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UOL BULLETIN

UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Dedicated to our Church -- Devoted to its Youth

VOL. 73 NO. 1 **FALL 2026**

Memory Eternal! The UOL mourns the loss of Fr. John Charest

With a profound depth of sadness, we share the unexpected passing of Rev. Father John Christian Charest, 43, on August 11, 2026. Loving husband of Laryssa (Tschaikowsky), beloved father of Sebastian, Avah, and Christopher. He leaves behind his parents Richard and Christine (Teper) Charest, brother Gregg (Elizabeth), nephew John "Jack" and niece Juliette, as well as many aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Father John was born on September 14th, 1982, in Woonsocket, Rhode Island. As a child, he loved soccer, hockey, and he carried this love into coaching, supporting boys and girls' soccer teams and girl's hockey, and became a certified professional referee. He achieved the highest attainable rank and served in honor as an Eagle Scout. His love for his church started early in childhood and grew exponentially.

Fr. John received his Bachelor of Arts from Rhode Island College, studying early childhood education, and minoring in theater, and later taught in school systems in Rhode Island and Chicago.

During his college years, he volunteered at the Rehabilitation Hospital of Rhode Island, and he applied his interest in physical therapy when he took part in the Ukrainian Orthodox Church's Mission Trips to orphanages in Ukraine. It was on one trip in 2006 where he met his future wife, Laryssa.

Father John went on to receive his Master of Divinity degree from St. Sophia Seminary in South Bound Brook, NJ, and was ordained into the Holy Deaconate in 2011, and later to the Holy Priesthood in 2017. He served many faithful parish communities including St. Volodymyr Cathedral in Chicago, and Sts. Peter and Paul in Palos Park, Illinois, before being assigned to Sts. Peter and Paul in Carnegie, PA.

Father John's love for the youngest members of the church was evident by how drawn children were to him. He served the youth of the church in every way he could: serving as national Junior Ukrainian Orthodox League (UOL) Spiritual Advisor, engaging with youth virtually during the pandemic, and supporting the launch of The St Constantine Orthodox School of Pittsburgh. For his exemplary service to children, he was awarded the Metro J. Baron award.

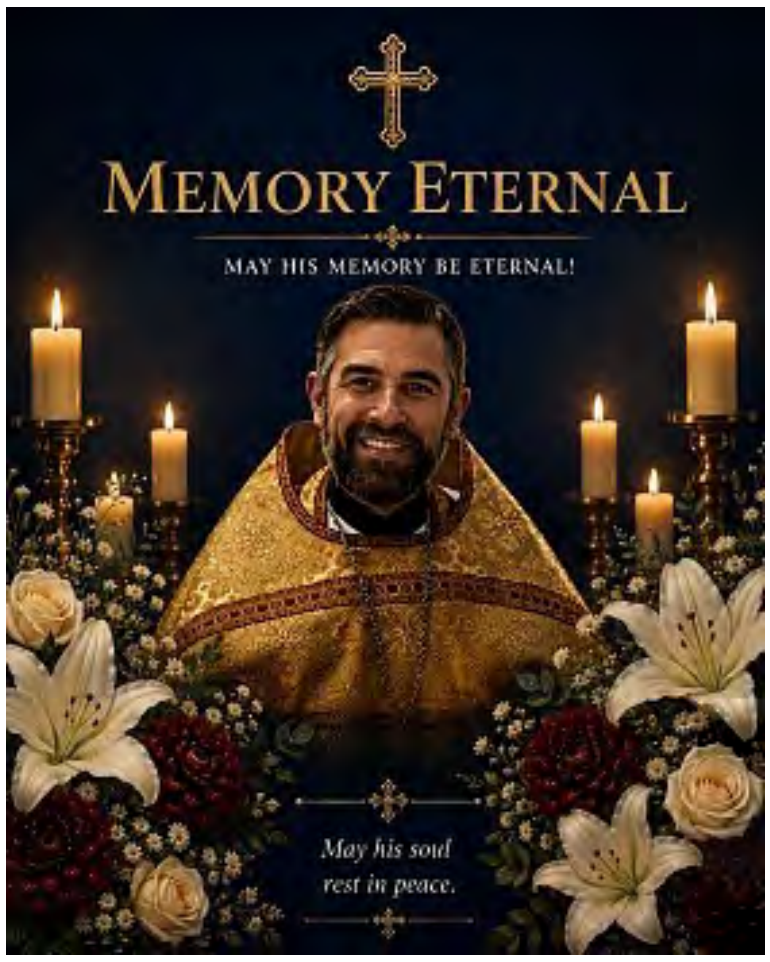
He deeply loved his parish community, and played an active role in broadening the reach and service of the church. Father John founded the church Men's group, which met monthly to support the Neighborhood Resilience Project and provided meals to the needy.

During Father John's nine year tenure as priest, he supported his vision of a flourishing parish by developing and delivering a catechumen class, which led many new faithful into their journey of the Orthodox Faith.

He offered a marriage preparation course for couples, and was deeply fulfilled by his weekly visit to shut-ins. He served as President of the Pittsburgh Clergy Brotherhood. He was unwavering support to providing aid to Ukraine, and concelebrated the weekly Moleben with his dear brother priest Fr. Jason Charron. Father John invited the public to his church tours during parish events, always welcoming people in. His welcoming demeanor will be known as his legacy.
Father John touched many lives, and he will be deeply missed. Memory Eternal!

Please consider contributing to the Charest Childrens Scholarship Fund.

Memory Eternal! Vichnaya Pamyat!



O Lord Jesus Christ, our God, Physician of our souls and bodies, Resurrection and Life of all who place their hope in You, look down with compassion upon Your newly reposed servant, Priest John. You alone know the depths of his heart. You know every joy and sorrow, every hope and disappointment, every burden carried openly and every struggle known only to You. Remember his priestly service, his prayers before Your Holy Altar, and the people whom he sought to serve in Your Name. In the abundance of Your mercy, forgive every transgression, voluntary and involuntary, and receive Your servant into the place of light, the place of green pasture, the place of rest, from which all sickness, sorrow, and sighing have fled away.

Look with particular tenderness upon his beloved wife Dobrodiyka Laryssa and their children. Hold them close when their hearts are overwhelmed. Strengthen them when they feel weak. Console them when human words cannot. Surround his parents, siblings, relatives, and friends with Your grace.

Remember also, O Lord, the faithful of Saints Peter and Paul Parish, now grieving the loss of their pastor. Unite them in love. Preserve them from despair, division, speculation, and judgment. Grant them wisdom, patience, compassion, and peace. Send down upon them Your All-Holy Spirit, the Comforter, that in the midst of their tears they may still perceive Your presence and in the darkness of grief behold the light of Your Resurrection.

For You are the Resurrection, the Life, and the Repose of Your servant, Priest John, O Christ our God, and to You we send up glory, together with Your eternal Father and Your all-holy, good, and life-giving Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

80th UOL Convention
Woonsocket, RI
July 21, 2027 — July 25, 2027

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Natalie Bilynsky — UOL President — 703 Pine Ridge Road, Media, PA 19063 — nsufler@aol.com
Tatiana Korotinsky — Jr. UOL President
Natalie Bilynsky — UOL Bulletin Editor — 703 Pine Ridge Road, Media, PA 19063 — nsufler@aol.com

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The absolute deadline for each monthly issue is the 1st of the prior month. Photos should be sent in jpeg format.

