Pope Francis Appoints Most Rev. Borys Gudziak as new Metropolitan-Archbishop of the Ukrainian Archeparchy of Philadelphia

On Monday, February 18th, 2019, the Vatican Information Service announced that the Holy Father has appointed Most Rev. Borys Gudziak as Archbishop of Philadelphia for Ukrainians and Metropolitan for the Ukrainian Catholic Church in USA and thus concurring with the recommendation of the appointment offered by the Synod of Ukrainian Catholic Bishops, which met in September of 2018 in Lviv, Ukraine.

The Archeparchy of Philadelphia was declared by Pope Francis as “sede vacante” following the resignation of Most Rev. Stefan Soroka on April 16, 2018. Most Rev. Andriy Rabiy was named by Pope Francis as the Apostolic Administrator of the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia until the appointment of the new Metropolitan-Archbishop.

At the present time Most Rev. Borys Gudziak serves as the eparch of St. Volodymyr the Great Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy, which includes France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxemburg and Switzerland. He is the founder and president of the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv, Ukraine. In addition, Archbishop Borys is the

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Pope Francis Appoints Most Rev. Borys Gudziak...

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head of Department of External Church Relations of the Ukrainian Catholic Church.

Bishop Andriy Rabiy, Apostolic Administrator, Bishop John Bura, Auxiliary Bishop, clergy, monastic orders and faithful of the Archeparchy of Philadelphia wholeheartedly and joyfully welcome the news and invite everyone to the installation of Most Rev. Borys Gudziak as the seventh Metropolitan-Archbishop for the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia, which will take place on Tuesday, June 4, 2019, at the Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Philadelphia, PA.

(Photo at right: Most Rev. Borys Gudziak and Most Rev. Andriy Rabiy and Bishops of the UGCC in September 2018. (Photo: http://ugcc.tv/ua/media/83767.html)

Archbishop Stefan Soroka (now Archbishop-emeritus) with Bishop Borys Gudziak (now Archbishop) at the 82nd Annual Pilgrimage at the Sisters of the Order of Saint Basil the Great in Fox Chase Manor, PA on Sunday, October 6, 2013. (Photo: Teresa Siwak)
Bishop Borys Gudziak, Ph.D.

- Eparch (Bishop) of the Paris Eparchy (Diocese) of St. Volodymyr the Great for France, Switzerland and Benelux (Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church), member of the Conference of French Catholic Bishops (La Conference des eveques de France)

- Head of the Department of External Church Relations and Member of the Permanent Synod of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church

- President of the Ukrainian Catholic University, Lviv, Ukraine

Borys Gudziak was born in 1960 in Syracuse, New York, the son of immigrants from Ukraine. He earned a bachelor’s degree in philosophy and biology from Syracuse University in 1980 and then studied in Rome, in the circle of Patriarch Josyf Slipyj. He received (continued on next page)
Bishop Borys Gudziak, Ph.D.
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Bishop Borys Gudziak was ordained as a priest on November 26, 1998.

In 2012 he was appointed Bishop of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church in France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxemburg and Switzerland. Bishop Borys also serves as a member of the Permanent Synod of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church and as a head of the Department of External Church Relations. In 2016, with the help of American consultants with experience in church administration as well as business, Bishop Borys launched a program of strategic pastoral planning to create an episcopal vision for its future activity and growth, increased the number of priests and parishes, established a new financial model for the eparchy’s sustainability, and widely engaged the laity.

During the 2013-2014 Maidan movement for human dignity, Bishop Borys was an active supporter and appeared regularly on leading global TV channels and media providing expert commentary.

Bishop Borys has received numerous awards and distinctions. In 2015 he became a Cavalier of the Order of Legion of Honor (Chevalier de l’Ordre national de la Legion d’honneur), the highest decoration in France. In 2016 he was awarded the Jan Nowak-Jezioranski Award in Wroclaw, Poland, in recognition for his work in shaping civil society in Central and Eastern Europe. In 2018 he received an honorary doctorate from his alma mater, Syracuse University, and a literary award from the Ukrainian chapter of PEN International. He travels globally with lectures and talks on theology, history, spirituality, education, society, and current challenges in Ukraine.

He speaks English, Ukrainian, Italian, Polish, French, Russian, and German. Bishop Gudziak is the author of a number of scholarly works, among them a doctoral dissertation on sixteenth-century church history, published as Crisis and Reform: The Kyivan Metropolitanate, the Patriarchate of Constantinople, and the Genesis of the Union of Brest (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1998), as well as numerous articles in European and North American academic journals. He has also penned articles in popular magazines, newspapers, commentary on political, cultural, and religious affairs, position papers on academic curricula and educational reform, and introductions to scholarly and spiritual publications. Bishop Borys is among the authors of A Pope Francis Lexicon, edited by Cindy Wooden and Joshua J McElwee (Collegeville, Minn.: Liturgical Press, 2017) and a collection of essays about the future of Europe.

He continues to be an active member of the “Plast” Ukrainian Scouting Organization and the head of its supervisory board. Bishop Borys Gudziak is an honorary citizen of Lviv.
What was your reaction to the decision of the Synod and of the Holy Father nominating you to the Philadelphia Archeparchy?

Allow me to be open with you. The nomination—and everything that it entails—provokes deep thoughts and sentiments. The first is gratitude and first to God.

As I—hopefully—mature as a human being I am increasingly drawn by the mystery of our God in Three Persons. This may be daring—but I want to be in the presence of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit... My central belief is that the Son came into this breathtaking yet often frail human race to be with me and you, even in death, to bring us home to the Father. The Passion and Resurrection of Jesus and our salvation in Christ for me are ever more awesome and inspiring... The guidance and comfort of the Holy Spirit give me more hope and joy. I feel the protection of the Mother of God and solidarity of the communion of saints, especially the martyrs. Life in the Lord, who served and suffered, invites me to suffer with and serve gladly those to whom I am called. My desire to give myself fully to God and share His love and friendship with others overflows!

I am grateful to the Holy Father, Pope Francis, to the Father and Head of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, His Beatitude Sviatoslav and to the Synod for their confidence and blessing. I am at peace. As a Christian and priest, I try to accept God’s will as expressed by the Church, in this case neither seeking nor resisting this nomination.

I have a sense of peace, despite the strong emotions that I am experiencing. Metropolitan Emeritus Stefan Soroka welcomed me in the Philadelphia Archeparchy many times. He gave me prescient advice when I was beginning my pastoral service in Paris: people and pastoral works first, not buildings. Bishop Andriy Rabiy, energetic and active as Apostolic Administrator, has been ushering me home with care and competence. The other bishops of the metropolia have fraternally encouraged me in these days.

I eagerly await the encounter with them and the archeparchy’s clergy, religious and faithful.

I will be leaving the Paris Eparchy with gratitude and joy but also with sadness: gratitude for all of the wonderful priests, religious and faithful in five countries; joy at the many graces we shared, including the increasing spiritual and pastoral maturity of the clergy, the unity of the faithful, and the authentic synodality that developed among us. Here we listened carefully to Pope Francis’ call and drank at the ecclesiological wellspring of the Christian East. In the past four years we held eight sessions of our Eparchial Council (Diocesan Synod), which became for all of us an effective instrument for fostering our unity, faith, and charity. It was not easy because of the distance and diversity. God led us to a life of mutual respect and love. Serving in France, Benelux, and Switzerland was not, for me, a position or a job. It was a life in communion with God and His people.

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One does not simply walk away from such experiences...

We lived in relationship. We lived humbly in challenging social and economic conditions. There is an ongoing war in Ukraine, which has continued for more than five years. Most of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic faithful in the Paris Eparchy are undocumented immigrants or refugees. Virtually all of us, me included, were struggling to learn one or more of the six official languages of these three kingdoms and two republics. France, the Benelux, and Switzerland are among the most secularized countries in the world. As we prayed together and worked to set and maintain the course on rough and unpredictable seas, we were together in sacrifice and service. Our eparchy became a modest but authentic and faith-filled corner of the Kingdom of God, which is already here and still yet to come.

I will never forget these experiences. I will miss the energy and life of the Paris Eparchy, the enthusiasm of our small team, and the love of the people. The clergy and laity are fantastic and were my teachers and guides in many issues. I am most grateful to the bishops’ conferences of Western Europe, to the various charities and foundations that supported our mission, and to the countless individuals who helped us grow. The sense of gratitude for the last six and one-half years is actually quite overwhelming.

At the same time, the nomination is a homecoming. My Ukrainian-American family and the Church in the United States gave me life in body and spirit. I was born in Syracuse, New York. There, at St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church on Tompkins Street, I was washed in the waters of Baptism. There God called me to the priesthood. Decades earlier, America had warmly and generously welcomed my penniless parents who were World War II refugees fleeing communist persecution in Ukraine. America gave them a new start, guaranteeing them freedom and dignity. This is the story of many in the Archeparchy. It is there that my brother and the rest of my family live and where the mortal remains of my parents rest. To me, America granted a secure childhood, years of good Catholic schooling, and university studies. The United States of America is a remarkable, although not flawless, socio-political model, unimaginable without Biblical principles and insights. It is a country that, in many ways, still declares, “In God we trust.”

