

LEAGUE OF UKRAINIAN CATHOLICS OF AMERICA

<https://leagueofukrainiancatholics.org/>

Membership Application 2021

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COMPLETE THIS BLANK AND RETURN WITH YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO
League of Ukrainian Catholics
GIVE THIS APPLICATION AND CHECK
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OR MAIL PAYMENT TO:

Mrs. Janina Everett, 1169 1st Ave, Berwick PA 18603 570 -759 -2824
email: tjeverett@verizon.net

Join us in our faith Community as a member of the LEAGUE OF UKRAINIAN CATHOLICS (LUC).
Join the LUC and become a "Vibrant Member" of a Vibrant Church.
Join a Council or Chapter in your area, if no Council or Chapter available locally,
become an Independent member.

Follow us on fb. <https://www.facebook.com/LUCofAmerica/> Stay Safe!

***you can make copy of this page to send in with your payment. Thank you.**



LUC ACTION

League of Ukrainian Catholics - Winter 2021
Ліга Українців Католиків - Зима 2021



The League of Ukrainian Catholics of America together with Mothers in Prayer

Transforming Calamity into Unity, Dignity and Healing



Heard around the world 21 countries 3927 views

Ukraine	Belgium	Netherlands	Venezuela
China	Australia	Ireland	Russia
Canada	Brazil	Singapore	European Union
Poland	Italy	Spain	Puerto Rico
France	Serbia	United States	Hong Kong SAR China
		South Korea	

THE UNCONVENTIONAL CONVENTION

'The strangest year ever', is how most of us would describe this past year 2020. Our world was (and still is) turned upside down by something we can't even see yet it is so incredibly destructive. We have changed the way we do everything: the way we work, the way we shop, the way we school our children, the way we worship, even the way we die. We, as an organization, also had to change the way we do things, as doors to everything we did before were shut.

What a state we were in. I truly began to understand the word 'calamity'. According to Merriam Webster calamity can be described as 1: a disastrous event marked by great loss and lasting distress and suffering and 2: a state of deep distress or misery caused by major misfortune or loss. Well indeed, this describes 2020 to a tee.

What a time to take over as National Board President for LUC. What were we going to do about the convention we had planned for the fall? Are we just going to cancel, go another year without a convention? Should we just bunker down and let the storm pass? But the storm is too long and no end in sight. We needed another plan.

The alternate plan needed to be different in many ways. We cannot gather together, eat together, dance together. We couldn't even go to church and pray together. We do however need to be together, to soothe each other, to strengthen each other, to support each other, to pray together, to heal together. We need to be stronger than the calamity in order to rise above it.

In an unprecedented show of unity, we gathered together virtually, invisibly, miles apart, with Mothers in Prayer and our spiritual leaders, the UGCC Archbishop and Bishops, for our unique spiritual

program: Transforming Calamity into Unity, Dignity & Healing. Our cancelled convention was reconfigured into an online platform to address our spiritual needs during this time of adversity. This in turn, transformed unexpectedly into an international conference. By the end of 2020 we have over 4000 views from 21 countries. Each day our program continues to engage viewers on our website. What an amazing transformation it turned out to be. Obviously we tapped into a need felt around the world.

If you haven't viewed the presentations yet, please visit our newly hatched LUC website at leagueofukrainiancatholics.org. You just may find the strength and inspiration you need. If you did view it already, go ahead and view it again. You will find new pearls in the presentations each time you visit. I still hear a new message each time I sit quietly and listen to the videos. Please share this outstanding resource with your friends and family. You never know who can benefit from the wisdom shared by our spiritual leaders.

We are ever so grateful to Archbishop Borys Gudziak, Bishop Andriy Rabyi, Bishop Benedict Aleksyichuk, Bishop Bohdan Danylo and Bishop Paul Chomnycky for their thoughtful, insightful, and spiritual presentations. Without them, and their commitment to us, this program would not have happened. Deepest gratitude to Father Marijan Procyk our National Spiritual Director and our Board members for your trust with this project. Thank you Mothers in Prayer and all who took part. Thank you, dear Lord, for guiding each and every step.

Our unconventional convention united us in spirit with viewers from around the world. Together we are all the more stronger. With the grace of God, may our Transformation continue. (Sophia Shchur)

LUC Welcomes New Member Bishop Stepan Sus



On January 1st, 2021 I had the distinct pleasure of presenting Bishop Stepan Sus with a Honorary Lifetime Membership and welcoming him into our wonderful organization.

Bishop Sus was visiting the US from Ukraine, where he serves as Curial Bishop of Ukrainian Catholic Major Archeparchy of Kyiv-Halychyna as well as Titular Bishop of Zygris. Prior to his episcopal ordination Jan. 12, 2020, he was pastor as St. Peter & Paul Garrison Church in Lviv and head of the Military Chaplaincy Center in Lviv.



We are honored to have Bishop Stepan as a LUC member. Since Bishop Stepan lives in Ukraine we are now international!!!

Thank you Bishop Stepan and Happy First Anniversary on your Episcopal Ordination.

Многа'я і блага'я літа!!!

(Sophia Shchur)

A unique opportunity has opened up in our organization.

Our long standing member Paul Ewasko, recently retired from his post as Publicity Coordinator. We are grateful to Paul for his long and dedicated service. Communication and marketing are key concepts for any organization or business. The position involves gathering and reviewing articles submitted for our ACTION newsletter. Forward articles for publication in eparchial newspapers (Sower, The New Star, The Way) as well as on-line platforms.

Please feel free to contact Father Marijan or Sophia Shchur if you are able to share your time and talents for LUC.

LUC Sunday, October 25th, 2020

LUC Sunday was celebrated on October 25th, 2020, the last Sunday of October in spiritual harmony with Christ the King.

Our National Spiritual Director, Father Marijan Procyk was celebrating Divine Liturgy at 10 a.m. from St. Nicholas parish in Buffalo, NY for the living and deceased members of the LUC.

Pope Pius XI instituted the Feast in 1925 to remind the faithful that Christ reigns as King over all things and for all time. May we be reminded of Christ's presence in our everyday life and trust in Him.

