



Holy Trinity and St. Anne Ukrainian Catholic Churches



Holy Trinity Church
526 West Rayen Avenue
Youngstown, Ohio 44502
E-mail: yngholytrinity@att.net
Website: www.holytrinityucc.com

Administrator:
Rev. Fr. Lubomir Zhybak
330-888-8881 (cell)
E-mail: zhybak@hotmail.com

Rev. Protodeacon Donald Billy

Administrative Assistant:
Dean Chance

St. Anne Church
4310 Kirk Road
Austintown, Ohio 44511
E-mail: yngholytrinity@att.net
Website: www.stanneucc.com

Office Hours: M-F in-person
by appointment only
Office: 330-744-5820
Social Hall/Pyrohy: 330-746-9528

Social Hall: 330-799-0084
Operations Manager: 330-792-8555

Confessions: Every Sunday
15 minutes prior to Divine Liturgy
(Other times available by appointment)

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15 minutes prior to Divine Liturgy
(Other times available by appointment)

Sunday, April 7, 2024

Thomas Sunday

Tones: Festive

Epistle: Acts 5:12-20

Gospel: John 20:19-31

Liturgical Greeting

Greeting:

**"Christ is Risen!"
"Khrystos Voskres!"**

Response:

**"Indeed He is Risen"
"Voistynu Voskres!"**



Next Sunday:
April 14, 2024
Sunday of the
Myrrh-Bearing Women

Tones: Festive
Epistle: Acts 6:1-7
Gospel: Mark 15:43-16:8

Image: icon of the Resurrection of Our Lord at St. Anne Ukrainian Catholic Church in Austintown, OH (2020).

Thomas Sunday (April 7th)

Day:	Date:	Place:	Time:	Intention:	Offered/Requested By:	Cantor(s)/Reader(s):
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Thomas Sunday

			10:30a	Praying of the Holy Rosary		J. Bodak
Sun	Apr 7	SA	11:00a	Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom for the Parishioners of Both Churches followed by myrovannia (anointing with the blessed oil)		P. Nachim

Mon-Sat Apr 8-13

No Services

Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women

			8:30a	Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom for the Parishioners of St. Anne Church		K. Scenna
Sun	Apr 14	SA	10:30a	Praying of the Holy Rosary		J. Bodak
			11:00a	Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom for the Parishioners of Holy Trinity Church		J. Bodak

Remember Our Shut-Ins

Now, especially, is a time of year to remember our parish family members who are unable to attend Divine Liturgy. We want them to know that we miss them, we love them, and are praying for them.
Remember them in your prayers. Call them. Send them a note of cheer this Easter season.

Holy Trinity Church

Ann Blazina 980 Lincoln Ave., Girard, Ohio 44420
 Dan Malarcik 71 Melbourne Ave., Yo., Ohio 44512
 Yvonne Mudryk 1252 Shanafelt Ave., Akron, Ohio 44312
 Charlotte Nachim 650 Esme Dr., Girard, Ohio 44420
 Delores Shuluga 4160 Bob-O-Link Dr., Yo., Ohio 44511

St. Anne Church

Susan Kurtiak 8064 South Ave. #1, Boardman, Ohio 44512
 Mary Ann Malahtaris 634 N. Bon Air Ave., Youngstown, Ohio 44509
 Helen Yurchison 2675 N Lipkey Rd., North Jackson, Ohio 44451

Prayer Requests

Holy Trinity Church: Ann Blazina, Andrea Curran, John Fecych, Dan Malarcik, Yvonne Mudryk, James Pirko, Marie Schuller, and *the health of all of our parishioners.*

St. Anne Church: Joseph Belasco, Joyce Budinsky, Carole Elias, Roger Elias, Susan Kurtiak, Joseph Kury, Louis Mancini, Katie Moran, Margaret Rodomsky, Ann Stevens, Josie Timlin, Helen Yurchison, and *the health of all of our parishioners.*

Clergy: Bishop Josyf Milyan, Fr. Louis, Fr. Jeff, and Msgr. Martin Canavan.

Non-Parishioners: Kennedy Eatinger, Mark F., Dawn Howard, Yaroslava, Myroslava, Halyna, Petro, Nadiya, Mylan, Yaremiya, Zoryana, Mariya, Connor, Claire, Mark, Christine, Dave Kishton, Fr. Andrzej, Judy Lepore, Jimi Stevens, Carol Martyn Dow, Tonja Delaine, Joann Panko, Kateryna Bolshahova, William J. Smith, Jim, Ivan M., Nadiya M., Anna F., Alexei Y., Nadiya Y., Volodymyr Y., Joe Beeson, Oleh and Oksana, Olha, Ivan, Vasyl, and Isaiah.

