



UOL BULLETIN

UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Dedicated to the Church – Devoted to its Youth

VOL. 48 NO. 5

MARCH, 2002

CATCHING THE SPIRIT OF GREAT LENT

Fr. John W. Harvey

Another season of the Great Fast dawns on us and so often we are unprepared, or even willing to consider reorienting our priorities. What has become “normal” to us, what is familiar and comfortable, is often what is spiritually unhealthy and hinders our growth in Christ. Let us now open our minds and hearts to learn and put into practice a new orientation, so that in co-operating with God, this season can be put to the best use in conforming our life to God’s plan.

It is a pity that the gems of the Triodion are simply unavailable to most of our lay people and even priests. The Triodion contains the changeable parts of the services for every day of Great Lent. St. Andrew of Crete and the great Byzantine hymnographers, Joseph and Theodore, serve up a feast of prayers guaranteed to inspire and challenge our presuppositions. If you have enjoyed and thoughtfully mulled over the Lenten Canon of St. Andrew of Crete, be assured that each day in this season there are tremendously insightful selections in each stichera and verse.

In what follows, I will give but a few examples of thought-provoking material with some explanation. If you can get your hands on The Lenten Triodion or the Supplementary Texts of the same as translated by Mother Mary and Bishop Kallistos Ware, you will have a treasure indeed!

“Putting off the loathsome garment of self-indulgence, let us put on the shining robe of abstinence, and so in joy and glory let us come to see the brightness of the Redeemer’s Resurrection.” We live in a pampered and truly self-oriented society and our every momentary whim is certainly expected to be instantly fulfilled. Self is number one, and loving service to God and our neighbour is often forgotten. In this time of instant gratification, our appetite, whether proper or sinful, shows that the body is in tyrannical control over us. Abstinence, be it limiting even of licit things in our life, such as intake of food and drink and sex in marriage, is a tool to put aright the priority of things. The spirit should rule and not be squashed by desires of the flesh. In utilizing the spiritual calisthenics of abstinence we build spiritual strength. How can we continue to dwell in the dark corners of a sinful life if our goal is to share in the glorious light of the Resurrection. See how one stichera is packed with helpful food for thought!

“O brethren, let not one of us be sunk in idleness and sloth. This is the time for work, the hour of solemn festival. Who then is wise and in one day will gain eternal life?” Well, knowing our own individual penchant for delaying for tomorrow and all the excuses we given in justification, let us goad ourselves on to action in Lent. Personal commitment to begin now is needed. Time has a way of slipping by and some procrastinate and discover it is already the eve of Pascha. Now is the time! God honours the action as well as the intention, so decide now to enter into the spiritual labours of Lent. Your decision may be a life-changing, salvific one. Who knows when death might come and in an instant this life comes to a screeching halt, with judgment on the doorstep. Here again, a depth of truth is discovered having much to meditate upon.

“O Lord, who in Thy surpassing love has been crowned with thorns, cleanse my soul, for it is full of thorns and overgrown with weeds of all the passions.” Jesus was crowned with ignominy voluntarily for my sake out of love for you and me. The crown of thorns woven by man to produce pain and give mockery shed His blood, which covers our sins and cleanses our souls. What a great mystery is this! Love has triumphed over the pettiness of sin, and the man who was crowned in utter mockery turns out to be the crowned King who forgives and cleanses all who turn to him in humility. My being, like a neglected garden, choked with thorns and rampant weeds, is crying out to the Lord to be cleaned out and set aright.

Hopefully, by mulling over the few thoughts given above, we can renew our vow to battle Satan and thus come to the saving day of the Lord having the right spirit of Lent operating within us.



55th Convention Committee members meet in Boston with Sr. and Jr. Executive Boards

55TH UOL CONVENTION Boston, MA – July 17-21, 2002

“Whatever you do, do all for the glory of God” (1 Corinthians 10:31)



The Boston Senior and Junior Chapters are busy planning the 55th UOL Convention which will be held July 17-21, 2002. Boston is one of the country’s most historic cities and is often called “America’s Walking City.” Convention headquarters will be at the Radisson Hotel Boston. The hotel is in the center of the theater district and just two blocks from Boston’s two great parks: the Boston Commons and the Public Gardens that is the home of Boston’s famous Swan Boats and the inspiration for the children’s book *Make Way for Ducklings*. The elegant rooms at the Radisson have spectacular views of the city. The hotel has a swimming pool with a sundeck that overlooks the city, a fitness center and the 57 Restaurant.

Within blocks of the hotel is the Freedom Trail. This historic route through Boston is marked with red bricks that connect walkers with 16 historic sites such as Faneuil Hall, Quincy Market, and the Old North Church. Also, close by is Newbury Street; Boston’s haute couture shopping district. Also nearby, for shoppers looking for a bargain, is the world famous Filene’s Bargain Basement where fine clothing is sold at deep discount. Other Boston attractions include Boston Red Sox games at Fenway Park, Museum of Fine Arts, John F. Kennedy Museum, New England Aquarium and the famous Duck Tours which plow through city streets and the Charles Rive.

UOL conventioners will attend Boston night on Thursday at the *USS Constitution*, the oldest commissioned warship in the US Navy, launched in Boston in 1797. The reception will be held in the Naval Shipyard Officers’ Club that has a great view of Boston and its harbor. We will have the opportunity to visit the USS Constitution and to observe the ship’s evening retreat ceremony.

As part of the Junior Program, the juniors will visit an Orthodox Monastery in nearby Brookline. After a busy day of meetings, juniors will be entertained at a performance of “Shear Madness”, Boston’s longest running mystery comedy.

After the banquet on Saturday evening, we will dance to the music of Ron Cahute’s **Burya Band**—North America’s great Ukrainian Band. After Divine Liturgy on Sunday, Ron will perform his famous “Barabolya” Concert, an entertaining musical Ukrainian learning experience.

Sandra Kondratiuk, Convention Chairperson, says that families should make plan to attend the convention and make it a family vacation. Special hotel rates will be in effect three days before the convention.

