

# THE WAY ШЛЯХ

Official Publication of the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia

VOL. 75 - No. 17

SEPTEMBER 21, 2014

ENGLISH VERSION

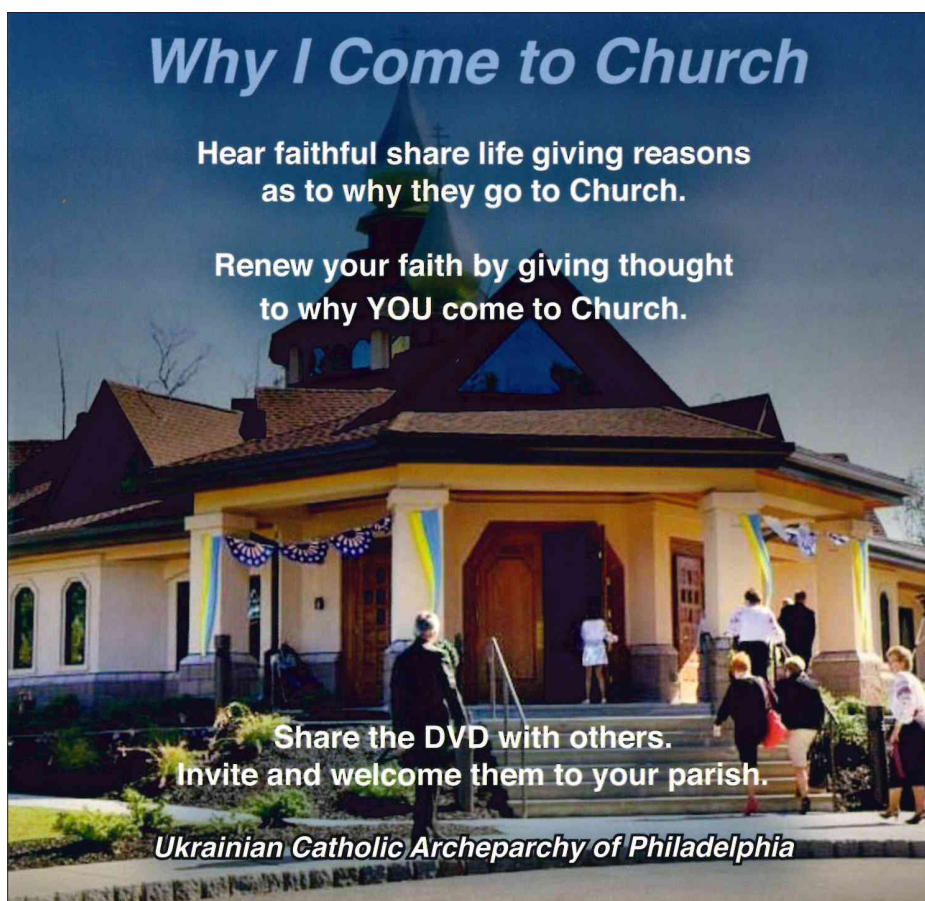
## Faithful to Receive New DVD "Why I Come to Church" during the Divine Liturgies on September 27-28

PHILADELPHIA, PA.—The Philadelphia Archeparchy has produced a new DVD entitled "Why I Come to Church." It very simply and vividly expresses the thoughts and views of many different people as to the importance and value in their life of coming to Church. It invites people to think about their own reasons to come to church.

This DVD will be distributed to the faithful in all parishes of the archeparchy on the weekend of September 27-28, 2014. At the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy, during a special ceremony the DVDs will be blessed and all the faithful will also be blessed as they are "commissioned" to be evangelizers for Christ by sharing the message of the DVD with others

During the Divine Liturgy, clergy have been asked to share a specially prepared homily, emphasizing the importance of sharing the Good News of Christ and inviting others to His

(continued on next page)



### Highlights inside this issue:

- **UKRAINE IS FLOWING IN BLOOD! APPEAL OF THE SYNOD OF BISHOPS OF THE UKRAINIAN GREEK CATHOLIC CHURCH - pg. 15**
- **COMMUNIQUE OF UGCC SYNOD OF BISHOPS - pg. 25**

# Faithful to Receive New DVD “Why I Come to Church” during the Divine Liturgies on September 27-28

(continued from previous page)

Church. “It is an invitation that we extend to others to meet Christ and come to know Him as our Beloved Master who desires us to live life abundantly. What He offers us always is that which is best for us; it is in Christ where we find gifts of solace, peace and healing, amidst these confusing and trying times. In Church we find the spiritual aids that help us to take on the negative onslaughts and assaults of evil that encircle us.”

Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka has implemented this evangelization initiative in the Philadelphia Archeparchy “to bring greater vibrancy to the expression of our faith in our parishes.”

In commenting on the importance of this evangelization initiative, Metropolitan Stefan stated, “All of our parishes have experienced the loss of good souls over the past decades for many reasons, most of which are unknown to us. You and I share a mission to give special and renewed vigor to searching for those who have found themselves lost or at a distance from our Church for whatever reason. . . . We hope this DVD will become an instrument for those who have been lost to reflect on the importance of coming to Church and thereby inviting them to return.”

He continued, “I ask all of our faithful to become missionaries in actively distributing this DVD to their family members, neighbors and friends. I am hopeful that this will stir the hearts of some to consider returning home to their parish. I encourage our faithful to take extra free copies of the DVD and distribute them to others, while extending a warm invitation to come to church.”

This is the third DVD produced by the Archeparchy. Previous videos have focused on the importance of the Creed and on welcoming people to ‘come home’ to their parish.

This DVD, along with the previous ones, is available on the various social media sites: Archeparchy Facebook, YouTube, Twitter, Vimeo and Instagram. The faithful are also encouraged to seek out these sites and to share the DVD electronically with all of their internet contacts.

It is critically important that the entire Archeparchy, all of our clergy, religious and faithful become enthusiastically engaged in promoting the aim of this DVD – “Why I Come to Church,” Metropolitan Soroka stated.

He commented, “I pray for the finding and return of many souls who have wandered from our Church for whatever reason. It is not important to dwell on the cause. We are called to rejoice in the finding and return of the lost! In each of the parables on the lost, they celebrated the success of the restoration of the lost. Allow the Holy Spirit to transform our parish communities into places of celebration because those who were once lost now come to Church!”

# Sunday after the Exaltation of the Cross

## September 21, 2014



*At that time, Jesus summoned the crowd with his disciples and said to them, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and that of the gospel will save it. What profit is there for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? What could one give in exchange for his life? Whoever is ashamed of me and of my words in this faithless and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of when he comes in his Father's glory with the holy angels." He also said to them, "Amen, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see that the kingdom of God has come in power." (Mk 8, 34 - 9, 1)*

---

The deepest reality and most mysterious element of our human existence is life itself. In today's Gospel (Mark 8:34-9:1), Jesus asks the question, "What can a person give in return for his very life?" Jesus shows us the way to gain life, paradoxically, by losing it. How is it possible to gain something by losing it? The words of our Lord are terms of surrender - giving our very self to our Maker, at His call, so that we might receive back a radically new and transformed life.

Following Jesus means a denial of self, that is, a change of one's heart, to walk with Christ, to put on Christ, and to share in the redemptive suffering of Christ. To follow Christ is to imitate His self-giving and His determination to be faithful to the call of God the Father addressed to Him at His baptism. "You are My beloved Son."

No one can prove that life as we know it here continues endlessly. Sooner or later we are brought to the realization that life slips all too quickly away. We may face this fact at the death of a parent, a friend or neighbor, a husband or wife. We may struggle to hold on to what we have of life, but Jesus today is using the idea of life in the most all-embracing way possible.

The question is not just to prolong one's existence in this world but rather to assure an existence of another order or form that transcends categories of time and space. That existence is the life of our spirit - the soul which is immortal. It will never die!

The message of today's Gospel is a challenge to accept Jesus' words here and now - an invitation to give ourselves to God's plan for us despite the ultimate requirements which may be exacted. Jesus took up His cross in the conviction that this was His Father's will. That cross was the instrument of our own eternal salvation. In Jesus we have the ultimate example of life lost that life might be gained. In Christ, death is loss of this life, yes; but the gain of another life because of Him and with Him forever.

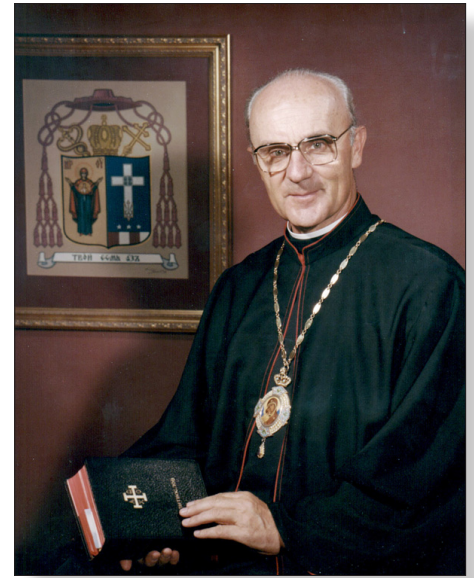
(Rev. John T. Sekellick, J.C.L.)

