

THE WAY ШЛЯХ

Official Publication of the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia

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ENGLISH VERSION

Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia Clergy gather together for Spring Conference

The Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia Spring Clergy Conference at St. Stephen's Ukrainian Catholic Church, Toms River, New Jersey was held on Thursday, April 30, 2015.

During the Conference Metropolitan Stefan concluded with a Moleben Prayer Service before the icon and relic of Blessed Bishop Mykola Charnetsky, CSsR, with anointing of the clergy for healing by Metropolitan Archbishop Stefan Soroka and the deans of the Philadelphia Archeparchy.



Photo (l to r): Father John Seniw, Father Robert Hitchens, Father Taras Lonchyna, Father Alexander Dumenko, Metropolitan Stefan Soroka, Father Andriy Rabi, Father Ivan Demkiv, and Father Michael Hutsko.

Highlights inside this issue:

Metropolitan Stefan's Announcements of Transfers of Clergy- Pg. 4
Report of the 2014 Archieparchial Sobor now available - Pg. 12

Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia Clergy gather together for Spring Conference

(continued from previous page)

At the Spring Clergy Conference of the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia, held Thursday, April 30, 2015 at St. Stephen's Ukrainian Catholic Church, Toms River, New Jersey, Metropolitan Stefan Soroka recognized the clergy who were celebrating their jubilarian anniversaries and presented certificates to the jubilarian priests who were in attendance.

The jubiliarians are: Rev. Roman Dubitsky (50th anniversary), Rev. Edward Levandusky (50th anniversary), Rev. Uriy Markewych (50th anniversary), V. Rev. Archmandrite Joseph Lee (45th anniversary), Rev. Volodymyr Baran, (30th anniversary), Rev. Leonid Malkov, CSsR. (25th anniversary), Rev. Deacon Donald Latrick (25th anniversary), Rev. Deacon Theophil Staruch (25th anniversary), Rev. Andriy Dudkevych (20th anniversary), Rev. Deacon Theodore Spotts (15th anniversary), Rev. Petro Zvarych (15th anniversary), Rev. Mykola Bychok, C.Ss.R (10th anniversary), Rev. Mykola Ivanov (10th anniversary) and Rev. Paul Makar (5th anniversary). May God grant them many happy and blessed years. Mnohaya lita! Christ Is Risen!



**Rev. Roman Dubitsky
(50th anniversary)**



**Rev. Volodymyr Baran
(30th anniversary)**



**Rev. Leonid Malkov, CSsR.
(25th anniversary)**



**Rev. Andriy Dudkevych
(20th anniversary)**



**Rev. Petro Zvarych
(15th anniversary)**



**Rev. Mykola Ivanov
(10th anniversary)**



**Rev. Paul Makar
(5th anniversary)**

Scenes from the Spring Clergy Conference of the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia held Thursday, April 30, 2015 in Toms River, New Jersey.



METROPOLITAN STEFAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS OF TRANSFERS OF CLERGY



Rev. Mirchuk

1. Effective June 30th, 2015 Very Rev. Archpriest Mitrat Roman Mirchuk is relieved of his duties and responsibilities as Pastor of St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church in Whippany, NJ. At his request, an extended leave of absence has been granted to allow his long-held desire to offer ministry in Ukraine.



Rev. Bilyk

2. Effective June 30th, 2015, Rev. Stepan Bilyk is relieved of his duties and responsibilities as Pastor of Ss. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church in Phoenixville, PA. Effective July 1st, 2015, Rev. Stepan Bilyk assumes the duties and responsibilities as Pastor of St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church in Whippany, NJ



Rev. Raby

3. Effective June 30th, 2015, Very Rev. Andriy Raby is relieved of his duties and responsibilities as Administrator of St. Michael Ukrainian Catholic Church in Pottstown, PA.

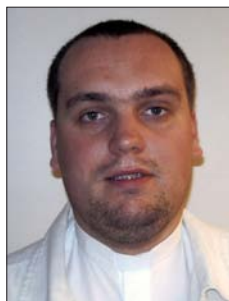
4. Effective June 30th, 2015, Rev. Ihor Royik is relieved of his duties and responsibilities as Pastor of Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church in Melrose Park, PA. Effective July 1st, 2015, Rev. Ihor Royik assumes the duties and responsibilities as Pastor of Ss. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church in Phoenixville, PA and Administrator of St. Michael Ukrainian Catholic Church in Pottstown, PA.



Rev. Royik

5. Effective June 30th, 2015, Rev. Ihor Bloschynskyy is relieved of his duties and responsibilities as Pastor of St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Church in Philadelphia, PA. Effective July 1st, 2015, Rev. Ihor Bloschynskyy assumes the duties and responsibilities as Pastor of Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church in Melrose Park, PA.

6. Effective June 30th, 2015, St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic parish in Philadelphia will be closed. A letter explaining this decision will be given to the current parishioners.



Rev. Bloschynskyy

7. Effective June 30th, 2015, Rev. Gregory Maslak is relieved of his duties and responsibilities as Pastor of Protection of Mother of God Ukrainian Catholic Church in Bristol, PA. Effective July 1st, 2015, Rev. Gregory Maslak is to

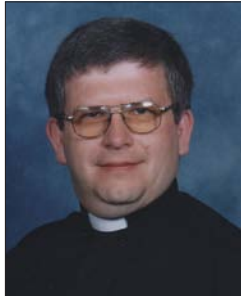
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METROPOLITAN STEFAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS OF TRANSFERS OF CLERGY

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Rev. Maslak



Rev. Demkiv



Rev. Szupa



Rev. Fields



Rev. Pasicznyk

assume the duties and responsibilities as Senior Priest under the direction of the Rector of the Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Philadelphia, Pa.

8. Effective June 30th, 2015, Rev. Ivan Demkiv is relieved of his duties and responsibilities as Rector of the Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. Effective July 1st, 2015, Rev. Ivan Demkiv assumes the duties and responsibilities as Pastor of Protection of Mother of God Ukrainian Catholic Church in Bristol, PA.

9. Effective July 1st, 2015, Very Rev. Joseph Szupa, Chancellor, will assume the duties and responsibilities as Rector of the Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Philadelphia, PA.

10. Effective July 1st, 2015, Very Rev. John Fields, Director of the Office of Communications, will assume the duties and responsibilities as Director of the Office of Religious Education and Evangelization for the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia.

11. Effective July 1st, 2015, Rev. Walter Pasicznyk, is to assume duties and responsibilities as Assistant to the Director of the Office of Religious Education and Evangelization, and Assistant to the Rector of the Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. Rev. Walter Pasicznyk will also serve as coordinator for the Under the Golden Dome program overseeing visits and tours to the Cathedral and the Treasury of Faith Ukrainian Catholic Museum.

We thank the clergy and faithful for their cooperation in responding to the changing needs of parishes and the archeparchy. Changes are difficult and challenging, made less stressful when we understand the larger picture of the needs of the Church and its people. The peace of the Risen Christ be with all!

May 5, 2015
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PENTECOST COLLECTION FOR MISSIONS

“Go and Make Disciples of All Nations” (Mt 28:19)

Our Ukrainian Catholic Church is responding to Christ’s command to “go and make disciples of all nations”. (Mt 28:19) Patriarch Sviatoslav and the Bishops of our Church endeavor to provide ministry to people residing in developing missions in eastern Ukraine, in Europe, in areas of the Middle East and Africa, and North America. Your generous assistance is needed to support clergy and religious to serve these missions and to aid in the development of these new missions. An annual collection will be taken at Pentecost for this purpose. Please use the specially prepared envelopes provided for this purpose in your parish. You may also send your gift to the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia, 827 N Franklin Street, Philadelphia, PA 19123. Tax receipts will be issued. God bless all who generously care for the souls of others!



