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St. Peter & St. Paul Ukrainian Orthodox G.C. Church

220 Mansfield Blvd. (mailing: PO Box 835), Carnegie, PA 15106

Re. Fr. John Charest
Deacon Evan O'Neil

Rectory: 412-279-2111

Parish Hall: 412- 276-9718

President: Howard West 724-910-9627

www.orthodoxcarnegie.org

DECEMBER 23, 2018

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23RD

DIVINE LITURGY, 9:30 AM, TONE 5
30TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

MARTYRS MENAS, HERMOGENES, AND EUGRAPHUS
COL 3 : 12-16 , LK 17: 12-19

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 26TH

DIVINE LITURGY FEAST OF ST NICHOLAS 10:00 AM
AKATHIST TO THE THEOTOKOS 6:30 PM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 30TH

DIVINE LITURGY, 9:30 AM, TONE 6
31ST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SUNDAY OF THE FOREFATHERS/ PROPHET DANIEL
COL 3 : 4-11 , LK 14: 16-24

THIS WEEK'S BULLETIN IS SPONSORED BY:

IN HONOR OF PEARL HOMYRDA ON HER BIRTHDAY
FROM A FRIEND.

.MNOHAYA LITA ! MANY BLESSED YEARS !

CYNTHIA HALUSZCZAK IN MEMORY OF HER MOTHER,
CATHERINE "KUSHA" HALUSZCZAK, ON THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY
OF HER BIRTH.

MEMORY ETERNAL VICHNAYA PAMYAT

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Editor: Michael Kapeluck

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- hand delivered to the editor
- placed in the Bulletin envelope in the church vestibule.
- mailed to: 300 East Main Street, Carnegie, PA 15106
- e-mailed to: kapeluck@verizon.net

We welcome you today

We would like to remind our visitors of the following;:

- ❖ All people are encouraged to participate in the sacred services of our Church. We hope that you will be able to worship as well as have fellowship with us. Should you wish any information about the Orthodox Faith or this parish in particular, please see the rector or any member of the church. We are able to place you on our mailing list.
- ❖ Only Orthodox Christians may receive the Eucharist (Holy Communion) in the Orthodox Church. In like manner, Orthodox Christians may not receive the sacraments in a non-Orthodox Church. While we hope that one day all Christians will find unity and be able to approach the chalice of our Lord together, we observe the teachings of the Church that the Eucharist is a gift of unity and not a means of unity.

We remind our faithful and visitors of the following guidelines concerning the Holy Sacraments in the Orthodox Church.

- ❖ Orthodox Christians are urged to receive Holy Communion frequently.
- ❖ Communicants should be at peace with others before approaching the chalice (Mt 5:23-24)
- ❖ Realize the importance of making a thorough examination of sins and transgressions against God, ourselves and others and having prayed for forgiveness before coming to Holy Communion.
- ❖ Frequent communicants should come to Holy Confession at least four times a year (during the four fasting periods of the year). and additionally when an examination of conscience reveals the necessity to do so in order to heal any sinful behavior.
- ❖ Communicants should fast from all foods and liquids from the evening before receiving Holy Communion.
- ❖ Communicants should read prayers in preparation for receiving Holy Communion.
- ❖ All Orthodox Christians must receive the sacraments at least once a year.
- ❖ Those who are late for Divine Liturgy (after the reading of the Epistle and Gospel) should not approach the chalice.
- ❖ Those who are ill or who have special physical needs are exempt from the above guidelines.
- ❖ Infants and children (up to the age of seven) who are Orthodox Christians may receive Holy Communion and are exempt from the above guidelines.

Thank you for gathering to worship with us today. Together we have glorified the One God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. May we be brought closer to one another and closer to God by following the eternal teachings of our Lord.

Нагадуємо нашнім гостям., що:

ми заохочуємо всіх до участі у Священній Літургії в нашій Церкві; ми сподіваємося, що Ви зможете не лише молитися тут, але й стати членом нашої громади. Якщо Ви хочете отримати якусь додаткову інформацію про Православну віру, чи, зокрема, про нашу парафію, звертайтеся, будь ласка, до отця настоятеля чи до будь-кого із членів нашої парафії. Ми можемо внести вашу адресу до парафіяльного списку розсилки;

лише православні християни можуть отримати Євхаристію (Святе Причастя) у православної церкви і, відповідно, православні християни не можуть отримувати святого причастя у неправославній церкві. Плекаючи надію на те, що у майбутньому всі християни досягнуть єдності і зможуть разом пити із чаші нашого Господа, ми дотримуємося вчення церкви про те, що Євхаристія - це дар єдності, а не засіб до єдності.

