

# УКРАЇНСЬКЕ ПРАВОСЛАВНЕ СЛОВО UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX WORD



ОФІСІЙНЕ ВИДАННЯ УКРАЇНСЬКОЇ ПРАВОСЛАВНОЇ ЦЕРКВИ В США

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Hierarch and father, O most Holy Nicholas, thou extraordinary Saint of the Lord, our loving defender and ready helper in sorrows everywhere: help us sinners and hapless ones in the present life! Entreat the Lord God to grant us remission of all of our sins, that we have committed from our youth and throughout our life, by deed, word, through all of our senses. Entreat the Lord God and Maker of all creation, to deliver us from all trials and eternal torment: that we may always glorify the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, through thy merciful intercession, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

О Святий о. Миколає, угоднику Господній, заступнику наш і помічнику в життєвих скорботах. Допоможи мені грішному і скорботному в житті моїм! Умоли Господа дарувати мені прощення гріхів моїх, скоєних від юності і протягом усього життя мого словом, ділом чи думкою всіма моїми чуттями! Допоможи ж мені, умоливши Господа нашого Ісуса Христа, щоб зберегтись мені від поневірянь та мук вічних! Щоб я завжди прославляв Отця, Сина і Духа Святого, та твоє заступництво, нині і повсякчас, і на віки вічні. Амінь.

## UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX WORD УКРАЇНСЬКЕ ПРАВОСЛАВНЕ СЛОВО

His Eminence Metropolitan ANTONY

His Eminence  
Archbishop DANIEL - Consistory President

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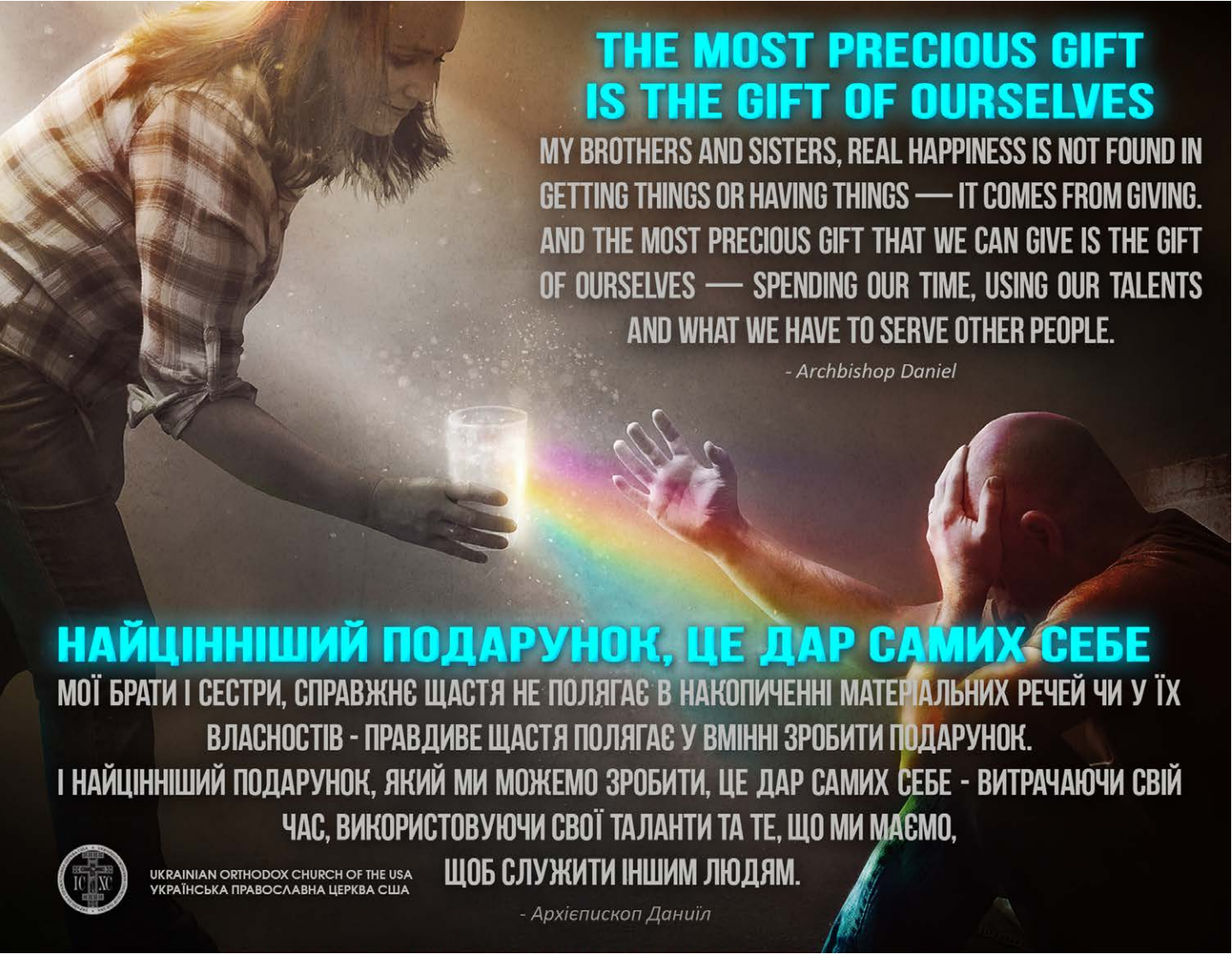
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**THE MOST PRECIOUS GIFT  
IS THE GIFT OF OURSELVES**

MY BROTHERS AND SISTERS, REAL HAPPINESS IS NOT FOUND IN  
GETTING THINGS OR HAVING THINGS — IT COMES FROM GIVING.  
AND THE MOST PRECIOUS GIFT THAT WE CAN GIVE IS THE GIFT  
OF OURSELVES — SPENDING OUR TIME, USING OUR TALENTS  
AND WHAT WE HAVE TO SERVE OTHER PEOPLE.

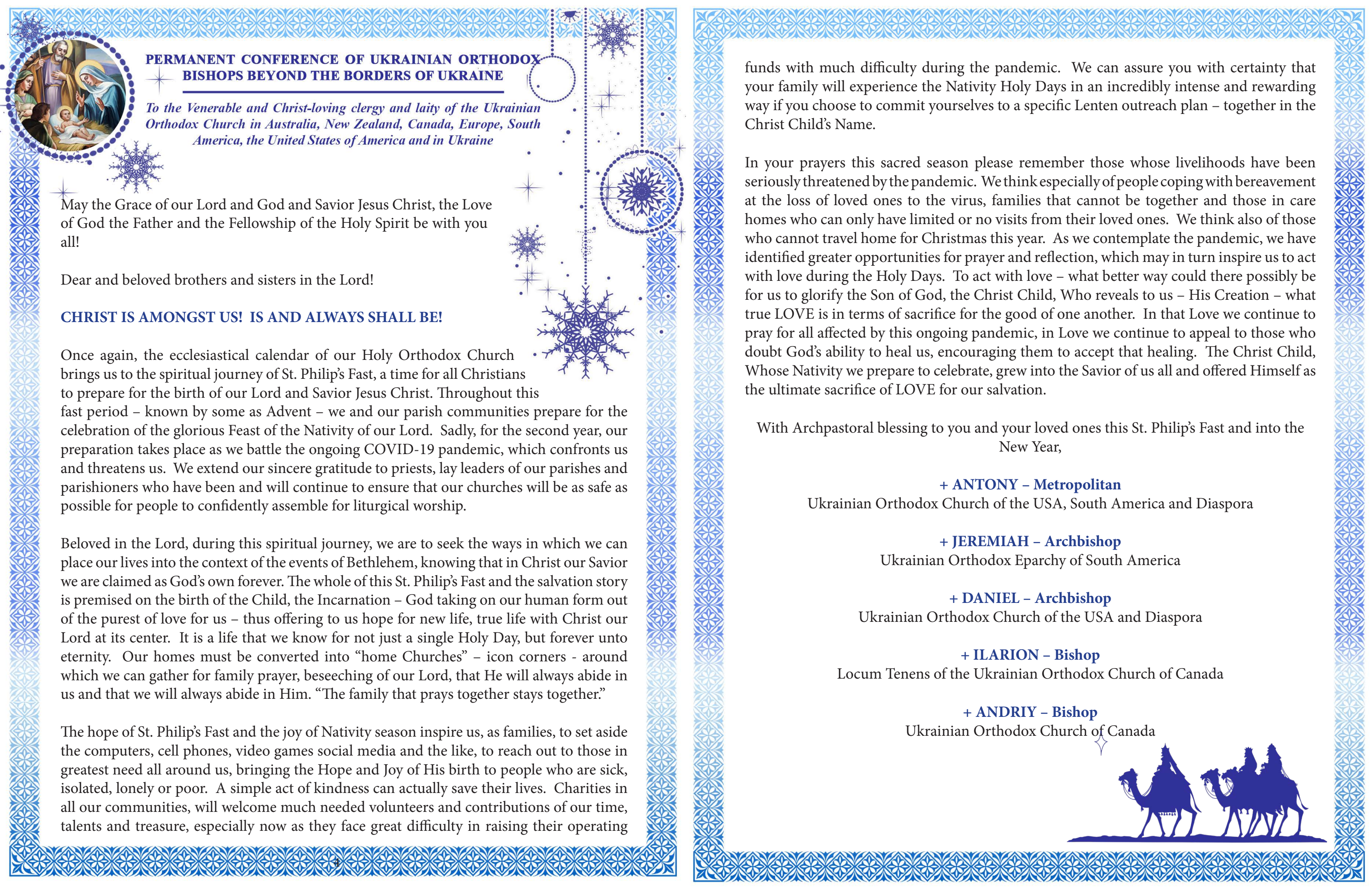
- Archbishop Daniel

**НАЙЦІННІШИЙ ПОДАРУНОК, ЦЕ ДАР САМИХ СЕБЕ**  
МОЇ БРАТИ І СЕСТРИ, СПРАВЖНЄ ЩАСТЯ НЕ ПОЛЯГАЄ В НАКОПИЧЕННІ МАТЕРІАЛЬНИХ РЕЧЕЙ ЧИ У ЇХ  
ВЛАСНОСТІВ - ПРАВДИВЕ ЩАСТЯ ПОЛЯГАЄ У ВМІННІ ЗРОБИТИ ПОДАРУНОК.  
І НАЙЦІННІШИЙ ПОДАРУНОК, ЯКИЙ МИ МОЖЕМО ЗРОБИТИ, ЦЕ ДАР САМИХ СЕБЕ - ВИТРАЧАЮЧИ СВІЙ  
ЧАС, ВИКОРИСТОВУЮЧИ СВОЇ ТАЛАНТИ ТА ТЕ, ЩО МИ МАЄМО,  
ЩОБ СЛУЖИТИ ІНШИМ ЛЮДЯМ.

 UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE USA  
УКРАЇНСЬКА ПРАВОСЛАВНА ЦЕРКВА США

- Архієпископ Даниїл





**PERMANENT CONFERENCE OF UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX  
BISHOPS BEYOND THE BORDERS OF UKRAINE**

*To the Venerable and Christ-loving clergy and laity of the Ukrainian  
Orthodox Church in Australia, New Zealand, Canada, Europe, South  
America, the United States of America and in Ukraine*

May the Grace of our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ, the Love  
of God the Father and the Fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you  
all!

Dear and beloved brothers and sisters in the Lord!

**CHRIST IS AMONGST US! IS AND ALWAYS SHALL BE!**

Once again, the ecclesiastical calendar of our Holy Orthodox Church  
brings us to the spiritual journey of St. Philip's Fast, a time for all Christians  
to prepare for the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Throughout this  
fast period – known by some as Advent – we and our parish communities prepare for the  
celebration of the glorious Feast of the Nativity of our Lord. Sadly, for the second year, our  
preparation takes place as we battle the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, which confronts us  
and threatens us. We extend our sincere gratitude to priests, lay leaders of our parishes and  
parishioners who have been and will continue to ensure that our churches will be as safe as  
possible for people to confidently assemble for liturgical worship.

Beloved in the Lord, during this spiritual journey, we are to seek the ways in which we can  
place our lives into the context of the events of Bethlehem, knowing that in Christ our Savior  
we are claimed as God's own forever. The whole of this St. Philip's Fast and the salvation story  
is premised on the birth of the Child, the Incarnation – God taking on our human form out  
of the purest of love for us – thus offering to us hope for new life, true life with Christ our  
Lord at its center. It is a life that we know for not just a single Holy Day, but forever unto  
eternity. Our homes must be converted into "home Churches" – icon corners - around  
which we can gather for family prayer, beseeching of our Lord, that He will always abide in  
us and that we will always abide in Him. "The family that prays together stays together."

The hope of St. Philip's Fast and the joy of Nativity season inspire us, as families, to set aside  
the computers, cell phones, video games social media and the like, to reach out to those in  
greatest need all around us, bringing the Hope and Joy of His birth to people who are sick,  
isolated, lonely or poor. A simple act of kindness can actually save their lives. Charities in  
all our communities, will welcome much needed volunteers and contributions of our time,  
talents and treasure, especially now as they face great difficulty in raising their operating

funds with much difficulty during the pandemic. We can assure you with certainty that  
your family will experience the Nativity Holy Days in an incredibly intense and rewarding  
way if you choose to commit yourselves to a specific Lenten outreach plan – together in the  
Christ Child's Name.

In your prayers this sacred season please remember those whose livelihoods have been  
seriously threatened by the pandemic. We think especially of people coping with bereavement  
at the loss of loved ones to the virus, families that cannot be together and those in care  
homes who can only have limited or no visits from their loved ones. We think also of those  
who cannot travel home for Christmas this year. As we contemplate the pandemic, we have  
identified greater opportunities for prayer and reflection, which may in turn inspire us to act  
with love during the Holy Days. To act with love – what better way could there possibly be  
for us to glorify the Son of God, the Christ Child, Who reveals to us – His Creation – what  
true LOVE is in terms of sacrifice for the good of one another. In that Love we continue to  
pray for all affected by this ongoing pandemic, in Love we continue to appeal to those who  
doubt God's ability to heal us, encouraging them to accept that healing. The Christ Child,  
Whose Nativity we prepare to celebrate, grew into the Savior of us all and offered Himself as  
the ultimate sacrifice of LOVE for our salvation.

With Archpastoral blessing to you and your loved ones this St. Philip's Fast and into the  
New Year,

**+ 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**

Locum Tenens of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada

**+ ANDRIY – Bishop**

Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada







## ПОСТІЙНА КОНФЕРЕНЦІЯ УКРАЇНСЬКИХ ПРАВОСЛАВНИХ ЄПІСКОПІВ ЗА МЕЖАМИ УКРАЇНИ

*Всечесному та Христолубивому духовенству та мирянам  
Української Православної Церкви в Австралії, Новій Зеландії,  
Канаді, Європі, Південній Америці, Сполучених Штатах Америки  
та в Україні.*

Нехай благодать Господа Бога і Спаса нашого Ісуса Христа,  
Любов Бога Отця і  
Спільність Святого Духа буде з усіма вами!

Дорогі й улюблені брати та сестри у Господі!

### ХРИСТОС ПОСЕРЕД НАС! Є І ЗАВЖДИ БУДЕ!

Вкотре церковний календар нашої Святої Православної Церкви  
підводить нас до духовної подорожі - Свято-Пилипівського посту,  
час для всіх християн підготуватися до народження нашого Господа  
і Спасителя Ісуса Христа. Протягом цього посту – подекуди відомий як Адвент –  
ми разом з нашими парафіяльними громадами готуємося до святкування славного  
свята Різдва Господнього. На жаль, вже другий рік наша підготовка проходить в  
рамках боротьби з триваючою пандемією COVID-19, яка протистоїть і загрожує нам.  
Висловлюємо щиру подяку священникам, керівникам прицерковних організацій та  
усім парафіянам, котрі піклувалися і надалі продовжують піклуватися про те, щоб  
наші церкви бути максимально безпечними, щоб люди могли впевнено збиратися на  
літургійні богослужіння.

Улюблені у Господі, під час цієї духовної подорожі ми повинні відшукати ті шляхи,  
ідучи котрими, ми зможемо віднайти себе серед тих Вифлеємських подій, знаючи,  
що у Христі, Спасителеві нашому ми є повсякчасно людьми Божими. Увесь цей  
Пилипівський піст та й уся історія спасіння базовані на народженні Дитини, на  
Втіленні – де Бог приймає нашу людську природу з найчистішою любов'ю до нас –  
таким чином даючи нам надію на нове життя, правдиве життя з Христом, Господом  
нашим у його центрі. Життя, котре триватиме не лише один єдиний день Свята,  
але буде вічністю. Наші домівки повинні перетворитися на «домашні церкви»  
– молитовні куточки, навколо яких ми матимемо змогу збиратися для родинної  
молитви, благаючи нашого Господа, щоб Він завжди перебував у нас, а ми у Ньому.  
«Сім'я, яка молиться разом, залишається разом».

Надія цього Свято-Пилипівського посту та радість Різдва Христового надихають нас  
та наші родини, відкласти комп'ютери, мобільні телефони, відеоігри, соціальні мережі

та їм подібне, для того, щоб приділити увагу тим, хто найбільше потребують цього,  
несучи Надію та Радість Його народження людям, котрі є хворі, ізольовані, самотні  
чи бідні. Простий вчинок доброти може врятувати їм життя. Благодійні організації  
завжди раді новим волонтерам, внесок нашого часу, талантів та ресурсів, особливо  
зараз, в час коли усі стикаються з великими труднощами у підтримці фондів у час  
пандемії. Ми можемо вас запевнити, що ваша сім'я по справжньому відчує радість  
Різдва Христового, якщо ви вирішите взяти на себе відповідальність благодійності у  
часі Великого посту – разом в Ім'я Немовляти Христа.

