the congregation, Deacon Volodymyr offered his words of gratitude to Archbishop Daniel for his daily care while the past five years of studies prepared seminarian Volodymyr to the subdeaconate and now to the Deaconate of the Holy Mystery of Priesthood. Moreover, the words of gratitude were addressed to Metropolitan Antony, faculty, seminarians, friends and finally to Ginny - the wife of the newly ordained Deacon Volodymyr.

“...Your love and prayers have been instrumental in this diaconate calling,” Deacon Volodymyr said. “Each of you have planted a seed of vocation in us, through your witness of faith.”

Ordination is the beginning of a ministry journey for the one called to the sacred Ministry, but also for their family members. In attendance of the celebration was Deacon Volodymyr’s father-in-law Howard, who prayerfully joined the congregation in prayers for his son-in-law, truly representing the entire Yavorskyi family members that were not able to travel to the United States of America for the ordination service.

“It’s been an emotional time, and today marks the end of what’s been a very long journey, but a good journey,” said Howard Ulbricht. “...Deacon Volodymyr, through out the years of his studies was able to grow and learn more about the Church, and the Service in the Name of Christ.”

Mobbed by friends and family who kissed and hugged him after his ordination, Deacon Volodymyr said he was overwhelmed by support. “...The most spiritually-moving part of the liturgy was kneeling down in the sanctuary,” he said. “...I completely felt the Holy Spirit upon me, and the blessing that came down upon...”

In conclusion of the liturgical celebrations, the congregation in attendance was treated to a Lenten luncheon prepared in honor of Deacon Volodymyr and his family.

10 березня 2018 року, в день пам’яті святителя Тарасія патріарха Константинопольського у стінах Свято Софіївської Православної Богословської семінарії відбулася важлива подія, у сан диякона був рукоположений студент семінарії іподиякон Володимир Яворський. Торжественне богослужіння очолив Високепреосвященніший архієпископ Даниїл

у співслужінні численного духовенства нашої церкви. Богослужіння своїм співом прикрашав семінарський хор Свято-Софіївської семінарії.

Також цього дня, у другу Поминальну суботу Великого посту архієпископ Даниїл підніс особливі заупокійні молитви за всіх від віку спочилих отців і матерів наших. Особлива молитва була піднесена за спокій душі великого поета, провідника та пророка нашого українського народу — Тараса Григоровича Шевченка, приурочена до дня його пам’яті.

Слідом за Апостольським та Євангельським читанням архієпископ Даниїл виголосив проповідь, в якій зазначив, що праця в Божому винограднику не закінчилась зі смертю останнього з апостолів, але продовжується через силу Духа Святого, який діятиме і через нововисвяченого диякона Володимира. Архіпастир наголосив, що Сам Господь, через Благодать Святого Духа, освячуватиме і направлятиме іподиякона Володимира на дияконське служіння Його Святій Церкві.

І ось настав особливий момент, момент хіротонії, під час якого владика Даниїл покладанням своїх святительних рук закликав благодать Святого Духа на іподиякона Володимира. Усі присутні з особливим трепетом та благоговінням спостерігали за діями у вітварі семінарійного Трьохсвятительського храму,



молитовно радіючи за нововисвяченого диякона Володимира. Храм наповнився співом “АКСІОС” вітаючи новопоставленого диякона.

На завершення урочистого богослужіння владика Даниїл звернувся до нововисвяченого диякона наголосивши на особливостях дияконського служіння, яке зумовлює приділяти особливу увагу бідним, слабким, хворим і самотнім. У свою чергу диякон Володимир звернувся з словами подяки до всіх присутніх, які кожен по особливому стали причиним до його становлення на шлях служіння Богу та Церкві. Особливі слова подяки диякон Володимир склав на руки наших архіпастирів Митрополита Антонія та архієпископа Даниїла, які протягом всього його навчання сяяли слова Христового вчення в його серце. Також пролунали слова подяки всьому викладацькому складу Свято - Софіївської семінарії, також своїй дружині, усім рідним та всім студентам з якими він проводив роки свого навчання.

Після подячного слова диякона Володимира від імені студентів Свято-Софіївського семінарії нововисвяченого диякона привітав іподиякон Юрій Бобко, який побажав диякону Володимирі і надалі перебувати у цьому божественному благоволінні та страху Божому, несучи їх протягом всього свого служіння. Після вітального слова, іподиякона Юрія до диякона Володимира звернулося із вітальними словами усе духовенство та всі запрошені гості. Урочисте богослужіння закінчилось уставним многоліттям на спільною фотографією.

Photos by Seminarian Yaroslav Bilohan

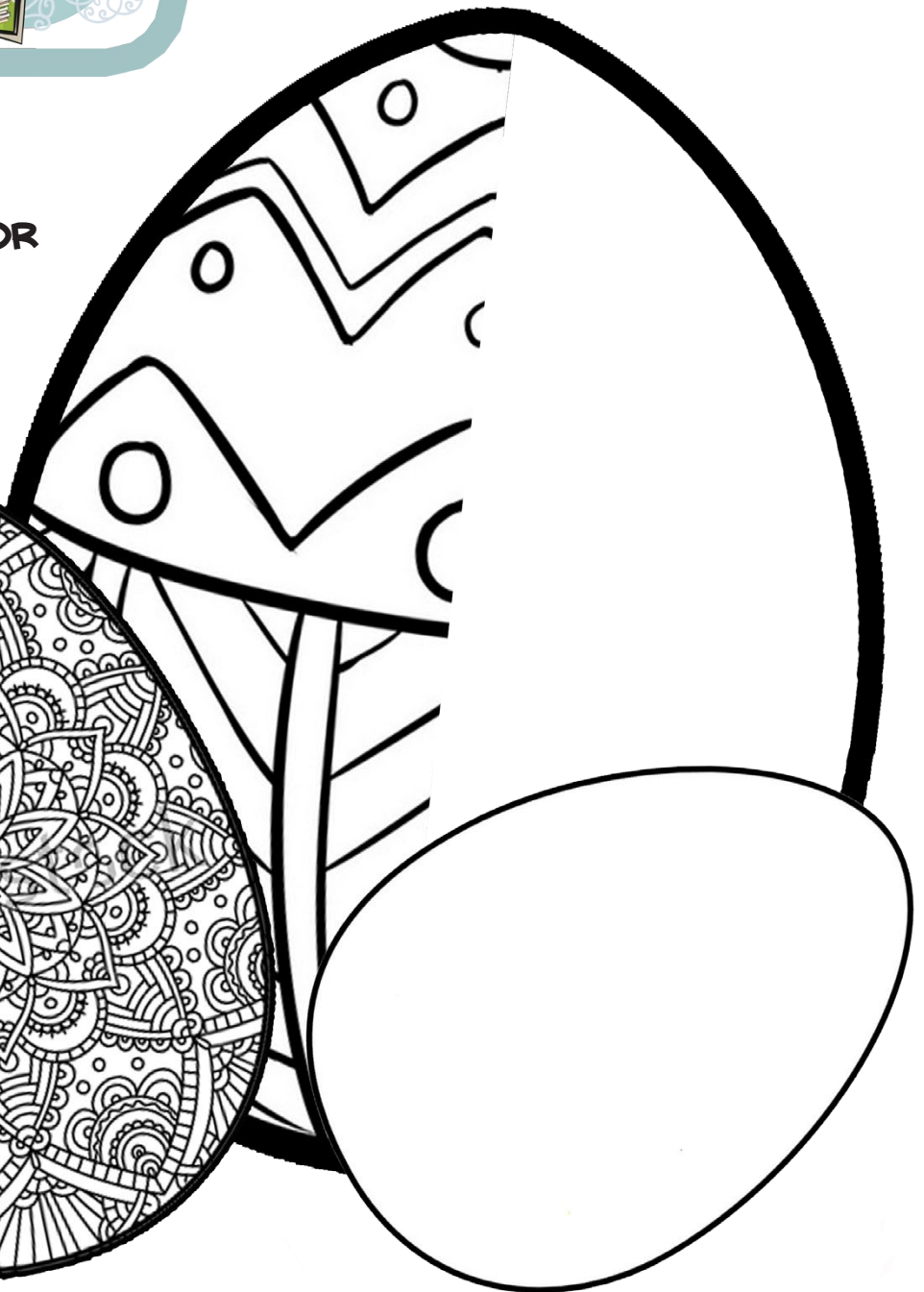
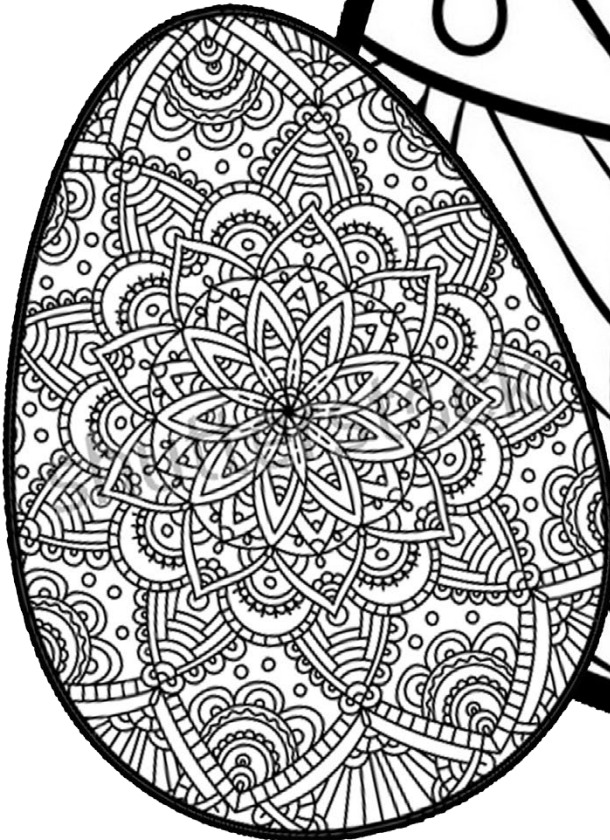


