

Парафіяльний Вісник ОГОЛОШЕННЯ, ПОДІЇ, НОВИНИ

ВІТАЄМО У ХРАМІ

Щиро вітаємо приятелів та гостей, які моляться сьогодні з нами, та сердечно запрошуємо на всі Богослуження у нашій Церкві. Це є Храм Божий для всіх, що входять до нього. Не залишаймо його не помолившись за себе самих, своїх ближніх, цю парафію та її священнослужителя. Вітаємо всіх нових парафіян та гостей і запрошуємо на каву та смачну булку щонеділі після Святої Літургії. Щира подяка всім, хто допомагає у приготуванні цього сніданку.

Пасхальний Обід "Свячене"

Цього року наш Великодній Обід – Свячене відбудеться у Неділю, 30 Квітня після однієї Літургії о 10:00 год зранку. Обід буде у шкільному залі буде складатися з традиційних страв паска, шинка, ковбаса, яйця, салати, вино, солодке і т. д. Квитки можна придбати після Літургії на каві або телефонуйте до офісу 732-826-0767. Квитки для дорослих \$10, для дітей після 12 років - \$5, діти до 12 років безкоштовно. Діти уже готують маленький концерт і програму. Будем мати на розіграш гарні призи.

ЗБІРКА ВЗУТТЯ

Разом із парафією св. Івана Хрестителя в Ньюарку ми розпочинаємо благодійну акцію спрямовану на допомогу людям в потребі на теренах України. До кінця місяця Квітня ми будемо збирати взуття яке руками волонтерів в Україні буде передане хворим, особам з бідних родин, людям похилого віку, сиротам, бездомним та переселенцям. Ми збираємо взуття, як для дорослих так і дітей і дуже просимо щоб воно було в дуже доброму стані. Допоможімо їм та будьмо щедрими. Взуття можете залишити в ящику або на підлозі в церковному вестибюлі.

ДЕНЬ МАТЕРІ

У Неділю 7 Травня 2017 на Літургії ми будемо поминати усіх наших живих і померлих матерів. Якщо ви хочете щоб о.Іван молилися за ваших матерів, то зробіть наступне: Коли ви є уже зареєстрованими парафіянами, то між вашими річними конвертами є жовтий конверт на якому написано – "Mother's Day Mass Remembrance". Візьміть цей конверт, і на ньому напишіть ім'я вашої живої або покійної матері. У конверт поставте свою датку і киньте конверт у кошик підчас Літургії. Якщо ж ви немає конвертів, то у притворі до церкви на столі лежать білі конверти. Візьміть цей конверт і на ньому, або на листку паперу напишіть ім'я матері-матерів і киньте конверт у кошик підчас Літургії або особисто дайте конверт о. Івану. Підчас Недільної Літургії, за матерів буде братися ектенія за їхнє здоров'я а за померлих матерів, буде відправлена Папахіда у кінці Літургії. Список матерів і жертвodawців, буде опублікований в бюлетені. Не забудьте згадати свою маму бо без неї не було б вас.

Український Фестиваль

Наш парафіяльний Український Фестиваль відбудеться у Суботу, 24 червня 2017 року з 12 год. дня до 9 год. Фестиваль буде відбуватися на шкільній площі і в шкільному залі і пропонуватиме традиційну українську їжу/напитки, живу музику, виступ танцювальних колективів, лотерею 50/50, ярмарок з призами. Українські танцюристи будуть мати дві різні програми о 2 і 4 годині. Жива музика і танці на вулиці.

ДОПОМОГА УКРАЇНСЬКИМ ВОЇНАМ

Слідкуючи за перебігом подій на Україні, особливо всі переживаємо болючу війну на Сході і ті втрати людських життів серед воїнів які стали на захист власної землі і своєї держави і нашої з вами Батьківщини. Ми можемо їм допомогти не тільки

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Розклад Богослужінь у Страсний Тиждень і Пасхальні Свята, 2017



Великий Понеділок, 10 Квітня

7:00 веч - Акафіст до Страстей Христових

Великий Вівторок, 11 Квітня

7:00 веч - Літургія Ранішосвячених Дарів

Велика Середа, 12 Квітня

7:00 веч - Літургія Ранішосвячених Дарів

Великий Четвер, 13 Квітня

7:00 веч - Утрєня Страстей (Читання 12 Євангелій)

Велика П'ятниця, 14 Квітня

9:00 рано - Вечірня з Виложенням Плащаниці

7:00 веч. - Єрусалимська Утрєня

**ХРАМ БУДЕ ВІДКРИТИЙ ДЛЯ ПОКЛОНІННЯ
ПЛАЩАНИЦІ ДО 12-ГОД НОЧІ**

Велика Субота, 15 Квітня

1:00 - 4:00. СПОВІДЬ У ЦЕРКВІ (священик з Епархії)

2:00 по пол. Свячення Пасок у Шкільному Залі

4:00 по пол. Свячення Пасок у Шкільному Залі

5:00 по пол. Свячення Пасок у Шкільному Залі

6:30 веч. Надгробне

7:00 веч. Воскресна Утрєня, обхід навколо храму

ВОСКРЕСІННЯ ХРИСТОВЕ - ПАСХА, 16 Квітня

9:00 рано - Св. Літургія (укр.)

