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ENGLISH VERSION

60th Holy Dormition Pilgrimage in Sloatsburg, NY

The Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate thank all of the Hierarchy, priests, religious and pilgrims who attended the 60th Dormition Pilgrimage on August 9th & 10th which numbered around 3400 people. God blessed the pilarimage with beautiful weather and many graces. It was an inspiring scene to witness 28 priests hearing confession with pilgrims



waiting patiently in long lines. This year's theme: "The Holy Family is the Guide for the Evangelization of our Families: "A Joy Ever New, A Joy Which is Shared" (Pope Francis), was prevalent in the informative and spiritually motivating conferences as well as in the homilies and children's programs. Special highlights for the pilgrimage this year were: the Exhibit & Presentation of "The Church of the Catacombs in the 20th Century" presented by St. Sophia Religious Association of Ukrainian Catholics in Philadelphia and the children of "Mothers of Prayer" from St. Michael's Ukrainian Catholic Church in Yonkers, NY beautifully sang hymns to the Mother of God during the healing services.

On Saturday, the 60th Dormition pilgrimage began with the celebration of the Akafist to the Mother of God celebrated by Fr. Jack Custer. Sr. Kathleen Hutsko, Provincial Superior, welcomed the pilgrims at the Saturday 5:00 PM Divine Liturgy celebrated at the Grotto by Fr. Basil Hutsko. In the evening, clergy, sisters and pilgrims processed with candles to the Grotto to celebrate the Moleben to the Mother of God. Bishop Kurt Burnette, (Byzantine) Bishop of Passaic, celebrated the moleben to the Mother of God. In

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60th Holy Dormition Pilgrimage in Sloatsburg, NY

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his homily, Bishop Kurt used the symbol of the 7 branched candelabrum to comprehensively define the 7 virtues and vices and summarize that Mary, the Mother of God is the antidote for sin and the model of virtue.

On Sunday, the 10:30 Pontifical Divine Liturgy celebrated by Archbishop Stefan Soroka, Bishop Paul Chomnycky, Bishop Emeritus Basil Losten and Bishop-Elect Bohdan Danylo. Archbishop Stefan's captivating homily focused on evangelization and Pope Francis' message of the joy of the Gospel. "We are all called to be evangelizers through our smile, the time we give to others; Pope Francis calls us to share that joy with others". In concluding, Archbishop said that Evangelization also has to do with promoting vocations to the priesthood and religious life. "Look around at all that the sisters have provided for us today; if we are not going to support our religious through vocations and financially, in a few years, there will no longer be sisters in our church."

At 3:00 pm. Bishop Paul celebrated the Moleben to the Mother of God. In his homily, Bishop Paul (continued on next page)



Bishop Paul Chomnycky, Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka, Bishop-Emeritus Basil Losten during the Liturgy. (Photo: Walter Fedorin.)



Procession during the Liturgy on Sunday, August 10, 2014. (Photo: Walter Fedorin.)



(Photo: http://ssmi-us.org.)



Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka (Photo: http://ssmi-us.org.)

60th Holy Dormition Pilgrimage in Sloatsburg, NY

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spoke about the Ukrainian Catholic Church marking the 25th year of its emergence from the catacombs, after almost a half century of persecution in Ukraine. "One of my favorite places to visit in Kyiv is St. Sofia Cathedral. As I look at the beautiful mosaic of the Mother of God (Oranta), with her outstretched arms in prayer to God I think of the difficult history of Ukraine and how - through everything - the Mother of God has always covered our people with her powerful omophor."

The Sisters Servants extend their sincere gratitude to all of the lay associates, parishioners from various parishes, and those from the town of Sloatsburg for their making pyrohy, holubchi, cleaning, setting up and all their hard work in helping to lighten the "joyful" load for the Sisters Servants in hosting a pilgrimage of this dimension. The Sisters Servants pray that each pilgrim who attended and each pilgrim prayed for during the Dormition Pilgrimage is/was spiritually nourished to preach with your lives the Good News of Jesus Christ to a hungry world.

Photos are from the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate website unless noted. http://ssmi-us.org







Sister Kathleen congratulates Bishop-elect Rev. Bohdan Danylo.



Choir from Passaic, NJ.

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost - August 24, 2014



"Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand bags of gold was brought to him. Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt. "At this the servant fell on his knees before him. 'Be patient with me,' he begged, 'and I will pay back everything.' The servant's master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go. "But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred silver coins. He grabbed him and began to choke him. 'Pay back what you owe me!' he demanded. "His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay it back.' "But he refused. Instead, he went off and had

the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened. "Then the master called the servant in. 'You wicked servant,' he said, 'I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?' In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed. "This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart." (Mt. 18, 23-35)

Jesus narrated this parable of the unforgiving servant in response to Peter's question. Peter wanted to know just how far he had to go in forgiving people. Like us perhaps, he was thinking that one had to draw the line somewhere; surely God didn't intend for us to be endlessly pardoning those who continue to offend us. Jesus' parable was intended to clarify our thinking and focus our minds on the truth.

Jesus' command to his followers is that we forgive one another continually and without reservation, no matter how many time it is necessary (Matthew 18:22, 35). To illustrate how this can be possible for us, Jesus compared the relationship between a king and an indebted servant and that same debtor with one of his fellow servants. There is a deliberate and perhaps exaggerated distinction made between the mercy of the king and the relentlessness of the servant.

The two servants were of equal standing, but the debt owed by the first servant was a vast amount, the equivalent of fifteen years wages. The amount owed by the second servant was a mere fraction of the debt owed to the king. (One hundred denarii was about three months wages.) The kind forgave his servant the almost unforgivable amount but that same servant refused to be merciful to his peer, even though the debt was insignificant compared to his own.

The parable speaks to us about our state before God. We have been created by God, and before him we have no rights upon which we can stand. Everything we have comes from him. Despite this condition of utter dependence, we frequently rebel against God and choose our will above his will and his plan for us.

The servant who refused to forgive his fellow servant did not appreciate what the king had done for him. If he had grasped the fullness of the king's mercy, he would have been changed. Herein lies the answer for our lives! As we understand more and more how much our God has forgiven us, we will be able to forgive our families, our friends, and even our enemies.

"I am the Light of the World" Announced as the Theme for the 2014 Archieparchial Sobor to be Held Saturday, October 25

Philadelphia, Pa.--Metropolitan Stefan Soroka recently announced that "I am the Light of the World" (In 8:12) is the theme of the 2014 Archieparchial Sobor which will be held here Saturday, October 25, 2014 in the Cathedral Social Hall on North Franklin Street.

The sobor is an archieparchial assembly of laity, clergy and religious convened by the archbishop to assist the "eparchial bishop in those things which regard the special needs or advantage of the eparchy" according to the Code of Canons of the Eastern Churches.

In the morning session, Metropolitan Soroka will present a summary from the recent surveys on youth, women and evangelization of families. This will be followed by short personal reflections from lay, religious and clergy delegates on Encountering the Light of Christ through: The Word of God and Catechesis, Liturgy and Prayer, Service



to our Neighbor, Leadership / Stewardship, Communion / Unity, and Missionary Spirit.

The afternoon session will include small discussion groups on the topics: How will we live the Gospel message and foster vibrant parishes? How will we invite others (former parishioners, family members, *neighbors)* and welcome them into our parish families?

The sobor will conclude with the celebration of the Divine Liturgy in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception by Metropolitan Stefan and the clergy of the archeparchy. The theme of the homily will be "You are the Light of the World" (Mt 5: 13-14).

The observations and recommendations from this Archieparchial Sobor will be shared in a Sobor of the Ukrainian Catholic Church which will be held in Ukraine in 2015.

