



WAY ШЛЯХ

Official Publication of the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia

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ENGLISH VERSION



Congratulations

*Metropolitan-
Archbishop
Borys Gudziak*

*on your
One Year
Anniversary
of your
Enthronement on
June 4, 2019*

Mnohaya Lita!

*Many Happy Years!
Многая літа!*

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Archbishop Borys Leads Virtual Zoom Meeting of Clergy

Philadelphia, Pa.-- Friday afternoon, May 15, Archbishop Borys Gudziak led a virtual ZOOM meeting of archieparchial clergy. Through internet technology, while clergy remained in the respective locales, they were able to see and hear and interact with each other for the hour and a half session. The virtual session was necessitated due to the covid-19 pandemic.



After seminary rector, Father Robert J. Hitchens led the presbyterate in an opening prayer, Archbishop Borys explained that the purpose of the session was not business topics, but was to serve as a time for spiritual reflection on the role of the priest as father for the faithful.

During the Paschal season, from the First Paschal Sunday to the Feast of the Descent of the Holy Spirit, Pentecost, the Gospel of John is read during the Divine Liturgies in the Ukrainian Catholic Church.

Archbishop Borys developed the relationship of Jesus to His Father as found in the Joannine Gospel and

asked the clergy to look upon their vocations from a sense of fatherhood. He also asked them to re-read and reflect upon the Gospel of John from the perspective of Jesus during His passion and the role of Caiaphas, Herod, Annas, Pilate and the Roman soldiers, and also from the perspective of how Jesus the Son, relates to His Father.

Through Jesus Christ, the Father becomes known to us. In fact, the whole mission of Jesus Christ is in reference to the Father. The vocation of the Son is the vocation of the Father. The Father sent His Son into our existence to bring our humanity into a filial relationship with the

Father.

Through Jesus Christ, we are invited into this relationship with the Father. Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, then you will also know my Father. From now on you do know him and have seen him." John 14:7

Archbishop Borys called upon the clergy, through Jesus Christ to enter into the relationship with the Father. As His priests, our vocation is to extend this invitation for our faithful through Jesus Christ to also enter into this relationship with the Father. In so doing, all

of us become sons and daughters of the Father.

But the Archbishop also reminded the clergy that we cannot do this by ourselves, citing the words of Jesus: "I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit, because without me you can do nothing." John 15:5

After final comments from Archbishop Borys and some clergy, the ZOOM meeting concluded with a closing prayer offered by Father Paul Wolensky.

LEARNING TO WAIT DURING THIS PANDEMIC

by Archbishop (Emeritus) Stefan Soroka

Our daily life has suffered many major disruptions as a result of the covid-19 pandemic. You and I have been challenged to be patient and to wait. For most of us, it is hard to wait. It is hard to wait in traffic. It is hard to wait in line at a check-out counter. It is hard to wait for a vaccine to be developed. The longer we wait, the worse we tend to worry.



Recall that the Risen Christ asked the apostles to wait after His ascension. Jesus knew that the apostles could not fulfill their work alone. They needed the presence of the Holy Spirit to accomplish the work of the kingdom. The Holy Spirit would encourage, instruct, guide, and comfort them in their earthly ministry. They needed to wait. Why wait? There is a lesson for you and for me in what happened to them while they waited.

Perhaps the apostles needed to wait so that they could learn some obedience. They needed to learn to prepare themselves in listening to God's plan for them.

The passage of time would also help to prepare the apostles' hearts. They needed time to heal from their failures. They needed time to draw together. There is a special fellowship that develops among those who wait.

Waiting increases anxiety. Jesus knows this and calls the apostles and us to move beyond anxiety to trust, to grow in faith. If things do not seem to work out the way we expected, perhaps it is an opportunity to find God's plan in our life.

Waiting can be fruitful. If our lives belong to God, we do not become frustrated when our plans do not work out. If time belongs to God, we are not angered when things get rearranged in life. We come to realize that our 'to-do' list may not match God's assignment list. God is more interested in obedience, in quiet hope, in a prepared soul, than He is in our accomplishments.

The apostles had to wait. Not for ten minutes. Not for ten hours. They will wait for ten days. They did not know how long they would have to wait. While they waited, they struggled with their desires to get started in their earthly ministry. They argued whether they heard Jesus accurately. They struggled to encourage each other, to keep from quitting and returning home.

While waiting, the apostles learned to pray like they had never had to pray before. They learned to depend on one another. They learned to use their faith. In the absence of the physical presence of Jesus, they allowed their faith in his world to grow.

They waited and they became the men that Jesus knew they could be. They became a Church. Just wait! Imagine what can happen to you and to me beyond the challenge of this pandemic.

Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate Cancel Annual Pilgrimage

Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate announce that the 66th Holy Dormition Pilgrimage, which was scheduled for August 8 & 9, 2020 in Sloatsburg, NY has been cancelled.



We had hoped that this year’s pilgrimage would have been a place of sanctuary where all of us could gather to replenish our souls after the devastating effects of this pandemic. This difficult decision was made in light of the uncertainty of when travel and large gatherings will be safe again.

The Sisters Servants will keep you in prayer, and look forward to hosting the 66th Holy Dormition Pilgrimage on August 14 & 15, 2021, exactly on the feast of the Dormition of the Mother of God.

MOTHER’S DAY GREETING

On the occasion of Mother’s Day, the Staff of “The Way” wishes all our readers who are mothers good health, long life and the Lord’s choicest blessings. May the Holy Spirit guide all our mothers throughout their earthly stay. May the Holy Mother of God guard and protect each and every one from all evil.

**Many Happy and
Blessed Years!**



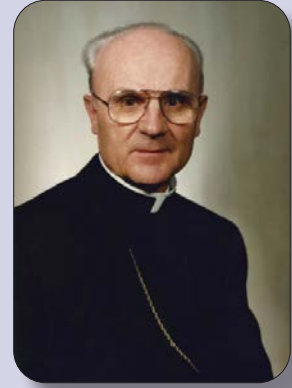
MOTHER’S DAY REMEMBRANCE

To all the deceased mothers of our readership, we pray for the blessed repose of their souls, and that the Lord God forgive all their sins, both voluntary and involuntary, and grant them entry into the eternal Kingdom of God – Heaven.

May Their Memory be Eternal!

**Note - The previous issue of “The Way” was dedicated to the late Metropolitan Stephen Sulyk. We were unable to put this Mother’s Day greeting in the previous issue.*

40th Day Panakhyda for the repose of the soul of Metropolitan Archbishop Emeritus Stephen Sulyk



A Panakhyda for the repose of the soul of Metropolitan Archbishop Emeritus Stephen Sulyk was celebrated by Metropolitan Borys and Bishop Andriy from the Crypt of the Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Philadelphia on Friday, May 15, 2020, marking the 40th Day since his falling asleep in the Lord.