# ARCHBISHOP EMERITUS STEPHEN SULYK TO CELEBRATE 90TH BIRTHDAY

Everyone is invited to pray the Divine Liturgy for the health and well-being of Archbishop Emeritus Stephen Sulyk on Friday, October 3rd at 1 pm at the Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on Franklin Street in Philadelphia. A reception at which you can visit with Archbishop Emeritus Sulyk will follow. Clergy of our Archeparchy have been invited to concelebrate the Liturgy. To assist in preparing for the reception, kindly notify the Chancery of your anticipated participation by September 30th by calling 215-627-0143 or sending an email to [ukrmet@urkcap.org](mailto:ukrmet@urkcap.org).

Records show that Archbishop Emeritus Stephen Sulyk was born on October 2nd, 1924. However, he relates that his actual date of birth was October 1st, and that it was recorded on the following day. Archbishop Emeritus Sulyk was born in Balnycia, area Lisko in Ukraine. He studied at the Ukrainian Catholic Seminary in Hirschberg, Germany from 1946 to 1948, and then emigrated to the United States of America.

He continued studies at The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. from 1948 to 1952 and received the degree of Licentiate in Sacred Theology in 1952. He was ordained a priest by the late Archbishop Constantine Bohachevsky in Philadelphia on June 14th, 1952. As an assistant priest from 1952 to 1955, he served in parishes located in Omaha and Lincoln, Nebraska, Brooklyn, NY, Minersville, PA, and Youngstown, OH. As a pastor from 1955 to 1980, he served parishes in Phoenixville, PA, Frackville, PA, St. Nicholas in Philadelphia, and Perth Amboy, NJ where he served for 18 years.



Fr. Stephen Sulyk was appointed by the Holy Father as Metropolitan Archbishop of Philadelphia on December 29th, 1980, and was consecrated by Major Archbishop Joseph Slipyj in Rome on March 1st, 1981. Archbishop Emeritus Sulyk's retirement from office was accepted on November 29th, 2000 at the time his successor, Most Rev. Stefan Soroka was appointed as Metropolitan-Archbishop. Our beloved former spiritual father and leader of our Archeparchy served our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ and His Holy Ukrainian Catholic Church for 62 years as a priest, which includes 34 years as an archbishop.

We are pleased to share that Archbishop Emeritus Stephen Sulyk continues to enjoy relatively good health, exercising steadfast commitment to regularly walking and participating in various activities of interest to him. He resides in an assisted living setting located in New Jersey in an area reserved for retired clergy. He is blessed to have caring and kind souls who show great love and care for his well-being, health and happiness. God has been generous in His response to Archbishop Emeritus Stephen Sulyk in appreciation for his dedicated and steadfast leadership and ministry. Come and celebrate with us on October 3rd praising God for His giftedness amidst us in the person of Archbishop Stephen Sulyk as he celebrates giving gratitude for his 90 years of life in the Lord. God grant him many blessed and joyful years!

*Congratulations!*

## **A Greeting from Metropolitan Stefan for St. Basil's College 75th Anniversary**

Слава Ісусу Христу!

During these past fourteen years as Metropolitan of our Ukrainian Catholic Church in the USA, I have been blessed with the opportunity to continually meet persons who have studied at St. Basil's College. Some have graduated and continued on in theological studies and have become ordained as priests, bishops, teachers, and workers and professionals in various fields. Others have studied for varying times. In all cases, one quickly sees in these people their love for our Ukrainian Catholic Church, for our traditions and for our Ukrainian culture. The atmosphere at St. Basil's College has fostered a love for one's identity. St. Basil's College also imparts skill and knowledge in various disciplines. These are energetically shared with others.

I have also heard some very interesting and humorous stories of events at St. Basil's College. Students often recall the humorous anecdotes of those involved in administration and about the teaching staff. It reveals the richness and quality of those who have been leaders and instructors at St. Basil's College these past 75 years.

Our Synod of Ukrainian Catholic Bishops just concluded its meeting in Ukraine. Much discussion focused on the use of talents and gifts in the service of the Lord and His Church. Bishop Paul Chomnycky was one of the main speakers. His reflection inspired all of the bishops as to the wise and fruitful use of our time and talents in the advancement of others with whom and for whom we serve. Bishop Paul, in the footsteps of the founding bishops and his predecessors at St. Basil's College, have richly fostered the development of human talents and gifts in the people they have engaged in facilitating instruction here at the College in these past 75 years. All of the beneficiaries of their good works have gone on to 'pay it forward' in the manner in which each has allowed God's grace to inspire them to serve others.

Our hearts are filled with gratitude to the founding bishops, their successors among whom are the emeritus Bishop Basil Losten and the present Bishop Paul Chomnycky, for their dedication to the development of St. Basil's College throughout these past 75 years. We pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit as you endeavor to meet the challenges of the years ahead. The needs of society and its leadership are radically changing. I am confident that St. Basil's College will adapt and respond well in its ongoing endeavor to prepare our future leaders and servants in our Ukrainian Catholic Church and in American society.

God's grace is plentiful. May His Grace continue to guide St. Basil's College as an instrument of His vibrant presence amidst us. May the omophor or our Blessed Mother richly embrace all of your holy efforts and sustain St. Basil's College in its continued service of Jesus Christ!

Слава Ісусу Христу!





09/12/2014

Reverend and Dear Fathers:

Every year the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia observes "Catechetical Sunday." In order to facilitate this commemoration we are sending you Prayers for Catechists and Students, to be used during Catechetical Sunday observance at the Divine Liturgy. Please make this event a memorable one for your catechists, students and parish by organizing an appropriate celebration following the Divine Liturgy; for example: recognition of catechists for their work with a special reception, lunch, coffee and cake etc. Please use this event to stress the importance of the need for educating ourselves and our children in the Gospel message.

Given the theme for Catechetical Sunday 2014 "Teaching about God's Gift of Forgiveness", it seems to be a simple matter of reciting the Lord's Prayer—forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us—done!

That's a good lesson for the day. But Catechetical Sunday sets the theme for more than that one day with the aim of focusing our on-going course of religious instruction on recurring "teachable" moments, God forgives.

Using the words "as we forgive" as a fulcrum of balance, much like a seesaw (or teeter-totter), it is apparent that we get God's forgiveness when we give forgiveness to others.

We may be quick to ask God for a reprieve of judgment, yet slow to extend that same generous gesture should someone hurt us. Here's where we can learn the message of the condition to be forgiven: give forgiveness to get forgiven.

Throughout the year we hear Gospel readings at the Divine Liturgy that show the importance of attending to the needs of others before our own, and realize just how pivotal selflessness is to getting something from God and our ability to give God to others. Be God-like, not in judging others—but in forgiving.

As the school year progresses find ways to exercise your Christian Faith daily, forgiving so you may be confident in approaching God for forgiveness when you need it. God's forgiveness is not just a one-time deal, neither should ours.

Catechetical Sunday should be celebrated in your parish whether you have a catechetical program or not. This Sunday provides us an opportunity in our parish families to stress that each of us is "catechist" responsible to educate ourselves and our families in the faith. In a classroom setting we have but a small window of time to present basics of the faith but as church families and parents and grandparents there is even a greater opportunity to show by example, what our faith means to us by living it and supporting it and encouraging it. We stress the importance of secular education to achieve success. We support local sports activities to enhance our children's lives. We also need to give a basis in faith and spirituality to

be able to use everything they learn for their own sake and those around them in the world. So we encourage you to reach out to all your people in your sermons and church activities this Catechetical Sunday, and remind them that they too are being sent to evangelize and spread the Good News of Jesus to those around them.

How you wish to celebrate "Catechetical Sunday" is up to you, however we ask your assistance in helping us promote this Sunday by sending us via email, photos and examples of what you and your parish did to bring attention to this need for continuing the education of our children and adults in your parish community. It will help and encourage us in our task of providing you with programs and events which will help in spreading the Gospel through education and evangelization.

Wishing you God's Blessings,

Rev. Stepan Bilyk  
Director of Religious Education.



We invite you to come and sail with us on  
the road to sanctity as a  
**Missionary Sister of Mother of God.**  
[msmgns@gmail.com](mailto:msmgns@gmail.com)  
(215)-627-7808  
Missionary Sisters of Mother of God  
711 North Franklin Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19123

**Metropolitan-Archbishop  
Stefan Soroka attends Ukraine  
President Petro Poroshenko's  
Address to the Joint Meeting of  
Congress in Washington, DC on  
September 18, 2014.**



An article will  
appear in the  
October 5,  
2014 issue of  
"The Way."

