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His Beatitude Sviatoslav Shevchuk Celebrates Hierarchical Divine Liturgy at the Cathedral in Philadelphia, PA on November 15, 2015



(Photo: Teresa Siwak)

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His Beatitude Sviatoslav Shevchuk visits Ukrainian Catholic Seminary in Washington, DC



Photo Caption: Center: Patriarch Sviatoslav Shevchuk; Back l-r: Fr. Vsevolod Shevchuk, Fr. Wasyl Kharuk, Fr. Raphael Strontstitsky MSU, Bishop John Bura, Metropolitan Stefan Soroka, Fr. Robert Hitchens, Fr. Mark Morozowich, and Fr. Roman Sverdan; Front l-r: Seminarians Andrew Perrong, Bohdan Vasylyv, Martin Nagy, Carlos Batiz, Philip Gilbert, and Alex Bricki. (Photo: St. Josaphat Seminary)

Washington, DC – Patriarch Sviatoslav began his pastoral visit to the United States to participate in the solemn dedication of the new monument commemorating the Ukrainian Famine on Thursday afternoon with his arrival to Dulles International airport.

Metropolitan Stefan Soroka, Archbishop of Philadelphia, welcomed him at a dinner held at

St. Josaphat Seminary later that evening.

On Friday morning, Patriarch Sviatoslav celebrated the Divine Liturgy in the chapel of St. Josaphat Seminary. He was joined by Metropolitan Stefan Soroka; Bishop John Bura, auxiliary bishop of Philadelphia; Fr. Robert Hitchens, rector; Fr. Wasyl Kharuk, spiritual director,

Fr. Raphael Strontstitsky MSU, graduate studies at Catholic University; Fr. Roman Sverdan, personal assistant to the Metropolitan; and Fr. Vsevolod Shevchuk, pastor of Holy Ghost, Akron, Ohio. The liturgy was sung by the seminarians.

Later in the evening, Patriarch Sviatoslav attended the opening of

the Ukrainian Famine/Holodomor Exhibit to officially begin the US observances commemorating the Famine.

St. Josaphat seminary was founded in September 1941 and serves all four eparchies in the USA. Since then, it has trained many priests who have served in the United States, Canada,

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His Beatitude Sviatoslav Shevchuk visits Ukrainian Catholic Seminary in Washington, DC

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and Ukraine. Some were chosen as bishops and have served our church in the United States and Ukraine. Among them are Cardinal Husar and the current Metropolitan of the USA, Archbishop Stefan Soroka, as well as, Bishop Richard Seminack, Bishop Bohdan Danylo, and Bishop John Bura.

This year there are seven

seminarians studying at St. Josaphat Seminary. The seminarians come from various regions of the USA, some other countries and from diverse ethnic backgrounds. One seminarian was born in Ukraine, one was born in Mexico, one is from Brazil, one is from California, two are from Arizona, two are from Pennsylvania, and one is

from New Jersey.

The Ukrainian Catholic Church in the United States attracts faithful people from different races, ethnicities, and even other faith traditions. St. Josaphat Seminary has the mission to prepare men who will serve as priests in a Church that not only has people from Ukraine or descendants

of those from Ukraine, but also has people who come from many places around the world. Just as our Ukrainian Catholic Church is a "Global Church" so too is the composition of the faithful of our Ukrainian Catholic Church in the United States in many parishes across the country.

Dedication ceremony of the Ukrainian-Famine Genocide (Holodomor) Memorial takes place in Washington D.C.



Ukrainian Catholic Bishops pose with His Beatitude Sviatoslav in front of the Holodomor Memorial in Washington, DC. (Photo: Olia Kuzewycz)

On Saturday, November 7th, 2015, in the heart of Washington, D.C. the solemn dedication of the Holodomor Memorial was held. The Holodomor occurred in

Ukraine in 1932-33. Thousands of Ukrainians from America and Canada along with numerous friends of Ukraine travelled to the

Memorial and were witnesses of this historic event.

From the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church the following took part at

this sorrowful and at the same time solemn event: His Beatitude Sviatoslav, Head of the UGCC; Archbishop Stefan

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Dedication ceremony of the Ukrainian-Famine Genocide (Holodomor) Memorial takes place in Washington D.C.

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Soroka of Philadelphia, Metropolitan of Ukrainian Catholics in the USA; Bishop Paul Chomnycky, OSBM, Eparch of Stamford; Bishop Bohdan Danylo, Eparch of Parma; Bishop John Bura, Auxiliary Bishop for the Philadelphia Archeparchy; Bishop Basil Losten, Bishop-Emeritus of the Stamford Eparchy and numerous clergy and faithful.

The guest of honor, Maryna Poroshenko, wife of the President of Ukraine, presented a video address from Peter Poroshenko, the President of Ukraine.

Participants during the solemnities included: Congressman Sander Levin, author of legislation in the USA which allowed the Government of Ukraine to place this Memorial on federal land in the District of Columbia; Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur, special aide to the President of the USA, a Charles Kupchan, Senior Director of the Russia and

Central Asia National Security Council, who read the official address from the White House. Michael Sawkiw, Head of the U.S. Holodomor Committee for Ukrainian Holodomor Awareness 1932-33; Larysa Kurylas, designer of the Holodomor Memorial project; survivors of the Holodomor along with spiritual, cultural, and community representatives.

During the ceremony video addresses were given by Chuck Schumer and Rob Portman, as well as addresses from the former U.S. President George Bush, and from candidates for President of the United States: the former Secretary of State Hilary Clinton, Governor Jeb Bush, and Senator Mark Rubio.

