

THE WAY ШЛЯХ

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ENGLISH VERSION

THE CATHEDRAL IN PHILADELPHIA IS THE LOCATION OF A SYMPOSIUM ON THE OCCASION OF THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE EMERGENCE OF THE UKRAINIAN GREEK CATHOLIC CHURCH FROM THE UNDERGROUND

10 November 2014

On Sunday, November 9, 2014, in the Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Philadelphia a religious and scholarly event took place to mark the legalization of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church in Ukraine. The event was organized by the St. Sophia Religious Association of Ukrainian Catholics, USA, under the aegis of the Philadelphia Archeparchy. The event began with a solemn liturgy celebrated by Archbishop Stefan Soroka, concelebrated with Fr. Marko Semehen, President of the St. Sophia Religious Association in Rome, Italy, and Fr. Ivan Demkiv, Pastor of the Cathedral.

In his homily Archbishop Soroka stressed the meaning of faith in the life of man since as he pointed out it was because of faith that the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church was able to leave the underground. The examples of thousands of martyrs teach us "to be people of hope, to be courageous and courageously bear witness to our faith." He urged the faithful to follow the example of the martyrs, especially that of Bishop Vasyl Velychkovsky, whom Pope John Paul II beatified. A similar liturgy was celebrated by Fr. Ivan Demkiv in English. Following

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During the Liturgy (l to r): Fr. Marko Semehen, Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka, and Rev. Ivan Demkiv (Photo: St. Sophia Religious Association)

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SYMPOSIUM ON THE OCCASION OF THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE EMERGENCE OF THE UKRAINIAN GREEK CATHOLIC CHURCH FROM THE UNDERGROUND

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each liturgy there were two presentations of the exhibit, *To the Light of Resurrection through the Thorns of Catacombs*, by Dr. Iryna Ivankovych, Executive Director of St. Sophia Religious Association, USA, and the Curator of the Josyf Slipyj Study Center in Philadelphia. The exhibit comprises the period from 1939 – 1991 and reflects three important segments of the tragic/heroic periods in the history of the Ukrainian Catholic Church: its liquidation, its life in the underground and its legalization in 1989. The presentation was compiled on the basis of the materials housed at the Institute of Church History of the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv.

The scholarly conference which followed the liturgies was introduced by Archbishop Stefan Soroka who expressed his gratitude to St. Sophia Association for organizing this event. Professor Leonid Rudnytzky, President of the St. Sophia Religious Association, served as chairman of the conference. The first session, held in Ukrainian, featured Fr. Marko Semehen who read a paper about the liturgical life of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church in the catacombs. Dr. Andriy Sorokowski, a historical researcher at the U.S. Department of Justice, Environment and Natural Resources Division, Washington, DC, served as commentator. In the second session, held in English, Fr. Taras Lonchyna, pastor of the Church of St. Josaphat in Trenton, New Jersey, delivered a paper about martyrology of the Ukrainian Catholic Church which included brief biographies of those who had lost their lives because of their fidelity to their Church. His presentation contained personal reminiscences which profoundly moved his listeners. In his commentary on Fr. Lonchyna's presentation, Paul Mojzes, Professor of Religious Studies at Rosemont College, discussed the problems of religious liberty in Central and Eastern European countries and, among others, analyzed the methods through which the various communist regimes attempted to enforce atheism in all areas of human endeavor.

Lengthy and lively discussions, which included some criticism of the educational system in the United States, followed the presentations. In concluding the symposium Leonid Rudnytzky thanked the Archeparchy of Philadelphia and Fr. Demkiv for their hospitality and expressed special gratitude to Dr. Ivankovych for her organization of the events of the day. He stressed that this is already the third scholarly conference in the City of Brotherly Love which marked the emergence of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church from underground activity. The impetus for this series was an international conference hosted by La Salle University on May 3, 2014, under the heading "The Church of the Catacombs in the 20th Century."

Adapted from an article on <http://risu.org.ua>



Presenters and participants of the symposium. (l to r) Iryna Ivankovych, Paul Mojzes, Andriy Sorokowski, Leonid Rudnytzky, Fr. Marko Semehen, Roma Hayda. (Photo: St. Sophia Religious Association)

Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka's Homily on the Commemoration of 25th Anniversary of Legalization of Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church on November 9, 2014 at the Cathedral in Philadelphia

Слава Ісусу Христу!

Today we gather to commemorate the legalization of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church in Ukraine. For forty-three years, this Church of holy martyrs functioned and grew vibrantly underground. It was forbidden to celebrate any Liturgies, even forbidden to have a funeral procession. Bishops, priests and religious functioned secretly while fulfilling assigned jobs in society. People received the Holy Sacraments secretly. Faithful could lose their jobs and could be arrested if found to be celebrating their faith. Many bishops,



Liturgy at the Cathedral. (Photo: T. Siwak)

priests, religious and faithful were arrested and sentenced to harsh and brutal work camps in Siberia. Many were tortured and killed by the secret police. There was widespread mistrust for fear of being found out. Yet, the faith grew and could not be suffocated by the communist regime. The members of the Church did not give in to despair but persevered in their faith. They were a people of the resurrection. They were people of hope. Their hope was in the Risen Jesus Christ. Their comfort was from the Mother of God who was present with them, raising their sufferings to Jesus.

We heard in today's Gospel reading of a man, Jairus, who came to Jesus feeling totally helpless. However, he had confidence that Jesus could heal his daughter. He was sure of it. When you and I feel helpless, it should lead us to Jesus. We should covet that same feeling of confidence that Jesus can do something to help us.

Jesus was surrounded by people clamoring for his help. Yet, Jesus leaves everyone and went with Jairus. On the way, their journey was interrupted. A woman touched Jesus' cloak and was healed. Time passed once they found out what had happened. In the meantime, messengers came to tell Jairus that his daughter had died. Imagine how Jairus might have felt. He felt happy for that cured woman, but his daughter died. It seemed so unfair. The world around us and all of its misery seems, at times, so unfair.

Jesus tells Jairus not to be afraid. "Only Believe, and she shall be well". Undoubtedly, many believers of our Ukrainian Catholic Church may have given in to despair. The darkness of the evil of communism may have overtaken many a mind and heart. The situation seemed so hopeless. We heard the messengers in the Gospel say, "Your daughter is dead, do not trouble the Master." Do we choose to fail to bring unsurmountable challenges to Jesus? Jesus says to Jairus, "Do not fear. Only Believe". Jesus places no limit on the power of faith. Even in the face of death, faith is stronger. With Jesus, no person is hopeless. No situation is impossible.

This strong faith was revealed by 2 bishops, 20 priests, and 174 faithful who on the 4th of August, 1987

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Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka's Homily

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came out of the underground and proclaimed to the Holy Father that the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church would begin to function in the open. Liturgies and liturgical processions were celebrated in public places with increasing numbers participating. These people placed themselves at high risk of being arrested, tortured, and imprisoned. The manifestations grew in number throughout western Ukraine. On September 17th, 1989, a huge manifestation involving some two hundred to three hundred thousand people occurred in Lviv. The manifestation began with a Liturgy followed by a peaceful and prayerful procession through the streets of Lviv. This followed in many other cities. Candlelight processions proceeded through the streets peacefully. Shortly thereafter, the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church was allowed to register itself and its parishes in the then Soviet Ukraine.



Communion (Photo: T. Siwak)

Jairus came to Jesus with faith and he was not disappointed. The leadership and faithful of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church rose with the power of the Risen Christ. They emerged from the darkness of the underground. The light of faith of these courageous faithful could no longer be hidden under a bushel basket. Light overcomes darkness! Jesus said to the young girl in today's Gospel story, "Child arise". Her spirit returned to her and she got up at once. Jesus tells them that they give her something to eat. The time came to arise with Jesus out of the catacombs. Courage overtook the courageous bishops, clergy and people who acted boldly to proclaim their faith amidst the threat of persecution. There were those who laughed at Jesus when Jesus told the girl to arise. Faith perseveres those who mock and suppress true faith. Jesus helps you and me to overcome those who around us mock faith in Jesus Christ. Jesus helps the Church to arise. They celebrate the Divine Liturgy. Jesus gives of Himself in the Holy Eucharist. He tells the Church to feed the people. The Holy Eucharist empowers the faithful to become who they are called to be as followers of Jesus Christ.