Having lived 30 years of my adult life in Europe, I look forward to the adventure of getting to know the United States and its Church in a new way. I have great respect for the Church’s service to successive generations of immigrants and the poor. The development of Catholic intellectual life in the US has been an important contribution to the Universal Church. I trust that at this time of great challenge, which is also a time of purification, the Church in America is called to a new spiritual and moral witness through conversion and service, boldly announcing the Good News. In this the Ukrainian Catholic Church is has its specific call, one that it has been developing for almost a century and half and one that should be critically and creatively revisited for the people of today and tomorrow. During times of profound division, aggression, fear, and even scandal, which are also times of great human opportunity and abiding Christian hope, the Lord will bestow His grace on the Church and through the Church in America.

At your enthronement at the Cathedral of Notre Dame in Paris on December 2, 2012, you called the clergy and faithful of the Paris Eparchy to advance together “from glory to glory.” What was that pilgrimage about? What has happened during those six years?

Our pilgrimage “from glory to glory” (2 Corinthians 3:18) in the Paris Eparchy should be seen in spiritual terms, not least because our material assets were (continued on next page)
extremely modest. We were actually destitute. The eparchial facilities were in disrepair, most of them actually closed. Our “glory” clearly could not be in large projects and initiatives. Life had to be simple. This was, in fact a grace. We focused on the basics: the Word of God, liturgy and prayer, fostering mutual trust by tending to each other’s wounds and encouraging lay men and women to take responsibility in the Church. Following the Holy Father’s lead, together we profoundly experienced a year of mercy—God’s towards us and mercy towards each other. We moved from the glory of one feast and sacrament to another, from one authentic encounter to the next. We learned to celebrate wholeheartedly, and to pray and sing together with the mystical symbolism and choreography of the liturgy. Our point of departure was one love—the love of Christ—to build another—our friendship, solidarity, and fruitful cooperation. Through sacrifice and losing ourselves we

Ceremony of Enthronement of Bishop Borys Gudziak Held in Paris

2 December 2012

The ceremony of enthronement of Bishop Borys Gudziak as Apostolic Exarch for Ukrainian Greek Catholics in France, Belgium, Netherlands, Luxembourg and Switzerland was held on December 2 at the Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris. The Liturgy was led by the head of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church (UGCC) Patriarch Sviatoslav Shevchuk in concelebration with bishops and dozens of priests of the UGCC from various countries, representatives of Catholic and Orthodox Churches. Archbishop of Paris Cardinal Andre Vingt-Trois participated in the ceremony. The events began with a procession from the UGCC St. Volodymyr’s Cathedral to the Notre Dame Cathedral. The cathedral was packed with people.

During his address, Patriarch Sviatoslav stressed the historic importance of the moment for the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church. The Primate stated that the Exarchate is faced with considerable challenges and tasks: “We are to share the treasure of the faith of our martyr church with modern people living in the secularized world. We must show the world the young face of our church with a history of more than a thousand years. This exarchate forms a special space of communication between God and man in which our church is called to serve. It is important that this space should become a European intellectual center of our church where we are to share the faith and hope with all the people of good will.”

http://risu.org.ua
entered repeatedly into the Paschal Mystery, encountering the essence of life in Christ. We listened and spoke to each other from heart to heart. Because in the end that is where God resides and places His glory—in our hearts and souls, in our freedom, in our dignity, in our life-giving capacity. We also laughed—a lot—together, at ourselves, and with each other.

The Paris Eparchy did launch new projects. Are they sustainable, how will they develop?

Today, I humbly think of the many things that we were not able to accomplish and of what remains to be done. But it is indeed true that the Lord blessed many initiatives. The Eparchy opened new parishes and missions. At first there were 20, now there are 44. The number of our priests more than doubled, from 9 to 23. The Eparchy’s canonical structures and administration were created. The existing incorporating associations were reformed and brought into legal order. Laypersons were called to key positions of governance. The presbiteral and economic councils, six eparchial commissions, the communications service, and a mission to seafarers came into being and are working effectively. Generous donors from many countries responded to the initiatives. The Eparchy purchased a church that had been unused for services for two-hundred years and launched the Cultural Center of Anne de Kyiv, named after the eleventh-century Kyivan princess who became Queen of France. With the participation of some 100 clergy, outside theologians and consultants, and lay members of the eparchy, a five-year pastoral plan was elaborated. The eparchial team formulated a vision to revive our pilgrimage center in Lourdes. The abandonment of some projects was reversed; for example the Paul Kohut Youth Center in Alsace is being slowly revived.

The Eparchy sponsored a number of international academic conferences and published literature about the life of our Church in different languages. There were a good number of television programs and films about the Eparchy in French and Ukrainian aired in different countries. Finally, in cooperation with the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv, our laity managed what may be the first in-depth sociological survey of a discreet representation of the massive emigration entitled “Challenges of Contemporary Migration: The Ukrainian Community in Paris.”

The most important thing is to continue to foster a spirit of responsibility, mutual trust, and transparency in spiritual life, Church governance, and stewardship. It is important to speak clearly in truth but to do so gently, with mercy. In an eparchy that stretches almost 2000 kilometers (over 1,200 miles) from north to south and from east to west, with small, dispersed missions, spiritual unity is essential. We came together as often as we could: the clergy and lay leaders from the five countries met almost once a month for three days in a monastery.

Seven years ago, I went through a departure from a rather ambitious spiritual endeavor when I left the position of rector of the Ukrainian Catholic University (UCU) in Lviv to come to Paris. Some believed that this might imperil aspects of UCU’s life. In fact, the opposite happened: once I became bishop in Paris, the university developed exponentially. I hope that will also happen in the Paris Eparchy (laughs).
addition, as I mentioned before, we held eight eparchial councils (diocesan synods) over the last four years. These councils ceased being special occasions and became a regular forum for decision-making and governance—priests, religious, and lay women and men including the youth, jointly discerned God’s will and shared responsibility with the bishop. I trust that this practice, now embedded in the corporate culture of the Paris Eparchy, will not be lost easily. I also hope that synodality will be the way of life of the Church in the United States and globally. This modality has been repeatedly encouraged by the pope.

What do you fear most? What is your greatest concern?

In general, I try to fend off fear—except a healthy fear of God. Fear is a bad advisor. Generally, it either paralyzes or leads to aggression. The Church should always be concerned with two fundamental and interconnected dangers: a loss of faith and the waning of prayer. Without faith we do not have the life of the Church; without prayer we cannot foster our relationship with God. Then everything crumbles. I remain mindful that petty vices can create big problems: envy among clergy and laity; the impatience and self-promotion of talented people; unbridled passions, especially anger; self-referential rhetoric and reflections; the creation of cliques or parties among the faithful. Pope Francis speaks regularly about these issues. They can arise anywhere. The danger of ignoring real problems is also a concern. These are the instruments of the evil one with which he undermines the building of the Kingdom. But my confidence in God and my brothers and sisters on both sides of the ocean is greater than my fear.

Bishop Hlib Lonchyna, ordinary of the London Eparchy for Great Britain and Ireland, became the Apostolic Administrator of the Paris Eparchy. How would you introduce him to your faithful?

I am thrilled that the Holy Father named Bishop Hlib Lonchyna of London as Apostolic Administrator of the Paris Eparchy until a new bishop is chosen. Bishop Hlib is a monk and a man of the Word of God. He is an accomplished celebrant and student of the liturgy, a highly respected retreat master, and a man of broad culture. He is also a gifted musician and speaks many languages, including French, sonorously. Bishop Hlib is clear in his doctrine and generous in his mercy. Crucially, he knows the Paris Eparchy well—he visited us regularly, served and preached in different parishes, and taught us many things in the last years. He knows personally the priests and their families, and they know him. He brings joy to our faithful. I hope once he comes I won’t be forgotten too soon (laughs).

What is your state of mind as you start your new service?

I’m hopeful. At the beginning I seek to listen and learn, to become brother, father, and pastor for the clergy and faithful. It is important to pray and think things through, to develop a future vision for the Archeparchy of Philadelphia and to work closely with the other eparchies of the metropolia, as well the Eastern Catholic, Roman Catholic, and Orthodox bishops and their clergy and faithful. I hope that we can make a step forward in seeking ecumenical cooperation with our Protestant neighbors, and inter-religious inter-ethnic, and interracial harmony. The poor and marginalized should be in our heart. In the Ukrainian Catholic University, for example, the mentally handicapped became central to our pedagogy and mission. The poor can help us see God, because Jesus is poor in this world. I believe that we need to listen to each other and speak heart to heart. I hope to lead by listening to the Lord and my brothers and sisters. For now, it’s essential for me to hear well and not prematurely to formulate agendas, which might be merely of my own making.
You were born and raised in America, but you lived 30 years of your adult life in Europe. How do you perceive the US at the present time? What are the needs of Ukrainians of the different waves of immigration?

