



Two priests walk carrying pictures of 2 popes in front of St. Peter's square in Rome, April 25, 2014 (Reuters)



Today
April 27, 2014

Is the
Canonization
of 2 popes:

John XXIII
and
John Paul II

St. John &
St. John Paul

Pray for
Peace

Pray for
Ukraine

Pray for us!



SAINT NICHOLAS
UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

УКРАЇНЬСЬКА КАТОЛИЦЬКА
ЦЕРКВА СВЯТОГО МИКОЛАЯ

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ПІД ОПІКОЮ
ПРЕЧИСТОЇ ДІВИ
МАРІЇ ОДІГТРИЇ

UNDER THE
PROTECTION OF
MOTHER OF GOD



CHURCH BULLETIN

April 27 – 2014 – 27 Квітня
ЦЕРКОВНИЙ ВІСНИК



Нові Святи: Іван Павло II і Іван XXIII – 27. IV, 2014 New Saints: John Paul II and John XXIII – Pray for us!

CHURCH BULLETIN

April 27 – 2014 – 27 Квітня

ЦЕРКОВНИЙ ВІСНИК

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

4:30 PM For health of John & Rosemary
Maxim (Peter Maxim)

April 27 Thomas Sun. – Томина Неділя

10:00 AM. For Parishioners–За Парохіян
Свячення – Easter Dinner

Monday, April 28 Квітня, Понеділок

8:15 AM +Тарас, Катерина, Михайло
Значко (Анна Макух)

Tuesday, April 29 Квітня, Вівторок

9:15 AM +Михайло Іваничко 25 річн.
(дружина, діти, внуки, правнуки)

Wednesday, April 30 Квітня, Середа

9:15 AM Health of Sofia Waskowycz
(Dolores Baranyckyj)

Thursday, May 1 Травня, Четвер

9:15 AM +Федір Папіж (А. Войчак)

Friday, May 2 Травня, П'ятниця

9:15 AM +Людмила (Люся)

6:00 PM Moleben - Маївка

Saturday, May 3 Травня, Субота,

12:00 PM For Dec. Ukr. Amer. Sportsman:

++Orest Prytula, Bohdan Jurkiw, Mykola
Onysko, Slawko Mychajliw, Andrij Worobel,
Severyn Papisz, Wasyl Drozdowsky, Richard
Marks, Valentine Vdoviuk, Jaroslaw Serwetnyk

4:30 PM +Irene Dudykevych
(Roman Voychak)

May 4 Myrrh-bearing W. – Мироносиць

12:00 PM. For Parishioners – За Парохіян

Вічне Світло в честь П.Д.М.
горить за МИР в Україні.



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

ПОР'ЯДОК СВ. ЛІТУРГІЙ

27 Квітня: Томина Неділя

10:00 р. +Олекса і Анна Король,
+Марія Лесик, +Катерина
Луців (Степан Король)

Свячення

4 Травня: Н. Жінок Мироносиць

10:00 р. +Софрон, Євгенія, Юрій
Ференцевич (Оля Чмола)

**CHRIST IS RISEN – ХРИСТОС ВОСКРЕС!
Indeed He is Risen – Воістину Воскрес!**

Eternal Light burns for
PEACE in UKRAINE.
May the Lord protect us!

As part of the new Church Directory,
which will be published this year. We
are adding "Memorial Pages" to the
book. You still have time to 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.

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The Colonial Memorial Chapels, Inc.
of Ukrainian Heritage, Serving Western N.Y.

Simon Pasnik & Matthew Pasnik

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(716) 824-3007



562 Genesee Street, Buffalo, NY 14204
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www.rufcu.org

Monday & Tuesday 9:30 am – 4 pm |
Wednesday 9:30 am – 2pm | Thursday 9:30
am – 6 pm |
Friday 9:30 am – 7 pm | Saturday 9:00 – 1 pm |

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ОЩАДНІ ТА ЧЕКОВІ РАХУНКИ | СЕРТИ-
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ТАРІУСА |

*Membership subject to eligibility.
Federally insured by NCUA.*

Наше Парафіяльне Свячене відбуватись
сьогодні, 27 Квітня по Св. Літургії. Нема
Дванадцятки. Даток 10 доларів. Весь дохід
підє на Україну через ЗУДАК. Додаткові
пожертви побажанні. Дотепер через
«Милосердного Самарянина» ми зібрали
коло \$8,000.00. Надіємося дійти принаймні
до \$10,000.00

Якщо плануєте пожертвувати на
Стамфордський Місійний Фонд,
просимо це зробити негайно, бо зіб-
ране посилаємо у цей понеділок до
Стамфорду. Дякуємо всім за Ваші
пожертви.

