Happy Thanksgiving

NOVEMBER 2020
THE THANKSGIVING ICON

There is a Thanksgiving Meal served daily (weekly) in our parishes. It is the Mystical Supper, the Divine Liturgy. “Eucharist” is translated from the Greek word for “thanksgiving” (“Evharistia”).

In the icon we see Christ sitting at the head of table, as He reveals that He will be betrayed. The Disciples are looking around bewildered, disbelieving that one of them would betray their Master. The sanctified bread (the Body of Christ), and the Chalice of wine (His Blood) have already been broken and distributed to the Disciples.

As we are to invite the strangers to our Thanksgiving tables, leaving nobody hungry, so in the icon there is an empty space at the bottom, a reserved spot for us to come to the table and partake of the Eucharistic Meal.

COUNCIL OF BISHOPS OF THE UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE USA

THANKSGIVING DAY – TIME FOR GRATITUDE AND FOR THE ACTION OF RESPONSIBILITY

Thanksgiving Day is upon us. It is a day when we get together with our families and loved ones to give thanks to God for the many blessings we have received. Thanksgiving is a national holiday and one which reminds us of the blessings bestowed upon us in our great nation.

As the Nativity of our Lord season draws near with the beginning of St. Philip’s Fast – Thanksgiving provides for us a chance to reflect upon the reality that giving thanks is part of the very nature of God Himself. We rightly think in terms of giving thanks to God but we do so because gratitude eternally flows from God.

Gratitude is an expression of love. God is love (1 Jn 4:8) and gives Himself away in love. On Thanksgiving, millions of Americans, from big cities to rural countryside, will bow their heads in prayer of gratitude for the blessings received but also asking God’s Mercy as we journey through COVID-19 Pandemic.

We live in a great nation with many blessings and freedoms for which we are deeply grateful. However, we live in times in which thankfulness and the capacity to take serious responsibility for life is of utmost importance. We offer gratitude to God for the gift of LIFE and His Divine Providence. But we must assume responsibility for the gifts that God gives us by being stewards of His generosity. This is at the heart of the nature of Thanksgiving.

Let us celebrate Thanksgiving by giving thanks and showing that we care for each other and the world in which we live. Let us look for someone in our family, someone with whom we work, someone within our community or even someone we only know from afar who in some way hurts these days. True gratitude will prompt a sense of responsibility which will bring tranquility and peace both to that person and to ourselves. Thanksgiving and care are expressions of each other. They are the very nature of God who for all eternity expresses thanksgiving in love and, in the course of human history, mercy, care and forgiveness.

Remember that the best way to give thanks to God for His abundant blessings upon us is to imitate Him by providing blessings to others.

Have a peaceful and blessed Thanksgiving!

With prayers, love and care,
+ Antony, Metropolitan
+ Daniel, Archbishop
Every year, as Fall season rapidly approaches, the Consistory Office of Christian Charity, under the leadership of Protodeacon Ihor Mahlay, begins the process of close evaluation of various ministerial charitable projects for the entire Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA.

Various parishes of the Church, across the country, concentrate their attention on local soup kitchens, offering assistance to those in need around the period of Thanksgiving and Nativity of our Lord celebrations. However, there is one particular Christian community that for the past several years received assistance from the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA – Mercy House of Hospitality in Mariupol area of Donbas region of Eastern Ukraine.

Most recently, with the blessing of His Eminence Metropolitan Antony, Primate of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, Archbishop Daniel traveled to Ukraine in order to deliver the necessary assistance to over 130 elderly handicapped individuals, who were forced to become homeless due to the ongoing terrorist aggression in Eastern Ukraine.

Upon the request of Archbishop Serhiy of Mariupol and Donetsk Eparchy of the Orthodox Church of Ukraine, the UOC of the USA sponsored the purchase of several tons of coal for the winter season and adult diapers for the entire year.

In his public post on Facebook, Archbishop Daniel wrote: "Do not be INDIFFERENT! Look in the eye of people in these photos! Не будьте БАЙДУЖИМИ! Гляньте в очі людини на оцих фотографіях!

I am truly grateful to the clergy and faithful of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA (especially to the membership of St. Andrew Society of the UOC of the USA - Protodeacon Ihor Mahlay - president) for their generosity and kindness, as tons of coal for the winter season purchased and a year’s worth of adult diapers sponsored by the generosity of all of YOU!

The faces of individuals you see in these images - are the residents of Mariupol Elderly House of Hospitality. They are all cared for by the donations and kind work of Archbishop Serhiy and the Donetsk Eparchy of the Orthodox Church of Ukraine.

We offer sincere prayers for Archbishop Serhiy and the residents of the local Hospitality House of Mercy!

If you would like to make a donation, please mail it to: UOC of the USA PO BOX 495 South Bound Brook, NJ 08873
The 19th Sunday after Pentecost saw the early Autumn sun joyfully rising to illuminate the brightly colored trees of the Metropolia Center of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA. The faithful began to arrive, their faces covered in masks due to the pandemic, to participate in the Divine Liturgy. Serving the Divine Liturgy was His Eminence Archbishop Daniel, accompanied by St. Andrew Memorial Church pastor, V. Rev. Yuri Siwko. The day’s reading was from the Gospel of Luke 6:31-36, with Christ instructing us to be kind and good, to love our enemies, and to lend hoping for nothing in return.

In his sermon Archbishop Daniel expanded on the theme of humanity, and what it means to be human. He told a story of a monk who was sitting near a river and watching a scorpion cling for its life to branch of low hanging tree, as the waters rose. Eventually, the scorpion could no longer hang on and he fell into the rushing waters below. By instinct and without thinking, the monk extended his hand to catch the scorpion and save its life, but, the scorpion attempted to sting the outstretched hand. The monk jumped back, but, again extended his hand to save the creature. But, the scorpion, fighting for its life, again made to sting the hand that was trying to save it. This action was repeated numerous times with the same result. Eventually, a passerby saw what was happening and told the monk to give up because the reaction of the scorpion will not change, stinging is a scorpion’s nature. The monk nodded, but wisely replied, that saving life is a human’s nature.

Vladyka continued by telling us to be merciful in all aspects of our lives. To do good, and not wait for an official “thank you”… for while we await gratitude we spin all kinds of negative connotations in our heads why the recipient of our kind deed is not replying, blind to the fact that they may be busy, may be facing a crisis, or simply forgot. In the meantime, we are making ourselves suffer and feel offended by something that is not meant to offend us. Therefore, we must be careful not to be easily offended, to turn the other cheek, to live in love, and nurture peace.

