

# УКРАЇНСЬКЕ ПРАВОСЛАВНЕ СЛОВО UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX WORD

ОФІСІНЕ ВИДАННЯ УКРАЇНСЬКОЇ ПРАВОСЛАВНОЇ ЦЕРКВИ В США THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE USA



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## UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX WORD УКРАЇНСЬКЕ ПРАВОСЛАВНЕ СЛОВО

His Eminence Metropolitan ANTONY

His Eminence  
Archbishop DANIEL - Consistory President

Founded in Ukrainian  
as "Українське Православне Слово" in 1950

Founded in English  
as "Ukrainian Orthodox Word" in 1952

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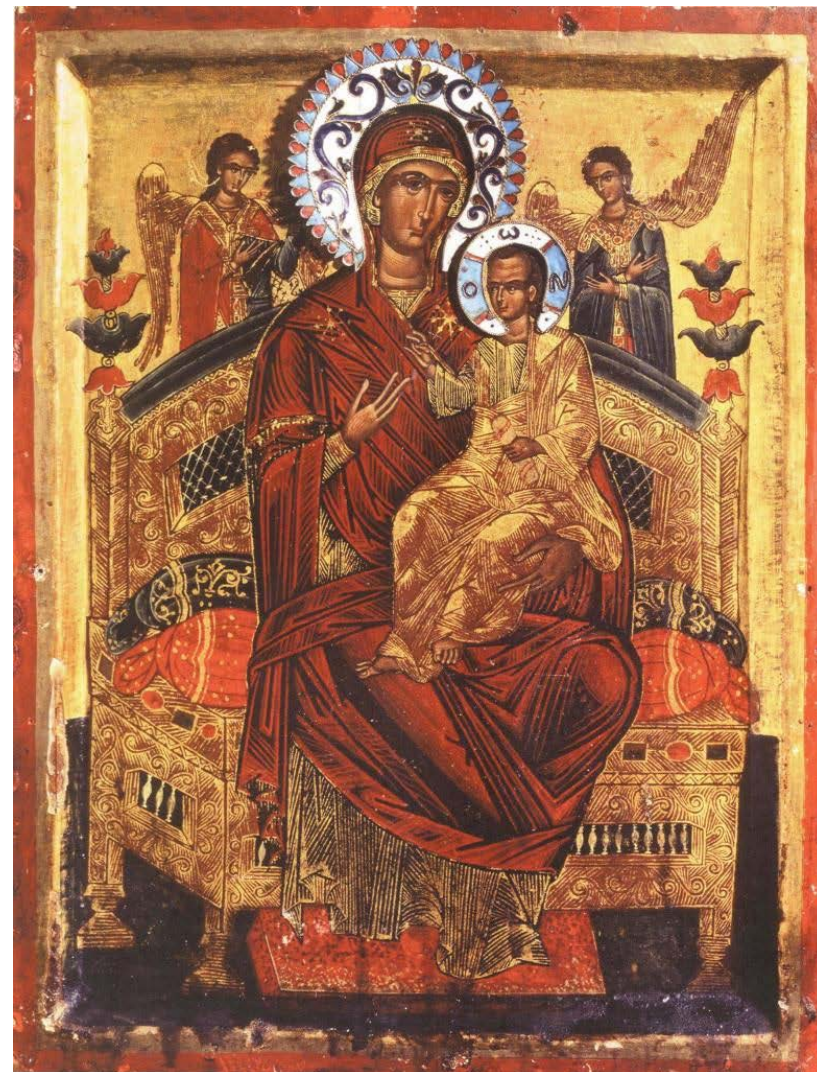
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### THE QUEEN OF ALL (ВСЕЦАРИЦЯ)

The holy and miracle-working icon of the Virgin Mary was brought to the Vatopedi monastery by the blessed elder Joseph from Nea Skete. The first record of the icon's miraculous powers is from the witness of Elder Joseph. One day a young man from Cyprus went to visit and entered into the church. At that point, the elder witnessed a glowing light radiating from the face of the Birthgiver-of-God and an invisible power pushed the young man down to the ground. When the young man had recovered from his fall, he began to repent and weep and confessed that he did not believe and was a participant in the black arts. He changed his life and became an Orthodox Christian.

This icon is also known for working many miracles, especially healing people with cancer. There are many recent records of people who have been healed from cancer after participating in the Supplicatory Canon to the Pantanassa at the monastery.

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**THE ORTHODOX CHURCH  
IS BEAUTIFUL:**

IN OUR HOLY UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE USA WE ALL  
COME FROM DIFFERENT PLACES AND BACKGROUNDS, YET WE ALL  
BELONG TO THE SAME FAMILY OF GOD.

WE SHARE THE SAME FAITH AND THE SAME MISSION – TO TELL OTHERS  
ABOUT HIM, TO BE A BLESSING TO OTHERS, TO SPREAD THE BLESSINGS  
OF GOD'S MERCY AND LOVE.

**ПРАВОСЛАВНА ЦЕРКВА  
ПРОСТО ЧУДОВА:**

У НАШІЙ СВЯТІЙ УКРАЇНСЬКІЙ ПРАВОСЛАВНІЙ ЦЕРКВІ США МИ  
ВСІ ПОХОДИМО З РІЗНИХ МІСТ ТА КРАЇН, АЛЕ ВСІ НАЛЕЖИМО ДО  
ОДНІЄЇ БОЖОЇ РОДИНИ.

МИ ПОДІЛЯЄМО ТУ САМУ ВІРУ ТА ТУ САМУ МІСІЮ – РОЗПОВІДАТИ  
ІНШИМ ПРО ХРИСТА, БУТИ БЛАГОСЛОВЕННЯМ ДЛЯ ІНШИХ,  
ПОШИРЮВАТИ БЛАГОСЛОВЕННЯ БОЖОГО МИЛОСЕРДЯ ТА ЛЮБОВІ.

UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE USA  
УКРАЇНСЬКА ПРАВОСЛАВНА ЦЕРКВА США



**COUNCIL OF METROPOLIA OF UOC OF USA MEETS**  
**Рада Митрополії УПЦ США Провела Зустріч**

As the Metropolia Center was abuzz preparing for the commencement of the upcoming 23rd Regular Sobor of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, the members of the Council of the Metropolia arrived early in order to attend a final meeting of the current council.

With the bright rays of the sun streaming down through the windows of the Consistory Rotunda, His Eminence Metropolitan Antony, Prime Hierarch of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA and Diaspora, along with His Eminence Archbishop Daniel, Ruling Hierarch of the Western Eparchy and President of the Consistory, stood in the center of the atrium and served a Moleben. The voices of the Seminarians of the St. Sophia Ukrainian Orthodox Theological Seminary rose to the heavens as they sang the responses, joined by the voices of the Metropolitan Council members.

In his opening statement, Metropolitan Antony thanked the members who had gathered in the Seminary Library, for their years of service and reviewed the life of the Church since the previous meeting, expressing his appreciation for all who have partaken and served the Church.

Archbishop Daniel expressed that these previous three years have been unprecedented, and yet the Church and her faithful stepped up to the challenge. First, we were faced with the pandemic, having to learn how to serve the faithful while they were isolated and quarantined, how to offer the Sacraments while keeping everyone safe, and then came the flood, followed by the commencement of the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

Throughout all these difficulties, the Church has stepped up and executed its mission of caring for the faithful both locally, and throughout the world. His Eminence explained that the local parishes have been generous in their support of Ukraine, providing prayers, donations, and much needed supplies to Ukraine, in addition to caring for the newly arrived refugees.

The Metropolitan Council spent the afternoon reviewing the Church finances, Church Ministry updates, discussing plans for future growth, and expressing their anticipation for the upcoming Sobor and the various sessions, lectures, and events that will transpire throughout the remainder of the week. With the conclusion of the meeting, the members of the Council felt invigorated and hopeful for a successful Sobor which would yield great fruit for the upcoming three years of the life of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA.

*Photos by Seminarian Mykola Stefanyk*



**MEETING HELD OF THE SAINT SOPHIA UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**ВІДБУЛОСЯ ЗАСІДАННЯ УПРАВИ СВЯТО-СОФІЇВСЬКОЇ УКРАЇНСЬКОЇ ПРАВОСЛАВНОЇ**  
**БОГОСЛОВСЬКОЇ СЕМІНАРІЇ**

In preparation for the convening of the 23rd Regular Sobor of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, the Seminary Board of the St. Sophia Ukrainian Orthodox Theological Seminary met in the Seminary Library.

His Eminence Metropolitan Antony - Rector and Chairman of the Board, greeted the board members and thanked them for their service throughout the previous years. His Eminence Archbishop Daniel - Vice Rector and Provost, of the Seminary informed the board members of the latest news concerning the seminary. With 24 students enrolled, the Seminary has a comprehensive schedule, comprised of 8 fulltime and 16 parttime students who are studying in the various programs provided by the institution.



The Seminary has entered numerous joint ventures with various Schools of Theology, broadening the scope and the experience made available to the students.

The Seminary played a pivotal role over the past many years as the world suffered through the pandemic, by being the glue that held the faithful together. In moments of fear, trepidation, and uncertainty, the faithful of the Church tuned in daily for the regular Evening Prayers, praying along with the seminarians and all the hundreds of others who would join the livestream every evening at 9 PM. Even in isolation, the faithful felt included, prayed for, and surrounded by the Grace of the Lord, as they all joined as one in worship.

While expenses have risen for everything from books, school supplies, cleaning supplies, food, and other necessities, and the facility is facing the same new reality that all of society faces as the country struggles financially, through the donations of the faithful of the Church, and various scholarships, the Seminary is producing top-notch clergy. Many of the recent graduates of the institution have now moved on and serve in parishes throughout the United States, utilizing the education they received through all the long hours of study and practicum, to serve the people of the Church.

Having reviewed the budget for the coming year, and discussed future plans, the meeting was adjourned just in time for Evening Prayers. The Board Members made their way to the Seminary where they joined the seminarians in prayer. The current student body promises to yield positive results and enrich the Church with more clergy that will go out and become Fishers of Men.



# UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE USA – SOBOR 23

The Opening Day of the 23rd Regular Sobor of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA began on Wednesday, October 12, 2022, under a beautiful blue sky, as the delegates, clergy, seminarians, and hierarchs of the Church processed from the Consistory Rotunda to the Cultural Center. In procession following the cross and cherubic fans carried by St. Sophia Ukrainian Orthodox Theological Seminary students, walked the delegates carrying the flags of each state represented, followed by the clergy of the Church who carried an icon of the Mother of God, the hierarchs, and finally by the delegates to the Sobor.

The delegates found their places as the icon was placed on the center stand located before the dais, the flags were placed in stands along the stage, flanking the large icon of the Protection of the Mother of God hanging on the back wall of the stage, overlooking the entire hall. His Eminence Metropolitan Antony, Prime Hierarch of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA and Diaspora, began the proceedings by leading everyone in singing “Oh Heavenly King” in both Ukrainian and English. Having prayed for the Lord’s assistance and guidance, with everyone still on their

feet, Metropolitan Antony turned towards the flag of the United States. As the Seminarians sang the American Anthem, everyone joined in, hands on heart, before turning towards the Ukrainian flag and loudly singing the Anthem of Ukraine with tears in their eyes. Metropolitan Antony read the greeting to the 23rd Sobor from His All-Holiness Patriarch Bartholomew:

**GREETING OF HIS ALL-HOLINESS ECUMENICAL PATRIARCH BARTHOLOMEW TO THE 23RD REGULAR SOBOR OF THE UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

*To His Eminence Metropolitan Antony, His Eminence Archbishop Daniel, the Reverend Clergy, and the pious faithful of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the United States of America, our beloved in the Lord: Grace be unto you and peace from God.*

*It is with much paternal care and love that we address the present greeting to all the participants of the 23rd Regular Sobor of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the United States of America, which has as its theme, “Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me” (Ps. 50:10), convened*

*during a difficult time for your ancestral homeland of Ukraine, suffering from a foreign invasion for some months now.*

*While unable to be with you in person, we affirm our presence among you in prayer and spirit and send you our Patriarchal blessing as you gather – humbly requesting the Holy Spirit guide you – at your Metropolia Center in South Bound Brook – Somerset, New Jersey, reflecting on the events of the past few years, discussing the critical issues facing your communities today, and taking the right decisions to move responsibility into the future.*

*Thus, it is very fitting that the theme of your Sobor is based on this important and well-known Psalm, used regularly during our Holy Church’s daily worship services, where the Psalmist implores God for forgiveness and a new beginning. During these challenging days, you will look upon the admirable model of your countless devout predecessors, many of whom came to America with nothing aside from their deep faith in Christ’s eternal teachings and example and built numerous Holy Temples and the related infrastructure to glorify the “God of our fathers.”*

*Nevertheless, as the war ravages Ukraine and threatens homes and countless people’s lives, your courageous*

*labors and tangible support of Ukrainian have not gone unnoticed. Thus, understanding well the Mother Church of Constantinople’s deep love and affection for all her Ukrainian spiritual children throughout the world and their sovereign homeland, we commend you for your Christian initiatives and urge you to continue in any way you can, first and foremost by caring for the spiritual and pastoral needs of recent immigrants and refugees as they come to the United States and ensuring their smooth integration into your parishes.*

*Therefore, encouraging you not to remain complacent and to multiply the countless gifts and abundance that the Lord and Savior has bestowed upon you (cf. Mt. 25:14-30), we remain optimistic that the deliberations of your assembly will be productive, guaranteeing that your congregations will continue to be outstanding examples of Orthodox Christianity and our Holy Great Church of Christ for years to come.*

*At the Ecumenical Patriarchate, October 12th, 2022  
Your fervent supplicant before God,*

**+ BARTHOLOMEW**  
Archbishop of Constantinople-New Rome and Ecumenical Patriarch

Metropolitan Antony's opening remarks were moving as he discussed the theme for the Sobor: "CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART, O GOD, AND RENEW A RIGHT SPIRIT WITHIN ME" (Psalm 50:12) explaining that when King and Prophet David wrote the Psalm he was in the worst spiritual state of his life because of his sinfulness against God and his willful acts of murder and more. He knew that he could not of his own will cleanse his own heart and could not restore a right spirit – the Holy Spirit – unto himself. The only source for a clean heart that will turn his sinful and murderous life around and directing it to God rather than to personal gain or pleasure, is God alone. No human being, though created in the image of God, can create within him or herself a new heart. We who live in 2022 are no exception to this fact. In order to pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit at this Sobor, we must be of clean heart and prepared to hear the Spirit and to allow the Grace we have been inspired with to guide to God pleasing decisions, rather than our own simple desires. The Metropolitan succinctly explained what has transpired in the life of our Holy Church throughout the previous three years. Challenged with a pandemic, and now an enemy invasion of Ukraine, the Church has had to devise new ways to of ministering to the faithful. He openly stated that like individual households, because of the pandemic and the status of the economy, the Church is struggling financially. However, it is through the Grace of God and the generosity of the faithful that the Church continues to do God's work. His Eminence declared that this Sobor would be seriously discussing finances.

Metropolitan Antony introduced Subdeacon Gary Gebet to the Sobor body and thanked him and his wife, Natalie, for their kind generosity. Having attended the previous Sobor and hearing of the financial travails of the Church, they decided to do what they could to help and graciously made an incredibly generous contribution which has carried us through the past three years. As Subdeacon Gary stepped up to the microphone explaining that he was inspired by both hierarchs as he traveled with them to the Holy Land and felt compelled to do what he could. He feared that if it were made known that such a large amount was gifted, that it might dissuade others from donating, but he asked that it instead inspire others to give, because every amount is of help.

Archbishop Daniel rose to deliver the Report of the President of the Consistory. He thanked everyone for their attendance and dedication to the UOC of the USA, spoke on the State of the Church, the issues facing our parishes today, the status of the Seminary accreditation, and the hopes for the future.

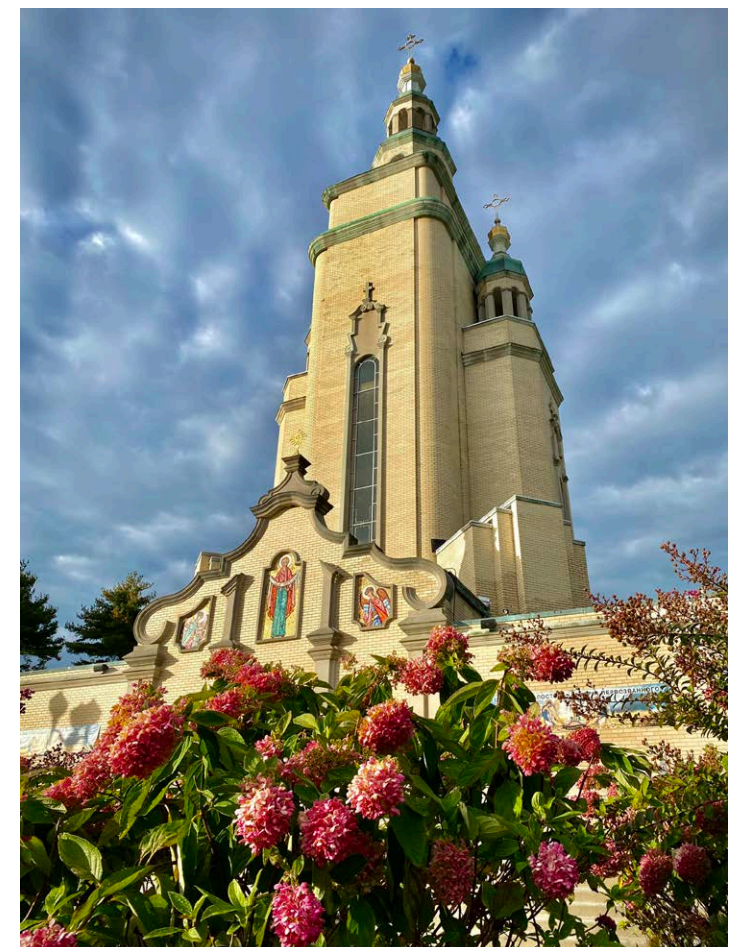
Before concluding his report, the Archbishop reminded everyone that while it is good that the parishes are busy undertaking charitable activities, holding events, and organizing festivals, we must never ever forget our true purpose. The primary mission of the Church is the salvation of souls, and not to simply be a charitable organization, a soup kitchen, or a second-hand clothing depot. The Church must bring people to worship God and to bring people to salvation. Once we fully understand this mission, everything else will fall into place. The Lord said, "as the Father has sent me, even so I send you." How can we turn our backs? We have been assigned a sacred task, an exciting task, but not an easy one. Are we up to the challenge? We are not a business or a social organization. We are the people of God – the Body of Christ. "All things are possible for one who believes." (Mark 9:23) This includes facing any challenge or provocation from the secularized world. All things are possible if we follow the teachings of our Lord by proclaiming the Gospel, revealing His Truth, and healing throughout the world. This is our Strategic plan in the present, for the future and forever.

Archbishop Daniel began the presentation of the Consistory Offices of Ministry. First was Natalie Kapeluck-Nixon, Director of the Consistory Office of Ministry of Youth and Young Adults (OYM). In her presentation Natalie explained the importance of All Saints Camp in the life of our youth, teaching them to pray together and stay together. She explained the various online classes and events held for the children during the pandemic, showing in her video the excitement in the children's faces. The joy the Sobor body saw on the faces of the youth assured them that the Church has a future. An important OYM program is the triennial YOUTH SOBOR, which is held in conjunction with our regular Sobors. This year it was held during the Teenage Conference at All Saints Camp because of the expense for the teens to participate in both programs would be too high. The reports of the Youth Sobor have consistently been of the highest quality and inspiration to the regular Sobor delegates, especially through their spiritual insight and the many thought provoking suggestions that the delegates could take back to their parishes and apply to youth ministry in their parishes. The Sr. Ukrainian Orthodox League report was delivered by Karen Ferraro, Immediate Past President of the Ukrainian Orthodox League, substituting for the newly elected UOL President Laryssa Charest, who was unable to participate in the Sobor. Karen informed the Sobor about all the good work the UOL has done throughout the years, including the publication of educational materials in both languages, the Metropolitan John Scholarship Fund for our seminarians, the Lynn

Sawchuk/Karen Kuzbyt Scholarship Fund for Jr. UOL members enrolled in college or university. It not only provides education, it keeps everyone working and worshipping together. The UOL provides Lenten resources and conducts annual spiritual retreats during the Great Lenten season, encouraging the faithful to read Scripture, to fast, to give alms, and much more. Karen urged all the delegates present to establish local chapters of the League in their parishes so that the parish members can participate fully in all these efforts. She called upon those present to participate in the retreats and other programs of the UOL to become familiar with the League.

Jr. Ukrainian Orthodox League Board President, Natalie Swan of St. Vladimir Cathedral, Philadelphia, PA, along with Board Secretary, Olesya Korotinsky offered the report of the Jr. League. Natalie spoke briefly about the on-going programs and projects of the Jr. League, especially the most successful efforts – the Great Lent Give-Away and the Souper Bowl Sunday program. The Lenten Give-Away benefits a particular charity, such as a new mission parish or a missionary program among many others over the years to receive funds raised by local Jr. UOL chapters as a Lenten project. The Souper Bowl program takes place each year on Super Bowl Sunday in February. The local chapters and many, many parishes that have no chapter participate in the program by serving a variety of soups (souper bowls) at a luncheon following Divine Liturgy and accepting donations from those faithful attending. All the proceeds from the are donated each year to our own St. Andrew Society to support the organization's soup kitchens and food banks in some of the larger cities of Ukraine. The Jr. UOL has contributed over \$50,000 from the Souper Bowl project over the last ten years.