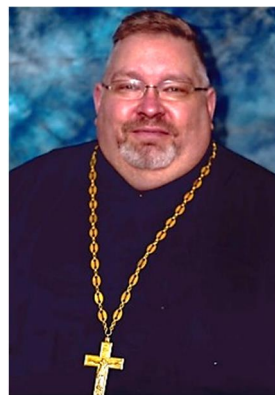


Niagara Frontier Council Celebrates LUC Sunday

Several members of Niagara Frontier Council got together for this group photo after celebrating Divine Liturgy with our National Board Spiritual Director Father Marijan Procyk, at St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church in Buffalo New York.



Please Pray for Father Paul



Our beloved Fr. Paul Wolensky, Spiritual Director for the North Anthracite Council recently underwent surgery. Today he is asking for our prayers as he undergoes further procedures at the hospital today. We have you on this Father Paul!!! You always pray for us, now our members join together in fervent prayer for you, for your good health and for everything you need. We hope you feel our love and prayers surrounding you. Let Us Care.

Присвятая Богородице, спаси нас!

Dear Team,

<https://leagueofukrainiancatholics.org/>

Our website has over 4000 views from all over the world, 21 countries!!!

We need to look our best by telling the world who we are and what we do in the name of Christ.

Send me some information/photos from your councils/chapters including photos of your banners.

Thank you,

Sophia

And Who is My Neighbor?

Our Lord was once asked the question about what was needed to inherit eternal life? He replied that you should "Love your neighbor as yourself." Not satisfied with this, the person, much like an arrogant student trying to trip up a professor responded, "And who is my neighbor?" The Lord went on to tell the parable of the Good Samaritan of which we are all familiar. We see our neighbors every day and I'm sure that we are friendly with them. If they needed help most would go out of their way to provide any assistance that we could. What would happen if our neighbor needed help and didn't ask? Would we be able to recognize their needs? Or would we politely exchange greetings, maybe talk about the weather or politics and then go back to what we needed to do, leaving them alone and struggling? To do so might not seem as bad as not helping the obvious need of the Samaritan in the parable but the end result would be the same.



Bishop Paul with Deacon David Wik. Presented also on left: Fr. Marijan Procyk, Mary Ann DuBois, Nadia Mark and on right Elaine Nowadly, Mary Bodnar & deacon David's wife Michelle

One night I was talking to a man who was staying at a very run-down motel. It was an evening in late fall and cold outside. The man was playing catch in the parking lot with his young son and he looked like he had been doing some type of physical labor all day. I could see he was down on his luck, I knew the only transportation he had was a bicycle and I wondered who took care of the boy when the man was away at work or how the boy was able to go to school. I spoke very briefly with this man and he never asked me for anything. I drove off thinking "at least he has a place to stay."

I make a point to always give something to the person who asks for help. If I don't have money, then I try and at least pray for the person who is in need. It was about a half an hour after I met the man, I realized I did nothing to help him or his son. I turned my car around and went back to try and offer him some money or maybe put him in touch with an agency capable of helping, but he was gone. I once heard Bishop Paul say in a homily that those who are in need of help and can seemingly do nothing for us, actually allow us to be Christ to them by allowing us to care for their needs. I passed by that man and in doing so passed by Christ.

I started to think that maybe, even though I failed to help that man I could turn to the Church to help others like him. The LUC was more than happy to step in, and the LUC Food Drive was started. Your overwhelming generosity and support for the drive has not gone unnoticed. The food that you were able to donate will be taken to a local homeless shelter where it will feed those who need it most. I



would like to see this food drive go on as long as there is a need. Our Lord told us that "The poor you will always have with you." As long as there are those in need the opportunity to be another Christ to them is ours.

(Rev. Deacon David Wik)

Delivering non-perishable food items to St. Luke Mission

Thank you, Deacon Dave. May the Lord bless you and your family!

LUC – (League of Ukrainian Catholics) – Let Us Care!



CONGRATULATIONS to our National Board Spiritual Director, Very Rev. Archpriest Father Marijan Procyk on the 40th ANNIVERSARY of his PRIESTLY ORDINATION.

Father Marijan was ordained into priesthood on November 21st, 1980 by Patriarch and Cardinal Josyf Slipyi in Castelgandolfo Rome, Italy.

Father Marijan has served as Spiritual Director of Niagara Frontier Council since 1995 and became Spiritual Director of LUC National Board in 2003. He also serves as editor and publisher of our newsletter LUC ACTION. The good people of St. Nicholas parish in Buffalo are fortunate to have Father Marijan serve as pastor there since 1990.

Father Marijan also happens to be an expert level chess player and chess tournament organizer. So good in fact that he was inducted into the Ukrainian Sports Hall of Fame in 2016.

Father Marijan is best known and loved for his caring and generous heart, for his leadership and hard work, for his deep devotion to his faith and to the people under his spiritual care.

Dear Father Marijan, may the good Lord continue to bless you with good health. May His holy presence fill your heart with joy and may His grace and peace be with you always.

Многа'я і блага'я літа!!!

(Sophia Shchur)

Thank you for Your generosity, Sophia, and for your prayers. Thank you again for accepting presidency of League of Ukrainian Catholics. Remember - in 12 years we will celebrate 100 years.

I take this opportunity to thank all LUC members for your prayers and best wishes for my 40th Anniversary of Ordination! God Bless!

**THEY MADE IT HAPPEN
AT ST. NICHOLAS PARISH AND SCHOOL, PASSAIC, NJ**



This past year proved to be a challenge in many ways. As a parish community we have been Blessed through the Grace of God during these difficult days, and in thanksgiving for this blessing, once again the Giving Tree program came to be. For the 20th consecutive year, our parish has sponsored a Giving Tree project for orphans and the disabled in Ukraine, supplying each resident with warm clothing, hygiene supplies, and children's games. This pandemic year, a food drive project closer to home was added.



Our Eastern Catholic neighbors at St Michael the Archangel Byzantine Catholic Cathedral, Passaic, have maintained a food pantry for the last decade. The St. Nicholas Chapter of the League of Ukrainian Catholics (LUC), with the support of our pastor, Fr. Andriy Dudkevych, invited our members, parishioners, and school children to participate in a Giving Thanks food staples drive to benefit this pantry. This is one of several food projects that the League has sponsored over the years in support of St. Michael's pantry and the local homeless and needy. The COVID pandemic situation has dragged on for months

and the numbers of indigent in the city of Passaic has grown significantly and a great many of them are children.