Молитви за Україну

Отче Небесний, Твій Син учив нас:
«Блаженні миротворці, бо вони синами
Божими назвуться».

У цей час ми гаряче молимося, щоб Твій Дух
Святий надихав людей в Україні ставати
миротворцями.

Щоб вони шукали примирення і діалогу,
Щоб припинилися гостра конфронтація та
убивства, Щоб на цій багатостраждальній
землі запанував мир в народі, відродилися
людські права, принципи демократії та
релігійної свободи.

Боже, Отче наш, молимо Тебе: заспокой
страждання, зціли поранених і прийми душі
полеглих у Твоєму Царстві Небесному.

Пресвята Мати Божа, накрій своїм благос-
ловенням та захисним покровом всю Україну.

Нехай життя буде для створення Твого
Миру в Україні і світі.

Амінь.

**Pentecost, June 8, '14 - Spaghetti
Dinner to benefit St. Basil Ch. in
Lancaster organized by LUC.**

**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 запланувати свою участь!**

Prayers for Ukraine

Heavenly Father, Your Son taught us
“Blessed are the Peacemakers for they shall
be called Children of God.”

At this hour, we fervently pray that Your Holy
Spirit may inspire men and women in Ukraine to
become Peacemakers.

May they seek reconciliation and dialogue and
end the violent confrontation and killing.

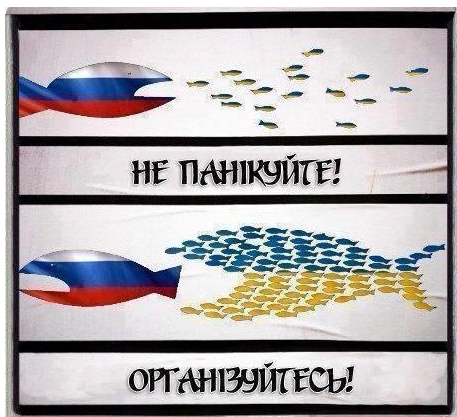
May they restore tranquility to their nation and
restore human rights, democratic principles
and religious liberty to their troubled land.

God, our Father, we beseech you to comfort
the suffering, heal the wounded and accept the
souls of the departed into Your Heavenly King-
dom.

And may the Most Holy Mother of God, extend
her Blessed Mantle of Protection over Ukraine.

And may each of us always live our lives as
instruments of Your Peace.

Amen.



Sunday, April 27 - 5:30 pm Polish-American Congress "Swieconka" Easter Dinner. Guest Speaker: Stefan Mychajliw, Erie Country Comptroller will speak on the "Crisis in Ukraine" Admission: \$27.50 St Stanislaus Church at the Parish Hall, 389 Peckam Street (and Wilson), Buffalo

Contact and Reservations: Dina Szmanski,
Telephone: 716-432-7664

Friday, May 2 - 6:00 pm, OLIGARCH HAPPY HOUR (FUNDRAISER) Open Bar; Light Buffet; Music \$50 donation to support of the Election Observer Mission to Ukraine Dnipro Ukrainian Cultural Center, Lounge 562 Genesee St., Buffalo

Friday, May 2 - 7:00 pm, Euro Block Party Fundraiser in support of Election Observer Mission to Ukraine at Dnipro Ukrainian Cultural Center Grand Hall 562 Genesee St., Buffalo. Live music by "Those Idiots" at Dnipro Ukrainian Cultural Center, Tickets: \$15
<http://www.ukiclub.com/euroblock.html>
<http://site246485.webydo.com/euroblock.html>

Tuesday, May 13 - 6:00 pm, UKRAINE ELECTION OBSERVER WNY INFORMATIONAL MEETING
Free and open to the public Dnipro Ukrainian Cultural Center – Lounge 562 Genesee St.