Plan to attend the 55th UOL Convention in our great city. You will not be disappointed. Make **hotel reservations** soon by calling: **Radisson Boston, 617.482.1800**. Be sure to mention the Ukrainian Orthodox League to get the convention rate.

• *He who kneels before God can stand before anyone!*

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Note to Contributors: All articles submitted to the *UOL Bulletin* must be in 12 point Times New Roman (font), or typed and double spaced in 12 point type. Articles may be submitted via e-mail attachments. The editor reserves the right to condense any material submitted. Material cannot be returned.

Advertising rates: Please inquire through editorial offices.

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Daria A. Pishko



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!

We are just passing the halfway mark in our term of office and our efforts are going strong! I hope that each of your chapters are experiencing similar successes. As we prepare to begin our journey through Great Lent, I hope we will take the time to focus not only on our own spiritual renewal but encourage others to do so as well.

That is why attendance at this year's Lenten Retreat is so important. Sponsored by the Young Adults Committee of the UOL Youth Commission,

it will be held March 15-17 in South Bound Brook, New Jersey and is open to members of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of USA OF ALL AGES!!! The PreTeen Coordinator of the UOL Youth Commission will be providing a PreTeen Program for children ages 5-10 years in conjunction with the event hoping to make it convenient for young parents to attend. (Or even grandparents who want to bring their grandchildren along for an enriching Ukrainian Orthodox experience.) It's not too late to register. Please contact Natalie Kapeluck at (412) 988-9664.

All Senior Advisors to Junior UOL Chapters, please note. The St. Vladimir's Sr. UOL Chapter of Philadelphia has volunteered to host a Basketball Tournament for Junior UOL members again this year. It's not too early to begin practicing. Last year's event was a lot of fun and quite successful. The program included a daylong tournament followed by a spaghetti dinner and the UOL's favorite DJ, Al Shin, spinning the CD's afterwards. It was a grand function to attend even if you only came along to cheer. Details of this year's tournament will be in next month's Bulletin.

Recapping some of the significant events of this year thus far . . .

The 16th Sobor of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA that was held in October was truly a constructive and productive experience. All of the concerns expressed by our Convention Delegates were conveyed to the Sobor delegates and, in general, were well received. I was truly pleased to see so many UOL members attend as delegates and take leadership roles within the proceedings. The UOL had a display in the lobby of the Cultural Center that disseminated information about the UOL, its recent and future conventions and invited new members to join. Continuing our tradition that was started at the last Sobor, we provided fresh Macintosh apples and a mixture of candies as snacks for all to enjoy. On Friday evening following the Cultural Concert, we hosted a wine and cheese reception. Our thanks to Thomas O'Prandy, the caterer at the Cultural Center for all his kindness, generosity, and assistance in holding the reception.

I would like to congratulate the following UOL members who were elected as lay members of the Metropolitan Council: Helen Greenleaf, St. Vladimir's Chapter, Parma, OH (UOL delegate), Michael Kapeluck, Ss. Peter & Paul's Chapter, Carnegie, PA, George Kryrolap, member at large, Baltimore, MD, Emil Skocypec, member at large, South Bound Brook, NJ, Gayle Woloschak, Ss. Peter and Paul's Chapter, Palos Park, IL. Iryna Warvariv-Priester of St. Andrew's Chapter Boston, MA, Richard Jendras, Holy Ascension Chapter, Clifton, NJ, and Olha Liskiwsy-Morgan, member at large, Southfield, MI were elected as Alternates. Julie Pawluk of St. Michael's Chapter, Minneapolis, MN and Harry Oryhon of Ss. Peter & Paul Chapter, Palos Park, IL were elected as the lay members of the Church Court. Ed Zetick of St. Vladimir's Chapter in Philadelphia, PA was elected to the Audit Committee and Paul Swez of St. Mary's Chapter in New Britain, CT was elected as an alternate to the Audit Committee. I am confident that the talents elected here will benefit our Holy Ukrainian Orthodox Church and contribute to its positive future.

In December, it was my pleasure to visit the Holy Trinity Parish in Trenton, New Jersey to speak with the parish members regarding their interest in forming Senior and Junior UOL Chapters. My thanks to Father Swiatoslaw, and Mary Lee and Bill Leszczuk for their warm hospitality and to the many members of the Holy Trinity Parish who signed up as new members in order that a new chapter may be formulated. They are hoping to have their organizational meetings initiated this winter/spring and we are looking forward to having them join us at our Annual Convention in Boston in July.

Prior to their St. Nicholas Day Celebration on December 16, I had the opportunity to greet the members of the Ss. Peter and Paul Parish in Wilmington, Delaware, their pastor Father Paul Hrynshyn and Parish President Steve Tur. Kathryn Bailly and I were in town to attend a UOL Membership Committee meeting hosted by Jonathan and Sonya Patronik. It was a wonderful visit and we're praying that the efforts of all the new parish officers to rejuvenate their parish organizations are successful and that they'll plan to send a delegation of new and old UOL members to join us at this year's convention in Boston.

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L.S.S.K SCHOLARSHIP "Guidelines for Applying - 2002"

The scholarship was established in memory of Lynn Sawchuk and Sharon Kuzbyt—two teenagers who had already displayed uncanny leadership abilities and were shining examples in dedicating their energies toward the UOL. Both were extremely active in the Church and the League. Both abounded in energy, love of life, and love of all with whom they came into contact.

The scholarship was established to perpetuate their memories with the following criteria:

- Be a Jr. UOL member in good standing, or a past Jr. UOL member enrolled in or about to enter a program of advanced education, but not beyond five (5) years from high school graduation.
- Demonstrate **outstanding** performance in service to League & Church.
- Academic performance in high school.
- Involvement in extracurricular civic activities.
- Be of high ethical and moral character.

