



At right: fr. Yuriy Kasyanov, Ukr. Orthodox Church



Roman Omecinskyj & Maria Sedlarczuk



Сердечна подяка Українській Кредитній Спілці «Дніпро» за спонсорування нашого Празничного Обіду, 16 грудня 2012 р. Нехай Господь благословить!
Thank you, Ukrainian Home Dnipro FCU for sponsoring St. Nicholas Feast Day Dinner. May the Lord richly bless you!

SAINT NICHOLAS UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



УКРАЇНСЬКА КАТОЛИЦЬКА ЦЕРКВА СВЯТОГО МИКОЛАЯ

**Nº
52**

**ПІД ОПІКОЮ
ПРЕЧИСТОЇ ДІВИ
МАРІЇ ОДІГІТРІЇ
UNDER THE
PROTECTION OF
MOTHER OF GOD**



CHURCH BULLETIN

**December 23 – 2012 – 23 Грудня
ЦЕРКОВНИЙ ВІСНИК**

Христос Раждається! Славіте!



**Christ is Born! Let us glorify Him!
Merry Christmas! Веселих Свят!**

Extraordinary and wonderful mystery

St. John Chrysostom in one of his Christmas sermons extols the mystery of the Nativity of Christ with these words:

“I see an extraordinary and wonderful mystery: the shepherds fill my ears with sound, singing not a song of the desert but a heavenly hymn. The angels sing, the archangels’ praise, the Cherubim implore, the Seraphim extol, and all celebrate, seeing God on earth and man in heaven, according to the love of God toward man. Today, Bethlehem became Heaven. Instead of stars it received the singing angels, and instead of the sun it contained the unspeakable Son of truth. Do not ask how this can be, for whenever God wills, the order of nature yields – that the virgin gave birth to him, that I know, and that God gave birth to him in time, that I believe, but the manner of giving birth I learned to reverence in silence. Is there anything that could equal this Feast of Nativity?”

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

4:30 PM Int. of Dmytro & Dolores
Baranycky (ОЧСУ і ОЖ-ОЧСУ)

Dec. 23: S. Bef. Christmas–Н. пер. Р. **Г5**

12:00 PM. For Parishioners-За Парохіян

Christmas Eve - Святий Вечір

Monday, Dec. 24 – Пон., 24 Грудня

9:30 AM Св. Василя – St. Basil

10:00 PM Great Compline – Вел. Пов.

11:00 PM Christmas Lit. – Різдвяна Л.

CHRISTMAS – РІЗДВО Г.Н.І.Х.

Tuesday, Dec. 25 – Вів., 25 Грудня

12:00 PM +Metr. Joseph Shmondiuk

Synaxis of B.V.M. – Собор ПДМ

Wed., December 26 – Сер., 26 Грудня

9:30 AM Health of Roman Kobryn
(Ihor Gill)

St. Stephen First M. - Св. Степан

Thu., Dec. 27 – Чет., 27 Грудня

9:30 AM +Andrew Kopnak
(Mary Ann DuBois) 40 d.

Fri., Dec. 28 – П'ятниця, 28 Грудня

5:00 PM + 40 . .
()

Sat., Dec. 29 – Субота, 29 Грудня

9:00 AM + -
(,)

4:30 PM +Olga Belmega (Rose Serediuk)

Dec. 30: S. aft. Christmas–Н. пер. Р. **Г6**

12:00 PM. For Parishioners-За Парохіян

Eternal Light burns for
+Dmytro Kolotylo
Requ. By Jagodzinski Family

ПОР'ЯДОК СВ. ЛІТУРГІЙ

23 Грудня: 29 Н. По Зісл. Св. Д. **Гл. 4**

10:00 р. +Михайло Блендоногий
(родина)

30 Грудня: 30 Н. По Зісл. Св. Д. **Гл. 5**

10:00 р. +Др. Михайло Лоза,
+Наталія й +Іван Фіглюс
(Др. Уляна Лоза)