Note to Contributors: All articles submitted to the UOL Bulletin must be in 11 point Times New Roman (font), or typed and double spaced in 12 point type. Articles may be submitted via e-mail attachments. (Submit to: nsufler@aol.com). If submitting photos please be sure to obtain consents for photos to be included in the UOL Bulletin.

The editor reserves the right to condense any material submitted. Material cannot be returned.

UOL Holodomor Remembrance Project

November is the month we commemorate the victims of the Holodomor in Ukraine.

In an effort to bring greater awareness, the UOL National Executive Board has initiated a project to have food collected by our various UOL chapters and labeling the non-perishable food items with stickers that provide education on the Holodomor. A page of labels (30 labels, 1" X 2 5/8" each) is available on the UOL website to download and print. The labels read:

In 1932, 10 million people perished in an artificial famine in Ukraine.
We pray no one ever goes hungry again.
#Holodomor #UkrainianGenocide #NeverForget

We welcome you to share photos of your participation in this worthwhile project. They can be emailed to: uolpr@uolofusa.org. Photos will be shared on the UOL social media sites, on our website (uolofusa.org), and in the UOL Bulletin.

We welcome all parishes of the UOC of USA to join us in this project.

Let us remember the innocent victims of the Ukrainian Holodomor, honor their memory, and help those in need within our own communities!

In Christ,
The UOL Christian Caregiving and Missions Commission

Membership dues are due!

All Chapters and Members at Large should submit dues.

UOL dues are $25 annually.

Chapter dues should be submitted to:

Joe Goodge, Financial Secretary
1924 State Road Route 208
Pulaski, PA 16143

Member at Large Dues should be submitted to:

Natalie Bilynsky
703 Pine Ridge Road
Media, PA 19063

UOL Constitution Committee

This year the National Executive Board will be reviewing the UOL Constitution. Any suggested changes will be presented at the UOL Convention for approval. Committee participation includes review of Constitution and several zoom meetings.
If you are interested in serving on the Constitution Committee to review the UOL Constitution
please email Natalie Bilynsky at nsufler@aol.com

MESSAGE FROM THE SENIOR UOL PRESIDENT

Natalie Bilynsky

Glory to Jesus Christ!

I can not recall a time when the Convention theme has been so impactful for me. "Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer." (Romans 12:12)

In the last month, our UOL family has rejoiced in hope during the UOL Convention and soon after the Convention we faced huge tribulation with the passing of our dear Fr. John, spiritual advisor to our Junior National Executive Board, pastor and spiritual advisor to our Carnegie chapters and parish, and life long member of the UOL. Our focus to remain constant in prayer during these times is so essential for us all. Please keep the Charest family, Matushka Laryssa, children Sebastian, Avah and Christopher, as well as parents Christine and Richard in your prayers. Also please continue to pray for our brothers and sisters in Carnegie, our Junior UOL and for each other in your prayers. May we all find strength in our Lord as we face this incredibly challenging time. Also, I encourage you to support the Charest family, and the Sts. Peter and Paul Webpage has information about ways that you can support the family.

Information about the UOL Convention is listed in this issue of the UOL Bulletin. Heartfelt thanks to the Palos Park Senior and Junior UOL Chapters and parish for hosting a wonderful Convention. Special thanks to Fr. Vasyl Sendeha, Pani Matka Sendeha and Faith Neswick for all of their hard work. It was a wonderful event and we are grateful for everything they did to sponsor the Convention.

I look forward to working with our newly elected Executive Board and the Commission/Committee Assignments for each officer:

President- Natalie Bilynsky
UOL Bulletin, Constitution and Handbook, Membership
First Vice President – Andrea Swan
Youth, Care Giving and Missions
Second Vice President – Beth Harendza
Junior UOL Advisor
Treasurer – Teresa Linck
UOL Essay Contest
Financial Secretary - Joe Goodge
Vocations and Clergy Support
Auditor- Oleh Bilynsky
Education
Recording Secretary – Anna Anderson
Ways and Means
Corresponding Secretary – Faith Neswick
Awards
Convention Chairperson – Christine Charest

Additionally the following appointments were made:
Young Adult Chairperson – Olesya Korotinsky
Pre Junior Chairperson– Rachel Harendza
Public Relations – Karen Ferraro
Social Media Workgroup – Natalie Swan,
Olesya Korotinsky, Mia Zetick
Shining Lights Scholarship – Andrea Linck

I am grateful that His Eminence Archbishop Daniel was appointed the Spiritual Advisor to the Senior National Executive Board. Our Hierarchs Vladyka Antony and Vladyka Daniel have been so incredibly supportive of the UOL and are a wonderful resource for our Boards. I would like to thank Matushka Laryssa Charest and Shirley Duffy for their service on the UOL National Executive Board.

A major discussion point at the UOL Convention was the need for the UOL to champion fundraising for the repayment of the Loving Water loan. The ability for our All Saints Camp Committee to renew the pool, a critical aspect of all encampments, hinges on the final payment of the loan. In the coming months you will be seeing a major initiative to fundraise.

A calendar of events for the coming year has been placed on the back page of this UOL Bulletin. Please be sure to support upcoming UOL Events: UOL Thanksgiving Food collection in memory of the victims of the Holodomor, and Advent Praying Our Way. Also, please remember that UOL dues should be submitted to Financial Secretary Joe Goodge.
With Love in Christ,
Natalie

79th Annual UOL Convention Palos Park, Illinois

The 79th Annual Ukrainian Orthodox League Convention was truly a celebration of the UOL family and a wonderful example of the UOL motto Dedicated to our Church Devoted to its Youth. For 79 years UOL members have gathered together for the Annual UOL Convention and this year for the first time in 25 years we met in Palos Park, Illinois. Fr. Vasyl and Pani Matka Olena Sendeha served as hosts for the Convention.

A true family in Christ, the Ukrainian Orthodox League is a unique organization with families both young and old gathering together as one family united in the Church.

UOL delegates and guests gathered in Orland Park, IL at the Homewood Suites by Hilton on Wednesday July 29th. It was a beautiful hotel attached to an event center that hosted our meetings and the Banquet and Ball.

On Wednesday afternoon, guests arrived and lingered in the hotel lobby, catching up and enjoying time together. This year the Convention business sessions started on Thursday after Divine Liturgy so Wednesday was a designated hospitality day. Faith Neswick and her team of helpers from the Palos Park chapter and parish greeted all Convention delegates and guests at the registration desk. Each delegate and guest was provided a copy of the UOL Yearbook. The 2026 Yearbook is beautiful with ads from multiple chapters, members and parishes. Thank you to Chris Mills for creating the Yearbook and facilitating the request for ads.

Wednesday evening delegates and guests joined in an outdoor courtyard area for a delicious hospitality evening. The weather was absolutely perfect and the setting was perfect for a summer evening with comfortable chairs and tables. It was a wonderful evening to catch up with old friends and to make new friends.

Following hospitality night everyone gathered in the chapel for evening prayers. The chapel was arranged with the icon screens that were designed by Elizabeth Symonenko, graphic designer. The icons were like blinds or maps that changed the hotel meeting room into a beautiful chapel.

