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UOL BULLETIN

UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Dedicated to our Church -- Devoted to its Youth

VOL. 72 NO. 4 SUMMER 2026

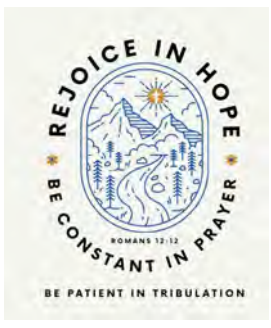
2026 Ohio/Western PA Annual UOL Lenten Retreat Pulaski, PA
Submitted by Marianne Carmack

The 2026 Ukrainian Orthodox League (UOL) Western PA Lenten Retreat was held on Saturday, March 21, 2026, from 8:15 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the River Valley Community Resource Center in Pulaski, Pennsylvania, and gathered faithful of all ages for a full day of prayer, reflection, centered on the theme, "Rejoice in Hope, Be Patient in Tribulation, Be Constant in Prayer. Romans 12:12," pillars of our Orthodox Faith. As always, we are sincerely grateful to all who worked behind the scenes to plan and support this day. Most of all, we give thanks for those who attended. The spirit you bring—your openness, engagement, fellowship, and willingness to reflect and ask thoughtful questions—creates an experience that uplifts everyone. Through this shared participation, we can learn from one another and grow stronger in our sense of community and fellowship.

As always, we also wish to recognize those who traveled from Sharon, Pittsburgh, Carnegie, Lyndora, Hermitage and Youngstown, as well as those who joined us from other Orthodox parishes and Christian communities. We extend special appreciation to our National President, Natalie Bilynsky, and National Financial Secretary, Oleh Bilynsky, who traveled from Philadelphia; to Panidobrodiyka Olha Bobko and Panidobrodiyka Alice O'Neil; to our Immediate Past President, Matushka Laryssa Charest who encouraged us to offer a concurrent program for our youth and to Stephen Haluszczak of the Ukrainian Cultural and Historical Institute, that supports vital work in Ukraine. The presence and participation of our national leadership, including Shirley Duffy, Anna Anderson and Jr. Board member Marcia Goodge reflects a deep and active commitment to parish engagement, nurturing fellowship, strengthening connections across our communities, and walking together in a shared purpose that unites and sustains the ministry and life of the Church and the UOL. In a very real way, you reflect the words of Christ, *Let your light shine before others, bearing His light into the world through your faith, your presence, and your witness. Matthew 5:16.*

The retreat was hosted under the pastoral leadership of Rev. Fr. Mykola Zomchak, who welcomed participants and offered the opening prayers and facilitated the unfolding of the day's activities, and Rev. Fr. John Charest who not only provided guidance before and during the retreat, but also developed and delivered the middle/high school program. The featured presentations: Part I, "Rejoice in Hope, Be Patient in Tribulation (Truth Then/Truth Now: The Timeless Wisdom of the Apostle Paul)," delivered by Rev. Fr. Timothy Paproski, and Part II, "Be Constant in Prayer (Truth Then/Truth Now: The Timeless Wisdom of the Apostle Paul)," delivered by Rev. Fr. Yurii Bobko. Singing at Vespers was led by Mrs. Anna Anderson, Quiz Time facilitated by Mrs. Ann Marie Woloschak, a group case study session, and the concluding services of Confessions and Great Vespers served by Fr. Mykola and Fr. Deacon Evan O'Neil further enriched the day. Notably, this year also included an expanded program for younger participants, with Pre-School and Elementary sessions led by Shirley Duffy and Stephanie Rimedio, and a Middle and High School program directed by Rev. Fr. John Charest, Spiritual Advisor to the Jr. UOL.

(Continued on page 4)



79th UOL Convention

Palos Park, IL

July 29, 2026 –August 2, 2026

"Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer." (Romans 12:12)

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Note to Contributors: All articles submitted to the UOL Bulletin must be in 11 point Times New Roman (font), or typed and double spaced in 12 point type. Articles may be submitted via e-mail attachments. (Submit to: nsufler@aol.com). If submitting photos please be sure to obtain consents for photos to be included in the UOL Bulletin.

The editor reserves the right to condense any material submitted. Material cannot be returned.

Support the education of a Junior UOL Member - donate to the

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UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX LEAGUE "SHINING LIGHTS" SCHOLARSHIP
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Lynn Sawchuk
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Sharon Kuzbyt
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Julian Naumenko
2005-2025

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UOL Financial Secretary
703 Pine Ridge Road
Media, PA 19063

Or via Zeffie on the UOL Website: www.uolofusa.org/annualfunddrive

"Dedicated to our Church - Devoted to its Youth"

Thank you to our volunteers on St. Thomas Sunday!

MESSAGE FROM THE SENIOR UOL PRESIDENT

Natalie Bilynsky

Glory to Jesus Christ!

It is hard to believe that when you read this Bulletin it will be June and the UOL Convention will be less than two months away. For most of my life, the UOL has been such a central part of my experience that I measure time in UOL events. The UOL has built its calendar around the Church calendar and it is with such wisdom that the Church built a calendar for us to stay centered around her and around Christ. It is truly a gift that our Lord and His Church established a calendar of Feast days to help us come closer and closer to Him through His Church.

Our Church calendar starting in September with the beginning of the new Church year and the feast days teach us and bring us closer to Christ. The UOL builds upon this calendar to support our youth and building of community. We work to encourage our youth to remain within the Church.

I love that the UOL has a schedule of events to fill the entire calendar year and I know that for me I think about each season with our feast days and also the projects that we can bring faithful closer to the Church. I fondly remember decades ago the Junior UOL had t-shirts that stated "we have no off season."

