



LEAGUE OF UKRAINIAN CATHOLICS - 77TH ANNUAL CONVENTION

"HONORING OUR PAST - BUILDING OUR FUTURE"

2015 CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM—PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED



Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip Code _____

Phone _____ Cell _____ E-mail _____

Council or Chapter (if any) _____ LUC Member ____ GUEST ____

NOTE: ALL ADDRESSES AND E-MAILS WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE JOURNAL DIRECTORY, UNLESS YOU CHECK HERE. ☐



Please indicate the number of tickets needed for each event and the total amount enclosed. **No reservations will be accepted at Convention !**

	EVENT	PRICE	NO.	COST	
	Registration	\$15.00			
Friday Oct. 16	Welcome Party - "Gypsy Jazz Night" Buffet Dinner with Cash Bar	\$35.00			
Saturday Oct. 17	"MOBILE WORKSHOP" - Panachyda at Immaculate Conception Cathedral with tour, visit to the Church of the Gesu and St. Peter's Church /St. John Neumann Shrine . Tour includes a box lunch.	\$25.00			Select Sandwich: Turkey ____ or Ham w/ Cheese ____
	Banquet - Dinner w/cash bar (Indicate any food allergies, restrictions and make your meal selection)	\$45.00			CIRCLE ONE: Pork or Salmon
Sunday Oct. 18	Brunch @ Presentation Parish Center Brunch Buffet	\$25.00			
	Total Package	\$145.00			
	Total Amount Enclosed				

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: SEPT. 28, 2015

Please send Registration form
with your check made payable to:

2015 LUC CONVENTION

C/O Mrs. Andrea Naegle
5725 Ricky Ridge Trail
Orefield, PA 18069



LUC ACTION

League of Ukrainian Catholics Summer 2015
Літа Українців Католиків Літо 2015



"HONORING OUR PAST - BUILDING OUR FUTURE"

LEAGUE OF UKRAINIAN CATHOLICS OF AMERICA

Invites You to Participate in Its

77TH ANNUAL NATIONAL CONVENTION

OCTOBER 16, 17, 18, 2015

Friday, October 16, 2015

10:00 am - 5:00 pm: Arrival, Registration & Hospitality Room

6:30 pm - 11:00 pm Welcome Party: "Gypsy Jazz Night"

featuring "Inessa" on violin and

Music by Kruno Spisic and his Gypsy Jazz Band - Buffet Dinner with Cash Bar



Saturday, October 17, 2015

10:00 am - 5:00 pm: Hospitality Room (for those not registered for bus trip)

8:30 AM – 5:00 PM – Mobile (Bus) Workshop (with Box Lunch)

Tours of Three Priceless Churches of the Philadelphia Landscape

- "The Gold Dome" Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception: Panachyda at the Crypts; veneration of the Icons & Relics of Bl. Charnetsky and Bl. Josaphata and the Shroud of Turin replica; Byzantine Church Supply Gift shop.
- Jesuit Church of the Gesu—the "Basilica-esque" baroque Jesuit church built in 1879—1888
- St. Peter's Church and the St. John Neumann Shrine - with veneration of the remains of St. John Neumann.

Saturday Evening Banquet

6:00 pm Cash Bar Cocktail Hour

7:00 pm Plated Dinner & Cash Bar

- Keynote speakers: Rev. Daniel Troyan and Sr. Eliane Ilitski, SSMI
- Entertainment: violinist "Inessa"
Voloshky School of Ukrainian Dance,
music and social dancing: "Kosiv Ensemble"



Sunday, October 18, 2015

11:00 am Divine Liturgy Presentation of Our Lord Ukrainian Catholic Church, Lansdale, PA

Bountiful Brunch to follow immediately at the Parish Center

Closing Ceremonies: Passing of the League Banner & Icon to next Convention Site Committee.

