

Peace Bridge – (EuroMaidan Євро-Майдан)
(December 22, 2013 – 22 Грудня 2013)



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SAINT NICHOLAS
UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



HAPPY NEW YEAR! З НОВИМ РОКОМ!

St. Paul's letter to the Hebrews reminds us that:
"Nothing on earth can separate us from the love of Christ. Not finances. Not disappointment. Not rejection. Not failure. Nothing!" (Romans 8:31).

As we swiftly approach the coming New Year, let us all feel the joy of knowing that nothing can separate us from the love of God. No matter where we are, God will find us and love us.

If the New Year were something tangible, some spark of the divine that could speak to us, perhaps it would say: 'I am the New Year. I am an unspoiled page in your book of time. I am your next chance at the art of living. I am your opportunity to practice what you have learned about life during the last twelve months. All that you sought and did not find is hidden in me, waiting for you to search it but with more determination. All the good that you tried for and did not achieve is mine to grant when you have fewer conflicting desires. All that you dreamed but did not dare to do, all that you hoped but did not will, all the faith that you claimed but did not have... these slumber lightly, waiting to be awakened by the touch of a strong purpose. I am your opportunity to renew your faith in the Lord who said, *"Behold, I make all things new"*'.

УКРАЇНЬКА КАТОЛИЦЬКА
ЦЕРКВА СВЯТОГО МИКОЛАЯ

№
52

ПІД ОПІКОЮ
ПРЕЧИСТОЇ ДІВИ
МАРІЇ ОДІГТРИЇ

UNDER THE
PROTECTION OF
MOTHER OF GOD

CHURCH BULLETIN
December 29 – 2013 – 29 Грудня
ЦЕРКОВНИЙ ВІСНИК



ST. BASIL the GREAT – СВ. ВАСИЛІЙ В.
Christ Is Born! Glorify Him!
Христос Раждається! Славимо Його!

CHURCH BULLETIN

Dec. 29 – 2013 – 29 Грудня

ЦЕРКОВНИЙ ВІСНИК

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

4:30 PM +Irene Voychak
(Катерина Петрович)

Dec. 29 S. after Christmas – Н. По Різді

12:00 PM +Oleksa Kurlak (Joe Cisek)

Monday Dec. 30 – Пон., 30 Грудня

8:15 AM +Sophie Sudyn (Betty Kitt)

Tuesday, Dec. 31 – Пон., 31 Грудня

9:00 AM +Софія Грєґа (Марія Маланяк)

St. Basil the Great – New Year 2014

Св. Василій Вел. – Новий Рік 2014

Wednesday, January 1 – Середа, 1 Січня

10:00 AM For God's Blessing

За Боже Благословення

Thu., January 2 – Чет., 2 Січня

9:00 AM +Маруся Процик (Оксана Салдит)

Friday, January 3 – П'ятниця, 3 Січня

4:15 PM ++members of Verostko & Chort
Families - Eternal Memory!

Sat. January 4 – Субота, 4 Січня

10:00 AM +Maria Kozar 40 d. & p. (Family)

4:30 PM For Parishioners - За Парохіян

Jan.. 5 S. bef. Theophany – Нав. Богояв

12:00 PM +Maria Sywenkyj 40 d. & p. (Family)

Вічне Світло в честь П.Д.М
Горить за Боже Благословення
For God's Blessing in 2014

Eternal Light burns for
+Jerry Szczublewski
Requ. by Family



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

ПОР'ЯДОК СВ. ЛІТУРГІЙ

29 Грудня – Н. Праотців

10:00 р. За Парохіян - For Parishioners

5 Січня – Н. Отців

10:00 р. +Роман Кобрин (Ігор Гіль)

Парохіяльна Просфора запланована 12
Січня по Св. Літургії, яка буде о 11 год.
Це одинока Літургія того дня.