His Eminence retold a story of Martin of Tours, a 4th century saint of France, who seeing a beggar sitting in the rain near a gate, cut his cape in half with his military sword, and used the garment to cover the poor man, and keep him warm in the bad weather. Later he had a dream in which the Mother-of-God appeared to him, and to his amazement, she was wearing the half-cloak with which he had covered the beggar. This episode is an example to us, that we do not know the true nature of those around us… and that we ought to treat everyone with kindness and mercy. Find ways to help each other.

Vladyka told another heart wrenching story about a boy who quarreled with his friend in the streets and in the heat of the moment he pulled out a knife and stabbed his friend, killing him. Scared of what he had done and realizing the police would arrest him, he ran and looked for a place to hide, knocking on the door of the first house he ran to. A woman opened the door and let him in, and he explained to her that he had accidentally killed his friend, and was afraid that because of his momentary lapse of judgement his life would be over if the police found him. The woman took pity upon him and hid him in her home. A few hours later the police knocked on her door, and when she opened it, they informed her that this evening her son had gotten into an argument with a friend, and this friend had killed him.

The mother was now faced with a dilemma. The boy who killed her only child was hiding upstairs. Should she seek revenge and turn him in, or should she show mercy and forgive him? Her eyes wondered over to the icon of the Mother-of-God and she saw in the icon a mother who had lost her only son as well, and she had somehow managed to forgive those who had crucified Him, so how could she do any less than forgive this boy?

Once the police left, she called the boy down and informed him that she was the mother of the boy he had murdered, and that she forgives him of this violent act. However, she asked one thing of him, that he repent before God, and promise to never ever harm another being for the rest of his life.

Before concluding his sermon, Archbishop Daniel implored each of us not to lose our humanity, that innate instinct to reach out and help someone. That is our true nature and our purpose in this life.
The Divine Liturgy continued, the voices of the choir (under the leadership of Dr. Michanel Andrec) mingling with the joyful sound of young infants crying at their mothers’ feet. Having partaken of the Holy Eucharist, everyone rejoiced and even though their lips were covered by their masks, their eyes shone with an internal joy.

At the conclusion of the service, His Eminence Archbishop Daniel spoke to both those physically present, and those joining via their mobile devices, asking that if they have the time, to remain with them for a bit more as he would lead a procession to the St. Andrew Cemetery. Today was the first Sunday after the celebration of the Protection of the Mother-of-God (Pokrova). The Virgin Mary has for centuries been the patron saint of Ukrainian, specifically those who go into battle to safeguard their families and homeland from invasion. Before going into battle, the kozaky would pray before an icon of the Protection of the Mother-of-God, and historically she would often intercede on their behalf.

On the first Sunday after the Feast Day commemorating the Protection of the Mother-of-God traditionally a Litia (memorial service) is served on the graves of soldiers and defenders of Ukraine who have fallen asleep in the Lord.

As the St. Andrew Memorial Church bells began to toll solemnly the procession, led by seminarians carrying the Cross, and the Holy Fans (Seraphim), followed by the clergy and His Eminence Archbishop Daniel, and then the laity, made its way slowly, with respect to the graves of the fallen heroes. As Vladyka had instructed, the people spread out across the cemetery, each standing at a grave and praying for the peaceful repose of that individual.

The birds that had been joyfully chirping in the colorful trees became silent as His Eminence’s voice rang out across the cemetery, winding between the sullen gray headstones of the fallen warriors.

“How the Saints give rest, O Christ, to the souls of Your servants where there is no pain, no sorrow, no sighing, but life everlasting.”

At the conclusion of the Litia, His Eminence took a blue/yellow holy water brush (kropylo) representative of the Ukrainian flag, and dipping it into Holy Water made his way through the cemetery, stopping at each grave, proclaiming “Memory Eternal… Ivan, Mykola, Andrij…” naming each person individually as he sprinkled their graves with the holy water.

The seminarians repeatedly sang “Vichnaya Pamyat” (Memory Eternal), and His Eminence, his white vestments almost glowing in the sunshine, peacefully walked among the dead, and prayed for their peaceful repose.

Having concluded the service, and having stopped at each grave the service concluded, and still singing Memory Eternal, the people once again got in line and joined the slow moving procession as it wound its way back to the church.

The bells tolled sadly, as a calm breeze ruffled the orange and gold leaves in the trees, sprinkling yellow gems upon the solemn procession. As their voices faded, the bells continued to toll, slowly, quietly, bouncing off the headstones, and reaching the souls of those who were buried there. They were not forgotten, and they had not died in vain.

May their memories be eternal! Вічна пам’ять!
Beloved clergy and faithful of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA:

It is with a profound sense of appreciation and prayer that we take this opportunity to write to you as our Nation honors our Veterans.

November 11, 2020 is Veterans Day, originally known as Armistice Day. The Armistice to end World War I, known at that time as the war to end all wars, was signed by and between the Germans and the Allies at 5 am on the morning on November 11th, 1918 – exactly 102 years ago. The peace became effective at the 11th minute, after the 11 hour, on the 11th day of the 11th month.

There have been many wars since World War I. In a world in which people still resort to violence to settle conflicts, we still see many references to wars and armed conflict.

In the United States of America, the function of Veterans Day is slightly different from that of similar holidays in other countries. Unlike the practice in other countries, where this calendar date is set aside specifically for honoring those who died in action, Veterans Day in the US honors all American veterans, whether living or dead, killed in action, or deceased from other causes.

This observance is particularly important on the Spiritual Center/Metropolia of our Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, where the National Ukrainian-American Veterans Memorial is located (South Bound Brook, NJ). We can take pride in the fact that many Ukrainian-Americans and in particular Ukrainian Orthodox clergy and faithful have served in the Army, Air Force, Navy, Marines and Coast Guard. That means we have a great number of veterans in our parish communities living throughout the country. We also have many currently serving, and young people making plans to join the military – these are our future veterans. We owe them all a great debt.

Veterans Day should be a celebration of lives well lived, as veterans contribute so much to our communities, and a reminder that many have made great sacrifices and carry heavy burdens from their years of service. For those serving, perhaps far away from loved ones, we say on this day that you are in our thoughts and prayers. For those families missing someone special to them, we say - we appreciate your patriotism and embrace you with our prayers.

It is easy for us today to thank those who served. However, what is most important is that we remember these heroes not only today, but that we remember them on each and every day we live as free citizens in this country. It is also a day to celebrate freedom because that’s the ultimate selfless cause of all who serve.

So, we offer our prayers of Thanksgiving for our veterans and their families. May God bless each one of you – our veterans and our great country – the United States of America.

+ Antony, Metropolitan
+ Daniel, Archbishop

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A Prayer for Veterans Day

O, God of love and mercy, we ask for blessings on all those who have served their country in the armed forces of the United States of America.

We ask for healing for the veterans who have been wounded, in body and soul, in conflicts around the globe.

