

The Sisters of the Order of St. Basil the Great Elect New General Administration in Rome

On July 8-24, 2013 the Tenth General Chapter of the Sisters of the Order of Saint Basil the Great was held in Rome. On Friday, July 19th, according to the new calendar, the Feast of Saint Macrina, the sister of Saint Basil the Great, who is considered to be the founder of the female branch of the Basilian monastic tradition and is the patron of the Sisters of the Order of Saint Basil the Great, a Celebratory Divine Liturgy for the members of the Capitula was led by Bishop Dionysiy (Liakhovych), the Apostolic Visitor for Ukrainian Greek-Catholics in Italy and Spain. On that day the sisters were also commemorating the 60th anniversary of the centralization of the Order, meaning the union of the monasteries under the leadership of the Generalate in Rome.



Photo (l. to r.): Sister Dia, Sister Lydia Anna, Sister Mariela, Sister Daniela and Sister Nazariya. (<http://www.basiliansisters.org/x-generalchapter.html>)

The sisters-delegates began the election process for the new General Superior. Rev. Konstantin Adam, rector of the Papal Institute Angelicum, an expert in canon law, presided over the election. Sister Dia Stasiuk from the Province of the Most Holy Trinity in Ukraine was chosen as the General Superior for the coming six-year term. We note that Sister Dia already fulfilled this role in 1989-2001.

The election of the main advisers who will assist the General Superior in managing the Order was held on the following day. Sr. Lydia Anna Sawka from USA was chosen as the First Councilor and Vicar, Sr. Mariela Rotzen from Argentine was chosen as Second Councilor, Sr. Daniela Stefkova from the Slovak Republic was chosen

(continued on next page)

Highlights inside this issue:

+Bishop Lotocky Funeral - Pg. 4

Metropolitan Stefan's Announcements - Pg. 6

Knights of Columbus - Pg. 7

Basilian Sisters Jubilee - Pg. 9

Seminary Day - Pg. 14

History of the diaconate - Pg.16

The Sisters of the Order of St. Basil the Great Elect New General Administration in Rome

(continued from previous page)

as Third Councilor, and Sr. Nazariya Mykhaylyuk from Ukraine were chosen as Fourth Councilor.

The Basilian Sisters are members of an international order which unites the female

monastic communities of various Eastern Catholic Churches of the Byzantine tradition, basically monastic traditions which follow the order of Saint Basil the Great. The Main administration is in Rome, while the

order is composed of eight provinces (Argentina, Croatia, Poland, Romania, Slovak Republic, and two in USA), two vice-provinces (Croatia and Slovak Republic), three delegatures (Australia,

Brazil, Hungary) and the contemplative monastery of the Sacred Heart in Middletown, USA.

Adapted from the article on <http://www.ugcc.org.ua>



The Chapter body is pictured with the new Administration.
(<http://www.basiliansisters.org/x-generalchapter.html>)



Feast of the Dormition of the Most Holy Mother of God - August 15th

As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him. She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet listening to what he said. But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to him and asked, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!" "Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things, but only one thing is needed. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her." As Jesus was saying these things, a woman in the crowd called out, "Blessed is the mother who gave you birth and nursed you." He replied, "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it." (Lk. 10: 38-42; 11: 27-28)

(continued on next page)

Feast of the Dormition of the Most Holy Mother of God

(continued from previous page)

The Feast of the Dormition or Falling Asleep of the Mother of God commemorates the death, resurrection, and glorification of Christ's mother.

By promulgating the Bull *Munificentissimus Deus*, 1 November, 1950, Pope Pius XII declared infallibly that the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary was a dogma of the Catholic Faith. Likewise, the Second Vatican Council taught in the Dogmatic Constitution *Lumen Gentium* that "the Immaculate Virgin, preserved free from all stain of original sin, was taken up body and soul into heavenly glory, when her earthly life was over, and exalted by the Lord as Queen over all things.

As with the Nativity of the Virgin (September 8) and the feast of her Entrance to the Temple (November 21), the Feast of the Assumption also comes from the Tradition of the Church. There we learn that Mary died as all people die because she had a mortal human nature affected by the corruption of this world. The Church proclaims that Mary needed to be saved by Christ just

as all of us are saved from trials, sufferings, and death of this world. Having truly died, she was raised by her Son as the "Mother of Life" and already participates in the eternal life of paradise which is prepared and promised to all who "hear the word of God and keep it." (Luke 11:27-28) Finally, we celebrate the fact that what happens to Mary happens to all who imitate her holy life of humility, obedience and love.

It is important to remember that there are no relics of the Mother of God. Their existence has never been mentioned throughout history. At one time in Constantinople there was a center of pilgrimage where the belt and veil of the Virgin were venerated.

From the Tradition of the Church

Following the day of Pentecost, the Mother of God remained in the city of Jerusalem, comforting the infant Christian community. She was living in the house of the beloved Apostle John, later the Evangelist. At the time of her death (tradition states she was in her early fifties) many

of the Apostles were scattered throughout the world preaching the Gospel. All but Thomas were miraculously brought to the Virgin aloft on clouds.

As they stood around her bedside, she commended her spirit to the Lord and Jesus descended from Heaven, taking up her soul in His arms. The Apostles sang the funeral hymns in her honor and carried her body to a tomb in Cedron near Gethsemane. When a Jewish man tried to interrupt their solemn procession, an angel of the Lord came and punished him by cutting off his hands, which were later healed.

The Apostle Thomas arrived on the third day and wished to see the Virgin for the last time. They discovered an empty tomb. Church tradition relates that the Mother of God was resurrected bodily and taken to heaven, the same reward that awaits all the righteous on the Last Day.

The Icon of the Dormition

The Mother of God is depicted upon the funeral

bier. Christ, standing behind the Mother of God, is her Son, Who has come to receive His Mother's soul into heaven; He holds in His left arm an infant in white, symbolizing the soul of the Mother of God reborn in her glory in heaven; Christ also is robed in white and appears in an aureole (elongated halo) depicting the Light of His Divinity. This imagery is the reversal of the imagery of Mary holding the infant Jesus in her arms in swaddling clothes at His nativity.

The Apostles are depicted on either side of the bier stand the Apostles; the group on the left is led by St. Peter who stands at the head of the bier; the group on the right is led by St. Paul who stands at the foot of the bier. Below the bier is a figure of Antonius the Jew, who tried to disrupt the procession, was punished, but later repented of his sins and embraced Christianity through Baptism.

<http://www.theologic.com/>

BISHOP INNOCENT LOTOCKY, OSBM 1915-2013



Retired Bishop of St Nicholas Eparchy in Chicago, +Innocent Lotocky fell asleep in the Lord July 4, 2013. His funeral services and burial were celebrated July 12 and 13 in Chicago at St Nicholas Cathedral and the parish cemetery.

At age 97 he was the oldest bishop in the Ukrainian Catholic Church worldwide. Bishop Innocent was relatively active until recently. On June 29, he was admitted to the hospital with breathing difficulties.

The future bishop was born November 3, 1915 in Stary Petrykivci, (Ukraine) the youngest of two daughter and two sons of Stefan and Maria

(Tytn). At age 13 he entered the Gymnasium of the Basilian Fathers in Buchach. After completing his studies in 1932, he entered the novitiate of the Basilian Fathers in Krechiv, pronouncing his solemn vows August 8, 1937.

At age 25 he was ordained to the priesthood by Bishop Blessed Paul Peter (Gojdich, OSBM) of Presov, in Omolouc (Czechoslovakia) on November 24, 1940. He did pastoral work in Vienna (Austria) while earning a Doctorate with a dissertation theme "The Holy Spirit in the Liturgy."

He did additional pastoral work in Belgium, and in 1946 came to the

United States He was Superior and Master of Novices in Dawson, Pennsylvania. Five years later he became the Provincial Superior of the Basilian Fathers. In 1953 he was made pastor of St George Ukrainian Catholic Church in New York City, New York. In 1958 he was appointed Novice Mater in Glen Cove, Long Island, New York until 1960 when he was named Superior and in 1961 pastor of St Nicholas Parish, in Chicago, Illinois.

It was in 1961 that the Eparchy of St Nicholas was established. The parish was named a cathedral, staffed now by clergy of the eparchy. From 1962-1981 he served as

pastor and Superior of Immaculate Conception Parish in Hamtramck, Michigan. During this time Fr Innocent was also named a delegate to the General Chapter of the Basilian Fathers (1963) and from 1962-1980 was also a member of the Provincial Council of the Basilian Fathers in the United States. Upon the death of Bishop Jaroslav (Gabro), he was chosen as the second eparch of St Nicholas Eparchy.