St. Nicholas Easter Dinner Is being held today, April 27, 2014

Свячення
церкви Св. Миколая
Відбудеться 27 Квітня,
2014.
По відправі о 10:00 год.

Сердечна Подяка
Пані Анні Мельник
і жінкам в кухні за їхню працю
продовж року, а головно перед
святами, коли набагато більше
потрібно. Дякуємо за при-
готування сьогоднішного
Свяченого!
Нехай Господь поверне вам
сторицею і нехай сповнить усі
бажання ваших сердець.

"Good Samaritan Project Fund"
Is collecting donations for medical ex-
penses of wounded in Ukraine or what-
ever else needs arise there. Your do-
nations will be sent to the United Uk-
rainian American Relief Committee
(UUAARC or ZUDAK). If you prefer, your
tax deductible donations can also be
made online through their web page:

www.uuarc.org



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 допомагаєте 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 BULLETIN is published weekly. Deadline for information is Friday Evening.
ЦЕРКОВНИЙ 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)

Parish E-Mail: stnbuffalo@yahoo.com

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

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

308 Fillmore Avenue, Buffalo, N. Y. 14206

Rectory: (716) 852-7566

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

Confession: Before Liturgies

Сповідь: Перед Св. Літургіями

Baptism: By appointment

Хрещення: За домовленням

Marriage: Contact 6 months in advance

Вінчання: Голоситися 6 місяців скорше

Religion classes – Релігійна Програма

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 ліжниці або приковані до ліжка!

WOMAN'S DAY 2014

A Spiritual Spa

Sat., May 3, 2014

8:30 a.m.

St. Basil Seminary
195 Glenbrook Road
Stamford, CT 06902

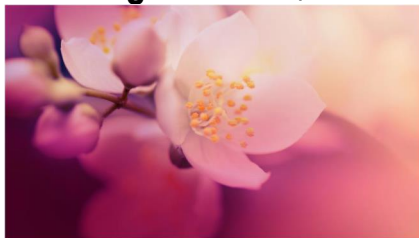
Presented by
Ukrainian Catholic
Eparchy of Stamford

Registration

203-324-4578 or 203-356-0770

www.stamforddio.org

Program Fee: \$25.



Morning Program Description

8:30 Registration and Hospitality

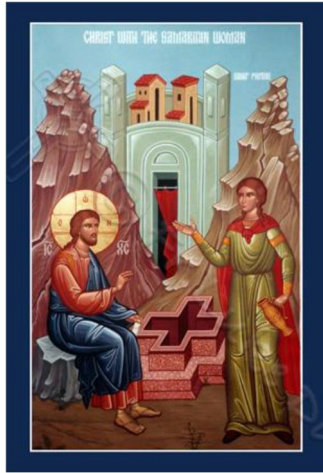
9:00 Welcome and Opening Prayer

9:15 What is a Spiritual Spa?

9:30 The Prodigal Woman: Finding Our Way Home ...and Encountering Christ Along the Way

10:15 The Spiritual Spa Experience – Part 1
Detoxing, Cleansing and Healing

Spiritual growth can be challenging when we hide and accumulate painful life experiences. By recognizing our human nature and examining our spiritual wounds, we provide opportunities for cleansing and healing. This opens up the



possibility of encountering Christ in a very personal and loving way. Opportunities for Confession
“Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed.”

James 5:16

Healing Service, Prayer and Anointing

“O Lord my God, I called to you for help and you healed me” Psalm 30:2

12:00 Lunch

Afternoon Program

Description

1:00 The Spiritual Spa Experience – Part 2

Healing with Biblical Oils

Anointing was used as an act of hospitality, for medicinal and spiritual benefit. Prepare your own anointing oil using pure olive oil from Jerusalem. Your oil will be blessed so you can anoint your children and aging parents. What a beautiful act of love.

From Pebbles to Prayers

Learn the history and spiritual nature of the Holy Rosary. Create your own rosary using olivewood beads from Jerusalem. Experience the power of focused prayer and meditation with the rosary.

Creating Sacred Space at Home

A home icon corner is a beautiful way to anchor ourselves spiritually, a place to connect with the Divine and to gather for family prayer. Learn the basic composition of the icon corner. Be inspired to create your own at home. Take home materials to create an icon corner with your children.

