



LUC Niagara Frontier Meeting, May 21, 2015
New outfit from Ukraine →
(Дякую Пані Анна Ткалич)



Vine tasting, St. Mary, Niagara Falls, May 29,
The icon at Buszka Funeral Home



From the Funeral of +Olga Slabyk, May 26



With Szyszka Family and Relatives at panachyda



SAINT NICHOLAS UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
 УКРАЇНЬСЬКА КАТОЛИЦЬКА ЦЕРКВА СВЯТОГО МИКОЛАЯ



№ 22
 ПІД ОПІКОЮ ПРЕЧИСТОЇ ДІВИ МАРІЇ ОДІГТРІЇ
 UNDER THE PROTECTION OF MOTHER OF GOD



CHURCH BULLETIN
 May 31 – 2015 – 31 Травня
 ЦЕРКОВНИЙ ВІСНИК

№ 22
 M A Y
 3 1
 2 0 1 5



ЗІСЛАННЯ СВ. ДУХА
 П'ЯТИДЕСЯТНИЦЯ

А як настав день П'ятидесятниці, всі вони були вкупі на тім самім місці. Аж ось роздався зне-нацька з неба шум, неначе подув буйного вітру, і сповнив увесь дім, де вони сиділи. І з'явилися їм поділені язики, мов вогонь, і осів на кожному з них. Усі вони сповнились Святим Духом і почали говорити іншими мовами, як Дух давав їм промовляти... І як зчинився той шум, зійшлась велика юрба і хвилювалася, бо кожний чув, як вони говорили його мовою. (Ді. 2, 1-4,6)

Царю Небесний, Утішителю, Душе Істини, прийди і вселися в нас, і очисти нас від усякої скверні і спаси, Благий, душі наші.

CHURCH BULLETIN
 May 31 – 2015 – 31 Травня
ЦЕРКОВНИЙ ВІСНИК
LITURGICAL SCHEDULE **ПОР'ЯДОК СВ. ЛІТУРГІЙ**



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

4:30 PM For Parishioners – За Парохіян

May 31 All Saints – Н. Всіх Святих

12:00 PM +Tom & Mary Glascott
 (Mary Ann DuBois)

6:00 PM +Joseph Andrew Procyk (1st Anniv)
Thank you for your prayers!
Дякуємо за молитви!

Monday, June 1 Червня, Понеділок
 9:00 AM +Michel & Julia Michalow
 (Michelle & Michael)

Tuesday, June 2 Червня, Вівторок
 Священічні дні – Clergy Days

Friday, June 5 Червня, П'ятниця
 9:00 AM Private Intention

Sat. June 6 Червня Субота
 8:00 AM For all sick and suffering

4:30 PM For Parishioners – За Парохіян

June 7 2 S. aft. Pent. – 2 Н. по ЗСД

12:00 PM +Michael & Olga Leschuk
 (Marie Glenn & Nadia Boyle)

The Eternal Light burns in mem. of
+John & Anastasia Pawlowski
 Requ. by Anna Pawlowski

Вічне Світло в честь П.Д.М. горить
 За +Йосифа і Марусю Процик
 The Eternal Light honoring
 Mother of God burns in mem. of
+Marusia and Joseph Andrew

31 Травня: ЗІСЛАННЯ СВ. ДУХА

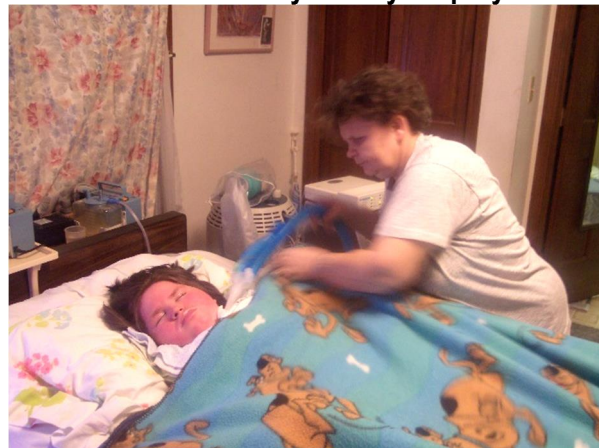
10:00 р. +Ольга, Лев, Юрій, Андрій
 (Роман Войчак)

6:00 в. +Йосиф Андрій Процик (1. Річниця)

7 Червня: Н. Всіх Святих

10:00 р. +Стефанія і +Андрій Мороз і +Гриць
 Костів (родина)

First Anniversary of Joseph is Monday, June 1,
 but since we start clergy day that day, and I will
 not be here at evening, we have Liturgy the day
 before, just in the case somebody would like to
 attend. God Bless you for your prayers!



