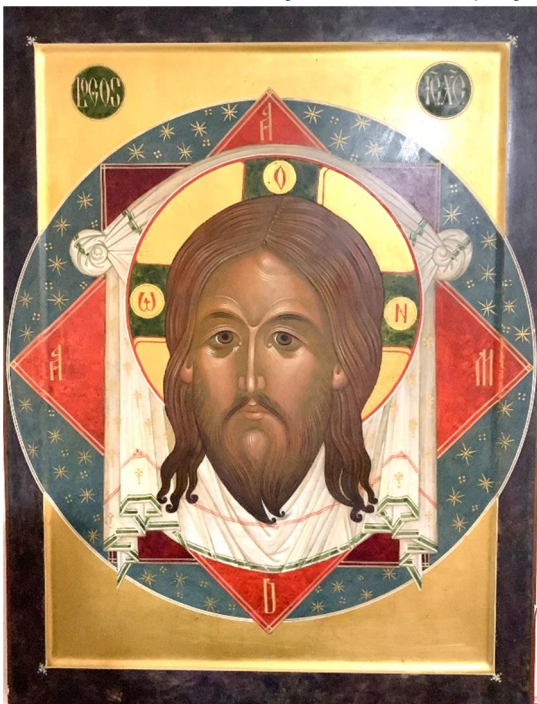




Holy  
Byzantine  
Anointing  
Shroud



From the Great Saturday in St. Kazimierz (Holy Shroud) and with Fr. Czeslaw Krysa in St. Bernard celebrating the Vigil



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SAINT NICHOLAS  
UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



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ЦЕРКВА СВЯТОГО МИКОЛАЯ



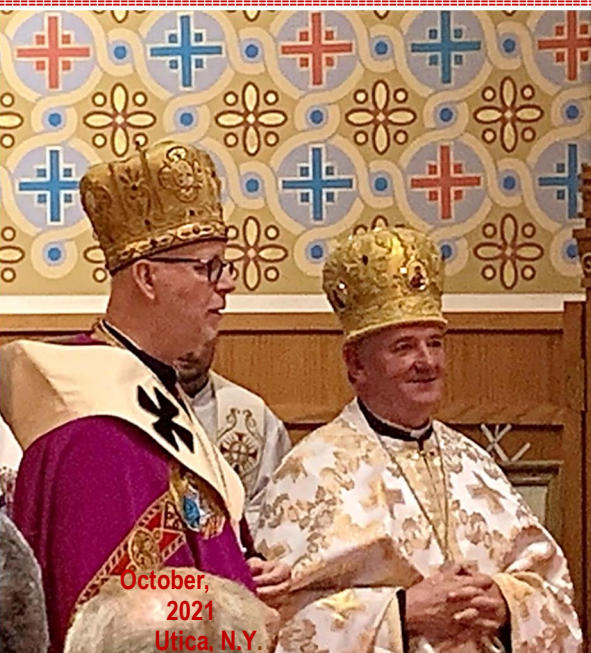
**N<sup>o</sup>** ПІД ОПІКОЮ  
ПРЕЧИСТОЇ ДІВИ  
МАРІЇ ОДІГІТРИЇ

