

<http://www.stnbuffalo.com>

Is our church web-page

Щоб довідатися більше інформації про це що діють в громаді.

For more information and events in Ukrainian Community go to:

<http://www.ukrainiansofbuffalo.com>

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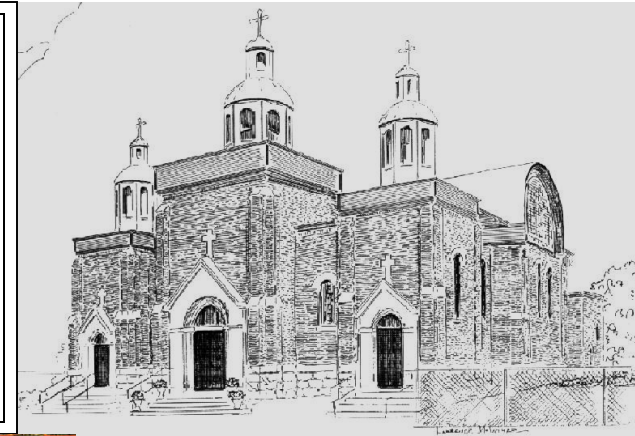


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ASK FOR TOM

**SAINT NICHOLAS
UKRAINIAN
CATHOLIC CHURCH
УКРАЇНСЬКА
КАТОЛИЦЬКА ЦЕРКВА
СВЯТОГО МИКОЛАЯ
ПІД ОПІКОЮ ПРЕЧ.
ДІВИ МАРІЇ ОДІГІТРІЇ**



CHURCH BULLETIN
№ 08 – February 20 – 2011



ЦЕРКОВНИЙ ВІСНИК
20 Лютого – 2011 – Ч. 08

Sunday of the Prodigal Son

The Church gives us another example today, about repentance. This is the Sunday of the Prodigal Son, yet another Sunday that prepares us for Great Lent. Of all the Gospel readings in our Ecclesiastical Year, I find this one to be the most comforting – because I firmly believe that everyone desires to be loved in some way. That aside from our faults and imperfections, it is important for us to know that there is someone out there searching for us, loving us, and hoping that we will find our way home. 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. We do not walk this world alone, and the thought of that brings me a great deal of comfort as I grow older, and I hope it does

the same for each of us. 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. 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)

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE (gr)

Feb. 20: Prodigal Son – Бл. Сина **16**

12:00 PM +Wasył & Pelagia Kowalyk
(Family)

Панахида за пок. Володимира Осадців
будесьогодні о 7 г. в. у Пох. Зав. Печака.
Panachyda for +Walter Osadciw will be
today, 7 PM at Pietszak Funeral Home

Monday, February 21 – Пон., 21 Лютого

9:30 AM Funeral of + Walter Osadciw
Похорон Володимира Осадців

Tuesday, February 22 – Вів., 22 Лютого

9:15 AM +Марія, Григорій, Микола
(Стефанія Труфанова)

Wednesday, Feb. 23 – Сер., 23 Лютого

9:15 AM Health of Julian Passmore
(Лідія Грешишин)

Thursday, February 24 – Чет., 24 Лютого

Friday, Feb. 25 – П'ятниця, 25 Лютого

Saturday, Feb. 26 – Субота., 26 Лютого

9:00 AM Health of Patriarch Lubomyr
4:30 PM +Bronisława Hanicki (Swiatki-
wsky Family)

Feb. 27: Meat-Fare S. – М'ясоп. Н. **17**

12:00 PM За Парохіян – For Parishioners

**Вічне Світло в честь ПДМ горить за
+Івана і Марію Ткач, Юлію
і Стефана Гривняк
Пожертва: Катарина Лехновська**

**Eternal Light burns for
For all deceased parishioners
Eternal Memory – Вічная Пам'ять!**

ПОР'ЯДОК ЛІТУРГІЙ (юл)

20 Лютого: Неділя Блудного Сина **16**

10:00 AM +Юлія і Стефан Гривняк;
+Іван і Марія Ткач (К. Лехновська)

27 Лютого: М'ясопущна Неділя **17**

10:00 AM +Дмитро і Марія Катеренчук
(Анна Ганицька)

