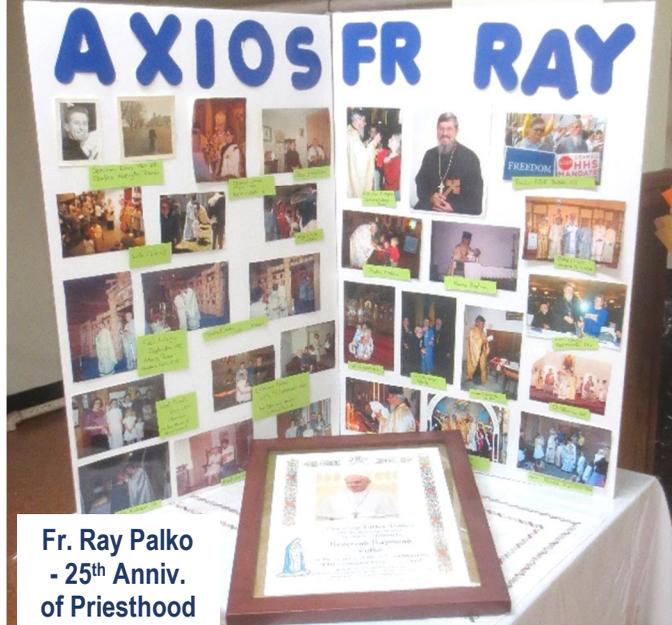




Three Recipients of Msgr. Paul Iwachiv Scholarship



Fr. Ray Palko  
- 25<sup>th</sup> Anniv.  
of Priesthood



Birthday of Pani Olia Czmola! Mnohaya Lita!



SAINT NICHOLAS  
UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



УКРАЇНСЬКА КАТОЛИЦЬКА  
ЦЕРКВА СВЯТОГО МИКОЛАЯ

№ 36  
S E P T E M B E R  
6  
2015

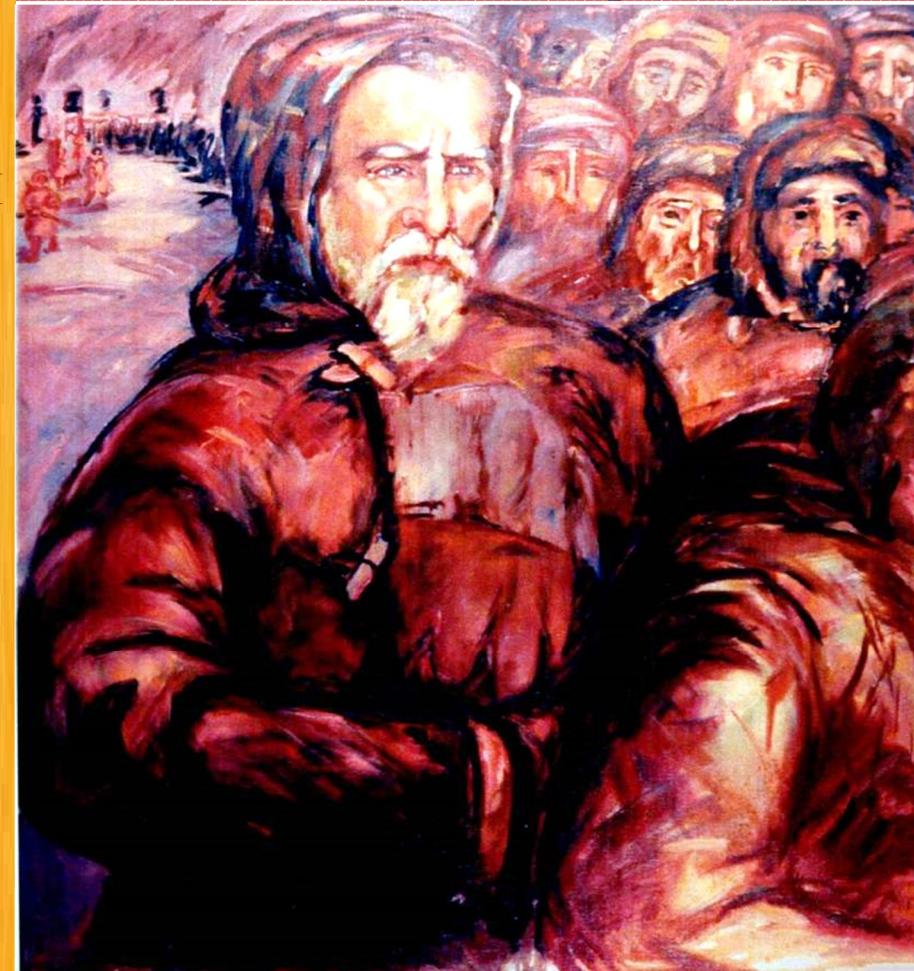


№ 36

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



CHURCH BULLETIN  
September 6 – 2015 – 6 Вересня  
ЦЕРКОВНИЙ ВІСНИК



**Патріарх  
Йосиф Сліпий  
На Засланні**

Юрій Гура  
Полотно. Олія. 1973  
(Передрук з Бюлетену  
Св. Софія, Осінь 2009)

**Прослав, Господи,  
Слугу Божого  
Патріарха Йосифа!**

**O Lord, Glorify  
Your Servant  
Patriarch Josyf!**

Jurij Hura  
Linen. Oil. 1973  
(Taken from St. Sophia  
Bulletin, Fall 2009)

**Patriarch  
Josyf Slipuj  
In Exile**

## CHURCH BULLETIN

Sep. 6 – **2015** – 6 Вересня  
ЦЕРКОВНИЙ ВІСНИК



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

## LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

## ПОР'ЯДОК СВ. ЛІТУРГІЙ

4:30 PM +Irene Tschip (Emil & Vera Marc)

