



Bishop Paul preaching at 25th Anniversary at Mt. Alvernia



At the end of the Liturgy: Clergy Days at Mt. Alvernia



1st Anniversary of +Olexa Kurlak (church & cemetery)



Preparing for the LUC 75th Convention



LUC Time Capsule was buried 1988 in Philadelphia near our Cathedral. Will LUC last until its opening? If we implement vision 20/20 now, LUC will be vibrant in 2088 and beyond.



From Babicky's Wedding in Canada



N^o
4
0
✠
O
C
T
O
B
E
R
6
✠
2
0
1
3
✠

SAINT NICHOLAS
UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

УКРАЇНЬСЬКА КАТОЛИЦЬКА
ЦЕРКВА СВЯТОГО МИКОЛАЯ



N^o
40
ПІД ОПІКОЮ
ПРЕЧИСТОЇ ДІВИ
МАРІЇ ОДІГІТРІЇ
UNDER THE
PROTECTION OF
MOTHER OF GOD



CHURCH BULLETIN

October 6 – 2013 – 6 Жовтня
ЦЕРКОВНИЙ ВІСНИК



Congratulations to Marion Hrubec, the new President of LUC! Thank You for accepting! Thank You, Elaine, for all your excellent work!



His Excellency Bishop Basil Losten saying a prayer at the 75th LUC Convention and 80th Anniversary. Thank You, Vladyko, for Your Presence, Blessings and encouragement to continue. Na Mnohaya Lita!

LUC – Let Us Care!

CHURCH BULLETIN

October 6 – 2013 – 6 ЖОВТНЯ

ЦЕРКОВНИЙ ВІСНИК

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

4:30 PM +Rita Nowadly
(Paul & Lynn Jagodzinski)

Oct. 6 20th S. aft. Pent. – 20 Н.по ЗСД

9:00 AM Living & Dec. Members of LUC

Monday Oct. 7 – Пон., 7 ЖОВТНЯ

10:00 AM +Олег Пришляк – 40 д. і п.
(брат Дозьо з родиною)

Tuesday Oct. 8 – Вів., 8 ЖОВТНЯ

10:00 AM +Irene (Horhota) Maslink
(Katie Eckhart)

Wed. Oct. 9 – Сер., 9 ЖОВТНЯ

Thursday Oct. 10 – Чет., 10 ЖОВТНЯ

9:00 AM +Alexander, Sophia & Walter
Kot (Elaine)

Friday Oct. 11 – П'ятниця, 11 ЖОВТНЯ

9:00 AM В нам. і за зд. Ярослава Савка
(Олег і Мартин)

Sat. Oct. 12 – Субота, 12 ЖОВТНЯ

4:30 PM +Dmytro Dranka (Family)

Oct. 13 21st S. aft. Pent. – 21 Н. по ЗСД

12:00 PM +John & Mary Colomon
(Nadine Burkholder)

Eternal Light honoring Theotokos
burns for + Members of the
League of Ukrainian Catholics

**Вічне Світло в Честь П. Д. М.
Горить за +Членів Ліги Укр. Кат.**

Eternal Light burns for
Members of L.U.C.

Mnohaya i Blahaya Lita!



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

ПОР'ЯДОК СВ. ЛІТУРГІЙ

6 ЖОВТНЯ – 15 Н. по З.С.Д.

9:00 р. За Парохіян – For Parishioners

13 ЖОВТНЯ – 16 Н. по З.С.Д.

10:00 р. +Юлія і Михайло Міхалов
(діти) річниця шлюбу

BIBLE MEETING - in English

Thursday, October 10 at 6:30 PM

BIBLE MEETING - in Ukrainian

Thursday, October 17 at 12:00 noon

Consider attending!

БІБЛІЙНІ ЗУСТРІЧІ

По Українськи: 17 Жовтня о полудне

По Англійськи: 10 Жовтня о 6:30 веч.

Просимо до участі!

Сьогодні, у неділю, 6 ЖОВТНЯ
вітаємо між нами владика Кир
Василя Лостена і членів Ліги
Укр. Кат. По Св. Літургії
панахида за +членів Ліги і
заприсяження нової управи.

===

Today, Sunday, October 6
we welcome Bishop Basil Losten
as well as members of
League of Ukrainian Catholics
as they had their 75th Convention
celebrating their 80th Anniversary.