Thus, the League initiated a "Calendar of Daily Giving" that was extended to the 40-day Philip Fast / Pylypywka. Participants were asked to put aside one food item daily from the list intended for the pantry throughout the Fast. The project was bolstered by the 2020 Synod of Bishops Pastoral letter urging the faithful to serve those who are closest to us and lack attention, support, and comfort – "I am among



you as one who serves" (Luke 22:27). Donations were collected in the Church vestibule.



Sr. Eliane Ilitski, SSMI, principal at St. Nicholas School, took this opportunity to help students prepare themselves for Christmas and to decorate their traditional Christmas Tree displayed in the school foyer. Their challenge - for every food donation brought in to help the local food pantry, the student placed an ornament on the school Christmas tree. The goal was to have all the ornaments on the tree and the donation boxes filled with food before Christmas Eve, and they made it happen!

The project was deemed a resounding success. When all was said and done, a pickup truck's bed and a car trunk plus were filled with goods. Delivery to St. Michael's pantry was made on January 6th, Eve of the Epiphany, and was met with an outpouring of thanks and blessings to all who participated from their parish volunteers and Fr. Jack Custer, pastor/administrator at St. Michael's.

The St. Nicholas Chapter of LUC sincerely appreciates and thanks the parishioners, students and families who took part in this special project and for their generosity which truly followed the directives of our Bishops Synod – "You will be left with one thing – what you gave to the poor!" (Helen Fedoriw)



Lord, Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on us!
During Your ministry among us You showed Your power and caring by healing many physical, mental, and spiritual illnesses. Look upon those, who need you Your loving touch in this time of COVID-19. May they feel Your power of healing through the care of doctors and nurses.
Master, take away the fear, anxiety, and feelings of isolation from people receiving treatment or under quarantine.
Give them a sense of purpose in pursuing health and protecting others from exposure to the disease.
Protect their families and friends and bring peace to all, because you are good, and You love mankind. Amen!

Father +Andrew Krasulski



Newport high school. He immediately joined the US army and served in Seoul during the Korean conflict.

Back in the states, he matriculated at Wilkes college until he felt the call to priestly life. He transferred to Saint Basil's Ukrainian Catholic college in Stamford, Connecticut where he earned a BA in philosophy. He then attended Saint Josephat seminary at the Catholic University of America in Washington DC.

He began a teaching career of 30 years as the much loved Mr. Andy, going from the classroom to administration including guidance counselor and principal. In 1960, he was awarded the Fulbright teacher exchange scholarship and taught industrial arts in Buckie, Scotland. He returned to Glen Ridge junior high school in Prince George's County, Maryland where he was the soccer and baseball coach. Father would frequently joke that he was still looking for the kid who pulled the fire alarm in 1963 because as he exited his classroom, he met a new teacher, Jeannette Rowland, whom he married and celebrated 58 years together until his death.

40 years after leaving the seminary, he was ordained to the Catholic priesthood for Saint Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy in Parma, OH. After serving several years in St. Petersburg Florida, Father Andrew was called to Saint John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic church in Johnstown, Pennsylvania. For 14 years, he served as pastor to two churches in Cambria County. He retired at the age of 85. Here he re-established Chapter of League of Ukrainian Catholics having excellent Convention in 2014.



Fr. Andriy with his wife Jeannette (his right) and bishop John Bura (his left)

He is survived by his sister Emily Weisberg of Waterbury Connecticut, his wife Jeannette and their four children, the Honorable Mary Evans, Dr. Anna Metroka, twin sons Master Sergeant Peter and Paul Krasulski, six grandchildren, and two great grandsons, as well as many nieces and nephews. Funeral arrangements are being orchestrated by Stegura funeral home, Hanover St., Naticoke. Funeral Liturgy at Saint Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church W. Main St., Glen Lyon by Bohdan Danylo and Fr Roman Petryshak. Interment followed in Saint Vladimir's cemetery, Polander Hill, Alden.

(Eparchy of Parma)

May Father +Andrew's memory be eternal! Вічна Пам'ять!

+Roman Voychak



Fell asleep in the Lord +Roman Voychak (April 25, 1935 – August 14, 2020) A retired Tool & Die Supervisor and anything Ukrainian advocate, Roman Voychak, passed away at the Buffalo General Hospital, in Buffalo, NY, at the age of 85. Born in Podisilia, Lviv Oblast, Ukraine in 1935, Roman arrived in Buffalo, NY, in 1949, at the age of 14. He earned his Engineering Degree and worked for the Ford Stamping plant for over 30 years till his retirement. Roman was a great champion of many Ukrainian causes and organizations including PLAST, LUC, CYM, Ukrainian National Association, Dnipro Ukrainian American Civic Center, and actively participated in all of the activities at the St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church. He also enjoyed his family time with his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren and being able to support them in all of their activities. Beloved husband to the love of his life and best friend, his wife the late Irene (nee Regula) Voychak. Roman was the devoted father of Luba (Wasyli) Terech, Ola Rendon, and Orest Voychak and loving grandfather of Nicholas Terech, Stephanie (Jason) Berghold, Renee (Mike) Ganser and Gillian (Dan) Barris and proud greatgrandfather of Dmytro Berghold, Milanya Berghold, Mason Barris and Daphne Barris. He was predeceased by his parents the late Olha and Lev Voychak and his brothers the late Yuri and late Andriy (Nastia) Wojczyak and brother-in-law of the late Halyna (late John) Szczerba and also survived by several nieces, nephews, and cousins in the US, Canada, and Europe.