LOCATION: Holiday Inn – Lansdale (1750 Sumneytown Pike, Kulpsville, PA 19443; 215-368-3800)

Discount Room Rates with Buffet Breakfasts Available; Reserve on or before September 28, 2015

Join us for all or some of the events!

FELLOWSHIP AT LEAGUE OF UKRAINIAN CATHOLICS ANNUAL LENTEN RETREAT



Even a forecast of snow did not deter the retreatants from journeying to St. Mary's Villa, Sloatsburg, NY, to attend the 37th Annual Lenten Retreat sponsored by the League of Ukrainian Catholics of America which was held Friday, March 20 to Sunday, March 22, 2015.

Inspired by the theme "Fellowship of the Holy Spirit" and the retreat master, Fr. Jerome Wolbert, OFM of the Franciscan Friary, Sybertsville, PA, retreatants from four states "put aside all worldly cares" to hear the lessons for spiritual renewal.

Twenty-four faithful adults of all ages gathered for the weekend to participate in five conferences and to hear about our relationship with the Holy Spirit and with each other. Fr. Jerome spoke of the definition of Fellowship; sharing, interaction and caring. The core of fellowship is Jesus Christ Himself in the Eucharist. Fellowship in the Holy Spirit keeps us together as members of His body. We should see Christ in each other, and identify with Jesus first and foremost as members of "His Body". Each attendee was asked to reflect on his/her own most favorite Jesus story found in the Bible and the Gospels. Through this reflection, we see the fruits of the Spirit and truly come to know Jesus. Through this knowledge and fellowship we learn to be attentive to the people around us, allowing our hearts to be with people and thus, to set aside our hurts and our hatreds.

We should all enjoy and live the fruits of the Holy Spirit – love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. We must allow the Holy Spirit to bring us together, to witness to each other, to forgive each other. Fellowship enables us to want to spend time together and with God; and to come together in Church to be with each other.

Other highlights of the weekend included celebration of the Akathist to the Mother of God and Divine Liturgy, and the Anointing for Healing service. There was ample opportunity for the sacrament of repentance, private prayer and reflection, and of course, lively fellowship with fellow retreatants.

At the conclusion of the retreat at mid-day Sunday, participants were reluctant to leave, having gained revitalization, both spiritual and physical, and wishing to continue the peace and happiness of the weekend. This retreat is an opportunity to renew friendships, as many have participated in this annual Lenten program for greater than 20 years, and to make new ones. All vowed to share their learnings with family and friends in the hope that next year, more would partake of this rewarding annual event.

[Composed by Marion Hrubec, National President]

See us on Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/LUCofAmerica>

Photo: Front row – Left to right:

Sr. Olga Faryna OSBM, Michael Labuda, Amy Bolesky, Marie Glowa, Sonya Capar, Fr. Jerome Wolbert OFM, Sr. Cecelia Sworin SSML, Marybeth Darnobid, Joanne Serafin, Jurij Holinej, Janina Everett

Back Row – Left to right:

Maria Szpynda, Delores Dzubaty, Marie Hancher, Helen Labinsky, Paul Hancher, Catherine Wall, Marcia Bolesky, Irene Plaxa, Anastasia Pucher, Ihor Shust, Stephen Darnobid, Olga Bell, Marion Hrubec

Photo by Helen Fedoriv



Pope declares Ukrainian church leader Metropolitan Andrei Sheptytsky 'venerable'

Pope Francis has signed a decree declaring "venerable" Metropolitan Andrei Sheptytsky, who led the Ukrainian Catholic Church in the tumultuous period of both World Wars and at the beginning of Soviet occupation.

July 16th the pope signed the decree recognizing that Metropolitan Sheptytsky heroically lived a life of Christian virtue. The recognition is an initial step in the sainthood process; the Vatican would have to recognize a miracle attributed to his intercession for a beatification ceremony to be scheduled.

