

# THE WAY ШЛЯХ

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## Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka consecrates St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church in Whippany, NJ, on September 21, 2013



A group photo of the clergy and the celebrants at the newly consecrated St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church in Whippany, NJ on September 21, 2013. (Photo: Andrij Lysiak)

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Whippany, NJ



# Solemn Consecration of the New Church in Whippany

**Whippany, NJ** - A historic three-day celebration was held to mark the Solemn Consecration of the new St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church in Whippany, NJ.

The first of the three-day event was held on Friday, September 20, 2013 at 6:30pm when a Vesper Service was celebrated, the cornerstone was sealed, and a reception followed that evening.

Saturday, September 21, 2013 at 12 noon marked the highlight of the celebratory weekend with the Solemn Consecration of the new church followed by a banquet at 3pm. The church was blessed and consecrated according to the rite of the Ukrainian Catholic

Church by His Grace, Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka.

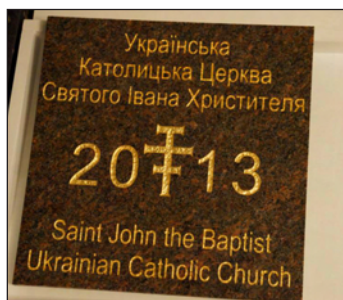
The last day of the festive three-day celebration, was held on Sunday, September 22, 2013 when the first Divine Liturgy was celebrated in it at 11am followed by a banquet at 1:30pm.

### **History of the Church:**

For more than 40 years, St. John the Baptist Parish in Whippany and the Ukrainian-American community of Morris County had wished for a large beautiful modern complex encompassing a church, rectory and a community center. The Building project of the new church and Cultural Center was formally launched at a Gala Banquet November 16, 2002. Orest Kucyna was elected as the building project manager, Taras Dobusz was chosen as architect and Bjork Builders were selected as the construction company. Ground breaking was held April 25, 2004, with Metropolitan Stefan Soroka, Governor James McGreevey, Mayor Ron Franciulli and Congressman Frelinghuysen being in attendance; construction began in May of 2005. Unfortunately, because



**Pictured are Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka assisted by Right Reverend Mitred Protopresbyter Roman Mirchuk (Pastor of St. John the Baptist Church) and Msgr. Peter Waslo during the blessing of the cornerstone on Friday, September 20, 2013. (Photo by: Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey <https://www.facebook.com/UACCNJ>)**



**The cornerstone was sealed into the wall of the church on September 20, 2013. (Photo by: Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey)**

the price of construction proved more than had been envisioned, the decision was made to first build the rectory and the Cultural Center, with one part being exclusively devoted to being the temporary church. Finally, November 10, 2006, the new rectory was blessed, on November 11, 2006 the Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey was formally opened, and on Sunday, November 12, 2006,

the temporary church was dedicated amid elaborate three-day festivities attended by hundreds of parishioners and friends. Over the years, the new church was built and it was blessed and consecrated on September 21, 2013.

*Article adapted from information on <http://sjucc.com> and "The Way" from December 17, 2006.*

# Solemn Consecration of the New Church in Whippany

Photos from Saturday, September 21, 2013 by Andrij Lysiak.



**On Saturday, September 21, Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka carried a discos with holy relics in a procession around the church to be consecrated.**

**Parish youth carried the Tabernacle during the procession around the church three times.**



**After the procession, Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka approached the main entrance of the church and said, "Open Your gates, o princes; open everlasting gates, and the King of Glory shall enter." Afterwards a prayer was said and the Archbishop entered the church carrying the holy relics, followed by the clergy and the people.**

# Solemn Consecration of the New Church in Whippany

Photos from Saturday, September 21, 2013 by Andriy Lysiak.



On Saturday, September 21, Metropolitan Stefan knelt before the altar and said a prayer asking the Lord to sanctify the church and altar.



Metropolitan Stefan, Bishop Paul Chomnycky, Bishop-emeritus Basil Losten, Right Reverend Mitred Protopresbyter Roman Mirchuk, and Rev. John Ciurpita took bars of soap and washed the altar.



Metropolitan Stefan poured wine three times in the form of a cross upon the altar. The concelebrating clergy spread the wine with their hands to cleanse the altar.



Metropolitan Stefan used Holy Chrism to anoint the relics and placed them into a specially prepared reliquary, sealed it with wax-mastic and deposited it in the cavity in the altar.



Metropolitan Stefan sealed the four corners of the altar with wax-mastic.



Rev. John Ciurpita, who was a vocation from the original church in Whippany, placed the Gospel Book on the newly vested altar.

# Metropolitan Stefan's Homily from Whippany on September 21, 2013

A few years ago, I participated in the transfer of the bodily remains of Blessed Bishop Velychkovsky from a gravesite in a cemetery north of Winnipeg, Canada to a newly constructed shrine built in his honor by the Redemptorist Fathers. Bishop Velychkovsky was one of the Ukrainian Catholic Bishops who suffered greatly under communist persecution in the then Soviet occupied Ukraine. He refused to renounce the faith. The Soviets released him when he was near death so that he would not die while in exile in Siberia. Upon his release, he visited some of the Churches in the free world, including Philadelphia, and then

I lived the last months of his life in the home of the late Metropolitan Maxim Hermaniuk in Winnipeg. Pope John Paul II raised him to the dignity of a Blessed Martyr during his visit to Ukraine in 2001, along with Very Rev. Petro Virhun, both of whose relics were sealed within the altar of this holy Church today.

