

**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](mailto:frmykhailo@att.net)

СОТРУДНИК – FR. YAROSLAV MENDYUK – ASSOCIATE PASTOR

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

FR. ANDRII KUZNIAK

(312) 614-9225

Web page: [icshrine.org](http://icshrine.org)

Facebook: Immaculate Conception Ukrainian Catholic Church-Palatine

YouTube: Immaculate Conception Ukrainian Church-Palatine

**29ТА НЕДІЛЯ ПІСЛЯ П'ЯТДЕСЯТНИЦІ  
8 ГРУДНЯ, 2024**

**ГЛАВА УГКЦ: «НЕМАЄ БІЛЬШОЇ ЛЮБОВІ, НІЖ ТА,  
ЩО ВІДДАЄТЬСЯ ЗА ІНШИХ»**

«Їдучи до вас, я бачив черговий кортеж, який віз героя із фронту додому, того, хто сповнив Євангеліє про любов, того, хто на лінії фронту віддав душу свою за людей своїх». Цими словами до вірних звернувся Глава УГКЦ під час проповіді 6 грудня, у день Святого Миколая та Збройних сил України. Патріарх очолив Божественну Літургію у с. Старий Лисець, що на Прикарпатті, із нагоди храмового празника.



Отець і Глава Церкви у проповіді акцентував на силі Божої любові. Він сказав, що любов, яка є основною темою Євангелія, не обмежується словами. Це — сила, що діє в реальному житті, зцілює і дає змогу долати всі труднощі.

«Бог любить нас і з себе видає ту силу любові, яка нас зціляє. Сила Божої любові робила блаженними тих, що нічого не мали. Бо хто має Бога, той має все», — зазначив Предстоятель. Він наголосив, що «Бог любить людину, даруючи їй усе, а не вимагаючи від неї взамін нічого». З нагоди свята Святого Миколая,

Блаженніший Святослав нагадав, що для християн київської традиції св. Миколай є «живою, воплощеною іконою Божої любові». Цей Чудотворець — втілення Божої любові, адже він не лише проповідував Євангеліє, а й сповнював його ділами, рятуючи невинних і віддаючи своє життя за інших.

Окрім цього, Глава Церкви зауважив, що не випадково тепер українці відзначають День Збройних сил України у День святого Миколая. За його словами, захисники та захисниці України рятують неповинних від смерті. Саме їхня жертва дарує нам сьогодні життя. «Ми вітаємо наші Збройні сили України зі святом, — сказав Блаженніший Святослав. — Мабуть, немає сьогодні такої сім'ї, яка б не молилася за свого чоловіка, сина, брата або сестру, які сьогодні там, сповняючи Христове Євангеліє, віддають душу свою за людей своїх і рятують нас із вами, тих невинних дітей, від смерті».

*(продовження на ст. 3)*

# 29<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST DECEMBER 8, 2024

## ПОРЯДОК БОГОСЛЖЕНЬ (9го до 15го грудня, 2024) ORDER OF SERVICES (December 9<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024)

Понеділок – Mon. 9	НЕПОРОЧНЕ ЗАЧАТТЯ БОГОРОДИЦІ IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE MOTHER OF GOD 9:00 A.M. For parishioners 7:00 P.M. Intentions of Mother of God
Вівторок – Tues. 10	8:00 A.M. +Marian Schepkovskyi (40 <sup>th</sup> day P) – Plishka family
Середа – Wed. 11	8:00 A.M. Sanctification of clergy 7:00 P.M. Miles Andres (B-day) Special Intention
Четвер – Thurs. 12	8:00 A.M. Peace in Ukraine
П'ятниця – Fri. 13	8:00 A.M. Sanctification of clergy 7:00 P.M. Moleben
Субота – Sat. 14	9:00 A.M. +Patriarch Myroslav (24 <sup>th</sup> anniv.) - parish +Marta Stasiuk (40 <sup>th</sup> day P) – Stasiuk family Peace in Ukraine
Неділя – Sun. 15	8:00 A.M. Peace in Ukraine 9:45 A.M. for our parishioners 11:30 A.M. Mothers in Prayer 6:00 P.M. Intentions of Mother of God