Parish Christmas Dinner – Prosphora will
take place after the Divine Liturgy on Jan.
12. The Liturgy will start at 11 AM.
That will be the only Liturgy that day.

There is no Noon Liturg January 19.

BIBLE MEETING
Will resume after Christmas.

Біблійні зустрічі
продовжемо по Різді

To purchase \$10 tickets, for the "Good
Samaritan Project" or give donations for
those in need please see the pastor or
members of the G.S.P. Committee:
Michelle Michalow - Elaine Nowadly

Дякуємо за закуп білетів «Проекту Ми-
лосердний Самар'янин». Якщо потре-
буєте ще білетів, або бажати зложити
пожертви просимо зголоситися.

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Judie Hawryluk

79 Southridge Dr
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716-674-5185

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photos on facebook.com

jahawryluk@gmail.com

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Tel.: 895-1404

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(ROLAND J. KUHN)

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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



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Cheektowaga, NY 14225 Amherst, NY 14068
Tel. 716-630-0131 Fax 716-630-0133 tel. 716-688-1495

Melvin J. SLIWINSKI

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5090 Transit Rd, Depew, NY 14043

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

Simon Pasnik & Matthew Pasnik

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

UKRAINIAN UKRAЇНСЬКА FEDERAL CREDIT UNION ФЕДЕРАЛЬНА КРЕДИТНА СПІЛКА

www.rufcu.org 877-968-7828

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

Spend the start of 2014 with friends!

*If you have no plans this New Year's Eve
Celebrate with us!*

St. Nicholas New Year's Eve Celebration

December 31, 2013

8:30PM- ?????

Bring a snack to share

Pizza & Wings

Cost \$10.00

If you are coming Call:

Elaine Nowadly – 867-0981

Please Respond By December 30th



check payable to St. Nicholas in an envelope and put it in the collection basket or drop it off at the rectory. If you have any questions, contact Elaine at the parish office Monday or Thursday from 9:00-1:00.

2014 Envelopes

2014 Church Envelopes are ready for pick up in the back of the church, on the right side as you enter the church.. Please remember: the cost per box is \$5.00. If you did not receive a box of envelopes and **would like to use the envelopes during the upcoming year**, please notify the Parish Office, (Father Marijan or Elaine) we have extra envelopes.

Also: if you are celebrating Christmas on the Gregorian (New) Calendar, the **CHRISTMAS ENVELOPE IS FOUND AT THE END OF THE BOX.** Please use 2013's envelope for CHRISTMAS 2013.

There were two Christmas envelopes in the box, one at the beginning and one at the end, just in case you celebrate both calendars. **If you are celebrating**

Christmas on the Julian (Old) Calendar, please use the CHRISTMAS 2014 found at the beginning of your new 2014 box of envelopes. We ordered the church envelopes from a new company. They are in two boxes instead one one, make sure you take the two boxes. **PLEASE DO NOT USE YOUR NEW BOX OF ENVELOPES UNTIL JANUARY 1, 2014.** We ask this because in most cases

the number you had in 2013 is not the same as the number you have in 2014, and this may cause your donation to be entered incorrectly into the computer since most parishioners do not put names on their envelopes.

ПРОСИМО ВЗЯТИ КОБЕРТИ!!!

УВАГА! УВАГА! УВАГА!

Панство Олесь і Люба Черені
загостили до нас у суботу і
неділю, 28 і 29 Грудня. У них
можна буде закупити книжки,
вишивки, карточки і т. п.

Частина з продажу
підє до нашої церкви.
Просимо зайти по св. Літургіях і
оглянути та закупити це,
що Вам буде подобатися!

* * *

Attention!!! Attention!!!

