



Polding Centre  
133 Liverpool Street  
Sydney NSW 2000

To the Ukrainian Catholic Parish of Saint Andrew's Sydney

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

On the occasion of your Patronal Feast of Saint Andrew the First Called, I join with you in giving thanks to God for all the Graces and Blessings he has bestowed upon the Ukrainian Catholic Community in Sydney. May God continue to bless you and your families abundantly.

I also join you in prayerful support of your fellow Ukrainians gathered peacefully in the Maidan in Kyiv. They stand before the world as a powerful witness -to human dignity and the importance of democratic governance. I know that many in the Ukrainian community in Sydney stand by all these men and women of good will gathered in such large numbers, and I join you in praying that the Peace of Christ always reigns in their hearts and shines out in their actions.

We must also pray that the civil authorities in Ukraine open their hearts and minds to God and realise that respect for human rights, including the right to the free expression of beliefs is one of the indispensable foundations of a good and just society.

Ukraine has suffered enormous oppression and persecution in the twentieth century, yet the faith of her people and their love for their country have never been crushed. May our prayers strengthen those standing in the Maidan in peaceful witness to the truth.

May Our Blessed Mother of Holy Protection and All the Saints of Ukraine intercede for us and for them!

Yours in the Lord,

ARCHBISHOP OF SYDNEY

13 December, 2013