Christ is crucified. Unlike the western images of the Crucifixion, where the Lord hangs limp, victimized by the cruelty of humanity, Orthodox icons depict Christ victorious even in death. His eyes are open, and His head is slightly bowed, depicting physical death. The halo still shines about His head, signifying that even in physical death, He remains divine. The Lord is depicted standing, rather than hanging. His palms are open outward as He stretches His arms as if inviting the world into His embrace. He is not a victim of his circumstances, but has willingly sacrificed Himself in order to grant salvation to His creation.

On the left stands His mother, the Holy Theotokos. Sometimes she stands alone, other times she is with the other myrrhbearing women. Her face reflects her anguish and pain at the sight before her. On the right stands St. John the Theologian (the one much loved by Christ). Standing next to St. John, some icons depict a Roman soldier (Longinus) who having witnessed the Crucifixion proclaimed, “Surely this was the Son of God.”

The sign hung on the Cross above Christ’s head reads in Latin “INRI” - “Jesus, King of the Jews.” In many icons there will be the inscription “ICXC - NIKA” which translates from the Greek to “Jesus Christ - He [Christ] Conquers.”

In the background is seen the walls of Jerusalem, confirming that the Crucifixion took place outside the city limits, referring to the saggist sapeutal ritual of Atonement Day, when the saggist was believed to carry the sins of the people away from their camp.

The site of the Crucifixion is upon the mound of Golgotha, the burial place of Adam. At the base of the Cross the ground has split open (the earthquake opened the earth) revealing the skull of Adam, the sinful, being washed clean by the blood of the crucified Christ, as it pours down the Cross, into the skull. The skull also acknowledges the victory over death and sin, refocusing not on death, but, on life, focusing on the Harrowing of Hades.

In the corners are often depicted the sun and the moon. The sun is darkened, and the moon glows red, in reference to Revelation 6:12-13: “I watched as he opened the sixth seal. There was a great earthquake. The sun turned black like sackcloth made of goat hair, the whole moon turned blood red...” This echoes events at the cross after Jesus’ death as written in Matthew 27:50-52 – “And when Jesus had cried out again in a loud voice, he gave up his spirit. At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The earth shook and the rocks split...”

The multitude of mockers and accusers are not shown, as the icons only depict those saints and angels “illumined by the Truth” who bear witness at the Cross. Often angels are seen sorrowfully flanking the cross, heads bowed, hands covering their faces, unable to witness the scene.

Some icons depict an angel with a chalice collecting the blood and water that is seen pouring out of Christ’s side where he was stabbed by the spear. The emission of blood and water convinced the doubter of Christ’s death, however the image is reminiscent of the Divine Liturgy, and brings to remember Christ’s words regarding His Passion: “Drink from it all of you. For this is My blood of the New Testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins”. The blood from Christ’s side which convinced the faithless at Golgotha that He was dead is in fact the very thing which brings life to those dead in sin.

The Icon of the Crucifixion portrays both horror and victory, the earthly and the heavenly, death and life eternal.
PASCHA!

A Message from the Permanent Conference of Ukrainian Orthodox Bishops Beyond the Borders of Ukraine to the Clergy, Monastics and Faithful of Ukraine and the Diaspora.

"O Death, where is your sting? O Hell, where is your victory? Christ is risen, and you are overthrown. Christ is risen, and the demons are fallen. Christ is risen, and the angels rejoice. Christ is risen, and life reigns. Christ is risen, and not one dead remains in the grave. For Christ, being risen from the dead, is become the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. To Him be glory and dominion unto ages of ages. Amen." (Conclusion of the Paschal Homily of St. John Chrysostom, read during Paschal Matins at the FEAST OF FEASTS – the RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST)

Dearly beloved Sisters and Brothers in our Lord,

CHRIST IS RISEN! ХРИСТОС ВОСКРЕС!

Our Lord and Savior has offered Himself up on the Precious and Life-Giving Cross, suffered under the torture of human hands, was buried and on this third day, He has "risen from the dead, trampling down death by death and to those in the tombs bestowing life." How do we express our love and gratitude to the One Who opened the gates of Heaven to us all – both the living and the dead? First and most important, we do not express that love and gratitude only during the celebration of the Resurrection FEAST. We offer them every day in prayer.

We offer them in the ways we relate to one another. We offer that love and gratitude through every single, miniscule decision or choice that we make through the course of a day. We offer them through the mercy, comfort and compassion with which we embrace those who are different from us in any way.

We no longer fear death, says St. John, because our Savior has annihilated death! Ours is to take up the life that He has given us, victorious over demons and rejoicing with the angels, knowing that none of us is left behind. Basking in the Resurrection LIGHT that shines forth from the empty tomb and filled with the Grace inspired into us through all the Sacraments, we can work miracles in a world that all too often seems dark and still consumed with death. We are victorious in Christ. We CAN be the LIGHT that transforms the whole world and to all who choose that darkness.

Oh, what opportunity we have in our world's present circumstances! We are confronted with a pandemic and the isolation associated with it, with racial strife and its horrific manifestations and with crippling and destructive political division. In all this we have opportunity to witness to the world as did the new Christians who conquered a much darker world in the first centuries after our Lord's Ascension to Heaven. When they came together in worship, many times in caves, the space literally throbbed with anticipation in the contemplation of the Resurrection Power that was theirs. They could barely hold themselves back until the conclusion of the worship service so that they could go back out into the world to bear witness to a God Who loved them perhaps more than they loved themselves. They had a mission and a ministry of serving others – being Christ to them – in that love – the same mission to which we are called today.

Our prayer as we celebrate the FEAST OF FEASTS, dearly beloved, is that today your hearts are throbbing because of the Resurrection Power that is also yours. Not all are called to preach to the world, but we all are inspired with the Grace that can and will enable us to utilize that Power. We all can reach into the lives of those whose lives intersect with ours. We can be peacemakers when we witness hatred in speech or in deed. We can speak the positive, perhaps changing the perspective through which the individuals involved view a situation or a heated argument. This Power given to us also enables us to be merciful, pure in heart, hungry and thirsty for righteousness, meek and unselfish.

The pathway to salvation has been provided by our Risen Lord, throughout His public ministry and especially through the days of Holy Week. Let us now follow that pathway anew as we enter into Bright Week. The world needs us! Nothing is more certain in life than the promise of salvation for those of who live in sincere faith and trust in our Risen Lord. May the grace of our Risen Lord, the Love of God the Father and the Fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all as you follow the "narrow path" that leads to salvation.

INDEED HE IS RISEN!

With Archpastoral blessings,

+ YURIY – Metropolitan
Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada

+ ANTONY – Metropolitan
Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, South America and Diaspora

+ JEREMIAH – Archbishop
Ukrainian Orthodox Eparchy of South America

+ DANIEL – Archbishop
Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA and Diaspora

+ ILARION – Bishop
Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada

+ ANDRIY – Bishop
Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada
ПАСХА!

Послання Постійної Конференції Українських Православних Епископів ім. Юрія Галаганова щодо Пасхального природження Української Християнської Церкви в Росії

"Вони ледь не могли стримати себе до завершення богослужіння, щоб вийти у світ і засвідчити Богу, який любив їх, можливо, більше, ніж вони любили самі себе. У них була місія служити іншим - бути для них Христом - в тій любові - та сама місія, до якої ми покликані сьогодні.

Святуючі Свято над усіма Святами, нашою молитвою дорогі є те, що сьогодні Ваші серця трепетимуть від Сили Воскресіння, яка також є Вашою. Не всі є покликани проповідувати, проте ми всі є натхнені Благодатью, яка може і допомогти нам вживати цю Силу. Ми всі можемо торкнутися життя, чи життя перетинається з нашим. Ми можемо бути миротворцями, коли спостерігаємо ненависть в словах і діях. Ми можемо говорити позитивно, можемо навіть змінювати точку зору людини, яка живиться на ситуації, як палку суперечку. Це дана нам Сила, також дозволяє нам бути милосердними, чистими серцем, гоподніми та спраглими праведності, лагідними та безкорисливими.

