

*"God entered into our world not with the crushing impact of unbearable glory, but in the way of weakness, vulnerability and need."*

*On a wintry night in an obscure cave, the infant Jesus was a humble, naked, helpless God who allowed us to get close to him."*  
Brennan Manning

*Christ is born! He is our hope for peace on earth.*

*Let us open ourselves to the Infant, so that He may endow us with His choicest blessings! If we keep Christ in our hearts, Christmas has no end.*

*+ Paul, OSBM  
+ Paul, OSBM  
Eparch of Stamford*

**\* CHRIST IS BORN! GLORIFY HIM! \* ХРИСТОС РОДИВСЯ! СЛАВІТЕ!**

**SAINT NICHOLAS  
UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH**



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**52** UNDER THE  
PROTECTION OF  
MOTHER OF GOD



**CHURCH BULLETIN**

**December 25 – 2022 – 25 грудня**

**ЦЕРКОВНИЙ ВІСНИК**

**Christ Is Born!  
Glorify Him!**

**Merry Christmas  
to all who celebrate  
according to  
Gregorian Calendar!  
Peace in Ukraine!**

**Христос Раждається!  
Славімо Його!**

**Усім, що святкують за  
Григоріанським Стилем,  
Бажаємо Веселих Свят  
Різдва Христового!  
Мир в Україні!**

← Різдво в Україні  
© Іриней Юрчак, 2022  
Nativity in Ukraine  
© Irynej Yurchak, 2022

**За кров, за сльози, за руїну  
Верни нам, Боже, Україну!**

**(Ольга Басараб)**

**№ 52 DECEMBER 25 2022**



*I. Yurchak*

# CHURCH BULLETIN

December 25 – 2022 – 25 грудня

## ЦЕРКОВНИЙ ВІСНИК

### LITURGICAL SCHEDULE



St. Nicholas Ukr. Cath. Church  
Церква Святого Миколая  
(Під Опікою П.Д.М.)  
ПОРЯДОК СВ. ЛІТУРГІЙ

4:30 PM St. Basil Liturgy **STREAMING**  
9:00 PM Great Compl. & Christmas Lit. - Вел.  
Повечеря і Різдв. Літ.) **STREAMING**

25 грудня: Н. Праотців **STREAMING**  
10:00 р. За парохіян - For Parishioners

1 січня: Н. Оотців **STREAMING**  
10:00 р. +Мечислава і Александер Ганицькі  
(Анна Ганицька)

### December 25: CHRISTMAS - РІЗДВО

12:00 PM +Metr. Joseph Shmondiuk

### Monday, December 26 Synaxis of Theotokos →

9:00 AM +John & Mary Colomon  
(Allen & Nadine Burkholder)

### Tuesday, Decem. 27 St. Stephen Protomartyr

9:00 AM For the living and deceased members  
of the Moreno Family

### Wednesday, December 28 грудня, середа

7:00 AM Private Intention  
9:00 AM +Irene & Roman Voychak (Family)

### Thursday, December 29 грудня, четвер

9:00 AM +Ігор Кіящук (Люба)

### Friday, December 30 грудня, п'ятниця

9:00 AM +Michael Reinhard (Cathy Geary) – 40 d.

### Saturday, December 31 грудня, субота

9:00 AM +Дмитро Ільківський (родина)

4:30 PM For Parishioners **STREAMING**

### NEW YEAR – НОВИЙ РІК

January 1: St. Basil the Great – Св. Василій В

12:00 PM For Peace in Ukraine – За мир в Україні

Eternal Light burns for  
Long-lasting Peace in Ukraine

Вічне Світло Горить за  
Довгоочікуваний Мир в Україні

Вічне Світло в честь Пр. Діви Марії  
Горить за щасливий 2023 рік.  
Eternal Light honoring Holy Theotokos  
Burns for prosperous 2023 year.



Saint Stephen Protomartyr – Св. Степан Первомученик

Thy nativity, O Christ our God, has shown to the world the light of wisdom; for by it, those who worshiped the stars were taught by a star to adore Thee the Sun of Righteousness, and to know Thee, the Orient from on high. ----- O Lord, Glory to Thee!

\* CHRIST IS BORN! GLORIFY HIM! \* ХРИСТОС РОДИВСЯ! СЛАВІТЕ!

