



**№** ПІД ОШКОЮ  
ПРЕЧИСТОЇ ДІВИ  
МАРІЇ ОДІГІТРІЇ



**34** UNDER THE  
PROTECTION OF  
MOTHER OF GOD

**CHURCH BULLETIN**

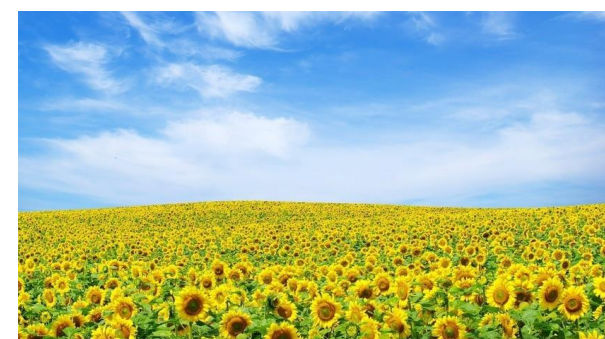
August 26 – 2018 – 26 Серпня

**ЦЕРКОВНИЙ ВІСНИК**

№ 34 AUGUST 2018

**Ліна Костенко**

Усе моє, все зветься Україна   
Буває, часом сплну від краси.  
Спинюсь, не тямлю, що воно за диво, –  
оці степи, це небо, ці ліси,  
усе так гарно, чисто, незрадливо,  
усе як є – дорога, явори,  
усе моє, все зветься – Україна.  
Така краса, висока і нетлінна,  
що хоч спинись і з Богом говори.



**ВІТАЄМО УСІХ З ДНЕМ  
НЕЗАЛЕЖНОСТІ УКРАЇНИ!  
GOD BLESS FREE UKRAINE!  
PRAY FOR PEACE!**



**Україна - Ukraine**

Художник: Олег Шупляк  
(Взято з інтернету)



Thank you, Fr. Robert for great service performed in God's vineyard, namely in: Your Parish of St. Basil, Your Parish of St. Nicholas, Your Parish in Olean, Your prison Ministry, Your Nursing Home Ministry, Your St. Luke Mission. I say Yours, because whatever you did, you made it priority at the time when you did it. Same goes for Evelyn and for all children! May the Lord continue to Bless you all! Na Mnohaya Lita!

# CHURCH BULLETIN

August 26 – 2018 – 26 Серпня

## ЦЕРКОВНИЙ ВІСНИК

### LITURGICAL SCHEDULE



St. Nicholas Ukr. Cath. Church  
Церква Святого Миколая  
(Під Опікою П.Д.М.)  
**ПОР'ЯДОК СВ. ЛІТУРГІЙ**

4:30 PM For Parishioners – За Парохіян

August 26: 14. aft Pentecost – 14 Н. по ЗСД

No noon Liturgy during the Summer

Monday, August 27 Серпня, Понеділок

5:30 PM For your intentions

Tuesday, August 28 Серпня, Вівторок

10:00 AM. За Парохіян – For Parishioners

Wednesday, August 29 Серпня, Середа

8:00 AM +Vasyl & Justyna Budnyk - legacy

Thursday, August 30 Серпня, Четвер

9:00 AM Int. of Dr. Steve Osadca (S. O.)

Friday, August 31 Серпня, П'ятниця

9:00 AM В Нам. п. Олі Чмоли – Многая Літа!

Saturday, August 1 Вересня, Субота

9:00 AM For Parishioners – За Парохіян

4:30 PM +Halyna Stasiuk (Hanya Bucierka)

2 September: 15. aft Pent. – 14 Н. по ЗСД

No noon Liturgy during the Summer

Вічне Світло в честь П.Д.М. Горить за  
+Доця Пришляка (родина)

The Eternal Light burns  
For Peace in Ukraine



Today, Saturday, August 25, 2018 at 4:30 is the last Liturgy of Fr. Robert Moreno in our Parish. We extend sincere thanks to Fr Robert who was with us for about 25 years. May the Lord bless him on new assignment in Elmira Heights, NY. **ДЯКУЄМО!**

Біблійні Зустрічі: Церква, Літургія і  
Молитва не відбудеться цього понеділка.