Septem. 6, 15 S. aft. Pent. – 15 Н. по ЗСД

12:00 No noon Liturgy till September 13

Monday, September 7 Вересня, Понеділок

No Liturgy - Нема Відправи

Birth of Theotokos – Нар. Богородиці

Tuesday, September 8 Вересня, Вівторок

10:00 AM +Nina Smietana (Katarina)

Wednesday, September 9 Вересня, Середа

5:00 PM За зд. Родини Середюк і щасливу

подорож для Наталки

(А. і Н. Солочинські)

Thursday, September 10 Вересня, Четвер

8:15 AM +Mary & John Colomon

(Allen & Nadine Burkholder)

Friday, September 11 Вересня, П'ятниця

9:00 AM +Catherine M. Chort (Marianne)

Saturday September 12 Вересня, Субота

9:00 AM For Parishioners - За Парохіян

4:30 PM For Beatification of Patriarch Josyf

За Прославу Сл. Божого Патр. Йосифа

Septem. 13, 16 S. aft. Pent. – 16 Н. по ЗСД

12:00 Ant +Christine Militello (Anne Ettipio)

Вічне Світло в честь П.Д.М.

Горить за Прославу Сл.

Божого Патр. Йосифа

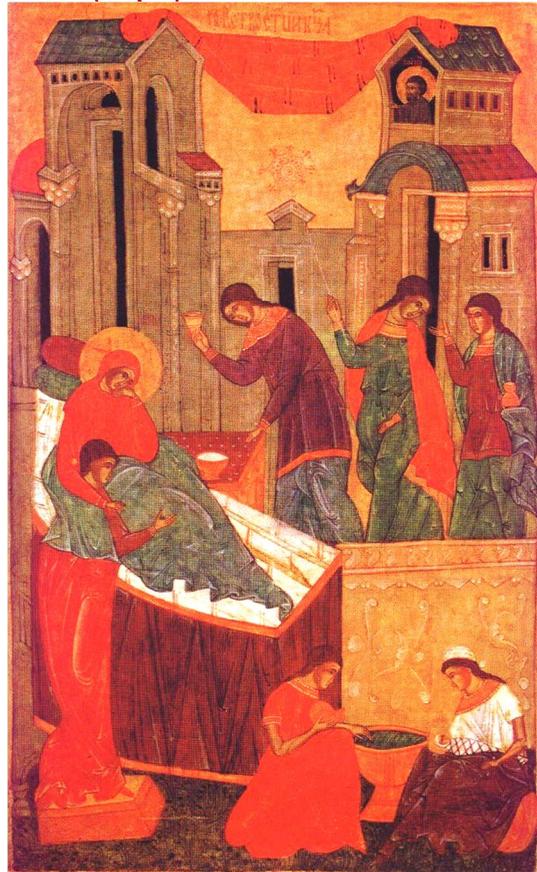
Eternal Lights burns for  
+Anna Hudymiak  
Requ. by Family

6 Вересня: 14 Неділя по 3. Св. Духа

10:00 р. +Софія Пуцак (Марія Дранка)

13 Вересня: 15 Неділя по 3. Св. Духа

10:00 р. +Марта, +Григорій, +Василь Боднар  
(Марія)



The birth of Theotokos – Народження Богородиці

→ I will be away from the parish for  
the holiday weekend. In case of an  
emergency call Father Ray at 675-0629

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West Seneca NY 14224

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jahawryluk@gmail.com



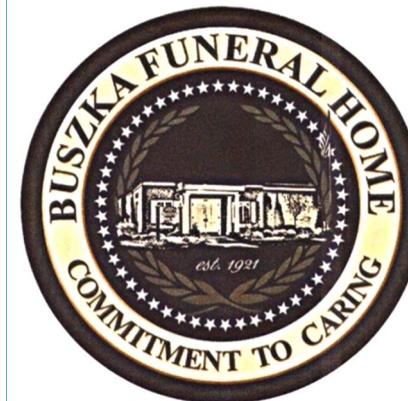
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Відвідайте нашу нову філію з **вівторка по суботу** для всіх ваших фінансових потреб.

**AMHERST BRANCH BUSINESS HOURS:**

(Closed Mondays | Зачинені по понеділках)

Tuesday – Thursday | 3 вівторка по четвер

| 9:30 am – 5 pm |

Friday | 9:30 am – 6 pm | П'ятниця

Saturday | 9 am – 1 pm | Субота

Our existing branch on **GENESEE STREET** will remain open; however, we will be **CLOSED ON WEDNESDAYS starting JULY 1.** Філія на **GENESEE STREET** буде **ЗАЧИНЕНА ПО СЕРЕДАХ**, починаючи з 1 ЛИПНЯ.

**BUFFALO BRANCH BUSINESS HOURS:**

(Closed Wednesday | Зачинені по середах)

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday | 9:30 am – 5 pm |

Понеділок, Вівторок, Четвер

Friday | 9:30 am – 7 pm | П'ятниця

Saturday | 9 am – 1 pm | Субота

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

2321 Millersport Hwy.  
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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 слухаєте 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 Телєфони:

Please turn off or silence your cell phone  
 before entering the church. Thank you!

\*\*\*

Просимо вилучувати ваші мобільні  
 телефони підчас Святої Літургії.