We pray especially for the young men and women, in the thousands, who are coming home from Iraq and Afghanistan with injured bodies and traumatized spirits. Bring solace to them, O Lord. May we pray for them when they cannot pray.

Have mercy on all our veterans from World War I and II, Korea, Vietnam, Iraq, and Afghanistan. Bring peace to their hearts and peace to the regions they fought in.

Bless all the soldiers who served in noncombative posts. May their calling to serve continue in their lives in many positive ways.

Give us all today creative vision to see a world that, growing weary with fighting, moves to affirming the life of every human being and so moves beyond war.

For You are a Merciful and Loving God and to You we give glory unto the ages of ages. Amen.

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Молитва за Ветеранів

О, Боже любові та милосердя, просимо благословення для всіх, хто служив нашій країні у збройних силах Сполучених Штатів Америки.

Ми просимо душевного і тілесного уздоровлення для поранених ветеранів. Молимося за тисячі юнаків та дівчат, які повертаються доміво з Іраку та Афганістану та інших частин світу з пораненими тілами та травмованими душами. Принесіть ім утіху, Господи.

Помилуй усіх наших ветеранів Першої та Другої світових війн, Кореї, В’єтнаму, Іраку та Афганістану. Принесіть мир у їхній серці і мир у глухих серцях, в яких вони вівчали. Молимося за мир і за миру, який зберігають на бойових постах. Нехай ім посилля світ прийде у їхній житті багатьма позитивними наслідками. Дайте нам усім сьогодні відверто бачити світ, який стає все ближчим до миру.

Бо Ти Милосердний і Люблячий Бог, і Тобі віддаємо славу на віки вічні. Амінь.
On Wednesday, November 11, 2020 numerous Ukrainian-American Veterans, who served in our nation’s Armed Forces from World War II, the Korean war, the Vietnam War, the War in Iraq and that in Afghanistan, among other conflicts, were joined by Ukrainian Orthodox Church members and other visitors at the National Ukrainian-American Veterans Memorial Metropolia Center of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA in South Bound Brook, NJ. His Eminence Metropolitan Antony, Primate of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA and Archbishop Daniel led a Prayer Service at the monument for the wellbeing all veterans of the USA Armed forces, especially those of Ukrainian descent.

In his opening remarks, prior to the beginning of the Prayer service, Archbishop Daniel stated: “Today - November 11, 2020 is Veterans Day, originally known as Armistice (Truce) Day. The Armistice to end World War I, known at that time as the war to end all wars, was signed by and between the Germans and the Allies at 5 am on the morning on November 11th, 1918 – exactly 102 years ago. The peace became effective at the 11th minute, after the 11 hour, on the 11th day of the 11th month. Today, we gathered here at the 11th minute, after the 11 hour, on the 11th day of the 11th month to honor the men and women of our Great Nation that have offered their lives in the service of our nation.”

Following the Moleben Service for all veterans, His Eminence Metropolitan Antony greeted all the veterans present representing Ukrainian American veterans and all who have served in our nation’s Armed Forces – both living and deceased – on this day that honors them all. “We truly appreciate your service, brothers and sisters, your willingness to stand up for freedom, putting your lives at risk for your fellow citizens and yes, for all of us gathered here decades away from the time that most of you served. Your sacrifice, your service, has had consequences and those consequences still affect the lives of generations. All of us here present express our gratitude to you. Your children and grandchildren know what true freedom is because of you. Believe me...all the world and the citizens of our United States of America see you as nothing less than HEROES! We pray that you will always be willing to share the stories of your service with the younger generations, because they NEED to comprehend the whole concept of dedicated service to one’s nation and her people. May God bless you all with the best of health and the certainty of knowledge that you are truly appreciated, always.”

The clergy of local Ukrainian Orthodox parishes: Very Rev. Fr. Yuriy Siwko, pastor of St. Andrew Ukrainian Memorial Church in South Bound Brook, NJ; Very Rev. Fr. Volodymyr Muzychka, pastor of St. Volodymyr Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in New York, NY; Very Rev. Fr. Petro Levko of St. George Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Yardville, NJ; Very Rev. Fr. Vitaliy Pavlykivskyy of All Saints Ukrainian Orthodox Parish in New York, NY; Rev. Fr. Vasyl Pasakas of the Nativity of the Birth-Giver of God Ukrainian Orthodox parish in South Plainfield, NJ; Rev. Fr. Vasyl Shak of St. Panteleimon Ukrainian Orthodox Parish in Brooklyn, NY; Rev. Fr. James Cairns of St. Demetrios Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in Carteret, NJ and Rev. Fr. Sviatoslav Hot of Holy Ascension Ukrainian Orthodox Parish in Maplewood, NJ assisted the hierarchs in the celebration of the Moleben Service.

Lieutenant Colonel (Retired) Michael Hrucak, NJ Ukrainian American Veterans Commander expressed his gratitude to those in attendance and the honor that community bestowed upon the veterans in attendance and all other living and deceased veterans. He expressed his gratitude that this National Monument stands on the grounds of St. Andrew Memorial Church, on a plot of land provided by the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA. Col. Hrucak stated that “the ‘freedom’ mentioned by the Metropolitan was never ‘free’. Millions of men and women sacrificed years of their lives, bravely protecting ‘freedom’ for the society that we know and love here in the USA and the world.” He urged all present to never forget those who served and those who still serve. The Ukrainian American Veterans organization is proud to make know to the world that over 200,000 men and women of Ukrainian descent have served in the USA Armed Forces throughout our nation’s history and we will always come to this monument, which exhibits the six major branches of the Armed Forces, to commemorate them on Veterans Day – November 11 and Memorial Day in May of every year.

Photos by Subdeacon Yaroslav Bilohan
The annual Memorial Service for the victims of the HOLODOMOR – THE MAN-MADE GENOCIDAL FAMINE AGAINST UKRAINE – was very different in the incredibly different and difficult year of 2020. His Eminence Metropolitan Antony of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, accompanied by V. Rev. Fr. Vasyl Patakan and His Grace Bishop Paul of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Stamford, accompanied by Rev. Fr. Peter Shyshka and Deacon Andriy Pradyvus, served the memorial. Also present were the representative of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, Andrew Dobransky, the Ambassador of Ukraine to the United Nations, Sergiy Kyslytsya, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary – Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations and Oleksii Holubov, Consul General of Ukraine in New York.

