



Fr. Stepan & Stephen Kuklich – reading the Gospel



Let us be attentive. Being alert of what is going on



Listening attentively to the Gospel



Dinner and Activity room



Volleyball anyone?



Reciting propers



Relaxation in the pool - "Novyj Sokil", Plast Camp, N. Collins

ГОТУЙСЬ! СКОБ!

**SAINT NICHOLAS
UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH**

**УКРАЇНСЬКА КАТОЛИЦЬКА
ЦЕРКВА СВЯТОГО МИКОЛАЯ**

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



CHURCH BULLETIN

July 21 – 2013 – 21 Липня
ЦЕРКОВНИЙ ВІСНИК



**Про Святих Укра-
їнського Народу**

Святі нашого народу - це святі рівноапостольні великі князі і просвітителі української землі Володимир та Ольга, стовпи віри й славетні воїни Христові, засновники українського монашества преподобні Антоній і Теодосій, світочі смирення, побожності, миру, справедливості та непротивлення злу страдники Борис і Гліб, подвижник церковного єднання священномуч. Йосафат, преп. Йосафата, блаженні пратулинські мученики, а також інші численні преподобні, ісповідники, святителі, мученики, священномученики українського народу, які під час свого життя прославили Бога на рідній землі.

Всі Святі Українського Народу – All Ukrainian Saints

CHURCH BULLETIN

July 21 – 2013 – 21 Липня

ЦЕРКОВНИЙ ВІСНИК

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

4:30 PM +Iwan Horbaczuk (M. Plotycia)

July 21 9th S. aft. Pent. – 9 Н. по З.С.Д.

12:00 PM За Парохіян – For Parishioners

Monday July 22 – Пон., 22 Липня

8:15 AM +Станислав (Ігор Гіль)

Tuesday July 23 – Вів., 23 Липня

4:30 PM +Eva Borowiec

(Michael & Anne Borowiec)

Wednesday July 24 – Сер., 24 Липня

8:15 AM За здоров'я сестринки Ірини

Вестон (Христина Чебіняк)

Thursday July 25 – Чет., 25 Липня

Нема відправи – No Liturgy

Friday July 26 – П'ятниця, 26 Липня

5:30 PM Int of. Dolores Baranysky &

+Dmytro (Dolores)

Saturday July 27 – Субота, 27 Липня

9:00 AM +Іван Грєга – 35 річниця

(Марія Маланяк)

4:30 PM +Christina McMullen

(M. Hereth)

July 28 10th S. aft. Pent. – 10 Н. по ЗСД

12:00 PM За Парохіян – For Parishioners

Eternal Light burns i/m of
++Fedir, Paraska, Wolodymyr,
Mychajlo Kladocznyj
Requ. By: Joanne Bader

Вічне Світло в Честь Пр. Д. Марії
горить за Зд. Іринє Вестон
Пожертва: Христина Чебіняк



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

ПОР'ЯДОК СВ. ЛІТУРГІЙ

21 Липня 4 Н. по Зісланні Св. Духа

10:00 р. +Олексій Хома (брат Роман)

24 Липня Св'ятої Ольги

9:30 AM +Ярослава Марія Борачок і п.
(4 річниця)

28 Липня 5 Н. по Зісланні Св. Духа

10:00 р. +Михайло Петрович
(дружина Катерина)



Свята Княгиня Ольга
(Капеля Івана Мазепи 18.ст.)

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=====
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Mon., Tues., Thurs., 10:00 am - 5:00 pm Wed.,
10:00 am - 2:00 pm; Fri., 10:00 am - 7:00 pm

DONATIONS TO

2013 Stamford Bishop's Appeal

Catherine Eckhart - \$100.00

Total collected as of July 18, 2013 -

\$7,720.00

2013 Goal for St. Nicholas Parish -

\$7,500.00

We reached our Goal, but donations
are still being accepted.

Thank You for your GENEROSITY!

