

The Head of the UGCC to the seminarians: "Calling you to the priesthood, God puts in your hands the greatest gift the Church - the Eucharist"

On 14 June the Head and the Father of the UGCC led the Pontifical Divine Liturgy in the Patriarchal Cathedral of the Resurrection of Christ in Kyiv within the Pilgrimage of the seminarians of the UGCC seminaries from all over Ukraine.

With the Major Archbishop of the UGCC coserved Bishop Volodymyr (Vytyshyn), Metropolitan of Ivano-Frankivsk and Bishop Josyph (Milian), Bishop of the Kyiv Archeparchy.

Preaching, the Head of the Church said that word of God's chosenness runs through all the books of Scripture. "From the beginning, in order to prepare man to the fullness of salvation in Christ, God chooses people, with whom He makes the Testament. This Old Testament people the Lord has chosen as a holy nation in which the fullness of God's truth has to be manifested, the light of His law, upon which the fullness of God's blessings will rest"- He said.

Similarly, Jesus chose first apostles, entering into their daily work routine life. "He comes to the beach, where they worked as fishermen, and there, on the basis of their personal life situation makes them chosen by God. In this way He called them to a special apostolic mission, making them "fishers of people", - said the Preacher.

Preparing apostles to this new ministry, the Lord makes them members of a new mission for choosing a man, God adds Him to His personal action - "to teach and preach the Gospel and heal away all sickness among the people". "The Lord calls to this mission very strange people. For example, the apostle Peter, according to his intellectual level was the weakest among all students, but the Lord makes him the rock upon which the Church was being



built"- He said. Explaining the method of choice of Christ's disciples, the Apostle Paul taught: "God hath chosen the foolish things of this world to confound the wise. He chose the weak of the world to shame the strong". For the power of God is manifested in weakness.

The Head of the Church recalled that the day the Church celebrates the feast of the Eucharist - solemn worship to the Body and Blood of the Lord. The Preacher convinced that each of us became God's chosen during our christening. "We became chosen by God people in the time of our christening, in the time of Prince Volodymyr the Great, - He continued - However, our special mission, which calls us to our chosenness - is holiness". But you cannot fulfil this mission without the sacrament of the Eucharist. Because the Holy Communion it is the goal and the top of Christian life. Without it there is no Church, no true spiritual life. The Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church survived thanks to the fact that in prisons

and concentration camps priests daily accomplished the Divine Liturgy.

We can grow in our chosenness when we get God's food: "Each of you is called, as once the apostles, to follow God's call to holiness, which He gives us in the sacrament of the Eucharist".

Addressing the audience of seminarians, the Head of the UGCC said: "God chose you because He loves you and personally prepared. Calling you to the priesthood, He will put into your hands this greatest gift of His Church, for you will be the ministers of the sacrament of the Eucharist. Use this gift yourselves every day and as ministers, you have to feed with it the entire Church".

After the Liturgy, His Beatitude Sviatoslav gave the present seminarians the leaflet of the pilgrim. The celebration was ended by sanctification of water in the Dnipro and the restoration of baptismal vows.

UGCC Department of Information

SAINT NICHOLAS UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH  **УКРАЇНЬКА КАТОЛИЦЬКА ЦЕРКВА СВЯТОГО МИКОЛАЯ**



№ 25

ПІД ОПІКОЮ ПРЄЧИСТОЇ ДІВИ МАРІЇ ОДІПТРИЇ
UNDER THE PROTECTION OF MOTHER OF GOD



CHURCH BULLETIN

June 21 – 2015 – 21 Червня
ЦЕРКОВНИЙ ВІСНИК

З нагоди Дня Батька усім батькам бажаємо щастя, здоров'я і Многих Літ! Хай Господь благословить!

On the occasion of Father's Day, we wish our fathers health happiness and Many blessed Years!