У своїх молитвах в часі цієї священної пори, будь ласка, згадуйте тих, хто постраждав  
від наслідків теперішньої пандемії. Особливо тих людей, які переживають важку  
втрату близьких, ті сім'ї і родини, які не можуть бути разом, і тих, хто перебуває в  
будинках престарілих, та мають обмежені зустрічі зі своїми близькими або взагалі  
не можуть бачитися. Ми також згадуємо у молитві тих, хто не може поїхати додому  
на Різдво цього року. Проте спостерігаючи за наслідками пандемії, звернімо увагу на  
ймовірно додаткові можливості для молитви та роздумів, які, у свою чергу, можуть  
надихнути нас діяти з любов'ю під час цих Святих Днів. Діяти з любов'ю – що може  
бути кращим для нас, щоб прославити Сина Бога, Немовляти Христа, Який відкриває  
нам – Своєму Творінню – що таке справжня ЛЮБОВ жертвуючи на благо один  
для одного. У цій Любові ми продовжуємо молитися за всіх постраждалих від цієї  
пандемії, що триває, у любові ми продовжуємо переконувати тих, хто сумнівається  
в Божій силі, котра може зцілити нас, заохочуючи їх прийняти це зцілення. Немовля  
Христос, Різдво Котрого ми готуємося святкувати, виріс і став Спасителем для всіх  
нас і приніс Себе як остаточну жертву ЛЮБОВІ для нашого спасіння.

З Архіпастирським благословенням вам і вашим близьким  
на цей Свято-Пилипівський піст та на Новий рік,

**+ АНТОНІЙ – Митрополит**

Українська Православна Церква США, Південної Америки та Діаспори

**+ ЄРЕМІЯ – Архієпископ**

Українська Православна Єпархія Південної Америки

**+ ДАНИЇЛ – Архієпископ**

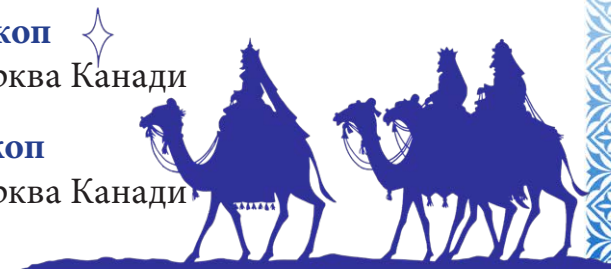
Українська Православна Церква США та Діаспори

**+ ІЛАРІОН – Єпископ**

Українська Православна Церква Канади

**+ АНДРІЙ – Єпископ**

Українська Православна Церква Канади







The time of preparation before Christmas is intended to be a time of purposeful asceticism, almsgiving, and learning to say yes to God while saying no to our own desires.

But Christmas, especially in present day America, has become a time of great anxiety and materialism, despite the fact that most every song one hears, most every retail ad one reads, and most every film that is produced—with “Christmas” as a theme, will try to convince us that it’s a time for warmth, joy, spending time with family, and even taking a break from the regular hustle of everyday life. If only this were the case.

On the contrary, Christmas — a period of time that seems to grow longer and more arduous by the year — is preceded by ominous social media status updates that lament: “I can’t believe it’s already November ... Christmas is just around the corner,” or “My children won’t stop bothering me about [insert the latest gadget here] ... I can’t wait until Christmas is over,” and so on. Many will also complain: “Wow. I am not ready for Christmas.

Where has the time gone?” This grief and anxiety should not be. No, we have certainly missed the purpose of this feast — and the time of preparation and fasting that precedes it — if all we can do is approach it with stress and sorrow.

As I mentioned above, the time before Nativity — Advent (or “Coming”) in the West, and the Fast of St. Philip the Apostle (due to its beginning on the eve of this Saint’s feast) or simply “the Nativity fast” in the Orthodox Church — is intended to be utilized for one’s Spiritual benefit (and indeed, for the life of the world), not for remorse or regret. The Nativity fast dates to the year 1166 and a synod at Constantinople, where our Church Fathers inaugurated a forty-day period of fasting and preparation before the annual celebration of Christ’s Incarnation. This period of forty days is analogous to the forty days that Moses fasted before receiving the commandments from God.

Of this connection, St. Symeon of Thessaloniki (ca. A.D. 1381–1429) writes: The Nativity Forty-day Fast

represents the fast undertaken by Moses, who — having fasted for forty days and forty nights — received the Commandments of God, written on stone tablets. And we, fasting for forty days, will reflect upon and receive from the Virgin the Living Word — not written upon stone, but born, incarnate — and we will commune of His Divine Body.

If nothing else, then, the time of prayer and fasting before Nativity reminds us that we, as Orthodox Christians, are given the immense and unthinkable blessing, privilege, and honor of receiving the very Body and Blood of our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ. But as we say yes to Christ in The Holy Mysteries, we must also learn to say no to ourselves, making a point to both follow Christ and serve those in need. It is no coincidence that Christ, in one of the Gospel readings during Nativity exhorts: “Whoever does not bear his cross” as well as “forsake all that he has cannot be my disciple” (Luke 14:27,33). While the faithful prepare to receive Christ anew in His Incarnation, we must also be prepared to relinquish whatever it is

we possess that keeps us from the glory of His everlasting Kingdom.

But even as the faithful are called to a period of spiritual quietude and even asceticism during this fasting period, we should not engage in asceticism and bear this cross as an end unto itself. Rather, we learn to say no to ourselves so that we can say yes to God. And in saying yes to the poor and the needy, we are saying yes to Christ, so that we might share in the vision of Cornelius, hearing: “Your prayers and alms have ascended as a memorial before God” (Acts 10:4).

An effective remedy for the anxieties and desires of this time of year is found in a concern for our fellow man. Rather than being so caught up in the materialism and “me too” nature of contemporary celebrations, Orthodox Christians should play a pivotal role in showing a wholly better and more noble way forward. Incidentally, the other Gospel readings throughout the Nativity fast remind us not only why we are participating, but also

how we can make the most out of it. For example, we should not lay up treasure for ourselves, while neglecting God (Luke 12:16–21), but should rather be “rich” towards God — and by consequence, towards those who are in need. We should not make excuses when it comes to serving or helping those in distress (Luke 13:10–17). And, of course, we should be willing to “sell all that [we] have and distribute to the poor” (Luke 18:22).

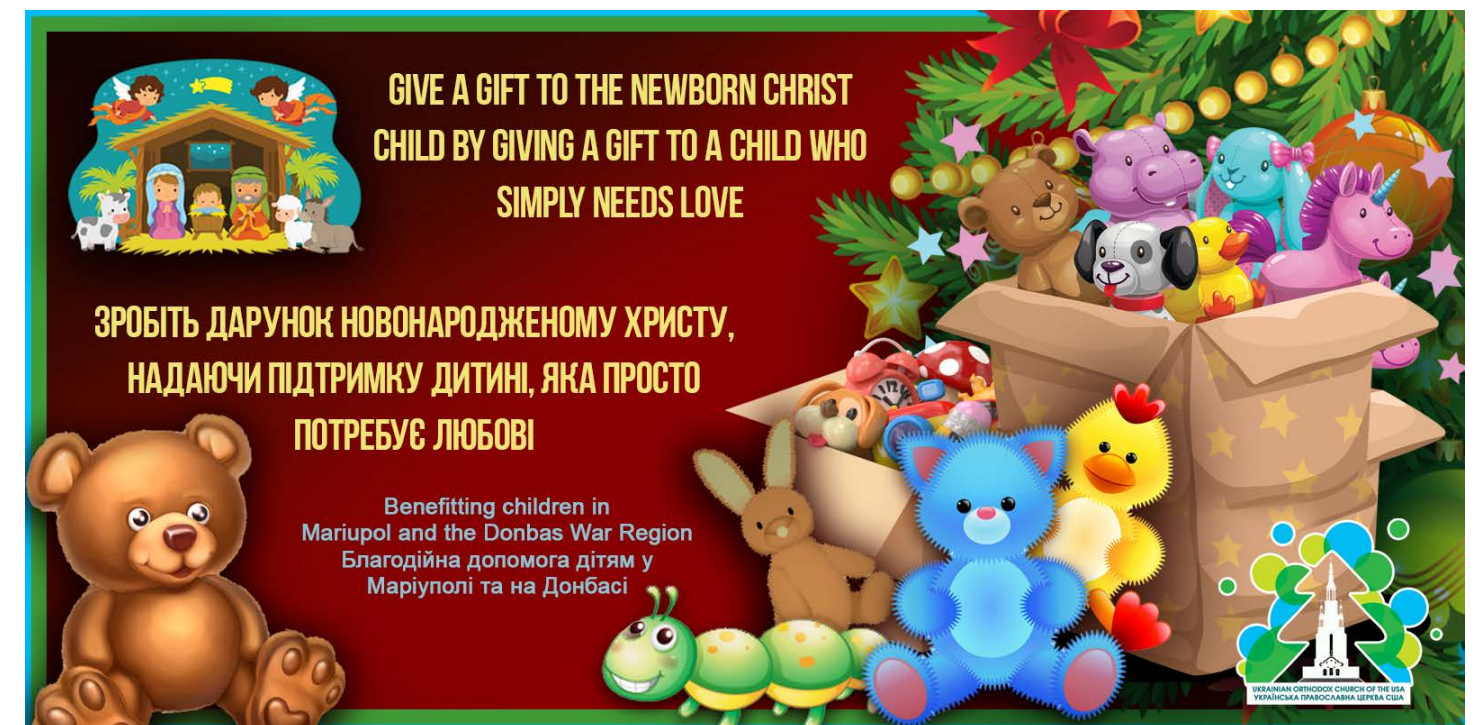
It’s in these virtues, and in a genuine concern for others, that we can be released from the empty cares of this world, especially as they are emphasized during the holiday season. If we give to the poor, we are giving to God. If we say no to our own desires, we can fulfill the needs of those who are looking for someone — anyone — that is willing to say yes on their behalf.

As families, we can help our children give or donate to a family, friend, or even a complete stranger in need, rather than providing them with more and more stuff. As individuals,

we can honor the fast, spend more time in prayer, and make a conscious effort to love our neighbors as ourselves, dedicating this season to be a time for true, spiritual growth. We can practice the religion of St. James that is “pure and undefiled” before God: “... to visit orphans and widows in their afflictions, and to keep oneself unstained by the world” (James 1:27). Instead of overeating for the next month, spending countless hours at parties and other premature celebrations, we can fast from our regular intake of food so that we have more time and resources to give to those who are truly in need—not to mention more focus and attention for prayer and spiritual growth.

Rather than approaching this Nativity season with anxiety and distress, dedicate yourself to the true spirit of the season and the greater purpose that lies within: the salvation and healing of the world through the Incarnation of Jesus Christ.

*By Gabe Martini*







## CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY BETHLEHEM

### Recollections of UOC of USA Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

(Elizabeth Symonenko)

Having spent days in Jerusalem, visiting numerous Holy Sites, one early morning we departed our hotel and headed towards Palestine. The bus left behind the hustle and bustle of the city and headed into the desert.

It seemed as if we had entered a vortex and were transported back in time. Along the way we passed shepherds tending their flocks, on hilly dry slopes, as the sheep scurried over the rocks.

The Holy Lavra of Saint Sabbas is a Greek Orthodox monastery overlooking the Kidron Valley at a point halfway between the Jerusalem and the Dead Sea, within the Bethlehem Governorate of the West Bank, and is considered to be one of the oldest continuously inhabited monasteries in the world, and it maintains many of its ancient traditions.

Once the Archbishop returned from St. Sabbas Monastery, we all got back into the van and headed to our next location. We had to hold our breath as the driver once again wound his way

up the narrow road, eventually pulling us up out of the Judean Wilderness, to once again weave through modest neighborhoods.

Our next stop was Bethlehem, and the Greek Orthodox monastery at Shepherds' Field, located on the West Bank. After the Wilderness, when we walked through the gates, we seemed to have been transported in to a fairytale. The white stone gleamed in the afternoon sun, as we made our way down to the Old Church and Grotto. Standing in the shade, before the Grotto, our guide, explained that Christ was most likely born after the harvest, in early Winter. Throughout the summer months, the shepherds had their flocks up in the mountains grazing for food. Only after the harvest, which took place in late Summer, did the shepherds come down off the mountains to have their flocks graze on the stubble and grain left behind.

While in the fields, the shepherds would overnight their flocks in local caves, which pepper the entire mountain range. This way their animals would be safe inside from wild beasts, as well as from poachers. It is in to this setting that Christ incarnated. While the shepherds were in the fields, not in the mountains.

After Archbishop Daniel read from the Gospel of Luke (2:8) recalling how the shepherds were told the good news, we went down into the old church and His Eminence led us all in singing "Бог Предвѣчний Народився/God Eternal is born". It was humbling to stand in the intimate little church, below ground, listening to our voices echo off the walls, in full realization that it is near this very point that the angels had come down from Heaven to inform the shepherds that Christ was born. Within the church, nestled against a wall, was a reliquary which contained relics of saints, as well as stones from Golgotha and Sinai. You could easily have just walked right past it and not realized what a treasure lay within. The old church also had remnants of ancient oil lamps – much like those used in the time of Christ, as well as antique vestments, icons and other sacred objects.

We emerged, climbing back up in to the sunshine, across the lovely and peaceful courtyard and entered the main church building. This was like walking in to Heaven, as every inch was covered with iconography depicting various saints, Church Fathers, and scenes from Christ's life and ministry.

Once again, His Eminence led us in prayer, and then we had an opportunity to walk around admire and venerate the lovely icons.

Our final stop of the day would be the birthplace of Christ. The Church of the Nativity is one of the oldest working churches in existence today. The first Church was built by the Roman Emperor Constantine in the 4th century AD, over the grotto where the Mother-of-God gave birth to Christ.

The bus dropped us off at the bus station, and then we walked uphill, and uphill some more, until one left turn and the courtyard of the church loomed ahead of us. We were but a few out of the hundreds of tourists at this site. The line slowly made its way towards the church, which had a door that required those entering to bow down and step over a ledge to get in.

The Door of Humility, a small rectangular entrance to the church, was created in Ottoman times to prevent carts being driven in by looters, and to force even the most important visitor to dismount from his horse as he entered the holy place. The doorway was reduced from an earlier Crusader doorway, the pointed arch of which can still be seen above the current door. The outline of the Justinian square entrance can also be seen above the door. Because the door is so short and tight, it requires everyone who enters to "bow" before stepping in to the holy place.

Once inside, we stood again in a long line, slowly, inch by inch, making our way towards the birthplace of Christ. The church was being renovated, leaving the most predominant feature to be scaffolding. Nonetheless, we were able to glimpse the mosaic angels that had only recently been discovered on the walls, plus the ancient tiled mosaic floors, located below the current flooring, which was covered up so that people would not walk on "crosses" which had been utilized in the design of the mosaics.





The church was originally commissioned in 327 by Constantine the Great and his mother Helena over the site that was traditionally considered to be located over the cave that marks the birthplace of Jesus Christ. We were once again awed to be standing and looking at the columns which had been erected by St. Helena.

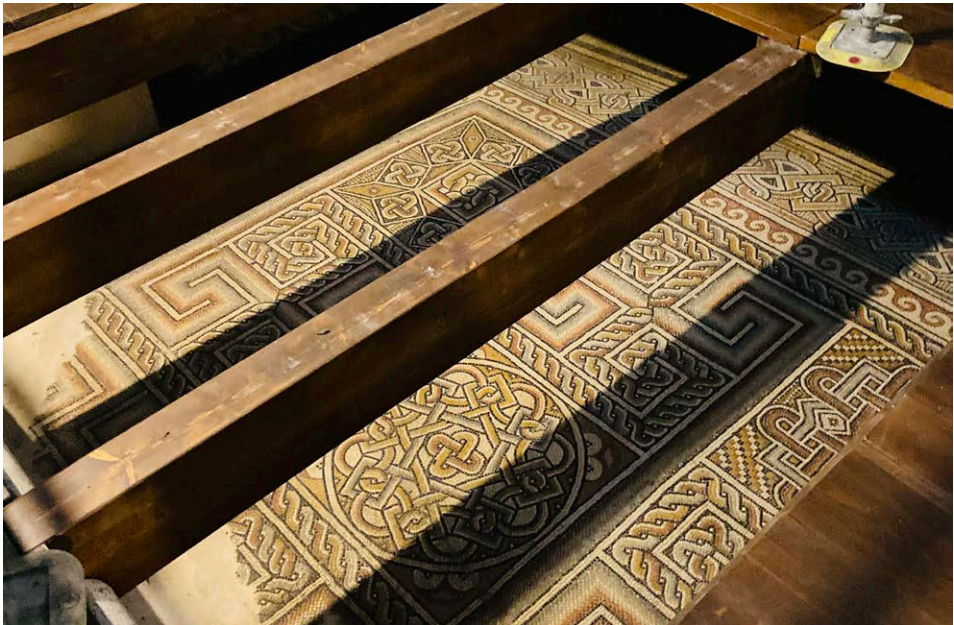
Thirty of the nave’s 44 columns carry Crusader paintings of saints and the Virgin and Child, although age and lighting conditions make them hard to see.