Department of Information UGCC

Info provided by Embassy of Ukraine in USA

Translation, The Way



Michael Sawkiw gave opening remarks (Photo: Teresa Siwak)



Congressman Sander Levin (Photo: Teresa Siwak)



Listening to speeches during the ceremony. (Photo: Teresa Siwak)

Watch videos on our You Tube Channel at <https://www.youtube.com/user/thewayukrainian/videos>

Dedication ceremony of the Ukrainian-Famine Genocide (Holodomor) Memorial takes place in Washington D.C.

(Photos: Teresa Siwak)



His Beatitude Sviatoslav blesses the Memorial
NOVEMBER 22, 2015

During the Panachyda

President Petro Poroshenko about the opening of the Memorial to Victims of Holodomor in Ukraine in 1932-1933 in Washington: Not a single problem can defeat our people

07 November 2015

The Memorial to Victims of Holodomor in Ukraine in 1932-1933 was opened in Washington today. The President called it a historic event, which is a true evidence of victory of truth over lies, good over evil.

“Right here and now, due to the joint efforts of the Ukrainian community in America and the Ukrainian state, the Memorial is being opened in Washington in order to become another evidence of the fact that our nation cannot be overcome by any troubles, any malicious intentions of foes, for Ukrainians strive for truth, freedom, democracy and peace on their land and in their country,” Petro Poroshenko noted in his address.

The President called it symbolic that the majestic monument was opened

on the anniversary of the October Revolution and on the first year of validity of Ukrainian laws on decommunization and state recognition of heroes of national liberation movements, as well as in the period when Ukrainians defend their sovereignty and independence again.

“The Memorial in Washington is being opened when Ukraine is defending its independence, overcoming obstacles and rebuffing the aggression of Russia. Again, as in times of Holodomor, Kremlin is trying to wipe Ukraine off the map. Death is coming from the East once again,” he said.



On November 7, at the Holodomor Memorial Dedication in Washington, DC, Ukrainian President's wife Maryna Poroshenko introduced a video message by her husband Petro Poroshenko (Photo: Donna Michaels)

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President Petro Poroshenko about the opening of the Memorial to Victims of Holodomor in Ukraine in 1932-1933 in Washington: Not a single problem can defeat our people

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The President emphasized, that Holodomor had been the most dreadful crime against humanity in peaceful time. It was an attempt to put Ukrainians down on their knees, destroy national identity, kill hope for the right to create one's own fate on the native land.

"In this way, the empire tried to ruin the very foundations of a freedom-loving nation, undermine our spiritual culture and ethnic identity. But I am deeply convinced that just as 80 years ago, any Moscow's power is unable to put Ukrainians down on their knees and force them abandon the idea of Freedom, Independence, Dignity and Unity," the Head of State said.

Petro Poroshenko particularly noted everyone whose work facilitated the beginning of the activity of the U.S. Commission on the research of the Ukrainian Famine of 1932-1933 and the recognition of Holodomor as a genocide of the Ukrainian nation by the parliaments of many countries, including the U.S. Congress.

"They tried to keep Holodomor a secret. They tried to wipe out even the smallest parts of memory of it. But they failed! At the beginning of the 1980th, thousands of Americans of Ukrainian origin united to tell the truth about Holodomor. At that time, Kremlin considered it wiped off completely. Today is a wonderful opportunity to thank everyone involved in the creation and activity of the Commission," the President noted.

He particularly noted executive director of the Commission James Mace. "He is a great American and a great Ukrainian. One of the most prominent researchers of Holodomor. One of those called men of truth. Tireless knight of truth told the bitter truth about the events of the 1930th in Ukraine to the entire world, as well as to Ukraine itself," Petro Poroshenko stressed.

The President recalled the work of Robert Conquest "The Harvest of Sorrow", which "put an end to falsifications of Soviet-Russian regime about Holodomor".

The Head of State expressed gratitude to the President and Government of the United States, to the friendly American people for their solidarity and to the Ukrainian community of the United States for supporting their historic Homeland.



President's wife Maryna Poroshenko delivered a speech at the opening of the Memorial to Victims of Holodomor in Ukraine in 1932-1933 in Washington. (Photo: Teresa Siwak)

<http://www.president.gov.ua/en/news/zhodnim-liholittiam-ne-zdolati-nash-narod-prezident-pro-vidk-36266>

HIS BEATITUDE SVIATOSLAV PRAYS IN AMERICA FOR THE VICTIMS OF THE HOLODOMOR



His Beatitude at Ukrainian Catholic National Shrine of the Holy Family in Washington, DC. (Photo: Yaromyr Oryshkevych, DDS)

On Sunday, November 8, 2015, His Beatitude Sviatoslav Shevchuk, Father and Head of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, celebrated a Divine Liturgy at the Ukrainian Catholic National Shrine of the Holy Family in Washington, D.C. for the victims of the man-made famine, Holodomor-Genocide in Ukraine from 1932-33. The concelebrants who also prayed with His Beatitude Sviatoslav were: Archbishop Stefan Soroka of Philadelphia, Metropolitan of Ukrainian Catholics in the USA, Bishop Paul Chomnycky, Eparch of Stamford, Bishop Bohdan Danylo, Eparch of Parma, Bishop John Bura, Auxiliary Bishop for the Philadelphia Archeparchy and Ambassador for the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Washington, D.C., and Bishop Basil Losten, Bishop-Emeritus of the Stamford Eparchy. The Seminarians from the Ukrainian Catholic Seminary of St. Josaphat in Washington, D.C. were the altar servers during the Liturgy. The National Shrine Choir under the direction of Stepan Shyshka had sung the responses.