On March 1, 1981 he was elevated to the episcopal dignity by Patriarch Joseph (Slipyj), along with co-consecrators Bishop Basil (Losten) of Stamford and Bishop Neil (Savaryn OSBM) of

(continued on next page)

BISHOP INNOCENT LOTOCKY, OSBM 1915-2013

(continued from previous page)

Edmonton. He served as the Eparch of St Nicholas until his retirement on July 2, 1993.

Among the duties as eparch, Bishop Innocent ordained 35 men to the diaconate. Some of those deacons were among the 21 priests ordained by Bishop Innocent. Additionally in 1983 he was the principal consecrator of Bishop Vladimir (Tarasevych, OSB) along with co-consecrators Archbishop Daniel Kucera, OSB and Bishop Emil (Mihalik), as bishop for the Belarusian Church, also in Chicago. Subsequently Bishop Innocent was a co-consecrator of Bishop Robert (Moskal) in 1981; Bishop Michael (Kuchmiak) in 1988; Bishop Walter (Paska), 1992; and, in 1993, his successor as Eparch of St Nicholas, Bishop Michael (Wiwchar, CSsR).

Even as a retired bishop, Bishop Innocent maintained a presence in the Eparchy of St Nicholas. He regularly celebrated the Divine Liturgy at St Nicholas Cathedral, becoming, in 1997 Chaplain to the Senior Citizens Club at

the cathedral parish.

Funeral services for Bishop Innocent were celebrated on Friday and Saturday, July 12 and 13 at the cathedral. Early in the afternoon on Friday the body of Bishop Innocent was borne into the cathedral by priests of the eparchy. This was followed by a panakhyda celebrated by Bishop Richard (Seminack), the current Eparch of St Nicholas Eparchy and eparchial clergy. Visitation was continuous throughout the day until an evening Parastas was celebrated.

During the time until the Parastas, a Panakhyda was celebrated by Bishop Daniel of the nearby Ukrainian Orthodox Diocese, along with several priests and deacons from various parishes in the vicinity.

Concelebrating the panakhyda were Metropolitan Archbishop Stefan (Soroka) of the Archeparchy of Philadelphia; Metropolitan Emeritus Stephen (Sulyk) of Philadelphia; Bishop Richard (Seminack); Bishop Paul Chomnecky, OSBM) of Stamford;

Bishop Emeritus Basil (Losten) of Stamford; Bishop Emeritus Michael (Wiwchar, CSsR) of Saskatoon and Bishop Hlib (Lonchyna) of the Eparchy of the Holy Family, London, England. Provincial, Father Philip Sandrick, OSBM delivered a homily/eulogy of the Monk-Bishop Innocent to the other concelebrating clergy, including many Basilian Fathers, and the numerous faithful present.

Choirs and faithful from a number of parishes were on hand to sing the responses for the funeral rites composed so many centuries ago to serve as a prayerful comfort to all who attend and participate, as well as a petition to the Almighty God in Whose presence each one stands, for mercy and justice in judgment.

The concelebrants were joined at Saturday morning's Divine Liturgy for the deceased bishop by Bishop John (Bura), Apostolic Administrator of St Josaphat Eparchy of Parma, and, representing the Archbishop of Chicago Francis Cardinal George, Auxiliary Bishop

Francis Kane, as well as a number of clergy who were unable to be present for the parastas.

Concluding the prayers, Metropolitan Stefan -- having read the Prayer of Absolution--placed it in the hand of Bishop Innocent. Then followed the oil anointing, and the "Farewell Kiss" by all present.

Priests again bore the body---this time from the cathedral to the waiting hearse. A large cortege followed for twelve miles to St Nicholas Cemetery for the committal service, the burial and the sealing of the grave "until the Second Coming of Christ."

Bishop Innocent was laid to rest accompanied by the ever-repeated "May his memory be eternal!"

**By Rev. John Lucas,
Saint Nicholas
Eparchy, Chicago**

<http://esnuc.org/news-events/news/2013/july/17/bishop-innocent>

ANNOUNCEMENT TO ALL CLERGY AND FAITHFUL

Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka will be absent from the Archeparchy for the Synod of Ukrainian Catholic Bishops and travel in Ukraine from August 9th through 26th, 2013. The Vicar General, Very Rev. Msgr. Peter Waslo will be participating in a pilgrimage group travelling in Ukraine for the consecration of the new Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of the Holy Resurrection. He will be absent from August 13th through 26th, 2013.

Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka has appointed Very Rev. Andriy Rabi, Vice-Chancellor and Pastor of Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church in Reading, PA as the Vicar-General for the period of August 13th through 26th, 2013. He will attend at the Chancery and oversee operations regularly during this time period.



Patriarchal Cathedral of the Holy Resurrection in Ukraine

Metropolitan Stefan's Schedule for August, 2013

- Aug. 3 Celebrate Divine Liturgy of Thanksgiving at Sister Servants of Mary Immaculate in Sloatsburg, on occasion of 70th anniversary of Sr. Tharasia Hladio, SSMI, 60th Anniversary of Sr. Bernitta, SSMI, Sr. Consolata, SSMI, and Sr. Stephanie, SSMI.
- Aug. 4-7 Participation in the Supreme Convention of the Knights of Columbus, Dallas, TX at which time the Knights of Columbus will formally announce the establishment of the Knights of Columbus in Ukraine and Lithuania.
- Aug. 9-18 Participate in the SYNOD of the Ukrainian Catholic Bishops, Kyiv, Ukraine, concluding with the Consecration of the new Patriarchal Cathedral of the Holy Resurrection.
- Aug. 19-26 Participate in Archieparchial Pilgrimage of Faithful in Ukraine (Lviv, Yaremche, Kamianets, Podilsky, Chernivtsi, and Zarvanytsia).
- Aug. 31 Concelebrate Holy Matrimony of daughter of staff member at St. Michael the Archangel Ukrainian Catholic Church, Jenkintown, PA.

Knights of Columbus expands to Ukraine and Lithuania; His Beatitude Sviatoslav via Video Addresses Knights of Columbus Convention

San Antonio—During the 131st Annual Supreme Convention of the Knights of Columbus, held here August 6-8, Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson announced that the Order has established two councils in Ukraine and a round table in Lithuania. This is the Knights' first international expansion since the Order established councils in Poland in 2006.

"Our presence in Lithuania and Ukraine, along with our growing numbers in Poland, gives us even deeper roots in Europe," said Supreme Knight Anderson.

The origins of the Order's expansion to Ukraine go back to 2005, when Cardinal Lubomyr Husar, now the major archbishop emeritus of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, attended the 123rd Supreme Convention in Chicago. Cardinal Husar was invited to give the homily during a concelebrated Mass at the convention. A video excerpt was screened during the Wednesday business session at this year's convention.

"I wish to thank you

very much for the good example you are giving," Cardinal Husar said. "I am happy to hear that our closest neighbor, Poland, is already one step ahead of us and has invited the Knights of Columbus to be instituted in their land. I hope that this will happen also for us."

Nearly 100 men in Ukraine joined the Knights at a series of exemplification ceremonies in 2012 and 2013. Among those who took their First and Second Degrees were Major Archbishop Sviatoslav Shevchuk, who succeeded Cardinal Husar in 2011, and Archbishop Mieczyslaw Mokrzycki of Lviv, who was a longtime under-secretary to Pope John Paul II and Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI.

Metropolitan Archbishop Stefan Soroka, of the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia, was introduced at the States' Dinner Tuesday evening, as the representative of His Beatitude, Sviatoslav Shevchuk.

During the business session Wednesday, after



Metropolitan Stefan with brother bishops listens as Cardinal George delivers the homily during the 131st Knights of Columbus Convention in San Antonio, Texas. (View more photos from the Convention at <http://www.kofc.org>)

the video excerpt from the homily of Cardinal Husar during the 2005 Chicago Convention was shown, the convention viewed the following video message from His Beatitude Sviatoslav:

Glory be to Jesus Christ!

This marvelous medium

allows me to personally express my gratitude on behalf of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, to the Supreme Knight, Sir Knight Carl Anderson, his Supreme Officers, and all of the Knights of Columbus of this valued and esteemed

(continued on next page)

Knights of Columbus expands to Ukraine and Lithuania

(continued from previous page)

international order gathered for its annual Supreme Convention in San Antonio, Texas. We happily rejoice with the establishment of the Knights of Columbus in Ukraine, a process begun with the personal invitation extended by my predecessor, His Beatitude, Lubomyr Cardinal Husar at the 123rd Supreme Convention in Chicago. Much has been dutifully accomplished since then by many dedicated Supreme Officers and delegates, and Knights of Columbus from the USA and Canada. We are grateful for the special efforts extended by the Assistant Supreme Advocate and Supreme Director Sir Knight Michael O'Connor, a Special Assistant to the Supreme Knight and Past State Deputy Sir Knight Lawrence Sosnowich, and for the efforts of the specially formed Ukrainian speaking degree teams from Manitoba, Canada. The combined and steadfast efforts of many have led to the successful establishment of the Knights of Columbus in Ukraine.

