Sunday Bulletin August 25th 2024 – 9th Sunday after Pentecost Jesus Walking on the Water



Sts. Peter & Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church 1025 N Belle Vista Ave, Youngstown, Ohio 44509



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STS Peter & Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church

We invite you to a celebration of the Resurrection of Christ

August 25th 2024 – 9th Sunday after Pentecost Jesus Walking on the Water

The Story of My Life Nicholas Yurchyk

- bull 7

In Memory of Kathleen Duzzny on the 4th anniversary of passing away

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God Bless Ukraine and All the Ukrainian People on the 33rd Independence Day of the Ukrainian Nation - bull 18

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- Independence of Ukraine

- bull 18

Tone 8Troparion (Resurrection)

You descended <u>from</u> on <u>high</u>, O <u>Mer</u>ciful One! You accepted the <u>three</u> day <u>bur</u>ial to free us from our <u>suf</u>ferings!/ O Lord, our <u>Life</u> and Resur<u>rec</u>tion, <u>glo</u>ry to You!

Tone 8 Kontakion *(Resurrection)* By rising <u>from</u> the <u>tomb</u>, You raised the dead and resurrected <u>Ad</u>am. Eve exults <u>in</u> Your <u>Resurrection</u>,// and the world <u>cel</u>ebrates Your <u>ris</u>ing from the dead, O greatly <u>Mer</u>ciful One!

Tone 8Prokeimenon (Resurrection)

Pray and make your vows / before the Lord, our God! V. In Judah God is known; His Name is great in Israel.

The Reading is from the Letter of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Corinthians 3:9-17



For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, you are God's building. According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it. For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, each one's

work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is. If anyone's work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward. If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire. Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? If anyone defiles the temple of God, God will destroy him. For the temple of God is holy, which temple you are.

Alleluia and Verses Tone 8

V. Come, let us rejoice in the Lord! Let us make a joyful noise to God our Savior! Let us come before His face with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

The Reading is from the Gospel according to St. Matthew 14:22-34



Immediately Jesus made His disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, while He sent the multitudes away. And when He had sent the multitudes away, He went up on the mountain by Himself to pray. Now when evening came, He was alone there. But the boat was now in the middle of the sea, tossed by the waves, for the wind was contrary. Now in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went to them, walking on the sea. And when

the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out for fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Be of good cheer! It is I; do not be afraid." And Peter answered Him and said, "Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water." So He said, "Come." And when Peter had come down out of the boat, he walked on the water to go to Jesus. But when he saw that the wind was boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink he cried out, saying, "Lord, save me!" And immediately Jesus stretched out His hand and caught him, and said to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. Then those who were in the boat came and worshiped Him, saying, "Truly You are the Son of God." When they had crossed over, they came to the land of Gennesaret.

Communion Hymn

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! (Ps. 148:1) Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!



MEMORY ETERNAL

PLEASE PRAY FOR RESTING OF THE SOULS

Elaine Cartier, Betty Ewanish, William Zemko, Mary Gula, Mykola Prychodczenko, Oleksander Dymtro, Mark Vuksanovich, Vladyslav Chudakorov, Anna Adamovich, Soldier Serhiy. All Who died during the war in Ukraine.



PRAYER LIST PLEASE PRAY FOR HEALING, COMFORT, AND SPIRITUAL PEACE Metropolitan Anthony,

Archbishop Daniel, Jeff Antonina, Soldier Ivan, Smith. Nun Bernard Gnat, Dolly Mehalco, Jeff Ulbrich, Ann & George Klein, David & Richard Scharba, Brittany, Matt, Stephen Shonn. Selma, Thelma Zemko, Artur Bohuslav, Bohdan, Lori Hayda, Shirley Duffy, Michele (Senediak) Caulder, Dobrodiyka Lilya, Marilyn Sandy, O'Leary, Alice Dobransky, Harold Owens, Dave Zylka, Marianne Carmack, Nicholas Yurchyk, Pauline Witkowsky, Eileen Maluk, Peter Anderson, Albert Auden, Michael Gino Maluk, Boris & Kathleen Vuksanovich, Kathy Zebel. People Suffering from any Illnesses. Ukrainian people who are suffering from war.