You will recall that in the Gospel, we heard of a woman who touched Jesus' garment. Power went out from Jesus and the woman was healed. Jesus knew it had happened. He used the occasion to reveal something very important to you and to me. You will remember how Jesus says, "Someone touched me". He felt the tug of a woman on his garment even when being pressed in by a crowd of people surrounding him. The crowds may ignore the plea of a frail person. Yet, Jesus hears the plea of every person in need. This woman persisted in her pleas. Just reach out and touch Jesus through prayer! This is what the suffering Church in the catacombs did while being persecuted by the communist regime. Their prayer came from the heart and out of deep faith. Their prayer came from the examples of many



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Communion (Photo: T. Siwak)

Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka's Homily

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who were martyrs for the faith. You will have opportunity to hear the stories of those who celebrated their faith amidst adversity and cruelty of their oppressors in the Symposium which will follow the Liturgy. Their faith persevered. They are the peacemakers upon which our Ukrainian Catholic Church today is built.

What is their message to you and to me today? We are humbled by their sacrifice, even sacrifice of life itself that faith may persevere for you and for me. Our hearts are filled with gratitude for their unconditional love for God and for our Ukrainian Catholic Church. We are encouraged by their example of love and sacrifice. We marvel at their stamina in continuing to endure their sufferings and yet live with hope. They teach us to be positive. They show us how

to live as people of faith. They reveal to us how to share and give of oneself for the betterment of others and for the advancement of a Church, a community of faith. They are martyrs of the faith. They gave the gift of life. They are saintly people. I believe that that saintly people become souls which continue to give of themselves. Saints help you and me. They intervene for our needs and for our intentions.

I remember how Blessed Velychkovsky laid in a grave in a cemetery north of Winnipeg for ten years. Little attention was given to him except for annual remembrance services. Then Pope John Paul II elevated him to the status of Blessed. His body was moved into a specially constructed shrine. Thousands visit annually. Many miracles have been attributed by people praying to him, even amidst the Eskimos in northern Canada who heard of Blessed Vasyly Velychkovsky through the Redemptorist Fathers serving them.

The souls of the martyrs are a special and ongoing gift to you and to me, to the entire Ukrainian Catholic Church, and to all people of faith. It remains for you and for me to realize the power of this special gift. You and I are welcome to avail ourselves of this special power for intercession. The best way to show gratitude for this gift is to use it! Pray to the martyrs of our Church!

Today, we give thanks for the courage of those who dared to arise from the catacombs risking all security for themselves. We give thanks to Almighty God for His listening to the pleas of all Ukrainian Catholics and of all freedom loving peoples for the resurrection of our Church. We give thanks to our Blessed Mother for having sustained the bishops, clergy, religious and faithful through the times of darkness. The light of faith could not be held back. It is the sustained and courageous faith of so many, living and martyred, which brought forward the quick decision to allow for the legalization of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church in Ukraine twenty-five years ago. Let us always remember them in our prayers of gratitude. Let us also ask God to empower us with that same boldness and courage to live and celebrate our faith. May we be worthy of that supreme gift given by so many that we may freely celebrate the gift of faith.

Слава Ісусу Христу!

+Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka



Symposium Posters (Photo: T. Siwak)

Watch a video of the Homily at <https://www.youtube.com/user/thewayukrainian>

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THE WAY

Twenty Fourth Sunday after Pentecost - November 23, 2014



Jesus told this parable: "The ground of a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest. He thought to himself, 'What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.' "Then he said, 'This is what I'll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store my surplus grain. And I'll say to myself, "You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry."' "But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?' "This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God." (Lk. 12, 16 - 21)

One of the greatest longings each one of us feels is the desire for security. It is bad enough if you have to live from day to day, to wonder where your next meal is coming from. But to look to the future and see old age coming inevitably, and to fear that perhaps there will be no security for that old age is indeed a frightening thought. It is not surprising that sooner or later we face the need of planning for the future, of trying to make sure that security will be ours, especially when we have passed the age of being able to hold a job and make a living. Advertisements for insurance, savings accounts and the like, all appeal to our deep instinct for security.

Our Lord understood our yearning for security, and in today's parable he wished to put that yearning in proper perspective. The rich farmer of the parable could today be growing wheat in Kansas or corn in Iowa. A bumper crop forces him to tear down his available barns and build even larger ones. With all his possessions snugly laid away, he congratulates himself on a job well done. He has security. Now he can take it easy and live off his accumulated capital. He has proved himself to be a prudent organizer, a good planner, a man respected in the community. And yet God calls him a fool.

What did the farmer do wrong? There is no sign that he was dishonest or that he cheated anyone or deprived them of what was rightfully theirs. What then was his mistake? He was greedy. Just before telling the parable, our Lord warned, "Avoid greed in all its forms. A man may be wealthy, but his possessions do not guarantee him life." The kind of greed our Lord was talking about leads a person to rely solely on material possessions for his security. It is the fault of the "self-made" man who thinks he holds his future in his own hands. He depends only on himself for his future security, and that leads to a practical forgetfulness of God even though he may go to Church regularly. He wants security in the future, but he does not look far enough into the future beyond the inevitable fact of death to a security that only God can guarantee. This kind of greed is not confined to the wealthy by any means. All of us can be guilty of it. Our society is such that it almost forces us to be preoccupied with the need for money and material possessions, no matter how we may fight its influence. The day to day struggle for survival in a competitive society and the fear of financial insecurity can become all-absorbing. Certainly we have to work and to save, but we are sadly mistaken if we think that possessions will give us the kind of security we really need. No matter how much money we may have saved up, the time will come for God to say to us, "This very night your life shall be required of you." What of our security then?

St. Paul says, "Set your heart on what pertains to higher realms Be intent on things above rather than

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Twenty Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

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things of earth." Sound advice, but how do we put it into practice in the face of daily needs? Are we supposed to stop earning money and saving for the future? No, that is not the answer. Rather it is the way we go about things, our attitude of mind, which makes the difference. Remember that the rich farmer in the parable had forgotten all about God and the real meaning of life. The only thing he was working for was security in this life. He did not look far enough into the future for his security.

Jesus wants us to respond to our instinct for security. He wants us to use it, however, to work for eternal life by becoming "rich in the sight of God." And we become rich in the sight of God by becoming poor, not only in the sense that we are willing to give up our material possessions to help others-that certainly is important. What Jesus wishes is more. He wants us to stand before God and acknowledge that we are poor in the sense that every good thing comes from him, that without God we are spiritually bankrupt. One of the most important things about prayer is to say to God, "I can't go it alone. Without you I can't do a thing. Help me." "Father, you are holy indeed, and all creation rightly gives you praise. All life, all holiness comes from you ... "We must all mean the words of that prayer. We must beg God to lead us through this temporal life to eternal life. Then we can have the confidence that when we die, God will say, "You were wise indeed, for you grew rich in my sight." And that is eternal security.

PYLYPIVKA (ADVENT) PASTORAL OF THE UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC HIERARCHY OF THE U. S. A.

TO OUR CLERGY, HIEROMONKS AND BROTHERS, RELIGIOUS SISTERS, SEMINARIANS AND BELOVED FAITHFUL

Praise be Jesus Christ!

On November 14th, we began observing 'Pylypivka' or St. Philip's Fast in preparation for the celebration of the Nativity of the Birth of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Society around is now entering a period of aggressively attempting to increase and enhance our appetite for goods, gifts, and items deemed necessary for the celebration of Christmas. It is difficult for most of us to withdraw from our earthly appetites as we attempt to make more time for prayer and meditation. From whom can we get some direction?

