

Official Publication of the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia

VOL. 75 - No. 16

SEPTEMBER 7, 2014

ENGLISH VERSION

Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka offers homily on Ukrainian Independence Day

Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka offered the homily in Ukrainian and English on Ukrainian Independence Day, August 24, 2014 at the Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Philadelphia, PA and Crest Community Church Wildwood Crest, NJ. Here is the text from the Homily:

times. The apostle Peter thought he was being merciful by suggesting seven times. Jesus responds seventy times seven! In other words, our forgiveness must be unlimited. To illustrate this, Jesus tells the story of the unforgiving servant you heard of in today's Gospel.

Слава Ісусу Христу!

You and I can identify with the Apostle Peter as he journeyed and learned from the teachings of Jesus. He reveals our humanness. He reveals the weaknesses we all share. We also see how Jesus' power inspired Peter to learn and to change. It is the apostle Peter who asks Jesus how many times a person should forgive. Jewish law required three

This is the heavenly Father presented to us by Jesus, His Son. God's mercy is unlimited and unending. You and I can expect that of God. God expects the same of you and me in our relations with others. The judgment the unforgiving servant in the Gospel will be the same for you and for me if we do not forgive. Jesus says, "So will my heavenly Father do to you unless each of you forgives his brother from his heart" (Mt18:35).



Metropolitan Stefan and Rev. Joseph Szupa at the Cathedral, Philadelphia, PA.

Our forgiveness must come from the heart, not iust in words. It must be sincere and real. Jesus reveals our weak human nature when he reminds us to be patient, offering repeated forgiveness to others. We in turn need this same repeated forgiveness from others. Jesus tells us of a lovina and merciful God offers who unlimited forgiveness to you and to me.

such that we often fail others, disappoint others, offend others. The servant in today's Gospel begged for forgiveness from his master. Jesus is revealing to us, as he tells the story, the power of humility. There is a power in recognizing our errors, our sins, and admitting them to God and to those whom we have hurt. It is difficult to do with another person. It is difficult to do with

Our human condition is

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On Independence Day, Pope Francis prays for Ukraine - pg. 18

Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka offers homily on Ukrainian Independence Day

God. When we confess wrongdoings, our ur sins, especially in the Sacrament of Confession, we leave realizing the mercy of God. We leave forgiven. We leave loosened from the heaviness of our sins. At the same time, we let go of self-pity, our memories of hurts and disappointments, and the sins lying in the depths of our soul. We sometimes cling to past stored hurts and hatreds.

The power of forgiveness when it occurs in the heart is that it allows fresh air into our being. We rid ourselves of built up resentment and bitterness. We experience a sense of freedom, relief, cleanliness. We are free to be a lamp of light as a Christian.

Pope Benedict often spoke of the power of the Holy Spirit within He would ask the US. question, "What are we doing with this immense aift?" You and I are aware of this immense gift of God's mercy. Do we celebrate it in our daily life? We pray the "Our Father" and ask the Lord to "forgive us of our trespasses as we forgive (continued from previous page)

those who trespass against us". Are we striving to be as merciful as the Lord is with us? You and I are very aware of the horrific events happening in Ukraine. There is a war in eastern Ukraine with insuraents and terrorists attempting to undermine the nation. They are depriving the people of Ukraine to their determine own future. The unity and independence of a nation and its people is being undermined. Many have made areat sacrifices in defense of Ukraine and its aggressors. They are fighting for the freedoms of expression and liberty all are entitled to. Many dedicated souls have sacrificed their lives in the struggle for dignity and freedom for Ukraine.

We are very saddened by these events. We are angry. We worry for the welfare and safety of our loved ones, our family members in Ukraine. and for those on the front lines defendina Ukraine. Each of us help in whatever way we can. Many have provided for medical supplies and for the needs of Ukrainians engaged in this struggle. Even groups such as

the Knights of Columbushave helped with a \$ 100,000 for arant those suffering psychological stress at the Maidan. They are also helping in the purchase of blood clotting medical kits for humanitarian



Metropolitan Stefan and Rev. Paul Makar at Wildwood Crest, NJ. (Photo: George Cyhan)

aid in Ukraine. ZYDAK other Ukraine and welfare organizations have raised well over \$700,000 to assist in the many urgent needs in Ukraine. Our people are aenerous and responsive to the needs of our suffering brothers and sisters in Ukraine. God bless all who have so generously responded with aid.

Most importantly, we ourselves humble in prayers offered to God for Ukraine and its people. We pray to Jesus Christ for those who serve Ukraine and for their endeavors to protect Ukraine from its agaressors to Jesus Christ. We offer our prayers for the unity of a nation. We pray for peace and civility amidst

all in Ukraine and the people of neighboring countries. We ask the merciful Christ to inspire all to mutual forgiveness and greater tolerance of differences. As we continue to celebrate the Feast of the Assumption of our Blessed Mother, pray to her to we intercede with her Son, Jesus Christ for the wellbeing and success of Ukraine. We pray for her motherly protection and love to overtake all the citizens of Ukraine.