Вічне Світло в честь П.Д.М. горить
за Прославу Сл. Божого
Патріярха Йосифа Сліпого

Patriarch Josyf Slipyj

Today, Satur-
day, December
22, 2012 after
the 4:30 PM

Liturgy a pro-
gram in Eng-
lish with 15
minute talk
about Patri-
arch Joseph
by Roman

Kuzminsky, and a power point
presentation about Patriarch Joseph
and St. Sophia in Rome, the cath-
edral he built. A documentary about
the life of Patriarch Joseph with
English subtitles is also available.
We realize that this is a holiday
weekend and you are busy, but con-
sider attending. This year is 120th
Anniversary of his birth.



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.buszkafuneralhomeinc.com


Our Church Web-Page Is:
<http://www.stnbuffalo.com>

Buffalo Community Web-Page Is:
<http://www.ukrainiansofbuffalo.com>

Please Support our Sponsors

Підтримаймо наших спонзорів

MICT MEEST



1550
William Street
Buffalo, NY 14206
Tel.: 895-1404

Wilhelmina E. & Janine Klimeczko
Michael A. Klimeczko, Licensed Directors

Pietszak

FUNERAL HOME
and Orłowski-Pietszak Funeral Home

(716) 852-4499

2400 William St.
Cheektowaga, NY 14206

806 Clinton St.
Buffalo, NY 14210



Kuhn's Monuments, Inc.
(ROLAND J. KUHN)

ASK FOR TOM

2398 GENESEE ST.
BUFFALO, N.Y. 14225

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

1962-2012



**Найширші побажання Божого
Благословення для всіх парафіян
Українських церков надсилає
Українська Кредитна Спілка
«ДНІПРО»**

“СВІЙ ДО СВОГО ПО СВОЄ”

**Please use our
product & services**

Free checking!
Competitive rates on Loans, Visa Credit
cards, CD's and savings account
IRA Traditional and Roth accounts
ATM Visa Debit cards
Direct Deposit and Online Banking
Free Life Insurance (some restrictions apply)
Domestic & International Wires,
Translations, Notary Public

Join now and become a member of
our Ukrainian Credit Union Family!

562 Genesee St., Buffalo, NY 14204
(716) 847-6655 (716) 847-6988
www.uhdfcu.com info@uhdfcu.com

Hours of operations:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 10:00am-5:00pm
Wednesday 10:00am-2:00pm;
Friday 10:00-7:00pm

St. Joseph School for Boys Bookstore
Ronda Doucette: (574) 333-3420

Specializing in Eastern Christian Gifts and Books
www.easterngiftshop.com
saintjoseph@roadrunner.com

DONATIONS TO ST. NICHOLAS

Gene Romanyshyn – \$2500.00
Joseph Hriczko Post – \$100.00
UNWLA Branch 49 – \$50.00
Holy Trinity Ukrainian
Orthodox Church – 50.00
Roman Omecinskyj,
FCU Rochester – 50.00

Memorial Donation To the Church

IMO Alex Kurlak
Carol Mainoff – \$20.00
IMO Nicholas Sywak
Fred & Vera Berant – \$50.00
IMO Andrew Kopnak
Shelley Kayne & Staff at
Millard Fillmore
Surgery Center – \$40.00

Donations Towards Coffee Hour Coffee Hour Benefits – Yearly Com- munication Assessment Fee

Eva Kowtalo
Dmytro & Dolores Baranyckyj

CHURCH ENVELOPES

Are ready - Please pick them up from the
tables in the church. Please report to the
rectory any problems.

Церковні Ковертки

Приготовані. Просимо взяти їх зі столів
у церкві. Якщо не можете знайти, або які
небудь інші проблеми з ковертками –
просимо повідомити



*Spend the start of 2013
with friends!*

If you have no plans this

New Year's Eve

Celebrate with us!

