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ENGLISH VERSION

Patriarch Lubomyr Husar resigns

On Thursday, February 10, 2011, the Vatican announced that Pope Benedict XVI, according to the prescriptions of canon 126 § 2 of the Code of Canons of the Eastern Churches, accepted the resignation of the head of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church Major

Archbishop of Kyiv-Halych His Beatitude Patriarch Lubomyr Husar.

Patriarch Lubomyr personally asked for the decision. He leaves his office voluntarily.

The Vatican also reported that the **Reverend Ihor**

Voznyak, CSSR, the Archbishop of Lviv, will be the administrator of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church. His duty is, among other things, to convene the Synod of Bishops of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church to elect a new major archbishop, informs Radio Vaticana.



<http://risu.org.ua>

His Excellency Ihor (Voznyak), CSSR, Archbishop of Lviv

His Excellency Ihor Voznyak was born on August 3, 1952, in the village of Lypytsi, Mykolaiv District, Lviv Region, in the family of a teacher.

In 1959-1969 he studied in primary and secondary school, and after completion received a technical education in Drohobych. Consequently he was directed to work in the city of Nikopol', Dnipropetrovs'k Region, where for a short time he worked at the factory.

In 1970-1972 he served in the Soviet army on the territory of Kazakhstan.

In 1973 he entered the monastery of the Order of the Most Holy Redeemer; in 1974 he began the novitiate, in 1975 he took his first vows. In the same year in the underground seminary in Lviv he began to study philosophy and theology. At the suggestion of the abbot in 1977 he moved to Vinnytsya and there continued studies, which he finished in 1980.

He received the sacrament of holy orders in November 1980 and took perpetual vows on July 2, 1981. He worked

near the Roman Catholic church, which enabled him illegally to help the local priest offer various sacraments for the faithful, in particular confession. From 1989 he carried out pastoral activity in the cathedral of the city of Ternopil.

From 1990 to 1996 he was Protoihumen (Superior) of the Redemptorists. From 1996 he ministered in Vinnytsya. In 1997 by the decree of the Protoihumen he was



appointed teacher of the novitiate in the Lviv Province of the Redemptorist Fathers. At

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His Excellency Ihor (Voznyak), CSSR, Archbishop of Lviv

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the same time he continued pastoral activity, giving special attention to preaching and retreats for monks, nuns and laity. In 2001 he took courses for tutors (educators of monks) in Rome, after the termination of which in August he was appointed the helper of the educator

of seminarians in Poland in the seminary of the Redemptorist Fathers.

On February 17, 2002, in the Cathedral of Saint George took place the episcopal ordination of Bishop Ihor Voznyak. After the decision of the Synod of Bishops and with the blessing of the Holy

Father, after ordination Bishop Ihor became the auxiliary bishop of the Lviv Archeparchy.

In obedience to the decision of the Synod of Bishops of the UGCC, which was conducted on October 5-12, 2004, Bishop Ihor was elected Archbishop of the Lviv

Archeparchy. On November 10, 2005, in the Cathedral of Saint George the ceremony installing the new Archbishop of Lviv on his see was held.

<http://www.ugcc.org.ua>

Mother Nadia Baranik, MSMG, Reposed in the Lord

Remember, O Lord, the soul of your departed servant.

Article and Photos by Teresa Siwak

Mother Nadia Helen Baranik, M.S.M.G., 80, fell asleep in the Lord at Philadelphia, PA on Friday, January 21, 2011, in her 65th year of Religious Life; the last eight of which she served as Mother General of her monastic community.

The Viewing for Mother Nadia, MSMG, was held on Wednesday, January 26, 2011 at the Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Philadelphia, PA. Many who knew and loved Mother Nadia braved the inclement weather to attend the Parastas. The sound of freezing rain pouring on the Cathedral dome added to the somberness felt by many of losing our dear friend Mother Nadia. Nevertheless, Mother Nadia was dressed in white



Our Lady of Sorrows Ukrainian Catholic Cemetery, Langhorne, PA
(Photo by: Taras Hankewycz)

and was laid in a white casket, and it provided as a reminder how life is precious and how each day should be cherished and lived to its fullest.

Due to approximately 15 inches of snow that fell overnight, Mother Nadia's Funeral Service was delayed a day and was held on January 28th. A small service was held on January 27th for those who were able to travel.

Archbishop-Emeritus Stephen Sulyk was the main celebrant at the Requiem Divine Liturgy on January 28th and Msgr. Peter Waslo was the homilist.

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Mother Nadia Baranik, MSMG, Reposed in the Lord

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Msgr. Waslo spoke of how Mother Nadia took pride in how many priests, deacons and nuns came from her home parish SS. Cyril & Methodius Ukrainian Catholic Church in Olyphant, PA. Mother Nadia entered the Congregation of the Missionary Sisters of the Mother of God on August 26, 1947. Mother Nadia was 16 years old when she entered the convent. Msgr. Waslo said Mother Nadia was such a young woman who picked up and left everything for Christ. It may seem radical to leave everything but it is a process. It took years for the novitiate and she still continued this life in Christ. It serves as an example to us for whatever we choose to do.



Archbishop-Emeritus Stephen Sulyk

Mother Nadia always had a cheerful smile, kind words and a warm welcome for everyone she met.

Following the Liturgy, a luncheon was held for her in the Cathedral Hall, with bright spring flowers adorning the tables.

Her burial was held at Our Lady of Sorrows Ukrainian Catholic Cemetery in Langhorne, PA, peacefully surrounded by a white blanket of snow.

For those who were unable to attend the services due to the weather, a video is posted on our blog at www.thewayukrainian.blogspot.com

Eternal Memory! Vichnaya Pamyat!



Parastas
January 26, 2011

Memories of +Mother Nadia, MSMG

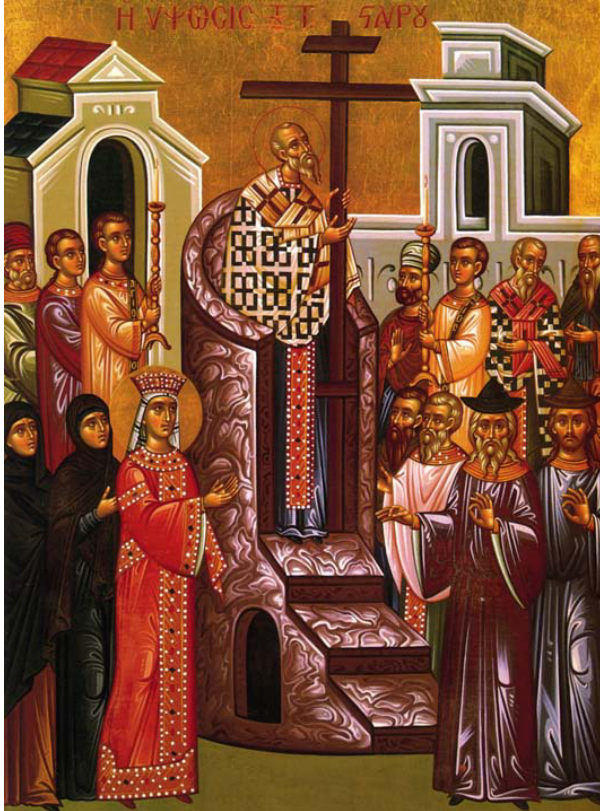


April 29, 2007



Sr. Evhenia, +Mother Nadia, Sr. Timothea





Take Up Your Cross and Follow Me!

