

THE WAY ШЛЯХ

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ENGLISH VERSION

“WHOEVER LOSES HIS LIFE FOR MY SAKE AND THAT OF THE GOSPEL WILL SAVE IT.”(Mark 8,34-35)



Photo: Pantokrator on the interior of a church in Ukraine. (Photo by Metropolitan Stefan)

+ Stefan Soroka Metropolitan-Archbishop

Faithful of our parishes in the USA, are privileged to be able to gather for worship in a safe place. We face no persecutions. We do not have to worry about an invasion and a war not far away. So many people in the world today cannot pray freely. Many cannot celebrate their life with dignity. Refugees fleeing civil wars in Syria and other Middle East countries are looking for freedom in Europe. Over a million refugees from the invasion and war in eastern Ukraine have sought refuge in western Ukraine. People are suffering. People are carrying heavy crosses inflicted upon them.

I recently visited in Ukraine for almost three weeks. I had opportunity to visit with family in the villages, and to visit with people in the cities. My spirit was uplifted to see how people celebrated their Flag Day and Ukraine's Day of Independence. Most people wore Ukrainian embroidered shirts or blouses while walking on the streets reflecting their pride as Ukrainians. They expressed hope and joy even amidst their worry

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“WHOEVER LOSES HIS LIFE FOR MY SAKE AND THAT OF THE GOSPEL WILL SAVE IT.”(Mark 8,34-35)

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as to what was occurring in eastern Ukraine. The people were not giving in to despair or self-pity. They expressed confidence that this evil will be overcome with prayer and steadfastness.

Whole villages and parishes have organized themselves to gather and provide for the men and women in the Ukrainian army defending Ukraine's borders. People themselves struggling to provide for their own needs of daily life were donating huge amounts of produce from their gardens and fields, generously sharing for the needs of the army. People show gratitude to those who risk their life for them. The people recognized their heroism. They were not taking their freedoms for granted.

Many priests of our Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church in Ukraine have volunteered to provide chaplaincy services to the soldiers. They minister to the soldiers suffering injuries, to soldiers suffering post war trauma, and to the families who grieve the loss of their loved ones killed in war. The priests volunteer because the need is great. They feel called to bring God's presence to these soldiers risking their lives for the freedom of others. I had opportunity to personally speak with some of these chaplains. They are among the most joyful and content priests which I have ever met in my life. These chaplains feel God's presence. They rejoice at being able to offer Christ's presence to others. The people of Ukraine, the soldiers, the chaplains all reveal to us the message of today's Gospel.

Jesus said, "Whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for my sake and the Gospel's will save it". Jesus calls you and me to lose ourselves in the love and service of others. It is only as we forget self and lose ourselves in loving service to others for the sake of Christ and His Gospel that we find life's highest joy. God is love. The Gospel calls us to love and to serve as followers of Christ. You and I really have no choice but to love and to serve others. Jesus tells us in the Gospel, "If anyone in this faithless and corrupt age is ashamed of me and my doctrine, the Son of Man will be ashamed of him when he comes with the holy angels in his Father's glory" (Mark 8:38) If we choose not to love and to serve, it is as if we are ashamed of what Jesus Christ calls you and me to do in life.

Are you seeking true meaning in life? Do you desire to taste never ending joy in life? Then lose yourself in the love and service of one another. Know that you are loved by God. God loves you deeply. You are created in God's image, which is the image of love. We are to love one another as He loves us.

Don't give in to despair. Be a hopeful and positive person. Express gratitude to almighty God in prayer and in worship. Offer words of encouragement to others as opposed to criticism. Lose yourself in uplifting others in their self-image.

Let none of us find ourselves choosing self-pity in times of difficulty. Sometimes in confessions, people judge themselves as unworthy of God's love. No one is unworthy of God's love. God always loves us, no matter what. It is His unconditional love for us that calls us to holiness, to a closer relationship to God. Our infirmities and challenges in day to day life can be an opportunity for you and for me to grow in humility.

Lose yourself in prayer and worship with others in our Ukrainian Catholic Church. Help others to appreciate the richness and value of prayer. Help others to grow in the sense of family and community which the parish offers to all, and which is so needed by people today.

Let each parish live as a living parish in serving the needs of the faithful.

FEAST OF ST DEMETRIUS, THE GREAT MARTYR October 26, 2015

Jn 15:17-16:2

This is my command: Love one other.

If the world hates you, know that it hated Me first. If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own. But because you do not belong to the world, and I have chosen you out of the world, that is why the world hates you. Remember what I told you: 'A servant is no greater than his master. 'If they persecuted Me, they will persecute you. If they obeyed My teaching, they will obey yours. They will treat you this way because of My name, for they do not know the One Who sent Me. If I had not come and spoken to them, they would not be guilty of sin; but now they have no excuse for their sin. Whoever hates Me hates My Father as well. If I had not done among them the works no one else has done, they would not be guilty of sin. As it is, they have seen, and yet they have hated both Me and My Father. But this is to fulfill what is written in their Law: 'They hated Me without cause.'

When the Advocate comes, Whom I will send to you from the Father -the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father - He will testify about Me. And you also must testify, for you have been with Me from the beginning.

All this I have told you so that you will not fall away. They will put you out of the synagogue; in fact, the time is coming when anyone who kills you will think they are servicing God.



Saint (Dmytro)

Saint Demetrius lived in the fourth century in Macedonia, Greece. His parents were good Christians and taught their son to love God and follow God's teachings. At that time, there were not very many Christians in that country. Often Christians had to keep secret their belief in one, true God because the ruler of the country was pagan. A pagan does not believe in one God, but falsely believes in

Demetrius

many gods. The pagans would fear that there would be too many Christians and therefore tried to force them to stop believing and loving God and keeping His commandments by punishing, torturing, and killing them.

Saint Demetrius grew up to be a well-groomed, wealthy, educated young man. The ruler, whose name was Maximian, ordered Demetrius to work for him by finding out who were Christians and then kill them. When

word reached Maximian that Demetrius was not following his orders and that he himself was a Christian, the ruler became very angry. He had Demetrius put in prison. While Demetrius was in prison, he prayed to God. One day an angel appeared to him. The angel comforted Demetrius and told him not to be afraid. The angel promised that Demetrius would soon be happy with God in heaven. During that time also lived a very strong, giant-like man named Lee.

Maximian would force Christians to fight with this giant. He thought surely Lee would kill them. Lee was so strong that he could easily lift a man high up in the air and then fling him down on sharp spikes which had been laid with points up on the ground. In this manner, Lee had killed many a Christian.

Among the Christians of that time was a young man named Nestor.

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Saint Demetriy (Dmytro)

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He wanted to defeat Lee, but was not strong enough. Nestor went to prison where Demetriy was jailed. Nestor asked Demetriy to pray to God for him and to bless him. Demetriy did so. Nestor then went to fight Lee. Maximian and the other pagans laughed heartily when they saw Nestor because he appeared to be weak. How amazed they must have been to see Nestor hurl Lee up in the air, falling on pointed spikes and killing him. The people realized that Nestor got his strength from God.

Maximian was very angry for he knew that God heard Demetriy's prayer and had given Nestor the power to defeat Lee. The ruler ordered that both Nestor and Demetriy be put to death. This occurred on October 26 in the year 306.

The Christians buried Demetriy, but they kept his coat and ring. Many a sick person was healed by the touching of this coat or ring. God was showing His faithful ones that He was pleased with Demetriy. Years later a church would be built

on the very same spot where Demetriy was buried. People would come from afar to pray through the intercession of the saintly Demetriy for God's blessings and help. The People would pray for good health, protection from enemies, and for relief from hunger (famine).

Ukrainian Catholics have honored Saint Demetriy for hundreds of years. Our Church Calendar designates the 26th of October as his feast day. St. Demetriy has give us an example to go and do likewise. His love for God

was so great that no one could ever frighten him or turn him away from God. He was certain that God would hear his prayers. Whenever someone tries to frighten us, or make us forget God's commandments, or laugh at us for doing the good God asks of us, let us turn to God, pray, and ask His blessings and help. Just as God heard the prayers of St. Demetriy, God will surely hear ours.

Adapted from the book, All Saints, MSMG

RESPECT LIFE FROM CONCEPTION TO NATURAL DEATH

During the month of October each year is dedicated to promoting respect for human life from conception to natural death. This is something we as Christians are called to advocate all year. The theme is "Life is worth Living." Our life is a gift from God. He created each and every one of us in His image and likeness. Even if one is born severely handicapped, there is never a reason for a Christian to intervene

and prevent a birth. And at the other edge of life, there is never a reason for a Christian to hasten one's natural departure from this world. God alone is our Creator and He sustains us during our earthly stay.

Pain or suffering is never a valid reason to hasten the departure. There is and can be an extremely important salvific or redemptive value for human suffering when the individual offers it up

to our Heavenly Father, along with the sufferings of Christ, our Redeemer. Suffering with Christ makes human suffering more bearable and is of immense help in building up the Church, the Mystical Body of Christ on earth.

