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ENGLISH VERSION

Sobor of the Stamford Eparchy

The Vibrant parish - a place to encounter the living Christ



Group photo of the Stamford Eparchy Sobor.

From April 18 to 20, 2013, the Stamford Eparchy held an Eparchial Sobor on the theme: "The Vibrant parish – a place to encounter the living Christ." Almost 200 delegates (priests, religious and lay representatives) gathered from all corners of the eparchy in St. Basil Seminary in Stamford, Connecticut. Under the leadership of His Excellency Most Rev. Paul Chomnycky, OSBM, Eparch of Stamford, the delegates reaffirmed that in close communion with the bishop, our parishes must play a fundamental role in the spreading of the faith in Christ. For it is in our parish communities that the faithful most frequently encounter Christ through Christian instruction, community prayer and service to one's neighbor. And so in promoting and enlivening our parish life, we also enliven the entire Church.

On behalf of the Sobor delegates Bishop Paul Chomnycky sent greetings to His Holiness Pope Francis and His Beatitude Patriarch Sviatoslav. Among the guests of the Sobor were: His Grace Metropolitan Stefan Soroka of Philadelphia, His Excellency Bishop Ken Nowakowski of New Westminster, His Excellency Bishop Basil H. Losten of Stamford, and Father Andrew Onuferko of Ottawa, Canada.

The delegates to the Eparchial Sobor reaffirmed and resolved to preserve and foster our spiritual treasure of the Byzantine-Kyivan tradition: its liturgy, theology, and spirituality, and deeply desired to share our spiritual treasure with all who wish to encounter Christ with us in our parish communities. For more information, please visit www.stamforddio.org

Homily of Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia During Divine Liturgy at Stamford Eparchy Sobor

April 18, 2013

+Христос Воскрес!

Мені подобається Євангельська оповідь про Воскресіння Ісуса Христа. У ній так багато дії та напрямів Ангел привітав pyxy. жінок при гробі й сказав не боятися, бо Ісус Воскрес! Ідіть і скажіть це Його учням! Тоді, як вони кинулися бігти, Воскреслий Христос зустрів їх. Він сказав їм не боятися. Він передав їм настанови для учнів, щоб зустріли Його. Відчаєні учні йшли дорогою до Емаусу. Незнайомецю зустрів їх на дорозі та став пояснювати значення усього, ШО відбулося. Коли вони запросили незнайомця залишитися з ними на вечерю, то впізнали в ньому Воскреслого Христа. Апостол Тома був готовий іти з Ісусом Єрусалиму, ЛΟ шоб вмерти разом з Ним. Однак, той самий Тома висловив сумнів, що Ісус Воскрес.

Жінки, які йдуть намастити тіло Ісуса, учні на дорозі до Емаусу, Тома й апостоли, що зібралися збентежені

всім, що сталося, - усі ці люди відображають вас і мене! Ми, як і вони, часто є паралізовані власними нашими сумнівами, страхами, розпачем. Воскреслий Христос приходить до нас і запевняє НЕ БОЯТИСЯ! Виія покликані жити, як люди надії. Ми збираємося, як люди надії, шоб запевнити себе, що Воскреслий Христос є посеред нас! Він Воскрес! Усвідомивши це повністю ми святкуємо Його присутність серед нас життєдайним свідченням нашої віри. Як? Ісус навчав своїх учнів і навчає всіх нас дуже просто, але дуже глибоко: «Ось що вам заповідаю: шоб ΒИ любили один одного» (Йо. 15, 17).

Today's Gospel message dramatically begins with the recipe FOR LIFE! Jesus says to his disciples, "This I command you: love one another" (Jn 15:17). Then Jesus tells them to expect being persecuted, to be hated in this world, because they do not belong to this world. He empathizes with them because others will hate them without cause. The persecutors do not know



His Grace Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka of the Philadelphia Archeparchy greets the participants of the Stamford Eparchy Sobor on April 18, 2013. Photo from https://www.facebook.com/stamforddio

the Father in heaven as they do. You and I know of the presence of the Risen Christ who revealed to us the love of the heavenly Father. He strengthens us to bear hatred and hardship.

The Epistle reading tells of how the disciples distrusted Saul at the beginning. The apostle Paul experienced a conversion with the Lord. Yet, the disciples were mistrustful of this man they had known as their violent persecutor. When their hearts were overtaken with love, they embraced Paul. He became one of the greatest disciples of the Risen Christ. The power of Christ's

love led to acceptance of their brother and their forgiveness of Paul's offences against them. God loves you unconditionally. He asks you to love others in the same way. "This I command you: love one another".

The disciple Thomas who expressed doubt as to Jesus having Risen is the same disciple who earlier volunteered to enter Jerusalem to die with Jesus. The Risen Christ appears to Thomas. His doubts are erased and he comes to believe. The power of



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(continued from previous page)

Christ's love transforms the disciple into who he was meant to be. The Risen Christ erases our doubts and reassures us of His presence amidst us. The Risen Christ transforms us through the Holy Eucharist to be who we are called to be as followers of Christ – to love one another.

The two disciples on the road to Emmaus were overcome with despair. stranger appears А amidst them and explains to them the meaning of all that occurred. We are told that their hearts burned with passion on hearing this. The love of the Risen Christ inspired them, and inspires you and me to be passionate in our faith. Do not our hearts burn with passion for the Risen Christ! Our love for one another must be passionate as it is for our Lord.

The angel told the woman going to the tomb to anoint the body of Jesus not to be afraid. The Risen Christ appears to the women, and then later to the disciples and urges them not to be afraid. The Risen Christ assures you and me of His presence, telling us not to be afraid. Choose to love one another as Jesus commanded. Do not let yourself be paralyzed by fear of the unknown. If we do, we can become people who are negative, critical of others and judgmental. Be bold in taking risks to love one another.

I have admired how people have been bold to express the needs of the faithful and of the Church during this Sobor. We cannot allow our fear of what the bishop, or priest or people might say to prevent us to present, in a charitable and loving way, the spiritual needs of our brothers and sisters in Christ. It needs to be done with and out of genuine love. True love and care for others demands nothing less.

Go for broke with your personality in your love for the Risen Christ and in your love for one another! Live as people of hope – as Easter people!

Jesus said, "This I command you: love one another!"

+ Христос Воскрес!



Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka, Bishop Paul Chomnycky, OSBM, and Bishop Ken Nowakowski at the Stamford Eparchy Sobor.