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS				
1 Michael Senediak 1 Nicholas Woloschak 3 Lucas Spencer 4 Crystal Walkowic 4 David Woloschak 8 Pani Maria Zomchak 8 Bailey Blair 10 Evelyn E Newton 11 Devin Blair 11 Zenia Goodge	 12 Peter A. Borovitcky 14 Joshua Auden 17 Nicholas Yarosh 19 Fr Daniel Rohan 20 Chuck Woloschak Sr. 20 Chas Serednesky 20 Jeremy Zets 20 Nicholas Kichton 27 Mary Ann Senediak 31 Serena Spencer 			
SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS				
1 Kloey Woloschak 5 Heather McCormick 6 John Ewanish 7 George Demetrios 8 Yvonne Mark 12 Raymond Stermer 13 Rev Ivan Tchopko 13 Carol Rappach 14 Joanna Newton	 14 Maria Zomchak Sr. 18 Zena Farka 19 Joseph Sanetrick 20 Bonnie Borovitcky 22 Dolly Mehalco 22 Zachary James McCormick 27 Gary Andrews 28 Archbishop Daniel 			

OUR OFFERINGS TO THE LORD AS OF	On August 11	On August 18		
General:	\$ 1627.00	\$ 1781.00		
Renovation:	\$ 550.00	\$ 30.00		
Online Donations on Tithe.ly	\$ 205.00	\$ 35.00		

" The one who gives generously also reaps generously "

~ 2 Corinthians 9:6



Liturgical Schedule & Feast Days

Please contact Fr Mykola to schedule Prayer Services - 330-799-3830

SERVICE AND FEAST DAY SCHEDULE

- Sunday, August 25, 9:30AM Divine Liturgy, 9th Sunday, Blessing of cars after Liturgy
- Wednesday, August 28, 9:30AM Moleben to the Mother of God,

Dormition of the Mother of God.

- Sunday, September 1, 9:30AM Divine Liturgy, 10th Sunday
- Sunday, September 8, 9:30AM Divine Liturgy, 11th Sunday
- 100 ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS:
 - Friday, September 13, 6 PM Vespers Service, followed by refreshments
 - Saturday, 9:30AM HIERARCHICAL DIVINE LITURGY

Consecration of the Bell & Belfry | Banquet: 1pm

• Sunday, September 15, 9:30AM – Divine Liturgy, 12th Sunday, Parish Fellowship

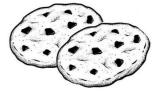
Upcoming dates & events

- Adult study & Fellowship at 6pm: to be scheduled
- 100th Anniversary Choir Rehearsal Schedule Sunday, Aug 25 after church
- Sep 13-15 100th ANNIVERSARY of Sts. Peter & Paul Parish CELEBRATION

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

<u>Cookies for the 100th Anniversary Banquet</u>

At the 100 Anniversary Banquet we will have a cookie table. Please consider making and donating cookies for the 100th Anniversary. If you can, please make cookies and bring them by Friday Sep 13. Annie Woloschak will coordinate that. Call Annie to let her know about your intention – 330-766-0182.



• <u>Summer Experience</u>

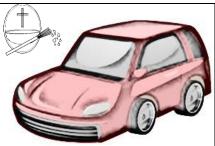
Please have each child submit a sentence or two about their summer experience for the church bulletin. Please submit their entry to Father **by September 4th**.

Bulletin Dedication (in memory or in honor)

Sun Sept 1	Sun Sept 8	Sun Sept 15	Sun Sept 22	Sun Sept 29	
Dedicated	Dedicated	Dedicated	Dedicated	Available	
Sun Oct 6	Sun Oct 13	Sun Oct 20	Sun Oct 27		
Available	Available	Available	Available		
For bulletin dedication please call – 330-799-3830, Fr Mykola					

Blessing of the cars on August 25 after liturgy Why do we bless the cars?

How much time do we spend in our cars? We travel every day of our lives – work, school, grocery store, errands, and hopefully to Church! We offer prayers for those traveling at every liturgical service, and include special petitions during our daily private prayers. Everything we do (even driving in our car) we can be reminded of God's blessing and



pray for safety and salvation! Just like we have our homes blessed during the festal season of Theophany (Christ's Baptism) in January, we have another occasion to bless our cars and other vehicles of transportation.