Today, because of the recognition of his saintly life, and the spreading of the miraculous help of Bishop Velychkovsky



**Faithful on September 21, 2013 (Photo: Andriy Lysiak)**

worldwide by the Redemptorist fathers, both Ukrainian and Latin, many people have been helped and healed by the intercession of this holy and Blessed Martyr. There are even stories of healings among the Inuit peoples in Canada's northern

For ten years, we, the Church MISSED OUT on the availability of his saintly intercession for our needs!

territories! Is it because Pope John Paul II elevated him? Or, was it that the Holy Father gave recognition to the saintly and holy life of this holy bishop? For ten years, his body lay peacefully in that cemetery with little attention.

The saints are amidst us. They want to help us, and to intercede for our earthly needs. Each of us was placed under the protection of a saint at the time of our baptism. How often do we turn to them and ask for their presence amidst us? How often do we pray to them? The good parishioners of St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church here in Whippany now have amidst you the steadfast presence of the relics of two holy martyrs – one a saintly bishop and the

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**Faithful on September 21, 2013 (Photo: Andriy Lysiak)**

# Metropolitan Stefan's Homily from Whippany on September 21, 2013

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other a saintly layperson. They both died for the faith. They were both martyrs for the faith.

Martyrdom really means witness – giving witness to who you are – what you are all about – what is your central identity as a person of faith when you are challenged, when you are pushed. Martyrdom means the active and unconditional giving of love for the benefit of others. Martyrdom means sacrifice of your personhood, the use of your abilities and skills endowed to you by God for the benefit of others, the active sharing of your riches, material and personally, so that others may have more fuller life.

For ten years, good people barely gave recognition to the saintly presence of the holy relics of Bishop Velychkovsky amidst them. These were missed opportunities! We were passive believers! Are we passive in the celebration of our faith – going to Church occasionally – pray when we remember – put our faith and Church 'on hold'? You, the good people of St. John the Baptist Ukrainian

Catholic Church, already under the patronage of St. John the Baptist, are now blessed with the holy relics of St. Josaphat and the Blessed Martyr Petro Virhun sealed within your altar. Visit to pray to the saints often within this holy Church. Let us not take the saintly graces for granted. God grants His grace thru such holy saints to help us to come closer to him. Resolve today, my brothers and sisters in Christ, during this holy blessing of this new Church and its altar, that you will give dynamic and unconditional witness to your faith. Renew your baptismal promise to be fully alive in your faith, participating in the evangelization efforts of your holy Church. Do it because you love Jesus Christ. Do it because you want to give life-giving witness to your love for Jesus Christ. Do it because you desire to share yourself and your love with all those you have been blessed to share your earthly journey with. Do it – with the help and intercession of the holy saints! Do it with the intercession of the Holy Mother of God. Do it for your salvation and the salvation of so many others souls you journey

with in your lifetime. You have been gifted with so much in this holy Church and Cultural Center. Let each of us not be passive in celebrating and using these gifts from God.

Our hearts are filled with gratitude today to the many visionaries who have led this parish family to the construction and blessing of this new holy Church. It was a process begun over twenty years, and made manifest particularly by the spiritual leadership of the Rev. Archpriest Uriy Markewych who gave life to the vision of this complex, and the Rev. Msgr. and Mitred Priest Roman Mirchuk who manifested the vision to happen. I marvel at Fr. Mirchuk's high energy level. He reveals a priestly heart which would want to give everything possible to the people he serves. He loves you so much and desires to uplift you to be close and intimate with God. He desires that you realize all you giftedness as Ukrainian Catholics without any compromise. Fr. Mirchuk is persistent and sometimes stubborn, but always very spiritual. All of us hold Rev. Mitrat Roman Mirchuk in high

esteem and are very grateful to him for his dedicated ministry.

Visionary parishioners such as Orest Kucyna, Ihor Mandicz, Roksalana Leshchuk, Taras Sochan, Vasyl Havrysh, Richard Arturi, Myron Bytz, and so many others were attentive to the call of God to manifest this earthly heavenly kingdom on earth and worked closely with Fr. Roman. The parishioners of today, tomorrow and the many guests who will cross the threshold of this Church will be inspired to live closer to God in prayer and in active worship. The martyrdom of each parishioner will be called forth to be lived fully! Each will be called to be as loving and sacrificial for the faith as one possibly can. Why? For the joy of our salvation! Nothing more is needed in life. All who will pray in this Holy Church will be reminded of our common call to be 'at home' with the Lord Jesus Christ during this earthly life and thereafter.

The architectural giftedness of Mr. Taras Dobush is revealed exceptionally well in the

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# Metropolitan Stefan's Homily from Whippany on September 21, 2013

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design of the beautiful new Church. One feels like remaining in the Church, in being here with God. We are grateful for Mr. Dobush responding so creatively in the service of God and His Holy Church.

Special gratitude is given to the many parishioners and so many others for the generosity shown in enabling the building of this magnificent new Church. Your generous gifts have revealed your hearts filled with love for God and for His Holy Church. Remember the beautiful way Jesus recognized the generosity of the woman who gave from her limited funds for the holy temple needs. Jesus rejoiced and blessed her. In the same way, your generous monetary gifts and support are known and blessed by God. You can expect the same recognition and reward by our generous God.