**18** UNDER THE  
PROTECTION OF  
MOTHER OF GOD



**CHURCH BULLETIN**  
May 1 – 2022 – 1 травня  
**ЦЕРКОВНИЙ ВІСНИК**

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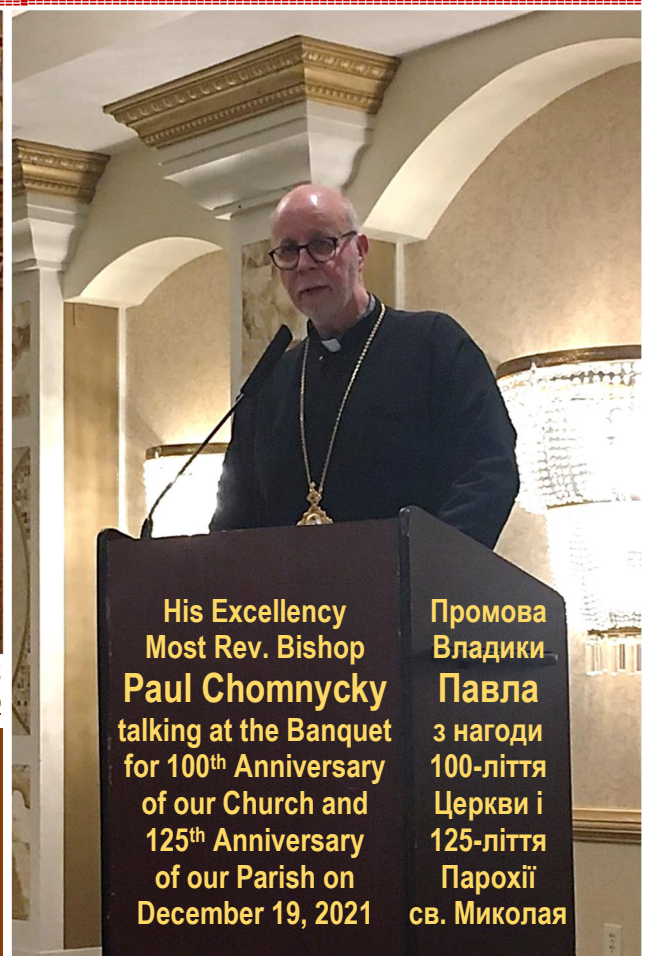


October,  
2021  
Utica, N.Y.

From the elevation to the Mitered Archpriest fr. M. Bundz by Bishop Paul. Владика Павло і о. митрат Михайло

**ВІТАЄМО МІЖ НАМИ ВЛАДИКУ  
КИР ПАВЛА ХОМНИЦЬКОГО!  
НА МНОГАЯ І БЛАГАЯ ЛІТА!**

**WE WELCOME AMONG US  
BISHOP PAUL CHOMNYSKY!  
MANY HAPPY, HEALTHY YEARS!**



His Excellency  
Most Rev. Bishop  
**Paul Chomnysky**  
talking at the Banquet  
for 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
of our Church and  
125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
of our Parish on  
December 19, 2021

Промова  
Владика  
**Павла**  
з нагоди  
100-ліття  
Церкви і  
125-ліття  
Парохії  
св. Миколая

**ХРИСТОС ВОСКРЕС! ВОІСТИНУ ВОСКРЕС!  
CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!**

# CHURCH BULLETIN

May 1 – 2022 – 1 травня

ЦЕРКОВНИЙ ВІСНИК

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE



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

4:30 PM ++ from Ihor's Fam. **STREAMING**  
(Mary Ann DuBois)

May 1: S. of Myrrh-bearers – Н. Мироносиць  
12:00 PM За Парохіян For Parishioners

Monday, May 2 травня, понеділок  
8:00 AM +Joseph & +Florence and +Larry Kinsella  
(Kinsella & Wisniewski families)

Tuesday, May 3 травня, вівторок  
7:00 AM ++Lucas, Verostko & Chort Families  
(Marianne Chort)

Wednesday, May 4 травня, середа  
7:00 AM M.B & M.G. & M.T. (Moreno's) ®  
За всіх хворих і немічних

Thursday, May 5 травня, четвер  
7:00 AM Private Int. of Irene Slocum ®  
7:00 AM У власному наміренні

Friday, May 6 травня, п'ятниця  
7:00 AM +Mary & Michael Verostko (Marianne Chort)  
+Olga Kremel (Moreno's) ®

Saturday, May 7 травня, субота  
9:00 AM +Katherine & Michael Chort (Marianne)  
4:30 PM +Jaclyn Budnik **STREAMING**  
40<sup>th</sup> day & Panachyda

May 8: S. of Paralytic – Н. Розслабленого  
12:00 PM +Tatiana Torres – Anniv. (Fr. Robert)

**Eternal Light burns for  
all who suffer in Ukraine.  
For all soldiers.  
For all killed in the war.**

Вічне Світло в честь Преч. Діви Марії  
Горить за закінчення війни в Україні.

1. травня: Томина Неділя **STREAMING**

12:00 За Парохія – For Parishioners

8. травня: Н. Ж. Мироносиць **STREAMING**

10:00 р. За Парохія – For Parishioners

His Excellency Bishop Paul Chomnycky joins us today, May 1, 2022 for our Easter Dinner - Sviachene. The cost of the dinner is \$20.00. Children under 12 are free. Thank you, Bishop Paul, for doing this event. There is an Easter Egg Hunt for the children after the Liturgy.