(Note: Detailed information is available by contacting: Daria A. Pishko, Chair, LSSK Scholarship, 64 Coleman Ave., Chatham, NJ 07928

APPLICATION/ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS

- All LSSK scholarship applications must be submitted via CERTIFIED MAIL with RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED, or another comparable means (e.g., FedEx, UPS, etc.) that provides a return receipt or tracking number/process.
- The Chairperson will notify the applicant via Postal Card if any part of the application has not been submitted.
 - If the application arrives after the deadline date, the postal card will indicate that the application did not meet the deadline and **will not be considered for a scholarship.**
- Applications are available on the **UOL Website** for downloads at <http://www.uocofusa.org>. LSSK mailings to Senior Chapter Presidents and Spiritual Advisors is scheduled for February, with a **deadline of May 31, 2002.**

Contact: Daria A. Pishko, Chair, LSSK Scholarship, 64 Coleman Ave., Chatham, NJ, 07928, or Phone: 973.635.8124 **to receive an application.**

APPLICATIONS DUE: MAY 31, 2002

• **Give God what's right, not what's left!**

U.O.L. BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT Philadelphia, PA - May 18, 2002

Hosted by
St. Vladimir's Sr. UOL Chapter

Contact: Mark Bohan 610.254.0248

JR. UOL PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

John D. Meschisen

Glory to Jesus Christ!

How is everyone doing? I hope swell and kosher. I have been extremely busy these past couple weeks, trying to decide what I am going to do with my life after high school, and I haven't figured it out yet. So for all those seniors out there who are going through the same thing, I feel your pain. Well—down to business.

I had the opportunity to visit St. Mary's parish in Rochester, NY, over the Theophany weekend. Fr. Paul and I had been discussing the formation of a Jr. chapter in Rochester for many months, and I finally got out there in mid-January. I found the parishioners there to be warm, hardworking, and devoted to Christ. I saw nothing except smiles my entire time there. I had an opportunity to be part of the Blessing of the Ice Cross, a tradition from Ukraine that is rare in the States. After this I met with the juniors and I explained and introduced the Jr. UOL to them. After filling out all the necessary forms, the Rochester Jr. UOL chapter was formed. At the Jr. National Executive Board meeting in Boston on February 3rd, the chapter was voted into the league unanimously. I must recognize two extremely hard working people. Fr. Paul is just another reason for our diocese to brag that we have the best clergy in the world!!! His devotion to his parishioners and most importantly to the children is truly fantastic. The Jr. chapter's advisor is Miss Lori Andrijenko, a dynamic and dedicated young woman, whom I expect to make some noise on the national scene very soon.

As I have previously said, the Jr. Board met in conjunction with the Sr. Board in Boston on the weekend of Feb. 1-3. The main purpose of this meeting was to begin serious convention planning, which is being hosted this year by Saint Andrew's Parish in Boston. An agenda was discussed, and a lot was accomplished. The Jr. Board had the opportunity to visit the hotel where the convention will be held and to walk frigidly around Boston for a while. I must thank wholeheartedly: Fr. Andri, the Priesters, the Kondratiuks, and the rest of the Boston clan for putting on an unforgettable weekend.

Well, I have run out of enthralling things to chat about for now, so until next month's issue, I shall remain, through Christ, yours,
John D. Meschisen



ANDREW SADOWAY, JR. VICE PRESIDENT

Hello, my name is Andrew Sadoway. I am seventeen years of age and a senior at Belmont High School in Belmont, Massachusetts. I like many different things such as calculus, bowling and eating. If I am not doing one of these things, I am probably playing with one of my two bands (*Formula I and Sgt. Peterson & The Chicago Police*). I like playing in my bands because I get to do something that I love—playing music—while hanging out with my friends.

Next fall, I will be attending DePaul University in Chicago, Illinois. I like this school because it is in Chicago and it seems like the kind of place where I would feel comfortable.

Last year, I held the position of Junior Financial Secretary on the National Jr. Board. This year, I was elected to the position of Junior Vice President. I am really excited to hold this position, as well as working with a solid group of people. I think we have the potential to accomplish many things, and I know we will all have a great time working together.

If you have any questions or just want to talk math, feel free to e-mail or call me.
Andrew D. Sadoway



MEGAN BECK, RECORDING SECRETARY

My name is Megan Beck and I hold the position of the newly revised Recording Secretary. I attend Lockport Township High School where I am a senior. I am still deciding where I will be attending college next fall, but I will be pursuing the study of Elementary Education.

I am a parishioner at Sts. Peter and Paul Church in Palos Park, IL, where I contribute to my local UOL chapter, am in the church choir, and am a member of our local Ukrainian dance group. My extracurricular activities include varsity golf, soccer, and student government.

I look forward to the coming year and hope to contribute positively to the Jr. Executive Board as well as the League as a whole.

In God's Love,
Megan Beck



MEET JR. EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

NATALIE BECK, FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Glory to Jesus Christ! My name is Natalie Beck and I am the Financial Secretary for the Junior National Board. I live in Michigan City, Indiana, and attend Michigan City High School as a sophomore. Besides maintaining Honor Roll, I am also involved in writing for my school newspaper, *The Cityzen* and play softball where I am the second baseman. I am also in the high school band where I am top chair flutist. I enjoy school tremendously and hope to keep my stamina up throughout the rest of my high school and college career.



Furthermore, I have maintained a part-time job at a local country club and golf course where I bus tables and contribute to the successfulness of the club. I try my best at everything I do, and have kept this job for close to two years. When I am not at work, which is sometimes rare, I try my ultimate best to complete my duties on the National Board.

I attend Sts. Peter and Paul Church in Palos Park, Illinois. For those of you sharp in geography, yes, this is a tad of a drive for my family and I, but it also gives me a chance to do my homework for the upcoming week. In church, I am active in my Ukrainian Dance Group, in which I have an absolute ball. Dancing gives me a way to express how much I want to be a part of my heritage. I lend my voice to the church choir just about every Sunday and I am always willing to help out with the preschoolers in Sunday School.

Being at church and being with my fellow-parishioners makes me feel at home and also gives me a reason to smile on a daily basis. I hope I can keep my desire at an all-time high for me to continue to contribute to my church at a local and national level.

I can't wait until our upcoming meetings so I can see the rest of the Board; we are becoming so close. I hope everyone is in good health and I will anxiously wait until I see you all again!