Roman was born in Podisilia village in Lviv Oblast, Ukraine to parents Lev and Olha who were schoolteachers in that village. He had two older brothers, Yuri and Andriy. They left home in a hurry while Yuri was in Lviv, the big city, pursuing higher education. Their travels took them away from the Russians and toward the Germans and into work camps as they planned what to do next. Yuri was separated and was following a friend, Mr. Sharvan, who had a migration plan to leave for America. Yuri was able to connect with the family and went ahead to America with his friend to settle in Buffalo in 1948. The family with young Romko, followed in 1949. They settled in Black Rock and joined St. John the Baptist Ukr. Church and supported "Narodnij Dim", (UACC). Roman was a scout with PLAST, and as a teenager, played the trumpet, and trombone in the "CYM" orchestra, and participated in Ukr. dance group, and community theater group. He met Irena Regula, fell in love and they were married in Aug. 1955 at St. Nicholas Church, and had the reception at "Dnipro". They started a family, got a job at Ford, bought a house, and earned an engineering degree. He retired from Ford after 30 years, loved to play tennis, swim, and chess. He traveled all over with an international group of friends.... Ukrainian, Polish, French Hungarian, German and others. He loved to cook, and reproduced Irena's recipes, to keep her in his heart. He lived in an Assisted Living facility for his last year and made many friends and continued to stay active. Family was always very important to him and he prayed that our family would stay important to his children. He was loved and respected by his children Luba (& Wasyli), Olha, and Orest, and was beloved by his grandchildren Nicholas, Renee (Mike), Stephanie (Jason) and Gillian (Dan). But he was most proud of his great grandchildren, Mason, Daphne, and Dmytro and Milanya.

(Family)

May +Roman's memory be eternal! Вічна Пам'ять!

+Alice Mary Orlan



Msgr. John P. Stevensky, Alice Orlan, Marion Hrubec & Rev. Vasyl Petriv

+Alice Orlan, a former member of the National Board of League of Ukrainian Catholics and the Civic and Cultural Director from 1872 - 1981, has passed away at age 93. Alice Mary was born on March 12, 1927 in Richmond Hill, New York. Daughter of John Joseph and Eugenia (Cisyk) Orlan. Married John Berwecky May 30, 1948 (now deceased). Children: +Kenneth Berwecky, +Patricia (Heffer) and Elizabeth (Adkins),

Alice lived in Jersey City, NJ, Ellenville, NY and before retiring to Punta Gorda, FL, she managed an antiques and gift shop, and was the director of restoration of the Buck Hill Inn., Buck Hill Falls. Alice was an interior decorator, a designer, researcher, travel consultant. She was the owner of International Halychanka Heritage Tours, Pennsylvania and one who loved her Ukrainian Church and traditions. She also was a member of the Ukrainian National Women's League.

While serving on National Board of the League of Ukrainian Catholics she was instrumental in making the League's presence known during the Eucharistic Congress held in Philadelphia and worked closely with Bishop Basil Loston on many programs during his time in the Philadelphia Archeparchy.

Alice returned to Pennsylvania from Florida several years ago. She was a member of St. Ann's parish, Warrington, PA where she had been a parishioner and was the President Pius X Council, Warrington, Pa. for several years. Funeral services were private.

To the Family and friends we extend our sympathy.

May she rest in peace. Vichnaya Pamyat! Eternal Memory!

+Doris Wodzinski (nee Sholtez)



Fell asleep in the Lord +Doris Wodzinski (nee Sholtez) off Lackawanna, NY, August 31, 2020.

Beloved wife of the late Melvin Wodzinski; dearest mother of Paul (Erin), Mark, Carl, Joyce (Fran) Warthling and the late David; dearest grandmother of Ashley, Kari, Nicholas Wodzinski and Brett and Alex Warthling; great-grandmother of Henry and Cora; sister of Frank (Perscilla) Sholtez; also survived by nieces and nephews. Funeral Liturgy was held at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Ukrainian Catholic Church.

Mrs. Wodzinski was a member of NYS China Painters World Organization. Doris was cherished by her neighbors and lifelong friends.

May +Doris's memory be eternal! Вічна Пам'ять!

+Oksana Saldyt (nee Warywoda)



December 14, 2020 fell asleep in the Lord +Oksana Saldyt (nee Warywoda) (July 15, 1921- December 14, 2020) dear mother of George, Johanna and Myron Saldyt; Funeral Liturgy took place in San Ysidro Catholic Church located in Corrales, New Mexico. We extend our sympathy to the children and grandchildren and other family and friends. May she rest in peace.

**Вічна Пам'ять!
May +Oksana's memory be eternal!**

+Shirley Fowler (nee Krawizcki)



Born July 22, 1946 in Berwick and fell asleep in the Lord January 2, 2021 at Grandview Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, Danville.

She was the daughter of the late Stephen and Rose (Henger) Krawizcki.

In her early years, Mrs. Fowler was employed at Milco Industries until her retirement in 1974. Shirley was a faithful member of Ss. Cyril and Methodius Ukrainian Catholic Church, Berwick, the Sacred Heart and L.U.C. Always eager to help others, she volunteered with the Lions Club for the Bloomsburg Fair, the Salvation Army, the Pierogi's Project, the Berwick Hospital Gift Shop, church picnics, and assisted at the Briar Creek Township voting polls. She loved polka dancing, cooking, baking, and spending time with family. She especially loved her grandchildren.

Surviving are her husband of 48 years, Charles L. Fowler; two daughters: Theresa, wife of Joseph Church III, and Ann, wife of Donald Church, all of Berwick; four grandchildren: Samantha Church, Charles Church, Brittany Byrd, and Branden Byrd; one brother, Joseph Krawizcki, Sr. and his wife, Sandy, of Millersville, PA, and one sister, Betty Krepich of Berwick.

Funeral Liturgy took place in Ss. Cyril and Methodius U.C.Ch.

To the Family and friends, we extend our sympathy. May she rest in peace. Vichnaya Pamyat! **May +Shirley's memory be eternal!**

+Pauline Skilinge (nee Labuda)



Born in Plains, June 29, 1934 and fell asleep in the Lord January 31, 2021 at Sacred Heart Assisted Living at Saucon Creek, Center Valley, PA .

She was she daughter of the late Paul and Anna (Duda) Labuda.

Pauline was a graduate of Plains Memorial High School and was employed at Bell of Pennsylvania for 36 years, retiring as

Director of Accounting. After her husband, Daniel, passed she relocated to Center Valley to be closer to her grandchildren and was a special part of their lives. Pauline was a lifelong member of Sacred Heart Church, Plains (where she was buried from), The Plains Women's Club, and The Bell Telephone Pioneers.

To her son Dr. David (Kristen) Skilinge granddaughters Lauren and Jenna Skilinge, brother Dr. Michael (Joan) Labuda we extend our sympathy. May she rest in peace.

May +Pauline's memory be eternal! Vichnaya Pamyat!