Each parish is expected to send a minimum of two delegates. Parishes may send two additional participants for a maximum of four delegates for each parish. Delegates should include parishioners of all ages and some parish pastoral and finance council members. Delegates from all religious communities active within the Archeparchy have also been invited to participate. All clergy (active and retired) are especially welcome and requested to participate.

Registration forms have already been forwarded to all pastors and religious superiors.

The day before the sobor, Friday, October 24, 2014 will be a Clergy Day for all clerics of the archeparchy, which will begin at 1:15 p.m., and will conclude with a clergy dinner gathering at 5 p.m.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SUPREME CONVENTION HEARS ABOUT UKRAINE

By Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka

The Annual Supreme Convention of the Knights of Columbus held this year in Orlando, Florida featured a special evening of hosting delegates from Ukraine, Lithuania, and Poland. Participants heard a magnificent presentation by Rev. Volodymyr Malchyn, Chaplain to the first Ukrainian Greek Catholic Council of the Knights of Columbus in Kyiv, Ukraine. The presentation surveyed the crisis in Ukraine from its beginnings, and featured a visual presentation of scenes from the Maidan. Fr. Malchyn highlighted the sufferings of the people of Ukraine and the heroic sacrifices being made by people dedicating themselves for the dignity of the people of Ukraine. He cited the many humble but critically important efforts of the newly formed Knights of Columbus members in assisting the wounded needing medical and spiritual care, raising funds to purchase blood clotting medicines to help treating the wounded, providing transportation and care for the many wounded from assaults by the previous government forces of Ukraine and now, the rebels in eastern



Photo (I to r): Bohdan Kovaliv, Ukrainian Grand Knight, Rev. Volodymyr Malchyn, Chaplain of the Knights of Columbus in Kyiv, Supreme Knight Carl Anderson and Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka.

Ukraine. Ukrainian Catholic Bishops of Canada and USA who were participating in the Convention were also present, among them Bishop David Motiuk of Edmonton, Bishop Ken Nowakowski of Westminster, Bishop Bryan Bayda of Saskatoon, and Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka of Philadelphia. Our Ukrainian Catholic Church is privileged to have such a dedicated and skillful Chaplain for the Knights of Columbus in Ukraine who is able to deliver such a professional presentation about the difficult situation in Ukraine, and in providing spiritual leadership for the faithful of our Church and all Ukrainians. The evening event concluded with a passionate commitment by the Supreme Director of the Knights of Columbus, Mr. Carl Anderson, to continue to support our brothers and sisters in Ukraine, Poland and Lithuania without compromise and with much hope for success in serving the Catholic Church in these countries, as is already done in other countries where the Knights of Columbus serve with great dedication and love for Jesus Christ.

The delegates to the Supreme Convention of the Knights of Columbus also heard of the exciting and steadfast efforts to organize Councils in Ukraine, Lithuania and Poland. His Beatitude, Lubomyr Cardinal Husar invited the Knights of Columbus to begin in Ukraine a number of years ago. The initiation of new Councils has been accomplished with the blessings and personal support of His Beatitude Sviatoslav Shevchuk. Both have extolled the virtues and merits of the International Order of the Knights of Columbus and sought their contribution in encouraging men of our Ukrainian Catholic Church to become involved for the benefit of growing in their faith through charitable works. Councils have also been formed within the Latin Catholic Church in Ukraine. Optimism and energetic zeal have been realized among the new Knights of Columbus as evident in the significant charitable and catechetical ministries they have begun in Ukraine. Special Ukrainian speaking teams for initiation of new Knights of Columbus were commissioned from

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KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SUPREME CONVENTION HEARS ABOUT UKRAINE

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Canada to assist in the initiation of new Knights. One observes how men of faith respond so enthusiastically to such invitations to grow in their faith and to become involved in charitable works, especially in societies where they suffer oppression.

It is something for us to marvel and to imitate in our Archeparchy by giving consideration to inviting the formation of Knights of Columbus Councils within our parishes. Our pastors have been acquainted with the ideals and principles of the Order of the Knights of Columbus and are aware of the encouragement offered by both Patriarch Lubomyr Cardinal Husar and Patriarch Sviatoslav Shevchuk as to the value of Knights of Columbus within our Ukrainian Catholic Church. My personal hope is that Councils can be formed by our pastors within our larger parishes and amidst smaller parishes throughout the Archeparchy. The program of the Knights of Columbus is particularly helpful in organizing men to share in assisting the pastor in the ministries of the parish, particularly in working with parishioners with special needs, with the youth and young adults, with facilitating parish activities which enhance the unity and fraternity of the parish.

Anyone wishing to contribute to the purchase of medical clotting medicines for the injured in Ukraine can forward their donation to the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy. A tax receipt will be issued and the funds will be used for their purchases of such supplies in America for transport to the newly formed Knights of Columbus Council in our Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church in Ukraine for distribution to those in needs of this help. God bless all who assist with the power of prayer and with material help.

Thank you!

DONATIONS FOR UKRAINE FORWARDED

+Stefan Soroka Metropolitan-Archbishop of Philadelphia for Ukrainians

Already the sum of \$5,000 has been received from generous persons who wish to assist in providing for urgent needs in Ukraine during the present crisis. This amount is being forwarded to assist the charitable action begun by the two newly formed Ukrainian Catholic Councils of the Knights of Columbus in Kyiv, Ukraine. They are currently purchasing kits of 'Celox' blood clotting agents to be distributed to Ukraine soldiers and civilians hurt as a result of the military aggression by terrorist groups. The need is urgent. These funds will help significantly. We are grateful for the donations received.

If you wish to help, please forward your tax deductible gift to the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia at 827 N. Franklin Street, Philadelphia, PA 19123. Your gift will be forwarded to assist in providing for various urgent needs in Ukraine.

God bless you.

Recognizing my call.

It is easier to look back on my life and recognize God's call than it was to recognize God calling me at that time. When I think about it I notice that there were three significant events in my life that helped me to recognize God's call more clearly. There is much more involved with what happened and what I learned and how I grew understanding with each of these events than I can possibly include in this short expose. Suffice it to say that each of these events were key learning moments for me which allowed me to grow in appreciation of the Church and her traditions and recognize her needs.

The first event occurred while a student at Penn State working toward my BS in Chemistry. During this time the University added "Cultural a Requirement" for araduation. When my advisor informed me of this change, he handed me a thick pamphlet with the approved courses review. I came to across an interesting course. "Understanding the Ancient Hebrews". According to the course description it was clearly going to involve the Old Testament books. While

I enjoy the material sciences, this was the course I enjoyed the most during my studies because it helped me understand our Church and traditions so much more.

A second event was when my youngest sister got married at St. Elias in Brampton, Canada. The church structure was a typical all wood church with no pews. This style is commonly found in the villages of Ukraine, but not typically in North America. What engaged me was the education this priest was providing for the people. I was happy to hear answers to questions I had that were not previously addressed and to encounter a parish that lived a community life as described by St. Paul. Also, to see how this parish lived liturgical life in the Divine Lituray on that Sunday was truly an eye opening experience.

The third event was when I bought a house in Hellertown, PA. This move led me to a new 'home parish', that of St. Josaphat in Bethlehem, PA. Again I noticed a distinction in how this parish lived their community life in faith. It has an Adult Education

Program that involves again much more than I have space to include here. I came to realize there was more of an integration of all of our church life going on there.