Metropolitan Sheptytsky led the Eastern Catholic Church in Ukraine from 1901 until his death in 1944. During the period of his leadership, Ukraine and its

people were ruled by seven different regimes: Austrian, Russian, Ukrainian, Polish, Soviet, Nazi, and finally, the Soviets again.

Ukrainian Bishop Borys Gudziak of Paris told Catholic News Service that while the process for his sainthood opened five decades ago, it was only with the independence of Ukraine 25 years ago that church historians and theologians had access to all his archives. The study required for the sainthood process was not possible while Ukraine was still part of the Soviet Union.

"It was a rich file," Bishop Gudziak said. "Metropolitan Sheptytsky was involved in everything, so it took a long time to go through it all."

(Cindy Wooden Catholic News Service)

Prayer for Beatification of Metr. Andrei Sheptytsky

O Lord Jesus Christ – You always reward Your faithful servants, not only with special gifts of Your love, but also with the eternal reward of the saints in heaven and in many cases You grant them the recognition of sanctity by Your Church here on earth.

We humbly pray: Grant that Your faithful servant Metropolitan Andrei be numbered among the saints. Throughout his just life full of suffering and trials he was a good shepherd for his flock and a great laborer for Christian unity. And through his beatification and intercession, grant our entire people the great gift of unity and love. Amen

77TH ANNUAL NATIONAL CONVENTION

77th Annual Convention of the League of Ukrainian Catholics will take place Friday through Sunday, October 16-18, 2015, in Kulpsville (near Lansdale), PA. The main venue is the Holiday Inn Hotel and Banquet Center just off the Lansdale Interchange of the NE Extension (I-476) of the PA Turnpike. Divine Liturgy, prayer services and several other events will take place at nearby Presentation of Our Lord Ukrainian Catholic Church (Rev. Vasil Bunik, Pastor), 1564 Al-lentown Road, Lansdale, PA.

This year's convention is a joint project of three LUC Councils: Garden State (NJ), South Anthracite (NE PA), and the newly organized Delaware-Lehigh Valleys Council (PA) dedicated to the Blessed memory of St. John Paul II. The Lansdale area's proximity to a number of Ukrainian Catholic Churches and communities and its overall central location promise good attendance and a vibrant spiritual and social experience.

The convention program will follow established LUC procedures: there will be a Friday afternoon business meeting of delegates and an evening Welcome Party with a full dinner and lively entertainment. Saturday will feature a religious service, workshops, presentations, and a fascinating afternoon field trip that is still in its planning stages; the day will close with Ukrainian cultural entertainment, music and dancing, and a Banquet with a noteworthy speaker. After Sunday Liturgy at Presentation of Our Lord Church, the convention will close with a bountiful brunch.

"You do not have to be a member of the LUC to join us for the spiritual, educational and fun experience that is our Convention", said Ms. Marion Hrubec, L.U.C. National President. "In fact, in the past, non-members have attended our conventions in great numbers and many joined. You do not have to attend the entire event; you can pick and choose and attend only the specific events that interest you", she said. Complete convention details, registration forms and membership information will be forthcoming.

During the recently held Archeparchial Sobor, many participating delegates voiced the desire to have more active church and parish communities as a greater means of participation in the Church. The LUC has been this avenue all along, and we invite the faithful to become active members. To this end, in tandem with the Convention preparation process, LUC is initiating its newest Council designed to re-invigorate its once extremely active role in the Delaware and Lehigh Valleys. A leadership committee has assumed the task of organizing the Council and will make the work of the convention a cause for recruiting and rallying membership. The Delaware-Lehigh Council is dedicated to the memory of St. John Paul II. The President of the Council is Eugene Luciw.