Metropolitan Antony introduced a new prayer initiative of our Church. As he invited Council of the Metropolia Member, Archon Howard West, to the podium, His Eminence directed attention to the large icon of the Mother of God, "Queen of All – Vsetsarytsya" or "Pantanassa" located on the stage. Howard, with the assistance of his wife Dr. Lynda, explained that this was a reproduction of a miraculous icon known for healing cancer and other severe ailments. This particular icon was written by our own renowned iconographer, Michael Kapeluck of Sts. Peter and Paul Parish, Carnegie, PA. Howard, also from Carnegie, explained that his own parish family in Carnegie had prayed an Akaphist to this icon during the Dormition and Advent fasts in recent years, and the parishioners had reaped great rewards therefrom. The original icon lives at a monastery on Mount Athos and thousands



of those prayed for before her were healed, mainly of cancer, but of many other devastating diseases as well. Therefore, he and his wife would like all the faithful of our Holy Church to benefit from this icon, which he had commissioned. He also sponsored the production of another 100 copies of the icon to be distributed to our parishes. This original icon at the Sobor will remain in St. Andrew Memorial Church for a monthly national Akaphist to be celebrated and live streamed on the first Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. Then to that end, each parish will get a small replica along with an Akaphist booklet in order to celebrate the Akaphist monthly in their churches and also live streaming it for their parishioners, praying for their parishioners who are suffering from illness. Metropolitan Antony thanked Howard and Lynda for their kindness, generosity and the LOVE with which they offered in this gift to our whole Church. The monthly live streamed Akaphists will make it possible for those who are too ill to attend in person to experience the prayers being offered in their behalf.

Following dinner, all the delegates, alternates and guests were asked to gather at the steps of the St. Andrew Memorial Church for a Panakhyda to pray for all those who have perished over these past nearly eight months in the genocidal Russian invasion of Ukraine. The main drive to the church was outlined with glimmering salt lamps, gently illuminating the way to the church. His Eminence Archbishop Daniel expressed everyone's feelings when he stated that we never expected that Russia would follow through on their threats to invade Ukraine. He retold how he had just visited Ukraine, and a few days later received texts from his mother who was hiding in the basement as sirens wailed. These last eight months has seen Ukraine bombed, tens of thousands murdered and millions more terrorized – with over twelve million displaced – either in Ukraine or beyond her borders.

Metropolitan Antony stated that this is not the first time Russia has attempted a genocide of the Ukrainian people. In November we will reach 90 years since the Holodomor, and here again, we face genocide at the hands of the Russians. 90 years ago, the reporters were silenced, the world turned a blind eye to Ukraine's struggles and plugged their ears against her cries. This time, the world sees the truth. Even though the Russian propaganda machine continues to churn, social media will not be silenced, the truth will not be hidden, and the world is watching the horrors unleashed upon a peaceful and sovereign nation. His Eminence asked that everyone now focus on the souls of those innocent people, the majority being civilians who have been killed not in a war, because a war

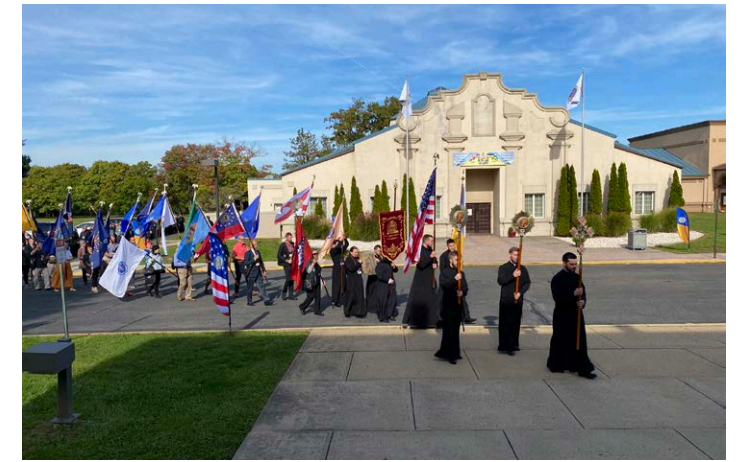
would be fought by two armies. This is not a war, but an invasion against which Ukraine is forced to defend. This is an army shooting not only defending military, but even more civilians, aiming their missiles at hospitals, apartment buildings and schools, blowing up innocent people and turning villages and huge cities into desert wastelands. This is genocide.

As the hierarchs turned to face the Altar which was open and visible through the open doors of the church, the Seminarians began to chant the responses. One by one the voices of the people standing behind the bishops rose to join the seminarians in praying for the peaceful repose of the departed souls. As Metropolitan Antony prayed, "Give rest eternal, O Lord, in blessed repose, to the souls of Your departed servants, and make their memory eternal," the people's voices shakily rose as they sang Memory Eternal/Вічна Пам'ять!

DING rang a lone chime of the church bell, as the singing continued... and after a pause another lonely chime DONG... As the bell solemnly chimed, Archbishop Daniel censed the church, the clergy and faithful, and then descended the steps of the church to cense all the placards that had been erected before the church representing the horrors inflicted upon Ukraine – crying children, bombed buildings, bodies and all manner of horror. As the final notes of the prayer rose to the heavens, Archbishop Daniel addressed the faithful asking them to take a moment to walk among the placards and take a look at the images of horror, terror, and murder. While we may be tired after a long day, there are men and women in Ukraine at this same moment who are tired, but are fighting for freedom, for liberty, and for life. He invited everyone to pick up the salt lamps that lined the drive and take one home with them, placing it in their prayer corners and as they light them each evening to take a moment to continue the prayers from tonight, and pray for the souls of the those who have been killed during the current genocide against the people of Ukraine.

Slowly the people turned and dispersed among the posters, their candles glimmering like stars emanating from the church. As they held their candles close to illuminate the images, it was as if they joined the suffering of those who were depicted. Wiping away tears, walking in silence from one to the next, the faithful vowed to pray not only for those whose lives had been stolen from them, but, to earnestly pray for Ukraine's freedom and safety of her people.

The second day of Sobor began with the delegates joining their hierarchs at Divine Liturgy. The Sobor delegates first heard the activity reports of the Church Central



Organizations and Institutions which were, which were a continuation of the previous day's reports. Next on the Agenda were the Consistory Offices of Ministry reports – Office of Stewardship, Office of Christian Charity, Office of Religious Education, Office of Liturgical Publications, Office of Public Relations, Office of Archives, and Office of External Affairs. The Directors of the Offices of Ministry and Consistory Staff who prepared their individual reports were able to make additional comments to the reports and answer questions from the Sobor delegates. The Sobor Body listened received these reports with much enthusiasm realizing the great accomplishments that have been made. Many resources were made available through the reports for parishes to utilize in their own local ministries to enrich parish life. All the reports will be part of the Sobor Minutes and hopefully published in upcoming issues of the *Ukrainian Orthodox Word*.

These reports were followed by the Financial Report presented by V. Rev. Stephen Hutnick and Natalia Honcharenko-Andrec. Crunching the numbers, the delegates became acutely aware of the enormous costs for our Church's ministry programs. Every corner has been cut by the Consistory and money saving practices have been implemented. Still, funding all the programs requires income. The Consistory and Offices of Ministry do their best to fulfill all their responsibilities, but this is becoming increasingly difficult to maintain.

During the 22nd Sobor in 2019, the Guardians of the Metropolia, the newest Central Organization of our Church, was established. Very Rev. Andrii Pokotylo, President along with Mr. Howard West introduced the Guardians Program to the Sobor Body, informing about what the membership requirements are, and what great benefit the organization will be to the Church. Members are required to contribute or raise specific funds, which are deposited in Guardian Accounts. At least 20% of funds on hand must be donated to the Consistory for support of the Offices of Ministry and other necessary programs.

After the Lunch Break, the each Sobor delegate chose to join one of four Breakout Sessions: **"Our Church Life in Western Society – Is our Faith Strong Enough?"** led by Rev. Gregory Jensen (Sts. Cyril & Methodius Mission, Madison, WI); **"Our Spiritual Formation – From Baptism to Repose"** led by Very Rev. Anthony Perkins (Holy Resurrection Mission, Waynesville, NC); **"Our Charitable Ministry – How We Have Gifted and Served – Future Needs and Prospects"** led by His Eminence Archbishop Daniel (President of the Consistory); and **"Stewards of God's Gifts – How Do**

**We Produce the Fruits and Harvests Expected by our Lord "Tending and Keeping" (Genesis 2:15) His Creation Utilizing the Talents He has Blessed us with?"** led by Very Rev. Robert Holet (retired St. Nicholas Parish, Charlottesville, VA).

These sessions met in various locations throughout the Metropolia Center – the Consistory Conference Room, Library, Rotunda and the Seminary. The 175 clergy and lay delegates, as well as guests were fairly evenly divided through all four Session. Following a presentation by the session leader, the participants shared personal parish experiences, offered advice, and brainstormed how the Church, and the local parishes, can improve, grow, and expand in the various areas. Throughout three hours of discussion and enrichment, His Eminence Metropolitan Antony visited each of the four groups, listening and sometimes offering words of wisdom, but more so, simply enjoying his flock working together for the good of the Church her faithful. While the participants could have continued for hours, the sessions concluded just in time for everyone to participate in Vespers which at Three Holy Hierarchs Chapel in St. Sophia Seminary.

As the sun began to set the little chapel, warmly illuminated by flickering candlelight, began to fill. As Vespers began, served by V. Rev. Taras Naumenko with Metropolitan Antony, with the responses chanted by our seminarians, the sky darkened and the halos of the saints visible through the icons of the chapel glowed warmly, and comfortingly. Joining the seminarians, the voices of the faithful rose, as one they worshipped and glorified the Lord. People were moved by the overpowering sense of Grace which seemed to fill the room and mystically envelope them.

*"O Joyful Light of the Holy Glory of the Immortal Father, the Heavenly, Holy, Blessed Jesus Christ. Now that we have reached the setting of the sun and behold the evening light, we sing to God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. It is fitting at all times to praise you with cheerful voices, O Son of God, the Giver of life. Behold, the world sings your glory."*

Preparing to celebrate the Protection of the Mother of God (Pokrova) at Divine Liturgy in the morning, during the Litya His Eminence blessed bread, wheat, wine, and oil. This prayer alludes to the miracle of the Feeding of the five thousand, but the bread and wine also suggest to the Eucharist; the wheat symbolizes Christ, Who is the grain of wheat that fell to the ground and grew into the Tree of Life.

The oil refers to the oil of gladness and the anointing we received at our baptism, as well as the oil of healing.

All together these four foods symbolize God's generous gifts which nourish and sustain us. Concluding the service, Metropolitan Antony blessed all those gathered before him, and expressed his joy at having so many of his flock gathered around him, praying together, singing together, and experiencing God together.

The Sobor Grand Banquet followed Vespers. The Sobor General Session and Dining Rooms of the Cultural Center had been transformed into a magnificent banquet hall. As the delegates and guests took their seats, the members of the Council of the Metropolia entered, leading the way for Metropolitan Antony and Archbishop Daniel, along with Mr. Oleksii Holubov, the Consul General of the Ukrainian Consulate in New York City. The evening's program began as Archbishop Daniel stepped up to the microphone to introduce the first concert performer of the evening, well known singer from Lviv, Ukraine – ANYCHKA, who beautifully performed several songs to the delight of her audience. The room grew hushed as everyone was transposed by the beautiful melodies and moving lyrics enhanced by her stage presence.

As Anychka concluded her program, His Eminence called for the lights in the hall to be dimmed. Everyone was basked in a soft blue glow in the darkened room, with only the icon of the Mother of God located upon the stage illuminated brightly. Attention was drawn to the large screen and the hall grew silent as the horrors of the invasion of Ukraine were depicted on the big screen. Those present saw the terror inflicted upon their ancestral homeland and experienced the grief right along with the people who were suffering from bombings, murder, torture, and utter destruction of an independent and sovereign nation. But every dark cloud has a silver lining, and the bright light came from the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, who in conjunction with the Orthodox Church in Ukraine worked, and continues to work diligently, offering relief to those who are suffering from the invasion. The video showed the numerous deliveries of items necessary to sustain life such as fresh fruits, canned foods, pasta, rice, as well as needed medical supplies, clothing, toys for the children, and much needed supplies such as warm socks, vests, and helmet lamps for the military. Most importantly, however, shown were some of the 70 or more ambulances, trucks and other vehicles for military use. The video, which featured a short clip of President Volodymyr Zelenskyy concluded with a video of several of the ambulances being blessed by Metropolitan Epifaniy in Kyiv and delivered to the various war-torn regions of Ukraine thanks to the generous donations of the faithful of the UOC of the USA and the thousands



of American citizens and organizations that have contributed millions of dollars to our Church's Fund to Aide Ukraine.

As the evening's entertainment continued, the seminarians of the St. Sophia Ukrainian Orthodox Theological Seminary stepped up to the microphone and began their program with a moving rendition of "Plyve Kacha Po Tysyni". The song is a lament. It is about a young soldier, a young recruit going off to fight in foreign wars and his dialogue with his mother as he asks what will happen if he dies in a foreign land with nobody to bury him. It is a poignant and solemn reminder of the ongoing battle Ukraine faces against Russia, from the days of the Maidan to the current unprovoked attack. As the young men sang, the people rose to their feet and lowered their heads, many wiping away tears, as the children gazed in wonder not sure why everyone suddenly became sad.

As the seminarians concluded the song, everyone remained in silence for a matter of seconds, before returning to the present, realizing that as they celebrated, people in Ukraine were fighting for their very survival. The seminarians sang additional numbers concluding with a rousing version of "Let my People Go!" which had the audience swaying and clapping along.

A greeting from His All-Holiness Patriarch Bartholomew to Metropolitan Antony on the occasion of his 50th anniversary of priestly ordination was read at this point:

#### **GREETING OF PATRIARCH BARTHOLOMEW TO METROPOLITAN ANTONY ON HIS 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF PRIESTLY ORDINATION**

*To His Eminence Metropolitan Antony of Hierapolis, Prime Hierarch of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the United States of America, our beloved brother and concelebrant in the Lord: Grace be unto you and peace from God.*

*It is with much brotherly love that we address this Patriarchal Letter of Congratulations to you upon learning of the 50th anniversary of your ordination to the Holy Deaconate and the Holy Priesthood.*

*During this significant period of sacrificial service, you have accomplished much, thanks to your strong work ethic and dedication to Christ's Holy Church and its mission, especially by ministering to our beloved Ukrainian Orthodox faithful, first as an active parish priest and later as a hierarch, and by nurturing and educating future priests at St. Sophia's Seminary.*

*Among your many achievements, we are indeed most satisfied that you and the late Metropolitan Constantine recognized the importance of unifying the divided bodies of the Ukrainian Orthodox parishes in the United States and united with the late Archbishop Vsevolod under the aegis of our beloved Mother Church of Constantinople in 1995. Your exemplary respect for the canonical tradition and integrity of the Orthodox Church, in addition to your unwavering support of the rights and privileges of our Sacred See, not only contributed to healing the above-mentioned wounds and divisions in your context but, undoubtedly, played a significant role in finally finding a solution to the ecclesiastical question in your beloved ancestral homeland of Ukraine.*

*Therefore, commending you for this special anniversary and wishing you many more years of "peace, safety, honor, and health, unto length of days, rightly teaching the word of the Lord's truth" as you continue to serve with His Eminence Archbishop Daniel, your beloved clergymen, and pious faithful, we embrace you with a "sacred kiss" and remain with much respect and esteem.*

At the Ecumenical Patriarchate, October 10th, 2022

Fraternally yours in Christ,

**+ Bartholomew**

Archbishop of Constantinople-New Rome and Ecumenical Patriarch

Archbishop Daniel asked that all the clergy approach the front of the hall to assist him in greeting Metropolitan Antony on the 50th anniversary of his priestly ordination, 37 of which he has served as a bishop of our Holy Church. With the clergy gathered round their Prime Hierarch, Archbishop Daniel presented him with a gift from them all – a bishop's staff (Zhezlo) with gold and gems, an exact replica of the staff of Metropolitan of Kyiv, Petro Mohyla, one of the most important leaders of the Orthodox Church in Ukraine in the late 17th century, who is credited with saving Orthodoxy in Ukraine for all time. As he received this incredible gift, Metropolitan Antony was deeply moved and lifted it high to bless all in attendance at the banquet. With his arm raised the bishop's staff high, the image was reminiscent of the staff with a serpent upon it, which Moses raised high for his people to gaze upon saving them from the onslaught of venomous snakes threatening them and for all Christians the elevation of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross of Christ upon which we gaze as for the source of our own salvation. As the clergy broke out in a loud rendition of Mnohaya Lita (Many Years), the clergy wives came forth, wheeling a cart upon which sat an exquisite cake created in the image of a thick tome, a book titled on the binding –

"My Spiritual Life" – representing the chapters of His Eminences past 50 years of service. The Metropolitan spoke next of his deep gratitude to everyone present for their kindness in remembering his 50th anniversary. He shared many interesting stories about important events and influences upon his life by priests and lay people who have greatly strengthened his priesthood. He spoke of his complete reliance upon the guidance of the Holy Spirit throughout his years of service relying upon the Grace inspired to him at his Baptism and during each of the Holy Sacraments and finally at the moment of his priestly ordination. This guidance kept him balanced and open to the strength of his life, the Body and Blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Christ abiding within him and he abiding in Christ – always striving to be one with Him and making all decisions in that state.

Metropolitan Antony spoke with much love of Metropolitan John Theodorovych, his life's personal hero and supporter. He introduced the Metropolitan John Theodorovych Award which was developed as a form of gratitude to those who have worked in the field of education. One by one His Eminence called out the recipients – which included the professors and educators at the Seminary and those who support the seminarians in their education, along with other parish educators and staff at the Consistory. He presented the Metropolitan John Theodorovych Medals to twenty-four individuals in gratitude for their service. This celebration of a priestly life was an emotional experience for all in attendance. His Eminence simply asked for the continued prayers of all present that God in the Holy Trinity – Father, Son and Holy Spirit – will continue to bless, guide and strengthen him and, most of all, forgive him for his weaknesses, faults, foolishness and sinfulness for as long as he is able to serve.

Early Friday morning, the St. Andrew Memorial Church filled to capacity and beyond with Sobor participants and regular parishioners for Divine Liturgy on the Feast of Pokrova – the Protection of the Mother of God. Archbishop Daniel preached on the importance of this Feast in Ukraine for her citizens who have always felt the protection of the Mother of God at the worst times of Ukrainian national history. Her arms are extended, holding her veil high above all Kyivans in the main icon of St. Sophia Cathedral in Kyiv, reminding the nation that she always abides with them and intercedes with her Beloved Son and our God for our safety, remission of sins and salvation. At the conclusion of the service, the Pochaiv icon was lowered for veneration.

Following Liturgy and breakfast, the presentations of the four break-out sessions left the delegates feeling re-energized and eager to return to their parishes to make real what they had heard – refocusing their parishes to do the work of Christ on Earth – caring for their neighbors, loving one another, and leading others, young and old, to salvation in Christ.

The first Breakout Session presentation was from the **Our Charitable Ministry – How We Have Gifted and Served – Future Needs and Prospects** group, which was introduced by Protodeacon Ihor Mahlay, President of the St. Andrew Society, and presented by Elizabeth Symonenko. The group had explored the statement of His Eminence Archbishop Daniel who had stated "How do we do what we are?" We are identified as Christians by our fruits. To that end the session has agreed to meet and develop a program encouraging individual parishes to enact works of charity both in Ukraine, and in their local communities. These charitable endeavors should involve the entire parish by the creation of Service Teams composed of the priest, parish board, and laity (including the youth); and be repeated on a regular basis allowing the parishioners to plan for each undertaking, and those in need to anticipate the forthcoming assistance. The group shared emails and plan to meet regularly to share ideas, stories of success, and to assist and encourage each other as they serve Christ, by serving others.

The second presentation, **"Our Spiritual Formation from Cradle to Grave"** was introduced by Very Rev. Anthony Perkins who led the session. Expressing his joy at the fruitfulness of the gathering he introduced V. Rev. John Haluszczak who gave a succinct exposition of their discussion. There are three main points to successful spiritual formation within individuals. First, start early by providing children with a good example in their homes, as well as by ensuring they understand that they are loved and welcomed in their parishes. Second point is to nurture time. We must make time in our busy lives for God. We need to formulate and adhere to a daily Prayer Rule, partake regularly of the Holy Sacraments, and set aside quiet time to be with God. Thirdly, we must remember that life is a journey and that we must focus each day on becoming more and more like Christ.

The third presentation discussed was **Stewards of God's Gifts – How Do We Produce the Fruits and Harvests Expected by our Lord "Tending and Keeping" (Gen. 2:15) His Creation Utilizing the Talents He has Blessed us with.**, which had been led by Very Rev. Robert Holet, and introduced by Mr. Jeff Greenleaf from Parma, Ohio. It was explained that stewardship is what we give back

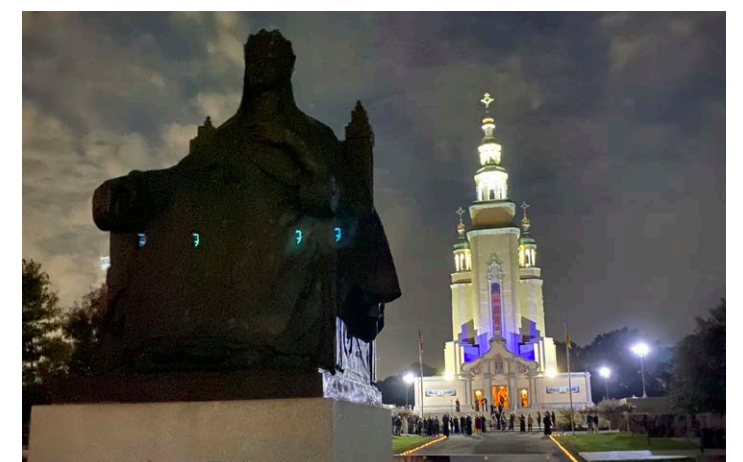
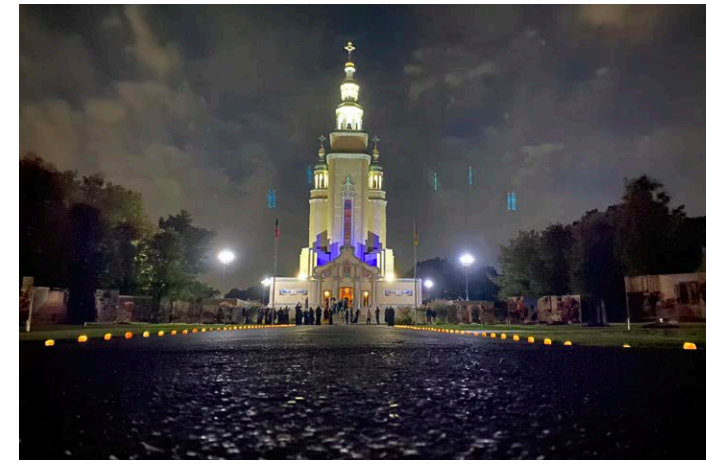


to God. While we have heard we must tithe 10%, we should begin with a lower percentage and slowly work our way up. Metropolitan Antony expressed that stewardship is often misconstrued, as it goes far beyond money. We must concentrate on how we give of ourselves to God in service to Church and mankind. We must give to God the best of what we hope to be, and the Lord will assist us to become the best versions of ourselves.