There undoubtedly will be enthusiasm and a desire to continue to complete many things in the new Church. However, please know that I have very clearly told your pastor that no additional indebtedness



**Rev. John Ciurpita, Bishop-emeritus Basil Losten, Metropolitan Stefan, Bishop Paul Chomnycky, Right Reverend Mitred Protopresbyter Roman Mirchuk, and Msgr. Peter Waslo (back row) at the conclusion of the consecration of St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church. (Photo: Andriy Lysiak)**

may be incurred by the parish. The loans need to be lessened and the former Church property sold. I want you to be able to breathe, to pray, to celebrate in this new holy Church without undue stress. Please be patient and move slowly.

I am so happy for you today. I share in your joy of your tremendous accomplishments. Prayer and hope and trust in God have enabled this new Church to become your new spiritual 'home'. Visit your home

often. Celebrate your faith in this holy Church. Invite others to join you. Salvation will be yours and will be granted to others because of your love for God and for His Holy Church.

We are grateful for the participation of our concelebrating bishops, Bishop Paul Chomnycky, OSBM of Stamford, Bishop-emeritus Basil Losten of Stamford, to all of the concelebrating clergy, the Reverend Fathers and Sisters present today, including clergy from

the Latin and Byzantine Catholic Churches, the representatives of other faiths, state and civic dignitaries, and the many guests. You have honored this holy parish and special occasion with your presence, with your holy prayers and with your goodwill. Always feel welcome in this 'spiritual home'.

God bless you richly my brothers and sisters in Christ! I love you and I pray for your continued success in God's ways.

C.I.X.!

# Solemn Consecration of the New Church in Whippany

Photos from Sunday, September 22, 2013 by:  
Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey.



The first Divine Liturgy was celebrated on Sunday, September 22, 2013 at the newly consecrated St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church in Whippany, NJ.



The choir under the direction of Oksana Telepko (front row right) posed for a picture on the steps of the church.



Oksana Telepko sang a song with the parish children at the banquet. See more photos from the banquet on <https://www.facebook.com/UACCNJ>





## Sunday of the Holy Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Council October 13, 2013

*Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come. Give glory to your son, so that your son may glorify you, just as you gave him authority over all people, so that he may give eternal life to all you gave him. Now this is eternal life, that they should know you, the only true God, and the one whom you sent, Jesus Christ. I glorified you on earth by accomplishing the work that you gave me to do. Now glorify me, Father, with you, with the glory that I had with you before the world began. "I revealed your name to those whom you gave me out of the world. They belonged to you, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you gave me is from you, because the words you gave to me I have given to them, and they accepted them and truly understood that I came from you, and they have believed that you sent me. I pray for them. I do not*

*pray for the world but for the ones you have given me, because they are yours, and everything of mine is yours and everything of yours is mine, and I have been glorified in them. And now I will no longer be in the world, but they are in the world, while I am coming to you. Holy Father, keep them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one just as we are. When I was with them I protected them in your name that you gave me, and I guarded them, and none of them was lost except the son of destruction, in order that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you. I speak this in the world so that they may share my joy completely. (Jn. 17:1 - 13)*

This Council dealt predominantly with the controversy regarding icons and their place in Christian worship. It was convened in Nicaea in 787 by Empress Irene at the request of Thrasios, Patriarch of Constantinople. The Council was attended by 367 bishops.

Almost a century before this, the iconoclastic controversy had once more shaken the foundations of both Church and State in the Byzantine Empire. Excessive religious

respect and the ascribed miracles to icons by some members of society, approached the point of worship (due only to God) and idolatry. This instigated excesses at the other extreme by which icons were completely taken out of the liturgical life of the Church by the Iconoclasts. The Iconophiles, on the other-hand, believed that icons served to preserve the doctrinal teachings of the Church; they considered icons to be man's dynamic way of expressing the divine through art and beauty.

The Council decided on a doctrine by which icons should be venerated but not worshipped. In answering the Empress' invitation to the Council, Pope Hadrian replied with a letter in which he also held the position of extending veneration to icons but not worship, the last befitting only God.

The decree of the Council for restoring icons to churches added an important clause which still stands at the foundation of the rationale for using and venerating icons in the

Church to this very day: "We define that the holy icons, whether in color, mosaic, or some other material, should be exhibited in the holy churches of God, on the sacred vessels and liturgical vestments, on the walls, furnishings, and in houses and along the roads, namely the icons of our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ, that of our Lady the Theotokos, those of the venerable angels and those of all saintly people. Whenever these representations are

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# Seventh Ecumenical Council

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contemplated, they will cause those who look at them to commemorate and love their prototype. We define also that they should be kissed and that they are an object of veneration and honor (timitiki proskynisis), but not of real worship (latreia), which is reserved for Him Who is the subject of our faith and is proper for the divine nature. The veneration accorded to an icon

is in effect transmitted to the prototype; he who venerates the icon, venerated in it the reality for which it stands".

The Council issued also 22 canons relating to administrative and disciplinary matters, condemning Simony (ordination for payment), the election of bishops by secular authority, and the erecting of mixed monasteries.

