A Journey Worth Sharing

ANNUAL REPORT 2025-2026

UKRAINIAN
CATHOLIC
ARCHEPARCHY
OF PHILADELPHIA



Photo by the Department of Information of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church







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COMMEMORATION OF INDEPENDENCE

All photographs used are by the Philadelphia Archeparchy unless otherwise marked

Annual report compiled by the Chancery of the Archeparchy of Philadelphia
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WHAT IS EVANGELIZATION*?

Simply sharing with the world the wonderful news that Christ is risen

An attempt to show, to demonstrate, to witness that with Jesus, with the gospel, with the good news from the gospel one's life becomes more meaningful, more fulfilled

Your personal encounter with Jesus

Evangelization means being present to people, living your faith and your beliefs so that what you have they can see and share

Proclaiming the life, the death and the resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

The proclamation of good news

Witnessing Jesus Christ to other people

To reach out, be open to all people, to come to extol the benefits of our Church that is so unique and so traditional in its own way

Sharing my faith and my love for our traditions and for our Church

An invitation into a community, into a shared life with others

Sharing the experience of the power of Christ

Being a disciple of Jesus and reaching out to bring other people into the Church

Sharing an encounter of living Christ with another person

Believing in Christ, taking Christ into the world and being present in the world, but also acting upon that

We go out and we tell people that the Son of God has come into the world. He's become man. He's died. He's risen again, and He's opened up a way to new life

* Responses of participants in the Archeparchial Strategic Planning session April 22, 2026

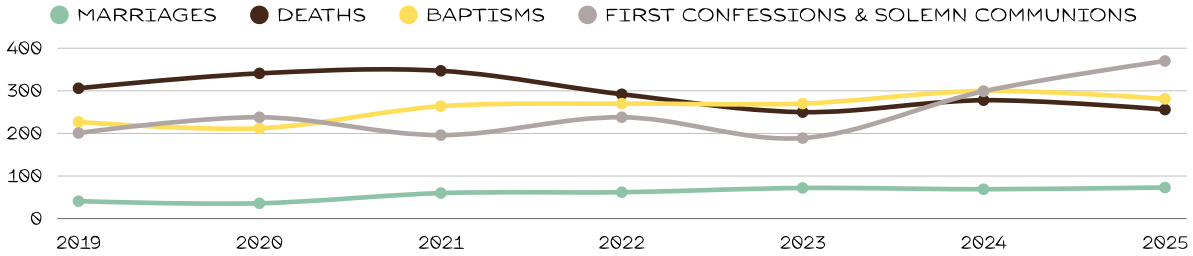
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Our Church in Numbers

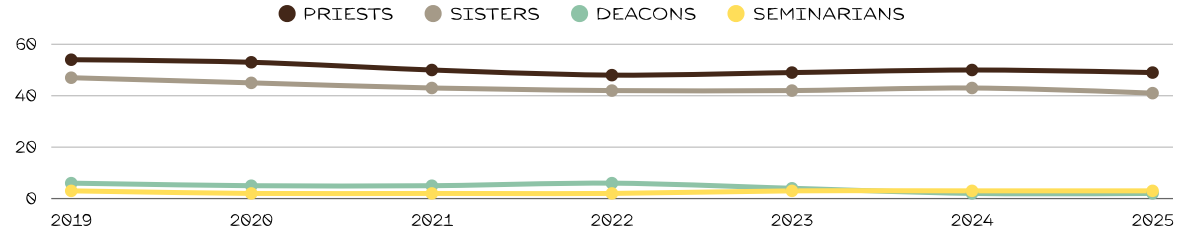
Numbers rarely tell the whole story. A count of parishes, priests, baptisms, marriages, or registered parishioners can shift from one year to the next, and that shift can bring hope or unease. Still, these figures offer one of the simplest answers to a question every institution must face: who are you, and whom do you serve?

Philadelphia Archeparchy

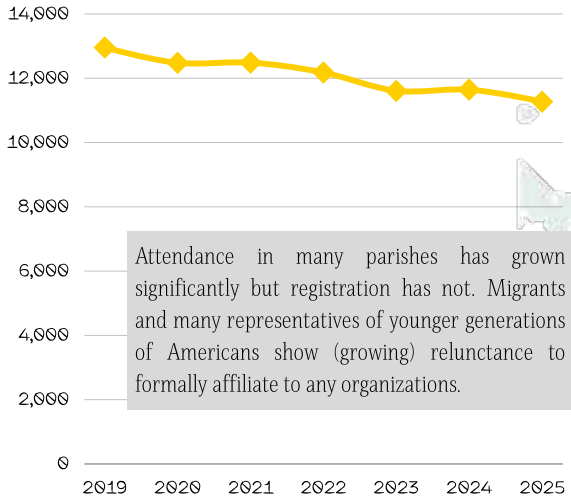
LIFE IN CHRIST



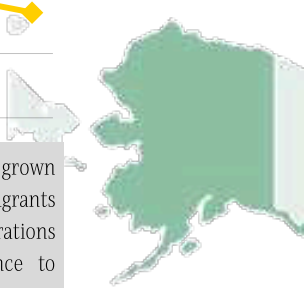
CLERGY & RELIGIOUS



REGISTERED PARISHIONERS



Attendance in many parishes has grown significantly but registration has not. Migrants and many representatives of younger generations of Americans show (growing) relunctance to formally affiliate to any organizations.



Philadelphia Archeparchy

62	Parishes	1	Metropolitan
2	Missions	50	Active Priests

1.IX.2025
Beginning of the liturgical year

6.IX.2025
Training seminar for Catechetical Program Students
(Philadelphia, PA)

12-13.IX.2025
Metropolitan Borys attends Ukrainian History Global Initiative Conference
(Kyiv, Ukraine)

14.IX.2025
Archeparchy welcomes Cardinal Mykola Bychok & celebrates Pope Leo XIV's 70th birthday
(Philadelphia, PA)

15-18.IX.2025
Annual clergy retreat
(Long Branch, NJ)

*Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church
**Ordinary bishops are bishops who head eparchies and exarchates

USA

196 Dioceses and Eparchies
↳ 18 Eastern Catholic Eparchies
↳ 4 UGCC* Eparchies

UGCC*

36 Eparchies globally
↳ 16 Eparchies in Ukraine

1 Retired Metropolitan
11 Retired Priests

UGCC*

1	Father and Head
7	Metropolitan Archbishops
28	Ordinary Bishops**
10	Auxillary Bishops
11	Retired Bishops
57	TOTAL BISHOPS

25.IX.2025
President Zelenskyy awards Metropolitan Borys the Order of Merit, First Class
(New York, NY)

29.IX.2025
Metropolitan Borys speaks on the war in Ukraine the Catholic University of America
(Washington, DC)

15-20.IX.2025
Vice-Chancellor, Fr. Rulsan Borovyi, attends UGCC Pastoral Council Assembly
(Rome, Italy)

26-28.IX.2025
Co-directors of the Religious Education Ministry take part in the Jubilee Pilgrimage of Catechists
(Rome, Italy)

2025 Financial Review

The Archeparchial annual financial audit was conducted by the Philadelphia-based firm Tait Weller. The 2025 audit included review of the assets, liabilities, and income and expenses of the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia. The audit did not include the finances of the parishes and the cathedral. The Archeparchy follows a modified cash basis of accounting which combines cash and accrual accounting, recording sales and expenses for long-term assets on an accrual basis and those of short-term assets on a cash basis.

Visit our website or use the QR code to read the full audit report from Tait Weller

The Finance Office of the Archeparhcy is lead by Chief Finance Officer George Mykytyn and includes finance team members Ihor Kovaliv and Maryana Hanushchak as well as Development Director Uliana Maziar.

	2025	2024
Income* * With donor restrictions	$4,249,814	$3,172,564
Expenses	$3,608,732	$2,803,032
Excess Income over Expenses	$641,082	$369,532

29.IX-1.X.2025
Archeparchy delegation attends Diocesan Fiscal Management Conference
(Philadelphia, PA)

4.X.2025
Archeparchy Reporting & Giving Soirée
(Philadelphia, PA)

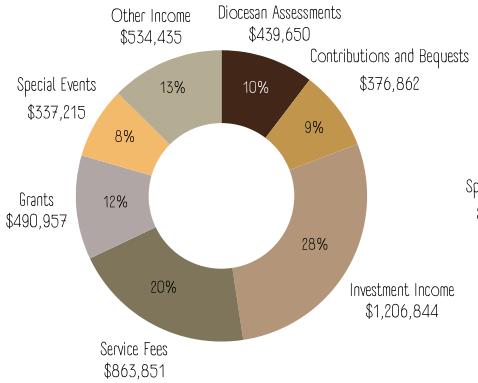
5.X.2025
94th Annual Pilgrimage of the Sisters of St. Basil
(Fox Chase, PA)

5.X.2025
St. Nicholas School celebrates 85 years
(Passaic, NJ)

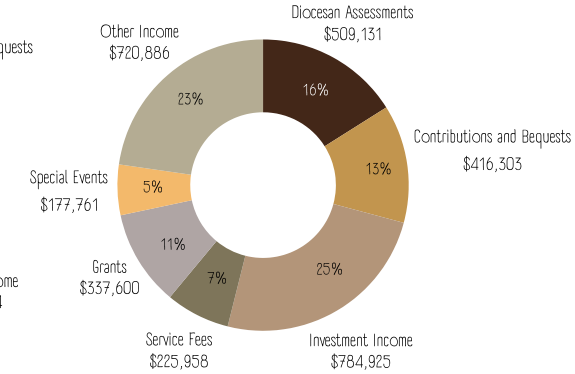
Income

In 2025, the Archeparchy's overall revenues rose 34% year-over-year. The key drivers of the increase were investment income, special events, and grants. Strong equity and bond portfolio returns drove the 54% year-over-year increase in investment income. The 89% increase in special events revenues was driven by successful reporting and benefit events in Philadelphia and Whippany, and the first-time fundraiser for the St. Gabriel Institute in Washington, DC. Grants revenues increased 45% due to receipt of grants ($286,207) for the St. Gabriel Institute. Service fees include reimbursements from parishes, which cover centralized services provided by the Chancery, including property insurance, medical insurance, and priests' salaries.