Holy Trinity Church *Eternal Light*

**Doug, Donna, Trevor,
and Marshall Beck**

are sponsoring

*the week of April 7th-13th
in loving memory of*

†Ann Karnofel

Mahoning Valley Association of Churches Sacred Music Fest

The Mahoning Valley Association of Churches (MVAC) is hosting a Sacred Music Fest featuring music from Church Congregations around the valley on Sunday, April 21, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. at New Bethel Baptist Church in Youngstown, OH. The Fest is an interdenominational celebration of the sacred music of local churches followed by a cookie reception. A free will offering will be received to benefit MVAC. Please join us for a night of music from churches around the Mahoning Valley!

This is a **Free** event and all are welcome!

Our very Best Wishes and Blessings to our dear Parishioners celebrating their life milestones this week.

Holy Trinity Church

Apr 10: Irene Kowal

Na Mnohaya ee Blahaya Leeta!

МОЛІТЬСЯ ЗА УКРАЇНУ!

PRAY FOR UKRAINE!

My dear Friends,

Christ is Risen!

Happy Thomas Sunday to all of you! I trust that my message found you all well and sound and that you have been enjoying the celebration of our Lord Jesus Christ's Resurrection.

We need to make some dome repairs at Holy Trinity Church in Youngstown. Consequently, all Sunday, festive, and daily Liturgies are suspended at Holy Trinity Church and moved to St. Anne Church in Austintown until further notice. This means that there still will be two Sunday Liturgies, unless indicated otherwise, and both of them will be at St. Anne Church: St. Anne Church's choir will continue to be responsible for the 8:30 am Liturgy (and whatever other liturgical celebrations if any) and Holy Trinity Church's choir will be responsible for the 11:00 am Liturgy (and whatever other liturgical celebrations if any). Please follow Sunday bulletins for updates. Thank you and apologies for any inconvenience.

Attention parishioners of Holy Trinity Church: if you'd like, please feel free to take home the flowers from Holy Trinity Church between today and the next Saturday, April 13; otherwise, they will all be thrown away. You can make arrangements with John Pierko, John Terlesky, or Marie Woloszyk to access the church. Thank you!

On behalf of our two parish communities and myself, I would like to express my **warmest and most heartfelt congratulations to Samuel James Kinloch** on his partaking in the Holy Mysteries of Initiation: Baptism, Chrismation (i.e., Confirmation), and the Most Holy Eucharist yesterday, April 6th at St. Anne Church in Austintown! Congratulations likewise to his family, relatives, and friends! Let us pray to the Triune Lord: The Father, The Son, and The Holy Spirit, Who adopted him as His child, to bless Samuel with the overabundance of His graces through the intercession of His Most Holy Mother and all the Holy Angels and Saints for many, healthy, and happy years! Heartfelt congratulations!

On behalf of our two parish communities and myself, I would like to express my **warmest and most heartfelt congratulations also to Haven Sienna Lynn Rose Moran**, daughter of Valeari Dominick Michael Moran and Cheyanne Odessa Parish and granddaughter of David & Katie Moran from St. Anne Church, on partaking in her first Holy Mystery of Reconciliation (Confession) on Saturday, March 23, 2024 at Holy Trinity Church in Youngstown as well as on partaking in her First Solemn Holy Communion today, Sunday, April 7th at St. Anne Church. Congratulations likewise to her family, relatives, and friends! Let us also pray to the Triune Lord: The Father, The Son, and The Holy Spirit to bless Haven with the overabundance of His graces through the intercession of His Most Holy Mother and all the Holy Angels and Saints for many, healthy, and happy years! Heartfelt congratulations!