Ukrainian Treasures & More



Judie Hawryluk

79 Southridge Dr
West Seneca NY 14224

716-674-5185

Ukrainian Eggs, Jewelry & Embroidery

photos on facebook.com

jahawryluk@gmail.com

**SLAVIS
BAZZAR**

Euro Delicatessen Store

1550

William Street
Buffalo, NY 14206

Tel.: 895-1404

Proud to Support
St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church



Buszka Funeral Home

Director Peter D. Stachowski

2005 Clinton Street at S. Ogden, Buffalo New York 14206
(716) 825-7777 www.buszkafuneralhome.com

Сердечна подяка усім спонзорам!

Please Support our Sponsors

PHONE 893-1025



Kuhn's Monuments, Inc.

(ROLAND J. KUHN)

ASK FOR TOM

2398 GENESEE ST.
BUFFALO, N.Y. 14225



1550

William Street
Buffalo, NY 14206

Tel.: 895-1404

Wilhelmina E. Klimeczko
Janine R. Klimeczko
Michael A. Klimeczko
Licensed Directors

Pietszak

FUNERAL HOME

Orlowski-Pietszak Funeral Home

www.Pietszak.com 897-2400

*Continuing a Tradition of
thoughtful Personalized Service*

806 Clinton St. Buffalo 2400 William St.
Cheektowaga

Thanks are extended to all Sponsors!

DNIPRO ДНІПРО

Ukrainian Cultural Center
562 Genesee St. Buffalo, NY 14204 856-4476
www.UkrainiansOfBuffalo.com

Hall and bar rentals are available.
See your old friends on Friday night.
Help rebuild our Ukrainian Home.

**Please Contribute to the
\$100,000 Building Fund.**
Donations are tax deductible.

EURO DELI AND GIFTS



4166 Union Road 2321 Millersport Hwy
(Airport Plaza) (Getzville Plaza)
Cheektowaga, NY 14225 Amherst, NY 14068
Tel. 716-630-0131 Fax 716-630-0133 tel. 716-688-1495

Melvin J. SLIWINSKI

FUNERAL HOME

85 George Urban Boulevard
Cheektowaga, N. Y. 14225
5090 Transit Rd, Depew, NY 14043

(716) 894-1772

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

Simon Pasnik & Matthew Pasnik

3003 South Park Avenue
Lackawanna, New York 14218
(716) 824-3007

UKRAINIAN  **УКРАЇНСЬКА**
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION ФЕДЕРАЛЬНА КРЕДИТНА СПІЛКА
www.rufcu.org 877-968-7828

Свій до Свого по Своє

PERSONAL & BUSINESS

FINANCIAL SERVICES

CHECKING ACCOUNTS: ☐ NO minimum balance ☐ NO monthly service fees
☐ FREE Visa Debit Card ☐ FREE unlimited deposits and withdrawals ☐ FREE ATM CO-OP Network - access 28,000 surcharge-free ATMs

☐ Direct Deposit available

SAVINGS ACCOUNT:

☐ NO monthly service fees
☐ Higher rates on deposits ☐ Money Market
☐ 6 month to 5 year terms on Certificates & IRA

VISA®:

☐ NO annual fee ☐ Credit limits up to \$10,000 ☐ APR as low as 9.75%
☐ FREE Travel & Auto Rental Insurance

LOANS:

☐ Personal Loans ☐ New & Used Vehicles
☐ Overdraft Lines of Credit
☐ Recreational Vehicles
☐ Business Vehicles & Equipment

MORTGAGES:

☐ Fixed & Adjustable Rates ☐ 5-30 year terms

☐ Fast approval ☐ Business Mortgages

CONVENIENCE SERVICES:

☐ Online Applications for Mortgages & Loans
☐ Online Banking & Bill Pay
☐ CO-OP ATM Network® ☐ Phone Banking
☐ Wire Transfers ☐ Direct Deposit

*Other services: UFCU Scholarships,
Member magazine, wire transfers.
Membership requirements. Federally insured by NCUA.
Equal Housing Lender.*

562 Genesee St. Buffalo, NY 14204
ph: (716)847-6655 fax: (716)847-6988
Mon., Tues., Thurs., 10:00 am - 5:00 pm Wed.,
10:00 am - 2:00 pm; Fri., 10:00 am - 7:00 pm



Word of Life

October 2013

Respect Life Month

October 6th

RESPECT LIFE SUNDAY

For all those who defend the unborn: that they may be persistent and faithful in their witness as they strive to build a culture of life, and

For all women facing an unexpected pregnancy: may they receive the necessary love and support needed from family and friends in order to open their hearts to choose life for their child.