Pentecost

Sunday of the Holy Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council - May 17, 2015

After Jesus said this, he looked toward heaven and prayed: “Father, the time has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you. For you granted him authority over all people that he might give eternal life to all those you have given him. Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. I have brought you glory on earth by completing the work you gave me to do. And now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began. “I have revealed you to those whom you gave me out of the world. They were yours; you gave them to me and they have obeyed your word. Now they know that everything you have given me comes from you. For I gave them the words you gave me and they accepted them. They knew with certainty that I came from you, and they believed that you sent me. I pray for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me, for they are yours. All I have is yours, and all you have is mine. And glory has come to me through them. I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them by the power of your



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Sunday of the Holy Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council

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name—the name you gave me—so that they may be one as we are one. While I was with them, I protected them and kept them safe by that name you gave me. None has been lost except the one doomed to destruction so that Scripture would be fulfilled. “I am coming to you now, but I say these things while I am still in the world, so that they may have the full measure of my joy within them. (Jn. 17, 1-13)

The Sunday before Pentecost is called on our church calendar the Sunday of the Holy Fathers. On this day each year we are asked to remember what our fathers did: specifically the 318 Church Fathers who came together in 325 AD in Nicea to form the First Ecumenical Council. The Emperor Constantine had just put an end to the bloody, three hundred-year persecution of the Church, during which 11 million Christians gave their lives for Christ. Christians now began coming out of the catacombs to worship in churches. These 318 bishops came together to define the teachings of Christ which were being challenged by false teachers. They gave us, among other things, the Nicene Creed, the summary of our faith, which is still read at every Divine Liturgy. Our Church is often called the Church of the Fathers because she maintains a living connection with these early Church fathers. We are not a Church that was instituted a few years ago, or even a few centuries ago. As Ukrainian Christians, we have inherited all the experience of 21 centuries of Christian living and thinking and believing. We have behind us hundreds of believing men and women of every culture and tongue who witnesses to the truth of the Gospel, often dying for it in order to hand it down to us. That is why when we Eastern Christians pick up the Bible to read it, we do not act as if these 20 centuries of church history did not exist. We read the Bible and we gain a better understanding of it because we consider how the Holy Spirit has guided the Church Fathers in the past to interpret certain difficult passages in Scripture. This is what we mean by Sacred Tradition.

We do not mean a slavish attachment to the past. By Sacred Tradition we mean a living connection with the entire past experience of the church, 21 centuries of it during which the Holy Spirit has been acting and speaking through the Church. Our churches have a great sense of community. You will notice that the Eastern Christian regardless of ethnic background never prays alone. We pray together with all the saints who have passed on. We pray not as individuals but as members of the body of Christ, THE CHURCH. We pray with the Theotokos, the Mother of God, the apostles, the martyrs and the saints of all the ages. They are present at every liturgy as depicted in the iconography of our Churches. We, Christians do not stand alone. Behind us stands a cloud of witnesses. Behind us, for example stand those 318 Church Fathers who came to that First Ecumenical Council. They came, bearing the scars of martyrdom, of a persecuted community. Some with only one eye and some with one arm. Two came without legs and some with disfigured faces. They came with twisted and paralyzed limbs. They came from all over the Empire to bear witness with their whole personality to the truth they believed: that Jesus Christ is Lord.

So every year, on the Sunday before Pentecost we are called to remember those who stand behind us. Those who have already received the Holy Spirit. Remember the Apostles, the martyrs, the saints. Remember what they suffered to make the Holy Spirit available to us next Sunday. And too, we must remember that like they, we must pass on to others this same Holy Spirit by our words and deeds. So that in the words of the Apostle James: “THE WORLD MAY SEE YOUR GOOD WORKS AND GLORIFY YOUR FATHER WHO IS IN HEAVEN.”



PRESIDENT

Manor College is a private, two-year, Catholic, co-ed, independent institution of higher learning founded in suburban Montgomery County, Pennsylvania in 1947 by the Byzantine Ukrainian Sisters of Saint Basil the Great. Manor believes that education heightens a person's self-awareness in his/her relationship to others, to the world and to God. Manor also believes that education will help generate a commitment to a peaceful world, which alone can inspire confidence in the present and hope for the future.

The College offers a variety of programs under three academic divisions: Allied Health, Science and Mathematics; Business Technology and Legal Studies; and Liberal Arts. Manor College is accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education and has an enrollment of just under 1,000 students. The student body represents a broad cultural diversity representing close to 30 countries of origin and more than 40 birth countries.

The new President will relate to, enhance and promote the Catholic Eastern Christian Tradition of the College and will be responsible for continuing the awareness and appreciation of the Ukrainian culture that is an integral part of the College. The President is the Chief Executive and Administrative Officer responsible to the Board of Trustees for the execution of instructional, financial, and business administration policies, under which the College executes its educational purpose. The new President may be lay or a religious and will be a practicing Catholic in good standing.

The President will be a visionary and motivational leader and have significant recent experience in a senior leadership role in a Catholic institution of higher education for a minimum of 10 years with 7 years in an administrative role. He/She will have a track record of accomplishment in institutional advancement/fundraising with an excellent academic record of accomplishment in his/her field. He/She will value teaching, learning and the academic mission of the College, as well as have an understanding of higher education trends and technology/social media. He/She should have prior experience in the Middle States and program accreditations process and implementation. A doctoral degree is preferred.

Manor College is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.

Nominations and applications will be accepted until the time that a new President is selected; however, candidates ideally should plan to submit materials by 5PM on Saturday, May 30, 2015 for the most favorable consideration. Nominations and applications should be directed to:

Mr. Richard D. Sbarbaro
Chairman – Lauer, Sbarbaro Associates/EMA Partners International
Partner – Trinity Executive Partnership
2 Westbrook Corporate Center, Suite 100
Westchester, IL 60154
Phone: 708-531-0100
Fax: 708-947-9075
d.sbarbaro@ema-partnersam.com



Passaic Parish Honors the Blessed Virgin Mary with a Spiritual Bouquet of Prayers throughout May

Fr. Andriy Dudkevych and the parishioners of St. Nicholas, Passaic, continue the annual tradition of offering the beautiful Moleben prayers to the Mother of God every weekday at 7:00 pm throughout the month of May. During this time we more intensely honor Mary, the Mother of Our Lord Jesus, in our prayers and devotions, and ask her to intercede for us with her Son Jesus for His many blessings and forgiveness.



Every Monday and Wednesday immediately after the Moleben service, our parish Young Adult Prayer Group, led by Mrs. Natalia Blavatska, commences a special prayer service for peace in Ukraine. Many who attend are recent immigrants from Ukraine and know firsthand of the daily struggle to survive in those war-torn regions. They pray for an end to the senseless spilling of blood in Ukraine, for the restoration of peace in our homeland, and for the salvation of the souls of those who sacrificed their lives in defense of Ukraine's liberties and as innocent victims of the bloodshed. This dedicated group of young adults formed two years ago at Fr. Andriy's initiative to heed the call to youth to live a more pious and moral life graced with prayer and devotion to God in a secular world cluttered with immorality and greed.

St. Nicholas Parish extends an invitation to all people to join in the daily prayer services during the month of May to pray to Mary, and for peace in Ukraine.

Hillside, NJ parish holds May Crowning



Hillside, NJ - On Sunday, May 3, 2015, the Immaculate Conception Ukrainian Catholic parish children brought flowers to the Blessed Mother and crowned her as everyone sang Levadov Dolynov and Immaculate Mary, Your Praises We Sing. This also marked the end of this season's religious education classes.

The Hillside parish is accepting religious education registrations until June 28, 2015 for the 2015/2016 season. The religious education program is an innovative multimedia program designed for children ages 3 through 18 years old, grouped by age, and taught by 7 teachers. Special emphasis is placed on learning about the Ukrainian Catholic rite as well as discussing similarities and differences to the Roman Catholic Rite. An understanding of how the "2 lungs of the Catholic Church" complement and enrich each other will be discussed with children as they advance through the program.

Perth Amboy Parish Honors Mothers with a Mother's Day Concert



The children of Assumption Parish in Perth Amboy, NJ honored their mothers and grandmothers at a Mother's Day Concert held at the church parish hall after Divine Liturgy on Sunday, May 10, 2015.

