



The Way Newsletter

May 14, 2021

Bishop Andriy Rabiy is discharged from the hospital

“This evening I was discharged from Holy Redeemer Hospital in Meadowbrook, PA, after spending there 17 days recovering from a severe case of coronavirus. I want to thank you all for all your continued holy prayers, get well wishes and thoughts, which helped me tremendously to get back on my feet again! I thank God for this miracle! Thank you!” he wrote on his Facebook page on May 10th.

Metropolitan Borys Gudziak Receives Honorary Doctorate from Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary

On May 12, 2021, Metropolitan Archbishop Borys Gudziak was awarded a Doctor of Humane Letters degree from Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary. The degree was conferred by Archbishop Nelson Pérez on behalf of the Seminary's Board of Trustees. Previous recipients include Dr. Jacqueline C. Rivers, Professor Andreas Widmer, Justice Samuel Alito, Saint Mother Teresa of Calcutta, and former Pennsylvania Chief Justice Robert N.C. Nix.



Bishop Timothy C. Senior, who serves as Rector, remarked, "As the Seminary graduates yet another class of seminarians and graduate students, it is an honor for Saint Charles Seminary to present a Doctor of Humane Letters degree to such an accomplished scholar and figure in global Catholicism"

Archbishop Gudziak also gave the keynote address of the Concursus, as the annual graduation ceremony is known.

"We are privileged, we have authority and we have a strength that our baptism in Christ gives us. It's a mysterious, mystical privilege, authority and strength. The way we live it is guided by the example of our Lord Himself. You, graduates, for a number of years have been honing the understanding of your baptism. Everything that you have experienced in this seminary—your prayer and your studies, the spiritual direction, the good therapy, the accompaniment—has as its goal your growth as members, as parts of the body of Christ." The Archbishop stressed that new priests will serve in a very difficult time and that the Church faces mounting challenges. He asked them to rely on God.

"One of the greatest misconceptions that we have as human beings and one of the most dangerous in spiritual life is a sense of self reliance, self sufficiency. America celebrates self-reliance, this is a stance, we see it from athletes to politicians, from movie stars to business people. American responsibility is a great thing and I hope that we all can grow in

it as citizens and as a nation. But we cannot make it alone. The Son of God in His mission, as we are reading both in the Byzantine and Latin lectionaries now, emphasizes His constant reference to the Father. Don't be alone! Don't commit heroic suicide! Be with God! Be referential and relational. Foster your fellowship".

Among this year's graduates is Deacon Volodymyr Radko who serves in the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia. He completed his MA in Theology this spring, finishing *summa cum laude*. Archbishop Borys thanked the seminary community for the warm welcome extended to the Deacon.

About Saint Charles Seminary: Founded in 1832, Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary has been forming men for priestly service in the Catholic Church for more than 180 years. In August 2019, the seminary reported an overall enrollment of 165 seminarians. Saint Charles' seminarian population is becoming increasingly diverse with approximately 30% of its students now coming from Asian, Latino, or African countries or nationalities. Of the 42 new seminarians, 19 are seminarians studying for the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, and there are 75 new or returning seminarians for the Archdiocese of Philadelphia studying at St. Charles.

Photos from <https://www.facebook.com/StCharlesSem>

Congratulations!

Deacon Volodymyr Radko has completed his MA in Theology at Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary, finishing *summa cum laude*. His master's thesis is entitled "The Family as "Image and Likeness of God" in the Theology of the Body of Saint John Paul II".

It is worth mentioning that Deacon Volodymyr has a wide education in theology. Prior to the United States he studied in the bachelor's and master's programs at the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv and received a licentiate degree in moral theology from the Catholic University of Paris.

It is a great joy for the Archeparchy with more achievements to come!



On May 11, our Archeparchy welcomed the first cohort of missionaries who arrived from Ukraine to serve in Philadelphia Archeparchy. The next ministers and their families will arrive in June.