Vichnaya Pamyat!

A Notecard of Appreciation to "The Way"

Catherine N. from Michigan wrote,

Editorial Staff of "The Way," At this time I wish to commend the entire staff of "The Way" for their outstanding performance in publishing the issue every two weeks. The content; informative from the Archbishop and others is very welcoming to me and others. I forward each issue to friends in Ohio, Michigan and relatives in Canada. I was very impressed with the issue on the late Metropolitan Sulyk. Enclosed is a check to assist in helping to defray the expense of "The Way."

*Thank you Catherine N. for your kind words and generosity!
May the Lord Bless You on this day and always!*
The Staff of "The Way"



Please subscribe to "The Way" if you aren't already a subscriber. Just send your e-mail address to us at theway@ukrcap.org and we will e-mail "The Way" to you.

Condolences on the loss of the late Metropolitan Stephen Sulyk from Archbishop Christophe Pierre, Apostolic Nuncio to the United States



APOSTOLIC NUNCIATURE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
N. 11143/20

3339 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20008-3610

April 9, 2020

Your Excellency,

I have been asked by the Secretariat of State to transmit to Your Excellency the following message:

*The Most Reverend Boris Gudziak
Archbishop of Philadelphia*

His Holiness Pope Francis was saddened to learn of the death of Archbishop Emeritus Stephen M. Sulyk and he offers heartfelt condolences to you and to the clergy, religious and lay faithful of the Archeparchy. Recalling with gratitude the blessings that accompanied the late Archbishop's many years of ministry to the faithful of the Metropolia of Philadelphia, His Holiness joins you in commending his soul to the merciful love of God our heavenly Father. To all who mourn Archbishop Sulyk in the sure hope of the Resurrection the Holy Father cordially imparts his Apostolic Blessing as a pledge of consolation and peace in the Lord Jesus.

*Cardinal Pietro Parolin
Secretary of State*

With sincere sympathy and heartfelt condolences, I remain

Fraternally yours in Christ,

✠ Christophe Pierre
Apostolic Nuncio

Most Reverend Borys Gudziak
Archbishop of Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy
810 N. Franklin Street
Philadelphia PA 19123-2005

Condolences on the loss of the late Metropolitan Stephen Sulyk from Cardinal Leonardo Sandri, Prefect of the Congregation for the Oriental Churches



CONGREGATIO
PRO ECCLESIIS ORIENTALIBUS

00193 Roma 8 aprile 2020
Via della Conciliazione, 34
Indirizzo postale: 00120 Città del Vaticano

Prot. N. 44/97

Eccellenza Reverendissima,

Appreso del pio transito di S.E. Mons. Stephen Sulyk, che ha retto l'Arcidiocesi di Philadelphia degli ucraini dal 1980 al 2000, insieme ai Superiori e agli Officiali della Congregazione per le Chiese Orientali desidero esprimere a Lei e all'intera Arcidiocesi il cordoglio accompagnato dal ricordo nella celebrazione dei Divini Misteri e dalla preghiera in suffragio di questo amato Pastore.

Ancora sei anni ed egli avrebbe raggiunto il secolo di vita, spazio di tempo entro il quale molti eventi si sono succeduti: il secondo conflitto mondiale certamente, al termine del quale egli fu ordinato presbitero, ma soprattutto il lungo tempo di prova cui furono sottoposti il popolo ucraino e la sua amata Chiesa, che egli ha servito in quasi settant'anni di ministero sacerdotale e quasi quaranta di quello episcopale.

Poco prima di presentare la rinuncia all'Ufficio di Arcivescovo Metropolita, egli volle prendere parte al Giubileo dei Vescovi a Roma, rispondendo alla convocazione di San Giovanni Paolo II: il Pontefice, in quell'occasione, disse ai Presuli presenti *"Volgendo indietro lo sguardo alle vicende della nostra vita, la commozione ci invade il cuore nel costatare in quanti modi il Signore ci ha dimostrato il suo amore e la sua misericordia. Davvero, "misericordias Domini in aeternum cantabo!"*.

Nella fede pensiamo che queste siano state la parole che l'Arcivescovo Stephen ha potuto meditare negli ultimi anni della sua lunga esistenza, preparandosi così all'incontro con il Buon Pastore, che ora lo accoglie donando il riposo eterno promesso ai suoi servi fedeli.

./.

A Sua Eccellenza Reverendissima
Mons. Borys A. GUDZIAK
Arcivescovo Metropolita di Philadelphia degli Ucraini
827 North Franklin Street
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19123-2097
U.S.A.

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Condolences on the loss of the late Metropolitan Stephen Sulyk from Cardinal Leonardo Sandri, Prefect of the Congregation for the Oriental Churches

CONGREGATIO
PRO ECCLESIIIS ORIENTALIBUS

2.

L'annuale celebrazione della Pasqua, specialmente nel contesto di emergenza che coinvolge molte Nazioni, rinnovi in tutti, Pastori e Fedeli, la fede in Cristo, vincitore della morte, e ci doni di continuare il pellegrinaggio verso la patria eterna certi dell'intercessione della Tutta Santa Madre di Dio.

Con cordiale ossequio

Suo dev.mo


✠ Leonardo Card. Sandri
Prefetto


Don Flavio Pace
Sotto-Segretario

Condolences on the loss of the late Metropolitan Stephen Sulyk from His Beatitude Sviatoslav Shevchuk



УКРАЇНСЬКА ГРЕКО-КАТОЛИЦЬКА ЦЕРКВА
Верховний Архієпископ Києво-Галицький

Київ,
Вих. ВА 20/119-1
7 квітня 2020 року Божого

Аркуш 1 із 2-х

Високопреосвященному владичі
Борисові Гудзяку,
архієпископу і митрополиту
Філадельфійському

Високопреосвященний Митрополите Борисе!

На Ваші руки складаю щирі слова співчуття духовенству, монахам і монахиням та вірним Філадельфійської Архиепархії і Митрополії з приводу смерті митрополита-емерита Стефана Сулика, який упокоївся 6 квітня 2020 року.

Прийняли ми звістку про відхід митрополита, який помер на 96-му році життя під час жорстокої пандемії коронавірусу, що охопила весь світ, з сумом, але також з християнською надією. Владики-емерити є скарбом нашої Церкви та хранителями нашої спільної історії. Митрополит Сулик був найстаршим за віком ієрархом нашої Церкви, який у своїй пам'яті зберігав унікальні спогади про розвиток Української Католицької Церкви, зокрема в Америці, де він священником і архиєреєм служив 65 років.