In Christ's love,
Natalie A. Beck

CLIFTON CHAPTER GIVES TO ORPHANAGES

"By Their Fruits You Shall Know Them"



Fr. Arkadia Mironko, Tania Vena, Nadia Matkiwsky, Archbishop Antony, Nadine Drost, Nadia Matkiwsky, and Richard Jendras

On Sunday, January 27, 2002, the loyal contingent of the Holy Ascension Ukrainian Orthodox Church, Clifton, NJ was visited by their eparchial hierarch, His Eminence Archbishop Antony. Vladyka Antony celebrated a Hierarchical Liturgy assisted by Fr. Arkadia Mironko, parish pastor. Following the Liturgy, a luncheon was served at Johnny's Restaurant in Clifton in honor of the Archbishop's anticipated Name Day and Birthday on January 30th.

Attendees included Fr. Peter and Pani-Matka Carol Hotrovich from Holy Trinity Ukrainian Orthodox Church, Irvington, NJ, Nadia Matkiwsky and Tania Vena of the Children of Chornobyl Relief Foundation, and Robert Pianka of International Orthodox Christian Charities. Nadine Drost served as the event chairperson.

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Parma's Juniors – Christmas carols at nursing home, with Olga Happy

PARMA SR. AND JR. CHAPTERS TOGETHER

Advent has ended and we have celebrated the Birth of Christ, coming together in our parishes to unite in His love and enjoy the beauty of the Christmas season. And now we are settling back into our daily routines, feeling good that we did so many activities to reach out to the sick and elderly in our parishes. We caroled at nursing homes. We bought presents for our shut-in. We served Sviata Vechera to parishioners who were alone and we broadcast our Christmas Divine Liturgy over the radio to people who were unable to celebrate with us.

We've done our duties, our Christmas traditions, and we feel good. We should feel good. Yet, every year I know that I walk away from this season saying that I am going to not let these beautiful traditions be ones that we only do at Christmas. It's a long time from January 7th to November 28th, Christmas day to the first day of Advent. Think of all the things that we do during those long months. Work, school, vacations, camps, conventions—the list goes on for miles. We are so fortunate to have the opportunity to do so many wonderful things throughout the year. Yet frequently, as people age, they are able to do less and less and the months do not go by as quickly.

So this year, along with your resolutions to lose 10 pounds, to eat healthier, to work out more, to watch less television, lets us also resolve to do more for others—to visit our sick and elderly parishioners not only during the Advent season but during the entire year. Let us strive to remember that they were the foundation for our parishes and that we are grateful for all that they have done for us. Let us show our appreciation for them *not only during the Christmas season but all year long.*

Melanie Nakonachny
Chairwoman
Christian Caregivings and Missions

THREE HIERARCHS UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

Lincoln, Nebraska

Boy Scout Earns Alpha-Omega Award

James Kriha, 14, is an Altar Server at Three Hierarchs Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Lincoln, Nebraska. He completed the scouting requirements for the Orthodox Alpha-Omega Award. He was presented the award by Archimandrite Raphael Moore, pastor of the parish, and Father Philip Vreeland on January 7, 2002.

Three Hierarchs parish is one of Archbishop Vsevolod's parishes. We were honored with a recent visit by the Archbishop.

Sandra Kriha, Reporter

• *Kindness is difficult to give away because it keeps coming back.*

YOUNGSTOWN JR. CHAPTER NEWS

Hello once again from the Jr. UOL Chapter in Youngstown, OH. The past few months have been filled with different activities and events such as bake sales, candy sales, election of officers, and a trip to see the Weeping Icon of Livonia. We also have some great activities planned for the months ahead.

The new officers for our chapter are Josh Starr, President; Eric Senedak, Vice President; Nicole Burlock, Secretary; and Joan Woloschak, Treasurer. We all are looking forward to the upcoming year.

Our chapter recently went on a pilgrimage to see the Weeping Icon of Livonia at the Festival of Icons at St. John's Greek Orthodox Church in Warren, OH. We attended a service that venerated the Holy Icon of the Mother of God. At the end of the service everyone was anointed with the oil from the icon. After being anointed we listened to a program by spiritual speaker Frank Schaefer about the Orthodox Faith. This proved to be a great spiritual experience.

Our chapter is planning to host a breakfast for our parishioners in December. At the breakfast we plan to make and serve French toast to members of the church. This event will help to provide money for our chapter expenses and other funds that are needed in the future. Another fundraiser was a candy sale where we sold chocolate bars. Another fundraiser was the sale of handmade ornament plaques of our church. We also held a Chinese auction at our annual St. Nicholas program.

During December, our Jr. Chapter members joined the Sunday School classes and went Christmas caroling at a local nursing home. We brought joy and Christmas spirit to elderly people of our community. Everyone enjoyed our singing very much.

Reporter, Eric Senedak

CARNEGIE JR. UOL CHAPTER

We're having fun!

The Jr. Chapter has done a lot to help around our church and the local community lately. Around Christmas time we sent cards to people who were sick, couldn't come to church and needed extra prayers. And we had fun decorating the church and the tall Christmas tree. We also donated books to our church library in memory of Johnathan Dorning who was killed in an auto accident.

On January 27th, our chapter had a "Souper Bowl" Day of Caring. The Jr. Chapter worked in the kitchen on Saturday with our advisors, and mothers, and Fr. Steve to make soup and hoagies for sale the next day after Liturgy. Of course, we had to serve quickly and we had a television on so no one would miss the beginning of the football game. This was our 3rd year doing the event and we are donating the money again to a local food bank.

On February 10th we had a Pancake Breakfast at our church immediately following Liturgy. The Jr. Chapter members were excited about making all of the food for the breakfast.

We are excited about helping to preparing for the 100th Anniversary of Sts. Peter and Paul Church, Carnegie, PA which will be held in October 2003.

Natasha Walewski
Sts. Peter & Paul Jr. Chapter Reporter

MONTHLY GOSPEL READINGS

- Listed in the Annual 2002 Church Calendar & Clergy Director, and
- <http://www.ukrainianorthodoxchurchusa.org/rsources/>

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

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In January, I visited the Holy Ghost Parish in Coatesville, PA. Father Gregory Czumak and his parishioners hosted a wonderful turkey dinner and enthusiastically listened to my powerpoint presentation about the UOL, its goals, structure and vision. Coatesville has had a wonderfully active Junior UOL chapter in recent years and I'm hoping the adults will be inspired to organize a Senior Chapter as well.