Нині, 1 травня, вітаємо між нами нашого владика кир Павла. По Літургії буде для дітей «Шукання за писанками», опісля Свяченне. Пожертва \$20. Діти нище 12 – вільне. Дякуємо, Владико, за сьогоднішній день!

**На Многая, Вам, і Благая Літа!**

У неділю, 15 травня відбудеться в нас Торжественне Святе Причастя о 10-ій годині рано.

This year's Solemn Holy Communion will take place on May 15, at 10:00 AM. Thank you, Catechists!



Christ is Risen! Indeed, He Is Risen!  
Христос Воскрес! Воістину Воскрес!

Christina H. Arthurs, Attorney  
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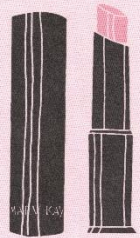
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<p><b>Business Hours</b> Closed Wednesdays, Зачинені по середах Mon., Tuesday, Thursday   9:30 am - 5 pm   Пон., вівторок, четвер Friday / П'ятниця   9:30 am - 6 pm   Saturday / Субота   9 am - 1 pm  </p>	<p><b>Business Hours</b> Closed Mondays, Зачинені по понеділках Tuesday - Thursday   9:30 am - 5 pm   3 вівторка по четвер Friday / П'ятниця   9:30 am - 6 pm   Saturday / Субота   9 am - 1 pm  </p>

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562 Genesee St. Buffalo, NY 14204 856-4476  
www.UkrainiansOfBuffalo.com  
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Lounge is OPEN every Friday 5-9 pm.  
Підтримайте Ваш Народний Дім

### Birthday wishes to the following parishioners, who celebrate their birthday in May

- Chris Konowka 3
- Orysia Dail 5
- Jaroslav Sedlarczuk 5
- Aleksandra Prawak 8
- Dennis Melnyk 10
- Luba Joven 16
- Nina Palmeri 16
- Emil Marc 17
- Emilia Harasymchuk 19
- Myron Poharatnyj 19
- Mary Hanuszczak 19
- Vera Marc 21
- Adrianna Scheidle 22
- Ann Marie Serediuk 25
- Orest Voychak 23
- Marie Leschuk Glenn 30

### And our children

- Volodymyr Kogut 5
- Yuriy Kogut Jr. 5
- Robert Hunter Arthurs 5
- Marta Nazarevych 24

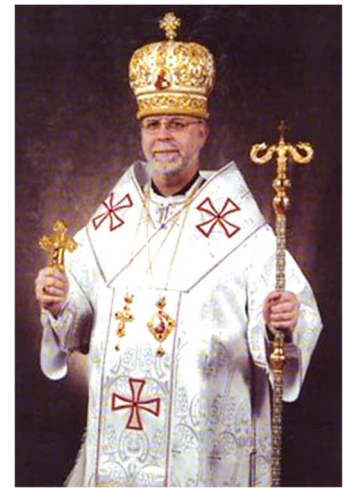
Happy Birthday! Многая Літа!  
На Многая і Благая Літа!

Bishop Paul's birthday is May 19  
We wish you Many Happy Years!

### Most Rev. Paul Patrick Chomnycky, O.S.B.M. Fourth Eparch of Stamford

Bishop Paul Patrick Chomnycky, O.S.B.M. was born in Vancouver, British Columbia on May 19, 1954. His father, Stephan, had immigrated to Canada in 1948 from the village of Wilchiwchyk, Husiatyn County of the Ternopil Oblast, Ukraine, while his mother, Jessie Delawski, was born in Musidora, Alberta, Canada. He has a twin sister, Patricia, who is an elementary school teacher in Maple Ridge, British Columbia, and both of his parents passed away in 1996.

After graduating from the University of British Columbia with a bachelor's degree in commerce in 1980, the Bishop worked as an accountant for two years. Responding to God's call to a vocation, he entered the novitiate of the Order of St. Basil the Great, the Basilian Monastery in Glen Cove, New York, in November 1982. He professed final vows in Rome on January 1, 1988 and was ordained to the priesthood on October 1, 1988 by Bishop Jerome Chimy, O.S.B.M. at Protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church in Vancouver. Further studies followed in Philosophy at the University of St. Anselm and the Gregorian University in Rome receiving a Bachelor's in Sacred Theology in 1990.