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DONATIONS TO ST. NICHOLAS

Maria Sywenky - \$2,000.00

====

“Special Appeal”

IMO James McCracken

Anna Holowaty - \$25.00

Emily Swiatkiwsky - \$20.00

IMO George Scherbak

William & Nadia Marc - \$25.00

====

Donations Towards Coffee Hour

Coffee Hour Benefits- Yearly

Communication Assessment Fee

Chrystyna Brown

Thank You! Дякуємо!

The monthly meeting of the L.U.C. Niagara Frontier Council & Convention Committee will be held Monday, July 22, 2013 at 7:00 PM at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church Hall on Abbott Rd, Lackawanna, NY. Important topics dealing with the Council and Convention are on the agenda and important decisions need to be made.

Annual Parish Picnic

Sunday, August 4, 2013

On Sunday, August 4, 2013 our parish will be holding it 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.

REMEMBER THIS PICNIC IS ONE OF OUR MAJOR FUNDRAISING EVENTS OF THE YEAR. PLEASE SUPPORT US!

LUC dues are now payable. Please make checks (\$7.00) payable to League of Ukr. Catholics, Niagara Frontier Council. Dues can be sent to:

Ihor Pereyma,
38 Lester St., Buffalo, NY 14210



St. John the Baptist
Ukrainian Catholic Church
3275 ELMWOOD AVE.,
KENMORE, NY 14217

Invites everyone to

UKRAINIAN FESTIVAL

Sunday, SEPTEMBER 8, 2013

Featuring:

Colorful and Exciting Ukrainian
Dance Performances, Music for

Everyone. Ethnic Food:

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and Stuffed Cabbage;

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Theme Baskets and Raffles

Free Parking and Admission

Vendors

Indoor and Outdoor Seating

Come One, Come All...

Усі запрошені на ФЕСТИВАЛЬ
Церкви Св. Івана Хрестителя
У неділю 8 Вересня, 2013

CHICKEN AND RIB BARBEQUE

Sunday July 21st, 2013.

12:00 PM-4:00 PM

ST. BASIL'S UKRAINIAN
CATHOLIC CHURCH
12 EMBRY PL., LANCASTER NY.

\$10.00 FOR 1/2 BBQ CHICKEN OR
\$12.00 FOR 1/3 RACK OF BBQ RIBS

SERVED WITH POTATO SALAD,
COLESLAW, ROLL, DESSERT
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DINNERS ARE AVAILABLE AT
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TICKETS ON SALE NOW!!!

Any questions call 716- 683-0313

PLEASE ATTEND!!!

Yearly RETREAT

“The Vibrant Parish: A place to
encounter the living Christ”:

For information or questions please
contact Mike Anuszkiewicz, retreat
coordinator, at

manuszkiewicz@msn.com

or at 585-704-3138.

August 24, 25, 26 at the
Notre Dame Retreat House in
Canandaigua. Sponsored by the
Holy Name Society of St.
Josaphat's Parish. Bishop Paul will
lead our retreat this year.
Consider to attend.



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

- KITCHEN – is open Fridays 11 AM - 3 PM.
Thank you for your patronage.
- Coffee Hour - Usually Every Sunday after
Liturgy in Church Hall. Please join us!
- We need help in the kitchen. Thank you!
- Thanks are extended to all our good helpers
in the Kitchen. Mnohaya Lita to you all!!!

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 Карточка з
крамниці "Топс". Купуючи їх ви помага-
єте 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 кан-
целярії. 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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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

Rev. Raymond Palko, visiting priest

V. Rev. Marijan Procyk, pastor & dean

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

Просимо закликати якщо ви у лічниці
або приковані до ліжка!

St. John the Baptist
Ukrainian Catholic Church

FESTIVAL

207 Tompkins Street, Syracuse
Friday, July 26th Sat. July 27th
4 pm - 11 pm 12 pm - 11 pm
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All are welcome!

