



St. John the Maron Ch. – 1st International Rosary



Euro Block, May 2 – Lukia Costello taking photos Meeting with Chomyn's at Maria's B. house, 4/22 →



1st International Rosary, May 1 – St. John the Maron



"Swieconka" Easter Dinner at St. Stanislaw, April 27.



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SAINT NICHOLAS
UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

УКРАЇНЬКА КАТОЛИЦЬКА
ЦЕРКВА СВЯТОГО МИКОЛАЯ



Nº
18

ПІД ОПІКОЮ
ПРЕЧИСТОЇ ДІВИ
МАРІЇ ОДІТТРІЇ

UNDER THE
PROTECTION OF
MOTHER OF GOD



CHURCH BULLETIN

May 4 – 2014 – 4 Травня
ЦЕРКОВНИЙ ВІСНИК



Жінки
Мироносиці
Myrrh-Bearing
Women

CHURCH BULLETIN

May 4 – 2014 – 4 Травня

ЦЕРКОВНИЙ ВІСНИК

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

4:30 PM +Irene Dudykevych
(Roman Voychak)

May 4 Myrrh-bearing W. – Мироносиць

12:00 PM. For Parishioners – За Парохіян

Monday, May 5 Травня, Понеділок

8:15 AM +Katherine & Michael Chort
(Marianne)

Tuesday, May 6 Травня, Вівторок

11:15 AM +Mary & Michael Verostko
(M. Chort)

12:00 PM Moleben - Маївка

Wednesday, May 7 Травня, Середа

10:00 AM Funeral of +Stephen Szyszka
Похорон +Степана Шишка

Thursday, May 8 Травня, Четвер

8:15 AM +The Lucas. Verostko, & Chort
Families (Marianne Chort)

Friday, May 9 Травня, П'ятниця

8:15 AM батьки +Марія і Григорій
(Стефанія Труфанова)

12:00 PM Moleben - Маївка

Saturday, May 10 Травня, Субота,

11:00 AM +Donald Brown – 40 days
(Norma & Marianne DuBois)

4:30 PM In Thanksgiving (R. Voychak)

May 11 S. of Paralytic – Н. Розслабленого

12:00 PM. For Parishioners – За Парохіян

Eternal Light burns for
+Anastasia Pawlowski (Anna)

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

4 Травня: Н. Жінок Мироносиць

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

11 Травня: Н. Розслабленого

10:00 р. За всіх матерів – живих і
померлих - For all mothers



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

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.

Bible Meeting May 8 at 6:30 PM
Біблійні Зустрічі, 8 Травня о 6:30 в.

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Help rebuild our Ukrainian Home.
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of Ukrainian Heritage, Serving Western N.Y.

Simon Pasnik & Matthew Pasnik

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(716) 824-3007



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am – 6 pm |
Friday 9:30 am – 7 pm | Saturday 9:00 – 1 pm |

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ТАРІУСА |

*Membership subject to eligibility.
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Сніданок з нагоди Дня Матері Неділя, 11 травня, 2014 Р. Б.

Діти з релігійного гуртка разом зі своїми катехитками запрошують усіх парохіян зі своїми родинами прийти на сніданок з нагоди Дня Матері по обидвох Святих Літургіях. Яєчниця, млинці, кобаски, бараболяні плячки, фрукти, солодке і напитки. Датки \$7 дол. Очевидно пожертви радо приймаємо. Прихід призначений на релігійну програму при церкві Св. Миколая. Надіємося побачити Вас На День Матері!

Mother's Day Breakfast Sunday, May 11, 2014

The religious education students and their catechists would like to invite all parishioners and their families to attend the Mother's Day breakfast following Sunday liturgies. Eggs, pancakes, sausage, hash browns, fruit, desserts, and beverages will be served for a minimal suggested donation of \$7 per person. Proceeds will benefit St. Nicholas Parish and its religious education program. We hope to see you there!

