

Ukrainian Museum and Library of Stamford: A Place to Visit and Experience Our Past

Curator Lubow Wolynetz shares the first of a series articles about some of the historical treasures that can be found at the Ukrainian Museum and Library of Stamford.

The Epitrichil of Reverend Maxim Kinash (1879-1949)



This epitrichil was donated to the Museum and Library by Chrystyna Rynasewych.

Reverend Maxim Kinash was born September 2, 1879 in the L'viv region of Ukraine, died July 18, 1949 in Philadelphia, PA and was buried in Yonkers, NY.

Having studied at the seminary and university in L'viv, he was ordained a priest in 1896, and served in various parishes in Halychyna, including, as assis-

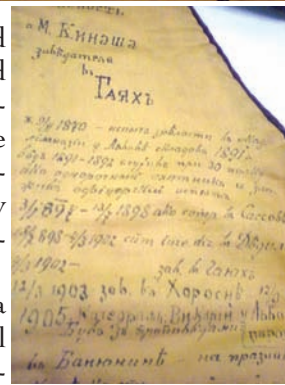
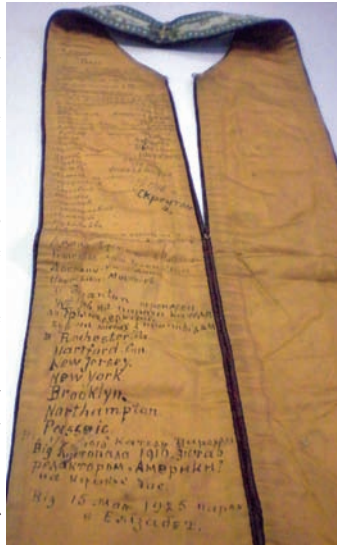
tant priest at St. George Cathedral in L'viv.

He became known for his excellent sermons, a collection of which was published in the year 1900.

In 1912, he went to Canada to do missionary work in Manitoba and in Ontario.

In 1914, Bishop Soter Ortynsky invited him to the United States, where he served as rector of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception from 1916 - 1925, and in many other parishes following.

He published a series of educational brochures, became edi-



Fr. Kinash wrote the name and place of every parish in which he served on the reverse side of his epitrichil.

tor of the monthly magazine *Misionar*, contributed articles to the newspaper *America*, a publication of the Providence Association and served as the organization's chaplain.

During his lifetime, he amassed a large and very valuable pre-war (1939) collection of books and periodicals from Western Ukraine, which he later donated to the Ukrainian Museum and Library of Stamford.

Written for the 100th anniversary souvenir book of St. Michael's Ukrainian Catholic Church in Yonkers, NY, William B. Choly speaks of Rev. Kinash as follows:

"A native of Yastibkiv in the Archdiocese of L'viv, optimistic by nature and gifted with eloquence, patience and common sense, Father Kinash was recognized early in his priesthood as a preacher of note. His first book,

"Practical Sermons," was sold out soon after publication and gained the attention of Metropolitan Andrew Sheptytsky, who made him an assistant at the Cathedral of St. George. In 1904, (this date is questionable, I think 1912 is the correct one), Father Kinash volunteered for missionary work among the Ukrainian people in Canada, where he spent arduous years, traveling thousands of miles, often by ox-cart in serving the widely scattered settlements of Ukrainian



Catholics, who are responsible for much of the production of wheat in Canada today. After coming to the United States in 1914, he was stationed in Philadelphia for a decade, where he became the rector of the Immaculate Conception Cathedral, was editor of the "Missionary" and published a book of "Talks for Various Occasions."

The Sower
October 25, 2009