SerbFest 2013 • July 27 & 28

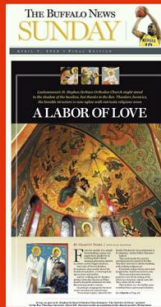
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Saturday, July 27, 2013
Noon to Midnight
Sunday, July 28, 2013
Noon to 10:00 PM

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Annual
St.
Josaphat

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August 15, 16, 17, 18,
2013

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Ukrainian Arts & Crafts • Ukrainian
Food • Ukrainian Folk Dancing

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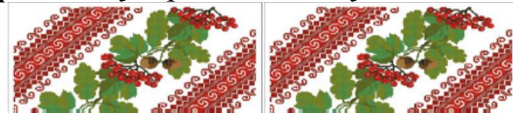
Фестиваль

1025-ньому Ювілею
Хрещення України
неділю 28 липня 2013 року

Програма:

9:30 - Святкова Літургія.
12:00 - Смачні страви і напитки,
мистецькі вироби і лотереї сувенірів.
1:00 - Урочисте відкриття. Спільна
молитва, тематичні доповіді і привітання.
2:00 - Мистецькі виступи музичних
ансамблів, солістів і танцювальних
колективів.
5:00 - Танцювально-розважальна
програма з ансамблем "Мозаїка" з
м.Тренто.
Будуть призи за кращий танець і
національний костюм.

Бажаючим прийняти участь в мистецькій
ярмарці та проявити талант в концертній
програмі просимо повідомити по т. (716)
684-0738 або email: fryuriy@gmail.com
Приємної зустрічі на нашому Фестивалі!



Holy Trinity
Ukrainian Orthodox Church
Invites us for
The Festival

Which will take place July 28, 2013
At 200 Como Park in Cheektowaga
Everybody is encouraged to take part

From the desk of Fr. Ray Palko

July 21, 2013 A.D.

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!

Dear _____,
(Your name here, for your very own personal letter)

Good Morning, Hello and you've got another letter. God is good, the "creek" didn't rise, and neither did the "Creek." ☺ Sometimes the priest ends his letters or conversations with the phrase, "God willing and the creek don't rise." Did you know there is an ongoing great debate and discussion about that saying, especially on the internet? When I say it, or write it, I always think about the old Johnny Cash song, "Five Feet High and Risin'" where he asks the question a number of times, "How high's the water, Mama?" The song is about a flood in rural America preventing a family from having a good and normal day. And that's how I always understood the phrase, "...and the creek don't rise," as having to do with water. To me it simply means if there are no great obstacles, we'll be able to accomplish the task at hand, in this case, writing your letter.

However, there is another explanation attached to that phrase, which is attributed to one Benjamin Hawkins. He lived in the late 18th century and was a politician and an Indian agent. At one point, while in the south, Hawkins was directed by the President to return to Washington. In his response stating his return he is said to have written, "God willing, and the Creek don't rise." Since he capitalized "Creek," it came to be understood that he was referring to that certain Indian tribe known as the Creek.

Most people understand water when they hear the term, but there are also, now thanks to the computer, a great many who think it refers to the Creeks, as in Indian tribe. Well, be that as it may. Doesn't really matter, because if you say "creek," as in water, or "Creek," as in an uprising of an

Indian tribe, it really means the same thing in referring to some kind of unexpected hindrance. And anyway, if God is willing, that's all that counts. It actually doesn't matter if the water is high, or there is some other difficulty, does it? God willing we'll be here!

You've been getting a letter from me every week for over 6 years now. I know you, yourself, know all about these weekly get-togethers of ours, but there are some, who perhaps have found this letter on Baba's kitchen or dining room table, and began reading it regularly, and perhaps wonder what it's all about. So I thought this week I'd let them know, and in the process, perhaps you will also find something new about your letter.