**БАБУСЯ ХАЛУСЯ!
БАБУСЯ ГАЛУСЯ!**



Kid's Korner

**COMPLETE THE
DESIGN AND COLOR
THE EGG IN TIME
FOR PASCHA!**



FIND THE 8 DIFFERENCES



CHRIST IS RISEN! ХРИСТОС ВОСКРЕС!

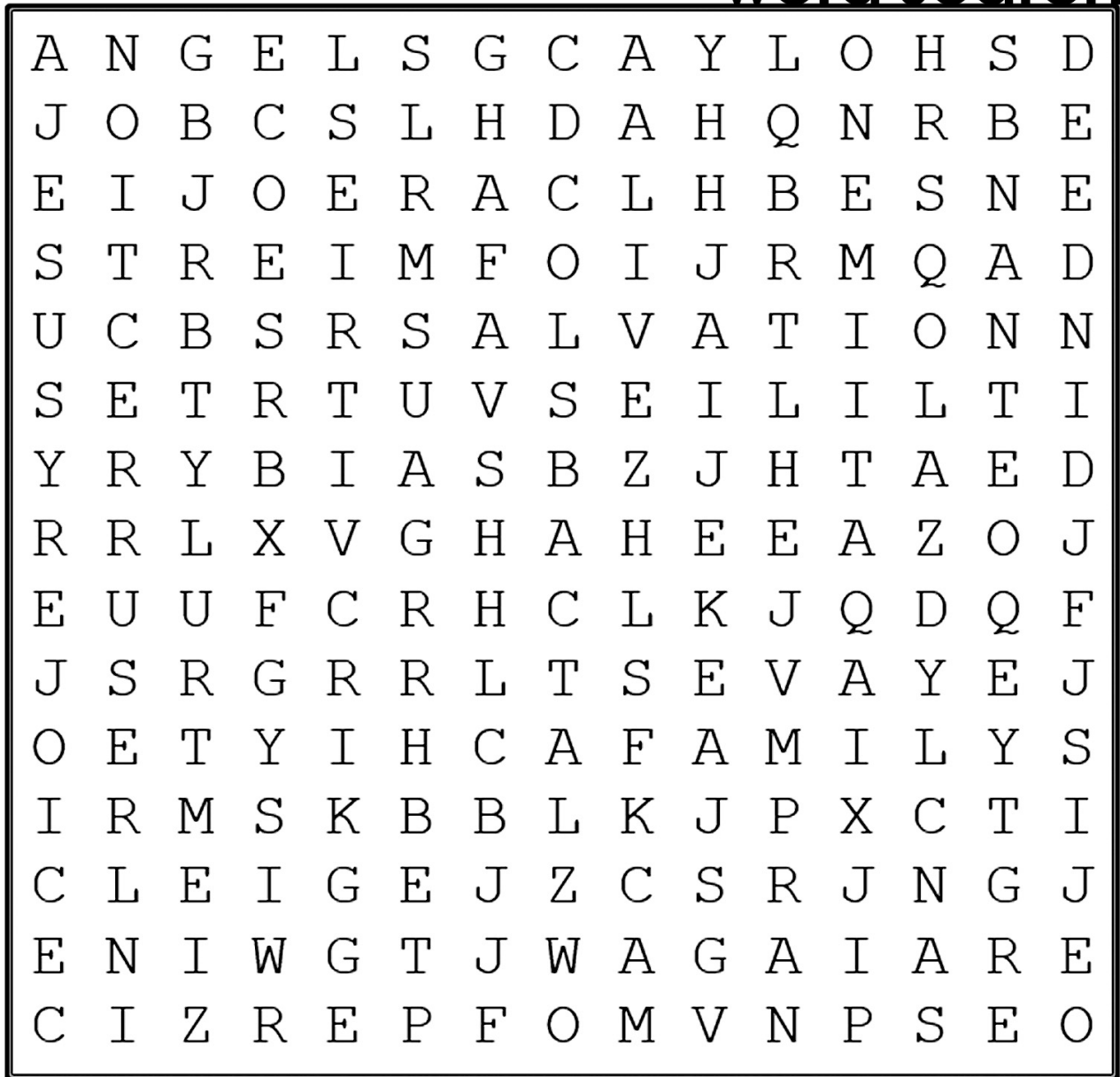


INDEED HE IS RISEN! ВОІСТІННУ ВОСКРЕС!

Help the Myrrh-bearing Women
find the correct path to the Tomb



word search

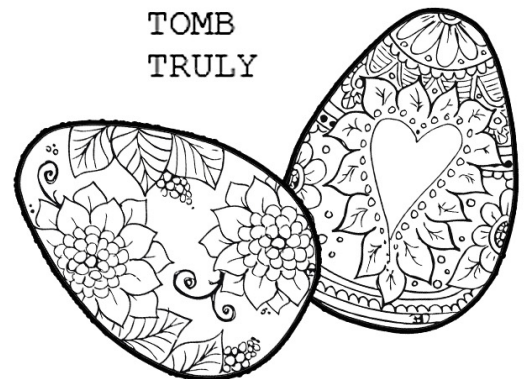


ADAM
ALIVE
ANGEL
BASKET
BRIGHT
CHRIST
CROSS
DEATH
EGG



FAMILY
HADES
HOLY
INDEED
JERUSALEM
JESUS
LILIES
MYRRHBEARERS
PASCHA

PASKA
REJOICE
RESURRECTION
RISEN
SALVATION
TOMB
TRULY





Come and share in the light, grace and Gospel of the Risen Lord with others!

SAINT THOMAS SUNDAY

May the souls of our beloved find rest among the saints and their memory be eternal!

April 14 & 15, 2018

ST. THOMAS WEEKEND PILGRIMAGE SCHEDULE

BRIGHT SATURDAY – APRIL 14, 2018

Ukrainian food, crafts and youth activities throughout the day

10:00 AM Divine Liturgy St. Andrew Memorial Church

3:00 PM Picnic at St. Sophia Seminary

6:00 PM Vespers and Confessions - Seminary Chapel

BRIGHT SUNDAY – APRIL 15, 2018

Ukrainian food, crafts and youth activities throughout the day

9:30 AM Eucharistic Liturgy, celebrated by His Eminence Metropolitan Antony, His Eminence Archbishop Daniel, pastors of local and distant parish communities.