НАГАДУЄМО НАШИМ ВІРНИМ і ГОСТЯМ ПРО ПРАВИЛА, ЩО СТОСУЮТЬСЯ СВЯТОГО ПРИЧАСТЯ У ПРАВОСЛАВНІЙ ЦЕРКВІ:

ми спонукаємо православних християн часто ходити до Святого Причастя;

ті, хто причащаються, повинні бути у мирі з іншими перш, нас підійти до євхаристичної чаші (Св.Матвії 5:23-24);

перед тим, як прийти на Святе Причастя, дуже важливо ретельно осмислити гріхи і порушення, які було вчинено проти Бога, нас самих та інших і помолитися за їх відпущення;

тим, хто часто причащається, слід приходити на святу сповідь принаймні чотири рази на рік (під час кожного із чотирьох щорічних постів);

ті, хто причащається, повинні з вечора перед прийняттям Святого Причастя, припинити вживання всякої їжі і напоїв;

ті, хто причащається, повинні шляхом молитов підготувати себе до прийняття причастя;

всі православні християни повинні, принаймні, раз на рік отримати Святе Причастя;

ті, хто спізнився на Божественну Літургію (пришов після того, як було прочитано Апостол і Євангеліє) не можуть підходити до чаші; **хворі**, і **ті**, хто має обмежені фізичні м'якшкості, звільняються від вище викладених вимог;

немовлята та **діти** до семи років, які належать до Православної християнської віри, можуть отримувати Святе Причастя і звільняються від вище викладених вимог;

Дякуємо за те, що Ви прийшли помолитися з нами сьогодні у церкві Ісуса Христа. Разом з вами ми віддали славу Єдиному Господу, Отцеві, і Синові, і Духові Святому. Нехай дотримування вічного вчення нашого Господа наблизить нас один до одного Богу

MARTYRS MENAS, HERMOGENES AND EUGRAPHUS

TROPARION TO THE RESURRECTION TONE 5

Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, born for our salvation of the Virgin; for He willed to be lifted on the Cross in the flesh, to endure death, and to raise the dead by His glorious Resurrection!

TROPARION TO THE MARTYRS- TONE 8

Having slain the fiery ragings and fierce movements of the passions through their ascetic labors, the Martyrs of Christ, Menas, Hermogenes, and Eugraphus, received grace to dispel the afflictions of the infirm and to work wonders both while alive and after death. It is a truly great wonder that bare bones pour forth healing. Glory to our only God and Creator.

KONTAKION TO THE MARTYRS - TONE 4

The Lord snatched you from the temporal army making you a fellow inheritor of the eternal, O Menas; together with Hermogenes and Eugraphus with whom you suffered, you are granted an incorruptible crown.

KONTAKION TO THE RESURRECTION TONE 5

Thou didst descend into hell, O my Savior, shattering its gates as Almighty; resurrecting the dead as Creator, and destroying the sting of death. Thou hast delivered Adam from the curse, O Lover of Man, and we cry to Thee, O Lord, save us!

The Holy Martyrs Menas, Hermogenes, and Eugraphus suffered for their faith in Christ under the emperor Maximian (305-313).

St Menas was sent by the emperor from Athens to Alexandria to suppress the riots that had arisen between the Christians and the pagans. Distinguished for his gift of eloquence, Menas instead openly began to preach the Christian Faith and he converted many pagans to Christ. Learning of this, Maximian sent Hermogenes to Alexandria to place the saints on trial. Moreover, he gave orders to purge the city of Christians.

Hermogenes, although he was a pagan, was distinguished by his reverent bearing. And struck by the endurance of St Menas under torture and by his miraculous healing after the cruel torments, he also came to believe in Christ. Maximian himself then arrived in Alexandria. Neither the astonishing stoic endurance of Sts Menas and Hermogenes under torture, nor even the miracles manifested by God in this city, mollified the emperor. Instead, they vexed him all the more. The emperor personally stabbed St Eugraphus, the secretary of St Menas, and then gave orders to behead the holy Martyrs Menas and Hermogenes.

The relics of the holy martyrs, cast into the sea in an iron chest, were afterwards found and transferred to Constantinople in the ninth century. The emperor Justinian built a church in the name of the holy Martyr Menas of Alexandria. St Joseph the Hymnographer composed a Canon in honor of these holy martyrs.



Prokiemon

Thou, O Lord, will protect us; and will keep us from this generation forever.

Verse: *Save me, O Lord, for there is not one godly man left.*

30th Sunday

Lesson from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Colossians

(c. 3, v. 12-16)

Brethren, as the chosen and beloved saints of God, practice mercy, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Be tolerant with one another and always ready to forgive anyone, who has a difference with you. Forgive others, as Christ has forgiven you.

Above all, practice charity, which is the bond of perfection. Let the peace of God reign in your hearts, for you have been called to become members of a single body. Be always thankful. Let the message of Christ dwell in you and enrich your hearts. Teach and admonish one another in all wisdom. Sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual anthems. Praise God and give thanks to him with all your hearts.

До колоссян 3:12-16

Так живіть новим життям, як вибрані люди Божі, святі й улюблені, сповнені милосердя, доброти, покору, лагідності й терпіння. Будьте терпимими одне до одного, прощайте одне одного, якщо хто скаржиться на вас, як Господь простив вас. Але ж найголовніше над усім у вашому житті — це любов до інших. Саме любов об'єднує усе досконалим союзом. Хай же мир Христа керує серцями вашими, бо саме до нього ви були покликані з'єднатися в одному тілі. Та завжди будьте вдячні.

Нехай Слово Христове живе в вас у всьому його багатстві. Навчайте і переконуйте одне одного мудрістю. Співайте псалми, гімни й духовні пісні з подякою Богові у серцях ваших.

