



Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA

Consistory Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministry

Natalie Kapeluck Nixon – Director

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March 4, 2020

Dear Reverend Fathers, Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Glory to Jesus Christ!



The **Great Lent Giveaway (GLG)** is designed to give our youth the opportunity to do good works for others during Great Lent. In addition to doing good works, they learn more about their faith and devote additional time to learning, prayer and fasting during this season of preparation for Pascha. The GLG is a joint project with the Jr. Ukrainian Orthodox League. With the blessing of our Hierarchs, the GLG of 2020 will benefit the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA.

This year we are asking that all youth of our church support this effort by helping to raise funds/collecting for and raise awareness through the Great Lent Giveaway about the work of our church the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA. This year we have a goal in raising \$2500.00 to aid this work. The National Board of the Jr Ukrainian Orthodox League will MATCH up to that \$2,500.00 in raised funds.

You will find in this packet a suggested outline for conducting the GLG. We encourage you to construct a program using the full program materials, as well as your own ideas, to make the GLG more than just a fundraising effort. A program that is carried out throughout Great Lent will help the youth of your parish to more fully understand the importance and beauty of almsgiving during fasting periods.

This year we are producing a series of videos that you may share with your youth to help deepen their faith during Great Lent and participate in the GLG. The videos will reference you to a resource that may be used to further the learning. The GLG program may be used any time throughout the year, not just during Great Lent. Please modify it for your needs.

In an effort to reduce consumption of resources and live as better caretakers of our Lord's creation, the full program is available is available online.

You may download the organizational session at www.uocyouth.org. The organizational session includes: *Great Lent Giveaway How To and Opening Discussion: Who is the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA?*, and *Fundraising Ideas*. Posters are also available for download.

Please send us with any questions at uocyouth@aol.com or by phone at 412-977-2010.

In Christ's Love,
Natalie Kapeluck Nixon
Director



GREAT LENT GIVEAWAY How To.....

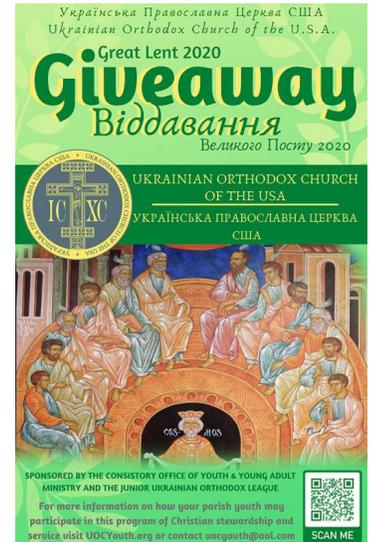
Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA
Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministry and the
Jr. Ukrainian Orthodox League of the USA

2020

Benefiting Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA

Objective: To instill in our youth the true meaning of Great Lent by:

1. Providing for youth a better understanding of our church
2. Learning more about their faith
3. Discovering Stewardship and tithing
4. Devoting more time to prayer



GLG Project: Collecting funds, raising awareness for Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA and deepen our faith during Great Lent.

Steps for initiating and sustaining the Great Lent Giveaway throughout Great Lent – this program may be divided into several sessions or one retreat:

1. Each Wednesday of Great Lent, a new video about the GLG will be provided for viewing on the Consistory **YouTube Channel** https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCwihD09km_DSGuP62nclZrw
We will then provide a correlating youth session that you may choose to use from www.uocyouth.org
2. At your first gathering/meeting discuss the Great Lent Giveaway. See the attached outline for your first discussion. At this gathering you will want to decide how you will raise your funds.
3. Have the youth present their ideas for collection. Take time to discuss all of the proposals. Ask them to decide, based upon the presented plans, on a game plan as to how you will accomplish your goals.

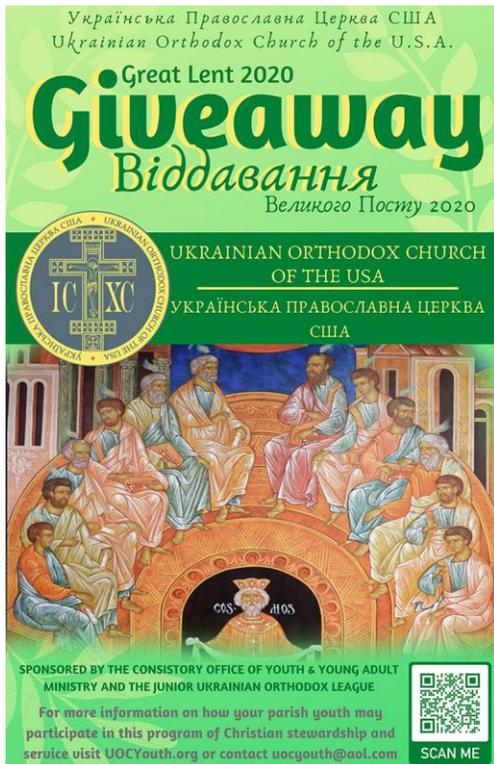
Establish with the participants a regular time to gather and to utilize the provided curriculum to learn more about Heifer International and our call to give alms during Great Lent.