11:30 AM Memorial Service in front of St. Andrew Memorial Church, commemorating the departed servants of God, His Holiness Patriarch Mstyslav, Metropolitan John, Metropolitan Constantine, and all departed hierarchs, clergy and faithful of our Holy Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A, along with the victims of Stalin's genocidal famine of 1932-33, the victims of the Chernobyl disaster, those who sacrificed their lives for the freedom and independence of Ukraine and the U.S.A, as well as our fallen soldiers throughout the world, especially the fallen heroes of the Ukrainian Revolution of Dignity – the Heavenly Hundred.

PLEASE NOTE: MEMORIAL SERVICES ARE NOT PERMITTED DURING BRIGHT WEEK – MONDAY TO FRIDAY (17-22 APRIL 2017). THESE DAYS ARE RESERVED FOR GRAVE CLEANING AND CEMETERY PREPARATION FOR ST. THOMAS SUNDAY.



UOCOFUSA CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

PARKING REGULATIONS AND INSTRUCTIONS

As directed by the Consistory, all parking on Memorial Church and Cemetery grounds is strictly prohibited on Saturday, 14 April and Sunday, 15 April. Parking is permitted only on the Consistory grounds located at 135 Davidson Avenue, Somerset, NJ. Round trip transportation of pilgrims to the Memorial Church and Cemetery will be provided.

Cultural exhibits and all commerce will take place on Saturday, 14 April 2018 from Noon to 6 PM and Sunday, 15 April from Noon to 6 PM in the main auditorium of the Cultural Center. Permits for sales must be obtained from the Consistory. No business will be transacted during the Liturgy and Panakhyda. Any individuals conducting unauthorized sales will be removed from the property.

The Council of Bishops of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A, the clergy and the Office of Youth Ministry encourage children and youth of our Holy Metropolia to enrich their lives by participating with their parents and family members in the various liturgical services, especially the Holy Mystery of Confession and the Holy Eucharist during this year's Holy Pilgrimage. Youth activities scheduled for Sunday, 15 April 2018 will emphasize a relationship based on our relationship to Christ.

All other Panakhyda (Memorial Services) are permitted only after the conclusion of the general Panakhyda.



Прійдіть розділити світло, радість і Благість Воскреслого Христа!

ФОМИНА ПРОВІДНА НЕДІЛЯ

Нехай душі наших улюблених зі святими спочивають, а пам'ять про них буде з роду в рід!

14 & 15 КВІТНЯ, 2018

РОЗКЛАД ПОДІЙ

СВІТЛА СУБОТА - 14 КВІТНЯ 2018

Українська кухня та сувеніри, та події для молоді після обіду

10:00 год. ранку Літургія в Церкві-Пам'ятнику св. Андрія

3:00 год. після обіду Пікнік при семінарії Святої Софії

6:00 год. вечора Вечірня і сповідь у каплиці семінарії

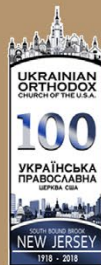
НЕДІЛЯ - 15 КВІТНЯ 2018

Українська кухня та сувеніри, та події для молоді після обіду

9:30 год. ранку Божественна Літургія, очолена Високопреосвященнішим Митрополитом Антонієм та Архiepіскопом Даниїлом у співслужінні місцевого та приїжджого духовенства.

11:30 год. ранку Після Літургії відбудеться Панахида перед Церквою-Пам'ятника св. Андрія за спокій душ слуг Божих: св. п. Патріарха Мстислава, Митрополита Іоана, Митрополита Константина та всіх спочилих єпископів, священників і вірних УПЦеркви, а також за спокій душ жертв Геноциду - Голодомору 1932-33 р.р., Чорнобильської трагедії, всіх тих, що життя своє поклали в боротьбі за волю й незалежність України і США, та всіх загиблих воїнів, особливо за душі героїв що полягли під час Українського Майдану Гідності – Небесної Сотні.

УВАГА! НА ПРОТЯЗІ СВІТЛОГО ТИЖНЯ ВІД ПОНЕДІЛКА ДО П'ЯТНИЦІ ВКЛЮЧНО ВІДПРАВЛЯТИ ПАНАХИДИ НА ЦВИНТАРІ НЕ ДОЗВОЛЕНО. ЦІ ДНІ ЗАРЕЗЕРВОВАНО НА ВПОРЯДКУВАННЯ МОГИЛ ДО ПРОВІДІВ.



UOCOFUSA CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

ЗАГАЛЬНІ ПРАВИЛА

Консistorія повідомляє, що паркування авт в суботу 14 квітня та неділю 15 квітня 2018 року буде тільки на площі Консistorії при 135 Davidson Ave, Somerset, NJ. Для транспорзації бажаних поміж паркувальною площею і Церквою-Пам'ятником/цвинтарем щопівгодини ходитимуть спеціальні авта (Consistory vans). Паркування авт біля Церкви-Пам'ятника і на цвинтарі суворо заборонене!

Виставки і продаж різноманітних товарів відбуватимуться в суботу і неділю від 12 год. до 6 год. вечора в головному залі Культурного Центру, за попередньо отриманими від Консistorії дозволами. Ті, хто будуть пробувати торгувати без дозволу, будуть позбавлені права торгівлі. Продаж товарів не дозволяється проводити під час Св. Літургії та Панахиди.

Собор Єпископів УПЦ США, духовенство та Відділ Праці з Молоддю закликає дітей і молодь нашої Митрополії збагатити цього року своє життя участю, разом з членами своєї родини, у різних Богослужіннях, особливо в Таїнствах св. Сповіді і св. Причастя. Молодіжні заходи, заплановані на неділю, підкреслять стосунки базовані на наших стосунках з Христом.

Приватні Панахиди можна служити тільки після закінчення загальної Панахиди.

UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE USA CAMPING PROGRAMS

2018



JOIN US FOR AN ADVENTURE OF A LIFETIME!

St. Nicholas Program - May 26
Diocesan Church School Camp - June 24 - July 7
Teenage Conference - July 8 - 21
Mommy & Me/Daddy & Me - July 30 - August 3

STAFF OPPORTUNITIES

Staffing positions ranging from full summer employment to weekend commitments.

Program Staff - Paid & Volunteer Positions

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

For information on Program Staff positions contact the Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministry at uocyouth@aol.com or 412-977-2010

Facility Staff - Paid & Volunteer Positions

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

For information on Facility Staff positions contact ASC Manager at manager.allsaintscamp@gmail.com



Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA
Camping Ministry

For more information or to contact us:
www.uocyouth.org/uoccp
uocyouth@aol.com
manager.allsaintscamp@gmail.com
412-977-2010

UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE USA CAMPING PROGRAMS

2018



St. Nicholas Program - May 26
Diocesan Church School Camp - June 24 - July 7
Teenage Conference - July 8 - 21
Mommy & Me/Daddy & Me - July 30 - August 3

JOIN YOUNG ADULTS FROM AROUND THE NATION AS YOU SPEND YOUR SUMMER HELPING KIDS DEEPEN THEIR FAITH WHILE BUILDING YOUR OWN LEADERSHIP SKILLS, RESUME, & MEMORIES THAT WILL LAST A LIFETIME!



NOW HIRING: CARING, HARD WORKING, FAITH-FILLED
YOUNG ADULTS TO SERVE AS LEADERS

PROGRAM STAFF: Cabin Counselors, Media Coordinator, Events Coordinator, Special Interest Programming, Weekend Support Staff, Program Staff

FACILITY STAFF: Property Maintenance, Cook/Kitchen Staff, Lifeguard, Special Project Volunteers, Work Weekend Volunteers

TO APPLY OR FIND OUT MORE, VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT:
UOCYOUTH.ORG OR ALLSAINTSCAMP.ORG

JOIN US FOR AN ADVENTURE OF A LIFETIME!