Stamford Eparchy Sobor



Sunday of the Samaritan Woman - April 28, 2013



Jesus came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about noon. When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, "Will you give me a drink?" (His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, "You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?" (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans) Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water." "Sir," the woman said, "you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his livestock?" Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again. but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water so that I won't get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water." He told her, "Go, call your husband and come back." "I have no husband," she replied. Jesus said to her, "You are right when you say you have no husband. The fact is, you have had five husbands, and the man you now

have is not your husband. What you have just said is guite true." "Sir," the woman said, "I can see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem." "Woman," Jesus replied, "believe me, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews. Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth." The woman said, "I know that Messiah" (called Christ) "is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us." Then Jesus declared, "I, the one speaking to you-I am he." Just then his disciples returned and were surprised to find him talking with a woman. But no one asked, "What do you want?" or "Why are you talking with her?" Then, leaving her water jar, the woman went back to the town and said to the people, "Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. Could this be the Messiah?" They came out of the town and made their way toward him. Meanwhile his disciples urged him, "Rabbi, eat something." But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you know nothing about." Then his disciples said to each other, "Could someone have brought him food?" "My food," said Jesus, "is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work. Don't you have a saying, 'It's still four months until harvest'? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest. Even now the one who reaps draws a wage and harvests a crop for eternal life, so that the sower and the reaper may be glad together. Thus the saying 'One sows and another reaps' is true. I sent you to reap what you have not worked for. Others have done the hard work, and you have reaped the benefits of their labor." Many of the Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I ever did." So when the Samaritans came to him, they urged him to stay with them, and he stayed two days. And because of his words many more became believers. They said to the woman, "We no longer believe just because of what you said; now we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this man really is the Savior of the world." (Jn. 4, 5-42)



Sunday of the Samaritan Woman

(continued from previous page)

Introduction

The fifth Sunday after the Feast of Holy Pascha is observed by the Eastern Church as the Sunday of the Samaritan Woman. The day commemorates the encounter of Christ the with Samaritan woman at Jacob's well. The biblical story of this event and the dialog between Christ and the woman is found in the Gospel of Saint John 4:5-42.

Background

One of the most ancient cities of the Promised land was Shechem, also called Sikima. located at the foot of Mount Gerazim. There the Israelites had heard the blessings in the days of Moses and Jesus of Navi. Near to this town, Jacob, who had come from Mesopotamia in the nineteenth century before Christ, bought a piece of land where there was a well. This well, preserved even until the time of Christ, was known as Jacob's Well. Later, before he died in Egypt, he left that piece of land as a special inheritance to his son Joseph (Gen. 49:22). This town. before it was taken into

possession by Samaria, was also the leading city of the kingdom of the ten tribes. In the time of the Romans it was called Neapolis, and at present Nablus. It was the first city in Canaan visited by the Patriarch Abraham. Here also, Jesus of Navi (Joshua) addressed the tribes of Israel for the last time. Almost three years hundred later. all Israel assembled there to make Roboam (Rehoboam) king.

When our Lord Jesus Christ, then, came at midday to this city, which is also called Svchar 4:5), (John He was wearied from the journey and the heat. He sat down at this well. After a little while the Samaritan woman mentioned in today's Gospel passage came to draw water. As she conversed at some length with the Lord and heard from Him secret things concerning herself, she believed in Him; through her many other Samaritans also believed.

Concerning the Samaritans we know the following: In the year 721 before Christ, Salmanasar (Shalmaneser), King of the Assyrians, took the ten tribes of the kingdom

of Israel into captivity, and relocated all these people to Babylon and the land of the Medes. From there he gathered various nations and sent them to Samaria. These nationshad been idolaters from before. Although they were later instructed in the Jewish faith and believed in the one God, thev worshipped the idols also. Furthermore, they accepted only the Pentateuch of Moses, and rejected the other books of Holy Scripture. Nonetheless, they thought themselves to be descendants of Abraham and Jacob. Therefore, the pious Jews named these Judaizing and idolatrous peoples Samaritans, since they lived in Samaria, the former leading city of the Israelites, as well as in the other towns The thereabout. Jews rejected them as heathen and foreigners, and had no communion with them at all, as the Samaritan woman observed, "the Jews have no dealings with the Samaritans" (John 4:9). Therefore, the name Samaritan is used derisively many times in the Gospel narrations.

After the Ascension of the Lord, and the descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, the woman of Samaria was baptized by the holy Apostles and became a great preacher and Martyr of Christ; she was called Photine, and her feast is kept on February 26.

Icon of the Sunday of the Samaritan Woman

The icon of the Sunday of the Samaritan Woman depicts the biblical story of the Christ conversing with the woman at the well. Our Lord is shown sitting beside the well, speaking with and blessing the Samaritan woman. She is shown with her right hand outstretched toward Christ, indicating both her interest in what He is saying, and also as a sign of her faith and her efforts to bring others to hear what Christ has to say. In the background of the icon, the city is visible together with the Mount Gerazim.

Recollection Weekend with the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate

For young women ages 19-40

<u>May 17-19, 2013</u>

"Follow Me" wherever you are!

Where: St. Mary's Villa Retreat Center 150 Sisters Servants Lane - P.O.Box 9 Sloatsburg, NY 10974-0009



No cost.

This Retreat is for any young women who wants to follow Jesus closer however she is being called...



Sister Mary Bernarda, OSBM, Honored for Her Ministry in Ukraine

"You are known in Ukraine Ukraine's as Mother Theresa". These words addressed to Sister Marv Bernarda Arkatin, OSBM, by Basilian Provincial Superior Sister Dorothy Ann Busowski, captured the spirit of the celebration in Sister Bernarda's honor Sunday, April 7, 2013, at the Motherhouse of the Sisters of St. Basil the Great, Fox Chase Manor, PA.

Friends. relatives and community members aathered at the Motherhouse to pay tribute to Sr. Bernarda for her well-known charitable work in Ukraine and to thank the



(L-R) Musical tribute to Sister Mary Bernarda Arkatin by Sisters Susanne Matwijiw, Joackima Dvernytska.

many benefactors who helped make the visits possible by their prayers and donations.

During the introductory Moleben in the Holy Trinity Chapel, convent chaplain Rev. Daniel Trovan compared the Gospel reading of the angel's visit to Mary to the joy experienced by the recipients of Sister's visits, the blessinas shared by both giver and receiver and their awareness that all good works are made possible by a loving God.

At the reception that followed in the Sisters' dining room, Sr. Maria

Rozmarynowycz, conventSuperior, welcomed the quests, reminding all that the first of the mission Basilian Sisters from Ukraine was care to for Ukrainian orphaned children in America and that years later, Sister Bernarda would mirror that mission in her the ministry to orphaned and underprivileged children in

Ukraine.

Provincial Superior Sr. Dorothy Ann thanked all for coming and informed them that Sr. Bernarda's calling to this special ministry stemmed from recovering from an auto accident twenty vears ago when Sister promised God she would

dedicate herself to serving the orphans in Ukraine in thanksgiving for her recovery. Sr. Dorothy Ann praised Sr. Bernarda's stamina and self-effacing generosity in carrying out her promise and her resolve to continue her commitment to the People of God in her present ministry in NYC, exemplifying "the true Basilian Spirit of service and love."

Although Sr. Bernarda's yearly visits to the poor, the handicapped and the elderly ended in 2012, the cause will continue as a new endeavor. Sr. Joann Sosler, Assistant Provincial, spoke on "The Basilian Volunteer



Sr. Mary Bernarda Arkatin, OSBM

Mission Program: Ministry to Ukraine's Poor and Needy". This new project, in answer to a request by the bishops of Ukraine collaboration and in with the Basilian Sisters in Zaporishzhia, will invite young women to accompany the Sisters from the US to identify and satisfy the needs of Christ's suffering poor. A visit is planned for June, 2013.

