

Archbishop-Emeritus Stephen Sulyk Celebrates 90th Birthday

Archbishop-emeritus Stephen Sulyk celebrated his 90th Birthday with a Divine Liturgy of Thanksgiving on October 3, 2014 at the Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Philadelphia, PA.

Archbishop-emeritus Stephen Sulyk, Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka, Bishop-emeritus Basil Losten from Stamford, and many priests in the Archeparchy of Philadelphia celebrated the Liturgy. Many of the Religious Sisters and members of Archbishop-emeritus Stephen Sulyk's family attended the Celebration as well.



Applauding Archbishop-Emeritus Stephen Sulyk on his 90th Birthday.

Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka offered the Homily during the Liturgy. During the Homily, Metropolitan Stefan said, "Everyone rejoices in prayer with gratitude to almighty God on the occasion of

(continued on next page)

Highlights inside this issue:

BASILIAN PILGRIMAGE HONORS METROPOLITAN SHEPTYTSKY - pg. 9
METROPOLITAN SOROKA CONSECRATES THE NEW ST. STEPHEN CHURCH
IN TOMS RIVER, N.J. - pg. 11



Archbishop-Emeritus Stephen Sulyk Celebrates 90th Birthday

(continued from previous page)

your 90th birthday, Archbishop Stephen. We pray that God will continue to bless you with good health, with contentment and peace, and with much happiness for many years to come!”

Towards the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy, Archbishop-emeritus Stephen Sulyk said a few words of thanks in gratitude to all who attended his 90th Birthday Celebration. During his speech, Archbishop-emeritus Stephen Sulyk thanked God Almighty who gave him life, a good loving parish and a vocation to priesthood and episcopacy. Archbishop-emeritus Stephen Sulyk said, “Throughout my journey of life, He was with me always.” Archbishop Sulyk continued in his speech to give thanks to the Most Holy Mother of God. Archbishop Sulyk explained how he was born on October 1st on the Feast of the Protection of the Most Holy Mother of God and since then, she became his protector. Archbishop Sulyk said, “She protected and guided me all the steps of my life.” Archbishop Sulyk then thanked his brother Bishops and especially his successor Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka who offered the beautiful Homily. Archbishop Sulyk then thanked the priests and deacons and the Sisters of the Religious Orders. He especially thanked the Missionary Sisters of the Mother of God who were with him at Perth Amboy for many years. At the conclusion of his speech, Archbishop Sulyk thanked his family for traveling to be with him to celebrate his birthday. And to conclude the celebration Archbishop Sulyk led everyone in singing the hymn to the Most Holy Mother of God, “It is truly right to bless you, O God-bearing One”.



Archbishop-Emeritus Stephen Sulyk

At the conclusion of the Liturgy, the faithful sang Mnohaya Lita to Archbishop-emeritus Stephen Sulyk. Following the Liturgy, a reception was held in Archbishop Soroka’s residence.

Watch videos from Archbishop-emeritus Stephen Sulyk’s Birthday Celebration on our YouTube Channel: <http://www.youtube.com/user/thewayukrainian>



**Metropolitan-Archbishop
Stefan Soroka**

The following is the entire text of the Homily offered by Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka during the Liturgy.

+ Слава Ісусу Христу!

Thank you to all of the clergy, the religious Sisters, dear family members of our jubilarian, and all of you wonderful people for gathering today in this holy Cathedral to give gratitude to almighty God in this Divine Liturgy for the gift of life in Archbishop Emeritus Stephen Sulyk, on the occasion of his 90th birthday. We gather in the shadow of a major

(continued on next page)

Archbishop-Emeritus Stephen Sulyk Celebrates 90th Birthday

(continued from previous page)

Feast of the Mother of God, celebrating her protection and intercession for people in great need. Metropolitan Stephen has had a special relationship with the Blessed Mother throughout his lifetime, and most especially as he responded to God's call to serve Him as a priest and then in the episcopacy of our Ukrainian Catholic Church. He cherishes a special icon of her in his suite. Metropolitan Stephen looks to her for comfort, guidance and nurture as he has throughout his lifetime of ministry.

You will recall the Gospel from St. Luke which is read for most of the Feasts of the Mother of God. Jesus is visiting with two sisters, Mary and Martha. Martha, we are told, is busily preparing to host their special guest and friend, while the other, Mary sits quietly at the knees of Jesus visiting with him, listening to him, and being attentive to Jesus' sharing. Martha gets upset that she has been left to prepare everything on her own, and asks Jesus to tell Mary to help her. Jesus then peacefully responds that Mary has chosen the better thing to do.



Metropolitan Stefan Soroka, Archbishop-emeritus Stephen Sulyk, and Bishop-emeritus Basil Losten

As I again heard that Gospel message, I heard the inner struggle of all who love and serve the Lord Jesus in the manner in which we have chosen in our life. Most of us can probably relate well with Martha. Your life, my life is filled with the ongoing business of responding to other's needs, to provide for daily needs of others. We are busy preparing to host, or to fulfill the many varied tasks of life which most people have to deal with in a typical day. Your life, Archbishop Stephen, as a priest for 62 years and as an archbishop for 19 years, were filled with daily busyness of responding to the varied and pressing needs in your ministry to serve. You had to busily prepare to fulfill your tasks. You undoubtedly even begged the Lord to send you laborers to assist you in meeting the varied needs you were facing.

Our hearts long to be in the peaceful solace of Mary who exempts herself from the duties of hospitality, so as to just BE WITH THE LORD JESUS. Throughout your years of the priesthood and as an archbishop, your mind and heart, Archbishop Stephen tugged to be more with the Lord in prayer and comfort. The world around you placed at your feet a myriad of expectations to fulfill in your daily ministry to serve the Lord Jesus. The GIFT of retirement is that precious enabling of being able to be still with the Lord in peaceful prayer, not having to immediately respond to the daily necessities of life's demands and expectations. You have been generously gifted by God with 14 years of retirement bliss – a time which you have continued to pray and care for your Church and for those with whom you journey in special ways in the journey of

(continued on next page)

Archbishop-Emeritus Stephen Sulyk Celebrates 90th Birthday

(continued from previous page)

life.

All of us recall the Gospel passage in which Jesus tells of a Master who gives differing portions of money to his servants; then departs for a time returning to ask for an accounting from each of the servants as to what each did with the gifts. Two of them generously doubled their gift while a third man was fearful to lose what he had, and buried the gift hoping to return it without a loss. That man's small portion is then added to the one who received and used his gift the most. Not risking oneself in the service of our Master is condemned. Yielding profit on our respective talents results in the Lord telling us to rejoice in the accomplishment. Rejoice!



The parables of the one lost sheep out of 100, lost due to sheer foolishness; the one lost coin out of 10 lost through carelessness; the one lost son of two lost through rebellion – all conclude with great joy and celebration by those who searched and found the lost, returned the lost to their proper place in life. Rejoice!

Today we gather with you, Archbishop Stephen, to REJOICE! We want to celebrate with you the blessing of achieving 90 years of life. God has provided richly throughout your life with huge portions of gifts, talents, that which enabled you to joyfully respond to serve his people. What is significant is that you stood with the servant who earnestly put to work the gifts you were given. You were not fearful of the Lord. Your lifelong relationship with the Mother of God reassured you of a loving and merciful God who asks only that which we are able to accomplish, and provides generously for us to fulfill his expectations of us. The Mother of God's nurture of you, beginning with your loving and devoted parents, your loving immediate and



extended family members, your brother clergy and bishops, your sisters in Christ, and all the wonderful people you have journeyed with in your lifetime of 90 years has been a process of utilizing and celebrating the gifts given to you abundantly in life by almighty God.

Archbishop Stephen – you have journeyed forward with your eyes steadfast on the Lord Jesus whom you love and have chosen to serve as a priest and as an archbishop. You have not buried your gifts nor used them selfishly. I believe that you hear the voice of Jesus, as we heard in the Gospels which I cited, telling the productive servant to REJOICE!

(continued on next page)

Archbishop-Emeritus Stephen Sulyk Celebrates 90th Birthday

(continued from previous page)

Today and every day, we REJOICE with you on this happy occasion of your 90th birthday. May there be many more! Our gathering today in this holy Cathedral for the celebration of the Divine Liturgy – a sacrifice made by you throughout your ministry – is a profound expression of gratitude to almighty God for your generous response of love and ministry. We joyfully thank God for YOU, for your choosing to wisely and energetically use the gifts given to you by almighty God in the service of his people.



I want to especially thank the extended family members of Archbishop Stephen for your sacrifice in travelling great distances to share in this joyful gratitude for the gift of life in Archbishop Stephen on the occasion of this happy event of his 90th birthday. I know he is very proud and appreciative of all of you. Special thanks is also given to Carol and Michael Nunno for their having 'adopted' Archbishop Stephen into their golden hearts filled with love and goodness. You both have shown such great devotion to the care and happiness of Archbishop Stephen, helping him to rejoice in his retirement!

Thank you to all of our concelebrants, among them our Bishop Emeritus Basil Losten, and many of our clergy and deacon. A very special gratitude to the priests and deacons who Archbishop Stephen Sulyk ordained during his 19 years of dedicated ministry as Metropolitan-Archbishop of the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia of whom are here today concelebrating this Liturgy of Thanksgiving with you.



Everyone rejoices in prayer with gratitude to almighty God on the occasion of your 90th birthday, Archbishop Stephen. We pray that God will continue to bless you with good health, with contentment and peace, and with much happiness for many years to come!

Ми радіємо разом з Вами, Архієпископе Степане, з приводу святкування Вами 90-ліття від дня народження. Ваша родина та ті, хто займають особливе місце в Вашому серці та житті, зібралися сьогодні, щоб молитвою подякувати за Вас Господу. Ви

Archbishop-emeritus Stephen Sulyk with his family.