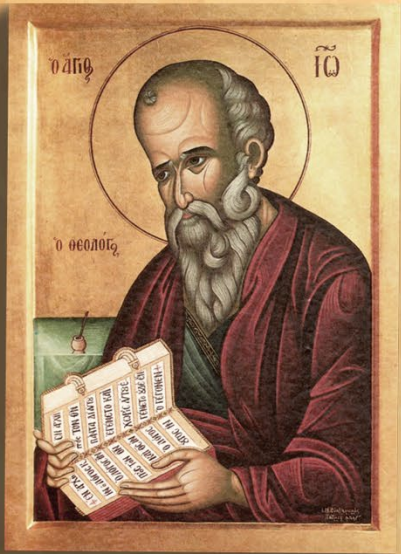
St. Sophia LIBRARY BOOK CLUB

A place to meet and discuss various Orthodox books and topics

Thursday

May 24, 2018

6:30-8:30 PM

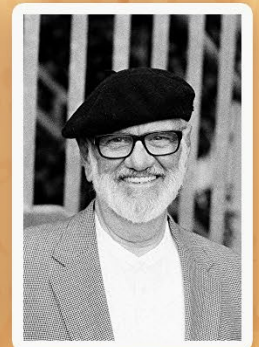
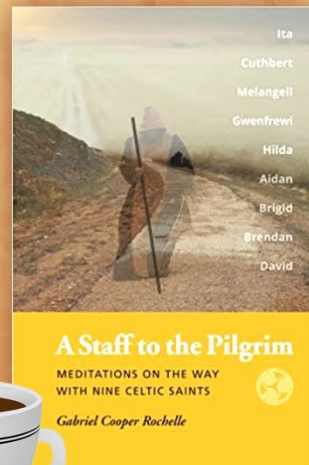
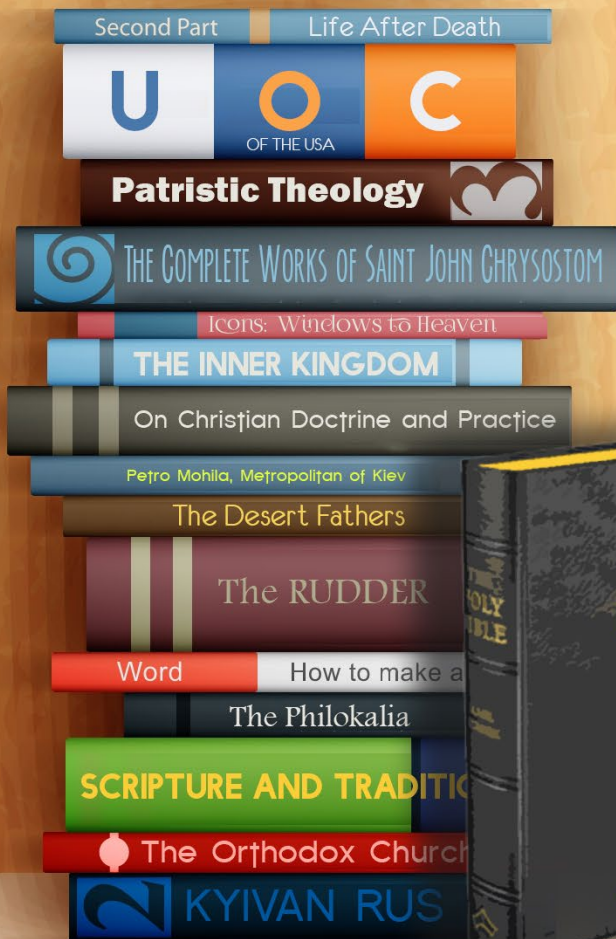


Fr. Gabriel Rochelle will be presenting his book "A Staff to the Pilgrim: Meditations on the Way with Nine Celtic Saints" (2016)

A Staff to the Pilgrim is a treasure trove of Celtic Christian spirituality. In it, we meet nine Celtic saints (five women, four men) who embody the spiritual themes of simplicity, silence, solitude, a sense of place and of mission, spirit, supplication, spiritual friendship, and sanctity.

PLEASE NOTE: The Book Club will be taking the Summer off. We will see you again in the Autumn!

For more information, and to RSVP call 732-356-0090, ext. 120



Free-will donations accepted
Light refreshments will be served

UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE U.S.A.

GREAT LENT GIVEAWAY

2018



BENEFITTING

Scholarships for orphaned children of fallen soldiers in Ukraine.
Furthering educational pursuits of older teenagers and college students.
A humanitarian outreach of Saint Andrew's Society
of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA

SPONSORED BY THE UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OFFICE OF YOUTH &
YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY AND THE
JUNIOR UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX LEAGUE OF THE U.S.A.



FOR INFORMATION ON PROGRAM & CURRICULUM VISIT
UOCYOUTH.ORG OR CONTACT UOCYOUTH@AOL.COM

**СОБОР ЄПИСКОПІВ
ТА
РАДА МИТРОПОЛІЇ
УКРАЇНСЬКОЇ ПРАВОСЛАВНОЇ ЦЕРКВИ США
ЗАПРОШУЮТЬ ВАС НА СВЯТКУВАННЯ**

100-ліття

*Української Православної Церкви
Сполучених Штатів Америки*

СУБОТА - 28 ЛИПНЯ, 2018 Р.

10 РАНКУ - БОЖЕСТВЕННА ЛІТУРГІЯ

**ЦЕРКВА-ПАМ'ЯТНИК СВ. АНДРІЯ ПЕРВОЗВАННОГО
280 MAIN STREET
SOUTH BOUND BROOK, NJ 08880**

1 ПІСЛЯ ОБІДУ - ПЕРЕКУСКА

1:30 ПІСЛЯ ОБІДУ - БЕНКЕТ

**УКРАЇНСЬКИЙ ДІМ КУЛЬТУРИ
135 DAVIDSON AVE.
SOMERSET, NJ 08873**

**THE COUNCIL OF BISHOPS
AND
METROPOLIA COUNCIL MEMBERS
OF THE UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE USA
INVITE YOU TO THE CELEBRATION OF**

*100 Years of Ministry of the
Ukrainian Orthodox Church
of the United States of America*

SATURDAY, JULY 28, 2018

10 AM - DIVINE LITURGY

**ST. ANDREW MEMORIAL CHURCH
280 MAIN STREET
SOUTH BOUND BROOK, NJ 08880**

1 PM - HORS D'OEUVRES

1:30 PM - BANQUET

**UKRAINIAN CULTURAL CENTER
135 DAVIDSON AVE.
SOMERSET, NJ 08873**

+ Мстислав

МИТРОПОЛИТ І ПАТРІАРХ

25-ТА РІЧНИЦЯ З ДНЯ УПОКОЄННЯ ПАТРІАРХА МСТИСЛАВА
МОЛИТОВНІ ПОМИНАННЯ
2 ЧЕРВНЯ, 2018

ПАМ'ЯТНА ВИСТАВКА
В МАВЗОЛІЇ ІЗ
11 РАНКУ ПО 3 ДНЯ

11 РАНКУ - ПАНАХИДА У КРИПТІ МАВЗОЛЕЮ ВОСКРЕСІННЯ
ЦЕРКВИ-ПАМ'ЯТНИКА СВ. АНДРІЯ

12 ДНЯ - ДОПОВІДЬ ТА ОБІД - В ЗАЛІ ПОКРОВА ПРЕСВЯТОЇ БОГОРОДИЦІ

280 MAIN STREET
SOUTH BOUND BROOK, NJ 08880

ДОПОВІДІ
МИТРОПОЛИТА АНТОНІЯ
ДР. ОЛЕКСАНДРА САГАНА
ТА ДР. АНДРІЯ СМІРНОВА

MEMORIAL EXHIBIT
ON VIEW AT THE CRYPT:
11AM - 3 PM

MSTYSLAV METROPOLITAN AND PATRIARCH

THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF REPOSE OF
PATRIARCH MYSTYSLAV WILL BE OBSERVED ON

JUNE 2, 2018

11 AM - MEMORIAL SERVICE AT THE
HOLY RESURRECTION MAUSOLEUM CRYPT OF
ST. ANDREW MEMORIAL CHURCH

NOON - MEMORIAL PRESENTATION
& LUNCHEON POKROVA UKRAINIAN
ORTHODOX SOCIAL HALL
280 MAIN STREET
SOUTH BOUND BROOK, NJ 08880

