

Pani Anna Melnyk - Mnohaya Lita!



Kitchen Ladies - Thank You!



St. Nicholas School Class of 1966 at St. John



200-Anniv. of Taras Shevchenko – at St. John



Choir "Mriya" at the Shevchenko Concert



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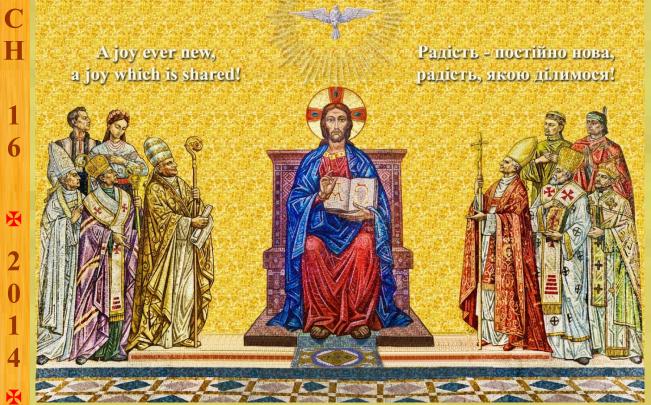
> UNDER THE PROTECTION OF MOTHER OF GOD



CHURCH BULLETIN

March 16 – 2014 – 16 Березня ЦЄРКОВНИЙ ВІСНИК

NEW EVANGELIZATION HOBA CBAHLEJUSALUSI



Pray for the strengthening and spreading of the faith Помолімся за укріплення віри та її поширення!

CHURCH RULLETIN

March. 16 – 2014 – 16 Березня ЦЄРКОВНИЙ ВІСНИК



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

ПОР'ЯДОК СВ. ЛІТУРГІЙ LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

4:30 PM +Phillip Plotycia (Wife Maria)

March 16. 2 S. of Lent. – 2 H. Посту

12:00 PM Living & Dec. Members of Sitch)

Monday, March 17 – Пон., 17 Березня

8:15 AM +Edward Verostko (Marianne Chort)

Tuesday, March 18 – Вів., 18 Березня

11:00 АМ +Ніна Мельник – і річниця (Донька Оксана)

Wednesday, March 19 – Середа, 19 Березня 11:00 AM Presanctified Gifts

Thursday, March 20 – Четвер, 20 Березня 11:00 АМ + Мирослав Косовський – 40 д. (Оля Чмола)

Friday, March 21 – П'ятниця, 21 Березня 8:15 AM Presanctified Gifts

Sorokousty - Сорокоусти Sat. March 22 - Субота, 22 Березня

10:00 АМ +Текля Мочерняк – 40 д. і п. (Родина)

4:30 PM +Dmytro Baranyckyj (W. & O. Jagodzinski)

March 23. 3 S. of Lent. – 3 H. Посту

12:00 PM +Eugenia Lukowskyj (Anna Kowal/Stepan Korol))

* Bible Meeting: Thursday, March 13 * Біблійні зустрічі: Четвер, 13 Березня

March 16-24: Prayer Service for Freedom (For those who suffer)

Sundays: after Liturgies Saturday: after 4:30 Liturgy Monday-Friday: at noon



16 Березня – 2. Н. Посту

10:00 р. +Осип і Гертруда (Л. М. Стасюк)

П'ятниця, 21 Березня

+Павло Михаськів 7:00 B (Родина Ткаліч)

23 Березня – 3. Н. Посту

10:00 р. +о. Іван і Бронислава Ганицькі (Анна Ганицька)

Вічне Світло в честь П.Д.М. Горить за тривалий мир в Україні.

> **Eternal Light burns for** +Mellou Drews Requ. by Anna Pawlowski.

Від 16 до 24 Березня у церкві будуть відправи за мир і за свободу вибору – вибору життя. Усі, що почали своє життя, мають право народитися, усі, що народилися, мають право на волю, на щастя, на вибір. Вибір релігійний, національний, економічний... Неділя – по Літургії, субота – по 4:30. Підчас тиждня - о 12 год.