Oles & Lubov Cheren (dba Gerdan Ukrainian Merchandise), 31 Sherman Place, Clifton, NJ 07011-1407 Tel. 973-246-4827) are visiting our parish this Saturday and Sunday December 28/29 with a large selection of UKRAINIAN BOOKS, both in Ukrainian and in English, including religious, academic, history, literature, arts and crafts, dictionaries, and children's. MAPS, GREETING CARDS, C-Ds, D-V-Ds, JEWELRY, imported from Ukraine, EMBROIDERY, SCARFS, and much more also are available. These are displayed in the church hall. A percentagw of the proceeds will be donated to our parish. We encourage our members and guests to take advantage of this extraordinary opportunity.

Христос Раждається! Славимо Його!



Сердечна подяка усім вам за Ваші
молитви та за Ваш «Дар Любови». Хай
Господь благословить Вас усіх з нагоди
Різдва Христового.

Рівно ж Вітаємо Вас з Новим Роком, і
бажаю щастя, здоров'я і Многих літ.

Мар'ян Процик, свящ.

З родиною

===

Christ Is Born! Glorify Him!

May the Newlyborn King, our Lord and
Savior Jesus Christ, give you joy and
peace in your heart and in relationship
with others!

Thank you all for your prayers, good
wishes and Gifts of Love.

Happy New Year! Wishing you health,
happiness for many many years!

Fr. Marijan Procyk
& Family



Sunday Coffee Hours: If anyone would like to
volunteer to host a Sunday, please contact
Elaine, Emily, Mary (B) or Anna.

- KITCHEN – is open Fridays 11 AM - 3 PM.
Thank you for your patronage.
- Coffee Hour - Usually Every Sunday after
Liturgy in Church Hall. Please join us!
- We need help in the kitchen. Thank you!
- Oles & Lubov Cheren (dba Gerdan Uk-
rainian Merchandise) are with us today.

TOP'S GIFT CARDS:

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

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



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

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

SAINT NICHOLAS

UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
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

Субота - Saturday

Ministry to the sick - Опіка над хворими

Family members should call the Rectory

Родина повинна повідомити священика

IN EMERGENCY CALL ANY TIME

В разі потреби завжди можна закликати

Rev. Raymond Palko, visiting priest

V. Rev. Marijan Procyk, pastor & dean

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

Просимо закликати якщо ви у лічниці
або приковані до ліжка!

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

Ukrainian New Year's Dance
МАЛАНКА 2014

Saturday, January 18th, 2014

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 "СКОРА"

Cocktail Hour, Dinner, Zabava, Midnight

Buffet, & Champagne toast

Or come just for the Zabava

Tickets sales from November 1st, 2013

thru January 11th, 2014

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 Midnight Buffet & Midnight Toast

For More Information, Questions, Tickets &
Reservations

Nicole Grega (716) 903-4777 or

ukerikkie29@gmail.com

Ann Serediuk (716) 316-1051

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 2014



яка відбудеться
в суботу 18-го січня 2014 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:
"СКОПА"

Білету на Вечерю і Забаву на продаж
від 1 -го листопада 2013 р. до 11 -го січня
2014 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.

Вечеря 7:15 в.

Забаву 9:00 в.

Зустріч нового року – шампанський тост

До замовлення білетів:

Никол Грегa (716) 903-4777 -

ukerikkie29@gmail.com

Ганя Середюк (716) 316-1051

КУРИТИ ЗАБОРОНЕНО В ЗАЛІ "ДНІПРА"
КОМІСІЯ КОНТРОЛЯ АЛЬКОГОЛІВ В Н.Й.
ЗАБОРОНЯЄ ПРИНОСИТИ
ВЛАСНІ АЛЬКОГОЛЬНІ НАПИТКИ

From the desk of Fr. Ray Palko

December 29, 2013 A.D.

Christ is Born! Glorify Him!

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!

Dear _____,

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

There ya go....that wasn't so hard was it? Yes, I'm talking about the big Christmas Holy Day, aka, Holiday. Amazing, isn't it, when we consider all the effort that goes into the day, and how quickly it's over. Ours was a beautiful day, and I hope you also had a very special celebration of the birth of our Savior. You know the kind...when you lay down in the bed on Christmas night, pull up the warm covers, take that deep relaxing breath, "Ahhhh," and are able to say, "That was the very best Christmas ever!"

