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SAINT NICHOLAS  
UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



УКРАЇНЬКА КАТОЛИЦЬКА  
ЦЕРКВА СВЯТОГО МИКОЛАЯ

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

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

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

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

308 Fillmore Avenue, Buffalo, N. Y. 14206

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

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

**Confession:** Before Liturgies

**Сповідь:** Перед Св. Літургіями

**Baptism:** By appointment

**Хрещення:** За домовленням

**Marriage:** Contact 6 months in advance

**Вінчання:** Голоситися 6 місяців скорше

**Religion classes – Кляси Релігії**

Saturday, 11:45 AM – Субота, 11:45 р.

**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**

UNDER THE PROTECTION  
OF MOTHER OF GOD



ПІД ОПІКОЮ ПРЕЧИСТОЇ  
ДІВИ МАРІЇ ОДІГІТРІЇ

CHURCH BULLETIN – N°15

April 10 – 2011 – 10 Квітня  
ЦЕРКОВНИЙ ВІСНИК – Ч. 15



St. Mary of Egypt – Св. Марія Єгипетська



## LITURGICAL SCHEDULE (gr)

**April. 10: 5 S. of Lent – 5 Н. Вел. П.** **15**

12:00 PM +Olga Leschuk  
(Virgina Melisz Klein)

**Monday, April 11 – Пон., 11 Квітня**  
No Liturgy – Нема Відправи

**Tuesday, April 12 – Вівт., 12 Квітня**  
9:15 AM +Софрон, Євгенія, Євген  
Ференцевич (О. Чмола)

**Wed., April 13 – Середа., 13 Квітня**  
12:00 PM Літургія Наперед Осв. Дарів  
Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts

**Thursday, April 14 – Чет., 14 Квітня**  
10:00 AM +Ярослав Якимів (Христя Чучман)  
Початок Реколекцій/Місії (по Укр.)  
Beginning of Retreat/Mission (Ukr.)  
6:30 PM Retreat/Mission (Eng.)

**Friday, April 15 – П'ят., 15 Квітня**  
10:00 AM Літургія Наперед Осв. Дарів  
Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts

Реколекції/Місії (по Укр.)  
6:30 PM Retreat/Mission (Eng.)

**Saturday, April 16 – Субота, 16 Квітня**  
10:00 AM Закінч. Реколекцій/Місії  
11:00 AM Сповідь для «Рідної Школи»  
Confession for children  
4:30 PM +Eva Borowiec (Eugene & Mary  
Kaczor and Borowiec Family)

**April. 17: PALM S. – КВІТНА Н.**

12:00 PM For Parishioners – За Парохіян

**Eternal Light burns for  
+Maria Sarachman  
Requested by Joanne Bader**

## ПОР'ЯДОК ЛІТУРГІЙ (юл)

**10 Квітня: 5 Н. Великого Посту** **15**

10:00 AM +Ева, Павло, Павло,  
Ференцій, Осип (Ірена Чіп)

**17 Квітня: Квітна Неділя**

10:00 AM +Ярослав Стасюк  
(Маркіян і Лідія Стасюк)

**(Г) Вічне Світло в честь ПДМ (10)  
Горить на СЛАВУ БОЖУ**

### In the Beginning . . .

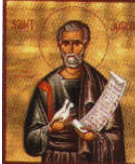
We are starting a series of bulletin messages describing the fetal development of “Chris.”

**Traditionally, Christ was conceived on March 25<sup>th</sup>/April 7, the Feast of the Annunciation. We will watch the parallel development of “Chris” in the womb from March 25<sup>th</sup> to December 25<sup>th</sup>.**

March 25<sup>th</sup> is the Feast of the Annunciation when Jesus was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit. Nine months later, He was born on Christmas. We are starting a series of messages about the development of the child in the womb – just like the development of Jesus in Mary’s womb.

**Together, we will learn of the miracle of our earliest days of life.**

**(week 1) The Feast of the Annunciation, March 25<sup>th</sup>/April 7<sup>th</sup>, commemorates the angel Gabriel's announcement to Mary that she would conceive Jesus by the power of the Holy Spirit. 9 months later, Jesus is born. We are going to follow the development of a child in the womb from now till Christmas. The Holy Spirit, “the Lord, the Giver of Life,” cooperates with man and woman in creating a new human being...**



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**DNIPRO ДНІПРО**  
**Ukrainian Cultural Center**  
562 Genesee St. Buffalo, NY 14204 856-4476  
[www.UkrainiansOfBuffalo.com](http://www.UkrainiansOfBuffalo.com)  
Hall and bar rentals are available.  
See your old friends on Friday night.  
Help rebuild our Ukrainian Home.  
**Please Contribute to the  
\$100,000 Building Fund.**  
Donations are tax deductible.



