



ANNUAL CHURCH BAZAAR 2013 THANK YOU



№ 47 ✠ NOVEMBER 24 ✠ 2013 ✠

SAINT NICHOLAS UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

УКРАЇНСЬКА КАТОЛИЦЬКА ЦЕРКВА СВЯТОГО МИКОЛАЯ



№ 47

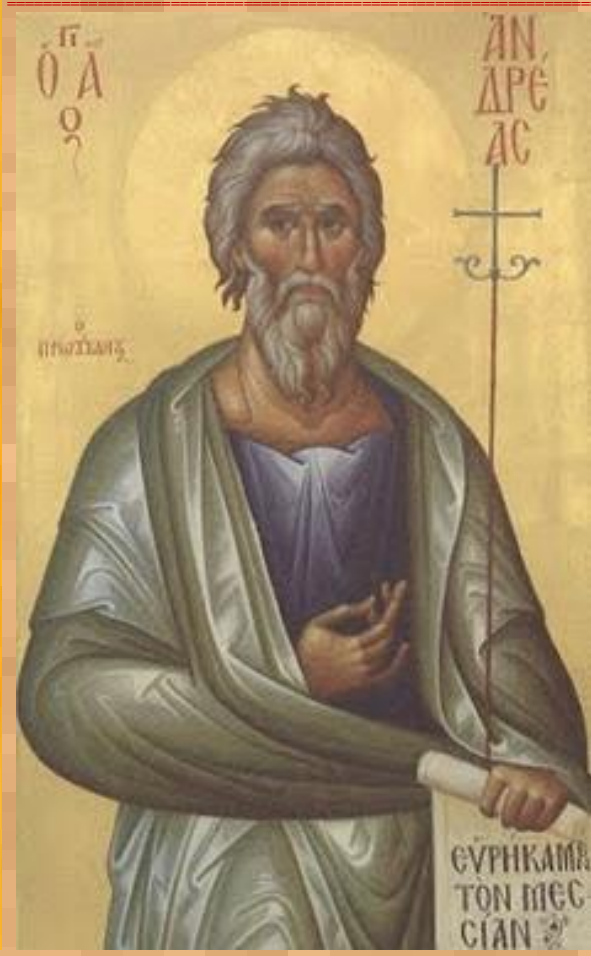
ПІД ОПІКОЮ ПРЕЧИСТОЇ ДІВИ МАРІЇ ОДІГТРИЇ

UNDER THE PROTECTION OF MOTHER OF GOD



CHURCH BULLETIN

November 24 – 2013 – 24 Листопада ЦЕРКОВНИЙ ВІСНИК



Св. Йосафат – St. Josaphat  
← Св. Андрій Первозваний – St. Andrew

## CHURCH BULLETIN

Nov. 24 – 2013 – 24 Лист.

ЦЕРКОВНИЙ ВІСНИК

### LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

4:30 PM +Dmytro Baranyukj  
(Kay Eckhardt)

**Nov. 24 27<sup>th</sup> S. aft. P. – 27 Н. по ЗСД**

12:00 PM За Парохіян - For Parishioners

Monday Nov. 25 – Пон., 25 Листопада  
See Julian

Tuesday Nov. 26 – Вів., 26 Листопада

10:00 AM За зд. Лілі Козіцької  
(родина Правак)

Wed. Nov. 27 – Сер., 27 Листопада

8:15 AM for Anthony Shilen  
(MaryAnn DuBois)

**Thanksgiving – День Подяки**

Thursday Nov. 28 – Чет., 28 Листопада

10:00 AM In Thanks Giving – У Подяку

Friday Nov. 29 – П'ят., 29 Листопада

10:00 AM +Маруся Процик

Sat. Nov. 30 – Субота, 30 Листопада

10:00 AM Health of Josep Andrew  
(MaryAnn DuBois)

4:30 PM +Steve & Julia Hrywniak, John  
Tkach, Wasyl Lechnowsky  
(Catherine Lechnowsky)

**Dec. 1 28<sup>th</sup> S. aft. P. – 28 Н. по ЗСД**

12:00 PM За Парохіян - For Parishioners

Ві.не світло в честь Пр. Діви  
Марії горить за +Марусю Процик

Eternal Light burns for  
+Marusia Procyk



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

### ПОР'ЯДОК СВ. ЛІТУРГІЙ

**24 Листопада – 22 Н. по З.С.Д.**

10:00 р. +Юрій Щербак (В. І. Бурда)

