



Putting letters to "Santa" in Macy's Mail Box



Making snowflakes for Sandy Hook New School



Delivering blankets to Women & Children's Hospital



St. Nicholas visiting "Ridna Shkola"



Enjoying the program of "Ridna Shkola"



Thank you for your prayers for Joseph. He is supposed to be home on Dec. 31 after spending over 2 weeks in the hospital.

**SAINT NICHOLAS
UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH**

**УКРАЇНСЬКА КАТОЛИЦЬКА
ЦЕРКВА СВЯТОГО МИКОЛАЯ**



**N^o
53**

**ПІД ОПІКОЮ
ПРЕЧИСТОЇ ДІВИ
МАРІЇ ОДІГІТРИЇ
UNDER THE
PROTECTION OF
MOTHER OF GOD**



CHURCH BULLETIN

**December 30 – 2012 – 30 Грудня
ЦЕРКОВНИЙ ВІСНИК**

**Щасливого Нового Року!
Happy New Year!**



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

This week marks the start of a brand New Year unfolding, like a blossom with petals curled tightly concealing the beauty within. Lord, let this year be filled with the things that are truly good, with the comfort of warmth in our relationships, with the strength to help those who need our compassion, and the humility and openness to accept help from others. As we make our resolutions for the year ahead, let us go forward with great hope that all things can be possible - with the Lord's help and guidance to lead our way. It was Pope John XXIII who once wrote in his New Year's address: "May the Lord banish from the hearts of all men and women whatever might endanger peace. May He transform them into witnesses of truth, justice and love. May He enkindle the rulers of peoples so that in addition to their solicitude for the proper welfare of their citizens, they may guarantee and defend the great gift of peace. May He enkindle the wills of all so that they may overcome the barriers that divide, embrace the bonds of mutual charity, understand others, and pardon those who have done them wrong. May all peoples of the earth become as brothers and sisters, and may the most longed-for peace blossom forth and reign always among men and women." As we leave a year behind that has witnessed so much senseless violence and tragedy, perhaps the wisest words spoken are those of peace to ring in the New Year.

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

4:30 PM +Olga Belmega (Rose Serediuk)

Dec. 30: S. aft. Christmas–Н. По. Р. ГЛ 6

12:00 PM. For Parishioners-За Парохіян

End of the Year – Кінець Року

Monday, Dec. 31 – Пон., 31 Грудня

10:00 AM +Дмитро Ільківський (родина)

New Year – Новий Рік

Tuesday, Jan. 1 – Вів., 1 Січня

12:00 PM For God's Blessing

За Боже Благословення

Wed., January 2 – Сер., 2 Січня

8:15 AM +Marusia Procyk (S. Scott)

Thu., January 3 – Чет., 3 Січня

9:30 AM +Irene Voychak

(M/M Tony Bugaj)

Fri., January 4 – П'ятниця, 4 Січня

12:00 PM Int. of Mary Jordan (Peter Maxim)

Sat., January 5 – Субота, 5 Січня

9:00 AM +Helen Maxim (M/M E. Hanitz)

4:30 PM For Parishioners-За Парохіян

Water Blessing

Jan. 6 Theophany - Богоявлення

12:00 PM. +Anna Perhach (Ch. Narawus)

Eternal Light burns for

+Sr. Basilia Czykalo

(Sister Servants of Mary Immaculate)

Requ. By Pucak Family

Вічне Світло в честь П.Д.М. горить

за + С. Василю Чикало

(Чин Сестер Службниць П.Д.М.)

По жертва: родина Пуцаки

ПОР'ЯДОК СВ. ЛІТУРГІЙ

30 Грудня: 30 Н. По Зісл. Св. Д. ГЛ 5

10:00 р. +Др. Михайло Лоза,
+Наталія й +Іван Фіглюс
(Др. Уляна Лоза)

6 Січня: Неділя Перед Різдвом ГЛ 6

Святий Вечір

10:00 р. +Мирослава Райца
(р. Чутко і р. Райца)

10:00 в. Велике Повечеря і Різдяна
Літургія

Пон. 7 Січня: РІЗДВО

10:00 в. Різдяна Літургія

To purchase \$10 tickets, for
Hurricane Relief please call
the St. Nicholas rectory or
visit the Hall after Liturgy.