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Просимо їх підтримати!**

## Ukrainian Home Dnipro Federal Credit Union

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The Colonial Memorial Chapels, Inc.  
of Ukrainian Heritage, Serving Western N.Y.  
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## UPCOMING CHURCH EVENTS

Просимо звернути  
увагу на дати:



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

- **CHURCH KITCHEN** – is open. Thank you for your help and patronage.
- **Coffee Hour** - Usually Every Sunday after Liturgy in Church Hall. Please join us!
- Thank you all for coming to video presentation. This Thursday we will be hosting fr. Eutimius for his 40<sup>th</sup> Priestly Anniversary.

### 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! Також можна цією карточкою купувати бензину

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

**ЦЕРК. ВІСНИК** видається тижнево  
Інформації подавати до п'ятниці вечора.

**SAINT NICHOLAS  
UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH  
УКРАЇНСЬКА КАТОЛИЦЬКА ЦЕРКВА  
СВЯТОГО МИКОЛАЯ  
(ПІД ОПІКОЮ ПРЕЧИСТОЇ  
ДІВИ МАРІЇ ОДІГІТРИЇ)**

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

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

\*\*\*

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

*V. Rev. Marijan Proyk*

**Are you listening "Good Samaritan"  
Ukrainian Radio Program  
on WJLL 1440 AM  
Every Sunday at 2:00 PM?  
Thanks for donations!**

\*\*\*

**Чи слухаєте нашу радіо передачу  
«Милосердний Самар'янин»  
Неділя, 2 год. на WJLL 1440 AM?  
Дякуємо за пожертви!**

## **DONATIONS TO ST. NICHOLAS “Special Appeal”**

In Memory of Kataryna Staszkiw  
Sophia Rajca - \$40.00

In Memory of Peter Hluchy  
Ann Holowaty - \$50.00

Donations Towards Coffee Hour  
To benefit Communication  
Assessment Fee  
Eva Kowtalo

**Thank You! Дякуємо!**

We have been asked “What is the “Special Appeal”? The Special Appeal is a fund for major repairs facing the church. It is money set aside in a special account for when it becomes necessary that a major repair to the church is needed. We will then have a good portion of the money already set aside. It could also be named a Repair Fund, but we prefer leave the name to remember our successful collection for 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

**Sunday, April 17<sup>th</sup>  
Easter Bread “Pascha” Sale  
and Lunch**

**Easter Bread will be available for sale. Lunch will also be served.  
Baked Goods greatly appreciated.  
Please join us After Liturgies.  
Thank You! Дякуємо!**

**49-ий ВІДДІЛ  
СОЮЗУ  
УКРАЇНОК.  
ВЛАШТОВУЄ  
СЬОГОДНІ  
10 КВІТНЯ 2011 Р.**



**ВЕЛИКОДНЮ ПРОДАЖ  
ПЕЧИВА Й ПИСАНОК  
В ЗАЛІ ЦЕРКВИ СВ. МИКОЛАЯ  
ПІСЛЯ СВЯТИХ ЛІТУРГІЙ.**

**HAMBURGERS,  
КАВА Й СОЛОДКЕ.  
ЗАПРОШУЄМО ВСІХ !!!**

\*\*\*

**49-th BRANCH  
SOYUZ UKRAINOK  
IS SPONSORING AN  
EASTER BAKE SALE  
AT ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH HALL  
APRIL 10, 2011 AFTER LITURGIES  
UKRAINIAN EASTER EGGS,  
COFFEE AND...  
EVERYBODY WELCOME !!!**

**A monthly meeting of the  
League of Ukrainian Catholics  
will take place on Monday, April  
11, 2011 in St. Nicholas Church  
Hall at 7:00PM. All members are  
invited to attend. Details concerning the upcoming convention are on the agenda.**



**РЕКОЛЕКЦІЇ/МІСІЇ**  
**О. Ігумен Євтимій**  
**Волинський, Студит**

матиме реколекції у  
нашій парохії від 14  
до 16 Квітня. Наука  
по українськи буде у четвер,  
п'ятницю і суботу рано, починаючи  
о 10:0 рано, а по англійськи у четвер  
і п'ятницю о 6:30 вечером.