The UOL Convention is a special event for me. The UOL Convention is a wonderful time to replenish and to gain support from our brothers and sisters in the UOL. Our UOL Convention is the time for faithful to gather and come together as a family reunion. I always look forward to the Convention. I love to touch base with everyone and to learn what is happening in your chapter and parish. The UOL and the UOL Convention is a source of inspiration for me and it has been so for all of my life. I will give you a concrete example. I remember hearing over two decades ago, that Maplewood had a communal Holodna Kutya dinner and I came home to Philadelphia and asked Fr. Frank if we could plan one in Philadelphia. About twenty years later, we are still planning a Holodna Kutya dinner in Philadelphia.

I am inspired by every conversation I have at the UOL Convention and so enjoy spending time with all of our UOL members. Thank you for your inspiration. I know that my UOL Family has been a true joy in my life.

If you are still undecided about whether you plan to attend the Convention – this Convention will be one that you should not miss. The Palos Park UOL Chapter is planning a phenomenal time for us. A time for UOL members to gather, to come and to rejuvenate, reconnect and replenish. In many ways I see the UOL Convention as the time for those who work so hard all year, to learn from each other, to inspire each other, to have fun. There is still time for you to make plans to attend the UOL Convention. The registration forms can be found in this issue of the UOL Bulletin. We look forward to seeing you there.

I am always particularly inspired by our juniors and pre-juniors. I enjoy seeing our juniors and pre-juniors grow in their faith and mature into young adults.

I am particularly excited that this year we will have a group of Young Adults attending the Convention. It is very important for our Young Adults to have a community around the Church and the UOL can be instrumental in encouraging Young Adults to remain active within the Church.

I also hope that you have made your donation to the Metropolitan John Scholarship Fund. May was designated as the month to fundraise for the scholarship. In this UOL Bulletin you can read more about the importance of the Metropolitan John Scholarship and at the Convention you can meet the recipients of the scholarship.

I also wanted to take a moment to thank all of our current National Executive Board members. All of our NEB members are incredibly dedicated and have done a wonderful job this year. Our NEB have worked diligently to support our chapters, UOL and UOC. It was an honor to serve as President of the UOL.

Our Executive Board was also blessed to have His Eminence Archbishop Daniel as our spiritual advisor. Vladyka Daniel was an inspiration for all of his support. He attended our monthly virtual meetings and served as guide and motivated us. Thank you Vladyko!

Thank you all members of the UOL. Your dedication and support of the UOL is greatly appreciated. I look forward to seeing you all in Palos Park!

With Love in Christ,

Natalie

79th Annual UOL Convention
July 29, 2026 to August 2, 2026
Palos Park, Illinois

The 79th UOL Convention will be wonderful and we hope that you plan to attend. The UOL Convention is a time to get to know other Ukrainian Orthodox faithful and to learn about other chapters and parishes.

The Convention Theme is "Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer." (Romans, 12:12). For sessions, we will be looking at ways that technology can assist our chapters and parishes. This will include discussion about not only the ways that technology can help your parish but also address some of the dangers associated with relying solely on technology.

Sessions for the Convention will start on Thursday, however, we hope that UOLers come early to see the sites in the Chicago area.

Convention Events

Wednesday evening we will have a wonderful hospitality night and time to gather and reconnect.

Thursday following Divine Liturgy we will enjoy a brunch and sessions will begin.

Thursday will be fun for everyone! Juniors will enjoy a trip to a virtual reality center. Later that day everyone will have a delicious dinner at Tradycja Polish Fusion restaurant and enjoy a comedy show.

Friday is Ukrainian Style at the parish hall. Pack your best Ukrainian Wear! There will be prizes for best dressed! The night will include a fashion show, dancing and a wonderful Ukrainian menu.

Saturday - Banquet and Ball at the Hotel Event Center. Enjoy a wonderful dinner, banquet and bring your dancing shoes.

Sunday - Following Divine Liturgy UOL members will enjoy brunch at the parish hall.

Hotel information

Homewood Suites by Hilton 16245 S La Grange Rd.,
Orland Park, IL 60467
UOL Convention rate of $174 per suite/night.
Reserve your room by June 15th to lock in your rate
Includes: suite with kitchenette, daily free breakfast and free parking.
Use the following link to reserve your room:
www.hilton.com/en/attend-my-event/ukrainian-orthodox-league-convention/

UOL Convention Basket Raffle

We invite all chapters, Junior and Senior, to join the UOL Basket Raffle! Have your Chapter create a basket of goodies (value of $50.00 or more) to be raffled at the Convention. If you are not able to make a basket, please consider donating a gift card.

Some ideas for Basket themes are:
Wine lover's basket, Chocolate dream basket, Scratch off lottery tickets basket, Bath and body products basket, Beer lover's basket, Movie basket, Cooking utensils / cook book basket, and Christmas basket.

Please let us know by July 1 of your participation in this event. We are asking for support from **all** of our UOL Chapters, Senior and Junior. Should your Chapter not be able to deliver a basket or gift card, please consider sending a $50 donation – check payable to "Sts. Peter & Paul UOL - 79th UOL Convention." Your participation in the Raffle and your donations will help to make this 79th Convention a financial success for the entire Ukrainian Orthodox League. We sincerely appreciate your generous support!

For more information about this UOL fundraiser please contact:: Andrea Swan aps6@comcast.net 610-306-6854

MESSAGE FROM THE JUNIOR UOL PRESIDENT

Tatiana Korotinsky

Christ is Risen! Христос Воскрес!

As I write this article we continue through the Paschal season, I hope everyone is still carrying the joy of Christ's Resurrection into everyday life. This time of year is a reminder of renewal and what it means to stay connected through faith, service, and our UOL community.

This is also a reminder for chapters to stay up to date with chapter election forms and dues. To make the process as easy as possible, completed election forms can be sent directly to Marcia at goodgemarcia@gmail.com.
All forms can be mailed to:
1924 State Route 208, Pulaski, PA 16143

We're also looking forward to finding out the winners of the UOL Essay Contest this year! If you didn't have a chance to submit an essay, make sure to enter next year. It is a meaningful opportunity to reflect on our faith and share personal insight through writing.