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Fell asleep in the Lord +Eugene W. Wolanski (3/3/1938-1/31/2014)

Of Riverside, OH, formerly of Buffalo, NY. Son of the late Walter and Anna Minkowych Wolansky; dear friend of Eugene and Alice Siemieniuk. Funeral was Feb 21, 2014 from Paul A. Kloc Blossom Chapels, Inc Funeral Home at Mt. Calvary Cemetery. A Memorial Liturgy was held on Saturday, March 8, 2014, in our church. Eternal memory! Вічная Пам'ять!







As part of the new Church Directory, which will be published this year. We are adding "Memorial Pages" to the book. You can submit a picture, (pictures) of your loved ones for a cost of \$20.00 a picture. You can put the picture and check payable to St. Nicholas in an envelope and put it in the collection basket or drop it off

at the rectory. If you have any questions, contact Elaine at the parish office Monday or Thursday from 9:00-1:00.

Prayers – Молитви

"We also pray to the Almighty Lord for the people of Ukraine who are struggling these days to defend their God given rights and freedom of speech, choice and religion. Grant them all and especially leaders of the Ukrainian nation wisdom, good judgment and discernment to find mutual understanding and respect that would lead to a peacefull resolution of the ongoing conflict, we pray to You, O Lord, and have mercy."

"O merciful Lord and Lover of Mankind, look down mercifully upon those who laid down in sacrifice their lives for the improved future of Ukraine in the ongoing conflict and for hundreds of people that are wounded and hurt. Bestow your healing power upon all who need it that their sufferings be lessen and receive full recovery, we pray to You, O Lord, and have mercy."

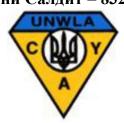
Ще молимося Всемогучому Господеві нашому за український народ наш, що цими днями бореться захистити свої Богом дані права та свободу слова, вибору та віроісповідання. Подай йому, а особливо лідерам української нації, мудрості, розсудливості та добру раду і волю знайти взаємне порозуміння та повагу, які дозволять дійти до мирної розв'язки в цьому протистоянню, ми молимося Тобі, вислухай і помилуй.

Милосердний Господи і Чоловіколюбче, споглянь милостиво на тих, які поклали і пожертвували своє життя задля кращого майбутнього України і на сотні поранених і мучених людей. Подай свою ласку зцілення всім, хто її потребує, щоби їхні муки зменшилися і вони повністю видужали, ми молимося Тобі, Господи, вислухай і помилуй.

Господи, спаси і помилуй!

49 Відділ Союзу Українок

Повідомляє що розпочалася щорічна збірка на стипендії для незаможної молоді в Україні. Чеки можна виписувати на Ukrainian National Women's League. Дуже дякуємо! За інформаціями просимо звертатися до референток 49-го Відділу: Зоряни Яцишин-Банч - 668-9504 Оксани Саллит – 832-9331



49th Chapter of UNWLA announces that "we are accepting Scholarship donations for needy students in Ukraine." If paying by check please make it out to UNWLA - Branch 49. Thank you very much!

NEWCOMERS - Storefront photography installation/exhibition featuring portraits created by Lukia Costello of members of the WNY refugee community, during her 3 year teaching position as an adult English instructor for **Buffalo Public Schools Adult Ed. Division.**

This show, funded by a 2013 NYSCA Individual Artist Commission, features B&W portraits of members of the WNY refugee community, will be hung in 10 storefronts along Allen St. & Elmwood Ave. Feb 7 - March 20th.

Congatulation, Lukia Costello, and We wish you much success in your work!

SITCH DINNER MEETING

Sunday March 16, 2014

At Joseph Hriczko Post Clemo St., Buffalo, NY After 12:00pm Liturgy For the reposed and living members of our organization at St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church Fillmore & Oneida Sts., Buffalo, NY **COCKTAILS** at 1:00PM **DINNER** at 1:30PM includes refreshments Meeting to be held after dinner.