The final presentation, ***Our Church Life in Western Society – Is Our Faith Strong Enough?*** having been led by Very Rev. Gregory Jensen, was presented by Very Rev. Gregory Czumak who pointed out that while we may disagree with much of what society preaches, we must learn to live in and with society. We must discern to where to draw the line so that we live in peace with our neighbors yet not compromise our Faith. To help us we should always remember that Christ loves each and every person, regardless of how they act, look, or identify themselves. Furthermore, we must not spew theology at people who are showing interest in the Church, because we will lose them. Instead, we must return to the basics, and remind them that Jesus loves them. It is that love that will interest them and entice them to learn more.

These brief summaries do not adequately reflect the depth of discussion and personal sharing that occurred during each of the breakout sessions, which continued for three hours! The participants were moved deeply with the extended opportunity to reflect together on the spiritual issues which provoked much thought and discussion that truly embraced the participants and enriched their spiritual lives.

The major and vital discussion of the Sobor, ensued next on the agenda and revolved around financial status of the Church and Metropolia Center. Metropolitan Antony presented the facts about our Metropolia Center properties and the funds that will almost imminently be needed to make capital repairs and mechanical installations to ALL TEN of the buildings on our property. Serious discussion took place with many delegates and administrative officers of the Church about how the Church can best sustain herself, her ministries, and continue to fulfill her holy mission – the salvation of souls and the extension of God’s Kingdom. The entire Sobor finally concluded that monumental decisions will be necessary in the very near future and charged the Council of the Metropolia to investigate all possible solutions to long developing problem and to make the decision concerning the actions necessary to safeguard the future of the Church. This was a



difficult decision for the Sobor, but under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, the clergy and faithful delegates voted overwhelmingly to pass it. Metropolitan Antony expressed his deeply felt emotion at hearing the comments of so many of the delegates during the discussion who comprehended the nature of the Church as the Body of Christ and that the members of that Body and the salvation of their souls and those who are searching for God, must be the basis for all decisions made. The Metropolitan explained that this discussion was a long time coming and that it was crucial that this decision be made at this Sobor. He reminded all those who will serve on the Council of the Metropolia, that theirs will be a critical effort and that they must be prepared to give the best of themselves in time, talent, treasures and truth so that this effort will succeed.

Following this critical discussion, the results of the elections for the various Church Administrative Offices: the Council of the Metropolia, the Audit Commission and the Ecclesiastical Court were announced.



**ELECTED TO THE COUNCIL OF THE METROPOLIA (UOC OF USA BOARD OF TRUSTEES) WERE:**

**CLERGY:**

- V. Rev. Robert Holet
- V. Rev. Stephen Hutnick
- V. Rev. Taras Naumenko
- V. Rev. Andrii Pokotyly
- V. Rev. Vasile Sauciu
- V. Rev. Victor Wronskyj
- Rev. Mykola Zomchak

**Alternates:**

- V. Rev. Gregory Czumak
- V. Rev. Vasyl Sendeha
- V. Rev. Mykola Andrushkiv
- Rev. Richard Jendras
- V. Rev. Volodymyr Steliac

**LAY:**

- George Cepynsky
- Rebecca Druash
- Karen Feraro
- Aleksandra Koselko
- Elizabeth Symonenko
- Victoria Swindle
- Howard West

**Lay:**

- Michael Dobransky
- Matthew Dubas
- Scott Kerry

**ELECTED TO THE AUDIT COMMISSION WERE:**

**CLERGY:**

- Rev. James Cairns
- Rev. Andrew Matlak

**Alternates:**

- V. Rev. Stephen Masliuk

**LAY:**

- Tamara Host
- Wolodymyr Katolik
- Suzanne Marie Mathieu

- Daniel Petrovich

**ELECTED TO THE ECCLESIASTICAL COURT WERE:**

**CLERGY:**

- Rev. Myroslav Mykytiuk
- Rev. Theophan Mackey
- Rev. Borislav Kroner

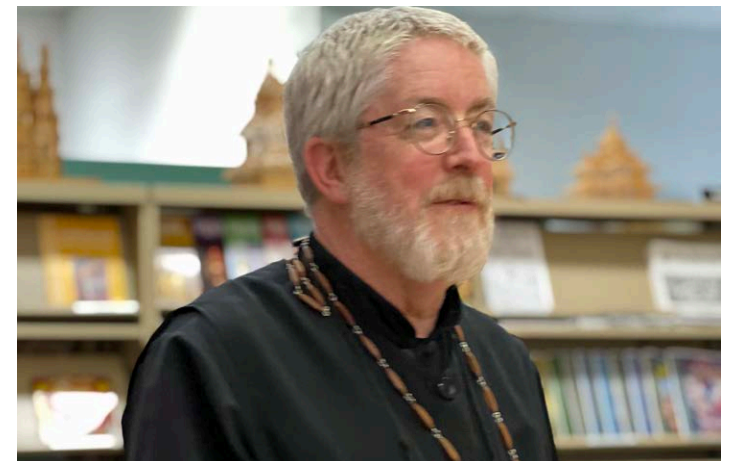
**Alternates:**

- V. Rev. Robert Popichak

**LAY:**

- Gayle Woloschak
- Paul Micevych

- Volodymyr Logvynyuk



Following this announcement, Dr. Paul Micevych presented two Resolutions for consideration, which were inspired by the moving video presentation presented during the Grand Banquet about the abundant assistance our Church has been providing all over Ukraine since the first days of the genocidal invasion of the nation. The Resolutions were unanimously approved by the delegates of the Sobor:

**1: The 23rd Regular Sobor of the UOC of the USA expresses its unanimous support of Metropolitan Epifaniy, the bishops, clergy and faithful of the Orthodox Church of Ukraine in tending to the spiritual and physical needs of the embattled peoples of Ukraine during the Russian genocidal invasion. We pray for the safety, health and spiritual well-being of the Orthodox Church of Ukraine and the Ukrainian people during their time of struggle. We pledge to continue our support to the people of Ukraine who suffer under this horrific invasion.**

**2. The 23rd Regular Sobor of the UOC of the USA expresses its heartfelt gratitude for the greeting of our Sobor, and support to the President of Ukraine, Volodymyr Zelenskyy and prays for his safety and continued heroic leadership during this time of struggle against the genocidal Russian invasion of our ancestral homeland. We also pray for the entire Ukrainian leadership, armed forces and civilians. May the Lord God protect them and keep them.**

Following these announcements, Metropolitan Antony and Archbishop Daniel both expressed their deepest of gratitude to all the Sobor delegates for truly allowing the Holy Spirit to guide their thoughts, words and deeds and for enabling the Grace with which they were inspired from the time of their Baptism and Chrismation and through all the Sacraments to fill the meeting space of the Sobor. Our bishops were both moved deeply and thanked God in the Holy Trinity – Father, Son and Holy Spirit – for embracing the Sobor and enabling the Body of Christ to look forward into the future with hope and devotion. Archbishop Daniel led the final prayer of the Sobor and offered the benediction.

Even though the business portion of the Sobor was over, the spiritual was still going strong. The faithful once again squeezed into the St. Andrew Memorial Church as the sun set to pray before the miraculous icon of the Mother of God – “Queen of All” “Vsetsarytsya”. The large icon in the center of the Nave (moved here from the stage of the Sobor session room) was flanked by all the smaller copies for the parishes, which the bishops blessed before the service began. The original of the icon lives on Mt. Athos and thousands of those prayed

for before her have been healed, most of them suffering from many forms of cancer and other devastating diseases. This prayer initiative was discussed and explained during the Sobor session on day one of the Sobor.

The darkened church, and somber mood, was broken as His Eminence Metropolitan Antony’s voice loudly declared, “Blessed is our God, always now and ever, and unto the ages of ages!” With these words began one of the most moving services many of those gathered had experienced. Everyone held a copy of the Akaphist booklet and sang the responses along with the Seminarians, praising the Virgin, entreating her assistance, and declaring her victory. The praises echoed back and forth through the church with the hierarchs and clergy praying the main verses of the service while the faithful replied with “Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!” and chanted all the various and multiple praises to the Most Holy Mother of God, humbly entreating her assistance. Well over 400 names had been submitted and passed out amongst the clergy to be read during this service. Prayers arose for those who suffer cancer, but also for those who suffer any illness of body, spirit, or mind. While the clergy prayed for those people whose names were written on paper, the faithful prayed in their hearts for all those whom they knew would benefit from the help and intercession of the Virgin.

At the conclusion of the service, the hierarchs once again thanked Howard and Lynda, for the initiative of this Akaphist prayer effort, stating that it would make a great difference in many lives. As the faithful shuffled forward to venerate the icon of the “Queen of All”, the hierarchs handed out the smaller blessed icons to the parish delegates to take home with them, along with booklets, to be used to offer this same Akaphist in their parishes.

At the conclusion of the moving service, the members who had been elected to Church administration were called forward and holding candles, were inducted into their offices declaring that they would fulfill all the responsibilities of their office with honor, integrity and diligence, adhering to the Constitution of the UOC of USA. The confirmed their abiding intent to utilize the talents gifted to them by God working tirelessly for the good and the growth of the Body of Christ.

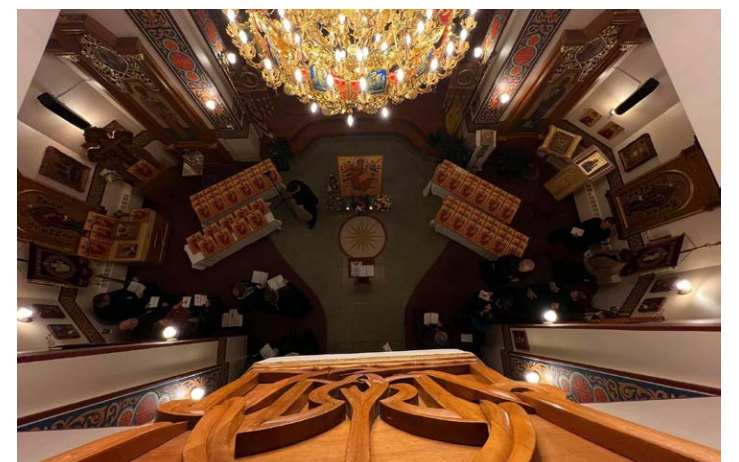
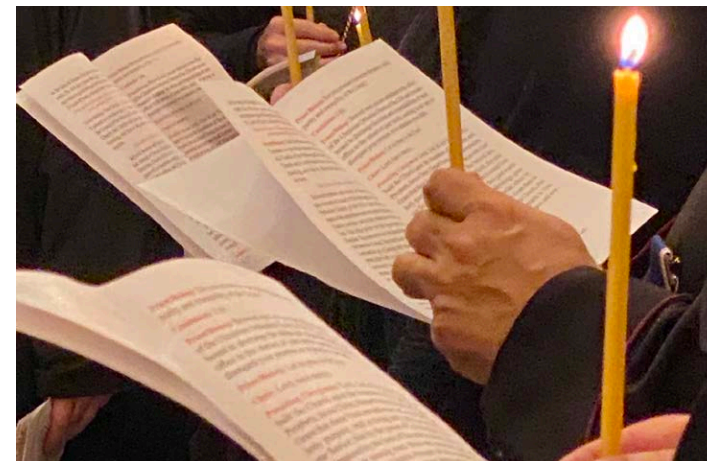
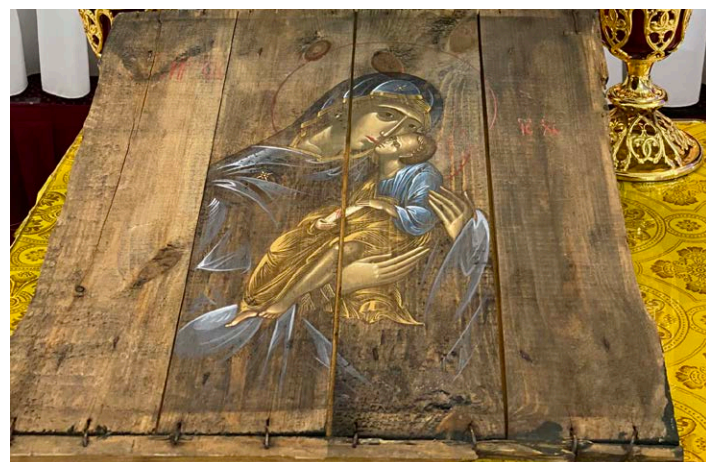
Early on Saturday morning, the clergy and faithful of the Church once again filled the St. Andrew Memorial Church for the final Hierarchical Divine Liturgy of the 23rd Regular Sobor. The service began with the



setting aside of Subdeacons of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA: Seminarians of St. Sophia Ukrainian Orthodox Theological Seminary: Mykola Stefanyk, Roman Marchyshak, Andriy Akulenko and Yurii Izhyk. Following the Divine Liturgy, the worshippers joyously made their way to the Ukrainian Cultural Center for the Sobor Farewell Brunch before departing to their homes throughout the nation. While the delegates and guests departed, the newly elected members of the Council of the Metropolia met in the St. John Theodorovych Library for their inaugural meeting. Metropolitan Antony stressed the importance of the Council, and that all decisions must be undertaken with deep thought and humble prayers for the good of the Church.

Archbishop Daniel, as President of the Consistory, fulfilled his responsibility of nominating those members of the Council he wished to serve on the Consistory: V. Rev. Victor Wronskyj, as Vice-President; Elizabeth Symonenko, Secretary; V. Rev. Stephen Hutnick, Treasurer; and V. Rev. Taras Naumenko, V. Rev. Andrii Pokotylo and Howard West, Members. The Council members unanimously voted to elect these individuals to the Consistory.

May the Lord continue to bless the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, her hierarchs, clergy, and faithful throughout the coming years, guiding them in making all decisions to strengthen and grow the Church, to His Glory.



# УКРАЇНСЬКА ПРАВОСЛАВНА ЦЕРКВА США – 23Й СОБОР

День Відкриття 23-го Звичайного Собору УПЦ США розпочався усередині, 12 жовтня 2022 р., коли делегати, духовенство, семінаристи та ієрархи Церкви, під прекрасним блакитним небом, процесією пройшли від будинку Консисторії до Культурного центру. У процесії за хрестом і хоругвами, які несли студенти Української Православної Духовної Семінарії Святої Софії, йшли делегати, несучи прапори кожного представленого штату, за ними йшло духовенство Церкви, несучи ікону Матері Божої, ієрархи та делегати Собору.

У той час, коли ікону розмістили на центральній трибуні, прапори були розміщені на трибунах вздовж сцени, поряд із великою іконою Покрови Божої Матері, що висіла на задній стіні сцени, маючи вигляд на увесь зал, усі вірні зайняли свої місця. Високопреосвященніший Митрополит Антоній, Первоієрарх Української Православної Церкви США та Діаспори розпочав засідання з молитви «Царю Небесний» українською та англійською мовами. Помолившись до Господа про допомогу та керівництво, митрополит Антоній повернувся до прапора Сполучених Штатів, а семінаристи виконали американський гімн. Усі доєдналися до виконання, поклавши руку на серце. Опісля усі розвернулися до українського прапора та голосно заспівали гімн України зі сльозами на очах.

Митрополит Антоній зачитав привітання до 23-го Собору від Святійшого Патріарха Варфоломія:

## ПРИВІТАННЯ ЙОГО ВСЕСВЯТОСТІ ВСЕЛЕНСЬКОГО ПАТРІАРХА ВАРФОЛОМІЯ ДО 23 ЗВИЧАЙНОГО СОБОРУ УКРАЇНСЬКОЇ ПРАВОСЛАВНОЇ ЦЕРКВИ СПОЛУЧЕНИХ ШТАТІВ АМЕРИКИ

Високопреосвященнішому Митрополиту Антонію, Високопреосвященнішому Архієпископу Даниїлу, Преосвященному Духовенству, та благочестивим вірним Української Православної Церкви Сполучених Штатів Америки, наші улюблені у Господі: *Благодать на вас і мир від Бога.*

З великою батьківською турботою та любов'ю звертаюся до всіх учасників 23-го Звичайного Собору Української Православної Церкви Сполучених Штатів Америки із нинішнім привітанням, темою котрого є: «Серце чисте створи в мені, Боже, і духа правди віднови в нутрі моєму» (Пс. 50:10), котрий є скликаний у важкий час для вашої Батьківщини

України, потерпаючої від нападу чужинців протягом вже кількох місяців.

Хоча я не маю змоги бути з вами особисто, я підтверджую свою присутність серед вас у молитві та дусі і посилаю вам своє Патріарше благословення, у той час коли ви збираєтеся – смиренно просячи, щоб Святий Дух направляв вас у вашому центрі Митрополії у Саут-Баунд-Бруці – Сомерсеті, Нью-Джерсі, розмірковуючи про події останні кілька років, обговорюючи критичні проблеми, з якими сьогодні стикаються ваші громади, і приймаючи правильні рішення щодо перенесення відповідальності в майбутнє.

Тому дуже доречно, що тема вашого Собору базується на цьому важливому і загальновідомому Псалмі, який часто вживається під час щоденних богослужінь нашої Святої Церкви, де псалмоспівець благає про Боже прощення і новий початок. У ці складні дні ви будете дивитися на чудовий зразок ваших незліченних побожних попередників, багато з яких приїхали до Америки ні з чим, окрім їхньої глибокої віри у вічні вчення та приклад Христа та збудували численні Святі Храми та усе необхідне для прославлення «Бога отців наших».

Тим не менш, так як війна спустошує Україну та загрожує домівкам і незліченним життям людей, ваша мужня праця та відчутна підтримка українців не залишилися непоміченими. Таким чином, добре розуміючи глибоку любов і прихильність Константинопольської Церкви-Матері до всіх її українських духовних дітей по усьому світі та у їхній суверенній Батьківщині ми хвалимо вас за ваші християнські ініціативи та заохочуємо вас продовжувати будь-яким можливим способом, насамперед дбаючи про духовні та душпастирські потреби нових іммігрантів і біженців, котрі прибувають до Сполучених Штатів, забезпечуючи їх безперервною інтеграцією до ваших парафій.

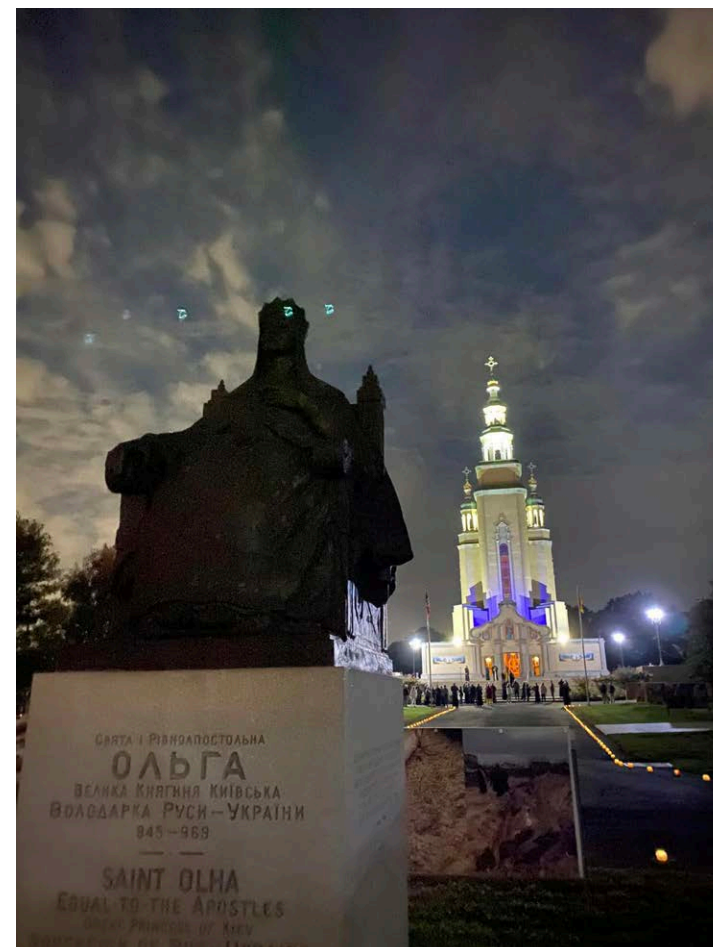
Саме тому, закликаю вас не залишатися осторонь, а примножувати незліченні дари і достаток, який Господь і Спаситель дарував вам (Мт. 25:14-30). Ми щиро віримо, що ваше зібрання буде продуктивним, забезпечуючи ваші парафії бути прикладами православного християнства і нашої Святої Великої Церкви Христової протягом багатьох прийдешніх років.