Ukraine, has around 46 million inhabitants. Many

identify themselves as members of the Orthodox faith. Some five million are Ukrainian Greek Catholics in addition to a smaller number who are the Roman Catholics.

Our Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church has suffered severe persecution during the oppressive communist past. Churches were destroyed. Bishops, clergy, religious and tens of thousands of faithful suffered martyrdom for the faith. Their gift of great sacrifice calls forth our re-energized zeal in the celebration of our faith. We are rebuilding our basic structures and renewing our faith with God's abundant grace. Our people thirst to know God and to grow in their faith. The challenges for evangelization are immense amidst our own faithful and for all residents of Ukraine.

We are strengthened and encouraged by the support offered to us by such esteemed Catholic institutions such as the international order of the Knights of Columbus. The cherished and practiced ideals of the Knights of Columbus, namely that of charity, unity, fraternity and patriotism,



A video message from His Beatitude Sviatoslav Shevchuk was shown at the Knights of Columbus Convention.

resonate deeply with the soul of a Church and a people experiencing a vivid resurrection in its spiritual and moral life. We are confident that the bond between the Knights of Columbus and the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church will enrich the journey of growth in our faith and serve to evangelize the faithful.

Please be assured of my fervent prayers offered for the Supreme Knight, Carl Anderson, for his Supreme Officers and to all Knights of Columbus and their family members participating in this 131st annual Supreme Convention. May the famous Texan hospitality and the intercession of St. Anthony, for whom your host city is named,

warm your hearts and your spirits. We rejoice that now becoming part of this international Catholic family of the Knights of Columbus, rejoicing in our fraternity as brothers and sisters in Christ.

Slava Isusu Khrystu! Glory be to Jesus Christ!

Archbishop Mokrzycki and Archbishop Gintaras Grusas of Vilnius, Lithuania, also delivered remarks during the Aug. 7 business session.

(This story includes material from **Knightline** August 8, 2013.)

BASILIAN SISTERS CELEBRATE JUBILEES

"We gather to give thanks to God and to witness the joy experienced living the religious life by seven members of the Order of the Sisters of St. Basil the Great," said Rev. Daniel Troyan, Basilian Motherhouse chaplain, during a Divine Liturgy of Thanksgiving celebrated in Holy Trinity Chapel, Fox Chase Manor, on Saturday, June 29, 2013. The Sisters came together to honor the faithfulness and constancy of jubilarians: Sister Bohdonna Podney, OSBM-80 years of vowed life, Sister Paula Jacynyk, OSBM-65 years, Sister Marie Francis, OSBM-60 years, Sister Elizabeth Bertoldi, OSBM-60 years, Sister Maria Gerard Jesepe, OSBM-55 years, Sister Genevieve Kotyk, OSBM-55 years and Sister Joann Sosler, OSBM-55 years. Father Dan spoke of the Sisters' growth in their vocations, the challenges they faced and the limitations they may have experienced with growing older in body, but not necessarily in spirit. "May you (Jubilarians) realize how much you are loved and supported as members of your religious sisterhood."

As a symbolic gesture of her continued desire to live the religious life as a member of the Order of the Sisters of St. Basil the Great, before the reception of the Holy Eucharist, each Jubilarian approached the tetrapod and with her hand upon the Holy Bible renewed the sacred vows first pronounced at the ceremony of her solemn profession.

At the celebratory dinner that followed, Sister Dorothy Ann, OSBM, Provincial Superior, commended each jubilarian for her years of faithful dedication whether in teaching or administration, orphan care or pastoral ministry and, most of all, for her deep commitment to the religious life and the outpouring of gifts to the Ukrainian Catholic Church. "We offer gratitude from the quiet of our hearts for all of you," said Sister Dorothy Ann, "for you have blessed our lives and our community."

The Sister Jubilarians gratefully received the congratulations of the members of their community and voices were raised in song to wish them "Many Happy Years". <http://www.stbasils.com/Events/JubileeJuly2013.html>



Photo (l to r):

Front Row:

Sr. Elizabeth Bertoldi, Sr. Marie Francis Walchonsky, Sr. Bohdonna Podney

Back Row:

Sr. Maria Gerard, Sr. Paula Jacynyk, Sr. Joann Sosler, Sr. Genevieve Kotyk

+ Sr. M. Nadia Barusewycz, O.S.B.M. falls asleep in the Lord



Sister M. Nadia Barusewycz O.S.B.M., religious sister, professor and psychiatrist, died Saturday, July 27, 2013, at Holy Redeemer Hospital. She was 89.

Born in Lviv, Ukraine, Iryna Daria Barusewycz, the daughter of the late Theophil and Olena Jarymowycz Barusewycz grew up in war-torn Europe; she received her Doctor of Medicine degree at the University of Innsbruck, Austria and then emigrated to the United States with her family after World War II, settling in New York City. Iryna served her medical internship at Columbus Hospital in Newark, NJ. She entered the convent of the Sisters of St. Basil the Great in 1954 and professed her final vows in 1960. During her time at the convent, Sister Nadia earned her medical degree in psychiatry. Her ministry was vast: she worked at Albert Einstein Medical Center in Philadelphia, specializing in child and adolescent psychiatry; she served as a psychiatric consultant for the Philadelphia Public Schools (SED classes); she was a professor at Manor College in Jenkintown, PA; and she worked with the Mental Health Center in Philadelphia as a child and adolescent psychiatrist. Within the Basilian community, Sister Nadia served as Superior at St. Basil's Home in the Lindley section of Philadelphia; she was also part of the Basilian Provincial Council from 1985 to 1989 and was General Councilor in Rome, Italy from 1990 through 1996 (while in Rome, Sister served as Superior to Holy Trinity Province in Lviv, Ukraine for a period of time after the fall of communism). Her work continued within the community until illness forced her to stop.

Sister Nadia was a member of the Ukrainian Medical Association (Phila. Branch) and the Montgomery County Medical Society

Sister Nadia is survived by her sister-in-law, Yaroslawa Barr, her niece, Iwanna Kaczor (Bohdan), great-niece Sofia Kaczor, great-nephew, Ivan Kaczor, great-great niece Camille Bobiak and the Sisters of St. Basil the Great community.

She is predeceased by her parents, her brothers: Dr. Iwan Barr (Barusewycz) and Dr. Mykola Barusewycz (the late Sofia);

Her viewing was held on Wednesday, July 31st, at 6 PM at Holy Trinity Chapel on the Basilian Motherhouse grounds, 710 Fox Chase Rd., Fox Chase Manor, PA. Parastas prayers were sung at 6:30 PM. Sister's funeral was held on Thursday, August 1st, with Requiem Liturgy celebrated at 11 AM. Burial followed at the convent cemetery.

<http://www.fletchernasevich.com>

May Our Lord grant her rest in the bosom of Abraham, number her among the saints, and may her memory be eternal. Vichnaya pamyat!

59th ANNUAL HOLY DORMITION (ASSUMPTION) PILGRIMAGE
AUGUST 10 – 11, 2013

ST. MARY'S VILLA / SLOATSBURG, NY
SISTERS SERVANTS OF MARY IMMACULATE

Theme: *One Lord, One Faith, One Baptism*

Saturday, August 10

12:00 noon FOOD AVAILABLE AT PAVILION
THROUGHOUT WEEKEND

2:00 – 3:30 p.m. Workshops – (See below)

5:00 p.m. Divine Liturgy –

Rev. Jack Custer, main celebrant (grotto – English)

Eparchy of Passaic

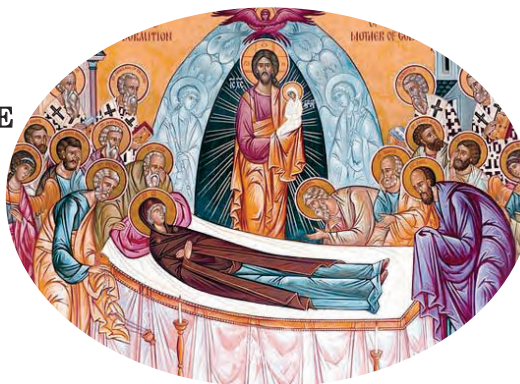
Choir – Cantor Joseph Durko and Chanters from the Byzantine Catholic Church of the Resurrection, Smithtown, NY

Blessing of Water (front of Villa)

8:00 p.m. Moleben to the Mother of God with candlelight procession (grotto – English)

Rev. Edward Cimbala - main celebrant / homilist – Administrator of the Eparchy of Passaic

Panahyda – St. Mary's Villa chapel



Sunday, August 11

8:00 a.m. Lamentations to the Mother of God – Rev. Edward Young, celebrant (chapel - English)

10:00 a.m. Pontifical Divine Liturgy and procession with icons of the Mother of God, and the martyrs Blessed Josaphata and Blessed Tarsykia followed by blessing of flowers

