FOR IT IS WRITTEN,  
"HE WILL ORDER HIS ANGELS TO PROTECT AND GUARD YOU!"  
(LUKE 4:10)

БО НАПИСАНО:  
“ВІН НАКАЖЕ ПРО ТЕБЕ СВОЇМ АНГОЛАМ, ЩОБ ТЕБЕ БЕРЕГЛИ!”  
(ВІД ЛУКИ 4:10)
PRAYER OF PROTECTION TO ARCHANGEL MICHAEL

Great Archangel of God, Michael, conqueror of demons and devils, defeat and destroy all my enemies - visible and invisible. Ask the Lord Almighty for Grace: may He save, heal and preserve me from all illness and disease, from deadly wounds and from a sudden death - today, and always, and forever and ever. Amen.

Archangel Michael and all the heavenly army, all incorporeal heavenly forces, protect Ukraine! Throw off the devil who attacks us, kills, brings destruction and death! Amen!
"The [guardian] angel will not retreat from us, unless we drive him away by our evil deeds. As the smoke drives bees away, and stench the doves, even so our stinking sin drives away from us the angel who protects our life." - Saint Basil the Great

CREATED LONG BEFORE HUMANS
Saint John of Damascus tells us: "God is Himself the Maker and Creator of the angels; for He brought them out of nothing into being and created them after His own image. They are an incorporeal race, a sort of spirit or immaterial fire, even as the divine David says that 'His angels are spirits , and His ministers a flame of fire (Ps 103:6).

Angels were among the first part of God's creation. In the Creed we say, "I believe in one God...Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible. Holy Scripture says, "When the stars were made, all My angels praised Me with a loud voice" (Job 38:7, LXX). The Apostle Paul tells us "By Him all things created that are in heaven, and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers" (Col 1:16). Heaven that was created in the very beginning according to Genesis (In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth) is generally understood by the Fathers to be an invisible heaven inhabited with powers on High. They believed that God created the angels long before He created the visible world.

MANKIND KNEW THE ANGELS
Mankind knew about the existence of angels from their first days in Paradise. From Genesis we know that a Cherubim was placed with a flaming sword at the gates of Paradise after Adam and Eve were expelled. Later, Abraham encouraged his servant Nahor telling him that the Lord would send His angel with him to protect him. (Gen 34:7). Jacob saw angels during his sleep and while awake. (Gen 32:1-2).

In the time of the New Testament an angel informed Zechariah of the conception of the Forerunner and the Virgin Mary the Theotokos of the birth of Jesus. Angels announced the good news to the shepherds at the birth of Christ and prevented the Magi from returning to Herod. Angles served Jesus after His temptation in the wilderness and appeared to strengthen Him in the Garden of Gethsemane. It was angels who informed the Myrrhbearing Women about His Resurrection. Angels informed the Apostles of His second coming as the time of His ascension into heaven. Angels helped the apostles. They freed Peter from prison and instructed Cornelius. They told Paul to appear before Caesar. Angels are the foundation of the revelations given by John in his book of the Revelation.

NATURE OF ANGELS
Angels are active spirits with intelligence, will and knowledge. They serve God carrying out His will and glorifying Him. The angels are bodiless and invisible to our physical eyes. They have no bodily needs or desires and passions, no cares about food, drink, clothes, or shelter. Nor do they possess the impulse and cravings for procreation. They neither marry nor are given in marriage (Matt. 22:30). They have no worries about the future either, nor fear of death. For, though God created them before man, they are neither aged nor aging, but unchangingly youthful, beautiful, and strong. They have no anxiety about their salvation and no struggle for immortality, being already immortal (Luke 20:36). Unlike men, they are not faltering between good and evil, being already good and holy as when God created them.

Peter informs us that in Their might and power they surpass all earthly governments and authorities (II Peter 2:10-11). But as created beings they have limitations. They do not know the depths of the essence of God (I Cor 2:11). They do not know the future that only God knows (Mark 13:32). They do not fully understand the mystery of the Redemption, yet they wish to (I Peter 1:12). They cannot by themselves perform miracles without the will of God (Ps 71:19).

NUMBER AND RANKS OF ANGELS
They are an extraordinary number of angels. In the book of Daniel it says, "thousand thousands ministered unto Him and the thousand times ten thousand stood before Him" (Daniel 7:10). In Luke it is recorded that "a multitude of the heavenly host" praised our Lord (Luke 2:13).

We can only assume that with such a number there are differing degrees of perfection among their ranks. In Scripture we see some called angels and others archangels (I Thess 4:16; Jude, v 9).

The Tradition of the Orthodox Church teaches us that there is a Heavenly Hierarchy of angels. This was documented earliest by St. Dionysius the Areopagite one of the Seventy Apostles. He explained the angelic world as divided into nine ranks made up of three hierarchies with three ranks each.
THRONES, CHERUBIMS, AND SERAPHIM - those closest to God.

The Seraphim (Means flaming) are aflame with love for God and kindle others to such love. They are closest to God as the prophet Isaiah saw, saying: “And the seraphim stood around Him, each having six wings” (Isaiah 6:2). They are fire-like, “For our God is a consuming fire.” (Heb 12:29); “His throne was a flame of fire” (Dan 7:9). “Who made His angels spirits; His ministers a flaming fire” (Ps 103:4).

After the seraphim, are the many-eyed spirits; His ministers a flaming fire” (Ps 103:4). six wings” (Isaiah 6:2). They are fire-like, “For our passions and vices to cast out evil thoughts. They help those wrestling with the demons, to repulse the temptations brought to various honorable offices and direct them so that they take power for the sake of spreading and augmenting of God’s holy glory, and for the sake of the benefit of their neighbors.

DOMINIONS, VIRTUES, AND POWERS

The Dominions dominate the rest of the angels. They send down power for prudent governing and wise management to authorities on the earth set up by God. Further they teach how to control the senses, how to subdue in oneself translate desires and passions, how to enslave the flesh to the spirit, and how to rule over one’s will and be above all temptations.

The Virtues (Authorities) work miracles and send down the grace of miracle-working to those worthy of such grace, so they may work miracles. They help people laboring and those overburdened by troubles and the spirit and bear the infirmities of the weak. They also strengthen every man in patience.

The Powers have power over the devil, to restrain the demons, to repulse the temptations brought upon people by them. They help those wrestling with passions and vices to cast out evil thoughts.

ANGELS, ARCHANGELS, AND PRINCIPALITIES - those closest to Man

The Principalities direct the lower angels. They are entrusted with the management of the universe and the keeping of all the kingdoms and princeloms, of lands and all peoples, races and nations. They raise worthy people to various honorable offices and direct them so that they take power for the sake of spreading and augmenting of God’s holy glory, and for the sake of the benefit of their neighbors.

The Archangels are the heralds of good news. They reveal prophecies, knowledge, and understanding of God’s will which they receive from the higher orders of angels and announce to the lower order. They Gaebrielstrength people in faith, enlightening their mind with the light of knowledge of the holy Gospel and revealing the mysteries of devout faith.

The Angels are the lowest of all the orders and the closest to man. They announce the lesser mysteries and intentions of God and teach people to live virtuously and righteously before God. They are appointed to guard each of us who believe.

All of the heavenly orders are also called by the common name “angels”. Although they have different names according to their situation and grace given by God (as seraphim, cherubim, thrones and the rest of the orders), yet all in general are called angels, because the word “angel” is not a denomination of essence, but of service, as it is written: ‘Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister’ Raphael (Heb 1:14). But their service is different and not identical: each order has its own service.

This ranking is also found in other early Church documents such as the Apostolic Constitutions (compiled between 375 and 390 A.D. dealing with all manner of Christian life and practice, both for clergy and laity), writings of Saint Ignatius, Gregory the Theologian, Saint John Chrysostom, and practice, both for clergy and laity; writings of Saint Ignatius, Gregory the Theologian, Saint John Chrysostom, Gregory the Dialogist, John of Damascus and others. These nine ranks can be found in Holy Scripture.