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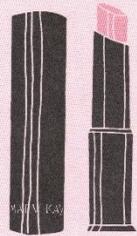
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| <b>Buffalo Branch</b><br>Ukrainian Home Dnipro<br>562 Genesee Street<br>Buffalo NY 14204<br>(716) 847-6655<br>www.ukrainianfcu.org                                | <b>Amherst Branch</b><br>Ellicott Creek Plaza<br>2882 Niagara Falls Blvd<br>Amherst NY 14228<br>(716) 799-8385<br>www.ukrainianfcu.org                    |
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Підтримайте Ваш Народний Дім

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Thank you all for your donations!  
Дякуємо за Ваші пожертви!



Президентів України і Президентів Америки,  
Українському та Американському Народом,  
Збройним Силам України,  
Усім нашим Волонтерам,  
Усім, що допомагають Україні до ПЕРЕМОГИ,  
Хай Бог благословить з Різдвам Христовим!  
**Христос Раждається! Славім Його!**

Дорогі в Христі! Бажаємо Вам усім,  
**Щасливих Різдв'яних Свят.**  
Нехай новонародженне Диття подарує спокій у наші неспокійні серця.  
З нами Бог, розумійте народи.  
І покоріться, бо ось з нами Бог!  
**Христос Раждається!**  
**Славім Його!**  
\*\*\*

Dear Parishioners and friends:  
**Merry Christmas!**  
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 over 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. This Christmas, we pray that each of us feels the joy of knowing that Christ is in our home, in our hearts, among the family and friends that we love, and in the simple things of life that mean so much to all of us. Christmas is a time for miracles, and stories that capture our hearts. But Christmas is also a time to remember the gift of salvation which the infant Jesus has brought to our lives, and to celebrate this precious gift with one another. Christ is the reason for this blessed and glorious season - May the peace and love of the Christ child, the real gift of this Holy Season, be with us always and with all those we love. God bless us, each and every one! May the Lord bless Ukraine and bring victory and peace!  
**Christ is Born! Glorify Him!**

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Україна сьогодні — це «духовна стайня», в якій народиться Ісус Єпископ РКЦ Едвард Кава:



Це буде перше — і, хочеться вірити, останнє Різдво, яке ми змушені святкувати у час повномасштабної війни. Але новонароджений Ісус прийде і у фронтові окопи, й на окуповані території, і в темні, позбавлені світла й тепла оселі.

(Про це єпископ-помічник Львівської архидієцезії РКЦ Едвард Кава сказав у розмові з католицьким часописом CREDO.)

"Сьогодні ми маємо досвід, дуже схожий на той, який мав Ісус, коли народився у вифлеємській стайні: ми живемо у своєрідній «духовній стайні», бо нашу країну довели до такого стану. Але для нас це також і нагода радіти, бо ми знаємо, що Ісус може прийти саме до такого місця. Я думаю, що цього Різдва Ісус народиться саме в Україні, бо в духовному вимірі наша країна зараз — це саме те місце, де Він забажав би народитися.

Друге, на що я хотів би звернути увагу, це те, що ми повинні залишатися людьми доброї волі попри всю агресію та ненависть, яка йде від російського окупанта. Ми повинні зберігати у собі людяність, яку Бог приносить нам і відроджує у нас, розвивати її в собі так, щоб про нас можна було сказати: ми — народ Божий, що живе не цінностями цього світу, не агресією, заздрістю і ненавистю, а любов'ю, яку приносить нам Ісус. Це ті основні думки, які супроводжують мене протягом цього Адвенту, і я хотів би, щоб вони були у серці кожного українця!" - резюмував єпископ. (RISU)

"Помоліться за українського воїна". Залужний привітав партнерів із наближенням Різдва



Головнокомандувач Збройних сил України Валерій Залужний привітав союзників України й усіх, хто святкує Різдво 25 грудня, із наближенням свята Його звернення опублікував Генштаб ЗСУ.

"Дорогі брати по зброї! Ми часто згадуємо вислів: "У темні часи добре видно світлих людей". Дякую вам за підтримку і допомогу. За те, що ми разом у цій важкій несправедливій і невиправданій війні. Я дякую від імені кожного українського солдата, у чиїх руках ваша зброя знищує світове зло і рятує невинні життя", — сказав Залужний.

Він нагадав, що ціна миру є дуже високою.

"Згадайте про це, дивлячись на небо та різдвяну зірку на ньому. Помоліться за українського воїна, який зараз в окопі собою захищає світ від біди. І повірте, Господь саме там, поруч із ним. На боці світла і добра, правди та справедливості", — підсумував головком.



Валерій Залужний з рабином України Моше Реувен Асман

\* CHRIST IS BORN! GLORIFY HIM! \* ХРИСТОС РОДИВСЯ! СЛАВІТЕ!



- CHURCH KITCHEN is now **CLOSED** Check with us later.
- Thank you for your help and patronage!
- Thanks are extended to all volunteers!
- Coffee Hour - Usually Every Sunday after Liturgy in Church Hall.