**DONATIONS TO ST. NICHOLAS**

"Special Appeal"

IMO Anna Hudymiak

Slavko & Helen Moczerniak - \$150.00

Fred & Nadia Marc - \$50.00

Andrij & Maria Petryshyn - \$25.00

Maria Plotycia - \$25.00

Andrew Diakun - \$25.00

Emily Swiatkiwsky - \$20.00

Wasył & Mary Ann Puhacz - \$20.00

Elaine Nowadly - \$20.00

Maria Bodnarskyj - \$20.00

Dolores Baranyckyj - \$20.00

Joanne Bader - \$10.00

Lesia Petriwskyj - \$10.00

St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church in Syracuse, NY sent our parish 20 sweepstakes tickets for their 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Sweepstakes. The tickets are \$25.00 each. 1<sup>st</sup> Prize - \$12, 500, 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize \$2,500 ( 2 winners), 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize \$1,250 (3 winners), 4<sup>th</sup> Prize \$250 (8 winners), 5<sup>th</sup> \$100 (10 winners). The drawing is October 24<sup>th</sup>, but tickets must be purchased and/or postmarked by October 19<sup>th</sup> to be eligible for the drawing.

If you are interested in purchasing one of these Sweepstakes tickets,  
 See Father Marijan or Elaine

The Parish Kitchen will reopen on  
 Friday, September 18<sup>th</sup>. Help is needed  
 on Friday mornings to make varenyky!

**Relig. Education 2015 – Релігія**

As the 2015-16 school year begins, we would like to inform parents of the dates of Religious Education classes for the upcoming school year. We hope that children enrolled in our program will make the commitment T.A.A.C.:

To Attend All classes

St. Nicholas Religious Education  
 Classes will run from 9:00AM until  
 12:30PM on the following Saturdays:

1. Saturday, October 24, 2015
2. Saturday, November 21, 2015
3. Saturday, January 23, 2016
4. Saturday, February 20, 2016
5. Saturday, March 19, 2016
6. Saturday, April 23, 2016
7. Saturday, May 14, 2016

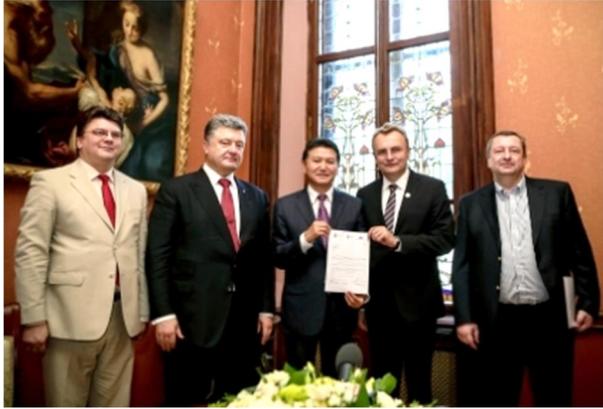
Children enrolled in the Solemn Communion class will also be required to attend weekly Monday evening classes beginning in March 2016.

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 Catholic radio yet?

**101.7 FM Catholic Radio**  
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Or our free App: **iCatholicRadio**  
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## Dates for FIDE Women's World Championship Match set



(L-R) Minister of youth and sports of Ukraine Igor Zhdanov, President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko, President of the International chess Federation (FIDE) Kirsan Ilyumzhinov, Mayor of Lviv Andriy Sadovy and President of the chess Federation Viktor Kapustin during the meeting, in Lviv, Ukraine, July 02, 2015. The parties agreed to hold in Lviv the final match of the world Championship on chess among women.

The dates for the FIDE Women's World Championship Match between Mariya Muzychuk, current World Woman Champion and Hou Yifan are set for 1-18<sup>th</sup> March 2016. The match will be held in Lviv, Ukraine.

The Organizing Committee for the match held a meeting on 31st August in Kyiv. FIDE President Kirsan Ilyumzhinov, Minister of Sports and Youth Igor Zhdanov, Lviv Regional and City Administration Head Oleg Sinyutka, Ukrainian Chess Federation President Viktor Kapustin and Assistant to the FIDE President Berik Balgabaev attended the meeting.

FIDE President Kirsan Ilyumzhinov said that the Ukrainian Chess Federation paid a deposit of 100,000 USD and that the match contract should be signed in the following days.

## FIDE President Kirsan Ilyumzhinov And Kyiv Mayor Vitaly Klichko



On the 31st of August in Kyiv, with the President's of Ukraine Administration Head Boris Lozhkin's Chair, a meeting of the Organising Committee for preparation and holding of the World Chess Championship match in Lviv. The representatives of various state, government and public bodies, including the FIDE President Kirsan Ilyumzhinov, Minister of Sports and Youth Igor Zhdanov, Lviv Regional and City Administration Head Oleg Sinyutka, Ukrainian Chess Federation President Viktor Kapustin and Assistant to the FIDE President Berik Balgabaev participated in the meeting which has resulted in a protocol decision.

The same day the FIDE President met with the Mayor of Kiev Vitaliy Klitschko. The parties have discussed the issues of bilateral cooperation. It was decided that in October 2016 the Ukrainian capital will host one of the stages of the FIDE Women's Grand-Prix. The respective letter of the Mayor will be sent to FIDE in the next days. Mr. Vitaly Klichko has also confirmed their intention to start introduction of chess education in the Kiev schools as a facultative subject."

<http://dyvys.in> & <http://www.fide.com>



**Sunday Coffee Hours:** If anyone would like to volunteer to host a Sunday, please contact Elaine, Emily 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!