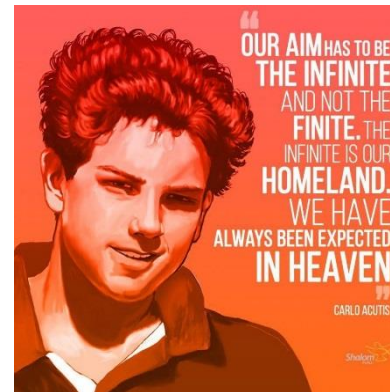


Sophia Shchur (L.U.C.) & Lesya Muraszczuk (Mothers of Prayer)



(Sower) October 10th 2020 was, and still is, an amazing day. it is a day that we, as Ukrainian Catholics in the USA, decided to rise above the stormy calamity which defined this year of our Lord 2020. It is a day in which we gathered our spiritual anchors to restore a sense of calm, to develop a sense of understanding and strengthen our capacity to weather this storm, however long it takes.

In an unprecedented demonstration of unity, our lay organizations, League of Ukrainian Catholics along with Mothers in Prayer, gathered together with our UGCC spiritual leaders; Archbishop Borys Gudziak, Bishops Paul Chomnycky, Bohdan Danylo, Benedict Aleksiychuk and Andriy Rabyi, in order to present a unique spiritual online conference "Transforming Calamity into Unity, Dignity and Healing". Our bishops focused on such topics as; Spiritual Dignity in Times of Chaos, Christian Models of Unity in Times of Adversity, Discernment and Transformation (Post) Pandemia, a Time to Heal and much more. How fortunate we are to be able to lean on them for their wisdom and compassion when needed. This was indeed amazing...



The virtual world is a wonderful tool which can be used to connect us spiritually, to unite us not only with each other but with God. A wonderful example of this also happened on October 10th. As we were listening to our bishops on-line delivering their soothing messages of unity, dignity and healing, a young teen named Carlos Acutis was beatified in Assisi, Italy. You may ask what does one have to do with the other? The significance of this coincidence is the way in which young Carlos spread his joy, enthusiasm and love for Christ. He is best known for documenting eucharistic miracles, which he researched and collected from around the world. He catalogued them all onto a website which he created especially to share these spiritual treasures with others. Through his (still present) website, Blessed Carlos continues to attract, amaze, educate, unite, heal and provide spiritual dignity for those who seek. May his example inspire us all to share our spiritual joy with others, be it on-line in our virtual world or on terra firma. It is truly a blessing to share this day with the beatification of young Carlos.

Blessed Carlos Acutis, pray for us!

Mothers in Prayer

Mothers in Prayer movement was established in England in 1995 by two women; Veronica Williams and her sister-in-law Sandra. While they prayed they realized that Jesus wants all mothers to entrust their children under His care, to pass along their maternal pain to Him so that he could send his blessings on their children. The movement has since spread all over the world with communities existing in 80 countries including Ukraine and the United States. The first Mothers in Prayer community in Ukraine was started in 2000 at St. George Cathedral in Lviv. The first such prayer community in the USA was started in 2004 at St. George Ukrainian Catholic Church in NYC. We now exist in many Ukrainian Catholic parishes throughout the USA, joined together in prayer for children throughout the world.

"Mothers in Prayer", Elizabeth N. J., - St. Vladimir's Ch.

On Tuesday, November 11, 2020, by the grace of God, the first prayer meeting took place. Our souls rejoice and sing. Beginning with a small group of only 4 mothers we believe that with God's Blessing our community will grow! We sincerely ask for your prayers for our newly formed Mothers in Prayer group.

Mothers in Prayer community in Sacramento California



We celebrated our 6th anniversary on November 6 in Ukraina Park on the outskirts of San Francisco. This beautiful park is the farm and burial place of Father Agapius

Honcharenko, the first Ukrainian political refugee in America, an exiled orthodox priest.

Father Agapius translated the American constitution for the people of Alaska, had his own printing house, and was fluent in five languages. Father Agapius served the people in such a way that honor him with pilgrimages to his residence in the vicinity of San Francisco, where Ukraina Park is now located.

New LUC member hails from Chicago.



Julian Hayda is an award-winning journalist, digital media producer, filmmaker, and presenter on topics relating to Eastern Europe, race, gender, and

identity. He is a lifelong Chicagoan, bred in the local Ukrainian-American community. Julian reached out to me during preparation for our October 10th virtual spiritual conference and generously offered his help. He quickly went to work adding English subtitles to Bishop Benedict Aleksiychuk's video presentation. I am forever grateful for Julian's spontaneous, sincere generosity.

We welcome you Julian with open arms. You are the Chicago connection we have been looking for. We look forward to repaying your kindness. Thank you for joining LUC.

To learn more about Julian visit JulianHayda.com. (Sophia)

Discernment and Transformation in Post Pandemic Period

by +Bishop Andriy (abbreviated)

“Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?” (Romans 8:35)

No one and nothing will. Not even COVID-19. Of that we should be certain. The love of God will not change as it is constant and abiding. However, we may change our way of understanding it, receiving it and participating in it. This occurs especially in times of major global events, such as wars, natural disasters, widespread illnesses and pandemic, since human reaction causes a change in behavior and perception of things including spiritual, i.e. understanding of God’s grace and His word to us, role of the Church, participation in Sacraments, and observance of pious practices.

This presentation is a very modest attempt to analyze in six points how the Covid-19 pandemic has affected our lives, life of the Church and what consequences and impact may be on our spiritual life in the after-virus world.

1. “The Pandemic is as much of a behavioral crisis as a medical one”

No doubt that the COVID-19 virus is a global and still on-going event of the early 21st century. We follow the sad statistics of people around the world were infected and how many died each day. We rejoice on numbers of people who survived and got better. We read regular updates on the developmental progress of vaccines and cannot wait to hear – IT IS HERE! Meanwhile, we are forced to wait and take all precautions to protect ourselves and not get sick.

Presently, we find ourselves in a constant struggle how to deal with the virus medically and bring it under control, and develop a way to react and behave in the ongoing pandemic. There are countless testimonies and eyewitness reports of how what was known as normal life before, has changed during the pandemic and it seems to become a new normal regardless of whether or not a person was infected or not. And a process of adoption to the new normal is very painful, lengthy, and may be full of fear, which affects human conduct in a direct way.