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.

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.

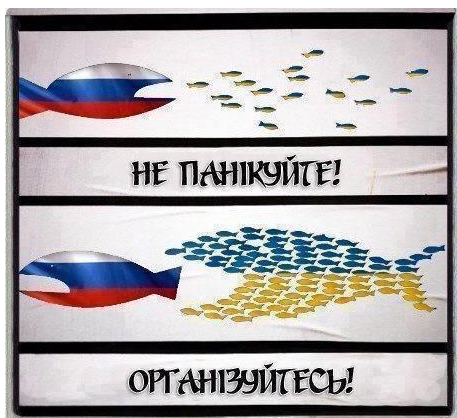
And may each of us always live our lives as
instruments of Your Peace.

Amen.

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



**76th Annual Convention
League of Ukrainian Catholics
October 10, 11, 12, 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!**



**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.

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!

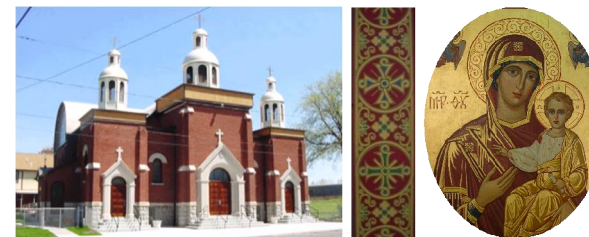
We would love to have at least 100
guests — one for each year. Let's show
our support for Ukraine with our
presence. Cost per person: \$40.00
Thank you.

Michael Liskiewicz – President
Maria Malaniak, Secretary
* * *

УВАГА! УВАГА

Даємо до відома, що в неділю,
28-го Вересня, 2014 Товариство
Українська-Американська Січ від-
мічує 100-ту річницю свого існуван-
ня! Це найстарша активна україн-
ська культурна організація на
Бюффалівському терені. (Активність
перервана тільки 2-гою Світовою
Війною). Ювілей відбувається в
ресторані Salvatore's Italian Gardens.
Просимо усіх. Наша ціль: мати хоч
100 гостей – одного за кожний рік!
В програмі бере участь Хор Мрія.
Вступ \$40.00 від особи.

Михайло Ліскевич, Голова
Марія Маланяк, Писар



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 помага-
єте церкві. Для Вас не робить різниці чи
ви платили грішми чи карточкою, але
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церква одержить \$50. Що б закупити слід
звертатися до п. Марії Боднар, або до кан-
целярії. 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
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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!**



Ділимося сумною вісткою що 1-го травня, 2014 р відійшов у вічність на 90-му році життя

св. п. Степан Шишка

нар. 29 липня 1924 р. в селі Топорів на Львівщині, син Александри (Чучман) та Івана Шишки

Степан ціле своє життя присвятив родині, українській громаді, українській церкві, та пластові. Переживши юнацькі табори нацистів куди його вивезли німці в 1944 р. підчас другої світової війни, Степан евентуально оселився в Buffalo, NY, США. Там був активним членом парафії УГКЦ св. Івана Хрестителя, а пізніше св. отця Миколая. Був активним в громаді а особливо в пласті, - пластун сеніор довір'я, член куреня Чота Крилатих, комендантом таборів на Новому Соколі та станичним. Працював впродовж 25 років (до пенсійного віку) в фабриці Chevrolet-Buffalo. Одружився в 1952 р. з Славою Хомою, з ким радісно прожили до 1992 р. коли її покликав Господь до небесного царства. Останніми роками жив в доньки Марусі Макар та її родиною, та був активним членом парафії св. Архистратига Михаїла, в Hillsborough, NJ.

