PRAYER FOR WARRIORS AND VICTIMS OF WAR

Great God, Almighty God! We, Your sinful children, with humble hearts, bow our heads before You. Father! Forgive us our sins, and the sins of our parents, grandparents, and ancestors. Accept this day, we beg of You, our sincere prayers and gratitude for Your infinite mercy upon us. Hear our prayers and accept the supplication of our hearts. Bless our ancestral homeland Ukraine, grant victory over her adversaries, wisdom, and good fortune. Oh, Gracious Lord, grant mercy to all who turn to You in supplication.

We beseech You, God, on behalf of all warriors and defenders, our brothers and sisters, widows, orphans, the crippled and the weak, for those who are oppressed and imprisoned, for those suffering difficulties, for refugees, and all those who need Your mercy and help. Unite us all into one large Christian family, so that all the people of Ukraine, through our unity and victory may glorify Your majestic Name always, now, and forever, onto ages of ages. Amen.

МОЛИТВА ЗА ВОЇНІ І ТИХ, ХТО ПОТЕРПАЄ ВІД ВІЙНИ

Боже Великий, Боже Всесильний! Ми, грішні діти Твої, у покорі сердців наших приходимо до Тебе і схиляємо голови наші. Отець! Прости провини наші та провини батьків, дітей і прародичів наших. Прийми наші, благаємо Тебе, щиру молитву нашу і подяку нашу за безмежне милосердя Твое до нас. Вислухай наші молитви і прийми благання серців наших. Благослови нашу Батьківщину Україну, перемогу над ворогом, дою та щастю й дай. Премилосьценний Господи, усім, хто вдається до Тебе з благанням, милость Твою даєй.

Благаємо Тебе, Боже, за Воїні і Захисників, за братів і сестер наших, за вдову, за святі, за калік і немчишні, за тих, хто в окунації і полоні, за тих, хто в скрутних життєвих обставинах, за біженців і за всіх тих, хто Твого милосердя та допомоги Твоєї потребують. З’єднай нас усіх у єдину велику Христову сім’ю, щоб усі люди України нашою єдністю і перемогами сплили величе ім’я Твое завжди, і нині, і посьогодні, і на вики віків. Амінь.
As a 17-mile-long convoy of Russian tanks rumbled towards Kyiv, and over 500,000 women and children made their way west towards Poland to escape death, leaving behind their fathers, husbands, brothers, and sons to defend Ukrainian sovereignty, the people of New Jersey gathered at the steps of the St. Andrew Memorial Church to pray for their safety and the sovereign integrity of their ancestral homeland of Ukraine.

At 7 PM, as the church bells began to slowly chime, His Eminence Metropolitan Antony, Prime Hierarch of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA and Diaspora, His Eminence Archbishop Daniel Ruling Hierarch of the Western Eparchy of the UOC of the USA, along with guest hierarchs His Grace Bishop Apostolos of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of New Jersey, Bishop Andrii Rabiy of Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia and clergy emerged slowly and stood upon the steps of the tall, brightly illuminated church. The Saint Andrew Memorial Church is the first monument erected in memory of the millions of lives lost to the Soviet Russian perpetrated manmade famine known as Holodomor (murder by starvation). The church is made of light-colored stone, is narrow, and reaches high up into the heavens, resembling a candle lit in prayer, lit in memory, lit in hope. Echoing the church, the hundreds of people who had gathered at the steps of the church, braving the cold temperatures, began to slowly light candles which they held in their hands. These candles were in memory of those who had already perished in the war with Russia, but, also a reminder of the Light of Christ, and our hope in Him.
Picking up the microphone, Archbishop Daniel addressed those gathered. He began by informing the crowd that there was a number of government officials and dignitaries, leaders of various faith groups, the faithful of various Orthodox parishes, and the people of New Jersey that he was born in Ukraine and came to the United States as an exchange student. His family is in Ukraine, his parents in Bachkovo, and other family in Ivanovo-Frankivsk. He told how a short 12 days earlier he had visited his family back in Ukraine, but now the streets of Kyiv and other cities in Ukraine are destroyed and impassable. Many homes are destroyed, building demolished, innocent lives shattered.

Everyone was moved as His Eminence described his daily communications with his mother. He smiled as he recalled all the texts she sent him daily. This morning he awoke expecting to read the numerous messages from her... but was surprised to see that the messages she had sent were labeled as having been deleted. He immediately got concerned; she had never deleted messages before. Was she okay? Had something happened? He phoned her, and she answered the phone from her basement, where she had been phoned, and she answered the phone. Had something happened? Was she okay? She was concerned; she had never deleted messages before. Was she okay? She was surprised to see that the messages from her... but was these messages, and funny clipart she sends texts, and among those gathered, for joining together to support Ukraine, and honor the lives of the innocent people of Ukraine and stepping down he joined Metropolitan Antony and the other hierarchs and clergy and began to pray.

His Eminence Metropolitan Antony stepped up to the podium and greeted everyone with the ancient Christian greeting of “Christ is among us.” The world watches another attempt of the Russian leadership to invade Ukraine and turn her merely into a small region of Russia. A nation that attacks innocent civilians is guilty of tyranny, instigated by low self-esteem. This is a dangerous circumstance as it comes with the realization that all things of Ukrainian value are lost to them.

His Eminence continued stating that Russia first tried to intimidate the nation by surrounding the country with military installations and armored vehicles. When the intimidation failed, the Russian government chose to invade, to deliberately kill innocent civilians indiscriminately. No care was being taken to minimize civilian casualties. This is an act of terrorism against Ukraine, against Democracy and against the world.

He continued by stating the Ukraine is a geographic reality, with her own borders, which have been coveted over the centuries by neighboring countries. Ukraine is blessed with numerous and abundant natural resources that yield plentiful crops. It is due to this rich soil that Ukraine is known as the “Breadbasket of Europe.” It is no secret that under the guise of the Soviet Union, Russia wanted to claim these vast resources, but she also wanted to install a wide bulwark of communism between her and Europe. In her efforts at acquiring what belonged to others for herself, Russia killed indiscriminately as human life meant nothing, it was expendable. The bloodshed would soon be forgotten. What they did not realize, is that Ukraine is more than a border line, it is a nation, and her most valued resource are her people, who possess an indelible self-identity which will never be ripped from their hearts or souls. Ukraine’s history is a testament to the fact that it is exactly these people whom we are concerned for today. It is for their sakes that we are gathered on this cold evening on the steps of the New Jersey State Capitol. It is for our country, and God’s protection of the Ukrainian nation, her sovereignty, and her very identity.

Metropolitan Antony expressed his joy at seeing the world finally united in the realization of Russian tyranny. From the farthest corners of the world, people are gathering, rallying, protesting, and making known their disapproval and condemnation of Russia’s act of war against an innocent, peaceful, and democratic nation. Formerly, rival nations have swung their doors wide open, accepting the thousands of refugees who are fleeing for their lives with facts, and healing the clothes on their back. This is the Finger of the Lord, as He acts to save His people.

He continued by stating that all the clergy, the faithful, the pastors, and elected officials for joining in tonight’s prayer and standing up for freedom and for Ukraine. He thanked them for not only joining in prayer but joining in showing the world that we will not back away from terror.

With this the Honorable Phil Murphy, Governor of New Jersey, stepped up to share a few words. He said that we all pray for the people of Ukraine, but also for the innocent people in Russia who also stand with Ukraine. New Jersey boasts over 75,000 Ukrainians, and with those in residence in neighboring New York, supports the largest population of Ukrainians in the U.S.A.

He continued by stating that this unprovoked invasion of a democratic and independent nation was a choice made by a thug who plays by his own rules and puts millions of lives at risk. However, this thug who stands before us today is not a thug of solidarity, which is evidenced locally here tonight, and echoed throughout the world. Having formerly been the US Ambassador to Germany, Pastor George Montanari, of the Franciscan Township Interfaith Council stepped up and explained that having attended services over the last few days, how moved he was by the pain and the hope in the people of Ukraine. His heart was torn at hearing the many goodbyes from their loved ones. Pastor George continued by stating that his heart was moved by the many prayers and songs seeking comfort in the Lord.

This incursion into Ukraine is not due to a fractured soul, but, due to a soul that is completely missing.
something. It is a deficiency in character that would justify such action. It is a deficiency that entices through a familial trust, promises of protection, and then turns and invades.

