



From the letter of Bohdan Cherniawski, SBStJ, CD, Director Ukrainian Congress Committee of America – Buffalo Branch  
 Subject: The Moral and Theological Imperative to Support Ukraine's Defense

The defense of Ukraine is not merely a political or military necessity but a sacred duty, deeply rooted in Christian moral theology. As Christ teaches us in John 15:13, "Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends." This is not a call to passive suffering, but to sacrificial love—defending the weak, the oppressed, and the dignity of a sovereign nation.

The Ukrainian Catholic tradition has long understood resistance to evil as both a moral and spiritual obligation. The concept of just war, articulated by St. Augustine and developed by St. Thomas Aquinas, provides a framework for viewing Ukraine's defense as righteous. St. Thomas teaches that a just war requires three conditions: legitimate authority, a just cause, and right intention (Summa Theologiae, II-II, Q.40). Ukraine fulfills all three. Its government acts with legitimate authority to protect its people, its cause is just in repelling an unprovoked invasion, and its intent is to preserve peace and sovereignty, not to seek conquest.

... the Catechism of the Catholic Church states that "legitimate defense can be not only a right but a grave duty for those responsible for the lives of others" (CCC 2265). Pope St. John Paul II emphasized that true peace is inseparable from justice, writing in Centesimus Annus (1991) that failing to confront aggression emboldens the oppressor rather than ensuring genuine peace. The war in Ukraine is not just a political conflict—it is a moral and spiritual battle between truth and deception, justice and lawlessness. As St. Paul instructs us, "Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good." (Romans 12:21).

This is why any negotiation that legitimizes Russian occupation is not only a betrayal of Ukraine but a violation of our moral duty. True peace can only be achieved through:

1. Complete Withdrawal – Every Russian military presence must leave Ukrainian territory immediately.
2. Restoration of Borders – Ukraine's internationally recognized borders must be reinstated without compromise.
3. Accountability – Those who have committed war crimes and engaged in illegal occupation must be held responsible.
4. Security Assurances – Enforceable guarantees must be established to protect Ukraine's sovereignty now and in the future.

Hegsworth's recent statements, which normalize dialogue with an aggressor without demanding accountability, dangerously distort the reality of this war. Blaming Ukraine for its own defense ignores the overwhelming evidence of an unprovoked invasion. The Ukrainian Catholic Church, having suffered persecution under Soviet rule, knows all too well the cost of appeasement. Our Church must stand firm in defending Ukraine's right to freedom, democracy, and human dignity.

✠

№ 07

✠

FEBRUARY

16

✠

2025

✠

SAINT NICHOLAS

UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

✠

№ 07

✠

UNDER THE PROTECTION OF

MOTHER OF GOD

CHURCH BULLETIN

February 16 – 2025 – 16 лютого

ЦЕРКОВНИЙ ВІСНИК

### Верховна Рада Встановила Національний День Молитви 24 Лютого



Верховна Рада в середу, 12 лютого, схвалила постанову про встановлення в Україні Національного дня молитви, який відзначатимуть щорічно 24 лютого.

Про це повідомив народний депутат Ярослав Железняк, передає Еспreso. За постанову №12412 проголосували 255 нардепів.

Так, у Національний день молитви Верховна Рада проведе засідання, яке почнеться з виконання духовного гімну України "Боже великий, єдиний".

"Спільна молитва захистить Україну та тих, хто продовжує боротьбу на полі бою, стане свідченням духовного єднання українського народу та символом нашої непохитної віри у перемогу", – йдеться в записці.

### Verkhovna Rada Establishes the National Day of Prayer

On Wednesday, February 12, the Verkhovna Rada approved a resolution establishing the National Day of Prayer in Ukraine, which will be celebrated annually on February 24.

This was reported by MP Yaroslav Zheleznyak, according to Espresso. Resolution No. 12412 was voted "for" by 255 MPs.

Thus, on the National Day of Prayer, the Verkhovna Rada will hold a session, which will begin with the performance of the spiritual anthem of Ukraine - the Prayer for Ukraine ("Lord, oh the Great and Almighty").

