

**UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CATHEDRAL OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
УКРАЇНСЬКА КАТОЛИЦЬКА КАТЕДРА НЕПОРОЧНОГО ЗАЧАТТЯ**

CATHEDRAL PARISH FOUNDED 1886 OLD CATHEDRAL PURCHASED 1909 NEW CATHEDRAL BUILT 1963-1966

THE MOST REVEREND STEFAN SOROKA
METROPOLITAN-ARCHBISHOP OF PHILADELPHIA FOR UKRAINIAN CATHOLICS
ПРЕОСВЯЩЕННИЙ ВЛАДИКА СТЕФАН СОРОКА
МИТРОПОЛИТ-АРХИЄПИСКОП ФІЛАДЕЛФІЇ ДЛЯ УКРАЇНЦІВ-КАТОЛІКІВ

REV. JOSEPH SZUPA
RECTOR
О. ЙОСИФ ШУПА
ПАРОХ

REV. WALTER PASICZNYK
PAROCHIAL VICAR
О. ВОЛОДИМИР ПАСІЧНИК
СОТРУДНИК

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О. ДИЯКОН
ЧАРЛЗ ШУЛЬЦ

REV. DEACON
MICHAEL WAAK
О. ДИЯКОН
МИХАЙЛО ВАК

CATHEDRAL LITURGY TIMES

Saturday afternoon at 4:30 p.m.
Divine Liturgy for Sunday in English

Sunday morning Liturgies
9:00 a.m. in Ukrainian
11:00 a.m. in English

Daily Liturgies:
please see schedule on next page

ЧАСИ ЛІТУРГІЙ В КАТЕДРІ

У суботу вечером о 4:30 год.
Літургія за неділю по-англійськи

Літургії в неділю ранком:
9:00 год по-українськи
11:00 год по-англійськи

Щоденні Літургії:
розпорядок на наступній сторінці

Mailing address / Поштова адреса:

Cathedral Rectory Office
833 North Franklin Street
Philadelphia, PA 19123-2097

Cathedral Phones / Катедральні телефони:

215-922-2845 Rectory Office
215-922-4635 Fax
215-829-4350 Cathedral Hall/Pyrohy
215-962-5830 St. Mary's Cemetery

Other phones/інші телефони:

Archeparchy of Philadelphia: 215-627-0143
Byzantine Church Supplies: 215-627-0660
E-mail: byzsupplies@yahoo.com
Treasury of Faith Museum: 215-627-3389
E-mail: tofmuseum@ukrcap.org
Missionary Sisters of The Mother of God
Convent: 215-627-7808
E-mail: msg@ukrcap.org

Cathedral E-mail / Катедральна е-пошта:

CATHEDRALONFRANKLIN@COMCAST.NET
OUR WEB-SITE:
WWW.UKRCATHEDRAL.COM

First Time in our Cathedral? Don't worry!
Just ask anyone of us, "What was that all about?"
We welcome you to our parish community.
Be free to introduce yourself to anyone of our priests, who
are Fr. Joseph Szupa or Fr. Walter Pasicznyk.
We would love to meet you.

Also come to our parish cafeteria after Sunday services for coffee and fellowship.
Still another wonderful opportunity to get to know one another.

We have a simple "Do and Don't Rule" here
Do Come and Enjoy.
Don't Worry.



THE SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES
РОЗПОРЯДОК БОГОСЛУЖЕНЬ

Saturday, March 5
CATHEDRAL
9:00 a.m. **SOROKOUSTY:** Remembrance of our Departed Loved Ones
Vesperal Divine Liturgy
4:30 p.m. God's Blessings on all our parishioners

Sunday, March 6
CATHEDRAL
9:00 a.m. + Wolodymyr Wasylaschuk Katherine, Christine and Walter
+ Olena Pawluk—1st ann. (Pan.) Anna Maxymiuk & family
11:00 a.m. Lenten Vespers—St. Mary's Church in Bristol, PA

4TH SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST
4-ТА НЕДІЛЯ ВЕЛИКОГО ПОСТУ
Tone 8 Epistle: Heb. 6: 13 – 20 Gospel: Mk. 9: 17—31

Monday, March 7
NO DIVINE LITURGY

Tuesday, March 8
NO DIVINE LITURGY

CATHEDRAL
Wednesday, March 9
6:30 p.m. The Divine Liturgy of Pre-Sanctified Gifts

Thursday, March 10
NO DIVINE LITURGY

CATHEDRAL
Friday, March 11
6:30 p.m. The Divine Liturgy of Pre-Sanctified Gifts

LENTEN MISSION—DAY 1

CATHEDRAL
Saturday, March 12
9:00 a.m. **SOROKOUSTY:** Remembrance of our Departed Loved Ones
Vesperal Divine Liturgy
4:30 p.m. God's blessings on all our parishioners