It was a very different commemoration this year with the Cathedral nave almost completely empty. The bishops normally pray with three to four thousand of their faithful present, creating a powerful witness to God remembering the 7-10 million men, women and children who perished in one of the world’s worst-ever acts of genocide – the Holodomor of 1932-33 in Ukraine. Metropolitan Antony remarked to those he spoke with the next day that “when I turned to speak at the conclusion of the memorial service and looked out over the vast cathedral and saw just four or five people where I would normally see at least three thousand, I was taken aback… I realized that the Cathedral was empty because of the pandemic our nation is presently enduring, but at that very moment, I felt with immense intensity, the souls of those millions of victims for whom we were praying. More than in all the twenty six years previous years conducting this memorial, I felt the weight of the Holodomor on my heart and soul, along with a connection to those of the Ukrainian nation who were never able to speak out about what was happening all around them and to themselves. The world was deaf to their suffering and cries of agony. The world, not just the Soviet regime, had been successful for decades in burying the truth about their fate. I was compelled to speak in their name, to proclaim that we must be their voice, never abandoning them, never remaining silent about them, because our silence simply emboldens – and truthfully enables – those who would dare to commit such atrocities again. It was an incredibly moving moment, which I will never forget.”

Absent, through no choice of their own, were the Director and Members of the Dumka Chorus, who have sung responses for the memorial service throughout its history; US Senator Charles Shumer, present almost every year strongly declaring his support for the Ukrainian people and their nation and the declaration of the Holodomor as an act of genocide by every nation of the world; representatives of the US government and other politicians and guests who all assured that they would return for the 2021 Memorial Service.
-Від'явили на всю землю. Нам земля.  Минуло віку не виїшло. Нам вік не місто. Ми купили що-небудь. Не випили відтак. Вони видавали зверху хліба. Кохали минуле звичаї і традиції, що вкрасили наш український сельський сені як письмена.

-Ми, селяни, що зберегли і витворили гарні звичаї і традиції, що відродили наш український сені як письмена.

-Заслугу на це систему не можемо визнати. Про кого говорять, що він коли-небудь відчуй, але з початком трохи назад.

-Зквартирили він низької рівнини.

-Я оглядался. Мої очі зустретився з очима старенького селянина. Очі його налиті сльозами. А коли ми зустретимося з очима старенького селянина.

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згори навверх до однієї з вулиць. Пригадую, була весна. У нас за хатою шеста зеленіла, люцерна, бур'ян чи щось інше. Так мася було більше мальовник під час, а якщо і за добре, то не під час. Ми вже звичайно виховуючи дітей з без Світ. Кожного ранку ми з мамою вирушали під плач маленьких дітей. Видіяло бомбя жінка в хату, що зазеленіло, люцерна, бур'ян чи щось інше. Там мабуть колись був город. Кожного ранку ми з мамою прокидалися під плач малих діток. Відразу йдемо до вікна. І завжди бачимо кілька, а часами і більше маленьких дітей. Ми діти, як збирались разом, не грайться з місяцем, не гралися в ігри, ні про що не говорили. Було завжди та сама розмова. Переповідала місцева, що чула відомо між батьками. У одного хто у родині помер, де якусь дитину зуміли, а інший прийшов. Хто казав, як якася мати з'їла свою дитину. Казали, що таких випадків було більше. То таке було наше радісне радянське дитинство.

Пройшло багато років, працювала, вже 30 років на пенсії, але коли вечером іду надворі і навкруги темне, то я нічого не боюся, крім ножа. Найстрашніше для мене на світі - ніж. Довгі роки не змогли стерти страху його з моєї пам'яті.

Нехай майбутні покоління ніколи не знають таких жахів, але нехай їх і ніколи не забувають, а пам'ять про жертв Голодомору нехай буде вічною.

В цей час пандемії відмитає всю гордість і переконання самих в собі, і зробить все що можна, щоб зберегти життя - своє життя і життя тих, хто навколо Вас.

В Церкві-Пам'ятнику ще багато роботи до виконання. Складайте свої пожертви, по змозі, на закінчення цієї светої будови.

Materials submitted by: Victor Lychyk
CATHEDRAL MARKS 70TH ANNIVERSARY, AS PARISHIONERS DISTRIBUTE 70 CARE PACKAGES TO THOSE IN NEED.

The parishioners, along with the members of the JrUOL, of the Protection of the Mother-of-God Cathedral in Southfield, Michigan, huddled together for warmth on a cold November afternoon at the Southfield Civic Center awaiting to warm the lives of those in need on Thanksgiving Day.

In 2020 the parish celebrated their 70th Anniversary. Seventy years of worship, service, and love. The coronavirus put a damper on the year's planned celebrations, however, even a pandemic could not stop the desire to help others.

Inspired by His Eminence Archbishop Daniel, who along with the seminarians from the St. Sophia Ukrainian Orthodox Theological Seminary, and the Consistory staff, had helped the needy via pop-up food pantries throughout the summer, and now the parishioners of the cathedral decided to follow suit and feed the hungry in their local community of Southfield, Michigan.

The joyous celebration of the 70th anniversary of the establishment of the parish could not have been marked in any better manner, than by helping others. As the parishioners worked to ensure the local community did not go hungry, a cloud of realization hung over them as the Ukrainian Community marked the anniversary of the Holodomor, the genocide against the people of Ukraine instituted by the Soviet Regime. Over 10 million individuals died a slow and agonizing death by starvation, even as the soil of Ukraine produced a bumper crop of wheat that year. This atrocity must never be forgotten, lest the world forget, and humans once again lose their humanity.

Throughout the weeks of November the parishioners had collected food, fit...
for the most luxurious Thanksgiving Meal, including corn bread mix, boxed potatoes, sweet potatoes, cranberry sauce, chicken bouillon, corn, Mac & Cheese, beans, Stuffing, Jello, etc.

Parish Board member Vera Petrusha, who contacted the city and organized the event, scoured the metropolitan area in search of 70 turkeys, helped by Volodya and Vera Marha, along with Andrew and Sonia Smyk, and with Irene Smyk-Bickerstaff. Generous financial donations made by Mary Mykolenko and Angelina Shashlo helped defer the cost of the turkeys, which were stored in the freezers of the Ukrainian Cultural Center in Warren, Michigan, who wished to offer their support to this worthy endeavor. In addition to the turkeys, there were 70 pumpkin pies donated by the Detroit Chapter of ODUM.

On Sunday, November 22nd, after Divine Liturgy, the parish kitchen hummed as all the donations were organized, and then packed and prepared for distribution by the members of the JrUOL, led by Lily Powers, the Chapter President, assisted by many additional parish volunteers. The canned goods were placed in paper bags, while the other items were placed in disposable aluminum turkey roasting pans.

A flyer was placed inside the bag, which included the Thanksgiving prayer, along with information concerning the Holodomor, and parish contact information, with hopes that the reader would thank the Lord for the donation they received in order to not go hungry, and remember those who died of starvation in Ukraine. Additionally, a small candle, tied with a black ribbon and a commemorative tag was placed in the bag, to make the reality of Holodomor a bit more poignant and memorable for the recipients.

On Monday, November 23rd, seven hearty members of the parish family packed their cars with all the donations and headed to the Southfield Civic Center, where seventy needy families would arrive to accept the generous donations.