Please welcome virtually:

- Father Roman Oliynyk, 46 years old. He studied at St. Basil's Seminary in Stanford, Conn. and later at the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv. He is the father of 5 children, a man of peace, and a true spiritual minister. He worked for many years in the Patriarchal Curia.
- Father Ruslan Borovyi, 31, with his wife Julia, 36, and son Lev, 6. He is a graduate of the Lviv Holy Spirit seminary and the Ukrainian Catholic University and has been a priest for 7 years, serving 6 different parishes. He also served as chancellor of the Chernivtsi eparchy.
- Father Ihor Kolisnyk, 45, a Redemptorist, will serve in Newark. Father Ihor was for many years provincial of the Redemptorist Order in Ukraine. He has served in Canada and developed the Ukrainian Catholic mission in New Zealand. He is known for being a thought-provoking preacher.
- Andriy Rubel, 28 - graduated from the seminary in Ivano-Frankivsk and later completed a licentiate thesis in Rome, on the subject of ministry to immigrant youth. He is preparing for ordination to the diaconate and later priesthood. His wife, Halyna Vasylytsia, 30, graduated from the Ukrainian Catholic University and studied in Rome. She is a trained media expert, specializing in video.
- Maryana Karapinka, 40, studied at the Ukrainian Catholic University, the Catholic University in Leuven, Belgium, and in Toronto at the Sheptytsky Institute. Maryana has been working with Archbishop Borys in the area of communications for the past ten years.

May the Lord strengthen their hearts in love and zealous service!



We want to turn the voice of blood into prayer, Head of the UGCC in Babyn Yar

On May 14, 2021, Ukraine for the first time marks the Day of Remembrance of Ukrainians who saved Jews during the Second World War. On this occasion, His Beatitude Sviatoslav, Father and Head of the UGCC, together with representatives of the All-Ukrainian Council of Churches and Religious Organizations, took part in a prayer event held in Babyn Yar.



"Today, members of the All-Ukrainian Council of Churches and Religious Organizations, which unites Christians of different denominations, Jews, and Muslims, want to mark for the first time the Day of Remembrance of Ukrainians who saved Jews during the Holocaust. Ukraine and the world will later call them the Righteous Among the Nations," the chairman of the AUCCRO emphasized.

According to His Beatitude Sviatoslav, Babyn Yar is in itself a message to Ukraine and the world.

"Today we want to turn this message, this voice of blood shed by different peoples, representatives of different Churches and religions, into prayer," the Head of the UGCC emphasized.

Then the Primate said a funeral prayer "O God of spirits and all flesh" for the repose of the souls of the innocently killed.

According to His Beatitude Sviatoslav, this day is an opportunity to commemorate the victims of all genocides caused by inhuman regimes.

The UGCC Department for Information

May 13th, 1981: Remembering that fateful day

Forty years ago the shocking assassination attempt on the life of John Paul II took place in Saint Peter's Square. It's a day that entered our collective memory when love and prayer defeated hatred.

By Alessandro Gisotti



There are dates that remind us not only of things we read of in history books, but also of the history we have lived. These powerful events are indelibly inscribed on the pages of our own lives. The impression left by these events is so strong that even many years later we can remember perfectly where we were and what we were doing when the news of what happened reached us.

May 13, 1981, is undoubtedly one of these dates. That day, an event considered impossible and unimaginable burst into reality: an attack against the Pope in St. Peter's Square. Forty years later, it still evokes chills when recalling that dramatic sequence of events, the sounds and noises that erupted on that spring afternoon. It was 5:19 p.m. when John Paul II, during his customary visit among the faithful gathered for the Wednesday General Audience, took a little girl into his arms and then held her out to her parents. A few moments later, the deafening sound of a gunshot was heard, and then another. The Pope, shot in the abdomen, collapsed in the open vehicle that was taking him around the square. Frantic moments. People were stunned. At first, they did not understand and could not believe what had happened.

Many of the pilgrims broke into tears. Others knelt down in prayer, some using the rosaries they had brought for the Pope to bless. Some remembered that on that very day, 13 May some 64 years earlier, Our Lady had appeared to the shepherd children of Fatima. The Pope, known for his motto *Totus tuus, Maria!* was then entrusted by the People of God into the hands of the Blessed Virgin Mary. John Paul II would later confide that it was precisely to the Blessed Mother's intervention that he attributed his survival. If someone's hand wanted to kill him, another, more powerful hand deflected the bullet, saving his life.