An Endemousa (Regional Synod) was called in Constantinople in 843. Under Empress Theodora. The veneration of icons was solemnly proclaimed at the St. Sophia's Cathedral. Monks and clergy came in procession and restored the icons in their rightful place. The day was called "Triumph of Orthodoxy." Since that time, this event is commemorated yearly

with a special service on the first Sunday of Lent, the "Sunday of Orthodoxy".

Слава Ісусу Христу!

Come, my brother priests, religious, and faithful to the annual Archieparchial Pilgrimage to be held on Sunday, October 6th at the Basilian Monastery in Fox Chase, PA. Come to know the saints and martyrs of our church and to pray for their intercession for YOUR needs, for the needs of others. Come to meditate on the homilies to be given by Bishop Borys Gudziak on the intercession of the saints in our daily life. Come to receive God's forgiveness in the Sacrament of Confession. Come to be anointed for healing. Come to be transformed by receiving the Holy Eucharist – the Body and Blood of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Divine Liturgy on Sunday at 11:30 am and Moleben at 4 pm.

Come! Come for your salvation.

+Stefan Soroka  
Metropolitan-Archbishop

**Sisters of the Order of Saint Basil the Great**  
**Eighty-second Annual Pilgrimage**

**"Accepting the Cross**  
**Martyrs of the Ukrainian Catholic Church"**

**Sunday October 6, 2013**

<b>9 am - 11 am</b>	Mystery of Reconciliation (Confession)	<i>Monastery Grounds</i>
<b>10 am</b>	Matins	<i>Holy Trinity Chapel</i>
<b>11:30 am - 1 pm</b>	Hierarchical Divine Liturgy (Bilingual) Celebrant: Archbishop Stefan Soroka Homilist: Bishop Borys Gudziak Concelebrants: Bishop Paul Chomnycky, OSBM Bishop Basil Losten Choir: Dobriansky Choir, New York City, NY Liturgical Director: Monsignor Paul Waslo	<i>Faculty House Auditorium</i>
<b>1:30 pm - 4 pm</b>	Food Service	<i>Food Court Parking Lot</i>
<b>2 pm - 3 pm</b>	Veneration of Relics Veneration of Blessed Welychovsky Relic Presentation: Father Daniel Troyan Jesus Prayer Rosary	<i>Holy Trinity Chapel</i> <i>Holy Trinity Chapel</i> <i>Grotto</i>
<b>4 pm - 5 pm</b>	Moleben/Mystery of Holy Anointing (Bilingual) Celebrant: Ukrainian Bishops and Concelebrating Clergy Homilist: Bishop Borys Gudziak Choir: Dobriansky Choir New York City, NY	<i>Grotto</i>
<b>5 pm</b>	Blessing of Cars and Buses	<i>Parking Lot</i>



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# Archieparchial Clergy Attend Annual Spiritual Retreat



**Clergy gather for group photo with Rev. Ihor Kolisnyk, C.Ss.R., Retreat Director. (Photo: Msgr. Peter Waslo)**

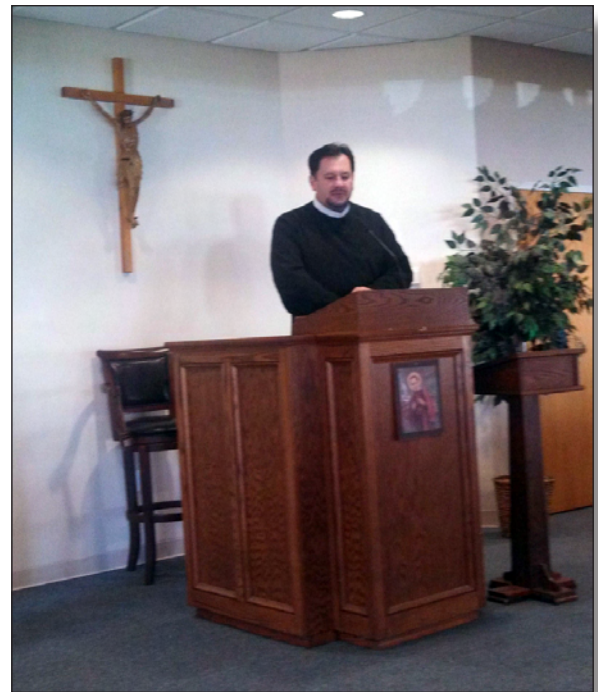
Long Branch, NJ—From Monday, September 16 through Thursday, September 19, priests and deacons of the Philadelphia Archeparchy, together with their archbishop, Metropolitan Stefan Soroka, gathered here at the San Alfonso Retreat House, for their annual spiritual retreat. The retreat director was Very Rev. Ihor Kolisnyk, C.Ss.R., the Provincial Superior of the Redemptorist Fathers from Lviv, Ukraine.

the Divine Liturgy also sang panakhyda for all the deceased including all the hierarchs, priests and deacons who have been called home to the Lord.

After the concluding conference on Thursday, the clergy thanked Father Kolisnyk for serving as the retreat director and expressed their gratitude to him with the traditional singing of “God Grant Him Many Years, Mnohaya Lita.”

During the retreat, Father Ihor offered reflections for spiritual renewal and the clergy participated in daily liturgical services, including morning prayer, vespers and the Divine Liturgy. On Wednesday morning the clergy, after

Often as priests absent themselves from their parishes for this time of spiritual renewal, well-intentioned parishioners may say “Enjoy your vacation” or upon return inquire “How was your vacation?”



