

THE WAY ШЛЯХ

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ENGLISH VERSION

Metropolitan Soroka Announces New Mission in Front Royal, Va.

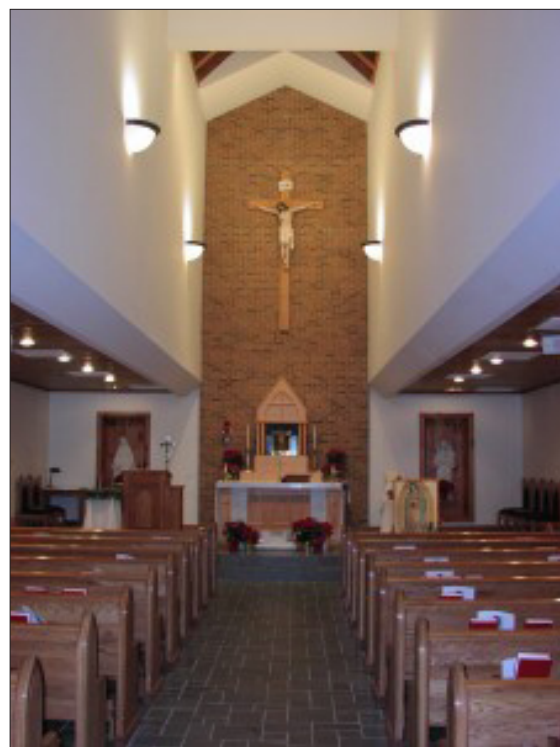
Front Royal, Va. – Metropolitan Stefan Soroka of the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia announces a new mission community is being formed in Front Royal, the northern entrance to Shenandoah National Park and Skyline Drive.

Services at the new mission will begin with the celebration of the Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom celebrated by Rev. Petro Zvarych at 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 12, in the chapel of Human Life International, 4 Family Life Lane, Front Royal, Virginia, 22630. The Divine Liturgy will then be celebrated every Saturday at 4:00 p.m. in English.

Organization of the mission was started after a request from local Ukrainian Catholics and other Eastern Catholics was sent to Archbishop Soroka. Preliminary work was undertaken to find a church or chapel to celebrate services on a regular basis. After some searching, a site was found at Human Life International in Front Royal.

The mission invites and welcomes anyone who would like to make this faith community their new spiritual home, and to experience the liturgical and spiritual traditions of Eastern Christianity.

For more information please contact David Hilt, a Front Royal resident who has agreed to serve as the mission secretary at FRONTROYALMISSION@gmail.com or 540-636-8394.



Chapel in Front Royal, Va.
(Photo: <http://www.hli.org/>)

Highlights inside this issue:

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Beheading of John the Baptist - August 29, 2015



Mk 6,14-29

King Herod heard about this, for Jesus' name had become well known. Some were saying, "John the Baptist has been raised from the dead, and that is why miraculous powers are at work in him." Others said, "He is Elijah." And still others claimed, "He is a prophet, like one of the prophets of long ago."

But when Herod heard this, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised from the dead!" For Herod himself had given orders to have John arrested, and he had him bound and put in prison. He did this because of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, whom he had married. For John had been saying to Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." So Herodias nursed a grudge against John and wanted to kill him. But she was not able to, because

Herod feared John and protected him, knowing him to be a righteous and holy man. When Herod heard John, he was greatly puzzled; yet he liked to listen to him.

Finally the opportune time came. On his birthday Herod gave a banquet for his high officials and military commanders and the leading men of Galilee. When the daughter of Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his dinner guests. The king said to the girl, "Ask me for anything you want, and I'll give it to you." And he promised her with an oath, "Whatever you ask I will give you, up to half my kingdom."

She went out and said to her mother, "What shall I ask for?" "The head of John the Baptist," she answered. At once the girl hurried in to the king with the request: "I want you to give me right now the head of John the Baptist on a platter."

The king was greatly distressed, but because of his oaths and his dinner guests, he did not want to refuse her. So he immediately sent an executioner with orders to bring John's head. The man went, beheaded John in the prison, and brought back his head on a platter. He presented it to the girl, and she gave it to her mother. On hearing of this, John's disciples came and took his body and laid it in a tomb.

On the Martyrdom of St. John the Baptist "The Truth is the Truth; there is no compromise"

CASTEL GANDOLFO, Italy, AUG. 29, 2012 (Zenit.org).- The Holy Father, Pope Benedict, during the general audience held in the main square at Castel Gandolfo, reflected on the figure of St. John the Baptist, and his martyrdom..

* * *

Dear brothers and sisters,
AUGUST 23, 2015

August 29th marks the liturgical memorial of the martyrdom of St. John the Baptist, the forerunner of Jesus. In the Roman calendar, he is the only saint for whom we celebrate both his birth (June 24th) and his death by martyrdom. Today's memorial dates back to the dedication of a crypt of Sebaste, in Samaria, where by

the mid- 4th century his head was already being venerated. The cult then spread to Jerusalem, to the Churches of the East, and to Rome under the title of the Beheading of St. John the Baptist. In the Roman martyrology, reference is made to a second-century discovery of this precious relic, which was transported for the occasion to the

Church of St. Sylvester in Campo Marzio, Rome.

These little historical references help us to understand how ancient and deep the veneration of St. John the Baptist truly is. In the Gospels, his role in relation to Jesus is quite prominent. In particular, St. Luke recounts his birth,

(continued on next page)

On the Martyrdom of St. John the Baptist

(continued from previous page)

his life in the desert and his preaching, and in today's Gospel St. Mark speaks to us about his dramatic death. John the Baptist begins his preaching under the emperor Tiberius, in 27-28 A.D., and the clear invitation he addresses to the people who come out to hear him is to prepare the way to welcome the Lord, to make straight the paths of their lives through a radical conversion of heart (cf. Luke 3:4).

But the Baptist does not limit himself to preaching repentance and conversion; rather, in recognizing Jesus as "the Lamb of God" who has come to take away the sins of the world (John 1:29), he has the deep humility to point to Jesus as the One truly sent by God, and he steps aside so that Christ might increase, be heard and followed.

As a last act, the Baptist bears witness with his blood to his fidelity to God's commandments, without giving up or turning back, thus fulfilling his mission to the end. St. Bede, a 9th century monk, in his Homilies says: St. John, for Christ, gave up his life, even though [his persecutor] had not demanded that he should deny Jesus Christ, but

only that he should keep silent about the truth (cf. Hom. 23: CCL 122, 354). And he did not keep silent about the truth, and thus he died for Christ who is the Truth. For love of the truth, he did not give in to compromises with those who were powerful, nor was he afraid to address strong words to the one who lost his way to God.

Now we see this great figure -- this force -- in his passion, in his resistance against the powerful. We ask: where does this life come from, this interiority, which is so strong, so principled, so consistent, which is spent so totally for God and in preparing the way for Jesus? The answer is simple: from his relationship with God, from prayer, which is the guiding thread of his entire life. John is the divine gift long besought by his parents, Zechariah and Elizabeth (cf. Luke 1:13); a great gift, humanly unhoped-for since both of them were advanced in years and Elizabeth was barren (cf. Luke 1:7); but nothing is impossible for God (cf. Luke 1:36). The announcement of this birth occurred precisely in a place of prayer, in the temple of Jerusalem; indeed, it took place when, to Zechariah, there fell the great privilege of entering the temple's most

sacred place, in order to offer incense to the Lord (cf. Luke 1:8-20). Even the Baptist's birth is marked by prayer: the hymn of joy, praise and thanksgiving that Zechariah raises to the Lord and that we recite each morning in Lauds -- the "Benedictus" -- extols God's action in history and prophetically points to the mission of his son John: to go before the Son of God made flesh in order to prepare the way for him (Luke 1:67-79).