Today, April 7th – the feast of the Annunciation of the Most Holy Theotokos according to the Julian calendar – marks the 16th anniversary since my ordination to the Sacred Priesthood by the then Bishop-Emeritus of Ivano-Frankivsk, Sofron Mudry (deceased as of October 31, 2014), at the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Cathedral (now Metropolitan Cathedral) of the Holy Resurrection in my native city of Ivano-Frankivsk in Ukraine. Since by that time I was already incardinated into the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Archeparchy of Kyiv in Ukraine, it could have been His Beatitude Lubomyr Cardinal Husar, the former Head of our Church (deceased as of May 31, 2017) and, as of February 26, 2024, a Servant of God, to ordain me to the priesthood. However, due to Cardinal Husar's deteriorating eyesight, His Beatitude asked Bishop Mudry to ordain me – something that I saw as a sign of our Lord's Divine Providence, for it was the then Father Mudry, with whom I, as a young seminarian, began my priestly path in the Ivano-Frankivsk Seminary back in 1995, and it was Bishop Mudry, who crowned my path to the priesthood thirteen years later in 2008. I asked Cardinal Husar to be ordained on the feast of the Annunciation of the Most Holy Theotokos, having chosen as my priestly motto the words of the response given by Mary to the Holy Archangel Gabriel, when he announced to her that she was going to become the Mother of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ: "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word" (Luke 1:38 (NRSVCE)) – the words that reflect the Most Holy Mother of God's humility and complete trust in the Lord, the words that inspired and continue to inspire me in my priestly life. As these 16 years flew by rather quickly, today, I would like to renew my immense gratefulness to my Triune Lord: The Father, The Son, and The Holy Spirit for having placed His trust in me, for having allowed me to become one of His priests as well as for all the copious blessings in my life, and I humbly ask Him to continue to lead me in my life. Today, I renew my thankfulness to the Most Holy Theotokos for her inspiration and protection along my life's path. Today, I renew my gratefulness to all the Holy Angels and Saints for their intercession in my life. Today, I renew my thankfulness to my family, relatives, friends, parishioners, and everyone else who was and continues to be part of my life, especially

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my Mom Myroslava and my late Dad Yaroslav, my sister Olha, my beloved wife Natalia and our three wonderful children: our daughter Marichka in Heaven and our two sons: Svyatoslav and Iulian. Please pray for me and be assured of my prayers for you. Thank you all! Let us continue our journey of faith together!

Speaking of the anniversary of priesthood, I recently found out that **Father Walter J. Wysochansky** celebrated on March 30th of this year the **60th anniversary of his ordination to the Sacred Priesthood**. What a wonderful milestone! Consequently, on behalf of the parishioners of both of our churches, I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations to Father Walter on such a solemn and joyful occasion and to wish him our Lord's copious blessings in his work in our risen Lord Jesus Christ's Vineyard. If you would like to send a card and/or a gift to Father Walter, you may mail it/them to him at the following address:

Very Rev. Canon Walter J. Wysochansky, Sts. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church, 404 6th St., Ambridge, PA 15003

Thank you and axios to Father Walter!

I'd like to share some other good news with you. On Holy Thursday, March 28th of this year, our bishop announced that the Head of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, His Beatitude Sviatoslav Shevchuk on March 27th of this year has raised two priests of our eparchy, **Father Michael J. Polosky** – our eparchy's Protosyncellus (i.e., Vicar General) as well as the pastor of Sts. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church in Ambridge, PA and Sts. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church in Aliquippa, PA – as well as **Father Steven M. Paliwoda** – our eparchy's Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer as well as the pastor of St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church in Lorain, OH and St. Michael Ukrainian Catholic Church in Rossford, OH – to the dignity of the **Mitred Archpriests** (Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of St. Josaphat in Parma: <https://stjosaphateparchy.com/patriarch-sviatoslav-bestows-the-title-of-the-very-reverend-mitred-archpriest-on-father-michael-poloski-2/> and <https://stjosaphateparchy.com/patriarch-sviatoslav-bestows-the-title-of-the-very-reverend-mitred-archpriest-on-father-michael-poloski/>). Hence, on behalf of the parishioners of both of our churches, I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations to both Father Michael and Father Steven on such joyous occasions and to wish them our Lord's copious blessings as they continue their work in our risen Lord Jesus Christ's Vineyard. If you would like to send a card and/or a gift to Father Michael and Father Steven, you may mail it/them to them at the following addresses:

**Very Rev. Mitred Archpriest Michael J. Polosky, Sts. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church
404 6th St., Ambridge, PA 15003**

**Very Rev. Mitred Archpriest Steven M. Paliwoda, Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of St. Josaphat in Parma
P.O. Box 347180, Parma, OH 44134**

Thank you and axios to Father Michael and Father Steven!

Sadly, the situation in our beloved Ukraine continues to remain grave. The country is still under a heavy attack from the side of Russia and whoever else sides with it in this horrible war... So many victims, including innocent children... How much longer will this bloodshed last? Right now, the People of Ukraine are being crucified... in fact, it is Christ Himself Who is being crucified again... Yet, life does not end with death! After the crucifixion and death comes resurrection! The resurrection will come for Ukraine as well! Today our risen Lord is embracing all people, who grieve due to having lost their loved ones because of the war in Ukraine, asking them to have faith in Him and not be afraid, for one day they will see their loved ones again, as this is a temporary absence. Today Jesus is telling the whole world just as He addressed His beloved friend Lazarus' sister Martha before Christ brought Lazarus back to life: "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" (John 11:25-26 (NRSVCE)). Lord Jesus, we believe in You, give us life eternal!