A psychologist observed, “the pandemic is as much of a behavioral crisis as a medical one.” It supports a notion that extreme social stress can bring out the better or worse in people...

2. Five major human implications to expect from people’s behavior from now on, which may change our sense of perception and experience.

1. Change in confidence. A lesson we quickly learned from new experiences is that other people and places may carry an invisible threat, i.e. to get infected with the virus...

2. Welcome to Virtual World! We have experienced a shift in mode we work, study, learn, interact, pray, even shop from in-person to doing it virtually with the help of computers, phones, etc...

3. Focus on health. At the present time we are realizing that existing medicine and health institutions are not able to provide necessary means of remedy, cure and care. However, people will be interested in receiving as much help from health providers as possible. In addition, almost every business will be mindful of health of their customers and employees.



4. Cocooning. Our homes became centers of life and activity during shutdowns and restrictions in the pandemic. Members of families were placed into conditions where they had to rediscover anew about nature and mode of operation of the family. Home renovation projects, home schooling, games, etc., have become popular activities. The opportunity to be together and do things as a family has come with a hefty economic price (loss of jobs, less working hours, smaller paychecks). There will be a rise in home spending – on the home and made at home as people will stay more local. Also, people start focusing on opportunities and strategies to stay home with families and ways to make living.

5. Authority. Any imposed shutdowns, lockdowns, guidelines and restrictions by (civil, church) authority work to curb the pandemic if reasons are clearly explained and people accept and follow. Otherwise, weight of the authorities will fall inadvertently. There will be a constant reevaluation of work by the authorities in how it ensures public health and common good.

3. Projected effects of the pandemic

No doubt, fear and health concerns will have a lasting effect on human behavior. The Church has a task to identify and prepare for any and all possible outcomes of new human condition and reaction to the love of God as is experienced in the Church, celebration of Divine Liturgy and Sacraments. What kind of impact does the pandemic have on the Church as an institution? What effects will experience the Church as a community of believers? Will the pandemic change what the Church is now?

To answer the latter question, Josh Laxton, a writer for Christianity Today, states the following,

First, there are those who think this [pandemic] will change church as we know it. Honestly, I do not buy what they are selling. At some point – sooner for some than others – our Sunday morning routines will be back to normal. Second, there are those that believe that this

crisis has ended the “consumer” model of church. Truthfully, people have been “consuming” more and more content, i.e. feeding people via a digital platform. Third, there are those who believe this crisis will put an end to the megachurch. The Spanish flu of 1918 didn’t drive believers into smaller groups or house gatherings.”

Short term effects (2-15 months)

1. Interruption to our normal way of doing things: guidelines to secure public health in our churches
2. Caring for seniors and the vulnerable (visits, attending to spiritual and physical needs);
3. Church attendance will vary: depending on general situation, individual’s health. Reach out and constant contact is essential.
4. People will be shocked and tired: physical, mental and emotional tiredness.
5. Finances will be tight. People’s income is limited. Many building and renovation projects will be put on hold. It will affect parish fundraising events. For instance, half of parish income comes from fundraising. Generosity and stewardship become key.
6. Trips, children camps and pilgrimages are on hold...

The rest could be read online. Go to: <https://leagueofukrainian-catholics.org/october-10-2020-presentation-1/>

LUC – Let Us Care

Glory to Jesus Christ!

Dear sisters and brothers!

It is good to be at home. It is good for things to slow down. It is good to be in silence, at rest. During this day of spiritual reflection, listening to the Word of God, to the voice of the Lord, as the Lord speaks to us, I invite you to slow down. Turn off your phones, resist the temptation of your computer, unplug the noise and the news, and be with the Lord. It is good to be with the Lord. Though, He’s always with us, but we are frequently distracted, running around, busy, talking, yapping and yelping. It’s no wonder that we do not always hear His voice.

We may think that our present time is unique. And perhaps it is. Each moment is unique, because each moment is alive, and life is full of dynamism and change. We never step in the same water in the river, as it’s always flowing. But it is a river and it is water. The tumultuous waters of our time have analogies in the past.

I do not know about you, but I’ve heard tales of unspeakable devastation, either in the Syracuse or New York City living room, where I would listen to the stories of my grandfather during World War I. He would describe grotesque scenes of carnage. He was in the cavalry, or rather in a canon division, as a blacksmith he had to shoe the horses and fix the artillery. Then, he would tell me his stories from World War II, when he lost his wife, my 44-year-old grandmother, from a debilitating disease, and then his 20-year old daughter, my aunt, who perished in the anti-Soviet resistance. When I reflect upon his tales, now it’s a memory, it doesn’t hurt, I don’t feel his pain. It is the past, and it has found its peace in my mind, like the emblematic peace we experience when we go to war memorials or cemeteries.

Again, we may think that our present time is unique, as we are engrossed in complex global and national events. We are experiencing a global pandemic; perhaps we have lost our job; we helplessly watch an insidious war in our motherland of Ukraine; we observe unrest and injustice for many Americans because of their belief in God, the color of their skin, their gender, or social-economic status, when good citizens, policemen and priests are condemned for the failings of the few; and finally, perhaps our children are far away from us if not physically then in terms of very different values and world views. To the latter points, deep problems in our families is the turbulence that hit us deeply: the death of the loved ones, the loss of friends. These are real storms, and the pain is real and piercing.

So, I reach out to you, during this day of reflection and retreat, I encourage you to slow down and listen to how the Lord speaks and works. The Lord is the spirit unity. It is not a superficial unity, it’s not just a local unity. It is a universal unity of all people who embrace Him. Fundamentally, the Lord wants His creatures and His creation to be united both on heaven and earth. All of our times united with eternity. All people with Him personally, with the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

The Lord gives us freedom and we often walk away. The Lord gave freedom to angels and some became demonic. And the devil, the διαβολος (diabolos Greek) divides. Διαβολειν in Greek means “to divide”. To the points identified earlier, we are all experiencing personal and global strife; and it’s at these times we need to make the time to focus on the Lord. To allow God to heal us, and make us whole, to restore our integrity, to lift up our dignity.



This is the meaning of today’s message and embracing opportunity to slow down.

This is the meaning of today. This is a great opportunity. Slow down. You may have noticed (pointing behind his back), we made the clock stop. We can’t hear the ticking. We are not worried about racing forward. Again, slow down, we are not going any-

where. Just stop to listen to the voice of the Lord in our hearts.

