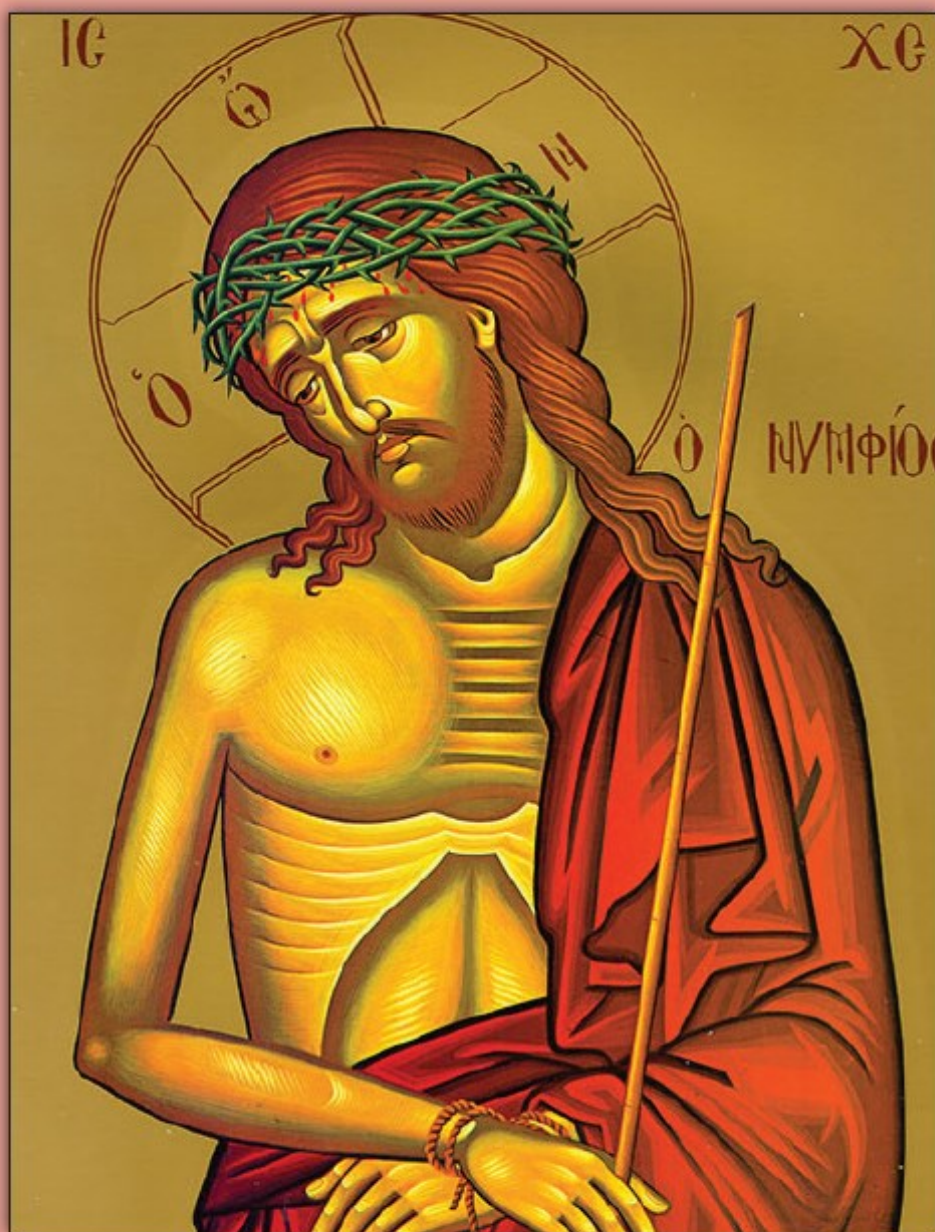


SUNDAY OF CHEESEFARE



Icon of Christ the Bridegroom

WEEKLY SCHEDULE OF SERVICES AND EVENTS

NOTE: *Liturgical Services for Holy Ghost Ukrainian Catholic Church, West Easton, are noted in italic print; Liturgical services for St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Church, Bethlehem, are noted in plain print* **Outside events and services are listed in bold print.** Thank you for your attention!

