



Debutant Ball – Гратулюємо Діана!



Michael's 90th Birthday – Многая Літа!



Religion Class - Panachyda service is for killed at Majdan in Kyiv – Вічна Пам'ять!

SAINT NICHOLAS
UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

УКРАЇНЬКА КАТОЛИЦЬКА
ЦЕРКВА СВЯТОГО МИКОЛАЯ



N^o
08
ПІД ОПІКОЮ
ПРЕЧИСТОЇ ДІВИ
МАРІЇ ОДІГТРІЇ
UNDER THE
PROTECTION OF
MOTHER OF GOD



CHURCH BULLETIN

February 23 – 2014 – 23 Лютого
ЦЕРКОВНИЙ ВІСНИК

Our Annual Parish Meeting
will be held Sunday, March 2,
after the Coffee Hour following
the Divine Liturgy at 10 AM.
No noon Liturgy that day.
Please plan on attending!
*** **

Наші Загальні Збори
Відбудуться у неділю
2 Березня 2014, о 12 год.
Просимо усіх до участі!

Today, February 23
We have a DINNER
In the Church Hall
(The last one Before the Lent)
Please attend!

Сьогодні, 23 Лютого
У церковній залі маємо
ОБІД
(останній перед Постом)
Просимо до участі!



Страшний Суд – Last Judgement

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CHURCH BULLETIN

Feb. 23 – 2014 – 23 Лютого

ЦЕРКОВНИЙ ВІСНИК

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

4:30 PM +Wolodymyr Osadciw (Wife)

Feb. 23 Meat-Fare S. – М'ясопуста Н.

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

Monday, February 24 – Пон., 24 Лютого

8:15 AM +John Verostko (Marianne Chort)

Tuesday, February 25 – Пон., 25 Лютого

9:15 AM For Julian Passmore in Thanksgiving and for God's Blessing (Ліда Грецишин)

Wed., February 26 – Середа, 26 Лютого

9:15 AM За зд. Онуфрія Білоголовського (родина)

Thu., February 27 – Чет., 27 Січня

9:00 PM Health of Kevin McQuigen (Hreshchyshyn Family)

Friday, February 28 – П'ятниця, 28 Лютого

3:00 PM Homen +Michael & Mary; Family (John Homen, Julia Quinn, Anne Spittler) – Rose Gail

Sat. 1 March – Субота, 1 Березня

8:15 AM +George Scherbak (Ludwig Wolfle)

4:30 PM +Maria Grekulak (Tina Judson & Family)

March 2 Cheese-Fare S. – Сироопуста Н.

12:00 PM No Liturgy – Annual Meeting

Eternal Light burns for +Mary Seibert (Requ. by Anna Pawlowski)

Вічне Світло в честь П.Д.М. горить за +++ на Майдані і за тривалий мир в Україні.



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

ПОР'ЯДОК СВ. ЛІТУРГІЙ

23 Лютого – М'ясопуста Неділя

10:00 р. +Ярослав (М. і Л. Стасюк)
Молитва за Україну і Панахида за Поляглих на Майдані

2 Березня – Сироопуста Неділя

10:00 р. За Парохія і за Мир в Україні



As part of the new Church Directory, which will be published early next year, we are adding "Memorial Pages" to the book. You can submit a picture, (pictures) of your loved ones for a cost of \$20.00 a picture. You can put the picture and check payable to St. Nicholas in an envelope and put it in the collection basket or drop it off at the rectory. If you have any questions, contact Elaine at the parish office Monday or Thursday from 9:00-1:00.

**Lord, Save Ukraine!
Господи, спаси Україну!**

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See your old friends on Friday night.
Help rebuild our Ukrainian Home.
Please Contribute to the \$100,000 Building Fund.
Donations are tax deductible.

