



Christening of Anna Maria Darmograi (top left)
Christening of Emilia Anna Petri (top right)
← St. Nicholas Religion classes (left)

**AS I WAKE, I CRY:
REVISITING UKRAINE**
photographs by LUKIA COSTELLO



Solo exhibit at CEPA Galery, 617 Main St.
Opened Friday, Jan. 30.
Runs trough March 28, 2015.
Sumivska Yalynka at "Dnipro" (below)



SAINT NICHOLAS
UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



УКРАЇНСЬКА КАТОЛИЦЬКА
ЦЕРКВА СВЯТОГО МИКОЛАЯ



**№
5**

ПІД ОПІКОЮ
ПРЕЧИСТОЇ ДІВИ
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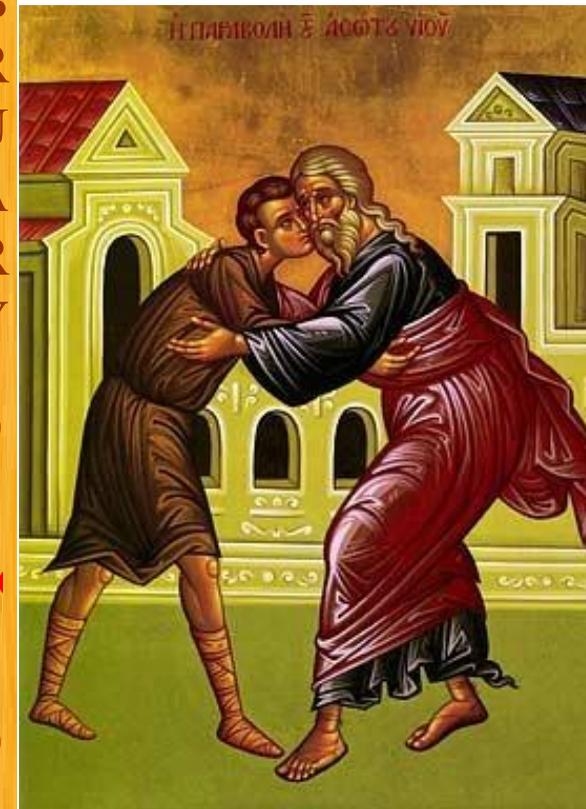
UNDER THE
PROTECTION OF
MOTHER OF GOD



CHURCH BULLETIN

February 1 – 2015 – 1 Лютого
ЦЕРКОВНИЙ ВІСНИК

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(Gregorian) Sunday of Prodigal Son
(Грегор. К.) Неділя Блудного Сина

(Julian) Sunday of Publican & Phar. (Юліанський) Неділя Митаря і Фарисея

CHURCH BULLETIN

February 1 – 2015 – 1 Лютого

ЦЕРКОВНИЙ ВІСНИК

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE



Saint Nicholas Church
Церква Св. Миколая
(Під Опікою П.Д.М.)

ПОР'ЯДОК СВ. ЛІТУРГІЙ

4:30 PM Dec. Members from Procyk Family:
+Михайло, Марія, Євдокія, Гринько, Іван
Софія (A. M. Petryshyn)

Feb. 1 S. Of Prodigal Son. – Н. Блудного Сина

12:00 PM За Парохіян – For Parishioners

Encounter – Стрітєння

Monday, February 2 Лютого, Понеділок

10:00 AM +Pawlo Nyznyk (Roman & Paul)

Tuesday, February 3 Лютого, Вівторок

9:00 AM ++о. Теодор і Стефанія Вареха
(Ліда Грецишин)

Wednesday, February 4 Лютого, Середа

10:00 AM +Михайло Меуш – 40 д. і панахида
(сестра Софія Дусанівська з родиною)

Thursday, February 5 Лютого, Четвер

12:00 PM +Theodor & Ahafia Nowadly (Elaine)

Friday, February 6 Лютого, П'ятниця

8:15 AM Int. of Fr. Marijan (Eliane Iwanyczko)

Sat. January 7 Лютого Субота

9:00 AM Int. of Vera Grushetsky & whole
Grushetsky Family (Luba Hicks)

4:30 PM +Tekla Moczerniak (Family)

Feb. 8 Meat-Fare Sunday – М'ясопусна Неділя

12:00 PM За Парохіян – For Parishioners

The Eternal Light burns in mem. of

+Rozalia Nyznyk

Requ. by Roman & Paul W. Nyznyk

Вічне Світло в честь П.Д.М. горить за
МИР В УКРАЇНІ

Христос Раждається! Славимо Його!