I am busily booking my travel schedule for the Spring and hope to see many more of our UOL members through my upcoming travel. Until next month . . . I remain,

Yours in Christ's love,
Daria A. Pishko

AN INTROSPECTIVE MEDITATION FOR HOLY THURSDAY

Fr. Paul Bigelow
St. Vladimir Orthodox Church, Smithmill, PA

Glory be to our Lord Jesus Christ!

O Lord, how I love to pretend, how I love to live in my little world of fantasy. I enjoy telling You that I love you. It makes me feel so good to come to church on Sunday, to get caught up in the music, the ceremony, the worship. My tensions and anxiety are gone out of my mind and spirit (I feel so good). But, however my dear Lord, am I doing all of this spiritual exercise for myself or am I doing it for You? Am I like Judas? Will I give You a kiss? But in my heart I know where the kiss is going to lead.

O Lord, please understand me. I don't want to really love You. I do not want to really commit myself to you. Dear Lord, during this season of Great Lent; I will go through the actions; I will go to church more; I will pray more and sometimes I will even fast. But Lord, I decided to do this out of obligation, but not because I really love You. The question is: Do I internalize my faith or do I like to pretend that I love You?

When Judas who betrayed You "Dear Lord" received Holy Communion on Holy Thursday at the Last Supper; did he believe and did he know that what he was receiving was Your body, blood, soul, and divinity or did he really care? If he had believed why did he betray you? When he reflected upon what he did to you, he went out and hung himself. However, sometimes we are worse than Judas. We do not even reflect upon receiving Your body and blood unworthily. We don't care. I don't want to understand that when the church says that only Orthodox believers who have repented of their sins through the sacrament of Holy Confession may approach the chalice. I don't really want to hear this doctrine. For me I would rather make up my own doctrine so that I can meet my own needs. But the truth is that Christ died for my sins. In the old testament a lamb would be sacrificed on the altar by the high priest to make reparation for the sins of the people; then the sacrifice would be eaten. In the new covenant Christ came and was and is sacrificed for our sins (we partake of this Lamb who is sacrificed for us every time we receive Holy Communion). Like it or not, I condemn myself when I approach the chalice with a kiss like Judas and then leave the chalice and turn my back on You. "Dear Lord".

My good "God" and am I willing to sell You out for thirty pieces of silver like Judas did? Am I willing to have You brought before the Sanhedrin and to be crucified? Am I willing to mock you? Yes, Lord I do mock You when I compromise with Satan.

When I can't wait for the hour I spend at Divine Liturgy on Sunday to be over. When I refuse to go to confession. When I invite outsiders to come to the chalice with me knowing full well that they are not even Orthodox or in good standing with the church. Do I compromise my Lord when I refuse to listen to the teachings of the Holy Orthodox Church? Do I turn my back on Christ when I do not even open my Bible during the week or study the history of the Orthodox church which is over two thousand years old? Do I say to my neighbors and friends that there is only one God, so what does it matter which church I go to or how I believe or practice my faith? In society today the attitude is that I will do my thing and you can do yours. No church, no bishop, no priest, absolutely nobody is going to tell me how to conduct my life. What if our Lord had this attitude when He was brought before Pilot? What if our Lord wanted to do His own thing and run away from the cross?

What if He had decided not to die for our sins? But the reality is our Lord did not run away. He took the rough road. In the world today nobody wants to take the hard road. But, Lord when I take the rough road this is my way of telling You that I love you as You told me as You traveled the hard path to Calvary.

There is no compromise. There cannot be any compromise. I either crucify myself or crucify Christ. During the Divine Liturgy we recite the prayer over and over that "We commend ourselves and each other and our entire life to Christ our God". Do I mean what I say? Or are these beautiful words for the priest and the person in the pew in front of me?

Holy Week is not just a special week of the year that we celebrate events that had taken place in the life of Christ. It is a week where we should look at our lives. We should examine where we were and where we are going spiritually. Do I want to put my self-centeredness behind me and live for Christ? Do I want to crucify the Lord or do I want to bring Him down from the cross? Lord, I will wash your feet with my tears and I will be sorry for my sins. You humbled Yourself to wash the feet of those present at the Last Supper and maybe now I can humble myself to serve You the way I should. Maybe now I can come to church out of love, maybe I can worship You out of love, maybe now I can receive Your body and blood out of love. This can only happen if I humble myself to change my ways. Truly the Lamb of God is sacrificed. Truly the Lamb of God was beaten with whips. Truly He was made fun of and mocked for us. And truly I will be sorry for my sins that I committed against my Lord and my neighbor. Then when I wash myself and become clean spiri-

(continued on page 6)

SR. UOL CHAPTER ACTIVITIES Maplewood, NJ

CHAPTER FLEA MARKET



Ann Dubas, Pani Matka Lidia Hucl, Yelena Gapon, Lynn Gulak, Dan Gulak, Fr. Oleg Hucl, Walter Stepowyj, Pan Lukewica and Grandchildren, Peter Dubas, Martha Odochuk, and Mark Seber

The highlight of the activities sponsored by the Sr. UOL was their Flea Market. The chapter spent two days sorting and preparing "gently" used clothing and household goods for sale. In addition to the fun and fellowship experienced by chapter members, it was one of our most successful fund raisers.



25TH ANNUAL MALANKA - 2002

January 13th found the Sr. UOL preparing for their 25th Annual Malanka. The malanka was held immediately after church services on Sunday with young and old alike attending. The UOL decorated the church hall complete with balloons, noisemakers, party hats, candle lit tables, and a band provided music. A tasty buffet was provided by parish members each bringing a tray of their favorite specialty dish for all to sample. At midnight (3 PM Sunday afternoon) there was a champagne toast and balloons fell from the ceiling. To the delight of the children some found golden dollars in their balloons. This was the beginning of the New Year for Holy Ascension Parish in Maplewood, NJ.