John Kurey, Development Director for the Sisters, once again thanked those present for their outstanding support of Sr. Bernarda's ministry to Ukraine and encouraged



Sister Mary Bernarda, OSBM, **Honored for Her Ministry in Ukraine**

them to keep Sister's legacy alive by continuing their support for the new mission.

In her response, Sr. Mary Bernarda credited God for the strength, wisdom and guidance enabled her to that look at His suffering ones with love and to alleviate their pain if only for a little while. Sister thanked her superiors, her benefactors and all who helped her in some way in her past missions, assuring them of her prayers and those of her whole community.

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A musical tribute to Sr. Bernarda was rendered by Sr. Laura Palka, Sr. Susanne Matwijiw and Sr. Joackima Dvernytska and a photo and news

clipping display as well as a DVD presentation, all illustrating Sr. Bernarda's mission work, rounded afternoon's out the activities.



Bernarda greeting Mary Sister younger members of her family.

For further information on participating in or supporting the Basilian Sisters' new mission program-

CONTACT:

Sister Ann Laszok, OSBM, 710 Fox Chase Road, Jenkintown, PA 19046, 412-260-1607, srannl@ aol.com

Sister Joann Sosler. OSBM. 710 Fox Chase Road, Jenkintown, PA 215-379-3998 19046, ext. 16, vickis@stbasils. сот



Laszok, Joann Sosler, Dorothy Ann Busowski, and Mary Bernarda Arkatin during Moleben and Veronica Tokash. in Holy Trinity Chapel.

(L-R) Sisters Maria Rozmarynowych, Ann (L-R) Sister Mary Bernarda surrounded by her sisters Rosalie Senick, Stephanie Mican

APRIL 28. 2013



Pope Francis calls on Bostonians to "not be overcome by evil"

2013-04-16

(Vatican Radio) Pope Francis has sent his "sympathy and closeness in prayer" to the people of Boston in a telegram sent on his behalf.

The telegram reads "In the aftermath of this senseless tragedy, His Holiness invokes God's peace upon the dead, his consolation upon the suffering and his strength upon all those engaged in the continuing work of relief and response. At this time of mourning the Holy Father prays that all Bostonians will be united in a resolve not to be overcome by evil, but to combat evil with good (cf. Rom 12:21), working together to build an ever more just, free and secure society for generations yet to come."



Boston Marathon Tragedy

http://en.radiovaticana.va/index.asp

UGCC Head expresses condolences regarding the Boston tragedy

"In the name of bishops, priests, monastic orders and laity of UGCC in Ukraine, I express my deepest condolences regarding the death of people and the destructions caused by the terrible explosions during the Boston Marathon... I will pray for all and for everyone who is providing pastoral care, surrounding with their care the victims of this violence," His Beatitude Sviatoslav (Shevchuk), UGCC Head, wrote in his letter of condolences to Cardinal Sean O'Malley, Archbishop of Boston, regarding the tragedy that took place in Boston (USA) on April 15, 2013.

We remind readers that during the Boson marathon in USA, three heavy explosions happened, killing three people (among them an 8-year-old boy) and wounding over 140 people. Six Ukrainians also participated in the marathon and they all survived.

"We unite in prayer with you, the Church in Boston, and the victims of the tragedy and their families. During Easter time we proclaim that Christ has risen, through his death overcoming death and giving life to those in their graves! May this promise of the resurrection and refuge from the darkness of sin, provide strength to those who need it the most," concluded his letter the UGCC Primate.

UGCC Department of Information

http://www.ugcc.org.ua/



Major-Archbishop Sviatoslav Shevchuk



Statement of Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia on the Boston Marathon Tragedy

Metropolitan Stefan Soroka, together with the Bishops, clergy, religious and faithful, pray for those suffering as a result of the tragic bombing during the Boston Marathon. Let us remember in our prayers those who died, those who suffered bodily and psychological injury, and their grieving families and community. Let us offer prayers of gratitude for the many first responders and the medical professionals who so quickly rendered life-saving help to the victims. Jesus instructed the paralytic man in today's Gospel to pick up his mat and to walk. The paralytic was infirm and had no one to help him to receive healing. Jesus healed him without hesitation. Together, we can offer our immediate prayers for the victims that they may arise and be healed by the Risen Christ. Our unity in prayer enables us not to be paralyzed by fear but to be empowered with the life-giving presence of the Risen Christ. We become instruments of His healing as we pray and assist others in need. God bless you for caring!

Special Petitions for the Victims of the Boston Bombings

These may be taken in the ektenia after the Gospel

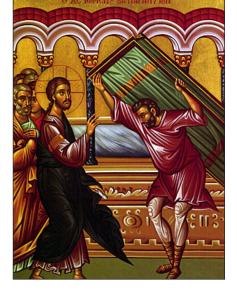
For the souls of the departed victims of the senseless act of violence in Boston this past Monday, that they may share in the eternal life of the Risen Christ. May their grieving loved ones be comforted by Him, just as He comforted the disciples while walking with them on the road to Emmaus, we pray You, hear us and have mercy.

Lord, have mercy! (3 x)

That You O Lord, the Physician of our bodies and souls, may be present, just as You were present to the paralytic at the Pool of Bethesda and that Your healing grace may cure the infirmities and afflictions suffered by our brothers and sisters, we pray You, hear us and have mercy.

Lord, have mercy! (3 x)

That we may find strength and courage in Your words, "do not be afraid," so that we may overcome the paralysis of fear and walk with You, knowing that You are with us always until the end of the age, we pray You, hear us and have mercy.



Icon of the Sunday of the Paralytic - April 21, 2013

Lord, have mercy! (3 x)





APRIL – NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH"



25 WAYS TO MAKE KIDS SAFER

AT HOME

- Teach children their full name, address, and home telephone number. Make sure they know your full name.
- Make sure children know how to reach you at work or on your cell phone.
- Teach children how and when to use 911, and make sure they have a trusted adult to call if they're scared or have an emergency.

GOING TO AND FROM SCHOOL

- Walk or drive the route to and from school with children, pointing out landmarks and safe places to go if they're being followed or need help.
- Remind children to take a friend whenever they walk or bike to school and to stay with a group at the bus stop.

OUT AND ABOUT

- Take children on a walking tour of the neighborhood, and tell them whose homes they may visit without you.
- · Teach children to ask permission before leaving home.
- · Remind children not to walk or play alone outside.
- Remind children it's okay to say no to anything that makes them feel scared, uncomfortable, or confused.
 Teach children to tell you if anything or anyone makes them feel this way.
- Teach children to never approach a vehicle, occupied or not, unless they are accompanied by a parent, guardian, or other trusted adult.
- Practice "what-if" situations and ask children how they would respond. "What if you fell off your bike and you needed help? Who would you ask?"

ON THE NET

- Learn about the Internet. Visit www.NetSmartz.org for more information about Internet safety.
- Place the family computer in a common area, rather than a child's bedroom. Monitor their time spent online and the websites they've visited, and establish rules for Internet use.
- Know what other access children have to the Internet at school, libraries, or friends' homes.
- Use privacy settings on social networking sites to limit contact with unknown users, and make sure screennames don't reveal too much about children.