Bible meeting, Mon. June 8 at 6:15 PM.
 Бібл. зустрічі, Пон., 8 Червня, 6:15 в.

We sent Dioc. Ch. Appeal forms. Please
 read a letter and send your donations.

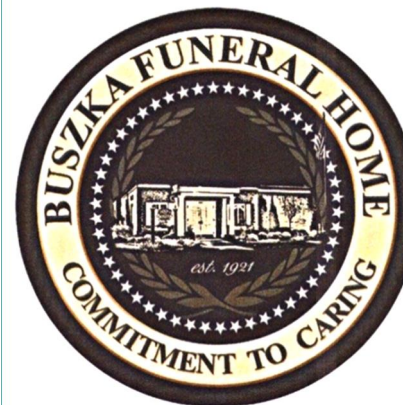
Просимо пожертви на Епарх. Фонд.
 Дякуємо! Thank you!

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Просимо відвідати веб-сторінку.
<http://www.ukrainiansofbuffalo.com>

Is the the web-page to find
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Please turn off or silence your cell phone
before entering the church. Thank you!

Просимо вилучувати ваші мобільні
телефони підчас Святої Літургії.

DONATIONS TO

2015 Stamford Bishop's Appeal

Each member of our Parish is also a member of the Eparchy and should support and participate in this fundraiser. The following parishioners have already contributed:

Andrew & Gertrud Diakun- \$300.00
IMO Harry Swiatkiwsky - \$200.00
Nancy Weigand - \$200.00
Maria Plotycia - \$100.00
Roman Voychak - \$100.00
Yarko & Danusia Dmytrasz - \$100.00
Ulana Loza - \$70.00
Roman & Lyuba Khoma - \$50.00
Zenon & Jaroslawa Derhak - \$50.00
Bohdan & Sofia Dusanivsky - \$50.00
IMO Katheryn Nyznyk - \$25.00
IMO Irene Tschip - \$25.00
Anna Hanicki - \$25.00

Total collected

as of May 28, 2015 - \$4,060.00

2015 Goal

for St. Nicholas Parish - \$7,500.00

Amount Needed to reach our goal -

\$3,440.00

Thank You for your GENEROSITY

DONATIONS TO ST. NICHOLAS

For Coffee Hour

IMO of Julia Popil Mochnacz
Orysia Mochnacz Dail - \$250.00

Save the date:

Father's Day Picnic, June 21st after
Liturgies. Sponsored by St. Nicholas
Religious Education



‘Once a man was asked, ‘what did you gain by regularly praying to God?’The man replied, ‘nothing... but let me tell you what I lost: Anger, ego, greed, depression, insecurity, and fear of death.’Sometimes, the answer to our prayers is not gaining but losing; which ultimately is the gain.’



Holy Trinity
Ukrainian Orthodox Church
Українська Православна Церква
Святої Трійці



Holy Trinity Ukrainian Orthodox Church
 200 Como Park Blvd, Cheektowaga, NY 14227 Phone 684-0738

We are invited to: Zeleni Swiata
Sunday, June 7, 2015 -- Divine Liturgy: 10:00 a.m.

Dinner: 11:45 a.m.

Adults \$20.00 Students \$10.00 Children under 10 FREE

Tickets

Fr. Yuriy Kasyanov 684-0738 Halyna Antonyshyn 662-3532



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!
- → **Molebens to Theotokos** will be Wednesday and Friday during the moth of May. See bulletin

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!

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)

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

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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 лічниці або приковані до ліжка!

РІДНА ШКОЛА RIDNA SHKOLA

презентує

ВИПУСКНИЙ - 2015 GRADUATION – 2015

Марта Касіян

Богдан Меленчук

Тарас Назаревич

Христина Собко

Остап Ткалич

СУБОТА

13 ЧЕРВНЯ 2015

5:30 – КОНЦЕРТ

7:00 – ВЕЧЕРЯ

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7:00 PM – DINNER

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Letter from Fr. Ray May 31, 2015

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!