Дорога до спасіння дана нам Всеволодом Господом, протягом усього його земного служіння, а особливо в дні Страстного Тижня. Давайте тепер підіведемо ідею дорогого заповіду, вступаючи у Святій Тиждень. Світ потребує нас! У житті немає нічого певного, а ніж обіцяна спасіння для тих, хто живе в ширій вірі та надії на свого Воскресеного Христа. Нехай Благодать Воскресеного Господа, Любов Бога Отця та Причастів Святого Духа буде зі всіма Вами, коли Ви слідкуєте "вузькою дорогою", що веде до спасіння.

ВОЙСТОВЕ ВОСКРЕС!
З Архієпископським благословенням,

ЮРІЙ - Митрополит Української Православної Церкви в Канаді

АНТОНІН - Митрополит Української Православної Церкви США та Діаспори

ЄРЕМІЯ - Архієпископ Української Православної Єпархії в Північній Америці

ДАНИЙЛ - Архієпископ Української Православної Церкви США та Діаспори

ІЛАРИОН - Єпископ Української Православної Церкви в Канаді

АНДРІЙ - Єпископ Української Православної Церкви в Канаді


Наш Господь і Спаситель приніс Себе в жертву на Чесному і Животворчому Христі, прийняв катування від людських рук, був похований і на третій день Він "воскрес із мертвих, смерть смерть подолав і тим, що в гробах життя дарував!" Як, ми можемо висловити свою любовь та вдячність Тому, Хто відкрив всім нам ворота до Неба - і живим, і мертвим! По-перше і найголовніше, ми не висловлюємо цю любов і вдячність лише під час Свята Воскресіння. Ми висловлюємо їх щодня в молитві. Ми висловлюємо їх у тому, як ми відносимося один до одного. Ми висловлюємо цю любов і вдячність через кожен наймалий вибір чи рішення, які ми робимо протягом дня. Ми висловлюємо їх через милосердя, доброту та співчуття, якими ми огортаємо тих, хто чинилися та різноманітність наші.

Ми більше не боймося смерті, говорити святій Ісус, тому що наш Спаситель звинувчив смерть! Ми повинні взяти життя, які Він нам дав, переможемо над демонами і радіз наявні з ангелами, усідомлюючи, що ніхто із нас не буде залишений. Радіючи СВІТЛОМ Воскресіння, яке свіє з порожнього гробу і є повне Благодаті та дарує нам через усі Тайства, ми можемо творити чуда у світі, який так часто, здається нам темним і поглинутим смертю. Ми є переможцями у Христі. Ми МОЖЕМО бути цим СВІТЛОМ, яке перетворює цілий світ та усіх, хто обирає темряву.

О, яку можливість ми маємо у світі сучасних обставин! Ми стикаємося з нападами та ізоляцією пов'язаною з нею, з агресією та боротьбою та її жахливими призорами, з позиціонним та руйнівним політичним поділом. У всьому цьому ми маємо можливість засвідчити світові, як це зробив перший Христинії, які підтвердили набагато темніший світ у перші століття після Вознесіння нашого Господа на Небо. Коли вони зібралися на богослужіння, часто в печерах, просторі у якому вони перебували, в буквальному значенні трепетів в очікуванні та спогляданні на Силу Воскресіння, яка була їхньою.
CHRIST IS RISEN!

ΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ ΕΟΧΚΡΕΣ!

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ, we are sent forth from the EMPTY tomb, just as those first disciples were. We are sent to speak to others of HIS love, which has been made KNOWN to us. The Lord sends us to preach by example, by our deeds, by the joy of our life! So, let us fearlessly proclaim to the world around us, that
CHRIST IS RISEN!
- Archbishop Daniel

Мої дорогі брати та сестри у Христі, Господь посилає нас у світ із ПОРОЖНЬОГО гробу, як тих перших своїх учнів. Господь шле нас для спілкування з іншими про ЙОГО любов, яку ми ПІЗНАЛИ. Господь шле нас проповідувати прикладом, своїми вчинками, радістю нашого життя! Тож, давайте безстрашно проголошувати світу навколо нас, що
ХРΙΣΤΟΣ ΒΟΣΚΡΕΣ!
- Архієпископ Даниїл
THE PASCHAL SERMON
The Catechetical Sermon of St. John Chrysostom is read during Matins of Pascha.

If any man be devout and love God, let him enjoy this fair and radiant triumphal feast. If any man be a wise servant, let him rejoicing enter into the joy of his Lord. If any have labored long in fasting, let him now receive his recompense. If any have arrived even until the eleventh hour, let him draw near, fearing nothing. And He shows mercy upon the last, and cares for the first; and to the one He gives, and upon the other He bestows gifts. And He both accepts the deeds, and welcomes the intention, and honors the acts and praises the offering. Wherefore, enter you all into the joy of your Lord; and receive your reward, both the first, and likewise the second. You rich and poor together, hold high festival. You sober and you heedless, honor the day. Rejoice today, both you who have fasted and you who have disregarded the fast. The table is full-laden; feast ye all sumptuously. The calf is fatted; let no one go hungry away.

Enjoy ye all the feast of faith: Receive ye all the riches of loving-kindness. let no one bewail his poverty, for the universal kingdom has been revealed. Let no one weep for his iniquities, for pardon has shown forth from the grave. Let no one fear death, for the Savior's death has set us free. He that was held prisoner of it has annihilated it. By descending into Hell, He made Hell captive. He embittered it when it tasted of His flesh. And Isaiah, foretelling this, did cry: Hell, said he, was embittered, when it encountered Thee in the lower regions. It was embittered, for it was abolished. It was embittered, for it was mocked. It was embittered, for it was slain. It was embittered, for it was overthrown. It was embittered, for it was fettered in chains. It took a body, and met God face to face. It took earth, and encountered Heaven. It took that which was seen, and fell upon the unsee.

O Death, where is your sting? O Hell, where is your victory? Christ is risen, and you are overthrown. Christ is risen, and the demons are fallen. Christ is risen, and the angels rejoice. Christ is risen, and life reigns. Christ is risen, and not one dead remains in the grave. For Christ, being risen from the dead, is become the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. To Him be glory and dominion unto ages of ages. Amen.
BLESSING AND SANCTIFICATION OF THE PASCHAL BREAD (PASKA)

Priest begins with the exclamation: Glory to the Holy, Consubstantial, Life-creating and Undivided Trinity always, now and ever, and to the ages of ages!

People: Amen!

Priest: Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death and upon those in the tombs, bestowing Life.

People: Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death and upon those in the tombs, bestowing Life.

Priest: Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death!

People: And upon those in the tombs, bestowing Life.

Priest: Let God arise, and let His enemies be scattered, and let those Who hate Him flee from before His face.

People: Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death and upon those in the tombs, bestowing Life.

Priest: As smoke vanishes, so let them vanish, as wax melts before the fire!

People: Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death and upon those in the tombs, bestowing Life.

Priest: So shall the sinners perish from the face of God. And let the righteous be glad!

People: Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death and upon those in the tombs, bestowing Life.

Priest: This is the day the Lord made; let us greatly rejoice and be glad therein!

People: Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death and upon those in the tombs, bestowing Life.

Priest: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit!

People: Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death and upon those in the tombs, bestowing Life.

Priest: Now and ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen!

People: Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death and upon those in the tombs, bestowing Life.

Priest: Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down Death by death!

People: And upon those in the tombs, bestowing Life!

PRAYER FOR THE BLESSING OF BREAD (PASCHA)

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord have mercy.

Priest: Holy Master, Father Almighty, Eternal God! May Your holy spiritual blessing sanctify this bread, that it may be offered to all for the salvation of souls, for the healing of the body, and for protection against all infirmities and every snare of the enemy. Grant this through Jesus Christ our Lord, who descended from heaven bringing life and salvation to the world, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

PRAYER FOR THE BLESSING OF THE PASCHAL LAMB

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord have mercy.

