



# WELCOME TO THE GOD-LOVING & GOD-PROTECTED PARISH OF ST. MICHAEL'S!

*A parish of the UOC-USA and the Ecumenical Patriarchate*

74 Harris Ave. Woonsocket, RI 02895 | 401.762.3939 |

[www.StMichaelUOC.org](http://www.StMichaelUOC.org) | Fr. Borislav Kroner

*“Each one shall give what he has decided in his own mind, not Grudgingly or because he is made to - for God loves a cheerful giver.” - II Cor. 9:7*

***December 31, 2023***

## **SERVICE SCHEDULE**

**Sunday, Dec. 31:30<sup>th</sup>** Sunday after Pentecost / Sunday of the Holy Fathers – FAST: Wine & Oil

Tone 5 / Epistle: Heb. 11:9-10, 17-23, 32-40; Gospel: Mt. 1:1-25

9:00AM Divine Liturgy – Live video broadcast on our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/StMichaelUOC/>

## **WEEKDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS**

### **NATIVITY FAST**

**Mon., Jan. 1:** Boniface at Tarsus in Cilicia / CIVIL NEW YEAR'S DAY - FAST

Epistle: Heb. 11:17-23, 27-31; Gospel: Mk. 9:42-10:1

**Tues, Jan. 2: Hieromartyr Ignatius the God-bearer, bishop of Antioch - FAST**

**Epistle: Heb. 12:25-26; 13:22-25; Gospel: Mk. 10:2-12**

**Wed., Jan. 3: Virgin-martyr Juliana of Nicomedia, and with her 500 men and 130 women – FAST**

**Epistle: James 1:1-18; Gospel: Mk. 10:11-16**

**Thur, Jan. 4: Great-martyr Anastasia of Rome - FAST**

**Epistle: James 1:19-27; Gospel: Mk. 10:17-27**

**Fri., Jan. 5: Holy Ten Martyrs of Crete: Theodulus, Saturninus, Euporus, Gelasius, Eunician, Zoticus, Pompeius, Agathopus, Basilides, and Evaristus – FAST**

**Epistle: Heb. 11:8, 11-16; Gospel: Mk. 9:33-41**

**Sat., Jan. 6: The Eve of the Nativity of Christ / Nun-martyr Eugenia, and with Martyrs Protus, Hyacinth, Basilla, and Claudia – STRICT FAST**

**Hours: 1st Hour - Heb. 1:1-12 Mt. 1:18-25 / 3rd Hour - Gal. 3:23-29 Lk. 2:1-20 / 6th Hour - Heb. 1:10-2:3 Mt. 2:1-12 / 9th Hour - Heb. 2:11-18 Mt. 2:13-23**

**7:00PM Great Compline**

**Sunday, Jan. 7: THE NATIVITY ACCORDING TO THE FLESH OF OUR LORD, GOD AND SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST / The Adoration of the Magi: Melchior, Caspar, and Balthasar.**

**Epistle: Gal. 4:4-7; Gospel: Mt. 2:1-12**

**9:30AM Divine Liturgy of St. Basil – Live video broadcast on our Facebook page: page: <https://www.facebook.com/StMichaelUOC/>**

***From January 7th till January 18th is a Fast-free period.***

*Remember: even when you are absent, expenses continue*

## **SCRIPTURE READINGS: SUNDAY, DEC. 31, 2023**

**Hebrews 11:9-10, 17-23, 32-40 (Epistle)**

BRETHREN, By faith he dwelt in the land of promise as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise; for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises offered up his only begotten son, 18 [a]of whom it was said, “In Isaac your seed shall be called,” 19 concluding that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead, from which he also received him in a figurative sense. By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau concerning

things to come. By faith Jacob, when he was dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, and worshiped, leaning on the top of his staff. By faith Joseph, when he was dying, made mention of the departure of the children of Israel, and gave instructions concerning his bones. By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden three months by his parents, because they saw he was a beautiful child; and they were not afraid of the king's command.