Ms. Hrubec believes that "...former LUC'ers will no doubt join and actively participate in this Council; they already know the capabilities and purposes of our organization that was first organized in 1933 by then Father, and later Archbishop Metropolitan Ambrose Senyshyn." "We are confident that church faithful who are already active in or who are seeking a framework for becoming active in the life of their Church will join." The charter of the LUC describes its purposes as follows:

Religious - promotes personal sanctification

Educational - provides and supports programs to aid in the religious training of parish children, youth, and adults

Cultural - develops and promotes knowledge and appreciation of our Eastern Catholic Rite and our Ukrainian heritage

Social - encourages friendship and collaboration among members and the parishes and communities they serve

Collaborative - fosters unity among ecclesiastically approved organizations

"We believe that the LUC provides an excellent formula for generating the Vibrant parishes of Our Church ... those very things that Patriarch Sviatoslav asks all of us to foster and promote", said Ms. Hrubec. Persons interested in additional information about the LUC or in membership should call Marion C. Hrubec at 201-843-3960, or email her at mc.hrubec@optimum.net. Persons interested in the new Pennsylvania council can contact Gene Luciw by phoning 267-664-3857 or by email: eluciw@comcast.net. Those who become LUC members will have an exciting opportunity to learn how to make the lives of their parish a truly vibrant place to encounter the Living Christ and each other said Ms. Hrubec.



**Leadership Committee Photo
(L.U.C. - Delaware - Lehigh Valleys Council)**

Left to right: Msgr. Peter Waslo, Joseph Notarfrancesco, Sr. Marina Bochnewich, OSBM, Kathy Notarfrancesco, Andrea Naegle, Marion C. Hrubec, Eugene Luciw.

League of Ukrainian Catholics Focus on Vibrant Parish Activities

The membership of the League of Ukrainian Catholics is encouraged by its National Board to celebrate the many Feast Days of the Churches Liturgical calendar through activities that bring the laity together in prayer, study and fellowship. Some Parishes had special Birthday of the Church celebration on the Pentecost.

Let us look for next Feast Day that the groups may focus on celebrating. All these celebrations follow the outline of Patriarch Sviatoslav for creating a "Vibrant Parish".



LUC - All Saints Council - Johnstown PA, Host of Last Convention

BRIEF HISTORY OF THE LEAGUE OF UKRAINIAN CATHOLICS

The League of Ukrainian Catholics of America was formed in August 1933 in Chicago, IL, through the efforts of members of the Ukrainian Catholic Church community and Fr. Ambrose A. Senyshyn. Fr. Senyshyn emigrated to the United States from Ukraine, at a time when this country was in the midst of a Great Depression. His first pastoral assignment was served in the parish of St. Nicholas, Chicago, IL. As part of this assignment he witnessed much poverty and human degradation. He was very sensitive to the needs of his parishioners and worked very hard to give them both Spiritual solace and assistance with their many problems. In response to these needs, he organized the Ukrainian Catholic Youth League (UCYL) organization now called the League of Ukrainian Catholics (LUC). It was intended to provide religious and social activities for the Ukrainian American Youth and also to provide an opportunity for the children of the new immigrants to be able to socialize with their peers in and through the Church community.

Some early facts:

The UCYL/LUC published a magazine, the “Ukrainian Youth”, written in both Ukrainian and English with a subscription rate of \$1.50 per year beginning in 1934.

It is written that this magazine has been “friend and teacher encouraging us, inspiring us, teaching to love our own, our church, and country”. All this time it has been anchoring brother to brother, brother to sister, parents to children and children to parents. It has been enlightening us, the members of the Ukrainian second generation on this continent, about the faith and country of our fathers. It has been striving to show us the beauty of our faith, rite, and nationality and the reasons for the subjugation of Ukraine. It has been awakening in us a lover for all that is Ukrainian, and instilling in us the determination to defend our own, be it Church or country.”

The LUC continues to publish a periodical under the title of “Action”. This publication was issued regularly by the former editor Harry V. Makar and currently published from the Niagara Frontier Council.

The UCYL/LUC was not just a social organization. As it grew, it focused its attention on the need to keep our Religious heritage alive as well as our Ukrainian identity. The membership in their local Councils/Chapters engaged themselves in their parishes, working closely with the Hierarchy and clergy to keep our Ukrainian Catholic Rite and identity ever visible.