"Joint prayer will protect Ukraine and those who continue to fight on the battlefield; it will be a testament to the spiritual unity of the Ukrainian people and a symbol of our unwavering faith in victory," the explanatory note reads.

Loving God, we pray for the people of Ukraine, for all those suffering or afraid. Be close to them and protect them.

We pray for the world that in this moment of crisis, we may reach out in solidarity to our brothers and sisters in need.



## CHURCH BULLETIN

February 16 – 2025 – 16 лютого  
ЦЕРКОВНИЙ ВІСНИК  
LITURGICAL SCHEDULE



St. Nicholas Ukr. Cath. Church  
Церква Святого Миколая  
(Під Опікою П.Д.М.)  
ПОРЯДОК СВ. ЛІТУРГІЙ

4:30 PM +Michael Petryshyn -1 y. **STREAMING**  
(Maria Petryshyn) (Eng)

16 лютого: Н. Блудного Сина **STREAMING**  
February 16: Sunday of the Prodigal Son

10:00 AM За живих і померлих парохіян  
For Parishioners living and dec.

Monday, February 17 лютого, понеділок  
9:00 AM За прославу Сл. Б. Патріярха Йосифа  
(17 February 1892 – 7 September 1984)  
For the beatification of Patr. Josyf Slipyj

Tuesday, February 18 лютого, вівторок  
9:00 AM В наміренні Данила і Роксоляни К.  
Wednesday, February 19 лютого, середа  
9:00 AM ++батьків Пилипа і Марії – річ. 1937  
For my parents ++Filip & Marija

Thursday, February 20 лютого, четвер  
9:00 AM Int of Ihor Puhacz & Stephania Hnatiw  
Friday, February 21 лютого, п'ятниця  
9:00 AM +Iwan Liwak (R. M.)

Saturday, February 22 лютого, субота  
10:00 AM +Marija Dranka (Family)  
4:30 PM +Alex N. Nesteruk **STREAMING**  
(Family) – 40<sup>th</sup> Day (Eng)

23 лютого: М'ясопусна Неділя – Стр. Суду  
February 23: Meatfare Sunday **STREAMING**

10:00 AM +Василь Пугач - 2 р. (Мар'янна)  
+Wasył Puhacz – 2 Anniv. (Mary Ann)

Eternal Light burns for the Intention of  
Kami, Melissa & Carl (Elaine Nowadly)

Eternal Light Honoring Mother of God burns  
for the Special Intention (Maria Petryshyn)

We pray for the real PEACE in Ukraine!  
Молимося за справедливий МИР в Україні!

### Save the Date

On Saturday, March 22,  
2025, the League of  
Ukrainian Catholics,  
Niagara Frontier Council  
is sponsoring a  
**Spaghetti Dinner**



Fundraiser to benefit the  
Msgr. Paul Iwachiw Scholarship Fund. Our  
scholarship fund  
lacks the money  
to award another  
scholarship, so  
we are having this  
fundraiser in the hopes of raising some money  
to replenish the fund to continue to offer a  
scholarship to a deserving student. The dinner  
will be from 5:00-7:30PM. Since this is a  
fundraiser, the donation will be \$20.00 and  
\$10.00 for children 12 and under. The dinner  
includes spaghetti (sauce from Chefs),  
meatballs, salad, bread, plus coffee and  
dessert. We hope you will support us in raising  
funds for the Msgr. Paul Iwachiw Scholarship.

### Preparation for Solemn Holy Communion:

Today, Sunday, February 16th we are starting  
our weekly religion classes in preparation for  
the Solemn Communion from 11:30-12:30.  
We will have it Sunday mornings.

Приготування до торжественного святого  
причастя починаємо сьогодні, 16 лютого по  
Св. Літургії. Навчання буде тривати годину  
(11:30 до 12:30), і будемо зустрічатися кожної  
неділі, аж до початку травня.

Christina H. Arthurs, Attorney  
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Lounge is OPEN every Friday 5-9 pm.

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Ukrainian Cultural Center "Dnipro"

## Annual Meeting

Sunday February 16, 2025 at 1 pm

All Members welcome!