Countries and cultures are diverse, but the basic spiritual DNA of all human beings is the same. Over my lifetime, I have had the opportunity to live or serve in a dozen countries. In recent years, I usually crossed an international border at least twice a week. Because my aged mother, of blessed memory, who died last June, lived alone in Syracuse and needed support, I traveled to the US three or four times annually. I observed the deepening divisions in American society, the superficiality of moral discourse, social media, and the increasing virtuality of interpersonal communication. We are becoming increasingly addicted to stimuli—gastronomic, chemical, informational, sensual. These same challenges are prevalent both in Western and Eastern Europe and concern Ukrainian immigrants of different waves. In the twenty-first century we all are called to start over, to go deeper, to follow Jesus’ calling “put out into the deep” without fear—duc in altum! Pope St. John Paul II called it the “New Evangelization.” In this life the greatest depth is in the human heart. We need to hear the heart’s beat and its yearning; and the heart needs to realize its true destiny. That is where God speaks. This is my first task as an archbishop-nominee: to listen carefully, thoughtfully, prayerfully.

Do you feel like coming home?

Yes, it is a homecoming for reasons I’ve already mentioned and for others. After decades of an itinerant life, the definition of home for me ceased to be merely geographic. For me, home is a place where I live good relationships reflecting our relationship with God. Yes, I feel I’m coming home, not only because of my personal history, but because there are good, godly people in America, in our Church, as well as outside of it.

As scandals in Pennsylvania and other states are made public, the Catholic Church in the US endures difficult times. Now, being a member of the US bishops’ conference, how will you face this challenge?

Sexual abuse of young people, or indeed of anyone, in the Church and outside of it is a great scandal of our time. The suffering of the victims is unspeakable. It is a spiritual crisis. At issue is a profound lack of virtue. We need conversion, a return to the basics. Much has been done in the Church to begin addressing it. But clearly much more needs to be done. I admire those who deal with the crisis squarely. I understand that today in America the Church is among the safest places for young people. But still much needs to be done to heal wounds of the past, to hear the victims who were silent for decades. I hope that the Church purifies itself so that it can continue to be a leader in the struggle for dignity and safety of all vulnerable persons throughout their life from conception to natural death.

We have to face the truth humbly, with the acknowledgement of, and repentance for, our sins. When we stop fearing, a new hope returns. Several weeks ago, the Paris Eparchy experienced a seminar conducted by Father Hans Zollner, SJ, about the extent of sexual abuse globally and in the Church and the inadequacy of our response to it. Fr. Hans is one of the main organizers of the meeting on abuse called by Pope Francis in Rome. The stories and statistics of those violated were nauseating. And yet awareness of the truth leads to hope. If we live in illusion, we are condemned to anxiety. We know it’s fake and sooner or later we are going to fall through the floor. Illusions are being stripped away. This is painful, but ultimately the truth generates hope.

I come as one who needs to learn and listen, and
I’m more than willing to be taught. I hope that all of us can contribute to the eradication of any violence and abuse. God created us in freedom and calls us to its fullness, which is always accompanied by a call to responsibility. Those structures that do not support God-given freedom and dignity will not last, including ecclesiastical ones. It’s okay if they perish. Some things will fall and disintegrate. It has happened in history: the Roman Empire collapsed, as did many modern colonial empires. The Church has in the past disappeared in certain parts of the world, only to flourish elsewhere. It is the Lord’s Church and He will guide it if we do not get in the way.

As people of faith we have no other choice but to believe that God’s plans for His Church are larger than our imagination, that He with His mighty hand can rescue His faithful and rebuild His Church. For me, that’s not a theological theory or a pious dream: I witnessed it in my life and in my Church.

In the second half of the twentieth century, the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church was obliterated as a visible, public, legal institution. After two generations of relentless persecution, from 1945 to 1989, it seemed destined to disappear. And yet after unspoken humiliation, those living martyrs and confessors who with humility accepted God’s guidance led the Church out of the catacombs and into a new life. The fire of persecution burned away superfluous or even harmful aspects of the Church’s life while forging the faith of a small remnant. That small band of witnesses was then called to bring the faith to millions. Today, in Ukraine, the Church of 4-5 million faithful has 800 seminarians. Fifty years of war and persecution reduced its 3000 priests in 1939 to 300 aged priests in 1989, but today it has again 3000 priests in or from Ukraine, many of them serving generously in Paris Eparchy and throughout the United States.

As a Church historian and pastor, I find comfort and inspiration in the twentieth-century salvation history of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church. Authenticity in prayer and worship, selfless service, and humility are the only possible ways to live the Gospel convincingly in contemporary society, especially amidst the Church’s present difficulties. True faith and love, prevail, even in unbearable circumstances; so does hope. The three great things of which St. Paul writes bring peace and joy. With God’s help, I hope to testify in Philadelphia and throughout the Archeparchy about the witness of our fathers and mothers in the faith. They endured and prevailed spiritually and morally through the power of God. So can we.

https://risu.org.ua/en/index/monitoring/society_digest/74762/

**Commemorate His Grace Borys in litanies and divine services**

February 18, 2019 - Today we learnt of the wonderful news of appointment of His Grace, Archbishop Borys Gudziak, as the seventh Metropolitan-Archbishop of Philadelphia. Starting today we are to commemorate His Grace Borys in litanies and divine services in the following order:

For our most holy universal Pontiff, Francis, Pope of Rome, our most blessed Major Archbishop (or Patriarch) Sviatoslav, our Most Reverend Metropolitan, Borys, our God-loving Bishops, John and Andriy, the reverend priesthood, the diaconate in Christ, and all the clergy and the people, let us pray to the Lord.

May the good and loving Lord bless our new Metropolitan Borys always!

Sincerely, Yours in Christ,

+Andriy Rabiy
Apostolic Administrator for the Archeparchy of Philadelphia
This was the announcement from the Vatican Site about the Appointment of Archbishop Borys Gudziak

Resignations and Appointments, 18.02.2019

Appointment of the metropolitan archbishop of Philadelphia of the Ukrainians, U.S.A.

The Pope has appointed as metropolitan archbishop of Philadelphia of the Ukrainians, United States of America, H.E. Msgr. Borys Gudziak, transferring him from the eparchy of Saint Vladimir-Le-Grand de Paris of the Ukrainians, France.

H.E. Msgr. Borys Gudziak

H.E. Msgr. Borys Gudziak was born in Syracuse, New York, United States of America, on 24 November 1960. After completing his studies at the Christian Brothers Academy, he graduated in philosophy and biology. He entered the Santa Sofia College in Rome, as a pupil of the archieparchy of Lviv, attended the Pontifical Urban University, and in 1983 he completed his studies in theology.

In 1992, he moved to Lviv where he founded the Institute of Church History, later becoming its dean. Cardinal Lubachivsky, archbishop of Lviv of the Ukrainians, appointed him in 1993 as chairman of the commission for the renewal of the Lviv Theological Academy. Since 2000 he has been rector of the same and later rector of the Ukrainian Catholic University of Lviv.

He was ordained a priest on 26 November 1998 in the church of St. George, and incardinated in the archieparchy of Lviv of the Ukrainians.

On 21 July 2012 he was appointed as apostolic exarch for Ukrainian faithful of the Byzantine rite resident in France, and received episcopal ordination on 26 August 2012. On 19 January 2013, the Holy Father Benedict XVI elevated the apostolic exarchate to the rank of eparchy of Saint Vladimir-Le-Grand de Paris of the Ukrainians, France, H.E. Msgr. Hlyb Borys Sviatoslav Lonchyna, bishop of the eparchy of Holy Family of London of the Ukrainians, Great Britain.

On 25 March 2006, he returned to Ukraine, with the task of following consecrated life, while maintaining the role of apostolic visitator in Italy, Spain and Ireland until 2009. On 2 June of that year he was appointed as apostolic administrator of the see of the apostolic exarchate for the Ukrainian faithful of Byzantine rite resident in Great Britain, of which on 14 June 2011 he became apostolic exarch and, on 18 January 2013, first eparchial bishop.

http://press.vatican.va/content/salastampa/en/bollettino/pubblico/2019/02/18/190218b.html
God's Word and Catechesis

Catechetical Conference
Saturday, March 30, 2019

Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception Social Hall
810 North Franklin Street Philadelphia, Pa.

This conference is designed for all religious education teachers, catechists, clergy and anyone interested in parish religious education programs for all age groups—children, teens, young adults, adults and senior citizens. There is no registration fee, however pre-registration is requested.