**Rev. Ihor Kolisnyk, C.Ss.R. Retreat Director, conducts a conference during the annual clergy retreat. (Photo: Msgr. Peter Waslo)**

However, a retreat is from the daily routine of not a vacation, but a normal parish life for a necessary and even obligatory requirement for clergy to withdraw

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# Archieparchial Clergy Attend Annual Spiritual Retreat

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time of prayer, reflection and spiritual renewal.

This concept of withdrawal for spiritual renewal can be found in the life of Jesus Christ, where the evangelists Matthew, Mark and Luke relate how Jesus, after his baptism by John, withdrew into the desert and fasted for forty days and nights.

In the 1520's, St. Ignatius of Loyola developed his Spiritual Exercises, which greatly influenced the development of retreats

as a way of deepening one's spiritual relationship with God.

Today the practice of making an annual retreat is not only continued by diocesan clergy throughout the world but is also a spiritual tradition and requirement of religious orders of men and women.



**Panakhyda on Wednesday for deceased bishops, priests and deacons, in particular Fr. Leonard Sinatra. (Photo: Msgr. Peter Waslo)**



**Divine Liturgy during the Annual Spiritual Retreat. (Photo: Msgr. Peter Waslo)**

# “A UKRAINIAN VILLAGE IN PHILADELPHIA?”

## HAVE YOU THOUGHT OF LIVING IN:

- A place near our Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral in Philadelphia?
  - A village-like environment of mutually caring people?
- A dramatically improved area offering proximity to downtown, major hospitals, shopping, restaurants and major roadways?
- Housing offering varying size suites for people of all ages?
  - Housing offering enclosed secure parking and facilities?



The Archeparchy of Philadelphia is considering building 30+ condominiums to offer an opportunity for those who desire the above. Please take the time to complete a questionnaire offering your opinion, preferences or suggestions for the project. Your feedback is valued and will determine the project's future.

Please complete the questionnaire by going to the link at our website at [www.ukrarcheparchy.us](http://www.ukrarcheparchy.us), contacting your pastor, or by calling our office at 215-627-0143 and we will be pleased to send you a questionnaire to complete by mail.

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## ARCHEPARCHY HONORS WEDDING JUBILARIANS

On September 29, 2013, the Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, (Philadelphia, PA) honored Wedding Jubilarians of the Archeparchy. The celebration was organized by Rev. Archpriest Daniel Troyan, Director of the Office of Evangelization at the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia.



The graced event began with an 11:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy, which was concelebrated by

Metropolitan Archbishop Stefan Soroka (main celebrant and homilist), assisted by Msgr. Peter Waslo (Chancellor of the Archeparchy), Reverend Ivan Demkiv (Cathedral rector), Rev. Roman Sverdan, and Subdeacon Roman Oprysk. The responses to the Liturgy were led by Lisa Oprysk (cantor).

In his homily Archbishop Stefan said to the Wedding Jubilarians, "God's hand is present with you throughout your whole journey of married life, known or unknown to you. He promised it in the blessings that He bestowed upon you at the time of your marriage. And so, today we celebrate that covenant. We celebrate your Happy Anniversary and we thank God. We ask His continued presence and blessings upon you when you renew your promises to one another. Continue to do the extra things in your nurture and in your love for your spouse, always striving for the higher good of one another of the holy union you live."

Just before the Dismissal, the Jubilarians, standing in front of the first pew, renewed their marriage commitment of sacramental love and faithfulness to each other. What a wonderful witness to their families and to the faith community!

After a group photo was taken, Archbishop Stefan imparted his special blessing and prayed over each jubilarian couple.

After the Divine Liturgy, a reception was held at the Archbishop's Residence.

We pray that the Lord, our God, may continue to bless and grant to all the Archieparchial Jubilarians peace, good health and happiness!

**Watch videos and see pictures from the Anniversary Celebration on our blog at [www.thewayukrainian.blogspot.com](http://www.thewayukrainian.blogspot.com)**

# ARCHEPARCHY HONORS WEDDING JUBILARIANS



Michael & Anne Nasevich Sr.  
62nd



Ihor & Olympia Pasicznyk  
50th



Ewhen & Stephanie Brenycz  
48th



Charles & Vera Kalata  
47th



Peter & Bernadette Nush  
43rd



Russell & Helen Cooke  
40th



Myron & Maria Rajsz  
38th



Robert & Johanna Longenberger  
34th



Patrick & Gina McLaughlin  
33rd

OCTOBER 06, 2013

# ARCHEPARCHY HONORS WEDDING JUBILARIANS



Douglas & Olga Conway  
30th



Dr. Brian & Rita Keeley  
23rd



Jason & Deborah Yulich  
16th



(Photos: T. Siwak)



Fr. Stepan & Olena Bilyk  
15th (pictured with son Stepan)



Eugene & Karen Brenycz  
6th

**Jubilarians not pictured:**  
Roman & Marika Serbyn 50th  
John & Karen Kotula 24th



## Did you know The Way, our archieparchial newspaper is available for FREE through the internet?

Our newspaper is published twice a month in both an English language version and a Ukrainian language version. To receive this online newspaper, simply send your email address to: [theway@ukrarcheparchy.us](mailto:theway@ukrarcheparchy.us).