**25 Листопада – Св. Йосафата**

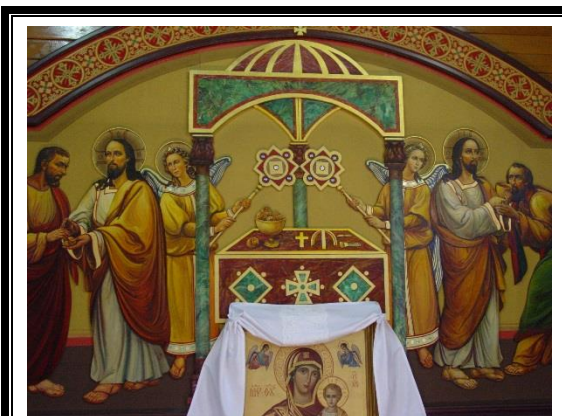
10:00 р. +Іван Федак (Син Володя)

**30 Листопада – Св. Андрія**

10:00 р. Зд. Йосиф Процик (Мари Анн)

**1 Грудня – 23 Н. по З.С.Д.**

10:00 р. +Осип, Ева і Павло Чіп (Ірина)



#### BIBLE MEETING

For next few weeks we will have  
our meetings on Monday night (and  
not on Thursday night) at 6:30 PM.

Next Meeting: Nov. 25, 6:30 PM

**Please attend!**

**Біблійні зустрічі відбуваються  
тепер у понеділки.**

**Наступна 25 Листопада о 6 в.  
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562 Genesee St. Buffalo, NY 14204  
ph: (716)847-6655 fax: (716)847-6988  
Mon., Tues., Thurs., 10:00 am - 5:00 pm Wed.,  
10:00 am - 2:00 pm; Fri., 10:00 am - 7:00 pm

Голодомор 1932–1933 рр. –  
геноцид українського народу

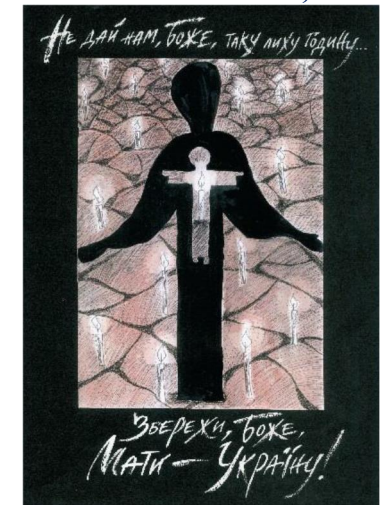
В опублікованому 2008 р. другому випуску бібліографічного покажчика «Голодомор в Україні 1932–1933 рр.» зафіксовано понад 6 тис. позицій. Йде поступовий процес усвідомлення глибини і масштабу трагедії, яка стає одним з наріжних каменів історичної пам'яті українського народу



**ВСЕГРОМАДСЬКЕ**  
**ВІДЗНАЧЕННЯ**  
**80-ОЇ РІЧНИЦІ ГОЛОДОМОРУ**  
**УКРАЇНСЬКОГО НАРОДУ**

НЕДІЛЯ 24-ГО ЛИСТОПАДА 2013  
РОКУ

В ЗАЛІ УЩ СВЯТОЇ ТРОЙЦІ В 1:00  
ГОДИНИ ДНЯ  
200 COMO PARK BLVD.  
CHEEKTOWAGA, N.Y.



**ПАНАХИДА – ДОПОВІДЬ**  
**МИСТЕЦЬКА ПРОГРАМА**

ЗБЕРІМОСЯ І ВШАНУЙМО МОЛИТВОЮ  
МІЛЬЙОНИ НЕВИННИХ УКРАЇНСЬКИХ  
ЖЕРТВ ЗАМУЧЕНИХ НАСМЕРТЬ  
ГОЛОДОМ, СПРИЧИНЕНИМ КОМУНО-  
БІЛЬШОВИЦЬКИМ  
РЕЖИМОМ І ПРОТИ ЗАГРОЗИ  
РОСІЙСЬКОГО ШОВІНІЗМУ  
ЗА ЗБЕРЕЖЕННЯ НАШОЇ  
УКРАЇНСЬКОЇ ДУХОВНОСТІ

**ВІДЗНАЧЕННЯ ПРОВОДИТЬСЯ**  
**ПІД ПАТРОНАТОМ УККА**

## До Світла Воскресіння крізь терни катакомб

У нас виставлено 20 великих панелів з Історії нашої Церкви у Піділлі, виготовлені у Львові «Інститутом Історії Церкви». Їх вже можна оглянути під церквою.