Priest: Lord Jesus Christ, our God, look upon this Lamb and upon all these other meat dishes, and bless and sanctify them, as You had blessed and sanctified the lamb that the faithful Abraham brought before You, and the lamb that Abel offered to You in sacrifice, and the calf which was slain when the Prodigal Son returned to You. Preserve us in Your goodness, so that we all, who partake of this blessed and sanctified food, may be worthy of Your blessing for good health by virtue of Your Precious Cross and third-day resurrection from the dead.

For You are truly the Nourisher and the Giver of Goodness who blesses and sanctifies all things, Christ our God and to You we give glory, together with Your Father without beginning and Your All-Holy, Good and Life-Creating Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

PRAYER FOR THE BLESSING OF EGGS, CHEESE, MILK, AND OTHER FOODS

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord have mercy.

Priest: O Lord our God, Who made all things, bless this cheese, butter, milk, eggs, and other food, and keep us in Your goodness, that, while enjoying these Your generously presented gifts, we may also be satisfied with Your unspeakable grace, for the sake of the bright three-days resurrection from the dead of our Lord Jesus Christ.

For Your is the Kingdom, the Power and the Glory, of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

The priest sprinkles the bread with Holy Water, saying:

All of this food is blessed and sanctified by the sprinkling of this holy water, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. (3 times)
БЛАГОСЛОВЕННЯ І ОСВЯЧЕННЯ ПАСОК

Священник починає витовсом: Слава Святій, Одноістотній, і Животворчій, і Нероздільній Трійці завжди, нині, і вічно, і повсякчас, і на все вічні!

Люди: Амінь.

Священник: Христос воскрес із мертвих, смерть смерть подолав і тим, що в гробах, життя дарував.

Люди: Христос воскрес із мертвих, смерть смерть подолав і тим, що в гробах, життя дарував. (3 рази)

Священник: Нехай воскресне Бог і розіб'язує вороги Його, і нехай біжать від лиці Його всі ненависні його.

Люди: Христос воскрес із мертвих, смерть смерть подолав і тим, що в гробах, життя дарував.

Священник: Як везе дім, нехай щегуля.

Люди: Христос воскрес із мертвих, смерть смерть подолав і тим, що в гробах, життя дарував.

Священник: Як тане вісім від лиця бога, так нехай зліжить трішеники від лиця Божого, а праведники нехай зосвяшаться.

Люди: Христос воскрес із мертвих, смерть смерть подолав і тим, що в гробах, життя дарував.

Священник: Цей день, його ж створи Бог одяг, радіймо й веселимося в ньому.

Люди: Христос воскрес із мертвих, смерть смерть подолав і тим, що в гробах, життя дарував.

Священник: Слава Отці, і Сину, і Святому Духу.

Люди: Христос воскрес із мертвих, смерть смерть подолав і тим, що в гробах, життя дарував.

Священник: І нині, і повсякчас, і на все вічні. Амінь.

Люди: Христос воскрес із мертвих, смерть смерть подолав і тим, що в гробах, життя дарував.

МОЛİТВA НA БЛАГОСЛОВЕННЯ ПАСОK

Диякон: Господній помілівся.

Люди: Господи помілуй.

Священник: Наспокойте та відпустить. Представний Боже! Благословимо освятити хліб цей Твій святим духовним благословенням, щоб був він всім, що споживають його, на спасиця душі, на здоров’ї тілесне і захисті проти всіх недуг, всього зовсім підступу, — через Христа нашого Ісуса Христа, що з любов’ї своїй швидко вийшов, дає життя й спаси́ння сівтові, з Тобою живе і царює в єдності Святого Духа нині, і повсякчас, і на все вічні.

Люди: Амінь.

МОЛÎТВА НA БЛАГОСЛОВЕННЯ ПАСОK

Диякон: Господній помілівся.

Люди: Господи помілуй.

Священник: Кріпіть свячену водою васки, виголошує.

Благословлюється всі покинути ця окопонення водою цею свячену, в ім’я Отца, і Сина, і Святого Духа. Амінь. (З рази)
To achieve spiritual greatness, you must begin with the little things.

- Archbishop Daniel

Для того щоб осягнути духовної величності, потрібно почати з дрібниць.

- Архієпископ Даниїл

Memory Eternal: UOC of the USA Expresses Prayerful Condolences to Metropolitan Antony upon the Repose of his brother Ronald of Blessed Memory

As we enter Holy Week, it is with deep sadness that the Council of the Metropolia, Consistory, Clergy and faithful of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, received news of the repose of the servant of God Ronald Scharba – the youngest brother of His Eminence Metropolitan Antony.

Just this weekend, we recalled Christ's statement, "I am the resurrection and the Life. He that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live," (John 11:25-26). It is with this hope of resurrection in Christ, that we offer our sincerest condolences to His Eminence Metropolitan Antony.

So often, Vladyka Antony is the one who offers comfort to his flock as they go through losses and hardships in their lives. Today, we hold our Metropolitan and his siblings close in our hearts, our thoughts and our prayers.

With the saints give rest, O Christ, to the soul of Your departed servant, Ronald, where there is neither sickness nor sorrow nor sighing, but life everlasting. Amen.

Вічна Пам’ять: УПЦ США Висловлює Молитовні Співчуття Митрополиту Антонію з приводу відходу у вічність наймолодшого брата Рональда

Розпочинаючи духовну мандрівку Страсного Тижня, Рада Митрополії, Консисторії, Духовенство та вірні Української Православної Церкви США отримали сумну вістку про відхід у вічність служи Божого Рональда Щерби - наймолодшого брата Високопреосвященого Митрополита Антонія.


Дуже часто Владика Антоній є тим, хто висловлює співчуття та спілкується своєю духовною паствою, коли люди переживають втрати та труднощі у своєму житті. Сьогодні ж ми підтримуємо нашого духовного отця - митрополита та його братів і сестер - у наших серцях, наших думках і наших молитвах.

Зі святыми упокої, Христе, душу спочившої служи Своєї Рональда, де немає ні хвороби, ні смути, ні зітхання, але вічне життя. Аминь.
the less fortunate and consider donating to support the children in the Ukrainian Orphanages. His Eminence particularly referred to the upcoming St. Sophia Seminary Mission Trip allowing the seminarians the opportunity to work with the children. Parishioners graciously responded by donating more than $600 towards the mission trip.

The afternoon concluded on a cheerful note as the seminarians, and parishioners performed several spiritual works.

Archepastyrsky Visit

The Archbishop Daniel visited All Saints Parish in New York, where Fr. Vitaly Pavlykivsky serves as the parish priest. He, along with the parish president, gladly greeted Metropolitan Antony and Archbishop Daniel according to the Ukrainian tradition with bread and salt.

The festive service began with the consecration of icons and kiots with the professional leadership of Metropolitan Antony and Archbishop Daniel. The Hierarchs were assisted by the parish priest Fr. Vitaly Pavlykivsky and deacons: Myroslav Mykytyuk, Mykola Zomchak and Ihor Protsak. The Archpastoral service was complemented by the majestic choir of the parish under the leadership of Dobrolyda Stepaniha.

In his sermon, Archbishop Daniel began preaching by commenting on the passage from the Gospel of John about the faith of a man who said to Christ, “I believe, Lord, help my unbelief”. Vladyka mentioned that faith is a very important component, especially at this time, in the 21st century, during the coronavirus pandemic. After all, many people have despaired, stopped going to church; others say that they believe in God, but lacking faith and the common prayer. Fr. Vitaly also thanked all the donors and benefactors of the holy temple, and emphasized the value of the relics that from now on will be in the temple for veneration. After that, the bishops, together with the clergy and all the parishioners of the holy temple, gathered in the parish hall for a festive luncheon, again, obeying the restrictions due to the pandemic.

During the luncheon, Archbishop Daniel spoke to those gathered about a number of charitable initiatives fostered by the Church. He asked that the faithful not forget
можуть св. Василя Великого, св. ап. Андрія Первозваного, св. Івина Золотоустого та св. Миколая Чудотворця, які будуть слугувати людям для їх фізичного та духовного зділення.