Dear _____

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

And a very Good Day to you! Glad to be back once again to drop you a line and let you know how we're all doing, and what we all are doing. Quick answers to that: we are blessed, and doing fine! We continue to be blessed and busy in all our endeavors, jobs, and responsibilities. I always pray as I write, that this note will find you, too, healthy and happy in the Lord as you pursue your daily activities in the quest for the Kingdom. Whatever is going on in your life, no matter how your day is going, always remember, you are never alone.....even though you can't see us, we are with you; even though you can't see us or feel us, we are holding your hand and speaking good things to you. Even though you can't always see us, we are with you every step of the way. Also, in addition to all our family and friends, we especially have the support, guidance and protection of the invisible world with us! No, we never walk alone.

Today is Pentecost Sunday for the "old calendar people," and for the new calendar people we are celebrating "The Sunday of All Saints." Yes, the invisible world.....the Holy Spirit and the life of God

IN us. Yes, the invisible world... the first among the saints, our Most Holy Theotokos, and then all the saints walking with us. Yes, the invisible world, above all, our Invisible King, our

Lord and God and Saviour Jesus Christ, whom we call to come from His throne of glory in His Kingdom, and to be with us and sanctify us. Yes, we walk hand in hand and are indeed blessed! Christ is in our midst! God is with us!



It has been a nice week. Today, a few minutes before I sat down with "Ol' Mr. Mac" to put these words on the paper for you, the doorbell rang. Since we were not expecting anyone, as I went to the door, I was thinking, "meter reader, salesman, or maybe even a Jehovah witness." Nope, none of those, but one even better. A Florida snowbird had just returned and paid us a visit! Had the same experience last week in Niagara Falls when we had the joy and pleasure to welcome two other Florida snowbirds via Ohio. Great to see you all! Thanks for your visit and thank you for the beautiful weather you brought!

It hasn't been all sunshine and laughter, however. The days of this past week were touched with sadness and mourning as we had to serve a funeral. It was a beautiful, Spirit-filled Panachyda at the wake, and then next day, the same for Liturgy in the church. Vichnaja Pamjat! Eternal Memory! I must tell you of a beautiful "God-incidence" that happened at the conclusion of the funeral. It's TOO GOOD not to share.

So there we were at the cemetery. The final Panachyda was sung, completed as usual, by the very moving "Eternal Memory!" I never got a chance to ask the particular reason, but the family had arranged for a Bag-piper to be there at the gravesite.

He played the mournful sounds as we all arrived, and then he very beautifully played again after our service, rendering that very beautiful and well-known Christian hymn, "Amazing Grace."

As he began that hymn, the people quickly recognized the piece, and before long, everyone was quietly singing in one beautiful prayer, "and Grace will lead us home....Bright shining as the sun...Amazing Grace." Just as the

musician was nearing the end of the song, a yellow and black butterfly appeared. The gorgeous insect stopped at a big bouquet of flowers, took a sniff, or whatever butterflies do, and lifted off, flew directly over the casket, then over the family and then turned

around for one more quick look and once again flew off over the family and friends gathered there. There are no coincidences! I will remember that "God-incidence" and I am sure the family will treasure that unexpected "Kiss From Heaven" for the rest of their lives! God is good and blesses us! He is here, if we choose to see Him!

A few weeks ago when I wrote that we should get ready for the month ahead, I remember I predicted that May would be a blur. Guess what? The month of May is a blur. Monday is the first day of June and we all know the future days of that month are traditionally eventful, happy and fun-filled. It's only three weeks to the first official day of summer; three weeks to Father's Day! I'm just sayin'.....

June 1st marks the beginning of our summer fast (n.s.) which is called the Apostles' Fast, or Petrivka. We will be praying and fasting as best we can as we prepare for the great feast day of Saints Peter and Paul on June 29th. This Fast of the Apostles is not as long, nor as hard as the Great Fast. This fasting time is meant to unite us with the Apostles and all who have passed on the faith to us, as well as to strengthen us in our mission as we now carry, live and proclaim the faith of the Holy Apostles. I am looking forward to this time of prayer and grace, and hope you will also take advantage of this opportunity for blessings! Saints Peter and Paul, pray unto God for us!