LENTEN MISSION—DAY 2

CATHEDRAL
Sunday, March 13
9:00 a.m. God's blessings on all our parishioners (Ukr.)
11:00 a.m. + Maria and Peter Wikarczuk Peter and Olga Dodge
4:00 p.m. Lenten Vespers here at the Cathedral

5TH SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST
5-ТА НЕДІЛЯ ВЕЛИКОГО ПОСТУ
Tone 1 Epistle: Heb. 9: 11–14 Gospel: Mk. 10: 32—45

LENTEN MISSION—DAY 3

CATHEDRAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

COME TO THE PARISH HALL TO TASTE OUR DELICIOUS FOODS & PYROHY
DEEP THANKS GO TO OUR KITCHEN VOLUNTEERS

May God bless Iryna Shpylchak, Sr. Martin MSMG, Luba Cyhan, Katherine Dewedoff, Petro Iwaniw, Otilia Karpin, Anne Krawchuk, Anna Laluk, Anna Maxymiuk, Vera Sawchyn, Myroslav Shpylchak, Ivan Shpylchak and Anna Slotwinski for your labor of love and support of our parish.

SINCERE THANKS GO TO
LUBA CYHAN, MARY FEDORIN AND ANNA MAXYMIUK
FOR LAST WEEK'S KITCHEN DONTIONS

Pray for the following parishioners for healing and good health

Fr. Ruslan Romaniuk, Rev. Deacon Charles Schultz, John Chytruk, Maria Jackiw, Peggy Konzerowsky, Michael Lubianetsky, Julia Maksymchuk, Maria Plekan and Rosalie Senick. If you are admitted to the hospital, or at home and would like the priest to visit you, please call the parish office at 215-922-2845, or in case of an emergency please call 201-741-2292.



Last Sunday's Collection

Total: \$4,872.62

Basket: \$2,415.00; Candles: \$301.00; Kitchen: \$1,028.00; Bingo: \$1,100.00;

Utility Reimbursement: \$28.62



Memorial Candle Offerings

The Sanctuary Lamp

In memory of deceased family members offered by Fr. Joseph

The Candle before Christ on the Iconostas

In memory of +Stephanie Wochok offered by Anna Rad

The Candle before the Mother of God on the Iconostas

God's blessings and health for an ill friend offered by Rita Malinowski

The Candle before John the Baptist on the Iconostas

In memory of + William Malinowski offered by Rita Malinowski

The Candle before St. Nicholas on the Iconostas

In memory of +Bohdan Z. Myr offered by Patricia Myr and Family

The customary donation for a Memorial Candle is \$5.00 per week

THE SCHEDULE OF

LENTEN VESPERS & CONFESSIONS OF THE PHILADELPHIA DEANERY

The following schedule is for those who are interested in attending the remaining Lenten Vespers, which are celebrated every Sunday at various parishes in the Philadelphia Deanery. All are encouraged to attend these services as they are both uplifting and a small sacrifice we make in our spiritual preparation to meet our Lord on His Most Glorious Day of Resurrection—PASCHA.

Sunday, March 6th

St. Mary Church, 2026 Bath Road in Bristol, PA

Fr. Paul Makar, homilist

March 13th—Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Philadelphia, PA

Fr. John Fields, homilist

Vespers begin at 4:00PM each Sunday and Confessions begin a half hour before

PARISH LENTEN RETREAT

Fr. Yuriy Banga, C.Ss.R., a Redemptorist Father and Pastor of Immaculate Conception Ukrainian Catholic Church in Lviv, who has conducted many missions in Ukraine and Canada, will conduct a Lenten Retreat this Friday, Saturday and Sunday—March 11-13, 2016 here at the Cathedral. Please make the time to attend. This is a wonderful way to spiritually prepare for Our Lord’s Holy and Glorious Resurrection.

THE NEW RECTORY

The Cathedral Rectory now is housed in the previous convent, the previous Ortynsky Spirituality Center and Evangelization Center next to and left of the Cathedral. Note: the email address, telephone and fax numbers REMAIN THE SAME. If you need to meet with us, please come to this new location.

COME WATCH THE MOVIE “Ostrov”—”The Island”

We are showing the movie “Ostrov”, “The Island” TODAY at 12:15 pm after all Divine services. It powerfully illustrates man’s need for repentance as the balm to restore ones broken relationships with God, neighbor, self & nature, and the healing of ones own brokenness. It centers on one man’s spiritual journey in the post-WWII and atheistic Soviet years. A light lunch and refreshments will be served.

IT’S DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME AGAIN!