Living in today's world as a Catholic Christian is never easy. Perhaps it never was meant to be easy, since today, like in previous ages, living the life of a Catholic Christian was in a sense, countercultural. The Gospel of Jesus Christ that we live by and believe in contains timeless truths that, when followed, are often seemingly difficult. We are exhorted to forgive those who hurt us, to love our enemies, to give our extra wealth that we have worked so hard for to those who are less fortunate, and so on. Even today, just as it was over the span of 2000 years of history of the Church, Catholic Christians are persecuted and mocked, and even killed, for their faith.

Yet Christ invites us to take up our Crosses and bear them on our shoulders gladly. Whether we are called to the priesthood, diaconate, religious life, to the married state or celibate life, and whatever we are called to do in our professions, we should take up our own crosses, for Jesus's yoke is light, compared to the heavy loads the modern world forces upon our shoulders. We are all invited to live the Gospel of Christ in our lives, to truly love each other as God loves us, and to let God in our hearts and lives, not to shut it out and keep it confined within the walls of the Church on Sundays. For in carrying our Crosses willingly, we allow the light of God's love to radiate from within ourselves – a light of love that gives all a ray of hope in a dark, cold, and cruel world

Rev. Paul J. Makar

Perhaps you feel that God may be calling you to service in His Church?

If you would like to discuss God's call to a vocation in your life, do not hesitate to contact:

Rev. Paul J. Makar
Director of Vocations
Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia
827 North Franklin Street
Philadelphia, PA 19123-2097

Phone: 1-215-627-0143
Fax: 1-215-627-0377

E-mail: ukrvocations@catholic.org



Come and Get to Know Your Clergy And Religious Men and Women!



Rev. Petro Zvarych

Pastor of Holy Ghost Ukrainian Catholic Church,
West Easton, PA,
and St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church,
Great Meadows, NJ.

**Women's Day
March 26,
2011**



God's Presence in the Seasons of a Woman's Life

This presentation will reflect on how God is present in the seasons of a Women's life. The speakers will stress the three seasons in a woman's life – Spring Summer and Fall. The day has been fashioned to include one hour presentations from each of the presenters, followed by group work and feedback. The day will end with aligning the three seasons of a woman's life and a prayer ritual indicative of the winter season and resurrection.

Our Speakers:

Dr. Zenia Chernyk



A nephrologist in private practice, Dr. Chernyk is a dedicated humanitarian and activist for the healthcare needs of children. As chairperson of the Ukrainian Federation of America, her focus is on children who need specialized medical treatment. She works tirelessly to improve healthcare in Ukraine in rural practice clinics and through preventive medicine.

Christine Hayda

As wife and mother of four, Christine holds a Master's degree in Organization Development from Loyola University of Chicago. Her work with the Catholic community has included chairing eparchial conferences, serving as General Secretary for Encounter of Eastern Churches, facilitating retreats for eparchial clergy and parish councils, and workshop facilitation with financial and educational institutions and faith based communities. Christine is currently completing a second Master's degree, on identity crisis in women.



Lada Pastushak



Armed with a Master's degree in Foreign Relations, Lada is an up and coming business and community leader. Presently program director at an international business council composed of over 100 major American companies that do business in Ukraine, she also finds time to be active in her community through programs in the arts and education.

REGISTRATION FORM -

PLEASE RETURN BY MARCH 15, 2011

Pre-event registration: \$25.00 Day of Event registration: \$30.00

Registration 9:00am Program 9:30am - 4:00pm

Make checks payable to: **Ukrainian Archeparchy of Philadelphia**

Name

Address

City

State

Zip

Email

Phone

Parish/State

Mail registration to:

Women's Day Registration
Ukrainian Catholic
Archeparchy of Philadelphia
827 N. Franklin Street
Philadelphia, PA 19123-
2097

For more information, contact:

Sr. Dorothy Ann Busowski,
OSBM
(215) 663-9153
or
dabusowski@stbasils.com

**Immaculate Conception Cathedral Hall
827 N. Franklin St. Philadelphia, PA**

Sponsored by:

**The
Ukrainian
Catholic
Archeparchy
of Philadelphia**

**The Sisters of
the Order of
St. Basil the
Great**

**The Sisters
Servants of
Mary
Immaculate**

**The
Missionary
Sisters of the
Mother
of God**

Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia

Office of Vocations

Invites men ages 18 through 50 for A VOCATIONS DISCERNMENT RETREAT Friday April 01, 2011 - Sunday April 03, 2011

**Ortynsky Spirituality Center
820 North Franklin Street
Philadelphia, PA 19123**

Perhaps you have felt God's call to service in His Church?
Have you wondered what it would be like to serve
God's people as a priest, deacon, or monk?
Do you have questions as to how to live your vocation?

If so, come and see!

Our Vocations Discernment Retreat is a weekend designed
for young men to come and gather in fellowship and
prayer to explore what God has in store for you.

This is a weekend where you will be challenged
to listen with an open heart,
to have a time of peace and stillness,
and to learn to pray and listen to God's voice in your life.

There is no cost to attend.

All food and accommodations will be provided.
All you need to do is bring a humble heart and an open mind.

**Are YOU ready to to answer the challenge and respond
to God's Call?**



To register, please contact:

Father Paul J. Makar, Director of Vocations
827 North Franklin Street
Philadelphia, PA 19123

1-215-627-0143 ext. 21
ukrvocations@catholic.org

Look for us on Facebook - Ukrainian Catholic
Vocations - Archeparchy of Philadelphia

**Please register by March 15, 2011
Space is limited! Register now!**



MYASOPUSNA 2011

A UKRAINIAN CULTURAL CELEBRATION

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2011

NOON TO 4:00 PM

*TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD CHURCH HALL
BLISS & CENTER STREET - - NANTICOKE*



UKRAINIAN DANCE, MUSIC & SONG

Kazka Ukrainian Dance & Song Group
St. Mary's Ukrainian Orthodox Dance Group
Live Bandura Music
The Holy Year Choir, Dr. Richard Barno, Director

DISPLAY OF HANDCRAFTED UKRAINIAN ITEMS

PYSANKY AND SUPPLIES, EMBROIDERY, GIFT ITEMS



HOMEMADE UKRAINIAN DINNER

Roast Pork, Kovbasa,
Varenyky (pyrohy), Kapusta,
Borscht, Black Bread/Butter,
Beverage & Dessert
\$12.00 • Serving from 12:30 -2:00PM

For tickets, contact Helen at 735-4654 or Geri at 824-3880
(Preferred seating reserved for tickets purchased by February 20th.)

Sister Servants of Mary Immaculate visit S.S. Peter and Paul, Wilkes-Barre, PA on Saturday, January 15, 2011.