Upon his return to Canada he served briefly as an assistant pastor at Sts. Peter and Paul Church in Mundare, Alberta and St. Basil's, Edmonton. Eventually he would return to both parishes as their pastor in 1997 and 2000 and also served as the pastor of St. Mary's Church in Vancouver from 1994 to 1997.

During his tenure as pastor at St. Basil's in Edmonton and St. Paul's in Mundare, he was also the superior of the local Basilian monastery. Bishop Chomnycky also served as the Director of the Basilian Fathers museum in Mundare, a member of the Provincial Council of the Basilian Fathers of Canada, and a member of the college of consultors of the Edmonton Eparchy. He was appointed Exarch for Ukrainian Catholics in Great Britain on April 5, 2002 and ordained bishop on June 11, 2002 by His Beatitude Lubomyr Cardinal Husar.

Appointed Eparch of Stamford January 3, 2006  
Installed as fourth Eparch of Stamford, February 20, 2006

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На Многая і Благая Літа!

**Chernihiv region after the occupation:  
What Ukrainians said about the liberators**

Priests of the UGCC visited villages of Chernihiv region that were liberated from the occupiers, to distribute humanitarian aid, support local residents, and listen to their stories about life during the occupation.



"There were very big battles here. There's a house three meters away from the road, and the heavy equipment moves past, the whole house sways and portraits are falling from the walls. It was scary. And as they ride, four sit on top, with weapons. The minute we hear them coming, we hide quickly, because when they catch sight of you, -- what's it to him? He just pulls the trigger and that's it," said a local grandmother.

People lived under occupation for almost a month. The "liberators" interrogated and detained local men, looking for weapons. "They came, blindfolded me, put a hat on my head... me, my brother, my father, and my friends still lived at my place. They ordered us to get on our knees and -- here, let's shoot over their heads, and ask where the weapons are," recounted a local young man. His father was taken prisoner by the Russians and detained for several weeks. Fortunately, the man was able to escape when the bombing damaged the building where he was being held.

People, with tears in their eyes, showed the places where right in their yards, right near the walls of houses, Russians installed mortars to fire on roads. They showed shell fragments, bomb fragments, they described how their houses were shelled, and how they "sat in their cellars with their children for two days. None of the children undressed or changed their clothes for a month, because of the constant shooting."

The UGCC priests delivered humanitarian aid to the locals, supported them with kind words and group prayer, and promised to return soon with another humanitarian delivery.

*Information Department of the UGCC*

[Ukrainian Catholic University](#) posted in its Twitter account the following photos and memes begging that we all do something to save the Ukrainian city of Mariupol that was savagely destroyed by the Russian military and is now again being mercilessly besieged by the Russian forces that continue to bomb both the Ukrainian military and civilians - as well as proposed escape corridors. We can and must at least pray...



Infants and newborn babies in the bomb shelters of Mariupol



Many children – some already orphaned – can't escape...

**Господи, спаси Україну! – Lord, Save Ukraine!**



- Our CHURCH KITCHEN is now **OPEN TAKE-OUT ONLY.**
- Thank you for your help and patronage!
- Thanks are extended to all volunteers!
- Coffee Hour - Usually Every Sunday after Liturgy in Church Hall. **WE ARE BACK!**

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

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ODFFU – Buffalo, NY – Branch # 22

Emil Bandriwsky, President

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

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**Хрещення:** За домовленням \*

**Marriage:** Contact 6 months in advance

**Вінчання:** Голоситися 6 місяців скорше

Religion classes – Релігійна Програма  
See bulletin for scheduled dates.

**Ministry to the sick – Опіка над хворима**

**Family members should call the Rectory**

**Родина повинна повідомити священика**

**IN EMERGENCY CALL ANY TIME**

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**Please call if you are hospitalized,  
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**Просимо закликати якщо ви у  
лічниці, або приковані до ліжка!**

## \$500 - LUC Scholarship Opportunities



The Niagara Frontier Council of the League of Ukrainian Catholics is proud to sponsor its annual Monsignor Paul Iwachiw Scholarship.



