



UKRAINIAN GREEK CATHOLIC CHURCH
SVIATOSLAV SHEVCHUK
MAJOR ARCHBISHOP OF KYIV-HALYCH

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**Your Graces and Most Reverend Bishops,
Reverend Fathers, Venerable Monastics
and God-loving laity of the Ukrainian
Greek-Catholic Church**

Glory to Jesus Christ!

Dear beloved in Christ!

Our Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church has not left its faithful for many decades of challenges and persecutions and has served as a living refuge for the Ukrainian people. She spoke when even a whisper became a death sentence, united in common prayer, when the powerful and ruthless tyrants of this world divided and tormented our people with hunger, repression, and impregnable borders.

Thanks to the efforts of venerable Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky and the bishops of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church in 1933, the world heard about "Ukraine in the throes of death." Our priests, monastics and laity "prayed for help from heaven through prayers, fasting, national mourning, sacrifices and all possible good deeds of the Christian life" for the brothers and sisters who died in Central and Eastern Ukraine. Our families have commemorated the millions of Holodomor victims in the hope of restoring justice and honoring those killed innocently in the Christian way.

God's power and grace overthrew the thrones of the God-fighting forces of darkness and evil that had oppressed and destroyed our people for decades, and the truth about the terrible tragedy of the Holodomor was heard aloud in independent Ukraine and around the world. As a result, we have the opportunity each year to light a "candle of remembrance," to hold funeral services, to perform acts of penance and mercy in the name of our innocent brothers and sisters who were victims of the Holodomor.

After the Revolution of Dignity, in 2016, Ukraine returned to the construction of the next part of the Holodomor Memorial - the Holodomor Museum in Kyiv. It was a response to a request from Ukrainian society and a series of appeals by the Public Committee to Commemorate the Victims of the Holodomor Genocide of 1932-1933 and the World Congress of Ukrainians to the President of Ukraine and the Government. After all, the

Holodomor Museum should become an unprecedented museum project, realized thanks to a combined effort of the Ukrainian government, civil society and philanthropists from Ukraine and around the world. Designed to world standards, the museum complex will not only include permanent and temporary exhibitions, but will also house a research center, main archive, conference halls, a cinema hall, a library, educational classrooms and a children's space. The Ukrainian government has pledged to provide \$65 million for construction of the museum, and the additional \$60 million is needed to develop it.

That is why we all have a special task today - to support the creation of the Holodomor Museum through joint efforts and personal contributions. It should become a nationwide place of honor and prayer, a place of truth, where we can gather in detail and preserve the memory of those who tried to wipe out the history of our people and our land.

I am convinced that such projects of national and world importance are carried out only when each of us feels responsible and ready to join the creation. We have a sacred duty to do everything possible to ensure that the memory of the victims does not fade away, and that a living Memorial to the National Memory of the Holodomor Victims is erected on the slopes of the Dnipro River.

Back in 2019, when the International Charitable Foundation for the Development of the Holodomor Memorial was launched, I joined its supervisory board (Mr. Ivan Vasyunyk is the supervisory board of the Holodomor Museum Foundation), so that the Holodomor Museum could receive proper spiritual support from our Church, so that every faithful in our Church could become a participant in restoring memory and establish the truth.

Supporting the idea of joint creation of the Holodomor Museum, I launched a special fundraising campaign to help raise the necessary funds for development of the museum. I am very pleased to announce that the Ukrainian Catholic Metropolia of Philadelphia will join the campaign to raise awareness about Holodomor, construction of the museum in Kyiv and help with collecting contributions.

So today I appeal to all of you to make your donations - parish and personal - to the project "Creation of the Holodomor Museum" in any of the following ways:

1. Write a check to "Ukrainian Catholic Archdiocese of Philadelphia", mark it "Holodomor Museum in Kyiv" and mail it to Archbishop's Chancery, 810 North Franklin Street, Philadelphia, PA 19123. A letter of acknowledgement will be mailed.
2. Visit FACEBOOK page for the Archeparchy of Philadelphia, www.facebook.com/archeparchyphilly, find a fundraising event "Creation of the Holodomor Museum in Kyiv" and make a contribution using credit or debit card. FACEBOOK will email you an acknowledgment of your contribution.
3. Visit the Archeparchy of Philadelphia website www.ukrarcheparchy.us, click on Donate via Paypal, click "Donate for Creation of the Holodomor Museum

in Kyiv” and make a contribution using credit or debit card. A charitable donation acknowledgement may be issued if requested.

4. Make direct contributions to the museum on the Internet platform "Grains of Truth" by going to <https://www.zernapravdy.org/uk/campaigns/sprout-the-grains-of-truth-together-with-his-beatitude-sviatoslav/> However, there will be no charitable acknowledgement issued.

Every parish and every faithful of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church can make, in particular through this platform, their contribution to the future of the Holodomor Museum, can cast their vote, freeing from oblivion the names of innocent victims of the Holodomor, can share their own prayers and help our people to build a decent museum complex, where our families will come and where people of good will from all over the world will learn the truth about the Holodomor. It is no exaggeration to say that places created in prayer and cooperation become safeguards against evil in the future.

You may visit <https://holodomor-museum-fund.org/en/> or <https://zernapravdy.org/en/about> for more information.

Let us remember that perpetuating the memory of the Holodomor victims is a sacred cause, and our personal, community and parish donations will strengthen the voice of our entire Church in this cause, set an example for Ukraine and the world, and serve as a visible symbol of unity and maturity of our people.

Thank you in advance for your participation in this cause, I call on you and your loved ones the blessings of Almighty God - the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit!

