



Remembering Pani Anna Jacyszyn (after Liturgy)



At Turkish Cultural Center



At Plast Camp / Відпочинок на Соколі



Happy birthday / Многая Літа, Олесь!



Plast Camp at Novyj Sokil / На пластовому Таборі



✠ № 29 JULY 2014 ✠

SAINT NICHOLAS UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH / УКРАЇНЬКА КАТОЛИЦЬКА ЦЕРКВА СВЯТОГО МИКОЛАЯ



№ 29 ПІД ОПІКОЮ ПРЕЧИСТОЇ ДІВИ МАРІЇ ОДІГТРИЇ UNDER THE PROTECTION OF MOTHER OF GOD



CHURCH BULLETIN July 20 – 2014 – 20 Липня ЦЕРКОВНИЙ ВІСНИК



August 3, 2014 from 2 to 3 PM at our Church Picnic - For children of all ages - We will have a friendly clown to entertain

Picadilly

All children are invited to attend!!! Balloons, etc... It is free!! See you there.



We will also have a Bounce House for the duration of the picnic. You could bounce, you could slide – come have fun! Remember: August 3, 2014

Просимо усіх дітей взяти участь в нашому церковному пікніку, 3 Серпня, ц.р Від 2 до 3 год. по обіді загостить до нас клавн «Пікаділли» зі своїми балонами. Побачимося на Пікніку!

Рівно ж підчас пікніку будемо мати хатку для вашої розваги. Просимо прийти і перевести приємний час. Пікнік пінеться по Св. Літургії, яка, як звичайно о 10 г. рано.

CHURCH BULLETIN

July 20 – 2014 – 20 Липня

ЦЕРКОВНИЙ ВІСНИК

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

4:30 PM +Petro Hrynczak (Georgina Oros)

July 20 6 Sunday aft. Pentecost - 6 Н. по З.С.Д

12:00 PM. For Parishioners – За Парохіян

Monday, July 21 Липня, Понеділок

8:15 AM +Мирослава, Андрій, Борис,
Драган (Оля Чмола)

Tuesday, July 22 Липня, Вівторок

12:00 PM +Ангелина Вуйцік 40 днів і
панахида (родина)

Wednesday, July 23 Липня, Середа

8:15 AM +Andrij & Olga Kilko (Armesto Fam.)

Thu., July 24 Липня, Четвер

9:00 AM +Michel & Julia Michalow; Hilary &
Julia Holowaty (Michelle & Michael)

Friday, July 25 Липня, П'ятниця

9:15 AM +Антоніна Гусейко (донька)

Saturday, July 26 Липня, Субота

4:30 PM For Parishioners – За Парохіян

July 27 7 Sunday aft. Pentecost - 7 Н. по З.С.Д

12:00 PM. +Sophie Sudyn (Peter Maxim)

Eternal Light burns for
+John Pawlowski
Requ. by Anna Pawlowski

Вічне Світло в честь П.Д.М.
горить за МИР в Україні.
For Peace in Ukraine.

Господи, Спаси Україну!

Lord, Save Ukraine!



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

ПОР'ЯДОК СВ. ЛІТУРГІЙ

20 Липня: 6 Неділя по З.С.Д.

10:00 p. +Олексій Хома (брат Роман)

27 Липня: 7 Неділя по З.С.Д.

10:00 p. +Іван Грега (Марія Маланяк)

No noon Liturgy on the day of Picnic!

No noon Liturgy in August (except August 31)

St. Basil Church
Lancaster, NY
Ukrainian Day Picnic
and BBQ August 17:
Please attend!

Annual Ukrainian Day
at Dnipro
Sunday, August 24th.
Like every year: food, music,
Ethnic dancing and fun for all.

Український День
24 Серпня, 2014

2014 - 25th Anniversary
Of the Legalization of the
UGCC in Ukraine

2014 - 25 річниця
Легалізації УГКЦ в Україні

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Judie Hawryluk

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jahawryluk@gmail.com

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Our Church in Your Will!

Пам'ятаймо про Рідну Церкву та про
її майбутність у нашому Завіщанні!