The Blessed and Holy Martyrs of our Ukrainian Catholic Church inspire us to surrender more of ourselves. Their sacrifice of life in the face of persecution and for God's kingdom minimizes any excuses you and I may offer in neglecting making sacrifices for our faith in our daily life. We are quickly becoming a generation of people feeling entitled to daily privileges and rights, and even in our journey of faith. This attitude of feeling entitled deprives us of choosing that which has deeper and more significant meaning in our life. We even begin to presume Our Lord by not choosing to be excitedly motivated to meet him in celebrating his holy feast in his holy Church.

Christmas is coming! Bright lights and festivities surround us and lift our spirits. You and I share a
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PYLYPIVKA (ADVENT) PASTORAL OF THE UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC HIERARCHY OF THE U. S. A.

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responsibility to brightly shine with our light of baptism. "Pylypivka" summons you and me to pause. We are reminded to meditate on our journey of faith with Jesus. Be still, calm yourself and hear the voice of Jesus in your life. Surrender more time for prayer and thoughtful meditation. Search for Jesus with more frequent participation in worship in your parish. Then let Jesus be the source of your energy and that which you value in your daily life. You will enjoy peace and joy which cannot be bought or garnered in the busyness of the world around us.

You and I are called to rekindle our light of faith to call others to Jesus. Choose to be a thankful person, rejoicing in your love for God. Choose to be a person of hope, offering encouragement and assistance to others struggling in daily life. You will be a source of light and renewal for others, even unknowingly at times. The Lord's presence and peace will descend upon others and surround them with his joy and peace. You truly will then be preparing for the joyous celebration of Jesus' birth.



Thanksgiving Day provides opportunity for families and friends to gather and enjoy their common bond and love for one another. When proclaiming Thanksgiving Day in 1789, President Washington cited the importance of our unity in rendering thanks to God, and in offering prayers and supplications for the pardon of our transgressions. Celebrating forgiveness and seeking God's forgiveness in the Holy Mystery or Sacrament of Confession is a life-giving way to humble ourselves before God and invite Him into our daily life. Choose to go to confession more often so as to come nearer to God in daily life.

George Washington also called for us "to promote the knowledge and practice of true religion and virtue". We do this as we pray and support the many throughout the world who suffer persecution because of their faith. Particularly we pray for our brothers and sisters in Ukraine who face persecution and the onset of war and terrorism. We also pray for our suffering Christian brothers and sisters in Syria, Iraq, Palestine and various parts of Africa, some of whom need to flee their homelands because of persecution and war. You and I are called to raise our voices through our democratically elected leaders to express our outrage as to the loss of life and devastation which is occurring in various parts of the world. Let us be thankful for the peace we enjoy in our nation with prayers and actions in defense of others who do not enjoy the knowledge and practice of true religion and virtue.

May your 'Pylypivka' journey be especially blessed with many opportunities for spiritual renewal and may you enjoy a joyful Thanksgiving!

+Stefan Soroka (author)
Archbishop of Philadelphia for Ukrainians
Metropolitan of Ukrainian Catholics in the United States

+Richard Seminack
Eparch of St. Nicholas in Chicago

+Paul Chomnycky, OSBM
Eparch of Stamford

+ Bohdan Danylo
Eparch of St. Josaphat in Parma

+John Bura
Auxiliary Bishop of Philadelphia

November 2014

NOVEMBER 23, 2014



Thanksgiving to Whom?

During November, the month when the bright scarlet and orange leaves fade to a lifeless sienna, when morning frosts give way to snow flurries and thoughts of winter, and the sun hides its bright warm rays giving us long dark nights, our thoughts turn to Thanksgiving Day and the traditional turkey dinner with all the trimmings we will enjoy with family and friends.

Surveys show, Thanksgiving Day is the most traveled day of the year. Relatives traverse great distances to be with fathers and mothers, sons and daughters, aunts and uncles, grandsons and granddaughters. The inconveniences of driving or flying pale in comparison to the warmth and togetherness of being together with loved ones and maintaining this tradition. People do not travel hundreds of miles for a turkey dinner and pumpkin pie, they travel to share the love and togetherness of family and friends.

Thanksgiving Day, observed on the fourth Thursday in November is a time when our nation pauses to give thanks. But give thanks to whom? When you give thanks, you give them to someone. You express gratitude to another. On Thanksgiving Day we do give thanks, and what makes it special, is that we, as a nation give thanks to GOD.

A day of Thanksgiving to God is a tradition in this nation, going back to the first Thanksgiving observance in Virginia. Virginia? Yes Virginia. On December 4, 1619, the 38 English settlers who arrived on the banks of the James River placed in their charter that this day of arrival be observed yearly as a day of thanksgiving with prayer and feasting.

A year later, in 1620, the Pilgrims landed in Plymouth. The following fall, in 1621, Governor William Bradford arranged a three-day harvest festival to give thanks to God for delivering the colonists through the harsh winter.

In 1789, our first president, George Washington by proclamation declared November 26 a day of national Thanksgiving to God.

In 1863, President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed the last Thursday in November as "a day of thanksgiving to our beneficent Father" a tradition that continued until 1939, when President Franklin D. Roosevelt set the date as the fourth Thursday in November. In 1941 Congress made it a federal legal holiday, the custom we follow today.

Thanksgiving Day is special because as a nation we give thanks to God. It is special because it is our national holy day. It is special because, regardless of how an atheist may try to conceal the fact, it is a day when our nation formally acknowledges the existence of God. It is a day we thank Almighty God for His blessings upon this great nation, penned so aptly by the lyricist with these words, "America, America, God shed His grace on thee. . . ."

Take time this Thanksgiving Day to attend religious services, to pray a meaningful grace before the meal, and to reflect upon the many blessings God has bestowed upon us, our families and our great nation. Happy Thanksgiving Day!



HAPPY THANKSGIVING, USA!

As our country becomes more and more secularized - away from church and away from God - it would do all Americans well to read the original Thanksgiving Day proclamation of President Lincoln.

Abraham Lincoln's Thanksgiving Proclamation

It is the duty of nations as well as of men to own their dependence upon the overruling power of God; to confess their sins and transgressions in humble sorrow, yet with assured hope that genuine repentance will lead to mercy and pardon; and to recognize the sublime truth, announced in the Holy Scriptures and proven by all history, that those nations are blessed whose God is the Lord.

We know that by His

divine law, nations, like individuals, are subjected to punishments and chastisements in this world. May we not justly fear that the awful calamity of civil war which now desolates the land may be a punishment inflicted upon us for our presumptuous sins, to the needful end of our national reformation as a whole people?

We have been the recipients of the choicest bounties of heaven; we have been preserved these many years in peace and prosperity; we have grown in numbers, wealth and power as no

other nation has ever grown.

But we have forgotten God. We have forgotten the gracious hand which preserved us in peace and multiplied and enriched and strengthened us, and we have vainly imagined, in the deceitfulness of our hearts, that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own. Intoxicated with unbroken success, we have become too self-sufficient to feel the necessity of redeeming and preserving grace, too proud to pray to the God that made us.

It has seemed to me fit and proper that God should be solemnly, reverently and gratefully acknowledged, as with one heart and one voice, by the whole American people. I do therefore invite my fellow citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November as a day of Thanksgiving and praise to our beneficent Father Who dwelleth in the heavens.

- A. Lincoln,
October 3, 1863.

Visits to the Cathedral and Treasury of Faith Museum

Grace Christian Academy in Maryland with their teacher Mr. Mark Gonzalez, and Transfiguration of Our Lord Ukrainian Catholic Church in Shamokin, PA with Sister Zenovia, SSMI, visited the Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception and the Treasury of Faith Museum on Saturday, November 8, 2014.



Group from Transfiguration, Shamokin, PA

Father Walter Pasicznyk gave the tour at the Cathedral and Sr. Timothea, MSMG gave the tour of the Museum.



Group from Grace Christian Academy

St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Church, Philadelphia, Celebrates 100th Anniversary on November 16, 2014

Metropolitan Stefan's Homily

Слава Ісусу Христу!

