

SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL UKRAINIAN GREEK CATHOLIC CHURCH

114 South Chestnut Street, Shenandoah, Pennsylvania 17976

SAINT NICHOLAS THE WONDERWORKER UKRAINIAN GREEK CATHOLIC CHURCH

North Morris Street, Saint Clair, Pennsylvania 17970 *Email – stnicholasc@verizon.net*

Rectory (570) 462-0809 Fax (570) 462-0517 St. Michael's Oak St. Hall (570) 462-2424

St. Michael's Pierogie Hotline (570) 462-2424

Email- stmichaelsukrainian@verizon.net Website- www.first-ukrainian.com

Like us on Facebook@St Michael's Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church

Follow us on twitter @ stmichaelukr

Msgr. Myron Grabowsky – Parish Priest

Sunday, September 11th, 2016 ~ Sunday Before The Exaltation Of The Cross

SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL WEEKLY SERVICES SCHEDULE

Saturday, September 10th 3:30pm God's Blessings on His People
Sunday, September 11th 10:30am His Beatitude, Josyf Cardinal Slipyj
Tuesday, September 13th **6:00am** +Peter & +Johnny Lefchick by Charles & Frances Lazusky & Family

Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Wednesday, September 14 5:00pm God's Blessings on His People

Friday, September 16th 8:00am Reparation of the Sacred Heart of Jesus

Saturday, September 17th 3:30pm God's Blessings on His People

Sunday, September 18th 10:30am 9th Anniversary +Fred Koch by Eva Koch & Family

SAINT NICHOLAS THE WONDERWORKER WEEKLY SERVICES SCHEDULE

Saturday, September 10th 8:00am Reparation of the Immaculate and Sorrowful Heart of Mary
5:30pm Birthday Remembrance of +Robert Corby by Helen & Family

Sunday, September 11th 8:30am 1st Anniversary +Frank Homa by Wife, Dorothy

Monday, September 12th 8:00am +Jeannette Stock by Theresa Panchison

Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Wednesday, September 14 9:00am +Metropolitan Ambrose Senyshyn

Thursday, September 15th 8:00am Special Intentions

Saturday, September 17th 8:00am Reparation of the Immaculate and Sorrowful Heart of Mary
5:30pm Deceased Members of +Zucal Family by Bernadette Bremer & Family

Sunday, September 18th 8:30am +Anna Brennan by Harold & Mary Albon & Family

St. Michael's Lector Schedule:

Saturday, September 10 th	Gal 6:11-18	Winifred Mohutsky
Sunday, September 11 th	Gal 6:11-18	Alice Breznik
Saturday, September 17 th	Gal 2:16-20	Winifred Mohutsky
Sunday, September 18 th	Gal 2:16-20	Michael Fufla

St. Nicholas Lector Schedule:

Saturday, September 10 th	Gal 6:11-18	Andrew Skrincosky
Sunday, September 11 th	Gal 6:11-18	Lauralee Sadusky
Saturday, September 17 th	Gal 2:16-20	Christine Romanko
Sunday, September 18 th	Gal 2:16-20	Dolores Sadusky

Upcoming Events – Mark Your Calendars!

St. Michael:

Sanctuary Light- Available Dates 9/18, 9/25, 10/2, 10/9 , 10/16, 11/20 & 12/18. If you are interested in these candles, please sign up at the back of the Church.

American Girl Doll Bingo will be NEXT SUNDAY, September 18th Doors open at 12 noon Early Bird at 1:15pm Bingo starts at 1:30pm Admission \$25.00 *All Players must purchase an admission ticket *Winner receives their choice of doll. *Advanced ticket holders will be entered in a drawing for an American Girl Accessory . * Special Raffle - Bring non-perishable food or paper products to get a chance for a special raffle – one chance per item For Tickets call 570-462-0809

American Girl Doll Bingo – Anyone able to help the day of the event – Please see Stephanie Rarick or call the rectory. Deserts will be needed for the event , please drop them off in the Hall the Saturday before or the Sunday of the event.