Свячення Пасок після Літургії на вулиці біля церкви.

11:30 рано - Св. Літургія (анг.)

Після Літургій мирування з нагоди празника

Що має бути у великодньому кошику?

Традиція наповнення корзинки-кошика різниться в регіонах України, де край - там і звичай. Виплетений з лози кошик слід прикрасити квітами та кольоровими свічками та покрити серветкою або вишитим рушником. Вишитий рушник символізує життя і долю. Під час освячення у кошик необхідно поставити свічку, яка повинна нагадувати нам про Ісуса, який є Світлом для світу.



- **Паска** – символ Воскресіння та Небесного Царства. Паска може бути солодка, з родзинками і цукатами, полита цукровою помадкою може бути несолодка, але неодмінно здобна – тобто на маслі і яйцях.
- **Яйце** – символ народження до вічного життя і воскресіння з мертвих. Яйце - символ воскресіння Христового, тому що воно по-видимому є мертвим, але з нього народжується життя. Також символізує гріб, в який був покладений Христос, що воскрес та дарував вічне життя.
- **Сир і масло** - нагадують про багатства як Боже благословення, що ними ми повинні ділитися з нашими ближніми.
- **Шинка або ковбаса** - вказує на годоване теля (жертвове ягня), яке звелів заколоти добрий батько після повернення блудного сина додому. Це символ душевної радості, що приходить від сповнення людиною Божої волі. За народними традиціями, споживання за Великоднім сніданком яєць, м'ясних і молочних страв означає також завершення дуже суворого посту.
- **Хрін** – це міцне коріння символізує міцність та незламність людського духу після прийняття таїнства Сповіді. Корінець хрону, який особливо поширений на західній Україні, також відсилає до Старого Завіту. Під час Пасхи євреї повинні були їсти страви із гіркими приправами, щоб згадувати про гіркоту рабства у Єгипті.
- **Сіль** - символ повноти та достатку. У Біблії сіль символізує спосіб зв'язку між Богом і його народом. Під час нагірної проповіді Ісус називає учнів "сіллю землі".

Треба утриматися від спокуси покласти у пасхальний кошик речі, які не мають ніякого зв'язку з Христовою Пасхою. По-перше це не принесе жодної користі, а по-друге, є неповагою

The Proper Custom of the Veneration of the Burial Shroud ("Plaschenytsia")

The Burial Shroud ("Plaschenytsia") is a representation of the sheet that Christ was buried in following his death on the cross. The body of Jesus with His wounds is depicted, laying in repose, often pictured with other individuals who were part of the events of Good Friday, such as Joseph and Nicodemus, who took Jesus down from the cross. Sometimes, the body of Christ appears alone, except for angels, as if lying in state. Usually, the following hymn is embroidered around the edges of the icon: "*The Noble Joseph, taking Thy most pure body down from the Tree and having wrapped it in pure linen and spices, laid it in a new tomb.*" There is also a solemn procession around the church, lead by a worshipper carrying the Crucifix. In the procession, the elders of the parish carry the Holy Shroud and the altar boys carry lighted candles and the wooden clappers. This procession is symbolic of the journey from Christ's Crucifixion on Calvary to His Tomb. The procession reenters the front doors of the church and the Holy Shroud is placed on a representative tomb.

In my village church in Ukraine, virtually everyone approaches the tomb on their knees, most of them from the very back of the nave all the way to the tomb. From the youngest walkers to the eldest who still have workable knees. Many upon reaching the tomb then make prostrations. If you can, as a show of devotion and adoration, please approach the "Plaschenytsia" on your knees, make the Sign of the Cross and kiss all five wounds of Christ pictured on the Holy Shroud. Remember, we do not kiss the face of Our Lord, His Mother or the Saints; instead kiss the hands, shoulders and feet.