PRESENTATIONS BY
METROPOLITAN ANTONY
DR. OLEKSANDR SAGAN
DR. ANDRII SMYRNOV



CELEBRATING THE CENTENNIAL OF THE UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE USA

FRIDAY, JULY 27, 2018 - 7:00 PM
П'ЯТНИЦЯ, 27 ЛИПНЯ 2018 Р. - 7 ГОДИНА ВЕЧОРА

Centennial Concert

Ювілейний Концерт

FEATURING - ЗА УЧАСТЮ



UKRAINIAN CHORUS DUMKA, NEW YORK
УКРАЇНСЬКИЙ ХОР ДУМКА, НЬЮ ЙОРК



WOMEN'S BANDURA ENSEMBLE OF NORTH AMERICA
ЖІНОЧИЙ АНСАМБЛЬ БАНДУРИСТОК ПІВНІЧНОЇ АМЕРИКИ



KYIV UKRAINIAN DANCE ENSEMBLE, PITTSBURGH
УКРАЇНСЬКИЙ ТАНЦЮВАЛЬНИЙ АНСАМБЛЬ УКРАЇНА, ПІТСБУРГ

TICKETS: \$25; CHILDREN UNDER 10 - FREE
RESERVATIONS AND CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS: (732) 356-0090
КВИТКИ: \$25; ДІТИ ДО 10 РОКІВ - БЕЗКОШТОВНО
ДЛЯ БРОНЮВАННЯ КВИТКІВ ТА ОПЛАТИ КРЕДИТНИМИ КАРТКАМИ
ТЕЛЕФОНУЙТЕ НА (732) 356-0090

UKRAINIAN CULTURAL CENTER - УКРАЇНСЬКИЙ КУЛЬТУРНИЙ ЦЕНТР
135 DAVIDSON AVE. - SOMERSET, NJ 08873

100 Years
 UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE USA
HISTORICAL COMMEMORATIVE BOOK
DONOR LISTINGS

DEADLINE: PLEASE RETURN FORM IN THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE BY MAY 25, 2018

LISTING AND RATES: CHECK ONE

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> BENEFACTOR \$1000
<i>Underwriting a historical editorial page</i>
<i>Name in BOLD Color w/logo (if applicable)</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> CONTRIBUTOR \$100
<i>Listing: Name & Parish</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SPONSOR \$500
<i>Listing: Name & Parish or Company & City</i>
<i>in BOLD Black & All Caps</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> MEMORIAL \$50
<i>Listing: Name of Deceased + Name of Donor</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PATRON \$300
<i>Listing: Name & Parish or Company</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> WELL-WISHER \$25
<i>Listing: First & Last Name</i> |

TEXT: (Type or Print Clearly)

BANQUET RESERVATION FORM

Individual Reservations:

\$100 per person x _____ people for a total of \$ _____
 \$30 (ages 6 - 12) x _____ people for a total of \$ _____
 FREE (5 and under) x _____ people

Organization Table:

\$1,500 for table of ten
Please provide exact listing for organization

Event Sponsorships and Donations:
 (special seating at banquet)

- \$500 – Bronze – Banquet for two
- \$1,000 – Silver – Banquet for four
- \$1,500 – Gold – Banquet for six
- \$3,000 – Platinum – Banquet for eight
- \$5,000 – Patron – Banquet for ten/table

PAYMENT/CONTACT INFORMATION

Please Type or Print: (Full payment must accompany form)

Name: _____
 Email Address: _____ Phone: (____) _____
 Address: _____
 City, State, Zip: _____
 Parish: _____

Please indicate payment by: Check Money Order Online

Checks/Money Orders Payable to: **UOCofUSA**
Mail FORM and CHECK/MONEY ORDER to:
 CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE - UOCofUSA
 PO BOX 495
 SOUTH BOUND BROOK, NJ 08800

Online Payments:

[**https://www.uocofusa.org/100**](https://www.uocofusa.org/100)

For further information: (732) 356-0090 - consistory@uocofusa.org

DONOR AND BANQUET RESERVATION FORM DEADLINE: MAY 25, 2018

100 Years
 UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE USA
HISTORICAL COMMEMORATIVE BOOK
PARISH LISTINGS



DEADLINE: PLEASE RETURN FORM IN THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE BY MAY 25, 2018

INCLUDE YOUR PARISH IN THIS HISTORICAL COMMEMORATIVE BOOK

Provide NO MORE than 120 words explaining the history of your parish. Submit payment of \$300 along with your text, and two photos to be included in the Commemorative Booklet.

Your text:

Sample page:

	<p style="text-align: center;">NAME OF PARISH ADDRESS YEAR OF FOUNDING</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;">   </div> <p>Very Reverend Priest's Name</p> <p>Saint Michael's had its beginning in 1900, when our Carpatho-Rusyn its its founders immigrated to the Chicago area from the Austro-Hungarian its its Empire. In 1914, a church building was purchased and then renovated its its at 2417 North Campbell Avenue in Chicago.</p> <p>In 1958, our parish integrated into the Carpatho-Russian Orthodox its its its Diocese, headquartered in Johnstown, Pennsylvania. When we began its its its to outgrow our original property, plans for relocating were initiated. its its its In 1965, a new church cornerstone was blessed at our current location its its its of 7313 Waukegan Road in Niles followed by the building of our its its its its beautiful church and rectory. This year we celebrate our 100th anniversary its its its a worshipping family with our priest Very Reverend Protodeacon its its its Dean Samuel Sherry</p>
--	--

COMMEMORATIVE BOOK SUBMISSION DEADLINE: MAY 25, 2018

PAYMENT/CONTACT INFORMATION

Please Type or Print: (Full payment of \$300 must accompany form)

Name: _____

Email Address: _____ Phone: (____) _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Parish: _____

Please indicate payment by: Check Money Order Online






Checks/Money Orders Payable to: **UOCofUSA**
Mail FORM and CHECK/MONEY ORDER to:
 CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE - UOCofUSA
 PO BOX 495
 SOUTH BOUND BROOK, NJ 08800

Online Payments:

<https://www.uocofusa.org/100>

For further information: (732) 356-0090 - consistory@uocofusa.org



AS OF APRIL 6, 2018

Michael Andrew Czochanski and Mary Marife Delgado in Holy Trinity Ukrainian Orthodox Church Parish, Trenton, NJ, on February 3, 2018, witnessed by Phillip Czochanski and Nea Logan . Celebrant: Fr. Zinoviy Zharsky

Victor George Lychyk and Stephanie Kay Thomas in St. Volodymyr Cathedral Parish, Chicago, IL, on May 7, 2017, witnessed by George Kurylak and Martha Copeland . Celebrant: Fr. Ivan Lyymar

Andriy Marchenko and Olga Meleshko in St. Michael's Ukrainian Orthodox Church Parish, San Francisco, CA, on October 29, 2017, witnessed by Valeriy Marchenko and . Celebrant: Fr. Georgiy Tyapko

Mark Meshreky and Chrysanthe Christo in Sts. Peter & Paul Parish, Wilmington, DE, on October 8, 2017, witnessed by Myrophora Christo and Kyle Lane . Celebrant: Protopresb. Constantine (Gus) G. Christo

Nicholas Mogan and Victoria Wilson in St. Michael's Ukrainian Orthodox Church Parish, Woonsocket, RI, on August 24, 2017, witnessed by Deacon Paul Cherkas and Archdeacon Vasil . Celebrant: Fr. Borislav Kroner

Volodymyr Yavorskyi and Ginny Esther Ulbricht in Sts. Peter & Paul Parish, Youngstown, OH 44509, on January 16, 2018, witnessed by Mykola Zomchak and Krista Rhodes . Celebrant: Archbishop Daniel, Fr. John Harvey and Fr. Anthony



AS OF APRIL 6, 2018

Mykytiuk, Stephanie baptized and chrismated on September 30, 2017 in All Saints Ukrainian Orthodox Church Church, New York, NY 10022. Child of Yaroslav Mykytiuk and Yuliya Chorniy. Sponsors: Andrii Marych and Nataliya Mirus. Celebrated by Fr. Vitaliy Pavlykivskiy.