Judging by the several cards with the enclosed pictures of your children and grandchildren and great grandchildren, I know our house wasn't the only one that has been vibrating with excitement and pure joy and love. Of course, the pure joy and love comes only if you somehow have access to a little kid, either in person, on the phon, in memory or maybe even in a story or TV show. Any age will do, but I'd say ten years and under are the best. They absolutely show us what the day is about, and even in their time of "present frenzy" they do express "the reason for the season."

It was a very special time of Holy Supper on Christmas Eve and then Holy Liturgy and the gathering and celebrating on December 25th. The beauty of the day has to be in the gathering of the family, doesn't it? At Holy Supper the "Didukh" is set and the special place is prepared for those who are gone from the table, but who quickly become united with us in spirit and in prayer. Is there a house where a tear is not shed during the prayers before Holy Supper and Christmas dinner? I don't think so.

That's what it's all about though. Even if you are living alone someplace, at Christmas time you can be easily united in a spiritual way with all your family

and friends through your own prayers. Even if we have family and friends around us, all of us have those who "have gone before us," or are unable to be with us as we gather. One of the many joys of the day is to realize that we are easily and truly united in the Lord. We celebrate the Christmas of today as we remember the Christmas of long ago, and look forward to the Christmas to come. As Tiny Tim said in Dickens' A Christmas Carol, "God bless us, every one!" Indeed, may our good God watch over every member of our family, wherever they may be, make His presence known to them, and bless them! Yes, "God bless us, everyone."

The world tells us day of Christmas is over, but guess what? There is still a lot more to come. For the secular world that will sound like a joke, but it is true. Since November 15, we in the Byzantine Church, have been praying and living "St Philip's Fast." This is the special time of preparation given to us by our Holy Church to allow us to be ready to greet the New-born King. We've had forty days of getting our spiritual house in order, now we are only beginning our 40 day celebration of the Birth of our Lord. From Christmas day until the Feast of the Encounter of our Lord in the Temple on February 2, we will continue to be aware of the great holy day that is now upon us. We are only beginning the great celebration of the Feast of His coming among us.

Rather than thinking about taking down lights and decorations, we should only be putting them up. From now until February 2, let our lights shine... those lights that symbolize THE LIGHT come into the world. We have been given the gift of Faith in Jesus Christ. We believe and we celebrate His coming. We see His great Light. We know and rejoice in His coming!

St. John the Theologian said, "He came unto His own, and His own received Him not." (John 1: 11) There are many in the world who do not see this Light. Remember what St. John also said about Jesus? "And the light shines in the darkness; and the darkness grasped it not." (Jn. 1: 5) Our Lord has come, but even as at His first coming, many did not

recognize Him, and still today, many do not recognize Him.

Today it was difficult to find a radio station playing Christmas carols. Yup, they have been playing since before Thanksgiving, so last night was the final time till next year when it would have been possible to hear those beautiful melodies on the radio. We'll see "Christmas" rapidly disappearing in the next few days, but we don't have to let it happen. We are Christians, and now is the time for us Christians to rise and shine! It is up to us to continue these days of Christmas. The world will go on to other things, but let us, with true and joyful hearts, celebrate the Good News of His coming among us. "God is with us!" Until February 2: "Keep those lights on! Keep your tree up as long as possible! Keep your decorations unashamedly in and on your house. Pull out the "phonograph" and play a few of the carols. Greet on another with "Christ is Born! Glorify Him!" Definitely keep your icon of the Nativity in your icon corner!"

The food has been delightful and there is more to come. We always wait for the presents, cookies and fruit cakes which Dear Sister Chris has put together and baked and will send on to us in the near future. She bakes and cooks "just like Mom used to do it" so I look forward to those special recipes and tastes which always trigger memories of "good ol' Middleport, Pa." C'mon UPS!