NOTE: Confessions are heard 1/2 hour before Divine Services or by Appointment. Call Father Paul or Father Yaroslav anytime you need the Sacraments!

Sat, Feb 18th: The Venerable Father Isidore

4:30 pm: *Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom (West Easton), Intention for God's Blessings on Our Living and Deceased Parishioners.*

6:30 pm: *Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom (Bethlehem), Intention for +Vasyl Zvarych (3rd/9th Days).*

Sun, Feb 19th: The Sunday of Cheesefare and Forgiveness; of the Apostle Archippus

9:00 am: *Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom (Eng.) (Bethlehem); Intention for +Health and God's Blessings on Michael Wetherill, by Family.*

11:00 am: *Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom (Ukr.) (West Easton); Intention for +Wilemina Wichryk, by Alfreda Wesolowski.*

NOTE: THE GREAT FAST/HOLY LENT BEGINS AT SUNDOWN

6:00 pm: *Forgiveness Vespers (West Easton).*

6:30 pm: *Forgiveness Vespers (Bethlehem).*

Mon, Feb 20th: The Venerable Father, Wonderworker and Hierarch Leo of Catania

9:00 am: *Lenten Matins (Bethlehem).*

9:00 am: *Lenten Matins (West Easton).*

6:30 pm: *Lenten Vespers (Bethlehem).*

Tue, Feb 21st: The Venerable Father Timothy

9:00 am: *Lenten Matins (Bethlehem).*

9:00 am: *Lenten Matins (West Easton).*

6:30 pm: Moleben to the Mother of God for Peace in Ukraine, Assumption of the BVM Ukrainian Orthodox Church, Northampton, PA.

Wed, Feb 22nd: The Commemoration of the Finding of the Relics of the Martyrs of Eugenia

9:00 am: *Lenten Matins (Bethlehem).*

9:00 am: *Lenten Matins (West Easton).*

6:00 pm: *Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts (West Easton).*

6:30 pm: *Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts (Bethlehem).*

7:00 pm: UAV Post 42 Meeting (Holy Ghost Chapel).

Thu, Feb 23rd: The Hieromartyr Polycarp of Smyrna

NO DIVINE SERVICES

Fri, Feb 24th: The Patriarch Tarasius of Constantinople

[DAY OF PRAYER AND REMEMBRANCE OF THE RUSSIAN WAR OF AGGRESSION AGAINST UKRAINE—SEE ANNOUNCEMENTS]

9:00 am: *Lenten Matins (Bethlehem).*

9:00 am: *Lenten Matins (West Easton).*

6:00 pm: *Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts (West Easton).*

6:30 pm: *Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts (Bethlehem); Presentation*

"DISCOVER THE BYZANTINE DIVINE LITURGY" and refreshments at St. Josaphat Church Hall after Liturgy.

Sat, Feb 25th: The Commemoration of the First and Second Findings of the Head of John the

Baptist

4:30 pm: *Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom (West Easton), Intention for God's Blessings on Our Living and Deceased Parishioners.*

6:30 pm: Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom (Bethlehem), Intention for Health and God's Blessings on Michael Wetherill, by Family. Presentation "DISCOVER THE BYZANTINE DIVINE LITURGY" and refreshments at St. Josaphat Church Hall after Liturgy.

7:00 pm: Gathering of Solidarity and Prayer Vigil for Ukraine, Hosted by the Bethlehem Interfaith Group (Bethlehem City Hall—Payrow Plaza, Bethlehem, PA),

Sun, Feb 26th: The First Sunday of the Great Fast; the Sunday of Orthodoxy (of the Holy Icons)

9:00 am: Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom (Ukr.) (Bethlehem); Intention for +Joanne Besoushko, by Mary Lushnycky.