St. Nicholas

New Year's Eve Celebration

December 31, 2012

8:00PM- ?????

Bring a snack to share

Pizza & Wings

Cost \$10.00

If you are coming Call:

Elaine Nowadly – 867-0981

Please Respond

By December 30th



UHD FCU HOLIDAY HOURS

WE WILL BE CLOSED ON:

MONDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2012

CHRISTMAS EVE DAY

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2012 CHRISTMAS DAY

MONDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2012 NEW YEAR'S EVE

TUESDAY, JANUARY 1, 2013 NEW YEAR'S DAY

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!!

WORLD YOUTH DAY

Eparchy of Stamford is planning to parti-
cipate in the upcoming World Youth Day in
Rio, Brazil, on 23-28 of July, 2013. Info:

<http://www.rio2013.com/en>

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



МАЛАНКА 2013

Saturday, January
19th, 2013

Ukrainian Cultural
Center "DNIPRO"
562 Genesee St, Buf-
falo, NY 14204

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

MUSIC provided by "Ron Cahute & Burya"

Cocktail Hour, Dinner, Zabava, Midnight Buf-
fet, & Champagne toast

Or come just for the Zabava

Tickets sales from November 1st, 2012 thru Jan-
uary 11th, 2013

Dinner & Zabava \$50 per person adults

Dinner & Zabava for students (ages 13-18) \$30

***Dinner tickets will be pre-sale only

NO dinner tickets will be available at the
door!***

Zabava only \$30 per person

(no pre-sale necessary)

Cocktails: 6:30pm Dinner 7:15pm

Zabava: 9:00pm There will be a Mid-
night Buffet & Midnight Toast

For More Information, Questions, Ticket & Reservations

Nicole Grega (716) 903-4777 or [ukenik-
kje29@gmail.com](mailto:ukenik-kje29@gmail.com)

Ann Serediuk (716) 316-1051

The Ukrainian Cultural Center "Dnipro" interi-
or is a Smoke-Free Environment

The New York State Liquor Control Authority
Strictly Prohibits The Bringing in of Any Out-
side Alcoholic Beverages

ОСЕРЕДОК СУМ
ім. ЛЕСІ УКРАЇНКИ
в Бофало Н.Й.
Влаштує
ТРАДИЦІЙНУ МАЛАНКУ 2013



яка відбудеться
в суботу 19-го січня 2013 р.
В залах Українського Дому
"Дніпро"
при 562 Дженесі вул. Бофало Н.Й.

Щиро запрошуємо Українську
громаду міста Бофало і околиць
до участі.

До танців приграватиме
оркестра: "Роман Козут і Буря"

Білету на Вечерю і Забаву на
продаж від 1-го листопада 2012 р.
до 11-го січня 2013 р.

\$50.00 для дорослих \$30.00 для
студентів (13-18)

Білету не продаємо при дверях.

Білету тільки на Забаву \$30.00
при дверях

Коктейль 6:30 в Забава 9:00 в.
Вечеря 7:15 в. Зустріч
нового року – шампанський тост

До замовлення білетів:

Никол Грегга (716) 903-4777 -
ukenikkie29@gmail.com

Ганя Середюк (716) 316-1051

КУРИТИ ЗАБОРОНЕНО В ЗАЛІ "ДНІПРА"

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

UPCOMING
CHURCH
EVENTS

Просимо звернути
увагу на дати:



Sunday Coffee Hours: If anyone would like to
volunteer to host a Sunday, please contact
Elaine, Dora, 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!
- Dec. 16 – Our Feast Day – Liturgy at noon.

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 Gas. 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!

Можна нею також 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
УКРАЇНЬКА 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

Vacation - Вакації

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!

