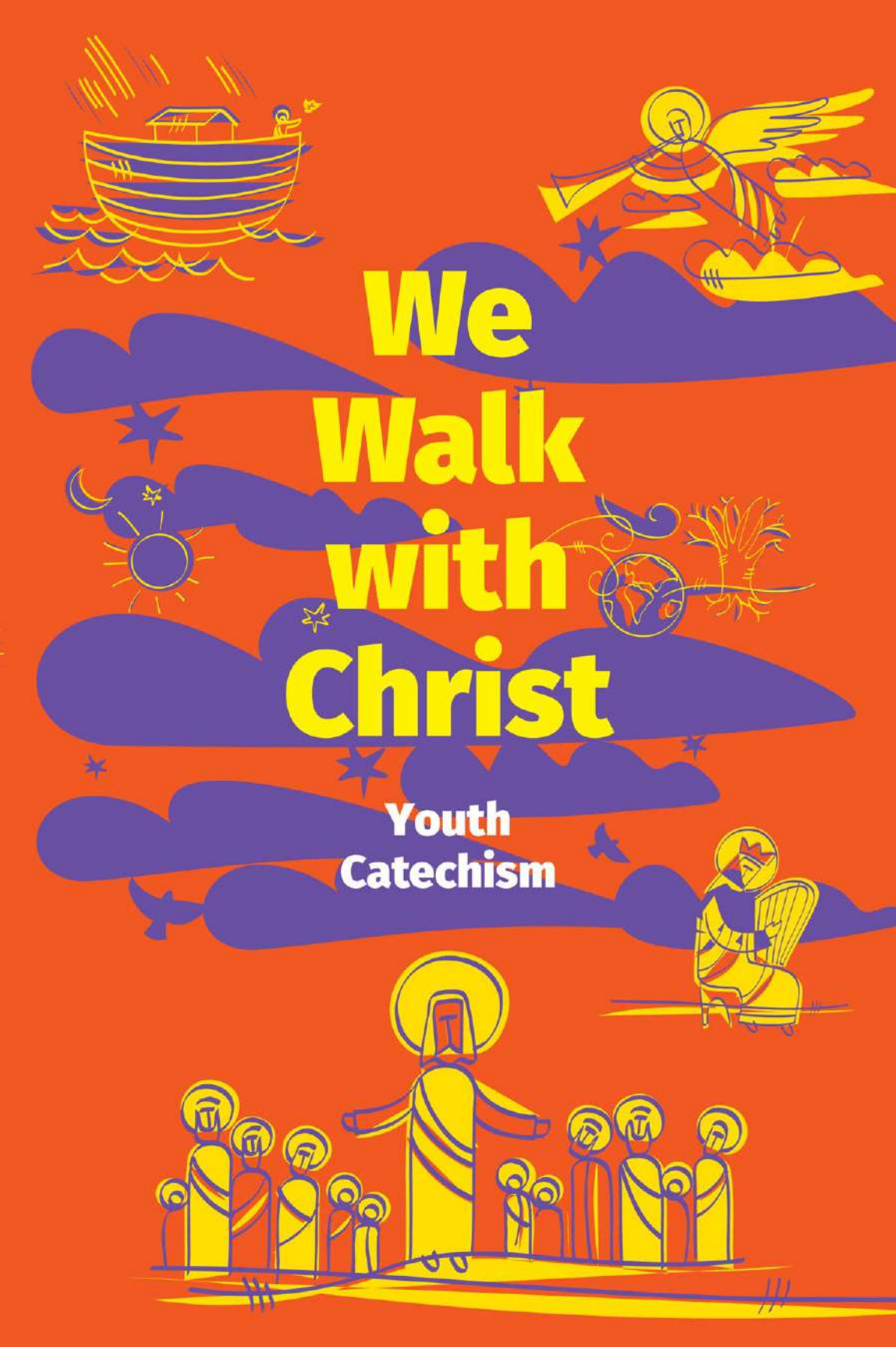


We Walk with Christ

Youth
Catechism



The background is a solid orange color. It features several stylized illustrations in blue and yellow. At the top left is a blue boat with yellow stripes on the water. At the top right is a yellow angel with wings playing a trumpet. In the middle left is a yellow sun with rays and a crescent moon. In the middle right is a yellow globe with a cross. At the bottom center is a large yellow figure with a halo, possibly Jesus, with arms outstretched. To the right of this figure is a yellow figure with wings playing a harp. At the bottom are several yellow figures with halos, some standing and some kneeling. The title 'We Walk with Christ' is written in large, bold, blue letters across the center. Below it, 'Youth Catechism' is written in smaller, bold, white letters.