Опісля освячення, Митрополит Апостольський, благословенням дияконів та трійцірий, розпочав святкувати Божествену літургію. Ієрахим співслужили настоятель храму, отець Віталій Павликович та диакон: Мирон Миколайчук, Микола Зомчак та Ігор Процик.

Архієпископську службу доповнювали величний хор парафії під професійним керівництвом доброядки Стефанії Кулик.

Свою проповідь владика Даниїл здійснив освячення надвратних хрестів. Настоятель Золотоверхого монастиря, отець-настоятель о. Андрій, благословив усіх присутніх на створення надвратних хрестів.

Архієпископ Даниїл нагадав усім присутнім про діла милосердя та призив до жертв та підтримки дітей-сиріт в українських інтернатах. Зокрема, у підтримці місії сімейних утримувальних центрів Свято-Михайлівської Семінарії, а саме подорожі до українських інтернатах для праці з дітьми, котра відбувається цього літа. Парадійки та прихожане храму активно відгукнулись та покерувати кошти в розмірі більше 600 доларів на потреби дітей.

Під час обіду семінарісти та парафіяни виконали декілька ікон та кіотів, а також за вкладення відносини на багато до церкви. Архієпископ Даниїл наголошує, що отримати ці цінності можливо тільки в храму. Свято-Софіївська Семінарія, а саме подорожі до українських інтернатах.

За призначенням владика Даниїл здійснив освячення надвратних хрестів.

В другу неділю Великого посту та в день пам'яті святителя Григорія Паламам і собору усіх преподобних отців Києво-Печерських, 28 березня 2021 року, Предстоятель Православної Церкви України очолив Божествену літургію у кафедральному Михайлівському соборі Галичського монастиря. За присуть усіх преподобних.

Завершилася недільна відправа урочистим молебнем.

В подальшому, владика Даниїл був освячений на святкування Дня святителя Михайлія Макейковського.

On the second Sunday of Great Lent, March 28th, honoring the memory of St. Gregory Palamas, as the bells chimed, the faithful gathered in the St. Michael Golden-domed Monastery to participate in the Divine Liturgy served by His Beatitude Metropolitan Epifaniy of Kyiv and All Ukraine.

Concelebrating with the Primate of the Orthodox Church of Ukraine was V. Rev. Taras Naumenko, pastor of St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, who was traveling with Archbishop Daniel.

As the early morning sun broke through the clouds, the golden domes of the monastery gleamed brightly, like beacons of hope for the world. Inside, the centuries old cathedral, transported the faithful from the earthly to the divine. The ancient edifice, strong and resilient, having survived destruction by the Soviets in the 1930’s, stood once again in all its glory having been refurbished, and in recent history reopened for public worship. The multiple domes reflected the glory of Heaven to those gathered below. The columns, covered in images of saints and martyrs, strengthened the faith of the multitudes. As the magnificent choir sang the hymns, their voices echoing off the pillars, they gave the impression of the bodiless powers praising the Lord, as the sweet melodies invisibly surrounded and enveloped those below. Standing among so many humans, surrounded by saints,
watched over by Christ and His angels, the people who gathered felt themselves standing outside of time as the Divine Liturgy began in all its glory.

Vested in Lenten purple vestments, the clergy fervently prayed before the Altar of God for the sick, the suffering, for plentiful harvest, good weather, and peace in the world.

Having read the Gospel from Mark 2:1-12, about the paralytic being lowered through an open ceiling by his four friends to be healed by Christ, His Beatitude Metropolitan Epifaniy gave a touching and thought-provoking sermon.

With their faces covered in masks, hundreds of faithful stood continued to pray humbly, as others approached for Holy Communion. As the sunlight streamed in through the windows, like threads connected Heaven and Earth, mothers brought their young children forward to light candles, and as the icon of St. Gregory Palamas was placed on the tetrapod, the faithful approached to venerate the saint. Bowing low, and either kissing the icon through their mask, or touching it respectfully with their forehead, young and old approached, beseeching the saint to intercede before God for them.

After Communion, the three hierarchs and multitude of clergy descended into the nave to hold a short service, praying for an appeasement of the pandemic, safety from infection, and a quick and complete recovery for those who had contracted the virus. As the service concluded and the final prayer for Ukraine (Boje Velykyj) was sung, the faithful once again got in line to venerate the icon of St. Gregory. Having removed his liturgical vestments, Metropolitan Epifaniy, blessed the crowd as he made his way from the church.

The ornate golden Royal Gates swung closed, but, the people did not leave. Instead the faithful dispersed to various corners of the large monastery church, praying before the saints, laying flowers before the icons of the Mother-of-God, and lighting candles as they prayed with fervent supplication for the Lord’s mercy upon them, their families, Ukraine and all the world.

Outdoors, the clouds scuttled across the sky, as flocks of doves exploded from the bell tower as the bells chimed. With the cross topped golden domes still brightly reflecting the sunlight, the courtyard of the church filled with people, coming, and going. The St. Michael Golden-Domed Monastery having survived the centuries, having provided a safe haven in times of trouble and strife, having been a source of peace in wartime, stands as a point of prayer, Communion with God, and an indelible source of hope for the future of Ukraine, the Orthodox Church, and all the world.

Photos by Protodeacon Ivan sydor and Ivan Kot
On Saturday evening April 17th Fr. Gabriel Rochelle presided over Great Vespers, held outside on the grounds of St. Andrews Episcopal Church, because the chapel is still cordoned off and limited in seating due to the ongoing Covid-19 alerts in the State of New Mexico. Some twenty people attended the outdoor service, at the conclusion of which His Eminence Archbishop Daniel brought greetings to the parish family and spoke about commitment to Christ as basic to our faith. Due to the Covid restrictions, no meal was held as usual, but many people stayed to visit with Vladyka after the conclusion of Vespers.

On Sunday April 18th, the Fifth Sunday of Lent commemorating St. Mary of Egypt, the congregation gathered in the parish hall for the Divine Liturgy at 9:30 AM. We have had to be creative in our use of space during this time and the parish hall has proven to be ample in space on most weekends. Despite the absence of some regular members due to precautions over the virus, thirty-nine people were in attendance.

The Liturgy was preceded by the joyous occasion of the tonsuring and setting aside of Seminarian of St. Sophia Ukrainian Orthodox Theological Seminary Christopher Encapera as Subdeacon. Christopher and his wife Dr. Kim and their two children, Isobel and Ruby, are long-time members of the mission; Christopher is on the verge of finishing the MA in Applied Orthodox Theology at St. Sophia Seminary.

In his sermon, Archbishop Daniel stated: “... We read in the Epistle lesson today: “…HOW MUCH MORE SHALL THE BLOOD OF CHRIST… PURIFY YOUR CONSCIENCE.” What is that inner voice in each of us called conscience? How did it get there? Is there anyone behind it? What is its purpose? Why does it have the power to make our lives on earth heaven or hell?

In his letter to the Romans St. Paul says: “WHEN THE GENTILES WHO HAVE NOT THE LAW DO BY NATURE WHAT THE LAW REQUIRES, THEY ARE A LAW TO THEMSELVES, EVEN THOUGH THEY DO NOT HAVE THE LAW. THEY SHOW THAT WHAT THE LAW REQUIRES IS WRITTEN ON THEIR HEARTS, WHILE THEIR CONSCIENCE ALSO BEARS WITNESS...” For St. Paul the world was divided into two classes of people: the Jews who had the law given to them directly by God in written form, and the Gentiles who, although they did not have the written law, nevertheless had a God-implanted instinctive knowledge of right and wrong within their hearts.

Both would be judged by God, says Paul. The Jew on the basis of the written law; the Gentile on the basis of the law that was written not on tablets or books but in the heart, i.e. the conscience...

... When a person sins, conscience reacts like a broken bone. As a broken bone hurts because it is not where it ought to be, so conscience hurts and pains us when it is not where it ought to be - a right relationship with God. The deed we did, the word we said, the harm we caused, the good we might have done – all these are brought back by conscience to trouble us. But why? For what reason? Does God wish to inflict misery upon us? NO! That’s not the kind of God we believe in. God allows conscience to trouble us for one reason: to awaken us, to bring us to repentance, to guide us to a better way.