The entire life of Jesus' precursor was nourished by his relationship with God, especially during the time he spent in the wilderness (cf. Luke 1:80); the wilderness, a place of temptation, but also a place where man feels his own poverty, for there he is deprived of all support and material security, and he comes to understand that the only secure reference point is God Himself.

But John the Baptist is not only a man of prayer, of constant contact with God; he is also a guide in this relationship. The Evangelist Luke, in relating the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples -- the "Our Father" -- notes that the request made by the disciples was formulated with these words: "Lord, teach us to pray, as John

taught his disciples" (cf. Luke 11:1).

Dear brothers and sisters, celebrating the martyrdom of St. John the Baptist also reminds us -- Christians in our own times -- that we cannot give into compromise when it comes to our love for Christ, for His Word, for His Truth. The Truth is the Truth; there is no compromise. The Christian life requires, as it were, the "martyrdom" of daily fidelity to the Gospel; the courage, that is, to allow Christ to increase in us and to direct our thoughts and actions. But this can only occur in our lives, if our relationship with God is strong. Prayer is not time lost, nor does it steal space away from our activities, even those that are apostolic; it is exactly the opposite: only if we are able to have a life of faithful, constant, trusting prayer, will God Himself give us the ability and strength to live in happiness and peace, to overcome difficulties, and to courageously bear witness to Him. May St. John the Baptist intercede for us, that we might always maintain the primacy of God in our lives. Thank you.

[Translation by Diane Montagna]

61st Holy Dormition Pilgrimage in Sloatsburg, NY



Procession (Photo: Walter Fedorin)

The 61st Holy Dormition Pilgrimage at the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate in Sloatsburg, NY, was a blessed event during the weekend of August 8 & 9, 2015.

For more information on the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate, please visit their website <http://ssmi-us.org>



Photo from Liturgy on August 9, 2015 (Photo: Walter Fedorin)



A group from the Philadelphia area who travelled to the pilgrimage.

Perth Amboy Parish Attends Holy Dormition Pilgrimage in Sloatsburg NY

On Sunday, August 9th, 2015 parishioners of Assumption of B.V.M. parish in Perth Amboy, NJ, participated at the Holy Dormition Pilgrimage at the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate in Sloatsburg, NY. There were 48 pilgrims from the parish on the bus and many drove to the pilgrimage in their own cars. The highlight of the pilgrimage was undoubtedly the Divine Liturgy celebrated by hierarchs of our Church in America and hundreds of faithful from other parishes praying together. It was an experience that brought our parish closer together as we came to know one another and to share the adventure of the pilgrimage.



Photo from Moleben in Sloatsburg, NY



Rev. Ivan Turyk and parishioners of Assumption of B.V.M. parish in Sloatsburg, NY

UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC ARCHEPARCHY OF PHILADELPHIA
WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2015



**Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral
of the Immaculate Conception
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania**

We invite all our married faithful to join with our Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka to celebrate their Wedding Anniversaries at a Divine Liturgy in our Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Sunday, September 13, 2015 at 11 AM followed by a Banquet in their honor.

Registration Form

Husband's name _____

Wife's Name _____

Address _____

Parish _____ Phone _____

Email _____ Number of Years Married _____

Number of Guests _____

Deadline for Registration September 1, 2015

Cost: \$50.00 per Anniversary Couple \$30.00 per guest

Mail to: Office for Evangelization 827 North Franklin Street, Philadelphia, Pa. 19123

Make checks payable to: Archeparchy of Philadelphia

Blessing Fruit on the Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord

On Thursday, August 6 the parishioners of SS. Peter & Paul Church in Simpson, PA celebrated the Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord with a Divine Liturgy and the Blessing of Fruit.

Pictured is Father Myron Myronyuk, pastor blessing the baskets of fruit for the parishioners of the church.



Blessing Flowers on the Feast of the Dormition of the Blessed Virgin Mary

On Saturday, August 15, 2015, Rev. Joseph Szupa offered a homily in English and Ukrainian on the Feast of the Dormition of the Blessed Virgin Mary and then Blessed Flowers at the conclusion of the Liturgy.

Watch a video from the Liturgy at the Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Philadelphia on our YouTube Channel at <https://www.youtube.com/user/thewayukrainian>



Rev. Szupa blesses flowers assisted by Subdeacon Roman Oprysk

The Knights of Columbus Supreme Convention; Reflection by Cardinal Sean O'Malley

The Supreme Convention is always an inspiring occasion. But one of the events that particularly struck me this year was our celebration Wednesday (August 5th) of the Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom in solidarity with the people of the Ukraine.



(Photo: <http://www.kofc.org>)

Philadelphia is not only a Latin Rite archdiocese but also Ukrainian Eparchy. So, Archbishop Chaput celebrated the Opening Mass on Tuesday and on Wednesday the "other" Archbishop of Philadelphia, Metropolitan Archbishop Stefan Soroka, celebrated their liturgy. There were nine Ukrainian Catholic bishops present for the Liturgy, which was very impressive.

<http://www.cardinalseansblog.org/2015/08/07/the-knights-of-columbus-supreme-convention/>

Philadelphia's Ukrainian archbishop, a Knights' fan, closes convention

By Lou Baldwin

August 6th, 2015

It is a general custom at the annual Supreme Convention of the Knights of Columbus that the ordinary of the diocese or archdiocese where the convention is held celebrates the opening Mass.

This year in Philadelphia for the Aug. 4-6 convention the Knights got a twofer, because Philadelphia happens to have two sitting Catholic Archbishops. On Tuesday, Aug. 4, Archbishop Charles Chaput of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Philadelphia celebrated the opening Mass at the Pennsylvania Convention Center.

On Wednesday, Aug. 5, Archbishop Stefan Soroka, of the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia and the Metropolitan Archbishop for Ukrainian Catholics in the United States, celebrated the Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom in the same venue.

It was only the second time in the Knights' history that a Ukrainian Catholic liturgy was celebrated

at their convention; the first was in 1988, the millennial year of the Christian conversion of Ukraine.

In this case the altar area took on the look of an Eastern Christian sanctuary, with a large icon of the Theotokos (Mary the Mother of God) dominating, a central feature in Eastern Christian theology.

For those unfamiliar with the Ukrainian Catholic Church, Archbishop Soroka explained they are "one of 23 Eastern Catholic Churches in union with the See of Peter, of which 18 serve their faithful in the United States."

In his homily the archbishop explained some of the points stressed in Eastern theology, including "the divinization of man beginning at baptism."

In a special way, he said, "men who choose



Divine Liturgy at the Knights of Columbus Convention
(Photo: <http://www.kofc.org>)

to become Knights of Columbus following in the footsteps of our founder, Father Michael McGivney, also experience special transformation as they are transfigured on this path to divinization."

Archbishop Soroka related how some years ago when he was a parish priest he helped organize a K of C council in the parish. Men who had never been active in parish programs and appeared shy and hesitant nevertheless joined the council, and were transformed into energetic leaders both

in the parish and the community.

"They became so bold, so confident, that they were not hesitant to even advise me as to what I should be doing," he said. "Their natures changed.

The power of fraternal prayer and works of charity in an atmosphere with a patriotic love for God, Church and country transformed these men and their families."

Very clearly Archbishop Soroka endorses the Knights of Columbus. He could even write their recruitment brochures.