Have a nice  
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 Карточка 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**

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ЦЕРКВА СВЯТОГО МИКОЛАЯ**

(ПІД ОПІКОЮ ПРЕЧИСТОЇ  
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**Rectory: (716) 852-7566**

**Fax: 855-1319 ~ Kitchen: 852-1908**

**Confession:** Before Liturgies

**Сповідь:** Перед Св. Літургіями

**Baptism:** By appointment

**Хрещення:** За домовленням

**Marriage:** Contact 6 months in advance

**Вінчання:** Голоситися 6 місяців скорше

**Religion classes – Релігійна Програма**  
Субота - Saturday

**Ministry to the sick - Опіка над хворими**

Family members should call the Rectory

Родина повинна повідомити священика

**IN EMERGENCY CALL ANY TIME**

**В разі потреби завжди можна закликати**

V. Rev. Marijan Procyk, pastor & dean

Rev. Raymond Palko, visiting priest

**Please call if you are hospitalized,  
homebound and need a priest.  
Просимо закликати якщо ви у лічниці  
або приковані до ліжка!**

## SITCH DINNER MEETING

**Sunday September 27, 2015**

At Joseph Hriczko Post  
29 Clemo St., Buffalo, NY

After 12:00pm Liturgy

For the reposed and living members of our organization at

St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church  
Fillmore & Oneida Sts., Buffalo, NY

**COCKTAILS** at 1:00PM

**DINNER** at 1:30PM includes refreshments

**Meeting to be held after dinner.**

Dinner cost is \$10.00 for members and  
\$15.00 for guests

Membership dues of \$5.00 for the 2015 year  
must be current and may be paid at the door.

**For reservations call:**

**Mike Liskiewicz – 837-0285 or**

**Maria Malaniak – 668-5105**

**Reservation deadline is September 20, 2015**

**Reservations are a must and liable.**

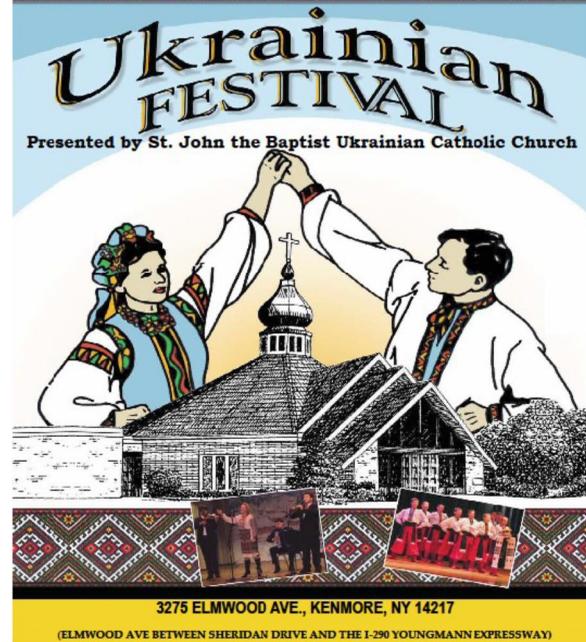
## Salvation Army Box



By our Parking Lot from Fillmore.  
Used clothing. Help those in need.  
Thank You!

**Sunday, SEPTEMBER 13, 2015**

Noon to 7 p.m.



**HOLODOMOR MEMORIAL DEDICATION CEREMONY 2015**  
Washington, D.C.

Friday, November 6 7 P.M. Exhibit Opening/Reception  
Saturday, November 7 2 P.M. Dedication Ceremony 10 A.M. – 7 P.M. Exhibit  
Sunday, November 8 2 P.M. Concert



**Letter from Fr. Ray Sept. 6, 2015**

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!

Dear \_\_\_\_\_

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

Good Day to you, My Dear One, and Happy September. "Thirty days hath September...." Yikes! One week is already gone for this beautiful month of only thirty days. Watch out for the school busses! Our public schools started on Wednesday, the second of September. Now, this coming week the parochial schools will begin after the Labor Day holiday, just like the old days. Yeah, I know some parents are breathing that collective sigh of relief, or even jumping for joy ☺, to have the children go back, but there are also a lot of tissues being used at the back doors of our homes and at the bus stops, as the little ones make their way to their busses and schools. Have a great year, Everyone! It's off to the races once again!

For all the students from Pre-K to Grad school I would like to include the following prayer. I hope you will not just read it, but please pray it. It is from the "Priest's Service Book" and goes like this:

*O Lord, Our God, who dwell in unapproachable light! You are the fountain of wisdom and learning; You taught wisdom to Solomon, and through the descent of Your All-Holy Spirit, made the fishermen preachers of the Gospel, teachers and Apostles; You have said, O Lord, "Let light shine out of darkness." Shine with the knowledge of Your truth and Your unwaning light in the hearts of those who teach, and those who are taught, in our schools and universities; grant them the spirit of wisdom and the spirit of understanding; illumine the eyes of their souls so that they may come to know and do your will; and make them children of light, who bring forth fruit in every good undertaking and grow through divine wisdom; through the intercessions of Your All-Pure and All-Blameless Holy Mother, of the holy glorious and all-praised Apostles, of the holy and glorious Hierarchs and Ecumenical Teachers, Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian, John Chrysostom, and of all Your saints.*

Amen.

Even though there are only 30 days in the month, those days will all be jam-packed with activities and remembrances. September 2nd is the official V-J Day when Japan unconditionally surrendered bringing an end to the horrors of the Second World War. Pray for Peace!

This coming Friday is 9-11 and the memories of the horrible attack on the United States in 2001, an attack which eventually led to the start of another war. Let us pray for the victims of that day of horror and death which came so unexpectedly to us, who never thought it could happen here. Pray for Peace!

On a lighter note, there are quite a few interesting events and "days" during this month of September. Monday, September 7<sup>th</sup> is Labor Day, the unofficial end of summer. The grasshopper is still out there playing, but the ant is working hard because he knows what is coming! But we won't think about ending of summer or even the S (now) word or the W (inter) word. Have a beautiful holiday weekend and enjoy all of God's great gifts to us. Imagine, on this holiday, we actually celebrate work, and the blessings we have because we are able to work. The sixth of September, the date of this letter, has two interesting "National Days." First, Sept. 6 is *National Read a Book Day*. We are encouraged to "take time out of our busy life, and relax with a good book. Cozy up on a chair, indoors or out. It doesn't matter where you read the book... If you doze off along the way, we won't tell anyone." (Check out Holiday Insights on computer for other "neat" days!)