I would like to take a moment to offer our heartfelt sympathies to your pastor, Fr. Ihor and his family on the death of his father, Myroslav Bloschynskyy, which occurred unexpectedly this week in Ukraine. Fr. Ihor is attending to his father's funeral in Ukraine. Please pray for the repose of Myroslav Bloschynskyy and for the souls of his deceased mother and brother.

Welcome to all the parishioners, clergy and guests celebrating the 100th anniversary of St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Church in Philadelphia. We are especially honored with the participation of one of our parish son's, Bishop Richard Seminack, Bishop of the Chicago Eparchy and who is a vocation from this parish. We also welcome a special guest from the St. Sofia Religious Association of Ukrainian Catholics in Rome, Fr. Mark Semehen. They join me in concelebrating this Divine Liturgy with other priests gathered at the holy altar.



We are gathered today in this Church, the Maternity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church to celebrate the 100th anniversary of St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Church in Philadelphia. We give gratitude to God in holy prayer for His hand in forming and sustaining the parishioners throughout these past 100 years. We pray for the intentions and needs of the parishioners as you celebrate this anniversary. We are grateful to the choir conductor, Roman Kucharsky and choir members of Prometheus for their leading us in lifting our voices and prayers to heaven through their angelic singing.

St. Josaphat was a Bishop Martyr for the unity of the Church. I believe that he has interceded for your needs throughout these past 100 years. The parish has faced many significant challenges. Yet, you have remained united in one purpose. You unite in the bond of prayer and in your love for your faith celebrated in our beautiful Ukrainian Catholic traditions. You also sustain one another in your love and care for one another as a spiritual family. Today, you are without your own spiritual Church building. Yet, you gather as one spiritual family. You reveal something even more precious than possessions. You reveal

to yourself and to the entire Church the value of steadfast faith. You follow in the footsteps of the Bishop Martyr who sacrificed his life for the unity of the Catholic faith. You are people who have sacrificed and who live as people of hope.

Remember how Jesus told the apostles not to rejoice in the power of healing they were able to offer the people. Jesus told them not to rejoice in what they had accomplished. Jesus told them to rejoice because their names are inscribed in heaven! The names of each of this church's

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St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Church, Philadelphia, Celebrates 100th Anniversary on November 16, 2014

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pioneers are inscribed in heaven. The names of all of the dedicated parishioners who have generously participated in the life of the parish in these past one hundred years are inscribed in heaven. All of the sacrifices which have been made throughout this past century in your parish family have been noted in the heavenly kingdom. God does not forget. He inscribes the names of these people in heaven. Jesus also told the apostles to rejoice! So, my brothers and sisters in Christ, let us truly rejoice today and often. Today's celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of the St. Josaphat parish family is an exceptional occasion to rejoice.

We heard the story of

the Good Samaritan in the Gospel reading today. Jesus told the story in response to a question from a lawyer as to what he must do to inherit eternal life. Jesus tells him to "Go and do likewise" (Lk 10:28). Jesus challenged that lawyer. He challenges you and me with the same command. Our Holy Father, Pope Francis has made it a fundamental theme in his teachings. How do we respond to the person who presents themselves in need? That person in need helps you and me. They identify who we are before Jesus Himself, and to others.

One hundred years ago, the pioneers of this parish responded with courage and with great sacrifice. They saw the need for a parish family



Fr. Taras Lonchyna proclaims the Gospel.

to gather in prayer and worship. Their faith was such that they wanted others to be nurtured by the Holy Mysteries, the Sacraments in this new land. The early pioneers were just settling in. They were facing great personal needs trying to support and provide for their families. Yet, they sacrificed themselves in many ways to establish their Church dedicated to St. Josaphat. They were determined to provide for the education and formation of the children and of people of all ages. They lived out the Gospel command to "Go and do likewise".

The past one hundred years are filled with heroic events of the clergy and faithful. The parish built two Churches and a large day school which

operated for many years. The education of the children in the faith was of greatest importance to the parish family. This value continues to exist today with the successful implementation of the Generations of Faith program with parishioners of all ages. The parish family responded to the thirst evident amidst the people to know and understand their faith. They also wanted to respond to the thirst for the warmth of human companionship in the familiar surroundings of our rich Ukrainian culture. Instruction of the young of the Ukrainian language and culture was always a priority. The clergy and parishioners of St. Josaphat were

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St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Church, Philadelphia, Celebrates 100th Anniversary on November 16, 2014

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steadfast in being “Good Samaritans” to all the people who came through the Church and school doors. You nurtured others with your faith and with your hospitality. You identified who you are in the eyes of God, before one another, and to yourself. Your response of love and care leads you to eternal life in heaven with Jesus Christ.

On behalf of the entire Church, I thank you, the parishioners, past and present, for your steadfast love and support of your parish. Thank you for being people of hope. Thank you for praying and serving as one family unit. Thank you for your tremendous gift of nurturing the faith in others, particularly the children who were entrusted in your care at

your parish.

I want to also thank the former pastors for the sacrifice and leadership they have shown in guiding St. Josaphat parish. They were very ably assisted by the Sisters of the Order of St. Basil the Great especially in teaching at the school. We wholeheartedly thank the reverend clergy and sisters for their zealous ministry amidst the people of St. Josaphat parish.

In a very special way, I want to acknowledge and thank your pastor, Fr. Ihor Bloschynskyy. Fr. Ihor came to you with much apprehension as to his abilities to meet the parish needs. It was his first experience working with children and administering a school. With your support

and encouragement, along with that of his wife Iryna’s, Fr. Ihor has excelled in meeting tough challenges at the parish and at the school. Fr. Ihor has always been your greatest advocate. He loves you and wants only the best for you. He believes in the people of St. Josaphat parish. There are not enough words to express the gratitude of the Church to Fr. Ihor for his steadfast sacrifices for the people of St. Josaphat parish family. God bless Fr. Ihor as richly as he has given of himself! I thank you, the parishioners, for your love and support offered for Fr. Ihor, his wife Iryna and their daughter Anastasia.

We continue to look for a suitable property in the northeast area of Philadelphia. It has



not been easy. City rules for parking for a Church and for a social hall are demanding and limit what is available. I am committed to having a parish in this area. I believe that a parish in this area has the potential to reach out to many new immigrants. Please pray for success in finding a suitable site. Continue to be people of hope. Let’s be optimists! It is what God asks of us! God will provide for the spiritual needs of His people in this area.

Let us rejoice on the occasion of the one

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St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Church, Philadelphia, Celebrates 100th Anniversary on November 16, 2014

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hundredth anniversary of St. Josaphat parish family. I love you and I pray for you, my brothers and sisters in Christ. I rejoice with you on this happy occasion and pray that God bless you

in ways only He can. Let us rejoice and continue the journey of faith the pioneers began in St. Josaphat parish family. Rejoice together as we seek the great reward of being blessed with the

inscription of our names in heaven!

On this happy occasion of the 100th anniversary of St. Josaphat Church, God grant to the pastor, Fr. Ihor, and to all of the

parishioners, and to all of the clergy, sisters and guests, many blessed and happy years.

Слава Ісусу Христу!



Pictures from St. Josaphat's 100th Jubilee Banquet at the Ukrainian Educational & Cultural Center, Jenkintown. Among the performances were Prometheus Ukrainian Male Chorus and "Vesna" Dance Ensemble of the local CYM Branch.

New Church Sign Blessed in Bethlehem, PA

On Sunday, November 9, St. Josaphat Church in Bethlehem celebrated its annual Names Day Feast. This year was special in that the new sign constructed on the property was blessed following the Divine Liturgy. Many in attendance that day gathered to witness the blessing. The sign was constructed as part of the Vibrant Parish project for 2014-15. Archpriest Daniel Gurovich, pastor, blessed by new sign assisted by parish son, Fr. Walter Pasicznyk and Deacon Michael Waak. The parish advisory committee worked many months in cooperation with the City of Bethlehem to bring the project to completion.