<http://catholicphilly.com>

Watch the Liturgy from the Knights of Columbus Convention on EWTN's YouTube Channel
<https://youtu.be/Y4qKU9ChSyY>

BRIEF HISTORY OF THE LEAGUE OF UKRAINIAN CATHOLICS

The League of Ukrainian Catholics of America was formed in August 1933 in Chicago, IL, through the efforts of members of the Ukrainian Catholic Church community and Father Ambrose A. Senyshyn (who eventually rose to the rank of Archbishop Metropolitan for all Ukrainian Catholics in America). Fr. Senyshyn immigrated into the United States from Ukraine, at a time when this country was in the midst of a Great Depression. His first pastoral assignment was served in the parish of St. Nicholas, Chicago, IL. As part of this assignment he witnessed much poverty and human degradation. He was very sensitive to the needs of his parishioners and worked very hard to give them both Spiritual solace and assistance with their many problems. In response to these needs, he organized the Ukrainian Catholic Youth League (UCYL) organization now called the League of Ukrainian Catholics (LUC). It was intended to provide religious and social activities for the Ukrainian American Youth and also to provide an opportunity for the children of the new immigrants to be able to socialize with their

peers in and through the Church community.

Some early facts:

The UCYL/LUC published a magazine, the "Ukrainian Youth", written in both Ukrainian and English with a subscription rate of \$1.50 per year beginning in 1934. It is written that this magazine has been "friend and teacher encouraging us, inspiring us, teaching to love our own, our church, and country". All this time it has been anchoring brother to brother, brother to sister, parents to children and children to parents. It has been enlightening us, the members of the Ukrainian second generation on this continent, about the faith and country of our fathers. It has been striving to show us the beauty of our faith, rite, and nationality and the reasons for the subjugation of Ukraine. It has been awakening in us a love for all that is Ukrainian, and instilling in us the determination to defend our own, be it Church or country."

The LUC continues to publish a periodical under the title of "Action". This publication was issued regularly by the former editor Harry V. Makar and is currently published

from the Niagara Frontier Council.

The UCYL/LUC was and is not just a social organization. As it grew, it focused its attention on the need to keep our Religious heritage as well as our Ukrainian identity alive. The membership in their local Councils/Chapters engaged themselves in their parishes, working closely with the Hierarchy and clergy to keep our Ukrainian Catholic Rite and identity vibrant and ever visible.

The following are some highlights of the various activities of the League of Ukrainian Catholics that evolved from the early structure of the Ukrainian Catholic Youth League.

Conventions:

The League has held Annual National Conventions from the founding of the League (earlier referred to as a Congress) up to the present time. During the war years, the membership ceased to gather, however resumed at the end of those times – 1948. This year we celebrate the 77th Convention and the 80th Anniversary of the founding of the organization.

Sports Rally:

It is written in some of the early annals (1938) of the UCYL/LUC that there were "Track and Field" meets held during the conventions. The "track and field" events became known as the Sports Rally in later years. These rallies were organized separately from the Conventions. The Sports Rallies were held annually in the Spring where the membership competed in various sporting events. Events such as bowling, golfing, tennis matches, trap shooting, youth putting course, ping pong, billiards etc. were the regular activities, as well as other events for the younger children. The Sports Rallies brought together the young families of the parishes and through these events, the young children formed friendships that have lasted well into their middle years. As the membership aged, the sports activities became less "strenuous". Eventually, the organization discontinued holding these events.

Annual Retreats:

In keeping with our Constitution's first

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BRIEF HISTORY OF THE LEAGUE OF UKRAINIAN CATHOLICS

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purpose, that is "To promote the personal sanctification of each individual member. By personal example to draw others to a deeper love for God through the practice of our Catholic Faith in the Ukrainian Rite" the officers of the National Board and under the direction of the Spiritual Director, Rev. John P. Stevensky, a program of Annual Retreats was begun in July of 1977 and continues until today. In the early years two retreats were held – one in English and one in Ukrainian. Currently, the English retreat continues to enroll participants for the Lenten period.

Burse Fund:

Sometime in the late 1960's or early 1970's, the National Board of Directors began a program of support for "vocations". During the annual Convention, a monetary award was presented to a young seminarian to help in his studies. Later, in 1980, during the convention at Johnstown, PA, a "pledge drive" began and funds were collected that allowed the League to open several Burse Accounts that would then draw interest, that

would be gifted to not only seminarians, but it was voted upon to help all - religious men, women and those in the seminary, from all Eparchies, to further their studies.

School Endowment Fund:

The second purpose of the League is Educational. In the late 1970s, the membership and the Board of Directors initiated the Sr. John Paskevich School Endowment Fund. The fund was established to grant to one of the Metropolia parochial schools a gift in the name of an exceptional student named by the school principal. This gift is given annually to a school in one of the Eparchies, on a rotating basis.

Vibrant Parish Activity:

On a grassroots level, the membership continues to work diligently in their local parishes and proto-presbyteries (deaneries) to keep our Ukrainian Catholic Church and its distinct heritage alive, vibrant and thriving. Each Chapter and Council continues to support the activities of the Church, the League and each

other. League members consistently organize or are otherwise actively involved in all of the activities, religious, spiritual and social, that comprise the life and spirit of the Church. They are active also in many acts of Christian charity at all levels.

The LUC is also an invaluable resource as a library and repository of materials and methods for religious education, parish activities on all levels, interaction, reflection, prayer, charitable activities and individual and communal support. In a word, the LUC actively pursues its stated Purposes:

- **Religious:** to promote the personal sanctification of each individual member
- **Educational:** to provide and to support programs that aid in the religious training of youth and adults at the parish level
- **Cultural:** to develop an appreciation (internally and externally) for the richness of our Eastern/Byzantine Rite and our precious Ukrainian heritage

• **Social:** to encourage friendship and collaboration between and among the members as well as between and among the parishioners in the communities where the LUC is active

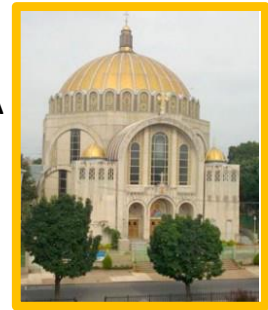
• **Collaborative:** to foster and to promote unity and cooperation among all of the ecclesiastically approved organizations.



"HONORING OUR PAST - BUILDING OUR FUTURE"

LEAGUE OF UKRAINIAN CATHOLICS OF AMERICA

Invites You to Participate in Its
77TH ANNUAL NATIONAL CONVENTION
OCTOBER 16, 17, 18, 2015



Friday, October 16, 2015

10:00 am - 5:00 pm: Arrival, Registration & Hospitality Room

6:30 pm - 11:00 pm Welcome Party: "Gypsy Jazz Night"

featuring "Inessa" on violin and

Music by Kruno Spisic and his Gypsy Jazz Band - Buffet Dinner with Cash Bar

Saturday, October 17, 2015

10:00 am - 5:00 pm: Hospitality Room (for those not registered for bus trip)

8:30 AM – 5:00 PM – Mobile (Bus) Workshop (with Box Lunch)

Tours of Three Priceless Churches of the Philadelphia Landscape

- **"The Gold Dome" Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception:** Panakhyda at the Crypts; veneration of the Icons & Relics of Bl. Charnetsky and Bl. Josaphata and the Shroud of Turin replica; Byzantine Church Supply Gift shop.
- **Jesuit Church of the Gesu**—the "Basilica-esque" baroque Jesuit church built in 1879—1888
- **St. Peter's Church and the St. John Neumann Shrine** - with veneration of the remains of St. John Neumann.

