

SAINT NICHOLAS UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

УКРАЇНСЬКА КАТОЛИЦЬКА ЦЕРКВА СВЯТОГО МИКОЛАЯ

Nº 51

ПІД ОПІКОЮ
ПРЕЧИСТОЇ ДІВИ
МАРІЇ ОДІГТРІЇ
UNDER THE
PROTECTION OF
MOTHER OF GOD



CHURCH BULLETIN
December 17 Грудня – 2017
ЦЕРКОВНИЙ ВІСНИК

Вітаємо усіх парохіян і
прихожан з празником
Св. Миколая
Мирлікійського
Чудотворця!
НА МНОГАЯ ЛІТА!



HAPPY MANY YEARS!

We welcome all
parishioners
and guests
for the occasion
of our feast day of
Saint Nicholas!

← Our old icon of St. Nicholas now
being restored for 100th Anniversary

Nº 51



DECEMBER 17

2017



2017



Sv. Mykolaj
In Ridna Shkola

Almost ready
For Christmas

Cooking in progress
For our Praznyk. Thank you!

CHURCH BULLETIN

December 17 Грудня 2017
ЦЕРКОВНИЙ ВІСНИК
LITURGICAL SCHEDULE



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

ПОР'ЯДОК СВ. ЛІТУРГІЙ

4:30 PM +Nicholas Nesteruk
(Wife Valerie & Children)

Dec. 17: 28 S. aft. Pent. – 28 Н. по ЗСД

10:00 AM === ПРАЗНИК СВ. МИКОЛАЯ
ST. NICHOLAS FEASTDAY ===

Monday, December 18 Грудня, Понеділок

9:00 AM +Alexander & Mary Kot (Elaine Nowadly)

St. Nicholas – Св. Миколай (Jul.)

Tuesday, December 19 Грудня, Вівторок

10:00 AM +Софія Грєга (Марія Маланяк)

Wednesday, December 20 Грудня, Середа

6:00 PM +Теодор Сеньків (Анна Ткалич)

Thursday, December 21 Грудня, Четвер

9:00 AM +Mary Beth Sukmann (Mary Duggan)

Conc. of St. Ann - Зачаття Анни (Jul.)

Friday, December 22 Грудня, П'ятниця

10:00 AM +Роман, Параска, Славко Михайлів
(Michael, Michelle Michalow)

Saturday, December 23 Грудня, Субота

8:00 AM +Марія і Михайло Логаза (О. Чмола)

4:30 PM For Parishioners - За Парохіян

Dec. 24: S. of Fathers, Christmas Eve (Greg.)
Неділя Праотців (Jul.)

10:00 AM Анна Васьків (ОЖ ОЧСУ)

10:00 PM Great Compl. & Christmas Lit. (Greg.)
Вел. Повечеря і Різдв. Літургія

Eternal Light Burns for
+Michael Melnyk
Requ. by Swiatkiwsky Family

Help is needed on Wednesday morning to make varenyky to fill our many Christmas orders. Any and all help would be greatly appreciated.

Help is also needed on Tuesday morning to peel potatoes.

Потребуємо допомогу в кухні у середу рано, щоб робити вареники за замовленням на Різдво.

Рівно ж потребуємо когось у вівторок стругати бараболю.

→ There will be no noon Liturgy from December 17. Next Noon Liturgy will be January 21, when we host Buffalo Mass Mob. Please consider joining us that day in great number. Thank You! ← ← ←

→ Коверти приготовані. Просимо за брати.

→ 2018 Church Envelopes are ready for pick up in the church by Fillmore side.

Вічне Світло в честь П. Д. М. горить
За Парохіян Св. Миколая і прихожан.

Просимо помолитися
за всіх хворих і немічних!
Please pray for all the sick and suffering!

Ukrainian Treasures & More



Judie Hawryluk

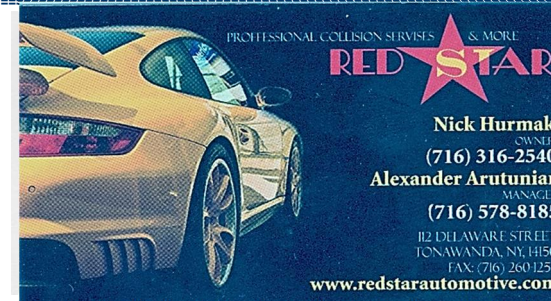
79 Southridge Dr
West Seneca NY 14224

716-674-5185

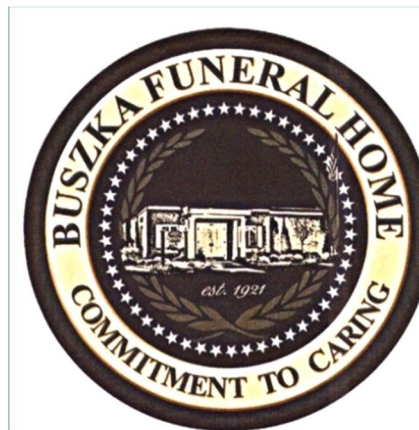
Ukrainian Eggs, Jewelry & Embroidery

photos on facebook.com

jahawryluk@gmail.com



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!