Dinner cost is \$10.00 for members and \$15.00 for guests Membership dues of \$5.00 for the 2014 year must be current and may be paid at the door.

Mark Your Calendars - Save the Date

76th Annual Convention League of Ukrainian Catholics October 11, 12, 13, 2014 Holiday Inn – Johnstown, PA **Sponsored** by the **All Saints Chapter** Hope to see you this October!



76 Конвенція Ліги Католиків буде від 11 до 13 Жовтня ц. р. Просимо заплянувати свою участь!





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

- KITCHEN is open Fridays 11 AM 3 PM. Thank you for your patronage.
- Coffee Hour Usually Every Sunday after Liturgy in Church Hall. Please join us!
- We need help in the kitchen. Thank you!
- Bible Meeting Every other Thursday 6:30

TOP'S GIFT CARDS:

Please help us raise money for our Church by purchasing



Top's Gift Cards from us. If you buy in Tops anyway, why not help. You do not lose or gain anything by doing this, but our Church will benefit greatly. We receive back 5% of your spending. To take advantage of this program, see Mary Bodnar or call 655-3810, or call the rectory. Thank you and God Bless!

Please note: You can purchase gasoline with this card at Tops Gasoline Station.

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

CHURCH BULL&TIN is published weekly. **Deadline for information is Friday Evening.** ЦЄРКОВНИЙ ВІСНИК видається тижнево. Інформації подавати до П'ятниці вечора.

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Вінчання: Голоситися 6 місяців скорше

Religion classes – Релігійна Програма

Субота - Saturday

Ministry to the sick - Опіка над хворими Family members should call the Rectory Родина повинна повідомити священика

IN EMERGENCY CALL ANY TIME В разі потреби завжди можна закликати

Rev. Raymond Palko, visiting priest V. Rev. Marijan Procyk, pastor & dean

Please call if you are hospitalized, homebound and need a priest. Просимо закликати якщо ви у лічниці або приковані до ліжка!

Serving One's Neighbor

In Sacred Scriptures:

James 2: 14-26:

What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? If a brother or sister has nothing to wear and has no food for the day, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, keep warm, and eat well," but you do not give them the necessities of the body, what good is it? So also faith of itself, if it does not have works, is dead. Indeed someone might say, "You have faith and I have works." Demonstrate your faith to me without works, and I will demonstrate my faith to you from my works. You believe that God is one. You do well. Even the demons believe that and tremble. Do you want proof, you ignoramus, that faith without works is useless? Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered his son Isaac upon the altar? You see that faith was active along with his works, and faith was completed by the works. Thus the scripture was fulfilled that says, "Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness," and he was called "the friend of God." See how a person is justified by works and not by faith alone. And in the same way, was not Rahab the harlot also justified by works when she welcomed the messengers and sent them out by a different route? For just as a body without a spirit is dead, so also faith without works is dead.

In Writings of the Church Fathers

Anyone who truly loves their neighbor will not fail to serve him as the most humble servant. (St. John Chrysostom)

Perform your service openly (honestly, uprightly), as though you were serving Christ Himself. (St. Basil the Great)

One gives alms in order that his fields will be blessed. Another gives alms in order that his ships be safe. Yet another give alms on account of his children, that God will save, and protect them. God does not reject anyone, but gives to everyone what they wish, if that does not harm their soul. But all of these have received their reward, and God does not owe them anything, since they did not ask anything of Him for the welfare of their souls. They desired nothing for their spiritual welfare. God grants you your reward, according to the way you act. (St. Abba Dorotheus)

Anyone who wishes to do something, but is unable, is however before God, who sees our heart, is as one who has already done it. (St. Mark the ascetic)

Blessed is the one who does good for many, at the time of judgment, for he will find many to defend him. (St. Nilus of Siani)