The UGCC Bishops participate in the consecutive plenary assembly of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

Friday, 14 November 2014

10-13 November 2014 city of Baltimore, Maryland (USA) hosted a consecutive plenary assembly of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. In addition to the Roman Catholic bishops, the meeting was likewise attended by the American Eastern Catholic hierarchs. From the side of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, in the assembly participated Metropolitan Stefan Soroka, Archbishop of Philadelphia; Bishop



Richard Seminack, Bishop of the Eparchy of St. Nicholas in Chicago; Bishop Paul Chomnycky, Bishop of the Eparchy of Stamford; Bishop Bohdan Danylo, Bishop of the Eparchy of St. Josaphat in Parma; Bishop John Bura, Auxiliary Bishop of Philadelphia and Bishop Basil Losten, Bishop-Emeritus of Stamford. The main theme of this year's assembly were liturgical matters.

The meeting commenced on 10 November with an address by Archbishop Carlo Maria Vigano, Apostolic Nuncio to the United States followed by the first presidential address of Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz of Louisville, Kentucky, President of the USCCB, who was elected in November of last year. Archbishop Kurtz told his brother bishops that "as pastors, we accompany so many families who face their own fears and concerns and who yearn to experience the love of Jesus in and through his loving family – the Church. Evangelizing means witnessing to our hope in Jesus."

One of the hallmarks of this year's meeting was the celebration on 10 November of a Holy Mass in honor of the 225th anniversary of the Archdiocese of Baltimore at the city's Basilica of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary – the "premier see" or first Catholic diocese founded in the United States.

In addition to participating in the general session, the Eastern bishops met to discuss issues related to the life and ministry of the Eastern Catholic Churches in the United States. Daily Divine Liturgies included the celebration of the Chaldean Liturgy for all the attending Bishops.

Department of Information of the UGCC

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

Holy Name Society Banner

On Saturday November 8, after the 5:00 p.m. Liturgy, a new Holy Name Society banner was blessed. The banner was purchased at Byzantine Church Supplies in Philadelphia, and will be used mainly for processions, both inside and outside of the church building. The Holy Name Society of the Assumption Ukrainian Catholic Church in Perth Amboy, NJ is a fraternal organization dedicated to the sacred name of Jesus Christ. Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month to plan various activities and events. Every member brings his own unique talent or skill to the group. Fundraisers are conducted and most of the



profits are spent on Assumption Parish needs. Over the years the Holy Name Society has sponsored children's events such as St. Nicholas programs, Halloween parties, and Easter Egg Hunts. The Holy Name has also organized parish picnics, baseball outings and family bowling. Work projects include decorating the church for the Christmas season, working at the Parish Festival, readying the cemetery for Memorial Day, moving tables and chairs in the school auditorium before dances, and various repair and odd jobs done at no cost to the church. The members enjoy social events twice a year: the Christmas party and Holy Name Picnic. Members also pray together, and support members in times of personal tragedy. If you would like to join the Holy Name Society, contact Fr. Ivan at 732-827-0767, any member, or just come to the next meeting!

Young Pyrohy Workers

Some of the youngest pyrohy makers in the entire Philadelphia Archeparchy are found in St. Michael's parish, Frackville, Pa. Here (left to right) Johnny Meridionale, Michael Spotts, Petro Pitula and Nicholas Meridionale display their culinary skills in making this favorite Ukrainian delicacy.



Blessed Josaphata icon, relic resumes church visits

BY JOHN E. USALIS,
Republican Herald

November 13, 2014

SHENANDOAH — The pilgrimage icon with an embedded first class relic of Blessed Josaphata Hordashevka returned to the area on Wednesday to travel to local churches and a school through Nov. 25.

The icon and relic returned for a two-day visit to St. Michael Ukrainian Catholic Church in Shenandoah on Wednesday and today, after which it will move to churches in Schuylkill, Northumberland and Columbia counties.

The appearance of the icon/relic on Wednesday coincided with the feast day of St. Josaphat, after whom Josaphata took her religious name when the order of the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate was founded in cooperation with Father Jeremiah Lomnytsky and Father Kyrylo (Cyril) Seletsky. The order is the first apostolic women's congregation in the Ukrainian Catholic Church.

The icon/relic came to Schuylkill County on

Nov. 8 for one day at St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church in Saint Clair. Afterward, it left for other regional churches.

The icon and relic of the co-foundress of SSMI has been in the United States since Oct. 5 as part of a worldwide tour to countries where the sisters are serving. It will be in the United States until January 2015 when it will continue its tour around the world to return to Rome in 2017 in time for the 125th anniversary of the founding of the religious order.

The word "relic" comes from the Latin "relinquo," which translates to "I abandon" or "I leave." There are three classes of relics, the first class consisting of a part of the saint, such a bone or hair, or something identified from the Passion of Jesus Christ, such as a part of the Cross. In this case, the relic is a small piece of bone from the body of Blessed Josaphata.

A second class relic consists of something owned by the saint, such as clothing or a book. A third class relic can be something that has been touched to a first or second class relic,



Monsignor Myron Grabowsky, pastor, holds the icon of Blessed Josaphata Hordashevka, foundress of the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate (SSMI), as people pay tribute to her after liturgy at St. Michael Ukrainian Catholic Church in Shenandoah Wednesday, November 12, 2014. (Photo by Jacqueline Dörner)

including the person's tomb.

Josaphata was beatified by Pope St. John Paul II in 2001 during his visit to Ukraine. At least one miracle has been attributed to her intercession leading to her beatification. One more miracle is necessary for her canonization as a saint in the Catholic Church.

The visit to St. Michael's began with the celebration of a Divine Liturgy by Monsignor Myron Grabowsky, pastor, with prayers chanted by cantor Theresa Panchison. Members of the Fourth Degree

Knights of Columbus Schuylkill Assembly 0923 attended in regalia as an honor guard.

During the Divine Liturgy, Sister Natalya Stoczanyn, SSMI, from the order's Immaculate Conception Province and who is serving in the South Anthracite Protopresbytery (deanery) of the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia, spoke after the homily about the life of Michaelina Hordashevka, who was born on Nov. 20, 1869. After the Divine Liturgy, the icon was held by

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Blessed Josaphata icon, relic resumes church visits

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Monsignor Grabowsky as people came up to venerate the icon by kissing it. Students from the third and seventh grades at Trinity Academy visited and were told the story of Josaphata by Stoczany.

Stoczany said the pilgrimage icon and relic is a way for Josaphata to come to areas where the SSMI sisters are serving that she was not able to travel to due to her death at age 49. "She lived such a short amount of time. She got sick so soon and she never had the chance

to be where the sisters were," Stoczany said. "So this is part of her being with our people and her spirit being with those places and the people the sisters came to work with."

She explained there are additional first class relics at different locations in the world.

"Every province, and there are about 12 provinces, has a relic in their motherhouse," Stoczany said. "There is one that I know of in the Ukrainian cathedral in Philadelphia and, of

course, in Rome."

The visit of the icon and relic fills a spiritual need for people in the world.

"There are all sorts of blessings. In a world that is in need of goodness and holiness, being in the presence of someone who reminds us of the goodness of God is truly a gift and a blessing in itself," Stoczany said.

Biographical information on Josaphata is available at the SSMI website at www.ssmi-us.org.

Founded in Ukraine in

1892, the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate is a Byzantine Ukrainian Catholic congregation of more than 900 sisters and has ministries in 13 countries: Ukraine, Brazil, Canada, Serbia, Slovakia, Poland, Argentina, Italy, Germany, France, England, Australia and the United States. The order's ministries include education, care of the elderly, retreats, sewing vestments and pastoral ministry.

<http://republicanherald.com>

Blessed Josaphata Icon & Relic Travels to SS. Cyril and Methodius Ukrainian Catholic Church, Olyphant, PA

The Special Traveling Icon and Relic of Blessed Josaphata Hordashevska visited SS. Cyril and Methodius Ukrainian Catholic Church, Olyphant, PA on Sunday November 9, 2014. Blessed Josaphata was the Foundress of the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate. Blessed Josaphata was beatified by St. John Paul II in 2001, during his visit to Ukraine. For more information contact The Sister Servants of Mary Immaculate, Slotsburg, New York, www.ssmi-us.org and (845)753-2840.