These \$500 scholarships are available to any current and active member of our Ukrainian Catholic community, who is also attending a private high school, presently enrolled in a college or university, or a prospective college student in the fall of 2022. Applications are available from any of our local Ukrainian Catholic parishes (Buffalo, Kenmore, Lackawanna, Lancaster), and the deadline to apply is **June 21, 2022**. All parts of the applications must be complete in order to be considered. If you have any questions, please contact Susan Szczublewski at (716) 435-9384.

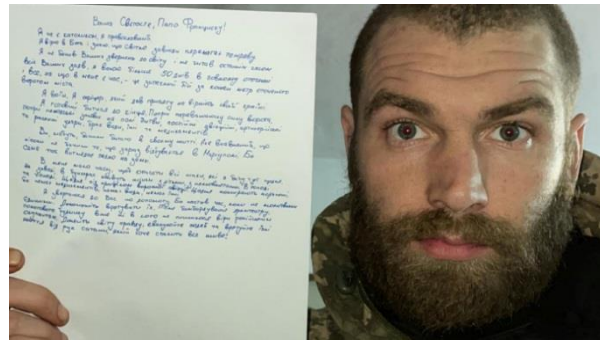


PHOTO BY UKRAINSKA PRAVDA

**The commander of the 36th Separate Marine Brigade, Major Serhiy Volynya, has written a letter to Pope Francis asking him to help save the people of Mariupol.**

"Your Holiness, Pope Francis!

I am not a Catholic, I am Orthodox. I believe in God and I know that light always overcomes darkness.

I have not seen your appeals to the world and I have not read all your recent statements; I have been fighting for more than 50 days, completely surrounded, and all I have time for is a fierce battle for every meter of this city that is surrounded by the enemy.

I am a warrior. I am an officer who took an oath of allegiance to his country. And I am ready to fight to the end. [I do so] Despite the overwhelming force of the enemy, despite the inhumane conditions on the battlefield, the constant artillery and rocket fire, the lack of water, food and medicine.

You have probably seen a lot in your life. But I am sure that you have never seen the things that are happening to Mariupol. Because this is what hell on earth looks like.

I have little time to describe all the horrors I see here every day. Women with children and babies are living in bunkers at the factory, they are hungry and cold. Every day they are living in the sights of enemy aircraft. The wounded die every day because there is no medicine, no water, no food.

I am turning to you for help. Because the time has come when prayers are not enough. Help save them. After the bombing of the drama theatre, no one has any trust in the Russian occupiers anymore. Bring the truth to the world, evacuate people and save their lives from the hands of Satan, who wants to burn all living things."

## The View From Up Here (May 1, 2022) Thomas, the Women and the Deacons

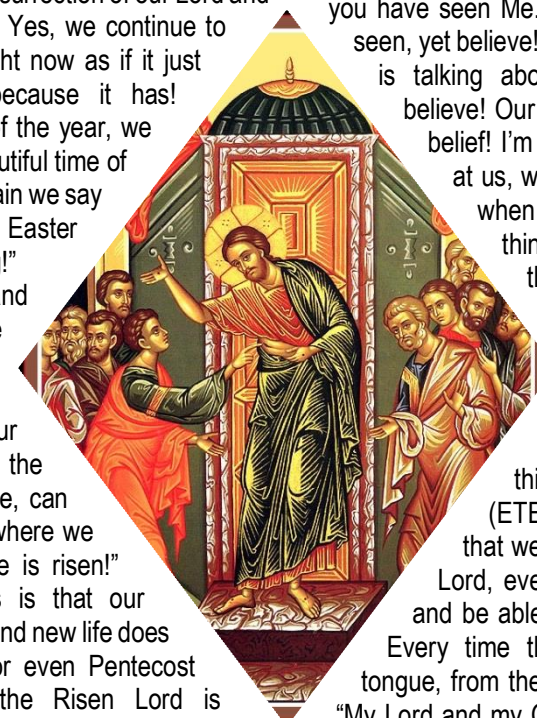
My Dear Climber on this Holy Mountain of our journey to the Kingdom of Heaven, let us shout for all the world to hear: Christ is Risen! He is Truly Risen! Today on this first Sunday of May we indeed continue our celebration of the Glorious and Radiant Resurrection of our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ! Yes, we continue to celebrate "The Great Day" right now as if it just happened this very day, because it has! Following the liturgical cycle of the year, we find ourselves in this most beautiful time of Pascha, The Resurrection! Again we say with St. Augustine, "We are an Easter people and Alleluia is our song!"