Вселенська Патріархія, 12 жовтня 2022 р

Ваш ревний молитвенник перед Богом,

**+ ВАРФОЛОМІЙ**

**Архієпископ Константинопольський-Нового Риму і Вселенський Патріарх**



Вступне слово Митрополита Антонія було зворушливим, обговорюючи тему Собору: «СЕРЦЕ ЧИСТЕ СТВОРИ В МЕНІ, БОЖЕ, І ДУХА ПРАВДИ ВІДНОВИ В НУТРІ МОЄМУ» (Псалом 50:12), пояснюючи, що коли цар і пророк Давид писав псалом, він був у найгіршому духовному стані його життя через його гріховність проти Бога та його умисне вбивство тощо. Він знав, що він не зміг з власної волі очистити своє власне серце і не міг відновити в ньому правильний дух – Святий Дух. Єдиним джерелом чистого серця, яке переверне його грішне і вбивче життя та направлення його до Бога, а не до особистої вигоди чи задоволення, є лише Бог. Жодна людська істота, хоч і створена за образом Божим, не може створити в собі нове серце. Ми, живучи у 2022 році, не є винятком з цього факту. Щоб молитися за провід Святого Духа на цьому Соборі, ми повинні мати чисте серце і бути готовими почути Духа і дозволити Благодаті, якою ми були натхнені, доносити до Бога приємні рішення, а не власні бажання. Митрополит лаконічно пояснив, що відбулося в житті нашої Святої Церкви протягом останніх трьох років. Пригнічені пандемією, а тепер і ворожим вторгненням в Україну, Церква змушена була придумувати нові способи служіння вірним. Він відкрито заявив, що подібно до підприємств, через пандемію та наслідковий стан економіки, Церква бореться фінансово. Однак з благодаті Божої та щедрості вірних, Церква продовжує працювати. Його Високопреосвященство заявив, що цей Собор серйозно обговорюватиме фінанси.

Митрополит Антоній представив Собору Іподиякона Гарі Гебета та подякував йому та його дружині Наталі за їхню щедрість. Побувавши на попередньому Соборі та почувши про фінансові труднощі Церкви, вони вирішили зробити все, що могли, щоб допомогти, і милостиво зробили неймовірно щедрий внесок, який дав нам змогу пройти протягом останніх трьох років. Іподиякон Гері розповів, що він, будучи надхненим обома ієрархами, коли подорожував з ними до Святої Землі і відчув необхідність зробити все, що міг. Він переживав лише про те, щоб та жертва у такому великому розмірі, будучи відомою людям, не стала перешкодою для інших й надалі жертвувати, тому він закликав усіх натомість надихнутися цим і робити подібне.

Архієпископ Даниїл піднявся до трибуни, щоб зачитати звіт президента Консисторії. Він подякував всім за присутність і відданість УПЦ США. Він розповів про стан Церкви, проблеми, які сьогодні стоять перед нашими парафіями, стан акредитації Семінарії та про надії на майбутнє.

Перед завершенням своєї доповіді Архієпископ нагадав усім, що парафії, будучи задіяними благодійною діяльністю, проведенням заходів, організацією фестивалів, не повинні ніколи забувати про справжню мету. Основна місія Церкви – це спасіння душ, а не просто бути благодійною організацією, кухнею або складом одягу. Церква повинна привести людей до поклоніння Богу і привести людей до спасіння. Як тільки ми повністю зрозуміємо цю місію, все інше стане на свої місця. Господь сказав: «Як Отець послав Мене, так і Я посилаю вас». Як же ми можемо повернутися спиною? Нам доручили священне завдання, прекрасне, але нелегке. Чи готові ми до цього виклику? Ми не бізнес чи громадська організація. Ми – народ Божий - Тіло Христове. «Тому, хто вірує, все можливе». (Марка 9:23) Це включає в себе протистояння із будь-яким викликом чи провокацією з боку секуляризованого світу. Усе можливо, якщо ми дотримуємося вчень нашого Господа, проголошуючи Євангеліє, відкриваючи Його Істину та зцілюючи по всьому світу. Це наш Стратегічний план сьогодення, на майбутнє і назавжди.

Архієпископ Даниїл розпочав презентацію Відділів Служіння Консисторії. Першою була Наталя Капелюх-Ніксон, директор Відділу Праці з Молоддю (ОУМ). У своїй презентації Наталя пояснила важливість табору Всіх Святих у житті нашої молоді, навчаючи їх молитися разом і залишатися разом. Вона пояснила різні онлайн-класи та події, котрі проводилися для дітей під час пандемії, показавши це у своєму відео.

Радість, яку Собор побачив на обличчях молоді, запевнила, що Церква має майбутнє. Важливою програмою ОУМ є трирічний МОЛОДІЖНИЙ СОБОР, який проводиться разом з нашим Звичайним Собором. Цього року він проводився під час підліткової конференції на Таборі Всіх Святих, адже було б дуже витратно проводити Собор окремо. Звіти Молодіжного Собору були наповнені натхненням для постійних делегатів Собору, особливо через їхнє духовне розуміння та багато спонукаючих до роздумів пропозицій, котрі делегати повинні взяти до уваги повернувшись до своїх парафій.

Доповідь Старшої Української Православної Ліги (УПЛ) виголосила Карен Ферраро, попередній Президент Української Православної Ліги, виступивши від імені новообраного Президента УПЛ Лариси Черест, котра не змогла взяти участь



у Соборі. Карен проінформувала Собор про всю добру роботу, котру УПЛ зробила протягом багатьох років, включаючи публікацію навчальних матеріалів в обох мовах, Стипендіальний Фонд Митрополита Йоана для наших семінаристів, Стипендіальний фонд «Кузбит» імені Лінн Савчук/ Карен для молодших членів УПЛ, які навчаються в коледжі чи університеті. Він не тільки забезпечує освіту, але й змушує всіх працювати і молитися разом. УПЛ надає ресурси під час Великого посту та проводить щорічні духовні реколекції під час Великого посту, заохочуючи вірних до читання Святого Письма, заохочуючи до посту, давати милостиню та багато іншого. Карен закликала усіх присутніх делегатів створити місцеві відділи Ліги у своїх парафіях, щоб члени парафії могли повною мірою долучитися до всіх цих зусиль. Вона закликала присутніх брати участь у реколекціях та інших програмах УПЛ, щоб познайомитися з Лігою. Голова Молодшої Української Православної Ліги Наталія Свон зі Свято-Володимирського собору, Філадельфія, штат Пенсільванія, разом із секретарем Молодшої Ліги Олесею Коротинською виступили зі звітом Молодшої Ліги. Наталя коротко розповіла про поточні програми та проекти Молодшої ліги, особливо про найбільш успішні зусилля – подарунки (giveaway) під час Великого посту та недільну програму Souper Bowl. Дарунки в час посту приносять користь певній благодійній організації, наприклад, новій місійній парафії чи місійній програмі. Таким чином, кошти зібрані місцевими відділами Молодшої УПЛ йдуть на користь таким проектам. Програма “Souper Bowl” відбувається щороку в неділю Super Bowl у лютому. Місцеві відділи УПЛ та багато інших парафій, які не мають відділів, беруть участь у програмі, продаючи різноманітні супи (супер тарілки) під час обіду після Божественної Літургії та беруть пожертви від охочих, щоб передати Товариству Св. Андрія на підтримку організації благодійних кухонь по деяких великих містах України. Молодша УПЛ вже передала 50 000 доларів для Товариства Св. Андрія зібраних від проекту Souper Bowl за останні десять років.

Митрополит Антоній представив нову молитовну ініціативу нашої Церкви. Він запросив члена Ради Митрополії Архонта Говарда Веста до трибуни. Його Високопреосвященство звернув увагу на велику ікону Божої Матері «Всецариці» або «Пантанасса», яка була розташована на сцені. Говард розповів, що разом зі своєю дружиною др. Ліндою, вони змогли здійснити відтворення чудотворної ікони, відомої тим, котра зцілює рак та інші важкі недуги. Саме

ця ікона була написана руками нашого відомого іконописця Михайла Капелюха з Парафії Свв. Петра і Павла, Карнегі, Пенсільванія. Говард також будучи з парафії в Карнегі, пояснив, що його власна парафіяльна родина в Карнегі молилася акафістом до цієї ікони під час Успенського та Різдвяного постів в останні роки, і парафіяни ставали свідками великих плодів. Оригінал ікони знаходиться в монастирі на горі Афон, до котрої приходять тисячі з молитвами, і зцілюються, від таких недуг як рак та від багатьох інших руйнівних хвороб. Тому він і його дружина мали бажання, щоб всі вірні нашої Святої Церкви мали таку ікону, приносячи перед нею свої молитви. Він також спонсорував виготовлення ще 100 копій ікони для розповсюдження поміж наших парафій. Ця соборна оригінальна ікона перебуватиме в Церкві-Пам'ятнику Св. Андрія. Спільний акафіст буде служитися та транслюватися в прямому ефірі в перший четвер кожного місяця о 19:00. Кожна парафія отримає малу копію разом із буклетом Акафісту, щоб служити Акафіст щомісяця в їхніх церквах, та вести пряму трансляцію для своїх прихожан, молячись за парафіян, які страждають на тяжкі хвороби. Митрополит Антоній подякував пану Говарду та др. Лінді за їхню доброту, щедрість і ЛЮБОВ, з якою вони принесли цей дар усій нашій Церкві. Щомісячна пряма трансляція акафістів дозволить тим, хто надто хворий, бути присутніми під час богослужіння особисто, та відчувти молитви, які підносяться за них.

Після вечері, всіх делегатів, заступників і гостей попросили зібратися біля сходів Свято-Андріївської Церкви-Пам'ятника для Панахиди, щоб помолитися за всіх загиблих за ці минулі майже вісім місяців геноцидного російського вторгнення в Україну. Основний проїзд до церкви був виставлений мерехтливими соляними лампадками, ніжно освітлюючи шлях до церкви. Його Високопреосвященство Архієпископ Даниїл виразив почуття всіх, коли заявив, що ми ніколи не очікували вторгнення Росією в Україну. Він розповідав, як щойно відвідав Україну, а через кілька днів отримав повідомлення від своєї матері, яка ховалася в підвалі під завивання сирен. Протягом цих останніх вісім місяців Україну бомбардували, десятки тисяч людей вбили та ще мільйони тероризували. Понад дванадцять мільйонів переміщених осіб – є в Україні чи за її межами.

Митрополит Антоній заявив, що це не перша спроба геноциду Росії проти українського народу. У листопаді виповнюється 90 років Голодомору, і ось ми знову стикаємося з геноцидом з боку росіян.

90 років тому журналісти мовчали, світ закрив очі, не зважаючи на боротьбу України і затикали вуха від її криків. Цього разу світ бачить правду. Незважаючи на те, що російська пропагандистська машина продовжує працювати, соціальні медіа не замовкнуть, правда не буде прихована, і світ спостерігатиме за жахами, обрушеними на мирну та суверенну націю. Його Високопреосвященство попросив, щоб зараз усі зосередилися на душах тих невинних людей, більшість з яких – цивільні особи, які були вбиті не на війні, тому що війна ведеться між арміями. Це є не війна, а вторгнення, від якого Україна змушена захищатися. Це не тільки війна проти армії України, але проти цивільних, націлюючи свої ракети на лікарні, житлові будинки школи, підриваючи невинних людей і перетворюючи села та величезні міста на пустелі. Це є геноцид.

Коли ієрархи повернулися обличчям до вітаря, який був відкритий і його було видно крізь відчинені двері церкви, семінаристи почали співати богослужіння. Один за одним люди почали підспівувати, єднаючись у молитві за мирний упокій душ покійних. Митрополит Антоній виголосив: «У блаженнім успіху вічний спокій подай, Господи, спочилим рабам Твоїм і сотвори їм вічну пам'ять», а усі люди тремтливими голосами співали «Вічна пам'ять!»

Церковний дзвін бив, а спів продовжувався... Під час урочистого биття дзвону Архієпископ Даниїл кадив церкву, духовенство і вірних, а потім спустився сходами церкви, щоб покадити всі плакати, які були встановлені перед церквою, відображаючи жахи, заподіяні Україні – плач дітей, розбомблені будівлі, тіла та всілякі жахи. Коли останні ноти молитви піднесли до небес, Архієпископ Даниїл звернувся до вірян із проханням пройтися між плакатами та поглянути на зображення жаху, терору та вбивства. Хоча ми можемо бути втомленими після довгого дня, є чоловіки та жінки в Україні в цю ж мить, які втомилася, але боряться за свободу, за волю, за життя. Він запропонував усім взяти соляні свічки, котрі були викладені вздовж дороги, і взяти одну з собою додому, поставивши їх у свої молитовні куточки та запалюючи їх кожного вечора, знайти хвилинку, щоб продовжити молитви сьогоднішнього вечора та молитися за душі тих, хто був убитий під час нинішнього геноциду проти народу України.

Люди повільно розвернулися й розійшлися між плакатами, їхні свічки мерехтіли, як зірки що виходять із церкви. Коли вони тримали свої свічки



близько, щоб освітити фотографії, відчувалось так, ніби вони приєднався до страждань на зображеннях. Витираючи сльози, мовчки ходячи від одного до іншого плакату, вірні зробили собі обіцянку молитися не лише за тих, чиє життя було забране, але й за свободу України та безпеку її народу.

Другий день Собору розпочався з того, що делегати приєдналися до своїх ієрархів на Божественній Літургії. Делегати Собору спочатку заслухали звіти про діяльність церковних центральних організацій та установ, які були продовженням звітів попереднього дня. Далі на порядку денному були звіти наступних Відділів Служіння Консistorії – Відділу Опікунства, Відділу Християнського Милосердя, Відділу Освіти Духовенства, Відділу Богослужбового Видання, Відділу Зв'язків з Громадкістю, Відділу Архівів, Відділу Зовнішніх Зв'язків. Очільники Відділів та апарату Консistorії, які підготували звіти мали змогу робити додаткові коментарі до доповідей і відповідати на запитання Делегатів Собору. Учасники Собору слухали ці доповіді, сприймаючи їх з великим ентузіазмом, усвідомлюючи великі досягнення. Багато ресурсів було доступно у звітах для парафій, які вони можуть використовувати у своєму служінні для збагачення парафіяльного життя. Усі доповіді будуть частиною Протоколів Собору та, сподіваємося, будуть опубліковані в найближчих номерах Українського Православного Слова.

Ці звіти супроводжувалися фінансовим звітом, представленим протоієреєм Степаном Хутником, Наталією Гончаренко-Андрець. Перераховуючи цифри, делегати чітко усвідомили якими величезними є витрати на програми служіння нашої Церкви. Тому, Консistorією й впроваджено методи економії грошей, але попри це, для фінансування всіх цих програм потрібен дохід. Консistorія та відділи служіння роблять все можливе, щоб виконати всі свої обов'язки, але з кожним роком все важче і важче стає це здійснювати.

Під час 22-го Собору 2019 року була заснована найновіша Центральна Організація нашої Церкви Покровителі Митрополії. Протоієрей Андрій Покотило – президент, разом з паном Говардом Вестом представили Програму Покровителів Учасникам Собору, інформуючи про те, що означає бути членом у цій організації та які вимоги вступу, і яку користь ця організація принесе Церкві. Члени зобов'язані вносити або збирати конкретні кошти, які вносяться на опікунські рахунки. Не менше

20% коштів повинні бути спрямовані на потреби Консistorії для підтримки її Відділів Служіння та інших необхідних програм.

Після обідньої перерви кожен делегат Собору приєднався до однієї з чотирьох розділених на групи сесій: «Наше Церковне Життя в Західному Суспільстві – Чи Достатньо Сильною Є Наша Віра?» - очільник групи: о. Григорій Дженсен, з Місійної Парафії Св. Кирила та Мефодія, Медісон, Вісконсин; «Наше Духовне Формування – від Хрещення до Смерті?» - очільник групи: о. Антоній Перкінс з Місійної Парафії Святого Воскресіння, Вейнсвілл, Північна Кароліна; «Наше Благодійне Служіння – яким Чином ми Здійснювали Благодійність та Служіння – Потребита Перспективу у Майбутньому» - очільник групи: Архієпископ Даниїл – Президент Консistorії; «Розпорядники Божих Дарів – яким чином ми Примножуємо Плоди та Урожай, котрий очікує від нас Господь, «Доглядати та Берегти» (Бут. 2:15) Його творіння вживаючи таланти, якими Він нас благословив?» - очільник групи: Протоієрей Роберт Голет, емерит з Парафії Св. Миколая, Шарлоттсвіль, Вірджинія.

Ці сесії збиралися в різних місцях по всьому Центру Митрополії – Консistorії, Конференц-залі, бібліотеці, ротонді та семінарії. 175 делегатів духовенства та мирян, а також гості були приблизно однаково розподілені протягом усіх чотирьох сесій. Після виступу очільника групи, учасники ділилися особистим парафіяльним досвідом, давали поради та обговорювали, як Церква та місцеві парафії можуть вдосконалюватися, рости та розширюватися в різних областях. Протягом трьох годин обговорення та збагачення, Високопреосвященніший Митрополит Антоній відвідав кожну з чотирьох груп, слухаючи та іноді промовляючи слова мудрості, але більше того, просто насолоджуючись працею своєї пастви, котра трудиться разом для добра Церкви її вірних. Хоча учасники могли ще продовжувати спілкування годинами, сесії завершилися, щоб усі могли взяти участь у Вечірньому Богослужінні у Каплиці Трьох Святителів Свято-Софіївської Семінарії.

Коли сонце почало сідати, маленька каплиця, тепло освітлена мерехтливими свічками, почала наповнюватися людьми. Розпочалася Вечірня, яку служив протоієрей Тарас Науменко з Митрополитом Антонієм. Семінаристи співали на богослужінні. Ікони у каплиці світилися теплом і затишком. У співі до семінаристів приєдналися і вірні, прославляючи Господа. Люди були зворушені непоборним почуттям Благодаті, яка ніби наповнювала храм і містично огортала їх.

«Світло тихе святої слави безсмертного Отця небесного, святого, блаженного, Ісусе Христе, прийшовши на захід сонця, побачивши світло вечірнє, оспівуємо Отця, і Сина, і Святого Духа – Бога. Достойн єси у всі часи оспівуваним бути голосами преподобними. Сину Божий, що даєш життя всьому світу, ради чого весь світ славить Тебе».

Готуючись до вшановування Свята Покрови Пресвятої Богородиці на ранковій Божественній Літургії, під час Літї Його Високопреосвященство освятив хліб, пшеницю, вино та єлей. Ця молитва згадує про чудо насичення п'яти тисяч, але хліб і вино також використовується при Євхаристії; пшениця символізує Христа, Який є пшеничним зерном, що впало на землю і виростило в Дерево Життя. Олія є Єлеєм радості та помазання, яке ми отримали під час нашого хрещення, а також єлеєм зцілення. Разом ці чотири земні дари символізують щедрі Божі дари, які живлять і підтримують нас. Завершуючи богослужіння, митрополит Антоній благословив усіх присутніх, висловивши свою радість від того, що навколо нього зібралось так багато його стада, разом молячись, співаючи і разом відчуваючи Бога.

Після Вечірні відбувся Великий Соборний Бенкет. Загальна сесія Собору та обідня зала у Культурному центрі були перетворені на розкішний бенкетний зал. Як делегати, так і гості зайняли свої місця, попереду Митрополита Антонія та Архієпископа Даниїла увійшли члени Ради Митрополії разом з Генеральним Консулом України у Нью-Йорку паном Олексієм Голубовим. Програма вечора розпочалася, із запрошення Архієпископом Даниїлом першої виконавиці вечора, відомої співачки зі Львова, України – АНИЧКА, яка чудово виконала кілька пісень, що порадували публіку. Усі затихли, коли співачка виконала прекрасні пісні та зворушила усіх чудовим текстом пісень.

Коли Аничка закінчила свою програму, Його Високопреосвященство попросив приглушити світло в залі. Всі грілися в ніжно-блакитному сяйві в затемненій бенкетній залі, лише ікона Божої Матері, розташована на сцені залишалася з яскравим освітленням. Увагу привернув великий екран, а зал стихився. На великому екрані відображалися жахи вторгнення в Україну. Присутні побачили якого терору завдали їхній Батьківщині й пережили горе разом із народом, який страждає від бомбардувань, вбивств, тортур і повного знищення незалежної та суверенної нації.



Але кожна темна хмара має світле обрамлення, і тим світлом стала і Українська Православна Церква США, яка спільно з Православною Церквою України працювала і продовжує старанно працювати, надаючи допомогу тим, хто страждає від вторгнення. Відео показало численні поставки речей, необхідних для підтримки життя, таких як свіжі фрукти, консерви, макарони, рис, також необхідне медичне приладдя, одяг, іграшки для дітей та такі необхідні речі, такі, як теплі шкарпетки, жилети, підшоломки для військових. Але найголовніше, відео показало деякі з 70-ти або й, навіть, більше машин швидкої допомоги, вантажівок та інших транспортних засобів військового призначення. Відео, яке містило короткий ролик з Президентом Володимиром Зеленським завершилося тим, як Митрополит Епіфаній освячує кілька карет швидкої допомоги в Києві. Ці авто були доставлені в різні, охоплені війною регіони України завдяки щедрим пожертвам вірних УПЦ США та тисяч американських громадян і організацій, які пожертвували мільйони доларів до Фонду нашої Церкви на допомогу Україні.

Упродовж вечірнього бенкету семінаристи Свято-Софійської Української Духовної Семінарії розпочали свою програму зворушливим виконанням всім відомої пісні «Пливе Кача По Тисині». Це пісня – плач, у ній розповідається про молодого солдата, молодого воїна, який йде боротися у не своїй війні і його діалог із матір'ю, коли він запитує, що станеться, якщо він загине на чужій землі, і ніхто його не похоронить. Ця пісня – є тим зворушливим й урочистим нагадування про боротьбу, яка досі триває в Україні проти Росії, від днів Майдану до нинішнього неспровокованого нападу. Коли хлопці співали, то люди піднялися й опустили голови, багато хто з них витирав сльози, а діти в той час дивилися дивно на людей не знаючи, чому всі раптом засмутилися.

Опісля того, як семінаристи завершили пісню, усі кілька секунд мовчали, усвідомлюючи, що у той час коли ми бенкетуємо, люди в Україні борються за своє виживання. Семінаристи виконали ще кілька пісень, а завершили свій номер запальною версією «Дозволь моїм людям піти!» («Let My People Go») який змусив аудиторію аплодувати.

Також тут було зачитано привітання Всесвятійшого Патріарха Варфоломія Митрополиту Антонію з нагоди 50-ліття його священства:

## ПРИВІТАННЯ ПАТРІАРХА ВАРФОЛОМІЯ МИТРОПОЛИТУ АНТОНІЮ З НАГОДИ 50-РІЧЧЯ ІЄРЕЙСЬКОГО СЛУЖІННЯ

Високопреосвященнішому Митрополиту Ієрапольському Антонію, Первоієрарху Української Православної Церкви Сполучених Штатів Америки, наш улюблений брате і співслужителю в Господі: Нехай благодать буде з Вами та мир від Бога. З великою братерською любов'ю звертаюся до Вас із цим Патріаршим листом привітанням дізнавшись про 50-річчя Вашої хіротонії до Святого Дияконства та Святого Священства.