За всіх тих, що обороняють життя, щоб були витривалі завжди пам'ятаючи, що життя походить від Бога, і Він є його Господарем. Рівнож молимося за всіх жінок, що неплановано завагітніли, щоб вони одержали любов і підтримку зі сторони родини і приятелів, які допоможуть їм вибрати життя для дитини.

Cell Phones - Мобільні Телєфони:

Please turn off or silence your cell phone before entering the church.

Thank you!

Просимо вилучувати мобільні телефони підчас Святої Літургії.

October 20 - 100th Anniversary of Saint Basil Parish in Lancaster



Divine Liturgy at 12 noon with Bishop Paul.

Banquet is at Salvatore's at 3 PM. Tickets are \$40. The last date to get the tickets for the dinner was October 4, but talk to me today and I will call father Robert. You still can put ad into his booklet. Talk to me if interested. ~ Fr. Marijan

With gratitude to God for all things I write to you these few lines. First of all thank you to those who purchased tickets for the Anniversary banquet. Second I would like to ask that you make a search to see if you can help us sell some advertising for our Anniversary Booklet. We only have sold a few. Also you can have your own greeting or include your loved one in the Eternal Memory section. ~ Fr. Robert

===

Просимо прийти на святкування 100-ліття Парохії Св. Василя Великого в Лянкестері – 20 Жовтня, 2013.

Cantor's Workshop: The next Cantors Program will be held Oct 18-20 at St. Basil Seminary, Stamford CT. The topic is Vespers, Vespereal Liturgies including Presanctified with emphasis on Good Friday Vespers.

До Світла Воскресіння крізь терни катакомб

Ми одержали 20 великих панелів
з Історії нашої Церкви у Підпіллі,
виготовлені у Львові «Інститутом
Історії Церкви». Їх вже можна
оглянути під церквою.

Продаж з книжок (\$10.00)
підє на потреби Інституту.

Рівно ж Інститут буде вдячний
за ваші пожертви. Інститут Історії
Церкви заснований теперішнім
Владикою, і колишнім Ректором
Українського Католицького
Університету у Львові,
Кир Борисом Гудяком

===

To the Light of the Resurrection
Through the thorns of catacombs

We received 20 pannels about the
History of our underground Church,
made by the Institut of Church
History from Lviv. This Institut is
created by now Bishop of France
Borys Gudziak

Exhibit is open downstairs.

Books (\$10.00) are in Ukrainian
only, but soon I will have some
English partial translation.

Institute continues to collect
materials about persecution of our
church, having already many video
and audio materials as well as
photos and documents. Donation
for the Institute are indeed needed.



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!
- There is an exhibit downstairs”To the Light of
Resurrection through the thorns of catacombs”

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
церква дістане від „Топс” 5%. На \$1,000
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
УКРАЇНЬСЬКА КАТОЛИЦЬКА ЦЕРКВА
СВЯТОГО МИКОЛАЯ
(ПІД ОПІКОЮ ПРЕЧИСТОЇ
ДІВИ МАРІЇ ОДІГІТРІЇ)

Parish E-Mail: stnbuffalo@yahoo.com

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

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

308 Fillmore Avenue, Buffalo, N. Y. 14206

Rectory: (716) 852-7566

Fax: 855-1319 ~ Kitchen: 852-1908

Confession: Before Liturgies

Сповідь: Перед Св. Літургіями

Baptism: By appointment

Хрещення: За домовленням

Marriage: Contact 6 months in advance

Вінчання: Голоситися 6 місяців скорше

Religion classes – Релігійна Програма

Субота - Saturday

Ministry to the sick - Опіка над хворими

Family members should call the Rectory

Родина повинна повідомити священика

IN EMERGENCY CALL ANY TIME

В разі потреби завжди можна закликати

Rev. Raymond Palko, visiting priest

V. Rev. Marijan Procyk, pastor & dean

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

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

ЗАПРОШЕННЯ



Вельмишановні та Дорогі
Українки й Українці
Бофало й околиці

Цією листівкою ласкаво просимо Вас
усіх до участі в Святкуваннях:

**95–Річчя договору про зєднання
ЗУНР і УНР в Києві**

**95–Річчя з дня проголошення
самостійності IV-Універсалом**

95–Річчя Листопадового Зриву

**75–Річчя з дня убивства
полк. Євгена Коновалця,**

Свято ПОКРОВИ - Свято УПА

яке відбудеться в неділю,
20-го жовтня, 2013р.