My grandfather lived for 104 years. He lived in three centuries. He was born in 1898 and died in 2002. He was a man of peace. He’d gone through two World Wars, he had seen great carnage, he saw his family torn apart. He had to flee multiple times from armies and security agents that sought to have him inform on neighbors. So, he fled crossing international lines, more than once. And then, DP camps, in the end he immigrated, but along the way witnessed the death of member of the family. Never did he return to see his home and his blacksmith’s shop. But in his life’s journey, he found peace. And with me, and with my brother, his grandsons, he shared humor and hope.

I hope this day will be a day for a relaxed heart, a gentle smile, and a day of inspiration for real hope and finding your peace in God. We are, as our Holy Father says, all brothers, Fratelli Tutti.

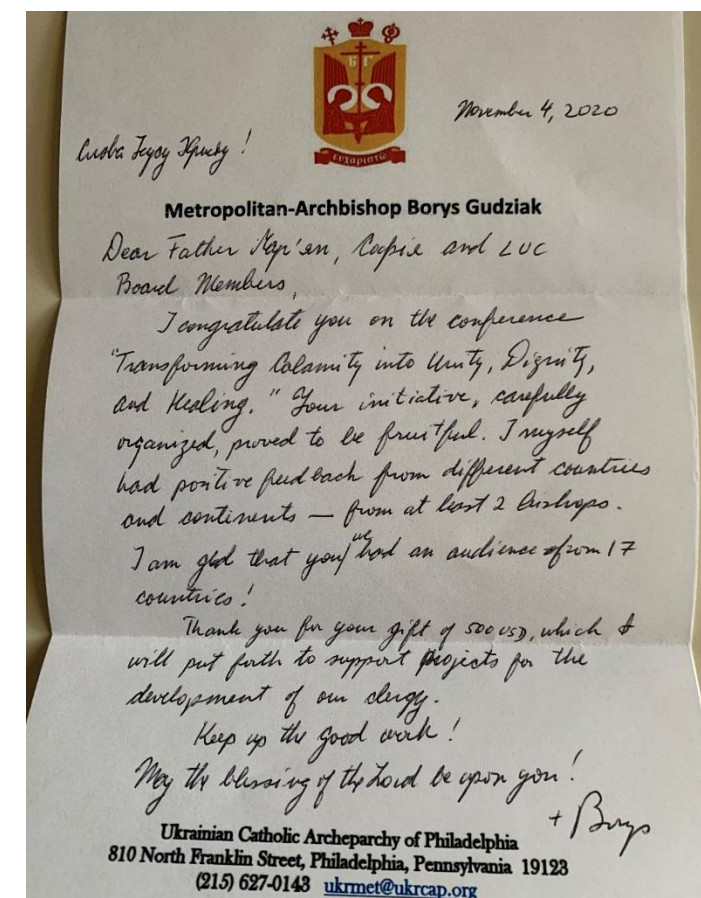
We are all sisters and brothers of Jesus. And we are all children of the Father.

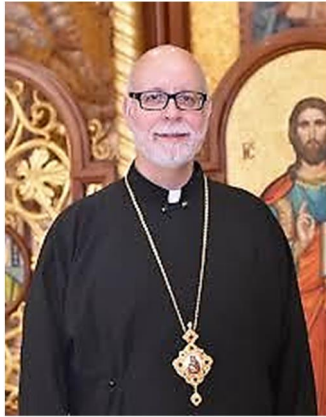
May the blessing of the Lord be upon us.

May the mantle of the Mother of God cover us.

Glory to Jesus Christ!

+Borys Metropolitan





I would like to thank the members of the League of Ukrainian Catholics and the Mothers in Prayer for this opportunity for me to speak on the theme of “A Time to Heal”.

In Chapter 3 of the Book of Ecclesiastes in the Old Testament we read the following God-inspired words, words that have soothed and supported so many people living through difficult times down through the centuries:

“For everything there is a sea-

son, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born and a time to die; a time to plant and a time to gather; a time to kill and a time to heal; a time to break down and a time to build up; a time to weep and a time to laugh; a time to mourn and a time to dance; a time to embrace and a time to release; a time to seek and a time to lose; a time to keep and a time to throw away; a time to tear and a time to sew; a time to keep silence and a time to speak; a time to love and a time to hate; a time for war and a time to make peace.” (Eccl. 3:1-11)

These words seem to have the power of speaking to something deep within each of us; they have become familiar to Christians and non-Christians alike and have even been incorporated into the lyrics of contemporary songs. “For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven.”

For those of us living in 2020, this is a season like no other any of us has ever experienced before, and the words of Ecclesiastes seems to strike the emotional center of our being and pulls us to reflect upon the question: “What times have I experienced during this season when our world has been so ravaged by the coronavirus pandemic?

Everyone has lived through their own experience these past months, but for me, I think it began as a time to tend to myself, in a sense, a time to plant. As the global pandemic spread, the parish visitations, meetings, missions and retreats and the flights and travel time needed to fulfill them, that were filling up my calendar, miraculously melted away like dew in the morning sun and I was forced, along with everyone else, to stay home and shelter in place.

At first, it felt almost like a gift. It was as if I had been granted a sabbatical. The days opened up before me with no appointments to fill them, and I managed to make use of at least some of the time to tend to myself through prayer, reading, physical exercise and relaxation, and I found that I didn't miss the travel or the meetings in the least and I relished the quiet evenings and the refreshing decrease in the volume and velocity of my life.

But then gradually the season became for me a time to grieve, especially as the pandemic began to take its relentless toll. The New York area was so devastatingly hit that it can be truly said that there is no one living the Tri-State area who was not personally affected. Everyone was either themselves sickened or knows of someone who was very ill or passed away as a result of COVID-19 during the past six months. Many others have seen their jobs disappear and their businesses crumble.

And as time went on, and Easter came and went, it became very apparent that our lives would not be returning to any semblance of normality anytime soon. Social distancing and mask wearing would now be a way of life for the foreseeable future. Face-to-face gatherings would be the exception rather than the rule. All of the many eparchial summer parish festivals were cancelled, the children's

camps were closed, travel to Ukraine and anywhere else was made impossible. And I began to notice within myself a profound sense of loss and grief at the radical change in life that had been imposed us from without and had prevented us from meeting and interacting with each other and had caused so much suffering. What was at first, something of a novelty, had become a burden.