**Photo: Metropolitan Stefan speaks with Ukraine  
President Petro Poroshenko after the Joint Meeting  
of Congress. Also pictured is Bishop Daniel of the  
Ukrainian Orthodox Church.**

**THE PROVIDENCE ASSOCIATION**

Your Ukrainian Fraternal Life Insurance  
And Benefit Society

LIFE INSURANCE ~ RETIREMENT ~ SAVINGS  
[www.provassn.com](http://www.provassn.com)



**FIXED ANNUITIES (Savings Certificates)  
IRA'S AND ROTH IRAs**

**3.00%** Tax Deferred or Exempt Interest Rate

*Guaranteed Minimum Lifetime Rate ~ will increase automatically when economics warrant*

*Safe, Secure and Steady Wealth Accumulation*

*401(k), 457, 403(b), IRA and other pension plan rollovers*

**Call or email PROVIDENCE ASSOCIATION**

**1-877-857-2284 (ext. 211) [sales@provassn.com](mailto:sales@provassn.com)**

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

*“Call to Holiness”*

*The Life of Metropolitan Andrew Sheptytsky  
on the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of his Death*

*Sunday, October 5, 2014*

<b>9 am - 11 am</b>	<b>Mystery of Reconciliation (Confession)</b>	<i>Monastery Grounds</i>
<b>10 am</b>	<b>Rosary</b> Mothers in Prayer	<i>Holy Trinity Chapel</i>
<b>11 am</b>	<b>Procession</b> <b>Hierarchical Divine Liturgy (Bilingual)</b> Celebrant: Most Rev. Metropolitan - Archbishop Stefan Soroka Ukrainian Catholic Hierarchy of the U. S. Homilist: Very Rev. Archpriest Ivan Kaszczak Choir: Ukrainian Catholic National Shrine of the Holy Family, Washington, D.C	<i>From Basilian Spirituality Center Faculty House Auditorium</i>
<b>1:30 pm - 5 pm</b>	<b>Food Service</b>	<i>Food Court Parking Lot</i>
<b>2 pm - 4 pm</b> (promptly)	<b>Presentation:</b> Movie: Metropolitan Andrey	<i>Basilian Spirituality Chapel</i>
<b>3 pm – 3:45 pm</b>	<b>Rosary</b> Mothers in Prayer	<i>Shrine: Our Lady of Pochayiv</i>
<b>3:45 pm</b>	<b>Blessing of Religious Articles</b>	<i>Shrine: Our Lady of Pochayiv</i>
<b>4 pm - 5 pm</b>	<b>Moleben/Mystery of Holy Anointing (Bilingual)</b> Celebrant: Ukrainian Bishops and Concelebrating Clergy Homilist: Very Rev. Archpriest Ivan Kaszczak Choir: Ukrainian Catholic National Shrine of the Holy Family, Washington, D.C	<i>Shrine</i>
<b>5 pm</b>	<b>Blessing of Cars and Buses</b>	<i>Parking Lot</i>



Sisters of the Order of Saint Basil the Great  
710 Fox Chase Road  
Fox Chase Manor, PA 19046  
Phone: 215.379.3998 Fax: 215.780.1743  
E-mail: [development@stbasils.com](mailto:development@stbasils.com) Web: [www.stbasils.com](http://www.stbasils.com)



## Metropolitan Soroka Meets Caritas Ukraine Representatives to Review Programs for Victims of Maidan and the War in Ukraine

**Philadelphia, Pa.**-- While in Lviv for the Synod of Bishops of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, held September 7-14, Metropolitan Stefan Soroka of the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia met with representatives of Caritas Ukraine, Ludmilla Soukhareva and Anatoliy Kozak, together with Bishop Ken Nowakowski of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of New Westminster, Canada.

Metropolitan Soroka stated, "Caritas Ukraine is fulfilling a much valued and appreciated program offering rehabilitation and psychological counseling assistance for survivors of the Maidan in Kyiv, Ukraine and for victims suffering from the physical and mental scars of war in eastern Ukraine. This program was developed by Caritas, Ukraine to offer professional assistance to persons who have experienced and are suffering serious trauma following these tragic events in their country."

Metropolitan Soroka met with the representatives of Caritas Ukraine to review the program and to assess its successes and continued needs.

The Knights of Columbus in the United States of America generously provided \$100,000 in grant monies which substantially enabled the creation and continuation of these much needed professional psychological services for victims suffering trauma in Ukraine. These funds were administered through the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia's combined efforts in responding to the needs of Ukraine's citizens during these difficult times of implementing democratic reform and coping with war in eastern Ukraine.

The Philadelphia Archeparchy is also involved in raising funds to support various needed services offered to persons injured during the recent hostilities, among which is a program to purchase Celox blood-clotting kits for those defending the territorial integrity of their nation on the front in eastern Ukraine.

Metropolitan Soroka stated, "The generosity of the parishioners and friends of Ukraine has enabled the archeparchy to respond to many different and varied needs in Ukraine. May God bless all of our generous benefactors and supporters!"

If anyone would like to make a donation for these much needed programs, please forward your tax deductible gift to the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia, 827 N. Franklin Street, Philadelphia, PA 19123. Your gift will be forwarded to assist in providing for these urgent needs in Ukraine.



**Metropolitan Stefan Soroka of the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia, and Ludmilla Soukhareva and Anatoliy Kozak of Caritas Ukraine, meet in Lviv, Ukraine.**

# Archieparchial Clergy Attend Annual Spiritual Retreat

**Long Branch, NJ**—From Monday, September 15 through Thursday, September 18, 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 master was Msgr. George Appleyard.



**Metropolitan Stefan and Msgr. George Appleyard**



# Saint Basil Academy Open House

Sunday, October 12, 2014  
1 to 3PM

711 Fox Chase Road  
Jenkintown, PA 19046  
(215) 885 ~ 6952

~Educate the Girl~

~Empower the Woman~

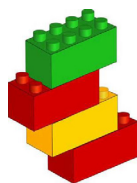
~Enlighten the World~



## LEGO® Bingo



### Sunday, October 12<sup>th</sup>



Doors open at 12 noon

Early Bird at 1:15pm

Bingo starts at 1:30pm

Admission \$25.00



\*All Players must purchase an admission ticket

\*Winner receives their choice of Lego Kit  
(Recommend age for kit's vary from 3 to 18+ years of age)

\*Advanced ticket holders will be entered in a  
drawing for an Lego Accessory .

\* Special Raffle - Bring non-perishable food or paper  
products to get a chance for a special raffle –  
one chance per non-expired item

**St. Michael's Church Hall**

300 W Oak St , Shenandoah, PA

for tickets or info call **570-462-0809.**

We cannot accept 50 or 100 dollar bill's

## Holy Ghost Ukrainian Catholic Church TRICKY TRAY



Date: Sunday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2014

Time: Doors open at 12:30 PM  
First drawing at 2:00 PM

Where: Holy Ghost Ukrainian Catholic Church  
315 Fourth Street, West Easton, PA 18042

\$10 admission includes first sheet of tickets.  
Many prizes valued at \$100+! Door prizes and 50/50 raffle!  
All ages are welcome!

Refreshments including homemade pierogies, BBQ,  
baked goods and more will be available to purchase.

**Top prizes include: Surface Tablet, Beats Headphones,  
State Theatre/Dinner Package, Flat Panel TV and more!**

[www.HolyGhost-Ukrainian-Catholic.org](http://www.HolyGhost-Ukrainian-Catholic.org)

## News from Scranton, PA

\* Pyrohy Sale\*

St. Vladimir Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church is sponsoring a homemade pyrohy sale on Saturday, October 4, 2014 from 2:00 to 6:00pm in the Parish Center, 428 North Seventh Avenue, Scranton. These are freshly made that day and are not frozen. Cost is \$7.00 per dozen. Orders must be placed no later than Monday, September 29<sup>th</sup> and are being by at 570 342-3749

\*St. Vladimir Parish Annual Flea Market\*

The Annual Flea Market sponsored by St. Vladimir Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church will be held in the Parish Center, 428 North Seventh Avenue, Scranton on Saturday, October 18, 2014 from 9:00am to 2:00pm. Doors will not open before 9:00am. This event benefits the Parish Children's Religious Education Program. Ukrainian and American foods will be available for purchase. To reserve a table or for additional information contact 570 963-1580

## UKRAINIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY FLAG RAISING CEREMONY IN TOMS RIVER, NJ

A patriotic and enthusiastic group of over eighty people gathered at a special August 24, 2014 Ukrainian Independence Day Flag Raising Ceremony on a beautiful, sunny day at St. Stephen Ukrainian Catholic Church in Toms River, New Jersey. Gerry Tchir, President of the Ukrainian-American Club of Ocean County, stated the purpose of this celebration was to honor and celebrate the 23rd anniversary of Ukrainian independence, honor the "Heavenly Hundred" martyrs and show our support for our Ukrainian brethren in a struggle for an independent and sovereign Ukraine.