У глибокому смутку залишилися:

- Донька Маруся Макар з чоловіком Іваном,
- син Степан Лев з дружиною Юлією (Федик),
- внуки Тома, Марко та Василь Макар
- Ляриса та Степан Роман (Гого) Шишка
- ближча та дальша родина в США, Канаді, Україні та Латвії

Відвідини в неділю, 4-го травня будуть від 3:30-6:30, з панахидою о год. 5:30 вечора в Countryside Funeral Home, 724 Route 202 North, Three Bridges ('Flemington' for GPS navigators), NJ. (908)782 2121.

Відвідини в вівторок, 6-го травня будуть від 3:00-7:00, з панахидою о год. 6:00 вечора в Melvin Sliwinski Funeral Home, 85 George Urban Blvd, Cheektowaga, NY. (716)706 0200.

Похоронні відправи відбудуться о год. 9:15 ранку в Melvin Sliwinski Funeral Home, а відтак о год. 10:00 в українській католицькій церкві св. о. Миколая, 308 Fillmore Ave, Buffalo. Замість квітів на могилу, просимо складати пожертви на:

1. United Ukrainian American Relief Committee (UUARC) (www.uuarc.org) 1206 Cottman Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19111
2. St Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church 308 Fillmore Ave, Buffalo NY
3. St Michael the Archangel Ukr. Cath. Church, 1700 Brooks Blvd, Hillsborough, NJ 08844
4. Plast – Chota Krylatykh c/o Danylo Darewych 2074 Feldwood Rd. Mississauga, Ontario, L4X1E9, Canada
5. Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation (UCEF) (www.ucef.org) 2247 West Chicago Ave. Chicago, Ill 60622
6. Kyiv Sobor of the Holy Resurrection (www.kyivsobor.ugcc.org.ua) 161 Glenbrook Rd. Stamford Ct 06902-3099 (Checks payable to "Eparchy of Stamford")

Родині Складаємо співчуття, а йому хай буде

ВІЧНА ПАМ'ЯТЬ!

From the desk of Fr. Ray Palko

May 4, 2014 A.D.

Christ is Risen! He is Truly Risen!

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

Happy Saturday night or Sunday, or maybe Tuesday... or whenever you get around to reading your letter! It is Thursday evening as I write and the first thing we need to remember is to pray for all the people experiencing great trouble and difficulty in the world....in Ukraine, once again besieged by the enemy; for all the people in our USA, who have suffered tremendous hardship and loss of their homes and property. We pray for those who have suddenly lost their lives as a result of the terrible tornadoes, and tremendous amounts of rain that has fallen. With the reminder to pray for the victims and each other, this letter also comes with the prayer that you and your loved ones are ok wherever they are in this country, or some other place. Hope all is well with you and yours.

Thanks God, Western NY has been spared any severe outbreaks of this really tough springtime weather. We've had wind and cold and rain, but it simply makes for yucky days, rather than life and death and destruction situations, experienced by so many of our people. While it's been a bit chilly, never quite hitting the 60's, there have been some nice sunny spots with a tiny bit of drying out time. Could be a lot warmer, but all in all, it's really very nice. No snow to be shoveled!! ☺ ☺

Even with the rain, wind and somewhat uncomfortable weather, it is very much springtime. All the plant life, just like where you live, is way behind schedule, but the grass has very much 'greened up' and the sound of the mowers on the first cuttings can be heard all around town from 8am till dark. The springtime flowers and shrubs, while not spectacular, are blooming everywhere. Even the magnolias and forsythia are slowly coming into bloom. Soon the flowering pear and crabapple trees will bloom and then we will have the magnificent

annual show of color all around the town. West Seneca is very beautiful in spring. Actually, I think spring is very beautiful everywhere.

The message of the resurrection is being proclaimed so beautifully by the cold, wet earth! What seemed dead and lifeless, now comes to life! What seemed hopeless and lost, now is full of new life. Yes, we look at the earth and we celebrate our own life, for that is our message too. That which seemed dead and lifeless and without hope, the death of a loved one, or even our very own death, was just that, for it only "seemed" that way. We too come to life in the resurrection of our Lord. We too come to flower and blossom with the promise of new life, never to die again, but to celebrate and live in eternal life! Doesn't get any better than that!