Saturday Evening Banquet

6:00 pm Cash Bar Cocktail Hour

7:00 pm Plated Dinner & Cash Bar

- **Keynote speakers:**
Rev. Daniel Troyan and Sr. Eliane Ilnitski, SSMI
- **Entertainment:** violinist "Inessa"
Voloshky School of Ukrainian Dance,
Music and social dancing: "Kosiv Ensemble"



Sunday, October 18, 2015

11:00 am Divine Liturgy

Presentation of Our Lord Ukrainian Catholic Church, Lansdale, PA
1564 Allentown Road, Lansdale, PA 19446

Bountiful Brunch to follow immediately at the Parish Center

Closing Ceremonies: Passing of the League Banner & Icon next Convention Site Committee.

LOCATION: Holiday Inn – Lansdale (1750 Sumneytown Pike, Kulpsville, PA 19443; 215-368-3800)

Discount Room Rates with Buffet Breakfasts Available; Reserve on or before September 28, 2015

Info: Call or email Gene: 267-664-3857; eluciw@comcat.net

Join us for all or some all of the events!

Itemized Registration Form on Reverse Side



LEAGUE OF UKRAINIAN CATHOLICS - 77TH ANNUAL CONVENTION

" HONORING OUR PAST - BUILDING OUR FUTURE "

2015 CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM—PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED



Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip Code _____

Phone _____ Cell _____ E-mail _____

Council or Chapter (if any) _____ LUC Member ___ GUEST ___

NOTE: ALL ADDRESSES AND E-MAILS WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE JOURNAL DIRECTORY, UNLESS YOU CHECK HERE.



Please indicate the number of tickets needed for each event and the total amount enclosed. **No reservations will be accepted at Convention !**

EVENT	PRICE	NO.	COST	
Registration	\$15.00			
Friday Oct. 16 Welcome Party - "Gypsy Jazz Night" Buffet Dinner with Cash Bar	\$35.00			
Saturday Oct. 17 "MOBILE WORKSHOP" - Panachyda at Immaculate Conception Cathedral with tour, visit to the Church of the Gesu and St. Peter's Church /St. John Neumann Shrine . Tour includes a box lunch.	\$25.00			Select Sandwich: Turkey ___ or Ham w/ Cheese___
Banquet - Dinner w/cash bar (Indicate any food allergies, restrictions and make your meal selection)	\$45.00			CIRCLE ONE: Pork or Salmon
Sunday Oct. 18 Brunch @ Presentation Parish Center Brunch Buffet	\$25.00			
Total Package	\$145.00			
Total Amount Enclosed				

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: SEPT. 28, 2015

Please send Registration form
with your check made payable to:



2015 LUC CONVENTION

C/O Mrs. Andrea Naegle
5725 Ricky Ridge Trail
Orefield, PA 18069

Perth Amboy, NJ parish holds Ukrainian Festival

Across the US, Ukrainian festivals abound during the spring, summer, and fall months. So when Father Ivan Turyk became pastor of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Perth Amboy some 5 years ago, and realized the parish did not have a yearly festival, he began planning and recruiting to establish one in Perth Amboy, NJ. For the last 3 years, this well-organized festival, held on church and school grounds, has grown into a very popular community event in this Middlesex county city.



The festival was established to celebrate the rich culture of Ukraine. The dance, music/songs, and cuisine are enjoyed by all. This year's dance was provided by the "Veselka," "Nadia," and "Chervona Kalyna" dance groups under the direction and choreography of Mrs. Nadia Lemega. The song portion of the program featured the talented and highly acclaimed singer Pavlo Duskoch. The Ukrainian kitchen was staffed by parish volunteers, who worked hard to prepare the various specialty dishes and desserts.



Among the many attendees were the Mayor of Perth Amboy, Mrs. Wilda Diaz, who has attended all three festivals. Also, Congressman Frank Pallone (D-NJ, 6th district), spoke to the crowd about his impressions of a recent visit to Ukraine. Even an afternoon shower did not deter the enthusiasm of the crowd who enjoyed the two indoor stage shows, the food and beer (Ukrainian, of course), the many vendors, face painting for the children, and dancing to the sounds of a live orchestra. Some of the attendees took advantage of a tour of the church highlighted by an explanation of the rich symbolism of an eastern rite church and the priceless mural created by the renowned Jacques Hnizdowsky.

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Perth Amboy, NJ parish holds Ukrainian Festival

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Father Ivan thanked the many sponsors of the festival, including the major sponsor – Meest-America, for helping the parish share the rich culture and religion of Ukraine with Americans of many descents.



North Anthracite Council of LUC Holds August Meeting and Annual Picnic

The vibrant North Anthracite Council of the League of Ukrainian Catholics met on Sunday, August 16, 2015 at SS. Cyril and Methodius Church of Berwick PA. Moleben to Our Blessed Mother was served by host pastor, Father John Seniw with choral responses led by Council Spiritual Director, Father Paul Wolensky.

Afterward the group met at the nearby residence of Tim and Janina Everett for its general meeting and annual picnic. Discussion focused on the fast approaching National Convention including the selection of delegates and alternates. The forty participants enjoyed a bountiful and fun filled picnic with many lucky enough to win Ukrainian themed door prizes.

Council members were honored to have as their guests Ms. Marion Hrubec, LUC National President and Ms. Helen Fedoriw, National Vice President. Both reported on the very practical application of the “The Vibrant Parish – a Place to Encounter the Living Christ” as encouraged by our Patriarch Sviatoslav’s Pastoral Letter to the world-wide Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, the attractive upcoming October Convention and the formation of new chapters as well as the growth in memberships. To quote Ms. Hrubec: “If you want vibrancy, join the LUC!”



Photo by Tim Everett

HOLODOMOR MEMORIAL DEDICATION CEREMONY 2015

Washington, D.C.

Friday, November 6
7 P.M.
Exhibit Opening/Reception

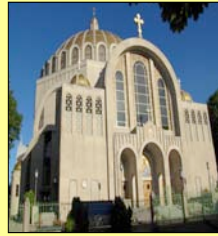
Saturday, November 7
2 P.M.
Dedication Ceremony
10 A.M. – 7 P.M. Exhibit

Sunday, November 8
2 P.M.
Concert



HOLODOMOR UKRAINE GENOCIDE 1932-33

© U.S. COMMITTEE FOR UKRAINIAN HOLODOMOR-GENOCIDE AWARENESS 1932-33



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

Open for Visitation Prayer
Meditation Veneration during the
World Meeting of Families

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19th

2:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Divine Liturgy: 4:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20th

2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Divine Liturgy: 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21st through

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25th
9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Divine Liturgy 9:00 a.m.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26th

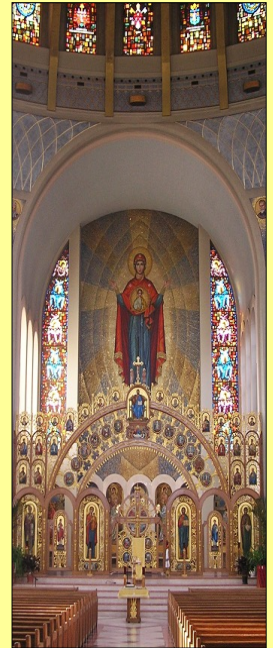
9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Divine Liturgy: 9:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27th

Divine Liturgy: 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

- 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 Hordashevska, SSMI
- Experience the beauty of traditional Byzantine icons and mosaics

For more information call 215-922-2845 or visit the cathedral website <http://www.ukrcathedral.com/>



The family of Saint Basil the Great

THE SISTERS OF THE ORDER OF SAINT BASIL THE GREAT

FOX CHASE MANOR, PA

INVITE THE HIERARCHY, THE CLERGY, THE RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES
AND THE FAITHFUL

TO JOIN US IN CELEBRATING
THE YEAR OF THE FAMILY
AND
THE YEAR OF CONSECRATED LIFE

AT OUR ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE

OCTOBER 4, 2015

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

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.

