



SAINT NICHOLAS
UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



УКРАЇНСЬКА КАТОЛИЦЬКА
ЦЕРКВА СВЯТОГО МИКОЛАЯ

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ПІД ОПІКОЮ
ПРЕЧИСТОЇ ДІВИ
МАРІЇ ОДІГТРІЇ

UNDER THE
PROTECTION OF
MOTHER OF GOD



CHURCH BULLETIN

June 14 – 2015 – 14 Червня

ЦЕРКОВНИЙ ВІСНИК

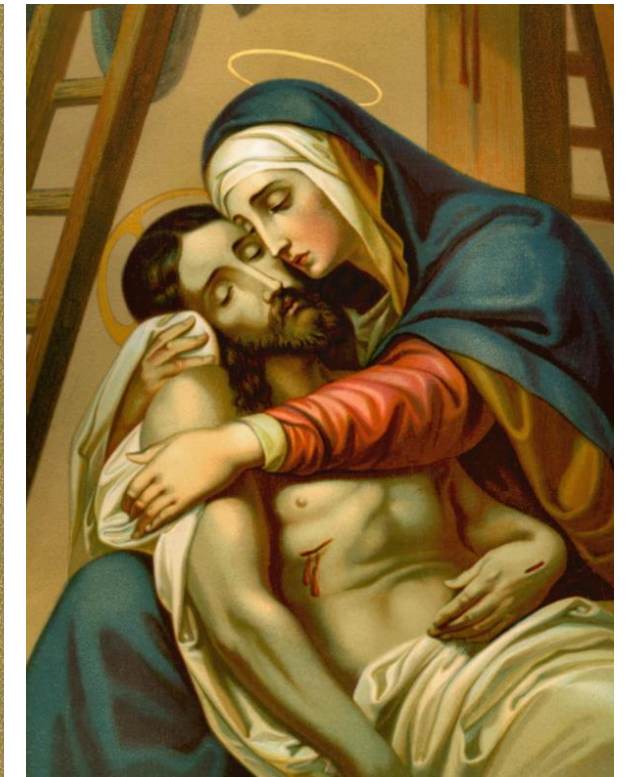
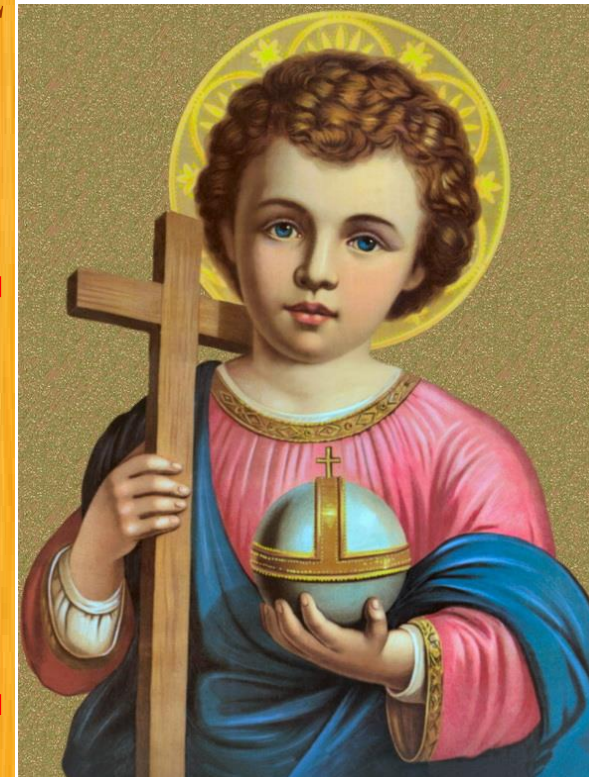
Величаємо Тебе, о Дитячко Ісусе й славимо
Твоє народження, задля нашого спасіння.

Слава на висотах Богу і на землі мир,
людям Його вподобання.

Із Себе перед зірницею породив я Тебе,
- клявся Господь і каятися не буде.

«Мати Страждальна, Царице наша, будь
завжди з нами. Царюю над Україною і в серці
кожного українця. Володій нашими серцями.

Навчай нас, пізнавати волю Всемогутнього
Бога, навчай нас бачити в Богові найкращого
Отця, також і тоді, коли ми страждаємо.