Thursday morning everyone gathered at the chapel for Divine Liturgy. His Eminence Archbishop Daniel presided over the Divine Liturgy, accompanied by: Fr. Taras Naumenko, Fr. John Charest, Fr. Philip Harendza and Fr. David Chidzhokie. The responses for Divine Liturgy were sung by our combined choir under the direction of Matushka Laryssa Charest. This year a combined choir sang responses for the Liturgy. It was wonderful to sing together as one family. One of the joys of the UOL is the fellowship between parishes and singing together is one of the beautiful ways we express the community between parishes.

(Continued on page 5)

Metro Baran Achievement Award Presented to Fr. Taras Naumenko

Metro J. Baran Achievement Award – is presented "for outstanding service with the Youth of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA." The award was instituted to honor the memory of Metro (Jimmie) Baran for his many years of dedicated service and efforts in working with the Juniors of the UOL. The NEB presents this award to a member of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA who has done truly outstanding work with the Junior members.

The purpose of the Award is:

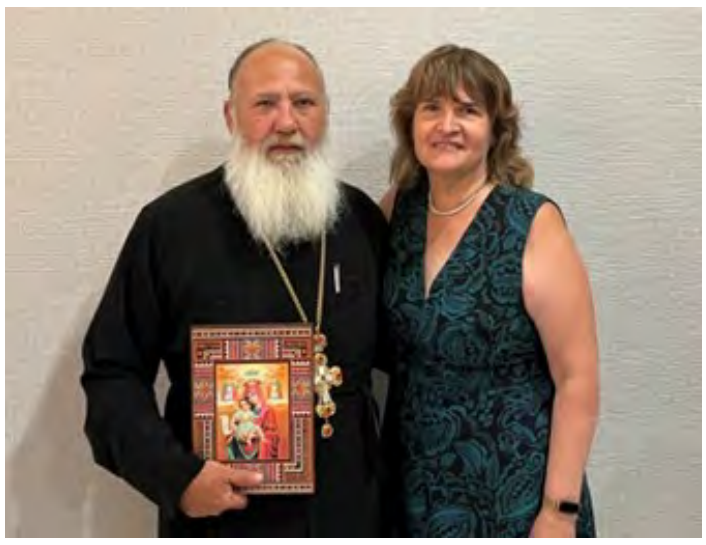
To honor that person who unselfishly gives of his/her time and energy in directing, counseling, training and/or educating the Junior members of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA.

Father Taras has

- Been the Spiritual Advisor for Junior UOL Chapters in two large parishes
- Served as Spiritual Advisor to the Junior UOL for many years
- Served as the Spiritual Advisor for multiple encampments over several decades

Our NEB Spiritual Advisor, Vladyka Daniel wrote –

"It is with heartfelt joy and sincere gratitude to God that I offer my personal recommendation for this candidate as a truly worthy recipient of recognition for outstanding service to the youth of the UOC of USA. Throughout his ministry, he has demonstrated a rare and genuine love for young people, dedicating countless hours of his pastoral life to listening, guiding, encouraging and inspiring the youth entrusted to his spiritual care. His ability to connect with children, teenagers and young adults comes not only from his pastoral wisdom but from the youthful joy and warmth that radiate from his personality and presence. Young people naturally feel comfortable around him because they recognize in him a pastor who truly understands them, respects them and walks beside them with patience, humor and sincere Christian love.



He possesses the beautiful gift of making the Church alive and meaningful for the younger generation. Whether through camp or parish activities, or simply his joyful and approachable demeanor he consistently reminds our youth that the Orthodox faith is not merely something inherited but something lived with enthusiasm, purpose and love for Christ. And although the length of his beard may at first convince someone he belongs among the elders of the desert fathers, one quickly discovers he carries within himself the joyful spirit, energy and heart of youth – a quality that allows him to build lasting spiritual relationships with young people of our church family. His ministry is not simply a duty but a vocation lived with authenticity compassion humor and unwavering dedication to preparing the future leaders of Christ's Holy Church."

The UOL congratulates Fr. Taras Naumenko for receiving the Metro Baran Achievement Award.

Praying our Way Together

Sponsored by UOL Education Commission

Looking for something to heighten your spiritual journey to prepare for the Nativity.

Each member of the prayer group reads assigned Old Testament readings (Monday– Friday) and is assigned a prayer partner.

If you would like to journey with us, please email your name, phone number, parish name, and parish address to Oleh Bilynsky at nsufler@aol.com and more information will be sent to you.

Please sign up by November 16, 2026.

MESSAGE FROM THE JUNIOR UOL PRESIDENT

Tatiana Korotinsky

Glory to Jesus Christ! Слава Ісусу Христу!

On behalf of the Jr. Executive Board and all of the youth participants of the 79th UOL Convention, I would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the convention chairs and to Palos Park, Illinois, for hosting us and making this year's convention such a wonderful and memorable experience. It was a blessing to come together once again as a Junior UOL family, to strengthen our faith and friendships, and to continue the traditions that bring our chapters together each year.

I would especially like to thank our Junior UOL advisor, Pani Bethanne Harendza, for her continued dedication, guidance, and support of our youth. Her commitment to the Jr. UOL means so much to all of us, and I am incredibly grateful to continue working with her this year.

This year we also said goodbye to our graduating board member, Danylo Kondryshyn. Danylo has served on the Jr. UOL National Executive Board for the past four years, and his dedication and leadership have made a lasting impact on our organization. We are so grateful for everything he has contributed to the Jr. UOL and wish him the very best as he begins this next chapter. We are also incredibly proud to congratulate Danylo on being one of the six recipients of this year's Shining Lights Scholarship. His years of service, leadership, and commitment to the Ukrainian Orthodox Church are truly deserving of this recognition.

I would also like to take a moment to remember our beloved spiritual advisor, Fr. John Charest.

Before his passing, Fr. John was reappointed as the spiritual advisor of the Jr. UOL. His love for our youth and for the Jr. UOL was evident in the time, care, and guidance he gave to us. His presence at our meetings, events, and conventions was something that so many of us looked forward to, and his support helped remind us of the importance of keeping Christ at the center of everything we do.

Fr. John taught me all that I know about my position and the Junior UOL. He always brought such lightness to all of our lives and made being a part of the board the most enjoyable experience. I am devastated that I even have to write about this happening. Fr. John was the best we could've had. It is beyond difficult to imagine the Jr. UOL without Fr. John, but I know that the lessons he taught us and the love he showed us will continue to be a part of our organization. I am especially grateful that I had the opportunity to know him not only as our spiritual advisor, but as a friend and someone who genuinely cared about each of us.

With the beginning of another year, I am excited to welcome our newly elected National Executive Board. I am honored to continue serving as President and to work alongside this wonderful group of young people. The 2026–2027 board includes:

President: Tatiana Korotinsky – Philadelphia, PA
Vice President: Hunter Harendza – Johnson City, NY
Secretary: Charlie Alex – Maplewood, NJ
Financial Secretary: Lilia Hutsul – Palos Park, IL
Treasurer: Zakhary Ankoski – Philadelphia, PA

We are also looking forward to continuing to develop the Jr. UOL's presence on social media. Before his passing, Fr. John and I had discussed the establishment of a Jr. UOL Social Media Manager position on the board. We are currently working through how this role will move forward and hope to continue the plans that Fr. John helped us begin.

As we begin this new year, I encourage every chapter to continue growing, getting involved, and finding new ways to bring young people together through our faith and our Ukrainian Orthodox traditions. The National Board is always here to support you, and we would love to hear your ideas, questions, and concerns.

If you have any questions or ideas regarding the Jr. UOL this year, please feel free to reach out to me, Tatiana Korotinsky, at tusya1026@gmail.com or by phone at 215-391-9909.