Very quickly, on that afternoon of May 13, prayers radiated rapidly in concentric circles from the Vatican and embraced the entire world. Prayer became the spontaneous response of millions of people as soon as they learned that the Pope was struggling between life and death. Father Jorge Mario Bergoglio, SJ, the future Pope Francis, was also praying during those hours. At the time, he was rector of the Colegio Máximo de San José in San Miguel, province of Buenos Aires. He, too, was shaken by what had happened. Today, Pope Francis shared with us his own memory of that 13 May: He was at the Apostolic Nunciature in Argentina, meeting with the Nuncio, Archbishop Ubaldo Calabresi, and Venezuelan Father Ugalde before lunch. It was then that the secretary of the Nunciature, Monsignor Claudio Maria Celli, gave him the terrible news.

It was amazing that, despite the emotion of the moment, Vatican Radio reporter, Benedetto Nardacci, was able to report live with unbroken clarity during the weekly General Audience that Wednesday when forced to report an event he never would have chosen to recount. "For the first time", Nardacci said during his live Vatican Radio broadcast, "there is talk of terrorism even in the Vatican. We are talking about terrorism in a place where a message of love has always been transmitted, a message of harmony and a message of peace."

The prayer of the faithful around the world was constant and did not let up until John Paul II was out of danger. In some ways, it could be said that prayer accompanied and protected him until the end of his earthly life, especially in times of suffering and illness, culminating during his last days in the spring of 2005.

The unleashing of hatred brought about by that criminal act was strong, even apocalyptic in some respects. Even stronger, however, would be the power of love and mercy, that would lead the whole subsequent journey of John Paul II's earthly life and pontificate luminously and at the same time "mysteriously". Four days later, this was surprisingly witnessed, when, while reciting the Regina Caeli from his room at Gemelli Hospital where he was hospitalized, Pope John Paul II assured his forgiveness to the person who tried to assassinate him, calling him "the brother who struck me". He actually called him his "brother".

It would be this common fraternity – unbreakable despite everything that may happen on earth, since it is inscribed in Heaven – that would be the protagonist once again on another hard-to-forget date: December 27, 1983. On that day, John Paul II visited Ali Ağca in Rome's Rebibbia prison. He made the visit public. As someone observed at the time, the Pope wished to save the life of the one who wanted to strip it from him. "We met as fellow human beings and as brothers", the Pope said after the meeting, "since we are all brothers and all the events of our lives must confirm the fraternity that comes from the fact that God is our Father".

It is the same fraternity that Pope Francis today shows us to be the only way forward for the future of humanity.

Council of Cardinals reflects on life of Church in pandemic

The Council of Cardinals discuss the impact of the Covid-19 crisis around the world, and the Church's response to it, during a virtual meeting held on Thursday afternoon. They also continue talks on the upcoming Apostolic Constitution which will focus on the organisation of the Roman Curia.



By Vatican News staff reporter

In a meeting held virtually on Thursday afternoon, members of the Council of Cardinals shared their experiences of the “economic and social consequences” of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, and discussed “the Church’s commitment to health, economic recovery and the support offered to those most in need.”

Pope Francis took part in the meeting from his residence in the Casa Santa Marta, which the other members of the Council – Cardinals Oscar Rodriguez Maradiaga, Reinhard Marx, Sean Patrick O’Malley, Oswald Gracias, and Fridolin Ambongo Besungo – joined the conversation from their respective countries. Cardinals Pietro Parolin and Giuseppe Bertello, along with the Council’s Secretary, Bishop Marco Mellino, were connected from the Vatican.

After considering the current situation in their various regions, the members of the Council turned their attention to the forthcoming Apostolic Constitution, which will deal with the organisation of the Roman Curia. A note from the Holy See Press Office explained that the Cardinals discussed “the working methodology that will have to be implemented for the revision and correction of some normative texts” after the new document takes effect.

They also addressed several “further perspectives opened up by the text under elaboration.”

The next meeting of the Council of Cardinals is scheduled for June of this year.