Gospel According to St. Luke

(c. 17, v. 12-19)

At that time, as he was entering a village, Jesus was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance and cried aloud : "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us."

When he saw them, he said: "Go and show yourselves to the priests." Thereupon, as they went, they were cleansed.

Then one of them, when he noticed that he was healed, turned back, glorifying God aloud, fell on his face at the feet of Jesus, and thanked him. He was a Samaritan.

Jesus asked: "Now, all ten were healed. But where are the other nine? How is it that no one has come back to glorify God except this stranger?" Then he said to him : "Rise up and go your way. Your faith has healed you."

Від Луки 17:12-19

Коли Він увійшов в одне з селищ, Його зустріли десять чоловік хворих на проказу. Вони стояли віддалік і голосно гукали: «Ісусе, Володарю, змилуйся над нами!» Побачивши їх, Ісус наказав: «Підіть і покажіться священикам». І поки ті десятеро йшли, вони цілком очистилися.

Та один із них, коли побачив, що він зцілений, повернувся й голосно славив Бога. Він простягся долілиць біля Ісусових ніг і дякував Йому. Він був самаритянином.

У відповідь Ісус запитав: «Хіба не десятеро очистилися? Де ті дев'ятеро? Невже жоден із них, крім цього іноземця, не повернувся віддати дяку Богові?»

І сказав йому Ісус: «Підведися і йди. Твоя віра зцілила тебе».

Gratitude, Humility, and Obedience: Homily for the 12th Sunday of Luke in the Orthodox Church

Fr. Philip LeMasters

Luke 17: 12-19

It is so easy for human beings to find a way to keep score, to focus on where we stand in relation to other individuals and groups. We probably do that in order to feel better about ourselves along the lines of “Well, at least I am not as bad as they are.”

The Jews of the first century had such an attitude toward the Samaritans—the people they loved to hate. And it would be hard to find someone lower in social standing in that day than a Samaritan with leprosy, a skin condition that made its sufferers religiously unclean and complete social outcasts. So just imagine how shocking it was that the Samaritan leper was the only one of the ten who returned to thank Christ for healing Him from that dreaded disease. In that time and place, this was an outrageous story.

Maybe this man was so thankful precisely because he had learned not to expect compassion from anyone and that he could take no blessing for granted. He surely felt out of place walking with Jewish lepers to the temple in Jerusalem, for that is not where the Samaritans worshiped and presumably he would not have been welcome there. Nonetheless, he obeyed the Lord’s command and was healed. And he alone took the time and effort to return to thank the One who had changed his life.

This man’s healing is an icon of the good news that we celebrated at Christmas and Epiphany and that is at the very heart of our faith. The healing of the Samaritan leper from a terrible disease manifests our salvation in the God-Man Jesus Christ, which extends to all who have put Him on in baptism. As the healing of the Samaritan leper shows, God’s mercy extends to everyone who receives Jesus Christ with faith, repentance, and gratitude. Regardless of what anyone else does, we want to be like that leper, receiving God’s blessing in humility and responding with true thanks. But in order to do that, we have to find healing for our sins, the diseases of soul that have disfigured us and corrupted our beauty as those whom Christ has clothed with a garment of light in baptism.

The truth is that we all struggle to wear that robe of light, to embrace Christ’s healing, for we so easily fall back into the ugly sickness of sin. If we are honest, we will see that we fit right in with the Samaritan and the other lepers who were right to call out, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!” We need their humility and sense of dependence upon the Lord’s grace for a healing beyond what we can give ourselves. The daily prayers found in any Orthodox prayer book say the same thing, and the Jesus Prayer should always be in our hearts. Our prayer life is not a matter of just mouthing words, but a true plea for forgiveness, healing, and strength from the depths of our souls concerning the challenges that we face each day. There is nothing more fundamental to the Christian life than daily personal prayer in which we are fully present to the One born and baptized to save us. The more we open our lives to Him, the more fully we will be aware of our personal brokenness and constant need for His mercy.

The struggle to live faithfully can certainly feel lonely and frustrating. Sin so easily isolates us from one another and also from ourselves. Even if we manage to keep secrets from others, the burdens of guilt and shame are profound and can separate us at a deep level from those closest to us. They easily become unhealthy obsessions that make us feel as unclean as a leper who thinks that no one could understand his pain and that no one could



possibly heal his wounds. That is one of the reasons why the sacrament of Confession is such a blessing and a relief, such a source of strength in our journey to live the new life in Christ. In Confession we are reminded that we are not left alone in isolation to struggle with our sins, for the priest is an icon of the Lord, conveying His mercy and providing guidance for the healing of our souls. If we want to be healed like the Samaritan leper, we will come to Confession regularly, naming our sins, especially those of which we are most ashamed and which we would like to keep hidden. We will kneel before Christ in humility, bare our souls, and be assured of His forgiveness, if we are truly honest and repentant.