PERSONAL EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE

- 1. Do I support, and personally take part in the charitable activities of the Church?
- 2. How do I react when a person in need comes to my door at home, or when I encounter such a person on the street?
- 3. In so far as I am called to be an icon of Christ, the Prince of Peace and love, the Physician of souls and bodies, do I give others the opportunity to meet Him through my behavior?
- 4. Do I encourage the other members of my family, especially my children (if I have any), through by my example, and my speech, to perform acts of charity?
- 5. Do I observe the periods of fasting throughout the liturgical year, and make a special effort to help those in need?

www.stamforddio.org

From the desk of Fr. Ray Palko

March 16, 2014 A.D.

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!

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

Greetings and Happy Spring! Yesterday our Emma came out of the house and said, "Do you smell that?" I knew exactly what she was talking about....Spring was definitely in the air! The temperature was slowly climbing to a high of 50 degrees and then she said, "Do you hear the birds?" Yeah, out of the mouths of babes. I was impressed and amazed that she was so aware of the beautiful spring day with all its signs of the glorious things to come. The air did smell so fresh and clean and the birds were indeed singing their very happy springtime tunes!

However, The Weather Channel isn't on Emma's priority list yet, so she had no idea of the forecast that was being broadcast for the next day. Yesterday's beautiful spring day was March 11, and today I'm writing to you smack dab in the middle of "Winter Storm Vulcan." The powerful 40-50 mph winds are blasting the snow against the windows giving the panes a beautiful decoration of snowflakes. Even as we peer through the snow covered windows, there is still not much to see because general visibility is only a few hundred feet, if that. Right now, as I write, we are about half way through this latest winter event, an "official blizzard." By the way, this is the first time in the 130 years of record keeping that Buffalo has had two official blizzards in one winter season. Then tomorrow when the snow stops, it will be very, very cold once again...but just for a day. Following all this

real winter stuff, spring will be making one more encounter with Ol' Man Winter at the end of the week. As a matter of fact, when you read your letter, it should be a nice spring-like day.

All this blizzard talk is nothing at which we ought to be surprised. Just rewind to February 2 which, among some other very important events, happened to be "Groundhog Day." Remember what "Punxy Phil" said? "Six more weeks of winter!" According to him that means we still have about a week left. Hang in there....the smell is in the air, the birds are singing and the Canada Geese are coming home! A wise man once told me, "Winter wins some battles, but spring always wins the war!" © ©

I mentioned the date of March 11. That's a special date for me as my Mom, who is now in heaven, was born on that day in 1912. She left this world in 1997 at 85 years, but had she lived, would have been 102 years old this year. And yes, I do know she is in heaven. Her and Pop raised 8 kids....6 boys and 2 girls. My two sisters and myself were always angels, and thenthere were the other 5 boys....and that's why I know she is in heaven with our Dad! Anyway, Mom always loved me best.
Whenever she heard any of us say that, she'd get all nervous and immediately let us know, "I love all of you BEST!" She was one special lady! Eternal Memory, Mom!

Since we cannot venture out of the house today, Presbytera Joanne is busy in the kitchen and, if my aroma detector is on target, there is a pot of Borsht as well as Kapusta and Halushki already cooking on the stove out there. Aaaah, comfort food in midst of a blizzard! Lenten comfort food at that!

And speaking of aromas...yesterday I was at St. Nicholas and the church was filled with the

smell of freshly baked bread. I checked out the kitchen and there were dozens of "Paskas" just out of the oven sitting on the cooling racks. One more sign of spring, "Pascha" and the end of the Great Fast. Time moves quickly as we always observe. So how is your Lent going? Have you begun yet? March 16, this Sunday is already the second Sunday and once we get to the third Sunday and beyond it is a speedway to the Sunday of the Resurrection. I heard Bill O'Reilly of Fox News say that he is fasting from all sweets...cakes, ice cream and candy, which he loves. He said, "If Jesus could fast in the wilderness for 40 days, he (Bill) certainly could fast from some things. And so we go forward with the three keys to a good fast: Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving.

