

Сердечна подяка усім, що прийшли приготувати церкву на Різдв'яні Свята! (Працювали всі крім того що ззаду стоїть коло царських врат.)

Thanks are extended to all those, who came to the church on 6th of December to prepare for Christmas. May God bless you all!



6 грудня Україна відзначила День українського війська. Ми вдячні нашому воїнству, яке сьогодні ціною власної крові і життя захищає наше майбутнє. Ми сьогодні живемо через те, що хтось за наше життя віддав своє власне життя. ----- On December 6, Ukraine celebrated the Day of the Ukrainian Army. We are grateful to our soldiers, who today protect our future at the cost of their own blood and life. We live today because someone gave his own life for ours. (Patriarch Sviatoslav)



SAINT NICHOLAS
UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

УКРАЇНСЬКА КАТОЛИЦЬКА
ЦЕРКВА СВЯТОГО МИКОЛАЯ



№ 50 ПІД ОПІКОЮ
ПРЕЧИСТОЇ ДІВИ
МАРІЇ ОДІГІТРИЇ

50 UNDER THE
PROTECTION OF
MOTHER OF GOD



CHURCH BULLETIN

December 10 – 2023 – 10 грудня

ЦЕРКОВНИЙ ВІСНИК

✠ № 50 ✠ D E C E M B E R 10 ✠ 2023 ✠



Святий отче Миколаю, зупини ворога, що хоче погубити нас. Захисти нашу державу Україну і нашу Церкву від усіх ворогів видимих і невидимих. Вбережи від ворожих куль і несподіваної смерті наших людей, наших воїнів і захисників. Укріпи силою Господньою військо українське і благослови на перемогу над ворогом. Молимо тебе, святий отче Миколаю, повсякчасно охороняй у безпеці кожну родину українську, врятуй наших невинних дітей!

Святий Миколай, 18 ст.
Лев кас/темпера.
Національний музей
Гуцульщини та Покуття ім,
Й. Кобринського. Коломия

CHURCH BULLETIN

December 10 – 2023 – 10 грудня

ЦЕРКОВНИЙ ВІСНИК

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE



St. Nicholas Ukr. Cath. Church

Церква Святого Миколая

(Під Опікою П.Д.М.)

ПОРЯДОК СВ. ЛІТУРГІЙ

4:30 PM +Steven Taras Kowal **STREAMING**
(Petryshyn Family)

Dec. 10: 28 S. aft. Pent. – 28 Н. по 3. Св.Д.
10:00 AM+Olha Czmola (Nancy Weigand (ukr)

Monday, Dec. 11 грудня, пон.

9:00 AM +Helen Nowadly (M/M Guerra)

Tuesday, December 12 грудня, вівторок

9:00 AM +Catherine Wayda (A. M.)

Wednesday, December 13 грудня, середа

9:00 AM +Anna Artymowycz (15 years)

Thursday, December 14 грудня, четвер

9:00 AM +Myroslaw, Anna, Elias, Anna Dusaniwsky
(From Wisniewski & Kinsella Families)

Friday, December 15 грудня, п'ятниця

9:00 AM +Kathleen McBride (15 years)

Saturday, December 16 грудня, субота

9:00 AM За парохіян – For Parishioners

4:30 PM + George Popadyn **STREAMING**
(Wife Donna & Family)

Dec. 17: S. of Forefathers – Н. Праотців

10:00 AM +Patriarch Myroslav I. Lubachivsky (ukr)

You are cordially invited to join with us as we celebrate the Feast Day of St Nicholas at our Parish Praznyk, (St Nicholas Feast Day dinner) on Sunday, December 17, 2023, after the 10 o'clock Liturgy. Donations of baked goods would be greatly appreciated.

The donation for the dinner is \$20.

Усіх запрошуємо на Парохіяльний обід, що відбудеться у неділю, 17 грудня, по св. Літургії. Просимо по можливості принести печиво. Дякуємо!