В Програмі:

Ранком, в годині 10:00 Богослуження
в церкві св. О. Миколая
в наміренні Українського Народу та
Панахида за усіх полеглих
українських борців Героїв-Лицарів.

Перекуска для присутних перед
програмою (від 12:00 до 12:30).

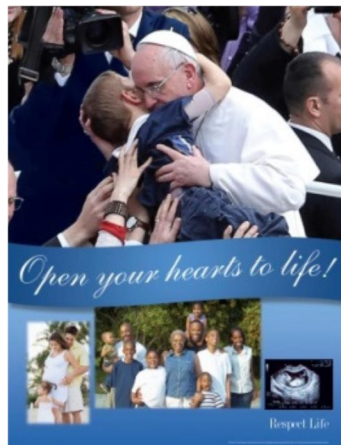


**Програма почи-
нається в годині 12:30 в Укра-
їнському Домі «Дніпро» при 562
Дженесі вул., Бофало, Н.Й.**

Виступають - хор ОЖ-ОЧСУ «Мрія»,
члени СУМ та українська молодь.

**Святочний Комітет
ООЧСУ і ОЖ-ОЧСУ**

Word of Life Bulletin Briefs October 2013



and deserving of the utmost reverence
and respect.”

~ Pope Francis,
for the occasion of the annual Day for Life in
Britain and Ireland, which was held on July, 2013

From the desk of Fr. Ray Palko

October 6, 2013 A.D.

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!

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

Greetings to you and yours! As you read this latest epistle sometime on October 5, 6, or the days following, there will have flowed “a lot of water over the dam.” As I wrote last week, there’s a whole lot of stuff going on in our parishes, families and the city in general. Thanks God, we can take part in, and enjoy much of it.

Writing to you on this Thursday afternoon, October 3, our *Fall Clergy Days 2013* are now history. We’ve been to Wappingers Falls and back! I think it was a good meeting, and a profitable time for all of us. We prayed, played, studied, and now we’re back in the saddle and ready for the coming months. Some of the Fathers were already signing each other up to come to their parishes for Advent retreats and/or confessions. And Bishop was very happy because there was 95% attendance. And when Bishop is happy, everybody is happy! ☺ (You can see some pics on the Eparchy website: stamforddio.org)

The highlight of our gathering this time was the Liturgy on Tuesday afternoon, at which Bishop Paul celebrated and gave thanks for his 25 years as priest. He was joined at the Holy Table by four other priests, who are also celebrating their silver jubilee. Tuesday was October 1, feast of the Holy Protection and it was on that day when His Grace was ordained 25 years ago.

Everything went well. I must say, though, both coming and going, there wasn’t one dull moment on the Thruway. The non-stop traffic of cars, motorcycles, and especially the trucks demanded our constant attention and alertness. Just was a lot of traffic all the way. We were glad we got to drive in daylight and on dry roads on both days. From our house in West Seneca to Mt. Alvernia, it is exactly 382.7 miles. That is about six and a half hours. Yes,

it was a long, tiring trip, but also pleasant, rewarding and heavenly.

The world around us is always a revelation of heaven, and now, in the fall time I think we drove through some of the most beautiful “heavenly” scenery in all the world. That’s really saying something because it was mostly viewed from the New York State Thruway at about 65 or so miles per hour.

The changing leaves have only started to take on the autumn appearance and they are far from the exquisite “peak color,” so longed for by the leave watchers. The slowly changing leaves treated us to that beautiful panorama of colors, created by the hand of our loving Divine Artist. Each mile of this newly painted earth was a blessing to behold. At times we drove under as cloudy sky and other times it was sunny, and not a cloud in the sky.

Under the cloudy sky the fire of colored foliage seemed to shoot out of the earth as some erupting volcano, glowing beneath the gray and dark clouds. Later, when we passed into the fair weather and blue skies, it was the brilliant sunshine lighting up the earth below as those glorious rays shined upon the millions of colored leaves below, filling them with even more light and color, just as light does to a diamond. Ya gotta love this part of the world, this time of the year!