I am really grateful for our most recent UOL Convention and all the time we were able to spend together in faith and fellowship. This being said, I am even more excited for this year's Convention and all of the events we have planned. This year's UOL Convention will take place from July 29 through August 2nd, in Palos Park, Illinois. Registration forms can be found on the official UOL website, uolofusa.org, as well as the UOL Bulletin. Convention is always such a meaningful experience, and I really encourage everyone to try to attend if they can.

We continue to be inspired by the many ways the Junior UOL chapters stay active in their parishes and communities throughout the year, whether through service, fellowship, or other UOL events. Thank you to all chapters for your continued effort and involvement.

If you have any questions or need help with anything, please feel free to reach out at juniorpres@uolofusa.org and 215-391-9909.

With love in Christ,
Tatiana Korotinsky

Zoom Coffee Klatch March 7, 2026

Submitted by Shirley Duffy

On the morning of March 7, 2026, UOL members got together on Zoom to talk about how prayer helps them through bad times and good times. Members turned to prayer during sickness, both of themselves and loved ones, times of turmoil at work, at the passing of loved ones, and were moved to prayer when they encountered people on the streets who may not have food or shelter

They were also comforted by members of their parishes praying for their loved ones who were on the prayer list. One participant lamented about mostly praying in church because the pressures of modern life crowded out prayer during the work week.

Another commented that prayer was a mighty healing force that joins us to God, and the devil and his minions try to separate us from God and each other. Another mentioned that prayer can be assisted by the Saints in veneration of their Icons, being anointed with oil, and patiently listening for God's answer. A reader at the gathering said that reading scripture made his prayer life much more meaningful.

Several people mentioned that prayer should be unceasing throughout the day, by saying the Jesus Prayer or even a brief Lord have mercy, being thankful for good things like rainbows, God's glorious creation, and even for bad things that happen because we learn from them. Lastly, one participant mentioned that it was important not only to say the prayers in our prayer books, but to talk to God in our own words.

As a moderator, my heart was warmed to see people connecting with old friends in a space of quiet reflection on Zoom. And for that, I praise and thank God.

(Continued from page 1– Western PA UOL Retreat)

In the first presentation, Rev. Fr. Timothy Paproski, Pastor of St. Nicholas Orthodox Church (ACROD) brought into sharp focus, "Rejoice in hope, be participants to see that hope is not something we wait to feel, but something we choose to live from—a conscious orientation of the heart rooted in Christ's victory over death." In this light, patience was revealed as active and faithful, not passive, and inseparable from that hope reframed as strength—the ability to remain present without becoming hardened, to endure without losing clarity, and to continue choosing faithfulness even when progress is slow. In a world shaped by noise, urgency, and distraction, this understanding carried weight. His message quietly but firmly returned responsibility to the individual: while we may be guided and supported, no one can choose faithfulness for us. Like one led to water who must decide to drink, the spiritual life depends on a willingness to engage, to respond, and to persevere. From there, the focus turned to constancy in prayer

Rev. Fr. Yurii Bobko, in the second presentation turned our focus inward to constancy in prayer—rediscovered not as an occasional act, but as the steady rhythm of life with God, forming perception, nurturing discernment, and sustaining the soul through both joy and suffering. These threads were then drawn together through the wisdom of the Apostle, showing how hope, patience, and prayer are meant to shape real life—relationships, parish life, ministry, vocation, and service—so that Christian living flows from interior formation rather than activity alone. In this way, participants were invited to experience Great Lent not simply as a season, but as a path that renews how we live in Christ each day.

Deepening the call to "be constant in prayer," Fr. Bobko drew participants into a fuller understanding of prayer as relationship speaking of prayer not as something we do at certain moments, but as a way of being—a steady turning toward God that shapes how we see, how we discern, and how we endure. At the same time, his message extended outward, reminding participants that this inner life is not isolated. While we cannot force change in another person, we are called to create the conditions in which it becomes possible—through presence, compassion, consistency, and respect for dignity. In this way, prayer becomes not only a personal lifeline, but a quiet force that shapes how we walk with others. At its heart, the talk restored a simple but often overlooked truth: prayer is relationship. It includes speaking and listening, silence and gratitude, even struggle. It is not measured by feeling or immediate response, but by the steady turning of the heart toward God over time. For many, this brought a quiet sense of relief—an understanding that faithfulness, not feeling, is the true measure.

What also distinguished the day was its movement from reflection into application. Through the Case Study exercises and its discussion, participants were invited to see how these principles take shape in real life—within families, parishes, friendships, and personal struggles—bridging the gap between understanding and living. This exercise leads participants through a reflection on how we live out hope, patience, and prayer in the real moments of life—especially when things are difficult. It begins with a story that draws us into "the long middle" of hardship, then invites us to think about our own experiences and how we respond to others. Participants are then introduced to a set of practical actions rooted in the love of Jesus Christ that offer simple, meaningful ways to develop hope, practice patience, and remain steady in prayer, inspiring it both in ourselves and in others. Through conversation and reflection, you can begin to see how small things—our presence, our words, even our silence—can either support or weaken someone's ability to endure. The exercise closes by asking each person to take one small, meaningful step forward, recognizing that growth in faith happens gradually, through awareness, intention, and lived practice. These keys do not represent everything, but they are enough to begin. They offer a way forward—steady, grounded, and deeply human.

The retreat accomplished more than the presentation of ideas. It helped participants recognize how hope, patience, and prayer function in the realities of daily life, offered practical insight into living Great Lent beyond external observances, strengthened their ability to remain steady in times of stress or uncertainty, deepened awareness of relationships and shared responsibility, and renewed a sense of discipleship rooted in everyday faithfulness. The day concluded with a prayerful and moving Great Vespers served by Fr Mykola and Father Deacon Evan O'Neil, with the responses led by Anna Anderson, Choir Director of Sts. Peter & Paul in Youngstown, Ohio and confession conducted by Fr. John Charest.

