



# WAY



# ШЛЯХ

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ENGLISH VERSION

## Young leader for an ancient Church

At just 41 years old, he's one of the youngest Church leaders anywhere in the world. In March this year Sviatoslav Shevchuk was elected as major archbishop of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, the largest Eastern rite church in full communion with the Holy See. During decades of persecution under repressive Soviet rule, the Church spread throughout the Diaspora, especially across Europe and north and south America, but today is flourishing in its homeland again, especially in Western Ukraine.



Less than a month after his election by the Ukrainian Church Synod, Archbishop Shevchuk travelled to Rome to meet with Pope Benedict and he was back here again in recent days for further discussions about the difficult question of reconciliation with the majority Orthodox Churches in his country...

**Listen to Philippa Hitchen's interview with Archbishop Shevchuk on:**  
<http://www.radiovaticana.org/en1/Articolo.asp?c=485794>

## UGCC to investigate statistics in order to reconcile with Orthodox Churches

11 May 2011

The subject of relations between the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church (UGCC) and the Orthodox Churches in Ukraine was discussed in a recent interview of Patriarch Sviatoslav's with the English-language version of Radio Vatican.

In this regard, the new head of the UGCC said: "The main challenge for the church situation in Ukraine is the divide between the Orthodox, and so it is very difficult to form some

relations because if we develop cooperation with one group, the others will feel ignored or rejected. It is very important for us that the special organization, which we call the All-Ukrainian Council of Churches and Religious Organizations, exists in Ukraine. Each religious community that was registered by the state joined the council. It provides certain kinds of opportunities to cooperate, at least to talk and meet together with state authorities and

develop our relations," said the hierarch.

According to the hierarch, the UGCC has a special task: to be the bridge between the divided communities, not only between Catholics and non-Catholics but even, like in this case, between the Orthodox, to create space where they can not only meet with us but also with each other.

Patriarch Sviatoslav says that the UGCC is open to a dialogue with the

Orthodox. "I was 20 when Communism collapsed. And I remember well the tension between the Orthodox and Greek Catholics in western Ukraine. But this tension is no more. And I know well the wounds still carried by our people from that time. There are many of them. Therefore, I speak not only on my own behalf but also on behalf of the communities that were wounded at that time. And I understand this fear, or,

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## UGCC to investigate statistics in order to reconcile with Orthodox Churches

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to put it more precisely, pain of the Orthodox community and the Russian Orthodox who constantly accuse Greek Catholics of destroying their three eparchies in western Ukraine. It is not an easy question. But I think that, first of all, to be able to touch upon that question, we should be open and ready to forgive each other," said

the hierarch in the interview.

In answer to the question if the new head of the UGCC has any practical ideas, ways of promoting the project of reconciliation, Patriarch Sviatoslav responded: "First of all, we are gathering specific information about churches that may be

claimed by the Orthodox and about the current number of their communities in western Ukraine, what kind of relations we have between our communities at the basic, local level, in order for us to have clear statistics about the churches with which we are going to deal, for us to be able to conduct our own investigation. Then we

can study and discuss the real situation, not fantastic figures but real facts and names of villages where there may be some tension. Only after this will we be well prepared to meet with the Orthodox and study specific churches and affairs."

<http://risu.org.ua>

## "In 2020 I would like to see our Church as one body, which exists in the entire world, speaks different languages, and proclaims the Gospel in different countries" – the Head of the UGCC

On May 7 2011 A.D. during his visit to Drohobych (Lviv region), the Head of the UGCC had a meeting with journalists, seminarians and clergy in Drohobych Spiritual Seminary. The UGCC Primate visited Drohobych on the occasion of the celebration of Bishop Julian Voronvskyi's jubilee – the 75<sup>th</sup> birthday anniversary, as well as 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his Episcopal ordination.

Answering the question of the journalists about the priority in his Archipastoral ministry, His Beatitude said, "It is hard for me to single out one such priority." He continued, "You probably noticed that my first

pastoral message had been directed to the youth. I would like the youth to be always a priority in my ministry. I think nowadays our Church is young, not in relation strictly to the age criteria, but taking into consideration the average age of our clergy and religious people. His Beatitude added, "When I said in an interview with Channel 5 television that it is actually very natural to be a young Christian, this fact became a discovery for many Ukrainians. Many people suppose for some reason that only elderly people should attend churches. I am convinced that the future of our Church,

which we should be building now, depends on how profoundly we will be able to initiate young generation into the mystery of Church. How well we are able to transmit to them the fullness of the Divine life which flows from it", concluded the UGCC Primate.

Finally, the Head of the UGCC shared his vision of the UGCC in 10 years, "In 2020 I would like to see our Church as one body throughout the whole world, which speaks different languages, proclaims the Gospel in different countries, but remains one united Church of Eastern tradition. Taking the opportunity of having the seminarians' presence

among us, I would like to call on our dear brothers to consider very seriously a missionary ministry. In these times, our faithful are spread all over the world. Our task is to go there where they are. Our people need priests. Then, it is possible that in 2020 we will have eparchies, metropolitans in Africa, the Far East, and in those countries where our people are. People who are known and unknown to us, but those who definitely need spiritual care, people who need to have a father, knowing that this father from Ukraine really takes care of them."