- Ukrainian Traditional Easter Basket -
Special Food and Symbolism



The Easter Basket of special foods (described below) is arranged on Holy Saturday, and taken to church, where a special blessing ceremony with prayers and sprinkling with Holy Water, is performed by the parish priest. Some churches perform their basket blessing on Easter Sunday, after the Liturgy. Besides the special foods, the Easter Basket is also decorated with greenery and flowers, as well as colored eggs, and beautiful Pysanky. Each basket is covered with a hand embroidered cloth cover, with Easter motif of pussy willows and Easter Eggs. This blessed food may not be consumed until after the morning Resurrection Liturgy on Easter Sunday. The food in the basket is the only food being consumed at the Easter Brunch, which breaks The Great Lent fasting. After Easter Brunch, the Easter celebration continues for the rest of the day, with family and friends visiting, and enjoying many other foods and desserts.

This is a list of all the different foods used to fill the basket, and their Christian symbolism.

- **Paska** – Special Easter Bread (sweet yeast bread, rich in eggs, butter, etc), takes the center stage in the basket. Symbolic of Christ, who is the True Bread to Christians. Paska bread is always round in shape, and decorated with a dough braid around the perimeter, and a ornamental cross in the middle. The Cross reminds Christians that Christ died on the Cross for their salvation.
- **Baked Ham** – very popular meat for the Slavs as the main dish, because of its richness. It is symbolic of the great joy, and abundance of Easter. Some prefer Lamb or Veal.
- **Kobasa** – a spicy, garlicky, smoked pork sausage. Indicative of God's favor and generosity.
- **Red Beet Vinaigrette (with Horseradish)**, or plain Horseradish, is symbolic of the Passion of Christ still in the minds of Christians, but sweetened with some sugar, because of the Resurrection. The bitter-sweet red colored mixture is a reminder of the sufferings of Christ.
- **Salt** is also included in the basket, necessary for flavor, and as a reminder to Christians of their duty to others.
- **Butter** – A favorite dairy product, is usually nicely displayed and decorated with a cross made out of cloves, or allspice grains. Some prefer to mold it into a shape of a Lamb. Butter is symbolic of the goodness of Christ, that we should have toward all things.
- **Cheese – Creamed cheese, or "Hrudka"**, a sweetened cheese ball, decorated with same herbs as butter, indicative of the moderation that Christians should have in all things.
- **Eggs** – are another very important food item in the Easter Basket. All eggs are hard boiled, and kept in their shell. There should be at least one or two hard boiled eggs per person, for the Easter Brunch. One of the hard boiled eggs is peeled, as it will be cut to as many pieces as there are attendees to the Easter Brunch, and shared with everyone, accompanied by salt and horseradish.

HOLY WEEK, AN EXPLANATION.



Great Lent and Holy Week are two separate fasts, and two separate celebrations. Great Lent ends on Friday of the fifth week (the day before Lazarus Saturday). Holy Week begins immediately thereafter. Let's explore the meaning of each of the solemn days of Passion Week.

Lazarus Saturday: Lazarus Saturday is the day which begins Holy Week. It commemorates the raising of our Lord's friend Lazarus, who had been in the tomb four days. This act confirmed the universal resurrection from the dead that all of us will experience at our Lord's Second Coming. This miracle led many to faith, but it also led to the chief priest's and Pharisees' decision to kill Jesus (John 11:47-57).

Palm Sunday (The Entrance of our Lord into Jerusalem): Our Lord enters Jerusalem and is proclaimed king - but in an earthly sense, as many people of His time were seeking a political Messiah. Our Lord is King, of course, but of a different type - the eternal King prophesied by Zechariah the Prophet. We use palms on this day to show that we too accept Jesus as the true King and Messiah of the Jews, Who we are willing to follow - even to the cross.

The Holy Monday & Tuesday:

The cleansing of the temple in the Holy City of Jerusalem is thought to have taken place on this Monday. This was when Jesus overturned the tables of the money-changers, saying to them: " It is written, '*My house shall be called a house of prayer*'; *But you make it a den of robbers*'. [Matthew: 21:13] The Tuesday of the Holy Week is the day when the famous incident between Jesus and Pharisees is thought to have taken place. This was when the churchmen tried to trap Jesus into making a blasphemous, or, anti-god remark. This day is important also on another count. Jesus discoursed to his disciples on the Mount of Olives about the destruction of Jerusalem and the signs of the last day.

Holy Wednesday:

On the Wednesday the tempo of the Holy Week increases. This is the day widely known as "Spy Wednesday". For it is the day when Judas Iscariot, a disciple turned betrayer agreed to show the chief priests where they could easily capture Jesus.