DNIPRO

ДНІПРО

Ukrainian Cultural Center

562 Genesee St. Buffalo, NY 14204 856-4476

www.UkrainiansOfBuffalo.com

Kitchen open Friday 5-9 pm
Live Music first Friday every month
Book your private party now

Ad in the bulletin

If you want to advertise
Your business in the bulletin
Business card - \$100 for a year.

Бізнесова карточка
\$100.00 дол. – 52 рази до року.

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. 2400 William St.
Buffalo Cheektowaga

Thanks are extended to all Sponsors!

Become a member of Ukrainian FCU and save money with lower rates on loans, make money with higher interest on your savings, and save time with our convenient online services!

PERSONAL & BUSINESS FINANCIAL SERVICES

SAVINGS & CHECKING ACCOUNTS | SHARE CERTIFICATES | MONEY MARKET | IRA | LOANS | MORTGAGES | VISA CREDIT & DEBIT CARDS | MONEYGRAM | INTERNATIONAL AND DOMESTIC WIRE TRANSFERS | ONLINE SERVICES | NOTARY PUBLIC | TRANSLATIONS | SCHOLARSHIPS |

ПЕРСОНАЛЬНІ ТА БІЗНЕСОВІ ФІНАНСОВІ ПОСЛУГИ

ОЩАДНІ ТА ЧЕКОВІ РАХУНКИ | СЕРТИФІКАТИ | М.М. | ПЕНСІЙНІ РАХУНКИ | ПОЗИКИ | КРЕДИТИ НА НЕРУХОМІСТЬ | ПЛАТІЖНІ КАРТКИ VISA | MONEYGRAM | ГРОШОВІ ПЕРЕКАЗИ | ЕЛЕКТРОННІ ПОСЛУГИ | ПОСЛУГИ НОТАРІУСА | ПЕРЕКЛАДИ | СТИПЕНДІЇ

Buffalo Branch Ukrainian Home Dnipro 562 Genesee Street Buffalo NY 14204 (716) 847-6655 www.ukrainianfcu.org	Amherst Branch Ellicott Creek Plaza 2882 Niagara Falls Blvd Amherst NY 14228 (716) 799-8385 www.ukrainianfcu.org
Business Hours 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	Business Hours Closed Mondays , Зачинені по понеділках Tuesday - Thursday 9:30 am - 5 pm 3 вівторка по четвер Friday / П'ятниця 9:30 am - 6 pm Saturday / Субота 9 am - 1 pm

Membership subject to eligibility. Federally insured by NCUA.

Щоб довідатися більше інформації про це 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.

EURO DELI AND GIFTS
www.eurodelisausage.com



LUNCHES & SANDWICHES SERVED DAILY

For All of Your Old World Favorite Products, Just Around The Corner. Stop In & Take a Look.

Many Varieties of:

Bologna • Salami • Fresh Polish Sausage • Head Cheese • Garlic Sausage • Smoked Fish
European Beer • Kefir/Butter • Condiments • Pierogi (Homemade) - Many Varieties
Smoked Sausages • Bacon (Bozek) • Canadian Bacon • Blood Kishka (Homemade)
Polish Hams • Caviar • Kvas Drink • Cheese • European Chocolates • Pickles/Tomatoes

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

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

Are you listening to "Good Samaritan"
Ukr. Radio Program on WJL 1440 AM
Every Sunday at 2:00 PM?
Thank you for your donations!
We welcome your comments.

Чи ви слухасте нашу радіо передачу
«Милосердний Самар'янин»
Неділя, 2 год. на WJL 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
телєфони підчас Святої Літургії.

DONATIONS TO SAINT NICHOLAS

Gene Romanyshyn – \$3,000.00

N.N. (I.G.) – 1,000.00

N. N. (E.H.) – \$50.00

Thank you for your Generosity!

→ You and your family
Are cordially invited to
To our Parish's Annual
ST. NICHOLAS FEASTDAY
DINNER (Praznyk)

Today, December 17, 2017

Liturgy at 10:00 AM

Dinner immediately

Following the Liturgy

In the Church Hall.

Free will offering.

Please attend!



→ Усі запрошені на ПРАЗНИК
СВ. МИКОЛАЯ, Патрона нашої
церкви, який відбувається
сьогодні, 17 Грудня, 2017
по Св. Літургії о 10 год рано.
За добровільними датками.
Наближається кінець року і
нагода для додаткових
пожертв на потреби
нашої церкви.
Просимо взяти участь!

BOOKS, CDs, DVDs, CARDS, etc.

