

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

**15 ГРУДНЯ, 2024**

**«МИ РАЗОМ ТУТ, ЩОБ РАДІТИ НАРОДЖЕННЮ НАШОГО  
СПАСИТЕЛЯ, У ЯКОМУ Є НАДІЯ І ПЕРЕМОГА УКРАЇНИ», —  
БЛАЖЕННІШИЙ СВЯТОСЛАВ ДО ДІТЕЙ**



12 грудня Глава УГКЦ та єпископи Постійного Синоду зустрілися з дітьми, які завітали до Резиденції святого Миколая, що діє в Патріаршому центрі при Патріаршому соборі Воскресіння Христового в Києві.

Спільно з Блаженнішим Святославом із дітьми поспілкувався митрополит Борис Ґудзяк, владика Браян Байда, владика Володимир Ющак, владика Андрій Хім'як, владика Йосафат Мощич. Блаженніший Святослав привітав дітей і подякував за те, що «прийшли

до нашого дому, щоб пережити дух Різдва Христового».

«Немає Різдва без Ісуса Христа, тому ми разом тут, щоб радіти народженню нашого Спасителя, у якому є надія і перемога України», — пояснив дітям Глава УГКЦ.

Відтак він розповів про Різдва Ісуса Христа та значення цієї події.

Митрополит Борис Ґудзяк зазначив, що «сьогодні є багато причин для смутку: може, хтось із дітей втратив батька, є різна небезпека».

«Дуже важливо, щоб ми один одного підтримували в розумінні того, що з нами Господь, що кожна дитина — великий скарб, що кожна людина прецінна. І коли ми разом, коли є спільне свято, коли можемо передати символ нашої любові й радості просто життям, то підтримуємо один одного. Ми в Америці просто маємо велике натхнення від українців, які в таких складних обставинах війни тримаються, дають відсіч лукавству й обстоюють добро. Саме в Україні є епіцентр глобальних

*(продовження на ст. 3)*

# SUNDAY OF THE FOREFATHERS

## DECEMBER 15, 2024

### ПОРЯДОК БОГОСЛЖЕНЬ (16го до 22го грудня, 2024) ORDER OF SERVICES (December 16<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024)

Понеділок – Mon. 16	8:00 A.M.	Intentions of Mother of God
Вівторок – Tues. 17	8:00 A.M.	Maria Kuzma (B-day) – family Pope Francis +Natalia Lozynskyj – Luba Lukomskyj
Середа – Wed. 18	8:00 A.M.	Sanctification of clergy
	7:00 P.M.	Special Intention
Четвер – Thurs. 19	8:00 A.M.	Peace in Ukraine
П'ятниця – Fri. 20	8:00 A.M.	Sanctification of clergy
Субота – Sat. 21	9:00 A.M.	For all of our ill parishioners Special Intention Sanctification of clergy
Неділя – Sun. 22	8:00 A.M.	Anna Senishin – Luba Lukomskyj
	9:45 A.M.	for our parishioners
	11:30 A.M.	Mothers in Prayer
	6:00 P.M.	The Rock community

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

December 8/ 8 грудня– \$5,952.00

Збіка на цвіти / Flower Collection - \$2,116.00

Будівельний Фонд / Building Fund - \$682.00

Св. Николая (6 грудня) / St. Nicholas (Dec. 6) - \$825.00

Непорочне Зачаття (9 грудня) / Feast of Immaculate Conception - \$1,466.00

Празник: Кава і вареники і обіди / Praznyk: Coffee & varenyky & hot meals – \$1,965.00

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 SUFFERING SOUL

**Meditation:** Jesus: **Poor soul, I see that you suffer much and that you do not have even the strength to converse with Me. So I will speak to you. Even though your sufferings were very great, do not lose heart or give in to despondency. But tell Me, My child, who has dared to wound your heart? Tell Me about everything, be sincere in dealing with Me, reveal all the wounds of your heart. I will heal them, and your suffering will become a source of your sanctification** (*Diary*, 1487).

**My Prayer Response:** Lord Jesus, in my suffering I reveal the wounds of my heart, so You may heal them. May my suffering become a source of my sanctification

(продовження з ст. 1)



змін. І ми просто дуже вдячні цим дітям, їхнім батькам, блаженнішим єпископам, священникам, які є свідками надії для цього світу, який доволі розумний», — додав владика.