St. John the Baptist was born of the aged and barren Elizabeth. The Nativity of the Venerable and Glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John is celebrated on June 24. (July 7)

Св. Іван Хреститель. Празник Св. Івана припадає на 24 Червня (7 Липня)



✠
№
2
5
✠
J
U
N
E
2
1
✠
2
0
1
5
✠

CHURCH BULLETIN

June 21 – 2015 – 21 Червня

ЦЕРКОВНИЙ ВІСНИК

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE



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

ПОР'ЯДОК СВ. ЛІТУРГІЙ

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)

Monday, June 22 Червня, Понеділок

8:00 AM За здоров'я і всякє прошення
(Леся Савка)

Tuesday, June 23 Червня, Вівторок

11:00 AM +Ірена Чіп (Марія Маланяк)

12:00 Akathistos - Акафіст

Wed., June 24: St. John – Св. Іван Хреститель

9:00 AM +Oresta Pereyma (Doris Wodzinski)

Thursday, June 25 Червня, Четвер

11:15 AM +John Verostko (Marianne Chort)

12:00 Moleben – Молебень

Friday, June 26 Червня, П'ятниця

9:00 AM +Дмитро Бараницкий
(Анна Мельник)

Sat. June 27 Червня, Субота

9:00 AM +Sophia Pucak
(Bohdan & Sophia Dusanivsky)

4:30 PM +Olga Popadyn, +Charles Jones
(Mary Obermiller & Stephania Miller)

June 28 5 S. aft. Pent. – 5 Н. по ЗСД

12:00 For Parishioners – За Парохіян

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

Вічне Світло в честь П.Д.М. горить
За МИР в Україні)

21 Червня: 3 Н. по З.С.Д.

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

28 Червня: 4 Н. по З.С.Д.

10:00 р. +Дануся Марія Литвин
(Влодьо і Ненсі Литвин)

Bible meeting, Mon., June 22 at 6:15 PM.
Бібл. зустрічі, Пон., 22 Червня, 6:15 в.

“Fortnight for Freedom”

A call by US Conference of Catholic Bishops for a 14 day period of prayer, education and action in support of religious freedom from June 21 to July 4.

Watch EWTN Sunday June 21 at 7pm
for Opening Mass from

National Shrine- Washington, D.C.

“Keeping the spirit of the Gospel means that Catholic institutions are to bear witness in love to the full truth about the human person by providing social, charitable, and educational services in a manner that fully reflects the God-given dignity of the human person.” –

[Archbishop William E. Lori, Chairman, Ad Hoc Committee for Religious Liberty, on the “Freedom to Bear Witness”...](#)

The theme of this year's Fortnight will focus on the “freedom to bear witness” to the truth of the Gospel.

Ukrainian Treasures & More



Judie Hawryluk

79 Southridge Dr
West Seneca NY 14224

716-674-5185

Ukrainian Eggs, Jewelry & Embroidery

photos on facebook.com

jahawryluk@gmail.com



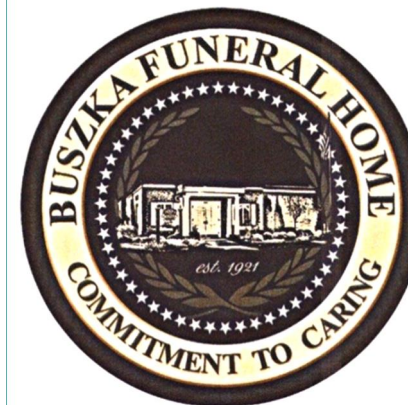
PHONE 893-1025

Fusani &
Kuhn's Monuments, Inc.

ASK FOR TOM

2398 GENESEE ST.
BUFFALO, N.Y. 14225

Proud to Support
St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church



Buszka Funeral Home

Director Peter D. Stachowski

2005 Clinton Street at S. Ogden, Buffalo New York 14206
(716) 825-7777 www.buszkafuneralhome.com

Сердечна подяка усім спонзорам!

PROFESSIONAL COLLISION SERVICES & MORE



RED STAR

Nick Hurmak
OWNER
(716) 316-2540

Alexander Arutunian
MANAGER
(716) 578-8185

112 DELAWARE STREET
TONAWANDA, NY, 14150
FAX: (716) 260-1254
www.redstarautomotive.com

Ad in the bulletin

If you want to advertise

Your business in the bulletin
Business card - \$100 for a year.

Бізнесова карточка
\$100.00 дол. – 52 рази до року.