What is of supreme importance is the salvation of souls. Let us remember that this is the reason why Jesus founded the Church here on earth before returning to His

Heavenly Father. We as true, dedicated, and loyal followers of Christ are to continue Christ's mission of salvation. We are called upon to walk in the footsteps of Christ, our Master and Savior.

All our actions are to be done for the greater glory of God and for the good of the Church. The martyrs and confessors of the faith by their patient endurance have

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RESPECT LIFE FROM CONCEPTION TO NATURAL DEATH

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given witness to their faith in Christ. They were and continue to be shining examples of Christian discipleship. They also have given to us, the Church, new life and should inspire each one of us to go and do likewise.

Let us remember that our earthly life is but temporal, for a time designated by God alone. Heaven is our eternal home. And so our eyes should remain heavenward, as we fight the good fight, run the race, and sojourn to the eternal Kingdom of God. With the Lord ever at our side, we shall be able to leap over hurdles and enter into eternity unscathed.

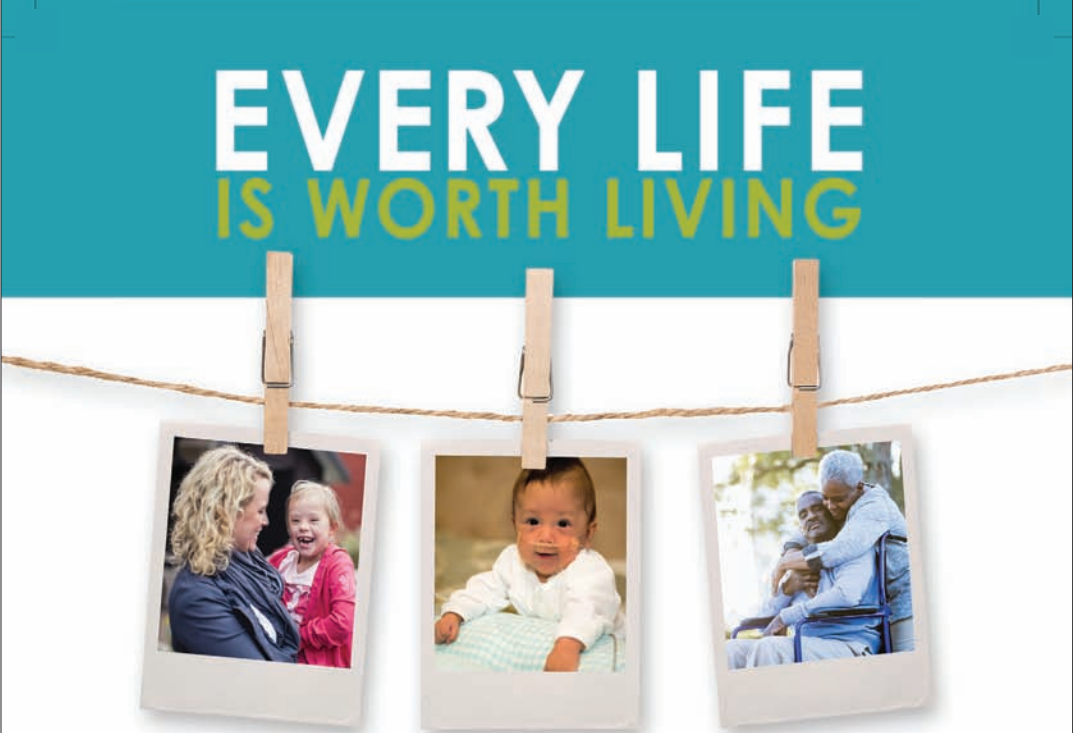
Therefore, let our light shine before men through the goodness of our deeds. Let us help one another carry his or her burden. May we be there for our brother or sister in Christ, ever ready to offer a helping hand to those in need, less fortunate than ourselves. May we strive with God's help to fulfill the unique mission given to us by the Creator and help others to do

likewise. May we seek to do the Holy Will of our Heavenly Father, so that it may be done on

earth as it is in heaven. And may we be deemed worthy of an eternity with God, our Maker and

Redeemer. Amen.

by: Rev. D. George Woschak



**EVERY LIFE
IS WORTH LIVING**

Whether it lasts for a brief moment or for a hundred years, each of our lives is a good and perfect gift. At every stage and in every circumstance, we are held in existence by God's love.

Our relationships on earth are meant to help us and others grow in perfect love. We are meant to depend on one another, serve each other in humility, and walk together in times of suffering.

An elderly man whose health is quickly deteriorating; an unborn baby girl whose diagnosis indicates she may not live very long; a little boy with Down syndrome; a mother facing terminal cancer—each may have great difficulties and need assistance, but each of their lives is a good and perfect gift.

Experiencing suffering—or watching another suffer—is one of the hardest human experiences. But we are not alone. Christ experienced suffering more deeply than we can comprehend, and our own suffering can be meaningful when we unite it with his.

Jesus is with us every step of the way, giving us the grace we need. God invites us to embrace the lives we have been given, for as long as they are given. Every life is worth living.

RESPECT LIFE
First-hand stories: www.usccb.org/respectlife

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UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC ARCHEPARCHY OF PHILADELPHIA

HONORING CONSECRATED LIFE

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2015

DIVINE LITURGY – 2:30 PM



***Renewal of Vows by
Men and Women Religious***

***Blessing of Mosaic of
Blessed Josaphata, SSMI***

***Blessing of Mosaic of
Venerable Servant of God
Andrew Sheptytsky, OSBM***

Blessing of Bell Tower

Prayer Vigil for Ukraine



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

***All the faithful are invited to join with our Patriarch Sviatoslav,
Metropolitan Stefan and the clergy of our Archeparchy as we
honor the men and women who have dedicated their lives to
consecrated life and living the evangelical counsels as they
serve in the Vineyard of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.***

Archieparchial Clergy Gather in Long Branch, NJ for Annual Retreat



Long Branch, NJ—From Monday, September 14 through Thursday, September 17, the priests and deacons of the Philadelphia Archeparchy gathered with Archbishop Stefan Soroka and Bishop John Bura at the San Alfonso Retreat House here for their annual spiritual retreat. The retreat director was Bishop Kurt Burnette, of the Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Passaic, NJ.

Pope Francis appointed Father Kurt Burnette as bishop of the Byzantine Eparchy of Passaic on October 29, 2013 and he was ordained a bishop and installed on December 4, 2013.

Bishop Burnette was born in Norfolk County, England in 1955. He was ordained a priest for the Eparchy of Van Nuys in 1989. He received a licentiate in canon law from the Pontificum Institutum Orientale in Rome in 2007 and holds a doctorate in civil law from Newport University. He also has earned a bachelor's degree in mathematics and electrical engineering from Rice University in Houston, Texas, and a doctorate in mathematics from the Rice University in Houston, Texas

During the retreat, Bishop Kurt offered reflections for spiritual renewal with inspirational conferences based upon Scriptural passages from the Old and New Testaments, emphasizing the beauty of the entire creation of Almighty God. The clergy participated in daily liturgical services, including matins, vespers and the Divine Liturgy.

After the concluding Divine Liturgy on Thursday, Father Michael Hutsko, on behalf of the clergy thanked Bishop Burnette for serving as the retreat director and the clergy expressed their gratitude to him with the traditional singing of "God Grant Him Many Years."

Metropolitan Stefan also expressed his gratitude to Bishop Kurt and also to all the clergy for their wonderful participation throughout the week and particularly to Father Walter Pasicznyk, who served as sacristan for all liturgical services and to Father Robert Hitchens and Father Wasyl Kharuk, who prepared all texts for the liturgical services.

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Archieparchial Clergy Gather in Long Branch, NJ for Annual Retreat

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Often as priests absent themselves from their parishes for this time of spiritual renewal, well-intentioned parishioners may say "Enjoy your vacation" or upon return inquire "How was your vacation?"

However, a retreat is not a vacation, but a necessary and even obligatory requirement for clergy to withdraw from the daily routine of normal parish life for a time of prayer, reflection and spiritual renewal.

This concept of withdrawal for spiritual renewal can be found in the life of Jesus Christ, where the evangelists Matthew, Mark and Luke relate how Jesus, after his baptism by John, withdrew into the desert and fasted for forty days and nights.

In the 1520's, St. Ignatius of Loyola developed his Spiritual Exercises, which greatly influenced the development of retreats as a way of deepening one's spiritual relationship with God.



Metropolitan Stefan with chalice during the Liturgy.

Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia Celebrates Catechetical Sunday



**Sr. Thomas, MSMG and Sr. Yosaphata, MSMG
with students in Perth Amboy, NJ**



**Mother Evhenia, MSMG and Sr. Timothea, MSMG with students at
the Cathedral, Philadelphia, PA**



**Fr. Dumenko with students and
teacher in Toms River, NJ**



**Fr. Dumenko with students in
Millville, NJ**

Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia Celebrates Catechetical Sunday

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Catechism students and teachers in Northampton, PA



Fr. Pitula and Deacon Spotts with students and teachers in Frackville, PA.