2025



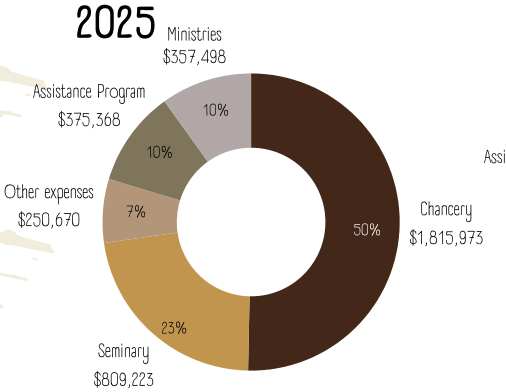
2024



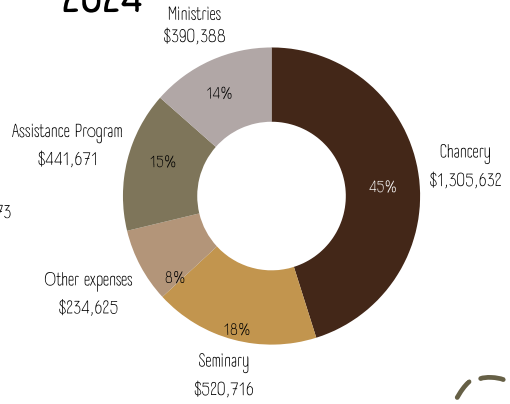
Expenses

During 2025, the Archeparchy's expenses rose 25% from the previous year. The main drivers of the increase were Chancery and Seminary expenses. Chancery expenses rose 39% due to a 33% increase in medical insurance premiums, 3 net new hires at the Chancery and on-site education expenses of St. Gabriel Institute ($281,193). St. Josaphat Seminary expenses increased 55% due to central HVAC repairs, multiple room renovations, and the first installment of new windows, which totaled $344,605.

2025



2024



Reporting & Giving Soirées

In October 2025, Reporting and Giving Soirées were held in Philadelphia, PA and Whippany, NJ. The theme of these evenings was "Anchored in Hope." The events supported the New Priest and Personnel Initiative, an important undertaking of our Archeparchy.

For the second consecutive year, an anonymous donor in Philadelphia matched $100,000 raised for the Archeparchy with an equal donation of $100,000 to the Healing the Wounds of the War in Ukraine Fund to address the urgent and ongoing needs of those suffering from the war in Ukraine.





Other Campaigns in 2025

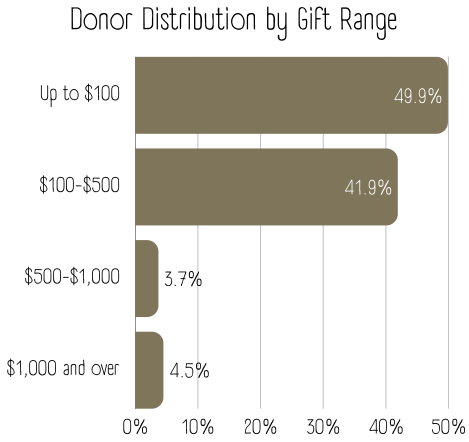
In 2025, our parishes and parishioners also participated in several other fundraising campaigns in support of the Archeparchy's projects, as well as initiatives benefiting the Holy See in Rome and the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church in Ukraine. Additionally, the Archeparchy also served as a fiscal agent for several eparchies and religious congregations in Ukraine.

- Windows for Seminary
- *The Way* Newsletter
- Giving Tuesday
- Support of Specific Ministries

The Metropolitan's Appeals

Metropolitan Appeals are pastoral messages from the Metropolitan to the faithful, friends, and supporters of the Archeparchy. Each appeal draws attention to an important spiritual, pastoral, or humanitarian need and invites the community to respond through prayer, generosity, and active participation.

Appeals are conducted twice a year, each focusing on a specific ministry, project, or area of current priority. Funds raised through each appeal are directed entirely to its designated purpose, ensuring that every contribution supports the initiative for which it was intended.



	2026 Lenten Appeal	2025 Christmas Appeal	2025 Lenten Appeal	2024 Christmas Appeal
Total Collected	$52,732	$52,483	$28,702	$25,348
Average Gift	$182	$236	$137	$112
Number of Donors	290	222	209	226

6.X.2025
Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul marks the 1700th Anniversary of the First Council of Nicaea
(Philadelphia, PA)

11.X.2025
Archeparchy Reporting & Giving Soirée
(Whippany, NJ)

12.X.2025
Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish celebrates its 100th anniversary
(Manassas, VA)

13-16.X.2025
Archeparchy priests participate in Clergy Conference of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in US
(Chicago, IL)

16.X.2025
Metropolitan Borys attends the 80th Alfred E. Smith Memorial Foundation Dinner
(New York, NY)

Tell Me Something Good

by Metropolitan Borys Gudziak

My close collaborators know that I often begin our conversations with the same request: share with me three pieces of good news. I firmly believe that recognizing our blessings, and sharing them with others, multiplies them. It is so easy to complain, to dwell on the negative. To seek out and to name the good news demands real spiritual discipline.

So here, I would like to share some good messages with you. Allow me to be personal. And stick to three.

First, I am most grateful for my baptism. I'm thrilled to be a Christian. I was baptized on April 29, 1961, and I celebrate this day as the beginning of my eternal life. I encourage you to be aware of your birthday into God's Kingdom and to commemorate it with gratitude and joy.

Second, I am grateful to God for my priesthood. My road to ordination was long. I finished the seminary at 22 and was not ordained until the age of 38. My priesthood has brought me to people and places, to depths and heights, that it would take an entire book to describe.

Third, almost without exception, I experience my episcopal encounters with parishes and parishioners as grace-filled, simple and natural, full of friendship. I get to see priests, religious, and laymen and women, young people and children, who are alive and who share fraternity in Christ.

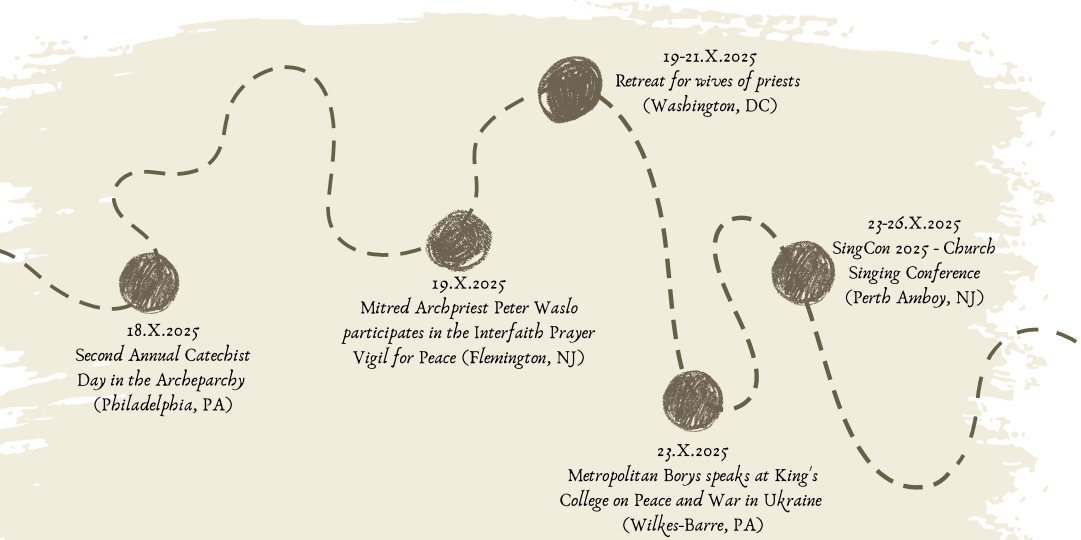
Εὐαγγέλιον (Euangelion) means "good news." All of us who are baptized are called to be evangelizers, bearers of good news. So much of our news is bad or sad. Those who purvey the news and make money on it appeal to our base senses, to our passions, our anger, our envy, our fear. In this tumultuous world, in a divided society, we are overwhelmed by aggressive, screaming, corrosive bad news. It becomes difficult to see God and His grace, God and His goodness, God and His love and life.

We are all called to vitality, grace and goodness, to a life of peace and joy. The Risen Lord's first words to His disciples were "Peace be with you." Five times during the Divine Liturgy, the priest blesses the people with the words, "Peace be with all."

Do we have peace in our hearts? Are our thoughts serene? Do our emotions inspire us, or rather do they weigh us down?

You and I, yes, each of us individually and personally, but all of us together as Christians and as a Christian community, are called to share good news with each other and those around us. What is the ultimate good news? Sin and death–the corruption, injustice, violence, murder, and war that surround us and menace particularly the Ukrainian people and our Church–have no ultimate power over us. We know that the Father sent the Son into the world to overcome sin and death. Jesus came close to us. He took on our humanity. He became one of us. By bringing His divinity into our life and into our very death, He destroyed death's power, as we joyfully sing at Easter: "Christ is risen from the dead, trampling death by death, and to those in the tombs giving life."

God not only gives the prospect of eternal life to those who have died and to all of us who surely will die in our mortal bodies; He also calls us to live fully even now, despite the mortifications that we endure.





"To those in the tombs giving life": so many of us, including me, find ourselves in a tomb. Our fear, anxiety, fatigue, and helplessness; our illnesses; the deaths of others: these all bring us down. We are crushed, as if buried six feet under.

It is to us in these tombs that the Risen Lord brings life.

And so, we are privileged to be bearers of good news, like the myrrh-bearing women who returned from the empty grave saying He's not there. No one is in the tomb. The tomb is empty, because God is alive, and He is giving us life.

This is our common vocation, not just that of priests, sisters, and monks. Our Archeparchy, our parishes, our everyday lives, are the best opportunity we have to live out and announce this good news.