Christmas Bingo will be Sunday October 16th. Doors open at 12 noon Early Bird at 1:15pm Bingo starts at 1:30pm Admission \$25.00 *All Players must purchase an admission ticket *Advanced ticket holders will be entered in a drawing for a Christmas Item . * Special Raffle - Bring non-perishable food or paper products to get a chance for a special raffle – one chance per item For Tickets call 570-462-0809

Lottery Raffle – Tickets for our Lottery Basket Raffle are now available. Please see Stephanie Rarick or the rectory for Tickets. Tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. There are \$376.00 in Scratch- Offs in the basket- Good Luck !

Pierogies – Our Pierogie sale will be Monday, September 12th. We are already sold out, but we would appreciate any help you can give the day of the sale. Thank you . You are the key to our success.

Mother's Guild Fundraiser- As a reminder, the Mother's Guild receives a donation from **Boyers when you use the key tags in the back of the church and hand in the receipt** in the box in the back of the Church. *The same is true when you use YOUR key tag and hand in your receipt for Redners* . Please help the Mother Guild continue their good works by helping with this fundraising effort.

St. Nicholas:

Sanctuary Light : Available Dates- 10/2 , 10/30, 11/6 & 11/13

Both Churches:

Catechetical Sunday- Next Sunday an important event will take place in our parish: the beginning of the new Catechetical year. To welcome our new and returning students and bless our teachers, special prayers and blessings will be included during the Divine Liturgy. All instructors and students are asked to be present. Classes will be on Thursday Evenings – start date to be announced next week.

Chinese Auction: Ss. Peter and Paul Altar Rosary Society, Mt. Carmel, is sponsoring a Chinese auction on Sunday, October 9th 2016 in the church hall located at the corner of West Ave. and Beech St. Doors open at 11:30am and the Auction begins at 2:00. There will be a Browse & Bid on Saturday, Oct. 8th from 11:00am – 2:00pm. Players need not be present to win. There will be great prizes and great food to eat in or take out. For more information call the rectory office during business hours at 570 339-0650. Hope to see you there!

Catholic Nurses Guild Fall Mass-will be held at 10am on Tuesday, September 20,2016 in Divine Mercy Church in Shenandoah. R.N.'s interested in joining the organization are welcome to attend. Members of the parish are also welcome to attend this Mass.

Roast Beef or Stuffed Chicken Breast Dinner- Divine Mercy Parish is sponsoring a roast beef or chicken breast dinner on Sunday, Oct. 30th from 11:00am to 1:30 pm in St. Stephen Hall, corner of East oak St. & South Main St. You will have a choice of Roast Beef or Stuffed Boneless Chicken Breast. Each dinner will include: Mashed Potato's, Green Beans, Cole Slaw & Roll. The Cost of the dinner will be \$8.00 –Take out only. The dinner will be provided by A & C Catering. Order forms are available at the parish office, 108 West Cherry st. Shenandoah.

Help those in need this summer. – OUR CUPBOARDS ARE BARE - As you know we maintain a food bank for those in need. During the summer donations are few and far between and the need is greater, because the children of struggling families are not in school. They are not guaranteed breakfast and lunch , as they are during the school year . We ask that you find it in your heart to help these families . Please donate non- perishable foods or personal hygiene products to help stock our depleted Food Pantry. Just a few items can be the difference between a child going to bed with a full tummy, or going to bed hungry. Thank you for your giving spirit.

SAVE THE DATE! The Ukrainian Catholic Hierarchy of the USA invites all of the clergy, religious and faithful to plan to participate in a prayerful remembrance of our first Bishop, The Most Rev. Soter Stephen Ortynsky, OSBM. We will commemorate the 150th anniversary of his birth, the 125th anniversary of ordination to the holy priesthood, and the 100th anniversary of his death, on Sunday, October 30th at 3 pm at the Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Philadelphia. Vespers will be celebrated with a reflection offered by Rev. Dr. Ivan Kaszczak, author, "Bishop Soter Stephen Ortynsky and the Genesis of the Eastern Catholic Churches in America", to be followed by a Memorial Prayer in the Cathedral Crypt. An Opening and Blessing of the newly relocated premises of 'Treasury of Faith' Ukrainian Catholic Museum will be held immediately thereafter in testimony to Bishop Ortynsky. Please plan to participate. We respectfully ask that parishes and organizations not plan other events at this time, permitting faithful to pray for the soul of our first Bishop and to honor his contribution. We are grateful for everyone's anticipated assistance and participation.