1 Лютого: Неділя Митаря і Фарисея

10:00 р. +Ірина Войчак (Роман)

8 Лютого: Неділя Блудного Сина

10:00 р. +Ольга Басараб (49 відділ СУА)



Valentine's Fun Night

Fundraiser to Benefit ATO
& Ukrainian War Victims

DJ Music – Dancing - Dessert
Photos - Games & Fun

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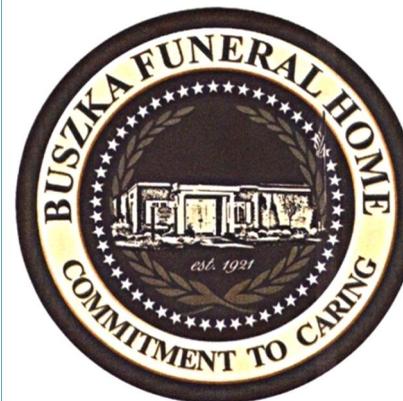
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ВІДДІЛУ СУА ПОВІДОМЛЯЄ,
ЩО З 1-ГО ЛЮТОГО 2015 РОКУ,
РОЗПОЧИНАЄМО ЗБІРКУ НА
"СТИПЕНДІЙНИЙ ФОНД СУА" ДЛЯ
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The Word of
God is the
foundation of
Christian life,
while the Holy
Eucharist is its
source and at
the same time
its culmination.



Gathered at the Divine Liturgy, the parish community unites with its invisible head, Christ, and with all the saints and angels, thus enacting a mystical union between heaven and earth, between time and eternity. The Divine Liturgy, which a duly appointed priest celebrates in unity with and on behalf of his bishop, is also a time of building up the Church, the body of Christ, which has our Lord as its Head. There is no moment more precious in our earthly life than the Divine Liturgy. That is why Sunday, the holy Day of our Lord, should be honored by every Christian, and participation in the Divine Liturgy should be considered not as an obligation imposed by the Church, which requires our obedience, but it should be received as a gift from our Lord, who longs to encounter us, in order to fill us with His grace and love. "We cannot live without Sunday!" was the motto of the early Christians of the first centuries, and they preferred a martyr's death to agreeing under pressure from the pagans to work on Sunday. This motto we Christians of the 21st century must make our own, and we should persistently guard the holiness and inviolability of the Lord's Day. Members of a vibrant parish also actively participate in the Holy Mysteries (Sacraments). Regularly, if possible even daily, they gather for the services in praise of our Heavenly Father. They frequently go to Confession and receive Holy Communion. In a vibrant parish church organizations combine their activities with common prayer, finding in it their strength and inspiration. No less important is our private prayer – personal and family prayer – which extends and continues our liturgical prayer in the Church. Our parishes, and in them our families, must again become a school of prayer for all of our faithful.

(To be cont.)

З радія "Милосердний Самарянин"

Сьогодні неділя про митаря і фарисея. Господь через притчу навчає нас про молитву, при тому звертаючи увагу на покаєння митаря з одного боку і самохвальбу фарисея з другого.

Митарів люди не любили. Ми вже чули про це коли розважували про Закхея минулої неділі. Митарі збирали податки для Римлян, а при тому обдурювали людей, наплачуючи більше ніж було потрібно, і в такий спосіб збагачувалися, а в той сам час бідні ставали ще біднішими. І не було до кого піти, щоб пожалуватися. Римляни не вислухали б скарги на митарів, бо ці останні були їхніми урядовцями, які їм поставали гроші, яких вони шукали. Тому митарів вважали ворогами народу, які однаки з того собі нічого не робили, бо мали попертя з боку уряду.