CHURCH BULLETIN

June 14 – 2015 – 14 Червня

ЦЕРКОВНИЙ ВІСНИК

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE



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

ПОР'ЯДОК СВ. ЛІТУРГІЙ

4:30 PM For Parishioners – За Парохіян

June 14 3 S. aft. Pent. – 3 Н. по ЗСД

12:00 ++Michael & Nina Smietana
(Katharina Smietana)

Monday, June 15 Червня, Понеділок

5:00 PM +Rev. John Kozak (Steven Camp)

Tuesday, June 16 Червня, Вівторок

11:00 AM В нам. Кеті (родина)

12:00 Akathistos - Акафіст

Wednesday, June 17 Червня, Середа

9:30 AM For Inten. of Dorothy Lewczyk -
Retirement (Mary Ann DuBois)

Thursday, June 18 Червня, Четвер

5:45 PM For living and deceased members of LUC

Friday, June 19 Червня, П'ятниця

11:00 AM Подячна (Маркіян і Ліда Стасюк)

12:00 Moleben - Молебень

Sat. June 20 Червня, Субота

9:00 AM +Богдан Щерба (Люба і Василь Терех)

4:30 PM +Harry Swiatkowski (Family)

June 21 4 S. aft. Pent. – 4 Н. по ЗСД

12:00 For Parishioners – За Парохіян
(За всіх батьків – For all fathers)

The Eternal Light burns in mem. of
All deceased members of
Procyk Family!

Вічне Світло в честь П.Д.М. горить
За здоров'я родини. (М.П.)

14 Червня: 2 Н. по З.С.Д.

10:00 р. +Федір Папіж (ОЖ ОЧСУ)

21 Червня: 3 Н. по З.С.Д.

10:00 р. +о. Андрій і Емілія (М. Л. Стасюк)
(За всіх батьків – For all fathers)

Bible meeting, Mon., June 15 at 6:15 PM.

Бібл. зустрічі, Пон., 15 Червня, 6:15 в.

Next Sunday is Fathers's Day. Express your gratitude to your father. Assure him of your prayers and thanks for having assumed and fulfilled his important role according to God's plan. If your father is already deceased, pray that God may have mercy on his soul and grant him a blessed repose and render eternal his memory.

One cynic, speaking from his own experience, noted that children go through four fascinating stages. First they call you DaDa. Then they call you Daddy. As they mature they call you Dad. Finally they call you collect.

And remember:

God is the best father. To Him we pray with the words that our Lord taught us: "OUR FATHER, WHO ARE IN HEAVEN"

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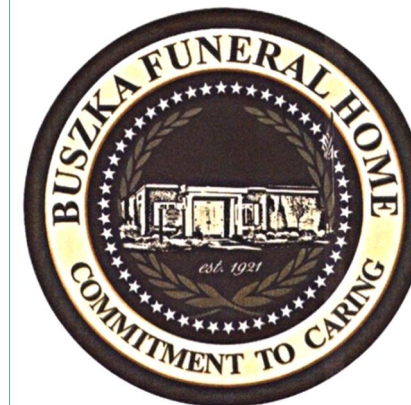
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Щоб довідатися більше інформацій про це що діється в громаді,

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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We welcome your comments.

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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

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:

Mary Bodnar - \$100.00
Wolodimir Muzyczka - \$100.00
Olena Czmola May - \$50.00
Andrij & Maria Petryshyn - \$50.00
Peter & Olga Pucak - \$50.00
Anna Poliszczuk - \$50.00
Michael Pelech - \$30.00

Total collected

as of June 11, 2015 - \$5,690.00

2015 Goal

for St. Nicholas Parish - \$7,500.00

Amount Needed to reach our goal -

\$1,810.00

Thank You for your **GENEROSITY**

If you haven't contributed to this Eparchial Appeal, please consider contributing whatever amount you can to help us reach our goal.

DONATIONS TO ST. NICHOLAS

"Special Appeal"

IMO Michael & Olga Leschuk

Marie Glenn - \$100.00

IMO Joseph Andrew Procyk

Orysia Dail - \$200.00

FROZEN PIEROGI SALE

FRIDAY JUNE 12 AND JUNE 19

FROZEN PIEROGI - \$5.00 a doz.

(Potato, Cheese, Kraut)

FR. CABBAGE ROLLS - \$1.00 each

**Kitchen Closes for the Summer
at 3:00PM Friday, June 19th**

Останній день церковної кухні
буде у п'ятницю, 19 Червня.
Маємо на продаж заморожені
голубці і вареники. Пів ціни.