Pope at General Audience: 'Jesus is with us at all times although we may not know it'

Pope Francis continues his cycle of catechesis dedicated to Christian prayer during the weekly General Audience reflecting on how prayer is sometimes hard and on how many great Christian figures struggled to overcome discouragement and crisis in times of trial.

By Linda Bordoni



"Christian prayer, like all Christian life, is not *a walk in the park*," Pope Francis told the faithful following the Wednesday General Audience through the media and in the Vatican's Courtyard of St. Damasus. He pointed out that so many of the "great praying people we meet in the Bible and the history of the Church did not have a *comfortable* prayer," but encouraged us to never forget that Jesus is always with us.

Continuing a cycle of reflections dedicated to Christian prayer, the Pope focused on the theme of "spiritual struggle" and on how the great masters of Christian history recognize that prayer is not always easy, for our human nature.

Prayer is not easy

Prayer, the Pope said, certainly gives great peace, but praying is not something easy: "Every time we want to pray, we are immediately reminded of many other activities, which at that moment seem more important and more urgent. Almost always, after putting off prayer, we realise that those things were not essential at all and that we may have wasted time."

"This, he said, is how the Enemy deceives us."

The Holy Father reflected on how even some saints have lamented the fatigue and discomfort of prayer and yet continued to persevere in prayer for years, "without savouring it, without perceiving its usefulness."

“Silence, prayer and concentration are difficult exercises, and sometimes human nature rebels,” he said, “We would rather be anywhere else in the world, but not there, on that church pew, praying.” Faith is not easy, he added, “and sometimes it proceeds in almost total darkness, without points of reference.”

The enemies of prayer

The Pope went on to explain that the *Catechism* lists a long series of enemies of prayer (see nos. 2726-2728), but it teaches us that prayer, although a free and unmerited gift of God’s grace, can be affected by our human experiences of discouragement, sadness or disappointment:

“Some doubt that prayer can truly reach the Almighty: why does God remain silent? Faced with the elusiveness of the divine, others suspect that prayer is a merely psychological operation; something that may be useful, but is neither true nor necessary: one could even be a practitioner without being a believer.”

The worst enemies of prayer, he said, are to be found within us.

Words of wisdom

Asking ourselves “what should we do in the time of temptation, when everything seems to waver?” the Pope upheld the examples and lessons to be learnt from the history of spirituality and from the “masters of the soul” who offer contribution and words of wisdom for dealing with difficult times.

For example, he continued, “the Spiritual Exercises of Saint Ignatius of Loyola are a short book full of great wisdom, which teaches how to put one’s life in order: It makes us understand that the Christian vocation is militancy, it is the decision to stand beneath the banner of Jesus Christ and not under that of the devil, trying to do good even when it becomes difficult.”

Jesus is always with us

But in times of trial, Pope Francis reminded the faithful, it is good to remember that we are not alone, that someone is watching over us and protecting us.

He recalled the trials faced by the hermit, Saint Anthony the Abbot when prayer became a difficult struggle:

His biographer, the Pope recounted, tells us that Anthony was disturbed by his ordeal, but resisted: “When he finally became serene again, he turned to his Lord with a tone almost of reproach: ‘Where were you? Why did you not come immediately to put an end to my suffering?’ And Jesus answered: ‘Anthony, I was there. But I was waiting to see you fight’”.

A miracle witnessed

The Pope then delved into some of his own personal memories from when he worked in an Argentinean diocese. He told of how the father of a critically ill child, a worker who did not attend Mass every Sunday, travelled 70 kilometres to pray at the Basilica of Our Lady of Lujan, the Patron

Saint of Argentina. When he got there, the Pope said, it was 10 pm and the Basilica was closed. But he spent the night praying at its gates, and when the church doors opened the following morning he entered, greeted Our Lady, and went home to find that his daughter would be saved.

"Struggling to make himself heard through prayer, that man was graced by Our Lady. Our Lady listened. It is something I have witnessed: prayer accomplishes miracles because prayer goes straight to the tenderness of God who sees us as a father does," the Pope said.

It happens, he added, that we ask for a grace that we are in need of, "but we do so without fighting for it... prayer is a fight and the Lord is always with us."