The Orthodox Church custom is to bless cars at the Feast of Prophet Elijah (Elias) which is August 2 (or near his feast-day). Learning about the Prophet Elijah from the Old Testament, we know that He was taken up into Heaven in a fiery chariot! Therefore, we bless our cars on his feast-day with the hope of safe travels. We, as a parish, are also including this special blessing to our parish community.



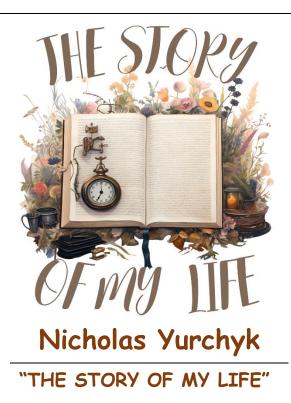
May the Lord always guard and protect us as we are traveling. By the grace of God this blessing will be a great opportunity for us to experience the blessings that Christ offers in our daily routine, even such as traveling. May the blessing of the Lord be with as in the time of traveling! Amen.

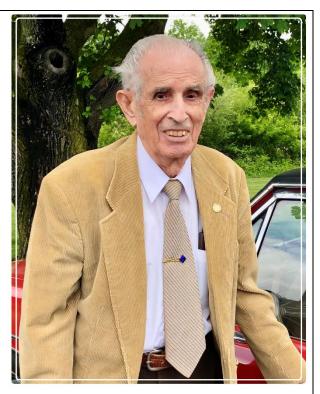
DIVINE LITURGY

LITURGY IS PUBLIC WORSHIP – THE WORK OF CHRIST AND THAT OF THE CHURCH, THE BODY OF CHRIST, BY VIRTUE



OF OUR PARTICIPATION IN CHRIST'S WORK AS MEMBERS OF THE BODY (CHURCH), WE ALSO PARTICIPATE IN THE DIVINE LIFE OF THE TRINITY, AN ETERNAL EXCHANGE OF LOVE BETWEEN THE FATHER, SON, AND HOLY SPIRIT.





I was born on December 20, 1926, in Youngstown, Ohio to Ukrainian immigrants, Roman and Julia (Bekish) Yurchyk. My namesake is St. Nicholas (Mykola in Ukrainian). My mother was born in Dem'yaniv, Ukraine and my father was born in Striebach, Ukraine.

When my father was 3 years ofd, both of his parents died. A farmer adopted him. He had to work on the farm so, he didn't have an education beyond 3rd grade. As he got older, he longed to be in America. He wrote a letter to Mr Vahney, a distant relative, telling him he would like to come to America. He was sent a ticket and at the age of 13, travelled to America, all by himself. The conditions on the ship were horrible. He was sent to the lower level where he was housed with chickens. On his two week voyage, he lived in very unsanitary conditions. "Romie" lived in Youngstown with relatives and got a mill job at age 17.

After coming to America, my mother's family settled in Pittsburgh. She spoke two languages, and sang in the church choir there. My father and friends would travel to attend several churches in Pittsburgh. He met my mother at one of those churches. They were married and settled in Youngstown to start a new life together.

True story: Father had a model-T car that couldn't climb the hills of Pittsburgh. So, he had to put the car in reverse to get up the hills!

My mother taught my father English, reading and writing. My Dad was very good at working with his hands and became a carpenter. As our new church on Belle Vista was being constructed, my father helped to dig out the cellar, by hand. Then, they wheelbarrowed the dirt up a plank. He helped lay the floor in the church. He also helped pour the concrete walkway. For years his and my initials were carved in the cement until the old hall was torn down.

Back in the Day

A big community of Ukrainian families lived close by Sts. Peter & Paul church. I lived on Burbank Street. All of our activities included church parish members, young and old. Our families laughed, cried and played together. We helped each other and worshiped together.



I grew up during in the 1930s in a time call the Great Depression. Much of the world faced harsh economic conditions. During this time, people were homeless, out of work and hungry. It started in the United States, but it quickly spread throughout the world. Nobody had money and everyone was always hungry. For a long time, we lived on potatoes and cabbage from which my father made sauerkraut, it was all we had to eat. I hated sauerkraut. But, I ate it anyway because I was hungry. It took many years before I could eat sauerkraut and potato soup again.

