



Pope Francis with bishops from Ukraine

Папа Францішк з владиками з України



З тризни по Св. Пам. +Софії Пуцак
From the "tryzna" breakfast after
The funeral of
+Sophia Pucak (nee Сіорук)
Eternal Memory – Вічна Пам'ять!

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SAINT NICHOLAS UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



УКРАЇНЬКА КАТОЛИЦЬКА ЦЕРКВА СВЯТОГО МИКОЛАЯ



№
12

ПІД ОПІКОЮ
ПРЕЧИСТОЇ ДІВИ
МАРІЇ ОДІГТРІЇ

UNDER THE
PROTECTION OF
MOTHER OF GOD



CHURCH BULLETIN
March 22 – 2015 – 22 Березня
ЦЕРКОВНИЙ ВІСНИК

Total Operating Revenues	\$268,064.40
Total Income	\$268,064.40
Total Expenses	\$216,517.18
Operational Profit for year	\$51,547.22

Total Operating Expend.	\$216,517.18
Checking Accounts	\$57,685.87
Savings	\$335,353.88

2013 Year end	\$32,320.61
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Total	\$393,039.75
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Thank you for your generous donations!
May the Lord Bless you abundantly!
Сердечно дякуємо за Ваші пожертви!
Хай Господь благословить стократно!

Endowment Yonkers	\$62,520.84
Endowment UFCU	\$300,104.81
Account Totals	\$755,665.40

Сьогодні по Св. Літургії буде
Річне Засідання Церкви Св.
Миколая. Просимо до участі.

Today after the Liturgy there is
Church Annual Meeting in the
Church Hall. Please attend.



CHURCH BULLETIN

March 22 – 2015 – 22 Березня

ЦЕРКОВНИЙ ВІСНИК

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE



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

ПОР'ЯДОК СВ. ЛІТУРГІЙ

4:30 PM +Pylyp Plotycia (wife Maria)

March 22 5 Sunday of Lent – 5 Неділя Посту

12:00 PM No noon Liturgy – Annual Parish Meeting

Monday, March 23 Березня, Понеділок

8:15 AM +Mary Beth Sukman (MaryAnn DuBois)

Tuesday, March 24 Березня, Вівторок

8:00 AM +Ореста Переима (родина)

Annuntiation – Благовіщення Пресв. Богородиці

Wednesday, March 25 Березня, Вівторок

9:30 AM For Parishioners - За Парохіян

Thursday, March 26 Березня, Четвер

8:15 AM +Катерина Нижник (Анна Коваль і Степан Король)

Friday, March 27 Березня, П'ятниця

12:00 PM Presanctified gifts & Sorokouste

Sat. March 28 Березня Субота

8:00 AM +Анна седлярчук (р. Мартинюк)

4:30 PM +Wasył Serediuk

(Wife, children and grandchildren)

March 29 6 Palm Sunday – Квітна Неділя

12:00 PM For Parishioners - За Парохіян

March 22 – Annual Parish Meeting

One Liturgy at 10 AM

Сьогодні, 22 Березня, 2015 12 год.

Річне Парохіяльне Засідання

The Eternal Light burns in mem. of
Fallen Soldiers
For Peace in Ukraine and in the World.

Вічне Світло в честь П.Д.М.
Горить За Поляглих Воїнів
І за МИР В УКРАЇНІ

22 Березня: 4 Неділя Посту

10:00 р. +Ярослав і Галина Литвин (Влодьо і Н.)

Середа, 25 Березня: 12:00 пол. П О К Л О Н И
(скорше сьогодні, бо в 6-й год. маю сповідь у
церкві в Ніагара Фалс)

29 Березня: 5 Неділя Посту

10:00 р. +Клим Панасевич (Михайло Савуляк)

ВАЖНЕ – IMPORTANT

Просимо допомогти з кошиками,
як рівнож спекти щось для **ЗБІРКИ ДЛЯ**
ПОСТРАДАЛИХ У ВІЙНІ В УКРАЇНІ

Що відбудеться 29 Березня
у залі Православної Церкви.

Просимо взяти участь!!!

