

My Beloved Parishioners, your families and all visitors to our Cathedral,

Christ is Born! Chrystos Rozdayetsya!

“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.”

(St. Luke 2:14)

At every Divine Liturgy, we have special petitions read for “peace for the whole world.” **Peace!** In reading the newspaper and watching television, it is very obvious that peace is so desperately needed in the world, in our communities, in our churches, and even in our families. To find it, however, we must truly change our lives and our attitudes by embracing the New-Born Christ Child and by following His teachings every day of our lives, not just on Holy Days. Only when we personally desire and work for the peace of God will it come to us, our communities, our country, our world. It begins with us and our desire to be better, kinder, gentler Christ-like people.



I pray, on this Christmas Day, that we may personally embrace the Christ Child’s Love and truly follow Him, becoming examples for others and helping them change their lives of darkness to Light.

On this glorious feast of the Nativity of Our Lord & Savior Jesus Christ, on behalf of Pani Matka Mary Anne and myself, I sincerely greet His Beatitude Metropolitan Constantine, His Eminence Archbishop Antony, and His Grace Bishop Daniel. I also greet Fr. Michael, Pani Matka Anna & Julia, Protodeacon Ihor & Pani Matka Iryna, Pani Matka Ann, Pani Matka Nadiya, Pani Matka Natalya, seminarian Vasyl Dovgan and their families, our Board of Trustees, choirs, parish organizations, dedicated parish staff, beloved parishioners and their families and all visitors to St. Vladimir Cathedral Parish.

May Our Loving & Almighty God bless you all on this Holy Christmas Day and throughout the New Year. May we celebrate this season with joy in our homes, peace in our world and love in our hearts.

Christ is Born! Chrystos Rozdayetsya!

~ Fr. John, Pastor

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Thank You ... to our dedicated Pyrohy Workers who recently donated \$34,500. toward the cost of repairing the roof on the gallery section of our Cultural Center. May God bless them with good health and much happiness for many years. Mnohiya Lita!

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After a lengthy illness, William (Wasy) Suprunenko entered into eternity on November 26, 2011, at the age of 74. Bill, as he was called, spent many years in a local nursing home. Prior to his illness, he enjoyed working in the horticulture section of the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo. Recently, our parish was notified that we are mentioned as one of the recipients of a bequeath in his will. We greatly appreciate this gift of love, especially during these difficult financial years. May Our Lord accept his soul into His Heavenly Kingdom and may his memory be eternal! Vichnaya Pamyat!

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*~ All parishioners are requested to follow this example and remember our parish in your will.~
~ Let our love for our St. Vladimir Parish continue to be evident,
even after our departure from this earthly life.~*

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Please check out
our new parish website by going to <http://www.stvladimirs.org>

Thank You ... to everyone who assisted in making the 7th annual Family Night, which was held in our parish center on Thursday, December 29th, such a success. Both young and old enjoyed an evening of Faith, Fellowship & Fun!

Calendar of Events for the week of January 8th:

- Sunday** - **9:00 a.m., ONE bilingual Liturgy followed by traditional carol sing-along**
- Monday** - ***Feast of St. Stephen, Archdeacon and First Martyr***
- Wednesday** - **9:00 a.m., Divine Liturgy followed by a memorial service for Fr. Stephen Hankavich**
- 8:30 a.m., Moleben for sick parishioners
- 5:30 p.m., Ukrainian Dance School, Bandura School, Pottery & Art classes
- 6:00-8:00 p.m., Library Hours
- Thursday** - 7:00 a.m., Pyrohy Project
- Friday** - 5:00 a.m., Pyrohy Project
- Saturday** - ***Naming of Our Lord & Savior Jesus Christ, Feast of St. Basil, Julian New Year***
- **9:00 a.m., Divine Liturgy**
- 9:00 a.m., Ukrainian School
- 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Library Hours
- 5:45 p.m., Confession
- 6:00 p.m., Vespers followed by Brotherhood Malanka
- Sunday** - **8:30 a.m., English Divine Liturgy**
- **U.O.L. Annual luncheon at Dimitri's Restaurant immediately following Liturgy**
- **10:15 a.m., Ukrainian Divine Liturgy**

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Schedule of Altar Boys for Sunday, January 8th:

Divine Liturgy: **Group #1** – John Kominko, Andrew Moysaenko, Nicholai Moysaenko

Schedule of Altar Boys for Sunday, January 15th:

English Divine Liturgy: **Group #2** – Jonathan Parfejewiec, Michael Parfejewiec, Jonathan Greaves
David Greaves

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Schedule of Ushers for Sunday, January 8th:

English Divine Liturgy: **Group #3** – Mr. Hans Harasimchuk, Mrs. Mary Ann Sklaryk

Schedule of Ushers for Sunday, January 15th:

English Divine Liturgy: **Group #4** – Mr. Emil Pavlyshyn, Mrs. Joey Mihnovets

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It's Malanka Time!