## PRAYING FOR THE PROTECTION OF OUR LADY OF POKROVA FOR UKRAINE

According to the primary chronicle of St. Nestor the Chronicler, the inhabitants of Constantinople were threatened by hordes of barbarian invaders. The inhabitants of the city called upon the intercession of the Mother of God to protect them from an attack by a large pagan army. Our Lady miraculously appeared in the Church of Blachernae in Constantinople where the faithful were gathered in prayer and after an all night vigil Our Lady took off her veil (omophor) and spread it over the city and the people as a sign of assured protection. Our Ukrainian people have long celebrated this Feast of the Mother of God as the Intercessor and Patron. The Mother of God was chosen as their patroness and protectress.



With the beginning of the church Liturgical Year, Fr. Andriy Dudkevych, pastor of St. Nicholas Church, Passaic, NJ, has begun a weekly prayer service dedicated to the Protection of the Most Holy Mother of God - Pokrova, in light of the threatening invaders of Ukraine in our present day.

Following the Sunday Liturgies, the faithful remain and intone the Liturgical service, asking for the protection of the Mother of God on Ukraine, the Church, it's people, it's military and the government, praying that they be granted wisdom, strength and faith to bring about peace and harmony on our homeland. As Our Lady miraculously appeared in the Church of Blachernae in Constantinople and protected the city from the siege of the pagan invaders, the faithful implore the Mother of God to spread her omophorion, her protection, over Ukraine, to guide all to peace, bring about truth, justice and sincere forgiveness.

When called upon in fervent prayer, the Mother of God has shown her miraculous intercession against all enemies. Let us continually pray and implore her intercession during these uncertain and unsettling times in Ukraine and around the entire Christian World.

O Most Holy Mother of God, save us !

The Pastor and the Parish Community of  
Saint Stephen Ukrainian Catholic Church

Toms River, New Jersey

Cordially and joyfully invite you and your family to

**THE SOLEMN CONSECRATION OF OUR NEW CHURCH**

1344 White Oak Bottom Road Toms River, New Jersey 08755

Sunday, October 12, 2014

2:00 p.m. – Solemn Consecration of the New Church  
and Hierarchical Liturgy

5:00p.m. – Cocktail Hour

6:00 p.m. – Banquet

For information and banquet reservations  
please phone Luba Bonczek 732-505-8782  
or Parish rectory 732-505-6053

## A New Generation for a New Ukraine - Ukrainian Catholic University launches new phase of Comprehensive Campaign

The Ukrainian Catholic University (UCU) and the Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation (UCEF) announce the launch of the public phase of UCU's Comprehensive Campaign to complete construction of the University's campus in Stryisky Park in Lviv, and to build a strong endowment for new academic and research programs.

"We are very proud of the success of this early phase of our Campaign," said Alexander Kuzma, the Chief Development Officer at UCEF. "These buildings were completed on schedule and within budget for a fraction of the cost they would have cost at most western institutions. With the next, public phase of our Campaign, UCU will be able to complete construction on the University Church and Pastoral Center, and plans to start construction on the new Library and Resource Center, designed by the renowned Benesch Architectural Firm of Stuttgart, Germany."

Read the entire article at <http://ucef.org/news/4016/>

On October 19, 2014 at 11:00AM in the Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Archbishop Stefan Soroka will be joining with our married faithful in a Divine Liturgy honoring Married Life. We invite all of our married faithful wishing to celebrate their wedding anniversary in this very special way to come and join in the celebration! It will be a celebration of their love and commitment to each other in the holy state of Matrimony and a witness to the world of their commitment to life.

The Divine Liturgy on October 19, 2014 will provide the opportunity to renew their wedding vows, to gather with other believers in a spirit of love, witness and commitment, followed by a dinner with the Archbishop .

Archpriest Daniel Troyan  
Office of Evangelization  
Archeparchy of Philadelphia

Deadline for Registration is October 5, 2014.

## WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



### October 19, 2014

**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 October 19, 2014  
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 October 5, 2014*

**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

# UKRAINE IS FLOWING IN BLOOD! APPEAL OF THE SYNOD OF BISHOPS OF THE UKRAINIAN GREEK CATHOLIC CHURCH



**Synod of Ukrainian Catholic Bishops in Lviv, Ukraine, September 7-14, 2014.  
(Photo: <http://news.ugcc.ua>)**

Lviv 10 September 2014 A.D.

We, the bishops of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church from Ukraine and from countries of Ukrainian settlements in North and South America, Australia, and Europe, gathered at the annual Holy Synod in Lviv, conscious of the responsibility entrusted to us for our flock, raise our voice on behalf of the people of Ukraine and call out to the people of the world: "Ukraine is flowing with blood!" This peaceful sovereign nation has been subjected to a direct military intervention by a northern neighbor. Hundreds of units of heavy weaponry and technology, thousands of armed mercenaries and soldiers of Russia's standing army are crossing the borders of Ukraine, sowing death and destruction, in disregard for the terms of the ceasefire and recent diplomatic efforts. At the same time, propaganda continues at an unprecedented level of hatred and distortion of the real state of affairs, which is no less damaging than weapons of mass destruction.

The entire world has been able to witness how, over the last months, the aggressor commits crimes against humanity on the territory of Ukraine. The whole world was shocked with the criminal act of the downing of the Malaysian plane, in which 298 people from 10 different countries died. Thousands of people, especially women and children, have been recklessly killed; and it has not been possible to even bury them with dignity. Many of the wounded are forced to simply wait for death due to the inaccessibility of medical assistance. Thousands of people are being kidnapped and subjected to torture and public humiliation against their human dignity.. Hundreds of thousands of refugees are being forced to flee their homes due to threats against their lives and the danger of death. If these crimes are not stopped immediately, with the onset of the winter cold, the death toll will increase tenfold. Those, who kill people in Ukraine today, will

**(continued on next page)**

# UKRAINE IS FLOWING IN BLOOD! APPEAL OF THE SYNOD OF BISHOPS OF THE UKRAINIAN GREEK CATHOLIC CHURCH

(continued from previous page)

not hesitate tomorrow to turn their weaponry against anyone, in their own country and beyond its borders, or attack any other nation in the world.

In the face of such grave crimes we call out to the consciences of believers of all religions and faiths, we appeal to all people of good will, to heads of state, and members of the international community: "Stop the bloodshed in Ukraine!" Today, silence or inaction, reluctance to recognize the gravity of the situation, which has arisen in our country, can not only turn everyone into a mute or indifferent witness, but also into an accomplice of the sin of murder, which cries to heaven for justice as the Scripture says: "What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood is crying to me from the ground" (Genesis 4:10). How can we not recall the words of Saint John Paul II, who in the distant year of 1979, in the vicinity of the former concentration camp Auschwitz-Birkenau, said: "War is caused not only by those who wage it directly but also by those who do not do everything in their power to avoid it." We especially call for responsible action from those whom the Lord has given authority, to take the necessary decisions at the political level in order to restore peace and security in Europe. And once again we call all believers and people of good will to urgent prayers for the end of aggression and the restoration of a lasting and comprehensive peace in Ukraine.

Convinced that God is with us in our sufferings and troubles, that He will hear our common pleas and prayers, and with the coordinated efforts of the international community, we will be able to stop the bloodshed, to defend human dignity, and restore life-giving peace.