I am looking forward to everything this coming year will bring and to seeing familiar and new faces at our Jr. UOL events. Most importantly, I hope that we can continue to build an organization that reflects the faith, joy, and love that Fr. John always encouraged in us.

Yours in Christ,
Tatiana Korotinsky
President, Jr. UOL National Executive Board

(UOL Convention - Continued from page 3)

Following Diving Liturgy, all members joined for a full brunch before the Convention began.

The 79th UOL Convention started on Thursday when President Natalie Bilynsky called the Convention to order. The opening prayer and National Anthem were followed by a moment of silence in honor of UOL members of Blessed Memory. This year a group of veterans served as the color guard and presented the American and Ukrainian flags. The Convention started with opening remarks from President Natalie Bilynsky, Junior UOL President Tatiana Korotinsky, Convention host Pani Matka Olena Sendeha and Convention Spiritual Advisor Fr. Vasyl Sendeha.

As part of the first business, the convention body approved the agenda, 78th Annual UOL Convention Minutes, and reviewed the Annual Reports, Audit Report, and Financial Reports.

The format this year varied with a small overview of the work sessions that focused on how technology can support our parishes.

The first workshop was led by a group of Young Adult UOL Members: Natalie Swan, Olesya Korotinsky and Mia Zetick. Our young adults shared ways that social media can be utilized to support the UOL. They also agreed to serve as a committee to develop social media for the UOL. Their ideas and goals were phenomenal and truly an inspiration for all of us. Each of our young adults served on the Junior UOL Executive Board and are an example of how the Junior UOL builds leaders within the Church.

That evening the Convention body met in a local restaurant, a polish fusion restaurant – Tradicia. Dinner was delicious and following dinner we enjoyed a wonderful comedy show that had audience participation. The comedian, from Palos Park – had a wonderful family friendly comedy routine.

Friday morning started with morning prayers. Sessions continued with the approval of the Budget for the 2026-27 fiscal year. As part of the budget there was important discussion about the finances of the UOL.

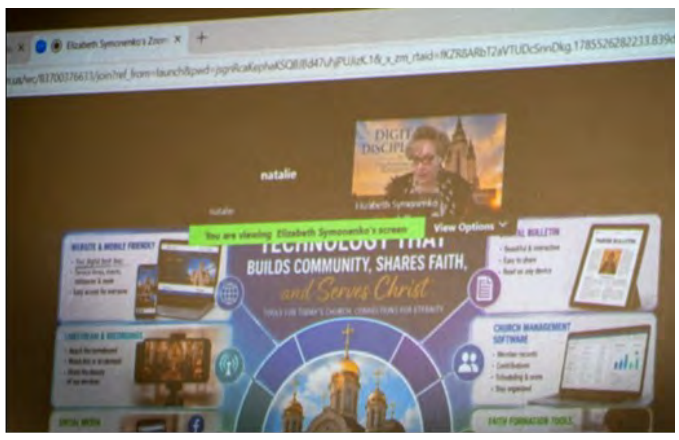
That morning we had a fantastic presentation made by Dr. Gayle Woloschak about using Technology For Education. She provided a wonderful handout of resources that could be used. There was wonderful discussion about AI and how it can be used within our parishes.

Following the workshop, President Bilynsky presented a check in the amount of $16,240 for St. Andrew's Society for soup kitchens in Ukraine to Archbishop Daniel. These funds were raised as part of the UOL's Souper Bowl Sunday fundraising project. President Bilynsky reported that this amount was a significant increase and the pattern has been that more parishes have been participating in the Souper Bowl Sunday.

This year there was also a significant increase in donations for MJSF and the Shining Lights Scholarship (formerly LSSK). For MJSF a significant fundraiser was held in the month of May. The plan will be to have memorials for Metropolitan John and to support MJSF. This year there was also more than a doubling in funds received for the Shining Lights Scholarship.

Chris Mills joined via Zoom to present on All Saints Camp. Following the presentation from All Saints Camp, there was discussion about the need to support the Loving Water Campaign. Vladyka Antony let the Convention body know that there was a donor who pledged to donate up to $10,000 to the Loving Water Campaign that would be matched. The UOL was able to match the $10,000 and the donor raised his pledge to $15,000 and the UOL was able to match that pledge. The Convention body approved the NEB to donate $5,000 towards the Loving Water Campaign. The Convention body also decided that the NEB plan a focused campaign to raise the funds to pay off the Loving Water Campaign, as we know that pool replacement will not be initiated until the loan used to fix the water supplies was paid. The NEB will be focused on fundraising to support the Loving Water Campaign.

Christine Charest, Chairperson for the 80th UOL Convention, presented on the plans for the UOL Convention in Woonsocket in 2027. Save the date – because the plans for the Convention sound wonderful. We can not wait to return to the Northeast in Woonsocket RI.



A bid was placed for the UOL Convention to be hosted by the Sharon/Youngstown Chapters in 2028.

Next, Teresa Linck, Education Contest Chairperson, presented awards to all Essay Contest winners. This year there were 165 entries. Sts. Peter and Paul in Palos Park, IL had the largest number of submissions. A list of all winners is published in this issue of the Bulletin.

The final workshop of the day was presented by Elizabeth Symonenko via Zoom. The presentation was phenomenal and provided very concrete ways that technology can be used to aid your chapter/parish.

Friday evening the Convention body met at the Palos Parish for a Ukrainian Fashion Show. The parish hall was beautifully decorated with a wonderful area to take pictures with an embroidery back drop where everyone took amazing pictures. Our convention body was dressed in vyshyvka with one of my favorite being the Bryndzia family with baby and mama dressed in beautiful matching vyshyvka.

There was also a captivating fashion show with models dressed in Ukrainian costume from multiple regions in Ukraine. We learned that each costume was handmade, and each was amazing.

(Continued on page 6)

(UOL Convention - Continued from page 5)

It is also important to mention that the dinner was absolutely delicious with a medley of Ukrainian dishes including wonderful fish and varynyky. Later that evening, everyone joined in the parish for evening prayers. It is always wonderful to enjoy prayers in the parish.

Saturday morning started with morning prayers.

The first item on the agenda for Saturday was holding the elections for the Senior UOL Executive Board. The following officers were elected for the 2026-27 year:

President- Natalie Bilynsky, Philadelphia, PA
First VP- Andrea Swan, Philadelphia, PA
Second VP- BethAnne Harendza - Scranton, PA
Recording Secretary- Anna Anderson, Youngstown, OH
Corresponding Secretary- Faith Neswick, Palos Park, IL
Treasurer- Teresa Linck, New Britain, CT
Financial Secretary- Joseph Goodge, Youngstown, OH
Auditor- Oleh Bilynsky, Philadelphia, PA

The Pre-Juniors, under the direction of Rachel Harendza presented a wonderful overview of their work. They presented collages that focused on Hope.

The Junior UOL joined the Senior UOL Sessions and reported that they will be focused on raising funds to support the Loving Water Campaign.

Junior UOL Executive Board – 2026-2027:
President: Tatiana Korotinsky- Philadelphia, PA
Vice President: Hunter Harendza, Johnson City, NY
Secretary: Charlie Alex - Maplewood, NJ
Financial Secretary: Lilia Hutsul - Palos Park, IL
Treasurer: Zachary Ankosi- Philadelphia, PA

Next, a highlight of the UOL Convention, the Chapter Challenge, was held. It was a wonderful time to see the Juniors' knowledge about our Faith. This year, similar to last year, our winning Junior UOL team challenged our seminarians to chapter challenge. This year our seminarians were victorious.