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

December 1/ 1 грудня – \$4,084.00

Будівельний Фонд / Building Fund - \$4,863.00

Кава і вареники / Coffee & varenyky – \$1,231.00

Гала Бенкет / Gala Banquet:

*Жертви на Іконографію / Donations for Iconography: \$20,199.00*

*Donations can be made on the website or by*

Zelle [email:icukrainianchurchpalatine@gmail.com](mailto:icukrainianchurchpalatine@gmail.com)

## WITH A SINFUL SOUL

**Meditation:** Jesus: **My mercy is greater than your sins and those of the entire world. Who can measure the extent of My goodness? For you I descended from heaven to earth; for you I allowed Myself to be nailed to the cross; for you I let My Sacred Heart be pierced with a lance, thus opening wide the source of mercy for you. Come, then, with trust to draw graces from this fountain. I never reject a contrite heart. Your misery has disappeared in the depths of My mercy. Do not argue with Me about your wretchedness. You will give Me pleasure if you hand over to Me all your troubles and griefs. I shall heap upon you the treasures of My grace** (*Diary*, 1485).

**My Prayer Response:** Lord Jesus, reveal to souls that Your mercy is greater than all the sins of the world. Draw us to Your Sacred Heart, so our miseries may disappear in the depths of Your mercy. Have mercy on us all.

(продовження з ст. 1)

Вітаючи також парафію Святого Миколая у с. Старий Лисець на Івано-Франківщині зі 100-річчям, Блаженніший Святослав подякував громаді за силу віри, а також Богові за те, що «з Нього виходить сила і нас усіх надихає, оздоровляє та зцілює».

Особливим моментом Літургії стало освячення новоспорудженого іконостасу храму Святого Миколая, а також згадка про священника підпільної Церкви, о. Миколу Волосянка, якого Предстоятель назвав «живим прикладом сили Божої любові». Він відзначив, що через служіння таких священників Церква змогла відновитися, а з її відродженням відновилася і надія для України.

*Департамент інформації УГКЦ*

**ПРОСИМО МОЛИТИСЯ ЗА:** о. Андрія Чировського, о. Френка і Сузан Авант, о. Богдана, о. Михайла Кузьму, Василя Наняка, Дебі Плішку, Любу Чорну, Любу Лукомську, Євгенію Яхнів, Джекі Мишкієвич, Анну Назар, Левка Сенечка, Любу Кузьму, Джим Мек Мен, Мирона Добровольського, Марію Бравн, Дану Добровольську, Молі Вайт і за всіх недужих.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:** Fr. Andriy Chirovsky, Fr. Frank & Susan Avant, Fr. Bohdan, Fr. Mykhailo Kuzma, Wasyl Naniak, Debbie Plishka, Luba Chorney, Luba Lukomskyj, Betty Jachniw, Jackie Myshkiewicz, Anna Nazar, Leo Senechko, Luba Kuzma, Jim McMahan, Myron Dobrowolsky, Mary Brown, Donna Dobrowolsky, Molly White and all in need of our prayers.

## **ОГОЛОШЕННЯ**

1. Молимося що тижня за духовенство нашої Епархії. В особливий спосіб молимося цього тижня за отця Вейн Руджкий.
2. Сьогодні святкуємо парафіяльний празник Зачаття св. Анни коли зачала Непорочну Діву Марії. Після кожної Літургії можна буде закупити канапки або повний обід. Просимо усіх до участі у цьому, нашому святі.
3. Запрошуємо вас на молебень в п'ятницю 13го грудня о год. 7 вечір. Будуть і розважання про важливість молитви в житті жінки.
4. В суботу 21го грудня матимемо Різдв'яний Базар від 10 до 1 години.
5. НЕ ПАРКУЙТЕСЯ У СПЕЦІАЛЬНО ВІДВЕДЕНИХ ЗОНАХ БЕЗ ПАРКУВАННЯ НА ВУЛИЦІ ІЛЛІНОЙС, ПЕРЕД ПОЖЕЖНИМИ ГІДРАНТАМИ, ПОДАЛІ ВІД БОРДЮРІВ НА ВУЛИЦІ МІЧИГАН, ТА ВУЛИЦІ БЕНТОН АБО НА СПЕЦІАЛЬНО ВІДВЕДЕНІЙ ПАРКОВЦІ ДЛЯ ЛЮДЕЙ З ОБМЕЖЕНИМИ ФІЗИЧНИМИ МОЖЛИВОСТЯМИ. ПАРКУВАЛЬНІ ТАЛОНІ БУДУТЬ ВИДАНІ