Under the direction of Mrs. Olga Yanchak and Mrs. Iryna Borsa, the children displayed their talents in singing and reciting poems. The children did a terrific job and would make any parent or grandparent happy! Thanks go to all participants, to parents for preparing the children, and to the Ukrainian National Women's League of America, Branch 135 (Perth Amboy, NJ) for organizing the concert.

In addition to the concert, a Panakhyda for all the deceased mothers was celebrated following the Liturgy and every mother at church received carnation from the members of the Holy Name Society.



Passaic parish holds May Crowning

On the first day of May, students of St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic School in Passaic crowned the Blessed Mother with their prayers, songs and flowers. The students recited Mary's Peace Prayer for peace in the world, especially for peace in Ukraine. During the procession, the kissing of the Blessed Mother's Icon and the offering of white flowers to Mary, the children, teachers and parents present sang Vyhalaite Doly Hory, O spomahaynas and Lyvado Dolyno.

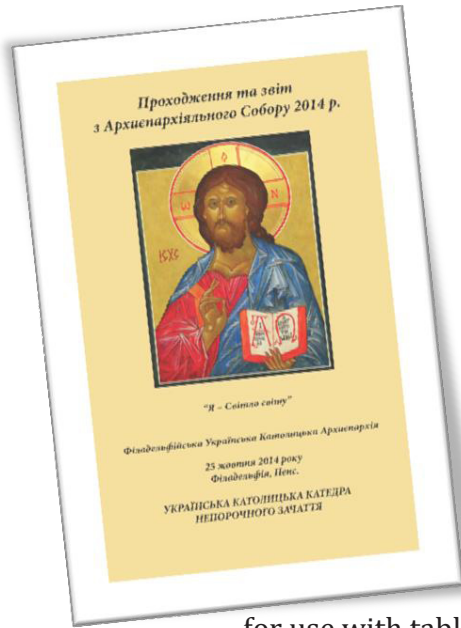


New Scholarship Fund Created for Seminary

On May 12, 2015 George Predaris and John Rozos presented a \$50,000 check to Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka to create the Helen Mahanic Skoufis & Peter J. Skoufis Scholarship Fund for Seminarian and Priestly studies at St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Seminary in Washington DC. The late Helen Mahanic Skoufis dedicated a portion of their assets at death to assist seminarians studying at St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Seminary. May God bless them richly for their support.



Photo (l to r): John Drozd, Finance Officer, George Predaris, Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka, and John Rozos.



Report of the 2014 Archieparchial Sobor now available.

The report of the 2014 Archieparchial Sobor has been published and is now being distributed. All participants will receive a copy of the English version of the report. Each parish will receive a copy of the report in both Ukrainian and English. This year, we are pleased to make the full report available on the Archeparchy of Philadelphia web site.

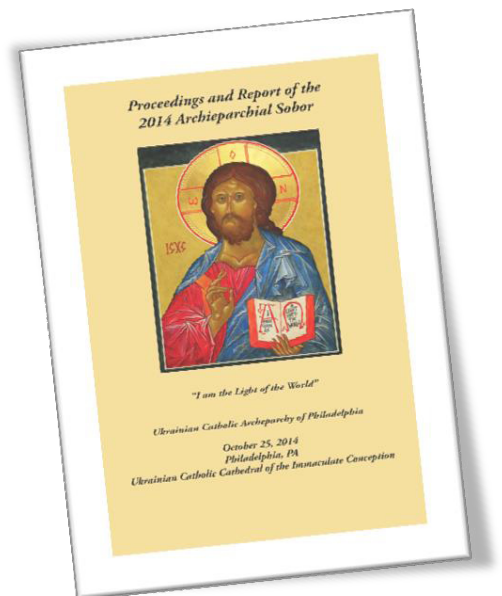
<http://www.ukrarcheparchy.us/index.php?categoryid=114>

We have posted the full report in both Ukrainian and English in PDF format, as well as in an ePub format suitable for use with tablets and smartphones.

We have also provided the Summary of the Sobor, the Invited Presentations, and the Report of the Sobor as separate PDF documents in both Ukrainian and English. The web site also has the entire small group presentations, Archieparchial Sobor Survey results, and the Vibrant Parish Video Survey available as separate PDF files available to read online or via download to your computer.

As a reminder, videos of the day's events and presentations are available on YouTube, accessible through the Sobor web page.

Metropolitan Archbishop Stefan Soroka's letter to the participants is also posted to the Sobor web site. Twelve specific recommendations were documented, that span the six aspects in support of a Vibrant Parish. The next phase in working with the parishes and faithful will be through deanery meetings to review the report and recommendations and more specifically to develop the action plans at both parish, deanery, and across the Archeparchy.



Metropolitan Stefan's Sobor Letter



METROPOLITAN ARCHEPARCHY OF PHILADELPHIA

Ukrainian Catholic

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Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19123-2097

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ukrmet@ukrcap.org

No. 99/2015 O

This Number Should be Prefixed to Your Reply

Office of the Metropolitan

April 10, 2015

My brother clergy, religious Sisters, and faithful of the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia,

Слава Ісусу Христу!

Our heartfelt appreciation is offered to the clergy and delegates from all of our parishes for their providing insight and suggestions for our Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy during the Sobor held on October 25th, 2014. Special gratitude is given to the speakers who shared their wisdom to stimulate discernment and discussion by the participants. The success of the deliberations was enabled by the dedicated planning of the Sobor by the members of the Planning Committee, for which we are very thankful.

The recommendations of the 2014 Sobor build upon the recommendations of the Sobors held within our Archeparchy in 2002 and in 2008. Education of the faith, including the development of relevant materials for use in catechetical instruction, becoming more welcoming and inclusive as parishes, relevant and to-the-point homilies, and the development of needed ministries within the parish were central to the discussion by delegates at the 2002 Sobor. At that Sobor, we reflected on our perceptions and expectations of our Church as our spiritual home. The 2008 Sobor developed on the question asked by the apostle Thomas, *“Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?”* (Jn 14:5) The delegates reflected on the need for the parish and the Archeparchy to offer spiritual renewal and evangelization opportunities. The implementation of the *“Generations of Faith”* catechetical program was highlighted in addition to offering ongoing Christian formation to faithful of all ages. Becoming more welcoming in our parishes, better sermons, and the need for greater collaboration were some of the main recommendations offered.

The 2014 Sobor directed all of us to reflect on how we may fully live the Gospel message and foster a vibrant parish. We challenged ourselves to look at how each of us can become more inviting to others. In essence how do *“WE”* become the Light of the World? (Mt. 5:13-14). The actions proposed by participants are specific and achievable by dedicated and committed clergy and faithful in our parishes. Key actions include the need for homilies relevant to the challenges of life today, strengthening religious instruction for all ages, offering additional marriage preparation and support for marriages, enhancing outreach to our neighbor in need, fostering more community building, enhancing collaboration for leadership and stewardship, and becoming more welcoming in our parishes.

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Metropolitan Stefan's Sobor Letter

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Three major gatherings of significant persons committed to the spiritual well-being and growth of our Ukrainian Catholic Church in the Archeparchy of Philadelphia have been held. Much wisdom and thought was shared with specific recommendations offered by persons who love and serve the Lord Jesus Christ and His Holy Church. We can be comfortable in having a reasonably good idea of what we can normally expect in our faith journey within our parishes as our spiritual home. We have come to a greater understanding of what directions our Lord desires of us within our parishes. Recommendations have been given as to the 'how' we may become the "Light of the World" in the footsteps of Jesus Christ. We are more fully aware of definite actions needed to ensure vibrant parishes within our Archeparchy.

Pope Francis recently reminded us that *"an authentic faith always implies a deep desire to change the world"*. The Holy Father asks, *"Do we too have great vision and zeal? Are we bold today? Do our dreams fly high? Are we consumed by zeal? Are we mediocre and satisfied with our theoretical apostolic plans?"*

Our Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia is blessed with knowledgeable leadership amidst its clergy, religious, and faithful who have a good understanding of our faith and of the needs of the clergy and faithful. We know what is needed. We have discerned solid actions and recommendations which ought to be implemented. However, do we reveal the level of zeal which the Holy Father calls us to witness in our Church? Are there clergy and faithful amidst us willing to risk themselves to take bold steps to assure that we follow through well intended actions to ensure a vibrant parish?