26 Серпня: 13 Неділя по зісланні Св. Духа

10:00 р. ЗА УКРАЇНСЬКИЙ НАРІД – 27 річниця

Також молитви за:

+Доцьо Пришляк – 4 річниця

+Merrill Nowosiady – 20 Anniversary

27 Серпня: Навечеря УСПІННЯ П.Д.М.

5:30 в. У Вашому наміренні – Благосл. квітів

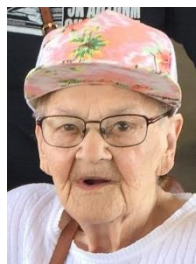
28 Серпня: УСПІННЯ П.Д.М. – Благосл. квітів

10:00 р. За Парохіян – For Parishioners

2 Вересня: 14 Неділя по зісланні Св. Духа

10:00 р. ЗА УКРАЇНСЬКИЙ НАРІД – 27 річниця

### Eternal Memory! Vichnaya pamiat'!



+Maria Szkolnyj

(2/18/1920-8/25/2017)

Wife of the late Aleksander Szkolnyj, devoted mother of Alex Szkolnyj (Maria Luisa) and Christine Speranza (Frank), cherished grandmother of Eric Szkolnyj (Robyn) and Andrea Acosta (Jorge), great grandmother of Alex and Lauren Szkolnyj and Violet Acosta.

Maria Szkolnyj died peacefully in her home in Raleigh, North Carolina last year with her loved ones by her side. Despite the extreme hardships she endured and survived as a child and young woman, first in war torn Ukraine, and then Nazi Germany, she went on to live a full and rich life in the country she had fulfilled her dream of escaping to. She gave much and asked for little. We were blessed to have her as long as we did. She is truly missed.

**СПІВЧУТТЯ РОДИНИ. ВІЧНА ПАМ'ЯТЬ!**

Bible Meeting: Church, Liturgy and Prayer  
Will not be this Monday. → LUC Meeting

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4166 Union Rd.,  
Cheektowaga, NY (In Airport Plaza)  
630-0130

2321 Millersport Hwy.  
Amherst (Getzville Plaza)  
688-1495

**UKRAINIAN** FEDERAL CREDIT UNION  
**УКРАЇНСЬКА** ФЕДЕРАЛЬНА КРЕДИТНА СПІЛКА

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ПЕРСОНАЛЬНІ ТА БІЗНЕСОВІ ФІНАНСОВІ ПОСЛУГИ  
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<p><b>Buffalo Branch</b> Ukrainian Home Dnipro 562 Genesee Street Buffalo NY 14204 (716) 847-6655 <a href="http://www.ukrainianfcu.org">www.ukrainianfcu.org</a></p>	<p><b>Amherst Branch</b> Ellicott Creek Plaza 2882 Niagara Falls Blvd Amherst NY 14228 (716) 799-8385 <a href="http://www.ukrainianfcu.org">www.ukrainianfcu.org</a></p>
<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 - 7 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   З вівторка по четвер Friday / П'ятниця   9:30 am - 6 pm   Saturday / Субота   9 am - 1 pm  </p>

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

Про більше інформацій що діється в громаді, просимо відвідати веб-сторінку.  
<http://www.ukrainiansofbuffalo.com>

Is the the web-page to find More information and events In our Ukrainian Community.

**Are you listening to "Good Samaritan"**  
Ukr. Radio Program on WJLL 1440 AM  
Every Sunday at 2:00 PM?  
Thank you for your donations!  
We welcome your comments.  
\*\*\*  
Чи ви слухаєте нашу радіо передачу  
«Милосердний Самар'янин»  
Неділя, 2 год. на WJLL 1440 AM?  
Сердечно дякуємо за пожертви!

Please include our Church  
in your charitable donations!  
\*\*\*  
Просимо підтримувати Рідну Церкву талантами, часом і жертвами.