See you there!

**HAVE A BLESSED DAY!!!**

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ODFFU – Buffalo, NY – Branch # 22

Emil Bandriwsky, President

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

## SAINT NICHOLAS

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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  
See bulletin for scheduled dates.

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

Family members should call the Rectory

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в суботу 14-го січня 2023 р.

В залах Українського Дому "Дніпро"  
при 562 Genesee Street, Buffalo, NY

До танців приграватиме оркестра:

"Люкс" з Торонта Канади

Година Коктейлів 6:30 в.

Вечеря 7:30 в.

Забава 8:30 в.

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Ukrainian American Youth Association  
Buffalo Branch

**Traditional Ukrainian New Year's Dance  
Malanka 2023**

Saturday, January 14, 2023

Ukrainian Cultural Center Dnipro  
562 Genesee Street Buffalo, NY

Music provided by: LUX from Toronto

Cocktail hour 6:30 PM

Dinner 7:30 PM

Dance 8:30 PM

Tickets: Adults \$60 per person/ \$100 per couple  
\$30 for Students (13-20) includes dinner

\$35 - Dance only

To reserve tickets, contact Ann Serediuk  
at [ansserediuk@cym.org](mailto:ansserediuk@cym.org) or 716-316-1051

or venmo using the qr-code

## Ten Commandments for Christmas

(Based on Fr. Makar's bulletin in Bethlehem)

1. Thou shalt remember to keep "Christ" in Christmas (It is not written "X-mass")
2. Thou shalt pause in thy business to consider the magnitude of God's gift of Christ to mankind and what gifts you can give to God.
3. Thou shalt remember that Mary and Joseph found no room in the inn, and, remembering, give Christ the chief room in your heart.
4. Thou shalt participate joyfully in all the pre-Christmas and Christmas liturgical services in thy church. (Even if it is streaming, as this year, because of bad weather, or you unable to come for various reasons.)
5. Thou shalt be of generous heart in answering the appeals of the needy. Remember Ukraine, and those who fight for freedom.
6. Thou shalt take time to plan for the happiness of those outside thy own circle of family and friends. Be a Good Samaritan.
7. Thou shalt enjoy, in unhurried calm, the priceless heritage of Christmas carols and great Christmas icons.
8. Thou shalt give of thyself in all the gifts, giving not for duty, reciprocity, or personal satisfaction, but for the simple joy of sharing.
9. Thou shalt remember, with patience and understanding, all those who serve thee – the sales people, the postal and delivery people, the news carriers, and all others who bear the physical burden of these Holy Days.
10. Thou shalt teach thy children the true meaning of Christmas, of the Prince of Peace who came to show us a way to righteousness and happiness.  
**See Christ in others and be Christ for others!**

**The View From Up Here! Christmas Day!  
Anno Domini 2022**

### Christ is Born! Glorify Him!

Dear Fellow Climber on the Holy Mountain, Hopefully, you have had a holy and special "Philip's Fast" in preparation for this great day of the celebration of the Birth of Our Savior. *Z Nami Boh! God with us!* Let the bells ring and let us greet one another with the blessings of this Holy Day! And not only this Holy Day of Christmas, but of this "Christmas-time" leading us to Theophany and the revelation of the Holy Trinity to all mankind, and to the Holy Feast of the Encounter, on Feb. 2, where God will meet His people and we will meet our God!

For so many of this world, Christmas will quickly end, and the world will look for the "reveling in Times Square" and the worldly celebration of the New Year! Not so for us, Dear One, not so for us! We now remember our holy and blessed time has just begun on this December 25 and we now **BEGIN** our Christmas. Yes, from now till the Feast of the Presentation on February 2! This is our "Christmastime"!