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– 6 pm |
Friday 9:30 am – 7 pm | Saturday 9:00 – 1 pm |

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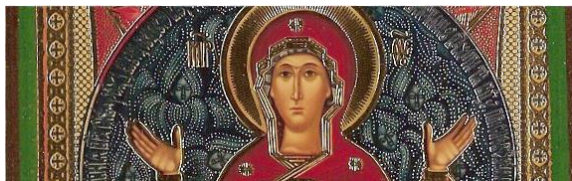
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ОЩАДНІ ТА ЧЕКОВІ РАХУНКИ | СЕРТИ-
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**The 60th Dormition (Assumption)
Pilgrimage will be held on August 9-10,
2014 at the motherhouse of the Sisters
Servants of Mary Immaculate in
Sloatsburg, NY. This year's theme is:
The Holy Family is the Guide for the
Evangelization of our Families – “A Joy
Ever New, a Joy Which is Shared”
(Pope Francis) A special display and
presentation of “The Church of the
Catacombs in the 20th Century”,
conferences, activities for children, our
annual teen camp-out, the beautiful
services and an opportunity to receive
the Sacraments of Reconciliation and
Eucharist, are part of the schedule for
these two days of spiritual renewal for
all who attend. The schedule and
activities will be listed in the diocesan
newspapers, as well being on website:
www.ssmi-us.org**

**The Sisters Servants of Mary
Immaculate cordially invite you to
come to the 60th Dormition Pilgrimage
as a family, as a parish family, to come
together to show that we want to live
our faith more fully in Christ.
If you have any questions, please
contact Sr. Kathleen at 845-642-6143.**

**DONATIONS TO
2014 Stamford Bishop's Appeal
Mary Hanuszczak - \$100.00
Ellen Papisz - \$50.00**

**Total collected as of
July 17, 2014 - \$7,775.00**

**2014 Goal for St. Nicholas Parish -
\$7,500.00**

WE HAVE REACHED OUR GOAL!!

**Thank You for your GENEROSITY
We still however will accept your
donations.**

**Donations towards Coffee Hour
Yearly Communication Assessment Fee**

Nina Palmeri - Anna Teluk - Andrew Diakun

**Our Coffee Hour Donations Fund, used to
buy food for the Sunday Coffee Hours is
depleted. Donations will be gladly accepted.
The cost for food for each Sunday is about
\$50.00. Using the Coffee Hour Fund money
to buy supplies lets us put the entire weekly
profit toward the yearly Communication Fee
of \$3600.00. Thanks for your help!**

**DONATIONS TO ST. NICHOLAS
“Special Appeal”**

IMO Joseph Andrew Procyk

**Pereyma Family - \$100.00
Christine O. Suitryk - \$25.00**

**Sunday, August 3, 2014
Annual Parish Picnic**

**On Sunday, August 3, 2014 our parish
will be holding its Annual Picnic on the
Church Grounds beginning at noon.
As always we are asking for your help
and support in make this year's picnic a
success.**

**Your help and support is needed in
many ways**

- We need Theme Baskets – to donate
- place donation (checks made
payable to St. Nicholas Ukrainian
Catholic Church) in envelope
marked “Theme Basket” and put in
collection basket, or you can leave
your basket in the church hall, please
put your name on the basket.**
- Items for Kitchen Jar Table such as:
paper towels, sugar, flour, kitchen
gadgets etc.
(Make sure items are new and
please watch the Expiration dates).**
- Help is needed during the week
preceding the picnic preparing the
food. Please contact Anna Melnyk to
volunteer your services.**
- Baked Goods are also needed, to sell
in the kitchen and the baked goods
table.**

Please remember

**We DO NOT need items for Attic
Treasures, since we do not have this
booth at the Picnic. If you have any
ideas or can help in any way, please
contact Lesia Petriwsky at 826-7321.**

IMPORTANT!

We sent raffle tickets to all parishioners. This time we included 3 sheets. It is not a mistake. Bigger prizes need more tickets to be sold.

PLEASE SUPPORT US - REMEMBERING THAT THIS PICNIC IS ONE OF OUR MAJOR FUNDRAISING EVENTS OF THE YEAR. VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!!!



76th Annual Convention League of Ukrainian Catholics - October 10, 11, 12, 2014

Holiday Inn – Johnstown, PA
Sponsored by the All Saints Chapter.
Hope to see you this October!

76 Конвенція Ліги Католиків
буде від 11 до 13 Жовтня ц. р.
Просимо взяти участь!

<https://www.facebook.com/LUCofAmerica>

1914 SAVE THE DATE 2014

The Ukrainian American SITCH is celebrating its 100th Anniversary on Sunday, September 28, 2014 at Salvatore's Italian Gardens Restaurant corner of Genesee St. & Transit Rd.