ЗАПРОШУЄМО ВСІХ ЧЛЕНІВ КРЕДИТНОЇ СПІЛКИ!!! НА ЗВІТНО ВИБОРНІ ЗБОРИ

**ЯКІ ВІДБУДУТЬСЯ В НЕДІЛЮ 3 КВІТНЯ
2011 О 2:00 ПО-ПОЛУДНІ**

В

**УКРАЇНСЬКОМУ ДОМІ
“ДНІПРО”**

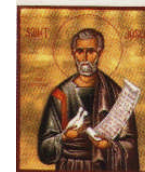
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СВІЙ ДО СВОГО ПО СВОЄ



**TO ALL
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PLEASE JOIN US AT THE
ANNUAL CREDIT UNION
MEETING**

**SUNDAY APRIL 3, 2011
AT 2:00 P.M.**



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See your old friends on Friday night.
Help rebuild our Ukrainian Home.
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Просимо їх підтримати!**

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(716) 894-1772

**UPCOMING
CHURCH
EVENTS**

**Просимо звернути
увагу на дати:**



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

- **KITCHEN** – is now open again. Thank you for your help and patronage.
- Usually Every Sunday after Liturgy Coffee Hour - Church Hall. Please attend!
- February 27 – PreLenten dinner in the church Hall, after which we will have our Parish Meeting. Thank you!

TOP'S GIFT CARDS:

Please help us raise money for our Church by purchasing



Top's Gift Cards from us. If you buy in Tops anyway, why not help. You do not lose or gain anything by doing this, but our Church will benefit greatly. We receive back 5% of your spending. To take advantage of this program, see Mary Bodnar or call 655-3810, or call the rectory. Thank you and God Bless!

Please note: You can purchase gasoline with this card at Tops Gasoline Station.

У нас успішно продаються Карточки з крамниці "Топс". Купуючи їх ви допомагаєте церкві. Для Вас не робить різниці чи ви платили грішми чи карточкою, але церква дістане від „Топс” 5%. На \$1,000 церква одержить \$50. Що б закупити слід звертатися до п. Марії Боднар, або до канцелярії. Дякуємо! Також можна цією карточкою купувати бензину

CHURCH BULLETIN is published weekly. Deadline for information is Tuesday Evening.

ЦЕРК. ВІСНИК видається тижнево
Інформації подавати до вівтірка вечора.

SAINT NICHOLAS

**UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
УКРАЇНСЬКА КАТОЛИЦЬКА ЦЕРКВА**

**СВЯТОГО МИКОЛАЯ
(ПІД ОПІКОЮ ПРЕЧИСТОЇ
ДІВИ МАРІЇ ОДІГІТРІЇ)**

V. Rev. Marijan Procyk, pastor
Rev. Raymond Palko, visiting priest

E-Mail: stnbuffalo@yahoo.com

Web Page: <http://stnbuffalo.com/>

Dioc. Web: <http://stamforddio.org/>

308 Fillmore Avenue, Buffalo, N. Y. 14206
Rect: (716) 852-7566 ~ **Hall:** (716) 852-1908
Fax: (716) 855-1319

Confession: Before Liturgies.
Сповідь: Перед Св. Літургіями
Baptism: By appointment
Хрещення: За домовленням
Marriage: Contact 6 months in advance
Вінчання: Голоситися 6 місяців скорше

Religion classes – Кляси Релігії
Saturday, 11:45 AM – Субота, 1:45 p.

Ministry to the sick-Опіка над хворими

Family members should call the Rectory.
Родина повинна повідомити священика

IN EMERGENCY CALL ANY TIME

В разі потреби завжди можна закликати

**Please call if you are hospitalized,
homebound and need a priest.**

**Просимо закликати якщо ви у
лічниці або приковані до ліжка!**

DONATIONS TO ST. NICHOLAS

In Memory of Kataryna Stazkiw

To the Church
Ulana Loza - \$30.00
Larysa Biloholowskyj - \$25.00
Onufryj & Halyna Biloholoskyj - \$25.00

To the "Special Appeal"

Staszkiw Family - \$390.00
Bohdar & Anna Malaniak - \$20.00
Michael Mochnacz - \$20.00
Andrew & Gertrud Diakun - \$20.00
Elaine Nowadly - \$20.00

Donations toward Coffee Hour

Eva Kowtalo

Thank You! Дякуємо!

SITCH DINNER MEETING

Sunday, March 27, 2011

at Joseph Hriczko Post,
Clemo St., Buffalo, NY
After 12:00 pm Liturgy

for the reposed and living members of Sitch
St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church
Fillmore & Oneida St., Buffalo., NY

COCKTAILS at 1:00 pm

DINNER at 1:30 pm includes refreshments

Meeting to be held after dinner.