June 1st marks another yearly event for us, the Annual Spring Clergy Days for all the priests of the Stamford Eparchy. We will be once again gathering at Mt. Alvernia in Wappingers Falls, NY for these important days of learning and fellowship. All the priests of the eparchy, according to church law, must attend these meetings, unless there is a serious reason to be excused. We have already received our schedule and it looks to be a jam-packed three or four days.

In addition to the lectures and information that always come from the bishop and the chancery officials, the highlight of the spring conference always is the Hierarchical Liturgy, usually held on

Wednesday. Bishop Paul celebrates with the priests having significant anniversaries of ordination. This year there will be nineteen jubilarians ranging from 40 years priest down to the 'baby priests' of 5 years. That's a whole lot of praying goin' on there, huh?! Later that day there is always a very nice celebratory dinner for everyone in honor of those marking their anniversaries. Axios, Many Years, Fathers!

This weekend many will still be celebrating the traditional Memorial Day, which used to be on May 30. Hey, we're members of the Eastern Church and with the 'two calendar thing' we're used to doing things twice. So we take this opportunity to again remember those who have given their lives for the sake of freedom. And since it is still the season of Pentecost, we will be continuing our prayerful visits to the graves of our loved ones. We sing, Eternal Memory, Vichnaja Pamjat! On this Memorial Day we say, as we always do, "Never Forget! Ever Honor!"

As I usually do, I am writing to you on Thursday. As I close this letter, we'll be off to the races as we begin to prepare for our Wine-Tasting Event to be held at our church. We pray for a successful, and a good evening for everyone. I'll let you know all about it next week when, God willing, I write again. For now, however, it is time for me to say good-bye for this week. I hope you are enjoying this beautiful time of the year as the seasons continually change. The world is beautiful and green; many flowers are in bloom, and many more are being planted; the days are beautiful and long. Three weeks to first day of summer and Father's Day!

We pray for family and friends and for everyone who are not enjoying good days. Especially for those suffering, mourning and hurting because of the violent weather and flooding in the south and Midwest. May God bless and comfort them and us! May He cause His face to shine on us! Holy Mary Theotokos, protect us beneath your heavenly veil! May you have many unexpected butterflies in your life!

In His Love, Fr. Ray

Save the date!

UNWLA Branch 97 is sponsoring a Spaghetti Dinner today, Sunday, May 31 at the St. John the Baptist UCC hall in Kenmore from 12 to 3 p.m. Proceeds benefit Ukrainian War victims fund and other UNWLA charities. Tickets \$10 adults, \$5 children 6-12 yrs old.

For tickets, call 716-984-4886

97-й відділ Союз Українок Америки запрошує усіх на італійській обід "spaghetti dinner" в неділю, 31-ого травня, від 12 - 3 год в пополудне. Обід відбудеться в залі Св. Івана Хрестителя. Вступ \$10 для дорослих і \$5 для дітей від 6-12 літ. Дохід призначений для СУА Фонд допомоги жертвам війни гідності та інші акції СУА.

The week of Pentecost is "Zahalnytsia" or "Fast Free Week." There is no fasting this week, if you follow Gregorian, and no fasting next week if you follow Julian calendar as we celebrate this great Feast of Pentecost. That meand: Meet could be used even on Friday.

Зіслання Св. Духа за новим є сьогодні, і цілий тиждень є тзв. «Загальниця», що означає, що і в П'ятницю можна їсти м'ясо.

The "Apostles' Fast begins on Monday June 1 and lasts till after Liturgy on June 29, the Holy Day of Sts. Peter and Paul, according to Gregorian. According to Julian will start June 8 and will last until thr Feast of Peter and Paul, which is July 12.

Піст Петрівка з новим починається 1 Червня, і триває до Празника Свв. Апостолів, Петра і Павла, 29 Червня, а за старим 8 Червня і триває до Празн. Св. Петра і Павла, 12 Липня.

The Head of the UGCC told His Holiness about the situation in Ukraine



On 24th-25th of May in Vatican was held IX session meeting of the Ordinary Council of the General Secretariat of the Synod of Bishops. The work was set under the individual chairmanship of Holy Father Francis.