Great and Holy Thursday:

The Thursday of the Holy Week is associated with the Last Supper. It is the day before crucifixion. On this day Jesus had his supper, his last course, with his disciples. In the words of St Matthew: "...*Jesus took bread, and blessed, and broke it , and gave it to the disciples and said, "Take, eat; this is my body."* And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, "*Drink of it, all of you; for this is my blood of covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.*" Thursday morning begins with a Vespereal Divine Liturgy commemorating the Mystical Supper. The evening service of the Twelve Passion Gospels commemorates the solemn time of our Lord's Crucifixion.

Great and Holy Friday:

This is a day of strict fast. As little as possible should be eaten on this day. This is the day on which Jesus was crucified outside the walls of Jerusalem, at the top of the Calvary hill. And the Christian belief says that Jesus sacrificed himself for the men's sins. It is the only day in the entire year that no Divine Liturgy of any kind can be celebrated. In the morning we celebrate the Vesper service of the taking down of Christ's body from the cross. During the Gospel reading, our Lord's body is taken off the cross and wrapped in a new, white linen sheet. This act commemorates the removal of Christ's body from the cross by Joseph of Arimathea (John 19:38-42). Later in the service, the Burial Shroud ("Plaschenytsia"), or winding-sheet, with Christ's body on it is carried in procession and placed in the recently decorated tomb

Easter Symbols

- **Colors and their meanings:** White means purity. Our Lord, at his transfiguration, appeared in raiment "white as the light" (Matt. 17:2, etc.). White is also the symbol of holiness: The high priest's holy garments were made of white linen - Leviticus 16:4,32. Purple - is a color royalty and suffering.
- **Rooster:** When I traveled in Europe for business, I noticed that the Churches didn't have crosses on the top of them, in the city of Amsterdam in the Netherlands. So I asked the tour guide about it. She was very surprised that we didn't have "roosters" on our churches in the United States. When she started to explain it to me I finally understood. Here is what she told me: "We have the rooster because Peter was told by Jesus in the Gospels in the Bible, that he would deny Christ three times. So the rooster is to remind us not to deny Christ." The scriptural reference to this is Matthew 26:69-75
- **Easter Lilies** are used to decorate churches and homes. The large, pure white blossoms remind Christians of the pure new life that comes to them through the Resurrection of Jesus. The white lily stands for purity. Artists for centuries have pictured the angel Gabriel coming to the Virgin Mary with a spray of lilies in his hand, to announce that she is to be the mother of the Christ child.
- **Eggs** - represent new life - Christ coming back to life after death, have been a symbol of spring since ancient times. The oval shape of the egg was the same shape for a raindrop and a seed. These two were important life-giving elements. The egg itself promises new life as in spring, birds, and many other animals are hatched from eggs.
- **The Lamb** - is a particularly important Easter symbol in central and eastern European countries. It represents Jesus and relates His death to that of the lamb sacrificed on the first Passover. Christians traditionally refer to Jesus as "the Lamb of God."

Funny!

- Funny how we set our clocks to arise at 4:00am or 5:00am to be at the job by 7:30, yet when Sunday comes we can't get to church for 11:00am to praise the one who gave us the jobs!
- Funny how we call God our Father and Jesus our brother, but find it hard to introduce them to our family.
- Funny how small our sins seem, but how big their" sins are.
- Funny how much difficulty some have learning the gospel well enough to tell others, but how simple it is to understand and explain the latest gossip about someone else.
- Funny how we can't think of anything to say when we pray, but don't have any difficulty thinking of things to talk about to a friend.
- Funny how we are so quick to take directions from a total stranger when we are lost, but find it nearly impossible to take God's direction for our lives.
- Funny how people want God to answer their prayers, but refuse to listen to His counsel.
- Funny how we sing about heaven, but live only for today.
- Funny how people think they are going to Heaven but don't think there is a hell.
- Funny how it is okay to blame God for evil and suffering in the world, but it is not necessary to thank Him for what is good and pleasant.
- Funny how when something goes wrong, we cry, "Lord, why me?" but when something goes right, we think, "Hey, it must be me!"



From the Pastor

Did you know these facts about our Church? The Eastern Catholic Church

Many people are surprised to learn that there are twenty-two distinct Churches which form the Catholic Church: the Western or "Latin" Church, which nearly all Americans are familiar with, and the Eastern Churches, of which there are twenty-one.

While the Western Church makes up the vast majority of the Catholic Church, there are around 17 million Catholics who are members of an Eastern Church. Some of more well-known of the Eastern Churches include the Ukrainian Catholic Church, the Maronite Catholic Church, the Melkite Catholic Church, the Chaldean Catholic Church and the Coptic Catholic Church. The Assumption Parish in Perth Amboy, NJ is part of the Ukrainian Catholic Church.