The organizers of the Pierogi's for Peace Fundraiser have asked for the help of our parish in their endeavor. We have been asked to donate pyrohy, baked goods, and Theme Baskets. Our Parish Friday Kitchen will take care of the pyrohy donation. We are asking the Parish Family of St. Nicholas for their help in donating Baked Goods and Theme Baskets (value around \$25.00). If you don't want to make up your own basket, you can donate money for the purchase of a basket, or gift card. You can put your donation in the collection basket, marked Theme Basket, send it to the rectory, or give it to Father Marijan or Elaine. If you are donating money for a theme basket, you must have the money at the rectory by March 22nd. Already made theme baskets can be brought to St. Nicholas Hall until Saturday, March 28th. Baked goods can also be delivered to our church hall. These items will then be transported to the Orthodox Church Hall. As our parish is one of the sponsors of this fundraiser, we hope we can count on you, the Parish Family of St. Nicholas, for you help.

Please take part!!!

Ukrainian Treasures & More



Judie Hawryluk

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photos on facebook.com

jahawryluk@gmail.com



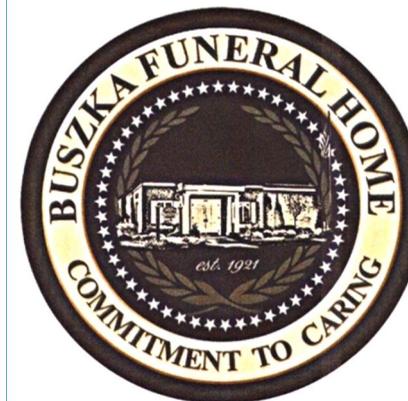
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Fusani &
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www.rufcu.org

Monday & Tuesday 9:30 am – 4 pm | Wednesday
9:30 am – 2pm | Thursday 9:30 am – 6 pm |
Friday 9:30 am – 7 pm | Saturday 9:00 – 1 pm |

Become a member of Ukrainian FCU and save money with lower rates on loans, make money with higher interest on your savings, and save time with our convenient online services!

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ОЩАДНІ ТА ЧЕКОВІ РАХУНКИ | СЕРТИФІКАТИ | ММ | ПОЗИКИ | КРЕДИТИ НА НЕРУХОМІСТЬ | ПЛАТІЖНІ КАРТКИ VISA | MONEYGRAM | ГРОШОВІ ПЕРЕКАЗИ | ЕЛЕКТРОННІ ПОСЛУГИ | ПОСЛУГИ НОТАРІУСА |

*Membership subject to eligibility.
Federally insured by NCUA.*

Щоб довідатися більше інформацій про це що діється в громаді,
Просимо відвідати веб-сторінку.

<http://www.ukrainiansofbuffalo.com>

Is the the web-page to find
More information and events
In our Ukrainian Community.

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2321 Millersport Hwy.
Amherst (Getzville Plaza) 688-1495

Are you listening "Good Samaritan"
Ukr. Radio Program on WJLL 1440 AM Every
Sunday at 2:00 PM?

Thank you for your donations!
We welcome your comments.

Чи ви слухасте нашу радіо передачу
«Милосердний Самар'янин»
Неділя, 2 год. на WJLL 1440 AM? Сердечно
дякуємо за пожертви.

Please include Our Church
In Your charitable donations!

Просимо підтримувати Рідну Церкву
талантами, часом і жертвами.

Cell Phones - Мобільні Телефони:

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

Просимо вилучувати ваші мобільні
телефони підчас Святої Літургії.

DONATIONS TO SAINT NICHOLAS

"Special Appeal"

IMO Norma DuBois

Pereyma Family - \$100.00

IMO Mary Beth Sukmann

Catherine Eckhart - \$100.00

IMO Jaroslawa Bobenczyk

Catherine Eckhart - \$25.00

IMO Dorothy Kordrupel

Catherine Eckhart - \$20.00

IMO Mary Bumbar

Catherine Eckhart - \$20.00

Donations Towards Coffee Hour Yearly Communication Assessment Fee

Roman & Lyuba Khoma

Halyna Biloholowskyj

Fred & Nadia Marc

Donations will be gladly accepted. The cost for food for each Sunday is about \$50.00 Using the Coffee Hour Fund money to buy supplies lets us put the entire weekly profit toward the yearly Communication Fee of \$3,600.00.

Thank you for your help. Elaine

Reminder:

Jars of Honey are for sale. \$8.00 per jar or 2 for \$15. It will be available in the hall during Coffee Hour.

Thank You! – Дякуємо!