CHICKEN & HALUPKI DINNER sponsored by St. Nicholas Church on Sunday, September 18th from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM at St. Nicholas Hall, Primrose Mead includes...halupki, mashed potatoes, filling, green beans, roll \$10.00/platter...eat-in or take-out Advance tickets only call 544-4581

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION- SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2016 at the Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania We invite all our married faithful to join with our Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka to celebrate their Wedding Anniversaries at a Divine Liturgy in our Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Sunday, October 16, 2016 at 11 AM followed by a Banquet in their honor. Cost is \$50.00 per couple and \$30.00 per guest. Deadline for registration is October 1st. Registration forms are in the back of the Church or contact the rectory.

Works of Mercy in the USA: The Ukrainian Catholic Laity, Monastics, and Clergy until 1916 Tuesday, September 27, 2016 6:30 - 8:30 PM Rev. Dr. Ivan Kaszczak Fee: \$20 Basilian Spirituality Center 710 Fox Chase Rd, Jenkintown, PA 19046 In the Year of Mercy we are called to renew our commitment to Corporal and Spiritual works of mercy. This renewal calls to mind the question: How did our forbearers live their evangelical commitment? This talk will explore the historical witness that has been given in perpetuity by that "cloud of witnesses" within the Ukrainian Catholic Church. We will explore the life of the believers using the works of mercy as our guideline. This church settled in the United States in the 1870s. How was the United States enriched and how was the faith proclaimed by those blessed few who answered the call to see Christ in their neighbor? Rev. Dr. Ivan Kaszczak's maternal grandmother was born in Olyphant, Pennsylvania in 1898 but he is an immigrant born of Ukrainian parents from Lemkivschyna. He serves as a priest in the Eparchy of Stamford (CT) in Kerhonkson and Hunter, NY . His interest in Church history has born fruit in several publications and the latest of these is "Bishop Soter Stephen Ortynsky and the Genesis of the Eastern Catholic Churches in America." He is a retired chaplain of the United States Air Force Reserve.

God may say “wait”, but He never says “worry”.

The Sign of the Cross in the Eastern Church -by Archpriest Armand J. Jacopin

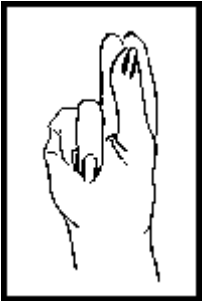
In the course of history no symbol has expressed the mentality of Christians more faithfully than the cross. The cross is the concrete expression of the Christian mystery, of victory through defeat, of glory through humiliation, of life through death. It is the symbol of a God who became man to die as a slave to save creatures. It is the symbol of a life that is not afraid to look to the height and breadth and depth of things because in every direction its arms remain outstretched.

It is interesting to note that long before Christ the symbol of the cross was held in high esteem and venerated by many pagan cultures as a sacred sign of the stability and the integrity of the universe pointing to the four directions of the compass and gathering to itself the entire cosmos. More amazing still this ancient symbol would in the "fullness of time" become the instrument of redemption and the means of the glorification of the Son of Man as St. John Chrysostom says: "I call him king because I see him crucified: it belongs to the king to die for his subjects." Crucifixion, death, salvation, kingship, glory - the cross!

Because the pagan world could not and would not understand such a deep mystery, such "foolishness," the early Christians hesitated to use the cross openly as the sign of the new faith. When it did appear it was usually disguised as an anchor or was intertwined amid vines. With the liberation of the Church from persecution under the Emperor Constantine, however, the cross slowly emerged as the sign of the Christians. Eusebius relates that the cross even supplanted the Roman eagles on the military standards—**En touto nika** (Gain the victory with this).

Despite their reticence to use the cross as a public symbol before the fourth century, the Christians did make the wide use of it as early as the second and third centuries to sign themselves on the forehead. In the second century Tertullian reports: "In all our travels and movements, in all our coming in and going out,...whatever employment occupies us, we mark our foreheads with the sign of the cross." "Let us not be ashamed to confess the Crucified," writes St. Cyril of Jerusalem in the fourth century. "Let the cross be our seal, made with boldness by our fingers on our brow and in everything..."