Протягом цього важливого періоду жертвовного служіння Ви багато чого досягли завдяки вашій сильній трудовій етиці та відданості Святій Церкві Христовій та її місії, особливо через служіння нашим улюбленим українським православним вірним, спочатку, як активним священником, а згодом ієрархом, плекаючи та виховуючи майбутніх священників у Свято-Софійській Семінарії.

Серед багатьох ваших досягнень ми справді найбільше задоволені тим, що ви та покійний Митрополит Костянтин визнали важливість об'єднання розділених українських православних парафій в Сполучених Штатах і об'єдналися з покійним Архієпископом Всеволодом під егідою нашої улюбленої Церкви-Матері в Константинополі в 1995 р. Ваша зразкова повага до канонічної традиції та цілісності Православної Церкви, разом з Вашою непохитною підтримкою прав та положень нашого Святого Престолу, не тільки сприяла загоєнню вищезгаданих ран і розколів у вашому контексті, але й, безсумнівно, відіграла значну роль в остаточному розв'язанні церковного питання у вашій улюбленій Батьківщині Україні.

Тому я вітаю Вас з цим особливим ювілеєм і бажаю ще багато років "миру, безпеки, честі та здоров'я на довгі роки, правильно навчати словом Господньої істини", оскільки Ви продовжуєте служити з Високопреосвященнішим Архієпископом Даниїлом, Вашим улюбленим духовенством і благочестивими вірними. Я обіймаю Вас «священним поцілунком», продовжуючи мати до Вас велику повагу та шану.

Вселенська Патріархія, 10 жовтня 2022 р  
Ваш Брат у Христі,

**+ Варфоломій**  
Архієпископ Константинополя-Нового Риму і  
Вселенський Патріарх



Архієпископ Даниїл попросив все духовенство підійти до передньої частини залу, щоб допомогти йому привітати Митрополита Антонія з 50-річчям священичої хіротонії, 37 років з яких він провів як єпископ нашої Святої Церкви. Разом з духовенством Архієпископ Даниїл вручив Митрополиту Антонію подарунок від усіх – єпископський жезл із золотом та прикрасами, точну копію жезла Митрополита Київського Петра Могили, одного з найвизначніших діячів православної Церкви в Україні кінця XVII ст., якому приписують збереження православ'я в Україні на всі часи. Отримавши цей неймовірний подарунок, Митрополит Антоній був глибоко зворушений і високо підняв жезл, щоб поблагословити всіх присутніх на бенкеті. З високо піднятою рукою єпископський жезл нагадував образ жезла із змієм на ньому, який Мойсей підняв високо для свого народу, щоб дивитися на порятунок їх від нападу отруйних змій, що загрожують їм. А для всіх християн він є піднесенням Пречистого і Животворчого Хреста Христового, на який ми споглядаємо, як на джерело власного спасіння.

Коли духовенство вигукнуло гучним виконанням «Многая літа», прийшли дружини священнослужителів, вивізи з собою вишуканий торт, створений у вигляді товстої книги під назвою на палітурці – «Моє Духовне Життя» – представляючи розділи життя Його Високопреосвященства за останні 50 років служіння. Далі митрополит висловив глибоку вдячність усім присутнім за їхню доброту, згадуючи свій 50-річний ювілей. Він поділився багатьма цікавими історіями про важливі події та вплив на його життя священників і мирян, які значно зміцнили його священство. Він говорив про свою повну довіру провідництву Святого Духа протягом усіх років служіння, покладаючись на Благодать, котра надихнула його під час Хрещення і під час кожного зі Святих Таїнств і, нарешті, у момент його священичої хіротонії. Завдяки цьому провідництву він залишався врівноваженим і відкритим для сили свого життя, Тіла і Крові Господа і Спасителя нашого Ісуса Христа. Христос перебуваючи у ньому, а він у Христі – завжди прагнучи бути єдиним з Ним і в такому стані приймати всі рішення.

Митрополит Антоній з великою любов'ю відгукувався про Митрополита Іоана Теодоровича, котрий є його собистим героєм у житті та прихильником. Митрополит Антоній представив Медаль імені Митрополита Іоана Теодоровича, яка була розроблена як спосіб вдячності тим, хто працював на ниві освіти. Один за одним Його

Високопреосвященство назвав нагороджених, серед яких були професори та вихователі семінарії та тих, хто підтримує семінаристів у їхній освіті, разом з іншими парафіяльними вихователями та працівниками Консисторії. Він вручив медалі імені Митрополита Іоана Теодоровича двадцяти чотирьом особам як знак вдячності за служіння. Це свято ювілею священичого служіння було емоційним переживанням для всіх присутніх. Його Високопреосвященство просто попросив продовжувати молитися всім присутнім, щоб Бог у Святій Трійці – Отець, Син і Дух Святий – продовжував благословляти, скеровувати та зміцнювати його і, головне, простити йому його слабкості, вади, нерозумність і гріховність, допоки він зможе служити.

Рано-вранці в п'ятницю Церква-Пам'ятник Св. Андрія Первозванного була заповнена учасниками Собору та постійними парафіянами на Божественній Літургії у свято Покрови Божої Матері. Архієпископ Даниїл проповідував про важливість цього свята в Україні для її громадян, які завжди відчували опіку Божої Матері в найгірші часи української національної історії. Її руки розпростерті та високо підняті над усіма киянами, де вона тримає покров на головній іконі Софійського Собору, нагадуючи народу, що вона завжди перебуває з ними і заступається зі своїм Улюбленим Сином і Богом нашим задля нашої безпеки, задля відпущення гріхів і спасіння. На завершення богослужіння ікона Почаївської Божої Матері була опущена для поклоніння.

Після Літургії та сніданку завершилися доповіді чотирьох розділених на групи засідань. Делегати відчували справжнє відновлення сил і бажання повернутися до своїх парафій, щоб реалізувати те, що вони почули – переорієнтація своїх парафій на виконання роботи Христа на землі – турбота про своїх ближніх, любов один до одного, ведучи і молодих, і старих до спасіння у Христі.

Перша презентація була від групи на тему «Наше Благодійне Служіння – яким Чином ми Здійснювали Благодійність та Служіння – Потреби та Перспективи у Майбутньому», яку представив протодиякон Ігор Махлай, президент Товариства Св. Андрія Первозванного, доповідач - Єлизавета Симоненко. Група досліджувала вислів Його Високопреосвященства Архієпископа Даниїла, який сказав: «Яким чином ми виконуємо те, ким ми є?» Нас ідентифікують як християн за нашими плодами. З цією метою сесія погодила зібратися і розробити

програму заохочення окремих парафій до справ милосердя як в Україні, так і в своїх місцевих громадах. Ці благодійні заходи мають залучати всю парафію створенням Команди Служіння, що складатиметься зі священника, парафіяльної управи та мирян (включно з молоддю); повторюючи про це регулярно, дозволяючи парафіянам планувати кожен таку справу, а тим, хто у потребі, передбачати їхню майбутню допомогу. Група поділилася електронними листами та планує регулярно зустрічатися, щоб обмінюватися ідеями та історіями успіху, а також допомагати і підбадьорювати один одного, коли вони служать Христу, служачи іншим.

Другу презентацію на тему «Наше Духовне Формування – від Хрещення до Смерті?» представив Протоієрей Антоній Перкінс, котрий і очолював сесію цієї групи. Висловлюючи свою радість з приводу плідності зібрання, він представив о. Івана Галушчака, який коротко виклав їхню дискусію. Є три основні моменти успішного духовного становлення особистості. По-перше, почніть заздалегідь, подаючи дітям добрий приклад у своїх домівках, а також забезпечуючи розуміння того, що їх люблять і вітають у своїх парафіях. По-друге – плекайте час. Ми повинні приділяти час у нашому зайнятому житті Богові. Потрібно скласти і дотримуватися щоденного молитовного правила, регулярно причащатися Святих Таїнств, і виділяти спокійний час, щоб побути з Богом. По-третє, ми повинні пам'ятати, що життя - це подорож і, що ми кожен день повинні зосереджуватися на тому, щоб ставати все більше і більше схожими на Христа.

Третя презентація, яку обговорювали, була на тему «Розпорядники Божих Дарів – яким чином ми Примножуємо Плоди та Урожай, котрий очікує від нас Господь, «Доглядати та Берегти» (Бут. 2:15) Його творіння вживаючи таланти, якими Він нас благословив?» котру проводив Потоієрей Роберт Холет, а доповів Джефф Грінліф з Парми, штат Огайо. Він пояснив, що опікунство – це те, що ми повертаємо Богові. Ми всі чули про десятину, але починати потрібно з меншої частини і повільно підніматися. Митрополит Антоній зазначив, що опікунство часто неправильно розуміють, оскільки воно виходить далеко за межі грошей. Ми повинні зосередитися на тому, як ми віддаємо себе Богові в служінні Церкві та людству. Ми повинні дати для Бога найкраще з того, чим ми сподіваємося

бути, і Господь допоможе нам стати найкращими версіями цього самим.

Заклучна презентація на тему «Наше Церковне Життя в Західному Суспільстві – Чи Достатньо Сильною Є Наша Віра?», котру очолив о. Грегорі Дженсен. Доповів протоієрей Григорій Чумак, який зазначив, що хоча ми можемо не погоджуватися з більшістю того, що проповідує суспільство, ми повинні навчитися жити з суспільством. Треба розрізнити, де провести межу, щоб ми ще жили в мирі з сусідами не шкодячи нашій вірі. Допомогою нам повинна служити пам'ять про те, що Христос любить усіх і кожен людину, незалежно від того, як вона діє, виглядає чи ідентифікує себе. Крім того, ми не повинні нав'язувати теологію на людей, які виявляють інтерес до Церкви, бо ми їх втратимо. Натомість ми повинні повернутися до основи, і нагадати їм, що Ісус любить їх. Саме та любов їх зацікавить і спонукатиме вивчати більше.

Ці короткі доповіді не відображають справжню глибину обговорення та особистого обміну досвідом, які відбувалися під час кожної сесії, яка тривала три години! Учасники були глибоко зворушеними розширеною можливістю разом розмірковувати над духовними проблемами, які викликали багато роздумів і дискусій, які справді охопили учасників і збагатили їх духовне життя. Головна і важлива дискусія Собору постала наступною на порядку денному. Це було питання навколо фінансового стану Церкви та Центру Митрополії. Митрополит Антоній навів факти про наші об'єкти «Центру Митрополії» та кошти, які найближчим часом знадобляться на капітальний ремонт і механічні установки для ВСІХ ДЕСЯТИ будівель на нашій території. Відбулася серйозна дискусія з багатьма делегатами та адміністративними посадовими особами Церкви про те, як Церква може найкраще підтримувати себе, своє служіння і продовжує виконувати свою святу місію – спасіння душ і розширення Божого Царства. Увесь Собор остаточно дійшов висновку, що знадобляться значущі рішення в найближчому майбутньому і доручив Раді Митрополії дослідити всі можливі рішення на довготривалу проблему, що розвивається, і прийняти рішення щодо дій, необхідних для захисту майбутнього Церкви. Це було важке рішення для Собору, але під проводом Святого Духа духовенство та вірні делегати переважною більшістю проголосували за його ухвалення. Митрополит Антоній глибоко висловив свої емоції, почувши коментарі багатьох делегатів під час обговорення, котрі розуміють природу Церкви як Тіла Христового і, що члени цього Тіла

та спасіння їхніх душ і тих, хто шукає Бога, має бути основою для всіх прийнятих рішень. Митрополит пояснив, що ця дискусія була довгою, і що це було вкрай важливе рішення, яке було прийнято на цьому Соборі. Він нагадав усім, хто буде служити в Раді Митрополії, що зусилля будуть критично важливими, і що вони повинні бути готовими дати найкраще від себе - час, талант, скарби та правду, щоб ця спроба увінчалася успіхом.

Після цієї дискусії було оголошено результати виборів до різних Церковних Адміністративних органів: Ради Митрополії, Ревізійної Комісія та Церковного Суду.

#### **ОБРАНІ ДО РАДИ МИТРОПОЛІЇ (ОПІКУНЬСЬКА РАДА УПЦ США):**

##### **ДУХОВЕНСТВО:**

Протоієрей Роберт Холет  
Протоієрей Степан Хутник  
Протоієрей Тарас Науменко  
Протоієрей Андрій Покотило  
Протоієрей Василь Саучур  
Протоієрей Віктор Вронський  
Ієрей Микола Зомчак

##### **ЗАСТУПНИКИ:**

Протоієрей Григорій Чумак  
Протоієрей Василь Сендега  
Протоієрей Микола Андрушків  
Протоієрей Річард Джендрас  
Протоієрей Володимир Штеляк

##### **МИРЯНИ:**

Юрій Цепинський  
Ребекка Друаш  
Карен Фераро  
Олександра Коселко  
Єлизавета Симоненко  
Вікторія Свіндл  
Говард Вест

##### **ЗАСТУПНИКИ:**

Михайло Добрянський  
Матвій Дубас  
Скотт Керрі

#### **ОБРАНІ ДО РЕВІЗІЙНОЇ КОМІСІЇ:**

##### **ДУХОВЕНСТВО:**

Ієрей Джеймс Кернс  
Ієрей Андрій Матлак

##### **ЗАСТУПНИК:**

Протоієрей Степан Маслюк

##### **МИРЯНИ:**

Тамара Хост – Голова  
Володимир Католик  
Сюзанна Марі Матъе

##### **ЗАСТУПНИК:**

Данило Петрович

##### **ОБРАНІ ДО ЦЕРКОВНОГО СУДУ:**

##### **ДУХОВЕНСТВО:**

Ієрей Мирослав Микитюк  
Протоієрей Теофан Маккі – Голова  
Протоієрей Борислав Кронер

##### **ЗАСТУПНИК:**

Протоієрей Роберт Попічак

##### **МИРЯНИ:**

Гейл Волощак  
Павло Міцевич

##### **ЗАСТУПНИК:**

Володимир Логвинюк

Після цього оголошення Др. Павло Міцевич представив на розгляд дві Резолюції, на які надихнула зворушлива відеопрезентація, представлена під час Великого Бенкету про Велику допомогу, яку наша Церква надає по всій Україні з перших днів геноциду вторгнення в Українську націю. Делегати Собору ухвалили одноголосно наступні Постанови:

**1. 23-й Черговий Собор УПЦ США висловлює цілковиту підтримку Митрополиту Епіфанію, Єпископам, Духовенству та вірним Православної Церкви України опікуючись духовними та фізичними потребами народу України в час геноцидного вторгнення Російської Федерації. Молимося за безпеку, здоров'я та духовне благополуччя Православної Церкви України та Українського народу в часи боротьби. Ми обіцяємо й надалі підтримувати народ України, який страждає від цього жахливого вторгнення.**

**2. 23-й Черговий Собор УПЦ США висловлює сердечну вдячність за привітання для нашого Собору та підтримку Президента України Володимира Зеленського та молиться за його безпеку та подальше героїчне лідерство в цей час боротьби з геноцидом Російського вторгнення на нашу Батьківщину. Також ми молимося за все українське керівництво, Збройні Сили та цивільне населення: нехай Господь Бог береже та охороняє їх.**

Після цих заяв Митрополит Антоній та Архієпископ Даниїл висловили глибоку вдячність усім делегатам Собору за те, що вони дійсно дозволили Святому Духу провадити їхні думки, слова і вчинки і за те, що уможливили Благодать, якою вони були натхненні з часів їхнього Хрещення і Миропомазання та через усі Таїнства, щоб наповнити простір Соборних засідань. Наші єпископи були глибоко зворушені та

дякували Богові у Святій Трійці – Отцю, Сину та Святому Духу – за благословенний Собор та змогу Тілу Христовому дивитися в майбутнє з надією і відданістю. Архієпископ Даниїл очолив заключну молитву Собору та звершив благословення.

Попри те, що ділова частина Собору закінчилася, духовна все ще витала. Віряни знову зібралися у Церкві- Пам'ятнику Св. Андрія, ввечері, щоб помолитися перед чудотворною іконою Божої Матері - «Всецариці». Велику Ікону перенесли із зали засідань до храму, а поряд розмістили усі копії у меншому розмірі для парафій, котрі єпископи освятили перед початком богослужіння. Оригінал ікони знаходиться на горі Афон і тисячі тих, хто молилися перед нею, були зцілені, більшість з них страждали від різноманітних форм раку та інших руйнівних захворювань. Ця молитовна ініціатива була обговорена та пояснена під час засідання Собору в перший день Собору.

Темний храм і похмурий настрій тривали до того часу, поки Високопреосвященніший Митрополит Антоній виголосив: «Благословен Бог наш завжди, нині, і повсякчас, і на віки вічні!» Цими словами розпочалося одне з найбільш зворушливих богослужінь, які пережили багато зібраних у храмі. Кожен тримав у руках копію Акафістника і співав разом із семінаристами, прославляючи Богородицю, благаючи її про допомогу та проголошуючи її перемогу. Вихваляння лунало по всьому храмі: ієрархи та духовенство молилися, читаючи головні стихи богослужіння, а вірні відповідали «Алилуя! Алилуя! Алилуя!» і відспівували численні хвалебні піснеспіви Пресвятій Божій Матері, смиренно благаючи її про допомогу. Більше 400 імен було подано священнослужителям, які будуть читатися під час цього Акафісного Богослужіння. Піднесли молитви за тих, хто хворий на рак, а також за тих, хто страждає будь-якою хворобою тілесною, духовною чи розумовою. Тоді, як священнослужителі молилися за тих людей, чиї імена були написані на папері, вірні молилися в своїх серцях за всіх тих, кого вони знали благаючи про допомогу та заступництво Богородиці.

Наприкінці богослужіння ієрархи ще раз подякували Говарду та Лінді Вест за ініціативу цієї молитви Акафісту, заявляючи, що це значно змінить життя багатьох людей. Опісля віряни підходили вперед, щоб вклонитися іконі «Всецариці», а ієрархи роздавали менші освячені копії ікон делегатам парафі, щоб ці взяли з

собою додому разом із примірниками Акафісту для використання у своїх парафіях.

На завершення цього зворушливого богослужіння, усі члени, які були обрані до Адміністративного Органу Церкви підійшли вперед і зі свічками вступили на посаду, заявивши, що виконуватимуть усі обов'язки своєї посади з честю, чесністю та старанністю, дотримуючись Конституції УПЦ США. Вони підтвердили свій постійний намір використовувати надані їм Богом таланти, невтомно працюючи для добра і зростання Тіла Христового.

У суботу, рано-вранці духовенство та вірні Храму знову наповнили Андріївську Церкву-Пам'ятник для завершальної Архієрейської Божественної Літургії 23-го Звичайного Собору. Служба почалася з хіротесії іподияконів УПЦ США: семінаристів Свято-Софійської Української Православної Духовної Семінарії. Хіротесії отримали такі семінаристи: Микола Стефанік, Роман Марчишак, Андрій Акуленко та Юрій Іжик.

Після Божественної Літургії віруючі з радістю вирушили до Українського Культурного Центру для прощального сніданку перед від'їздом по домівках по всій країні. У той час як делегати та гості роз'їхалися, новообрані члени Ради Митрополії зустрілися у Бібліотеці імені Іоана Теодоровича для інавгуральних зборів. Митрополит Антоній наголосив на важливості Собору, і що всі рішення повинні прийматися з глибоким роздумом і смиренними молитвами на благо Церкви.

Архієпископ Даниїл, як Голова Консисторії, виконав свій обов'язок та призначив деяких членів Ради Митрополії в Раду Консисторії, ними були обрані: Протоієрей Віктор Вронський, віце-президент; Єлизавета Симоненко, секретар; Протоієрей Степан Хутник, скарбник; Протоієрей Тарас Науменко, Протоієрей Андрій Покотило та Говард Вест, члени Ради Консисторії. Члени Ради Митрополії одноголосно проголосували за обрання цих осіб до Ради Консисторії.

Нехай Господь і надалі благословляє Українську Православну Церкву США, її ієрархів, духовенство і вірних протягом наступних років, скеровуючи їх у прийнятті всіх рішень для зміцнення та зростання Церкви, на Його Славу.



**HIS EMINENCE METROPOLITAN ANTONY**  
*Prime Hierarchy and Ruling Hierarchy of the Eastern Eparchy*

His Eminence Metropolitan Antony – secular John Scharba – was born on 30 January 1947 to John and Dorothy Scharba, the eldest of five siblings. He was baptized on 23 March 1947 in St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Orthodox Parish, Sharon, PA. He received his elementary and secondary education in the Sharpsville, PA school system and his religious education in St. John Parish. Young John began receiving a call to the holy priesthood at a very young age and was involved in the youth and young adult groups in his parish, but upon his graduation from high school, he decided to test his “call” by enrolling in Pennsylvania’s Edinboro State University to prepare for a worldly career as a foreign journalist. After two years our Lord made it abundantly clear to him that he was on the wrong path and led him to St. Andrew College-Seminary in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada – the only Ukrainian Orthodox Seminary existing in the free world at the time. He simultaneously enrolled at the University of Manitoba, the campus of which is the location of St. Andrew Seminary. He graduated from the University of Manitoba in 1970 with a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and then in 1971 completed his studies at

St. Andrew Seminary receiving a Bachelor of Divinity – the equivalent of today’s Master of Divinity in most seminaries. He remained in Winnipeg, having accepted an offer to become the Dean of Residence for St. Andrew College – a residence for both theology students and Orthodox and some non-Orthodox students of the University of Manitoba.