We humans are social, gregarious beings, and when the possibility of interacting has been taken from us, we feel the loss, we feel resentment and we grieve. These have been my own personal experiences during the past months, which, though unique to me, are shared by many of you, I think.

Now, although the pandemic promises to remain a threatening cloud hovering over us for some to come, I think we are entering a new season, a new time: a time to heal. And the wisdom of Ecclesiastes can help us in our healing process because these sacred writings remind us that it is God who guides the events of our lives and that there is a gift from God hidden in every season, in every time, even the most difficult. The transience of the time we live and the transitions we undergo in our lifetime are reminders that, only God is timeless and eternal, and it is He who has placed the longing for the eternal in our hearts. As Ecclesiastes tells us: “God has made everything appropriate to its time and has put the timeless into their hearts.” (Eccl. 3:11)

This is a great mystery, but God, in his benevolence, has allowed us to see a reflection of the truth of this in many ways, one of which is in the evolving cycle of the seasons - winter, spring, summer, and autumn. And I think autumn, of all the seasons, into which we are entering now, speaks to the place in our hearts where we find ourselves at the present moment.

Autumn is the season of reaping and gathering and for enjoying the fruits of the harvest. But it is also the season of the passing of the natural world around us. Everything that was lush and green and growing in the spring and summer, now gradually turns brown, withers, dies and returns to the earth.

However, when observed from the wider context of the cycle of the seasons, we see that autumn is also a time of renewal and preparation for new life. The wheat that is sown in September, the seeds and bulbs which are covered with earth and snow through the winter will burst forth in the spring and blossom and give their fruit.

So it is in our spiritual lives as well. We can be living through a spiritual “autumn” - a time of dying, a time of transition, as we are now, but it is also a time of renewal, with something ending and something else beginning. The spiritual season of autumn can be a time of loss, accompanied by a sense of grief and emptiness, but it can also be a time for a fresh start, a time of a hidden preparation for something new opportunities that we cannot yet see or imagine. Just like those tulip bulbs which we place deep into the earth in October. If we have patience and hope, we will see them turn into a miracle of beauty in May.

My dear brothers and sisters in the Lord! We are all grieving now, understandably so. We grieve for the way of life we enjoyed and thought unchangeable, which has been suddenly snatched from us. We grieve for the loss of mutual interaction for the opportunity of touching and speaking with others face to face at our places of work, in school and in our parish communities. We grieve for the loss of our livelihoods and the dignity of work. We grieve for the loss of the ability of traveling beyond the borders of our country or even our state. And we grieve for our friends and relatives, brothers and sisters, fathers and mothers who have been taken from us.

But I ask you to believe that our sorrow will turn to joy just as sure as the tulip bulbs buried in the ground in autumn, will grow and bloom in spring; just as sure as the wheat, sown in September, will

rise and be harvested in June just as sure as the cycle of seasons change. God will open new opportunities, new horizons for us, his children.

+Bishop Paul, OSBM



161 Glenbrook Road
Stamford, CT 06902
USA
Tel: (203) 324-7698
Fax: (203) 357-7681
E-mail: stamfordeparchy@optonline.net

November 2, 2020
Sophia Shchur, RN, CDCES, President
National Board, League of Ukrainian Catholics
32 Normandy Road
Yonkers, New York 10701

Слава Ісусу Христу!

Thank you for your letter of 25 October and the very generous honorarium in the amount of \$500. Please extend my sincere thanks to Fr. Marijan Procyk and all the members of the LUC for your generosity and for your initiative and enthusiasm in bringing this project to fruition.

It is especially gratifying to realize that our presentation has received over 3,000 views - much more than we could have hoped for had it been held in person in a hall. And it remains on-line and available for any future viewing.

Thank you once again. We, the bishops, have a debt of gratitude to LUC for your support and initiative in helping us to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ during this difficult time. May God bless you and all the members of the LUC.

Sincerely in Christ,

+ Paul, OSBM

+ Paul Chomnycky, OSBM
Eparch of Stamford

TRANSFORMING CALAMITY INTO UNITY, DIGNITY & HEALING CHRISTIAN MODELS OF UNITY IN TIMES OF ADVERSITY Outline



as with “one heart and one soul”.

1. The Early Church Model
2. The Eucharist - fulness of unity
3. Parish as model of community of Love
4. Christian Family - Domestic Church Model
5. Examination of Conscience:
 - a. Personal Examination of Conscience:
 1. Do I personally strive to promote a spirit of unity, peace and harmony in Christian community? What do I specifically do to make this a reality?
 2. Does my family life reflect the calling of all Christians to live
 - b. Examination of Conscience for the Parish Community:
 1. What type of atmosphere or sense of community prevails in our parish? Does it attract people, or repel them?

2. Do we pay enough attention to those elements which build up and strengthen the parish as a Christian community?
3. Can our parish rightfully consider itself to be Christian community, or perhaps do the majority of parishioners attend the liturgical services, but do not associate much with one another.
4. Does our parish do everything possible to create a spirit of unity in the parish, so that the parishioners consider one another to be members of one spiritual family?
5. Do our children grow up with the sense of identity that they belong to our parish family.

+Bishop Bohdan



Presentation was done in Ukrainian (with some English)



2245 WEST RICE STREET • CHICAGO, IL 60622 • TEL.: 773.276.5080 • FAX: 773.276.6799 • CHICAGOUGCC.ORG

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November 19, 2020

League of Ukrainian Catholics
Mothers in Prayer
Sophia Shchur, RN CDCES
32 Normandy Road
Yonkers, New York 10701

Glory to Jesus Christ!

Dear League of Ukrainian Catholics and Mothers in Prayer,

The St. Nicholas Eparchy and I also would like to express our appreciation in the work you do. It was an honor and my pleasure to participate in your event. I am grateful that your conference has had such a good response by our faithful.

I would also like to express my gratitude for your generous gift and pray that we can continue to work together whenever possible in the future to continue the building of our bond.

May the blessing of the Lord be upon you!

In Christ,

+Benedict

Benedict
Bishop St. Nicholas Eparchy