11:00 am: *Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom (Eng.) (West Easton); Intention for +Wilhelmina Wichryk, by Alfreda Wesolowski.*

Parish Announcements:

1. The Great Fast/Holy Lent begins at sunset on Sunday, February 19th, 2023. The fasting regulations for the Archeparchy take effect at this time. If you are of sound health, you may try to increase the efforts of your ascetic practice during this time (i.e., abstaining from both meat and dairy products Wednesdays and Fridays, attending more of the Lenten prayer services, sharing time and resources for the stewardship of your parish, etc.). Remember, fasting without prayer is a "demon's fast," especially if you find yourself prone to outbursts of anger and being uncharitable in thought or deed while fasting. Obviously, if your health is not sound, you should not be fasting unless you have already conferred with Father Paul/Father Yaroslav and your medical practitioner. The Fast is here to serve you and help you grown in faith; give it an honest try!
2. The Ukrainian Catholic/Orthodox Clergy Brotherhood of the Lehigh Valley will have their next weekly Moleben for Peace in Ukraine on Tuesday, February 21st, 2023, at 6:30 pm, at Assumption of the BVM Ukrainian Orthodox Church, Northampton, PA. All are encouraged to come and pray with us.
3. The Hierarchs of the Ukrainian Catholic Metropolia of the USA have announced Thursday, February 24th, 2023, a Day of Prayer and Remembrance of the 1st anniversary of the Russian War of Aggression Against Ukraine. All faithful are exhorted to pray, fast, and engage in works of charity and almsgiving on this day. Please refer to the letter by the Ukrainian Catholic Hierarchs of the USA in this bulletin.
4. Father Paul will be giving two talks, "DISCOVER THE BYZANTINE DIVINE LITURGY", on Friday February 24th after the 6:30 pm Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts and on Saturday, February 25th, after the 6:30 pm Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great. A light Lenten meal will be served after each Liturgy at St. Josaphat Church Hall. These are open to all who wish to come and learn more about our Liturgical heritage. For more information, please contact St. Josaphat Rectory.
5. On Thursday, February 23rd, 2023, the UOC-USA will be hosting a prayer vigil and remembrance of the 1st anniversary of the Russian War of Aggression in Ukraine will be held at 8:00 pm at the Ukrainian Cultural Center, 135 Davidson Avenue, Somerset, NJ, 08873. All are invited to attend
6. On Saturday, February 25th, the Bethlehem Interfaith Group will be having a prayer vigil and remembrance for the 1st anniversary of the Russian War of Aggression against Ukraine at 7:00 pm at Bethlehem City Hall-Payrow Plaza. All are welcome to attend.

7. FOR BETHLEHEM PARISHIONERS: Lenten Mite Boxes are placed in the vestibule of the Church for the coming Great Fast. All who wish to participate may take one and fill it with loose change throughout the Fast. Mite boxes will be collected at the Divine Liturgies on Palm Sunday, April 2nd, 2023.
8. Holy Ghost Ukrainian Catholic Church will be having their next Pyrohy and Noodle sale on Wednesday, March 8th, 2023. Sign up sheets are provided in the vestibules of Holy Ghost and St. Josaphat Churches for ordering; you may also order by emailing food-sales@holyghostucc.com or by contacting Holy Ghost Rectory.
9. If you wish to donate to help with the effort in Ukraine, you may do so online via these links: <https://bit.ly/3Dh79UO> (Archeprarchy of Philadelphia) or at <https://bit.ly/3CGdl8A> (UUARC) or via check/cash to St. Josaphat or Holy Ghost Church with the notation "Humanitarian Aid for Ukraine."
10. Do not forget your Redner's Receipts for both Holy Ghost and St. Josaphat parishes! Also at Holy Ghost, do not forget that we also have a metal recycling fundraising program as well! For more information, please contact Holy Ghost or St. Josaphat's Rectory.

Please don't leave this bulletin in the pew or in the trash when you are finished. We encourage you to share this bulletin with your loved ones. Let your family & friends know of the spiritual treasure that God has for all people here at St. Josaphat's, Bethlehem, and at Holy Ghost, West Easton, PA!

**The Sunday of Cheese Fare/Forgiveness;
of the Apostle Archippus**

Troparion (4): When the disciples of the Lord learned from the angel the glorious news of the resurrection and cast off the ancestral condemnation, they proudly told the apostles: Death has been plundered! Christ our God is risen, granting to the world great mercy.

