

**UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC METROPOLITAN CATHEDRAL  
OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION  
УКРАЇНСЬКИЙ КАТОЛИЦЬКИЙ АРХИКАТЕДРАЛЬНИЙ СОБОР  
НЕПОРОЧНОГО ЗАЧАТТЯ**

CATHEDRAL PARISH FOUNDED 1886 OLD CATHEDRAL PURCHASED 1909 NEW CATHEDRAL BUILT 1963-1966

**THE MOST REVEREND BORYS GUDZIAK**  
ARCHBISHOP-METROPOLITAN OF PHILADELPHIA FOR UKRAINIAN CATHOLICS  
**Високопреосвященний Владика Борис Гудзяк**  
АРХИЄПІСКОП-МИТРОПОЛИТ ФІЛАДЕЛЬФІЙСЬКИЙ ДЛЯ УКРАЇНЦІВ-КАТОЛІКІВ

*Welcome to our Cathedral – Вітаємо вас у Соборі*  
*Come to your (home) house of worship*

**VERY REVEREND FR. ROMAN PITULA, CATHEDRAL RECTOR**  
**ВСЕЧЕСНІЙ О. РОМАН ПІТУЛА, НАСТОЯТЕЛЬ СОБОРУ**

**CATHEDRAL LITURGY TIMES**

Saturday afternoon at 4:30 pm  
Divine Liturgy for Sunday in English

Sunday morning Liturgies  
8:30 am in English  
10:00 am in Ukrainian

Daily Liturgies:  
*please see schedule on the next page*

**РОЗКЛАД БОГОСЛУЖІНЬ  
В СОБОРІ**

У суботу ввечері о 4:30 год.  
Літургія за неділю по-англійськи

Літургії в неділю зранку:  
8:30 год. по-англійськи  
10:00 год. по-українськи

Щоденні Літургії:  
*розпорядок на наступній сторінці*

**Mailing address / Поштова адреса:**

Cathedral Rectory Office  
819 North 8th Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19123-2097

**Cathedral Phones/Катедральні телефони:**

Rectory Office: 215-922-2845  
Fax: 215-922-4635

**Cathedral E-mail/Катедральна е-пошта:**  
**CATHEDRALONFRANKLIN@COMCAST.NET**

**OUR WEB-SITE:**  
**WWW.UKRCATHEDRAL.COM**

St. Mary's Cemetery: 215-962-5830  
Cathedral Hall: 215-829-4350

**Other phones/інші телефони:**

Archeparchy of Philadelphia: 215-627-0143  
E-mail: tofmuseum@ukrcatholic.org  
Missionary Sisters of Mother of God  
Convent: 215-627-7808  
E-mail: msmgnuns@gmail.com

**WELCOME! / ВІТАЄМО!**

Come to the Lord's house. You are invited. Come into this house of companionship and compassion. We, the people of the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchial and Metropolitan Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Philadelphia are the Catholic community that worships God, spreads the Good News of Christ, and serves those in need. This Magnificent Cathedral opens wide its doors in the name of Our Lord Jesus Christ. To all who are worshipping with us today — WELCOME!

Ласкаво просимо до Господнього Храму. Ми запрошуємо вас. Прийдіть до Божого дому. Ми, парафіяни Українського Католицького Архикатедрального і Митрополичого Собору Непорочного Зачаття у Філадельфії, є католицькою громадою, котра поклоняється Богові, поширює Добру Новину Христового Євангелія та служить тим, хто в потребі. Двері цього чудового Собору є широко відчинені в ім'я Господа Нашого Ісуса Христа. Отож, всі, хто є присутній та молиться з нами сьогодні — ВІТАЄМО!