Oles Cheren & Lyubov Yesup,
dba Cataract Press from Parma, Ohio,
are visiting our parish next Sunday with a
large selection of UKRAINIAN BOOKS both
in English and Ukrainian, CDs, DVDs, MAPS
of UKRAINE, GREETING CARDS, JEWELRY
imported from Ukraine, MUGS, EMBROIDERY,
T-SHIRTS, SCARFS, auto MAGNETS,
and much more

The focus of their display is the Lord's
Nativity and includes CHRISTMAS CARDS,
TREE ORNAMENTS and CAROLS.

These are displayed in the church hall.

A percentage of the proceeds will be
donated to our parish. We encourage our
members and guests to take advantage of
this extraordinary opportunity.

Mark your Calendars!

Buffalo Mass Mob XXV

will be at Saint Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic
Church on Sunday, January 21st, 2018 at Noon.

This will be our 25th Mass Mob. We are very
proud of reaching this number. None of what
we have accomplished would have been
possible without the people who come to the
Mass Mobs. Thank you.

An interesting part of the history is that the
Saint Nicholas Church was originally started at
our last Mass Mob church, Saints Peter and
Paul Orthodox Church.

Buffalo Mass Mob is looking forward to our
twenty-fifth Mass Mob! We will have more
details in the coming weeks.

Зазначіть собі цю дату

З радія "Милосердний Самарянин"

Св. Миколая Чудотворця знають у цілому світі як дорослі, так і малі. Особливо очікують цього святого діти, бо знають про щедрість св. Миколая, про те, що він принесе їм дарунки. Його популярність поширилася внаслідок великого милосердя до ближніх. Але дуже важливо, аби діти знали про життя і діяльність цього святого. Це завдання батьків, учителів, вихователів, їм слід обов'язково про це подбати.

Св. Миколай народився приблизно 280 року в місті Патарі, що в Малій Азії. Був вихований у добрій християнській сім'ї та вірі. Отримав велику спадщину від батьків. Коли згодом подорожував кораблем до Єрусалиму, втихомирив молитвою бурю, що знялася на морі. Він повернув життя одному морякові, що впав з високої щогли корабля і забився. Звідки в нього була така сила? – Від Ісуса Христа, котрий також воскрешав померлих і заповів: "Хто в мене вірує, той так само діла робитиме, що їх я роблю. А й більші від них робитиме" (Йо 14, 12). Ісус воскрешав померлих і дав силу святому Миколаєві це вчинити. Коли помер Іван, єпископ Мир Ликійських, Миколая вибрали на його місце, і він став архієпископом цього міста. Як єпископ він не змінив свого життя, а продовжував допомагати бідним, багато молився, робив різні добрі діла, давав милостину. Основними його чеснотами були доброта і чуйність серця, що виявлялося в ділах милосердя. Його навіть були кинули до в'язниці, але не довелося йому отримати мученицького вінка, Господь мав для нього інші плани, котрі він успішно виконав. Великими чудами наділив його Господь за життя, а ще більшими після смерті. Тіло Миколая поховали в місті Мирі Ликійському, а 1087 року перевезли до міста Барі, що в Італії, де ці мощі перебувають до сьогодні. Люди численно прибувають туди й отримують багато різних зцілень та ласк, про що записують у спеціальну книгу.

Святі, котрі за життя жили не для себе, а для людей, після смерті залишаються духовно серед людей, продовжуючи свою богоугодну справу. Люди сприймають святих, ніби живих, посеред себе, як близьких і рідних. Святий Миколай, хоч жив далеко від нашого краю, близький і рідний нашому народові, котрий його любить, до нього молиться, співає пісні, будує церкви на його честь, називає його іменем новонароджених. Його ім'я знане в усьому світі через діла милосердя.

Згадаймо тут про блаженного єпископа нашого краю Миколая Чернецького, котрого Господь прославив через отримання багатьма людьми різних ласк за його