[www.ugcc.org.ua](http://www.ugcc.org.ua)

## Missionary Sisters of Mother of God Elect New General Council

The General Chapter of Elections of the Missionary Sisters of the Mother of God convened in the Sisters' chapel in Stamford, Connecticut on Tuesday, April 26, 2011. His Grace, Archbishop Stefan Soroka, DD celebrated the Divine Liturgy to the Holy Spirit and afterwards presided at the elections. The following Sisters were elected:

Mother General: Sr. Evhenia Prusnay, MSMG  
First Councilor: Sr. Yosaphata Litvenczuk, MSMG  
Second Councilor: Sr. Ann Binkowski, MSMG  
Third Councilor: Sr. Timothea Konyu, MSMG  
General Secretary: Sr. Antonia Kudlick, MSMG



*Sr. Evhenia Prusnay and Archbishop Stefan Soroka in MSMG chapel at Stamford, CT*

Reverend Mother Evhenia Prusnay, MSMG was born in Ligacao-Parana, Brazil. She is the daughter of the late Paulo and Emilia (Dobrovolsky) Prusnay. She entered the Congregation of the Missionary Sisters of Mother of God in 1957, at the tender age of thirteen. After graduating from Mother of God Academy, she earned an Associate's Degree in Early Childhood Education and later a Bachelor's Degree in Theology. Sr. Evhenia taught pre-school and kindergarten children at the Nursery of the Infant Jesus in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania from 1966 to 2002. For thirteen years, Mother Evhenia was a catechist at Protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church in Bristol, PA, and she continues to instruct parish youth at the Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Philadelphia, PA and has been a curator at the Treasury of Faith Museum, owned by the Ukrainian Catholic Archdiocese of Philadelphia, since its institution. The new Mother General is known for her compassionate, gentle, and sincere personality. She has great love for Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament and for the Mother of God. Sr. Evhenia states that with complete trust in God's Holy Will, she will strive to accomplish her six-year office as a Mother General of the Missionary Sisters of Mother of God.



*Photo: The new council: Sr. Antonia, Sr. Timothea, Mother Evhenia, Sr. Yosaphata, and Sr. Ann, MSMG*

## Ukrainian Church Observes Food Blessing Tradition

Families of St. Anne Ukrainian Catholic Church brought baskets of Easter food to be blessed.

By: Sandra Moyer DeHaven  
originally written for  
<http://doylestown.patch.com>



Regina Pisechko brought her basket filled with items she will serve at her Easter meal on Sunday: hard-boiled eggs, ham, kielbasa, red beet horseradish, cream cheese and a decorated *paska*, a sweet, Easter bread, that granddaughter Danielle Pisechko made.

Coming to St. Anne Ukrainian Catholic Church in Warrington for the customary blessing of the food is something she has done since 1970.

Danielle, of Warwick, came with her this year,

as well as her other granddaughter Samantha Luna, 9, of Philadelphia, who brought her basket of dyed Easter eggs to be blessed.

"It's a tradition," the Warrington woman said as she waited for Father Vasil Bunik's blessing to begin. "And secondly, this brings the whole family together."

The sentiments were echoed by Natalie Stutz, also of Warrington, who came with her own family.

She grew up attending a Ukrainian Catholic Church in Philadelphia where the

blessing of food was practiced as well.

"Hopefully, my kids will continue with this tradition," she said.

The blessing is held on Holy Saturday or after the Divine Liturgy on Easter Sunday.

Each family brings baskets filled with foods they will eat on Easter. Hard-boiled eggs, intricately decorated *pysanky*, Easter bread, butter shaped as a lamb, honey, salt, pepper, kielbasa and horseradish are some of the items.

The foods are symbolic: The meats represent sacrifice. Eggs signify life. Salt is a symbol for self-denial. Horseradish represents bitterness and hardships we endure. The bread is representative of Jesus, and the lamb-shaped butter stands for the lamb of Christ.

The baskets are also adorned with spring

flowers (artificial ones are forbidden) and during the ceremony, each family lights a candle and places it in the basket.

Both English and Ukrainian are spoken during the blessing, which culminates as the priest blesses each basket and family with holy water.

From Good Friday through Easter morning, no meat or dairy products can be eaten. And the food that has been blessed cannot be eaten until after the Easter Liturgy.

The meal begins with sharing the hard-boiled eggs. "*Kristos Voskress*" (Christ is risen) is proclaimed.

"People are still keeping these customs, which are really unique and very beautiful," said Father Bunik, a native of Ukraine.

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# Ukrainian Church Observes Food Blessing Tradition

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Fr. Bunik during the ceremony.



Christina Stutz, left, and her mom, Natalie, with their basket of food.



Samantha Luna shows off her basket of Easter eggs with cousin Danielle Pisechko.