There was no refrigeration back then. On a rare occasion, we had bacon or beef. My father would cube small pieces of beef, pressing it through a kobassi maker. In the barn, he built his own smokehouse to smoke the meat. Then, it was put in a fruit cellar under the house, which kept it really cold. My father repaired the holes in the soles of our shoes by cutting up old tires to mend them. We thought that when we took off our shoes, our toes would permanently curve upwards but, they didn't! He and my mother were very creative in those desperate times of need.

For play, we had to improvise to make our own fun. We put cow manure on the railroad tracks down the road from church (everyone had a cow back then) to see what would happen when the train ran it over. If our fathers knew, we would have gotten a smack!





Our toy supply station was at the dump. We would wait to grab copper wire or zinc to sell it to the junk man. We made a scooter by nailing wheels to a wooden box. We used wire to make a hoop or just rolled car tires for fun. In the winter, we flooded the street and made sleds out of old pans and slid down the icy streets. We couldn't afford skis so, we made them out of old curtain rods!

Our Boy Scout Troop #105, consisted of 15 boys from our church. We couldn't afford uniforms so we wore rope belts and a simple neck scarf. Fr Musiychuk, former parish priest, took us to local stores, looking for food donations. Everyone that could, gave

us cans of beans...we got so tired of eating

those beans! My mom made us pierogies and we thought that was the best ever! We and other church kids would do the "vprava" exercises daily on the church grounds, conducted by Fr. Diakiw, who used to serve at our church.

Our group decided to steal some corn (only what we could eat) from a local farmer's field. Not that it was the right thing to do but, we were so hungry. The farmer caught eye of us and started chasing us! Years later, the farmer told us he knew we were in his field. He said he could have caught us but, because of the depression, he let us out run him.





At Pascha, when Fr. Ivanchuck read the gospel, men would raise riffles and shots were fired. And, one day, I lit a firecracker that accidentally fell over and zigzagged down into the basement of the old church hall where men were drinking beer and dogs eating hot with sauerkraut. They ran out so fast, thinking God had given them a warning!

I attended summer school so I could graduate early from Chaney High School in 1944. I was 17 years old. I went to Ohio Bell to get an outdoor job, climbing poles. My brother worked there so, I thought I had a chance. Since I weighed only 117 lbs,, they said I was too small.

So, the next day, I got dressed in my best suit and tie and went off. I went to talk to the owner of the Best Jewelry Store, downtown, because I wanted to learn how to



repair watches. ("I tried my hand at watch repair at age age 11, taking my Dad's pocket watch apart...it didn't go so well, he wasn't happy about it!") He said I had good hands to do watchmaking. So, he



ordered a watch bench directly, made just for me. I still have it. I turned my love for tinkering with watches into a good trade. I made \$18 a week and during the Depression, that was pretty good. My father said because I was learning a trade he wouldn't charge me rent. He was just thrilled that I managed to find work outside of the mills.

After learning the meticulous craft of watch repair and my 5 year apprenticeship was over, I didn't



get the raise that I was promised. So, I went out to open my own jewelry repair shop. I went to a sporting good store downtown, wanting to rent a corner of the store. When the owner said "No", my heart just sank. Then, he said, "You can have an entire storefront window!" As people passed, they watched me work. It was a dream come true! After making a couple of location moves, and not knowing what to call the business, my wife Rose picked up a "VOGUE" magazine, and the rest, as they say, is history! I enjoyed "staring into the face of time" for 71 years, from 1951 to

2022, owning Vogue Jewelers on Federal Plaza in Youngstown, Ohio.

When I was 21 years old, my father died in an industrial accident at the Ohio Works Mill in Youngstown at the age of 51. The tragedy happened on Christmas Day, January 7. Christmas has never been the same since then. My mother remarried and my sister, Mary (Gula) and I acquired two half-brothers. I thoroughly enjoy visits from my family, friends and my priest Fr Zomchak and his daughter, little Sophia. I have several nieces, nephews, great nieces and nephews and even a great, great nephew!

I was drafted to serve during World War II. During my lengthy physical in Cleveland, the doctor said, "I can't use you in your condition. You have a congenital

heart defect." I was classified as 4-F and wasn't fit for military service. I was sent on my way.