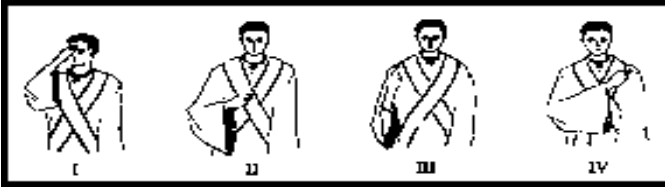
By the sixth century in the East, probably due to the raging Monophysite heresy which denied the double nature of Christ as both God and man, two fingers began to be used to trace the sign of the cross, now no longer only on the forehead but more boldly with a larger sign made on the body. The succeeding centuries saw further modifications emanate from Eastern tradition because of a desire to profess more explicitly the belief in the triune God and the double nature in Christ. The thumb and two fingers were extended to symbolize the Trinity while the ring finger and little finger were folded back on the palm to profess the God-Man, Jesus Christ.



This newer usage also spread to the Western Church where we read Pope Leo IV writing in the middle of the ninth century instructing his clergy: "Sign the chalice and the host with a proper cross... with two fingers outstretched and the thumb hidden within them, by which the Trinity is symbolized. Take heed to make this sign rightly." In the thirteenth century Pope Innocent III directed most explicitly that the sign of the cross be made with three fingers from the forehead to the breast and from the right to the left shoulder, the actual way it still is made by the majority of Eastern Christians. The Western Church retained this ancient form

till about the fourteenth century when gradually the open hand was introduced and the sign began to be made in an inverted fashion from left to right, perhaps mistakenly following the lead of the priest who in blessing inverts his movement so it would be seen correctly by the congregation before him.

Eastern Orthodox and Eastern Catholics place great emphasis on the sign of the cross as a profession of faith in the three basic doctrines of Christianity: the Holy Trinity, the double nature in Christ, and the mystery of Redemption. This act of faith in the thoughts, affections, actions.



The gesture is presently made by joining the fingers (thumb, index and middle finger together and erect; third and little finger down on the palm) and lifting the hand first to the forehead, then to the heart, to the right and then the left shoulder. In the Scriptures right always represents good

and left evil and in the Creed the Son is said to sit at the right had of the Father—thus the signing of the right shoulder first. Eastern Christians sign themselves often especially at every mention of the name of the Holy Trinity and in conjunction with the metany or bow made to reverence holy things such as the altar or an icon.

The sign of the cross is a symbol of faith, a sign that shall be contradicted, a standard to lead on toward final victory as St. John of Damascus teaches: "For wherever the sign shall be there also shall he be."

SEPTEMBER 14- Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

The Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross originated in Jerusalem in 355 to commemorate the dedication of the Basilica of the resurrection. When the true cross of Jesus was found shortly afterwards, this event was commemorated on the same day. In time, the Feast of the Exaltation supplanted the feast of the dedication.

In 395, St. John Chrysostom wrote of three crosses which were discovered beneath Golgotha by the Empress Helena. Many other writers speak of miracles which occurred through contact with the true cross. It was through one of these miracles that the true cross was recognized by St. Helena and St. Macarius, the Bishop of Jerusalem.

The Holy Cross was kept in the Basilica of the Resurrection in Jerusalem until 614, when the Persians conquered the city and burned the church. In 628, Emperor Heraclius III defeated the Persians and returned the Holy Cross to Jerusalem. A portion of the cross was taken to Rome in the seventh century by Sergius I, a Pope of Byzantine origin.

Icons of the Feast usually portray St. Macarius in the center of the Icon, elevating the Holy Cross and showing it to the people. This elevation or uplifting of the Cross shows its prominence as the sign of victory. Hence the name "Exaltation" or "Elevation of the Holy Cross."

St. Constantine the Emperor, and St. Helena, his mother, are frequently shown, although some icons depict only St. Helena. Gathered about the Cross with St. Macarius and St. Helena are bishops, priests, and hymnographers. With them, too, we are joined in oneness of mind and purpose as we sing: *"We bow to Your cross, O Lord, and we praise Your holy resurrection.(God With Us Icon Study)*

Feast of the Universal Exaltation of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross

Introduction- The Feast of the Universal Exaltation of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross is celebrated each year on September 14. The Feast commemorates the finding of the True Cross of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ by Saint Helen, the mother of the Emperor Constantine.