Cash Bar 4PM – 5PM,
Dinner/Program 5PM.

The Program will be bilingual.

Included in the entertainment are:
Women's Choir MRIYA and award-winning bandurist from Toronto:
BORYS OSTAPIENKO.
EVERYONE IS INVITED!

Let's show our support for Ukraine with our presence.

Cost per person: \$40.00. Also please consider and "ad" in our program booklet. Full page \$100.00; ½ page \$50.00; ¼ page \$25.00; patrons \$10.00 per line. PHOTOS WILL BE

RETURNED. Tickets are available from: Michael Liskiewicz, Maria Malaniak, Elaine Nowadly, Nadia Marc, Julia Blendonohy. For tickets and ads make checks payable to:

Ukrainian American Sitch

1914 УВАГА! УВАГА! 2014

Даємо до відома, що в неділю, 28-го Вересня, 2014. Товариство Українсько-Американська Січ відмічує 100-ту річницю свого існування! Ювілей відбувається в ресторані Salvatore's Italian Gardens при роздоріжжю вул. Transit і Genesee.

Бара від 4-5 год.

Програма/обід від год. 5:00.

В програмі беруть участь Хор Мрія і молодий банурист з Торонта Борис Остап'єнко. Просимо усіх.
Вступ: \$40.00 дол. Віс особи.

Також продаємо оголошення/реклами до нашої одноднівки.
Повна сторінка: \$100; ½ сторінки: \$50; ¼ сторінки: \$25; і за одну лінію друку \$10. Фота Вам повертаємо.

Квитки можна купити від:

Михайла Ліскевича,
Марії Маланяк,
Елейн Новадлей,
Надії Марк,
Наді Блендонової.

Чеки вписувати на
Ukrainian American Sitch



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

- KITCHEN is closed during the summer Thank you for your patronage.
- Coffee Hour - Usually Every Sunday after Liturgy in Church Hall. Please join us!
- Church Picnic – August 3, 2014.
- Bible Meeting – Summer Vacation.

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
УКРАЇНСЬКА КАТОЛИЦЬКА ЦЕРКВА
СВЯТОГО МИКОЛАЯ
(ПІД ОПІКОЮ ПРЕЧИСТОЇ
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Parish E-Mail: stnbuffalo@yahoo.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 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 ліжці або приковані до ліжка!

42nd Annual



August 14-17, 2014

Ukrainian Food

Varenyky (Pierogies), Holubtsi (Cabbage Rolls), Ukrainian Sausage, Borshch

Ukrainian Arts & Crafts

Embroidery, Ceramics, Amber, Easter Eggs, Paintings, Icons, Jewelry

Ukrainian Folk Dancing & Entertainment

Zolotyj Promin Ukrainian Dance Ensemble of Hartford, Connecticut
UAFGR Dancers from Rochester, N. Y.

Live Music for Dancing

Thursday, "Melody Lane"
Friday & Saturday, "My Razom"

Interactive Rides by

"Adventures in Climbing"
Friday, Saturday & Sunday

St. Josaphat Church Tours

Saturday & Sunday @ 3:00pm

Free Parking/Admission/Entertainment

www.RochesterUkrainianFestival.com



(До послів країн погиблих)

Жахлива звістка надійшла зі Сходу України, де терористи збили літак Боїнг 777 малайзійської авіакомпанії з 298 особами на борту. До сотень жертв військової агресії проти України долучилися невинні життя громадян інших народів світу, зокрема і Вашої країни. Ця трагедія вкотре показала, що зло, яке впродовж останніх місяців роздирає тіло нашого народу, несе реальну загрозу миру й безпеці в усьому світі.

Пройняті великим болем із приводу цього злочину, висловлюємо щирі співчуття рідним і близьким загиблих, запевняючи про наші молитви і близькість із ними в їхньому горі, яке стало й нашим горем. *«Всемилоствий Господи, прийми у свої обійми душі невинно убієнних, посели їх в оселях праведних, сподоби їх вічного миру і блаженства!»*

Уся наша Церква молиться за вічний спочинок невинно убієнних. Залишаємося в молитовній єдності з родинами загиблих та всіма страждуючими з приводу цієї трагедії.

Закликаємо всю міжнародну спільноту зробити все можливе для припинення збройної агресії проти України, відновлення миру та недопущення подібної трагедії в майбутньому. Просимо у Всемилоствитого Бога дару тривалого миру для України і цілого світу.