And you don’t need to have a forest, or a 6 hour trip to enjoy it. Just take the time to look out your window. Unless you have a brick wall there, you should be able to see a tree, or a few trees, or some plants. Look closely and enjoy the gift of the changing of the leaves. Enjoy the beautiful colors! I think I’ve told you before, I distinctly remember one crisp fall afternoon as a 16 year old high school boy, I stood on a hill above our little town of Middleport, Pennsylvania, looked out over the mountains and was absolutely sure I was looking at the most beautiful place on earth. At that moment I said to myself, “I never want to leave this place, my hometown, the place of my birth.” Know what? I’m one of eight children and was the only one to move

any distance from 'the old homestead.' Everyone stayed within a 15 mile radius of "the house." Yep, life is interesting and full of twists and turns and calls from our Lord.....no doubt about it. Middleport, Pennsylvania will always be that very special place for me, and as I write these words, it is as if I am standing in that very spot once again, breathing that clean mountain air and being filled with the glory and handiwork of our loving Creator. And now I raise my hand and bless that beautiful place and the beautiful people there as I do every night before I go to bed.

Over the next few days we will be greeting our LUC visitors to their convention being held here. As I said though, when you read this the convention also will be history. We pray everyone safe journey and also a good and profitable time socially and spiritually. The members of the LUC are the pillars of our church. We wish them every good thing and pray "Mnohaja Lita" to each of them, and to that important organization for the good of our Church. I believe more than a few of our churches would be closed or at least enduring hard times were it not for the love and dedication of the LUC'rs. There are a lot of special people in this world, but in my book, I have to say the members of that group are right up there on the top. Thank you for the past 80 years, for all you do now, and for all you will do in the future. Be Blessed!

And one more thing you've heard me say before: "Without life, nothing else matters." This Sunday, October 6, is "Respect Life Sunday." Each year on the first Sunday of October we are called to renew our dedication to the cause of preserving and protecting life from conception to natural death. Each year we stop on this first Sunday of October and rededicate ourselves to become stronger and more active in the cause of life. Following the call of Pope Francis to "open

your hearts," the theme for the coming year is "Open Your Hearts to Life." May we truly do that!

Each year in many of our cities, on "Respect Life Sunday" there is a prayer chain (Life Chain) formed where people stand, quietly hold signs and pray for an end to abortion and for protection of life in all its stages. Here in the Buffalo area the people will join hands and prayers along Niagara Falls Blvd, from Main St. in Buffalo to Niagara Falls, some 17 miles. If you can, join them. If you are driving by, pull over, stand for as long as your schedule permits. If you can't stop, give them a honk on the horn to let them know you encourage them and pray with them. If you can't stand, or you won't be driving by, please sometime on Sunday, whisper a little prayer for all the warriors for life. Maybe this year you can become a "warrior for Life." Through the prayers of the Mother of God and all the saints may we have the courage to "open our hearts to life."

"All who call Christ their Lord must declare abortion a grave evil that defames the name and holiness of God. (Leviticus 18:21) Indeed the Church that Christ founded has drifted into cold indifference toward the sacredness of human life, and the result has been the mindless surgical killing and mutilation of over 55 million preborn Americans, plus untold millions who have fallen victim to abortive chemicals and medical neglect." Stephenson County Right to Life.

I must close for this time, but God willing and the creek don't rise, you'll get mail again next week. May the blessing of the Lord be upon you! May He grant you His Peace! May our Holy Lady protect you beneath the mantle of her heavenly protection.

In His Love,
F. Ray
Father Ray

October 6: Respect Life Sunday

St. Nicholas Parish Pictorial Directory

A new **Parish Pictorial Directory** is on the way! A Parish Directory will help us connect names and faces in our busy Parish! Please schedule a time online at our website stnbuffalo.com, sign-up after Liturgy on September 7th and 8th or call the rectory at 852-7566 on Monday or Thursday mornings between 9:00 AM - 1:00PM. When you come in to have your portrait taken by Lifetouch you will receive a FREE 8 x 10 of your directory portrait, a complimentary copy of the Parish Directory will be reserved for you and you will have the option of purchasing your portraits if you wish. Portraits will be taken on **October 26, 2013 and October 27, 2013.** Additional dates will be added only if needed. Our directory will only be complete if we have everyone from our Parish Family in it, so please sign-up ASAP.

We will need greeters during our photography dates to greet families and assist with check-in paperwork. If you would be willing to help, please call Elaine at the rectory or 867-0981.

Thanks for your support of this important project! We can't wait to see your smile!



Цього року плянуємо зробити книжечку з фотографіями наших парохіян, так як ми це робили попередньо. Просимо перечитати інформації по англійськи.