4:00 Blessing our Workshop Creations and Closing Prayer

4:30 Wine and Cheese Reception

From the desk of Fr. Ray Palko

April 27, 2014 A.D.

Christ is Risen! He is Truly Risen!

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

It was the BEST Pascha ever! Thanks and glory to God, our celebration of Holy Week and Pascha was a beautiful, reverent and uplifting time for our parish. I pray yours was also. Spiritually and liturgically, it was all that anyone could want. The weather was perfect, the church was beautiful, (oh can you still smell the flowers and incense?!), and the heavens were opened!

In those days, we walked with our Lord from the tomb of Lazarus in Bethany, to the shouts of Hosanna at the gates of Jerusalem, to the Upper Room, to the Garden of Gethsemane, to the home of the High Priest, to Pilate's Praetorium, to the Scourging Pillar, to Golgotha, to the New Tomb, and then to the EMPTY TOMB! Indeed glory and thanks to God for allowing us the grace to once again enter into this awesome and breathtaking mystery of the Resurrection!

And what a trip it has been! It's amazing to look back on the spiritual journey we have just completed. It all began for this year, way back on February 2 when that little guy climbed the tree (Zaccheus), and then it was the next four weeks of preparation as we packed our bags and “got our stuff” ready for the Paschal Pilgrimage that was before us.

Before we knew it, we stood at “the gates of repentance” as we found ourselves at the celebration of Forgiveness, greeting each other with “the Holy Kiss” of forgiveness, and praying that we would be safe in the desert and return to celebrate the Resurrection. That is always something to ponder, I think. How many began the Great Fast, but did not complete it on this earth for they were called to Eternity! How many began the Great Fast, but they did not complete it for they were seduced by the Evil One and never came back!

By the grace of God, we left and we returned! What a trip it was! As I look back on those days of February, March and the three weeks of April, I am amazed how, and what, we accomplished as we followed our Divine Savior to the fulfillment of His mission. The services, the prayers, the blessings! Oh how we pray that everyone has had an uplifting and holy Fast and Pascha!

As priest, I am so very happy to have been able to make the trip with “my people,” who journeyed with me day by day, service by service. There was a group of faithful who were with me every step of the way, attending every single service they could. I feel sorry for those who did not experience the services as we did. I feel sorry for those who were not there on the Memorial Saturdays when we prayed for the dead. I feel sorry for those who did not attend the Liturgy of St. Basil and hear the powerful prayers telling us of God's work, plan and care for each of us. I feel sorry for those who did not see the unveiling of the Altar and Holy Things on Great Saturday at the Vespers/Liturgy. (The figs, dates and wine were a great treat, weren't they?) Our God and His plan is continually unveiled in our holy and divine services. It was indeed a very good Great Fast and a glorious Resurrection!

Yes, it was a hard, tiring journey and there were temptations, struggles and hardships. But, thanks and glory to God, we made it to Pascha! And yes, last Sunday we returned from the desert. Near the end of the Paschal Matins we once again lined up and greeted each other with “the Holy Kiss,” welcomed each other ‘back home’ with the ancient, powerful and life affirming greeting: “Christ is Risen! He is truly Risen!” And as we were doing this we heard these words: *It is the Day of Resurrection, so let us be radiant for the festival, and let us embrace one another. Let us speak, brothers and sisters, also to those who hate us, and in the Resurrection let us forgive everything, and so let us cry: Christ is risen from the dead, trampling on death by death, and on those in the tombs bestowing life. Matins ended shortly after that and we then had Liturgy. Following*

the Liturgy we all went outside where the Paschal foods were blessed. The Son's rays shone down from heaven through the wet dew-filled tree branches giving further blessing to all who noticed the heavenly glow around us!

And then it was over....we went downstairs for our parish "Sviachenne" where we "broke the fast" with the eating of the first egg and shared all the rest of those special and delightful foods in our baskets.