The following are some highlights of the various activities of the League of Ukrainian Catholics that evolved from the early structure of the Ukrainian Catholic Youth League.

Conventions:

The League has held Annual National Conventions from the founding of the League (earlier referred to as a Congress) up to the present time. During the war years, the membership ceased to gather, however resumed at the end of those times – 1948. This year we celebrate the 75th Convention and the 80th Anniversary of the founding of the organization.

Sports Rally:

It is written in some of the early annals (1938) of the UCYL/LUC that there were “Track and Field” meets held during the conventions. The “track and field” events became known as the Sports Rally in later years. These rallies were organized separately from the Conventions. The Sports Rallies were held annually in the Spring where the membership competed in various sporting events. Events such as bowling, golfing, tennis matches, trap shooting, youth putting course, ping pong, billiards etc. were the regular activities, as

well as other events for the younger children. The Sports Rallies brought together the young families of the parishes and through these events, the young children formed friendships that have lasted well into their middle years. As the membership aged, the sports activities became less “strenuous”. Eventually, the organization discontinued holding these events.

Annual Retreats:

In keeping with our Constitution’s first purpose, that is “To promote the personal sanctification of each individual member. By personal example to draw others to a deeper love for God through the practice of our Catholic Faith in the Ukrainian Rite” the officers of the National Board and under the direction of the Spiritual Director, Rev. John P. Stevensky, a program of Annual Retreats was begun in July of 1977 and continues until today. In the early years two retreats were held – one in English and one in Ukrainian. Currently, the English retreat continues to enroll participants for the Lenten period.

Burse Fund:

Sometime in the late 1960’s or early 1970’s, the National Board of Directors began a program of support for “vocations”. During the annual Convention, a monetary award was presented to a young seminarian to help in his studies. Later, in 1980, during the convention at Johnstown, PA, a “pledge drive” began and funds were collected that allowed the League to open several Burse Accounts that would then draw interest, that would be gifted to not only seminarians, but it was voted upon to help all - religious men, women and those in the seminary, from all Eparchies, to further their studies.

School Endowment Fund:

The second purpose of the League is Educational. In the late 1970s, the membership and the Board of Directors initiated the Sr. John Paskevich School Endowment Fund. The fund was established to grant to one of the Metropolia parochial schools a gift in the name of an exceptional student named by the school principal. This gift is given annually to a school in one of the Eparchies, on a rotating basis.

As is evident in society today, many organizations are suffering from dwindling membership. Such is the case of the League of Ukrainian Catholics, however, the membership continues to work diligently in their local parishes and protopresbyterates (deanery) to keep the heritage of our Ukrainian Catholic Church alive and thriving. Each continues to support the activities of the Church, the League and each other.

May God continue to bless the membership of the League of Ukrainian Catholics and may He continue to guide our youth and elders in all that they set out to accomplish.



Ukrainian Pavilion 1933 World's Fair

League of Ukrainian Catholics Initiative Honorary Members

The National Board of the League of Ukrainian Catholics (LUC) is focusing its work on providing the laity a forum through which they could fulfill the directives of Patriarch Sviatoslav and be in keeping with the purposes of the League. Membership is open to the faithful of the Ukrainian Catholic Church and to all others who wish to participate in the League.

It is an honor as an ecclesiastical organization to work with our clergy, pastors and bishops as our membership is dedicated to promoting our Ukrainian Eastern Rite within our parishes and communities. Persons interested in joining the League of Ukrainian Catholics may contact our national membership director, Mrs. Janina Everett at tjeverett@verizon.net. A warm welcome is extended to all.

As a vital part of the overall membership, please know that all bishops, priests and religious of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in America are honorary members. Our membership director recently forwarded membership cards to all clergy and religious. Thank you notes have begun to arrive including two such messages: CIX!



Glory to Jesus Christ!