A hurt conscience is God speaking to us, telling us that we have denied life (we have denied HIM). What pain is to the body (a warning that something is wrong, urging us to seek medical help), that is what a hurt conscience is to the soul (urging us to seek spiritual help). One of the great doctors of our church, Venerable Maximos the Confessor says it very simply. “DO NOT DISHONOR YOUR CONSCIENCE, WHICH ALWAYS GIVES YOU EXCELLENT ADVICE, FOR IT OFFERS YOU DIVINE ADVICE.” St. John Climacus or John of the Ladder as he is better known in the Church, says: “AFTER GOD, LET US HAVE CONSCIENCE AS OUR AIM AND RULE FOR EVERYTHING.”

But here is where our Tradition differs from the tradition of the society we live in regarding conscience today. The Orthodox Christian Tradition clearly states that conscience by itself is not a
safe guide. It cannot stand by itself. It needs to be developed and sensitized by training. Conscience needs to be educated as to what is good and what is evil. This is the role of the Christian Community - THE CHURCH. It is the teaching of Christian community, the Church with her 2000-year-old tradition that educates the conscience and enables us to depend on it to make the right judgements. It is the Church's job (all of us) to help us keep our conscience in tune. Unless we tune our conscience in to God often, it will give us wrong or flat signals. It will become a false conscience.

"...HOW MUCH MORE SHOULD THE BLOOD OF CHRIST PURIFY YOUR CONSCIENCE" says the writer of our Epistle today. We know what conscience can do. It can guide. It can warn. It can instruct. It can bless. But there is one thing conscience cannot do. IT CANNOT UNDUE THE WRONG WE HAVE DONE. IT CANNOT HEAL THE WOUNDS IT INFlicts. IT CANNOT FORGIVE SIN. Only Christ can do that. And the message of the Epistle today and one of the basic themes of the fifth week of the Great Lent. ONLY THE BLOOD OF CHRIST CAN PURIFY OUR CONSCIENCE. ONLY HE CAN FORGIVE AND HEAL AND ERASE THE PAST TO BRING TO CONSCIENCE “The Peace of God which passes all understanding.”

At the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy, Fr. Gabriel presented Vladyka DANIEL with a new icon from the hand of Sara Harper, a parish member. This icon of The Birth-Giver of God (Virgin) of Guadalupe is revered by people of Mexican descent and is, therefore, popular in the American Southwest and especially in New Mexico.

Vladyka DANIEL blessed the icon which will be placed on the wall of his office at the Spiritual Center/ Metropolia of the UOC of the USA in South Bound Brook, NJ. Due to the Covid problems, Sara was unavailable to attend the service personally and designated Fr. Gabriel to present it in her stead.

The parish council with Sharon Italiano, president, met at the home of Blake and Louiza Davenport in the late afternoon to discuss the future of the parish. Despite the trials Saint Anthony Mission has experienced during the coronavirus pandemic – as have so many parishes – the parish family has remained strong; finances have increased over the last year and commitment to Christ and his church is as strong as ever, if not stronger. There has been some attrition over the year but interested people continue to approach the parish for information and to inquire about membership.

Vladyka Daniel and the two seminarians, Yaroslav Bilohan and Pavlo Vysotskyi, left Las Cruces, NM Monday morning following a farewell breakfast: coffee (made by Pani Susan) and scones (baked by Fr. Gabriel) with Fr. Gabriel and Pani Susan.

Photos by Subdeacons Yaroslav Bilohan and Pavlo Vysotskyi

ARCHBISHOP DANIEL VISITS ST. GEORGE MISSION OF THE UOC OF THE USA IN ALAMOGORDO, NEW MEXICO

His Eminence Archbishop DANIEL, the spiritual father of the Western Eparchy of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA arrived in El Paso, Texas with seminarians of Saint Sophia Ukrainian Orthodox Theological Seminary Subdeacons Yaroslav Bilohan and Pavlo Vysotskyi on Friday, 17 April, 2021.

Early Saturday morning His Eminence and the subdeacons and Fr. Gabriel Rochelle – pastor of St. Anthony of the Desert Orthodox Mission of the UOC of the USA, drove the eighty miles to Alamogordo, a city of about 30,000, and to the outlying district of La Luz, NM.

Deacon Theodore (Ted) Brinegar and his family, Pani Elizabeth and their five children, have established St. George the Great Martyr Orthodox Mission in the last two years. Deacon has been attached to St. Anthony of the Desert Mission, but he and the family have established a new mission of our Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA on the grounds of their own home. There they have built a reinforced tent and outfitted it with materials gained from a parish in North Carolina. The result is a very serviceable and quite attractive
chapel. Deacon Ted continues his work at Holloman Air Force Base as Director of Outdoor Recreation.

On Pentecost of 2020, Fr. Gabriel baptized four adults who serve as the backbone of the parish along with the Brinegar family. Child member Luke Finch was Chrismated in March of this year and attends with his family. His father Caleb Finch has been a long-term member of St. Anthony, with past service on parish council, but the Finch family lives a shorter distance from the St. George mission. Most recently the parish has received a new member, Olena Malanushenko, a native of Crimea (Ukraine) but has been living in the US for several decades. Seminarian of St. Sophia Seminary Subdeacon Aaron Holloway, who also entered Orthodoxy at St. Anthony Mission, serves with Deacon Ted at the altar. The other adult members who entered by baptism are Eric LeFevbre, Kira Miller, and Jose and Michele Sapata. These people, except Michele who had a family commitment elsewhere, were all present at the Saturday liturgy and eager to visit with Archbishop Daniel.

His Eminence stressed the importance of making a commitment to the basic faith of the church, and that this is most important to remember beyond our Lenten fasting or ascetic practice. We are called to confess Christ in the most positive and simple way that we can, in order to witness to others. Such a witness is frequently best done by actions rather than a lot of words, in accord with a saying of St. John Chrysostom: “_preach the gospel at all times; use words if you must.”

Following the Divine Liturgy on Saturday morning, we were treated to an outdoor potluck lunch on the grounds of the Brinegar home.

His Eminence, as always, showed his love for young people in his attentiveness to the Finch children, Paula and Luke, and the Brinegar children: Nicholas, Juliana, Karina, Esther, and Charity. We were also introduced to the Brinegar’s Colorado Mountain dogs and Flora’s ten puppies who are a month old.

With great thanks to Vladyka from all the people at St. George Mission, Fr. Gabriel, seminarians and Archbishop Daniel returned to Las Cruces, NM in the afternoon to prepare for the visit to St. Anthony Mission.

Photos by Subdeacons Yaroslav Bilohan and Pavlo Vysotskyi

Two years ago, a group of Orthodox Christians from Western North Carolina reached out to the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA to consider establishing a mission in Waynesville, NC. A loose community had already formed around regular service projects, such as a regular rotation in a local soup kitchen and it was clear that the area would benefit from a mission. However, one of the challenges that had to be addressed was that they would not have a priest in residency for the foreseeable future. It was clear that such a situation would require lay leaders with both the ability to lead readers services and, more importantly, to work closely with assigned clergy to deal with the many challenges that missions face.

His Eminence Metropolitan Antony and His Eminence Archbishop Daniel assigned Very Rev. Fr. Anthony Perkins to determine whether such a mission would be sustainable. After several months of in-depth weekly interviews and conversations with the leaders of the community, Fr. Anthony offered a positive report. Our bishops...
agreed, assign Fr. Anthony (who had recently moved to Hartwell, Georgia), and their first service was held in the home of Subdeacon John and Tabitha Cumming’s house at the end of August of 2019. They soon moved into a rental space and began a regular rotation of reader services, with Fr. Anthony coming in to serve every other weekend and the minor clergy leading the services in his absence.