Митрополит Стефан Сулик прожив довге і наповнене визначними, а часом і трагічними, подіями життя. Молодим хлопцем від досвідчив жахи війни, був змушений тікати перед наступом радянської армії, пережив долю біженця, зрештою опинився в США. Він не просто вижив, але невтомно працював, розвиваючи Богом дані таланти та дари. Митрополит належав до великого покоління українців-втікачів, що переживши величезні травми та втрати, зуміло будувати, розвивати, примножувати і таким чином лишати майбутнім поколінням розвинуту церковну та громадську інфраструктуру. Майже 20 років владика був правлячим архієпископом і митрополитом Філадельфійської архієпархії. Господь його благословив побачити нове народження Церкви в Україні та відродження незалежної української держави.

Митрополит відійшов від нас у час Великого Посту, коли ми через молитву, піст і милостиню намагаємося наблизитися до Господа, щоб зустріти воскреслого Христа. 6 квітня, коли Ви в США розпочинали Страсний Тиждень, митрополит Стефан здійснив свій перехід до дому Отця.

a/c 210, Київ, 02002, Україна тел/факс: +38 (044) 541-11-14 E-mail: Ver_Arch@ugcc.org.ua

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Condolences on the loss of the late Metropolitan Stephen Sulyk from His Beatitude Sviatoslav Shevchuk

(continued from previous page)

Архиви 2 із 2-х
Вих. ВА 20/119-1

Члени нашої Церкви в усьому світі проводжають Покійного у його пасхальній ході від смерті до вічного життя. Молимося до нашого Спасителя, щоб Він прийняв Спочилого до своєї небесної обителі, де «душі святих і праведних спочивають».

Дякую Богові, що мав нагоду провідати митрополита Стефана в травні 2019 року під час своїх відвідин Сполучених Штатів Америки, і що, незважаючи на недавню операцію на серці, яку переніс митрополит, ми змогли щиро поговорити.

Прийміть запевнення в молитвах у наміренні Новопреставленого.

«Несказанної слави Твоєї сподоби, Христе, того, що до Тебе переставився, де є житло тих, які веселяться, і голос чистої радості».

Вічна йому пам'ять!



Sviatoslav Shevchuk
† СВЯТОСЛАВ

Remembering St. John Paul II on what would have been his 100th birthday - May 18, 2020



Photo: MEVA

St. John Paul II came to the Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Philadelphia, PA on October 4, 1979

Watch a video excerpt of St. John Paul II speaking at the Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in 1979 at <https://youtu.be/ONDLdEVLUpM>



Photo: MEVA

Celebrating Catholic Sisters Week



Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate

“Here I am Lord” - Part II



Sr. Anne Roman – I was born in Rochester, NY, the oldest of 3 children.

My sister and brother attended St. Josaphat’s School with me. We were taught by the Sisters Servants and some lay teachers. Even though I was close to the Sisters, I attribute my vocation to Fr. Nicholas Wolensky, our pastor. After graduating, I went to a public high school. In those days we were released early from classes to attend religious education.

Fr. Wolensky taught the high school class. Even though we had 2 elderly assistant priests, Fr. Nicholas carried the work load. When returning from a hospital visit, he would tell us to pray for so and so. He asked if I would

record the children’s weekly church envelopes. I took them home to record and at the bottom of the bag there was always candy or a treat. During the summer months when the Sisters were gone, he asked if I would take care of the church. Since I always wanted to teach, and with the examples of service, dedication and generosity of Fr. Wolensky, I decided to become a Sister.

With the blessing of my parents who drove me to Ancaster, Canada, I entered the Novitiate right after graduating high school. Next year I will be celebrating 60 years of Consecrated Life as a Sister Servant.

Sr. Jonathan Duchensky – “Today is God’s gift – listen to your heart.” My parents came from Ukraine and settled in New Jersey. Thus, I grew up belonging to St. John’s Ukrainian Catholic Church in Newark, NJ. I was blessed with being enrolled in Grade One the year St. John’s Parish School opened. I truly believe that my vocation to the Religious Life was born there.



I was blessed to attend the Dominican College in Caldwell, NJ. The Chaplain at the College told those graduating “by the age of 25, you better be where your heart wants you to be.” I had my degree and certificate to teach in grades 7-12. I loved teaching students debating skills, and watching their confidence grow. After three great years, even though South Plainfield High School wanted me to help their students, I was 24 years old and knew I needed to listen to my heart. Again, it was the priest at St. John’s who said to me, “Go see the SSMI’s. They are in Sloatsburg, NY.” I went to a place I had never been before, and heard my heart say, “Yes, here it is.” And so it has been and continues to be where my heart is – in each day. I invite you to listen to your heart – and each today becomes God’s gift.

Celebrating Catholic Sisters Week

Sr. Stephanie Sema – “My heart has always been filled with gratitude to God. He gifted me with faith-filled, loving, caring and patient parents and family, who never tired of my nagging young cry: “I want to be a Sister,” since I was in the fifth grade. They never objected, and I gratefully accepted God’s very special invitation with open arms to serve Him and others for 67 happy, joy-filled years of my life as a Sister Servant of Mary Immaculate – a dream fulfilled.



Sr. Cecelia Sworin, SSMI - *From Out of the Clear Blue Sky!*

I mostly grew-up in Scranton, PA, about a half-block from Saint Ann’s Monastery. I am Byzantine Ruthenian Catholic from my father and Roman Catholic from my Polish mother. On weekdays I was R.C. Then on weekends I was B.C. with an hour of catechism, followed by an hour of children’s choir practice on Saturdays, and Divine Liturgy on Sundays.

The “Novena to Saint Anne” every July was a paramount event for our neighborhood and for numerous pilgrims. When I was 10 years old, I simply prayed to “be a good girl” during that novena. Later in August while peacefully gazing out of the kitchen window, viewing a clear blue sky with big white puffy clouds, I heard a voiceless voice, “Oh! I’ll become a nun, a nurse and a teacher!” A short time later, one of the Passionist priests visited our home. My mother told him about me. He said, “Let her enjoy everything a girl her age enjoys, and then we’ll see.”

It was also a Vocation Year. *The Eastern Catholic Life* newspaper printed a vocation page, equally representing the novitiates of the Sisters of Saint Basil the Great and the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate. I saved that page. Something like a magnet kept pulling at my heart to become a Sister Servant, even though I did not know them and hardly had any contact with Sisters, aside from weekly catechism.

My parents made sure that I considered various vocations and careers to which I was attracted. One evening early during my junior year, while doing the supper dishes, I told my mother that I wanted to become a Sister. She said, “Go, tell your father.” So, I did. He asked, “Are you sure that this is what you want to do?” “Yeah, Dad.” “Are you really sure that this is what you want to do?” “Yeah, Dad.” “Are you really sure that you are really sure?” “Yeah, Dad.” “Okay.”