It was good to join everyone at St. Nicholas' parish *Sviachenne* (parish Paschal meal) last Sunday. Because of my schedule between Niagara Falls and Buffalo, I haven't been seeing you regularly for quite a while now. It was good to have the opportunity to say hello. Regretfully, I didn't make it to everyone, but please know I still love you and miss you. And the food, as always, was substantial and delicious!

Writing as I am on Thursday means we have once again turned over another page of the calendar. Today is May first! This Sunday and perhaps next Sunday the parishes of the eparchy which did not yet have their *Sviachenne* will definitely be doing so. There will be "First Solemn Communion" in our churches as well as "First Holy Communion" for the Latin churches. The month of May has that special day when we will remember all our Moms. So there is definitely a lot to keep us busy during the upcoming month.

In Niagara Falls at Holy Protection we are preparing for the end of the month. We are getting ready for a parish fund-raiser, a wine tasting event. Our ticket sales are off to a good start, but we want to have at least 50 people so we've got a bit to go yet. It looks like it will be a very nice evening of good wines, food and the best people. Of course there will be door prizes and the basket raffle. Hope you can come!

Our neighbors to the north in the Eparchy of Toronto are beginning the month of May with some very active and noteworthy days. Patriarch Sviatoslav arrived at the Toronto airport to begin a Canadian visit. He has a very busy schedule this weekend and into next week as he will visit various parishes in that city. Besides the Hierarchical Liturgies there will be the concerts and banquets and lots and lots of people. I was hoping he would want to see Niagara Falls and he would come down this way, but it doesn't look as if that will happen. After Toronto His Beatitude will go to Ottawa and Montreal before returning to Kiev.

This Patriarch of ours is really something. He was appointed to this high office only three years ago when he was only 41 years old! As a matter of fact, his birthday is on May 5 when he will be 44 years old. I am always in awe of such talent. How did he get to be so smart so quick??? Mnohaja Lita, Your Beatitude!

Patriarch Sviatoslav is very familiar with our priests having been a teacher of some, and a fellow student of others. One of our priests likes to tell the story of "knowing the Boss" when they were in a camp in Ukraine where students came to learn, of all things, the English language. Well this priest and then Father Sviatoslav, who speaks perfect English, were among the teachers and were roommates. Father's claim to fame is this: "Father Sviatoslav snored on his side of the room, and I snored on my side." ☺

Our church is truly blessed to have Patriarch Sviatoslav as our Father and Head. God has given him many talents and he is putting them to good use. I wouldn't want his job, that's for sure. What a tremendous burden he carries in normal good times! I can only surmise what it must be for him in these days of violence and uncertainty in Ukraine. We say his name in prayer several times during each Liturgy. Let's make those times real prayers as we lift up "this good man" and his needs before our heavenly Father.

Remember the date April 26, 1986? Twenty-six years ago last Saturday was the occurrence of the terrible nuclear disaster in Chornobyl, Ukraine. With the busy days of Pascha and preparation for the events of the month of May and all the other things going on, this day seems to have been forgotten this year. But we can never forget! First we cannot forget the attempted cover up by the then Communist government and all their dastardly and deadly actions "to save face" as they lied to all the world. Also, we cannot forget the people, but must pray for all who lost their lives in that horrific atomic disaster on, and shortly after, April 26. We must also remember and pray for all those who have since died over the past 28 years as a result of radiation exposure as well as those who continue to suffer to this day.

The bottom of the page is fast approaching and that means I've got to get out of here for another week. I always pray you are happy and healthy in the Lord. In all the junk of the world, in the crazy politics of government, of the tragedies of life, of sickness and sorrow and death which is always part of our human situation, we still hear the words of St. Paul to the Phillipians: "Rejoice in the Lord always. Again, I say, rejoice!Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God, and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." (Phillipians Chapter 4)

Till next week, God willing and the creek don't rise. May God grant you His grace and that beautiful peace! May our Holy Lady Theotokos protect you! CHRIST IS RISEN!