(continued on next page)

Archbishop-Emeritus Stephen Sulyk Celebrates 90th Birthday

(continued from previous page)

відважно і без вагання віддали себе служінню нашому Господу Ісусу Христу, якого Ви любите. Господь був щедрий у своїх благодіяннях, якими обсилав Вас. Ви помножили ці дари віддавши їх на службу Богові. Ваше служіння стало джерелом натхнення для інших. Особливо вдячні Вам ті, кого Ви рукоположили в диякони та пресвітери. Вони рушили далі, щоб щедро ділитися тими дарами, які Ви передали їм через рукоположення.

Сьогодні ми смиренно дякуємо Богові за ваш щирий відгук - служити усе життя. Ми дякуємо Богові за Його численні благословення зіслані на Вас. Ми молимося, щоб у Ваші роки на спочинку Бог продовжував щедро благословляти Вас добрим здоров'ям, втіхою та спокоєм сповненими радістю та насолодженням миром та молитвою. Нехай таких років буде у Вас ще дуже багато!

Today, we rejoice! Please join in an informal reception at the Bishops' Residence following the conclusion of this Liturgy. You just have to cross the road, walk a very short distance through the parking lot around the Chancery building and to the residence where you will have opportunity to personally greet Archbishop Stephen on this very special occasion. Please choose to stay and rejoice! A special reception awaits everyone who has joined in praying and celebrating with Archbishop Stephen on the occasion of his 90th birthday.

+ Слава Ісусу Христу!



Bishop Paul Chomnycky, OSBM and Bishop-elect Bohdan Danylo present an icon of the Most Holy Mother of God to Archbishop-emeritus Stephen Sulyk.



The Missionary Sisters of the Mother of God gather for a group picture with Archbishop-emeritus Stephen Sulyk.

Many years to the Archbishop Emeritus Stephen Sulyk on his 90th birthday.

Plans for the construction of Assumption Catholic School in Perth Amboy, NJ were initiated by Monsignor Jaroslav Gabro in the late 1950's. Upon his elevation to the episcopacy in 1960, his successor, Fr. Stephen Sulyk, undertook the completion of this major project. In September of 1963, Ukrainian Assumption School was officially opened. From its inception, the operation of the school was entrusted to the Missionary Sisters of Mother of God, who continue to teach and run the school for already 50 years. At the occasion of Archbishop's birthday, Sr. Yosaphata presented His Grace with a bouquet of roses from a grateful ACS students.

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost - October 19, 2014



"A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path; it was trampled on, and the birds ate it up. Some fell on rocky ground, and when it came up, the plants withered because they had no moisture. Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up with it and choked the plants. Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up and yielded a crop, a hundred times more than was sown." When he said this, he called out, "Whoever has ears to hear, let them hear." His disciples asked him what this parable meant. He said, "The knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of God has been given to you, but to others I speak in parables, so that, 'though seeing, they may not see; though hearing, they may not understand.' "This is the meaning of the parable: The seed is the word of God. Those along the path are the ones who hear, and then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved. Those on the rocky ground are the ones who receive the word with joy when they hear it, but they have no root. They believe for a while, but in the time of testing they fall away. The seed that fell among thorns stands for those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by life's

worries, riches and pleasures, and they do not mature. But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop. (Lk. 8, 5 – 15)

In this parable the Lord tells us about a certain Sower who sows seed on various kinds of earth. The Sower is Christ, and the seed is the Word of God, which is sown in the earth of human hearts.

Some of the seed falls on the road and is immediately picked up and eaten by the birds. This means that some people receive the Word of God superficially, so that the demons (the birds) come and take it out of their hearts almost immediately by leading them into false teachings, heresies. Other seed falls on stony ground and starts growing, but cannot put down deep roots to find moisture in the soil, and so shrivels up and dies. This means that some people hear and accept the Word of God, but then lose it again in time of temptation and persecution, which inevitably comes to all true Christians (Acts 14.22). They cannot bring up the effort and sacrifice which true Christianity involves, and so fall away. Then there is the seed which falls on the earth and grows, but weeds grow up and suffocate it. This signifies the people who are overcome by worldly cares and pleasures, and so do not bring forth spiritual fruit. Finally, there is the seed which falls on good earth and brings forth good fruit, some one hundred-, some sixty- and some thirty-fold. These are the true Christians who bring forth spiritual fruits for God, and are saved. However, some produce more fruit than others. Those who bring forth fruit one hundred-fold are the saints and martyrs, who devote their lives completely to God. Other Christians live less intense spiritual lives, and bring forth less fruit. The saints are called "mountains" in Holy Scripture, and when we are exhorted to "lift our hearts to the mountains, from whence comes salvation" (Psalm 120.1), we are being called to turn for help to the Church Triumphant, the saints.

So in this parable the Lord is calling us to receive His Word and to purify the ground of our hearts, so that they can bring forth much fruit.



БЛАГОДІЙНИЙ БЕНКЕТ
НА ПІДТРИМКУ УКУ

**A NEW GENERATION
FOR A NEW UKRAINE!**

**НОВЕ ПОКОЛІННЯ
ДЛЯ НОВОЇ УКРАЇНИ!**

GALA FUNDRAISING EVENT
IN SUPPORT OF UCU



THE ROOSEVELT HOTEL
45 E. 45th St. (at Madison Ave.)
New York, NY 10017
1:30 pm - reception
2:30 pm - luncheon

The **UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY** is launching the public phase of its Comprehensive Campaign to support the building of a modern campus and the establishment of new academic programs. **Support Ukraine's Future!**

Guests and Speakers



Bishop Borys Gudziak
Ukrainian Catholic
University President



Anna Zayachkivska
Miss Ukraine 2013,
Maidan Activist



Ruslana Lyzhychko
Recording artist,
Maidan Activist



Andriy Sadovyi
Mayor of Lviv

FOR MORE INFORMATION call the Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation
at **1 (800) 599-3671** or visit us at **www.bit.do/UCU-NewGeneration**



Scan this QR code
for more info



BASILIAN PILGRIMAGE HONORS METROPOLITAN SHEPTYTSKY

The memory of the Servant of God, Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky, was invoked and honored at the 83rd Annual Protection of the Mother of God Pilgrimage sponsored by the Sisters of the Order of St. Basil the Great, Sunday, October 5, 2014.

Hundreds of faithful gathered at the Basilian Motherhouse, Fox Chase Manor, PA, to ask the intercession of Mary the Theotokos and to pray for the successful completion of the beatification process for the Servant of God, Andrey.

The day's theme, "Call to Holiness: The Life of Metropolitan Andrew Sheptytsky on the 70th Anniversary of His Death", was highlighted by the members of Plast and SUM leading hierarchy, clergy and religious in procession for the celebration of the Divine Liturgy. The main celebrant, Most Reverend Metropolitan Archbishop Stefan Soroka, was assisted during the Liturgy by Most Rev. Basil H. Losten, Bishop Emeritus of the Stamford, CT Eparchy, Most Rev. Bohdan Danylo, Bishop-Elect of the Parma, OH, Eparchy, Very Rev. Philip Sandrick, OSBM, Provincial Superior, Basilian Fathers, Very Rev. Dr. Ivan Kaszczak, Pastor, St. John the Baptist Parish, Hunter, NY, and Holy Trinity Parish, Kerhonkson, NY, Rev. Msgr. Peter Waslo, Motherhouse Chaplain, and Rev. Deacon Michael Waak. A seminarian from St. Josaphat Seminary assisted by the altar and responses were sung by the visiting choir from the Ukrainian National Shrine of the Holy Family, Washington, DC.

In his homily, Father Kaszczak spoke of Metropolitan Andrey's deep sense of responsibility that extended beyond the members of his flock. "He spoke many languages and believed the welfare of all the people of the world was his obligation—an example to all children of God to follow the Gospel, loving and being responsible for one another."

At the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy, Metropolitan Archbishop Stefan thanked everyone for their prayerful participation and offered special thanks to Sister Dorothy Ann Busowski, OSBM, Provincial

(continued on next page)

OCTOBER 19, 2014



Most Rev. Bohdan Danylo, Bishop-Elect of the Parma, OH, Eparchy, Most Reverend Metropolitan Archbishop Stefan Soroka, Most Rev. Basil H. Losten, Bishop Emeritus of the Stamford, CT Eparchy (Photo: Kathy Notarfrancesco)



Sisters and Pilgrims at Divine Liturgy (Photo: Kathy Notarfrancesco)



Plast and Sum youth during Divine Liturgy by Portrait of Metropolitan Sheptytsky with roses placed by them. (Photo: Kathy Notarfrancesco)

BASILIAN PILGRIMAGE HONORS METROPOLITAN SHEPTYTSKY

(continued from previous page)

Superior, and the Basilian Sisters for sponsoring the Pilgrimage. Sister Dorothy Ann also extended the prayers and gratitude of the Sisters to the hierarchy and clergy and commended the participants for seeking spiritual renewal through a personal commitment to Christ and His Mother and for taking the opportunity to remember and honor a truly great personage of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky. Sister also congratulated Most Rev. Bishop-elect Bohdan J. Danylo whose Episcopal ordination will take place November 4 in the Eparchy of Parma, OH.

All were invited to visit the Basilian Spirituality Center to view a commemorative display and a film portraying Metropolitan Sheptytsky's life and his message of hope and unity in the midst of war and conflict.

At the Shrine of Our Lady of Pochayiv, the praying of the rosary led by Mothers in Prayer was followed by the Moleben service in honor of Mary, Theotokos. The extending of the Episcopal blessing and anointing of all participants concluded the day of prayer.



Very Rev. Dr. Ivan Kaszczak, delivering homily during Divine Liturgy. (Photo: Kathy Notarfrancesco)



Moleben service at the Grotto (Photo: Kathy Notarfrancesco)



The Choir from Ukrainian Catholic National Shrine of the Holy Family in Washington, DC led the responses to the Liturgy and Moleben. (Photo Teresa Siwak)

Videos and Pictures...