Фарисеї натомість, були люди вчені, шановані, які вмели закон, побожні, постили, молилися, давали постійно десятину на храм, були патріотами, одним словом – прикладні до наслідування. Не можна було їм нічого закинути.

І так чуємо у євангелію, приходять до храму щоб помолитися - один фарисей і один митар.

Фарисей вмів молитися. Псалми він на пам'ять знає. Ціле святе письмо у нього як з рукава. По потребі він зачитує якого небудь пророка. Насамперед пригадує він Богові, хто він є. "Ось я", каже, "фарисей; той що постить завжди коли треба постити; той, що дає милостиню і то так, щоб інші бачили і з мене брали приклад; той, що нікого не кривдить; той, що завжди направляє інших на правильну дорогу, пригадуючи їм їхні провини. Я жодної Твоєї заповіді не переступив. Даю на Боже, і Ти, Боже, віддаєш мені багато, за що Я Тобі невимовно дякую." Фарисей вдячний Богові, що він несе, як інші, що Бога не шанують. "Дякую тобі", продовжує "що я несе подібний до інших людей, тай як наприклад до того нещасного митаря, що ось

там у кутику стоїть. Він же насправді не повинен був навіть прийти тут до Твого хорому, бо його присутність осквернює це святе місце, але в такого роду людей ні стиду ні сорому. Для нього нема жодної надії на спасіння. Він напевно по правді одержить від тебе заслужену кару. Дякую тобі за твою справедливість."

Фарисеєві здається, що Бог мусть бути вдоволиний з нього. А може навіть повинен йому дякувати, бо він-фарисей іде правильним шляхом. Коли б всі були так як він, то запанував би рай на землі. Він все знає, що слід робити, ніякої зміни життя він не потребує. Він самовистарчальний у своїй духовості. Він досконалий. Нічого від інших навчитися не може, і жодної помочі від Бога не потребує.

А митар бє себе у груди кажучи: "Боже милостивий, будь мені грішному." Він знає, що не має чим хвалитися, що нічого доброго не зробив, а брехати Богові, очевидно не буде, бо Бог все знає. Хай його ім'я буде благословенне. "Нагрішив я багато, Господи, прости мені. Очисти мої гріхи."

Ось митар сам визнає, що нагрішив багато. На кожному людськом суді, був би засуджений. Не треба доказувати, що він грішник. Людей кривдив і Бога не шанував. І що ж. Христос мусить його засудити а фарисея похвалити і винагородити. Та не так воно стається, як нам не раз здається. Самохвальба фарисеєва, не могла припасти до впадоби Богові. Фарисей насправді не молився до Бога, він молився до себе самого, велечав себе, поставив себе мірилом повидінки. Для нього вже і Бога непотрібно. І сказав Христос. - Митар пішов оправданий до дому, бо він себе впокорив, визнав свої прогрішення, а не фарисей, що тільки вмів себе вевищати, хвалитися а інших при тому засуджувати, кидати в болото...

**"Боже милостивий, будь мені грішному.
Боже, очисти гріхи мої і помилуй мене"**



Sunday Coffee Hours: If anyone would like to volunteer to host a Sunday, please contact Elaine, Emily, Mary (B) or Anna.

- KITCHEN is now open.
- Thank you for your patronage.
We need your help in the kitchen. Thank you!
- Coffee Hour - Usually Every Sunday after Liturgy in Church Hall. Please join us!
- Lent starts February 16 according to Gregorian and February 23 according to Julian Calendar.

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CHURCH BULLETIN is published weekly.
Deadline for information is Friday Evening.
ЦЕРКОВНИЙ ВІСНИК видається тижнево.
Інформації подавати до П'ятниці вечора.