I take this opportunity to thank everyone for the "Dar Lyubovi", the gift of Love of the Christmas cards, prayers and gifts which we have received. Your generosity, caring and love indeed give me cause to rejoice. I always pray God will bless you for your kindness and thoughtfulness, and that He will reward you a hundred-fold! Thank You!

Before I sign off for this week I must also wish you a very Happy New Year! As we turn the page of the civil calendar we pray to the Lord our God, from Whom comes every good thing. "O Lord

our God, Who has placed times and seasons under Your own authority; Who in Your infinite compassion and goodness have counted us worthy to enter a New Year of Your loving kindness, bless it and keep us in peace."

I must close now with the promise to write again next week, God willing and the creek don't rise. I leave you with Christmas prayers for joy, peace, happiness, love for you and yours. May the God of Peace, the New-born Babe of Bethlehem bless you and keep you. May our Holy Lady Theotokos keep you and protect you, even as she kept and watched over the tiny God-baby. Let us give thanks and celebrate the "good tidings of great joy that have been made known to us. Let us go and see this which has come to pass and has been made known to us."

With Much Christmas Love,

Fr. Ray
Fr. Ray

Save the date!

Wine Tasting on February 8th at
St. John the Baptist
Ukrainian Catholic Church Hall.
Sponsored by UNWLA Branch 97
Proceeds to benefit UNWLA charities.

**The Ukrainian National
Women's League of America**
is actively accepting donations for
humanitarian aid for the demonstrators
at the Euro-Maidan in Kyiv.

To make a donation, please contact
any member of Branch 97, UNWLA or
call 984-4886 for further information.

In Memoriam – Вічна Пам'ять!

Упокоїлася в Господі Св. Пам.

+Ірена Гелецька

(22. VI. 1910 – 22. XII. 2013)

Сестрам Анні і Марії та братові Богданові з родинами, та іншим членам родини і приятелям складаємо співчуття, а їй хай буде Вічна Пам'ять!

Зі святими упокой, Христе, душу слугині твоєї Ірени, де не має болізни, ні печалі, ні зідхання, але життя безконечне!



Fell asleep in the Lord

+Irina Geleckyj

(June 22, 1944 - December 22, 2013)

At the age of 69, Irina was a former Assistant Nurse at the West Seneca Developmental Center, in West Seneca. She was the daughter of the late Matrona (nee Myrron) and Dmytro Geleckyj and sister of Anna (William) Burke, Maria (William) Sczewczuk, Bohdan (Patricia) Geleckyj and the late Basil (Barbara) Geleckyj.

We extend our sympathy to the Family and friends. May she rest in peace!

To All Visitors, Friends And Parishioners:

Welcome to our Ukrainian Catholic parish of Saint Nicholas. Make yourself at home.

It is strongly recommended that every couple or single person over 18 years be registered with the parish. Attendance and support (according to your ability) is encouraged. We use the system of envelopes. In the case you decide not to use envelopes, you can choose other method of supporting the parish, but your support is appreciated and much needed. May good Lord bless you all!

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 реєструватися. Якщо ви не бажаєте вживати систему конверт, просимо подати ваші адреси і телефони, щоб могли бути в контакті. Ваші датки просимо вложити до конверту і написати Ваше ім'я, бо в протилежному пожертви будуть анонімними.

Щоб довідатися більше інформації про це що діються в громаді.

For more information and events
in Ukrainian Community go to:

<http://www.ukrainiansofbuffalo.com>

Cell Phones - Мобільні Телефони:

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

Просимо вилучувати ваші мобільні телефони, під час Св. Літургії, через повагу до цього Святого Місця. Дякуємо!

З радія "Милосердний Самарянин"

У середу - Новий Рік. Цікаво, що він нам принесе, а що забере від нас?

Маємо надію, що принесе спокій у наші серця, і у наше відношення у родині і до ближніх і між народами, а забере смуток, і ненависть і все це, що нам стоїть на перешкоді.