Background- In the twentieth year of his reign (326), the Emperor Constantine sent his mother Saint Helen to Jerusalem to venerate the holy places and to find the site of the Holy Sepulchre and of the Cross. Relying upon the oral tradition of the faithful, Saint Helen found the precious Cross together with the crosses of the two thieves crucified with our Lord. However, Helen had no way of determining which was the Cross of Christ.

With the healing of a dying woman who touched one of the crosses, Patriarch Macarius of Jerusalem identified the True Cross of Christ. Saint Helen and her court venerated the Precious and Life-Giving Cross along with many others who came to see this great instrument of

Redemption.

The Patriarch mounted the ambo (pulpit) and lifted the Cross with both hands so that all of the people gathered could see it. The crowd responded with "Lord have mercy".

This became the occasion of the institution in all of the Churches of the Exaltation of the Precious Cross, not only in memory of the event of the finding of the Cross, but also to celebrate how an instrument of shame was used to overcome death and bring salvation and eternal life.

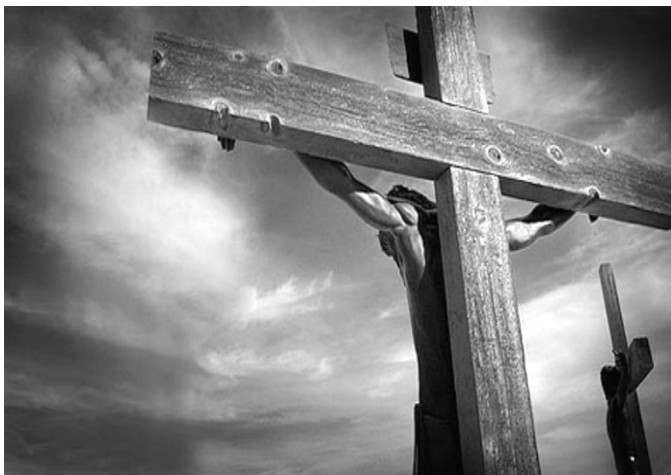
The Feast is an opportunity outside of the observances of Holy Week to celebrate the full significance of the victory of the Cross over the powers of the world, and the triumph of the wisdom of God through the Cross over the wisdom of this world. This Feast also gives the Church an opportunity to relish the full glory of the Cross as a source of light, hope and victory for Christ's people. It is also a time to celebrate the universality of the work of redemption accomplished through the Cross: the entire universe is seen through the light of the Cross, the new Tree of Life which provides nourishment for those who have been redeemed in Christ.

Icon of the Feast- The icon of the Feast of the Precious Cross tells the story of the finding of the Cross and of its Exaltation. Patriarch Macarius is standing in the pulpit elevating the Cross for all to see and venerate. On each side of the Patriarch are deacons holding candles. The elevated Cross is surrounded and venerated by many clergy and lay people, including Saint Helen, the mother of Emperor Constantine .

In the background of the icon is a domed structure that represents the Church of the Resurrection in Jerusalem. This church was one of the churches constructed and dedicated by Emperor Constantine on the holy sites of Jerusalem.



Sept 11: The Sign of God's Mercy



The Holy Cross is a sign of God's mercy. God in his mercy allowed his son to die in order to heal the rift caused by original sin.

The significance of the Cross can be found not so much in "suffering" as in "obedience"—Christ's willing and passionate surrender to his Father.

This is the truth we must make our own—that we live for God alone.

It sounds so simple, but sacrifice and surrender is never easy. St. Peter Damian, eleventh century hermit, bishop and doctor of the church, once preached these words: "There is no burden heavier than our ego. What tyrant is crueler, what master more pitiless for man than his own will?"

St. Paul, in his letter to the Philippians, described Jesus as our inspiration and model in following the will of the Father: "He humbled himself, becoming obedient to death, even death on a cross. Because of this, God greatly exalted him." (Ph 2:8-9)

It is through the wounds of Jesus that we can recognize and acknowledge the great mystery of his love and mercy. As St. Bernard said, "Where have your love, your mercy, your compassion shone more luminously than in your wounds, sweet, gentle Lord of mercy."