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Вінчання: Голоситися 6 місяців скорше

Religion classes – Релігійна Програма
Субота - Saturday

Ministry to the sick - Опіка над xvorymy

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Rev. Raymond Palko, visiting priest

**Please call if you are hospitalized,
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**Просимо закликати якщо ви у ліжниці
або приковані до ліжка!**

The Blessings of Homes

I will attempt to bless as many homes as possible this year. If for some reason he does not make it to your home and you want your house blessed, or if you would like a certain time of day, please let me know.

Благословенн Домів

Постараюся відвідати з благословенням домів. Якщо не буду у вас а хотіли би, що б я прийшов, або є проблема часу через працю – просимо дати знати і постараюся прийти у відповідний час.

The Sisters Servants of Mary

Immaculate cordially invite you to St. Mary's Villa, on Sunday, February 8th as we celebrate the *Year of Consecrated Life* as declared by Pope Francis. We encourage you to "Come and See" and visit with the Sisters Servants for an afternoon. The Open House is from 11:00 am – 4:00 pm. The address is 150 Sisters Servants Lane, Sloatsburg, NY 10974. A schedule of the day is posted. If you would like to join us or have any questions regarding this day, please call Sr. Kathleen at 845-753-2840 or email at srkath25@gmail.com by February 2, 2015. We would like to plan accordingly for the number people attending the Divine Liturgy and lunch.



Most Reverend Edward Michael Grosz, son of the late Joseph and Helen Grosz, was born on February 16, 1945. He was ordained a bishop on February 2, 1990. Today, February 1 he celebrates 25th Anniversary. In 1987, Bishop Grosz became the official liaison between the Diocese of Buffalo and the Ukrainian Byzantine Catholic Community of Buffalo. He received bi-ritual faculties from Rome giving him the ability to minister in Ukrainian Byzantine parishes on occasion. Ad Multos Annos. Happy Many Years.

На Многая і Благая Літа, владико Едварде!

My Ukraine photography exhibit

As I Wake, I Cry: Revisiting Ukraine weaves together recent travel photos to Ukraine with family photos and cultural artifacts to reveal the emotional story of one artist's road to cultural identification. This work is dedicated to the 'Celestial 100' who died at Euromaidan, the growing number of dead, wounded, and displaced, the many illegal prisoners of war, and the people of Russia – all suffering the effects of the illegal and undeclared Russian war in Ukraine.

Please join artist Lukia Costello in her solo exhibition at CEPA Gallery titled 'As I Wake, I Cry - Revisiting Ukraine'.

The show opened Friday January 30th 7-10 pm and runs through March 28th 2015. CEPA Gallery is located at 617 Main St. Buffalo, NY 14203

A portion of all sales will be donated in the name of Maria and Vasyl Sywenkyj to benefit the Ukrainian Freedom fund as administered through Ukr. Federal Credit Union @ Dnipro.

<http://www.cepagallery.org/portfolio/wake-cry-revisiting-ukraine-lukia-costello/>

From "Good Samaritan" Ukr. Radio pr.

The Church gives us another example today, about repentance in order to help prepare us for Great Lent. The Parable of the Prodigal Son in today's Gospel reading according to St. Luke is most beautiful. Jesus tells us this parable to remind us of God the Father, to entreat us to believe that regardless of our circumstances, in spite of our sinfulness, there is someone who loves us, someone who will gladly embrace us, someone who desires to bring us home - and that someone is our Heavenly Father. Jesus tells us this parable of a young, rebellious man who demands his inheritance money from his father. A father who is old - and an egocentric son who it seems cannot wait for him to die. But soon afterwards, we are told how this young man wasted his inheritance on a foolish lifestyle; how his bad choices catch up with him and he then finds himself desperately hungry, and forced to eat scraps which even the swine have left behind. Humbled and ashamed, he practices his apologies and tries to think of the best way to go home and face his father. The father in today's Gospel did not go in search of the younger son. The son had to make the decision himself to come back, "I will arise and go to my father" (Luke 15:18). That is a decision we all have to make at one time or another, to eventually leave behind our sinful desires and return to God, our Father. We can all remember times when we made poor choices and needed to figure out how to make things right again. But the greeting this young man was expecting was nothing like the one he received. "While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion for him, and ran and embraced him and kissed him" (Luke 15:20).