### SANCTUARY CANDLE OFFERINGS



**Candle before Jesus Christ on Iconostas:** Health & God's blessings for Ava Sophia on 7th Birthday by Family

**Candle before St. Nicholas on the Iconostas:** In memory of +Bohdan Z. Myr by Patricia Myr and Family

**Sanctuary Light:** In loving memory of Anna & Michael Melnyk by Michael & Claire Melnyk

You can order a weekly Sanctuary candle to burn in our Cathedral. There may be different intentions: in memory, for health & God's blessings, for Thanksgiving, etc. Ви можете замовити свічку, яка буде горіти у Соборі. Замовити свічку можна у різних наміреннях: в пам'ять когось з померлих, за здоров'я і Боже благословення, за подяку чи ін.

The customary donation for a Sanctuary Candle is \$10.00 per week

**PLEASE  
PRAY  
FOR:**

- ◆ TO STOP THE WAR AND FOR PEACE IN UKRAINE
- ◆ ALL DECEASED DURING THIS WAR
- ◆ FAMILIES WHO HAVE LOST THEIR LOVED ONES
- ◆ THOSE WHO ARE WOUNDED OR/AND MISSING



**ЗАПРОШУЄМО ДО НАШОГО АРХИКАТЕДРАЛЬНОГО ХОРУ:** Хто зацікавлений та бажає долучитися своїм співом, щоб возвеличити Богослужіння у хорі нашого Архикатедрального Собору, просимо звертатися до Катедральної канцелярії: 215-922-2845 або до керівника Архикатедрального хору по закінченні Св. Літургії. Пам'ятаймо: хто молиться співаючи - молиться двічі!

**JOIN OUR CATHEDRAL CHOIR:** We open invitations to join our Cathedral Choir. If anyone is interested, contact the Cathedral Rectory at 215-922-2845 or the choir director after Liturgy services. Remember: to sing is to pray twice!

**СПІЛЬНОТА «МАТЕРІ В МОЛИТВІ»:** Наступне молитовне зібрання спільноти «Матері в молитві» відбудеться у четвер, 2 листопада, о 6:30 год. вечора в нашому Українському Католицькому Архикатедральному Соборі Непорочного Зачаття у Філадельфії. Запрошуємо всіх матерів, а також всіх, хто бажає, приєднатися до молитви.

**MOTHERS IN PRAYER:** Our next prayer gathering of "Mothers in Prayer" will be held on Thursday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30 pm at our Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchial Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Philadelphia. We invite all our mothers and we welcome all who wish to join us at this special prayer.



### THE SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES — РОЗКЛАД БОГОСЛУЖІНЬ

Saturday October 14 CATHEDRAL	4:30pm	<b>Vesperal Divine Liturgy</b> Special intention for Daria & Steven Nasevich on their Anniversary- Patricia Myr Особливе намірння за Дарію і Стівена Насевич — Патрисія Мир	Engl Англ	Субота 14 жовтня КАТЕДРА
Sunday October 15 CATHEDRAL	8:30am 10:00am	<b>20-та НЕДІЛЯ ПО ЗІСЛАННІ СВЯТОГО ДУХА</b> <b>20th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST</b> <b>Tone 3 Gal. 1:11-19 Gospel: Lk. 7:11-16</b> For Health & God's blessings for all our parishioners За здоров'я та Боже благословення для парафіян Divine Liturgy Божественна Літургія	Engl Англ Ukr Укр	НЕДІЛЯ 15 жовтня КАТЕДРА
MON. OCT. 16 CHAPEL	8:15am	Divine Liturgy Божественна Літургія		Пон. 16 жовт. КАПЛИЦЯ
TUES. OCT. 17 CHAPEL	8:15am	Divine Liturgy Божественна Літургія		Вівт. 17 жовт. КАПЛИЦЯ
Wed. OCT. 18 CHAPEL	8:15am	+John Vasko, Jr. — Vasko Family +Джон Васко, мол. — Родина Васко		Сер. 18 жовт. КАПЛИЦЯ
THURS. OCT. 19 CHAPEL	8:15am	Divine Liturgy Божественна Літургія		Четв. 19 жовт. КАПЛИЦЯ
Fri. OCT. 20 CHAPEL	8:15am	Divine Liturgy Божественна Літургія		П'ятн. 20 жовт КАПЛИЦЯ
Saturday October 21 CATHEDRAL	4:30pm	<b>Vesperal Divine Liturgy</b> Divine Liturgy Божественна Літургія	Engl Англ	Субота 21 жовтня КАТЕДРА
Sunday October 22 CATHEDRAL	8:30am 10:00am	<b>21-ша НЕДІЛЯ ПО ЗІСЛАННІ СВЯТОГО ДУХА</b> <b>2st SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST</b> <b>Tone 4 Gal. 2:16-20 Gospel: Lk. 8:5-15</b> For Health & God's blessings for all our parishioners За здоров'я та Боже благословення для парафіян Divine Liturgy Божественна Літургія	Engl Англ Ukr Укр	НЕДІЛЯ 22 жовтня КАТЕДРА