Once again on behalf of the UOL of USA Annual Ohio/WPA Lenten Retreat, we extend our heartfelt thanks to all who helped make this retreat such a meaningful and memorable event:

Most especially, we wanted to acknowledge again Fr. Mykola Zomchak (Youngstown, OHIO) and Fr. John Charest (Carnegie, PA) , for their spiritual leadership and guidance who along with Fr. Timothy Paproski (Warren, Ohio), Fr. Yurij Bobko (Lyndora, PA) and Fr. Deacon Evan O'Neil (Carnegie, PA) inspired us with their words, spiritual guidance and presence; for Anna Anderson, Choir Director in Youngstown and those who sang a prayerful and moving Great Vespers.

We are also grateful to Joseph and Zenoviya Goodge for generously hosting the retreat at the River Valley Complex, Shirley Duffy, Stephanie Woloschak Rimedio, Zenia Goodge, Susan Perankovich and Marianne Carmack (who designed and developed the handouts and group discussion exercise case) and members of our Senior and Junior UOL who pitched in before, during and after the retreat to setup and break down the Venue. They are the backbone of the retreat. They do whatever it takes to make everything work from the beginning to end and Sue Payton—who goes above and beyond to make sure you have a wonderful lunch. It was a blessing to be together with all of you.

Holy Protection Junior / Senior UOL
Dover FL
Submitted by Linda Winters

Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!

Greetings from the newly organized Junior and Senior UOL Chapters in sunny Dover Florida. Currently our chapters are small in size, but hope to grow our membership in the coming months.

On February 1st, our Junior UOL members under the guidance of their chapter advisor, Tracy Galla, sponsored a picnic type luncheon during fellowship.

This was held in conjunction with Camping Ministry Sunday to make parents and children aware of the programs provided at All Saints Camp for all ages. The Juniors, along with help from the Seniors, organized and prepared the food for the event. Tracy has been a volunteer at All Saints Camp for many years and provided substantial background for the various programs provided by the encampments. A donation box was created for anyone interested in contributing to support the camping programs.

The Senior UOL members sponsored Souper Bowl Sunday, on February 8th in support of St. Andrew's Society serving the most needy in Ukraine. Chapter members, along with many members of the parish provided an array of delicious soups for the luncheon. A total of $810 in freewill donations was received for the event.

"Praying Through Great Lent" had eleven participants, consisting of UOL chapter members, as well as members of the parish. It was wonderful to have so many people participating in such a prayerful event.

With Great Lent behind us, our Senior and Junior chapters will be regrouping to determine what our plans will be for the remainder of the year. We would like to thank the members of our parish for their support!

Birthday Box St. Demetrius, Carteret
Submitted by John Lehotsky

Our chapter Vice President, Denise Strashinsky, while continuing to pursue an extra college course for a math coach, her Professor challenged her, as well as other students, to come up with a community project as part of her grade.

Denise did some research and came up with the idea of a "Birthday Box" to be given to the Carteret Food Bank. This project would help families in need to make a birthday cake for a family member's birthday.
A "Birthday Box" consists of the following:

- Box of cake mix
- Can of soda (this replaces the water, oil and egg)
- Icing
- Birthday candles
- Sprinkles
- Package of birthday balloons

Denise received approval from her daughter's school to have each grade donate one of the above ingredients. After a period of time, the results were disappointing, so she asked our chapter for help. Our members were so inspired and happy, that two of our members completed a "Birthday Box" on their own. The rest of us donated necessary items to complete a box.

In addition to our chapter collecting $400 worth of food items for the food bank, we were able to supply them with 12 completed "Birthday Boxes." In return, they could not thank us enough for these wonderful gifts.

Zoom Twilight Fundraiser for All Saints Camp
(For the Loving Water Campaign to Retire the Loan to the Consistory)

Join us for a Zoom Twilight Fundraiser for the All Saints Camp Loving Water Campaign on Friday, June 12, 2026, at 7:00 PM EST. The Loving Water debt must be paid off before construction can begin on the much-needed new swimming pool. Our discussion topic is fun times at the pool with me, my children, family, and friends.

Please RSVP by mailing a check made out to All Saints Camp for $12, on the memo line "Loving Water" for All Saints Camp to Shirley Duffy, P.O. Box 7959, Pittsburgh, PA 15216, by June 4, 2026. Your checks will be forwarded to Daria Pishko-Komichak after the event.

I will send you the Zoom link a day or so before the event, so if you would also respond by email, text, regular mail, or phone call to shirleykduffyesq@gmail.com, 412-518-0912, so that I have your email address to send the Zoom link to. If you do not have a smartphone, tablet, or computer, you can attend this event using a dial-up phone. We will send instructions. The Zoom call will open at 6:30 PM EST for those who want to have some time to catch up with family and friends, then we'll start at 7:00 PM EST.

Can't attend? Please donate to help pay off the Loving Water debt, so that construction can begin on the new pool.

At the UOL Retreat in Western PA, UOL President Natalie Bilynsky presented Marianne Carmack with an icon in appreciation for organizing the UOL retreat for over a decade.

Thank you Marianne!

May our Lord grant you Many Many Years!

Mnohaya Lita!

SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY ACROSS THE UOC OF USA

St. Sophia Seminary UOL Chapter

On a chilly February 8th, St. Vladimir Jr. and Sr. Chapters held their annual Souper Bowl Sunday. The response to the donation of soups was so overwhelming, we did not have enough stove room and had to set up crock pots throughout the kitchen! We had over 14 different types of soups, including borscht, pickle soup, beef vegetable, turkey chili, and German potato soup, just to name a few. Our parishioners were certainly treated to a plethora of soups prepared that day, all for a good cause. In fact, many parishioners took soups to go to enjoy with their families for dinner! Thanks to our juniors who were there to assist with the serving of the soups and helping with the clean up as well!