In his homily, His Beatitude Sviatoslav drew personal attention to the need of nourishing our hope in God, even in the most critical and hopeless situations in life. In his closing words, His Beatitude sincerely thanked the faithful of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church who attended in great numbers this Hierarchical Divine Liturgy from our various parishes in Pennsylvania, New York, Connecticut, Maryland and others.

The Divine Liturgy was attended by Michael Sawkiw, Head of the Committee for Ukrainian Holodomor Genocide Awareness here in America and Director of the Department of Information for the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, and Larysa Kurylas, designer of the Holodomor-Genocide Memorial, "Wheat Field." The dedication of the Holodomor Memorial was held on November 7th in the heart of Washington, D.C. Both are active members of the National Shrine of the Holy Family Parish. After

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HIS BEATITUDE SVIATOSLAV PRAYS IN AMERICA FOR THE VICTIMS OF THE HOLODOMOR

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the Divine Liturgy His Beatitude thanked them for their devoted work in organizing the Memorial events commemorating the victims of the man-made famine Holodomor-Genocide in Ukraine from 1932-33 here at the capital of the United States and presented them each with a commemorative medal on the occasion of the 150th anniversary of the birth of the venerable Metropolitan Andrew Sheptytsky

At the end of the Divine Liturgy, the wife of the President of Ukraine, Maryna Podoshenko welcomed all those in attendance in the National Shrine Parish hall. She was accompanied by Valeriy Chaly, Ambassador to Ukraine in the USA. In her speech Maryna Podoshenko thanked the Ukrainian community for their solidarity and numerous participation in the Memorial collections and the fostering of national and religious traditions in the Diaspora.

After lunch at the Lisner Auditorium at George Washington University there was a commemorative concert, at which His Beatitude Sviatoslav took part along with other hierarchs of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in America.

Повідомив о. Рафаїл Стронціцький
Translation, The Way



The First Lady of Ukraine, Maryna Poroshenko addressing the over 570 people in attendance at the Ukrainian Catholic National Shrine of the Holy Family in Washington, DC. Looking on are Jude Bohdan Futey, Metropolitan Stefan Soroka, Bishops John Bura, Bohdan Danylo (Parma) and Paul Chomnycky (Stamford). (Photo: Anne S Kerda)

An initiative of the leading religious organizations and Ukrainian civil society on boosting U.S. humanitarian support of Ukraine was launched in Washington, DC

On November 9, 2015, representatives of the Ukrainian Council of Churches and Religious Organizations – Patriarch of Kyiv and all Ukraine Filaret, Head of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church Sviatoslav Shevchuk, Chief Rabbi of Ukraine Jacob Bleich, together with official representatives of Ukraine – Ambassador of Ukraine to the U.S. Valeriy Chaly and



Photo: <http://usa.mfa.gov.ua>

Deputy Head of Presidential Administration Rostyslav Pavlenko, under coordination of the President of U.S.-Ukraine Foundation Nadia McConnell and with the participation of Archbishop of Philadelphia Stefan Soroka met with representatives of the White House and the U.S. Department of State to discuss the issues of increasing U.S. support of Ukraine, particularly in the humanitarian sphere.

From the U.S. side, participants included Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director for European Affairs Dr. Charles Kupchan, Special Assistant to the President for Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships Melissa Rogers, National Security Council Director for Eastern Europe Elizabeth Zentos, NSC Director for Ukraine Eric Ciaramella, NSC Director for Humanitarian and Crisis Response Christine Gottschalk, Policy Advisor for Europe and Eurasia in the Secretary of State's Office of Religion and Global Affairs Dr. Jennifer Wistrand.

Representatives of Ukraine stressed the importance of strengthening the U.S. support in countering Russian aggression and overcoming its consequences, particularly as concerns assistance to internally displaced persons, rebuilding the destroyed infrastructure and support to the most vulnerable.

They handed to the representatives of the U.S. Administration a letter to President Barack Obama calling for stronger military, financial and political support and assistance in the humanitarian sphere.

The parties agreed to cooperate in the realization of this ambitious project.

<http://usa.mfa.gov.ua>

NOVEMBER 22, 2015

Ukrainian Catholic patriarch visits Minersville students

BY JOHN E. USALIS

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MINERSVILLE — It was a joyful and historic time on Tuesday as the patriarch of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church visited St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church in Minersville and met with the children of the parish school.

His Beatitude Sviatoslav Shevchuk, native of Ukraine, is the spiritual leader of Ukrainian Catholics around the world and is the archbishop of the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Kiev, Ukraine. He is visiting the United States and spent the day visiting Ukrainian Catholic churches in Schuylkill, Northumberland and Columbia counties, with his first stop being the longest as he enjoyed a program by the students of St. Nicholas School, located near the church.



His Beatitude Sviatoslav Shevchuk speaks at St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church, Minersville on November 10, 2015. (Photo: NICK MEYER)

The patriarch was visiting the area with Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka, archbishop of the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia. Soroka is the spiritual shepherd of Ukrainian Catholics in the United States.

Joined by local clergy, Shevchuk and Soroka entered the church and sat in front as the students, led by Sister Natalya Stoczany, SSMI, who is serving in the deanery from the Immaculate Conception Province, directed them in song during the program.

The church bells rang loudly as Shevchuk, Soroka and the clergy processed up the center aisle. As they sat down, they were greeted by eighth-grader Hunter Shimko, who was wearing traditional Ukraine garb. The students who participated in the narrations and presentations also wore Ukrainian clothing.

"We, the students of St. Nicholas School in Minersville, have the great honor of welcoming you to the South Anthracite Coal Region," Shimko said.