посередництвом. Колись люди ходили на його гріб у Львові, на Личаківський цвинтар, де він був похований, а тепер приходять до храму святого Йосафата, що у Львові. Тут ті, хто з вірою й молитвою приходять у різних потребах, отримують оздоровлення, зцілення, вилікування від алкогольної залежності й багато іншого добра. Цей блаженний єпископ був благородної вдачі, багато терпів переслідувань за життя, але прощав ворогам, котрі знущалися з нього. Розповідають, що коли він перебував на допитах у катівнях КДБ, один зі слідчих жорстоко копав його ногами, а він обізвався: "Сину, за що мене б'єш?" Це лагідне запитання так вплинуло на ката, що той пізніше навернувся, – дивувався, що єпископ назвав його сином. Можливо, цей чоловік ніколи не чув такого щирого вислову – "сину"? Бачимо, що навіть коли хтось до нас ставиться з ненавистю і знуцанням, не можна взаємно палати помстою і ненавистю. Правдивий християнин прощає і любить, тому що так навчав Ісус Христос: "Любіть ворогів ваших і моліться за тих, що гонять вас" (Мт 5, 44). Бачите, в чому полягає християнська чеснота й праведне християнське життя! Тільки той може називатися правдивим християнином, хто вміє любити і прощати, і то всім, а не тільки окремим особам. Можливо, трапляються люди, що голосно заявляють про свою християнську належність, але коли бракує любові і прощення, то гучні твердження пусті, неправдиві і смішні. У цьому можна не переконатися тут, на землі, але в другому житті, коли воно почнеться після нашої смерті, усе стане на місце. Послухаймо науки святого апостола Павла: "Не обманюйте себе! Ані розпусники, ані перелюбники, ані розгнущдані, ані мужоложники, ані злодії, ані зажерливі, ані п'яниці, ані злоріки, ані грабіжники – царства Божого не успадкують" (1 Кр 6, 9). І не допоможе ані влада, ні гроші, ані здоров'я. Спішімося випереджувати одні одних прощенням і любов'ю, тому що іншої дороги для вічного щастя не існує.

Хай життя святих стане прикладом для нашого життя. Живімо так, як вони жили: якщо вони могли любити і прощати, то й ми можемо подібно чинити.

Молімося до наших святих мучеників, преподобних, блаженних, апостолів і пророків, аби допомагали нам протистояти злу будь-якої форми, що бажає поглинути нас.

Хай Пресвята Богородиця, наша небесна Мати, та святий отець Миколай бережуть нас від усякого зла, духовного і тілесного.



Glory be to Jesus Christ! Glory for ever!
Слава Ісусу Христу! Слава на Віки!

- KITCHEN is open every Friday.
- Thank you for your patronage.
Thanks are extended to all volunteers!
- Coffee Hour - Usually Every Sunday after Liturgy in Church Hall, so please join us downstars. Thank you!

Until we meet next Sunday...

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!

CHURCH BULLETIN is published weekly.
Deadline for information is Friday Evening.
ЦЕРКОВНИЙ ВІСНИК видається тижнево.
Інформації подавати до П'ятниці вечора.

SAINT NICHOLAS UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

УКРАЇНСЬКА КАТОЛИЦЬКА ЦЕРКВА СВЯТОГО МИКОЛАЯ

(під опікою Пречистої
Діви Марії Одигітриї)

Parish E-Mail: stnbuffalo@gmail.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
Saturday - 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 ліжниці
або приковані до ліжка!**

FROM THE LETTER OF FR. ROBERT

As I write these lines I can't help but feel like the Christmas-Theophany celebration is approaching so rapidly... Perhaps is the fact that the Fore feast of the Nativity falls on a Sunday...Isn't it difficult to go through the stores listening to Christmas music, seen all the decorations and try to keep some sobriety, some spirit of preparation for Christmas? As I preached last week what the world is doing at the moment is a pseudo celebration of Christmas, it is a counterfeit celebration... It is about gifts, money, pleasures, excitement, alcohol, parties etc. By some mistake my DVR recorded a so call "Christmas" special this week. For beginners' the artist had no voice to sing... it was disappointing from a musical point of view. With a painfully monotonous tone of voice the artist did try to sing. It was good that she had a couple of good singers that had a small part in the show, they really saved the day. I was tempted to turn off the TV so many times, however since it was a 2017 show, I watched most of it. It was so sad. In the so called "Christmas" special, there was nothing about Christ, nothing whatsoever. No crib scene, no manger, no star, no magi... everything appealing to sensuality and materialism, mainly gifts. There was no church scenes, nothing about God and His only son given to us for the forgiveness of our sins, not even Silent Night... It really saddened me, a whole show of Christmas without Christ!

The truth is that it is not easy to follow a penitential spirit when you are being bombarded by so such noises and imagery. I was reading this week one of my favorites books: "A Byzantine Rite Liturgical Year" by Julian J. Katrij, OSBM. There I found an interesting note: "The Synod of Lviv (1891) mitigates the Christmas fast somewhat, allowing dairy products on Monday, Wednesday and Friday and during the remaining four weeks meat, but it directs the priest to recite Psalm 50 and for the laity five "Our Father's and five "Hail Mary's" before the noon meal and before supper." I assume the number five is for the five wounds of Christ, but I am not sure, or it could be $3 + 2 = 5$ as in the Holy Trinity and the two natures of Christ, the human and the divine... Maybe someone reading these lines can shed some light. I hope this might help your preparation for Christmas.