**Cell Phones - Мобільні Телєфони:**  
Please turn off or silence your cell phone before entering the church. Thank you!  
\*\*\*  
Просимо вилучувати ваші мобільні телефони підчас Святої Літургії.



The Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, Inc., Buffalo Branch, invites everyone to attend  
**UKRAINIAN AMERICAN DAY**  
Celebrating the 27<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Ukrainian Independence on Sunday, August 26, 2018  
1:00 - 8:00 p.m.

at the Ukrainian Cultural Center "Dnipro"  
562 Genesee Street, Buffalo, New York.  
Prayer of Thanksgiving (Moleben) 1:30 pm.  
Authentic Ukrainian food, live vocalists and musicians, Ukrainian dancers/ art displays/ crafts/ vendors/ full selection of Slavic beer/ huge basket raffle and Bounce House for children/ Free Admission/ Ample Parking.

For More Information Contact:  
Wasył Serediuk: 821-0711  
Akacia Belmega: 674-4916  
John Riszko: 667-9897  
Dnipro: 856-4474

**FOR RENT:**  
UPPER TWO BEDROOM APARTMENT ABOVE THE UACC (NARODNIJ DIM) IN BLACKROCK. LIVING ROOM, DINING ROOM, KITCHEN AND ONE BATH. OFF STREET PARKING.  
\$400.00 PER MONTH, INCLUDES WATER. NO PETS! AVAILABLE JULY 1, 2018.  
Call 716 844-8985 or 716 674-4916.

## РІДНА ШКОЛА

Зробіть своїм дітям та онукам подарунок, який вони пронесуть протягом усього свого життя - навчання у Рідній Школі, де вони здобудуть знання з Української мови, літератури, історії та культури.



Навчання кожної суботи з 9:00-1:00 години  
Починається 15 Вересня 2018 року.  
[RidnaShkolaBuffalo@gmail.com](mailto:RidnaShkolaBuffalo@gmail.com)  
716-208-2849

## ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST U.C.C In Kenmore, NY 2018 EVENTS

Ukrainian Festival — Sunday, September 9  
Christmas Bazaar — Saturday, November 17



### Alzheimer's Association Fundraiser Picnic

Thursday August 30, 2018  
Humboldt House  
Backyard  
4pm-7pm

All proceeds from this picnic will be donated to the Alzheimer's Association!

Let's See how much money we can raise!

Come join us for this outdoor event! Vendors, Basket Raffles, 50/50 Split Club, food, games, and Pony rides!

Humboldt House  
64 Hager Street  
Buffalo, NY 14208

1933 85<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of L.U.C. 2018

Embracing A Vibrant Parish  
Through Liturgy and Prayer

79<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention  
League of Ukrainian Catholics

Hyatt Place Hotel  
Amherst, NY

October 5, 6, 7, 2018



The Niagara Frontier Council will be hosting the 79<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of the League of Ukrainian Catholics on October 5,6,7, 2018 at the Hyatt Place Hotel in Amherst, NY. This year we celebrate the 85<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the founding of the League of Ukrainian Catholics in Chicago in 1933. We hope you will be with us at this special anniversary in some way. Either join us at the Convention, or at your homes in prayer especially on Sunday, October 7 when we will be streaming Liturgy from St. Nicholas in Buffalo at 10:30 AM.

Our Council is busily preparing a Convention that we hope will meet the standards of our previous Conventions. Plans for Convention activities and workshops are well underway.

**For Hotel Reservations, you can call:**

The hotel directly at (716) 839-4040.

Hyatt Place reservations at 1-888-492-8847

Reservations can also be made on-line at:

<https://buffaloamherst.place.hyatt.com/bufzaglouc2018.html>

**Group:** League of Ukrainian Catholics

**The room rate is \$124.00 per night.**

**The deadline for hotel reservations is  
September 6, 2018**

Other important due dates to remember are:

Journal Ads – September 1, 2018,

If at all possible, please send ads electronically as an e-mail attachment done in Word (not pdf)

Hotel Reservations – September 6, 2018

Convention Registration – September 6, 2018



You are cordially invited to join with the League of Ukrainian Catholics as we celebrate our 79<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention and 85<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of its founding in Chicago in 1933.