Seven Archangels are given specific names:

- Michael (Like God)
- Gabriel (Man of God)
- Raphael (The Help of God)
- Uriel (Fire of God)
- Salathiel (Prayer to God)
- Jegudiel (Praise of God)
- Barachiel (Blessing of God)

The Shauvahna of Saints Angels

Angels - without physical bodies, created by God, are the guardian angels that remain near people. They are the protector angels who guard the paths of people and their families.

Shauvahna is a feast that celebrates the victory of the church over the evil forces of darkness. The Archangels, under the leadership of Michael, are depicted as symbols of the victory of light over darkness.

Shauvahna is a solemn day of the church, celebrated on the day of the Ascension of the Lord, which is the day of the victory of the church over the evil forces of darkness. The Archangels, under the leadership of Michael, are depicted as symbols of the victory of light over darkness.
серафіми осяють і херувимам славословляють, і всі небесні сили Тобі поклонються”. Друге завдання ангелів щодо Бога Бога — це ревне і швидке служіння Богу. Слово “ангел” з грекої означає — вісім, і на підтвердження цієї місії є багато прикладів у Старому й Новому Завіті.

Стосовно людей ангелі з волі Божої є нашими опікувачами й охоронцями.

— Божа істота, що саме ця каста ангелів — самі освічені серед всіх.

Херувимів поширюються на все, що тільки може бути зазначене в Старому і Новому Завіті. Якщо вони приховувала еволюційну інформацію, в основному саме вони здійснюють Боже правосуддя, допомагають земним представникам влади справедливо судити народ світу, найближчий ангельський чин.

На думку середньовічного містика Яна ван Руйсброку, представники вищої тріади ні за яким обставин не втрачаються в людські конфлікти. Але при цьому вони знаходяться поруч з людьми у моменти прозріння, любові до Бога і пізнання світу. Важливо, що вони здатні нести вищу любов у серці людей.

Це, що ангелів звістність, що згадується в Старому й Новому Завіті, вісник і на підтвердження цієї місії є багато прикладів у Старому й Новому Завіті.

Ця каста ангелів знаходиться неподалік від чоловічого серця. Вони здатні навчити керувати почуттями, захистивши його зміцнити дух і надати мужності, щоб він зміг впоратися з усіма труднощами, прибрати його скорбота, зміцнити дух і надати мужності, щоб він зміг впоратися з усіма труднощами.9 чинів благословень, з допомогою якої він зможе побачити, що він бачить в світі і зміцнити дух і надати мужності, щоб він зміг впоратися з усіма труднощами.
Людини вони підтримують від падіння, кожного хто є свій ангел-хранитель. Кожного доброчесної зійти зі свого шляху. У кожної віруючої людини шлях, допомагають їм здійснювати вчинки угодні Богу. 

Це самий нижчий чин в ієрархії небес і саме близьке до людей. Вони спрямовують людей на шляхи, щоб вони приносили користь своєму народові, служачи його потребам. Вони приносили користь своєму народові, служачи його потребам. 


Влади
В обов'язки Влади входить збереження ключів від клітнів Дівовола і стримування його ієрархії. Вони здатні приборкати бісів, відозбрятися напад на рід людський, позбавляти від бісівського спокуси. Також до їхніх обов'язків входить затвердження благочестивих людей за їхні духовні подвиги і труди, захист їх та збереження їх права на царство боже. Саме вони допомагають відганяти всі невиправдани думки, пристрасті і похоті, а також ворогів людини відводять і допомагають перемогти в собі Диявола. Вони спускають ананасів, що неправильні думки, пристрасті і похоті, а також ворогів людини відводять і допомагають перемогти в собі Диявола. Вони спускають ананасів, що неправильні думки, пристрасті і похоті, а також ворогів людини відводять і допомагають перемогти в собі Диявола. Вони спускають ананасів, що неправильні думки, пристрасті і похоті, а також ворогів людини відводять і допомагають перемогти в собі Диявола. Вони спускають ананасів, що неправильні думки, пристрасті і похоті, а також ворогів людини відводять і допомагають перемогти в собі Диявола. Вони спускають ананасів, що неправильні думки, пристрасті і похоті, а також ворогів людини відводять і допомагають перемогти в собі Диявола. Вони спускають ананасів, що неправильні думки, пристрасті і похоті, а також ворогів людини відводять і допомагають перемогти в собі Диявола. Вони спускають ананасів, що неправильні думки, пристрасті і похоті, а також ворогів людини відводять і допомагають перемогти в собі Диявола.
It’s been a year since Vladimir Putin began his “Special Military Operation” in Ukraine. During this past year each and every one of us, to some extent, felt the consequences of Russia’s full-scale invasion of Ukraine.

The entire world has experienced economic upheaval. Inflation, the cost of food, and rising energy costs are obvious casualties. The “doomsday clock” is closer to Armageddon than it has been for decades, and Putin’s threats of nuclear war have raised the anxiety level of us all.

Russia’s invasion of Ukraine cannot help but provoke apprehension among those living in or having ties to other post-Soviet or Eastern European countries, as well as the leaders or citizens of small nations or territories throughout the world which a larger and stronger neighboring country might covet.

For those of us of Ukrainian lineage this war is “up close and personal.” Villages and towns have been occupied, relatives and friends killed or displaced, lives and livelihoods ruined, large swathes of the country have been devested, and it will take decades to rebuild and remedy the damage to Ukraine’s infrastructure and ecosystems.

We can only imagine what it’s like for people living in Ukraine, subject almost daily to air raids, often without heat, running water, or electricity, living with the possibility that they might at any time fall victim to a missile or drone strike due to Russia’s targeting of civilian infrastructure. And for those in occupied territory the danger of imprisonment, rape, execution or torture is a daily reality.

But leaving aside the personal thoughts, feelings and reactions this war has provoked in all of us, I would suggest that there are deeper and more fundamental human, social, and political reasons to care.

From a political perspective, it’s obvious that if Russia or any other country is permitted to ignore all norms of international law and seize the territory of another sovereign nation by force the rule of law becomes the law of the jungle. The result of such an “international order” is complete disorder, which can only give rise to constant and escalating conflict both within and between nations, with consequent economic, social, and political instability.

From the human perspective we can and should consider Putin’s abominable aggression from the standpoint of universal human values. Principles such as human rights and freedom, the equality of all people and peoples, respect for those of different ethnicity, faith, or convictions, political self-determination, justice, fairness, rule of law, etc., are foundational for human thriving. If such principles matter, they matter for everyone; if they apply to anyone, they apply to everyone. Where such principles are openly denied and erased — as they are by the leaders of the Russian Federation in Ukraine as well as in Russia — the result can only be a less secure, less peaceful, and less humane world.

I recently sent an email to a friend of mine with ties to Turkey, expressing my sympathy following the earthquake. He responded that “an earthquake is akin to a war that is fast-forwarded,” and noted that the post-earthquake pictures coming out of Turkey and Syria were eerily similar to those coming out of Ukraine. It occurred to me that while the earthquake was tragedy enough, the greater tragedy was that while no one could have prevented this earthquake, the devastation which continues to be inflicted upon Ukraine is man-made, the result of one man’s twisted logic and inhumanity.

Anywhere violence and injustice are perpetrated — whether against Indigenous children in Canada, religious minorities in Asia, or Ukrainians in Ukraine — they are perpetrated against us all. To the extent that we care for and about those who are suffering, to the extent that we actively care about and support universal human values such as peace, respect, justice and freedom, to that same extent we affirm our own humanity and contribute to a more just and humane world.

Father Bohdan Hladio
To commemorate the 1-Year anniversary of the invasion of Ukraine, the youth of the Church created and sent Angels of Love to the Consistory of the UOC of the USA, to be displayed in support of Ukraine’s battle for freedom.

Thanks to the UOC Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministry for the creation of the “angel tree” at the Spiritual Center of the Church in South Bound Brook, NJ, which Archbishop Daniel and his helpers decorated in Honor and Memory of our brothers and sisters in Ukraine.
365 days of horror, terror, and unprovoked aggression. The peaceful country of Ukraine has now suffered a full year of hostility at the hands of the Russian Federation who invaded the sovereign nation on February 24th, 2022. As the skies grew dark, and a cold wind blew, the Ukrainian Cultural Center, located at the Metropolia Center of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, opened its doors to the public, to join in a prayerful service for Ukraine. Quietly the cavernous hall began to fill with people who had come to show their support for our embattled ancestral homeland. The room was dimly lit, evocative of the darkness that covers much of Ukraine due to the destruction of the power grid.