Продаж з книжок (\$10.00) піде на потреби Інституту.

Рівно ж Інститут буде вдячний за ваші пожертви. Інститут Історії Церкви заснований теперішнім Владикою, і колишнім Ректором Українського Католицького Університету у Львові, Кир Борисом Гудяком

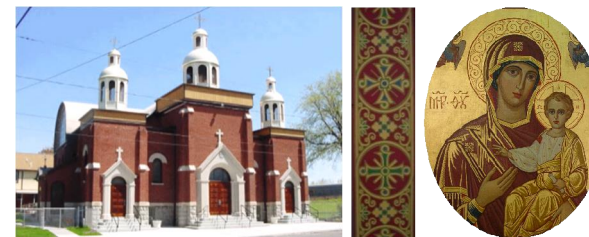
To the Light of the Resurrection  
Through the thorns of catacombs

We received 20 pannels about the History of our underground Church, made by the Institut of Church History from Lviv. This Institut is created by now Bishop of France Borys Gudziak

Exhibit is open downstairs.

Books (\$10.00) are in Ukrainian only. I have English translation, and will share with you soon.

Institute continues to collect materials about persecution of our church, having already many video and audio materials as well as photos and documents. Donation for the Institute are indeed needed.



Sunday Coffee Hours: If anyone would like to volunteer to host a Sunday, please contact Elaine, 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!
- There is an exhibit downstairs "To the Light of Resurrection through the thorns of catacombs"

### 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**  
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**СВЯТОГО МИКОЛАЯ**  
**(ПІД ОПІКОЮ ПРЕЧИСТОЇ**  
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**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!**

The Ukrainian American Youth Association of  
Buffalo, New York Lesia Ukrainka Branch  
is pleased to announce their annual

Ukrainian New Year's Dance  
МАЛАНКА 2014

Saturday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2014

Ukrainian Cultural Center "DNIPRO"  
562 Genesee St, Buffalo, NY 14204

Come one come all to a night of great  
music, dancing, food & friends!!

MUSIC provided by "СКОПА"

Cocktail Hour, Dinner, Zabava, Midnight

Buffet, & Champagne toast

Or come just for the Zabava

Tickets sales from November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013

thru January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2014

Dinner & Zabava \$50 per person adults

Dinner & Zabava for students

(ages 13-18) \$30

\*\*\*Dinner tickets will be pre-sale only

NO dinner tickets will be available at the door!\*\*\*

Zabava only \$30 per person (no pre-sale necessary)

Cocktails: 6:30pm

Dinner 7:15pm

Zabava: 9:00pm

There will be a Midnight Buffet & Midnight Toast

For More Information, Questions, Tickets &  
Reservations

Nicole Grega (716) 903-4777 or

ukjenikkie29@gmail.com

Ann Serediuk (716) 316-1051

The Ukrainian Cultural Center "Dnipro" interior is a  
Smoke-Free Environment

The New York State Liquor Control Authority Strictly  
Prohibits

The Bringing in of Any Outside Alcoholic Beverages



ОСЕРЕДОК СУМ ім. ЛЕСІ  
УКРАЇНКИ в Бофало Н.Й.  
Влаштовує

ТРАДИЦІЙНУ МАЛАНКУ 2014

яка відбудеться  
в суботу 18-го січня 2014 р.

В залах  
Українського Дому "Дніпро"  
при 562 Дженесі вул.  
Бофало Н.Й.

Щиро запрошуємо Українську громаду  
міста Бофало і околиць до участі.

До танців приграватиме оркестра:  
"СКОПА"

Білетти на Вечерю і Забаву на продаж  
від 1 -го листопада 2013 р. до 11 -го січня  
2014 р.

\$50.00 для дорослих \$30.00 для  
студентів (13-18)

Білетти не продасмо при дверях.

Білетти тільки на Забаву \$30.00 при дверях

Коктейль 6:30 в.