Various Ukrainian Festivals are celebrated around this date of independence of Ukraine, August 24th. It is very important that we gather in great numbers for such events. It is important



Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka offers homily on Ukrainian Independence Day

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as a means of offering encouragement for our brothers and sisters in It speaks of Ukraine. our solidarity with them. It expresses our hope for the future of Ukraine. Our gathering to celebrate our Ukrainian identity and culture also strengthens bond amidst the US here in this nation. lt enhances our pride and builds unity amidst us. Such celebrations serve to inspire the young and people of all ages of the importance of Ukrainians to gather to share hope and joy. The difficulties in Ukraine have awakened manyyoungerUkrainians, young adults and youth, to the significance of ancestral roots. their

There is a resurgence of interest in the beauty of the Ukrainian culture and its rich traditions. Our gathering together helps to inspire this amidst all Ukrainians and amidst our many dear friends and supporters. We come to realize how much we walk as one family and need one another in our journey of life.

Pope Francis emphasizes the need for each of us to search for joy in our day-to-day lives. Find joy in the details of our daily life. Choose to celebrate life. Choose to celebrate your faith. Jesus promises to us as he did to the apostles, "I have said these things to you, so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete". Being joyful is a choice, just like choosing to being and living as a forgiving person. God gives it freely. You and I choose to embrace it and live it fully. Our Ukrainian Festivals bring us joy and inspire unity amidst us.

Today and every day, examine yourself if you are revealing the merciful Christ in all of your actions. We hope for and expect God's forgiveness. Are we as merciful with others and even with ourselves? Jesus does not offer us a choice not to forgive. It

must be sincere and from the heart. Forgive from the heart and you will realize more room in your heart and mind for joy in your life. Celebrate that joy in the Lord. Celebrate rich Ukrainian vour identity and heritage with those whom God gives you in the journey of life. Let us grow in our pride and care for our brothers and sisters in Christ and for our beloved Ukraine. Let us inspire others to take greater pride in their identity as Ukrainians. Allow the grace of God to overtake you with His love to celebrate with all whom you are called to meet.

Слава Ісусу Христу!

GALA CONCERT CELEBRATES UKRAINE'S INDEPENDENCE



Organizers and special guests gathered prior to the beginning of the Gala Concert celebrating the 23rd Anniversary of the Independence of Ukraine on Saturday, August 23rd at the Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center, Philadelphia.



GALA CONCERT CELEBRATES UKRAINE'S INDEPENDENCE

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Children of the Ukrainian Nursery School "Svitlychka" under the artistic direction of Iryna Pinchuk presented various poetic greetings at the Gala Concert.



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Mr. Eugene Czolij, President of the Ukrainian World Congress delivered an inspiring and informative address to participants of the Gala Concert.

(Photos by Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka).



Soloist Ihor Sypen offered three emotional and inspiring Ukrainian songs at the Gala Concert.



Mrs. Ulana Mazurkevich served as Mistress of Ceremonies for the Gala Concert.



"Prometheus" Ukrainian Male Chorus joyfully and with vigor sang four Ukrainian patriotic songs, earning a standing ovation from those attending the Gala Concert.



Mrs. Nadia Petryk, President of the Philadelphia Branch "New Ukrainian Wave" read the letter from the Ukrainian Consulate in New York City.



Ukrainian Independence Day at the Ukrainian Catholic National Shrine of the Holy Family

Washington, D.C.— A "Vibrant" church full of parishioners and shrine visitors celebrated Ukrainian Independence Day after both Sunday Divine Liturgies with fellowship, a little good cheer, and some tasty Ukrainian picnic cuisine. This annual event at Holy Family was even more important this year because of the current crisis that many family, friends, and neighbors are enduring in Ukraine.

Volunteers from the parish prepared the food while many parishioners wore their "Ukrainian Finest" or donned various shades of blue and gold.

The event was open to everyone and without charge for anything. Free will offerings were accepted. All of the donations amounted to over \$2000 and were sent to Ukraine for Humanitarian Relief Efforts.



Fr. Robert gets a picture with Julianna Orange, Alexandra Orange, Anastacia Popil, Lazarus McCarthy, and Michael Popil.



Fr. Wasyl poses for a picture with Christine Paclawskyj.



Fr. Robert poses for a picture with Teresa Caryk.



Liturgy Parishioners enjoy some good times in the newly refurbished Fr. Shawel Room.