### **Matthew 1:1-25 (Gospel)**

The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham: Abraham begot Isaac, Isaac begot Jacob, and Jacob begot Judah and his brothers. Judah begot Perez and Zerah by Tamar, Perez begot Hezron, and Hezron begot Ram. Ram begot Amminadab, Amminadab begot Nahshon, and Nahshon begot Salmon. Salmon begot Boaz by Rahab, Boaz begot Obed by Ruth, Obed begot Jesse, and Jesse begot David the king.

David the king begot Solomon by her who had been the wife of Uriah. Solomon begot Rehoboam, Rehoboam begot Abijah, and Abijah begot Asa. Asa begot Jehoshaphat, Jehoshaphat begot Joram, and Joram begot Uzziah. Uzziah begot Jotham, Jotham begot Ahaz, and Ahaz begot Hezekiah. Hezekiah begot Manasseh, Manasseh begot Amon, and Amon begot Josiah. Josiah begot Jeconiah and his brothers about the time they were carried away to Babylon.

And after they were brought to Babylon, Jeconiah begot Shealtiel, and Shealtiel begot Zerubbabel. Zerubbabel begot Abiud, Abiud begot Eliakim, and Eliakim begot Azor. Azor begot Zadok, Zadok begot Achim, and Achim begot Eliud. Eliud begot Eleazar, Eleazar begot Matthan, and Matthan begot Jacob. And Jacob begot Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus who is called Christ.

So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations, from David until the captivity in Babylon are fourteen generations, and from the captivity in Babylon until the Christ are fourteen generations.

Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: After His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit. Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not wanting to make her a public example, was minded to put her away secretly. But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins." So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying: "Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel," which is translated, "God with

us.” Then Joseph, being aroused from sleep, did as the angel of the Lord commanded him and took to him his wife, and did not know her till she had brought forth her firstborn Son. And he called His name Jesus.

## **PARISH NEWS**

**--WE EXTEND BIRTHDAY GREETINGS TO:** Anatole Grintchenko (Dec. 31), and Diaconal Ordination Anniversary for Fr. Dn. Paul Cherkas (Dec. 29), may God grant you all, **Many, Happy Years!** Многая літа!

**--SUNDAY, JANUARY 7, 2024** – St. Nicholas Day Children’s Celebration. *Note the change of date, due to illnesses in the parish.*

**--2024 LITURGICAL CALENDARS ARE IN!** They are available in the vestibule. Suggested donation of \$3.00.

**--WE WELCOME ANY AND ALL DONATIONS TO THE CHURCH, LARGE OR SMALL:** We are most grateful for your kindness. Your donation is essential to the church. From your contribution, we pay the priest’s salary and health insurance, as well as pay the utilities for the church including water, heat, electricity, lawn care and at this time of year, snow plowing and salting the ice on the driveway. Checks should be made out to St. Michael Ukrainian Orthodox Church. Please offer your donations during the church collection or send your dues and donations to:

St. Michael Ukrainian Orthodox Church  
74 Harris Ave.  
Woonsocket, RI 02895

**--DESPERATELY SEEKING COFFEE HOUR VOLUNTEERS:**

We are seeking volunteers to sponsor a coffee hour. There will be a white board setup in the Hall with the dates. Simply, write your name for the Sunday you wish to sponsor. Usually the coffee pot and water kettle are ready to go upon your arrival. The coffee pot needs to be plugged in by 8:30 am. You are responsible for purchasing milk and half & half for the coffee. There are presently packaged goods in the kitchen. There also may be frozen items in the freezer designated for coffee hour. Feel free to bring your own items as well. At the end of coffee hour, you are responsible for washing the coffee pot, utensils, plates, etc., wrapping any leftovers, cleaning the food tables and kitchen counter. Please ask if you have any questions or need help with your coffee hour. Thank you for volunteering. Thanks, Eleanor

**--ST. MICHAEL CEMETERY ACCESS:** Polish National Cemetery has a contract to excavate and to remove gravel from their cemetery. The operation will take place **Monday thru Friday between 7am – 5pm and**

**Saturday 9am – 12 pm.** Be aware that you may encounter quite a bit of activity involved on the shared road. Excavation and removal of the sand has begun, so please be careful entering and leaving the cemetery.

**--2<sup>ND</sup> COLLECTION:** The Special Collection will be to help with the expenses of repairing the front steps of the Church. Please be as generous as possible. Thank you!