HOLY GHOST UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH  
3015 West 3<sup>rd</sup> Street Chester, PA. 19013



# DINNER NIGHT ITALIAN



Saturday, June 11, 2011  
5:00 PM – 9:00 PM

## MENU OF ALL HOME MADE FAVORITES

### Antipasti

Caesar Salad  
Chicken Marsala  
Eggplant Parmesan  
Shrimp Scampi  
Baked Ziti with Meatballs  
Sausage and Peppers  
Garlic Bread and Rolls



Tiramisu  
Macedon (Italian Fruit Salad)  
Cannoli  
Pizzelle and More!  
  
Coffee, Tea & Soda

### B.Y.O.B.

Bring your favorite bottle of wine.  
Have your friends bring their favorite bottle of wine and have a tasting at your table.  
Set-ups will be available.

### Music

Dinner to your favorite Italians; Dean Martin, Frank Sinatra and others.  
Dance music to follow.

Door Prizes!

**\$20.00 Per Person**

For Reservations please call: 610-494-8734  
*Proceeds to Benefit Holy Ghost Church Heating Repairs.*

Divine Liturgy will be celebrated at 4:00 PM



## **Monasticism – Life of Struggle, Life of Holiness (Part 2)**

When it comes to the monastic life, I think one can view its importance by comparing it to the military. In the Navy, there are two types of officers – line officers and staff officers. Line officers are those officers who direct the actual warfighting and are eligible for command of a ship, or air squadron. Line officers drive ships and submarines and fly aircraft for example. Staff officers, on the other hand, cannot command a ship or warfighting unit, but they instead concentrate on matters that support various units, such as supply officers, doctors, lawyers, engineers, and chaplains. Without the staff corps of officers, the Navy cannot effectively do its job.

Much in the same way, those in the religious life could be likened to the “staff corps” of the Church. They often specialize in areas that assist the Church in various tasks, such as education, medicine, assisting the poor obtain food and clothes, etc. But more importantly, they live their entire lives radically in prayer to a degree that others cannot do. It is the prayers and deeds of monastic men and women that help sustain our Church. Our Church is in desperate need of men and women who are bold and brave enough to leave behind their former lives to answer God’s call to the religious life. Perhaps God is calling you with the challenge to live a life of action in prayer?

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](mailto:ukrvocations@catholic.org)



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



Rev. Paul Wolensky

Pastor of St. Vladimir Ukrainian Catholic Church, Scranton, PA and Sts. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church, Simpson, PA

# DEADLINE EXTENDED!!!



## CENTENNIAL BOOK ORDER FORM (for ads or purchases)

The Sisters of St. Basil the Great are preparing a Centennial Book to commemorate 100<sup>th</sup> Years in America! The Centennial Book will be over 100 pages in length and filled with unique pictures, stories and memorabilia from the Sisters. The book should be completed in time for the Sisters' 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebratory Benefit Dinner on November 6, 2011.

**Advertisements and Greetings.** Part of the book has been reserved for advertisements and greetings from friends of the Sisters, schools, parishes, community organizations, leaders, and anyone else who wishes to support the Sisters. Ads may include business cards, photos (for half-page and full page orders) and messages. Full page and Half page orders will receive a complimentary copy of the book. Orders must be received by May 31, 2011.

**Book Purchases.** Orders to purchase the book are being accepted. Each book costs \$20, plus a shipping and handling fee of \$5 per book. (Full page and Half page advertisements receive a complimentary copy.)

### ORDER INFORMATION

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Email address \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Greetings / Advertisements:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Full Page: x \$500 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Half Page: x \$300 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Quarter Page: x \$200 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Business Card size: x \$100 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Book Purchases:**

\_\_\_\_\_ books @ \$20.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Shipping/handling (\$5/ book) = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
TOTAL for Book Purchase = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Greetings / Advertisements:** Please label all items and mount all items, ready for scanning. An attempt may be made to return original materials, if you request it, but we are not responsible for lost or stolen materials. Electronic formats welcomed: pdf, jpeg, or tif – and may be emailed to [development@stbasils.com](mailto:development@stbasils.com).

**Please return this Order Form and your check to: Sisters of the Order of St. Basil the Great, Centennial Book, 710 Fox Chase Rd., Fox Chase Manor, PA 19046. ADVERTISING DEADLINE: May 31, 2011.**

Sisters of the Order of St. Basil the Great  
Development Office  
710 Fox Chase Rd, Fox Chase Manor, PA 19046  
215-379-3998 [development@stbasils.com](mailto:development@stbasils.com)



# Abortion clinics should be held to the same standard as other ambulatory surgical facilities

**PCC Column May 2011**

By A.B. Hill

The deaths of one woman and seven newborn babies in the Philadelphia abortion clinic of Dr. Kermit Gosnell have many asking how Pennsylvania should respond. One proposal, House Bill 574, aims to improve oversight of abortion clinics by holding them to the same fire and safety standards; personnel and equipment requirements; and quality assurance procedures that are presently applied to other freestanding ambulatory surgical facilities.

Abortion supporters for decades have insisted that the procedure should be legal so government regulators can ensure that it is safe. So why are they so opposed to HB 574? Pro-life advocates would overturn *Roe v. Wade* and ban the procedure. So why would they support a bill to improve abortion clinics?