Wilhelmina E. Klimeczko
Janine R. Klimeczko
Michael A. Klimeczko
Licensed Directors

Pietszak

FUNERAL HOME

Orlowski-Pietszak Funeral Home

www.Pietszak.com 897-2400

*Continuing a Tradition of
thoughtful Personalized Service*

806 Clinton St. 2400 William St.
Buffalo Cheektowaga

Thanks are extended to all Sponsors

562 Genesee Street, Buffalo, NY 14204
(716) 847-6655 - Toll free 877-968-7828

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!

**PERSONAL & BUSINESS
FINANCIAL SERVICES**

SAVINGS & CHECKING ACCOUNTS | SHARE CERTIFICATES | MONEY MARKET | LOANS | MORTGAGES | VISA CREDIT & DEBIT CARDS | MONEYGRAM | INTERNATIONAL AND DOMESTIC WIRE TRANSFERS | ONLINE SERVICES | NOTARY PUBLIC |

**ПЕРСОНАЛЬНІ ТА БІЗНЕСОВІ
ФІНАНСОВІ ПОСЛУГИ**

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.

EURO DELI AND GIFTS
www.eurodelisausage.com



LUNCHES & SANDWICHES SERVED DAILY

For All of Your Old World Favorite Products, Just Around The Corner. Stop In & Take a Look.

Many Varieties of:
Bologna • Salami • Fresh Polish Sausage • Head Cheese • Garlic Sausage • Smoked Fish
European Beer • Kefir/Butter • Condiments • Pierogi (Homemade) - Many Varieties
Smoked Sausages • Bacon (Bozek) • Canadian Bacon • Blood Kishka (Homemade)
Polish Hams • Caviar • Kvas Drink • Cheese • European Chocolates • Pickles/Tomatoes

4166 Union Rd.,
Cheektowaga, NY (In Airport Plaza) 630-0130

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

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:

- Anna & Barbara Andruszko - \$200.00
- Theodore & Aleksandra Prawak - \$150.00
- Julia Blendonohy - \$100.00
- Michael & Maria Petryshyn - \$100.00
- NN - \$50.00

Total collected
as of June 18, 2015 - **\$6290.00**
2015 Goal
for St. Nicholas Parish - **\$7,500.00**
Amount needed to reach our goal -
\$1,210.00

Thank You for your GENEROSITY
If you haven't as yet contributed to
2015 Bishops Appeal, please
consider contributing whatever
amount you can to help us reach
our goal.

DONATIONS TO ST. NICHOLAS

"Special Appeal"

IMO Olga Slabyk
Slabyk Family- \$100.00

Save the Dates

- July 6th** – Picnic mailing meeting 5:00
Church Hall
- July 16th** – Wine Tasting –
Victorianbourg Winery, Wilson, NY –
5:00PM
This event is sponsored by League of
Ukrainian Catholics, but anyone may
attend.
- 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

Today: June 21st –
Father's Day Picnic, after
Liturgies. Sponsored by St.
Nicholas Religious Education.
Please take part.
Happy Father's Day!
=====

Сьогодні 21 Червня
Пікнік з нагоди Дня Батька.
Просимо взяти участь!
Щасливого Дня Батька!

. З радія "Милосердний Самарянин"

Господь нас полюбив безконечною любов'ю. Він своє життя віддав за нас, і коли було б потрібно не завагався б Він це знову і знову повторити, хоча б і кожного дня, аж до закінчення цього видимого світу, аж до того часу коли сам прийде судити живих і мертвих. Ми цю кровну жертву повторяємо у безкровний спосіб кожного разу коли беремо участь у Святій Літургії, коли повторяємо Христові слова: "Беріть, їжте, це є тіло мєс що за вас ламається на відпущення гріхів", і "Беріть, пийте, це є кров моя нового завіту, що за вас і за багатьох проливається, на відпущення гріхів. .

Нема любові, яка могла б дорівнювати Христовій любові, немає жертви, подібної до Його жертви на Голготі. Розширивши руки на хрест, він обняв нас усіх, відкрив себе перед нами, що б ми могли також себе відкрити перед ним. Наша відповідь на його любов може бути двояка, і наша доля буде віддзеркалювати нашу відповідь.