To do so, we need to slow down, stop, and recognize the graces that we have – our life, our health, our safety. Even if our health and well-being are somehow compromised, even if we feel that we are somehow deprived, or indeed are enduring actual injustice, we are called to see Christ, who comes into our tomb, into the very hell of our lives, to show solidarity and to bring us out. Just as He pulled Adam and Eve out from the black abyss of Hades, as we see in the icon of the Harrowing of Hell.

Jesus goes down to bring us up. This is the best news.

It is the news about our life in Christ. Three times we were covered by water in baptism, as if by death. And three times we were pulled out of that water: "In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." Our baptism, the beginning of our experience of love in Christ, is a sign and a herald of this overwhelmingly joyful truth.

So let us share it. Let us move out of a timid, complacent comfort zone. Let us approach somebody's tomb bringing news of life, touch somebody's infirmity, soothe our neighbor's anxiety and fear. Let us live the truth of our lives in the Risen Christ, sharing it with others, because in sharing the truth, we grasp that truth even more, like a teacher mastering a subject through teaching it. Likewise, we will strengthen our faith by sharing it.

Let us be open, and let us open our doors–our hearts, our homes, and our parishes–to those who doubt and who are overwhelmed by the violence and turmoil in the world. By inviting people into God's house, into His Kingdom, we ourselves will live more fully, because the house of God has many rooms (Jn. 14:2). By living according to the boundless multitude of God's hospitality and grace, and by sharing it, we can be true followers of Christ, bearers of good news, missionary disciples, authentic evangelizers.

I share good news with you because encountering you is good news for me.

Let us develop our reflection and awareness of the gifts that we have. With gratitude, let us go forth and be free, faithful to God's gift, full of His quiet and triumphant joy.



30.X.2025
Archeparchy delegation attends Leadership Roundtable's 20th anniversary event
(*New York*, NY)

31.X.2025
Metropolitan Borys visits Mission of the Holy See to the United Nations
(*New York*, NY)

9.XI.2025
St. Michael the Archangel parish celebrates its 50th anniversary
(*Jenkintown*, PA)

25.X.2025
Mitred Archpriest Peter Waslo participates in Honoring 50 Years of "This Land Is Home to Me": Catholics Discuss the Future of Appalachia
(*Pittsburgh*, PA)

Paving the Path

A strategy is a careful plan or method for achieving a particular goal usually over a long period of time. The Philadelphia Archeparchy has been on a journey, along with the other members of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church (UGCC), to spread the Good News and to grow our Church. In the past, there have been plans or initiatives put in place by the UGCC synod of bishops with specific goals which were then passed on to the eparchies all with the aim to foster our Church.

To better explain where we are going, we will start with a review from where we came, and this will bring us to our Archeparchial Strategic Session on April 22, 2026. To fulfill our ultimate assignment of spreading the Good News, it is essential that we work together not only to build this path but to steer it in the right direction.

Pastoral Planning Journey

2011

The Vibrant Parish –
a Place to Encounter the Living Christ
(UGCC 2020 Pastoral Plan)

1. Word of God and catechism (kerygma)
2. Liturgy and prayer
3. Service to one's neighbor (diakonia)
4. Leadership – stewardship of gifts
5. Communion – unity (koinonia)
6. Missionary spirit

AUG 25-27, 2015

VI Session of the Patriarchal Sobor
Location: Ivano-Frankivsk, Ukraine
Theme: "The Vibrant Parish – a Place to Encounter the Living Christ"

OCT 17, 2015

50th anniversary of the establishment of the Synod of Bishops, Pope Francis called the entire Catholic Church to synodality

JUN 2-9, 2019

"From Heart to Heart. Prayer, Celebration, Unity, and Mission"
Beginning of Metropolitan Borys' service with five priorities

1. Trust and open the hearts to the Lord and one's neighbor
2. Foster unity between bishops, clergy, and faithful
3. The focus of celebrations: youth and children
4. Attitude of theological/spiritual reflection and discernment
5. The celebrations nurture aesthetic subtlety and richness

OCT 28, 2019

Philadelphia Archeparchy Sobor, Session 1
Location:Immaculate Conception Cathedral Hall
Theme: communion - unity

DEC 7, 2019

Philadelphia Archeparchy Sobor, Session 2
Location: St. Michael the Archangel (Jenkintown, PA)
Theme: liturgy and prayer, serving one's neighbor (diakonia), and gift and role of laity

NOV-DEC 2020

Philadelphia Archeparchy Sobor, Session 3
Held via zoom due to the COVID-19

- November 14, 2020 – Philadelphia Deanery
- November 21, 2020 – New Jersey Deanery
- December 5, 2020 – North & South Anthracite Deaneries
- December 12, 2020 – Washington & Lehigh-Schuylkill Deaneries

JAN 23, 2021

Philadelphia Archeparchy Sobor, Session 4
Location: online
Theme: summarization of sessions and elected deanery representatives for Pastoral Council Discussion Group

MAY 2021

Beginning of the pastoral planning process in the Philadelphia Archeparchy marked by the arrival of the group of new priests from Ukraine with their families

10-13.XI.2025
Ukrainian Catholic Bishops participate in United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) Fall Plenary Assembly (Baltimore, MD)

13.XI.2025
Ecumenical evening on the Nicene Creed with Cardinal DiNardo (Philadelphia, PA)

15.XI.2025
Good Samaritan Pantry & Saint Basil Support Ministry mark their 5th anniversary (Philadelphia, PA)

15.XI.2025
Mothers in Prayer gather for Day of Prayer in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception (Philadelphia, PA)

Session One: Synod on Synodality
First session dedicated to listening and understanding of how synodality is viewed and understood

OCT 4-29, 2023

OCT 2-27, 2024

Session Two: Synod on Synodality
Second session focused on identifying how a synodal Church should act and look

OCT 26, 2024

For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, Mission
Published by the Vatican following sessions on synodality stating that synodality needs to be visible in the everyday Church – listening, being transparent, being missionary, and working together

UGCC Pastoral Plan 2030
2030 Pastoral Plan The Hope to Which the Lord Calls Us

1. Ongoing Implementation of the Pastoral Plan "The Vibrant Parish"
2. Pastoral Conversion
3. Developing Networks of Communion
4. Path to Curing Wounds and Healing Traumas
5. Closeness and Practical Attention to the Poor and Marginalized
6. The Christian Family – A Domestic Church
7. Sense of Mission and Going Forth into the World

OCT 2021

MAR 4 & 11, 2023

UGCC All-Church Forum
Third online session of the All-Church forum called by His Beatitude Sviatoslav

DEC 11, 2021

UGCC All-Church Forum
Second online session of the All-Church forum called by His Beatitude Sviatoslav

OCT 30, 2021

UGCC All-Church Forum
First online session of the All-Church forum called by His Beatitude Sviatoslav

AUG 2021

Pastoral Plan of the Philadelphia Archeparchy
There were 4 main goals:

1. Strengthen existing evangelization and pastoral initiatives and develop new ones
2. Strengthen archeparchial communication and solidarity amongst members and partners of the Archeparchy
3. Promote pastoral conversion and secure support for ambitious archeparchial repositioning; invite priests, religious, and lay people to serve in the Archeparchy; develop strategy to foster succession plan for those retiring
4. Develop necessary temporal resources to ensure sustainable support for Archeparchy operations short- and long-term

AUG 12, 2021

Pastoral Planning in the Philadelphia Archeparchy
First meeting in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception and on zoom to start the pastoral planning process based on the 2030 UGCC Plan

22.XI.2025
Commemoration of the Holodomor at St. Patrick's Cathedral
(New York, NY)

26.XI.2025
Clergy and faithful gather for Thanksgiving Liturgy honoring Metropolitan Borys' 65th birthday
(Philadelphia, PA)

21.XI.2025
Archeparchy youth attend Pope Leo XIV's First Digital Meeting with US Youth during National Catholic Youth Conference
(online)

21-23.XI.2025
Archeparchial Women's Retreat
(Washington, DC)

19.XI.2025
Metropolitan Borys joins diplomats and lawmakers in Prayer for Ukraine on Capitol Hill
(Washington, DC)

Philadelphia Archeparchy Pastoral Plan
May 2021 - December 2024

GOAL	THEME	ANALYSIS	OPPORTUNITIES

Strengthen existing and develop new evangelization and pastoral initiatives	Evangelization	• Assigned following directors:
		  ◦ Youth Ministry (Dec 2022)
		  ◦ Religious Education (Oct 2023)
		  ◦ Vocations (Dec 2022)
		• Created Social Outreach office (Aug 2022)
		• Healing of the Wounds of War Fund (HWF) (Jan 2022)
		• Good Samaritan Food Pantry (2020)
			1. Canonical Visits
			2. Strengthen Vocations, Religious Education, and Youth commissions by adding others in the committees
			3. Revitalize commission for Human Life and Dignity
			4. Start operations of Ukrainian Catholic Charities in the US (Metropolia initiative)

Strengthen archeparchial communication and solidarity amongst memebers and partners of the Archeparchy	Communication	• Increased our presence outside of the Archeparchy by participating and collaborating with other institutions • Provided material in many formats to welcome new audiences • Creation and publishing of annual report • Bilingual content – with equal focus on English and Ukrainian materials • St. Gabriel Institute created, with the blessing of Patriarch Sviatoslav and the Synod of Bishops, by Metropolitan Borys, the UGCC Department of External Church Relations, and the Ukrainian Catholic University	1. Expand global presence 2. Improve media relations 3. Increase readers of *The Way*, ensuring parishioners are receiving it 4. Identify more voices and speakers 5. Improve connections and fostered collaboration with other dioceses and eparchies

Promote pastoral conversion and secure support for ambitious archeparchial repositioning; invite priests, religious, and lay people to serve in the Archeparhcy; develop strategy to foster succession plan for those retiring	Pastoral	• Strengthened the presbyterate and chancery
		  ◦ Added 18 new clergy and 2 new religious
		  ◦ New lay staff and renewed activity of ministries
			1. Identify religious who can take leadership roles in execution of strategy
			2. Identify laity who can take leadership roles in execution of strategy