To learn more about child safety, visit **www.take25.org**. Copyright © 2013 National Center for Missing & Exploited Children. All rights reserved.

- Instruct children to keep the doors locked and not to open doors to talk to anyone when they are home alone.
- Choose babysitters with care. Once you have chosen the caregiver, drop in unexpectedly to see how your children are doing. Ask children about their experience and listen carefully to their responses.



• Caution children never to accept a ride from anyone unless you have told them it is okay to do so in each instance.



- Teach children to check in with you if there is a change of plans.
- During family outings, establish a central, easy-to-locate spot to meet should you get separated.
- Teach children how to locate help in public places. Identify people who they can ask for help, such as uniformed law enforcement, security guards, and store clerks with nametags.
- Help children learn to recognize and avoid potential risks, so that they can deal with them if they happen.
- Teach children that if anyone tries to grab them, they should make a scene and make every effort to get away by kicking, screaming, and resisting.



- Encourage children to tell you if anything they encounter online makes them feel sad, scared, or confused.
- Caution children not to post revealing information or inappropriate photos of themselves or their friends online.

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Our Archieparchial office of the Youth Protection and Sexual Abuse Prevention, 827 North Franklin Street; Philadelphia PA 19123, phone: (215) 627-0143; hotline (215) 873-6162; email: ukrchildprotection@catholic.org, Rev. Andriy Rabiy





Help Wanted - Ascension Manor Apartments

Social Services Coordinator

Ascension Manor Apartments is searching for a full-time Coordinator who will be responsible for coordinating social related services to the residents of Ascension Manor's I & II.

Qualifications include a degree in social work or psychology or other undergraduate degree with a specialization in Gerontology. At least 2 years of supervised social work experience is required with the ability to relate to and work with disabled and elderly residents. Ability to speak and write in either Ukrainian, Spanish or Cantonese is highly desirable. For immediate consideration, please fax your Resume with Cover Letter and Salary Requirements to (215) 922-3735. E.O.E



Marriage Preparation Program

A glorious day in Melrose Park, PA on April 13, 2013 couples 17 as aathered at the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church for the marriage Preparation Program "Entering the Holy Mystery Marriage". of What a great joy to see the vouth and future of our Church engaging in this important Program of insight



reflection and instruction for healthy relationship under the care of Fr. Ihor Royik and John Michalczyk, M.A MDiv, Pastoral Councelor.



Pastor of two area churches rose to priesthood despite atheistic regime in native Ukraine

JOSH MCAULIFFE ΒY (STAFF WRITER)

Published: March 31, 2013

The Rev. Myron Myronyuk arew up under the watchful eye of a government that didn't recognize the existence of God, but it could do nothing to vanguish his family's faith.

Today, the priest shares that hard-earned devotion with two local parishes.

Last summer, the Rev. Myronyuk, a native of Ukraine who spent the first half of his life as a citizen of the Soviet Union, became the pastor at Scranton's Vladimir Ukrainian St. Greek Catholic Church and SS. Peter and Paul Greek Catholic Church in Simpson. Thus far, he, his wife, Iryna, and their five children - Sofia, 8; Yelyzaveta (also known as Lisa), 6; Antonina, 4; Matthew, 2-1/2; and Damian, 5 months - are finding much to like about their new surroundings. The Rev. Myronyuk, 42, served in Ukraine for a couple of years before the church sent him to the United States in 2007. For his first five years in the states, he was at

St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church in Philadelphia.

Philly proved a little hectic for his sensibilities. He finds the Scranton area quiet, peaceful and friendly, and he loves the Catholic education his children receive at St. Clare/St. Paul School in Green Ridge.

"It's a beautiful country," he said in accented Enalish on a recent afternoon in his office at St. Vladimir's. "Of course, 50 years ago, America was different. It was more religious. But the country's beautiful. The people are good."

St. Vladimir's parishioners couldn't be happier with the Rev. Myronyuk, said Paul Ewasko, a member of the parish council. He and the others appreciate the priest's insistence on involving them in decision making, as well as his down-to-earth approach to ministering. During the church's monthly pirohimaking session, Mr. Ewasko said, the Rev. Myronyuk can be found "right there pinching with everyone else."

"He's so very well-liked. Communist life lt's unbelievable how parishioners our reached out to him and extremely difficult during



Rev. Myron Myronyuk in Scranton's St. Vladimir Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, where he's been the pastor since last summer. (Photo: Butch Comegys)

his family," Mr. Ewasko said. "He's very kind. Very, very kind."

The Rev. Myronyuk's parishes are small - St. Vladimir's has about 120 families, while SS. Peter and Paul has about 35 - but active. It's his mission, he said, to help them grow, both in their numbers - he often calls lapsed members and invites them to Mass and in their spirituality.

"It's easy to be Christian in the church. How about outside the church?" he said. "You have to be Christian all the time."

13

have Certainly, that proved

his formative years living under communism's iron grip.

The Rev. Myronyuk was born and raised in the small western Ukrainian Kolomyya. town of There were plenty of Ukrainian Catholics, but they weren't allowed to worship openly. Orthodox church The was active but hardly welcoming to Catholics. Families like his had no choice but to practice their faith in their homes or other underground places. His home didn't

have a Bible or prayer cards.

"We prayed every night," said the Rev. Myronyuk,



Pastor of two area churches rose to priesthood despite atheistic regime in native Ukraine

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noting their only real open displays of faith were at Christmas, when they'd go caroling in defiance of the law. "I believed because my grandmother was very faithful. All her life, she prayed the rosary. She was amazing."

Besides being devoted Catholics, his family members were staunch Ukrainian nationalists. His grandparents and his father, Vasyl, both significant spent time in Siberia for their proindependence. anticommunist views and actions, which included providing shelter to insurgent Ukrainian soldiers during World War II.

Even after returning to Ukraine from Siberia, they were continually harassed by communist authorities. When his father built a new home for the family, some government types showed up and ordered him to destroy it at once.

"They said, 'You can't have a two-level house,'" said the Rev. Myronyuk, who was 11 when his father died of cancer. "They always put pressure on my family."

At school, he was fed a steady diet of antireligion rhetoric. But no matter how many times his teachers told him there was no God, he continued to believe.

And he continued to believe upon moving to the Ukrainian capital of Kiev as a teen. There, he and his twin brother attended a music academy. The Rev. Myronyuk studied conducting, violin and piano.

He was still living in Kiev when the Soviet Union collapsed and Ukraine gained its independence in late 1991. He remembers being out among the jubilant crowds waving signs and the blue and vellow Ukrainian flaa. He rejoiced, not just for his country, but also for his church, which once again could openly worship.

"Everybody was very happy," he said. "It was a beautiful time." Around this time, he began to feel he could do something more for his faith. "It's something (from) inside, I can't explain," he said.

he When araduated from the music academy, he was certain he wanted to be a priest. Unfortunately, he didn't have the financial means. The seminary cost \$300 a year - "big money for my family," he said. Fortunately, he said, "God provided" in the form of a friend of a friend who offered to foot the bill.