An exciting contingent of seven nuns and one lay person attended the Saturday evening Divine Liturgy in the Wilkes-Barre parish. Following the Divine Liturgy they attended a social where they interacted with Father Orest Kunderevych, parishioners, and former students of the parish school.

The sisters are celebrating two milestones in their history. One is the 50th anniversary of their establishment of the American Provincial, Sloatsburg, New York and the 75th year of ministry in the United States. During the Divine Liturgy, Sister Michele Yakymovich, Provincial Superior presented Fr. Orest Kunderevych with a large framed painting by Sr. Monica Papiz S.S.M.I. depicting the Jubilee Commemorative history of the U.S. Immaculate Conception Province and delivered a professional summary of their Wilkes-Barre Experiences.



During the coffee and cake activities the nuns had displayed a disk of memories, gave everyone present: a copy of the disk, a medal of the Blessed Virgin and child and Sr. Josaphata S.S.M.I., and a copy of the Jubilee Commemorative painting.

Parents reminisced about the Sodality, junior choir, altar boys, Jr. Holy Name Society, parish plays, and other activities. The graduates reminisced on the creativity offered to us each day in the classroom, which was always an exhilarating atmosphere of discovery and search. The education we received was successful because it not only informed but inspired. These exhilarating experiences resulted in many successful graduates in all professions.



We are thankful for having an opportunity to share the stories of what we learned from the generation that came before us and collaborative effort between generation to grandparents, parents and the Sister Servants of Mary Immaculate had a tremendous impact on lives and we thank and pray for them.

*Dr. Michael Labuda
S.S. Peter & Paul, Wilkes-Barre, Pa*

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Sister Servants of Mary Immaculate visit S.S. Peter and Paul, Wilkes-Barre, PA on Saturday, January 15, 2011.



See more photos on the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate website.
<http://ssmi-us.org>



From the Office of Evangelization:

Professor Joseph Roll

will be offering
the following
Liturgical Music
Workshops in
2011:

**APRIL 8-10,
2011**

RESURRECTIONAL
MATINS:

English/Ukrainian
Ortynski
Spirituality Center,
**Philadelphia
PA**

Fr. Dan
215-922-2917

**MAY 13-15,
2011**

MATINS OF 12
PASSION
GOSPELS,
JERUSALEM
MATINS, AND
CHRISTMASTIDE
COMPLINE

St. Basil's
College,
Stamford, CT
Fr. Maxim
203-356-0770

**SEPTEMBER 30-
OCTOBER 3,
2011**

REQUIEM
SERVICES
St. Josaphat's
Cathedral,
Parma, Ohio
Fr. Valerian
412-766-8801

Workshop on Congregational Singing of the **RESURRECTION MATINS**

conducted by
Professor Joseph Roll

Fri.-Sat.-Sun. April 8-10, 2011

hosted by
Bishop Ortynsky Evangelization Center
830 N Franklin Street , Philadelphia PA

This workshop is recommended for anyone who desires to learn to sing the Resurrection Matins in English and Ukrainian. Choir members, religious education teachers, cantors, seminarians, choir directors, diaconal candidates or interested parishioners would benefit from participation. Workshop begins Friday evening with Registration at 3:00 p.m. and concludes Sunday afternoon.

Registration fee is: for the workshop, course materials and meals for a total of \$150 per person.

Lodging is available at the Ortynsky Evangelization Center.

For more information call 215-922-2917 or email dan.troyan@yahoo.com

-----DETACH-----

To register for the April 8-10, 2011 workshop please send check or money order in the sum of \$150.00 per registration payable to Archbishop's Chancery and mail to:

April Music Workshop--Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy
827 North Franklin Street Philadelphia, Pa. 19123

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ E-mail _____

City _____ State ____ Zip _____ Amount enclosed _____

, religious education teachers, cantors, seminarians, choir directors and diaconal candidates would benefit from participation. Workshop begins Friday evening at 6:00 p.m. and concludes Sunday afternoon.

Volunteer Appreciation Dinner at the Cathedral

(by: Teresa Siwak)

A Volunteer Appreciation Dinner was held in the Cathedral Hall on January 23, 2011 for volunteers of the Cathedral including: pyrohy ladies, ushers, choir members, and those who worked at the Christmas Bazaar.

Rev. Ivan Demkiv, rector of the Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Philadelphia, PA, said, "My dear volunteers, I would like to say thank you to all of you for your support, prayers and sacrifices for our parish."

He thanked Fr. Myron Myronyuk (Cathedral Assistant), Deacon Michael Waak and Deacon Charles Schultz (Cathedral Deacons), Subdeacon Roman Oprysk and John Finley (Altar Servers). He thanked the Missionary Sisters for running the Catechetical Classes for the parish, the Christmas Bazaar workers, the pyrohy ladies, the Sunday kitchen workers, the ushers, the cantors, the choir members and especially the Cathedral Volunteer Coordinator, Daria Zaharchuk.



Rev. Ivan Demkiv

Rev. Ivan Demkiv said, "My dear volunteers, I pray that your efforts and work will inspire others in the congregation to step forward and give their time and talents to our church... May God Bless You!"



OBITUARY OF THE RIGHT REVEREND MONSIGNOR PETER C. SKRINCOSKY

JUNE 16, 1922-JANUARY 25, 2011

The Right Reverend Monsignor Peter C. Skrincosky, fell asleep in the Lord Tuesday, January 25, 2011 in Schuylkill Medical Center East Norwegian Street, Pottsville, Pa. He served God and the faithful of the Ukrainian Catholic Church as a priest incardinated in the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Stamford for over 50 years, until his retirement, when he returned to his boyhood home of St. Clair, where he lived since his retirement from active ministry in 2000.

Monsignor Skrincosky, the third of eleven children, was born to the late John and Anna (Kudlick) Skrincosky in Arnot's Addition, St. Clair, Pennsylvania on June 16, 1922. He attended New Castle Township schools. After completing two years at St. Clair High School, he enrolled at St. Basil's Preparatory Seminary, Stamford, Connecticut, in September 1939.

After graduation from St. Basil's Preparatory School in 1940, he attended St. Charles Seminary in Catonsville, Md. until 1941. He then enrolled

in St. Basil's College Seminary, Stamford, Ct., and earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree cum laude with a major in Philosophy in 1944.

As a major seminarian at St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Seminary, Washington, D.C., he matriculated at The Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C., where he completed his theological studies required for priestly ordination in 1947.

He was ordained to the holy priesthood on June 2, 1947 by the late Archbishop Constantine Bohachevsky in the old Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

The newly-ordained Father Peter celebrated his Divine Liturgy of Thanksgiving on the following Sunday, June 8, 1947 in his home parish, Holy Trinity Ukrainian Catholic Church, St. Clair, Pennsylvania.