Sign advertising Souper Bowl Sunday in Youngstown, OH

Souper Bowl Sunday in Philadelphia, PA

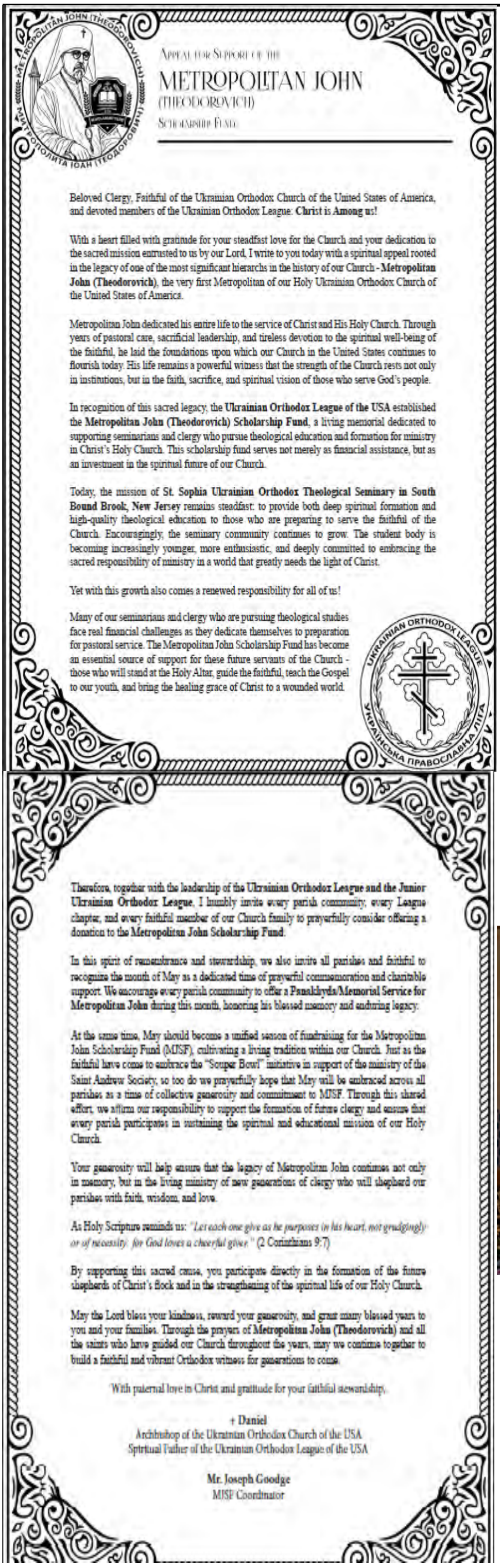
Souper Bowl in Carnegie PA

To date the UOL has received donations from over 10 parishes/chapters.

All donations will be made to St. Andrew Society.

Next year be sure to take a picture of your Souper Bowl Sunday so that we can include in the UOL Bulletin.

Thank you to everyone!



Annual Fund Drive

Please support the Ukrainian Orthodox League's Annual Drive for UOL Projects, Shining Lights (formerly LSSK) and Metropolitan John Scholarship Fund

Donations to UOL Projects will be used for:

- *Publication of the ***UOL BULLETIN***
- *Supporting the Youth Commission's activities
- *Outreach through the Christian Care-Giving and Missions Commission
- *Continuation of the Education Commission projects and services
- *Public Relations and other administrative necessities

Donations to the Shining Lights (formerly Lynn Sawchuk-Sharon Kuzbyt) Scholarship fund will:

- *Provide Scholarships to current or former Junior UOL members who are leaders in their parishes and communities and committed to their faith
- *Nurture the future leaders of our Church
- *Foster the UOL's motto: "Devoted to its Youth"

Donations to the MJSF Scholarship Fund will:

- *Provide tuition assistance to seminarians at our St. Sophia's Seminary
- *Encourage candidates to the Holy Priesthood
- *Provide tuition assistance to our clergy and seminarians for higher education

You can make a donation via Zeffy or send to
UOL Financial Secretary
Oleh Bilynsky
703 Pine Ridge Road
Media, PA 19063

UOL Presents Vestments to Newly Ordained Father Pavlo Vysotskyi

For the last three years, the National Executive Board of the Senior UOL has initiated a new project to support newly ordained clergy. The Vocations and Clergy Support Commission presents a set of vestments to all newly ordained priests.

On Lazarus Saturday in South Bound Brook, the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA ordained our newest priest, Father Pavlo Vysotskyi. At the ordination, Father Pavlo was presented with a set of vestments from the National UOL by Dan Gulak.

Wishing Fr. Pavlo and his family many blessed years!

UOL Retreat - March 28, 2026 Submitted by Natalie Bilynsky

On Saturday March 28, 2026, over fifty participants from multiple parishes gathered in Jenkintown, Pennsylvania at the Basilian Retreat Center for the UOL Lenten Retreat. This year we had participants from our Allentown, Coatesville, Dover, DE, Johnson City, Northampton, Philadelphia, Scranton, South Bound Brook, Troy and Woonsocket parishes.

The UOL is incredibly grateful that Fr. Anthony Perkins has been a retreat speaker for over ten years.