Watch five videos from the Pilgrimage on our YouTube Channel. <http://www.youtube.com/user/thewayukrainian>

See more pictures from the Pilgrimage on our Archeparchy of Philadelphia Facebook page.

About the choir: Over the past four years our choir has been managed by Oksana Lassowsky and Stepan Szyszka, who work with student-conductors from the Catholic University of America (CUA) Department of Music. This year the conductor is Alex Ruhling, a CUA music student specializing in voice. Visit the choir's website and their "Scores and Recordings" page - <http://www.ucns-holyfamily.org/orgs/choir/music.php>

METROPOLITAN-ARCHBISHOP STEFAN SOROKA CONSECRATES THE NEW ST. STEPHEN CHURCH IN TOMS RIVER, N.J.

By Dr. Orest Popovych

TOMS RIVER, N.J. – A long-awaited goal was achieved by the St. Stephen Ukrainian Catholic parish on October 12, 2014, when its newly-built church building was blessed and consecrated by the Archbishop-Metropolitan Stefan Soroka of the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia.

The solemn ceremonies began with an outdoor service, during which the outside walls of the new church building were blessed. His Grace, Archbishop-Metropolitan Stefan, was welcomed at the entrance to the church with the traditional Ukrainian bread and salt as well as greetings by the parish activists Zenia Brozyna and Walter Krynicki, in Ukrainian and English, respectively. Altar boys and other children added their own welcoming chant.

Subsequently, the clergy and the assembled parishioners and guests entered the magnificent new church building for the first time, filling its pews to capacity. The rite of consecration continued with the clergy cleaning the altar and then sealing the holy relics of St. Josaphat into it. Events at the altar were simultaneously displayed on two large video screens. There followed a solemn Mass with Metropolitan Soroka as the main celebrant, joined by concelebrating priests – the Very Rev. Joseph Szupa, Chancellor, the Very Rev. Taras Lonchyna, Protospesbyter of the New Jersey Deanery and pastor of the St. Josaphat church in Trenton, N.J., the Rev. Ivan Turyk, former pastor of St. Stephen's and present pastor of the Assumption BVM parish in Perth Amboy, N.J., the Rev. Oleksandr Dumenko, the present parish administrator, and other invited clergy. The Rev. Paul Makar served as the master of ceremonies for the consecration program.

The official proclamation on the founding of the St. Stephen church was read in Ukrainian by the Rev. Turyk and in English by the Very Rev. Lonchyna. Metropolitan Soroka delivered a homily, in which he remembered the former pastors of the St. Stephen church, especially its founding pastor, the Rev. Roman
(continued on next page)



METROPOLITAN-ARCHBISHOP STEFAN SOROKA CONSECRATES THE NEW ST. STEPHEN CHURCH IN TOMS RIVER, N.J.

(continued from previous page)

Dubitsky, the immediately preceding pastor, the Rev. Turyk, who had initiated the planning for the new church, and the present pastor, the Rev. Dumenko, "who made that vision a reality". The Metropolitan bestowed high praise upon the parishioners of St. Stephen for their dedication, hard work and generosity, which could serve as an example for other congregations.



The solemnity of the occasion was enriched by the sonorous voices of the choir of the St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic church of Trenton, N.J., under the direction of Roman Kucharsky. Serving as the cantors were R. Kucharsky (in Ukrainian) and Roman Mykyta (in English). The epistles were read by Christina Risniy (in English) and Orest Dachko (in Ukrainian). Multiple chants of "Mnohaya Lita", sung by the entire congregation, concluded the divine services.

To arrive at this glorious occasion, it took the Ukrainian Catholic community of the Toms River area almost three decades of dedicated efforts and generosity. When the St. Stephen parish was founded in March 1986, with the Rev. Dubitsky of the Ukrainian Catholic Assumption church in Perth Amboy, N.J. as its pastor, it had no home of its own. For the first seven years, it enjoyed the hospitality of the St. Andrew United Methodist church in Toms River. By 1993, the Parish Center of St. Stephen was built, a section of which had been dedicated for divine services until now. Construction of the new church was initiated by the Rev.

Turyk in September 2009 and pursued with great energy by the Rev. Dumenko, who succeeded him as pastor in September 2010. The building process required more than five years of hard work, the brunt of which fell on the Building Committee, chaired by Wolodymyr Powzaniuk, with its members – the Rev. Dumenko, Luba Bonczek, Irene Humeny, W. Krynicky and Matthew Lecorchick. Important components of the project comprised the Fundraising Committee, chaired by Z. Brozyna and the New Church Event Organizational Committee, chaired by Oksana Powzaniuk.



(continued on next page)

METROPOLITAN-ARCHBISHOP STEFAN SOROKA CONSECRATES THE NEW ST. STEPHEN CHURCH IN TOMS RIVER, N.J.

(continued from previous page)

Following the three-hour program of consecration services, the congregation moved into the adjoining church hall, beautifully decorated for the festive occasion, for a cocktail hour and the dedication banquet. The banquet program, emceed by the Very Rev. Szupa, began with the singing of "God Bless America" and the Ukrainian National Anthem, followed by an invocation by the Rev. Turyk and a blessing by the Most Rev. Stefan Soroka. There was a proclamation from the Ocean County, N.J. recited by the Freeholder Director Joseph Vicari as well as greetings from the Hon. Thomas F. Kelaher, the mayor of the Township of Toms River. M. Lecorchick, a parish activist, proposed the toast.



During the banquet entertainment was provided by a children's dance ensemble "Tsvitka", directed by Andriy Cybyk, the violinist Innesa Tymochko-Dekajlo and the piano soloist Martha Cybyk. A monologue-medley was offered by a special guest, the Rev. Edward Evanko. Mr. Powzaniuk spoke about the travails of the Building Committee, which he had chaired. In his pastoral remarks, the Rev. Dumenko thanked all those parishioners who made this celebration possible either by serving on relevant committees or by contributing in other ways. The dinner program concluded with a benediction by the Very Rev. Lonchyna.



Those attending the banquet received a copy of the Commemorative Book – a pictorial history of the St. Stephen parish in Toms River, expertly prepared by the Committee composed of Z.Brozyna, chairperson, Rev. Dumenko, I. Humeny, C. Rishiy, George Shevchuk, Jessies Kaciuba, Jessica Marcus, Halyna Mizak.

METROPOLITAN-ARCHBISHOP STEFAN SOROKA CONSECRATES THE NEW ST. STEPHEN CHURCH IN TOMS RIVER, N.J.

Metropolitan Stefan's Homily during the Liturgy on October 12, 2014

It is such a joy and a privilege to participate in the blessing of this new St. Stephen Church in Toms River. Not long ago, we blessed a new Church in Whippany. In a few months we will bless a new Church in Swarthmore, south of Philadelphia. There are new missions developing in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, also in Virginia, and in northeast Philadelphia where we hope new Churches will soon be developed to serve the faithful. There is hope! There is excitement in these communities of faith. There is tremendous sacrifice being made with great joy and contentment in providing for God's Kingdom on earth. St. Stephen Church provides a new holy worship place for this community of faith in Toms River. The Church is so beautiful. It invites people to prayer, to stay with the Lord in peace. The iconostasis from the Williamstown parish which we recently closed continues to serve people here at St. Stephen's Church by inspiring them to prayer and worship. The separate Church

will allow for sacredness while still providing ample space in the community center or hall for socializing and serving community needs. You now have the fullness of what a Church needs for life.

Our Patriarch Sviatoslav, together with the Synod of Ukrainian Catholic Bishops from throughout the world, has released a document calling for VIBRANT PARISHES throughout our Church. The document provides for the six key areas which need to be a focus of every parish in order that it may be the vibrant source of spiritual life it is called to be for the faithful. In parishes where the pastor and his people really try to develop these six pillars, one finds a parish that is breathing life. When there is a laissez faire attitude, a complacent attitude of just keeping things going "as is", no excitement for life in the air, an atmosphere for reluctance to risk itself to adapt and change to changing circumstances, one sees parishes on the decline. It takes a whole family – both pastor and



his people – to create a vibrant parish. St. Stephen Church breathes these six characteristics of a vibrant parish. It has done so since its foundation for almost three decades. It excels in doing so and thus celebrates success!

The first pillar focuses on the need for the Word of God to dwell in the parish. There needs to be a thirst to know God through the scriptures. Priests must be able to articulate Christ's message in such a way that it might become "living and active" in the life of parishioners, capable of nourishing them, giving them answers to real issues of the day, and inspiring them to service. This parish has accomplished so much in such a short time because the pastors

and people of the parish have responded to the inspired Word of God. They thirsted for it. They wanted it HERE in their own neighborhood, in their own traditions. The pastors and the people have long desired the sacredness of a proper Church. Today, you celebrate the achievement of a new Church to present the Word of God.

The celebration of the Holy Mysteries, the Divine Liturgy and Prayer form the second pillar of a vibrant parish. The gathering for worship must be life giving and meaningful. It must encourage participation – active participation and not passive participation of all the faithful – not just a dialogue between

(continued on next page)

METROPOLITAN-ARCHBISHOP STEFAN SOROKA CONSECRATES THE NEW ST. STEPHEN CHURCH IN TOMS RIVER, N.J.

(continued from previous page)

pastor and cantor. Prayer at St. Stephen Church must be so inviting that one never wants to miss a Sunday Liturgy. It ought to nourish, nurture, and give of itself to others. The singing must be exceptional. The services ought to be holy meetings with the Lord. Our Holy Father, Pope Francis reminds us that we as individuals and as a parish must show the face of a merciful Christ. We are all sinners in need of redemption. No one is perfect. We are all on a journey to perfection. Everyone ought to know that they can come here to St. Stephen to receive God's forgiveness and the mercy and forgiveness of our brothers and sisters in Christ. No one can assume to be a judge of others. God alone judges!