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.

Sts. Peter & Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church
UKRAINIAN DAY FESTIVAL

Saturday, September 19th
11am – 6pm



FREE ADMISSION
Rain or Shine

- ❖ 20 Cash Prizes Raffle Ticket
- ❖ Ukrainian Food
- ❖ Entertainment
- ❖ Exhibit
- ❖ Church Tour
- ❖ Children's Corner
- ❖ Live Music
- ❖ Art & Craft Vendors
- ❖ Indoor Flea Market
- ❖ Gift Baskets Raffle



ADDRESS: 301 Fairview Street, Phoenixville
WEBSITE: www.sspeterandpaulukr.com
EMAIL: sspeterandpaulukr@gmail.com
TELEPHONE: 610-933-7801

Holy Ghost
Ukrainian Catholic Church
TRICKY TRAY



Date: Sunday, October 18th, 2015

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

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

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

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

**Top prizes include: Flat Panel TV, Samsung Galaxy Tab,
Toshiba Laptop, American Girl Doll and more!**

www.HolyGhost-Ukrainian-Catholic.org

Mt. Carmel Parish holds Summer Camp

Ss. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church in Mt. Carmel, Pa. had a week-long summer camp, August 3-7, 2015 with the theme "Hometown Nazareth--Where Jesus was a kid!" The camp was held on the grounds of Assumption Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church, Centralia, PA.-- a wonderful place to catch the fire of the Holy Spirit. (<https://www.facebook.com/SsPeterAndPaulMC>)



Oldest Ukrainian church building facing demolition

BY JOHN E. USALIS

August 16, 2015

The first church used by Ukrainian Byzantine Catholics in the United States will soon be no more, but its loss will help secure the future of its successor church.

The original St. Michael Ukrainian Catholic Church on West Centre Street in Shenandoah is scheduled for demolition, with work started now to prepare for the complete removal of the structure. It has not been used regularly as a worship site since 1908, with the exception of the early 1980s when Divine Liturgies were celebrated due to a massive fire that destroyed the second church building of the parish.

The 131-year-old structure, which had been modified over time, began to be used as a hall after the second church was built in 1908 in order to meet the needs of a growing congregation. The original church was also where the St. Michael's Social Club met and held activities.

The employees from Kass Contracting were at the site Thursday and Friday removing interior fixtures. No specific day has been set for when the wooden

church will come down.

While the demolition will begin on the first St. Michael church, work is beginning on another project for repairs and upgrades at the parish's third church at Oak and Chestnut streets.

Heim Construction Company Inc., Pottsville, is the general contractor on the demolition and renovation projects at both sites.

Explaining the situation Friday in the rectory were Monsignor Myron Grabowsky, pastor, Paul Caputo, a member of the finance council, and Albert Breznik Jr., a member of the building council.

The work at the current church and the demolition of the first church are connected, Breznik said. With funding available to begin the renovations, Metropolitan Stefan Soroka, archbishop of the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia and spiritual head of all Ukrainian Catholics in the United States, was approached about the renovation project for permission to proceed.

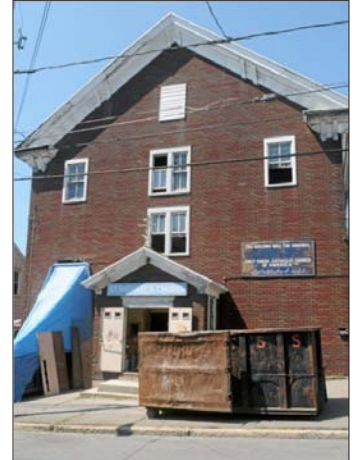
"There was a parish meeting and the archbishop's directions to

us were that in order to do this and to concentrate on preserving the church that we have now, we needed to lessen our liabilities," Breznik said. "What he meant by 'lessening our liabilities' was the property we have down on Centre Street and anything that is costing us money that we're not using. That (old church) was first and foremost."

Breznik provided some history of the parish and explained how the first church became a religious lifeboat after the parish's second church was destroyed in 1980.

"Let's go back to the beginning. That was the first Ukrainian Greek Catholic church in America," Breznik said. "In 1908, our forefathers in the church abandoned that building to move the parish to the building that burned down, which is right where we're sitting. After they began using the second church, the original church building was used as a social hall and for parties up until probably the early 1960s. The building was then vacant up until we needed it when our second church burned down for religious services."

The second church was destroyed in a fire in



The original St. Michael's Ukrainian Catholic Church on West Center Street in Shenandoah is in the process of being demolished. It has not been used regularly as a worship site since 1908 with the exception of the early 1980s when Divine Liturgies were celebrated there due to a fire that destroyed the second church building of the parish. (Photo: Andy Matsko)

1980 on Easter Monday morning. With the help of other Ukrainian Catholic churches, icons and other religious items were provided to the parish to add to the original church to celebrate the Divine Liturgy and other services. The first church was used until 1984, when the third and current church opened

(continued on next page)

Oldest Ukrainian church building facing demolition

(continued from previous page)

in time for the parish's 100th anniversary.

Breznik said the first church reverted to a social hall, its purposes including the sale of the parish's homemade pierogies. The social club dissolved in 2009 due to a lack of members and funds, but the leftover funds were used to add the large mosaics on the outside of the current church.

"That was the last time that building was used," Breznik said.

As the demolition is beginning, scaffolding was erected around the church at Oak and Chestnut streets for outside work to begin in order to seal the domes, or cupolas, to keep water from entering the church. The work is being done by C&D Waterproofing Corp., Bloomsburg.

Grabowsky said the improvement work at the church is more than repairing and regilding the cupolas. The entire project is divided into two phases.

"There will be a whole new roof, new electrical, new air conditioning, a rest room upstairs for handicapped people," Grabowsky said. "In

other words, bring the church up-to-date. We will also repair the bottom steps outside. Hopefully C&D will be here on Wednesday to start the roof and domes."

Caputo added, "There will be a special type of resin used to seal the domes. C&D has done work on the capitol buildings in Harrisburg and Richmond, Virginia. They have experience in this area."

"They specialize in the atypical roof," Breznik said. "Our problems with the domes is the seams in the domes. They'll encapsulate it, seal everything up, so we don't have the leaks. It was the domes leaking that sparked all this."

The leaking began in 1989 when Hurricane Hugo hit the area and Breznik said it has worsened over the years.

"While we have them (C&D) up there doing that, our roof is shot after 31 years," Breznik said. "And to bring things into the 21st century, we're going to change all of our lights to LED light fixtures."

"The windows in the dome will be bronze colored and insulated glass," Grabowsky said.

"And there will a fan to circulate the air to ventilate the ceiling to keep the moisture from building up. And the church will have much better lighting."

The roof repairs, inside lighting work, the outside steps and repointing the grout around the windows and doors are part of Phase I. As funds become available, Phase II will begin for the plumbing, air conditioning, pews and carpeting.

"We're doing all the critical things to keep the water out and weatherization," Caputo said.

"This has been going on for 20 years, but we just never had the funds available," Breznick said. "Financially, we were unable to take on a project of this magnitude."

"We've been blessed by a donor who contributed a large sum of funds to make this possible," Grabowsky said.

The cost of the demolition and the renovation/repair work is still being determined, Grabowsky said, so no numbers are being released now. He said once a firm cost is set, the project costs will be released.