We will be holding various events over the weekend of October 5-7, 2018 at the Hyatt Place Hotel in Amherst, NY. We hope you will consider joining us. YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE A MEMBER OF THE LEAGUE TO PARTICIPATE IN CONVENTION ACTIVITIES. On Friday evening at 6:30PM there will be a Welcome Party featuring “Magical Tastes of Buffalo” Cost for the for dinner and entertainment is \$35.00. On Saturday afternoon at 12:30PM there will be a Buffalo River History Boat Tour and lunch at Dnipro for \$25.00. On Saturday evening we will hold our Festive Banquet at 6:30PM with Father Andrew Onuferko as main speaker.

The Convention will conclude on Sunday with Liturgy at St. Nicholas at 10:30AM with Most Rev. Paul Chomnycky main celebrant.

After Liturgy there will be a” free will offering” farewell luncheon hosted by the St. Nicholas Kitchen Ladies in the Church Hall. Reservations can be made by contacting Mary Lepkyj 536-1042, Elaine Nowadly 825-8169, Nadia Marc 839-3016 and Maria LaPaglia 826-0281 or any other committee member. The deadline for reservations is September 6. We sincerely hope that the local Buffalo community will help support the weekend’s events.



- KITCHEN – closed for the Summer
- Thank you for your help and patronage!
- Thanks are extended to all volunteers!
- Coffee Hour - Usually Every Sunday after Liturgy in Church Hall. Please join us!

Until we meet next Sunday...

**HAVE A BLESSED DAY!!!**

### TOP'S GIFT CARDS:

Please help us raise money for our Church by purchasing



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

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

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

Також пригадуємо, що цією карточкою можна купувати бензину.

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

## SAINT NICHOLAS

UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH  
УКРАЇНЬСЬКА КАТОЛИЦЬКА ЦЕРКВА  
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**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  
Saturday (check bulletin) - Субота

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

Family members should call the Rectory  
Родина повинна повідомити священика

**IN EMERGENCY CALL ANY TIME**

**В разі потреби завжди можна закликати**

**V. Rev. Marijan Procyk, pastor**

**Rev. Robert Moreno, visiting priest**

**Please call if you are hospitalized,  
homebound and need a priest.**

**Просимо закликати якщо ви у  
лічниці, або приковані до ліжка!**

→ Please consider to be members of the LUC! ← → Ставайти членами Ліги Українців Католиків. ←

As I listen to the first talk of my retreat, the Retreat Master mentioned a very touching story. A man goes out to make an icon. He goes to confession fasts and prays for 40 days on very little food. After the 40 days he tries to find a priest that would give him a blessing for writing or making an icon. The usual priest he uses was out on a Sabbatical. It took him a couple of days to find a priest familiar with that blessing. He finally gets his blessing. All through the 40 days he struggle with memories of bitter experiences with some priests through his life. Priests that yelled at him, priests that criticized him, priests that insulted him by publicly criticizing his icons and the such. He had certainly forgiven them, in deed he had forgiven them long time ago. He could not understand why these memories... Looking back he noticed all those priests that hurt him were such sad human beings. So he knows he must make an icon of something that relates to the priesthood... he reflects and after much going back and forth he understands that perhaps he needs to make a good shepherd icon. All was solidified when he found a board to make the icon. As you looked at it from an angle, you could almost make the silhouette of as shepherd with a staff on his right hand...



The process is a time consuming one. The board needed to be hew out an indentation where the icon would be written, leaving a frame of wood around. It had to be made smooth. Then the board was slice in three pieces and glue back using some wooden doves in order to make it stronger, the glue would take several days to dry. Then it had to be covered with a white plaster substance, which also needed to dry for a couple of days, before being sanded and recover and re-sanded... Then came the research: looking for a traditional icon of Jesus Christ the Good Shepherd. He had books with drawings and sketches but none of Jesus as a shepherd. So finally, he found a few and made a choice. There is a lot of geometry in a good icon, which was the next step to make sure the image was orderly. Why? Because God is a God of order. Is not that it needs to be symmetric, but that it needs to have a balance.