For the next six years, he studied at a seminary in western Ukraine. The work was rigorous, borderline sometimes painful, like when the seminarians had to spend entire Sundays praying outdoors in the brutal Ukrainian winter. He put his musical training to good use at the seminary by serving as its music director. His choir recorded several CDs of hymnals and Christmas carols.

"I loved it. I was very happy," he said. "I realized that God blessed me."

Not long before he

was ordained, the Rev. Myronyuk married his wife, who is also a musician. In the Ukrainian Greek Catholic rite. which is affiliated with the Vatican, priests can marry, so long as it's done before ordination. It's a good, practical measure, the Rev. Myronyuk said, given the church desperately needed priests after decades of inactivity. "Our church is young. Average age of priest is

With a growing family to support, the Rev. Myronyuk struggled to make a living at the first parish he was assigned to. Earning just \$150 a month, he couldn't afford to buy meat or even oranges for his wife and kids.

40, 45 years," he said.

So, when he heard about other priests emigrating to America, which he had visited several years earlier with his choir, he approached church higher-ups about the possibility of reassignment. The post at St. Nicholas in Philadelphia opened in July 2007.



Pastor of two area churches rose to priesthood despite atheistic regime in native Ukraine

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This summer, the Rev. Myronyuk will visit Ukraine for the first time since leaving. He communicates with his mother, Bohdana, weekly via Skype. Meanwhile, his twin brother plans to move to the United States within a year.

At some point, the Rev. Myronyuk plans to become a U.S. citizen. He loves his homeland, tribune.com

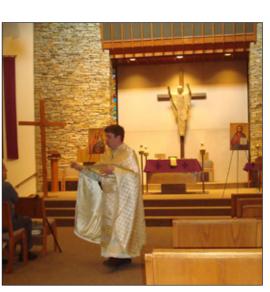
but there's simply too many problems there, he said.

"I don't see my future in Ukraine," he said. "Today, I feel like a king. I can't complain. I'm very happy to be here. I do my best for my church, for my people."

http://thetimes-



The Rev. Myronyuk and his wife, Iryna, relax in their home at St. Vladimir's with their five children. (Photo: Butch Comegys)



Lancaster Mission Parish

A Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom will be celebrated at St. John Neumann Roman Catholic Church (601 East Delp Road, Lancaster, PA) every Sunday at 1:30PM. Officiating celebrant - Very Rev. Andriy Rabiy, pastor of Nativity of Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church in Reading. The services are bilingual, in Ukrainian and English. For more information, please call 610.376.0586, send email nativitybvmucc@mail. com, or find us on FACEBOOK, https://www.facebook.com/ ukrainianmissionlancasterpa

Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka is going to come and celebrate the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, May 5, 2013 at 1:30PM! We are going to have a social afterwards to meet the Archbishop personally. Everyone is welcome!



CELEBRATING THE DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE RELIGIOUS LIFE OF: +SISTER DENNYS CLARA POLOVISCHAK, SSMI

Born: March 5, 1927, In Community: 60 years

Died: April 20, 2013

Sister Dennys, the daughter of Nicholas and Anna was the youngest of twelve children – five boys and seven girls. She grew up in Youngstown, OH, and attended Holy Trinity Ukrainian Catholic Church.

In 1953, when she entered the community, she took the name of Sister Dennys, the maiden name of her mother!

Throughout her religious life, she has been a teacher, principal, and administrator. She also has held the position of community treasurer.

In 1987, Sister Dennys became the first manager for Sheptytsky Arms, Inc., a low income high rise for the elderly in Pittsburgh, PA. When the first brick was laid, Sister Dennys was on site and remained in this position for ten years.



+Sister Dennys Clara Polovischak, SSMI

She capably coordinated the annual Dormition Pilgrimage for countless years.

She always enjoyed jokes, those she heard and those she told! Hobbies included cross stitching, embroidery and making of crafts. She was good at fundraising events such as Chinese auctions, raffles and bazaars.

Parastas was held at St. Mary's Villa – Sloatsburg, NY on April 23, 2013 with a Funeral Divine Liturgy on April, 24, 2013.



+Ms. Tryphena Thelmon

+Ms. Tryphena Thelmon

The Chancery Staff is deeply saddened by the loss of +Ms. Tryphena Thelmon, who passed away on April 22, 2013.

Tryphena worked in the Finance office of the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia for ten years. Her kind soul and giving spirit touched so many and will never be forgotten. She was very talented in her job and spoke on a daily basis with priests and clergy within the Archeparchy with much grace and kindness. May God watch over Tryphena's family, especially her mother, sisters, and daughter during their time of need.

Everlasting Memory! Vichnaya Pamyat! Christ is Risen!



50 Years of Advocacy for Catholic Health Care in Pennsylvania

Much has changed in healthcare over the past half century, rising costs from to incredible advancements technology in and treatments. Throughout these changes, the Pennsylvania Catholic Health Association (PCHA) has never wavered in its mission to continue Jesus's healing ministry and advocate for the sanctity of life, access to health care for all and the common good.

Now celebrating its 50th anniversary, the PCHA has 60 members, including hospitals, long-term care and other related health care facilities, and individuals involved in Catholic healthcare in Pennsylvania.

A guiding force for much of PCHA's 50 years has been the association's president of 30 years, Sister Clare Christi Schiefer, O.S.F.

Sister Clare has worked in healthcare most of her life, starting at a local hospital in Hazelton as a sophomore in high school. After attending nursing school, she entered the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia while from the PCC

working at Sacred Heart Hospital in Allentown. Sr. Clare worked at hospitals in several different states before landing in Philadelphia, where she was asked by her provincial to consider serving as president of the PCHA.

"When I was approached Ito interview for the position knew absolutely nothing about public policy or lobbying. I initially said I wasn't the right person for the job, but my provincial wouldn't take no for an answer," said Sr. Clare, smiling. "I actually bought a high school civics book just to start learning about public policy."

Sr. Clare explained that before going to her interview she said a prayer used by Saint Francis of Assisi to discern God's will and then heard the hymn "Here I am Lord, I Come to do Your Will" while she was in her car. "After that I just knew I was going to be offered the position," she said.

Since becoming president in 1982, Sister Clare has come a long way from that high school civics book. She has led the organization in lobbying for or against legislation and regulations that have an impact on Catholic healthcare ministries – including protecting the sanctity of life and preserving religious liberty.

PCHAprovidessupportfor Pennsylvania's Catholic healthcare community through advocacy, c o m m u n i c a t i o n , education and united action; putting special emphasis on recognizing the needs of children, the elderly, the poor and the underserved.

"I consider myself to be an ambassador for Christ in the public square," says Sister Clare of her unique position as a nun who is also a lobbyist. "Many times when I go to talk to a legislator we end up talking about more than just policy. They often want to discuss other matters, ask my advice, and ask if I will say a prayer for them or their family."

Over the past 50 years, PCHA has been involved in dozens of major healthcare debates and legislative changes.



Sister Clare Christi Schiefer, OSF, President of the Pennsylvania Catholic Health Association (PCHA)

those, Sister Among considers the Clare state's Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), legislation to address end-of-life issues, creation of the adult Basic Coverage program, and channeling tobacco settlement funds for health care initiatives as several of the areatest successes in which PCHA was involved.