Conference Program

9:00-9:30 am  Registration
9:30-9:40 am  Prayer and Welcome- Bishop Andriy Rabiy
9:40-10:45 am  Liturgy of the Word I  Rev. Dr. Mark Morozowich, STD
10:45-11:00 am  Break
11:00-12:15 pm  Liturgy of the Word II  Rev. Dr. Mark Morozowich, STD
12:15- 1:00 pm  Lunch
1:00-2:15 pm  Holy Scripture: What is it? How to read and pray it? Dr. Kelly Anderson
2:15-2:30 pm  Break
2:30-3:45 pm  How to Get Children's Attention  Dr. Chrystyna Mykytyn
3:45-4:00 pm  Discussion and Concluding Remarks

To register: email (ibah@aol.com), fax (215-627-0377) or send to:

Catechetical Conference, 810 North Franklin Street, Philadelphia, Pa. 19123

Name________________________________________ Phone Number ______________________
Address ______________________________________ E-mail _____________________________
City___________________________________________ State ____________ Zip _____________

Name of Parish and Location ________________________________

---DETACH---
Archeparchy News

Starting on Tuesday, January 29th 2019, our Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchial Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Philadelphia will be **open for visitors** Monday through Friday, 9:00am to 12:00pm and 1:00pm-4:00pm. Please come and see our beautiful Cathedral, which is located near the historic area of the City of the Brotherly Love — Philadelphia.

Archeparchy Fundraises to Help Others

In the last 18 months our Archeparchy has completed a number of fundraisers for charitable purposes and institutions in Ukraine and in the United States. We helped Caritas-Lviv (youth center for children with disabilities, and more), Caritas-Dubno (to renovate a youth center); to help victims of floods in the north eastern part of Pennsylvania, 47 parishes (out of 65) held Christmas social projects in November-December to help local communities.

I will publish complete reports on each project very soon and I will share with you. I thank once again everyone who made donations, said a prayer and a kind word.

You made a difference! You changed someone’s life! May God bless you!

Now I present a new project that we all can get around - an orphanage of 34 children with disabilities or abandoned, which is run by the **Sisters Servants of the Lord and Our Lady of Matara**, an international Catholic order of women that has monasteries in western and eastern Ukraine, very active and vibrant to bring Christ to those who need it most. The Sisters depend on our kindness and generosity to keep their ministry going.

**Here is their story:**

**Orphanage of St. Nicholas Mercy Town** in Krykhvtsi, Ivano-Frankivsk by Sisters Servants of the Lord and the Virgin of Matara

“St. Nicholas Mercy Town” was founded in Ivano-Frankivsk in 2004 by the Religious Institute of “Servants of the Lord and the Virgin of Matara” (the women’s branch of the Incarnate Word Religious Family) with the purpose to take care of the people in need, those who are discarded by the society and have no place to live and nobody to get support from.

In 2002, at the beginning of our foundation in Ivano-Frankivsk, Ukraine, we did not even planned to start a house of mercy. But God planned for us when one day a man together with a pregnant 16-year old girl knocked at the door of our convent in Ivano-Frankivsk and said: “Please, help Iryna (it was her name) to give birth to her baby. She is an orphan and has no home where to go”.

And we answered “Yes”. So, Iryna started to stay with us. Several months later her friend Olga, from the same state boarding house and also pregnant, appeared and knocked on our door asking for help. And we again said, “yes”. And yet a few months later, our neighbor, a 5-year old girl Katia, came up to us and asked to stay with us as her mom was...

(continued on next page)
Archeparchy Fundraises to Help Others

(continued from previous page)

a drunkard and a drug addict. And Katia also stayed with us...

Then, we realized that God wanted something more from us – to help these people in a better way. In 2004, with the help of one American benefactor, we purchased a house and designated it for the people who were in need and called it St. Nicholas House of Mercy. At that time, there were nearly 70 people in the House (single mothers and their children, orphans, street children, elderly women and 4 Sisters who organized and ran the house). It was like in a Ukrainian fairy tale “Rukavychka” (‘A Glove’) where there were many characters in a tight small place. Nevertheless, we all were very happy to help the people.

Nowadays all the members of St. Nicholas Mercy Town are divided into three groups:

1. Single mothers with their kids in Horokholyna, Ivano-Frankivsk Region;
2. Elderly women in Ternopil;
3. Orphans and Children from problematic families who live in our house in Krykhivtsi (Ivano-Frankivsk).

In Krykhivtsi, we have 34 children now. The youngest is 2 year old and the oldest is 18 year old. During these years we had more than 150 children. They live with us with the permission of the state or their parents (if they have them) that usually have serious problems with alcohol or drugs or really disastrous economic situation and, consequently, cannot give their children a decent life and education. We do not take legal rights from the parents hoping for their conversion. In fact, we have had two mothers that gave up drinking in order to save their children; staying with us is a chance for them. Twelve of our children are little kids. For them, we have something like kindergarten, where they can stay during the day. Others are students at a local school. Sisters are in charge of the orphanage: they take care of the little kids, do homework with the older ones, teach them prayers, watch their behavior, organize their cultural, sport and healthy recreation, etc.

If you would like to donate for the orphanage, single mothers with children or elderly women house, your contribution will be appreciated very much by the Sisters. You may write your check to: Orphans in Ukraine (for orphanage) or Special Needs in Ukraine (single mothers with children or elderly women), and mail it to our chancery address:

Archbishop’s Chancery
810 North Franklin Street
Philadelphia PA 19123

You will receive a formal Thank you letter and a receipt, which can be used for tax-exempt purposes.

Thank you! May God bless you!

Bishop Andriy Rabiy
Saint Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church of Wilmington, Delaware, prides itself on the various ecumenical and parish outreach activities that help and enrich the spiritual and physical needs of its parishioners, surrounding communities and the Ukrainian people in our native homeland, Ukraine. The parish outreach efforts reflect the tireless giving spirit of our parish priest, Father Volodymyr Klanichka, and his family, who are always available to lend a helping hand, and to share our joys and sorrows.

Children’s and adult religious education programs are available on a weekly basis, which include Bible study and a spiritual reading/lending library at the church.

Saint Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic parish participates and hosts community organizations such as the local Chapter of the Knight of Columbus, Birthright of Delaware, and an annual “Feeding The Lambs” ministry of the Emmanuel Dining Room, a ministry of caring.

Other Ukrainian heritage organizations are also a very generous source of help for our needy. The local Branch of the UNWLA (Soyuz Ukrainok) donates and distributes baskets of traditional foods to homebound parishioners during the Christmas and Easter holidays. It is also instrumental in sponsoring scholarships for Ukrainian students in Ukraine and South America, the Ukrainian Museum in NYC, as well as donating to the fund for helping the needy in Ukraine.

During the Christmas season, our parish youth representing the Plast and CYM organizations, share the beautiful tradition of Bethlehem Candle Lighting at the church, and Christmas Greetings and Caroling at the homes of our elder parishioners.

The parish also sponsors a traditional Saint Nicholas celebration, by providing a luncheon, short play, and gifts for all the children.

Saint Nicholas parish was very generous in donating clothing, food articles and school supplies to needy families in Ivano Frankivsk region of Western Ukraine, as well as a Nursing Home and an Orphanage managed by Basilian Nuns. Ukraine Express Shipping Company donated shipping costs for the 19 large packages prepared by the parish.

Saint Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic parish of Wilmington, Delaware is looking forward to a New Year of continued effort and fulfillment of our church community mission statement “Let us be a community filled with faith in God, love for our church and Ukrainian traditions, as well as love for one another”.

Father Roman Sverdan is the pastor of St. Michael’s parish.
February 19, 2019

Glory be to Jesus Christ!!

Dear Father,

The Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church is pleased to present a marriage preparation workshop, “Entering the Holy Mystery of Marriage”, to take place on Saturday, March 23, 2019 with a follow up session on Saturday, March 30, 2019. The program focuses on various aspects of marriage, both spiritual and practical, and provides each person an opportunity for greater understanding of one’s partner and a means to strengthen one’s relationship.

In addition to various presentations and exercises, each couple will be given the opportunity to take the Catholic version of a premarital questionnaire called F.A.C.E.T. (Foundations Applied Conversation and Education Tool). The F.A.C.E.T. inventory provides participants with a computer-generated profile of unique couple issues, challenges, strengths and realities to be discussed prior to marriage. The F.A.C.E.T. results for each couple involved will be presented to them by a Pastoral Counselor trained in the use of this tool in a subsequent 40 minute private session on April 21, 2018.

Each attending couple must commit to participating in all the sessions on March 23, 2019 as well as the 40 minute private meeting on March 30, 2019.

The workshop will be held at: Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church 1204 Valley Road Melrose Park, PA 19027

The total cost per couple will be $170 which includes materials, lunch and refreshments.

March 20, 2019 - Registration and payment due Date!!!

No registration will be accepted after March 20, 2019.

I am enclosing schedule /registration forms with this letter.

May God bless your Pastoral work.