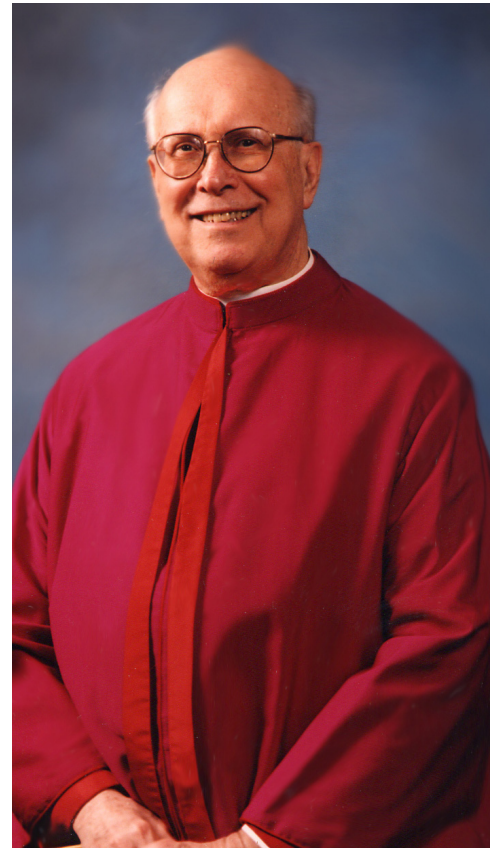
His first assignment was as an instructor of Latin and religion at St. Basil's College Preparatory School in Stamford,

Connecticut and during the next eight years he simultaneously held the office of prefect. While holding these positions, he pursued graduate studies in clinical psychology at Fordham University and was awarded a Master of Arts degree in psychology in 1951.

He was appointed rector of St. Basil's College Seminary in 1955 and served in this position until 1958.

In 1958 he was sent to Rome, where he pursued post graduate studies in liturgy at the Pontifical Oriental Institute, Gregorian University. He was awarded his doctorate degree in Oriental Ecclesiastical Sciences (S.E.O.D.) in June 1963.

During his years of study in Rome, he witnessed many significant events at



the Vatican, including the election of Pope John XXIII as the successor pontiff to Pope Pius XII, and the historic Second Vatican Council.

Msgr. Skrincosky devoted most of his service in the vineyard of the Lord preparing young men in seminary formation for ordination to the priesthood. He was appointed rector of St. Basil's College Seminary in 1963 and served in this

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OBITUARY OF THE RIGHT REVEREND MONSIGNOR PETER C. SKRINCOSKY

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position until 1976. He also served as chancellor of the Stamford Eparchy from 1976 until 1984. In 1984, he was reappointed rector of St. Basil's College Seminary, and served from 1984 until 1987.

In 1968, Pope Paul VI elevated him to the rank of papal chamberlain with the title of Very Reverend Monsignor. In 1987, he received another papal ecclesiastical honor when Pope John Paul II elevated him to the rank of domestic prelate with the title of Right Reverend.

Monsignor Skrincosky was a member of the Catholic

Psychological Association; the American Psychological Association; the Academy of Religion and Mental Health; and the Shevchenko Scientific Society.

On May 26, 1997, Msgr. Peter observed his fiftieth anniversary of priestly ordination with a Divine Liturgy of Thanksgiving celebrated in Holy Trinity Ukrainian Catholic Church, St. Clair, Pa.

His parochial assignments included parishes in Spring Valley, N.Y., Ansonia, Ct., St. Vladimir's Cathedral in Stamford, Ct., and Fresh Meadows, NY.

Besides his parents, he was preceded in death by a sister, Mary Antonio and two brothers John and Edward.

Msgr. Peter is survived by two sisters: Elizabeth Jansson, St. Clair and Helena Harach, Lancaster and five brothers: Michael, Andrew, and Russell, St. Clair; Joseph, Seltzer; and John Jr., Mount Penn., many nieces, nephews and cousins.

His Funeral Divine Liturgy was celebrated Tuesday, February 1 at 10 a.m. in St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church, Minersville, Pa.

Interment was held in Holy Trinity Ukrainian Catholic Cemetery, St. Clair.

It was Msgr. Peter's desire that those wishing to do so, may offer contributions in his memory for the support of young men preparing for priestly ordination to: St. Josaphat's Ukrainian Catholic Seminary, 201 Taylor Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20017 or to the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate, 9 Emmanuel Drive, P. O. Box 9, Sloatsburg, New York 10974-0009.

SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON

The Lord told this parable: "There was a man who had two sons. The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them. "Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything. "When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me

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SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON

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like one of your hired servants.' So he got up and went to his father. "But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him. "The son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' "But the father said to his servants, 'Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' So they began to celebrate. "Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. 'Your brother has come,' he replied, 'and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.' "The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. But he answered his father, 'Look! All these years I've been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!' "My son,' the father said, 'you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.'" (Lk. 15, 11-32)

Sunday of the Prodigal Son

The story of the prodigal son is one of the best known of all Jesus' parables. Most of us have probably heard it or read it periodically ever since we were children. The story is often used as an example of the love of a father for his children despite their short-comings and as an example of God's love for his people in the face of their sin and rejection. The father and elder brother of the prodigal had every right to be offended by the young man's actions. He had taken his inheritance before he was legally entitled to receive it. Not only that, he had squandered it. As a result, the father and the elder brother had suffered a significant financial loss which fueled the elder son's resentment.

By going off as he did, the prodigal indicated clearly that he was permanently severing his relationship with his father and the rest of the family.

Despite this, when the prodigal re-turned his father was able to disregard the financial loss and the pain of his son's rejection. The elder son was unwilling or unable to do so. His anger and resentment were so great that he was incapable of forgiving. At one time or another, we have probably all been offended by the action of some family member. Like the elder son, we may still be harboring resentments because of our unwillingness to forgive someone who has hurt us. If anyone ever had the right to bear a grudge, it would surely be the father of the prodigal son. But because of his great love, he was able to overcome the temptations of anger and resentment. This is the kind of love God has for us-and the kind he wants us to have for each other.

Examine your relationships with others, especially members of your own family. In light of God's love for us, we cannot withhold our love from others, even if they have caused us great pain and disappointment. God calls each of us to love and to forgive in the same way that he loves and forgives. If you are nursing a grudge against anyone because they have hurt or offended you, forgive them in your heart. Pray (in the words of the Our Father) that God would deliver you from the evil holding you in bond-age. If possible and prudent, seek reconciliation. This does not mean that we ignore or condone sin, but it does mean that we seek to heal ruptured relationships so that God's healing might be worked through them.

Three cheers for school choice

By A.B. Hill

“What do we want...school choice! When do we want it...now!”

Hundreds of students and their parents filed into the state Capitol Rotunda last month for a rally to cheer for Senate Bill 1 – the Opportunity Scholarship Act. SB 1 proposes a significant increase to the Education Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) program. If passed, the EITC will increase to \$100 million making more scholarships available to qualified students. It also proposes vouchers for the poorest students in chronically failing schools. Parents can use the voucher to pay tuition at any school they choose, including a Catholic school if they wish.

It is not hard to see why students and their parents are cheering for this bill. The Opportunity Scholarship Act includes scholarships for both public-to-public and public-to-private school choice. Qualified families could access a number of educational options, giving them the opportunity to choose a school that best meets the needs of their child.