Of all the scenarios this man had played out in his head, this was the most unlikely one he expected, and yet it is the one that God is willing to give to each of us, in spite of our mistakes. I remember a time when I was just a youngster and broke my grandmother's favorite vase, a beautiful hand-crafted vase that has been passed down through the family for years. It was priceless and I was utterly foolish. While playing with my favorite red bouncing ball in my grandparents' house, something that I was told not to do, I accidentally ricochet the ball off my foot and struck the table, which knocked over the vase before I could catch it. I immediately felt sick to my stomach; I had done something that I could not take back and I wondered how I would tell my grandmother. When she walked in the door from the garden, I even hid under the bed, trying to think of what to say. I finally came out from under the bedspread sobbing, grandma saw what I had done, I can still see the broken vase in her hand, and then she did the most unexpected thing - she opened her arms and hugged me tight as she wiped away my tears. Between sobs I told her how sorry I was and I even offered to give her my favorite red bouncing ball in exchange, but then she simply held me tighter, and told me it would be our little secret when grandpa came home. In spite of my poor choice, my careless actions, I knew my grandmother always loved me, and she taught me a great deal about love and forgiveness that day – a lesson I shall never forget but surely hope I keep extending to others throughout my life.

The parable of the Prodigal Son is a beautiful story of what Jesus depicts the love of our Heavenly Father to be - such unconditional love and understanding, such generosity and concern, such

complete and unceasing forgiveness, and so much more. This parable strikes deep within our hearts, because we all have the same need as the Prodigal Son, we all have this overwhelming desire, this heartfelt longing to be loved - and ultimately to receive our Heavenly Father's Love.

There is no doubt in my mind that this prodigal son felt loved and treasured once again in his father's embrace. Just as my grandmother made me feel loved, and I am sure we can all think of many such persons in life who have given us this same unconditional love which comes from God the Father: our parents, grandparents, children, spouses, and friends. And now picture in your mind how you felt when after you failed at something, when after you were selfish or thoughtless, one of your loved ones was there to embrace you and love you – just like this prodigal son. Love is a choice, and when we choose to allow God's love to work through us, we no longer feel unclean and we are no longer unworthy, because God has made us complete and perfect in His image and love. And that my friends - is the greatest comfort in our hour of need. No one knows us better than God does, the One who made us. Psalm 139 says it best: "Lord, You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you understand my thought from afar. You scrutinize my path and my lying down, and are intimately acquainted with all my ways. Even before there is a word on my tongue, behold, O Lord, you know it all". And yet God, who knows our sinful nature which we hide from others, loves us at a depth we cannot even begin to fathom. Our Father is out there searching for you and for me, reaching out to us with grace and understanding, because like the father in today's Gospel reading, He is waiting to welcome us home, patiently waiting for us to take His hand and be embraced for all Eternity. How much more then should we – as imperfect people – reach out to those who are in need of our love, accepting them for who they are with steadfast assurance and understanding?