This coming Sunday is the Sunday of the Holy Forefathers. It is the Sunday that falls between December 11 and December 17 or the second Sunday before the Nativity of Our Lord. The ancestors of Christ according to the flesh are remembered on this Sunday of the Fast of

St. Phillip. That is all the great Fathers and Mothers and Prophets of the Old Testament, starting with Adam, Abraham, the righteous Sarah, Isaac and Jacob including the Holy Prophets St. Elias and St. Daniel and concluding with the Holy Prophet Zechariah (father of St. John the Baptist), St. Joachim and St. Ann, the Forerunner St. John the Baptist and The Holy Mother of God the Ever Virgin Mary. These are the ones that lived before the Law and under the Law, especially the Holy Patriarch Abraham to whom God said: "... in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

The following Sunday is the Sunday of the Fathers, which is the Sunday before the Nativity (December 18-24), this year as we know it falls on December 24 itself. On this day the Church honors all those who were well-pleasing to God from all ages, from Adam to St. Joseph (the Betrothed of the Mother of God); it includes those mentioned in the genealogy of St. Luke's gospel chapter 3 verses 23 to 38. The holy prophets and prophetesses are also remembered on this day, especially the Prophet Daniel and the three holy youths. The previous Sunday, the Sunday of the Forefathers the Church commemorated all the righteous of the Old Testament who awaited the coming of Christ. This day we remember all those in the Old Testament who were related to Christ by blood and those who spoke of his birth as a man. This Sunday is part of the Fore feast of the Nativity which begins on Dec. 20.

Well I hope you all have a great few more days of this preparatory time that will lead us to a meaningful Christmas celebration. Don't forget to go to Confession before Christmas. I am available before each service this week to hear your confession or you can make an appointment with me. About services for Christmas, like every year we will have on the 24 of December at 10PM our services, followed by caroling and/or the Christmas play ending with some more caroling and your favorite cookies. Yes we will have your favorite cookies, how? Well you will bring some of your favorite cookies for yourself and some extra to share...

Again the box is empty and we need to pay bills, please in this season when we celebrate giving, because our God gave us the gift of His only Son for the forgiveness of our sins, be generous with our parish sooner than later...

When a chance comes to help someone, the temptation is not to say no, is to say: later. When the opportunity is here to help gather with Christ, the real temptation is not to refuse such an opportunity, the real temptation is to just say, not now but later. (Fr. Robert)

From "Good Samaritan" Ukr. Radio pr.

The Christmas Season is a time for giving thanks. A time to celebrate with family and friends, not just sharing gifts beneath a Christmas tree or seated around a dinner table, Christmas is also present in the hearts of those we choose to serve. We are thankful to Christ when we feed those who are hungry, when we clothe those that are naked, when we care for those that are sick. The Christmas season is so much more than tinsel on the trees or stockings stuffed with presents; Christmas is more about Bethlehem, and the child born in the manger. Christmas is about coming to the Church and being part of a wondrous celebration that has been remembered for nearly 2000 years. It is about our salvation in the making, about a single star that steered the wise men, about a carpenter who took a wife that was filled with the Holy Spirit. About a virgin birth, that would one day lead to a crucifixion - and all because the Lord was willing to humble Himself for you and for me. As we prepare for this Holy Season, we need to keep in the forefront of our minds the babe born in a manger, the child led away from the wrath of King Herod, the Son of God who was born to bring us the gift of salvation. The Christmas season is also made special by the traditions we share with our family and friends, the ways in which we keep ourselves connected to one another and to our faith.

During this time of Advent, we celebrate the feasts of Saints whose services to the Church are outstanding. For example, the apostle St. Andrew, or St. John of Damascus the great Syrian doctor, or St. Ambrose the Bishop of Milan. But one could say that none of the saints of Advent hold as high a place in popular devotion as does St. Nicholas. Among the various feasts of the Saints whose memory we commemorate during the Church Year, St. Nicholas merits special consideration. The Church itself surrounds his feast with a special solemnity. And meanwhile, we know almost nothing about him. The incidents of his life for which he is best known do not belong to history but rather to legend. The legends attached to the name of Nicholas always represent him as engaged in bringing help to some urgent case of human distress. A large number of miracles are attributed to St. Nicholas as well as striking acts of charity.

The legend of St. Nicholas came to our native Ukraine along with the Christian faith during the 10th century. Songs about St. Nicholas are among the earliest examples of Ukrainian poetry.

There are a great number of legends telling us about the life of this pious man who noticed whenever a human being was in distress and tried to help wherever he could. In the Cathedral Church of St. Sophia in Kiev, there is an icon of St. Nicholas, so called, "the Wet". This icon became famous in

the eleventh century because of a special miracle. A man with his wife and small son were returning from a feast day celebration on their way back to Kiev, traveling along the Dnipro River by boat. Suddenly a storm broke out and the boy fell out of the boat into the great river. Several days later, they found him alive and healthy, merely wet from the water, and at his feet rested this icon of St. Nicholas. The icon henceforth received its name from this incident. There are several other legends about St. Nicholas. He once gave back to an elderly woman the full use of her crippled arm. St. Nicholas once saved three generals who had unjustly been thrown into prison and were awaiting execution. There is also a legend that the bishop of Myra helped a family with three daughters. They were so poor that their father was about to sell them to a landlord to save them from starving to death. St. Nicholas heard of their need and decided to help them. He took three bags filled with gold and tossed one bag each night through a window into their living room. The daughters were overjoyed to find the bags of gold, and their father who on the third night discovered it was Bishop Nicholas, knelt down and thanked him for his generosity and kindness.