Kontakion (6): *Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Now and for ever and ever: Amen.* O Guide to Wisdom, O Giver of Understanding, O Instructor of the ignorant, and Helper of the poor, strengthen and enlighten my heart, O Master. Give the word to me, O Word of the Father, that I may not refrain from crying out to You: O Merciful Lord, have mercy on me, a fallen one.

Prokimenon (8): Make vows to the Lord your God and fulfill them.

Verse: God is known in Judea; in Israel His name is great.

Epistle (Romans 13,11-14;14,1-4): Brethren: Do this because you know the time; it is the hour now for you to awake from sleep. For our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed; the night is advanced, the day is at

**Сиропусня Неділя/Прощеня;
Св. Апостола Архіпа**

Тропар (4): Світлу про воскресіння розповідь від ангела почувши і від прадідного засуду звільнившись, Господні учениці, радіючи, казали апостолам: Здолана смерть, воскрес Христос Бог, що дає світові велику милість.

Кондак (6): *Слава Отцю, і Суну, і Святому Духові, і нині, і повсякчас, і на віки вічні. Амінь.* Премудрости наставниче, розуму подателю, немудрих порадику і вбогих захиснику! Укріпи і врозуми серце наше, Владико. Ти дай нам слово, вітцівськ Слово, щоб невпинно звивати до Тебе. Помилуй нас, грішних!

Прокімен (8): Помоліться і хвалу віддайте Господові, Богу нашому.

Стих: Відомий Бог у Юдеї, в Ізраїлі велике ім'я Його.

Апостоль (Рим 13,11-14;14,1-4): Браття, тим більше, що ви знаєте час, що вже пора вам прокинутись із сну: тепер бо ближче нас спасіння, ніж тоді, як ми увірували. Ніч проминула, день наблизився. Відкиньмо,

hand. Let us then throw off the works of darkness [and] put on the armor of light; let us conduct ourselves properly as in the day, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in promiscuity and licentiousness, not in rivalry and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the desires of the flesh. Welcome anyone who is weak in faith, but not for disputes over opinions. One person believes that one may eat anything, while the weak person eats only vegetables. The one who eats must not despise the one who abstains, and the one who abstains must not pass judgment on the one who eats; for God has welcomed him. Who are you to pass judgment on someone else's servant? Before his own master he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand.

Alleluia Verse: It is good to give thanks to the Lord; and to sing praises to Your name, O Most High.

Verse: To proclaim Your mercy in the morning, and Your faithfulness throughout the night.

Gospel (Mt 6:14-21): The Lord said, "If you forgive others their transgressions, your heavenly Father will forgive you. But if you do not forgive others, neither will your Father forgive your transgressions. When you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites. They neglect their appearance, so that they may appear to others to be fasting. Amen, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, so that you may not appear to be fasting, except to your Father who is hidden. And your Father who sees what is hidden will repay you. Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and decay destroy and thieves break in and steal. But store up treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor decay destroys, nor thieves break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there also will your heart be."

Communion Verse: Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise Him in the highest. Exult, you just, in the Lord; praise from the upright is fitting. Alleluia (3x).

отже, вчинки темряви й одягнімось у зброю світла. Як день, - поведьмося чесно: не в ненажерстві та пияцтві, не в перелюбі та розпусті, не у сварні та заздрощах; але вдягніться у Господа Ісуса Христа і не дбайте про тіло задля похотей. Слабкого в вірі приймайте, не вступаючи з ним у суперечки. Один вірить, що можна все їсти, а слабкий (у вірі) їсть городину. Хто їсть, хай тим, що не їсть, не гордує; а хто не їсть, хай того, що їсть, не судить, бо Бог його прийняв. Ти хто такий, що чужого слугу судиш? Своєму господареві стоїть він або падає; а стоятиме, бо Господь має силу втримати його.

Стих: Добре воно - прославляти Господа, і співати імени Твоєму, Всевишній.

Стих: Звіщати вранці Твою милість, ночами - Твою вірність.