Most Rev. Basil Losten, Bishop Emeritus of Stamford – Celebrant / Homilist

Most Rev. Stephen Sulyk, Archbishop Emeritus of Philadelphia

Choir: St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church, Passaic, NJ

12:00 p.m. Youth Liturgy - Rev. Vasyl Behay, main celebrant / homilist (chapel – English)

1:00 – 1:40 p.m. Ukrainian Workshops – (See below)

1:00 p.m. Procession for children/youth

1:30 p.m. Healing Service with Akathist (St. Mary's Villa chapel & grotto steps)
Blessing of Religious Articles (front of St. Joseph's) - Rev. Edward Young

2:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross - Rev. Maxim Kobasuk, OSBM
Activity for children – Sr. Eliane, Sr. Tekla

3:00 p.m. Moleben to the Mother of God (Ukrainian –grotto)
Rev. Ihor Midzak – main celebrant / homilist

Blessing of cars and buses – Rev. Ivan Tyhovych

CONFESSION AVAILABLE THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE WEEKEND

Workshops - "One Lord, One Faith, One Baptism"

Saturday (English) all presentations will be in the gallery

2:00 Rev. Jack Custer – "One Lord"

2:45 Sr. Michele Yakmovitch, SSMI – "One Faith"

3:30 V. Rev. Archpriest Bohdan Danylo – "One Baptism"

Sunday (Ukrainian)

1:00 Rev. Leo Goldade, OSBM – "One Lord & One Faith"

1:40 V. Rev. Archpriest Bohdan Danylo – "One Baptism"

*****Youth Campout – Sr. Natalya, SSMI *****

V. Rev. Archpriest Bohdan Danylo, Pilgrimage Spiritual Moderator

UKRAINIAN FOLK FESTIVAL

Celebrating the 22nd Anniversary of Ukraine's Independence



August 24, 1991

SUNDAY, AUGUST 25

12:00 noon
"TRYZUB"



UKRAINIAN-AMERICAN SPORT CENTER
County Line & Lower State Roads ~ Horsham, PA
(267) 664-3857 ~ www.tryzub.org



ISKRA Ukrainian Dance Ensemble
(Whippany, New Jersey)



Voloshky Ukrainian Dance Ensemble
(Philadelphia, PA)



Innesa (Lviv, Ukraine)



Fourth Wave
Ensemble



Vox Ethnika Orchestra (New York City)

12:00 - 1:30 Music and Dancing - "Karpаты" Orchestra

1:30 - 4:30 Festival Stage Concert

12:00 – 5:00 P.M. – Folk Arts and Crafts Vendors – Displays and “Bazaar”

1:00 - 4:00 P.M. - Children's Fun Area: Amusements, Fun & Games



4:30 - “Zabava” Dance: VOX ETHNIKA ORCHESTRA

Ukrainian Ethnic Foods and Baked Goods

BBQ ~ Picnic Food ~ Cool Drinks & Refreshments

ADMISSION: \$15.00 ~ STUDENTS - \$10 ~ KIDS 14 & UNDER FREE ~

FREE PARKING

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



September 29, 2013

**Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral
of the Immaculate Conception
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania**

We invite all our married faithful to join with our
Metropolitan Archbishop +Stefan Soroka
at our Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral September 29, 2013
for the celebration of their Wedding Anniversaries
at a Divine Liturgy at 11:00AM
followed by a Banquet in their honor.

Registration Form:

Husbands Name _____
Wife's Name _____
Address _____
Parish _____ Phone _____
Email _____ Years Married _____
Number of Guests _____

Deadline for Registration

Cost: \$50.00 per Anniversary Couple \$30.00 Per Guest

Mail to: Office for Evangelization 827 N Franklin Street Philadelphia PA19123

Make checks payable to *Archeparchy of Philadelphia.*

UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC ARCHEPARCHY OF PHILADELPHIA

Ukrainian Seminary Day an event of the past, present and future

BY JOHN E. USALIS (REPUBLICANHERALD.COM)

Published: July 29, 2013

PRIMROSE - The 79th annual Ukrainian Seminary Day held Sunday had elements of the past, present and future.

The ethnic festival at St. Nicholas Grove looks to the past, lives in the present and has a vision to the future because of what it does in raising funds for St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Seminary in Washington, D.C.

Regarding the past, the event remembers the Ukrainian immigrants who came to this country and preserved their cultural heritage and their strong religious faith, which included support of those who answered their vocations to the priesthood and consecrated religious life.

For the present, the day keeps alive the heritage of those who came to the United States more than a century ago and afterward through the Divine Liturgy and other religious traditions celebrated by those in the priesthood.

And for the years, to come, seminarians are the future of the priesthood and the event provides the funds to train priests to continue the Christian mission.

The day began at 11 a.m. with a Hierarchical Divine Liturgy in St. Nicholas Hall. The main celebrant was Metropolitan Archbishop Stefan Soroka, head of the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia and spiritual shepherd of Ukrainian Catholics in the United States. Concelebrants were priests of the South Anthracite Protopresbytery, or deanery, parishes and other churches. The Rev. Deacon Paul Spotts of St. Michael Ukrainian Catholic Church, Frackville, assisted at the Divine Liturgy.

"I praise your determination in how you gather every year so beautifully in this annual seminary day and how you support one another as a community," Soroka said. "You are unique in our archeparchy. We have six deaneries and your deanery gathers all of the churches



Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka offers the Homily in St. Nicholas Hall, Primrose, at the the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy for Ukrainian Seminary Day.

together annually for Ukrainian Seminary Day to support the seminary and the future priests that will serve you and the candidates for the diaconate. You come together as one family.."

Archbishop Soroka introduced the Rev. Roman Sverdjan, a native of Ukraine who was ordained in late June. Sverdjan spoke about vocation and after the Divine Liturgy he offered his first priestly blessings to everyone who came to him.

Outside the hall, the celebration began with a two-hour remote radio broadcast featuring polka music by WPPA-

AM 1360, Pottsville.

Due to heavy overnight rain that resulted in a wet outdoor stage, the Kazka Ukrainian Folk Ensemble, which has been performing folk music and dance for 26 years, performed inside the hall, to the delight of hundreds of people.

At 4 p.m., John Stevens and his Doubleshot polka band performed on the outside stage until the event ended at 8 p.m.

Vendors outside sold Ukrainian-themed articles, while inside the hall were Ukrainian art items such as pysanky

(continued on next page)

Ukrainian Seminary Day an event of the past, present and future

(continued from previous page)

eggs, matryoska (nesting dolls) from Russia and artwork.

People also bought tickets to win one of the 30 theme baskets created by the deanery parishes.

As always, homemade food was a big draw, including halushki, halupki (pigeons/stuffed cabbage), kielbasa, BBQ, sausage with peppers and onions, bean soup, clam chowder, bleepies, hamburgers, hot dogs, french fries, funnel cake, ice cream and baked goods. The menu included homemade pierogies with butter and onions and this year fried pierogies were added due to requests.

Each year's

commemorative program features a particular topic, which has been the history of each deanery parish in recent years. This year's focus was on "Honoring Our Deacons," which included the history of the diaconate from the time of St. Stephen, the history of the diaconate in the archeparchy, what a deacon does, and the future of the diaconate.

Ukrainian Catholic Seminary Day began in 1934 at Lakewood Park, Barnesville, and continued through the 50th anniversary held in July, 1983. Seminary Day was a "coming home event" for many of descendants of Ukrainian immigrants who left the coal region to work in



The Kazka Ukrainian Folk Ensemble performed inside the hall, to the delight of hundreds of people.

the larger cities. The Seminary Day tradition at Lakewood Park ended in 1983, the year the park was permanently closed.

In 1985, Ukrainian Seminary Day was revived and moved to Primrose. The deanery parishes have been among the strongest supporters of the seminary appeal since the seminary was founded. From 1985 through 2012, Ukrainian Seminary Day has raised more than \$580,000 for St. Josaphat's Seminary Fund, which provides financial support for St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Seminary, adjacent to the campus of The Catholic

University of America in Washington, D.C. It is the only Ukrainian Catholic seminary in the United States. St. Josaphat is the patron saint of Ukraine.

The South Anthracite Protopresbytery is comprised of 12 churches in the counties of Schuylkill (Frackville, Maizeville, McAdoo, Middleport, Minersville, Saint Clair and Shenandoah), Luzerne (Hazleton), Northumberland (Marion Heights, Mount Carmel and Shamokin) and Columbia (Centralia).

**h t t p : / /
republicanherald.
com**



Rev. Deacon Paul Spotts incenses.

Deacons: Something New or Something Old?

by Reverend Deacon Paul Makar

Brief History of the diaconate: For those people who are fortunate enough to have a deacon assigned to their parish in the Ukrainian Catholic Church, usually one sees a man who piously assists the priest or the bishop in the celebration of the Divine Liturgy. He is prominently seen standing before the iconostas leading the petitions of intentions that the congregation is offering up in worship. But has this always been the case?

