# UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC METROPOLITAN CATHEDRAL OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION УКРАЇНСЬКИЙ КАТОЛИЦЬКИЙ АРХИКАТЕДРАЛЬНИЙ СОБОР НЕПОРОЧНОГО ЗАЧАТТЯ

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

## THE MOST REVEREND BORYS GUDZIAK

ARCHBISHOP-METROPOLITAN OF PHILADELPHIA FOR UKRAINIAN CATHOLICS Високопреосвященний Владика Борис Ґудзяк Архиєпископ-Митрополит Філадельфійський для Українців-Католиків

Welcome to our Cathedral — Вітаємо вас у Соборі Come to your (home) house of worship

VERY REVEREND FR. ROMAN PITULA, CATHEDRAL RECTOR Всечесніший о. Роман Пітула, Настоятель Собору

## CATHEDRAL LITURGY TIMES

Saturday afternoon at 4:30 pm Divine Liturgy for Sunday in English

> **Sunday morning Liturgies** 8:30 am in English 10:00 am in Ukrainian

**Daily Liturgies:** please see schedule on the next page

РОЗКЛАД БОГОСЛУЖІНЬ В СОБОРІ

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

> Літургії в неділю зранку: 8:30 год. по-англійськи 10:00 год. по-українськи

Щоденні Літургії: розпорядок на наступній сторінці

#### Mailing address / Поштова адреса:

**Cathedral Rectory Office** 819 North 8th Street Philadelphia, PA 19123-2097

Cathedral Phones/Катедральні телефони:

**Rectory Office:** 

215-922-2845

215-922-4635

Cathedral E-mail/Катедральна е-пошта:

CATHEDRALONFRANKLIN@COMCAST.NET

OUR WEB-SITE:

WWW.UKRCATHEDRAL.COM

St. Mary's Cemetery:

215-962-5830

Cathedral Hall:

215-829-4350

Other phones/інші телефони:

Archeparchy of Philadelphia: 215-627-0143

E-mail: tofmuseum@ukrcatholic.org

Missionary Sisters of Mother of God

Convent:

215-627-7808

E-mail: msmgnuns@gmail.com

### WELCOME! / BITAEMO!

Come to the Lord's house. You are invited. Come into this house of companionship and compassion. We, the people of the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchial and Metropolitan Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Philadelphia are the Catholic community that worships God, spreads the Good News of Christ, and serves those in need. This Magnificent Cathedral opens wide its doors in the name of Our Lord Jesus Christ. To all who are worshipping with us today — WELCOME!

Ласкаво просимо до Господнього Храму. Ми запрошуємо вас. Прийдіть до Божого дому. Ми, парафіяни Українського Католицького Архикатедрального і Митрополичого Собору Непорочного Зачаття у Філадельфії, є католицькою громадою, котра поклоняється Богові, поширює Добру Новину Христового Євангелія та служить тим, хто в потребі. Двері цього чудового Собору є широко відчинені в ім'я Господа Нашого Ісуса Христа. Отож, всі, хто є присутній та молиться з нами сьогодні — ВІТАЄМО!

## Sanctuary Gandle Offerings

<u>Candle before Jesus Christ</u>: In memory of +Iwan Jakubowsky by Olga Jakubowsky
<u>Candle before Mary the Mother of God:</u> In memory of +Denise Krause by Hatala Family
<u>Candle before St. Nicholas on the Iconostas</u>: In memory of +Bohdan Z. Myr by Patricia Myr and Family
<u>Sanctuary Light</u>: In loving memory of Anna & Michael Melnyk by Michael & Claire Melnyk

You can order a weekly Sanctuary candle to burn in our Cathedral. There may be different intentions: in memory, for health & God's blessings, for Thanksgiving, etc. Ви можете замовити свічку, яка буде горіти у Соборі. Замовити свічку можна у різних наміреннях: в пам'ять когось з померлих, за здоров'я і