With the exception of the Maronite Church, the Eastern Catholic Churches were formed when Christians who had been members of Eastern churches which had cut ties with the Holy See, once again sought reunion with Rome.

Eastern Christianity took a firm root in Ukraine in 989 when Vladimir, Prince of Kiev, embraced the Christian Faith and was baptized. Soon afterwards many missionaries from the Byzantine Empire arrived, having been sent by the Patriarch of Constantinople to preach the Gospel. When the Church of Rome and the Church of Constantinople severed ties with one another in the 11th century, the Church in Ukraine gradually followed suit and finally gave up the bonds of unity with Rome. When Ukrainian Orthodox bishops met at a council in Brest-Litovsk in 1595, seven bishops decided to re-establish communion with Rome. Guaranteed that their Byzantine tradition and Liturgy would be respected and recognized by Rome, they and many priests and lay faithful were re-united with the See of Rome, while others continued to remain Orthodox.

In the 19th century many Ukrainian Catholics began to emigrate to North America, bringing their pastors, traditions and liturgy to Canada and the United States. Under Communist rule, Catholics in Ukraine were persecuted, with many being imprisoned and murdered; in 1945 all the Ukrainian Catholic bishops were arrested or killed. Today the Ukrainian Catholic Church is the largest Eastern Catholic Church, with about 7 million faithful in 40 countries, 70% in Ukraine and 250,000 in the United States. It is led by His Beatitude Sviatoslav Shevchuk, Archbishop-Major of Kyiv (Kiev)-Halych.

A Bigger Frying Pan

Two men went fishing. One man was an experienced fisherman, the other wasn't. Every time the experienced fisherman caught a big fish, he put it in his ice chest to keep it fresh. Whenever the inexperienced fisherman caught a big fish, he threw it back. The experienced fisherman watched this go on all day and finally got tired of seeing this man waste good fish. "Why do you keep throwing back all the big fish you catch?" he asked. The inexperienced fisherman replied, "I only have a small frying pan."

- *Dearly beloved, sometimes, like that fisherman, we throw back the big plans, big dreams, big jobs, big opportunities that God gives us. Our faith is too small. We laugh at that fisherman who didn't figure out that all he needed was a bigger frying pan; yet how ready are we to increase the size of our faith? Whether it's a problem or a possibility, God will never give you anything bigger than you can handle. That means we can confidently walk into anything God brings our way. You can do all things through Christ. Nothing is too big for God. Stop telling God you've got big problems, but instead tell your problems to a big God!*



THE DANGER OF SPIRITUAL PROCRASTINATION

There is a fable which tells of three apprentice devils who were coming to this earth to finish their apprenticeship. They were talking to Satan, the chief of the devils, about their plans to tempt and to ruin men. The first said, "I will tell them that there is no God."

Satan said, "That will not delude many, for they know that there is a God."

The second said, "I will tell men that there is no hell."

Satan answered, "You will deceive no one that way; men know even now that there is a hell for sin."

The third said, "I will tell men that there is no hurry." "Go," said Satan, "and you will ruin men by the thousands." The most dangerous of all delusions is that there is plenty of time.



METROPOLITAN STEFAN'S MEDITATION FOR PALM SUNDAY

Deafness and blindness are great personal tragedies, but deafness and blindness of the soul is more tragic. On Palm Sunday, Jerusalem was blind and deaf. Its people did not recognize the true mission of Jesus. Many in the crowds wanted a revolutionary and conqueror who would fulfill their expectations and help them realize their nationalistic hopes. Their souls were unmoved. In a few days, the crowds of people will change its heart and will call out for the crucifixion of Jesus. The disciples will flee and hide. Peter will deny Jesus three times. Imagine the loneliness felt by Jesus.

In each of our lives, there are Palm Sunday moments. Our Lord visits every soul. There are moments when we feel close to God. We feel Him touching our lives. We can hear Him. Regretfully, there are times when we are blind and deaf to God's visits. We are insensitive to His approaches. These are missed opportunities, personal tragedies. We find ourselves hiding within ourselves and within our day-to-day concerns, hesitant to risk ourselves to respond to Jesus Christ's presence and His inviting love.