Serving one's neighbor is the third pillar of a vibrant parish. The service of our neighbor flows from our rootedness in Christ. Jesus reminds us that "As you did it to one of the least of these of my brethren, you did to me" (Mt 25:40). We are called to be aware of the sufferings and needs of others around us and to

try and minister to them. Giving attention, offering sympathy, support, words of encouragement and good cheer, and acts of mercy are things we can all do. Having a separate parish center allows for the parish to offer special programs to seniors and to others in the parish where people can gather and grow in their love and service of one another. St. Stephen Church ought to be a parish bursting with programs for people of all ages – religious instruction, senior gatherings, service groups.

The fourth pillar of a vibrant parish is the active development of leadership, especially in the use of the different talents and gifts people in the parish have. This is accomplished through the involvement of dedicated parishioners working together with the pastor in achieving the needs of the parish. St. Stephen Church has been blessed with so many successive leaders throughout its history. So much courage and risk taking has been evident for the benefit of the parish. There were

those who undertook the challenge of beginning the parish and building the parish center under the leadership of Fr. Roman Dubitsky. Then there were dedicated souls who came forward to assist Fr. Ivan Turyk to build the parish rectory so that the parish might have a full time pastor. In more recent times, Fr. Oleksandr Dumenko has been surrounded by gifted and energetic leaders who wanted to finally achieve the long held dream of the parishioners to build the Church. The Chairman of the Building Committee, Wolodymyr Powzaniuk, was assisted by Matthew Lecorchik and Luba Bonczek of the Parish Finance Council, and Walter Krynicki and Irene Humeny. Assistance was also provided by the Pastoral Council Members Dorothy Rygiel, Lesia Sernivka, Raymond Bonczek, Stefan Dziaba, Janina Cermak, Zenia Brozyna, and Maria Onyczkewycz. These parish leaders were encouraged by parishioners in their efforts to pursue the dream to build the Church. They stepped forward and used the gifts and talents



given to them by God in offering the leadership needed in accomplishing the building of this Church. There was the normal hesitancy and the fears that accompany any building endeavor. Yet, their eyes focused on God's holy temple for all. One of the most important responsibilities of leadership in a parish community is discerning God's will and searching for the best ways of implementing it in the life of a parish. These leaders, the pastor Fr. Oleksandr, and all of the parishioners listened and responded to the inspired Word of God in building His holy temple. They built upon the foundations of the earlier leadership of the parish. It was accomplished by many good souls working

(continued on next page)

METROPOLITAN-ARCHBISHOP STEFAN SOROKA CONSECRATES THE NEW ST. STEPHEN CHURCH IN TOMS RIVER, N.J.

(continued from previous page)

together as one family.

Fostering unity is the fifth pillar of a vibrant parish. The parish family of St. Stephen is called to be like the first community of Christ's disciples – the community characteristic of your patron, St. Stephen's time. We read in the Acts of the Apostles how "the community of believers was of one heart and mind, and no one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they had everything in common" (Acts 4:32). Unity, harmony and common life is to be fostered within the parish. Our words and actions must reflect the holiness each of us is called to reflect in our relationships with one another. Sometimes this much needed unity is stretched in times of challenge. Fr. Oleksandr and the Building Committee grew from the challenges and transformed them into success for St. Stephen Church.

Finally, the sixth pillar is that of fostering a missionary spirit in the parish community. Jesus Christ called his disciples, "the salt of the earth...

the light of the world" (Mt 5:13-14). You and I are called to reach out of ourselves to carry Christ's teaching into the world. You and I are called to be a living sermon of Christ and His presence. The way we live becomes a drawing card to others to search for this Jesus whom we proclaim to love and serve. Choose to be a joyful Christian in your life. Show the mercy and kindness of Jesus' face to others. Celebrate gratitude in your daily life. Be courageous in inviting others to come to know Jesus in your parish family of St. Stephen. Live the qualities of your patron saint, St. Stephen in your daily life. He was a martyr for his faith in that he sacrificed himself in the service of others. He showed great mercy and expressed forgiveness and prayed for those taking his life. Just think of the power your patron saint, St. Stephen offers you in your daily life! The pastor and the parishioners are blessed with a powerhouse of holy intercession to the Lord. It remains for you to avail yourself of that power of prayer – the power of prayer when

you gather as one unified community of faith here at St. Stephen Church.

My heart is full of love and joy today. My heartfelt gratitude is offered to all who have made today so special. Thank you to the concelebrants of today's Divine Liturgy; to those who have assisted at the altar; to the beautiful choir from St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Church in Trenton under the direction of Mr. Roman Kucharski; to all who have sacrificed in providing for the banquet celebration to follow this Liturgy in the parish center; and to all who so beautifully prepared St. Stephen Church to become the temple of God it is meant to be. A special welcome to the clergy of the archeparchy who have honored the parish with their presence, and to all of the special guests and visitors sharing in this celebration of the blessing of the new St. Stephen Church, among them the honorable mayor.

Very special acknowledgment and gratitude is given to the pastor, Fr. Oleksandr

Dumenko, for his exceptional steadfast leadership he has given in achieving the long held goal of the parish in building this new Church. There were many obstacles and barriers; yet, he patiently dealt with each, transforming them into blessings. The journey became a journey of holiness in building a temple of God because Fr. Dumenko kept his eyes focused on the Lord Jesus throughout the process. He remained at peace in the Lord and with the Blessed Mother. He identified with St. Stephen in his gaze to heaven, expressing hope and steadfast faith in what needed to be accomplished. He grew in faith and inspired others in their faith and hope. I also want to thank his wife and daughters for their support and encouragement offered for Fr. Oleksandr. They stood firmly together in their love and hope for this parish and the dream to build the Church.

Most especially, I want to thank all of the steadfast and dedicated parishioners

(continued on next page)

METROPOLITAN-ARCHBISHOP STEFAN SOROKA CONSECRATES THE NEW ST. STEPHEN CHURCH IN TOMS RIVER, N.J.

(continued from previous page)

of St. Stephen Ukrainian Catholic Church. Your generosity in spirit and in funding for the Church is only surpassed by your high level of faith and love for Jesus and His Holy Church. You are people of HOPE!! You are EASTER PEOPLE!! Thank you for being the people of a vibrant

parish which breathes hope for all who are part of the spiritual family at St. Stephen and for the clergy and people of the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia. You GIVE US LIFE! You GIVE US HOPE!

May the omophor of the

Mother of God embrace all of you warmly and tightly as you grow in your likeness of her Son, Jesus Christ, and in the likeness of your patron saint, St. Stephen. The Mother of God loves you and intercedes for your needs and intentions.

Know of my love for you, of

my profound admiration for you and for all of your accomplishments, and of my remembrance of you in my humble prayers.

God bless all of you in ways only He can!

+ Слава Ісусу Христу!



Symposium honoring the 25th Anniversary of the Legalization of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church

“Blessed are the Persecuted”: Life of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church in the Underground

Sunday, November 9, 2014

Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of Immaculate Conception

833 N. Franklin St., Philadelphia, PA 19123

UKRAINIAN SESSION

9 a.m. Divine Liturgy.

Main Celebrant and Homilist:

Most Reverend Stefan Soroka, Metropolitan-Archbishop

10.30 a.m. Exhibit presentation “To the Light of Resurrection through the Thorns of Catacombs”

(Dr. Iryna Ivankovych, St. Sophia Religious Assn.)

11.00 a.m. CATHEDRAL HALL

FOOD and BEVERAGES available in the Cafeteria

11.30 a.m. “Liturgical and Pastoral Life of the UGCC in the Catacombs”

(Very Rev. Marko Yaroslav Semchen, St. Sophia, Rome)

Discussion (discussant: *Dr. Andrew Sorokowski, Washington, DC*)

ENGLISH SESSION

11.00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

Main Celebrant and Homilist:

Very Reverend Ivan Demkiv, Pastor of the Cathedral

12.30 p.m. Exhibit presentation “To the Light of Resurrection through the Thorns of Catacombs”

(Dr. Iryna Ivankovych, St. Sophia Religious Assn.)

1.00 p.m. CATHEDRAL HALL

FOOD and BEVERAGES available in the Cafeteria

1.30 p.m. “Martyrology of the UGCC”

(Very Rev. Taras Lonchyna, Trenton)

Discussion (discussant: *Prof. Paul Mojzes, Rosemont College*)

Organizers:

St. Sophia Religious Association of Ukrainian Catholics, USA

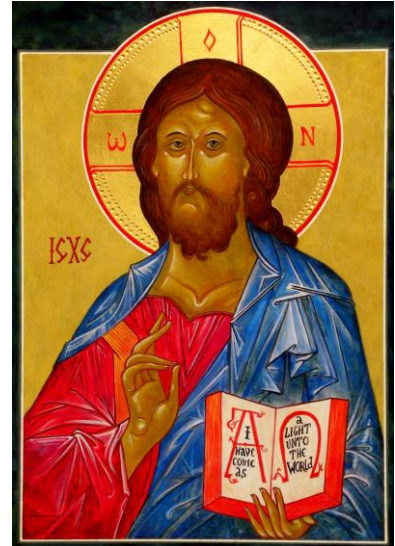
Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia

***"I am the Light of the World"* Announced as the Theme for the 2014 Archieparchial Sobor to be Held Saturday, October 25**

Philadelphia, Pa.--Metropolitan Stefan Soroka recently announced that *"I am the Light of the World"* (Jn 8:12) is the theme of the 2014 Archieparchial Sobor which will be held here Saturday, October 25, 2014 in the Cathedral Social Hall on North Franklin Street.

The sobor is an archieparchial assembly of laity, clergy and religious convened by the archbishop to assist the "eparchial bishop in those things which regard the special needs or advantage of the eparchy" according to the Code of Canons of the Eastern Churches.