Боже благословення, за подяку чи ін. The customary donation for a Sanctuary Candle is \$10.00 per week

PLEASE

- TO STOP THE WAR AND FOR PEACE IN UKRAINE
- **♦** ALL DECEASED DURING THIS WAR
- **♦** FAMILIES WHO HAVE LOST THEIR LOVED ONES
  - THOSE WHO ARE WOUNDED OR/AND MISSING



<u>CATHEDRAL PARISH REGISTRATION CARD</u>: If you are registered at our Cathedral Parish (if not — please register) please be so kind to use these envelopes with your name for your donations and support of the Cathedral. In your 2023 donation envelope box there you can find a "Registration Card". Please fill in all the required information (same as last year, new or updated) and return it in the Sunday collection basket or send it to the office. The Parishioners Directory List with the correct contact information has to be updated so we need your cooperation in this matter. If you are new to our Cathedral Parish and wish to join and register, please contact Fr. Roman Pitula or call the Cathedral Office at 215-922-2845.

РЕЄСТРАЦІЙНА КАРТКА У КАТЕДРАЛЬНІЙ ПАРАФІЇ: Якщо ви є зареєстровані в нашій Катедральній парафії (якщо ні — зареєструйтесь) ласкаво просимо вживати конверти з Вашим іменем для складання пожертв на Собор. Поміж конвертами для пожертв на цей 2023 рік знаходиться «Registration Card». Просимо заповнити потрібну інформацію та повернути наступної неділі з вашою недільною пожертвою. Ми намагаємось поновити список всіх наших парафіян з правильною інформацією (адреса, домашній і мобільний телефони, елекртонна адреса) для кращого зв'язку у разі потреби. Щиро дякуємо за вирозуміння та сподіваємось на вашу співпрацю. Якщо ви щойно прибули до нашої Катедральної парафії та бажаєте зареєструватися, просимо звернутися безпосередньо до о. Романа Пітули або зателефонувати: 215-922-2845.

THE SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES — РОЗКЛАД БОГОСЛУЖІНЬ				
Saturday July 1 CATHEDRAL	4:30pm	Vesperal Divine Liturgy Divine Liturgy Божественна Літургія	Engl Англ	Субота 1 липня <b>КАТЕДРА</b>
Sunday July 2 CATHEDRAL	8:30ам 10:00ам	FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST П'ЯТА НЕДІЛЯ ПО ЗІСЛАННІ СВЯТОГО ДУХА Tone 4 Rom. 10:1-10 Gospel: Mt. 8:28-9:1  +Wolodymyr Datskiw — Olga Jakubowsky +Володимир Дацьків — Ольга Якубовська For Health & God's blessings for all our parishioners За здоров'я та Боже благословення для парафіян	Engl Англ Ukr Укр	<b>НЕДІЛЯ</b> 2 липня <b>КАТЕДРА</b>
Mon. July 3 CHAPEL	8:00ам	Divine Liturgy Божественна Літургія		Пон. 3 лип. <b>КАПЛИЦЯ</b>
Tues. July 4 CHAPEL		Independence Day of the USA — День Незалежності Америки There is no Divine Liturgy — Святої Літургії не буде		Вівт. 4 лип. <b>КАПЛИЦЯ</b>
Wed. July 5 <b>CHAPEL</b>	8:00ам	+George Fedorijczuk — Christina & Adrian Stusyk +Джордж Федорійчук — Крістіна і Адріян Стусик		Сер. 5 лип. <b>КАПЛИЦЯ</b>
Thurs. July 6 CHAPEL	8:00ам	Health & God's bless. for Yana, Svitlana, Olena, Rolando — Olena Yonenko За зд. та Боже благосл. Яни, Світлани, Олени, Роландо — Олена Йоненко		Четв. 6 лип. КАПЛИЦЯ
Fri. July 7 <b>CHAPEL</b>	8:00ам	+Vasyl, Olha, Hruhorij, Maria, Nina — Tamara Svynarenko +Василь, Ольга, Григорій, Марія, Ніна — Тамара Свинаренко		П'ятн. 7 лип. <b>КАПЛИЦЯ</b>
SATURDAY JULY 8 CATHEDRAL	4:30pm	Vesperal Divine Liturgy Divine Liturgy Божественна Літургія	Engl Англ	Субота 8 липня <b>КАТЕДРА</b>
Sunday		SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST ШОСТА НЕДІЛЯ ПО ЗІСЛАННІ СВЯТОГО ДУХА Tone 5 Rom. 12:6-14 Gospel: Mt. 9:1-8		неділя
July 9	8:30ам	Divine Liturgy Божественна Літургія	Engl Англ	9 липня
CATHEDRAL	10:00ам	Божественна лттургтя For Health & God's blessings for all our parishioners За здоров'я та Боже благословення для парафіян	Ukr Укр	КАТЕДРА