The office of the deacon has been with us ever since biblical times. We hear about the deacon starting with Stephen the protomartyr and deacon. He was stoned in Jerusalem for his beliefs when he boldly gave witness to the life and actions of Jesus Christ in front of the assembly at the Temple in Jerusalem. We first find reference to the origins of the diaconate in the New Testament scripture in the Acts of the Apostles. Acts 6:1-4: "In those days when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenistic (Greek speaking) Jews among them complained against the Hebraic Jews

because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food. So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, "It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables. Brothers and sisters, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word." As a result, the diaconate was the establishment of a service of ministry for selected men to assist the Apostles in managing the distribution of alms.

The deacon was a person who was chosen for their piety, good reputation, and wisdom to help out the church in ministering to the day to day activities of the church (i.e., help with food and alms distribution to the poor, assisting the priest/bishop with various tasks, etc.). With the expansion of the Church starting after the legalization of Christianity as the official state religion of the Holy Roman Empire in 315 AD by Emperor Constantine the Great, the office of

deacon by this time had taken on a very important role. Deacons had great responsibilities assigned to them. However, this ministry that became a very important part of the early church's hierarchy during the first 600 years of the church would not last and would start to decline in importance through the next few centuries as the Presbyterate (Priesthood) began to take a more dominant position in the church. The priest became firmly rooted in his role as a parish administrator united to the local bishop, and as priests took on more and more ministries, the diaconate became a liturgical ministry, seen only as a transitional training ground for those preparing for the priesthood. This would not change until very recently after Vatican II, whereby the ministerial role of the diaconate would slowly be reintroduced, especially with the global demand for ministers able to serve certain needs of the Church.

The Fathers of the Vatican II Council in 1964 encouraged the restoration of the ministry

of deacons in the church and in 1967 Pope Paul VI issued the document *Sacrum Diaconatus Ordinem*, which fulfilled this recommendation. In 1968 the American Bishops requested that celibate and married men are ordained to the permanent diaconate and in 1971 the first ordinations to the permanent diaconate for the Roman Catholic Church took place in the USA. The deacon is a reminder to us all that Christ is in the world and present to all of us as a servant.

So what does this mean to us today? No longer is the view that the diaconate was merely a stepping stone to the priesthood, for the diaconate is in its own right, a critical ministry for the Church. The diaconate is one of the three Holy Orders of the Church—the other two being the priesthood and the office of bishop. Some of the most familiar deacons in both the Eastern and Western Churches were St. John Chrysostom who wrote and delivered his greatest sermons as a deacon in Antioch, while St. Athanasius wielded his

(continued on next page)

Deacons: Something New or Something Old?

(continued from previous page)

most decisive doctrinal influence in Alexandria. There were also other well-known saints who spent their entire ministry as deacons: St. Romanos or Roman the Melodist, St. Ephraim, St. Lawrence, and St. Francis of Assisi.

Brief History of the diaconate in the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia:

As a result of Vatican II, it was not until the 1980's that married men would be ordained to the Holy Order of Deacon in the Metropolitan Archeparchy of Philadelphia. Before ordination to the priesthood, all men are first ordained and serve in the office of deacon for a period of time. These deacons serve a very important ministry and then continue their priestly formation at St. Josaphat Seminary in Washington, DC.

In accordance with Eastern Church canon law, a diaconal candidate who is preparing for ordination to the diaconate and the priesthood must be married before his ordination to the diaconate. Also, please

note that there is no permanent diaconate in the Ukrainian Catholic Church. If a married deacon has met the requirements for priesthood and most importantly has the permission of his bishop, he can be ordained to the priesthood. He also has the option whether married or celibate to remain a deacon. Seen in the photo (top right) are the first three married deacons that were ordained and served in the Metropolitan Archeparchy of Philadelphia: (l. to r.): Deacon Jonathan Morse, Deacon Paul Makar, who was ordained on March 25, 1987 by Metropolitan Stephen Sulyk at the Ukrainian Catholic Church of the Assumption in Perth Amboy, NJ and Deacon Arthur Dochyck who was ordained on February 14, 1988 at St. Vladimir's Ukrainian Catholic Church in Elizabeth, NJ by Metropolitan Stephen Sulyk.

Three additional men were then ordained by Metropolitan Stephen Sulyk to the diaconate. They were Deacon Michael Waak ordained a deacon on June 24, 1989 at the Ukrainian



(L to R): Rev. Deacon Jonathan Morse, Rev. Deacon Paul Makar, and Rev. Deacon Arthur Dochyck. ("The Way" - July 3, 1988)



First Diaconal Retreat and Workshop at St. Josaphat Seminary August 17-20, 1988. (Seated L to R) Deacon Arthur Dochyck, Rev. John Bura, Bishop Michael Kuchmiak, Rev. Roman Mirchuk and Deacon Paul Makar; (Standing L to R) John Szanajda, Dr. Robert Markovitch, Lance Lohr, Michael Waak, Donald Latrick, Theophil Staruch.

Catholic Church of the Assumption in Perth Amboy, NJ. The following year, Theophil Staruch and Donald Latrick from

the Ukrainian Catholic National Shrine of the Holy Family parish in

(continued on next page)

Deacons: Something New or Something Old?

(continued from previous page)

Washington, DC were ordained to the diaconate by Metropolitan Stephen Sulyk on November 18, 1990 at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Philadelphia, PA. During the late 1980's and earlier 1990's, diaconal conferences were held at the Chancery in Philadelphia and at St. Josaphat's seminary in Washington, DC. The photo (on the previous page) was a weekend diaconal workshop held at our seminary. Bishop Michael Kuchmiak (Diaconal Spiritual Director), Msgr. John Bura (Rector of St. Josaphat), and Fr. Roman Mirchuk were instructors for the program.

Ten years later two more deacons were ordained. On June 4, 2000 Deacon James Bremer from St. Nicholas parish in Minersville, PA and Deacon Theodore Spotts from Transfiguration of Our Lord parish in Shamokin, PA were ordained to the diaconate by Metropolitan Stephen Sulyk at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Philadelphia, PA. We now had seven deacons serving in archieparchial parishes. These men

(six married and one celibate) would be the first or original deacons in our Metropolitan Archeparchy.

It was almost ten years before there would be two ordinations to the diaconate and one to the sub diaconate at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Philadelphia, PA. On October 17, 2009 Deacon Paul Spotts from St. Michael's Ukrainian Catholic Church in Frackville, PA and Deacon Charles Schultz from St. Mary's Ukrainian Catholic Church in Bristol, PA were ordained to the diaconate, along with Subdeacon Roman Oprysk from the Immaculate Conception Cathedral who was ordained to the subdiaconate. They were ordained by Metropolitan Stefan Soroka.

Recently, seminarian Roman Sverdun from the Ukrainian Catholic Church of the Nativity of the BVM in New Brunswick, PA was ordained by Metropolitan Stefan Soroka to the diaconate on June 17, 2012 at the Nativity of the BVM and most recently ordained to the priesthood by Metropolitan Stefan



(L to R): Rev. Daniel Troyan, Msgr. Myron Grabowsky, Rev. Deacon Paul Spotts, Msgr. Peter Waslo, Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka, Rev. Deacon Charles Schultz, Subdeacon Roman Oprysk, and Rev. Ivan Demkiv on October 17, 2009.

on June 23, 2013 at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception.

Subdeacon Walter Pasicznyk from St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Church in Bethlehem, PA was recently ordained a deacon at his home parish on May 19, 2013 by Metropolitan Stefan.

What does a deacon do? The Deacon's primary function is Liturgical (liturgical diakonia or service, assistance). Throughout the services the deacon calls the congregation to order with phrases such as "Wisdom" or

"Let us be attentive". The deacon leads the faithful in prayer by singing the petitions of the ektenias. The deacon may preach the homily, although often the homily is usually delivered by the presiding bishop or priest. The deacon summons the congregation to communion – "Approach with the fear of God and with faith". The deacon, with the permission of the bishop or pastor, may distribute the Holy Eucharist. The deacon may also direct Catechetical, Evangelization, and Pre-Cana Marriage, Pro-life programs or other

(continued on next page)

Deacons: Something New or Something Old?

(continued from previous page)

suitable ministries with the consent of his pastor. He may make visitations to the sick and shut-ins, and may also make regular nursing home and hospital visits.

How does one become a deacon?

SUGGESTIONS TO HELP IN THE DISCERNMENT PROCESS:

In becoming a deacon there are two stages that must be completed before ordination: (1) the aspirant stage – This is where the prospective candidate is discerning

if God is calling him. If he desires to enter the program, he should speak with his pastor and then complete the application process. (2) The candidate stage – At this stage, a man who has been accepted into the program as a diaconal candidate, will continue his personal discernment of God's call and begin theological, spiritual, and pastoral formation. The formation program usually lasts four to five years before a candidate is ordained to the diaconate.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Bachelor degree or higher is recommended.