The columns are made of pink, polished limestone, most of them dating from the original 4th-century Constantinian basilica.

With all this history around us, even though we were hot and thirsty, the amazement of it all, kept us from focusing on our own tiredens. Eventually, we made our way inside the inner church, and were greeted by an amazing icon of the Virgin Mary holding the Christ Child. In most Orthodox iconography the Theotokos, as most saints in all icons, do not portray emotion. They are neutral. However, this icon had the Mother of God smiling the sweetest smile I had ever seen. The look upon her face was complete and utter joy. You could not resist her and had to smile back.

Once we venerated her icon, we made our way down ancient steps, down into the grotto and found before us the spot where Jesus Christ entered this world. As we made our way down the dark and steep corridor, we finally emerged in to the literal light at the end of the tunnel and were pleased to see His Eminence standing next to the spot where Christ was born, the shepherd awaiting the arrival of his own sheep.

A silver star in the floor marks the very spot where Christ is believed to have been born. The star’s Latin inscription



reads, “Here of the Virgin Mary Jesus Christ was born — 1717.” The floor is paved in marble, and 15 lamps hang above the star (six belong to the Greeks, five to the Armenians and four to the Latins).

Many of us removed the crosses from around our necks, kneeled at the birthplace of Christ, and touched them to the very center of the star, to be blessed by the Lord. Having risen and turned to our right we went down another step and were able to pray before the manger in which the infant Christ found rest.

With so many people still waiting their turn, we did not linger, but, quickly said our prayers, spent a quick moment in contemplation, and stepped to the side allowing the next pilgrim to have their moment in experiencing the miracle of Christmas.

As we returned to the upper church we noticed a number of trap doors in the present floor which revealed sections of floor mosaics surviving from the original basilica. The mosaics feature complex geometric designs with birds, flowers and vine patterns, making a rich and elaborate carpet for Constantine’s church.

The main altar at the east end and the one on the south (Altar of the Circumcision) are the property of the Greek Orthodox Church. The main altar includes an Orthodox iconostasis, which is crowned with gilded angels, icons, gilded chandeliers and lamps. On the north side of the high altar is the Armenian Altar of the Three Kings, dedicated to the Magi who tied up their horses nearby, and in the north apse is an Armenian altar dedicated to the Virgin Mary.

We had one more stop to make within the Church of the Nativity. We exited the main church into a small courtyard where a table was joyfully

decorated with blue flowers, sweets, and balloons, in anticipation of the celebration of two twin brothers who were being baptized at that very moment within the church.

Turning right, we were led down a flight of ancient steps, down, down, down below the church. What awaited us left us all silent and in tears... as we gazed upon the relics of the very first martyrs for Christ. Lying before us were bones of countless children. These were the innocents who were slaughtered by Herod in an attempt to murder the Christ Child, the King he feared. The tiny innocent bodies were

collected and gently laid beneath the birthplace of Christ.

“A voice is heard in Ramah, mourning and great weeping, Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted, because they are no more.” Jeremiah 31:15

We quietly and somberly climbed back up to the courtyard and could not help but be impacted by the dycotomy of the bones of the murdered children below ground, as the newly illuminated children, still wet from their baptisms being celebrated above. This experience left us all in deep thought and retrospection.





Having witnessed, touched and experienced the birth of Christ, we emerged back in to the outer courtyard outside the Door of Humility, and found that the sun had already set.. This night, of all nights, the stars sparkled brightly, competing with a Super Moon, brightest since 1948. Looking up, it reminded us of the Star of Bethlehem. Guided by the light of the moon, we wound our way back down to the bus station, and returned to our hotel rooms tired, uplifted, humbled and blessed.

**“For unto you  
is born this day  
in the city of David,  
a Savior, which is  
Christ the Lord.**

**And this shall be a  
sign unto you; Ye shall  
find the babe wrapped  
in swaddling clothes,  
lying in a manger.**

**And suddenly there  
was with the angel  
a multitude of the  
heavenly host  
praising God, and  
saying,**

**Glory to God in the  
highest, and on earth  
peace, good  
will toward men.”**

**Luke 2:11-14**



**“It is more blessed to give than to receive!” Acts 20:35**

With understanding of the meaning of these words of the Holy Apostle Paul, seminarians of St. Sophia Ukrainian Orthodox Theological Seminary of the UOC of USA packed their van with canned goods and took it to the local food bank. Not in order to show off, but to be an example for others how truly to celebrate this holiday season and to be blessed when you give.

Do not be afraid of giving. Do not miss on an opportunity to be blessed by God, because it is truly more blessed to give than to receive!

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**“Блаженніше давати, ніж приймати!” Діянь 20:35**

Усвідомлюючи значення слів Святого Апостола Павла, семінаристи Свято-Софіївської Української Православної Богословської Семінарії УПЦ США зібрали продукти харчування та доставили їх до місцевого пункту роздачі їжі

для малозабезпечених. Не для того, щоб похизуватися що вони зробили щось добре, а для того, щоб бути прикладом того, як в дійсності потрібно святкувати свята в цю пору року та бути благословенними.

Не пропустіть можливість Божого благословення, тому що насправді більше радості нам приносить коли ми даємо, а не отримуємо.





The magnitude of any event is reflected in its participation. Today, we had an opportunity to be participants in a great Feast Day celebration in the life of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA. On this day, as we celebrate and honor Saint John Chrysostom, our Church celebrates an additional special event – the 49th anniversary of His Eminence Metropolitan Antony, Prime Hierarchy of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA and Diaspora's ordination into the Holy Priesthood. It is of great significance that these two events coincide, for upon reviewing the life and works of this great saint and hierarch, we see the importance of personal efforts and achievement in everyday life, as well as within the Church.

Parish life is closely interwoven with the relationship between a priest and his congregation. The success of the parish, and its very life, depend on the quality of this relationship. For the priest, his flock is his family, for whom he cares deeply. For the parishioners, the priest is an example to follow, a counselor to turn to, and a spiritual

shepherd. The main aspect of this relationship is a responsibility one for the other. This relationship epitomizes the Christian life, as the parish becomes the Church of the Living God, the Body of Jesus Christ. This same principle exists in the lives of the clergy, whose lives are tightly interwoven with that of their hierarch.

A person becomes successful once they reach maturity. However, maturity is not based on a period of time. A person reaches maturity at the point in their life when they can honestly say that they are ready to take upon themselves the responsibility for their words and actions. This maturity is followed by the realization that actions, words, and even thoughts can change not only one's own life, but also the lives of others. Therefore today, we, your spiritual children, greet you as with this event that has so impacted your life. This is not just a recollection of a former experience, but an event which you have lived for 49 years. We ask Your Eminence, our dear Vladyko Antony, that you continue to take upon yourself the responsibility to

guide, care for, and pray for each one of us. We ask of God that we may continue to enjoy your example of service, mentorship, dedication, humility, and mostly life in Christ. Axios, Vladyko!

It was with great joy that we celebrated the Divine Liturgy today at the St. Sophia Ukrainian Orthodox Theological Seminary's chapel. The commemoration was made even greater by the presence and participation of Ukrainians, who are not only Ukrainian in words, but, in their actions. Captain of the Second Rank Ihor Mykolayovych Trukhan, Captain of the Second Rank Serhiy Mykhailovych Karlash and Captain-Lieutenant Dmytro Lytvyn, all are Ukrainian servicemen based and trained in the United States, are active participants in the parish life of our Church. Ukrainians who in 2014, during the military aggression and annexation of Crimea, remained faithful to their country, their oaths, and faithful to themselves. These men show by their very example, that there is no greater love than to lay down one's life for their friends. With the blessing of Metropolitan Antony,

Archbishop Daniel bestowed medals commemorating the Centennial of the founding of the UOC of USA upon the soldiers, expressing his gratitude for dedicating their lives to their Church and nation. Axios, worthy Ukrainians!

The joy of today's celebration was multiplied by the participation of many clergy including V. Rev. Vasyl Kryshchypol, Rev. Vasyl Pasakas, Rev. Vasyl Shak, Rev. Andrii Drapak, Rev. Mykola Zomchak and Rev. Ihor Protsak, their families, as well as the seminarians, each of whom congratulated Metropolitan Antony on his special day. Archbishop Daniel greeted His Eminence, presenting him with a gift from himself and the Consistory - new set of vestments to honor the occasion. In conclusion, Metropolitan Antony warmly thanked everyone for their participation, their warm wishes, and mostly for their prayers.

ДОСТОЙНИЙ! Митрополит Антоній Розпочав 50 річницю служіння в УПЦ США

Величність події завжди показує її наповнення. Сьогодні ми мали змогу бути учасниками великого свята в житті Української Православної Церкви в США. В день вшанування святителя Іоана Золотоустого наша церква також відзначає особливу подію – 49 річницю з дня священничої хіротонії нашого ієрарха високопреосвященішого митрополита Антонія. Дуже символічно що ця подія відбулася саме в день пам'яті святителя Іоана Золотоустого адже дивлячись на життя та працю цього святого ми розуміємо, наскільки важливим є особистий успіх в духовному та в буденному житті першоієрарха церкви, його приклад.





Парафіяльне життя тісно пов'язане із стосунками які виникають між священником та громадою. Успіх громади, її життя залежить від того, чи ці стосунки будуть дієвими. Для священника парафіяни – це його родина, про яку він піклується, для парафіян – священник це приклад для наслідування, порадник та духовний пастир. Але головне ж у цьому відповідальність один за одного. Ця відповідальність звершує християнське життя, коли громада стає церквою Бога Живого, Тілом Ісуса Христа. Такий же принцип існує і в житті священнослужителів, життя яких тісно пов'язане із архієреєм.

Людина стає успішною тоді, коли досягає зрілості. Проте, зрілість не залежить від часу. Зрілою, людина стає в той момент, коли може усвідомлено сказати, що готова взяти на себе відповідальність за власні вчинки, слова. Тоді, коли приходить усвідомлення, що вчинки, слова, навіть думки здатні змінити не лише власне життя, але й життя навколишніх. Тому сьогодні, ми всі - Ваші духовні діти, вітаємо Вас із подією, яка особливо торкнулася Вашого життя. Не просто згадкою, а подією якою Ви живете 49 років. Просимо Ваше Високопреосвященство, наш дорогий владико Антонію щоб Ви і надалі брали на себе відповідальність за кожного із нас у своєму керівництві, молитві, настановках. Просимо в Бога щоб ми і надалі мали приклад служіння, навчання, відданості, простоти, а найголовніше життя з Ісусом Христом. Аксіос, Владико!

З великою радістю відбулося урочисте богослужіння в храмі при Свято-Софійській Семінарії, адже духовну радість доповнили своєю присутністю українці, за словом і ділом. Капітан другого рангу Ігор

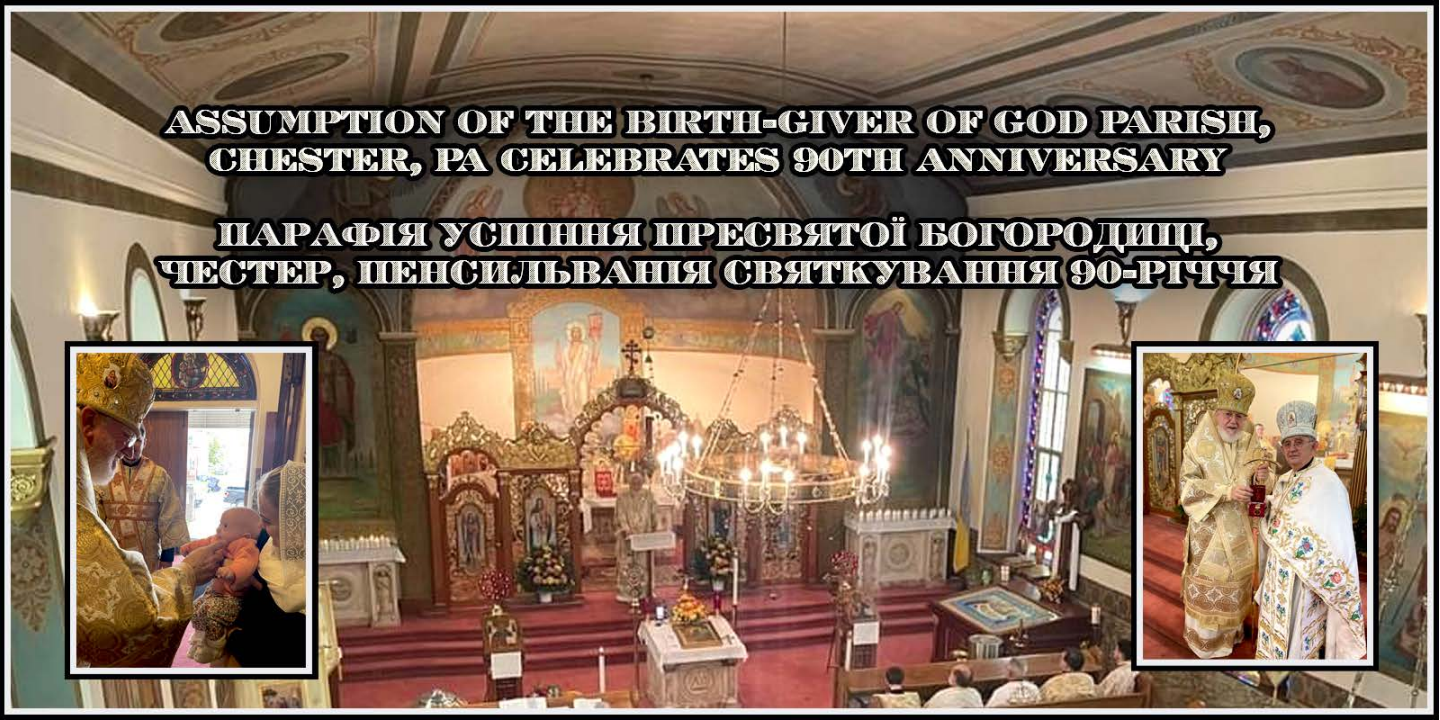
Миколайович Трухан, капітан другого рангу Сергій Михайлович Карлаш та Капітан-лейтенант Дмитро Литвин. Українські військові, які базувалися та навчалися в Сполучених Штатах Америки, є активними учасниками парафіяльного життя нашої церкви. Українці, котрі в 2014 році, під час воєнної агресії та анексії Криму залишилися вірні своїй державі, присязі, вірні собі. Показують власним прикладом, що немає більшої любові, як хто душу свою віддасть за друзів своїх. З благословення митрополита Антонія архієпископ Даниїл Вручив військовим медалі, присвяченні століттю заснування Української Православної Церкви США, дякуючи їм за відання життя своїй церкві та державі. Аксіос, достойні українці!



Радість святкового богослужіння доповнили священнослужителі: от. Василь Пасакас, от. Василь Шак, от. Василь Криштомполь, от. Андрій Драпак, от. Микола Зомчак та от. Ігор Процак зі сім'ями та семінарсти Свято-Софійської семінарії. Після богослужіння духовенство з родинами та семінаристи привітали владика Антонія із святом. Владика Даниїл звернувся із привітанням та передав особливий подарунок від Консисторії УПЦ США – священничі ризи. На завершення, владика Антоній подякував усім присутніх за привітання та молитви!

Photos by Subdeacon Yaroslav Bilohan

Text by Fr. Andrii Drapak



The Parish membership of St. Mary, Chester, PA, together with its Spiritual Father, Parish Priest, V. Rev. Gerald (Jeremah) Ozlanski celebrated the 90th anniversary of dedication and devotion to God in the Holy Trinity on November 13, 2021. His Eminence Metropolitan Antony joined the celebration in a canonical visit to the parish to express his deep gratitude to our Lord for blessing the faithful of the parish community throughout its nine decades of existence.

The youngest generation of the parish family, the President of the Parish Board of Administration, Yvonne Kaciuban, together with Fr. Gerald and visiting clergy greeted Metropolitan Antony according to the ancient Ukrainian tradition with bread and salt, asking him to pray for all the faithful members of the parish and for God's continued blessings upon them. The Metropolitan responded that he would pray for not only the living, but also for the parish priests, founders and benefactors of the parish throughout the past 90 years.

Metropolitan Antony began the Divine Liturgy by blessing people with dikiri (two candles representing Christ our Lord as God and Man) and trikiri ( three candles representing

God in the Holy Trinity), thus proclaiming Who we worship during this anniversary celebration. Serving with His Eminence were the parish priest Very Rev. Gerald Ozlanski, Very Rev. Fathers Emanuel Pratsinakis, Stephen Hutnick and Michael Danchak, Rev. Fr. Mykola Zomchak and Deacon Sergii Khomitskii. The Archpastoral service was complemented by the majestic choir of the parish under the professional lead of Christine Kurman and the capable assistance of Subdeacons Jaroslav Bilohan and Pavlo Vysotskyy, together with seminarian Roman Marchyshak.