'I thought I was alone but I was not'

Jesus, the Pope concluded, is always with us: "If in a moment of blindness, we cannot see His presence, we will in the future," and he reminded believers that "At the end of our lives, looking back, we too will be able to say: 'I thought I was alone, but no, I was not: Jesus was with me'.

You do have the right wheels! His Beatitude Sviatoslav shared an interesting life story on social networks

His Beatitude Sviatoslav, Father and Head of the UGCC, told a motivating story from his own life on the social network Instagram, which happened to him - then still a young priest - during a trip to the United States. Here is the story.



As a young priest, I decided to deepen my knowledge of English and took advantage of the opportunities offered by the Lviv Theological Academy, namely a summer English-language school in the Carpathians. One year I was even its director. Our teachers were native speakers. One of them, Teresa Andersen, invited me to visit her family at Fort Collins, Colorado.

Being there, we took her car and went to look at the Grand Canyon.

We were returning on Friday night (famous American Friday night), and the plane home was scheduled for tomorrow. And suddenly on the road we see a sign that due to the heavy snow, only cars with a certain type of tires or with chains can pass. We went to look for chains and even bought them. It was already getting dark; we were desperately trying to fit those chains to the tires, but hope was vanishing with every single minute...

The sheriff is coming up. We explain to him what is happening. He calls someone and then informs us that in two hours the road will be closed for traffic, and we will not have enough time to pass through...

Here is the dialogue I still remember:

- Let me have a look at your tires. Are there letters M + S (mud and snow) on them?

- YES!

- Oh, these are good wheels! You do have the right wheels and now you have enough time to make it!

We quickly removed the chains and moved along. On the way, Teresa burst into tears: "How important it is for someone to tell you at the right moment: You do have the right wheels!"

We don't have a sheriff, we have God Himself, who comes up to us, confused among our daily problems and challenges, and says, "You do have the right wheels! You will go through this!"

We remind you that the Head of the UGCC has the following official channels on social networks: [His Beatitude Sviatoslav](#) on Facebook and [@head.ugcc](#) on Instagram.

The UGCC Department for Information

Lourdes: famous Marian place

This week we would like to share another apparition story with you, one located in France. Lourdes is a small town lying in the foothills of the Pyrenees—a mountain range on the border of France and Spain. Prior to the 19th century the town was best known for its fortified medieval castle, the origins of which go back to Roman times.



In 1858 the site became famous for an apparition of the Blessed Mother, and since then it has become one of the most important pilgrimage destinations of the Catholic world. The Mother of God appeared to a fourteen-year-old girl, Bernadette Soubirous, eighteen times between February and July 1858.

Today, Lourdes is home to a population of about 13,000, but it receives more than 5,000,000 pilgrims annually from all over the world. Most visit between the beginning of April and the end of October.

First Apparition

On February 11, 1858, Bernadette, her sister, and a friend were collecting dead wood on the banks of the Gave River, when suddenly she heard what sounded like a gust of a wind. Strangely, nothing moved except for a wild rose that was growing in the Grotto, but then the apparition began: “I saw a lady dressed in white, she wore a white dress, and equally white veils, a blue belt and a yellow rose on each foot.” Bernadette made the sign of the cross and prayed the rosary. After she finished, the Lady disappeared.

The Lady Speaks

The second apparition took place just a few days later. Bernadette prayed the rosary again, and the Lady vanished without uttering a word. Then on February 18, during the third

apparition, the mysterious woman in white finally spoke. When Bernadette asked her name, she responded: "It is not necessary."

Afterwards, Bernadette came to the Grotto nearly every day. News about the unusual occurrences she witnessed spread so that more and more people came to the place with her. At the beginning of March, the crowd already consisted of eight thousand people.

The Lady Reveals Her Name

Many were coming to the place of the apparitions and Bernadette communicated the messages given to her by the lady, who asked for acts of penance and prayer by sinners. On March 2, she also asked the girl to tell the clergy that there would be processions at the site and that she desired that a chapel be built. Despite Bernadette's words and the fact that the very first miracle was recorded on March 1, the parish priest of Lourdes, Fr. Peyramale, remained skeptical. He demanded two proofs: first, the name of the Lady, which had not yet been revealed; and second, to see a bush of wild roses bloom in the middle of winter. There were another two apparitions following his demands, but the priest was unmoved. The Lady revealed who she was on March 25, saying, "Que soy era Immaculada Concepciou (I am the Immaculate Conception). Bernadette did not understand what this meant, so she ran to the priest, repeating what she heard from the Lady. The priest was troubled, as the young girl couldn't have known this theological expression. In fact, it was only dogmatically defined by Pope Pius IX four years earlier.