In the morning session, Metropolitan Soroka will present a summary from the recent surveys on youth, women and evangelization of families. This will be followed by short personal reflections from lay, religious and clergy delegates on Encountering the Light of Christ through: *The Word of God and Catechesis, Liturgy and Prayer, Service to our Neighbor, Leadership / Stewardship, Communion / Unity, and Missionary Spirit.*



The afternoon session will include small discussion groups on the topics: *How will we live the Gospel message and foster vibrant parishes? How will we invite others (former parishioners, family members, neighbors) and welcome them into our parish families?*

The sobor will conclude with the celebration of the Divine Liturgy in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception by Metropolitan Stefan and the clergy of the archeparchy. The theme of the homily will be *"You are the Light of the World"* (Mt 5: 13-14).

The observations and recommendations from this Archieparchial Sobor will be shared in a Sobor of the Ukrainian Catholic Church which will be held in Ukraine in 2015.

Each parish is expected to send a minimum of two delegates. Parishes may send two additional participants for a maximum of four delegates for each parish. Delegates should include parishioners of all ages and some parish pastoral and finance council members. Delegates from all religious communities active within the Archeparchy have also been invited to participate. All clergy (active and retired) are especially welcome and requested to participate.

Registration forms have already been forwarded to all pastors and religious superiors.

The day before the sobor, Friday, October 24, 2014 will be a Clergy Day for all clerics of the archeparchy, which will begin at 1:15 p.m., and will conclude with a clergy dinner gathering at 5 p.m.

PRAY FOR UKRAINE WITH METROPOLITAN ANDREW SHEPTYTSKY SUN., NOV. 2 AT 4 PM IN PHILA. UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CATHEDRAL

Please participate in offering PRAYERS FOR INTERCESSION FOR UKRAINE to the Servant of God, Metropolitan Andrew Sheptytsky at our Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, 833 Franklin Street, Philadelphia, PA on Sunday, November 2nd, 2014 with a Moleben to Metropolitan Sheptytsky beginning at 4 pm. A candlelight procession will follow to the monumental statue to this Servant of God located on the Cathedral grounds.



Metropolitan Andrew Sheptytsky led the people of Ukraine through a time of invasion and occupation by both Hitler's Germany and Stalin's Soviet Union. His faith persevered and inspired an oppressed people as they coped with those aggressors. Today, his saintly soul awaits our petitions for his intercession for our beloved Ukraine facing a new aggressor. Come and pray as one family, as one people for those who need our prayers and support.

All are encouraged to attend and offer their prayers for intercession for Ukraine to the Servant of God, Metropolitan Andrew Sheptytsky on Sunday, November 2nd, at 4 p.m. at the Immaculate Conception Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral in Philadelphia, Pa.

Perth Amboy Parish Holds Clothing Drive for Ukraine

During the months of August and September, Assumption Parish in Perth Amboy, NJ held a clothing drive for families of the Ukrainian soldiers who are fighting in the war-torn region of Eastern Ukraine. The pastor Fr. Ivan Turyk was blown away by the parishioner's generosity and commitment to provide a positive change in Ukraine's future! Almost 4000 lbs. of items, including new and gently used men's, women's, children's clothing, shoes, socks, boots, first aid supplies and toys were sent to Ukraine to help the families of deceased and living Ukrainian soldiers and those who fled their homes. 80 packages were sent to St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church in Kiev and from there they will



be distributed by trusted volunteers to soldiers and their families throughout Ukraine. Thanks to all who came out and gave of their time and energy to collect, sort, and pack clothes.

Metropolitan Stefan Pens Article for Fall Issue of the Order of Malta Prison Ministry Newsletter

Philadelphia, Pa.--The fall 2014 issue of *The Serving Brother*, the prison ministry newsletter of the Order of Malta features an article written by Metropolitan Stefan Soroka entitled *Saint Joseph the Worker—A Righteous Man*.

According to its website, the American Association of the Order of Malta has adopted Prison Ministry as a national project. The newsletter *The Serving Brother*, provides Catholic spirituality for incarcerated men and women, and is a publication with a circulation of 40,000 in the United States and Canada. The fall 2014 issue can also be read online at: <https://orderofmaltaamerican.org/files/pages/0062-Fall%202014%20The%20Serving%20Brother%20-%20USA%20web%20edition.pdf>.



The Order of Malta is a worldwide, lay, religious order of the Roman Catholic Church, which seeks to glorify God by promoting the sanctification of each member through his or her work with the sick and the poor and defense of the Catholic faith. There are only three United States Associations established by decree of the Grand Master and vote of the Sovereign Council of the Order headquartered in Rome. The American Association, U.S.A., headquartered in New York City, was founded in 1927. This is the message from Metropolitan Soroka entitled *Saint Joseph the Worker—A Righteous Man*.

On the first Monday of September, in both the United States and Canada, the dignity of work is honored with the Labor Day holiday. This traditional end of summer holiday was first celebrated in Toronto in the 1870's, and was officially adopted as a holiday in both Canada and the United States in 1894.

It is a day to honor the dignity of work and those who work.

I especially find myself absorbed with grateful thoughts of my late father at this time of year. He was a laborer who worked hard physically and gave his best as he raised his family amidst poverty, but always with steadfast faith.

He imparted significant and fatherly values to me, exemplifying positive attitudes to one's work in life and the importance of a steadfast faith journey with the Lord. He taught me to pray. He personifies for me the saintly and fatherly characteristics of St. Joseph of the Holy Family.

Joseph labored amidst tremendous challenges placed before Jesus and his mother Mary. We commonly learn much about Jesus and Mary, but Joseph often seems forgotten.

There are few references in the Bible to Joseph, whose name in Hebrew means "God will increase." In the Gospel of John, we learn that Jesus is referred to as the "son of Joseph" (Jn 6:41-42). But Joseph is not even mentioned in the Gospel of Mark. Joseph is never quoted in any Scriptural passages.

The Gospels of Matthew and Luke, while they differ in lineage, refer to Joseph in tracing the family ancestry of Jesus.

Matthew alone tells about four incidents where Joseph receives messages in a dream. He is told that Mary, to

(continued on next page)

Metropolitan Stefan Pens Article for Fall Issue of the Order of Malta Prison Ministry Newsletter

(continued from previous page)

whom he was betrothed, was with child through the power of the Holy Spirit and that she will bear a son, and that he should marry her. (Mt 1:20-21)

After Jesus is born, an angel appears in a dream and tells Joseph to take the child and Mary to Egypt, because Herod has plans to kill Jesus. (Mt 2:13-14)

When Herod dies, an angel appears in a dream and tells Joseph to return to Israel. (Mt 2:19-20)
After another warning in a dream, Joseph takes Mary and Jesus and settles in Galilee to a town called Nazareth. (Mt 2:22)

From the Bible, we also learn that Joseph was a carpenter, since Jesus is referred to as "the carpenter's son." (Mt 13:55) And Mark tells us that Jesus was also a carpenter. (Mk 6:3)

The last reference to Joseph, though not by name, is in Luke 2:41-42, when Jesus attained the age of 12. His parents went with him to Jerusalem to celebrate the feast of Passover. After this event, there are no further references to Joseph in Scripture. He is not present at any event during the time of the public ministry of Jesus. From his absence in the pages of the Gospels, church tradition holds that both Mary and Jesus were present at his death and burial. How fortunate each of us would be to have Mary and Jesus near to us at the hour of our death!

Yet, from the earliest days of Christianity, this humble man has risen from obscurity and has been venerated for many centuries as a saint of the church. In the Latin Church, his feast day has been celebrated on March 19th since the 9th century.

As devotion to St. Joseph grew, popes have written about St. Joseph and have honored him with other feast days and titles. Pope Pius IX in 1870 proclaimed St. Joseph as the universal guardian of the church. Just as Joseph was the guardian and protector of Jesus and His mother Mary, as the guardian of the church, he is the protector of the Body of Christ, the Church.

After World War II and the rise of communism and socialist May Day celebrations, in 1955 Pope Pius XII gave the name St. Joseph the Worker to this member of the Holy Family and designated May 1 as the observance of his feast day.

In our Ukrainian Catholic Church and other Eastern Christian churches, St. Joseph is honored on the Sunday after Christmas, together with King David and James, the brother of the Lord.

From the life of St. Joseph, we can discover many virtues, qualities that should inspire all of us on life's journey.

Joseph was faithful to God and to those divinely entrusted by God to his care, Mary and Jesus. Each of us is asked to always be obedient to God, to do His will and not ours.

As the protector of Mary and Jesus, who kept the Christ Child safe from the plan of Herod to kill Him, Joseph not only gives us an example to protect those we love, but is a saint whose intercession we should seek for our own safety and protection.

(continued on next page)

Metropolitan Stefan Pens Article for Fall Issue of the Order of Malta Prison Ministry Newsletter

(continued from previous page)

Joseph also was a religious man, who had a special relationship with God and followed the teachings and practices of the Jewish faith. This love of God should encourage us to grow in the knowledge and understanding of the faith we profess.

As a carpenter, he was skilled in and practiced a woodworking trade to provide for Mary and Jesus. By example, he teaches all of us the value and dignity of working for our daily bread.

When I think of St. Joseph, I am also reminded of another Joseph. Like St. Joseph, his life is one lived in relative obscurity. Isn't that the normal way of life for most people?

And this Joseph is also a man of faith, who loves and provides for his family. He is a loving, caring person. And as a policeman in Canada, he protects men and women from the perils and dangers of society.

You could say I have a close relationship with this Joseph. You see, we began the journey of life together in my mother's womb. As I was writing this article and reflecting on the qualities of St. Joseph, I never realized how my twin brother also has many similar qualities of the patron saint for which he was named by my beloved father and mother.

Perhaps the greatest honor to St. Joseph, this humble, caring, and faithful servant of God, is simply expressed in the words of St. Matthew "he was a righteous man." (Mt. 1:19)

Pyrohy Team – St. Vladimir Church of Scranton PA

After a summer-long break pyrohy making resumed at St. Vladimir Church of Scranton on Saturday, October 4, 2014. Monthly sales will continue through May 2015 averaging three hundred fifty dozens with the December Christmas session producing twice that number of dozens of freshly made pyrohy.