Now a little background may help you understand what was going on in my life. I had encountered at least 20 different parishes of ours, UGCC, throughout North America durina my college and working years and I was always learning something new and growing as a person. In time I was integrating all these pieces of the puzzle, so to speak, and as I learned more the picture was comina together and becoming clearer. What I was encounterina at the Adult Education Classes in Bethlehem was not just a priest teaching in his community, but more so, it was the people who helped me recognize my call. The people I encountered desired to grow in their faith and therefore wanted learn. It was this desire to learn and grow and understand that inspired to see and answer my call. I recognized the people had simple auestions that needed simple, direct, honest,



Rev. Walter Pasicznyk shares some of the events that helped him recognize God's call more clearly.

loving and courageous answers. This is something I felt I could do. I remember in my youth in Eastern Christian Formation Class, Sister Cecilia who did this for us and I thought to myself, I can do this too for the church.

Growing up I was taught in confusing ways. don't know why but I speculate it was perhaps they did not really know the answer themselves. Carl Sagan respected by average people for his ability to put complex ideas into normal language understandable to all people. He was able to reach people because his message was understood. This is what Jesus Christ did.

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Recognizing my call.

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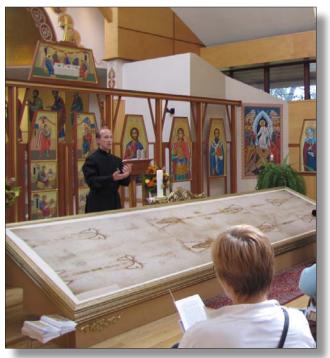
God is sending mankind, which God had been doing from the beginning of creation.

It is this work to which I feel called, making clear what our Church, the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church (UGCC), is about. To help all people grow in faith via education, Holy Scripture, Tradition and Sacraments which is nothing more than continuing the work

make clear the message of Jesus Christ, the 12 Apostles. the church fathers and all the saints.

> May God bless all of you with a strong faith, peace, health, happiness and salvation,

Fr. Walter Pasicznyk



A picture from October 2010 when Rev. Walter Pasicznyk was a seminarian and he talked about the Replica of the Shroud of Turin during a Pilgrimage.

UKRAINIAN DAY FESTIVAL

Saturday, September 27 11:00am - Until Dusk

Sts Peter & Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church

Fairview & St. Mary's Street, Phoenixville

Website: www.sspeterandpaulukr.com

Tel: 610-933-5453

ADMIS

- Ethnic Food & Drinks
- **Entertainment**
- **Exhibit**
- Church Tour
- Children's Corner
- **Tive Music**
- Vendors
- Flea Market
- Raffle Gift Baskets



Sisters of the Order of Saint Basil the Great Eighty-third Annual Pilgrimage

"Call to Holiness" The Life of Metropolitan Andrew Sheptytsky on the 70th Anniversary of his Death

Sunday, October 5, 2014

9 am - 11 am Mystery of Reconciliation (Confession) Monastery Grounds Mothers in Prayer 10 am Holy Trinity Chapel Rosarv From Basilian Spirituality Center Hierarchical Divine Liturgy (Bilingual) Faculty House Auditorium Celebrant: Most Rev. Metropolitan - Archbishop Stefan Soroka Ukrainian Catholic Hierarchy of the U. S. Homilist: Very Rev. Archpriest Ivan Kaszczak Ukrainian Catholic National Shrine of the Holy Family. Washington, D.C 1:30 pm - 5 pm Food Service Food Court Parking Lot 2 pm - 4 pm Presentation: Movie: Metropolitan Andrey Basilian Spirituality Chapel (promptly) 3 pm - 3:45 pm Shrine: Our Lady of Pochayiy 3:45 pm Blessing of Religious Articles Shrine: Our Lady of Pochaviy Moleben/Mystery of Holy Anointing (Bilingual) Shrine 4 pm - 5 pm Ukrainian Bishops and Concelebrating Clergy Celebrant Homilist: Very Rev. Archpriest Ivan Kaszczak Ukrainian Catholic National Shrine of the Holy Family, Choir: Washington, D.C 5 pm Blessing of Cars and Buses Parking Lot







CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR SSMI 2014 JUBILIARIANS

by Sr. Kathleen Hutsko, SSMI-Provincial Superior

"Ivow to your Divine Majesty, obedience, chastity, and poverty in the Congregation of the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate, in the presence of my Sisters, and all the faithful, until my death, according to the Constitutions of this Congregation. So help me God and this Holy Gospel."

The above words were spoken by these Sisters Servants, 80, 70 and 25 years ago respectively. They have lived their religious commitment in different ways. We honor them here to thank them for serving God's people so faithfully and joyfully. We will celebrate them in a special way in August, but we share a bit of their lives with you now. We hope their stories will inspire someone to consider Religious Life!



Sr. Bonaventure Kalawsky is the twelfth of 13 children. She was born in Round Hill, Alberta Canada. Her most prized possessions are her faith, family, friends and her religious community. Sr. Bonaventure touched the lives of hundreds of children as a teacher throughout the U.S. She was missioned in Germany for five years at Bishop Kornyliak's residence. One of the most treasured moments in her life was the invitation in 1992 to go to Ukraine to testify to the miracles obtained through the intercession of our foundress, Blessed Josaphata. Sr. Bonaventure has made a difference in the lives of so many people by her joyful presence, her diligent letter writing and most of all by her living witness of the

sacred gift of her vocation for 80 years.



Sr. Albina Gregory is the youngest of nine children born in Belfield, North Dakota. She spent 50 years educating the minds and instilling the faith to children as a teacher and/or principal. Sr. Albina's most joyful times in the classroom were when she was preparing the children for First Holy Communion. In 2002, she became the Administrator of the St. Mary's Villa Spiritual/Educational Center in Sloatsburg, NY where she is instrumental in nurturing the spiritual life of adults now. Sr. Albina is noted for: the tireless hours she dedicates to whatever ministry she does, her "green thumb" in her vegetable garden, her orderly closets, her an-

gel food cake, but most importantly her unconditional love for her God for 70 years as an SSMI.



Sr. Tekla Gnatyuk was born in Ukraine and has a twin sister and two brothers. She entered the Sisters Servants when the church was still "underground." She was missioned for nine years at our Generalate in Rome in the culinary department. Sr. Tekla transferred to our Province in the USA because she saw our need for young sisters to help us serve "where the need is the greatest." Her passion is to minister to those in prison and to abused women, to show them compassion and to give them hope. She enjoys teaching catechism to children. Sr. Tekla's commitment 25 years ago was prompted by the Gospel words, "You did not choose me, I chose you."





Photos are from Sr. Bonaventure's 80th, Sr. Albina's 70th, and Sr. Tekla's 25th Jubilee Celebration of Years of Religious Life on August 2, 2014. http://ssmi-us.org

Ascension Manor holds Pot Luck Luncheon

On August 14, 2014, the Ascension Manor Garden Club invited residents and staff to share in their 2nd Annual International Pot Luck Luncheon. Dishes from all around the world were prepared for this luncheon. Many of the ingredients used by the Garden Club Members were grown by themselves on the property grounds. All attending residents, staff and club members had a great time.







North Anthracite Council of League of Ukrainian Catholics Meeting and Annual Picnic

North Anthracite Council - League of Ukrainian Catholics held their general meeting and annual picnic on Sunday, August 17, 2014 in Berwick, Pennsylvania. Moleben to Mary the Mother of God was served at SS. Cyril and Methodius Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church followed by a business session which focused on the upcoming October 10th to 12th National Convention in Johnstown PA and the Sobor of the

Archeparchy of Philadelphia set for October 25th. Immediately afterwards the group enjoyed a delightful picnic.

The next meeting is scheduled for Sunday, September 14, 2014 at SS. Peter and Paul Church in Wilkes-Barre, PA. Come enjoy an afternoon of prayer, constructive deliberation and fellowship for the glory of our Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church.