По науці у четвер рано буде обід з  
нагоди його 40-ліття священства.  
Просимо до участі! О. Євтимій  
одержав свячення 11 Квітня, 1971 р.  
**НА МНОГАЯ І БЛАГАЯ ЛІТА!!!**

\*\*\*

**RETREAT/MISSION**

Studite Father Ihumen V. Rev. Evtimy  
Wolinski will have a mission April 14-  
16. He will start Thursday at 10:00  
AM. Sermons will be in mornings in  
Ukrainian and evenings in English.  
Thursday, April 14 at noon will be a  
dinner in the occasion of his 40<sup>th</sup>  
priestly ordination. Please take part.  
Fr. Eutimy was ordained April 11, 71.  
**AXIOS! MANY HAPPY YEARS!!!**

У суботу рано в 11 год. для дітей „Рідної  
Школи” буде коротка наука, під прово-  
дом о. Роберта Морено і нагода до спо-  
віди. О. Євтимій буде сповідати, як рів-  
нож інші отці.

\*\*\*

Saturday, April 16, will be confession  
for the children of “Ridna Shkola”. Fr.  
Robert Moreno will conduct small retreat.



**St. John the Baptist**  
**Ukrainian Catholic Church**  
**EASTER BAZAAR**  
April 16, 2011 10:00 - 4:00pm

- \*Traditional Ukrainian Easter bread
- \*Delicious baked goods for Sale
- \*Pyrohy Sale \*Holubtsi Sale \*Hot  
Lunch in (or to go) \*Spider Plant Sale
- \*Theme Basket Raffle \*Trash & Treas-  
ure Tables

**Everyone is welcome**  
*Everyone is welcome*

Цього року, 26-го квітня, відзначати-  
мемо 25-ліття Чорнобильської траге-  
дії. Через це, що 26-го квітня припа-  
дає на Світлий Вівторок, ми обходи-  
тимемо цю сумну річницю в нашій  
церкві в неділю, 1-го травня.



Since the 26th of April, the 25th anni-  
versary of the tragedy at Chornobyl,  
falls on Bright Tuesday, we will commemo-  
rate the victims of the Chornobyl  
on Sunday, May 1st.



**ЗАПРОШЕННЯ**

**КОНФЕРЕНЦІЯ УКРАЇНСЬКИХ**  
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**ЗАПРОШУЄ УКРАЇНСЬКУ**  
**ГРОМАДУ**

**НА ДОПОВІДЬ**

**“ЗАВДАННЯ І ДІЯЛЬНІСТЬ**  
**ОУН В УКРАЇНІ І ДІЯСПОРІ”**

**ЯКУ ВИГОЛОСИТЬ**

**ГОЛОВА**  
**ОРГАНІЗАЦІЇ УКРАЇНСЬКИХ**  
**НАЦІОНАЛІСТІВ**

**СТЕФАН РОМАНІВ**

**ДОПОВІДЬ ВІДБУДЕТЬСЯ В :**  
**СЕРЕДУ, 13 КВІТНЯ 2011 РОКУ**  
**О ГОД. 6-й ВЕЧОРА**

**В УКРАЇНСЬКОМУ**  
**КУЛЬТУРНОМУ ЦЕНТРІ**  
**«ДНІПРО»**

**В БОФАЛО, НЮ ЙОРК**

**ПІСЛЯ ДОПОВІДІ**  
**ПИТАННЯ І ДИСКУСІЯ.**

**ДО УЧАСТІ ЗАПРОШУЄТЬСЯ**  
**ВСЕ ГРОМАДЯНСТВО**

**ВСТУП – ДОБРОВІЛЬНІ ДАТКИ**

**ОПІСЛЯ - КАВА І СОЛОДКЕ**



On May 13-15, 2011, St. Basil Seminary will  
be hosting a new Cantor's Program entitled:  
*Christmas/Epiphany Compline and Passion*  
*Gospels/Jerusalem Matins*. As in the past,  
the program will be under direction of the  
distinguished Professor Joseph Roll. This  
program covers important and well known  
services in Ukrainian Catholic Liturgical Life.  
All lovers of Byzantine music and liturgical  
life are invited and encouraged to participate.  
The cost for the weekend, including instruct-  
ion, room, meals, and all materials is \$225.