In the Love of the Risen Lord,
Fr. Ray

CHRIST IS RISEN – ХРИСТОС БОКРЕС!

It is with great sadness we inform that on
the 1'st of May, 2014

+ Stephen Szyszka

born July 29, 1924 in the village of Toporiv
in the Lviv oblast of Ukraine, son of Alexandra
(Chuchman) and Ivan Szyszka passed Mayu 1,
2014 into the embrace of Our Lord.

Stephen dedicated his life to his family, the Ukrainian community, the Ukrainian church and the Ukrainian Scouting Organization, Plast. Having survived the Nazi youth camp where he was taken by the Germans in 1944 during the Second World War, Stephen eventually settled in Buffalo, NY. He was an active parish member of St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church, and later St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church. He was active in the community and especially in Пласт - a member of the Chota Krylatykh fraternity, a camp director and leader of Plast-Buffalo. He married Gloria (Czeslawa) Choma in 1952, with whom lived happily until 1992 when she was called to the Lord. He retired from Chevrolet-Buffalo after working there for 25 years. In recent years he lived with his daughter Mary Makar and her family, and was an active member of the St. Michael the Archangel UGCC in Hillsborough, NJ.

Grieving Stephen's passing are:

- daughter - Mary Makar with her husband John,
- son - Stephen Leo and his wife Julia (Fedyk)
- grandchildren - Thomas, Mark and William Makar
 - Larissa and Stephen Roman (Gogo) Szyszka
- close and extended family in the United States, Canada, Ukraine and Latvia.

There will be a viewing from 3:30-6:30 PM with a Requiem Panakhyda Service at 5:30 on Sunday, May 4 at Countryside Funeral Home, 724 Route 202 North, Three Bridges (use "Flemington" for GPS navigation), NJ. (908)782 2121.

There will be second viewing on Tuesday, May 6, from 3:00-7:00 PM with a Panakhyda at 6:00 PM at

Melvin Sliwinski Funeral Home, 85 George Urban Blvd, Cheektowaga, NY. (716) 706 0200. Funeral services will commence at 9:15 AM at Melvin Sliwinski Funeral Home and continue at 10:00 AM on Wednesday, 7 May at St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church, 308 Fillmore Ave, Buffalo, NY.

In lieu of flowers, please make contributions in Stephen's memory to :

1. United Ukrainian American Relief Committee (UUARC) (www.uuarc.org)
1206 Cottman Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19111
2. St Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church
308 Fillmore Ave, Buffalo NY
3. St Michael the Archangel Ukrainian Catholic Church
1700 Brooks Blvd, Hillsborough, NJ 08844
4. Plast - Chota Krylatykh c/o Danylo Darewych
2074 Feldwood Rd. Mississauga, Ontario, L4X1E9, Canada
5. Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation (UCEF) (www.ucef.org)
2247 West Chicago Ave. Chicago, Ill 60622
6. Kyiv Sobor of the Holy Resurrection (www.kyivsobor.ugcc.org.ua)
7. 161 Glenbrook Rd. Stamford Ct 06902-3099
(Checks payable to "Eparchy of Stamford")