The parish sponsored activity not only serves as an excellent fundraiser, but as importantly perpetuates a cherished Ukrainian menu specialty and also brings parishioners and friends of the parish together for much fellowship and laughter.

Sold at \$7.00 per dozen, orders can be placed through Leslie at 570 342-3749

Photo: Our enthusiastically involved pastor Father Myron Myronyuk is pictured back row, second from left with some of the 50 members of the Pyrohy Team.



+SISTER MARY MICHAEL BAYDA 1930-2014

Sister Mary Michael Bayda peacefully and quietly fell asleep in the Lord on Wednesday, October 8, 2014 at Saint Joseph's Manor Nursing Home in Meadowbrook, PA. Sister had been residing there for the last month recovering from a recent fall.

Born in Baltimore, MD to Basil Bayda and Mary (Gren) Bayda, sister attended Saint Michael Ukrainian Catholic Church before entering the Sisters of the Order of Saint Basil the Great on April 17, 1949. Sister received her first profession October 1, 1949 and final profession on August 26, 1954.

Sister Michael served in many capacities and had many interests. She was teacher, nurse, organizer and builder. But her great love was being a missionary especially in service to the orphans in Ukraine and Brazil. Her teaching experience included schools in Chicago, Illinois, New York City, Parma, Ohio, Philadelphia and Chester, PA. In addition to being House Superior at the Motherhouse from 1989 to 1992 sister received her Licensed as a Practical Nurse and served in the Health Care Unit of the Motherhouse in Fox Chase. At the same time she worked at Holy Redeemer Hospital as an LPN and Saint Basil Academy as School Nurse. When called by the Order to serve in Rome she willingly became the General Treasurer serving 1963-1971 and as General Councilor from 1971-1977. In 1975 Sister was missioned to Brazil by the General Superior, Sister Emellia Prokopik, and assisted in establishing a foundation in Curitiba. In 1983 Sister returned to Brazil at the request of the late Bishop Ephraim Krevey to assist with the formation program for the newly established Mission. Her heart remained in Brazil and she hoped to return some day.

In addition to her duties in Rome as treasurer and General Councilor sister served Cardinal Josyf Slipyj after his release from Siberia. A true missionary she assisted the Basilian Sisters in Ukraine during the time of Communism when they were still underground. After freedom was achieved she returned to Ukraine to work with Caritas in the care of the orphan children at the summer camp in the village of Zavyantsya. With her great love of Ukraine and her missionary spirit, Sister Michael prepared the future generation by offering special courses in the formation of seminarians in Ternopil.

Sister retired to the Motherhouse in 2010 where she resided until she fell and needed extra assistance. Sister loved to pray the rosary and would offer her prayers for the intention of the Sisters in ministry. As she strolled the corridors of the Motherhouse her smiling face and prayerful spirit were a welcoming and embracing invitation to all. Sister will be missed by all of the Sisters.

She is preceded in death by her mother Mary, father Basil and stepfather Michael, sisters – Julia Barzik, Anne Bremer, Stella Barzik, Nettie Bayda, Marie Krchnowich. She is survived by her sister Diane Kinlein, brother Wanter Krysovaty, several nieces and nephews and cousin – Most Rev. Bryan Bayda, C.Ss.R, Ukrainian Catholic Bishop of Saskatchewan, Canada.

Parastas was celebrated in the Holy Trinity Chapel of the Sisters by Msgr. Peter Waslo, Chaplain, and Rev. Edward Higgins on Friday, October 10, 2014. The funeral Divine Liturgy celebrated by Msgr. Waslo was sung on October 11, 2014 followed by interment in the Sister's cemetery.

Sister Michael was a model to the thousands of lives she touched on three continents throughout the world. She now crosses over the threshold into new life in a place that has been prepared for her by the Lord. Her memory is eternal from generation to generation.

Sisters of the Order of Saint Basil the Great
Jesus, Lover of Humanity

CHINESE AUCTION
TRANSFIGURATION CHURCH HALL
 227 North Shamokin Street, Shamokin PA 17872
NOVEMBER 2, 2014
 DOORS OPEN 12:00 NOON AUCTION BEGINS 2:00 PM
ADMISSION \$3.00

Chinese Auction
 Sunday, November 9th
 Doors open at 12 noon
 Auction begins at 1:30pm
 Admission \$4.00 or 3 for \$10.00
 Light Lunch Available
 St. Michael's Hall
 300 West Oak Street
 Shenandoah, PA
 For information call - 570-462-0809
 Special Raffle - Bring non-perishable food or paper products to get a chance for a special raffle – one chance per non-expired item

Harvest Party
 Sunday October 26, 2014
 5 PM – 7 PM



Transfiguration Parish in Shamokin, PA will held Harvest Party on Sunday, October 26, 2014 starting at 5 P.M. in the Church Hall. Remember to bring your costumes.

Young and young-in-heart are invited.

Pizza, drinks and sweet treats will be provided.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23 10 A.M. - 4 P.M.

UKRAINIAN CHRISTMAS BAZAAR & FOOD FAIR

Immaculate Conception Cathedral Hall
 Corner of Franklin & Brown Streets, Northern Liberties, Philadelphia, PA
 (North of Spring Garden St., South of Girard Ave.)

Homemade Ukrainian foods & pastries, gifts, vendors, crafts, music, flea market. Cathedral visits every hour.

Free turkey drawing every hour.
 Fresh, homemade Pyrohy (Varenyky) available for takeout by the dozen.
 To order, please call at 215-829-4350

ADMISSION:
 ADULTS \$1.00
 STUDENTS 6-13: \$.50

Come to our Christmas Bazaar for a great Christmas shopping experience!

October is Respect Life Month - 2014 Respect Life Month Statement

Cardinal Sean P. O'Malley, O.F.M. Cap., Chairman USCCB Committee on Pro-Life Activities

October 2014

My dear friends in Christ:

Pope Francis has captivated the world with his humility, warmth and compassion for each person. Vivid accounts of his tenderness for “the least of these”—the elderly, the imprisoned, those with disfiguring disabilities, the unborn, and many more—seize our attention. Why?

At the heart of each of these interactions is a truth which resonates in our hearts, revealing to us something essential to understanding ourselves and our purpose.

We are loved.

In his 2013 Day for Life Greeting, Pope Francis conveyed that “even the weakest and most vulnerable, the sick, the old, the unborn and the poor, are masterpieces of God’s creation, made in his own image, destined to live forever, and deserving of the utmost reverence and respect.” We see Pope Francis living out the truth of these words in his actions.

We want to be part of a society that makes

affirmation and protection of human rights its primary objective and its boast. Yet to women faced with an unexpected pregnancy, abortion is often presented as their only “choice.” A large percentage of children pre-diagnosed as having Down syndrome are never given the chance to live outside their mothers’ wombs. Elderly members of our families fear they will become burdensome and seek physician assisted suicide. We see these and many more of our brothers and sisters pushed to the periphery.

These tragedies go directly against respect for life, and they represent a direct threat to the entire culture of human rights. Rather than societies of “people living together,” our cities risk becoming societies of people who are marginalized, uprooted and oppressed.

What can be done to prevent this? We must draw close to Jesus in prayer and in the sacraments. We must ask the Lord for the grace to see ourselves and others as he sees us—as masterpieces of his creation. When God created each of us, he did so with precision and

purpose, and he looks on each of us with love that cannot be outdone in intensity or tenderness. We must look at ourselves and at others in light of this truth and treat all people with the reverence and respect which is due.

The Church’s antidote to an individualism which threatens the respect for human dignity is community and solidarity. Are we moved by the suffering of those without shelter? Do we seek to alleviate the fear, confusion and panic that women facing unexpected pregnancies may be experiencing? Do our hearts ache for elderly patients in nursing homes who feel abandoned and unwanted, having no one to visit them?

Our mission is to show each person the love of Christ. As uniquely created individuals, we each have unique gifts which we are called to use to share Christ’s love. We are continually given opportunities to do so in our interactions with the cashier at the grocery store, our spouses, children, friends and even the people we encounter in traffic. Each of these moments is valuable beyond our realization.

We may never know how much a simple gesture of compassion may affect someone’s life.

As the 2014 Respect Life Program begins, let us take a moment to reflect on the theme, “Each of Us is a Masterpiece of God’s Creation,” and how this truth affects both our understanding of ourselves and others and the way we live. Pastoral and educational resources of the program can be found at www.usccb.org/respectlife.

Although we set aside October to particularly pray for respect for all human life, let us never cease this urgent work. I’m grateful to the many parishes and schools nationwide which participate in the program during October, Respect Life Month, and throughout the year.

Love and justice must motivate each of us to work for a transformation of our own hearts so that we can transform the world around us. This is the message of Pope Francis. May the Risen Lord put the Gospel of joy in our hearts so that we may bear witness to the greatest love story ever told.

St. Josaphat parish in Trenton, NJ holds Flea Market

St. Josaphat's parish in Trenton, NJ held a successful Flea Market on September 27th, with over \$3,000 raised from the sale of antique and used items and varenyky, holubtsi and baked goods.



Rev. Taras Lonchyna with parishioners - from left Maria Mycyk, Daria Laszyn, Marta Juzeniw and Luba Gavrushenko.



Rev. Taras Lonchyna speaking with parishioners who helped run the Flea Market.

Pontifical Divine Liturgy

with His Beatitude

Sviatoslav Shevchuk

and the Rite of Ordination and Installation
of

THE MOST REV. BOHDAN J. DANYLO

as the Bishop of the Eparchy of St. Josaphat

NOVEMBER 4, 2014 2PM

ST. JOSAPHAT CATHEDRAL

Reception immediately following the Ordination/Installation in the
St. Josaphat Astradome

November 3, 2014 at 6pm Vespers with the Rite of Episcopal Nomination



5720 State Road, Parma Ohio 44134 for more info call 440-886-2108 or email OrdinationParma2014@gmail.com

<http://stjosaphateparchy.com>

Life at St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic School in Passaic, NJ during the first few weeks of school.