## **UPCOMING PARISH & INTER-PARISH EVENTS**

**--2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of every month** – Akathist to the Mother of God, Healer of Cancer @ 7PM / Followed by Adult Religious Education class. Please submit the names of those you want to have remembered to Fr. Boris.

## **UOL CORNER**

**--UOL'S MISSION STATEMENT:** "The Ukrainian Orthodox League is a national volunteer organization of members in the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, who are committed to promoting the Orthodox Faith, supporting the Church, developing the potential of our youth and their active participation in the life of the Church, and preserving Ukrainian heritage and culture."

**--UOL MOTTO:** "Dedicated to our Church, Devoted to Its Youth"

### **--GOALS OF THE UOL:**

- Promoting active participation in all aspects of the Orthodox faith and supporting the Church.
- Developing and maintaining programs and projects which educate members and promote dedication and commitment to the Church, Her teachings, traditions, and missions.
- Providing opportunities for the development of leadership skills and responsibility among the youth of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA.
- Providing and promoting information on Ukrainian heritage and history to the general public and establishing means which ensure the continuation of cultural awareness and pride within our membership.

**--DEC. 31<sup>ST</sup>:** UOL Soup Sale \$5 for a bowl/container

**--JAN. 14, 2024:** UOL Meeting during the coffee hour.

**--JAN 18, 2024:** Theophany Eve Holy Supper with Ukrainian Refugees.

**--FEB. 11, 2024:** Souper Bowl Sunday

**--MAR. 31<sup>ST</sup>:** UOL Soup Sale \$5 for a bowl/container

## **CHURCH SCHOOL CORNER**

**--15 MINUTES WITH FATHER --** Last Sunday of the month.

**--SUNDAY, JANUARY 7, 2024 --** St. Nicholas Day Children's Celebration. Note the change of date, due to illnesses in the parish.

## **THE NATIVITY FAST**

**NOVEMBER 28<sup>TH</sup> THROUGH JANUARY 6<sup>TH</sup>**

During the Nativity Fast the Church encourages us to intensify our spiritual lives in order to ready our souls and bodies for the Feast. We do this through fasting, prayer, alms-giving, confession and increased attention given to "preparing for His coming", to make sure we've done what we can to make a "fit dwelling place for Him" in our hearts and lives.

*"increase your prayer life, read more scripture and spiritual books, especially lives of the saints. A little less television, no anger, no gossiping, no laziness and let's try to avoid the Christmas parties. If we prepare in this way, God will bless us and we will find the Feast of the Nativity of our Lord to be far more spiritually rewarding than ever before. May God help us to struggle courageously." Bishop Joseph*

### **The Purpose of Fasting**

The purpose of fasting is to focus on the things that are above, the Kingdom of God. It is a means of putting on virtue in reality, here and now. Through it we are freed from dependence on worldly things. We fast faithfully and in secret, not judging others, and not holding ourselves up as an example.

- Fasting in itself is not a means of pleasing God. Fasting is not a punishment for our sins. Nor is fasting a means of suffering and pain to be undertaken as some kind of atonement. Christ already redeemed us on His Cross. Salvation is a gift from God that is not bought by our hunger or thirst.
- We fast to be delivered from carnal passions so that God's gift of Salvation may bear fruit in us.
- We fast and turn our eyes toward God in His Holy Church. Fasting and prayer go together.

- Fasting is not irrelevant. Fasting is not obsolete, and it is not something for someone else. Fasting is from God, for us, right here and right now.
- Most of all, we should not devour each other. We ask God to “set a watch and keep the door of our lips.”

## **Fasting Periods**

The Nativity Fast is one of the four Canonical Fasting Seasons in the Church year. This is a joyous fast in anticipation of the Nativity of Christ. That is the reason it is less strict than other fasting periods. The fast is divided into two periods.

1. **November 28<sup>th</sup> through January 1<sup>st</sup>** the traditional fasting discipline (no meat, dairy, fish, wine, and oil) is observed. There is dispensation given for wine and oil on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Similarly, fish, wine, and oil are permitted on Saturdays and Sundays.
2. **January 2<sup>nd</sup> through January 6<sup>th</sup>** traditional fasting discipline (no meat, dairy, fish, wine, and oil) is observed. There is dispensation given for wine and oil only on Saturday and Sunday during this period.