All parishioners and friends are invited to the Annual Malanka (Julian New Year) Dinner/Dance, sponsored by St. Vladimir's Brotherhood on Saturday, January 14th, immediately following the 6:00 p.m. Vespers. It will be held in the parish's Grand Hall. Tickets cost \$35.00 per person and may be obtained by calling Walter Syder at (216) 661-5646 by January 10th. Music will be provided by Fred Ziwich & the International Sound Machine. Please support this annual event and invite a friend to join you.

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Christ is Born! Glorify Him!

Please remember our sick and elderly parishioners in your prayers. Also, the clergy request that they be notified when parishioners are admitted to and/or discharged from the hospital.

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May God's blessings be upon our sick and elderly parishioners in hospitals, nursing homes and at home, who are unable to attend this morning's Liturgy. May they all feel His presence and comfort on this Christmas Day. We also greet all our students who are away at college and all parishioners who, because of distance, are not with us in church. May the spirit of Christmas abide with them throughout the year.

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We thank Pani Matka Ann, Mrs. Vera Malysz, Mrs. Irene Pavlyshyn and Ms. Ludmilla Rowinsky for taking the time to collect the donations for the beautiful poinsettias that adorn our church this Christmas Day. We thank everyone who helped decorate the church Christmas trees and arrange the flowers, as well as the men who erected the scaffolding and changed the ceiling lights in the church. By working together, all tasks were accomplished beautifully and quickly. God bless you all!

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Our parish has hundreds of members, many of them elderly. Also, there are many new arrivals from Ukraine who consider St. Vladimir's their spiritual home. The clergy always take special interest in visiting those who are sick in the hospitals and nursing homes. However, to properly attend to their spiritual needs, the clergy must be notified when a member of your family is hospitalized. Do not rely on the hospital to notify the clergy. Also, because of the large number of elderly members, it is not possible to keep in constant contact with everyone. Therefore, if you would like the priest to make a home visit, please call the clergy directly.

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With our parish seeing an increase in the number of visitors from Ukraine, many of whom are planning to stay in the U.S. permanently; the clergy see a great need to minister to these new families by helping them to learn the Orthodox Faith, through Baptism and Chrismation, as well as encouraging them to have Church marriages. If you know of anyone who needs such assistance, please phone Fr. John or Fr. Michael so that a meeting can be arranged.

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Attention

All Saints Camp Boosters for 2011 are now available for purchase. Tickets for the entire year are \$25.00. All proceeds go to help maintain All Saints Camp. Booster tickets may be purchased from Mrs. Mary Ann Sklaryk. Please support this project and our camp.

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The 2012 Almanac from our Ukrainian Orthodox Diocesan Center in South Bound Brook, NJ is available in the parish office. The cost is the same as in previous year – \$15.00.

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*During the Nativity Season, please greet one another
with our traditional Orthodox greeting:
Christ is Born! Glorify Him! Chrystos Rozdayetsya! Slavite Yoho*

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Greetings are extended to all men names Stephen and women named Stephanie on the occasion of their Patron Saint's Day on Monday. Mnohiya Lita!

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Please remember that, because of the joy of the Nativity, there is NO kneeling in church from January 7th until Epiphany, January 19th, following the Liturgy.

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Pani Matka Mary Anne and I most sincerely thank all our parishioners who remembered us at Christmas with so many cards, gifts and words of encouragement and support. It is truly appreciated! May God bless you all for the love and kindness that you have shown to us.

- Fr. John

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On Sunday, January 29th, our annual parish meeting will take place following the Divine Liturgy. An important part of that meeting is the election of parishioners to the Board of Trustees, as well as the election of auditors and church elders. The nominating committee is busy at work selecting qualified candidates. If you or someone you know, who is in good standing in the parish, would like to serve in one of these positions, please contact Mr. Paul Hlahol or Mr. Stephen Mihnovets.

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Our UOL chapter members have decided to celebrate UOL Sunday on Sunday, January 15th, with a luncheon at Dimitri's Restaurant. Everyone is invited. For more information or to place your reservation, please contact Pani Matka Mary Anne at (440) 885-1509 as soon as possible.