You may also share The Way with family and friends by sending their email addresses to: [theway@ukrarcheparchy.us](mailto:theway@ukrarcheparchy.us). All parishioners are encouraged to receive and read The Way, the Catholic newspaper of our Philadelphia Archeparchy.

### "Home-made Soup & Artisan Bread Sale" - Now through October 20th

Just in time for that chill in the air, from now through Sunday, October 20th, Ss. Peter & Paul Catholic Church, 100 South Penn Street, in Clifton Heights, will be holding its ever popular "Home-made Soup and Artisan Bread Sale". During this time, we will be taking orders for 3 home-made, hearty soups that will be freshly made especially for you and loaves of freshly-made Artisan Bread. Your orders will be ready for you to pick up at noon on Sunday, October 27th. We are offering the following soups and breads:

- 1 Beef Vegetable
- 2 Chicken Noodle
- 3 Crab Bisque
4. Artisan Bread (Hearty Rye Bread and Italian bread with Olive oil, Green Olives, Italian Herbs)

Quart containers of soup are only \$7.00 each and a loaf of Artisan bread is only \$6.00. To place your soup & bread orders, please email us at [SSPeterandPaul@verizon.net](mailto:SSPeterandPaul@verizon.net) or call Kathy at (610) 328-4731 by Sunday, October 20th.

### Holy Family celebrates Fr. Kharuk's 50th Birthday

The Ukrainian Catholic National Shrine of the Holy Family, Washington, DC, celebrated Fr. Wasyl's birthday with festive brunches after the 9:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. Sunday Divine Liturgies on September 29, 2013. Fr. Wasyl was actually born on September 29, 1963 in Kolomiya, Ukraine. Fr. Wasyl was the main celebrant and homilist at both Sunday Liturgies. As his family, (parents are deceased), are all living in Ukraine, his "FAMILY" at Holy Family honored him on this special occasion. Representatives from the Embassy of Ukraine to the United States also attended and presented him with a special hramota. (Photo: Fr. Wasyl Kharuk slices into his birthday cake.)



# ST. NICHOLAS PARISH, PASSAIC, NJ COMMEMORATES THE 1,025 ANNIVERSARY OF THE BAPTISM OF RUS-UKRAINE

As parishes around the world celebrated the 1,025th Anniversary of the Baptism of Rus-Ukraine, and as our Patriarch Sviatoslav along with the Hierarchy of our Ukrainian Church gathered earlier in Kyiv, so the parishioners of St. Nicholas gathered on Sunday, September 29, to mark this Anniversary.

For several weeks, the announcement in the bulletin read "All are invited to attend and participate in the celebration of our Religious Heritage, the institution of the Byzantine Catholic Faith in Ukraine in 988 by Prince Volodymyr 1,025 years ago; of the beginning of our Church Liturgical Year and the Feast of Pokrova". As the invitation further stated, "let us come together in prayer and Thanksgiving for these blessings." And they came.

Moleben was scheduled to begin at 4:00 pm followed by the Blessing of water, renewal of our Baptismal Promises and a short program, which included a talk on "Our Faith and Baptism".

In the late afternoon, as the sun began to lower in the sky, yet shone through the stained glass windows, the faithful stood in prayer. Fr. Andriy Dudkevych began with the Moleben to Our Lady. At the end of Moleben, Fr. Andriy with the altar boys gathered in front of the tetrapod where a water font stood draped in a beautiful Ukrainian embroidered rushnyk. As Daniel Pelyshyn lit the three candles, Fr. Andriy began the service of "blessing of water". At this time candles were distributed to those gathered and lit. The lighted candle denotes the light of faith, according to which we should live. As the sun that was glowing through the stained glass windows began to diminish, the glow of the candles warmed the church. The atmosphere was one of anticipation. Completing the blessing of water, Fr. Andriy led the congregation in the service for the renewal of Baptismal Promises. The faithful turned to the West and responded with deep conviction that

**(continued on next page)**



# ST. NICHOLAS PARISH, PASSAIC, NJ COMMEMORATES THE 1,025 ANNIVERSARY OF THE BAPTISM OF RUS-UKRAINE

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they 'do renounce Satan' and that they 'join their selves to Christ!' They renewed their promises made years earlier and to which they promised to carry forward.

Loudly and in unison they prayed the Profession of Faith; they prayed with sincerity. As one being a participant, you could sense the faith and graces coming forth. At this time,

it was more than just words, they expressed and truly felt the strength of their Profession.

Sr. Eliane Ilnitski, SSML, prepared two students to read the Epistle, Alexandra Peltysyn in English and Yanina Habura in Ukrainian. At the conclusion, Fr. Andriy with the altar boys, processed around the church and he sprinkled

everyone with holy water. He then invited Nataalka Blavatska to come forward and speak to the gathering. Nataalka spoke of our Baptism and our faith and how through these graces, our life is united in the Body of Christ and by our life's example we then are a reflection of Christ.

Fr. Andriy invited everyone to the church basement

for light refreshments and they watched the newly released video "Believe for Life - The Creed" produced by the Archeparchy of Philadelphia.