Свою радість від зустрічі з дітьми висловив владика Володимир Ющак, наголосивши, що, «незважаючи на війну, на проблеми, є радісність Різдва, і думаю, цей простір радості, спокою, такого нормального життя, святкуванням дуже потрібний для дітей, особливо молодших».

Опісля дітям св. Миколай та єпископи Постійного Синоду роздали солодкі й пам'ятні подарунки.

*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, Джеккі Мишкієвич, Анну Назар, Левка Сенечка, Любу Кузьму, Джим МекМен, 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 McMahon, 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 Богдана Рибчука.
2. 21 грудня в нашій парафії відбудеться день Духовної Віднови для старшої молоді. За точні інформації дзвоніть до о. Ігоря Дармограя на тел. 708-506-7222.
3. В суботу 21го грудня матимемо Різдв'яний Базар від 10 до 1 години.
4. В неділю 22 грудня своє день народження буде святкувати спільнота СКЕЛЯ, яка є при нашій парафії. О 6PM на Літургії буде урочисте прийняття у члени спільноти, а після святкування. Щиро всіх запрошуємо.
5. В п'ятниця 27 грудня співатиме Літургію о 7й годині Прикарпатський Квінтет. Після Літургії матиме Молитва Тазе. Просимо усіх особливо молодь.
6. 29 грудня відбудеться чудовий концерт, "Різдвяне Диво в Палатайн" о 2й годині в приміщенні СУМ. Вхід \$10.00 Просимо усіх до участі.
7. 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

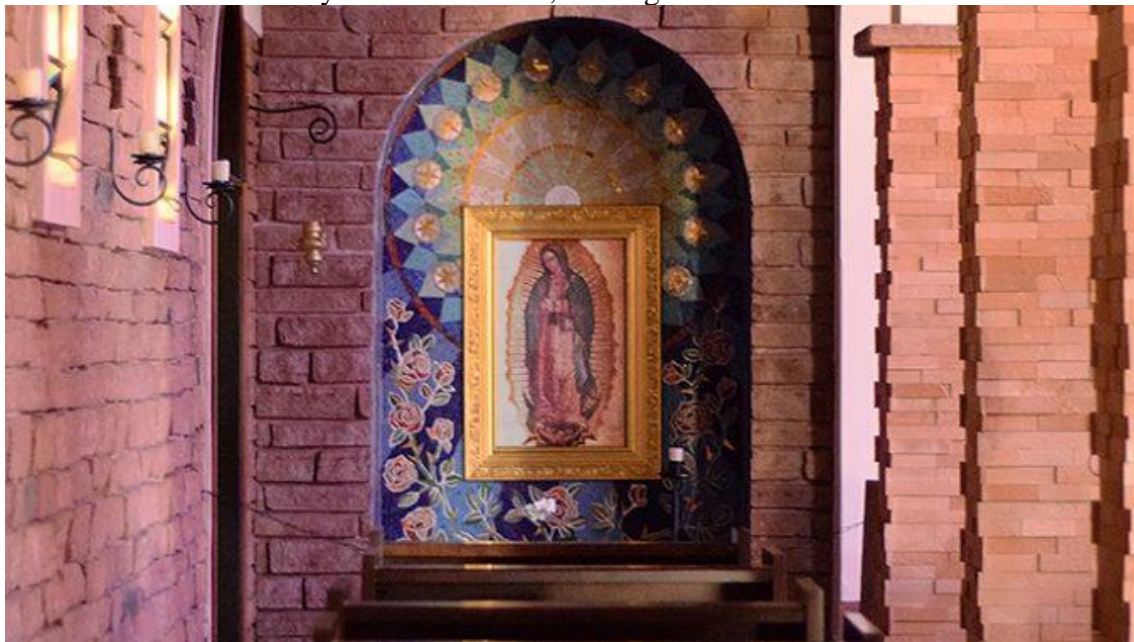
## **ANNOUNCEMENT**

1. We pray weekly for the priests of our Eparchy. This week let us pray in a special way for Fr. Bohdan Rybchuk.
2. We will have a Christmas Bazaar at our parish on Saturday, Dec. 21 from 10AM to 1PM.

