



“Joy of All Who Sorrow”

No. 155 March, 2022



“We have our own methods of fighting evil: prayer, repentance, patience. This is humility before each other and before God. This is a powerful weapon that destroys evil. I would like to appeal to all Orthodox people who believe in our Church: Do not be afraid of anything. Be firm in your love for God. Keep the purity of the Holy Orthodox Faith, which is the path leading a person to God. Love each other, endure each other, help each other. Evil will disappear while good will last forever. If we endure everything, live in love for all and towards each other, then no evil can defeat us. God is the God of might. Evil has no power. As long as we are with God, we will be joyful, happy and blessed.”

Metropolitan Onufry
of Kiev & All Ukraine

Notes & Jottings

KURSK IKON TO VISIT ON THURSDAY 24TH MARCH ~ MOLEBEN 7pm

With the blessing of the Synod of Bishops and our diocesan bishop, His Grace, Vladyka Irenei, the holiest Ikon of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside Russia, the Wonderworking Kursk Ikon, will visit our church in Mettingham on **Thursday 24th March**. A Moleben will be served at 7pm in front of the Ikon. At this time of pain and sorrow, this will be a great source of comfort and consolation.

THE GREAT STORM

On Friday 18 February the great storm caused a variety of problems. Slates were ripped off the college roof leaving a hole but this was repaired by the following Monday. Three trees were badly damaged. A yew tree snapped off completely. A major section of the top of one of the very old cherry trees broke off and fell near to the chandlery (candle workshop) but mercifully not onto it. Also, a large branch broke off the pine tree at the west end of the collegiate church but fortunately caused no further damage. The situation was not made any easier by damage to the overhead power lines which caused a power cut. This began at around 2pm on Friday and the power was not restored until Sunday afternoon.

PASCHAL IKON

Ikon cards of the new **Ikon of the Resurrection** with envelopes, in packs of 5 at £1.50 per pack can be ordered [here](#).

UKRAINE

The Media here in the West presents a simplistic picture, which is little better than brainwashing because most people here know nothing about the historical background. Whatever the problem, war is never the solution. Even if a war solves one problem, it will create another to take its place. The Orthodox Christianity page on Facebook has been an invaluable source of information about Ukraine, which is a sadly bitterly divided country. Centuries ago Poland and Lithuania were much larger than they are now and controlled territory that today is Western Ukraine. At the end of the 16th Century, Orthodox dioceses in this area were obliged to enter into communion with Rome, thus creating an Eastern Rite Uniate Church. After the Bolshevik Revolution, Ukrainian nationalists seized the opportunity to establish political and ecclesiastic independence but this attempt was short-lived. After the collapse of the Soviet Union, Ukraine gained political independence but the ecclesiastical landscape did not improve. The Ukrainian Orthodox Church, currently under the leadership of Metropolitan Onuphry of Kiev, is an autonomous part of the Patriarchate of Moscow. Sadly, some nationalist Ukrainians support the breakaway schismatic "Orthodox" bishops who are divided into several factions. In recent years, supporters of these schismatic groups have carried out a campaign of harassment against the canonical Church by attempting to seize church property using violence to intimidate clergy and laity alike. This government has done little or nothing to curb these violent excesses. This is not an attempt to justify the invasion. Metropolitan Onuphry has said "War is a sin before God". He, and the patriarchs and leading hierarchs of most other Orthodox Churches, has made several appeals for wiser counsels to prevail. As we enter into Great Lent let us pray that these appeals will be heeded and peace will be restored.

DONATE TO HELP THOSE IN NEED IN UKRAINE

Our diocese has set up a simple [donation page](#) to enable funds to be directly transferred to his Beatitude, Metropolitan Onuphry's charitable fund 'Peace to You' in Kiev. Great Lent is a time for both increased prayer and almsgiving and so we ask you to give generously to this appeal.



COLLEGIATE & PARISH CHURCH OF THE MOTHER OF GOD
JOY OF ALL WHO SORROW

MARCH 2022

Sunday 6th March
(Cheesefare / Forgiveness Sunday)
10.10am ~ Hours and Divine Liturgy
After lunch ~ Vespers of Forgiveness

Monday 7th March – Thursday 10th March
Clean Week Services
7pm ~ Great Compline with the Great Canon

Sunday 13th March
(1st Sunday of Great Lent: The Triumph of Orthodoxy)
10.10am ~ Hours and Divine Liturgy
followed by Moleben for the Conversion of those in Error

Sunday 20th March
(2nd Sunday of Great Lent: St Gregory Palamas)
10.10am ~ Hours and Divine Liturgy

✠ Thursday 24th March ✠
VISITATION OF THE KURSK-ROOT IKON
7pm ~ Moleben with Akathist

Sunday 27th March
(3rd Sunday of Great Lent: Adoration of the Cross)
10.10am ~ Hours and Divine Liturgy

PRAYERS FOR UKRAINE

His Beatitude Metropolitan Onuphry of Kiev and all Ukraine has asked the faithful to read a chapter of the Holy Gospels each day during Great Lent and to make 3 prostrations, 'to end the war, overcome enmity in our long-suffering Ukrainian land, and preserve peace in the world'.

In addition, His Beatitude has also encouraged the faithful to read Psalm 90 along with 12 prostrations for peace. Vladyka Metropolitan says, Psalm 90, 'vividly and exactly describes the life of the one who trusts in God'.