The Very Rev. Archpriest

John M. Fields, archeparchy director of communications, said there were very few choices for what needed to be done, especially in light of the needs and desire to make the repairs and improvements necessary at the church building used by the parishioners.

"The original church, which hasn't been used for all these years, has deteriorated to the point that it has become a liability not only to the parish, but to the archdiocese," Fields said. "The decision was made to put the resources into the current church to upgrade their church for the future. Also, in a town like Shenandoah that has a history of fires, the decision was made to bring the building down for safety and so it is not a hazard. There is no way for resources to be available to restore it or whatever you would do with it. It's not really necessary for the existing needs of the parish."

<http://standardspeaker.com/news/oldest-ukrainian-church-building-facing-demolition-1.1927448>



A preparatory catechesis for the World Meeting of Families

Love is Our Mission – The family fully alive

Part V

ALL LOVE BEARS FRUIT

Not everyone is called to marriage. But every life is meant to be fertile. Every life has the power and the need to nurture new life — if not through bearing and raising children, then through other vital forms of self-giving, building, and service. The Church is an extended family of different vocations, each distinct but each needing and supporting the others. Priesthood, religious life, and the celibate lay vocation enrich, and are enriched by, the witness of the married state. The different ways of being chaste and celibate outside of marriage are ways of donating one's life to God's service and the human community.

In other words, not all men and women need to be biological parents to radiate God's love or take part in the "family of families" we know as the Church. The vocation to the priesthood, or vowed religious life, has its own integrity and glory. The Church always needs priests and religious, and parents must help all their sons and daughters listen for the possibility that God might be calling them to offer their lives in this way.

Everything the Church has taught about being created for joy, about being created in the image of God, about needing to love and be loved, applies equally to celibate and married persons. Celibacy can be confirmed and permanent, as in vowed religious life, or someone unable to marry due to disability or circumstance, or only potentially permanent, as in a young person discerning a vocation. In all of these cases, celibacy follows in the footsteps of Jesus, flourishing by offering the self to God and trusting his plan, and building a life premised on loving others with mercy, patience, generosity, and service.

We ought to ask ourselves:

What are some of the trials or burdens that unmarried people face in your community? How can friends, families, and parishes help? What are some of the benefits of celibacy? How can unmarried people serve the community?

Have you ever encouraged the children you know to become a priest or vowed religious? Why or why not?

What are some good reasons for choosing either marriage or celibacy? What are some not-so-good reasons? How should a person discern his or her vocation?

<http://stjosaphateparchy.com/>



**A PREPARATORY CATECHESIS FOR THE WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES
LOVE IS OUR MISSION – THE FAMILY FULLY ALIVE**

Part VI

LIGHT IN A DARK WORLD AND A HOME FOR THE WOUNDED HEART

At its best, the family is a school of love, justice, compassion, forgiveness, mutual respect, patience, and humility in the midst of a world darkened by selfishness and conflict. In these ways, the family teaches what it means to be human. However, many temptations arise which try to coax us into forgetting that male and female are created for covenant and communion. For example, poverty, affluence, pornography, contraception, philosophical and other intellectual mistakes can all create contexts that challenge or threaten healthy family life. The Church resists these things for the sake of protecting the family.

Many people, especially today, face painful situations resulting from poverty, disability, illness and addictions, unemployment, and the loneliness of advanced age. But divorce and same-sex attraction impact the life of the family in especially intimate ways. Christian families and networks of families should be sources of mercy, safety, friendship, and support for those struggling with these issues.

To grasp the Church's ministry of teaching correctly, we also need to consider her pastoral nature. Pope Francis once famously likened the Church to "a field hospital after battle." He said: "It is useless to ask a seriously injured person if he has high cholesterol and about the level of his blood sugars! You have to heal his wounds. Then we can talk about everything else. Heal the wounds, heal the wounds....!and you have to start from the ground up." Sexuality is uniquely vulnerable to such wounds. Men, women, and children can be wounded by promiscuous sexual behavior (their own and that of others), pornography and other forms of objectification, rape, prostitution, human trafficking, divorce, and the fear of commitment created by an increasingly anti-marriage culture.

The New Evangelization can be understood as bringing the wounded in from the battlefield of the world to encounter the Divine Physician and the healing that he offers within the community of the Church. Pope Francis sees this task as the challenge of being a "missionary Church," or "a Church which goes forth." Taking part in sacramental life, developing a life of prayer, the practice of charity, spiritual disciplines, accountability and support from church friends — these things offer the wounded but recovering Christian a path of conversion. We ought to ask ourselves:

- a) The Church is a field hospital. How does the Church help people who are wounded? How can we do better?
- b) What are the obstacles to creating close spiritual friendships in your culture? What can your parish or eparchy do to encourage Catholic friendships?
- c) What support exists in your parish or eparchy for making progress in chastity? Are there support groups or opportunities for education? How often is the Sacrament of Penance offered, and are there opportunities for spiritual direction?

The Head of the UGCC prays for peace in Europe and Ukraine before the icon of Blessed Virgin Mary of Mariapocs in Hungary

Sunday, 16 August 2015

On 15th of August on the feast of Dormition of the Mother of God, up to Gregorian calendar, the Father and Head of the UGCC His Beatitude Sviatoslav took part in the pilgrimage to the Marian indulgence shrine of Hungarian Greek-Catholics, situated in Mariapocs, Hungary.

The pilgrimage was held on occasion of the 300th anniversary of a majestic glorifying miraculous icon of Virgin Mary of

Mariapocs. As it is known in Mariapocs small town the copy of a pristine icon of the Mother of God wept secondly (the 1st, 2nd and 5th of August, 1795). The marvelous origin of this phenomenon was attested by the results of the special commission from an Apostolic capital. Since then this small town on East of Hungary has become a pilgrimage center for all the faithful from neighboring countries.

His Beatitude Sviatoslav greeted all the pilgrims and sent salutations from all faithful of Ukraine: "I came from Kyiv to this miraculous place to pray for peace in Europe, Hungary and for ending the war in Ukraine".

In his word he signified that Ukrainians are fighting and dying for freedom and independence of their Motherland today, need prayers, solidarity and support from faithful of Hungary. The Head of the Church also greeted Hungarian Greek-Catholics with the proclamation of a parent state here and creating a new eparchy for the Catholics of Eastern rite.

"I am truly grateful to the Head of the Greek-Catholic Church in Hungary, Metropolitan Fillip for granting a pastoral care to Ukrainian Greek-Catholics who live in Hungary, especially for accepting our priest for servicing in a UGCC community in Budapest. I wish God listened to the prayers of every pilgrim, under the mediation of Mother of God", - finished His Beatitude Sviatoslav.

The historical reference to Mariapocs icon of Mother of God you may see on the website of the Patriarchal Pilgrimage Center.

The UGCC Department of Information



The Head of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church reminds us of the obligation to pray and fast for Ukraine

Tuesday, August 18, 2015

His Beatitude Sviatoslav, the Head of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church has called upon all the faithful of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church and all people of good will to pray and fast for Ukraine. He reminded us about the obligation to pray each day at 9:00 p.m. for Ukraine and one designated day of the week to fast for this intention.

The Bishops ask that the common prayer be offered by parishioners, monastics and seminarians for the following intentions: on Monday - for the successful ministry of the President, the Government, and the Supreme Council of Ukraine (Verkhovna Rada); on Tuesday, for our enemies and the conversion of those who persecute and attack us; on Wednesday, for the Ukrainian army; on Thursday, for those who work in the office of self-defense and the military; on Friday, for the wounded and the refugees and their families; on Saturday, for the deceased, especially the departed soldiers and all those innocently killed; and on Sunday, for the unity and sovereignty of Ukraine.