3. On Friday Dec. 27<sup>th</sup> there will be a choir "Prykarpatsky Quintet" singing the 7PM Divine Liturgy, followed by Taise prayer. This prayer form is especially loved by those who love to meditate and young people.
4. On Sunday Dec. 29<sup>th</sup> there will be a concert at 2PM at SUM which will feature many performers including 3 groups from our parish. Entrance is \$10.00.
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.

## Our Lady of Guadalupe and the Eucharist

Are we afraid of appearing simple-minded by saying that we believe God is really and truly present in the tabernacles and on the altars of every Catholic church, waiting for us?



Do just one-third of American Catholics believe that Jesus is truly present in the Eucharist, as was reported in [this 2019 study](#)? Or do two-thirds believe Church teaching on the Eucharist, [if you question them more carefully](#) as was done in [this 2023 study](#)?

Either way, faithful Catholics who attend Mass regularly didn't need surveys to tell them that many American Catholics don't believe in the Real Presence. Those who don't believe make it obvious enough in the way they arrive late, leave early, and simply fail to show up for Sunday Mass. Our bishops' call for a [Eucharistic Revival](#), culminating in a [National Eucharistic Congress](#) in July, 2024, was certainly an attempt to remind Catholics that Jesus Christ is truly present, not merely symbolically present, in the Blessed Sacrament.

But there's more than one way to communicate supernatural truths to disbelieving people than to hold a meeting or post a website. In 1531, God's way involved sending the Blessed Mother to Mexico—through an apparition, of course.

In 1531, ten years had passed since the Spanish forces under Hernán Cortés conquered the Aztec empire. Catholic missionaries had been trying to evangelize the native people for seven years. A small number, like Juan Diego and his wife, had accepted baptism and embraced the Gospel, but they were by far the minority. Most of the Aztec people were demoralized by their recent defeat in battle, were afraid of the sicknesses caused by European diseases, and were justly resentful of mistreatment by the conquistadores. Their understanding of their world had been based on a pessimistic cosmology, complex rituals, and bloodthirsty gods who demanded endless human sacrifices. Their gods had now apparently failed them, and this rocked their world.

But all that changed in less than a week in December 1531. A peasant farmer claimed that a beautiful woman had appeared to him multiple times, asked him to tell the bishop to build a church, and miraculously imprinted her image on his cloak. There were other baffling events as well, such as his uncle's recovery from near death and the blooming of Spanish roses on a hillside in December.



But it was the image that inexplicably appeared on Saint Juan Diego's cactus fiber tilma that proved to be a revelation to the Aztec people.

Almost five hundred years later, images of Our Lady of Guadalupe can be found everywhere, inside and outside Mexico. What was it about this image that caused families, villages, and entire tribes to travel to the capital city in the sixteenth century—not merely to see the tilma but to accept baptism—almost overnight?

There are many mysteries about that tilma, such as how something made of cactus fibers has survived for centuries. And how the image remained unharmed despite being handled by thousands of devotees in the many years before it was placed behind glass. And how it survived certain destruction from nitric acid and a bomb blast. And how the image could have been applied to the tilma in the first place. All of these mysteries continue to elude twenty-first century science, as described in ***Guadalupe Mysteries***. But what was it that sixteenth-century Aztecs saw in that image that touched their souls so profoundly that nine million of them became Catholics in just six years?

The Aztecs' writing system was not based on a phonetic alphabet but on pictograms. Ordinary people were familiar with these pictograms, which included images of physical items, as well as symbols, that made puns on the sounds from their oral language. The image of Our Lady of Guadalupe, which the Spaniards recognized as a Christian icon, is a treasure trove of pictograms which were easy for the Aztecs to decipher.

Mary is shown to be greater than the sun, the moon, the stars, and the other lesser gods of the Aztec religion. That is, in the image, she blots out the sun, she stands on the moon, she carries the stars on her cloak, and she is held up by an angel. She is wearing blue, the color of the heavens, as if she has just descended from there.