Our prayer today: *Merciful Jesus, for our sake you died in agony on the cross. Help us never forget that your mercy comes alive within us.*



American Girl Doll Bingo

Sunday, September 18th

Doors open at 12 noon

Early Bird at 1:15pm

Bingo starts at 1:30pm

Admission \$25.00

*All Players must purchase an admission ticket

*Winner receives their choice of doll.

*Advanced ticket holders will be entered in a drawing for an American Girl Accessory.

* Special Raffle - Bring non-perishable food or paper products to get a chance for a special raffle—one chance per item

St. Michael's Church Hall- 300 W Oak St , Shenandoah, PA- for tickets or info call 570-462-0809.

Church Information

Rectory Hours- Monday – Thursday 10:00am- 3:00 pm - phone 570-462-0809 Closed holidays

Baptisms: Please contact the rectory to arrange a date with the pastor.

Confessions: By appointment, before Divine Liturgy or check your bulletin schedule.

Marriages: Those planning marriages must be active members of the parish, and must contact the pastor at least 6 months in advance. Marriage preparation for couples is required

Emergencies & Pastoral Care: Please call the pastor if a parishioner is hospitalized or home bound and is in need of the Eucharist or Anointing of the Sick.

New Parishioners are urged to register in the rectory office. Moving? Change of address? Please notify the rectory.

Letters of Recommendation: for Sponsors of the sacraments will be issued only to active members of the parish who are registered with the parish, receiving sacraments and supporting the parish.

Mass Cards, Sanctuary Lights, and Other Candles etc.: Contact the rectory during office hours for information.

Questions: Please contact the rectory, or see Msgr. Myron.

Weekly Contributions

Parishes Weekly Income: **St. Michael:** Contributions - \$ 1,180.50 Thank You!

St. Nicholas: Contributions - \$ 947.00 Cemetery \$ 80.00 Thank You!

Sanctuary Light: St. Nicholas Special Intentions by Michael & Janet Buchinsky

Sanctuary Light: St. Michael God's Blessings on Those Effected by 9/11.

Seven Branch Candlestick- God's Blessings for & in Memory of the Blaschak & Wolfe Families

4 Lamps of the Iconostas – God's Blessings and Good Health on My Family and Friends

Lamps of the Crucifix- God's Blessings and in Memory of the Emergency Personal of 9/11

Lights of the Tetrapod- In Memory of Those Who Lost Their Lives on 9/11.

Lights of the Tabernacle-

God bless you for your love and devotion to your parish!

Prayer Requests: *Please remember those who are shut-ins, those in need, or who are ill or suffering and all those who have requested our prayers. Please pray for those who put themselves in harm's way to serve others such as those that serve in the military protecting our country, firefighters, police, and emergency personal.*

St. Michael

Sonya Elchishak

Eva Koch

Dolores Kozié

Martha Hysock

Sandy Bankes*

Shannon's Mom*

Matthew Morrissey

Helen O'Connell

Helen Beddall

Irene Flaherty

Tom Prete

Susan Chernesky

Maya Usewicz

Susan Enders

Dolores O'Connell Leahy

Helen Bereschak

Helen Sims

Mary Mazur

Keilbasa Family*

Christine Lenhart*

& Rosemary (Mother)

Bill McAndrew*

Andrea Pytak

Annie Cragen

Irene Yaroma

St. Nicholas

Helen Salak

Margaret Skrincosky

Mary Mistishen

Joseph Luckenbill

Peter Kadingo

Mary Kadingo

Metro & Helen Tarris

Laura Seasock

Anna Skrincosky

Catherine Washuta

Elizabeth Gulas

Joseph Salak

Jim Rehnert

Walter Mistishen

Andrew Skrincosky

Items in this bulletin are from Fr. Daniel & St Josephat's Bulletin , Archbishop Chancery, Vatican Website , Father Fields Mustard Seeds by M. Kelly & The Church Signs Calendar 2015

Check out our updated website at www.first-ukrainian.com