His Beatitude Sviatoslav (Shevchuk)  
Major Archbishop of Kyiv and Halych

His Grace Volodemer (Koubetch)  
Metropolitan of Curitiba

His Grace Ihor (Vozniak)  
Metropolitan of Lviv

His Excellency Borys (Gudziak)  
Eparch of the Eparchy of St. Volodymyr the Great in Paris for the Ukrainians of the Byzantine rite

His Grace Volodymyr (Vijtyshyn)  
Metropolitan of Ivano-Frankivsk

His Excellency Bryan (Bayda)  
Eparch of Saskatoon

His Grace Vasyl (Semeniuk)  
Metropolitan of Ternopil

His Excellency Vasyl (Ivasiuk)  
Eparch of Kolomyia and Chernivtsi

His Grace Ivan (Martyniak)  
Metropolitan of Przemyśl and Warsaw

His Excellency Volodymyr (Juszczak)  
Eparch of Wrocław and Gdansk

His Grace Lawrence (Huculak)  
Metropolitan of Winnipeg

His Excellency Hlib (Lonchyna)  
Eparch of the Holy Family Eparchy of London

His Grace Stefan (Soroka)  
Metropolitan of Philadelphia

His Excellency David (Motiuk)  
Eparch of Edmonton

(continued on next page)



# UKRAINE IS FLOWING IN BLOOD! APPEAL OF THE SYNOD OF BISHOPS OF THE UKRAINIAN GREEK CATHOLIC CHURCH

(continued from previous page)

His Excellency Dmytro (Hryhorak)  
Eparch of Buchach

His Excellency Ken (Nowakowski)  
Eparch of New Westminster

His Excellency Meron (Mazur)  
Eparch of the Immaculate Conception Eparchy in  
Prudentopolis

His Excellency Mykhail (Koltun)  
Eparch of Sokal-Zhovkva

His Excellency Paul (Chomnycky)  
Eparch of Stamford

His Excellency Peter (Stasiuk)  
Eparch of Melbourne

His Excellency Richard (Seminack)  
Eparch of Chicago

His Excellency Stephen (Chmilar)  
Eparch of Toronto and Eastern Canada

His Excellency Taras (Senkiv)  
Eparch of Stryi

His Excellency Yaroslav (Pryriz)  
Eparch of Sambir-Drohobych

His Excellency Bohdan (Dzyurakh)  
Bishop of Major Archbishop's Curia,  
Secretary of the UGCC Synod of Bishops

His Excellency Petro (Kryk)  
Apostolic Exarch of Germany and Scandinavia

His Excellency Vasyl (Tuchapets)  
Exarch of Kharkiv

His Excellency Josaphat (Hovera)  
Exarch of Lutsk

His Excellency Mykhail (Bubniy)  
Exarch of Odesa, Administrator of Crimean  
Exarchate

His Excellency Stepan (Menok)  
Exarch of Donetsk

His Excellency Daniel (Kozlinski)  
Apostolic Administrator of the Protection of the  
Mother of God Eparchy in Argentina

His Excellency John (Bura)  
Apostolic Administrator of Parma Eparchy

His Excellency Dionisio (Lachovicz)  
Apostolic Visitor for the Ukrainian Greek Catholic  
faithful in Italy and Spain

His Excellency Venedykt (Aleksiychuk)  
Auxiliary Bishop of Lviv Archeparchy

His Excellency Josyf (Milian)  
Auxiliary Bishop of Kyiv Archeparchy

His Excellency Eugeniusz (Popowicz)  
Auxiliary Bishop of Przemyśl and Warsaw  
Archeparchy

His Excellency Bohdan (Manyshyn)  
Auxiliary Bishop of Stryi Eparchy

His Excellency Josaphat (Moshchych)  
Auxiliary Bishop of Ivano-Frankivsk Archeparchy

His Excellency Hryhoriy (Komar)  
Auxiliary Bishop of Sambir and Drohobych Eparchy

His Excellency Basil (Losten)  
Bishop-emeritus

His Excellency Irynei (Bilyk)  
Bishop-emeritus

<http://news.ugcc.ua>

# UGCC Synod of Bishops began its work with a Pontifical Divine Liturgy in Lviv

Sunday, 07 September 2014

On September 7th in St. George Cathedral, with a Pontifical Divine Liturgy officially the next session of the Synod of Bishops of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church began. This Synod will have the main theme as "Managing God's gifts." The Synod will last until September 14th and will be held in the recollection-vacation complex of UGCC Lviv Archeparchy in Briukhovychi near Lviv.

Participating in the Divine Liturgy were: the members of the Synod of Bishops; Apostolic Nuncio in Ukraine, Thomas Edward Hallickson; representatives of Bishops Conferences from USA, Germany, France, and Italy. In particular, Most Reverend Bishop Donato Oliverio (S.E.R. Donato Oliverio) with P. Sergio Straface of the Italian Bishops Conference; Most Reverend Bishop Mgr. Gerard Daucourt with P. Didier Bertnet –French Bishops Conference; Most Reverend Blase J. Cupich) with Dr. Declan Murphy – American Bishops Conference; Most Reverend Bishop Dr. Stephan Ackermann – German Bishops Conference, who was escorted by Rev. Ivan Sokhan.



**Metropolitan Stefan is pictured among the Bishops on the right side of this photo.**

Also present were Bishop Filaret (Kucherov), UOC (MP) Bishop of Lviv and Halychyna. "your presence is a sign of great solidarity with our Church and the Ukrainian people in this uneasy time for our national and church life," said UGCC Head.

In turning to the Gospel, UGCC Head noted that the Sunday parable about the vineyard owner summarizes the history of the interaction of God and man: "God did not simply plant a vineyard. He trusted it to his envoys, in other words – to all those who carry His word. He expects from man a fruitful activity in his vineyard. Because the vineyard is the property of God and not man." The preacher also mentioned that all who are called to work in God's vineyard, should in due time return the fruits of one's labor to its owner.

At the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy Bishop Bohdan (Dziurakh), UGCC Synod of Bishops Secretary, read the Decree of UGCC Head about the beginning of the Synod of UGCC Bishops.

At the end, the bishops prayed a Memorial Service for Patriarch Josyf Slipyj since that day marked the 30th Anniversary of his death.

UGCC Department of Information

<http://news.ugcc.ua>

# Pope prays for peace in Ukraine

7 September 2014

Addressing thousands of pilgrims in Saint Peter's Square during his weekly Sunday Angelus address, Pope Francis again called for peace in Ukraine.

After the recitation of the Angelus, the Holy Father expressed his hope that, despite recent acts of violence in the region, the people of Ukraine might find relief amid the ongoing conflict. He prayed for the continuation of dialogue as efforts are made to bring about lasting peace.



<http://risu.org.ua>

---

## The Cross and the Icon of World Youth Day arrive in Ukraine

Thursday, 11 September 2014

"So I congratulate you, Ukrainian youth, the hope of our Church and our nation. The signs of God's presence among you here today are gaining the special importance for all of us"-addressed His Beatitude Sviatoslav during a sermon to young people, present in St.George's Cathedral in Lviv, on September 7.

"Today, in this holy temple for the first time in history are present the Cross and the Icon of World Youth Days, which travel around the world. On the Day of Youth, which gathers the Pope Francis in Krakow in 2016, but these signs of youth unity around the

world are now here, in this holy temple", - said the Head of the Church. At the end of the Liturgy he chrismated WYD Symbols.

The official transference of WYD Symbols to the Youth of UGCC and the RCC took place on September 6. The Reverend Bishop Brian Bayda, the Chairman of the Synodal Youth Committee emphasized that the presence in Ukraine of the WYD Cross and Icon is particularly important, taking into consideration the difficult situation in the country and urged the present to pray.

On September 7 the youth of RCC passed WYD Cross and Icon to UGCC Youth. Organized by Youth Commission



of Lviv archdiocese, program included the Procession through the streets of Lviv and prayer program in the city center conducted by Lviv Holy Spirit Seminary of UGCC, and youth night vigil in the church of the Transfiguration. The active part in organizing arrangements took youth communities, students' chaplaincy, Lyceum of Krut Heroes.

"Let the long stay of the cross in our beloved Ukraine be the sign of this Divine power, God's truth and God's victory, and we derive this power of the Cross today, tomorrow and for the life to step forward, - stressed the Reverend Bishop Benedict (Aleksiychuk), the Auxiliary bishop of Lviv archdiocese,

**(continued on next page)**

# The Cross and the Icon of World Youth Day arrive in Ukraine

(continued from previous page)

meeting in the yard of St. George's Cathedral the youth pilgrimage with WYD Cross and Icon. - Life is never simple, life is never easy, but the Apostle Paul tells us the famous words: I can do everything, strengthen by Christ. Each of us can say it, right? I can do everything, strengthen by Lord, in the victory, which He gave me on the cross. May God fill us with the great joy ... This is a

great Divine sign for all of us"- emphasized the Most Reverend Benedict.

Father Rostyslav Pendyuk, the Chairman of the Commission of the UGCC Youth during a meeting with young people, said: "This cross was on all continents. This is truly a great gift for Ukraine, for our youth that this cross holy consecrated by the Pope John Paul II, Cross, which collected around

it millions of people all over the world, came to Ukraine. I truly believe that God's grace is great and I really want us all to realize that we all come to the Cross with the understanding that this is a great sacred thing".

The Pilgrimage of WYD Cross and Icon in Ukraine is accompanied by a prayer for peace. On 9 September the organizers of the World

Youth Day started a campaign of prayer for peace in Ukraine, Syria, Iraq and all over the world.

