



Today, May 5th, marks the Orthodox Easter Sunday, the holiest day in the Christian calendar, and millions of Ukrainians will attend church services throughout the country, and celebrate, albeit solemnly, with family and friends. In the run up to this sacred day, Russian invasion forces continuously bombed cities throughout Ukraine, killing and wounding civilians. Indeed, as I write this there are air raid alarms in Poltava, Zaporizhzhia, Dnipro, and Kharkiv. If all this weren't cynical enough, Vladimir Putin, who describes Russia as a "Christian nation", has joined the Russian Orthodox Church under its Patriarch (like Putin, a former KGB asset) in calling his imperialist aggression a "holy war". This madness will only ensure that the once brotherly

Ukrainian and Russian Orthodox churches will remain bitter enemies for many years to come. Christ's enjoinder to "love thy neighbor as thyself" seems impossibly remote.