

**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
ПАРАФІЯ НЕПОРОЧНОГО ЗАЧАТТЯ ПРЕЧИСТОЇ ДІВИ МАРІЇ**

116 East Illinois Avenue

PALATINE, ILLINOIS 60067-7116

ПАРОХ - FR. MYKHAILO KUZMA – PASTOR

(847) 991-0820 e-mail: frmykhailo@att.net

СОТРУДНИК – FR. YAROSLAV MENDYUK – ASSOCIATE PASTOR

(224) 801-1907 e-mail: ymendyuk@gmail.com

FR. ANDRII KUZNIAK

(312) 614-9225

Web page: icshrine.org

Facebook: Immaculate Conception Ukrainian Catholic Church-Palatine

YouTube: Immaculate Conception Ukrainian Church-Palatine

**ЧЕТВЕРТА НЕДІЛЯ ПІСЛЯ П'ЯТДЕСЯТНИЦІ
16 ЧЕРВНЯ, 2024**

**«НЕЗАЛЕЖНА УКРАЇНСЬКА ДЕРЖАВА Є СИНОНІМОМ
РЕЛІГІЙНОЇ СВОБОДИ», — ГЛАВА УГКЦ НА ЗУСТРІЧІ РАДИ
ЦЕРКОВ ІЗ ПОСЛАМИ G7**



11 червня 2024 року в Києві відбулася зустріч Всеукраїнської ради Церков і релігійних організацій із послами країн Групи семи (G7). Українську Греко-Католицьку Церкву на ній представив Отець і Глава УГКЦ Блаженніший Святослав.

Глава УГКЦ подякував послам Канади, Франції, Німеччини, Італії, Японії, Великобританії, Сполучених Штатів Америки та Європейського Союзу за солідарність і підтримку українського народу під час війни. «За цих понад два роки

великої війни ми разом зуміли виграти одну дуже важливу битву, зокрема гуманітарного фронту — в Україні ніхто не помер із голоду чи холоду», — констатував Предстоятель.

Основну частину виступу Блаженніший Святослав присвятив темі релігійної свободи в Україні.

«Для всіх нас — представників Церков і релігійних організацій — незалежна Українська держава є синонімом релігійної свободи. Ми розуміємо, що якщо росія захопить Україну, то релігійній свободі настане кінець», — наголосив Предстоятель, нагадавши, що історія УГКЦ — це історія систематичних ліквідацій з боку як російської імперської влади, так і радянського комуністичного режиму.

Блаженніший Святослав зазначив, що Церкви в Україні є інтегральною частиною українського суспільства. Будучи ядром трансформації суспільства

з пострадянського до демократичного, вони виховували громадян у здатності бути вільними людьми. «Перемога росії для нас означала б повернення в катакомби», — сказав архиєрей.

(продовження на ст. 3)

4TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

JUNE 16, 2024

ПОРЯДОК БОГОСЛЖЕНЬ (17го до 23го червня, 2024) ORDER OF SERVICES (June 17th to 23rd, 2024)

Понеділок – Mon. 17	8:00 A.M.	Special Intention
Вівторок – Tues. 18	8:00 A.M.	+Wasył Abramiuk (P) – P. Maksymchuk
Середа – Wed. 19	8:00 A.M.	+Kola Lewitskyj (P) – Maria Lewitskyj
	7:00 P.M.	Moleben to Christ Lover of Mankind / Молебень
Четвер – Thurs. 20	8:00 A.M.	+Rev. Mykhailo & Oksana Kuzma (wedd. anniv) - Luba Lukomskyj
П'ятниця – Fri. 21	8:00 P.M.	Sanctification of clergy
	7:00 P.M.	Moleben to Christ Lover of Mankind / Молебень
Субота – Sat. 22	9:00 A.M.	Yosyf & Tina – family +Andrea Andres - family Peace in Ukraine
Неділя – Sun. 23	8:00 A.M.	Special Intention
	9:45 A.M.	parishioners
	11:30 A.M.	Mothers in Prayer

ВАШ ДАР БОГОВІ ТА ПАРАФІЇ – YOUR GIFT TO GOD & PARISH

June 9 / 9 червня – \$3,430.00

Peter's Pence / Петровий Гріш - \$1,519.00

Будівельний Фонд / Building Fund - \$301.00

Кава і вареники / Coffee & varenyky – \$100.00

Donations can be made on the website or by Zelle [email:icukrainianchurchpalatine@gmail.com](mailto:icukrainianchurchpalatine@gmail.com)

THROUGH THE HEART OF JESUS

Meditation: On Friday, during Mass, when my soul was flooded with God's happiness, I heard these words in my soul: **My mercy has passed into souls through the divine-human Heart of Jesus as a ray from the sun passes through crystal.** I felt in my heart and understood that every approach to God is brought about by Jesus, in Him and through Him (*Diary*, 528).