UOL DECORATES CHURCH

In a combined effort, the Sr. UOL and the Sunday School decorated our church in preparation for celebrating the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. The children enjoyed placing the ornaments on the tree—assisted by the "taller" Sr. UOL members.

The manger was prepared with lambs, shepherds, Mary, Joseph and baby Jesus all in place. As the candles were lit, all who helped were delighted with the decorations and looked forward to Christmas services.

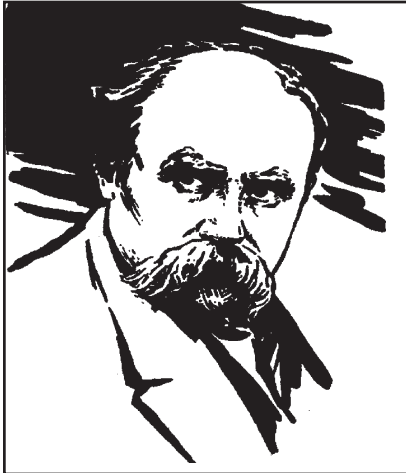
Lynne Gulak, Secretary

• **Prayer is a four letter word that you can say anywhere.**

TARAS SHEVCHENKO 1814-1861

“Bard of Ukraine – Apostle of Liberty, and Enemy of Oppression”

by Elizabeth Mitchell



Taras Shevchenko, Ukraine's greatest poet, was born a serf, spent most of his young life laboring for his father, was imprisoned for his writings and finally bought out of serfdom by his friends.

Shevchenko was self-educated having read extensively in Russian and Polish, thus developing a broad knowledge of history and foreign literature. At age 24, he entered the Academy of Arts in St. Petersburg, where he soon became friends with artists and authors.

Shevchenko's volume of poetry, the “Kobzar”, first appeared in St. Petersburg in 1840 and was received with great enthusiasm. When he visited his native

country, he was received with honor and recognized and celebrated as the national poet of Ukraine. In 1845, Shevchenko was appointed teacher of drawing at the University of Kiev.

While in Kiev, Taras made friends with a number of Ukrainian poets having at their head the professor of History at the University. The group known as the Brotherhood of SS Cyril and Methodius were lofty idealists with ideas of moral perfection, patriotism and humanitarian principles among the young generation. In the eyes of the police, it was a seditious and dangerous body; all its members arrested and imprisoned. They were accused of wishing to separate Ukraine from Russia, overthrowing the autocratic power, and Shevchenko with his patriotic poetry was considered especially dangerous. He was sen-

tenced to banishment and to military service for life. Czar Nicholas I added to his sentence “with express prohibition of all writing and drawing.”

Shevchenko suffered in exile in a desert in a forlorn country and was tortured by not being able to write or paint. He was arrested for merely drawing sketches of the landscape surrounding his imprisonment.

Following the death of Czar Nicholas, Taras' friends obtained his release, however, he was in such poor health he lived only four years in freedom. Shevchenko died in 1861, a few days before Czar Alexander II abolished serfdom.

Among the most perfect works were the “Dream” and the “Caucasus”, which best express his political opinions. Shevchenko's name is to his countrymen a symbol of national sentiment and of aspirations to national independence. His poetry has been translated into many languages including English, Russian, Polish, Bulgarian, Serbian, Czech, French, German, Italian and Swedish.

A beautiful appreciation of Shevchenko was given by Ukrainian poet Ivan Franko (1856-1916) in an article written on the centenary of the birth of the poet:

“He was a peasant's son and has become a prince in the realm of the spirit.

... He was a serf, and has become a Great Power in the commonwealth of human culture.

... He was an unschooled layman and has shown to professors and scholars newer and freer paths.

... Fate pursued him cruelly throughout life, yet could not turn the pure gold of his soul to rust, his love of humanity to hatred, or his trust in God to despair.

... Fate spared him no suffering, but it did not stint his pleasures, which welled up from a healthy spring of life.

... And it withheld until after death its best and costliest prize—undying fame and the ever new delight which his works call forth in millions of human hearts.” (Ivan Franko: Taras Shevchenko, *Slavonic Review*, Vol. 3, 1924, London)

Ref: condensed from: *Taras Shevchenko – Bard of Ukraine*, Professor D. Doroshenko, University of Prague, United Ukrainian Organizations of the United States, New York City, 1936

AN INTROSPECTIVE MEDITATION

(continued from page 5)

tually I shall feel and be worthy to come to receive my Lord from the sacred chalice on the day of Pascha. I will come to the blessed chalice with a clean soul knowing, not just believing, but really knowing that this is my Lord who I am receiving. What I am to receive is no longer bread and wine but is the body and blood of Christ that brings me life of soul and body. As long as I receive it with the proper disposition of my soul.

“I am the living bread which came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.” The Jews, therefore, quarreled among themselves saying, “How can this Man give us His flesh to eat?” Then Jesus said to them, “Most assuredly, I say to you unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in you. Whoever eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day. For My flesh is food indeed and My blood is drink indeed. He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood abides in Me and I in him.” (Saint John 6:51-57)

Many people heard this saying and walked away from the Lord. They did not want to hear it. Just like we do not want to hear it today. Why? Why? Why? The saying probably does not fit in with the plans I have for living my life the way I desire.

When our Lord told His disciples to eat His body and to drink His blood many of them walked away from him. Today, we also walk away from Christ and turn our backs on Him.

“Therefore, whoever eats of this bread or drinks of this cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. But, let a man examine himself and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body. For this reason many are sick and weak among you and many die.” (I Corinthians 11:26-30)

After reading these scripture passages we are now able to understand clearly why Orthodox priests are so careful to whom they offer the chalice. The explanation is clear and we may not compromise if we love God. So now that all of this is said and internalized let us go forth to Pascha as St. John Chrysostom says in his resurrection homily: *“The table is richly loaded: Enjoy its royal banquet. The calf is a fatted one: Let no one go away hungry. All of you enjoy the banquet of faith; All of you receive the riches of His goodness.”*

The goodness of God is the body and the blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

CLIFTON CHAPTER

(continued from page 3)

The Senior UOL Chapter presented a check in the amount of \$3215 to Archbishop Antony for the orphanages in Zaluchya and Znamyanka, Ukraine. These orphanages house children who are victims of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster and have been adopted by the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA. The Children of Chernobyl Relief Foundation manages these orphanages. The Senior Chapter also presented a check in the amount of \$1070 to International Orthodox Christian Charities in support of the USA Response Fund—a fund established by the IOCC to respond to the needs of Orthodox Christians who are suffering in any way from the horrendous events that occurred in the USA on September 11, 2001.

