

By Marko Moroz

On Easter Sunday, the joyous exclamation of *Христос Воскрес! Christ has Risen!* is met with the fervent response of *Воістину Воскрес! Indeed He has Risen!* The new Easter album by the Chabluk family, appropriately named *Христос Воскрес*, is truly an enthusiastic response to Christ's resurrection from the dead, establishing that He is truly the Son of God. The words *Христос Воскрес* are sung over 150 times on this album reinforcing this important message!

Easter is the most important celebration of the Christian Church. It is called Великдень or The Great Day! We commemorate the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the tomb on the third day after His crucifixion conquering death and promising everlasting life! This CD is filled with joyful songs including 15 variations of *Христос Воскрес*, liturgical pieces and two arrangements of Alleluia that are sure to instantly fill your heart with Christ's love for us during this Easter season.

Bill and Maryka Chabluk with their children; Katrusia, Mikhas and Ivas have selected their favourite Ukrainian Easter hymns and liturgical responses for this joyous season. The album is sure to delight everyone, presenting lush harmonies sung in Ukrainian and Church Slavonic with some English verses. Mikhas and Ivas together with Julian Burdeniuk and Myron Burdeniuk, ЧУБ – Чотири Українські Брати - Four Ukrainian Brothers, sing two awesome arrangements in this *Христос Воскрес* collection. Guest vocalist Scott Chabluk also assisted as music advisor. Inspired musical arrangements, recording and mastering are by Tom Koroluk. The creative CD artwork and posters are by Ivanka Waplak.

The Chabluk family has always enjoyed singing together and singing with other choirs. When the family would travel by van from Winnipeg to Regina to celebrate Easter with family, the long road trips presented the perfect opportunity to sing together. They would sing songs travelling there and back. The family van became the rehearsal "booth" for faith filled liturgical pieces, folk songs and of course, Easter music! These road trips set a foundation for family collaborations on many musical projects. Members of the Chabluk family have shared their talents over the years through various choirs including Hoosli Male Chorus, O. Koshetz Choir and Melos Folk Ensemble. Other unique musical projects include Ukrainian recordings with Duet Maryna, Molodtsi Dance Band and Zrada.

Net proceeds from CD sales go to support Home of Hope in Lviv, Ukraine, a ministry of the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate funded through the the Lubov SSMI Foundation. The Chabluk family is very connected to the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate. All children attended Immaculate Heart of Mary School and Maryka attended Sacred Heart Academy, which was a SSMI school in Yorkton, Saskatchewan. At different times, the family has had opportunities to visit orphanages in Ukraine and Katrusia volunteered at the *Help us Help the Children Camp* near Yaremche, for two summers. They feel a strong commitment to support Home of Hope, where the purpose is to be a safe home for orphan girls who leave orphanages at age 16.

The *Христос Воскрес* CD is a collection of joyful Ukrainian Easter Hymns in celebration of Christ's glorious resurrection. The angelic voices of the Chabluk Family are an excellent accompaniment to one's own Easter journey. During the time of Lent, we are encouraged to sacrifice and meditate on comprehending Christ's great sacrifice for us. This album is an excellent reminder of the great news that is to come at the end of this journey... *Христос Воскрес! Christ has Risen!*

The CD will be for sale at the Home of Hope Fundraising Breakfast at Holy Eucharist Parish Hall on Saturday, April 13th at 10:00 a.m. Tickets must be purchased in advance from UCWLC members, contact 204-942-0443 or lubovfoundation.ca

CDs and downloads are available at MarykasTreasures.com, Yevshan, Ukrainian Gift Shops, www.cdbaby.com or by phone (204) 797-7015

One of the many recordings in the Maryka's Treasures collection of Folk Songs, Ukrainian Dance Melodies, Christmas Carols, and Children's Music.