John was ordained to the Holy Deaconate on 1 October 1972 by then Bishop Constantine at St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral, Parma, OH and then to the Holy Priesthood on 26 November 1972, again by



Bishop Constantine, in his home parish of St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Orthodox Church, Sharon, PA. He was assigned to his first parish – St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox parish in Ambridge, PA, in December of 1972 and remained there for four years. Fr. John was then transferred to St. Michael Ukrainian Orthodox Church, Hammond, IN where he served for the next nine years. He was very much involved with the youth of his parishes and within the Ukrainian Orthodox Metropolia. He served as Spiritual Advisor for the Ukrainian Orthodox camping program at Camp Kon-O-Kwee in western Pennsylvania. He also served for ten years as the Spiritual Advisor of the Jr. Ukrainian Orthodox League of the USA and for ten years as Chairman of the Sr. Ukrainian Orthodox League’s Clergy Candidate Commission, which administered the Metropolitan John Theodorovich Scholarship Fund in support of the Church’s seminarians.

During his pastorate at St. Michael Parish, Hammond, IL Fr. John continued his education in the Graduate School of Theology at Loyola University, Chicago and at Purdue University in Indiana in the Graduate School of Educational Counseling, both of which enhance his pastoral ministry in very particular ways, providing insight into comparative theology and the very secular educational system of our nation, which has served him well in his parish and seminary education responsibilities.

At the Regular Church Sobor of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA in 1981, Fr. John was elected as a bishop of the Church. In 1982 he was tonsured as a monastic and in 1985 with the monastic name Antony – after St. Anthony the Great, whose feast day falls exactly on the Bishop’s birthday and he was then elevated to the rank of Archimandrite in May of 1983. He remained serving as pastor of his parish until 6 October 1985, when he was consecrated as Bishop at St. Andrew Memorial Church at the Ukrainian Orthodox Church’s Metropolia Center in South Bound Brook, NJ. He was immediately assigned as Rector and Administrator of St. Sophia Seminary where he served through 1989. In addition to this he assumed the editorship of the English edition of the Ukrainian Orthodox Word, the official publication of the Church and later accepted the editorship of the finally combined Ukrainian/English publication, which exists today.

Bishop Antony was asked and agreed to fill a void in the life of the Ukrainian Orthodox Eparchy of Australia and New Zealand in 1989 and served as Bishop there in addition to his responsibilities to his Church in the USA. He served in this capacity through 1997 when

another hierarch from Europe was assigned to relieve him of this enormous responsibility. During his service in Australia, he was able to diligently progress toward and accomplish the unification of the two Ukrainian Orthodox dioceses that existed for decades into a single church. During these difficult years of constant travel, Bishop Antony was elevated to the rank of Archbishop by the Council of Bishops of the UOC of USA.

Once Ukraine became an independent nation following the collapse of the Soviet Union and the Ukrainian Orthodox Church was reborn, Archbishop Antony had accompanied his brother bishops on many journeys to the faithful of the nation. The majority of these trips included the delivery of millions of dollars’ worth of aid of all kinds to the faithful and the need of the nation – including religious educational materials, prayer books, medical supplies, opening of soup kitchens, aid for the rebuilding of Churches in both urban and rural village settings. The Archbishop continually reminded the faithful of his Church that their Christian responsibility means so much more than simply attending Church on a Sunday morning and making a small donation. He invited them to reach out with their physical beings to help heal those who need healing with a willingness to deny themselves for the sake of others.

From 1994 Archbishop Antony served as Vice-Chair of the Board of Trustees of St. Sophia Seminary and in 1995 he was elected by the Regular Sobor of the UOC of USA as President of the Consistory – Chief Administrative Officer for the Metropolia. He accompanied Metropolitan Constantine when invited by the Ecumenical Patriarchate in 1994 to discussions about the renewal of the ancient relationship between the Ukrainian Orthodox Church and the Patriarchate, which dates back to the year 988, when Ukraine accepted the Holy Orthodox Faith as its own under then Prince Volodymyr the Great. These discussions led to the acceptance, on the Sunday of Orthodoxy 1995, under the omophorion of Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew I of the Ukrainian Orthodox Churches in the Diaspora and their hierarchs taking their rightful place at the Altar of our Lord, alongside their brother Orthodox Hierarchs throughout the Orthodox world. His All-Holiness and the Great and Holy Synod of Constantinople formally elected and ritually included Archbishop Antony in the Diptychs of Holy Orthodoxy as titular Archbishop of the ancient See of Hierapolis.

One of the greatest accomplishments during this period through the combined efforts of Archbishop Antony, representing the Council of Bishops of the UOC of USA, and Bishop Vsevolod of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church

in America, the two existing Ukrainian Orthodox Jurisdictions in the USA were finally and irrevocably united after decades of failed attempts. This is seen by the faithful of both Churches as an accomplishment that united brothers and sisters once again – and even those of specific birth families who were separated from one another.

If one would ask Archbishop Antony what he felt his best efforts accomplished, he would respond immediately that it is the division of the UOC ministry into various Consistory Offices of Ministry, led by competent individuals and volunteers. He is most emotional about his establishment in 2003 of the Orycia Federwicz and Natalie Dedeluk Orphanage Adoption Program in Ukraine, named after the two California sisters who contributed the initial grant to make the program possible. The Church adopted three of the most remote and underdeveloped orphanages – with the most severely mentally and physically handicapped children who were placed there by the Soviets out of sight – and unfortunately out of mind. Each year college student missionary teams travel to visit these orphanages to renovate buildings, purchase necessary items and most importantly to interact with and love the more than 300 children living in them.

The 1998 Sobor of the UOC of USA initiated the development of a new Ukrainian History and Education Center at the Metropolia Center. Archbishop Antony leads this continuing project, which will include an Archive and Research Center in memory of Metropolitan Andrew Kuschak, the Seminary/Church Library in Memory of Metropolitan John Theodorovich and the Ukrainian Museum of New Jersey in Memory of Metropolitan/Patriarch Mstyslav.

At the first meeting of the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of North and Central America in 2010, Archbishop Antony was elected as Treasurer of the Assembly and heads the Committee for Financial Affairs.

Following the repose of Metropolitan Constantine of blessed memory (21 May 2012), the Archbishop assumed the responsibilities of the Locum Tenens of the Metropolia See of the UOC of the USA.

During the Extraordinary Sobor of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA (6 October 2012), His Eminence Archbishop Antony was nominated and elected as Metropolitan of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA.

On Saturday, January 26, 2013 - His Eminence Metropolitan Antony was formally Enthroned as the 4th Metropolitan of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA at St. Andrew the First-Called Apostle Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in Silver Spring, MD. In the presence of 20 hierarchs, representing various Orthodox jurisdictions of North America and representatives of Catholic and other Christian communities, His Eminence received his Archpastoral staff of the Prime Hierarchy of the Church and was greeted by His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, who is also the Exarch of the Ecumenical Patriarchate. Archbishop Demetrios conveyed formal and private greetings of His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew I to the new Metropolitan of the UOC of the USA.

On October 6, 2020, Metropolitan Antony celebrated the 35th anniversary of his Episcopal Consecration. In January of 2022 he celebrated his 75th birthday and celebrates the 50th anniversary of Priesthood on November 26, 2022.



**HIS EMINENCE  
ARCHBISHOP DANIEL**  
*Vice-Chairman and President of the Consistory  
Ruling Hierarchy of the Western Eparchy*



A native of Ukraine, Archbishop Daniel (secular name: Volodymyr Zelinsky) was born in the small town of Buchach, Ternopil Region (similar to a state), Ukraine. He grew up in this region where he graduated from a local high school and enrolled in his first course of theological studies in the Seminary of Ivano-Frankivsk in September, 1993. Following his education in Ukraine, Volodymyr emigrated to the USA in 1996 to continue his education at the Catholic University of America as well as the Dominican House of Studies in Washington, DC. During this time, he was ordained to the Holy Deaconate.

In 2000 Deacon Volodymyr was received into the UOC of the USA and enrolled in St. Sophia Ukrainian Orthodox Theological Seminary in South Bound Brook, NJ. With many years of theological study already completed, his advanced standing enabled Fr. Daniel to complete the Orthodox theology program in two years. He concurrently enrolled in a graduate studies program in Applied Orthodox Theology at the University of Balamand, Holy Patriarchate of Antioch (Antiochian House of Studies, USA), receiving his Master's Degree in 2002.

Deacon Volodymyr was ordained to the Holy Priesthood by Archbishop Antony on May 12, 2001 in St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Memorial Church, South Bound Brook, NJ. On May 22, 2002 the Archbishop tonsured him as a priest-monk (Hieromonk), with the name Daniel, at St. Elijah Ukrainian Orthodox Monastery in Dover, FL. Following his monastic tonsure, Fr. Daniel was appointed assistant editor of the Ukrainian Orthodox Word (UOW), the official publication of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA. In September 2002, he became Editor-in-Chief of the

UOW and remains in that position today. Also in 2002, His Eminence Archbishop Antony appointed Fr. Daniel director of the Consistory Office of Public Relations (Communications) of the Consistory, which publishes the annual Church Calendar and manages the UOC of the USA web site.

In 2003 Fr. Daniel enrolled in the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary (Eastern Orthodox Focus), completing all the requirements for the Doctor of Ministry Degree, which was conferred upon him during the seminary commencement ceremonies in May of 2007. In 2005, Fr. Daniel was appointed Spiritual Advisor to the United Ukrainian Orthodox Sisterhoods and Spiritual Advisor to the Church Orphanage Adoption Program in Ukraine. Archimandrite Daniel has led the college mission teams to the Orphanages for the past four years.

In addition, in January of 2006 Fr. Daniel was commissioned as an officer of the US Army (Chaplain Corps). He enrolled into US Army Chaplain School at Fort Jackson, SC from which he graduated in April of that year and served as a chaplain in one of the Medical Brigades of the United States Army. With the reactivation of a full academic program at St. Sophia Seminary, Metropolitan Constantine and the Seminary Board of Trustees appointed Fr. Daniel Dean of Students in 2006.

At the 2007 Convention of the Ukrainian Orthodox League of the USA, Metropolitan Constantine appointed Hieromonk Daniel Spiritual Advisor of the Senior League. In that capacity and at the request of the UOL Senior Board, he also accepted the position of Chairman of the Vocations and Clergy Support Commission, which administers the Metropolitan John

(Theodorovich) Scholarship Fund. This fund provides financial assistance for seminarians and clergy to pursue continuing education.

During the opening Divine Liturgy of the 18th Regular Sobor of the UOC of the USA on October 3, 2007, Hieromonk Daniel was elevated to the rank of Archimandrite by Metropolitan Constantine. A few days later, on October 6, 2007, the same Sobor elected Archimandrite Daniel as Bishop-Elect for the UOC of the USA.

On January 9, 2008, His All-Holiness and the Great and Holy Synod of Constantinople formally elected and ritually included Archimandrite Daniel in the Diptychs of Holy Orthodoxy as titular Bishop of Pamphilon. The Episcopal consecration of His Grace Bishop Daniel took place at St. Volodymyr Ukrainian Orthodox cathedral in Parma, OH – USA on May 10, 2008. Bishop Daniel has become known throughout the UOC of the USA and beyond as one to whom others can turn for advice, compassion and honest reflection. He is frequently invited to present lectures and reflections to various parishes and organizations – both Ukrainian and non-Ukrainian as well as Orthodox and non-Orthodox.

Following the repose of Metropolitan Constantine of blessed memory (21 May, 2012), the Bishop assumed the responsibilities of the Vice-Chair of the Council of Bishops of the UOC of the USA.

During the Extraordinary Sobor of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA (October 6, 2012), His Grace Bishop Daniel was nominated and elected as President of the Consistory of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA.

On Saturday, January 26, 2013 – following the Enthronement of His Eminence Metropolitan Antony, His Grace Bishop Daniel formally assumed responsibilities of President of the Consistory of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA at the spiritual headquarters of the UOC of the USA in South Bound Brook, NJ.

During the XXI Regular Sobor of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA (October 2016), Bishop Daniel was nominated by the delegates of the Sobor to the rank of Archbishop and upon the decision of the Holy Synod of Ecumenical Patriarchate was formally included in the Diptychs of Holy Orthodoxy as titular Archbishop of Pamphilon.

Within the framework of the preparations for the granting of autocephaly to the Orthodox Church in Ukraine, On September 7th, 2018 the Holy Synod of the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople, under the leadership of His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew I, appointed His Eminence Archbishop Daniel (along with Bishop Ilarion of UOCC) as Exarch of the Ecumenical Throne to Ukraine. In a month following the appointment (9-11 October, 2018) and upon the conclusion of the preliminary work of the Exarchs, the Ecumenical Patriarchate made the historical announcement about the granting of autocephaly to the Holy Orthodox Church of Ukraine.

On November 3, 2018 Archbishop Daniel participated in the formal conclusion of the process and signing of the Agreement “On Cooperation and Interaction between Ukraine and the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople” by His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew and President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko.

On December 15, 2018 His Eminence Archbishop Daniel, along with Metropolitan Emmanuel of France (presiding hierarchs) and Bishop Ilarion of UOC of Canada, participated in the Unification Council of the Orthodox Church of Ukraine.

On January 5-6, 2019 Archbishop Daniel participated in the official ceremony (at Holy Great-Martyr George Patriarchal Cathedral in Constantinople, Turkey) of signing and granting Tomos of Autocephaly to the Orthodox Church of Ukraine.

#### AWARDS:

Presidential Merit Award (III Degree) - State of Ukraine - 23 August, 2018

Honorary Merit Certificate and Medal - Parliament of Ukraine - 15 December, 2018

Order of Prince Yaroslav the Wise (V Degree) - State of Ukraine - 5 January, 2019

1918-2018 Centennial Medal - Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA

1918-2018 Centennial Medal - Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada

Metropolitan John Theodorovych Medal - Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA - 13 October, 2022



**V. REV. FR. ANDRII POKOTYLO**

I was born in June 1969 in the town of Sokal', Lvivska oblast, Ukraine of the former Soviet Union. 1976-1986 went to school. After finishing school, I worked in a local enterprise for one year. 1987-1989 served in the Soviet Army. After my honorable discharge, I went back to work in the same local enterprise and started to prepare myself for the enrollment into Seminary. 1990-1994 I studied at the St. Petersburg Orthodox Seminary. 1994-1996 continued my studies at Kyiv Theological Academy.

In 1996 was invited by Christ the Savior Orthodox Seminary of the Carpatho-Russian Diocese of North America to study there. In 1997 together with my wife was sent to the local parish in Schererville, IN to assist the parish priest there. On October 31, 1997, was ordained by Metropolitan Nicholas (blessed memory) to the Holy Diaconate. In 1999 transferred to the UOC of the USA and was attached to St. Michael's Pro-cathedral in Hammond, IN. On November 13, 1999, was ordained by Archbishop Vsevolod (blessed memory) to the Holy Priesthood. 1999-2000 served as an assistant priest at the Pro-Cathedral. In 2000 was assigned as a part-time pastor to the Holy Trinity parish in Goshen, IN. In 2009 was assigned as a full-time pastor to St. Mary's (The Nativity of the Mother of God) parish in New Britain, CT, where I serve currently.



**REV. VICTOR WRONSKYJ**

V. Rev. Victor Wronskyj is a first generation Ukrainian – American, who was born and who continues to reside in Huntington, Long Island. In 1998, he graduated from Hofstra University with a Bachelor of Business Administration degree with a specialization in Banking and Finance. After a short career on Wall Street working for Smith Barney, V. Rev. Victor Wronskyj decided to pursue his true calling, the priesthood. In 2002, he enrolled at St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary in Crestwood New York and graduated with a Master of Divinity degree in 2005. Later that year, on December 1st., V. Rev. Victor Wronskyj was ordained to the diaconate and subsequently on December 2nd, he was ordained to the priesthood at Holy Trinity Monastery, which is found on the territory of the Theological school of Halki, in the Sea of Marmara off the coast of Constantinople (modern day Istanbul). His ordination was an historic achievement in that he became the first person of Ukrainian descent to be ordained at the historically important Holy Trinity Monastery.

After his ordination, from 2005-11, V. Rev. Victor Wronskyj was an assistant priest at Holy Trinity Ukrainian Orthodox Church, in Brooklyn, New York. From 2011-12, V. Rev. Victor Wronskyj became an assistant priest at St.

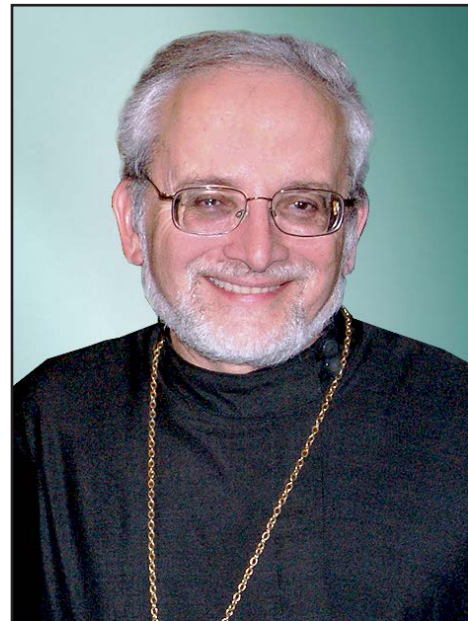
Nicholas and St. Marina Greek Orthodox Church in Astoria, New York, a metochion of the Sacred Patriarchal Monastery of St. Irene Chrysovalantou, under the jurisdiction of the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople. In the beginning of 2013, V. Rev. Victor Wronskyj with his wife Matushka Ivanna Wronskyj began to re-establish the inactive parish of Sts. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church, located in West Islip, Long Island. With much hard work and God's blessings, the church once again began to thrive and grow. In 2019, V. Rev. Victor Wronskyj returned to Holy Trinity Ukrainian Orthodox Church, Brooklyn New York, where he serves to this day as rector of the parish. From 2019-20, V. Rev. Victor Wronskyj became an instructor for the fall semester at St. Sophia Ukrainian Orthodox Theological Seminary teaching Spiritual Theology and in the fall semester of 2021-22 he was an instructor teaching Orthodox Ethics.

On October 20th, 2016, during the 21st Sobor of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, V. Rev. Victor Wronskyj was elected to serve on the Council of the Metropolia, also known as the Board of Trustees of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA. Subsequently, at its first meeting, V. Rev. Victor Wronskyj was also elected

to serve on the Consistory Board. In 2018, V. Rev. Victor Wronskyj was elected to the position of Vice President of the Consistory Board, and he continues to serve in these capacities to this day. In late 2020, V. Rev. Victor Wronskyj became the Chair of the Finance Committee for the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, he with his talented team work together to oversee the financial investments of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, he also continues to serve in this capacity to this day.

V. Rev. Victor Wronskyj believes that through the combination of his financial, theological, and pastoral qualities, he can assist the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, in making the proper critically important decisions that affects its current and future needs.

In his spare time V. Rev. Victor Wronskyj enjoys reading theological books, especially those of modern-day saints such as St. Paisios the Athonite, Elder Thaddeus of Vitovnica, St. Silouan the Athonite, St. Ignatius of Brianchaninov and others. He also enjoys watching hockey and barbecuing during the summer months.



**V. REV. FR. ROBERT HOLET**

V. Rev. Robert Holet, D. Min., has served as a Priest of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA since 1996. His service to the UOC of USA Metropolia has included leadership positions in the Council of the Metropolia, including the Office of Treasurer, the Consistory and as Director of the Office of Stewardship for many years. Father has also taught pastoral education focusing on stewardship at St. Sophia Seminary, St. Vladimir Seminary and the Byzantine Catholic Seminary in Pittsburgh, Pa.

Fr. Robert's education and training includes a Bachelor of Science degree from The Pennsylvania State University, master's level theological studies at Ss. Cyril and Methodius Byzantine Catholic Seminary in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and completion of the Doctor of Ministry program through the Antiochian House of Studies and Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. One of his focus areas is the study of Orthodox stewardship; to that end, he published *The First and Finest, Orthodox Christian Stewardship as Sacred Offering*, (Authorhouse, 2013). Fr. Holet has offered programs on Orthodox stewardship in support of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, the Orthodox Church in America, the Antiochian Archdiocese and other in

Christian contexts, including the 2020 and 2022 Orthodox Christian Leadership Initiative Conferences.

Fr. Holet has stepped away from active parish ministry after 40+ years of experience in small and large parishes. His most recent full time parish assignment offered the opportunity to pursue his interest and belief in the importance of mission parish development, and he served as founding pastor of St. Nicholas Orthodox Church in Charlottesville, Virginia, after serving our mission parishes in Bakerton and Smith Mill, Pa. Father has supported our clergy as Dean of the Mid-Atlantic Deanery and since retirement, served in a number of Orthodox parishes on a substitute or temporary basis including our parishes in Dixonville and Nanty Glo, Pa.

Fr. Robert remains active in Orthodox stewardship programming, leadership, blogging and charitable endeavors. He currently resides with his wife, Christine, in Central Virginia. Together they have begun to work on a new ministry project to bring healthy, fresh water to the people of Malawi, Africa, through a new initiative called the Isaiah 44 Project and the St. Nicholas Charity Legacy Fund, in cooperation with the Orthodox Church of Malawi. In addition, he has long-standing interests in breeding and raising horses, and numerous personal projects.



**REV. FR. MYKOLA ZOMCHAK**

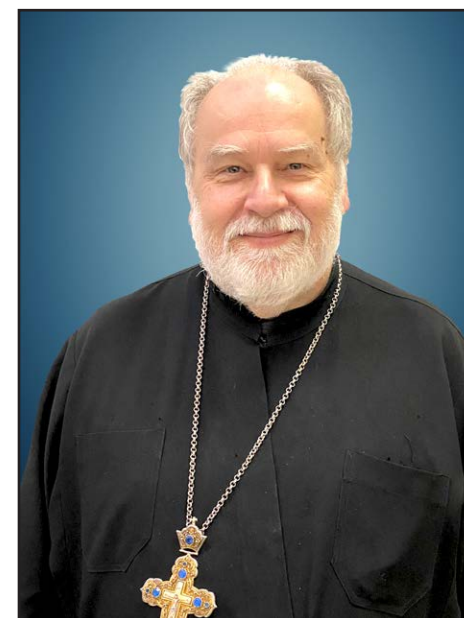
Fr. Mykola Zomchak was born on May 22, 1995, in a little village of Stankova, Ivano-Frankivsk region, Ukraine. There he was brought up and went to school. In his home church, the Holy Archangel Michael, he became an altar server. After graduating from high school he completed his education in Finances. In 2015 he enrolled in St. Sophia Ukrainian Orthodox Theological Seminary in South Bound Brook, NJ. In the year of 2016, on the feast of st Greatmartyr Panteleimon, he was tonsured a Subdeacon by Archbishop Daniel at st. Panteleimon Parish in Brooklyn NY. In December of 2019 Sbd. Mykola graduated from St. Sophia Ukrainian Orthodox Theological Seminary and received a Diploma with the Degree "Master of Divinity".