Вечеря 7:15 в.

Забаву 9:00 в.

Зустріч нового року – шампанський тост

До замовлення білетів:

Никол Грегга (716) 903-4777 -

ukjenikkie29@gmail.com

Ганя Середюк (716) 316-1051

КУРИТИ ЗАБОРОНЕНО В ЗАЛІ "ДНІПРА"  
КОМІСІЯ КОНТРОЛЯ АЛЬКОГОЛІВ В Н.Й.  
ЗАБОРОНЯЄ ПРИНОСИТИ  
ВЛАСНІ АЛЬКОГОЛЬНІ НАПИТКИ

From the desk of Fr. Ray Palko

November 24, 2013 A.D.

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,

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

As we go through these days of our lives, celebrating our birthdays, anniversaries, holy days and other important times, we know there are also other "special" days, weeks and even years dedicated to some event or cause. Right now we're looking forward to Thanksgiving Day this coming Thursday, but did you know November also has, in addition to many others, *Deviled Egg Day, National Flossing Day, Gunpowder Day, Chemistry Week, Dear Santa Letter Week, National Railroad Month and Peanut Butter Lovers Month?* There are so many of these causes and reminders, much of it not at all serious, that we hardly pay attention to those "dedicated" days, weeks, months or years.

Even in the Church, we have those calls to make us aware in a special way of an event or goal, which someone thinks would be good for us to keep in focus. Pope Benedict XVI last year announced a Year of Faith which began on October 11, 2012 and ends today, November 24, 2013. As part of this especially dedicated year, the Pope called on all Catholics 'to renew their faith in the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, in the teachings of Christ and in the doctrines of the Church.' From time to time over the course of the year, we've heard various talks and sermons, read letters, pamphlets and books about faith, but if you are like me, on most days of the year you didn't get out of bed and say, "Oh this is the Year of Faith, how am I going to keep it today?" True, not in so many words, but I think we did keep the Year of Faith every single day. How so, you might ask? Glad you asked! Please allow me tell you a little, true story....

The street where we live, Iris Avenue, is a 'dead-end' along with four or five other parallel streets in the neighborhood. The area at the end of these streets is owned by the school district and is a lovely, grassy and wooded area, hardly dead! For as long

as we've lived here "the woods" have been a pleasant, joyful destination to go for a walk alone, or with others, and to enjoy a little bit of nature. As a matter of fact, I still walk down there in all kinds of weather several times a week. Going down to the end of the street is my "pretend" trip to Pennsylvania because the smell of the woods always reminds me of "being home." One of our kids discovered that on her own when she said, "It smells just like Baba's field here."

Iris Avenue ends at a small overgrown field and just as one enters that plot, a beautiful, old apple tree grows there. It's about that tree that I want to write today. One spring day in mid-May we went for a walk with the girls and went over to the area where the old apple tree stands. It was a gorgeous sunny day, giant marshmallow clouds in the sky and a gentle breeze kissing our faces. And there was the old apple tree, completely covered in beautiful blossoms. Now I had been down there many, many times before and never noticed the tree. However, this time it caught my eye in all its beauty, for not only was it covered by the flowers, but it was a picture perfect shape of what I always considered a big old apple tree should look like. We stood there and watched the honey bees busily working on all parts of this exquisite gift to our world. We spent extra time there that day, and every time after that we were sure to check out the tree.

Spring then turned into summer and again we went to visit the old tree. Now the tree was covered with leaves, the flowers, pollinated by the bees, were gone and the fruit was now formed and growing. The beautiful picture of the springtime tree now changed to a summer playground. Since school was out the old tree had become a daily destination for some of the neighborhood kids who built a swing from one of the sturdy branches, as well as a small hut at the tree's base, where they enjoyed treats from Mom's kitchen and no doubt spent hours discussing all the wonders and questions of their world.

And then it was fall. The swing blows in the wind and the little hut is empty, but the tree is not alone. The honey bees have been replaced by the yellow

jackets who voraciously fight for every taste of the delicious nectar from the fruit. Beneath those sturdy, umbrella shaped branches we see an old 'baba', *babushka* on her head, apron around her waist, a metal bucket in hand collecting the now-ripe apples. As we greeted her and began to converse, she said she was surprised that we knew about this tree as she had never seen anyone here before. She told us it was a very old tree and "you just can't find this kind of apple anymore." She excitedly told us how "these were the VERY best apples! Oh, they're not perfect like the supermarket has. I just cut out the bad spots and these beautiful red apples make the best applesauce and pies you ever ate!" She was right about that!