+ Святослав

Верховний Архієпископ Києво-Галицький
Отець і Глава Української Греко-Католицької Церкви

Letter from Fr. Ray July 20, 2014 A.D

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!

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

Hello to you! Here is your letter for this week and I pray and hope you are well and happy in the Lord. I'm glad I could visit with you again, even if it is only in these words, rather than face to face. "Your Letter" is being written for the bulletin of Sunday July 20 even though you may not read it till a few days after that. That's ok...it's still your letter whenever you get it and the news remains fresh and hopefully, mostly good and interesting.

I don't know whether or not you've ever noticed that our bulletins are numbered by week. This edition it will #29. July 20 is the 201st day of the year and there are 164 days remaining. Yep, we definitely are more than half way through 2014. We don't even need to mention how many days of summer are left, do we?! As that old Sage once said, "Time marches on!"

We've been having a pleasant, shall I say beautiful summer, here in Western NY and it is quite apparent the local folk are taking advantage of every free moment, and of every bit of warmth available to them. There is definitely an excitement in the air as the populace is on the move to parts near and far. Something is always going on, and most of it is outdoors.

The glistening waters of the Mighty Niagara are the pathway for some intense boat traffic. Forget about trying to cross our international bridges on a holiday or weekend. That is unless you enjoy long lines and sitting in traffic. The tourists are back in Niagara Falls as evidenced by the many "out of state" license plates now being seen. A walk downtown reveals many more visitors from other countries. Canada for sure, but tourists are seen and welcomed from all parts of the globe. China, Australia, Japan and England to name a few that I've met. For sure, people are on the move seeking that much needed R&R, as almost everyone is up to something "summery." That also means our parishioners themselves are also in and out of town as we take our vacation trips.

Presbytera Joanne and I have one of our summer jaunts scheduled for mid-August. More about that at a later time, but we're getting ready for a week out of town. Whatever you are doing, or wherever you are going, be it "Verandah Beach" or some far off exotic land, please know our prayers go with you for a blessed, happy time of renewal of body, mind, spirit, and especially of our families. I know I've said it before, but Happy Summer! It is a beautiful time of the year!

It really is a crazy, vibrant time during the summer months and so much seems to be out of the normal routine. Take the Sunday Liturgy, for example. The priests in the parish never know who will show up on a particular Sunday as a visitor. Each Sunday, it is also a good guess as to how many of our own people will be there when the Royal Doors are opened to begin the Liturgy. We cannot expect all of "the regulars" to be at Liturgy as they, too, are off hither and yon visiting, playing and recreating. Have a blessed, joyful and relaxing vacation where ever you are, and don't forget to bring back your receipt. You didn't forget about that, did you? That "receipt" would be the bulletin from the church where you attended the Sunday Liturgy when you were absent from your own parish. It is to be presented to your parish priest upon your return home. He will be very proud of you, and very happy, that you made it a point to find a Catholic or Orthodox Church for your Sunday worship. Remember, everyone is still required to attend Divine Liturgy every Sunday and barring illness, job requirements, or some other kind of unusual circumstance that would prevent one from attending, there should be no excuses. Churches and convenient Liturgy times to attend are readily available in almost every part of this world. So don't forget to go to Church! Also, don't forget your Church!

As a family we've also done some fun stuff with the kids....swimming pool, zoo, Ted's Hot Dogs, ice cream places, parades, carnivals. This coming week, God willing we will be welcoming the Bremer's for a short stay. The cousins are coming to visit the

cousins and there is no excitement, like kid excitement. Everyone is eagerly awaiting Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday! We will be celebrating the 9th birthday of our first grandchild, Jonah. Wow, talk about time flying. There is one to shock you back to reality! It indeed certainly feels as if it was only yesterday that he was born. Summers have been extra special since that little kid came into our lives on Sunday July 17, 2005. He is a blessing and a joy to all!

For some of us, the date of July 20 may be another one of those times when we remember the quickly passing days of our lives. This day, July 20 is remembered for many reasons. Liturgically, we remember the Holy Prophet Elias whose feast day it is. Historically, there are a number of significant events which have occurred on this date. It was on July 20, 1969 that a man first walked on the moon! I know if you are old enough, you remember it as one of those happenings where you can recall exactly what you were doing and where you were that night. I was 25, going on 26, living in Toronto and watched that first step on to the moon on a black and white television. How quickly time has passed! How incredibly different is this world today, than that of 45 years ago!