Like everyone else in the Orthodox Church, a priest goes to another priest for Confession. This sacrament is a therapy for our healing, as well as a reminder that we are members of a Body united together in love and mercy. We do not have to suffer alone, in isolation as though we were the only one who ever sinned. We each have a slightly different version of a common struggle. Our sins are not nearly as unique as we are tempted to think, and there is great power in hearing a human voice say that we should give no further care to the sins we have confessed, for they are forgiven in this world and in that which is to come. Christ says to each of us in Confession through the voice of a priest, "Arise, go your way. Your faith has made you well."

The Samaritan is also an example for us in his obedience because he actually did what Christ told him to do, to head toward Jerusalem to show himself to the priests. Here we have another powerful image of the Christian life, for we open our lives to the Lord's healing by obeying Him, by keeping His commandments.

A murderer does not become an icon of Christ's salvation by continuing to murder. A proud person does not become humble by continuing to be proud. And we will not experience victory over any sin in our lives if we simply give into it or make up excuses to justify ourselves. No, we have actually to repent, to reject actions, thoughts, words, and habits that we know are wrong. We may experience the greatest struggle of our lives in doing so and feel nothing but pain and frustration as we fight our passions. We may fall flat on our faces a thousand times and wonder if we will ever find peace and joy. When that happens, we must take our attention off ourselves and put it on Christ. For if we are obeying Him as we best we can given our current state of spiritual health, then we are just like that Samaritan leper going to Jerusalem in obedience to Christ's command, regardless of how we feel about it. He calls us to obey and be healed, which is different from being perfectly at ease. Have you ever gone to physical therapy after an injury or worked out when you were not in shape? That was probably not much fun. Have you ever done the right thing in life even though it was hard and you did not particularly like it at the moment and worried how things would turn out? If so, you know that there are times to focus on something much more important than your fears. That is what the Samaritan leper did and it is what we must all do if we want to find healing for our souls.

It is never popular, but still true: We simply cannot expect to find strength and transformation if we do not obey the Lord. If we do not pray at home and at church, practice fasting and other forms of self-denial, give to the poor and needy, forgive those who have offended us, keep a close watch on our thoughts and actions, and struggle mightily against our familiar temptations, we really cannot expect growth in the Christian life. If we are not actively seeking to become living icons of Christ's salvation, we will not grow in holiness. Like the leper, we must do our part in order to open ourselves to the mercy of Christ, to put ourselves in the place where His new life shines in ours. And that is always the place of humble obedience.

We should put out of our minds the thought that we are obeying an abstract law of religion or morality, for our Savior is a Person Who knows us better than we know ourselves. We should turn away from obsessing over whether we are doing anything perfectly, for that reflects only our pride. We should not be bogged down by the thousand excuses that run through our minds about why it is more important do something else than to follow Christ. At the end of the day, we simply need to be like that Samaritan leper who called for Christ's mercy and then did what the Lord told him to do. Despite our many imperfections and corruptions, that is how we too will be able to hear those blessed words: "Rise and go your way, your faith has made you well." We should not make obedience any hard than it really is.

Prayer List

Heavenly Father, Who sent Your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, to be the Physician of our souls and bodies, Who came to heal sickness and infirmity, Who healed the paralytic, and brought back to life the daughter of Jairus, Who healed the woman who had been sick for twelve years by the her mere touch of the hem of your robe, visit and heal also your beloved servants:

Metropolitan Antony	Tetiana Kozak	Rose Zinski	Pamela Partridge	Reggie Warford
Fr. John Nakonachny	Jane Allred	Sarah Dorning	Sharon Welsh	Peter Zinski
PM Maryann Ozlanski	Pearl Homyrda	Kathryn Ostaffy	Jackson Janosek	James Horowitz
Stephen Sheptak	Max Rozum	Ronda Bicke	Patsy Orlovski	Joe Leis
Elissa Lopez	Irene Palahunik	Mary Ellen Heitzman	Patty Valentino	Jennifer Marley
Dave Harrison	Sam Jarovich	Christopher	Olha Cherniavska	Rose Zalenchak
Tim Cromchak	Andrew Brennan	Jabrell	Angie Zatezalo	Helen Wilwert
Eva Stasko	Penny T.	Ann F.	Steven Smyczek	Joanne Klein
Fr. Nicholas Dilendorf	Steve Sivulich	Pat Dorning	Joe Smajda	Michael Klein
Patty Spotti	Shirley Neal	Deborah Schricker	Jack Schricker	Mark Host

by the power and grace of Your Christ. Grant them the patience that comes from believing that You are always at work in our lives to bring good out of evil. Grant them strength of body, mind and soul. Raise them up from the bed of pain. Grant them full recovery. May they experience the same surge of healing power flow through their bodies ,as did the sick woman who touched your robe. For we, too, are touching your robe today, dear Lord, through this our prayer. We approach you with the same faith she did. Grant them the gift of health. For You alone are the source of healing and to You we offer glory, praise and thanksgiving in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Amen

Mnohaya Lita - Many Blessed Years

Names Days

December 23 St Angelina Brancovich

Angelika Pyvovar

December 26 Martyr Eugene of Sebaste

Yevhen Lysak

Anniversaries

Birthdays

December 23 Beverly Kapeluck

December 26 Susan Leis

December 27 Anna Swindle

December 27 Pearl Homyrda

Feast Days of:

December 25 St. Spyridon

December 29 Prophet Haggai

All a part of our parish Iconography

Pray for our friends and relatives serving in the armed forces.