The writing originally started out as a way to connect the people of St. Nicholas parish here in Buffalo, not as a 'blog' or a newsletter, but as a real letter from me to you. The first of these letters included birthdays, deaths, etc., as well as advertising the various parochial events. After a while, it took on a deanery and eparchial focus as we tried to include all the local churches, as well as our eparchy. Finally, thanks to the computer and e-mailing, more and more people wanted to receive "your very own personal letter." So clearly, it's evolved to what you see today. And what it is today is like *Forrest Gump's* box of chocolates, "Ya never really know what you're gonna get!" However, that still doesn't fully tell you what it is.

Let me explain it like this....Have you ever watched the television sitcom "Seinfeld?" The very well-written and award winning programs were on TV from 1989 to 1998 as they depicted a certain cast of characters living in New York City. For anyone who ever watched the shows, Jerry, Elaine, George and Kramer are now household words.

My poor Laryssa, as a young college student, was the first of our family to discover the show. When she would come home from school or her

job she'd turn it on and immediately a discussion would begin with her father, who at first, didn't think some of the episodes were that appropriate. That's why I say, "Poor Laryssa," because I'm sure I ruined more than one evening for her trying to be her good Dad. However, as we continued to watch, we found most of the shows to be very entertaining and funny. Even now, in the reruns, they are part of Americana and some of the lines have become part of daily speech. Who could ever forget the episodes such as "Hot Coffee Lawsuit, No Soup for You, The Chinese Restaurant or The Puffy Shirt?" And last but not least, for the rest of us, it was "Festivus!!" ☺ ☺

Do you remember the one classic episode where the characters in the show wanted to start a TV show based on their lives in and around the apartment? Their selling point to the executives and producers was that the new program would be "a show about nothing." They were promoting a show based upon their very lives and activities, with all their comings and goings, and ups and downs, and actions and interactions. Since it was about daily life they thought it "was about nothing." However, anyone watching this episode, but more importantly, all the rest of the Seinfeld shows, would immediately know the show was about EVERYTHING!

So that's what your letter is about, my dear reader! A letter about nothing! Yes, it's a letter about nothing, but it's a letter about everything. Because that's what the days of our lives really are... EVERYTHING! Just as in those TV programs we write about all the things which make up these days of our lives, from the mundane and ordinary (creek and/or Creek) to the deep theological (salvation) and moral (abortion) issues of our day as well as everything in between (weather, family,

church, politics.) Yes, these days and your letter are about EVERYTHING!

As I write I always find myself walking hand in hand with you as Priest, Father, Lover, Relative and Friend, together on this journey of Life, this journey of Everything. I don't really know the answer to the "Why me, O Lord?" question I so often ask about "your letter." I do know very often He blesses me to be His instrument in assisting you and even guiding you on your spiritual journey. How humbling this is! "Why me, O Lord?" Becoming aware of this beautiful good, mostly through your comments and notes, I rejoice to be His hands and feet and voice in this world. You are always an inspiration to me. You are always a source of love for me. You are my fellow traveler as we go searching for the "New and Everlasting Jerusalem." May we continue for a long, long time walking along and talking about "nothing" until that day we will see Him face to face. He is our God and He has given us EVERYTHING!

May God bless you and our Holy Lady Theotokos keep you beneath the veil of her heavenly protection! And I know you really want me to say it, so I will: Till next time, God willing and the creek (or the Creek) don't rise. And that's your letter for this week..... "Yada, Yada, Yada!" ☺ ☺ ☺

In His Love,
J. Ray
Father Ray

Fr. Ray! Already 6 years. About 300 letters. Thank you for taking time. There are many who read your letter, and wait for them every Saturday, Sunday, or Tuesday. Some agree with many points, some have different opinion, some think it is to much pointing out to the same issues, but it is always good starting point for discussion. God Bless You and your Family! Fr. Marijan

NEED YOUR THOUGHTS AND OPINIONS -

In the near future we are trying to start a Senior Citizens group that will meet here in the church. Also one of the resolutions of the Sobor held in April, was that each parish have Bible studies. To get your interest in these endeavors, there will be surveys on the bulletin table and in the church hall. If you are interested in becoming a part of one of these two groups, please fill out the survey as to your day and time preference, and put it in the basket at the back of the church or in the church hall.