I know there are a lot of priests who worked much harder than I, especially the Fathers who have two parishes. If you've never thought about it, just imagine the physical part of doing that. The conducting of the services, the standing, prostrating, etc. is demanding and tiring enough, but when it has to be done twice with a 'road trip' besides, it does take a toll. In between services there is the travel, could be a few miles, could be a lot of miles, to and from their churches. So what I'm getting at, all of us priests with two or more parishes, priests with one parish, and parishioners who were on the journey with us felt that absolute exhaustion late on Sunday night. It was that wonderful, but soooo tired feeling of having just completed the wonderful trip!

It reminds me of a quote by my favorite Greek writer, "Anon." of which my sister Mary often reminded me. It goes something like this: "Life should not be a journey to the grave with the intention of arriving safely in a pretty and well-preserved body, but rather to skid in sideways in a cloud of smoke, thoroughly used up, totally worn out, and loudly proclaiming, Wow, what a ride!" That's how we're supposed to feel on Pascha night! Zonked out, even more than a day with the Martelli kids and the Bremer Boys! ☺ ☺

We've recovered and are back to normal. Today is Thursday of Bright Week as I write and this evening the fast will be completely broken for I am about to enjoy that first pineapple milkshake! God is so good! What a shower of blessings He bestows upon us! Now we have the great gift of our Church which calls us to continue this Paschal celebration for the

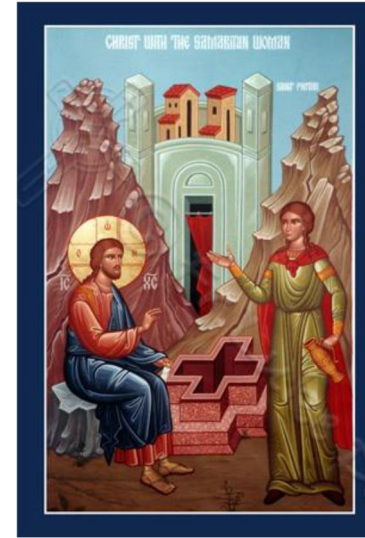
next 50 days until Pentecost Sunday. So my dear one, celebrate The Day, The Day that has no evening! In the words of our Holy Father John Chrysostom in his Paschal Sermon: *"Come, all of you: enter into the joy of your Lord. You the first and you the last, receive alike your reward; you rich and you poor, dance together; you sober and you weaklings, celebrate the day; you who have kept the fast and you who have not, rejoice today... All of you enjoy the banquet of faith; all of you receive the riches of His goodness....Let no one weep over his sins, for pardon has shone forth from the grave; let no one fear death, for the death of our Savior has set us free; O death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory? Christ is risen and you are abolished! Christ is risen and the demons are cast down! Christ is risen and life is freed! Christ is risen and the tomb is emptied of the dead! For Christ, being risen from the dead, has become the Leader and Reviver of those who have fallen asleep. TO HIM BE GLORY AND POWER UNTO AGES OF AGES. AMEN."* May our Holy Lady Theotokos protect you! *Christ is Risen!*

In the Love of the Risen Lord,
Fr. Ray

Fruit of the Vine
Wine Tasting Fun Raiser
May 30th, 2014 6 pm – 9 pm
Protection Blessed Virgin Mary Church
2715 Ferry Ave, Niagara Falls, NY 14301

Featuring premium Finger Lakes wines
hand-crafted by Eagle Crest and O-Neh-Da
Vineyards, Hemlock Lake, New York.

For tickets and additional information
Please call Father Ray at
716-675-0629



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Просимо перечитати інформації по
англійськи з другого боку

Saint John Maron Church
2040 Wehrle Drive, Williamville, NY 14221
Invites you to pray with us, The First Annual
International Rosary, on Thursday, May 1, 2014
at 7:00 pm. A rtesveption will follow in the
Cedars Banquet Facility. We will be so honored
to have you joining us and other Catholic
Churches from the greater Buffalo area to pray
the Holy Rosary and pay this beautiful tribute to
our Blessed Mother. For more information
please call: 634-0669.
Rev. Elie G. Kairouze, Pastor

1914 SAVE THE DATE 2014

The Ukrainian American SITCH
is celebrating its 100th Anniversary
on Sunday, September 28, 2014
at Salvatore's Italian Gardens
Restaurant. SITCH is the oldest
continuously active Ukrainian cultural
organization in the Buffalo – Niagara
area (interrupted only by W. W. II).
EVERYONE IS INVITED!