In the year of 2020, he married his wife Maria and in the year of 2021 on March 6 Sbd. Mykola was ordained a deacon by His Eminence Archbishop Daniel. On July 17 2021 Dn. Mykola was ordained a priest at the St. Andrew Memorial Church, South Bound Brook, NJ. Fr. Mykola worked at the Consistory of the UOC of USA until he, on March 27, 2022, was assigned to Sts. Peter and Paul Parish in Youngstown, OH, where he currently is the Pastor.

At the 75th UOL Convention Fr. Mykola was assigned by Metropolitan Antony as a Spiritual Advisor of the Senior League. Fr. Mykola has participated in various mission trips. He has also served as a Spiritual Father of the Camping Program at the All Saints Camp.

At the 23rd Regular Sobor of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA Fr. Mykola was elected as a member of the Metropolia Council of the Church.

Fr Mykola loves working with his hands, enjoys spending time in nature. He loves sports as well as singing. In addition to his pastoral responsibilities, Fr. Zomchak with his wife Matushka Maria are raising their little daughter Sophia.



**V. REV. FR. STEPHEN HUTNICK**



**V. REV. FR. TARAS NAUMENKO**



**V. REV. FR. VASILE SAUCIUR**



**MR. HOWARD WEST**

Howard was born near Carnegie, PA, and has attended Saint Peter and Saint Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Carnegie PA his whole life.

Howard currently lives with his wife Lynda on their farm in rural Washington County, PA.

They have 2 children and 4 grandchildren.

A graduate of Point Park University in Pittsburgh PA with a BS in Electrical Engineering, Howard retired from Siemens Corp in August 2019 after 31 years, where he had various Sales and Business Development, Management, and Leadership positions.

Howard has held various Parish Council positions at Saint Peter and Saint Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Carnegie PA. For the last ten years, he has been Parish Council President.

In October 2018 Howard was inducted into the Order of Saint Andrew the Apostle.

In October 2019 and 2022, Howard was elected to the Council of the Metropolia of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA. Howard was asked to serve on the Consistory Council in 2019 and again in 2022.

In 2021 Howard became a Guardian of the Metropolia of the UOC of the USA.

In his spare time, Howard and Lynda raise AKC Show Dogs and they travel across the US competing at dog shows with their dogs.



**MS. ALEKSANDRA KOCELKO**

Aleksandra Kocelko is a lifelong member of St. Vladimir's in Pittsburgh, PA.

As a graduate of both Diocesan Church School Camp and Teenage Conference she is a dedicated supporter of All Saints Camp, having served on the Executive Board for a decade.

She serves on the Church Council at her Parish and is the chair of the semi-annual Food Festivals. She is a family law attorney in the Pittsburgh area and serves on the Board of the Matrimonial Inns of Court, the Young Lawyers Division Council and the Collaborative Law Association of Southwestern PA. She is also a Board Member for her local library and a Pittsburgh non-profit.

In her spare time you might find her dressing up her dog in costume, cheering on the Pittsburgh Steelers or hosting theme parties.



**MS. ELIZABETH SYMONENKO**

Elizabeth Symonenko is a lifelong parishioner of the Protection of the Birth-Giver of God (Pokrova) Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral, in Southfield, Michigan where over the past 15 years she has been the instructor of Religion at the Lesya Ukrainka Parish School, has taught Sunday School, Summer Church Camp, and for many years had served as the Parish Board of Administration Secretary. At the parish, Elizabeth has also been active over the years organizing charitable ministries to aid the needy in the Metropolitan Detroit area.

To help her in her ministry with the youth of the parish, she registered and graduated as valedictorian from the 2018 Youth Ministry Certification Program of the St. Sophia Ukrainian Orthodox Theological Seminary.

Having earned her Bachelor of Science Degree from Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan, Elizabeth's secular career is that of Business Analyst/Test Engineer for General Motors, working in the Quality Assurance Information Technology field. Prior to working for GM, she had been employed by Hewlett Packard (HP) for many years.

While her secular career focuses on IT, her heart belongs to the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, where she happily dedicates much of her time and talent. First elected as a Lay Alternate to the Council of Metropolia in 2010, at the 21st Regular Sobor in 2013 as a delegate from her parish, she was elected as a Member of the Council of Metropolia, and repeatedly reelected, currently serving her fourth term as a member of the Council. In 2016, Elizabeth was appointed as the Secretary of the Consistory of the UOCofUSA, a role she proudly fulfills consecutively onto this day, having been reappointed to the position in 2022 by the President of the Consistory, His Eminence Archbishop Daniel.

In addition to being the Secretary of the Consistory, Elizabeth has been appointed this year as the Secretary of the Council of the Metropolia by His Eminence Metropolitan Antony, has served numerous years as the Secretary of the Seminary Board, and is one of the founding members and Secretary of the Guardians of the Metropolia.

Elizabeth also serves as the Editor-in-Chief of the monthly Church publication – the Ukrainian Orthodox Word since 2018, when the magazine first went digital. Additionally, Elizabeth uses her graphic skills to create posters, banners, brochures, logos, etc., for the Church, as well as for many of the parishes, institutions, and organizations belonging to the UOC of USA.

Awards:

- 1918-2018 Centennial Medal (UOC of USA)
- Metropolitan John Theodorovych Medal (UOC of USA)





**MRS. KAREN FERRARO**

Karen Ferraro (nee Melnyk) is a life-long member of Saint Vladimir Cathedral parish in Philadelphia, where she has served as the choir director for over 20 years and is a member of the Parish Board of Administration, currently in an auditor position.

She is the chairperson of the Hope Fund Committee of her parish, which focuses on charitable giving. She served as National President of the Ukrainian Orthodox League (UOL) of the USA from July 2019 – July 2022, and serves as Secretary of her local UOL Chapter.

Karen is retired from her career as a Software Engineer and Software Engineering Manager for Lockheed Martin and its heritage companies for more than 30 years. During her career, she supported predominantly Financial, Program Performance Management, and Human Resources business applications for Lockheed Martin's Rotary and Mission Systems organization. She managed teams of up to 32 software developers and analysts.

She received Project Management Professional (PMP) certification from the Project Management Institute. Karen holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Information Systems from Albright College in Reading, PA. She lives in Cinnaminson, NJ with her husband Alan. Her son Mark lives in Albuquerque, NM with his wife, Suzy.



**MS. VICTORIA SWINDLE**

I am an active member at the Protection of the Holy Virgin Parish in Arnold, PA where I participate in the Choir, Church Board of Directors, and the Young Adults Group.

I accompanied Archbishop Daniel on the Zamyanka Orphanage Mission Trip to Ukraine in Winter of 2017.

In the Summer of 2020, I was an intern for the St. Sophia Ukrainian Orthodox Theological Library, where I digitized all the editions of the Ukrainian Orthodox Word and the Ukrainian Orthodox League Bulletin. It was an opportunity to help people have an easier way of getting to the information and rich history of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church. I also wrote an article in the UHEC Winter 2022 Edition about her digital archiving work with the organization Saving Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Online.

I obtained my Bachelors in Information Science with minors in Museum Studies and English Literature and a Masters in Library and Information Science from the University of Pittsburgh.

In the Pittsburgh area, I am involved in collecting donations that are sent to refugees in Ukraine because of the war along with organizations locally in her community.

I am also involved in the Ukrainian Technological Society in Pittsburgh.

One of my goals is to bring the opinion and voice of the new generation of the UOC of USA to the Council of Metropolia.

I currently live in Pittsburgh, PA where I am the Library Technology Specialist for Steptoe & Johnson PLLC.



**MR. GEORGE CEPYNSKY**

Jurij was born in Chicago, Illinois and raised in the Ukrainian community. At age 5, Jurij performed Ukrainian dance for the first time, leading to an entire youth on stage. Jurij started piano lessons at 7 years of age. Lessons in voice, choir, drums, trumpet, and all types of gymnastics and dance continued. His dancing grew into theater in 1970 and consisted of many theatrical performances, traveling throughout US and Canada, performing with Ukrainian Youth Theatre, International Theater, and several Ballet Societies. Jurij was co-director and instructor for the Ukrainian School of Dance. He also co-founded, directed and produced, choreographed and composed large scale concerts performed by Hromovytsia Ukrainian Dance Ensemble, accompanied by symphony orchestras. A generation later Jurij traveled with Hromovytsia to Ukraine and was honored to act as Master of Ceremonies for their entire tour.

During his senior high school year, Jurij decided to change his career in theater and to pursue an engineering career. In 1982 he completed his Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering at Illinois Institute of Technology, also studying voice and music theory. In 1987 he completed his MBA at Benedictine University.

At age forty, Jurij started a business out of his basement; 22 years later he holds 6 patents, owns 5 companies and supports 50 employees. His company, Precision Circuits Inc, designs, and manufacturers electronics in the US for the motorhome industry. His other companies own real estate rental properties, and he serves on a board managing a 44-Unit complex.

In 1965, at 5 years old, Jurij began serving as altar boy, and stayed active in the church ever since. 1976, Jurij graduated Ukrainian School with honors.

1979 Jurij began singing in the church choir, where he met his wife Natalka, whom he married in 1982. In 1994 he was ordained as a Subdeacon by his blessed memory Bishop Paisius, a pleasant reunion with the man who taught him religion 20 years earlier in Ukrainian school.

Following in his grandfather Evstachij Cepynsky's footsteps in Berezhany, Ukraine, on April 30, 2000, Pascha, he began directing choir at Sts. Peter & Paul UOC in Palos Park, Illinois.

He has served on many church boards, and committees throughout his life, and serves on his parish council today.

- 2015 served on the UOC of USA Strategic Planning Committee.
- 2017 invested as an Archon, defender of faith to the Ecumenical Patriarch.
- 2019 awarded St. Andrew the First-Called Apostle Centennial Medal.
- 2020 awarded the Petro Mohyla medal by Archbishop Daniel for his 20 years of service as Choir Master and the publishing and translation of many Ukrainian liturgical composers.
- 2021 managed all the logistics for shipping 80 tons of humanitarian aid to Ukraine.

Jurij enjoys spending time with his family and his fondest memories are singing sacred trios with his two sons Paul & Peter.





**DR. REBECCA DRUASH**

Rebecca Anne Druash, DO, FAAP, FACOP has been a board-certified pediatrician for 35 years. Dr. Druash is a Fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics and American College of Osteopathic Pediatricians. Dr. Druash founded and operated the solo pediatric practice of Healthy Start Pediatric and Adolescent Medicine for 17 years. Dr. Druash was a medical staff pediatrician at the Main Line Health hospitals for over 20 years.

Rebecca graduated from Allegheny College, Meadville, PA with a BS in biology. She earned the degree of Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (D.O.) from the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine. Dr. Druash completed her pediatric residency training at the Hospital of PCOM which included training at St. Christopher's Hospital for Children in Philadelphia, PA.

Dr. Rebecca Druash is a member of St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral Philadelphia, PA. She sings in the Alexander Koshetz Choir. As an active member of St. Vladimir chapter of the UOL, she served as an officer and co-advisor to the Jr. UOL. She has served on the convention committee for four UOL conventions, and is currently co-chair for the 2024 National UOL Convention. Dr. Rebecca has attended many National UOL

conventions. This year she was the delegate to the SOBOR, representing the National UOL.

Dr. Druash was the Director of Religious Education for 10 years at St. Vladimir and a church school teacher for many years.

Dr. Rebecca served as encampment physician for 10 years (during DCSC or TC) at All Saints Camp.

Dr. Druash is currently a Board Member of the Greater Philadelphia Committee of the International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC), serving for 10 years.

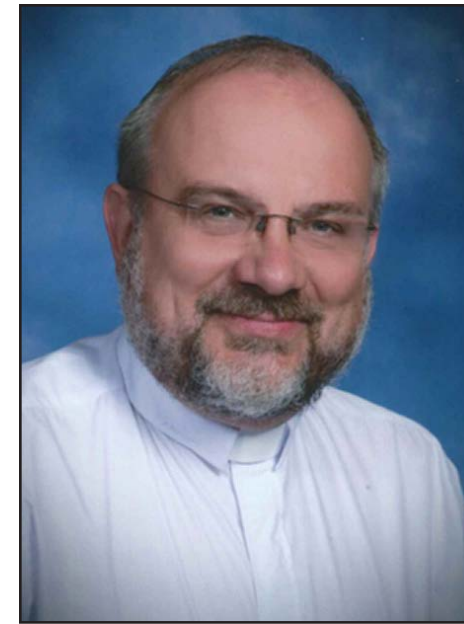
Dr. Rebecca has enjoyed singing with the Philadelphia Pan-Orthodox Choir for many years.

Rebecca has been married to Dr. Stephen McNulty for 39 years. They have two sons, Daniel McNulty and Daughter-in-law Katherine in Boalsburg, PA and Dr. Christopher McNulty, in Pittsburgh, PA. They have two loving grandchildren Nicholas and Marina.

Rebecca is a native of Monessen, PA. She was taught to love and serve God in the Orthodox Faith by her parents Subdeacon (and cantor) Nicholas Druash (of blessed memory) and Marilyn Druash.

Rebecca grew up a member of the loving parish family of St. Nicholas Ukrainian Orthodox Church, along with her sisters (Mauri, Marjorie, and Nancy), as did her parents and grandparents. Rebecca sang in both English and Ukrainian choirs, attended church school, danced and performed with the St. Nicholas Ukrainian singing and dance group. She was a Jr. UOL member serving as chapter president and enjoyed attending Teenage Conference at Camp Kon-O-Kwee for 6 years. Rebecca served on the Junior UOL National Executive Board as vice president and president of the Jr. UOL Western PA and Ohio Region.

Dr. Rebecca Druash is grateful for the opportunity to prayerfully serve the UOC of the USA on the Metropolitan Council.



**PROTODEACON IHOR MAHLAY**  
*St. Andrew Society President*

Born in Cleveland, Ohio, Fr. Deacon is a member of St. Vladimir's Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in Parma, Ohio. Over the years, he has actively served as a member of the parish Board of Trustees. He has assisted the choir directors, chaired the parish's Charity and Educational committees, and coordinated the activities of the church Library. Deacon Ihor co-chaired the Millennium of Ukraine Committee and served as chairperson of the quarter-million dollar iconography project for the Cathedral in Parma.

Deacon Ihor is also a member of the Ukrainian Orthodox League. He is a member of the Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus and has, for over 35 years, been administrator of the Hryhory Kytasty School of Bandura at the parish. He is responsible for publication of the service books that St. Vladimir's has printed and distributed for use by its parishioners. For his love and dedication to St. Vladimir's Cathedral, he was recognized as the "Man of the Year" in 1988.

Following 3 years of study and completion of St. Stephen's Course of Theology, Fr. Ihor was ordained into the Diaconate in November of 1997 and is attached to and plays an active role in the pastoral staff at St.

Vladimir's Cathedral in Parma, Ohio.

On the Diocesan level, Fr. Deacon Ihor has served on the Metropolitan Council of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. He has served on the executive and now is the president of the St. Andrew's Society – the charitable arm of the Archdiocese which assists the Church and faithful in Ukraine. He has also participated in the work of the Metropolia's Youth Commission, Strategic Plan, All Saints Camp and the Historical and Educational Center of the Church.

Since 1979, Deacon Ihor has been involved with organizing and teaching at the Bandura Seminars at All Saints Camp Ukrainian Orthodox Church Camp in Emlenton Pennsylvania. Recently with the development of Ukrainian Sacred Music courses, he has been a lecturer in the field of music and iconography. He has promoted and assisted with the publications of Ukrainian Sacred Music for the use in parishes of the US and Canada.

Fr. Deacon's interest in outreach has led him to participate in various missionary and charitable efforts at all administrative levels of the Church. In 2000, he had been appointed by the Consistory of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. to serve as director of the Office of Missions and Christian Charity promoting the outreach of the Church. Fr. Deacon has represented the Metropolia on the Board of the Orthodox Christian Mission Center from 2001 to 2004. He has travelled to Brazil to assist in efforts of establishing a Seminary for the Eparchy in South America. Deacon Ihor has traveled to Ukraine numerous times, for various humanitarian projects. He coordinates and is actively engaged in the humanitarian efforts of the Church, most notably assisting with the needs of handicapped children at orphanages in Ukraine adopted by the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in the USA.

In the secular world, Deacon Ihor is a retired dentist, having received his doctorate from the Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio. He is married to Iryna Farion and they have 3 children – Oksana, Lesia and Orest, grandfather of three. Together they are very active in both the parish and Ukrainian Community of Greater Cleveland.



**DOBRODIYKA LARYSSA CHAREST - UOL President**

I am Matushka Laryssa Charest. I was born and raised in Chicago, IL. I attended St. Volodymyr Cathedral in my youth. My family was always very active in the parish. After marrying my husband, Fr. John Charest, we began attending church at St. Peter and St. Paul Church in Palos Park, IL. Five years ago, we moved to Carnegie, PA for my husband's assignment as the pastor of St. Peter and St. Paul Church. There I am the Choir Director and the head of the War Relief Committee. I am grateful to be a part of an active and all-around wonderful community.

I've always been a church kid. I have served on the parish council, attended All Saints Camp as a camper and counselor, sang in the choir, served on the UOL Executive Board and participated in the Mission Trips to Ukraine. I met my husband in 2006 while on our church sponsored mission trip to the Ukrainian Orphanages. Altogether, I went on 3 of those trips and continue to be an advocate for orphans and orphan care. My husband and I tried to adopt 3 orphans from Ukraine. It was unsuccessful due to the laws that are in place for adopting from Foster Care. We are now being approved for Foster Care with hopes to adopt from there.

I have a background in sales and have studied human service organization administration extensively. I work part-time in order to be able to dedicate the majority of my time to raising my beautiful son, Sebastian. He is the light of my life. Most recently, I have focused a lot of my energy in providing relief for Ukraine. My parish has collections and has shipped over 25,000 lbs. of necessary items to the suffering people in Ukraine. We have collected over \$150,000 dollars and have disbursed it to orphans, needy families, the military, and Ukrainian refugees. I am committed to serving this effort as long as there's a need.

I am also a strong advocate for Rescue Animals. I have two dogs: Lucky and Alphie. On occasion, we foster dogs rescued from hoarding situations or kill shelters. We also have two cats: Whiskers and Xena. I really enjoy gardening and a good book. Most of all, I love the Lord and the family he has given me.

This past summer I was elected President of the Ukrainian Orthodox League. With that honor, comes a position on the Metropolitan Council. I look forward to serving in this position.



**REV. GREGORY CZUMAK**

Father Gregory is a first-generation American, with both of his parents having been born in Ukraine and coming to the United States as teenagers after WWII - he was born and raised in Maryland.

He earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering at the University of Maryland, and, some years later, his Master of Divinity degree in Orthodox Christian Theology at our Saint Sophia's Theological Seminary.

For the past 20 years he has been blessed to serve at our parish of the Four Evangelists in Bel Air, MD, after having started the Parish as a Mission, with (then) Archbishop Antony's blessing.

While doing so, he has also maintained a career as an Engineer in the field of telecommunications regulatory compliance, including being the Quality Manager and Senior Compliance Engineer of a commercial test lab for many years, and currently serving as the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Telecommunication Certification Body Council, an international professional organization with well over 1000 members from the field of telecommunications.

He is most blessed to have been married to his wife, Pani Dobrodyka Christine, for the past 32 years - they have 4 adult children (and are still waiting on grandchildren!).



**REV. RICHARD JENDRAS**

Fr. Richard Jendras was born in Hollis, Queens, NY in 1963 to Marion (neé Moroz) and Henry Jendras. At a young age, Fr. Jendras and his family relocated to Bayonne, NJ, where he spent his formative years under the guidance of his beloved maternal grandparents, who instilled in him a deep faith and love of God, as well as an intense devotion to his Ukrainian heritage.

His Christian faith was nurtured by the Sisters of St. Benedict at St. Henry's Grammar School and by the Marist Brothers at Marist High School, both in Bayonne. Fr. Richard furthered his education at Jersey City State College, earning a B.A. in Special Education in 1984.

He immediately went to work for the Jersey City Public School System, where he devoted the next 33 years to teaching. During that time, he was never far from the life of the Church, always volunteering to assist with projects and fundraising events in his local parish of St. Sophia.

Prior to entering the clergy, Fr. Richard was active in the lay leadership of the Church, serving on the Parish Boards of three parishes in New Jersey, as well as president of two of those boards.

In addition, he has also served on the Metropolitan Council of the UOC of the USA, both as a regular and alternate member, the latter appointment having been again bestowed upon him at the most recent Sobor.

While still teaching, Fr. Richard continued his studies in the field of education and received his M.A. in Educational Administration from St. Peter's College in 2006. Following his retirement from teaching in 2017, and at the request of Their Eminences Metropolitan Antony and Bishop Daniel, Fr. Richard happily returned to the classroom, teaching English as a Second Language to students from Ukraine at St. Sophia's Seminary.

At the same time, he pursued further theological studies, earning his M.Div. at St. Tikhon's Seminary in 2020. Fr. Richard was ordained to the diaconate in October, 2017 and served as deacon at St. Demetrius Cathedral in Carteret, NJ. In July, 2019, Fr. Richard was ordained to the priesthood and was assigned to St. Mary's Cathedral in Allentown, where he continues to serve as pastor and is currently serving on the faculty of St. Sophia's Seminary teaching course in Orthodox Spirituality.

At the present time, Fr. Richard is a doctoral student in Liturgical Studies at Catholic University of America.