I suffered many fears and doubts the whole week before my Entrance Day, which was on August 25, 1968, when my family and I attended the Dedication Liturgy of the Sisters Servants’ newly built nursing home in Lansdale, PA. While we were singing “Святий Боже” “Holy God” – a strong current of peace flowed through me - and I just knew that is where I was to be! So, this is how I experienced Jesus calling me to ‘Come. Follow Him,’ and be His ‘beloved bride’!

Celebrating Catholic Sisters Week



Sr. Kathleen Hutsko – I am the youngest of four children born to Mary and Basil Hutsko. I grew up in Whiting, IN, and we were parishioners of St. Mary’s Byzantine Church. My parents worked diligently to instill in their children the importance of being honest, hardworking, loyal and always to do our best. But more importantly, we were reared with the values of Family and Church, which were the focus of how we lived our lives. Our neighborhood had many children on our block, and we were always outside playing. During rainy days, my twin brothers and I played church. Of course they were the altar boys and I was the priest. We were role-playing something familiar to us, something valuable in our family life. Church, family time and traditions were non-negotiables. We attended the parish school and were taught by the Sisters of St. Basil the Great. Our family was quite active in the parish and school, and I enjoyed “hanging out” with the nuns. I did lead a normal teenage life going out with friends and on dates. While I was in high school, my twin brothers Basil and Joseph entered the Seminary and were ordained priests. It just seemed a natural choice on their part. I went to work in Chicago for about 5 years enjoying the money and freedom. However, keeping active in the parish, and feeling the call to be more self-giving with my life than I was presently doing, I entered Religious Life. I have been a Sister Servant of Mary Immaculate for 40 years. As in all vocations of life, I experienced joys and hardships, but the strength of my community supporting me, and living the charism of our foundress Blessed Josaphata - striving to be a living light for people, I would do it all over again. ***Glory to God! Honor to Mary! Peace to Us!***

Sr. Mary Ann Botsko– The first time that I thought of being a Sister was when I had made my First Holy Communion on April 19, 1964. The seed was planted by the good example of my parents John and Mary Botsko, but even more so by my grandmother, Pauline Wolsnovich. My grandmother would pray the rosary every day, for the intention vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life. Little did my grandmother know that my twin brother Jerome would be entering the Priesthood, and I would be entering the Religious Life.



It has truly been a life filled with many experiences, and I will always be grateful to my grandmother’s prayers and the good example of my parents.

Are you being called to be a Sister Servant of Mary Immaculate?

Phone: 845-753-2840 E-mail: srkath25@gmail.com

website: ssmi-us.org

A few parishes in the Archeparchy of Philadelphia started having PUBLIC Divine Liturgies and other services the weekend of May 16-17, 2020.

The parishes were:

- Sts. Peter and Paul (Mount Carmel, PA)
- Ascension of Our Lord (Sayre, PA)
- Patronage of the Mother of God (Marion Heights, PA)
- Transfiguration of Our Lord (Shamokin, PA)
- Sts. Joachim and Anna (Front Royal, VA)
- Assumption of BVM (Centralia, PA)
- St. Volodymyr the Great (Palmerton, PA)
- Sts. Cyril and Methodius (Berwick, PA)



Photo from YouTube

PLEASE REMEMBER TO SUPPORT YOUR PARISH

DURING THIS UNPRECEDENTED TIME, EVERYONE IS ENDURING HARDSHIPS.



PARISHES, WITH NO WEEKLY COLLECTIONS AND CANCELLED FUNDRAISERS, ARE ALSO EXPERIENCING FINANCIAL HARDSHIPS AND HAVE A DESPERATE NEED OF FUNDS TO PAY THEIR REGULAR BILLS AND MEET THEIR PARISH EXPENSES.

PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR CHURCH BY MAILING YOUR WEEKLY OFFERINGS TO YOUR LOCAL PARISH UNTIL PUBLIC LITURGICAL SERVICES RESUME.

Front Royal Mission Parish uses "Zoom" to teach Religious Education

Religious Education classes continue at SS Joachim and Anna in Front Royal, Virginia. They are continuing their classes using Zoom website as the platform. Students are practicing for the Mystery of Repentance, learning their prayers, memorizing the 10 Commandments, singing songs and finishing up the year online. Students enjoy showing off their homework (and their pets) to the other students in the class.



KIDS of THE WAY ШЛЯХ

Official Publication of the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia



Catechism of the Ukrainian Catholic Church: Christ Our Pascha

The Church Fathers

As we prepare to celebrate the Sunday of the Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council at the end of this month, we will hear how a priest named Arius started telling people that Our Lord Jesus was **not** really God—**not** really the second person of the Holy Trinity. In the year 325, the Emperor Constantine the Great called for all the bishops of the Church to meet together in a council to talk about what to do about this problem. Of course, we know that the bishops all declared that Arius was **very wrong** and that Jesus is truly God. To make sure everyone knew this, they wrote the Creed that we say each Sunday at Divine Liturgy. We call this the Nicene Creed.

But wait!!! How do we know who was right about this? Maybe Arius was right all along? How do we know???

We know because God Himself revealed this to His Church. The whole faith of the Church is founded on God's revelation to us. Let's turn to our catechism to see how this works.

Turn to **Part One—The Faith of the Church**. We learn about how God revealed to us the Mystery of the Holy Trinity and all the truths of our Faith.

We learn in paragraphs 21 and 22 that God reveals Himself to us in His creation. It is hard **not** to believe in God when we look at the world around us.

In Paragraphs 23—26 we see that God also reveals Himself to us in history. He revealed himself to Adam and Eve in the Garden, to Abraham, calling him to be the Father of all Believers, to Moses in the burning bush and to David from whose line came Our

Lord Himself. These are all stories in the Old Testament, before Jesus came to earth.

In the New Testament God Himself, the Second Person of the Holy Trinity, became man and lived among us on earth. In paragraph 27 we read that Jesus told his apostles, "Whoever has seen Me, has seen the Father." We also read that He told them that He and the Father were one. In Jesus we see the **fullness of revelation**. We know there is a Trinity because God Himself told us so.

But wait . . . There's more. Our Lord lived with His apostles and taught them many things. After Our Lord's death, the Apostles continued to teach the Gospel to all people just as Jesus asked them to do. We call this the **Apostolic Tradition**.