We have a very nice way to fulfill the almsgiving part in St. Nicholas and at Holy Protection. In both those parishes we have a very nice outreach to the Franciscan Center in Buffalo. We collect non-perishable food, hygiene items, clothing for teen boys, gift cards and cash donations. Over the years our two parishes have donated tons of food and clothing "in the name of Jesus" to directly aid the boys who come to the facility as well as to help the Franciscans in their ministry of charity. Now, during the Great Fast I would expect to see those boxes in the vestibules of our churches overflowing with those easy gifts to the kids as we indeed "give alms to the needy." God reward your generosity!

This is St. Patrick's weekend throughout all the land. There will be two parades and we're hoping the weather will cooperate on Saturday and/or Sunday so all the parade marchers and the kids along the sidewalks can enjoy the festivities. I'm sure there will as much wearin'

o' the green this Sunday in our churches as we usually see on Pentecost Sunday. Yep, this is the day everyone is Irish, or wishes they were. Since I've got a few Irish relatives we'll have a Guinness and say a prayer for all the good people in and from the Emerald Isle.

And we can't forget about another Roman Catholic holy day which is very important to our Italian friends and family. Got a few Italian relatives, too. Wednesday March 19 is the Great Feast of St. Joseph on the Roman calendar and they too will be having a special and holy day.

Our prayers are still being raised up for our Ukraine. By the time you read this letter the "referendum" as to the future of Crimea will be over. Don't forget to say the one "Our Father" and one "Hail Mary" each afternoon as our Patriarch requested us to do. The whole situation is so very sad and it is truly as if there has been a death in the family, and there is a true sense of mourning. Our people are heavily burdened with the cares of what is happening in and to our beloved Ukraine. We weep and pray for the safety of family and friends over there and wonder what the future will bring. And so we pray...and so we must pray! May our Holy Lady, Protectress of Ukraine hear the pleas of her children and come their aid. "O Holy Mother, save and protect!" Pray for Ukraine! Pray for the USA also because we are not very far from that precipice of tyranny and iniustice either!

May God bless you and cause His face to shine upon you! May our Holy Lady protect you! God willing, I'll write again next week.

> In His Love, Fr. Ray

Служіння Ближньому

У Святому Писанні:

Як. 2, 14-26:

Яка користь, мої брати, коли хтось каже, що має віру, але діл не має? Чи може його спасти віра? Коли брат або сестра будуть нагі й позбавлені засобів щоденного прожитку, і хтонебудь з вас до них скаже: «Йдіть собі з миром, грійтеся та годуйтесь», і не дасть їм потрібного для тіла, то

що це допоможе? Так само й віра, коли діл не має, мертва сама в собі. Та хтонебудь скаже: «Ти маєш віру, а я маю діла. Покажи мені твою віру без діл, а я тобі покажу моїми ділами мою віру». Ти віруєш, що Бог один? – Добре робиш. І біси вірують, та тремтять. Хочеш знати, безглуздий чоловіче, що віра без діл не приносить плоду? Авраам, наш батько, чи не ділами виявився праведним, коли був приніс на

жертовник Ісаака, свого сина? Бачиш, що віра співдіяла з його ділами, і його віра удосконалилася ділами. Так здійснилося Писання, яке каже: «Авраам повірив Богові, і це зараховано йому за праведність», і він був названий приятелем Божим. Ви бачите, що чоловік оправдується ділами, не тільки вірою. Так само й Рахав, блудниця, чи ж не ділами оправдалася, прийнявши посланців і випустивши їх іншим шляхом? Як тіло без душі мертве, так само й віра без діл мертва.