Children Learn about Moses during Mount Carmel, Pa. Parish Vacation Bible School Summer Week-long Camp

Centralia, Pa.--The grounds of Assumption of the B.V.M. Church here was the site of the Vacation Bible School Summer Camp sponsored by SS. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church, Mt. Carmel, Pa. from Monday, August 11 until Friday, August 15. This is the second year the parish has been hosting this week-long gathering of area children where they learn about their faith, socialize and have an enjoyable summer experience.

This year's theme was "Wilderness Escape." The children learned about Moses as he and the Israelites escaped Egypt, and traveled into the





Wednesday over 70 children and parents had an outing to Knoebel's Grove Amusement Resort in Elysburg, Pa. where they enjoyed a picnic luncheon and had an opportunity to ride the many amusement park attractions, which ranks Knoebels as one of the top amusement parks in the United States.

Friday, the Feast of the Dormition of the Mother of God, the patronal feast-day of the Centralia parish, all of the happy-campers attended the Divine Liturgy and received blessed flowers after the traditional blessing during the Divine Liturgy.

Rev. Archpriest Michael Hutsko, who serves both the Mt. Carmel and Centralia parishes is already planning for the August 2015 Vacation Bible School Summer Camp.





Back-To-School Blessing of All Students & Teachers



St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church, Passaic, NJ

Summer vacation is winding down, & the new school year will begin soon.

A Special Blessing & Prayer will be offered for Students of all ages (pre-K, primary, middle, high school, college, and grad), and all Teachers during all

Divine Liturgies on August 30 & 31st, and September 6 & 7th.

We invite all students & teachers to attend and receive God's Special Blessing for a safe, successful school year.



BASILIAN SISTERS CONTINUE TO FACE THE FUTURE WITH HOPE

Summer Community Davs were held at the Motherhouse of the Sisters of St. Basil the Great, Fox Chase Manor, PA, July 1-3, 2014. All members of the Jesus Lover of Humanity Province gathered to continue discussions involving the Sisters' Strategic Plan, "Facing Our Future With Hope".

Each day began with the celebration of the Divine Liturgy and a homily by Chaplain Very Rev. Archpriest Daniel Troyan, who encouraged the Sisters to continue their service to the Faithful of the Church, "confident in knowing we are blessed with hope in the Providence of God."

Sister Dorothy Ann

Busowski, OSBM, Provincial Superior, welcomed the attendees and delivered her State of the Province Report, annual summarv an ofthe Province's accomplishments, stability and goals. Future possibilities for providing the services of the Sisters were also suggested.

Daily sessions involved the delivering of committee reports, after which the Sisters engaged in prayerful reflection and contemplative dialogue to express their personal concerns and hopes for the future of the province.

Ahighlight of the gathering was a descriptive presentation of the Maydan demonstrations

by eyewitnesses Sister Romana Hutnyk, OSBM, and Sister Teodora Kopyn, OSBM, Basilian Sisters recently arrived from the Most Holy Trinity Province in Ukraine who are presently assisting the Fox Chase Motherhouse. The two emphasized Sisters the brave spirit of the demonstrators and the steadfast influence of the clergy and religious who prayed with them daily.

Helping the Sisters to discern their plans for the future was guest speaker Sister Martina Nicklaus, CSR, of the Congregation of the Holy Redeemer, who spoke on the challenges, decisions and changes faced by her congregation from the time of their arrival in the United States from Europe to the present, in the face of diminishing membership. Sister encouraged her audience to remain faithful, putting trust in God, but planning wisely for the future: "There is no new life without struggle."

Community Days ended Thursday, July 3, with prospective plans for the 2015 Provincial Chapter of Elections. Sister Ann Laszok will chair the Chapter Planning Committee assisted bv Sister Clement Bartholomew, Sister Carla Hernandez and Sister Theodosia Lukiw. Sister Carol Marozzi, SSJ, who guided the Community Days discussions, will act as facilitator.

BASILIAN SISTERS BID FAREWELL TO MOTHERHOUSE CHAPLAIN

Very Rev. Archpriest Daniel Troyan was honored for his service to the Sisters of the Order of St. Basil the Great Tuesday, July 29, 2014.

His Grace, Most Metropolitan Rev. Stefan Archbishop Soroka joined the Sisters their Motherhouse recognizing "Father Dan" for his four years chaplain, spiritual guide, helper and friend to the Sisters and the extended Basilian family of St. Basil Academy and Manor College.

Father Troyan was assigned as chaplain to the Basilian Sisters in Fox Chase Manor in 2010. "Those years have gone by all too quickly," said Provincial Superior Sister Dorothy Ann Busowski, OSBM, at the celebratory dinner. "There is no doubt that you will be missed."

Archbishop Stefan

spoke of the reciprocal relationship between the Sisters and Father Dan—the mutual respect and sharing of gift, talents and kindnesses and how all are better for having known each other.

After the singing of a special rendition of "You Are Our Sunshine" prepared by Sister Monica Lesnick and accompanied by Sister Laura Palka, Father Dan expressed his gratitude



for the farewell tribute and fond memories created during his chaplaincy.

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BASILIAN SISTERS BID FAREWELL TO MOTHERHOUSE CHAPLAIN

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Father Dan has been Catholic Church in West assigned pastor

of Easton, PA. The parish Holy Ghost Ukrainian was founded in 1921

and plans are already underway for celebrating its centennial. Father

forward Dan looks to facilitatina the preparations.

NEW SBA PRINCIPAL LOOKS FORWARD TO ACADEMIC YEAR

The 2013-2014 academic year at St. Basil Academy, Fox Chase Manor, will begin Monday, August 25, with Ms. Gwenda Cote as the newly-appointed Principal.

Selected by the SBA Board of Trustees after an extensive search of highly qualified candidates, Ms. Cote's impressive background in the field of education resulted in her being chosen as the administrator to lead the St. Basil community.

A native of upstate New York, Ms. Cote began her career as a teacher at St. Catherine Academy, Bronx, NY, and progressed through various administrative positions including President/Principal at Seton Catholic High School, Plattsburgh, NY, and also at Santa Fe Catholic High School in Lakeland, FL. She comes to St. Basil's after serving as Vice President of Educational Services at Three W International located in Orlando, FL, where she supervised the organization's 145 partner schools' international program, helping to develop standards, procedures and training.



Ms. Gwenda Cote

Ms. Cote holds a BA in Religious Studies from Iona College and an MA in Counseling from Manhattan College. She is also certified in educational administration and supervision. As St. Basil's administrator, Ms. Cote will be entrusted to carry out the five-year Strategic Plan developed with the expertise and guidance of Meitler Consultants, a nationally recognized consultant group for Catholic schools.

When asked her thoughts about leading the SBA Community, Gwen commented, "At this point in my career it is my honor and privilege to join St. Basil Academy's academic community. The Academy's past is a solid foundation, the present brimming with hope, and the future of SBA will be a beacon of excellence on every level."

"I am confident," said Sister Dorothy Ann Busowski, OSBM, Provincial Superior and acting Principal, "that we have found a person with the right mix of experience, skills, creativity and enthusiasm to lead the Academy [and,] most importantly, Ms. Cote's lifelong commitment to her Catholic faith makes her well suited to uphold the Academy's mission and tradition."

St. Basil Academy, established by the Sisters of the Order of St. Basil the Great in 1931, is a four-year private college preparatory high school located in Fox Chase Manor, PA. It is staffed by the Sisters, a lay faculty and assistant personnel.