As the people entered, their eyes were drawn to the images which flanked the circumference of the room. They very graphically depicted devastation, death and destruction. Images of bombed cities, destroyed villages, and bombed churches stood next to even more heartbreaking images of weeping and terrorized civilians presented just a glimpse of the horrors brought upon the people of Ukraine by the unjustifiable invasion of Russian Federation on land and sea and through the air. They were, however, powerful enough to evoke in the hearts of those viewing them the brutality endured by the innocent people of Ukraine over the past 365 days.

Archbishop Daniel opened the ceremony, introducing the seminarians of the Saint Sophia Ukrainian Orthodox Theological Seminary. He explained the history of the sad and bittersweet song they would sing, “Plyve Kacha Po Tysyni” (The Duckling Swims in Tysyna), which for generations of Ukrainians has been a song warning of the risks of warfare. It became associated nine years ago with the "Maidan Revolution of Dignity" as it was sung during the mass funerals of the "Heavenly Hundred" and more innocent people who were brutally murdered by agents of their own government on 18-20 February 2014. The song again today echoes across Ukraine, during countless funerals of those innocents lost to the Russian invasion.

As the seminarians sang the soulful melody, the deep and haunting lyrics deeply moved even those who did not understand the Ukrainian metaphorical words spoken by a son to his mother: “Oh, I will die on foreign lands, who will lay me in my grave?” the son asks his mother, to which the mother weeps in reply exclaiming her sorrow and how he had once rested his head upon her heart... as the melody fades, the duckling/son floats away...and the mother weeps bitterly. As the seminarians sang, people lowered their heads, many moved to tears.

Into this solemn atmosphere, as the slow and mournful refrain was sung, the doors opened as the procession of hierarchs entered, led by students of St. Andrew Ukrainian School holding burning candles, bringing light and hope into the darkness. The hierarchs were Bishop Saba, Ruling Hierarch of the Georgian Orthodox Church in the USA; Roman Catholic Cardinal Joseph Tobin of Newark, NJ, Metropolitan Antony, Prime Hierarch of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, Bishop Apostolos, representing Archbishop Elpidophoros of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of the USA; Bishop Paul Chomycky, Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Stamford, CT.
Archbishop Daniel once continued the program explaining that the current invasion in Ukraine is the largest conflict on European soil since the Second World War and listed some of the statistics of the current Russian attack against Ukraine. 365 days have resulted in 14 million Ukrainians forced to flee their homes – 8 million refugees to neighboring nations and 5.9 million internally displaced persons within Ukraine; 18,955 civilian casualties; tens of thousands of troops; tens of thousands of Ukrainian children abducted to into Russia to be “re-educated”; 5,000 cruise missiles fired at Ukraine; 10,000 drone attacks; 3,500 air strikes on civilian populated areas; 200 direct attacks on civilians – including torture, kidnapping, killing and desecration of dead bodies; 760 hospitals bombed; 3,139 schools destroyed; 1.7 billion people worldwide facing food shortages because of little or not Ukrainian grains being exported; 58,000 war crimes including killings, kidnappings, bombings, and assault – 365 days of war and terror adding up to nothing less than genocide and ethnic cleansing, as it has been identified in United Nations conferences at this anniversary.

Archbishop Daniel stated that even those these official numbers are horrific to contemplate, they are probably only a fraction of what the actual numbers are. Even worse, is the impact inflicted upon the most innocent of all – the children. While many have been killed, countless ones maimed, others suffer due to family separation, violence, abuse, sexual exploitation and trafficking - all have been terrorized, all have lost their innocence.

Ani Gakalo stepped on stage and sang “The Ballad of Mal’vy” (Balada pro Mal’vy) – a sorrowful song written by Volodymyr Ivasyuk based on a poem by Bohdan Gura. about a mother awaiting her daughter’s return from war. As her sweet voice evoked the images of a anxious mother, filled with fear, yet hoping for her daughter’s return, the audience realized this same scenario is being repeated hundreds of times in Ukraine this very day.

The struggle was further visualized and brought home through the interpretive dance performed by the students of the St. Andrew Ukrainian School of Ukrainian Studies called “I am Ukraine. I will endure the pain.” Nastya Kaspruk choreographed an evocative dance, highlighted by solo performance by Vernika Nalivaiko depicting the battle for freedom, falling, yet rising and fighting again.

Ani Gakalo next recited a heart wrenching poem - “Ukraine Stood Proudly in the Field” and was followed by another moving dance performed by the girls of the St. Andrew School, called “Fog Above the Earth”, choreographed by Nastya Kaspruk. The dance demonstrated that while war is disastrous to any nation, economically and culturally. However, the dance also reiterated that the one who defends his land, wins, as Ukraine is destined to win.

In appreciation of their effort and skill, Archbishop Daniel thanked all the students, both boys and girls, for their participation in the day’s program, and recognized the Director of the School, Uliana Zavaliy, for her continued efforts in teaching the future generations, and instilling in them a sense of pride in their Ukrainian heritage.

The prayerful commemoration was supported by numerous clergy and dignitaries, who were present to participate in the evening’s prayer service. His Eminence took a moment to recognize the numerous Ukrainian, Greek, Georgian Orthodox Churches, from the Ukrainian and Roman Catholic Churches, along with faith leaders and ministers from Protestant Churches and other religious communities in New Jersey who were present, along with the Mayor of the Franklin Township Phil Kramer, County Commissioners Melonie Marano and Paul Drake; Mayor of South Bound Brook Borough Chris Shoffner; NJ State Senator Doug Steinhardt, representing the 23rd Legislative District, of which Franklin Township and Somerset are part and finally the representatives of various Somerset/Franklin Township community organizations present.

Gesturing to the front row of seats, Archbishop Daniel introduced a good friend of the Ukrainian people – His Eminence Cardinal Joseph Tobin of the Roman-Catholic Archdiocese of Newark, who previously served as archbishop in Indianapolis and often traveled to Ukraine and invited him to speak a few words. Cardinal Joseph explained that the Roman Catholic Church stands with Ukraine; ask for comfort for those who mourn, hope for those who despair, and compassion for those who suffer. We plead for an end of the aggression and violence perpetrated against Ukraine and entrust her destiny to the eternal care of the Mother of God.

Archbishop Elpidophorus of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America was not able to join us this evening, but Bishop Apostolos of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of New Jersey, was present to represent him, reading a letter from the Archbishop, who wrote: “We continue to witness an immense tragedy of human suffering: the targeting of civilians, assassinations and terror and the deaths of innocent lives, especially children. From the very beginning
of the invasion war, His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew stated: we...plead to end the war now. To immediately stop any act of violence, anything that spreads pain and death. Let reason prevail, love for fellow human beings, reconciliation and solidarity, the Light of the Risen Christ, the Gift of life.' These words still resonate today as on the first day. ...Together, as Orthodox Christians and as Americans, we pray for peace. But peace cannot be achieved as long as there is no justice. Our prayers are for peace with justice, so that this senseless onslaught in Ukraine stops once and for all."

His Grace Bishop Sava of the Georgian Apostolic Orthodox Church in North America was introduced. Georgian and Ukrainian people share the same pain of being invaded by Russia and under constant threat of destruction by their violent neighbor. On February 24, the day the Russian invasion was announced, thousands of Georgians took to the streets of the capital, Tbilisi, in protest – with some estimates claiming that up to 30,000 joined the march along the city's Rustaveli Avenue.

Bishop Paul Chomnycky of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Stamford, CT. His Grace stated that when we speak with a common voice and we will be effective. We can do three things to make a difference – speak the objective truth, inform people in our communities, standing up against the powerful propaganda machine of Russia. Secondly, we can offer material and financial support to those who are in need, which we are doing and we must thank those in the Ukrainian community and most especially all our local American communities who have stepped up and donated generously. The third thing is prayer. We must continue to pray asking the Lord to convert the hearts of the invaders, and to protect Ukraine and her people.