Перша з них нагадує нам розбійника, який був розп'ятий по лівіці і помимо болів в наслідок розп'яття підсміхався з Господа кажучи: "Ти назвав себе Сином Божим. А чи можеш доказати це. Ану зроби якесь чудо, щоб ми бачили і увірували в Тебе. Як ти такий сильний - спаси себе і нас." Він не добачав несправедливості, яка була Христові зроблена, він не бачив Господньої доброти. Він чув тільки це, що інші про нього говорили, коли його розпинали. Як часто і ми готові засуджувати наших ближніх, тому, що інші нам сказали, що їх належить засуджувати.

Друга наша відповідь нагадує розбійника по правиці, який став у обороні Христа кажучи до свого судруга: "Хіба ти не боїшся Бога.

Ми засуджені по правді, а він ніякого зла не зробив."

Цікаво, що цей чоловік, що висів на хресті, дійшов до такого розуміння. Ціле його життя перейшло в марноті, правдоподібно кривив він інших, хоча ми цього не знаємо, рівно ж можливо що він відбирав від тих, що мали забагато і давав тим що не мали нічого. Усього цього нам не відомо. Факт є, що він був розп'ятий разом з невинним Господом, який навіть надламаної гілячки не хотів відломляти і який похилу травичку піднімав, що криве випростовув, що проповідував добру новину, що хворих лікував, сумних потішував, а навіть і з мертвих воскрешав. Цікаво, чи цей розбійник по правиці коли небудь чув Господню промову, чи слухав Його притчі. Правдоподібно відчув він Христову вищість, у тій хвилині розп'яття, коли то Господь не нарікає, але молиться за тих що його розп'яли словами: "Прости їм Отче, бо вони не знають, що вони роблять." Перед ним тепер упав би на коліна, коли б не був прибитий до хреста. "Згадай мене Господи; коли прийдеш у царство твоє", нарешті промовив. Усі провини змиті, усе забулося, і не буде ніхто згадувати брак любові продовж цілого його життя. Одне слово і вистарчить. Одне слово і спасіння приходить. Одне слово – і спокій у серці. У своїй любові Господь все прощає і каже розбійникові: "Ще сьогодні будеш зі мною в раю".

"Коли б ми чули ці Господні слова у хвилині коли будемо відходити з цього світу, а почуємо їх, оскільки зуміємо вести наше життя дорогою любові, оскільки матимемо милосердя до покривджених, співчуття до терплячих, оскільки будемо в інших бачити Христа і жити по Христі, і бути Христом для інших...



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

- KITCHEN is now closed.
- Thank you for your patronage.
Thanks are extended to all who helped!
- Coffee Hour - Usually Every Sunday after Liturgy in Church Hall. Please join us!
- Molebens to Our Lord will be Tuesday and Thursday during the moth 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 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 - Опика 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!**

From "Good Samaritan" Ukrainian. Radio pr. (2)

die." Again and again he hammered home the power of God and how the child must be obedient to God. Then one day they came face to face with God, and the child hid behind his father, afraid to even look, refusing to put his own hand into the hand of God. The second father also realized his responsibility to teach his child about God. Hurriedly, he tried to teach all the important lessons he knew. As they looked at the trees they only stopped for a moment to gaze at them. As they looked at the flowers of the field they hurried on by to learn more. This father told stories, but they were hectic and crammed together. He filled the child full of facts, but he never taught him how to live, or the ways to know and love God. Then one day they came face to face with God, but the child only gave God a casual glance and then turned away because he did not know Him. The third father felt the touch of a tender hand in his and adjusted his steps to the tiny steps of his child. They walked along, stopping to look at all of God's beauty and grandeur. They walked in the fields and picked the flowers. They felt the delicate petals and smelled their fragrance. They watched a bird in flight, and another building her nest and laying her eggs and sitting on them until they hatched. They watched all of the beauties of nature while the father told his child stories about God, over and over again, tender stories of love and forgiveness. Then one day they came face to face with God, and without hesitation, the child placed his own hand trustingly into the hand of His Heavenly Father.