Господь зберіг нас для того, щоб ми продовжували робити добрі діла. Ще далше дає нам нагоду досягнути своє щастя. А у чому це щастя полягає? Щастя для нас у свідомості, що Господь є з нами, що він з нами бориться, і ніколи не залишить нас, навіть якщо ми можливо на хвилику не звернемо На нього уваги? Важним є завжди старатися не шукати своє щастя там де його не можна знайти.

Старозавітній проповідник Когелет мав усього подостатку, і золота і срібла і різних розкошів, і чого лиш забажали його очі, він їм не боронив. Але після всього того залешилася гіркота і з квасною міною він сказав: »Геть усе марнота і гонитва за вітром і ніякої з того користи нема під сонцем».

Господь Бог є джерелом щастя, а ми нераз шукаємо його хто знає де і так і в нас відчувається гіркота і ми можемо також сказати: «Марнота марнот, усе марнота».

Св. Августин так висловлюється “Не-спокійне серце наше, поки не спочине в Тобі Господи.”

Господь каже: “Прийдіть до мене всі втомлені і я облекшу вас.”

Радість наша у Христі Господі. У ньому вона є повною, чудесною, незмінною і вічною. “Ніхто Вашої радості від нас не забере” каже Ісус у Івана.

Постараймося шукати щастя у прив’язанню до Господа, якого можемо бачити у всіх тих що мають яку небудь потребу, що хворіють, що не знають якою дорогою їм іти. У іншим добаваймо Христа і для інших будьмо Христом. Покажیم їм дорогу до спасіння. Самі ідім нею, і інших туди провадьмо, щоб ми усі були з Господом зєднані, щоб ми усі брали участь у небесній трапезі, на яку нас усіх закликає. З нами бог, розумійте народи і покоріться бо ось з нами Бог.

Подякуймо Господеві за всі дари, що ми їх одержали в цьому році, що вже проминає. Можливо не все нам подобалося, можливо ми мали труднощі, нестачі, може хворіли, може хтось з членів нашої родини, або наші приятелі постраждали. Все ж таки все проминуло. Нові труднощі прийдуть, але з Господом ми все можемо подолати. Він нас скріплює, Він провадить, Він нами опікується. Ідучи за Ним ми не будемо спотикатися. Він нам освітлює дорогу.

Хтось колись сказав: »Життя є це що стається у той час коли ти маєш пляни робити щось іншого». На порозі наступаючого року постановім своє життя вести з вірою, надією, і любовю. Перед нами багато справ до поладження. Багато є тих, що нас потребують, і Господь нас посилає передати їм Його любов.

Зі щирого серця бажаємо усім вам, дорогі в Христі, щоб Новий Рік приніс багато радості і щастя в Христі Господі, щоб ми завжди були іншим на службі, щоб труднощі які прийдуть привели нас до співчутливості з іншими, і до зрозуміння потреби Господа в нашому житті.

ЩАСЛИВОГО НОВОГО РОКУ!

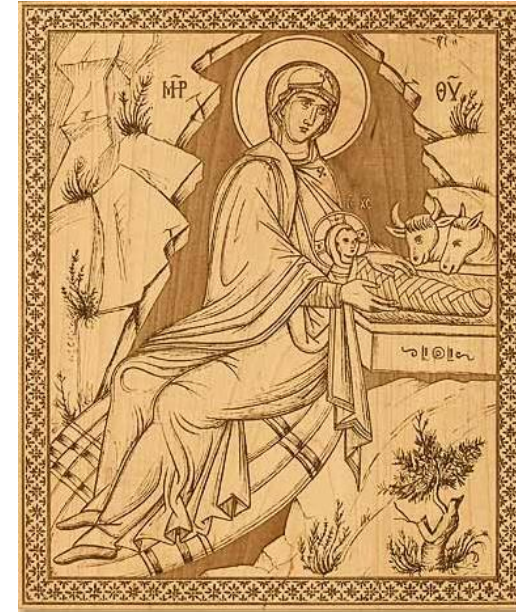
From "Good Samaritan" Ukr. Radio pr.