Develop necessary temporal resources to ensure sustainable support for short- and longterm Archeparchy operations	Temporalities	• Creation of Development Office • Improved benefits package for priests. Annual review and evaluation of medical insurance plan • Annual review and evaluation of property and liability insurance. Adjustments made to ensure each parish is properly insured. • Utilization of St. Josaphat Seminary - St. Gabriel Institute. Recent Seminary renovations. • Review of investment portfolio including strategy and performance. • Healing of Wounds Fund sent $12.1 million to Ukraine • Participation in Diocesan Fiscal Management Conference	1. Parish assessments 2. Stewardship at parish level 3. Standardization of financial reporting 4. Review of properties, specifically in Chancery campus 5. Cemetery analysis 6. Legal audit of parishes 7. Byzantine Supply Store analysis

30.XI.2025
Metropolitan's Lifetime Service Award presented to Helen Chaykowsky and Andrew Fylypovych
(Philadelphia, PA)

1.XII.2025
Metropolitan Borys speaks at Catholic Near East Welfare Association's (CNEWA) *Annual Gala*
(New York, NY)

28.XI.2025
St. Nicholas parish hosts Metropolitan Borys, Cardinal Christophe Pierre, Ambasssador Andriy Melnyk, and Bishop Jean-Yves Riocreux for Prayer for Peace
(Philadelphia, PA)

18.XII.2025
Metropolitan Borys co-consecrates Bishop Ihor Rantsya as new UGCC bishop
(Paris, France)

3-14.XII.2025
Permanent Synod of the UGCC
(Melbourne, Australia)

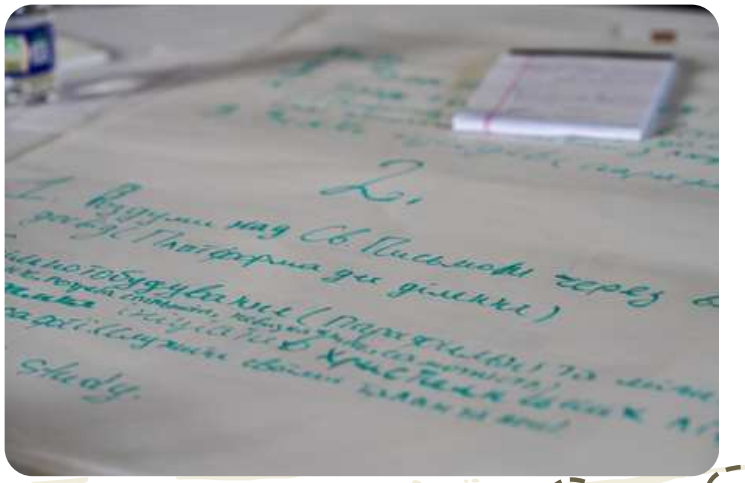
Strategic Planning Session

On April 22, 2026, the Archeparchy held a strategic planning session. The session was convoked by Metropolitan Borys and was moderated with support from representatives of the leadership team from the Ukrainian Catholic University (UCU), who were in attendance. The strategic session was open to all members of the Archeparchy. Individuals could join in person at the Cathedral Hall or via zoom.

The session began with a Divine Liturgy in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Philadelphia. Attendees then made their way to the Cathedral Hall where Metropolitan Borys welcomed everyone and encouraged them to focus on two words throughout the day and in their service at their parishes - e*vangelization* and c*o-responsibility*. The chancery staff then presented the work on the archeparchial pastoral plan (information on this can be found on page 12). A review of the the activities associated with the 2025 Jubilee Year of Hope was also conducted.

Following the review of the past, participants were then challenged to think of the future and what evangelization means to them. Sophia Opatska, UCU Vice-Rector of Strategic Development, led two discussion sessions.







Moving Forward

Information gathered from the strategic session will be used to develop the next strategic pastoral plan for the Philadelphia Archeparchy. The focus of the next strategy will be evangelization and co-responsibility.

This report focuses on these two priorities. In the next chapters, we discuss how the Archeparchy evangelizes. There are different ways that we can spread the Good News – from the pulpit, with knowledge, by means of art, and through acts of kindness.

We need to continue working together – clergy, religious, lay, and all people of good will. We need to be open-minded and open-hearted, open to God's will.



19-21.XII.2025
Archeparchy youth retreat "Following the Stars"
(Malvern, PA)

22.XII.2025
Metropolitan Borys meets with the Supreme Knight of the Knights of Columbus and becomes a member
(New Haven, CT)

25.XII.2025
Christmas

28.XII.2025
Closing of Jubilee Year of Hope at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception
(Philadelphia, PA)

Shepherds of the Flock

For the Good News to reach the ends of the world, it needs evangelists willing to share it. This is not a matter of numbers alone. Jesus didn't have many, yet commended them to spread the Gospel to the ends of the world. Agents of the Gospel are still required for renewed and constant evangelization, from the suburbs of Philadelphia to the Coal Region, from the Jersey Shore to the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia. These are some of their stories.



6.I.2026
Epiphany

11.I.2026
Festival of Carols at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception (Philadelphia, PA)

15.I.2026
Archeparchy delegation takes part in United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) *Preparation for Evangelization Summit 2026* (Washington, DC)

16.I.2026
Rozkolyada for the priests of the Archeparchy hosted by Metropolitan Borys (Philadelphia, PA)

19.I-7.II.2026
Metropolitan Borys and Archeparchy delegation complete fraternal visit to Ukraine

Salvation is the Name of the Game

Mitred Archpriest Peter Waslo's 40 Years in the Holy Priesthood

In 2026, the entire Archeparchy celebrates the 40th anniversary of the priestly ordination of Mitred Archpriest Peter Waslo.

Fr. Peter's ordination took place on June 29, 1986, at St. Andrew parish in Parma, OH, the same week the parish hosted the youth congress "Youth for Christ." About 1,400 people gathered that day to witness the young man's consecration to become a fisher of men and a sower of the Good News.

Since then, he has faithfully preached the Word of God across the Church in the United States, serving 19 years in the Eparchy of Parma and 21 in the Philadelphia Archeparchy. Over those 40 years, Fr. Peter has held very different positions in the Church, from parochial vicar in a small parish to Archeparchy chancellor and vicar general. He studied canon law in Ottawa, Canada. Beyond his parish work, he has served as a spiritual director for religious orders, schools, and Church-related organizations, and has held administrative and canonical posts in the Archeparchy and other US eparchies. "To help people and get them where they need to be," he says, "is my greatest joy." He does not refuse his bishops call, accepting 18 assignments or transfers over two decades.

Monsignor, as everybody calls him, loves watching sports, and is often seen in a Pittsburgh or, less often, Philadelphia team hoodie.

Monsignor says, "To me, salvation is the name of the game. That's why we are here—to bring salvation for people. And we must do that, and we must meet them where they are at. Being there for them is evangelization in the simplest way."

When asked what he hopes others will remember about him, Monsignor answers: "I hope they can say that I really loved my people, that I really loved God, and that I served well."

He encourages others to trust God and to love people: "You are not alone. Keep prayer in your life. Seek advice from people you trust. We were never meant to do life by ourselves."



Welcoming Four Priests and Three Deacons

- Rev. Nicholas Kostyk, of the Saint Nicholas Eparchy of Chicago, now serves the South Anthracite Deanery at parishes in McAdoo, PA and Hazleton, PA.
- On March 14, 2026, Metropolitan Borys Gudziak received Rev. John Mikitish into the Catholic Church, along with his wife, Brenda, and their two sons. He holds a PhD in Russian Language and Literature from Yale.
- This spring, Rev. Bohdan Khrushch, CSsR, came to serve at Saint John the Baptist, Newark, NJ, alongside Rev. Taras Svirchuk, CSsR.
- Deacon Ihor Demydas was ordained a priest on May 14, 2026. He now serves two parishes, in Shamokin, PA and Marion Heights, PA, and continues as Assistant Director of Youth Ministry.
- Vitaliy Kit, a graduate of Holy Spirit Seminary in Lviv, became a deacon on May 10, 2026 and now serves Saint Paul, Ramsey, NJ.
- David Wallace and Kyle Hayes were ordained at their home parish in Front Royal, VA on May 17, 2026.







Leadership Changes



Rev. Ivan Turyk now leads the New Jersey Deanery (16 parishes, 12 priests), succeeding Rev. Archpriest Taras Lonchyna. He pastors Assumption Church, Perth Amboy, NJ, and sits on the Archeparchy's College of Consultors.



Rev. Myron Myronyuk now leads the North Anthracite Deanery (9 parishes, 5 priests), succeeding Rev. Nestor Iwasiw. He serves Saint Vladimir, Scranton, PA, and Saints Peter and Paul, Wilkes-Barre, PA.

Thank You



Rev. George Worschak retired this summer after 47 years of ministry. He was ordained to the priesthood on December 10, 1978, by Metropolitan Joseph Schmondiuk. We're especially grateful for his years in the communications office, first as editor of *The Way* (2004–2006) and later as deputy director of communications and coontributor to *The Way* (2022–2026).