Please note that this is the letter of the tradition and certain allowances should be made for the occasional suspension of the severity of the fast, not as an excuse for laxity or indulgence, but when love requires. When in doubt, talk to your priest!

## **When Not to Fast**

- between January 7 and January 18<sup>th</sup> (even on Wednesdays and Fridays);
- if you are pregnant or nursing a newborn;
- during serious illness;
- without prayer;
- without alms-giving;
- according to your own will without guidance from your spiritual father.





**St. Michael Ukrainian Orthodox Church  
Nativity/Theophany Schedule 2024**

**Sunday, December 31st**

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy Sunday before Holy Nativity

**Saturday, January 6th - Christmas/Nativity Eve**

7:00 PM Great Compline for Holy Nativity

**Sunday, January 7th – Christmas/Nativity Day**

9:30 AM Divine Liturgy: The Nativity of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ –

**Monday, January 8th – Synaxis of the Mother of God**

10:30 AM Moleben to the Mother of God

**Tuesday, January 9th – St. Stephen's Day**

10:30 AM Moleben to St. Stephen

**Sunday, January 14th – Sunday after Nativity and Circumcision of the Lord/ St. Basil's Day**

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

**Thursday, January 18th – The Eve of the Theophany of Our Lord**

5:00 PM Great Compline (followed by Holy Eve Supper sponsored  
by the Sr. UOL)

**Friday, January 19th – Feast of the Theophany of Our Lord**

9:30 AM Divine Liturgy of St. Basil – Blessing of The Waters and Blessing of  
the Parish Grounds

*Orthodox Christians have their homes blessed after Theophany.  
Please let Fr. Borislav know when he can come by and bless  
your home.*





## **+ B A R T H O L O M E W**

***By God's Mercy, Archbishop of Constantinople-New Rome and Ecumenical Patriarch***

***to All the Plenitude of the Church***

***Grace, Mercy, and Peace from the Saviour Christ Born in Bethlehem***

Most honorable brother hierarchs,

Beloved children in the Lord,

With the grace of God, we are once again this year celebrating in chant, hymn, and spiritual song the Nativity according to the flesh of the pre-eternal Son and Word of God, namely the manifestation of the mystery of God and humankind. According to St. Nicholas Cabasilas, what occurs in the Divine Liturgy is "the mystagogy of the Lord's incarnation," while its introductory acclamation "Blessed is the Kingdom of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit" is evidence "that it is through the Lord's incarnation that people first learned that God is three persons." [\[1\]](#) The same saintly Father proclaims that our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ was the first and only to demonstrate the authentic and perfect human being, concerning His ethos, life, and everything else." [\[2\]](#)

The assumption of human nature in the person of the Son and Word of God, along with the opening of the way of human deification through grace, add unsurpassable value to humankind. Forgetting this truth leads to the diminishment of respect for the human person. The denial of the supreme destiny of human beings does not only liberate them, but also leads to diverse reductions and divisions. Without being conscious of their divine origin and their hope for eternity, humans struggle to remain human and are unable to handle the contradictions of the "human condition."

The Christian perception of human existence provides a solution to problems created by violence, war, and injustice in our world. Respect for the human person, peace, and justice are gifts from God; however, establishing the peace

that comes from Christ demands the participation and cooperation of human beings. The Christian view on the struggle for peace lies in the words of Christ our Savior, who proclaims peace, addressing His disciples with the greeting “Peace be with you” and encouraging us to love our enemies.[\[3\]](#) The revelation in Christ is called the “gospel of peace.”[\[4\]](#)

This means that, for us Christians, the way to peace is through peace and that non-violence, dialogue, love, forgiveness, and reconciliation have priority before other forms of resolving differences. The theology of peace is clearly described in the Ecumenical Patriarchate’s document *For the Life of the World: Toward a Social Ethos of the Orthodox Church* (2020):