Liana and Adrian Pidlusky arrive via the Shrine's new elevator with son, Mark, to celebrate.





Ukraine's Twenty Third Anniversary of Independence Commemorated in Perth Amboy, NJ



On Saturday, August 23, 2014 over 100 persons of Ukrainian descent together with many others gathered at the Perth Amboy, New Jersey City Hall to raise the blue and yellow flag of Ukraine in acknowledgement, commemoration, and celebration of the 23rd anniversary of the Independence of Ukraine. Many of the attendees were dressed in the traditional and colorfully embroidered Ukrainian blouses, shirts, and dresses.

Mr. Michael Szpyhulsky, Principal of Assumption Catholic School in Perth Amboy, served as master of ceremonies. The opening prayer and remarks were offered by Reverend Ivan Turyk, Pastor of Assumption Ukrainian Catholic Church in Perth Amboy. He recalled the long time suffering that Ukrainians have endured at the hands of others, including religious persecution and the lack of human rights. Father Turyk asked those in attendance to continue to pray for peace and to reach out to American governmental representatives to do more in supporting the Ukrainian nation in its independence and in its continued quest for a free and open democracy. The Assumption Church Choir "Boyan" followed his words with the singing of "God Bless America". New Jersey State Senator Sam Thompson of the 12th District addressed the people.

Other speakers were Mr. Oleksiy Budukevych, Manager of the Perth Amboy branch of the Ukrainian National Federal Credit Union, and Mr. Alexander Gologovski, a naturalized US citizen who travels to his homeland several times each month to deliver aid to families that have suffered under horrendous conditions resulting from the conflict with mercenary rebel forces in Eastern Ukraine. He also supports activities to prevent human rights violations. Mrs. Melanie Fedynyshyn, president of St. Ann Society of Assumption Church, was keynote speaker. She reviewed the contributions that Ukrainian immigrants and Ukrainian Americans have made to the United States of America as well as to the city of Perth Amboy.



Mayor Wilda Diaz read and presented a proclamation to Reverend Turyk. A group of children dressed in traditional Ukrainian costumes offered a Ukrainian flag to be raised and flown on the City Hall Circle flag pole. Choir "Boyan" sang the Ukrainian national anthem. As the ceremony concluded the crowd sang "Bozhe Velyky Yedyny", the spiritual anthem of Ukraine, which asks for God's help in troubled times.

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Passaic Parish Commemorates Ukrainian Independence

St. Nicholas Parish in Passaic, NJ, marked the 23rd Anniversary of Ukrainian Independence in a series of activities commemorating the anniversary of Independence, and demonstrating support for our Ukrainian brethren in their ongoing struggle. The New Ukrainian Wave of Passaic co-sponsored these events with the Parish.

On Aug. 16th, the Parish and the New Ukrainian Wave cosponsored an evening with guest speaker Vakhtom Cipiani, editor of "Istorichna Pravda" Ukrainian internet news site. Mr. Cipiani spoke about current issues facing Ukraine, fielded questions from the audience, and participated in discussion afterwards.



Friday evening, August 22nd, the public was invited to a screening of the video documentary series, Babylon 13- Cinema of Civil Protest, in the St. Nicholas Parish Auditorium. Introduced by Ms. Halyna Seminiak of the New Ukrainian Wave-Passaic, film director Mr. Yuri Gruzinov spoke of his experience filming on the frontlines during the Kyiv Maydan protests and documenting the first casualties in the struggle.



After the screening, the audience processed across the road to the plaza in front of St. Nicholas Church for the lighting of the "Іскра Єдності" – Candle of Unity. This ceremony was repeated in locations throughout the Ukrainian diaspora and across the nation as a symbol of our support and solidarity with our Ukrainian brethren.

Sunday, Aug 24th after the Divine Liturgy, parishioners and guests flowed out the doors onto the church plaza to witness the ceremonial raising of the flag of independent Ukraine.

Invited guests, among them, Mayor James Anzaldi, City Councilman Peter Eagler, Congressman Robert Pascrel, and Mr. Ken Wanio, UCCA Passaic-Bergen Branch, echoed the words of Rev. Andriy Dudkevych, pastor, who in his homily spoke of the love, concern, and support for Ukraine in its current struggle against

unlawful invasion, and the need to continue the spiritual support through prayer. Afterwards, all were invited to the parish auditorium for a program of song and testimony, and refreshments.