У творах Святих Отців:

Хто любить, як належиться, ближнього, той не відмовиться служити йому покірніше за всякого раба. *(Св. Йоан Золотоустий)*

Діла свого служіння виконуй благовидно й ретельно, наче б служив самому Христові. (Св. Василій Великий)

Один подає милостиню задля того, щоб благословилося його поле. Інший подає милостиню задля того, щоб врятувався його корабель. Ще інший подає її за дітей своїх, і Бог рятує і зберігає його дітей. Бог не відкидає нікого, але кожному подає те, чого він бажає, якщо це не шкодить його душі. Але всі ці вже отримали винагороду свою, і Бог нічого не винен їм, тому що вони нічого корисного не шукали своїй душі у Нього, і мета, яка була у них, не мала жодного

відношення до їх духовної користі. Бог віддав тобі плату, за яку ти робив. (Св. авва Доротей)

Хто бажає зробити що-небудь, але не може, є перед Серцевідцем Богом тим, хто все ж зробив це. (Св. Марко Подвижник)

Блаженний, хто багатьом чинить добро, на суді він знайде багато захисників. (Св. Ніл Синайський)

Особистий іспит сумління

- 1. Чи я беру безпосередню участь у харитативній діяльності та підтримую таку діяльність у Церкві?
- 2. Як я реагую, коли людина в потребі з'являється перед дверима мого дому або коли я зустрічаю таку людину на вулиці?
- Оскільки я покликаний бути іконою Христа, Князя миру і любові, Лікаря душі і тіла, чи своєю поведінкою я даю іншим нагоду зустрітися з Ним?
- 4. Чи я заохочую словами і живим прикладом членів своєї сім'ї, а особливо своїх дітей (якщо вони є) до харитативної діяльності?
- 5. Чи я дотримуюся постів літургійного року, чинячи добро ближньому?

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Глава УГКЦ очолив молитву за Україну на гробі святого Петра



Суботу, 15 березня 2014, вранці Блаженніший Святослав (Шевчук), Глава УГКЦ, очолив Божественну Літургію на гробі апостола Петра у Ватикані (каплиця Папи Климента VIII). Разом із Предстоятелем УГКЦ за суверенну Україну молилися посли України та Польщі при Апостольській Столиці – Тетяна Іжевська та Пйотр Новіна-Конопка.

«Стоячи біля гробу святого апостола Петра, ми відчуваємо, що головним господарем історії є Господь Бог, а не президенти, політики, дипломати чи навіть сила зброї. Майбутнє усіх народів у своїх руках тримає саме Бог. Поруч із Ним стоїть Верховний апостол Петро, у якого сьогодні ми просимо особливого заступництва за Україну», - сказав у своїй проповіді Блаженніший Святослав.

Він пригадав, що у суботу УГКЦ молиться за невинно вбитих на Майдані: «На жаль, із кожним днем їхня кількість збільшується. Ми просимо Господа Бога, щоб упокоїв їхні душі та щоб кількість убитих не зростала».

Після Літургії присутні зійшли до гробу ап. Петра та, узявшись за руки на знак єдності України, помолилися за мир в Україні.



Додамо, що Глава УГКЦ цими днями перебуває з офіційним візитом у Ватикані, щоб зустрітися з Папою Франциском. Приватна аудієнція відбудеться 17 березня.

Прес-служба Товариства «Свята Софія»

Let us Pray For Peace in Ukraine

Помолімся За Мир в Україні

Наші реколєкції відбудуться 29 і 30 Березня.

Our Retreat Mission will take place March 29 & 30.