Archbishop Daniel explained that the Ukrainian Consul General Oleksii Golubov was unable to join in the program that evening because the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine has arrived to meet with the United Nations. He was represented this evening by Consul Vadym Tkachuk. In his remarks he stated: ‘...the yearlong invasion of Ukraine will end and it is our responsibility to make personal investments in a stable and free society.'

The Archbishop took a few minutes to welcome the members of the Armed Forces of Ukraine present for the commemoration and to express the gratitude of all present for their sacrifice and commitment to peace and freedom in Ukraine. The soldiers have come to the USA as part of a program called "Kind Deeds", supported by the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, to be fitted with prosthetic arms, legs and feet lost in battle enabling them to return to Ukraine and resume normal lives.

At this point in the program 8:55pm, Archbishop Daniel asked all the participants to rise for several minutes of silent reflection and prayer for the people all throughout Ukraine and beyond her borders who continue to suffer the brutality of the Russian invasion and to also remember the thousands of lives lost over the past year. The profound and absolute silence of these minutes spoke volumes about the fact that people truly comprehended the purpose of the commemoration. At 9:00pm (4:00am in Kyiv) a bell rang out loudly over the sound system, as the bells rang out in Kyiv and all Ukraine – for it was at 4:00am one year ago that the bombing began at the beginning of the invasion.

A Moleben Prayer service was celebrated for the welfare of all the people – the nation – of Ukraine beseeching our Lord’s action to end the suffering, horror and death, returning the aggressors to their own nation, through the prayers and intercession of the Birth-Giver of God and Ever Virgin Mary along with all the Saints of Ukraine. At the conclusion of the Moleben, the prayer for the repose and eternal memory of those members of the Armed Forces of Ukraine and all the civilians who have perished in the invasion.

Metropolitan Antony, Prime Hierarch of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, concluded the commemorations such as we have now, we are also powerFUL in beseeching the help of our Lord to bring an end to the genocide occurring before our eyes.

The Metropolitan was moved beyond words at the hundreds present for the commemoration and to the hundreds and thousands of powerFUL donations from Americans of all backgrounds who have made it possible for our Church to provide assistance to Ukraine totaling three million dollars, which is only a tiny portion of all the aid the world has provided to Ukraine, her people and to all the refugees forced to flee to other countries of the world. We are blessed. He expressed his personal gratitude to all the religious and governmental leaders present for the commemoration and to all who pray powerFULLy for Ukraine and her right to exist as a free and self-determined nation.

Photos by Fr. Vasyl Pasakas, Fr. Ivan Tchopko, Subdeacon Maksym Zhuravchyk and Valentyna Dovban
As the sun began to dip behind the low-hanging clouds on the cold Friday evening of February 24th, 2023, the parish of St. Mary the Protectress Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral, in Southfield, Michigan, prepared to commemorate the tragic 1-year anniversary marking the unprovoked invasion of Ukraine by the Russian Federation.

People from all walks of life arrived at the parish, pausing in thought as they approached the steps of the cathedral, and viewed the chalk drawings and text written upon the pavement and sidewalk. First, they read "365 days of terror", followed 10 yards later by "365 days of horror", followed by "365 days of prayer" and concluding with "365 days Powerful".

Entering the narthex the people found the usually brightly lit interior of the church, dark. The darkness elucidated the theme of the evening which was advertised for weeks via flyers and on social media – "Powerless, yet Powerful". Ukraine finds itself in the dark, without power, due to the Russian missiles targeting civilian infrastructure and decimating the power grid. Innocent civilians in Ukraine find themselves shivering in the cold, without heat, as they sit in dark cellars, doing all they can to remain alive regardless of the lack of food, the freezing temperatures, and the constant missile attacks.

Many of those attending the evening’s prayer service, had a taste themselves of the struggle as the ice storm a few days prior had knocked down the power lines, leaving thousands in the dark and the cold. With a new appreciation for the hardships that Ukrainians face, they came to pray during a Prayer of Supplication (Moleben) for an end of aggression, and a return to freedom and normalcy for all of Ukraine.

Joining the faithful of the parish, were numerous politicians, various religious and community leaders, as well as reporters and media personnel from all the major local television and radio stations, and newspapers.

Accepting the offered candle, prayer booklet, and Ukrainian flag at the entrance to the Nave, everyone found a seat and awaited the start of the service. As the church filled, the guests looked around noting the iconography, the iconostas, the altar, the large unlit chandelier, etc. The flickering candlelight gave an other-worldly appearance to the church, as the halos of the saints glowed in the flickering light of the candles which were the only illumination inside the church. For many this was the first time within an Orthodox church, and they were moved by the beauty before them.
Upon the tetrapod stood a number of candelabras and votives, illuminating a large icon of Archangel Michael, defender of the truth, flanked on either side by smaller icons of guardian angels. It is thanks to the intercession of the Heavenly Host that Ukraine has been able to defend herself and her people have often felt God's work through His angels saving them from deadly missile attacks and bullets.

The center aisle of the church was illuminated by votives reflecting warmly and lighting the signs held by the children of the Lesia Ukrainka School of Religion and Ukrainian Studies. The children had lovingly created and decorated signs in blue and gold reading “Freedom for Ukraine”, “Stand with Ukraine”, “Pray for Ukraine”, “Glory to Ukraine”, etc.

At 7 PM, a single loud bell chimed, hushing the whispers, and bringing everyone to attention. From the choir loft a low male voice solemnly proclaimed, “365 days of war, 365 days of terror.” A short pause was followed by another toll of the bell which reverberated through the cavernous interior of the church. Everyone rose to their feet. “14 million Ukrainians forced to flee their homes. 8 million refugees. 6 million internally displaced persons.” Gong! “3,500 air strikes on civilian populated areas. 5,000 cruise missiles fired at Ukraine. 10,000 drone attacks.” Gong! “628,000 Ukrainian children abducted to Russia. 18,955 civilian casualties.” Gong! “760 hospitals bombed. 3,139 schools bombed. 1.7 million people worldwide facing food insecurity.” Gong! “365 days of war. 365 days of terror.” Gong! “365 days of prayer. 365 days of resistance. 365 days powerful.” Gong!

As the final toll of the bell faded the Royal Gates opened and Very Rev. Paul Bodnarchuk, parish priest, descended from the altar to the nave carrying a lit candle. Touching their candles to the flame from his candle, and sharing from one to the other, all the candles held by the people gathered were lit as Fr. Paul loudly pronounced, “Blessed is our God always, now and ever and to the ages of ages!”

With the choir under the directorship of Khystynia Bilan beautifully sang the refrains, their voices spiraling down from the choir loft through the dark to encircle those praying below. Those gathered followed along in the prayer book, joining in as everyone prayed, “for the peace of the whole world, for the welfare of the Holy Churches of God and for the union of all, let us pray to the Lord.”

Quietly moving among the people, the news media cameras zoomed in and out, capturing images of earnest prayer, of hope, and recording the moment to be shared with the world, to encourage everyone to remember the horrors endured by Ukraine and to pray for peace.

Having prayed for the wellbeing of Ukraine, and her people, the service concluded with a remembrance of all who had lost their lives – defenders, military personnel, innocent civilians... that the Lord should remember them in His Kingdom. Those holding candles joined their voices to those of the choir as everyone sang “Memory Eternal!” with heads bowed, and aching hearts.

As tears were wiped away, Fr. Paul turned and thanked the people for attending and praying with the parishioners of the church for Ukraine, and invited them to head down to the parish hall for refreshments, discussion and speeches. As the people began to leave, Khystynia Bilan sang a moving solo – “Журавлі (Чуєш, брате мій)/The Cranes (My brother, do you hear)”, about a cranes flying off towards heaven, their wings being worn out and in tatters. The sad melody, and the crisp clear voice, even touched the hearts of those who did not speak Ukrainian, and were not aware of the tragedy being sung of. As the church emptied, handfuls of people remained behind, some simply walking around taking a look at the icons, others standing before the icon of Archangel Michael in private prayer, while others prayed and placed their lit candles in the candelabras to light the darkness of the world.