However, because of the extraordinary need for men to serve during the Cold War, I was drafted again. This time the exam took 10 minutes. They accepted me, and said they didn't find a problem.

In 1951, I was drafted during the Korean War. I told them I couldn't go because my mom was going blind. They drafted me anyway. I passed training for the 101st Airborne Division, the Screaming Eagles, stationed in Kentucky. Because of the lengthy war, supplies for our unit were limited. We were given uniforms



and boots two sizes too big. We used broomsticks for rifle practice. To make extra money on base, I cut my base buddies hair, sewed patches and bought candy and other items from the Army PX to sell to the soldiers. One day, I was called to the Captain's Quarters. Nervous, I reported to him. He just wanted to buy a candy bar! After 4 months, I was called to the Captain's Quarters again but, for a different reason. My Mother's eyesight was rapidly diminishing and they were sending me home. I have to thank Olga Senedak (Fedyna) for saving my life. Half of my outfit got killed or severely wounded in a battle shortly after I left. You see, she took my mother to the Red Cross and insisted that my mother needed me because she was almost blind. I received papers for a hardship discharge and headed home. I was 25 years old.

Years later, Dr. Franco, my heart surgeon, did find a problem. I had open heart surgery on one artery but, he couldn't do the other because of the birth defect. He said the second military exam totally missed the problem.

A New Era

I met my wife, Rose (Gyurek) at a Saturday night dance at the Vienna Airbase. She was waiting for me to invite her to another dance. I finally asked her and she said she was very happy to accept. Ever since that day, we were always together. In 1958, Rose and I were married. She was among the most beautiful, kind and fashionable women of her

day. She loved to cook and was a devoted and loving wife. I worked as an outside sales representative for Pan Atlas Travel...we made many fun and happy memories together, going on cruises, traveling throughout America and to our rustic cabin in Canada.



Years ago, I loved going to all the area fairs with my father. So, one day Rose and I bought a concession stand. Since people enjoyed our cooking, Rose name our food trailer "JOY". For 10 years, we sold hot dogs, French fries and sloppy Joe's at the Canfield Fair. We did not have children but we had each other. Rose was the love of my life. Sadly missed, she passed away in 2011.



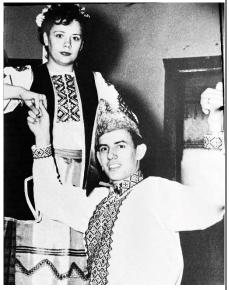
It was difficult to get packages into the Soviet Union in the 1960s because of the Cold War, which lasted for 44 years and didn't end until 1991. The Iron Curtain required someone who spoke Ukrainian and Slovak to get accreditation for sending packages to Ukraine. So, I became the only licensed Special Agent in the area. I was able to mail packages to Cleveland or Pittsburgh then, on to Ukraine, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, and all parts of Russia. My storefront was a jewelry store and the back half became a general store. Not only did I repair and sell jewelry, I sold a variety of items: the largest local inventory of polka records, Ukrainian head scarves, clothing and Ukrainian Egg dye kits. I helped people who couldn't speak much English, shop and

send items and money back home to their loved ones. My customers were concerned about sending money because the delivery man would ransack the packages. I had a "code" when corresponding with the recipient by phone, telling them where the money was concealed in the package so the delivery man wouldn't steal it!



I love my church and my faith. I have a deep rooted love of all things Ukrainian: the language, music, liturgical choir singing and literature. I enjoyed

serving our parish,



and singing base in the church choir for many years. I, along with Ben Mischey, taught Ukrainian dance to a small group of children for several years. I love working on my cars. My favorite is my 1965 Pontiac Catalina and a red "Rose" color Dodge. These cars have never been driven in the winter! And, I've always been fascinated with clocks and how they work. I love tinkering with watches (pocket watches are my favorite), traveling, singing and listening to oldies songs, watching college sports and reading.