We would love to have at least 100
guests—one for each year. Please save
the date and come celebrate with us.
Details will follow shortly. Thank you.

Michael Liskiewicz – President
Maria Malaniak, Secretary

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УВАГА! УВАГА

Даємо до відома, що в неділю,
28-го Вересня, 2014 Товариство
Українська-Американська Січ
відмічує 100-ту річницю свого
існування! Це найстарша активна
українська культурна організація на
Боффалівському терені. (Активність
перервана тільки 2-гою Світовою
Війною). Ювілей відбувається в
ресторані Salvatores Italian Gardens.
Просимо усіх. Наша ціль: мати хоч
100 гостей – одного за кожний рік!

Дальші інформації
будуть подані незадовго.

Михайло Ліскевич, голова
Марія Маланяк, Писар

JOHN XXIII (1881-1963)

ANGELO GIUSEPPE RONCALLI was born in Sotto il Monte, in the Diocese and Province of Bergamo, on 25 November 1881. The fourth of thirteen children

Entered the Seminary of Bergamo in 1892, where he remained for studies in classics and theology until his second year of theology.

As a fourteen-year-old boy, he began drawing up the spiritual notes which he would keep in various ways until his death, and would later be collected in the *Journal of a Soul*. It was there that he began the practice of regular spiritual direction. On 1 March 1896, enrolled in the Secular Franciscan Order, whose Rule he professed on 23 May 1897.

From 1901 to 1905 he studied at the Pontifical Roman Seminary, where he benefited from a scholarship of the Diocese of Bergamo for qualified seminarians. In the meantime he completed a year of military service. He was ordained a priest in Rome on 10 August 1904 in the Church of Santa Maria in Monte Santo in Piazza del Popolo. In 1905, he was named secretary to the new Bishop of Bergamo. He served as secretary until 1914, accompanying the Bishop on his pastoral visits and taking part in his numerous pastoral initiatives, including a Synod, the editorship of the monthly journal *La Vita Diocesana*, pilgrimages and various social works. He also taught history, patrology and apologetics in the Seminary. In 1910, when the statutes of Catholic Action were revised, the Bishop entrusted him with the pastoral care of Catholic women (section V). He wrote for Bergamo's daily Catholic newspaper, and he was a diligent, profound and effective preacher.

When Italy entered the war in 1915, he was called to military service as a sergeant medic. A year later, he became a military chaplain serving military hospitals behind the lines, and

coordinated the spiritual and moral care of soldiers. At the end of the war he opened a "Home for Students" and served as a chaplain for students. In 1919, he was appointed spiritual director of the Seminary.

1921 marked the beginning of the second phase of his life: his service to the Holy See. Called to Rome by Pope Benedict XV to be the President for Italy of the central council of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, he visited many Italian dioceses and organized missionary circles. In 1925 Pope Pius XI named him Apostolic Visitor to Bulgaria, elevating him to the episcopal dignity with the titular see of Areopolis. He chose as his episcopal motto *Obtinentia et Pax*, which served as the programme of his life.

Ordained bishop in Rome on 19 March 1925, he arrived in Sophia on 25 April. Subsequently named the first Apostolic Delegate to Bulgaria, Archbishop Roncalli remained there until 1934, visiting the Catholic communities and fostering respectful relations with other Christian communities. He was present and offered ready charitable assistance during the earthquake of 1928. He quietly endured misunderstandings and the difficulties of a ministry marked by halting progress. He grew in self-knowledge and confidence, and in abandonment to Christ crucified.

On 27 November 1934, he was named Apostolic Delegate in Turkey and Greece. His new assignment covered a vast area. The Catholic Church was present in many ways throughout the young Turkish Republic which was in the process of renewing and organizing itself. His ministry to Catholics was demanding and he became known for his respectful manner and dialogue with the Orthodox and Muslims. At the outbreak of the Second World War he was in Greece, which was devastated by fighting. He

sought to gain information about prisoners of war and he helped to save many Jews by giving them transit visas issued by the Apostolic Delegation. On 6 December 1944, he was appointed Apostolic Nuncio in Paris by Pope Pius XII.