“Nothing is more contrary to God’s will for His creatures fashioned in His image and likeness than violence one against another . . . We may justly say that violence is sin *par excellence*. It is the perfect contradiction of our created nature and our supernatural vocation to seek union in love with God and our neighbour. . . Peace is a real revelation of the still deeper reality of creation as God intends it and as God fashioned it in his eternal counsels.”[\[5\]](#)

Peace cannot be taken for granted; it is not self-evident. It is an obligation, an achievement, and an incessant struggle to preserve it. There are no automatic solutions or permanent recipes. In the face of ongoing threats to peace, we need to have vigilance and willingness to resolve problems through dialogue. The great heroes of politics are the champions of peace. As for us, we continue to underline the peacemaking role of religion. This is during a time when religions are criticized for nurturing fanaticism and violence “in the name of God” instead of being forces of peace, solidarity, and reconciliation. However, this indicates an alienation of religious faith and not an integral part of it. Genuine faith in God is the harshest critic of religious fanaticism. Religions are the natural allies of all human beings who strive for peace, justice, and the preservation of creation from human destruction.

This year, the world honours the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (December 10, 1948), constituting a summary of fundamental humanitarian ideals and values, “the shared standard, to which all peoples and all nations should aim.” Human rights, whose central point of focus includes the protection of human dignity with its individual, social, cultural, economic, and ecological conditions, are only understood in their original dynamics if they are acknowledged as the basis and criterion of global peace, associating it with freedom and justice. In this sense, the future of human rights and peace is also linked to the contribution of religions in the matter of respecting them and making them a reality.

With these thoughts and festive sentiments, in full conviction that the life of the Church in itself comprises resistance against inhumanity, wherever such inhumanity arises, we invite all of you to the good fight of constructing a culture of peace and solidarity, where people will see in the face of their fellow human beings a brother or sister and a friend, rather than a threat and enemy. Moreover, we remind you all, dear brother Hierarchs and children, that Christmas is a time of self-consciousness and thanksgiving, of the revelation of the difference between the God-man and “man-god,” of the realization of the



“great miracle” of freedom in Christ and of the healing of the “great wound” of alienation from God. Finally, we kneel respectfully before Mary, the Mother of God, who bears in her arms the incarnate Word, and we convey to you the blessing of the Mother Holy Great Church of Christ, wishing you an auspicious, healthy, fruitful, peaceful, and joyous new year of the Lord’s favour.

Christmas 2023

+ Bartholomew of Constantinople

Your fervent suppliant of all before God

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- [1] On the Divine Liturgy XII, PG 150.392D.
- [2] On the Life of Christ VI, PG 150.680C.
- [3] Cf. Mt. 5:44
- [4] Eph. 6:44
- [5] § 42, 43 and 44.



Dear and Beloved Clergy and Faithful of our Holy Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, South America, Western Europe and Australia-New Zealand and all our Brothers and Sisters in Ukraine,

**CHRIST IS BORN! LET US GLORIFY HIM!**

Once again by the Grace of God, the Great Feast of the NATIVITY – INCARNATION of our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ, is upon us. Even though it comes in wintertime, the joy it brings into our lives is much more like the joy we experience in spring when we witness the all the budding of nature’s beauty. The Nativity fills us with joy without limits. “For there is born to us this day in the City of David (Bethlehem), a Savior, Who is Christ the Lord.” (Luke 2:11)

He is the promised One prophesized throughout the Old Testament, the One Who sustains all. He is born of the Ever-Virgin Mary as a humble infant so that

He might make us children of God. He is the Son of God Who descends from Heaven in order to lift all humanity up to Heaven – to grant us eternal life “for it pleased the Father that in Him all fullness should dwell and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself”. (Colossians 1:19-20) Today Angels and all mankind proclaim the spiritual song of the Nativity Canon: “Christ is born! Glorify Him! Christ has come from the Heavens! Welcome Him! Christ is on Earth! Exult Him!

It is sad to observe throughout this, our earthly world, a loss of relationship with God in the Holy Trinity. We have, however, another opportunity to change this estrangement into fullness of reconciliation with Father, Son and Holy Spirit – by opening our hearts, minds and souls to the Good News of the Nativity. We have the opportunity to relate to Emmanuel – “God with us” and to follow His lead into Heaven! We who live in the great democracies of the world, have the opportunity to witness to the never-ending power of God, manifested to us in fullness of love – through the incarnation of His Son.