The crisp, clear fall days and nights now were replaced by the first early snow of the not yet arrived winter. Once again we took our walk down to the end of the street and over to our friend, "The Tree." Her leaves are gone now, but here and there on her magnificent branches a few apples still cling. Beneath those limbs, on the ground we find a few apples, amid the many, many deer footprints. Seems as if the small herd of whitetails had an apple feast that night. I'm sure they enjoyed them!

And then it was winter and the old tree did look so old and dead. Gone were blossoms and honey bees of spring...the children and laughter of summer...the nourishment and promise of the fall....yes, now the beautiful tree is snow-covered, lonely and looks as if she has died. But she wasn't dead, only sleeping! For the next spring she came alive with the blossoms once again, and then summer came, and fall, and winter and spring and....Year by year she stood and blossomed, and thrived and fed and slept and LIVED!

We call this our "Faith Tree" because it reminds us of who we are and of our faith. Our daily lives are so much like this old tree. Hardly anyone knew that she even existed. Yet that beautiful tree, day to day, season to season, year to year stood there in the gentle breezes and powerful storms, in good days and bad days,

joyful times and sorrowful times, and she was the best tree she could have possibly been, for she was faithful. She just lived her life and did what she was born to do. Her gift of beauty and fruit and cleansing of the world was truly her destiny. Except for a small handful of people, no one knew of the existence of that tree. But she was the best and most faithful tree, and in fulfilling her call, became connected to all the world. The little known tree is indeed an important and vital part of the world.

Unless we are super-famous, not too many people outside of our small circle of friends, neighbors and acquaintances even know us. God knows where we are! But we have been put in a certain place and time by our Almighty Creator to fulfill His plan for us. And we are faithful! No, we don't have to read books and books; no we don't have to get out of bed in the morning and say, "This is the Year of Faith." What we must do, though, is be the best we can be in our lives; whenever needed, we reach out to others and share our blossoms, our fruit, our shade, our promise of eternal life. We are indeed like that beautiful, perfect tree when we fulfill God's will and plan for us. Let us live each day, walking in our Faith, seeking eternal life. "And this is eternal life that they know Thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ Whom thou hast sent.." (John 17: 3) We stand in this life of doubt, uncertainty and confusion. We stand in the gentle breezes and powerful storms of our life, and we are called to trust in Him; to be the best we are called to be...day by day. We are faithful and important as we wait in joyful hope of the resurrection. "One season following another, laden with happiness and tears...." (Fiddler on the Roof) "We give thanks to God always for you, brethren, as it is fitting, because your faith is growing abundantly and your love for one another is increasing." (Thess. 1)

Happy Thanksgiving! God Bless You, Faithful One! Our Holy Lady Theotokos, protect you!

In His Love,

*J. Ray*

WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION FOR THE  
DEFENSE OF FOUR FREEDOMS FOR  
UKRAINE, INC.

presents a

## CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Sunday, December 8th, 2013  
after the end of Divine Liturgy

St. Nicholas Church, 308 Fillmore Ave.

Pastries - Delicious Lunches –  
Christmas Cards - Gerdans

Everyone is most cordially invited!!



ОБ'ЄДНАННЯ ЖІНОК ОЧСУ  
Відділ Боффало, Н.Й.

## РІЗДВЯНИЙ БАЗАР

Неділя, 8-го грудня, 2018р.  
після Богослуження

в церкві, св. Миколая, 308 Філмор вул.

Печиво ~ Смачні Обіди ~  
Святочні Картки ~ Гердани

Все Українське Громадянство Боффало  
і Околиці

Широ Запрошує Управа ОЖ-ОЧСУ!!

Українська Православна Церква  
Святої Тройці  
При Коמו Парк В Чіктовага

Влаштовує

## РІЗДВЯНИЙ БАЗАР

У неділю, 8 Грудня  
Від 12 до 5 год.