Save the Dates

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

July 6th – Picnic mailing meeting 5:00
Church Hall

July 16th – Wine Tasting –
Victorianbourg Winery, Wilson, NY –
5:00PM

August 2th – Annual Parish Picnic,
Parish Grounds

August 28th – Liturgy for Peace in
Ukraine (Feast of Dormition of BVM on
Julian calendar) 5:00PM

Fatima Shrine, Youngstown, NY

August 30th – Msgr. Paul Iwachiw
Scholarship Awards Luncheon after
12:00 Noon

**61st Holy Dormition (Assumption) Pilgrimage
August 8-9, 2015**

**Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate
St. Mary's Villa / Sloatsburg, New York**

Theme: "Mary, Our Model of Perfect Commitment"

Saturday, August 8th

- 12:00 p.m. Food Available at Pavilion
1:00 p.m. **Akathist to the Mother of God** – Rev. Edward Cimbala,
St. Mary's Byzantine Church, Hillsborough, NJ
2:00 p.m. **Presentations** (listed below)
5:00 p.m. **Divine Liturgy** – Rev. Edward Cimbala, main celebrant /homilist (*grotto – English*)
Choir: St. Mary's, Hillsborough, NJ - Blessing of Water in front of St. Mary's Villa
7:15 pm **Activity for children** – Children will also participate in the candlelight procession
8:00 p.m. **Moleben to the Mother of God** with candlelight procession (*grotto – English*)
Most Rev. Kurt Burnette – Bishop of Passaic Eparchy - main celebrant / homilist
Panakhida – St. Mary's Villa chapel

*****Teen Camp Out begins Saturday at 5:00 pm Divine Liturgy through Sunday*****

Sunday, August 9th

- 8:00 a.m. **Akathist to the Mother of God** –Rev. Roman Malyarchuk, Rector of St. Basil's Seminary
10:30 a.m. **Pontifical Divine Liturgy** with procession to the grotto - followed by blessing of flowers
Most Rev. Stefan Soroka, Metropolitan Archbishop of Philadelphia
Most Rev. Paul Chomnycky, OSBM, Bishop of the Eparchy of Stamford
Most Rev. Bohdan Danylo – Bishop of the Eparchy of Parma – Homilist
Most Rev. Basil Losten, Bishop Emeritus of the Eparchy of Stamford
Choir: Holy Family Ukrainian Catholic Church, Lindenhurst, NY
12:00 p.m. **Youth Liturgy**, Rev. Walter Pasicznyk, main celebrant / homilist (*chapel – English*)
1:00 p.m. **Activity for youth/children**
1:30 p.m. **Blessing of the Sick** (*St. Mary's Villa Chapel & grotto steps*)
Blessing of Religious Articles (*front of St. Joseph's Home*)
Presentation –V. Rev. Dr. Ivan Kaszczak – "Sheptytsky as Metropolitan & Pastor"
2:00 p.m. **Stations of the Cross** –Rev. Maxim Kobasuk, OSBM
3:00 p.m. **Moleben to the Mother of God** – Bishop Paul Chomnycky, OSBM –Celebrant & Homilist
Blessing of cars and buses – Rev. Ivan Tyhovych

Exhibits of Women/Men Religious Communities of the Eastern Church will be on display

CONFESSIONS AVAILABLE THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE WEEKEND

Presentations - Saturday (English)

- 2:00 Rt. Rev. Mitred Msgr. John Terlecky – "Mary's Commitment Expressed Through Her Icons"
2:45 Sr. Kathleen Hutsko, SSMI – "The Heartbeat of the SSMI's – "The Charism of Bl. Josaphata"
3:15 V. Rev. Dr. Ivan Kaszczak – "Sheptytsky as Metropolitan & Pastor"

Presentation - Sunday (Ukrainian)

- 1:30 V. Rev. Dr. Ivan Kaszczak – "Sheptytsky as Metropolitan & Pastor"

Rt. Rev. Mitred Msgr. John Terlecky - Pilgrimage Spiritual Moderator



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 Our Lord will be Tuesday and Thursday during the month of June. 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 грошми 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
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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 хворими

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!**

З радія "Милосердний Самарянин"

У сьогоднішньому євангельському читанні чули ми як Христос веберає перших своїх учнів. Побачив він насамперед двох братів, Андрія і Симона, що якраз закидали мережі в озеро, будши рибалками, і закликав їх словами: "Ідіть за мною і я зроблю вас рибалками людей." Змістя покинули вони свої мережі і пішли вслід за Христом.

На іншому місці у Євангелії читаємо, що ці два брати ловили рибу цілу ніч і нічого не зловили, а Христос ранком каже їм, щоб ще раз закинули свої мережі, і вони наловили так багато риб, що мережі рвалися. Петро побачивши це наявне чудо припав до ніг Ісусових і сказав йому: "Відійди від мене, бо я грішна людина." Христос не тільки що не відійшов від нього, але закликав його іти за ним. І то в час коли здавалося все добре іде, бо ж ловитва виявилася успішною.

Поклик Христовий не одержуємо тоді коли нема іншого виходу, але тоді коли маємо можливість вибору, бо іти за Христом має бути добровільно, маємо цього бажати, і старатися ніколи від Господа не віддаляватися, не звертаючи уваги, що одержимо, або що стратимо, не дивлячись чого нам треба буде в житті відредитися.