The faithful at the Sobor often commented that a vibrant parish needs vibrant priests. The deep thirst evident amidst the faithful for relevant teaching of the faith was something suggested at all three SOBORS. Priests thirst for encouragement, feedback, and assistance of faithful who are vibrant in their steadfast commitment to their Church. Pope Francis advised the faithful, *"Help your pastors not to be mediocre"*. He is telling all of us that we are responsible for one another not to be mediocre in our faith. All of us – hierarchy, clergy, religious and faithful need to be consumed by zealous love and service as followers of Christ. We need to discover within ourselves that same passion evident in the apostles on the road to Emmaus, who recognized their hearts burning with passion when they walked with Jesus Christ as he explained to them the meaning of all that had occurred. We must resist the temptation of walking in despair as the apostles did prior to meeting Jesus Christ on the road to Emmaus. It is Jesus Christ who graces us to choose not to give mediocre witness to our faith.

Passion and zeal are dependent on our stimulating and supporting one another in prayer and in action. Priests need the support of one another to risk themselves to be the zealous ministers we anticipate. We clergy have been asked to reflect on the content and manner in which we offer homilies. Are our homilies relevant to assist faithful to deal with today's life challenges? Do we permit ourselves to express ourselves more creatively and concisely?

The faithful need to encourage, support and assist in ensuring needed changes within parishes which facilitate new life. Changes are difficult to accept and are often resisted. We desire renewal but dare not question or change what many have come to be comfortable with in our parishes. The

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Metropolitan Stefan's Sobor Letter

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faithful need one another and their pastor to permit themselves to be open to the Holy Spirit in implementing parish renewal. Open and periodic discussion and sharing of needs in positive ways are necessary. The faithful need to be actively invited to greater participation in meeting the needs of a vibrant parish. Regular meetings of parish pastoral and finance councils should be a normal part of life in a vibrant parish.

Greater initiatives at the deanery level within the Archeparchy will assist parishes in sharing the implementation of key recommendations. Sobor workshops with clergy and parishioners will be scheduled at the deanery level to assist in the implementation of programs within parishes. Enhanced collaboration and current communication tools will provide a supportive network for clergy and parishioners.

All of us are called to choose to be the "Light of Christ" in our faith. Let us choose to be zealous in sharing the Light of Christ with others. **Let's just do it!** We see a need for catechetical instruction? **Let's just do it!** Gather resources and work with the pastor to make it happen NOW! See a need for a more welcoming and inclusive parish family? **Let's just do it!** Gather other like-minded souls in the parish and start welcoming people with a handshake and a smile. Get the pastor to greet worshippers as they leave Church. See a need for the care of elderly and shut-ins? **Let's just do it!** Gather like-minded caring persons to visit the shut-ins, providing needed assistance, and arranging for the pastor to visit with the Sacraments. Organize a weekly social gathering for retired parishioners and friends. You observe that youth and children are not feeling welcome? **Let's just do it!** Invite younger parents to assist in organizing gatherings offering reflection, shared activities for children and youth. The sermons are not addressing your life's challenges? **Let's just do it!** Offer constructive suggestions to the pastor as to what might be beneficial for faithful to hear in homilies. Tell him it's okay to be bold in preaching! Dare to give feedback, offering compliments when deserved. Pastors feeling expectations to offer more vibrant leadership? **Let's just do it!** Seek the counsel of others who have experimented in creative ways to meet developing needs, and try it. No special permissions needed! In other words, if you see or feel shortcomings, choose to do something about it! **Let's just do it!** Take initiative and involve the pastor and other like-minded people. Entrust yourself in prayer to Jesus Christ as you choose to **let's just do it!**

In this way, a vibrant parish will be your spiritual home!

God's choicest blessings be upon you!



+Most Reverend Stefan Soroka
Archbishop of Philadelphia for Ukrainians
Metropolitan of Ukrainian Catholics in the United States

SS/oak

NEW MOSAICS OF VENERABLE METROPOLITAN ANDREY SHEPTYTSKY AND BLESSED JOSAPHATA HORDASHEVSKA, SSMI FOR CATHEDRAL

Two full sized mosaics of Venerable Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky and Blessed Josaphata Hordashevskia, SSMI will be installed in our Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Philadelphia in Spring, 2015. The mosaics will include a reliquary for relics of both Metropolitan Sheptytsky and Blessed Josaphata for veneration by all.

Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, is to visit Philadelphia in September, 2015. He has been invited to include a visit to our Cathedral during his short two day visit. In hopeful anticipation of such a visit, we have commissioned these mosaics for the Holy Father to bless. Please pray for this!

The mosaics have been prepared by our world renowned iconographer who has written most of the Cathedral's iconography, Christine Dochwat. The mosaics are being fabricated in Italy by the same firm which has done previous art work in our Cathedral. The cost for each will be approximately \$ 35,000, which is very reasonable for such a significant project. Financial donations are invited from individuals and parishes for this project. Perhaps someone or a group may wish to fund one or both mosaics in memory of a loved one or for a special intention. Please remember the power of the intercession of the saints for our needs! Thank you for your anticipated assistance. Please send donations to Archbishop's Chancery, 827 N Franklin Street, Philadelphia, PA 19123. God bless you!



NEW BELL TOWER FOR CATHEDRAL



The original Cathedral bell named "Stefan" in testimony to our first Ukrainian Catholic Bishop for all Eastern Catholics in USA, the Most Rev. Stephen Soter Ortynsky, OSBM, needs to be relocated from its present location.

A new bell tower of our Cathedral is planned to accommodate the bell, to be located to the right of our Cathedral.

We welcome your financial donation for this memorial to the founding bishop, clergy, religious and faithful. It is an expression of our heartfelt appreciation for their planting the seeds of faith and the roots of our Ukrainian Catholic Church in the USA.

Please help us to meet the costs by sending a donation to the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia, 827 N Franklin Street, Philadelphia, PA 19123. Your help is needed and appreciated. God bless you richly as you share in celebrating gratitude for our founders.



THE PROVIDENCE ASSOCIATION

Your Ukrainian Catholic
Fraternal Life Insurance and Benefit Society

ATTENTION!

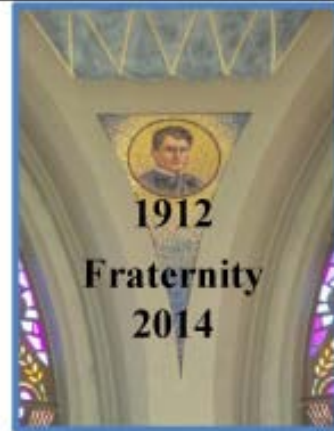
Parishes, Charities, Societies
Non-profits & Foundations

Deposit Agreement Accounts
Paying

3.00%

 Interest Rate

*Guaranteed minimum rate of 3.00% for life of contract
Rates will increase automatically when economic circumstances warrant
Principal and interest growth guaranteed*



Providence Association

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Ukrainian Catholic Church of the Assumption
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BASILIAN SPIRITUALITY CENTER

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710 Fox Chase Rd., Fox Chase Manor, PA 19046
215-780-1227
basilcenter@stbasils.com

ICON WRITING WORKSHOPS



MAY
2015

ICONOGRAPHER: Father Abbot Damian Higgins

WORKSHOP I

Tuesday May 19, 2015
7:00 - 9:00 PM

Wednesday to Sunday
May 20 to 24
9:00 AM - 6:00 PM

Includes: Instruction materials, refreshments,
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Dinner on your own.
Wednesday through Sunday.

Donation: \$425.00
A \$50.00 non-refundable
deposit is required

Limited Space Available. Register Now!

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7:00 - 9:00 PM

Wednesday to Sunday
May 27 to 31
9:00 AM - 6:00 PM

Includes: Instruction materials, refreshments,
continental breakfast and lunch.

Dinner on your own.
Wednesday through Sunday.

Donation: \$425.00
A \$50.00 non-refundable
deposit is required

Limited Space Available. Register Now!