During his sermon, Metropolitan Antony spoke of the goal of any Christian's life which is union with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, by building that strong relationship with Him, our Creator. He referred to the Epistle and Gospel readings of the day concerning the veil that was worn by Moses in the Old Testament after his call to the Holy Mountain of Sanai to receive the Ten Commandments. Because he had come face to face with God, his face glowed with such a radiance and intensity that people were afraid to even look at him out of the fear of exposing themselves to God Himself. The veil of Moses and the veil at the Holy of Holies in

the Temple separated the people from God because of the belief that if one came face to face with God he or she would most certainly perish because of sinfulness. In our Christian New Testament, the veil of the Temple was torn in into two parts at the Crucifixion of our Lord and God in the Holy Trinity is at all times approachable and accessible to the Masterpiece of His Creation, the human race. We all are called to never hide who we are as the children of God under a bushel, but to declare our faith to the world as those "who hear the word of God and do it". His Eminence stated that all those men and women, the ancestors of this holy temple of St. Mary, who 90 years ago had an intuitive understanding from their upbringing of this truth and built the temple of God, establishing the parish family to be with Him, in His Holy House for prayer, praise and gratitude. He called all present to live a holy and upright lives, following the example of their ancestors in devotion and love for God and fellow man. He urged the faithful to "Be careful how you live your life, because you may be the only Gospel someone may ever read".

At the end of the liturgy, His Eminence, at the request of Fr.



Gerald, awarded our Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA highest award, the Centennial Medal for Lifetime Service to God and Community to: the President of the Parish Board, Yvonne Kaciuban, who has served for 18 years in office and has been responsible for leading the parish outreach into the community and other Orthodox and Christian communities and to Robert Sivilich, who was unable to be present for the celebration, but for nearly three decades has taken upon himself the responsibility for maintaining the parish properties, making repairs himself in most instances, thus saving the parish enormous finances. These two individuals have served as wonderful examples to all their brothers and sisters in Christ.

The 90th anniversary celebration continued with the festive banquet – an “Agape Feast” – a Feast of Love – which has been a blessed tradition throughout all of Christian history. Yvonne, as Board President welcomed all present to the celebration of the parish’s life. Fr. Gerald, who has served the parish for 31 years, expressed his gratitude to the members of the parish for the blessing they have been to him during his years of service and declared that it has been a great honor for him to have been blessed with the honor to serve the St. Mary Parish family and assured his spiritual children that he will continue to serve them as long as God blesses him to do so. He expressed his prayer during the Divine Liturgy that the danger of the COVID pandemic will soon end and all those present will return to full participation in the liturgical and social life of the parish.

Парафія Успіння Пресвятої Богородиці, Честер, Пенсильванія Відзначила 90-ліття

Парафіяни храму Успіння



Пресвятої Богородиці, Честер, Пенсильванія, разом зі своїм пастирем, парафіяльним священиком, Протоієреєм Джеральдом (Яремою) Озланським 13 листопада 2021 року відзначили 90-ті роки заснування парафії та відданості Богу. Високопреосвященніший Митрополит Антоній здійснив канонічний візит на парафію з нагоди святкування, щоб висловити глибоку вдячність нашому Господу за благословення вірних парафіяльної спільноти протягом дев'яти десятиліть її існування.

Наймолодше покоління парафіяльної родини, голова Парафіяльної Управи Івонна Кацюбан разом з о. Джеральдом та приїжджими священнослужителями привітали Митрополита Антонія за давньою українською традицією хлібом та сіллю, попросивши його помолитися за всіх вірних парафіян та за продовження Божого благословення на них. Митрополит звернувся до присутніх, що буде молитися не лише за живих, а й за парафіяльних священиків, засновників та благодійників парафії, котрі відійшли у вічність протягом останніх 90 років.

Митрополит Антоній розпочав Божественну Літургію, благословивши людей дикиріями (дві свічки, що представляють Христа, Господа нашого як Бога і Людину) та трикиріями (три свічки, що представляють Бога у Святій Трійці), таким чином проголошуючи те, Кому ми поклоняємося під час цього ювілейного святкування. Його Високопреосвященству служили настоятель парафії протоієрей Джеральд Озланський, протоієрей Емануїл Працінакіс, Степан Хутник і Михайло Данчак, ієрей Микола Зомчак та диякон Сергій Хоміцький. Архіпастирське богослужіння доповнював величний хор парафії під професійним керівництвом Христини Курман та з допомогою

іподияконів Ярослава Білогана та Павла Висоцького разом із семінаристом Романом Марчишаком. Під час своєї проповіді Митрополит Антоній говорив про ціль життя будь-якого християнина – єднання з нашим Господом і Спасителем Ісусом Христом, через побудову міцних стосунків з Ним, нашим Творцем. Він посилався на читання Апостола та Євангелія того дня, котре розповідало про завісу, яке носив Мойсей у Старому Завіті після того як був покликаний на Святу гору Синай, щоб отримати там Десять Заповідей. Зустрівшись віч-на-віч з Богом, його обличчя сяяло таким сяйвом, що люди боялися навіть глянути на нього через страх показати себе самому Богу. Завіса Мойсея і завіса на Свята Святих у Храмі відокремлювали людей від Бога через віру в те, що якщо хтось зіткнеться віч-на-віч з Богом, то, безсумнівно, загине через гріховність. У нашому християнському Новому Завіті завіса Храму була розірвана на дві частини під час Розп'яття нашого Господа, і Бог у Святій Трійці завжди доступний для Його Творіння, доступний людському роду.

Ми всі покликані ніколи не приховувати, хто ми є, як діти Божі, під завісою, але проголошувати свою віру світові як ті, «хто слухає слово Боже і виконує його». Його Високопреосвященство зазначив, що всі ті чоловіки та жінки, предки цього святого храму Пресвятої Марії, які 90 років тому, виховуючи цю істину, мали те розуміння і будували храм Божий, створюючи парафіяльну родину, щоб бути з Господом, у Його святому домі для молитви, хвали та подяки. Він закликав усіх присутніх жити святим і праведним життям, наслідуючи приклад своїх предків у відданості й любові до Бога та ближніх. Він закликав вірних: «Будьте обережні, як ви живете своє життя, бо ви можете бути тим єдиним Євангелієм, котре хтось коли небув читав».

На завершення літургії Високопреосвященніший Митрополит Антоній на прохання настоятеля храму, нагородив найвищою нагородою Української Православної Церкви США, Столітньою Медаллю за багаторічне служіння Богу та громаді: голові парафіяльної ради Івонні Кацюбан, яка 18 років перебуває на посаді та відповідає не лише за керівництво парафії, а й за соціальне її служіння, а також Роберта Сівіліча, який не зміг бути присутнім на святкуванні, але протягом майже трьох десятиліть взяв на себе відповідальність за утримання парафіяльної власності, в більшості випадків сам робив ремонт, тим самим заощадивши парафії величезні кошти. Ці дві особи служили чудовим прикладом для всіх своїх братів і сестер у Христі.

Святкування 90-річчя продовжилось святковим бенкетом – «Свято Агапе» – Свято Любові, котре є благословенною традицією протягом усієї християнської історії. Івонна, як голова управи, привітала всіх присутніх на святі. Отець Джеральд, який служить на парафії вже 31 рік, висловив подяку усім парафіянам за благословення, якими вони діляться з ним протягом років служіння, і заявив, що для нього було великою честю та благословенням служити парафіяльній родині храму Успіння Пресвятої Богородиці та запевнив своїх духовних дітей, що й надалі служитиме їм, доки Бог благословлятиме його на це. Під час Божественної Літургії він висловив молитву, щоб небезпека пандемії COVID у скорому часі закінчилася і всі присутні повернулися до повноцінної участі у літургійному та соціальному житті парафії.

*Photos by Subdeacon Yaroslav Bilohan*

*Text by Fr. Mykola Zomchak*



## HOLY GHOST UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX PARISH IN COATESVILLE, PA CELEBRATES 112TH ANNIVERSARY OF FOUNDATION

The Archpastoral visit began with a procession from the Rectory to the Church, led by parishioners bearing Icon Banners and children lining the path to the Church with rose petals. The Metropolitan was accompanied by a Deacon and three Seminarians from St. Sophia's Seminary.

Kailey Pyszczymuka presented His Eminence with a bouquet of flowers, followed by the traditional greeting of "Korovai" bread and salt by Church Board President, Illaria Steele.

Church Pastor, Fr. Nicholas Dilendorf, and visiting priest, Fr. Myron Oryhon, welcomed the Metropolitan on behalf of the congregation of the Holy Ghost Church, which is celebrating its 112th anniversary.

Prior to celebrating the Holy Liturgy, Metropolitan Antony ordained Reader Wesley Hatch as a Subdeacon. Wesley has served in the Holy Altar with priests of our parish for several decades and was deemed worthy of this elevation.

Metropolitan Antony's sermon was edifying and thought provoking. He spoke of the Guidance and Grace of the Holy Spirit within us and that we must continually be open to that Grace and Guidance in order to live lives according to our Lord's expectations of us. It is necessary for us to continually refocus our inner being – our heart, mind and soul – on the meaning of Christ abiding in us – the Divine being one with us – for every aspect of our lives. It is not enough to simply "attend" Divine Liturgy, receive the Eucharist, and consider ourselves in good relationship with God in the Holy Trinity. The "good relationship" involves ongoing,

minute by minute contemplation of what God's Will is for us, what is expected of us who bear His Name "Christian". If we walk out the doors at the conclusion of Liturgy only to ignore Christ within, the Holy Spirit dwelling in us and healing our infirmities throughout the rest of the week, then our hope for salvation is greatly weakened. He reminded us that we need to forgive those who

transgress against us in order to be forgiven, and to be as One in Christ.

Following Liturgy, Metropolitan Antony presented Hramotas (certificates) of Appreciation for dedicated service to the Church to: Dorothy Curry, Joan Leslie, Nancy Foreman, Sharon Perry, Helen Domsohn, Minerva Hawa, Brenda Euler, and Bryan Domsohn.



Centennial Medals of the UOC of the USA were also presented to: Verna Bruno, who has baked Prospora for Liturgy for over 20 years; Linda Gindin, who has served as Choir Director for decades; Greg Kuzmenchuk, who has served many terms as Parish Board Financial Secretary and the major force behind the Parish Festivals; Irene Pashesnik, who has always been among the first to financially and spiritually support not only the Parish, but also the various projects of the Ukrainian Orthodox League and the entire UOC of USA and Rose Dmytryk and her husband John, posthumously, for their generous financial assistance to the parish and the donation of their home and entire property to the UOC of USA for the establishment of a future Monastery. A final Centennial Medal was awarded posthumously to Avelino "Abby" Teijaro, for a lifetime of exceptional service to the Parish.

Afterwards, a celebratory luncheon was held at the Thorndale Inn for the Metropolitan, Seminarians, and parishioners from Holy Ghost Church, as well as Fr. Steven Miller, Matushka Jackie, son Joseph and other parishioners from neighboring St. Nicholas (OCA) Church.

As his spiritual children, the parishioners of Holy Ghost Church in Coatesville wish to thank His Eminence Metropolitan Antony for his sincere care and warmth. This spiritual as well as social event was truly enjoyed by all. Is Polla Eti Despota!!! We are also grateful to those who accompanied His Eminence for our visit: Deacon Myroslav Mykytiuk, Subdeacon Jaroslav Bilohan and seminarians Andrij Vatrach and Mykola Stefanek. My God bless them all in their continued studies in preparation for the Holy Priesthood.

*Photos by Subdeacon Yaroslav Bilohan*







On a sunny Sunday morning of December 12, 2021, the faithful of the St. Andrew the First-Called Apostle Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in Silver Spring, Maryland, arrived early to church to greet their esteemed visitors on this momentous occasion. Having participated in Vespers served by His Eminence Archbishop Daniel, Ruling Hierarch of the Western Eparchy of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA and Diaspora, the evening before, the people were filled with an overwhelming desire to come and participate in the Divine Liturgy, and be a part of the service commemorating parish pastor Very Rev. Volodymyr Steliac's 25th anniversary of being ordained to the Holy Priesthood, as well as his 20th anniversary being the parish priest at St. Andrew.

The children gathered in the narthex giggled and squirmed as they held pink and red blooms in their hands, their vibrant Ukrainian embroidered garments making the youngsters themselves look like blossoms in a colorful garden. They all hushed and focused their attention as the cathedral doors swung open and

the bright morning sunshine came pouring in. As they squinted, before them, as if coming out from the light itself, were their hierarchs. Joining Archbishop Daniel this morning was His Eminence Metropolitan Antony, Prime Hierarch of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA and Diaspora. Both hierarchs smiled as the children found their courage and timidly stepped out into the sunshine. Dressed in gold vestments, Metropolitan Antony smiled and accepted the blooms handed to him, as did Archbishop Daniel, before surprising the youngsters by giving them each a flower to keep. Holding their flowers close, the children stepped back allowing the others to greet them, including the parish administrators and sisterhood, presenting them with a lovely round loaf of bread and salt.

Having graciously accepted the warm greeting and offer of bread, the hierarchs entered the Narthex, where they were formally greeted by the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Ukraine to the United States, Oksana Markarova. Madame Ambassador

expressed her honor and joy at greeting Metropolitan Antony, and Archbishop Daniel. Exchanging a few words with her, Metropolitan Antony stepped forward into the Nave, where he was greeted by parish pastor, Very Rev. Fr. Volodymyr Steliac, who presented His Eminence with a blessing cross and holy water. Sharing a few words and expressing his joy at being present for such a joyous occasion, Metropolitan Antony kissed the offered cross and blessed all those gathered with it.

Flanked by the students of the St. Sophia Ukrainian Orthodox Theological Seminary, Fr. Andrii Drapak, Deacon Serhij Khomitskyi, Subdeacon Yaroslav Bilohan, Subdeacon Pavlo Vysotskyi, Reader Maksym Zhuravchyk, Reader Andrii Vatrych, seminarian Andrii Akulenko, and seminarian Roman Marchyshak, the hierarchs processed into the Nave, stepping up onto the dias before the Tetrapod.

With the children taking up positions in the front of the church, the Divine Liturgy commenced. The choir sang beautifully, their responses

to the prayerful petitions melodic and heartfelt. Upon the conclusion of the reading of the Gospel, His Eminence Archbishop Daniel stepped forward to deliver a moving sermon. Stepping down among the seated parishioners, His Eminence expressed his joy at being at the parish on this day. He then paused a moment, until everyone settled down and focused their attention on the words he was about to speak. Vladyka expounded upon the Gospel that was read this day from Luke 13:10-17. In the reading we all heard how Christ was in the Temple on the Sabbath teaching. There he sees an infirm woman, crippled and bent over so that she cannot even straighten her back. The Lord immediately notices her and realizes her predicament, her pain and eighteen years of suffering. Out of love and compassion, He calls her to Himself. When she shuffles near, He lays His hands upon her, prays, and states, "Woman, you are set free from your infirmity." The hunched body slowly stretches, and the woman stands upright, no longer suffering, no longer in pain. Rejoicing, she glorifies God.

Stepping up to the children who were seated nearby, Archbishop Daniel pulled out a \$20 bill. Showing them the bill, he then crinkled it up, twisted it, folded it, until it was almost unrecognizable. He then asked the children if anyone wanted to bill. All the kids stretched out their hands.

Archbishop Daniel looked at them, and then turned to the seated adults and stated that the children all want the wrinkled, crumpled and scrunched up bill only because they knew its underlying value. \$20. However, he continued, the crippled woman in the Temple was overlooked by all who passed her, nobody paid her any attention, nobody aided her, or came to assist her in any way, because they all were





blind to her true value. Underneath the wrinkled and scrunched up body was a human soul, a person made in the very image of God Himself. While she seemed invisible to the world, she was not invisible to God, who spotted her and immediately showed her love and compassion, healing her.

His Eminence asked everyone to think if perhaps in their lifetimes, even in the previous week, someone had remained invisible to them. Society tends to ignore all those whom they believe have no value to them. People tend to gravitate to those from whom they expect to get something, someone to whom they attribute some kind of value. However, we often overlook those who are the most valuable, simply because we choose to wear blinders upon our eyes. Archbishop Daniel asked that we remove those blinders and see the value of every single person. If God loves them, who are we not to love them in turn? And if we love them, we will treat them with compassion, and run to their aid when they need it. Therefore, he concluded, open your eyes, and look around, and give value where it is truly due.

With the sobering thought, everyone stood as His Eminence returned to the Altar and the Divine Liturgy continued. Mulling over his words, the people contemplated, realizing that in fact they probably had overlooked many individuals for various reasons, and with prayers on their lips they asked the Lord to forgive them, and to help them in the future see the true value in all those around them.

At the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy, His Eminence Metropolitan Antony stepped out onto the Ambo and greeted the faithful before him.

Turning towards Fr. Volodymyr, he congratulated him as he begins his 26th year of priesthood, wishing him continued success, and blessing his ongoing service to the Church. Reaching over to the small velvet box Archbishop Daniel held next to him, Metropolitan Antony presented a lovely, jeweled cross purchased by the parish, which he awarded to Fr. Volodymyr marking his 20th anniversary of service at the cathedral. The choir broke out in a rousing rendition of Mnohaya Lita, as all those gathered joined in, singing joyfully, and wishing their pastor many blessed years!

As the choir continued to sing, the faithful shuffled out of the church and headed to the parish hall for a delicious banquet. As the children squealed and ran among the lavishly decorated tables, the adults found their seats, and after the prayers were said, everyone enjoyed a delicious meal, surrounded by family, and friends.

At the conclusion of the meal, His Eminence Metropolitan Antony stepped up to the microphone, again congratulating Fr. Volodymyr, and then expanding on the life of the parish. A parish is only as successful as the people within it make it. It takes work and dedication to make a church a spiritual home. His Eminence took this opportunity to award several individuals with Blessed Hramoty for their tireless work on behalf of the parish. Additionally, he handed out a number of awards.