## **ANNOUNCEMENT**

1. We pray weekly for the priests of our Eparchy. This week let us pray in a special way for Fr. Wayne Ruchgy.
2. Today we celebrate our parish feastday, the Conception of St. Anne when she conceived the Immaculate Mother of God. After each Divine Liturgy besides sandwiches and sweets, full hot meals will be available. Please join us in this OUR parish feastday.
3. This Friday there will be a Moleben service with meditations about the importance of prayer in the lives of women.
4. We will have a Christmas Bazaar at our parish on Saturday, Dec. 21 from 10AM to 1PM.
5. DO NOT PARK IN THE DESIGNATED NO PARKING ZONES ON ILLINOIS AVE., IN FRONT OF FIRE HYDRANTS, AWAY FROM THE CURBS ON MICHIGAN AVE. AND BENTON STS. OR IN DESIGNATED HANDICAPPED PARKING. TICKETS WILL BE GIVEN OUT.

# I WAS AN ATHEIST UNTIL A NEAR-DEATH EXPERIENCE MADE ME A BELIEVER... HERE'S WHAT I SAW

A former 'true atheist' has come forward to tell his story of the dramatic near-death experience that made him a believer and left him with a 'deep sense of love.'

Jose Hernandez, from **Canada**, said his journey to the other side began with a brutal accident as an electrical engineer tending to roadside power lines.

When his colleague crashed their utility truck on **January 6**, 2000, the then 46-year-old Hernandez was left with multiple broken ribs preventing him from breathing as emergency medical technicians raced him to intensive care.

**Despite his disbelief in the afterlife**, Hernandez said that he spent those moments of deep physical pain seeking help from a higher power.

'I started thinking about God,' he said, recalling those desperate moments in hospital. 'Saying: 'If you get me through this event I will change.'

'That fear that I felt in that moment was incredibly competitive,' Hernandez said, 'And I started asking myself, 'Well, what if God is real?''

As doctors and nurses rushed to his aid, Hernandez said **his consciousness was soon transported through a dark otherworldly portal** that led to a mysterious transitional realm of living light and color that left him 'instantly amazed.'

He spent three minutes clinically dead, came back but fell back into the same state for another two minutes, which he said felt like hours as he watched his lifeless body in the hospital.



'Everything I believe was destroyed when I died,' according to Hernandez, now near 70 years old. 'Everything I believed in science and all that. That wasn't the answer. No. There was something more that was created.'

The Okanagan, British Columbia resident laid bare his emotional near-death journey during an interview with YouTube channel **Shaman Oaks**.

'I was up on a bucket truck running some electrical lines,' Hernandez said of the nearly fatal car accident.

'The guy that was with me, my partner, was more worried about electrocuting me up on top, so he was more worried looking up and he just kind of bumped into a tree.'

'My expectation when I died was that I would encounter nothing and become nothing,' the

former atheist confessed, 'now I'm beginning to see things that were mind-boggling.'

Hernandez described the origins of his atheism as his own compromise between his parents' opposed religious beliefs.

'I had a conflict. My mother was Catholic, and my father was indigenous. My mother said, Go find God in church, my father said, look out the window. God is everywhere, right?' as he told another podcast, **Next Level Soul**, in 2022.

'So I kind of chose a path of science.'

As doctors began performing CPR on his damaged ribcage, Hernandez recalled how he saw the entire scene play out from another corner of the room, alongside this 'shadow, by the door.'



'It just stood there,' he told Shaman Oaks host Alan Chapman. 'Then I started thinking 'You know what, I've had such a hard and difficult life, maybe it's okay to let go.'

'And the minute I said that, or thought that, the shadow just moved,' he continued. 'In my mind I could see its hand reaching out to me, and it just touched my toe.'

'And the minute it touched my toe I just felt this tremendous sense of relief, and relaxation, peace and love and calm. I was in bliss.'

Hernandez next described this shadowy, spirit-like figure offering him words of comfort as he transitioned to 'the other side.'