EURO DELI AND GIFTS



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Tel. 716-630-0131 Fax 716-630-0133 tel. 716-688-1495

The Colonial Memorial Chapels, Inc.
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Simon Pasnik & Matthew Pasnik

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(716) 824-3007

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FEDERAL CREDIT UNION ФЕДЕРАЛЬНА КРЕДИТНА СПІЛКА
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562 Genesee St. Buffalo, NY 14204
ph: (716)847-6655 fax: (716)847-6988
Mon., Tues., Thurs., 10:00 am - 5:00 pm Wed.,
10:00 am - 2:00 pm; Fri., 10:00 am - 7:00 pm

In Memoriam – Вічна Пам'ять!

Fell asleep in the Lord

+Theodor Papisz

(August 11, 1932 - February 17, 2014)



A son of late Olena (nee Mandebur) and Ivan Papisz.

Beloved husband of Helen (nee Skibicka) Papisz. A devoted father of Bohdan Papisz, Natalie (Conrad) Mencilwicz, and Christine (Arthur) Dietz. Loving grandfather of Zorianna and Roman Mencilwicz. Dearest brother of Orysia (Nicholas) Dobrykewych. He is also survived by nieces and nephews.

We extend our sympathy to the Family and friends. May she rest in peace! Вічна Пам'ять!

+++

Упокоївся в Господі
Св. Пам. Федір Папіж
(11. VIII. 1932 – 17. II. 2014)

Залевив дружину Галину, сина Богдана, дочку Наталю з чоловіком Конрадом і Христину з чоловіком Артур., внуки Зоряну і Романа, сестру Орісю з чоловіком Миколою, братову Еллен з дітьми. Родині складаємо співчуття а йому хай буде Вічна Пам'ять!

DONATIONS TO ST. NICHOLAS

“Special Appeal”

IMO Theodor Papisz

- Fred & Nadia Marc - \$25.00
Maria Plotycia - \$25.00
Dolores Baranyckyj - \$20.00
Mary Bodnar - \$20.00
Elaine Nowadly - \$20.00
Rose Serediuk - \$20.00
Gloria Long - \$15.00
Joanne Bader - \$10.00
Stefan & Anna Korol - \$10.00

=== === ===

Donations Towards Coffee Hour

- Onufrij & Halyna Bilohlowskyj
Eva Kowtalo
Dolores Baranyckyj
Luba Joven

Шановні пані і панове!

Неділя, 2 березня 2014 року
о 2:30 год по полудні
Загальні збори
Членів Українського
Культурного Центру
«ДНІПРО»

Запрошуємо всіх до участі.
562 Genesee St. Buffalo, NY

З повагою.

Діюча управа Українського
Культурного Центру «ДНІПРО»

Prayers – Молитви

“We also pray to the Almighty Lord for the people of Ukraine who are struggling these days to defend their God given rights and freedom of speech, choice and religion. Grant them all and especially leaders of the Ukrainian nation wisdom, good judgment and discernment to find mutual understanding and respect that would lead to a peaceful resolution of the ongoing conflict, we pray to You, O Lord, and have mercy.”

“O merciful Lord and Lover of Mankind, look down mercifully upon those who laid down in sacrifice their lives for the improved future of Ukraine in the ongoing conflict and for hundreds of people that are wounded and hurt. Bestow your healing power upon all who need it that their sufferings be lessen and receive full recovery, we pray to You, O Lord, and have mercy.”

Ще молимося Всемогучому Господеві нашому за український народ наш, що цими днями бореться захистити свої Богом дані права та свободу слова, вибору та віроісповідання. Подай йому, а особливо лідерам української нації, мудрості, розсудливості та добру раду і волю знайти взаємне порозуміння та повагу, які дозволять дійти до мирної розв'язки в цьому протистоянню, ми молимося Тобі, вислухай і помилуй.