Пожертва на обід - \$20.00

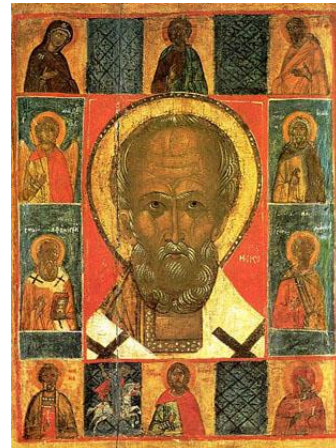
10 грудня: 27 н. По 3.Св. Д. **STREAMING**

10:00 р. +Оля Чмола (Ненсі Вейганд)

17 грудня: 28 н. По 3.Св. Д. **STREAMING**

10:00 р. +Патріярх Мирослав Іван Любачівський

The Feast of Saint Nicholas, December 6/19



Our holy Father Nicholas gives us a beautiful example of a living, active, and sacrificial love of God and neighbor. His love of neighbor is universal, all-embracing, full of mercy and ready to assist in every necessity of soul and body. St. Nicholas

saw Jesus Christ in his neighbor and that is why he quickly and generously hastened to help him in every need. The Holy Gospel says that at the Last Judgement the Lord will judge us by our works of love and mercy. Christ assures us of this when He says: "Amen I say to you, as long as you did it for one of these, the least of my brethren, you did it for Me." (Matthew 25,40)

Julian J. Katrij OSBM, A Byzantine Liturgical Year.

Eternal Light burns for Blessings upon Theodore Palko Requ. Family

Вічне світло в честь П. Д. Марії горить за мир в Україні



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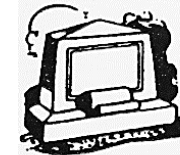
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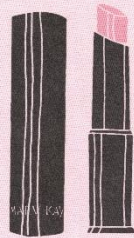
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Lounge is OPEN every Friday 5-9 pm.

Підтримайте Ваш Народний Дім



... Миколай Святий закрив лице руками...
Перечитав пів торби вже листів...
І геть ніяк, не міг прийти до тями ...
Від побажань, здавалось, малюків.
Вони просили зовсім не для себе,
І не про те, що мріялось торік...
"Закрий для нас, Святий Миколо, небо!" –
благання, аж, зривалися на крик.
Читав Святий про вибухи, руїни...
Пекли вогнем з надіями листи...
А як же вам, малята України,
Жаданий мир у торбі принести?
Як повернути дім, квартиру, хату?
Чи місто, що від попелу сніжить?
І як підняти з-під надгробка тата?
А скільки їх в землі сирій лежить...
Як відшукати сиротам матусю?
А де знайти утрачених батьків?
Я до дітей тепер іти боюся...
Боюся цих дорослих малюків.
Звернувся із молитвою до Бога
І про бажання щирі розказав.
Найголовніше зараз -- Перемога.
І кожному, як міг допомагав.



Святий Миколай
Фреска. XI ст.
Собор Святої Софії.
Одне з найдавніших зображен..

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«Рідна Школа» у Баффало запрошує на свято «Святий Миколай іде, перемогу Україні несе», яке відбудеться **16 грудня 2023 року в Українському Домі «Дніпро» о 10:30 годині ранку.**

Присутні зможуть переглянути виступ дітей, спільно заколядувати у Різдвяному вертепі та підтримати зимові традиції. Учні української школи отримають подарунки від Святого Миколая.

Після свята на всіх гостей чекає смачний сніданок, пожертви від якого підуть на підтримку «Рідної Школи». Для детальнішої інформації, скористайтесь контактними телефонами:

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Check with us later.
- **Thank you for your help and patronage!**
- **Thanks are extended to all volunteers!**
- **Coffee Hour - Usually Every Sunday after Liturgy in Church Hall.**

See you there!

HAVE A BLESSED DAY!!!

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Інформації подавати до четверга вечора.