On Palm Sunday, we receive blessed pussy willows as a symbol of our commitment to Christ. Remember that the first commitment was made by Jesus for you and for me with His complete love and sacrifice on the cross. Let your commitment be expressed through all your words and actions in life, crying out, "Hosanna! Blessed is He Who comes in the Name of the Lord!" Allow your love for Jesus Christ richly expresses itself in your faithful worship with your parish family in His Church. May your enthusiastic faith help others to shed their blindness and deafness to the visits of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ in their daily life. Live the peace of Jesus Christ personally and share it with others who desperately need to hear of Christ's promise of unending joy and peace with Him for all who believe and follow His ways! Choose to live as an Easter person!

РОЗДУМИ МИТРОПОЛИТА СТЕФАНА НА ВЕРБНУ НЕДІЛЮ

Глухота й сліпота є страшними людськими трагедіями, але глухота і сліпота духовна є ще більшою трагедією. На Вербну неділю Єрусалим був сліпий і глухий. Його люди не розпізнали справжньої місії Ісуса. Більшість у натовпі очікували революціонера і завойовника, який здійснить їхні сподівання і pomoже реалізувати націоналістичні надії. Їхні душі були незворушні. Через кілька днів натовп людей змінить свої наміри і буде вимагати розп'яття Ісуса. Учні розбіжаться й сховаються. Петро тричі відречеться від Ісуса. Уявіть собі, яка самотність оволоділа Ісусом.

У кожного в житті виникають моменти Вербної неділі. Наш Господь навідується до кожної душі. Є моменти, коли ми відчуваємо близькість з Богом. Ми відчуваємо як Він торкається нашого життя. Ми можемо чути Його. На жаль є також моменти, коли ми сліпі й глухі на Божі відвідини. Ми нечутливі до Його наближення. Це втрачені можливості, особисті трагедії. Ми стаємо замкненими, перейнятими щоденними турботами, не рішаємося заризикувати собою і відповісти на присутність Ісуса Христа і Його запрошуючу любов.

На Квітну неділю ми отримуємо благословенні вербові гілки, як символ нашої відданості Христові. Пам'ятайте, що перший крок був зроблений Ісусом назустріч вам і мені Його досконалою любов'ю й жертвою на хресті. Нехай ваша відданість виражається в ваших словах і діях в житті, якими ви проголошуєте: «Осанна! Благословен, хто йде в ім'я Господнє!» Дозвольте вашій любові до Ісуса Христа щедро проявлятися в вашому відданому поклонінню в вашій парафіяльній родині в Його Церкві. Нехай ваша жива віра pomoже іншим прозріти і почути, коли Господь і Спаситель Ісус Христос навідається до них у щоденному житті. Самі живіть миром Ісуса Христа і діліться ним з іншими, які потребують чути обіцянку Христа про безконечну радість та мир в Ньому для всіх, хто вірить і йде Його дорогою! Оберіть життя великодньої людини!



Why do we pray for "Orthodox Christians" in Our Church

During the Divine Liturgy we pray for everyone. Your question undoubtedly is prompted because of some people's understanding or perception of the term "Orthodox". The English term is derived from the Greek Orthodokeo which means to teach rightly. In a passive sense, it is applied to those who had been "rightly taught", hence "true believing". It seems to me that when this Greek term was translated into Church-Slavonic (or ancient Bulgarian), the translator misinterpreted the second half of the verb Dokeo (to teach-Doksia participle) and confused it with the Greek word (to glorify) -- Doksia (glory), so that many have come to understand the word "Orthodox" as meaning "true -- worshipers" or those "rightly glorifying God".

Hence, the word: Pravoslavnyj. Curious, are you confused by now? Who wouldn't be! Be as it may, the word "Orthodox" has been used throughout the history of the church to describe the Faith of the Church. It appears in the writings of the Fathers of the Church, as well as in the Liturgies of both the Eastern and Western Churches. In the old Latin text of the Roman Catholic Mass, the people prayed "pro orthoxis fidelibus" i.e. for "Orthodox Christians", meaning the faithful who professed the accurate teachings of the Faith. However, since the word "Orthodox" originated in the Eastern Church(es), it was and has been widely used. For us to deny that our Faith is Orthodox, would be negating or re-writing the history of the Church and the terminology which the Church has used and uses.