Ludmilla Murphy, who also received the St. Olga award, received the Lifetime Achievement Award in appreciation of decades of sincere and tireless devotion to the Parish and Sisterhood activities,

as exhibited by participation in numerous community and humanitarian initiatives.

Parishioner of the Year Award was presented to Anya Dydyk Petrenko, in appreciation of sincere devotion to the Parish, sparing neither time nor effort, and using God-given talents to publish an informative and beautiful monthly Cathedral Bell bulletin.

After the formal awards concluded, parishioners approached and presented gifts to Fr. Volodymyr, while others took a few moments to share experiences with their hierarchs. And so the afternoon wiled joyfully away, amidst laughter, jovial banter, and fellowship.

As the crowd began to dissipate, the faithful waved their final goodbyes. However, while they were leaving the church behind, their commitment to be the Church was renewed, as they returned to the world, with eyes wide open in order to notice and give value to the people they found in it.

The clouds scurried across the heavens as the sun began to dip in the western sky, the rays glinting off the golden domes of the St. Andrew Cathedral, which stands as a testament of strength and a pledge to Orthodoxy in America. Wishing Very Rev. Volodymyr Steliac and the parish of St. Andrew Cathedral in Silver Springs, MD, many blessed years as they forge ahead into the future. Mnohaya Lita! Many Years!

*Photos by Subdeacon Yaroslav Bilohan and Seminarian Andrii Akulenko*



On November 16th, His Eminence Archbishop Daniel, Ruling Hierarchy of the Western Eparchy of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, arrived in Baltimore, Maryland, to participate in the General Assembly of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. The USCCB is an assembly of the hierarchy of bishops of the Roman Catholic Church who jointly exercise pastoral functions on behalf of the Christian faithful of the United States and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Archbishop Daniel was a member of the delegation of the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the USA, led by His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros, chairman of the Assembly, invited by His Excellency Archbishop José H. Gomez, President of the USCCB. Also, part of the Orthodox delegation were, His Grace Bishop Maxim, Serbian Orthodox Church in North, Central and South America and His Eminence Archbishop Alexander, Orthodox Church in America.

The meeting agenda included discussion on various Church topics, review of Financial Reports, and elections to fill the seats of the

chairmen of various Conference committees, as well as a discussion on numerous charitable undertakings.

This marks the first time in the history of the USCCB, that Orthodox hierarchs have been invited to participate in their plenary session. After the midday break, Bishop David P. Talley, of the Committee on Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs, introduced His Eminence, Archbishop Elpidophoros. Declaring, "Unitatis Redintegratio, the decree on ecumenism of the Second Vatican Council, states that Orthodox Christians 'are linked with us in closest intimacy.' Discerning the importance of demonstrating this intimacy, the bishops from the USCCB on the dialogue recommended that we invite representatives of the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the United States to join us at our General Assembly." With this he invited Archbishop Elpidophoros to share his presentation with the gathering.

Particularly moved by the warm welcome, Archbishop Elpidophoros opened his remarks by saying, "I greet you with a salutation of hope and peace in our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ. I would like

to share my heartfelt joy to be with you today, my brother bishops of the USCCB, for the first time in the history of our Sister Churches' relation in this country." Reflecting on decades of rapprochement between the Roman Catholic and the Orthodox Churches, he also mentioned the current reflection undertaken by the Roman Catholic Church with regard to synodality. In closing, he declared: "I am convinced that the future and mission of Catholic-Orthodox relations in the U.S.A. is to continue to bear witness to God's presence in the world, faithful to the Spirit of Jerusalem that we received as a legacy."

After His Eminence's well-received presentation, those gathered mingled and chatted during the break. The members of the USCCB introduced themselves to the delegation from the Assembly of Orthodox Bishops and talked about common experiences, shared concerns about current events, and discussed mutual hopes for the future.

Having forged inter-Church bonds, the Assembly adjourned, as the hierarchs promised to work together to bring the message of Christ to the world.



PRAYER! LOVE and JOY! These three words describe the sentiments of the Archpastoral visit of Archbishop Daniel to Holy Trinity Ukrainian Orthodox Mission in Sacramento, CA

МОЛИТВА! ЛЮБОВ та РАДІСТЬ! Ці три слова описують архипастирські відвідини Архієпископом Даниїлом Українську Православну Місію Пресвятої Трійці в Сакраменто, Каліфорнія



13-14 листопада Свято-Троїцька грамада Української Православної Церкви в Сакраменто зустрічала свого духовного батька архієпископа Даниїла. Який завітав зі своїм архипастирським візитом, разом із двома семінаристами, щоб з'єднатися в молитві та духовних розмовах і утішеннях із віруючими цієї святої парафії.

В суботу ранком, напередодні недільного Богослужіння, Високопреосвященніший Архієпископ Даниїл, звершив поминання всіх жертв голодомору в Україні. Його Високопреосвященство згадав ті гіркі дні які випали на долю України, поділився тими досвідами які довелося йому вивчити з приводу цього «геноциду», саме так владика закликав всіх називати ці страшні часи, і закликав усіх пам'ятати те що сталося, щоб більше неповторяти помилок минулого.

Сьогодні немає сумніву, що голодомори, а особливо Голодомор 1932-1933 років — це штучно створена людьми трагедія, Геноцид супроти українського народу. Пам'ятаймо, що День пам'яті жертв голодоморів відзначається щорічно в четверту суботу листопада. У ХХ сторіччі

українці пережили три Голодомори: 1921—1923, 1932—1933 і 1946—1947 років. Наймасштабнішим був Голодомор 1932—1933 років, визнаний у багатьох країнах геноцидом українського народу. Терору голодом, що діяв в Україні протягом 22 місяців, передувала насильницька колективізація, «розкуркулення», хлібозаготівельна кампанія. Історики зазначають, що це була свідомо і цілеспрямована політика сталінського режиму, спрямована на упокорення українського селянства та знищення українського села, що було хранителем мови,

народних традицій і не сприймало радянської влади.

У пікові місяці Голодомору щохвилини в Україні помирали 24 людини. За різними даними (багато документів тієї пори знищено каральними органами), у 1932-33 роках померло насильницькою смертю до 10 мільйонів осіб. Три голодомори забрали життя 12—15 мільйонів. Зникли не лише родини, а цілі хутори і села. Упродовж десятиліть найбільша гуманітарна трагедія в світі замовчувалася радянською владою, навіть спогади свідків великого голоду могли стати



приводом до кримінальних переслідувань і репресій. У листопаді 2006 року Верховна Рада визнала Голодомор 1932—1933 років геноцидом українського народу. Згідно з соціопитуванням 2018-го, Голодомор геноцидом — злочином радянської влади проти українського народу, вважають і 79% громадян України.

“Сьогодні ми відзначаємо 88 роковини Голодомору і вшановуємо пам'ять жертв цього геноциду сталінського режиму проти українського народу. Незліченна кількість українських мирних жителів: дітей, чоловіків і жінок, - страждали від голоду й боролися за свою національну ідентичність, мову і культуру”, - сказав Архієпископ Даниїл. Після чого пролунала “Вічна Пам'ять” за всіх жертв штучного Голодомору, Геноциду, на Україні.

Наступного дня, в неділю ранком, перед початком святої літургії, на зустрічі Архидієрея, із щирими словами та запашним короваєм в притворі храму Владика зустріла молодь. Чудові вірші привітання, виходили із натхнених уст молодих дітей, та підлітків, які своїми віршами описали ту невимовну благодать, мати його Високопреосвященство у себе в гостях, та отримати ті, такі потрібні в цей час слова настанов, духовні цукерки із рук Архієпископа Даниїла. При зустрічі у самому храмі слово виголосив голова управи Дроздовський Ярослав та настоятель храму, протоієрей Мирослав Турчак, який згадав про попередні візити Високопреосвященнішого владика, його слова які запали йому в душу, і які немов попутний вітер підтримують ці роки в його служінні із людьми. Після чого настоятель храму попросив святих молитов у Владика Даниїла за своїх вірних, за себе та за свою велику сім'ю.

За мить розпочалася Свята Літургія яку очолив Владика Даниїл, якому співслужив настоятель прот. Мирослав Турчак, а також прот. Георгій Тяпко настоятель Свято-Михайлівської церкви в місті Сан Франциско,

який пізніше приєднався до них. Співи богослужіння виконував парафіяльний хор.

Після прочитання Святого Євангелія Владика Даниїл звернувся з повчальним словом до парафіян. Де він навів чудовий приклад, використовуючи купюри 20 доларів, що життя людини, яким би воно не було потрібним, розтоптаним, залишає ту саму цінність, все що потрібно для людини це прийти до Бога, щоб він розрівняв ту купюру, ті гріхи, і оновив людину своєю благодаттю.

Після Літургії зі словом подяки звернувся настоятель храму, і на знак любові подав владіці квіти та просфору.

Завершилися богослужіння уставним многоліттям та спільним фото. У церковному залі відбувся святковий обід, а також концерт за

участі парафіян та гостей. Декілька пісень презентувала відома Українська співачка Анничка, та Михайло Марків, який також презентував неймовірно гарні пісні на гітарі, які запали в серця віруючих і окрилили своєю силою.

Всі парафіяни і гості вистовлюють свою подяку Архипастирю, і бажають здоров'я і Многліття.

Від усієї громади хочу подякувати як настоятель всім хто долучився до зустрічі Владика: кухаркам, адміністрації, жертводавцям, та всім хто зробив наше свято урочистим. Завжди ми раді вітати нашого духовного батька на землях Каліфорнії, зокрема в Сакраменто!

By Very Rev. Fr. Myroslav Turchak and Reader Andrii Vatrach

Photos by Readers Andrii Vatrach and Maksym Zhuravchuk







21 грудня 2021 року в день свята Архистратига Божого Михаїла і всіх небесних сил безтілесних, високопреосвященіший архієпископ Даниїл відвідав зі своїм архіпастирським візитом парафію Святого Архистратига Михаїла та великомученика Юрія Переможця у місті Міннеаполіс, штат Міннесота.

Напередодні свята, в суботу вечером, була відслужена вечірня яку очолив владика у співслужінні духовенства та допомогою семінаристів Свято-Софіївської Семінарії УПЦ США іподиякона Павла Висоцького та Андрія Акуленко, а опісля, на прохання парафіян, владикою Даниїлом була прочитана лекція і відбулася дискусія на тему «Життя Православного Християнина у Сучасному Світі».

В самий день свята в притворі храму із словами привітання владика зустріли настоятель храму ієрей Мирон Коростіль, голова парафіяльної управи Оріся Бобчек, а також діти нещодавно відновленої парафіяльної української школи. Храм був наповнений богомольцями, які

разом із духовенством прославили Господа і молилися про захист Архистратига Божого Михаїла.

Під час літургії Владика виголосив проповідь на тему Євангельського читання про кровоточиву жінку, також з нагоди дня Гідності і Свободи та були піднесені молитви за всіх людей і воїнів які захищали і захищають суверенітет та свободу України, а також і Сполучених Штатів Америки.

У своїй промові архієпископ Даниїл також наголосив: «...День Гідності та Свободи – одне зі знакових державних свят України. Сама країна вже заплатила

високу ціну за те, що обрала свободу. Ціна – життя найкращих синів і дочок Батьківщини. Тому ми, українці в Україні та в Діаспорі, не маємо жодного права сходити з шляху, наміченого Помаранчевою Революцією та Революцією Гідності. Ми повинні, в першу чергу, виховувати в собі свідому любов до батьківщини і гідність, виховувати дітей справжніми патріотами і культивувати в них почуття гідності. Адже патріотизм – це ключ до процвітання суспільства, а гідність – це вміння тримати себе та свої думки чистими, що допомагає вчинити правильно, навіть якщо для цього доведеться боротися з особистими



емоціями та переступати через свої слабкості, це внутрішнє відчуття благородства та відчуття власної відповідальності за своє життя та життя близьких.»

Богослужіння прикрашали три хори, об'єднаний хор парафій Св Архистратига Михаїла і Юрія, хор Св. Великомучениці Катерини, а також хор сусідньої католицької парафії Св. Константина. Під час богослужіння разом з владикою молилися настоятель парафії отець Мирон Коростіль а також гості, настоятель сусідньої парафії Св. великомучениці Катерини протоієрей Петро Сівко, настоятель храму Всіх Святих з Нью-Йорка протоієрей Віталій Павликівський, а також були присутні настоятель сусідньої католицької парафії св. Константина отець Іван Шкумбатюк та отець Роман Ворончак. Також під час Богослужіння було звершено освячення нових євхаристичних наборів які були подаровані жертводавцями храму.

Після богослужіння всі присутні насолодилися святковим обідом який приготувало сестрицтво парафії (голова Джулія Павлюк), та концертними танцями танцювального гуртка «Черемош», керівником якого є парафіянин Кен Матлашевський. Під час обіду були зібрані кошти на підтримку дитячих будинків інтернатів України якими наша свята Церква опікується вже багато років.

Владика поспілкувався з парафіянами, благословив усіх на плідну майбутню працю, благословив дітей української школи на добре навчання, і відбув до духовного осередку - Митрополії Української Православної церкви США в Савт Бавнд Бруці, штат Нью Джерсі.

*Photos by Seminarian Andrii Akulenko*







**PRAYERFUL ARCHPASTORAL VISIT TO MADISON, WI**  
**Celebrating 25th Anniversary of Holy Priesthood of Fr. Gregory Jensen**

**МОЛИТОВНІ АРХИПАСТИРСЬКІ ВІДВІДИНИ**  
**Української Православної громади у Медісон, Висконсин:**  
**о. Григорій Дженсен відзначив 25-ти ліття священничого служіння**



On a crisp early winter afternoon of December 4th, His Eminence Archbishop Daniel, Ruling Hierarch of the Western Eparchy of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA and Diaspora, along with Seminarian of the St. Sophia Ukrainian Orthodox Theological Seminary, Subdeacon Pavlo Vysotskyi, arrived in Madison Wisconsin to join in a celebratory weekend.

Madison, is the capital city of Wisconsin, and lies west of Milwaukee. It's known for the domed Wisconsin State Capitol, which sits on an isthmus between lakes Mendota and Monona. The rich farmland is dotted with clear blue lakes and streams throughout. The State of Wisconsin's motto is "Forward". True to it's slogan, the state has moved forward in serving the people of Christ through the Mission Parish of Sts. Cyril and Methodius.

His Eminence was greeted warmly as he arrived to serve Vespers on Saturday evening. This was Archbishop's first visit to the parish since the start of the Covid

Pandemic in late 2019. The parish children eagerly awaited the arrival of their guests, waving flowers, fidgeting, and practicing their words, all of which was forgotten when His Eminence appeared before them. With a huge smile the hierarch dispelled all the anxiety of the little ones, happily accepting their flowers, and gifting them little icon cards in return. As the children breathed a sigh of relief Archbishop Daniel stepped up and was greeted with the traditional bread and salt by the parish administrators. Gratefully accepting the warm welcome, His Eminence exchanged a few words and accepted the cross offered by parish pastor, Rev. Gregory Jensen before proceeding into the nave and beginning the service. Vespers is the first service of the Daily Cycle of divine services celebrated in the Orthodox Church. Because the liturgical day begins at sunset, Vespers is traditionally served in the early evening, and prepares the faithful for the Divine Liturgy on Sunday morning.

With candles twinkling upon the darkened altar table, the service ebbed and flowed, as the choir

sang and the people prayed. His Eminence delivered a short sermon at the conclusion of the service, expressing his gratitude to once again be able to pray with the faithful of the Mission Parish. It has been a difficult two years, with many changes in the world, and yet the Church has remained the same, and always will be the once constant in our lives. It is through the Church that the faithful meet with their Creator and work out their own salvation.

Before the parishioners departed for their homes, Archbishop Daniel took the opportunity to speak with the numerous young adults who were present for the Vespers service. A parish on a university campus is an important witness not only to the surrounding community but also to high school age and younger parishioners. Establishing a parish on the campus of the University of Wisconsin-Madison helps remind young people that graduating high school doesn't mean "graduating" from the Church.

His Eminence focused on vocations of the college students. Each one

of them has a particular calling and mission to fulfill in their lives. As Orthodox Christians, he reminded them that we are to be the Church to those around us, to take the Word of Christ out into the world. It is on each of us to make our communities a better place, alleviating the hardships of others, brining peace to the community, and living with love towards our neighbors.

As the youth departed, His Eminence met with the newly elected Parish Council over dinner. The discussion focused on parish growth and future plans. The newly elected administrative body is responsible to ensure the continuation of the parish, growing the church, and meeting the needs of the faithful.

The following morning, the sun shown brightly, as the faithful once again returned to the church.

The little church filled to capacity, as young and old came to celebrate the Divine Liturgy, meet with God, spend time with their hierarch, and to celebrate their priest's anniversary.

Before the reading of the Gospel, His Eminence presented Rev. Gregory Jensen an Ecclesiastical Award for his dedicated service to the Christ's Church. On this day, Fr. Gregory was celebrating 25 years of Holy Priesthood. To honor this momentous occasion, Archbishop Daniel presented him with a lovely jeweled cross, placing it gently around the priest's neck, and blessing him for a further 25 years of service.