Можна б здивуватися, як то, що майбутні апостоли все залишають і йдуть за зовсім незнаною особою. Та воно так не було. Андрій і Симон знали про Христа. Вони були учнями Івана Хрестителя, і чули його коли він говорив про Ісуса: "Ось Агнец Божий, що бере гріхи світу" і на іншому місці "Мені треба маліти а йому рости" та ще й на іншому "Я не гідний розв'язати реміння з обув його." Це все урізалось в пам'ять двох братів, і коли Христос їх покликав, вони радісно пішли за ним. Можна б навіть подумати, що вони нетерпиво очікували нагоду, щоб якось більше познайомитися з новим учителем, що так гарно вмів говорити, а ще до того чутки були що він чудотворець. Андрій нам знаний як св. Андрій Первозваний, а його брат Симон, якому ім'я сам Христос змінив на Кефа, тобто Петро, став провідником апостолів. Йому ж Христос сказав, що

на ньому він побудує свою церкву, яку врата адові не зможуть подолати, і йому дано ключі небесного царства сказавши: "Що зв'яжеш на землі буде зв'язане і на небі, і що розв'яжеш на землі буде розв'язане і на небі.

Трохи пізніше побачив Христос інших двох братів, Якова і Івана, що разом зі своїм батьком Зеведеєм приготувляли у човні свої мережі до ловитви і їх також закликав. Вони ж змістя залишили човен і мережі і свого батька і пішли слідом за Христом.

І знову ж нам насувається питання: Як то що вони залишили свого батька і пішли за Ісусом? Чи то означає, що їх не цікавить, що з батьком станеться? Очевидно що ні. Любов до Христа не виключає любові до ближнього, а головню коли ці ближні є наймиліші особи в нашому житті, наші найблищі, члени нашої родини, з якими так багато часу ми співжили, яких добре знаємо, і які нас знають. Любов'ю до них ми якраз показуємо свою любов до Бога, що нам все дав і який все підтримує, який всім опікується, і в якому є наше спасіння і наша надія. Ми разом зі своїми родинами стараємося іти за Господом, наслідувати Його, дозволяти Христові, щоб через нас продовжував творити добрі діла...

Часами, коли труднощі прийдуть, було б вигідно залишити усе і піти далеко, шукати за спокоєм де інде. Але спокою не може бути якщо ми не сповнимо свої обов'язки супроти своєї родини, супроти тих, які на нас покладають надію.

Буває так, що ми ціле життя трудимося, щоб знайти своє щастя. Нераз починаємо сумніватися, а чи ми є доволі сильними, щоб перебороти усі труднощі, які виринають на нашому життєвому шляху. Часто опиняємося в положенню з якого здається немає виходу. Чи ми зможемо нести ті хрести що їх покладено на нас. А ми їх мусимо нести і донести до кінця. Несім свої хрести достойно, а по дорозі до єдності з Христом допоможем іншим нести їхні хрести.

Кожний і кожна з нас своєю дорогою має іти за Христом, який завжди скріплює нас.

Letter from Fr. Ray June 14, 2015

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!

Dear _____

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

One more week till Father's Day and the first official day of summer! I don't know about other parts of the country, but I know we are still reeling from the long, harsh and snowy winter. Everything is green and beautiful, but there hasn't really been a great stretch of warm weather, and it seems as if the plants are struggling a bit, probably hoping for the nice sunny and warm days hopefully ahead. It seems a lot of the early vegetables, and even the strawberries, are a bit behind because of the tough winter. C'mon sunshine! We got some berries to pick and some strawberry shortcake birthday cakes to make!

As I traverse the neighborhood on my daily walk, I notice everywhere people are still picking up winter debris, pulling out the shrubs and plants that didn't make it, as well as fixing the damage to homes, garages, etc. The roofing contractors are still having a field day. Every street seems to have one of those companies working on some kind of problem caused by the snows, and melting snows. No fear of job security for them! I may



have already told you about my neighbor who had serious damage to his drain pipes. When he finally found a company willing to take the job, the contractor was asked when the job would be completed. Because of the tremendous call for their services he replied, "Definitely before next winter." Thanks God our house was/is ok. We lost some plants and three pussy willow trees. Seems the bunnies really enjoyed the bark of the willows. Better the trees outside than a flood inside the front living room window!

As I typed the date on this letter I immediately realized this Sunday, in addition to our special, weekly remembrance of the Resurrection, we will also be celebrating Flag Day. At first glimpse those two celebrations seem to be miles apart, and one would think they don't even have a place together. However, if you think that, you couldn't be more wrong. The flag is far more than a symbol of a country.