By virtue of their zip code, many families have no choice but to send their child to the school in their neighborhood, even if that school is failing. Most do not have the economic means to relocate to another district or pay tuition somewhere else. Parents in these areas who desire something better for their children are the loudest cheerleaders for SB 1.

The Catholic school community is also cheering the Opportunity Scholarship proposal. Because of constraints on the state budget, the voucher program starts small. In the first year, only low-income students currently attending a failing public school qualify. Eligibility will be expanded in the second and third years. Eventually every low-income student will be eligible. The increase in the EITC program will grant more scholarships to qualified families who are not included in the voucher program right away.

Not every qualified student will choose a Catholic school, but it is likely that many will. Catholic educators can already attest how the EITC has helped Catholic schools; SB 1 will allow even more families a chance to get a Catholic education. More students in our classrooms is good news for our schools; more students will help keep Catholic schools open.

Citizens who care about Pennsylvania’s future are cheering, too. Not everyone is the parent of a school-aged child but most of us are taxpayers. School choice saves tax dollars because non-public schools often provide an excellent education for a fraction of the cost of public schools. Every child in Pennsylvania is entitled to an education. If we can redirect a portion of the state subsidy to provide the same child an education in a less costly program, isn’t it worth considering? Nonpublic schools should be included, not excluded, from the plan to create a more effective educational system.

A good education helps children grow up to be good citizens. Growing as many good citizens as we can will help ensure a better and brighter future for all of us.

Add your voice to the school choice cheerleading squad. Visit, call, write or e-mail your state legislators and ask them to support the Opportunity Scholarship Act – SB 1. Join the Advocates for Catholic Education in PA to receive the latest news and action alerts on Catholic education issues. Learn more at www.pacatholic.org/current-issues/school-choice

Hill is Communications Director of the Pennsylvania Catholic Conference – the public affairs arm of Pennsylvania’s Catholic bishops and the Catholic dioceses of Pennsylvania.



BASILIAN SPIRITUALITY CENTER

SISTERS OF ST. BASIL THE GREAT
CELEBRATING 100 YEARS IN AMERICA

710 FOX CHASE ROAD FOX CHASE MANOR, PA 19046 215.780.1227

LENTEN AFTERNOON OF REFLECTION

SUNDAY MARCH 13, 2011

2:00 – 5:00 PM

Donation \$25

PRESENTER: ARCHPRIEST DANIEL TROYAN
Chaplain for the Sisters of St. Basil the Great and their Ministries
Director for Evangelization at the Archeparchy of Philadelphia

TOPIC: "BE STILL AND KNOW THAT I AM GOD" :
A celebration of the Priceless Human Soul

SUMMARY: A day of meditation, forgiveness and healing based upon
the **Prayer of St. Ephraim:**

The Great Fast is a time of regeneration: focusing on the cry from our human helplessness, from the brokenness of our vision and energy, to the restoration of our body and soul to the life and control of the Spirit.



Presenting the healing power of God's Word to make our flesh like His: Holy.

MEDITATION AND REFLECTION

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

ANOINTING SERVICE - HEALING OF MEMORIES

Send to: Sister Marina Bochnewich, OSBM
BASILIAN SPIRITUALITY CENTER
SISTERS OF ST. BASIL THE GREAT
710 Fox Chase Road Fox Chase Manor, PA 19046
215.780.1227

LENTEN AFTERNOON OF REFLECTION
DONATION: \$25.00
Please register by: March 7, 2011

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Fellowship and Learning at Generations of Faith

On a cold and wintry Sunday afternoon in January, 70 parishioners of SS. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Church in Ambridge gathered for a Generations of Faith program that overviewed the seven Holy Mysteries. The program began with a delectable lunch of Mexican cuisine (including fried ice cream) prepared by Paul Hladio. After the fellowship, parishioners gathered in the Church for prayer and an icebreaker exercise that focused everyone on the topic. Four



of the CCD children (Allison Cross, Alex Hladio, Roman Hladio and Nicholas Hladio) put on two skits that showed how we often don't ask for help when we need it. When things are challenging we often miss the visible signs of God's presence and don't turn to him in our time of need. After enjoying the skits, all attendees (young and old) discussed and reflected on why we don't ask for help (we're afraid, too proud or arrogant, or feel that we are not worthy), why we don't notice God's presence (he's invisible, I'm busy) and how God can help us in ways no human can. After the icebreaker the participants split into smaller groups and rotated among lessons. Session 1 consisted of Fr. Michael Polosky and Fr. Walter Wysochansky presenting an overview of the seven Mysteries. Session 2 consisted of Fr. Deacon Mark Prokopovich and Dr. Vera Krokonko explaining the origins of the Mysteries and how Jesus introduced them to his followers. Lisa Hladio, assisted by Allison Cross, took the children through lessons tailored to their level including the singing of "All You Who Have Been Baptized into Christ" in English and Ukrainian and the creation of mobiles featuring the Mysteries that will be displayed throughout the Church as another visible sign and reminder of these important graces. After the sessions, the groups gathered in Church again for reflection and a final prayer. Take home packages



included a 'God Sightings Diary' where parishioners will record their own personal observations of God 'becoming visible' to them at a particular point of time. The Generations of Faith program has made an impact at SS. Peter and Paul. Those who participate show a better understanding of their faith and increased participation in Church activities. We all should pray for the success and growth of this wonderful initiative. If you are interested in learning how Generations of Faith was implemented at SS. Peter and Paul you can contact Fr. Mike at sspandp@aol.com or Michael Cross, Director of Religious Education for SS. Peter and Paul at waslojl@comcast.net.

UKRAINIAN CULTURAL EXHIBIT AND CRAFT SALE

Sponsored by the North Anthracite Council - League of Ukrainian Catholics

Pysanky - Embroideries - Religious Items - Nesting Dolls - Jewelry -
Artwork - Handicrafts - CDs - Candles - Books - Candies - Raffle
and much, much more.

**Sunday, April 3, 2011- 9:30am to 2:30pm at
SS. Peter and Paul Church Hall
20 Nottingham Street, Plymouth PA.**

Lunch will be available along with a variety of
homemade ethnic foods and baked goods.

Everyone is invited to attend the 8:30am DIVINE LITURGY at SS Peter and
Paul Church. Interested crafters/vendors: \$20.00 per table.

Contact Janina Everett at 570 759-2824 after 5:00pm or via email:
nacofluc@hotmail.com . Please do not call the Church Rectory.