The entrance/scholarship exam for the 2015-16 school year will be held on Saturday, November 1, 2014. For further information about St. Basil's, please see www.stbasilacademy.org

BASILIAN ASSOCIATES OF PARMA HOLD DAY OF PRAYER

A Covenant Day for Parma, Ohio, Regional Basilian Associates from St. Josaphat's Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral and St. Andrew's Parish was held Saturday, July 26, 2014.

After gathering in the Cathedral Parish Hall, associates. candidate and attending friends were welcomed by Sister Palka, OSBM, Laura Director of the Basilian Associate Program, and Sister Olga Marie Faryna, OSBM, Parma, Ohio Regional Director, who gave an overview of the day's spiritual activities.

Directed by facilitator Miriam Sister Claire Kowal. OSBM. the five members and one prospective candidate participated in a day of retreat divided into three meditative sessions: Light of the World, Salt of the Earth, and Word of Life. Guided by Sacred Scripture, the newly published "A Year with St. Basil the Great" and the Basilian Associate manual "One in Spirit", the participants engaged in prayerful reflection contemplative and dialogue in preparation for their ceremony of commitment.

Prior to the Divine celebrated Liturgy by **Assistant Pastor** Bohdan Borytsky Rev. and Rev. Archdeacon Jeffrey Smolilo, Father Borytsky explained the congregation to the significance of the Covenant Ceremony that would take place.

Following Ambo the five Prayer, the Associate members who were admitted to the Program last year their mutual renewed relationship covenant with the Sisters of St. Basil the Great. They are: Eugene Apostoluk, Audrey Fedak, Andrij and Oksana Szepiwdycz and Margaret Jane Zysek. Completing her year of candidacy and entering into her initial covenant relationship was Martha Weigand. All were anointed by Father Borytsky and the congregation wished "Many them Нарру Years".

Basilian The Sisters and Associates acknowledged their aratitude to Most Rev. John Bura, Apostolic Administrator, and Rev. Claudio J. Melnicki, Cathedral Administrator, who, although not coordinated present,



Photo (Front row L-R): Sr. Laura Palka, OSBM, Sr. Olga Marie Faryna, OSBM, Jane Zaysek, Audrey Fedak, Oksana Szepiwdycz, Andrij Szepiwdycz, Martha Weigand, Sr. Miriam Claire Kowal, OSBM, (not pictured) Eugene Spostoluk (Back row L-R): Rev. Bohdan Borytsky, Rev. Archdeacon Jeffrey Smolilo

Divine Liturgy and details essential to the success of the day. Special greetings Sister Dorothy Ann Busowski, OSBM, Provincial Superior of the Basilian Sisters of the Province of Jesus, Lover of Humanity, were extended to members and the prospective member of the Associate Program.

In 1991, the Sisters of the Order of St. Basil the Great founded the Basilian Lay Associate Program. This invitation to the laity offers adult Christians the experience of coming together with the Sisters to share in a the celebration of the mutually enriching and

broadening relationship focused on living more fully the Gospel way of life.

To learn more about the Basilian Associate Program, please contact:

Sr. Olga Marie Faryna, OSBM at OMFaryna@ aol.com (for the PARMA, OHIO EPARCHY)

Sr. Rita Stremba, **OSBM** srrita@ at stbasilacademy.org the PHILADELPHIA, PA EPARCHY)

St. Nicholas, Mahanoy City family members remember their loved ones and their former parish at Cemetery monument dedication.

1923 January 7, Ukrainians from Mahanoy City, Buck Mountain, Morea. Tamaqua, Delano, & Barnesville officially organized as a parish. St. Nicholas' first pastor was Rev. Joseph Bernotsky. The first Divine Lituray was offered on February 18,1923 in "Nork's Hall" at 508 West Mahanoy Ave. Mahanoy City. On that historic date the first Baptism & Chrismation administered infant Mary Onul. After 85 years of service to its parishioners and the community St. Nicholas was closed. The final Divine Liturgy was celebrated by Rev.

Oleksandr Dumenko on June 21, 2008

of deceased Families members of the former St. Nicholas gathered at the blessing of the new monument on the cemetery grounds May 24,2014. This monument was a labor of love. Several former members of the parish reviewed designs and made the final selection for the stone. Donations were received to cover the cost. Construction and design of the stone was completed by ET Everett & Sons of Mahanov City,

Msgr. Myron Grabowsky



performed a Panahyda at the cross on the cemetery grounds then blessed the new monument.

St. Nicholas Cemetery is comprised of three acres of ground, purchased from the Philadelphia and Reading Coal Company of Locust Valley, Ryan Township, Pa in May 1923. Reverend Simeon Milanich, who was responsible for St. Nicholas Parish, St. Clair, PA. and St. Nicholas Parish Mahanoy City, PA., blessed the burial grounds on September 4, 1923. St. Michael's Church in Shenandoah serves as administrator for the cemetery.

SS. CYRIL AND METHODIUS UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH 4TH ANNUAL RUMMAGE SALE, OLYPHANT, PA.

Location: The American Legion Hall, Raymond Henry Post #327, 101 Willow Ave./Lackawanna Ave. (By the Bank) in Olyphant. **Dates**: September 19, 20 and 21st 2014

We will have: (Assortment of items) Furniture, household items, kitchen items, bathroom, bedroom, living room, basement, outdoor, garden, craft items, religious, toys, games, sporting goods, books, holiday, ladies accessories, children's books, tools, music media-records etc... antiques, Ukrainian items, etc....) Some New Items Include: The 125th Anniversary (1888-2013) DVD for SS. Cyril and Methodius Ukrainian Catholic Church, "Christmas in Ukraine" Book from World Book, "Favorite Recipes from our Best Cooks" from the SisterHood of St. John's Ukrainian Orthodox Church, New York. Volume I and II.

The Raffle Baskets will be "raffled" on Sunday September 21, 2014. For more information contact Father Nestor Iwasiw, Pastor at 570-489-2271.



The **Protection** of the Mother of God

2014 Icon retreat led by iconographer Peter Pearson

October 23-26

Retreatants will follow step by step instructions to produce an icon of The Protection of the Mother of God. We

will also discuss the development of iconography, the spirituality of creating an icon, and praying with icons.

Peter Pearson has forty years experience writing icons for churches, private individuals, and institutions around the world. He is noted for teaching both painting technique and the spirituality of creating icons. He has given presentations to groups ranging from school children and senior citizen groups to artists and seminarians. Samples of his iconography are available online at http://www.nb.net/~pearson or may be seen in Hazleton at St John Byzantine Catholic Church or Holy Rosary Roman Catholic Church.

Schedule: Thursday October 23 & Friday October 24, 6:30pm-9:30pm Saturday October 25, 9:30am-4:30pm; and Sunday October 26, 1-5pm

Cost: \$275 (\$285 after October 10), includes all supplies and materials for completing this icon, plus Saturday lunch.

Optional room & board starts at \$50/night (\$75 for private room).



Contact: Fr Carmen at holydormition@gmail.com or 570-788-1212 x 407

Holy Dormition Friary

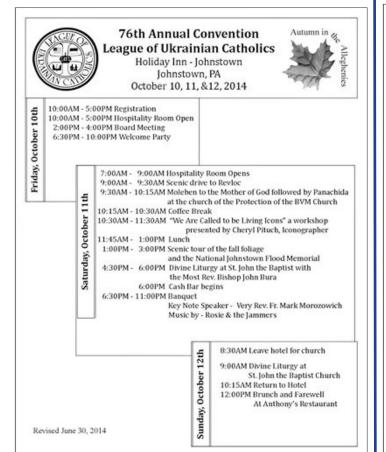
712 State Highway 93 - PO Box 270 - Sybertsville, PA 18251 570-788-1212 - http://hdbfm.com - holydormition@gmail.com

76th Annual Convention League of Ukrainian Catholics

Friday through Sunday, October 10 to 12, 2014*

The All Saints Chapter of the Western Pennsylvania Council of the League of Ukrainian Catholics is hosting this year's Convention in Johnstown PA. The Convention theme "We Are Called To Be Living Icons" will surely come alive through every activity planned for the three day event especially the keynote address by Rev. Dr. Mark Morozovich, Dean of The School of Theology of the Catholic University of America and the Icon Workshop conducted by Iconographer Cheryl Pituch of Davidsville PA.