SAVE THE DATE!

The next Children's Liturgy will be Sunday, September 15, 2013 at 10:00AM. We will celebrate Grandparent's Day on that Sunday. It will be "Children Bring your Grandparents to Church Day" and "Grandparents Bring your Grandchildren and Great-Grandchildren to Church Day". Refreshments will follow after the Liturgy.

SAVE THE DATE LUC CONVENTION

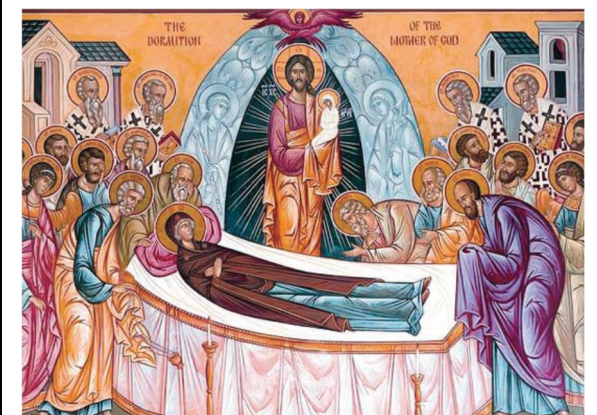
The 75th Annual Convention of the League of Ukrainian Catholics will be held in Buffalo October 4, 5, 6, 2013 at the Airport Holiday Inn. We ask the support of our local Ukrainian community in this endeavor. We especially ask that organizations not schedule any events that weekend. Thank you!

75 Конвенція Ліги Українців Католиків буде в Бюфало, 4-6 Жовтня, 2013.

Просимо взяти участь.
Рівно ж просимо не влаштовувати Ваших імпрез в той час. Дякуємо!

ARE YOU INTERESTED???

A few months ago there was an article in the Buffalo News about the new icons that were recently completed at St. Stephen's Serbian Orthodox Church on Abbott Rd in Lackawanna, NY. We had been discussing going as a group to tour the church. Since there is a festival at the church the weekend of July 27th it was decided that this might be a good time for the tour. If you are interested in going as a group on Saturday, July 27th, let either Father or Elaine know of your interest in touring the church. We will meet at St. Stephen's at 3:30PM, and begin our tour at 4:00PM.



59th ANNUAL HOLY DORMITION (ASSUMPTION) PILGRIMAGE

AUGUST 10 – 11, 2013

ST. MARY'S VILLA / SLOATSBURG, NY
SISTERS SERVANTS OF MARY
IMMACULATE

Theme:
One Lord, One Faith, One Baptism

Ми розуміємо, що сьогоднішнє Євангеліє оповідає нам про те прохання сотника, яке викликало зачудування Ісуса, щоб і ми чинили так само сьогодні, адже через нашу віру, в усій її простоті, ми можемо принести трохи радості Ісусові і тим, кого Він спасав через нас. До нас особливим способом промовляє постава серця, з якою діє сотник у тій ситуації. Звичайно, кожен з нас може перейняти її у своїх стосунках з близькими людьми. Але ми можемо також через приклад сотника глибше зрозуміти та пережити у своєму житті те, чим є місія Церкви, до якої належимо, і молитва якої надихає та підтримує нашу молитву.

Коли ми приступаємо до Ісуса, «благаючи Його» (Мт. 8, 5), яка турбота підштовхує нас до цього? Так, ми слабкі, грішні, страждаємо, але коли сотник підходить до Ісуса з молитвою, Він просить не за себе, а за свого слугу. То ж хто для нас є тим слугою, що «мучиться тяжко» (Мт. 8, 6)? Всі ті люди, які страждають, імена яких нам не відомі і яких ми не знаємо, мають перебувати в нашому серці та спонукати нас іти до Ісуса. І тоді наша душа справді стає частиною Церкви, але в покорі, не уявляючи себе спасителем світу, бо її горизонт відкривається до горизонту серця нашого Отця.