To answer these seemingly contradictory questions, we must look carefully at what is being proposed and why.

The investigation of Dr. Gosnell's government-approved clinic revealed filthy, unsafe conditions and evidence that unlicensed workers illegally treated patients. Basic standards of cleanliness and infection control were not met. The office had no access for a stretcher in the case of an emergency. Exit doors were padlocked shut or blocked resulting in a delay in the ability to respond in previous emergencies.

A failure to apply standards and a Pennsylvania Department of Health practice to refrain from inspections allowed for the existence of this horrific abortion clinic. House Bill 574 will prevent this from happening again.

Other freestanding ambulatory surgical facilities, such as Lasik surgery centers or colonoscopy clinics, must comply with regulations designed to protect their patients. For example, they are subject to unannounced annual inspections and sanctions or fines for not meeting the most basic health standards. Clinics are required to have a Registered Nurse on site, follow infection control and equipment sterilization procedures, and must accommodate emergency equipment. Therefore, if a crisis occurs, the ambulance crew can get a stretcher into the clinic and quickly get the patient to a hospital.

Critics of HB 574 say it will be cumbersome for clinics to meet the regulations. To comply, some may have to make changes. They claim a similar law in Texas put 18 of 20 abortion providers "out of business, never to return." This statement is misleading at best. A quick internet search for abortion facilities in Texas reveals at least 25 facilities performing the procedure all across the state. In fact, the number of abortions in Texas has increased in recent years, not decreased.

Whether or not abortion clinics in Pennsylvania would close as a result of HB 574 remains to be seen; but Pennsylvanians will agree that it is reasonable to expect clinics where surgical abortions are performed to be held to the same standard as a clinic performing any other surgical procedure.

It is unfortunate that HB 574 cannot put an end to abortion. Until *Roe v. Wade* is overturned, no state legislation can do that. But if abortions are occurring in our state, we must put an end to policies that favor the abortion industry over women's health.

**PCC Column May 2011**

# God Bless Those Receiving First Penance



**Assumption School and Parish in Perth Amboy, NJ**

Kayla, Anali, Jayden, Julie, Vinnie, Andrew, Jasmyn, Daisy, Donovan, Kevin, Joseph, Mia, Matthew, Melasia, Vincent and Sofia. We are grateful to all who have assisted these children on their journey of faith. The list includes but is not limited to, their parents, godparents, grandparents, brothers and sisters, school principal, teachers and this year's catechist Sr. Maria, MSMG.



**St. Anne Ukrainian Catholic Church, Warrington, PA**

Olivia Bennett, Alana Fischetti, Jack Hamilton, and Monica Tysak. They are joined in the picture by their teacher, Jennifer Karpchuk, and Father Vasil Bunik. May God Bless them all!

Seeking more ... exploring the practical side of our faith ...

## Being an Eastern Catholic in Today's World

**Saturday, July 23**

8am Divine Liturgy at the Monastery Chapel  
followed by a men's breakfast nearby



The Catholic Church is a communion of churches with diverse customs and ways of speaking and praying but united in Christ: one faith expressed in different liturgies and theologies. Byzantine Christianity has brought new Life to Ukrainians, Rusyns, other Slav peoples, Greeks, Arabs, and now Americans.

Fr John Seniw will discuss how the way our Byzantine tradition speaks about God can help us better understand our day-to-day life as Christians.

**Fr John Seniw is the pastor of SS Cyril and Methodius  
Ukrainian Catholic Church, Berwick.**

To reserve a place at breakfast, or for more information, contact:  
Bob Leggo at < [BLEggo127@gmail.com](mailto:BLEggo127@gmail.com) > or 570-384-4358; or  
Fr Jerome at < [holydormition@gmail.com](mailto:holydormition@gmail.com) > or 570-788-1212 x 402.

Holy Dormition Friary, home of the Byzantine Franciscans, is located on Pennsylvania Highway 93 at Main Street in Sybertsville, PA 18251. Free-will donations are accepted. This breakfast program is underwritten by a generous donor.

Upcoming: October 1, 2011 - Faithful Use of Modern Medicine  
Dr Joel Shuman, theologian and author, King's College