Милосердний Господи і Чоловіколюбче, споглянь милостиво на тих, які поклали і пожертвували своє життя задля кращого майбутнього України і на сотні поранилих і мучених людей. Подай свою ласку зцілення всім, хто її потребує, щоби їхні муки зменшилися і вони повністю видужали, ми молимося Тобі, Господи, вислухай і помилуй.

49 Відділ Союзу Українок

Повідомляє що розпочалася щорічна збірка на стипендії для незаможної молоді в Україні. Чеки можна виписувати на Ukrainian National Women's League. Дуже дякуємо! За інформаціями просимо звертатися до референток 49-го Відділу:

Зоряни Яцишин-Банч – 668-9504
Оксани Салдит – 832-9331



49th Chapter of UNWLA announces that “ we are accepting Scholarship donations for needy students in Ukraine.” If paying by check please make it out to UNWLA – Branch 49. Thank you very much!

NEWCOMERS - Storefront photography installation/exhibition featuring portraits created by Lukia Costello of members of the WNY refugee community, during her 3 year teaching position as an adult English instructor for Buffalo Public Schools Adult Ed. Division.

This show, funded by a 2013 NYSCA Individual Artist Commission, features B&W portraits of members of the WNY refugee community, will be hung in 10 storefronts along Allen St. & Elmwood Ave. Feb 7 - March 20th.

An artist talk will be held March 7th from 7-8pm at El Museo at 91 Allen St. Allen.



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

- KITCHEN – is open Fridays 11 AM - 3 PM. Thank you for your patronage.
- Coffee Hour - Usually Every Sunday after Liturgy in Church Hall. Please join us!
- We need help in the kitchen. Thank you!
- Our Christmas Dinner will be on Jan 12, after the Liturgy at 11 AM.

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 Карточка з крамниці "Топс". Купуючи їх ви помагаєте 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!

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

SAINT NICHOLAS
UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
УКРАЇНЬКА КАТОЛИЦЬКА ЦЕРКВА
СВЯТОГО МИКОЛАЯ
(ПІД ОПІКОЮ ПРЕЧИСТОЇ
ДІВИ МАРІЇ ОДІГІТРИЇ)

Parish E-Mail: stnbuffalo@yahoo.com

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

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308 Fillmore Avenue, Buffalo, N. Y. 14206

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Fax: 855-1319 ~ Kitchen: 852-1908

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 – Релігійна Програма

Субота - Saturday

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

Rev. Raymond Palko, visiting priest

V. Rev. Marijan Procyk, pastor & dean

Please call if you are hospitalized, homebound and need a priest. Просимо закликати якщо ви у ліжниці або приковані до ліжка!

Alone with Jesus

a lenten retreat for
young adults
March 14-16!
St. Mary's Villa!
Sloatsburg, NY

The Eparchy of Stamford invites single and married couples ages 18-35 for a lenten retreat weekend in a most beautiful and picturesque spot in New York State. For more information

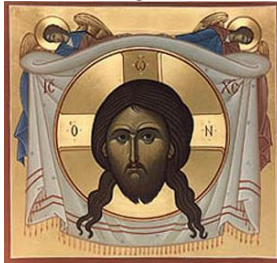
contact Fr. Taras Chaparin: 203-324-7698,

RSVP by March 10! Cost: \$50

email: tchaparin@yahoo.com.
address:!

St. Mary's Villa !

150 Sisters Servants Ln.
Sloatsburg, NY 10974



When we want to speak to someone higher than us, we look for the appropriate situation, and prepare our appearance, clothes, just to have a conversation.

When we approach God, we yawn, we scratch, look all over; we become uncaring, bend our knees, and let our thoughts wander.

(St. John Chrysostom)

When we lift our prayer to God for those who cheat, insult us, then our prayer for ourselves will also be heard.

(St. John Chrysostom)

As a part of the New Evangelization & Missionary Spirit activities, St. Basil

Seminary is offering the

Lenten Retreat

open to the General Public.

The retreat will be on the theme of the new Pope Francis "Evangelii Gaudium" Father Athanasius McVay will lead this retreat/seminar.