Shelly was a waitress at a home-style restaurant on the weekends. It was a small community, but everyone knew each other. One day, as she was finishing her shift, she saw a young man sitting in her section with a cup of coffee, in front of him, and he had no menu. He looked to be about nineteen or twenty. He looked very exhausted and weathered by many hardships that Shelly knew nothing about. He was not from around her town, and Shelly had no idea of the drugs, sex, and frivolity that had run his life rampant and into the ground, she only knew he was a young man who seemed to be in need. He was dressed in tattered clothes with several obvious body piercing. When Shelly asked him if he wanted anything, other than the coffee she had poured him, he told her that he just came in to get out of the cold. He said he did not have the money to pay for the coffee so he had not touched it. Shelly told him to enjoy his coffee, as she would buy it for him. She then made a statement, out loud, more to herself, that she should hope if ever she did not have the money for a cup of coffee, someone would see fit to buy her a cup as well. Others had overheard their conversation and a little later, when Shelly came back to check on the young man, she saw that he was crying. She went over to him and asked if he was all right? He said that the people, who had been sitting at the next table, bought him a meal on their way out. Then another couple came over to him and asked him if he had a place to stay, and even gave him their address. He continued and said that a gentleman, a couple of booths over, offered him a job washing cars at a garage. He said when he woke up this morning; he had decided that this was to be his last day on earth. He was going to end it all. He had squandered all the money he ever had, he had betrayed everyone who loved him; committing awful offenses for which he was not proud of and could not take back. He went on to say that recently times had become very hard. He said he had nowhere to turn. But now - he had a job, a place to stay, and a

warm meal in his stomach. All this unfolded because he took a chance to come in, out of the cold, and was brave enough to admit that he had no money, admit that he made mistakes. Shelly had no idea that the young man was so down on his luck, but days later he returned to the restaurant to thank Shelly, smiling because he had taken that job, relieved because he had a safe place to stay, and grateful for the second chance he was given in life.

This is the spirit of Lent. The whole journey toward Easter can become our own if we are able to stand in examination of our lives, see how far we have brought ourselves from the life God intends for us, and then long, truly long to return to our true home. The Father gives His inheritance to His son; He stands watch for the return of His lost child; His forgiveness is so swift and so great that the wayward son cannot even finish his pleas for mercy before the Father has embraced his return. He rejoices, above due measure, when the lost is once again found. The Father's love is active, attentive, and unconditional. Yet the parable teaches us also of ourselves. We know from the moment today's Gospel begins, that the Prodigal Son represents all of humanity, and that Jesus tells the story of our own sinfulness and error. Eventually, we must all come to that place, when in the stark reality of our sinful lives we realize, much like the Prodigal Son, that "All to no purpose have I left my true home". The Church tells us what God will do. He shows us, as a loving Father, He will take us in His arms, and will put the ring upon our finger. That is the image of God, which is within man. My brothers and sisters, we have all sinned, and we have all squandered the riches of God. But just like the Prodigal Son was given another chance, and in these days before our Great Lent, we need to be reminded of the chance that God has given to us - the chance to be saved through the death and resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Christ Jesus - the constant opportunity to love and be loved.

Christ is Born! Let us Glorify Him!

Thoughts on Forgiveness

"Forgive us our sins, for we too forgive all who do as wrong." (*Lk. 11, 4*)

"Forgive as the wrong we have done, as we forgive those who wrong us." (*Mt. 6, 12*)

"To be a Christian means to forgive the inexcusable because God has forgiven the inexcusable in you." (*C.S. Lewis*)

"The weak can never forgive. Forgiveness is the attribute of the strong." (*Mahatma Gandhi*)

"Forgiveness is the answer to the child's dream of a miracle by which what is broken is made whole again, what is soiled is made clean again."

(*Dag Hammarskjold*)

"Let us forgive each other – only then will we live in peace." (*Leo Tolstoy*)

"To err is human, to forgive, divine." (*A. Pope*)

"Forgiveness is the fragrance that the violet sheds on the heel that has crushed it." (*Mark Twain*)

"I think that if God forgives us we must forgive ourselves. Otherwise, it is almost like setting up ourselves as a higher tribunal than Him." (*C.S. Lewis*)

"Forgiveness is the name of love practiced among people who love poorly. The hard truth is that all people love poorly. We need to forgive and be forgiven every day, every hour increasingly. That is the great work of love among the fellowship of the weak that is the human family." (*Henri J.M. Nouwen*)

"To love means loving the unlovable. To forgive means pardoning the unpardonable. Faith means believing the unbelievable. Hope means hoping when everything seems hopeless." (*G.K. Chesterton*)

"An eye for an eye, and the whole world would be blind." (*Kahlil Gibran*)

Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. (*Col. 3, 13*)