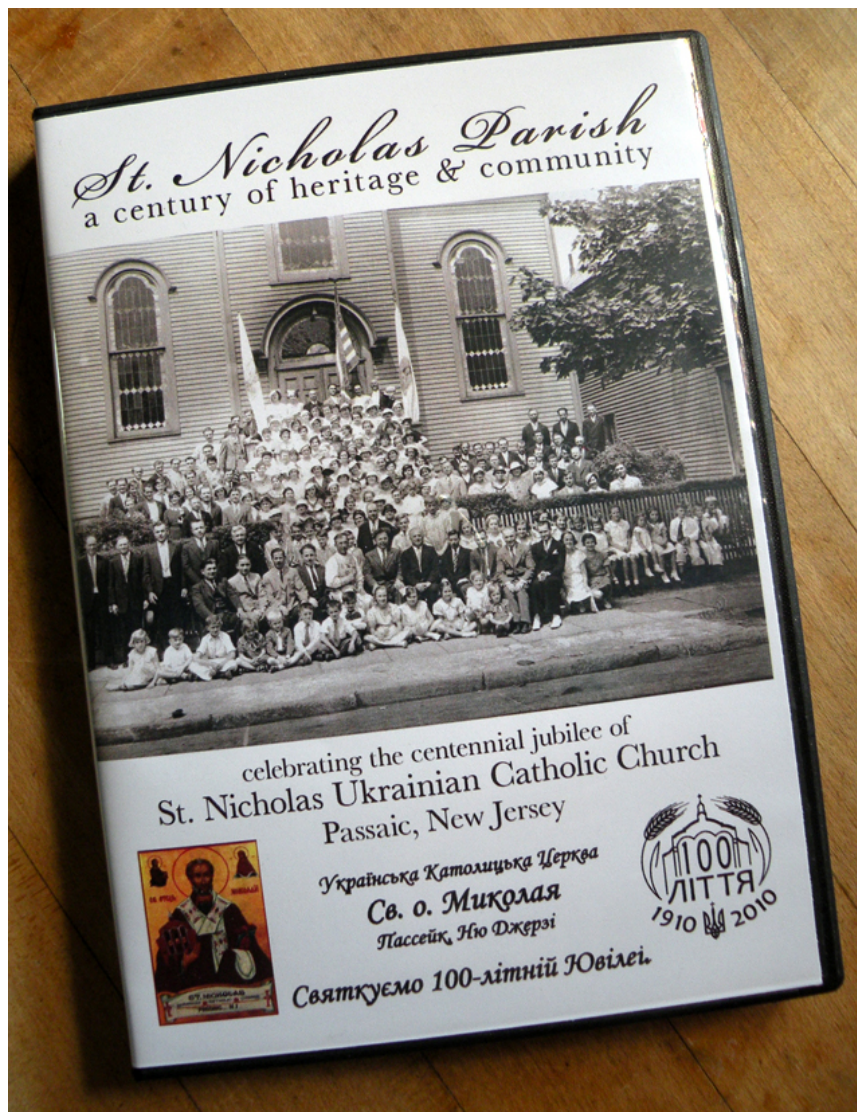
**Holy Dormition Byzantine Franciscan Friary  
Sybertsville, Pennsylvania**

<http://hdbfm.com>

## Cantor from Warrington, PA, enters into eternity

Sadly, the Parish Families of St. Anne and Presentation of Our Lord Ukrainian Catholic Churches Warrington, PA, along with family, friends, neighbors, and students bid a fond farewell to our long time cantor, John Settembrino. John fought a long, hard battle against cancer but is now singing up with the Angels above. Many of his students from Eastern Center for Arts & Technology came to say goodbye. John died at the age of 84 and worked with his beloved students until age 83. He was a Korean War veteran. Many parishioners were proud to call him friend over the years. Father Vasil will miss him dearly as he was always available to help him during Liturgies, funerals, baptisms, frankly anywhere he was needed. He will be sorely missed by us all. We pray for the family he left behind, Anna, his wife of 50 years, his two daughters & their husbands, many nieces and nephews, and especially his beloved grandchildren. Veechnaya Pamyat!

# St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church Centennial Jubilee Celebration on DVD



## 3 Disc DVD set:

*Disc 1. Parish Pulse.* A year long look at the heart and soul of the parish, then and now. *Disc 2. Jubilee Divine Liturgy,* October 24, 2010

*Disc 3. Jubilee Banquet,* October 24, 2010

**One price \$30.**

To order, contact: [stnicholasucc@gmail.com](mailto:stnicholasucc@gmail.com)

## HOW EGG-CITING!

The flyer read – *Pysanky Class – Thursday, April 14 and Saturday April 16* - an invitation to come and experience the beautiful art of Ukrainian Pysanky design and decoration at St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church, Passaic, NJ.

And they came, beginners, intermediates, and experienced pysanky writers.

For the past several years, Mrs. Natalie Warchola has been instructing eager students intent on learning the skills, enhancing their talent, and gathering new insight into this intricate and ancient art form.

This year brought about an unexpected bonus. By serendipity, a parishioner and her high school classmate from 20 years past attended the same pysanky class. Their happy reunion was an unforgettable experience marked by their shared experience of creating an “Easter Egg” in the true Ukrainian tradition. Children and parents alike delighted in their ability to transform a humble white chicken egg into a beautiful pysanka, rich in meaning special to each colorful design.

The classes brought together children, youth, and adults; working together – grandmothers, mothers, fathers, and grandchildren much as it has been for generations in Ukraine. The Saturday class had the pleasure of observing the handiwork of Mrs. Barbara Polowczak, a veteran pysanky writer and life-long parishioner. Over her 88 years, Mrs. Polowczak has evolved her pysanky writing talent into her own art form using plastic eggs of all sizes and permanent markers to create her pysanky. The participants, especially the children, were fascinated by this method and surrounded her, watching intently as she her hands skillfully created a lasting work of art.

At the end of each class, the participants went home with their finished creations. Each pysanka unique to its writer and soon be placed in a spot of honor in their Easter “koshek”, awaiting the blessing on Easter morn.