In accepting the gift from the UOL Chapter, Mrs. Matkiwsky explained how grateful CCRF has been for the support of our church and how this support has literally turned around the lives of these forgotten children. A few short years ago, these children were treated as less than animals and now have a decent place to live and are being given the care that all of God's children deserve.

Mr. Pianko spoke of the mission of the IOCC and how grateful they are for any help extended to those affected by the events of September 11th. He explained the operations that have been established near “Ground Zero” at the World Trade Center site in New York City and how this gift would enable them to continue in providing assistance to those in need.

These donations came from the proceeds of the dinner-dance fundraiser held in November by the Holy Ascension Senior Chapter of the Ukrainian Orthodox League. The event carried a theme of “1940's Night at the USO”, and featured a live band and tunes of the World War II era. It was a tremendous success. The event was planned to raise funds for the orphanages in Ukraine, but when the terroristic attacks occurred, it was decided to donate a portion of the proceeds to alleviate the sufferings of those affected in our own country. Naturally, an Orthodox organization such as the IOCC seemed the best recipient of these funds.

Holy Ascension Parish, Clifton, NJ has recently been affected by parochial division. There are those within the parish who have attempted to take the parish out of the jurisdiction of our Holy Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA. It has resulted in sad litigation that has lasted for more than two years. The loyal parishioners have been worshipping in rented facilities as the opposition currently controls our parish property. However, that has not deterred these loyal parishioners from continuing in the work of the Church. They forge on heeding the call of the Gospel and through such efforts attempt to

(continued on page 7)

UOL EDUCATION COMMISSION

I. Annual Essay Contest - 2002

Pre Kindergarten:

Kindergarten:

God created a beautiful world. Draw a picture of something amazing that God created.

Grades 1&2:

In our church services, we often express our love for God and His creation using things from the outdoors. Name two of these and draw them.

Grades 3&4:

Water is a part of nature that is sanctified by God and used by Man in worship. Describe in a few sentences one way in which water is used in church.

Grades 5&6:

The book of Revelations states "Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees" (Rev. 7:3). How should this be practiced in our daily lives? (~50 words)

Grades 7&8:

Christ used many examples from nature to define His message, both in His miracles and in His parables. Describe a Gospel story in which Christ teaches us using examples from nature. (~100 words)

Grades 9&10:

The feasts of the Church often reflect an interface between heaven and earth, using materials or symbols from nature to express the inner meaning of the feast. Select a feast day and describe how natural themes and symbols are used to bring this particular feast day closer to our lives. (~250 words)

Grades 11&12:

One responsibility given to Man by God was that Man should "have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every thing that moves upon the earth" (Genesis 1: 28). Describe the difference between having dominion and having domination over the earth. (~500 words)

Ages 18 and over:

The rhythm of death and resurrection occurs throughout all of creation. How is this cycle reflected in the liturgical life of the Church? (~1000 words)

II. CREATIVE CONTEST

Grades 9-12 and over:

Creative topic to be answered using **group or individual** video/media presentation, essay, pictorial artwork, musical composition, skit, oration, or other medium approved by the Education Commission Co-Chairs:

The events of this past year particularly following September 11 have changed the ways in which we approach daily life and the world around us. In the midst of the negative impact, we have also noted some positives to the disaster including a renewed sense of brotherhood, an enhanced regard for the spiritual dimension of life, and a restored faith in God.

Reflect upon one or more of the following:

- ❖ What has changed/will change in your spiritual life?
- ❖ What has changed/will change in your parish community?
- ❖ How has your spiritual background aided you in comforting others?
- ❖ How have these events affected your personal faith and/or the faith of those you are close to?
- ❖ In what positive ways has your parish and your community responded to the events of Sept. 11?
- ❖ What measures would you recommend to others to deal with the ongoing stress of the current situation in the world?

ESSAY CONTEST RULES AND GUIDELINES

All entries will be judged for content, creativity and neatness.

The following rules and guidelines must also be followed:

- 1) Entries must be postmarked by **May 15, 2002**. None accepted later.
- 2) **All** entries must include the following information:
Participant's first and last name; grade and age;
Name, address, city and state of Parish.
- 3) Drawings: No names on front of drawings - use back of page for the information listed above. Paper no larger than 12" by 18".
- 4) Written: Must be on 8-1/2" by 11" paper. Include cover page with the information listed above. Entries for grades 9 through ages 18 and over must be typed/printed.
- 5) Please note the different address for the creative category. We cannot be responsible for misdirected mail.

Mail Essay entries to:
Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA
Attn: **UOL Essay Contest**
135 Davidson Avenue
Somerset NJ 08873

Mail Creative entries to:
UOL Essay/**Creative Contest**
c/o Laryssa Sadoway
3A Brandywine Drive
Amherst, MA 01002

CLIFTON CHAPTER

(continued from page 6)

bring comfort to the children of Ukraine and also those afflicted here in our beloved United States.

We all pray that this will come to a speedy resolution and that the parish may once again be united under the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA and be an even more effective witness of the Gospel— "By their fruits you shall know them." (Matthew 7:16)

Richard Jendras



Robert Pianka, Richard Jendras, and Nadine Drost

UOL ANNUAL DRIVE

Invest In The Future of Our Church and Our UOL

SUPPORT UOL PROJECTS, LSSK and MJSF FUNDS

The Ukrainian Orthodox League is a national volunteer organization comprised of members of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA who are committed to: (1) Promoting the Orthodox Faith, (2) Supporting the Church, (3) Developing the potential and active participation of our **youth**, and (4) Preserving Ukrainian heritage and culture.