#### **OFFERINGS FOR THE WEEKENDS OF JUNE 24-25, 2023**

Basket: \$1775.00; Feast: \$197.00; Candles: \$166.00; Kitchen: \$0.00; Bingo: \$1800.00; Other: \$250.00 May our Lord God bless you for your generosity to our Cathedral and remember that God will reward you. Нехай Добрий Господь винагородить вас за вашу щедрість для вашої Катедри.

\*Please remember your Cathedral in your Testament! Пам'ятайте, будь-ласка, про вашу Катедру в своєму заповіті!\* We are very grateful to all our Parishioners and donors who've sent in their generous donations to our Cathedral as support in this difficult time of COVID-19 pandemic. Please continue to support YOUR CATHEDRAL. Thank you very much for your generosity. May our Lord Jesus Christ reward you and your Families with good health, happiness for many years.

## МОЛИМОСЬ ЗА ПЕРЕМОГУ І МИР В УКРАЇНІ! FOR VICTORY & PEACE IN UKRAINE!

<u>УВАГА!!! ЗМІНИ У РОЗКЛАДІ НЕДІЛЬНИХ БОГОСЛУЖІНЬ:</u> Зважаючи на численні прохання наших парафіян, недільні Божественні Літургії будуть розпочинатися на пів години раніше. Отже, щонеділі, Божественні Літургії в Українському Католицькому Архикатедральному Соборі Непорочного Зачаття у Філадельфії будуть служитися за наступним розкладом:

- Божественна Літургія по англійськи щонеділі буде о 8:30 год. ранку.
- Божественна Літургія по українськи щонеділі буде о 10:00 год. ранку.

Щиро дякуємо всім за розуміння та співпрацю. Нехай Милосердний Господь благословить нас щоб ми могли і надалі продовжувати нашу християнську місію та прямували до Господа нашого Ісуса Христа.

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<u>ATTENTION!!! CHANGES TO THE SUNDAY DIVINE LITURGY SCHEDULE:</u> Due to numerous requests from our beloved Parishioners, the Sunday Divine Liturgies will be moved to half an hour earlier. Therefore, from now on Sunday Divine Liturgies schedule at our Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchial Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Philadelphia will be as follows:

- Divine Liturgy in English will be each Sunday morning at 8:30am.
- Divine Liturgy in Ukrainian, with Choir, will be starting at 10:00am.

We thank you for your understanding and cooperation in this matter. May Almighty God bless us all as we strive to fulfil our Christian mission and to continue our journey with the Lord.

<u>СПІЛЬНОТА «МАТЕРІ В МОЛИТВІ» (УВАГА: ЦЬОГО МІСЯЦЯ БУДЕ ЗМІНА В РОЗКЛАДІ):</u> Наступне молитовне зібрання спільноти «Матері в молитві» відбудеться у четвер, 13 липня, о 6:30 год. вечора в нашому Українському Католицькому Архикатедральному Соборі Непорочного Зачаття у Філадельфії. Запрошуємо всіх матерів, а також всіх, хто бажає, приєднатися до молитви.