4. Discuss progress with the collection.
5. Collect and forward the donations to the Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministry or the National Jr. UOL Financial Secretary. For questions contact the GLG Coordinator or OYM Office.

Great Lent Giveaway
Office of Youth Ministry
PO Box 869
Carnegie, PA 15106
uocyouth@aol.com

Jr. Ukrainian Orthodox League
Rachel Harendza – GLG Coordinator
rachharendza@gmail.com
Contact for Address

6. Wrap up the project and have a celebration event with the youth on St. Thomas Sunday – you may continue collecting funds until July 20, 2020 or bring them to the Ukrainian Orthodox League Convention in Philadelphia July 23 – 26, 2020. Funds MUST be submitted no later than August 4th.



Great Lent Giveaway 2020 Outline for Initial Discussion

Needed Items:

- Great Lent Giveaway Videos Introduction Video and video with Rachel Harendza which may be found at the Consistory Youtube Channel – Great Lent Playlist

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCwihD09km_DSGuP62nclZrw

- Ukrainian Orthodox History Session (found on GLG page of <https://www.uocyouth.org/greatlentgiveaway>)
- Ukrainian Orthodox Church History Power Point (found on GLG page)
- Copy of Great Lent Giveaway Poster
- Crafting paper

Preparation

- For younger children: Print out the aerial photo of the Metropolia Center provided in the History Leader Packet. Print out photos of His Eminence Metropolitan Antony and His Eminence Archbishop Daniel.
 - For older youth and teens: Follow instructions for preparations in the History Leader Packet.
 - For all ages: Download the needed power point presentation. Ensure you can show the introduction videos for the GLG from Rachel Harendza of the Jr Ukrainian Orthodox League.
1. Begin your gathering in Prayer. Being that Great Lent has begun you could choose to have your first discussion following one of the weekday services. If choosing the weekend, perhaps plan to cook a lenten meal together. This is a great way to teach our youth and possibly families, how simple it is to prepare a lenten meal.

Prayer of St. Ephraim the Syrian

Lord and Master of my life, take from me the spirit of laziness, faint-heartedness, lust of power and idle talk. But rather, grant unto me thy servant, the spirit of chastity, humility, patience and love. Yes Lord and King, grant me to see my own sins and not to judge my brother for blessed are you to the ages of ages. Amen.

2. Take a moment to discuss the purpose of the Great Lent Giveaway (GLG). Show the videos from Rachel Harendza, JR UOL Coordinator of the GLG. Ask the participants, “*What is Great Lent preparing us for?*” *Pascha* “*The Church in its wisdom always provides us with tools in our journey to Christ to help us along the way. Many tools are given to us during Great Lent on our journey to Pascha – can you name them?*” *Increased Prayer, Additional Divine Services, Fasting, Almsgiving/Christian Love and Charity. For younger children, you could play a game such as charades or Pictionary to learn the lenten "tools".*

Pass out your handouts and/or photos.

For young children: [Begin the PowerPoint](#). Summarize the history as is appropriate for your age group. Have the youth make Pascha cards for our Hierarchs and the employees at the Metropolia Center to be sent at the end of Great Lent.

For youth/teens: [Follow the guideline presented the History Leader Packet.](#)

After the video

For Younger Children: *Ask them, Why should we take care of God's church?* Based on their answers discuss the work of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church. *How can they help the church?*

For youth/teens: *Ask what did you learn about our church? Why should we take care of God's church? What are different ways we can give back to the church here at home and on the larger scale? Indicate that in the coming weeks we will be learning about stewardship and tithing. Perhaps have them watch each week's video and come prepared with questions or to summarize the what they learned. Each week ask them how they may apply these concepts t their lives? Keep a running list of ideas that can be added to each week. What can you do as a group?*

3. *Let's discuss how we are going to participate in the GLG this year!"* Wrap up the discussion by moving into the final points of the "GLG How To". Encourage the youth to take on leadership roles, making publicity, organizing any fundraising event, creating items to sell, or coordinating blanket collection. Even young children may take on a simple task.
4. Have the youth create a display about the Great Lent Giveaway. This will be put in your parish hall to help raise awareness and help with the fundraising.
5. Complete the session in prayer. Perhaps the meeting could be held prior to a lenten service and the youth could pray together in this way.

Taking it Home – Continuing the Journey

Each week a new video connected to the Great Lent Giveaway and deepening our faith during the fast will be posted on the UOCofUSA Youtube channel. Have your youth watch the videos together or ask them to watch the video at home. Have them discuss what they learned and how it applies to their journey to Pascha. How can they live what they learned?

Each video will reference a session that you can use with your youth to further the discussion.