## OFFERINGS FOR THE WEEKENDS OF OCTOBER 7-8, 2023

Basket: \$1928.00; Feast: \$74.00; Candles: \$175.00; Kitchen: \$0.00; Bingo: \$1800.00; Other: \$500.00

May our Lord God bless you for your generosity to our Cathedral and remember that God will reward you.

Нехай Добрий Господь винагородить вас за вашу щедрість для вашої Катедри.

\*Please remember your Cathedral in your Testament! Пам'ятайте, будь-ласка, про вашу Катедру в своєму заповіті!\* We are very grateful to all our Parishioners and donors who've sent in their generous donations to our Cathedral as support in this difficult time of COVID-19 pandemic. Please continue to support YOUR CATHEDRAL. Thank you very much for your generosity. May our Lord Jesus Christ reward you and your Families with good health, happiness for many years.

## МОЛИМОСЬ ЗА ПЕРЕМОГУ І МИР В УКРАЇНІ!

### PLEASE PRAY FOR VICTORY & PEACE IN UKRAINE!

**КАТЕХИТИЧНІ КЛАСИ:** Просимо зареєструвати дітей у нашій Катедральній парафії для навчання катехизму та катехизмових правд у цьому навчальному році. Навчання будуть проводитися українською і англійською мовами. Хто бажає зареєструвати дитину/дітей на катехизацію, просимо заповнивши реєстраційну анкету, яку ви можете знайти у притворі при вході до нашого Собору. Катехизація розпочнеться у вересні і відбуватиметься щонеділі з 11:30 год. ранку до 12:15 по обіді. Довірте нам своїх дорогоцінних дітей, щоб вони могли навчатися про Господа нашого Бога та вирости добримі і ревнимі християнами. Для більшої інформації та з будь-якими питаннями звертайтеся до настоятеля Собору, о. Романа Пігули або за тел.: 215-922-2845.

**CATHECHISM CLASSES:** Please register your children for catechetical classes at our Cathedral Parish. Classes are held in English and Ukrainian. If you still desire to have your children be involved please find a registration form at the entrance of our Cathedral and register your child/children for the classes. Classes will start in September and will be held each Sunday 11:30am till 12:15 pm. It is important for parents to have their children attend. Please bring and trust your precious children to us so they can learn about our God and grow as good and faithful Christians. For more information please contact our Cathedral Pastor or call at 215-922-2845.

### ЩОРІЧНИЙ РІЗДВЯНИЙ БАЗАР / THE ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Цього року наш Різдвяний Базар відбудеться в неділю 19-го листопада. Просимо занотувати цю подію у календарях та просимо вашої допомоги. Дякуємо!

This year's Christmas Bazaar will be held on Sunday, November 19, 2023. The Christmas Bazaar is on the way! Want to help but not sure how? What we need most is your support in donations for the event. The Cathedral relies on the generosity of our parishioners and parishes to help us host this yearly fundraising event. It's an event to bring our parishioners together, and each year we're able to celebrate and raise money for much needed improvements. Please consider donating a gift from your heart, a way of giving back to our Ukrainian church family. Any of the following donations are greatly appreciated: gift(s) for the main stage; gift(s) for the children's stage; tombola (silent auction) baskets/gifts; sporting event tickets; restaurant or shopping gift certificates, cash donations, baked goods, etc. Donations can be dropped off at the cafeteria after the arranged appointment. Our volunteer committee is available to answer any questions you may have. If you need more information, contact Mary Fedorin - (215) 539-7645 or Anelia Szaruga - (215) 837-7755. God bless you and thank you for your support.