2015 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

Blessed Josaphata Hordashevsk

The Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate will be in our parish on Saturday, April 18, 2015, with the pilgrimage icon of their foundress, Blessed Josaphata Hordashevsk, with a "first class relic." She was beatified in 2001 by Pope (St.) John Paul II. At least one miracle has been attributed to her intercession. The Sisters pray that one day soon, Blessed Josaphata will be canonized! The afternoon will begin at 2:00 with the moleben to Blessed Josaphata followed by a light lunch and then the Sisters will give a presentation about the life of Blessed Josaphata in English and Ukrainian. You will also have the opportunity to pray before the icon for that miracle you may need in your life. Sr. Kathleen, Provincial Superior and the sisters encourage you to come and pray together with them for the intercession of Blessed Josaphata. This event is sponsored by Catechetical Program of St. Nicholas and League of Ukrainian Catholics.

Blessed Josaphata, Pray for us!

Please attend! – Просимо до участі!

Сестри Служебниці будуть в нашій парохії 18 Квітня 2015 з іконою їхньої Засновниці Блаженної Йосафати Гордасhevської. Короткий молебень до Св. Йосафати о 2 год, а опісля легкий обід і слово сестер.

Блаженна Йосафата, моли Бога за нас!

Pierogi for Peace Fundraiser

To support the war victims of Ukraine

Palm Sunday, March 29 - Noon – 5pm

At Holy Trinity
Ukrainian Orthodox Church Hall
200 Como Park Boulevard,
Cheektowaga, NY 14227

▣ Pierogi (variety) ▣ Cakes and cookies
▣ Cabbage rolls ▣ Chinese auction

Sponsored by the Ukrainian Community in
Buffalo, ODFFU, Ukrainian Churches:
St. Nicholas, St. John the Baptist, Holy
Trinity, Our Lady of Perpetual Help



Protection of the Most Holy Mother of God
Catholic Church, 2713 Ferry Ave. Niagara Falls,
NY 14301 is having another wine-tasting event
with Eagle Crest/Oh-ne-Da winery, on Friday
May 29. More info later.

**Thank you all who helps in the
kitchen. May the Lord bless you!**

**Сердечна подяка усім, що
помагають у кухні. Дуже дякуємо
Пані Анні Мельник за ПАСКИ!!!**

My Ukraine photography exhibit

As I Wake, I Cry:

Revisiting Ukraine weaves together re-
cent 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 dedi-
cated 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/](http://www.cepagallery.org/portfolio/wake-cry-revisiting-ukraine-lukia-costello/)

**We need help in the kitchen
every Friday to make Easter
orders. Thank you!**

**Потребуємо помочі до
церковної кухні у підготовці
до Велекодних свят
кожної п'ятниці. Дякуємо!**



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.

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 кра-
мниці "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>

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

308 Fillmore Avenue, Buffalo, N. Y. 14206

Rectory: (716) 852-7566

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 xvorymy

Family members should call the Rectory

Родина повинна повідомити священика

IN EMERGENCY CALL ANY TIME

В разі потреби завжди можна закликати

V. Rev. Marijan Procyk, pastor & dean

Rev. Raymond Palko, visiting priest

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

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

WOMEN'S
ASSOCIATION FOR THE
DEFENSE OF FOUR
FREEDOMS
FOR UKRAINE, INC.
& Women's Choir "Mriya"
presents an
EASTER BAZAAR

Baked Goods!!
Delicious Lunch!!
Ukrainian Greeting Cards!!
Pysanky!!
Gerdany!!



St. Nicholas Church,
308 Fillmore Ave.
Sunday, March 29th, 2015
after the Liturgy.

Everyone is
most cordially invited!!



ВЕЛИКОДНИЙ
БАЗАР

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Letter from Fr. Ray March 15, 2015

Glory to Jesus Christ!

Dear _____
(Say your name right here for your very own personal letter)

Good Morning, Hello, and Happy Spring! We made it! That ol' groundhog, "Punxy Phil" sure was right when he said there would be six more weeks of winter. There were indeed six more, and seven and eight....!! At least Spring is here on the calendar, even though it's still very cold. BTW, saw my first robin today. She was sitting way up a bare tree, tweeting away. No doubt scouting out some good branches for a summer time nest. Hope she found a nice warm spot for the night as it is still mighty cold.

Every year with the coming of spring, Western New York always takes on a happy carnival attitude and everyone is joyful and out and about greeting the new warmth and brightness of the lengthening days. Sunset was around 7:30 pm today...how cool is that?! ☺ This year there is a bit of added enthusiasm.