Candidate should be able to complete all requirements for ordination by age 60.

Candidate should be an active member of the Ukrainian Catholic Church for at least 5 years.

Ability to read and understand the Ukrainian language is helpful.

Psychological testing and background check will be required.

The main components of the program include Theological, Spiritual, Liturgical, and

Pastoral formation along with supplemental programs in music, preaching, and rubrics.

ENTERING THE PROGRAM

If a man believes God is calling him to the diaconate and believes he would meet the admission criteria, it is usually recommended that he discuss the program with his pastor. He should then contact the Chancery Diaconate office and request an application packet. This packet includes the application form and if married, a questionnaire for the candidate's wife. These completed documents should be sent to the Chancery. Upon

receipt, the Chancery will send an evaluation form to the pastor. An interview with the Archieparchial Diaconal board will be required before admission into the program. Candidates may begin theological studies in the fall or spring semester at a Catholic University or Roman Catholic diaconal program. A theological, spiritual, and pastoral formation program will be developed for the candidate after acceptance into the Archieparchial Diaconal Program. After ordination, deacons are assigned to parishes to assist the pastor in his ministry with the faithful. While deacons are usually assigned to parishes in the area near their residence, deacons are not necessarily assigned to their home parishes.



First row (L to R): Rev. Deacon Walter Pasicznyk and Metropolitan Stefan. Top row (L to R): Rev. Paul J. Makar and Rev. Robert Hitchens on May 19, 2013.

If you should have questions regarding the diaconal or other programs for the Priesthood and Religious Orders, contact the

**Ukrainian Catholic
Archeparchy of Philadelphia
Office of Vocations – Diaconate
Program
827 North Franklin Street
Philadelphia, PA 19123
Phone: 1-215-627-0143
Email: ukrvocations@catholic.org**

Bishop Habash Visits Metropolitan Stefan

Most Rev. Yousif Habash, Bishop of Our Lady of Deliverance Syriac Catholic Diocese in the United States and Canada visited with Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka on Wednesday, July 24th. The visit included a tour of our Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception and our "Treasury of Faith" Ukrainian Catholic Museum located on Franklin Street in Philadelphia. Bishop Habash is developing eparchial structures and ministries to serve the many faithful of his Syriac Catholic Diocese in the USA, settling particularly in the New Jersey, Chicago and Detroit areas, and in various California cities. He is attempting to assist the many faithful leaving Iraq and neighboring countries due to the horrific violence and persecution being experienced by Christians. We are pleased to provide the counsel and expertise assistance of various offices of our archeparchy to assist in the major challenges being addressed by Bishop Yousif Habash. The visit concluded with a lunch enjoyed with Metropolitan Stefan and the staff of the Chancery. Let us pray for Bishop Habash and for his faithful.



Bishop Habash and Metropolitan Stefan at the Chancery.



On a tour of the Treasury of Faith Museum.

New Construction Project at the Cathedral

On July 30, 2013 crews have started work on the construction of a handicapped accessible bathroom at the Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Philadelphia, PA.



Ukrainian Festival at Assumption Church, Perth Amboy, NJ

The first annual Ukrainian Cultural Festival was held Saturday, June 22, 2013 on the church grounds at the corner of Meredith Street and Paderewski Avenue. Under the direction of Rev. Ivan Turyk, in his third year leading the Perth Amboy Parish, the event was a huge success showcasing Ukrainian heritage and raising funds.



With this festival, the Ukrainian Assumption Church, a fixture in the city for 105 years, has recommitted to opening its arms and embracing the community. Throughout the sun filled day, the 1000 guests, including Congressman Frank Pallone and Mayor Wilda Diaz, had the opportunity to sample delicious Ukrainian and American cuisine, enjoy traditional ethnic dance and vocal performances and purchase beautiful items from various vendors. The children had fun playing games, winning prizes and getting their faces painted. Visitors also had the opportunity to tour the beautiful church and school, which is celebrating its 50th Anniversary with a banquet on October 12, 2013. Coming off of this triumphant venture, Father Ivan has already announced that the second annual festival will be held on June 21, 2014. Save the date!

Please view pictures from the festival on the parish web page at:
www.assumptioncatholicchurch.net/azcms/gallery.php



Rev. Ivan Turyk and Mayor Wilda Diaz at the festival.

Vacation Bible School at St Michael's in Shenandoah "Kids Stand Strong for God"

"Kingdom Rock-Totally Catholic Vacation Bible School" was an exciting week for the children who attended Vacation Bible School at St Michael's Ukrainian Church in Shenandoah.

The program provided a wonderful experience of community and faith. The first day the children were given a wristband with the words "Watch for God" which reminded them to see God in each other, creation and activities throughout the day. They received a crown to remind them they are a part of God's Kingdom.



Each day of the program the children were introduced to a Bible Memory Buddy, a Bible Point, Bible Story and a key Bible Verse. The week was filled with activities, Scripture, drama, crafts, songs, snacks and lots more.

To help the children remember the lesson for the day they received a Bible Buddy to add to their necklace and a band to take home and share the lesson for the day with their parents. Also each day the children were introduced to a new Saint whose life inspires and guides them in their Catholic faith. These people of the Faith serve as a reminder that we are all called to be Saints. We are all called to live the Death and Resurrection of Jesus in our daily lives.

What a great week! The program was designed by Sister Mary Jane Dunleavy, Sister of St Joseph, Director of Religious Education at Saint Stephen Parish in Port Carbon.

St. Michael's was blessed to have the children of the community attend, and the hard work and support of parishioners from St. Michael's, St Nicholas & other local parishes.

Metropolitan Stefan Blesses Cars at Chancery



In honor of the Feast of St. Elijah, the Great Prophet (July 20), Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka blessed cars of the Chancery Staff in the Parking Lot of the Chancery a day early on July 19, 2013. (Photo by Rev. Ihor Royik)

“Take Us Out to the Ball Game”

Every year Father Andriy Dudkevych, pastor of St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church in Passaic, NJ, treats the altar servers of the church to a fun-filled trip. This is done in gratitude for the boys' dedication, devotion, and participation during liturgies, molebens, and all other church services.



On Wednesday, June 12, 2013 the altar servers attended a NJ Jackals baseball game. During the game, Fr. Andriy treated the boys to cold drinks and ice cream. Some boys equipped with mitts caught foul balls, others were given free baseballs, and most had their picture taken with Jack the Jackal, the mascot. With the exception of some mild sunburn, an enjoyable afternoon was had by all!

Picture and article by Lecia Stec-Peltyszyn

UCCA MEETS WITH NEWLY-CONFIRMED U.S. AMBASSADOR TO UKRAINE



Washington, D.C. (UNIS) – On Wednesday, July 17, 2013, members of the Executive Board of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA) participated in a series of meetings in Washington, DC. UCCA President Tamara Olexy; UCCA National Council Chairman Stefan Kaczaraj; UCCA Executive Secretary Marie Duplak; and, Ukrainian National Information Service (UNIS) Director Michael Sawkiw, Jr. had the distinct pleasure of meeting with the newly-confirmed U.S. ambassador to Ukraine, the Honorable Geoffrey Pyatt, at the U.S. Department of

State. In addition to the UCCA Executive Board members, the Ukrainian Catholic and Orthodox Churches were represented by Bishop Paul Chomnycky and Bishop Daniel, respectively, as well as by Rev. Robert Hitchens of the Ukrainian Catholic National Shrine of the Holy Family and Rev. Vasyl Pasakas of St. Andrews Ukrainian Orthodox Church in South Bound Brook, NJ. Other participants included the Honorable Bohdan Futey, member of the UCCA Advisory Council, and Kvitka Semanyshyn representing the Providence Association of Ukrainian Catholics. Adapted from the article on: <http://ucca.org>

Martyrs of 20th century

June is the month to commemorate the new martyrs of Ukraine. These 27 holy men and women of the 20th century were beatified by His Holiness Blessed Pope John Paul II on his historic trip to Ukraine in June 2001. The Feast of Blessed Nicholas Charnetskyi, Blessed Emilian Kowcz and companions is celebrated on June 27.