Throughout the program, the children sang songs in English, Ukrainian and Spanish, along with using a form of sign language. The use of the languages impressed Shevchuk, who speaks Ukrainian, English, Spanish, Polish, Russian, Italian, Greek, Latin and Old Slavonic.

In addition to Shimko, other student narrators told the story of the coal region and the Ukrainian immigrants who settled in the area. Narrators were Nadia Zimmerman, sixth grade; Jack Dean, fifth grade; Hayden Lapointe, fifth grade; Francesca Modica, seventh grade; and Remington Montag, pre-kindergarten.

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Ukrainian Catholic patriarch visits Minersville students

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Throughout the program, gifts were presented to the patriarch. Bread and salt were presented by kindergartners Erica Miller and Justin Wachter, a bust of a coal miner made of anthracite coal was presented by third-grader Logan Hutsko and traditional Ukrainian embroidery was presented by fifth-grader Caitlin Miller.

After the students sang "America the Beautiful," Shevchuk went to the microphone and spoke to the children, teachers, and the public who attended.

"It is a particular pleasure, privilege and joy for me to be here with you today," he said. "I have to say that I am very impressed by your intelligence, impressed by your knowledge of four different languages, which is incredible. I was impressed how you handled those two difficult words — beatitude and spirituality. Thank you so much for keeping spiritual joy here at school, and you are also very obedient when how Sister (Stoczany) was making signs to you and how quick you were to respond. That was just outstanding." He continued, "I'd like to bring to you greetings from the children of Ukraine, the land of your ancestors. I have to assure you that I will pray for you, for each one of you, and please pray for your friends (in Ukraine), because right now in Ukraine so many children like you have no place to live, no school to go and a lack of the basic things to survive, especially in the winter."

He thanked everyone at St. Nicholas School and the work that is done there.

The children had the opportunity to ask questions of the patriarch, with the Rev. Mark Fesniak, pastor, picking students to ask questions. During the question-and-answer period, the children learned that he is 45, enjoys watching soccer as his favorite sport and played it when it was younger, his favorite food is borscht, his brother is a priest serving in Ohio, and learned the English language over time while visiting the United States.

At the end of the question time, Soroka said, "Clearly, his selection to be patriarch was of God, just as it is for our priests or sisters when called to serve. God calls and inspires them and they're called to serve all of us and his holy church. We are so grateful that the patriarch had such a willing and open heart to respond to God's call, first as a priest, then as a bishop, and now as the spiritual father of our whole church. He said 'Yes.' "

After the program, the patriarch and clergy went to the rectory for lunch, and then went on the tour of area churches.

<http://republicanherald.com/news/ukrainian-catholic-patriarch-visits-minersville-students-1.1969756>



St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic School students sing for His Beatitude Sviatoslav Shevchuk during a visit on Tuesday, Nov. 10, 2015 in Minersville. (Photo: NICK MEYER)

His Beatitude Visits Ukrainian Churches in Pennsylvania

After visiting Minersville, PA on November 10, 2015, His Beatitude Sviatoslav went to the following churches in the South Anthracite Deanery: Transfiguration of our Lord, Shamokin, Pa.; Ss. Peter and Paul, Mt. Carmel, Pa; Assumption BVM, Centralia, Pa.; St. Michael, Shenandoah, Pa.; St. John the Baptist, Maizeville, Pa. and St. Michael, Frackville, Pa.



Father Michael Hutsko, His Beatitude Sviatoslav, Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka and Father Roman Sverdan during visit to Ss. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church, Mt. Carmel, Pa. Tuesday, November 10, 2015. (Photo: <https://www.facebook.com/SsPeterAndPaulMC>)



Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church, Centralia, Pa. (Photo: <https://www.facebook.com/SsPeterAndPaulMC>)



His Beatitude Sviatoslav poses for a picture in Minersville, PA. (Photo: Deacon Paul Spotts)



His Beatitude visits St. Michael's Church in Frackville, Pa. On the right of the picture is the original cross from the Dedication of the original St. Michael's Church from 1921.



St. Michael's in Shenandoah, Pa. (Photo submitted by Christina Gray)

Patriarch of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church Visits Assumption Catholic School in Perth Amboy, NJ

While Patriarch Sviatoslav Shevchuk was in the United States for the Blessing of the Holodomor Monument in Washington, DC, and events at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Philadelphia, His Beatitude expressed a desire to visit schools in the Archeparchy of Philadelphia.

Traveling with Archbishop Metropolitan Stefan Soroka, His Beatitude visited Assumption Catholic School (Perth Amboy, NJ), the largest of the schools in the archeparchy, on Wednesday afternoon, November 11. When His Beatitude entered the auditorium, all 170 students thunderously greeted him with “Слава Ісусу Христу!” “Slava Isusu Chrestu!”. While students in traditional Ukrainian dress presented His Beatitude with traditional bread and salt, others greeted him in three languages: Ukrainian, English, and Spanish. Father Ivan Turyk, pastor, led everyone in prayer and members of the Junior Drama, Senior Drama, and Glee Clubs (under the direction of Mrs. Melanie Lawrence) presented the mission and 52-year history of the school in word and song.

After thanking the students for a wonderful program prepared on his behalf, His Beatitude Sviatoslav entertained questions from the students (again in three languages). And what a variety of questions! Students were interested in knowing about his calling to priesthood, favorite food and sports, the current tragic situation in Ukraine, the symbolism of his staff, qualities of a leader, whether he would pray for a sick relative, and even whether he knows Pope Francis. His Beatitude answered all of their questions with patience and good humor. They were amazed when he told them that he does have a close relationship with Pope Francis.