In vivid contrast, Ukraine shows that the true strength is in the character of the free people of Ukraine, which have inspired humanity throughout the world, even in Moscow, where people demand an end to this aggression.

Ukrainians are a defiant example to the rest of us. They made a choice between complacency and courage, between selfishness and sacrifice, between complacency and courage, between the rest of us. They made a choice and courageous. We pray for the character that would justify such action. It is a deficiency that entices Ukrainians to be a defiant example to aggression.

That the Lord strengthen them, and that God's embrace comforts and fortifies them. We pray that the day of victory and peace comes soon.

The final speaker represented the Muslim Community, Imam Mustafa El-Amin of Masjid Ibrahim, who stated that when God wishes to protect the Ukrainian people, that the Lord strengthen them, and that God's embrace comforts and fortifies them. We pray that the day of victory and peace comes soon.

His Eminence Archbishop Daniel stepped up and explained that a short 8 years ago, Ukrainians had peacefully gathered on the Maidan of Independence in Kyiv, once and for all declaring to the pro-Russian president that they do not wish to move closer to Russia but yearn for a European way of life. That president ordered the slaughter of those 100 men and women, which we now know as the “Heavenly Hundred”.

Just a few days ago on the 21st of this month, we marked the anniversary of their murders, and recall that as their bodies were prepared for burial a hymn was written to honor their sacrifice. His Eminence gestured to the side, pointing at the seminarians standing there, and explained that these young men remember that day, when the tragic murders occurred. They remember the sounds of the sniper fire, the images of the Independence Square massacre of those innocent boys and girls slaughtered by snipers merely for wishing to live a free and western way of life.

His Eminence stated that the seminarians will sing the deeply haunting and stirring song, “Plyve Kacha Po Tysyni” in honor of the Heavenly Hundred, and those who have died and are dying in the current war with Ukraine. Archbishop Daniel stated that this song is once again heard throughout Ukraine, as the bodies of first victims are returned to their families for burial.

The young men began to sing the soulful melody, as the deep and haunting lyrics wound their way down the steps of the church and enveloped everyone present, bringing them to tears. Even those who did not understand the Ukrainian words, were moved by the meaningful melody about a duckling and his mother.

Let my prayer arise in Thy sight as incense, and let the lifting up of my hands be an evening sacrifice.

His Eminence Archbishop Daniel once again thanked everyone for joining them tonight in prayer, especially the hierarchs, clergy, local police, dignitaries, elected officials, Community Faith Leaders, faithful and guests.

As the evening service concluded, His Eminence Archbishop Daniel once again thanked everyone for joining them tonight in prayer, especially the hierarchs, clergy, local police, dignitaries, elected officials, Community Faith Leaders, faithful and guests.

Turning to the people His Eminence stated that these days we Ukrainians have a greeting, “Слава Україні!” to which the reply is “Героям слава!” He repeated the words slowly so that all those gathered could memorize them, and then yelled out loudly “Слава Україні!” and received a resounding response of “Героям слава!” Again, he called out, “Slava Ukraini!” “Heroiam Slava!” “Glory to Ukraine!” “Glory to her heroes!”

As the final echoes stilled, the bells of the church began to toll slowly, somberly, sadly. Starting quietly the seminarians began to sing “Вічна Пам'ять!” / “Memory Eternal”. Their voices resonated between the chimes of the bells, as the people gathered joined in singing not only with their hearts but with their souls, that the Lord should give rest to all those who have lost their lives due to current and former Russian aggression among His Saints.

May the Lord safeguard Ukraine, protect her people, grant integrity to her borders, and chase all evil, danger, and trouble from her lands.
UOC of the USA DELIVERS HUMANITARIAN AID TO UKRAINE

Following the appeal of the Council of Bishops of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA to collect financial charitable assistance, the Church has delivered aid, supplies and other donations to children, elderly, wounded soldiers and medical supplies around Eastern, Central and Southern parts of Ukraine recently.

Literally all parishes of the Church are involved in active Humanitarian efforts in order to benefit the suffering people of Ukraine, as Russian forces continue to destroy the peaceful way of life of Ukrainians across the country. Boxes of medical supplies, food, clothing, etc. shipped daily to Ukraine from the faithful of the UOC of the USA. For those active and logistical efforts, we are truly grateful to all clergy and parish leaders of the Church.

The national Spiritual Center – Metropolia continues to coordinate financial donations and their distributions via various ministries in Ukraine. Having collected over 1.3 million dollars, the UOC of the USA continues to finance logistical food deliveries in Kharkiv region of Ukraine, where a group of young volunteers, sponsored by the Church, makes purchases of food items in various parts of Ukraine and transports them to Kharkiv residents. To see more photos scroll down...

Over the weekend of March 25-27, 2022, the UOC of the USA in cooperation with the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Munich, Germany shipped over 45 tons of humanitarian aid to Volyn region of Ukraine. His Eminence Archbishop Daniel traveled to Munich to oversee and to take active part in packaging and shipment of the aid. The shipment was delivered to Horohiv, Volyn region on Monday 28 March, 2022 with the immediate distribution process in place. More shipments will be scheduled in the following days.

Due to the cooperation of the Church with several local volunteers in Kyiv and Volyn, financial aid of another $50,000 was made to the families of the fallen Ukrainian soldiers and assistance was issued to the refugees from the Eastern Ukraine that have resettled in Western Ukraine.

The UOC of the USA continues to provide support to the clergy and parishioners of the severely damaged city of Mariupol. Through the frequent communications with Metropolitan Serhiy of Donetsk Eparchy of the Orthodox Church of Ukraine as well volunteers in the region, the Church has transferred another $20,000 to those in need.

Moreover, the funding of the UOC of the USA enabled delivery of portable heating units to the frontline, where the Ukrainian armed forces continue to protect the sovereign borders of Ukraine.

Another shipment of about 30 trucks was co-sponsored by the UOC of the USA and the Consulate General of Ukraine in Istanbul, Turkey. At the most recent meeting of the hierarchs of the Church with the Ukrainian diplomats, a donation of $20,000 was issued in order to offset logistical expenses for the delivery of the shipments, which contained the most necessary medical equipment for the wounded soldiers and patients of Ukrainian hospitals.

As the loss of human life in Ukraine takes its toll on a worldwide community, the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA received a request to assist with the purchase of a mobile morgue vehicle, which provides dignified logistical transport of human remains. Such vehicle was purchased and delivered to the 24th Army Military Brigade of King Danylo.

Most recently, Metropolitan Antony and Archbishop Daniel held a meeting with the representation of the International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC), which has outstanding experience in distributing funds throughout the world to disaster areas and sites of catastrophe. As such, a core group of volunteers and coordinators was created in Kyiv, Ostriv, Mukachevo, Poltava and Lviv regions in Ukraine in order to coordinate the delivery of humanitarian aid to those in need. Once again, such cooperation relieves the Church of “reinventing the wheel” in our own distribution process. The IOCC already has its own Ukrainian Aid Fund with contributions equal to those our Church has received.

Prior to his departure from Germany, Archbishop Daniel spoke to several local volunteers, stating: “War is always a human tragedy. The most recent attacks on Ukrainian cities and medical facilities demonstrate the horrors of this attempted invasion by the Russians… Civilians, especially children, suffer greatly when the violence is perpetrated…”

Fears remain about human rights - for women and children, for journalists, for the many Ukrainians who are left without homes and the basic needs for survival. The need for support of millions of Ukrainian refugees in Europe and for those who want to leave Ukraine is ongoing. There’s a strong mandate for us as Christians, certainly as Ukrainian-Orthodox Christians, to support those trying to flee violence and persecution. Let us pray that all may turn their hearts to the things that promote peace.”

"By this shall all men know that you are my disciples, if you have love one to another” (John 13:35).
Summertime for children is a time for relaxation, cooling off in the local pool, hiking through the woods in search of squirrels and rabbits, biking through the streets with your friends, resting on the cool grass beneath a shade tree and reading a good book. The weeks are spent carefree and are filled with laughter and lemonade. Or at least they should be. For thousands of Ukrainian children, this Summer is anything but carefree. Instead of the sound of music coming through open windows, they are assaulted with air-raid sirens. Instead of joyful fireworks, they are terrorized by flying missiles. Instead of running barefoot through the sprinklers, they are running for their lives.

With the blessing of Metropolitan Antony, Prime Hierarch of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA and Diaspora, His Eminence Archbishop Daniel, Ruling Hierarch of the Western Eparch of the UOC of the USA, with the assistance of the faithful of the Church, set out to give these children their childhood back.