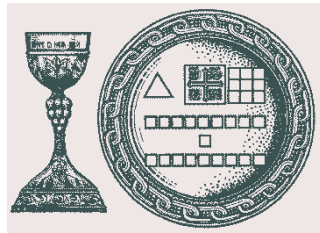
З радія "Милосердний Самарянин"

...Посеред усіх негараздів у нас живе надія, і це великий дар. Ми знаємо, що можемо любити, що можемо все оживляти завдяки співстражданню нашого Отця, яке наповнює наше серце. То чому ж, отримуючи в дар стільки любові, ми не складаємо подяку? Якщо ми про це забуваємо, якщо не подивляємо безнастанно на ті дари Божі, то це тому, що ми переповнені самі собою і схожі на тих багатців, якими в часи Ісуса вважали себе євреї. Тому вони Його не прийняли. Коли ми не дякуємо, в нас нема покорі, ми не подивляємо того, що живемо на світі не з власної заслуги, а лише завдяки щедрій Божій любові. Направду убогі люди чутливі до найменшого дару, тоді, як ситі світу цього вже навіть не звертають ні на що уваги. Ті, що страждають, зворушені найменшою увагою до себе. Задумаймося, наскільки в стосунках з Ісусом ми мали би подивляти Його любов, бути зворушеними тими численними знаками уваги з Його боку, чутливими до Його численних дарів!

Подяка має виходити з глибини нашого серця. А глибина нашого серця, серця нової людини, має бути наповнена покорою, тобто зачудуванням від того, що ми існуємо та отримуємо прощення завдяки превеликій Божій милості. Подяка – це живий вияв нашої покорі. Вона мала б наповнювати наше серце аж до коренів, якими не були б клопоти, втома, страждання, що обтяжують нас. Адже основою тієї «нової людини», про яку говорив апостол Павло (див. 1 Кор. 5, 17), є, власне, така покора з довірою, адже ми люблені, то ж можемо все пережити в любові.

Ісус не перестав цілювати наші рани, навіть ті, що набагато важчі за проказу тих десятиох. Ісус несе на своєму тілі наші рани, наші каліцтва, наші гріхи, то ж нехай вони стануть для нас джерелом подяки, зачудування, щоб ми промовили: «Добрий Ти,

Господи, і лише Ти твориш чудеса!». До того ж, щотижня Євхаристія, яка є актом подяки, відновлює наші серця, наповнює їх. Від початку до кінця Божественної літургії ми приносимо подяку Господу, переживаємо її у своєму серці, вона стає нашим диханням. Престіл, до якого звертаємо свій погляд упродовж Божественної літургії, мав би постійно нагадувати нам про те, що він символізує гріб, тобто місце нашої смерті, яку Господь узяв на себе, а отже, місце нашого воскресення. Ісус живий, і ми живі у Ньому... «Так, Господи, Ти моє воскресення і моє життя!».



Нехай євхаристійна молитва, яку ми називаємо анафорою, розбуджує в нас благодарення, як гуслі будять ранній світанок (див. Пс. 108, 3),

щоб ми оспівували чуда, які Господь учинив для нас і для всіх людей.

І коли в анамнезі я промовлятиму від вашого імені, «споминаючи цю спасенну заповідь і все, що ради нас сталося ...», замислімося над словами: «Все, що ради нас сталося». Бо ця пам'ять серця переростає в подяку, в «Євхаристію»... «Все, що ради нас сталося!».

Цю «жертву хвалення» ми можемо безперервно переживати в молитві серця. Благодарення має переповнювати нас – що не відбувалося б, якими не були б наші біди, так, як чаша переповнюється Кров'ю Господа і дає нам життя. Все в Ісусі – благодать, отримана в дар від Отця, і благодарення, принесене Отцеві. Завдяки Йому наше благодарення сходить на наших ближніх і дає їм життя.

Апостол Павло каже: «Будьте вдячні!» (Кол. 3, 15). То ж нехай наші серця наповнюються вдячністю, тобто дією Святого Духа, життя подателя.

From the desk of Fr. Ray Palko

December 23, 2012 A.D.

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!