In the various corners of the Nave, reporters were finalizing interviews, getting last minute quotes, and hurrying to make the evening news cutoff. While silence covered the church, the occasional sound of coughing, of clicking heels, or of someone shuffling around the church, the sound of the wind was heard. The images played on the large screen. It began with sunny images of the beauty of Ukraine, her wide-open vistas, cultural landmarks, churches, cities, villages, and smiling people. People sat back and enjoyed the images while listening to the speakers. However, the light mood soon changed as the images left behind the beauty of bygone Ukraine, and showed the destroyed cities, weeping people, traumatized children, heartbreak, horror, and death. The onlookers witnessed the elderly who wept for their children, their homes, and their nation. The saw once beautiful city blocks reduced to rubble. The felt the pain of separation as families were torn asunder. They felt the anxiety of the thousands of refugees. Suddenly the desserts that had been so sweet just a few minutes earlier, were now laid aside as reality once again crept in.

Politicians from both sides of the aisle spoke, including notable local politicians Congresswoman Rashida Tlaib, Congresswoman Haley Stevens, State Senator Stephanie Chang, State Representative Noah Arbit, and Mayor of the City of Warren, Jim Fouts. Religious Leaders spoke next including Professor David Conrad from the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Detroit and Suril Patel on behalf of the local Hindu population. The final presentations were given by various Ukrainian organizations who explained how and what has been done to aid Ukraine this past year, and what still needs to be done.

Moved by what they heard and saw, many people walked over to the table located at the side of the hall which had preprinted letters to government officials. They wrote their names and signed the letters, placed them in the supplied envelopes and applied a provided stamp before placing them in with the pile of other letters which would be posted the following week, in hopes of garnering continued support for Ukraine from the U.S. government.

Donation boxes were located at various points of the room, asking people to donate and help Ukraine regain “power” and turn the lights back on. Over $2,000 was
collected and will be sent to the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA Humanitarian Fund, earmarked towards the purchase of generators. These heavy-duty generators will help not only turn the lights back on, but will also turn the heat back on, and allow the embattled population to charge their electronics and connect with their loved ones and the outside world, bolstering their spirits.

As the evening wound down, the people walked out into the cold wind but did not complain, for they realized that soon they would be sitting in a warm car, returning to their warm homes, to enjoy a warm meal and watch television... all luxuries they took for granted before this night.

A huge thank you to the numerous volunteers who stepped up and made the evening a success, through prayer, spreading awareness of the horrors Ukraine is enduring once again in her fight for freedom. This fight is not only for the freedom of Ukraine, but, for the dignity of truth, and the freedom of the entire world. Slava Ukraini! Glory to Ukraine!

Photos: Rocky Shattuck and Elizabeth Symonenko
Nearing the tragic one-year anniversary of the unprecedented and unprovoked invasion of Ukraine by the Russian Federation, the hierarchs of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church participated in an Ecumenical Prayer Service on Saturday afternoon, February 19, 2023, to join their voices to those praying for peace in Ukraine.

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 of the UOC of the USA and Consistory President, were joined by the Metropolitan Borys Gudziak of the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia as well as Bishop Paul Chomnycky of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Stamford at St. Patrick’s Roman Catholic Cathedral in New York City, hosted by His Eminence Cardinal Timothy Dolan.

His Eminence Metropolitan Antony gave a riveting sermon describing the long history of Russian aggression against the sovereign nation of Ukraine. The numerous attempts at genocide. The numerous Holodomors. The death and destruction reaped at the hands of a greedy neighbor. His Eminence continued by asking that all things can be put straight by God Almighty, and that we need to remain hopeful in His mercy to our struggling ancestral homeland and people. It is evident in countless situations of horror, that the Hand of God is present in protecting and strengthening Ukraine. Countless witnesses have told of miraculous occurrences. Therefore, His Eminence asked that everyone keep strong in faith and know that the truth is with Ukraine, and therefore God is also there. Ukraine might be damaged, the people might be sitting in the darkness due to the destruction of civilian infrastructure, but, even though the country is powerless, they are powerful. Ukraine is powerful through the bravery of her people, the integrity of her nation, the strength of her faith in the Almighty Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Present at the service were Ukrainian Consul General Oleksii Golubov and four members of the Ukrainian Defense Forces who were wounded in battle and have been receiving treatment in the United States, as well as hundreds of individuals who packed the cathedral to pray for peace in Ukraine.

With continued prayers, faith and hope in Christ, the world awaits Ukraine’s victory – a victory of truth over lies, light over darkness, good over evil. Ukraine – powerless, yet powerful.

*Photos by Subdeacon Maksym Zhuravchyk*
As we approach the dark anniversary of Russia’s brutal invasion of Ukraine, the hierarchs of the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople joined in prayer at the St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church and National Shrine, a heartbreaking reminder of the horrific acts of terror inflicted upon innocent people. This was the only sacred house of worship destroyed during the 9/11 attack, resulting in the tragic loss of countless lives.

The prayer took place at the Shrine, presided by His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America and His Eminence Metropolitan Antony of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, former Governor of the State of New York George Pataki, and the Honorable Consul General of Ukraine in New York Oleksii Holubov.

The hierarchs were joined by a delegation of Ukrainian soldiers who have not only experienced this injustice firsthand, but who continue to resist it: Yuri Hundych, Junior Sergeant in the UA Armed Forces and Head of the ULAF, and Roman Bohuslavskyi, Junior Sergeant and former ULAF player.

Their courage has inspired support from around the world, including the Governor George Pataki Center, which has raised funds to support displaced families and refugees from Ukraine since the very beginning.

Together, as Orthodox Christians and as Americans, we pray for peace. But peace cannot be achieved as long as there is no justice. Our prayers are for peace with justice, so that this senseless onslaught in Ukraine stops.
Archbishop Daniel noted that this Gospel was published through the joint efforts and cooperation of the Stavropygia and the UOC of the USA, and will serve to spread the word of God through the Chaplains to the soldiers on the front lines, as well as to all Ukrainians, be they in Ukraine or abroad.

"We bear joint responsibility with you in how we minister and care for our people," stated Archbishop Daniel to the Exarch.

This Gospel-Aprakos, which is organized not in the natural order of books, but, along the weekly Church readings starting from Pascha, the first one published in the Ukrainian language in several centuries, and is a new and improved translation from Greek, and is published in the Orthodox world for liturgical use following the example of the Greek liturgical tradition.

The official presentation of the completion of this Gospel-Aprakos took place on January 27 at the Stavropygia of the Ecumenical Patriarchate. The Gospel has been printed through the generous support of the UOC of the USA, which sponsored 1,000 copies, which are being distributed free of charge to various parishes, clergy, and faithful.

On February 7th the Exarch of the Ecumenical Patriarch in Ukraine, Bishop Mykhail of Komansk, gifted a signed copy of the newly published Gospel-Aprakos to His Eminence Archbishop Daniel, Ruling Hierarch of the Western Eparchy and Consistory President of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA.

Additional copies of this valuable tome were provided for use in Ukrainian Orthodox parishes serving the people who had to emigrate in order to escape the brutality of the unprovoked Russian invasion of Ukraine. Many churches of the UOC of the USA currently have an influx of refugees who are struggling in a foreign land. They have found welcome and inviting homes within the parishes of the UOC of the USA, where they can relax, mentally unwind, and strengthen spiritually.

The Exarch, Bishop Mykhail, expressed his overwhelming gratitude to Archbishop Daniel, as well as to the Prime Hierarch of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA and Diaspora, Metropolitan Antony, for their immeasurable assistance in spreading the word of God in the Ukrainian language.
Dedicated to the Three Holy Hierarchs, the chapel is the focus of the seminarian’s life of prayer and communal worship. Here the student actively participates in the liturgical life of the Church and is trained to perform all the services proper to Orthodox Tradition.

On February 11, 2023, the small chapel was filled as the faithful gathered to celebrate the Patronal Feast Day of the Three Holy Hierarchs. With the blessing of His Eminence Metropolitan Antony, Prime Hierarch of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA and Diaspora (Rector and Chairman of the Seminary Board), His Eminence Archbishop Daniel (Vice Rector and Provost) served the Divine Liturgy, assisted by numerous local clergy, the seminary students, who were joined by numerous faithful of the Church, and guests who came to pray for and support the Seminary and Ukraine.