Also this day is *National Fight Procrastination Day*-the day when we make that serious effort to fight procrastination. "Make a decision; take action; do it now; do it today. It may be hard to do, but you will be glad you did." The theme of the day is: "Never put off till tomorrow, what you can do today." (Mark Twain). So read that book and have a very happy "Fight Procrastination Day."

Next Sunday our Buffalo, Western NY area will have another beginning day as we start the yearly transition from Summer to Fall. That milestone of the year is, of course, the opening day for the Bills

football season. It's a whole different atmosphere around here when they are playing. We all, however, simply need to remember all of our priorities. While some of the players may believe it, they are not gods. There is only one God. Sunday is the Lord's Day and we are commanded to keep it holy. If you go to a game, and if you need to be there early for travel or tail-gating, don't forget your obligation to attend Liturgy. No excuses! God comes first! Every time I watch a Sunday game, I always wonder, "How many of those thousands upon thousands of "fans" skipped church today."

And speaking of priorities, I wrote last week about September being the month of beginnings for our Liturgical Year. We had Liturgy for this special occasion on September first when we celebrated the blessings of the year past and the promise of the future. Christianity is a religion of new beginnings and so we take this opportunity to once again, begin anew.

This week that has been Quite a Week! Last Sunday, August 30 was my 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary as priest. Presbyteria and my parish family of Niagara Falls organized an amazing celebration. The Divine Liturgy was the main focus and it was a glorious service. Afterwards I commented that as we celebrated the joyous Liturgy, we all surely had an "earthly" taste of the Kingdom as we experienced a little bit of what it was like to be up on Mt. Tabor as His disciples when our Lord was transfigured. Indeed, "we have seen His glory" and it was so very good for us to be there. Glory to God for all things!

Following the Liturgy everyone went downstairs to the parish hall for a great meal and fellowship. There too, it was "good for us to be there!" So I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone from my very, very special Presbyteria Joanne, to my family here and in Pennsylvania, especially brother Larry



and sister Chris, who were able to make the trip, and also to the special family of Holy Protection. And since I made the "front page news" on last week's bulletin at St. Nicholas, many, many thanks to the St. Nicholas people and to all who received that bulletin. For your presence and for your presents... for all your kindness to me and to my family I pray God will bless you and reward you a hundred-fold. During the celebration I was able to relate a bit of my journey

to the Holy Table. I told of my years of seminary when I left Middleport, PA for Stamford, CT, to Washington, D.C., then to Toronto, ON, and finally to Lviv, Ukraine, where I was ordained beneath the omophor of the Confessor of the Faith, Metropolitan Sterniuk. My wise guy brothers always like to bring up the fact that from the time I left home in September

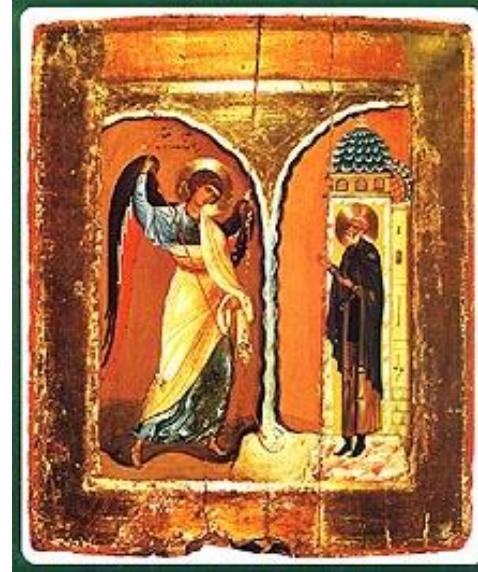
1961 until my priestly ordination in August 1990, *it only took me twenty-nine years to get ordained!!* As I told my story I kept remembering, as I always do, how I was always in the palm of God's hand, always being guided and prompted by Him. Our Holy Lady has always been my protectress and guide. My first Liturgy was in St. George's Church in Lviv at the Altar of Protection of Mother of God and now I am serving at the Church of the Holy Protection. And always the hand of God, the gentle voice of the Mother of God were always felt and heard in the actions of others. I can't tell you how many family members, parishioners and others helped financially, spiritually, and by word and action. I pray God will remember them and reward them for all they did and still do for me as His priest. Thank you for all you do for me! Thank you for sharing in my priesthood! Thank you for making me feel like a priest! May God bless you and keep you and cause His face to shine upon you! Our Lady protect you!

In His Love,  
Fr. Ray

## The Saints on Sundays, 2015/16

September 6/19

### Commemoration of the Miracle of the Archangel Michael at Colossae



The Miracle of the Holy Chief Commander Archangel Michael at Colossae. In Phrygia, not far from the city of Hieropolis, in a place called Cheretopos, there was a church named for the Archangel Michael, built over a miraculous spring.

This church was built by a certain inhabitant of the city of Laodicia in gratitude to God for healing his mute daughter. The holy Chief Commander Michael appeared to this man in a dream and revealed to him that his daughter would receive the gift of speech after drinking from the water of the spring. The girl actually did receive healing and began to speak. After this miracle, the father and his daughter and all their family were baptized. In fervent gratitude, the father built the church in honor of the holy Chief Commander Michael. Not only did Christians begin to come to the spring for healing, but also pagans. In so doing, many of the pagans turned from their idols and were converted to the faith in Christ.