The past several few days have brought an extra exceptional feeling of springtime due to the fact that the University of Buffalo men's basketball team is going to "March Madness," "The Big Dance," the annual NCAA tournament this year for the first time ever. You would think the Bills got to the Super Bowl, or the Sabres to the Stanley Cup finals! It is amazing how excited most people are! The big game is Friday in Columbus, Ohio where the Bulls will play West Virginia. Boy, I'll bet that must be a tremendous distraction to the students who are trying to write papers and prepare for tests!

Things look extremely positive for the local lads even though they are the underdogs for the game. How so, you might ask? Well, the chief executive of the USA, one Barak Hussein Obama, has picked Buffalo to win, and since we all know Obama has never been wrong about anything, therefore we can say, even before the game is played, "Congratulations, UB!!" Anyway, as you read your letter this week, and if the Buffalo team has won, you can be

assured that the excitement has grown by leaps and bounds as everyone prepares for the next game! Stay tuned, sports fans, stay tuned!

This Sunday, according to the new calendar, is already the Fifth Sunday of the Great Fast. Know what that means, right? Yep, next Sunday is "Flowery/Palm Sunday" then Holy Week and Pascha! How quickly these weeks of prayer and fasting have gone by! Keep up the good work, or jump on the bandwagon! Or better yet, as written in Sacred Scripture: "Awake, O Sleeper, rise up from the dead..." (Eph. 5:14) Soon it will be Pascha... soon, very soon, we will be face to face with our Risen Lord! "Our time left for growing is so short that we cannot afford to waste a day." Liliis Trotter

Our prayers have been going out for all the LUC members and friends who attended their annual retreat this past weekend. We pray God will bless them and all whom they love. We pray that God will continue to shower His great blessings on the LUC organization as those good members, at the retreat or not, offer their time, talent and treasure to build up the Body of Christ here on this earth. I would submit that the most 'vibrant' of our parishes are those where there is a strong LUC presence. I hope all who travelled to Sloatsburg, have now returned to their homes safely, renewed in mind, body and spirit. Thanks for all you do! Thanks for your beautiful example! Thank you, and be blessed in your special "ministry." (BTW, Dear Reader, are you a member yet? If you are, have you renewed your membership? Dues for individuals or families are very reasonable. Rewards for you and your parish are INCREDIBLE!!)

A retreat, such as the LUC'ers just had, is a concentrated period of prayer and meditation to allow us to re-focus on our goal of eternal life, and to recommit ourselves to becoming stronger in this quest. Our Great Fast is that very thing also. We all have set out on our Journey to Pascha, our Paschal Pilgrimage. During these forty days we have been attending the Sunday Liturgy, which is of St. Basil the Great. There in that beautiful service we are reminded of our Baptism and the saving acts of our

God as He watched over, and watches over, all His people. Then, there are the weekly services of the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts, the Four Saturdays of the Reposed and the many, many more Lenten treasures of our Faith and our Rite, which come as blessings from our Good God to renew us. Be alert and watch! "Now is the acceptable time-behold now is the Day of Salvation!" (2 Cor. 6:2)

Last week I wrote about my barber falling off the ladder. Did you realize when you read it, that last Sunday was the day we commemorated St. John Climacus, otherwise known as St. John of the Ladder? Truthfully, I didn't at the time of the writing. I simply wanted to tell you the story. Later, I realized the connection and thought it was pretty neat as John of the Ladder counsels us to keep climbing on our ladder and not to fall, nor allow anyone to pull us from our ladder. A sermon from above! God is indeed mysterious in His ways! Glory to Thee, O Lord! Glory to Thee!

I know part of this liturgical time of the year has a very physical component as opposed to the entirely spiritual. By that I mean we are getting ready to celebrate the beautiful Holy Days of the Paschal time. During these days the 'Cleaning Angels' are beginning to appear in our churches as things are being made ready. Perhaps you have had the opportunity to walk into one of our church kitchens or the kitchen of a parishioner right as the latest batch of Paskas were in the oven, or just came from the oven. Talk about one heavenly smell! I'm sure this activity will continue and increase in the days ahead.

We are constantly told to be on guard and to be watchful, both in our spiritual lives as well as in our daily comings and goings. The evil one prowls, and so do his minions, seeking to devour souls and attack us when and how they can. There was a very sad news report last night about one of the Buffalo Roman Catholic Churches. Somebody came into the unlocked church (St. Martin of Tours in So. Buffalo) and stole the tabernacle with the Holy Eucharist. This happened in broad daylight about 1pm while people were coming and going. Several people were

reported to be in the Eucharistic Chapel, which is an adjoining room just off the main church. This Eucharistic Chapel has frosted windows and the people who were inside praying said they heard noise and actually saw the shaded figure of 'someone' carrying 'something' past those frosted windows. The reporters seem to think the robbers were after the brass of the tabernacle in order to sell it, probably to get money for drugs. But where is the Holy Eucharist and what happened to it? Be assured, God and His angels will care for it!