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Ihor Bloshchynskyy
(Pastor)
New Chalice is Blessed at the Cathedral

On February 10, 2019, Very Rev. Roman Pitula blessed a new chalice set that was donated to the Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Philadelphia, PA from a construction worker who helped build the Cathedral. Michael DelGiorno the Construction worker fell from a great height during the construction of the Cathedral, but he was caught during the fall by a co-worker. The items that were blessed were a chalice, diskos, star, spoon and spear. Thank you, Michael and Geraldine DelGiorno, for your generosity! Watch a video of the blessing on our YouTube Channel. https://youtu.be/g4F2sRA-fgk

Catechism

Catechism of the Ukrainian Catholic Church: Christ - Our Pascha

645 - For the celebration of the Divine Liturgy, consecrated liturgical vessels are used. These are the diskos, the chalice, the star, the lance, and the spoon. The diskos is a golden plate on which the priest places the Lamb and the particles prepared during the Proskomide. The chalice is a gold-plated vessel for the Eucharistic wine. From the chalice the priest distributes Communion to the faithful at the Liturgy. To cut out the Lamb and the particles from the proskomide, a lance is used. This is a knife in the form of a spear; it commemorates the piercing of Christ’s side with a spear. Once the Lamb and the particles have been placed on the diskos, they are covered with a star, two metal arches joined together, one inside the other so that when extended they form a cross. The star symbolizes the star of Bethlehem, which led the wise men to the newborn Christ—the Lamb of God. The prepared gifts are covered with three cloth veils: the smallest covers the chalice, a larger one covers the diskos, and the largest, called the aer, covers both. As the Liturgy is the commemoration of the life and death of our Lord Jesus Christ, the veils symbolize the swaddling-cloths of the Infant and the shroud of the Crucified One.

646 - For the Communion of the faithful, a gold-plated spoon is used. In the vision of the prophet Isaiah, the angel took a burning coal with tongs and cleansed the prophet by touching it to his lips (see Is 6). Similarly, with a spoon, the priest gives the faithful the most pure Body and precious Blood of Christ for the cleansing from sins.
We are getting ready for our count-down through Great Lent to Pascha. It’s going to be a long ride, so fasten your seatbelts. Let’s see what *The Catechism of the Ukrainian Catholic Church: Christ—Our Pascha* has to say about the Sundays leading up to Great Lent. Since we are talking about what the Gospel is about for each of these Sundays, we should be looking in section two, *The Prayer of the Church*. In this section we learn all about The Holy Mysteries, (sacraments), Divine Liturgy, and everything else that happens in church.

Look at the Table of Contents. Remember that the Table of Contents uses page numbers unlike the index which gives us paragraph numbers. Read through the table of contents for section two. You will notice a section called “The Yearly Cycle of Services” on page 187. We see that the services of the Divine Liturgy are either part of the immovable cycle or the movable cycle. Did you ever wonder why Christmas is always on the same date each year and Pascha is not? Let’s find out.

Check out “The Movable Cycle of Feasts” on page 188. We learn that the date of Pascha or Easter moves to different dates each year. Pascha always falls on the first Sunday after the full moon after the vernal equinox. An equinox is the exact day when there are an equal number of hours in the day and in the night. This happens twice a year, in the fall, called the autumnal equinox, and in the spring, called the vernal equinox. Since the vernal equinox does not happen on the same day each year, Pascha and all the Sundays related to Pascha do not fall on the same day each year.

In paragraph (not page number) 568 we learn that there are four Sundays that come before Great Lent to help us prepare for Lent. They are:

1. The Sunday of the Publican (Tax Collector) and the Pharisee—we learn to imitate the humility of the tax collector
2. The Sunday of the Prodigal Son—we learn to be sorry for our sins and return to God who loves us so much
3. Meatfare Sunday—we learn about the Divine Judgement and how we should show our love for God by works of charity
4. Cheesefare Sunday—we learn to forgive each other just as God forgive us.

During the Great Lent, we must not only fast, but also show our love for God by praying as much as we can and also show our love for God by doing acts of love for our neighbor and by giving alms.
The title of this month’s coloring page is “Christ Pantocrator” (pan’-to-kra’-tor). The word Pantocrator comes from two Greek words and means “Almighty Ruler.” These icons show Jesus as our all-powerful ruler and judge of all people. In his left hand he holds the Gospel book, which will be used to judge us. This shows Jesus as our just judge. His right hand is raised to bless us. This shows his great mercy. On Meat-fare Sunday, we will hear the story of the Divine Judgment. Listen to the story and see how God will judge us by how we treated our neighbor. Often we find these icons on the inside of the main dome of a church. It looks like Our Lord is looking down on us (which, of course, He is.)

In some icons, we see that the Gospel book which Our Lord is holding is open to a verse in the Bible for us to read. Then we can call the icon by the name “Christ the Teacher.”

Let’s study this famous Christ Pantocrator Icon

This is the oldest Christ Pantocrator icon. It is at St. Catherine’s Monastery in the Sinai Desert and is probably from the 6th century. Do you notice something strange in this icon? Look at it carefully.

Each eye is different. The eye on this side is kind and loving. It shows that Jesus is merciful.

On the side that shows Jesus as our loving God, we see his hand raised to bless us.

Many icons have a gold background representing heaven and eternity. Here we see buildings instead. Jesus is outside. Do you think it is judgement day?

The eye on this side shows Jesus looking as if he is not pleased with our sins. He is our just judge.

On the side that shows Jesus as our judge, he hold the Gospel book. He will judge us by his teachings and how we have treated others.

Two 8-pointed stars are in the upper corners. Maybe they represent the “Eighth Day” which could mean judgement day. Maybe they are just stars in the sky above the buildings. Or perhaps, they are just pretty decorations. Do you have any other ideas?

It is fun to put this picture into a computer and take half the picture, reverse it and put two of the same sides together. The picture on the left is what you get when you put the two merciful sides together. The picture on the far right is what you get when you put two of the just judge sides together. Or, you can just put in two of the same eyes, in the smallest picture) and get this very nice picture.
Children’s Corner

Christ Pantocrator Crossword Puzzle

Across
1. Our Lord’s hand is raised to __________ us.
2. Pantocrator icons are often found on the inside of a ______.
3. On the last day, Jesus will be our just __________.
4. When the book our Lord is holding is open, we may call this icon Christ the ________.
5. The oldest Pantocrator icon is found in a monastery named after this saint.
6. The oldest Pantocrator dates from the __________ century.
7. Pantocrator icons show Jesus as the all-powerful ____________.

Down
1. In icons of Our Lord, when the book He is holding is open, the book usually shows words from the ________.
2. In the oldest Pantocrator icon, each eye is ________.
3. On Meat-fare Sunday, we hear the story of the Divine ________.
4. In his right hand, Our Lord holds the books of the ________.
5. On Judgement Day, Jesus will judge us by how we treated our ________.
6. The monastery which has the oldest Pantocrator icon is in which desert.
7. The word Pantocrator comes from which language?
8. What does the oldest Pantocrator icon have in the upper corners?

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The Three Orders of the Divine Liturgy

In our Catechism, Christ Our Pascha, we read that there are three Orders of the Divine Liturgy: the Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom, the Liturgy of St. Basil the Great and the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts. In our Church, ordinarily it is the Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom that is celebrated. The Liturgy of Saint Basil the Great is celebrated ten times a year, namely: on all five Sundays of Great Fast (Lent), on Great and Holy Thursday, on Great and Holy Saturday, on the eves of Christmas and Theophany, and on the feast of Saint Basil the Great. From Monday to Friday during Great Lent, as a sign of the anticipation of Christ’s Pascha and glorious second coming, the Church does not offer the Eucharistic oblation, that is, the Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom or Saint Basil the Great. (393)

In order to sustain the faithful in the spiritual effort of fasting during Lent (Great Fast), the Church celebrates the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts. At this Liturgy, the faithful partake of the Holy Gifts that were consecrated the previous Sunday. No Divine Liturgy is celebrated on the Wednesday and Friday of Cheesefare Week, the Monday and Tuesday of the first week of Lent, or on Good Friday, which is why according to tradition these are non-liturgical days. It is customary to celebrate the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts on the Wednesdays and Fridays of Great Lent, which is why we call all the Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays of Lent non-liturgical. The Church maintains the practice of non-liturgical days in order to remind us that we are only approaching the fullness of the kingdom of God, and in order that the Eucharist not become for us just a habit, but that it may always be a dynamic event. (394)

The Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

Great Fast (Lent) is soon approaching and once again our Church will be celebrating the Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts on Wednesdays and Fridays. The Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts accentuates two elements: the preparation of catechumens for Baptism, and the repentance of the faithful.

During this Liturgy, the community prays for and instructs the catechumens. In the second half of Great Lent it adds petitions for “those about to be illumined.” These are the catechumens who will be baptized at that year’s celebration of Pascha (Resurrection). The first part of the Liturgy, Vespers with Old Testament readings, has a distinctly didactic character. The readings from the books of Genesis and Exodus present to the catechumens, as well as to the baptized, God’s providence and care for his Chosen People. The book of Proverbs, in turn, offers the teachings of Divine Wisdom for daily living. Through these readings of the Old Testament and the prayers of the Liturgy, the catechumens prepare for enlightenment in Baptism. A symbol of this preparation and reception of the light of God’s Word is the blessing with a candle and incense, accompanied by the words “The light of Christ enlightens all.” This is a sign of Christ who triumphs over darkness, a symbol of the coming light of Pascha, and the baptism of the catechumens into the Death and Resurrection of Christ.