**Are you listening "Good Samaritan"
Ukr. Radio Program on WJLL 1440 AM
Every Sunday at 2:00 PM?**

**Чи ви слухаєте нашу радіо передачу
«Милосердний Самар'янин»
Неділя, 2 год на WJLL 1440 AM?**

**Please Remember
Our Church in Your Will!**

**Пам'ятаймо про Рідну Церкву та про
її майбутність у нашому Завіщанні!**

Apartment for rent available Nov 1, Clinton and Filmore area: Upper apartment just under 1,200 sqft, 3 Bedroom, 1 bath, large living room with dining room. Washer and dryer included for laundry in basement. Water and garbage included in rent, \$500/ month. First and last months rent required along with security deposit. Call Paul at 716-359-5227 for more information

З радія "Милосердний Самарянин"

У сьогоднішньому євангелію якийсь закончитель запитав Христа: „Учителю, котра найбільша заповідь у законі?”

Ісус йому відповів: „Люби Господа, Бога твого, всім твоїм серцем, усією твоєю душею і всією думкою твоєю: це найбільша і найперша заповідь. А друга подібна до неї: Люби ближнього твого, як себе самого.” Ці дві заповіді знаходяться в різних місцях Святого Письма – одна у книзі Второзаконня, інша – у книзі Левіт. А Христос ставить їх разом і показує, що вони одна від одної співзалежні і одна одну доповнюють. Ці дві заповіді є головними заповідями любові, на них базується весь Закон і Пророки.

Христос, говорить нам про любов вертикальну, тобто любов до Бога, і любов горизонтальну, тобто любов до ближнього. Бути християнином – це означає жити за принципом хреста – тої вертикальної і горизонтальної любові до Бога і до ближнього.

Нашим ближнім є кожна людина, бо кожна людина є образом Божим, має безсмертну душу, даровану Богом, тому християнин повинен любити Бога в ближньому, а ближнього в Бозі. За кожну людину Христос вмирав на хресті і для кожної людини є призначене місце в Небі, бо каже апостол Павло – „Господь хоче, щоб усі спаслися”. Тому ми маємо любити ближнього, як самого себе, бо за словами св. апостола Івана, „коли ми любимо один одного, то Бог у нас перебуває”. Легко є любити своїх рідних – чоловіка чи дружину, дітей, внуків, братів чи сестер. Тяжче є любити сусідів, односельчан, чужих людей. Ще тяжче є любити тих, хто є відмінний від нас – по національності, по вірі, по становищу. Бо любити – означає допомагати, розуміти, співчувати, прощати, молитися, робити добро.

Святий Авва Доротей, який жив у 6 ст., казав так: „Якщо людство помістити в різних місцях круга, то в центрі того круга необхідно

помістити Бога. Приближуючись до центру, ми приближуємося до Бога, до Божої любові. Але не тільки, ідучи в сторону центра, ми приближуємося до Бога, стаємо святими, отримуємо святість. Ми також, приближуючись до центра, приближуємося один до одного.” Так само, коли всі ідемо до Церкви, то стаємо ближче одні до одних. Коли ж всі розходимося і йдемо від Церкви і від Бога, то віддаляємося і один від одного.

Бог виконує свою заповідь. Виконуючи сам цю заповідь, Господь послав у світ Свого Сина, дав його прибити на хресті, допустив Його муки і смерть. Виконуючи цю заповідь любові, Господь встановив Пресвяту Свхаристію і в Ній у кожній Літургії приходить до нас, бажаючи спасти нас, бо каже: "Я з вами по всі дні, аж до кінця віку". Божа любов до людини назавжди залишається з нами і є доступною до прийняття, є безконечною, безмежною.

Якщо хочемо жити в Божій Любові, то мусимо самі любити. Коли ми в нашому житті не відповідаємо на Божу любов – коли кривдимо наших ближніх, не прощаємо, не співчуваємо в горі, ми далекі від Господа, який буде нас питати на Страшному суді: "Чи ми нагодували голодного, чи напоїли спраглого, чи відвідали хворого, чи допомогли ближньому?" Любов до Бога через любов до ближнього є самота наша дорога до спасіння.

Сьогодні в нашій церкві Св. Миколая ми вітаємо єпископа кир Василя Лостина, який взяв участь у 75 Конвенції Ліги Українців Католиків. На Многая Літа, Владико!

Многих Літ бажаємо також усім членам Ліги, Українців Католиків, які святкували 80-ліття свого існування. Хай Господь провадить їх і дасть їм силу продовжувати їхню корисну працю для слави Божої та для добра нашої Святої Церкви, пам'ятаючи завжди за словами євангелиста Івана, що «Бог є любов і хто перебуває в любові, той перебуває у Бозі і Бог перебуває в ньому.»