At this church of the holy Chief Commander Michael, a certain pious man by the name of

Archippus served for sixty years as church custodian. By his preaching and by the example of his saintly life he brought many pagans to faith in Christ. With the general malice of that time towards Christians, and especially against Archippus, the pagans thought to destroy the church in order to prevent people from coming to that holy place of healing, and at the same time kill Archippus.

Toward this end they made a confluence of the Lykokaperos and Kufos Rivers and directed its combined flow against the church. St Archippus prayed fervently to the Chief Commander Michael to ward off the danger. Through his prayer the Archangel Michael appeared at the temple, and with a blow of his staff, opened a wide fissure in a rock and commanded the rushing torrents of water to flow into it. The temple remained unharmed. Seeing such an awesome miracle, the pagans fled in terror. Archippus and the Christians gathered in church glorified God and gave thanks to the holy Archangel Michael for the help. The place where the rivers plunged into the fissure received the name "Chonae", which means "plunging." (<http://oca.org>)

→ On this page we will have the lives of the saints that fall on Sundays according to the Gregorian Calendar.

## The Franciscan Center

### Reminder:

Please continue to bring in non-perishable food as well as hygiene products for the boys at the Franciscan Center. They also will gladly accept lightly used clothes for the boys of teen age as well as gift cards to food or clothing stores.

You should give the cards or money gifts directly to Father. Other items can be placed in the box at bottom of stairs in vestibule. Fr. Joe and everyone at the Center are always greatly appreciative of all the donations.

**God bless your charity!**

Патріарх Йосиф Сліпий Кобирницький Дичковський  
(17 Лютого, 1892 - 7 Вересня, 1984)

“Прийми Господи, молитви наші за Святої пам’яті Патріярха Йосифа, якого Ти нам у своїй доброті був післав. Доніс він свій важкий хрест до Твого Престолу, Господи, Хрест сострадання із народом своїм, хрест сострадання із церквою, яку без милосердя ділили і присудили на смерть. Поможі нам, Господи, працювати для збереження нашої рідної церкви, для якої все життя невтомно трудився Патріярх Йосиф, та якої права так відважно і віддано обороняв.”

7 вересня 1984 року відійшов у вічність Слуга Божий перший патріарх Української Католицької Церкви, Йосиф Сліпий Кобирницький Дичковський.

Перебував я з ним 5 років під час своїх студій у Римі, і через цей час мав я нагоду запізнити ся з отою великою людиною, яка зуміла продовж 20 років провадити нашою церквою, щоб вона не зникла, але росла і розвивалася. Ми, питомці, вчилися від нього надіючись, що хоч частино зможемо до нього уподібнитися. Він нам постійно говорив, що наша церква потребує святих і національно свідомих священників. Ми зрозуміли, що коли нема святості між священниками, то з духового боку наша церква буде дійсно бідною, а коли священники не будуть дбати про приналежність до свого народу, церква також збідніє.

Ми бачили як Патріярх Йосиф журився майбутністю нашої церкви. Він добре знав яку відповідальність поклав Христос на його плечі, задля чого він навіть не завагався піти у кайдани на заслання через довгих 18 років. Перед очима бачив він віднову, твердо вірив у воскресіння нашої церкви, яка була живцем похована в 1946-му році, надіявся на кращу долю. Ця надія крипила його в тюрмах і в нестачі, в небезпеках смерті від голоду і холоду і від кримінальних в’язнів і від тих, що їх там пильнували. В час свого ув’язнення, він, в’язень Христа Ради, був світлом для всіх несправедливо засуджених, що шукали справедливості. Він для них був Христом. Допомігав усім кілька лиш міг, а тим, що його у який небудь спосіб ображали, він прощав, не згадуючи їхніх провин.

У одному зі своїх листів бувший спів’язень, будучи вже на волі, так писав: "В моїй пам’яті ви є ясним світлом... 3 жажом я згадую час ув’язнення, але коротке знайомство з Вами, було для мене ясною і радісною подією, яке дало мені нове знання, духовну міць і свіжі сили." А кілька було тих, що в подібний спосіб відчували.

У своїому Заповіті Блаженніший так писав: “Передо мною, наступником Слуги Божого Митрополита Андрея і пересемцем його духовної спадщини і його заповітів, простелився довгий шлях відречення, несення Христа і свідчення йому перед людьми в роді тим прелюбодійнім і грішнім. На цьому шляху Божа десниця помагала мені, в’язневі Христа ради, давати свідчення Христові, як це він прорік своїм учням послідовникам: ‘І будете мені свідками в Єрусалимі і в усій Юдеї та Самарії, і аж до краю землі...’ Але на придорожніх стовпах мого шляху видніли інші написи: Не Єрусалим, Юдея, Самарія, а Львів, Київ, Сибір, Красноярський Край, Єнісейськ, Полярія, Мордовія..., і так дослівно ‘аж до краю землі’.

Ув’язнення ніччю, тайні судилища, безконечні допити і підглядання, моральні і фізичні знущання й упокорення, катування, морення голодом; нечестиві слідчі, а перед ними я, безборонний в’язень каторжник, ‘німий свідок церкви’, що знеможений, фізично і психічно вичерпаний, дає свідчення своїй рідній мовчазній і на смерть приреченій церкві... І в’язень каторжник бачив, що його шлях кінчався приреченням на смерть.”

І дивно є, що Патріярх лишився при житті, що його не розстріляли, як багатьох інших небажаних. Господь мабуть зберіг його, щоб відновити церкву на поселеннях, і дати надію терплячій церкві в Україні, і відкрити очі світові на її терпіння.