Yes, we use special words and hymns during this blessed time of the year to proclaim the Resurrection! It's not the only time, however! It's always! Our faith in the Resurrection, and the gift of eternal life that we have, can never end. Always and everywhere we will proclaim and believe: "He is risen!" What St. Augustine tells us is that our proclamation, our celebration and new life does not end at Holy Ascension or even Pentecost Sunday. No, our faith in the Risen Lord is proclaimed with every single breath we will ever take on this earth, and then even for all eternity! Christ is Risen! He is truly Risen! We always remember St. Paul telling us that if Christ isn't risen, then we are nothing...we are play-acting...our "faith" is useless. "And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile." (1 Corinthians 15:17) If Christ is not risen, everything is a sham and meaningless. Our churches, our vestments, our prayers, our services, our very life are nothing! We could all be like "little Maggie", about 6 years old and bored out of her mind at a lengthy ballet recital, spoke out loudly and clearly for all the audience to hear: "This is STOOPID"! Yes, if Jesus is not Risen, then indeed all the comings and goings of our life are "STOOPID"!!

Today as we celebrate the Resurrection with our brothers and sisters according to the Julian calendar, in the gospel we hear our Lord talking to St. Thomas. After

Thomas had gone through his big protest and proclamation: "I don't care what you guys say, I'm not believing till I see Him and touch Him!", and then receiving the beautiful gift from our Lord to let this happen to him, Thomas is able to say, "My Lord and my God! I BELIEVE!" Jesus then says some words directed to Thomas, but ALSO to all of us: "You believe because you have seen Me. Blessed are they who have not seen, yet believe!" WE are reminded that it is us He is talking about! WE haven't seen, but we believe! Our Lord blesses us! He blesses our belief! I'm sure St. John rejoices in heaven at us, who believe, because of his words when he said: "There are a million things I could have written about the things Jesus said and did in the presence of His disciples that are not recorded here. But this I have written so that you may believe that Christ is The Son of God, and when you come to this belief, you will have life (ETERNAL LIFE) in Him." We pray that we can always believe in the Risen Lord, even though we haven't seen Him, and be able to say, "My Lord and my God!" Every time the Holy Eucharist touches our tongue, from the very depth of our soul, we say: "My Lord and my God!" Whenever darkness comes and we are touched and surrounded by evil and despair and there are no earthly answers, let us pray that we would still be able to say, "My Lord and my God!" We haven't really seen Him like Thomas, but we believe and are blessed! St. Thomas, pray to the Lord for us! Let us never doubt! He is Risen! We Believe! Our life is not futile! Death has no power over us!

Today, in the readings according to the new (Gregorian) calendar, we are given, yet another powerful example of faith in the Resurrection. Our faith, our belief in the Resurrection, is now strengthened and enlivened by hearing the proclamation and belief coming from an angel in the tomb to a group of women, known as the Holy Myrrh-bearers." These Myrrh-bearers have names: Mary Magdalene; Mary, the wife of Cleophas; Joanna, the wife of Chusa, who was a steward to Herod Antipas;