The teachings of the Apostles were passed on to the early Christians who with the help of the Holy Spirit remembered what the apostles told them and passed this on to the next generation of Christians. These were the leaders and bishops of the Church, holy men like St. Clement of Rome, St. Ignatius the God-Bearer, and St. Polycarp, who learned from St. John himself. The teaching of these **Holy Church Fathers** were passed down to other holy men, like St. Athanasius of Alexandria, St. Basil the Great and St. Gregory of Nyssa. This is called **Oral Tradition**. These great men and bishops of our Church meet in councils together to help us better understand the Gospel.

Jesus continues to teach us through His Church in two main ways. **1. Sacred scripture**—The Bible, the written word of God and **2. Oral Tradition**, the faith passed down by word of mouth from Our Lord, to the Apostles, to the Holy Church Fathers, to our modern bishops today, and finally to us.

Unlike the birthday party game of Telephone where messages get totally messed up along the way, all this oral tradition is protected by the Holy Spirit. Jesus told us so. We love Him and believe Him.

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I SPY IN MY LITTLE "I" CON

THE ASCENSION

Welcome to the Feast of the Ascension of our Lord into Heaven!

This year we celebrate this day on Thursday, May 21st, forty days after Easter. This feast gets its name from the Latin terms ascensio and occasionally ascensa, signifying that Christ was raised from the dead by His Powers.

Which people can you identify in this Icon?

How many Angels can you find?

In the Gospels, the Angels are speaking to the Apostles.

What do you think they are saying?

Check out Acts 1:11 to find out.



ASCENSION OF OUR LORD BY FR. VLADIMIR LYSAK

Do you see Christ in Glory?

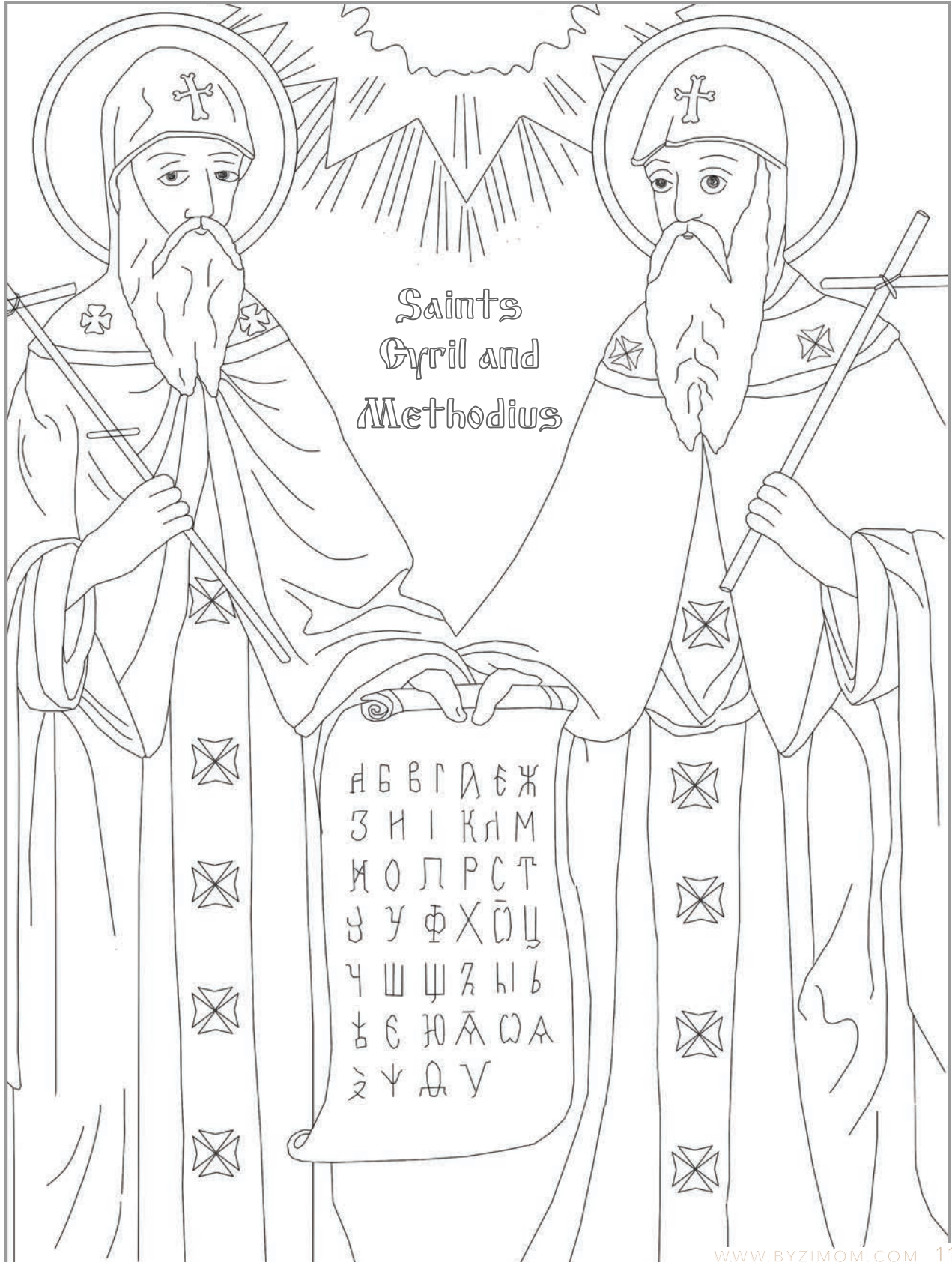
The Icon places Mary at the very center of the composition as the pillar and foundation of the Church, the axis linking earth with heaven, where Christ sits enthroned among the angelic powers.

What part of the Icon shows us that some of the people are still on earth?

The rocks, and sometimes olive trees represent nature's joyous participation in the cosmic liturgy. The Apostles are agitated; they look up and down, pointing to the sky in excitement.