A cold wind blew, but the faithful of the parish were warmed not only by the smiles of those who drove up and cheerfully accepted the care packages, but also by the camaraderie of their parish family. With smiles on their faces, and turkey hats bobbing happily atop their heads, the faithful of St. Mary the Protectress Cathedral brought smiles and cheer to those in need.

An elderly gentleman, missing teeth, smiled broadly as a tear sparkled in his eye, stating he would not have had a warm meal if not for the parish’s generosity. As he pulled away in his rusty old model car, a van pulled up with a little boy who was too shy to speak, but, smiled and waved as he saw the bags of food being placed beside him. The next car had two older ladies who laughed so loudly upon seeing the pumpkin pie that the entire city rejoiced with them.

70 years of prayer, 70 years of service, 70 care packages, 70 families sitting down to a warm meal.

As the last of the vehicles pulled away and the frozen parishioners gave each other virtual hugs, minding the social distancing enforcements, their hearts were warmed, as they climbed back into their own vehicles with a new realization of how hard some people’s lives are. As they each drove away, some returning to work, others to other activities, they all contemplated what they had witnessed, thankful for all they have, and mostly thankful for the ability and opportunity to help others, thereby, spreading the warmth and the light of Christ.

Wishing everyone a joyous Thanksgiving. We all have so much to be thankful for, especially for each other.
On the cold November afternoon of November 17th, adhering to safety precautions due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Consistory Board of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA met via ZOOM teleconference.

After the opening prayer led by His Eminence Archbishop Daniel, President of the Consistory, and prior to the agenda being discussed, Metropolitan Antony shared a few heartfelt words with the board members. His Eminence expressed his deep concern over the wellbeing of the flock, asking that while we grow weary of the restrictions and the isolation due to the pandemic, that we, nonetheless, remember those around us. At this dire time many feel isolated, lonely, fearful, and uncertain. It is the responsibility of every Christian to ensure their brothers and sisters in Christ feel the love and embrace of the Church.

He continued, stating that the crisis we face is something we could not have foreseen, but Christ has already provided guidelines, and instructed us in how to do. We must love one another. While many, especially the elderly, are staying away from our parishes due to valid health concerns, we need to encourage them to nonetheless participate in the liturgical life of the Church, attending prayer services and Divine Liturgy via Live broadcasts. While the Gospel Reading and sermons are powerful, the benefit derived from praying the entire Liturgy along with others is priceless. Владика asked that the clergy and faithful reach out to others, call one another, ask if anyone needs help with anything. We, after all, are one family in Christ, and therefore, are privileged to assist our family members, and all whom God puts in our path.

The meeting continued with a review of the Church’s Financial Report, which revealed unsurprisingly that donations are down as people struggle with the pandemic. Additionally, the Metropolia Center property and All Saints Camp, where discussed, confirming that all public events have been canceled for the time being.

The St. Sophia Ukrainian Orthodox Theological Seminary continues offering classes, both for the resident and the Distance Learning Students. Additionally, the seminary has been extremely successful in bringing a sense of unity to the Church family, by broadcasting daily morning and evening prayers, as well as Divine Liturgy. Their service is invaluable to those who are struggling through the current pandemic.

The Ukrainian Museum of New Jersey has continued producing informative exhibits during the shutdown. They have held many exciting workshops that have been broadcast to the public and are available via their webpage. In the coming months there are exciting seasonal workshops planned, including the youth decorating the Christmas Tree, iconographer Michael Kapeluck giving an explanation of the symbolism found in the icon of the Nativity of our Lord, plus a detailed description of the Holy Supper of Christmas Eve (Svyata Vecherya) and all the imagery surrounding it.

Further discussion revolved around various fundraising activities, and charitable works, which do not pause during a shutdown, as the need for assistance does not pause, only increases in times of crisis. The Church actively continues to care for others in these stressful times and encourages everyone to donate and assist their neighbors as much as possible.

The meeting concluded on the topic with which it began – Covid 19. New restrictions are coming out daily from city administrators, mayors and state governors. While often we hear arguments against the restrictions, fearing they are impinging on our freedoms, and slowly destroying our way of life, and even detracting from our religious freedoms, Archbishop Daniel, implored everyone to remain calm, and remember that we are Christians and must behave as confident followers of Christ.

His Eminence put trepidations to rest, as he stated that our current priority is to safeguard life – our life, the lives of our parishioners, and the lives of all the people around us. We must do all we can to preserve life, and to safeguard the temples of the Holy Spirit, Who abides within each of us. If it becomes necessary to fight for religious freedom in the future, we will do so at that time, but for now we must strictly adhere to all safety recommendations of our governing bodies, siting St. Paul’s Epistle to the Romans (Romans 13:1) where he states, “Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God.”

Having concluded the meeting with a prayer, His Eminence Archbishop Daniel, bestowed his blessing upon everyone and prayed that the Lord keep the board members healthy and safe in these uncertain times. With his blessing everyone expressed their own well wishes and signed off, energized and encouraged to follow their bishops’ advice, putting fear aside, and not only taking care of themselves, but, making every effort to care for all those around them.

“He will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged.”

(Deuteronomy 31:8)
Precisely 1006 miles away from the Spiritual Center of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, in a town of about 12,448 residents is located the newest mission of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA.

The city of Mountain Home, Arkansas is a home for St. Thomas the Apostle Mission of the UOC of the USA.

With the blessing of His Eminence Metropolitan Antony, Primate of the Church, Archbishop Daniel made his first archpastoral visit to the parish family in order to formally bless the creation of the mission. Rev. Fr. Samuel Seamans (with his wife pani-matka Olga and two children) serves the pastoral needs of the new mission.

Taking into consideration the latest spread of COVID-19 pandemic, Vladyka Daniel took every precaution while traveling to Mountain Home, AR for the celebration of the first Eucharistic worship with the pastor and parishioners of the mission. Assisted by seminarian of St. Sophia Ukrainian Orthodox Theological Seminary Subdeacon Yaroslav Bilohan, the archpastor led the celebration of the Divine Liturgy, while reflecting on the Gospel narrative for the 23 Sunday After Pentecost.

In his sermon, Vladyka Daniel stated: “… Jesus said to the man from whom He expelled the demons in today’s Gospel, “RETURN TO YOUR HOME AND DECLARE HOW MUCH GOD HAS DONE FOR YOU.” Don’t preach a sermon… Just tell what God has done for you… Has the Lord made a difference in your life? Has He forgiven you? Has He changed your life? Then share it with someone around you. Let them know from your first-hand experience that God is real, and invite them to know Him, too. “RETURN TO YOUR HOME, AND DECLARE HOW MUCH GOD HAS DONE FOR YOU…”

Mountain Home is the county seat of Baxter County, Arkansas, in the southern Ozark Mountains.