Yes, everything changes, but our God does not. "God, Who in sundry times and divers manners spoke in times past to the fathers, by the prophets, last of all in these days has spoken to us by His Son..." Heb.1:1 "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever..." Heb. 13: 8. Yes, our God is with us in all our comings and goings. He remains the same. He is our Hope and our Salvation and if we incline our ear we will hear Him speaking in many ways and many times as He teaches us, guides us comforts us and invites us to His eternal Love. Last week the 40th day Liturgy was served for



Joseph Andrew. Did anybody at St. Nicholas notice the Easter Lilies were blooming in "Mom's Garden?" Coincidence...God-incidence.

Recently I heard of one of our parishioners passing away so I went to his sister to offer the comfort of the Lord in prayer and presence. It had been awhile since I'd seen her and I was still carrying blessed pussy willows from Flowery Sunday which I had intended for her. A few days later after the funeral she told me the funeral director placed them in the hands of her newly departed brother. Remember, those blessed willows are the Sign of the Victorious King about to come. The man would greet His King and Lord with this beautiful sign! Coincidence...God-incidence.

Just today I heard another similar story. When this certain woman's husband suddenly passed away she was extremely distraught and saddened. In her preparations for the funeral she wanted a prayer card with a particular psalm which she thought appropriate. The cards were printed, the funeral was over. Later, while going through her husband's things she found a card on which that very same psalm was written in his wallet! Unknown to her, he had always carried that very same prayer with him as an inspiration! Coincidence...God incidence. Yes, my dear one, our God is with us and speaks to us. All He want us to do is to come to Him in love. He gives us our Holy Lady Theotokos, who calls us to pray, pray, pray so that this world will come to its senses and turn back to our Heavenly Father. Walk in the Lord, follow His commandments and rejoice in the blessings of summer and the innumerable blessings He always bestows upon us! God bless you! Our Holy Theotokos protect you!

In His Love,
Fr. Ray



Holy Trinity
Ukrainian Orthodox Church
Українська Православна Церква
Святої Трійці



Ukrainian Heritage Festival (2014)

Ukrainian Heritage Festival
200 Como Park Blvd • Cheektowaga, NY • 14227
Sunday, July 27, 2014
12:00 Noon to 10:00 pm

PROGRAM

12:00 Festival Begins
1:00 Opening Remarks V. Rev. Yuriy Kasyanov
2:00 Music by "My Razom" from Rochester

Performances by various Ukrainian dance groups and soloists

10:00 Festival Ends
Ethnic Food, Ukrainian and Local Beer,
Wine available

\$1 Admission/Door Prize
Handicapped Parking Available
Sponsored by



Featured Performers:

Syzokryli
Nationally Renowned
Ukrainian Dance group, NYC .
Founded by prima ballerina
Roma Pryma-Bohachevsky



Просимо взяти участь фестивалі
Української Православної
Церкви Святої Трійці.

З радіо «Милосердний Самарянин»

Христос є Образ Божий, отою відвічною іконою, на зразок якої ми створені. І Він-Господь прийняв на себе наш вигляд, щоб перебуваючи з нами показав нам дорогу Життя. Все віддав за нас, щоб указати нам на спосіб, як іти за ним. А цей спосіб – це любов. Любов не себелюбна, любов безкористлива, любов не вимагаюча, любов вічна. І та любов привела його до хресного дерева тими які не зрозуміли Любов Божественну.

Христос є також Слово Боже, яким усе створено. Бо сказано: «нехай буде...» і сталося. Матеріальні речі і духовні, і нам ще не відомі – все здійснилося.

Ісус і до нас приходить у Своєму слові, щоб нагадати нам, що ми не самі. Він з нами. Йому не байдужа наша "паралізованість" і розгубленість серед проблем. І маємо ті проблеми почасти, бо не чуємо голосу Божого, не хочемо прийняти Його Волі в нашому житті. Не раз можемо відчувати спокусу, що не такі вже й страшні гріхи, нічого такого поганого в них немає, навіть, видається, є багато доброго, приємного. А слухаємо Бога тоді, коли це нам вигідно, хочемо використати Його, немов золоту рибку, для здобуття чи виконання власних, нераз хаотичних і немудрих бажань. Таким чином приходимо до руїни й хаосу в нашому житті. І добре, коли ще будемо спроможні намагатися піднятися, щоб прийти до Господа по допомогу. - А коли ні? Тоді на поміч можуть прийти добрі друзі - брати і сестри в Христі, якщо маємо таких, так, як мав їх розслаблений з нинішню євангелсьпко читання на 6 неділю по З.С.Д. За їхніми молитвами, вже не за нашими, тому що можемо дійти до такої руїни, що не зможемо й молитися, Господь оздоровить нас, побачивши їхню віру. Ісус готовий зустріти кожну особу, підтримати у стражданнях, навіть якщо багато хто буде думати, що ми не достойні Божого милосердя. У багатьох місцях Старого і Нового Завіту Господь закликає нас до слухання Його голосу правди й прийняття Його (пор. Вих