22.I.2026
Ukrainian community honors Unity Day at St. Mary's Cemetery
(Fox Chase, PA)

23-24.I.2026
St. Gabriel Institute holds "The Voice of the UGCC in the World" conference
(Chernivtsi, Ukraine)

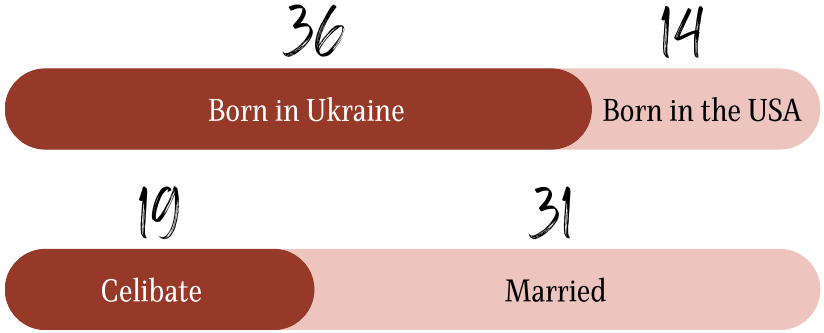
25-31.I.2026
Catholic Schools Week

4-11.II.2026
Vice-Chancellor, Fr. Ruslan Borovyi, participates in Shepherd's Circle Study Week
(Napa, CA)

9.II.2026
Metropolitan Borys, Mitred Archpriest Peter Waslo, and CFO George Mykytyn visit Dicastery of Eastern Catholic Churches
(Vatican)

Facts & Figures

50 Priests in active ministry



Average age: 53

Average years of priesthood: 22

Oldest & Youngest

The oldest priest in the Archeparchy, and the most senior by years of service, is Rev. Archpriest Roman Dubitsky, who turns 88 this November and was ordained 61 years ago. Among active priests, the most senior is Rev. Msgr. Ronald Popivchak, who turned 85 this May and serves at Saints Peter and Paul, Bridgeport, PA.

The youngest by age is Rev. Bohdan Khrushch, CSsR, 27, of Saint John the Baptist, Newark, NJ. The most recently ordained is Rev. Ihor Demydas.

12.II.2026
Metropolitan Borys attends annual meeting of the St. Sophia Relgious Society
(Rome, Italy)

19.II.2026
Archeparchy participates in Philadelphia City Council resolution honoring the Ukrainian community
(Philadelphia, PA)

10.II.2026
Metropolitan Borys and CFO George Mykytyn meet with His Beatitute Sviatoslav Shevchuk
(Vatican)

24.II.2026
Four years of the full-scale war against Ukraine

24.II.2026
Archeparchy clergy join Day of Prayer for Peace at Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul
(Philadelphia, PA)

Fostering Structures

Diaconal Program

In 2023, the Archeparchy relaunched its Diaconal Program and updated the application process, now valid for three years, to guide candidates through initial discernment. Once accepted, a candidate begins four years of formation. Theological formation takes place remotely through the Mission Institute of the Chicago Eparchy or the Holy Apostles Institute in Parma, OH. Both programs include one in-person session a year. Pastoral training takes place in the candidate's home parish, where he develops a new pastoral initiative with guidance from his Spiritual and Vocations Director.

David Wallace and Kyle Hayes, ordained this May, are its firstfruits. Two more candidates, Ryan Mulvey (Holy Family Shrine, Washington, DC) and Paul Riffon (Saint Michael, Frackville, PA), have completed their second year of studies.

Continuous Formation

Formation doesn't end at ordination. Each year, the Archeparchy gathers its clergy for a conference. This spring's conference focused on the New Evangelization, a central focus of our pastoral strategy. Every few years, priests and deacons from across the country join the Metropolia Clergy Conference. The most recent, held in Chicago in October 2025, brought together all four Ukrainian Catholic bishops and 132 priests to pray and share pastoral experience.



Our DC seminary continues to be a place of growth

This September marks the 85th anniversary of Saint Josaphat Seminary, alma mater to 11 bishops as well as the late Cardinal Lubomyr Husar. It is now home to the St. Gabriel Institute of Communication and Diplomacy. The building is undergoing a major window renovation. This work is supported by the four bishops of the UGCC in the United States, by various parishes, and by individual sponsors.

History of Vocations

Wysochansky Brothers Phenomenon — Four Priests from One Family

Brothers Constantine, Dmytro, John, and Walter were sons of Josyf and Anelia (née Dmytrykovych) Wysochansky, who had 12 children. Constantine and Dmytro received a vocation to the monastic life and entered the Basilian Fathers' monastery. Constantine was ordained a priest at 49. Before that, he studied and worked in Canada and Italy and served as a missionary in Argentina and Brazil. He was also among those who translated the Bible into Ukrainian in the 1960s. After graduating from high school, John served in the US Army in Italy. He later completed his theological studies in Washington, DC, and served as a priest for more than 60 years in parishes of our Church in America. Dmytro, a Basilian monk, served in parishes for 59 years and also wrote, translated, and edited books on liturgical and historical topics. Walter likewise studied theology in Washington, DC, and was ordained a priest. He worked extensively with youth and served as a spiritual director for the League of Ukrainian Catholics; for almost 60 years, he has witnessed to the faith and served in parishes throughout the United States. This past year, Fr. Walter turned 90.

The vocations of these four brothers grew in the parish, but were nurtured above all by the example and prayer of their mother, Anelia, who was widowed before the birth of Walter, the twelfth child. The vocation of Fr. John Sembrat, a nephew of the Wysochanskys, is another fruit of this family's faith and the parish of Olyphant.


Proud Mother of Four Priests

Mrs. Nellie Wysochansky is shown with four of her sons who are priests, Frs. Demetrius, Walter, Constantine, and John. The photo was taken after the First Mass celebration of her most recently ordained son, Walter, in SS. Cyril & Methodius Church, Olyphant, Pa.

43 Parishes, Over 100 Vocations

Our Church has proclaimed 2026 a Year of Special Prayer for Vocations. In this context, it is worth reflecting on the history of priestly vocations within our Archeparchy. For more than 100 years, God has called American-born and American-raised men from our parishes to the priesthood.

Bishop Constantine Bohachevsky founded St. Basil's College in Stamford, CT, and a seminary in Washington, DC, giving future priests access to both a sound education and proper priestly formation. In the years since, more than 100 vocations to the priesthood have come from 43 parishes of our Archeparchy, and six of these priests have gone on to serve as bishops here in the United States.

The first American-born priest of our Archeparchy, Fr. Michael Kapec, was born in Glen Lyon, PA, in 1892, a year before the St. Nicholas parish was founded there. One community alone, Saints Cyril and Methodius in Olyphant, PA, has produced 12 vocations over the years, among them four brothers.

3.III.2026
Healing of Wounds of the War in Ukraine Fund annual presentation (online)

7.III.2026
Ukraine's ambassador to the US, Olha Stefanishyna, visits Philadelphia

10.III.2026
In Memoriam - Fr. Gregory Maslak

13.III.2026
Fr. Andrii Chornopyskyy conducted the archeparchial youth retreat on "Lent and Sacred Scripture" (online)

16-18.III.2026
Annual spring meeting of the Eastern Catholic Bishops in the US (St. Louis, MO)

Faith & Reason

"Faith and reason are like two wings on which the human spirit rises to the contemplation of truth; and God has placed in the human heart a desire to know the truth…" These opening words of Saint John Paul II's encyclical Fides et Ratio remind us that faith grows not only through prayer but also through learning. This chapter highlights some of the ways the Archeparchy helps clergy, catechists, seminarians, and the faithful deepen their understanding of the faith and share it with others.





Learning Through Encounters

In September 2025, Cardinal Mykola Bychok visited the Archeparchy and spoke about his unexpected path to the College of Cardinals and his experience in the conclave that elected Pope Leo XIV. He described the conclave not as a political contest but as a process guided by the Holy Spirit. He also recalled the cardinals' shared concern and prayers for Ukraine.

Cardinal Daniel DiNardo visited the Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Philadelphia on November 13, 2025, for an ecumenical evening marking the 1,700th anniversary of the First Council of Nicaea. Following Vespers, Metropolitan Borys moderated a panel discussion between Cardinal DiNardo and Archdeacon John Chryssavgis of the Ecumenical Patriarchate.

A Church of Witness

The Archeparchy launched *A Church of Witness: The Ukrainian Catholic Story*, a video series in which Metropolitan Borys, a Church historian, presents the 1,000-year heritage of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church for today's audiences. Episodes released so far discuss Saints Borys and Hlib, the founding of the Metropolia of Halych, the Union of Brest, Saint Josaphat Kuntsevych, and the Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, among other topics. Future episodes will cover the Union of Uzhhorod, the Synod of Zamość, the construction of St. George's Cathedral in Lviv, and the development of the Church in the United States. Produced in English and released on social media, the series introduces viewers to the people and events that have shaped our Church throughout the centuries, reaching audiences across generations and continents.

Serving the Church – Building Skills

Throughout 2025-2026, members of the Archeparchial Chancery participated in conferences on financial administration, Church communications, and Church history as part of their continuing formation.

- Members of the Finance Office, George Mykytyn, Ihor Kovaliv, and Maryana Hanushchak participated in Diocesan Fiscal Management Conference, in Philadelphia September 29-October 1, 2025, with sessions on financial management, transparency, and responsible stewardship.
- Communications team member, Oksana Loziak, attended the 2026 Catholic Media Conference, organized by the Catholic Media Association in Atlantic City from June 16 to 19, where she explored new approaches to evangelization through the media.
- Dr. Maria Ivaniv Lonchyna, Archeparchial archivist and researcher, presented lectures at two academic conferences: The Legacies of Nicaea I and Vatican II: An Inheritance Unfolding at Marquette University and Bishop Volodymyr Malanchuk: Life, Vocation and Ministry in Paris.
- Halyna Vasylytsia, member of our communication team, defended her Licentiate Thesis on Women in the Catholic Church and Synodality.

23.III.2026
Archeparchy clergy meet with biblical scholar, Fr. Yuriy Shchurko, to discuss psalms
(Philadelphia, PA)

27-28.III.2026
Archeparchy delegation participates in CUA *and* UCU *conference on the* 1946 Pseudo-Sobor
(Washington, DC)

29.III.2026
Presentation of "The Song of Songs of the Ukrainian People" art-therapy project
(Philadelphia, PA)

5.IV.2026
Easter

Forming Those Who Form Others

All evangelization begins with an encounter with the living Christ. So that this encounter may bear manifold fruit, the Church calls upon certain members of the Body to help their fellows understand, deepen, and live the Christian faith, to nurture that encounter and experience into a life-long commitment to the Lord. For this reason, the formation of catechists remains one of the priorities of our Religious Education Ministry.