Thanks to its love for one another, its mission focus, and its beautiful services (and the truth of Orthodoxy!), the mission gained momentum and managed to hold on to it despite the many challenges of the past year (even moving into a much bigger rental space in March 2021). Much of this success is thanks to the tireless work of Subdeacon John. In addition to serving as the lay leader of the parish and Fr. Anthony’s senior clerical representative (and his regular job in substance abuse recovery), he is a second-year seminarian of our St Sophia Ukrainian Orthodox Theological Seminary’s Distance Learning program. While this deaconal formation program is three years long, in recognition of the unique situation of the mission, the Council of Bishops of the UOC of the USA agreed to ordain Subdeacon John as a deacon in his second year of studies.

It was for this reason that His Eminence Archbishop Daniel visited Waynesville, NC and led their Palm/Sunday services in his absence. This was not Vladyka Daniel’s first visit; it was his third. His first was to deliver a vanload of supplies to the Pathways Center, the half-way house and soup that the community supports (and at which Tabitha Cummins works full-time). Despite this familiarity, on Saturday evening Holy Resurrection were invited by Fr. Anthony and seminarian Deacon Myroslav Mykytyuk celebrating, and Subdeacon Yaroslav Bilohan and Subdeacon John assisting. The beautiful chanting and music made the joy of the Entrance visceral. After anointing the faithful at the end of Vigil, Vladyka Daniel blessed the evening meal and spent the next couple of hours talking with and providing pastoral guidance to the faithful.

The formal celebration began with the Parish Vigil for Palm Sunday, with Vladyka Daniel presiding, Fr. Anthony and seminarian Deacon Myroslav Mykytyuk celebrating, and Subdeacon Yaroslav Bilohan and Subdeacon John assisting. The beautiful chanting and music made the joy of the Entrance visceral. After anointing the faithful at the end of Vigil, Vladyka Daniel blessed the evening meal and spent the next couple of hours talking with and providing pastoral guidance to the faithful.

At 9:00AM the next morning, the community greeted His Eminence. One of our youngest parishioners greeted him with flowers, after which Subdeacon John presented him with bread and salt and welcomed him and thanked him for his continual support over the last two years. During his remarks to both Subdeacon John and Fr. Anthony, Archbishop Daniel commended the community for their commitment and Subdeacon John and Fr. Anthony for their leadership.

The Festal Hierarchical Liturgy was beautiful. His Eminence Archbishop Daniel was joined at the altar by Fr. Anthony, Fr. Samuel Seaman—pastor of St. Thomas Mission of the UOC of the USA in Mountain Home, AR; and Deacon Myroslav Mykytyuk and Subdeacon Yaroslav Bilohan. Fr. Samuel and Pani Olga came in for the weekend to show their support to Subdeacon John and the Holy Resurrection community. Seminarian Subdeacon Yaroslav Bilohan and Subdeacon John served in the altar; Reader Andrew Buchan led the choir, and Reader Andrew Mowery chanted and read the Epistle.

Following the Anaphora, His Eminence laid his hands on Subdeacon John Cummings and ordained him as a deacon. In the traditional form, and with the energy of the children at Jerusalem, Vladyka Daniel, the clergy, and the people alternated declaring “AXIOS!” as the archbishop vested him and presented him with the diaconal accoutrements. At the end of Liturgy (after Deacon John offered his first litany) His Eminence blessed and distributed the palms and willow branches and, as the joy of all abounded, made sure that no one left dry!

As is the custom in the parish, the community shared an Agape potluck meal, headlined with salmon and crawdads. The parish offered gifts to His Eminence (including lots of local coffee!), our seminarians Deacon Myroslav and Subdeacon Yaroslav, as well as to the newly ordained Deacon John; and Vladyka Daniel gave his encouragement, blessings, and Resurrection icons to the people.

It was a glorious day! Fr. Anthony, Deacon John, and all the faithful of Holy Resurrection thank His Eminence Metropolitan Anthony and His Eminence Daniel for the continual support of the mission, Vladyka Daniel for His Visit, and the UOC of the USA for their warm reception into the Ukrainian Orthodox family. They encourage everyone to come and enjoy the beauty and hospitality of Western NC, and to worship with them whenever you can!

Photos by Subdeacon Yaroslav Bilohan.
PRAYER FOR THE YOUTH

O Lord and Master Jesus Christ, our God, we pray for our young people during this Year of the Youth. Grant them to know Your love and the courage to overcome the temptations and obstacles in life. Grant them to lead lives of virtue as they manifest Your presence in the world. Look down with compassion on our youth and send into their hearts and minds the spirit of wisdom, of knowledge, and piety to illumine them with the light of truth so that they may reject all evil and embrace all that is good. Open their hearts and lips to proclaim Your Gospel to the world. Grant to parents, teachers, clergy, and all those who minister to our youth, unfailing love and patience. Having been strengthened in the Faith, we pray that our youth bring joy and comfort to their parents, family, and to their communities. For You are blessed and glorified now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

STATEMENT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ON THE PROPOSED EQUALITY ACT

Friday, March 26, 2021

We, the Executive Committee of the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops in the United States of America, affirm that all human beings should be treated with dignity and respect, as all are made in the image of God. Indeed, the principle of human equality has its origins in Christianity and is enshrined in the Constitution of the United States, which rightly prescribes that every person must receive equal treatment under the law.

Consequently, we are deeply concerned about the proposed federal “Equality Act,” which would erode religious liberty for both individuals and organizations, including Orthodox Christian jurisdictions, parishes, and faithful. The supporters of this Act, in their desire to promote equality, ultimately infringe upon the religious liberty of Americans to live according to their faith – a right protected under the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.

Throughout the United States, Orthodox jurisdictions and parishes have ministries, organizations, and facilities through which they provide many beneficial services to the public. All of these ministries, organizations, and facilities would be directly and negatively affected by the “Equality Act” as written. Furthermore, the expansive nature of the Act would affect the lives and careers of many thousands of religious people in America, including Orthodox faithful. All of this is in addition to the broader impact that the Act would have on American society, moving it further away from the traditional and normative moral and ethical foundations, as well as deepening painful divisions that already exist in the country.

As Orthodox Christian bishops, charged by our Savior Jesus Christ to shepherd His flock, we will continue to uphold and proclaim the moral teachings of the Church. We call upon all Orthodox Christians to remain firm in the Orthodox Faith. We also call upon our nation’s civic leaders to uphold, and not infringe upon, the religious freedom guaranteed by the Bill of Rights, and to continue to extend the protections afforded by the Religious Freedom Restoration Act.
From the Desk of Archbishop Daniel:
25 January, 2021
Holy Martyr Tatiana of Rome (26-235)

With the blessing of the His Eminence Metropolitan Antony, the Consistory Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministry has begun a review of their work in the on-going effort to improving their work on behalf of the Church. The first step in this review process is an extensive survey effort to discover several key elements for moving into the future. These elements include:

- Where do our parishes currently stand with youth ministry?
- What is our youth, young adult and family involvement in parish life?
- What are the struggles of our youth, young adults and families?
- What brings our youth and young adults closer to Christ and His Church?
- What resources are needed by clergy, youth workers and parishes to better serve their faith?

These are some of the main areas that will be covered in the surveys. The surveys have been created to gather the widest range of insight and have been tailored to each specific audience. The surveys are offered for the following groups:

1. Pre-School/Kindergarten/Adaptive
2. Children ages 6-8
3. Children ages 9 – 12
4. Teenagers 13 – 18
5. Young Adults 18 – 29
6. Clergy
7. Parents
8. Youth Workers

To gain the best picture of the needs and strengths in our youth work, we require as many faithful as possible to participate in the survey process. If an adult fits into more than one category, it would be greatly appreciated if they take the survey in each area, as the surveys ARE different.

The results of the survey will be used to aid in planning the scope of work for the Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministry for the coming years. The surveys may be found on the https://www.uocyouth.org/youthministrysurvey and will be available until April 1st. Please, I appeal to all clergy, parish boards of administration and faithful of the Church: take a few minutes of your time and help the Church to care for her Youth.

Any questions should be directed to the Director of the Consistory Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry Mrs. Natalie Kapeluck Nixon, at uocyouth@aol.com

With prayers,
+Daniel,
By the Grace of God, Archbishop and brother in the Lord

uocyouth.org/youthministrysurvey
What is it all about?