Maria Kokhanovska, the Commission of the Youth of UGCC

Adapted from an article on <http://news.ugcc.ua>

## The Bishops' Conference of Germany assured Ukraine in support

Friday, 12 September 2014

"I want to assure you that in these evil days we will assist and support you and all the faithful by our prayer". It is said in the welcoming words of Bishop Dr. Stephan Ackermann, the representative of the German Bishops' Conference, to mark the beginning of the Synod of Bishops of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church.

The Bishop assured of a good awareness of the situation in Ukraine. "We, Germans, having bitter experience with both brown and red dictatorship, shared your joy regarding the

overthrow of the regime, which was based not least on corruption and felt obliged to the separate oligarchs, but not the good of society" - He said.

According to Him, "the striking Ukrainian aspirations for democracy, freedom, legal statehood and national self-determination in the common European home is endangered from outside because of the war being waged secretly, obscuring under the external forms of civil war".

The Bishop expressed His hope that, in spite of systematic destabilization



on the part of Russia, we will soon be able to organize independent and fair parliamentary elections. "However, these hopes are marred with a growing threat that the conflict that has been still conducted secretly, every moment can be rapidly turned

into the open war" – the representative of Bishops' Conference of Germany expressed His apprehension.

He marked the great role of the Catholic Church in Maidan support. When the internal conflict

(continued on next page)

# The Bishops' Conference of Germany assured Ukraine in support

(continued from previous page)

turned into the outside one, the pastoral care of the Church has not been addressed to the demonstrators, but to the soldiers.

"One of the strengths of the UGCC is the recognition of the central importance of the parish not only for the religious, but also for the social life of your country. I am convinced that "Renovabis" will continue to support related pastoral projects and initiatives. It will also include the efforts in the area of reconciliation

and healing the spiritual wounds that are applied today. The pastoral care will increasingly include the assistance in overcoming the mental traumas. Here we are also happy to offer support of the Church in Germany", - stressed Bishop Stephan Ackermann.

At the same time Bishop Stephan Ackerman regretted neither He nor the Catholic Church in Germany is unable to influence the situation in Ukraine. "Me and the Catholic Church in Germany are overfilled

with shame and sorrow because we have to watch the suffering and are not able to change anything in their causes. Of course, we condemned the annexation of the Crimea as contradictory to the international law. Of course, we appeal to the politicians of our country to remind the countries, which are warrantors of Memorandum of 1994, about their responsibility to guarantee the political and economic independence and territorial integrity of Ukraine. But, specifically

we, the Church in Germany, can only intercede and support the Church in your country", - He said.

The representative of the German Bishops' Conference conveyed the greetings and wishes of God's blessing from the Head of the Bishops' Conference of German Cardinal Reinhard Marx.

UGCC Department of Information

<http://news.ugcc.ua>

## Synodal letter to the faithful of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church and to all people of good will regarding the social and political situation in Ukraine of the eve of parliamentary elections

Tuesday, 16 September 2014

Be not afraid nor be troubled, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you will go (Joshua 1:9)  
Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

For almost a year, our entire nation has been on a pilgrimage to authentic freedom. After having gone through a liberating experience with

(continued on next page)



# Synodal letter to the faithful of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church

(continued from previous page)

the revolution of dignity, we then endured a tragic armed conflict, the annexation of Crimea, and military incursion into Eastern Ukraine by a neighbouring country. We are living through a difficult economic crisis and are constantly facing challenges in the political sphere. How can we be certain that God is with us?

Under Moses' guidance, for 40 years the People of Israel made their pilgrimage, their passing over from slavery to freedom, from death to life, from a house of slavery to the Promised Land. How much uncertainty and fear did that people suffer in choosing to follow God's call; how much doubt did Moses himself have to suffer because the Lord entrusted him to lead the people on this journey! The Almighty gave Moses signs of His support and presence: the facility to pray and to hear God; the Ark of the Covenant containing the stone Tablets of the Law, which taught truth and justice; the flowering Rod of Aaron that demonstrated God's loving protection over his chosen ones. We know that the People of Israel

accomplished this journey and took possession of the Promised Land.

This Old Testament story is not just a reminder but a prophecy, a sign, and a promise to us that God is with us. Then, He guided the Israelites through the desert and now He accompanies our Church and the Ukrainian People through all our present-day trials. He helps us to overcome fear and uncertainty. We also have been given signs of God's support: the prayer during the Maidan, which triumphed over force; the land that God gave us, which nourishes and sustains life; God's own Commandments, which teach us how to live; the martyrdom of the righteous and of our heroes who gave witness in the distant and recent past, and also witness today to the strength of our nation's spirit and purify it with their sacrifices. No matter the grief, fear, and calamity, we know that the Lord is with us.

Our pilgrimage is a time of trials, but at the same time an opportunity for consolidation and unification. In our church hymns we pray: "God, grant us unity." At this

moment we see the incredible strength found in united efforts: in the work of volunteers, in mobilizing the population, in generous donations for the army's needs, in the assistance to those forced to flee from Crimea and the East. These are all works of mercy and it is precisely these deeds that bring down upon us Heaven's blessing. We must unite not only through grief, danger, fear, but in understanding our common destiny and our common future.

We urge everyone to continue to persevere in walking along the way of truth and freedom, daily building up our future with fervent prayer, solidarity with the suffering and the needy, in supporting all government and community initiatives for defending our Motherland, and strengthening God's saving Law in our nation. We bow our heads before all the heroes who gave their lives for the freedom and independence of our country, for the dignity of every Ukrainian and every European. We express our sincerest condolences to their families, as well as to the friends and families of all

those killed during the war in Eastern Ukraine. We address a special word of recognition to all who today, with remarkable and dignified sacrifice, stand guard at the front of our common freedom, and we thank those who, with their generosity and personal sacrifice, testify to God's Truth in a time of war and great moral challenges.

We express our closeness to the families of the wounded, to those deprived of shelter and exposed to all kinds of dangers. We promise them prayerful support and encourage all priests to increase pastoral solidarity with all who suffer. We encourage all the faithful of the UGCC and all people of good will in Ukraine and in the international community to increase their common efforts to reduce suffering and provide spiritual and physical healing to the wounds of Ukrainians. We urge all who will hear us, to engage in concrete works of Christian mercy. We are not condemned by circumstances; we can and must act!

Before us lie Ukrainian parliamentary elections.

(continued on next page)

# Synodal letter to the faithful of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church

(continued from previous page)

Because of the radicalness of the transition, these elections are the most complex and important ones in the history of independent Ukraine. This is why we need unity today, not unity around political figures but around a common understanding of our future. The past winter showed us all how much we need an honest and independent parliament, and how important the choice of each deputy is and what huge price we pay for their dishonesty and mistakes.

In our present day, the political system depends on us because the Lord God, Who is the source of authority, has entrusted it to the people, and that is why it is our responsibility to bring fair and wise politicians to power. Perhaps each person separately does not have much impact on politicians or the situation. Be assured, however, that even one vote, one fair choice, can be crucial at the local level and facilitate common, correct decisions throughout the country. Let us not leave our responsibilities to others. Let us make our choice wisely and honestly.

In such an uncertain time, it is easy to be tempted by populist slogans that give rise to panic and promote empty criticism. Criticism can be constructive only when its goal is the common good. Constructive criticism promotes unity when it distinguishes itself from empty criticism [or: recrimination] and politicking. Do not believe those who promise instant resolutions to solve all problems. The political and economic crisis, and especially war, demonstrated that our country suffers from numerous weaknesses in many areas. In order to establish life and growth – which the Ukrainian people, who endured the Maidan, justly demand – we need profound and sustained reform that will certainly be painful and long-lasting, and which can only be implemented through the wisdom and courage of those engaged in the political sphere and through the unity of the nation.

As already mentioned, it is vital that causes of our internal problems be identified: we all observe the bleeding ulcers of corruption, avarice, moral double standards,

and impunity for those in government who abused power. These are primarily spiritual wounds; thus let us find healing for them in the Spirit.

We call upon our politicians, those in office and those to-be elected. You are coming to power in an incredibly difficult time. Now it is not the time to enjoy the benefits that you have acquired – now is the time for sacrifice. The power entrusted to you involves primarily responsibility before the people who trusted you. May the sacrifice of the Maidan's Heavenly Hundred be always before you, as well as the thousands of fallen Ukrainian soldiers and civilians in the East. May their sacrifice become the measure of your every decision.

We entrusted ourselves to God and travelled along the pilgrim's path to dignity and freedom. This will be a long pilgrimage, and not everyone will witness its successful conclusion. Moses was chosen by God and yet he did not reach the end. And neither did Patriarch Josyf, who brought us forth from the house of slavery. Only

Metropolitan Andrey saw it, and then only in a vision granted him before death. The Heroes of the Heavenly Hundred did not see it. But all these just mentioned have one thing in common: they led and endured to the end and then passed the torch to us. We must remain loyal to their guidance!