The other day my son asked me: What made grandpa such a good dad? There were so many memories that came rushing back to me that I felt like my heart would overflow, and so I shared many wonderful stories in that priceless moment with my son. I went on to tell him that dads do a lot of small things too that make a world of difference, and then I elaborated: They bring around the car when it rains so everyone else can stay dry. They always take the family pictures, which is why they are hardly in them. They play ball with you even after they have worked a ten hour day. They carve turkeys on Thanksgiving, keep the car gassed up, and are not afraid to go into the basement. They mow the lawn, and tighten the clothesline to keep it from sagging. Dad's throw their kids up high over their heads until they are weak from laughter. They listen more than they talk. They tuck you in at night and read you a bedtime story, after they have scared away the boogie man from under your bed. They let you make mistakes and then they teach you how to

make amends. They run alongside when you are learning how to ride a bike, and they sit beside you patiently when they are teaching you how to drive their car. Above all, what a father really does that is so important - he shows up for the job in good times and bad times. He is a man who is constantly being observed by his children. They learn from him how to handle adversity, anger, disappointment, and success. He will not laugh at their dreams no matter how impossible they might seem. He will wake up and drive in the middle of the night, when one of his children is at a sleepover and not feeling well. He will make unpopular decisions and stand by them. When he is wrong and makes a mistake, he will admit it. He sets the tone for how family members treat one another, and even people who are different from them. By example, a dad can instill a desire to give something back to the community, when its needs are greater than theirs. But mostly, a good father involves himself in his kids' lives, and takes responsibility for who they become. A dad has the potential to be a powerful force in the life of a child - I know, because like many of you, I had a great dad.

Truthfully, a father's love will leave footprints in our heart, and though we may run, walk, stumble, or fly - let us never lose sight of the role our father's play in guiding us on this journey we call life. Today, we honor all Fathers and the unconditional love they have shown their children throughout the years, we remember all of the sacrifices they have made on our behalf; the lessons in life which they have taught us and the relationships we have forged through their example. I once came across a beautiful passage about a father, which read as follows: *"I watched a small man with thick calluses on both hands work fifteen and sixteen hours a day. I saw him once literally bleed from the bottoms of his feet, a man who was uneducated, alone, unable to speak the language, who taught me all I needed to know about faith and hard work by the simple eloquence of his example."* As we remember our fathers and godfathers, our grandfathers and even possibly our great grandfathers, let us pray for them and honor them with all our heart. May the love of our Heavenly Father and the protection of the Blessed Mother be with them always...

Happy Father's Day - Mnohaya Lita!

Letter from Fr. Ray June 21, 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!" That's what I wrote last time as the very first line of your letter. The week is past, and the special days are here today, so first things first: To all our living Dads we say, "Happy Father's Day!" This is, of course, a civil, "Hallmark" holiday, but it is such a beautiful, meaningful and spiritual day that we have taken it into the Church and 'baptized' it. Everything good a father is, and must be, is but a reflection of our Heavenly Father. Every shortcoming of our earthly father is a missing of the mark in the quest to fulfill the command; "Be ye therefore perfect, as also your heavenly Father is perfect." (Matthew 5:48) So this day while we celebrate and remember our Dads, we also are really remembering God, our heavenly Father. In these United States we have 'baptized' the third Sunday in June and made it something very special and holy. Our God gives us life, nourishment, protection and love! Our earthly father reflects that awesome and infinite Father in heaven. How incredible, and what a responsibility it is to be a father!

Especially if you've got little kids in the house, I'll bet you are having a great day! I know around here there's been a lot of whispering and keeping secrets. I've been told that I'm gonna get some really nice things and I will love them. But every one of the Rugsrats has been able to keep the big secrets. I'm sure your little ones have done the same in your house. Happy Father's Day to all our Dads who are with us. Celebrate the day and receive the abundance of love coming your way today. God bless you! Thank you for choosing Life! It takes a Man to be a Father!

And if our Dad has already gone from this world, we will remember him, pray for him and thank God for his life, and our life through him. No doubt the memories of our youth will flood our minds and

hearts as we recall being with him. The happy days of holding Daddy's hand and the things we once did will come back to us. Maybe in our joy and love and reminiscing, a tear or two will be shed. And that will be OK. We will be praying for all our departed fathers this weekend at our Liturgies. As we remember them, we also remember God in heaven, who has taken us as His children and allows us to call Him, "Our Father." We send up thanks, and praise Him, for having given us our earthly father.