**MOTHERS IN PRAYER (ATTENTION: THERE WILL BE SCHEDULE CHANGE THIS MONTH"):** Our next prayer gathering of "Mothers in Prayer" will be held on Thursday, July 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm at our Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchial Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Philadelphia. We invite all our mothers and we welcome all who wish to join us at this special prayer.

<u>СПОВІДІ</u>: Отримати дар Святої Тайни Сповіді можна до початку Божественних Літургій: з 4:00 год. веч. щосуботи та з 8:30 ранку і з 10:15 щонеділі. Скористаймося цими дарами Божого милосердя для свого духовного оновлення.

OOOOOPEN WIDE

TIL JESUS IS INSIDE

VAIT TO CLOSE YOUR MOUTH

<u>CONFESSIONS</u>. If you would like to receive the grace of forgiveness in the Mystery of Confession, a priest is available to hear confessions every half hour before the Divine Liturgy, i.e. at 4:00 pm on Saturdays and at 8:30 am and 10:15 am. on Sundays. Avail yourself of God's gifts of mercy and spiritual renewal.

<u>FOR RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION</u>: Please come forward, tilt your head back slightly, open your mouth wide, (do not stick out your tongue and do not say, "Amen"). After priest gives you the Holy Eucharist, close your mouth, consume the Holy Eucharist, and return to your place.

**ВКАЗІВКА ЩОДО ПРИЙМАННЯ СВЯТОГО ПРИЧАСТЯ**. Підійдіть, стійте рівно, трохи відхиливши голову назад, відкрийте уста широко (не висувайте язик і не кажіть «Амінь»). Після того, як священник дав вам Св. Причастя, закрийте уста, спожийте Пресвяту Євхаристію і поверніться до свого місця.

<u>ПРОСИМО МОЛИТИСЬ ЗА ХВОРИХ</u>: Просимо подати імена своїх рідних або знайомих, котрі перебувають у стані хвороби та потребують нашої молитовної допомоги щодо швидшого одужання. Також пам'ятаймо у своїх молитвах за тих, хто не може вийти з дому або перебуває у старечому домі чи шпиталі. Молімось за здоров'я та одужання *(імена надруковані по англійськи нижче*):

<u>PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK</u>: Please submit the names of your relatives or friends who do not feel well so that we may include them in the bulletin. We will pray for them that God restore their health. Also, remember in your prayers all those who are homebound, in care facilities or impeded by illness. Pray for the well being and health of:Maria Jackiw, Michael Lubianetsky, Jack Righter, Marika Borowycka, Bohdan Makar, Dana &Vitalij Karlo Dzindziura, Paul Gerber, Jr., Sr. Evhenia Prusnay, MSMG, Alexander Siomko, Marie Wilson, Joseph Salapata, Gail & Lois Johnson, Annie Opalka.

DEAR UKRAINIANS AND OUR AMERICAN FRIENDS!: Thank you very much each and everyone for your continued prayers and support towards our Beloved Ukraine during this tremendous crisis — full-scaled WAR in Ukraine, which was started by Russian federation on February 24, 2022. These are really difficult times for our Nation, but we believe in God's protection and in our army and all who defend our peace-loving country from Russian aggression. Many of our friends ask how they may help. First, your continued prayers. This is the most powerful weapon that may be used against enemies, and IT WORKS. Second, your donations. Our Metropolia invites you to make donations to the Humanitarian Aid Fund for Ukraine. This can be done as follows: 1.Write a check to the "Ukrainian Catholic Archdiocese of Philadelphia" and send it to the office at 810 North Franklin Street, Philadelphia PA 19123. Please write on the check "Humanitarian Aid Fund for Ukraine". 2.You can donate on the Philadelphia Archdiocese's website <a href="https://www.ukrarcheparchy.us">www.ukrarcheparchy.us</a>, and click on Donate through PAYPAL and select "WAR VICTIMS AND HUMANITARIAN CRISIS IN UKRAINE". 3.You can donate through the Cathedral by making checks payable to "Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral" with memo "War in Ukraine" and sending to 819 North 8th street, Philadelphia PA 19123. 4.Encourage local financial and other institutions to make contributions. 5.Additionally what can be done is sharing the news and contacting The White House/President, Congress, Senators, appealing to do more sanctions and military assistance to Ukraine. Thank you very much and: May God bless all of You!