# Meat Raffle

50/50 Raffles



Games Prizes

Presented by

**The Apollo Concrete Coatings  
11 Day Power Play Team**

**Sunday, June 5th, 2022**

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**Hamburg Moose Lodge**

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**\$10 Admission Includes**

Beer, Wine and Soda. Bring all of your favorite snacks

No outside alcohol allowed

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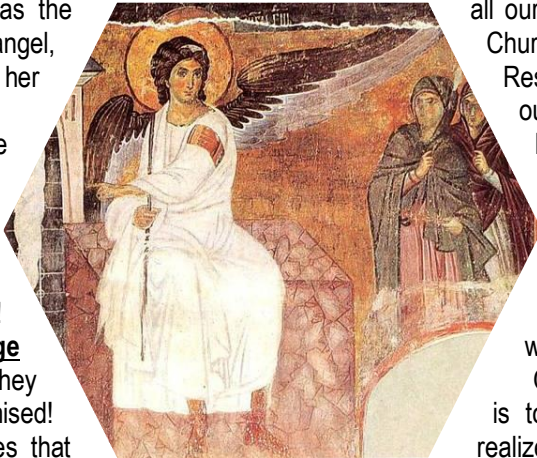
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Salome, the mother of James and John, Suzanna, and Martha and Mary, sisters of Lazarus (whom Jesus had raised from the dead). A Byzantine tidbit for you: when these seven holy women are depicted together on their icon, you will find eight women. The eighth is the Most Holy Theotokos, Blessed Mother of Jesus, and our Heavenly Mother. Theologians tell us, although it's not recorded, that surely Mary would have personally received the same message as the Myrrh-bearers, not from the angel, but from her Son Himself, telling her He was Risen and alive!

This gospel narration of the encounter with the angel in the tomb has the same Paschal message as that of the Thomas reading which is: **"Faith!"** "He is risen and alive! **Be not afraid! Have courage** and go and tell the disciples they will see Him, even as He promised! For us also, Dear One, comes that message of Pascha and the message for always: Our Risen Lord walks with us... Believe! Fear not! Be strong! In Him is everything we will ever need, no matter how easy or how difficult is our climb up the mountain!

If the Sunday of the Holy Myrrh-bearers wasn't of such great significance, today might be called "Deacon Sunday"! Our epistle reading today is taken from the "Acts of the Apostles" and describes the call of the first deacons to help in the various ministries in the new Church. The reading describes the seven newly chosen deacons as co-workers in the establishing of the early Church. Like many of us, they started out "waiting on tables", but as time went on the order of Deacon took on great importance and we see them preaching, teaching, evangelizing etc. They always had, and to this present day, still do have a special and important role in the life of the Church! The first Deacons were men of faith. The Deacons of our Church to the present day are men of faith. There's that word again: FAITH! By their life in God, by their belief in the Risen Lord, by their Faith, we are strengthened in our Faith. Many saintly Deacons are recognizable to us by their names, although not everyone realizes they were Deacons, and not Bishops



or priests. For example, St. Francis of Assisi was a Deacon, but never ordained priest. St. Ephrem the Syrian, St. Lawrence, Calpurnius, who was father of St. Patrick, St. Roman the Melodist, St. Stephen, the first-Martyr, to name a few. Great men of Faith! Men of Great Faith!

Today we recognize the dedication of our Deacons throughout our entire church from our churches in Western NY (Thank you, Father David), and throughout all our eparchies, even to our Mother Church, The Church of the Holy Resurrection in Kiev! Thank you to our Deacon, Father David, who has been serving and teaching and helping us in our growth of Faith. Thank you to our Deacons everywhere and also to their wives and children who help and support them in all their work! **Axios! Axios! Axios!**

One of the aims of this "column" is to try to remember, thank and realize the importance of all the people of our lives who help us in one way or another on the climb of our life! We welcome this wonderful opportunity to thank all our Deacons, these men of Faith, who are truly helpers on the mountain. St. Germanus of Constantinople says: *"The Deacon at the Liturgy is like the Angel greeting the Myrrh-bearers with the Good News of the Resurrection."* Just as the Myrrh-bearers are told to have Faith, so too are we told! Thank God for our Deacons and for all who aid us on our climb! Thank you all who remind us of our call to belief in the Risen Lord! Thank you all for reminding us of the treasure and promise we have received in the Resurrection! Thank you all for showing us the Lord, Risen and Alive! Thank you all who remind us **that it is true!** We didn't physically see, BUT WE BELIEVE! And because of that, He tells us, "Blessed are you who have not seen, yet believe!" I believe, O Lord, help my unbelief! Happy Feastday to our women named after one of the Myrrh-bearers! Happy Deacon Sunday!

Holy Myrrh-bearers pray to God for us!

Holy Deacons pray to God for us!

**Christ is Risen! He is truly Risen!**

**Do you believe? Blessed are you!** Fr. Ray

## «Всі виклики і завдання Церкви на сьогодні пов'язані з одним головним завданням – рятувати людське життя», – Глава УГКЦ Блаженніший Святослав

Питання «Де є Бог у час війни?» у ці великодні дні звучить в Україні особливо. І Воскресіння Христове дає певну відповідь на це питання з глибини сердець мільйонів людей: Він – тут, в Україні, з нами і серед нас. Болить нашими ранами, плаче нашими сльозами, воює і допомагає нашими руками.