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

“My God, my God, why hast Thou forsaken me?” (Psalm 21:1) How many times have we heard those words, or words to that effect, this week? The horrific and unspeakable events of Newtown, Connecticut have wrapped around us as if in a suffocating blanket, and we've heard the question asked over and over again in many different ways, “Where is God?” If you have trouble with that question, or if you're a bit unsure this week, then I'm here to remind you, “Z Nami Boh! God is with us!”

Even though we deeply believe in our good and loving God, all of us have been touched to the very core of our being by that sad, dark and devastating day of Friday December 14, 2012. All of us have been weighed down by the great heaviness of the sorrow and helplessness we all feel, and through which we have been living, during this past week.

We can say, “It takes my breath away,” when it's something good, and we can also say, “It takes my breath away,” when it is something bad. This great tragedy has indeed taken our breath away. Doesn't it seem to you as if it's hard to get a real good breath? The air is fresh, cold and clean yet there is that stifling atmosphere about the world now during this extremely mournful time.

We've all experienced other memorable, horrific days in our lives, the kind that make you say, “I remember exactly where I was, and what I was doing when I heard the news.” Some of these for me, are the days my Mom and Dad died, the shooting of Pope John Paul II, the Challenger disaster, 9-11, and the day the day President Kennedy was assassinated. While all of those days were extremely sorrowful and heart wrenching in their

own particular way, the day of President Kennedy's death, and the days following, remind me of what we are going through right now. On that sad, sad day of that long ago November of 1963, and for days following, the entire world went into a state of mourning. It wasn't any particular family, or country, but it was the entire world! It was a breath taking time. In every nation around the world, all the peoples of the earth were in a walking trance. There was a complete pall of mourning over the whole world, especially the United States. Once again, the world has been attacked by the Evil One, and once again, we are universally in a state of shock and tears.

“A voice was heard in Ramah, lamentation, weeping and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children, refusing to be comforted, because they are no more.” (Mt. 2:18) We hear of this prophecy when we read the account in the Gospel about the Holy Innocents killed by Herod. Right now there doesn't seem to be any comfort for the survivors. Nothing anyone says or does can make it better. As a matter of fact, the family and friends of the lost ones probably don't hear much of anything these days. How the parents, family and friends must be suffering these days! We are not directly touched by the deaths, but our breath has been taken away, and our days darkened. But for them and for us, there is comfort! there is hope! there is LIFE!

“For I know that my Redeemer lives...” (Job 19:25) In these words written some 600 to 300 years before Christ was born, I think we have the beginning of the answer we so desperately need. Did you ever read the “Book of Job?” If you didn't, I'm sure you do know the story of this man, often mentioned as a model of great patience. He is that, but he is more than that, because he was a man of great and deep and holy faith. He completely believed in God and no matter what happened to him, or to those around him, he would not waver in his belief. He lost his family, health and wealth, but never lost his trust in God. Only

he wished to repent, and asked God to save him. As he suffered and struggled with one calamity after another, his wife, friends and those close to him called upon him to denounce God, curse God, and get on with his life. Of course he refused and remained steadfast in his faith because as he said, *“For I know that my Redeemer lives...”* In all of this we must stop and listen to the words our God speaks to us in Holy Scripture and in His holy Church. While we will never find the complete answer to this great problem of suffering and evil in our world, if we hear Job and learn from his faith, we will know that our God never abandons us. And we will never abandon Him.

What about that line uttered by Jesus, *“My God, My God, why hast Thou forsaken me!”* Yes, He said that when He had His holy and sinless arms outstretched on the Cross for us, and while He was in terrible agony. If we only read that line, it seems as if He was despairing and giving up. That utterance of our dear Lord is the first line of Psalm 21, which is called a *“Messianic Psalm,”* i.e., one that speaks of the coming of the Messiah. While it begins with that line of hopelessness, as we read the entire text, we find it indeed tells of the suffering and crucifixion, but also of the Resurrection and of the Church, and the ultimate victory of our Savior over sin and death. Death does not have the last word. Death is never victorious no matter how horrible or unbelievable. Our Savior has triumphed and has won the battle for us.