In Ukraine, however, and too many other nations around the world suffering invasion, repression and domination from beyond their borders, our brothers and sisters struggle each day to also witness - even at the darkest of times. They struggle to hear the Nativity Carols sung in their churches, their neighborhoods and in their own homes, but often the loudness of the bombs that rain down upon those homes, neighborhoods and churches drown out the beautiful carols glorifying the Christ Child, filling their lives with fear and pain.

As we gather together on the Eve of Nativity with all our loved ones present, we MUST remember in our prayers before Holy Supper, along with our family ancestors, all those who have suffered and perished over the last two years – simply because of greed and covetousness in those who have attempted for centuries to usurp our spirituality, our history, our culture and our very identity. We MUST also pray for those who still suffer under daily threats to their very existence, beseeching that the comfort and Love of the Christ Child will fill and warm their hearts even under the worst of circumstances.

We assure you, our spiritual children, of our continued prayers for each and every one of you during these holy Nativity days. May the Love of the Christ Child fill your homes and your lives in such an abundance that it cannot be contained but spread through you into the lives of all who need that Love – and you – to make their lives whole.

*In our Lord's All-Encompassing Love,*

**+Antony, Metropolitan**

**+Jeremiah, Archbishop**

**+Daniel, Archbishop**





Дороге та Улюблене Духовенство та Вірні нашої Святої Української Православної Церкви США, Південної Америки, Західної Європи, Австралії й Нової Зеландії та всі наші Брати та Сестри в Україні,

## **ХРИСТОС НАРОДЖУЄТЬСЯ! СЛАВІМО ЙОГО!**

Знову, з благодаті Божої настає Велике свято РІЗДВА – БОГОВТІЛЕННЯ Господа, Бога і Спаси нашого Ісуса Христа. Хоч воно й приходить взимку, радість, яку воно приносить у наше життя, більше схожа на радість, яку ми відчуваємо навесні, коли ми спостерігаємо розквіт краси природи. Різдво Христове наповнює нас безмежною радістю. «Бо сьогодні в Давидовім місті народився для вас Спаситель, Який є Христос Господь». (Луки 2:11)

Він є Тим обіцяним, про Кого пророкували в Старому Завіті, Той, Хто усе підтримує. Він народився від Приснодіви Марії як смиренне немовля, щоб зробити нас дітьми Божими. Він є Сином Божим, Який сходить з Неба, щоб піднести все людство до Неба – щоб дарувати нам вічне життя, «бо вгодно було, щоб у Нім перебувала вся повнота і щоб Ним поєднати з Собою все, примиривши кров'ю хреста Його». (Колоссян 1:19-20) Сьогодні Ангели й все людство проголошують духовний піснеспів Різдвяного канону: «Христос народився! Прославляйте Його! Христос прийшов з небес! Вітайте Його! Христос на землі! Прославляйте Його!»

Сумно спостерігати, в нашому земному світі, втрату стосунків із Богом у Пресвятій Трійці. Проте ми маємо ще одну нагоду - нагоду змінити це відчуження на повноту примирення з Отцем, Сином і Святим Духом – відкривши наші серця, розум і душі до Доброї Новини про Різдво Христове. У нас є можливість поглянути на Еммануїла – «З нами Бог» і наслідувати Його провід до Небес! Ми, що живемо у великих демократичних країнах світу, маємо можливість засвідчити нескінченну силу Божу, яка проявляється нам у повноті любові – через втілення Його Сина.

Проте в Україні та в багатьох інших націях по всьому світу, які страждають від вторгнення, репресій та панування над ними інших держав, наші брати й сестри щодня намагаються також засвідчити ту Божу силу – навіть у найтемніші часи. Їм ледве вдається почути Різдвяні колядки, які співають

у їхніх церквах, їхніх околицях та у їхніх власних домівках, проте вони часто чують гучні бомби, що падають на їхні домівки, околиці та церкви, заглушаючи прекрасні колядки, що прославляють Немовля Христа, а натомість наповнюють їхні життя страхом та болем.