One of the most beloved legends of St. Nicholas occurred when the town of Myra was in the grip of a cruel famine. When a boat full of wheat that was headed for Rome entered the harbor of Myra the holy bishop asked the captain for grain. But the captain refused to hand it out. St. Nicholas promised that not a single bit of wheat would be missing when the boat reached Rome. The captain finally relented and the crew carried the wheat into the town of Myra to feed the starving people. When the grain was later weighed in Rome, miraculously it was found that the correct amount of wheat had indeed reached the city. The grain saved Myra and everybody was full of praise for St. Nicholas. Our Holy Father Nicholas gives us beautiful examples of a living, active, and sacrificial love of God and neighbor. His love for neighbor is universal, all embracing, and ready to assist in every necessity. St. Nicholas saw Christ in his neighbor and that is why he quickly responded and generously hastened to help anyone in need.

It was just a small, white envelope placed among the branches of their Christmas tree. No name, no identification, no inscription. But it has peeked through the branches of the family Christmas tree for the past 10 years or so, and it all began when Martha's husband Mike, started disliking Christmas. Oh, not the true meaning of Christmas, but the commercial aspects of it's overspending and frantic running around at the last minute to get a tie for Uncle Harry or the dusting powder for Grandma. And all the gifts given in desperation, because you couldn't think of anything else to

give. And knowing Mike felt this way, Martha decided one year to bypass the usual shirts, sweaters, ties and so forth. She reached for something even more special, just for Mike. But the inspiration for such a well-spirited gift came in an unusual way. Mike and Martha's 12 year old son Kevin was wrestling at junior level that year with the school he attended. Shortly before Christmas, there was a non-league match against a team sponsored by an inner-city church! These youngsters, dressed in sneakers so ragged that shoestrings seemed to be the only thing holding them together, presented a sharp contrast to Kevin's team, in their spiffy blue and gold uniforms and sparkling new wrestling shoes. As the match began, Martha was alarmed to see that the other team was wrestling without headgear. It was a protective necessity that this team could obviously not afford. Well, Kevin's team won every match and took every weight class metal. Yet one could not help but notice that as the boys from the other team got up from the mat, they still swaggered around in their tatters with false bravado, and a kind of street pride that wouldn't acknowledge defeat. Mike, who was seated beside Martha, shook his head sadly, "I wish just one of them could have won," he said. "They have a lot of potential, but losing like this could take the heart right out of them." Martha knew how much Mike loved kids, all kids, and he knew them well, having coached little league sports. And that's when Martha's inspiration first came, with the perfect idea for Mike's Christmas gift. That afternoon, Martha went to a local sporting goods store and bought an assortment of wrestling headgear and shoes, and sent them anonymously to the inner-city church. And on Christmas Eve, Martha placed a white envelope on the family tree, with a note inside telling Mike what she had done - and that this was his Christmas gift from her. Mike's smile was the brightest thing about Christmas that year and in many succeeding years to come. For each Christmas, Martha followed the same tradition. One year sending a group of handicapped youngsters to a hockey game. Another year sending donations to a pair of elderly brothers whose home had burned to the ground just a week before Christmas. And the list of good intentions went on and on. The envelope became the highlight of every Christmas. It was always the last thing opened on Christmas morning, and their three children, all ignoring their new toys, would stand with wide-eyed anticipation as their dad lifted the envelope from the tree to reveal its contents. As their children grew older, the white envelope never lost its allure. But the story doesn't end here. Several years later when their kids were already out of college, Martha and the children lost Mike to cancer. And when Christmas rolled around that year, Martha was still so wrapped in grief that she barely got their tree up. Yet,

Christmas Eve found Martha still placing an envelope on the Christmas tree, and in the morning when she awoke - it was joined by three more envelopes. All white, and carefully placed on their family Christmas tree. For each of the children, unbeknown to the others, had also placed an envelope on the tree for their dad. Mike's spirit, like the Christmas Spirit, will always be with them. For somewhere, among the branches of that Christmas tree, stuffed in tiny white envelopes - Mike, Martha and their children found the true meaning of Christmas. Not the one that comes wrapped in pretty bows and beautifully arranged boxes, but the Spirit of Christmas that comes alive when we truly give to those in need!