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Honoring Ukraine's Culture and Heroes at the Ukrainian Homestead, Lehighton, PA

The 2014 Ukrainian Festival at the Ukrainian Homestead of ODWU, Inc. celebrated Ukrainian song, dance, music, and culture and honored the heroes of the Ukrainian Revolution of Dignity (Maidan protests). This year's festival was held August 16-17, 2014 in Lehighton, PA. Performers at the Festival included the Karpaty Folk Song and Dance Ensemble from New York City, Violinist Innesa Tymochko-Dekajlo from Lviv, Ukraine, the Kazka Ukrainian Folk Ensemble from Schuylkill County, PA and the Dobriansky Brothers Vocal Ensemble of New York City. Accordionist Walt Syzonenko provided music for the evening zabava (dance) on Saturday. In addition to the stage entertainment, there was a variety of vendors with traditional crafts and gift items as well as plenty of delicious Ukrainian and American foods. Divine Liturgy was celebrated by Metropolitan Stefan Soroka in St. Andrew's chapel on the festival grounds on Sunday at 11 AM.



St. Andrew's chapel. (Photo: Alexander Prociuk)



The Dobriansky Brothers Vocal Ensemble. (Photo: Alexander Prociuk)



Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka offers the opening prayer at the Festival. (Photo: Christine Syzonenko)



Kazka Ukrainian Folk Ensemble. (Photo: Christine Syzonenko)





Sunday before the Exaltation of the Cross - September 7, 2014

The Lord said: "No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven—the Son of Man. Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him." For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. (Jn. 3, 13-17)

On the Sunday which precedes the great and important feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross (September 14), our Church prescribes a portion of Saint Paul's letter to the Galatians (6:11-18)

and a few short verses from Saint John's Gospel (3: 13-17) for our reflection and spiritual consideration.

Saint Paul tells his readers that the cross of Christ is what gives his life focus and perspective. At the time Saint Paul wrote to the Galatians there were individuals in the community forcing pagan converts to follow the old Jewish practices which they then bragged about having the converts observe. Saint Paul corrects these individuals and tells them that what really matters is having been made new all over again in Christ through His cross. The Cross opened again the gates of Paradise closed by Adam's sin when he ate the forbidden fruit. The tree of the cross stands forever as the sign of God's great love for fallen mankind.

The text taken from Saint John's Gospel emphasizes that great love. Saint John writes, "God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him may not perish but may have everlasting life." This short verse (3: 16) is often quoted. Sometimes you may see it on T-shirts, in sports arenas and other public places. It is a stirring reminder that our Creator did not abandon us to perdition but kept His promise to send a Redeemer Who came in the Person of His own Son, Jesus - our Lord.

Verse 16, however, must be linked with the dramatic and challenging words of our Lord recorded further on in Saint John's Gospel (15:13): "There is no greater love than this - to lay down one's life for one's friends." Here Jesus talks about what He would do for us when He was nailed to His cross - there to give His life that we might have life.

The feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross marks the occasion of its discovery by Saint Helen, mother of Emperor Constantine in the early fourth century. In our churches, a cross is prominently displayed after solemn ceremony on the tetrapod decorated with arrangements of beautiful flowers to remind us, as Saint Paul did the Galatians, of the proper focus we must keep as we. walk behind our Lord bearing the burdens, the hurts, the disappointments, the suffering and sad-ness which can be and is sometimes part of our human condition.