In modern day Ukraine, many people, not wanting to be confused with the Orthodox Church, especially the Russian Church, argue against the use of the word "Orthodox". The late Patriarch Joseph Slipyi firmly stood on the ground that we must not abandon the use of this word at all costs, because it leads to a correct understanding of our very identity. We can understand that with the gradual estrangement of Eastern Christians from Western Christians, that some misunderstanding can easily arise especially since the term "Orthodox" has shifted in popular parlance from describing The Faith to describing the Church. Nonetheless, we strive to overcome misunderstandings and continue to use the word Orthodox properly, especially in our own day and age to overcome the difficulties of the past and pray for the unity of all the true -- believers in the One Church of Jesus Christ. The communion, in the love of Christ, of all "Orthodox churches" in the Universal Church is the one, holy, apostolic and catholic Church of Jesus Christ, who is the Head of the Church. Our Holy Father, Pope John Paul II, has underscored many times that we are "Orthodox in Faith, and Catholic in the bonds of love."

written, by +Bishop Robert Moskal

Never Make Fun of Ukrainians

A Ukrainian walked into a bank in New York City and asked for the loan officer. He told the loan officer that he was going to Kiev on business for two weeks and needed to borrow \$5,000 and that he was not a depositor of the bank. The bank officer told him that the bank would need some form of security for the loan, so the Ukrainian handed over the keys to a new Ferrari. The car was parked on the street in front of the bank.



The Ukrainian produced the title and everything checked out. The loan officer agreed to hold the car as collateral for the loan and apologized for having to charge 12% interest. Later, the bank's president and its officers all enjoyed a good laugh at the Ukrainian for using a \$250,000. Ferrari as collateral for a \$5,000 loan. An employee of the bank then drove the Ferrari into the bank's underground garage and parked it.

Two weeks later, the Ukrainian returned, repaid the \$5,000 and the interest of \$23.07. The loan officer said, "Sir, we are very happy to have had your business, and this transaction has worked out very nicely, but we are a little puzzled. While you were away, we checked you out and found that you are a multimillionaire. What puzzles us is, why would you bother to borrow \$5,000?" The Ukrainian replied: "Where else in New York City can I park my car for two weeks for only \$23.07 and expect it to be there when I return?" *Ah, the Ukrainians... See! Kovbasa and Purohy are good for the brain.*

DIVINE LITURGIES FOR THIS WEEK

Palm Sunday, April 9, 2017

9:00 AM Lit. For God’s Blessings on Our Parishioners
11:30 AM Lit. Special Intention
Myrovannia and distribution of pussy willows after Liturgies

Holy Monday, April 10, 2017

6:30 PM - Akathist to the Divine Passion of Christ

Holy Tuesday, April 11, 2017

6:30 PM - Liturgy of the Pre-Sanctified Gifts

Holy Wednesday, April 12, 2017

6:30 PM - Liturgy of the Pre-Sanctified Gifts

Holy Thursday, April 13, 2017

7:00 PM - Sacred Passion Service (Matins),
Reading of the Twelve Gospels

Good Friday, April 14, 2017

9:00 AM Burial Vespers
Procession with the Most Holy Shroud
(School children and choir “Boyan” will alternate in singing the responses.)

7:00 PM Jerusalem Matins (Holy Name assemble 6:30)

Holy Saturday, April 15, 2017

1:00 to 4:00 PM - Confessions
6:30 PM - Prayer at the Tomb - “Nadhroboyno”
Solemn Procession (Altar boys assemble 6:15)
7:00 PM - Procession and Resurrection Matins
(Responses sung by Choir ‘Boyan’)

Resurrection of Our Lord - Pascha, April 16, 2017

Epistle - Acts 1:1-8; Gospel - Jn 1:1-17
9:00 AM Lit. For God’s Blessings on Our Parishioners
(Responses sung by Choir ‘Boyan,’ Ukrainian)
11:30 AM Lit. for all Parish Volunteers (English)
Myrovannia - Anointing with Holy Oil after Liturgies

Lenten Mission-Confession

This year’s Lenten Parish Mission will take place on Palm Sunday weekend. We welcome Fr. Taras Kchik who will conduct the mission. There will be a spiritual talk at each service scheduled during the Lenten mission and time for the Sacrament of Repentance.

Sviachene - Easter Dinner

Tickets for the Sviachene are on sale following Saturday evening liturgy, during Coffee Hour and after the 11:30 a.m. Sunday Liturgy or at the rectory during office hours. Please purchase your tickets in advance! The cost is \$10 per adult, children under 12 free, \$5 for children age 12 to 18.

Donations to Church

\$200.00 - Marie and Doug Frankel,
In memory of husband and father, + KEN FRANKEL
\$50.00 - Olga Yurechko, in memory of + KEN FRANKEL

Women’s Evening of Prayer

On Tuesday evening, May 9, 2017 at 6:30 p.m., the ladies from St. Ann’s Society invite all ladies from our parish to participate in a Moleben to the Blessed Mother of God. The homilist at the Moleben will be Rev. Taras Svirchuk, member of Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer (C.Ss.R.) and a pastor of St. John’s Ukrainian Catholic Church in Newark, NJ. His preaching topic will be “Mary in the Gospel of St. Luke”. It is our hope that you will join us not only in these prayerful devotions, but also in fellowship afterwards in our church hall.