When I was in seminary one of our Spiritual Directors told us a story of a similar incident that had occurred somewhere in New England. At the time a string of church robberies was occurring, and tabernacles and chalices were being stolen. One day while on patrol a state policeman noticed a cloud alongside a road. It looked like dust from his car, but when he stopped to investigate he realized the cloud was a tremendous cloud of thousands and thousands of honey bees. Beneath the cloud were several chalices with the Blessed Sacrament on the ground. Here's the best part – the bees were making their wax under each host! Yes, they were making little chalices for the King of the Universe, the God of all things seen and unseen! We pray that the Holy Eucharist and the tabernacle of St. Martin's will be found, but we can rest assured God has taken care of it, one way or another!

Time to leave you once again, My Dear One....Be strong; be faithful; Be Blessed! May He shine His face upon you! May our Holy Lady the Theotokos protect you! God willing, I'll write again next week.

In His Love, Fr. Ray

**СТИПЕНДІЙНА АКЦІЯ 49-ГО ВІД. СУА
ДЛЯ НЕЗАМОЖНОЇ МОЛОДІ В УКРАЇНІ.**

**ЧЕКИ МОЖНА ВИПИСИВАТИ:
UKRAINIAN NATIONAL WOMENS LEAGUE.
МИНУЛОРІЧНІ ЗВІТИ Є У РЕФЕРЕНТОК:
Зірка Яцишин-Банч - 668-9504
та Оксана Салдит - 832-9331**

Молитва на Піст Св. Єфрема Сирина (+373)

**Господи і Владико життя мого, духа
лінивства, недбалости, властолюб'я і
пустослов'я віджини від мене. (поклін)**

**Духа чистоти, покори, терпеливості і
любови дай мені слугі твогому. (поклін)**

**Так, Господи царю, дай мені бачити
провини мої, і не осуджувати брата мого ні
сестри моєї, бо ти благословен еси на віки
вічні. Амінь! (поклін)**



Lenten Prayer of St. Ephrem the Syrian

**O Lord and Master of my life, take away from
me the will to be lazy and to be sad, the desire
to get ahead of other people, to boast and brag.
(Prostration)**

**Give me instead the pure and humble spirit. The
will to be patient with other people and to love
them. (Prostration)**

**Let me realize my own mistakes, and keep me
from judging my brothers and my sisters. For You
are blessed, now and forever. Amen. (Prostrat.)**

In Memoriam – Вічна Пам'ять!

Упокоїлася в Господі

+Св. Пам. Софія Пуцак
(3 Березня, 1923 – 17 Березня, 2015)

Пхорон відбувся вчора, 21 Березня.

Доньці Юдиті, синам Петрові і Орестові, з
їхніми родинами та іншим членам родини
складаємо співчуття, а їй хай буде
ВІЧНА ПАМ'ЯТЬ!



Fell asleep in the Lord

+Sophia J. Pucak (nee Ciopyk)
(March 4, 1923 - March 17, 2015)

beloved wife of the late Peter Pucak, Sr.;
devoted mother of Peter (Olga) Pucak
Jr., Judith (late LTC Miroslaus)
Malaniak, Orest (Oksana) Pucak;
dearest grandmother of Theodore and
Roman Pucak. Memorials may be made
to Hospice Buffalo, Inc.
We extend our sympathy
to the Family.

May she rest in peace!
Eternal Memory! Vichnaya Pam'iat!

З радія "Милосердний Самарянин"

Ким ми є, "... що прибігли прийняти надію, призначену нам" (Євр 6, 18). Принаймні ми мали б бути такими, хто спішить прийняти надію воскресіння. Бо саме для нас смерть і воскресіння Ісуса, Його Євангеліє, Служба Божа, молитва... Усе це потрібне нам, саме нам, щоб ми могли спастися, щоб мали підтримку, опору не Богові, а нам. Нам потрібен Ісус, бо "в ньому маємо неначе якір душі, безпечний та міцний, що входить аж до середини" (Євр 6, 19).