I enjoy organic gardening for which I have won 45 first place ribbons for my garlic and vegetable entries at the Canfield Fair. I guess you can say that garlic is my specialty. My wife Rose said she was a "garlic widow" because I spent so much time gardening. It is a very time consuming process from planting the bulb to the final product. I planted 15 varieties of garlic, 2,400 garlic bulbs each year! (One variety was called "Rose") A couple of years ago, I cut back to planting 1,000 bulbs and I still plant garlic to this day. Funny, though, I can't eat it but, I love giving it away!

I have been a member of the Scottish Rite for 15 yrs and the New York Rite for 71



years, I am the oldest member in state of Ohio . I have made several wonderful friends through my shop and traveling. And, I



enjoy going out to eat with my fun, thoughtful, helpful and wonderful side kick, Millie.

My advice to the youth of today is to be proud of your heritage, speak clearly and be able to carry on a good conversation, get a good education, be fair to others and be respectful. These lessons will take you far.

- Nicholas Yurchyk, August 2024

Jesus walking on water

In Orthodox Christian theology, the miracle of Jesus walking on water is deeply symbolic and holds significant spiritual meaning. The event is recounted in the Gospels of Matthew (14:22–34), Mark (6:45–52), and John (6:16–21). Let's see the importance of this event:



1. Christ as the Lord of Creation: In Orthodox thought,

Jesus walking on water demonstrates His dominion over nature. The sea, often symbolizing chaos and the unpredictable forces of the world, is subdued under His feet. This reflects the belief that Christ, being fully divine, has authority over the natural world.

2. Symbol of Faith and Salvation: The incident also serves as a profound lesson in faith. When Peter steps out of the boat to walk towards Jesus, he is initially able to walk on the water, but when he becomes fearful and doubts, he begins to sink. Christ then saves him, chastising him for his little faith. This is seen as a metaphor for the Christian journey—faith is essential to overcome the trials and "storms" of life. Losing focus on Christ and succumbing to doubt can lead to spiritual sinking, but Christ's grace is always available to save those who call upon Him.

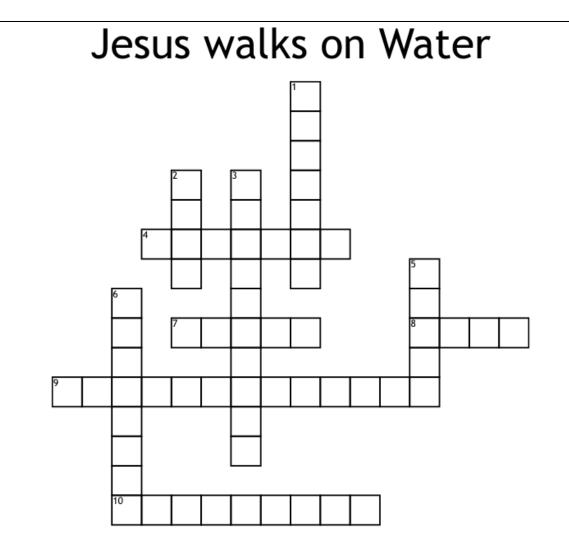
3. The Church as the Ark of Salvation: In Orthodox iconography and theology, the boat carrying the disciples is often interpreted as a symbol of the Church. Just as the disciples were safe within the boat, believers find safety within the Church, the "ark" that carries them through the turbulent waters of life. The stormy sea represents the world and its challenges, but within the Church, guided by Christ, believers are protected and can navigate through difficulties.

4. Manifestation of Theophany: This event is also seen as a theophany, a revelation of God's glory and divine nature. By walking on water, Jesus reveals His identity as the Son of God, affirming His divine nature. This act, along with others like the Transfiguration, is part of the series of events where Christ's divinity is made manifest to His disciples.

5. Call to Trust in Divine Providence: The Orthodox interpretation emphasizes the importance of trusting in God's providence. The disciples, terrified by the storm, learn that Christ is present even in the midst of fear and uncertainty. This teaches that God's presence and care are constant, even when not immediately visible or understood.

6. Liturgical and Iconographic Reflections: In Orthodox liturgy, the reading of this Gospel passage often occurs in the context of services that emphasize faith and God's saving power. Iconographically, the scene is depicted with Christ standing calmly on the water, while the disciples are shown in various states of fear and awe, underscoring the themes of divine authority and human struggle with faith. Overall, the miracle of Jesus walking on water is a profound illustration of Christ's divinity, the necessity of faith, and the assurance of God's presence and salvation, central themes in Orthodox Christian spirituality.