Dinner cost is \$10.00 for members and
\$15.00 for guests.

Membership dues of \$5.00
for the 2011 year must be current
and may be paid at the door.

For reservations call:

Mike Liskiewicz 837-0285 or
Maria Malaniak 668-5105

Reservation deadline is March 20, 2011

The Annual Parish Meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting will follow after the Noon Liturgy on Sunday, February 27th. All parishioners are encouraged to attend to discuss what will happen in our parish over the next year.

The Parish Family of St. Nicholas is invited to attend a Pre-Lenten Dinner on Meat-Fare Sunday, February 27th, after Liturgy. Donations of Baked Goods would be greatly appreciated.

Note from the Parish Office:

Please note: the subscription for the Sower is now \$20.00 per year, not \$15.00 as stated on today's envelope.

If you have not already done so, please return the Registration Card from your envelope box so we can keep our records updated.

If you have envelope box # 222 please contact the rectory and let us know who you are. We need this information.

The St. Nicholas Parish Family wishes that God Grant Many, Healthy, Happy Years to Vasyl Danylo Lepkyj son of Andrianna Lepkyj, who received the mysteries of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist on January 23, 2011.

Congratulations – Гратулюємо!

Неділя, 6 березня 2011 року о 2 год по полудні загальні збори членів Укр. Культурного Центру „ДНІПРО”
562 Genesee St. Buffalo, NY
Запрошує всіх до участі,

Діюча управа Українського
Культурного Центру «ДНІПРО»

Школа Українознавства
“Рідна Школа” при УККА

Запрошуємо на концерт
присвячений творчості нашого
легендарного поета, художника
та борця
за волю українського
народу

Тараса Григоровича Шевченка

Який відбудеться в

Неділю, 13 березня 2011 р.
о 2-й годині

В залі церкви
Святого Івана Хрестителя
3275 Elmwood Avenue,
Kenmore

Після мистецької частини
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Рідної Школи
матиме для присутніх
канапки, каву та солодке

Будемо вдячні
за добровільні датки!

Просимо до участі



School of Ukr. Studies
“Ridna Shkola”, UCCA

Cordially invites you
to a program in honor
of our poet,
artist and
our
freedom fighter

Taras Shevchenko

to be held on

Sunday, March 13, 2011
At 2 pm

St. John the Baptist
Ukrainian Church Hall
3275 Elmwood Avenue,
Kenmore, NY

After the concert,
the Parents Committee
will be serving Ukrainian
sandwiches, coffee and
homemade sweets

Donations will be
greatly appreciated!

Please attend and support
Ridna Shkola

In Memoriam – Вічна Пам’ять!

Упокоївся в Господі Св. Пам.

+Володимир Осадців



(28. II. 1929 – 18. II. 2011)

Родині і приятелям складаємо співчуття,
а йому хай буде Вічна Пам’ять!

* * *

Fell asleep in the Lord

+Walter W. Osadciw

(February 28, 1929 – February 18, 2011)

Beloved husband of Stefania (nee Kopciuch);
devoted father of Walter T. (Lisa) and Ni-
cholas (Christine) Osadciw; loving grand-
father of Adrianna, Catherine and Emily
Osadciw; dearest brother of Katrusia
(Atanas) Kobryn of North Port Fl. and the
late Nicholas (late Maria), late Warwarka
Osadciw and late Anastasia (late Jasko)
Sobski; also survived by nieces and neph-
ews and cousins. Family will be Sunday 2-4
and 6-8 PM at the Pietszak Funeral Home,
2400 William St. (near Harlem) where a
Panachyda Service will be held Sunday at 7
PM and Monday at 9 AM followed by a
Funeral Liturgy at St. Nicholas Ukrainian
Catholic Church (308 Fillmore Ave at
Oneida) at 9:30 AM. Eternal Memory!

**Note from the Family
About +Kataryna Staszkiw**

Kataryna Staszkiw was born on June 8,
1924 in the village of Pigany, Halychyna,
the 6th child of Anna (Paneczko) and
Jakiv Horbacz. She was taken
to Germany in 1942 and worked on a
farm near Ulm. On June 21, 1946, she
married Mychajlo Staszkiw. After 5
years in Displaced Person camps, she,
Mychajlo and 3 year old Lesia arrived in
the US. In 1951, they relocated to Buffalo
and became members of St. Nicholas
Ukrainian Catholic Church and began
their lifelong participation in various
church, school and social organizations.
She was a member of the Women's Asso-
ciation for the Defense for Four Free-
doms for Ukraine since the founding of
the Buffalo branch.