With Fr. Gregory now adorned with a sparkling cross, the Liturgy continued with the Reading of the Epistle and the Gospel. The Reading this day was from Luke 12:16-21. Archbishop Daniel stood

amid the faithful, who had settled down to listen to his sermon, and stated that we often, like the rich man, are deluded in what truly life is about, and what makes us happy. The rich man's lands yielded a bumper crop of grain, yet, instead of being satisfied with keeping the usual yield and giving the rest away to those who hunger, he decided to keep it all for himself, building new and larger barns in which to store the bountiful harvest. He then fooled himself into complacency, sitting back and relaxing, thinking he is set for life, with no financial worries ahead. However, his false joy was short lived, as that very evening, the Lord demanded his soul. The man died, and went before God, leaving behind the barns brimming with grain. The grain was of no use to him now. His Eminence explained, that had the rich man actually shared the bumper crop with his neighbors, with those who were hungry and in need, he would have taken the result of that grain with him before God. In other words, we often focus on this life, and our comfort in it. While we all have bills to pay, and money in itself is not sinful, greed is. The desire by the poor for money to purchase food and pay their bills is one thing. However, the rich who desire riches, not out of need, but, out of greed, are missing the point of the wealth that God has allowed them to accumulate.

Archbishop Daniel concluded his sermon by reminding everyone that in these uncertain times, more than ever before, we have all faced our own mortality. We wear masks and social distance in our desire to preserve our lives, and we should, as life is a gift from God. However, we should also give attention to the health of our souls. It's not all about us, but, about what we do with the life the Lord has given us. We are to go out and make this world better for us having been in it. Therefore, His Eminence stated, we should all leave today, with a renewed conviction to find a way each day to give of ourselves, and of our assets, to those who are in need. It is for us to shine brightly and fill this world with love.

Concluding his sermon, Vladyka returned to the altar, and continued the Divine Liturgy. Everyone slowly rose to their feet, their brows furrowed as His Eminence's words sank in, and they began to contemplate their future actions on making a positive impact in the world around them.

Having partaken of Holy Communion the faithful felt reinvigorated and ready to take on the assignment their hierarch had given them. As the dismissal prayers were read and His Eminence gave them the final blessing, everyone came forward to venerate the cross, exchange a





few words with their hierarch and accept an icon card from him.

The tight-knit parish family proceeded to the parish hall to enjoy each other's company and a nice agape meal in honor of Archbishop Daniel's visit, and Fr. Gregory's anniversary. After the meal everyone sat around and chatted the afternoon away, as the children played in the corner and ran around playing hide and seek. Time was spent discussing various Church topics with His Eminence and hearing his story of his own journey to Orthodoxy, which inspired all those who listened.

Before the day concluded, the parish granted gifts to their pastor, expressing their gratitude to him and love for him. Laughter echoed through the hall as His Eminence was also presented with a small token of their appreciation from the Orthodox College Fellowship (OCF) Chapter of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, the highest ranking national public university. Archbishop Daniel reached into the gift bag and pulled out a red knit cap and gloves with the University mascot, Bucky Badger, on them. Everyone cheered, as in gratitude for His Eminence's ongoing support, the OCF Chapter named Vladyka an honorary Badger!

Very Rev. Gregory Jensen, Pani-matka Mary, the parishioners of Sts. Cyril & Methodius Mission, along with the OCF Chapter members, extend their gratitude to His Eminence Archbishop Daniel for his visit and wish him many blessed years!

*Photos by Subdeacon Pavlo Vysotskyi*

*Text by Kyra Skoog and Elizabeth Symonenko*



UOC of the USA Bestows Church Honors on Ukrainian Navy Sailors On Friday, November 26, 2021 – the hierarchs of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA received a delegation of Ukrainian Navy Officers as they conclude their training in the United States of America and prepare for the return to Ukraine.

Very Rev. Fr. Vasyl Kryshtompol of Holy Archangel Michael Ukrainian Orthodox parish in Baltimore, MD traveled with the Navy servicemen to the Spiritual Center of the UOC of the USA and attended the Divine Liturgy of Thanksgiving, marking the beginning of the 50th anniversary of priestly service of His Eminence Metropolitan Antony.

Introducing the officers, Archbishop Daniel stated that "...this festive celebration was made even greater by the presence and participation of Ukrainians, who are not only Ukrainian in words, but, in their actions. Captain of the Second Rank Ihor Mykolayovych Trukhan, Captain of the Second Rank Serhiy Mykhailovych Karlash and Captain-Lieutenant Dmytro Lytvyn, all are Ukrainian servicemen based and

trained in the United States, are active participants in the parish life of our Church. Ukrainians who in 2014, during the military aggression and annexation of Crimea, remained faithful to their country, their oaths, and faithful to themselves. These men show by their very example, that there is no greater love than to lay down one's life for their friends.

Vladyka Daniel reflected upon the sacrifices of the servicemen in attendance, offering words of gratitude for their active participation

in the life of the local Baltimore Ukrainian Orthodox parish. "These gentlemen, stated Vladyka, were not only participating in the liturgical life of the Church, but they lived Liturgy with the faithful of the parish, assisting with the repairs of the church and even making Ukrainian varynyky with the Sisterhood of the parish."

With the blessing of Metropolitan Antony, Archbishop Daniel bestowed medals commemorating the Centennial of the founding





of the UOC of USA upon the sailors, expressing his gratitude for dedicating their lives to their Church and Ukrainian nation.

Receiving the Church awards, the servicemen honorably exclaimed: “We Serve the People of Ukraine!”

Axios, worthy Ukrainians!

УПЦ США Вшанувала Українських Моряків Церковними нагородами Любов – це завжди дія. Жертовна любов це завжди вибір між собою та ближніми. В п’ятницю, 26 листопада 2021 року, в день вшанування пам’яті великого святителя церкви Христової – Іоана Золотоустого українські військові були нагородженні особливими відзнаками УПЦ США.

З великою радістю відбулося урочисте богослужіння в храмі на честь трьох святителів: Василя Великого, Григорія Богослова та Іоана Золотоустого при Свято-Софійській Семінарії, адже духовну радість відзначення 49 річниці священничого служіння Митрополита Антонія, за сприянням отця Василя Кришомполя, доповнили своєю присутністю українці, за словом і ділом. Капітан другого рангу Ігор Миколайович Трухан, капітан другого рангу Сергій Михайлович Карлаш та Капітан-лейтенант Дмитро Литвин. Українські військові, які базувалися та навчалися в Сполучених Штатах Америки, є активними учасниками парафіяльного життя нашої церкви. Українці, котрі в 2014 році, під час воєнної агресії та анексії Криму залишилися вірні своїй державі, присязі, вірні собі. Показують власним прикладом, що немає більшої любові, як хто душу свою віддасть за друзів своїх.

Владика Даниїл у привітальному слові звернув увагу саме на те, що українство не залежить від зовнішніх чинників, воно в середині людини, в її серці. Ці військові як і багато інших військових та цивільних людей залишили все що мали – весь матеріальний добробут і залишились разом із своєю нацією, своєю Батьківщиною. Як зазначив Владика: «Перебуваючи тут, в США ці великі українці продовжили своє служіння Богу та людям і весь свій вільний час присвятили активній участі в парафіяльному житті української громади святого Архистратига Михаїла в Балтиморі». На завершення архієпископ Даниїл благословив військових на їхнє благополучне повернення до

України та подальше служіння Українській державі.

З благословення митрополита Антонія архієпископ Даниїл Вручив військовим медалі, присвяченні століттю заснування Української церкви в США, дякуючи їм за віддане життя своїй церкві та державі. Військовослужбовці в свою чергу подякували за нагороди, а також за тепле та гостинне прийняття вірними Української церкви, навіть перебуваючи за кордоном вони себе відчували частиною України, частиною церкви Христової.

Аксіос, достойні українці!

*Photos by Subdeacon Yaroslav Bilohan*



## CREAMY GARLIC, LEMON & SPINACH

# Salmon

### INGREDIENTS

- 2 sweet potatoes
- 1 tbsp olive oil or rapeseed oil
- 2 salmon fillets, skin removed
- 2 garlic cloves, thinly sliced
- 1 ½ cup baby spinach
- 1 lemon, zested and ½ juiced, ½ thinly sliced
- ¾ cup mascarpone
- 5 tbsp milk

### STEP 1

Heat oven to 400 F (200C/180C). Pierce the sweet potatoes a few times each and microwave on high for 5 mins until soft (alternatively, bake for 35-40 mins). Keep warm until ready to serve.

### STEP 2

Heat half the oil in a frying pan and lightly brown the salmon on both sides – don’t worry about it being cooked through at this point. Transfer the salmon to a plate, wipe out the pan and heat the remaining oil.

Cook the garlic for 30 seconds, without letting it brown, then add the spinach, lemon zest and juice and some seasoning. Stir in the mascarpone and 2 tbsp of the milk and cook until the spinach has wilted.

### STEP 3

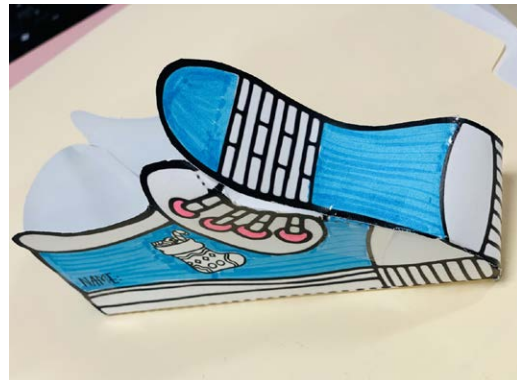
Tip the spinach mix into an ovenproof dish and top with the lemon slices and salmon fillets. Bake for 5-8 mins until the salmon is cooked through.

### STEP 4

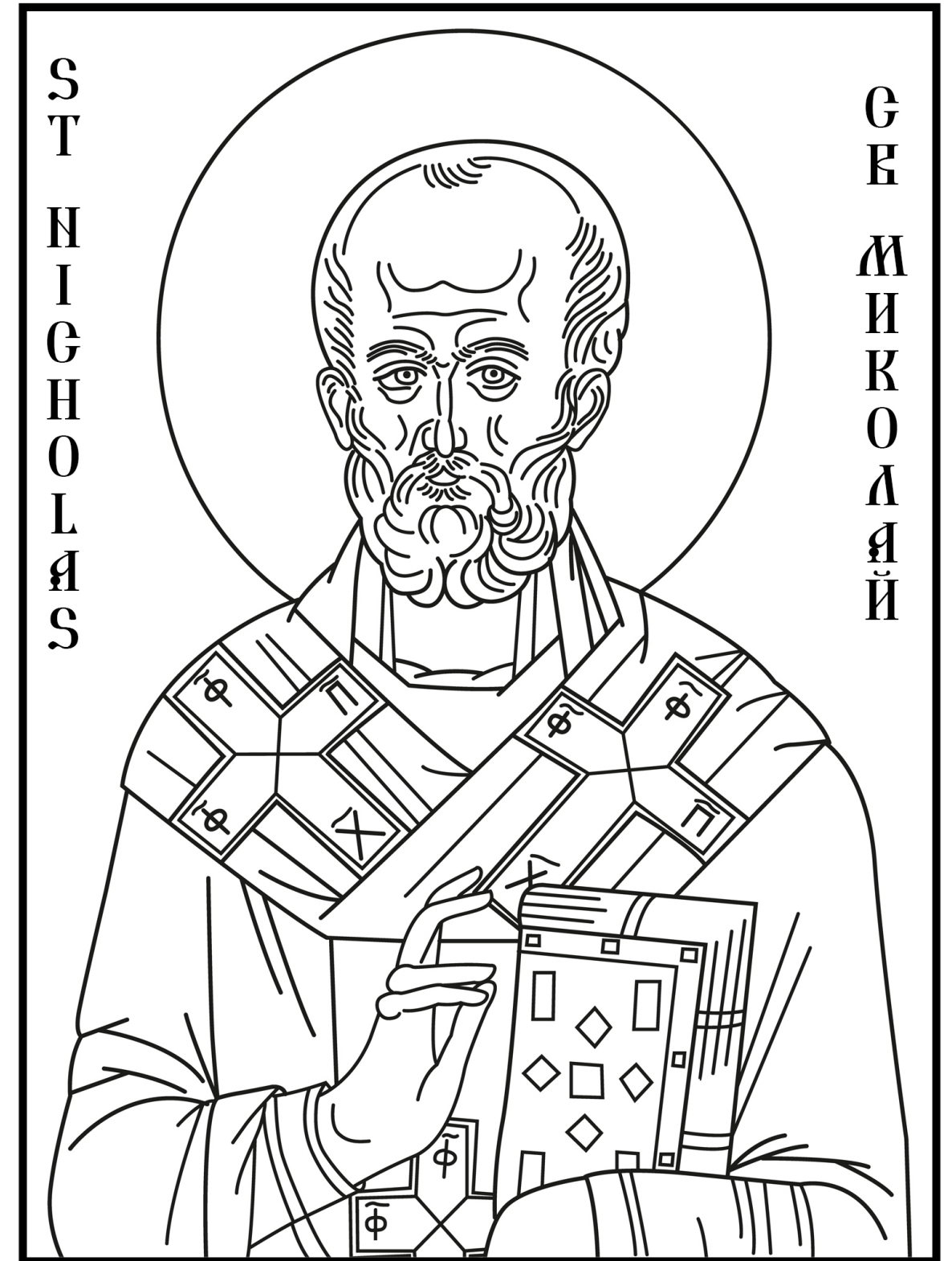
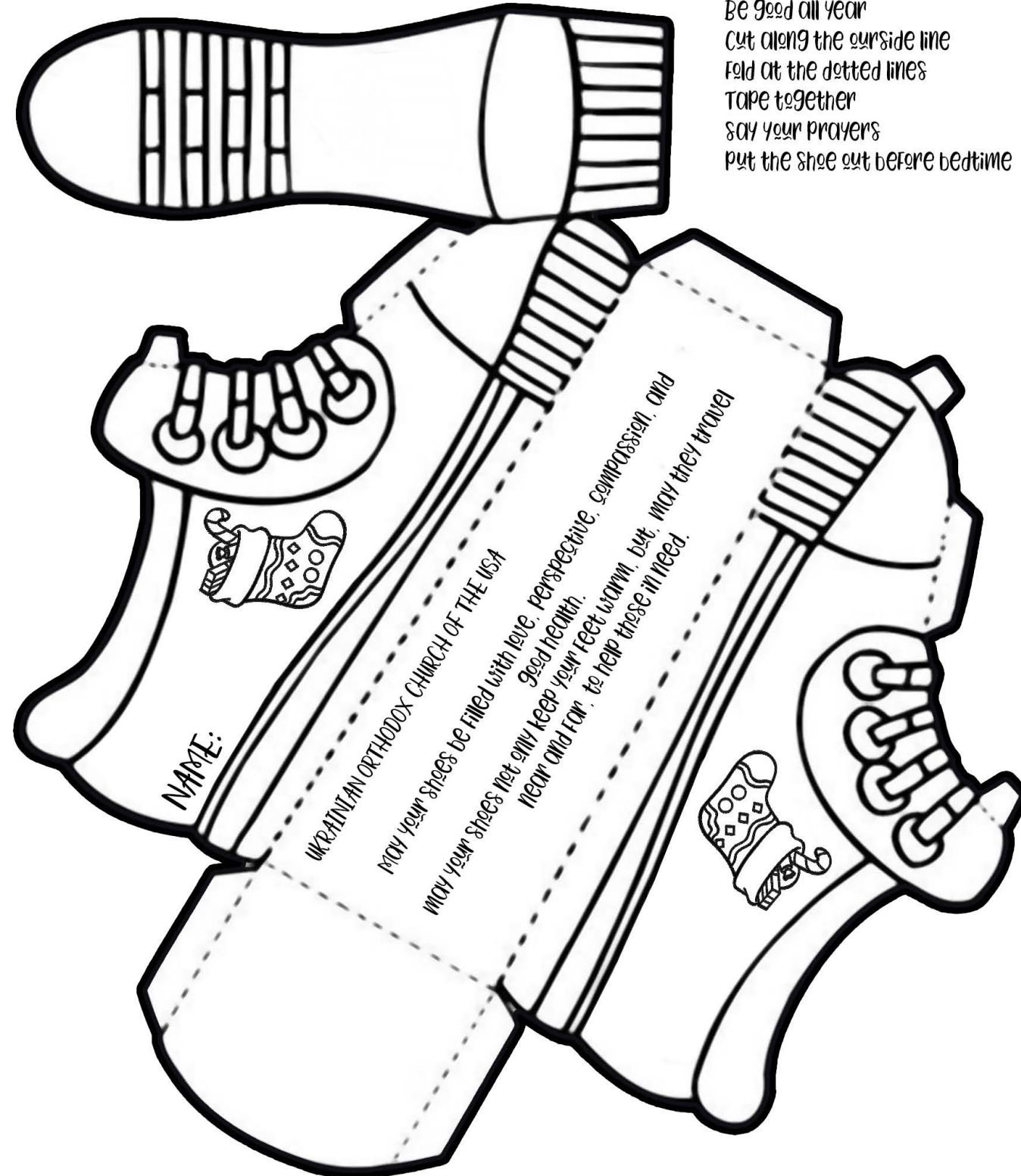
Meanwhile, scoop the sweet potato flesh from the skins and mash with the remaining milk and some seasoning. Serve the sweet potato mash alongside the salmon and creamy spinach.