"I saw [Bishop Nicholas]. He was a very humble person. The first time I came for instruction from the bishop, he was sweeping the house. I wanted to help him, to take the broom, but he didn't let me. He himself swept. 'Have a seat,' he said. I was embarrassed that the bishop was sweeping, but I was sitting, because he wouldn't let me. He told how many priests who had signed over to Orthodoxy came to him to confess ... nearly 300 priests. They repented and came to him." — From an interview with Fr. Vasyl Voronovskyi



Brief biographies of the martyrs are available at http://www.papalvisit.org.ua/eng/gcc_bio.php

Icon courtesy of the Ukrainian Catholic University

Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church Working on New Beatification Processes

Kateryna Labinska

8 July 2013

On June 27 the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church (UGCC) honored the blessed martyrs who gave their lives for the faith and the church in the twentieth century. This day in the church calendar has been celebrated for 12 years, ever since John Paul II beatified 27 martyrs during his visit to Lviv. The most famous of them are Bishop Mykola Charnetsky (for many years hundreds of

pilgrims would gather at his grave at the Lychakiv Cemetery in Lviv, before his reburial in the Church of St. Josaphat); Father Mykola Konrad of Stradch (to where there are traditional pilgrimages); Righteous Among the Nations Father Omelian Kovch, who died in a German concentration camp for having saved Jews and became known as the "Pastor of Majdanek." Liturgical prayers have been composed and

icons have been painted for them...

'Saints Are Signposts in Our Lives'

Basilian Hieromonk Polikarp (Martseliuk) heads the Postulation Center for the Beatification and Canonization of Saints of the UGCC, a church institution that collects information and documents the lives of those whom the church wants the faithful to emulate by declaring

them saints. He explains why there is such an institution: "The process of declaration of saints is the perpetuation of the memory of the heroes, the faithful and priests who have left their mark on the life of the church. Therefore, the requirements for candidates for beatification include the following: a person who belonged to the church and who has passed

(continued on next page)

Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church Working on New Beatification Processes

(continued from previous page)

away; the memory of his or her virtues or martyrdom lives among the faithful; the grave of this person gathers many visitors, and his or her name, especially on the day of his or her death, is on the lips of the faithful and appears in newspapers or online forums."

According to Father Polikarp, if society forgets a worthy person, it shows its level – it is unlikely it will continue to evolve and have great prospects for the future. "The 2nd-century Church Father Tertullian said: 'The blood of the martyrs is the seed of the Church.' They nurtured in our church what we have now – people in churches,

people conscious of their vocations. And now so that the people have positive models and so that temptation does not penetrate to the depths of the heart, so that indifference doesn't grow, the church offers examples of saints for their faithful to follow," says Father Polikarp. "Saints are the signposts in our lives. On the road, signs warn of danger, help us find the right direction. Thus the church shows the correct path and possible obstacles on it."

The head of the postulation center draws attention to the example of Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky. "He suffered for his desire for Christian unity, always lived in danger, Russians arrested him on charges of 'Mazepynstvo' [derogatory term for the Ukrainians' liberation movement in the Russian Empire], the Polish government isolated him during the war in the wards of St. George's Cathedral, and among Ukrainians were those who accused him of sympathizing with Orthodoxy. When Metropolitan Andrey was

in exile in Russia, he was taken in by a Russian bishop and later in Lviv the metropolitan took him in when he became a fugitive. Metropolitan Andrey defended the Ukrainians' right to their own state, but also called for cooperation between nations in the newly created Second Polish Republic. Metropolitan Andrey was a peacekeeper, who in time of war was a model of how to remain human under any circumstances. The metropolitan's pupils continued his work, as martyrs they were killed for their faith in exile. Many priests who were his pupils did not flee abroad, did not leave their flocks."

Father Polikarp gave examples of priests who followed the guidance of their metropolitan, in particular, Father Josef Ostashevsky, who in the village Pidberiztsi near Lviv at the time of the German occupation looked after patients with typhoid fever. His name is on the list of Servants of God that will be reviewed in Rome as candidates of martyrs.

Immediately after John

Paul II's visit to Ukraine, the Postulation Mission continued the processes of new martyrs of the UGCC – some were not ready in time for the visit of Pope John Paul II, and other names emerged later. All in all, there are 45 names on the list, with the pastor of Stebnyk Father Petro Mekelyta at the top. Most of them are priests who were killed by the Communist regime in World War II. But the list also includes a lay woman, 27-year-old Mariya Shveda who was brutally murdered in the 1980s. And the youngest "member" of the beatification process is a 25-year-old Redemptorist monk Marian Halan. While in the Soviet army, he was accused of spreading religious propaganda.

How does the Postulation Mission work? Father Roman Lahish, vice postulator in the case of Father R. Bakhtalovsky, explains it as follows: "This organization is called on by the church to collect all existing material on the person who is postulated (from Lat. recommended) to

(continued on next page)



Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky

Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church Working on New Beatification Processes

(continued from previous page)

be a saint and therefore with all the necessary criteria can be presented before the Catholic Church. Postulation work also includes searching for and gathering eyewitness accounts of the lives of the candidates for beatification or canonization.

“We must celebrate heroic virtue, that is, how in a particular time and under specific circumstances, a person bore witness to the faith. After all, in different times there are different expressions of holiness. For example, at one time the clergy helped cities to overcome the plague and consequently become saints. In the twentieth century, during the totalitarian regimes, they bore witness to the faith in other ways – for example, hid Jewish children, as Metropolitan Andrey did in the cellars of St. George’s Hill. Or they died in Siberia because they do not renounce their church. All saints are very different, as God builds sanctity on a human foundation. There are those who had an excellent education as well as very simple parish priests who were

committed to tradition and who did not make any compromises.”

According to canon law, the fastest beatification process can begin within 5 years after the death of the person: it is believed that if the person’s life was full of Christian virtues, he will remain popular among believers during that time. Thus a temporal break is needed so that the process is not started in the wake of some emotional excitement.

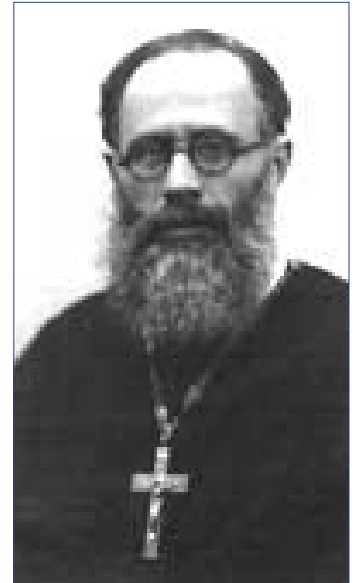
The Canonization Process of Blessed Charnetsky

The Catholic Church distinguishes the concepts of beatification and canonization. If a person is canonized, that is, declared a saint, it is mandatory that he is commemorated by the Universal Church; when a person is beatified (declared blessed), it is limited to the local church or even to a city or monastic community. As such, 27 martyrs have been declared blessed in the UGCC, but it is likely that some of them will be canonized in the future, at least

in the case of the most beloved by Ukrainian believers Blessed Mykola Charnetsky, who is known for his healing power.

For the beatification process to be completed, it must be proven that a miracle has taken place by his or her intercession. However, in the case of martyrdom, a miracle is not required. It is believed giving one’s life as a witness for the faith is sufficient for confirming the sanctity of the person. But to be canonized, a miracle is necessary.

Researching the fates of these people is daily routine work. Employees of the Postulation Center must submit to the Vatican a collection of documents and eyewitness accounts that confirm the practice of virtues or martyrdom glory. It is necessary to study archival materials, compare it to testimonies, write a detailed biography, and translate key documents and testimonies into Italian. This is the first part of the process that takes place in the eparchy where the Servant of God lived and worked. During the second, so-called Roman part, historians and



Blessed Mykola Charnetsky

theologians determine whether this person exhibited Christian virtues and that his or her life was given as a witness for the faith of the Catholic Church. Developing one case can take several months. Sometimes there is a lack of testimonies, and sometimes contradictory facts are found. Eyewitnesses tend to be older and they are hard to find and to talk to, as they may be intimidated. And sometimes there are no living eyewitnesses, and then the case is based on archival documents.

(continued on next page)

Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church Working on New Beatification Processes

(continued from previous page)

Other Beatification Processes in the UGCC

In addition to the beatification processes for new martyrs, the UGCC is working on a few individual beatification processes relating to:

— Father Roman Bakhtalovsky – the founder of the Congregation of the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary in Fatima, who died in 1985; his case is being carried out by confirming his heroic virtue;

— Basilian Father Jeremiah Lomnytsky – honored church leader, co-founder of the Order of the Sisters Servants, well known in his time among Russian Greek Catholics; died in 1916 in exile;

— Father Kyryl Seletsky – co-founder of the Congregation of Sisters Servants and co-founder of the Sisters of Saint Joseph the Betrothed, successor of Don Bosco in implementing non-authoritarian education (died in 1918).

Also, it seems that

finally the decades-long beatification process of Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky is coming to an end. The case is being reviewed in Rome. There have been numerous statements about his healing power. Recently in Stradch the head of the UGCC Patriarch Sviatoslav expressed hope that by Metropolitan Andrey's anniversary in 2015 his beatification process will be complete. Furthermore, the process of beatification of Cardinal Josyf Slipyj has been started.