Євангелія (Мт 6,14-21): Сказав Господь: Коли ви прощатимете людям їхні провини, то й Отець ваш небесний простить вам. А коли ви не будете прощати людям, то й Отець ваш небесний не простить вам провин ваших. Коли ж ви постите, не будьте сумні, як лицеміри: бо вони виснажують своє обличчя, щоб було видно людям, мовляв, вони постять. Істинно кажу вам: вони вже мають свою нагороду. Ти ж, коли постиш, намасти свою голову й умий своє обличчя, щоб не показати людям, що ти постиш, але Отцеві твоему, що перебуває в тайні; і Отець твій, що бачить таємне, віддасть тобі. Не збирайте собі скарбів на землі, де міль і хробацтво нівечить, і де підкопують злодії і викрадають. Збирайте собі скарби на небі, де ні міль, ані хробацтво не нівечить і де злодії не пробивають стін і не викидають. Бо де твій скарб, там і буде твоє серце.

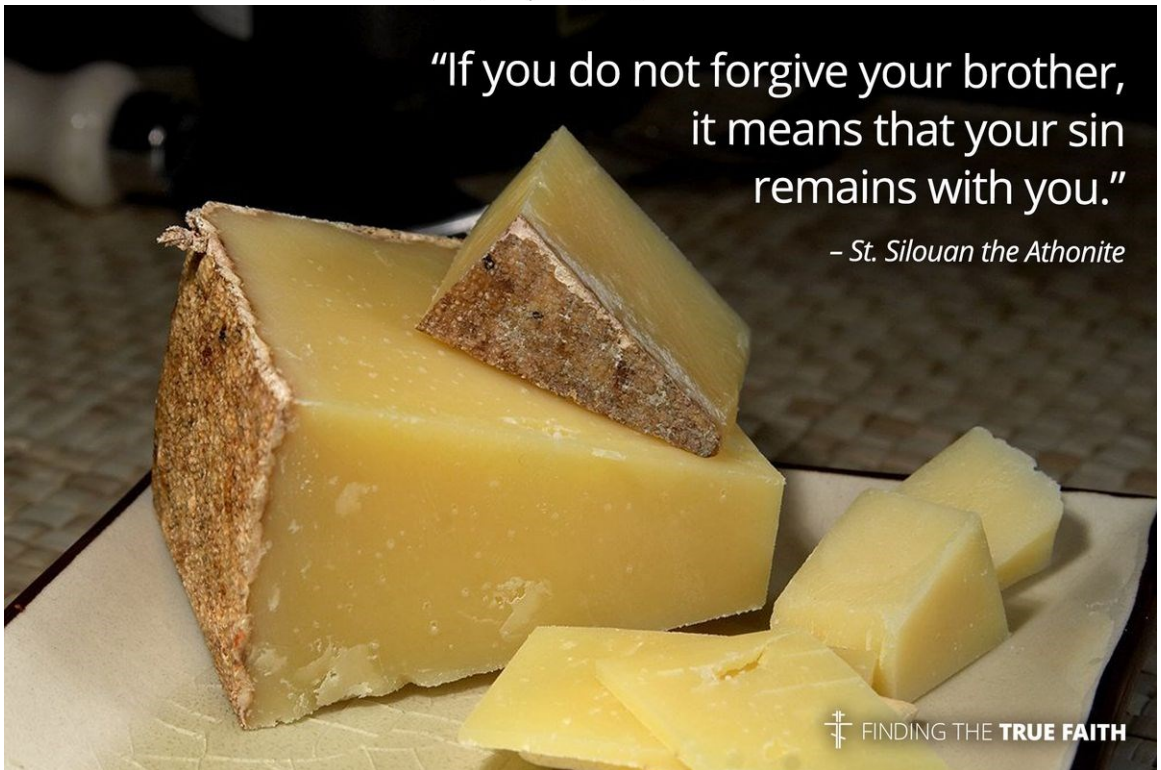
Причасний Стих: Хваліте Господа з небес, хваліте його в вишніх. Радуйтеся, праведні, у Господі, правим належить похвала. Алілуя (3р).