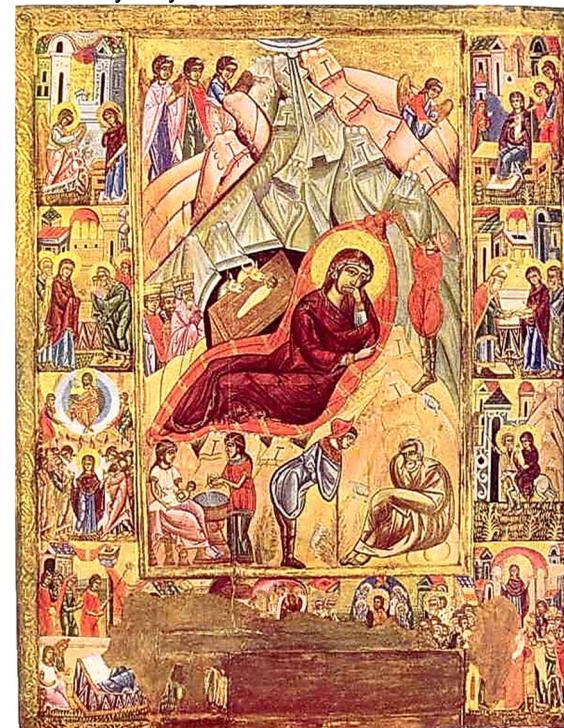
As I write on Friday December 23, I know Christ is Born! I know the Incarnation, "God Become Man" has happened in that "little town of Bethlehem." However, I'm not sure how we will actually be celebrating the Feast of Christmas (and the Feast of the Resurrection) this Sunday. You see, the Blizzard has hit exactly at 8am as predicted and

without a doubt will be wreaking havoc. I know everything is closed now and the Roman Catholics have also already cancelled Christmas services for the weekend. Here we go again, back to the Live-streaming of Covid time. Hopefully our power will be on and everyone who cannot be in The Church will at least be able to participate via internet.

In his "Tale of Two Cities" good ol' Charlie Dickens once said, *"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times...."* Do you remember the old

Christmas song, *"It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year,"* which Andy Williams made so famous? That's what ideally, or spiritually, this time is, or can be, or should be! However, sad to say, the joy of that discovery of Christ among us is so often blotted out for us. When Andy Williams sang that song it was part of his first Christmas album, and the year was 1963. If you are an old person like me, you'll remember that President Kennedy was killed one month before

that Christmas, so it was hardly a wonderful time of the year as the country was in deep, deep mourning still. Even without "winter hurricanes" or any major tragedies, Christmas time in many ways, always brings some very tough and sad days for us. Funerals and sickness quickly dim the festive holiday lights. For those carrying the Cross of Old Age, with its own particular hardship and loneliness, it is the ghost of Christmas past which brings sadness, melancholy and loneliness of the days that are no more. Those unemployed, and those



struggling just to make ends meet, can hardly say, "It's the most wonderful time of the year!" Face to face with the war in Ukraine and the troubles and insanity all around the world, countless families are in difficulty and hurting for all kinds of reasons.

Sadly, the struggle brings a cloud to the joy that can be, and indeed is still theirs. Our Lord Jesus-Emmanuel-God with us!

Yes, we remember the women and men warriors, who have gone off to war, their families left at home in fear, and the loss of life of so many innocents! At Christmastime we remember our courageous soldiers, police, nurses, doctors, firemen and all the others who protect us, and who work amid the pain and hurt of the day as usual. How clear this is at this very moment as my scanner "jumps off the wall", and the rescuers are out trying to help all who call them.

Thinking about all this, we will definitely shed a tear or two as the prosphora and honey is passed all around the table of our "Holy Supper" as we remember Mom and Dad, Baba and Dido, and all our family who are absent, both of the living and the dead. And we remember! At Christmas, the birth of Jesus Christ, Son of God, Who is with us, we always will have hope and peace! Yes, the snows fly, the winds blow, the waves crash, but **Look! Listen! See!** Jesus, the tiny Babe of Bethlehem takes on our human form, lives among us, takes upon Himself the sins of the world, dies on the Cross for our salvation, is raised from the dead, ascends into Heaven, sends us the Holy Spirit! He promises to come again to this world of "sin and error" and will bring us, please God, to Heaven where He will call us to the right hand of our God to live forever!

Christmas, the birth of Jesus, who will save His people from their sins, the birth of Emmanuel, God

with us, is the powerful message of goodness and hope throughout the entire world! No matter what is going on when you are reading this....no matter where we are on this earth or what our situation may be, if we come to know and believe God is with us,

we will always be blessed and full of hope and joy in our Saviour! He came and fulfilled God's saving plan for each and every one of us. He was born in that cave in Bethlehem! Because of Him and this message of Christmas, we can go through this valley of sickness, war, sorrow, loneliness, doubt, through this "valley of the shadow of death", hopeful and joyful and rejoicing for we know the victory is ours. We always can have His Joy and Peace! The little baby is our Saviour! "O Little Town of Bethlehem... the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight."