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

Christ is Risen – indeed He is Risen! Last Sunday we celebrate the Sunday of Saint Thomas, the one apostle who was not present when Jesus first appeared to the other disciples after His resurrection. In order to understand the significance of this Sunday, I think we need to recollect what came before. Start by asking yourself this question: Have you ever had a bad weekend? I suppose we all have at one time or another, but just imagine the kind of weekend the apostles had on that first Easter. They must have been suffering from a severe dose of depression since Good Friday. After all, Jesus was dead. The crowd that welcomed Jesus with palms as he entered Jerusalem turned against him on Good Friday morning calling for the release of Barabbas and the death of Jesus. The apostles, now afraid of the crowd, had shut themselves inside a room for their own protection as we heard in the Gospel (John 20:19). There were ten of them gathered in this state; Judas was no more and Thomas was temporarily absent. Then Jesus passed through the locked doors and came before the disciples with these healing words, *“Peace be with you.”* (John 20:19) Imagine the peace they must have felt when Jesus appeared to them. As well as shock and doubts perhaps. But this meeting with the risen Jesus certainly brought peace to their troubled hearts. That was Easter Sunday evening; the crisis was over, but what a long three days it had been since Friday morning.

Thomas returns the following day and they tell him Jesus is alive, they have seen him. Jesus came in even though the doors were all locked. Well, Thomas does not believe them; he thinks this is adding insult to injury. How could they possibly say these things to him, did they not know how much he was grieving over the loss of Jesus? You can imagine what he would have said to them. We hear in the Gospel accounts that Thomas demanded proof, *“Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.”* (John 20:25) Now there is

division among the apostles. Ten know Jesus is alive. The eleventh, Thomas, is stubborn and refuses to believe. Thomas does not have faith yet and he is relying on reason alone, but when Thomas will see Jesus the following week, this Sunday after Easter which we celebrate today... he will believe, and faith and reason will be perfectly aligned in Thomas.

The division among the apostles is like the division in any family between those who have faith and reason in perfect harmony, and those whose faith and reason are out of sync. Even in my own family, I have many who go to church every Sunday and gladly celebrate their faith with each other, while other family members only attend church services for weddings or funerals. We all have divisions of faith among those we love, and quite often, those with faith try to help others to come to greater faith in Jesus. And they get a negative response from a modern day Thomas who might say something like: *“If you force me to believe then I won’t go to Church at all.”* And Thomas, ancient or contemporary, remains in his sad state. If doubting Thomas had been sensitive enough he would surely have noticed how the other ten apostles have great peace now, they are not the same as when he had left them earlier. But Thomas, ancient and modern day, considers himself a strong man of logic and reason. He wants a scientific proof for God and fails to realize that there does not have to be any conflict between faith and science, or between faith and reason. Thomas has yet to learn that faith and reason are meant to be in harmony. The following Sunday, the Sunday after His resurrection, Jesus appeared again even though the doors were closed. Again Jesus wished them peace and provided Thomas with the proof that his reason and desire for a scientific answer needed, *“Put your finger here: look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.”* Thomas replied, *“My Lord and my God.”* (John 20:27-28) Thomas was given the evidence he needed, he had seen Jesus, touched his wounds, and now he believes.

Находимося у Великодньому часі. Христос воскрес третього дня так як і передсказав. Уже два тижні Він повчає своїх учнів, і робитиме це через 40 днів, аж до свого Вознесіння на небо.

Літургічно сьогодні Св. Церква подає нам до розважування жінок мироносець. Ці жінки постійно ходили за Христом, слухали його науку і надіялися на кращу долю свого народу. До визволення від Римлян не дійшло, бо Христа розпіяли і він помер на хресті, але жінки не зневірилися. Вони були сльняно прив’язані до Господа, бо Він говорив так як ніхто інший перед ним не говорив, бо він мав слова життя вічного.

І йдуть мироносиці, згідно з нинішнім євангелієм, щоб помазати тіло Христове, бо не було на це часу перед похороном. Щойно по дорозі вони починають сумніватися, чи зможуть виконати своє завдання. Камінь, що його Йосиф з Ариматеї привалив на вхід до гробу був затяжкий, щоб вони самі могли його посунути. Труднощі очевидно не малі, все ж таки вони йдуть далі, не звертаючи уваги на перешкоди, і показується, що насправді перешкод не було, бо камінь був відвалений.