Using a prayer journal is an amazing way to help us focus our minds and hearts on God, deepen our prayer life, and strengthen our relationship with Christ.

The team at the Office of Youth Ministry will be guiding our youth of all ages through a year of journaling, focusing on the Feasts and Fasts of the Church. Videos from the Journal Room will be released regularly throughout the year to aid in this process. Special guests will join us in the Journal Room to share their journey.

A Journal Classroom has been set-up as a place for the OYM Team members to share resources they are using or have found that could be helpful in the creation of YOUR journal.

Join us as we prayerfully journal through the year!
STATEMENT OF THE COUNCIL OF BISHOPS OF THE UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE USA:
REMEMBERING CHORNOBYL NUCLEAR DISASTER

Beloved brethren in the Lord: CHRIST IS AMONG US!

For 35 years, the catastrophe in Chornobyl remains the largest and most devastating nuclear accident in history and has rightly been described as the technological disaster of the 20th century. Recalling and reflecting upon these sobering and saddening facts on the 35th anniversary of the Chornobyl catastrophe, we can only lift up our hearts in prayer to the Almighty God and beg for His continued mercy and compassion as we remember those who suffered indescribable pain and loss.

We recall firstly, on this solemn anniversary, the many innocent men, women and children who perished in this tragedy and we pray for the repose of their souls. We remember in particular the brave and selfless firefighters, who, in the hours and days following the explosion, knowingly and willingly exposed themselves to mortal danger and almost certain death in order to extinguish the flames and construct and place the sarcophagus on the smoldering ruins of the reactor. Of such men Christ speaks eloquently when He declares: "Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one’s life for his friends." (Jn. 15:13) We pray that God grant them eternal rest in a place of everlasting light where there is no pain, sorrow or mourning.

We also remember and pray for those whose health was irrevocably damaged by the radiation that was released that day, those who were cut short by premature death. We especially remember the children, most of whom who were born after the catastrophe itself, who suffer physical and psychological disabilities today because of Chornobyl. We also remember and pray for the many thousands of people who were forced, by the noxious cloud of radiation, to flee their homes and leave forever, everything that was familiar and loved by them: the villages, houses, fields and farms where they and generations before them were born, lived, laboured and died.

And, in a special way, we also remember and pray for our beloved ancestral homeland of Ukraine: so rich, generous and abundant, yet so often neglected, plundered, and abused over the centuries by the men who ruled over her.

With prayers in Christ the Savior,

+ Antony, Metropolitan of the UOC of the USA and Diaspora
+ Daniel, Archbishop of the UOC of the USA and Western Europe
Would you consider adding in a new practice to your daily routine during GREAT LENT?

A new challenge!

Great Lent, the season of our Church Year that is typically observed as a time of repentance, simple living, prayer and fasting leading up to PASCHA the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, and it begins this year on Forgiveness Sunday (March 14, 2021). But what is Great Lent REALLY about? Many spend the time in self-examination and reflection as modeled by our Savior in the Gospel according to St. Matthew 4: 1-11 where the Lord prayed and fasted for 40 days before beginning his ministry.

What is supposed to happen with us during these 40 days of fasting and praying in the wilderness of our life? Maybe we need some time with God to sort through the major changes happening in our personal way of life. Maybe we need to take a break from the regular routine in order to see God in our lives more clearly. Maybe we need more time with God for reevaluation of our relationship with Him and the world around us… Maybe we need to ask ourselves from time to time: “Who am I called to be?” So, we are invited into this time of introspection.

Let’s visually share our Lenten Journey!

Each day of Great Lent post on image that illustrates your understanding of the word for that day.

You do not have to be a great photographer. This project is more about the practice of paying attention and being intentional. We would love for you to share your photos. Just share them on your Facebook page and tag us, or post them on our Facebook wall, in the comment section for each day.

Let’s start this 40-day spiritual journey together, sharing glimpses of our lives with one another. Let this be an intentional time, even for a few minutes a day, to pause, to repent, to remember and reflect.
Christ is Risen! 
Христос Воскрес!

1. I told Jesus I loved Him, but, then I denied Him three times when people asked me if I was His follower.

2. I routinely crucified people as part of my job. This time however, I was amazed by what I saw, and I declared, “Truly this man is the Son of God!”

3. I came early in the morning to the tomb and saw Jesus alive. He did not permit me to touch Him.

4. Jesus entrusted me to care for His mother.

5. I was a rich man and believed in Jesus. It took all my courage, but, I asked Pilate to allow me to bury the Body of Christ, in my own, yet unused, tomb.

6. I was a rebel, and they freed me instead of Jesus.

7. I was a thief and was crucified on Christ’s right side. I asked Him to remember me in His Kingdom.

8. I saw the women come in the morning to anoint a dead body, and told them to not be afraid, for Jesus whom they seek, has Risen, just as He had said He would.

9. I did not believe that Jesus had Risen when others had told me the news, until I placed my hands in His wounds.

10. I am His mother and stood broken-hearted at the foot of the Cross and watched all that happened.

11. I was appointed to guard the sealed tomb. I thought it was an easy job, but, then the earth shook, and my eyes were blinded by a bright light, as the stone rolled away.

12. I was afraid to go against the masses, however, I did not believe Jesus was truly guilty, so I asked for water and washed my hands of the entire thing.

Do you know who is who?

Fill in the correct names from the list below.

- Angel of the Lord
- Barabbas
- Cleophas
- Good and penitent thief
- Joseph of Arimathea
- Martha
- Mary Magdalene
- Nikodemus
- Pilate
- Roman Centurion
- Roman soldier
- St. James
- St. John
- St. Peter
- St. Thomas
- Virgin Mary
VINAIGRETTE RECIPE WITH BEETS AND SAUERKRAUT
Prep Time: 1 hour 30 minutes Total Time: 1 hour 30 minutes
Servings: 8 -12

Ingredients:
- 3 medium beets or 2 (14.5 oz cans of beets, drained)
- 3 medium potatoes
- 3 medium carrots
- 1/2 cup sauerkraut drained
- 3 medium pickles
- 2 Tbsp sunflower or olive oil
- 1 Tbsp white vinegar
- 1 small onion finely chopped (about 1/2 cup)

Instructions:
- In a medium pot, boil beets for 1 hour or until it can easily be pierced with a knife. OR use canned beets which do not require any cooking. I peeled beets before cooking, much easier than peeling them boiled.
- In a separate pot, boil potatoes and carrots about 30 minutes or until a knife goes smoothly through the potatoes. Do not overcook the potatoes.
- Drain the vegetables and refrigerate or let them stand until they cool to room temp (or cooler).
- Peel the skins from the potatoes, beets and carrots, then dice pickles, beets, potatoes, carrots & finely dice onion. Place diced beets in a separate bowl.
- Mix beets with 1st Tbsp of Sunflower Oil separately, so that beets coloring will not get on the other ingredients as much.
- Mix beets and the rest of ingredients with the 2nd Tbsp of Sunflower or Olive oil and 1 Tbsp of vinegar. If desired, add more sauerkraut or pickles to taste. Refrigerate until ready to use.

Natasha of Natasha's Kitchen.com
Brookings, Tabitha

Crim, Yeva Jane

Debelko, Mark

Dobzhanski, Maria Alexandra

Feltsan, Alexey

Foerster, William

Kafitanchikov, Luka
baptized and chrismated on November 7, 2020 in St. John the Baptist Church, Portland, OR. Child of Andrey Kafitanchikov and Maria Zadorozhny. Celebrated by Fr. Volodymyr Yavorskyi.

Kazarenko, Alekseisha Sofia

Koziolky, Kamelia Aleksandra

Marku, Anthony

McCormick, Avery Lynn

Morhun, Katherine

Panik, Daniel

Santillan, Maria Ekaterina

Shushakov, Dennis

Spencer, Serene Irene

Wasiutowski, Michael David
baptized and chrismated on October 20, 2012 in St. Andrew Memorial Church Church, S. Bound Brook, NJ. Child of Allan Wasiutowski and Olha Yakhopen. Sponsors: Mark Georder and Maria Bruimova. Celebrated by V. Rev. Yuriy Shakh.