There is now a simple, but beautiful poem circulating the internet by an unknown writer which completely explains the hard questions of these days. There is not enough room here to write it, but Iøve asked Father Marijan to include it in the bulletin, so you can read it. The point of the poem is Christ who is our Light and our Life triumphs in the end. Christ,

our Light and our Life dries away every tear. Christ our Light and our Life gives us eternal Life.

As we prepare to celebrate the Birth of God into this world, let us be faithful as were those of old. Let us in this *“Year of Faith”* pray and fast and renew our spiritual selves and become truly *“faithful”* people. Remember, my Dear One, those two lines we always say, *“Christ is Risen! Christ is among us!”* We will soon be singing the beautiful service of the Great Compline the highlight of which is *“Z Nami Boh! God is with us!”*, which we sing over and over again. It will have a greater meaning for us this year than ever before. We suffer at this horror and evil unleashed around us, who are in reality apart from it. How deeply must be the sufferings of those near and dear to those who perished! Let us do all we can to help them in their struggle, perhaps with cards, letters, teddy bears or whatever. But most of all, let us pray for them and for us. May they be comforted and remain strong in their faith! *“And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, ‘Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God himself will be with them and be their God. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.’”*

(Revelation 21: 3-4 some of the last words of the New Testament)

Be blessed! May our Holy Lady protect us! Keep the fast, if you pray according to the Julian calendar; Merry Christmas, if you will be celebrating this Tuesday.

In His Love,
Father Ray

From "Good Samaritan" Ukr. Radio pr.

Each December, Rachel vowed to make Christmas a calm and peaceful experience. She had cut back on nonessential obligations - extensive card writing, endless baking, decorating, and even overspending. Yet still, she found herself exhausted, unable to appreciate the precious family moments, and of course, the true meaning of Christmas. Rachel's son, Nicholas, was in kindergarten that year. It was an exciting season for a five year old. For weeks, he had been memorizing songs for his school's "Winter Pageant." Rachel did not have the heart to tell him that she would be working the night of the production. Unwilling to miss his shining moment, she spoke with his teacher, who assured her that there would be a dress rehearsal the morning of the presentation! All parents unable to attend that evening were welcome to come then. Fortunately, Nicholas seemed happy with the compromise. So, the morning of the dress rehearsal, Rachel filed in ten minutes early, found a spot on the cafeteria floor and sat down. Around the room, she saw several other parents quietly scampering to their seats. As she waited, the students were led into the room. Each class, accompanied by their teacher, sat cross-legged on the floor. Then, each group, one by one, rose to perform their song. Because the public school system had long stopped referring to the holiday as "Christmas," Rachel did not expect anything other than fun, commercial entertainment - songs of reindeer, Santa Claus, snowflakes and good cheer. So, when her son's class rose to sing, "Christmas Love," she was slightly taken aback by its bold title. Her son Nicholas was aglow, as were all of his classmates, adorned in fuzzy mittens, red sweaters, and bright snowcaps upon their heads. Those in the front row-center stage - held up large letters, one by one, to spell out the title of the song. As the class would sing "C is for Christmas," a child would

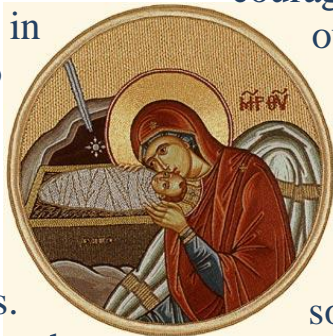
hold up the letter C. Then, "H is for Happy," and on and on, until each child holding up their portion had presented the complete message, "Christmas Love." The performance was going smoothly, until suddenly, the audience noticed her; a small, quiet, girl in the front row holding the letter "M" upside down - totally unaware her letter "M" appeared as a "W". The audience of first through sixth graders snickered at this little one's mistake. But she had no idea they were laughing at her, so she stood tall, proudly holding her "W". Although many teachers tried to shush the children, the laughter continued until the last letter was raised, and they all saw the message together. Suddenly a great hush came over the audience and eyes began to widen. In that instant, they understood - the reason they were there, why they celebrated the holiday in the first place, why even in the chaos, there was a purpose for their festivities. When the last letter was held high, the message rang loud and clear, instead of "Christmas Love" it read: "CHRIST WAS LOVE"!