Просимо взяти участь



Holy Trinity

Ukrainian Orthodox Church

200 Como Park Blvd.

Cheektowaga, NY 14227

Phone 684-0738

## CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Sunday

December 8, 2013

12:00 Noon -5:00 PM

Ethnic Foods – Raffles -  
Baskets

Drawing at 4:30 p.m.

Free Parking

No admission fee

### З радія "Милосердний Самарянин"

--- Кожен з нас – Лазар для інших людей, бо всі ми маємо свої обмеження, але це проблема тих «інших». Проте кожен з нас може бути «багачем» у ставленні до інших, і ця проблема вже стосується мене, вона зачіпає кожного з нас. Якщо під дверима мого серця буде один чи декілька Лазарів, постає питання: чи бачу я цього Лазаря, в інших? Існує багато способів бачити. Ісус, а також пророки, які жили до нього, казали, що можна мати очі і не бачити, мати вуха і не чути. Чи помічаю я Лазаря? Помічати – це вже набагато більше, ніж просто бачити. Коли ми хочемо відповісти на наполегливий заклик Ісуса, найбільшою проблемою стає наш погляд, погляд серця. Саме цього вчить нас Дух істини: Він завжди починає з очищення погляду.

Розглянемо кілька шляхів, через які Дух може навчити нас дивитися світлим поглядом, поглядом самого Ісуса. Бувають ситуації, коли ми бачимо, бо просто неможливо не бачити те, що в інших не гаразд. Але з поваги до їхнього приватного життя чи до їхньої свідомости мусимо відмовитися судити їх. Образно кажучи, «заплющувати очі», але не з байдужости до людей, а, власне, заради їхнього добра. Саме про такі ситуації святий Франциск Сальський казав: «Вмійте бачити, не дивлячись!». Можна бачити іншим способом, і Святий Дух навчить нас цього, – бачити поглядом, який приймає, поглядом безмовним, але світлим. Ми не судимо, але Лазар розуміє, що ми його впізнали. В такому чуйному доброзичливому погляді, в звичайній усмішці вже є гостинність серця. З цього випромінюється доброта нашого Отця.

Можемо також бачити інших, дозволяючи їм промовляти до нашого серця, ставити нам запитання. Таку ситуацію добре відображає французький вислів «Мене це стосується», що дослівно означає: «На мене це дивиться».

Ми можемо прислухатися до людини, навіть, якщо не знаємо, як зможемо відповісти їй. Проте надто часто ми проходимо осторонь, не замислюючись, не даючи людині можливости промовити до нас.

Можемо також, бачачи інших, дивитися на них, хоч і не знати, чим могли б допомогти їм. Іноді ми вражені побаченим, але з досвіду добре знаємо, що неможливо нічого вдіяти. Бувають ситуації, які ми не можемо змінити, які не можуть змінитися, бо вони надто складні й заплутані. Аби щось змінилось, мусимо чекати остаточного розв'язання проблеми. Це не означає, що слід відвернутися. Ні! Навіть якщо наш здоровий глузд підказує, і Святий Дух також, що ми не можемо нічого зробити, однак завжди можемо молитися, молитися за ту особу чи осіб, просити Отця, щоб зіслав на них Святого Духа. Бог завжди вислуховує таку молитву. В ній ми не просимо того чи іншого, покладаючись на власне розуміння, а, відмовляючись розуміти, покладаємося на єдиного Спасителя. Просячи Святого Духа, ми просимо всього. Саме про це надто часто забуваємо, адже зі своєю самовпевненістю та зі знанням ситуації гадаємо, що здатні розв'язати проблему. Проте дуже мало проблем розв'язуються на землі!

Якщо піти далі, згадаймо перше одкровення Боже, коли Він з'явився в палаючому куці – одкровення Його любови у словах, звернених до Мойсея: «Бачу я, бачу бідування народу мого ... Тому я й зійшов рятувати його» (Вих. 3, 7–8). Справжній погляд серця – це погляд любови. Цього Святий Дух і хоче навчити нас. Він хоче навчити нас Божого милосердя. Саме воно допоможе нам вийти за межі власного «я», але не для того, щоб нав'язувати людям думку про те добро, яке Бог хоче зробити для них, бо це лише інший спосіб домінувати, а вийти сформованими, переміненими, перетвореними Божим милосердям. Якщо в мені перебуває Святий Дух, то це Він має бачити в мені, любити в мені, а не тільки я... (о. Жан Корбон)