У своїому Завіщанні благопокійний Патріярх Йосиф згадує потрійне поховання і перепоховання:

"Поховайте мене в нашому Патріяршому Соборі Святої Софії, а як воплотиться наше видіння і возстане на волі наша Свята Церква і наш Український нарід, занесіть мою домовину, в який спочину, на рідну українську землю і покладіть її у храмі Святого Юра у Львові біля гробниці Слуги Божого Андрея... Якщо такою буде Божа воля і бажання українського Божого люду, складіть мою домовину в підземеллях оновленого Собору Святої Софії. В підземеллях Київської тюрми мене довгими роками мучили, коли я був живим, в підземельній гробниці оновленого Собору Святої Софії Київської спокійно спочив би я, будши плоттю вмерлим."

Насамперед був похований у Св. Софії в Римі.

1992 року відбулося перепоховання його тлінних останків у храмі Святого Юра у Львові після того коли Україна стала вільною...

Прослав, Господи, Слугу Твого Патріярха Йосифа!

**From "Good Samaritan" Ukr. Radio pr. (2)**

The Gospel for this 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost involves the two great commandments. St. Matthew records how a man with knowledge of the law comes to Jesus, and to test Him, asks which of these are the greatest commandments of the law? Jesus answers: *"Thou shall love the Lord thy God will all your heart, with all your soul, with your entire mind. And thou shall love your neighbor as yourself."* Then Jesus adds - that on these two commandments hang all the laws and the prophets. If we consider these commandments more carefully and the deliberate repetition of the words: *'Thou shall love'*, we begin to realize that this precept flows from the very nature of God. St. John reminds us in the fourth chapter of his gospel that *'God is love'* and that is why we must love one another. And to love in every sense of the word means pruning away at everything which is against or not connected with God, and there lies the difficulty many people face with these commandments. We do not want to give up our pleasures or ambitions, we strive to get even with those who have hurt us, and we often want for things which others have. Mankind is innately selfish, and sometimes we desire the things we want more then we desire to love God and our neighbors.

From the very beginning of creation, God has offered us His love. Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden was a paradise of love, given to us by God, but destroyed through sinful desires. Today, Jesus makes it quite clear that the priority is love of God. But Jesus, in bringing these two commandments together, gives new meaning to the term neighbor, showing through even the Parable of the Good Samaritan, that there is no limit to who our neighbor can be. A neighbor is ultimately every person God places along our path, and in today's Gospel, Jesus tells us exactly what divine love involves. In order to love God we must be willing to give from our heart. When you see or hear the word heart, what is the first image or thought you envision? To the doctor the heart is an organ in our body. To the poet the heart is the seat of love. To the athlete the heart is the body's strongest muscle. To the racecar-driver the heart is like an engine. But to God: the heart is the center of our being. 'Heart' is used in Scripture as the most comprehensive term for the authentic person. It is the part of our being where we desire, deliberate, and decide. It has been described as 'the place of conscious and decisive spiritual activity'. The heart is the center of a person, and the place to which we may always turn to God. There is a story about a

struggling artist who brought one of his paintings to a world-renowned painter who served as his mentor. The painting was of the face of Christ. The older man studied it for a few minutes, and then said, "If you loved Jesus more, you would have painted Him better." The goal of the Christian life is to paint a picture of Jesus with our lives. When people look at us, they ought to see the love of Christ. And to be filled with the love of Christ means to deliberately turn toward another person in need. We cannot do that by simply following a list of rules; we can only do this by loving God in every possible way.

*"See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are"* (1 John 3:1). Author and lecturer, Leo Buscaglia, once talked about a contest he was asked to judge. The purpose of the contest was to find the most caring child. The winner was a four year old boy whose next door neighbor was an elderly gentleman who had recently lost his wife. Upon seeing the man cry, the boy went into the man's yard, climbed onto his lap, and just sat there. When his Mother asked him what he had said to the neighbor, the little boy said: 'Nothing, I just helped him cry.' Pope John Paul II wrote: "The world is loved by God! And, in spite of the refusals of which it is capable, it will continue to be loved to the very end. The Father loves you always and forever: this is the unheard-of novelty, the very simple yet profound proclamation owed to humanity by the Church." In our time, the Church and the world have need, more than ever, for those who are capable of proclaiming by word and example this fundamental and consoling certainty. In our Church and in the various environments of our daily existence, we must become credible witnesses to our Heavenly Father's love. Making it visible in our choices and attitudes, in the way we choose to raise our children, and in our own way of receiving people and placing ourselves at their service. St. John wrote, *"Through Christ we have come to know His love, that He laid down His life for us; and we likewise ought to lay down our life for one another"* (1 St. John 3:16). Love is never content to simply exist. Love is a word of action. Love proves itself by what it does. Love that does not serve is unfaithful. Love that does not listen is misguided. Love that does not fulfill is empty. Love that does not give and sacrifice is incomplete. *"For God so loved the world that He gave"* and genuine giving requires the actions of love. Our Lord did not give because this world was worthy. He did not even give because this world was needed. God gave because He so loved!

A long time ago, God had a great many burdens that He wished to have carried from one place to another on Earth. As the legend goes, He asked the animals to lend a hand, but all of them had excuses for not helping: the elephant was too dignified; the lion, too proud; and so on. Finally the birds came to God and said, "If you will tie the burdens into small bundles, we will carry them for you. We are small, but we would like to help." So God fastened upon the back of each bird a small bundle, and they all set out walking across the earth to their destination. They sang as they went, not minding the weight of their burdens at all. Every day the burdens seemed lighter and lighter, until the load of burdens seemed to be lifting the birds, instead of the birds carrying the burdens. When they arrived at their destination, they discovered that when they removed their loads, there were beautiful wings in their place - wings that enabled them to fly to the tree tops and soar through the sky, closer and closer to God. Likewise, the burdens we carry for others, the love we are willing to show our neighbors, become like wings of the spirit, lifting us to new places and new heights, bringing us closer and closer to God... and the love that Christ speaks of in today's Gospel reading.