Much uncertainty lies before us: we do not know where our journey will lead us and how many sacrifices it will require, how many soldiers of light will be necessary to deliver us out of darkness. We do not have the answers to many of these questions. No one does. Only the Lord has the answers, and He says: "Fear not! Go forth! I will be with you!" In this we can be certain. And so, let us go forward with God!

The blessing of the Lord be upon you!

In the name of the Synod of Bishops of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church

+ SVIATOSLAV

<http://news.ugcc.ua>

# Bishops of UGCC Synod participated in the planting of trees on the Heavenly Hundred Memorial Square in Lviv

Saturday, 13 September 2014

All members of UGCC Synod of Bishops came to Lviv Holy Spirit Spiritual Seminary (LHSSS) in order to honor the love for the Motherland which the Heavenly Hundred professed. Today we are marking a place, which through the deeds of the Heavenly Hundred, will teach others to be real patriots. So stated UGCC Head and Father, His Beatitude Sviatoslav on September 11, 2014 during the planting of trees in the Heavenly Hundred Memorial Square on the territory of LHSSS.



We note that at the beginning of the planting activities, the Bishops of the Synod prayed a Panakhyda [Memorial Service] for the heroes of the Heavenly Hundred and the soldiers who died in the ATO areas. Then the bishops planted 30 Nedzvensky Apple Trees that are also known as Paradise Apple Trees.

Lviv Mayor Andriy Sadovyi participated in the effort. It is noteworthy that the planting of the Heavenly Hundred Memorial Square is a joint effort of UGCC and Lviv City Council (Green Lviv Ecology Management).

“The seminary is a place where young men learn how to love God, their neighbor, and their Church, to love their Motherland and that native soil on which they walk, which gave birth to them, and on which they live. Therefore, we wanted here -- where how to love is learned -- to plant a living tree alley in memory and respect of those who do not die,” he explained.

In conclusion, UGCC Prelate prayed that God accept this gift of love which the Ukrainian people are offering as “a prayer for our Motherland.” “May Almighty God bless our land and hear our prayers for peace. May he embrace those who have died and by their example, may we learn how to live. Because those who do not love, perish... And you, brethren seminarians, when you look at how these trees, which we planted here, grow – pray for the deceased, for our Church, for Ukraine and our people. And learn how to love!” appealed His Beatitude Sviatoslav.

At the very end, the bishops of the Synod talked with the relatives of the perished. Then they sang the hymn “God Great and Almighty”

UGCC Department of Information

<http://news.ugcc.ua>



# Bishops of UGCC Synod visited wounded soldiers from the ATO zone, who are being treated in Lviv

Sunday, 14 September 2014

On September 12th, His Beatitude Sviatoslav, UGCC Head, and the bishops of UGCC Synod went to the army hospital in Lviv where wounded soldiers from the ATO zone are being treated.

"We wanted to touch with our hands those fighters who were wounded on the battlefield. We wanted to share your pain and to give you hope for a better fate for our country," said the Head of the Church to the soldiers and noted that the bishops here saw the better fighters from the best who on this day were awarded official insignia. The bishops testified their deep respect for those who "love their land and their people so much that they are ready to give their own life for that."



Afterwards UGCC Prelate thanked all those who are caring for the health of the wounded, especially the medical personnel. He also thanked the commanders who did not abandon their fighters on the battlefield and did not escape in order to save their own lives. "We, the bishops of UGCC Synod of Bishops promise you that, that which we saw here today, we will broadcast throughout the world. Be assured, that God is with us and therefore we shall overcome," stated UGCC Primate at the end of his statement.

Eventually the bishops dispersed to all floors of the hospital in order to pray and comfort those who are now suffering from wounds to the body and the soul.

UGCC Department of Information

---

## Communique of UGCC Synod of Bishops

Thursday, 18 September 2014

Communique of the Synod of Bishops in the Year of the Lord 2014, of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church (Lviv, Briukhovychi, September 7-14, Year of the Lord 2014)

### Introduction

During September 7-14 of the Year of the Lord 2014, in the city of Lviv

the Synod of Bishops of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church took place, Some 40 bishops from Ukraine, Central and Western Europe, North and South America, and Australia participated in the Synod.

This Holy Synod took place in the year when the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church celebrates its 25th anniversary of legalization after more

than 40 years of existence in catacombs during the rule of the soviet regime. The anniversary became an opportunity to thank and praise the Lord for the gift of staunchness in faith and love of God, the Church and one's people which the UGCC faithful expressed during the times of persecution. The mentioned jubilee is also a good opportunity to honor the martyrs, the ones who suffered and

the confessors of faith who suffered because of their love for God, the Church and their brethren and who became the spiritual foundation of the freedom of UGCC and the renovation of the Ukrainian State.

Through God's providence, the 2014 Synod began on the

**(continued on next page)**

# Communique of UGCC Synod of Bishops

(continued from previous page)

day commemorating the 30th anniversary of the passage into eternity of Josyf Slipyj (1892-1984), a great pastor and the living embodiment of the fate, needs and endeavours of the Ukrainian Church and nation. On this occasion within the Synod there was a presentation of the published memoirs of this servant of God, Josyf Slipyj. Memoirs. This valuable book was published by the Ukrainian Catholic University, the Institute of St. Clement the Pope, and the Institute of Ecumenical Studies, and was edited by Rev. Dr. Ivan Datsko and Ms. Maria Horiacha. Also the synod fathers received the book *The Road to Eternity*. On the 30th anniversary of the departure of His Beatitude Patriarch Josyf Slipyj (1892-1984). Materials about the death and funeral. (Compiler, Dr. Iryna Ivankovych and Rev. Lic. Marko Yaroslav Semehen, Rome).

## The beginning of the Synod

The official opening of the Holy Synod took place on Sunday, September 7, Year of the Lord 2014 in the Archcathedral of St. George in Lviv with a solemn Pontifical Liturgy attended by numerous bishops, priests, laity,

especially youth. In his remarks, His Beatitude Sviatoslav, UGCC Father and Head, greeted all on the occasion of the opening of the Synod and thanked the guests for attending – Apostolic Nuncio to Ukraine, Archbishop Thomas Edward Hallickson and the representatives of the Bishops Conferences of USA, Germany, France, and Italy.

Referring to the reading of the Sunday Gospel (Mt.21, 33-42), His Beatitude Sviatoslav noted that the parable about the vineyard summarizes the history of the interaction of communication between God and man: "The Lord did not only plant a vineyard. He entrusted it to his followers, in other words to all those who carry His Word. He expects from man a fruitful activity in his vineyard. Because the vineyard is the property not of man but of God." The preacher also said that everyone who is called to work in God's vineyard, should in time provide a report on the harvest to His owner.

On that day the bishops led by UGCC Prelate, prayed to the Holy Spirit, asking for themselves God's assistance in order

to better recognize God's plans for UGCC, so that their synodal activity realizes not the plans of people, but those of God.

Work meetings of the Holy Synod began on September 8th. The bishops heard the greetings of the representative of the American Bishops Conference, Bishop Blaise Supich, the representative of the German Bishops Conference, Bishop Stefan Akkerman, the representative of the French Bishops Conference, Bishop Gerard Dokur, the representative of the Italian Bishops Conference, Bishop Donato Oliverio, the representative of Polish Bishops Conference, Bishop Mar'ian Royeka and the Head of the Bishops Conference of the Roman Catholic Church in Ukraine, Metropolitan Mechyslav Mokshynskyj. The Apostolic Nuncio in Ukraine Archbishop Thomas Edward Hallickson, as a representative of the Pope of Rome in Ukraine, assured the synodal fathers of the blessing of Holy Father Francis and wished them fruitful work. Among invited guests participating in the Synod were: Rev. Bohdan Danylo, nominated as the Administrative Bishop of

the Parma Eparchy in the USA; Rev. Vasyl Hovera, Apostolic Delegate for Greek-Catholic Ukrainians in Kazakhstan; Rev. Mykhaylo Dubovych, General Vicar for Ukrainian Greek-Catholics in Romania; Archmandrite Serhiy Hayek, Apostolic Visitor for Belarusian Greek-Catholic Church.

On the first day of the meetings His Beatitude Sviatoslav in his scheduled speech analyzed the position in which the UGCC exists today, the Ukrainian State, and the people, and also presented actual goals and challenges which face the Church. In particular, the Church Head noted "The central theme of the Synod is responsibility for God's gifts. Let us look at this responsibility in the new circumstances in which our Church lives. Let us look at these gifts of which until very recently we were not conscious. Let us look at these gifts which the Lord God grants us today." The Church Prelate emphasized the importance of realizing UGCC Strategy by 2020 "A living parish is the place of the meeting with the living Christ" and stressed the significance of being with one's

(continued on next page)

# Communique of UGCC Synod of Bishops

(continued from previous page)

people, especially in their greatest needs.