Having been greeted by Very Rev. Vasyl Pasakas (Dean of Students) as he entered the chapel, Archbishop Daniel vested in the glowing sunlight that streamed through the windows, surrounded by the faithful who looked on. Having listened to the reading of the Gospel from Luke 20:46-21:4, as the Lord instructed His followers to “beware of the scribes, who desire to go around in long robes, love greetings in the marketplaces, the best seats in the synagogues, and the best places at feasts...” and how the seemingly small donation of two mites made by the widow was worth more than the larger donations made by those who had the means, for she gave of her very livelihood.

Stepping out of the Altar, his robes shimmering in the light, His Eminence delivered a touching and inspiring sermon, focusing on making the eternal Word relevant through the words spoken during the service. There and prayed were strengthened and emboldened, having grasped the gravity of the words spoken during the sermon.

As the service concluded everyone headed to the Divine Liturgy. As the incense hung heavy in the air, the rays of sunlight continued to dance inside the chapel, bathing the faithful in an ethereal glow, and casting a spirit of hope and peace over them. Standing in the gilded chapel, the halos of the saints upon the icons shimmering in the sunlight, the rays of sun illuminating the sacred items, those who stood there and prayed were strengthened and emboldened, having grasped the gravity of the words spoken during the sermon.

As the service concluded everyone headed to the seminary dining area where they enjoyed a relaxed afternoon in each other’s company. Joyfully sharing stories, offering advice, and assuring each other of continued support as they travel upon their own journeys through life.

With such a joyous and spiritually uplifting celebration, the seminary stands as a beacon of light a top the hill, through the arduous work of the faculty and the studious efforts of the students, that shines brightly upon the world near and far, and will continue for many years to lead humanity towards salvation in Christ.

Photos by Subdeacon Andrii Vatrych
It is said that “hard times, make strong people.” In these difficult times, the Lord has done just that – strengthened the people and nation of Ukraine, who keep fighting for their freedom. We, Ukrainians, are strong. But, our strength comes from unity, as we work together and complement each other. God sends His Grace upon us daily empowering us to live each day, and face each hardship, whether we are defending our nation, or just trying to get through a difficult day. We are even stronger when entire nations unite, when brothers and sisters work together. Today, everyone is “Ukrainian”, regardless of their race or ethnic backgrounds. Everyone who wishes to defend Ukraine from the unprovoked aggression. Men and women, the young and the old, brothers and sisters work together. Today, the nations are even stronger when entire nations unite, when brothers and sisters work together. Everyone who wishes to defend Ukraine from the unprovoked aggression.

Throughout the weeks of caroling the seminarians were able to raise funds to assist Ukraine. After Divine Liturgy in the Seminary chapel, they handed the funds to His Eminence Archbishop Daniel, Ruling Hierarch of the Western Eparchy of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, who with His Eminence Metropolitan Antony’s, Prime Hierarch of the UOC of the USA and Diaspora’s, blessing would use it to purchase much needed humanitarian aid, as well as generators for those on the front lines in Ukraine.

Archbishop Daniel was moved by the seminarians efforts and generosity, in spreading the love of Christ during these challenging times. It is a blessing to be able to help our neighbors, for in doing so, we show them the love of God, and share Christ with them.

Archbishop Daniel has personally traveled to Germany, Poland and other European countries visiting the injured Ukrainian military members, ministered to the refugees, and purchased and arranged shipment of medical supplies, logistical vehicles, ambulances, generators, food, and other necessities, which all get delivered to Ukraine to sustain the nation and the people who continue to fight for the world’s freedom. All these efforts are clearly posted on various social media sites and the Church website, in an effort to encourage others to emulate the philanthropic efforts.

"tough times, breed tough people" who must work hard, on the side of God, to bring calm, peace and prosperity to the world.

"Важкі часи породжують сильних людей..." – сказав один письменник. Воістину нині та сила, яка зберегла українську націю і трима її в боротьбі, сприяється як дарована Богом Його народу. Ми, українці - сили... але не самі, ми сили відомо, доповнюючи однієї інших, і Бог посилає Свою благодать. Свою силу, щоб підтримувати нас у щоденному бійці... чи то в Україні зараз, чи то в битві нашого життя. Ми ще сильніші, твердіші та незламніші, коли разом з великими народами, Божими охоронцями України, що допомагають, стаємо на бік правди, на бік самої України, боремося разом і дітتنا. Разом ми силиніші, і разом ми не самі, але з Богом, який веде нас, тому що там, де два чи троє зібралися в Його ім’я, Господь серед них.

Маючи можливість ділитися радістю народження Христа з іншими та ходячи від хати до хати, бажано, щоб випробування, які постають перед нами.

Любов до Бога підіймає ще більше і промовляє голосіше, коли ви демонструєте справи любові, показує, що Бог присутній тут і зараз, через дії, які робить Його Високопреосвященство в ім’я Господа від імені всіх людей тут, в Америці, які поділяють свою любов навіть у часи термів. Численні волонтери і інші національності. Ми всі одержимі тим, як ми молимося і допомагаємо в міру наших можливостей.

З Божою допомогою семінарії змогли зібрати гроші та передали їх Високопреосвященству Архиєпископу Данилу за його душпастирську турботу, щоб поширити любов Божу під час випробувань, які постають перед нами.

Archbishop Daniel was moved by the seminarians efforts and generosity, in spreading the love of Christ during these challenging times. It is a blessing to be able to help our neighbors, for in doing so, we show them the love of God, and share Christ with them.

"Важкі часи породжують сильних людей...", а ті сильні люди, як воюють на боці Бога, будуєть тихий, мирний і процвітаючий час.

Praying our way Together Great Lent
Sponsored by the UOL Education Commission
Looking for something to heighten your spiritual journey to prepare for Pascha.
If you would like to journey with us, please email your name, phone number, parish name, and parish address to Oleh Bilynsky at nsuffer@aol.com and more information will be sent to you.
Please sign up by March 1, 2023.
As the unprovoked invasion of Ukraine by the Russian Federation nears the one-year mark of aggression and terror, the innocent people of Ukraine continue to suffer immeasurable hardship.

The nation is under constant threat. Civilians hide in dark cellars to evade exploding missiles. They have little food, no medicine, no light, and no heat. These innocent people, many being internally displaced, suffer and die not only from explosions, but from the repercussions of the ongoing war. Civilian infrastructure is decimated, making it next to impossible for food and medical supplies to reach them. The power grid was destroyed weeks ago, and many families suffer malnutrition, hypothermia, and face medical emergencies, while sitting alone in the dark.

As they shiver from hunger and cold, it often seems to them that the world has forgotten them and has moved on. However, into this misery shines a bright light of hope as the Church cares for these individuals body and soul.

With the blessing of 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 and President of the Consistory, traveled to Poland in order to help the suffering population of Ukraine.

Thanks to the generous donations of the faithful of the Church, Archbishop Daniel was able to acquire 100 generators which would be shipped immediately to the war-torn areas of Ukraine which are currently under fire and suffering the greatest hardships.

These generators will provide the suffering and terrorized citizens not only with light and heat, but, with hope, for as light dispels evil, so these generators will work to dispel the darkness throughout Ukraine. The constant hum of the generators will assure the population that they are not forgotten that there is hope, and that they will survive and prevail.

The Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA continues to ceaselessly pray for the safety of the Ukrainian civilians, the defenders of freedom, and for a return to peace, all while working diligently to provide for the physical needs of the terrorized nation.

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Минає майже рік агресії та терору від неспровокованого вторгнення Російської Федерації в Україну, а невинний український народ і далі терпить від незмірних страждань.

Нараховується під постійною загрозою. Цивільні люди ховаються в темних підвалах для того, щоб уникнути розривів ракет. В них недостатньо їжі, немає ліків, немає світла та тепла. Ці невинні люди, багато з яких є внутрішньо переміщеними особами, страждають від багато не лише від вибухів, але й від наслідків цієї війни. Оскільки зруйнована цивільна інфраструктура, то важко, практично неможливо доставити продукти харчування та медикаменти. Через те, що кілька тижнів тому було зруйновано електромережу, зараз багато сімей страждають від недодання, переохолодження, а також стикаються з невідкладною медичною допомогою, сидячи на самоті в темряві.