It will start on Friday, March 7 at 7:00 pm and conclude on Sunday, March 9 at noon!

If you can make a trip to Stamford, it will be worthed

=====

SITCH DINNER MEETING

Sunday March 16, 2014

At Joseph Hriczko Post

Clemo St., Buffalo, NY

After 12:00pm Liturgy

For the reposed and living members of our organization at

St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church

Fillmore & Oneida Sts., Buffalo, NY

COCKTAILS at 1:00PM

DINNER at 1:30PM 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 2014 year must be current and may be paid at the door.

For reservations call:

Mike Liskiewicz – 837-0285 or

Maria Malaniak – 668-5105

Nadia Marc – 839-3016

Reservation deadline is March 9, 2014

Reservations are a must and liable.

Thank you

From the desk of Fr. Ray Palko

February 23, 2014 A.D.

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!

Dear _____,

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

Hello, my Dear One. Here I am, once again trying to bring you some joy, happiness, or at least a little smile, for a minute or two. This week, however, I don't know if I'll be able to accomplish this.

When I write my letter to you I usually write about the things that are going on in the world, in our Church and in our lives. This is usually never a problem as there is always something of interest in those areas, especially when I am writing "a letter about nothing." This week is not an exception in any way for the events unfolding in the world as I write on this 20th day of February are indeed touching the world, our church and our individual lives. It's not good or happy news though. There is big trouble in Ukraine!

I come to you this week with prayers and with tears for the people of Ukraine. Once again this beautiful land is under assault; once again the heroic and faithful people in the land of our family, friends and ancestors are under siege from godless forces. Who could have imagined that there ever could be such circumstances as this once again in Ukraine? After the over 70 years of persecution by the godless Communists, which ended in the declaration of freedom for Ukraine in 1991, the fact that there is even one Communist in Ukraine, to me is mind-boggling. But there is more than one! There are many! After 70 years of Soviet domination and rule, who could ever imagine that Russia could once again have such a grasp on the government, economy and well-being of this great country, but they do! Underlying the gross corruption of power of the Ukrainian government, always lurking is the "Russian Bear," exemplified in the worst possible way in the person of that former KGB (Soviet Secret Police) agent, Vladimir Putin, now President of

Russia, who pulls the strings of his willing puppet, Viktor Yanukovich.

We know there is a protest going on in Ukraine. This gathering of freedom lovers is sometimes called "Maidan," or "EuroMaidan." Maidan simply is the Ukrainian word for 'square,' as in a town square. EuroMaidan is the name for the movement taking place, and the reason for the protests in the first place, and that is to have Ukraine aligned with the rest of Europe and not with Russia.

For the moment, the protest is occurring at Independence Square in the heart of Kiev. Patriarch Sviatoslav, in a recent visit to Washington, D.C. spoke at the Prayer Breakfast on February 4 and said this: "...what is happening in Ukraine sooner or later will affect not only Europe, but also each resident of the United States. If Ukraine will not remain a free and independent state, the whole world may be on the verge of a new Cold War."

Recently, many of us have become familiar with the question, "Hey, Father, what's going on in Ukraine?" The simple answer is the fact that once again the basic God-given freedoms of every man, woman and child on this earth are under attack. Remember this? "...We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness." July 4, 1776 The people of Ukraine, by these protests, have gathered together, stood up and are saying to their government, and to all the world, "ENOUGH! We WANT TO BE FREE! WE WILL BE FREE!"

Today the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv issued a statement, part of which I would like to share with you here because it clearly answers the question, "What is going on in Ukraine?"

May the souls of the innocent victims rest in peace, where the righteous repose! Let the Lord accept them into the kingdom of heaven, let Him heal the numerous wounds with His merciful hand, let Him relieve the pain of the people who have once again been deceived by the authorities!