Sister Clare explained that many of PCHA's issues have resurfaced several times throughout the association's existence. Universal access to health care, challenges to tax exemption status and charitable accountability, end-of-life concerns, and protection of religious conscience are a few

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50 Years of Advocacy for Catholic Health Care

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recurring issues that are again at the forefront.

ahead, Looking the PCHA's goals include healthcare expanding coverage and reducing the number of uninsured, especially for low-income working adults and immigrants; improving availability of and funding for mental health, behavioral health and substance abuse services; opposing taxpayer funded abortions in the health care exchange; and pursuing options for aging in place for the elderly and those with disabilities.

When advocating on federal issues, the PCHA works alongside Catholic health associations from other states and the Catholic Health Association of the United States (CHA).

"Sister Clare is α advocate tireless for Catholic health care in Pennsylvania," said Julie Trocchio, senior director community benefit of and continuing care at the CHA. "She has been especially effective in her advocacy on behalf of persons who are economically poor and the value of nonprofit, tax-exempt health care." Clare Sr. believes Catholic health institutions will always have different characteristics than their secular counterparts: instead of treating only a patient's presenting symptoms, Catholic healthcare focuses on providing a continuum of care throughout a person's entire life.

"I hope that someone would choose Catholic healthcare because of our values," Sister Clare explained. "We work to provide compassionate quality care, which focuses on treating the whole person – not just the physical problems, but also their social, emotional and spiritual needs."

As Sister Clare Catholic recognizes, health institutions will always face challenges that underscore the need for PCHA, such as threats to religious liberty, increasing competition

and the ability to act consistently with faith values and Church teachings.

"Jesus came to teach, to preach and to heal," she said. "Without the healing ministry, the Church's mission would not be complete."

The Pennsylvania Catholic Conference (PCC) is the public affairs agency of Pennsylvania's Catholic bishops and the Catholic dioceses of Pennsylvania. Stay up-to-date with Catholic news and issues at www.pacatholic.org, www.facebook.com/ pacatholic and www. twitter.com/pacatholic.

Reflections on the Replica of the Shroud of Turin in Wilmington, DE

Mr. Richard A. Javick

The Shroud replica was transported to our parish St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church in Wilmington, DE from Shenandoah, PA by Rev. Daniel Troyan on 03/09/2013. Father Troyan returned on Sunday, March 10,2013 and after each Divine Liturgy gave a talk identifying in detail all marks on the Shroud replica. Our pastor Father Volodymyr Klanichka



sent announcements to all parishes in Delaware. Information on the Exhibit was published in our local newspaper *News Journal* and in the Latin Roman Rite *Dialog*, a diocesan news edition. Attendance over the two week period was estimated to be over 2,000 people. In attendance were the Roman Rite Bishop Francis Malooly, Bishop of Wilmington Diocese and number of priests from Latin and Eastern Orthodox Rites. Home schooled children, and children from parochial, and public schools were also present. Many adults, who attended had tears in their eyes when viewing the Shroud and said that it was a great spiritual experience. For many of them, it was the first time in an Eastern Catholic Church. Following the viewing of the Shroud, a film on the Shroud of Turin was shown. Literature was also available.





Submitted by: Matthew Kenenitz

On Thursday, February 21st, junior and senior students from MMI Preparatory School in Freeland, PA had the opportunity to view the replica of the Shroud of Turin procured by Msgr. Myron Grabowsky at Saint Michael the Archangel Ukrainian-Greek Catholic Church in Shenandoah. The day began with students hospitably greeted by parishioners Samuel Litwak and Winifred Mohutsky, both faithful members of the Saint Michael's community. Their kindness and enthusiasm to share a part of their faith with MMI students was inspirational and quite welcoming.

Following several films and documentaries highlighting the history controversies and surrounding the Shroud of Turin, we proceeded to the nave of the church where the Shroud was on display for all pilarims. We were areeted by Msgr. Myron's brother, Demetrius, who araciously ushered us into the church to view and venerate the shroud. Msgr. Myron met our group of 40 - as well



MMI Preparatory School visits the Replica of the Shroud of Turin.

as a group of about 40 other pilgrims from various areas – in the solea and proceeded to speak directly about the Shroud, its history and its significance in the lives of the faithful today. Msgr. Grabowsky encouraged questions as well as picture taking as he faithfully shared his thoughts about the Shroud.

After viewing the shroud, my students asked for an impromptu tour of the church of Saint Michael's, during which they asked questions about various objects and significances within the church - from the iconostasis, to the colors of the walls and ceiling, to the meaning of the symmetrical structure of the building itself. Students who had not set foot in a church their entire lives left inspired and uplifted. Conversation persisted about who the man wrapped in the shroud was - and is - and a definite air of inspiration, faith-based curiosity and an appreciation for the ancient traditions,

practices and church structure of Eastern Churches propelled further inquiry. We thank Msgr. Myron Grabowsky and his dedicated, faith-filled parishioners for the opportunity to visit the first Ukrainian-Greek Catholic Church in America, to partake in its history, faith and to be a mere fraction of the thousands of pilarims that journeved to Shenandoah to discover and venerate the replica of the Shroud of Turin.

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Here are some of the reflections about the Exhibition:

J. Yamulla

Seeing the Shroud of Turin replica was not only a spiritual trip, it an educational was privilege. Regardless of your religion, the Shroud of Turin is a mysterious piece of history that has to be appreciated. Being a Christian, seeing the Shroud strengthened relationship with my Christ. Seeing an image of the man who died for your sins is the ultimate inspiration.

The church tour was also a areat experience. Since l am Roman Catholic, it was the first time that I was able to experience the incredible symbolism involved in Ukrainian-Greek Catholic It is of the churches. utmost importance to be exposed to different cultures because it not enhances only your spiritual beliefs, but it provides valuable firsthand insight to incredible pieces of Catholic history.

Taking a day to tour the

church and experience the Shroud had more value than any book can provide. I feel privileged and appreciative to Mr. Kenenitz for taking us on this historical and spiritual trip. The knowledge I obtained from one day alone will stay with me for the remainder of my life.

S. Jamack

The Shroud of Turin was very incredible to see because it holds such an important place in history. The Shroud of Turin has seen many places when it was moved from Israel to France to Italy. The controversy over whether the Shroud was the burial cloth of one of the most well-known historical figures, Jesus Christ, was very interesting to learn about. The patterns on the Shroud is one of the most mystifying and interesting parts about the Shroud itself because it is unsure in the scientific world how the patterns got on the shroud and how they remained there over the years. The trip allowed for a handson learning experience outside of the classroom where we were able to

learn about a historical piece from the experts and see it in person. The trip to see the Shroud of Turin was a positive experience because it was a glimpse into seeing a relic of the past.

A. Drusda

Our fieldtrip to see the replica of the Shroud of Turin was an interestina experience. Having no prior knowledge of the Shroud, it was very unusual, especially in how the image of the man who wore it was more easily visible when the picture was negative. According to the movies watched before we seeing the Shroud, it was said to be what Jesus was buried in, moving to many places over the centuries. A good portion of its travels still remain uncertain. Learning about the story behind it and the places it had been to make it a remarkable part of history.