Fr. Raby with students and teachers in Reading, PA

On Catechetical Sunday, September 20, 2015, our catechists and children received a special blessing after the Divine Liturgy at St. Michael the Archangel Ukrainian Catholic Church in Frackville, PA. May Almighty God bless our catechists with wisdom and grace so that they may share God's Word with their students, and may our children have their hearts and minds opened to listening and accepting Good News.



Fr. Raby with students in Lancaster, PA

Reverend Thaddeus “Ted” Krawchuk, CSSR Falls Asleep in the Lord

Father Thaddeus Krawchuk, CSSR, fell asleep in the Lord on Saturday, October 10, 2015 at the residence of St. Joseph’s Home.

He was born on December 14, 1932, the seventh of ten children, to John and Maria (nee Lambert) Krawchuk in Wishart, Saskatchewan. He attended Honey Bank Public School for his elementary education, and took his grade nine at Okla High School.

He worked to earn his tuition to attend St. Vladimir’s College in Roblin, MB and then St. Joseph’s College in Yorkton, SK, graduating in June, 1953.

He entered the novitiate of the Ukrainian Redemptorist Fathers on September 1, 1953 in Yorkton and made his first profession of vows on September 27, 1954. He then took his seminary studies at St. Mary’s Seminary in Meadowvale, Ontario, and made his final profession of vows there on September 27, 1957.

He completed his theology studies at Holy Redeemer College in Windsor, Ontario.

Fr. Ted was ordained to the subdiaconate and diaconate in the spring of 1960 at St. Mary’s Novitiate at Meadowvale.

On July 17, 1960, Fr. Thaddeus was ordained a priest at the hands of Bishop Andrew Roborecky, D.D., Eparch of Saskatoon, in his home church of St. Michael the Archangel, next to the church in the open air with 1,500 people witnessing the joyous occasion.

After completing seminary in June, 1961, he took pastoral studies, first at Assumption University, Windsor, Ontario, and then at St. Anne’s Pastoral Institute in Montreal.

Father was given a variety of assignments over the next few years, which included being the provincial missionary. In June of 1965, Fr. Ted was appointed pastor of St. Mary’s Church, Yorkton. In 1967 Father was appointed Pastor of Immaculate Conception Church in Hillside, N.J.

In 1972 Fr. was granted a sabbatical year to attend the Institute of Pastoral Studies at St. Paul’s University in

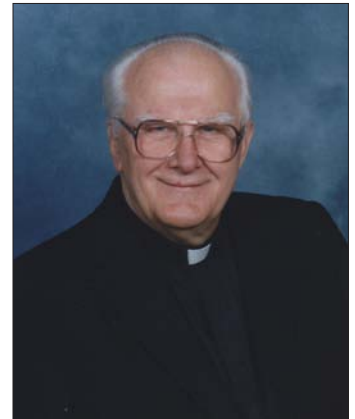
Ottawa, being granted in November of 1973 the degree of Master in Pastoral Studies.

In 1973, June, Fr. Ted was assigned to St. Joseph’s Monastery in Winnipeg, in 1975 becoming its superior and parish pastor. He was appointed vocational director for the Redemptorist Fathers, Yorkton Province, and as well was appointed also for the Archeparchy of Winnipeg.

At various times Fr. Ted was provincial vicar, consultor and/or provincial council member for the Yorkton Province of the Redemptorist Fathers.

In 1984 Fr. Ted was assigned to Ss. Peter & Paul Church in Saskatoon. He celebrated his silver anniversary of priesthood in 1985. (He marked his golden anniversary in 2010, though in failing health.)

Health concerns forced Fr. to take a leave of absence, but he returned to active duty as pastor of the Ukrainian Catholic National Shrine in Washington, D.C. from December, 1989 – 96 and again from 1998 – 2001.



Rev. Krawchuk, CSSR

Fr. Also served the Ss. Peter and Paul Church in Mt. Carmel, Pa. and the Patronage of the Mother of God Church in Marion Heights, PA and Ss. Peter & Paul Church in Wilkes-Barre, PA and St. Vladimir Church in Edwardsville, Pa.

In tribute to his work at Ukrainian Catholic National Shrine of the Holy Family in Washington, DC, the National Shrine will accept donations in his memory for the iconography project. A Memorial Liturgy will be offered there on Sunday, October 18, 2015.

In 2011, Fr. returned to Yorkton; while visiting Winnipeg he took sick and spent some time recovering, eventually being accepted for long term convalescence at

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Reverend Thaddeus "Ted" Krawchuk, CSSR Falls Asleep in the Lord

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St. Joseph's Home in Saskatoon.

Funeral Prayers were offered at Saskatoon at Ss. Peter & Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church, 1202 11th Street East at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 14, 2015. Officiating were Bishop

Emeritus Michael Wiwchar, CSsR, Rev. Fr. Michael Smolinski, CSsR, Rev. Fr. Leonid Malkov, CSsR, and fellow priests.

The Parastas Service was prayed at St. Joseph's Ukrainian Catholic Church in Winnipeg, MB, 250 Jefferson Avenue

on Thursday, October 15, 2015 at 7:00 p.m., and the Divine Liturgy was celebrated at St. Joseph's Ukrainian Catholic Church on Friday, October 16, 2015 at 10:00 a.m.

Interment was in Holy Family Ukrainian Catholic

Cemetery, Winnipeg, MB.

May Our Lord grant him rest in the bosom of Abraham, number him among the saints and may his memory be eternal! Вічна Пам'ять!



Holodomor Exhibit

grand opening and benefit reception

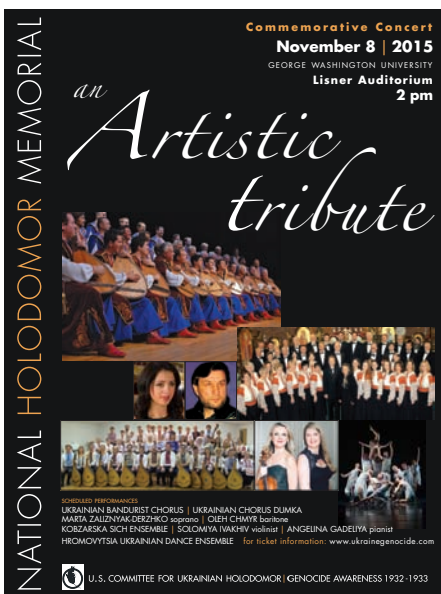
Friday
November 6, 2015
7pm - 9pm
The Columbus Room | Union Station

Donation \$250 | proceeds to fund Holodomor awareness

RSVP by October 31, 2015 | Holodomor.Benefit@gmail.com

please make checks payable to: U.S. Holodomor Committee
U.S. Holodomor Committee
311 Massachusetts Avenue, NE
Washington, DC 20002

www.ukrainegenocide.com
U.S. COMMITTEE FOR UKRAINIAN HOLODOMOR GENOCIDE AWARENESS 1932-1933



Commemorative Concert
November 8 | 2015
GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
Lisner Auditorium
2 pm

an Artistic tribute

UKRAINIAN BANDURIST CHORUS | UKRAINIAN CHORUS DUMKA
MARTIA ZALIZNYAK-DEZHKO soprano | OLEH CHMYR baritone
KOZBARSKA SICH ENSEMBLE | SOLOMYIA IVACHYV violinist | ANGELENA GADELIYA pianist
HROMOVYTSIA UKRAINIAN DANCE ENSEMBLE for ticket information: www.ukrainegenocide.com

U.S. COMMITTEE FOR UKRAINIAN HOLODOMOR GENOCIDE AWARENESS 1932-1933



Washington, D.C.

FRIDAY
November 6, 2015
HOLODOMOR EXHIBIT BENEFIT RECEPTION | 7 PM
Union Station

SATURDAY
November 7, 2015
DEDICATION CEREMONY | 2 PM
Holodomor Memorial | N. Capitol St. and Massachusetts Ave, NW

SUNDAY
November 8, 2015
HIERARCHICAL DIVINE LITURGY | MORNING
Ukrainian Catholic and Orthodox Churches

COMMEMORATIVE CONCERT | 2 PM
George Washington University | Lisner Auditorium

November 1-14, 2015
HOLODOMOR EXHIBIT | 8 AM - 8 PM
Union Station

for more information | www.ukrainegenocide.com

U.S. COMMITTEE FOR UKRAINIAN HOLODOMOR GENOCIDE AWARENESS 1932-1933

Open House, Music Academy, and more... at St. Basil Academy

Saint Basil Academy, an all-girls college preparatory high school in Jenkintown, PA, directed by the Sisters of the Order of Saint Basil the Great, is several weeks into an exciting new school year. With the second year under the guiding principal's hand of Ms. Gwen Cote, new things, combined with the tradition and values that we have come to love at SBA, foreshadow a vibrant, academically challenging year for the student body.