This week, 123 children, categorized as "Internally Displaced Persons", were whisked away to Istanbul, Turkey for a short reprieve, giving their bodies time to heal, their spirits time to recuperate, and their souls time to rejoice. With the sun glinting gleefully off the waves of the Bosphorus as they lapped against the shores of the ancient city, the air was filled with sounds – sounds of the waves, car horns, seagulls, vendors in the marketplace, bells ringing, and mostly the joyful sounds of children laughing.

Surrounded by their new friends, the weeklong activities began with the raising of the Ukrainian flag, without fear of being shot at for doing so. As the flag was hoisted by a young boy from the world-renown village of the Kherson region – Chornobaivka, named Tamerlan, along with the Consul General Roman Nediksky, everyone began to sing the national anthem of Ukraine. The youngest children timidly sang, while the older ones sang loudly, their voices breaking as they fought back tears.

During the weeklong camp, the children will have the opportunity to brush up on their studies, learn pottery making, attend cooking classes, enjoy swimming and mostly they will be able to rest calmly, without the fear of bombs falling around them. Their stress is slowly being released even as they enjoy creating art as seen in the colorful drawings they created on the first day of camp of peace signs, the Ukrainian flag, and freedom fighters. Through their drawings it is evident that even though they have been taken out of the war zone, the war is still coursing through their innocent minds.

It is thanks to the many counselors and educators of @UkraynaStambuli that these children, participating in the third such camp, will begin to relax and reclaim their childhood. A special thanks to the sponsorship of this retreat by the faithful of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, especially His Eminence Archbishop Daniel. It is through this cooperation of individuals and their generosity that these 123 children can once again simply be children.
Цього року через війну росії проти України в нашому таборі відпочивають діти вимушених переселенців з усієї України - зокрема з Вінниці, Дніпра, Києва, Маріуполя, Одеси, Харкова, Херсонщини.

Український прапор під час Харкова, Херсонщини. Києва, Маріуполя, Одеси, – зокрема з Вінниці, Дніпра, Тамерлан із відомого на весь світ переселенців з усієї України.

Цей момент у нашого земляка - Чорнобаївки. Гадаємо, що своєю міцню селу з Херсонщини залежить у спогадах надовго.

Але й навіть діти співали гімн, які створили діти - мир.

А як емоційно діти співали пісні, аби діти гарно відпочили і зазнали позитивними емоціями, які запам’ятайтимуться їм надовго.

Щиро дякуємо Українському Товариству Взаємодопомоги в Стамбулі - Ukrayna Dayanışma Derneği і всім вихователям, які вже звернулися до нас за спонсорську підтримку Українській Православній Церкві США. Ви зробили щасливішими 123 дитин!

As the Russian incursion into the sovereign nation of Ukraine passed its 50th day, the world witnessed atrocities never dreamt of in their worst nightmares. The brutality of the attacking forces towards the civilian population stood against every law of humanity, respect of life, dignity of personhood. The barbarism stood against the Rules of War set forth by the Geneva Convention to minimize harm done to innocent civilians. The cruelty inflicted upon the people of Ukraine by the invading Russians goes against every tenant and teaching of Christ and the Orthodox Church.

Even as their demolished cities smolder and with over a quarter of the populace of Ukraine displaced either internally, or as refugees to foreign lands, their faith and hope in God keeps them going. Huddled in underground cells, or tempting fate above ground in damaged parish churches, or gathering in parishes outside of Ukraine who have warmly greeted them, Ukrainians celebrated the Entrance of the Lord into Jerusalem/Palm Sunday, filled with hope. Just as Christ entered the city fully aware that tough times lay ahead for Him, He did not flatter because He knew that in the end good would conquer evil. And so the people of Ukraine follow their Lord’s example, and with evil and darkness all around them, they focus their gaze and place their hope in God, knowing full well that Christ has already conquered this fallen world.

Entering this Holy Week, as we ponder the Passion of Christ, His humility, and His love for all others, even those who falsely accused Him. As our Lord made His way towards Golgotha, He permitted a man to help Him carry the heavy Cross, showing us that it is okay to allow others to assist us in Our life’s journey, especially when our own crosses seem to heavy and hard to carry.

As Simon of Cyrene helped Christ carry His Cross, the Church has stepped up and is helping the refugees and those suffering due to the military aggression against them, by aiding in any way possible to ease their suffering and strengthen their hope God.

The Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, continues to provide life’s necessities to the embattled people of Kharkiv, working through local volunteers to deliver food to the elderly, children, and those who are living in damaged homes, or in cellars beneath the ground. As the Orthodox celebrated Palm Sunday, His Eminence Archbishop Daniel, Ruling Hierarch of the Western Eparchy of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA and Diaspora, traveled to Germany to firsthand minister to the needs of the refugees who had gathered there. He listened to their heart wrenching recollections, mourned with them at the loss of their loved ones, prayed with them, cried with them, and delivered much needed humanitarian aid to them, and passed along financial assistance to be delivered deep into the heart of ravaged Ukraine to those who are hunkering down during the onslaught.

The Church has sponsored 7 ambulances, 2 of which are already in use saving the lives of those who have been injured by the bombs, and shrapnel.

The embattled regions of the nation, including the city of Dnipro, where the Church is working with Metropolitan Serhiy, are receiving much needed aid and support for the refugees who are fleeing the remnants of the once thriving metropolis of Mariupol.

While many able-bodied families have been able to evacuate the areas that are being currently targeted,
many elderly and disabled people are not able to be evacuated and remain in their homes. These individuals are being aided by the Kyiv Metropolia of the Orthodox Church in Ukraine, which is ensuring they receive the needed physical and spiritual sustenance to see them through these difficult times.

Through the generous donations of the faithful of the UOC of the USA, the OCU is able to provide the individuals stricken by the evil forces, their homes demolished, possessions lost, loved ones missing with stipends between $300-$1,000 depending on the size of the family unit and the need.

The Saint Andrew Society of the UOC of the USA, lead by Protodeacon Ihor Mahlay, has this week donated $5,000 to assist Ukrainian refugees in need in Germany.

As Orthodox Christians it is our duty to step up and help those in need, knowing that when we assist our neighbors, we assist Christ Himself. Therefore, the Church is stepping up and helping the embattled people of Ukraine, her military, her elderly and disabled, her children, her orphans, her clergy, her families and widows, dust themselves off, shift the weight of their burden and continue to carry their crosses through these dark times.

As we pass the 100th day of an unprovoked war against the sovereign and peace-loving nation of Ukraine, her people continue to suffer and die in unprecedented numbers. As the Russians wreak havoc on the countryside, demolishing churches, businesses, historic monuments, and homes, leaving destruction and desolation behind, the people of Ukraine fight on, stalwartly trying to hold on to their lives, their identity, and their land.

Refugees, mostly mothers with children, have fled the country, and continue to bring awareness of the dire situation back home. In the meantime, Internally Displaced People, those who were forced to flee their homes, and yet remain within the borders of Ukraine, watch as the Russian army continues to pillage, destroy, murder throughout their villages and cities.

The Black Sea has been blockaded, paralyzing supply lines from the south, and making the lines from the west even more crucial, as many people find themselves starving and dying of injuries that otherwise would be curable, if medical supplies and avenues of transportation to hospitals were available.

Even in this seemingly dire situation, God works through His people, and shines a light in the darkness. With the blessing of His Eminence Metropolitan Antony, Prime Hierarch of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA and the Diaspora, His Eminence Archbishop Daniel, Ruling Hierarch of the Western Eparchy of the OOC of the USA, delivered funds to be utilized to ease the hardships in Ukraine. Through the generous donations of the faithful of the Church, supplies of food have been purchased and are being delivered to the IDPs and others who find themselves in need of assistance. Vehicles have been procured to be used in the war-torn areas to deliver food and medical supplies.

Additionally, a number of ambulances have been purchased and delivered to Ukraine to help save the lives of those who are injured and need immediate medical care. These Chariots of Hope have been furnished with the necessary medical devices and supplies to provide emergency help.

Today, His Beatitude Metropolitan Epifaniy, Primate of the Orthodox Church in Ukraine, blessed the newly delivered fleet of ambulances, before they were transferred to the military units, including the French Volunteer International Legion, to fulfill the mission of saving lives on the battlefield, and beyond. Emblazoned with the logos of the OCU and the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, these Chariots of Hope will travel to the darkest most war-torn regions of the nation, to bring light, hope and salvation to those struggling to survive against the Russian onslaught.