In the meantime, let us continue to ***pray and act for the end of Russia's war against Ukraine as well as for the conversion of Ukraine's aggressors*** and, as Ukraine's son, I'd like to tell all of you: **THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF OUR SUFFERING BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN UKRAINE!** Ukraine direly needs our help right now! If you would like to **help financially** your brothers and sisters in Ukraine, please **see a separate notice in the bulletin of how you can help**. No amount is too small, yet please be generous, and I thank you in advance for your munificence (*if anyone needs a copy of our eparchy's Humanitarian Aid Fund report, please let me know; you can also find it on our eparchy's website: <https://stjosaphateparchy.com/>*). May our Good Lord reward you abundantly for it in this life and in the life to come!

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If you are a Ukrainian refugee or know of someone/some people who need(s) legal services in regard to your/his/her/their stay in America, please contact a Cleveland office of a non-profit organization called **US Together**; its services are currently *free* until July of this year:

US Together, 2800 Euclid Ave., Suite 200, Cleveland, OH 44115
Phone: 216-456-9630 Fax: 216-417-5587 Website: <https://www.ustogether.us/>

Let us likewise pray and act for peace in the Middle East, particularly in the Holy Land, keeping also in our prayers those who were killed and died during the past and current wars and conflicts there.

- If any of you, who are homebound, would like to partake in the **Holy Sacraments**, kindly call the parish office number (330-744-5820) or me (330-888-8881) to make arrangements.
- I would like to encourage you to pray (*daily if you can*) the prayers from the **Prayer Corner**.
- Please be advised that today, **Thomas Sunday, April 7th**, there will be only one Liturgy for the two parishes at 11:00 am at **St. Anne Church followed by the Sviachene – Easter Luncheon**, sponsored this year by **St. Anne Church**, in the church's parish hall; **no Liturgy at Holy Trinity Church today**.
- We are continuing collecting at both parishes for a local branch of the **Society of St. Vincent de Paul**. You'll find a special box for the donations at each church. Please be generous and thank you for your benevolence! **Thank you also to those who already donated the needed items!** If you would like to make a monetary donation, you may do so either online at <https://www.mahoningsvdp.com/product-category/donation-levels/> or by mailing your check to:

Mahoning County St. Vincent de Paul Society, P.O. Box 224, Youngstown, OH 44501

The organization likewise offers volunteering opportunities. For more information, please go to <https://www.mahoningsvdp.com/> or call (330) 333-3601.

- Let us continue to **keep in our prayers all people who are on the prayer lists, especially the sick**. May our Triune God: The Father, The Son, and The Holy Spirit bless all of them through the intercession of His and our Most Holy Mother and all the Holy Angels and Saints!
- Our weekly bulletins are available online at both churches' websites (www.holytrinityucc.com and www.stanneucc.com). Thank you!
- Furthermore, I would like to thank those of you, who have been sending us your donations. If you still cannot come to your parish church at this time, please continue to support it by sending us your weekly donations to each respectful church (see the church addresses in the bulletin) and I thank you very much for your support of our parishes!
- Should there be anything else that needs my or Dean's attention, please let us know at once.

Truly, there is no place for fear or sadness in our hearts today despite the current wars in the world, especially in our beloved Ukraine, for Christ is risen! May the celebration of our Lord's resurrection these days be for each and every one of us a time to thank the Lord for the immense gift of salvation that He accomplished for us through His death and resurrection! May our joyful "Christ is risen!" during this Easter season resonate throughout the entire earth, announcing to all that our Savior has been raised from the dead, having opened for us the gates of Heaven as well as having given us an opportunity to reunite forever with our Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit Whose love for us has no boundaries! Let us share with one another the joyful news of Christ's resurrection, repeating over and over again: "Christ is risen from the dead! By death He conquered Death, and to those in the graves He granted life!"

A very blessed Thomas Sunday to you and your loved ones and may our risen Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ always bless America, Ukraine, the Holy Land, and the rest of the world through the intercession of the Most Holy Theotokos and all the Holy Angels and Saints!

Христос Воскрес!
Слава Україні!

With prayers in the risen Lord Jesus,

Fr. Lubomir

Holy Trinity 50/50 Club March Winner:

Ron and Diane Yourstowsky

The March total was \$55.00.

The church and the Yourstowskys each receive \$27.50.

**“Rescue the oppressed from the hand of the oppressor” (Jer. 22:3)
The Message of the of the Synod of Bishops of the UGCC in Ukraine
on War and Just Peace in the Context of New Ideologies.**

(continued...)