The Final Apparition

After revealing her name, the Blessed Mother appeared two more times, on April 7 and July 16, the latter being the feast of the Mother of God of Mount Carmel. Bernadette described the last vision as follows: "I felt that I was in front of the Grotto, at the same distance as before, I saw only the Blessed Virgin, and she was more beautiful than ever!"

Miracles

Since the apparitions began, an increasing number of people visited Lourdes to pray to the Blessed Mother and to drink the water from the source she showed the young Bernadette. More than 7,000 cases of unexplained cures have been recorded at Lourdes over the years, 70 of which have been deemed miraculous. The last recognized cure happened to Sister Bernadette Moriau in 2018.

Ukrainian Presence in Lourdes

In the late 1970s, the Bishop of Tarbes allowed Ukrainians to build a church, and in 1980 Cardinal Joseph Slipyj and Pope John Paul II blessed the project. Once it was agreed that the church would be built, Ukrainians from all over the world set out to help realize the project, and eventually the Ukrainian Church of the Dormition of the Mother of God in Lourdes was built in 1982. Fr. Vasyl Pryima raised funds for the church's construction, and the donors represented the Ukrainian diaspora in Europe, North and South America, as well as Australia. The building itself was also a gift from Myroslav Nimtsiv, a Ukrainian architect from the United States.



Since 1980, Fr. Priyma was assisted by Fr. Pavlo Kohut, who organized volunteers for construction lasting two years. Fr. Kohut also invited from Poland Jerzy Novosielsky, professor of icon painting, to paint the church. The iconostasis was painted by Petro Kholodny, a prominent graphic artist from Ukraine.

The church was consecrated in 1982 in front of many pilgrims by His Eminence Archbishop Myroslav-Ivan Lubachivsky, with the participation of Monsignor Henri Donze, Bishop of Tarbes and Lourdes.

By Kylyna Kurochka

The Sunday of the Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council

“And now I will no longer be in the world, but they are in the world, while I am coming to you. Holy Father, keep them in your name that You have given Me, so that they may be one just as we are.” (John 1:11)



Our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ expresses His desire that we the Church be one just as He and the Heavenly Father is one. During His earthly stay Our Lord glorified God the Father on earth by accomplishing the work that the Heavenly Father gave the Son of God to do. Jesus revealed the holy name of God to His disciples to receive and keep His word.

Today, the Sunday of the Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council, we commemorate those saints of the early Church who courageously defended and zealously spread the true doctrine of Jesus Christ. They prevented the spreading of the false teaching, heresy by Arius. The Holy Spirit strengthened them and us to remain true to the Faith. Under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, the Fathers of Nicaea zealously guarded the true faith so as to preserve it intact for future generations.

Although difficulties, even crises, may occur within the Church, Jesus promises His Apostles that the gates of hell will not prevail against it. The Holy Spirit is stronger than any evil force. The Holy Spirit bestows upon the faithful certain gifts, such as wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and fear of the Lord.

We true-believing Christians are called by God to know and understand His teachings and to enlighten and sanctify the faithful with the Word of God. Our eternity depends upon it. In the Gospel of St. John (17:3), we read: "Now this is eternal life, that they should know You, the only true God, and the One Whom You sent, Jesus Christ."

Our Lord had come to restore the original unity that existed between God and man that had originally existed in the Garden of Paradise. This original harmony and unity was undone by the fall of Adam and Eve, by their sin of disobedience. In the divine person of Jesus Christ all creation is made anew.

The Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council understood well the importance of preserving the Faith and safeguarding the Church from any heresy, false teaching. We too today are called to defend the Holy Church from all those who desire not to live by the Faith. Our Faith is more than the mere recitation of the Creed during the Divine Liturgy. Our Faith is to be put into action, to live the Faith. A decade ago our Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church implemented the program entitled "vibrant parish," whereby the members of the Parish live in the spirit of Christ. United in the Faith, they would pray for one another and help one another. Others would recognize that they are true-believing Christians by the way they love one another.