**СПОВІДІ:** Отримати дар Святої Тайни Сповіді можна до початку Божественних Літургій: з 4:00 год. веч. щосуботи та з 8:00 ранку і з 9:30 щонеділі. Скористаймося цими дарами Божого милосердя для свого духовного оновлення.

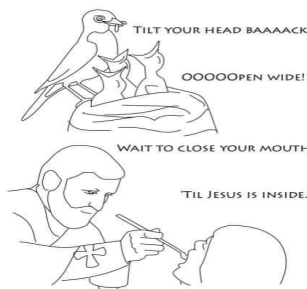
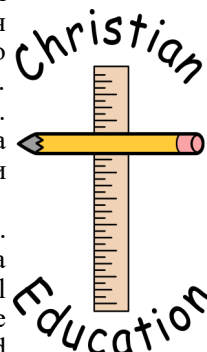
**CONFESSIONS:** If you would like to receive the grace of forgiveness in the Mystery of Confession, a priest is available to hear confessions every half hour before the Divine Liturgy, i.e. at 4:00 pm on Saturdays and at 8:00 am and 9:30 am. on Sundays. Avail yourself of God's gifts of mercy and spiritual renewal.

**FOR RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION:** Please come forward, tilt your head back slightly, open your mouth wide, (do not stick out your tongue and do not say, "Amen"). After priest gives you the Holy Eucharist, close your mouth, consume the Holy Eucharist, and return to your place.

**ВКАЗІВКА ЩОДО ПРИЙМАННЯ СВЯТОГО ПРИЧАСТЯ:** Підійдіть, стійте рівно, трохи відхиливши голову назад, відкрийте уста широко (не висувайте язик і не кажіть «Амінь»). Після того, як священник дав вам Св. Причастя, закрийте уста, спожийте Пресвяту Євхаристію і поверніться до свого місця.

**ПРОСИМО МОЛИТИСЬ ЗА ХВОРИХ:** Просимо подати імена своїх рідних або знайомих, котрі перебувають у стані хвороби та потребують нашої молитовної допомоги щодо швидшого одужання. Також пам'ятаймо у своїх молитвах за тих, хто не може вийти з дому або перебуває у старечому домі чи шпиталі. Молимося за здоров'я та одужання (імена надруковані по англійськи нижче):

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:** Please submit the names of your relatives or friends who do not feel well so that we may include them in the bulletin. We will pray for them that God restore their health. Also, remember in your prayers all those who are homebound, in care facilities or impeded by illness. Pray for the well being and health of: Maria Jackiw, Michael Lubianetsky, Jack Righter, Marika Borowyska, Bohdan Makar, Dana & Vitalij Karlo Dzindziura, Paul Gerber, Jr, Sr. Evhenia Prusnay, MSMG, Alexander Siomko, Marie Wilson, Joseph Salapata, Gail & Lois Johnson, Annie Opalka, Theodosia Hewko, Irene Foley, Julia Otulak.