Patrick Kluyber, Catherine Sheerin, Gregory Markiw, Metro Martin, Ethan Rock, Michael Hrishenko

Pray for our Catechumens

Pray for our parishioners in vocational studies

Deacon Cliff O'Neil, , Ethan Nix

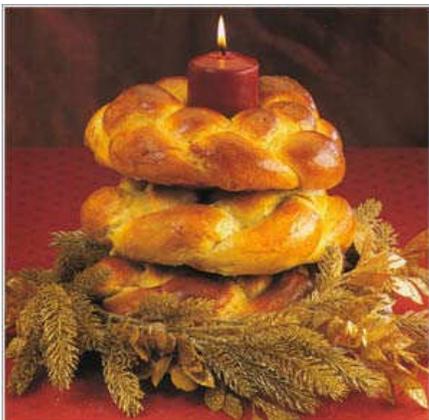
- **SENIOR COFFEE HOUR:** No Senior Coffee Hour will occur on Thursday, December 27. Senior Coffee Hour will resume on Thursday, January 3, and all are invited to attend for coffee, pancakes, pastries and great fellowship.
- **RECTORY UPDATE:** I would like to thank everyone who helped Father Steve pack his possessions and helped take them to the storage locker or to Father Tim's. I also would like to thank everyone who helped Father John unload his "small tuck" and also helped him move their furniture and possessions around the rectory and garage. I would also like to thank everyone who has helped with cleaning the rectory, painting, wall paper removal, plastering and helped with the excess furniture disposal. The first floor of the Rectory is almost completed and work on the 2nd floor will start up again after Christmas.

We all should be proud of what has been accomplished to date, this is a perfect example of how we can come together to work on a project. Howard West, Parish Council President 2018/2019.

- **ST NICHOLAS:** Thank you to everyone who helped make this year St. Nicholas program and luncheon a big success. We appreciate all your hard work. Thank you, Tracey and Rachel

December Coffee Hour Schedule

- Dec 30 Juliana Leis, Olesya Zelenyak, Sandy Rozum
- Jan 6 Natalie & Ethan Nixon, Beverly Kapeluck
- Jan 13 Cindy Haluszczak, Cindy Mycyk, Beverly Wachnowsky
- Jan 20 Rachel Losego, Jason & Mary Olexa
- Jan 27 Irene & Jim Rozum, Natalie Turicik



The Parish family is invited to gather for the traditional Sviate Vechir, Christmas Eve Supper, on Sunday, January 6, at 6:00 p.m. in the Hall prior to the Christmas Eve Compline Service. Everyone attending is asked to bring a traditional Christmas Eve supper meatless dish to be shared by all. Please advise Alice Sivulich if you plan to attend and what dish you plan to bring.



Announcement From the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople Communiqué

It is with praise to God, great joy and satisfaction that the Ecumenical Patriarchate announces the successful completion of the work of the Unifying Synod (Sobor)—foundational of the new Orthodox Autocephalous Church of Ukraine—which was convened in Kyiv today, December 15th, 2018. Metropolitan Epiphanius of Pereiaslav and Belotserkovsky was elected as its Primate.

His Beatitude, the newly-elected Primate, contacted His All-Holiness, the Ecumenical Patriarch, expressed his respect and asked the wishes and blessings of the Mother Church for fruition of his primatial ministry, which starts under good auspices.

In this context, it is announced that Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew invited His Beatitude Epiphanius to concelebrate the Divine Liturgy at the Phanar on the great feast of Theophany and to deliver to him the Tomos of establishment of the new sister Autocephalous Church.

*At the Ecumenical Patriarchate, the 15th of December, 2018
From the Chief Secretariat of the Holy and Sacred Synod*

+++++

КОМЮНІКЕ

Прославляючи Бога та з великою радістю та задоволенням, Вселенський Патріархат оголошує про успішне завершення роботи об'єднуючого Синоду (Собору) - заснування нової Православної Автокефальної Церкви України, який був скликаний сьогодні в Києві, 15 грудня 2018 р. Митрополит Епіфаній Переяславський і Білоцерківський був обраний її Предстоятелем.

Новообраний Блаженніший Предстоятель звернувся до Його Всесвятості, Вселенського Патріарха, висловив свою повагу і попросив добрих побажань та благословення Матері Церкви на те, щоби він здійснював своє предстоятельське служіння, яке починається під доброю егідою.

У цьому контексті оголошено, що Вселенський Патріарх Варфоломій запросив Його Блаженство Епіфанія для співслужіння Божественної Літургії на Фанарі на великому святі Богоявлення і надання йому Томосу створення нової сестринської Автокефальної Церкви.

