

SHORT HISTORY OF THE MUSEUM

On my return to Australia from Rome in August 1968, I brought with me some museum pieces. My proposition to Bishop Ivan Prasko was: was it possible to organize a Museum of Ukrainian Art? Bishop Ivan not only blessed the project but wholeheartedly helped by providing a room in the cathedral and continued to donate articles for the museum collection. Over the years Bishop Ivan Prasko was a keen supporter of the museum activities. When the new parish building was built in 1975, a museum room with cupboards was provided and also a facilities for the museum exhibitions. After a short time, museum directors were formed.

Official opening of the museum took place on the 3rd August 1979 with an exhibition of many varied objects of folk art including folk art including national costumes. Since then, over thirty years have passed and the museum has been able to assemble a collection of ten thousand pieces due to the great work of Fr. Zenon Chorkawyj who managed to collect from the Ukrainian people in Australia, Austria, Canada, USA, New Zealand and also in Ukraine.



The museum collection consists of old Ukrainian maps, icons, liturgical books, vestments, church banners, carved wooden crosses and other religious articles. Various paintings of local Australian and Ukrainian artists and from artists overseas, including Ukraine.

A fine collection of national costumes from many Ukrainian regions.

A large collection of embroidery items by Ukrainians women from all parts of Australia and from Ukraine.

Wood carvings and ceramics from the Hutsul area and from central Ukraine. A large number of Ukrainian Christmas and Easter greeting cards by many well known artists. Ukrainian stamps and commemorative coins. Historical photos and documents. A large collection of Easter pysanky (Ukrainian Easter eggs), including carpets and medals. During the years, over 60 various exhibitions have been organized, the majority in Melbourne, but also in Geelong, Sydney, Canberra, Adelaide and in Perth. Museum has many visitors from all parts of Australia, and also tourists from Ukraine and other countries.



Visitors to the Ukrainian Museum are most welcome. The new lift gives an easy access to the Museum.

The Museum is open every Sunday from 9 am to 1 pm or by appointment.

Phone number: 9320 2566

Museum curator

Rt. Rev. Zenon Chorkawyj