*BBC-GoodFood (Cassie Best)*

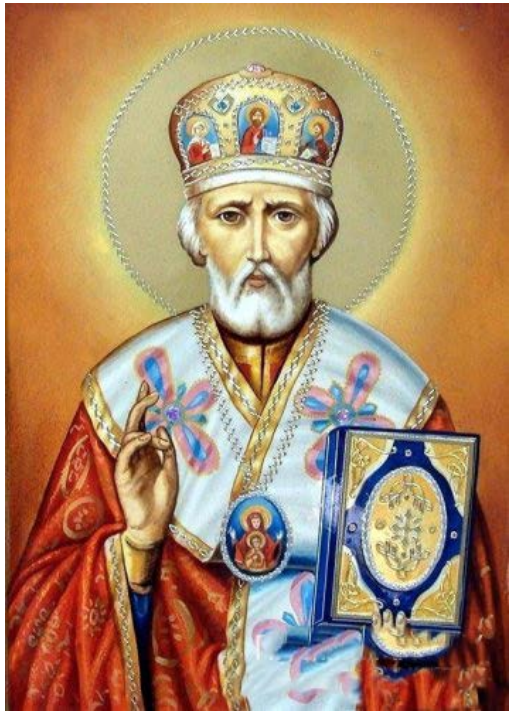




Be good all year  
cut along the outside line  
fold at the dotted lines  
Tape together  
say your prayers  
put the shoe out before bedtime







### LEARN ABOUT ST. NICHOLAS

Nicholas was born to wealthy Greek parents in the year 270 on the coast of what is now Turkey. He died on December 3, 343, in Myra, where he was bishop.

**MISSION:** He was appointed as bishop at 30 years of age, and was known as the “boy bishop”. As bishop of Myra, Nicholas (which means “people’s victory”) devoted himself to caring for the poor and defending children. At the Council of Nicea, he defended the divinity of Christ. To Roman officials who wanted to know who he was, he fearlessly declared: “I am Nicholas, a sinner, servant of God, and bishop of Myra.”

He was the Bishop of Myra during a time when Christians were persecuted by the Romans and was jailed by the Roman Emperor Diocletian for seven years until he was freed when Emperor Constantine, the first Christian Emperor, issued the Edict of Milan in 313. Having gained his freedom, St. Nicholas attended the first Council of Nicaea in 325 where he argued against Arianism.

**ADVENTURES:** The man who would later become the basis for our modern-day “Santa Claus” was gentle with children, but tough when it came to defending truth and justice. During the persecution of Christians, Bishop Nicholas was thrown in prison and tortured. Scientists studying his skull have found his nose had been broken, probably by Roman soldiers during the bishop’s time in prison.

As a young man, Nicholas made a pilgrimage to the Holy Land so he could pray at the places Jesus lived. During the voyage, a fierce storm struck the ship. “Do not fear; God will protect us,” Nicholas told the sailors. Then he calmly prayed as the storm raged. Finally, the storm calmed down, but not before a sailor fell from the rigging. Nicholas prayed over the seemingly dead man, who miraculously arose as if he had only been asleep.

Another time Bishop Nicholas learned of three sisters who wanted to marry, but were unable to afford a dowry. Nicholas visited the family’s home in the middle of the night, throwing a small bag of gold coins in the window. The coins landed in a pair of shoes (or socks) that were drying by the fire. Nicholas did this three times, supplying enough money for all the girls to marry.

Once, Nicholas stopped the unjust execution of three men. He grabbed the sword out of the executioner’s hands, unchained the men, and brought them back to the judge to demand their pardon.

When famine struck Myra in 312 and 313, Nicholas prayed to God for help. Soon he learned of several ships that had landed nearby, laden with grain destined for Egypt. He rushed to the port and begged the captain to sell some of the grain, promising the man that he would not get in trouble for the missing amount. Very reluctantly, the captain sold some of the grain to the people of Myra.

When the grain was unloaded in Egypt, true to the good bishop’s word, it weighed as much as when it had been loaded! Back in Myra, the grain was enough to feed people for two years, with enough left over for planting. It was a miracle of sharing—the sort of miracle that is especially appropriate during the Nativity Season.

St. Nicholas is the patron saint of children, sailors, merchants, and pawnbrokers.

### TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

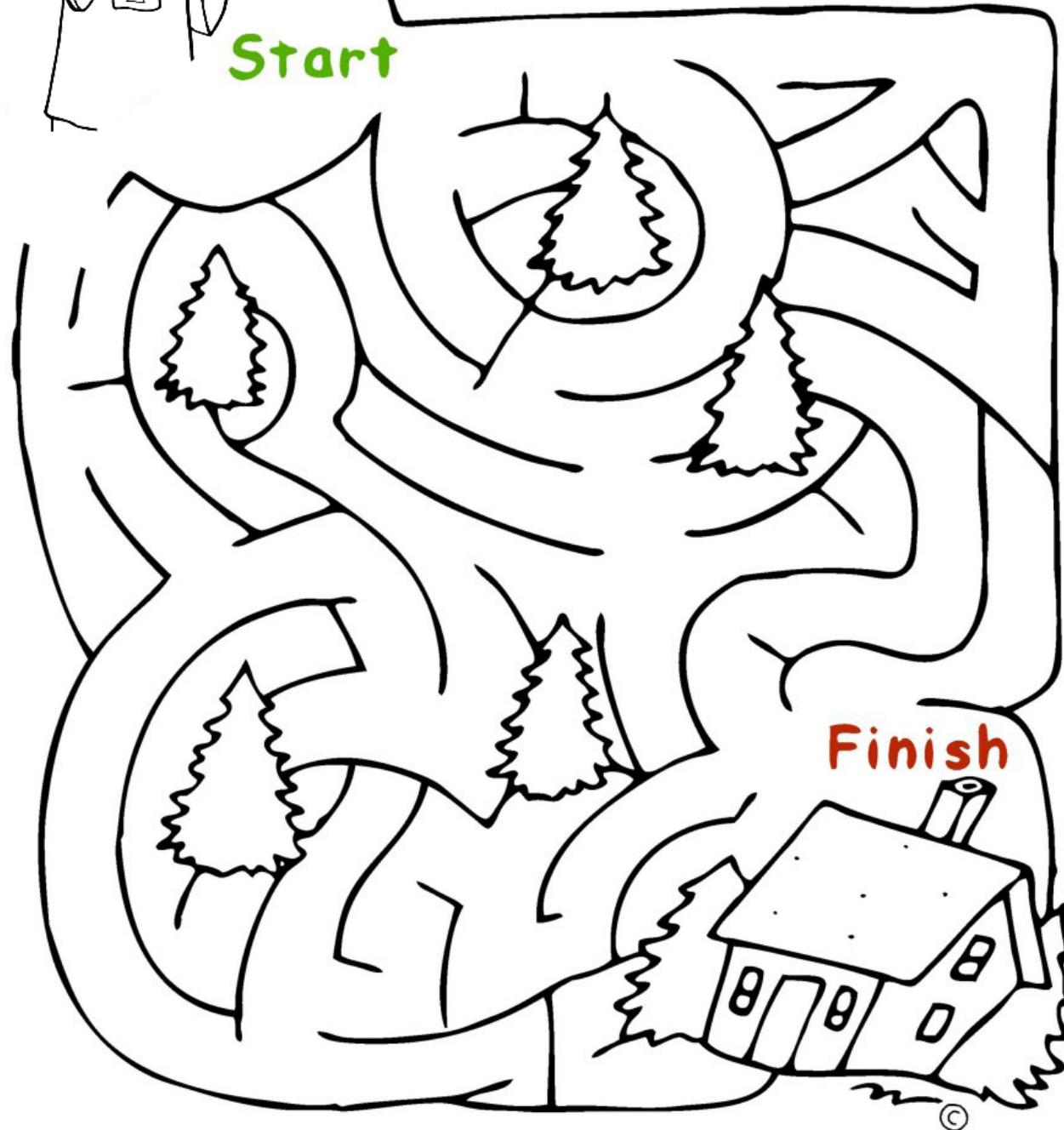
1. Where and in what year was St. Nicholas born?
2. What does his name mean?
3. Nicholas was born into a poor family. True or False
4. St. Nicholas is a patron saint of who/what?
5. What happened when St. Nicholas was on a ship sailing to Jerusalem?
6. Retell the story of the three poor sisters.
7. How did St. Nicholas save the people of Myra from famine/starvation?





## HELP ST. NICHOLAS FIND THE HOUSE SO HE CAN DELIVER HIS GIFTS

Start



**GIVE A GIFT TO THE NEWBORN CHRIST  
CHILD BY GIVING A GIFT TO A CHILD  
WHO SIMPLY NEEDS LOVE**

December 22, 2021

The Conception by St. Anna of the Most Holy Theotokos

Beloved in the Lord!

### CHRIST IS BORN!

At some point in our childhood, we have all had a beloved stuffed animal or doll to hug and care for. It is such a small thing, but in the eyes of a child, that toy may mean the world to them. Having the childhood experience of owning one or many stuffed toys is something we take for granted. There are thousands of children around the world who have never felt that joy.

During this Nativity Season, we are calling upon everyone to share with their brothers and sisters in Ukraine, by sharing a new or gently used stuffed toy. We simply request you place a box under your parish Christmas tree and fill it up! The stuffed toys will be sent to the children in the war zone in Ukraine. Give a gift to the Newborn Christ Child by supporting a child in need of love and comfort.

All donations should be sent to:  
His Eminence Archbishop Daniel  
c/o Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA  
135 Davidson Avenue  
Somerset, NJ 08873

Please contact the Office of Youth Ministry at  
[uocyouth@aol.com](mailto:uocyouth@aol.com) with any questions.

All donations should be received by January 30th.

In Christ's Love,  
*His Eminence Archbishop Daniel*

*Natalie Kapeluck Nixon*  
Director - Office of Youth Ministry







## ЗРОБІТЬ ДАРУНОК НОВОНАРОДЖЕНОМУ ХРИСТУ. НАДАЮЧИ ПІДТРИМКУ ДИТИНІ, ЯКА ПРОСТО ПОТРЕБУЄ ЛЮБОВІ

22 грудня, 2021 р. Божого  
Зачаття Праведною Анною Пресвятої Богородиці

Улюблені у Господі!

## ХРИСТОС РОЖДАЄТЬСЯ!

У якийсь момент нашого дитинства у кожного з нас була улюблена м'яка іграшка чи лялька, щоб обійняти та гратись. Це мала річ, але в очах дитини ця іграшка може означати цілий світ. Мати в дитинстві бодай одну чи декілька м'яких іграшок для нас є звичною річчю. Проте по всьому світі є тисячі дітей, які ніколи її не мали.

Під час цього Різдва ми закликаємо всіх поділитися зі своїми братами та сестрами в Україні новою чи своєю, в хорошому стані, іграшкою. Ми просимо вас помістити під вашу парафіяльну ялинку коробку і впродовж Різдвяних свят наповнити її іграшками. М'які іграшки передадуть дітям у зону бойових дій в Україні. Зробіть подарунок новонародженому немовляті Христу, попідкувавшись про дитину, яка потребує любові та втіхи.

Усі пожертви слід надсилати на адресу:  
His Eminence Archbishop Daniel  
c/o Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA  
135 Davidson Avenue  
Somerset, NJ 08873

З будь-якими запитаннями звертайтеся до Відділу  
Праці з Молоддю за адресою uosyouth@aol.com.  
Усі пожертви повинні бути здійснені до 30 січня.

У Христовій Любові,  
Високопреосвященніший Архієпископ Даниїл

Наталія Капелюк Ніксон  
Директор – Відділ Праці з Молоддю



## BAPTISMS

**Birca, Leo** baptized and chrismated on November 14, 2021 in Sts. Peter & Paul Church, Palos Park, IL. Child of Igor Birca and Victoria Tapes. Sponsors: Andrei Panfil / Cristina Chihai, Tudor Mereacre / Elena Mereacre and Veceaslav Rosca. Celebrated by V. Rev. Vasyl Sendeha.

**Bren, Emma** baptized and chrismated on October 10, 2021 in Sts. Peter & Paul Church, Palos Park, IL. Child of Oleh Bren and Mariia Kushnir. Sponsors: Dmytro Lysak / Oksana Lozano and Ihor Korytnyk / Anna Kushnir. Celebrated by V. Rev. Vasyl Sendeha.

**Danczak, Sophia Elizabeth** baptized and chrismated on October 30, 2021 in St. Nicholas Pro-Cathedral Church, Lakewood, OH. Child of Robert Edward Danczak and Beth Olivia Powell. Sponsors: John Halas and Tanja Pervitic. Celebrated by Fr. Michael Danczak.

**Dubchak, Makar** baptized and chrismated on August 27, 2021 in Holy Trinity Church, Trenton, NJ. Child of Oleh Dubchak and Ulia Dubchak. Sponsors: Ruslan Dutko and Nataliya Bartkiv. Celebrated by Fr. Zinoviy Zharsky.

**Escobar, Christopher** baptized and chrismated on October 30, 2021 in St. Anthony of the Desert Church, Las Cruces, NM. Child of . Sponsors: Reader Blake George Davenport and . Celebrated by Fr. Gabriel Rochelle.

**Esteves, Bernardo Miguel** baptized and chrismated on September 4, 2021 in Sts. Peter & Paul Church, Palos Park, IL. Child of Valter Filipe Esteves and Yuliya Yakubchik. Sponsors: Michael Sydoruk / Carla Estwes / Natalia Maximova and . Celebrated by V. Rev. Vasyl Sendeha.

**Katsouba, Anthony** baptized and chrismated on November 6, 2021 in St. Nicholas Church, Troy, NY. Child of Alexander Katsouba and Khrystyna Katsouba. Sponsors: Lev Katsouba and Marina Lisai. Celebrated by Fr. Vasyl Dovgan.

**Kokovskyy, Evelyn Zoe** baptized and chrismated on September 19, 2021 in St. Mary Protectress Church, New Haven, CT. Child of Andriy Kokovskyy and Iryna Mohylnytska. Sponsors: Volodymyr Boyko and Liudmyla Capaldo. Celebrated by V. Rev. Oleksandr Yatskiv.

**Kristof, Amelia Isabelle** baptized and chrismated on October 30, 2021 in St. Nicholas Pro-Cathedral Church, Lakewood, OH. Child of Benjamin David Kristof and Anna Rich. Sponsors: Damian Basil Kristof and Nina Don Kristof. Celebrated by Fr. Dennis Kristof.

**Lutcan, Dmitrii** baptized and chrismated on November 14, 2021 in Sts. Peter & Paul Church, Palos Park, IL. Child of Dumitru Lutcan and Elena Uzun. Sponsors: Nicolae Rosca / Diana Rosca, Ghenadie Poian / Stela Botnari and Constantin Lutcan / Elena Lutcan, Gheorge Cantea / Irina Lutcan. Celebrated by V. Rev. Vasyl Sendeha.

**Payne, Alexander Wildiam** baptized and chrismated on October 10, 2021 in St. Mary Cathedral Church, Allentown, PA. Child of James William Payne III and April Sophia Milinichik. Sponsors: Vladimir Holoviyak and Paula Holoviyak. Celebrated by Fr. Richard Jendras.

**Samofalov, Christina** baptized and chrismated on October 23, 2021 in St. Volodymyr Cathedral Church, New York, NY. Child of Mykhailo Samofalov and Olga Samofalova. Sponsors: Dimitry Carter and Anastasiia Kozlovskaya. Celebrated by V. Rev. Volodymyr Muzychka.

**Shelepets, Kira** baptized and chrismated on October 2, 2021 in St. Michael's Church, San Francisco, CA. Child of and Mariia Shelepets. Sponsors: Aliaksei Prakupovich and Mariia Coppola. Celebrated by V. Rev. Georgiy Tyapko.

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

**Wheatly, Diana** baptized and chrismated on September 30, 2021 in St. Volodymyr Cathedral Church, New York, NY. Child of Andriy Pshenychny and Kateryna Tsarinnikova. Sponsors: Aleksandr Poletaev and Kateryna Tsarinnikova. Celebrated by V. Rev. Volodymyr Muzychka.

**Wheatly, Jacob** baptized and chrismated on September 30, 2021 in St. Volodymyr Cathedral Church, New York, NY. Child of Andriy Pshenychny and Kateryna Tsarinnikova. Sponsors: Aleksey Pilyasov and Katarzyna Obrycki. Celebrated by V. Rev. Volodymyr Muzychka.

**Wobser, Jonah Stephen** baptized and chrismated on November 20, 2021 in St. Vladimir Cathedral Church, Parma, OH. Child of Dominick Wobser and Emily Kominko. Sponsors: Anthony Wobser and Melanie Nakonachny. Celebrated by Fr. John Nakonachny / Fr. Michael Hontaruk.

**Yagudin, Mila** baptized and chrismated on September 18, 2021 in St. Volodymyr Cathedral Church, New York, NY. Child of Yuriy Yagudin and Olga Vyshnevsky. Sponsors: Alex Kagzana and Olga Gavrillets. Celebrated by V. Rev. Volodymyr Muzychka.

**Zaytsev, Alexander Michael** baptized and chrismated on July 18, 2021 in Holy Trinity Church, Trenton, NJ. Child of Sergiy Zaytsev and Oksana Poberezhnyk. Sponsors: Ihor Dronyk and Anastasiia Kolomelchuk. Celebrated by Fr. Zinoviy Zharsky.

**Zholudev, Michael** baptized and chrismated on September 12, 2020 in Holy Trinity Church, Trenton, NJ. Child of Vitaly Zholudev and Anastasiya Zholudev. Sponsors: Fr. Zinoviy Zharsky and Ulia Horan. Celebrated by Fr. Zinoviy Zharsky.