562 Genesee Street - Buffalo, NY 14204 - (716) 856-4476

www.UkrainiansOfBuffalo.com

www.UAFF.org



Український Культурний Центр "ДНІПРО"

## Річні Збори

Неділя, 16 Лютого, 2025 о 1:00 дня

Всі члени запрошені!

Безкоштовна перекуса після зборів

Dear Niagara Frontier Council Member:

It is hard to believe that a month of the new year of 2025 is already gone. As we begin the New Year this letter reminds you that 2025 LUC dues are payable now. The dues are \$10.00 per person for anyone over the age of 16. Checks can be made out to LUC National Board. 2025 dues can be mailed to:

Ihor Pereyma  
38 Lester St.  
Buffalo, NY 14210

or

Elaine Nowadly  
140 Royal Coach Rd.  
West Seneca, NY 14224



New Members Welcome!

ПРОСИМО СТАВАТИ ЧЛЕНЕМИ  
ЛІГИ УКРАЇНЦІВ КАТОЛІКІВ!

## Fundraiser for Ukrainian Welcome Foundation of WNY Inc

Drawing on Saturday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2025

Open 1:00 ~ 5:00pm

UKRAINIAN AMERICAN CIVIC CENTER  
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### Raffle Prizes:

- \$500 Visa Gift Card
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- 5 ~ \$30 Pani Mariya's Kitchen Gift Cards
- 6 ~ \$25 Delta Sonic Gift Cards

\$1,000

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Professor of Music at Buffalo State University

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Hours: Wednesday, Thursday, Friday & Saturday, 6pm ~ Midnight

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Ukrainian Welcome Center, 205 Military Rd, Buffalo, NY 14207  
HELP UKRAINIAN REFUGEES - 1,096 days of Russian

## ПРИГАДКА

У суботу, 22 березня 2025 р., місцева Ліга Українців католиків, спонсорує обід для збірки коштів на стипендіальний фонд о. Митрата Павла Івахова.

Обід триватиме з 17:00 до 19:30. Оскільки це збір коштів, пожертва становитиме \$20.00 доларів для дорослих та \$10.00 доларів для дітей віком до 12 років. Просимо перерахувати інформації по англійськи на літургійній ст.

Ліга Українців Католиків заснована 19 серпня, 1933 р. У свій час при кожній парафії був відділ ЛУК. Так склалося, що тепер нема багато членів. Ми тут найбільший відділ. Старасмося оживити ЛУК. Моя мрія тут, щоб створити український відділ Ліги, який співпрацював би з англійським відділом на Славу Божу і на користь українського народу.

Членство \$10 від дорослих понад 16 років.



# Pysanka Workshop

Join us for a Pysanka Workshop on Saturday March 8, 2025 at St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church. 308 Fillmore Ave., Buffalo NY 14206

2 sessions will be offered: 9a.m.-12p.m. & 1-4p.m. Each will be limited to 12 participants. Minimum age is 10 years old.

The classes will be taught by Master Pysanka Artist Irene Grassmann. Each class costs \$35 and includes an egg, written instructions on the traditional pysanka method, and supplies to write a pysanka.

Please call Irene Grassmann directly at (585)259-8488 to register for a session. \*\*Registration closes on March 1, 2025.\*\* Irene is "egg-cited" to share our beautiful pysanka tradition with you!

## МАЙСТЕРНЯ ПИСАНОК

Приєднуйтеся до нас на майстер-клас з писанкарства у суботу, 8 березня 2025 р. при церкві Св. Миколая.

Буде 2 сесії – 1 сесія з 9 год ранку до 12 дня та 2 з 13 до 16 години вечора. Кожна сесія обмежена до 12 учасників. – мінімальний вік учасників – 10 років.

Кожне заняття вестиме Майстер Писанки Ірена Грассманн. Вартість заняття становить \$30 доларів та включає яйце та інструкції традиційного методу і приладдя для написання писанки.

Зацікавлених просимо звернутися до Пани Ірини до 1 березня на (585) 259-8488.