In this retreat, I shall keep you continually close to My Heart, that you may better know My mercy, that mercy which I have for people and especially for poor sinners (*Diary*, 730).

My Prayer Response: Jesus, may the rays of mercy that come from Your Heart shine upon the world and especially on poor sinners. Jesus, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

(продовження з ст. 1)

Патріарх згадав і стан релігійної свободи на окупованих територіях. Там, за його словами, відбувається «не просто інструменталізація релігійних почуттів, але мілітаризація церковного життя; релігія не просто інструменталізується, але використовується як зброя, щоб нищити будь-який зв'язок з українськістю». «Всеукраїнська рада Церков і релігійних організацій стоїть на сторожі релігійної свободи в наших стосунках з органами державної влади, адже там, де є релігійна свобода, там є й інші види й форми демократії», — наголосив Блаженніший Святослав.

Глава УГКЦ висловив переконання, що сьогодні Українська держава має право й обов'язок зробити все, щоб держава-агресор не використовувала Церкву, релігію як інструмент агресії проти українців. «Ми знаємо, що сьогодні парламент готує законопроект, щоб обмежити на законодавчому рівні можливість росії впливати і маніпулювати релігійним середовищем України», — сказав він.

Блаженніший Святослав зауважив, що, хоча московська патріархія називає це «забороною» свого патріархату, натомість у цьому законопроекті відстоюються чотири принципи, «які й надалі гарантуватимуть релігійну свободу в Україні».

Перший із них — партнерство між Церквами і державною владою. Другий — принцип невтручання держави в церковні справи і навпаки. Третій — рівності всіх Церков. Четвертий — право й обов'язок держави, навіть у релігійній сфері, охороняти державні інтереси, зокрема безпекові. Предстоятель зауважив, що ці принципи стосуються однаково всіх Церков та релігійних організацій.

Насамкінець Глава УГКЦ додав, що українські Церкви моляться за завершення війни і справедливий мир в Україні. Він також висловив підтримку Саміту миру, що незабаром відбудеться у Швейцарії, адже на ньому йтиметься про мирну формулу не лише завершення війни в Україні, але й запобігання Третій світовій війні.

Департамент інформації УГКЦ

ПРОСИМО МОЛИТИСЯ ЗА: о. Андрія Чировського, о.Френка і Сузан Авант, о.Богдана, о. Михайла Кузьму, Миколу Гнатиска, Василя Наняка, Мирона і Лесю Куропась, Дебі Плішку, Мардж Матвіїв, Любу Чорну, Любу Лукомську, Євгенію Яхнів, Джекі Мишкієвич, Анну Назар, Келвина Макмена, Наталію Лісову, Левка Сенечка, Любу Кузьму, Джим МекМен, Мирона Добровольського, Марію Пцола, Кристин Гайардо, Марію Бравн, Марія Сейерз, Анну Антонюк, Дану Добровольську, Андрія Куропася і за всіх недужих.

PLEASE PRAY FOR: Fr. Andriy Chirovsky, Fr. Frank & Susan Avant, Fr. Bohdan, Fr. Mykhailo Kuzma, Mykola Hnatysko, Wasyl Naniak, Myron & Lesia Kuropas, Debbie Plishka, Marge Matviuw, Luba Chorney, Luba Lukomskyj, Betty Jachniw, Jackie Myshkiewicz, Anna Nazar, Calvin McMahan, Nataliya Lisova, Leo Senechko, Luba Kuzma, Jim McMahan, Myron Dobrowolsky, Maria Pszczola, Kristin Gajardo, Mary Brown, Mary Sayers, Anna Antoniuk, Donna Dobrowolsky, Andrew Kuropas and all in need of our prayers.

ОГОЛОШЕННЯ

1. Молимося що тижня за духовенство нашої Епархії. В особливий спосіб молимся цього тижня за отця Ігор Кошика.
2. Свято-Миколаївська епархія 7 квітня розпочало наше щорічне епархіальне звернення «Поділіться 2024», і ми розраховуємо на вашу підтримку, щоб допомогти нашій епархії в усіх її потребах.
3. Сьогодні поминаємо усіх Українських Святих. Молимся просячи їхніх молитов за мир в Україні.