Having remembered our earthly fathers, we can't have Father's Day without remembering all those other men we call fathers, our priests, both living and reposed. Please say a prayer for your priest-Father today, and remember all the other priest-Fathers who are, or were, in your life, and those who perhaps have now gone to their eternal reward. I know I'll be remembering all my pastors, especially Fr. Smyk, who gave me my first Holy Communion and Fr. Stebelsky, who was our long-time pastor as I was growing up. These two were good priests, and very good Fathers to the people of several churches. As we say in the Holy Liturgy, "May the Lord God remember their priesthood in His kingdom!"

As I said above, today is also the first official day of summer. So.... "Happy Summer." It is really that wonderful time of the year again. We have finally been able to go to that most beautiful spot in the whole world-our back yard. I spent a few hours weeding and planting and smelling the newly overturned earth. Then this evening we had supper outside for the first time this season and it prompted the famous Marv Levy (former coach of the Bills) question: "Where would you rather be than right here, right now?!!" It sure did feel good.

Presbyteria made a great "Giada" recipe. Added to that was a glass of Eagle Crest wine, a brilliant sunset, birds at the feeder, a yard full of flowers and low humidity. I am convinced on days like this we really do take a glimpse inside heaven. Yes, we did ask each other, "Where would you rather be...."

One time we were on a trip to Alaska and our guide took us to the foot of a beautiful glacier and she said

it had to be the most beautiful place on earth. I would agree that it was an exquisite place, a gorgeous mountain, where even in this modern age, no human being has ever walked. It was extremely beautiful, serene, majestic and holy. I've got to tell you, on a salubrious summer night as tonight is, 88 Iris Avenue in good ol' West Seneca, isn't far behind that special Alaskan glacier. Glory and thanks to our God.

So Happy Summer! With the summer months come the annual events and activities of our world. Every church bulletin and community newspaper is announcing something from now until October! Outdoor concerts, lawn-fetes, block parties, church picnics, Seminary Day, and garage sales are on everyone's calendar. These are the public events. The family affairs such as weddings, showers, graduations, baptisms, etc., etc. are even extra additions to the calendar. So get your running shoes on, take advantage of the great weather, and have a blessed, happy and relaxing summer!

One other thing to remember is that our summer activities are called "recreation." In other words, RE-Creation. We've got to be sure we are doing exactly that. It's time to *drop back and punt*, and indeed allow ourselves to be made new. All of us must do that too! RE-CREATION isn't only for young people, or people with families, it's for all of us! Can there be any worse thing than people who quit living before they die? Ol' Yogi Berra said it best, "The game ain't over till it's over." I'm telling you, it isn't always necessary to go any great distance to do it either. Head out to the patio some summer morning with that first cup of coffee and just sit there, check out the neighborhood world and give thanks to Almighty God. You will be Re-Created. (And maybe say a prayer for those who can't, or won't see the beauty and gift of these blessed days of our lives)

Since we do take advantage of good weather in summer, we hit the road for vacations to hither and yon. As happens every year, you are once again reminded of that great building-block of our spirituality which says, "We do not take leave of our

God." We continue our life in Him wherever we are, and especially on Sundays. The Lord's Day is still a day when we should be at Liturgy, even if we happen to be traveling someplace. Please be reminded that we can attend any Roman Catholic or even Eastern Orthodox parish when we are out of town. Don't forget about God; don't ignore God! Regular attendance at services, especially the Sunday service, is vital to our spiritual well-being. So, too avoid causing your priest to wonder where you've been when you miss his Liturgy, don't forget to bring back your "receipt" from the church where you attended Liturgy. Please know that *Father Pillow* does not give out bulletins!

One other summertime way parishioners abuse their parish is by forgetting to contribute to the financial well-being of the community. Even though you are away, *National Grid, the Water Board, National Fuel*, etc. keep sending in the bills. We must render unto Caesar, that which is Caesar's." Know what I mean?

In this topsy-turvy world we know that challenges to our religious freedom in the United States are very real. We know our elected officials in government cannot be trusted to preserve our religious freedom. Therefore, once again from June 21 to July 4 the US Bishops Conference is again leading the fight for our rights with the fourth annual "Fortnight for Freedom-Freedom to Bear Witness." We must pray and fight for our God-given right to live our religion and belief, and to transmit these rights to our children and grandchildren, who are shaped and molded by an increasingly secular culture.