LUC members, parishioners and friends are warmly welcomed to attend. It is an ideal opportunity to gather together with our hierarchy, clergy, religious and fellow LUCers from throughout the Archeparchy to enrich our Ukrainian Catholic faith as well as to enjoy some fun times together. Please refer to the accompanying Program and Registration Form.





Name

76th Annual Convention League of Ukrainian Catholics

Holiday Inn - Johnstown Johnstown, PA October 10, 11, &12, 2014



CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM

			77-17-	
City/Stat	e/Zip Code			
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	Please indicate the number of tickets needed for each event and the total amount enclosed			
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	Event Registration Welcome Party Moleben, Icon Workshop, Brunch, and Bus Tour of Area	Price \$15.00 \$27.00 \$30.00	osed	79.5000050
Saturday	Event Registration Welcome Party Moleben, Icon Workshop, Brunch, and Bus Tour of Area Banquet	Price \$15.00 \$27.00 \$30.00 \$45.00	osed	11.5000000

Please send Registration Form and make check payable to:

2014 LUC Convention P.O. Box 194 Revloc, PA 15948-0194

DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS AND PAYMENT FOR EVENTS IS SEPTEMBER 15, 2014 NO RESERVATION WILL BE ACCEPTED AT THE CONVENTION

Any questions contact: Jean Krasulski 606 Maple Avenue Johnstown, PA 15901 Phone: 1 (614) 535 - 2634 or e-mail Jean Krasulski at frandrewkrasulski@aol.com

New US Ukrainian Bishop makes community a priority

August 12, 2014

The phone call caught Fr Bohdan Danylo by surprise when he was named by Pope Francis as the new Bishop of the Eparchy of St. Josaphat in Parma, Ohio on Thursday, August 7.

"I got the phone call and the rest was history. I hope that I will be able to fulfill this new task that the Holy Father is asking of me," he told Vatican Radio in an interview.

The Eparchy of St. Josaphat is one of four Ukrainian Catholic dioceses in the US, which has parishes from Ohio to as far south as Florida.

Bishop-elect Danylo outlined the priorities of his episcopal ministry of the eparchy in two steps: to preach the Good News of Jesus Christ and to bring the Lord close to the people of God.

When asked about the state of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in the United States, Bishop-elect Danylo explained the Ukrainian Catholic Church is experiencing a new spring time in places where there is a large influx of new Ukrainian immigrants.

The bishop-elect is hopeful for even more growth within the Ukrainian Church in the US, which he said requires that we stop considering the Church as a building, but as a community of people, willed by God, where we meet the living Christ.

The Ukrainian Catholic Church in America has continued to provide both spiritual and material support for Ukraine during this time of crisis. Charitable organizations set up by the Church have been sending aid, Bishop-elect Danylo said. He also noted the strong presence of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Ukraine among the military chaplaincy.

At 43 years old, Bishop-elect Danylo will become the US' youngest bishop and take possession of the longest vacant see in the United States. When asked about how he feels about his age, he quoted Cardinal Lubomyr Husar, former head of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, on the election of now Major Archbishop Sviatoslav Shevchuk, the Church's current leader, "Do not worry; the time of each day will be working against him!" The Bishop-elect hopes to grow in wisdom day by day to be able to fulfill the duties of his ministry.

In his final words, Bishop-elect Danylo urged everyone to go to their local Church, where God is waiting for each one of us, whether we were in Church yesterday or ten years ago. In particular he asked everyone to consider going to an Eastern Church, a treasure of the Catholic Church ready to be shared with the world.

http://en.radiovaticana.va



August 18-20, 2014, Most Rev. Bohdan J. Danylo, Bishop-elect visited St. Josaphat Eparchy in Parma. Pictured is Most Rev. John Bura welcoming Bishop-elect Danylo in the chancery office. (Photo: http://www.stamforddio.org/

His Beatitude Sviatoslav led the celebration in Dolyna on the occasion of the hundredth anniversary of the birth of His Beatitude Myroslav Lubachivsky

Sunday, 10 August 2014

Today we are grateful to this Dolyna land for giving UGCC and the Ukrainian people such a leader as Father and Head of UGCC, Myroslav Ivan (Lubachivsky). On this day we are blessing for the first time in the history of our Church, a monument which was created to honor him. After all, the Church has the sacred duty to remember its mentors and thank God for the gift of their life and service.

This was said by the Head and Father, His Beatitude Sviatoslav in the sermon during the Pontifical Divine Liturgy which took place in the UGCC Church of the Nativity of the Blessed Mother of God in Dolyna, in Ivano-Frankivsk region, on August 10, 2014, on the occasion of the hundredth anniversary of the birth of His Beatitude Myroslav Ivan Cardinal Lubachivsky.



MONUMENT TO CARDINAL LUBACHIVSKY

In continuing the sermon, the Prime Hierarch of the Church noted that many people ask themselves today how can one be a saint in a sinful world. "To live in a Christian way means to place all your hope in God. In as much as a person is united by the wreath of faith with one's Savior, to such a degree is the person capable of overcoming evil with good," he explained.

In pondering on the life of Cardinal Myroslav Ivan, Major-Archbishop Sviatoslav observed that the words "the Lord is my strength" became the guidepost of the life of his predcessor. According to the words of the preacher, when His Beatitude Myroslav Ivan left Dolyna, he delved into the turbulent life of the Stryj Gymnasium, wherein there were formed nooks of the Ukrainian liberation front. Eventually he studied at the Lviv Theological Academy. Then, during the most dangerous years in Europe, he studied in Austria and Rome. "During all of his life he walked above the turbulent ocean, totally entrusting his life to God. It was



exactly him that God called to return to royal Lviv, the seat of UGCC from exile to home," he added.

As His Beatitude Sviatoslav related, eventually "this leader of UGCC and his nation, triumphantly returned to his Motherland, which was also then akin to the turbulent ocean." "Yet, he with the figure of a prayerful and kind elderly, holding on to Christ the Savior's hand, directed the ship of the Church," emphasized the preacher.

At the very end, the Church Primate added that it (continued on next page)

His Beatitude Sviatoslav led the celebration in Dolyna on the occasion of the hundredth anniversary of the birth of His Beatitude Myroslav Lubachivsky

(continued from previous page)

was Cardinal Myroslav Ivan who twenty years ago raised him to a priest, and eventually directed the present UGCC Primate to study in Rome.

"The treasure of the life of His Beatitude Myroslav Ivan is important to make into a treasure of the personal life of faithful people in the contemporary world," stated UGCC Head at the conclusion of his sermon.

The celebration of the hundredth anniversary of the birth of His Beatitude Myroslav Ivan Cardinal Lubachivsky continued with the blessing of a monument in his honor. Afterwards, UGCC Head met with local mass media.

UGCC Department of Information

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

Letter from His Beatitude Sviatoslav to Metropolitan Onufriy on the occasion of His election to the Primate of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church

Thursday, 14 August 2014

To His Eminence Onufriy Berezovskyi, the newly elected Primate of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church

On behalf of the Synod of Bishops and all the faithful of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church I cordially congratulate you on the election to the Primate of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church.