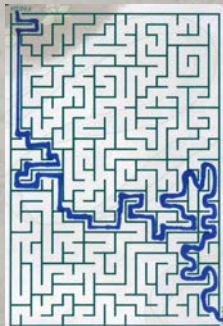
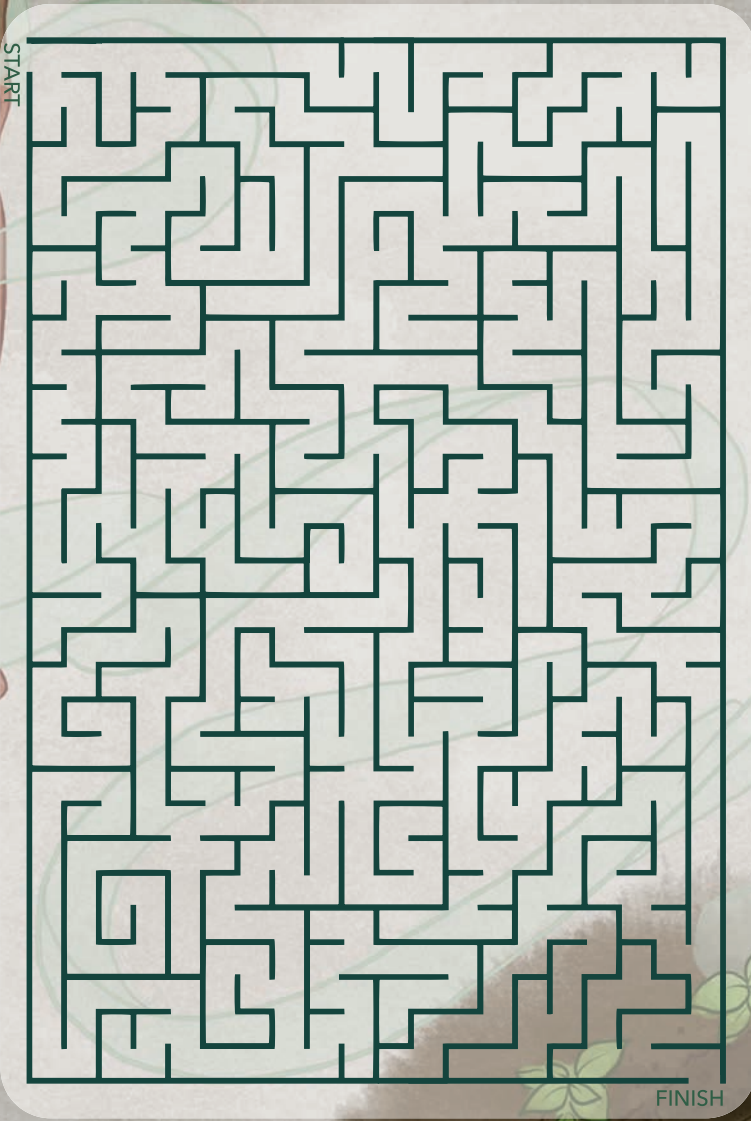
Who seems to be an oasis of tranquility? Who remains at peace?

Besides the angels, this person is the only one with a halo, to show this tranquility.



ARTWORK BY JULIE LUCKEY © 2019

HELP ST. HELENA
FIND THE
TRUE CROSS.





The Apparition of the Sign of the Cross over Jerusalem

In the spring of the year, 351 AD, the Byzantine Empire, was controlled by an Emperor named Constantius, the son of St. Constantine the Great, who, unlike his father, believed in a heresy known as Arianism. Even after the Council of Nicea had declared that God existed as Trinity (one-in-essence and undivided). A Bishop named Arius and many Christians in his eparchy and beyond began to believe the opposite. They incorrectly believed that Jesus was not begotten of the Father, but created, like angels or human beings. This confusion was doing great harm to the Church, and the Christian people became deeply divided because of it.

At that time, there also lived a holy man named Cyril, who was the Archbishop of Jerusalem. The Archbishop fought tirelessly against this heretical thought and consequently was often at odds with the Emperor. Cyril prayed fervently to God every single day. He prayed that God would give him the courage and the grace to be able to correct this error and bring those misguided souls back to orthodox thinking.

Soon the feast of Pentecost had arrived. Archbishop Cyril was saying his prayers before the Divine Liturgy when he noticed that an extraordinary light was coming into the Church from outside his window. When he went to look, he saw that there were tongues of fire in the sky above the Church! All of the people began to run outside to look up and marvel at what they were seeing;

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it was a luminous cross in the sky above them, surrounded by a beautiful rainbow!

This giant cross that appeared in the sky cast itself over the city of Jerusalem and stretched from Golgotha to the Mount of Olives, which is about five and a half miles away! The people of Jerusalem and all of the area around the city knew precisely whose symbol this was, and thousands of them ran to the Church looking for instruction from Archbishop Cyril. He took the opportunity that Pentecost Sunday to teach everyone about the true nature of the Trinity. This sign shined over Jerusalem for an entire week and converted many pagans, Jews, and Arians. The event was so inspiring to all who witnessed it. Not only was it documented by the Church but also by all of the secular historians of the day.

St. Cyril took the opportunity to write a letter that very day to the Emperor Constantius, telling him about the cross in the sky and giving him instruction against Arianism as well. St. Cyril urged the Emperor to adopt a genuine belief in the Holy Trinity. At this, the Emperor was converted to the truth and renounced the Arian heresy! This historical letter has been preserved and can still be read today.

- Written by Lynne Wardach

See a copy of Archbishop Cyril's letter to the Emperor Constantius [HERE](#):



Troparion: The sign of your cross appeared as a dazzling glow, more radiant than the sun. O Savior, You stretched it from the holy mountain to the place of Calvary, manifesting in this way the power You have given to it. Preserve our civil authorities in strength and establish our country in peace, through the prayers of the Theotokos.

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, the only-begotten, born of the Father before all ages. Light of light, true God of true God, begotten, not made, of one substance with the Father, through Whom all things were made. Who for us men, and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and Mary the virgin, and became man. He was also crucified for us under Pontius Pilate, and suffered, and was buried. And He rose again on the third day, according to the Scriptures. And He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory, to judge the living and the dead, and of His kingdom there will be no end. And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, and Giver of life, Who proceeds from the Father, Who together with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, Who spoke through the prophets. In one holy catholic, and apostolic Church. I profess one Baptism for the remission of sins. I expect the resurrection of the dead; and the life of the world to come. Amen.

ByziKids bookmark 5 of 12

CUT ALONG THE DOTTED LINE

MEANWHILE...

Times were desperate in the Byzantine empire in the 11th century, and sometimes it became difficult to tell the good guys from the bad guys!



Here's a story about the feast we commemorate on May 9th where the robbers are actually celebrated for having saved the day!

Even in those early times, there were radical Muslims who pillaged Christian lands, murdered Christian people, burned their homes, and even went so far as to destroy their churches and desecrate all sacred objects. In the year 1087, the people of Bari, Italy, had heard that these Muslim invaders were approaching Antioch. They feared that they might destroy the bones of their beloved Saint Nicholas, whose body was entombed at a monastery there. So several businessmen from Venice and Bari decided to save the body of the saint from desecration. They sailed to Myra and made their way to the monastery where the relics were kept. At first, the monks there believed that the men were simply pilgrims and so they allowed them to venerate the bones and blessed them with the myrrh, which came from them, not knowing that they planned to steal the body.