Kataryna had fond memories of cook-
ing for many years at the CYMA camp
Cholodnyi Yar, working the Friday fish
fry at Bingo, making varenyky and bak-
ing for numerous community and fam-
ily events. She loved to share her paskas
at Easter and was happy her grandchil-
dren and great-grandchildren (and
friends) loved her borsch which she made
the day before suffering a debilitating
stroke.

We would like to thank Fr. Procyk and
Fr. Palko for officiating at her wake and
funeral as well as everyone who offered
their condolences.

Vichnaya Pamyat!

*Mychajlo Staszkiw and children
Lesia, Iryna and Michael (Cathleen)*

З радія "Милосердний Самарянин"

Сьогодні так звана неділя блудного сина, милосердного батька і заздрісного брата.

Старший син ішов постійно правильним шляхом, гарував на полі від рана до вечера. Він знав свої завдання і, відповідно їх виконував. Батьки ним в дійсності раділи, тишилися його успіхами і передбачали для нього світлу майбутність.

Молодший син не розумів у чому його завдання, та що має робити у житті. Порішив він, що не буде рабом інших, щоб його використовували. Пощо йому слухати, навщо працювати. Та ж його батьки багаті. Усе мають, що душа забажає, а здається такі скупі. Колись то він бажав повисилитися зі своїми товаришами, і просив грошей, а батьки чомусь не хотіли дати. Казали йому, щоб він сам собі заробив на свої розваги, якщо він їх конче потребує. Завжди їм мало, хай самі на себе троха попрацюють...

І зажадав свою частину майна, він чужого не хоче, але тільки то, що йому належить. Очевидно, ніколи не подумав про це, що він того не заробив, і що дійсно він не має права такого вимагати, але добрий батько вдовільняє його бажання, і син радісно відходить від дому, у якому він не був вдоволюваний, бо йому здавалося, що ніхто його там не любив. Всі хвалили старшого брата, а про нього немов забували, нарікали на нього, бо він ніби то ледащий. Нарешті визволився. Може робити що захоче. Відійшов у далекий край, гроші має і приятилів зявилося багато. Усі його тепер хвалять, поважають, не цураються з ним випити. Чувється він як у небі, і не жаліє нічого. Він вільний. Він щасливий. Він знає що робить, і не має чим турбуватися, бо сьогодні він іншим дає, а завтра, якщо буде потрібно, вони йому дадуть і все буде добре. І так поволи, гроші відходили і відійшли, а з ними і його приятелі, і вже нікого не залешилося, що міг би чи хотів би йому допомогти, коли голод запанував у цій країні. Звертався він до багатьох, але ті, що його перед тим

хвалили тепер насміхалися з нього, ті що до ті самої чарки заглядали разом, тепер відвертаються, не мов би його ніколи й не бачили, а інші які можливо й мали бажання допомогти, не мали звідки, бо й самі були у подібній ситуації.

І зрозумів нещасний, що сталося. Пригадав як йому було добре в домі його батька, а він того не завважував. Його там любили, а він не це не звертав уваги. Тепер розяснилося, але вже може бути запізно. Він більше в тому домі нічого немає. Та ради не було і молодший син рідиться вернутися назад, перепросити своїх батьків і попросити в них якоїсь роботи, щоб вижити. Може батько змилюється над ним. Та ж він знаний зі свого милосердя.

І вирушає в далеку дорогу, до своєї родини. Плянує, як приступити до батька, та що йому сказати. Як перепроцити, щоб на добро вийшло. Скаже він батькові: „Прогрішив я проте неба і проти тебе. Не гідний називатися твоїм сином, але прийма мене, якщо твоя ласка, до себе у найми”.

А батько в той час думав про своїх синів. Дуже тишився старшим. Дякував Богові, що цей син - підпора його старости - при ньому, що він такий вродливий і такий добрий і чесний, завжди послухний. Нехай Господь буде весь час при ньому, нехай сповнить усі його бажання, хай його мрії здійсняться.

Просив батько у Бога, щоб Він також опікувався молодшим сином, щоб йому не було зле в далекій країні. Часто виглядав на дорогу у тому напрямку куди син пішов, чи може слабими вже очима не побачить там свого сина що повертається назад до нього. І раптом заглянув його та вибіг йому на зустріч, обняв його, і поцілував і навіть не чекав перепрошення, але наказав дати перстень на руку, сандали на ноги і нове убрання, і приготувати гостину, бо син його повернувся, бо не загинув у чужому краю. І всі почали веселитися...

From the desk of Fr. Ray Palko

Dear _____,
(Your name here, for your very own personal letter)

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever! You've got mail! By the grace and blessings of our good God, here is your very own letter again this week. It is so good to go to the old mailbox and find a real letter and not a catalogue or a "Geico" advertisement!

I'm writing to you on Wednesday evening and this letter will be in our bulletins for Sunday February 20. Check out that date...February 20, the last full week in the month! We get through that and it's March, and only a few weeks till spring! We've got temperatures in the 40's with more forecast. See, "ol' Punxy Phil" was right when he said spring is right around the corner. Sure was a long block to get to that corner though!

There has been a lot of talk about the leaking roofs and damage caused by the excessive ice buildup due to the melting of the heavy and almost constant snows. I've seen several homes that have been one constant drip over the past few days as we have been experiencing the much hoped for thaw. My heart went out to the poor woman who has been putting towels by her windows to catch the water coming inside the house. After the towels got saturated she took them downstairs, ran them through the washer and dryer and then brought them back upstairs and started all over again. Well, as if the water inside the window wasn't enough, both the dryer and the washer broke over the weekend. Some little girl on a saltbox once said, "When it rains, it pours." Not quite raining for that poor lady, but it sure is pouring in. Our house and church are ok and I hope you, too, have survived the ice and the melt and have stayed dry.

This year "World Youth Day" with Pope Benedict will be held in Madrid, Spain and the Eparchy of Stamford will be participating, hopefully with a sizeable group of our youth. To get out some information, and to begin prepara-

tions for this, Bishop Paul led an eparchial convention at St. Josaphat's in Rochester this past Saturday, February 12. There were about 50 young people attending from our parishes in the Rochester/Syracuse area. I don't think we had anyone from the Buffalo deanery, but I know our weather was very bad, and travel was difficult here on Saturday morning.

Remember the weather forecast last Friday? "A dusting to one inch of snow overnight." Well, on Saturday morning we awoke to 5 inches on the ground and snow falling with strong winds blowing. I had hoped to go to Rochester myself, but when I have to drive, my motto is always: "Safety first." So I stayed home. If any young people are interested in this trip to Madrid, please see your pastor. Those who have attended any of the World Youth Days always say, "It was the trip of a lifetime!"

The lull after Christmas seems to be ending with the various announcements of eparchial, parochial and community activities such as zabavas, meetings, presentations, etc. I don't want to list all of them here, but I will remind you to check your parish bulletins and bulletin boards for the information regarding these special events. Besides those "get togethers" we all are doing our year-end stuff, filing reports, getting ready for the taxman and all those other "render to Caesar" obligations of our lives.

This Sunday is already "The Sunday of the Prodigal Son," and that means we are well on our way to preparing for the Great Fast which will begin on Monday, March 7. As I write, we are in the fast-free week and are free to eat meat as we are sort of eased into the holy time of Great Fast. This is the week that I have my "SPAM" before the start of the Great Fast. No I don't often eat "SPAM," because I know it's not really that healthy for me, but I do like it once in awhile, and during this "zahalnytsia" week I eat it as my last hurrah before the serious fasting starts. See how I bare my soul in this letter! First I tell you I like fruitcake, and then the guy even eats SPAM! What a wacky

guy, huh? Anyway, after this week, I still have a date with “Antoinette on the Hill” for one of her great pineapple milkshakes and then I’ll be ready physically, at least, to begin my yearly journey to Pascha.

Have you noticed the big, beautiful moon the last few nights? It will be full on Feb. 18-Friday; March 19-Saturday; and April 18-Monday. That’s why Pascha is so late this year. To state it simply, the date of Pascha is the first Sunday after the first full moon after the first day of spring. We just missed the full moon in March and that made us wait till the last Sunday in April. Hopefully it will be a warm, snow free Sunday in April when we will gather to celebrate the Glorious Resurrection. In the meantime, I hope you can enjoy the beautiful full moon out there. It was spectacular last night as it glistened on the snow and moved about the crystal clear canopy of the endless, sparkling stars. Glory to God for all things!

Please remember to whisper a quiet prayer for our now “Patriarch-Emeritus Lubomyr,” who has resigned due to health reasons. Also we need to continue to pray for all our bishops, as they will soon be gathering in synod to elect the successor to our dear Patriarch Lubomyr. Once again we find ourselves at one of those very important and historical moments in our history, and we pray that our leaders will be inspired by the Holy Spirit to elect the best person who will guide our Greek Catholic Church in peace, safety and holiness. It is going to be an interesting few weeks, that’s for sure.

On this Sunday of the Prodigal Son I am reminded not only of our sin and exile, personally, but of all our “Prodigal Sons and Daughters,” those, who have clearly given up and left their Father and Mother’s house in search of some futile dream. Our hearts go out to the parents and to those children who have left the Church, to those who are troubled and searching. It’s a tough and troubled world out there and sadly, our young people become attracted, distracted, and think it will be better “in that far off land.”

Let us pray for all our families that they will soon be united in love and peace with those who are out there someplace with the pigs. By our prayers, let us call them home and let them know that the only place of true happiness is indeed in the Father’s house. He stands looking down that road every single day waiting for that first glimpse of that loved one who has decided to “get up and return to the Father’s house.”

May the Lord bless you and fill you with His peace, that peace that passes all understanding! May our Holy Lady Theotokos protect you! God willing, we’ll write again next week.

In His Love,
Fr. Ray



The 73 Annual Convention
of the League of Ukrainian
Catholics will be held in
Buffalo October 7, 8, 9, 2011
at the Airport Holiday Inn. We ask the
support of our local Ukrainian commu-
nity in this endeavor. We especially ask
that our organizations not schedule any
events that weekend. Thank you!

Ліга Українців Католиків повідом-
ляє, що Конвенція Ліги відбудеться
тут у нас в Жовтні. Просимо в цей
час не влаштовувати своїх імпрез.
Дякуємо!

Cell Phones - Мобільні Телефони:

Please turn off or silence your cell
phone before entering the church.

Thank you!

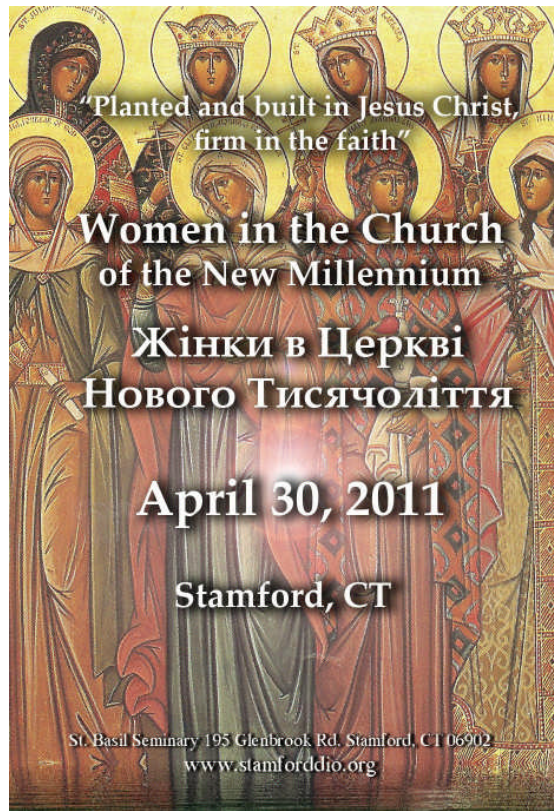
Просимо вилучувати ваші мобільні теле-
фони, підчас Св. Літургії. Дякуємо!

From "Good Samaritan" Ukr. Radio pr.

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. 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.



Schedule

9:00 – 10:00 am Arrival & Registration
10:00 Moleben to the Mother of God/ Молебн (Chapel); 10:45 Coffee break
11:00 Keynote Address: Woman's Role in the Domestic Church – Family
 12:00 Questions/Discussion; 12:30 pm Lunch
2:00 Workshop 1 (Classroom wing)
Woman's Growth and Spiritual Maturity - Prayer and Work in the Family. Sacrament of Penance & Theotokos in Iconography); 2:45 Coffee Break
3:30 Workshop 2 (Classroom wing)
Family & Marital Relationship - Education & Nurturing of Children (Eng)
4:30 Building the Domestic Church/ Будуймо домашню Церкву - Родину – Most.
 Rev. Paul Chomnycky, OSBM ; 5:00 Depart.