**125<sup>th</sup>  
Anniversary  
Celebration  
1888-2013**



***SS. Cyril and Methodius  
Ukrainian Catholic Church***  
*Olyphant, Pennsylvania*

**UKRAINIAN CULTURAL DAY**



Saturday, October 26, 2013  
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
at 133 River Street, Olyphant, School Gym  
*Featuring the Ukrainian Heritage,  
Ukrainian Church Choir CD's, jewelry, art,  
books, pysanky, food, etc.*  
**Free Admission and Free Parking**

**HIERARCHICAL DIVINE LITURGY**

Sunday, October 27, 2013. 3:00 p.m.  
**ALL ARE INVITED TO ATTEND**  
135 River Street, Olyphant, PA



**125<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY BANQUET**



Sunday, October 27, 2013  
Fiorelli Catering, Peckville, PA 5:00 p.m. -9:00 p.m.  
*Featuring the History of our Church "DVD", the Choir  
and Kazka Ukrainian Folk Ensemble Dancers.*




**BANQUET INFORMATION**  
Tickets: \$40.00 per person / \$12.00 for Children  
Contact Sandra at 570-383-9487  
Rev. Nestor Iwas, Pastor at 570-489-2271  
[www.stcyrils.maslar-online.com](http://www.stcyrils.maslar-online.com)

Original Photography by Lauren Telep

## Second Conference on "Christ Our Pascha"

**"Partakers of the  
Divine Nature:  
Life in Christ and  
the Church"**

By: **Dr. Robert Marko**




**October 19, 2013**

Dr. Robert Marko is professor and chair of theology at Aquinas College who received his PhD in moral theology at Duquesne University. A visiting professor in Eastern Christian Ethics at the Metropolitan Sheptytskyi Institute of St. Paul University in Canada and Fulbright Scholar at the Ukrainian Catholic University, Lviv, Ukraine in Catholic social ethics, he passionately advocates for a deeper appreciation of the Eastern Catholic Churches.

**Schedule:**  
9:30 am – Registration  
10 am – Eastern perspective of our "Life in Christ"  
12 am – Lunch  
1 pm – Social teaching of the UGCC  
3 pm – Break  
3:20 pm – Q&A  
5 pm – Vespers  
(Workshop is free).

Please bring your own lunch.  
Coffee, tea and soda will be provided

**For more information email or call:**  
**Sister Ann Laszok, OSBM**  
[sranni@aol.com](mailto:sranni@aol.com) or 412-260-1607  
[www.stbasils.com](http://www.stbasils.com)



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710 Fox Chase Rd. Jenkintown, PA 19046

**Sisters of the Order of Saint Basil the Great**

## Bishop Zubik Underscores Religious Freedom during Bishops' Breakfast with State Legislators

By Jen Reed  
The Catholic Witness

Speaking on the Catholic Church's role in the public square, Pittsburgh Bishop David A. Zubik told a group of state legislators and his fellow bishops of Pennsylvania that religious freedom has never been understood in such a restrictive fashion as it is today.

"You and I face a highly organized and well-funded crusade to block the Church from the

public square," he said, pointing to religious freedom as "our right as citizens to live our faith in the faith in the world according to the dictates of our own consciences, not the dictates of secular society."

Bishop Zubik made the remarks at a special breakfast hosted by the Pennsylvania State Council of the Knights of Columbus and the

Pennsylvania Catholic Conference (PCC) to bring together the bishops of Pennsylvania with state legislators and other elected officials.

The breakfast is held every other year during the bishops' annual meeting as the Board of Governors of the PCC.

"The bishops enjoy the opportunity to visit with the legislators of their diocese in a spirit of fellowship and friendship," Dr. Robert J. O'Hara, Jr., Executive Director of the PCC, said of the event, held Sept. 25 in Harrisburg.

"Faith communities have a duty to engage in the public square. This breakfast is an example of building those relationships," he said.

As the public affairs agency for the Church in Pennsylvania, the PCC formulates policy positions on state government programs, legislation and policies that affect the common good and the interests of the Church.



**Pittsburgh Bishop David A. Zubik (Photo by: Chris Heisey of the "The Catholic Witness")**

At the gathering, Bishop Zubik remarked, "The freedom to worship is only a small part of what is meant by freedom of religion under the Constitution. The beauty and richness of the American experience of religious freedom is more than just the right to show up to a church, or a temple or a mosque and privately worship."

"Religious freedom has always meant the



**Metropolitan Stefan offered the closing prayer for the Breakfast Meeting. (Photo by: Chris Heisey of the "The Catholic Witness")**

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# Bishop Zubik Underscores Religious Freedom during Bishops' Breakfast with State Legislators

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freedom to both active discipleship and the freedom to hold true to one's beliefs and moral tenets," he said. "It includes the rights of religious believers, leaders and communities to engage society, to work actively and to express our views in the public square to make society a better place in which to live. It includes the right of religious believers, leaders and communities to hold fast to their beliefs and moral principles without interference."

freedom is intentionally active. Religious freedom has to be out in the open among the people. Religious freedom has to be expressed. Religious freedom has to be lived," Bishop Zubik remarked.

The biennial event was initiated by the State Council of the Knights of Columbus. Internationally, the Catholic fraternal organization promotes charity, unity, fraternity and patriotism while promoting and defending the Catholic faith.

Bishop Zubik stressed that believers have the right and the duty to make an impact on society based on their beliefs.