*Directions for prosphora: (From Fr. Ray)
If you took home a prosphora from the church,
you should be aware that it is bread, made from
natural ingredients and no preservatives. It will
get stale and hard very quickly unless cared
for. To keep it "nice" and fresh for Holy Supper
please see the following directions.
When you take it home, freeze it immediately. It
can stay in the plastic bag as is. Then on Janu-
ary 6 take it out of the freezer and the bag and
place on a paper towel to thaw and dry. It thaws
very quickly. Just before you want to use it
"nuke" it a bit. :) Put it in microwave for about
10 seconds and it will be like new, ready to be
cut up and passed around with the honey.
Please remember the prosphora maker at your
Holy Supper! Christ is Born! 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.buszkafuneralhomeinc.com

Our Church Web-Page Is:
<http://www.stnbuffalo.com>

Buffalo Community Web-Page Is:
<http://www.ukrainiansofbuffalo.com>

Please Support our Sponsors

Підтримаймо наших спонзорів

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

Wilhelmina E. & Janine Klimeczko
Michael A. Klimeczko, Licensed Directors

Pietszak

FUNERAL HOME
and Orłowski-Pietszak Funeral Home



(716) 852-4499

2400 William St.
Cheektowaga, NY 14206

806 Clinton St.
Buffalo, NY 14210



PHONE 893-1025

Kuhn's Monuments, Inc.

(ROLAND J. KUHN)

ASK FOR TOM

2398 GENESEE ST.
BUFFALO, N.Y. 14225

Thanks are extended to all Sponsors!

DNIPRO  **ДНІПРО**

Ukrainian Cultural Center
562 Genesee St. Buffalo, NY 14204 856-4476
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

1962-2012



**Найширші побажання Божого
Благословення для всіх парафіян
Українських церков надсилає
Українська Кредитна Спілка
«ДНІПРО»
“СВІЙ ДО СВОГО ПО СВОЄ”**

**Please use our
product & services**

Free checking!
Competitive rates on Loans, Visa Credit
cards, CD's and savings account
IRA Traditional and Roth accounts
ATM Visa Debit cards
Direct Deposit and Online Banking
Free Life Insurance (some restrictions apply)
Domestic & International Wires,
Translations, Notary Public

Join now and become a member of
our Ukrainian Credit Union Family!

562 Genesee St., Buffalo, NY 14204
(716) 847-6655 (716) 847-6988
www.uhdfcu.com info@uhdfcu.com

Hours of operations:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 10:00am-5:00pm
Wednesday 10:00am-2:00pm;
Friday 10:00-7:00pm

St. Joseph School for Boys Bookstore
Ronda Doucette: (574) 333-3420

Specializing in Eastern Christian Gifts and Books
www.easterngiftshop.com
saintjoseph@roadrunner.com

*Spend the start of 2013 with friends!
If you have no plans this
New Year's Eve
Celebrate with us!*



**St. Nicholas
New Year's Eve Celebration**

December 31, 2012

8:00PM- ?????

Bring a snack to share

Pizza & Wings

Cost \$10.00

If you are coming Call:

Elaine Nowadly – 867-0981

Please Respond

By December 30th



CHURCH ENVELOPES

Are ready - Please pick them up from the
tables in the church. Please report to the
rectory any problems.

Церковні Ковертки

Приготовані. Просимо взяти їх зі столів
у церкві. Якщо не можете знайти, або які
небудь інші проблеми з ковертками –
просимо повідомити

UHD FCU HOLIDAY HOURS

WE WILL BE CLOSED ON:

MONDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2012 NEW YEAR'S EVE
TUESDAY, JANUARY 1, 2013 NEW YEAR'S DAY

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!!

Зі Святими Упокій – In memoriam!

Fell asleep in the Lord

+Wasył Laszczyk
(*1/2/1921 - +12/23/2012)

We extend our sympathy to the Family and
friends. May he rest in peace
Eternal Memory!



+Василь Лащик
(8. I. 1921 –23. XII. 2012)

Похорон відбувся
на кладовищі Св. Адальберта
у п'ятницю, 28 грудня.

Родині і приятелям складаємо співчуття,
а йому хай буде Вічная Пам'ять!