Зібравшись у Святвечір разом з усіма нашими близькими, ми **ОБОВ’ЯЗКОВО** згадаємо у своїх молитвах перед Святою Вечерю не лише наших предків, але й всіх тих, хто постраждав і загинув за останні два роки – просто через жадібність і захланність тих, хто століттями намагався узурпувати нашу духовність, нашу історію, нашу культуру та саму нашу ідентичність. Ми **ПОВИННІ** також молитися за тих, хто все ще страждає від щоденних загроз самому їхньому існуванню, благаючи, щоб розрада та любов Немовляти Христа наповнили й зігріли їхні серця, навіть за найгірших обставин.

Ми запевняємо вас, наші духовні чада, у наших постійних молитвах за кожного з вас у ці святі дні Різдва Христового. Нехай Любов Немовляти Христа наповнює ваше життя та ваші домівки настільки, щоб усе переповнюючи, поширювалась через вас у життя всіх, хто потребує цієї Любові – так само як потребують вас, – щоб зцілити свої життя.

*У Всеохоплюючій Любові нашого Господа,*

**+ Митрополит Антоній**

**+ Архієпископ Даниїл**

**+ Архієпископ Єремія**



JOIN US AT A MONTHLY LIVE STREAMED  
CELEBRATION OF AN AKAPHIST TO  
ПРИЄДНУЙТЕСЯ ДО ЩОМІСЯЧНОЇ ПРЯМОЇ ТРАНСЛЯЦІЇ  
СЛУЖІННЯ АКАФІСТА

THE MOTHER OF GOD - QUEEN OF ALL  
БОГОРОДНИЦІ ВСЕЦАРИЦЯ

BESEECHING HER INTERCESSION FOR THE HEALING OF ALL  
THOSE SUFFERING FROM CANCER AND OTHER DISEASES  
МОЛЯЧИ ЇЇ ЗАСТУПНИЦТВА ДЛЯ ЗЦІЛЕННЯ ВІД РАКУ ТА  
ІНШИХ ХВОРОБ

First Thursday of each month  
5 January 2023 at 7:00pm  
Перший четвер кожного місяця  
5 січня 2023 року о 19:00 год

Please submit the names of those you wish to pray for to:  
uocofusa@aol.com with the subject – PRAYERS  
Будь ласка, надішліть імена тих, за кого ви бажаєте молитися:  
uocofusa@aol.com з темою – МОЛИТВИ

Future dates: 5 Jan,  
2 Feb, 2 Mar, 6 April, 4 May, 1 June,  
6 July, 3 Aug...  
Майбутні дати: 5 січня,  
2 лютого, 2 березня, 6 квітня, 4 травня,  
1 червня, 6 липня, 3 серпня...





## МОЛИТВА ЗА УКРАЇНУ

ГОСПОДИ, БОЖЕ НАШ,  
ВЕЛИКИЙ І ВСЕСИЛЬНИЙ, МИ ГРІШНІ ДІТИ ТВОЇ, ЗВЕРТАЄМОСЯ ДО ТЕБЕ У  
ПОКОРІ СЕРДЕЦЬ НАШИХ І НИЗЬКО СХИЛЯЄМО ГОЛОВИ НАШІ ПЕРЕД  
ТОБОЮ. БЛАГАЄМО ТЕБЕ ЗА БЕЗМЕЖНЕ МИЛОСЕРДЯ ТА ЩЕДРІ  
БЛАГОСЛОВЕННЯ ДЛЯ НАРОДУ – ЛЮДЕЙ – УКРАЇНИ, У ЦІ ДНІ ВЕЛИКОЇ  
НЕБЕЗПЕКИ ДЛЯ ЇХ МИРНОГО ЖИТТЯ І ДОБРОБУТУ.