"Lord, save me!" And immediately Jesus stretched out His hand and caught him" - Matthew 14:31



<u>Across</u>

4. Jesus was teaching near what sea

7. Who asked to come on the water with Jesus

8. What did Peter do when he became afraid

9. When night fell what hit the boat

10. Who did Jesus send ahead of him

<u>Down</u>

1. Once Jesus got on the boat what did the wind do

2. What did Jesus send his disciples in

3. What state of mind were the disciples in when they saw Jesus walking on water

5. Who was walking on the water

6. The disciples proclaimed that Jesus really is the....

PRAYER BEFORE RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION:

I believe, O Lord, and I confess that Thou art truly the Christ, the Son of the Living God, Who camest into the world to save sinners, of whom I am first. I believe also that this is truly Thine own pure Body, and that this is truly Thine own precious Blood. Therefore I pray Thee: have mercy upon me and forgive my transgressions both voluntary and involuntary, of word and of deed, of knowledge and of ignorance. And make me worthy to partake without condemnation of Thy most pure Mysteries, for the remission of my sins, and unto life everlasting. Amen.

Of Thy Mystical Supper, O Son of God, accept me today as a communicant; for I will not speak of Thy Mystery to Thine enemies, neither like Judas will I give Thee a kiss; but like the thief will I confess Thee: Remember me, O Lord in Thy Kingdom.

May the communion of Thy Holy Mysteries be neither to my judgment, nor to my condemnation, O Lord, but to the healing of soul and body. Amen.

PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION:

I thank Thee, O Lord my God, for Thou hast not rejected me, a sinner, but hast made me worthy to be a partaker of Thy Holy Things. I thank Thee, for Thou hast permitted me, the unworthy, to commune of Thy most pure and Heavenly, Gifts. But, O Master Who lovest mankind, Who for our sakes didst die and rise again, and gavest us these awesome and life-creating Mysteries for the good and sanctification of our souls and bodies; let them be for the healing of our soul and body, the repelling of every adversary, the illumining of the eyes of my heart, the peace of my spiritual power, a faith unashamed, a love unfeigned, the fulfilling of wisdom, the observing of Thy commandments, the receiving of Thy divine grace, and the attaining of Thy Kingdom. Preserved by them in Thy holiness, may I always remember Thy grace and live not for myself alone, but for Thee, our Master and Benefactor. May I pass from this life in the hope of eternal life, and so attain to the everlasting rest, where the voice of those who feast is unceasing, and the gladness of those who behold the goodness of Thy countenance is unending. For Thou art the true desire and the ineffable joy of those who love Thee, O Christ our God, and all creation sings Thy praise forever. Amen.

Statement of the Council of Bishops of the UOC of the USA and Diaspora on the Occasion of the 33rd Anniversary of Ukraine's Independence



Beloved Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we gather in solemn reflection and prayer on the 33rd anniversary of Ukraine's independence, we, the Council of Bishops of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA and Diaspora, extend our heartfelt greetings and spiritual blessings to all faithful sons and daughters of our Holy Church, both in Ukraine and throughout the world. Today, as we commemorate this sacred milestone in the life of our beloved ancestral motherland, our hearts are heavy with the weight of the ongoing trials and tribulations faced by the nation of Ukraine, yet they are also filled with unwavering hope and faith in God's divine mercy and protection.

In these turbulent times, when the shadow of destruction, slaughter, and crimes against humanity looms large over our Ukrainian people, we are reminded of the sacred duty we bear to uphold the sanctity of life and the dignity of every human soul. Ukraine, a nation that has withstood genocides, forced resettlements, and the agony of exile, must be able to raise her children in peace, according to the time-honored Christian traditions that have shaped her identity for over 1,036 years. The morality and traditional family values that form the bedrock of our faith are not mere relics of the past; they are living truths that continue to guide and sustain us in the face of overwhelming adversity.