WORLD YOUTH DAY

Eparchy of Stamford is planning to parti-
cipate in the upcoming World Youth Day in
Rio, Brazil, on 23-28 of July, 2013. Info:

<http://www.rio2013.com/en>

Просимо взяти календарі.

Calendars are ready. Please pick them up.

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



МАЛАНКА 2013

Saturday, January
19th, 2013

Ukrainian Cultural
Center "DNIPRO"
562 Genesee St, Buf-
falo, NY 14204

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

MUSIC provided by "Ron Cahute & Burya"

Cocktail Hour, Dinner, Zabava, Midnight Buf-
fet, & Champagne toast

Or come just for the Zabava

Tickets sales from November 1st, 2012 thru Jan-
uary 11th, 2013

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 Mid-
night Buffet & Midnight Toast

For More Information, Questions, Ticket & Reservations
Nicole Grega (716) 903-4777 or ukenikkie29@gmail.com

Ann Serediuk (716) 316-1051

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

The New York State Liquor Control Authority
Strictly Prohibits The Bringing in of Any Out-
side Alcoholic Beverages

ОСЕРЕДОК СУМ
ім. ЛЕСІ УКРАЇНКИ
в Бофало Н.Й.
Влаштовує
ТРАДИЦІЙНУ МАЛАНКУ 2013



яка відбудеться
в суботу 19-го січня 2013 р.
В залах Українського Дому
"Дніпро"
при 562 Дженесі вул. Бофало Н.Й.

Щиро запрошуємо Українську
групаду міста Бофало і околиць
до участі.

До танців приграватиме
оркестра: "Роман Козут і Буря"

Білеті на Вечерю і Забаву на
продаж від 1-го листопада 2012 р.
до 11-го січня 2013 р.
\$50.00 для дорослих \$30.00 для
студентів (13-18)

Білеті не продаємо при дверях.

Білеті тільки на Забаву \$30.00
при дверях

Коктейль 6:30 в Забава 9:00 в.
Вечеря 7:15 в. Зустріч нового
року – шампанський тост

До замовлення білетів:

Никол Грегга (716) 903-4777 -
ukenikkie29@gmail.com

Ганя Середюк (716) 316-1051

КУРИТИ ЗАБОРОНЕНО В ЗАЛІ "ДНІПРА"

КОМІСІЯ КОНТРОЛЯ АЛЬКОГОЛІВ В
Н.Й. ЗАБОРОНЯЄ ПРИНОСИТИ ВЛАСНІ
АЛЬКОГОЛЬНІ НАПИТКИ

UPCOMING CHURCH EVENTS

Просимо звернути
увагу на дати:



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

- KITCHEN – is open Fridays 11 AM - 3 PM.
Thank you for your patronage.
- Coffee Hour - Usually Every Sunday after
Liturgy in Church Hall. Please join us!
- We need help in the kitchen. Thank you!
- Jan. 13 – Christmas Dinner – Liturgy at 11.

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 Gas. Station.



У нас успішно продаються Карточки з
крамниці "Топс". Купуючи їх ви помага-
єте церкві. Для Вас не робить різниці чи
ви платили грішми чи карточкою, але
церква дістане від „Топс” 5%. На \$1,000
церква одержить \$50. Що б закупити слід
звертатися до п. Марії Боднар, або до кан-
целярії. Дякуємо!

Можна нею також купувати бензину.

CHURCH BULLETIN is published weekly.
Deadline for information is Friday Evening.

ЦЕРК. ВІСНИК видається тижнево
Інформації подавати до четверга вечора.

SAINT NICHOLAS

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

Parish E-Mail: 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
Vacation - Вакації

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!

З радія "Милосердний Самарянин"

Йти до Христа у простоті серця – означає звернути до Нього свій погляд, перебувати перед Його обличчям, подивляючись Його. Тоді у світлі Його обличчя відкриваємо, що ми – «Його». Тоді ми погоджуємося постійно народжуватися від Отця в Його улюбленому Сині, якого празник народження – Різдво, незадовго будемо літургійно прославляти. Перебуваючи з Ним, ми стаємо самими собою, тобто Його подобою, бо ми створені на Його образ, і можемо, як Він, бути відкритими до інших – значиться: любити.