Thank you very much for your letter and my League of Ukrainian Catholics of America Honorary Membership Card.

I am thankful for all your activities on behalf of our Church. The Vibrant Parish Program is an essential element of my ministry in St. Josaphat Eparchy.

I am looking forward to working with you to make our parish communities places to encounter the Living Christ!

Sincerely yours,
+Bohdan, Eparch of St. Josaphat in Parma, Ohio

Слава Ісусу Христу!

It was a pleasant surprise to have received the permanent LUC Honorary Membership card! Thank you very much for your thoughtfulness! I do hope to be able to attend the events organized by the LUC in the future.

We'll advertise the LUC in our parish bulletins both in Youngstown and Austintown together with the membership application for those, who'd be interested to join this wonderful organization. May the Good Lord continue to bless all of you in your endeavors and may the Mother of God, together with all the Angels and Saints always intercede for you before the Lord's Throne!

Wishing you and your loved ones a very blessed celebration of Our Lord's resurrection, I remain
Gratefully yours in Christ and Mary,
Fr. Lubomir Zhybak,
Pastor Holy Trinity Church - Youngstown, Ohio

LEAGUE OF UKRAINIAN CATHOLICS GIFT UKRAINIAN SEMINARY

During the recent visit of Rev. Marco Yaroslav Semehen, President of St. Sophia Association in Rome, Italy, two of the National Board officers took the opportunity to personally present him with the Bishop John Stock Burse Award granted by delegate vote from the membership of the League of Ukrainian Catholics of America.

The League of Ukrainian Catholics annually present monetary awards to individuals – seminarians, eparchial clergy, monastics and religious, nominated by their Bishops, Abbots and Provincials, in keeping with their program of promoting Vocations through financial assistance as well as through the prayers of the membership.

The Patriarch Josyf Slipyj Major Seminary of the Ternopil Archeparchy in Ukraine had approached the National Board for financial assistance for twenty five needy seminary students to help cover costs associated with their stay and studies at the Seminary.

The National Board and membership unanimously voted at its 2014 National Convention to gift the Bishop John Stock Burse to the Seminary. Along with the award, Fr. Semehen was gifted with the book entitled “Tireless Worker”, a biography of Bishop John Stock, detailing his life and good works.

During his visit to the United States, Fr. Semehen along with Dr. Iryna Ivankovych, Executive Director of St. Sophia Association, Philadelphia, Pa., conducted presentations of “To the Light of Resurrection through the Thorns of Catacombs”, a pictorial documentary on the underground activity and reemergence of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church in the 20th Century. This presentation is available to all Ukrainian Catholic churches in the Metropolia by request to St. Sophia Association in Philadelphia.



Left to Right in the photos: Sr. Kathleen, SSMI, Provincial Superior; Marion C. Hrubec, President, National Board, League of Ukrainian Catholics; Fr. Marko Semehen, President, St. Sofia Society, Rome, and Professor, Liturgical Studies, Patriarch Slipyj Seminary Ternopil, Ukraine; Bishop Paul Chomnycky, Eparchy of Stamford, CT; Sr. Tekla, SSMI.

ENDOWMENT AWARD RECIPIENT HONORED BY LUC

This year's recipient of the +Sr. John Paskevich, SSMI Memorial School Endowment Award is Peter Zulin, an 8th grade student at Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic School in Perth Amboy, NJ.

Fostering education at all levels has been a basic tenant of the League of Ukrainian Catholics of America (LUC) since its inception in 1933. This year the National Board of the LUC continues a tradition established in 1997. The Endowment Fund was named after the late +Sr. John Paskevich, SSMI who served as the Religious Director of the National Board of the League from 1987 until 1996 when +Sr. John fell asleep in the Lord. +Sr. John was an educator with a life-long commitment to the Catholic education of youth. Eager to learn and excel, she encouraged her staff and students to do their best and to be the best. This Endowment Fund awards an annual monetary gift to a selected Metropolia parochial school in the name of an exceptional student nominated by the school principal.