Saturday evening featured Pani Matka Olena Sendeha as the master of ceremonies and she guided the evening very gracefully. As part of the banquet awards were presented.

The Metro Baran Award was presented to Fr. Taras Naumenko. (An article about the Metro Baran Award winner can be found in this issue on page 4)

Junior UOL President Tatiana Korotynsky presented the Junior UOL Chapter of the Year to Palos Park, IL. The Junior UOL also presented the Fr. Bukata award to David Sendeha.

Teresa Linck presented the Shining Light Scholarships to 6 members. Teresa provided an overview of the scholarship and the transformation to commemorate 3 shining lights – Lynn Sawchuk, Sharon Kuzbyt and Julian Naumenko all of blessed memory. Scholarships were awarded to Mykola Bryndzia, Mary Kokuashvilli, Danylo Kondryshyn, Yurii Kulyk, Sofiia Lutsiv and Antony Sendeha.

A highlight of the Convention was our Junior UOL President presenting charters to newly re-established Junior UOL Chapters – Carnegie, Johnson City, Maplewood and Parma.

Additionally Joseph Goodge presented the Metropolitan John Scholarship Fund awards to St. Sophia's Seminary on behalf of the seminarians. (Details about the Junior Awards, Shining Lights and MJSF recipients will be printed in the next issue.)

Once the banquet was complete the DJ - Bryndzia entertained and dancing continued through the night. Everyone enjoyed the music and dancing. During the Convention ball, the winners of the Junior UOL raffle as well as the basket raffle were picked.

(Continued on page 7)

(UOL Convention - Continued from page 6)

On Sunday, August 2, 2026, His Eminence Metropolitan Antony celebrated Divine Liturgy. National Senior and Junior UOL Presidents as well as parish representatives greeted His Eminence Metropolitan Antony with flowers and the traditional bread and salt.

Divine Liturgy was absolutely beautiful with an amazing choir under the direction of choir director George Cepynsky. At the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy the newly elected officers took the oath of office.

Following Divine Liturgy, everyone was invited to participate in a wonderful lunch at the parish hall. A full lunch was enjoyed by everyone. With full stomachs and hearts filled with love our UOL family said goodbyes. The 79th Annual UOL Convention, now a memory, but what a wonderful memory.

The Palos Park Chapter and parish are to be commended for a fantastic Convention. Special thanks to Convention Hosts Fr. Vasyl and Pani Olena Sendeha and Faith Neswick for all of their hard work. Their labor of love, in planning this convention, truly serves as an inspiration. It was a wonderful Convention!

Mark your calendars and save the date for the 80th UOL Convention to be held in Woonsocket, RI.

UOL Convention Reflections

PALOS PARK, ILLINOIS - For seventy-nine years, the Ukrainian Orthodox League of the United States of America has stood as one of the great pillars of the life and ministry of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA. Established by faithful visionaries who understood that the future of the Church would depend upon forming generations of devoted Orthodox Christians, the League has become far more than an organization - it has become a ministry of faith, education, fellowship, charitable service, and Christian witness.

From July 29 through August 2, 2026, delegates representing Ukrainian Orthodox League Chapters from Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Illinois gathered at Saints Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Parish in Palos Park, Illinois, to celebrate the 79th Annual Ukrainian Orthodox League Convention, prayerfully reflecting upon the convention theme: “Rejoice in Hope, Be Patient in Tribulation, Be Constant in Prayer.” (Romans 12:12)

Hosted with exceptional warmth by Very Rev. Fr. Vasyl Sendeha, Dobrodiyka Olena Sendeha, the devoted parish family, and the local Ukrainian Orthodox League Chapter, the convention became a joyful manifestation of Orthodox Christian unity. Throughout the week delegates experienced not simply an annual meeting but a true gathering of the Church family - where prayer, fellowship, learning, charitable service, and mutual encouragement were woven together into one living expression of faith.

The opening session of the convention began with a solemn tribute to those who defend freedom and preserve peace. Members of the local chapter of the American Veterans reverently processed into the convention hall carrying the flags of the United States of America and Ukraine. Their participation reminded everyone present that the blessings enjoyed by the faithful - including the freedom to worship and gather openly - have been preserved through the sacrifices of courageous men and women.

As the colors were presented, the delegates stood while the national anthems of both nations were prayerfully sung, honoring veterans, active-duty military personnel, and especially the defenders of Ukraine who continue to protect their homeland amid the ongoing war. The convention united in prayer that Almighty God would grant peace to the world, strengthen those who defend justice and freedom, comfort grieving families, and grant eternal memory to those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

Every day of the convention began in the manner that defines Orthodox Christian life - with prayer. Delegates gathered for the celebration of the Divine Liturgy, preceded each morning by the Holy Mystery of Confession, allowing everyone to begin the day's work with purified hearts and renewed spirits. Presiding over the liturgical celebrations were His Eminence Metropolitan Antony, Prime Hierarch of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, and His Eminence Archbishop Daniel, together with clergy from throughout the Church.

Addressing the faithful, Metropolitan Antony reflected upon nearly eight decades of faithful ministry offered through the Ukrainian Orthodox League. "For seventy-nine years, the Ukrainian Orthodox League has quietly become one of the greatest blessings bestowed upon our Church. Countless faithful have invested their talents, sacrifices, prayers, and love so that every young Orthodox Christian might encounter Christ, cherish His Holy Church, and faithfully serve the world." He reminded delegates that the League's accomplishments cannot be measured merely by conventions, meetings, or reports.

"The Ukrainian Orthodox League is not simply an institution - it is a ministry. Wherever there is a child learning the Faith, a seminarian preparing for priesthood, a family strengthened through fellowship, a camper discovering

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(Convention Reflections - Continued from page 7)

Christ at All Saints Camp, or a suffering person receiving charitable assistance, there you will find the living witness of the Ukrainian Orthodox League."

Offering heartfelt gratitude, Metropolitan Antony acknowledged the League's decades of faithful support of Saint Sophia Ukrainian Orthodox Theological Seminary, All Saints Camp, the ministries of youth formation, and the Saint Andrew Society, whose humanitarian ministry continues to bring hope to suffering families throughout Ukraine.

"Every act of generosity offered through this League becomes an icon of God's love. Charity is never measured merely in dollars but in lives transformed through compassion rooted in Christ."

Opening the formal business sessions on July 30, Dr. Natalie Bilynsky, President of the Ukrainian Orthodox League, welcomed delegates, clergy, and guests with gratitude and hope. With the blessing of Metropolitan Antony, she invited the convention body to spend the coming days reflecting upon the League's sacred vocation within the life of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA while prayerfully discerning how to continue serving future generations with faithfulness and vision. Throughout her remarks, Dr. Bilynsky emphasized that the League's mission remains firmly rooted in strengthening parish life, nurturing Orthodox youth, supporting theological education, promoting charitable outreach, and preserving the rich spiritual heritage entrusted to the faithful by previous generations.

One of the principal themes of this year's convention centered upon the Church's presence within today's rapidly changing digital world. Delegates were privileged to hear thoughtful presentations by Dr. Gayle Woloschak and Elizabeth Symonenko, who explored both the theological and practical aspects of utilizing social media, digital communication, and artificial intelligence in the ministry of the Church.