The Head of the UGCC, His Beatitude Sviatoslav took part in the meeting of the Council as a member of the Council of the General Secretariat of the Synod of Bishops. During the workout process of this body of the universal Church, His Beatitude Sviatoslav met with Pope Francis who got interested in all events happened in Ukraine and assured once again in his propinquity to the Ukrainian people and constant praying for everybody who suffers.

On the agenda of a meeting is an adapting of the project "Instrumentum Laboris" and methodology of conducting the XIV General Assembly of Pope's Synod that is going to be held in October 2015, on topic "Mission and vocation in family and Church in a modern world".

(UGCC Department of Information)

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.

З радія "Милосердний Самарянин"

Святу церкву започаткував Син Божий своєю наукою і утвердив її своїм терпінням, смертю на хресті і Воскресінням, а Дух Святий постійно оживляє її, дає натхнення і провадить нас усіх безупинно до нашої мети, до злуки з Господом у Його царстві у вічному житті.

Церковний провід нині існує, а завтра змінюється, другий приходить, труднощі великі, часами зникають, змінюються або ще більші можуть наступати, а Дух Святий вічно живе, постійно переминює все на краще, вічно діє.

Погляньмо на нашу святу церкву. Там виразно бачимо, що Дух Святий її зберіг. Пригадаймо 46-ий рік. Нема більше великого митрополита Андрея, Слуги Божого. Його наслідник митрополит Йосиф Сліпий, пізніше Патріарх, безсильний бо карається десь по тюрмах у Красноярському краю, Єнісейську, Польші, Мордовії. Допомоги ні звідки. У своїому "Заповіті" Блаженніший так писав про тодішні часи: "Ув'язнення нічю, тайні судилища, безконечні допити і підглядання, моральні і фізичні знущання й упокорення, катування, морення голодом, нечестиві слідчі і судді ... і в'язень каторжник бачив, що його шлях 'на краю землі' кінчався приреченням на смерть."

Тоді то виглядало, що наша Українська греко-католицька церква мала пропасти. В Україні як церква, а на поселеннях, через іншого роду труднощів, як Українська. А з православною церквою ледве чи було краще.

Та Дух Святий опікувався нашими церквами. Він чудесним способом вирятував

Блаженнішого як Петра з в'язниці і через нього діяв на відновленню нашої Святої Церкви. Та і тепер, по його відході у вічність Дух Святий продовжує опікуватися нею, і буде це робити аж до того часу коли ми усі будемо разом з Христом у домі нашого Батька...

Хто з нас не відчув на собі безпосередню діяльність Св. Духа? Кому він не прийшов на поміч через діяльність наших братів чи сестер, приятелів чи знайомих, чи зовсім посторонніх людей? Чи не раз він не рятував нас? Коли ми були далеко від доріг справедливості, коли старалися виконувати свою волю, замість Господньої, коли думали, що своїми власними силами зможемо триматися на поверхні, Дух Святий не залишив нас, але постійно указував на високу мету до якої нам слід прямувати, повсякчасно підносив нас, скріплював нас і далі це робить і постійно посилюючи нам світло надії, підсилюючи наші бажання великого шукати.

Яке наше наставлення має бути до Третьої Божої особи? Що він від нас вимагає?

Він хоче, щоб ми його прийняли, так як апостоли в нинішньому читанні, і заговорили різними мовами, щоб нас могли зрозуміти і старі і молоді, багаті і бідні, вчені і ті що не мали можливостей навчання, християни і ті що шукають відповідних доріг.

Утішитель Дух істини хай дасть нам мудрість зрозуміти, як це найкраще можемо зробити. Кожний і кожна з нас має стати зняряддям Святого Духа. Наше є стриміти до досконалості і дозволити Св. Духові що б нас провадив на нашій життєвій дорозі.



From "Good Samaritan" Ukrainian. Radio pr.

The first Sunday after Pentecost is dedicated to the commemoration of all the Saints. Sanctity is the work of the Holy Spirit; all Christian holiness is a fruit of Pentecost. Therefore we see a logical link between today's feast and that of last Sunday. The Feast of All Saints completes the cycle of movable feasts. Over four months ago, the Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee, preceded the weeks of fasting for Great Lent, which led up to the central event of the whole Church Year - the Resurrection of Christ. And since then we have followed the services of Bright Week and the Sundays after it to the Ascension, Pentecost, and now today. The Feast of All Saints is the result of everything that has gone before it. The purpose of all the events in Christ's life, from His Conception to His Resurrection to Ascension and Pentecost - is to make Saints. That is the purpose of the Church, to make people holy. Today's Feast is the Feast of the identity of the Church, of her sacred personality. On this day the Eastern Church pays particular veneration to all those who are the fruit of the gifts of the Holy Spirit. We celebrate the feast all over the world. Our holy fathers instituted this feast and directed it to be kept after the feast of the Descent of the Holy Spirit, to set before us an example of how the coming of the Holy Spirit enabled them to attain sanctity.