From "Good Samaritan" Ukr. Radio pr.

...I met a woman the other day, a mother of four children, who just found out that she has terminal cancer and not much longer to live. A friend of mine over the spring lost her only child to a debilitating disease. A young couple was struck and killed by a drunk driver on their wedding day this summer. Twenty innocent children were killed by a lone gunman at Sandy Hook Elementary just ten days before Christmas last year. It seems that no realm of today's society is free from tragedy, but what concerns me more is how many people either blame God or no longer turn to Him in the midst of their tragedy. If we do not have our faith to cling to in times such as these, what do we have? This often leads many people to ask, in fact, I am sure that we have all asked this question at one time or another: Why do bad things happen to good people? Why does God allow these things to happen? There's illness and abuse, broken relationships and betrayal, sorrow and injury, disappointment and heartache, crime and death. And perhaps it begs us to ask the question, 'Why? Why me? Why now?'

That "why" question goes back thousands of years. It was asked in the Old Testament by Job and the writers of the Psalms, and it was especially relevant during the 20th century, where we witnessed two World Wars, the Holocaust, genocides in the Soviet Union and China, devastating famines in Ukraine and Africa, the killing fields of Cambodia, the emergence of AIDS, the genocide in Rwanda and the ethnic cleansing of Kosovo. And the 21st Century did not start off any better. There was 9/11, horrific shootings in schools and universities throughout our nation, the bombing in Boston, and now the Syrian slaughters, and on and on. Many people ask: Why all of this if there is a loving and powerful God? Why do bad things happen to good people? St. Paul addresses this issue in his first letter to the Corinthians: *"Now we see things imperfectly, like puzzling reflections in a mirror, but then we will see everything with perfect clarity. All that I know now is partial and incomplete, but then I will know*

everything completely, just as God now knows me completely." So when we ask about specific individual events and want to know why this particular thing happened, we will never be given the full answer in this world. Someday we will see these hardships with clarity, but for now things are foggy. We cannot possibly understand everything from our finite perspective. And frankly, the people who are suffering right now do not need a theological perspective, because any intellectual response is going to seem trite and inadequate. What we all desperately need when bad things happen is the very real and comforting presence of the Lord in their lives.

The Old Testament gives us a great example in the story of Joseph, who went through terrible suffering, being sold into slavery by his own brothers, unfairly accused of a crime and falsely imprisoned. Finally, after a dozen years, he was put in a role of great authority where he could save the lives of his family and many others. This is what he spoke to his brothers: *"You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives"* (Genesis 50:20). If we are committed to God, He promises that He can and will take whatever pain we are experiencing and draw something good from it. You might say, 'No, he can't in my circumstance. The harm is too great, the damage too extreme, and the depth of my suffering has been too much. No, in my case there is no way God can cause any good to emerge.' Suffering is a personal problem; it demands a personal response. And God isn't some distant, detached, and disinterested deity; He entered into our world and personally experienced our pain. Jesus is there in the lowest places of our lives. *If you feel broken...* He was broken, like bread, for us. *If you feel rejected...* He was despised and rejected by men. *Do you cry out that you cannot take any more?* Jesus was a man of sorrows and well acquainted with grief. *Did someone betray you?* Jesus was betrayed by some of his own Apostles. *Are your most tender relationships broken?* Jesus loved deeply and still

He was rejected by so many during his life here on earth. From the depths of the genocide that took place some twenty years ago in Rwanda a woman wrote these words: “No matter how deep our darkness, Jesus is deeper still.” Every tear we shed becomes His tear. It is not just that God knows and sympathizes with us in our troubles. After all, any close friend can do that. Any close friend can sit beside you and comfort you and empathize with you. No, Jesus is much closer than our dearest friend, because if we have put our trust in Him, then Jesus is living *in* us. And, therefore, our sufferings are His sufferings; our sorrow is His sorrow.

God can use our suffering to draw us to Him, to mold and sharpen our character, to influence others through us and for Him – the Lord can draw something good from our pain in a myriad of ways, but only if we are willing to trust and follow Him, especially in the darkest of times. God’s ultimate answer to suffering is not an explanation but rather the incarnation. So when tragedy strikes, as it will; when suffering comes, as it will; when we are wrestling with pain, as we will – we can then make the choice to run toward the Lord with all of our heart and soul, and here is what we will discover: we will find peace to deal with the present, we will find courage to deal with our future, and we will find the incredible promise of eternal life in heaven. *“These things I’ve written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God in order that you may know that you have eternal life”* (1 John 5:13). Yes, sometimes bad things happen to people who seem undeserving of them. But God allows things to happen for His reasons, whether or not we understand them. Above all, however, we must remember that God is good, just, loving, and merciful. Often things happen to us that we simply cannot understand. However, instead of doubting God’s goodness, our reaction should be one of trust. *“Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding;*

in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight” (Proverbs 3:5-6)...