# ***A Treasure Trove on Display during Night @ the Museum at Saint Nicholas Church***

by Christina Kotlar Turchyn

On Sunday, April 17, the culmination of collecting, organizing and displaying one hundred years of heritage and community archives and artifacts officially opened as the Saint Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church Museum in Passaic, New Jersey.

After the Palm Sunday Divine Liturgy, members of the congregation assembled in the transformed church basement as parish pastor, Father Andriy Dudkewych, blessed each display and on behalf of the St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church parish, graciously thanked Natalie Warchola, exhibit designer and Christina Kotlar Turchyn, story architect and centennial video producer. Along with an accompanying three-disc DVD, the museum extends the 2010 centennial celebration into the next one hundred years with an in-depth retrospective of past and its parallels to present day parish life, heritage and community.

## ***Christina Kotlar Turchyn:***

It all began with getting ready for the St. Nicholas Parish Centennial Jubilee celebration. While the

church interior was being enhanced with building renovations including an all-encompassing Byzantine-style iconography, committee members began cleaning attics, crawlspaces and basements, unlocking closets and moldy boxes that were untouched for years except for an occasional spring cleaning toss. In the process, an enormous amount of old (and blessed) church artifacts –original, worn vestments, religious coverings, church organization’s flags –all were unearthed and waiting to be salvaged, but what to do with it all?

## ***Natalie Warchola:***

I saw a potential treasure trove, a unique and rich history from the time of our early immigrant pioneers building two churches and a school, establishing a rooted community and maintaining it all. They went through taking on enormous debt, the Great Depression, the war years, recessions and still managed to survive as an integrated, thriving parish and Ukrainian community. At a jubilee planning meeting, I suggested that the religious items as well



as old photos, past jubilee books and plaques should be saved, restored and properly show cased in a centralized location. “Good idea, Nataliu,” Father Andriy replied, “a museum could be created in the basement of the church. You’re in charge. Let’s get started right away.” The intention was to have the museum developed, organized and completed by the jubilee celebration day, Sunday, October 24, 2010.

## ***Christina Kotlar Turchyn:***

At the same time, I was commissioned to work on a video about the present day parish that would include church days, holy days, celebrations, iconography and renovations, committees and community events with interviews of former parish priests and parishioners such as 101 year old, Julie Ressetar of Clifton, New

Jersey. I was familiar with the many organizations, St. Nicholas School, church heirarchy and the past generation of parishioners. My mother, Ivanka Shypska, arrived from a West German DP (Displaced Persons) camp on June 8, 1948. She settled in Passaic and waited for my father, Julian Kotlar, to emigrate to the U.S. They married in St. Nicholas Church on Van Buren Street in 1950 and four daughters later—we were baptized, schooled, married and remained a part of the parish community for sixty years. Thus, knowing the history and understanding the parish make up, I started my research with a visit to the church basement.

## ***Natalie Warchola:***

My family, the Strockyj family, also has a long

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# ***A Treasure Trove on Display during Night @ the Museum at Saint Nicholas Church***

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history, past and present although only since the 1960s when we emigrated from Argentina to Passaic. We were robbed of twenty years of savings by the border police and came literally with the clothes on our backs. We arrived Thanksgiving Day 1962 and that following Sunday after liturgy, Mrs. Bakalec remembers Father Bilynsky making the announcement in church of our plight. The good people of this parish came together, outfitted us with clothes, household necessities and the Farmiga family found us a place to live. We were very thankful of everyone's generosity and to this day, I still see those very same people in these pews. And, having to learn English while going to St. Nicholas School turned out to be a memorable experience since Father Bilynsky liked that we spoke another language, calling us *Senor* and *Senorita*. I married Bohdan Warchola and christened our two children in St. Nicholas.

## ***Christina Kotlar Turchyn:***

Natalie's smiling face stands out in the school photos from kindergarten to graduation, but she wasn't smiling when I came by that day. The task

set before her was daunting. It would be the same for anyone – including me – but we dove in and perused through the stacks of photos, books, papers – countless items then finally took time out to find a beginning. Together, an outline emerged, the timeline and number of display cases, built by Paul Hira, were established. Additional bookcases were strategically positioned as the room was painted, ceiling lights and heat vents cleaned and floors scrubbed by dedicated parishioners Anatoli Dolyk, Paul Hira and Father Andriy. Mr. Padko, assisted by Mrs. Padko and Anna Znak, sewed all window and stage curtains. It was starting to look like a museum and we came up with a synchronous plan.

While Natalie worked steadily on the displays, she stained and varnished the hand-crafted wood displays. She also worked with the iconography artisans assisting them by mixing paints and painting 99 stars on the ceiling. As the person in charge of Jubilee Day favors, hall decorations and table arrangements for 500 people, along with the

help of her daughter, Christine Warchola, they made 325 pysanky.