SBA has adopted a modified-block rotating schedule, incorporating both traditionally organized classes and longer block classes, rotating around an eight-day cycle. This schedule will allow students to experience the best of the latest pedagogical

strategies. The new "Bring Your Own Device" program, with students bringing in their own laptops for use in classes, will also enhance the curriculum, encouraging student engagement with possibilities of research and collaborative learning in the classroom. These innovations are all outgrowths of the Mission and Philosophy of Saint Basil Academy, rooted in the Ukrainian Byzantine tradition of the Catholic Church.

This year, Saint Basil Academy is thrilled to have launched the SBA Music Academy, a special program offered as an addition to the standard Saint Basil's curriculum. Students who are particularly active and interested in music, and may be thinking about a college music major, audition for this program. The ten credits of music courses give the budding musician many performance opportunities in both ensemble and solo situations, as well as in-depth study of music theory and

harmony, music history, and music technology. The inaugural class of the SBA Music Academy includes nine students. This new venture will be celebrated in a Music Academy Soirée on October 18.

As a school that helps each student strive for excellence in growth spiritually, academically, physically, emotionally, and creatively, Saint Basil Academy continues to provide wonderful opportunities for students interested in many facets of academics and student life. The curriculum offers twelve Advanced Placement (AP) Courses, Honors courses in math, English, social studies/history, science, and language, religion studies with many service opportunities, and opportunities for electives. SBA also offers ten different athletic teams, which include champion teams. Students' artistic talents and potential are encouraged in performance classes that include Band, Choir, String Ensemble, Handbells, and Piano Classes, and Beginning Art and Studio Art classes. Performances by the Drama Club and an annual school musical round out the artistic

expression that the SBA girls seek.

An opportunity to discover more about SBA traditions and innovations came on Sunday, October 11, 2015, from 12:00 noon to 3:00, when Saint Basil Academy opened her doors to prospective students and their families. Girls currently in the eighth grade, as well as 7th, 6th, and even younger, were invited to meet the faculty, administration, current students, and parents, to see what the "Basil spirit" is all about.

The Entrance/Scholarship test for the class of 2020 will be administered to 8th grade students on Saturday, October 31, and Saturday, November 7, from 8:00 am to noon.

Ms. Patricia Brabson, Admission Director, may be reached at 215-885-6952 or pbrabson@stbasilacademy.org to provide more information about registering for the entrance test and applying for scholarships and financial assistance.

Submitted by Lesia Penkalskyj



Photo by Patricia Brabson

Kauffman Chicken BBQ Dinner



Time: 11am-2pm
Date: 10/25/2015

Meal includes: 1/2 chicken, baked potato, apple sauce, roll, and butter.

Tickets are \$8
Per meal

Pick up @
Nativity BVM
Ukrainian Catholic
Church
630 Laurel St.
Reading, PA 19602

Contact for Tickets

Cindy: 610-914-5785 or

Stef: 610-374-5427



LEGO® Bingo



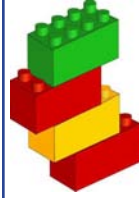
Sunday, October 25th

Doors open at 12 noon

Early Bird at 1:15pm

Bingo starts at 1:30pm

Admission \$25.00



***All Players must purchase an admission ticket**

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

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

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

St. Michael's Church Hall

300 W Oak St , Shenandoah, PA

for tickets or info call 570-462-0809.

We cannot accept 50 or 100 dollar bill's

Annual Flea Market St. Vladimir Ukrainian Catholic Parish, Scranton

Annual flea market and bake sale to benefit the Children's Religious Education Program will be conducted on Saturday, October 17, 2015, from 9:00am to 2:00pm at St. Vladimir Parish Center, 428 North Seventh Avenue, Scranton. Doors will not open before 9:00am. Table reservations are \$15.00. Slavic and American foods will be available for purchase. To reserve a table or for additional information, contact Daria M. at 570 963-1580.

Shop for the Holidays

CRAFT SALE

SS CYRIL & METHODIUS

UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH 

Warren St & First Ave, Berwick PA

Saturday, November 7th 9am to 3pm

Lunch will be available

Food ***MADE OUR WAY***, baked goods,

Variety of crafts for any occasion and much more

Contact: Janina Everett 570 759 2824 after 5pm

Or by email: yankapysanky@yahoo.com



MEN'S SPIRITUAL RETREAT

ALL MEN 18 YEARS AND OLDER—
HUSBANDS, FATHERS, SONS, GRANDFATHERS, UNCLAS,
FRIENDS— ARE INVITED TO
PARTICIPATE IN A SPIRITUAL RETREAT

SUNDAY - NOVEMBER 22nd, 2015

Immediately Following the 10:30 am DIVINE LITURGY

Theme: A MAN'S ROLE IN FAITH,
THE FAMILY, AND SOCIETY



FACILITATOR: REV. TARAS LONCHYNA

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Life at St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic in Passaic during the first month of school

First Day of school

On September 2, 2015, our school, St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic, was filled with joy, welcoming 92 students to grades Pre-K thru Gr. 8. Gathered at the back door of the school, the faculty, students, and parents were welcomed by Principal Sr. Eliane Ilnitski, SSMI, and our Pastor, Fr. Andriy Dudkevych. After greeting everyone after the long summer, Sr. Eliane welcomed the new students and families to the school, and then led all the children and their watching parents in prayer. The teachers prayed a prayer blessing the students, students prayed another prayer blessing the teachers and then parents prayed blessing the faculty and the students, followed the prayers all recited the Pledge of Allegiance, and sung the American and Ukrainian National anthems.

After entering the school and saying hello to their new classrooms, the students, faculty, and some parents participated in Divine Liturgy, celebrated by Fr. Andriy Dudkevych. During the Divine Liturgy, Fr. Andriy added some beautiful intentions, asking for God's blessings on students, parents and teachers. Following the Divine Liturgy, the students and their backpacks, as well as the teachers, were sprinkled with holy water as they received a special blessing and a holy card of Christ the Teacher from Father Andriy

9-11 Prayer Service

On September 11, parents joined us for the 9/11 Prayer Service at the beginning of the day. The prayer Service was focused on Peace. Students, teachers and parents present prayed for Peace in Syria and especially in our motherland Ukraine, also the prayers were offered for the soul of John Skala, Police Officer, who was a parishioner of St. Nicholas and following the words of Jesus: Love one another as I loved you" gave his life saving other at that unforgettable day.



St. Nicholas Parish, Passaic, NJ, Celebrates 31st Annual Ukrainian Festival



The 31st Annual St. Nicholas Parish Ukrainian Heritage Festival was held on Sunday, September 20th. This year, thanks be to the grace of God, there was a record breaking attendance of 1,500 guests who celebrated our Ukrainian and American heritage, our culture, and our faith. The day began with a Divine Liturgy. The main celebrant, Metropolitan Archbishop Stefan Soroka was welcomed with greetings by our parish school children, the young adult prayer group, and the pastor, Fr. Andriy Dudkevych. At the conclusion of the Liturgy, the choir and parishioners chorused Metropolitan Stefan and Fr. Andriy with a joyous Mnohaya Lita. Also at that time, Fr. Andriy was presented with a special gift selected by the school children in thanks and celebration of his 20th anniversary in service to the Lord and his people.

And then the outdoor festivities began! As in past years, there were tasty homemade Ukrainian food offerings as well as traditional American fare. Twenty vendors displayed their many lovely souvenirs and unique handmade gifts, some that arrived from Ukraine just the evening before. Among the many vendors were the young ladies of our St. Nicholas Junior Sodality. When not on stage performing, they diligently manned their table, selling homemade treasures and gifts. Their profits from the previous year were donated to help wounded Ukrainian soldiers.



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St. Nicholas Parish, Passaic, NJ, Celebrates 31st Annual Ukrainian Festival

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Entertainment was bountiful –performances by popular Ukrainian vocalists and colorful traditional Ukrainian dancers of all ages, and live dance music under the starry night topped off the evening. Sunny cloudless weather allowed parishioners and guests to meet our Metropolitan Stefan and exchange greetings and well wishes in a casual atmosphere.

Volunteers of all ages, clearly distinguishable in their dayglow green T-shirts, worked tirelessly throughout the entire day and evening. Not a guest went hungry or thirsty that day!



Indeed, St. Nicholas Parish has much to be thankful for. It is the strength of our faith that has sustained us through challenging times in our homeland, here and overseas. As a new century in the parish history begins, we strive to build upon a strong foundation of faith, and to grow in our spiritual lives through prayer and activities that unite us as a parish family, and this festival serves such a purpose. What was evident

in looking out over the many participants that day was that no matter the age, the origin, or the language abilities, everyone worked together towards a common goal.



Fr. Andriy and the St. Nicholas Parish Festival Committee would like to thank the sponsors, benefactors, and everyone who volunteered their time, talents, and treasures to this special event. Were it not for their continued support it would not be possible for the parish and our school to thrive and grow.