Welcome Back to School

On September 3, 2014, our school, St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic, was filled with joy, welcoming 97 students to grades PreK thru 8. Gathered at the back door of the school, the faculty, students, and parents were welcomed by Principal Sr. Eliane Ilnitski, SSML, and our Pastor, Fr. Andriy Dudkevych. After greeting everyone after the long summer, Sr. Eliane welcomed the new students and families to the school, and then led all the children and their watching parents in prayer, the Pledge of Allegiance, and the American and Ukrainian national anthems.



After entering the school and saying hello to their new classrooms, the students, faculty, and some parents participated in Divine Liturgy, celebrated by Fr. Andriy Dudkevych. During the Divine Liturgy, Fr. Andriy added some beautiful intentions, asking for God's blessings on students, parents and teachers.

Following the Divine Liturgy, the students and their backpacks, as well as the teachers, were sprinkled with holy water as they received a special blessing and a holy card of Christ the Teacher from Father Andriy.

September 11th Prayer Service



On September 11, parents joined us for the 9/11 Prayer Service at the beginning of the day. The prayer Service prepared by Sr. Cecelia Sworin, SSML religion teacher was focused on Peace. Students, teachers and parents present prayed for Peace in Syria and especially in our mother land Ukraine, also the prayers were offered for the soul of John Skala, Police Officer, who was a parishioner of St. Nicholas and following the words of Jesus: Love one another as I loved you" gave his life saving other at that unforgettable day. Grade 6 students led our school in singing the Prayer of St. Francis: "Make me a channel of your Peace"

Parish Festival

On Sunday, September 21, 2014, the 8th grade class of St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic School in Passaic, NJ – along with some friends from the younger classes, happily got wet at the Parish Festival while raising funds to help soldiers in Ukraine.

(continued on next page)



Life at St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic School in Passaic, NJ during the first few weeks of school.

(continued from previous page)

Passersby at the Festival paid \$5 for the chance to throw two balls at the target – and dunk a student of Saint Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic School. The students raised \$1,100. The funds raised are being forwarded to ODFFU for the purchase of 11 IFAK kits as well as Combat Lifesaver training. These kits along with the training will help increase a soldier’s chance of surviving critical wounds when in the line of fire while defending eastern Ukraine.

The next day, the 8th graders recorded supportive video messages in Ukrainian, Polish, English, and Spanish to be sent to the troops in Ukraine. The students and faculty of St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic School sang the Ukrainian national anthem, ending with “Glory to Ukraine! Glory to the heroes!”

CARING SODALITY GIRLS at SNUCS

Girls of the Marian Sodality at Saint Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic School, Passaic, NJ, helped at the Annual Parish Festival to help raise funds for their school and for others in need. Their humble table of homemade crispy rice marshmallow bars, a chest of water bottles; beautifully handcrafted hair bows and baby shoes/hair ribbon sets made by a sodalist’s mother and; rubber band bracelets made by younger potential sodalists raised \$400.00. Their school donation will help to benefact new DVD’s for the religious education classes. Another part of their proceeds will be given to a charity of the sodalists’ choice.



New Altar Servers

We also Congratulate the Grade 3 Students Lyubomyr Vovk and Roman Zurawski for accepting to become Altar Servers in our parish. It is a grace and honor for those who are able and have the opportunity to serve by the Holy Altar. May God bless you. Thank you to Mrs. Lecia Stec Peltyszyn for working and training the Altar Servers year after year. May God reward you for your service.

Please note: Due to the Sobor, the next issue of “The Way” will be November 9, 2014

League of Ukrainian Catholics Honors Clergy in Western Pennsylvania

The annual Clergy and Religious Appreciation Dinner was held on Sunday, September 21, 2014 at the Banquets Unlimited in Wilmerding, PA. Sponsored by the Western Pennsylvania Council of the League of Ukrainian Catholics the Dinner provides an opportunity for the Ukrainian Catholic laity to express their appreciation for the spiritual work on their behalf of the clergy and religious serving in the Central and Eastern deaneries and neighboring parishes in Ohio and West Virginia of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Saint Josaphat of Parma, OH.

The following were honored on the occasion of their anniversaries of their ordination or expression of final vows: Reverend Father Deacon Stephen Aftanas (10th), Reverend Father Deacon Donald Billy (20th), Reverend Father John D. Gribik (25th), Very Reverend Canon Robert S. Hnatyshyn (50th)(deceased July 8, 2014), Sister Ann Laszok, OSBM (50th), Reverend Father Douglas Lorance (30th), Right Reverend Archpriest Monsignor Michael Poloway (60th), Brother Ambrose Ross, BHS (25th), Reverend Father Deacon Stephen Suchan (5th), and Very Reverend Canon Walter

Wysochansky (50th).

Especially invited guests included Most Reverend John Bura, Eparch; Rev. Father J. Claudio Melnicki, Administrator of St. Josaphat Cathedral in Parma and Director of the Eparchial Youth Ministry who served as Dinner speaker; Rev. Father Bohdan Barytsky, St. Josaphat Cathedral; Very Rev. Mitrat Monsignor John Stevensky, past Spiritual Director of the LUC National Board; and Rev. Father Vsevolod Shevchuk, Administrator of Holy Ghost Church in Akron, OH, and Director of Vocations for the Eparchy.

In his remarks, Bishop John related to the more than seventy guests that under his service as Eparch seven young priests had accepted assignments in the Eparchy including Father Vsevolod and Father Jason Charron, the new pastor at Holy Trinity Ukrainian Catholic Church in Carnegie, PA, who was present with his wife, Halyna, and their family. Bishop John also thanked the Western Pennsylvania Council for not only supporting the clergy and religious with this Dinner, but also for their financial support of the Youth Ministry and the Seminarian Fund. He urged all to prepare for the ordination and



Photo (l to r): Rev. J. Claudio Melnicki, Director of Youth Ministry for St. Josaphat Eparchy, Rev. Msgr. John Stevensky, past LUC National Board Spiritual Advisor, Most Rev. John Bura, Eparch, Rev. Vsevolod Shevchuk, Director of Vocations for St. Josaphat Eparchy, Nickolas C. Kotow, President of LUC's Western Pennsylvania Council.

installation of Very Rev. Father Bohdan Danylo as Eparch Elect on November 4, 2014 in Parma.

Father Claudio's presentation entitled: "Where Are They Now?" referred to his seminary class of eight men, including himself. He distributed a flyer with photographs of all eight with notes on their present status within the Eparchy. Besides Father Vsevolod, Very Rev. Canon Ignatius Kury of Saint Anne Ukrainian Catholic Church in Austintown, OH and Subdeacon Joseph Matlak and his wife, Katie, were also at the Dinner. Father Claudio said that the most important aspect

in increasing vocations is encouragement from family, relatives and friends. Often a suggestion about entering the priesthood or religious life, is the spark that puts a person on the road to discernment. Such discernment continues in seminary or postulant training and education.

Benediction was offered by Very Rev. Michael Polosky, Dean of the Central Deanery, and Pastor of Saints Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Churches in Ambridge and Aliquippa. Mnohaya i Blahaya Lita was led by Stephen Zinski for Bishop John Bura and all the attendees.

New priest, fresh take

BY MARK GILGER

SHAMOKIN - The new pastor of Transfiguration of Our Lord Ukrainian Catholic Church, a native of Ukraine who speaks six languages, is determined to bring younger people back to the church while serving the needs of all parishioners.

The Rev. Mykola Ivanov, who arrived in Shamokin Aug. 1, just in time to experience the parish's successful street festival, is still adjusting to life in the coal region. But he has already re-established Catechism classes in the parish and hopes to open a religious day care center in the former Transfiguration School or modular unit next to the church that formerly was a kindergarten classroom.

"My biggest goal is to retrieve the younger generation to the church," the 36-year-old priest said. "I want to reach out to people who left the church because they felt lost or uncomfortable. Every human being has an internal call to happiness, and I want to bring back that happiness to the people I serve and see them become satisfied in

their church so they can share their peace and happiness with others."

The native of Lviv in western Ukraine, which has a population of approximately one million, said Jesus is the ultimate role model who always welcomes people to be part of his life. "Just like Jesus, I want people to feel part of their church," he said.

New programs

The educated and personable priest plans to maintain all the beautiful Ukrainian church traditions while establishing some new programs geared to children and adults.

Catechism classes that were previously held in the church hall before it sustained extensive damage in the 2011 flood have been revived. Beginning Sunday, Oct. 19, classes will be held from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. for children between the ages of 6 and 15 in the former modular unit. Two nuns from the Sister Servants of Mary Immaculate in Minersville will teach the classes every Sunday.



Rev. Mykola Ivanov of Transfiguration of Our Lord Ukrainian Catholic Church is the new priest and pastor of the church located on Shamokin Street. (Photo: MIKE STAUGAITIS, <http://newsitem.com>)

The pastor and sisters will begin teaching Catechism and Bible classes to adults involving the Ukrainian language and culture in November in the modular unit.

Ivanov said Renee McAnnaney will continue to prepare children for the Sacraments of First Holy Communion and Penance.

Divine Liturgy is celebrated at the church at 6 p.m. Saturday, 9:30 a.m. Sunday, and 8:15 a.m. Monday through Friday.

In addition to being pastor at Transfiguration, which is the second oldest

Ukrainian Catholic church in the country, Ivanov serves in the same role at Patronage of Mother of God Ukrainian Catholic Church in Marion Heights, where Divine Liturgy is celebrated at 8 a.m. Sunday.

Transfiguration has approximately 280 parishioners, while Patronage of Mother of God has less than 100 members.