Zub, Anastasia Marie

Nicholas David Anderson and Lindsay Marie Hendershot


Do not just read the pages of the Bible and Holy Scripture, but live the pages, allowing them to lead you along the path towards God and salvation.

Archbishop Daniel

may god grant to them many happy and blessed years!

Rev. Vasyl Pasakas
Rev. Yuriy Shakh
Rev. Zinoviy Zharsky
Rev. Vasyl Sendeha
Rev. Jakiw Norton
Rev. Todor Mazur
Protodn. Andriy Fronchak
Dn. Frank Lucero Jr.
Protodn. Mikhail Sawarnyski
Dn. Michael Abrahamsson


4/6/2013
4/7/1991
4/14/2007
4/24/1977
4/27/1992
4/7/2007
4/14/2019
4/25/2004
4/25/2015

Hierarchs of the Diaspora interred at St. Andrew Cemetery:
Archbishop Orest (Ivaniuk) – April 14 1981

Clergy and Deacons:

5th 1955 - PRIEST JOSEPH BODNAR
27th 1963 - PROTOPRIEST JEVHEN MYLASHEVYCH
26th 1967 - MITRED PROTOPRIEST MYKOLA LASZCZUK
29th 1967 - MITRED PROTOPRIEST KONSTANTYN DANYLENKO
4th 1979 - PROTOPRIEST ZINOVIJ KOWALCHUK
18th 1983 - PROTODEACON NICHOLAS POLISZCZUK
20th 1986 - PROTOPRIEST PAVLO BAHNIVSKYJ
6th 1988 - PRIEST LEW OSTROWSKYJ
4th 1997 - PROTOPRESBYTER SEMEN HAYUK
18th 2000 - PRIEST LEONID HOFFMAN
12th 2007 - MITRED PROTOPRIEST EUGENE MESCHISEN
25th 2011 - PROTOPRIEST MICHAEL STRAPKO
29th 2014 - DEACON DENNIS LAPUSHANSKY
ADJUSTED SCHEDULE FOR ST. THOMAS WEEKEND PILGRIMAGE

BRIGHT SATURDAY
May 8, 2021

10:00 AM Divine Liturgy
- St. Andrew Memorial Church

11:30 AM Memorial Service
- at the Grave site of Metropolitan John (Theodorovich) – 50th anniversary of repose

6:00 PM Vespers/Confessions
- St. Andrew Memorial Church

BRIGHT SUNDAY
May 9, 2021

10:00 AM Eucharistic Liturgy:
- celebrated by His Eminence Metropolitan Antony, His Eminence Archbishop Daniel and local clergy

11:30 AM Memorial Service in front of St. Andrew Memorial Church, commemorating the departed servants of God: Patriarch Mykola, Metropolitan John, Metropolitan Constantine, and all departed hierarchs, clergy and faithful of our Holy Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A., along with the victims of the Genocidal Famine in Ukraine of 1932-33, the victims of the Chernobyl disaster, those who sacrificed their lives for the freedom and independence of Ukraine and the U.S.A., as well as our fallen soldiers throughout the world, especially the fallen heroes of the Ukrainian Revolution of Dignity – the Heavenly Hundred.

PLEASE NOTE: MEMORIAL SERVICES ARE NOT PERMITTED DURING BRIGHT WEEK – MONDAY TO FRIDAY (3-7 May). THESE DAYS ARE RESERVED FOR GRAVE CLEANING AND CEMETERY PREPARATION FOR ST. THOMAS SUNDAY.

PARKING REGULATIONS AND INSTRUCTIONS: As directed by the Consistory, all parking on Memorial Church and Cemetery grounds is strictly prohibited on Saturday, May 8 and Sunday, May 9. Parking is permitted only on the Consistory grounds located at 135 Davidson Avenue, Somerset, NJ. All Panakhyas (Memorial Services) are permitted only after the conclusion of the general Panakhya.

Please Note: Due to COVID-19 Pandemic - FOOD AND ARTS&CRAFTS SALES WILL NOT TAKE PLACE
During Great Lent, participate in prayerful and penitential liturgical services!

Order your copy of the new publication of the UOC of the USA via St. Andrew Church Goods and Bookstore:
https://www.uocofusa.org/service_books

Price: $15

Donate Today!

Join the Church in helping those in need
ORPHANS – ELDERLY – DISABLED

For your generous $50 donation we will send you a specially designed mug as a thank you!
Take a Selfie with your mug and post to Social Media!
Tag: #UOCMUGS

Together we can make a difference!

#UOCMUGS

For your generous $50 donation we will send you a specially designed mug as a thank you!

Price: $15

Donate Today!

Join the Church in helping those in need
ORPHANS – ELDERLY – DISABLED

For your generous $50 donation we will send you a specially designed mug as a thank you!
Take a Selfie with your mug and post to Social Media!
Tag: #UOCMUGS

Together we can make a difference!

#UOCMUGS

#UOCMUGS

#UOCMUGS

#UOCMUGS
LET'S WEAR A MASK & SAVE A LIFE - ОБІЦЯЮМЫМУ ОХАРУ НА БУДУЧНІСТЬ

AVAILABLE IN TWO COLORS
BLACK & WHITE
WASHABLE CLOTH MASKS

OREDER ONLINE THROUGH OUR WEBSITE
ЗАМОВЛЯЙТЕ ЧЕРЕЗ ІНТЕРНЕТ СТОРІНКУ

MAY CELEBRATIONS
УТРАБІ СВЯТКУЄМО

ST ANDREW CYRILIC CHURCH OF THE USA
UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE USA

10

ORDER NOW WHILE SUPPLIES LAST
ОРЕДІЙНО ЗАСИПІ СІЛЄВІСТВА

PROPOSE TO YOU TO ORDER BLACK AND WHITE MASKS FOR THE CONFESSION OF THE FACE IN TWO COLORS:
ПРОПОЗІМО ВАМ ЗАСИПІ ЧОРНИ І БІЛІ МАСКИ ДЛЯ ОБЛИЧЬЯ В ДВОХ КОЛОРІАХ:
Please, consider making a donation to the ministry of the UOC of the USA:

Online via PayPal using the DONATE button on our website: uocofusa.org

Bank Transfer - please contact treasurer@uocofusa.org for details.

Cheques – payable to UOC of USA - and mailed to the Consistory Offices:
UOC of USA - 135 Davidson Ave.
Somerset, NJ 08873

YOU CAN HELP YOUR CHURCH

Make a donation to support the Ministry of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA
Зробіть пожертву для підтримки Відділів Служіння Церкви

JUNE CELEBRATIONS
У ЧЕРВНІ СВЯТКУЄМО

6
Sixth Sunday of Pascha - The Blind Man
Неділя 6-та після Пасхи - Про сліпородженого

10
THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD
ВОЗНЕСІННЯ ГОСПОДНЄ

13
Seventh Sunday of Pascha - Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council
Неділя 7-ма після Пасхи - свв. отці Першого Вселенського Собору

19
Memorial Saturday
Поминальна Субота

20
PENTECOST - Trinity Sunday
П’ЯТИДЕСЯТНИЦЯ
- День Святої Тройці

21
Day of The Holy Spirit
День Святого Духа

24
Holy Apostles Bartholomew and Barnabas
Апостолів Варфоломія і Барнаба

27
All Saints
Всіх Святих

28
St. Michael, first metropolitan of Kyiv
Святиителя Михаїла, першого митрополита Київського
CALENDAR OF EVENTS
Get involved in the life of your Church!
The success of all Church sponsored events depends upon your active participation!

Holy Week
April 26 -

Sunday of the Myrrh-bearing women
May 16

PASCHA
RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST
May 2

Venerable Job of Pochaiv
May 19

Great-Martyr George
May 6

Seminary Graduation
May 29

St. Thomas Day Weekend
May 6

HOLY LAND Pilgrimage
Jan 25 - Feb 6 2022