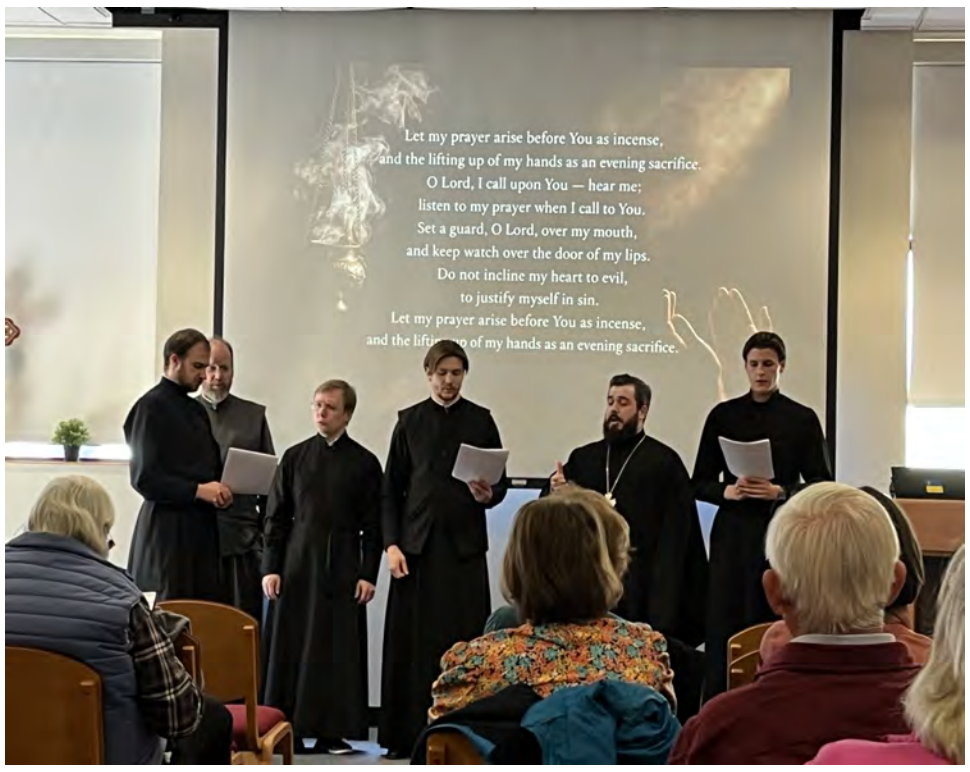
The morning started with morning prayers in the chapel followed by breakfast. One of the joys of the retreat is the time to spend with friends. The retreat center, set in a serene location just outside of Philadelphia, is a wonderful location to do just that.

Natalie Bilynsky welcomed all the retreat participants and encouraged them to enjoy the beautiful location as well as to interact with others at the retreat.

The retreat focused on the prayers before and after Communion. Fr. Anthony spoke for the first session, focusing on the prayers that are read in preparation for communion. Each member was provided a copy of the beautiful prayers.

Fr. Roman Marchyshak spoke about the beauty of music, and also had a group of clergy and seminarians sing responses to illustrate the beauty of music.

The retreat concluded with Vespers with all retreat participants enriched by the day. We are incredibly grateful to Fr. Anthony and Fr. Roman. Thank you for a wonderful retreat.



St. Vladimir's Junior UOL

The St. Vladimir Junior UOL has been quite busy during Great Lent and preparing for Pascha. Our Junior UOL participated in pysanky making classes. For every week of Great Lent we had our class with Juniors helping the younger children make a beautiful egg. We had a large group with wonderful participation. We had projects for all ages: traditional pysanky with eggs, plastic eggs and crayons for our younger children and coloring worksheets for our youngest. It was wonderful for our Juniors and children to create beautiful eggs.

Our Junior UOL has their own table in the parish hall, and each week they encourage all youth in the parish to join them. They have been completing beautiful art projects and are wonderful mentors to the younger children in our parish.

On Lazarus Saturday it is a tradition in our parish to use that time to clean the temple. Our Juniors participated in decorating the flowers around the shroud table. Also our Juniors made palm crosses that are sold on Palm Sunday. On Palm Sunday the Junior UOL also hosts a salad fest and this year we had an abundance of salads.

On Palm Sunday after enjoying the wonderful salads all of our little ones come outside for an easter egg hunt. This year we had over 50 children and it looked like thousands of eggs. Our Juniors stuffed plastic eggs with candies and treats and also collected eggs from parishioners to prepare the day. All of the children left the Easter egg hunt with multiple eggs.

On Holy Friday, our Juniors come early to church to make baskets for our elderly and shut-ins. Our Juniors deliver the baskets and made lovely cards to adorn each of the baskets. Following the veneration of the shroud Fr. Taras blessed the baskets and our Juniors delivered the baskets.

Our Junior UOL has a wonderful group of Juniors who attend church regularly and are a great friend group to each other. They are also very caring and nurturing to our younger children.

Youngstown Dinner 2026

79th Annual Ukrainian Orthodox League Convention

REGISTRATION FORM

Name: _____ e-mail: _____

Adress:_____ __

Phone: Day ( ) _____Evening ( ) _____

Representing:_____(Chapter / Parish / MAL)

Early Registration Discount (postmarked before June 15th, 2026)

__Senior Delegate/Guest $300
__Clergy (Priests, P. Matkas, Deacons) $275
__Jr. Delegate/Guest $275
__Pre-Junior $100
__Family Registration* $1050
__ Weekend Registration**$220

Registration Prices (after June 15th)

__ Senior Delegate/Guest $325
__ Clergy (Priests, P.Matkas, Deacons) $300
__ Jr. Delegate/Guest $300
__ Pre-Junior $125

Registration includes: Wednesday Hospitality Night, Thursday Brunch, Thursday Evening, Friday Evening, Banquet and Ball, Sunday Farewell Brunch.

*The Family Early Registration packet price is for 2 adults & 2 Juniors. Additional Junior Family Members beyond the 2 included in the Family Packet are $270 each. (Please fill out a separate registration form for each member of your family).

**Weekend registration includes: Friday Evening, Banquet and Ball, Sunday Farewell Brunch.

Banquet Meal Choices: (Please choose one)
____Grilled chicken breast ____ Pan Seared Salmon
____Pasta Primavera __Children (under 13)

Please list any dietary needs: _____

Make checks payable to:
"Sts. Peter & Paul UOL - 79th UOL Convention"

Please mail completed forms with payment to:
79th UOL Convention c/o Faith Neswick
8410 W. 131st Street, Palos Park, IL 6046

CONVENTION HOTEL RESERVATIONS
Homewood Suites by Hilton 16245 S La Grange Rd., Orland Park, IL 60467
UOL Convention rate of $174 per suite/night.
Reserve your room by June 15th to lock in your rate
Includes: suite with kitchenette, free breakfast and free parking.