У нашому житті, також, нераз приходять різні перешкоди, яких ми мусимо старатися перебороти. Часами це не піде легко, часами, без Божої допомоги властиво буде неможливо. Коли нам тяжко, пам’ятаймо, що Христос може нам допомогти. Той, що народився задля нас, що нас навчав, що помер задля нас і що воскрес, може нам у кожній ситуації допомогти. І то не тільки що може, але і хоче допомогти, а це є найважливішим, бо коли він з нами то хто може бути проти нас. Просім Господа, щоб завжди був близько нас, щоб Він ніколи від нас не віддалявся, та щоб нам завжди допомагав у наших тяжких хвилинах. Усі бо ми терпимо, але багато залежить від настав-



лення до терпіння. Можемо терпіти разом з Господом або без нього. Терпіння з Господом буде нас освячувати і приведе до перемоги, а терпіння без Нього поведе нас у розпач, і ми зіб’ємося з правильною дороги.

Дорогі в Христі! Жінки з нинішнього євангелія так були перестрашені появою ангела, що навіть не виконують отого, що їм було заповіджено, тобто іти і сказати Христовим учням, що Христос Воскрес. Пізніше вони переборять страх, і таким чином стануть першими проповідниками слова Божого. За їхнім прикладом і ми повинні постійно проповідувати того, що з любови до нас пішов на хрест, і помер та по трійох днях славно своєю власною силою воскрес із мертвих, і нас кличе до себе. Усі ті, що нас бачать, що ми з ними зустрічаємося, на кого ми маємо можливість впли-

ву мусять дійсно відчувати, що ми ідемо за нашим учителем. Ми мусимо постійно бути добрим прикладом, бо саме хрещення не вистарчає. Спасіння одержимо завдяки Божої ласки яка зійде на нас на основі нашого богоугодного життя, на основі нашого відношення до Бога і до нашого ближнього. Кожний і кожна з нас, на тому місці що нам Господь його поділив. Чи то в родині, чи в громаді, чи в школі чи в праці, на кожному кроці нашого життя, для всіх повинні ми стати справжніми апостолами.

Подумаймо сьогодні, кілька ми своїм життям подібні до отих жінок мироносиць. Кілько ми, по першому, показуємо любови своїм ближнім, так як жінки показували Христові, та й хотіли ще й по Його смерті показати, а по другому, що Господь від нас хоче у нашому житті, і розваживши над тим, постараймося провадити своїм життям завжди так, щоб воно було на добро нашим ближнім а тим самим і на спасіння нас самих.

(З Радія «Милосердний Самарянин»)



Леся Депутат з батьком Василем
перед церемонією вінчання.

у суботу 3 Травня
Леся Депутат вінчалася
з Чад Карсвелл.
Гратулюємо
Лесі і Чадові
та їхнім родинам.
На многая і Благая Літа!

=== === ===
Saturday, May 3, 2014
Lesya Deputat wedded Chad Carswell.
May the Lord always protect them!
Congratulation to
Lesya and Chad
as well as to their parents
Vasily & Galina and Jeff & Tammy
Happy Many Years!

Jesus touched the blind and gave them sight. He moved the minds and hearts of sinners and made them whole. He offered hope to the hopeless. He healed the sick, and He raises the dead into new life. St. Luke's Gospel account of the Resurrections says: "Why seek you the living among the dead" (Luke 24:5). The Angel told the Myrrh-bearing women to tell Peter and the other Disciples to go into Galilee – "There you shall see Him as He said unto you." What is the significance of this meeting in Galilee, which is mentioned several times in the Gospels? It was in Galilee that most of the Apostles had their first, their unforgettable meeting with Jesus their Master. It is there they first heard Jesus and followed him. Now that their faith had been subjected to the harshest test – it would be good for them to be plunged once again into the Galilean atmosphere and to find Jesus there once more, and to renew their faithfulness to God. This is true for each of us as well; there is a Galilee in the lives of most of us. That is to say, a moment, perhaps already long past, when we met Jesus personally and when, for the first time, we listened to Him and tried to follow Him. Since then, much that is sinful, forgetful, and negligent may have separated us from the Lord. At the hour of decisive crisis, we may, like the Disciples, have abandoned the Master. But our risen Lord seeks to meet us, too, wherever we may be. He asks us to let the memory and fervor of our first encounter come alive again. If we try to become once more what we were then, we shall find Jesus. Invisibly present, He walks in front of us; and if we follow Him, each step will become easier for us, and a moment will come when, if not with the eyes of the body, at least with the eyes of the soul, we will attain an unshakable certainty of God's presence and love for each of us, and: 'There shall we see Him'.