Тремтячи від голоду й холоду, їм часто здається, що світ наче забув про них і рухається далі. Однак у цій біді сьє яскраве світло надії, оскільки Церква піклується про душу і тіло цих людей.

З благословення Високопреосвященнішого Митрополита Антонія, Першоієрарха Української Православної Церкви США та Діаспори, Високопреосвященніший Архієпископ Даниїл, Правлячий Архієпископ Західної Єпархії УПЦ США та Голова Консисторії, поїхав до Польщі, щоб допомогти постраждалому населенню України.

Завдяки щедрим пожертвам вірних Церкви Архієпископ Даниїл зміг придбати 100 генераторів, які негайно були відправлені в ті райони, які охоплені війною в Україні, та які зараз перебувають під обстрілами і зазнають найбільших труднощів.

Ці генератори забезпечуватимуть страждаючих і затероризованих громадян не лише світлом і теплом, а й надією. Бо як світло розсіює зло, так ці генератори працюватимуть, щоб розсіювати темряву по всій Україні. Постійний гул від генераторів запевнить населення, що про них не забули, що надія є, і що вони виживуть і переможуть.

Українська Православна Церква США продовжує невпинно молитися за безпеку мирного українського населення, захисників свободи, і за повернення до миру, при цьому старанно працюючи, щоб забезпечити фізичні потреби своєї тероризованої нації.
The team wastes no time as the rig is set up and fast in the village – a borehole! Coming to our village! aside his outdoor labors with the drilling team to greet this village called Masauli, so Fr. Ermolaos has to set run to the church and hang out, as they often do in there will be water sloshing around soon. Children is, ‘Let’s find these people some water!’ to start the job. The unspoken feeling in their hearts jump from the truck accompanying the massive well-center of Africa – an Orthodox Church. Fr. Ermolaos, upbeat and undaunted as they turn the corner and – Wells for Malawi A Sacred Outpouring of Grace - The Isaiah 44 Project – Water Wells for Malawi Clouds of choking dust rise from dry dirt roadways – dusty road from the north. St. Anastasia parish will prayers say and mean – that water is the sustaining people of God. The Malawians understand what these foreign tongue in a far-off place in the midst of a new water. These prayers are now offered to God in a turning to God – As the Day of Dedication dawns, the Christian faithful 44 Project, the ELI team consults with Malawian missionary organization Equipping Leaders International (ELI), that supplies the well drilling equipment and the deep into the earth, as aqua blue well casing is inserted as they go deeper. When they reach 140 feet – a big shout goes up! They have reached water! There’s such great hope now – that the water can be brought to the surface for everybody to use for their daily needs, as well as for their community. No longer will the women of this village have to leave at 4am every day to walk to the water hole kilometers away – dragging empty plastic buckets. During their trek they must suppress their fears, and remain hopeful there will still be water when they arrive there especially when the water supply has been diminishing fast during the dry season. And if they get water, they hoist the containers onto their heads and trudge back, for hours, just so that the basic needs of life can be met at their homes. Even those not in the village of the borehole celebrate, because their walk may only be one hour to the new well-borehole, instead of two hours. The borehole at St. Anastasia was made possible through the kindness and generosity of a number of members and friends of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA. By participating in the Isaiah 44 Project, they extend their love and spiritual care to the people of Malawi by supporting well-drilling projects like this. The Isaiah 44 Project is a cooperative effort with the international missionary organization Equipping Leaders International (ELI), that supplies the well drilling equipment and the staff to strike water deep in the earth, and the pumping capability to bring it to the surface. In the vision of the Isaiah 44 Project, the ELI team consults with Malawian Orthodox Christian clergy to identify suitable sites for these essential projects. After completing the initial setup for the well, the pipe is capped, and the day draws to a close – a beautiful Malawi sunset holds great promise. Day 2 – Completed Installation As Day 2 dawns, the drilling men of the ELI – Malawi team are off the trucks again bright and early to complete the ‘civil work’ to make ready the borehole for public use. They uncover the pipe at the top of the well; then the team unveils the gleaming new, double handled steel well pump! After securing the massive pump to the wall head they proceed to an important next step – pouring a concrete base for the well pump and the drain that channels excess water away from the borehole site. That concrete drain is important because it keeps stagnant or polluted surface water from contaminating the clean water in the borehole. Next Duncan, the local ELI team leader, energetically pumps the handle up and down with two hands again and again – and everyone is ever hopeful. Then behold - the water pours out of the pump spout! Everybody is amazed and rejoices – their lives are being changed before their very eyes! But the celebration will be delayed, just a bit. That’s because it’s necessary to allow the concrete to set properly so that the installation will last a long time. But everything is being made ready. The pump is locked down but everyone anticipates the public opening which will take place very soon! The concrete requires several days to cure, so everybody waits. It’s like waiting for Pascha. But they’ve been waiting for a long, long time so what’s another day or two? The New Day As the Day of Dedication dawns, the Christian faithful of St. Anastasia Church invite the local community of the village to begin the new day by turning to God – ‘Let us give thanks to God!’ Just a few weeks earlier at Theophany, the faithful of our Ukrainian Orthodox churches heard the prayers that recalled the mystery of God’s grace present in the blessing of the Jordan water. These prayers are now offered to God in a foreign tongue in a far-off place in the midst of a new people of God. The Malawians understand what these prayers say and mean – that water is the sustaining force of their lives. These waters that will sustain them physically but also spiritually are a gift from God the Father through Jesus Christ. Today, another vehicle comes bouncing down the dusty road from the north. St. Anastasia parish will welcome a special guest – the spiritual father of the parish, Archbishop Fotios. Accompanied by senior priests from the archdiocese, Fathers Chrysanthos and Nikolodos and other guests, they will gather with the people of the village as well as Duncan and his friends from ELI to celebrate together this New Beginning. A small bowl of water is prepared and blessed. Then, the bishop circles the borehole and sprinkles everybody and everyone with the water – which is now holy water because the people see God as its source. And then the Archbishop steps up to begin the release of water himself, making the sign of the cross three times, then he starts to vigorously pump the handle. After several enthusiastic efforts the water flows out in abundance! The scores of people gathered about raise up and shout for joy, accompanied by an enthusiastic hand-clapping! As the water flows, they rush for their buckets and wash off and splash the water all about playfully. Men step one up by one, greeted by the bishop, to do the heavy-duty pumping work. All are filled with joy and singing breaks out. The women begin the customary rhythmic dance and song that accompanies the praise of God in their culture. Some of the locals hold up two banners for all to see, one describes the ‘Isaiah 44 Project’ and the second is a message to us all, ‘You are making a difference!’ Some young men make videos to share, explaining their gratitude for the borehole, and their commitment to be good stewards of this gift, on behalf of the community. Prayers are also offered in the hearts of the faithful that, by the grace of God, the second dimension of the Isaiah 44 Project will be fully realized – an invigoration of a growing, flourishing local Church, through the ministry of Fr. Ermolaos and the Parish faithful. This will lead to the spiritual salvation of the people of the Chirazoulou region through the outpouring of the grace-filled waters of Holy Baptism – and their spiritual formation in the Church as Christians. Dedication The Chirazoulou Isaiah 44 Project borehole in Malawi is dedicated to the Lord in thanksgiving - and in celebration of the holy ministry of His Eminence, our Metropolitan Antony, our prime hierarch. With deep gratitude we ask the Lord to bless the people of Chirazoulou through this well for years to come. It is notable that this drilling project began on the Feast of St. Antony of the Desert. Our own Metropolitan Antony, who has faithfully labored in the vineyard of the Church as a priest for over 50 years and as our Metropolitan for 10 years, begins a ‘new year’ and a ‘new decade’ of his holy ministry. He will be remembered not only in the United States, but also now in the center of Africa, the very homeland of St. Antony.
In hearing of the completion and blessing of the borehole, Metropolitan Antony wrote, "How wonderful is our God, who provides for people of faith, hope and love!!! Peace, Love and Joy to all who will be blessed with the water that pours forth from this well - a Gift from God manifested through the kindness and generosity of many fellow Orthodox Christians!"