### From "Good Samaritan" Ukr. Radio pr.

All of us at one point or another wish to be free from something; whether it is physical limitations, mental impairments, or spiritual dryness. We all pray and try everything possible to be healed. We pray for the strength to live each day to the fullest with the peace, comfort and strength of Jesus leading our way. The woman in today's Gospel had never met Jesus, she asked for nothing and was promised nothing, but for over 18 years she suffered with physical limitations that left her unable to stand up straight. And still she came to the synagogue to pray and to worship in every sense of the word. This woman was in the synagogue on the Sabbath day. She was bent over and could not stand up. Yet she continued on in glorifying God in spite of her great physical adversity. She came to Church even though she had no expectation of deliverance; she came because she was faithful to God. Jesus was in the synagogue, too. He was the teacher that day. And what happens in today's Gospel is quite amazing. Jesus does not ask her about her disease, He does not need to, and she does not ask Jesus to heal her. St. Luke tells us that, "When Jesus saw her, he called her and said to her, 'Woman, you are freed from your infirmity.' And he laid His hands on her, and immediately she was made straight, and praised God." ...

This Gospel account always reminds me of the prolific character, Tiny Tim, from Charles Dickens's, A Christmas Carol. My thoughts replay the scene where Tiny Tim and his father return to their home and the humble meal Mrs. Cratchit is still preparing for them, after they have just attended Church service on Christmas. Mrs. Cratchit asks her husband how Tiny Tim was during the service, and Bob Cratchit says he was "As good as gold... even better". It always pulls on the strings of my heart when Bob Cratchit then goes on to reveal what Tiny Tim told him on their way home from Church: "Somehow he gets thoughtful, sitting by himself so much, and thinks the strangest things you ever heard. He told me coming home today, that he hopes

the people saw him in Church, because he is a cripple, and it might be pleasant for them to remember, upon Christmas Day, who made lamb beggars walk and blind men see." I cannot help but ponder with amazement on how much this little child is able to think so little of his infirmity and yet so much about his thankfulness to God. It speaks to all of us, because it makes us realize just how much we are all in need of healing. The woman in today's Gospel also suffered a good deal throughout her life, and while Jesus healed her physical infirmity, the ones who really needed to be healed were the Pharisees, because when they looked at this woman they just saw a cripple in need of healing, and not a young woman whose faith could show them the way to genuine thankfulness before a merciful God.

Soon we will come together with family and friends and celebrate the things for which we are thankful for, and as Thanksgiving Day draws near, I would like to share this story with you. A first grade teacher gave her class a fun assignment -- to draw a picture of something for which they were thankful. Most of the class might be considered economically disadvantaged, but still many would celebrate the holiday with turkey and other traditional goodies of the season. These, the teacher thought, would be the subjects of most of her student's art. And they were. But Douglas made a different kind of picture. Douglas was a different kind of boy; he appeared frail and unhappy so much of the time. As other children played at recess, Douglas was likely to stand close by his teacher. One could only guess at the pain Douglas felt behind those sad eyes. Yes, his picture was different. When asked to draw a picture of something for which he was thankful, he drew a hand - Nothing else, simply an empty hand. His abstract image captured the imagination of his peers. Whose hand could it be? One child guessed it was the hand of a farmer, because farmers raise turkeys. Another suggested a police officer, because the police protect the people. Still others guessed it was the hand of God, for which we are all thankful. And so the discussion went on -- until the teacher almost

forgot the young artist himself. When the children had gone on to other assignments, she paused at Douglas' desk, bent down, and softly asked him whose hand it was. The little boy looked away and murmured, "It's your hand, teacher." Suddenly, she recalled the times she had taken his hand and walked with him here or there, as she had the other students. How often had she said, "Take my hand, Douglas, we'll go outside." Or, "Let me show you how to hold your pencil." Or, "Give me your hand, Douglas, and let's do this together." Douglas was most thankful for his teacher's hand and the comfort it brought him. Brushing aside a tear, the teacher went on with her work. The story speaks of more than thankfulness. It says something about teachers teaching, parents parenting, friends showing friendship, and how much it means to all the "Douglases" of the world. They might not always say thanks, but they will always remember the hand that reaches out to them.