Other Interesting Facts

Sometimes the beatification or canonization processes last for decades or even a century. Sometimes the Servant of God (such as Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky) left a large academic or theological heritage that must be carefully investigated to ascertain that there is no disagreement with the teaching of the Catholic Church. For example, Bishop Josaphat Kuntsevych, martyred in 1623 and beatified in 20 years, was proclaimed a saint two centuries later.

And the Catholic Church canonized Renaissance humanist Thomas More over four hundred years after his execution, recognizing him as the patron saint of politicians and lawyers.

There are children saints in the Catholic Church as well, in particular, Dominic Savio, who lived a holy life and was recognized as an assistant for pregnant women, and martyr Maria Goretti, who at the age of 12 was the victim of brutal rape. Before her death, she forgave her abuser, who later repented and after 30 years in prison became a monk. St. Maria Goretti is the patroness of victims of rape and modern youth.

In the second millennium, the five year waiting period for the start of the beatification process was waived for Mother Teresa of Calcutta and Pope John Paul II. They had the fastest beatification processes.

One of the most dramatic and interesting beatification processes concerned Padre Pio, a Capuchin Catholic priest,

who bore the stigmata, which caused admiration in some, and distrust and outright ridicule in others. The sanctity of Padre Pio is still being reconfirmed – many miracles have been performed through the saint's intercession.

<http://risu.org.ua>

“If God is the light, then the light of life is faith in God.” His Beatitude Sviatoslav in Zarvanytsia

15.07.13

UGCC Head stated this during the night leading to July 11th after thousands of faithful marched with lit candles to the monument of the Mother of God on the place where she appeared. “Through the assistance of faith we unite ourselves with the living and eternal God, we become illuminated through him, we become his light, the bearers of God’s rays.”

The Primate appealed to the faithful to testify their faith through their actions, and then to raise high the candle holders: “Let us light our way through our faith; let us not be lost in the darkness; let us illuminate today our families, our Homeland – all the people who are next to us.” Then he asked each pilgrim to look closely at one’s candle and recall those people from whom they received their faith in God. “Let us look closely at our flames, because today we bear the responsibility that God forbid, in our hands and in our lives, this light of faith should ever burn out. Let us look closely at that light which we should carry within us.”



Since this year the Pilgrimage to Zarvanytsia is dedicated to the Year of Faith which coincides with the 1025th anniversary of the Baptism of Ukraine-Rus, His Beatitude Sviatoslav talked about the significance of the event of Baptism as a time of illuminating our people. “Be believers, be the Christians of that time when Almighty God gave us this greatest treasure of our land. And it was precisely the Christian faith itself that was the inner strength of our people for over a thousand years.” UGCC Head urged that we transfer the light of our faith to children, friends, and close ones, “that this light always continues.” “It is us that the Lord sends to illuminate their darkness... “that the people who sat in darkness” see the light exactly through our Church.”

The procession with the candles began by the parish church of Zarvanytsia which houses the Icon of the Zarvanytsia Mother of God. After the liturgy which was headed by Bishop Dmytro (Hryhorak), Buchach Eparchy, the faithful carried the candles through the central street of the village, accompanied by the orchestra and singing the song “From the city of Kyiv.” Then at the miraculous location, the bells rang and the pilgrims got closer to the monument of the Mother of God where the Major Archbishop together with bishops and clergy, began the Vespers to the Mother of God.

Pictures by Volodymyr Yavnych
Archeparchy Press Service

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

Program of the Pilgrimage to UGCC Patriarchal Cathedral of the Resurrection of Christ

On 17-18 August, on the occasion of the 1025th anniversary of the Baptism of Rus-Ukraine, an All-Church Pilgrimage and the Blessing of the Patriarchal Cathedral of the Resurrection of Christ in Kyiv will take place.

Program of the Pilgrimage to UGCC Patriarchal Cathedral of the Resurrection of Christ

16.08.2013 – FRIDAY

Tour of Kyiv, Central and Eastern Ukraine

2:00 pm – Opening of registration of pilgrims

6:00 pm -- Vespers

7:00 pm - Exhibit openings: "Patriarch Josef Slipyi" & "Pope and Ukraine" (Patriarchal Cathedral Crypt)

17.08.2013 – SATURDAY

6:00 am – Registration of pilgrims

8:00 am – Divine Liturgy

10:00 am – All-Ukraine conference of the communities "Mothers in Prayer" (International Exhibition Center)

10:30 am - Educational forum – "Christian values in the World. Challenges and Perspectives" (International Exhibition Center)

12:30 am – Divine Liturgy of the communities "Mothers in Prayer" (Church of Annunciation of Virgin Mother)

3:00 pm – Vespers to Saint Equal to the Apostles Prince Volodymyr (Volodymyr Hill)

6:00 pm - Night prayer with the Rite of the Blessing of the Cathedral

11:00 pm - All night prayer vigil

18.08.2013 – SUNDAY **

6:00 am – Registration of pilgrims

8:30 am – Celebratory Procession. Pontifical Divine Liturgy. Finalizing the Rite of the Blessing of the Patriarchal Cathedral. Renewal of Baptismal Vows. Rite of Blessing of the Water in Dnipro.

1:00 pm - Spiritual-Artistic Program (Podium by the Patriarchal Cathedral)

2:00 pm - Charitable Banquet (Exhibition Center –Pavillion 1-A) **

6:00 pm - Night prayer (Patriarchal Cathedral of the Resurrection of Christ)

7:00 pm - Gala-Concert, National Palace of the Arts Ukraina ***

19.08.2013 – MONDAY (Feast of Transfiguration of Jesus Christ)

7:30 am – Divine Liturgy. Blessing of fruits.

9:00 am – Pontifical Divine Liturgy. Blessing of fruits.

11:00 am - Divine Liturgy. Blessing of fruits.

* Registration is MANDATORY and permits attendance at all events of the Pilgrimage. Access to rooms of the Exhibition Center for overnight stay (own mattress and sleeping bag). Registration for the Pilgrimage here.

Basic registration package (backpack, souvenir prayer book, admissions badge, booklet with program and diagram of location of events, Kyiv map) – 30 hrv.

** SUNDAY: Bazaar of Arts by folk artists; Exhibitions "Patriarch Josyf Slipyi" and "Pope and Ukraine"; Tours of Kyiv.

*** Tickets for the Charitable Banquet can be ordered by Tel.: (044) 279 1920, (096) 330 9679, e-mail: info@pilgrimage.org.ua (cost: 800 hrv. // \$100) and in parishes in Kyiv.

**** Tickets for the Commemorative Concert can be ordered by Tel.: (044) 279 1920, (096) 3309679, e-mail: info@pilgrimage.org.ua (cost: from 50 to 500 hrv.) and in parishes in Kyiv. <http://www.ugcc.org.ua>



Patriarch Shevchuk Calls on Greek Catholics to Renew Baptismal Vows

25 July 2013

The head of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church (UGCC), Patriarch Sviatoslav Shevchuk, urged believers to solemnly renew their baptismal vows on the day of St. Volodymyr on Sunday, July 28, after the Divine Liturgy, the Primate said in a message on the occasion of the 1025th anniversary of the Baptism of Rus-Ukraine.

“Today, marking the 1025th anniversary of the Baptism, we need to remember and renew our baptismal vows. Their meaning remains the same – to free yourself of any bonds of slavery, which have been imposed on the human race by the devil since our forefather Adam, and wear the baptismal garments of Freedom and Love, which are the shining garments of the risen Christ,” says the message, the UGCC Information Department reports.

“To restore our faithfulness to Christ as the only ‘source of the revival of the Ukrainian people’ and to strengthen our church and national unity, I instruct all the believers and all of our parishes to solemnly renew their baptismal vows on the day of St. Volodymyr,” Patriarch Sviatoslav said.

The head of the UGCC also invited the faithful to take part in a church-wide pilgrimage to Kyiv on August 17-18.

<http://risu.org.ua>

Editorial and Business Office:

827 N. Franklin St.
Philadelphia, PA 19123

Telephone: (215) 627-0143

E-mail: theway@ukrarcheparchy.us



Online: <http://www.ukrarcheparchy.us>

Blog: <http://www.thewayukrainian.blogspot.com>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Archeprarchy-of-Philadelphia/197564070297001>

YouTube Channel: <http://www.youtube.com/user/thewayukrainian>

THE WAY Staff

Very Rev. Archpriest John Fields, Director of Communication;

Ms. Teresa Siwak, Editor;

Rev. Ihor Royik, Assistant Editor

Articles and photos proposed for publication should be in the Editor’s office at least two weeks before requested date of publication. For advance notice of the upcoming events, kindly send one month in advance. All articles must be submitted in both English and Ukrainian languages, THE WAY will not translate proposed articles. All materials submitted to THE WAY become the property of THE WAY.