YOUR donation to UOL Projects will be used for:

- Publication of the *UOL Bulletin* which costs \$10,000 annually.
- Continuing the Education Commission projects and speakers.
- Reaching out to others via the Mission & Caregiving Commission.
- Furthering the Youth Commission's efforts with preteens to adults.
- Promoting Ukrainian cultural projects and promotions.
- Providing Public Relations and other administrative necessities.

YOUR donation to the Lynn Sawchuk-Sharon Kuzbyt Scholarship will:

- Ensure the continuation of scholarships to qualifying Jr. UOL members for higher education programs.
- Encourage our youth to live up to their potential and do their best.
- Help ease the financial burden of higher education expenses.
- Nurture the future leaders of our Church.
- Foster the UOL's motto: "*Devoted to Its Youth*".

YOUR donation to the MJSF Scholarship Fund Will:

- Provide tuition assistance to seminarians at St. Sophia Seminary.
- Help subsidize vocation retreats and programs.
- Encourage candidates to the Holy Priesthood.
- Provide assistance for continued education of Clergy & Seminarians.
- Enhance the future of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA.
- Uphold the UOL's motto: "*Dedicated to Our Church*".

PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM ... MAIL IT WITH YOUR CHECK:

UOL Annual Drive

Kathryn Bailly, 6450 Stumph Rd., Suite 315A, Parma Hts., OH 44130

I am enclosing my **tax deductible** donation in the following amounts:

In Honor/Memory of:

\$ _____ UOL PROJECTS _____
 \$ _____ LSSK SCHOLARSHIP _____
 \$ _____ MJSF SCHOLARSHIP _____
 \$ _____ **TOTAL Enclosed:** Make Payable to: **UOL Annual Fund**

Name _____
 Address _____
 City, State, Zip _____
 Phone: (____) _____

UOL RETREAT

March 15-17, 2002 - St. Sophia Seminary

Retreat Leader: Fr. Stephen Hutnick

"Pick up your Cross - Sacrifice in our Lives"

**WORKSHOPS! LECTURES! OPEN DISCUSSION!
FELLOWSHIP!**

Sessions: St. Sophia Seminary

Lodging: Holiday Inn, 732.356.1700

\$75.00 per night

Retreat Registration: \$25.00 Young Adult
 \$15.00 Pre-Teen
 \$50.00 Sr. UOL Member
 \$55.00 Non-UOL Member

- To deepen your faith during the amazing gift of renewal that is Great Lent.
- If you feel that you never really have time to prepare for Great Lent.
- If you would like time to meet with your friends and/or fellow UOL members in a setting with no meetings.
- If you would like to spend time in our beautiful Seminary.
- If you would like to learn more about our Faith.

Contact: Natalie Kapeluck

UOL Youth Commission

412.488.9664, Email: uocyouth@aol.com



UOL TRIBUTES

A donation to the Tribute Fund acknowledges Milestones, Accomplishments or Special Recognition of an individual or group and helps the UOL further its mission. The UOL sincerely thanks the following for their recent contribution.

CONTRIBUTOR

Kay and George Shaffer

Steffie Tybor

Shirley & Emil Skocypec

Steffie Tybor

John Lesky

Yvonne & Robert Mark

Sharon Hopko

Greenleaf Family

OCCASION

In Blessed Memory of William Sadowitz

In Memory of Mamie CoCoco

In Memory of Della Marzullo

In Memory of Catherine Malecki

In Memory of William Sadowitz

In Blessed Memory of Helen Bohlen of St. Vladimir's, Philadelphia, PA

Congratulations to Fr. Zenoviy and Pani Matka Natalya Zharskiy on the birth of their daughter, Sophia

In Blessed Memory of Maria Suschenko, mother of Parma Sr. UOL member Nina Samijlenko, who requested that upon her death, in lieu of flowers, donations should be given to the Jr. UOL chapter whose members over the past five years visited her in the nursing home and sang Christmas carols

UOL DATES AND DEADLINES

March 5 *UOL Bulletin* Submission Deadline (April Issue)

15-17 UOL Pre-Lenten Retreat, S. Bound Brook, NJ

15 Chapter Election and Delegate Forms Mailed

15 Chapter Annual Report Forms

15 Awards Forms Mailed

April 30 DEADLINE: Chapter Project Contribution

30 Convention Registration Forms mailed

May 5 *UOL Bulletin* Submission Deadline (June Issue)

15 DEADLINE: Essay/Creative Contest

15 Awards Deadline

15 Deadline: Convention Yearbook Ads

15 Annual Reports Deadline

25-27 Young Adults Memorial Day Weekend,
All Saints Camp, Emlenton, PA

31 LSSK Scholarship Deadline

July 17-21 55th UOL Convention, Boston, MA

Radisson Boston Hotel: 617.482.1800

4TH ANNUAL YOUNG ADULTS MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

May 24-27, 2002

ALL SAINTS CAMP, EMLENTON, PA

- Discussions and workshops on contemporary issues facing Young Orthodox Christians
- Fun and games: volleyball, canoeing, softball, etc.
- Help prepare All Saints Camp for the camping season.
- Witness the 3rd Annual Iron Chef Contest.
- Spend time with Metropolitan Constantine.
- Enjoy fellowship during evening events: movie night, Campfire, Sunday evening Farewell Dance.

Accommodations and Meals: \$35.00

(\$5.00 late reservation fee after May 15, 2002)

Contact: Natalie Kapeluck, Phone: 412.488.9664
uocyouth@aol.com

*"Whatever you do, do all for
the glory of God"*

(1 Corinthians 10:31)



55th UOL Convention

Boston, MA

July 17-21, 2002

RADISSON HOTEL BOSTON

Phone: 617.482.1800

Hosted by

Sr. & Jr. UOL Chapters

St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Church

Chairperson: Sandra Kondratiuk

Phone: 617.489.2613

E-mail: skondratiuk@aol.com

Sts. Peter & Paul
Ukrainian Orthodox G.C. Church
c/o Dr. Stephen Sivulich
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