IV. Defensive war and legitimate defense

33. Since the time of St. Ambrose of Milan (340–397) and St. Augustine (354–430), given the real circumstances of the sinful world in which we live, the Church has been guided by a rule known today as the just war theory. This approach excluded any unprovoked aggression and any unmotivated use of force and also contained rules of warfare.

34. Throughout history, many Christian thinkers have reflected on these principles. The clear presence of evil in history has led to the realization that the defense of one’s neighbor and one’s own survival requires the need to resist armed aggression. Reflecting on the experience of the First World War, the righteous Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky spoke of the right of the people to self-defense and “the permissible defense of their own land, their own families, and their own homes” [14]. To ensure that defense does not escalate into violence and meets the criteria of proportionality of such self-defense, certain principles of a just defensive war were developed, as we say today, the principles of legal defense. Scientific and technological progress, which led to the development of new, more dangerous weapons, and thus new threats and the emergence of new forms of social organization could not but affect the evolution of the theory of justice in such a war. The process of rethinking some of its aspects was particularly active after the end of World War II. Pope Pius XII (1939–1958) considered defensive wars just and emphasized that other nations have a duty not to abandon an attacked country in trouble. The Fathers of the Second Vatican Council in the constitution “*Gaudium et Spes*” stated that “As long as the danger of war remains and there is no competent and sufficiently powerful authority at the international level, governments cannot be denied the right to legitimate defense once every means of peaceful settlement has been exhausted” [15].

35. After the Second World War and the establishment of the United Nations, international law ceased to operate with the concept of a “just war” and moved to a complete prohibition of warfare. According to the UN Charter, the use of armed force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state is recognized as unlawful, and all disputes between states are to be settled by peaceful means in such a way as not to endanger international peace and security, and justice [16]. Later, in Resolution 3314 (XXIX) “Definition of Aggression”, adopted by the UN General Assembly on December 14, 1974, it was stated that no considerations of a political, economic, military, or other nature can justify an act of aggression [17].

36. The use of force is authorized only by a decision of the UN Security Council to the extent necessary to maintain or restore international peace and security or in self-defense against an armed attack. Thus, the UN Charter defines that the right to individual or collective self-defense against armed attack is inalienable, and the Charter itself does not limit this inalienable right in any way [18].

37. St. Pope John XXIII sought to shift the focus of the discussion of war and peace to peacebuilding but did not deny the right of nations to self-defense in the event of an unprovoked attack [19]. Therefore, the Church distanced itself from the practice of naive pacifism, which often turns into moral blindness in distinguishing between good and evil. Moreover, St. Pope Paul VI warned about “the insidiousness of a purely tactical pacifism, which intoxicates the enemy to be defeated and kills the understanding of justice, duty, and sacrifice in souls” [20].

38. The Catholic Church teaches that legitimate armed defense against an unjust attacker, as well as war in general, is always the last means that a party in danger can resort to. This is emphasized by the Catechism of the UGCC “Christ is our Pascha”: “The use of military force may be permissible only in cases of extreme necessity as a means of permissible self-defense, and the Christian soldier is always a defender of peace” [21]. The Catechism of the Catholic Church outlines the elements of a just defensive war: “The exact conditions for legitimate defense by military force must be carefully determined. The seriousness of such a decision subjects it to the strict conditions of moral legality. It requires at the same time that the damage done by the aggressor to a nation or community of nations be prolonged, severe, and indisputable; that all other means of putting an end to it be impossible or unsuccessful; that the possibilities of success be reasonable; and that the use of arms not cause disaster and disorder greater than the disaster to be removed” [22], that is, when (con’t)

negotiations, arbitration, compromise, and other means have failed. As a rational being, a person is obliged to make decisions based on common sense and the law, rather than using force, whenever possible. For the legal defense to be just, the safety of civilians must be kept in mind. This defense always has a clearly limited goal: a just peace, not the complete destruction of the enemy's people, economy, or political institutions. In order to achieve a just peace, limited and proportionate means must be used: armaments and force must be limited to what is absolutely necessary to repel aggression and deter future attacks.

39. In his encyclical "Fratelli Tutti", His Holiness Francis warns against "an overly broad interpretation" of the right to legitimate defense, which could be used by some to "preventive" attacks or actions that cause more evil than the one that needs to be eliminated; he also added that "today it is very difficult to choose the criteria developed over the past centuries to affirm the possibility of a 'just war' [23]. This is a valid point, given the way Russian propaganda justifies its aggression against Ukraine. However, does not such manipulation by Russia indicate the need to develop even clearer and more precise criteria for legal defense, which would make it impossible for the aggressor to pretend to be a victim?