We Walk with Christ

**Youth
Catechism**



The Synod of Bishops of the
Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church

We Walk with Christ

Youth Catechism

Kyiv · Edmonton · 2023



Citation from Holy Scripture



Citation from liturgical texts



Citation from the works of the Church Fathers



Citation from the UGCC Catechism Christ — Our Pascha

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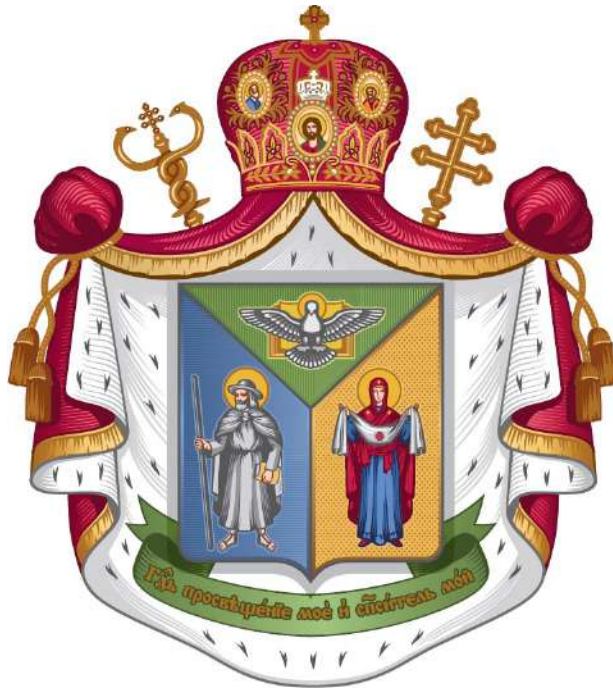
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Aid to the
Church in Need



THE UKRAINIAN GREEK CATHOLIC CHURCH

Major Archbishop of Kyiv-Halych

Ref. MA 20/252

Dear Young Men and Young Women in Christ,

Youth is a special period in a person's life. This is a time when a young person learns about himself or herself, discovers in himself or herself previously unknown forces and aspirations, feelings and abilities. This is a time to personally search for the Genuine One, the True One, the Eternal One, and the Beautiful One. Being young men and young women is a vocation to know their loving God and the mystery of his pre-eternal plan for them, to personally experience his eternal love and to learn from him to love and be loved.

Youth is usually characterized by having an open, passionate heart, a flexible inquisitive mind, and a decisive character that acutely reacts to

falsehood, injustice and wrongdoing. I am overjoyed and appreciate the opportunity along with you to seek answers to the questions and needs which resonate in your hearts: how are young Christians of the twenty-first century to live in a modern world, where every day instead of the truth, you are exposed to “things that are fake,” and, instead of the Genuine One, you encounter fake products and assorted replacements, where the voice of God’s Word is easily “diluted” given the vicious posts on social networks without any personal responsibility for what was said or written? How can we remain Christ’s friends in the context of the challenges of the current global culture? How can we become builders of God’s Kingdom, while remaining faithful citizens of our country?

I invite you to discover the answers to these and other questions, becoming participants of an enthusiastic journey and pilgrimage on the eye-catching pages of the **We Walk with Christ Youth Catechism**. Here you will join a group of your peers-pilgrims from Ukraine and the world, who are the embodiment of a young person today, the young face of the Church. Together with a spiritual guide you will explore by deepening your faith, by growing in God’s wisdom, and by growing amid life’s struggles in the acquisition of Christian virtues. This will be a way marked by the most important truths of our faith, which are revealed in the Person of Jesus Christ and which our Church faithfully has preserved and passed on to future generations in a rich spiritual heritage of the great ascetics and the righteous of our people.