From "Good Samaritan" Ukr. Radio pr.

second chance. A man who was brought before his sins. Life is not full of many second chances, but every day, we have an amazing opportunity to ask our Lord for forgiveness. We have a chance to wipe the slate of our iniquity clean, and gratitude. And maybe we even rejoice a little object of discussion, until finally one day I him to the campus for coffee, and was amazed parents neglected him, and his grandfather was the only one who kept him on the straight path. the gift of His saving grace". Daniel would go to church with his grandfather and have wonderful discussions with him, until in God's presence, what are the things that

three weeks after Daniel's 12th birthday, when When I look in between the lines of today's his grandfather died suddenly from a heart Gospel reading, I see a man who was given a attack. Daniel told me that it nearly broke him inside, and how there was no longer any good Jesus to be healed, but received so much more, influence in his life. So he turned to the company when Jesus reached out to him and forgave him of gangs and drug dealers on the streets, getting involved in robbery and drugs at the age of 13, until one day he was so doped up on heroine that he shot and killed another boy just walking across the street. Daniel was sentenced to and move on in our lives with profound thanks juvenile detention until his 18th birthday and then he was expected to serve the remainder of bit more in that message of forgiveness, his sentence in an adult correction facility, doing knowing that we can be saved. This opportunity hard time! He told me how birthdays became a for second chances reminds me of a man, horrible reminder of his age, because he knew named Daniel, whom I met a good many years that once he turned 18, things were going to get ago, while I was an undergraduate student at even harder for him in prison. The day Daniel SUNY Fredonia. They did not have a Ukrainian appeared before the court, he expected the parish in the area, so I attended the Newman worst. But you could see his eyes light up when Center; a catholic place of worship which is still he told me that everyone in that court room found on most campuses these days. It was seemed to look at him differently. He told me there that I met Daniel. It was my sophomore how flabbergasted he was when the judge year and I really enjoyed singing in the campus actually suggested showing him mercy and church choir. I noticed Daniel right away, having Daniel released on parole. He didn't because he often sat alone, I think that people understand, so he turned and asked his lawyer were taken back by his form of rejoicing. You who told him that the judge received a letter from see, whenever the choir would sing those the grandmother of the boy that he killed, wonderful catholic hymns, Daniel would join us requesting that Daniel be released and that they in voice while he joyfully danced his personal show him mercy, because she has already hymn of praise. For months, he remained the forgiven him for taking the life of her grandson. "Forgiveness", Daniel said with tears in his eyes, decided to get to know him a little better. I invited "is the reason I come to church every week and joyfully rejoice in the Lord, because that forgivewith his story. Daniel told me how he grew up in ness was my second chance to become a better an area with a lot of crime and violence. Both his man. A man that my grandfather would have been proud of - and I thank Jesus every day for

I often wonder, while we are in Church and

keep us from reaching out to Jesus? What prevents us from the joyful dance of reconciliation with God and that spiritual rejoicing after we accept the sacrament of forgiveness? At times we may feel as though our soul is paralyzed, just like the paralytic man's body in today's Gospel reading. We are unable to do the good that we know we should do and that we even long to do. because our sinful habits inhibit us. We stand before Christ, but find it difficult to admit our need for forgiveness and a second chance. But have no fear – the Lord is always reaching out to us. Jesus embodied faith -He was a man of reflection and action. Jesus not only talked about manna from Heaven, but He became living bread and fed thousands of hungry souls. Jesus not only talked about a curative remedy in Gilead, but He healed the sick and raised the Jesus not only preached the dead. forgiveness of sins, but He took the weight of our sins so that we could be Jesus practiced what He forgiven. preached. And during these weeks of Great Lent, we are given a perfect time to focus on our own faith. You see, faith is more than just believing in God and reflecting upon His Word, faith is also using that belief and knowledge to make a difference in the world. My brothers and sisters, may the good Lord help each of us through this time of Great Fast, so that when we come to our celebration of Easter, to that joyful dance of the soul on the day of our Lord's glorious Resurrection, our Savior will also be able to touch us in a very special and personal way that will strengthen us - and bring us ever closer to Him.

To All Visitors, Friends And Parishioners:

Welcome to our Ukrainian Catholic parish of St Nicholas. Make yourself at home.

Every married couple or single person over 18 years old should be registered with the parish. Your donations to support our parish indicate your willingness to be a member of St. Nicholas Parish. In other words, to be considered a member of this parish attendance and support is strongly recommended. We use the system of envelops. In the case you decide not to use envelopes, you can choose other method of supporting the parish, but your support is appreciated and much needed. May good Lord bless you all!