Christ is born – let us glorify Him! This coming week marks the start of yet another brand New Year. It was Pope John XXIII who once wrote in his New Year’s address: “May the Lord banish from the hearts of all men and women whatever might endanger peace. May He transform them into witnesses of truth, justice and love. May He enkindle the rulers of peoples so that in addition to their solicitude for the proper welfare of their citizens, they may guarantee and defend the great gift of peace. May He enkindle the wills of all so that they may overcome the barriers that divide, embrace the bonds of mutual charity, understand others, and pardon those who have done them wrong. May all peoples of the earth become as brothers and sisters, and may the most longed-for peace blossom forth and reign always among men and women.”

As we leave a year behind that has witnessed so much senseless violence and tragedy, perhaps the wisest words spoken are those of peace to ring in the New Year. One of the most comforting thoughts we have to take into 2014 is that Jesus loves us and cares for us. There is not a person upon the earth for whom He fails to love. No matter where we live, regardless of who we are, Christ has a place for each of us in His heart. May we know in these days just after Christmas, and before the start of the coming

New Year, that Jesus was born so that God would not dwell in some far off Kingdom, not in some distant place, but rather here with you and me. Wherever we are, Jesus longs to be born there. This is the Word given to us in the very first chapter of St. Matthew’s Gospel, when an Angel appeared to Joseph in a dream. *“Do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife”, the Angel said, “For the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit, and they shall name Him Emmanuel”, which means God is with us!*

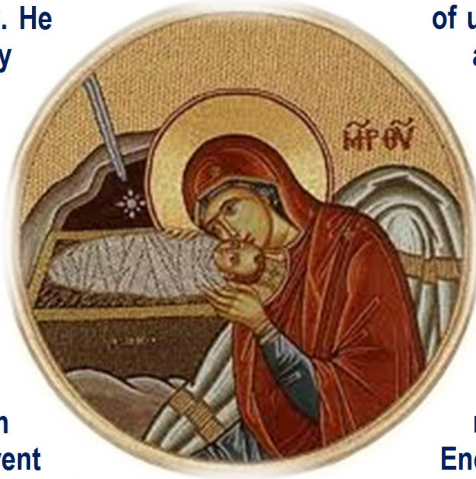
Think of the many ways God has reached out to us to communicate with us since the beginning. The climax of God communicating with us in the Old Testament was when God formed the covenant with Moses on Mt. Sinai. God joined himself to us and we were joined to God in a covenant. But we still sinned so God raised up prophets to call us back, but only a small number of people paid heed to the prophets. Through one of the prophets, Hosea, God said that Israel has been like an unfaithful wife committing adultery by going after false gods. All through the centuries of the Old Testament God pursued us like a lover, but we had broken the covenant and God had to make a new unbreakable covenant with us. For this new covenant, God would become flesh and bones like us, and shed his blood in the person of Jesus to convince us once and for all to accept his invitation to be his people. Jesus was the climax of God reaching out to us.



As we read in the Gospel, “*The Word was made flesh, he lived among us, and we saw his glory, the glory that is his as the only Son of the Father, full of grace and truth.*” (John 1:14)...

There is a legend of an African boy called Emmanuel, who was always asking questions. One day he asked the question, “What language does God speak?”

No one could answer him. He traveled all over his country to find the answer but did not get a satisfactory response. Eventually he set out for distant lands to find the answer. For a long time he had no success. At last he came one night to a village called Bethlehem and as there was no room in the local inn, he went outside the village in search of a shelter for the night. He came to a cave and found that too was occupied by a couple who had just given birth to a child. He was about to turn away when the young mother spoke, ‘Welcome Emmanuel, we’ve been waiting for you.’ The boy was amazed that the woman knew his name. He was even more amazed when she went on to say, “For a long time you have been searching the world over to find out what language God speaks. Well, now your journey is over. Tonight you can see with your own eyes what language God speaks. He speaks the language of love, which is expressed in sharing, understanding, mercy and total acceptance.”