Євхаристія – це велике таїнство Божої любові, яка перемінює нас. Адже сенс Тайної Вечері в тому, щоб ми долучилися до тієї Божої любові, яка виявилася в повноті через перемогу Ісуса над нашим гріхом, а наш гріх – це відсутність любові в нас і наша смерть, спричинена цим. Причащаючись розп'ятим і воскреслим Тілом Христовим, ми перебуваємо не тільки перед Ним, а й у Ньому, адже Він – в Отці, а Отець – у Ньому. Тоді ми перебуваємо в Христі, а Він – у нас.

Він перебуває в нас, а не тільки в мені, бо лише єднаючись із Ним, можемо відкриватися іншим, бути з іншими, для інших, у сопричасті з ними. Єднаючись з Ісусом, я виходжу за межі свого смертного «я», відкриваюся до своїх братів і сестер, хочу слухати їх, пізнавати їх та їхні очікування. Бог є нашим Отцем, і цей факт реалізується в живому Тілі Христовому.

Просім Господа, так часто покинутого, Який любить нас і сумує через наші нерозумні відмовки, щоб навчив

нас відповідати Йому, слухаючи Його в тишині свого серця. Застановімося над цим, коли, перед тим заки приступимо до причастя, почуємо слова: «Зі страхом Божим і вірою приступіть!». Не лише, щоб бути перед Ним, але й бути «Його», бути в Ньому. Тоді ми станемо живим запрошенням для всіх, кого зустрінемо цього тижня, для тих, які не знають, що Бог їх любить і що їхня радість – у Ньому, щоб вони разом з нами прийняли Господнє запрошення, щоб притбути на Його гостину.

Свята Літургія ділиться на три а то й на чотири частини.

Перша частина – це приготування, з грецька: Проскомидія.

Друга частина – це ламання Слово Божого: читання Апостола, Євангелії, Проповідь.

Третя частина – це Освячення, це Ламання хліба, це Причастя Тіла і Крови Господньої під видами хліба і вина.

А четверта частина? Це наше «Жити по Христу» від кінця одної до початку наступної Св. Літургії. Це, що ми навчилися, це, що засвоїли, ми роздаємо, пам'ятаючи, що не від себе даємо, а від Того, Ким ми наповнилися. Від нашого Господа, що за нас народився, нас навчав, за нас помер і Воскрес задля нас, та усіх нас до себе кличе.

Бажаємо Вам усім, дорогі в Христі, щасливого Нового Року, дякуючи Господеві за все отримане у старому, за радість і за страждання, і просім Його, щоб від дав нам силу ніколи від Нього не відходити.

Христос Раждається! Славіте!

From the desk of Fr. Ray Palko

December 30, 2012 A.D.

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!

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

Here's something we haven't said for a very long time: "It's a gorgeous winter wonderland out there!" Yep, it's Thursday morning and the Western NY area is beginning "the great dig-out" as the sights and sounds of a passing winter storm are evident on this cold, but beautiful morning. The snowplows rumble by, the neighbor on his snowmobile zooms down the street to show off a bit, and the snow blowers sputter to life. Looks like about fifteen inches out there today. It certainly brings the neighborhood together as we all trudge outdoors to make our driveways passable and our steps and sidewalks safe as we greet one another, and offer help, if needed.

The storm, which has come such a great distance across the country, and has affected millions all across this beautiful land, certainly seems like an old friend. We've been hearing the forecasters talk about this cold, snowy system for what seems like weeks already. Even as I am writing, the big weather mass hasn't lost much of its punch, and is now passing through eastern NY and on up into New England where it will continue to bring joy and as well as trouble to a few more millions of us.

All of this is Mother Nature flexing her muscles, in a way she hasn't done in over two years. Not everyone sees the beauty in all this because we know there are always hazards and disruptions due to the winter weather. Our hearts went out to the holiday travelers who were trying to get home for Christmas and because of the travel delays, had to spend those extra hours and hours, and even days, in the airport. Even today as one section clears up and gets

back to normal, the areas east are bracing for the snow, ice and cold and will also be experiencing the trials and tribulations of winter travel.

If we ourselves, didn't experience any unfortunate results of the weather, then we can easily speak of the beauty of this natural wonder. It is so beautiful to see the clean, white snow! Tonight there's almost a full moon and it will be a clear night, which means when we gaze out the window that beautiful line from Clement Moore's famous poem will surely come to mind once again, "*The moon on the breast of the new fallen snow, Gave the luster of mid-day to objects below.*" (Twas the Night Before Christmas).