'I heard the voice next to me say 'Think of the your body as a car, and that car has like five million miles on it, and there's nothing we can do to fix it anymore. So you have to now say goodbye to your body,'" he remembered.

'Then the voice said to me 'Okay, it's time for us to move on.'

Next, Hernandez recalled a feeling of 'falling' down a black hole and landing in a space enveloped in bright, warm colorful light.

The light seemed alive to him and left him with 'an amazing sense of peace and calm and tranquility.' And soon he was even reconnecting with his deceased father.

He found himself flying over a beautiful, green Earth-like landscape where he learned he would be able to watch over his children from this heavenly spirit realm.

This otherworldly flight concluded with him touching down on the surface to better see a man below, near a seaside cove. That fateful decision on this realm allowed him to reconcile with his deceased father.

'It was even more amazing because me and my father had a very hard relationship,' Hernandez noted. 'We had a lot of clashes and I don't ever remember saying to my father in life, 'I love you,' or he to me.' But all that changed when they met again in this realm.

'When I met my dad on the other side,' he told the podcast, 'I realized sometimes we may not be able to say something here, [but] we're gonna be able to say it somewhere else.'

Scientists in recent years, including a team from **the University of Liege in Belgium**, have started to take a deeper look at near-death experiences (NEDs), canvassing experiencers on the hunt for any clues and common features between their life-changing episodes.

Charlotte Martial, lead author of the Liege study — published in the peer-reviewed journal **Consciousness and Cognition** — hoped to learn how similar these people's experiences really were to each other.

After surveying over 150 people who had experienced a 'classic' NDE, the University of Liege team found that roughly a third of the subjects experienced an out-of-body experience as the first feature of their near-death experience.

The most frequent last feature was returning to the body (36 percent).

Across the study's participants, a feeling of peacefulness (80 percent), seeing a bright light (69 percent) and encounters with spirits or the souls of dead people (64 percent) constituted some of the most common, recurring features.

The two outliers in this pool of NDE experiencers were 'speeding thoughts' (only five percent of survey participants) and 'precognitive visions' seeing the future (four percent).

'While near-death-experiences may have a universal character so that they may exhibit enough common features to belong to the same phenomenon,' Martial concluded, 'our findings suggest that near-death-experiences may not feature all elements.'

'And,' Martial added, 'elements do not seem to appear in a fixed order.'

# OUR LADY OF MEDJUGORJE, QUEEN OF PEACE

*"Medjugorje is the spiritual center of the world"*



Dear Family of Mary!

**November 25, 1991**

**"Dear Children!**

**This time also I am inviting you to prayer. Pray that you might be able to comprehend what God desires to tell you through my presence and through the messages I am giving you. I desire to draw you ever closer to Jesus and to His wounded heart that you might be able to comprehend the immeasurable love which gave itself for each one of you. Therefore, dear children, pray that from your heart would flow a fountain of love to every person both to the one who hates you and to the one who despises you. That way you will be able through Jesus' love to overcome all the misery in this world of sorrows, which is without hope for those who do not know Jesus. I am with you**

**and I love you with the immeasurable love of Jesus. Thank you for all your sacrifices and prayers. Pray so I might be able to help you still more. Your prayers are necessary to me. Thank you for having responded to my call."**

Our Lady speaks very candidly about our world, and the sorrows and hopelessness that plague us here on earth. Mother Mary is very honest with us. Even as we approach Christmas, she speaks about such things as "**(Jesus') wounded heart**", "**the one who hates you...**", "**the one who despises you...**", "**the misery in this world of sorrows, which is without hope...**"! Mother Mary is a realist. She knows all about the woes of our world.

But she does not give up, and she calls us to not give up either. She calls us to draw closer to Jesus and to His wounded heart so that we might be able to comprehend the immeasurable love which gave itself for each one of us. That love will heal and save the world!! That is what Christmas is all about!

Take Our Lady's words to heart: "**This time also I am inviting you to prayer.**"

*God bless you,  
Cathy Nolan  
Mary TV*

### **ПРИГАДКА УСІМ ПАРАФІЯНАМ**

Щоб гідно прийняти Святі Тайни парафіянин повинен жити за правилами віри та серйозно приготувитися. 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 Вписалися 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