Our banner of red, white and blue definitely is a symbol of our beloved United States of America and of all the good things this country was, is and can be. We were founded as "one nation under God"; we grew as "one nation under God"; and we pray the future will always keep us together as "one nation under God" as go forward pledging: "In God we trust!"

Do you remember seeing the "Flag-folding Ceremony"? This action usually takes place at a grave site for a person who served in the military, and after a series of folding procedures, the flag ends up in

the shape of tight triangle. No one seems to know who the first guy (or gal) was who figured out the folding, but over the years various scripts have been written to explain the thirteen folds which must be made to complete the folding. The most popular, strangely enough, is this one which has

been attributed to a military chaplain:

The first fold is a symbol of life.

The second fold is a symbol of our belief in eternal life.

The third fold is made in honor and remembrance of the veterans departing ranks who gave a portion of their lives for the defense of our country to attain peace throughout the world.

The fourth fold represents our weaker nature, for as American citizens trusting in God, it is to Him we turn in times of peace as well as in time of war for His divine guidance.

The fifth fold is a tribute to our country, for in the words of Stephen Decatur, "Our Country, in dealing with other countries, may she always be right; (He also said, "My country right or wrong", but we cannot believe or hold that. Decatur was corrected by Carl Schurz in 1872, who said, "Yes, my country right or wrong; if right she be kept right, and if wrong to be set right.")

The sixth fold is for where our hearts lie. It is with our heart that we pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with Liberty and Justice for all.

The seventh fold is a tribute to our Armed Forces, for it is through the Armed Forces that we protect our country and our flag against all her enemies, whether they be found within or without the boundaries of our republic.

The eighth fold is a tribute to the one who entered into the valley of the shadow of death, that we might see the light of day, and to honor mother, for whom it flies on Mother's Day.

The ninth fold is a tribute to womanhood-for it has been through their faith, love, loyalty and devotion that the character of the men and woman who have made this country great have been molded.

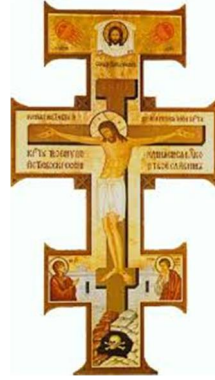
The tenth fold is a tribute to father, for he, too, has given his sons and daughters for the defense of our country since they were first born.

The eleventh fold, in the eyes of a Hebrew citizen, represents the lower portion of the seal of King David and King Solomon, and glorifies in their eyes, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

The twelfth fold, in the eyes of the Christian citizen, represent an emblem of eternity and glorifies, in their eyes, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

With the thirteenth fold, the flag is completely folded, the stars are uppermost reminding us of our nation's motto, "In God We Trust." After the flag is completely folded and tucked in, it takes on the

appearance of a cocked hat, ever reminding us of the soldiers who served under General Washington, and the sailors and marines who served under Captain John Paul Jones, who were to be followed by their comrades and shipmates in the Armed Forces of the United States, preserving for us the rights, privileges, and freedoms we enjoy today. There are some traditions and ways of doing things which have deep meaning. You will see the flag folded, and now you will know why.



Having said all this, we must be reminded that there is only one true flag, one true standard, and that can never be a flag of any country, for it is the Cross of Jesus Christ. Encompassed in this unsurpassed symbol of Victory, dedication, and suffering we find true love and true peace. All the things we so inadequately see expressed in the symbolism of the

flag, we see completely in the Cross of our Saviour. All the things of which the flag so inadequately symbolize are perfectly fulfilled in the Cross and Resurrection of our Saviour. We become a good people by hearing and living the great message of our Lord and God and Saviour Jesus Christ who has come to save us. In the flag we see how greatness can be achieved by faith in the One God. Our country was founded in faith and God has indeed blessed us! For believers, the flag is not something separate from our faith, but rather, it is "a prayer book" to strengthen and build that faith as we live as good citizens. "May she forever wave!"

It is time for me to close and I leave you with congratulations to all our graduates from pre-preschool to Grad school. Thanks God for your abilities and great promise for the future. "Oh the places you'll go! May God bless the USA! May God bless you! May our Holy Lady Theotokos, patron of this land, and our Heavenly Mother, keep us all under the omophor of her protection.

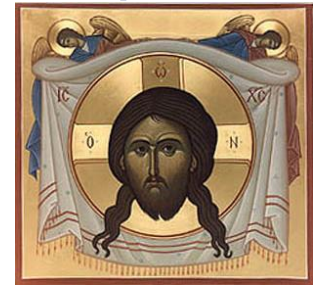
Till next week, God willing and the creek don't rise,
In His Love,
Fr. Ray

From "Good Samaritan" Ukrainian. Radio pr. (3) was not arrested and he would even help him find a job. And as good as his word, the major loaded up the man and his family in his car, drove them home, and found that man a job. So the next time you wonder how you will overcome a difficult situation, remember that the Lord works through people every day, and you just never know who He will send to your door or even down the aisle of a grocery store to help you find what you need.