Anointing of the sick



**DEAR UKRAINIANS AND OUR AMERICAN FRIENDS!** Thank you very much each and everyone for your continued prayers and support towards our Beloved Ukraine during this tremendous crisis — full-scaled WAR in Ukraine, which was started by Russian federation on February 24, 2022. These are really difficult times for our Nation, but we believe in God's protection and in our army and all who defend our peace-loving country from Russian aggression. Many of our friends ask how they may help. First, your continued prayers. This is the most powerful weapon that may be used against enemies, and IT WORKS. Second, your donations. Our Metropolia invites you to make donations to the Humanitarian Aid Fund for Ukraine. This can be done as follows: 1. Write a check to the "Ukrainian Catholic Archdiocese of Philadelphia" and send it to the office at 810 North Franklin Street, Philadelphia PA 19123. Please write on the check "Humanitarian Aid Fund for Ukraine". 2. You can donate on the Philadelphia Archdiocese's website [www.ukrarcheparchy.us](http://www.ukrarcheparchy.us), and click on Donate through PAYPAL and select "WAR VICTIMS AND HUMANITARIAN CRISIS IN UKRAINE". 3. You can donate through the Cathedral by making checks payable to "Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral" with memo "War in Ukraine" and sending to 819 North 8th street, Philadelphia PA 19123. 4. Encourage local financial and other institutions to make contributions. 5. Additionally what can be done is sharing the news and contacting The White House/President, Congress, Senators, appealing to do more sanctions and military assistance to Ukraine. Thank you very much and: May God bless all of You!

**CONFESSIONS:** If you are admitted to the hospital or are at home and would like a priest to visit you, please call the Cathedral office at 215-922-2845; if that's an emergency, call (908) 217-7202.

**СПОВІДІ:** Якщо ви потрапили до шпиталю, або вдома і бажаєте, щоб священник відвідав вас, просимо зателефонувати до Катедрального офісу за номером 215-922-2845, або у випадку нагальної потреби телефонуйте за номером (908) 217-7202.

**BAPTISMS:** The Sacraments of Baptism and Chrismation are administered upon a request by the parents, or an adult who wishes to be baptized. Please contact Fr. Roman Pitula to make arrangements at least two weeks in advance.

**ХРЕЩЕННЯ:** Св. Тайни Хрещення та Миропомазання уділяються на прохання батьків або дорослого, який бажає охреститися. Просимо звернутися до о. Романа Пітули принаймні за два тижні наперед.

**MARRIAGES:** The Sacrament of Marriage requires a time of spiritual preparation. Couples planning to be married are asked to make an appointment with Fr. Roman Pitula to set a date for the wedding and to begin preparations (including Pre-Cana) at least six months before the wedding.

**ОДРУЖЕННЯ:** Тайна Подружжя вимагає певного духовного приготування. Тому подружжя, які планують одружитися, мають зустрітися з о. Романом, щоб визначити дату та почати приготування принаймні за шість місяців перед шлюбом.

**ELIGIBILITY FOR SPONSORSHIP:** Those who are not registered and do not attend church on a regular basis are not eligible to be sponsors for Baptism & Confirmation. The requirements for sponsor are: sponsor must be 16 years old or older, must have received the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation as well as Sacraments of Confession and Holy Eucharist. If married, marriage must be recognized by the Catholic Church.

**ДЛЯ ТИХ, ХТО ХОЧЕ БУТИ ХРЕСНИМИ БАТЬКАМИ:** Хто не є зареєстрованими членами парафії і не приходять до церкви регулярно не можуть бути хресними батьками, і т. д. Щодо хресних батьків, вимагається: щоб людина мала 16 років або старша, повинна бути хрещена, миропомазана та прийняти Святи Тайни Сповіді та Св. Причастя. Якщо одружені, шлюб повинен бути визнаний Католицькою Церквою.

**A SPECIAL REQUEST:** At the conclusion of each Divine Liturgy please close all Liturgy books and/or hymn books/brochures and return them to their proper place. Also, please do not leave any church bulletins or other reading material in the pews. Let us all do our part to be true stewards of our Archeparchial Cathedral by helping to keep the Cathedral pews clean and neat. Thank you very much for your understanding and cooperation.

**ПРОХАННЯ:** По закінченні Богослужінь просимо всі літургійні та молитовні книжечки та брошури покласти належним чином у лавках. Також прохання не залишати бюлетенів чи інших речей у лавках. Будьмо відповідальними та докладімо також і своїх зусиль, щоб підтримувати чистоту і порядок у нашому Архикатедральному храмі. Дякуємо за ваше розуміння та співпрацю.