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The Ukrainian Orthodox League, Young Adults Committee, is sponsoring a "Winter Weekend Getaway" in the Pocono Mountains of Pennsylvania from January 13th – 16th, 2012. First 15 registrants will get free housing. For more information, contact Ms. Emily Kominko or the parish clergy.

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Please note that, following a well-deserved 2 week vacation, our pyrohy group will resume work this coming Thursday, January 12th and Friday, January 13th.

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Thank you to all parish youth who visited our parishioners and sang Christmas carols at local nursing homes. They also presented gifts to everyone from our Senior U.O.L. chapter. We also thank all youth and their parents who went to St. Herman's on December 24th to help prepare meals for the homeless.

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Couples contemplating marriage are asked to call the rectory and speak to the parish clergy before setting a day and making arrangements with a hall. There are periods of the year when marriages are not permitted by our Church. To avoid any disappointment, please call the rectory before finalizing the date. Also, anyone contemplating marriage outside the Orthodox Church should contact the clergy to have their marriage blessed in the Orthodox Church. To be in communion with the Orthodox Faith, all marriages must be blessed by the Church. Also, couples are reminded that it is against the teachings of the Orthodox Church to live as husband and wife without a Church marriage. Co-habitation – common law relationships – are a sin and such couples are not permitted to receive Holy Communion until they have a Church marriage. If you need any assistance, please contact Fr. John.

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Please note that, during the Christmas season, a special sheet with the words of our beautiful Ukrainian carols (in both Ukrainian and English phonetics) will be placed in each pew. Please use them to sing, in unison, our traditional carols during the Nativity season. Also, encourage our young people to sing along.

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Please notify the parish clergy of all address changes. It has come to our attention that numerous parishioners have moved and that we do not have their new addresses.

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Tomorrow, January 8th, our parish youth invite you to their annual Carol Sing-Along following the one, 9:00 a.m. bilingual Divine Liturgy. Let us join our voices to share the joy of Our Lord's Nativity!

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On Sunday, January 22nd, at 6:00 p.m., and Akathist Service to Our Lord Jesus Christ, with prayers for the victims of abortion, will be held at St. Matthew Orthodox Church, 10383 Albion Road in North Royalton, in collaboration with ZOE for Life. There will be a speaker and coffee hour in the hall immediately following the service. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend.

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The Sacrament of Holy Baptism

The birth of a child is a joyous event – just as joyous is the time when the parents bring their child to Church to be Baptized & Chrismated and enter a Sacramental life with the Lord and His Holy Church.'

The Orthodox Church, like many Christian churches, believe in infant Baptism. Godparents have a very important role in the child's Baptism. They speak for the baby and answer the questions when asked, as well as recite the Creed – the Symbol of Our Faith.

Parents must always remember that selecting godparents is not a social obligation but a spiritual one. It is truly sad when parents select individuals – be it family members or friends – who have no relationship with the Holy Church.

To avoid any misunderstanding, please note the following regulations demanded, as written in the Diocesan Almanac, before asking anyone to serve as godparents for your children.

“The following are the regulations concerning Baptism, which are binding upon all:

The primary sponsor (a male for a male child and a female for a female child” must be an Orthodox Christian who is a member in good standing of a Ukrainian Orthodox or other Orthodox parish, regularly attends the Divine Services of the Church and receives the Sacraments of Holy Confession and Communion. The primary sponsor renounces Satan in the name of his/her spiritual charge and recites the Orthodox Profession of Faith.

The privilege of fulfilling the sacred vocation of Godparent is denied to any person who has been excommunicated by the Church or has excommunicated him/her self by word or deed, such as one who has married outside the Orthodox Church.

Only one sponsor is required, the same sex as the individual being baptized. However, two or more may be accepted. The secondary sponsors must be of the Christian Faith, baptized in water, in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.”

To avoid any disappointment, please select godparents for your children who are Orthodox Christians in good standing with the Church.

For more information, please contact Fr. John or Fr. Michael.





As we begin a new year, we thank God for the many blessings that He has bestowed upon us in 2011. In prayer, we also remember those of our St. Vladimir's Parish Family who have been called into eternity.