Dr. Woloschak reflected upon the theological foundations that must always guide Orthodox engagement with emerging technologies, emphasizing that

while technology itself remains morally neutral, it must always be employed in a manner that reflects the image of God present within every human person. She reminded delegates that no technological advancement can ever replace authentic human relationships, sacramental life, pastoral care, or genuine encounters with Jesus Christ.

Elizabeth Symonenko complemented these reflections with practical guidance, demonstrating how parishes, Church organizations, and faithful Orthodox Christians can responsibly utilize social media and artificial intelligence as instruments of evangelization, education, communication, and outreach while remaining vigilant against misinformation, division, superficiality, and the temptation to substitute virtual engagement for authentic Christian community.
The presentations generated lively discussion among delegates regarding how the Church can faithfully proclaim the Gospel in the digital age while remaining firmly rooted in Holy Tradition.

Archbishop Daniel devoted time to meeting with the delegates of the Junior Ukrainian Orthodox League, encouraging them to embrace their calling as faithful Orthodox Christians within today's society. Speaking with fatherly warmth, he reminded the youth that Orthodox Christianity is revealed not only through words but through the witness of everyday life.

"The greatest sermon people will ever hear from you," Archbishop Daniel told the young delegates, "is not necessarily spoken from your lips but witnessed through the way you live." Reflecting upon the Orthodox understanding of the family, he described the parish as the Great Church, while reminding the youth that every Orthodox Christian home is called to become a Little Church - a domestic church where prayer, forgiveness, Holy Scripture, and the presence of Christ shape daily life.

"The Church teaches us how to pray," he explained, "but the home teaches us whether prayer becomes the rhythm of our lives. The parish strengthens the family, and the family strengthens the parish."

Archbishop Daniel encouraged the young people to become recognizable as Orthodox Christians not merely by the crosses they wear but by the manner in which they speak, eat, interact with others, conduct themselves, and make daily decisions.

"Our ethics are born from our theology," he explained. "Every word we speak, every image we post, every action we take should reveal that Christ lives within us."

Quoting the words of the Savior, *"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father who is in heaven"* (Matthew 5:16), he reminded the youth that holiness is not reserved for monasteries alone but is the calling of every baptized Orthodox Christian.

He concluded by encouraging the Junior UOL members to become missionary disciples for their generation.

"The world does not simply need more successful people," he said. "The world needs holy people whose lives become living icons of Jesus Christ."

Perhaps no discussion demonstrated the League's vision for future generations more clearly than the presentation concerning All Saints Camp in Emlenton, Pennsylvania.

Recognizing the urgent need to replace the camp's aging swimming pool, delegates responded with remarkable generosity. Through pledged gifts and matching donations, the convention secured $30,000 toward the construction of a new swimming pool that will serve thousands of Orthodox children and families in the years to come.

The announcement was met with enthusiastic applause, reflecting the delegates' conviction that investments in Orthodox youth are investments in the future of Christ's Church.

The charitable spirit of the Ukrainian Orthodox League continued to shine brightly as delegates learned that the League's charitable initiatives raised approximately $17,000 in support of the Saint Andrew Society's "Soup Bowl" ministry, which continues to provide humanitarian aid, nourishment, and hope to suffering families throughout war-torn Ukraine.

These gifts stand as powerful reminders that authentic Orthodox Christianity is inseparable from works of mercy and compassion.

The convention also celebrated the richness of Ukrainian Orthodox spiritual and cultural life.

Delegates enjoyed an evening of fellowship featuring comedian Ray Fischer, whose joyful performance filled the convention hall with laughter while strengthening friendships among participants.

Another memorable presentation showcased traditional Ukrainian embroidered attire from various regions of Ukraine, illustrating the beauty, diversity, and enduring cultural heritage of the Ukrainian people, whose Christian faith has been woven into every generation.

Delegates prayerfully elected the officers who will guide the ministry of the Ukrainian Orthodox League during the coming term.

Senior National Executive Board

- **President:** Dr. Natalie Bilynsky
- **First Vice President:** Andrea Swan
- **Second Vice President:** PM BethAnne Harendza
- **Treasurer:** Teresa Linck
- **Financial Secretary:** Joe Goodge
- **Recording Secretary:** Anna Anderson

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(Convention Reflections - Continued from page 8)

- **Corresponding Secretary:** Faith Neswick
- **Auditor:** Oleh Bilynsky
- **Convention Chairperson:** Christine Charest

Junior National Executive Board

- **President:** Tatiana Korotinsky
- **Vice President:** Hunter Harendza
- **Secretary:** Charlie Alex
- **Treasurer:** Zachary Ankosi
- **Financial Secretary:** Lilia Hutsul

Following the elections, the newly elected officers solemnly took the Oath of Office, pledging to serve Christ and His Holy Church with humility, integrity, and faithfulness.

Metropolitan Antony also announced that His Eminence Archbishop Daniel will continue serving as Spiritual Father of the Senior Ukrainian Orthodox League, while Rev. Fr. John Charest was appointed Spiritual Father of the Junior Ukrainian Orthodox League, entrusting both organizations to dedicated pastoral guidance.

As the convention drew to a close, delegates turned their attention toward the future. Representing Saint Michael Ukrainian Orthodox Church and the Senior Ukrainian Orthodox League Chapter in Woonsocket, Rhode Island, Mrs. Christine Charest enthusiastically invited the delegates to attend the 80th Annual Ukrainian Orthodox League Convention, which will be hosted in July 2027.

Her presentation radiated excitement as she described the preparations already underway within the parish family. She spoke warmly of the clergy, parish council, Senior and Junior UOL members, parish volunteers, and faithful who eagerly look forward to welcoming Orthodox Christians from throughout the United States for this historic anniversary gathering.

Mrs. Charest described the convention not simply as another annual meeting, but as an opportunity to open the doors of Saint Michael Parish and the hearts of its faithful to brothers and sisters in Christ from across the nation. Delegates were invited to experience the beauty of Rhode Island, participate in the rich liturgical life of the parish, strengthen lifelong friendships, and celebrate together eight decades of faithful ministry offered through the Ukrainian Orthodox League. Her invitation was received with enthusiastic applause, as delegates eagerly anticipated gathering once again for this milestone celebration.

The convention concluded with the celebration of the Divine Liturgy led by His Eminence Metropolitan Antony and the assembled clergy. As delegates entered the beautiful temple of Saints Peter and Paul Parish, they were warmly welcomed by Very Rev. Fr. Vasyl Sendeha, Dobrodiyka Olena Sendeha, and the faithful of the parish, whose extraordinary hospitality had embraced every participant throughout the convention.

Reflecting upon the convention theme from Romans 12:12, Metropolitan Antony offered words that beautifully summarized the spirit of the gathering.

"Hope is not optimism; hope is confidence in Christ. Tribulation does not define the Church because Christ has already overcome the world. Prayer is not merely something we do - it is the very breath of the Church."

He continued: "Whenever Orthodox Christians gather to pray, to listen to one another, to serve one another, and to love one another in Christ, the Church herself is renewed."

Concluding his archpastoral reflections, Metropolitan Antony challenged every delegate to return home carrying not simply memories of another successful convention but a renewed missionary spirit.