For more pictures check our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/stnicholasukrainiancatholic>

New Altar Servers in Passaic, NJ

On October 1st, two more Altar Servers were blessed by Rev, Fr. Andriy Dudkevych. Congratulations to them and to their parents for their faith. Also the Altar Servers presented Fr. Andriy with \$125.00 raised during the Popsicle sale during the second week of school. The money will be invested in any need of the Parish. Congratulations and thank you them and Mrs. Stec-Pelczyn for their commitment and service.



2015 FALL

SOCIAL JUSTICE SYMPOSIUM

OCTOBER 28, 2015 • 2:30-5:30 PM

In the Spirit of the founder, Saint Basil of Caesarea, we are hosting a Symposium in the Spirituality Center of the Sisters of Saint Basil, 700 Fox Chase Road, Fox Chase Manor, PA. *Light Refreshments will be provided.*

We are honored to have the following presenters:

- 2:30 PM - Reception
- 3:00 PM - Introduction regarding Saint Basil
- 3:15 PM - *Caitlin Garozzo*- speaker for The Career Wardrobe
- 4:00 PM - *Kelly Gabriel*- speaker for The Women's Center of Montgomery County
- 4:45 PM - *Tina Kelley*- speaker for The Covenant House, co-author, "Almost Home, Helping Kids Move from Homelessness to Hope"

Sponsored by: The Legacy Committee of The Sisters of St. Basil the Great, Campus Ministry and Legal Studies Student Association

*"If you want peace
work for justice."*

- Pope Paul VI

The Sisters of the Order of Saint Basil the Great wish to thank,

*His Grace, Metropolitan Archbishop Stefan Soroka
His Grace Basil Losten
His Grace Paul Chomnycky
His Grace John Bura
His Grace Bohdan Danylo*

The homilist Most Reverend Bohdan Danylo

The clergy who officiated at the Divine Liturgy, Sacrament of Reconciliation and Moleben

The choir from Holy Family Shrine, Washington, DC.

The parishes in the Archeparchy of Philadelphia and the parishes from the Parma Eparchy in Pittsburgh who donated verenyky

All of our wonderful Basilian Associates and volunteers who donated items or time

*and all the Pilgrims who attended
the eighty-fourth Pilgrimage to the Mother of God
the Pilgrimage was a success because of your participation.*

A Divine Liturgy will be celebrated in our Holy Trinity Chapel for your intention.

*Sister Dorothy Ann Busowski, OSBM
Sisters of the Order of Saint Basil the Great
Jesus, Lover of Humanity Province
Fox Chase Manor, PA*

Despite dwindling attendance, area Ukrainian Catholic churches vibrant

PAUL GOLIAS

October 4, 2015

At 8 a.m. every Sunday, Mickey Kmietowicz of Glen Lyon unlocks the doors to St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church, nestled at the base of a mountain at the entrance of the Glen Lyon section of Newport Township.

Parishioners begin to trickle in and soon the pastor, the Rev. John Seniw, arrives following a drive from Berwick where he also serves as pastor of SS. Cyril and Methodius Ukrainian Catholic Church.

By 8:30, Kmietowicz has lighted the candles and some 45 parishioners celebrate the Divine Liturgy. A choir of four people sings a cappella. As per Ukrainian tradition, there is no organ.

Within minutes of the service ending, the collection is tallied in the church hall. The pastor meets briefly with a few parishioners. By 10, the church is closed and it will remain closed until the following Sunday, barring a church event or a funeral.

This is life in a small Eastern rite parish. These churches remain viable and even vibrant with diminished numbers because the faithful refuse to quit.

"The church has been our whole life. As we grew up, it was all based on that," Kmietowicz said. The Rev. Seniw lauded the deep devotion of his parishioners in Glen Lyon and Berwick. He said the depth of the faith exists despite the aging population.

There is another pivotal reason that the Ukrainian parishes survive: They have pastors and a plentiful supply of replacements ready to come to the United States from Ukraine as necessary.

"There are many vocations in Ukraine," the priest said, despite the turmoil there as Russia seeks to take control of more of the country. "The archbishop (of the Ukrainian Metropolitan Archdiocese of Philadelphia) brings priests here from Ukraine. He actually has to turn guys down."

The priest is a native



Rev. John Seniw and Mickey Kmietowicz stand at the doors to St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church in Glen Lyon. (Photo: Paul Golias)

of Erie. After attending two seminaries, he was ordained in 1982 in Philadelphia by then Metropolitan Stephen Sulyk. The Rev. Seniw served in parishes in Ohio and New Jersey and became pastor of the two local churches 11 years ago. He maintains his residence in Berwick.

Rev. Seniw is dean of the North Anthracite Deanery of the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia. Ukrainian churches in Nanticoke, Plymouth, Edwardsville, Wilkes-Barre and other regional communities belong to the deanery and they too share pastors. The Rev. Volodymyr Popyk is

pastor of the Ukrainian churches in Nanticoke and Plymouth and is a native of the Ukraine.

Ironically, St. Nicholas in Glen Lyon shared pastors for much of its early history. The parish was founded in 1894 and shared pastors with other parishes until 1948 when the Rev. Bohdan Olesh was named first resident pastor. He was at St. Nicholas when he died in December 1998.

When the parish celebrated its 60th anniversary in 1954, there were "276 souls" in the parish, a commemorative booklet

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Despite dwindling attendance, area Ukrainian Catholic churches vibrant

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notes. Today, there are 63 families registered, but a widow or widower living alone counts as a family, the Rev. Seniw said, so the actual number of parishioners is small. He did not have the figure.

Some things are downsized, such as the Liturgy schedule. A monthly bulletin replaces the usual weekly bulletin, but events are vigorously pursued to help maintain the parish.

A hoagie sale was held early in September and more than 500 hoagies were sold at \$5 each. Soup and halushki sales

are held each Lent and Advent season.

"The heating bill is our largest expense," Kmietowicz said. The food sales also pay other utility bills.

Palmira Miller, a parishioner and one of four sisters who attend St. Nicholas, said parishioners do the cleaning. "We all chip in," she said. Men also work around the church and grounds.

Holidays mean sharing the pastor also, so Easter morning service is at 6:30 in Glen Lyon. The priest then heads to Berwick

for a 9 a.m. Liturgy.

Karen Phair of Nanticoke, choir director, recalled the days when 30-plus voices sang in the Glen Lyon church. The four current members learned the chants as youngsters, she said, as did their predecessors.

The original church burned down in 1936 and the existing church was built on the same site. The parish also has a cemetery in Newport Township and parishioners handle the caretaking there also.

There were a few young families present for a

recent 8:30 service. Asked how long the church could remain open, the Rev. Seniw said no one can predict, but when viability ends consolidations will occur as necessary.

For now, St. Nicholas and its sister churches meet the challenges day by day, their members praying to maintain traditions and their parishes.

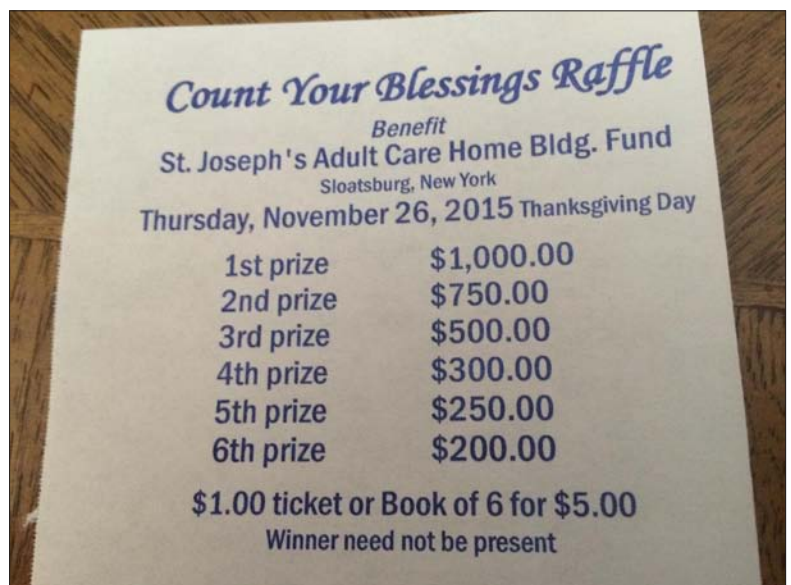
<http://m.citizensvoice.com>

St. Joseph's Adult Care Home is having a Raffle to support the expansion of their building

Buy your tickets now for St. Joseph's Adult Care Home Building Fund Raffle. To buy raffle tickets contact any SSML for tickets or call 845-753-2555 or email srkath25@gmail.com Support this worthy cause.

St. Joseph's Home is located on the grounds of the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate in Sloatsburg, NY. St. Joseph's is a warm, friendly, and safe home for seniors who need assistance.

St. Joseph's is a short or long-term residential care facility that is designed for elderly adults who are ambulatory and largely able to care for themselves.