And tonight I'm going to be eating a lot of Christmas cookies guilt free. ☺ The exercise that is forced upon us as we wrestle with the snow blower, or swing the snow shovel is a great health benefit. This time of year many of us are bemoaning the fact of extra pounds added because of "festive eating," or as my doctor likes to say "dietary indiscretions." Dealing with the snow forces us to spend a couple hours on the driveway, huffing and puffing, and burning calories. That 'exercise' should take away those weight concerns. Christmas cut-outs and sour cream softies, here I come! ☺

Each Monday I send out bulletins from our church, but today I realized I forgot to do it this week. It has been a mixed up week simply trying to figure out what day it is. You know how that goes when Christmas is on a Tuesday, which felt like a Sunday, so the Wednesday felt like a Monday, and today should really be Tuesday... Yikes! It'll be ok next week, I think.

Christmas Day 2012 at Holy Protection and in our house was fantastic! The temple was glorious and beautiful, tastefully decorated and filled with poinsettias donated out of the kindness of our parishioners and friends in memory and in honor of loved ones. The service of the Nativity was a blessed and God-filled time

when we also were able to welcome our visitors and family, who came home for the Holy Day. It was so good to be there for this Christmas Day 2012! Christ is Born! Glorify Him!

Our family celebration began with the Holy Supper on Christmas Eve at our house, and then on Christmas Day, following the Liturgy, we went over to the Martelli's house to "break the fast" and watch the little children in all their Christmas wonder and joy, opening their gifts. I hope you, too, had the opportunity to experience the joy of the day, if not surrounded by loved ones, at least in touch with them.

I think the highlight of our Christmas Day dinner was *a most serious discussion* between little Noah, and Uncle Pete arguing the pros and cons of anchovies on pizza. Noah is a pizza connoisseur, and thinks that any topping other than the cheese and sauce is somehow a defilement of the pie. Recently he heard about a thing called anchovies when we went to pick up our ordered pizza. He never saw one, nor tasted one, but he is absolutely positive he hates "them salty, little fishes," and he is positive they have no business on a pizza pie. Well, Uncle Pete told him that he (Pete) sometimes has them. Talk about wide-eyed wonder of Christmas! It was a very serious discussion between the 4 year old and the 90 something. I think they agreed to disagree in the end! Too funny! Remember during these days we are only beginning our celebration of the Lord's Nativity. Our Christmas cycle is from December 25 until the feast of the Encounter in the Temple, which is on February 2. Those who pray according to the "old calendar" will have their Christmas on January 7, and continue till February 15.

In all of this we celebrate the joy, love and promise of Christmas Past, Christmas Pre-

sent, and Christmas future. Our Lord has come to us with His promise of salvation. Now we must go to Bethlehem and see Him and stay by Him and His holy family. We must watch Him grow, and then slowly, slowly reveal Himself to the world as God, as our Lord and God and Savior. We must follow Him to the Cross, for this is why He was born, and then to the empty tomb, where He will give us the reason for our very existence. That is, we have become adopted children of God, calling Him Abba, and we have been given the promise of Eternal Life. Yes, this tiny baby, lying in the manger in Bethlehem is indeed our great God. He is as our carol says, "Boh Predvichny-Eternal God" and our "Z Nami Boh-God with us!"

Tuesday is the civil holiday of New Year's Day. It is always a good opportunity for us to look to the past, and see where we have been, and what we have done, whether good or bad. It is the opportunity to give thanks for the present. It is the opportunity to look forward to the future and to make that one resolution to follow our God more closely. For He is our past, present, and future! He is our salvation! Happy New Year!

Happy New Life in Christ the Savior!

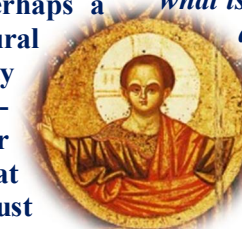
May you and yours continue to celebrate these glorious God-revealing days. May you know the Love and Peace and Joy of the Babe of Bethlehem. May the Holy Mother and her beloved spouse, the Righteous Joseph answer all our prayers. May you and those you love be blessed by the Baby of Bethlehem!