*У Вселенському Патріархаті, 15 грудня 2018 року
Від Головного Секретаріату Святого і Священного Синоду*



The Exarchs of Ecumenical Patriarchate Receive the Highest Award of the Ukrainian Parliament

On December 15, 2018, a crowd of thousands gathered in the St. Sophia Square, eagerly awaiting the results of the Unification Sobor. At the conclusion of the Council, which took place inside the ancient, 1,000-year-old majestic Saint Sophia Cathedral, aptly named “Holy Wisdom”, the announcement of the establishment of the Orthodox Autocephalous Church of Ukraine was made to the patiently awaiting crowd outside. As they celebrated the good news in the gathering darkness, the Christmas lights which decorated the capital city of Ukraine began to twinkle happily, accentuating the celebratory spirit.

As the nation celebrated, key members of the Unification Sobor gathered in the Office of the Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, Andriy Volodymyrovych Parubiy. The Chairman expressed his gratitude to the special representatives of the Ecumenical Patriarch for their commitment and hard work in establishing the local Ukrainian Orthodox Church. For months the Exarchs had traveled long distances, suffered sleepless nights, held meetings, led discussions, and prayed deeply for the success of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church. The hours and effort extended by them is immeasurable.



In gratitude, Chairman Parubiy awarded the Exarchs of His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew I - His Eminence Metropolitan Emmanuel of France, His Eminence Archbishop Daniel of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, and His Grace Bishop Ilarion of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Candada, Honorary Diplomas and awards on behalf of the Verkhovna Rada, thanking them for their extraordinary dedication, diligence and self-sacrifice on behalf of the Ukrainian nation and her people.

May the Lord reward the Exarchs for their selflessness and perseverance, granting them many blessed years. Eis polla eti Despota!



Council of Bishops of the UOC of the USA Greets the Newly-Elected Metropolitan of the Orthodox Church of Ukraine

17 December 2018

Holy Great-Martyr Barbara

His Beatitude Epiphaniy

Metropolitan of Kyiv and All Ukraine

Orthodox Church of Ukraine

Your Beatitude: CHRIST IS AMONG US!

The day of December 15, 2018 in the life of the Holy Orthodox Church of Ukraine will always be treasured in history as the day when the faithful of the Church, with the blessing of His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew I and the Holy Synod of the Patriarchate of Constantinople, were blessed with the establishment of a Pomisna-Local Ukrainian Orthodox Church and the election of the Primate-Metropolitan of Kyiv and All Ukraine in the person of Your Beatitude. We look forward to your service to the Gospel and Body of Christ in God-loving Ukraine, which will be guided by the Holy Spirit and lead to the final ecclesiastic unity in the Holy Orthodox Church of Ukraine.

“This is a day the Lord has made!” It is the day that the hierarchs, clergy and faithful of our Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA have prayed and worked for throughout our 100 year history. Metropolitan John (Theodorovych), our first primate and the only hierarch who survived martyrdom of all the other hierarchs of the first formation of Ukrainian autocephaly (1921) served our Holy Church and the cause of Autocephaly for 50 years. Our second Primate-Metropolitan

Mstyslav, from the second formation of autocephaly (1942) served our Holy Church for 43 years. He later became the first Patriarch of Ukraine in the third formation of autocephaly (1990) and never wavered in the struggle for an independent Pomisna Church of Ukraine. Our third Primate-Metropolitan Constantine strove continually throughout his 40 years of service – 20 as Metropolitan – to our Holy Church for the recognition of Autocephaly for Ukraine. We, as the present hierarchs of the UOC of the USA have worked diligently over the past 24 years ensuring that the question of Autocephaly for the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Ukraine would never fade away. Our clergy and faithful have never weakened in their faith that this day would come. “We rejoice and are glad” (Ps. 117:24) in this day and thank God for your election your Beatitude, to the Primacy of the fully autocephalous Ukrainian Orthodox Church. Glory to God for all things!

We all must realize, however, that this is a time in the history of Ukraine and the world that requires gentle healing, firm leadership and great love. Our prayer for you, Your Beatitude, is that you will continue to be graced by God with the gentle healing faith exhibited by the saints of all Rus-Ukraine, that you will be given the strength to exercise firm leadership in the example of the Holy Fathers of the Church and that you will be enabled to unconditionally open yourself in service to the bishops, priests and faithful who are entrusted to your paternal spiritual care. Our Lord will certainly assist you in carrying this heavy burden-responsibility and the powerful prayers of your spiritual children will sustain you always.

In behalf of the clergy and faithful of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, we express to you our most sincere greetings as you begin this certainly difficult, but spiritually and fundamentally important, mission in the life of the Church. We enthusiastically look forward to our common work with you in brotherly love, peace, and harmony as we seek to fulfill God’s Holy Will for all Ukrainian Orthodox Christians.

Dear Brother in Christ and co-celebrant in Christ’s Vineyard, we pray in the depth of our hearts and souls that the joyful Light of the Bethlehem Star will always lead you to Christ our Lord in all your blessed service in His Name seeking the salvation of souls. We know that alone, human desire is insufficient to fulfill this service to which you have been called. As we have seen throughout the history of mankind, we cannot rely upon the wisdom of mankind as our source of strength. May your real strength come from the Wisdom of God in the Holy Trinity, for He is Good, Compassionate, Merciful, Just and loves us beyond our ability to fully comprehend.