* * *

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

Подружжя і самітні особи понад 18 років можуть зарегіструватися. Якщо ви не бажаєте вживати систему коверт, будь ласка дайти нам ваші адреси і телефони, щоб могти з вами сконтактуватися по потребі. Ваші датки просимо вложити у коверту і написати Ваше ім'я, бо в противному Ваші пожертви будуть анонімними.

Cell Phones - Мобільні Телєфони:

Please turn off or silence your cell phone before entering the church. Thank you!

Просимо вилучувати ваші мобільні телєфони, підчас Св. Літургії. Дякуємо!

З радія "Милосердний Самарянин"

Упродовж цього Великого посту Господь закликає нас молитися щиріше. Після того, як відбулася Його зустріч з паралітиком, Він бажає пережити таку зустріч і з нами. Ця подія може допомогти нам зрозуміти, а отже, і переживати, правдиву молитву, молитву серця. Ми десь розуміємо, що полягає вона в тому, аби шукати Ісуса з наполегливістю тих чотирьох чоловіків, шукати, поки не подолаємо всіх перешкод, аби бути покладеними перед Ним такими, як ми є, з усіма тими каліцтвами, які нам дошкуляють. Вони дошкуляють нам і спонукають покласти перед Господом наші потреби, наші бажання. Але дивовижно те, що Ісус проникає набагато далі, глибше, аж до глибинної хвороби наших сердець, і якраз це ми мали б переживати у молитві.

Ісус не забуває про наші каліцтва, але головним чином виліковує наш гріх, гріховний стан нашої душі. Можна зрозуміти обурення книжників, які кажуть: «Хто може прощати гріхи, крім одного лише Бога? » (Мр. 2, 7). Це правда, і ми це добре знаємо, адже просимо Отця простити нам наші гріхи. Дивовижний дар прощення походить від Отця, тому Ісус веде тих, які заперечують Йому, до відкриття цієї істини, відповідаючи їм: «Син Чоловічий має владу на землі гріхи відпускати» (Мр. 2, 10). Син Чоловічий, тобто Син самого Отця, Який воістину став людиною, аби взяти на себе гріхи світу, гріхи всіх людей, гріхи кожного з нас. Лише улюблений Син отримує від Отця, будучи в людській природі, владу давати життя, владу воскрешати і відпускати гріхи. Але зрозуміти це можливо було лише після того, як Ісус довершив спасення людства, віддавши задля любови до нас своє життя на хресті.

Це і є та велика новина, Добра Новина, яку Він звіщає апостолам у день свого воскресення: «Прийміть Духа Святого! Кому відпустите гріхи відпустяться їм» (Йо. 20, 22-23). Ці слова виявляють наше спасення у повноті. Святий Дух сам є відпущенням гріховного стану нашої душі. Збагнімо, що Ісус зціляє гріховний стан нашої душі, тобто стан серця, з якого витікають наші судження, наші слова, вчинки. Також не забуваймо про опущення добрих діл. Тобто Ісус зціляє все те, що ранить инших людей, а найперше – Господа, живим образом, нехай і понівеченим, Якого вони є.

Наш гріх у тому, що ми не перебуваємо в єдності з Богом, що наше серце закрите, зайняте саме собою, позбавлене любови, паралізоване, втратило зв'язок зі своїм Господом і з дітьми Отця. Саме цю пустку приходить заповнити Св. Дух. Він сам — сопричастя. Він дає нам життя, віддаючи себе нам. Саме Його дає нам Ісус. Святий Дух повертає нас до єдности з Отцем та з иншими, і то «сімдесят раз по сім» (Мт. 18, 22). Цьому слід не дивуватися, але тішитися, адже саме завдяки ньому наша молитва може безнастанно підноситися до Ісуса. (о. Жан Корбон)