# The Cathedral Bulletin Sunday, July 2, 2023 & Year 135, Issue 27 PAGE 4

ЗАПРОШУЕМО ДО НАШОГО АРХИКАТЕДРАЛЬНОГО ХОРУ: Хто зацікавлений та бажає долучитися своїм співом, щоб возвеличити Богослужіння у хорі нашого Архикатедрального Собору, просимо звертатися до Катедральної канцелярії: 215-922-2845 або до керівника Архикатедрального хору по закінченні Св. Літургії. Пам'ятаймо: хто молиться співаючи - молиться двічі!

**JOIN OUR CATHEDRAL CHOIR**: We open invitations to join our Cathedral Choir. If anyone is interested, contact the Cathedral Rectory at 215-922-2845 or the choir director after Liturgy services. Remember: to sing is to pray twice!

<u>CATHEDRAL ROOF REPAIR:</u> HURRAY!!! Its **FINALLY PAID OFF!** There have been a few roof leaks in our Cathedral for the past several years. In addition there are another leaks at the sacristy area. Total cost for this work is \$90,000.00 (\$65,000,00-roof repair by patching/sealing of the Cathedral dome and \$25,000,00-roof over sacristy). We ask our



**REMEMBER THAT THERE IS NO VACATION FROM GOD!** Attend Liturgy every Sunday as a family. When out of the area, look for a church to attend. Also, continue to use your Sunday offering envelopes when on vacation. Our expenses take no vacation.

<u>FIND LITURGY TIMES ANYWHERE</u>: Going on vacation doesn't mean skipping Sunday Liturgy. With few exceptions and with a little planning, you can find a Catholic church in or near almost any location. By telephone, you can call the chancery of the diocese or archdiocese you will be in and request information on local churches. Going online on your computer will provide all the information you need. For one-stop shopping go online to <u>www.masstimes.org</u>. This provides a link to parish and/or diocesan websites or church locations and contact information. Simply enter a Zip Code, city, state, country or area code for Catholic church locations. Masstimes.org has listings for 110,000 churches worldwide. You may also use your GPS by searching Catholic Church under Points of Interest.

**CONFESSIONS**: If you are admitted to the hospital or are at home and would like a priest to visit you, please call the Cathedral office at 215-922-2845; if that's an emergency, call (908) 217-7202.

<u>СПОВІДІ</u>: Якщо ви потрапили до шпиталю, або вдома і бажаєте, щоб священник відвідав вас, просимо зателефонувати до Катедрального офісу за номером 215-922-2845, або у випадку нагальної потреби телефонуйте за номером (908) 217-7202.

<u>BAPTISMS</u>: The Sacraments of Baptism and Chrismation are administered upon a request by the parents, or an adult who wishes to be baptized. Please contact Fr. Roman Pitula to make arrangements at least two weeks in advance.

**<u>ХРЕЩЕННЯ</u>**. Св. Тайни Хрещення та Миропомазання уділяються на прохання батьків або дорослого, який бажає охреститися. Просимо звернутися до о. Романа Пітули принаймні за два тижні наперед.

<u>MARRIAGES</u>: The Sacrament of Marriage requires a time of spiritual preparation. Couples planning to be married are asked to make an appointment with Fr. Roman Pitula to set a date for the wedding and to begin preparations (including Pre-Cana) at least six months before the wedding.