Batig, Michael baptized and chrismated on January 21, 2018 in St. Panteleimon Parish Church, Brooklyn, NY 11229. Child of

Viktor Batig and Mariana Golinei. Sponsors: Vasyl Gumenyak and Mariya Iaremyn. Celebrated by Fr. Vasyl Shak.

Bidula, Daniel baptized and chrismated on December 10, 2017 in Three Hierarchs Parish Church, Brooklyn, NY 11229. Child of Roman Bidula and Galuna Tsap. Sponsors: Vitaliy Dets and Halyna Boykovych. Celebrated by Fr. Mykola Fylyk.

Bureiko, Monica baptized and chrismated on November 25, 2017 in Sts. Peter & Paul UOC Church, Palos Park, IL 60464. Child of Sergei Bureico and Olga Vitruk. Sponsors: Orest Vitruk, PM Olenka Sendeha, Vasile Foltea, Olga Dutka, Iurii Korolyk and Olena Bondar-Tvardovska. Celebrated by Fr. Vasyl Sendeha.

Cherkashin, Jr, Pavel baptized and chrismated on May 20, 2017 in St. Volodymyr Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral Church, Chicago, IL 60622. Child of Pavel Cherkashin and Anna Kravchenko. Sponsors: Yuriy Balitsky and Natalia Kondria. Celebrated by Fr. Ivan Lyymar.

Czochanski, Michael Andrew baptized and chrismated on January 27, 2018 in Holy Trinity Ukrainian Orthodox Church Church, Trenton, NJ 08610. Child of Philip George Czochanski and Marilyn Pawlenko. Sponsors: Phillip Czochanski and Nea Logan. Celebrated by Fr. Zinoviy Zharsky.

Davenport, Thomas Anthony baptized and chrismated on January 6, 2018 in St Anthony of the Desert Mission Church, Las Cruces, 88001. Child of Blake George Davenport and Louiza Fouli. Sponsors: Alexia Perdiou and . Celebrated by Fr. Gabriel Rochelle.

Delgado, Mary Marife baptized and chrismated on January 27, 2018 in Holy Trinity Ukrainian Orthodox Church Church, Trenton, NJ 08610. Child of Jorge Delgado and Nida Montes. Sponsors: Phillip Czochanski and Nea Logan. Celebrated by Fr. Zinoviy Zharsky.

Denysovets, David baptized and chrismated on November 4, 2017 in Holy Trinity Mission Church, Seattle, WA 98122. Child of Valentyn M. Denysovets and Oksana Kazmiruk. Sponsors: Eduard Mokhnyuk, Igor Priakhin, Nadiya Matlak and Svitlana Nazarevych. Celebrated by Fr. Andriy Matlak.

Dickstein, Hayden Ann baptized and chrismated on September 23, 2017 in St. John the Baptist Parish Church, Johnson City, NY 13790. Child of David Dickstein and Sara Eagan. Sponsors: Michael Dickstein and Kelly Hodge. Celebrated by Fr. Ivan Synevskyy.

Dmytrenko, Leon baptized and chrismated on August 12, 2017 in St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Church Church, Los Angeles, CA 90026. Child of Oleg Dmytrenko and Varonika Pavliuchenko. Sponsors: Christopher Shavedya and Oksana Grytsay. Celebrated by Fr. Vasyl Shtelen.

Fischer, Marwell Alexander baptized and chrismated on December 23, 2017 in Holy Trinity Ukrainian Orthodox Church Church, New York, NY 10013. Child of Christopher Raymond Fisher and Natalie Michelle Pearson. Sponsors: George Andrew Martschenko and Katheryn Leigh Meehan. Celebrated by Fr. Todor Mazur.

Fischer Jr., Christopher Raymond baptized and chrismated on November 14, 2015 in Holy Trinity Ukrainian Orthodox Church Church, New York, NY 10013. Child of Christopher Raymond Fisher and Natalie Michelle Pearson. Sponsors: Alexander Craig Pearson and Katheryn Leigh Meehan. Celebrated by Fr. Todor Mazur.

Frenkel, Victor Jacob baptized and chrismated on January 20, 2017 in St. Mary's Ukrainian Orthodox Church Church, New Britain, CT 06057. Child of Aleksander Frenkel and Ruslana Frenkel. Sponsors: Anna Burns, Andrii Danyliuk, Lidiia Pisarenko and Lukasz Szpakowski. Celebrated by Fr. Andrii Pokotylo.

Groshev, Aleksandra baptized and chrismated on August 27, 2017 in St. Andrew Parish Church, Boston, MA 02130. Child of Aleksandr Groshev and Iryna Sabor. Sponsors: Taras Sadovy and Mariya Elyamani. Celebrated by Fr. Roman Tarnavsky.

Iakyviuk, Sophia baptized and chrismated on March 4, 2018 in St. Vladimir Cathedral Church, Parma, OH 44134. Child of Igor Iakyviuk and Mariana Iakyviuk. Sponsors: Roman Sulym and Tetiana Kuziv. Celebrated by Fr. Michael Hontaruk.

Jurgens, Kalya Iris baptized and chrismated on December 23, 2017 in Holy Trinity Ukrainian Orthodox Church Church, New York, NY 10013. Child of Benjamin Andrew Jurgens and Katherine Anne Kosiv. Sponsors: Alexander Michael Kowal and Valerie Rene Jurgens. Celebrated by Fr. Todor Mazur.

Khalitov, Aleksander baptized and chrismated on September 3, 2016 in St. Mary the Protectress Ukrainian Orthodox Church Church, Rochester, NY 14617. Child of Ruslan Khalitov and Iryna Khalitova. Sponsors: Volodymyr LyuBeznyy and Svitlana Vysochan. Celebrated by Fr. Igor Krekhovetsky.

Kokovskyy, Amelia Sophie baptized and chrismated on October 21, 2017 in St. Mary Protectress Parish Church, New Haven, CT 06515. Child of Andriy Kokovskyy and Iryna Mohylnytska. Sponsors: Vasyl Vaida and Olha Mohylnytska. Celebrated by Fr. Oleksandr Yatskiv.

Korableva, Milania baptized and chrismated on November 16, 2017 in St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Church Church, Los Angeles, CA 90026. Child of Maxim Korablew and Julia Maziar. Sponsors: Alexey Zaholotskih and Anna Shvygar. Celebrated by Fr. Vasyl Shtelen.

Kostiv, Katherena baptized and chrismated on October 28, 2017 in Holy Trinity Parish Church, Trenton, NJ 08610. Child of Viktor Kostiv and Iryna Kostiv. Sponsors: Oleg Dubchak and Olga Shugalo. Celebrated by Fr. Zinoviyy Zharsky.

Kovalenko, Kyra baptized and chrismated on December 2, 2017 in St. Mary's Orthodox Church Church, New Britain, CT 06053. Child of Vitaliy Kovalenko and Alona Kylyar. Sponsors: Mykhailo Mykhailiuk and Liliia Bulvarenko. Celebrated by Fr. Andrii Pokotylo.

Kozhevnikov, Anthony baptized and chrismated on January

4, 2018 in St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Church Church, Los Angeles, CA 90026. Child of Viktor Kozhevnikov and Aleksandra Selivenko. Sponsors: Evgenyi Galyak and Nadia Selivenko. Celebrated by Fr. Vasyl Shtelen.

Kozii, Olivia baptized and chrismated on April 29, 2017 in St. Volodymyr Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral Church, Chicago, IL 60622. Child of Roman Kozii and Svitlana Gumeniuk. Sponsors: Mykola Yanitskyy and Lubov Zhuravel. Celebrated by Fr. Ivan Lymar.

Kyrylenko, Milan baptized and chrismated on December 23, 2017 in Sts. Peter & Paul UOC Church, Palos Park, IL 60464. Child of Roman Kyrylenko and Alina Seleznova. Sponsors: Roman Iesypov and Olena Bondar-Ivovoska. Celebrated by Fr. Vasyl Sendeha.