In addition to developing catechetical materials for parish use, the Ministry continues its partnership with the Catechetical-Pedagogical Institute of the Ukrainian Catholic University, offering a three-year formation program that combines theological study with practical preparation for catechetical ministry. In its first two years, 25 students from parishes across the Archeparchy enrolled in the program.

An important part of the program is a series of in-person seminars. Participants deepen their theological knowledge, exchange experiences, learn contemporary methods of catechesis for children and youth, pray together, and strengthen their sense of community.

"Studying to become a catechist is very important to me because it is a path of spiritual growth in my faith. Through this formation, I come to know God's love, discover my vocation, and am able to share, bear witness, and deepen my relationship with the Lord."

– Nataliia Ohorilko, second-year student

The Ministry also organizes its annual Catechists' Day, combining gratitude for catechists' dedicated service with continued formation and a presentation by a guest speaker.

"A catechist is not only someone who teaches. Above all, a catechist is a person who bears witness to Christ through his or her life."

– Rev. Mykola Dziurakh, Co-Director of Religious Education

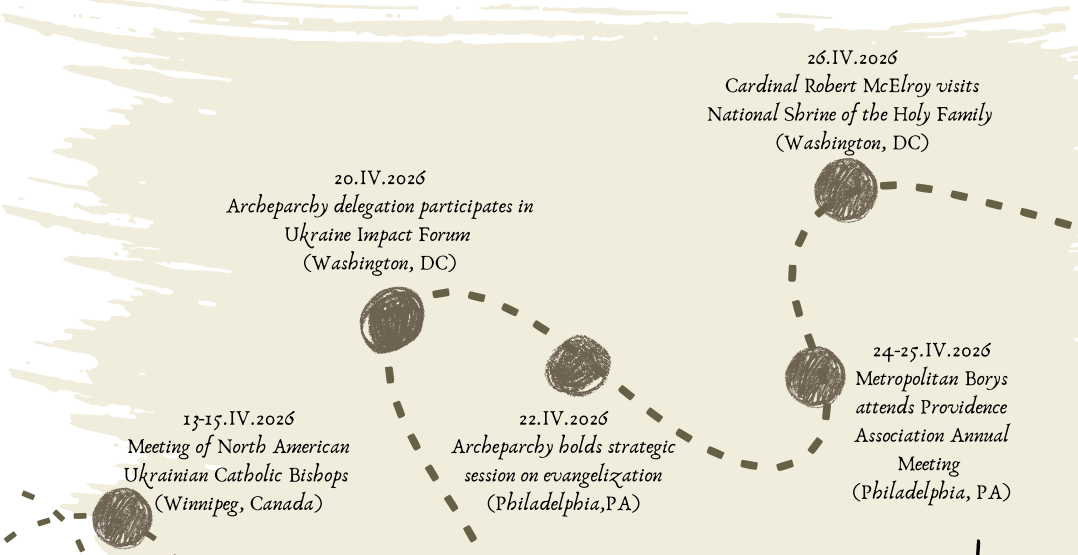




Learning Beyond Borders

In the summer of 2026, seminarian Nicholas Sharga attended the School of Ukrainian Language and Culture at the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv, Ukraine.

"My goal for the six-week program seemed straightforward: to improve my Ukrainian language skills. Looking back, I realize that my first international trip offered much more than language immersion. My Ukrainian has improved significantly, and I now have a much stronger foundation on which to continue building. Most importantly, I had the privilege of meeting remarkable people As I prepare to enter my final year of seminary, I know that proficiency in Ukrainian will be an important part of my ministry. Yet what has left the deepest impression on me is witnessing the resilience of the Ukrainian people and their profound love for their country, especially during this time of war. Their faith, perseverance, and hope have inspired me in ways I did not expect. Looking back on the past five or six years, I feel increasingly certain of where God has been leading me. I have no doubt that what I gained during my time in Ukraine will continue to shape my vocation and help me fulfill His will for my life."



The Beauty of Faith

Beauty is a means of God's self-revelation. God is beautiful, and his Bride—his Church—is also beautiful (Ps. 27:4, 45: 12, 50:2). Through chant, iconography, and architecture, the Church has used visible, tangible, audible beauty to give the world a glimpse of a glory that cannot yet be seen, heard, or touched in this present age. Beauty is not mere decoration; it is an evangelical proclamation, drawing people into prayer and opening hearts to encounter Christ.





Singing the Faith

For nearly twenty years, the Festival of Ukrainian Christmas Carols has gathered choirs, ensembles, children's groups, and hundreds of faithful at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. Founded with the blessing of Metropolitan Stefan Soroka, it has become one of the Archeparchy's most cherished Christmas traditions.

In 2026, eleven choirs participated, including the Quinton School Chorale of New Jersey. Though none of its members are of Ukrainian descent, they learned to sing in Ukrainian under the direction of John Wernega. As in previous years, the festival concluded with *Nova Radist Stala* and the prayer for Ukraine, *Bozhe Velykyi, Yedynyi*.

This past SingCon, the fifth intercontinental conference on Eastern liturgical chant, took place October 23–26 in Perth Amboy. More than one hundred cantors, choir directors, clergy, and singers from the United States, Canada, and Europe combined rehearsals and workshops with the rhythm of the Church's daily prayer. Metropolitan Borys Gudziak described SingCon as "a movement," encouraging excellence in liturgical singing rooted in love and Christian communion.

When Icons Become Prayer

"What matters most to me is that my work inspires people to pray. When someone prays before an icon, it is no longer my work; it is God at work."

– Christina Dochwat

On March 26, 2026, renowned iconographer Christina Dochwat, whose work has shaped the prayer life of generations of faithful, fell asleep in the Lord. Dochwat contributed to the decoration of more than eighty churches across the United States. In recognition of her contribution to sacred art, Patriarch Sviatoslav and the Permanent Synod awarded her with the Order of Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky in 2021.



4.V.2026
Metropolitan Borys speaks at "United in Hope for Ukraine" event (online)

1-2.V.2026
Stella Maris Ukraine delegation visits Philadelphia

8.V.2026
Metropolitan Borys attends Apostolic Nunciature reception honoring Pope Leo XIV and welcoming Archbishop Caccia (Washington, DC)

10.V.2026
Diaconal ordination of Dcn. Vitaliy Kit (Whippany, NJ)

14.V.2026
Priestly ordination of Fr. Ihor Demydas (Philadelphia, PA)

Art That Heals

"Since 2014, I have held the brush not simply as an artistic tool, but as an instrument of healing."
– Tetyana Mialkovska



In March 2026, the lower level of the Cathedral became an open art studio where Ukrainian artists Tetyana Mialkovska, Tetyana Rusetska, and Iryna Semenenko created the thirty-meter mural *The Song of Songs of the Ukrainian People*.

Ukrainian soldiers receiving prosthetic care, displaced children and families, students, and members of the local community all left their mark on the canvas. The completed work became a testimony that sacred art not only reflects faith but also accompanies people through suffering, transforming trauma into memory and memory into hope.

Women in Ministry

Beauty in the life of the Church is expressed not only through music, icons, and sacred art, but also through lives dedicated to service.

Recognizing the indispensable role of women in the Church's mission, the Archeparchy continued its initiative affirming women's ecclesiastical roles and ministry, first launched in 2025. The project explores the historical and theological foundations of women's vocations while highlighting the witness of women who serve the Church through education, catechesis, charitable ministry, scholarship, leadership, and their role in family life.

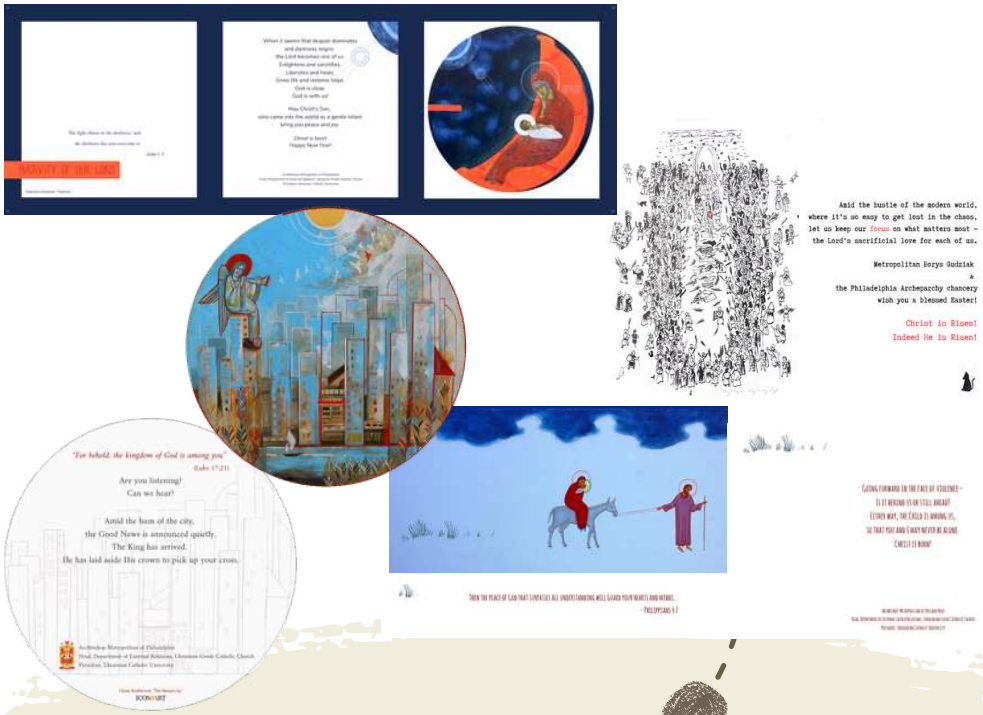
Through articles, interviews, and educational resources, the initiative has created opportunities for dialogue and reflection on the gifts and responsibilities women bring to the life of the Church.



One of its highlights was the recent retreat, "Ministry and Self-Realization," held November 21–23, 2025, at Saint Josaphat Seminary in Washington, DC. Combining prayer, theological reflection, and resilience-building workshops, the retreat offered participants time for renewal and a deeper appreciation of their own vocation and service.