This information can also be found at our  
website [www.stbasilseminary.com](http://www.stbasilseminary.com). If you  
have any questions or concerns, please do  
not hesitate to contact us.



### З радія "Милосердний Самарянин"

Добре є бажати великого, до того ми усі покликані, але при тому важним є щоб все діялося по справедливості, щоб інших не скривдити. Не завидувати їм коли їм краще поводитися, і не старатися очорнити їх, щоб себе підвищити. Дуже часто ми стаємо заздрісними долею, щастям або мастком інших людей. Хотіли б бути подібними до них, або ще й кращими, хотіли б мати, що інші мають, або може ще й більше.

"Коли б я був багатий, як мій сусід, ото б мені добре жилося. Я був би щасливий", згадував часто один заздрісний чоловік у своїх молитвах. Легенда далі розповідає, що ангел приступає до нього і каже йому: "Небо почуло твої молитви, і післано мене сповнити твої бажання, але тільки під одною умовою. Врадований чоловік потер собі руки з радости, подякував сердечно і з цікавістю запитав: "А яка це умова?" Ангел йому тоді пояснив: "Кожного разу, як ти щось здобудеш, твоєму сусідов дасться подвійно більше. Руки чоловікові охляли, він глибоко зітхнув, покрутив головою і сумно промовив: "Краще хай такого не буде, не хочу нічого, бо це насправді не варта. Нема причини щоб мій сусід на мій рахунок збагачувався і мав ще більше від мене."

Незалежно кілько маємо, ми завжди хотіли б більше, і тяжко нам погодитися з думкою, що інші нас у чому небудь перевищують. У нас бракує скромности. Ми звикли вини за наші неуспіхи перекидати на інших, хоча у більшості ми самі при тому завинили. Не одну справу можна б легко полагодити, коли навчилиб ся ми більше слухати а менше говорити, більши вчитися від інших, замість старатися по всяку ціну їх навчати накидаючи свою думку, більше приглядатися як інші роблять, щоб могли зробити краще, а не роби-

ти по своєму, а потім завважувати, що інші мали кращі ідеї.

Заздрість поволи забиває людину. Ми стараємося по всяку ціну переконати інших, щоб вони про нас говорили добре, щоб нас хвалили, навіть як ми за це собі не заслужили. Нераз стараємося інших очорнювати, щоб себе ставити вище, і так поволи забуваємо про любов до ближніх, тішимося їхніми нещастями і поволи відходимо від дороги справедливости.

Просім Господа, щоб дав нам більше лагідности і скромности, а забрав від нас заздрість і себелюбля, і бажання панувати над іншими.

Коли ми готові завидувати іншим, подумаємо, як ми насправді їх знаємо. Можливо вони мають труднощі яких ми несвідомі, тяжкі хрести, яких однаки вони носять без нарікання.

Одного разу нарікала якась жінка перед Господом: "Іншим все добре поводитьсь, у у мене завжди якісь хрести на моїй дорозі, наплечник моїх страждань затяжкий." І Господь їй сказав: "Вебирай наплечник який хочиш, тих осіб що їх добре знаєш." І зраділа жінка і сказала: "Ось вебираю наплечник моєї сусідки. Вона завжди усміхнена, у неї мабуть все впорядку." Але поспробувавши його здеувалася, бо він був набагато тяжчий. "Чому так, Господи?" – запитала жінка і одержала відповідь, бо вона має багато більше від тебе переносити. У неї клопоти в родині, клопоти зі здоров'ям..." "Але вона завжди виглядає веселою!" " А то тому", сказав Господь, "бо вона пренимає все як випробування, і я даю їй сили переносити різні труднощі..." І сказала жінка: "Дякую, Господи, що показав мені дорогу якою маю іти. Поможі і мені переносити мої труднощі і не заломатися."

### From the desk of Fr. Ray Palko

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

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever! Got up a little early today and it is now about 6am Thursday morning, April 7, as I begin your letter. Forecast is for a beautiful day in the 40's, but right now there is a "London Fog" out there. It's the proverbial 'pea soup' where you can't even see the house across the street. Just you, me, 'Ol Mr. Mac' and a cup of black coffee...

Did the date April 7 ring a bell? Today is the great Feast of the Annunciation (o.s. Julian Calendar). That means many of our people throughout the world will be celebrating that glorious announcement of the Good News, the beginning of our salvation: "The Savior is coming!" We joyfully join with our brothers and sisters on this holy day. It also reminds us: 9 months from today will be "Old Calendar Christmas."