Even today, the question of its authenticity remains unanswered. The fact that the Shroud is still a mystery is what makes it so interesting. We may never actually know if Jesus was buried in it, or if anyone was for that matter. It could be a sham. This is what makes it so engaging, though. It is almost two thousand vears old, and evidence points in both directions. Learnina about an unsolved question is an entirely different entity than standard education. It allows us to apply the knowledge we've gained from our educations to reality.

J. Careyva

This being my first time inside of a Ukrainian Greek Catholic church, I was immediately dazzled by the bright colors that seemed to stretch from the floor to the ceiling. Looking up at the top of the ceiling was like looking up into beautiful clouds. The symbolism of the magnificent reds and blues slowly became The Shroud apparent. of Turin was located in front of the pews and was glowing from the atmosphere. church's Even from afar the large image on the unfolded shroud stood out; blood



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stains and wounds became more visible as you approached it. You could see where pieces were burnt and subsequently repaired. A man's face was easily visible, and I'll remember that man's face for years to come.

R. Knittle

The field trip of my class to see a reproduction of the Shroud of Turin provided me with a wellrounded view of religious and scientific reasons for why the shroud may or may not be real. This experience far was from simply looking an image of the shroud up on the internet: instead Shroud of Turin the reproduction conveyed a dimension of power through its size that could not be seen in a smaller image. Prior to seeina the Shroud of Turin reproduction and the videos accompanying it, I researched the Shroud in order to have a well informed opinion on the authenticity of the original Shroud of Turin. Much of this research lead me back to the conclusion that the Shroud of Turin must be a fake, because

carbon-dating showed it to be from after the time of Jesus Christ. The videos that were presented before seeing the reproduction of the Shroud showed that the results of the carbondating were not straight forward facts. but questionable data like the results of any other experiment. scientific After seeing the shroud and hearina the arguments concerning it, I believe that the Shroud in Turin, Italy is the burial Shroud of Jesus Christ. Seeing the reproduction of the Shroud of Turin critical was in the development of my faith in the original Shroud of Turin's authenticity.

M. Carrato

As a class, we went to view the Shroud of Turin. We saw the image of the man who appeared to have suffered crucifixion. However, as a class we did not agree that this man was indeed Jesus Over 10,000 Christ. people went to see the Shroud, and I can bet there are over 10,000 different opinions on what the Shroud portrays. I find it amazing that one

piece of cloth with one man's image on it can spark so many questions and ideas. Thank you for allowing our class to view the Shroud of Turin. It truly was an inspirational and astonishing field trip.

K. Sitch

It was interesting to learn about the background of the Shroud of Turin. The two documentaries about proving the authenticity of the Shroud were very intriguing. After watching the two documentaries. learned so much about the Shroud that I did not know before. I am very happy that I was able to see the Shroud. The pictures of the Shroud still give me chills when I look at them. The memories I have from this experience are incredible, seeing the Shroud made my junior year unforgettable. I am very happy that I had the chance to see the Shroud.

A. Haupt

The phrase "I'll believe it when I see it" is a saying that many people today follow, especially when

dealina with religion. Before science came into play, religion and worship were major parts of society. Now that there are other explanations to why we exist and how the universe came into being, many people doubt that there even is a God. I personally believe in a God, but sometimes when you watch the news and see all of the destruction and poverty VOU can't help but auestion whether there is a God. After seeing the shroud and watching the multiple documentaries of how science has been trying to provide another explanation to the image of who we believe to be Christ, it gives you that hope and reassures you that what you believing is indeed true. We, as humans, always want to have that hope in an all-loving being watching over us, and I believe that seeing this shroud really does give us that hope.

E. Alvear

Honestly, the trip was a lot different than what I expected. I really enjoyed



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the documentaries we watched because it gave some background US before we we able to witness the Shroud, I'm a Roman Catholic and the knowledge of the Shroud I already had was very limited. It was exciting to learn about all of the different tests that were done in order to come to the conclusion that the Shroud's image remains a mystery. When I came home from the trip, my family was very interested in visiting the Shroud themselves. I even For my first time in managed to persuade a church, I was very my aunt and her friend to interested

visit it through the detailed information | learned about the Shroud, it's history, and it's mysteries. Overall, I feel the trip was a good experience to have especially during my Junior year, where there's a lot of hard, book work to be done. I appreciated the gain of knowledge in an area that I otherwise would have not touched upon.

J. Lotz

the in all

symbols and subtle symmetric ideals of Saint Michael's Church. The shroud of Turin was very interesting to see. The people were very friendly and never discouraging to any questions we had, even though they might have been considered simplistic. They verv welcomed us into their atmosphere, and thoroughly enjoyed the experience as a whole.

The informational videos beforehand gave me the knowledge that I needed before I went to view the shroud. The church itself was a perfect location to house the shroud because the architecture and meaning behind its structure was so beautiful. It was a very humbling experience and I would love to one day view it again.

B. Nocchi

I genuinely enjoyed my experience at the shroud.

Pope Francis: Best wishes for Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI on his birthday

2013-04-16

On the occasion of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI's 86th birthday, the Holy Father, Pope Francis, began the celebration of Mass in the chapel of the Domus Santa Maria by inviting all present to pray for the pope emeritus. "Today is the birthday of Benedict XVI. Let us offer Mass for him, that the Lord might be with him, comfort him, and give him much consolation."

Later in the morning, Pope Francis called Benedict to offer him "best wishes" on his birthday. The Holy Father also greeted Benedict's brother, Monsignor Georg Ratzinger, who has been staying at Castel Gandolfo to celebrate the occasion, and who, like Pope Francis [Jorge Maria Bergoglio] will celebrate his onomastico, or Name Day, on April 23 - the feast of Saint George.

Adapted from the article on http://en.radiovaticana.va



Pope Francis and Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI



The Resurrection of Jesus in Christian Art

by Mrs. Marcella Massopust Perth Amboy, NJ

The Resurrection is central to our faith and the inspirational force of paintings, writings, literature and traditions throughout the ages. I have taught public school for over forty years and while teaching the History of Art I have found that most high school students have no knowledge of religious events. St. Jerome said, "Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ."

During the 16th Century there were many magnificent paintings created by Renaissance depicting artists the Resurrection of Jesus and the events that occurred during the forty day period before Christ's Ascension into heaven.

Carracci. "The Three Marys at the Tomb," Mary Magdalene, Mary of Cleophas and Mary of Salome visit the tomb of Jesus. They have come to pray. They brought oil to perform rituals. In the painting an angel sits on top of an empty tomb. You can almost hear the words: "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for He is risen, as He said. Come. see the place where the Lord lay." -Mathew 28:5-6.