Receiving the award was a very pleasant surprise for Peter, who initially could not understand why the principal, Mr. Michael Szyphulsky, insisted he wear his school uniform on a school dress-down day. Fr. Ivan Turyk, pastor of Assumption parish, describes Peter as an outstanding all around student who attends Divine Liturgy regularly and is a senior altar server.

Ms. Marion C. Hrubec, President, National Board of the LUC, presented the award to the worthy student as his 8th grade colleagues looked on.



Photo - Back Row: L to R Mrs. Barabara Houghton, grandmother; Mr. Michael Szyphulsky, School principal; Father Ivan Turyk, pastor; Mr. Peter Zulin Sr., Peter's father

Front Row: L o R Mrs. Jessica Zulin, Peter's mother; Peter Zulin, recipient; Ms. Marion Hrubec, President - National Board of the League of Ukrainian Catholics; Andrew Zulin, Peter's brother

2015 Convention Spiritual Director selected



The 2015 Convention committee during their planning meeting were looking to select their convention Spiritual Director.

Rev. Dan Troyan, pastor at Holy Ghost Ukrainian Catholic Church, West Easton, PA was approached by the convention committee and asked if he would be the convention Spiritual Director and Fr. Dan accepted. We are delighted to have Fr. Dan support and guide the committee as they plan and prepare for the October gathering.

Our Liturgy for Knights of Columbus

PHILADELPHIA, PA.--On Wednesday, August 5, 2015, the Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom will be celebrated at the Pennsylvania Convention Center here during the 133rd Supreme Convention of the Knights of Columbus. The Divine Liturgy will be televised live on EWTN beginning at 8 a.m.



Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka, head of the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia and spiritual leader of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in the United States will be the main celebrant and homilist at the Divine Liturgy. Concelebrating clergy will include over 100 cardinals, archbishops and bishops, and 125 priests and deacons.

Responses to the Divine Liturgy will be sung by the choir of the Ukrainian Catholic National Shrine of the Holy Family, Washington, D.C. under the direction of co-directors Stepan Szyszka & Oksana Lassowsky.

Members of the Knights of Columbus and their families will also have an opportunity to visit the golden-domed Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception Monday, August 3, as part of a tour of religious sites in the Philadelphia area.

It is anticipated that 3000 members of the Knights of Columbus, together with their families, from all over the world, will attend this annual gathering of this international fraternal organization in the City of Brotherly Love.

Host for the convention is the Pennsylvania State Council of the Knights of Columbus.

CALLED TO BE LIVING ICONS

LUC Convention 2014 – was conducted the weekend of October 10 to 12 and hosted by the All Saints Chapter of Johnstown, Pennsylvania. The theme “Called to be Living Icons” was the focus of the 76th Annual National Convention of the League of Ukrainian Catholics of America in every aspect – sharing with each other our faith, our heritage and ourselves.

Friday saw the arrival of delegates and members meeting and greeting each other and introducing themselves to the members of the newly formed All Saints Chapter in Johnstown, PA. Hospitality abounded from arriving at the registration desk to stepping into the “Hospitality” suite. Members were offered many choices of homemade soups to luscious baked goods. Sharing and laughter was the highlight of the time spent together.

The general business meeting was called to order by Mary Ann Varholic, Convention Co-Chairperson. The agenda was presented with positive responses from the delegates. One main order of business was the approval of a resolution presented to the National Board regarding aid to Ukraine in this time of crisis. At this meeting, the selection of the convention site for 2015 was presented and accepted. A convention committee will be developed from three area Councils – Garden State, South Anthracite and the newly formed St. John Paul II Council.

That evening, prior to the festivities, LUC members gathered together to show their solidarity and remembrance of our brothers And sisters in Ukraine in thought and prayer as they continue to struggle amid rising tensions and fresh violence triggered by Russia's aggression and direct involvement in destabilizing Ukraine.

