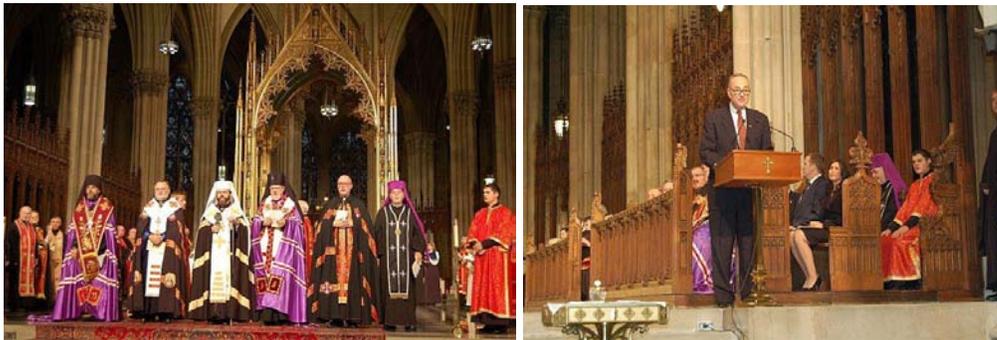




HOLODOMOR COMMEMORATED AT ST. PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL

On November 19th, thousands of Ukrainian Americans gathered at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City to commemorate the 78th anniversary of Ukraine's Genocide. Accompanied by the harmonious voices of the Dumka Choir of New York, under the direction of Vasyl Hrychynsky, a solemn procession of children from local Ukrainian Saturday Schools and the NY Chapter of the Ukrainian American Youth Association began this year's requiem service. Upon reaching the altar, the children, donned in native Ukrainian embroidered shirts, reverently placed stalks of wheat and flowers around the Holodomor remembrance candle which adorned a table before the altar. His Beatitude Sviatoslav, the newly elected Patriarch of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, then led the requiem service, which was con-celebrated by the hierarchies of the Ukrainian Orthodox and Catholic Churches. Together, the over four thousand faithful, prayed for the repose of the souls of the millions of innocent victims of Ukraine's Genocide.



L to R: His Beatitude Sviatoslav and religious hierarchy; Senator Schumer

Following the requiem service, His Eminence Archbishop Antony of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A., recounted why we gather each year and reminded everyone that the Holodomor was a genocide committed against the Ukrainian nation. UCCA President Tamara Olexy, who also served as MC, then asked all those present to imagine themselves as children while she connected emotional images of what children must have experienced during this horrific time of genocide. Following her remarks, His Beatitude Sviatoslav addressed the thousands gathered and asked the Lord to heal the souls of the millions senselessly lost in Ukraine in 1932-1933. His Beatitude then descended the altar steps and blessed the Holodomor survivors in attendance.

New York's Senior Senator Charles Schumer then expressed his heartfelt sentiments stating "we have a moral responsibility to never forget and a moral responsibility to make sure the world knows the truth." The next speaker, William Pope, Senior Advisor for Europe to the U.S. Mission to the UN, delivered a statement by the White House on the occasion of Ukrainian Holodomor Remembrance Day (full text to the right). H.E. Oleksandr Motysyk, Ukraine's Ambassador to the U.S. reiterated his pledge to work fastidiously to make certain that the Holodomor memorial in Washington, DC is erected in time for the 80th anniversary. His Excellency Bishop Paul Chomnycky of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy in Stamford concluded the service with a prayer of remembrance for the millions of innocent victims, after which the Dumka Choir of New York sang "Bozhe Velykyj."

WHITE HOUSE RELEASES STATEMENT ON HOLODOMOR

As we celebrate the 20th anniversary of Ukraine's independence -- a testament to the spirit and determination of the people of Ukraine -- we also remember the suffering they endured seventy-eight years ago during the catastrophic famine that has come to be known as the Holodomor -- the "death by hunger." This terrible tragedy, created by the intentional seizure of crops and farms across Ukraine by Joseph Stalin, was one of communism's greatest atrocities. Today, Americans join with the people of Ukraine and Ukrainians around the world in remembering those who suffered and died senselessly as a result of this manmade famine.