It has been listed numerous times in the top 20 cities in the U.S. for sportsmen in Outdoor Life magazine, was ranked #2 for Field and Stream’s Best Fishing Towns in America and today it is primarily known as a retirement and resort destination.

According to the 2010 Census, Mountain Home has a total of 12,448 in the city, and a total of 41,307 with the city and micropolitan combined which encompasses the majority of Baxter county. Mountain Home also serves as an economic and retail hub for an eight-county region, serving 256,000 people in a 55-mile radius.

Meeting the parishioners of the community, Archbishop Daniel not only prayed with everyone in attendance, but also spent time getting to know the faithful of the new mission (especially the youth of the mission), while being introduced to each parishioner at the informal dinner in honor of the establishment of the mission.

Archbishop Daniel presented to the mission’s pastor – Fr. Samuel Seamans the consecrated antymins for the celebration of the Eucharist Divine Liturgy as well as the container with the Holy Chrism – the symbols of Christian Unity between the bishop and the spiritual flock of the Church, thus enabling the mission to begin various outreach projects in the community.

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Photos by Subdeacon Yaroslav Bilohan
PARABLE OF THE RICH MAN AND LAZARUS

The rich man descends from luxury to suffering, while Lazarus is promoted from pain to Blessedness. In this life Lazarus lies at the gate. In Greek it suggests Lazarus is "thrown" or "dumped" there abandoning the rich man to help him, but he doesn't. In today's Gospel, Lazarus does not blame anyone for his poverty and misery. He certainly does not blame God for his situation. He does not blame the rich man for his mean spirit. Thus, due to his humility he went to heaven, to the bosom of Abraham.

The rich man on the contrary, never thought of thanking God for his wealth. He did not show his gratitude to God for being poor at his gate. No, he boasted at grand banquets and was a gourmet bon vivant of his time. He possessed no humility, only hardheartedness, allowing Lazarus to lick his sores, while he partied. He thought of thanking God for his wealth. His Resurrection would not convince them.

The present Gospel is a firm lesson in caring for our neighbors in this life. It is a constant reminder to heed the lessons of God while we are still alive and can make the necessary changes in our life (metanoia) to please God. The present Gospel is a clear instruction that the decisions we make in this life will affect the experiences we will have after death.

Amen

Fr. Nicholas Dilendorf
THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER

The parable for today is the parable of the sower. In our lifetimes, many, if not most, of us have not actually seen a farmer walking across his plowed field and manually throwing seed in order to plant his next crop. As a result of industrialization, scientific advances and technological improvements, most farming in our time and place, is done by large conglomerates with highly advanced machinery and techniques. Mom and pop farms are disappearing just like mom and pop stores. The concept is simple enough for most of us to understand and identify with.

One of the more interesting things about this parable is that Christ actually provided an explanation of it’s meaning, and in today’s parable we are going to focus a bit more on the meaning of the sower. In the early to mid-1400’s, there were simply not allowed access to the Holy Scriptures of the Church, and before the invention of the printing press in the early to mid-1400’s, there were very few copies available for people to read. But in our times, we can simply pick up a Bible and read to our heart’s content, and in today’s parable we are even given an explanation which Christ himself provided only to his disciples. We become as if members of His most intimate inner circle.

In today’s Gospel lesson I would like to focus a bit more on the meaning of the “seed” as “the word of God”. In the Old Testament the “word of God” was rare in those days; there was no frequent vision. (Not unlike our own times, it would seem.)

One of the more interesting things about this parable is that Christ actually provided an explanation of its meaning, to his disciples, calling it a “mystery of the kingdom of God”. In our lifetimes, we can simply read. But in our times, we can simply pick up a Bible and read to our heart’s content, and in today’s parable we are even given an explanation which Christ himself provided only to his disciples. We become as if members of His most intimate inner circle.

In the book of Revelation (20:4-6), we find these words:

“Then I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God… . And they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years. …This is the first resurrection. …they shall be priests of God and of Christ.”

We see that human punishment can be severe, but the spiritual rewards are great. Christ told us, “A servant is not greater than his master. If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you.” (Jn. 15:20)

The Apostle St. Peter tells us: “Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart, having been born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, through the word of God, which lives and abides forever.” (1 Pet. 1:22-23)

May these reminders about the nature of “the word of God” serve to help us and to guide us in our own lives. Amen. Glory be to Jesus Christ!

Fr. Walter Hvostik
Господь наш Ісус Христос знову зібравши багато людей навколо Себе, почав їх притчі про сівача, який вийшов щоб посіяти зерно своє. Святі апостоли не зрозуміли Божественного вчення, просить Христа щоб він пояснив їй значення. Тоді Ісус пояснив її так. “Ось що означає ця притча: Зерно—це Слово Боже. А котрі край дороги, — це ті, хто слухає, але потім приходить диявол, і забирає слово з їхнього серця, щоб не ввірували й не спаслися вони. А що на кам'янистому грунті,— це ті, хто тільки почує, то слово приймає з радістю; та кореня не мають вони, вірують дочасно, — і за час випробовання відпадають. А що взяло між землі, — це ті, хто слухає слово, але, ходячи, бувають придушені злочинами, — і слово вони не мають. А якщо вони уся вірують своє слово, вірити віряття своєї душі. Коли ж ти не любиш слухати Слово Боже, то значить — він є хворим своєї душі. Ми слухаємо, інколи і хвалимо, кажучи, що проповідь була дуже гарною, але слухаючи Слова Божого є ознакою здоров'я своєї душі. Коли ж ти не любиш слухати Слово Боже, то значить — ти є хворим своєї душі. Ми слухаємо, інколи і хвалимо, кажучи, що проповідь була дуже гарною, але він в нас не приходить на думку скористатися цією проповіддю, застосувати її в практичному житті. Вийшовши з церкви, дуже скоро забуваємо те, що почували, і повертаємося до своїх буднів, до своїх звичок та гріхів. Це є злом не тільки проти себе, але і перед Богом. Відкидаючи Слово Боже, ми відкидаємо самого Бога, ми топчемо заповідь, яку передав Ісус Христос Своїм Апостолам і Святій Їого Церкві: “Тож ідіть, і навчайте всі народи, христячи їх в Ім'я Отця, і Сина, і Святого Духа, навчаючи їх зберігати все те, що Я вам заповів.”

Ця притча відкриває нам велику правду, яка може бути для деякої релігії, але, на жаль, для більшості прикрою і болючою. Христос знаючи як мало людей з користю для душі сприймають Слово Боже, справедливо попереджує людей та Своїх учнів. Як бачимо із притчі, абсолютна більшість не скористалась того слова. Слово Боже не завичилось в їхньому серці, вони залишилися такими ж, як і були. На превеликий жаль, ця історія з невдячними слухачами повторюється і по сьогодні, і тим притча про Сівач завжди залишається актуальною.