40. In the light of the teachings of the Catholic Church, the Security and Defense Forces of Ukraine are legitimately defending the state and the people. Today, there is no shortage of evidence that Russia has been unwilling to resolve its contradictions with Ukraine at the negotiating table as an equal and sovereign partner. The aggressor country rejects the very right to existence of the Ukrainian people and its state as a subject of international law, refusing to engage in dialogue and negotiations with a sovereign Ukraine. It is impossible to "engage in dialogue with someone who does not exist", as Russian propaganda constantly repeats. According to the above-mentioned modern Russian ideology of ruscism, the "Ukrainian issue" must be resolved once and for all through the complete destruction of everything Ukrainian. Since 2014, Russia has carried out unprovoked acts of aggression against Ukraine, first occupying the Crimean Peninsula and then launching a proxy war in Donbas. In 2022, it launched a full-scale invasion and, using a wide range of weapons, mercilessly destroys civilian infrastructure, terrorizes, and kills civilians. The Ukrainian army is up against an extremely powerful military machine that uses the full range of sophisticated weapons and periodically threatens to launch a nuclear strike against a non-nuclear country, to which it guaranteed security and territorial integrity by signing the 1994 Budapest Memorandum.

V. Neutrality in time of war

41. Neutrality can indeed be the result of prudent judgment and analysis. There are situations in which a country does not want to deepen a conflict because of its involvement in it or wants to mediate between the opposing sides. However, such neutrality has its pitfalls: there is a limit beyond which such a position begins to be a betrayal of one's own values and principles and plays into the hands of the wrongdoer. If it [neutrality] is caused by indifference, cowardice, or a biased or self-serving attitude, it becomes a morally wrong choice rather than a manifestation of a deep understanding of the causes and consequences of the dispute (cf. Prov. 24:11–12; Matt. 12:30; James 4:17; Rev. 3:15–16).

42. Keeping such situations in mind, Pope Pius XII emphasized in his 1948 Christmas message that in the case of unjust aggression, "the solidarity of the family of nations forbids others to behave as mere spectators, by showing impassive neutrality", and added that it was impossible to measure the damage "already done in the past by such indifference to wars of aggression" and that such a position "has only reassured and emboldened the authors and instigators of aggression" [24].

43. In times of war, neutrality needs to be approached with a delicate understanding of the ethical and moral aspects. There may be a legitimate desire to prevent further bloodshed or to facilitate a diplomatic resolution of the conflict. However, neutrality should not be extended to the point where it becomes a passive approval of injustice and crimes, as there is a moral imperative to oppose unjust aggression against any country and to defend the values on which the international community is based. The lessons of history, as emphasized by Pope Pius XII, are a strong reminder that indifference to acts of aggression can have far-reaching consequences. Nations are obliged to assess the limits of their political neutrality, which cannot become moral, otherwise it will turn into a betrayal of fundamental values and principles. At such critical moments, the international community must rise above mere impartiality and actively work for justice, peace, and the preservation of human dignity.

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44. Russian aggression against Ukraine is not a struggle for disputed territory: it is an attack on international law and a crime against peace. The current war in Europe is a zero-sum conflict of identities, as Ukrainians seek to preserve their state independence and the right to be Ukrainians, while Russians seek to deprive Ukrainians of their right to exist as such and revive their empire. The atrocities of the Russian army against civilians, which the whole world is watching almost live, are a brutal outrage on human dignity and a crime of genocide. Maintaining feigned neutrality in such a situation is a betrayal of the values of respect for international law, justice, and human dignity. This is a position based on interests, not principles.

45. Artificial and formal neutrality encourages many to treat both warring parties symmetrically, as politically and morally equal, ignoring the real causes of this war and its circumstances, and therefore it is destined for an ethical defeat. This defeat is also determined by the fact that the Russian-Ukrainian war is radically different from traditional military conflicts. In this situation, it is impossible to maintain moral neutrality; instead, one must make a choice in favor of values: "You cannot serve God and mammon" (Matthew 6:24).

46. Of course, there are countries in the world that, due to a certain historical trajectory or the specifics of their role in the international community, declare permanent neutrality in the event of any armed conflict, and therefore consistently adhere to the principles to which this status obliges them. Among such states, the Holy See occupies a special place, whose positive neutrality means that it does not limit itself to observation but seeks to facilitate dialogue between the parties of the conflict. In serving the cause of peace and international cooperation of the Apostolic See, it is necessary to distinguish between two types of neutrality: diplomatic and moral. However, we do not see moral neutrality in the actions of the Holy See. For example, in the case of Russia's unjust aggression against our Homeland, it clearly distinguishes between the aggressor and the victim of its attack and always supports the one who became this victim — the Ukrainian people.