The Lives of the Saints—The Apostle Archippus, Sunday, February 19th, 2023

Compiled from Various Sources; Edited for the Bulletin; For Local Use Only.

St. Archippus was one of the Seventy apostles mentioned in the Gospels. He was a student and companion of the Apostle Paul, who mentions him in his Epistles to the Colossians (4:17) and to Philemon (2), calling him his fellow-soldier in the battle. The Christians' gathering-place for prayer in the town of Colossae was in the house of Philemon, a leading citizen of this city to whom St. Paul directly communicated with him in his eponymous letter that we hear recited in church today. The Apostle Paul calls this 'the Church in thy house'. This was in the time when the apostles were consecrating their disciples to the episcopate - some to permanent sees and others as missionaries, travelling to various places. Philemon was one of these latter, preaching the Gospel in different cities of the region of Phrygia. Archippus was consecrated as bishop of the city of Colossae in Phrygia. Apphia, Philemon's wife, remained to serve the house-church with fasting and prayer; she was noted for attending to the sick and vagrants in her own house and was a veritable co-worker to her spouse in proclaiming the Gospel of Our Lord.

During the time of the persecution of Christians under the Roman emperor Nero, at a time of a feast of the pagan goddess Artemis, all the faithful in Colossae were, as was their custom, gathered at prayer in the house of Philemon. The pagans came to hear of this gathering, rushed in on them and seized all the Christians for trial under the city-governor Artocles. They flogged Archippus, Philemon and Apphia as their leaders, then buried them up to the waist in the ground and stoned them. Philemon and Apphia died of this, but they took Archippus out of the hole barely alive and left him for the children to play with. They took knives and stabbed him all over, and thus this fellow-soldier of Paul's in the battle made a good end of his earthly road.



DISCOVER THE BYZANTINE LITURGY



St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Church

1826 Kenmore Ave, Bethlehem PA 18018

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24
@ 6:30PM

Divine Liturgy of the
Presanctified Gifts

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25
@ 6:30PM

Divine Liturgy of
St. Basil the Great

Talk by Fr. Paul Makar and light meal
both nights after Divine Liturgy

Events held at St. Josaphat
Ukrainian Catholic Church

For more info email pastor@stjosaphatbethlehem.org

Event organized by Fr. Paul Makar & Estefania Pierce

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THE WAY



ШЛЯХ

For the way, the truth
and the life—John 14:6
For the way, the truth
& the life—John 14:6

CHEESEFARE SUNDAY: ON PRAYER, FASTING, AND ALMSGIVING

Nothing is so much God's will as that which is for our neighbor's good. Prayer proves our love of God; fasting proves our love of self; almsgiving proves our love of neighbor.

By bringing us into need of one another, God desires to make our love of one another more fervent.

Every poor man, every needy cause, is an altar on which we can offer sacrifice.

Prayer gives our soul to God; fasting gives our body to God; almsgiving gives our goods to God.

Our alms are judged not by the measure of our gifts, but by the greatness of our hearts.

Alms will be a great confidence before the Most High God to all that give. For alms deliver the soul from sin.

Almsgiving is a kind of art, having its workshop in heaven, and for its teacher not man but God.

Other arts end with this present life; the art of thanksgiving will shine out brighter than ever when the world passes away.

It is a better thing, truly, to know this art than to wear the crown of a king.

It builds houses that will last forever.

It bestows on you treasures that are never spent, that cannot be stolen, that will not decay.

It weaves spotless wedding garments for the nuptials of heaven.

It causes us to triumph over death and hell.

It makes us like to God Himself!

-St. John Chrysostom



METROPOLITAN ARCHEPARCHY OF PHILADELPHIA Ukrainian Catholic Church

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Philadelphia, PA, 19123-2005
Tel (215) 627-0143
Fax (215) 627-0377
ukrmet@ukrcap.org

February 24th Day of Prayer

The date of February 24, 2022 will be etched forever in the memory of every patriotic Ukrainian in the world. On that day, as we all know, the armies of the Russian Federation launched a bloody, senseless, full-scale invasion on our Ukrainian homeland. In the year that has passed we have all witnessed the endless death and destruction that has been inflicted upon Ukraine in this war.