We all have a special Christmas story that we can share, but the one we come together to celebrate every year is the greatest story ever told, the one we remember every year in the second chapter of the Gospel according to St. Luke. *“And it was that Joseph went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; with Mary his wife, being great with child. And while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn... For unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior, which is Christ the Lord”...*

Hurricane Relief – Serving One’s Neighbor

During this time of Christmas, we need to be more Christ-like in response to those in need, we are called to demonstrate acts of love to those who are suffering; much like St. Nicholas did for the poor and homeless. Families devastated by the effects of Hurricane Sandy will not be able to celebrate Christmas as we do, because many are without homes and have lost everything to this devastating storm. In response to their hardships and loss, we are preparing a deanery wide raffle for one of our own Ukrainian Catholic Parishes and specifically their parishioners most devastated by the effects of Hurricane Sandy.

All proceeds from this raffle will go directly to 3 families in need, parishioners of Holy Family Parish in Lindhurst, NY, and each ticket will cost \$10. Raffle prizes



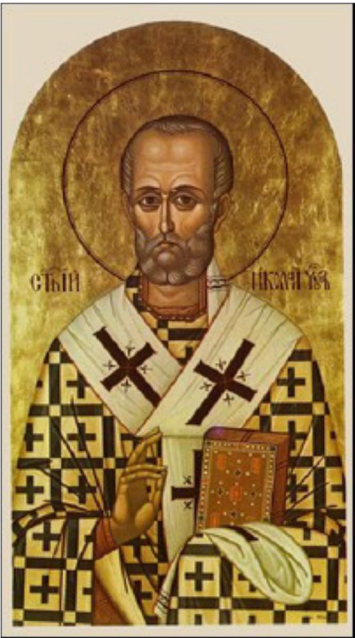
(which have been generously donated) will include: Apple iPad2, 26in. LED HD Television, and TomTom XXL540 GPS. We encourage all parishioners throughout the deanery to participate as much as you are able in this Deanery Raffle, for the benefit of those who are less fortunate during this Holy Season. The Raffle drawing will take place at St. Nicholas Church on January 13, 2013, following the Christmas Dinner.

Thank you for your generosity! May the good Lord bless us all and may the Mother of God always protect us!

*“As you did it to one of the least of my brethren, you did it to me.”
(Matthew 25:40)*

**To purchase \$10 tickets,
please call the St. Nicholas
rectory or speak with the
trustees following liturgies.**

Поміч Пострадалим - Служіння Близькому



«що більше щастя давати ніж приймати.» (Ді. 20, 35)



*«Усе, що ви зробили одному з моїх братів найменших – ви мені зробили.»
(Мт. 25, 40)*

ВІТАЄМО УСІХ!!!

Вітаємо до нашої і Вашої Церкви Св. Отця Нашого Миколая. Двері завжди відкриті. Господній дім є нашим домом. Хай Господь благословить усіх!

Подружжя і самотні особи понад 18 років можуть зареєструватися. Якщо ви не бажаєте вживати систему коверт, будь ласка дайте нам ваші адреси і телефони, щоб могли з вами сконтактуватися по потребі. Ваші данки просимо вложити у коверту і написати Ваше ім'я, бо в протилежному Ваші пожертви будуть анонімними.