SAINT NICHOLAS
UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
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Confession: Before Liturgies
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Вінчання: Голоситися 6 місяців скорше

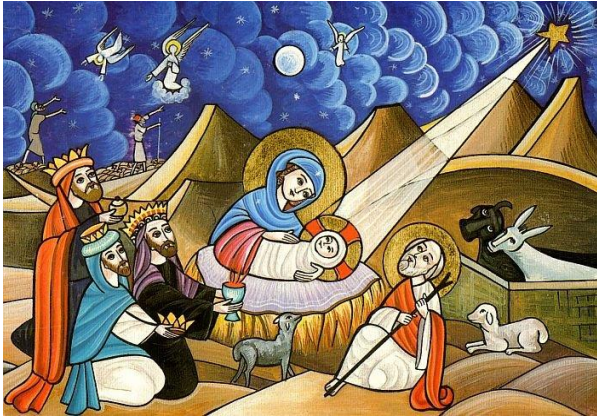
Religion classes – Релігійна Програма
See bulletin for scheduled dates.

Ministry to the sick – Опіка над хворима
Family members should call the Rectory
Родина повинна повідомити священика

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лічниці, або приковані до ліжка!**



*And the bright star cries out to the world:
The Messiah brings joy and happiness!
To Bethlehem hasten all of you now,
To welcome God in a poor cave!*

God makes Himself dependent on people. He becomes a child so that we, taking up the mission of Mary, His Mother, and Joseph the Betrothed, protect Him from all dangers, all the Herods of this world.

We feel the same responsibility today regarding the children of the war in Ukraine. This is the most vulnerable segment of our society, and the trauma of war in children is the most complex. There are millions of women and children among Ukrainian refugees and internally displaced persons. Among the various types of humanitarian crises are the education and upbringing of children under the constant threat of rockets and bombs, poorly implemented school programs, stolen years of childhood innocence, and freedom from worry. We will protect our children in every way available to us! At the same time, let us remember that their spiritual wounds are healed in love, both in their family and in the family of God's children—in the Church of Christ. Let our church communities be a safe space for children, free from all forms of violence and contempt for human life, because to accept a child in the name of God is to accept the newborn Christ.

Dreaming of a bright future for our children, we must understand that for our people true victory is not only the liberation of territories and secured borders. Winning the war means creating a safe spiritual space of hope for the Ukrainian family, unafraid to give birth to children in their native land. Let every Ukrainian child be for us a sign of hope from God and of our faith in a blessed future.

On this joyful day of Christ's Nativity, "let us commend ourselves, and one another, and our whole life to Christ our God." May all those imprisoned and held captive know that we have not forgotten them and continue to pray for them. May all the wounded and traumatized experience the joy of our Savior's birth and God's healing touch. May the relatives and friends of those who have gone missing without trace never doubt the Lord's closeness to them.

With Christ in our hearts, already today let us plan to rebuild all that has been destroyed—both physical and spiritual, so that our brothers and sisters, scattered around the world, do not lose hope of returning home, but, on the contrary, dream of their active participation in the revival of the country. But above all, let all the children of our nation know how much God loves them, and that with God's love even the greatest evil can be overcome.

From the bottom of my heart, I impart on you all my fatherly blessing, and wish each of you, from the youngest to the oldest, the authentic joy of the children of God, a tasty kutia, a merry celebration of Christ's Nativity, and a happy, peaceful, and blessed New Year!

Christ is born! Glorify Him!

† SVIATOSLAV

Given in Kyiv at the Patriarchal Cathedral of the Resurrection of Christ, on the day of the Holy Praiseworthy Apostle Andrew the First-called the 30th of November in the 2023rd Year of our Lord

REMEMBERING BABA PETRYSHYN (& DIDO, TOO)

The days of swiftly locating harmonic words with a flowing story-teller's cadence has become sadly weak and almost alien to me, almost as if it were a past life.

But there is a reason why it feels like I haven't written anything substantive in years. *Because I haven't.* Not since I eulogized my Dido Petryshyn.

I don't believe I have ever looked at a blank canvas for this long. And with the calendar now approaching 40-days since my Baba passed, here I am feeling armless. Hastily deleted were countless word-mazed paragraphs because absent was the essence of my deep love and admiration towards Baba. In the end, all that was left for was a metronomic cursor endlessly pulsating in front of my eyes. Utterly defeated.