Photo: Sister Zenovia Chmilian and Sister Natalya Stoczany of the Sister Servants Mary Immaculate accompanied the icon on its visit. At right is Rev. Nestor Iwasiw, pastor of SS. Cyril's.

Mt. Carmel Religious Education Students Portray Their Favorite Saints during Halloween Social

Mt. Carmel, Pa.--

On Monday, October 27 religious education students of Ss. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church here held a special Halloween party.

Each student dressed as their patron or favorite saint and presented a short history of that saint for their fellow students. Immediately after all their presentations they enjoyed a "All Saints/

Halloween" social with traditional Halloween games and hot and cold refreshments. The entire parish family was invited to join the children that evening and share in the fun.



News from Clifton Heights, PA

"Special Christmas Kielbasi & Nut Roll Sale"

Since we are busy packing for the move to our new church facilities in Swarthmore, we can only support an abbreviated version of our Traditional Slavic Christmas Food Sale. We are offering mouth-watering, high quality kielbasa for the unbelievably low price of only \$11.00 per ring or 4 links for \$8.00. In addition, we have Poppyseed and Apricot Rolls for \$12.00 each. For your convenience, we are able to accept your orders via email. To place your Kielbasa & Nut Roll orders, please email us at SSPeterandPaul@verizon.net or call Kathy at (610) 328-4731 by Monday, December 8th. Pickup will be at noon on Sunday, December 14th at our Church which is located at 100 South Penn Street in Clifton Heights, PA.

"Annual Food Collection for the Needy" - Now through December 14th

Over the last seven years, several pickup truckloads of food were collected and provided to the community by the parish during the Christmas season. Due to the continued hard economic conditions, Ss. Peter & Paul Catholic Church, 100 South Penn Street, Clifton Heights, will hold its "Annual Food Collection" for the needy in the community from now through Sunday, December 14th. Anyone wishing to donate any canned or boxed, non-perishable food items should bring them to the Church on any Sunday before/after the 11:00 am. English Divine Liturgy. Given the harsh economic conditions currently being experienced, we appreciate anyone's help in this worthwhile effort. It will be through your efforts that we aim for matching or exceeding our last Christmas season's collection. Please help us help, if you can!

“Called to Be Living Icons” is theme of League of Ukrainian Catholics Convention

The following material was written by Ms. Marion Hrubec, National President of the League of Ukrainian Catholics pertaining to the LUC National Convention which was conducted in Johnstown PA October 10 to 12, 2014.

CALLED TO BE LIVING ICONS

The theme “Called to be Living Icons” was the focus of the 76th Annual National Convention of the League of Ukrainian Catholics of America in every aspect – sharing with each other our faith, our heritage and ourselves.

Friday saw the arrival of delegates and members meeting and greeting each other and introducing themselves to the members of the newly formed All Saints Chapter in Johnstown, PA. Hospitality abounded from arriving at the registration desk to stepping into the “Hospitality” suite. Members were offered many choices of homemade soups to luscious baked goods. Sharing and laughter was the highlight of the time spent together.

The general business meeting was called to order by Mary Ann Varholic, Convention Co-Chairperson. The agenda was presented with positive responses from the delegates. One main order of business was the approval of a resolution presented to the National Board regarding aid to Ukraine in this time of crisis. At this meeting, the selection of the convention site for 2015 was presented and accepted. A convention committee will be developed from three area Councils – Garden State, South Anthracite and the newly formed St. John Paul II Council.

That evening, prior to the festivities, LUC members gathered together to show their solidarity and remembrance of our brethren in Ukraine in thought and prayer as they continue to struggle amid rising tensions and fresh violence triggered by Russia’s aggression and direct involvement in destabilizing Ukraine.

The welcome party brought us in the company of several “ghouls” who were out trying to solve the mystery of who killed Ezmarelda the Witch. Dinner included participation in a “Dinner Murder Mystery” play which was enjoyed by all, especially those who solved the crime.



Photo: (Back row): Msgr. John Stevensky, Past National Spiritual Director; Rose Marie Drahusz, Wilmerding, PA; Father Mark Mozorowich, Interim Provost and Associate Professor of Liturgical Studies and Sacramental Theology, Catholic University of America, Washington, DC; Paul Hancher and Marie Hancher, Frackville, PA; Maurice Nazaruk, Altoona, PA; Marion Hrubec, National President, Saddle Brook, NJ, (Front Row): Lee Ann Mackar, Baltimore, MD and Vera Nazaruk, Altoona, PA

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“Called to Be Living Icons” is theme of League of Ukrainian Catholics Convention

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Saturday took us to the Protection of the Mother of God parish in Revloc, PA. Here we gathered in prayer with a Moleben to the Mother of God followed by a Panachyda for the deceased members of the League and their families. Immediately following Moleben, all gathered in the parish hall for a workshop presented by a local Iconographer Cheryl Pituch. What a wonderful lesson in understanding our Icons and how we become one with each that we venerate. Lunch was served in the parish hall followed by a scenic tour of the area which was ablaze with the colors of Fall. We spent time at the National Johnstown Flood Memorial which after viewing the video and seeing the area, gave everyone an understanding of the devastation that took place 125 years ago.

Returning to the hotel, all prepared for attending the Divine Liturgy celebrated by Bishop John Bura with Bishop Paul Chomnycky, Msgr. John Stevensky, Fr. Marijan Procyk, Fr. Andrew Krasulski, Fr. Mark Morozowich and Fr. Oravetz con-celebrating at St. John the Baptist parish.

The evening banquet brought us the keynote address by Very Rev. Dr. Mark Morozowich who continued the theme “Icons-Walking & Talking: Liturgy’s Transformative Power”. Fr. Mark showed us how we are living Icons walking through life with each other and the need to recognize the Christ in all of us.

Elaine Nowady was called upon to do the presentation of the Annual Burse Awards along with the awarding of the Schools Endowment Award. Bishop Bura was called upon to present the League of Ukrainian Catholics of America Charter to the membership of the newly formed All Saints Chapter, which was accepted by Mrs. Jean Krasulski, President. The evening progressed with music, laughter and the drawings for the many wonderful gift baskets provided through the generosity of many.

The many new members along with some former members and the delegates spent time with each other, renewing old friendships, excited about the renewal spirit of this convention, taking the League into it’s 82nd year.

The close of the Convention took place at the Communion Brunch following the Divine Liturgy. At this time, the traveling Icon of Christ and the LUC “Welcome” banner was passed on to the Tri-Council Committee preparing them for the upcoming 2015 Convention.

Pope Francis: I will go to Philadelphia for the World Meeting of Families

(Vatican Radio) Pope Francis on Monday confirmed he will be attending the World Meeting of Families in Philadelphia next year.

“I wish to confirm according to the wishes of the Lord, that in September of 2015, I will go to Philadelphia for the World Meeting of Families,” said Pope Francis. “Thank you for your prayers with which you accompany my service to the Church. Bless you from my heart.”

The World Meeting of Families takes place September 22-27, 2015, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (USA), and has as its theme “Love is Our Mission: The Family fully alive.”

<http://en.radiovaticana.va>

SISTERS OF ST BASIL THE GREAT HOLD FALL MEETINGS

Basilian Sister members of the Jesus Lover of Humanity Province gathered at the Fox Chase, PA, Motherhouse October 31 to November 2, 2014, for a weekend of prayer, reflection and discussion.

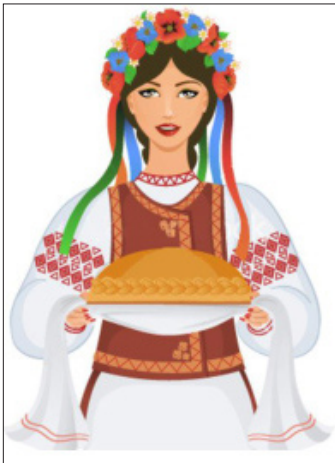
Following the theme "Envisioning a Future Filled With Hope: Our Legacy", and guided by Facilitator Sister Carol Marozzi, SSJ, the Sisters engaged in discussions centering on mission effectiveness, the Basilian Legacy program, and psychological and spiritual transformation. Also included were evaluations of the Sisters' recent Fall Pilgrimage, attendance at the October Archeparchial Sobor, and the current collaborative program with the Holy Trinity Province in Ukraine. The Sisters also voted for delegates to the 2015 Provincial Chapter of Elections and surfaced issues for Chapter consideration.