## DECREE on the Proclamation of Jubilee Churches in the Stamford Eparchy for the Jubilee Year 2025



*By God's Grace,*  
Most Reverend Paul Chomnycky, OSBM  
*Bishop of Stamford*

His Holiness Pope Francis has proclaimed the Ordinary Jubilee Year 2025 and invited the faithful of the Eastern Catholic Churches to participate in it.

Therefore, by the authority granted to us, taking into account the provisions of Canon 191§1-2 of the Code of Canons of the Eastern Churches, and considering the papal bull *Spes non confundit* (Hope does not disappoint) - article 6;23 (09.05.2024) and the norms of the Apostolic Penitentiary regarding indulgences in the Ordinary Jubilee Year 2025 (13.05.2024),

### WE PROCLAIM

*on the occasion of the Jubilee Year 2025*  
the parishes of St. Vladimir Cathedral in Stamford, CT, St. George Church in New York City, St. Josaphat Church in Rochester, NY, and Christ the King Church in Boston, MA  
and

the pilgrimage sites of the Motherhouse of the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate in Slootsburg, NY, and the Basilian Monastery of St. Josaphat in Glen Cove, NY  
*from January 6, 2025 to January 6, 2026 will be Jubilee Churches where full jubilee indulgences can be obtained.*

All pilgrims who fulfill the conditions for indulgence in these churches and places of pilgrimage (participating in the Holy Sacrament of Penance and the Divine Liturgy, receiving the Most Holy Eucharist, and praying for the intention of the Holy Father) will receive a full Jubilee indulgence from Jan. 6, 2025, to Jan. 6, 2026.

I call on all the faithful of the Stamford Eparchy to actively participate in celebrating the Jubilee Year 2025 in accordance with the schedule and initiatives announced by the Jubilee Committee of our Church, living this time as a period of renewal in faith, growing in sacrificial, love, and strengthening the unwavering hope in God's abundant graces for our beloved Ukrainian people, the flourishing of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, and the development of the Stamford Eparchy.

We entrust this Jubilee Year to the Protection of the Most Holy Mother of God - our unwavering Oranta, relying on the intercession of the saints and righteous of the Ukrainian lands, and I invoke the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the communion of the Holy Spirit upon all!

*This decree takes effect on January 6, 2025*

*The Lord's Blessing upon You!*

+Paul Chomnycky, SBM  
Bishop

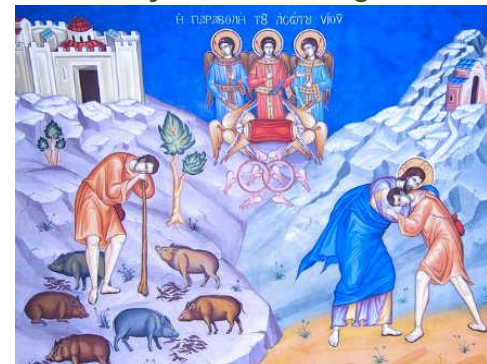
Very Rev. Kiril Angelov  
Chancellor



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

**See you there!**  
**HAVE A BLESSED DAY!!!**

## Sunday of the Prodigal Son



## Неділя Блудного Сина

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Організація Оборони Чотирьох Свобід України  
ODFFU – Buffalo, NY – Branch # 22  
Emil Bandriwsky, President

CHURCH BULLETIN is published weekly.  
Deadline for information is Friday evening.  
**ЦЕРК. ВІСНИК** видається тижнево.  
Інформації подавати до четверга вечора.

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Confession: Before Liturgies  
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Baptism: By appointment  
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Marriage: Contact 6 months in advance  
Вінчання: Голоситися 6 місяців скорше

Religion classes – Релігійна Програма  
See bulletin for scheduled dates.

Ministry to the sick – Опіка над хворима

Family members should call the Rectory  
Родина повинна повідомити священика

IN EMERGENCY CALL ANY TIME

**В разі потреби завжди можна закликати**  
**V. Rev. Marijan Procyk, pastor**

Please call if you are Hospitalized,  
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**Просимо закликати якщо ви у**  
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