

## *Už Idu Do Hroba*

The Carpatho-Rusyns have among their *duchovni pisni* many hymns on the theme of death. These were primarily sung at funerals, especially on the way to the cemetery. While the texts of these hymns are extant (in the 1913 Užhorod *Pisennik* and Fr. Julis Grigassy's *Holy Services for the Dead*, for example), there is no printed collection of their melodies. While these beautiful hymns are still sung and known by priests, cantors and faithful in the "old country," and even though they were included in Fr. Grigassy's popular book, the practice of singing these hymns has nearly died in American churches of Rusyn heritage, both Orthodox and Byzantine Catholic.

The reason for this is probably practical: cemeteries are not near churches, and the funeral procession is done by car. Thus, hymns once sung during the funeral procession fell into disuse.

It was a pleasant surprise to discover that this tradition is not completely lost in the United States! While attending the funeral of the late Protopresbyter John Dolhy in Scranton, Raymond Mastroberte (my father) heard the Very Reverend Protopresbyter Stephen Dutko, pastor emeritus of St. Michael's (ACROD) in Binghamton, NY, sing the hymn *Už Idu Do Hroba* along with other clergy and faithful. The melody is very familiar, as it is used as a Cherubic Hymn "Za Usopsich"—#17 in Boksay's *Prostopinije*.

My father and I discussed this hymn, and he subsequently spoke about it with Fr. Dutko. I put the text and music together, and we sent a copy to Fr. Dutko for his review. In a letter to my father, he said:

***I have received your rendition of "UZ IDU DO HROBA" in both the Latinika and Cyrillic text. Everything is in order, however I prefer to use the word "Spocivati" than "pocivati". To me spocivati means TO REST.***

***I am happy to see that you are doing a lot of compiling of music texts to preserve them.***

This music is thus faithful to the received tradition and practice.

Much appreciation and thanks must go to Father Dutko for his inspiration and help in compiling this hymn. *Mnobja i blabaja l'ita!*

David Mastroberte  
The Pisennik Project

# "UŽ' Idu Do Hroba..."

Carpatho-Rusyn Funerary Hymn



1. Už' i - du do hro - ba  
2. Zvizd - ja ne vi - žu,  
3. Tam vžit - ki vla - da - ri,  
4. Ni bo - hač ni ni - šcij  
5. Ni soln - ce, ni mis - jac  
6. Tam mni ne - po - mo - žet'



1. Tem - na - ho, smut - na - ho,  
2. Hla - sa ne us - ly - šu,  
3. I ve - li - ki ca - ri,  
4. Tam sja ne ot - ku - pit,  
5. Ne - bu - det svi - ti - ti,  
6. Ni ot - ec ni ma - ti,



1. Bu - du spo - či - va - ti\*  
2. Tok - mo jak svja - zan - nyj  
3. Kos - ti iz - lo - ži - li,  
4. No je - di - no - kaž - dyj  
5. Hde ja bu - du v hro - bi  
6. Bo ja u - že bu - du



1. Až' do dna sud - na - ho.  
2. Ned - viž - i - mo le - žu.  
3. I svoj vik kon - či - li.  
4. Tam po - či - ti mu - sit.  
5. Mis - teč - ko im - i - ti.  
6. V hro - bi spo - či - va - ti\*.

# "Ужь иду до гроба..."

Carpatho-Rusyn Funerary Hymn



1. Ужь и - ду до гро - ба  
 2. Звѣздъ - я не - ви - жу,  
 3. Тамъ вшит - ки вла - да - ри,  
 4. Ни бо - гачъ ни ни - щій  
 5. Ни солн - це, ни мѣ - сяць,  
 6. Тамъ мнѣ не - по - мо - жеть



1. Тем - на - го, смут - на - го,  
 2. Гла - са не - у - слы - шу,  
 3. И ве - ли - ки ца - ри,  
 4. Тамъ ся не - от - ку - пить,  
 5. Не - бу - деть свѣ - ти - ти,  
 6. Ни от - ець ни ма - ти,



1. Бу - ду спо - чи - ва - ти\*  
 2. Ток - мо якъ свя - зан - ный  
 3. Кос - ти из - ло - жи - ли,  
 4. Но єд - и - но - каж - дый  
 5. Где я бу - ду въ гро - бѣ  
 6. Бо я у - же бу - ду



1. Ажь до дня суд - на - го.  
 2. Нед - ви - жи - мо ле - жу.  
 3. И свой вѣкъ кон - чи - ли.  
 4. Тамъ по - чи - ти му - сить.  
 5. Мѣс - теч - ко им - ѣ - ти.  
 6. Въ гробѣ спо - чи - ва - ти\*.