Christmas Concert at the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish in Melrose Park, PA January 16th



Watch a video of the children's performance
of "Silent Night" in Ukrainian and English
on Annunciation's website
<http://www.ukrainianbvm.com>



(Photo: Russell Cooke)

На фото зліва направо: Оксана Клінгенсмит-
аккомпанемент, Адріан Сікора, Маріана Клінгенсмит,
Лариса Одливанська, Вікторія Курилець, Андрій Перонг,
Алек Сікора, Юля Курилець, Інна Халкіді – аккомпанемент

February 13, 2011

EWTN to air program on Church in Ukraine

"Ukraine: Emerging from the Catacombs"

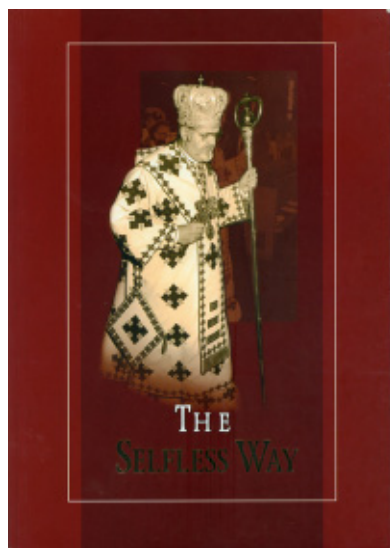
Mark Riedemann interviews Cardinal Lubomyr Husar, the Major Archbishop of the Greek Catholic Church in Kiev Ukraine, about the history of the Greek Catholic Church and its key role as a mediator in Ukraine. <http://www.ewtn.com>



Airs:

**Sun. February 13 at 2 AM ET,
Fri. February 18 at 10 PM ET, &
Sat. February 19 at 2 PM ET**

"The Selfless Way"



Bishop Basil Losten's labors in Christ's Vineyard

Stamford, Connecticut. In 2005, the Ukrainian-language book *Doroha Samoposviaty* was published by Svichado Publishing House in Lviv, Ukraine. Now, an English-language version — *The Selfless Way* — has just been printed by the same publisher. Edited by Myroslava Rozdolska, longtime Ukrainian-language editor of the Stamford Eparchy's official publication, *Sower*, this 100-page easy-to-read documentary presents a compelling portrait of the Most Reverend Basil H. Losten, D.D., focusing on his 28 years as Eparch of Stamford. It is translated by Leo Iwaskiw, editor of *America*.

As shepherd of his flock. Bishop Basil always placed top priority on service to his Church and his people. He succeeded in developing the Stamford Eparchy as a Ukrainian religious, cultural and educational-research center. The readers of the book cannot help being impressed by this hierarch, who has selflessly dedicated himself to successfully serving God and the Ukrainian people. There are many interesting narratives in the book, highlighting Bishop Basil's great generosity and efforts in rebuilding the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Ukraine as it emerged from the modern catacombs (with the impending collapse of the "evil empire"). His monumental labors in Christ's vineyard have yielded much good fruit for the benefit of the Church, both in his distant Fatherland and here in the United States.

Especially inspiring is the last section of the book, containing excerpts of Bishop Basil's sermons, public appeals, press briefings, etc., all of which underscore his ceaseless efforts to present the Ukrainian Catholic Church in the best light, both in the United States and beyond.

It also includes kind words by friends and those who used to be hostile to the bishop, but later worked productively with him for the sake of higher ideals. Many high-quality color photos make this informative book most enjoyable to read.

This valuable book is available free of charge (a \$5 check is requested to cover mailing costs) by writing to Bishop Basil Losten at the following address: 122 Clovelly Road, Stamford, CT 06902-3033.

(Article printed with permission from "America" newspaper, January 8, 2011 issue)

Holiday Happenings in Reading, PA

The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish in Reading, PA had quite a busy holiday season. To start off the season the parishioners organized a Christmas bazaar. People came from all over Berks County and surrounding areas including several from other states for pyrohy, bread and rolls as well as other American and Ukrainian goodies. Our Pastor, Fr. Andriy Rabyi greeted them at the door and thanked them for coming, including some that waited for over an hour for the start of the event.

A week after the bazaar Saint Nicholas paid a visit to our parish. He was greeted by our

children ranging in age from 5 months to 90 plus years young. After a presentation by our children and gift distribution by Saint Nicholas a lite lunch was enjoyed by all.

Then a bus trip to see "The Miracle of Christmas" at the Sight & Sound Theater in Lancaster, PA entertained our parishioners. After the show they went to Shady Maple Smorgasbord in for dinner. Evidently everyone had a good time, Ukrainian Christmas Carols were sung on the bus on the way back to the church. The bus driver commented to his dispatcher that he didn't know what they were singing but it sounded good.

Then to wrap up the season a Christmas Social was held in the parish hall. The Reading Pagoda Chorus, a Chapter of the Sweet Adelines International performed a concert featuring four part harmony acapella selections. After the performance everyone in attendance was invited to partake in a hot and cold buffet.

WOW! What preparation and celebration for the birth of Our Lord.

Plans are already made for our Easter Bazaar being held Saturday April 16, 2011.

Respectfully submitted by:
Cynthia Koretsky

Pork & Kapusta Dinner

Fr. Paul Wolensky and the Parishioners of St. Vladimir Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, **Scranton PA**, cordially invite you to join us for our observance of Meatfare Sunday at our annual Pre-Lenten PORK & KAPUSTA FAMILY DINNER. Sunday, February 27, 2011, at 12:30 p.m., at St. Vladimir Parish Center, 428 North Seventh Avenue, between West Lackawanna Avenue and West Linden Street.

Adults \$11.00;
Students \$5.50 (age 5-12); Under age 5, free.
Advance reservations: Kathleen at 570 346-2414 (please do not call the church).
Takeouts: pick up between 11:30 a.m. and 12:15 p.m.

Menu: Slow roasted pork loin, homemade pan gravy, Ukrainian kapusta (cabbage), real mashed potatoes, green and yellow beans, applesauce, rolls, butter, dessert, coffee, tea, beverages.
Welcome to our table!

Rev. Myron Myronyuk Blessed Candles at the Cathedral



Watch a video of Rev. Myron Myronyuk blessing candles on the Feast of the *Encounter of Our Lord in the Temple*, February 2, 2011, on our blog at www.thewayukrainian.blogspot.com

The Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church celebrated the 10th anniversary of the patriarchal ministry of His Beatitude Cardinal Lubomyr Husar with a Hierarchical Liturgy on January 23, 2011

See these photos and more photos on website:

<http://www.ugcc.org.ua/1622.0.html>



10 years ago His Beatitude Lubomyr described the church's prospects

Ten years ago, on January 26, 2001, it was officially announced that His Beatitude Cardinal Lubomyr was elected the new head of the UGCC. On January 28, 2001, in St. George's Cathedral in Lviv a Hierarchical Liturgy was celebrated, during which the newly elected hierarch of the church was enthroned. In his enthronization speech His Beatitude Lubomyr emphasized his two main tasks: to increase faith and unity in Christ.

"To live in faith, to help faithful and nonbelievers so that we are all united in faith, so our people and our church were united in Christ Jesus. And this is not my personal program. This is what we inherited from our ancestors. And we want to make it true. In today's climate we glorify God who gave us this gift," His Beatitude Lubomyr said on January 28, 2001.

"On this throne sat the metropolitans of Halych and so we continue the life of our Church. More than a thousand years the Lord God bestowed upon our nation the gift of the holy faith. And our nation gladly accepted this gift. And it was this faith that formed our nation," continued the patriarch.