Він той, що супроводить нас усе наше життя, починаючи від утроби матері аж до смерті, але й більше цього: за межами смерті він стає Нагородою тих, хто відійшов до вічності, примирений з Господом. Ісус є не тільки тим, хто про щось піклується, повчає, Він є тим, хто знає наші проблеми, знає кожну нашу клітину, кожну думку. Бог бажає зробити нас спадкоємцями свого Царства. Ми мало віримо, мало думаємо про цю обітницю. Він стає нашою найбільшою радістю, відкриває найбільшу таємницю воскресіння і вічного життя - те, чого прагне кожен і кожна з нас. Бог обіцяє нам щасливу вічність і вчить, як можемо її досягнути. А ми, натомість, як губка, всмоктуємо все, що робить нас духовними каліками - німими та сліпими. «І», чули ми в Євангелії сьогодні про цього хворого хлопця «де тільки його вхопить, кидає його об землю так, що пиниться, скрегоче зубами, дерев'яніє» (Мр 9, 18). Хіба це не є образ нашої душі, що наповнена смертю гріхів, котрі відбирають наше власне життя? Чи це не про нашу слабкість, про невпорядковані пристрасті, що докучають і перемагають нас? «І» даліше читаємо «часто він кидає його у вогонь і в воду, щоб його погубити» (Мр 9, 22). Гріх завжди приносить тільки смерть. Наслідком гріха наших

прародичів є те, що людина здатна грішити і їй дуже важко цього уникнути. Наша проблема в тому, що ми не бажаємо докладати й не докладаємо зусиль, аби воювати проти гріха, аби піднятися з нього. Не хочемо сказати Богові: «Вірю, поможи моєму невірству!», так як батько з сьогоднішнього Євангелія. (Мр 9, 24).

Покладаємося на свої сили, на наші здібності. Ставимо собі обмеження і кажемо: «Досить», а Господь кличе нас уперед. У нас виникає страх втратити безпеку, спокій, острах боротьби, болю, терпіння. Ми призвичаюємося до певного духовного стану і вважаємо, що більше нам нічого не потрібно.

... Святий євангелист Марко розповідає про глухонімого хлопця, з якого знущався злий дух, і як батько привів сина до Ісуса Христа. Учні не змогли допомогти. Ісус домагався від батька віри, а той просив, щоб Він допоміг побороти закоренілу перешкоду недовіри. Сатана неохоче залишив юнака - так потряс хлопцем, що люди вважали його мертвим. Ісус підняв його, і той встав. Ідім і ми до Ісуса, як люди малої віри, Він підніме нас із наших, можливо, закоренілих падінь-провин, але приступаймо з покаєнням будучи людьми, повними довіри до Бога. Немає такого гріха, щоб Господь не міг його простити, хіба лише тоді, коли хтось не вірить і не просить Бога про прощення. Бог не стежить за тяжкістю наших провин, Він глядить на нашу довіру й розкаєє серце. Приведемо нашу душу до Ісуса, щоб вона, глухоніма на Божі речі, частіше зустрічалася з Ним у святих таїнах Покаяння та Євхаристії. Він вилікує нас із нашого глухонімого стану, навіть із дуже тяжкого. Він більше бажає нам прощати, ніж ми бажаємо отримати... Просимо тебе, о Господи, змилуйся над нашими гріхами-провинами, ми довіряємо Тобі, прости нам наші провини, вилікуй наші рани. (Митрополит Ігор Возняк)

From "Good Samaritan" Ukr. Radio pr.

Today is the fifth Sunday of our Lenten Journey and in today's Gospel reading, we hear the account of Jesus on the road to Jerusalem, and how the disciples followed behind Him. Along their journey Jesus tells them, "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem; and the Son of man will be delivered to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death, and deliver him to the Gentiles; and they will mock him, and spit upon him, and scourge him, and kill him; and after three days he will rise." (Mark 10:34). This is the third time we have heard Jesus inform his disciples, in increasing detail, of what the cross will involve; each time, He includes the promise of the resurrection, which they never seem to hear. St. Mark particularly indicates that this is a very tense atmosphere as they are going along the road. He tells us Jesus went first, all alone, with no one accompanying him. Behind Him came the band of twelve disciples, and following them came the crowd, the multitude who were following Jesus.