In the wake of this brutal and deliberate attempt to break the will of the people of Ukraine, Ukrainians showed great courage and resilience. The establishment of a proud and independent Ukraine twenty years ago shows the remarkable depth of the Ukrainian people's love of freedom and independence.

The United States values the friendship between our peoples and offers our deepest condolences on this solemn occasion. As we remember this tragedy, we recommit ourselves and reaffirm our shared determination to prevent similar tragic acts from ever happening again.

ROMAN KRUTSYK SPEAKS AT NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

On November 10, at New York University's Torch Club, scholars, community leaders and the general public had an opportunity to hear, perhaps for the first time, that following WWI an active liberation movement existed not only in western Ukraine but also in the eastern half of the country. The special Ukrainian Historical Encounters Series event, entitled "The People's War: National Liberation Struggles in Eastern Ukraine (1917-1932)" was opened by Dr. Walter Zaryckyj who provided a brief overview of the Series and then introduced the evening's guest speaker Mr. Roman Krutskyk, President of the Kyiv Memorial Society and Director of the Museum of Soviet Occupation.



L to R: Stepan Kaczurak, Walter Zaryckyj, Tamara Olexy, Roman Krutskyk, Yuri Symczyk, Adrian Dlaboha

Accompanied by a slide show presentation, Mr. Krutskyk opened his remarks with the compelling assertion that following renewed independence in 1991 Ukraine began its new life without a political history. He explained that generations of Ukraine's citizens had been raised on a history that was written by their occupiers, and that most archival materials pertaining to Ukraine's resistance to Soviet occupation were banned and marked "secret."

Reviewing thousands of documents convinced Mr. Krutskyk that the armed national liberation movement in eastern Ukraine was proportionally just as large and widespread as the activities of the OUN and the UPA.

Based on years of research and archival material located in the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine, Mr. Krutskyk resolutely refuted the Soviet myth that Ukraine "voluntarily" joined the USSR, stating that "the seizure of Ukraine was carried out exclusively by force." Concentrating his remarks on insurgency movements in Soviet Ukraine from 1918-1933, Mr. Krutskyk concluded that resistance to Soviet rule in eastern Ukraine was Stalin's primary motive for ordering the Holodomor of 1932-1933.

The event was sponsored by: American Conference in Support of Ukraine, Organization for the Defense of Four Freedoms of Ukraine, Women's Association in Defense of Four Freedoms of Ukraine; Ukrainian American Youth Association, Society of Veterans of UPA, National Tribune, and the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America.

UCCA CHRISTMAS GREETING

During this 2011-2012 Christmas season the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, sends its warmest greetings to the hierarchies of the Ukrainian Churches, the leadership of the Ukrainian global community and Ukrainians everywhere. May the Lord's blessings always be upon you and your family. During this holiday season let us be mindful of all those who are persecuted, less fortunate, grief-stricken and oppressed; may the Lord grant them peace and hope in their times of need. As we, Ukrainians in our own history, have endured many hardships, let us be grateful to the Lord for the prosperity, peace and freedom that we have today, and let us ask the Lord to guide the leadership of our beloved Ukrainian nation, so that they dedicate their efforts to the preservation of freedom, democracy and human rights in Ukraine.

On behalf of the UCCA's Executive Board, please accept our sincere wishes for a Blessed and Merry Christmas and may the New Year bring you God's blessings!

Christ is Born! Glory be to Christ!

ORDER YOUR UCCA CHRISTMAS CARDS AND GIFTS TODAY!

Christmas is quickly approaching and the UCCA has several items on sale for your shopping needs. To place an order please send a check/money order to the UCCA National Office or contact us by phone or email. The items available include:

A variety of colorful **Ukrainian Christmas Cards** (artwork by Myroslawa Stojko) - \$1/each.

Zolotiy Pavuchok – a beautifully illustrated children's Christmas story in the Ukrainian language - \$10/copy

And the gift that keeps on giving for only \$50/year – a subscription to the English language scholarly journal **The Ukrainian Quarterly**.

All prices listed include shipping and handling.