

CHURCH BULLETIN FOR JANUARY 30, 2021

ОГОЛОШЕННЯ ANNOUNCEMENTS

We recommend to your prayers the soul of the late long-time parishioner and volunteer Pearl Ford Semchuk who passed away last Tuesday at the age of 95. As her obituary states, “Pearl will be remembered for her long time devotion to the Ukrainian Catholic Women’s League and to St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Shrine.”

The Feast of the Presentation of the Lord in the Temple takes place on Wednesday, February 2 on the Gregorian calendar. Please join us at divine liturgy that day at 7pm. The traditional blessing of candles will follow the liturgy. You can bring your own and place them on the tetrapod to be blessed after liturgy or else you can take a candle provided by the parish.

Prayers for Ukraine will be said in Ukrainian at today’s 9:30am divine liturgy.

Prayers for Ukraine will be said in English at the liturgy for the Presentation of the Lord at 7pm on February 2.

Holy water blessed during the recent feast of Theophany is available for pickup after divine liturgy. The tanks containing the water are located near the nativity scene to the right of the iconostas. You can bring your own jars and fill them with the water or else you can pick up one of the small clear plastic pre-filled 4-ounce containers on the small table next to the holy water tanks.

You can take it home, drink it, or bless your home by sprinkling it with the water.

Your prayers for the peace and security of Ukraine are requested in view of the imminent threat of invasion from Russia. Preparations for war have been ongoing for months, including massing more than 100,000 soldiers on the Russian side of the border, as well as many other hostile actions.

You can check out the YouTube link to the 12 hour marathon of prayer last Wednesday, January 26, the World Day of Prayer for peace in Ukraine and the World: <https://youtu.be/J9KE54tOGrQ>. It shows a whole series of prayer services in Ukrainian Catholic churches around the world. Near the end, it includes a service celebrated by Metropolitan Lawrence in Winnipeg and greetings from Bishop Bryan Bayda in Saskatoon. It is impressive.

Martyrs of Pratulin – Feast Day on January 23

They were a group of 13 Greek Catholic men and boys who were killed by soldiers of the Imperial Russian Army on January 24, 1874, in the village of Pratulin, near Biala Podliaska in present day Belarus. This was during the time the Russian authorities forcibly converted the Eparchy of Chelm. In a protest against the Russification and confiscation of the church, the Greek Catholic community gathered in front of their parish church, but were fired upon by the Russian forces, killing 13 people. This was the best documented among many such events. They gave their lives for the Faith and for the unity of the Church. Pope John Paul II beatified them in 1996. At their beatification, he declared: “The martyrs of Pratulin defended not only the parish church in front of which they were killed, but the Church that Christ entrusted to the Apostle Peter, the Church which they felt a part of, like living stones”