Lebedovych, Katherine baptized and chrismated on March 3, 2018 in St. Volodymyr Cathedral Church, New York, NY 10024. Child of Michael Lebedovych and Iryna Iaroshchuk. Sponsors: Volodymyr Lebedovych and Olha Keno. Celebrated by Fr. Volodymyr Muzychka.

Luhechko, Adriana baptized and chrismated on February 19, 2017 in St. Volodymyr Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral Church, Chicago, IL 60622. Child of Lubomyr Luhechko and Maria Blyznyiuk. Sponsors: Yegor Azarov and Olga Pelyno. Celebrated by Fr. Ivan Lymar.

Lukasik, Caroline baptized and chrismated on October 29, 2017 in Sts. Peter & Paul UOC Church, Palos Park, IL 60464. Child of Toniaasz Lukasik and Kateryna Tvorozkhova. Sponsors: Lukas Repczynski and Viktoria Cubas. Celebrated by Fr. Vasyl Sendeha.

Lup, Adrian Jason baptized and chrismated on November 25, 2017 in St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral Church, Parma, OH 44134. Child of Ovidiu Ciprian Lup and Nataliia Kurysh. Sponsors: Vasyl Kurysh and Irene Lup. Celebrated by Fr. John Nakonachny.

Madan, Sofia baptized and chrismated on December 2, 2017 in Holy Trinity Mission Church, Seattle, WA 98122. Child of Igor Madan and Olga Lobach. Sponsors: Serhiy Potishuk and Alexandra Cornienko. Celebrated by Fr. Andriy Matlak.

Makarevich, Emily Anna baptized and chrismated on December 2, 2017 in St. Michael's UOC Church, San Francisco, CA 94103. Child of Maksim Makarevich and Iryna Rzhetskaya. Sponsors: Pavel Kletskov and Victoria Berberov. Celebrated by Fr. Georgiy Tyapko.

Marinovich, John Eduard baptized and chrismated on October 21, 2017 in St. Panteleimon UOC Church, Brooklyn, NY 11229. Child of Andrey Marinovich and Yelena Shlyamkovich. Sponsors: Vladimir Marinovich and Jane Karetny. Celebrated by Fr. Mykola Fylyk.

Mateyko, Alexander John Paul baptized and chrismated on November 25, 2017 in St. Volodymyr Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral Church, Chicago, IL 60622. Child of John Mateyko and Slavyana Kolesnikova. Sponsors: Kevin Brophy and Anna

Kreynina. Celebrated by Fr. Ivan Lymar.

Muryn, Alexander Damir baptized and chrismated on January 27, 2018 in St. Mary's Ukrainian Orthodox Church Church, New Britain, CT 06057. Child of Dmytro Muryn and Yuliya. Sponsors: Viktor Pidlisnyy and Nataliia Sashchenko. Celebrated by Fr. Andrii Pokotylo.

Near, Melanie Belle baptized and chrismated on January 1, 2018 in Holy Trinity Ukrainian Orthodox Mission Church, Sacramento, CA 95842. Child of Elvis Near and Mariya Voychun. Sponsors: Oleksandr Omelchuk and Nika Shyrynski. Celebrated by Fr. Myroslav Turchak.

Nikolenko, Danylo baptized and chrismated on September 12, 2017 in All Saints Ukrainian Orthodox Church Church, New York, NY 10022. Child of Oleg Nikolenko and Margarita Ibetova. Sponsors: Volodymyr Pavlichenko and Maryna Kontsevych. Celebrated by Fr. Vitaliy Pavlykivskiy.

Pasakas, Emilia baptized and chrismated on January 21, 2018 in St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral Church, Parma, OH 44134. Child of Fr. Vasyl Pasakas and Oksana Mahlay. Sponsors: Fr. Andriy Matlak and Natalia Hlushko. Celebrated by Archbishop Daniel, Fr. Michael Hontaruk and Protodeacon Ihor Mahlay.

Paukov, Andrew baptized and chrismated on January 5, 2018 in St. Michael's Ukrainian Orthodox Church Church, San Francisco, CA 94103. Child of Dmytro Paukov and Anastasia Soboleva. Sponsors: Oleksandr Babych and Olena Kozdoba. Celebrated by Fr. Gerogiy Tyapko.

Rogers, Annabel baptized and chrismated on December 30, 2017 in Hoy Trinity Ukrainian Orthodox Church Church, Trenton, NJ 08610. Child of Jeffrey Rogers and Svitlana Kopchak. Sponsors: Daniel Dittmar and Elithabeth Wagner. Celebrated by Fr. Zinoviy Zharsky.

Ross, Harrison Kenneth baptized and chrismated on November 4, 2017 in Sts. Peter & Paul UOC Church, Palos Park, IL 60464. Child of Kyle Kenneth Ross and Adriane Borachuk. Sponsors: Victor Gregory Borachuk and Chelsey Nadine Korbar. Celebrated by Fr. Vasyl Sendeha.

Rowe, Gracie Alice baptized and chrismated on May 20, 2017 in St. Mary Protectress Parish Church, Rochester, NY 14617. Child of James Rowe and Jennifer Rowe. Sponsors: Steven Ost and Roxanne LaManna. Celebrated by Fr. Igor Krekhovetsky.

Scannell, Evelyn Rose baptized and chrismated on December 31, 2017 in St. John the Baptist Parish Church, Johnson City, NY 13790. Child of Patrick Scannell and Camille Pennacchia. Sponsors: Anthony Pennacchia and Colleen Brown. Celebrated by Fr. Ivan Synevskyy.

Skorupsky, Alexander Ronald baptized and chrismated on December 3, 2017 in All Saints Ukrainian Orthodox Church Church, New York, NY 10022. Child of Scott Christopher Skorupsky and Katherina Skorupsky. Sponsors: Alexander Muniz and Anna Tarasyuk. Celebrated by Fr. Vitaliy Pavlykivskiy.

Sotnik, Miroslava baptized and chrismated on November 9, 2017 in St. John the Baptist Parish Church, Portland, OR 97202. Child of Pavel Sotnik and Marina Bakuma. Sponsors: Andrey Sotnik and Olga Kushnir. Celebrated by Fr. Volodymyr Zinchyshyn.

Spencer, Lucas John baptized and chrismated on December 30, 2017 in Sts. Peter and Paul Parish Church, Youngstown, OH 44511. Child of Timothy James Spencer and Nicole L. Burlock. Sponsors: Daniel Spencer and Alexa Demetrios. Celebrated by Fr. John W. Harvey.

Stanley, Johnathan baptized and chrismated on October 7, 2017 in All Saints Ukrainian Orthodox Church Church, New York, NY 10022. Child of Robert Stanley and Corin Tellado. Sponsors: Guillermo Cunnirgham and Yvette Tellado. Celebrated by Fr. Andrei Kulyk, Fr. Vitaliy Pavlykivskiy.

Synevskyy, Natalia baptized and chrismated on January 27, 2018 in St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Orthodox Church Church, Johnson City, NY 13790. Child of Fr. Ivan Synevskyy and Oksana Vazhna. Sponsors: Fr. Vasyl Shak and Maryana Romanyuk. Celebrated by Metropolitan Antony.

Tryzna, Allison Maria baptized and chrismated on February 9, 2017 in All Saints Ukrainian Orthodox Church Church, New York, NY 10022. Child of Oleg Tryzna and Alla Balakhina. Sponsors: Oleksii Zagorovskiy and Diana Kapandze. Celebrated by Fr. Vitaliy Pavlykivskiy.

Ung, Leonard baptized and chrismated on January 21, 2018 in St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Church Church, Los Angeles, CA 90026. Child of Fong Ken Ung and Valeria Nemiro. Sponsors: Derrick Ung and Valentina Nemiro. Celebrated by Fr. Vasyl Shtelen.

Vakun, Elias baptized and chrismated on February 18, 2017 in St. Volodymyr Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral Church, Chicago, IL 60622. Child of Pavlo Vakun and Nataliya Chynchyk. Sponsors: Mykola Iarema and Halyna Andrusyshyn. Celebrated by Fr. Ivan Lymar.