Church’s Audio System

Our sound system for the church was recently upgraded, so I hope you can hear me better now. Thanks to John and Collette Baginskiy for the installation of a new sound system. This is an exciting addition to our church, and I am confident it will enhance people’s experiences of worship at our Liturgies.

Pysanky Workshop at ACS

This week students of ACS had the opportunity to learn the art of making pysanky - Ukrainian Easter eggs. Dyes, beeswax and a stylus were used to decorate the eggs with traditional Ukrainian designs. This year, many students will be able to fill their Easter basket with beautiful pysanky, rather than just plain colored eggs! Thanks to Mrs. Melanie Fedynyshyn, our librarian and our parishioner for guiding students through all the steps of transforming a plain egg into a work of art.

COME HOME FOR PASCHA!

Dear Parishioners and Friends of Assumption Church,
This week, as I was cleaning around the Grotto of Mary that we have out next to our church, I noticed some scraps of paper in the big flower pot . I went for a closer look. There were notes to the Blessed Mother. One on top was weathered and faded and smudged. I don’t know how long it has been there. It said simply: “Please, Virgin Mary, help me.” That’s just one message among many.

Think of all the prayers that have been offered, all the petitions brought to Our Lady in this church. All the candles that have been lit, the Liturgies that have been celebrated, the rosaries that have been prayed. And think, too, of the history this place has witnessed.

In this church, mothers came to pray to Mary to protect their sons who were at war. In these pews, families have prayed for peace in places like Ukraine and the Middle East. Here is where we gathered in grief and fear the day the towers fell. In this sacred space, we have come to pray over all the hurts in the human heart: The job that was lost. The house that was foreclosed. The biopsy results. The argument that drove two people apart. Within these walls, we have come for assurance, hope, grace. Here, too, is where new life has begun. Weddings, first communions, confirmations, baptisms. The boundless hope that has been affirmed within these walls! But a parish is more than geography, more than a building. It is community. And, it is where this community marks the most important moments of our lives.

Dear parishioners, we all know family members, friends, neighbors, co-workers, or school friends, who are Catholic and no longer attend the Divine Liturgy in this church, OUR CHURCH. Pascha is a great time to invite them to come home to the Church. Think about it, pray about it, and invite someone to come to Church with you during Holy Week and Pascha. There is always a chance that you will be rejected or your invitation will fall on deaf ears. Just remember that Jesus experienced the same kind of reception and He did not give up. So if your invitation receives no response or a negative one, just wait a few weeks and ask again. In the meantime, pray for that person, but don’t give up on them no matter how long it takes. It is hard to persevere and it is hard to be rejected, but just be patient and kind and trust in the Lord.

Great & Holy Week and Paschal Services provide us with an opportunity to spiritually enter into the saving events of Christ’s Passion, Death, and Resurrection. There are services offered each day this week. Without these services, our week will be “ordinary and secular”. Don’t do this to yourself. Make the week “Great and Holy” by making time for God!

Blessing of Easter Foods will take place in the school hall on Holy Saturday at 2:00, 4:00 and 5:00 p.m. On Easter Sunday baskets will be blessed following the 9:00 AM Divine Liturgy, outdoors, weather permitting, or the church hall.

Pussy Willow Branches

We thank the Putykewycz/Zakanycz Family for donating the beautiful pussy willow branches for Palm Sunday in memory of: + PETER & MARGARET ZAKANYCZ + STEPHAN PUTYKEWYCZ

Ukrainian Festival in Our Parish

Our fifth annual cultural festival will be held on Saturday, June 24, 2017 from 12 noon-9 p.m. As always, the festival will feature church tours, entertainment, dance shows at 2 and 4 pm, live music, money and baskets raffles, vendors, traditional Ukrainian food/drink and more. As we look forward to preparing for the upcoming parish Festival our committee is putting together a list of businesses to which we would like to write a letter and ask them to advertise their business in our Festival Ad Book. Last year’s book had 28 pages and was a big hit. Advertisement prices are as follows: FULL PAGE AD... \$200.00, HALF PAGE AD... \$100.00, QUARTER PAGE AD...\$50.00. If you would like to advertise your business or you know of a business/company that would like to become a sponsor, please email us their address to assumptionchurch@verizon.net or bring their business card to the parish office or give it to Fr. Ivan.

Sincere Sympathies

Our most sincere sympathies are extended to the families and friends of the following, who were recently called to their eternal reward:

+ DOLORES KAROL
+ JOSEPH SOBCZYK