

WORLD

THE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC

THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF PITTSBURGH VOL. 52 NO. 15 SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2007

INSIDE



THINK SPRING!

The Byzantine Catholic Seminary announces course schedule for Spring 2008 session. Page 2



NICHOLAS THE SAINTLY

Event marks centennial of Jacobs Creek miners miracle. Page 3



SAVORING A HIGHER LIFE

Chaldean Catholics take stand against brewing company. Page 6

Eastern Catholics celebrate 100th anniversary of their first bishop in U.S.

METROPOLITAN BASIL JOINS IN OBSERVANCE



Metropolitan Basil (fourth from right) joins Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka of Philadelphia and Lubomyr Cardinal Husar (center left and right, respectively), and other Eastern Catholic hierarchs in observing the centennial anniversary of the arrival of the first Eastern Catholic bishop in America. The celebration took place on September 30, 2007 in Philadelphia, Pa. at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception where Bishop Ortynsky is buried.

Hierarchs of the Eastern Churches from all over the world gathered in Philadelphia at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on Sunday, September 30, 2007 to commemorate the centennial arrival in America of Bishop Stephen Soter Ortynsky, OSBM. Among them were Metropolitan Archbishop Basil M. Schott of the Archdiocese of Pittsburgh, Bishop William C. Skurla of the Eparchy of Van Nuys, Bishop John M. Kudrick of the Eparchy of Van Nuys, and Bishop John R. Pazak, CSsR of the Eparchy of Sts. Cyril and Methodius in Toronto, Canada.

His Excellency, Archbishop Pietro Sambi, Apostolic Nuncio to the United States; Lubomyr

Cardinal Husar, head of the Ukrainian Catholic Church; Metropolitan Stefan Soroka, Metropolitan Archbishop of the Ukrainian Catholic Church of Philadelphia; Justin Cardinal Rigali, Archbishop of the Latin Catholic Church of Philadelphia; representatives of the other Eastern Catholic and Orthodox Churches and of the Latin Church joined the synod of Ukrainian Catholic Bishops who were meeting in the United States in a historic first time convocation for the observance of this significant milestone in the history of the Eastern Catholic Church in America.

Relatives of Bishop Ortynsky were among the more than 2000 faithful who participated in the

Divine Liturgy in the cathedral. Over 500 people watched on closed circuit television in the hall, and many more Byzantine Catholics were able to view the beautiful and inspiring service on EWTN.

Archbishop Soroka welcomed everyone and Cardinal Husar in his homily noted that one hundred years ago when Bishop Ortynsky came to the United States his task was two-fold.

First he was to establish an ecclesiastical structure to organize ecclesiastical life for the immigrants to help them spiritually. His second task was to explain to his brother bishops of the Latin Rite who these immigrants were. Though

First bishop continued on page 3

Hundreds attend FUS Vocations Awareness Day

STUDENTS RESPOND TO ON-CAMPUS SERVICES

by Darlene Fejka

Over 100 vocations directors and associates representing Catholic religious orders and dioceses traveled to Steubenville, Ohio to participate in Vocations Awareness Day at Franciscan University of Steubenville (FUS), on Friday, October 26, 2007. Attracting representatives from numerous states and countries around the world, the event is the largest vocations fair in the nation.

An impressive assemblage of display tables were staffed by men's and women's communities, who promoted their respective missions and answered students' and visitors' questions throughout the day-long affair. Hundreds of students, parents,

Vocations continued on page 4



Brother Deacon Jerome Wolbert, OFM represents his community, the Franciscan Friars, Assumption BVM Province at the FUS vocations fair this past October 26.

Vocations:

STUDENTS RESPOND TO ON-CAMPUS SERVICES

continued from page 1

young families and visitors and packed Finnegan Fieldhouse to browse through the tables of brochures, pictorial displays and video presentations, as well as to stop and chat with representatives of communities which have piqued their interest.

The tables representing Byzantine Catholic vocations were well-visited. Archpriest Dennis M. Bogda, Director of the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh Office of Vocations was pleased with the turnout. "This was quite a success," remarked Father Dennis, who had little time to rest during the six hours of questions posed by the interested and the curious, who helped themselves to brochures, prayer cards and leaflets promoting vocations and explaining the traditions of Byzantine Catholicism.

A number of FUS students who visited the Byzantine Catholic tables did so in response to their recent experience of celebrating the Byzantine Divine Liturgy on campus. "It was so beautiful," "I love the singing," and "I felt closer to God than I have ever felt before" were just a few of the many positive declarations made by the students, many of whom major in theology.

"Everyone thoroughly loved our Divine Liturgy," said FUS graduate Daniel Forsythe, a third-year seminarian at the Seminary of Sts. Cyril and Methodius, who assisted at the Seminary's display table. "We also celebrate Vespers here on Thursday evenings," Daniel said of the Byzantine Catholic

services on campus, "and we've had a great response."

Along with Seminarian Daniel and Father Jack Custer, Dean of the Byzantine Catholic Seminary, also tending display tables representative of Byzantine Catholic vocations were: Archpriest Dennis Bogda and Darlene Fejka (Archeparchy of Pittsburgh Office of Vocations) and Sister Barbara Jean Mihalchick (Sisters of St. Basil). Representing the Franciscan Friars, Assumption BVM Province were Seminarian Brother Deacon Jerome Wolbert, OFM and Father Joachim Studwell, OFM (Eparchy of Parma).

The next Vocations Awareness Day at Franciscan University of Steubenville is scheduled for Friday, October 24, 2008. ■



(above) Visitors to Franciscan University of Steubenville's Vocations Awareness Day, members of the Wendt family of Assumption of the Mother of God Church in Weirton, WV pose for a photo with Father Dennis Bogda.



(right) Representing the Sisters of St. Basil, Sister Barbara Jean Mihalchick, OSBM invites several FUS students to the Sisters' upcoming LifeQuest Gathering.



(above) Father Jack Custer (seated), Dean of the Byzantine Catholic Seminary, answers students' questions at the Seminary's display table.



(right) Taking a coffee break during Vocations Awareness Day are Archeparchial Director of Vocations Father Dennis M. Bogda, and Sister Loretta Matas, DSF, originally of Bardejov, Slovakia, who represented the Daughters of St. Francis of Assisi congregation, Lacon, IL.



(above) Seminarian Daniel Forsythe enjoys a visit from his sister Katie at his alma mater, Franciscan University of Steubenville.



(left) Franciscan University of Steubenville hosted Vocations Awareness Day at the Ohio school's Finnegan Fieldhouse on October 26, 2007. Over 100 vocations directors from across the U.S. participated in the event, which welcomes students, parents and families to explore religious vocations.

Photos by Darlene Fejka