Vasylenko, Liliana Elizabeth baptized and chrismated on February 17, 2018 in St. Michael's and George's UOC Church, Minneapolis, MN 55413. Child of Yuriy Vasylenko and Svitlana Paleshnyk. Sponsors: Robert Flessner and Elena Anderson. Celebrated by Fr. Evhen Kumka.

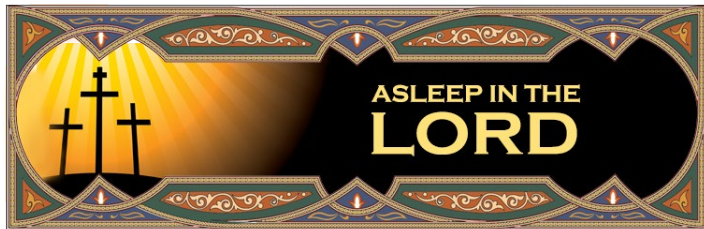
Vitrykush, Alina baptized and chrismated on March 3, 2018 in St. Mary's Ukrainian Orthodox Church Church, New Britain, CT 06051. Child of Serhii Vitrykush and Halyna Holovetska. Sponsors: Marianna Rysaniuk, Yuliia Levytska and Ivan Korman. Celebrated by Fr. Andrii Pokotylo.

Voznyuk, Maria baptized and chrismated on November 25, 2017 in St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Memorial Church Church, South Bound Brook, NJ 08880. Child of Volodymyr Voznyuk and Halyna Romanyk. Sponsors: Oleg Romanyk and Bohdana Dumanska. Celebrated by Fr. Ivan Lyszyk.

Yunko, Victor Roman baptized and chrismated on December 10,

2017 in St. Andrew Parish Church, Cumming, GA 30041. Child of Volodymyr Yunko and Olga Iurchyshyn. Sponsors: Volodymyr Parubochyy and Inna Chekhovych. Celebrated by Fr. Bohdan Maruszak.

Zmysly, Nikolai Yuriy Vasyl baptized and chrismated on January 9, 2018 in Sts. Peter & Paul UOC Church, Palos Park, IL 60464. Child of Yuriy Zmysly and Aimee Pierog. Sponsors: Fr. Vasyl Sendeha and PM Olenka Sendeha. Celebrated by Archbishop Daniel.



Andrijenko, Paraskeva of Fairport, NY on March 10, 2017 at the age of 95 years, officiating clergy Fr. Igor Krekhovetsky of St. Mary the Protectress UOC Parish, Rochester, NY 14617.

DeLiberio, Helen B. of Stratford, CT on February 21, 2018 at the age of 91 years, officiating clergy Fr. Stephen Masliuk of St. Mary's Protection Parish, Bridgeport, CT 06606.

Dunlap, Mildred A. of Carnegie, PA on December 16, 2017 at the age of 94 years, officiating clergy Fr. Mark Swindle of Sts. Peter & Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church Parish, Carnegie, PA 15106.

Fortelney, Jerry Dale of Harrah, OK on December 25, 2017 at the age of 58 years, officiating clergy Archimandrite Raphael Moore of St. Mary's Dormition UOC Parish, Jones City, OK 73049-0793.

Hladis, Pauline of North Ridge, OH on February 16, 2018 at the age of 95 years, officiating clergy Fr. John Nakonachny, Fr. Michael Hontaruk of St. Vladimir's Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral Parish, Parma, OH 44134.

Hrynczyszyn, Nadia of Irving, TX on August 16, 2017 at the age of 81 years, officiating clergy Fr. Igor Krekhovetsky of St. Mary the Protectress UOC Parish, Rochester, NY 14617.

Jakymenko, Elizabeth of Seven Hills, OH on January 19, 2018 at the age of 91 years, officiating clergy Fr. John R. Nakonachny, Fr. Michael Hontaruk of St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral Parish, Parma, OH 44134.

Konyk, Maria of Somerset, NJ on February 18, 2018 at the age of 93 years, officiating clergy Fr. Yuriy Siwko of St. Andrew Memorial Church Parish, So. Bound Brook, NJ 08880.

Kopko, Marianne of Bethel, CT on November 27, 2017 at the age of 68 years, officiating clergy Fr. Stephen Masliuk of St. Mary's Protection UOC Parish, Bridgeport, CT 06606.

Kuziv, Oleh of Seven Hills, OH on January 15, 2018 at the age of 27 years, officiating clergy Fr. John R. Nakonachny, Fr. Michael Hontaruk of St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral Parish, Parma, OH 44134.

Martin, George of Troy, NY on December 3, 2017 at the age of 78 years, officiating clergy Fr. Vasyl Dovgan of St. Nicholas UOC Parish, Troy, NY 12180.

Martynenko, Halyna of Eagan, MN on January 21, 2018 at the age of 95 years, officiating clergy Fr. Evhen Kumka of Sts. Michael's & George's UOC Parish, Minneapolis, MN 55413.

Marx (Makowsky), Ryan W of Angola, NY on February 5, 2018 at the age of 34 years, officiating clergy Fr. Yuriy Kasyanov of Holy Trinity UOC Parish, Cheektowaga, NY 14227.

Masliuk, Benjamin W. of Naugatuck, CT on December 25, 2017 at the age of 31 years, officiating clergy Metropolitan Antony of St. Mary's Protection UOC Parish, Bridgeport, CT 06606.

Medianik, Vera of Webster, NY on September 3, 2017 at the age of 98 years, officiating clergy Fr. Igor Krekhovetsky of St. Mary the Protectress UOC Parish, Rochester, NY 14617.

Meredith, Becky Jean of Boardman, OH on February 22, 2018 at the age of 66 years, officiating clergy Fr. John W. Harvey of Sts. Peter & Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church Parish, Youngstown, OH 44509.

Pituch, Anne of Arnold, PA on October 30, 2017 at the age of 95 years, officiating clergy Fr. Mark Swindle of Holy Virgin Ukrainian Orthodox Church Parish, Arnold, PA 15068.

Senyszyn, Maria of Herkimer, NY on December 9, 2017 at the age of 92 years, officiating clergy Fr. Ivan Semko of St. Mary Protectress UOC Parish, Herkimer, NY 13350.

Symski Stevens, Ann of Trumbull, CT on February 8, 2018 at the age of 95 years, officiating clergy Fr. Stephen Masliuk of St. Mary's Protection Parish, Bridgeport, CT 06606.

Szylo Danyluk, Raisa of Edina, MN on January 4, 2018 at the age of 88 years, officiating clergy Fr. Evhen Kumka of St. Michael & George Parish, Minneapolis, MN 55413-2039.

Vorobets, Ahlaia of Brooklyn, NY on March 25, 2018 at the age of 75 years, officiating clergy Fr. Vasyl Shak of St. Panteleimon Parish, Brooklyn, NY 11211.





УКРАЇНСЬКЕ ПРАВОСЛАВНЕ СЛОВО
UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX WORD
P.O. Box 495
South Bound Brook, NJ 08880

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Get involved in the life of your Church!

The success of all Church sponsored events depends upon your active participation!

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION OF THE UOC OF USA

July 28
Metropolia Center
South Bound Brook, NJ

ST. THOMAS WEEKEND PILGRIMAGE

April 15
Metropolia Center
South Bound Brook, NJ

ST. NICHOLAS CAMPING PROGRAM

May 26
All Saints Camp
Emlenton, PA

MOMMY & ME/DADDY & ME CAMPING PROGRAM

July 30 - August 3
All Saints Camp
Emlenton, PA

DIOCESAN CHURCH SCHOOL CAMP

June 24 - July 7
All Saints Camp
Emlenton, PA

UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX LEAGUE 71ST ANNUAL CONVENTION

July 25 - 29
South Bound Brook, NJ

TEENAGE CONFERENCE CAMPING PROGRAM

July 8 - 21
All Saints Camp
Emlenton, PA

CENTENNIAL COMMEMORATIVE BOOK CONTENT SUBMISSION DEADLINE

May 25