In several weeks, the first anniversary of the beginning of this comprehensive war will be upon us. To mark this somber anniversary, His Beatitude, Patriarch Sviatoslav, together with the Synod of Bishops of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, have proclaimed a solemn day of prayer, fasting and almsgiving on February 24, 2023 for all the faithful of our Church.

In announcing this day of prayer, fasting and almsgiving, His Beatitude, Sviatoslav declared: "Let this day be an opportunity for us to do good for someone: to comfort the afflicted, to clothe the naked, to warm those who are freezing, to feed the hungry...Let us offer our spiritual efforts and our prayers for the victory of the Ukrainian people in this unequal battle, as well as for our army".

We, the Hierarchs of the Philadelphia Metropolia, also encourage all of our faithful living here in the United States to join our world-wide Ukrainian Catholic Church and all people of good will in this spiritual undertaking on February 24th, as individuals, in our families, and in our parishes, deaneries, and cathedrals.

Also, on this day a 12-hour prayer marathon beginning at 12:00 pm Kyiv time (5 am New York; 4 am Chicago; 2 am Los Angeles) will be presented on zhyve.tv which will unite the faithful on all continents together in prayer.

We must always remember that our strongest weapons in this battle are prayer, fasting and good deeds, which we offer at the throne of our merciful Lord. May we always be encouraged and strengthened by the words of Our Lord: "For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them." (Mt. 18:20)

Therefore, let us never lose faith and hope in the ultimate victory of Ukraine over her enemies and the triumph of truth and justice.

May the blessing of the Lord be upon Ukraine, her brave fighting men and women, first responders, doctors and care givers, and all her suffering people.

Sincerely in Christ,

+Borys Gudziak
Archbishop of Philadelphia
Metropolitan of Ukrainian Catholics in the United States

+Paul Chomnycky, OSBM (author)
Eparch of Stamford

+Venedict Aleksyichuk
Eparch of St. Nicholas in Chicago

+ Bohdan J. Danylo
Eparch of St. Josaphat in Parma

2023 Lenten Pastoral Letter From the Ukrainian Catholic Hierarchs of the U.S.A.
Edited for the Bulletin.

“Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean” (Mt. 8:2)

For the people of the ancient world, the most dreaded disease was undoubtedly leprosy. It was an incurable and pervasive disease that slowly spread over the body, covering it with painful, unsightly ulcers and condemning all who contracted it to horrible suffering and death. It was a merciless illness that honored no boundaries, ravaging the lives of everyone it touched: male and female, young and old, educated and illiterate, saints, and criminals, rich and poor alike. It was literally impossible to move beyond its reach.

But perhaps the most feared aspect of leprosy was that it condemned those afflicted to live out their lives in isolation, separated from normal society, from their families and friends. Because the disease was so contagious, lepers were driven out of their homes and forced to live in colonies, far from populated areas so that they could not infect anyone else. Those with leprosy truly suffered what could be termed a living death.

Because of this people were mortally afraid of lepers and strove to keep them as far away as possible. In fact, if a leper happened to encounter a healthy person at any time, he was obliged to cry out: “Unclean, keep away”, in order to warn them not to approach.

Jesus must have encountered lepers many times during the course of his public life as an itinerant preacher. Fortunately for us, one of these encounters is recorded in the Gospels, and this chance meeting of Jesus with the leper holds deep meaning for us today and opens new horizons of hope and opportunities of healing.

We see that Jesus did not react like everyone else when he encountered this leper on the road. He did not turn away in fear and revulsion, he did not avoid him or ignore him as others did. Rather, he approached him, looking at him with love, treating him with the dignity of a child of God.

And the poor leper, overcome with disbelief and joy that anyone would address him in such a manner, dropped to his knees in front of Jesus and said: “Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean.” And we read in the Gospel that Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man and said, “I am willing. Be clean!” (Mt. 8:3)

Is it not true, that we are very similar to this leper we see in the Gospel? Is it not true that our bodies, like his, are covered with sores, not necessarily physical sores, but wounds of the soul: sin, pride, jealousy, lust, hatred? And is it not also true that this spiritual disease has isolated us from each other and most importantly from God? Is it not true that many times, like the leper, we cry out to Jesus: “I’m unclean! Stay away! You cannot help me!?”