While my son is still young enough to enjoy playing bedtime games with me, there is one in particular that we play every night before he goes to sleep. I start by saying "I love you!" And his job is then to top this statement with another comparison. So he typically responds with "I love you more!" Then of course it is my turn to say "I love you from here to the moon!" We go back and forth with this exchange until we mention the earth, the sun, the stars, and the universe. Or sometimes because it is way past bedtime, I pull out the ultimate phrase: "I love you - infinity!" What I mean, of course, is that as his mother, there is no limit to my love for him. I cannot imagine loving John Paul any less or that my love for him will ever stop, and I want him to know that. So when I say the word "infinity", I stretch out my arms as wide as they will go to show him how serious I am about that statement. Where did I get the idea to do this? From something I read a long, long time ago that I will never forget. It goes like this: *'I asked Jesus how much He loves me? He answered "this much." Then He stretched out His arms and died for me'.* Jesus stretched out His arms on the outskirts of Jerusalem so soldiers could nail Him to a cross. That is

how much He loves us. He stretched out His arms to take on the sins of the entire world. That is how much He loves us. He stretched out His arms so His blood could be spilled as a sacrifice. That is how much He loves us. He stretched out His arms so we wouldn't have to! Because that is how much Jesus loves us. The Cross of Christ is the clearest, loudest, most powerful "I love you -infinity!" ever proclaimed. And I have found much comfort in the knowledge that we are loved by God so immensely. Imagine how much you love your own children, or even your grandchildren... now multiply that by infinite, and that is how much God loves each of us.

What the world needs; what God wills; is summed up with that one word so prevalent in scripture: LOVE. Christianity is not just about religion or faith, even more so it is about having a relationship with God. Our task and challenge is to reclaim the word 'love' in such a way that is faithful to Scriptures and our traditions, as well as meaningful for people today. One of the best ways of doing that, I believe, is leading a life that exemplifies the love and teachings of Christ. We all need to learn how to love unselfishly. To give to others without worrying about what we will receive in return. The only way to do that is to love God first, and then demonstrate our love for God by the ways in which we positively impact the lives of others. The question we need to ask ourselves today is how great is our love for God? How willing are we to love one another? I am not just speaking of the family and friends that we hold dear; I am also speaking about loving the stranger you pass on the street, and the person who speaks unkindly to you. How willing are we to love each of them? Jesus came to pay for our inability to love unselfishly. He showed us what real love is - His love touched the paralyzed, the deaf, the diseased, and the disabled. His love warned, wept, and washed away our inequities. The love of Jesus told of a shepherd searching for lost sheep; a father rushing out to embrace his lost son, and a Samaritan who nursed his enemy back to health on the road to Jericho. His love turned the other cheek and walked that extra mile. Jesus' love carried a cross - and died upon it - so we might inherit the Kingdom to come. People should know that we are Christians by our love. In the words of St. John: *"There is nothing more to be said. It is the final word. If we love one another - that is everything!"*



### UGCC Patriarch outlines two major tasks of the strategic UGCC Patriarchal Council

The UGCC Council entitled "Vibrant Parish as a place to meet the living Christ," which has started its work today in Ivano-Frankivsk, has brought together 250 delegates from 57 countries. The Council is chaired by Head of the UGCC Patriarch Sviatoslav.

The Council began with the Liturgy in the Patriarchal Cathedral of the Resurrection of Christ in Kyiv, where Patriarch Sviatoslav Shevchuk greeted the delegates and read the Council's official decree.

"The Council is an extremely important moment, it enables to see the unity of our Church in the fullness of its diversity, because here the fullness of the church body is presented, and lay people are the important participants, who convey the voice of God's people from all over the world," Patriarch Sviatoslav Shevchuk said in his speech at the first plenary meeting.

Head of the UGCC made a retrospective journey into the history, when the idea to elaborate a development strategy of UGCC was conceived. This idea dates back to 2011. "This strategy appeared due to the wisdom of my predecessor, Patriarch Lubomyr (Husar). It was him who asked the question: What do we want to see in the UGCC in 10 years, in 2020?"

It all started with the visionary bishops, who set a task to analyze the current state of the Church and envisage its image in 2020. In the follow-up the team was formed, the strategy became no longer a theory and the parish as the primary cell of the parish church was chosen as a focus.



"Wherever our parish may be located - in North or South America, Australia, Europe, Ukraine or the Far East, whatever it is like - large or small - it must be

a vibrant parish," said the patriarch. Thus the title of the current Patriarchal Council originated.

He added that the current state of the war brought about changes, but did not change its focus. According to Head of Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, today the Church needs more than ever to respond flexibly to the challenges of our time. Back in 2011, no one could imagine that the place of encounter with God may also be the Maidan in Kyiv or the frontline in Donbas. "The Kyivan Maidan excited all our faithful throughout the world. Our communities have become the volunteer centers now. I want us to examine our conscience in the context of this Council: to what extent our Church is living to move forward," the Head of Church appeals.

Patriarch Sviatoslav outlined this Council's objectives and expectations from it:

1. All the Council participants should tell only the truth about the real life of the Church.

2. All participants must hear each other. There should be an active exchange of successes and failures. The Council's resolutions should not remain only on paper, but should be implemented. All the debate of the Council and then the follow-up decision adopted by the Synod of Bishops (which will take place after the conciliar sessions) led to qualitative changes in dioceses and parishes of the UGCC.

Head of the UGCC congratulated individually Archbishop Ihor (Isichenko), Head of the Kharkiv-Poltava Eparchy of UAOC (Renewed), who attended the Patriarchal Council of the UGCC. According to Patriarch Sviatoslav, for the first time in the history of the UGCC the delegates from the Orthodox Church attend the Council. (Risu.org)