Please note: remember that Daylight Savings Time begins next Sunday, March 13, 2016. Before you go to sleep Saturday night, set the time on your clocks one hour ahead in order to be on time for Sunday services. Thank you.



VOLUNTEERS AND PUSSY WILLOWS NEEDED

Palm Sunday is ONLY 2 WEEKS AWAY. If you can donate pussy willows, please leave them at the rectory door. We will greatly appreciate any donations. Also we plan to prepare the willows/palms and eggs & baskets for the Easter Egg Hunt Friday, March 18th at 5:00 pm. VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED. The more, the merrier.

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The Annual Parish Easter Egg Hunt

The Annual Egg Hunt for our parish children from age 10 and under will be held on Palm Sunday—March 20, 2016 after the 11 a.m. Divine Liturgy outdoors by the Cathedral, weather permitting. Donations such as coloring books, pens, pencils, candy, plastic eggs, gift bags, toys, sippy cups, stuffed animals, monetary gifts and fun creative items would be greatly appreciated. All donations can be brought to the rectory on weekdays or to the church vestibule or hall on Sundays. For any questions, please call the Rectory Fathers at 215-922-2845.

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Please respond by March 13, 2016 with the names & ages of each child for fun baskets so we can plan for the day! Fill out this slip & drop it in the collection basket or leave at the hall on Sundays.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

### Mercy Is a Verb

There is more to spirituality than walking in the woods or watching waves break on the shore. At the invitation of Jesus, Peter, James and John “leave everything.” In the parable of the Prodigal Son, we hear the young man say that he will “get up” and go back to his Father. Even monks are very active in the quiet of their cloisters. Trappist monks, for example, rise in the small hours of the morning to begin their day—a day during which they gather seven times to offer prayers for the world. What’s the lesson here? C. S. Lewis points out in his *Reflections on the Psalms* that the “goats” are cast out not because of sinful things they did, but for things they did NOT do.



Recently, Pope Francis prayed the Angelus with the crowd in Saint Peter's Square and told them, “In this Holy Year of Mercy we are called to comfort those who are despairing because of their sinfulness, feeling unworthy before the Lord and defeated by their mistakes, by speaking to them the very words of Jesus: ‘Do not be afraid. The Father’s mercy is greater than all your sins!’” To be a true disciple means to walk in the very footsteps of the Master, actively doing His same work in ministering to those in the world, along the path Christ showed us.

Let us pray: *Lord, remind us always that our mercy must be shown in actions, not merely words.*

Mr. Peter Yaremko

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### BAKED GOODS NEEDED

We will need donations of baked goods for this year’s upcoming Parish Sviachene Dinner, which will be held on Sunday, April 10, 2016. You may bring them to the hall during the week prior and during that same weekend. Thank you for your anticipated positive response.

### Annual Parish Sviachene Dinner

The Annual Sviachene Dinner will be held on Sunday, April 10, 2016 following the ONE Divine Liturgy that will be celebrated that day at 10:00 a.m. All parishioners, families and guests are cordially invited to attend this communal meal to share fellowship with one another as we honor our Lord’s Glorious Resurrection. The cost per adult is \$15.00 and \$7.00 per student (children 4 years old and under are free). Door prizes, raffles and entertainment will be had by all. Come to have a good time!

### Запрошуємо Всіх Вас На Свячене

Щорічний Парафіяльний Обід “Свячене” відбудеться в неділю 10-го квітня після всіх богослужень. Буде тільки ОДНА СЛУЖБА БОЖА о 10-ій годині ранку в той день. Щиро запрошуємо всіх парафіян, родин та гостей. Вступ: \$15.00 від дорослих, а \$7.00 від студентів і безплатно для дітей 4-х років і менше. Прийдіть, взяти участь у цей святочний обід де в веселій атмосфері матимете нагоду гарно побути свій час в товаристві з другими парафіянами. Також будуть різні виграші та вибирання лосів. Очікуємо вашої присутності!

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**PLEASE NOTE:** Gravesite services this year will be held at St. May’s Cemetery in Fox Chase, PA on St. Thomas Sunday—April 3, 2016 beginning at 1:00 p.m. with a General Panakhyda at the Main Cross, followed by individual grave blessings.

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*Take a look at what St. John Chrysostom ask of us today:*

*“Do you fast? Then feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, visit the sick, do not forget the imprisoned, have pity on the tortured, comfort those who grieve and who weep, be merciful, humble, kind, calm, patient, sympathetic, forgiving, reverent, truthful and pious, so that God might accept your fasting and might plentifully grant you the fruits of repentance.”*

*St. John Chrysostom*

Today's Gospel reminds me of a similar yet more intense encounter with Jesus which I would like to reflect on. It is about the Canaanite woman who begged Jesus for His help, saying "Lord, have pity on me, for my daughter is tormented by an evil spirit". In some special way, she, though a pagan Canaanite outsider and not a Jew, implicitly trusted in Christ and saw supreme healing power in Him. Her plead could be really summed up in these words: "O, Son of God, deliver my daughter, who is made in the image of Your Majesty from the clutches of the Evil One, so that she may be granted an inheritance with You, and become once again *the* dwelling place of Your glory, for You came into the world to save the image which Your hands have created from eternity."