There are people all over this world in need of healing. Jesus included everyone in His ministry. The woman in today's Gospel is a reminder to us that the Sabbath was made for man and not man for the Sabbath. The kind of love Jesus demonstrates makes a difference because it has the power to heal and change the hearts of people. The Sabbath God wants us to share is when our Lord meets each of us gathered among our families and within our homes. To meet us on the streets with joy, and in the love and friendships we share. He meets us in the people we touch and the services we provide for one another. That is what the joy of God is all about – on the Sabbath and every day of the year. Jesus healed a crippled woman on the Sabbath because it was an assertion of the Kingdom of God on the Sabbath. After her miraculous cure the Bible records for us that she "glorified God". This was her immediate response to her cure. The woman received what the Pharisee could not - grace, poured out,

overflowing, and unending from the hand of God Himself.

This coming Thursday, when we come together to celebrate Thanksgiving, what a perfect time to remind ourselves of all that we have to be thankful for - all that God in his goodness has given to us - thankful for the gift of life and health, the blessing of family and friends. This particular time of the year makes us more conscious of our blessings. This time of year is therapy we all need to remain cognizant of the beauty of living. For some of us, however, it may also be a melancholy time as we celebrate Thanksgiving without a loved one. I share with you that this Thanksgiving will be the first year without my dad, and while I am thankful to the Lord for my abundant blessings, I know that I also miss my dad immensely, the man who first taught me by his example how to truly be thankful. Every year on Thanksgiving, my dad was adamant about reading the following prayer just before we sat down to dinner: Oh, God, when I have food, help me to remember the hungry; when I have work, help me to remember the jobless; when I have a warm home, help me to remember the homeless; when I am without pain, help me to remember those who suffer; and remembering, help me to destroy my complacency and bestir my compassion. Make me concerned enough to help, by work and deed, those who cry out for what we take for granted. My dad wanted us to know that everything we have is a blessing, and that we should never take anyone or anything for granted. Sometimes, the greatest blessings come from the people that helped us become who we are today. So hug the people you love, cherish your family and friends, and be kind to all those you meet. Life is so very precious and every day is a gift from the Lord – that is why we call it the present. My brothers and sisters, may the good Lord bless you and all those you love this Thanksgiving – we truly have so much to be thankful for.

**HAPPY THANKSGIVING!**  
**ЩАСЛИВОГО ДНЯ ПОДЯКИ**

| <u>Bazaar 2013</u>   | <u>Income</u>             | <u>Expenses</u>          | <u>Profit</u>             |
|----------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Kitchen              | \$7,279.15                | \$683.44                 | \$6,595.71                |
| Bar                  | \$801.95                  | \$263.83                 | \$538.12                  |
| Christmas Novelty    | \$644.00                  | \$257.42                 | \$386.58                  |
| Theme Baskets        | \$9,278.21                | \$216.72                 | \$9,061.49                |
| Surprise Booth       | \$454.00                  |                          | \$454.00                  |
| Baked Goods          | \$1,294.70                | <b>THANK</b>             | \$1,294.70                |
| Attic Treasures      | \$694.65                  | <b>YOU!!!</b>            | \$694.65                  |
| Wine Raffle          | \$342.00                  | <b>ДУЖЕ</b>              | \$342.00                  |
| Kitchen jar          | \$274.00                  | <b>ДЯКУЄМО!</b>          | \$274.00                  |
| Ukrainian Booth      | \$328.00                  |                          | \$328.00                  |
| License              |                           | \$72.00                  | -\$72.00                  |
| Miscellaneous        |                           | \$208.54                 | -\$208.54                 |
| Hall & Sign          | \$1,200.00                | \$1,200.00               | \$0.00                    |
| Donations            | \$735.00                  |                          | \$735.00                  |
| Church Raffle        | \$2,197.00                | \$750.00                 | \$1,447.00                |
| <b><u>TOTAL:</u></b> | <b><u>\$25,522.66</u></b> | <b><u>\$3,651.95</u></b> | <b><u>\$21,870.71</u></b> |

**Thanks are extended to all of you who worked at this year's Bazaar as well as all of you who helped in any way! Congratulations to the winner! Thanks for your Support!**

**May the Lord Bless you abundantly!**

**Сердечна подяка за Вашу працю при цьогорічному Базарі. Гратулюємо тим, що виграли. Дякуємо за підтримку.**

**Хай Господь благословить стократно!**