**Zholudev, Evdokia** baptized and chrismated on September 12, 2020 in Holy Trinity Church, Trenton, NJ. Child of Vitaly Zholudev and Anastasiya Zholudev. Sponsors: Fr. Zinoviy Zharsky and Ulia Horan.



## MARRIAGES

**Oleksandr Dereviaga and Yuliya Lysyuk** in Holy Trinity Parish, Sacramento, CA, on October 31, 2021, witnessed by Oleg Tsybik and Lidiya Tsybik. Celebrant: Fr. Myroslav Turchak.

**James William Payne III and April Sophia Milinichik** in St. Mary Cathedral Parish, Allentown, PA, on October 9, 2021, witnessed by Stephanie Milan and . Celebrant: Fr. Richard Jendras.



ASLEEP  
IN THE

LORD

**Bovo, Olga**, on September 21, 2021 at the age of 98 years, officiating clergy Fr. Ivan Tchopko of Sts. Peter & Paul Parish, Youngstown, OH 44509.

**Geletkanyat, Robert B.** of Quakertown, PA on November 5, 2021 at the age of 80 years, officiating clergy Rev. Richard Jendras of St. Mary Parish, Allentown, PA 18102.

**Hura, Victor** of Carmel, IN on November 10, 2021 at the age of 64 years, officiating clergy Fr. J. Nakonachny of St. Vladimir Cathedral Parish, Parma, OH 44134.

**Kmetyk, Alice** of Middletown, CT on November 19, 2021 at the age of 94 years, officiating clergy V. Rev. Andrii Pokotylo of St. Mary's Parish, New Britain, CT 06051.

**Malys, Catherine** of Boardman, OH on July 28, 2021 at the age of 95 years, officiating clergy Fr. Ivan Tchopko of Sts. Peter & Paul Parish, Youngstown, OH 44509.

**Petruniw, Jr, John** of New Britain, CT on November 15, 2021 at the age of 70 years, officiating clergy V. Rev. Andrii Pokotylo of St. Mary's Parish, New Britain, CT 06051.

**Pryshepa, Petro of Massillon**, OH on November 23, 2021 at the age of 88 years, officiating clergy Fr. J. Nakonachny / Fr. M. Hontaruk of St. Vladimir Cathedral Parish, Parma, OH 44134

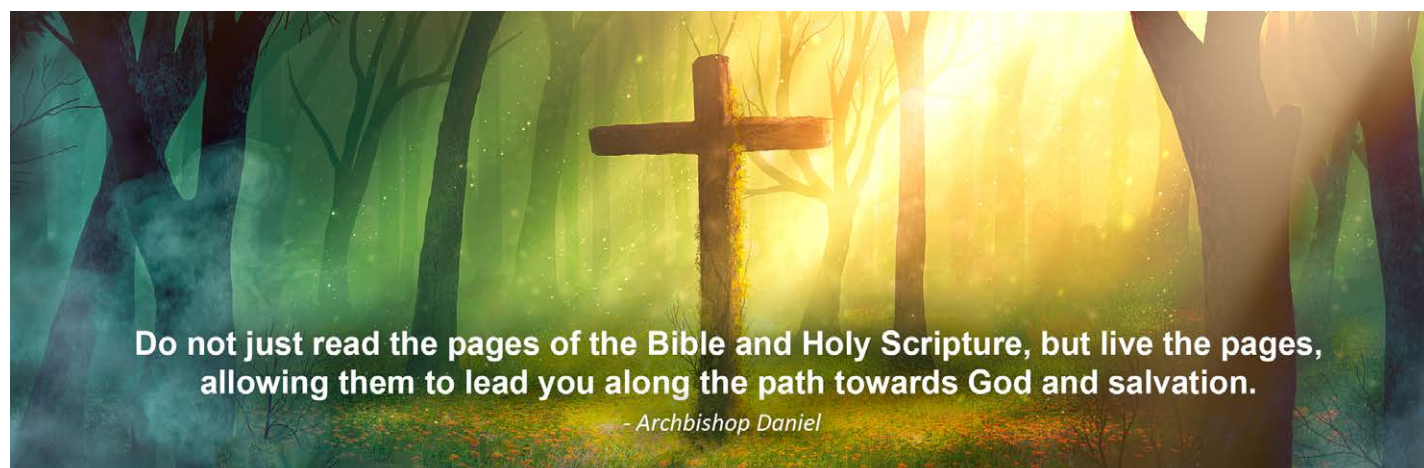
**Stephen Sywy, William** of Wylie, TX on April 14, 2021 at the age of 79 years, officiating clergy Fr. Ivan Tchopko of Sts. Peter & Paul Parish, Youngstown, OH 44509.





may god grant to them many happy and blessed years!

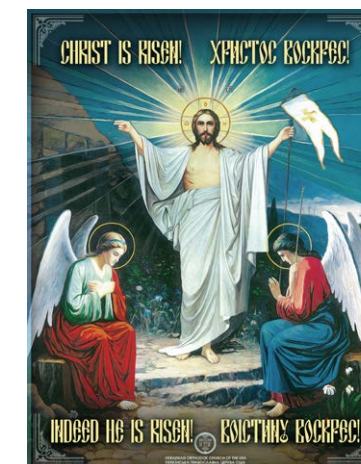
V. Rev. Victor Wronskij	12/2/2005
V. Rev. Raymond Sundland	12/3/1977
V. Rev. Myroslav Turchak	12/4/2003
Protopresb. Howard Sloan	12/4/1977
V. Rev. Vasile Sauciur	12/6/1999
Rev. Gregory Jensen	12/6/1996
V. Rev. John Lyszyk	12/7/1991
Rev. Philip Harendza	12/10/2016
V. Rev. Volodymyr Steliac	12/10/1995
V. Rev. Mykola Andrushkiv	12/11/1999
V. Rev. Robert Popichak	12/13/1997
V. Rev. Oleksandr Yatskiv	12/19/2001
Rev. Paul Bigelow	12/23/2000
Rev. Charles Sanderson	12/25/2019
Dn. James Stickel	12/9/2007
Dn. Paul M Cherkas	12/29/2013



MEMORY ETERNAL!



ВІЧНА ПАМ'ЯТЬ!



DECEMBER

Archbishop Vsevolod (Majdanski) \* - 16 December 2007

6th 1950 -	PROTOPRIEST STEPHAN PROKOPCHUK
17th 1955 -	PROTOPRESBYTER WASYL DIAKIW SR.
29th 1962 -	PROTOPRIEST GREGORY PYPIUK
18th 1965 -	PRIEST PETRO KASIANCZUK
4th 1967 -	PROTOPRIEST MYKOLA MOHUCHY
1st 1969 -	PRIEST JURIJ SIKORSKYJ
14th 1973 -	PROTOPRESBYTER OLEXIJ POTULNYCKYJ
21st 1976 -	PRIEST IVAN CHUMAK
2nd 1984 -	PROTOPRIEST NICHOLAS YARMOLOVICH
12th 1987 -	PROTOPRIEST WASYL POKOTYLO
9th 1992 -	PROTOPRIEST FEDIR KOWALENKO
22nd 1997 -	PROTOPRESBYTER WOLODYMIR BAZYLEWSKYJ
25th 1997 -	PROTOPRIEST NESTOR STOLARCHUK
1st 2000 -	PROTOPRIEST ANDREW LASHINSKY
6th 2001 -	PROTOPRESBYTER PETRO SAHAJDACHNY
28th 2003 -	PROTOPRIEST VICTOR COOLEY
6th 2012 -	PROTOPRESBYTER HRYHORIJ PODHUREC
9th 2015 -	DEACON DAVID MASCARENAS





**UOC of USA Orthodox Daily Planner/Calendar for 2022**  
 Календар-записник на кожний день року із вказівками про свята і читання на кожний день

**ORDER**  
 Your copy of the UOC of USA  
 2022 Church Calendar today!

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 на 2022 рік!

-Saints, Daily Readings, Paschalion  
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 -Directory of clergy with photos  
 -List of Names of Saints in Eng. and Ukrainian  
 -and much more...

## START YOUR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING EARLY!

Help your family and friends stay organized and up-to-date with the Church Planner, while they enjoy a hot cup of coffee or tea from one of the specially designed charitable mugs.

**Mugs of CHRISTIAN LOVE: Together with my Church, I am helping...**  
**Кружки ХРИСТІАНСЬКОЇ ЛЮБОВІ: Разом із моєю церквою я допомагаю...**

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

**Приєднуйтесь до Церкви, допомагаючи тим хто потребує помочі**  
**СИРОТИ - ЛЮДИ ЛІТНЬОГО ВІКУ - ХВОРІ**

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**JULY 27-31, 2022**



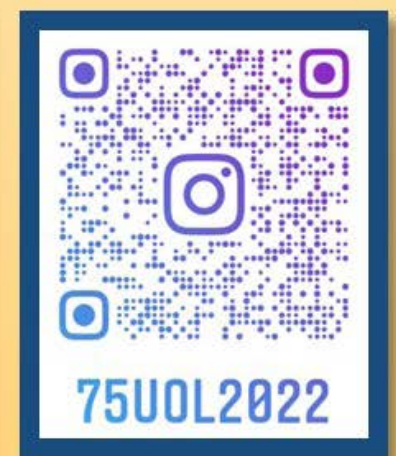
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75th UOL Convention | St. Peter & St. Paul ([orthodoxcarnegie.org](http://orthodoxcarnegie.org))





## GUARDIANS OF THE METROPOLIA

Members of the Council of Metropolia, Consistory, Clergy and Faithful of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, on this, the Synaxis of the Archangel Michael and the other Bodiless Powers of Heaven Feast Day, the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA formally announces the formation of the Guardians of the Metropolia organization of the UOC of USA.

At the 22nd Regular Sobor of the UOC of USA on October 19th, 2019, with the blessings of Metropolitan Antony and Archbishop Daniel, a group of Sobor delegates was tasked to form the Guardians of the Metropolia, which is a charitable, auxiliary organization of the Church.

The Guardians of the Metropolia are dedicated to promoting our Orthodox Christian Faith, growing the core ministries of the UOC of USA, and bequeathing a strong Church for future generations.

As part of their mission, the Guardians of the UOC of USA will raise funds through annual membership pledges/sponsorships, in addition to donations from individuals, businesses, banks and other organizations. These funds will be dedicated towards growing the core ministries of the UOC of USA and its future.

For more information concerning the Guardians of the Metropolia please contact Father Andrii Pokotylo at [frandrii@yahoo.com](mailto:frandrii@yahoo.com), Howard West at [howardwest1988@outlook.com](mailto:howardwest1988@outlook.com), or Elizabeth Symonenko at [symonsays@hotmail.com](mailto:symonsays@hotmail.com), or visit our website at [guardiansofmet.org](http://guardiansofmet.org)



## ПОКРОВИТЕЛІ МИТРОПОЛІЇ

Члени Ради Митрополії, Консисторія, духовенство та вірні Української Православної Церкви США, у цей святковий день Собору Архистратига Божого Михаїла та всіх Небесних Сил Безтілесних, Українська Православна Церква Сполучених Штатів Америки офіційно проголошує утворення організації Покровителів Митрополії Української Православної Церкви Сполучених Штатів Америки.

На 22-му регулярному соборі УПЦ США 19 жовтня 2019 року з благословенням митрополита Антонія та архієпископа Даниїла, групі делегатів Собору було доручено сформувати Покровителів Митрополії.

Покровителі Митрополії є благодійною, допоміжною організацією УПЦ США. Вони будуть концентрувати свою діяльність на поширенні Православної Християнської віри, розбудові відділів служіння УПЦ США та збереженні міцною УПЦ США для майбутніх поколінь. Частиною місії Покровителів УПЦ США будуть старання в напрямку поповнення бюджету Церкви за рахунок щорічних членських внесків/спонсорства та додаткових пожертв від приватних осіб та/або організацій, банків та підприємств. Ці кошти будуть спрямовуватися на розвиток відділів служіння УПЦ США та її майбутнього.

Для отримання додаткової інформації щодо Покровителів Митрополії, будь-ласка, зв'яжіться з отцем Андрієм Покотило - [frandrii@yahoo.com](mailto:frandrii@yahoo.com), Ховардом Вест - [howardwest1988@outlook.com](mailto:howardwest1988@outlook.com), або Єлизаветою Симоненко - [symonsays@hotmail.com](mailto:symonsays@hotmail.com) або відвідайте нашу вебсторінку за адресою [guardiansofmet.org](http://guardiansofmet.org)



You are invited to join us for a Christmas caroling concert at the Ukrainian Cultural Center of the UOC of USA  
Ласкаво запрошуємо Вас до Українського Культурного Центру УПЦ США на концерт Різдвяних колядок

CAROLING FOR

# Christ Христ

1:00 PM

January 15, 2022  
Ukrainian Cultural Center

о 13:00 годині  
15 січня 2022  
Український Культурний  
Центр

Free admission  
Вхід безкоштовний

Prepare three of your favorite  
Christmas Carols or a short  
15 min Christmas play/Vertep!

Підготуйте Ваші три улюблені  
колядки, або коротку сценку  
з вертепу!



## MERRY CHRISTMAS!

THE BABE WAS BORN!

To register, please contact Fr. Vasyl Pasakas.

Для того, щоб зареєструватися будь-ласка звертайтеся до о. Василя Пасакас.  
(732) 356-0090

135 Davidson Avenue, Somerset, NJ 08873



UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE USA  
УКРАЇНСЬКА ПРАВОСЛАВНА ЦЕРКВА США



## DECEMBER CELEBRATIONS У ГРУДНІ СВЯТКУЄМО

4

**The Entry of the Most Holy  
Theotokos into the Temple**  
Введення в Храм Пресвятої  
Владичиці нашої Богородиці і  
Вседіви Марії

7

**Great-martyr Catherine**  
Великомучениці Катерини

13

**Apostle Andrew the First-called**  
Апостола Андрія Первозванного

17

**Great-martyr Barbara**  
Вмц. Варвари

19

**St. Nicholas the Wonderworker**  
Святителя Миколая, чудотворця

22

**The Conception by St. Anna of the  
Most Holy Theotokos**  
Зачаття праведною Анною  
Пресвятої Богородиці

25

**Nativity of our Lord (according to  
the Gregorian Calendar)**  
Різдво Христове (згідно  
Григоріанського календаря)

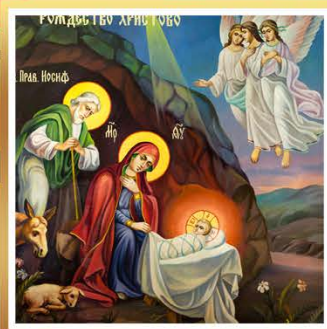
30

**Holy Prophet Daniel**  
Пророка Даниїла



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UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE USA  
**JANUARY CELEBRATIONS**  
**В СІЧНІ СВЯТКУЄМО**  
УКРАЇНСЬКА ПРАВОСЛАВНА ЦЕРКВА США



**4**

Great-Martyr Anastasia

Вмц. Анастасії

**6**

Eve of the Nativity of Christ

Навечір'я Різдва Христового

**7**

Nativity of our Lord, God and Savior,  
Jesus Christ

Різдво Господа Бога і Спаса нашого  
Ісуса Христа

**8**

Synaxis of the Theotokos

Собор Пресвятої Богородиці

**9**

Holy Protomartyr Archdeacon Stephen

Св. Ап. першомученика і архиєпископа  
Стефана

**11**

Holy Innocents  
(14,000 infants slain by Herod in Bethlehem)

Свв. Мучеників 14,000 немовлят вбитих  
Іродом у Вифлеємі

**13**

Ven. Melania

Прп. Меланії

**14**

St. Basil the Great

Свт. Василя Великого

**18**

Eve of the Theophany

Навечір'я Богоявлення

**19**

Holy Theophany of our Lord/Baptism of  
Christ

Святе Богоявлення,  
Хрещення Господа Бога

**20**

Synaxis of the Forerunner, John the  
Baptist

Собор Предтечі і Хрестителя  
Господнього Іоана

**30**

St. Anthony the Great

Прп. Антонія Великого

ДОПОМОЖІТЬ СВОЇЙ ЦЕРКВІ

**YOU CAN HELP  
YOUR  
CHURCH**



Make a donation to support the Ministry of the  
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Відділів Служіння Церкви



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Somerset, NJ 08873

Будь ласка, розгляньте можливість зробити свою пожертву для служіння УПЦ США:  
В Інтернеті через PayPal за допомогою кнопки DONATE на нашому веб-сайті: [www.ucosofusa.org](http://www.ucosofusa.org)  
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отримання детальної інформації  
Чеки - виписуючи на УПЦ США - і надсилаючи до: УОС США - 135 Davidson Ave.  
Somerset, NJ 08873





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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Get involved in the life of your Church!

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

**Start of St. Philip's Fast (Advent)**

**November 28**

**Stuffed Toy Donations  
Due by:**

**January 30**

**Christmas  
(Gregorian Calendar)**

**December 25**

**Save the Date  
SOBOR**

**2022**

**Nativity of our Lord  
(Julian Calendar)**

**January 7**

**UOCofUSA  
uocofusa.org**

**Theophany**

**January 19**

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

**Shipping address: 135 Davidson Ave.  
Somerset, NJ 08873**

**Tel: (732) 356-0090**