How did Jesus find His way beyond what concerned Him at any moment? The answer is simple. He sought and desired His Heavenly Father above all things! Jesus prayed, "Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done" (Luke 22:42). If we truly desire to find our way beyond our worries and wants, we must seek our Lord first and last, and continuously. When we fail to do this, when we lose confidence in God, when we desire more the pleasures of this world, then we lose sight of our relationship with God. Consider how much we spend on bread for our bodies, and how little we spend on the Bread of Life. Think of how much we are willing to spend on clothing, and how little we are willing to clothe the world. Consider how much we spend on sheltering ourselves from the storms of this world, and how little we place on sheltering the cares and needs of others. Our Lord told His Disciples, "Do not fret, asking - What are we to eat? What are we to drink? You have a Father in Heaven who knows that you need them all" (Matthew 6:31-32). We must sow good seeds by reaching out to others, get busy doing the good things we know how to do... and trust in the Lord to provide for all that we need. When arks are built, lives are saved. When staffs are raised, seas still open. When a lunch is shared, thousands are fed. And when a garment is touched, whether by the hand of an anemic woman in Galilee, or by the prayers of a beggar in Bangladesh - Jesus stops and takes care of our needs. He responds to all those who believe in Him. I have discovered that while little faith will

bring our souls to Heaven, great faith will indeed bring Heaven to our souls.

Congratulations to the graduating class of "Ridna Shkola":
Marta Kasiyan
Bohdan Melenchuk
Taras Nazarevych
Khrystyna Sobko
Ostap Tkalich



Марта Касіян
Богдан Меленчук
Тарас Назаревич
Христина Собко
Остап Ткалич
Закінчили
з матурою
«Рідну Школу»
Ґратулюємо!

From "Good Samaritan" Ukrainian. Radio pr. (2) anything she wants. Today Ava is a spirited preschooler with so much love to give. That kind stranger in the grocery store will never know the gift she gave that day. She gave Lisa and John the ability to push aside fear and start living their lives for their little girl. The Lord does not always give us clear cut messages to calm our worries and fears, but frequently he sends us 'messengers' to remind us of His wisdom and love.

I have learned that attitude has a lot to do with living a worry-free life. There will always be situations that cause us concern, but with God's help, we can live above all of it and enjoy life to the fullest. When we give our problems over to God, we must also decide to be satisfied with His answers. We can trust God to do what is best for us. When we have a positive attitude and keep our faith in God, we cannot be defeated. We must stop trying to make things happen the way we intend them to be and come to the place where we desire to please God more than ourselves. The presence of Christ within us has to supersede what we want. Faith and the Word of God will help us overcome worry. Faith has a positive attitude that can overcome our past and lead us into a greater future. Faith is a powerful force that cannot be conquered. Another powerful force is prayer. When you feel under pressure, it is always best to pray about it. Prayer is the blueprint for a successful life. During His time here on earth, Jesus prayed. He entrusted everything to God... even His reputation and life. We can do the same. We do not have to explain all of our problems to God; we can just give them to Him and ask the Lord to take care of everything. We just need to have confidence in simple, believing prayer. Allowing the good Lord to get involved in every area of our life will keep us from



being overwhelmed or discouraged. Remember, God is good even when our circumstances are not! God does not always give us our heart's desire right away. He wants us to develop a deep, personal relationship with Him and an outrageous love for Him, so much so that we cannot live without it. This kind of relationship and love brings the attitude that God wants us to have and it frees us from worry over our personal cares.

The Lord also works in mysterious ways to provide for our needs, we hear about it every day on the local news or read about it in the newspapers – people living in difficult times who are helped by others at just the right moment. I heard a story some time ago, about our former mayor, Jimmy Griffin. There are many stories to be told about a man who was Buffalo's longest and perhaps most memorable mayor, but one story in particular pops to mind. I believe it was back in the 1990's.

One particular day, Jimmy Griffin was apparently out with members of the police department when they received word that a Buffalo man was holding his three children hostage at gunpoint. Times were hard throughout the city, several companies had pulled out of the area, and people faced some serious hardships. Well, our former major went to the scene of the hostage situation and was able to strike up a conversation with the man. He found out that this man was out of a job and desperate for work. He needed to feed his children and support his family. Mayor Griffin managed to earn the man's trust and entered the facility where he was holding his children hostage. As soon as Jimmy Griffin saw the man changing his youngest child's diaper, he knew this man never intended to harm his children or anyone else, so he struck up a deal with him. He told the man that if he ended this now, he would personally see to it that he

Блаженніший Святослав вважає, що від зустрічі у Ватикані може багато чого залежати.