Thus, I began to internally reject the necessity of writing any of this. *Why do I have to write this? Why do I need to communicate this publicly? Everyone knows how I felt about Baba—it's surely not a secret. Why is my mom pushing me so hard to write something that she knows is difficult for me to articulate? And why can't she allow me to just live in my own brain where it all makes sense and I don't need to rely on any given medium?*

Through motherly instinct, she understood words and cadence weren't my struggle here. She knew the battle for me would be saying goodbye—to Baba and Dido as one.

"Mishko, just share a few of the memories you have of Baba," she lovingly repeated. "Just write a few of them down. Simple and easy."

That advice became the only starting point I had. If nothing else, the retelling of a few select anecdotal vignettes would act as a guide—a framework needed in potentially telling a greater story. And while reminiscing, I came to realize that

it wasn't necessarily the stories that I hold most dear, but the constant and unwavering atmosphere Baba, in unison with Dido, built. It was the feeling of home in its truest sense. Home to me was them. Warmth, love and mutual affection. For me, it was the safest place on earth.

When Baba and Dido first came to America, the dining table had only three chairs. A few years later, three chairs became four. Then four became eight, eight became 12 and eventually 12 became 19. In many ways, this mirrored the cultural experience many Ukrainian families had in Buffalo. Our grandparents' homes allowed us to be removed from the outside world. But it wasn't escapism. They were places that weren't defined by the architecture of the building, but how the walls were painted with the smell of sautéed onions, kapusta and familial love.

In fact, it was a micro-cosm. I knew, as a child, I drew one of the lucky cards as did my partner-in-crime, Petrusik. On Friday nights, as the last minutes of Cymivski Shodyne wound down at Dnipro, my legs were feverishly awaiting to uncement themselves from a stringent strunko so that I could take the most direct and efficient path upstairs, past the bar to a set of opened French doors.

The plan was set weekly:

- 1) take the door closest to the stairs;
- 2) then run up those stairs as fast as one could;
- 3) be sure to eliminate all *en route* distractions.

There was no throwing quarters into Space Invaders or Blackout pinball; there was no racking up the pool tables; no time to even get a quick Sabres TV score check; and certainly messing with the old guys' weekly poker game inside the dimly lit and somewhat shady boiler room could wait another 30-minutes.



Yes, the path was a direct line to the kuhnya. And out of breath, Petrusik and I alongside Stef Moroz, Paul Prytula and others would rush to meet our Babas in that kitchen—fresh varenyky always awaiting. With plates in hand, we'd pick a table, sit down and then Dido would appear—probably already a few beers into the evening—holding a bottle or two of Visniak Cola with plastic cups on the spout. Although always somewhat flat, I've come to realize in my later years that Visniak was oddly the perfect food pairing for Varenyky doused in onions, especially for a six-year-old's palate.

After woofing down a plate in surely Olympic time, I'd always go back into the kitchen, kiss, thank and hug Baba as well as Pani Lukowskyj, Pani Plotycia, Pani Moroz, Pani Krupa, Pani Sawulak and Pani Prytula. As a child, it felt like an extended family. Dnipro was home. It was family and cultural. One could feel the importance because it helped define who we are and where we came from. And it was my generation's grandparents that made it that way. It was them because they never ceased building. Their resonance is with us daily, even if we are unaware.

With ardent excitement, I never stopped running up those stairs to see Baba and Dido. Sometimes it was at Dnipro, but mostly it was at their home. And what they built provided me with every opportunity I have today.

And as we passed Baba and Dido's home on Marilla one last time 40-days ago—a house that is now owned by a new family—I've realized that as much as I loved spending time there, whether stopping in between classes for lunch or waking up to the scent of bacon feathering my young nose on Christmas morning, I am beyond lucky to have had two of the most authentic and blessed people influence me in the way they did. I am better because of them.

My mom's instinct, in the end, was right. I've shed more tears than words written, however, I feel whole and satiated ... just like sitting down with Baba and Dido in their home.

(Thank you, Mishko. Nicely done.)