We unequivocally affirm that responsibility for the current escalation rests solely on the government-personally Viktor Janukovych and his “hawkish” command. Every case of escalation, each more striking in its complete absurdity, slashes our hopes for a peaceful and wise solution to the crisis and brings us closer to humanitarian catastrophe. Every case seems to check off the next item in the “crisis managers” secret plan.

Conversely, every step toward overcoming social tensions, every manifestation of the people’s self-defense, every effort to be faithful to God’s commandments-all of this makes us co-authors in the positive program of the Lord’s Providence. The Ukrainian Catholic University is and will always be a supporter of this latter path and calls upon all people of good will to choose it. In the current difficult conditions, where those in power undermine the very institution of government, we aim to be an island of peace and reliable support to those who defend the national interests of Ukraine. May the merciful Lord fill us with hope and courage to sacrificially serve Ukraine during these difficult trials! (Ukrainian Catholic University-Lviv 19 February 2014.)

Yesterday at the General Audience in St. Peter’s Square Pope Francis said, “With a troubled heart I am following what is happening in Kiev. I assure the Ukrainian people of my closeness and I pray for the victims of violence, for their families and for the injured. I call on all sides to stop every violent action and seek agreement and peace.” Today in Kiev our Patriarch said, “Those holding power bear full responsibility for what is happening in our country.”

While in Washington earlier this month, Patriarch Sviatoslav spoke of the terrible lawless persecution and terror being inflicted upon ordinary citizens by the agents of the government. Bringing back memories and horrors of the not too distant past, in recent months

ordinary people have been kidnapped and have vanished without a trace. Many more have been jailed and tortured for believing in freedom and for simply speaking out.

There is an answer, and only one answer to all this and that is prayer. We must pray as never before for Ukraine, and for the United States. How far are we here from something like that? We have a corrupt, godless, lying government. We have people here being persecuted for doing the right thing. The gap between good and evil is indeed a narrow one.

The people of Ukraine pray each day at 9pm, saying one “Our Father” and one “Hail Mary” for a peaceful outcome to the situation. Our Patriarch has asked us, as members of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, but all Catholics and Orthodox, to offer those simple prayers in solidarity with the Ukrainian people each day. Because of the time difference, 9pm Ukraine time is 2pm Eastern Standard Time, so we will be stopping each day, joining with our brothers and sisters “On Maidan” and offer our prayers.

We pray for a peaceful end to all of this and now we also pray for all the injured and for their healing and sadly we also pray for the blessed repose of those who have lost their lives in the violence, that number already nearing 100 dead. “O Lord, You are the God of Peace! You are our sure Hope! Save us! Most Holy Theotokos, help us, hear our prayer and present it to your Son, our God.

In His Love, and under her Protection,

Fr. Ray

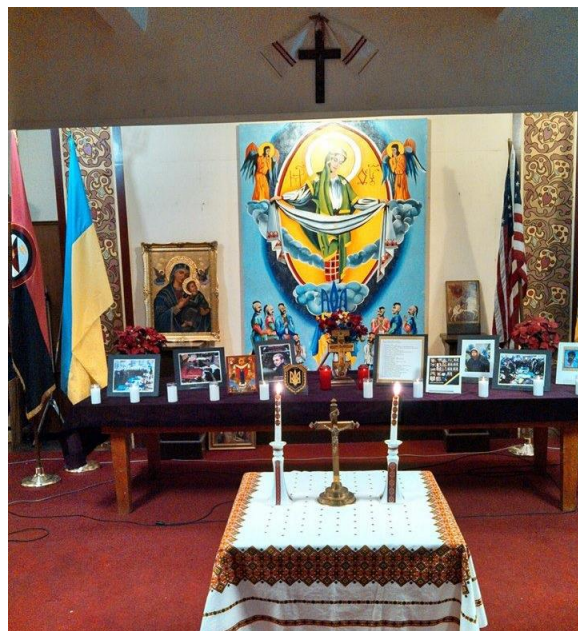
~~~~~  
**2014 LUC dues are now payable.**  
**Please make checks (\$7.00) payable to**  
**League of Ukrainian Catholics,**  
**Niagara Frontier Council.**  
**Dues can be sent to Ihor Pereyma,**  
**38 Lester St., Buffalo, NY 14210.**  
~~~~~

From Good Samaritan Ukr. Radio Program

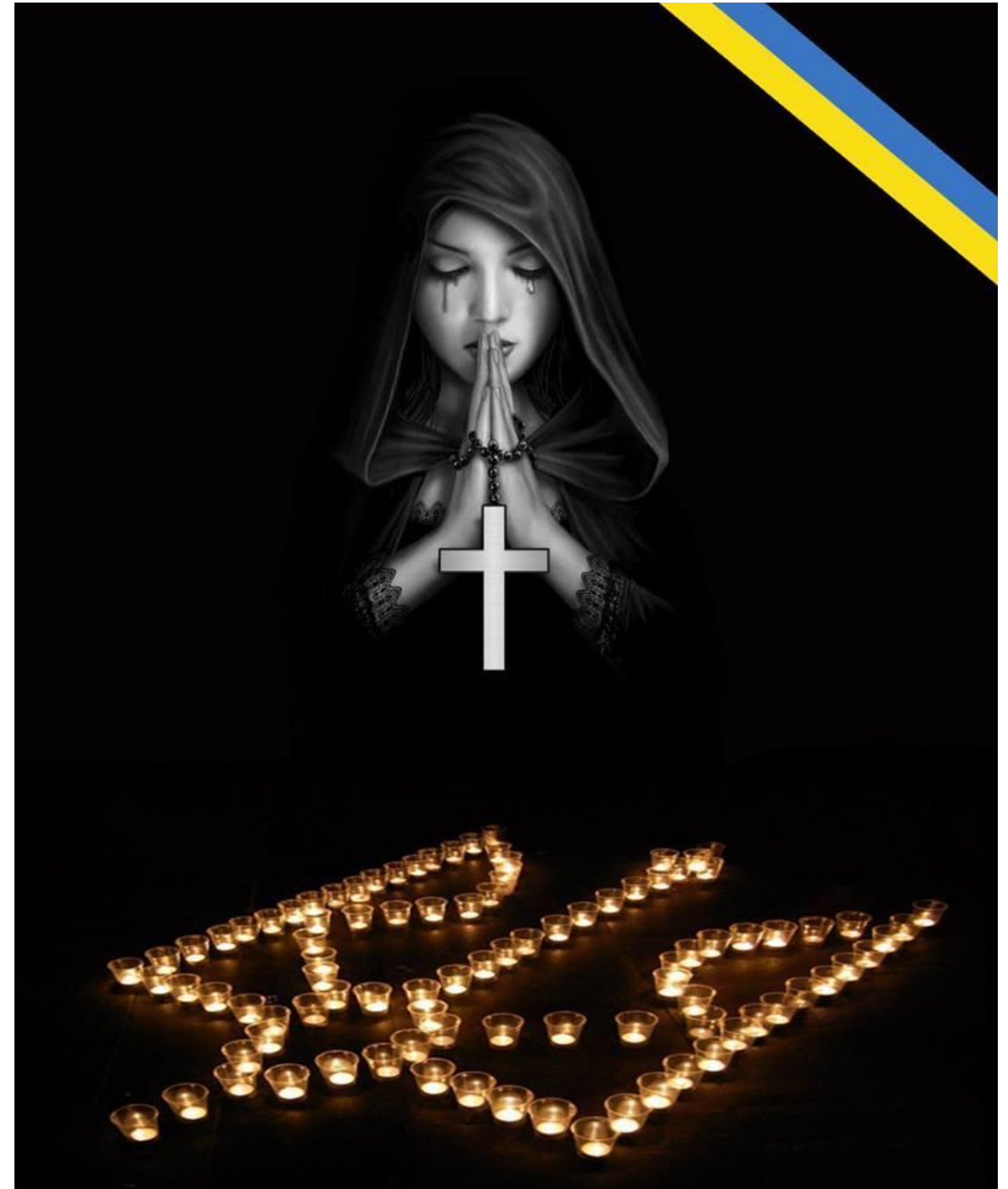
As I faced my Maker at the seat of last Judgment, I knelt before the Lord along with the other souls. In front of us, laid our lives like the squares of a quilt, in many piles. An Angel sat before each of us sewing our quilt squares together into a tapestry that was to represent our life on earth. But, as my Angel took each piece of cloth off the pile, I noticed how ragged and empty each of my squares really was. They were filled with giant holes. Each square was labeled with a part of my life that had been difficult, the challenges and temptations I had faced. I saw hardships that I had endured, which were the largest holes of all. I glanced around me. It seemed as nobody else had such squares. Other than a tiny hole here and there, the other tapestries were filled with rich color and the brightest hues of worldly fortune. I gazed upon my own life and was disheartened. My Angel kept sewing the ragged pieces of my cloth together, threadbare and worn, like binding air. Finally the time came when each life was to be displayed, held up to the light, the scrutiny of truth. The others rose, each in turn, holding up their tapestries. So filled their lives had been. My Angel looked upon me, and nodded for me to rise. My gaze dropped to the ground in shame. I had not had all the earthly fortunes. I had love in my life, and laughter. I had taken the time to help others along the way. But there had also been trials of illness and death, and false accusations that took from me my world, as I knew it. I had to start over many times. I often struggled with the temptation to quit, only to somehow muster the strength to pick up and begin again. I had often been held up to ridicule, which I endured painfully; each time offering it up to the Lord in hopes that I would not melt within my skin beneath the critical gaze of others. And now, I had to face the truth. My life was what it was, and I had to accept it for what it had been. I rose slowly and lifted the combined squares of my life to the light. Suddenly, an awe-filled gasp permeated the room. I gazed around at the others who stared at me with eyes wide. Then, I looked upon the tapestry before me. Light flooded my many holes, creating an image – as I looked closer I could hardly believe my eyes - it was the face of Christ. Then our Lord stood before me, with warmth and love in His eyes. He said, "Every time you gave over your life to me, it became my life, my hardships, and my struggles. Every time you reached out to