The Servant of God, Metropolitan Andrew Sheptytsky said: "The veneration of the Saints not only does not oppose in any way the worship that is due God, but eminently contributes to it. We honor Saints as servants of God, as our heavenly protectors who intercede for us before God and obtain from Him, for us, the forgiveness of our sins and Heavenly graces." Holiness is not an achievement, it is a Grace. One of the many



teachings of Christ implies: "God is closer to sinners than to saints." I was still a youngster in grade school; when a priest explained this to me with such clarity. This is how he elaborated: "God in heaven holds each person by a string. When you sin, you cut the string. Once you show sincere repentance, God ties the string up again, making a knot and thereby bringing you a little closer to Him. Again and again your sins cut the string and with each further knot of grace, God keeps drawing you closer and closer to Him." As an adult, that image that was painted in my mind as a child has never left me - God drawing us closer, in spite of ourselves. And there is no greater comforter than the Holy Spirit to remind us of the presence of the Almighty in our lives.

The Gospel for today's liturgy is a selection of the sayings of our Lord which relate to the actual conditions of holiness: "He that loves their father and mother more than me is not worthy of me. And he that takes not his cross to follow after me is not worthy of me.

Everyone that has forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake shall receive hundredfold and shall inherit everlasting life". Once again, our Lord brings us into the presence of His Cross and the personal renunciations that it involves. There is, however, a great difference between the way we read these words today and the way we read them during the preceding months: read after Pentecost, this invitation to sacrifice is now clothed in fire, in the light and power of the Holy Spirit. The Apostles did not really follow their Master on his painful journey until after the coming of the Holy Spirit. The Saints, whose collective feast we celebrate today, only carried the cross when they were under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. The cross that Jesus sets before our eyes on this first

Sunday after Pentecost - is a cross of fire – the fire of the Holy Spirit descending on the disciples.

A man was trying to turn his life around. His past was full of many mistakes and times when he chose the wrong path, and he was about ready to give up. As he was walking down the street, the man passed a church and decided to go in. There, he shared his problems with a priest, telling him about his assorted past and all the times he willfully sinned against God. There was a silence, and then the priest spoke, "Your problem is like many of us, young man, you are carrying too much weight and the drag is slowing you down." The man looked at the priest and said he did not understand. The priest then walked with the man down the street to the shoreline where people docked their boats. He looked out into the water and directed the man's attention to several tiny sea creatures below the water. The priest said, "These are what we call barnacles. They collect on rocks, piers, and any surface, which is under water a considerable amount of time. For ship owners, these can be a multimillion dollar headache, because they accumulate so much over a period of months". Then the priest pointed out two identical ships sailing out across the sea. He asked the man if he knew why one was traveling much slower than the other when both ships were equally efficient. The man said, "I do not see any reason why one drags more than the other." Then the priest continued, "One of those ships needs to be cleaned because it is infested with barnacles that slow it down. This is very similar to sin. Until we are able to see our infestations and cleanse them, we become slow and distant from God. All of these ships you see will become infested with barnacles and need to be cleaned, just as we need to be cleansed from our sins. Ships will lose speed and efficiency, and we will lose our relationship with God. Cleaning ships requires jackhammers and several men working hours upon hours, cleaning the soul requires time too, and a willingness and sincere heart to rid ourselves of the sins that drag us down." The man began to understand. Then the priest continued,

"Like ships, we humans collect barnacles such as: anxiety, bitterness, envy, resentment, hatred. They slow us down and burden us with unnecessary drag. St. Paul spoke of this when he said, "Let us lay aside every weight and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race which is set before us." The man turned to the priest with a glow of new awareness and hope. He finally understood what he needed to do.