It was over 2000 years ago, that one of our first Christian leaders, St. Paul, gave this advice: "Forgetting what is behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on towards the goal for which God has called me, heavenwards in Christ Jesus." (Phil 3:13-14). This advice from scripture has stood the test of time. I do not know of any more

relevant and practical advice for each of us, as another year will come and go and a New Year stretches out before us.

One of the most comforting thoughts we have to take into the New Year is that Jesus loves us and cares for us. So today and throughout the coming New Year, I pray you have enough happiness to keep you kind.

Enough trials to keep you strong; Enough sorrow to keep you human; Enough hope to keep you happy; Enough weakness to keep you humble; Enough success to keep you thankful; Enough friends to give you comfort; Enough wealth to meet your needs; Enough enthusiasm to make you look forward to tomorrow, and enough determination to make each day better than the day before. My brothers and sisters, as we soon celebrate with our friends and family the blessing of yet another New Year, may the peace and love of the Christ child, the gift of this Holy Season, be with you always.

Emmanuel: God is with us!



Архиепископ-емерит Блаж. Любомир (Гузар) відзначає, що 2013 рік, який минає, був справді складним роком. Про це він сказав у коментарі телеканалу СТБ. «Цей рік був справді складний, але Богу дякувати за це! Бо це є знак, що приходять зміни», - зазначив Блаженніший Любомир.

За його спостереженнями, останніх 20 років ми крок за кроком, дуже повільно, переходили з того, що нам накинули до 90-го року, до здійснення мрії про нормальну незалежну державу, цілковито суверенну.

«Хочемо жити так, як живуть інші народи в цілому світі. Ми за собою залишаємо погану минувшину. Богу дякувати. За нею не треба плакати, а треба з надією дивитися на те, що хочемо побачити, ту державу, в якій хочемо жити. І гадаю, ті події, свідками яких ми були цього року, який вже тепер минає, це були вступні кроки до зміни, до змін не осіб, змін системи», - переконаний духовний лідер українців.

Він підкреслює, що український народ хоче жити в іншій системі – «у системі справедливості, системі правди, системі, де кожна людина, кожен громадянин,

молодший чи старший, відчуває себе цілковито собою, цілковито задоволеним, з захищеними його правами».

«Ось до цього ми, з Божою допомогою, надіємося найближчим часом прийти. Перші кроки, на мою думку, вже зроблені. Народ заявив – недвозначно – своє бажання», – підсумував Архиепископ-емерит.

Департамент інформації УГКЦ

— Іван Павло II часто нагадував: «Не бійтеся!». То є система диктатури, яку ми успадкували від Радянського Союзу, бо там також людей тримали у страху. Так виходить, що наша влада діє дуже короткозоро, по-дурному, і це аж прикро. Мені неприємно говорити про те, що наша влада так знеславилася. Навіть у Львові до студентів УКУ дзвонять із СБУ. То до чого ми докотилися? Чи це повторення Радянського Союзу? Не дивуюся, що люди бояться, до вас можуть прийти й можуть бити. Мені цитували жахливу річ: на чоловіка напав «Беркут», він отримав 63 удари!

Останні кілька тижнів відкрило нам дуже багато про Україну. Від цього можна тільки плакати, бо на весь наш народ падає тінь. Не знаю, як люди виправдовуються за скоєне зло. Не дивно, що вони бояться, бо сила страху в незнанні, у тому, що ми питаємо: «Якби що...». Слова Івана Павла II «не бійтеся» інколи легше сказати, але треба зібрати в собі всю силу, щоб страх подолати. (Блаж. Любомир)