Патріарх Української Греко-Католицької Церкви Святослав (Шевчук) написав листа Папі Франциску напередодні його зустрічі з президентом РФ Володимиром Путіним. Глава УГКЦ зазначив, що Церква і українці з великим інтересом стежитимуть за цією зустріччю і молитимуться за Папу. Про це повідомляє польське видання w Polityce.pl., інформують Патріоти України.

“Я стверджую, що зараз ніхто, ніяка дипломатія, ніяка система міжнародної безпеки і ніхто з великих світу цього не можуть зупинити війну в Україні. У листі я попросив Святішого Отця, щоб він був голосом українського народу своїх дітей, вірних католиків України, які страждають. Щоб Папа, як батько, захищав своїх дітей”, – заявив Патріарх.

Глава УГКЦ бачить велику схожість між зустріччю Папи Франциска з Путіним і візитом колишнього президента СРСР Михайла Горбачова до св. Іоана Павла II в 1989 році, після якого УГКЦ вийшла з підпілля і почала свою нормальну діяльність. Від цієї зустрічі може багато залежати, вважає він.

“Віriamo, що Святіший Отець як вікарій Ісуса Христа на Землі зможе зробити те, що до цього моменту не міг зробити ніхто з великих світу цього. Ми віriamo, що Папа заступиться за нас”, – заявив Блаженніший Святослав.

Першоієрарх наголосив, що Папа Франциск і ватиканська дипломатія добре орієнтуються в тому, що відбувається в Україні. Він згадав, що нещодавно українські єпископи вчинили візит ad limina і могли особисто розповісти понтифіку про



“біль, кров, сльози, якими спливає українська земля”.

“Папа Франциск сказав тоді:” Я завжди до ваших послуг “.

Думаю, що ця зустріч покаже позицію Папи щодо України і може посприяти тому, що на нашій землі нарешті запанує мир”, – підкреслив Патріарх.

~ Після візиту~

МИ НЕ "ПАПИ", А ВІН НЕ УКРАЇНЕЦЬ
(Підсумки і висновки.)

Заяви Папи Франциска - досить нейтральні і не такі різкі, як хотіли б в Україні. Але порівняємо їх



з риторикою інших світових величин. Великобританія, США і Канада висловлюються більш різко. Але Франція, Італія і Японія - приблизно так само, якщо не м'якше. Та й Україна лише тепер почала вимагати офіційного визнання Росії агресором,

окупантом, лише нещодавно припинила військово-технічну співпрацю з РФ. Отже давайте ми не будемо святішими за Папу Римського, і разом не вимагатимемо, аби він, що пам'ятає про напівмільйон-мільйон католиків у Росії, був більшим українцем, ніж ми самі.

Думається, Папа Римський Франциск сказав президентові все, що міг і мав сказати. Тільки він зробив це так і тією мовою, яка можлива для нього в цих обставинах. Коли і якщо обставини зміняться, зміниться і мова Папи.

А поки немає сенсу кричати "Нас ще й у Ватикані злили!", але треба самим працювати, аби ці обставини змінювалися в позитивному для України напрямі.

(Олег Кудрін, Москва.)

Pope Francis meets with Russian President Vladimir Putin in the Vatican - ANSA

(Vatican Radio)

Russia's President Vladimir Putin met Pope Francis Wednesday evening in a private audience in the Vatican. It was the second meeting between the Pope and the Russian President.

A statement issued by the Head of the Holy See Press Office, Fr. Federico Lombardi said the meeting held between the Holy Father and Russian President Vladimir Putin took place in the Library of the Apostolic Palace.

During the discussions which lasted 50 minutes both the Pope and the President focused on the conflict in Ukraine and the situation in the Middle East.

Fr Lombardi said Pope Francis stressed the "need to commit oneself in a sincere and great effort to achieve peace," adding that both men "agreed on the importance of reconstructing a climate of dialogue and that all sides commit themselves to implementing the Minsk accords."

Also stressed was the need to address the serious humanitarian situation in Ukraine.

Regarding the conflicts in the Middle East, both men discussed the situation in Iraq and Syria.

The Vatican statement highlighted the "urgency" with which the international community must pursue peace efforts, "assuring at the same time the necessary conditions for the life of all components of society, including religious minorities and in particular Christians."

During an exchange of gifts following the meeting, President Putin gave the Pope an embroidery of the famous Church of Jesus Savior, while the Pope

donated a medallion by artist Guido Veroi showing the angel of peace calling for the construction of a world of solidarity and peace based on justice. A copy of the Pope's Apostolic Exhortation *Evangelii Gaudium* was also given to the President.