“O, Heavenly Father: We thank thee for food and remember the hungry. We thank thee for health and remember the sick. We thank thee for friends and remember the friendless. We thank thee for freedom and remember the enslaved. May these remembrances stir us to service, that thy gifts to us may be used for others. Amen.”
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REGISTER TODAY!
Roasted Brussel Sprouts and Bacon Poutine

Prep Time: 20 Minutes Cook Time: 45 Minutes

Ingredients:
- 2 cups brussels sprouts, cleaned and halved
- 1 ½ cups button mushrooms, sliced
- ¼ cup sliced, or chopped, onion
- ½ cup diced bacon
- 5 tbsp unsalted butter
- 3 tbsp cooking oil
- ½ cup heavy whipping cream
- ¼ cup beef broth (or water)
- 1 cup mozzarella (or any other preferred cheese)
- Fresh chives, for garnish
- Salt and pepper to taste

Directions:
Preheat oven to 400 degrees.

Clean and halve the Brussel Sprouts (removing out leaves, and stem); chop up onion, slice mushrooms, chop bacon.

Pour the cooking oil into a large skillet, adding a dollop of butter. When oil is hot lay the Brussel sprouts cut side down into the skillet, in a single layer (you may have to fry in batches, depending on size of skillet and amount of Brussel Sprouts), adding butter as necessary to achieve a nice brown caramelization on the underside of the Brussel Sprouts. Do not cover the skillet. Once the sprouts are browned to your liking, add the beef broth (or water) to the skillet and COVER the skillet, allowing the Brussel Sprouts to steam. Allow them to steam for approximately 5-10 minutes until they are bright green and tender. Remove from skillet, and place in a mixing bowl. Continue process to fry remaining Brussel Sprouts.

Place oil/butter in the heated skillet and add onions, frying just until slightly tender, and add the sliced mushrooms. Cover with lid for 5 minutes, and then cook uncovered until mushrooms are soft to the touch and slightly browned.

Repeat process with the bacon, frying it until nice and brown. When bacon is fully cooked lay it on a paper towel to absorb access fat.

Mix the Brussel Sprouts, bacon (setting some aside for garnish), and mushroom mixture in the bowl and then pour the mixture into a casserole dish. Poke pieces of mozzarella into the mixture, and then cover the entire casserole with more cheese.

Place the casserole in the preheated oven and bake for approximately 10 minutes, until the cheese is melted and bubbly. Remove from oven and garnish with crumbled bacon and fresh chives.

Allow casserole to stand for 10 minutes before serving.
Thanksgiving Puzzle

ACROSS
2. What is on TV
5. A type of pie
7. How I feel after eating

DOWN
1. What I pour on my potatoes
3. I am feeling...
4. Where I pray...
6. What I do before I eat...

Oh Lord my God,
I will give You
thanks forever!
Psalm 30:12
I AM the BREAD of LIFE

Whoever comes to me, whoever believes in me, will never go hungry, and will never be thirsty.

JOHN 6:35

UNSCRAMBLE these foods...
FITSFUNG __________
YUREKT __________
NEREG SENAB __________
HAMSDE STOPATEO __________
KPIMUNP IEP __________
LOJLE __________

A) What sound does a turkey’s phone make?
B) What is the sleepiest thing at the Thanksgiving table?
C) What do math teachers do on Thanksgiving?

1. Draw your 3 favorite foods on the plate.
2. What is your favorite pie? Color the pie.

I am thankful for...
Androniuk, Gabriela Alexis baptized and chrismated on September 19, 2020 in St. Volodymyr's Cathedral Parish, Chicago, IL on October 10, 2020, witnessed by Adrian Koussari and Aleksander Bapt. Celebrante: Fr. Jean Lymar.


Heachiuk, David baptized and chrismated on October 17, 2020 in St. Andrew Memorial Church Church, S. Bound Brook, NJ. Child of Vasyl Heachiuk and Halynda Heachiuk. Sponsors: Igor Tarylychuk and Dorns Naudy Sorvino. Celebrated by V. Rev. Oleg Hucul.


As of this week 250,000 people have lost their lives from Coronavirus (COVID-19). Please take all possible precautions to safeguard your own life and the lives of others.

I pray that I do not need to proclaim “Memory Eternal” for any additional souls that fall victim to this pandemic.

- Archbishop Daniel
THE HIERARCHS OF THE UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE USA SEND CONDOLENCES TO THE HOLY SYNOD OF THE SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH ON THE REPPOSE OF PATRIARCH IRIINEJ OF SERBIA

To our brethren in the Lord: Metropolitans, Archbishop, Bishops, venerable clergy, devout monastics and Christ-loving faithful of  the Serbian Orthodox Church.

CHRIST IS AMONG US!

It has only been a few hours since that moment when the servant of  God, His Holiness Patriarch Irinej departed this physical world and was born unto eternal life. This just, forbearing and faithful steward, through whose hands, Almighty God, One in the Holy Trinity, blessed all His children in the land of  Serbia, and whose voice, like the voice of  Saint Sava, never ceased to proclaim the word of  truth – the Gospel message in a land enriched by the witness of  so many saints.

The venerable clergy and devout laity of  the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of  the United States of  America join with us and our brother in the Episcopacy, His Eminence Archbishop Daniel in expressing our most profound condolences to the people of  God of  Serbia, with whom we share a sacred union through the waters of  Baptism and the oil of  Chrismation. With you, our Serbian Orthodox brothers and sisters we implore Christ our true God, risen from the dead, Who rules over the living and the dead, to rest the soul of  His faithful servant, Patriarch Irinej, in the bosom of  Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and to appoint him his place at your heavenly altar.

We assure you of  our prayers for the blessed repose and eternal memory of  the devout servant of  God, Patriarch Irinej throughout this forty day period of  reflection – prayers also for the comfort of   you, his spiritual children.

Memory Eternal!

Metropolitan Antony,
By the Grace of  God, Metropolitan of  the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of  the USA.