Thankfully, we, as a Church, are entering a special time of the liturgical year that is designed especially to help us break down the barrier that our spiritual leprosy has erected between ourselves and God: the time of Great Lent.

How? By means of the spiritual tools and treasures the Church offers us during Great Lent: the unique liturgical services that we celebrate together in our churches, a more intense personal prayer regime, fasting from that which separates us from God, good works and acts of service to our neighbor, and, above all, the Holy Mysteries of Penance and the Holy Eucharist.

During Great Lent, Jesus approaches all of us who are sickened with the leprosy of sin and pride, much as he approached the leper on the road. And even though we may protest that we are unclean, that we are unworthy, or unable to change, Jesus knows differently. He knows that with but a touch of his hand, we will be healed.

Therefore, in the blessed weeks of Great Lent that lie ahead, let us cry out as did the leper: "Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean!" Let Jesus approach us and allow His hand to touch the spiritual wounds which cause us so much pain and misery: the wounds of pride, lust, envy, and every other vice, and especially the spiritual and emotional wounds caused by the bloody war in Ukraine. Let us return from the isolation of our sinfulness to the loving embrace of the Father.

As we embark upon these blessed days, we your hierarchs in the United States, impart upon you the blessings of the Holy Spirit for a fruitful and blessed Lent as we journey together towards Pascha.

Sincerely in Christ,

+Borys Gudziak
Archbishop of Philadelphia
Metropolitan of Ukrainian Catholics in the United States

+Paul Chomnycky, OSBM (author)
Eparch of Stamford

+Venedict Aleksiychuk
Eparch of St. Nicholas in Chicago

+ Bohdan J. Danylo
Eparch of St. Josaphat in Parma



St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Church
"Where Faith and Tradition Meet"

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Mrs. Carol Hanych, Cantor
Ms. Kimberly McGowan, Parish Secretary

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Website: www.holyghostucc.com

Rev. Paul J. Makar, Administrator
Rev. Yaroslav Lukavenko, Parochial Vicar
Mr. Ted Veresink, Cantor/Cemetery Administrator
Mr. Ihor Mirchuk, Cantor
Mrs. Ann Bogari, Parish Secretary

For Food Sales/Info.: foodsales@holyghostucc.com

Glory to Jesus Christ! Слава Ісусу Христу!

We welcome you to our parish family and invite you to worship with us in a most ancient Church of the Christian East. We are happy to have you with us, and we are honored to share our Ukrainian Catholic tradition of prayer and spirituality with you, your family, and your friends. If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to bring them to Father Paul, Father Yaroslav, or one of our parishioners. Our doors and our hearts are open to you. May God's blessings be with you always!

"As long as they have the bridegroom with them they cannot fast." (Mark 2:19)

This evening, Forgiveness Vespers begins the Great Fast. Texts from the propers of Vespers include the following:

Entering into the arena of the Holy Fast, let us make every effort to humble our flesh by abstinence; in prayer and with tears let us seek the Lord our Savior, and, that we might turn away from our evil deeds, let us say to Him: we have sinned against You, O Christ our King, save us as You saved the Ninevites of old, and in Your goodness, grant us a share in the kingdom of heaven.

When I see my deeds that deserve such punishment, I am without hope, O Lord; for I have disobeyed Your holy commandments, and I have led a foolish

life. Therefore, I beseech You: purify me in the waters of repentance by fasting and prayer, O Savior, full of goodness; do not reject me, O Benefactor of the Universe.

Let us begin the time of this bright fast, giving ourselves over to spiritual struggle. Let us sanctify our soul and purify our flesh. Let us not fast only from food; let us also abstain from every passion and cultivate spiritual virtues. And let us faithfully preserve in this, so that we may be worthy to see the holy passion of Christ our God and the joy of His holy Resurrection.

*Text from the Lenten Triodion,
Sisters of Saint Basil, Uniontown, PA.*