Thank you to all those who have donated and contributed to this initiative, for by doing so you follows Christ’s teachings of love, mercy, and self-sacrifice.
KHARKIV
receives much needed aid

The faithful gathered on a sunny bright day for Divine Liturgy in the Church of the Holy Apostle and Evangelist John the Theologian in Kharkiv. On this day Bishop Mytrophan of Kharkiv and Bohodukhiv, was present at the Divine Liturgy, to celebrate not only his birthday, but, also his saints day.

It was refreshing to see, that even though their city was heavily damaged by the Russian artillery, their schools bombed, hospitals burned down, homes destroyed, and dreams shattered, the residents of Kharkiv still held onto their faith in the Lord.

On this day their faith was rewarded as humanitarian aid was distributed on the parish grounds after Divine Liturgy. The young and the old, this day would receive some relief from the stress of not knowing if they would eat this day. In this shattered, shadow of the city they call home, it is next to impossible to find the supplies necessary for life.

This day, their worries were alleviated for the immediate future. Thanks to the generous donations of the faithful of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, through His Eminence Archbishop Daniel, funds were collected and donated to help those in this time of great need in Ukraine.

The people quietly lined up, too desperate to be shy, as food and hygiene items were distributed by the administration of the Kharkiv Diocese, and the parishioners of the St. John the Theologian church. Families with young children were ministered to first, ensuring the parents had all they needed to ensure their children had enough nourishment to survive the hardships of war. While the parents shed tears of joy at the sight of food, as well as soap, diapers, sanitizers, bandages, toothpaste, etc., the children giggled with joy as Bishop Mytrophan handed out sweets to them. It is in hard times that people truly appreciate all the little things that often go for granted.

Having tended to the needs of the individuals who were able to physically come to the parish grounds, the team then ventured out into the war-torn city.

Driving past shells of formerly grand buildings, burned down edifices of education, destroyed hospitals, pillaged homes, the team of volunteers knocked on many doors and windows to see if people were hiding inside and were in need of assistance. Numerous doors were timidly opened a crack as the frightened and war-wary residents peeked to see who was knocking, and then the doors swung open and the team members were warmly invited inside to share the meager supplies they had, and to sit and enjoy a hot cup of chai.

As evening approached, the supplies that had been lovingly purchased, packaged and distributed began to run low, as the final items were left on the doorsteps of individuals who were too afraid to respond to the team’s knocks.

On this day, if only for a moment, the needs of many were alleviated by the generosity, and love of Orthodox Christians in Ukraine and in the United States, who worked together, emulated the love of Christ, and serving the Lord, by serving those in need.
As of February 24th, thousands of Ukrainians are now categorized as “Internally Displaced Persons” (IDPs). These individuals had to flee their homes from various regions of Ukraine due to the ongoing aggression of the invading Russian forces. Unwilling to leave their homeland, they have headed as far west as they could in order to distance themselves as much as possible from bombings, death, and Russia.

Entire families have congregated near the western border, mostly in the regions of Lviv, where large IDP camps have been established. Here, entire families spend their days worrying about their loved ones whom they had to leave behind, they worry about their homes, their towns, and mostly they worry about their own futures, and the future of the Ukrainian nation.

For these people, who live with constant stress and fear, the little things in life become more meaningful. A momentary reprieve from the terror of war can be found in the laughter of their children, in the joy of watching a crane fly across the horizon, in the depth of heartfelt prayer, and even in something as simple as clean pair of socks. If our clothing is stained, soiled, and pungent, we feel defeated and hopeless. However, when we can put on a clean pair of socks and a clean outfit, we feel human again, and filled with hope for the day.

With the blessing of His Eminence Metropolitan Antony, Prime Hierarch of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA and Diaspora, and the diligent work of His Eminence Archbishop Daniel, Ruling Hierarch of the WesternEparchy of the UOC of the USA, along with the generous donations of the faithful of the Church, these families who are struggling to get through each day, are now able to lay their heads in the evening upon fluffy pillows, warm blankets, and soft fresh clothes.

On the day these miracle machines were delivered, Metropolitan Dimitry of Lviv and Sokal (PCU), visited the camp, accompanied by Archpriest Peter Politil. The hierarch toured the camps, inspected the facilities, and took time to get to know the inhabitants, pray with them, counsel them, and inquire after their needs.

Present during the of the delivery of the 15 washing machines were Eugene Boyko, the Director of Humanitarian Policy of the Liv City Council, Director of the Department “Administration of the Mayor” of the Liviv City Council, Victor Gabilit, one of the Administrators of the prefabricated IDP Camp, along with Ivan Spodar, the Deputy Director of the Center for Social Support of Orphans and Children Deprieved of Parental Care and Internally Displaced Persons.

The residents of the camp are eternally grateful to the hierarchs and faithful of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA for their continued support. The Lviv-Sokal Eparchy of the Orthodox Church of Ukraine looks forward to continued partnership with the UOC of the USA, in assisting all those who are in desperate need due to the ongoing war with Russia. Together, we can shine the Light of Christ in the darkness caused by the Russian invasion and can ease the unfathomable burden being endured by the innocent citizens of Ukraine.

On July 2, 2022, His Beatitude Metropolitan Epiphany of Kyiv and All Ukraine blessed seven ambulances acquired through the funds donated by the UOC of the USA and St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in Silver Spring, MD. These vehicles will be sent to the frontlines to give lifesaving aid to the wounded and suffering. Thanks to the access to these ambulances, bullet holes will be quickly patched, broken bones splinted, wounds bandaged, and countless lives will be saved.

In addition to your daily and unceasing prayers for Ukraine, consider donating funds to aid the various needs of those who suffer due to the unprovoked invasion.
RESPONDING TO
CHRIST’S CALL OF
SELFLESS SERVICE

Horrific images of devastation continue to emerge daily from Ukraine, as Russia continues its invasion efforts and targets more peaceful villages and towns throughout Ukraine.

Witnessing to the ongoing slaughter of Ukraine and immeasurable destruction of residential communities, the clergy and faithful of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA continue to serve the needs of those in destroyed and affected areas throughout Ukraine.

Every single parish of the Church is involved in collecting funds and material goods that can be forwarded to the families of the wounded and fallen soldiers, displaced persons, etc. As of the moment that the lines of this article are typed – over 10,000 Ukrainian soldiers have fallen; over 30,000 soldiers have been injured and numerous civilians became victims of the most horrific war of the 21st century.

With the blessing of His Eminence Metropolitan Antony, Archbishop Daniel continues to oversee the distribution of the logistical and financial assistance to the most affected areas of Ukraine.

Kharkiv, Lutsk, Kyiv, Yavoriv, Lviv, Odessa, Sumy, Lutsk, Severodonetsk, Dnipro, Mariupol - these are the major city-hubs where the UOC of the USA, through the ministry of the local religious and community leaders, continues to provide the life-giving support for the survivors, wounded and displaced people.

Responding to the basic needs for survival, the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA continues to help with the logistical supplies of food and medical items in Kostiantynivka village (close to the devastated city of Donetsk). His Eminence Metropolitan Serhiy of Donetsk and Mariupol, along with the clergy and volunteers, oversee the transparent distribution of humanitarian aid. In Dnipro, Vladyka Serhiy passed hundreds of portable slow-cookers to the families of refugees from Mariupol.

In the town of Kostiantynivka, working closely with the Dean of Donetsk region - Very Rev. Fr. Kostyantyn Kuznetsov, the UOC of the USA provides financial assistance to the soup kitchen effort that provide daily meals to refugees. Several portable generators have purchased and passed to the members of the local Ukrainian military unit. In addition, logistical uniform supplies have been delivered and transferred to the military brigades.

In Kharkiv region, the UOC of the USA continues to provide funding to a group of volunteers (under the leadership of Valerii Bychko), who by risking their lives, daily deliver the most necessary medical and logistical supplies to Kharkiv district and the residents of destroyed buildings and parts of the city.

Moreover, through the cooperation with the Kharkiv Eparchy of the Orthodox Church of Ukraine, Archbishop Daniel coordinated efforts with His Grace Bishop Mytropban, who most recently distributed the most necessary survival items for the displaced families and individuals who lost their homes during the most recent bombings in the area.

