



Mission Society of the Mother of God of Boronyavo

Nativity 2015

From the Chaplain

Glory to Jesus Christ! As you can see in this newsletter, there is a parish project for the Eparchy of Mukachevo which needs your assistance. As is the case so often in the Transcarpathian Oblast, the local Greek Catholics who had remained loyal to our Church throughout the Soviet era despite arrests, fines, and having to worship in secret were denied full use of the churches built by their ancestors. This continued even when the court ruled in favor of the Greek Catholics and when there was an abundance of old

churches to be used, as in Benedyktivtsi. At that village, though there were several churches which Orthodox simply could not fill, the Greek Catholics were kept outside, even in freezing winter, for over 20 years. Their appeal does not begin to convey the hardships which those families have endured, praying outside for every liturgical celebration - from baptism to weddings to funerals - rather than give up their Faith. So we appeal for your generosity and, as always, thank you in advance.

A new category is for the Prešov Metropolia's ongoing missionary expansion. As in America, people live beyond the reach of older churches. They will be lost to our Church if intrepid missionary priests are not able to serve them. Missions are now meeting in several Roman Catholic churches or elsewhere in central and western Slovakia.

The Christmas and Easter Card projects have turned out to be very successful, beyond what we expected! So, we have printed them in advance, ready to go, and the order form is inside this newsletter. Remember that Christmas in Ukraine is on January 7th, 2016.



Parish House at Benedyktivtsi must undergo major renovation

All support of the Mission Society's work is in addition to members' and donors' existing support of their local parish, their eparchy, and the Metropolia of Pittsburgh. Renewal of our Mother Church in Central Europe cannot mean a diminishment of our financial and spiritual dedication to the church in America.

**MISSION SOCIETY OF
THE MOTHER OF
GOD OF
BORONYAVO, INC.**

The Mission Society is an independent organization dedicated to the renewal and strengthening of the Byzantine Catholic Church in America and Central Europe.

Mailing address:

Mission Society of the Mother of God of Boronyavo
c/o Our Lady of Perpetual Help
1837 Alvarado Dr NE
Abq., NM 87110

Tel: (505) 256-1539

Web:

www.missionboronyavo.org

LOCAL

REPRESENTATIVES:

Denver: Olga Bodnar -
(303) 776-2258

Albuquerque: Luba Kmetyk -
(505) 255-4778

NATIONAL OFFICERS:

Director: Diane Rabiej
Secretary: Cassandra Epstein
Chaplain-Moderator/Newsletter
Editor: Rev. Christopher Zuger
Newsletter Layout: Stephanie Block

The Synod on the Family has been in the news a great deal. Three prelates of our Byzantine-Ruthenian Church have been present: Bishop Kurt Burnette of the Passaic eparchy represented the Pittsburgh Metropolia when Archbishop William Skurla could not attend, and Metropolitan



Bishop Kurt Burnette, speaking from Rome in a video about his experience of the Synod on the Family

Archbishops Jan Babjak of Slovakia and Fulop Kocsis of Hungary. They were part of twenty-four patriarchs, major archbishops, metropolitans and bishops from the Armenian, Chaldean, Coptic, Byzantine-Melkite, -Romanian and -Ukrainian, Eritrean, Ethiopian, Maronite, Syriac, Syro-Malabar and Syro -Malankara Churches. Only the Byzantine Bulgarian, Italo-Greek and Macedonian Catholic Churches were not represented as they have not reached Metropolia status.

Again, thank you for your ongoing generosity. Every week at least a couple of envelopes show up in the mailbox with Liturgy intentions, and those are sent over on a regular basis to either the Prešov Metropolia or the Mukachevo Eparchy when there is a sufficient amount to do so. The ladies who volunteer in the office - and who really run the show - are very good about that. Without them, and you, there'd be no ongoing Mission Society since 1998. And as always, pray for vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, and consecrated life throughout the Byzantine Catholic Church, and for our spiritual leaders, from the Pope to the parish priests.

God bless you all.

Sincerely yours in the Infant Jesus,
Rev. Christopher L. Zuger

Featured Mission Society Work

There are so many needs!

*The following projects are the ones we wish to emphasize this month.
Please indicate which ones your donation supports:*

- Parish house at St. Michael's**
- Orphanage in Korolevo**
- Seminarians**
- Missions in Slovakia**
- Sisters of St. Basil the Great**
- Divine Liturgy intention**

Divine Liturgy Intentions

Please send \$10 for each Divine Liturgy. If you want Liturgy cards mailed to you, please include a note and tell us how many. These cards are full-color icons of Our Lady of Boronyavo, with an interior page where you can write your intentions, and a history page, with a matching envelope. We are happy to send you as many cards as you would like: keep them on hand for special occasions!

BYZANTINE CHRISTMAS CARDS

I would like _____ packet(s) of Christmas cards @ \$12 per packet.
(Each packet contains 5 cards.) Amount enclosed: _____

I would like to donate \$ _____ towards this project. Please include me & my family in the list of names prayed for by Bishop Sasik during the Nativity of Christ services at Holy Cross Cathedral.

Christ Is Born!



Glorify Him!

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Send your order to us *today* using the enclosed return envelope!

Orders must be received by December 15th!