15, 26; Втор 28, 1; Мт 7, 26; Лк 9, 35). Власне, тому й маємо два вуха, а тільки одні уста, щоб більше слухати й менше говорити. Це дає змогу зменшувати кількість страждань. Спаситель рятує паралізованого чоловіка відпущенням гріхів, повернувши здоров'я для душі, дає йому силу тіла. Той, хто не міг ходити своїми ногами, на слова Ісуса встав і, взявши ноші, пішов до свого дому.

Кожна людина час від часу страждає, що приносить темноту душі, штовхає в гріхи, до речей, не гідних людини, тим більше християнина. Тоді виникають глибокий смуток чи навіть відчай, лінивість і знеохота. Бог видається таким далеким, і можуть приходити сумніви, чи Він взагалі існує. Настає стан сухості, особа ніби відлучена від Бога, а молитва перетворюється на каторгу, і, буває, людина її залишає. Немає радості і спокою від участі в Божественній Літургії, немає бажання слухати про Бога. Саме такий час може використовувати ворог, диявол, пропонуючи як радість і полегшення багатство, розкоші, свободу статевого життя, вигоду, насичення земними задоволеннями... Коли ми приймемо це, зануримось у це, то спочатку зможемо отримати певну радість, але, попри це метушіння, проблеми залишаться, вони не зникнуть, темрява не відійде, бо скруту нашого серця може розв'язати лише Той, хто покликав нас до життя. Господь пропонує інший шлях розв'язання проблем: не тікати від них, а вирішувати, вступаючи в боротьбу зі спокусами. Коли розпізнаємо спокусу, дію злого духа, боремось із цим, заручаючись підтримкою Бога, - неприятель слабне і тікає. Тому мусимо прийняти цю битву, не здаватися ворогові. Дуже важливо в час терпіння й духовної посухи не приймати серйозних рішень, швидких змін, а міцно стояти в попередніх правильних рішеннях, навіть якщо тепер вони нам не подобаються. У терпінні трудно буває прийняти мудрі рішення. А коли не хочеться молитися, слід молитися ще більше.

From "Good Samaritan" Ukrainian Radio Program

There is a story of two friends that were walking through the desert. During some point on their journey the two friends had an argument, and the older friend slapped the younger one across the face. The younger man was shocked and hurt deeply, but without saying anything, he wrote in the sand: "Today my best friend slapped me in the face." The two friends kept on walking until they found an oasis, where they decided to bathe from the heat of the desert. The younger man became stuck in the mire and started drowning, but his older friend saved him. After he recovered from the near drowning, he wrote on a stone: "Today my best friend saved my life." The older man asked his younger friend, "After I hurt you, you wrote in the sand and now, you write on a stone, why?" The younger man replied: "When someone hurts us we should write it down in sand, where the winds of forgiveness can erase it away. But, when someone does something good for us, we must engrave it in stone, where no wind can ever erase it. These two friends learned a valuable lesson on forgiveness and friendship: "Learn to write your hurts in the sand and to carve your blessings in stone!"

The Gospel for this sixth Sunday after Pentecost describes Jesus healing the paralytic man. It throws light on the relationship between the forgiveness of sin – “Son, thy sins be forgiven thee” – and physical healing – “Arise, take up thy mat and walk”. Jesus, who is able to heal the man’s palsy also, has, despite the indignation of the Pharisees and scribes, the right to forgive sins. And in today's Gospel reading, Jesus offers something everlasting, an opportunity to be at peace with God. Jesus was met by a crowd of people, and within that crowd a paralytic man was brought before Him. A man in need of healing! Jesus saw the man's deepest need and he forgave the man. Jesus likewise looked around. He saw the Pharisees who came to criticize Him. But Jesus looked within. He gave them something to ponder. "Which is easier to say, 'Thy sins are forgiven' or 'Rise and walk'? But so you know that the Son of

Man has authority on earth to forgive sins", Jesus says to the paralytic, "Rise, pick up your mat and go home." What was done on the outside was just living proof of what Jesus did on the inside. And when we reflect on our own lives, the times when we were hurt by others, or even the times when others were hurt by us - do we look to God? Do we ask God for forgiveness? The greatest hardships in life are not so much the times in which we have suffered, but the times when we could not accept the healing power of forgiveness. And what we choose to do in those moments will ultimately determine our level of peace with God.