It is my sincere hope that, in experiencing this journey of faith and getting to know God, you would surely want to share your joyful story with others. And so, I invite you, young believers of our Church, to go into the world, into your actual real-life situations, proclaiming the Good News about what God has done for humankind in Christ, the “pioneer and perfecter of our faith” (Heb 12:2). Walk through the darkness of disbelief and the “motionlessness” of indifference, through the challenges of the modern world and the difficulties of forming of your identity, through space and time, through histories and cultures — strengthened with the spiritual experience of our martyrs and confessors to strengthen and build up our Church.

Today, the world is looking for the truth of the Gospel, the truth proclaimed genuinely and enthusiastically with the mouths and entire lives

of young people, the faithful friends of Jesus of Nazareth, the incarnate Word of God. That is why **we walk with Christ!**

The blessing of the Lord be upon you!



Given in Kyiv
at the Patriarchal Cathedral of the Resurrection of Christ, on the day of the
holy and righteous ancestors of God Joachim and Anna, September 22,
2020 A.D.

Introduction

Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened.

Lk 24:13-14

In the Holy Scripture of the New Testament, in the Gospel of Luke, there is a description of a journey made by Jesus Christ's two disciples to Emmaus, a village near Jerusalem. These men were shocked by the events they had witnessed the day before. After all, their Master was arrested, unfairly convicted, and cruelly executed on the Cross. They experienced a shattering of their hopes and had to flee from potential persecution.

And today many young people are experiencing life crises and dreading the next day. They also want to understand how they, as Christians of the twenty-first century, can put into practice the values of the Gospel in their lives, and how they are to be the bearers of God's love and mercy.

With this Catechism, the Ukrainian Catholic Church invites young people to learn about their faith by making a pilgrimage to our holy sites. During this trip everyone can be reminded of the most important truths of our faith revealed to humankind in the Person of Jesus of Nazareth. He is "the pioneer and perfecter of the faith" (Heb 12:2), "the image of the invisible God" (Col 1:15), our guide on the way of life, our Pascha! By engaging with Father Andrii — the priest and spiritual guide of this pilgrimage — we will find the sought-after answers.

So let us walk with Christ!



More and more people have joined the group of young pilgrims standing near the ancient Church — the Sophia of Kyiv. Among them are Chrystyna from Lviv and Serhii from Luhansk, Martyn from Canada along with Marichka from Italy, Dmytro from Kazakhstan, and Daryna from Brazil. As the personification of the youth of our Church, they have gathered here to go on a pilgrimage to the greatest Ukrainian holy sites together with Father Andrii, their spiritual mentor.

It is precisely from here, from this Sophia — the heart of the Kyivan Church — that this spiritual journey has its starting point. Later, the pilgrims will travel to Saint George's Church in Lviv — the stronghold of our faith. Afterwards, the Sophia of Rome, the witness of our Church's universal nature, will greet them. Next, their way will again point to Kyiv, to the Patriarchal Cathedral of the Resurrection of Christ— the symbol of the renewal of our Church and of our people to new life.

Each one of the pilgrims hopes to better understand his or her personal life, his or her relationships with parents, friends, and loved ones. Their youthful energy inspires them to seek answers that can only be given by the One who is “the way, and the truth, and the life” (Jn 14:6).

Who are these young people?



For **Chrystyna** from Lviv nineteen years have passed. The Lord has provided this young girl with a creative and dreamy nature: in her “talented hands” everything turns into a work of art.