<u>ОДРУЖЕННЯ</u>. Тайна Подружжя вимагає певного духовного приготування. Тому подружжя, які планують одружитися, мають зустрітися з о. Романом, щоб визначити дату та почати приготування принаймні за шість місяців перед шлюбом.

<u>ELIGIBILITY FOR SPONSORSHIP</u>: Those who are not registered and do not attend church on a regular basis are not eligible to be sponsors for Baptism & Confirmation. The requirements for sponsor are: sponsor must be 16 years old or older, must have received the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation as well as Sacraments of Confession and Holy Eucharist. If married, marriage must be recognized by the Catholic Church.

**ДЛЯ ТИХ, ХТО ХОЧЕ БУТИ ХРЕСНИМИ БАТЬКАМИ:** Хто не є зареєстрованими членами парафії і не приходять до церкви регулярно не можуть бути хресними батьками, і т. д. Щодо хресних батьків, вимагається: щоб людина мала 16 років або старша, повинна бути хрещена, миропомазана та прийняти Святі Тайни Сповіді та Св. Причастя. Якщо одружені, шлюб повинен бути визнаний Католицькою Церквою.

A SPECIAL REQUEST: At the conclusion of each Divine Liturgy please close all Liturgy books and/or hymn books/brochures and return them to their proper place. Also, please do not leave any church bulletins or other reading material in the pews. Let us all do our part to be true stewards of our Archeparchial Cathedral by helping to keep the Cathedral pews clean and neat. Thank you very much for your understanding and cooperation.

<u>ПРОХАННЯ</u>. По закінченні Богослужінь просимо всі літургійні та молитовні книжечки та брошури поскладати належним чином у лавках. Також прохання не залишати бюлетенів чи інших речей у лавках. Будьмо відповідальними та докладімо також і своїх зусиль, щоб підтримивати чистоту і порядок у нашому Архикатердальному храмі. Дякуємо за ваше вирозуміння та співпрацю.



#### A few words of God's Wisdom...

God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can, and wisdom to know the difference.

#### Кілька слів Божої Мудрості...

Боже! Дай мені душевний спокій прийняти те, що не можу змінити; силу змінити те, що можу змінити і мудрість відрізнити перше від другого.

CHURCH TRADITIONS & ETIQUETTE: Modern culture is rather casual in its approach to worship and sacred space. In our Ukrainian Catholic Church we adhere to long-standing traditions that express the reverence which is due to God, to each other, and to ourselves. Respect for God and His house translates to respect for all of His creation. The following guidelines are customs and traditions of etiquette that we need to be aware of as § Catholic faithful. Please read the following information prayerfully and with an understanding for the Church's obligation to shepherd with love and compassion for all the faithful.

PRESERVE AND PROMOTE OUR OWN TRADITIONS: WHEN YOU ENTER CHURCH, it is customary to first go to the Tetrapod Table up front, in the middle of church — we are to make the sign of the cross, bow, and kiss the icon and cross displayed there (we are excused of kissing the cross § and/or icons at this time due to the pandemic). We then bow and make the sign of the cross again, and then go to light candles or take our place for Liturgy. In our Ukrainian Greco-Catholic Churches, we make the Sign of the Cross (holding together the right thumb, index and middle fingers) starting with our forehead, then to our mid-chest, then to our right shoulder first, then the left shoulder. Also in our churches, we do not genuflect (brief bending of the right knee towards the altar) - instead we make the sign of the cross the Eastern way, and bow towards the altar. And remember that church is a holy place, so try to keep quiet (not to talk or laugh loudly) before, during, or after the church services. Let's preserve and promote our own and beautiful traditions.

Entering the Church. Arrive on Time - The time to arrive at church is before the service starts. If you arrive after the Divine Liturgy has begun, try to \S enter the church quietly and at the appropriate moment. We must not be walking in or around the church when the Gospel is being read, when a 🕺 procession is taking place, or at any time that the priest is facing the congregation.