We are truly grateful to all those who have donated and contributed to the Church’s charitable initiative, for by doing so you follows Christ’s teachings of love, mercy, and self-sacrifice.
HOLY ASSUMPTION UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH
Northampton PA quickly responded to the request for aid to Ukraine. To date over $58,000.00 has been donated by our Parish treasury, our Sisterhood, individual parishioners, and donations from outside individuals. Included in this amount are the sales of Ukrainian flag pins made by our church school children that totaled $582.00. One thousand dollars of these funds were given to a parishioner’s family member who is purchasing and sending protective gear to Ukrainian civilians. The remainder of these funds were sent to the Metropolia Humanitarian Fund. Requests for donations were made via the Sunday bulletin, our website and our Facebook page. Our local print media have featured Father and Pani Kravchenko several times as well as coverage and interviews on local TV. Pani Olha creates wreaths, candles, and baskets and sells t-shirts and caps. Another parishioner’s family member is creating Ukrainian inspired coasters. Two parishioners have sponsored a bike-a-thon that has yielded $2,600. A pysanky workshop was held that brought in $500. A parishioner organized a Summer BarBQue raffle that generated $4,000. All of these proceeds will be used to purchase supplies to aid medical and military personnel. Our Senior UOJ Chapter donated $1,000 to send to Pani Olha’s parish in Ukraine that is housing refugees.

Priest Oleg Kravchenko
Holy Assumption Ukrainian Orthodox Church,
Northampton PA, 18067
One week after the unprovoked invasion of a peaceful Ukraine by Russian forces, St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Boston initiated a campaign to collect monetary donations and humanitarian aid in the form of medical supplies for shipment to Ukraine. A call went out via the church bulletin and the church Facebook page to have specific items dropped off at St. Andrew's on Sunday, March 6, 2022, beginning in the morning before Divine Liturgy. By later that day, the stage and a good portion of the hall were filled with donations.

Over the course of the following week, medical supplies and other goods including food, clothing, baby products and personal hygiene items as well as monetary donations continued to stream in. It was not unusual to receive $1,000 checks and supplies from good, kind people north and south of the greater Boston area, many of them strangers who have since become special friends.

A small team began the initial process of sorting the medical supplies from the other items and then 30 volunteers on Thursday, March 17, 2022 and 50 volunteers on Saturday, March 19, 2022 separated supplies by category to pack, seal and deliver to a central collection center in Newton, MA a suburb just outside of Boston. The approximately 150 boxes from St. Andrew's were combined with other collections from other volunteer groups and sent on their way to Poland and then to Lviv to be distributed to those in need.

This packing session was covered by the local affiliate of CBS TV Channel 4 Boston and Channel 5 bringing the message to the public and providing much needed publicity for the cause.

Although St. Andrew’s is not actively collecting goods at this time, items continue to appear at the church. On the evening of Wednesday, March 30, 2022, another 14 boxes were packed for shipment. There have been a number of shipments since then, the latest being just this past week on Monday May 16, 2022.

The church continues to collect monetary donations which are most effective in providing humanitarian aid. At this time the church has collected over $80,000 for distribution to those in need. St. Andrew’s will continue to do what it can as long as there is this unfortunate need.
ST. MARY THE PROTECTRESS - SOUTHFIELD, MI

PRAYERS & CHARITY

St. Mary the Protectress Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in Southfield, Michigan, has undertaken numerous endeavors to assist and support our Ukrainian brothers and sisters during these trying times of war.

As the threats of Russian invasion in Ukraine grew, on February 5th, 2022 the parish hosted an Ecumenical Prayer Service during which parish pastor Very Rev. Paul Bodnarchuk was accompanied by Fr. Daniel Schaicoski, pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish in Hamtramck, Fr. Volodymyr Petriv of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Ukrainian Catholic Church in Dearborn Heights.

The prayer service was organized by the St. Mary the Protectress Parish Board with President - Iryna Smyk-Bickerstaff, Vice President - Jordan Fylonenko, along with parishioners Elizabeth Symonenko and Andriy Smyk. The Ukrainian-American Crisis Response Committee of Michigan, under the leadership of Mykola Murskyj, also supported this service which brought together all walks of faith and ethnic backgrounds, and government officials, media and TV stations. The local Ukrainian community (there are an estimated 46,350 Michigan residents of Ukrainian descent) gathered with residents of the Detroit Metropolitan area to raise prayers and ask the Lord to protect Ukraine from Russian aggression.

Jordan Fylonenko worked diligently just over a week with Andriy Smyk, Mykola Murskyj and Boris Potapenko - CRC member, to invite religious representatives, government officials, and other VIPs to this vigil. Mykola Murskyj facilitated the guest speakers after the prayer service.

• Very Rev. Paul Bodnarchuk greeted vigil participants and thanked everyone for their prayers and attendance at this special prayer for Ukraine service.

• Detroit Auxiliary Bishop Donald Hanchon was on hand to represent the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Detroit and reassured the congregation of Detroit Archbishop Allen H. Vigneron's support and solidarity with the Ukrainian community.

• In addition to religious leaders, there were several politicians on hand. "Why is this our fight?" asked Rocky Raczkowski, chairman of the Oakland Country Republican Party. "But when you look at the men and women who work at the General Motors plant in Warren or the Ford plant in Sterling Heights, there are Ukrainian parts in those vehicles. When you look at what Putin said about NATO, it's not just about Ukraine's freedom, it's about a free and prosperous Europe."

• Other government officials at the vigil included Warren Mayor - Jim Fouts, Oakland County Executive - David Coulter and Southfield Mayor - Kenon J. Silver, who spoke of the contributions Ukrainian-Americans have made in southeast Michigan.

• U.S. Rep. Andy Levin (D-Bloomfield Township) of Michigan’s ninth congressional district, who serves on the House Foreign Affairs Committee, updated the congregation on the situation in Washington and what needs to be done to defend the sovereignty of Ukraine and ensure peace. Rep. Levin recounted Ukraine's history, from its attempts to break away from the Russian Empire following the 1917 February revolution to its transitioning into a democracy after the ousting of Russian-backed President Yanukovych and the 1932 Holodomor Terror Famine, in which between 3.5 million to 7.5 million people died, mostly Ukrainians.

In addition to the Ecumenical Prayer Service, the parish has been busy in other ways by promoting Ukraine's interests and by raising funds for those in need in Ukraine. One such effort was organized by parishioner Tatiana Smyk, who during the first days of the war coordinated a rally in downtown Detroit which numbered into the thousands. Blue and yellow flags of Ukraine waved up and down the main streets, as cries for freedom echoed off the tall skyscrapers, joined by the loud horns of a parade of trucks who lined the streets in support of Ukraine. Tatiana Smyk also traveled to Ukraine for 3 weeks in March during the early days of war, taking an extended college spring break, to help refugees traveling across the border seeking safety, medical care and refuge. Her Ukrainian-English language skills and assistance where in great need at the border as fleeing Ukrainians arrived daily, full of anxiety but happy to be greeted in Ukrainian and receive assistance. Tatiana also arranged medical surgery for a woman (age 62) with cancer whose critical operation in Ukraine was cancelled when the war broke out. She traveled 6 hrs by medical transport with this extremely ill woman and her twin sister to a Romanian hospital where surgery was perform that week. Tatiana arranged an apartment where her twin sister could stay. Three days later she said farewell to her new friends and returned to the border to continue her translator role.

Many members of the parish are also playing key roles in the Ukrainian-American Crisis Response Committee of Michigan (U-A CRC) which was formed late Jan. 2022 as a grass-roots, informal association of organizations and individuals, in order to respond to the escalating crisis facing Ukraine, who deeply care about US interests in the region, which include a commitment to Ukraine's freedom, it's about a free and prosperous Europe.
sovereignty and territorial integrity. Over time, the U-A CRC has evolved and also become an information hub for all the fundraisers, events, and endeavors in the Metro-Detroit area to support Ukraine. Jordan Fylonenko, parish Board Vice President, is actively involved not only as our parish representative, but also as the U-A CRC Communication Director, a critical on-going role which includes coordinating government, media, public affairs and community communications. He is closely assisted by Altar Starosta, Andrew Powers. Angelina Shashlo, parish Trustee Board chairperson, volunteered her time and skills this spring supporting the U-A CRC of Michigan, leading fundraising efforts across various churches of all faiths, religious organizations, corporations, businesses and professional affiliations. All proceeds from her efforts were donated to the Razom Emergency Response Fund. Other parish members supporting UA-CRC leadership roles include: Wolodymyr Murha (parish Trustee) - Audit Committee Chairperson and Andriy Smyk - Vice President.