In her closing remarks, Provincial Superior Sister Dorothy Ann Busowski, OSBM, reminded the community that the Province is at a "change point". "We have harvested our past and have harvested it well. And now it is time to plant once again."

Before dispersing, all were asked to keep in mind the 2015 World Meeting of Families taking place in Philadelphia next Fall and also the Catholic Church's proclaiming 2015 as the Year of Consecrated Life. Both spiritual observances will be acknowledged at upcoming Province events.

Phoenixville holds Ukrainian Day Festival

A beautiful sunny and warm fall day, delicious food, and fun entertainment were the ingredients needed for the second annual Sts Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church Ukrainian Day Festival in Phoenixville on September 27, 2014. The festivities started with the singing of our national anthem followed by Ukraine's anthem song by the church choir under the leadership of Marusia Dombchewsky, choir director. Father Stepan Bilyk then offered a prayer thanking God for the lovely day. Over 500 people came to the fun-filled festival. There were raffle baskets, flea market, vendors, and games for the children. A special exhibit of paintings done by Ukrainian artists could be seen at the Church Ukrainian Center. There was dancing to the music of Stan Kosiv and Iryna Lonchyna sang beautiful Ukrainian songs that were enjoyed by everyone. And, of course, people were waiting in long lines anxiously wanting to eat the homemade food.



The day ended with people casually gathering around singing songs accompanied by Bohdonna Jarosewicz on the bandura.

Pyrohy for Christmas Eve Holy Supper - Scranton, PA

St. Vladimir Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church of Scranton is sponsoring a homemade pyrohy sale on Saturday, December 6, 2014 from 2:00 to 6:00pm in the Parish Center, 428 North Seventh Avenue. These are freshly made that day, are not frozen and are reasonably priced at \$7.00 per dozen.

Orders must be placed no later than Monday, December 1 and are being taken by Leslie at 570 342-3749

Home Made Bake Sale in time for Thanksgiving Day at SS. Cyril and Methodius Ukrainian Catholic Church, Olyphant, Pa.

Saint Cyril and Methodius Ukrainian Catholic Church, Olyphant, Pa is sponsoring a "Home-made" Bake Sale by the Ladies and Parishioners of the Church. It will be held on Saturday, November 22, 2014 from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. and Sunday, November 23rd from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Held at the School Gym, 133 River Street, Olyphant, Pa, (free parking across the street). All are invited to come!!!



Veterans Day in Olyphant, PA

Veteran's Day, Tuesday, November 11, 2014 services were held by the Olyphant American Legion, Raymond Henry Post #327. Service started at 11:00 a.m. with the invocation by Rev. Nestor Iwasiw, Pastor of SS. Cyril and Methodius Ukrainian Catholic Church, Olyphant. The Guest Speaker was The Mayor of Olyphant, John Sedlak Jr. The American Flag was passed out to all the visitors to the ceremony at the Olyphant Monument of WWI, WWII, Korean and Vietnam War Heroes who gave their life for our country.



The Mayor of Olyphant, John Sedlak Jr. stands along side of the Commander Stephen Grassetti of the American Legion, Raymond Henry Post #327 and Rev. Nestor Iwasiw of SS. Cyril and Methodius Ukrainian Catholic Church, Olyphant, PA in front of the Olyphant Monument honoring all war heroes.



American Legionnaire Bob Bartosh, plays taps at the services, with (left to right) Mayor John Sedlak Jr., Rev. Nestor Iwasiw, Cathy Curran, President of the Ladies auxiliary of American Legion Post #327 and Marion Bartosh.

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!

Ukrainian Catholic National Shrine of the Holy Family CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

November 22 and 23, 2014

10:00 am - 4:00 pm Saturday 10:30 am - 3:30 pm Sunday

Holiday and Other Crafts



Traditional Ukrainian Crafts, Gifts, Sweets!

Fine Ukrainian Collectable Books!

U.S. Park Police Horse on Saturday!

Pysanka Kits!

Icons and Other Religious Items!

Enjoy a delicious Ukrainian-style lunch while browsing for books, music, holiday and specialty items, and more! Enjoy traditional borscht, holubtsi, varenyky/perogi, kovbasa, and nalsynyk/crêpes - eat here or take home!

Ukrainian Christmas Carol Mini-Concert - Sunday at 1:30 p.m.

- Solomia Dutkewych, Soprano
- Larisa Pastuchiv-Martin, Bandura Player
- SPIV-Zhyttya, a capella Ukrainian music

4250 Harewood Road, NE, Washington, DC 20017

202-526-3737 ~ www.ucns-holyfamily.org

Accessible from the Brookland-CUA Red Line Metro Stop
Wheelchair Accessible

Sunday Divine Liturgies: 9:00 a.m. English | 11:30 a.m. Ukrainian
4:30 p.m. English (Vigil-Liturgy Saturday) Bazaar weekend only

New Year's Zabava

Assumption Catholic School Auditorium
380 Meredith St., Perth Amboy, NJ 08861

Wednesday, December 31, 2014 at 8:00 p.m.

The fabulous buffet dinner served all evening includes:

Music by "OBEREHY"

Tickets - \$80.00 per person

Children (5-12) - \$40.00

Tickets after Dec. 25, - \$90.00

For Tickets call 732-826-0767

Or 202-368-2408

Each ticket is a chance to WIN an HD TV

No refunds - No tickets at the door

- Main Courses**
- Stuffed Salmon
 - French Style Pork
 - Roasted Chicken
 - Chicken with Barbeque Sauce
 - Chicken Loaf
 - Meatloaf
 - Stuffed Cabbage
 - Pyrohy
 - Roasted Potatoes
 - Cheese Blintzes
 - Puffs with Meat
 - Mushroom Gravy
 - Borsht
- European Salads**
- Salad Olivier
 - Cold Feet (Studynets)
 - Shuba
 - Carrot Salad with Raisins
 - Cold Cuts
 - Pickled Cucumbers and Tomatoes
 - Rye Bread and Butter
- Desserts**
- Cakes and Fresh Fruits
- Free Champagne!!!**

Christmas Bazaar Базар РІЗДВЯНИЙ DECEMBER 6-7, 2014

The Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church
Old York & Valley Roads Elkins Park, PA

Saturday 10:00AM - 7:00PM

Sunday 10:00AM - 2:00PM

Featuring:

- ◆ HOLY SUPPER - "СВЯТА ВЕЧЕРА" TABLE
- ◆ HOME-BAKED CAKES AND COOKIES
- ◆ UKRAINIAN TABLE: CDS, CHRISTMAS CARDS, EMBROIDERIES, CERAMICS
- ◆ FOOD COURT SERVING TRADITIONAL UKRAINTAN "PIEROGIES & HOLUBTSI"
- ◆ RAFFLE & REFRESHMENTS



In Parma, on the day of the celebration of the eparchial and cathedral feast day, the faithful welcomed their new Eparch and thanked the eparchy's former Apostolic Administrator

Monday, 10 November 2014

November 9, 2014, on the occasion of the celebration of the cathedral and eparchial feast day, in the Cathedral of Saint Josaphat in Parma, Ohio (USA) the newly ordained Ordinary of the Eparchy of St. Josaphat in Parma, Bishop Bohdan Danylo presided over his first Sunday Divine Liturgy since his enthronement on the eparchial see. Bishop Bohdan was joined in the Eucharistic celebration by Bishop John Bura, until recently the eparchy's Apostolic Administrator. A large number of clergy, consecrated persons and the laity likewise partook in the Liturgy.