Opening Mass for the 8th World Meeting of Families

Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka (USA) and Bishop David Motiuk (Canada) were among those at the Opening Mass for the 8th World Meeting of Families on September 22, 2015 at the Convention Center in Philadelphia, PA.



Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka is among the bishops as they recess from the Mass at the convention center Sept. 22. (Mark A. Cordero) <http://catholicphilly.com/>



Bishop David Motiuk, pictured right, during the Opening Mass of the World Meeting of Families. (Photo: <http://www.worldmeeting2015.org/the-latest/livestreamwmof/>)

Eight Buses of visitors tour the Cathedral during the World Meeting of Families

During the week of the World Meeting of Families held in Philadelphia, the Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception held special visiting hours daily for tours and special service times. On Friday, September 25, 2015, the Cathedral was filled with visitors who came in eight buses. There were approximately 600-800 people visiting the Cathedral all at the same time.

The first two buses that arrived at the Cathedral carried pilgrims from Boise, Idaho under the direction of Bishop Peter Christensen, M.A., D.D. This group from Idaho specifically came to experience a Liturgy in the Cathedral.

Two buses of Chinese Catholics from Toronto also came to the Cathedral as well about four buses from Kansas City. A group from New York City also toured the Cathedral that day.

On Saturday, September 26, 2015 and Sunday, September 27, 2015 a group from St. Charles

Borromeo Catholic Church, Arlington, VA visited the Cathedral as well. Rev. Walter Pasicznyk, Parochial



Visitors on September 25, 2015. (Photo: T. Siwak)



Group from Arlington, VA pose by the Cathedral Hall. (Photo: Rev. Walter Pasicznyk)

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Eight Buses of visitors tour the Cathedral during the World Meeting of Families

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Vicar at the Cathedral, said the group was very excited to tell him that Pope Francis kissed one of the babies from their group as he rode by in the Pope Mobile on Sunday before the start of the Papal Mass on the Parkway.

Rev. Walter Pasicznyk said he received many compliments from the visitors saying we have a beautiful Cathedral and some were overjoyed and happy to experience an Eastern Church Liturgy.



Pope Francis kisses a baby from Arlington, VA group who visited Cathedral.



Many buses on Franklin Street.



The Replica of the Shroud of Turin was on display for pilgrims.



Caroline and John Jushchyshyn volunteered to give tours at the Cathedral during the week.



Patricia Keevill volunteered to give tours. She is giving a tour to the Idaho group in this picture.

Pope's Homily at Opening Mass of the Synod of Bishops

04/10/2015

(Vatican Radio) The front of St. Peter's Basilica was lined with green and scarlet as the Synod Fathers gathered around the altar for the opening mass of the Ordinary Synod of Bishops on the Family on Sunday presided over by the Holy Father, Pope Francis.

The Scripture texts were those of the Twenty-Seventh Sunday in ordinary time but, as the Pope himself remarked at the beginning of the homily, they "seem to have been chosen precisely for this moment of grace which the Church is experiencing."



Opening Mass of the Synod of Bishops in St. Peter's Basilica in the Vatican- ANSA

The Pope said that the readings centred on three themes, "solitude, love between man and women, and the family."

The First Reading came from the book of Genesis – the Lord giving Adam a helpmate. Pope Francis, reflecting on Adam's loneliness, likened it to the drama of solitude experienced by men and women today – especially the elderly, widows and widowers and those left by their spouses. He said that many today are lonely because they are misunderstood and unheard – referring particularly to migrants and refugees.

The Holy Father went on to say that we experience "the paradox of a globalised world filled with luxurious mansions and skyscrapers, but a lessening of the warmth of homes and families." He spoke of the growing interior loneliness that many in the world experience. He said that we live in a time when we have "many liberties, but little freedom."

Speaking on the family Pope Francis said that people today are "less and less serious about building a solid and fruitful relationship of love: in sickness and in health, for better and for worse, in good times and in bad."

He went on to say, "Love which is lasting, faithful, conscientious, stable and fruitful is increasingly looked down upon, viewed as a quaint relic of the past. It would seem that the most advanced societies are the very ones which have the lowest birth-rates and the highest percentages of abortion, divorce, suicide, and social and environmental pollution."

Pope Francis said that God did not make men and women to live in sorrow or alone but, rather, for happiness.

Reflecting on Mark's Gospel, the Holy Father said that Jesus was asked a rhetorical question to trap him and make him unpopular with the crowd: "Is it against the law for a man to divorce his wife?" In answer, he said, Jesus "responds in a straightforward and unexpected way." The Pope said that he brings everything back to the beginning of creation: "to teach us that God blesses human love, that it is he who joins the hearts of two people who love one another, he who joins them in unity and indissolubility."

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Pope's Homily at Opening Mass of the Synod of Bishops

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When Jesus says "What therefore God has joined together, let no man put asunder," exhorts believers to "overcome every form of individualism and legalism which conceals a narrow self-centredness and a fear of accepting the true meaning of the couple and of human sexuality in God's plan," the Pope said.

"For God marriage is not some adolescent utopia, but a dream without which his creatures are doomed to solitude! Being afraid to accept his plan paralyses the human heart," the Holy Father said.

He said that it was paradoxical that people today ridicule this plan and yet continue to be attracted and fascinated by authentic love. "We see people chase after fleeting loves while dreaming of true love, they chase carnal pleasures but desire total self-giving."

The Holy Father said that it was in this "extremely difficult social and marital context" that the Church was to carry out her mission in fidelity, truth and love."

He said that the Church must be faithful to her Master's voice and in so doing defend the sacredness of life, the unity and indissolubility of marriage, and be a sign of God's grace and of the human ability to love seriously.

The truth, Pope Francis said, is not changed by passing fads or popular opinions. "The truth which protects individuals and humanity as a whole from the temptation of self-centredness and from turning fruitful love into sterile selfishness, faithful union into temporary bonds."

Quoting his predecessor, Pope Benedict XVI, the Holy Father said "Without truth, charity degenerates into sentimentality. Love becomes an empty shell, to be filled in an arbitrary way. In a culture without truth, this is the fatal risk facing love."

Speaking about the Church's mission "in charity" Pope Francis used the image of a mother "conscious of her duty to seek and care for hurting couples with the balm of acceptance and mercy." He spoke of the Church as a "field hospital" with "doors wide open to whoever knocks in search of help and support."

The Holy Father said that the Church teaches and defends fundamental values yet does not forget "the Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath." (Mk 2:27) He also reminded us that Jesus said: "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick; I came not to call the righteous, but sinners." (Mk 2:17).

At the end of the homily Pope Francis quoted Pope St. John Paul II: "Error and evil must always be condemned and opposed; but the man who falls or who errs must be understood and loved... we must love our time and help the man of our time." He said that the Church must search out these persons to welcome and accompany them and not become a "roadblock" but a "bridge."

<http://en.radiovaticana.va/>

His Beatitude Sviatoslav: "Today the Church has a sacred duty to protect and preserve the family"

6 October 2015

"The modern family in Ukraine is marked by difficulties of post-communist society, which undergoes rapid social and cultural emancipation", said His Beatitude Sviatoslav Shevchuk, head of the UGCC, reporting today during the third general meeting of the Synod of Bishops.

"Next year the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church will mark the 70th anniversary of its forced liquidation by Stalin in the Soviet Union and forced amalgamation to the Russian Orthodox Church. From that time, a Via Crucis began for bishops, priests, monks and nuns, and above all the numerous Christian families who were torn from their land and relocated in the wide Siberian wilderness, stressed His Beatitude Sviatoslav.

During this period of persecution of the Church, families became hearths where faith in God was preserved and where new generations have received the gift of faith, becoming a authentic domestic churches."

"In their houses, underground priests made sure to find hiding places for the Lord's altar where, during the silence of the night, the celebrated the Eucharist and the other Holy Sacraments."

After the collapse of the Soviet Union, new challenges in the form of mass migration, stresses head of the UGCC.

"Families of believers, especially mothers, once again brought our Church to countries where we had more recently become present, particularly in Western Europe. Often these Ukrainian mothers and grandmothers restored Christian and human values in Italian, Spanish, Portuguese families, and others. Many elderly people in these countries passed to eternity, reconciled with God and received the Sacrament of Holy Anointing, thanks to a Ukrainian nurse."

During the twentieth century, priests followed emigrants to the Americas, Australia, Europe and even the Far East, noted Major Archbishop.

"The faith-filled Ukrainian Families brought their

Church to every corner of the world, "carried out and continue to out this mission, leaving behind moral and ascetic-spiritual formation. "

"Even in the current time of the war in Ukraine, in the face of another challenge of a real and severe economic crisis, Christian families welcomed migrants and the source of unforeseen power of solidarity" According to UN estimates, in Ukraine there are approximately million and a IDPs, most of whom have been helped by Ukrainian families, the fundamental cell of society".