Convention Fundraising Support

Please consider supporting the 79th UOL Convention. You can make a donation to support a Seminarian. Each year the UOL supports our Seminarians to attend the UOL Convention. Sponsorship includes supporting registration, travel and housing. It is essential for our seminarians to attend the UOL Convention, get to know and interact with our faithful. Please consider sponsoring a chapter project or making a donation to support our seminarians attending the UOL Convention.

You can also make a donation to support the Convention events. Please use the following form to make a donation:

- Support for fundraising for the Convention ($500)
- Sponsor Jr. UOL activity (suggested $100)
- Sponsor Pre-Junior activity (suggested $100)
- Sponsor a Seminarian (suggested $300)

For all donations make check payable to:
"Sts. Peter & Paul UOL - 79th UOL Convention"

Mail to: 79th UOL Convention c/o Faith Neswick
8410 W. 131st Street, Palos Park, IL 6046

UOL Yearbook Information

Support the UOL Convention by purchasing an ad or soliciting ads for the Year. You can get more forms on our UOL Webpage. The UOL yearbook is a great way to let our UOL faithful know more about your business.

Yearbook ads:

- Inside Front Cover (color) $200
- Outside Back Cover (color) $200
- Inside Cover Back (color) $200
- Full Page ***"Color"*** Ad $195
- Full Page Ad $175
- Half Page Ad $90
- Quarter Page Ad $45
- Eighth Page Ad $30

Full Page Ad purchasers receive a "free" copy of the 79th Annual UOL Convention Yearbook.
Copy and/or Additional copies of the 79th Annual UOL Convention Yearbook are $20.
Photos will not be returned. Reproduction quality cannot be guaranteed.
Pages will be 8.5x11 and divided accordingly.
Please email your ad to: **uolyearbook@gmail.com**
We will also accept ads submitted via US Mail; **digital ad submissions preferred**
If you require assistance with creating your ad or have questions, please email *Chris Mills at* **uolyearbook@gmail.com**

Please make checks payable to
"Sts. Peter & Paul UOL - 79th UOL Convention"

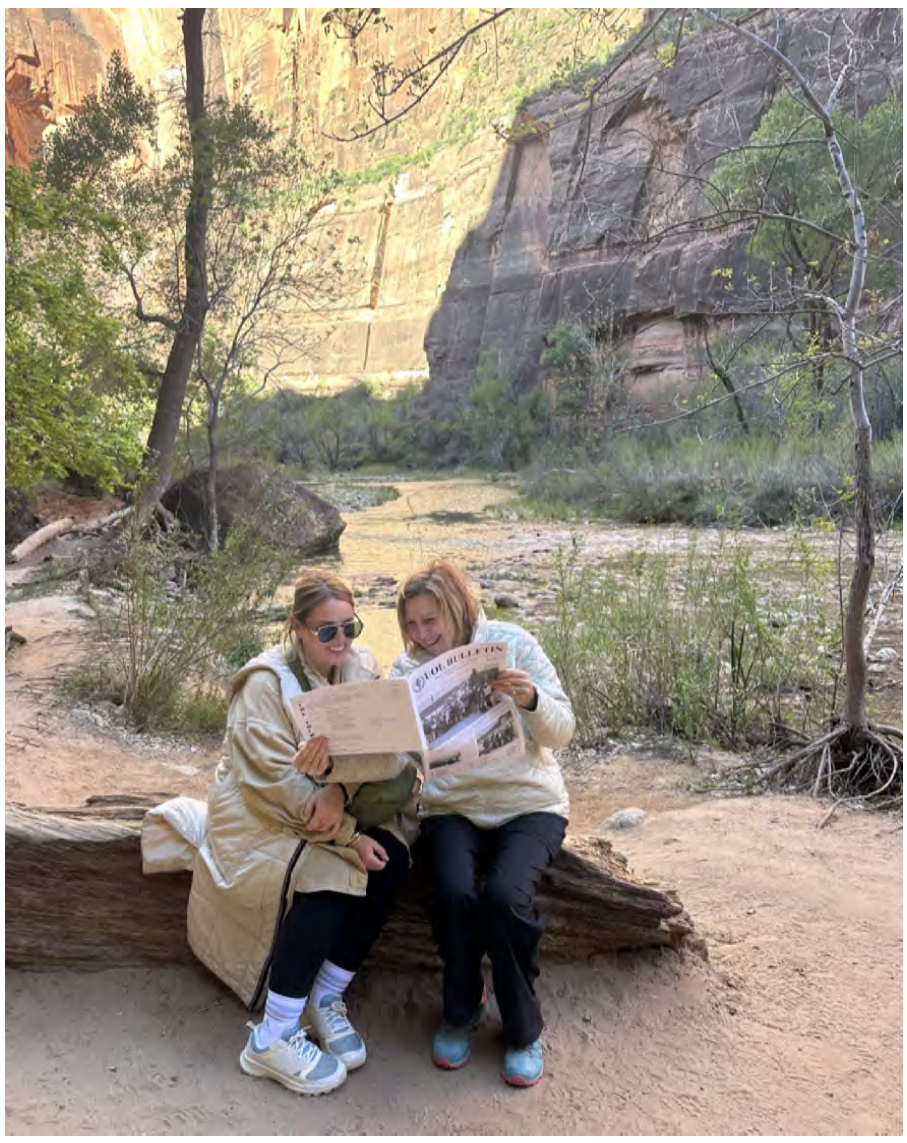
Mail all money and/or forms by **June 1, 2026,** to:

79th UOL Convention Yearbook
c/o Chris Mills
641 N. Allerton Court Moon Township, PA 15108

You can support our UOL Convention Fundraising by getting multiple sponsors for our Convention Yearbook. This is a quick way to support the UOL. Ask people to be a **"Patron Sponsor"** for our 79th Annual UOL Convention Yearbook for only **$10.00**!