"The greatest accomplishment of the Ukrainian Orthodox League is not found in reports or resolutions, but in transformed hearts. Wherever you return - to your parish, your family, your workplace - become witnesses of hope. Let people encounter Christ through your kindness, generosity, humility, and steadfast faith. In this way, the Gospel continues to transform the world."

As the delegates departed Palos Park, they carried with them far more than convention materials and photographs. They departed strengthened by the Holy Mysteries, inspired by the witness of faithful Orthodox Christians, renewed in friendships old and new, and recommitted to the sacred mission entrusted to the Ukrainian Orthodox League nearly eighty years ago - to proclaim Christ, strengthen His Holy Church, preserve the Orthodox Faith, serve those in need, and faithfully pass this priceless inheritance to generations yet to come.

Annual Fund Drive
Please support the Ukrainian Orthodox League's Annual Drive for UOL Projects, Shining Lights (formerly LSSK) and Metropolitan John Scholarship Fund

Donations to UOL Projects will be used for:

*Publication of the ***UOL BULLETIN***
*Supporting the Youth Commission's activities
*Outreach through the Christian Care-Giving and Missions Commission
*Continuation of the Education Commission projects and services
*Public Relations and other administrative necessities

Donations to the Shining Lights (formerly Lynn Sawchuk-Sharon Kuzbyt) Scholarship fund will:

*Provide Scholarships to current or former Junior UOL members who are leaders in their parishes and communities and committed to their faith
*Nurture the future leaders of our Church
*Foster the UOL's motto: "Devoted to its Youth"

Donations to the MJSF Scholarship Fund will:

*Provide tuition assistance to seminarians at our St. Sophia's Seminary
*Encourage candidates to the Holy Priesthood
*Provide tuition assistance to our clergy and seminarians for higher education

Please take a moment and use the enclosed Envelope to make your donation today!!
Thank you for your continued support!!

UOL Essay Contest Winners 2026

Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten		
First Place	Avery McCormick	Sts. Peter and Paul, Youngstown, OH
Second Place	Willa Deli	St. Demetrius, Carteret, NJ
Third Place	Solomia Matiushyn	Sts. Peter and Paul, Palos Park, IL
Honorable Mentions	Mia Scannel	St. John the Baptist, Johnson City, NY
	Tymofii Burdyliak	St. John the Baptist, Johnson City, NY
	Anna Rybiy	Sts. Peter and Paul, Palos Park, IL
	Anna Khudiak	Sts. Peter and Paul, Palos Park, IL
	Emma Bren	Sts. Peter and Paul, Palos Park, IL
	Mykola Hadzula	Sts. Peter and Paul, Palos Park, IL
	Melania Stadnyk	Sts. Peter and Paul, Palos Park, IL
	Daria Oksanych	Sts. Peter and Paul, Palos Park, IL
	Veronica Namaka	Sts. Peter and Paul, Palos Park, IL
	Even Mozil	Sts. Peter and Paul, Palos Park, IL
	Roman Levan	Sts. Peter and Paul, Palos Park, IL
First and Second Grades		
First Place	Maksym Dukhnitsky	Sts. Peter and Paul, Palos Park, IL
Second Place	Amelia Sendeha	Sts. Peter and Paul, Palos Park, IL
Third Place	Andriy Oliferuk	Sts. Peter and Paul, Palos Park, IL
Honorable Mentions	Emilia Deli	St. Demetrius, Carteret, NJ
	Raphael Bhandari	St. John the Baptist, Johnson City, NY
	Kennedy Schumacher	St. John the Baptist, Johnson City, NY
	Declan Scannel	St. John the Baptist, Johnson City, NY
	Katherine Romanskyy	Sts. Peter and Paul, Palos Park, IL
	Mykhailo Burakov	Sts. Peter and Paul, Palos Park, IL
	Matvii Bybyb	Sts. Peter and Paul, Palos Park, IL
Third and Fourth Grades		
First Place	Theodor Kmit	Sts. Peter and Paul, Palos Park, IL
Second Place	Inna Hrechyn	Sts. Peter and Paul, Palos Park, IL
Third Place	Zachary McCormick	Sts. Peter and Paul, Youngstown, OH
Honorable Mentions	Quinn Schumacher	St. John the Baptist, Johnson City, NY
	Pavlo Klym	Sts. Peter and Paul, Palos Park, IL
	Oleksandra Klym	Sts. Peter and Paul, Palos Park, IL
	Zahar Hruntovkyi	Sts. Peter and Paul, Palos Park, IL
	Stanislav Kopyltsiv	Sts. Peter and Paul, Palos Park, IL
	Evelina Znak	Sts. Peter and Paul, Palos Park, IL
Fifth and Sixth Grades		
First Place	Milana Kachala	Sts. Peter and Paul, Palos Park, IL
Second Place	Zlata Motyka	Sts. Peter and Paul, Palos Park, IL
Third Place	Michael Rudiak	Sts. Peter and Paul, Palos Park, IL
Honorable Mentions	Claire Brown	St. John the Baptist, Johnson City, NY
	Sabina Bhandari	St. John the Baptist, Johnson City, NY
	Samantha Sacalos	St. Mary's, New Britanin, CT
	Zlata Dzhydzhora	Sts. Peter and Paul, Palos Park, IL
	Zlata Zubrytska	Sts. Peter and Paul, Palos Park, IL
	Sophia Horodyska	Sts. Peter and Paul, Palos Park, IL
	Marta Rudak	Sts. Peter and Paul, Palos Park, IL
Seventh and Eighth Grades		
First Place	Joseph Rimedio	Sts, Peter and Paul Youngstown, OH
Second Place	Victoria Machnikowski	Sts. Peter and Paul, Palos Park, IL
Third Place	Marta Rybiy	Sts. Peter and Paul, Palos Park, IL
Honorable Mentions	Damian Bhandari	St. John the Baptist, Johnson City, NY
	Sophia Pylypchuk	Sts. Peter and Paul, Palos Park, IL
	Danylo Oliferuk	Sts. Peter and Paul, Palos Park, IL
	Olesia Bachynskyi	Sts. Peter and Paul, Palos Park, IL
Ninth and Tenth Grades		
First Place	Oleksandra Bachynska	Sts. Peter and Paul, Palos Park, IL
Secon Place	Olha Kyluk	Sts. Peter and Paul, Palos Park, IL
Third Place	Molly De Bias	St. Demetrius, Carteret, NJ
Eleventh and Twelfth		
First Place	Samuel Goodge	Sts. Peter and Paul, Youngstown, OH
Second Place	Max Hatala	St. John the Baptist, Johnson City, NY
Third Place	David Sendeha	Sts. Peter and Paul, Palos Park, IL
Adults		
First Place	Andrea Linck	MAL
Second Place	Jean Roeth	Sts. Peter and Paul, Wilmington, DE
Third Place	Michael Jogan	St. Vladimir's, Parma, OH

This year there were 165 entries for the essay contest. Here is the specific Breakdown based on grade level and parishes.

By Grade level

Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten	29
First and Second	35
Third and Fourth	38
Fifth and Sixth	20
Seventh and Eighth	17
Ninth and Tenth	10
Eleventh and Twelfth	10
Adults	6

Parishes

Assumption of the Virgin Mary, Northampton, PA	2
St. Demetrius, Carteret, NJ	7
St. John the Baptist, Johnson City, NY	21
St. Mary's, New Britain, CT	3
St. Nicholas, Troy NY	2
Sts. Peter and Paul, Palos Park, IL	113
Sts. Peter and Paul, Wilmington, DE	1
Sts. Peter and Paul, Youngstown, OH	13
St. Vladimir, Parma, OH	1
Kropyvnytskyi City, Ukraine	1
MAL	1

Important Topics Reviewed at the UOL Convention

- The UOL decided that in 2026-27 the NEB should focus on fundraising to pay the remaining balance on the loan for the Loving Waters Campaign so that the pool replacement can be initiated.