Forgiveness is a virtue that must come from the heart in order to be genuine... it remains the stepping stone into the kingdom of God. During today's liturgy we continue to read from the epistle to the Romans. St. Paul, after his long discourse on the nature of faith and forgiveness, goes on to practical questions: All of us, he says, have “gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us”. One is called to prophesy, another to teach, another to preach, another to minister. These different ministries must be exercised in a spirit of faith and loyalty to the particular grace received. We are all capable of sharing these gifts of grace which God has given us, but first and foremost it is important for us to understand that the true nature of our faith can best be seen in our ability to love and forgive one another. No matter what our talent or grace, without developing our own relationship with God, we become like useless tools in the hands of the Almighty. St. Paul concludes by advising us to bless, and not to curse, our persecutors. That includes anyone who would hurt us or offend us in any way. No detail of life is without importance and no suffering is endured without some sort of blessing, as long as we know how to see, in that moment, the reflection of a Divine calling, for both a loving and trustful response. We must also bear in mind that there is a special grace which corresponds to each minute of our lives, if we offer that minute to God. We live as forgiven people, because of the love of Christ.

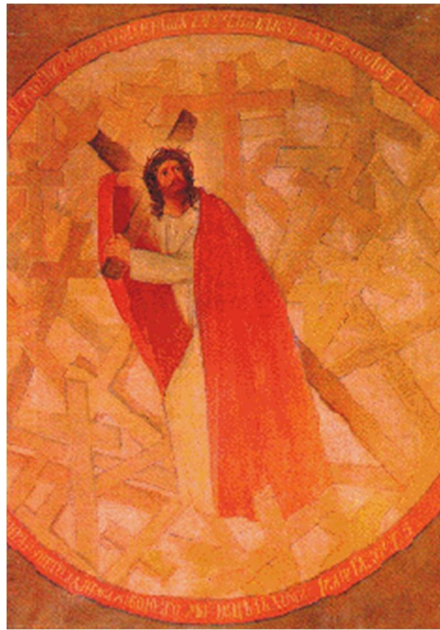
And it would be a great help if we understood that as we look at people - there is a place in the Son of God where there is room for everyone. The Lord does not waver from one person to another, depending on our outward circumstances. His promise for healing and forgiveness applies to all people, everywhere, and at all times. Scripture reminds us that love and forgiveness go hand in hand – you cannot have one without the other.

One day, a man, his heart heavy with grief, was walking in the woods. As he thought about his life, he knew many things were not right. He thought about those who had lied about him behind his back, even those that he had helped through difficult situations. His thoughts turned to those who had stolen his things and cheated him, even those whom he had opened his heart and home to. He remembered family that had passed on, and a sense of sadness lingered in the air. His mind turned to the illness he had that no one could cure, and the way that some people simply ignored him and treated him badly; those that he called his friends and neighbors, and even some from his family. His very soul was filled with anger, resentment and frustration. Standing there in that moment, searching for answers he could not find, knowing all else had failed him, he knelt at the base of an old tree with a carved crucifix, to seek the One he knew would always be there, and with tears in his eyes, he prayed: 'Lord, You have done wonderful things for me in this life. You have told me to do



many things for you, and I happily obeyed. Today, you have told me to forgive. I am sad, Lord, because I cannot. I do not know how. I did not deserve these wrongs that were done against me, and I should not have to forgive. As perfect as your way is Lord, this one thing I cannot do, for I do not know how to forgive.