VATICAN CITY — Pope Francis called on Russian President Vladimir Putin on Wednesday to make a "sincere and great effort to achieve peace" in Ukraine where Russian-backed separatists continue to battle government troops.

The United States had urged the pontiff to take a hard line with Putin over Ukraine. Francis talked with Putin about the

"importance of rebuilding a climate of dialogue and the need for all concerned parties to implement the agreements" of a February cease-fire, Vatican spokesman Federico Lombardi said in a statement.

The humanitarian situation in Ukraine and need to provide access for relief workers were also addressed. The meeting comes just days after Russian aggression in Ukraine drew a solidarity of scorn at the G-7 summit in Germany.

Violence in Ukraine has escalated in recent weeks with battles between national forces and Russian-backed separatists. Russia continues to deny involvement in the conflict despite mounting evidence.

Putin and Francis also talked about the situation in the Middle East, particularly in Syria and Iraq, where Christian minorities have been threatened.

Putin has positioned himself as a champion of beleaguered Christian minorities in war-ravaged countries such as Syria and Iraq, and protecting those communities is also a priority for the Pope.

From "Good Samaritan" Ukrainian. Radio pr.(1)

The Gospel for this third Sunday after Pentecost puts us on guard against anxiety and needless worry (Matthew 6:22-33). Jesus tells us that we must trust in the Lord: "Therefore I say unto you, take no thought for your life, what you will eat, or what you will drink, or for your body, what you shall wear. Is not life more important than food and the body more important than clothing?" (Matthew 6:25) These words of Scripture leave us with comforting thoughts. If the Heavenly Father feeds the birds of the air, if He clothes the lilies of the field with colors more glorious than those of Solomon himself, then imagine how much more He will see our needs and fulfill them. "Your Heavenly Father knows you are in need of all these things... But seek first the Kingdom of God and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." Jesus is also teaching us that experiencing anxiety over material needs is unspiritual. There are two main aspects to our faith: first of all, the search for the Kingdom of God, and secondly, trusting in our Heavenly Father's goodness for life's necessities. It is not our lack of material possessions, but rather our lack of confidence in the Lord that remains the greatest obstacle to our faith.

Worry, feeling uneasy or troubled, seems to plague multitudes of people in our world today. It is human nature to be concerned about the bad situations in our world and in our personal lives, but if we are not careful, life will cause us to worry beyond what is reasonable. Worry is like a rocking chair, it is always in motion but it never gets us anywhere. So why do we struggle with it? And what good does it do? Worry is the opposite of faith, and it steals from us our peace, it can physically wear us out, and even make us sick. When we worry, we torment ourselves and our lives become filled with unnecessary hardship. Worry is caused by not trusting God to take care of the various situations in our lives. Too often we trust our own abilities, believing that we can figure out how to take care of our own problems. Yet sometimes, after all our worry

and effort to go it alone, we come up short, unable to bring about suitable solutions. Too often our experiences in the world teach us to rely on ourselves, and it takes a long time to overcome that type of thinking. It is difficult to learn how to trust God, but we eventually must learn that trying to take care of everything ourselves is too big a task. When we trust in the Lord we soon learn that every day is a new beginning, free of worry and filled with peace when we allow God to help us. We do not have to explain all of our problems, our worries or cares to God; He knows them all just like He knows the very number of hairs on our head... but when we trust in the Lord we can just give up our worries to Him and be at peace.

When Lisa and John's perfect 5-pound daughter was born almost five years ago, they were given a diagnosis of Down syndrome. Fear of the unknown consumed their lives. Constant worry filled their days and nights. *What will her future be like? What will our future be like?* Lisa became the over-protective mama bear and mistook kind smiles from strangers as glances of pity. Scared and in love with this little baby girl, she felt so lost. When Ava was about 1 month old, they took a mommy/baby trip to the grocery store. In the canned goods aisle, Lisa's life forever changed. A stranger, who happened to be pushing her cart past them, looked over her shoulder at their little baby in the carrier. She came back around and asked Lisa if she could take a closer look. When she saw Ava's sleeping face, a warm, bright smile spread across her own. "Thank you," she said. "This brings back so many wonderful memories." Just then, a teenage girl came up and gave her mom a hug. She too had Down syndrome. This kind stranger hugged her daughter back and placed her hand on Lisa's shoulder. "You have been tremendously blessed; everything will be OK, you'll see." Lisa stood there with tears in her eyes and gave this woman a heartfelt, "Thank you." She felt like a huge weight had been lifted. They would be OK. Ava would be OK. This woman gave Lisa the strength to start to raise her daughter to do and be