Ісус завжди відповідає нам: «Я прийду й оздоровлю тебе» (див. Мт. 8, 7), і в цьому нема сумніву, адже, Христос, на наше благання зсилає свого Духа Святого, Який є зціленням, життям, примиренням, яке шириться у цілому світі, якого кожна людина приймає або відкидає, навіть, якщо вона не знає Його.

Важливою для нас є реакція сотника: «Я недостойний, щоб Ти ввійшов під мою

покрівлю» (Мт. 8, 8). Саме з цього для нас починається молитва серця. Якщо ми не починаємо з визнання своєї недостойності, ми не є у правді. Найперше в поставі нашого серця – бути смиренними, визнаючи в радісній щирості, що ми нічого самі не здатні вдіяти у цій драмі життя, де найважливіше – любов. Усе в нашому житті – благодать, усе – «дар ласки Божої» (Рим. 6, 23), і чим покірніше серце, тим очевидніше для нього, що Ісус може все: покора є тією землею, на якій розквітає віра.

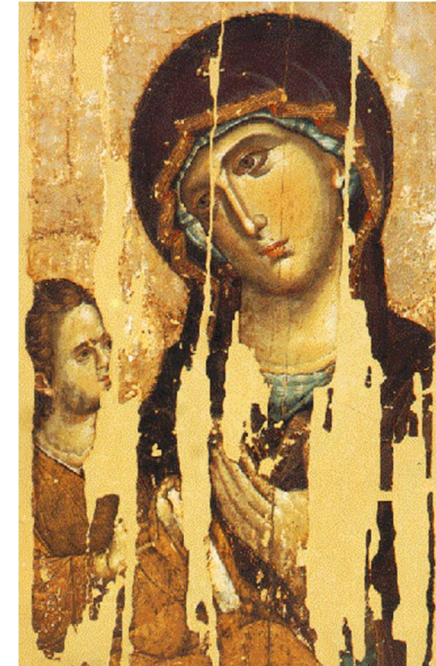
То ж ми розуміємо, чому сотник каже вкінці: «Скажи лише слово» (Мт. 8, 8). Тепер ми, християни, знаємо яке це слово. Це те Слово, в Якому Отець відкриває нам себе і дає себе, промовляє до нас і дає нам життя: це Ісус, – те надзвичайне Слово, яке містить у собі все. Це і є молитва серця. Вона зовсім проста: треба лише бути зверненим до Отця, благодати Його і приймати Ісуса – Його Слово – у своєму серці.

Один великий святий нашого століття, що був на Сході сучасником св. Терези від Дитятка Ісус, – св. Силуан (1866 – 1938 рр.) каже: «Я хотів би лише здобути покору та любов Христову, нікого не кривдити і молитися за всіх, як за себе самого». До покірного серця Святий Дух сходить і перебуває в ньому. Він навчає нас про Ісуса і спонукає благодати Його за всіх людей, найближчих та найнезнаніших, тих, біля кого ми проходимо, не будучи знайомими з ними, але яких Церква, як мама, всіх несе у своїх молитвах, ще не знаючи їх облич. То ж ми певні, що сам Святий Дух входить до нашого серця та зціляє багатьох. І ми зможемо також любити, як любить Ісус – «єдиний приятель усіх людей» (пор. Мт. 11, 19; Лк. 7, 34).