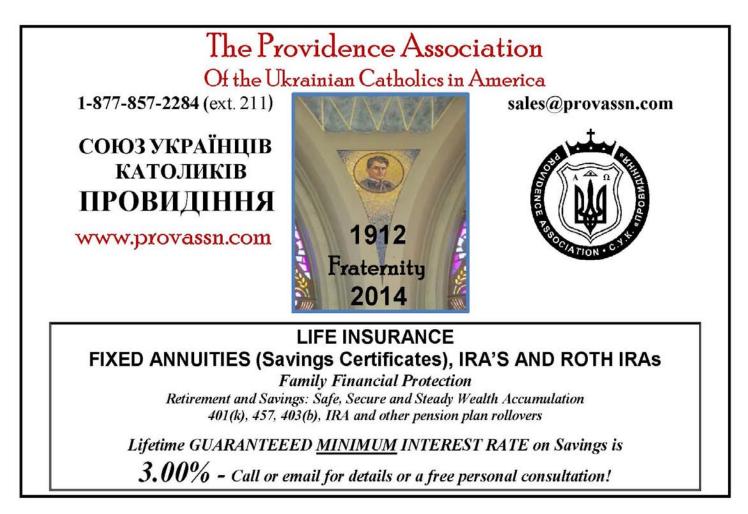


Sunday before the Exaltation of the Cross

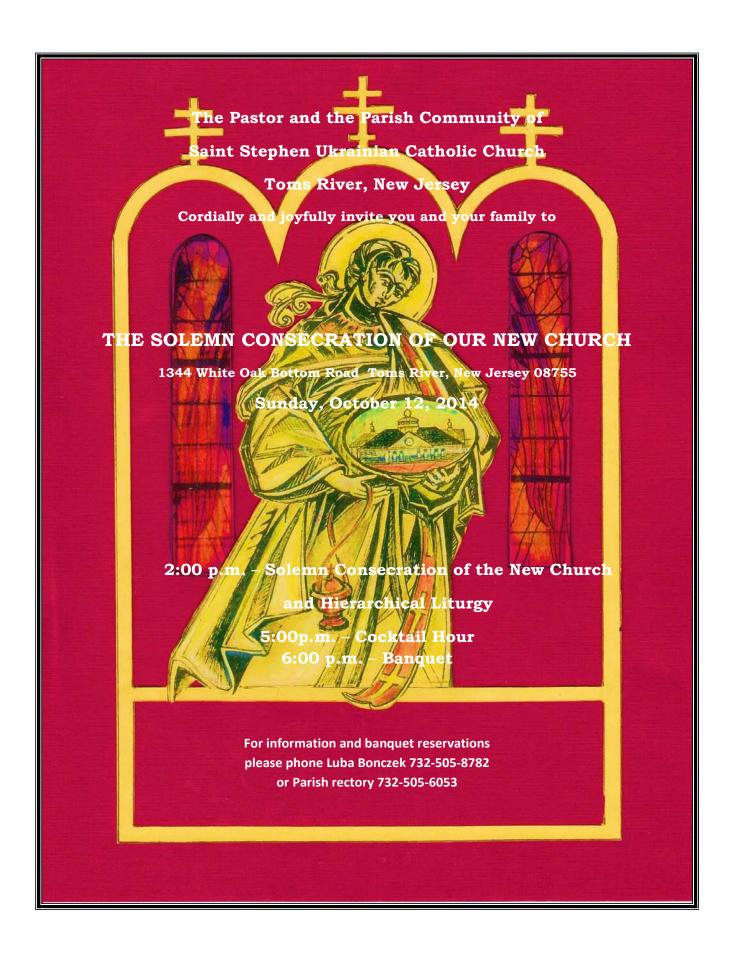
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Our Church also reminds us that behind the darkness of the cross shines a bright promise and hope of the new life gained by it because Jesus gave His life for us: Come, 0 people, let us contemplate the marvelous wonder; let us bow before the power of the Cross. For the tree of Paradise gave rise to the reign of death, and now a Tree has made our life blossom forth when the sinless Savior was nailed upon it. And now, all the nations that are nourished by this incorruptible food sing praises: You destroyed death by Your cross and set us free. O Lord, glory to You. (Veneration hymn at Matins)

The cross is venerated for eight days during which the troparion, "We bow to Your Cross, O Lord, and we glorify Your holy resurrection" is sung at all Services. Cross and Resurrection are never separated. Although the cross meant death, by His death Jesus brought and bought us unending life. May we live our lives to merit and gain life eternal. (By Msgr. John T. Sekellick)









"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" (Jn 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.



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 Reconc	iliation (Confession)	Monastery Grounds		
10 am	Rosary	Mothers in Prayer	Holy Trinity Chapel		
11 am	Procession		From Basilian Spirituality Center		
	Hierarchical Divin	e Liturgy (Bilingual)	Faculty House Auditorium		
	Celebrant:	Most Rev. Metropolitan - Ar	chbishop Stefan Soroka		
		Ukrainian Catholic Hierarch	y of the U.S.		
	Homilist:	Very Rev. Archpriest Ivan K	Kaszczak		
	Choir: 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	Rosary	Mothers in Prayer	Shrine: Our Lady of Pochayiv		
3:45 pm	Blessing of Religio	us Articles	Shrine: Our Lady of Pochayiv		
4 pm - 5 pm	Moleben/Mystery	of Holy Anointing (Bilingual)	Shrine		
	Celebrant:	Ukrainian Bishops and Conc	oncelebrating Clergy		
	Homilist: Very Rev. Archpriest Ivan Kaszczak				
	Choir:	Ukrainian Catholic National	Shrine of the Holy Family,		
		Washington, D.C			
5 pm	Blessing of Cars a	nd Buses	Parking Lot		
		Sisters of the Order of Saint I	Basil the Great		
		710 Fox Chase Roa Fox Chase Manor, PA	ad		
		Phone: 215.379.3998 Fax: 2	15.780.1743		
	E-mai	il: development@stbasils.com W	eb: www.stbasils.com		







On October 19, 2014 at 11:00AM in the Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Archbishop Stefan Soroka will be joining with our married faithful in a Divine Liturgy honoring Married Life. We invite all of our married faithful wishing to celebrate their wedding anniversary in this very special way to come and join in the celebration! It will be a celebration of their love and commitment to each other in the holy state of Matrimony and a witness to the world of their commitment to life.

The Divine Liturgy on October 19, 2014 will provide the opportunity to renew their wedding vows, to gather with other believers in a spirit of love, witness and commitment, followed by a dinner with the Archbishop.

Archpriest Daniel Troyan Office of Evangelization Archeparchy of Philadelphia

Deadline for Registration is October 5, 2014.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION October 19, 2014

Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

We invite all our married faithful to join with our Metropolitan Archbishop Stefan Soroka at our Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral October 19, 2014 for the celebration of their Wedding Anniversaries at a Divine Liturgy at 11:00AM followed by a Banguet in their honor.

Registration Form:	
Husbands Name	
Wife's Name	
Address	
Parish	
Email	Years Married
Number of Guests	

Deadline for Registration October 5, 2014

Cost: \$50.00 pe	r Anniversary Couple	\$30.00 Per Guest

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Mail to:	Office for Evang	gelization 827 I	N Franklin	Street Philad	elphia PA19123
Make ch	ecks payable to	Archeparchy of	f Philadelp	hia.	

UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC ARCHEPARCHY OF PHILADELPHIA

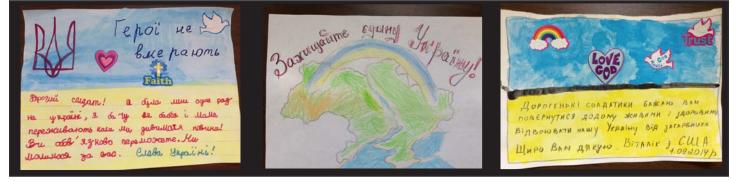




Children's drawings to support Ukrainian soldiers.

On Sunday, August 31, 2014, Assumption of the **Blessed Virgin Mary Parish** in Perth Amboy, NJ and the Ukrainian Women's Association (135 Dept.) sponsored a special day for children dedicated for "Peace and Security in Ukraine through the eves of children". Our youngest parishioners wrote letters for peace and drew heartbreaking support pictures to Ukrainian soldiers who are fighting separatists in eastern Ukraine. All drawings and letters will be sent to the war zone in Ukraine to specific military units.







North Anthracite Deanery holds Youth Gathering

The North Anthracite Deanery Youth Gathering took place on August 21, 2014 at Lackawanna State Park in Dalton, PA. Fr. Daniel Troyan presented a small workshop, which was followed by lunch and games.

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Nanticoke Parish Celebrates the Feast of the Transfiguration

Holy Transfiguration parish of Nanticoke, Pa. celebrated the Feast of the Holy Transfiguration on August 10.

Rev. Volodymyr Popyk celebrated the Divine Liturgy on Sunday morning with the responses sung by the Holy Year Choir under the direction of Dr. Richard Barno.

A luncheon was held at the church hall which was donated and catered by Gerard Rentko. A special presentation on the history of the parish was given by Sister Martin (Rodko) of the Missionary Sisters of the Mother of God. Accompanying Sister Martin was Sister Thomas. The festivities were enjoyed by all.



Photo (I to r): Helen Lipowski, Nicholas Placek, Lisa Placek, Jerry Adamczyk, Joan Skordy, Peter Slota, and John Hoolick.

Youth from Downingtown, PA visit the Cathedral



The Director of Youth Ministry at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Downingtown, Pa., Ken Chrusch brings young people from the Downingtown area for a visit to the Immaculate Conception Cathedral on the Feastday of the Dormition on August 15. Ken Chrusch who has Ukrainian Catholic ancestry enjoys sharing the spirtuality and traditions of the Greek Catholic Church with those who may have never been exposed to the Eastern Catholic Church. The group received a tour of the Cathedral and Shroud of Turin reproduction by Deacon Charles Schultz and Sister Timothea Konyu, MSMG and prayed a specially prepared decade of the Rosary with accompanying prayers followed by a hymn to the Mother of God. Afterwards, the young people enjoyed a tour of the

Treasury of Faith Museum before their departure. Visiting the Cathedral on August 15 has become an annual site of Pilgrimage for Ken Chrusch and a number of youth from the Downingtown area.

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

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 proups to artists and seminarians. Samples of his iconography are available online at <u>http://www.nb.net/~pearson</u> 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.