The birth of our Lord and Savior should keep all of us cognizant of the many things we have to be thankful for, and the spirit of St. Nicholas gives us the example we can follow: of loving God and neighbor during this most blessed of seasons. My brothers and sisters, we need to give kindly to those in need; we need to be merciful to the sick and compassionate to the lonely, generous to the poor and forgiving of all our brothers and sisters. For only then can we say that we have kept the spirit of St. Nicholas alive and the birth of the Christ child thriving in our hearts! As we enter this final week before Christmas, may the grace of our Lord reunite each of us with one another, through the bonds of love and generosity! Before the song of the angels is stilled, before the star in the sky is gone, before the wise men have journeyed home, before the shepherds are back with their flocks, the work of Christmas has already begun. To find the lost, to heal the broken, to feed the hungry, to shelter the homeless, to clothe the naked, to rebuild the nations, to welcome Jesus into the hearts of all our brothers and sisters.

----- From last Bulletin: (Photo No. 45)



No. 46. From the archives: Anybody you know? 3 apxibib.



The Ukrainian American Youth
Association of Buffalo, New York
Lesia Ukrainka Branch
is pleased to announce their annual



Ukrainian New Year's MALANKA 2018

Saturday, January 13, 2018

Ukrainian Cultural Center "DNIPRO"
562 Genesee St, Buffalo, NY 14204

Come one come all to a night of great music,
dancing, food & friends!!

MUSIC provided by "Pawuk Bros" of Rochester

Tickets sales starting December 1, 2017
\$40 per person – adult / \$75 per couple
Students (ages 13-20) \$30

Includes: All Night Buffet

For More Information, Questions, Tickets &
Reservations Please contact:

Ann Serediuk (716) 316-1051
Euro Deli (716) 630-0130

The Ukrainian Cultural Center "Dnipro" interior
is a Smoke-Free Environment.

The New York State Liquor Control Authority
Strictly Prohibits the Bringing in of Any Outside
Alcoholic Beverages

ОСЕРЕДОК СУМ
ім. ЛЕСІ УКРАЇНКИ в Бофало Н.Й.
Влаштовує



ТРАДИЦІЙНУ МАЛАНКУ 2018

яка відбудеться
в суботу 13-го січня 2018 р.

В залях Українського Дому "Дніпро"
при 562 Дженесі вул., Бофало Н.Й.

Щиро запрошуємо Українську громаду
міста Бофало і околиць до участі.

До танців приграватиме оркестра:
"Pawuk Bros"

Білеті: \$40.00 для дорослих / \$75 від пари
\$30.00 для студентів (13-20)

Включає: буфет

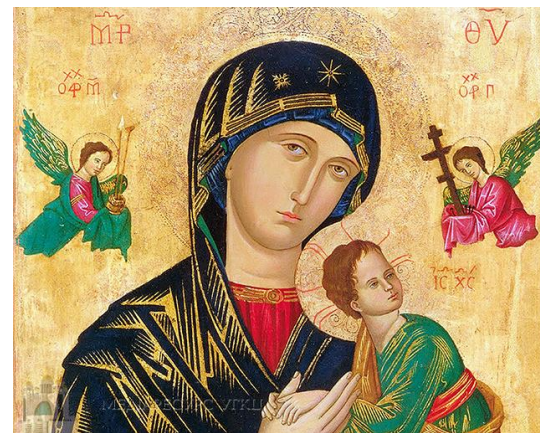
До замовлення білетів:

Ганя Середюк (716) 316-1051
Euro Deli (716) 630-0130

КУРИТИ ЗАБОРОНЕНО
В ЗАЛІ "ДНІПРА"

КОМІСІЯ КОНТРОЛЯ АЛЬКОГОЛІВ в Н.Й.
ЗАБОРОНЯЄ ПРИНОСИТИ ВЛАСНІ
АЛЬКОГОЛЬНІ НАПИТКИ

В УГКЦ встановили свято Матері Божої Неустанної Помочі



Зважаючи на поширення серед вірних Укра-
їнської Греко-Католицької Церкви культу Ма-
тері Божої Неустанної Помочі, Синод Єпис-
копів УГКЦ, що відбувся у Львові (Брю-
ховичах) 3–12 вересня 2017 року, встановив
свято Матері Божої Неустанної Помочі та пос-
тановив його святкування в першу неділю
липня.

Як розповідається у тексті Декрету, 11
грудня 1865 року папа Пій IX передав оригі-
нал чудотворної ікони Матері Божої Неустан-
ної Помочі Згромадженню отців редемптор-
истів. Завдяки праведному митрополиту
Андреєві Шептицькому та місійній праці ре-
демптористів, яких він запросив до України у
1913 році, Матір Божа Неустанної Помочі,
прославлена в однойменній іконі, стала відо-
мою і в нашому народі.

Відтоді на її честь було зведено багато хра-
мів, у 1927 році засновано Братство Матері
Божої Неустанної Помочі, видано наукові
праці, публікації, зокрема відомий твір бл.
Василія Величковського «Історія чудотвор-
ної ікони Матері Божої Неустанної Помочі» та
написано літургійні тексти.