With prayers in Christ our Lord,

+**Antony**, *Metropolitan*
+**Daniel**, *Archbishop*



Thank you to everyone who helped make the 15th Annual Cookie Walk such a tremendous success!! Your hard work, dedication, along with the smiles on your faces, made for some very happy guests and a very memorable experience.

Wishing all of you a Blessed Christmas!
The members of St. Matrona Ladies Society
Sherri & Alexis Cookie Walk Co-Chairs

Advent in Prison:
Rethinking Christmas
with Dietrich
Bonhoeffer
Nicole M. Roccas

Since December 1, I've been listening to the audio version of *God is in the Manger*, an Advent devotional comprised of excerpts from Dietrich Bonhoeffer letters and writings from prison.



This is a book I often read through this time of year. Bonhoeffer isn't Orthodox but his life and death under the Nazi regime are an important witness to Christianity in the modern world. As I wrote last year about his life:

His life remains a stunning example of what it means to be a Christian martyr in modern society. He was a Lutheran minister in WWII Germany, well known for his opposition to the Nazi party and their disregard for human life. He was imprisoned and eventually hanged only a month before Germany surrendered to the Allies (got goosebumps just typing that—the time-eternality!)

Aside from the martyric backdrop of Bonhoeffer's life, this particular work offers a helpful corrective to the commercial elements of Christmas that plague our culture. All of the excerpts come from Bonhoeffer's prison writing; he was afforded few luxuries or warm and fuzzy traditions.

Consider this quotation from early in the devotionals:

I used to be very fond of thinking up and buying presents, but now that we have nothing to give, the gift God gave us in the birth of Christ will seem all the more glorious; the emptier our hands, the better we understand what Luther meant by his dying words: "We are beggars; it is true." The poorer our quarters, the more clearly we perceive that our hearts should be Christ's home on earth. (Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *God is in the Manger*)

Bonhoeffer recognizes that the absence of the material and commercial accoutrements of Christmas clarifies rather than dampens the message of Christ's birth. He draws on a famous phrase from his own faith tradition—Luther's famous observation that we are beggars—to express our utter emptiness and contingency before Christ.

One of the reasons this time of year is so stressful, I think, is that this sense of emptiness and possessing-nothing-ness stands in such tension to the consumerist myth of Christmas. Something in the dark days of Winter, the plaintive carols, the pursuit of imbuing our homes with beauty and greenery—something in all of this signals to us how empty we really are as human beings. And that sense—whether faced consciously or not—unnerves us.

This particularly true when we begin to fall prey to the consumerist Christmas myth that tells us as long as we buy enough stuff, give enough presents, we will be happy. We will be full.

Somehow thinking about Christmas in a prison helps me remember and be more okay with my need for Christ to enter into this world. I start to think of the whole human condition as a kind of prison—one this Christchild in His adulthood would enter and redeem.

As Bonhoeffer also stated: A prison cell, in which one waits, hopes – and is completely dependent on the fact that the door of freedom has to be opened from the outside, is not a bad picture of Advent

<https://blogs.ancientfaith.com/timeeternal/advent-in-prison-rethinking-christmas-with-dietrich-bonhoeffer/>

Thanksgiving Dinner Report 2018

As individuals and as a Parish Community, we have much for which to be thankful for. On Thursday November 22nd, 2018 we had our 29th annual Thanksgiving Dinner.

For over a quarter of a century, we have expressed our spirit of thanks by sharing a meal with both members of our Parish community and of the greater Western Pennsylvania Community.

Father Steve Conducted a prayer service at 12:00PM and we had our dinner from 1:00PM till 5:00PM.

This year we served dinners to over 300 people who had dinner at our hall and many deliveries, plus numerous walk in take outs.

The expressions of gratitude, especially from those to whom we delivered the meals to is always heartwarming. Again this year we had many families come to our Parish Hall and have their Thanksgiving meal with us.

This year we had plenty of people to help on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and we had advertising in many media outlets to get the word out. The fellowship, as always, is amazing and your generosity continues to grow each year. Again in 2018 the number of non-parishioner volunteers from the community continues to grow.

We had many donations of time, money and food. I would like to thank everyone for helping make this dinner happen again. I apologize if I misspelled names or missed any donations or left anyone out of this report and for the lateness of the report. Your donations both large and small truly make a difference in helping with this event.

Thank you again for your generosity to make this community outreach successful.

Below are the financial and food donations that we received.

Monetary Donations' 2018

Jeanne Devore	\$25
Pat and Garry Dorning - envelope	\$50
Maria N Hnarakis	\$50
Paul Whyte & Marianne Skiba	\$50
Natalie Turicik - envelope	\$50
Vincent Maola	\$100
Lisa Ryan	\$100
Anonymous	\$85
Conrads	\$40
Melissa Haluszczak	\$20
Michael and Michele Kapeluck	\$100
Bob Kosik	\$30
Gary and Carol Mente	\$20
Ron ?	\$5
Steve Alexis and Steven Sawchuk	\$100
Anna Sekelik	\$20
Craig and Mary Stevens	\$200
Steve and Delores Wachnowsky	\$40
Maria Warholak	\$20
Ann Wozniak	\$25
Greg Wozniak	\$25
Howard and Lynda West	\$200