Hello/Pryvit,

Wishing everyone a happy and healthy holiday season. Please keep Ukraine in your prayers. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Here is our community calendar for December:

[Dec 14 UACC/Narodnij Dim](#)
Christmas Party Ukrainian American Civic Center 205 Military Rd, Buffalo. 6:30pm

[Dec 15 Dnipro Christmas Party](#)
Dnipro 7-10pm with DJ Konrad. All are welcome. Listen to Ukrainian Christmas carols and enjoy a visit from Saint Nicholas. Special holiday drinks and food. Kitchen open 6-9pm

[Dec 16 Ukrainian School/Ridna Shkola](#)
[St. Nicholas concert](#)

Dnipro 10:30 am. Ukrainian Saturday School Christmas program with a visit from St. Nicholas.

[Dec 31 Help for Ukraine](#)
[New Year's Eve Party](#)

200 Como Park Blvd, Cheektowaga 10pm
Dinner at 11pm, Music by DJ Konrad,
Complimentary Champagne toast, tickets \$75 or \$140 per couple, Kids 12 and under free. Ticket sales through venmo or Ukrainian Credit Union. No tickets at door. Final sale Dec 20. More information: [716-704-3747](tel:716-704-3747)

[January 20 Ukrainian New Year's Dance](#)
[\(Malanka\)](#)

Dnipro 8pm Ukrainian American Youth Association Buffalo branch yearly fundraiser. Music by Captain Tom and the Hooligans and DJ Konrad. Tickets \$30 or \$50 per couple, students \$20 (13 to 20).

Ticket sales through venmo or emailing
annserediuk@cym.org or
adriannaliddell@cym.org.

Adrianna Liddell
Operations Director
Dnipro Ukrainian Cultural Center

CHRISTMAS PASTORAL LETTER OF HIS BEATITUDE SVIATOSLAV

Most Reverend Archbishops and Metropolitan,
God-loving Bishops, Very Reverend Clergy,
Venerable Monastics,
Dearly Beloved Brothers and Sisters,
in Ukraine and throughout the world

*Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign.
Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and shall call his name Immanuel. (Is. 7:14)*

Christ is born! Glorify Him!

Beloved in Christ!

In this time of war, we, the Ukrainian people need a sign, a sign of hope—that God is with us, that God's life-giving power is stronger than the deadly power of the enemy fighting against us. In the Holy Scriptures, the birth of a child is a sign of hope from God! Today throughout the world the Church proclaims: "But as he [Joseph] considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, 'Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit... She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.' All this took place to fulfil what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: 'Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel' (which means, God with us)" (Mt. 1:20, 22–23).

Isaiah prophesied about Christ: "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace" (Is. 9:6). As often happens with God's promises, the fulfillment of the prophecy exceeds all human expectations because the Child that is born is not just an ordinary human child but the Son of God! He

is the living God present among us. What is now being sent to humankind is not only a sign and symbol of hope – the Lord Himself comes to ensure and fulfill this hope. He comes as a baby in whom is God's power and might, God's authentic peace for all humanity, and for Ukraine in particular. The eternal God becomes man, one of us, for all time. So indeed, God is with us!



*Angels rejoice in heaven,
and people exalt today, and
all creatures leap with joy
because of the birth of the
Lord Saviour in Bethlehem;
for all deceit of idolatry has
ceased, and Christ reigns forever.*

We must live with the hope of Christ, overcoming all challenges and trials. Even when it seems to us that the world around us is collapsing, when the enemy's deceitful propaganda suggests to us that we have no future, we still hope against hope—because God is with us! The Holy Apostle Paul reminds us: "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever" (Heb. 13:8). If we have Christ, we have a future that no one can take away from us.

The Almighty God comes into the world even now, this year, in His Nativity, in the body of a defenseless, weak child, to dispel fear before the strong and powerful of this world. God does not force anyone to anything but captivates us with his beauty and light, joy and peace. He appears to us today as a weak and vulnerable baby so that we accept Him, love Him, and tenderly embrace Him—embrace the One who envelops us with His love. How wondrous are God's plans! The Ruler of the world, the Prince of Peace is the Child of God! So, in the Nativity of Christ, we can already see today that our future is not to be feared—it is full of peace, joy, tenderness, grace, and love, as we sing in the carol: