



SAINT NICHOLAS  
UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

УКРАЇНСЬКА КАТОЛИЦЬКА  
ЦЕРКВА

САВОІАІ ІЕЄІЕАВ

№ 51  
DECEMBER  
2013



№ 51  
ПІД ОПІКОЮ  
ПРЕЧИСТОЇ ДІВИ  
МАРІЇ ОДІГТРИЇ  
UNDER THE  
PROTECTION OF  
MOTHER OF GOD



CHURCH BULLETIN

December 15 – 2013 – 15 Грудня  
ЦЕРКОВНИЙ ВІСНИК

**Extraordinary and Wonderful Mystery**

St. John Chrysostom in one of his Christmas sermons extols the mystery of the Nativity of Christ with these words: "I see an extraordinary and wonderful mystery: the shepherds fill my ears with sound, singing not a song of the desert but a heavenly hymn. The angels sing, the archangels' praise, the Cherubim implore, the Seraphim extol, and all celebrate, seeing God on earth and man in heaven, according to the love of God toward man. Today, Bethlehem became Heaven. Instead of stars it received the singing angels, and instead of the sun it contained the unspeakable Son of truth. Do not ask how this can be, for whenever God wills, the order of nature yields – that the virgin gave birth to him, that I know, and that God gave birth to him in time, that I believe, but the manner of giving birth I learned to reverence in silence. Is there anything that could equal this Feast of Nativity?"



**Merry Christmas!**  
**Christ Is Born! Glorify Him!**

Усім, що святкують за Григоріанським Стилем, Бажаємо  
Веселих Свят Різдва Христового!  
Христос Раждається! Славіте Його!



## CHURCH BULLETIN

Dec. 22 – 2013 – 22 Грудня

## ЦЕРКОВНИЙ ВІСНИК

### LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

4:30 PM Health of Dolores Baranyukj  
(ОЖ ОЧСУ)

**Dec. 22 S. of Fathers. – Н. Отців**

12:00 PM За Парохіян - For Parishioners

Monday Dec. 23 – Пон., 23 Грудня

8:15 AM о. Марко і Катря Гіль (Ігор Гіль)

Tuesday, Dec. 24 – Пон., 24 Грудня

9:30 AM Св. Василя – St. Basil

10:00 PM Great Compline – Вел. Пов.

11:00 PM Christmas Lit. – Різдвяна Л.

**CHRISTMAS – РІЗДВО Г.Н.І.Х.**

Wednesday, Dec. 25 – Середа, 25 Грудня

12:00 PM +Metr. Joseph Shmondiuk

**Супaxis of B.V.M. – Собор ПДМ**

Thu., December 26 – Чет., 26 Грудня

9:30 AM +John Colomon (Nadine Burkholder)

**St. Stephen First M. - Св. Степан**

Friday, Dec. 27 – П'ятниця, 27 Грудня

9:00 AM Для всіх, що працюють при церкві.

For all Church Volunteers. Thank you!

Sat. Dec. 28– Субота, 28 Грудня

9:00 AM +Rita Nowadly (Good Family)

4:30 PM +Irene Voychak

(Катерина Петрович)

**Dec. 29 S. after Christmas – Н. По Різдві**

12:00 PM +Oleksa Kurlak (Joe Cisek)

Вічне Світло в честь П.Д.М

Горить за +Марию Грекуляк

По жертва: Долорес Бараницька



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

### ПОР'ЯДОК СВ. ЛІТУРГІЙ

**22 Грудня – 26 Н. по З.С.Д.**

10:00 р. +Михайло Лоза (Др. Уляна)

**29 Грудня – Н. Праотців**

10:00 р. За Парохіян - For Parishioners

Eternal Light burns for  
+Dmytro Kolotylo  
Requ. by Wally & Olly Jagodzinski

BIBLE MEETING  
Will resume after Christmas.  
=====  
Біблійні зустрічі  
продовжемо по Різдві

**Merry Christmas!**  
**Веселих Різдв'яних Свят!**



**Христос Раждається! Славіте!**  
**Christ is Born! Let us glorify Him!**

Ukrainian Treasures & More



Judie Hawryluk

79 Southridge Dr  
West Seneca NY 14224

716-674-5185

Ukrainian Eggs, Jewelry & Embroidery

photos on facebook.com

jahawryluk@gmail.com

**SLAVIS BAZZAR**  
Euro Delicatessen Store

1550  
William Street  
Buffalo, NY 14206  
Tel.: 895-1404

Proud to Support  
St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church



**Buszka Funeral Home**  
Director Peter D. Stachowski

2005 Clinton Street at S. Ogden, Buffalo New York 14206  
(716) 825-7777 www.buszkafuneralhome.com

Сердечна подяка усім спонзорам!

Please Support our Sponsors

PHONE 893-1025



**Kuhn's Monuments, Inc.**

(ROLAND J. KUHN)

ASK FOR TOM

2398 GENESEE ST.  
BUFFALO, N.Y. 14225

MICT MEEST

**1550**  
William Street  
Buffalo, NY 14206  
Tel.: 895-1404

Wilhelmina E. Klimeczko  
Janine R. Klimeczko  
Michael A. Klimeczko  
Licensed Directors

**Pietszak**

FUNERAL HOME

Orlowski-Pietszak Funeral Home

www.Pietszak.com 897-2400

*Continuing a Tradition of  
thoughtful Personalized Service*

806 Clinton St. 2400 William St.  
Buffalo Cheektowaga

Thanks are extended to all Sponsors!



**DNIPRO**  **ДНІПРО**

Ukrainian Cultural Center  
562 Genesee St. Buffalo, NY 14204 856-4476  
[www.UkrainiansOfBuffalo.com](http://www.UkrainiansOfBuffalo.com)

Hall and bar rentals are available.  
See your old friends on Friday night.  
Help rebuild our Ukrainian Home.  
**Please Contribute to the \$100,000 Building Fund.**  
Donations are tax deductible.

**EURO DELI AND GIFTS**



4166 Union Road 2321 Millersport Hwy  
(Airport Plaza) (Getzville Plaza)  
Cheektowaga, NY 14225 Amherst, NY 14068  
Tel. 716-630-0131 Fax 716-630-0133 tel. 716-688-1495

**Melvin J. SLIWINSKI**  
**FUNERAL HOME**

85 George Urban Boulevard  
Cheektowaga, N. Y. 14225  
5090 Transit Rd, Depew, NY 14043

(716) 894-1772

The Colonial Memorial Chapels, Inc.  
of Ukrainian Heritage, Serving Western N.Y.

**Simon Pasnik & Matthew Pasnik**

3003 South Park Avenue  
Lackawanna, New York 14218  
(716) 824-3007

**UKRAINIAN**  **УКРАЇНСЬКА**  
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION ФЕДЕРАЛЬНА КРЕДИТНА СПІЛКА

[www.rufcu.org](http://www.rufcu.org) 877-968-7828

*Свій до Свого по Своє*

**PERSONAL & BUSINESS**

**FINANCIAL SERVICES**

- CHECKING ACCOUNTS:  NO minimum balance  NO monthly service fees  
 FREE Visa Debit Card  FREE unlimited deposits and withdrawals  FREE ATM CO-OP Network - access 28,000 surcharge-free ATMs  
 Direct Deposit available
- SAVINGS ACCOUNT:  
 NO monthly service fees  
 Higher rates on deposits  Money Market  
 6 month to 5 year terms on Certificates & IRA
- VISA®:  
 NO annual fee  Credit limits up to \$10,000  APR as low as 9.75%  
 FREE Travel & Auto Rental Insurance

**LOANS:**

- Personal Loans  New & Used Vehicles  
 Overdraft Lines of Credit  
 Recreational Vehicles  
 Business Vehicles & Equipment

**MORTGAGES:**

- Fixed & Adjustable Rates  5-30 year terms

- Fast approval  Business Mortgages

**CONVENIENCE SERVICES:**

- Online Applications for Mortgages & Loans  
 Online Banking & Bill Pay  
 CO-OP ATM Network®  Phone Banking  
 Wire Transfers  Direct Deposit

*Other services: UFCU Scholarships,  
Member magazine, wire transfers.*

*Membership requirements. Federally insured by NCUA.  
Equal Housing Lender.*

===

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

**DONATIONS TO ST. NICHOLAS**

**“Special Appeal”**

**IMO Angelina Pasieka**

Chrystyna Brown - \$20.00

**IMO Maria Grekulak**

Anna Holowaty - \$20.00

Wasylyna Ostaszuk - \$20.00

Leon & Roman Kuzminskyj - \$50.00

Michalow Family - \$20.00

Rose Serediuk - \$20.00

Maria Plotycia - \$25.00

Mr. & Mrs Peter Mychalenko - \$25.00

Fred & Nadia Marc - \$25.00

Dolores Baranyckyj - \$20.00



As part of the new Church Directory, which will be published early next year, we are adding “Memorial Pages” to the book. You can submit a picture, (pictures) of your loved ones for a cost of \$20.00 a picture. You can put the picture and check payable to St. Nicholas in an envelope and put it in the collection basket or drop it off at the rectory. If you have any questions, contact Elaine at the parish office Monday or Thursday from 9:00-1:00.

**2014 Envelopes**

**2014 Church Envelopes are ready for pick up** in the back of the church, on the right side as you enter the church.. Please remember: the cost per box is \$5.00. If you did not receive a box of envelopes and **would like to use the envelopes during the upcoming year**, please notify the Parish Office, (Father Marijan or Elaine) we have extra envelopes.

Also: if you are celebrating Christmas on the Gregorian (New) Calendar, the **CHRISTMAS ENVELOPE IS FOUND AT THE END OF THE BOX.** Please use 2013 envelope for CHRISTMAS 2013.

There were two Christmas envelopes in the box, one at the beginning and one at the end, just in case you celebrate both calendars. **If you are celebrating**

**Christmas on the Julian (Old) Calendar, please use the CHRISTMAS 2014 found at the beginning of your new 2014 box of envelopes.** We ordered the church envelopes from a new company. They are in two boxes instead one one, make sure you take the two boxes. **PLEASE DO NOT USE YOUR NEW BOX OF ENVELOPES UNTIL JANUARY 1, 2014.** We ask this because in most cases

the number you had in 2013 is not the same as the number you have in 2014, and this may cause your donation to be entered incorrectly into the computer since most parishioners do not put names on their envelopes.

**ПРОСИМО ВЗЯТИ КОБЕРТИ!!!**

## УВАГА! УВАГА!

Панство Олесь і Люба Черені загостять до нас у суботу і неділю, 28 і 29 Грудня. У них можна буде закупити книжки, вишивки, карточки і т. п.

Частина з продажу піде до нашої церкви.

Просимо зайти по св. Літургіях і оглянути та закупити це, що Вам буде подобатися!

\* \* \*

## Attention!!!

Oles & Lubov Cheren (dba Gerdan Ukrainian Merchandise), 31 Sherman Place, Clifton, NJ 07011-1407 Tel. 973-246-4827) are visiting our parish next Saturday and Sunday December 28/29 with a large selection of UKRAINIAN BOOKS, both in Ukrainian and in English, including religious, academic, history, literature, arts and crafts, dictionaries, and children's. MAPS, GREETING CARDS, C-Ds, D-V-Ds, JEWELRY, imported from Ukraine, EMBROIDERY, SCARFS, and much more also are available. These are displayed in the church hall. A percentagw of the proceeds will be donated to our parish. We encourage our members and guests to take advantage of this extraordinary opportunity.

## ВІТАЄМО УСІХ!!!

Вітаємо до нашої і Вашої Церкви Св. Отця Нашого Миколая. Двері завжди відкриті. Господній дім є нашим домом. Хай Господь благословить усіх!

Подружжя і самітні особи понад 18 років можуть зареєструватися.

Якщо ви не бажаєте вживати систему коверт, будь ласка дайте нам ваші адреси і телефони, щоб могли з вами сконтактуватися по потребі. Ваші датки просимо вложити у коверту і написати Ваше ім'я, бо в протилежному Ваші пожертви будуть анонімними.

## Very Important! Дуже Важне!

If you plan to schedule an event in St. Nicholas Church Hall, talk to the Pastor first and then contact Mrs. Anna Melnyk before putting your event on the calendar!

Коли плянуєте дату вашого вінчання чи хрещення то просимо поговорити з парохом, щоб потім не було непорозуміння. Може статися, що в цей день буде неможливо відбути заплановане

If you are planning a Baptism or Wedding, please contact Pastor about the date before making other arrangements.

*V. Rev. Marijan Procyk*



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  
УКРАЇНЬКА КАТОЛИЦЬКА ЦЕРКВА  
СВЯТОГО МИКОЛАЯ  
(ПІД ОПІКОЮ ПРЕЧИСТОЇ  
ДІВИ МАРІЇ ОДІГІТРИЇ)

Parish E-Mail: [stnbuffalo@yahoo.com](mailto:stnbuffalo@yahoo.com)

Web Page: <http://www.stnbuffalo.com>

Dioc. Web: <http://www.stamforddio.org>

308 Fillmore Avenue, Buffalo, N. Y. 14206

**Rectory: (716) 852-7566**

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

**Confession:** Before Liturgies

**Сповідь:** Перед Св. Літургіями

**Baptism:** By appointment

**Хрещення:** За домовленням

**Marriage:** Contact 6 months in advance

**Вінчання:** Голоситися 6 місяців скорше

**Religion classes – Релігійна Програма**

Субота - Saturday

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

Family members should call the Rectory

Родина повинна повідомити священика

**IN EMERGENCY CALL ANY TIME**

**В разі потреби завжди можна закликати**

Rev. Raymond Palko, visiting priest

V. Rev. Marijan Procyk, pastor & dean

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

Просимо закликати якщо ви у ліжниці  
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  
МАЛЯНКА 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

ukeniikka29@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 МАЛЯНКУ 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 продаємо 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 білеттів:

Никол Грегга (716) 903-4777 -

ukeniikka29@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

December 22, 2013 A.D.

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!

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

Wow! First full day of winter and three days before  
The Big Day! How are you doing today? I hope all is  
well with you, you're not stressed out with "all the  
things I need to do," and that you are truly praying  
the season and enjoying these beautiful days of  
anticipation and expectation.

Christmastime is like so much of the rest of our life,  
isn't it? We try so hard to do so many things which  
often don't amount to that old proverbial 'hill of  
beans,' and we simply miss so much of the  
important, beautiful and good parts. In Fr. Squiller's  
famous, and memorable words, "Boys, don't miss  
the forest because of the trees." So if you've got  
shopping to do, I hope you are doing it with  
enjoyment and are looking forward to the glee, joy  
and surprise that your gifts will bring to your loved  
ones. If you are baking, I hope you are not worried if  
this cake, or that bread, or those cookies will be good  
enough. Of course they will! It is always good  
enough, and more than good enough! If you are  
cooking, I hope you are not making yourself overly  
tired by cooking and preparing an excess of foods. I  
hope in these days of preparation we all constantly  
keep in mind what, or rather Whom it is for which we  
are preparing.

I received a Christmas card today and down on the  
bottom, underneath the address, hand-written by the  
sender for all to read, was this beautiful note: "Jesus  
is the reason for the season!" And that's what all the  
movement and hustle and bustle and shopping and  
wrapping and baking and cooking is all about.

Our presents represent our Love for each other. As  
we honor each other with the result of all those  
months, days, or maybe only hours, of shopping we  
are saying to each other nothing less than, "I love  
you." We love each other whom we see, so that we

can love our Father, Whom we do not see. In giving  
our gifts to one another we remember the Magi, who  
came, and recognizing the King, opened their  
treasure chests and presented Him with those gifts  
of gold, frankincense and myrrh. Yes, we give gifts to  
each other, but we really give them in His name and  
to Him.

We partake of the earthly delights of all the foods  
of the season and remember the King who comes to  
us and showers us with innumerable blessings and  
gifts. Interesting, we give our gifts to Him and He  
returns them to us in an abundance that we can't  
even imagine.

Yes, Jesus is the reason for the season. Whatever  
we are doing during this beautiful, glorious and holy  
time of the Church year we need to be sure we are  
focused on why we are doing what we are doing. How  
many of us indeed do "miss the forest because of the  
trees."

I know these days before, and immediately after  
Christmas, can be very hard for some of us. There  
are many, many people who simply can't wait for this  
holiday to be over. Here I am thinking of the true poor  
and homeless. Those for whom Christmas is a  
memory, rather than something good and wonderful  
right here and right now. For them, Christmas Day  
and Christmas time are just so many days of their  
earthly struggle for survival.

I also think of our elderly "who are sitting on the  
sleigh" and they too celebrate, if they celebrate at all,  
the Christmases past. I think of the sick, who are in  
hospital or are struggling with some recently  
diagnosed disease. I am thinking of "the empty  
chair." Those homes where a loved one is no longer  
there....perhaps reposed. And if that loved one has  
reposed during this year and it is their "first  
Christmas in heaven," how difficult will be this time  
for the family as they become aware of the "empty  
chair." Yes, it will be a different kind of Christmas.

I think of "the empty chair" of the soldier off to  
some far away land, as he sacrifices for us that we  
can be free and happy. I think of "the empty chair"  
where the family member because of work, or their

own family, or distance won't be home for Christmas this year. Mostly, I think of the saddest "empty chair." This chair is in the family home, very empty, not because of age or sickness or distance or duty, but because of a sad break in the ties of the family where discord, hurt and heartbreak have split everyone.

Yes, we know celebrating Christmas doesn't make the world or our families perfect, but we all can and do receive gifts and blessings from heaven. God so loved the world that He sent His only begotten Son for us. Our God is with us! In those words the Promise of the Father is fulfilled. God did not and will not ever abandon us.

As we pray and meditate on this day of the birth of our Lord and God and Savior into the world, we can clearly see that even the Holy Family would experience great hardships, fears and dangers. Look at them...hungry, tired, unsheltered; rejected by the innkeepers; Joseph would have his doubts and fears. This little family did not leave or go away or abandon the Promise. No they persevered, trusting in God and they said their magnificent "YES!" and the power of the Most High was upon them.

Yes, their lives remained a struggle, but what they did have was peace. A peace, born in the birth of that new born Babe of Bethlehem, our Savior, our King, our God! Peace came over them because of the hope and promise now shining from the little God-baby. From this hearing, and this hope, the whole world is now comforted and hopeful. The hope coming from that manger in Bethlehem showers peace on all because now our lives are to be lived knowing that our salvation has come. We will be saved!

No matter how we feel, whether very, very good or very, very bad, let this Christmas be a

new day! Christ's birth changed the world forever that night in Bethlehem. Christ's birth can change our life and our world this day. Let Him wipe away all your fears this day. Let us say our "Yes!" and let us trust and believe in Him, Who is our God, the Prince of Peace.

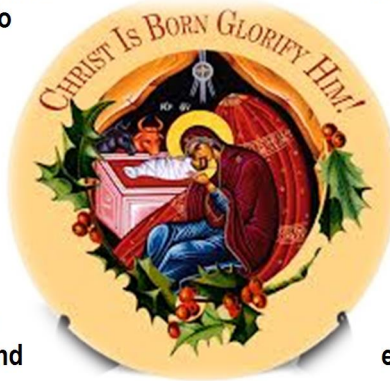
For those who are always with us, we pray that these days of Christmas will take away our fears and doubts, strengthen us in faith and love and will tighten our family bonds and cause us to grow spiritually. May He bless you with His peace!

For those whom we only see on the special occasions of Christmas and Pascha, we want you to know that your place is always there at the Father's table in the Church. We rejoice exceedingly when you come home; we grieve when you are away. Let us be united in the great event of God coming to this world. United in faith, we can now experience God's love and life more powerfully than ever before. Whatever you need in your life can and will be found only in Him. Only in Him will there be true Peace. If you are away from the Church, come back to Him. "Taste and see that the Lord is good!" If you are seeking a Church, "Come and see." If you do not know the Lord, but you are feeling his call, come to the Church. We pray that all will come home for Christmas. We miss you, and want you with us.

We have been to Bethlehem and know what God can do for us. Glory to God in the Highest and on earth peace, good will toward men! Indeed, may our Holy Lady Theotokos keep us beneath the shelter of her protection and may our Good and Loving God-Eternal bless us with His Peace!

With Much Christmas Love,

*Fr. Ray*  
Fr. Ray



### Зрадія "Милосердний Самарянин"

У середу за Григоріянським Календарем будемо святкувати Різдво Господа Бога і Спаса нашого Ісуса Христа. Кожного року літургічно ми пригадуємо його прихід у світ, сповнення бажань багатьох сердець на основі давніх пророцтв. Бог створив людину на свій образ і подобу, але людина затьмарена жадобою слави відійшла від свого Творця, думаючи що своїми власними силами зможе досягнути багато більше, щоб не тільки бути дитиною Божою, але самим Богом. Упавши зі своєї власної волі, під намовою Божого противника, того що сам давніше упав, не була в силі сама підвестися. Тому Бог Отець у своїй незбагненій любові посилає свого єдинородного Сина до нас, який народжується від Пречистої Діви Марії. Він став одним з нас, нашим братом, щоб ми стали його братами і сестрами, щоб ми знову були піднесені до гідності називатися синами і дочками Всевишнього.

Народжується Господь в малому містечку Вифлємі, у печері між звірятами. Не було місця у заїзді, добре, що хоч печеру знайшли. Довго спасителя очікували, а коли він прийшов ніхто того не зауважив. Довідалися про нього тільки пастирі, бо їм ангели об'явили. Дізналися мудреці, бо їм звізда з'явилася. Три царі приносять дари: кадило як Богові, бо новонароджене диття є сином Божим, миром, як помазаникові, і золото як володареві, тому, що усе йому належить. Знав про нього також, Ірод довідавшись від царів. Свята родина тому мусіла утікати до Єгипту.

Вернувшись назад виростає Христос у Назареті, а потім маючи 30 років Він хреститься від Йоана у ріці Йордані. Опісля через три роки навчав, помагав, чуда творив. - Хоча

жодних шкіл Він не покінчив, але в нього уся мудрість. - Хоча нічого не мав, все посідає.

Усі пішли проти нього, один з учнів Юда із Каріоту його зрадив, Петро затаїв, а інші апостоли крім Йоана порозбігалися коли то його зловили, і коли насміхалися з нього і на хрест прибили між двома розбійниками, а за одягу його кинули жереба. - І поховали його в чужій гробниці.

Отак скінчилося життя і здавалося, що вже по всьому, що Христос відійшов у небуття.

Противники його раділи, аж до третього дня, коли він своєю власною силою воскрес із мертвих... І його царству не буде кінця.

Нехай новонароджене Диття, народиться і в серцях кожного і кожної з нас, щоб і ми з ним прославилися. Немов мудреці пренесім новонародженому свої дари. Золота ми не маємо, ані мира, ані запашного кадила, але маємо свою готовість піти до Нього на службу. Позвольмо Господеві, щоб Він нами послужився. Наші руки нехай стануть його руками, якими він буде робити добрі діла, наші ноги нехай стануть його ногами, вживаючи яких він принесе допомогу тим що далеко від нас і від Нього. Хай Він вселиться в наше серце і постійно там перебуває, і любов його нехай повсякчасно з нас випромінює. Поставмо його на перше місце, а потім наших ближніх. Слід нам пам'ятати, що все що зробимо нашим ближнім, ми це Христові робимо. Господь не потребує від нас подарунків для себе, але Він радо їх прийми, щоб роздати потребуючим.

**Бажаємо усім вам,  
Щасливих Різдвяних Свят!  
Христос Раждається!**



## Вифлеємський Вогонь Миру

В церкві Різдва Христового у Вифлеємі горить лампочка, яка світиться протягом довгих століть. Це Вифлеємський Вогонь, символ миру, тепла, згоди, спокою та любови до людей і до світу. Християнські народи світу по черзі жертвують оливу, щоб цей Вогонь не згас. Ще у XII столітті один учасник христових походів привіз Вогонь з Вифлеєму, як дарунок для своєї родини і близьких, як символ найбільшого добра.

Поширення Вифлеємського Вогню започаткувала 1986 року австрійська теле-

радіокомпанія ORF з міста Лінц. Із самого початку це була добродійна акція, щоб підтримати бідних дітей і всіх, хто потребує допомоги і уваги в передріздвяний час. Цю справу пере-

брали австрійські скавти. Що року вони летять до Вифлеєму по Вогонь і в спеціальній лампаді перевозять його літаком до Відня. Звідтам вони везуть Вифлеємський Вогонь Миру поїздами до скавтів в сусідніх країнах Європи і передають його з рук в руки, всім хто чекає світло надії під час Різдва Христового.

На Україні Вифлеємський Вогонь Миру вже понад десять років поширюють члени Пласту. Вони перевозять Вогонь поїздом, автами і роверами в кожную українську область, де є пластова станиця. Пластуни тоді несуть Вогонь у церкви, школи, лікарні, державні установи, си-



ротинці, і старечі доми. Щоб кожна людина, а особливо ті, що перебувають далеко від своїх домів під час Різдва, могли відчувати тепло Вифлеємської зірки. Українська громада радо прийняла ідею і символіку Вифлеємського Вогню і останніми роками для багатьох Вогонь став доповненням під час святкування Різдва. Люди запалюють Вифлеємським Вогнем свічки на Святу Вечерю і традиційно зберігають його в церкві до Йордану. Потім його можна погасити.

2008 року ліхтар з Вифлеємським Вогнем Миру прилетів до Нью Йорку. Скавти з Відня

передали його американським скавтам, які повезли Вогонь автом до Міннесоти. По дорозі з JFK летовища авто зупинилося у містах, де є зібрання скавтів і Вифлеємський Вогонь Миру розповсюдився по Америці та навіть попав до Мексики. В той час також пластуни США вперше одержали Вифлеємський Вогонь Миру.

4. грудня 2013 Вифлеємський Вогонь Миру знов прилетів до Півночної Америки і дуть старання, щоб Вогонь дійшов до кожної пластової станиці і групи в США і Канаді. І так сьогодні прийшов до нас Просимо долучитесь до світла Вифлеємського Вогню Миру. Пластуни – чи не пластуни. Ми ж усі радіємо зі Світла, що народилося у Вифлеємі. Молімся за мир на наших Рідних Землях. Згадаймо всіх тих, що відстоюють права нашого народу, наражаючися на різні небезпеки і на велику холод.

From "Good Samaritan" Ukr. Radio pr.

St. John Chrysostom in one of his Christmas sermons extols the mystery of the Nativity of Christ with these words: "I see an extraordinary and wonderful mystery: the shepherds fill my ears with sound, singing not a song of the desert but a heavenly hymn. The angels sing, the archangels' praise, the Cherubim implore, the Seraphim extol, and all celebrate, seeing God on earth and man in heaven, according to the love of God toward man. Today, Bethlehem became Heaven. Instead of stars it received the singing angels, and instead of the sun it contained the unspeakable Son of truth. Do not ask how this can be, for whenever God wills, the order of nature yields – that the virgin gave birth to him, that I know, and that God gave birth to him in time, that I believe, but the manner of giving birth I learned to reverence in silence. Is there anything that could equal this Feast of Nativity?"

The message of Christmas is not simply addressed to humanity in general; it is addressed to each person in particular. It reaches every soul in a way that is unique and exceptional. Today, we need to recognize the Nativity of Christ as a very personal gift and receive this gift with faith and thankfulness. "And lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, until it came and stood over where the young child was." The Magi followed the light which was given to them faithfully; and being obedient to this light they were led to the Christ child. If we try to be faithful to the full measure of light that God has given us and bear witness to this light, the Lord will not fail to lead us through all the concrete circumstances of life, and whenever it is needed – right up to the

Child in whom we have placed all our hope. And like the Magi, we offer our treasures and we offer the little child the most precious things we have. In spirit, we offer gold, the sign of Jesus' sovereignty over all riches and all created things, a sign also of our own detachment from earthly goods. In spirit, we offer incense, the sign of adoration, for Jesus is not only the king of the universe - he is our Lord and God. We offer in spirit, myrrh, the spice with which we honor in advance the death and resurrection of our Lord, and through which our own incarnation through Jesus is represented. Christmas marks the miraculous awakening of humanity into the Divine light, and it all began with the child whose birth we soon celebrate. There is no greater miracle or gift of love, but sometimes we



get caught up in the hustle and bustle of the season that we lose sight of its real meaning behind the greatest message ever told...

We all have a special story that we can share, but the one we come together to celebrate every Christmas is the greatest story ever told, the one we remember every year in the second chapter of the Gospel according to St. Luke. "And it was that Joseph went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; with Mary his wife, being great with child. And while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And lo, the angel

*of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, 'Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men'. And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us. And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger".*

The Lord Jesus humbled Himself, taking the form of a child, becoming a servant in peasant robes. Christ did not have to humble Himself, there was nothing for Him to gain - except our salvation - and sometimes we get too caught up in the hustle and bustle of buying Christmas gifts and decorating our homes and trees, that we sometimes forget whose birthday it really is and what the celebration of Christmas is all about. This Christmas, I pray that each of us feel the joy of knowing that Christ is in our home, in our hearts, in the family and friends that we love, and in the simple things of life that mean so much to us. We need to focus more on loving and serving one another, because so often we are forgetting how to see Christ in one another. As we rejoice in the birth of our Lord and Savior, let us always be mindful of what Christmas is all about. Yes, Christmas is a time for friends

and families to reunite and be grateful for all that they have. Christmas is a time for miracles, and stories that capture our hearts. But Christmas is also a time to remember the gift of salvation, the good news which the infant Jesus has brought to our lives, and to celebrate this gift with one another.

Once upon a midnight clear, there was a child's cry, a blazing star hung over a stable, and wise men came with birthday gifts. We haven't forgotten that night down the centuries. We celebrate it with stars on Christmas trees, with the sound of bells, and with gifts - but especially with gifts. You give me a book, I give you a tie. Grandma wanted an orange squeezer and Grandpa can do with a new pipe. For we forget nobody, adult or child. All the stockings are filled, all that is, except one. And we have even forgotten to hang it up; the stocking for the child born in a manger. It's his birthday we are celebrating. Don't let us ever forget that. Let us ask ourselves what He would wish for most. And then, let each put in his or her share: loving kindness, warm hearts, and a stretched out hand of tolerance. All the shinning gifts that make peace on earth! Jesus is the reason for this holy season, and let us never lose sight of the gift that God has given us through the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. When the song of the angels is stilled, when the star in the sky is gone, when the wise men have journeyed home, when the shepherds are back with their flocks, the work of Christmas begins. To find the lost, to heal the broken, to feed the hungry, to visit the sick, to shelter the homeless, to clothe the naked, to rebuild the nations, to welcome Christ into the hearts of all our brothers and sisters. As we continue our journey on through the light of Christmas morning, let us rejoice in the greatest message ever told: *Joy to the World, the Lord Has Come.*



## **BUFFALO UKRAINIAN AMERICANS IN SUPPORT OF UKRAINE EUROMAIDAN**

**“We stand with you, Ukraine!”**

### **PEACE BRIDGE**

### **EUROMAIDAN**

**Solidarity with the Peaceful Protesters in Ukraine for DEMOCRACY, RULE OF LAW AND EUROPEAN INTEGRATION**

**2-4 pm - Sunday, December 22, 2013**

**LOCATION:** on the US side of the Peace Bridge in Buffalo, NY in front of the Duty Free Building - American side

**PARKING:** on Busti Av and Vermont St (walk over to meeting area)

**The PEACE BRIDGE AND ISKALO ELECTRIC TOWER WILL LIGHT THE NIGHT SKY IN THE BLUE AND YELLOW COLORS OF THE UKRAINIAN FLAG ON DECEMBER 22**

**MEDIA CONTACT:** Dianna Derhak

**Tel: 202-486-2161**

**Email: [derhak.dianna@gmail.com](mailto:derhak.dianna@gmail.com)**

BUFFALO, NY - Western New York and Southern Ontario Ukrainian Communities will hold a **“We Stand With You, Ukraine!” Peace Bridge EuroMaidan** on December 22, 2013 at 2 pm to support and stand in international solidarity with Ukraine's peaceful demonstrators. Ukrainians in Kyiv are enduring extreme cold, withstanding violent attacks from Government Special Forces, risking their lives while exercising their constitutional rights of assembly and free speech to support democratic values, their human rights and dignity. They peacefully demonstrate against government

corruption and rampant abuse of power by officials. According to protesters, European integration is a step in the direction of rule of law. In response, the Ukrainian Government is using the internal police and tax authorities to intimidate protesters, universities, organizations and businesses that support the demonstrations.

**Christ is Born! Glorify Him!  
Христос Раждається! Славте Його!**

Pro-European Union protests in Ukraine, known as EUROMAIDAN began the night of November 21, 2013. Ukrainian students started spontaneous demonstrations in the capital of Kyiv when the Ukrainian Government, responding to Russian pressure abruptly suspended preparations for signing an Association Agreement with the European Union. The Kremlin is against Ukraine's European aspirations and seeks political and economic association with Ukraine.

On November 30, 2013 at 4 am, Berkut Special Forces stormed demonstrators and beat them with clubs resulting in serious head injuries and some arrests. Public outrage at the Government sponsored violence exponentially increased the numbers of protesters. Despite freezing temperatures, crowds grew to 1.5 million by December 1 and protestors demanded the resignation of President Yanukovich, Prime Minister Azarov, Cabinet of Ministers and a called for new elections. Demonstrations continued over the next week with crowds reaching 2.4 million. Independent media agencies and opposition political party offices were raided by police.

In the dark of night, on December 11, 2013, Berkut Special Forces marshalled a massive attack with thousands of riot police in black helmets and metal shields storming the barricades constructed by the demonstrators. Calls for help from the stage, through live television/video feeds, social media and by cell phone went out immediately. The church bells of St. Michaels started ringing nonstop to warn of attack and call for mobilization. In a matter of hours the crowd swelled from a few hundred to tens of thousands and withstood the attack.



**Отець і Глава Української Греко-Католицької Церкви Блаженніший Святослав в ефірі «Еха Москви» заспокоїв росіян, які неправильно поінформовані щодо того, що відбувається в Україні на Євромайдані.**



«Хочу всіх заспокоїти й подякувати всім, хто спостерігає за подіями в Україні в нашій дружній країні Росії. Україна переживає період соціальної трансформації. Це не божевілля, а маніфестація громадянського суспільства України», – наголосив Предстоятель УГКЦ, відповідаючи на запитання, що відбувається зараз в Україні, бо в Росії події в Україні трактують по-різному, навіть говорять про «колективне божевілля українського народу, який вирішив піти від Росії».

На його думку, це суспільство є чимсь новим для пострадянського простору, але, вважає Блаженніший Святослав, саме це суспільство є майбутнім як України, так і інших країн колишнього Радянського Союзу.

На думку Глави Церкви, Україна не робить зараз якогось вибору, вона зробила його ще понад 20 років тому, утвердивши своє бажання жити в демократичній та вільній країні.

«Тільки цей вибір саме зараз набуває реального сенсу. Адже мало мати громадянські свободи, треба бути вільною людиною. Мало мати конституційні права, треба будувати правове суспільство. Гадаю, саме це зараз відбувається в Україні, і ми називаємо це європейським вектором розвитку українського суспільства», – пояснив Глава Церкви.

Він відзначив, що молоді люди, які народилися вже в незалежній Україні, не мислять свого майбутнього без європейського. І саме європейське бажання таких молодих українців сьогодні об'єднує Україну.

Предстоятель УГКЦ свідомий того, що Україна має свої хвороби, над якими потрібно працювати, наприклад, корупцію, порушення прав і свобод громадян, необґрунтоване застосування сили, яке ми бачили цими днями. «Це хвороби нашого пострадянського суспільства», – вважає архиєрей.

На запитання, як можна вийти з цієї ситуації, він відповів, що на його погляд, конкретного рецепту немає, але ключ вирішення проблеми лежить у політичній площині.

**«Люди заспокояться тільки тоді, коли влада чітко й однозначно вкаже вектор розвитку нашої країни. Якщо це вектор буде чітко задекларовано як європейський, власне, що й завжди повторює президент і прем'єр-міністр, тоді, гадаю, суспільство заспокоїться»,** – наголосив Глава Церкви.

**Інтерв'ю Блаженніший Святослав давав російською мовою.**

**Департамент інформації УГКЦ**



### **Christmas Epistle of His Beatitude**

*To the Son, eternally and immaculately born of the Father, Who—in the fullness of time—was born bodily, without seed, from a Virgin, Let us cry out to Christ-God: Holy are You, O Lord, Who fortified our strength!*  
(Canon of the Nativity).

#### **Christ is born!**

At the voice of the angel, calling to the shepherds in the dark of night, let us now hasten to the poor stable in Bethlehem. Here we see in the Blessed Virgin Mary's arms the Son of God, who came into our world as a man. Together with them, let us rejoice and marvel; let us sing and contemplate the living and true God, who—born in a human body—gives Himself into human hands as a small, gentle and defenceless child.

Our Saviour's Nativity reveals the depths of Divine life as well as the truth about man. He—who today appears in human flesh—existed before the creation of the world, for—as God before all ages—He is *eternally and immaculately born of the Father as a son!* This is the ineffable and incomprehensible mystery of Jesus Christ's divine sonship which today is revealed and preached to all mankind. This feast makes the divine sonship accessible for all through the proclamation that God the Father loves us as his sons and daughters. In His new-born Son, we experience today our nearness to God. We experience the same warm, powerful, real and life-giving intimacy which is the Father's intimate affection for His first-born.

Gazing into the faces of the Divine Child and His Mother Mary, let us grasp the truth the Nativity teaches us about our humanity and of His humanity, which is a sign of God's presence: "And this will be a sign for you: you will find a babe wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger" (Lk 2:12). This child—the God of Israel, *Who—in the fullness of time—was born bodily from a Virgin without seed.* He bestows upon Joseph the

Betrothed, the wonderful role of guardian. At the Nativity of Christ, we receive the Eternal God in our own form. For people rightly desire to be cared for and here in Bethlehem, God himself—as a child—is the one caring for the human family!

Humaneness—as a sense of and respect for the sanctity of human life—is a moving and saving path along which—on this mysterious night—the Son of God, the Son of Mary, comes to our homes, to our families, to our nation. And this divine-humanity—the God-Manhood of Incarnate Son of God—gives us a Christmas path to follow in order to love God and neighbour. By celebrating Christmas with travellers and the homeless, or in solidarity with those who are despised and whose dignity is denied, we, Christians, as true guardians and evangelists of God's presence among us, make our world, our society more humane and dignified for man himself.

The birth of the Son of God, the Eternal Word of the Father, reveals along with the greatness and glory of our God, the Creator and Saviour, the greatness and glory of man as the crown of all creation. In His Incarnation, God reveals the special dignity of man, because He is incarnated in it—that is to say, in his own image. St. Irenaeus of Lyon says: "When the Word was made flesh... He Himself became what His image was... making man like the invisible Father through the visible Word" (*Adv. Haer.*, 5, 16, 2).

Glorifying the dignity of the human person, Christ's Church today sings out: "*Let us cry out to Christ-God: Holy are You, O Lord, Who fortified our strength!*" Just as the coming to earth of the Son of God through the Incarnation became the centre of world history, similarly the dignity of the human person is the foundation for a true and indeed humane society. The Church teaches that social institutions and their leaders must respect each human person and their prime duty is to promote the



holistic growth of each person. The person can never be a means for the realization of economic, social or political agendas imposed by secular authorities. Rather governments must be vigilant when placing restrictions on freedoms or burdens on a person's private life to never harm human dignity (*Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*, § 131-133).

There is no future for a society in which man is demeaned. The dignity of the human person is the source for just laws and equitable social order. For in the human person the temporal and eternal, the divine and human, are united. Humanity is the door to eternity opened on Christmas Day by the Son of God's humanity. So celebrating the Nativity means to keep open the doors of our hearts to human dignity, especially of the weak and defenceless, as was the Divine Child Himself in the arms of the Virgin Mary.

Today once again Ukrainian society is striving to build its future on the foundation of the Christian faith. The new-born Saviour is the fulfilment of the hopes of all mankind for the coming of God's kingdom—a kingdom of justice, peace and goodness. The birth of the eternal King of Peace was announced by the angel, when he said to the shepherds: "Be not afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will come to all people; for to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour" (Lk 2:10-11). This historic moment is important to us, for the word of the Evangelist proclaims that Christ Himself is the source of our joy and the end of our fears! In the Nativity of Christ, may our anxiety be transformed into hope, may confusion and uncertainty be directed along the path that leads to the place of our Lord's birth. On this Christmas Day, when, according to the

apostle Paul, the power of God was made manifest in human weakness (cf. II Cor. 12:9), our sense of powerlessness is turned into a realization of our self-worth. Through the action of the Holy Spirit, this realization of our self-worth becomes a force that will enable us to build a society worthy of man. That is why today we glorify the power of the divine-humanity, singing: "*Holy are You, O Lord, Who fortified our strength!*"

Dearly beloved in Christ! On this joyous feast day of Christ's Nativity, I wish all of you my sincerest greetings. I wish for you goodness and peace, harmony and health. I desire to knock on the door of every Ukrainian family! With the sound of ancient carols, I wish to cheer every Ukrainian heart! Announcing the great joy of our Saviour's birth, I want to gather around Bethlehem's stable all of our church—both in Ukraine and abroad—into one community of God!

Today let us feel like one Christian family in which our Saviour is born. Along the path of humanity and Christian solidarity, we can touch all who defend their own dignity, the dignity of their family and their nation! Let us share our Christmas joy with those who are far from home, in hospital beds or prison bunks. Together, guided by the light of the star, let us make haste towards our neighbours in order to see in the flesh—the Invisible One; in His poverty—the Source of all goodness; in His weakness—the Almighty, as the new-born Christ-God in the embrace of the Theotokos.

**Christ is born!**

**Let us glorify Him!**

† SVIATOSLAV

**УКРАЇНСЬКА ГРОМАДА  
ПІДТРИМУЄ УКРАЇНСЬКИЙ  
ЄВРОМАЙДАН  
«Ми з тобою, Україно!»  
ЄВРОМАЙДАН НА  
«МОСТІ МИРУ»  
Peace Bridge EuroMaidan**

14:00 -- 16:00

22

: « »,  
**на границі США і Канади**

. Busti

Vermont ( )  
**«Міст Миру» і «Електрична Вежа  
Іскало» в день 22 грудня будуть  
освічені синім і жовтим світлом –  
кольорами українського прапора**

ó ia a

. 202--486--2161

: [derhak.dianna@gmail.com](mailto:derhak.dianna@gmail.com)

ó

**Майдан «Моста Миру» 22  
2013 . : «Ми стоїмо з  
Тобою, Україно»,**

**Члени Постійного Синоду УГКЦ  
молилися на Євромайдані під час  
штурму силовиків**



Уранці 11 грудня члени Постійного Синоду Єпископів Української Греко-Католицької Церкви: владика Богдан (Дзюрах), секретар Синоду, владика Кен (Новаківський), Єпарх Нью-Вестмінстерський, владика Ярослав (Приріз), Єпарх Самбірсько-Дрогобицький, та владика Борис (Гудзяк), Єпарх єпархії Святого Володимира з Парижа, - відправили зі сцени Майдану Молебень до всіх святих українського народу.