someone in need, you were reaching out to me in love and kindness. Each point of light in your life is when you stepped aside and let me shine through, until there was more of me than there was of you."

May all of our quilts be threadbare and worn, allowing more of Christ to shine through each of our lives here on earth. The Lord will assess the reality of our faith and judge us on that basis. Jesus is with us every day; showing love toward others and taking care of their needs is the way we allow Christ to shine through us. There once was a man who was sick and tired of all the horror he saw in the world. Day after day, he heard stories of holy wars, violence, and hatred. He asked God if he could have a talk with Him face to face. God said, "Yes, of course, my child." The man said to God, "I can't believe you! This world you created is filled with senseless violence. People kill and torture one another. They hate each other and declare war on one another in the name of money, power, religion, and intolerance. There is famine all over the world. Our environment is on a collision course with disaster. There are innocent people suffering from all kinds of diseases, and our streets are filled with thieves, rapists, child abusers, drug dealers, murderers, you name it. Why don't you do something about it? Why don't you send someone down here to make this world of yours a better place?" God looked at the man calmly and said, "I did, my child - I sent you." God is calling each of us to loving service because the reality is - God did not just send His Son into the world that we might be saved – Jesus came so that in being saved, we would also go out into this world and spread the Word of God to all nations. My brothers and sisters, our Lord’s question to us on judgment day will not be whether we have acknowledged Him as our Savior, but rather, ‘Having acknowledged Christ as our Savior, what did we do with our life?’ St. Paul warns us, “No one makes a fool of God. A person will reap exactly what he sows” (Gal. 6:7). On the final Day of Judgment, when Christ turns to his sheep in the fold and says, "You have gained a place with me forever," it will be proven through our actions here on earth. Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, for as long as you can. Each of us makes a choice about our Eternal destination - by the roads we choose to travel down and the way in which we live.