A man asked God how long a million years was to Him. God replied, "It is just like a single second of your time, my child." The man then asked, "What about a million dollars?" The Lord replied, "To Me, it is just like a single penny." The man gathered himself up and said, "Well, Lord, could I have one of your pennies?" God said, "Certainly, my child... just a second." In today's Gospel reading, the request of the disciples James and John, the sons of Zebedee, was not for a millions dollars, but it was a significant request they made of Jesus. "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you." And Jesus said to them, "What do you want me to do for you?" And they said, "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory." (Mark 10:37). James and John were asking if they could sit at the right and left hand of Jesus in His kingdom, but they did not understand what that involved. They did not realize that glory came with the ultimate price. There is much of John and James in each of us. We all desire for the goodness of the Lord to fill our lives, and to respond to our needs in the way that we desire. Now, Jesus did not rebuke them for making this request. There is really nothing wrong with desiring to be close to Jesus, with desiring to be in His presence. But Jesus had just shared with His disciples the truth concerning His sacrifice for the world; he was trying to communicate truth to them concerning the salvation of others, and James and John were too preoccupied with themselves to fully understand what

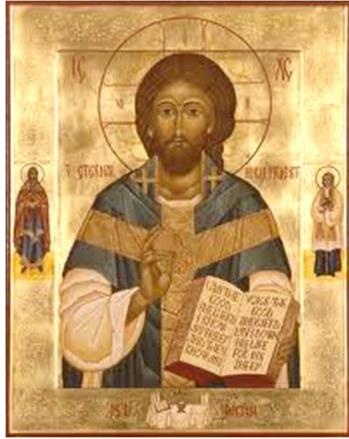
they were asking of Jesus. Furthermore, they did not even understand the implications of their own desires. Jesus says, "You do not know what you are asking for. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink?" (Mark 10:38). James and John had no idea that the cup Jesus was referring to would lead to His death and His crucifixion.

The disciples did not know that Jesus would have to go through great suffering. Or that His position would cause Him to have to pay the ultimate price. James and John wanted to be part of Christ's glory, but were they willing to pay the same price? Without much thought, they replied, "We are able to drink of the cup." But they had no idea as to the extent of suffering which the Lord was referring to. The cup was meant as a common symbol of what life hands you: the realm of your experience, the circumstances in which you are placed. You are handed a cup to drink. You have no choice as to what is in the cup, but you must drink it. Jesus, of course, is referring to the Cross. It is a cup given to Him by His Father, which He must drink. You recall, in the Garden of Gethsemane, Jesus prayed, "If it be possible, let this cup pass from me. Nevertheless, not my will but yours be done" (Luke 22:42). So Jesus is speaking of the whole spectrum of events involving the suffering, the anguish, the pain, the rejection, the mocking, the scourging - every part of the Cross - as the Father's choice for Him, handed over for Him to drink out of love for the world. Now, the disciples had no way of understanding the significance of this cup. "The Son of man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." (Mark 10:45). Already, this Sunday of Lent allows a glimmer of the light of Holy Week to shine in. Next Saturday will be the Saturday of Lazarus, whom Jesus will raise from the dead, followed by Palm Sunday, Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem. The Church, therefore, urges us in anticipation of the feast which we will soon celebrate - to develop the proper attitude we should have as we come closer to Christ's Passion and Resurrection.

"Verily I say unto you, in as much as you have done it unto one of the least of my brethren, you have done it unto me" (Matthew 25:40). They all lived in a rural area and they were experiencing one of the worst winters they had had in years. When Katherine answered the phone, Mary told her that they should visit their neighbor. She suspected that all was not well. She had not seen their neighbor Sabina in weeks. She did not run into the children at the playground, and the house looked too

quiet. Something inside of Mary kept urging her to check on Sabina. It was very cold out and the snow drifts were deep, but Mary and Katherine put on their boots and winter coats and trudged down the long driveway to visit their neighbor. Mary was right to be concerned, Sabina was sick. She was in bed and her three pre-school children were sitting around listlessly. The dishes and laundry hadn't been looked after for weeks. They didn't know if the children had even been fed. They had no idea how to contact her husband - but they knew she was in a serious depression.