Our parish is blessed with musical talent. On March 27, 2022, parishioner Emiliya Smyk organized and performed in a concert for Ukraine at Hillsdale College. The audience was mesmerized by her commentary, as well as the student led concert of poetry and singing. The Hillsdale performance was an introduction to Ukraine for many and opened the door for additional conversation and education. Emiliya additionally sang at a prayer service for Ukraine at St. John Presbyterian church in downtown Detroit. She was joined by Angeline Shashlo, who was the guest speaker at this service, continuing on her mission to bring awareness of the inhumane acts of genocide caused by the Russian invasion and raise funds for Ukrainian aid.

Additionally, this spring Parish Choir Directors, Julian Kytasty and Khrystyna Bilan, sang at a fundraising concert in Kirk in the Hill Presbyterian church in Bloomfield Township, Michigan. Maestro Julian Kytasty has continued to perform in various concerts and venues throughout the United States, fundraising for the Ukrainian cause.

The parish has also been involved in many fundraisers and campaigns. One such event was coordinated by parishioner, Anna Powers, who along with her children – Andrew, Michael, Lexi, and Lily, organized a Pierogi Dinner Fundraiser at the Rochester Fire House. On Friday, April 8th, hundreds of locals stood in long lines to enjoy a plate of varenyky and kovbasa. They took photos with a cutout of President Zelensky, created Ukrainian themed crafts, and donated funds for humanitarian relief. Over $9,000 were collected, with $1,170 dollars used to purchase 13 Med Packs, with the remainder of the funds, $7,830 being donated to the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA UA Humanitarian Fund to distribute as needed.

Additionally, the parish has collected and donated over $4,000 to the UOC of USA Ukrainian Humanitarian Fund. On Palm Sunday, Sonia and Andriy Smyk hosted a coffee and sweets social organized by parish Board member - Katya Foroshivsky to honor Ukrainian people, who have perished over the centuries at the hands of unjustified war, colonization, and ethnic cleansing.

Currently, the parish is actively collecting funds towards the purchase of an ambulance through the UOC of the USA, to be used in the frontlines in Ukraine. A coffee and sweets social organized by parish Board member - Katya Foroshivsky will be held July 17 after Divine Liturgy to further raise funds for this cause.

Our prayers for peace in Ukraine, for those fighting independence and for those who perished as a result of this senseless war and genocide continue in our cathedral after Divine Liturgy each Sunday.

Glory to Ukraine! Sława Ukrainie!
Memory eternal… Vichnaya pamyat….
The parish loaded their truck and delivered a Water Filtration System from a generous donor and other marked boxes to St. Vladimir’s in Philadelphia Monday the 16th.

Dave Lewis, Church Electrician and Greg Steele

Ilaria Steele, Parish Board President and husband Robert

SAINT VLADIMIR UOC – HUMANITARIAN AID TO UKRAINE

Respectfully Submitted,
Ruslana Korotinsky and Jurij Trypupenko
On behalf of Saint Vladimir UOC in Philadelphia

Under the leadership of Father Taras and PM Laura and our very caring and engaged Saint Vladimir UOC community, as well as so many friends, neighbors, and outside contributors – so many of whom are not of Ukrainian background – Saint Vladimir has been sending Humanitarian Aid to Ukraine as noted below.

The Saint Vladimir Hope Fund, currently chaired by Karen Ferraro, is the church charitable aid committee that for decades has been engaged in doing numerous charitable and humanitarian projects locally, in the community, and in Ukraine. During the Covid pandemic, for example, the Hope Fund and the Ukrainian Orthodox League (UOL) have provided thousands of packages of food to the surrounding community. The recipients of this aid have this year gotten together and, on their own, provided medical aid and support to Ukraine, stating ‘as you helped us, we want to help you.’

The Hope Fund is now focused on providing Aid to Ukraine.

Last year the Hope Fund initiated a campaign, led by Ruslana Korotinsky and Jurij Trypupenko, to collect Jackets for Children in Ukraine. The response was overwhelming and, with the help of donations from Saint Vladimir members and so many other churches and friends throughout the US, more than 500 new jackets were collected and sent to Ukraine for distribution to needy children.

The jackets were distributed to children in Ukraine both before and after the Putin/Russia inhumane war of February 2022.

The Saint Vladimir Hope Fund has distributed the following additional Aid to Ukraine in the past year:

• $100,000 to the UOC of USA for its essential and very successful campaign to provide humanitarian Aid to Ukraine.
• $1,500 to International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC) to help displaced persons in Eastern Ukraine.
• $1,000 to a shelter in Western Ukraine for women,
children, and homeless for flour and bread for residents.

- $1,000 to a young widow and child of a Ukrainian army veteran to help rehabilitate her apartment.
- 504 shelf stable meals delivered to UNWUA – Soyuzyank, with a supplemental gift of $2,302.
- $10,000 to purchase 110 Stop the Bleed (STB) trauma kits, which were personally delivered to Ukraine by our church member Hryhoriy Telizhenko.

The Saint Vladimir community and its UOL in 2022 have collected, organized, and airlifted over 500 boxes of humanitarian Aid to Ukraine. The humanitarian aid includes survival essentials, first aid, trauma kits, medication and medical supplies, adult and baby food, water purification, adult and baby diapers, hygiene products, crutches and wheelchairs, and needed aid and supplies for soldiers and defenders.

- $10,000 to PLAST Ukrainian Scouts to help buy and deliver trauma kits to front-line Ukrainian soldiers and defenders.
- $2,500 to IOCC to help with displaced Ukrainians in Romania.

The Hope Fund has a campaign to periodically send additional STB and trauma supplies to Ukraine, as follows:

- $5,000 for the third purchase and shipment of STB kits to Ukraine
- $5,000 for the fourth purchase and shipment of STB kits to Ukraine
- $5,000 for the fifth purchase and shipment of Combat Tourniquets and STB kits to Ukraine.

More than 50 large bags of collected used clothing were converted to cash and used for the purchase of medical supplies and equipment.

The Hope Fund has also begun helping Ukrainian refugee families that are beginning to arrive in the Philadelphia area, as follows:

- Provided hotel housing to a family that just came over from Ukraine, until they could find suitable living quarters
- Established a campaign whereby church members volunteer to temporarily house/assist refugees
- Established a campaign whereby church members fund gift cards that refu-gees can use for food and supplies.

Church members have conducted Basket Raffles, Junior and Adult UOL have co-ducted fundraisers, and fundraisers were conducted by church members. All proceeds were donated to Aid Ukraine.

The church sisterhood, church members, and good-hearted people have been conducting frozen and fresh Ukrainian food and varenyky sales – with thousands of dollars in proceeds donated to Aid Ukraine.

In addition to the described Aid to Ukraine efforts through the church, so many members of the parish are, on their own, sending copious amounts of Aid to Ukraine.

All in the church community are involved. Even our youngest Sunday School and Junior UOL members have penned and drawn messages of prayer and encouragement that are included with the aid packages being sent to Ukraine.

A SINCERE THANK YOU to everyone that has been helping in any way with Aid to Ukraine! Glory to Ukraine and Its Heroes!

In the beginning, there was much that had to be worked out, before this could become the smoothly run and efficient operation that it is today. How to sort items, where to store them, how to handle all the calls and with the overwhelming number of offers to help from non-parishioners, and how to find shipping channels through which to get supplies quickly to Ukraine. We also had a number of Sunday Bazaars, where vendors and others could sell what they wanted as long as all proceeds went to our humanitarian aid for Ukraine fund.

To date, we have shipped over 200 TONS of non-perishable food and medical supplies to Ukraine. We gratefully accept specified donations and list the most necessary items needed on our Facebook page and church website. We have established an Amazon ‘wish list’ that results in Amazon trucks arriving several times in a single hour. At one point, in the first weeks of our operation, two of the Amazon truck drivers asked why they were making so many deliveries to our church. When they learned that they were bringing humanitarian supplies for Ukraine, they asked if they could themselves help to pack, and did so on several of their days off. This is but one example of how people have been inspired, by the dedication that they see, to aid Ukraine. We pray that there will soon be an end to the aggression, brutality and sorrow, and are comforted by the love and goodness that we have seen at our center.
Де твоє, смерте, жало?
Де твоя, пекло, перемога?
Воскрес Христос — і ти повалене! Воскрес Христос — і попадали демони!
Воскрес Христос — і радіють ангели! Воскрес Христос — і життя триває! Воскрес Христос — і немає жодного мертвого в гробі!
Христос, що воскрес із мертвих, став початком померлих. Йому слава і держава на віки віків.
Амінь.