With much Christmas Love,
Father Ray

From "Good Samaritan" Ukr. Radio pr.

One of the most comforting thoughts we have to take into the New Year is that Jesus loves us and cares for us. There is not a person upon the earth for whom He fails to love. No matter where we live, regardless of who we are, Christ has a place for each of us in His heart. The idea of "place" seems important in the Gospel of St. Matthew, where we read of Bethlehem, the place of our Lord's birth and Egypt, the place of His refuge. Let us not forget Nazareth, in Galilee, that remained important not only at the beginning, but also at the very end - when Jesus was crucified. Place is important to God! The place where you are right now is important to God, wherever you may be: Perhaps a small town, a large city, or even a rural farm community. It may be a city where you barely know your neighbors. It may be a nursing home or even a homeless shelter, far from what you may consider "Home". But, trust our Lord lives there and welcomes our Spirit. For that place, wherever we may be, is always important to God. May you know in these days just after Christmas, and before the start of the coming New Year, that Jesus was born so that God would not dwell in some far off Kingdom, not in some distant place, but rather here with you and me. Wherever we are, Jesus longs to be born there. This is the Word given to us in the very first chapter of St. Matthew's Gospel, when an Angel appeared to Joseph in a dream. "Do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife", the Angel said, "For the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit, and they shall name Him Emmanuel", which means God is with us!

If the New Year were something tangible, some spark of the divine that could speak to us, perhaps it would say: I am the New Year. I am an unspoiled page in your book of time. I am your next chance at the art of living. I am your

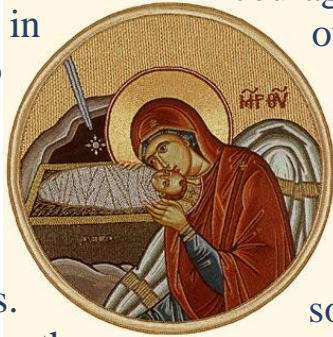


opportunity to practice what you have learned about life during the last twelve months. All that you sought and did not find is hidden in me, waiting for you to search it but with more determination. All the good that you tried for and did not achieve is mine to grant when you have fewer conflicting desires. All that you dreamed but did not dare to do, all that you hoped but did not will, all the faith that you claimed but did not have—these slumber lightly, waiting to be awakened by the touch of a strong purpose. I am your opportunity to renew your faith in the Lord who said, "Behold, I make all things new". It was over 2000 years ago, that St. Paul, gave this advice: "Forgetting what is behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on towards the goal for which God has called me, heavenwards in Christ Jesus." (Phil 3:13-14). This advice from scripture has stood the test of time. I do not know of any more relevant and practical advice for each of us, as another New Year stretches out before us. When Jesus brought His disciples to a mountain in Galilee, He gave them instructions for the days ahead. And then our Lord did not just leave them in that place, but rather spoke this Word of God's Promise: "Remember I am with you always, to the end of the age." So today and throughout this coming New Year, I pray you have enough happiness to keep you kind. Enough trials to keep you strong; Enough sorrow to keep you human; Enough hope to keep you happy; Enough weakness to keep you humble; Enough success to keep you thankful; Enough friends to give you comfort; Enough wealth to meet your needs; Enough enthusiasm to make you look forward to tomorrow, with enough determination to make each day better than the day before. I pray the Lord helps us to use this year in the wisest way we can: for Him, for His Peace, and for His Glory.

Hurricane Relief – Serving One’s Neighbor

During this time of Christmas, we need to be more Christ-like in response to those in need, we are called to demonstrate acts of love to those who are suffering; much like St. Nicholas did for the poor and homeless. Families devastated by the effects of Hurricane Sandy will not be able to celebrate Christmas as we do, because many are without homes and have lost everything to this devastating storm. In response to their hardships and loss, we are preparing a deanery wide raffle for one of our own Ukrainian Catholic Parishes and specifically their parishioners most devastated by the effects of Hurricane Sandy.