In closing, Principal Szpyhulsky thanked the Patriarch for making the time to visit with the students, and promised to continue the school’s tradition of honoring the words written above the entrance to the school: To know, to love, and to serve God. The Patriarch’s historic visit motivated both students and teachers to work towards becoming true Christian leaders in the 21st century.

Written by Michael Szpyhulsky



Group picture of the entire school with two spiritual leaders of our church His Beatitude Sviatoslav and His Grace Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka

Church leader visits Perth Amboy school

By Susan Loyer

November 11, 2015

Sviatoslav Shevchuk, the head of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, visited Assumption Catholic Church

PERTH AMBOY - The head of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church paid a special visit to Assumption Catholic School on Wednesday.

Major Archbishop Sviatoslav Shevchuk was in the United States for the dedication of a monument in Washington, D.C., last Saturday in remembrance of the victims of a famine-genocide perpetrated on the Ukrainian people by the Communist Soviet Union in 1932 and 1933, Principal Michael Szpyhulsky said.

The leader of more than 5.5 million faithful expressed a desire to visit students attending schools affiliated with the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, and Assumption Catholic School was among those chosen, the principal said.

During the visit to the school, Shevchuk was presented with traditional bread and salt by students dressed in traditional garb. The patriarch was greeted by the group in three languages — English, Spanish and Ukrainian.

Members of the after-school drama clubs did a montage of the history of the school. A student recited an original poem in the Ukrainian language.

The patriarch thanked



His Beatitude is smiling as children greet him in different languages in Perth Amboy, NJ on November 11, 2015. (Photo: Jason Towlen)

the students for the presentation and shared information about his calling to priesthood.

The students grilled him on a variety of topics in English, Spanish and Ukrainian. The topics included the symbolism and traditions of the Eastern Rite, current events in Ukraine, the significance of his official staff in a picture a student brought to school, as well as his favorite foods and sports. One student asked him to pray for a sick relative. Another asked him if he knew the pope.

“Everyone was amazed to find out he does know Pope Francis,” Szpyhulsky said.

“One aftercare student, who was still talking

about the visit after the patriarch had left, said it very cool to meet someone very famous, and he was very nice,” the principal said. “Another girl said it was fun and an experience you can’t get every day.”

“It was truly an honor and we will always remember this historical moment in the history of our school,” the principal said. “I also promised him we would live by the motto “to know, to love and to serve God.”

<http://www.mycentraljersey.com/story/news/local/middlesex-county/2015/11/11/church-leader-visits-perth-amboy-school/75225692/>



Children present bread and salt to His Beatitude Sviatoslav Shevchuk (Photo: Jason Towlen)

His Beatitude Sviatoslav Shevchuk visits St. Nicholas School in Passaic, NJ

On November 12, 2015, our St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic School and Parish were very blessed by a visit from His Beatitude Patriarch Sviatoslav Shevchuk.

It was a joyful moment when, with a smile on his face, His Beatitude Sviatoslav entered our church where some of our parishioners, students, faculty and parents were waiting for him.

St. Nicholas students Victoria Skala and Vitaliy Habura greeted him with bread and salt in the front of the church.

The students had prepared a program, starting with a prayer for blessing upon His Beatitude with these words: "In each Divine Liturgy we pray for you, but today in a special way we pray for you asking God to bless you and guide you. We pray to the Blessed Mother, our mother, to protect you always, especially during your travels and in situations that are not too safe. - God, eternal shepherd, you tend your Church in many ways and rule us with love. You have chosen your servant, Patriarch Sviatoslav, to be a shepherd of your flock. Give him a spirit of courage and right judgment, a spirit of knowledge and love. By governing with fidelity those entrusted to his care, may he build your Church as a sign of salvation for the world." After the prayer of Богородице Діво, they sang: "May the blessing of the Lord be upon you. We bless you in the name of the Lord."

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His Beatitude Sviatoslav Shevchuk visits St. Nicholas School in Passaic, NJ

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Following the prayer blessing, 8th grade student Alexandra Peltyszyn read a short history of our St. Nicholas School, and then introduced six students with questions they had prepared by themselves. When His Beatitude Sviatoslav then invited all the students to raise their hands with any questions, the students got very excited, and many interesting questions were asked, even by the littlest Pre-K students.



Since we are approaching the Christmas Season, we took the opportunity to sing Koliady and to greet Blazhennishy for Christmas. The children sang: “В Вифлеймі Днесь Марія,” “Silent Night” (along with Sign Language), and the unique American Carol “We wish you a Merry Christmas.”

During the program, His Beatitude Sviatoslav was asked to bless our school banner and everyone present.

At the end of the program, Rev. Fr. Andriy Dudkevych and Sr. Eliane Ilnitski, SSMI thanked His Beatitude for making this special visit to our Parish School and presented him with a picture of the interior of our church, a picture of our SNUCS family, students and faculty, and a box of chocolates, along with our love. In addition, Fr. Andriy presented His Beatitude with \$500.00 collected in the donation boxes in the back of the church, and the Sodality Girls presented him with \$100.00 collected in their little fundraisers. Both donations are towards the needs in Ukraine.



We are very grateful to have had this opportunity to meet and have a conversation with His Beatitude, and we are grateful to our Metropolitan Stefan Soroka for the gift of his time in scheduling the visit and in bringing His Beatitude to visit us.

For more pictures check our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/stnicholasukrainiancatholic/posts/914791905267514> Please note that you don't need to have a Facebook page to see our pictures.

Leader of the Ukrainian Catholic Church visits Passaic school

NOVEMBER 12, 2015

BY RICHARD COWEN, THE RECORD

The patriarch of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church brought his message of hope to the children at St. Nicholas school in Passaic on Thursday, asking that they pray for him and for peace in his war-torn homeland, Ukraine.

The children welcomed Sviatoslav Shevchuk, major archbishop of Kiev-Galicia, with songs, flowers, and a box of chocolates, and got to know him during an hour-long question-and-answer session in the church.

The patriarch came to Passaic following a visit to the White House earlier this week, where he met with President Obama's staff in an attempt to gain support for an increase in humanitarian aid efforts in Ukraine.



His Beatitude Sviatoslav Shevchuk, the patriarch of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, speaks to students and staff at St. Nicholas Church in Passaic on Thursday, Nov. 12, 2015. (Photo: Chris Monroe)

The children sang songs in Ukrainian and English, including "Silent Night," and "We Wish You a Merry Christmas" offering their spiritual leader a bit of pre-holiday cheer. They were curious about the gold medallion he wore around his neck — called a panagia — and some wanted to touch it. Whose face was on it?

"That's Mary, the Blessed Virgin," he replied.

The kids, who addressed him as "Your Beatitude Sviatoslav," had lots of questions: how many languages did he speak? Answer: many. How many countries had he been to? Too many to count, but he'd been on five continents. Had he ever been to Japan? No.

What gave him the most joy?

"Prayer," he said, "is a unique moment when you are not only talking to God, but being touched by God."

The patriarch spoke briefly about the troubles in Ukraine, where war with Russia has killed 8,000 people and displaced more than 1 million people, while poverty is everywhere.

One boy asked how he could help.

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Leader of the Ukrainian Catholic Church visits Passaic school

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The patriarch asked the children to pray and to “pray for me.”

Afterward, he posed for photographs, and many parishioners came and whispered prayer requests. Some brought their children to be blessed; others brought statues and icons. The patriarch obliged them all, then ended the marathon photo session by posing for a school picture with all the children at St. Nicholas.

Passaic and Clifton is home to a large Ukrainian community, and St. Nicholas church, with its school across the street, is at its heart. The school has been open since 1949 and has about 100 students. Most are from Ukrainian families, but a few have Polish and Latino backgrounds, school officials said.

The school survives — and as was apparent on Wednesday, thrives — on a shoestring budget. Among the parishioners with whom the patriarch posed for pictures was a group of women that raises funds for the school by making and selling pierogis and cheese.

“Last Christmas we raised \$10,000 selling pierogies,” said Olga Converse, as she waited to greet the patriarch. “We make them every week. The men come in on Monday morning and peel the potatoes, and then we cook and sell them. Six dollars a dozen, and seven dollars for cheese.”

In an interview afterward, the patriarch said he was impressed with the pierogi operation, calling it a “source of financial survival” for the school and said he admired the diversity at St. Nicholas.

“Today I spoke in Spanish. I spoke in English. And I spoke in Ukrainian,” he said. “The Ukrainian Catholic church is not just for Ukrainians. It is for everyone.”

The church he leads is the largest of the Eastern Catholic churches and is part of the universal Catholic Church.

The patriarch said he’s in America to spread the word about what is happening in Ukraine, which he called the “greatest humanitarian crisis in Europe since the end of World War II.” He, along with other Ukrainian leaders, delivered a letter to the White House this week urging President Obama to re-activate the National Guard State Partnership program to deliver humanitarian aid to Ukraine.

The United States began the program in the early 1990s to deliver aid following the disintegration of the Soviet Union. The goal was to stabilize Eastern bloc nations and put them on the road to democracy.



<http://www.northjersey.com/news/leader-of-the-ukrainian-catholic-church-visits-passaic-school-1.1454352>

Metropolitan Stefan Celebrates His Birthday at the Chancery with Chancery Staff and His Beatitude Sviatoslav Shevchuk on November 13, 2015



Rev. Joseph Szupa gives a toast to Metropolitan Stefan on his birthday.



Gifts were also given to His Beatitude Sviatoslav Shevchuk including a soccer shirt with the name "Shevchuk" on the back.



Metropolitan Stefan received an icon of St. Stephen and told a story about St. Stephen.



Metropolitan Stefan proudly shows everyone the soccer related apparel that he received.



The members of the Chancery staff gave His Beatitude Sviatoslav a blue and yellow soccer ball with all their names signed on the soccer ball. His Beatitude Sviatoslav said this was the very first soccer ball he ever received.

World leader of Ukrainian Catholic Church Visits Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral in Philadelphia; Patriarch Sviatoslav Leads Hundreds in Prayer during Divine Liturgy honoring Consecrated Life

Philadelphia, Pa.--The world spiritual father of the Ukrainian Catholic Church concluded his historic pastoral visitation to the United States and the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia by leading the clergy, religious and faithful in prayer during a Hierarchical Divine Liturgy in the golden domed Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Sunday, November 15.

His Beatitude Sviatoslav Shevchuk, considered the patriarch of the church by Ukrainian Catholics was the main celebrant at the Divine Liturgy honoring consecrated life. His Grace Most Reverend Stefan Soroka, Archbishop of the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia, Metropolitan of Ukrainian Catholics in the United



Watch videos on our YouTube Channel
<https://www.youtube.com/user/thewayukrainian/videos>
and see more photos on our "Archeparchy of Philadelphia"
Facebook Page. (Photo: Teresa Siwak)

States; His Excellency Most Reverend Bishop John Bura, Auxiliary Bishop of the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia; His Excellency Most Reverend Basil H. Losten, Bishop Emeritus Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Stamford; His Excellency Most Reverend Bishop John McIntyre, Auxiliary Bishop Latin Catholic Archdiocese of Philadelphia and clergy from the Philadelphia Archeparchy were also celebrants during the Divine Liturgy.

During his homily, based upon the Gospel reading from St. Luke which includes the parable of the Good Samaritan, Patriarch Sviatoslav reminded the faithful that God Himself becomes not only our neighbor, but He is with us, within us. Quoting St. Augustine, he said of God, "All the while You were more inside me

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World leader of Ukrainian Catholic Church Visits Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral in Philadelphia

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than my most inmost part; You were higher than my highest powers. . . .God is closer to us than we are to ourselves.”

Continuing, he said “love is the divine motion of us to God and God to us, the God we must love with all our heart, soul, mind and strength.”

In honoring consecrated life, Patriarch Sviatoslav cited the life of the Venerable Servant of God Andrew Sheptytsky, who was declared heroic by Pope Francis July 16, 2015. He called him the real image of the Good Shepherd, representing divine love in service and love for his people. Metropolitan Sheptytsky was the “unique Catholic hierarch in Europe who raised his voice, who defended and saved many Jews from the Holocaust at the time of World War II. . . . Today, we venerate him as the one who led the renewal of monastic life in our church.”

He also honored the memory of Blessed Sister Josaphata Hordashevska, SSMI, who founded the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate. Blessed Sister Josaphata, was beatified by Pope St. John Paul II on June 27, 2001, during his visit to Ukraine.

“Today, we commemorate in a special way Blessed Mother Sister Josaphata Hordashevska, the first sister among the Sisters Servants of the Blessed Virgin Mary.”

To the assembled religious men and religious women in consecrated life who renewed their vows during the Divine Liturgy, Patriarch Sviatoslav said, “On behalf of the entire Ukrainian Catholic Church I come to express our gratitude to you, brothers and sisters in Christ, who gave all your heart, and your soul, all your strength and all your mind to service and love for God. Thank you for your service to the church, especially here in the United States. . . .And I call upon everyone here present to please learn how to love God and neighbor from our sisters here present.”

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NOVEMBER 22, 2015



(Photo: Tatianna Bilyi)



(Photo: Teresa Siwak)



(Photo: Tatianna Bilyi)

World leader of Ukrainian Catholic Church Visits Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral in Philadelphia

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Members of the following religious communities renewed their vows during the Divine Liturgy: Sisters of the Order of St. Basil the Great, Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate, Missionary Sisters of the Mother of God, the Basilian Fathers of the Order of St. Basil the Great, the Redemptorist Fathers and Archimandrite Joseph of the Monastery of the Holy Cross.

Newly installed mosaics of Venerable Andrew Sheptytsky and Blessed Sister Josaphata, designed by iconographer Chrystyna Dochwat were blessed by His Beatitude Sviatoslav at the end of the Divine Liturgy.

After Metropolitan Stefan Soroka thanked Patriarch Sviatoslav on behalf of all the clergy, religious and faithful for his pastoral visit and inspirational message, His Beatitude presented a special medallion commemorating the 150th anniversary of the birth of the Venerable Metropolitan Andrew Sheptytsky to iconographer Chrystyna Dochwat for her life's work in designing liturgical appointments and church iconography that are found not only in the Immaculate Conception Cathedral in Philadelphia but in churches throughout the world.

After the recessional, the entire congregation carrying lighted candles gathered outside on the cathedral grounds where Patriarch Sviatoslav blessed a new bell tower which houses the "Stefan" bell from the original cathedral which was cast in 1919 in Baltimore. Then the candlelight prayer vigil for Ukraine, with the entire congregation reciting Venerable Andrew Sheptytsky's prayer for Ukraine concluded the services.

Over 1200 faithful from parishes in eastern Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Washington, D.C. and Virginia attended the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy, which was broadcast live over the EWTN television network.

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Renewal of Vows



Sisters of the Order of St. Basil the Great



Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate



Missionary Sisters of the Mother of God



Basilian Fathers of the Order of St. Basil the Great



Monastery of the Holy Cross



Redemptorist Fathers

(Photos: Peter Bilyj)

World leader of Ukrainian Catholic Church Visits Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral in Philadelphia

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Principal priest celebrants were Rev. Msgr. Ronald Popivchak, Very Rev. Taras Lonchyna, Very Rev. Robert Hitchens, and Rev. Wasyl Kharuk. Rev. Mr. Michael Waak was the deacon. Masters of Ceremonies were: Very Rev. Joseph Szupa, Rev. John Ciurpita and Rev. Walter Pasicznyk. Lectors were Rev. Paul Wolensky and Lisa Oprysk. Altar servers were the following seminarians from St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Seminary Washington, D.C.: Alex Bricki, Philip Gilbert, Martin Nagy, Carlos Batiz, Bohdan Vasylyv and Andrew Perrong.

Responses to the Divine Liturgy were sung by a combined choir of parishioners of the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia under the direction of Rev. Paul Wolensky.

The Fourth Degree Color Corps of the Knights of Columbus was provided by Archbishop Wood Assembly, Warminster, Pa.

A reception followed in the cathedral social hall where the clergy, religious and faithful had an opportunity to personally greet Patriarch Sviatoslav.

Metropolitan Stefan during the week escorted Patriarch Sviatoslav visiting various locales throughout the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia.

In Pennsylvania, Patriarch Sviatoslav met with students and teachers at St. Nicholas parish school in Minersville, and also visited the following churches in the South Anthracite Deanery: Transfiguration of our Lord, Shamokin, Pa.; Ss. Peter and Paul, Mt. Carmel, Pa; Assumption BVM, Centralia, Pa.; St. Michael, Shenandoah, Pa.; St. John the Baptist, Maizeville, Pa. and St. Michael, Frackville, Pa.