*Today there come glad tidings of joy: it is the feast of the Virgin. Things below are joined to things above...and together with Gabriel let us cry aloud unto the Virgin: "Hail, thou who art full of grace! The Lord is with thee!" From thee has Christ our God and our Salvation taken human nature, raising it up unto Himself. Pray to Him that our souls may be saved. (from Great Vespers of the Feast)*

The day after the Annunciation is the Synaxis of the Archangel Gabriel and also "St. Laryssa's Day." *Mnohaja Lita* to all of our Laryssa's and Happy Feast Day!

We were out of town for about 24hrs, from Tuesday morning till Wednesday afternoon on a quick visit to our family in Pennsylvania. Just needed some hugs from the Bremers, and also helped the Easter Bunny deliver some stuff that they will be needing for Pascha. They are OK, and Father Eli and Presbyter Laryssa send their regards to you.

While we had nice visit, the return trip home was "interesting." One of those Arctic Clippers was moving through northern PA, dropping some serious snow from the DuBois area all the way to Springville, where it changed to rain. Imagine that! It wasn't snowing in Buffalo! Anyway, it made for miles and miles of driving with the use of those "winter driving skills." At first, people were driving seemingly having the attitude: "Hey, it's April 6<sup>th</sup>. It can't be snowing!" Most traffic failed to slow down until we saw the first accident. Thankfully, it didn't look serious, just the kind where as you pass you think to yourself, "Aha, I thought you were going too fast." But the tow truck, rescue squad and flares reminded us all to be careful. Funny how we often don't do what we're supposed to until it's too late! Thankfully, the angels brought us home safely and we can say we had a good trip. (Gas prices in Pa were \$3.69 to \$3.89!! YIKES!)

Pascha draws near. It's not only the fact that it is already "Mary of Egypt Sunday" and Flowery Sunday is next week. Nor is the fact it's supposed to be in the 70's this Sunday, nor is it that there are crocuses blooming (daffodils are in bloom in PA), or even that the Bisons open their baseball season today. Nope, it's that "Jezebel" on Main and Union in West Seneca, Antoinette on the Hill! She knows I can't visit her till Pascha, and there she hangs out that big sign: "Charlaps Ice Cream Coming Soon." Saying "Charlap's" in western NY is like saying "Breyer's" in Philly and North East PA. They have great ice cream, especially that almost sinful, maple-walnut. ☺

It's that time of the year when the evil one begins to put on the pressure. The fasting we do, and the good intentions we have, all come under heavy assault, especially in these final days of the Great Fast. Things like thoughts

of pineapple milkshakes or pizza and wings become mouth-watering temptations, don't they? Prayer, fasting and almsgiving are held up by that "father of lies" as being useless and not worth it. But we know our Lord calls us to come to Him in purity, repentance and newness of life. We know the road laid out for us to do that is exactly our Paschal journey of prayer, fasting and alms-giving, and we so do know how valuable and "worth it" it truly is. Soon we will meet our Risen Lord, standing there by the tomb as He was for Mary Magdalene, or in the upper room, even though the doors were closed, as He came to His disciples."

So my dear one, "How's your Lent going?" If you haven't started, now is the time. If you've already been trying, now is the time for even greater and more serious effort, As that great philosopher, Yogi once said, "It ain't over till it's over." And the great Greek philosopher, Anony Mous, who said, "If nothing changes, nothing changes." So like those running the race we get ready for "the final kick," that saved up energy to push us on to the finish line and our victory in the Risen Lord.

In all our situations and struggles of life, the good the bad and the ugly we remember that our hope is in the Lord. Be lifted up, be strong, be faithful and you will find that "peace that passes all understanding." To those who grieve and are sorrowing, to those sick or downtrodden, to those hurting in any way, and to those who are away from us we say: *God didn't promise days without Pain,*

*Laughter without Sorrow,  
Nor Sun without Rain;*

***But He did promise:***

*Strength for the Day,  
Comfort for the Tears,  
And Light for the Way.*

What more can I say? Be blessed, my dear reader! God willing and the creek don't rise, you'll get mail again next week.