We hope that you will be the glorious follower of activity and service of your great predecessors, especially the deceased His Beatitude Volodymyr, work in the name of peace and consolidation of Ukrainian society, initiate of the genuine dialogue and find ways for the unity of all the heirs of Kievan Christianity.

Your choosing to this high service we connect with the hope of developing and strengthening of inter-confessional and social cooperation in the name of consolidation of Christian spiritual and moral values in today's world, protecting the oppressed and helping the needy.

May God's grace



accompanies your future work and helps to bear hard cross of the Primate service in this difficult historical period for Ukraine.

I wish your Eminence mental and physical grace strength, peace, joy and relief from Generous and Merciful Father in heaven.

With brotherly love in the Lord

† SVIATOSLAV

http://news.ugcc.ua

PRO-RUSSIAN MERCENARIES IN DONETSK SEIZE MONASTERY OF THE SISTERS SERVANTS

18 August 2014

On Saturday, August 16, it became known that the premises of the monastery of All Saints of Ukrainian people of the Congregation of the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate in Donetsk was captured by the Pro-Russian mercenaries. Provincial Superior in Ukraine Sister Boniface Dyakiv informed the Information Department of the UGCC. The terrorists settled their people there.

"The sisters were not in the monastery. At the request Exarch of Donetsk Bishop Stefan Meniok they left Donetsk in July for safety reasons. Before the conflict three nuns worked in Donetsk," says Sister Boniface. According to her, personal belongings of nuns, church attributes, and a car were kept in the house.

It should be added that this year marks the 15th anniversary of the Sisters Servants on the territory of Donetsk and Kharkiv Exarchate of the UGCC. The sisters who left Donetsk continue their ministry in Western Ukraine.

http://risu.org.ua

HIS BEATITUDE SVIATOSLAV: 'OUR CHURCH IN DONETSK AND LUHANSK IS EXPERIENCING A TIME OF MARTYRDOM'

18 August 2014

During the Second pilgrimage to the Patriarchal Cathedral of the Resurrection on August 17, UGCC head Patriarch Sviatoslav Shevchuk urged to pray and support the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, because it is now experiencing a martyrdom, notes the Information Department of the UGCC.

"Today our Church in Donetsk and Luhansk is experiencing a martyrdom and it needs our prayer and support," said the head of the UGCC.

After the service, head of the UGCC blessed the icon of Jesus Christ Almighty specially for Donetsk."This icon

represents God's blessing on this long-suffering city, which today sheds blood. May the Lord hear our prayers and pleas for peace and stop the bloodshed," wished the Patriarch.

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



August 24th - Independence Day of Ukraine

We thank our Lord God from the bottom of our hearts for this wondrous gift - an independent and sovereign state. It is truly a gift for all of us - both those who live in Ukraine and those who live in



the USA. On this occasion of national joy we pray fervently that our people live in unity, truth and justice. Let us all work towards progress in our glorious Ukraine, seeking spiritual, moral, economic and political reform.

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

Roman Catholic Bishops published appeal on **Independence Day of Ukraine**

21 August 2014

In their appeal on the occasion of Independence Day of Ukraine Roman Catholic bishops asked for the soonest stabilization in Ukraine and for spiritual, moral and material growth.

"This year's Independence celebrations are Day held in our state in emergency conditions.

Lack of understanding and agreement between the Ukrainians and encroachments on the part of neighbors, internal strife and military operations in the country - all of those urge us to a special prayer for Ukraine, its inhabitants and neighbors.

Let us ask the Lord, through the intercession of Virgin Mary,

Queen of the World, that all who influence the fate of Ukraine, including us, may open the doors of their hearts to know the truth that frees from the snare of evil and leads to a happy life. We entrust the issues of quick stabilization in Ukraine and of the spiritual, moral and material growth to the intercession of St. Michael the Archangel", goes

the appeal signed by Archbishop Mieczyslaw Mokrzycki, Chairman of the Conference of Roman Catholic Bishops of Ukraine on August 11. The document was published by the Catholic Media Center.

http://risu.org.ua

Every nation has a natural right to live independently - Patriarch Sviatoslav Shevchuk on the Independence Day of Ukraine

21 August 2014

On August 18 UGCC head Patriarch Sviatoslav addressed the faithful the occasion of Independence Day of Ukraine. The message will be read on August

UGCC.

The statement stresses that every nation has a natural right to live independently in the Patriarch country. Sviatoslav cites the

24 in all churches of the Gospel truth that it is better to die free than live as a slave, emphasizina the fact that these words are etched in the minds of Ukrainian.

> And the hierarch urges to "see the image of



the suffering Christ in everyone who lost homes or forced to leave their land, each wounded, captured or kidnapped."

http://risu.org.ua



Letter from His Beatitude Sviatoslav Shevchuk, Head of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, on the very difficult situation in Ukraine

Thursday, 21 August 2014

To the Catholic Episcopal conferences To the World's Religious and Political Leaders To All People of Good Will

For nine months Ukrainians, have been on an arduous pilgrimage from post-Soviet fear to freedom and God-given dignity. Traumatized by twentieth century World Wars, brown and red totalitarianism and genocide, they seek a just society and a democratic, European future. With patience, endurance, and great human sacrifice they overcame in February the brutal regime of Viktor Yanukovych. This moral triumph was



answered in March by Russia's territorial annexation of Crimea. Now, for months the country endures foreign supported destabilization, separatism, and terrorist activity in the Donetsk and Luhansk Regions, in one word: war. Tragically, as became manifest in the criminal shootdown of Malasian Airlines Flight 17, the Ukrainian trial affects the global community.

All of the Churches and religious organizations of Ukraine stood together against the violence of the Yanukovych regime, the annexation of Crimea, and the division of the country. On the Maydan-Square for months, every day, and hourly in the night, in common prayer they insisted on respect of civil rights, non-violence, unity of the country, and dialogue. This civic ecumenical and inter-religious harmony and cooperation has been an important source of moral inspiration and social cohesion in Ukraine.

In annexed Crimea and in the Eastern war zone some of the Churches and religious communities have been targeted for discrimination, enduring outright violence. In Crimea the most exposed have been the Muslim Tatars. The Tatar community as a whole is in daily danger. Some of its leadership has been exiled, barred from their homeland. The existence of Greek and Roman Catholics ministries, Orthodox parishes of the Kyivan Patriarchate, and the Jewish community in Crimea has been variously menaced.

In April violence was instigated in eastern Ukraine. According to Ukrainian authorities some 1000 people, including international journalist and peace monitors, were kidnapped or detained; dozens were tortured or killed. The anti-terror operation launched by the Ukrainian government faces a foreign aggression that co-opts local rebels and local and international criminal delinquents. As a result today there are over thousand civilian casualties in the densely populated cities, with the number rising by 50 deaths or more daily, not to mention the 298 victims of MA Flight 17. The infrastructure of the cities including roads and bridges, electric substations, coal mines, and industrial installations are being destroyed to cripple the economy and future reconstruction that will become the responsibility of the Ukrainian state. Hundreds of thousands of people have been forced to flee the warfare that has been brought into the heart of the cities by the so-called separatists.