Fast before the Liturgy. It is a Church law that one fasts for at least 1 hour before receiving Holy Communion. Water and medicine can be consumed, of course. The purpose is to help us prepare to receive Jesus in the Holy Eucharist. Please be quiet while in church. Once you enter the church - it is not the time or place to visit with those around you. If you must talk - do so as quietly and briefly as possible. Remember that your conversation might be disturbing someone who is in prayer, which is much more important. Sssshhhh.

Cell phones should never be used in Divine Liturgy for calls or texting. The exceptions are emergencies (big ones, not everyday ones) and if you do use one, please walk out of church to do so. Also, if you are using the phone for readings or prayers, this is appropriate, but try to be discreet.

Thank you for your consideration. Leave quietly. We encourage you to visit with others, but once you are outside of the church you won't disturb others who want to stay and pray. So, please leave quietly and then visit afterward.

Proper Church Attire - Church is a sacred place with its traditions. When we come to worship we should respect those traditions. Our clothes should be modest and tasteful. Inappropriate attire such as shorts, sneakers, tight pants, mid-thigh dresses and skirts, low cut blouses can be perceived as disrespectful and could be offensive to other worshipers.

With this we continue our Catechetical rubric from the Ukrainian Catholic Catechism "Christ is our Pascha". Hopefully our faithful will benefit from this rubric and thus deepen their knowledge of our faith in general and Catechesis in particular.

#### UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CATECHISM "CHRIST IS OUR PASCHA" Part II: THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH (cont'd from previous weeks' bulletins)

#### II. THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH COMMUNITY

#### A. The Divine Liturgy---the Foundation and Summit of the Christian Community's Life 1. Preparation for the Divine Liturgy. a. The Proskomide (Prothesis)

The Proskomide is performed with loaves specially prepared for the Eucharist, the *prosphora* (from the Greek, meaning offering). From the first prosphoron the priest cuts out the Lamb and places it on the diskos. The cutting out of the Lamb is accompanied by the words from the prophecy of Isaiah concerning the lamb let to slaughter (see Is 53:7). Christ is the Paschal Lamb who takes upon himself the sin of the world (see Jn 1:29). On the Lamb cut from the prosphoron there is an impressed seal with the words IC XC NIKA (Greek for 'Jesus Christ conquers'). These words foreshadow the fullness of the "age to come," about which Saint Paul wrote: "When all things are subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to the one who put all things in subjection under him, do that God may be all in all" (1 Cor 15:28). The wine and water poured into the chalice symbolize the blood and water that issued from the side of Christ when it was pierced with a lance (See Jn 19:34). Saint John Chrysostom teaches: "...there was a symbol of baptism Christ Our Pascha and the [Eucharistic] mysteries in that blood and water. It is from both of these that the Church is sprung ... It is from his side, therefore, that Christ formed his Church, just as he formed Eve from the side of Adam."



- The priest places the Lamb in the centre of the diskos to signify that the incarnate, crucified, and risen Christ is the centre of the universe and of history. To the right of the Lamb he places a triangular particle cut out of a prosphoron in honor of the most holy Mother of God, and to the left, nine particles in honor of the angelic hosts and saints. Below the Lamb he places a row of particles as he commemorates various living person, and lower still, a row for the deceased being commemorated. In other words, the priest mentions by name those for whom the faithful have requested prayer. The placing of the particles around the Lamb on the diskos shows that Christ gathers to himself the whole Church.
- During the covering and censing of the gifts at the close of the Proskomide, the priest recalls the participation of all creation in Christ's salvation and in the Liturgy: he mentions the incense, the star, the universe, the rivers and the waves of the sea, the heavens, all the earth, and all God's world. All this is an expression of God's beauty and power, it all receives God's blessing, it all sings his praise. (will be cont'd in the next weeks bulletins)