In His Love,  
Fr. Ray 

### **At St. Basil Seminary:** **195 Glenbrook Rd., Stamford**



9:00 – 10:00 am Arrival & Registration

10:00 Moleben to the Mother of God/  
Молебен (Chapel);

10:45 Coffee break

11:00 Keynote Address: *Woman's Role in the Domestic Church – Family*  
(Mrs. Jaroslava Lonchyna)

12:00 Questions & Discussion/ Дискусія /  
12:30 Lunch

2:00 Workshop 1 (Classroom wing)  
*Woman's Growth and Spiritual Maturity - Prayer and Work in the Family (Eng)* (Sr. Natalya Stoczanyn, SSMI)

*Відносини у подружжі та родині. Виховання дітей (Ukr)* (п. Ярослава Лончина)  
*Sacrament of Penance & Theotokos in Iconography (Eng)* (Father Maxim Kobasuk, OSBM)  
2:45 Coffee Break

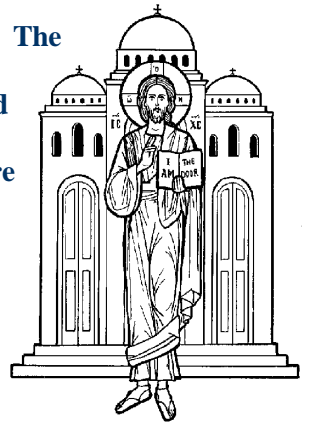
3:30 Workshop 2 (Classroom wing)  
*Процес самовиховання жінки. Молитва і праця в родині (Ukr)* (С. Наталія)  
*Family & Marital Relationship - Education & Nurturing of Children (Eng)* (Mrs. Lonchyna)  
*Тайна Покаяння. Богородиця в іконографії (Ukr)* (Отець Максим Кобасюк)

4:30 Building the Domestic Church/Будуймо домашню Церкву - Родину – Most. Rev. Paul Chomnycky, OSBM.

5:00 Departure

From "Good Samaritan" Ukr. Radio pr.  
"Verily I say unto you, in as much as you have done it unto one of the least of my brethren, you have done it unto me" (Matthew 25:40). They all lived in a rural area and they were experiencing one of the worst winters they had had in years. When Katherine answered the phone, Mary told her that they should visit their neighbor. She suspected that all was not well. She had not seen their neighbor Sabina in weeks. She did not run into the children at the playground, and the house looked too quiet. Something inside of Mary kept urging her to check on Sabina. It was very cold out and the snow drifts were deep, but Mary and Katherine put on their boots and winter coats and trudged down the long driveway to visit their neighbor. Mary was right to be concerned, Sabina was sick. She was in bed and her three pre-school children were sitting around listlessly. The dishes and laundry hadn't been looked after for weeks. They didn't know if the children had even been fed. They had no idea how to contact her husband - but they knew she was in a serious depression. Mary and Katherine fed the children, washed the dishes and did the laundry. When they did not know what to do – they simply went on to the next chore. Hours later, after much tending to their neighbor and her children, they walked home. But Mary and Katherine agreed that Sabina needed professional help, so they made some phone calls that night. The next day, a social worker came to see Sabina. A week later, Sabina told Katherine and Mary that she would be going to a hospital for treatment. They told her they would care for the children and look after them while she was recovering. Katherine took care of the 12 month-old Thomas and Mary took the three year-old son Martin and the five year old daughter Marlene. For three weeks they did

not hear from Sabina. The children adapted quickly and blossomed in the stable, happy homes where they were loved and cared for. Soon after that, Sabina's husband came to see them and thanked Mary and Katherine for all that they had done.



Sabina's husband was in the military and stationed away from home. He had no idea that his wife was battling depression with him being gone so long, but he promised Mary and Katherine that things would be different. When Sabina was able, she returned home to her husband and children and adjusted very well after her treatment. She just needed a helping hand to get back on her feet again. There is much to be learned from Mary and Katherine's example of being a neighbor to someone in need – about serving others who need our help the most. When God impresses on us to help someone in need – do we listen? When I think of the people we pass on the street, the people in our own neighborhood or even within our Church community – What if Christ was one of them? Would He be perceptible to us? Would we stop and listen to Him? Much of what we miss out on is a result of our inability to make personal sacrifices. Christ lives in each of us, the wealthy and the poor, the young and the old, every culture and every walk of life. What if we miss out on Christ, because we fail to hear him or see him in the people who need us the most? Perhaps God has put someone on our path with a similar need. Have we been there for them? Have we served them and listened to the call of God in our own lives?...