The struggle we witness today in Ukraine is not merely a political reality; it is a spiritual battle for the very soul of our nation. The forces of evil, manifested in the aggression and terror unleashed by the Russian state, seek not only to conquer land but to destroy the spirit and identity of a people who have remained resolute in their faith in God. We see the pain and suffering of the most vulnerable - the children of Ukraine, their mothers and fathers, and all who have been touched by the horrors of war. Yet, even in the darkest hours, the light of Christ shines brightly in their hearts, illuminating a path of hope, resilience, and unwavering trust in divine providence.

We call upon the worldwide community to stand in solidarity with Ukraine, recognizing that this is a fight not only for the sovereignty of a nation but for the protection of the sacred values that bind us all as children of God. The respect for human life and its sanctity must be preserved at all costs, for to do otherwise would be to betray the legacy of our ancestors, who invested their lives in the development of our land and the preservation of our sacred traditions. By honoring the sovereignty of Ukraine's borders and state, we honor the sacrifices of those who came before us and ensure that their legacy will endure for generations to come.

We cannot speak of Ukraine's independence without acknowledging the tremendous sacrifices made by the men and women of Ukraine's armed forces. These brave souls have taken up arms to defend not only the freedom of their homeland but the principles of liberty and justice that underpin the civilized world. Their courage in the face of unimaginable danger is a beacon of hope for all who cherish freedom. They stand as guardians of peace and security, not just for Ukraine, but for the entire global community, as they confront the terrorism and tyranny of the Russian state.

We also recognize the countless refugees from Ukraine who have found temporary homes in nations across the Diaspora. These individuals, like lit candles in the darkness, continue to shed the light of truth and remain steadfast in their resolve for a victorious Ukraine. Their resilience and determination are a testament to the indomitable spirit of the Ukrainian people, and their presence among us serves as a constant reminder of the bonds of brotherhood that unite us as one Orthodox family, regardless of where we may be in the world.

To the volunteers who tirelessly work to offer logistical and humanitarian support to Ukraine during this time of genocidal aggression, we extend our deepest gratitude. Your selfless service is a living embodiment of Christ's commandment to love one another as He has loved us. You are the hands and feet of Christ in a world desperately in need of His healing touch, and your efforts are a powerful testament to the strength of our shared humanity.

We ask all faithful Christians to join us in fervent prayer for Ukraine. Let us lift our voices to the Lord, beseeching Him to grant peace and protection to our ancestral homeland. We stand in solidarity with the Hierarchs and clergy of the Orthodox Church of Ukraine, who continue to offer spiritual support to the nation in these trying times. The Church is the soul of the nation; our faith is our heartbeat. We, as Orthodox brethren in the Diaspora, breathe in unison with the people of Ukraine, united in our prayers, our hopes, and our unwavering commitment to a free and peaceful Ukraine.

As the Hierarchs of Ukrainian Orthodox communities in the USA, Brazil, Australia, New Zealand, Germany, Belgium, France, Paraguay, and Argentina, we offer our deepest support and prayers for the people of Ukraine and for all those who stand with her in this time of trial. May the Most Holy Birth-Giver of God continue to protect Ukraine with her heavenly intercession, and may the light of Christ guide our steps toward a future of peace, justice, and freedom.

In Christ's love and service,

+Antony, Metropolitan of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA and Diaspora +Jeremiah, Archbishop of the Ukrainian Orthodox Eparchy of South America +Daniel, Archbishop of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA and Diaspora

BLESSED INDEPENDENCE DAY OF UKRAINE! 3 ДНЕМ НЕЗАЛЕЖНОСТІ, БАТЬКІВЩИНО!

On the 33rd Anniversary of the Independence of Ukraine, we thank God for the freedom given to the Ukrainian people! We are grateful for the friends of the Ukrainian Nation - other Nations who stand with Ukraine during these difficult times. We thank God for the men and women who bravely fight defending our Ukrainian nation. We are grateful to God for the gift of being who we are, for the Faith and the culture, the language, the land and everything we have.

We thank God for mercy and love for the Ukrainian Nation.

May the Lord grant to Ukraine victory over the enemies, may He turn away the suffering and bless the God-loving Ukrainian people with His just peace.







KATHLEEN N DUZZNY

+ AUGUST 28, 2020

4TH ANNIVERSARY OF HER PASSING AWAY



"HER MEMORY BE FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION"

LOVINGLY REMEMBERED BY HUSBAND WALTER THE FAMILY & FRIENDS