He succeeded the Rev. Ruslan Romanyuk as pastor of both churches. Romanyuk was transferred to St. Vladimir Ukrainian Catholic

(continued on next page)

New priest, fresh take

(continued from previous page)

Church in Elizabeth, N.J.

'Sad' for homeland

As for the unrest that has resulted from the recent Russian invasion of eastern Ukraine, the priest said, "It's very sad what the Ukrainian people are going through over there. They don't deserve to be treated that way. There is a total lack of respect for their rights and people are afraid to speak out for fear of losing their lives."

Ivanov said his parents, brother and cousins still live in Lviv, which is about 24 hours away from the fighting going on in eastern Ukraine.

He said priests have

been forced to flee from their churches and many people have been persecuted in the ongoing turmoil with Russian troops.

Ivanov is glad to be in America, but feels badly for people in his homeland.

"The United States gives people more of an opportunity than other countries," he said.

Ordained in 2005

He studied theology for four years and philosophy for two years at the Ivano-Frankivsk Theological Institute before studying Canon Law for four years in Rome, Italy.

Ivanov was ordained into the priesthood March 20, 2005, in western Ukraine.

The priest and his wife, Anna, were married in Ukraine and have two children, Ostap, 6, and Christina, who will turn 3 next month.

He and his wife came to the U.S. on Oct. 2, 2005.

In addition to Ukrainian and English, the priest speaks Russian, Polish, Italian and Slovak.

His first assignment was serving as an assistant pastor for one year at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception and St. Nicholas Ukrainian

Catholic Church, both in Philadelphia. He served as pastor of SS Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church in Phoenixville, St. Michael's Ukrainian Catholic Church in Pottstown and Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church in Reading before being transferred to Shamokin.

Ivanov started choirs at three of his previous churches and serves on the Tribunal of the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia.

<http://newsitem.com/news/new-priest-fresh-take-1.1770062>

Requiem Service for Victims of Holodomor at St. Patrick's Cathedral - Saturday, November 22, 2014, 1:00pm

To mark the 81st solemn anniversary of Ukraine's Genocide, the UCCA will be holding a requiem service (panakhyda) at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City. The now annual commemoration will be held on November 22nd at 1:00PM.

We urge the Ukrainian community, to join the Ukrainian Catholic and Ukrainian Orthodox religious hierarchies, and mark November 22nd on your calendar. Let us gather together to remember our brethren who were starved to death in 1932-1933.

<http://www.ucca.org>

UGCC Head participated in the Plenary Session of the Consilium Conferentiarum Episcoporum Europae (CCEE) [Association of Catholic Bishops' Conferences in Europe]

Friday, 03 October 2014

His Beatitude Sviatoslav, UGCC Head, participated in Rome in the Annual Plenary Meeting of the Association of Catholic Bishops' Conferences in Europe (CCEE).

The fathers at the Plenary Session discussed the role which current society poses for the institution of the family, about the crisis and the challenges which this society places before them. However, the main issue is how the Church should react to the problems which the current Christian family is facing and what systematic steps should the Church take in order to overcome them. Within the context of this year's Plenary Session, on October 3rd, the members of CCEE met for the first time with His Holiness Pope Francis, at which the successor of Peter greeted all the participants and urged them to courageously preach Christ because it is only He who can resolve the problems that face a person in the current world.



The Plenary Session ended on October 4th.

Information provided by Ivan Dulyba (Rome)

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

In the Vatican the Extraordinary Synod of the family began its work

Monday, 06 October 2014

On the fifth of October in the Vatican began the third session of the Extraordinary Assembly of the Synod of Bishops, on which the bishops from around the world will discuss the most pressing issues and challenges of the family in the modern world. On the specifics of family life and marriage in Ukraine for the participants of the Synod spoke His Beatitude Sviatoslav, the Father and the Head of the UGCC.

Opening the Synod, the Pope Francis urged speakers "to speak honestly and listen with humility". "Everyone should say what he feels. After the last consistory (February 2014), where we discussed the topic of family, one of the cardinal wrote to me that not all the cardinals had the courage to talk about some of the problems in the presence of the Pope, fearing that He thinks otherwise. This is not good and it is not the genuine Synodality. It is necessary to say, what in the Lord we feel necessary to say"- the Holy Father said, applying to the Synodal fathers.

(continued on next page)

In the Vatican the Extraordinary Synod of the family began its work

(continued from previous page)

At the same time the Pope Francis stressed that the Synod participants must respect and listen with an open mind to his confreres. "These two aspects determine the Synodality ... I ask you to express your thoughts calmly and at peace, because the presence of the Pope at the Synod always guarantees the preservation of the faith" – pointed out the Roman Pontiff.

The main theme of the Synod is the pastoral care of divorced, but participants also discussed gay marriages and contraception. The work of the Synod concluded 19 October. In conclusion the document will be issued, which will sum up the main theme and will be the basic document of the work of the Assembly in 2015.

UGCC Department of Information

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

UGCC Head gave the Pope a book about children of Ukrainian immigrants

Thursday, 09 October 2014

This morning at a meeting with His Holy Father Francis, His Beatitude Sviatoslav, UGCC Head, gave him a book, Children of Emigrants about Themselves. The book contains letters of children to their parents who have gone abroad in search of employment. Its pages reflect the children's pain and their thoughts.

Being in the Vatican to participate in the Papal Synod on the Family, His Beatitude Sviatoslav decided in such a manner to bring to attention also the problem of raising and providing pastoral care to children of immigrants. It is known that Ukrainians, among them 80% being women, in size comprise a fifth of the ethnic community among immigrants in Italy.

The Italian language edition of the book was published by the Migrants Foundation Publishers due to the initiative of Rev. Marko Semegen, Pastoral Coordinator for Ukrainian Greek-Catholics in Italy.



"This book will motivate the Church to provide pastoral services to the children of immigrants and is a genuine challenge to the Church," states Monsignor Jean-Carl Pereh, Director of the Migrants Foundation of the Italian Bishops Conference.

St. Sophia Association Press Service

<http://news.ugcc.ua>

“Soviet Ukraine exists no more...” UGCC Head

Wednesday, 08 October 2014

“It will never be the same as before.” These words of His Beatitude Lubomyr, said in Kyiv in November of last year, when the student protests began, are very profound and meaningful. Because they indicate that events which happened right in front of our eyes, testify to the rise of a new Ukraine. It is the beginning of a new phase in the history of Ukrainian society, in the history of our faithful in Ukraine and in diaspora.



With these words, His Beatitude Sviatoslav, UGCC Head, in Australia during his official pastoral visit, addressed the intellectuals, politicians, church and community activists.

According to him, that which happens in Ukraine today, impacts the whole life of our UGCC whose faithful react to it in various ways. However, thinks UGCC Head, that which happens right now, is something completely new.

His Beatitude Sviatoslav said that Maidan from now on is a place of pilgrimages, prayers, and]contemplation. Because on it the sacrifice was made by those who shed their blood for a free and independent Ukraine. “I recall those days of the Maidan when in the center of Ivano-Frankivsk young people carried posters with the slogan “No comeback of USSR!” For me this slogan was expressive; it showed that post-soviet Ukraine no longer existed,” he noted.

UGCC Head is convinced that the Maidan of Independence forever transformed Ukraine into a nation in which “a general solidarity rules, which supersedes ethos, language, and even a specific religious affiliation it is a force which can overcome a silent or even the brutal and cynical idol-worship of the authorities which that government ruled in its repressions. “

He also added that on the Maidan there emerged an “Ecumenical Community.” Since by praying together in various languages and in different religious traditions, the people felt the presence of God.

In concluding, His Beatitude Sviatoslav noted that a great blessing for our Church which we experienced a year ago was the blessing of the Patriarchal Cathedral of the Resurrection of Christ in Kyiv. And therefore, we really need to thank God the Lord, that we have that Cathedral in the capital because during the bloody events on the Maidan it became for many persecuted a haven and a fatherly home.

The Prelate also emphasized that UGCC became a preacher of hope. “Many wanted the Church to be silent. Such behavior is akin to that of robbers, who tie up their victim, force the victim to be silent and rob the victim, and then continue to torture and blackmail the victim so that the victim remains silent and does not condemn the crime which was committed against one. Our Church will not succumb to fear. Our Church will not be silent!” he concluded.

UGCC Department of Information

<http://news.ugcc.ua>

OCTOBER 19, 2014

November 2014 - Листопада 2014

Happy Birthday!

З Днем народження!

November 13: Most Rev. Stefan Soroka
November 14: Rev. D. George Worschak
November 22: Rev. Roman Dubitsky
November 26: Rev. Wasyl Bunik

May the Good Lord Continue to Guide You and Shower You with His Great Blessings. Многая Лита!

Нехай Добрий Господь Тримає Вас у Своїй Опіці та Щедро Благословить Вас. Многая Літа!



Congratulations on your Anniversary of Priesthood!

Вітаємо з Річницею Священства!

November 8: Rev. Roman Pitula (16th Anniversary)
November 12: Rev. Gregory Maslak (42nd Anniversary)
November 15: Rev. Deacon Donald Latrick (24th Anniversary)
November 18: Rev. Deacon Theophil Staruch (24th Anniversary)
November 22: Rev. Vasyl Sivinskyi (22nd Anniversary)
November 30: Rev. Wasyl Kharuk (22nd 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!

A Correction to page 21 of the October 5, 2014 issue of "The Way"

The photo at the bottom of the page was taken by Ulana Prociuk instead of Ulana Mazurkevich. We apologize for the error.

Editorial and Business Office:

827 N. Franklin St.
Philadelphia, PA 19123

Telephone: (215) 627-0143

E-mail: theway@ukrcap.org



Established 1939

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

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

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

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

THE WAY Staff

Very Rev. Archpriest John Fields, Director of Communication;

Ms. Teresa Siwak, Editor;

Rev. Ihor Royik, Assistant Editor

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