The women in a mixture of fear, astonishment and joy, draw back from the Holy Sepulcher.

not," Corregio me depicts the meeting of Mary Magdalene and Christ on the morning of the Resurrection. She is crying. Mary sees someone she thinks is a gardener. The Risen Christ bears the marks of the crucifixion. She finally recognizes him. Jesus said to her: "Do not cling to Me, for I have not yet ascended to My Father; but go to My brethren and say to them, 'I am ascending to My Father and your Father, and to My God and your God.'"" - John 20:17

Continuing this series of paintings of the events after the Resurrection. "The Journey to Emmaus, In the painting "Touch on the third day of the

crucifixion two travelers walk along the road between Jerusalem and Emmaus. In the painting by Paul Brim, the two travelers discuss how the tomb was found empty and how sad they were. They did not recognize Jesus but since the Stranger had unusual knowledge of scripture they invited Him to dinner.

"So it was, while they conversed and reasoned, that Jesus Himself drew near and went with them." - Luke 24:15

In "Supper at Emmaus," by Vittore Carpaccio, after their arrival in Emmaus, the pilgrims who are disciples of Christ (but do not yet recognize Him) are seated with

In a painting by Annibale



The Three Marys at the Tomb Annibale Carracci



Noli me tangere (Touch me not) Correggio 23

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The Journey to Emmaus **Paul Brim**



The Resurrection of Jesus in Christian Art

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Him at dinner. When Christ blesses the bread and wine, the disciples realize His identity.

The final painting is Thomas, of St. "The Incredulity of Saint Thomas." When the Risen Christ appeared to the Apostles as a group, Thomas was not present. The eleven disciples were encouraged by Christ to assure themselves that he was real by touching Him. Told of this, Thomas declared that he would not believe until he could satisfy himself by sight and touch of the Savior. Hence, the expression Thomas." "doubting Eight days later, Christ

appeared again. When the Apostle Thomas probed Christ's wounds, he was immediately convinced of His divinity. Italian artist Guercino has imagined this event with Christ holding a banner, symbolizing the Resurrection.

In the paintings and scriptures we have seen and heard the good news of the Resurrection was first spread to the apostles and disciples. It is now our turn to spread the word to our families, children and friends.



Supper at Emmaus Vittore Carpaccio



The Incredulity of Saint Thomas Giovanni Guercino

Head of UGCC Meets With Patriarch Bartholomew I of Constantinople

20 April 2013

During the trip concerning the celebration of the 1025th anniversary of the Baptism of Rus-Ukraine, the head of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church. Patriarch Sviatoslav Shevchuk, and head of the Department of Foreign Relations of UGCC, Bishop Borvs Gudziak. met with Patriarch Bartholomew

I in his residence in Istanbul on April 20.

"In my opinion, this visit is very important and it was made on our initiative. For the Church of the ancient Constantinople is the Mother Church of all the Christians of the Kyivan tradition who received the faith in the Baptism of the holy Prince Volodymyr Equal-to-the Apostles,"

commented the UGCC head.

He stressed that the Ecumenical Patriarch today is an important moral authority both in the Orthodox world and in the Christian world in general.

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Head of UGCC Meets With Patriarch Bartholomew I of Constantinople

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The head of UGCC included theologians and assured the Ecumenical of Patriarch readiness to develop the USA and Canada and relations with the Church of the UGCC. of Constantinople. In particular, he spoke about the of renewing the Kyiv Study Group,

scholars of the Ukrainian the Orthodox Churches of

"As is evident, in the prospects last 20 years, religious circumstances in which Ukraine have changed

fundamentally, and, therefore, the renewal of the activity of the the aroup on one hand would facilitate interdenominational understanding and dialogue within the Kvivan Christianity, and on the other hand

renew the dialogue and possibilities of communion between the churches, successors of the Kyivan Christianity in Ukraine and the Church Constantinople," of concluded the head of UGCC. the Information Department of UGCC reported.

METROPOLITAN STEFAN'S SCHEDULE MAY 2013

- April 30 May 2 ARCHIEPARCHIAL CLERGY CONFERENCE, HERSHEY, PA
- MAY 4 PENNSYLVANIA STATE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CONVENTION, LANCASTER, PA
- MAY 5 DIVINE LITURGY AND SOCIAL GATHERING WITH VERY REV. ANDRIY RABIY AND PARTICIPANTS AT NEW MISSION, LANCASTER, PA.
- MAY 7 ARCHIEPARCHIAL WOMEN'S DAY PLANNING MEETING
- MAY 8 HOSTING EXECUTIVES OF LEAGUE OF UKRAINIAN CATHOLICS (LUC)
- MAY 9 FEAST OF ASCENSION OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST
- **MAY 16** DINNER RECEPTION IN HONOR OF HIS BEATITUDE BASELIOS CARDINAL CLEEMIS, MAJOR ARCHBISHOP FOR SYRO-MALANKARA CATHOLIC CHURCH. JAMAICA, NY
- ORDINATION TO DIACONATE OF SUB-DEACON WALTER PASICZNYK, MAY 19 ST. JOSAPHAT UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH, BETHLEHEM, PA 10:00 AM
- MEETING OF CONSULTORS OF UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC ARCHEPARCY OF **MAY 23** PHILADELPHIA
- MAY 25 GOLDEN JUBILEE DIVINE LITURGY FOR SR. OLGA MARIE FARYNA, OSBM, SR. ROSE ANNA BUKACZYK, OSBM, SR. FRANCIS BUKACZYK, OSBM SISTERS OF ORDER OF ST. BASIL THE GREAT, FOX CHASE, PA
- MAY 27-31 VISIT OF METROPOLITAN'S NIECE, HUSBAND AND CHILD - MR. AND MRS. CHRIS AND ANN SMOLEY, SON XAVIER TO PHILADELPHIA
- MAY 29 PARTICIPATE IN PRESIDENTIAL AWARD DINNER, HOLY FAMILY UNIVERSITY, HONORING HONORABLE MIKE FITZPATRICK, MEMBER UNITED STATES CONGRESS FOR PENNSYLVANIA.



Мау 2013 - Травня 2013

Happy Birthday!

3 Днем народження!

May 12: Rev. Joseph Szupa May 22: Rev. Msgr. Ronald Popivchak May 23: Rev. Oleksandr Dumenko

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

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



Congratulations on your Anniversary of Priesthood!

Вітаємо з Річницею Священства!

- May 5: Rev. Vasyl Putera (17th Anniversary)
- May 11: Very Rev. Archpr. John M. Fields (27th Anniversary)
- May 12: Very Rev. Archpr. Daniel Gurovich (39th Anniversary)
- May 14: Rev. John Ciurpita (24th Anniversary)
- May 14: Msgr. James Melnic (35th Anniversary)
- May 16: Rev. Paul J. Makar (3rd Anniversary)
- May 16: Rev. John Seniw (31st Anniversary)
- May 16: V. Rev. Archpriest Daniel Troyan (31st Anniversary)
- May 20: Very Rev. Archpr. Michael Hutsko (29th Anniversary)
- May 22: Rev. Robert Hitchens (19th Anniversary)
- May 25: Rev. Msgr. Myron Grabowsky (46th Anniversary)
- May 25: Rev. Msgr. Ronald Popivchak (46th Anniversary)

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

Нехай Бог Обдарує Багатьма Благословенними Роками Служіння в Господньому Винограднику!

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