"Today I have to affirm that, in the past, the family defended and preserved the Church. Today the Church has a sacred duty to protect and preserve the family; the family as the faithful, fruitful, and indissoluble union between a man and a woman. "

"My faithful asked me to appeal to the Synod Fathers to remember that we, the bishops



are not the masters of the revealed truth about the family, but rather its' servants. Today, our people expect from us to confirm and emphasize the Church's teaching on the family, clarified and summarized blessed by Pope Paul VI and Pope John Paul II."

"Holy and devout families, strengthened in faith, find, on their own, the most creative ways to answer the challenges of modern society and teach us how to show mercy to those who are experiencing difficulties. We can not solve all the problems with which the world is trying the family, but we can preach the Gospel Truth about the family and help the next generation, with God's help to go forth along the path to holiness ".

Translated by Fr Athanasius McVay

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

HIS BEATITUDE SVIATOSLAV BLESSES ST. VOLODYMYR'S MONUMENT IN ROME

12 October 2015

In the territory of St Sophia Cathedral in Rome, on 11 October 2015 after the Hierarchical Liturgy led by UGCC Primate Patriarch Sviatoslav (Shevchuk) the monument to St. Volodymyr the Great was consecrated on the occasion of the millennium of his eternal repose.

The monument to St. Volodymyr was constructed as a gift to Pope John Paul II to mark the 1000th anniversary of the Baptism of Rus-Ukraine in 1988. Its author is a prominent sculptor Leonid Molodozhanyyn (nicknamed Leo Mol), whose 100th anniversary is celebrated in 2015.

In the twentieth century many talented artists - natives of Ukraine, for various reasons were forced to emigrate and achieved considerable success. One of them - Leonid Molodozhanyyn, who worked in Winnipeg, Canada, and has made a great contribution to the popularization of Ukrainian culture and art in the international arena and in the development of Ukrainian spirituality in the countries of the Diaspora.

He is called "a heaven born sculptor" and the religious motives in sculptures, icons, stained glass, and mosaic constitute the bulk of his work. The busts of Pope Paul VI and John Paul II created during their lifetime, and of Pope John XXIII posthumously, are being kept in the Vatican museums. Numerous monuments adorn the great cities of Europe, North and South Americas, as reported by Vatican Radio.

Photos from FB-page of the Embassy of Ukraine in the Apostolic Capital

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



Ukraine after invasion: prayer in the night is access to God

13/10/2015

(Vatican Radio) After four years as Papal Nuncio to Ukraine, Archbishop Thomas Gullickson reflects on the challenges faced by Ukrainians after their country was thrown into turmoil in 2014. The lives of millions of Ukrainians were destabilized, leaving up to two million people “on the run” and “having to find a new homeland,” the Archbishop told Vatican Radio.

In the midst of the struggle, however, “marvelous things can happen,” he said. “There’s an openness to prayer, a desire really in some way or another for God’s intervention and protection.” The responsibility of the Church in such circumstances is significant. “It’s a big responsibility for the Church to know how to mediate that and to respond to this seeking on the part of people of good will in some way or another – to use another expression, wrapped under the mantle of the Blessed Mother and protected.”

The Archbishop recalled that during the crisis, Catholic parishes organized nightly prayer vigils in Kiev which grew into vast outpourings of faith. “The Conventual Franciscans ... started very simply, using the time they were assigned ... at 3 in the morning, to pray the rosary. And at first the people there in the square didn’t understand what was going on. They didn’t know their prayers.” The Archbishop told of the Franciscans passing out small white plastic rosaries to the people coming to pray in the night. “Until finally, one night alone, they handed out 5,000 rosaries and the people began praying with them. It’s still exciting for me today. It was a pre-catechesis, it was a moment of prayer and it has brought the rosary into the lives of these people as a symbol of something we don’t understand but which they certainly do and is access to God.”

<http://en.radiovaticana.va/>



Archbishop Thomas Gullickson, former Apostolic Nuncio to Ukraine. Archbishop Gullickson was recently named Apostolic Nuncio to Switzerland and Liechtenstein.

HIS BEATITUDE SVIATOSLAV GREETED UKRAINIANS ON THE DAY HONORING THOSE IN DEFENSE OF UKRAINE

Wednesday, 14 October 2015

I shall not forget you! – this Word of God is addressed to you today by God Himself. This is a word of thanks and respect for you from the entire Church and your people. “I shall not forget you!” – this is our prayer to God about the eternal memory of those who had sacrificed their lives in the struggle to preserve the freedom and independence of your homeland.

The Father and Head of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, His Beatitude Sviatoslav spoke these words on October 14th in Rome during the Divine Liturgy at the chapel of the Annunciation. Radio Vatican on the occasion of the Feast of the Pokrov (Protection of the Mother of God) greeted those in the service of defending Ukraine on their Feast Day.

ugcc

The Resolutions of the Synod of UGCC, 2015

Thursday, 10 September 2015

The resolutions of the Synod of Bishops of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church 31st – 6th of September, 2015, Ivano-Frankivsk

1. To establish the current state of adopting resolutions of the Synod of Bishops of the UGCC of 2014.

2. To consider the statement of Patriarchal Curia of the UGCC regarding its activity.

3. To consider the summary of reports of the commissions and departments at the Patriarchal level.

4. To approve the Report for 2014-2015 of the working group on establishing a strategy for the development of the UGCC till 2020.

5. To appeal to the superiors of monasteries, and religious communities with a request to intensify their activity in Eastern and Southern Ukraine and for them to draft proposals relating to a more active participation of clergy in "The Vibrant Parish – a place to encounter the Living Christ" program.

6. To consider the Resolutions of the VI meeting of the Patriarchal Sobor on theme "The Vibrant Parish – a place to encounter the Living Christ" and thank to the Secretariat of the Sobor

and its delegates.

7. Having acknowledged the resolutions of the VI meeting of the Patriarchal Sobor of the UGCC, held on 25th-27th of August, 2015, in Ivano-Frankivsk, and having analyzed our previous experience in implementing the strategy "The Vibrant Parish – a place to encounter the Living Christ", we now issue these further directives:

A. To extend the mandate of the working group in establishing the pastoral program "The Vibrant Parish – a place to encounter the Living Christ".

B. To the Patriarchal and Eparchial commissions, educational and scientific institutions, monasteries, religious communities, parishes, church organizations and to all laity – to consider in their work the resolutions of the VI meeting of the Patriarchal Sobor of the UGCC "The Vibrant Parish – a place to encounter the Living Christ", especially in the preparation of pastoral plans, always being vigilant to maintain Eastern Catholic Church tradition and adherence to Church Law.

C. That Bishops organise post - Sobor conferences, with a view to creating a Pastoral Plan and implementing the decisions of the Synod of Bishops 2015, the resolutions of the VI meeting of the Patriarchal

Sobor, as well as the resolutions of Eparchial Sobors. This should be done on a Metropolitan, Eparchial and Parochial level.

D. To help faithful to comprehend the word of God and live in obedience to it:

1) To prompt priests to diligently prepare for the delivery of the homily during the Divine Liturgy, during the celebration of the Holy Sacraments, Funerals and other services and blessings. They also need to remember the necessity to proclaim God's word to those who are not baptized and live outside the Church community (kerygmatic proclamation).
2) To encourage the valuing of the biblical apostolate in every eparchy, exarchate and parish, developing communities by daily reading of the Gospel.

3) To prompt all the faithful to read the Bible every day – in private and within the family, as well as forming Bible Study groups in parishes, so that God's word might become spiritual nourishment for everyone.

E. For giving the faithful of the UGCC a missionary spirit:

1) To charge priests to awaken the conscience of the laity, regarding the vocation to witness to their own faith as important proof of a Christian way

of life;

2) To charge priests to develop evangelizing and missionary communities in parishes to help different people come to faith in Christ;

3) To encourage priests and laity to more actively and creatively participate in the UGCC Decade of Mission.

F. For maintaining an appropriate catechetical service:

1) To charge the Patriarchal Catechetical Commission to work out and improve programs of catechesis for groups of different ages and professions;

2) To charge the Patriarchal Liturgical and Patriarchal Catechetical Commissions to work out and disseminate an agenda for a liturgical catechism;

3) To entrust priests to explain to laity in their hollies and catechetical studies the content and meaning of liturgical services;

4) To ask bishops to see that every parish has catechesis for people of different ages;

5) To encourage priests to create and improve the efforts of parochial catechetical schools;

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6) To encourage all the faithful to study the Catechism of the UGCC "Christ Our Pascha".

G. To gain greater depth in private prayer:

1) To entrust priests, catechists and parents to explain to children and youth the importance of conversing with God and to show by their own example the role played by private prayer;

2) To charge priests with paying special attention to the importance of studying the authentic liturgical heritage of the UGCC;

3) To charge priests with establishing prayer groups in parishes and to minister to them;

4) To entrust priests and catechists to teach and encourage the faithful to pray daily – in private and together as a family, also before and after meals.