(Закінчення Огласительного Слова Св.)

Гірлянда Дівчицького Спілку (Ольга Гернандес) з Війнала, Вірджинія, надала 80 сумок на відохі молодих дівчат — військових жертв в Україні. Ці сумки містять підручники, олівці, засонці, ногівники, витамін C, зубну щітку, та інше...

Благодійні Базари * Benefit Bazaars

Левко Кравченко збір з 459 доларів для України граючи на своєму скрийблі ззовні нашої Софії.

Старшина Сонізнана Конвей продала єрші та неймечки, які вона виготовила, завоювавши $355 для України.

Благодяк вам охочо, Господь ви здається!
Цього понеділка 11 квітня 2022 року мій брат отець Андрій Мариновський та волонтери відвідали Київщину (Буча, Гостомель) та лікарню «ОХМАТДИТ» з ліками, продуктовими наборами, необхідними побутовими речами, частина яких було придбано за кошти від українського православного товариства Св. Андрія (США).

Солодощі, засоби гігієни та вологі серветки відправили хлопцям на схід.

Капуста, тушонка та багато води завезли бійцям на околиці Києва.

Сьогодні мій брат отець Андрій і його двоє товаришів вже в третій раз їздили в Київ і Київську область. Відвідали військовий госпіталь м. Києва де зараз перебувають на лікуванні та реабілітації багато солдат і людей. Також передали іншим волонтерам воду та харчі які будуть везти в східні області де є потреба.

Дякуємо за передані кошти Завдяки вам ми ближче до перемоги!
PRAYER FOR UKRAINE

LORD OUR GOD,
GREAT AND ALMIGHTY, WE YOUR SINFUL CHILDREN TURN TO YOU WITH HUMILITY IN OUR HEARTS AND BOW OUR HEADS LOW BEFORE YOU. WE BESIECH YOUR LOVING KINDNESS AND ABUNDANT BLESSINGS UPON THE NATION – THE PEOPLE – OF UKRAINE DURING THESE DAYS OF GREAT DANGER TO THEIR SAFETY AND WELL-BEING.

OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS, LORD, ARE ONCE AGAIN THREATENED BY AGGRESSORS WHO SEE THEM ONLY AS SIMPLE OBSTACLES BLOCKING THE PATH TO THE COMPLETE DOMINATION OF THE PRECIOUS LAND AND RESOURCES OF THE COUNTRY OF UKRAINE. STRENGTHEN THE PEOPLE AS THEY FACE THIS GREAT DANGER, TURNING TO YOU IN THE IMMEASURABLY DEEP FAITH, TRUST AND LOVE THEY HAVE PLACED IN YOU ALL THEIR LIVES. SEND YOUR HEAVENLY LEGIONS, O LORD, COMMANDED BY THE PATRON OF KYIV, ARCHANGEL MICHAEL, TO CRUSH THE DESIRES OF THE AGGRESSOR WHOSE DESIRE IS TO ERADICATE YOUR PEOPLE.

GRANT UNITY OF MIND, HEART AND SOUL, O LORD TO ALL LEADERS IN PUBLIC SERVICE WITH THOSE THEY SERVE. UNITE THEM ALL INTO ONE, GREAT CHRISTIAN FAMILY, SO THAT TOGETHER, AS BROTHERS AND SISTERS, THEY MAY GLORIFY YOUR MAJESTIC NAME – GOD IN THE HOLY TRINITY – FATHER, SON AND HOLY SPIRIT, NOW AND EVER AND UNTO THE AGES OF AGES. AMEN.

PRAYER FOR UKRAINE

MOLITVA ZA UKRAїNU

ГОСПОДИ, БОЖЕ НАШ,
ВЕЛИКИЙ І ВСЕСИЛЬНИЙ, МИ ГРІШНІ ДІТИ ТВОЇ, ЗВЕРТАЄМОСЯ ДО ТЕБЕ У ПОКОРІ СЕРДЕЦЬ НАШИХ І НІЗЬКО СКИЛЯЄМО ГОЛОВИ НАШІ ПЕРЕД ТОБОЮ. БЛАГАЄМО ТЕБЕ ЗА БЕЗМЕЖНЕ МИЛОСЕРДІЯ ТА ЩЕДРІ БЛАГОСЛОВЕННЯ ДЛЯ НАРОДУ – ЛЮДЕЙ – УКРАЇНИ, У ЦІ ДНІ ВЕЛИКОЇ НЕБЕЗПЕКИ ДЛЯ ЇХ МИРНОГО ЖИТтя Ї ДОРОБУТУ.

О ГОСПОДІ, НАШИМ БРАТАМ І СЕСТРАМ, ЗНОВУ ЗАГРОЖУЮТЬ АГРЕСОРИ, ЯКІ БАЧАТЬ У НИХ ЛИШЕ ПРОСТУ ПЕРЕШКОДУ, ЩО ПЕРЕГОРОДЖУЄ ШЛЯХ ДО ПОВНОГО ПАНУВАННЯ НАД ДОРОГОЦІННОЮ ЗЕМЛІЮ ТА РЕСУРСАМИ УКРАЇНИ. ЗМІЩИ НУДІ, У ЧАСІ ЦІЄЇ ВЕЛИКОЇ НЕБЕЗПЕКИ, ЯКІ ЗВЕРТАЮТЬСЯ ДО ТЕБЕ У БЕЗМІРНО ГЛІБОКІЙ ВІРИ, ДОВІРИ І ЛЮБОВІ, ЯКІ ВОНИ ПЛЕКАЛИ ДО ТЕБЕ УСЕ СВОЄ ЖИТтя. ЗІШЛИ ГОСПОДІ, СВОЇХ НЕБЕСНИХ АНГЕЛІВ, ЯКИМИ КЕРУЄ ПОКРОВИТЕЛЬ МІСТА КИЄВА АРХІЕПИСКОП МИХАЙЛІ, ЩОБ ВИКОРИСТАТИ БАЖАННЯ АГРЕСОРА ЗНИЩИТИ НАШ НАРОД.

ДАРУЙ ГОСПОДІ, ЄДНОСТЬ РОЗУМУ, СЕРЦЯ І ДУШІ ВСІМ ДЕРЖАВНИМ ЛІДЕРАМ І ТИМ, КОМУ ВОНИ СЛУЖЯТЬ. ОБ’ЄДНАЙ ЇХ УСІХ В ОДНУ ВЕЛИКУ ХРИСТИАНСЬКУ РОДИНУ, ЩОБ ВОНИ РАЗОМ, ЯК БРАТИ І СЕСТРИ, ПРОСЛАВЛЯLI ТВОЄ ВЕЛИЧНЕ ІМ’Я – БОГА В СВЯТІЙ ТРОЙЦІ – ОТЦЯ, СИНА І СВЯТОГО ДУХА, НИНІ І ПОВСЯКЧАС, І НА ВІКИ ВІЧНІ.

АМІНЬ.
FACTS ABOUT UKRAINE
EVERYONE SHOULD KNOW

* Remember it’s not THE Ukraine, just Ukraine.

Ukraine is the 24th largest country in the world; its territory is 603,628 km².

Kyiv is the capital of Ukraine.

Language: Ukrainian

McDonald’s in Kyiv is one of the most visited McDonald’s restaurants in the world.

The Ukrainian flag is blue and yellow. The blue field represents the sky, and the yellow field represents the fields of wheat.

The Ukrainian language is the official language in Ukraine. Interestingly, the Ukrainian language was rated the 3rd most beautiful language in 2014 behind French and Persian. It was also rated the 3rd most beautiful behind Italian.

In addition, many Ukrainians are bilingual.

The dominant religion accepted in 988 AD is Eastern Orthodox Christianity, which has heavily influenced Ukrainian architecture, literature, and music.

Ukraine has a well-developed system of public transportation. Every big city and regional center is connected to the railway system, and regional passenger trains travel daily from other major cities.

Due to the rich black soil yielding rich harvests of grain, Ukraine is known as the "Breadbasket of Europe.

Ukraine's history is both incredibly interesting and complex. It’s unfortunate geography made it hard for the country to have a peaceful history throughout the 20th century.

The following centuries saw Ukrainian culture develop between the Mongols, Russians, and the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth. After World War II, the Soviet Union annexed the country.