The penitential character of the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts is seen in the singing of the verse “Let my prayer rise like incense before you,” which culminates with great prostrations. We also kneel during the solemn transfer of the Gifts from the Preparation Table to the Holy Table (Altar) —the Gifts that are already the very Body and Blood of Christ. The penitential and fasting character of this Liturgy expresses the expectation of the paschal fullness. The reception of Holy Communion also strengthens the faithful spiritually as they walk the way of repentance and fasting. (401-402)

Adapted from “Catechism of the Ukrainian Catholic Church: Christ - Our Pascha”

Rev. D. George Worschak

FEBRUARY 24, 2019
Ninety years ago, three Sisters of St. Basil arrived in Philadelphia in response to the Church’s Call to serve the Ukrainian immigrants. Not knowing a word of English, these young Sisters (the oldest was 30-years-old) courageously and joyfully entered the New World to tackle the overwhelming needs of the Ukrainian immigrants. Many immigrant children were orphaned due to the frequent coal mining accidents in Western Pennsylvania. Others had no work because most were uneducated and spoke no English. Where to begin to address these crucial needs? The Sisters moved on all fronts at once: they began an orphanage, opened a carpet factory to teach a trade, established evening classes teaching English and Religion in Philadelphia as well as parishes in PA, OH, NJ, NY, IL, MI. Later, they opened a full-time day elementary school system, an Academy and a college (Manor College). Today the Sisters teach in several parish schools, administer Manor College, St. Basil Academy and the Basilian Spirituality Center, do Pastoral Ministry and work in Chanceries.

To celebrate the work of the Sisters a Book of Memories will be published recalling people’s experiences and memories of the Sisters - those living or dead. It was previously announced that the deadline was May 1st, however, due to the many requests to extend the deadline date, the deadline has been extended to July 1, 2019. There will be a small monetary prize (1st prize a $100.00 U. S. Bond; 2nd and 3rd prize a $50.00 U.S. Bond) for the top three stories, however, all stories will be published. Send them to Sr. Ann Laszok, OSBM

542 Melrose Avenue, Ambridge, Pa. 15003

724-266-5578

If you have any questions or want more information about the Srs. of St. Basil visit our website www.basiliansfoxchase.org or contact Sr. Dorothy Ann, OSBM at Basilians@aol.com

Sr. Ann Laszok, OSBM

710 Fox Chase Rd, Fox Chase Manor, PA 19046

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For religious church goods and religious gifts, icons and cards, visit Byzantine Church Supplies. You will also find gifts, cross necklaces, books, icons, crosses, Christian incense, Church supplies, various linens and priest’s vestments.
COMMEMORATION
FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SACRIFICE
MAIDAN’S HEAVENLY 100 FREEDOM FIGHTERS – NEBESNA SOTNYA
UKRAINE’S REVOLUTION OF DIGNITY

Sunday, February 24 at 2:00 PM
Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchial Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception
830 N. Franklin Street, Philadelphia, PA 19123

SOLEMN MEMORIAL SERVICES
&
COMMEMORATIVE CONCERT

Accolada Chamber Choir          Yuliya Stupen, vocals
Prometheus Male Chorus          Sofiya Pitula, vocals

Yuliyana Fartachuk & Marianna Klingensmith, violinists,
Accompanied by Lubov Shchuyko on Piano

Presenters: Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchial Cathedral
Ukrainian Congress Committee of America – Philadelphia Branch
During this Lenten season give something up 
and help us sponsor Soup Kitchens in Ukraine.

UUARC sponsors soup kitchens in the following locations:
Lviv. Feeds 35 individuals daily.
Mykolaiv (Mykolaiv oblast). Feeds 25 individuals daily.
Ponornytsia (Chernihiv oblast). Feeds 35 individuals daily.
Nova Odesa (Mykolaiv oblast). This kitchen reflects the system “Meals on Wheels”,
but in place of meals, parcels containing food staples are delivered.
Serves 84. (42 individuals every other month).

Odesa. A new soup kitchen has been started at the parish of the Ascension of the Lord
Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church. Feeds 70-80 individuals weekly.

Soup kitchens provide a 4 course meal 5 days a week
for veterans, the elderly, former political prisoners, handicapped and orphans.

Won’t you consider helping us by donating to this life giving cause?

*****

Please make your check payable to UUARC Inc.’
United Ukrainian American Relief Committee, Inc.
1206 Cottman Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19111
For more information, please call 215-728-1630 or visit our website www.uuarc.org
Faith Formation for the Great Fast

TUESDAYS, 6:30PM - 8:30PM
- MARCH 5 Introduction
- MARCH 12 Old Testament
- MARCH 19 New Testament
- MARCH 26 Ancient Church
- APRIL 2 Medieval/Crusades
- APRIL 9 Reformation
- APRIL 16 Vatican II - Today

Retreat for Caregivers

SATURDAY, MARCH 23
10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Icon Writing Workshop

MONDAY, MAY 6 - FRIDAY, MAY 10
- MAY 6 PM Only
- MAY 7 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
- MAY 8 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
- MAY 9 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
- MAY 10 AM Only

Event Planning

Book retreats and meetings with us.
March 2, 2019 at 7:30pm

Banquet Hall

At the Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral
Of the Immaculate Conception
808 N. Franklin Street, Philadelphia, PA 19123

Spring Dance

Live music by Band «HALYCHANY»

Festive atmosphere in good company
Delicious dinner
Dance
BYOB

Tickets:
Adults - $55 ($65 at the door)
youth (13-18) - $40
children (6-12) - $20
under 6 years old - free

For tickets call:
Oksana Yakymiv (267) 254-2671
Oksana R (215) 596-6144
Fr. Roman Pitula (215) 922-2845
**Springtime Bus Trip**

The North Anthracite Council of the League of Ukrainian Catholics is sponsoring a bus trip to New York City on Saturday, May 18, 2019. The Itinerary includes Brooklyn’s Brighton Beach [Little Odessa] and the 43rd Annual St. George Ukrainian Street Festival on the Lower East Side of Manhattan. Participants are free to do their own thing for all or part of the day if they so wish. Bus will pick up at Edwardsville’s St. Vladimir Church, 70 Zerby Avenue at 8:00am and at Scranton’s St. Vladimir Church, 428 North Seventh Avenue at 8:45am. Departure for home will be at 8:00pm. Cost is $45.00 per person. Full nonrefundable advance payment reserves a seat. For further information and reservations call Paul at 570 563-2275 or Janina at 570 759-2824. Early reservations are recommended as this is a very popular trip and the 55 passenger bus is expected to fill quickly.

**Advertisements**

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**Saint Basil Academy News: 7th GRADE PRACTICE EXAM**

Meet & Greet for 6th & 7th Grade Parents

On Saturday, March 2, Saint Basil Academy will offer the 7th grade practice exam at 8 AM. A Meet & Greet for 6th & 7th grade parents will be held from 8:30-10 AM. Faculty, staff, and administration will be on hand to answer questions and discuss pertinent information regarding our mission, academics, and the admissions process. Brief tours will be provided.

Register online at https://www.stbasilacademy.org/admissions/

Contact the Admissions Office at 215-649-9083 for more information

Saint Basil Academy is located at 711 Fox Chase Road in Jenkintown.
The Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate joyfully announce the 100th Anniversary of the “passing into eternal life” of the first Sister Servant and Foundress, Blessed Josaphata Hor-dashevskya, who died on April 7, 1919.

“Sister Josaphata was the heart and pulse during the initial period in the life of the Congregation.” Her heart beat for the people, whom she nurtured and served wherever the need was the greatest. Above all, she served with the gift of prayer, since prayer for her always had priority in her life. Josaphata is a Pioneer, a Woman of Prayer, a Mystic and a Woman for All Times!

Sisters Servants throughout the world will be celebrating this Centenary. The American Province will be celebrating during our 65th Holy Dormition Pilgrimage on August 10 & 11, 2019, and also during a special weekend in April.

Listed below is the schedule of events that the Sisters Servants cordially invite the faithful to join us. The events will take place at St. Mary’s Villa in Sloatsburg, NY.

**Thursday, April 4th** - Opening of the weekend with 2:00 pm Moleben to Blessed Josaphata, followed by a presentation and refreshments

**Friday, April 5th** - 6:30 pm Akathist to Blessed Josaphata, followed by a presentation and refreshments

**Saturday, April 6th** - 1:30 Chaplet to Blessed Josaphata, followed by a video/narration - Q & A period and refreshments

6:30 pm Moleben to Blessed Josaphata, followed by a video/narration, Q & A period, and refreshments

**Sunday, April 7th** - Closing of the triduum weekend with 1:45 Welcome by Sister Kathleen Hutsko, 2:00 pm Pontifical Divine Liturgy, and festive dinner.

*PLEASE NOTE: in order to prepare accordingly for the honor of your presence, please RSVP by March 21st to 845-753-2840 or email to: srkath25@gmail.com*
Dear LUC Members and Friends,

We have been blessed to have our annual Lenten retreat in the quiet and blessed Retreat Center of the Sister Servants of Mary Immaculate for 40 years. This year our Lenten retreat will be held for the last time at St. Mary's Villa in Sloatsburg, NY as the Sisters are selling their property. We have been blessed with many graces received while on retreat and are grateful to the Sisters for providing us with a quiet and comfortable place where we could open our hearts and souls to receive the many blessings God bestowed upon us.