Gotta run....Have a happy and safe summer! God willing and the creek don't rise, will write again next week. God bless you and our Holy Lady Theotokos protect you!

In His Love,
Fr. Ray

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!
ЩАСЛИВОГО ДНЯ БАТЬКА!

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

Today, we celebrate Father's Day, and all the lessons we have learned throughout the years from 'dear old dad'. A Father is a guide and companion, a learned and trusted friend, and a role model for the most impressionable years of our lives. A father is also filled with a sound wisdom that teaches us many of life's subtle and even humorous lessons. Today is a day of thankfulness for all of the teachings we have learned from our fathers, grandfathers, and for some, even our great grandfathers, and a day of gratitude for all the sacrifices they have made on our behalf. As we celebrate Father's Day, we should be reminded of how blessed we truly are. Through every sacrifice, our fathers have shown us countless virtues by their example. Fathers are truly a plethora of knowledge. As I was growing up, I remember my Dad taking the time to talk with me and listening to those personal struggles we all have growing up. He taught me many wonderful things and gave me a great deal of good advice that has stood the test of time: be kind to others, place your trust in the Lord, always look for the best in people, and learn how to love with a forgiving heart. Truthfully, what we need most from our dads is their love.

I still remember the way my dad would laugh so wholeheartedly that you could not help but smile and eventually burst out laughing with him. Dad enjoyed every moment of life, especially when he was spending it with his family, and he believed that life should be lived to the fullest and without regret. This is our third Father's Day without my dad, so I can appreciate the lost feeling that so many people must have when they lose a parent, especially one that they were blessed to love and be loved by. My dad could get along with anyone, and he managed to fit an extraordinary amount of living into every single day. My sister and I were extremely fortunate and very blessed to have such an incredible dad to look up to, and I hope that my son will always remember how much his grandpa adored him. My dad fought hard for nearly 17 years against cancer, and the good Lord knows that we certainly had our share of miracles. Dad always had a smile and words of encouragement no matter how hard things became. My dad battled his cancer in many ways like so many other people do, as a husband and a father, as a brother and an uncle, as a patient and a parishioner, and finally as a grandfather to my son. But in every role my dad played, and with every hardship he faced, we always grew together in our faith as a family. Dad would often remind me that life is unpredictable, and to never let a day

go by that you do not remind your loved ones just how much they mean to you today. I imagine that Heaven must be that much brighter having dad there, and I suppose that many of you listening today would have similar sentiments about your own fathers or grandfathers who have passed on.

I find it hard sometimes to watch commercials or view advertisements for Father's Day gifts. The reality of having no one to buy them for anymore suddenly sinks in and somehow everything seems different. I start remembering the things we use to do as little children, when we did not have our own money to buy gifts for dad. The cards I use to make, the coupon booklets I would create for him of chores I was willing to do, the art projects at school and the breakfasts served in bed. I think the thing I miss most about my dad is the way he would wrap his arms around me and hug me. He made me feel safe, loved, and confident about who I am in this world. Dad was my "go to" person, the one I would always ask for advice, the person I could laugh most with and always be myself around; my dad was the wind beneath my wings. For anyone who has lost their dad or grandfather, I want you to know that this passage from Revelations still brings me great comfort. "*And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. And he that sat on the throne said, Behold, I make all things new*" (Revelations 21:3-5). To imagine a time without death, pain, or sorrow, and being able to trust that the Lord will continue to wipe away our tears and make us whole, until we are one day with our loved ones again... this brings much comfort on days like these when we miss the company of our dads the most.

A parable is told about three fathers who each felt the soft hand of their child in their own and realized the responsibility of teaching their child about God. One felt the awesome responsibility that was his, so he taught the child about the power and might of God. As they walked down the pathway of life and came to the tall trees in the forest, he pointed to them and said, "God made them and God can cause them to come crashing down anytime He wants to." As they walked in the hot sun he said, "This is God's sun. He made it and He can cause it to be so hot and so intense that the plants in the field will wither and