All Christians are called to holiness by virtue of the sacrament of Baptism. Every person, regardless of status and condition of life, can become a Saint and is duty-bound to strive after holiness of life. The Second Vatican Council encourages us to venerate the saints: "It is supremely fitting, therefore, that we love those friends and co-heirs of Jesus Christ who are also our brothers and sisters and extraordinary benefactors; that we render due thanks to God for them and suppliantly invoke them and have recourse to their prayers, their power, and their help." Our Lord, Jesus Christ addressed all people without exception when He said: *"Therefore, be perfect as your Heavenly Father is perfect"* (Matthew 5:48). Saint Paul also reminds us of our duty to pursue holiness, as: *"This is the will of God, your sanctification"*. Holiness is living according to the commands of God and the Church; it is the daily fulfillment of God's wills, constant fidelity to the duties of one's state, or more briefly, holiness is the Gospel translated into action. Today, we honor the memory of those immortal flowers, the Apostles, the Martyrs, the Prophets, and all the Saints, who are the closest friends we have to God, and we thank them for their intercessions over the whole human race, as protectors of souls, healers of bodies, strong pillars of faith. The work of the Saints and their powerful intercession on our behalf remains an integral part of our Church and our faith.

Life according to the teachings of the Gospel, lived out in love for God and neighbor, is the way in which each person seeks and aspires to holiness of life. The Saints in Heaven, then, are God's beloved and intimate friends; our protectors, intercessors, and

benefactors; our guides and role models on the path to virtue and sanctity. "We extol you; Apostles, Martyrs, Prophets and Saints, and we honor your holy memory, as you pray for us to Christ our God" (Hymn of Praise). The Saints have learned to bear a fruit of the Spirit, they have learned to be in a unity with God and all people, and they learned to love everything in this world. This very love does not allow them to forget about us, still living here. In Heaven, everything is alive and moving by the Holy Spirit, but on earth too - we have the same Holy Spirit. It lives in our Church; the Holy Spirit lives in the Sacraments; it lives in the Holy Scripture and all the souls of the faithful. The Feast of All Saints, among whom the Mother of God occupies the first and the highest place, is indeed a triumph for our Church. But at the same time it obliges us to ask ourselves in all honesty: How far have we come in our own relationship with God? Are we living a life of virtue and holiness? Are we walking in the footsteps of the Saints?

In Memoriam – Вічна Пам'ять!

Fell asleep in the Lord

+Olga B. SLABYK (nee Samardak)

May 23, 2015, of Lackawanna, NY, beloved wife of the late Stefan; dearest mother of Steven (Judith), Markian (Donna) and Maria (Carl) LaPaglia; grandmother of Steven (Emma), John, Greg, Andrea (Calvin) College, Samantha and Alex; great-grandmother of Ionna, Ethan and Dylan; daughter of the late Stephen and Olga (nee Panasiuk) Samardak; sister of Virginia (late Peter) Makar and the late Anna (late Edward) Binkowski, Mary (late John) Sprada and Stephen; also survived by nieces and nephews.

Mrs. Slabyk was a member of Ladies Auxiliary Hrizko Post and LUC.

We extend our sympathy to the Family. May she rest in peace!

Eternal Memory! Vichnaya Pam'iat!

Зі святими упокой, Христе, душу слугині Твоїї Ольги, де немає болізни ні печалі, ні здхання, але життя безконечне. Вічна Пам'ять!

In Memoriam – Вічна Пам'ять!

Упокоїлася в Господі

+Св. Пам. Анна Гач

(5 Грудня, 1915 – 25 Травня, 2015)

Пхорон відбудвся 29. Травня.

Родині складаємо співчуття, а їй хай буде
ВІЧНА ПAM'ЯТЬ!



Fell asleep in the Lord

+Anna Gach

(December 5, 1915 – May 25, 2015)

Cherished Daughter of the Late John and Anastia Gach; Loving sister of the late Mary, Julia, Irene, John, Michael and Roman; Sister - In - Law of Phyllis and Rita Gach; Also survived by Nieces and Nephews.

Anna was a graduate of Canisius College upon graduation she secured teaching position for the Buffalo Schools.

Ms. Gach was a life member of the Josph Hriczko post # 6245 and a member of the Ukrainian American Sitch, and LUC.

We extend our sympathy to the Family. May she rest in peace!

Eternal Memory! Vichnaya Pam'iat!