Our Lenten retreat will coincide with the Triduum honoring the 100th Anniversary of the death of the Sister’s foundress, +Blessed Josaphata Hordashevska. We will not only make our annual Lenten Retreat but also participate in the celebration honoring +Blessed Josaphata Hordashevska.

Archpriest Daniel Troyan has given us the theme for our retreat. It is “THE JOY OF LIVING: A FAITH THAT WORKS!” Our Lenten Retreat will begin on Friday evening, April 5, 2019 at 7:30 PM. The opening of the celebration of the foundress +Blessed Josaphata will begin on Thursday at 2:00 pm with a Moleben to Blessed Josaphata. Those who wish to participate are asked to kindly respond as soon as possible as to when you plan to arrive.

The schedule provides for your Sunday obligation with a Liturgy celebrated Saturday evening for those who need to leave Sunday due to travel distance. Others are invited to attend the Pontifical Divine Liturgy that will be celebrated at 2:00 pm. The price is the same whether you come on Thursday or Friday. But we need to let the Sisters know when you will arrive as soon as possible if you plan on coming Thursday.

DATE: ___________________________ TIME: _______________

REGISTRATION FORM FOR LUC LENTEN RETREAT 2019
Retreat begins on Friday at 7:30 pm (arrivals by 7:00 pm)

NAME: _____________________________________________________________________________
ADDRESS: __________________________________________________________________________
CITY: ___________________________________________ STATE: ____________ ZIP: _____________
I WILL ARRIVE ON: ___________________________ AT APPROXIMATELY: _____________ P.M.

Please note: There will be no meal served Friday evening. Be sure to have your supper before you arrive. As always, there will be hot and cold beverages, snacks and fruits available at all times.

RETREAT COST: $ 175.00 Per Person DEADLINE: MARCH 25, 2019
MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: LEAGUE OF UKRAINIAN CATHOLICS
Complete and Mail to: Marion C. Hrubec 400 Dewey Avenue, Saddle Brook, NJ 07663
Paid ________ Check # ________
LEAGUE OF UKRAINIAN CATHOLICS
ANNUAL LENTEN RETREAT SCHEDULE
APRIL 5, 6, 7, 2019
Retreat Director: Rev. Archpriest Daniel Troyan
Theme: “THE JOY OF LIVING: A faith that works...”

Our retreat is coinciding with the celebration of the 100th Anniversary of the Death Of Blessed Josaphata SSMI. As an option, we are invited to participate in the celebration with the Sister Servants, as a way of saying “Thank You” to them for the many years of hosting the League of Ukrainian Catholics Lenten Retreat. For those who are unable to stay for the Pontifical Liturgy at 2:00PM Sunday, there will be a vesperal Divine Liturgy on Saturday evening at 8:00PM.

THURSDAY:
2:00 pm Opening of the Celebration Honoring Blessed Josaphata
Retreatants are welcome to arrive today to participate in the day’s celebrations

FRIDAY:
7:30pm Opening Remarks and Introduction
CONFERENCE I: The Joy Of Living
Akathist Prayer Service to the Mother of God
CONFESSIONS BY APPOINTMENT: PLEASE REGISTER IN CHAPEL

SATURDAY: FIFTH SATURDAY OF THE GREAT FAST
AKATHISOS SATURDAY
7:45am Morning Prayers
8:00 Breakfast
9:15 CONFERENCE II: The Joy of Trust and Love: St Therese of Liseux
11:00 Divine Liturgy - Homily
12:30pm Lunch
1:30 Join Sisters for recitation of Chaplet to Blessed Josaphata
2:30 CONFERENCE III Joy of God’s Infinite Mercy:
Confessions
5:30 Dinner
6:30 Sisters scheduled Moleben to Blessed Josaphata
7:15 Healing Service and Anointing
8:00 Divine Liturgy of Thanksgiving for the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate and the League of Ukrainian Catholics

SUNDAY: FIFTH SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST - ST. MARY OF EGYPT
8:00 Breakfast
9:30 Morning Prayer
CONFERENCE IV: “Arise O sleeper! And I will give you life! “
Awakening of a faith that has power!
12:00 Lunch
1:45 Welcome by Sr. Kathleen for 100th Anniversary of Death of Blessed Josaphata
2:00 Pontifical Divine Liturgy celebrating Blessed Josaphata followed by dinner in the Gallery
The Permanent Synod of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church has started its regular meeting in Kyiv on February 11. This is reported by the Department of Information of the UGCC.

All members of the Permanent Synod of the UGCC take part in the synodal sessions: Patriarch Sviatoslav (Shevchuk), Bishop Eugene (Popovych), Archbishop and Metropolitan of Przemysl and Warsaw, Bishop Bohdan (Danylo), Eparch of Parma, Bishop Borys (Gudziak), Eparch of the Paris diocese of St. Volodymyr the Great, Bishop Theodore (Martyniuk), Assistant Bishop of Ternopil-Zboriv diocese.

The first part of the synodal meetings was devoted to the preparation for the next Synod of Bishops of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, which will be held in Rome (Italy) on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of consecration of St. Sophia Cathedral.

On September 1, 2019, the Divine Liturgy will be led by Patriarch Sviatoslav with the participation of the Episcopate, clergy, monks and nuns and laity.

It is also an opportunity to build internal church unity among all its members: clergy, monks and nuns and lay people; it is an opportunity to demonstrate our loyalty to the Apostle Peter’s successor, which is part of the ecclesial identity of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, which was worthily witnessed by the blessed martyrs of the 20th century, and their predecessors, namely, the Martyrs of Pratulin, and a great number of persons unknown to us but known to God.

Therefore, we ask all our eparchies, exarchs and pilgrimage centers to organize this pilgrimage for the sake of a joint all-church prayer at the Church of St. Sophia on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of its consecration.”

One more planned event of this regional Synod of Bishops of the UGCC was the commemoration of the 150th anniversary of birth and the 100th anniversary of death of the Blessed Josaphata Hordashevska to be held in Rome.

On September 5 at 15:00, in the Pontifical Basilica of Santa Maria (continued on next page)
Permanent Synod of the UGCC convened in Kyiv
(continued from previous page)

Maggiore, the Divine Liturgy will be held with the participation of the Episcopate of the UGCC, headed by His Beatitude Sviatoslav.

We are trying to ensure that the Permanent Synod of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church is a group of bishops acting on behalf of the Patriarchal Synod as an advisory body for the Head of Church. The Permanent Synod consists of the Patriarch of the UGCC, who is its chairperson, and four bishops appointed for five years. One of these bishops is appointed by the head of the UGCC, and the other three, including the obligation to be diocesan bishops, are elected by the bishops' council by secret ballot.


Synod of Bishops of the Kyiv–Halych Archeparchy of the UGCC discusses church activities and approves memos for Christian voters and politicians

9 February 2019

On February 6-7, 2019, at the Patriarchal House in Lviv, the Head of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, His Beatitude Sviatoslav presided over the 81st Session of the Synod of Bishops of the Kyiv-Halych Major Archeparchy of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church. The work of the Synod was attended by all 21 bishops of the Major Archeparchy.

The main topic of this session was “Identity of the UGCC in the light of the religious situation in Ukraine”.

The basic document was the Message of the Head of the UGCC on the occasion of the centenary of the restoration of the unity of the Ukrainian people and state “Our Holy Sofia”.

As a result of the main theme review, it was decided to hold a multidimensional discussion with the clergy, monasticism, seminarians and lay people about the identity of the UGCC as a local and simultaneously global Eastern Catholic Church, successor to and heir of Kyivan Christianity.

In the context of processing the Synodal documents, the Program of Pastoral Vocation to Consecrated Life, the Pastoral Plan for the pastoral care of sobriety in the Major Archeparchy, and the Instruction on the Presence of the Church bodies and the clergy of the Kyiv-Halych Major Archeparchy of the UGCC on the internet were reviewed and directed for further elaboration.

In addition, the text of the pre-electoral Synodal appeal and the memo for Christian voters regarding the awareness of their responsibility for their own voice and the memo for Christian politicians regarding the obligation to adhere to Christian values in their political activities was approved.

In addition to these issues, the Synod’s fathers heard reports on the activities of the Commissars of the Major Archeparchy. Bishop Vasyl Tuchapets, Chair of the Department of Social Service of the UGCC, delivered a report on the state of implementation of the Strategy of Social Service of the UGCC. Fr Bohdan Prakh reported on the mission and activities of the Ukrainian Catholic University.

His Beatitude Sviatoslav reported to the members of the Synod on the International Eucharistic Congress, which will take place in Budapest in 2020.

At this session, the Synod continued its consideration of the issue of chaplaincy in Plast and other scout youth organizations, on which Fr Rostyslav Pendiuk, chairman of the Commission on Youth Affairs of the UGCC, and Fr. Oleksiy Medyk, Chaplain of Plast-NSOU, delivered their reports.