**CHURCH TRADITIONS & ETIQUETTE:** Modern culture is rather casual in its approach to worship and sacred space. In our Ukrainian Catholic Church we adhere to long-standing traditions that express the reverence which is due to God, to each other, and to ourselves. Respect for God and His house translates to respect for all of His creation. The following guidelines are customs and traditions of etiquette that we need to be aware of as Catholic faithful. Please read the following information prayerfully and with an understanding for the Church's obligation to shepherd with love and compassion for all the faithful.

**PRESERVE AND PROMOTE OUR OWN TRADITIONS: WHEN YOU ENTER CHURCH,** it is customary to first go to the Tetrapod Table up front, in the middle of church — we are to make the sign of the cross, bow, and kiss the icon and cross displayed there (we are excused of kissing the cross and/or icons at this time due to the pandemic). We then bow and make the sign of the cross again, and then go to light candles or take our place for Liturgy. In our Ukrainian Greco-Catholic Churches, we make the Sign of the Cross (holding together the right thumb, index and middle fingers) starting with our forehead, then to our mid-chest, then to our **right shoulder first**, then the left shoulder. Also in our churches, we do not genuflect (brief bending of the right knee towards the altar) - instead we make the sign of the cross the Eastern way, and bow towards the altar. And remember that church is a holy place, so try to keep quiet (not to talk or laugh loudly) before, during, or after the church services. Let's preserve and promote our own and beautiful traditions.

**Entering the Church.** Arrive on Time - The time to arrive at church is before the service starts. If you arrive after the Divine Liturgy has begun, try to enter the church quietly and at the appropriate moment. We must not be walking in or around the church when the Gospel is being read, when a procession is taking place, or at any time that the priest is facing the congregation.

**Fast before the Liturgy.** It is a Church law that one fasts for at least 1 hour before receiving Holy Communion. Water and medicine can be consumed, of course. The purpose is to help us prepare to receive Jesus in the Holy Eucharist. Please be quiet while in church. Once you enter the church — it is not the time or place to visit with those around you. If you must talk - do so as quietly and briefly as possible. Remember that your conversation might be disturbing someone who is in prayer, which is much more important. Sssshhhh.

**Cell phones should never be used in Divine Liturgy for calls or texting.** The exceptions are emergencies (big ones, not everyday ones) and if you do use one, please walk out of church to do so. Also, if you are using the phone for readings or prayers, this is appropriate, but try to be discreet.

Thank you for your consideration. **Leave quietly.** We encourage you to visit with others, but once you are outside of the church you won't disturb others who want to stay and pray. So, please leave quietly and then visit afterward.

**Proper Church Attire** - Church is a sacred place with its traditions. When we come to worship we should respect those traditions. Our clothes should be modest and tasteful. Inappropriate attire such as shorts, sneakers, tight pants, mid-thigh dresses and skirts, low cut blouses can be perceived as disrespectful and could be offensive to other worshippers.



### A few words of God's Wisdom...

God, grant me the serenity  
to accept the things I cannot change,  
courage to change the things I can, and  
wisdom to know the difference.

### Кілька слів Божої Мудрості...

Боже! Дай мені душевний спокій  
прийняти те, що не можу змінити;  
силу змінити те, що можу змінити і  
мудрість відрізнити перше від другого.

## ПРИТЧА "ВІДВІДИНИ ТАТА"

Один чоловік пережив інсульт. Час - добрий лікар, тому скоро почав поправлятися: спочатку потроху ходив по хаті, потім по вулиці, а ще пізніше виходив в село. Якось помер сусід. Пішов на похорон: негарно бо, все ж таки сусід! «Та й що люди скажуть!» – подумав. Пішов. Через деякий час повернувся додому.

- Та вже був на цвинтарі, відбув таку велику відправу, то міг і до церкви піти! – зауважила жінка.