Now after all the drawing with pencil was done came the colors. Egg Tempera is difficult to work with, but he

had plenty of experience, always thinking what color was the final color expected and working by adding color after color. After the final coat of oil was applied the icon was placed in an oven at low temperature for some time ... the result a real masterpiece.

Almost a year went by to finish this icon. He called the usual priest that give him the blessing and bless his icons. He was back from his Sabbatical and happy to receive him for the blessing of the icon. As the man got the church a group of 12 priests where in the church, they heard each other confession and were ready to go

to eat together. They did that every month. The pastor insisted on the iconographer to show them the icon to be blessed. He agreed. To his great surprise all 12 priest blessed his icon! That was the first time more than one priest would bless one of his icons. The icon was blessed, and the artist revealed the icon to the priests. He even dares to ask to give him some feedback. One by one the priests noticed the Mercy of Jesus, His gentleness, they saw how strong Jesus was, they also commented on the hands of Shepherd holding the legs of the sheep, how strong they seemed. They also pointed out that Jesus was so strong, like a safe place where to take refuge. They all commented how they could see the priesthood of Jesus Christ in the icon. The icon reflected Peace, Joy, care, dedication, determination, courage, self-emptying love, and so many other things.

At the end the priests asked the man if their assessment of the icon was okay. The artist looking at them, with some sadness said: "The icon is about the priesthood, you are all correct about that. However the icon is about the sheep been the priest that Jesus carries with love." I liked the story and went to the chapel for the first time for reflection. As I got in I went to kiss and venerate the 4 icons that were in the chapel. The second icon there was the icon of the Good Shepherd... I was deeply touched. The look between the sheep and Jesus the Shepherd is beautiful. I never reflected on that icon seen myself as the sheep that is being loved and cared by Our Lord. Do you see yourself taken care of by the Lord? He is behind everything that is good in our lives.

(Fr. Robert Moreno - 2. 18. 2018)

## LETTER OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS TO THE PEOPLE OF GOD



"If one member suffers, all suffer together with it" (1 Cor 12:26). These words of Saint Paul forcefully echo in my heart as I acknowledge once more the suffering endured by many minors due to sexual abuse, the abuse of power and the abuse of conscience perpetrated by a significant number of clerics and consecrated persons. Crimes that inflict deep wounds of pain and powerlessness, primarily among the victims, but also in their family members and in the larger community of believers and nonbelievers alike. Looking back to the past, no effort to beg pardon and to seek to repair the harm done will ever be sufficient. Looking ahead to the future, no effort must be spared to create a culture able to prevent such situations from happening, but also to prevent the possibility of their being covered up and perpetuated. The pain of the victims and their families is also our pain, and so it is urgent that we once more reaffirm our commitment to ensure the protection of minors and of vulnerable adults.

### 1. If one member suffers...

In recent days, a report was made public which detailed the experiences of at least a thousand survivors, victims of sexual abuse, the abuse of power and of conscience at the hands of priests over a period of approximately seventy years. Even though it can be said that most of these cases belong to the past, nonetheless as time goes on we have come to know the pain of many of the victims. We have realized that these wounds never disappear and that they require us forcefully to condemn these atrocities and join forces in uprooting this culture of death; these wounds never go away. The heart-wrenching pain of these victims, which cries out to

heaven, was long ignored, kept quiet or silenced. But their outcry was more powerful than all the measures meant to silence it, or sought even to resolve it by decisions that increased its gravity by falling into complicity. The Lord heard that cry and once again showed us on which side he stands. Mary's song is not mistaken and continues quietly to echo throughout history. For the Lord remembers the promise he made to our fathers: "he has scattered the proud in their conceit; he has cast down the mighty from their thrones and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty" (Lk 1:51-53). We feel shame when we realize that our style of life has denied, and continues to deny, the words we recite.