UGCC

(Translated into English from an article on <http://news.ugcc.ua/>)

UGCC FOCUSES ON ACTIVE PARISH LIFE

13 August 2015

The development strategy of the UGCC titled "Living Parish is a place to meet the living Christ" - is not just a plan that we created for someone. This is the church-wide movement; this is the life that we live. Therefore the Patriarchal Council is a good time sharing experiences and gifts. It is also the time of examination of conscience so that we answered ourselves to the question: "Are we a living community as a church?"



Head of the UGCC Patriarch Sviatoslav said in his interview for the film "Face of the living Church" that the creative team of Zhyve.TV is working on. The first night of the film is scheduled for August 25 during the VI session of the Patriarchal Council of the UGCC.

His Beatitude Sviatoslav stresses that the UGCC has different parishes, the parishes that are being born, the mature and over-ripen ones and the ones that freeze. "That is why it is so important to us to share the gifts we have today and learn some experience which our community has gained, say, in another country or perhaps on another continent. It is highly important for us to understand where we are in the strategy," the patriarch said.

Outlining the main directions of church development in this strategic plan, the patriarch added that "we are open for adjustments to be made by the Lord" in it. For the Church is the Body of Christ, and not a human

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UGCC FOCUSES ON ACTIVE PARISH LIFE

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institution which has its strategic development plan.

“The last word in the Church life always belongs to Christ who is its Head,” he explains.

According to the patriarch, the history makes its amendments in church life as well, “Five years ago we had no idea that a war would start in Ukraine. We thought that our country would begin to experience the Revolution of Dignity. And certainly we did not know what the place to meet the living Christ will be not a parish community, but Kyiv Maidan and the frontline.”

Therefore, according to him, this Patriarchal Cathedral will be a “moment to hear the word of God.”

As previously reported, VI session of the Patriarchal Council of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church “Living Parish is a place to meet the living Christ” will be held on August 25 – 27, in Ivano-Frankivsk. It was reported by the Information Department of the UGCC.

<http://risu.org.ua>

Pope Francis: Audience reflection on celebration, work and prayer

August 12, 2015

Pope Francis held his weekly General Audience on Wednesday morning in the Paul VI Hall. The Holy Father dedicated his catechetical reflection once again to the family, opening a new phase in the series of reflections on the family, to three specific facets of family.

“It is God himself who teaches us the importance of dedicating time to contemplating and enjoying the fruits of our labours, not only in our employment or profession, but through every action by which we as men and women cooperate in God’s creative work, even in times of difficulty,” said Pope Francis. The Pope went on to note that, even in the workplace, we celebrate – a birthday, a marriage, a new baby, a farewell or a welcome, and that true moments of celebration make us pause from our work, because they remind us that we are made in the image and likeness of God, who is not a slave to work, but the Lord of work. “So,” he said, “we must never be slaves to work but rather its master.” Nevertheless, “We know that millions of men and women, even children, are slaves to work. The obsession with economic profit and technical efficiency puts the human rhythms of life at risk,” he continued.

Pope Francis concluded his reflection with a focus on the need to recover attunement to the rhythms of life, which are found most especially in the sense of the sacred that at once draws to and flows from Sunday, the day of rest, and its centerpiece, the Eucharistic celebration. “Moments of rest, especially on Sunday, are sacred because in them we find God,” said Pope Francis, adding that the Sunday Eucharist brings to our celebrations every grace of Jesus Christ: his presence, his love and his sacrifice; his forming us into a community, and his way of being with us. “Everything is transfigured by his grace: work, family, the joys and trials of each day, even our sufferings and death,” he continued.

Pope Francis concluded with a prayer: “May we always recognize the family as the privileged place to understand, guide and sustain the gifts which arise from our celebrations, especially the Sunday Eucharist.” (Vatican Radio)

A Divine Liturgy was served in English language in Zazdrist

Tuesday, 11 August 2015

On August 8th in a memorial and museum complex named after Patriarch Josyf Slipyi in Zazdrist village, Ternopil region, a Divine Liturgy was celebrated in English language. A lecturer from Ternopil Holy Spirit Seminary father-doctor Ivan Sichkaryk and a guest from the USA, Rev. Ihor Bloschchynskyy from Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Melrose Park, Pennsylvania, celebrated a Liturgy for participants of a summer school of English language that was held July 26th to August 15th in a native village of His Eminence Beatitude Josyf.



On Monday, August 3rd, children visited the native farmstead of His Beatitude Josyf where they discovered the way of cross of his pastoral serving his Church and people. On Wednesday, August 5th, all the participants made a thankful pilgrimage to the Blessed Virgin Mary of Zarvanytsia where they prayed a rosary and Stations of the Cross, took part in a informative quest about a history of this holy place, visiting also the participants of a Christian camp "Joyful vacation with God". On Friday, August 7th, the youth prayed at the grave of Patriarch Josyf's parents, served by a senior priest of a local church, father Andriy Kozak.

As it was informed earlier, this project had been prepared by a Religious society of Ukrainian Catholics "Saint Sophia" in the USA for children-refugees from ATO zone whose parents are present today in a zone of military campaign on the East of the country, orphans and seminarians of Ternopil Holy Spirit Seminary.

During three weeks the volunteers from the USA are teaching English to the 17 participants from Lviv, Ternopil, Kherson, Mykolaiv and Donetsk regions. English-only surroundings are created for them, multi-planning educational informative programs, prayerful guide, lessons of American cuisine, karaoke and a visit to Podilskiy district.

Press-service of a Religious society "Saint Sophia", USA

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

At the General Audience Pope Francis calls for acceptance and care for wounded families - No closed doors

August 5, 2015

"No closed doors!", Pope Francis repeated to the faithful who gathered for the General Audience on Wednesday, 5 August, in St Peter's Square. He called on Christians to ensure the acceptance and pastoral care of those who have begun a new union after a failed sacramental marriage.

Having finished the July's summer break, the Pontiff again began weekly meetings with the faithful in the Paul VI Hall Continuing the cycle of catecheses on the family, he focused on the situation of "the baptized who have established a new relationship of cohabitation after the failure of the marital sacrament.

The Church, he said, "is fully aware that such a situation contradicts the Christian Sacrament". It is important to recognize, however, there is a "difference between one subjected to separation compared to one who has caused it". In any case, "these persons are by no means excommunicated" and, the Pope emphasized, "they should absolutely not be treated as such: they are always part of the Church".

In particular the Pope recommended taking into account the repercussions that such situations have on young children. Care must be taken "so as not to add even more to the burdens which the children in these situations already feel they have to bear!". From here came his appeal that all Christians to commit to taking "care of wounded families, accompanying them in the life of faith of the community". Each one is called to "do his part in taking on the attitude of the Good Shepherd, who knows each one of his sheep and excludes no one from his infinite love!".

www.osservatoreromano

"To be a follower of Metropolitan Andrey is a divine grace and challenge, simultaneously"

Saturday, 01 August 2015

Metropolitan is the one, who by God's will, was entrusted to go the powerful of this world and say: "Let my people go". This call for freedom and a departure from lands of slavery to the native Ukrainian land was the way, traced by metropolitan Andrey to his people, as a biblical paschal way of people's existence.

It was said by the Head and Father of the UGCC, His Beatitude Sviatoslav in the air of the First national channel in the frame of project "Sheptytsky: unclassified history" on 29th of July.

According to the Head of the UGCC, metropolitan Andrey in all difficult situations tried to proclaim God's moral law, even while he forwarded chaplains into different military units: "He did it for priests to be the preachers of God's moral law among their people".