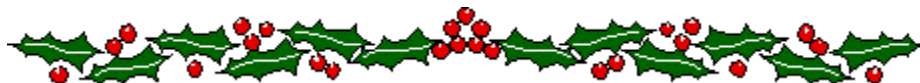
***"Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil, for Thou art with me ...
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever."***

(Psalm 23:4 & 6)

<i>Maria Pasicznyk</i>	<i>January 30, 2011</i>
<i>Mychajlo Fylak</i>	<i>February 17, 2011</i>
<i>Helen Bury</i>	<i>March 2, 2011</i>
<i>Nadia Melnychuk</i>	<i>March 5, 2011</i>
<i>Nina Nahornyj</i>	<i>March 31, 2011</i>
<i>Very Rev. Michael Strapko</i>	<i>April 25, 2011</i>
<i>Maria Sydorenko</i>	<i>June 13, 2011</i>
<i>Richard Lutian</i>	<i>June 29, 2011</i>
<i>Mildred Kisil</i>	<i>July 21, 2011</i>
<i>Odarka Trochemenko</i>	<i>July 30, 2011</i>
<i>Nadia Honcharenko</i>	<i>August 21, 2011</i>
<i>Julia Boyko</i>	<i>September 12, 2011</i>
<i>Stella Sowchin</i>	<i>November 3, 2011</i>
<i>William (Wasył) Suprunenko</i>	<i>November 26, 2011</i>
<i>Dr. Jaroslav (Jerry) Mihaychuk</i>	<i>December 6, 2011</i>



***Our loved ones are greatly missed, but not forgotten, by both their families and our parish.
May Our Loving Lord accept them in His Heavenly Kingdom.
Memory Eternal! Vichnaya Pamyat!***



Tuesday, January 10th, at 7:00 p.m., the Board of Trustees will hold their monthly meeting in the gallery of the cultural center.

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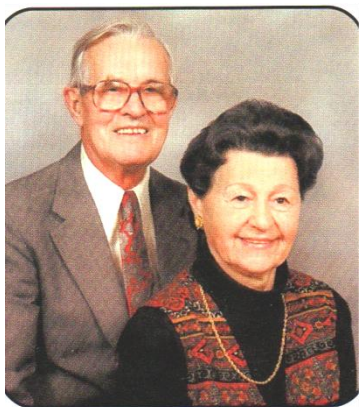
"A most since thank you to all who remembered us during this Nativity with cards, greetings and gifts. May God bless you for your thoughtfulness!

- Fr. Michael, Pani Matka Anna & Julia"

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On Friday and Saturday evenings, January 13th & 14th, at 7:30 p.m. at the Independence Middle School, the Indy Dreamers of Independence High School will perform a student-run production of "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat". The role of Joseph will be played by our altar server, John Kominko. Admission is free and everyone is welcome. Of note that the fact that the performance was scheduled for January 6th & 7th. However, John informed the other students that it was Christmas and that he couldn't participate unless it was changed to a later date. Too often, we – parents and children alike – do not speak up when activities conflict with Church events but not this time. May John's example of the Church being a priority encourage others to do likewise. ***One person can truly make a difference!***

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We express our profound gratitude to the members of the Greenleaf and Boyko Families for donating \$1,000.00 to cover the cost of this morning's live radio / internet broadcast of the Christmas Divine Liturgy. This donation is made in memory of their beloved mother and grandmother, Julia Boyko, who entered into eternity on September 12, 2011 at the age of 93.

A similar donation by the family was made last year in memory of their father and grandfather, Alex Boyko, who entered into eternity on December 15, 2010 at the age of 95.

Both Alex & Julia were dedicated members of our parish and were members of our Ukrainian choir. We pray that Our Lord accept their souls into His Heavenly Kingdom to sing with the choirs of angels. May their memory be eternal! Vichnaya Pamyat!

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Over the last number of years, our St. Vladimir parish has been making inroads in having our Christmas – January 7th – recognized by the entire community by requesting that Christmas decorations remain in place until after our Holy Day. We thank the following for supporting this movement:

The City of Parma
Parmatown Mall
Holy Family Hospice
Parma Health Care Nursing Home
Pleasant Lake Villa Nursing Home
Good Old Daze Tavern
State Road Meats

Parma Community General Hospital
Mt. Alverna Nursing Home
State Road (Briggs Branch) Post Office
Greenbriar Nursing Home
Good Shepherd Methodist Church
Tradesman Tavern
Breads & Beyond Bakery





We went to St. Herman's Monastery & House of Hospitality on Saturday, December 24th, to help prepare food and carol for the needy and homeless.



We had a great time at Family Night on Thursday, December 29th.



We caroled for shut-ins at nursing homes on Monday, January 2nd.