У програмі «Відкрита Церква» напередодні Великодня Отець і Глава УГКЦ Блаженніший Святослав каже: «Великодня субота – це час перемини, коли Господь починає перетворювати плач на радість, смуток – на велике свято Воскресіння. Смуток не зникає сам по собі, але він преображається. Хочу побажати кожному такого преображення і перемини. Ісус сказав апостолам безпосередньо перед своїми страстями: "Будете сумувати і плакати, а світ радітиме. Але ваш смуток і плач на радість обернеться, і тоді тієї радості у вас ніхто не забере". Хочу всім побажати пережити цю Пасху як перетворення плачу і смутку на радість присутності між нами воскреслого Христа. Таку перемену не може зробити людина, її може вчинити лише сам Господь Бог».

### «Найбільше, що запам'яталося, – це очі»

Блаж. Святослав каже: значення і вагу того, що відбулося і відбувається в Україні і з українцями у цій війні, ми ще будемо осмислювати. Зараз ми проживаємо ці події безпосередньо – у причетності та співпереживанні, у тому, щоб розділити горе і біль, поділитися хлібом і домом, підтримати словом і молитвою.

«Те, що мені пригадується зараз за ці страшні березень і квітень – це дуже багато зустрічей. Ми, як Церква, постійно були в русі, відвідували наших священників, монахів і монахинь, наших людей у різних обставинах».

Те, що згадує Блаженніший Святослав із цих поїздок і зустрічей – очі людей, яких торкнулася війна. Очі військових, капеланів, волонтерів, біженців, тих, хто пережив окупацію: «Найбільше, що мені запам'яталося – це очі. Пригадую очі наших військових капеланів – змучені, збентежені, але в тих очах було видно ще тоді, на початках, якусь незламність, рішучість. Ні в кого в очах не було страху.

Про що кажуть очі людини під час війни? Про це в перші дні війни розповідали наші хлопці, які зі зброєю в руках захищали наш Патріарший собор і вилочували на Дніпрі російських диверсантів, які підходили до нього. І наші хлопці казали: "Ми бачили в їхніх очах страх. І це означає, що ми переможемо".

Очі наших військових, які побували в боях. Очі наших поранених хлопців, яких ми відвідували тут, у Київському шпиталі: все, що вони, як один, просили – "Моліться, щоб я якнайшвидше став у стрій". Очі наших волонтерів, зокрема, діточок, які допомагали батькам у логістичних центрах. Очі переселенців, які навіть соромилися так називатися і казали: "Мусимо перечекати і вертаємо додому". Очі наших молільників, які вдень і вночі вдивляються в очі самого Бога і Його любові. В очах усіх цих людей було видно, як день за днем ця перемога, про яку говорили наші оборонці собору вже в перші дні війни, проявляється щоразу ясніше».

### Церква залишається з людьми

Принцип УГКЦ – завжди бути зі своїм народом, у ці місяці війни втілюється буквально: десятки священників, сотні монахів та монахинь залишилися на окупованих територіях разом із людьми, які з різних причин не змогли евакуюватися.

«Коли ми свого часу формулювали це гасло – Церква має бути зі своїми людьми, воно стосувалося душпастирства нашої Церкви для емігрантів, для діаспори: хвиля еміграції з України останніх п'яти-семи років була вражаючою, – каже Блаженніший Святослав. – Думаю, тоді ніхто з нас навіть уявити не міг, яке значення це гасло матиме для самої України: бути зі своїм народом тут, вдома, здавалося природною і доволі легкою справою.

Але бути зі своїм народом в окупації – це, як б сказав, особливий крок. Бо наважитися залишитися в окупації означає цілковито здатися на милість Божу, ти не знаєш, що тебе чекає. Багато отців мені говорили, що вони відчували, коли приймали для себе таке рішення, – що коли військо відступило, а влада шукає якогось діалогу з окупантами, присутність священника є для людей останньою надією. Невідомо, хто може допомогти у таких обставинах. Залишається лише Церква і священник»...