Send to: BASILIAN SPIRITUALITY CENTER
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DONATION: \$425.00

Icon Writing Workshop
Please choose which workshop you will be attending: (Check Below)
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Icon Writing Workshop II _____

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North Anthracite Council holds LUC Meeting



The North Anthracite Council - League of Ukrainian Catholics met on Sunday, May 3, 2015 at Scranton's St. Vladimir Church. The midafternoon event began with Moleben to the Mother of God, celebrated by the host pastor, Father Myron Myronyuk. Council President Dorothy Jamula opened the meeting by welcoming several new members and guests as well as expressing thanks to Father Myron and the Scranton parish LUC members for hosting the North Anthracite group. The general session focused on the upcoming May 16 sold out bus trip to the St. George Ukrainian Street Festival in New York City, the September visit to Philadelphia by Pope Francis, the October LUC Convention in Lansdale along with discussion of proposed Council sponsored activities during both calendar years 2015 and 2016. The meeting ended with the Prayer for the Beatification of the Servant of God Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky and was followed by a bountiful repast for the thirty-seven attendees prepared by members of the Scranton parish.

Byzantine Liturgy to be held at St. Edmond's Church in Rehoboth Beach, DE

Rev. Volodymyr Klanichka pastor of St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church will celebrate Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom at St. Edmond's Roman Catholic Church, Rehoboth Beach, DE at 6:00 PM on Sundays: May 31, June 28, July 26 and August 30, 2015. (Last Sunday of the month during May, June, July, and August.)

St. Edmond's Roman Catholic Church is located on the Intersection of King Charles Avenue and Laurel Street, Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971. For more information, please call at 302 762-5511

First Penance and Solemn Communion in Perth Amboy, NJ

Congratulations to thirty one children of the Assumption Parish in Perth Amboy, NJ who received their First Confession and Solemn Holy Communion on Sunday, May 3, 2015. We are grateful to all who have assisted these children on their journey of faith. The list includes but is not limited to, their parents, godparents, grandparents, brothers and sisters, school principal, our Pastor - Fr. Ivan Turyk, teachers and this year's catechists Sr. Yosaphata, MSMG, Sr. Thomas, MSMG, and Miss Victoria Giordano. Thank you for helping to prepare these children for the greatest gift they will ever receive. We can only hope and pray that their parents will provide the opportunities for their children to continue to receive the Holy Eucharist at weekly liturgy in our church.



First Penance and Solemn Communion in New Brunswick, NJ

On Sunday, May 10, 2015 five children from Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church, New Brunswick, NJ received the Sacraments of First Holy Confession and Solemn Holy Communion. Our sincerest best wishes and congratulations are extended to Arthur Petro Solopenkov, Andriy Labovka, Anna Bogutskiy, Dmytro Pashkov and Nazar Kovalyuk (pictured left to right). Also, pictured are Liliya Gavdanovych (Catechist) and Pastor Rev. Orest Kunderevych.



First Penance and Solemn Communion in Passaic, NJ

On May 2, 2015, seven children of St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church in Passaic, NJ received the Sacrament of First Penance and on May 3, Solemn Communion. It was a moment of joy for these children and their families. The children were prepared for the receiving of these Sacraments by Sr. Cecelia Sworin, SSML. We congratulate and wish them and their families all God's blessings and graces.



Photo: (1st row - left to right) Sophia Christina Patel, Anastasia Smetankin, Maria Lebid, Melania Olivia Perebzak (2nd row - left to right) Maksym Vasylovych Ivanishiv, Kristina Vepryk, Maksym Kotsiaba (Back left to right) Sr. Eliane Ilnitski, SSML, Rev. Andriy Dudkevych, Sr. Cecelia Sworin, SSML

Teacher's appreciation week in Passaic, NJ

During the week of May 4-8, the students of St. Nicholas, Passaic, NJ, honored their teachers on the occasion of Teacher's Appreciation Week. On every day of the week, they picked the names of 3 or 4 teachers, for whom they offered special greetings and prayers.



On Tuesday of the same week, they honored the teachers in a special way. Sr. Eliane reminded them of the importance of teachers in our lives, saying that no other profession is possible without the teacher who prepares the way. She also explained the difference between a teacher by profession, who comes, teaches what she is supposed to teach, and goes; and a teacher by vocation, who doesn't teach only from the book, but who helps the child to grow in mind and spirit and who helps to form their little heart. This is the teacher who cares and loves the ones who were entrusted to her/him.

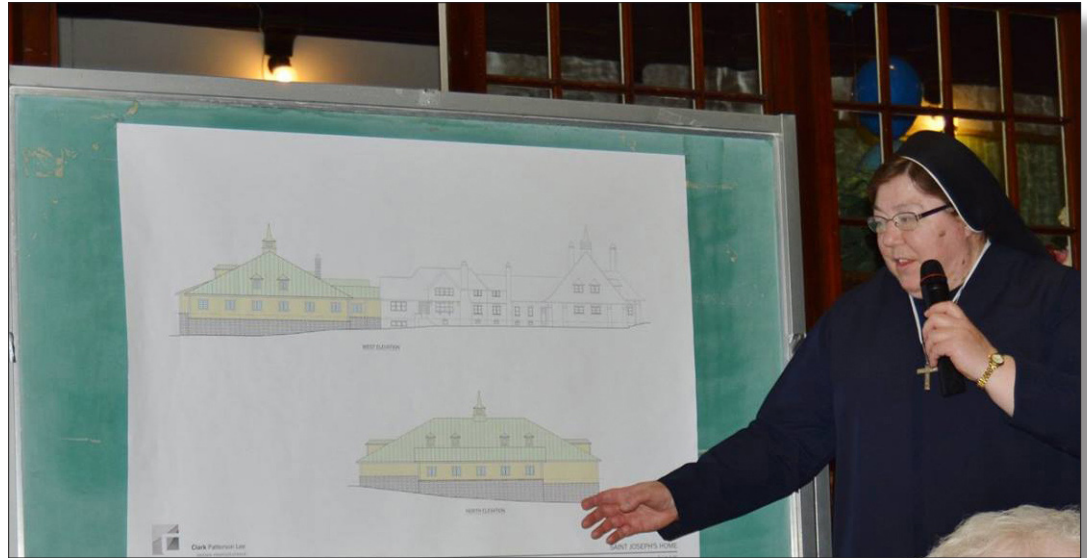
Two students greeted the teachers with a poem, and then each teacher received a vase with tulips as a reminder of the beauty that they perform each day by teaching, caring, and loving God's children. We thank and congratulate our teachers for their dedication, love, sacrifice, self-giving and hard work day after day, touching the heart and mind of each student. May God bless and reward you for your fine work in a little school with a big heart.

MAY 17, 2015

What Do People Say About St. Joseph's Adult Care Home?

Recently, I shared with you the interior design for the expansion of St. Joseph's Adult Care Home in Sloatsburg, NY. This month, I share new exterior. I also want to share these words of resident family members and friends of St. Joseph's. I hope you get a feel for life at St. Joseph's Home.

-Sr. Michele, SSMI, Administrator



Sr. Michele, SSMI, shows the exterior design drawing of the expansion of St. Joseph's Adult Care Home in Sloatsburg, NY.

"St. Joseph's Home is the hidden gem of adult care facilities. They provide their residents with a clean, caring, loving environment. High-end assisted living facilities place their dementia residents in a 'locked-down' environment separated from their spouses. We are so grateful that our parents can spend much of their day together even though their mental capacities are different. Residing at St. Joseph's is truly like living among family."

-Robert and Barbara Marini

"St. Joseph's Adult Care Home is an excellent facility where you can bring your loved ones and not worry. The staff is not only professional but

very attune to the needs of their residents and I witness everyday how they treat the residents like family and give them the dignity they deserve. The residents are encouraged to participate in sing along, games, crafts and exercise.

My 102 year old grandmother has been there just under 2 years and it was the best decision we made. She has excellent care, made lots of friends and is happy and content.