(Жан Корбон, Це називається світанком, Львів, 2007)



A daughter complained to her father that her life was miserable and that she did not know how she was going to make it. She was tired of fighting and struggling all the time. It seemed just as one problem was solved, another one soon followed. Her father, a chef, took her to the kitchen. He filled three pots with water and placed each on a high fire. Once the three pots began to boil, he placed potatoes in one pot, eggs in the second pot, and ground coffee beans in the third pot. He then let them sit and boil, without saying another word to his daughter. The daughter moaned and impatiently waited, wondering what he was doing. After twenty minutes he turned off the burners. He took the potatoes out of the pot and placed them in a bowl. He pulled the eggs out and placed them in another bowl. He then ladled the coffee out and placed it in a cup. Turning to his daughter he asked, "What do you see?" "Potatoes, eggs, and coffee," she hastily replied. "Look closer", he said, "and touch the potatoes." She did and noted that they were soft. He then asked her to take an egg and break it. After pulling off the shell, she observed the hard-boiled egg. Finally, he asked her to sip the coffee. Its rich aroma brought a smile to her face. "Father, what does this mean?" she asked. He then explained that the potatoes, the eggs, and coffee beans had each faced the same adversity - the boiling water. However, each one reacted differently. The potato went in strong, hard, and unrelenting, but in boiling water, it became soft and weak. The egg was fragile, with the thin outer shell protecting its liquid yolk until it



was put in the boiling water. Then the inside of the egg became hard. However, the ground coffee beans were unique. After they were exposed to the boiling water, they changed the water and created something new. "Which are you?" he asked his daughter. "When adversity knocks on your door, how do you respond? Are you a potato, an egg, or a coffee bean?" In life, things will continue to happen around us and things will happen to us, but what truly matters is what happens within us, and how we are able to respond and change our lives for the better.

Life has a way of teaching us and reminding us that just when we think all is running smoothly, all is well and under control; then we face the startling realization that storm clouds are blowing over. Just as we think we have solved the last problem, or taken care of the last pressing need, that is when the mailman arrives, or that is when the telephone rings, or that is when we discover a child is sick or a parent is dying. No matter how often we have been down that road before, there are still surprises. We still have more to learn. The disciples were about to learn a valuable lesson - the truth about Jesus in the storm. The Gospel reading for this ninth Sunday after Pentecost follows straight on from that of last Sunday. After feeding the multitude, Jesus sends the apostles away. He tells them to get into a ship, and Jesus himself retires to a mountain, alone, to pray. Meanwhile, the ship in which the disciples are crossing the Sea of Galilee is shaken by the strong waves as the winds blow against them. But suddenly the disciples see Jesus walking out to

them on the sea; and terrified, they think it is a ghost. Jesus reassures them: *“Be of good cheer, it is I”*. To Peter’s request: *“Lord, if it is you, then bid me to come out on the water”*. Jesus answers him: *“Come”*. Peter gets out of the ship: *‘And when Peter was coming down out of the ship, he walked on the water to go out to Jesus. But when he saw the waves and felt the wind he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried out saying: “Lord, save me”’*. Jesus stretched out his hands to him, and saves Peter, but then gently rebukes him for having such little faith. Jesus and Peter get back into the ship and when the wind dies down; the disciples kneel down to worship Jesus saying: *“Thou art the Son of God”*.

This account contains precious information that applies to our own spiritual life. The wind tossed waves on which Peter wanted to walk could be compared to our difficulties and, especially, to our temptations in life. If we look back at our own spiritual defeats, we will see that it was always in the instant when we stopped looking at Jesus and going straight toward him, that we began to sink. Just as Peter became fearful, took his eyes off Christ, and began to sink. As soon as we allow our attention to be so distracted by the events and difficulties of this world, that we no longer notice Jesus, we become lost because we feel defeated inside and we lose sight of our own faith. There will be many storms in life that surround us and threaten us, but if we ask the