After the liturgy, a festive dinner with an artistic program took place in the eparchial Chancery's banquet hall during which some representatives of the clergy and the laity welcomed, in a family atmosphere, Bishop Bohdan as their newly enthroned Eparch and thanked Bishop John for the many years of his fatherly sacrificial work for the good of the eparchy after which Bishop Bohdan and Bishop John addressed people with a word of thanks.

Department of Information of the UGCC

<http://news.ugcc.ua/>

Church to open Year for Consecrated Life

(Vatican Radio) The Catholic Church will open the Year for Consecrated Life on the first Sunday of Advent, with a Mass at St. Peter's Basilica.

Cardinal Joao Braz de Aviz, prefect of the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life, will preside in the name of Pope Francis, who will be still on his apostolic trip to Turkey that day.

The first Sunday of Advent, which this year falls on 30 November, marks the start of the Church's liturgical year. The Mass to inaugurate the Year for Consecrated Life will begin at 10 a.m.

<http://en.radiovaticana.va>



Cardinal Joao Braz de Aviz, prefect for the Congregation for Institutes for Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life

Ukraine Rising



14 November 2014

“This is not only about us; this is also about you”: a church leader on his country’s struggle for freedom. By George Weigel

Weigel: What are the most essential governmental reforms for the future of Ukrainian civil society?

Shevchuk: Twenty years ago, there was a big debate in Ukraine over whether “civil society” really exists in our country. In the Soviet Union, the dictatorship of the Communist party suffocated both the lives of individuals and their right to undertake social initiatives. The Revolution of Dignity, by contrast, witnessed an explosion of civil society in Ukraine, and the Church was explaining the Christian idea of the source of state authority: Individuals and civil society delegate the right to govern to public officials through the mechanism of free, democratic elections. That is why there must be fundamental reforms in the electoral law in Ukraine. Public authorities are to serve civil society, not be served by it, and certainly not by manipulating the desires, fears, needs, and trust of our people. A Christian notion of social diakonia [service] ought to be at the foundation of the political culture and democratic institutions of a free country.

Weigel: Is the task of uprooting the “culture of corruption” in Ukraine one that can be completed in a generation?

Shevchuk: To be candid, I doubt it. For many generations, the corruption of politicians and state authorities was a means of subduing the people of Ukraine, and simple people acquiesced to that system in order to protect themselves against an oppressive state. We see the results of that today, when mothers pay bribes to military officials, asking them not to send their children into ATO (anti-terrorist operations) in Ukraine. It will take a long time to heal those moral wounds in our society and to convince Ukrainians that their country is a motherland that protects them and creates an environment that respects their dignity and fosters the development of their natural gifts. It will take a long time to convince state officials to understand that they are not the patrons of slaves but the servants of the common good.

Weigel: How did Metropolitan Hilarion’s intervention at the extraordinary synod of 2014 strike you?

Shevchuk: I was disappointed and hurt because a high representative of a Christian church misinformed a synod of the Catholic Church. True ecumenism is supposed to be based on mutual respect and a sincere striving for the truth. In a time of foreign aggression against Ukraine, Christian hierarchs should be those who are apostles of peace and reconciliation, not those sent to attack.

Weigel: How does your Church respond to the charge from the Moscow Patriarchate that it has been involved in “politics” over the past year?

Shevchuk: Our response is our stance, and our cooperation with the churches of Ukraine in the last year. Our Church never was involved in Ukrainian politics, as many Orthodox were. We never supported any political party or politician. But we are and will be active in civil society.

(continued on next page)

Ukraine Rising

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Orthodox social doctrine does not make a clear distinction between civil society and political activity; Orthodox theory knows only the church–state relationship, not the church–society relationship. That is why Metropolitan Hilarion sees our work of evangelization and our service to civil society as “politics.”

Weigel: To those familiar with the history of the “Lviv Sobor,” it seemed as if Metropolitan Hilarion was tacitly affirming that “council” as a genuine ecclesial act, although all competent historians regard it as an action directed by the NKVD. How do you briefly explain, to those who don’t know the story, the sequence from the “Lviv Sobor” to today?

Shevchuk: From the juridical point of view, the Lviv Sobor in 1946 was an instrument of oppression aimed at the liquidation of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church in the Soviet Union. Any attempt to present such a gathering as free and spontaneous, especially during the reign of Stalin, is simply a lie — and an act of injustice. For that “Sobor” was a gathering of Ukrainian Greek Catholic priests, led by Russian Orthodox bishops who forced those priests to abandon the Catholic Church.

From the ecclesiastical point of view, that “Sobor” was a harsh and brazen act of Orthodox proselytism, in which millions of Ukrainian Catholics were forced under fear of death, torture, and exile to join Russian Orthodox Church.

Weigel: What are the most important things Ukraine’s friends in the West can do for the country in the next six months? In the next year?

Shevchuk: Ukraine is now facing foreign aggression, a kind of “hybrid war” involving a non-declared military invasion, serious economic pressure, and a huge campaign of disinformation. Ukraine is the victim of this aggression, and I would ask our friends worldwide, in the name of justice and Christian solidarity, to stand behind those who are oppressed in Ukraine. Be in solidarity with the nation that was oppressed for so many years and is now rising up to reclaim its dignity. Help us to defend freedom and democracy in Ukraine. Because in today’s globalized world, this is not only about us; this is also about you. Help us spread the truth about the situation in Ukraine around the world. As Christians, we are convinced that the proclamation of Truth can be more powerful than weapons, and more liberating than any human power.



George Weigel is Distinguished Senior Fellow of Washington’s Ethics and Public Policy Center, where he holds the William E. Simon Chair in Catholic Studies

<http://news.ugcc.ua/>
<http://www.nationalreview.com/>

BISHOPS OF THE UGCC AND RCC IN UKRAINE ADDRESSED THE FAITHFUL WITH THREE APPEALS

17 November 2014

Roman and Greek Catholic bishops issued a joint communique in which they address the congregation with a call for peace and remind the newly elected MPs of their responsibility to the community and share their views on the family.

The Catholic bishops of both rites had a joint retreat in Lviv-Bryukhovychi on November 10-13, then they held a joint conference of both episcopates. The result was a communique in which the hierarchs tell about “three very important and relevant issues at this time in Ukraine and worldwide.”



The first of them is a call for peace that the bishops set forth. “The call for peace is based on truth and justice, it comes from the depths of our hearts. How much suffering, how much destruction, how much pain has been caused and is now caused by the use of weapons in our region,” goes the message. The bishops reminded that violence will never lead to peace and war entails war.

Catholic hierarchs of Ukraine asked the faithful of unceasing prayer so that everyone laid down their arms.

One more issue of discussion at the Conference of Bishops was the latest parliamentary elections. The bishops stressed that the Motherland needed responsible, sincere and honest people. “That’s why we remind to all those whom the voters trust to take care not only of their own interests, but of common welfare, which is to be built on what is considered godly and necessary for the country,” states the document.

The third issue, on which the bishops’ attention was focused during a joint conference was the Synod on the family that had taken place in Rome lately. The bishops repeated the words of the Synodal Fathers with a prayer for a decent life and development of families in the world of truth, justice and mercy.

“Dear Brothers and Sisters! We strive to the kind of a world, the families in it who express their respect through gratitude and responsibility for the remarkable vocation of married life.” With these words and a call to build a home church with prayer and own example the bishops concluded his message, as reported by CREDO.

http://risu.org.ua/en/index/all_news/state/national_religious_question/58233/

December 2014 - Грудня 2014

Happy Birthday!

3 Днем народження!

December 7: Rev. Stepan Bilyk
December 17: Rev. Mykola Ivanov
December 21: Rev. Deacon Michael Waak
December 21: Rev. Orest Kunderevych

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

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



Congratulations on your Anniversary of Priesthood!

Вітаємо з Річницею Священства!

December 6: Rev. Volodymyr Kostyuk
(16th Anniversary)
December 10: Rev. D. George Worschak
(36th Anniversary)
December 11: Rev. Ihor Royik
(22nd Anniversary)
December 19: Rev. Andriy Rabiyy
(13th Anniversary)
December 20: Rev. Ihor Bloshchynskyy
(11th 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!**

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