H. For the renewed participation of the faithful in the liturgical life of the Church:

1) To ask eparchial bishops to make sure that their cathedrals become examples of authentic liturgical and spiritual life of the Church;

2) To ask eparchial bishops to make available programs for the training and ongoing formation of

parish cantors and lectors;

3) To remind priests of the need for diligence and attentiveness in the celebration of the Liturgy and to follow directives of the liturgical books;

4) To charge priests with being attentive to the beauty of liturgical singing, to make sure that the cantor (and the priest) are articulate and clear in their speech and to encourage the faithful to participate in liturgical singing;

5) To remind priests about the need to celebrate the Divine Liturgy frequently, especially on Sundays and Holy Days, or everyday (see can. 378 of CCEC, can. 57 of CPL), as well as the Divine Praises daily according to Canons of the particular law of the UGCC (see can. 22, 56 CPL).

I. To develop in the faithful the skills of stewardship of God's gifts:

1) To ask eparchial bishops to stress the importance of establishing pastoral and finance councils in parishes (see can. 41 of CPL);

2) To call priests to recognize the gifts and talents of God, sent by Him to His people - each individual person, and to help the laity live their Christian vocation to serve God and others.

J. To develop among the

faithful unity - communion:

1) To entrust to priests, by their own example, to preach unity of spirit, dialogue and cooperation; so that the parish may feel itself more and more a single family of God, realizing that it belongs to a larger family – The Eparchy, The Ecclesiastical Province, The Particular Church (UGCC) and the Universal Church;

2) To charge priests with the need to cultivate among the faithful the idea of bringing to fruition the parish as a "community of communities" to which belong families, different councils, brotherhoods, communities, movements, centres, etc., granting them appropriate leadership and cooperation within the framework of a single parish;

3) To charge priests to encourage the faithful in praying for the restoration of the unity of all Christians inspired by Christ's commandment "So that they may all be one" (see Jn 17,21);

4) To develop the Patriarchal Cathedral of the Resurrection of Christ (Kyiv city) as the centre of a Church in Communion – the unity of the UGCC;

K. To cherish and develop Diakonia – serving each other:

1) To charge priests to encourage in the laity the realization of their own vocation to express Christian faith in all circumstances of life by undertaking corporal and spiritual works of mercy.

2) To establish in parishes centres of social service (Caritas and others) for serving our neighbours, inspired by Christ's love.

8. To bless the opening of rehabilitation centres for soldiers and all who have suffered from the war in Ukraine. To charge eparchial bishops to contribute to this foundation in all possible ways.

9. To charge the Coordinating Council on Issues of Pastoral Care in Critical Situations to adapt a programme to develop rehabilitation centres for soldiers and all who suffer from the war.

10. To issue a statement expressing gratitude to "Caritas Ukraine" and to all its workers and volunteers.

11. To issue an open letter from the Synod to the international charitable societies and nongovernmental organizations, bishops' conferences and all people of a good will expressing gratitude for help granted so far and to request for a further solidarity with suffering people in

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Ukraine.

12. To ask priests and faithful of the UGCC to pay special attention to refugees. Especially families, children, old and sick people; caring for them, supporting and helping them in appropriate ways.

13. To consider the statement on building a Patriarchal centre in Kyiv.

14. To consider the statement on a status of a court system in the UGCC.

15. To approve a parochial guidelines of the UGCC.

16. To approve a guidelines for archpriests (deans) of the UGCC.

17. To approve the Statutes of the Eparchial Sobor of the UGCC.

18. To approve an instruction on canonical visitations to a parish by an eparchial bishop.

19. To approve a Typical Norms of the Eparchial Curia of the UGCC.

20. To approve Typical Formulae for the Sacrament of Matrimony.

21. To approve typical forms for request for dispensations and permissions (faculties).

22. To charge the Canon Law Office of

Patriarchal Curia of the UGCC to review legislative acts, adopted by the UGCC Synods of Bishops during 1992-2015, and to perform a detailed analysis as to their introduction and implementation into Church life. Also to present a statement about work accomplished at the Synod of Bishops of the UGCC in 2016.

23. To charge the working group for Particular Law to collect observations and comments on Particular Canons to facilitate further changes and improvements.

24. To ask the Father and Head of the UGCC to form a working group to further adapt the Particular Law. To be chaired by the Head of Cannon Law department.

25. To confirm for a five year term the Ecumenical Guidelines of the UGCC.

26. Concerning the appeal of the UAOC Council from the 1st of April, 2015:

A). To affirm a decision made by the Council of Kharkiv and Poltava Eparchy of the UAOC and express our readiness to find ways for renewal of Eucharist Communion and administrative unity between the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church and Kharkiv and Poltava Eparchy of the UAOC.

B). To form a Synodal working group search for a model of administrative unity between the UGCC and Kharkiv and Poltava eparchy of the UAOC with the following membership: His Beatitude Sviatoslav - Chairman; Bishops Evhen (Popovych) and Theodor (Martynyuk); fathers Vitaliy Tokar, Anibal Soutus and Ihor Shaban.

27. To ask the Father and Head of the UGCC to proceed with developing models to unite all Churches of Volodymyr's Baptism, in light of the documents of the Universal Church as well as documents and experience's of the UGCC. To consult appropriate experts in this field.

28. To consider the statement of the Department of External Church Relations of the UGCC and bless the development of this Department.

29. To consider the statement of the Patriarchal Liturgical Commission regarding its work for the past 3 years.

30. To approve Instructions on Holy Communion for children and infants.

31. To approve The Rite of Chatechumenate and Baptism.

32. To encourage youth of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church to

participate in World Youth Day 2016, in Krakow. To encourage Youth Commissions to cooperate with the Organizational Committee formed for World Youth

33. To provide proper participation of the UGCC in Extraordinary Year of Mercy, declared by Pope Francis:

A). Establish an organizing committee on Extraordinary Year of Mercy, Chaired by Bishop Bohdan (Dzyurakh).

B). To charge the organizing committee to work upon and coordinate a programme events to celebrate the Jubilee Year. Also to present possible events at the Metropolitan, Eparchial, Protopresbyteral and Parochial levels.

C). To ask the Father and Head of the UGCC to issue a Pastoral Letter for the Extraordinary Year of Mercy.

D). To charge Eparchial Bishops and Superiors of Monasteries and Religious Communities to nominate suitable priests to the Pontifical Council for Promoting the New Evangelization to be appointed Missionaries of God's Mercy according to the Norms established by the Apostolic See.

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34. To conduct the next UGCC Synod of Bishops 2016 in Lviv-Bryukhovychi.

35. To make "Diaconia" the main theme of UGCC Synod of Bishops in 2016.

36. To approve and publish an Appeal of the Synod of Bishops in response to bloodshed at the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine on August 31, 2015.

37. To approve a text of a Synodal letter to His Holiness Pope Francis.

38. To approve a text of a Synodal letter to His Holiness Bartholomew.

39. To approve a text of a synodal letter to Eastern Catholic Churches.

40. To approve a text of a Synodal letter to the Bishops' Catholic conferences.

41. To approve a text of a Synodal letter to the Heads of the orthodox Churches on East.

42. To approve a text of a Synodal letter to the President of Ukraine.

43. To approve a text of a Synodal letter to the Head of Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

44. To approve a text of a Synodal letter to the Prime-minister of Ukraine.

45. To approve a text of a Synodal letter to the Head

of UOC (KP), Patriarch Filaret.

46. To approve a text of a Synodal letter to the Head of UOC, Metropolitan Onuphrius.

47. To approve a text of a Synodal letter to the Head of UAOC, Metropolitan Makariy.

48. To approve a text of a Synodal letter to the heads of Protestant communities in Ukraine.

49. To approve a text of a Synodal letter to the non-Christian religious organizations in Ukraine.

50. To approve a text of a Synodal letter to Charitable Organizations.

51. To approve a text of a Synodal letter to the defenders of a Motherland.

52. To approve a text of a Communique of the UGCC Synod of Bishops.

+ Sviatoslav (Shevchuk)
Major Archbishop
Ukrainian Greek-Catholic
Church

+ Bohdan (Dzyurakh),
Secretary of the Synod of
Bishops

Given in Kyiv,
at the Patriarchal Cathedral
of the Resurrection of Christ,
7 September, in the year of
Our Lord, 2015



**Group representing United States of America
at the Sobor in Ukraine on August 27, 2015.**

November 2015 - Листопада 2015

Happy Birthday!

З Днем народження!

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

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

November 8: Rev. Roman Pitula (17th Anniversary)
November 12: Rev. Gregory Maslak (43rd Anniversary)
November 15: Rev. Deacon Donald Latrick (25th Anniversary)
November 18: Rev. Deacon Theophil Staruch (25th Anniversary)
November 22: Rev. Vasyl Sivinskyi (23rd Anniversary)
November 30: Rev. Wasyl Kharuk (23rd Anniversary)

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

Нехай Бог Обдарує Багатьма Благословенними Роками Служіння в Господньому Винограднику!

A Correction to page 22 of the October 4, 2015 issue of "The Way"

The correct spelling of the name in the article should be Lesya Borys. We apologize for the error.

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