A young soldier found himself in a terrible battle. The enemy was soundly defeating this young man's army. He and his comrades found themselves hastily retreating from the battlefield in defeat, running away in fear for their very lives. The enemy gave chase. This young man ran hard and fast, full of fear and desperation, and he soon found himself cut off from his comrades in arms. He eventually came upon a rocky ledge containing a cave. Knowing the enemy was close behind, and that he was exhausted from the chase, he chose to hide there and pray. After he crawled in, he fell to his face in the darkness, desperately crying to God to save him and protect him from his enemies. He also promised that if God saved him, he would serve Him for the remainder of his days. When he looked up from his despairing plea for help, he saw a spider beginning to weave its web at the entrance to the cave. As he watched the delicate threads being slowly drawn across the mouth of the cave, the young soldier pondered its irony. He thought, 'I asked God for protection and deliverance, and He sent me a spider instead. How could a spider possibly save me now?' He was fearful; knowing the enemy would soon discover his hiding place and kill him. Soon he heard the sound of his enemies, scouring the area looking for those in hiding. One soldier with a gun slowly walked up to the entrance of the cave. The young man crouched in the darkness; he felt his heart pounding wildly out of control. As the enemy cautiously moved forward to enter the cave, he came upon the spider's web, which by now was completely strung across the entrance. He backed away and called out to a comrade, "There can't be anyone in here. They would have had to break this spider's web to enter the cave. Let's move on." Years later, this young

man made good his promise to God by becoming a priest, and he wrote about that ordeal. What he observed is meant to remind us that with God anything is possible. He wrote: "Where God is, a spider's web is as a stone wall. Where God is not, a stone wall is as a spider's web."

When the stone was rolled against the tomb of Jesus many people thought that was the end of the story. But death is never the end of the story. It is not the end for the infant who dies at a tender age. It is not the end for the loved one whose life is ravaged by cancer or snuffed out by disease. It is not the end for the young soldier killed on the battlefield in the prime of his youth. It is not the end for any of us, because the stone has been pushed away. In rolling back the stone, God removed the biggest obstacle of all. He won the final and complete victory over sin and death. All of the stones, which stand in our way today, are minor compared to the one that Christ moved, so that we might have Eternal life with God, the Father. Through His Resurrection, Jesus already removed the largest stone of all: the sins, the failures, and the weaknesses of our human nature. He wants us to see that He is risen. We do not and we cannot take away the entire human burden by ourselves. God does it for us through Christ! Jesus did this for us on the Cross. He is not contained in the tomb, just like our loved ones are not contained in the cemeteries and mausoleums that we visit out of love and remembrance – Christ has risen, and because He has risen our loved ones have risen too – and one day we will also be raised up into new life with Him. The women in today's Gospel saw that the stone was rolled back. And upon entering the tomb, they heard the glorious words of the Angel and were amazed. And upon receiving the good news, the women were full of joy and went to tell the other Disciples. We too share in this joy, the Church rejoices in Christ's glorification. Because over the graves of all of our loved ones, there is a voice in the wind saying: 'They are not here, for I have risen, and because I live - they live also.'

(From the "Good Samaritan" Radio Program)