"Last century, the century of terrible persecution,

people put down their lives to keep this faith," said the newly elected head. "We have many martyrs and confessors in the ranks of the Church, and we must maintain this most valuable, most precious gift."

"We look at our Lord. We watch what he does, listen to what he says and learn from him. We learn what it means to live by faith," observed His Beatitude Lubomyr.

In his enthronization speech the head of the UGCC said that withholding from revenge for the times the church was persecuted is a sign of great spirituality. His Beatitude advised "to look at oneself, one's environment, the nation, the state, the Church through the eyes of Christ."

The patriarch also discussed the division between the Christians. He stressed that in the times of Prince Volodymyr there was one church and that today's division may be a consequence of diminished faith. The head of the church saw a way to revive faith, to make it active in daily life, in the relations between Catholics, among Christians, and even in the lives of people of different faiths.

After the death of the head of the UGCC Patriarch Myroslav Ivan Lubachivsky on December 14, 2000, an

extraordinary Synod of Bishops of the Church was convened. On January 26, 2001, the synod officially announced the election of His Beatitude Cardinal Lubomyr (Husar). The enthronization took place on January 28, 2001 in St. George's Cathedral in Lviv. On the same day it was announced that Pope John Paul II nominated His Beatitude Lubomyr as a cardinal of the Catholic Church.

During the first decade of Lubomyr Patriarch's rule, the church found its faithful across all regions of Ukraine. The Donetsk-Kharkiv Eparchy of the UGCC was established on February 2002, the Odesa-Crimea Eparchy on July 28, 2003, and the Lutsk Exarchate on January 15, 2008. The most momentous event took place on August 21, 2005, when the See of the head of the UGCC was transferred from Lviv to Kyiv – the place of Volodymyr's baptism and to the capital of independent Ukraine. As His Beatitude Lubomyr stated in one recent interview, "we did not arrive – we returned to Kyiv."

The newest document presenting the UGCC's vision of uniting the churches of Volodymyr's baptism is the synod's message on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of

the legalization of the UGCC, the 65th anniversary of the death of Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky and the 25th anniversary of death of Patriarch Josyf Slipyj, which was passed on December 8, 2009.

In this document the synod proposes a model for the future unity: "Instead of monopolistic domain of Christian Ukraine, which was characteristic of past epochs, we propose the unity of today's still divided Kyivan Church. However, this unity, if it is to bring peace and understanding to Ukraine, must grow from within, in the bosom of every branch of the Kyivan Church. This process began in 1989 and became a defining moment the life of both the Greek Catholics and Orthodox communities in Ukraine. This task will not be easy, it will likely experience both advances and retreats, but, as our history testifies, it is indivertible because it embraces sacrifice and martyrdom, strength of spirit and the height of thoughts, fire of faith and sincerity of prayer."

Information Department of the UGCC

<http://www.ugcc.org.ua>

UKRAINIAN HIERARCHS ENCOUNTER 2011

The annual Encounter of Ukrainian Catholic and Orthodox Hierarchs of North America met in Clearwater, FL on 27-28 January 2011. The hierarchs have been gathering since 2001 to discuss the issues relevant to their respective dioceses and eparchies and to consider the steps that might be taken to draw the Churches closer together, setting an example for ecclesiastical life in Ukraine. Participating in this close knit brotherhood of Ukrainian hierarchs this year were: Metropolitan

Constantine – Primate and Central Eparch UOC of USA, Metropolitan **Stefan** – Primate and Archbishop of Philadelphia Eparchy UCC in USA, Metropolitan **Lawrence** – Primate and Archbishop of Winnipeg UCC of Canada, Metropolitan **Yurij** – Primate of Winnipeg and All-Canada UOC of Canada,

Archbishop **Antony** – Eastern Eparch UOC of USA, Bishop **Richard** – Bishop of Chicago Eparchy UCC in USA, **Stephen** – Bishop of Toronto Eparchy UCC in Canada, **Paul** – Bishop of Stamford Eparchy UCC in USA, **David** – Bishop of Edmonton Eparchy, UCC in Canada, **John** – Bishop of Parma Eparchy UCC in USA, **Kenneth** – Bishop

February 13, 2011



The hierarchs of Ukrainian Orthodox and Catholic Churches of North America:

*Sitting: Metropolitan **Lawrence**, Metropolitan **Constantine**, Metropolitan **Stefan**, Metropolitan **Yurij**.*

From left to right: Bishop David, Bishop Daniel, Bishop Bryan, Bishop-emeritus Basil, Archbishop Antony, Bishop Richard, Bishop Kenneth, Bishop Andriy, Bishop John, Bishop Stephen, Bishop Paul.

of New Westminster Eparchy UCC in Canada, **Andriy** – Bishop of Saskatoon UOC of Canada, **Daniel** – Western Eparch UOC of USA and **Bryan** – Bishop of Saskatoon Eparchy UCC in Canada. Bishop **Illarion** – Bishop of Edmonton UOC of Canada was unable to be present this year. Bishop Basil, Emeritus of Stamford Eparchy UCC in USA was a guest at the meetings.

The theme for this year's encounter was: "Possibilities on the Path to Unity – What We Hold in Common and Where We Differ". To broaden discussion on this topic, the hierarchs invited one priest from each Church to make presentations reflecting on this theme. Rev. Fr. Stephen Wojcichowsky, Director of the Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky Institute of Eastern Christian Studies at

the University of St. Paul in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada presented from the Ukrainian Catholic perspective. V. Rev. Dr. Jaroslav Buciora, Pastor of the Protection of the Mother of God Cathedral (Sobor) and Professor of Theology at St. Andrew College/Seminary, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada presented from the Ukrainian Orthodox perspective.

(Continued on next page)

UKRAINIAN HIERARCHS ENCOUNTER 2011

(continued from previous page)

Fr. Stephen summarized some of the existing dialogues that have taken place between the Catholic and Orthodox Churches on a broader horizon – The North American Orthodox-Catholic Consultation, founded in 1965 and the Joint Committee of Orthodox and Catholic Bishops, founded in 1981 – both of which have issued numerous “agreed statements” concerning the many elements of faith that the two sides have in common, concerning the Sacraments, Theology, Dogma, etc. They have also discussed the most vexing problems about which agreement is difficult to establish and Fr. Stephen presented the thoughts of various modern Eastern Catholic theologians about these problems. Fr. Stephen expressed his joy at being asked to participate in the Encounter and proposed a Theological Consultation, which would be able to produce more in-depth and specific documents for dialogue.

Fr. Jaroslav offered his reflection “Towards the Future Dialogue of the Churches” suggesting that the participants in any such dialogue must be prepared to answer in depth questions about

themselves and their own ecclesiology prior to the initiation of a serious dialogue and must be prepared to abandon any prejudice held toward theologians from the “other” side. Further, Ukrainian theologians must be included in the broader dialogues rather than permit others to speak in their behalf. The present “Encounters” and other discussions between the Ukrainian Catholic and Orthodox Churches could become “the catalyst for the resurgence of our own religious identity, imperative at the present time”. The participants “must be consistent and theologically mature in their quest for unity...must listen to one another...be patient about what has taken place in history...and not afraid to look into each other’s eyes with love, where they will see each other as brothers...in Christ”.