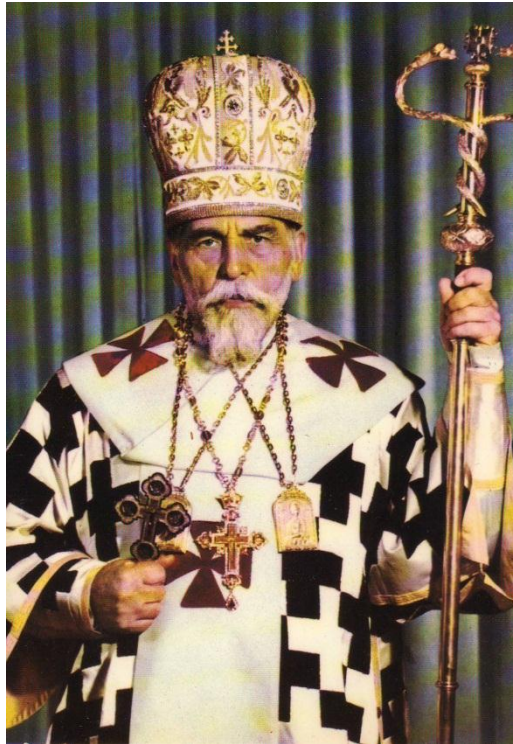
Very Important! Дуже Важне!

If you plan to schedule an event in St. Nicholas Church Hall, talk to the Pastor first and then contact Mrs. Anna Melnyk before putting your event on the calendar!

Коли плянуєте дату вашого вінчання чи хрещення то просимо поговорити з парохом, щоб потім не було непорозуміння. Може статися, що в цей день буде неможливо відбути заплановане
* * *

If you are planning a Baptism or Wedding, please contact Pastor about the date before making other arrangements.

V. Rev. Marijan Brough



У цю Неділю, 23 Грудня 2012 р. У залі нашої церкв Св. Миколая буде коротка програма про життя Св. П. Патріярха Йосифа Сліпого з нагоди 120-ліття народження цього великого провідника нашої церкви, наступника Сл. Божого Митрополита Андрея Шептицького. На закінчення буде висвітлений документарний Фільм про життя Патріярха Йосифа. У свій час Пок. Папа Іван Павло II висловився, що «кардинал Йосиф Сліпий боровся за справедливу справу». Згадаймо у своїх молитвах Слугу Божого Патріярха Йосифа і часто молилися з Його прославу. Просимо до участі!

T'was 11 days before Christmas,
around 9:38
when 20 beautiful children
stormed through heaven's gate.
Their smiles were contagious,
their laughter filled the air.
They could hardly believe
all the beauty they saw there.
They were filled with such joy,
they didn't know what to say.
They remembered nothing
of what had happened earlier that day.
"Where are we?" asked a little girl,
as quiet as a mouse.
"This is heaven." declared a small boy.
"We're spending Christmas at God's house."
When what to their wondering
eyes did appear,
But Jesus, their savior.
The children gathered near.
He looked at them and smiled,
and they smiled just the same.
Then He opened His arms
and He called them by name.
And in that moment was joy,
that only heaven can bring
Those children all flew
into the arms of their King
And as they lingered
in the warmth of His embrace,
One small girl turned
and looked at Jesus' face.
And as if He could read
all the questions she had
He gently whispered to her,
"I'll take care of mom and dad."
Then He looked down on earth,
the world far below
He saw all of the hurt,



the sorrow, and woe
Then He closed His eyes
and He outstretched His hand,
"Let My power and presence
re-enter this land!"
"May this country be delivered
from the hands of fools!"
"I'm taking back my nation.
I'm taking back my schools!"
Then He and the children
stood up without a sound.
"Come now my children,
let me show you around."
Excitement filled the space,
some skipped and some ran.
All displaying enthusiasm
that only a small child can.
And I heard Him proclaim
as He walked out of sight,
"In the midst of this darkness,
I AM STILL THE LIGHT."