Sent to Proclaim

The art of sending greeting cards might be a dying tradition, but it is one of the most beautiful ways to connect with friends and loved ones. Taking the time to send a note, a card, a small greeting can make a large impact on the recipient. Every year at Christmas, Metropolitan Borys sends out 1,500 personally signed Christmas cards. Time is taken in picking the icon for the card, identifying the right words for the note. What may seem like a simple card is actually a beautiful way to share the Good News. This year, Metropolitan Borys and the chancery sent out Easter cards. Consider sending a card. What good news can you share?



25-28.V.2026
Permanent Synod of the UGCC
(*Madrid, Spain*)

18-20.V.2026
Annual clergy conference
(*North East*, MD)

16.V.2026
St. Gabriel Institute
Fundraising Gala
(*Washington*, DC)

17.V.2026
Diaconal ordination of
Dcn. Kyle Hayes and Dcn. David Wallace
(*Front Royal*, VA)

Reaching Out

The Church's mission encompasses not only proclaiming the Gospel and celebrating the sacraments, but also serving those in need. The third is not separate from the first two. By serving others, we make the Gospel visible and incarnate the love of the Lord.

Metropolia Builds a National Chapter of Catholic Charities

In the first months of the full-scale war in Ukraine, the Ukrainian Catholic Bishops of the United States met with Sister Donna Markham, then-president and CEO of Catholic Charities USA. Out of that meeting came the resolve to establish a Catholic charitable organization under the aegis of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in the United States.





Photo by Anastasia Ordynets

This new, Metropolia-wide chapter of Catholic Charities is being sponsored by all four Ukrainian Catholic eparchies in the US. This effort has received significant support and encouragement from Catholic Charities USA's new president and CEO, Kerry Alys Robinson. The launch of the Ukrainian Catholic Metropolia chapter is welcomed by Tetiana Stawnychy, President of Caritas Ukraine. Caritas Ukraine was founded in 1994 by the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church and is a full member of Caritas Internationalis and Caritas Europa.



While the national chapter is still being established, the Archeparchy's Good Samaritan Pantry and Office of Social Outreach have continued their work, helping Ukrainian newcomers and other people in need, both through concrete charitable works and through advocacy on behalf of the vulnerable.

Joining that effort is Andrea Kochan Neagle, former Executive Director of Catholic Charities, Diocese of Allentown, PA, and a member of St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church in Northampton, PA. Before her work in nonprofit leadership, she practiced as a litigation attorney at firms in Philadelphia and Washington, DC.

6.VI.2026
Training seminar for students of the Catechetical-Pedagogical Institute of the Ukrainian Catholic University (Philadelphia, PA)

11.VI.2026
Bishop Bryan Bayda and Fr. Roman Demush from the Commission for Youth of the UGCC visit Philadelphia

11-14.VI.2026
8th Annual All-American Youth Pilgrimage (Parma, OH)

16-19.VI.2026
Archeparchy delegation attends the Catholic Media Conference (Atlantic City, NJ)

What is Catholic Charities USA?

It is the national organization overseeing Catholic Charities agencies across the United States and its territories. Its membership includes 170 diocesan Catholic Charities agencies. Catholic Charities USA itself is a member of Caritas Internationalis, a worldwide federation of Catholic social service organizations. Founded in 1910 as the National Conference of Catholic Charities, it took its current name in 1986.

A Ministry That Begins with a Smile

Every week, hundreds of people pass through the doors of the Good Samaritan Pantry. For Sister Theodora Kopyn, OSBM, Director of the Pantry, what matters most is that each person feels welcomed, accepted, and heard.

"The first thing I want to give people is a smile, acceptance, and the sense that they are not alone."

For Sister Theodora, ministry is more than providing food, clothing, or necessities. It is, above all, personal encounter and responding to each person's needs with love and compassion.



She continues:

"We began by serving local families, then opened our doors to Ukrainian families, and today we welcome people in need from many different parts of the world. This shows that need has no nationality. We try not to turn anyone away."

A special part of the ministry includes regular outreach visits to the Kensington neighborhood of Philadelphia, where volunteers encounter people experiencing homelessness, addiction, loneliness, and poverty. Each week, the Pantry, with the assistance of 15 to 20 regular volunteers, serves between 350 and 500 individuals and families.

"The Good Samaritan Pantry is not simply a place where food and essential items are distributed. It is a place of encounter, support, love, and hope, where people can feel that their lives have value."



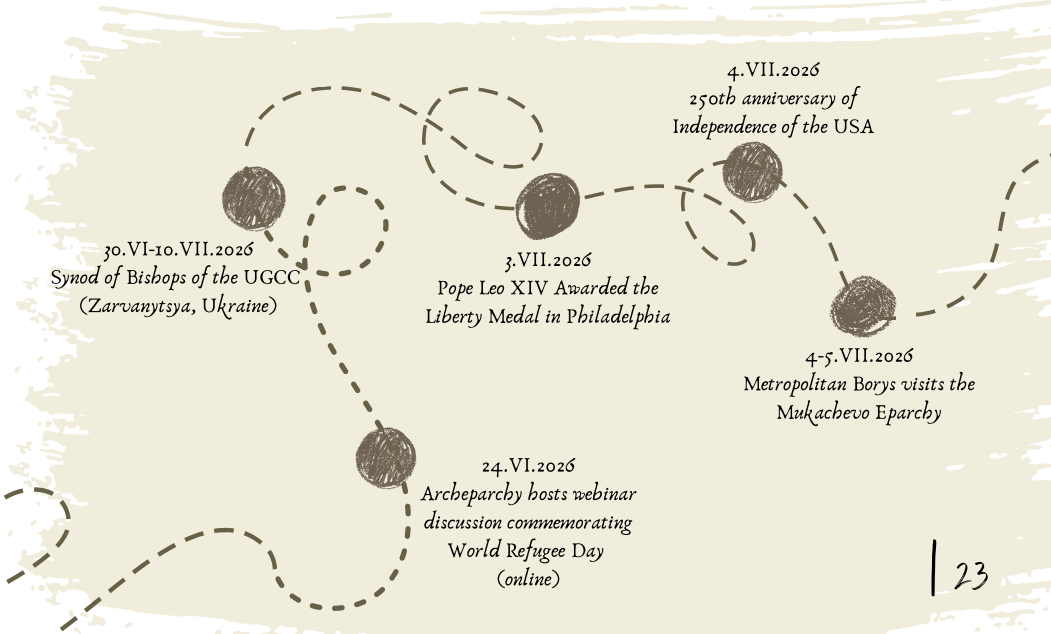
Showing Up: A Year in Social Outreach

While responding to the needs of Ukrainian émigrés, the Office of Social Outreach, led by Marta Rubel, has redoubled its efforts to collaborate with other structures of the Archeparchy. Traveling to the Deaneries of the Archeparchy with a selection of documentary screenings, it opened up conversations on civic and moral responsibility, empathy, faith, and the ongoing struggles of the Ukrainian displaced community. These events also featured in-person and online discussions with producers, directors, and keynote speakers. Over the course of three months, four of the deaneries hosted eight film screenings.

The office also kept up its support for newcomers, partnered with community organizations to promote civic responsibility among youth throughout the Philadelphia tri-state area. Personnel from the office spoke before Philadelphia's City Council in support of a resolution honoring Ukrainian organizations for their service to Ukrainian Americans, Ukrainian refugees, and the broader Philadelphia community.



Members of the office also participated in online discussions on human trafficking, justice and peace, and the latest developments in immigration policy. The office also hosted webinars to keep the displaced community informed on programs like Uniting for Ukraine (U4U), Temporary Protective Status (TPS), work authorization, and other immigration matters.



Making Our Voice Heard

In 1991, Ukraine proclaimed its independence, building on a thousand-year tradition of statehood. Since then, it has endured two revolutions and twelve years of defending its freedom against Russian aggression. Throughout this journey, the Church has been a voice for human dignity, freedom, and hope. Pope John Paul II's historic visit in 2001 brought that witness to the attention of the world.

Carrying Ukraine's Story Across the Globe

Over the past year, Metropolitan Borys crossed continents carrying the message to lecture halls, offices, and cathedrals alike: Ukraine's suffering must be seen, and its Church's witness must be heard.

In Australia, a two-week visit took him to Melbourne, Canberra, Sydney, Brisbane, Perth, and Geelong. In Spain, the United Kingdom, Poland, and Italy, he continued conversations on Ukraine's present and its Church's future. In France, Metropolitan Borys returned to the Paris eparchy he once led to consecrate its new bishop. In Canada, he addressed communities long invested in Ukraine's cause.

Across the United States, the pace hardly slowed: Washington, New York, Pennsylvania, Indiana, and beyond, before university audiences, senators, cardinals, and philanthropists. His travels also covered a large swath of Ukraine itself, with the Metropolitan making visits to Kyiv, Lviv, Chernivtsi, Buchach, Ternopil, Fastiv, and Mukachevo.

September 25, 2025 President Volodymyr Zelenskyy awarded our Metropolitan Ukraine's Order of Merit, First Class, in recognition of years spent strengthening ties between Ukraine and the world.



5.VII.2026
Archeparchy participates in conclusion of National Eucharistic Pilgrimage (Philadelphia, PA)

14.VII.2026
In Memoriam - Sr. Irenea Hankewych, OSBM

26.VII.2026
92nd Annual Ukrainian Seminary Day

11-17.VIII.2026
Metropolitan Borys and Archeparchy delegation conduct fraternal visit to Ukraine

15-16.VIII.2026
72nd Holy Dormition Pilgrimage (Sloatsburg, NY)

"The future of Ukraine depends in large part on you and the responsibilities that you will undertake. God will not fail to bless your efforts, if you commit your lives to generous service to family and society, placing the common good before private interests."

– Pope John Paul II,
Lviv, Ukraine, June 26, 2001

Healing the Wounds of the War

Carrying the Good News to Those Who Need it Most

Beyond chanceries and classrooms, at every level of every society, the Church must speak the Gospel. Today in Ukraine, at a time of devastating war, the Christian message is quietly carried to some of the country's most victimized children. Supporting this heroic witness is our vocation and privilege.