In their discussion on the theme, the hierarchs at the Encounter pointed to the development of their relationship, which has not gone unnoticed by the various ecclesiastical bodies throughout the world. When the Encounters began a decade ago, the intent was to create an opportunity for the bishops to become

more familiar with one another and to counter the incomprehensible conflicts that were deeply damaging Christ’s Church in newly independent Ukraine. The bishops, in 2011, have seen the need to move toward the creation of a permanent Ukrainian Orthodox – Catholic Theological Consultation, which will consist of both hierarchs and theologians from both Churches to prepare in-depth analyses for consideration at future Encounters. Each of the four jurisdictions – two in the USA and two in Canada – will soon make their appointments to this Consultation.

The hierarchs decided to continue this year with their effort to speak with a common voice to the faithful of the Churches through Epistles on the occasion of the 25th Anniversary of the Chernobyl Nuclear Disaster, Ukrainian Independence and the Holodomor. They will also address in the very near future a common letter to the Canadian and USA Ambassadors to Ukraine and to the State Departments of the two nations expressing their concerns about the extreme danger the nation of Ukraine faces if the

actions of the present government continue to align the nation with Russia and turn away from the Western orientation of previous governments. Great concern will also be expressed about the interference of the present government in ecclesiastical life – in particular the unmasked favoritism shown for the Moscow Patriarchal Church of Ukraine.

Plans are now being developed for a Symposium to be sponsored by the Encounter in 2013 at the 1025th Anniversary of the Baptism of Ukraine. Decisions about the location and extent of the Symposium and events surrounding it, will be concluded by the next Encounter. In preparation for this Symposium there is a desire on the part of the bishops to travel to both Constantinople and Rome to visit with both Pope Benedict XVI and Patriarch Bartholomew I to inform them about the Encounters and to express the deep desire to resolve the issues that divide the Body of Christ, as well as to seek their support for united ecclesiastical life in Ukraine.

The next Encounter is tentatively scheduled to be held in Colona, British Columbia, Canada in the Spring of 2012.

Pope John Paul II to be beatified May 1

14 January 2011 - The pope on Friday signed off on the miracle needed for the beatification of Pope John Paul II, and set May 1 as the date to honor one of the most beloved popes of all times as a model of saintliness for the church.

Pope Benedict XVI said in a decree that a French nun's recovery from Parkinson's disease was miraculous, the last step needed for beatification. A second miracle is needed for the Polish-born John Paul to be made a saint.

The May 1 beatification, which Benedict himself will celebrate, is expected to draw hundreds of thousands of pilgrims to Rome - a major morale boost for a church reeling from a wave of violence against Christians and fallout from the clerical sex abuse scandal.

Once he is beatified, John Paul will be given the title "blessed" and can be publicly venerated. Many people, especially in Poland, already venerate him privately, but the ceremony will make it official.

"This is a huge and important cause of joy,"

Warsaw Archbishop Kazimierz Nycz told reporters at his residence in the Polish capital.

Cardinal Stanislaw Dziwisz, John Paul's longtime secretary and friend, expressed "huge thanks" to Benedict for the decree. "We are happy today," he said.

Benedict put John Paul on the fast track to possible sainthood just weeks after he died in 2005, responding to the chants of "Santo Subito!" or "Sainthood immediately!" that erupted during his funeral.

Benedict waived the typical five-year waiting period before the process could begin, but he insisted that the investigation into John Paul's life be thorough so as to not leave any doubts about his virtues.

The last remaining hurdle concerned the approval by Vatican-appointed panels of doctors and theologians, cardinals and bishops that the cure of French nun, Sister Marie Simon-Pierre, was a miracle due to the intercession of John Paul.

The nun has said she felt reborn when she woke up two months after John Paul died, cured of the



disease that had made walking, writing and driving a car nearly impossible. She and her fellow sisters of the Congregation of Little Sisters of Catholic Maternity Wards had prayed to John Paul, who also suffered from Parkinson's.

Last year, there were some questions about whether the nun's original diagnosis was correct. But in a statement Friday, the Congregation for the Causes of Saints said Vatican-appointed doctors had "scrupulously" studied the case and determined that her cure had no scientific explanation.

Born in Wadowice, Poland, in 1920, Karol

Wojtyla was the youngest pope in 125 years and the first non-Italian in 455 years when he was elected pope in 1978.

He brought a new vitality to the Vatican, and quickly became the most accessible modern pope, sitting down for meals with factory workers, skiing and wading into crowds to embrace the faithful.

He was the most traveled pope ever, visiting more than 120 nations during the third-longest papacy and covering distance equal to nearly 1 1/2 trips to the moon.

<http://risu.org.ua>

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February 27, 2011: Myasopusna Prelenten Celebration, Transfiguration Church, Bliss & Center St, Nanticoke, PA, Noon-4PM.

February 27, 2011: Pork & Kapusta Dinner, St. Vladimir Parish Center, 428 North Seventh Avenue, Scranton, PA at 12:30pm. For more information call Kathleen at 570-346-2414

March 13, 2011: Lenten Afternoon of Reflection. Presenter: Rev. Archpriest Daniel Troyan. For information call Sr. Marina, OSBM, 215-780-1227

March 26, 2011: Archeparchial Women's Day. For information call Sr. Dorothy Ann, OSBM 215-663-9153 or e-mail dabusowski@stbasils.com

April 1-3, 2011: Men's Vocations Discernment Retreat, Philadelphia, PA. For information call Fr. Paul J. Makar 215-627-0143 or email ukrvocations@catholic.org

April 3, 2011: Ukrainain Cultural Exhibit & Craft Sale, Ss. Peter & Paul, 20 Nottingham St, Plymouth, PA. For information call Janina 570-759-2824.

April 8-10, 2011: Resurrection Matins Liturgical Music Workshop, Philadelphia, PA. For information call Fr. Dan at 215-922-2917.

April 9, 2011: Centennial Celebration Spring Symposium - Our Basilian Heritage - Basilian Spirituality Center

April 16, 2011: Easter Bazaar, Reading, PA

June 18, 2011: Centennial Open House - Basilian Motherhouse

October 2, 2011: Centennial Pilgrimage - Sisters of St. Basil the Great

November 6, 2011: Sisters of the Order of St. Basil the Great celebrate their Centennial with a Liturgy at the Cathedral, Philadelphia, PA.

News from St. Anne's Warrington, PA

Love Cradle Mission will be bringing orphans (6 - 15 year old) from Ukraine to spend a month in our area.

Two information sessions will be held to explain the program and answer your questions. Visit their website: www.lovecradleint.org

Saturday - February 19 - 6 pm - St. Anne Church Hall

Sunday - February 20 - 10:30 am - St. Anne Church Hall

If you can attend, please RSVP by February 15 to this e-mail address stannesecretary@comcast.net or call Helene 215-343-3948 and leave a message.

Sharing your home and love with these children can be quite a moving and eventful experience for you and your family. Love is all they really need!

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