47. At the same time, the millennial tradition of the role of the Roman Bishop as the highest arbiter of the Christian world, that is, the position "above the parties" at war, has enabled and enables the Vatican to play an important, sometimes decisive role in resolving many conflict situations around the world, as well as to help establish channels for the exchange of prisoners and relieve the suffering of civilians.

48. The significance of this mediation cannot be overestimated in the context of Russia's current aggression against Ukraine, as many mothers and wives gratefully recall the Holy Father's role in the release of captured soldiers or deported children. Such facts become especially eloquent when the diplomatic mediation efforts of the Bishop of Rome are harmoniously combined with the language of faith, which dares to call evil evil, healing human wounds with this word of truth, as was the case, for example, on January 8, 2024, during a meeting of Pope Francis with the diplomatic corps accredited to the Holy See. At that time, the Pope reminded the participants that it was Russia that unleashed an aggressive war against Ukraine and emphasized that war crimes require an appropriate response from the international community [25].

(To be continued...)

Next Week - VI. The goal of legal defense is a just peace and Conclusion

Source: Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church: <https://ugcc.ua/en/data/rescue-the-oppressed-from-the-hand-of-the-oppressor-jer-223-the-message-of-the-of-the-synod-of-bishops-of-the-ugcc-in-ukraine-on-war-and-just-peace-in-the-context-of-new-ideologies-944/>. Article edited.

NOTE ON HOLY SACRAMENTS OF THE EUCHARIST & RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)

Generally, Catholics (and some non-Catholics under certain conditions) receive Holy Communion worthily if they do not have even one mortal sin on his/her soul (one sins mortally when all of the following three conditions are present: grave matter (10 Commandments), full knowledge, and deliberate consent), and, usually, these are people who go to confession more or less frequently; one is permitted to receive Holy Communion with the venial sins on his/her soul. Otherwise, if one receives Holy Communion unworthily, namely with mortal sin(s) on his/her soul and is aware of it, committing it with deliberate consent, one commits another mortal sin. Although, certainly, it is possible to live one's life without committing even one mortal sin for a long time and, hence, have no need for confession for a long time, such people could be considered exceptions. Also, in accordance with the Church Commandments (also known as the Church Precepts), a minimal requirement is for a person to go to confession at least once a year as well as to receive Holy Communion at least during the Easter season: to go to confession provided one committed at least one mortal sin and to receive Holy Communion provided one did not commit even one mortal sin.

Revised on April 4, 2023.



STAMBAUGH FESTIVAL
CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

PRESENTS

GIVING VOICE TO PEACE V
FEATURING

The Armed Man

MASS FOR PEACE

Date: Sunday, April 14, 2024

Time: 4:00 PM

St. Joseph Roman Catholic Parish
4545 New Road
Austintown, OH 44515

GUEST ENSEMBLES

DANA
Chorale

THIEL
CHOIR



FREE
ADMISSION
FREE WILL
DONATIONS
WELCOME

Ohio Arts
COUNCIL

ШОСТА
ВСЕАМЕРИКАНСЬКА
МОЛОДІЖНА
ПРОЩА



SIXTH
ALL AMERICAN
YOUTH
PILGRIMAGE

40th Anniversary of passing into Eternity of Patriarch Josyf Slipyi

June 13–16, 2024

Pokrova Ukrainian Catholic Church
Parma, Ohio

«...Gathering the
scattered»
Patriarch Josyf Slipyi

YOUTH between FAITH and reason

THE PROGRAM INCLUDE:

- ▶ DIVINE LITURGY
- ▶ SACRAMENTS: Priests will offer the Holy Mystery of Reconciliation and Eucharist.
- ▶ GUEST LECTURERS: Conversations on timely topics
- ▶ BIBLE STUDY: Readings and Reflections on the Holy Scriptures
 - ▶ RECREATION: Hiking in the beautiful State Park
 - ▶ MUSICAL PRAISE: Taize prayers and prayers of adoration
- ▶ FELLOWSHIP: Sports games, competitions, bonfires and much more



Mandatory
REGISTRATION
for all 5 and older



MORE INFO
in social
network



ЗЦІЛЕННЯ РАН І ЛІКУВАННЯ ТРАВМ ВІЙНИ THE PATH TO CURING WOUNDS & HEALING TRAUMAS OF WAR

ЗУСТРІЧ З ДР. ДОННОЮ ДОБРОВОЛЬСЬКИ І МАРТОЮ САГУНІ
DR. DONNA DOBROWOLSKY, MD & MARTHA SAHOUNI, LCPC



ПОКРОВА ПРЕСВЯТОЇ БОГОРОДИЦІ POKROVA CHURCH

6812 BROADVIEW RD, PARMA, OH 44134

30 КВІТНЯ, 2024 19:00

APRIL 30, 2024 @ 7PM



LAINIEY MASON Benefit Golf Open

Sunday, August 18th, 2024
8:00 AM Shotgun Start
4-person scramble

Sponsored by
President Charity Foundation

Olde Dutch Mill Golf Course
2745 Grandview Rd.
Lake Milton, OH 44429
330-654-4100