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H 1	10:00AM - 5:00PM Registration 10:00AM - 5:00PM Hospitality Room Open					Concernant of	CONTENTION			
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2					he Mother of God followed by Panachida	E-mail				
_				urch of the Protection of the BVM Church		E-mail				
		11:45AM - 10:30AM Goffee Break 10:30AM Coffee Break 10:30AM Coffee Break 10:30AM - 11:30AM "We Are Called to be Living Icons" a workshop presented by Cheryl Pituch, Iconographer 11:45AM - 1:00PM Lunch 1:00PM - 3:00PM Scenic tour of the fall foliage and the National Johnstown Flood Memorial 4:30PM - 6:00PM Divine Liturgy at SL John the Baptist with the Most Rev. Bishop John Bura 6:00PM Cash Bar begins			Council LUC Member O Guest O					
					All addresses and e-mails will be included in a directory, unless you check here.					
		2	1:00PM - 3:00PM Scenic to and the N		f the fall foliage onal Johnstown Flood Memorial		Please indicate the num	ber of tickets ne tal amount encl		event
	irday,	ê			gy at St. John the Baptist with		Event	Price	Number	Cost
		3			v. Bishop John Bura		Registration	\$15.00		
						Friday	Welcome Party	\$27.00		1
	6:30PM - 11:00PM Banquet					Saturday	Moleben, Icon Workshop, Brunch			
					eaker - Very Rev. Fr. Mark Morozowich osie & the Jammers		and Bus Tour of Area	\$30.00		
		_	Music	7 - 10	osie & the jammers		Banquet	\$45.00	-	N
						Sunday	Brunch	\$23.00		-
			1	_			Total Package	\$140.00		1
		S:30AM Leave h		8:30AM Leave hotel for church	35	Tota	Amount	Enclosed	3	
Revis	sed June 3	0, 20	14	Sunday, October 12th	9:00AM Divine Liturgy at St. John the Baptist Church 10:15AM Return to Hotel 12:00PM Brunch and Farewell At Anthony's Restaurant	an DEADLINE A	ease send Registration Form d make check payable to: FOR RESERVATIONS AND PAYM NO RESERVATION WILL BE ACC any questions contact: Jean Krasulski (one: 1 (814) 535 - 2634 dr e-mail Jean	P.O. B Revloc, PA ENT FOR EVEN EPTED AT THI 606 Maple Avenue	E CONVENTIO	4 4BER 15, 201 DN 15901



On Independence Day, Pope Francis prays for Ukraine

Sunday, 24 August 2014

On Sunday, August 24,2014, after saying the prayer "Angelus Domini" with thousands of pilgrims who gathered on St. Peter's Square in the Vatican, Pope Francis greeted Ukraine with its Independence Day. Just as he mentioned Ukraine, his words were interrupted with long applauses by all present there.

"Dear Brothers and Sisters, today my thoughts in a special way flow to the beloved land of Ukraine which today is celebrating its national holiday, to



all of its sons and daughters, to their strivings for peace and tranquility which are being threatened by the tense situation and conflict which does bear signs of decreasing, causing much suffering among the civil population. We entrust the whole country to the Lord Jesus and the Holy Mother of God and pray together, first of all, for the victims, for their families, and for all who are suffering. I received a letter from one bishop who relates all of this grief and distress. Let us pray together to the Blessed Mother of God for this beloved land of Ukraine on the day of its national holiday!"

The pope together with thousands of pilgrims present at St. Peter's Square, said the prayer "Hail Mary" ending it with the words "Mary, Queen of Peace, pray for us!"

Courtesy of Radio Vatican Site

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

His Beatitude Sviatoslav on Independence Day: "I urge all of you to believe in God and Ukraine"

Tuesday, 26 August 2014

We should believe in Ukraine, in the strength of our country, and the wealth of our land. But we will only be able to live in freedom on this land if we will not be egotists. When for the sake of personal gains, we will not put our brethren into dungeons. When we will learn how to share gifts, be concerned about the situation of our brethren, able to forgive and be forgiven.

This was stated by the Father and Head of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church, His Beatitude Sviatoslav, during his sermon to the faithful in the Patriarchal Cathedral of the Resurrection of Christ, today on August 24th, the 23rd anniversary of the Independence of Ukraine. On this day in the churches of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church, the faithful pray for our free and independent Motherland and implore the Lord God to bless it.

"This holiday is on the one side a civil one, a national one, and from another side-- a deeply religious one. Because today, standing before the Face of God, we should ask ourselves what we should do in order to hold on to this gift of God," asks the Primate of the Church for all to consider.

According to His Beatitude Sviatoslav, on this day we begin to understand what it means to us to have the gift of independence, the gift of freedom, the gift

(continued on next page)



SEPTEMBER 7, 2014

His Beatitude Sviatoslav on Independence Day: "I urge all of you to believe in God and Ukraine"

(continued from previous page)

of dignity, the gift of life. He invites each one of us to ask ourselves the "God, what question: will I return to the Lord for what He gave me?" And today, the Lord says to each one of us: "in order to hold on to the aift of independence, to mature in it, let us share with our fellow men everything that we have," says the preacher.

"Today I want to appeal to each one of you, every resident of Ukraine, every person of goodwill – to believe in God and Ukraine," emphasized the Major Archbishop.