In His Beatitude's opinion, bishop Andrey's message "Do not murder" to the Nazi leadership is very interesting.

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“To be a follower of Metropolitan Andrey is a divine grace and challenge, simultaneously”

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In the context of WW II this letter is aimed at Ukrainian politicians, as well. There is exactly said, political motives do not release from this God’s commandment. “Political murder is the same crime as all other types of murders. Metropolitan also applied with this word to his people, for he as a shepherd, was extremely concerned about Ukrainians were drawn in a deadly sinful whirl of murdering”, - explained an orator. As it is known, catholic’s theology teaches that sin of murder is punished with a small excommunication, meaning a separation from the Church.

Therefore, metropolitan Andrey, proceeded the Head of the UGCC, during the WW II gathered Lviv Archeparchial cathedrals where together with clergy he was thinking how to prevent Greek-Catholics from a seduction of murdering and how to heal those who had been trapped into that sin. “Mainly here is seen how logically it was about chaplains to be present in UPA, “Galicia” division or another pastoral presence of Ukrainian priesthood among people”, - added he.

The main archbishop pointed out, according to the Jews, metropolitan Andrey was the only catholic hierarch in Europe who protested openly against killing the Jews. Consequently, the parliament of Canada acknowledged solemnly his heroic virtues, in particular because of saving Jews during the Holocaust. “What is interesting, when this decision was voted with one accord, the whole Canadian parliament greeted with applauds the delegation of UCC and RO”, - reminded the archbishop.

Thinking about a figure of a Great metropolitan, His Beatitude Sviatoslav said that history of princely Ukrainian families was very hard. Princely families who had been influenced by Moscow reign were russified, another were trapped into a Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth’s cultural and religious sphere of influence, were separated from their people and got polonised.

In that case people had been remaining for many centuries. “Metropolitan Andrey as a European aristocrat, descended from an ancient Ukrainian family, in a particular moment heard a voice, calling him back to his people. Even more, he had been collecting treasures of Ukrainian people’s culture. Everything what affirmed materially high culture of Ukrainians, when scientists were objecting or were not brave enough to speak about Ukrainian people’s existence, he gave it to Ukraine, - told the Head and Father of UGCC. – This act of granting a precious treasure to Ukrainian people is a fact of a nation’s formation. By this he acknowledged people with a right for their existence and he returned them their culture and their dignity”.

“To be a follower of metropolitan Andrey is a divine grace and challenge, simultaneously”, - shared his mind His Beatitude Sviatoslav. – For metropolitan was a man of world’s concern. Ukrainian people and UGCC once had experienced this kind of globalization, occurring now again. It was at the end of XIX – beginning XX centuries. The reasons were different. Firstly, high waves of Ukrainian emigration. Preciously that time he felt himself being a Head of a global Church. To his ecumenical idea he gave all his life”.

Here the Head of the UGCC reminded an occasion when bishop Andrey, after February revolution headed to Sankt-Peterburg where he had a meeting with Russian intelligentsia. Then, Russian government considered, in fact, UGCC to be the part of Russia. It is known in what way he was speaking on behalf of Ukrainian people during the so called meeting of a Nation’s league which divided a map of Europe after

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“To be a follower of Metropolitan Andrey is a divine grace and challenge, simultaneously”

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the World War first. “Distinctively, there was no other left who could speak on behalf of people who were left of their own country during those events of a world level. So, as we can see metropolitan Andrey was a giant not only in intellectual way. It is a person who embraced the main principles according to what is possible to consolidate Ukrainian people”, - mentioned His Beatitude Sviatoslav.

Finishing up, the Head of the Church proposed to remember a famous work of bishop Andrey “How to build a native home”. “This work is written when the Ukrainian house was burning during the WW II. In this work an author stressed on the importance of an inner unity. Ukrainian people must reveal to themselves not only the figure of metropolitan but also the way to freedom that was shown us”, - finished he.

The UGCC Department of Information

International Summer School “The Establishment of peace and social justice” has started its functioning in Carpathians

Saturday, 08 August 2015

On 4th of August, 2015 International Summer School “The Establishment of peace and social justice” has started its work. School gathered 56 participants from different regions of Ukraine, also from Romania, Germany, Italy and Brazil. The auditorium of the Summer school united journalists, politologists, public figures, scientists and lecturers.

Topics of the Summer school are about a Christian social studying, peacemaking, social responsibility, interreligious and intercultural dialogues with plenty more themes which lecturers will be introducing during the studies within 10 days.

In the following days, studies with the participants will be organized by professor of Politology Department Fedir Kyryliuk from Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv, professor of Department of Social Work Angelica Kroterat, University of Darmstadt, professor of Theology Department Roberto Katalano from the Pontifical Urban University, the head of the department of International Economics Yuriy Petrushenko, Bank University of Sumy, a chief of German-Ukrainian master-degree program “German and European studies” Maksym Yakovliev, National University of “Kyiv-Mohyla Academy”, and many other experts.

The moderators of the Summer school are going to be the workers of a Social Academy.

At the end of the Summer school, on 12th of August, 2015 the participants will get the certificates.

Information Service of UGCC Commission “Justice and Peace”

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

Children from ATO areas in eastern Ukraine meet with the Pope

20 August 2015

At the initiative of the Embassy of Ukraine to the Holy See, on Wednesday, August 19, 2015, Pope Francis received at the general audience the children from Ukraine that come from the territories of the antiterrorist operation in eastern Ukraine. During the meeting, held on the eve of 24th anniversary of the Independence of Ukraine, the children, some of whom are orphans from the families of Donbas and ATO soldiers, asked the Holy Father to pray for peace in Ukraine, to visit their homeland and presented the painting depicting an Orthodox cathedral on the backdrop of Ukrainian landscape.



“Although we are Orthodox, today’s meeting with the Pope means to us to revive the hope for a better future, the hope for reconciliation between our people,” Vatican daily newspaper L’Osservatore Romano cites the participants.

From July 22 to August 28, a group of children from the Ukraine affected by the armed conflict in the East, stays in Italy for rehabilitation and recreation under the joint project of the Embassy and the charitable Catholic organization “I Bambini visti dalla Luna” (Cazalincontrada, Abruzzo region), where they lived in Italian families.

<http://risu.org.ua/en/index>



August 24th Independence Day of Ukraine

We thank our Lord God from the bottom of our hearts for this wondrous gift – an independent and sovereign state. It is truly a gift for all of us – both those who live in Ukraine and those who live in the USA. On this occasion of national joy we pray fervently that our people live in

unity, truth and justice. Let us all work towards progress in our glorious Ukraine, seeking spiritual, moral, economic and political reform.

Let us remember that our strength and hope for such an effort is in God!

September 2015 - Вересня 2015

Happy Birthday!

З Днем народження!

September 11: Rev. Volodymyr Kostyuk
September 12: Rev. Gregory Maslak
September 13: Very Rev. Archpr. Mitrat
Roman Mirchuk
September 15: Rev. Msgr. Myron Grabowsky
September 25: Rev. Vasyl Putera
September 29: Rev. Wasyl Kharuk

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!

September 20: Rev. Ruslan Romanyuk
(6th Anniversary)
September 20: Rev. Joseph Szupa
(23rd Anniversary)
September 21: Rev. Andriy Dudkevych
(20th Anniversary)
September 23: Rev. Petro Zvarych
(15th 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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Articles and photos proposed for publication should be in the Editor's office at least two weeks before requested date of publication. For advance notice of the upcoming events, kindly send one month in advance. All articles must be submitted in both English and Ukrainian languages, THE WAY will not translate proposed articles. All materials submitted to THE WAY become the property of THE WAY.