With shame and repentance, we acknowledge as an ecclesial community that we were not where we should have been, that we did not act in a timely manner, realizing the magnitude and the gravity of the damage done to so many lives. We showed no care for the little ones; we abandoned them. I make my own the words of the then Cardinal Ratzinger when, during the Way of the Cross composed for Good Friday 2005, he identified with the cry of pain of so many victims and exclaimed: "How much filth there is in the Church, and even among those who, in the priesthood, ought to belong entirely to [Christ]! How much pride, how much self-complacency! Christ's betrayal by his disciples, their unworthy reception of his body and blood, is certainly the greatest suffering endured by the Redeemer; it pierces his heart. We can only call to him from the depths of our hearts: *Kyrie eleison* – Lord, save us! (cf. *Mt 8:25*)" (Ninth Station).

### 2. ... all suffer together with it

The extent and the gravity of all that has happened requires coming to grips with this reality in a comprehensive and communal way. While it is important and necessary on every journey of conversion to acknowledge the truth of what has happened, in itself this is not enough. Today we are challenged as the People of God to take on the pain of our brothers and sisters wounded in their flesh and in their spirit. If, in the past, the response was one of omission, today we want solidarity, in the

deepest and most challenging sense, to become our way of forging present and future history. And this in an environment where conflicts, tensions and above all the victims of every type of abuse can encounter an outstretched hand to protect them and rescue them from their pain (cf. *Evangelii Gaudium*, 228). Such solidarity demands that we in turn condemn whatever endangers the integrity of any person. A solidarity that summons us to fight all forms of corruption, especially spiritual corruption. The latter is “a comfortable and self-satisfied form of blindness. Everything then appears acceptable: deception, slander, egotism and other subtle forms of self-centeredness, for ‘even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light’ (2 Cor 11:14)” (*Gaudete et Exsultate*, 165). Saint Paul’s exhortation to suffer with those who suffer is the best antidote against all our attempts to repeat the words of Cain: “Am I my brother’s keeper?” (*Gen 4:9*).

I am conscious of the effort and work being carried out in various parts of the world to come up with the necessary means to ensure the safety and protection of the integrity of children and of vulnerable adults, as well as implementing zero tolerance and ways of making all those who perpetrate or cover up these crimes accountable. We have delayed in applying these actions and sanctions that are so necessary, yet I am confident that they will help to guarantee a greater culture of care in the present and future.

Together with those efforts, every one of the baptized should feel involved in the ecclesial and social change that we so greatly need. This change calls for a personal and communal conversion that makes us see things as the Lord does. For as Saint John Paul II liked to say: “If we have truly started out anew from the contemplation of Christ, we must learn to see him especially in the faces of those with whom he wished to be identified” (*Novo Millennio Ineunte*, 49). To see things as the Lord does, to be where the Lord wants us to be, to experience a conversion of heart in his presence. To do so, prayer and penance will help. I invite the entire holy faithful People of God to a *penitential exercise of prayer and fasting*, following the Lord’s

command. This can awaken our conscience and arouse our solidarity and commitment to a culture of care that says “never again” to every form of abuse.

It is impossible to think of a conversion of our activity as a Church that does not include the active participation of all the members of God’s People. Indeed, whenever we have tried to replace, or silence, or ignore, or reduce the People of God to small elites, we end up creating communities, projects, theological approaches, spiritualities and structures without roots, without memory, without faces, without bodies and ultimately, without lives. This is clearly seen in a peculiar way of understanding the Church’s authority, one common in many communities where sexual abuse and the abuse of power and conscience have occurred. Such is the case with clericalism, an approach that “not only nullifies the character of Christians, but also tends to diminish and undervalue the baptismal grace that the Holy Spirit has placed in the heart of our people”. Clericalism, whether fostered by priests themselves or by lay persons, leads to an excision in the ecclesial body that supports and helps to perpetuate many of the evils that we are condemning today. To say “no” to abuse is to say an emphatic “no” to all forms of clericalism.