Hierarchs of  our Church: ( * - interred at St. Andrew Cemetery )
Bishop Bohdan (Shpilka) – 1 November 1965
Metropolitan Andrew (Kuschak) + – 17 November 1986

Hierarchs of  the Diaspora also interred at St. Andrew Cemetery:
Archbishop Ihor (Huba) – November 24 1966

1st 1957 - PROTOPRIEST VLADIMIR KASKIW
19th 1963 - PRIEST JOHN JAROSHANSKYJ
12th 1966 - PRIEST ALEXANDER BUTKIW
2nd 1958 - MITRED PRIEST MYCHAILO ZAPARYNIUK
25th 1968 - PRIEST TERYNTY SHYMANIV
16th 1974 - PROTOPRESBYTER LEONTIY FOROSTIWSKYJ
21st 1975 - PRIEST JOSEPH MIHALY
3rd 1976 - PROTOPRESBYTER OMELAN MYCYK SR.
5th 1976 - PROTOPRIEST JOHN SHNURER
9th 1978 - PROTOPRIEST THODOSU DIATELOWYCYZ
9th 1979 - PROTOPRESBYTER JOSEPH ZELECHYKSYJ
13th 1980 - PROTOPRESBYTER NICHOLAS ANTOCHY
9th 1983 - PROTOPRESBYTER JOHN DZIADZIUSKI
13th 1983 - PRIEST PETER PETRUSH
2nd 1985 - PROTOPRESBYTER FEDOT SHPACHENKO
29th 1996 - PROTOPRIEST LOGHIN SHEMETYLO
21st 2008 - IHUMEN GREGORY (WOOLFENDEN)
4th 2011 - PROTOPRIEST MYCHAILO BORYSENKO
28th 2019 - PROTODEACON SVIATOSLAV NOWYTSKYI
November is the month we celebrate Thanksgiving in the U.S. and also the month we commemorate the victims of the Holodomor. The UOL National Executive Board has decided that our yearly recommended Thanksgiving Project will focus on bringing a greater awareness of the Holodomor while helping the hungry in our own communities now and in the future. Here are the UOL project recommendations:

Conduct a food drive at your parish collecting non-perishable foods and donate them to a local food bank, or have a pop-up food drive at your parish with Thanksgiving-related foods to distribute to the community. Have your advertising and, if possible, label the food donations with the following message:

In 1932, 10 million people perished in an artificial famine in Ukraine. We pray no one ever goes hungry again.  
#Holodomor #UkrainianGenocide #NeverForget

The UOL website has this text formatted for a sheet of 30 labels (1" X 2 5/8" each) if you’d like to download it for printing.

Send photos of your Thanksgiving project participation to UOL Publicity Commission at recsecretary@uolofusa.org and we will post it on the UOL’s Facebook/Instagram pages, Website and in our UOL Bulletin.

If you cannot support a food drive, please consider a fund-raising drive and send the donations to a local food bank or Soup Kitchen.

Let’s remember the innocent victims of the Ukrainian Holodomor, honor their memory, and help those in need within our own community at this time of giving!
Our Lord is sending us out to be the salt of the earth. He is calling us to add a “new flavor” to the world. To “season” the things of this world with a Christian perspective — the salt of the earth, with the wisdom of the Gospel, with the promise of God’s love and mercy.

Archbishop Daniel


Архієпископ Даниїл

Calendar 2021 is here and ready to be shipped. Order Now!

Features:
- Daily Planner with the saints / feast of the day and readings;
- New spiral bound
- Year in review 2020
- List of main Ukrainian and American holidays
- Paschalion
- Directory of parishes with pictures
- Directory of clergy with pictures
- List of Names of Saints in Eng. and Ukr.
- and much more...

$20

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- and much more...

$20
Virtual Online Christmas at the Seminary

Enjoy Singing Christmas Carols with the Seminarians

(NO ADMITTANCE)

Online Event Only

5 PM
December 19
19 Грудня

Facebook/STSOUTS

Support the Seminary by purchasing the items below and shipping them directly to the Seminary by Dec. 16

Wish List:
- Gift Cards: Amazon, Costco, Home Depot, Restaurant Depot, ShopRite, Target, Visa, Walmart
- Cleaning Products: floor cleaner, bathroom cleaner, multipurpose cleaner, toilet bowl cleaner, disinfecting spray & wipes, wood polish & cleaner, Swiffer duster refills, dishwasher detergent, dishwashing liquid, kitchen sponges
- Laundry Products: HE laundry detergent and/or pods, Clorox
- Household Products: paper towels, toilet paper, napkins, garbage bags-all sizes, Ziploc bags, hand soap
- Office Products: dry erase markers, batteries, staples, tape, multi-subject spiral bound notebooks

Shop the Target registry online or in store: tgt.gifts/SaintSophiaSeminary

More information, call 732-356-0090 - e-mail fr.z.paskas@uosusa.net

Mail Gifts To: St. Sophia Ukrainian Orthodox Theological Seminary
1950 Easton Avenue - Somerset, NJ 08873

Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA

Time to Trim the Tree
Час Прикрашати Ялинку!

Children of all ages are invited to submit handmade ornaments to be hung on the official tree located in the rotunda of the Metropolitan Center of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA.

His Eminence Archbishop Daniel eagerly awaits the ornaments, which he will hang on the Christmas tree himself. Don’t keep Vladyka waiting too long. Ornaments must be received by December 18, 2020

Send ornaments to: Vladyka Daniel
PO Box 495
South Bound Brook, NJ 08880

December 18, 2020

18 грудня, 2020
Please, consider making a donation to the ministry of the UOC of the USA:

Online via PayPal using the DONATE button on our website: uocofusa.org

Bank Transfer - please contact treasurer@uocofusa.org for details

Checks - made payable to UOC of the USA - and mailed to the Consistory Offices: Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA
135 Davidson Ave.
Somerset, NJ 08873

4 The Entry of the Most Holy Theotokos into the Temple
Введення в Храм Пресвятої Владычицы Вмц. Катерини

7 Great-martyr Catherine
Великомученицы Катерини

13 Apostle Andrew the First-called
Апостола Андрія Первозванного

19 St. Nicholas the Wonderworker
Святителя Миколая, чудотворца

22 The Conception by St. Anna of the Most Holy Theotokos
Зачатия праведною Анною Пресвятої Богородицы

25 Nativity of our Lord (according to the Gregorian Calendar)
Різдво Христове (згодно Григоріанського календаря)

17 Great-martyr Barbara
Вмц. Варвара

30 Holy Prophet Daniel
Пророка Даниїла

DECEMBER CELEBRATIONS
У ГРУДНІ СВЯТКУЄМО

YOU CAN HELP
YOUR CHURCH

Make a donation to support the Ministry of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA
Зробіть пожертву для підтримки Відділів Служіння Церкви
CALENDAR OF EVENTS
Get involved in the life of your Church!
The success of all Church sponsored events depends upon your active participation!

Thanksgiving Day
November 26

Due date for mailing in ornaments
Time to Trim the Tree
December 18

Start of Advent
St. Philip’s Fast
November 27

Saint Nicholas Day
Sv. Mykolaj
December 19

HOLODOMOR COMMEMORATION
St. Andrew Memorial Church 5 PM
November 28

Christmas at the Seminary
VIRTUAL ONLINE EVENT
December 19

Entry of the Theotokos into the Temple
December 4

UOCofUSA
uocofusa.org