During the final months of the war and the first months of peace, Archbishop Roncalli assisted prisoners of war and worked to restore stability to the life of the Church in France. He visited the French shrines and participated in popular feasts and more significant religious events. He was attentive, prudent and trusting in his approach to the new pastoral initiatives undertaken by bishops and priests in France. He constantly sought to embody evangelical simplicity, even in dealing with the most complex diplomatic issues. His pastoral desire to be a priest in every situation sustained him. His deep piety found daily expression in prolonged moments of prayer and meditation.

On 12 January 1953 he was created Cardinal and on 25 January he was named Patriarch of Venice. He was delighted to devote himself in the last years of his life to a directly pastoral ministry, an aspiration he had always cherished as a priest. He was a wise and resourceful pastor, following in the footsteps of the holy Bishops whom he had always venerated: Saint Lawrence Giustiniani, the first Patriarch of Venice, and Saint Pius X. As he grew older, his trust in the Lord increased, within the context of an active, enterprising and joyful ministry.

Following the death of Pius XII, he was elected Pope on 28 October 1958, taking the name John XXIII. In the five years of his pontificate he

appeared to the world as an authentic image of the Good Shepherd. Meek and gentle, resourceful and courageous, simple and ever active, he undertook various corporal and spiritual works of mercy, visiting prisoners and the sick, welcoming people of all nations and religions, demonstrating an exquisite sense of fatherhood to everyone. His social magisterium was contained in the Encyclicals *Mater et Magistra* (1961) and *Pacem in Terris* (1963).

He convoked the Synod of Rome, instituted the Commission for the Revision of the Code of Canon Law, and convened the Second Vatican Ecumenical Council. As Bishop of Rome, he visited parishes and churches in the historical centre and in the outskirts. People saw in him a reflection of *benignitas evangelica* and called him the "good Pope". A profound spirit of prayer sustained him. He embodied, as the driving force behind a movement of renewal of the Church, the peace of one who trusts completely in the Lord. He advanced resolutely along the paths of evangelization, ecumenism and dialogue, and showed a paternal concern to reach out to those of his children most in need.

He died the evening of 3 June 1963, the day after Pentecost, in a profound spirit of abandonment to Jesus, of longing for his embrace, and surrounded by the prayers of the entire world, which seemed to gathered at his bedside to breathe with him the love of the Father.

John XXIII was declared Blessed by Pope John Paul II on 3 September 2000 in Saint Peter's Square, during the celebration of the Great Jubilee of the Year 2000.

(photo with Patr. Josyf Slipyj)



JOHN PAUL II (1920-2005)

KAROL JÓZEF WOJTYŁA, elected Pope on 16 October 1978, was born in Wadowice, Poland, on 18 May 1920.

He was the third of three children born to Karol Wojtyła and Emilia Kaczorowska, who died in 1929. His elder brother Edmund, a physician, died in 1932, and his father, Karol, a non-commissioned officer in the army, died in 1941.

He was nine years old when he received his First Communion and eighteen when he received the Sacrament of Confirmation. After completing high school in Wadowice, he enrolled in the Jagellonian University of Krakow in 1938. When the occupying Nazi forces closed the University in 1939, Karol worked (1940-1944) in a quarry and then in the Solvay chemical factory to earn a living and to avoid deportation to Germany.

Feeling called to the priesthood, he began his studies in 1942 in the clandestine major seminary of Krakow, directed by the Archbishop Adam Stefan Sapieha. During that time, he was one of the organizers of the "Rhapsodic Theatre", which was also clandestine.

After the war, Karol continued his studies in the major seminary, newly reopened, and in the school of theology at the Jagellonian University, until his priestly ordination in Krakow on 1 November 1946. Father Wojtyła was then sent by Cardinal Sapieha to Rome, where he attained a doctorate in theology (1948). He wrote his dissertation on faith as understood in the works of Saint John of the Cross. While a student in Rome, he spent his vacations exercising pastoral ministry among Polish emigrants in France, Belgium and Holland.