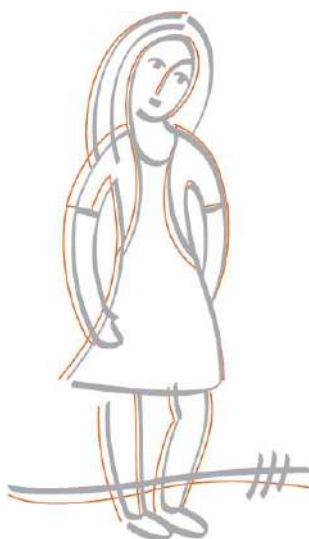
Chrystyna lives with her mother. She saw her father in family photos. He left them as soon as he learned of his newborn daughter’s diagnosis — Chrystyna has often thought about her father..

Her parish priest taught about Christian forgiveness. She would like to forgive her father everything, but how?

The announcement of a chance to join those participating in the pilgrimage really spoke to her, a young girl who uses a wheelchair, as it would be an opportunity to find in her heart the healing power of forgiveness. Despite her physical limitations, Chrystyna clings to a tenacious hope that, with God’s help and the support of the other pilgrims, she will be able to breeze through this journey.



Martyn's parents were born near Toronto, but their grandparents came to Canada at some point during the last century. Martyn enjoyed going to church with his parents, caroling during the feast of the Nativity, and celebrating Pascha. After graduating from high school, Martyn began studying at a prestigious university in Canada. Even so, the young man kept frequently having new questions about the meaning of life, about love and friendship, answers to which he could not find even within the walls of his university. So, when his parents invited him to join the pilgrimage, he agreed, hoping to find those answers that were so important to him.



Daryna from Brazil has been troubled by the thought of monastic life for the past few months. However, she was afraid to voice it in the presence of others. After all, her parents dreamed of grandchildren and often hinted to Daryna about marriage. That being the case, there could be no talk of monastic vows.

Daryna is hoping to reach a mutual understanding with her parents. And when she learned that a pilgrimage was being organized to Ukraine, she decided that participating in the pilgrimage would make her stronger in her vocation, and that the Lord would suggest the proper words.

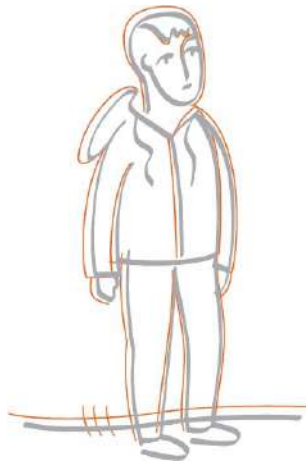


Serhii from Luhansk has been living apart from his parents for a long time. This young man was firmly convinced that only the strongest survive in life, that is why he has devoted a lot of time to sports and was even thinking about a career in the military.

Somehow, quite by accident, Serhii walked into a church during a divine service. What he heard and saw impressed him. Serhii recalled that he had been baptized and could even say some prayers: he keeps on reciting the *Our Father* and *Rejoice, O Virgin Mother of God* every day before going to bed. He decided to delve deeper into his new feelings. Having come across a message on the internet about a youth pilgrimage, he decided to join.



Marichka lives in Italy with her mother. She went to school there, where she became particularly interested in the Social Sciences. Beginning in her childhood, she dreamed of building a just society in which everyone would be provided with equal opportunities. At the same time, Marichka is still hurt by her parents' separation. During the years that she and her mother lived in Italy, her father remained in Ukraine. Contacts with him became less and less frequent, and eventually they stopped altogether. Marichka really wants to see her father, and the pilgrimage can become an opportunity to meet him.



Dmytro from Karaganda has recently had to deal with the death of his mother. It was difficult for the young man to accept this loss for a considerable length of time. At times he rebelled — against the pain, against death, against God who permitted them. Dmytro is joining this pilgrimage with deep sadness, but at the same time with the hope of overcoming the pain of his loss, as well as to visit the land of his parents, about which they often told him.

In charge of this youth pilgrimage, **Father Andrii** was looking forward to the day when he was going to meet these young people, and he prayed for the success of this pilgrimage. When Day One arrived, he joyfully greeted those participating in the pilgrimage. Here, in Kyiv, in Sophia Square, Chrystyna, Martyn, Daryna, Serhii, Marichka, Dmytro, and Father Andrii met for the first time and became acquainted with each other.