Patriarch Swiatlslaw asks everyone to pray one OUR FATHER and HAIL MARY for Ukraine everyday at 2:00 PM while people in Ukraine will pray at 9:00PM. We will be all praying together at the same time.





**Світла пам'ять загиблим
в боротьбі за вільну Україну!**



**Мамо, не плач. Я повернусь весною.
У шибку пташинкою вдарюсь твою.
Прийду на світанні в садок із росою,
А, може, дощем на поріг упаду.**



Життя кожної людини, спілкування людей, наша гідність – це Божі дари. В Україні ці дари по-звірячому потоптали. Мільйони наших вірних та інших відданих громадян України майже три місяці мирно вимагали гідного життя. Проте цього тижня більше від сотні людей було холоднокривно вбито, а ще тисячу – поранено. Наша країна перебуває в розпалі великої трагедії. небезпека дальшого насилля та фрагментації нависає над нашою землею.

Наша Церква та інші релігійні громади України закликали до миру та справедливості. Від імені Української Греко-Католицької Церкви звертаюся через своїх братів-єпископів до духовенства, спільнот і вірних Католицької Церкви молитися за мир, справедливість і людську гідність в Україні цієї неділі. Наша країна потребує рясної милості, щоб вийти з цього важкого випробування. Наша надія на Господа. Прошу вас, молитесь до люблячого Небесного Отця за мир в Україні!

**+ СВЯТОСЛАВ,
Верховний Архієпископ Києво-Галицький,
Глава Української Греко-Католицької
Церкви**



Message By His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew On the Tragic Situation in Ukraine

(February 20, 2014)

Beloved children and friends in Ukraine and abroad,

It is with heavy heart that we have been following the ongoing and, indeed, only escalating tragic circumstances in Ukraine over the last weeks. We feel that our brothers and sisters in Ukraine are our own flesh and blood. “We endure the same sufferings that you suffer and we work with you for your joy,” as St. Paul says.

In our high responsibility as Ecumenical Patriarch, we are obliged to call for peace from the authorities in a democratic and independent nation, where its elected leaders – both in government and opposition – have the ultimate responsibility to protect the dignity of human life among its citizens. There is no room for brutality and bloodshed in a democratic nation of the 21st century.

In our pastoral and spiritual capacity as an Orthodox bishop, we are compelled to denounce all violence and aggression among police and protesters, which have

led to the unnecessary loss of innocent life. All parties must at all cost choose dialogue over disorder and mediation over force. There is never room for abuse of power in a nation whose Christian roots date back to the first millennium.

Finally, in the wake of the anniversary last year, celebrating 1025 years since Christian faith and civilization was conveyed to the Kievan Rus by our own predecessors in the Church of Constantinople, we are compelled – in the name of the ethos and culture of the freedom granted by God to all people as a divine gift – to condemn the present relentless brutality and insist on a peaceful and reasonable solution to the internal problems of Ukraine for the benefit of its people and to the glory of God. May He guide the elected rulers of Ukraine toward this blessed end!

Dear friends, even as in the Orthodox Church we prepare for Great Lent with the forthcoming Judgment and Forgiveness Sundays, we call on every person of faith and of goodwill to pray and fast for truce and peace among our beloved and precious people in Ukraine.

“Grace to you all and peace from God our Father.” Amen.

**Блаженніший Патріарх
Святослав закликав нас усіх,
щоб помолитися молитву Отче
Наш і Богородице Діво о 2 год.
по обіді за нарід в Україні**