(continued on next page)
The Fathers of the Synod drew attention to the request from the Ministry of Health of Ukraine to encourage the faithful to vaccinate against measles in view of the epidemic spread of the disease.

The Synod reviewed and blessed implementation of the plan of measures for the elaboration of the Charter for Charismatic Movements and the Exorcists Service Book.

The eighty-second session of the Synod of Bishops of the Kyiv-Halych Major Archeparchy of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church was held in May 2019. This was reported by the Department of Information of the UGCC.

https://risu.org.ua/en/index/all_news/catholics/ugcc/74648

The Head of the UGCC: Today, we exist as a church, as a nation, as a state because 50 years ago Patriarch Josyf Slipyj lived, died, and resurrected for us

Wednesday, 13 February 2019

In Kyiv, with the participation of the Father and Head of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, His Beatitude Sviatoslav, a documentary "His Beatitude" about the Confessor of the faith Patriarch Josyf Slipyj was presented.

"His Beatitude" is the continuation of the first film "The Case of the Reefs," which came out in 2017, before the 125th anniversary of the birth of Josyf Slipyj. The first film covers the period from 1939 to 1963 and reveals the circumstances surrounding the arrest, imprisonment and release of Josyph Slipyj, which are unknown to the general public. The second tape is built entirely on interviews with people who personally knew Patriarch Josyf. It tells about the life of the Patriarch after his exile in Rome from 1963 until his death.

Working on the films, the film makers traveled to nine countries around the world, in particular, to Argentina, USA, Canada, and European countries.

According to the director of the film Olena Moshynska, the crew had been working on the theme of life and ministry of Patriarch Josyf for more than four years.

The presentation was also attended by: the First Lady of Ukraine Maryna Poroshenko, the third Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko with his wife Kateryna, culture minister Yevgeniy Nyschuk, writer Oksana Zabuzhko, religious scholar Igor Kozlovsky and many other public, cultural and political figures.

"Often the Ukrainian..."
Greek Catholic Church is shy to speak about itself with all the power and courage of Patriarch Josyf,” said the Head of the UGCC after watching the tape. – “And he is today our voice. We hear how this voice of truth, the voice of the witness of Christ, goes through iron curtains, contemporary church divisions, even contemporary diplomatic expediencies in order to speak the truth on behalf of this once again bleeding nation...”

The Primate expressed the words of gratitude that today with the help of cinema we can hear Patriarch Josyf.

“We are coming out with great hope. The Patriarch said: "It can not last long." Each historical wave has its own portion of disaster,” said the Head of the Church.

We can often fall into the despair, said His Beatitude Sviatoslav, but the voice of Patriarch Josyf tells us: your trouble can not last long.

This year the UGCC will solemnly celebrate the 50th anniversary of the consecration of St. Sophia’s Cathedral in Rome. “We heard the phrase of Patriarch Josyf,” said the Primate, “if you think about tomorrow, you are too late, you have to think about 50 years in advance. And today we exist as a Church, as a nation, as a state, precisely because 50 years ago our Patriarch Josyph lived, suffered, died and resurrected for us.”

The Head of the UGCC expressed his gratitude to all those who “gave us the opportunity to hear this voice, this light of hope and to learn today to think about Ukraine, the Ukrainian people, the Ukrainian Church 50 years in advance.” "This Church is patriarchal, it has always been and will be the promoter of unity of both the Church and the nation. This martyr Church has a lot to say in a loud voice urbi et orbi - to the city, Ukraine and the world,” added the spiritual leader of Ukrainians.

His Beatitude Sviatoslav also thanked everyone who worked on the film.

The UGCC Department for Information

Adapted from an article on http://news.ugcc.ua/en/photo/the_head_of_the_ugcc_today_we_exist_as_a_church_as_a_nation_as_a_state_because_50_years_ago_patriarch_josyph_slipyj_lived_died_and_resurrected_for_us_85319.html

His Beatitude Sviatoslav: Central and Eastern Ukraine have a great interest in the UGCC

Friday, 08 February 2019

We see here a positive “explosion” of our Church. We see a special interest in the UGCC in Central and Eastern Ukraine. We lack the priests to answer the needs of people there. This was reported by the Father and Head of the UGCC His Beatitude Sviatoslav in an interview to the Polish Catholic Information Agency.

The Primate noted that the UGCC is undergoing rapid development as the institution and the needs the Church is facing surpass its potential. As an example, the Head of the Church brought a situation with the UGCC in Kramatorsk, located in the front-line zone. Kramatorsk was occupied by Russians, and later released by the Ukrainian army. Recently, a UGCC priest at a meeting with non-governmental organizations there was asked when the UGCC will have a Catholic school in this town.

“He was absolutely surprised and came to me for advice. I was also surprised because for many years I had been working to open a Catholic school in Kyiv. And it’s not that simple. Meanwhile, in Kramatorsk, people want a Catholic school. Most people there do not identify themselves with the Catholic Church, but they need a Catholic school. They want alternative upbringing of children. For them it is a hope that eventually something will change. Now I have a problem what to do. Of course, we must respond positively, but pragmatically. How to educate Catholic teachers in Kramatorsk so that they can implement the model of the Catholic Church...” (continued on next page)
His Beatitude Sviatoslav: Central and Eastern Ukraine... (continued from previous page)

beginning to feel a lack of priests, despite a high level of vocations,” added the spiritual leader of Ukrainians.

Speaking about the lack of clerics, the Head of the Church noted that, in particular, in the Kyiv diocese, which includes five oblasts, 50 priests are currently needed.

"Thus, we see here the positive "explosion" of our Church and the interest that grows to it. This is especially the case in Central and Eastern Ukraine, because in Halychyna, the Greek-Catholic Church has long proven itself well,” said the Primate.

According to him, the Patriarchal Curia of the UGCC in Kyiv also needs development. The demand for the presence of the UGCC is so great in various spheres of public life: at the level of social and charitable service, education and upbringing, relations with the state and other churches, etc, that this creates a situation in which Curia must develop rapidly in order to realize these tasks.

The UGCC Department for Information

Adapted from the article on: http://news.ugcc.ua/en/news/his_beatitude_sviatoslav_central_and_eastern_ukraine_has_a_great_interest_in_the_ugcc_85287.html

UKRAINE MARKS DAY OF HEROES OF HEAVENLY HUNDRED

20 February 2019

The day is marked annually on February 20 pursuant to the Decree of the President of Ukraine dated February 11, 2015 "On Commemoration of the Heroism of Participants in the Revolution of Dignity and Honoring the Memory of the Heroes of the Heavenly Hundred."

Five years ago, during the Revolution of Dignity, the confrontation between the Ukrainian people and the then regime reached its peak. February 20, 2014, the greatest number of the Maidan activists was killed. On the next day, February 21, 2014, the official authorities of Ukraine legally recognized the killed protesters as the victims. On the same day, the farewell ceremony took place on the Independence Square in Kyiv, and the fallen activists were called "the Heroes of the Heavenly Hundred" in mourning speeches.

On January 22, 2014, the first Heroes of the Heavenly Hundred, Sergei Nigoyan and Mikhail Zhiznevsky died of gunshot wounds during clashes in the Kyiv city center. On the same day, the body of activist Yuri Verbytsky with traces of torture was found in the forest near Kyiv. By February 18, 2014, a total of nine activists were killed. February 18-20, the greatest number of people – 78 activists – were killed on Maidan. Later, another 20 activists were killed. Apart from Ukrainians, the Belarusians, Armenians and Georgians became the victims of the Yanukovych regime. All of them became the Heavenly Hundred Heroes, the fighters for Ukrainian independence.

President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko awarded 105 Heroes of the Heavenly Hundred posthumously. Ukraine paid too high a price for liberation from the dictatorship and its civilizational choice to be the part of Europe.

Adapted from the article on https://risu.org.ua/en/index/all_news/state/national_religious_question/74786
Happy Birthday!

3 Днем народження!

March 3: Rev. Msgr. James Melnic
March 6: Rev. Leonid Malkov, C.S.s.R.
March 7: Rev. Walter Pasichnyk
March 12: Rev. Volodymyr Baran, C.S.s.R.
March 13: Rev. Msgr. Peter Waslo
March 19: Rev. Vasyl Vladyka
* Happy Birthday to Rev. Mykola Bychok, C.Ss.R., his birthday was February 13.

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

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

Established 1939

Congratulations on your
Anniversary of Priesthood!

Congratulations on your
Anniversary of Priesthood!

March 5: V. Rev. Archmandrite Joseph Lee
(49th Anniversary)
March 14: Rev. Vasyl Vladyka
(27th Anniversary)
March 20: Rev. Mykola Ivanov
(14th Anniversary)
March 24: Rev. Deacon Paul Makar
(32nd Anniversary)
March 30: Very Rev. Archpr. David Clooney
(55th Anniversary)
March 31: Rev. John Wysochansky
(62nd Anniversary)

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