Food Donations

Turkeys
Ron and Bev Wachnowsky
Howard and Lynda West
Chris Burianik
Kathy Stasko
Anonymous
Desserts
Tracey Sally
Bev Wachnowsky
Maria Warholak
Natalie Turicik
Pat Sally
Anonymous
Hams
Kyiv Dance Ensemble
Vegetables
Kyiv Dance Ensemble
Coleslaw
Cindy Haluszczak

Thanks Howard West

Seminary Christmas Різдво в Семінарії

Purchase the Musical CD

Диск з Колядками

1. Добрий вечір тобі (*Dobrij Vechir Tobi*)
2. Вставай, вставай господарю
(*Vstavaj, vstavaj hospodaryu*)
3. В Вифлеємі новина (*V Vyflyjemi novyna*)
4. Чути дзвінок (*Chuty dzvinok*)
5. Нова радість стала (*Nova Radist Ctala*)
6. Три славнії Царі (*Try Clavniji Tzari*)
7. Heaven and Earth
8. Добрий вечір всім Вам
(*Dobrij vechir vsim Vam*)
9. Ой високо над полями
(*Oj vysoko nad poljamy*)
10. А на тому слові бувайте здорові
(*A na tomu slovi buvajte zdorovi*)



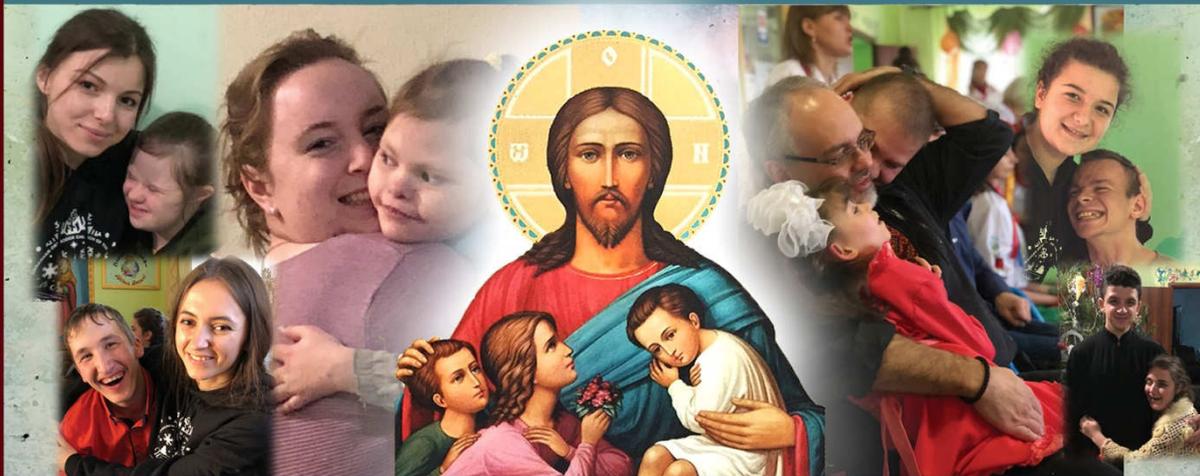
Enjoy Ukrainian Christmas Carols this
Holiday Season!



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Primate of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. and the Diaspora - Rector and Chairman of the Seminary Board
and
HIS EMINENCE ARCHBISHOP DANIEL
Ruling Hierarch of the Western Eparchy - Vice-Chairman of the Seminary Board

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JANUARY 15

\$2,700



Calendar of Events

December 16	11 th Annual Pan Orthodox Nativity Concert
December 22	St Martin's Closet/ Angel Tree
April 14	52 nd Annual Pysanky Sale

Parish Weekly Schedule

Monday

Kyiv Ukrainian Dance Ensemble & School

*Rehearsals begin every Monday at 6:00 pm. Classes for all ages.
For more info call Director Natalie Kapeluck or just stop down any Monday.*

Thursday Morning

Senior Coffee Hour

You're invited to our FREE coffee and donuts, and sometime pancakes, French toast or waffles every Thursday from 10:00 AM to 11:30 . . .or whenever it's over. At the parish hall. YOU ARE NOT PERMITTED TO BRING ANYTHING!!! However, bring a Friend!!! Need A Ride, Call: Steve Sivulich, (Hall Phone: 412-276-9718) SPONSORED BY:

Sts. Peter & Paul Kitchen Workers

3rd Sunday of the Month

St John & Martin's Closet

*Clothing for men, women and children. Bedding & towels
Trade something old for something new, leave a donation. or just take what you need.
Donations of clean, gently used or new clothing/bedding accepted when the closet door is open.
Call 279-9718 to schedule a donation.*

BULLETIN SPONSOR DATES

December 2_____

January 6_____

December 9_____

January 13_____

December 16____Sponsored

January 20_____

December 23____Sponsored

January 27_____

December 30____Sponsored

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In Honor of_____

In Memory of_____

Date of Bulletin you wish to sponsor_____

Donation (\$20. minimum suggested)_____

(Please make checks payable to "Sr. UOL Chapter")



\
SS. Peter & Paul
Ukrainian Orthodox Church
PO Box 835
Carnegie, PA 15106

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