The Fathers of Nicaea had given great enlightenment to the Church of their time. May we within whom the Holy Spirit is welcomed and alive give witness to Christ. For the Holy Spirit is a spirit of Love and Truth. May we inspire others to do likewise. May our light shine before others so that they may see the goodness in our deeds.

ECUMENICAL COUNCIL OF NICAEA

In the summer of 325, the bishops of all provinces were summoned to Nicaea, a place reasonably accessible to many delegates, particularly those of Asia Minor, Georgia, Armenia, Syria, Egypt, Greece, and Thrace. Bishop Hosius of Corduba convened the Council and was supported by Emperor Constantine. A major issue that the Council of Nicaea dealt with was the teaching of Arius. Arius was a priest (presbyter) from Alexandria, Egypt. Arius and his supporters stated falsely that the Son of God is not co-eternal with God the Father and is distinct from the Father (therefore subordinate to Him). Most of the bishops regarded Arius' teaching to be erroneously or heretical and thereby dangerous to the salvation of souls.

The question was whether the Son of God was 'begotten' by the Father from His own being, and therefore having no beginning or else created out of nothing, and therefore having a beginning. The Council stated that Jesus the Son of God was begotten, not made. The Son of God is co-eternal with Father. Eternal means having no beginning and having no end. In the Nicene-Constantinopolitan Creed that we today use in our Divine Liturgy, we profess "to believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father. Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, one in being with the Father. Through Him all things were made..."

We thank God for the wisdom of the Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council and their desire that the teachings of the Church be clear and of the true faith, not only for then, but now and for all future generations.

Father George Worschak

A Conversation between His Beatitude Sviatoslav, Father and Head of the UGCC and His Grace Rowan Williams, Archbishop Emeritus of Canterbury

On 7 May 2021, Cambridge Ukrainian Studies, an academic center at The University of Cambridge in the United Kingdom, hosted “Church Matters,” a conversation between His Beatitude Sviatoslav, Father and Head of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church and His Grace Rowan Williams, Archbishop Emeritus of Canterbury.



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During the wide-ranging, nearly 90-minute discussion, His Beatitude Sviatoslav and His Grace Archbishop Emeritus Rowan, discussed a number of topics including the global nature of the UGCC, the ecumenical vision of Metropolitan Andrei Sheptytsky and the current ecumenical situation in Ukraine, Catholic and Christian education in Ukraine, the opportunities and challenges in retaining authenticity during on-line divine liturgy and connectivity during the pandemic and the important role of women in the UGCC.

A link to the Zoom conversation, which was held in English, is [here](#).

“We are Ukrainian by our origin, but we are global in our mission,” said His Beatitude Sviatoslav when explaining the global reach of the UGCC. “We are a Church with a millennium of history. We are a Church which has conserved (sic) in its mystical memory the undivided Christianity [which existed] before the great schism of 1054. This is why this great desire for Christian unity to be restored is something which belongs to our identity. The memory of the communion of the whole Church of Christ is a treasure of the tradition of the Kyivan Church,” said His Beatitude Sviatoslav.

Leading the discussion, His Grace Archbishop Rowan posed incisive questions about the leadership of Metropolitan Andrei Sheptytsky, ecumenism, education and serving the faithful during the pandemic. The 104th Archbishop of Canterbury from 2002 until 2012, Archbishop Rowan served as chancellor of the University of New South Wales in 2014 and as master of Magdalene College, Cambridge between 2013 and 2020.

The discussion was also moderated by Olenka Pevny, Director of Cambridge Ukrainian Studies and a University Lecturer in Early Slavonic History and Culture and Andrii Smytsniuk, Language Teaching Officer with Cambridge Ukrainian Studies.