That night, St. Nicholas appeared in a dream to one of the elder monks telling him to take special care to guard his body. When this monk revealed this to the businessmen, they took the opportunity to reveal their plans to him and offered to buy the relics and take them away. The monks refused, not wanting to part with their special saint. The men became desperate to save time and take the relics to safety, so they quickly tied them up and proceeded to steal the body of the saint. Loading the myrrh-filled sarcophagus of bones onto their ship, they sailed home to safety. They were welcomed in Bari, Italy, on May 9th, 1087, where the bones of St. Nicholas were carried in procession to the Church, healing all who gazed upon or touched them, and there they remain until this day.

May 9th is like a little St. Nicholas Day!
How will you celebrate? How will you celebrate?

-Written by Lynne Wardach

FEAST OF PENTECOST DESCENT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT (May 31st, June 7th, 2020)

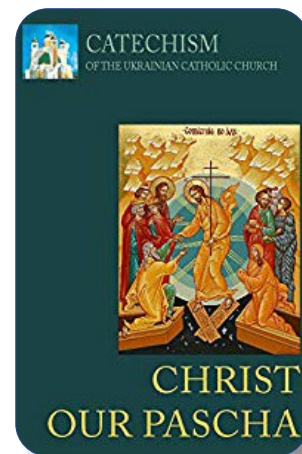
“Heavenly King, Advocate, Spirit of Truth, Who are present everywhere and fill all things, Treasury of Blessings, Bestower of Life, come and dwell within us, cleanse us of all that defiles us, and, O Good One, save our souls.” (Prayer to the Holy Spirit at the beginning of the Divine Liturgy)

Fifty days after the Resurrection of Our Lord, the Church celebrates the Feast of Pentecost. We celebrate the Descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles (Acts 2:1-4). Our Lord Jesus Christ before the Ascension, His return to the Heavenly Kingdom, promised His Apostles that He would ask the Father to another Advocate, the Holy Spirit, Who would remain with His disciples, the Church, unto the end of times. (John 14:16-17) The Holy Spirit bears witness to Christ. The Lord told the Apostles: “The Holy Spirit will teach you everything, and remind you all that I have spoken to you.” (John 14:26)

In our Catechism, Christ Our Pascha, His Beatitude Sviatoslav, instructs us that “the Holy Spirit is indispensable in humankind’s salvation.” All humankind is endowed with an intellect and will. But without grace, the gift, the blessing of the Holy Spirit, we are only a body and soul and do not truly understand the Spirit of God.

On this joyous Feast of Pentecost, we celebrate the birth of the Church. The Apostles were empowered by the Holy Spirit to go out and preach the Gospel of Christ, Absolute and pure Love and Truth, throughout the world, to all the nations. All peoples are called to become members of the Mystical Body of Christ, the Church. We become members of the Church when we are baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

We Christians, authentic and devout followers of Christ, are to grow and develop in the grace of the Holy Spirit, so as to become liken unto Christ Himself. In so doing, we are equipped to withstand the temptations of the devil, the evil one, and to avoid sin and remain faithful to Christ and His teaching. We are transformed by grace, the operation of the Holy Spirit, to prepare ourselves for an eternity with God in Heaven. Living a Spirit-filled life, our journey to the eternal Kingdom of Heaven keeps us on the straight and narrow, the Path whose final destination is the Kingdom of God.



The Holy Spirit will dwell within us and guide, inspire and sustain us during all the days of our earthly stay, until that day, we pray, each of His faithful ones be deemed worthy of entry into Heaven, where we shall meet the Lord God, face-to-face. Amen. (Article based upon the Teachings found in our Catechism, Christ Our Pascha, paragraphs 255-270)

(continued on next page)

FEAST OF THE MOST BLESSED TRINITY PENTECOST MONDAY (JUNE 1st; June 8th)



THE CHURCH IS AN ICON OF THE OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

In the “fullness of time” (see Galatians 4:4) God the Father visits humankind through His incarnate Son, conceived by the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, so that the human race in the Holy Spirit, through adoption in Christ, would come to the Father. The place and environment where God’s adoption of human beings is realized in the Mystical Body of Christ, the Church. The Church is the People of God, the Body of Christ, and the temple of the Holy Spirit. The Church, initiated in the eternal plan of the Father, becomes a reality in the Incarnation of God’s Son and is manifested at the descent of the Holy Spirit.

The Church, as the place where Father, Son, and Holy Spirit act, is an icon of the Most Holy Trinity, that is, a community where human beings can commune with God and with each other. As God is one in three Persons, so also the one community of the Church exists in the coming together of self-governing Churches that live in communion with each other. (Christ Our Pascha, 271-272)

**Rev. D. George Worschak,
Assistant Editor**

Liturgy Petitions for the Healing from Coronavirus

Jesus Christ, you traveled through towns and villages “curing every disease and illness.” At your command, the sick were made well. In the midst of the coronavirus pandemic, give your command that we may be spared from this illness and experience your healing love, let us pray to the Lord.

Supreme Physician of our souls and bodies, heal those who are ill from coronavirus, have mercy on those who have died and comfort their families, grant the wisdom to those searching for a cure, and help us, through your peace, to overcome our anxiety and fear, let us pray to the Lord.

Прошення за виздоровлення від коронавірусу

Ісусе Христе, Ти проходив через міста і села оздоровлюючи від хвороб і немочей. За Твоїм повелінням хворі видужували. У час пандемії коронавірусу повели цій хворобі відступити, щоб ми відчули Твою оздоровлюючу любов, Господу помолімся.

Всевишній Зцілителю душ і тіл наших, вилікуй тих, які захворіли на коронавірус, помилуй тих, які померли, й утіш їхні сім'ї, даруй мудрість тим, які шукають ліки, поможи нам через свій мир подолати тривогу і страх, Господу помолімся.



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Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate Cancel Annual Pilgrimage in Sloatsburg, NY

Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate announce that the 66th Holy Dormition Pilgrimage, which was scheduled for August 8 & 9, 2020 in Sloatsburg, NY has been cancelled.



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7TH SESSION OF THE PATRIARCHAL SOBOR POSTPONED DUE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC

May 1, 2020

This is stated in the Decree of the Head of the UGCC. The date of the Sobor will be determined after hearing the opinions of the members of the Synod of Bishops. The UGCC Department for Information report.

"In view of the COVID-19 pandemic, taking into account the proposals of the Secretariat, having heard the opinions of the members of the Synod of Bishops of the UGCC, and especially considering the good of the delegates, the 7th Session of the Patriarchal (All-Church) Sobor of the UGCC has been transferred to the second half of 2021," it says in the Decree.



"The Patriarchal Sobor is the advisory assembly of the entire Church headed by the Patriarch. It assists the Patriarch and Synod of Bishops of the Patriarchal Church in addressing important issues. With our Decree of December 13, 2018, we convened the seventh session of the Patriarchal (All-Church) Council (Sobor) of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church on the topic 'Emigration, Settlement and Global Unity of the UGCC,' which was to take place on August 26-29, 2020 in Lviv," explains the text of the Decree.