Mary's eyes are downcast in humility, and her hands are folded in prayer, indicating that she prays to someone else. To a Christian, her demeanor indicates that she might be reciting Luke 1:38: "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord". To an Aztec, her appearance shows that she is a woman and a virgin, not a goddess. After all, Aztec gods were depicted wearing masks, and she is not wearing a mask. Because she is wearing her hair loose, she signals that she is a virgin. On the other hand, the bow at her waist is a sign that she is a pregnant woman, and a kind of flower which indicated perfection (the quincunx) is located precisely over her womb.

Mary's skin indicates that she is neither a Spaniard nor an Aztec. Instead, she is a mestizo, a woman of both races. In the Aztec culture, people wore symbols of the gods around their necks. The brooch at Mary's neck has only one symbol: the cross.

Put all those pictograms together, and what do you get?

Behold a mere woman who is greater than all of your gods! This humble woman is a virgin, yet she is also the Mother of God. She is not a Spaniard or an Aztec, but she is a Spaniard *and* an Aztec. This mother loves you as if you were her own child, so much that she came down from heaven to ask for a church to be built so that you can worship her Son, the Son of God, who died on a cross for you.

How do you convince unbelieving people about supernatural truths? Sometimes God does the heavy lifting by performing signs and wonders. Perhaps the millions of miraculous conversions that occurred in Mexico were meant to humble the mighty, educated, and technologically superior, cradle Catholics from Europe and show how much God loves the poor, uneducated, and simple of heart. Or perhaps there is a lesson in the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe for us today as we try to explain the supernatural mystery of the Eucharist to our skeptical family and friends. What false idols are keeping them enslaved to a pessimistic worldview, complicated and busy lives, and a willingness to sacrifice even human beings for the sake of their own pleasure? Are those of us who do believe too arrogant to share with them about our personal experiences of peace in God's Presence at Mass? Are we afraid of appearing simple-minded by telling them that we believe God is really and truly present in the tabernacles and on the altars of every Catholic church, waiting for us?

God has already given us something far more powerful than a Marian apparition. By His grace, we have divine Revelation. God Himself has come among us to set us free from slavery to sin and death, and the story of His love is not just five hundred or two thousand years old; His steadfast love endures forever (see Ps 136), and His mercies are new every morning (Lam 3:23). His love for us is deeper than the love of our own mothers, it is more powerful than the sun, the moon, and the stars, and, believe it or not, it is as close to us as the nearest Catholic church.

## OUR LADY OF MEDJUGORJE, QUEEN OF PEACE

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



Dear Family of Mary!

December 12<sup>th</sup> is the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe! She is the Patroness of the Americas, where Denis and I live. God sent her here to introduce His Son to the people of America, who were in so much need of Jesus' love. She converted millions!

Through her gentle motherly love for Juan Diego, she was able to make of him a worthy witness to her presence and her plan for Mexico. Juan Diego sat by her image for many years, explaining her love and presence to the converted peoples. It was stupendous!!

I love the way Mother Mary spoke to Juan Diego. It is so tender, so sweet. Here is one conversation she had with him:

**"Listen, put it into your heart, my youngest and dearest son, that the thing that disturbs you, the thing that afflicts you, is nothing. Do not let your countenance, your heart be**

**disturbed. Do not fear this sickness of your uncle or any other sickness, nor anything that is sharp or hurtful. Am I not here, I, who am your Mother? Are you not under my shadow and protection? Am I not the source of your joy? Are you not in the hollow of my mantle, in the crossing of my arms? Do you need anything more? Let nothing else worry you, disturb you. Do not let your uncle's illness worry you, because he will not die now. You may be certain that he is already well."**

I love Mother Mary!! She is the best of mothers!!!

Our Lady has a beautiful style of speaking to the visionaries and all of us in Medjugorje as well. It is equally beguiling. Here is one example:

**August 2, 2005 (Mirjana)**

**"Dear children, I came to you with open arms, so that I could take you all into my arms, under my mantle. I cannot do this while your hearts are filled with false light and false idols. Clean them and let my angels sing in them. Then, I will take you under my mantle and give you my Son, true peace, and happiness. Do not wait my children. Thank you!"**

We are so blessed to have such a Mother!! Yes, yes, we want to be under your mantle, dearest Mother! Take us in your arms and keep us safe and at peace in your love!

*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