In 1991, Ukraine declared its independence from the Soviet Union. Nowadays, Ukraine is one of the youngest countries in the world.

25% of the world's black soil is in Ukraine (44% of territory). There are 7 UNESCO World Heritage sites in Ukraine.

Ukraine has a rich peasant culture, folklore, and literature. The country is also known for its folk music and cuisine. English has been introduced in recent years, and now it is also spoken by many Ukrainians.
**Braised Cabbage**

Recipe courtesy: Oliia Hercules

Slice the cabbage into 1cm wide strips and put it into a bowl. Add 1 teaspoon of salt and use your hands to massage it in well.

Heat the oil in a deep frying pan or shallow, flameproof casserole over a medium-low heat. Add the onions, along with a pinch of salt to help release their juices and stop them from burning. You could also cover the onions with a lid or cartouche (a circle of baking parchment about the same size as your pan) to speed things up a bit. Cook, stirring every so often, until the onions are soft and turning a deep golden colour. Add a splash of water if they seem dry or are starting to catch a bit.

Now add the cabbage and caraway seeds and turn down the heat to low. Cover with a lid and cook for about 20 minutes, or until the cabbage starts softening. If it gets too dry, add a splash of water. Add the red pepper and cook for another 5 minutes.

Gently warm the tomato juice in a small pan, then stir in the crème fraîche and add to the cabbage. Taste the sauce and make sure it is well-seasoned, otherwise the cabbage will be too bland and it will not become the cabbage of your dreams. Cover and braise for another 30—40 minutes — when it is ready, the cabbage should be soft, but not falling apart. Stir through the parsley and serve.

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**Baptism**


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**Marriage**


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**Obituary**

Butkes, Anna of Fridley, MN on 6/6/2022 at the age of 96 years, officiating clergy Rev. Myron Korostil of St. Michael’s & George’s Parish, Minneapolis, MN 55413.


Husyko, James W. of Homer Glen, IL on 3/21/2022 at the age of 75 years, officiating clergy V. Rev. Vasyl Sendeha of Sts. Peter & Paul Parish, Palos Park, IL 60464.

Manson, Andrea M. of Whiting, IN on 3/13/2022 at the age of 75 years, officiating clergy V. Rev. Vasyl Sendeha of Sts. Peter & Paul Parish, Palos Park, IL 60464.

Marmash, Mark Walter of Mountain Home, AR on 5/3/2022 at the age of 68 years, officiating clergy Fr. Samuel Seaman of St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, Mountain Home, AR 72653.


Zabrodski, Walther of Orland Park, IL on 2/19/2022 at the age of 92 years, officiating clergy V. Rev. Vasyl Sendeha of Sts. Peter & Paul Parish, Palos Park, IL 60464.
may god grant to them many happy and blessed years!

V. Rev. Michael Danczak 7/13/2002
Rev. Mykola Zomchak 7/17/2021
V. Rev. Dennis Kristof 7/17/1982
V. Rev. Dmitri Belenki 7/20/1997
Rev. Nicholas Dilendorf 7/24/2011
Rev. Richard Jendras 7/27/2019
V. Rev. Vasyl Kryshtompol 7/30/2000

5th 1952 - PRIEST PHILIP HALICKE
7th 1967 - PRIEST LAWRENTIJ SKLONNYJ
6th 1973 - PROTOPRIEST ILYA NAHIRNIAK
25th 1978 - PROTOPRIEST JACOB KOSTECKY
28th 1978 - PROTOPRIEST JOSEPH KRETA
17th 1979 - PROTOPRIEST MYKOLA LITWAKIVSKYJ
16th 1980 - PROTOPRIEST PETER KOWALCHYK
18th 1984 - IHUMEN GREGORY REYNOLDS
30th 1985 - PROTOPRIEST DEMETRIUS LESCHISHIN
5th 1988 - PRIEST LEW PORENDOWSKY
23rd 1989 - PRIEST FEDIR LEONTOVICH
2nd 1994 - PROTOPRESBYTER ARTEMY SELEPYNA
2nd 1995 - PRIEST EUGENE BOHUSLAWSKY
17th 1995 - PROTOPRIEST DMYTRO TELESON
10th 1996 - PROTOPRIEST KONSTANTINE KALINOWSKY
22nd 2003 - PROTOPRIEST WIACHESLAW ILCHUK

Archbishop Volodymyr (Malec) – 23 July 1967
Archbishop Mark (Hundiak) – 5 July 1984
SOBOR
Hotel Information

Інформація щодо замовлення готелю на період Собору

Make Your Hotel Reservations via Webpage of the UOC of the USA

Замовляйте готель на інтернетній сторінці УПЦ США

https://www.uocofusa.org/xxiii_sobor
Caretakers 2.0

Planned Summer Schedule
- July 3 - 9  Diocesan Church School Camp
- July 10 - 23  Teenage Conference
- August 1 - 5  Mommy/Daddy & Me
- August 5 - 8  St. Nicholas Program
- Aug 28 - Sept 1  ASC for Adults
- September 2 - 5  Family Fest

Dates for work weekends or special events or for rental inquiries may be found at www.allsaintscamp.org.

Spaces are limited.
For more information concerning how camp will look this year and registration schedule, please visit www.uocyouth.org.

Paid & Volunteer Staff Opportunities - Full Summer, by week, or weekend.
To discover staff opportunities visit www.uocyouth.org/staffopportunities

Опікуни 2.0

Запланований Розклад на Літо
- Липень 3 - 9  Шкільний Табір
- Липень 10 - 23  Програма для Підлітків
- Серпень 1 - 5  Мама / Тато & Я
- Серпень 5 - 8  Програма Св. Миколая
- Серпень 28 - Вересень 1  Табір для Дорослих
- Вересень 2 - 5  Сімейне свято

Дати робочих вихідних, спеціальних заходів чи інформацію про рент можна знайти на www.allsaintscamp.org.

Кількість місць обмежена.
Для отримання додаткової інформації щодо проведення цього року та для того, щоб зареєструватись - переходіть на www.uocyouth.org.

Також є можливість працювати, чи здійснювати волонтерську діяльність на нашому таборі протягом всього літа, декілька тижнів чи по вихідних. Щоб дізнатися більше про це - переходіть на www.uocyouth.org/staffopportunities
You’re invited to attend!

75th Annual UOL Convention
July 27-31, 2022

We can’t wait to greet YOU!

The 75th UOL Convention Committee Co-Chairs would like to remind everyone of the following items:

- The Convention Hotel rate of $99.00 expires July 6th, reserve before that date!
- You can pay for your registration online, but you still need to mail or email your registration form.
- Did you know you can register for the weekend for the convention or purchase single event tickets?

See YOU soon in Carnegie, PA!

REGISTRATION FORM HERE!

Follow Us On Social Media & wwwORTHOCARNEGIE.ORG/75THUOLCONVENTION

75th Annual UOL Convention CO-Chairs
Deacon Evan O’Neil, Pani Matka Alice O’Neil, Tracey Sally, Michael Sally

2 Holy Glorious Prophet Elias (Elijah)
Пророка Іллі

4 Holy Equal-to-the-Apostles Mary Magdalen
Рівноапостольної Марії Магдалени

5 Pochaiv Icon of the Mother of God
Пochaївська ікона Божої Матері

6 Holy Martyrs and Passion-bearers Borys and Hlib of Rus
Мчч. Блгв. князів Бориса і Гліба

7 The Dormition of the Righteous Anna, mother of the Most Holy Theotokos
Успіння прав. Анни, матері Пресвятої Богородиці

9 Holy Great-martyr and Healer Panteleimon
Вир. і цілітеля Пантелеімон

Follow Us On Social Media & www.orthodoxcarnegie.org/75thuolconvention

75TH ANNUAL UOL CONVENTION
In the Beginning: Newsletter

VOL. 3 JUNE 12, 2022
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Get involved in the life of your Church!
The success of all Church sponsored events depends upon your active participation!

ST. OLHA

July 24

SOBOR Registration Materials are due by

September 19

UOL CONVENTION

July 27-31

Save the Date SOBOR

October 12-15 2022

HOLY TRANSFIGURATION

August 19

UOCofUSA

uocofusa.org

DORMITION FAST BEGINS

August 14

Mailing address: PO Box 495
South Bound Brook, NJ 08880

Shipping address: 135 Davidson Ave.
Somerset, NJ 08873

Tel: (732) 356-0090