For Sponsorship please submit Names and Message(s) to Chris Mills to be placed in the Yearbook. Message must be under 15 words. All sponsorships will be listed in the 79th UOL Convention Yearbook.

UOL Bulletin Pictures



This month we have several wonderful “mommy and me” pictures with the UOL Bulletin.

Above - Andi and Natalie Swan enjoy the UOL Bulletin in sunny Spain.

To the left - Daria and Chelsea Danyo enjoy the UOL Bulletin at Bryce Canyon National Park and Zion National Park.

Below - the UOL Bulletin once again makes an appearance at the UOL Lenten Retreat.

Join in the fun and take a picture with your UOL Bulletin.

Be sure to take a picture with your UOL Bulletin.

Submit your pictures by emailing to Natalie at nsufler@aol.com

UOL TRIBUTES

UOL Tribute

A donation to the Tribute Fund is an acknowledgment of a Milestone, Memorial, or Accomplishment, or is a Special Recognition of an individual or group. Your much-appreciated contribution is used to support and further the Mission of the Ukrainian Orthodox League. All donations are published in the UOL Bulletin.

Donor	In Honor of
John and Patricia Holowko	In Thanksgiving and appreciation to Fr. Vasyl and Pani Matka Ilona Dovgan.

To submit your Tribute:

Submit a card that includes your Name and Address, the Name of the Person to Receive the Tribute, the occasion of the Tribute (for example In Memory or To Honor), and the Name and Address of the person to whom an acknowledgement card should be sent.

For a contribution of $20 or more, the name and occasion is printed in the UOL Bulletin.

UOL Tributes should be submitted to:
Natalie Bilynsky 703 Pine Ridge Road Media, PA 19063

UOL Bulletin
c/o Natalie Bilynsky
703 Pine Ridge Road
Media, PA 19063

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Thank You to our Annual Fund Drive Donors:

Shining Lights (total collected -$9,405)
Michael & Lynn Muzyka
Daria O'Byrne
Alice Sivulich (in memory of Dr. Steve Sivulich)
Dr. and Mrs. Peter Konchak (in memory of Dr. Steve Sivulich)
St. Vladimir Sr. UOL (Philadelphia, PA)
(in memory of Julian Naumenko)
Assumption of Virgin Mary UOC (Northampton, PA)
Oleh & Natalie Bilynsky (in memory of Julian Naumenko)
St. Demetrius Sr. UOL (Carteret, NJ)
Teresa Linck
Michael & Martha Misko
Sts. Peter & Paul Sr. UOL (Carnegie, PA)
Helen Greenleaf (in memory of Dr. Steve Sivulich)
Dr. Rebecca Druash (in memory of Julian Naumenko
and my friend Sharon Kuzbyt)
Irene Pashesnik
St. Vladimir UOC (Phila., PA) (in memory of Julian Naumenko)
St. Vladimir Jr. UOL (Phila., PA) (in memory of Julian Naumenko)
Barbara Novicky
Joseph Novicky
Fr. Myron and Pani Matka Linda Oryhon
St. Mary's Sr. UOL (New Britain, CT) (in memory of Julian
Naumenko)
Michael & Barbara Baird (in honor of Robert & Ann Baird)
Melanie & Stephen Unger (in memory of Dr. Steve Sivulich,
friend and mentor)
Michael Kapeluck
Thomas Planiczki
Sts. Peter & Paul Sr. UOL (Youngstown), OH)

UOL Projects (total collected - $900)
Michael & Lynn Muzyka (in memory of deceased parents
Michael & Anne Muzyka)
Daria O'Byrne
Dr. and Mrs. Peter Konchak (in honor of Gregory Hallick)
St. Vladimir Sr. UOL (Phila., PA)
Assumption of Virgin Mary UOC (Northampton, PA)
St. Demetrius Sr. UOL (Carteret, NJ)
Michael & Barbara Baird (in honor of Martin & Zenia Sheska)
Teresa Linck

MJSF (total collected - $8,875)
Michael & Lynn Muzyka
Daria O'Byrne
Dr. and Mrs. Peter Konchak (in memory of Fr. Hallick-Holutiak)
St. Vladimir Sr. UOL (Phila., PA)
Assumption of Virgin Mary UOC (Northampton, PA)
St. Demetrius Sr. UOL (Carteret, NJ)
Teresa Linck
Vera Shapowalenko (in memory of Julian Naumenko)
Sts. Peter & Paul UOC (Carnegie, PA)
Sts. Peter & Paul Sr. UOL (Carnegie, PA)
St. Michael's UOC (Scranton, PA)
Sr. Andrew UOC (Jamaica Plain, MA)
Helen Greenleaf (in honor of Fr. Michael Hontaruk)
Dr. Rebecca Druash (in honor of His Eminence Metropolitan Antony)
Irene Pashesnik
Michael & Dareen Jogan
Barbara Novicky
Fr. Myron and Pani Matka Linda Oryhon
John Holowko
Michael & Barbara Baird
Michael Kapeluck
Charissa Sheptak
Thomas Planiczki
Oleh and Natalie Bilynsky
St. Vladimir Jr. UOL (Phila., PA)
Sts. Peter & Paul Sr. UOL (Youngstown), OH)
V. Rev. Paul Emmick
Rev. Michael Pasonick

UOL Projects (continued)
Helen Greenleaf (in memory of Emil Skocypec)
Dr. Rebecca Druash
Fr. Mykola Zomchak
Irene Pashesnik
Michael & Dareen Jogan
Natalie & Oleh Bilynsky
Barbara Novicky
Michael Kapeluck
Thomas Planiczki
Jody Dimitriou

IMPORTANT NOTICE ABOUT UOL BULLETIN

We are updating our Bulletin Mailing lists - Please be sure to submit Member at Large Dues or Submit your dues to your chapter.
Remember to Submit your Membership Dues. Individual Member dues are $25.
For more information or questions about dues - contact nsufler@aol.com