ANNOUNCEMENT

1. We pray weekly for the priests of our Eparchy. This week let us pray in a special way for Fr. Ithor Koshyk.
2. St. Nicholas Eparchy has launched our Annual Eparchial Appeal "Share 2024" on, and we are counting on your support to aid our Eparchy in all its needs.
3. Today we commemorate all the saints of Ukraine. Let us beseech them to pray for peace in Ukraine.

ANDRÉ LEVET'S CONVERSION IN PRISON

Born in 1932, André Levet, a runaway kid, became familiar with prison and crime from his teens. He organized armed bank robberies, then drug trafficking. He escaped several times from prison, only to be caught again. One day, on the street, André met a priest by chance. This priest wrote to him regularly over the years, sending him a Bible while he was in prison. An inmate at the Château-Thierry prison for difficult prisoners, André Levet challenged Jesus to a meeting in his cell at 2 a.m. At the appointed time, Jesus came to him in person! This event, combined with the discovery of God's love for him, changed everything in his life.

The following is excerpted from André Levet's own account:

My name is André Levet. I was born in 1932 in an atheist family. I had never heard of God. During the war of 39-40, my father was deported. No longer having either a father or a mother, I was abandoned, then taken care of by people in a Pyrenean farm. My father was released in 1945; he tried to start a new life, but I did not accept my new stepmother and I fled to Marseilles, at the age of 13, sleeping in the streets and unloading trucks. At that time, the police arrested me and put me in prison, at Baumettes, while waiting to return me to my family.

Influenced by other inmates, I became a petty criminal, learning all the tricks of the "trade". At 15 I was arrested for an armed robbery, and put in prison until my majority. At 18, we had the option of enlisting in the Indochina war, which I did to avoid prison. I was injured, repatriated to France and nursed in a hospital.

After that, with my military and prison experiences, I became the leader of a band of gangsters, specializing in bank robbery. One day, when I had come to Laval for "business", I saw a priest wearing a cassock, on the other side of the road. I went to him, and having never seen one before, I asked him if he was a man or a woman.

He replied: *"I am a servant of God. God, He's my boss!"*

I told him: *"Your God, where is He? We do not see him."* He replied: *"I see that you don't know God, but if one day you have time, come and discuss it with me, at 12B rue de Solferino."* I have never forgotten this address...

Several months later, when I was in Laval on "business", I stumbled across this street. I went to see the priest. He was there and said: *"I've been waiting for you."* That priest became my friend, giving me advice that I didn't follow, and every time he talked to me about God, I said: *"Leave your God where he is..."*

Sometime later, I was in Rennes to rob a bank. The holdup went wrong, my friend was killed and I was arrested. I escaped and fled to South America where I organized drug trafficking.

Back in France, I was arrested again, only to escape again. I was arrested three times, and escaped from prison three times. I would have had to serve 120 years if I added it all up. I was transferred to Clairvaux, a prison for hardened criminals, and I tried to escape with some friends by digging a tunnel. The escape was nearly successful, but we were caught. I attempted yet another escape, alone, by holding up a guard with a weapon. Again I got

caught. They decided to send me to Château Thierry. The director received me with these words: *"Here, you work or you die!"* I responded by hurling his desk at his head. They put me in a very small cell with a bed anchored to the wall.

My priest did not abandon me; he sent me letters from time to time. He spoke to me of God, telling me that He was good. I answered him: *"If your God is good, why are there so many wars, so much misery, why are some people dying of hunger while others have too much? Why do some people have several houses while others do not?"* The priest replied: *"André, you are responsible."* What? Me? I was willing to be responsible for the robberies, but not for the misery of the world!

And then one day, the priest sent me a big book saying: *"André, you can read this book any time you want, even after your death, starting with any page."* The guard brought it to me, saying to me: *"This is a good book, you should read it; you can even take it to solitary confinement."* *"What's it about?"* *"The good God,"* he answered me. No way! I can't believe it! He brought me his good God again all the way to my cell! I threw the book away. My priest was writing to me all the time, begging me to read the book.

So, to make him happy, in 10 years I opened it 9 times. I started by reading the wedding at Cana, where Jesus changes water into wine. I turned on my sink faucet and said: *"Hey man, make it run wine!"* It did not work. I wrote it to the priest saying: *"Your book doesn't work."* My parish priest replied: *"André, you are reading the wrong way. Persevere."*

I read the story of the Samaritan woman, and the story of the raising of Lazarus. This story revolted me, I couldn't believe it. My friend who was shot by the cops, he didn't come back to life, did he? Then I went back to reading, long after, and I read how much good Jesus had done to people and how much they had mistreated Him: they had spat on Him, they had scourged Him, they had reviled Him, then they had nailed Him to a cross ... I was revolted, I didn't understand why they were doing so much harm to someone who was doing so much good.