For the second year in a row, the Healing of Wounds of the War in Ukraine Fund (HWF) ran its summer campaign, "Helping Ukrainian Children This Summer," which supports camps for children from the war-torn east and south of Ukraine as well as for children displaced from their homes. These summer camps allow those young victims of war a chance to simply be kids again while also providing them with the support of psychologists, art therapists, and clergy. For over four years now, many of these children have known school only through a screen, as constant shelling has made in-person classes impossible.

Last summer, HWF manager Rev. Roman Oliinyk visited one of these camps in person.

> *"When I spoke with some of the children, especially the teenagers, they shared what it's like to live in a large city under constant Russian bombardment. All of them have been traumatized by the war. Some of their fathers are fighting; some have been wounded. These children have witnessed the cruelty of war. They are deeply grateful to Americans for their solidarity and care. I saw the real power of healing and transformation these children experienced at camp."*



In 2025 alone, HWF backed **61 projects** across 35 partner organizations, distributing **$938,100** in support of the following:

- 25 rehabilitation centers and programs, serving over 1,000 people traumatized by war
- 9 summer camps, serving over 600 children of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and war-affected families
- 72 military chaplains and 160 priests supported in war-affected areas
- 3 Caritas branches and 3 shelters serving IDPs and children with special needs
- 2 ambulances delivered, 2 prosthetic centers financed
- Central ministry and humanitarian programs of the Head of the UGCC

Since the full-scale invasion in 2022, the fund has sent **$12.1 million** to Ukraine supporting **313 projects**.

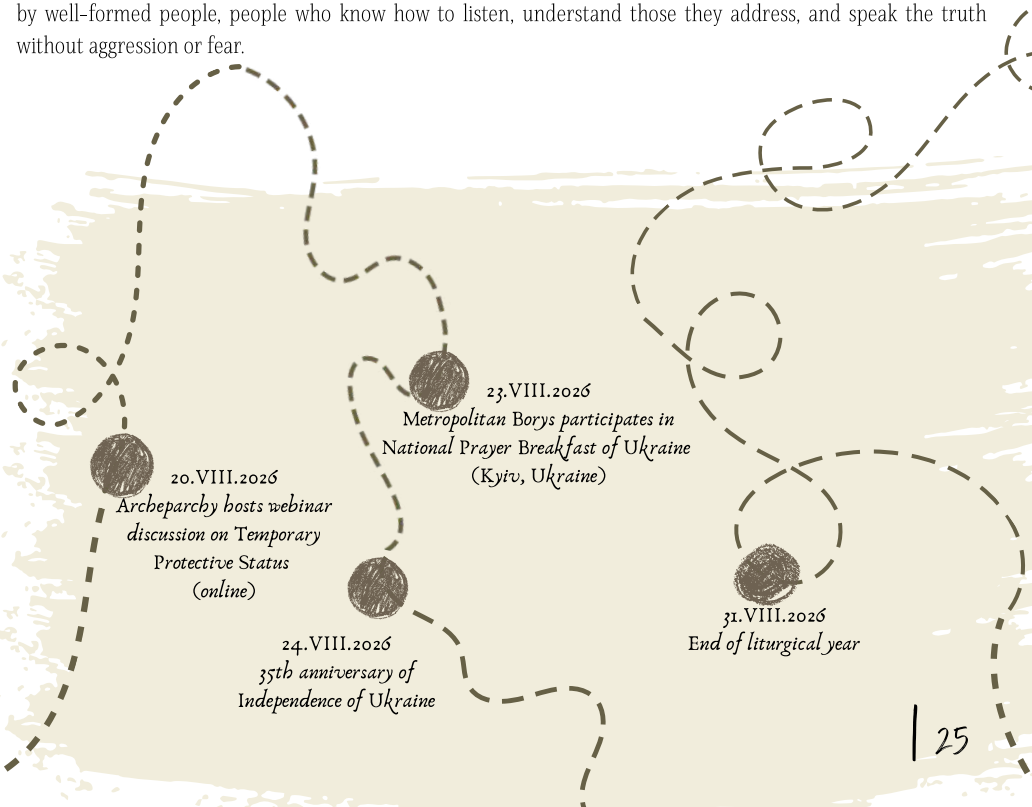
Saint Gabriel Institute:

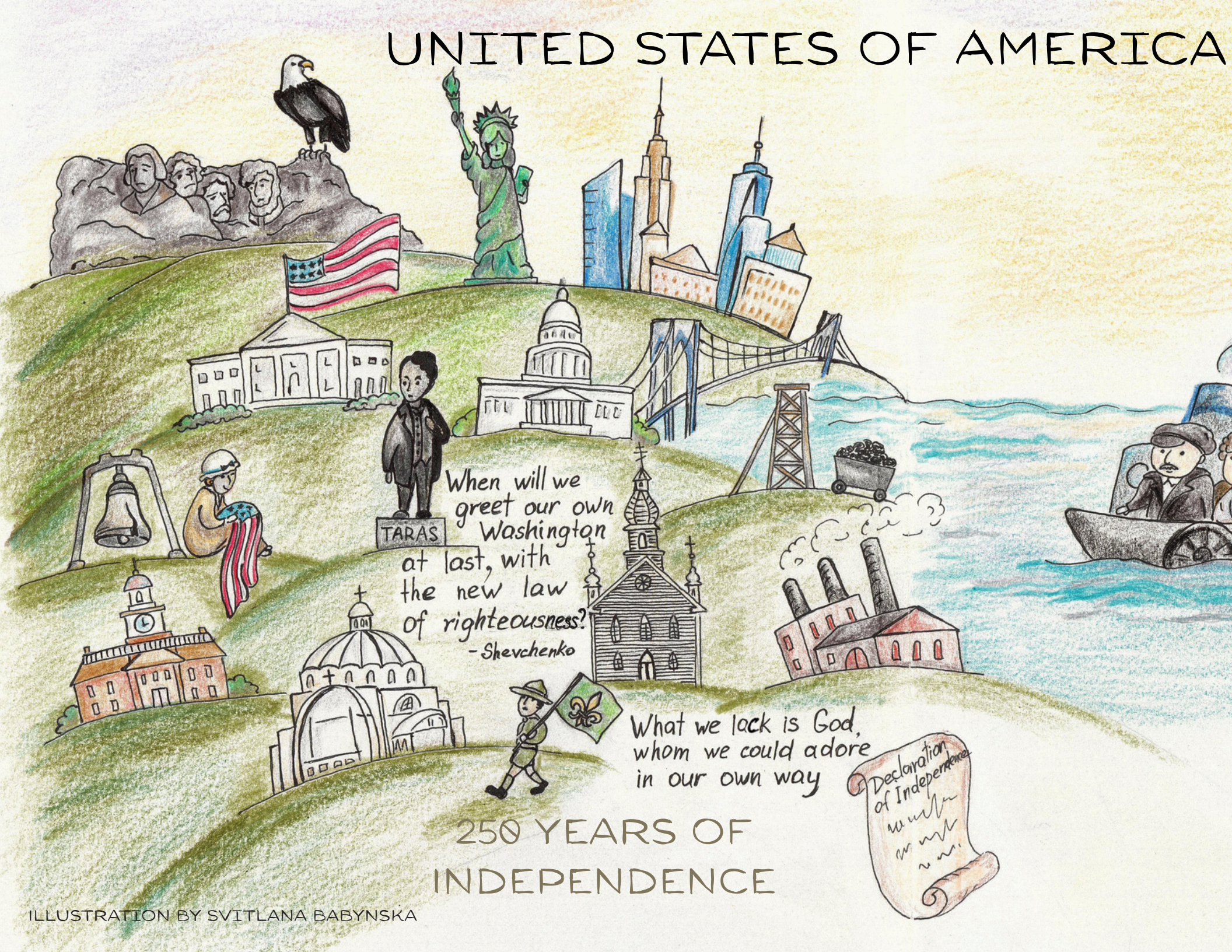
Forming Voices the World Will Hear

The modern world is filled with competing voices. In a time marked by war, information manipulation, and deep social polarization, the Church cannot remain a silent witness. It is called to speak clearly and responsibly. This is especially true for the Ukrainian Catholic Church. Yet the Church's presence in the public square cannot be limited to occasional statements. Circumstances require the continuous engagement of people with a solid theological foundation, an understanding of contemporary media, the ability to engage in dialogue, and the capacity to communicate the truth about Ukraine and its Church in a language that another society can understand.

In response to a request from the Synod of Bishops, the Saint Gabriel Institute was established in Washington, DC to form Church leaders in communications, diplomacy, and public service. During the 2025–2026 academic year, 34 participants completed the program's online phase, comprised of 34 seminars and more than 70 hours of recorded material. Twelve fellows then continued their formation over a five month period in Washington, taking classes at the Catholic University of America and Georgetown University, holding in-house seminars, visiting more than 40 congressional offices, meeting representatives from over ten media and civic organizations, taking part in three national advocacy summits, and visiting more than 20 parishes.

Behind these statistics are encounters, conversations, prayer, and personal witness. The experience of the students of the Saint Gabriel Institute shows that the Church's message becomes credible when it is articulated by well-formed people, people who know how to listen, understand those they address, and speak the truth without aggression or fear.




UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
TARAS
When will we greet our own Washington at last, with the new law of righteousness?
-Shevchenko
What we lack is God, whom we could adore in our own way
Declaration of Independence
250 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE
ILLUSTRATION BY SVITLANA BABYNSKA


УКРАЇНА
МРІЯ
ТАК!
ВОЛОНТЕРИ
А МИ ТУЮ ЧЕРВОНУ
КАЛИНУ ПІДІЙМЕМО,
А МИ НАШУ СЛАВНУ
УКРАЇНУ РОЗВЕСЕЛИМО!
ЗОШИТ НЕЗАЛЕЖНОСТІ
Акт проголошення самостійності
35 YEARS OF
INDEPENDENCE