Future Work

Additional boreholes in Africa are desperately needed. By the grace of God, one by one, through the spiritual work of people whose hearts who are touched and moved to generosity, the mission to bring life-giving spiritual water will be fulfilled. We are deeply grateful to the ELI organization for their spirit of cooperation in joining in this common, Christian effort.

If you would like to learn more about the Isaiah 44 Project in Malawi or join in this effort and fellowship, please contact Fr. Robert Holet at 434-987-8170, or via email at isaiah44project@gmail.com. Additional information will soon be posted on www.orthodoxsteward.com

Photos: courtesy of Fr. Robert Holet

Caramelized Cabbage

INGREDIENTS

\[
\begin{align*}
\frac{1}{4} \text{ cup double-concentrated tomato paste} \\
3 \text{ garlic cloves, finely grated} \\
1\frac{1}{2} \text{ tsp. ground coriander} \\
1\frac{1}{2} \text{ tsp. ground cumin} \\
1 \text{ tsp. crushed red pepper flakes} \\
1 \text{ medium head of green or savoy cabbage (about 2 lb. total)} \\
\frac{1}{2} \text{ cup extra-virgin olive oil, divided} \\
\text{Kosher salt} \\
3 \text{ Tbsp. chopped dill, parsley, or cilantro} \\
\text{Full-fat Greek yogurt or sour cream (optional)} 
\end{align*}
\]

PREPARATION

Preheat oven to 350°. Mix tomato paste, garlic, coriander, cumin, and red pepper flakes in a small bowl.

Cut cabbage in half through core. Cut each half through core into 4 wedges.

Heat \(\frac{1}{4}\) cup oil in a large cast-iron skillet over medium-high. Working in batches if needed, add cabbage to pan cut side down and season with salt. Cook, turning occasionally, until lightly charred, about 4 minutes per side. Transfer cabbage to a plate.

Pour remaining \(\frac{1}{4}\) cup oil into skillet. Add spiced tomato paste and cook over medium heat, stirring frequently, until tomato paste begins to split and slightly darken, 2–3 minutes. Pour in enough water to come halfway up sides of pan (about 1\(\frac{1}{2}\) cups), season with salt, and bring to a simmer. Nestle cabbage wedges back into skillet (they should have shrunk while browning; a bit of overlap is okay). Transfer cabbage to oven and bake, uncovered and turning wedges halfway through, until very tender, liquid is mostly evaporated, and cabbage is caramelized around the edges, 40–50 minutes.

Scatter dill over cabbage. Serve with yogurt if desired.

Recipe: Bon Appetit
What you see with your eyes, is not all there is to see. Everyone's Guardian Angel is always with them.

Lood around you using your spiritual eyes.

Мій Ангеле Святий, небесний друже мій!
Веди мене до Бога, бо це моя дорога.
Щодня мене пильнуй, від зло­го все рятуй.
Я хочу свято жити і Богові служити!
Амінь.

O Holy Angel, my heavenly friend!
Lead me to God, for that is my purpose.
Watch over me every day and save me from evil.
I want to live a holy life and to serve God.
Amen.


Color and cut out your Angel Door-hanger. Read the prayer daily.

Angel of God, my guardian dear, to whom God’s love commits me here, ever this day, be at my side, to light and guard, to rule and guide. Amen.
ORDINATIONS

MAY GOD GRANT TO THEM MANY HAPPY AND BLESSED YEARS!

Rev. Vasyl Dovgan 2/12/2013
V. Rev. Oleh Hucul 2/12/1995
Protopresb. Constantine (Gus) G. Christo 2/17/1991
Rev. Harry (Samuel) Seamans 2/23/2017
V. Rev. Volodymyr Muzychka 2/28/1982
Dn. Valentine Olynyk 2/9/2019

Bishop Joseph (Zhuk) – 23 February 1934
Bishop Alexander (Novytsky) – 12 February 1970
Archbishop Iov (Skakalskyj) – 19 February 1974

17th 1965 - PROTOPRIEST ANTONY BERYK
12th 1966 - PRIEST LEONTIJ KWARTYRIUK
16th 1986 - PRIEST JOHN ZAZWORSKY
18th 1989 - PROTOPRIEST DMYTRO SAWKA
2nd 1990 - PROTOPRESBYTER ANDREW BECK
20th 1991 - PROTOPRESBYTER MYKOLA CHERNIAWSKY
25th 1991 - PROTOPRIEST MYRON PACHOLOK
6th 1999 - PRIEST JAMES MILLER
13th 2006 - MITRED PROTOPRIEST MYROSLAW HLYNSKY
26th 2013 - PROTOPRESBYTER MICHAEL ZEMLACHENKO
28th 2015 - PROTOPRESBYTER MICHAEL KUDANOVICH
14th 2022 - PROTOPRESBYTER GEORGE HNATKUK
St. Nicholas Program
Presentation
Camp for Families with Special Needs

This program is for faithful of ALL ages!

Join program director Tracy Galla and UOC OYM Director Natalie Kapeluck Nixon for an informational presentation about the program.

To learn more www.uocyouth.org or uocyouth@aol.com

March 26, 2023
Following 5pm Vespers
St. Peter & St. Paul
Ukrainian Orthodox Church
1025 N. Belle Vista Avenue - Youngstown
Search for faithful of all ages from 14 through adults.
Opportunities range from one day specialty event to full summer employment.

Positions include: program staff, cabin staff, property/kitchen staff.
For a full listing of available positions visit uocyouth.org.

Beginning June 2023 through August.

Information or to apply www.uocyouth.org.
Questions uocyouth@aol.com or josho@allsaintscamp.org.

Search for faithful of all ages from 14 through adults.
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UHEC Ukrainian History & Education Center

Online and In-Person Education Programs

Folk arts workshops and talks
History and genealogy
Blog posts and video podcasts

www.UkrHEC.org/calendar
www.UkrHEC.org/stories

Nashi Predky @ Home
Ukrainian Genealogy

Stories from Storage

Crafts for Kids with the UHEC
Virtual Edition

UHEC Folk Arts Workshops
Virtual Edition

5
1ST SUNDAY OF THE GREAT LENT: TRIUMPH OF ORTHODOXY
НЕДІЛЯ 1-ЩА ВЕЛИКОГО ПОСТУ:
ТОРЖЕСТВО ПРАВОСЛАВ’Я

11
MEMORIAL SATURDAY
ПОМИНАЛЬНА СУБОТА

19
3RD SUNDAY OF THE GREAT LENT: ADORATION OF CROSS
НЕДІЛЯ 3-ТЯ ВЕЛИКОГО ПОСТУ:
ХРЕСТОПОКЛОННА

12
SECOND SUNDAY OF THE GREAT LENT: ST. GREGORY PALAMAS
НЕДІЛЯ 2-ТА ВЕЛИКОГО ПОСТУ:
СВТ. ГРИГОРІЯ ПАЛАМА

25
MEMORIAL SATURDAY
ПОМИНАЛЬНА СУБОТА

26
4TH SUNDAY OF THE GREAT LENT: VENERABLE JOHN LYSYCHYNYK
НЕДІЛЯ 4-ТЯ ВЕЛИКОГО ПОСТУ:
ПРЯ. ІОАННА ЛІСТВИЧНИКА
CALENDAR OF EVENTS
Get involved in the life of your Church!
The success of all Church sponsored events depends upon your active participation!

AKATHIST TO THE QUEEN OF ALL
March 2

1ST SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT
Triumph of Orthodoxy
March 5

2ND SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT
St. Gregory Palamas
March 12

3RD SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT
Adoration of the Cross
March 19

4TH SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT
Venerable John Climacus (of the Ladder)
March 26

HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE
May 22 - June 3

ST. NICHOLAS PROGRAM
June 22-24

DIACONAL CHURCH SCHOOL
June 25-July 1

TEENAGE CONFERENCE
July 2-15

MOMMY/DADDY & ME
July 23-27

SACRED ARTS WEEK
August 13-19

CLERGY FAMILY RETREAT
August 20-26

ASC FOR ADULTS
August 26-30

FAMILY FEST
September 1-4

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