In words of Olenka Pevny, “Hosted by Cambridge Ukrainian Studies since 2003, the annual Stasiuk Lecture Series explores the dynamic and global implications of events taking place in Ukraine. This year’s lecture “Church Matters” addressed the role of religion in shaping Ukraine’s present and future. It brought together in conversation two distinguished ecclesiastics, His Grace Rowan Williams, Archbishop Emeritus of Canterbury

and His Beatitude Sviatoslav Shevchuk, head of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, who considered the role of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church in building Ukrainian community within the global ecumenical family."

Cambridge Ukrainian Studies is an academic center at the University of Cambridge. It aims to promote and contribute to the study of Ukraine in the United Kingdom and beyond. It is committed to deepening public understanding of Ukraine and to advancing fresh, innovative approaches to research on the largest country within Europe, a critical crossroads between 'East' and 'West' with a rich historical, linguistic, and cultural inheritance.

Announcements

“Community Flea Market/Craft Fair and Slavic Food Festival” – Saturday, June 12th

Summer is right around the corner and now is a good time to plan getting that “extra stuff” out of or for your living area. To help you, everyone is invited to **Holy Myrrh-Bearers Church**, 900 Fairview Road, in Swarthmore (Ridley Township) to a community-wide Flea Market/Craft Fair and Slavic Food festival on **Saturday June 12th from 9:00 am. thru 3:00 pm.**

If you or your family have non-food items to sell or if you are a non-food vendor, spaces are now being offered for only \$20.00.

Call (610) 544-1215 email us at HMBChurch@verizon.net to reserve your space **by June 1st.**

Event is rain or shine.

2021 PILGRIMAGE TO THE MOTHER OF GOD



SISTERS OF ST. BASIL THE GREAT

Heart to Heart: The Love and Unity of the Holy Family



**SAVE THE DATE
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2021**

SCHEDULE

• 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM	Confessions
• 11:00 AM	Divine Liturgy
• 1:00 PM	Lunch
• 2:00 PM	Spiritual Programs
• 4:00 PM	Moleben

Sisters of St. Basil the Great
710 Fox Chase Road
Jenkintown, PA 19046

(215) 379-3998
basilcenter@stbasils.com
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ONLINE 2021

ECUMENICAL SCHOOL FOR DIALOGUE

Ukraine at the Crossroad between East and West:
Religious, Social and Geopolitical Dimensions

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5-16 July, 2021



English speaking online school for those interested in theology, philosophy, humanities, politics, history and reconciliation.

Presented by the **Institute of Ecumenical Studies** at the **Ukrainian Catholic University**, ESD will last for 13 days (three hours per day 16:00-19:00 CET) and will consist of online lectures, discussions, seminars, video-presentations and virtual excursions.

ESD offers **4 ECTS** credits for participation at the school's online events and homework.

Working language – English!

Goals of the School:

- to study key political, social and religious processes occurring in Ukraine and throughout the region;
- to introduce various aspects of the ongoing conflict in Ukraine (geopolitical, ethnic, religious, ideological);
- to investigate the inter-denominational experience of the 2014 Maidan Revolution (The Revolution of Dignity) and its impact on the dialogue and cooperation within broader society;
- to study the ecumenical situation in Ukraine, marked by the challenges of the Catholic-Orthodox dialogue;
- to study the implications of the creation of the Orthodox Church of Ukraine, the reaction of the Russian Orthodox church to it, and the implications for the inter-Orthodox unity;
- to evaluate Eastern Christian contributions to the field of ecumenism and peacebuilding;
- to discuss creative proposals in order to deal with the situation of conflicts and wars, and cultivate an atmosphere of trust between the Churches, societies and states;
- to foster an understanding of Ukraine and its neighbours, in order to understand Europe better, by engaging with the insider perspectives.



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More Information!



The background of the advertisement features a photograph of the interior of a church, specifically the iconostasis, with several icons of the Virgin Mary and Christ. Two gold-colored candlesticks with blue candles are hanging in the foreground. The text is overlaid on a dark blue background. The word 'SCHOLARSHIP' is in a large, bold, white font. Below it, the text 'EASTERN CATHOLIC' is in a large, gold-colored font. Underneath that, 'BRILLIANT JEWEL' and 'SCHOLARSHIP' are in a smaller, gold-colored font. The Ave Maria University logo is at the bottom. A QR code is in the bottom right corner.