**REV. VASYL SENDEHA**

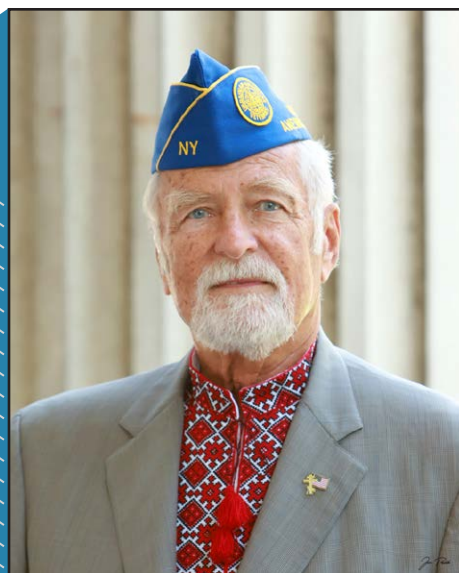


**REV. MYKOLA ANDRUSHKIV**



**REV. VOLODYMYR STELIAC**

CLERGY ALTERNATES



**MR. MICHAEL DOBRANSKY**

St. Johns UOC, Johnson City, NY

- Parish Council, Chairman Finance Committee, Chairman Investment Committee (9 years).

Ukrainian American Veterans, Inc.

- Commander UAV Post 43, Johnson City, NY (4 years).

German American Club, Binghamton, NY

- Vice President (7 years).

Military:

- Captain, US Air Force (1958-62)
- Missile Site Commander, W. Germany with active duty stations in England, France, Turkey, Libya and Iran

Education:

- Colgate University, BA (1958), Hamilton, NY
- Columbia University, Marketing Management (1982)
- Columbia University, Financial Management (1985)

Personal:

- Languages: English with fair knowledge of German, Serbian, Ukrainian & Russian
- Interests: Big game hunting, classical music, Italian opera, Liturgical Eastern Orthodox Hymns
- Favorite Meal: Holupki with potato salad

Senior multi-disciplined retired executive (Kraft Foods International; 31 years) with a diverse worldwide career in business development focusing on exports, licensing, joint ventures and acquisitions. Bold result-oriented trailblazer with a comprehensive record of solid achievements throughout the world (Central & South America, Middle East & North Africa, Asia/Pacific Region) including Ukraine and most of Eastern Europe. Businesses assigned ranged from \$12-18 million per year in revenues with full P&L responsibilities of profits up to \$7 million dollars per annum.

Last 10 years in USA:

Lourdes Hospital Foundation Inc., Binghamton, NY

- Board of Directors and Officer as Secretary (6 years)
- Responsibilities include managing stock portfolio of \$33 million dollars.

UOC of USA, South Bound Brook, NJ

- Auditing Commissions (3 years); Council of Metropolia member and alternate (6 years).



**MR. MATTHEW DUBAS**

Having been raised in the Ukrainian Orthodox Church, Matthew has been an active member of Holy Ascension parish in Maplewood, N.J., and has served the parish as subdeacon since 1999.

Additionally, he was elected as parish board vice president for several terms before being elected parish board president in 2022. He is a member of the Ukrainian Orthodox League chapter in the parish and serves as recording secretary.

He was a delegate at the XXII SOBOR and the XXIII SOBOR. Matthew is editorial staffer for The Ukrainian Weekly newspaper, where he has worked in that role since 2006.

He continues to serve as press secretary for the Ukrainian Sports Federation of the U.S.A. and Canada (known by its Ukrainian acronym USCAK), as well as the Ukrainian Athletic Educational Association Chornomorska Sitch in Whippany, N.J.

When not donating his energies to these aforementioned pursuits, Matthew also plays accordion with the Ukrainian band Svitnok of New York.



**MR. SCOTT KERRY**

Scott Kerry has had a long and prosperous career in fire and emergency services dating back to 1985 when he joined the Newington Volunteer Fire Dept., CT. While there he served as both a HazMat Lieutenant and Engine Company Lieutenant and then Department Safety Officer before leaving the department in 2003.

During his career Scott has been awarded three citations for actions in the performance of his duties. Scott also worked full time for Hartford EMS and part time with Newington EMS for many years. He served on the Board of Directors for Newington EMS from 2020 to 2022 as the committee chair for vehicle maintenance and purchasing as well as a committee member on policies and procedures.

In 1987 Scott joined the Connecticut National Guard as a Combat Medic Specialist where he was awarded the Expert Field Medic Badge in 1990. He served in the National Guard until 1996 and was awarded the National defense service medal and Army Reserve Component Achievement medal with a bronze oak leaf cluster.

In 1994 Scott joined the DoD fire service when he was hired as a firefighter for the Naval Undersea Warfare Center in New London. He served two years there until leaving due to the 1995 Base Realignment and Closure and joined the Millstone Nuclear Power Plant Fire Brigade in 1996. He was promoted to Lieutenant after just two years in 1998.

In March of 1999 Scott rejoined the DoD service when he was hired at Westover ARB and has had a lucrative career rising quickly through the ranks of the department to his present rank as Deputy Chief. Scott serves as the department's Accreditation manager and has been pivotal in maintaining the Department's Accreditation status with the Commission on Fire Accreditation International for the past decade. Scott serves his parish as the sitting Vice President for St. Mary's Ukrainian Orthodox church in New Britain, CT and has served in other capacities on the council for several years.



## october ordinations

may god grant to them many happy and blessed years!

<b>Metropolitan Antony</b>	<b>10/6/1985</b>	<b>Rev. Silouan Rolando</b>	<b>10/18/2009</b>
<b>Rev. John Charest</b>	<b>10/1/2017</b>	<b>Rev. Ivan Tchopko</b>	<b>10/21/2018</b>
<b>V. Rev. Taras Naumenko</b>	<b>10/1/1995</b>	<b>V. Rev. Paisius R. McGrath</b>	<b>0/28/2006</b>
<b>Rev. Frank Lucero Jr.</b>	<b>10/1/2021</b>	<b>V. Rev. Richard Hawrish</b>	<b>10/30/1982</b>
<b>Rev. Vitalii Lutsiv</b>	<b>10/8/2017</b>	<b>Protodn. Anthony Szwez</b>	<b>10/19/2003</b>
<b>Rev. Borislav Kroner</b>	<b>10/9/2010</b>	<b>Dn. Paul Neal</b>	<b>10/22/2017</b>
<b>V. Rev. Bohdan Kalynyuk</b>	<b>10/14/1989</b>		

### MEMORY ETERNAL!

### OCTOBER NECROLOGY

### ВІЧНА ПАМ'ЯТЬ!

Archbishop Hennadij (Shyprykevich) – 23 October 1973

2nd 1952 -	<b>PRIEST STEFAN MOSIYCHUK</b>
9th 1960 -	<b>PROTOPRESBYTER VASYL WARWARIW</b>
22nd 1963 -	<b>PROTOPRIEST JOHN ZAYATZ</b>
19th 1966 -	<b>PROTOPRIEST MYKOLA CZERNIAWSKY</b>
8th 1975 -	<b>PROTOPRIEST MICHAEL KOCHANSKY</b>
15th 1976 -	<b>PRIEST GEORGE YAHODSKY</b>
24th 1979 -	<b>PRIEST THEODORE BORECKY</b>
8th 1981 -	<b>PRIEST BORIS ARIJCZUK</b>
20th 1985 -	<b>PROTOPRIEST LEW OPOKA</b>
17th 1988 -	<b>PROTODEACON YURIJ KORSUN</b>
16th 1992 -	<b>PROTOPRESBYTER JOHN DANYLEVICH</b>
19th 2003 -	<b>ARCHIMANDRITE ANASTASIJE</b>
5th 2004 -	<b>PROTOPRESBYTER PAUL HRYNYSHYN</b>
5th 2004 -	<b>PROTOPRESBYTER SERHIJ NEPREL</b>
3rd 2005 -	<b>PROTOPRESBYTER THEODORE FOROSTY</b>
28th 2006 -	<b>PROTOPRIEST MYKOLA NEWMERZYCKYJ</b>
11th 2007 -	<b>PRIEST WOLODYMYR BOROWSKY</b>
30th 2014 -	<b>PROTODEACON JOSEPH HOTROVICH</b>
14th 2015 -	<b>PROTOPRIEST ANATOLIY DOKHVAT</b>



Colobanova, Maria baptized and chrismated on January 16, 2022 in St. Sophia Church, Bayonne, NJ. Child of Serghei Colobanov and Ina Gutman. Sponsors: Denis Nicolae Belibrov and Iulia Gutman. Celebrated by Fr. Mircea Schirta.

Andreyko, Leonidas Constantine baptized and chrismated on September 18, 2022 in Sts. Peter & Paul Church, Carnegie, PA. Child of Chevon Troutman and Diana Andreyko. Sponsors: Kostyantyn Andreyko and Anna Ratliff. Celebrated by Rev. John Charest.

Anthony Sanchez, Daniel baptized and chrismated on August 19, 2018 in St. Sophia Church, Bayonne, NJ. Child of Johnathan Sanchez and Kristen Nichole Anthony. Sponsors: Bogdan Damitra Lazariciu and . Celebrated by Fr. Mircea Schirta.

Bilica, Julia baptized and chrismated on August 20, 2022 in St. Nicholas Church, Troy, NY. Child of Andrew Alexander Bilica and Magdalena Pelechacz. Sponsors: Michael Bilica and Anna Pepe. Celebrated by V. Rev. Roman Shak.

Borodaykevych, Ostap baptized and chrismated on August 20, 2022 in St. Michael's Church, San Francisco, CA. Child of Volodymyr Borodaykevych and Yuliya Voskobiynyk. Sponsors: Volodymyr Khudytskyj and Zoriana Gaidamaka. Celebrated by V. Rev. Georgiy Tyapko.

Covaliov, Theodore baptized and chrismated on October 31, 2021 in St. Sophia Church, Bayonne, NJ. Child of Ghenadie Covaliov and Galina Lozinschi. Sponsors: Mihail Moravu and Natalia Moravu. Celebrated by Fr. Mircea Schirta.

Covaliov, Emma baptized and chrismated on April 30, 2022 in St. Sophia Church, Bayonne, NJ. Child of Ghenadie Covaliov and Galina Lozinschi. Sponsors: Mihail Moravu and Natalia Moravu. Celebrated by Fr. Mircea Schirta.

Critac, Ermin baptized and chrismated on September 4, 2011 in St. Sophia Church, Bayonne, NJ. Child of Valeriu Nicolae Critac and Veronica Gherman. Sponsors: Lawrence Ciosotenco and Liliana Ciosotenco. Celebrated by Fr. Mircea Schirta.

Critac, Ioan Yaniv baptized and chrismated on March 10, 2013 in St. Sophia Church, Bayonne, NJ. Child of Valeriu Nicolae Critac and Veronica Gherman. Sponsors: Doru Constantin and Ileana Constantin. Celebrated by Fr. Mircea Schirta.

Kirvalidze, Matteo baptized and chrismated on July 24, 2022 in Holy Trinity Cathedral Church, Brooklyn, NY. Child of Kakha Kirvalidze and Tetiana Seredynska. Sponsors: David Maglakelidze and Volha Studneva. Celebrated by V. Rev. Victor Wronskyj.

Kirvalidze, Melania baptized and chrismated on July 24, 2022 in Holy Trinity Cathedral Church, Brooklyn, NY. Child of Kakha Kirvalidze and Tetiana Seredynska. Sponsors: George Chukhua and Yulya Bohdan. Celebrated by V. Rev. Victor Wronskyj.

Kostko, Matthew Oliver baptized and chrismated on August 22, 2022 in St. Volodymyr Cathedral Church, New York, NY. Child of and Kseniya Kostko. Sponsors: Yuriy Yevtushenko and Yuliya Malkova. Celebrated by V. Rev. Volodymyr Muzychka.

Palalia, Dylan Matthias baptized and chrismated on August 27, 2022 in St. Michael's Church, San Francisco, CA. Child of John Michael Palalia and Oksana Hula. Sponsors: Ivan Yanchenko and Nataliia Riaba. Celebrated by V. Rev. Georgiy Tyapko.

Vaida, Anthony baptized and chrismated on October 30, 2021 in St. Volodymyr Cathedral Church, New York, NY. Child of Taras Vaida and Anna Vaida. Sponsors: Taras Feshovets and Anna Povalinska. Celebrated by V. Rev. Volodymyr Muzychka.



**Steven Bela Hoza and Jennifer Lynn Fuhr in St. Vladimir Parish, Pittsburgh, PA, on August 6, 2022, witnessed by Maury Druash-Gladys and Anne Haluszczak. Celebrant: V. Rev. John Haluszczak.**

**Robert Maynard McLaren and Kateryna Parke in St. Vladimir Cathedral Parish, Parma, OH, on September 28, 2022, witnessed by Ernest Parke and Diana Parke. Celebrant: Fr. Michael Hontaruk.**

**Grigory Yaroshenko and Elena Iaroshenko in Assumption of the Virgin Mary Parish, Northampton, PA, on August 10, 2022, witnessed by and Olha Kravchenko. Celebrant: Rev. Oleg Kravchenko.**

**Victor Zhybaj and Halyna Antonyshyn in Holy Trinity Parish, Cheektowaga, NY, on September 17, 2022, witnessed by Andrew Zhybaj and Adrianna Redman. Celebrant: V. Rev. Yuriy Kasyanov.**





Bobersky, James of Lake Milton, OH on August 30, 2022 at the age of 71 years, officiating clergy Rev. Mykola Zomchak of Sts. Peter & Paul Parish, Youngstown, OH 44509.

Cholach, Oksana of Parma, OH on October 8, 2022 at the age of 77 years, officiating clergy Very. Rev. John Nakonachny of St. Vladimir Cathedral Parish, Parma, OH 44134.

Dmytryszyn, Eugenia Don of Syracuse, NY on September 9, 2022 at the age of 89 years, officiating clergy V. Rev. Mykola Andrushkiv of St. Luke Parish, Warners, NY 13164.

Horbinski, Brian K. of Coatesville, PA on October 9, 2022 at the age of 55 years, officiating clergy Fr. Nicholas Dilendorf of Holy Ghost Parish, Coatesville, PA 19320.

Krenichyn, Kevin C. of Herkimer, NY on September 17, 2022 at the age of 64 years, officiating clergy V. Rev. Ivan Semko of St. Mary's Parish, Herkimer, NY 13350.

Moran, Glenn D. of Coatesville, PA on September 4, 2022 at the age of 54 years, officiating clergy Fr. Nicholas Dilendorf of Holy Ghost Parish, Coatesville, PA 19320.

Racz, Audrey of Mineral Ridge, OH on August 25, 2022 at the age of 75 years, officiating clergy Rev. Mykola Zomchak of Sts. Peter & Paul Parish, Youngstown, OH 44509.

Shatsky, Michael of Bethlehem, PA on September 15, 2022 at the age of 62 years, officiating clergy Rev. Richard Jendras of St. Mary Parish, Allentown, PA 18102.

Sowolla, Harry of Bethesda, MD on April 9, 2022 at the age of 84 years, officiating clergy Rev. Ihor Protsak of Holy Ascension Parish, Nanty-Glo, PA 15943.

Szymusiak, Anna of Nanty-Glo, PA on September 5, 2022 at the age of 104 years, officiating clergy Rev. Ihor Protsak of Holy Ascension Parish, Nanty-Glo, PA 15943.

Zatezalo, Theresa of Pittsburgh, PA on September 7, 2022 at the age of 95 years, officiating clergy Fr. John Charest of Sts. Peter & Paul Parish, Garnegie, PA 15106.

# UOL Thanksgiving Project



November is the month we celebrate Thanksgiving in the U.S. and also the month we commemorate the victims of the Holodomor in Ukraine.

The UOL National Executive Board has decided that our yearly recommended Thanksgiving Project will focus on bringing a greater awareness of the Holodomor while helping the hungry in our communities now and in the future. In our remembrance, we strive to combat hunger in the present.

The UOL has the following recommendations:

- Conduct a food drive at your parish collecting non-perishable foods and donate them to a local food bank.
- Have a pop-up drive at your parish with Thanksgiving related foods to distribute to the community.
- For your advertising and, if possible, label the food donations with the following message:

In 1932, 10 million people perished in an artificial famine in Ukraine.

We pray no one ever goes hungry again.

#Holodomor #UkrainianGenocide #NeverForget

The Christian Caregiving & Missions Commission Thanksgiving Project location on the UOL website has this letter & the message text formatted for a sheet of 30 labels (1" X 2 5/8" each) for you to download and print.

Thanksgiving Project participation photos and ideas are welcomed to be sent to the UOL Publicity Commission at [uolpr@uolofusa.org](mailto:uolpr@uolofusa.org). The UOL will publish the pictures and ideas on the UOL's website, social media locations, and UOL Bulletin. We want to hear YOUR ideas and share YOUR pictures with other chapters & parishes!

If you cannot support a food drive, please consider a fund-raising drive and send the donations to a local food bank or Soup Kitchen.

Let us remember the innocent victims of the Ukrainian Holodomor, honor their memory, and help those in need within our own community at this time of giving!



UOL Thanksgiving Project  
[www.uolofusa.org/thanksgivingproject](http://www.uolofusa.org/thanksgivingproject)



## 76th UOL ANNUAL CONVENTION JULY 27-30, 2023

Hosted by: UOL National Executive Board

### Host Parish

St. Michael Parish  
540 North Main Ave.  
Scranton, PA 18504  
Fr. Philip Harendza

### Hotel

Holiday Inn Wilkes Barre -  
East Mountain an IHG Hotel  
600 Wildflower Dr.  
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702



[uol.orthodoxws.com/76thuolconvention](http://uol.orthodoxws.com/76thuolconvention)  
Email: [76thuol@uolofusa.org](mailto:76thuol@uolofusa.org)



## Проект УОЛ на День подяки



Листопад – це місяць, який ми відзначаємо День подяки в США, а також місяць, коли ми вшановуємо пам'ять жертв Голодомору в Україні.

Національна виконавча рада УОЛ вирішила, що наш щорічний рекомендований проект до Дня подяки буде зосереджений на підвищенні обізнаності про Голодомор, допомагаючи голодним у наших громадах зараз і в майбутньому. У своїй пам'яті ми прагнемо боротися з голодом у сьогоднішні.

УОЛ є наступні рекомендації:

· Проведіть у своїй парафії харчовий драйв, збираючи продукти, що не швидко псуються, і пожертвуйте їх місцевому продовольчому банку.

· Майте спливаючу поїздку на своїй парафії з продуктами, пов'язаними з Днем подяки, щоб роздати громаді.

· Для вашої реклами та, якщо можливо, позначте пожертви на їжу таким повідомленням:

У 1932 році в результаті штучного голоду в Україні загинуло 10 мільйонів людей.

Ми молимося, щоб ніхто більше ніколи не голодував.

#Holodomor #UkrainianGenocide #NeverForget

Розташування проекту «Християнська комісія з догляду та місій» на веб-сайті УОЛ має цей лист та текст повідомлення, відформатований для аркуша з 30 етикеток (1 "X 2 5/8" кожна), щоб ви могли завантажити та роздрукувати.

Фотографії та ідеї щодо участі в Проекті подяки запрошуються до Комісії з реклами УОЛ при [uolpr@uolofusa.org](mailto:uolpr@uolofusa.org). УОЛ публікуватиме фотографії та ідеї на сайті УОЛ, локаціях у соціальних мережах та бюлетені УОЛ. Ми хочемо почути ВАШІ ідеї та поділитися ВАШИМИ фотографіями з іншими главами та парафіями!

Якщо ви не можете підтримати харчовий драйв, будь ласка, розгляньте можливість збору коштів і надішліть пожертви в місцевий банк їжі або супову кухню.

Пам'ятаймо невинних жертв українського Голодомору, вшановуймо їхню пам'ять, допомагаємо нужденним у межах нашої власної громади в цей час дарування!



UOL Thanksgiving Project  
[www.uolofusa.org/thanksgivingproject](http://www.uolofusa.org/thanksgivingproject)



UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE USA

NOVEMBER CELEBRATIONS  
У ЛИСТОПАДІ СВЯТКУЄМО

УКРАЇНСЬКА ПРАВОСЛАВНА ЦЕРКВА США



5

Demetrious Saturday  
Holy Apostle James the  
Brother of the Lord

Димитрівська поминальна субота  
Апостола Якова, брата Господня по  
плоті

8

Holy and Glorious Great-martyr  
Demetrius of Thessalonica

Вмч. Димитрія Солунського

9

St. Nestor the Chronicler of the Kyiv  
Caves

Прп. Нестора Літописця, Печерського,  
в Ближніх печерах

10

Repose of Ven. Job of Pochaiv  
Прп. Іова, ігумена Почаївського

21

Synaxis of the Archangel Michael and the  
other Bodiless Powers

Собор Архистратига Михаїла і інших  
Небесних Сил безтілесних

26

St. John Chrysostom, archbishop of  
Constantinople

Свт. Іоана Золотоустого, архієп.  
Константинопольського

*Holodomor Remembrance Day*

*День пам'яті жертв Голодомору*

27

Holy and All-praised Apostle Philip

Апостола Пилипа

28

Beginning of Philip's Fast-Advant

Початок Пилипівки

29

Holy Apostle and Evangelist Matthew  
Апостола і євангеліста Матвія



**УКРАЇНСЬКЕ ПРАВОСЛАВНЕ СЛОВО**  
**UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX WORD**

P.O. Box 495  
South Bound Brook, NJ 08880

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Get involved in the life of your Church!

The success of all Church sponsored events depends upon your active participation!

**Demetrios Memorial Saturday**

**November 5**

**START OF ST. PHILIP'S FAST  
(Advent)**

**November 28**

**HOLODOMOR  
Commemoration**

**November 19**

**Save the Date  
UOL CONVENTION 2023**

**July 27-20**

**SYNAXIS OF ARCH. MICHAEL  
and the Bodiless Powers**

**November 21**

**UOCofUSA  
uocofusa.org**

**AKATHIST TO THE BIRTH-GIVER OF  
GOD "QUEEN OF ALL"**

**1 December  
5 January  
2 February**

**Mailing address: PO Box 495  
South Bound Brook, NJ 08880**  
**Shipping address: 135 Davidson Ave.  
Somerset, NJ 08873**  
**Tel: (732) 356-0090**