New feast of Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Was established at our Synod
The Day of celebration: 1st Sunday in July



Оригіональна ікона (перед рестврацією)
Original icon of Our Lady of Perpetual Help
(before restauration)

Сьогодні, святкуючи 150-літній ювілей вша-
нування Матері Божої Неустанної Помочі, мо-
жемо побачити її ікону в храмах різних кон-
фесій, а також у численних домівках вірян в
Україні та поза її межами.

Патріаршій літургійній комісії Синод Єпис-
копів УГКЦ доручив опрацювати богослуж-
бові тексти цього свята.

Цей декрет набирає чинності через два мі-
сяці від дня його електронного опублікуван-
ня на офіційному веб-сайті УГКЦ.

Департамент інформації УГКЦ

Tia Walker, in her book, **The Inspired Caregiver: Finding Joy While Caring for Those You Love**, writes, “*To care for those who once cared for us is one of the highest honors.*” This is what the Sisters Servants have tried to do for many years and hope to continue to do for more persons. The following details will help you to understand the needs of the facility and how these will be met, with your help.

We are a generous and caring people. Those who came before us built the churches, schools and other organizations and institutions that we enjoy today. They did this in addition to supporting their families and other causes in our homeland of Ukraine. Today, we continue to support our homeland in all they need. This support is the wonderful gift that we are able to provide because we live in the United States of America. What will we do for our future generations here in the United States? Will we also continue to build the institutions that our descendants to be able to enjoy?

Please help the Sisters to continue to be a voice for our elderly and to provide a place for our elderly and infirmed to live with dignity and to continue to practice their faith and traditions during the final years of their lives.

The theologian and author, Henri Nouwen, wrote, “When we honestly ask ourselves which person in our lives means the most to us, we often find that it is those who, instead of giving advice, solutions, or cures, have chosen rather to share our pain and touch our wounds with a warm and tender hand.”

With your support the Sisters Servants can continue to share the joy and pain of our most vulnerable population; to hold their hands and listen to their stories; to pray for and with them when they most need these prayers; and help them to feel the tender touch of the love to God in their lives.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Sister Michele Yakymovitch, SSMI
Sister Michele Yakymovitch, SSMI
Administrator



**Our
Sisters
Servants
need our help
in taking
good care
for our
elderly
brothers
and sisters!
Thank You
for Your
Generosity!**

The faithful of the Stamford Eparchy have always distinguished themselves by their good and generous hearts. I encourage everyone to aid the Sisters Servants in their good works with prayer and financial support for this very worthwhile project.

Sincerely in Christ,
+ Paul Chomnycky, OSBM
+Paul Chomnycky, OSBM
Eparchy of Stamford



Honoring and caring
for the elderly



since 1942

Dear Pastors, clergy and parishioners,

God is pleased by every act of mercy, because in the brother or sister that we assist, we recognize the face of God, which no one can see (cf. Jn 1:18). – Pope Francis

St. Joseph's Home is an Adult Care Facility owned and operated by the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate in Sloatsburg, NY. It is the only Ukrainian Catholic Facility of its kind on the East Coast. We are currently licensed to care for 31 residents and have a long, ongoing waiting list.

As you may already be aware, we, the Sisters Servants, have been trying to raise the funds required to build an addition with resident rooms and the necessary facilities to serve 19 more residents. This addition entails much more than simply adding resident rooms; it necessitates, among other changes, adding laundry facilities, nursing offices, furnaces, new water and septic systems, updates in the security system, enlarging and rebuilding the dining room, sitting rooms and the chapel. Furnishing the rooms and other facilities are also necessary. The cost of this major project is seven million dollars. With this addition, we can accommodate persons with greater needs because we will be licensed as an Assisted Living Facility.

Through the generosity of many benefactors, we have been able to pay for necessary fees prior to building, i.e. acquiring permits and licenses, surveying, architectural plans and blueprints and many other necessities. Groundbreaking and the actual building will require much of the remaining funds.

It has been the dream and mission of the Sisters to be able to enable our elderly to live their remaining years in an atmosphere of dignity and respect, no matter what their needs may be. For over 75 years, the Sisters have provided and opportunity for many elderly and infirm priests, religious and lay people to share their lives with other residents who speak their primary language and, often, have shared their experiences; to worship in the Ukrainian Church that has been their strength throughout their lives; and to receive the personal care that they are no longer able to provide for themselves. They have been provided with activities aimed at helping them to continue to exercise their minds and bodies, physicians who make regular visits to the home so that they do not need to travel, home cooked meals, the celebration of holiday traditions and the opportunity to attend the Divine Liturgy daily.

PO 8-125 Sister Servants Lane
Sloatsburg, NY 10974-0008
phone 845-753-2555 fax 845-753-6910
e-mail stjosephshome@verizon.net
srmicheley75@aol.com