It is always helpful to remember that “in salvation history, the Lord saved one people. We are never completely ourselves unless we belong to a people. That is why no one is saved alone, as an isolated individual. Rather, God draws us to himself, taking into account the complex fabric of interpersonal relationships present in the human community. God wanted to enter into the life and history of a people” (*Gaudete et Exsultate*, 6). Consequently, the only way that we have to respond to this evil that has darkened so many lives is to experience it as a task regarding all of us as the People of God. This awareness of being part of a people and a shared history will enable us to acknowledge our past sins and mistakes with a penitential openness that can allow us to be renewed from within. Without the active participation of all the Church’s members, everything being done to uproot the culture of abuse in our communities will not be successful in

generating the necessary dynamics for sound and realistic change. The penitential dimension of fasting and prayer will help us as God’s People to come before the Lord and our wounded brothers and sisters as sinners imploring forgiveness and the grace of shame and conversion. In this way, we will come up with actions that can generate resources attuned to the Gospel. For “whenever we make the effort to return to the source and to recover the original freshness of the Gospel, new avenues arise, new paths of creativity open up, with different forms of expression, more eloquent signs and words with new meaning for today’s world” (*Ev. Gaudium*, 11).

It is essential that we, as a Church, be able to acknowledge and condemn, with sorrow and shame, the atrocities perpetrated by consecrated persons, clerics, and all those entrusted with the mission of watching over and caring for those most vulnerable. Let us beg forgiveness for our own sins and the sins of others. An awareness of sin helps us to acknowledge the errors, the crimes and the wounds caused in the past and allows us, in the present, to be more open and committed along a journey of renewed conversion.

Likewise, penance and prayer will help us to open our eyes and our hearts to other people’s sufferings and to overcome the thirst for power and possessions that are so often the root of those evils. May fasting and prayer open our ears to the hushed pain felt by children, young people and the disabled. A fasting that can make us hunger and thirst for justice and impel us to walk in the truth, supporting all the judicial measures that may be necessary. A fasting that shakes us up and leads us to be committed in truth and charity with all men and women of good will, and with society in general, to combatting all forms of the abuse of power, sexual abuse and the abuse of conscience.

In this way, we can show clearly our calling to be “a sign and instrument of communion with God and of the unity of the entire human race” (*Lumen Gentium*, 1).

“If one member suffers, all suffer together with it”, said Saint Paul. By an attitude of prayer and penance, we will become attuned as individuals and

as a community to this exhortation, so that we may grow in the gift of compassion, in justice, prevention and reparation. Mary chose to stand at the foot of her Son’s cross. She did so unhesitatingly, standing firmly by Jesus’ side. In this way, she reveals the way she lived her entire life. When we experience the desolation caused by these ecclesial wounds, we will do well, with Mary, “to insist more upon prayer”, seeking to grow all the more in love and fidelity to the Church (SAINT IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA, *Spiritual Exercises*, 319). She, the first of the disciples, teaches all of us as disciples how we are to halt before the sufferings of the innocent, without excuses or cowardice. To look to Mary is to discover the model of a true follower of Christ.

May the Holy Spirit grant us the grace of conversion and the interior anointing needed to express before these crimes of abuse our compunction and our resolve courageously to combat them.

Vatican City, 20 August 2018

FRANCIS



Засідання Ліги Католиків  
У понеділок, 27 Серпня

The League of Ukrainian Catholics, Niagara Frontier Council will hold a Convention meeting on Monday, August 27, 2018 at **6:30PM** in the St. Nicholas Church Hall. With the Convention in 6 weeks, there is still much to be done. Any and all help would be greatly appreciated

**PLEASE REMEMBER THE DEADLINE TO PUT AN AD IN THE JOURNAL IS NEXT SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 1ST. THE DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS FOR CONVENTION EVENTS IS THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2018.**

We are still asking for donations of theme baskets for the Convention. Hope to see you at this important meeting on Monday as we put the final touches to Convention details.