All proceeds from this raffle will go directly to 3 families in need, parishioners of Holy Family Parish in Lindhurst, NY, and each ticket will cost \$10. Raffle prizes



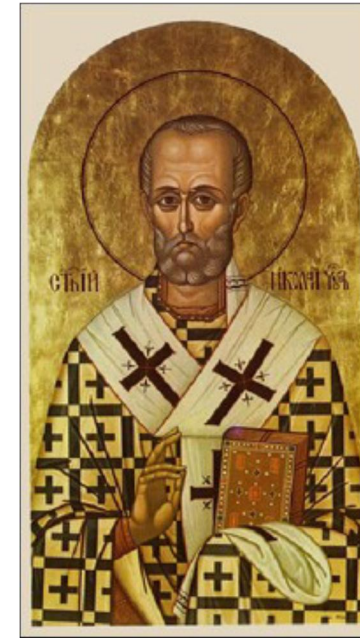
(which have been generously donated) will include: Apple iPad2, 26in. LED HD Television, and TomTom XXL540 GPS. We encourage all parishioners throughout the deanery to participate as much as you are able in this Deanery Raffle, for the benefit of those who are less fortunate during this Holy Season. The Raffle drawing will take place at St. Nicholas Church on January 13, 2013, following the Christmas Dinner.

Thank you for your generosity! May the good Lord bless us all and may the Mother of God always protect us!

***“As you did it to one of the least of my brethren, you did it to me.”
(Matthew 25:40)***

**To purchase \$10 tickets,
please call the St. Nicholas
rectory or speak with the
trustees following liturgies.**

Поміч Пострадалим - Служіння Близньому



«що більше щастя давати ніж приймати.» (Ді. 20, 35)



***«Усе, що ви зробили одному з моїх братів найменших – ви мені зробили.»
(Мт. 25, 40)***

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 самотні 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 противному 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 Brogh

Plastova Svicechka

Will be held Sunday Dec 30th after the 10 o'clock liturgy. We invite everyone to attend. The event has been listed in the 'official' calendar in the church hall. The Plastova stanycia also will sponsor the coffee hour on Dec 30th.

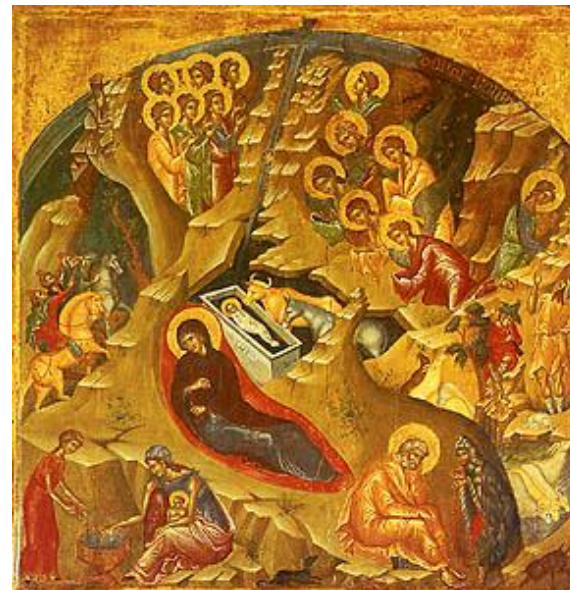
Пластова Станиця в Бафало запрошує всіх до участі у Різдвяній Свічечці в неділю 30-го грудня 2012 р. по св. літургії у 10-тій годині. Пл. Станиця також спонзорує каву і солодке.

Chrystyna Dziuba Brown



Наш Різдвяний Обід (Просфора) відбудеться у неділю 13 Січня, 2013 р. по Св. Літургії. Того дня буде тільки одна Відправа о 11 год. р.

Our Christmas Dinner (Prosphora) will take place on Sunday, January 13 after the only Divine Liturgy at 11 AM.



**St. John the Baptist
Ukrainian Catholic Church
3275 Elmwood Ave.
Kenmore NY 14217
Phone 873-5011
CHRISTMAS DINNER
Sunday, Jan. 13, 2013
For more info call Fr. Mykola**



**Holy Trinity Ukrainian Orthodox
Church, 200 Como Park Blvd in
Cheektowaga, NY 14227**

Phone 684-0738

**CHRISTMAS OBID
FOLLOWED BY CAROLING**

Sunday, Jan. 13, 2013

Divine Liturgy 9:30

Dinner 11:30

Adults \$15.00

Students \$7.50

Children under 10 Free

Pre-sale Tickets Only by January 7.

Tickets:

Halyna Antonyshyn 662-3532

V. Rev. Yuriy Kasyanov 684-0738