"Our Constitution has protected religious freedom and religious expression because there is a fundamental human understanding of religious freedom as the foundation of every other right. Without freedom of religion, without freedom to express and live out our religious beliefs openly, humanity sacrifices every other freedom," he said.

"Religious freedom is not a passive act. Religious



**Archbishop Chaput and Governor Corbett (Photo by: Chris Heisey of the "The Catholic Witness")**

"We work very closely with a lot of legislators in many different states in trying to bring the Catholic perspective to them," Eric Johnson, State Deputy of the Pennsylvania

State Council, said of the Knights' efforts. "This breakfast is a way that we can help bring that perspective."

A photograph of two men standing side-by-side and smiling. The man on the left is wearing a dark suit, a white shirt, and a blue patterned tie. The man on the right is wearing a black clerical suit with a gold pectoral cross. They are in a room with other people and tables in the background.

Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka with Governor Tom Corbett of Pennsylvania at the recent meeting of Pennsylvania Catholic Bishops' with senators and legislators of the State of Pennsylvania, during a Breakfast sponsored by the Knights of Columbus Pennsylvania State Council in Harrisburg, PA. Metropolitan Stefan offered the closing prayer for the Breakfast Meeting.

**Governor Tom Corbett and Metropolitan Stefan (Photo by: Msgr. Waslo)**

## **“Charity affairs should be done with mercy”, - Pope Francis**

Tuesday, 24 September 2013

Jesus chose the path of devotion and love and with his life has shown us that love does not come to the help for the sake of soothing the conscience. It is unselfishness, lifestyle, and the only path that leads to it - is humility and solidarity.

It was said by the Pope Francis during a meeting in the Cathedral of Cagliari with the poor who get help from the local organization “Caritas ” and some prisoners from the city jail . The meeting was held on Sunday, September 22, 2013, during a visit to the Italian island region of Sardinia where the Pope made a pilgrimage to the Marian Sanctuary of the Blessed Virgin Mary di Bonaria in Cagliari.



The Holy Father noted that the word “solidarity” is disappearing from our vocabulary these days, because “it causes inconvenience “. Why? “ Because it obliges you to look at the other person and give yourself to him with love ” - said the Pope Francis . “Besides - he went on - Christ’s humility - is not a sentiment , it is real, manifesting itself through a decision to become small, to be with the smallest and rejected, to come to us, sinners ,” - said the Ukrainian service of Radio “ Vatican “ .

But it is not enough to contemplate on Jesus, you have to follow Him. Jesus came not to appear, he is a path that should be covered. In this context, the Pope thanked everyone who dedicated his life to the charity affairs, encouraging them to be enduring on this way.

“We cannot follow Jesus on the way of love - he added - if, above all, we do not live in harmony with each other, if we do not try to cooperate together, to understand each other, to forgive others, acknowledging our limitations and mistakes.” In addition, the “Charity affairs should be done with mercy.” Pope condemned such things as neglect of the poor during the help providing or using those, who are in need to achieve their goals.

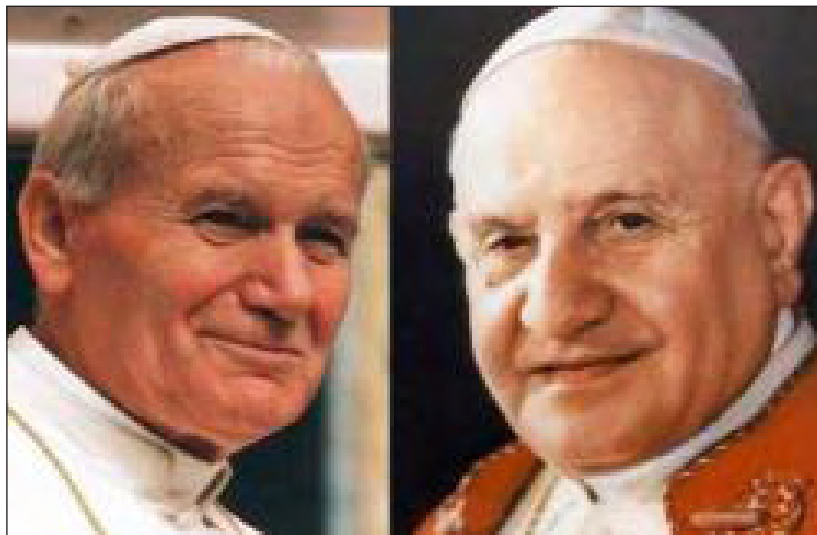
In conclusion, the Pope also brought it to notice that following Jesus means to sow hope, which is in need of modern society. This should be done at all levels, in all its objectives in this sphere. Someone has a duty to do so in the political and civil spheres, but each of us - in works of solidarity.

UGCC Department of Information

## Canonization date announced for Blessed Popes John Paul II and John XXIII

2013-09-30

(Vatican Radio) Pope Francis on Monday morning held the Public Ordinary Consistory for the forthcoming Canonization of Blessed Pope John XXIII and Blessed Pope John Paul II. During the course of the Consistory in the Vatican's Consistory Hall, the Pope decreed that his two predecessors will be raised to Sainthood on April 27, 2014, the day on which the Church celebrates the Second Sunday of Easter and Divine Mercy.



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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.