The welcome party brought members in the company of several “ghouls” who were out trying to solve the mystery of who killed Ez-marelda the Witch. Dinner included participation in a “Dinner Murder Mystery” play which was enjoyed by all, especially those who solved the crime.

Saturday began with breakfast and a visit to the Protection of the Mother of God parish in Revloc, PA. Here all gathered in prayer with a Moleben to the Mother of God followed by a Panachyda for the deceased members of the League and their families. Immediately following Moleben, all gathered in the parish hall for a workshop presented by a local Iconographer Cheryl Pituch. What a wonderful lesson in understanding our Icons and how we become one with each that we venerate. Lunch was served in the parish hall followed by a scenic tour of the area which was ablaze with the colors of autumn. Time was spent at the National Johnstown Flood Memorial which after viewing the video and seeing the area, gave everyone an deep understanding of the devastation that took place 125 years ago.

Returning to the hotel, all prepared for attending the Divine Liturgy celebrated by Bishop John Bura with Bishop Paul Chomnycky, Msgr. John Stevensky, Fr. Marijan Procyk, Fr. Andrew Krasulski, Fr. Mark Morozowich and Fr. Oravetz concelebrating at St. John the Baptist parish.

The evening banquet brought included the keynote address by Very Rev. Dr. Mark Morozowich who continued the theme “Icons - Walking & Talking: Liturgy's Transformative Power”. Fr. Mark showed us how we are living Icons walking through life with each other and the need to recognize the Christ in all of us.

Elaine Nowadly was called upon to present the Annual Burse Awards along with the awarding of the Schools Endowment Award. Bishop Bura presented the League of Ukrainian Catholics of America Charter to the membership of the newly formed All Saints Chapter, which was accepted by Mrs. Jean Krasulski, President. The evening progressed with music, laughter and the drawings for the many wonderful gift baskets provided through the generosity of many.

The new members along with some former members and the delegates spent time with each other, renewing old friendships, excited about the renewal spirit of this convention, taking the League into it's 82nd year.

The close of the Convention took place at the Communion Brunch following the Divine Liturgy. At this time, the traveling Icon of Christ and the LUC “Welcome” banner was passed on to the Tri-Council Committee preparing them for Convention 2015.

[Item prepared by Marion Hrubec and Helen Fedoriw]



Some L.U.C. Councils' Activities

North Anthracite Council

North Anthracite Council met on Sunday afternoon, May 3rd at Scranton's St. Vladimir Church. Good turnout - good deliberations - good hospitality! Host pastor Father Myron Myronyuk is at extreme right. [A few attendees were "camera shy", therefore are not in photo.]



Niagara Frontier Council

Members of the Niagara Frontier Council of the League of Ukrainian Catholics meet to organize activities for the summer. A Divine Liturgy for Peace in Ukraine is scheduled at the Basilica of the National Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima, Lewiston, NY on Friday, August 28th.

On July 16th a tour of the Ukrainian owned Victorianbourg Winery and dinner at Wilson Boathouse in Wilson, N.Y. was attended by 34 LUC Members and friends.

The Msgr. Paul Iwachiw Scholarship Dinner will be held on August 30 in St. Nicholas Church Hall.

Anticipation is building for the October LUC Convention to be held in Lansdale, PA jointly hosted by the Garden State Council, South Anthracite Council and the newly organized Lehigh Valley Saint John Paul II Council when friendships will be renewed with LUC members from throughout the Eastern seaboard.



Front row: left to right - Judie Hawryluk; Elaine Nowadly, Council President; Michael Liskiewicz and Very Rev. Marijan Procyk, National Spiritual Director

Back row: left to right - Nancy Weigand; Michelle Michalow; Mary Lepkyj; Nadia Marc; Maria Malaniak; Susan Szczublewski; John Paul Szczublewski and Gloria Grega Long

(Saint Nicholas Church Interior on the wall screen)