I gave up reading and continued trying to escape. I was expecting a weapon and a file, but these objects were intercepted. I had no hope left, so in desperation I called on Jesus. I told Him: *"If you exist, I'll set up a meeting time. Come tonight at 2 a.m. to my cell to help me escape."*

I fell asleep that night, and suddenly in the middle of the night I was woken up. Ready to jump to my feet, I felt a presence in my cell, but I saw no one. Then I heard a clear and strong voice inside me: *"André, it is 2 a.m. We have a meeting."*

I called the guard, shouting: *"Are you calling me?"* *"No,"* he told me. *"What time is it?"* I asked. *"2 o'clock in the morning."* *"Two and how many minutes?"* *"2 o'clock exactly,"* the guard answered. Then I heard the voice again: *"Do not be incredulous, I am your God, the God of all men."* *"But I do not see you!"* I answered.

At that moment, towards the bars of the skylight, a light appeared. And in that light, a Man with pierced hands and feet and a hole in His right side. He said to me: *"It is also for you."*

At that moment, the scales from my eyes, heavy with 37 years of sins, fell off and I saw all my misery and wickedness. I fell to my knees and remained in this position until 7 am. I cried before God and all evil came out of me. I understood that for 37 years I had driven nails into His hands and feet.

At 7 a.m. the guards opened the door to me; they saw me on my knees and crying. I told them: *"I won't spit on you anymore; I won't hit anyone anymore; I won't rob anyone anymore, because every time I do it, I do it to Jesus."* The guards were surprised; they initially thought it was a trick on my part. Then quickly, they understood that I had completely changed.

Several other inmates were touched by what had happened to me, and they too were able to meet this wonderful God and turn their lives around. I'm now free, my life has totally changed and I spend all my time talking to others about the love of this God.

Source: André Levet's testimony

OUR LADY OF MEDJUGORJE, QUEEN OF PEACE

"Medjugorje is the spiritual center of the world"



Dear Family of Mary!

Psalm 27

**Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud,
be gracious to me and answer me!**

Thou has said "Seek ye my face."

My heart says to thee,

"Thy face, Lord, do I seek" (Ps 27: 7-8)

In our deepest heart, we all long to see the face of the Lord. He made us for Himself! We are His!

Our Lady gave us a beautiful message about this longing for the face of God, through Mirjana Soldo.

November 2, 2019

"Dear children, my beloved Son always prayed and glorified the Heavenly Father.

He always said everything to Him and trusted in His will.

This is what you, my children, should also do, because the Heavenly Father always listens to His children.

One heart in one heart - love, light and life.

The Heavenly Father gave Himself through a human face, and this face is the face of my Son.

You, apostles of my love, you should always carry the face of my Son in your hearts and your thoughts.

You should always think of His love and His sacrifice.

You should pray to always feel His presence, because, apostles of my love, that is the way for you to help

all those who do not know my Son, who have not come to know His love.

My children, read the book of the Gospel.

It is always something new, it is what binds you to my Son who was born to bring the words of life to all of my children and to sacrifice Himself for all.

Apostles of my love, carried by the love for my Son, bring love and peace to all of your brothers.

Judge no one.

Love everyone according to the love for my Son.

In this way, you will also be caring for your soul, and it [your soul] is that which is most precious, which truly belongs to you.

Thank you."

In Jesus, Mary and Joseph!

Cathy Nolan

(c) Mary TV 2024

ПРИГАДУЄМО УСІМ ПАРАФІЯНАМ

Щоб гідно приймати Святі Тайни парафіянин повинен жити за правилами віри та серйозно підготуватися. Добрі (віддані) парафіяни є ті котрі:

- 1 В неділі й свята беруть участь в Святій Літургії
- 2 Жертвують час, таланти і матеріально підтримують парафію
- 3 Записані до парафії
- 4 Знають загальні правди й молитви нашої віри

A REMINDER TO ALL PARISHIONERS

Reception of the Sacraments requires the committed practice of the faith and serious preparation. Committed parishioners are those who:

1. Attend Divine Liturgy on Sunday's and Feast Days
2. Give of their time, talents and financial resources
3. Have enrolled in the parish
4. Know and understand the basic prayer and tenets of our faith