The centennial documentary took form and a life of its own as I gathered and organized hundreds of scanned photos into their tentative position in the timeline, incorporated over 40 hours of footage, interviews, anecdotes, home movies, memories and unforgettable Rev. Father Bilynsky's "oho" impressions. Two music themes used throughout the documentary were composed by violinist, Yuri Turchyn. The second Jubilee Day Divine Liturgy and third disc of the Jubilee Banquet were edited.

Natalie positioned photos and artifacts deftly, with an artistic eye for detail and

groupings that might otherwise seem like unrelated items. I wrote and interpreted the journaling that flowed from one chapter and storyline to the next. As the deadline approached, the work took longer hours to complete sometimes going late into the night. Paul Hira and Anatoli appeared before the weekend to put in the glass covers. There were last minute additions; newly discovered tidbits incorporated; another found image identified then connected to a lesser known fact; tying up loose ends only to open up yet another storyline – essentially falling into the rabbit hole again with a continuously evolving work-in-progress.

It's all on display with a wine and cheese opening reception "A Night @ the Museum" at St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church, Passaic, N.J. on **Friday, June 3, 2011**, 7 to 11 p.m. For more information, email: [stnicholasucc@gmail.com](mailto:stnicholasucc@gmail.com) or reply on Facebook: St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church Museum Event at <http://www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=190816600965127>

## **METROPOLITAN STEFAN'S CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATES**



Christ is Risen!

One of my favorite passages from the Bible is the story of the disciples on the road to Emmaus coming across a stranger who explains to them the meaning of the Scriptures. These disciples only came to recognize the Risen Christ in the breaking of the bread. They go on to share how their hearts were aflame with passion as they listened to the Risen Christ explaining to them the meaning of all that had happened.

This is my prayer and my hope for you as you graduate this year. May your heart be ablaze with love for God and for understanding all that has happened in your life. You have been successful with the help of the Holy Spirit. You have accomplished yet another challenge because you were enabled to do so by a loving and caring God who desires the best for you. God provided from His abundance through meaningful people in your life. Parents and family members, spouses, special friends, and especially those involved in nurturing your learning were guided by God to enable growth and success in your learning. Give praise to God in prayers offered in your parish. Offer thanksgiving for the gift of the people who have journeyed with you, providing for your greater understanding and success. Your graduation is a result of the combined efforts and prayers of many good souls who love you.

Be passionate in your life, embracing your chosen studies and vocation with hope and optimism. Choose to be happy and proud of your worthy achievement in graduating. Search for ways in which you can help others in gratitude for the many blessings you enjoy. We pray that some will respond to a call to serve God as a priest or as a religious sister. Our Blessed Mother rejoiced in her saying 'yes' to God. Don't hesitate to say 'yes' to serve God if you feel His call to serve.

God bless you richly as you undertake the next steps in your life, building upon the knowledge and skills you have acquired in your program of studies. Know that the Risen Christ journeys with you always. Our heartfelt congratulations are offered to you on the occasion of your graduation. We offer our prayers of thanksgiving and for your continued success!

God grant you many blessed and happy years, "na mnohaya lita"!

Christ is Risen!

May, 2011



# Moms, others use Shenandoah brunch to enjoy day together

BY THOMAS LESKIN (STAFF WRITER TLESKIN@REPUBLICANHERALD.COM)

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SHENANDOAH - Giving area mothers a chance to get out of the kitchen and enjoy some quality time with their family, St. Michael Ukrainian Catholic Church hosted its Mother's Day Brunch on Sunday.

The menu, which included items ranging from scrambled eggs to sliced chicken with gravy, was prepared by chef Bob Ford, Shenandoah, who is in charge of the church's catering service.

"It started out slow, then it started picking up," Ford said. "I'm glad people are coming in and enjoying what they're getting."

Ford has been working with the catering service for the past three months - although he said he's been a chef all his life - and is also an EMT medic. One of the mothers in attendance was Michele Caputo, Ringtown, with her husband and three sons, plus her own mother, Catherine Dudish, Shenandoah.

Dudish said she has two children and six grandchildren.

"We aren't cooking today and we knew it was a brunch and there would be a little something for everybody," Caputo said. "We just wanted to enjoy our day together."

While the brunch was meant to celebrate mothers, a group of friends, all from Shenandoah, came out to spend Mother's Day together and enjoy a homestyle meal.

"I told my friends there's good food down there, that the cook is superb and he's going to cook on Mother's Day," said Bill Boychak, Shenandoah, who was there with his wife, Anna.

The others with the Boychaks included Rose Marie Jurewicc, Toni Pancerella and Frank and Theresa Matino.

"We are all good friends and we came out here to be together on Mother's Day," said Pancerella.

The church will also host a brunch on Father's Day.

The church caters other events as well, such as



*David McKeown/Special Photo: Catherine Dudish, Shenandoah, fills her plate with food during the Mother's Day brunch Sunday at St. Michael Ukrainian Catholic Church, Shenandoah. Catherine is a mother of two and a grandmother of six.*

weddings and birthday parties.

Monsignor Myron Grabowsky, pastor, said that the church tries to help people as much as possible, such as by giving a free meal to the poor every Monday called Loaves and Fish.

"There are many people that are disadvantaged,"

Grabowsky said. "As a church, we should be able to reach out and help people."