My anger is so deep Lord, I fear I may not hear you, but I pray that you teach me to do this one thing I cannot do - Teach me To Forgive.' As he knelt there in the quiet shade of that old tree, he felt something fall onto his shoulder. He opened his eyes. Out of the corner of one eye, he saw something above him – as he raised his head, he saw two feet held to the wood of the tree with a large spike through them. He raised his head even more, and tears came to his eyes as he saw Jesus on the cross. As their eyes met, the man's tears turned to sobbing, and Jesus began to speak with the man. 'Have you ever told a lie?' 'Yes, Lord.' 'Have you ever been given too much change and kept it?' 'Yes, Lord.' 'Have you ever taken something from someone that was not yours to take?' 'Yes, Lord.' 'Have you ever used my Father's name in vain?' The man continued sadly enough, 'Yes, Lord.' 'Have you ever ignored someone in need?' 'Yes, Lord.' 'Have you ever...' 'Yes, Lord - I am guilty of many things.' When the man glanced back up, he saw in the eyes of Jesus a look of love he had never seen or known before. Then Jesus spoke again. 'I didn't deserve this either - but I still love you and forgive you!'



Forgiveness is something that must always remain at the forefront of our daily thoughts. All we need do is consider the suffering our Lord endured on the cross out of love for the world and have it serve as our living reminder. It may be hard to imagine how we are going to get through a difficult situation, or how we could possibly forgive those who have offended and hurt us so deeply in one way or another. But the love of Christ is always the answer! And whenever we look back on life, we will realize how true this statement really is: 'God's forgiveness is not for decoration - it is for use.' As fragile as life seems, we need to believe that through the love of Christ, forgiveness is possible and that genuine forgiveness from the heart can mend every hardship. When we decide to see what Jesus saw, feel what Jesus felt and are willing to do what Jesus did during His life here on earth - we will discover that the harvest is plentiful. Christ carried the love of God to the ends of the earth when He took the cross for our sins. We live as forgiven people, because of the love of Christ. Even St. Paul reminds us that forgiveness is the highest, most beautiful form of love. My brothers and sisters – Christ taught us by His example that humanity is never more beautiful as when praying for forgiveness, or else forgiving one another. Today, remember a time when you were forgiven, and how wonderful that feeling of peace was deep within you. Now, go to someone who has hurt you and extend them that same forgiveness in Christ's name. We must do on to others as Christ has already done unto us.

Today, at all liturgies we pray for all those who died in recent tragedy in Ukraine. May the Lord protect us and give us peace.

Сьогодні на Св. Літургіях молимося
За всіх тих, що постраждали в Україні в
недавній трагедії. Просимо Господа, щоб
подав нам мир, і завжди провадив нас
дорогами справедливості..

З радіо «Милосердний Самарянин»

Господь закликає нас до надії, терпеливості й витривалості. Апостол народів настановляє: "В ревності не будьте ліниві, духом горіть, Господові служіть; веселі в надії, в горі терпеливі, в молитві витривалі..." (Рм 12, 11-12). Ми самі нічого не можемо, нам важко, але Всевишній може все.

Немає приводу до відчаю і безнадії, якщо подолано смерть і є вихід із гробу. І, відповідно, з інших ситуацій тим більше є правильний вихід, важливо тримати зв'язок з Богом... Маємо навчитися зберігати в духовному житті рівновагу, який би стан не переживали. Латинське прислів'я повчає: "Зберігай рівновагу розуму в терпінні".

"Тож коли щиро слухатиметеся мого голосу й дотримуватиметеся мого заповіту, будете моєю особливою власністю з-поміж усіх народів, бо моя вся земля. Ви будете в мене царством священиків, народом святим" (Вих 19, 5-6а). Так запевняє сам Господь.

З Євангелія знаємо, що якісь люди несли до Ісуса дуже хворого з вірою й надією, що Він оздоровить й підніме розслабленого, і вони не помилилися. Христос не очікував їхнього прохання, але, збагнувши їхню довіру до Нього, відпустив йому гріхи та повернув здоров'я тіла. А потім відразу розпорядився, щоб той ішов до свого дому. Святий Ів. Золотоустий пояснює цей євангельський уривок так: Господь послав того чоловіка додому, оскільки бажав зцілити від гріхів тих, котрі не прийшли до Нього. Посилає його як свідка, щоб інших спонукував до покаяння (св. Ів. Золот., Бесіда 29 на Матея, п.3). Тому важливо, оскільки можемо, приходити до церкви й отримувати від Христа оздоровлення і душі, і тіла. Покаяння потрібне, щоб оздоровити душу, а тим самим повернемо здоров'я й нашому тілу, коли одержимо силу прийняти все, що на нас приходить. Хай милосердний Господь дасть нам дар зрозуміти Його любов та милосердя до кожної людини. (за: Ігор Возняк Архєпископ Львівський, УГКЦ «Слово Господнє живе та діяльне»)