What follows is peculiar yet quite interesting and it's in how Jesus responded to her. He completely ignored her, for as the Gospel says, "He did not answer her at all." Surely, this would make us wonder about God and even pose such questions: How often do we bring our needs to God seeking help from Him, and we hear nothing? Why is it, that He does not at times respond and answer us, nor gives us any sign, or plainly speaking, why does He do this? We may even be provoked to shout at and argue with Him, in desperation, sometimes in anger to His silence, and yet still nothing comes our way. We may even want to give-up at this point.

However in this encounter, we see that the Canaanite woman does not. Actually, she approached closer to Him, though the disciples wanted Him to dismiss her, by boldly kneeling before Him and said, "Lord, help me." Still Christ did nothing and told her flatly, "No." This jolted her to become even more persistent, and ever so selflessly and humbly before Him, she awaited the sought after and anticipated positive response of healing by Him; healing not for herself, but rather for her beloved daughter. You would think that by now He would have healed her, right? And yet still most unusually the response is nothing. Worse yet, Jesus went so far as to liken her to a dog, by telling her, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." You wonder if she was beginning to feel totally ignored and abandoned by Him, and would just simply leave and go home?

Surprisingly, she did not. After suffering Jesus' derogatory rebuke, she came back at Him once again with these profound words, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master's table." In other words, she said, "I am not giving up; rather, I will take whatever little You will offer to me in total gratitude." And, at this finally, He openly responded to her prayer on account of her great faith, and instantly healed her daughter. Reflecting on this same encounter, St. John Chrysostom wrote that Jesus knew from the very start that she would not relent in imploring Him, and in fact, purposely went through this whole rigor with her, in order to "exhibit her high self-command and utmost faith in and humility before God." She lowered herself so deeply before Him, knowing with great confidence that even "crumbs" given by the Master would be most acceptable and welcome, even if it meant for her to be considered lower than any child or animal. (*Homily LII, on St. Matthew XV*). She knew very well that as long as she was in the very presence of



**THE** Master, He would provide for her needs. What boldness! What confidence! What faith-filled servitude before The Lord!

Like her, so too must we be committed to Christ with our entire being, and be persistent and tenacious, even stubborn and unwavering before our God, with a deep, steadfast and joyful peace as she demonstrated. Our Lord may and will similarly act with us to test the strength of our faith. Our response must be by redoubling our faith in Him, and drawing closer to Him and in pure sincerity continue worshipping and acknowledging Him ONLY as True Power and all along in stillness await His help; no different than Abraham, who pleaded five times with the Lord to spare Sodom and Gomorrah on behalf of the few righteous people that remained among the abominable sinners; and no different like Jacob who struggled and “wrestled” with God Who later rewarded him for his effort.

The question we are being asked today is: do we give up on God in times when He decides not to answer us quickly? NO! What He is doing is calling us to a deeper level of trusting in Him; that whatever answer He may give us, and whenever He chooses to, if He even does at all, we can be assured that He does so to build our character, to make us stronger, to deepen our appreciation of His Majesty and our gratitude in everything He provides for us every day. God’s silence often is the cross road where we, in loving patience while suffering His absence, come to eventually know that He is ever with us and will not refuse us in our needs. His stillness leads us deep within our inner heart and soul, to come and meet us and heal us. We become one with Him – the One Who made Himself one with us, so that in and through Christ, we may offer our very selves to His Father, in behalf of all and for all and for the salvation of all. In response to His loving mercy, we firmly state, “May He-Who-Is, Almighty God, be blessed, the One Who delivers us His servants, from all evil and rebellious spirits. And like the Canaanite woman, let us boldly exclaim: “Have mercy on us, O Lord and save us!

*May we be deemed worthy of the great gift of Paradise along with all the Saints, and not be numbered among the wicked destined for eternal sufferings and torment in Hell at the Awesome Judgment Seat of Christ. Let us pray the Kondak Prayer in honor of St. John Climacus (The Ladder) whose memory we celebrate today: “You offered us your teachings as fruits of everlasting freshness, to sweeten the hearts of those who receive them with humility. O blessed and wise John, they are the rungs of a ladder, leading the souls of those who honor you from earth to Eternal Glory in Heaven!*



*Icon of the Ladder of Divine Ascent*