In the process of discussing this speech the synodal fathers noted that the whole world saw how during the last few months on Ukrainian territories the outside aggressor cynically violates Christian values, God's commendments and international laws. Therefore, the hierarchs published a Synodal Appeal "Ukraine is drenched in blood" in the name of the Ukrainian people, raising its voice to all people of good will, country leaders, world communities, to all who have the authority to pass inevitable decisions for the renewal of peace and safety: "Stop the bloodshed in Ukraine". Once more the appeal was directed to all people of good will to join in intensified prayers for the ending of aggression and a renewal of permanent and total peace in Ukraine.

## Main topic

On Monday, September 8, Year of the Lord 2014, UGCC Synod of Bishops focused on examining the main topic "Managing God's gifts – a Christian way of life" one of the directions of the strategies of development of UGCC

by 2020 "A living parish – the place of meeting the living Christ." The bishops contemplated on how to treat God's granted gifts – time, natural and spiritual talents and material resources ("treasures")... It was noted that man is not the owner of all this, but only a manager, thus, in responding to God's call, one should share these gifts with others and return them to the service of preaching God's Kingdom in the world. To responsibly manage God's gifts – means to realize and express one's membership to the only Church body and lead such a life which depends on sharing these gifts with others, especially those in need. The presentors of the main topic of the synod were Bishop Davyd (Motiuk) and Pavlo (Khomytskyi), Rev. Dr. Andriy Onuferko and Dr. Volodymyr Sheremeta, who examined their Biblical-theological, liturgico-patristic, pastoral and ecological aspects.

After the plenary meeting, the synodal fathers worked in groups, and in the plenary session eventually formulated projects of decisions as to the responsibilities for God's gifts. In particular, in the process of the

discussion, it was noted that UGCC faithful in settlements feel especially sharply the harmful influence of secularization and globalization. And the Church in Ukraine, having undergone in the 20th century cruel persecutions from the atheistic regime, has the need to more effectively manage God's gifts as a significant method of evangelization on the personal, family, parochial and eparchial levels.

The Synod fathers also discussed a series of proposals on implementing the strategy "A living parish – the place of meeting the living Christ", namely: development of theology in UGCC, the writing of a Catechism for Youth, applying the old practice of Catechism, the drafting of pastoral programs of spiritual care over families, the improvement of education and service of priests. The Synod accorded special attention to those leading monastic lives.

Members of the Holy Synod emphasized that in the circumstances of the 21st century the first task of UGCC in Ukraine and in settlements becomes the nurturing of the treasure of Christian faith and the responsibility for

God's gifts, the preaching of the Gospel in manners appropriate to the time and circumstances, as well as the protection of the gift of faith from the threats of secularization and indifference which are spreading in the contemporary world. The source of evangelization in UGC has to be a deep spiritual and liturgical life of its members. A special role in this the bishops are delegating to people who are called upon to be directly involved in it, that is, the clergy, monastic orders, and laity, who are properly prepared and mature in their spiritual life.

## Other topics

In addition to the main topic of the Synod, the Synod fathers considered specific issues of canonical and administrative character. Thus, examined were: a project of a new editing of the canons of UGCC Particular Rights, Status of the Visitor (delegate) on territories where no hierarchical structures of UGCC exist, A spiritual-pastoral guidebook for priests, a Guidebook for the Permanent Synod, etc. The bishops heard the reports of the activities of the Patriarchal

(continued on next page)

# Communique of UGCC Synod of Bishops

(continued from previous page)

Curia, the commissions and departments of the Patriarchal level, the task force of implementing the strategies of the development of UGCC "A living parish – the place of meeting the living Christ", the Management of Justice as well as the reports of synodal commissions and individual committees (this year a more extended report was presented by the Theology Committee, Committee on Marriage and Family, and the Committee on Monasticism). On the basis of the received reports, the Holy Synod made some decisions on improving the activities of the Church in various areas of administrative, academic, pastoral, and social services.

The work of the bishops was accompanied by individual and liturgical prayers. On the Day of Spiritual Contemplation which was led on September 11, Year of the Lord 2014, by Rev. Dr. Andriy Onuferko, the Church hierarchs contemplated the management and responsibilities for God's gifts in prayers and asked the blessings of the Holy Spirit that in their decisions they do God's will. Every day the bishops celebrated

the Divine Liturgy during which bishops chosen beforehand delivered the sermons.

This year's meeting of the Synod took place on the background of great trials which the Ukrainian people and the nation are experiencing in this phase of its historical formation. Therefore the bishops thought about how the Church is to fulfill its mission in new circumstances. On Thursday, September 11th, members of the Synod established a Heavenly Hundred Memorial Square near the Lviv Holy Spirit Spiritual Seminary. Lviv mayor Andriy Sadovyi participated in this effort. The bishops had the opportunity to talk with the families of the perished and they expressed to them their support through prayers and spiritual closeness. On Friday, September 12th, the participants of the Synod together with UGCC Head, visited the soldiers wounded in the ATO area, who are being treated in the Lviv Military Hospital. The bishops gave the soldiers and volunteers souvenirs – prayerbooks "Let us come and genuflect" signed by the Synod participants. UGCC Synod of Bishops sent a

greeting to His Holiness Pope Francis. The Synod letters were also sent to the President of Ukraine, Petro Poroshenko, Prime Minister of Ukraine, Arseniy Yatseniuk, Head of Parliament of Ukraine, Oleksandr Turchynov, Prelates of Orthodox Churches in Ukraine, Prelates of Eastern Catholic Churches, individual Catholic Bishops Conferences and charitable organizations. The Synod Fathers wrote to UGCC faithful an appeal about the relevant socio-political situation in Ukraine on the eve of Parliamentary elections. In addition, they wrote a letter of solidarity to the Catholic Patriarchs of the Near East countries in which armed conflict and battles are going on and expressed their assurance of prayers and spiritual closeness.

At their sessions, the Synod participants examined the readiness of the Church for the 6th Session of the Patriarchal Synod, focusing on the pastoral strategy of the whole Church "A living parish – the place for meeting the living Christ", which will take place next year in the city of Ivano-Frankivsk. The program of the Synod and its Statute were approved

and practical issues related to its preparation and realization were addressed.

The Synod considered the proposals of the Organization Committee of the Year of Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky as to various events. The bishops also deliberated about the celebrations of jubilees in the year 2015, namely: Thousandth Anniversary of the Death of St. Volodymyr the Great and the Martyr-Death of Saints Borys and Khlib as well as the 200th anniversary of the birth of Rev. Mykhaylo Verbytskyj, the composer of the music for Ukraine's National Anthem.

The next UGCC Synod of Bishops will take place during August 30 – September 6, Year of the Lord 2015 in Ivano-Frankivsk.

<http://news.ugcc.ua>

## October 2014 - ЖОВТНЯ 2014

**Happy Birthday!**

**З Днем народження!**

October 1: Rev. Andriy Rabiw  
October 2: Most Rev. Stephen Sulyk,  
Archbishop Emeritus  
October 9: Rev. Ivan Demkiv  
October 12: Rev. Paul J. Makar  
October 12: Rev. Roman Sverdan  
October 13: Rev. Volodymyr Popyk  
October 15: V. Rev. Archpriest Daniel Troyan  
October 16: Rev. Nestor Iwasiw  
October 28: Rev. Edward Levandusky  
October 31: Rev. Ruslan Romanyuk

**May the Good Lord Continue to Guide You and Shower You with His Great Blessings. Мнoгaя Лiтa!**

**Нехай Добрий Господь Тримає Вас у Своїй Опіці та Щедро Благословить Вас. Мнoгaя Лiтa!**



**Congratulations on your Anniversary of Priesthood!**

**Вітаємо з Річницею Священства!**

October 17: Rev. Deacon Charles Schultz  
(5th Anniversary)

October 17: Rev. Deacon Paul Spotts  
(5th Anniversary)

October 17: Subdeacon Roman Oprysk  
(5th Anniversary)

**May God Grant You Many Happy and Blessed Years of Service in the Vineyard of Our Lord!**

**Нехай Бог Обдарує Багатьма Благословенними Роками Служіння в Господньому Винограднику!**

### **Editorial and Business Office:**

827 N. Franklin St.  
Philadelphia, PA 19123

**Telephone:** (215) 627-0143

**E-mail:** [theway@ukrcap.org](mailto:theway@ukrcap.org)



*Established 1939*

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

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

**Facebook:** <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Archeparchy-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.