In 1948, Father Wojtyła returned to Poland and was appointed a curate in the parish church of Niegowić, near Krakow, and later at Saint Florian in the city. He was a university chaplain until 1951, when he again undertook studies in

philosophy and theology. In 1953, Father Wojtyła presented a dissertation at the Jagellonian University of Krakow on the possibility of grounding a Christian ethic on the ethical system developed by Max Scheler. Later he became professor of moral theology and ethics in the major seminary of Krakow and in the theology faculty of Lublin.

On 4 July 1958, Pope Pius XII appointed Father Wojtyła auxiliary bishop of Krakow, with the titular see of Ombi. Archbishop Eugeniusz Baziak ordained him in Wawel Cathedral (Krakow) on 28 September 1958.

On 13 January 1964, Pope Paul VI appointed Bishop Wojtyła as Archbishop of Krakow and subsequently, on 26 June 1967, created him a Cardinal.

Bishop Wojtyła took part in the Second Vatican Council (1962-1965) and made a significant contribution to the drafting of the Constitution *Gaudium et Spes*. He also took part in the five assemblies of the Synod of Bishops prior to the start of his Pontificate.

On 16 October 1978, Cardinal Wojtyła was elected Pope and on 22 October he began his ministry as universal Pastor of the Church.

Pope John Paul II made 146 pastoral visits in Italy and, as the Bishop of Rome, he visited 317 of the current 322 Roman parishes. His



and Mystery: On the Fiftieth Anniversary of My Priestly Ordination (November 1996); Roman Triptych, meditations in poetry (March 2003); Rise, Let Us Be on Our Way (May 2004) and Memory and Identity (February 2005).

Pope John Paul II celebrated 147 beatifications, during which he proclaimed 1,338 blessed, and 51 canonizations, for a total of 482 saints. He called 9 consistories, in which he created 231 Cardinals (plus one in pectore). He also presided at 6 plenary meetings of the College of Cardinals.

From 1978, Pope John Paul II convoked 15 assemblies of the Synod of Bishops: 6 ordinary general sessions (1980, 1983, 1987, 1990, 1994 and 2001), 1 extraordinary general session (1985) and 8 special sessions (1980, 1991, 1994, 1995, 1997, 1998 (2) and 1999).

On 3 May 1981, an attempt was made on Pope John Paul II's life in Saint Peter's Square. Saved by the maternal hand of the Mother of God, following a lengthy stay in the hospital, he forgave the

international apostolic journeys numbered 104 and were expressions of the constant pastoral solicitude of the Successor of Peter for all the Churches.

His principal documents include 14 Encyclicals, 15 Apostolic Exhortations, 11 Apostolic Constitutions and 45 Apostolic Letters. He also wrote five books: *Crossing the Threshold of Hope* (October 1994); *Gift*

attempted assassin and, aware of having received a great gift, intensified his pastoral commitments with heroic generosity.

Pope John Paul II also demonstrated his pastoral concern by erecting numerous dioceses and ecclesiastical circumscriptions, and by promulgating Codes of Canon Law for the Latin and the Oriental Churches, as well as the Catechism of the Catholic Church. He proclaimed the Year of Redemption, the Marian Year and the Year of the Eucharist as well as the Great Jubilee Year of 2000, in order to provide the People of God with particularly intense spiritual experiences. He also attracted young people by beginning the celebration of World Youth Day.

No other Pope met as many people as Pope John Paul II. More than 17.6 million pilgrims attended his Wednesday General Audiences (which numbered over 1,160). This does not include any of the other special audiences and religious ceremonies (more than 8 million pilgrims in the Great Jubilee Year of 2000 alone). He met millions of the faithful in the course of his pastoral visits in Italy and throughout the world. He also received numerous government officials in audience, including 38 official visits and 738 audiences and meetings with Heads of State, as well as 246 audiences and meetings with Prime Ministers.

Pope John Paul II died in the Apostolic Palace at 9:37 p.m. on Saturday, 2 April 2005, the vigil of Sunday in albis or Divine Mercy Sunday, which he had instituted. On 8 April, his solemn funeral was celebrated in Saint Peter's Square and he was buried in the crypt of Saint Peter's Basilica.

John Paul II was beatified in Saint Peter's Square on 1 May 2011 by Pope Benedict XVI, his immediate successor and for many years his valued collaborator as Prefect for the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith.

(photo with Patr. Józef Ślipyj)