Truthfully, there is no adequate answer for why bad things happen to good people, but through the incarnation of Christ we are able to be called sons and daughters of God, that is the ultimate answer to our suffering and there lies our everlasting joy, with a Father who loves us and whose infinite wisdom is far greater than our own. There is no conceivable way for us to possibly understand why children die, why people develop cancer, why there is divorce, famine, disease, and war. But one thing is clear, there is one certainty above all things: Jesus chose to come and live among us, He suffered what we suffer, Jesus was betrayed by his closest friends, He was hurt and broken, and Jesus grieved deeply. In spite of all of these hardships, Jesus suffered for our sins in order for us to have Eternal life, in order to bridge the gap between heaven and earth, between us and God. There is a clarity found through our faith, but we have to turn to the Lord in times of tragedy, we have to believe that our suffering is not in vain, and we have to trust that while bad things do happen to good people – God is in charge – and His wisdom is infinite. I can honestly say that the personal struggles and sufferings that I have endured in my own life have made me who I am today. We all face hardships, there are times when life seems unfair, we must endure loss that seems unbearable, but those sufferings do bring us closer to God and they make us who we are today – more compassionate, more giving, more empathetic, and more able to see the presence of God in all things. One day, when we leave the surly bonds of this world to touch the face of God, we will no longer ask: ‘Why? Why me? Why now?’ instead we will see things more clearly, as God intends it to be. As the psalmist once wrote: *“You who have made me see many troubles and calamities will revive me again; from the depths of the earth you will bring me up again. You will increase my greatness and comfort me always”* (Ps. 71:20-21).



Лист Блаженнішого Патріярха Святослава до Ліги Українців Католиків з нагоди 75 Конвенції і 80-ліття існування. Конвенція відбулася тими днями в нашій околиці.

Обрано нову Управу на чолі з Мар’яною Грубець. Гратуємо нововибраним і бажаємо багато успіхів у майбутньому. На Многая і Благая Літа! Хай Господь щедро поблагословить усх членів!

A letter-greetings from Patriarch Sviatoslav to League of Ukrainian Catholics in the occasion of 75th Convention, which took place from 4 to 6 of October, here in Buffalo, and also 80th Anniversary from the inception of the League.

Marion Hrubec is the new President of LUC. Congratulations! May the Lord bless all members of the League! May He guide all their actions, for God’s Glory and for benefit of the church!

Happy Many Years!



UKRAINIAN GREEK CATHOLIC CHURCH
SVIATOSLAV SHEVCHUK
MAJOR ARCHBISHOP OF KYIV-HALYCH

Kyiv, September 30, 2013
Prot. N. 13/607

To the League of Ukrainian Catholics of America
on the occasion of their 80th Anniversary
and 75th Convention

The blessing of the Lord be upon you!

Dear LUC Members,

As you celebrate your 80th Anniversary of founding by Metropolitan Ambrose Senyshyn, of blessed memory, and 75th Annual Convention, I wish to convey to you my warmest greetings and blessings.

Today our Church throughout the world is promoting a program of spiritual renewal, laying emphasis on the ‘vibrant parish’ as the privileged place of encounter with the living Christ. We wish to go hand in hand with the New Evangelisation taking place in the Universal Church, especially in this Year of Faith and beyond.

The League of Ukrainian Catholics of America has proven to be an invaluable instrument in spreading the Gospel and in helping to keep our faithful active within their Ukrainian Rite and Faith. You have truly helped make our parishes ‘vibrant’ over these many years. I wish to thank you very much indeed and pass on my sincerest commendations.

Please continue witnessing to the Gospel values we all adhere to within our rich and unique Tradition. I wish you apostolic fervour in fostering a spiritual rebirth among Ukrainian Catholics and people of good will, as well as growth in your membership. May your contribution to the ‘Vibrant Parish’ program be an inspiration to all.

The blessing of God the Father, the love of His only-begotten Son, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with all of you!

Yours sincerely in Christ our Lord,



+ Sviatoslav
+ SVIATOSLAV
Major Archbishop of Kyiv-Halych