Sister Michele is always available to talk to about concerns, suggestions etc. The staff is always friendly and helpful. St. Joe's is kept immaculate inside and out. If you have to give up your

home and go to a facility this is where you would want to be."

-Donna Matthews, Granddaughter of Helen Thorne

"As a student of St. Mary's Villa Academy and today as an adult, I recall visiting the residents and helping at St. Joseph's where I always found a warm, loving environment. The home is always in order, clean and pleasant.

It is always noted that the atmosphere at St. Joseph's is one of "being at home", a place of comfort and caring. Each resident is treated as a member of one's family. Encountering a resident, one can see they are

comfortable, happy and peaceful.

The Sisters have been and continue to be the loving extension of their families. Those residents that have no family to visit them are looked after by the Sisters who take interest in their needs, the same as they do for those with visitors.

There is always an activity or event in the house that is inclusive of all. Celebrations abound for each and all, making the house joyous and cheerful. When one comes into the facility, they are greeted by friendly, cheerful faces, those of the residents, staff and Sisters.

(continued on next page)

What Do People Say About St. Joseph's Adult Care Home?

(continued from previous page)

It is often overheard by visitors that when it is their time for a "home away from home", St. Joseph's is where they want to be."

-Marion C. Hrubec

"The expansion of St. Joseph's Home has the potential to improve the life of many of the senior members of our Ukrainian community. I feel the construction of the new wing of St. Joseph's Adult Care Home would fill a glaring need in our Ukrainian American community especially as the number of seniors continues to grow".

**-Most Rev. Paul Chomnycky, OSBM
Eparch of Stamford**

"When I first came to St. Joseph's Home, I was pleasantly surprised to see such a beautiful serene place for the elderly. It is the ideal place for older folks to come and enjoy their golden years in such a beautiful location like Sloatsburg. The place is truly one of a kind! Sisters Servants provide an excellent spiritual and caring environment to all the residents. It is our obligation to care for the older people

and to provide for them a comfortable and safe environment where they can enjoy their golden years. St. Joseph's Home is willing to provide that kind of caring support for many more residents by expanding and building more units. Therefore, let us help the Sisters to accomplish their noble project."

**-Rev. Ivan Tyhovych,
Pastor Holy Ghost Ukrainian Catholic Church,
Brooklyn, New York**

"The lack of facilities for quality adult care is of huge concern. It is quite reassuring to know that St. Joseph's Adult Care Home is a viable solution to providing care and secure facility for individuals who have found themselves in a situation which requires such assistance. The relationship that has been established between St. Joseph's Home and the Village of Sloatsburg is invaluable and we enthusiastically offer our support for your proposed expansion."

**-Carl S. Wright,
Mayor of Sloatsburg**

"The decision to move an elderly parent is not an

easy one. Though many seniors want to stay in their homes, they can be lonely, and for their children, arranging and monitoring caregiving and managing a second household is complicated, expensive and draining. No matter how much you do, there's always more to be done, and part of you is always on-call, in case of emergency. In the back of your mind, you try to anticipate what's next and you worry and worry.

The first night my mother spent at St. Joseph's was the first night my sister and I slept well in a long time; it was such a relief to know our mother was not alone, she would be checked on and be given her medications and a warm breakfast in the morning.

We used to worry about whether caregivers would show up, if our mother needed something and if her house was clean and warm and safe enough. Our visits to her were a combination of errands and repairs, when all our mother wanted was our company. There is a lot of pressure on the individual caregivers to be everything for an elderly person, and

to keep the children informed.

At St. Joseph's, there are schedules and procedures and a division of labor among many people to insure good food, good care and cleanliness. Many hands and hearts are caring for the residents; a doctor comes weekly, hair and nail care are available and the rooms are cleaned and laundry done. We don't have to work with plumbers and repairmen long-distance or think about snow plowing, groceries and doctor appointments, and my mother doesn't worry about them either.

Best of all, our mother is not isolated; she has as much company and stimulation as she wants, at mealtimes and activities. Living alone, she could go days only speaking to one or two people. Now, she sees nearly 40 people every day. Everyone knows each other and says hello, yet there is room for privacy if she wants it. There is an environment of kindness and respect. There's even a dog, Ranger, looking out for the place.

(continued on next page)

What Do People Say About St. Joseph's Adult Care Home?

(continued from previous page)

Best of all, our visits are now real visits; instead of listing what needs to be done and purchased, we go to lunch, we walk a little, and we talk and laugh.

What more could anyone ask for?"

-Roma Halatyn

My memories and fondness of the good Sisters Servants and St. Joseph's goes back to my childhood when my parents needed help caring for my grandmother Loden [my dad's mother] and arrangements were made for her to reside at St. Joseph's. It was a little scary thinking of her being away from us and not knowing where she would be living. That passed quickly. Our Sunday visits were exciting and something my sister and I looked forward to. Of course, we looked forward to seeing my grandma, but also to the trip to Sloatsburg! We loved the drive up the windy road and the beautiful setting that was now grandma's new home...and we soon grew to love seeing the Sisters each week, as well. My parents were more aware at the

time than us that my grandmother was well taken care of, physically AND spiritually, she was happy and safe. As kids we just knew that she was living in a beautiful and special place! I remember it being bright, sunny, and a happy place.

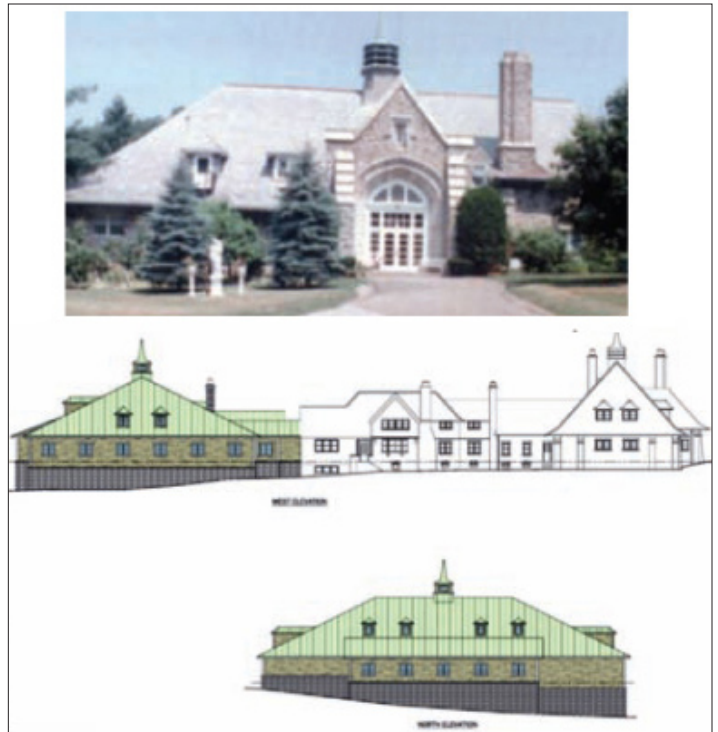
The good Sisters seemed to be everywhere, none of the residents ever seemed to be alone. I knew, even at a young age, that my grandma was safe, never alone, always had something to do and had the beautiful outside to spend time in. AND, there was always a big glass of cold milk and cookies waiting in the kitchen for my sister and me to enjoy...sometimes still warm, just out of the oven! Spending some time in the little chapel was always special for me. All these years later I can still picture my grandmother sitting there. I now know the Sisters not only took care of her physical needs but her spiritual needs so very well.

Sundays were happy times spent visiting with her. I have a special place in my heart for the Sisters for the wonderful care and home they

provided for her. She was safe. She was at peace and happy. I think of how lucky the residents of St. Joseph's are to be blessed with all

the love and peace the Sisters share with them each day. I don't think it could be any better.

-Carol Loden



St. Joseph's Home and a drawing of the exterior design of the expansion.

For inquiries or assistance, just write to us at P.O. Box 8, Sloatsburg, NY 10974; or call (845)753-2555; or email srmicheley75@aol.com.

Be a part of the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate's on-going ministry of care for the elderly, today and beyond our years – as 2017 marks 75 years of such loving care. Be assured that your generosity will be remembered in our daily prayers of gratitude for you and your family. Our dear friends and benefactors, you hold a special place in our hearts.