О ГОСПОДИ, НАШИМ БРАТАМ І СЕСТРАМ, ЗНОВУ ЗАГРОЖУЮТЬ АГРЕСОРИ,  
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ДО ПОВНОГО ПАНУВАННЯ НАД ДОРОГОЦІННОЮ ЗЕМЛЕЮ ТА РЕСУРСАМИ  
УКРАЇНИ. ЗМІЦНИ ЛЮДЕЙ, У ЧАСІ ЦІЄЇ ВЕЛИКОЇ НЕБЕЗПЕКИ, ЯКІ  
ЗВЕРТАЮТЬСЯ ДО ТЕБЕ У БЕЗМІРНО ГЛИБОКІЙ ВІРІ, ДОВІРІ ТА ЛЮБОВІ, ЯКІ  
ВОНИ ПЛЕКАЛИ ДО ТЕБЕ УСЕ СВОЄ ЖИТТЯ. ЗІШЛИ ГОСПОДИ, СВОЇХ  
НЕБЕСНИХ АНГЕЛІВ, ЯКИМИ КЕРУЄ ПОКРОВИТЕЛЬ МІСТА КИЄВА  
АРХІСТРАТИГ МИХАЇЛ, ЩОБ ВИКОРИНИТИ БАЖАННЯ АГРЕСОРА ЗНИЩИТИ  
НАШ НАРОД.

ДАРУЙ ГОСПОДИ, ЄДНІСТЬ РОЗУМУ, СЕРЦЯ І ДУШІ ВСІМ ДЕРЖАВНИМ  
ЛІДЕРАМ І ТИМ, КОМУ ВОНИ СЛУЖАТЬ. ОБ'ЄДНАЙ ЇХ УСІХ В ОДНУ ВЕЛИКУ  
ХРИСТІЯНСЬКУ РОДИНУ, ЩОБ ВОНИ РАЗОМ, ЯК БРАТИ І СЕСТРИ,  
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СИНА І СВЯТОГО ДУХА, НИНИ І ПОВСЯКЧАС, І НА ВІКИ ВІЧНІ.

АМІНЬ.





## PRAYER FOR UKRAINE

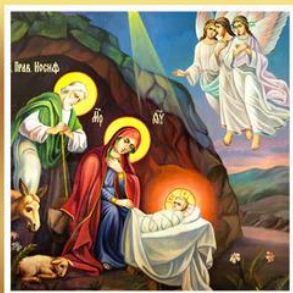
LORD OUR GOD,  
GREAT AND ALMIGHTY, WE YOUR SINFUL CHILDREN TURN TO YOU WITH  
HUMILITY IN OUR HEARTS AND BOW OUR HEADS LOW BEFORE YOU. WE  
BESEECH YOUR LOVING KINDNESS AND ABUNDANT BLESSINGS UPON THE  
NATION – THE PEOPLE – OF UKRAINE DURING THESE DAYS OF GREAT DANGER  
TO THEIR SAFETY AND WELL-BEING.

OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS, LORD, ARE ONCE AGAIN THREATENED BY  
AGGRESSORS WHO SEE THEM ONLY AS SIMPLE OBSTACLES BLOCKING THE  
PATH TO THE COMPLETE DOMINATION OF THE PRECIOUS LAND AND  
RESOURCES OF THE COUNTRY OF UKRAINE. STRENGTHEN THE PEOPLE AS  
THEY FACE THIS GREAT DANGER, TURNING TO YOU IN THE IMMEASURABLY  
DEEP FAITH, TRUST AND LOVE THEY HAVE PLACED IN YOU ALL THEIR LIVES.  
SEND YOUR HEAVENLY LEGIONS, O LORD, COMMANDED BY THE PATRON OF  
KYIV, ARCHANGEL MICHAEL, TO CRUSH THE DESIRES OF THE AGGRESSOR  
WHOSE DESIRE IS TO ERADICATE YOUR PEOPLE.

GRANT UNITY OF MIND, HEART AND SOUL, O LORD TO ALL LEADERS IN PUBLIC  
SERVICE WITH THOSE THEY SERVE. UNITE THEM ALL INTO ONE, GREAT  
CHRISTIAN FAMILY, SO THAT TOGETHER, AS BROTHERS AND SISTERS, THEY  
MAY GLORIFY YOUR MAJESTIC NAME – GOD IN THE HOLY TRINITY – FATHER,  
SON AND HOLY SPIRIT, NOW AND EVER AND UNTO THE AGES OF AGES.

AMEN.





Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA  
**DECEMBER CELEBRATIONS**  
**У ГРУДНІ СВЯТКУЄМО**  
УКРАЇНСЬКА ПРАВОСЛАВНА ЦЕРКВА США



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