I pray this letter finds all of you with your families and in absolute love and joy! For those who can't be physically together, we know that nothing stops Love. We are with you, wherever you are! You are with us! We are all Home for Christmas! We pray for Divine Protection from this "Hurricane Blizzard" and from all danger and difficulty. We pray blessings of Joy, Peace, and Love be with you all! We can join the Angels singing, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth Peace to men of good will!" Because ya know what??? "IT'S THE MOST WONDERFUL TIME OF THE YEAR!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Z Nami Boh! God is with us! MERRY CHRISTMAS! May the newly born Saviour bless us! Our Holy Lady Theotokos protect us! Holy St. Joseph pray to God for us!! And as Tiny Tim said in 'good ol' Charlie Dickens' last line of "A Christmas Carol" : **"God bless us, Everyone!"**

With blessings, prayers and abounding Christmas Love for all, - Father Ray, Still Climbing With You



\* CHRIST IS BORN! GLORIFY HIM! \* ХРИСТОС РОДИВСЯ! СЛАВІТЕ!

## CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Of the Bishops of the Ukrainian Catholic Church Of the United States of America in the Year of Our Lord 2022.

*"And they were terrified...But the angel said to them: Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; He is the Messiah, the Lord." (Lk. 2:10-11)*

Most Reverend Fathers, Deacons, Monks and Nuns, Brother Seminarians, and Dearest Faithful,

Simple shepherds who tended their flocks near Bethlehem lived their usual lives. They did not expect much change in the routine of their daily chores, and they "were keeping the night watch over their flock." This was their work, this was their vocation, ordinary and unremarkable.

However, everything suddenly changed when they saw an angel of the Lord who "appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them." Being in this glory caused them a sense of terror so great that the angel himself had to reassure them and thereby change this "great fear" into "great joy."

We all started this passing year of 2022, with the usual worries and plans that we made for the end of the pandemic. We wanted to resume our usual lives again and no longer expected any disruptions but wanted only to "keep watch" of our own affairs and responsibilities again. But that fateful day of February 24th suddenly changed all our lives, all our plans, all our feelings, everything... A full-scale invasion began...

Fear, pain, despair, and immense anger - all this filled our being, our thoughts, even our prayers. Our native Ukrainians were torn apart and killed... None of us, even in our wildest dreams, could have thought that we, the latest generation, would once again experience the great Baturyn massacre, but also now in Hostomel, Bucha, and Irpin; let us reflect on the evacuation of peaceful people under fire - not from Hitler's Nazis - but from brain washed Putinists. We were driven to righteous anger by a fight to the death of the newest heroes of Kruty near Kyiv, Kharkiv, Sumy, Mykolaiv, Bakhmut...

We were afraid of the "great terror" of our native land. But when we all stood together, united as a great Ukrainian community, suddenly we heard a voice from Heaven: "Do not be afraid, Ukrainians, do not be afraid, you inhabitants of the fertile land I have bestowed upon you. You stood together against the opposing enemy, small and large. Don't be afraid!"

Our men came to the defense of Ukraine, women secured the rear with their work and prayers, Ukrainians abroad collected the necessary means for the fight all over the world, even children raised funds for the Armed Forces of Ukraine through their own talents - indeed, a community of democratic nations and freedom-loving people came to the aid of the courageous Ukrainian people.

And we are no longer afraid because we see that the Lord is with us and today his angel announces great joy for the whole nation: "... for unto you today, a Savior was born." God comes to us!

Jesus is born in a manger, in the midst of unsanitary conditions, and He knows what suffering and cold are. The Lord comes to the most needy and becomes a refugee Himself, because He is forced to flee from death with the righteous Joseph and Mary. Jesus knows what it is to lose one's home and to be a wanderer without knowing when the mistrust will come to an end. That is why He is today, like never before, close to Ukrainians, He is with us in a distant foreign land and in the homes without light and heat in Ukraine. He is with us as we live through our difficulties and challenges. God is with us...

Jesus knows the experience of the cross and death, loneliness, and rejection. Christ is with us in times of shelling and the danger of repeated enemy attacks on native towns and villages. Jesus is with us, He will lead us through this field of suffering and death, and even more than that, He is the Conqueror of death and the Giver of Life.

He loves His people, and for the sake of this love, He became incarnate, became one of us, was born of the Most Holy Theotokos, and went to His suffering and the cross to save and redeem us all from death, sin, and the power of the devil.

Looking at the Christ Child, laying in the manger, we also see His Cross. Because only by looking at the Cross of the Lord, will we be able to overcome all fear, suffering, and death with Him in order to reach victory, because Jesus Himself is our victory.

*"May the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times and in every way!"(2 Thessalonians 3:16)*

**Christ is born! Let us glorify Him!**

**+Borys (Gudziak)**

Archbishop of Philadelphia, Metropolitan of Ukrainian Catholics in the United States  
Head of the Department of External Church Relations,  
Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church  
And all Ukrainian Bishop of U.S.A.