## PRESS RELEASE - PLEASE FORWARD TO APPROPRIATE EDITORS

St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral (300 E. Army Trail rd. Bloomingdale, IL 60108) will be receiving the Bethlehem Peace Light on Thursday December 22 at 7:30 p.m. It will be delivered by the local Ukrainian scouting organization as they are the organizers in the Chicago-area. St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral invites all local christian churches and believers to come and light their own lantern or candle from this flame brought from the Grotto of the Nativity in Bethlehem. There will be a transfer of the flame and a short prayer service at 7:30 pm and the church will be open to the public from 7:00 pm until 9:00 pm on Thursday December 22, 2011. It will burn in the church continuously through the Nativity of Jesus Christ on January 7 (Orthodox Christmas). It is a great idea to bring an enclosed lantern or candle to have this at your Christmas Eve dinner.

For over a thousand years lamps have been continuously lit in the Grotto of the Nativity in Bethlehem. For the last 26 years, a child from Upper Austria has lit two blast proof miner's lamps from a grotto lamp. These lamps are then transported to Vienna, where the living flame is distributed at a Service of Dedication to Scouts and Guides from across Europe. From Vienna, these Scouts and Guides take the Peace Light back to their communities, where they share the Peace Light at rail stations, churches, and scout meetings. By Christmas, the Light reaches nearly every country in Europe. More

information is available at: <u>www.peacelight.org</u>