Mary and Katherine fed the children, washed the dishes and did the laundry. When they did not know what to do – they simply went on to the next chore. Hours later, after much tending to their neighbor and her children, they walked home. But Mary and Katherine agreed that Sabina needed professional help, so they made some phone calls that night. The next day, a social worker came to see Sabina. A week later, Sabina told Katherine and Mary that she would be going to a hospital for treatment, but she was concerned because her husband had three more weeks of active duty before he could come home, and she had no way of getting in touch with him. Well, the ladies told Sabina not to worry, they would care for the children and look after them while she was recovering. Katherine took care of the 12 month-old Thomas and Mary took the three year-old son Martin and the four year old daughter Marlene. For three weeks they did not hear from Sabina, but soon after, Sabina's husband came for the children and thanked Mary and Katherine for all that they had done. Sabina's husband was in the military and stationed away from home. He had no idea that his wife was battling depression with him being gone so long, but he promised Mary and Katherine that things would be different. When Sabina was able, she returned home to her husband and children and adjusted very well after her treatment. She just needed a helping hand to get back on her feet again. There is much to be learned from Mary and Katherine's example of being a neighbor to someone in need – about serving others who need our help the most. When God impresses on us to help someone in need – do we listen? When I think of the people we pass on the street, the people in our own neighborhood or even within our Church community –



What if Christ was one of them? Much of what we miss out on is a result of our inability to make personal sacrifices. Christ lives in each of us, the wealthy and the poor, the young and the old, every culture and every walk of life. What if we miss out on Christ, because we fail to hear him or see him in the people who need us the most? Perhaps God has put someone on our path with a similar need. Have we been there for them? Have we served them and listened to the call of Christ in our own lives?

The Epistle reading for today, compares the ministry of Christ to that of the high priest of the Jews. The high priest purifies and sanctifies the faithful by sprinkling them with the blood and ashes of the sacrificed animals. St. Paul asks us: 'How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal spirit, offered Himself without blemish to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? The Gospels teach us that Jesus came as a servant of His Father, and not as one to be served. He behaved among His disciples, not as one who is seated at the head of a table, but as one who provided

for them. Jesus further goes on to give us the key - what it is that makes for true greatness: "Whoever would be great among you must be your servant; and whoever would be first among you must be slave to all." (Matt 20:27). Jesus is telling us that true authority arises out of servitude, out of meeting somebody else's need. The Son of God was serving our greatest need, redemption, when He died on the cross. Jesus did not live His life for Himself. He gave His life as a ransom for many. If we truly desire to carry something away from our Lenten Journey, then we must be more than professors that know we are saved; we are to be confessors that show we are saved. My brothers and sisters, if we (like James and John) desire a seat in the Kingdom of God, then we must be willing to follow the example set before us by our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. I once read an article about a statue of Christ that was damaged in a bombing raid in South Africa. The hands were both broken off. The townspeople first intended to repair the statue by replacing the hands, but then thought otherwise. Instead of replacing the hands of Christ, they put an inscription on the statue that read: 'He has no hands... but our hands.'

Fr. Ilie Babota, Assistant Pastor from St. Jospahat in Rochester will conduct this year retreat in our Parish of St. Nicholas only Saturday March 28 at 4:30 P.M. and Sunday March 29 at 10 & 12. Please attend, so that we can properly prepare for Easter.



**О. Ілля Бабота, молодий
сотрудник в церкві Св. О.
Йосафата буде мати реколекції
в нашій церкві Св. Миколая у
суботу і неділю 28-29 Березня.
Він був висвячений у Серпні
минулого року, так що це буде
його перша Св. Літургія, тзв.
«Приміції». Він уділить нам
благословення нового єрея.
Просимо прийти на ці місії/
реколекції, щоб належно
приготовитися до
Великодних Свят.**

I collect Ukrainian stamps, postcards and other Ukrainian items. I made a few miniatures so that anyone interested, can take a copy of my phone and email. I do like the old Ukrainian postcards, Plast material, DP camp, Pidpilna Poshta material etc. Although these items are usually found among the oldest members of our community, they are worth preserving, displaying and researching. Most of the younger generations do not care for this. I added that I "will buy" singles or collections (yes I would) simply as an incentive (not a business) since it is always easier to throw items like this out than bother to call someone. Perhaps if someone has these types of items, it would be better to get something for them from someone who actually likes and collects them (like I do) instead of throwing them out. If you know of someone who may have items like this, perhaps an older parish member or some children of an older parish member, please let them know about me or let me know.

Shchyna podjaka!

Borys Zayachivsky
72 Harshaw Ave.
Toronto, ON M6S 1Y1
Canada

**We have Bible meetings
Monday, March 23 at 7 PM.**

We will alternate between Monday and Thursday. Our discussion is New Testament from historical point of view and its importance for us. N. T. is about teaching of our Lord, but He came into certain historical setting, and it is important for us to understand the time and circumstances surrounding beginning of our Faith.

У понеділок, 23 Березня дискусія на тему Нового Завіту в історичній перспективі. Пів години послухаємо доповідь Проф. Ермана а опісля дискусія.