**61st Annual
Holy Dormition
(Assumption)
Pilgrimage**

August 8-9, 2015



**Theme:
Mary,
our Model of Perfect Commitment**

**Hosted by the Sisters Servants
of Mary Immaculate
in Sloatsburg, NY**

(845)753-2840

ssminy@aol.com

**Sisters Servants of
Mary Immaculate
Street Fair**



June 14th

**St. Mary's Villa
Sloatsburg NY**

10:00 to 6:00pm

845-753-2840

**Sisters Servants of Mary
Immaculate**



We Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate, like Blessed Josaphata, our foundress, are called to be women of deep faith nourished by an intimate personal relationship with God, striving to live out our community life lovingly and simply, responsive to the needs of all, in the spirit of the Gospel, offering service in a compassionate, joyful and hospitable manner.

Never bound by a singly-defined ministry, the SSMI's have taken a flexible view, remaining faithful to its charism and founders' words:

"Serve where the need is the greatest."



The best candidates for religious life are women who have lots of choices - yet with all those choices say: "I want to consecrate my life to God."

Every vocation involves asking yourself the questions:

How am I Good News to others?

What gives me life?

And how do I share that life with others?



**Are you being called to be a
Sister Servant of Mary Immaculate?**

Glory to God!

Honor to Mary!

Peace to Us!

SSMI - 9 Emmanuel Drive, P.O. Box 9
Sloatsburg, NY 10974
Phone: 845-753-2840
Email: ssminy@aol.com
Website: www.ssmi-us.org
Vocation Directors:
Sr. Eliane Ilnitski, SSMI
ilnitskieli10@yahoo.com
Sr. Tekla Gnatyuk, SSMI
gluanah@gmail.com



The Golden-Domed
Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral
of the Immaculate Conception
830 North Franklin Street Philadelphia

Open for Visitation Prayer
Meditation Veneration

Wednesdays: 11:30 am to 3 pm

Saturdays: 2 pm to 4:30 pm

- View the Vatican authorized full size replica of the Shroud of Turin

- Venerate the relics of Blessed Bishop Martyr Mykola Charnetsky, CSsR and Blessed Sister Josaphata Hordashevaska, SSMI

- Experience the beauty of traditional Byzantine icons and mosaics

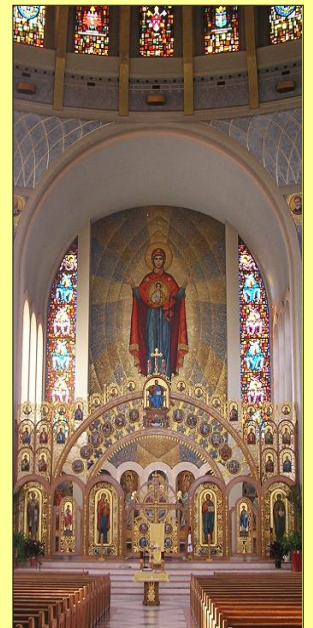
Divine Liturgies:

Saturday: 4:30 pm English

Sunday: 9 am Ukrainian

11 am English

For more information visit the website <http://www.ukrcathedral.com/>



Ukrainian Catholic faithful throughout the world to participate in Mission Days: A Ten Day Journey from the Feast of the Ascension to the Feast of Pentecost

Philadelphia, PA.--Ukrainian Catholic faithful throughout the world are asked by His Beatitude Sviatoslav and their hierarchs to participate in Mission Days: A Ten Day Journey from the Feast of the Ascension to the Feast of Pentecost (the Descent of the Holy Spirit)

Special Guidebooks have been prepared in both English and Ukrainian and have been made available to all clergy for use in their parishes.

The hope of these ten days of spiritual reflection is stated in the beginning of the Guidebook:

“From the feast of the Ascension to Pentecost, together with our entire parish community, let us pray that the Lord might renew our life in God by the grace and intercession of the Holy Spirit. Throughout these ten Mission Days let us especially support in prayer our parishes, our chaplains, and our military serving in Eastern Ukraine.”

“If some parishes due to circumstance are unable to conduct the ten Mission Days on weekdays, or if some parishioners are unable to attend, then they should be encouraged to observe the ten Mission Days within their families. Each day they should set aside at least five minutes to read together in the “Mission Days Guidebook” (Word of God, Meditation, Word of Metropolitan Andrey, Prayer) and contemplate how they can fulfill the mission task (also in this Guidebook). Another possibility would be to gather prayerful groups of families, who live in the same neighborhood, and conduct these Missions Days together.”

The Mission Days instructions (in Ukrainian) and the Guidebook in both Ukrainian and English are posted on our archieparchial website: <http://www.ukrarcheparchy.us/>

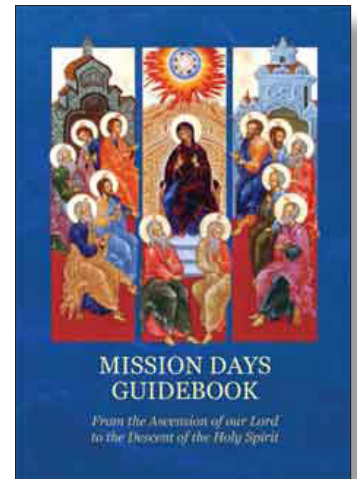
These documents are also posted under the Vibrant Parish heading at the top of the page. Click on Vibrant Parish or go to this link: <http://www.ukrarcheparchy.us/index.php?categoryid=108>

These Mission Days are part of the Vibrant Parish initiative, a worldwide parish renewal.

“In 2011 His Beatitude Sviatoslav together with the bishops of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church asked us to pay special attention to the renewal of parish life, as the basis for the on-going development of our Church.

“The parish is the place where we encounter the Living Christ, where we can grow spiritually and where the Good News of the Gospel is proclaimed, so that it can be shared with others.

“Our Synod encourages us all together and individually to reflect on and work for the development of our parish community, and to take an active role in the mission of the Church by fostering these aspects of parish life: The Word of God and Catechesis, Liturgy and Prayer, Service to One’s Neighbor, Leadership-Stewardship, Community-Unity, A Missionary Spirit.”



His Beatitude Sviatoslav: "UCU – the grandiose plan of Metropolitan Andrey"

Tuesday, 05 May 2015

The activity of Ukrainian Catholic University (UCU) has to be transfused with the service to Truth, which is rooted in faith and stems from the personal meeting with Christ, who Himself is the Way, the Truth and the Life. According to a centuries-old tradition of the universities of the Ecumenical Church in the heart of our Catholic University have always been and should be church disciplines.

With the assistance of the Synod of Bishops of the UGCC and the Catholic University leadership we have to pay special attention to establishing long-term systematic cooperation between the University and the larger community of the Church and its institutions.

It is written in a Pastoral letter about the identity and mission of the Ukrainian Catholic University on the occasion of the Year of Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytskyi by the Head of the UGCC and the Grand Chancellor of UCU His Beatitude Sviatoslav.

Archbishop of the Church is convinced that these principles will help UCU to better and more effectively fulfil set by the founders task - "to be a living testimony of Christian faith in today's world." As for the idea of creating UCU, the Primate of the Church notes that Metropolitan Andrey wanted it to become the focus of preservation and development of Ukrainian Christian civilization. "The grandiosity of this plan - which was later fervently embodied into the life by confessor of faith Patriarch Josyph Slipyi - you can fully appreciate it only when we take into account the threat of physical destruction and calls of different godless ideologies that rolled by waves in the last century onto committed to Metropolitan Andrey intellectual and educational Environment of the Church"- He explains further.

Considering the complex challenges of the present time the community UCU, according to His Beatitude Sviatoslav, should rethink its identity and mission, to work productively in scientific, educational and social areas and "not to stray from the way of righteousness, illuminated by the Divine Revelation."