- Ай, та міг! – погодився чоловік - Але вже так собі подумав, як раз піду, то вже мушу постійно ходити, бо все думатимуть, що вже зміцнів.

**Бог – наш батько. Церква – його дім. То хіба так важко зайти в гості до близької нам людини?**

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With this we continue our Catechetical rubric from the Ukrainian Catholic Catechism "Christ is our Pascha". Hopefully our faithful will benefit from this rubric and thus deepen their knowledge of our faith in general and Catechesis in particular.

## UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CATECHISM "CHRIST IS OUR PASCHA"

### Part II: THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH (cont'd from previous weeks' bulletins)

#### II. THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH COMMUNITY.

##### C. The Holy Mysteries of Christian Life

##### 1. The Holy Mysteries of Christian Initiation

408 Participation in the life of the Most Holy Trinity becomes a reality for us through the Holy Mysteries of Baptism, Chrismation, and Eucharist. In other words, we partake of God's life by being united to Christ, receiving the seal of the Holy Spirit, and sharing the Body and Blood in Christ in the community called Church. As a person after birth begins to breathe and then receives nourishment in order to live, so the newly baptized, born to new life in the baptismal font, begins to breathe by the Holy Spirit and receives the nourishment of Holy Communion in order to grow in Christ. Through the prayers and sacred actions of the liturgical rite of each of these Mysteries, the Church leads the faithful (the Greek Fathers speak of *mystagogy*—*leading into the mystery*) into an understanding of the Mystery and perceiving it as a single, unified action of God's grace. This is why in the tradition of the Eastern Church, these three Holy Mysteries are celebrated together.

##### a. The Holy Mystery of Baptism

##### 1) Baptism Is the Birth to New Life in Christ

409 The Father reveals and grants us eternal life through his Son in the Holy Spirit. This life of the new creation becomes accessible to us not only after death, but even now. Through the Holy Mysteries of Baptism and Chrismation, along with the Eucharist, we are united to Christ. In him we become heirs of divine life, bearers of the Holy Spirit, who reveals to us the full truth of Christ. The Spirit leads us along the paths of Christ's commandments and prays within us: "Abba! Father!" (Rom 8:15). Through these Holy Mysteries we become members of the Body of Christ and temples of the Holy Spirit.

410 In his conversation with Nicodemus, Christ speaks of the inauguration of the new life as a process of being "born anew" or "from above" (see Jn 3:3). This new birth is a birth "of water and the Spirit" (Jn 3:5). Performed by water in the liturgical rite, it becomes a reality through the Holy Spirit's power. Baptism is for us the beginning of the fullness of life for which we were created:

John preached a baptism of repentance and the whole of Judea went out to him. The Lord proclaims a baptism of the adoption of sons. Among those who place their hope in [the Lord], who will not obey? The baptism of John was preliminary, that of Jesus a crowning accomplishment. The baptism of John was a break with sin; that of Jesus was union with God.

In Baptism, God not only saves us from sin, but also grants us the inestimable treasures of new life.

##### 2) Baptism Is Dying and Rising in Christ

411 In order to make us partakers of divine life, and to enable us to live by the freedom of God's children, Christ frees us from the bondage of sin. We had descended into this slavery through the fall of Adam and our own sins. Having taken the sin of the world upon himself, Christ also accepted the ultimate consequence of this sin, which is death. But he overcame it by the death he freely accepted on the cross. In Baptism, Christ makes us partakers of his victory over sin and death.

412 Our entry into new life also begins with our dying to sin (see Rom 6:2), which is a dying with Christ. But this dying culminates in our rising with him: "Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life" (Rom 6:4). Through his Death and Resurrection and the sending of the Holy Spirit, Christ has led us into divine life. We enter into this life through our death and resurrection in Christ and by receiving the gift of the Holy spirit. Only through the death of the "old self" can one become a "new person"—a "new creation" in Christ (see 2 Cor 5:17; Col 3:9-10; Gal 6:15).

(will be cont'd in next bulletins)