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https://risu.org.ua/en/index/all_news/catholics/ugcc/80000

His Beatitude Sviatoslav on Mother's Day: Mother is a word that inspires in everyone optimism and hope

Sunday, 10 May 2020

His Beatitude Sviatoslav, Father and Head of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, greeted Ukrainian mothers on Mother's Day, which is traditionally celebrated in Ukraine on the second Sunday in May.

"Mom is a special person for each of us. First of all, the mystery of

motherhood is connected with the beginning of human life. Mother, her person, her body is the first earthly paradise for every person. It is the mother who is constantly watching over life, giving her child everything she has. The mother, if she could, would give herself for her child. She is the first to feel what her child needs. The mother prays for the child and cares

for her. Mom is a word that inspires optimism and hope in everyone. If we have a mother, it means that we have help and support," said His Beatitude Sviatoslav.

On Mother's Day, the Head of the UGCC cordially greeted all mothers. In particular, those who in their motherhood feel and accept the gift that must

be fulfilled in love. "I want to thank all the women who were not afraid to accept the gift of motherhood from God and take care of it. Mothers live in it, rejoice and grow," he said.

"On behalf of your children, I want to say to every mother: thank you

(continued on next page)

His Beatitude Sviatoslav on Mother's Day: Mother is a word that inspires in everyone optimism and hope

(continued from previous page)

for what I am, for the fact that I was born and live," the Head of the Church emphasized.

"May the Lord send all the graces of the Holy Spirit to all our mothers on this day, through the prayer of the whole Church, which is also our

mother," His Beatitude Sviatoslav wished.

He noted that the month of May is officially dedicated to the Virgin Mary, who is the Mother of God. Her motherhood is connected with the gift of her life to the Son of God. "May she be an

example and intercessor for you, a prayer, a cover and a comforter. Grace to you from the Holy Spirit and joy from your children," the Primate of the UGCC wished to the mothers.

The UGCC Department for Information

http://news.ugcc.ua/en/news/head_of_the_ugcc_on_mothers_day_mother_is_a_word_that_inspires_in_everyone_optimism_and_hope_89609.html

His Beatitude Sviatoslav thanks all for the greetings on his 50th Birthday

May 7, 2020

On May 5, the Father and Head of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church celebrated his 50th birthday.

On this occasion, His Beatitude Sviatoslav received many greetings. The Prime Minister of Ukraine personally congratulated the Primate of the UGCC on the occasion of the anniversary.

The letters, in particular, were sent by the President of Ukraine and the Primate of the PCU. Bishops of the UGCC from all over the world greeted the Head of the Church through ZOOM.

"These days I have received many warm, sincere, interesting, valuable and dear to my heart greetings through written letters, emails, as well as through other means of communication. I would very much like to thank everyone for them," shared the Primate.

"That is why let me express my sincere thanks to all of you who greeted me and expressed words of respect and support. May the merciful Lord reward you all for your prayer, sincerity and desire to be with me, a sinner, on this day. May the Lord God bless us all," said the Head of the UGCC.

The UGCC Department for Information

http://news.ugcc.ua/en/news/his_beatitude_sviatoslav_thanked_for_the_greetings_on_the_occasion_of_his_anniversary_89586.html



Photo: Irop ЯЦІВ Facebook

His Beatitude Sviatoslav: the coronavirus pandemic is a radical call of God to people: stop waging wars against each other

May 16, 2020

You can hear a lot if you listen to God and try to understand how a person can build a new culture and civilization in a new way. The key to building a "new world" is the commandment of love, which renews those who practice it and who live by it.

This request was made by Father and Head of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church His Beatitude Sviatoslav during the Open Church program on Zhyve TV. Sonia Koshkina, editor-in-chief of the online publication Livyj Bereh, took part in the conversation.

Speaking about the reasons why and for what God allowed the situation with the pandemic, the Primate of the UGCC admitted that he does not have an answer to this question. However, he urged everyone to ask God about this every day, listen to His voice, and try to understand what He wants to tell us.

His Beatitude Sviatoslav shared his own thoughts on the cause of the coronavirus pandemic.

"If we analyze the situation with the virus," says the Head of the Church, "we begin to see that we are living in a period of fundamental and global cataclysms and changes. The ecological crisis in the world is the basis for the mutation of this virus. We don't know if there will be another pandemic in the world after we overcome the coronavirus."

"Today we feel a deep shock in nature. There is a feeling that nature is beginning to defend itself against man. That is why it is important for us to rethink our attitude to the environment very seriously," he said. He also added: "Perhaps this will also help us today to rethink global relations between different political centers and, finally, to stop fighting each other. Stop investing in weapons."

The Head of the Church drew attention to the fact that to this day Ukraine is at the epicenter of a new geopolitical game and is suffering from war.

He also drew attention to the global consequence of the pandemic - the economic crisis. "We see that the sanitary crisis is creating an economic crisis. There is a lot of talk about the recession of the world economy, which may be worse than in the early twentieth century. We need to build a more harmonious economic system in the world. It is important for us to understand how to distribute our resources equitably," he said.

"I was very concerned about the statement of one of the UN spokesmen, who spoke about the dangers of world hunger. It says that there may be a famine on a biblical scale. We must hear not only those suffering from coronavirus, but also those who suffer from the unfair distribution of resources in the world," stressed the Father and Head of the UGCC.

The UGCC Department for Information

http://news.ugcc.ua/en/news/the_head_of_ugcc_the_coronavirus_pandemic_is_a_radical_call_of_god_to_people_stop_waging_wars_against_each_other_89675.html

June 2019 - Червня 2019 р.

Happy Birthday!

З Днем народження!

June 6: Rev. Mark Fesniak
June 9: Rev. Volodymyr Klanichka
June 12: Bishop John Bura
June 30: Rev. Yaroslav Kurpel

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June 6: Rev. Nestor Iwasiw (27th Anniversary)
June 13: Most Rev. Stefan Soroka, Archbishop-emeritus (38th Anniversary of being Ordained a Priest) & (24th Anniversary of being Ordained a Bishop)
June 14: Rev. Stepan Bilyk (19th Anniversary)
June 17: Rev. Leonid Malkov, C.S.s.R. (30th Anniversary)
June 22: Rev. Walter Pasicznyk (6th Anniversary)
June 23: Rev. Roman Sverdau (7th Anniversary)
June 29: Rev. Msgr. Peter Waslo (34th Anniversary)
June 30: Rev. Volodymyr Baran, C.S.s.R. (35th Anniversary)

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