In New Jersey, he visited with students and teachers at Assumption BVM parish school in Perth Amboy, and St. Nicholas parish school in Passaic. He also had an opportunity to visit the recent constructed churches of St. Stephen in Toms River, N.J. and St. John the Baptist in Whippany, N.J.

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(Photos: Teresa Siwak)

World leader of Ukrainian Catholic Church Visits Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral in Philadelphia

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Patriarch Sviatoslav began this most recent visit to the United States by participating in the dedication and blessing on Saturday, November 7 of the U.S. National Holodomor-Famine Monument in Washington, D.C., which commemorates the forced starvation of 5-7 million Ukrainians in 1932-33 during the genocide orchestrated by Josyf Stalin and the Soviet Union with the man-made famine. This monument, authorized by Congress in 2006 and approved by the National Park Service is located at 2 Massachusetts Ave NW, Washington , DC.

On Sunday, November 8, he celebrated a special Divine Liturgy at the Ukrainian National Shrine of the Holy Family in Washington, D.C. remembering the victims of the 1932-33 Holodomor.

While in Washington, D.C., on Monday, November 9, he and other religious leaders from Ukraine met at the White House with representatives of President Obama, where they presented a letter addressed to President Obama signed by all the religious leaders of Ukraine, asking the United States for desperately needed humanitarian aid and support the victims of the war in Ukraine and held a Press Conference at the National Press Club sharing this request with the news media.



(Photo: Peter Bilyj)



(Photo: Teresa Siwak)



(Photos: Teresa Siwak)

New Mosaics at the Cathedral



Blessing the new mosaic of Blessed Josaphata (Photo: Teresa Siwak)



Sister Servants pose for a picture with the Mosaic of Blessed Josaphata Hordashevskia, SSMI (Photo: Tatianna Bilyi)



Blessing the new mosaic of Venerable Metropolitan Andrew Sheptytsky (Photo: Teresa Siwak)



Iconographer Chrystyna Dochwat and His Beatitude Sviatoslav Shevchuk (Photo: Teresa Siwak)

SISTER JOSAPHATA HORDASHEVSKA, SSMI

"Sanctifying righteousness"

ПРЕПОДОБНА ЙОСАФАТА ГОРДАШЕВСЬКА

"Освятчувална Праведність"



Under the Golden Dome Cathedral
У ЗОЛОТОВЕРХОМУ КАТЕДРАЛЬНОМУ СОБОРІ
Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of the
Immaculate Conception
830 North Franklin Street, Philadelphia, PA 19123

O Blessed Josaphata, you, who lived heroically your consecration as a Sister Servant of Mary Immaculate, teach us by your example to place our complete trust in God. Hear our prayer and intercede with the Most Holy Trinity to grant us the grace for which we so ardently plead, for the greater glory of God. Blessed Josaphata, pray for us. Amen!

О, блаженна Йосафато, що жертовно жила своєю посвятою як служебниця Непорочної Діви Марії, навчи нас, щоб за твоїм прикладом ми уповали тільки на Бога. Вислухай нашу молитву й благай Пресвяту Тройцю про ласку, яку ми так гаряче просимо, задля Ярослави Божої. Блаженна Йосафато, молися за нас! Амінь.

If you receive a special favor through the intercession of Blessed Josaphata, kindly notify the Archeparchy of Philadelphia at 827 N. Franklin St., Philadelphia, PA 19123 or call us at 215.627.0143 or email us at ukrmet@ukrcap.org.

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Josaphata Prayer Card F1 Nov 2015

VENERABLE SERVANT OF GOD
METROPOLITAN ANDREW SHEPTYTSKY

СЛУГА БОЖИЙ МИТРОПОЛИТ
АНДРІЙ ШЕПТИЦЬКИЙ



Under the Golden Dome Cathedral
У ЗОЛОТОВЕРХОМУ КАТЕДРАЛЬНОМУ СОБОРІ
Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of the
Immaculate Conception
830 North Franklin Street, Philadelphia, PA 19123

Lord, Jesus Christ, you always reward your faithful servants not only with the singular gifts of your love, but also with the eternal reward of sainthood in heaven and many times with glorification among the people of your Church here on earth.

We humbly beseech you to so glorify your faithful servant Andrew Sheptytsky. Throughout his virtuous life, though full of trials and sufferings, he was a good shepherd to his flock and a great champion of church unity. Through his intercession and glorification send to our entire nation the great gift of unity and freedom. Amen.

Господи, Ісусе Христе, Ти завжди нагороджуєш найбагатшими скарбами Твоєї безконечної Любови Твоїх вірних слуг за їх праведне життя і то не тільки вічною прославою в Твоєму небесному Царстві, але часто й тут на землі прославляєш їх за те, що вони з особливою ревністю змагались для Твоєї слави і для поширення й закріплення Твого Царства між людьми.

Покірно благаємо Тебе, зволь прославити Твого вірного слугу Андрея Шептицького, що впродовж свого праведного життя був добрим пастирем свого стада і великим подвижником Церковної Єдності не тільки в нашому українському народі, але й серед усіх народів світу, щоби всі були одно Христове стадо й один Пастир. Амінь.

If you receive a special favor through the intercession of Metropolitan Sheptytsky, kindly notify the Archeparchy of Philadelphia at 827 N. Franklin St., Philadelphia, PA 19123 or call us at 215.627.0143 or email us at ukrmet@ukrcap.org.

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Shettytsky Prayer Card F1 Nov 2015

Blessing of Bell Tower



(Photos: Teresa Siwak)

Blessing of Bell Tower



(Photo: Tanya Bilyj)

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