In talking about the national flag, His Beatitude **Sviatoslav** noted, that when we look at this symbol, we see in it the union of heaven and earth. "The sky is the God that looks over us, from the heavenly blue sky. And the land, is the land that brings forth great harvests only then, when God's blessing rests on it," said he.

"Today, let us thank the Lord God for the gift of freedom, for the gift of



a dignified life. But let us also beseech Him that we be able to hold on to this gift and share it with others," invoked the Church Primate each one of us.

UGCC Department of Information

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

His Beatitude Sviatoslav blesses the Monument of the Heavenly Hundred in Kyiv

25 August 2014

On the 23rd anniversary of the independence of Ukraine, the Father and Head of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church, His Beatitude Sviatoslav blessed a Memorial Cross of the Heavenly Hundred near the interconfessional Church of St. Mykola the Miracle Worker at the National Technical University of Ukraine.



"This Cross," said His Beatitude Sviatoslav, "we blessed to honor the Heavenly Hundred. Because the Heavenly Hundred through their death became victorious. And today, this is no longer the only Heavenly Hundred. Our young people, students, who gave up their lives, in this act of self-sacrifice overcame the enemy." "May their sacrifice on Independence Day be a call for reconciliation, so that we are able to embrace one another, to surmount all difficulties and divisions which hinder us to build a consolidated society. The Heavenly Hundred is



His Beatitude Sviatoslav blesses the Monument of the Heavenly Hundred in Kyiv

(continued from previous page)

composed of representatives of many countries. The first victims were the sons of Belarus and Georgia. May the call of the Heavenly Hundred be for us today an appeal for our internal Ukrainian unity.

And may this call also be a call for freedom since in order to give one's life for one's country, one has to be free," emphasized the Major Archbishop.

He asked that we beseech Our Savior to"grant us peace in our country, a victory over our enemies, and the strength of a fraternal union." "And may the Blessed Virgin Mary, who stood beneath the Cross, sacrificing her son, serve as an example for every mother who today holds the life of her sons in her hands and prays for their life and a better future," stated his Beatitude Sviatoslav. The Church Head greeted all with Independence Day. He also thanked all who contributed towards the building of the interconfessional Church of St. Mykola the Miracle Worker and noted its importance.

Among the participants at the Blessing of the Memorial Cross of the Heavenly Hundred, were representatives of various confessions and Churches, renowed Ukrainian writers, poets, KPT directors, students and faculty, community activists and government representatives. Before the Blessing, UGCC Head celebrated a public prayer to the Blessed Mother, beseeching our Heavenly Intercessor for peace in Ukraine.

http://news.ugcc.ua

Auxiliary Bishop Jan Sobilo: To Win the War, Ukraine Should Fast and Pray

4 September 2014

In his interview to Radio Maria Bishop Jan Sobilo mentioned the outrage of Catholics in the area of Anti-Terror Operation: the rest of the country continues a normal life of entertainment, as if nothing is happening in Ukraine. The bishop said that it is a completely inadequate response. In his opinion, Ukraine should urgently abandon ordinary life and begin to fast and pray. "It's as if the Titanic is sinking, people in neighborhood play music and have fun."

Bishop Jan also spoke about the Roman Catholic Church in the territory of ATO. In the occupied cities churches are open, but the Masses are not held due to danger. In Kramatorsk the Church of the Holy Spirit was damaged during the fighting.

In cities under the control of military mercenaries currently there are no priests. They are visiting the parishes, where there is an opportunity to celebrate Mass.

In Mariupol Roman Catholics are actively involved in defending the city against a possible attack by Russian troops.



http://risu.org.ua

SEPTEMBER 7, 2014



Western nations should act against Russian aggression, says nuncio in Ukraine

5 September 2014

Archbishop Thomas Gullickson, the apostolic nuncio in Ukraine, called upon the West to act against the persecution of Christians in Iraq and Russian aggression in Ukraine.

The prelate told journalist Andrea Gagliarducci that it is important that "we do not become insensitive to the plight of others and especially to that of our Catholic brothers and sisters around the world."

Archbishop Gullickson added that he has "seen so much positive growth and will for good in Ukraine



over the last half year, that I would recommend more decisive involvement by the West in opposition to Russian aggression."

"We owe people more than an after-the-fact aid intervention to bind up wounds and restore essential services destroyed by an aggressor; we owe them more than a belated salvage operation, if you will," he said.

http://risu.org.ua

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Articles and photos proposed for publication should be in the Editor's office at least two weeks before requested date of publication. For advance notice of the upcoming events, kindly send one month in advance. All articles must be submitted in both English and Ukrainian languages, THE WAY will not translate proposed articles. All materials submitted to THE WAY become the property of THE WAY.

SEPTEMBER 7, 2014