Prayer Corner

+ In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Lord Jesus, we adore You, we praise You, we worship You, and we love You! We thank You for Your gift of life to us! We thank You for the overabundance of blessings that You bestow on us every day! We thank You for the gift of salvation that we received from You through Your death and glorious resurrection that we celebrate during the Easter season! We humbly ask You to help us to love You wholeheartedly and to love our neighbors as we love ourselves. We ask You to continue to bless us and to help us to be Your authentic adopted children. We ask You to have mercy on us, to cleanse us of our sins, and to fill our hearts with Your life-giving grace. In Your immense kindness, please heed these petitions that we present to You:

- for the end of all wars and conflicts in the world, especially for the end of the current wars in Ukraine and the Middle East, for all who died during them, for the loved ones they left behind as well as for the enlightenment and conversion of the hearts of the aggressors, so that a sincere and truthful dialogue may lead to an authentic and lasting peace and reconciliation between people, we pray to You, O Lord, hear us and have mercy! Lord, have mercy!
- for the end of all abortions in the world, for all the aborted and miscarried babies, for the healing of those who committed or assisted with abortions, for the conversion of all who are planning to commit abortions as well as for all the unborn babies in the world and their parents, we pray to You, O Lord! Lord, have mercy!
- for the end of the child slavery, child abuse, domestic abuse, gender ideology, prostitution, and human trafficking in the world, for all the victims both living and deceased as well as for the conversion of all who perpetrate these grave and heinous sins, we pray to You, O Lord! Lord, have mercy!
- for the vocations to the sacred priesthood, diaconate, and religious life, we pray to You, O Lord! Lord, have mercy!
- for the conversion to the true faith of all people in the world, who did not embrace the light of the Triune God yet, we pray to You, O Lord! Lord, have mercy!
- for the conversion of all sinners in the world, we pray to You, O Lord! Lord, have mercy!
- for the consolation of all persecuted Christians in the world, especially the ones in Asia, Middle East, and Africa and for the conversion of hearts and minds of those, who persecute them, we pray to You, O Lord! Lord, have mercy!
- for the end of all wars, conflicts, and violence in the world, especially for the establishment of the authentic and lasting peace, we pray to You, O Lord! Lord, have mercy!
- for all the refugees, the migrants, the poor, the hungry, the orphans, the half-orphans, the homeless, the missing, and the abducted throughout the world, especially the children, we pray to You, O Lord! Lord, have mercy!
- for all prisoners in the world, especially the ones on death row, we pray to You, O Lord! Lord, have mercy!
- for the liberation of all people in the world who are addicted to drugs, alcohol, smoking, and pornography, we pray to You, O Lord! Lord, have mercy!
- for the conversion of all people in the world, who have difficulty telling the truth and acting truthfully, we pray to You, O Lord! Lord, have mercy!
- for all people in the world, who are hopeless as well as those who contemplate suicide, that their hearts may be filled with hope, we pray to You, O Lord! Lord, have mercy!
- for all widows and widowers in the world, we pray to You, O Lord! Lord, have mercy!
- for the healing of all sick and handicapped people in the world, for the repose of the souls of all who died from any disease or handicap as well as for the loved ones they left behind, we pray to You, O Lord! Lord, have mercy!
- for all unemployed people in the world and their families that they may find work soon, we pray to You, O Lord! Lord, have mercy!
- for all faithful of the Catholic Church, especially all members of St. Josaphat Eparchy, as well as for all our families, relatives, friends, and acquaintances, we pray to You, O Lord! Lord, have mercy!
- for the deliverance of all souls from Purgatory to Heaven, we pray to You, O Lord! Lord, have mercy!

Lord Jesus, we humbly ask You to grant all of these petitions in accordance with Your most holy will through the intercession of Your and our Most Holy Mother and all the Angels and Saints and may You be praised together with Your Father and Holy Spirit forever and ever! Amen.

+ In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Originally composed by Fr. Lubomir Zhybak in 2020 and revised on March 26, 2024.

Image: photo of the stained-glass window of the Resurrection of Our Lord at Holy Trinity Ukrainian Catholic Church in Youngstown, OH (2020).