- The UOL discussed the development of a new membership category – UOL Fellowship Group. It was identified that some parishes have multiple members at large, but do not have a sufficient number of members to form a chapter. The UOL Fellowship Group allows for a parish to encourage fellowship between members but limits the need for meetings, officers and required paperwork.

  It was proposed that the UOL Fellowship Group have the following obligations:
  - Each individual member pays UOL dues each year.
  - A Fellowship Group Coordinator is identified and is a point of contact for the NEB.
  - A Spiritual Advisor provides guidance for the group and is a point of contact for the NEB.
  - A Project is sponsored and funds are donated to support NEB projects and serves as both the project donation and membership dues. It is encouraged that this project donation exceeds $100.

  Members (similar to Members at Large) have full membership status and are encouraged to serve as delegates to the UOL Convention and serve on the NEB.

- The UOL discussed review and updating of the UOL Constitution. If you would like to serve on the committee to review the Constitution, please reach out to Natalie nsufler@aol.com Any proposed changes to the Constitution will be presented to UOL membership for approval at the 80th UOL Convention in Woonsocket.

- The UOL discussed the challenges associated with hosting the Convention, including changes in banking, hotels, etc. The Convention body felt strongly that a Convention should be held annually.

- The UOL discussed incorporating Social Media to advertise UOL events. A subcommittee to the Public Relations Commission was developed with volunteers to serve on the committee.

UOL Bulletin Pictures

Katie, Nicholas and Marina McNulty reading the UOL Bulletin at Epcot.

Al and Debbie Shinn read the UOL Bulletin during their trip to Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.

Join in the fun and take a picture with your UOL Bulletin.

Be sure to take a picture with your UOL Bulletin.

Submit your pictures by emailing to Natalie at nsufler@aol.com

Oleh Bilynsky enjoys the UOL Bulletin on July 4th in New York City while the tall ships sail by.

UOL Bulletin Editor, Natalie Bilynsky, enjoyed her 60th birthday (Bastille Day - July 14th) in Paris, while the fire works light the skies at the Eiffel Tower.

Public Relations Updates

- Be sure to check out the UOL Webpage
- Our PR chairperson Karen Ferraro has been updating our UOL Webpage.
- You can obtain information about UOL Activities, get forms, review the UOL Handbook, see pictures from UOL Events at the UOL Webpage.
- Additionally, we are updating our UOL Email Blast list. If you would like to get e-mail information about UOL events and deadlines—please email Natalie at Nsufler@aol.com to get included on the email list.
- Also, as suggested by our UOL Convention we are working to enhance our social media footprint. Be sure to look for a greater presence on Facebook and Instagram.

IMPORTANT NOTICE ABOUT UOL BULLETIN

We are updating our Bulletin Mailing lists - Please be sure to submit Member at Large Dues or Submit your dues to your chapter. Remember to Submit your Membership Dues. Individual Member dues are $25.

For more information or questions about dues - contact nsufler@aol.com

UOL TRIBUTES

UOL Tribute

A donation to the Tribute Fund is an acknowledgment of a Milestone, Memorial, or Accomplishment, or is a Special Recognition of an individual or group. Your much-appreciated contribution is used to support and further the Mission of the Ukrainian Orthodox League. All donations are published in the UOL Bulletin.

Donor	***In Honor of***
Fr. Nicholas Dilendorf	In memory of my dear brother, George Dilendorf, who left us too soon! He was a friend of the UOL for many years! Memory Eternal! Vichnaya Pamyat!
Alice Sivulich	In honor of Mike and Marty Misko of Northmapton on their 49th Wedding Anniversary!
Alice Sivulich	In honor of Tom and Pat Sally of Carnegie on their 53rd wedding Anniversary!
Alice Sivulich	In honor of Melanie Unger of Northampton for my annual Birthday card for more than 50 years!
Alice Sivulich	In honor of Cynthia Haluszczk of Carnegie for making me her “family” Member at her wonderful “family” open houses for every Christmas and Easter.
Karen Ferraro	In memory of Fr. Frank Estocin and Presbytera Irene Estocin. Memory Eternal!
St. Michael UOL Chapter Woonsocket	In memory of Archdeacon Vasyl Janick falling asleep in the Lord Memory Eternal!
Teresa Linck	In loving memory of Catherin Shaffer. May her memory be eternal.
Natalie Bilynsky	In honor of Fr. and Pani Sendeha, Faith Neswick and the Palos Senior and Junior Chapters. Thank you for a great Convention!
Natalie Bilynsky	In honor of our Young Adults – Olesya Korotinsky, Natalie Swan, and Mia Zetick for inspiring us at the UOL Convention with your great Presentation. Thank you!!
Natalie Bilynsky	In honor of Gayle Woloschak for a fantastic presentation at the UOL Convention. Thank you!!
Natalie Bilynsky	In honor of Elizabeth Symonenko for a wonderful presentation at the UOL Convention. Thank you!!

To submit your Tribute:

Submit a card that includes your Name and Address, the Name of the Person to Receive the Tribute, the occasion of the Tribute (for example In Memory or To Honor), and the Name and Address of the person to whom an acknowledgement card should be sent.

For a contribution of $20 or more, the name and occasion is printed in the UOL Bulletin.

UOL Tributes should be submitted to:

Natalie Bilynsky 703 Pine Ridge Road Media, PA 19063

Send your tribute today!

UOL Bulletin
c/o Natalie Bilynsky
703 Pine Ridge Road
Media, PA 19063

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UOL Calendar of Events 2026-2027

September – UOL Membership Drive

November– Commemoration of Holodomor
Collect food and donate to local food pantry. Be sure to include stickers or a note that states “In 1932, 10 million people perished in an artificial famine in Ukraine. We pray no one ever goes hungry again.”

November 30, 2026 to January 1, 2027
Praying Our Way Together for the Nativity Fast.
Join UOC faithful in reading the Old Testament Monday-Friday during the Nativity Fast. Receive a daily biblical verse and pray for a prayer partner. Sign up by November 16, 2026.

December 6, 2026 - UOL Sunday
Commemorate UOL faithful who have fallen asleep in the Lord. Encourage all UOL members to partake in Confession and Communion.

January 2027
Sponsor an event to support the Shining Lights Scholarship.
UOL Essay Contest topics distributed.

February 14, 2027
Souper Bowl Sunday - Sell soup in your parish to sup**port the St. Andrew Society and soup kitchens in Ukraine.**

March 22, 2027 to April 16, 2027
Praying Our Way Together for Great Lent.
Join UOC faithful in reading the Psalms Monday-Friday during Great Lent. Receive a daily biblical verse and pray for a prayer partner.

April 17, 2027 - UOL Retreat
Retreat center in a Philadelphia suburb.

TBD - Western PA Retreat

April 30, 2027 - UOL Essay Contest entries due

May 2027 - Panakhyda for Metropolitan John and collection for Metropolitan John Scholarship.

June 6, 2027 - Clergy Appreciation Day

July 21-July 25, 2027 - UOL Convention - Woonsocket, RI