Amidst the horrors of war the tiny Ukrainian Greek and Roman Catholic minority experience oppression

(continued on next page)



Letter from His Beatitude Sviatoslav Shevchuk, Head of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, on the very difficult situation in Ukraine

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on the territories controlled by the "separatists." Three Catholic priests were kidnapped: Pawel Witek and Wiktor Wasowicz (Roman Catholic), Tykhon Kulbaka (Greek Catholic). The later was kept in captivity for 10 days and deprived of medicine he needed. The episcopal residence of the Greek Catholic bishop in Donetsk was robbed and sealed, depriving him of his chancery and all documentation. The Cathedral yard was hit by "separatist" rocket fire damaging the building and windows with shrapnel. The bishop and almost all Greek Catholic priests were forced to leave the environs of Donetsk. Armed representatives of separatist regime entered the church and desecrated the sanctuary. They "allowed" priests to stay and conduct services but put them on travel restrictions. Terrorists blackmail the clergy by threatening to harm their parishioners.

Most recently, on Saturday, August 16, the small monastery of the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate in Donetsk was seized and violated. The sisters who generously and humbly served the community and who were on a summer retreat or at summer camps for children outside of Donetsk cannot now return to their home now being used by the "separatists."

Protestants are targeted by pro-Russian terrorist groups and have suffered the gravest violence: two sons of the pastor of the Evangelical Church "Metamorphosis" Alexander Pavlenko and two deacons of that church, Victor Brodarsky and Vladimir Velichko were taken from a church service, tortured, and killed by the terrorists. Their bodies were exhumed from amass grave in Sloviansk.

Unfortunately, the beleaguered Ukrainian Catholics, Greek and Roman, faithful of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the Kyivan Patriarchate and Protestants in the east of Ukraine are further endangered by the rhetoric of the Orthodox leadership in Russia, which is becoming increasingly similar to the propaganda of Russian political authorities and media.

In recent documents issued in Moscow at the highest level of the Russian Orthodox Church, particularly in a letter to the Primates of the Orthodox Churches, Greek Catholics and the Ukrainian Orthodox of the Kyivan Patriarchate, disrespectfully called "Uniates" and "schismatics", are defamed. They are held responsible for the military conflict in Eastern Ukraine and are accused of generating the warfare, especially the violence against Orthodox clergy and faithful endured as a result of military operations. Russian Orthodox leaders spread libelous information about Greek Catholics and other confessions thereby putting them in danger from the separatist militants who identify themselves as warriors for Russian Orthodoxy.

We strongly reject these claims and accusations. The Ukrainian military is not structured as a denominational entity. Therefore, chaplains of various denominations serve in the zone of the Antiterrorist Operation. Chaplains are not permitted to interfere in the life of local religious communities. Accusations that chaplains of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church have committed acts of violence against members of other churches and religious groups are not true.

The tragedy that Ukraine is experiencing today, due to military aggression, is a tragedy for all peoples, (continued on next page)



Letter from His Beatitude Sviatoslav Shevchuk, Head of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, on the very difficult situation in Ukraine

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believers of all faiths, and all social groups. Buildings, churches and monasteries of all religious and ethnic groups are being damaged or destroyed. Clergy of all faiths who exercise their pastoral ministry in the Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts and Crimea have suffered, some risking their own lives. Two Orthodox priests who were killed in the region are among more than a thousand civilians killed during the conflict and their terrible deaths are not connected with their religious beliefs. They were accidental victims of shelling.

We pray for all the innocent victims and for peace in Ukraine. And our Church is doing everything to bring peace and alleviate the suffering of those affected by this terrible conflict.

Ukraine needs the effective support of the global Christian community and support of all people of good will. In a media context rife with propaganda we ask you to evaluate information critically. We need your prayer, your discernment, your good words and effective deeds. Silence and inaction will lead to further tragedy. The fate of MA Flight 17 is an example of what may happen if the terrorist activity is allowed to continue.

+ SVIATOSLAV Major Archbishop of Kyiv-Halych Primate of Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church

http://news.ugcc.ua

Wedding Anniversary Celebration Sunday, October 19, 2014

SAVE THE DATE: The Archeparchy of Philadelphia will be honoring the sacrament of Marriage through the Wedding Anniversary Celebration with Archbishop Stefan Soroka on Sunday, October 19, 2014 at 11:00 AM in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Philadelphia, PA. All those parishioners wishing to celebrate their wedding anniversary during that Divine Liturgy and reception, are invited to reserve that date on their calendars. A formal notice and registration will be sent out in September, 2014.



METROPOLITAN STEFAN'S SCHEDULE FOR AUGUST

- 2-6 Participated in Annual Supreme Convention of Knights of Columbus in Orlando, FL.
- Review with Realtors of the Property initiatives (purchase and sale) for development of parishes and missions in archeparchy.
- Participated in evening Moleben at annual pilgrimage at Sloatsburg, NY, sponsored by Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate.
- 9 Celebrated Hierarchical Liturgy and offered Homily at Annual Pilgrimage at Sloatsburg, NY.
- 13 Visit to potential mission property, northeast Philadelphia.
- 17 Celebrated Divine Liturgy and offered Homily in St. Andrew Chapel, Leighton, PA on occasion of Festival at Ukrainian Homestead; attended Festival concert.
- Development of promotional approach and material for new DVD, "Why do I go to church", to be implemented with clergy and laity chancery development team.
- Offered opening prayer at celebration of Ukrainian Independence at Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center, Philadelphia.
- 9:00 am Divine Liturgy and Homily at the Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of Immaculate
 Conception in gratitude and support for Independence of Ukraine.
 6:30 pm celebration of Liturgy and offer Homily, Wildwood Crest, N.J.
- Departure for 50th Wedding Anniversary celebration of dear friends, Emil & Sylvia Picklyk, Winnipeg, MB, Canada

METROPOLITAN STEFAN'S SCHEDULE FOR SEPTEMBER

- 4 Departure from Winnipeg to Lviv for Synod Meeting.
- 7-14 Synod of Ukrainian Catholic Bishops, Lviv, Ukraine
- 15 Return Travel
- 15-18 Annual Archieparchial Clergy Retreat, Long Branch, NJ.
- 19 75th Anniversary Banquet, St. Basil's College, Stamford, CT.
- Hierarchical Divine Liturgy of Thanksgiving and Symposium on occasion of 75th Anniversary of St. Basil's College, Stamford, Ct.
- 23-25 Meeting of Board of Pennsylvania Catholic Conference, Harrisburg, PA
- Gala Banquet honoring the President of Ukraine, Petro Poroshenko, sponsored by Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, Waldorf Astoria, New York City.
- 27 50th Wedding Anniversary celebration of dear friends Basil and Marika Panszak.
- 30 Meeting of Committee preparing Women's Day gatherings in Archeparchy.



September 2014 - Вересня 2014

Happy Birthday!

3 Днем народження!

September 11: Rev. Volodymyr Kostyuk September 12: Rev. Gregory Maslak September 13: Very Rev. Archpr. Mitrat Roman Mirchuk

September 15: Rev. Msgr. Myron Grabowsky

September 25: Rev. Vasyl Putera September 29: Rev. Wasyl Kharuk

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

September 20: Rev. Ruslan Romanyuk

(5th Anniversary)

September 20: Rev. Joseph Szupa

(22nd Anniversary)

September 21: Rev. Andriy Dudkevych

(19th Anniversary)

September 22: Rev. Andriy Manko, C.S.s.R.

(19th Anniversary)

September 23: Rev. Petro Zvarych

(14th 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!

Editorial and Business Office:

827 N. Franklin St. Philadelphia, PA 19123 **Telephone**: (215) 627-0143

E-mail: theway@ukrcap.org



Online: http://www.ukrarcheparchy.us

Blog: http://www.thewayukrainian.blogspot.com

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THE WAY Staff

Very Rev. Archpriest John Fields, Director of Communication;
Ms. Teresa Siwak, Editor;
Rev. Ihor Rovik, Assistant Editor

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