<http://republicanherald.com>

(Article was reprinted with permission from the *Republican Herald*.)

## SAINTS CONSTANTINE AND OLENA (May 21)

*Jesus said: "Very truly I tell you Pharisees, anyone who does not enter the sheep pen by the gate, but climbs in by some other way, is a thief and a robber. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice. But they will never follow a stranger; in fact, they will run away from him because they do not recognize a stranger's voice." Jesus used this figure of speech, but the Pharisees did not understand what he was telling them. Therefore Jesus said again, "Very truly I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who have come before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep have not listened to them. I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out, and find pasture. (Jn. 10, 1-9)*



Saint Constantine the Great was born in Serbia on February 27, 274. His parents were Constantius Chlorus, an ambitious army officer, and Olena (often called Helena), whose birthplace was in Great Britain. When Constantius Chlorus became one of the four rulers of the huge Roman Empire, he divorced his wife Olena, re-married, and took his son Constantine to train and serve in the army. Saint Olena rarely saw her son Constantine in those days. However when Constantius Chlorus died, Constantine, then thirty two years old, was chosen by the army to be emperor. From that time on Olena, as mother of the emperor, frequently was with her son who

showed her real love and honor.

Until the rule of Constantine the Great, Christians underwent much persecution. They were often forbidden to gather together for prayer. Those who refused to honor pagan gods were deprived of their jobs and possessions. They were exiled; some were put to terrible deaths. Early in his reign, Constantine, though still a pagan, passed a law forbidding the persecution of Christians. Not only were people to be allowed to worship as they chose, but the Christians whose property and position had been confiscated were to have them restored.

Being a powerful ruler meant that Constantine often had to

fight against those who challenged his authority. It is said that once when he knew he would face a strong opposing army, he decided to pray to the God of the Christians for assistance. Suddenly, at noon, he and his army saw a cross of fire in the clear sky and beneath it the words, "Through this sign you will conquer." In his sleep that night, Constantine dreamed that he saw Christ holding a cross and saying that he should go into battle with the sign of the cross. Constantine the Great had a banner made with the first two letters of the name Christ on it. As predicted, he was victorious in battle. Later on, Constantine abolished the cross as a means of putting criminals to death and ordered that it was to be

regarded with the greatest respect.

Constantine the Great was very generous to his mother, Empress Olena. He gave her money to help the poor and to build churches. When Saint Olena, by now an elderly person, went to the Holy Land, she became inspired to look for the cross upon which Our Lord Jesus Christ had been crucified. One day, in her search for the cross, workmen found three crosses buried in the ground on Mount Calvary. In order to identify which of these was the true cross, Olena had each cross touched to an incurably ill woman. When one of these crosses healed this woman when it touched her, Saint Olena knew

*(continued on next page)*

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**May 23-25, 2011:** Spring Clergy Conference in Hershey, PA.

**June 3, 2011:** "A Night @ the Museum", wine and cheese reception, St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church, Passaic, NJ, 7-11pm. For information contact: stnicholasucc@gmail.com

**June 5, 2011:** The Archeparchial Office of Religious Education will hold the 1st Annual Festival of Children's Religious songs, at the Cathedral in Philadelphia, PA, 3 pm. Please contact Fr. Volodymyr Popyk at 215-627-0143 or Ukrainian Catholic Priests.

**June 5, 2011:** LUC Meeting, St. Vladimir Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, Scranton, PA, 2pm

**June 11, 2011:** Dinner Night Italian, Holy Ghost Ukrainian Catholic Church, 3015 West 3rd St, Chester, PA, 5pm - 9pm. For Reservations please call: 610-494-8734.

**June 18, 2011:** Centennial Open House - Basilian Motherhouse

**June 26, 2011:** 12 to 6 pm - Ukrainian Festival and Dinner at St. Anne's Ukrainian Catholic Church - 1545 Easton Road - Warrington, PA 18976

**July 23, 2011:** "Being an Eastern Catholic in Today's World", Holy Dormition Byzantine Franciscan Friary, Sybertsville, Pa, speaker Fr. John Seniw. For more information, contact: Bob Leggo at BLeggo127@gmail.com

**August 13-14, 2011:** Sister Servants of Mary Immaculate's Holy Dormition Pilgrimage, Sloatsburg, NY.

**September 26-29, 2011:** Clergy Retreat in Long Branch, NJ.

**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.

## SAINTS CONSTANTINE AND OLENA

*(continued from previous page)*

that the cross of Jesus had been found. She had a church built on the spot and part of the cross was placed in a rich silver shrine there. To this day, we observe the day marking the finding of the true cross as a holyday called the Exaltation of the Holy Cross.

Both Constantine the Great and his mother Olena became baptized Christians before they died. Each is today honored as a saint of the Catholic Church.

As members of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, we often make the sign of the cross. Let us learn from the examples given us by the lives of Saint Constantine the Great and his mother Saint Olena to revere the cross. Then we shall carefully, with three joined fingers of the right hand, trace the cross on ourself as we say the words honoring God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. Truly then will the cross be a blessing upon us.

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