The author of the Message emphasizes that UCU in recent years is rapidly developing the large-scale construction of new facilities, application of new programs and specialties, creating a dynamic environment of the meeting and dialogue of people from different areas: the Church, science, business, media, politics and public administration. "This successful development opens great prospects, but requires constant vigil and reflection on the core of Christian identity, vocation and mission of the institution, encourages us to become more clearly identify the basis, on which, according to the teaching of the Church, has been built Catholic University"- asserts His Beatitude Sviatoslav.

UGCC Department of Information

<http://news.ugcc.ua>

His Beatitude Sviatoslav makes pastoral visit to Church of France



His Beatitude Sviatoslav and Bishop Boris Gudziak

7 May 2015

Father and Head of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church Patriarch Sviatoslav came to the French capital with pastoral visit that lasted until 11 May.

In particular, on May 6, UGCC Primate met with Ukrainian priests of France, Belgium and Germany during their spiritual retreat led by Bishop Vasyl Tuchapets.

The appointment of the Head of the UGCC with French officials, including Senator HerveMaurey, President of France-Ukraine Senate group were scheduled for May 7.

At 12.00 His Beatitude held a press conference at St. Vladimir Cathedral in Paris. At 18.00, the patriarch attended the ceremony of the Order of Chevalier of the Legion of Honor Bishop Boris Gudziak, Bishops of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church in France, Switzerland and the Benelux countries.

On May 8, at 8.00, the patriarch served Mass at the Apostolic Nunciature in Paris and met with cardinals of Franceis.

On May 9, at 9:30 am, His Beatitude Sviatoslav consecrated the chapel in the diocesan house near the Vincennes (27 avenue Foch). On the same day the patriarch met with teachers, parents and children of the School of St. Vladimirin the cathedral. At 18.00,he celebrated Vespers, then at 19.00 he met with the faithful Greek Catholics in the Cathedral of St. Vladimir.

On May 10, His Beatitude Sviatoslav visited the town of Senlis, where at 9.45 he laid flowers to the monument of St Anna of Kyiv and to a commemorative plaque to the victims of Holodomor (Place des Arenes). At 11.00, the UGCC Primate celebrated the Divine Liturgy in Senlis.

On May 11, His Beatitude Sviatoslav participated in the discussion roundtable at Robert Schuman Foundation.

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

“We are expecting international community to be in sympathy with Ukraine”, - His Beatitude Sviatoslav to the French journalists

Friday, 08 May 2015

“We are expecting international community to be in sympathy with Ukraine in upholding of its European values. It is a matter of our common future”, accented the Head of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church,

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“We are expecting international community to be in sympathy with Ukraine”, - His Beatitude Sviatoslav to the French journalists

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during a meeting with French journalists, His Beatitude Sviatoslav who is staying in France with an official visit (6-11 of May).

He said that solidarity foresees a long-planning and multilevel cooperation, for example in solving a problem of a humanitarian catastrophe, the biggest in Ukraine since World War II, according to the words of the Head of the UGCC.

The Main Archbishop of the UGCC added that Ukrainian crisis is not only a crisis of Ukraine but this is the crisis of a world security system, paying attention to the fact that, notwithstanding Minsk agreements war is progressing and people continue to die every day. “It is possible to compare that such a terrible tragedy like Charlie Hebdo shooting is recurring in Ukraine every week”, emphasized His Beatitude Sviatoslav.

The Head of the UGCC denoted President of France Francois Hollande’s participation in a peaceful settlement of an armed conflict in Ukraine, in particular in Normandy format.

Regarding that a visit of the Main Archbishop of the UGCC is being held during a ceremony of marking the 70th anniversary of ending in Europe the World War II, a problem of peace and reconciliation became one of his main appeals to the French society.

“The end of war was a victory not in a war but over the war. Unfortunately, in East Europe there was no victory over the war. It is very important for us that a process of reconciliation that once happened between Germany and France, also happen to Ukraine and Russia”, mentioned the head of the UGCC.

When the press-conference was being lasted, the Senate of France was voting for ratification of the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement. His Beatitude Sviatoslav signified that Revolution of dignity was a testimony of European values in Ukraine. “Ukraine is a European country and we want to be in a family of free, independent European countries”, - emphasized he.

French journalists were also interested in Vatican’s reaction on crisis in Ukraine, dialogues between Churches and religious situation on the occupied territories of Crimea Coast and Donbas.

Today His Beatitude Sviatoslav will participate in an investiture of order of The Honourable legion to bishop Borys Gudzyak, bishop of a Paris Eparchy of st. Volodymyr Velykyj.

Press-service of Paris Eparchy of St. Volodymyr Velykyj

<http://news.ugcc.ua>



“Become the builders of the Kingdom of peace”, bishops of Lviv to the faithful

8 May 2015



Bishops of the Catholic and Orthodox Churches Lviv region on the Day of Memory and Reconciliation appealed to residents of Lviv region. This Galnet reported in the press service of the department staff Lviv Regional State Administration.

The letter signed by Archbishop and Metropolitan Church Lviv Igor Voznyak, Metropolitan of Lviv and Sokal of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Kyiv Dmytriy Rudiuk, Lviv UAOC Metropolitan Macariy Maletich, Archbishop Mieczyslaw Mokrzycki of the Roman Catholic Church in Ukraine and bishop of Lviv and Galicia of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church (Moscow Patriarchate) Filaret Kucherov.

“The world is the space and time where we can meet God, but we have so many adversaries, trying to disrupt this reverential mood, perturb peace in our hearts. Sometimes, tempted by the evil one, we become bearers of chaos and death of our neighbors’ dreams”, state bishops.

“Today, from the depth of our hearts we urge all of you, dear brothers and sisters, to become the builders of the Kingdom of peace. Believe, it’s possible to do although difficult. Let us recall the words of Christ: “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God,” and think how happy we are that so many God’s children have been born to date- our soldiers, volunteers, who have become the keepers of our peace, protecting lives and integrity of our state.

Let’s say “Thank you!” to all our defenders who have returned from war with mental and physical wounds and are now living next to us, who are our relatives, neighbors ... Let us tell them some greeting words and lift a prayer for them and their families in the temple of the Lord God together”.

<http://risu.org.ua>

Pope Francis: Family life focus of General Audience

13/05/2015

(Vatican Radio) Pope Francis at his Wednesday General Audience continued his catechesis on the family, focusing on family life.

“Today’s catechesis is like the gateway to a series of reflections on the life of the family, its real life, with its different times and events.” On this gateway, he said, “are written three words, which I’ve already used many times: ‘May I?’, ‘Thank you,’ and ‘Pardon me.’” These three words, Pope Francis said, “open the path” to a happy family life. “They are simple words,” he said, “but not so simple to put into practice.” These three words, when they are based not simply on good manners, but on deep love and respect for others, have great power to strengthen family life.

Three Words

(continued on next page)

Pope Francis: Family life focus of General Audience

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The first word is “May I?” “When we concern ourselves with gently requesting even those things we might think we have a right too, we place a real defense for the spirit of harmony in the marriage and the family.” Even Jesus asks permission to enter our lives, the Pope said, recalling the verse from Revelation: “I stand at the door and knock.”

The second word, “Thank you,” is an integral part of the life of a Christian. Too often in modern society, Pope Francis said, evil words and behaviors are touted as expressions of freedom, while kindness and courtesy are seen as signs of weakness, or even viewed with suspicion. These attitudes must be rejected in family life. “Gratitude, for a believer, is at the heart of the faith: a Christian who does not know how to give thanks is one who has forgotten the language of God.” A spirit of gratitude within the family is at the foundation of respect for the dignity of the human person and of social justice.

Finally, “Pardon me,” “forgive me,” is a difficult word to say, but absolutely necessary. Pope Francis links the ability to ask for forgiveness with the ability to forgive others. “If we are not able to apologize, it means we are unable to forgive.” Pope Francis offered a word of advice to families: “Never finish the day without making peace.”

Pope Francis recognized that his “three words” might seem simplistic. “The three key-words for the family are simple words, and perhaps at first they may cause us to smile,” the Holy Father said. “But when we forget them, there’s nothing to laugh about, is there?” Too often, perhaps, they may be obscured. “May the Lord help us to put them back in their proper place, in our hearts, in our homes, and even in our civil society.”

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