Lord to bid us to come out on the water toward him, and have enough faith to remain focused on the Lord, then we will overcome and defeat any difficulties in life by trusting in the healing grace of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Immediately following this miracle of Jesus and Peter on the water, Jesus taught the large crowds that had gathered about the *Bread of Life*. The Bible tells us that the crowds had a hard time accepting Jesus’ message and were offended. Amidst the crowds turning their backs on Jesus, he looks back to his disciples with a broken heart and asks them, are they going to leave him too? Peter is the one that pipes up and says an incredible thing that was no

doubt shaped by the incident on the Sea of Galilee just a little while earlier, *“To whom shall we go, you alone have the words of Eternal life, and we believe and know that you are the Son of God.”* Peter is saying; I believe without any doubt that you alone can save. We too should want to be near Jesus because He alone can save us. We should have zeal and a passion about encountering Jesus today. During today’s Gospel reading, Peter had this request of Jesus: *‘Lord, if it is you, tell me to come to you on the water’*. Peter wanted to get out of the boat; he wanted to be with Jesus. I am telling you this afternoon that sometimes in order to get to Jesus we need to get out of the boat; we need to leave our comfort zone and place our complete trust in the Lord.

(From “Good Samaritan Ukr. Radio Program)

Проща до Зарваниці завершилася: десятки тисяч вірних ішли пішки та молилися під дощем

14 липня Архиєрейською Божественною Літургією, яку очолив Глава УГКЦ Святослав, та освяченням пам’ятника Івану-Павлу II, Папі Римському, завершилася Всеукраїнська та молодіжна проща. У Богослужінні взяли участь вірні з різних куточків України та з-за кордону, 10 архиєреїв УГКЦ, близько 300 священників та представники влади.

Значна частина вірних ішла до Зарваниці пішки. Найбільша група, близько 1500 осіб, традиційно здійснила пішу прощу від Архикатедрального собору Тернополя. Найбільше часу у дорозі провели прочани з Хмельницького вікаріату: до Зарваниці вони йшли майже тиждень. Ішли здебільшого молоді люди, інші - приїхали на автобусах, автомобілях та велосипедах.

Блаженніший Святослав привітав усіх гостей та прочан, які, незважаючи на сильний дощ, молилися на Літургії, уділив архиєпископське благословення, подякував організаторам за наполегливу працю, священникам, які з вірними ішли пішки та сповідали під час прощі, представникам влади з допомогу в організації паломництва.

Цьогорічна проща була приурочена 1025-ій річниці Хрещення Русі-України та Року віри, яким в УГКЦ проголосили 2013 рік. Саме ці тематики заторкнув Блаженніший Святослав у своїй проповіді:

«Коли Вселенська Церква переживає рік віри, ми християни-українці у цьому чудотворному місці, де пульсує джерело чудотворної вічної Божої любові, сьогодні зійшлися, щоб подякувати Богу за дар віри, яку подарував нашому народові рівноапостольний князь Володимир. Той дар, який з покоління в покоління передають як неоціненний скарб».



«Хто справді шукає за Богом відкриває істину, що він сам є віднайдений Ним. Віра в Бога є відповіддю на Божі запитання до щастя у вічному житті, найвищою формою якої є любов Божа. Ця любов є оживляючою спасителькою, не

дає нам загубитися на непростих дорогах життя».

«Як нам любити свою Батьківщину, землю, культуру, що означає бути патріотом. На це запитання дає нам відповідь Христос – бути патріотом означає вміти любити. Молимося у це свято Божої любові, яке переживаємо тут, стало днем оновлення в нашому народі».

«Обличчям живого Бога є ікона Зарваницької Матері Божої. Вона свідчить, що Бог любить нас. Богородиця тримає на руках Сина Божого – Боже слово, якого дарує нам як знак любові Отця у Святому Дусі. Нехай вона буде Учителькою небесної віри, щоб цей спадок ми змогли передати наступним поколінням, які б після нас могли відчити себе любленими Богом».

Після Літургії відбулася Панахида за жертв українсько-польського протистояння на Волині 1943 року та освячення пам’ятника Івану-Павлу II, Папі Римському... (<http://www.tze.org.ua>)