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FCSU 2007 Jednota Scholarship Winners

PAGES 11-15

National Chaplain Rev. Thomas A. Nasta Celebrates Silver Jubilee

The Reverend Thomas A. Nasta, National Chaplain of the First Catholic Slovak Union and a priest of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, observed the 25th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood on Sunday, June 3, 2007. To mark this milestone in his priestly life, Father Nasta offered a Mass of Thanksgiving at 3:00 p.m. at the Church of St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother in Stowe, Pennsylvania. The Mass was concelebrated by twelve other fellow priests. Among them were Rev. Philip Altavilla, President of the Slovak Catholic Federation, and Rev. Thomas J. Derzack, Pastor of St. Michael's Church in Lansford, Pennsylvania. Also in the sanctuary was the Most Rev. Joseph McFadden, Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. The impressive liturgy was enhanced by the beautiful music provided by the St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish Choir under the direction of Director Kathleen Kulp and organist Barbara O'Neill. Michael Zubert led the congregation in song. Parishioners and members of Father Nasta's family served as Readers and Gift Bearers.



The jubilant Father Thomas Nasta with his proud parents Donald and Charlotte Nasta.

Following the liturgy, everyone went to the parish hall where a delicious catered dinner was served complete with hors d'oeuvres, beverages and pastry. The festive atmosphere and fellowship was enjoyed by all those present. Attending Father Nasta's special day were FCSU Executive Secretary, Kenneth A. Arendt, Regional Director Joseph Minarovich and his wife Lillian; Jednota editor Anthony Sutherland and his wife Anna; and National President Emeritus Thomas M. Hricik and his wife Geraldine.

continued on page 8

Recalling the Memory of Father Stephen Furdek



During the historic Slovak League of America Centennial tour of Slovakia, the delegation visited Trstena in northwest Slovakia, the birthplace of Father Stephen Furdek, founder of the First Catholic Slovak Union and the Slovak League of America. The delegation participated in a wonderful civic program and reception hosted by the city fathers of Trstena on May 12. A special wreath was placed at the monument at the house where Father Furdek was born in 1855. Shown at the monument are from the left, Daniel F. Tanzone, president of the Slovak League of America which Father Furdek co-founded in 1907 with Peter V. Rovnianek; Nina Holy, secretary-treasurer of the Slovak League; the Mayor of Trstena, the Hon. Jozef Dubjak; and Andrew M. Rajec, president of the First Catholic Slovak Union which Father Furdek founded on September 4, 1890.

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| Example – Newborn Male | | Example – Newborn Female | |
|----------------------------------|-------|----------------------------------|-------|
| \$5,000 paid-up insurance..... | \$290 | \$5,000 paid-up insurance..... | \$250 |
| \$10,000 paid-up insurance..... | \$580 | \$10,000 paid-up insurance | \$500 |
| Example – Age 5 Male | | Example – Age 5 Female | |
| \$5,000 paid-up insurance | \$340 | \$5,000 paid-up insurance | \$290 |
| \$10,000 paid-up insurance | \$680 | \$10,000 paid-up insurance | \$580 |
| Example – Age 10 Male | | Example – Age 10 Female | |
| \$5,000 paid-up insurance | \$400 | \$5,000 paid-up insurance | \$340 |
| \$10,000 paid-up insurance | \$800 | \$10,000 paid-up insurance..... | \$680 |
| Example – Age 15 Male | | Example – Age 15 Female | |
| \$5,000 paid-up insurance | \$480 | \$5,000 paid-up insurance..... | \$405 |
| \$10,000 paid-up insurance..... | \$960 | \$10,000 paid-up insurance | \$810 |

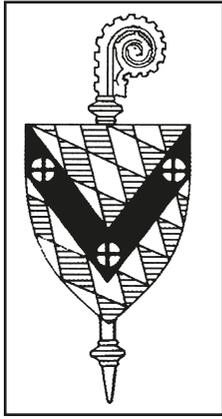
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*Children 8 and under receive a stuffed Jednota Bear. Children 9-18 receive a gift card!

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Insights and Viewpoints



St. Vincent Archabbey — Homilies

Fr. Campion P. Gavaler, O.S.B. and Father Demetrius R. Dumm, O.S.B.

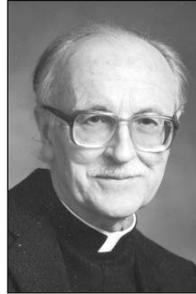
July 8, 2007 (Year C)

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Luke 10:1-12, 17-20

Gospel Summary

Earlier in his gospel Luke tells us the intention of Jesus as he begins his ministry: "To the other towns also I must proclaim the good news of the kingdom of God because for this purpose I have been sent" (4:43). Later when he was accused of driving out demons by the power of Beelzebul he responded, "But if it is by the



Campion P. Gavaler,
O.S.B.

finger [power] of God that I drive out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you" (11:20). Now Jesus appoints seventy-two others whom he sends out with the same mission and purpose as his own. The disciples receive instructions about how they are to carry out their mission: for example, they are to "carry no money bag, no sack, no sandals." There is also an ominous word of warning. Jesus says, "I am sending you like lambs among wolves." He assures them, however, that Satan has fallen. Yet the disciples are to rejoice, not because the evil spirits are subject to them, but because their names are written in heaven -- they belong to God.

Life Implications

We try to bring the implications of Luke's gospel to consciousness at a time when many people in the church seem to have lost hope. They are weary, intimidated by the power of secular culture, and often contentious with each other. People feel helpless in face of the pervasive violence and a sub-culture of dehumanizing poverty while the stock market continues to climb. John Paul II called the life-destroying aspect of our modern world the "culture of death." The false value-systems of the world still seem to have control over the way we think and treat each other.

It is also important to remember that the church of Luke's time was much like our own--contention within and persecution without. Peter, Paul and many early followers of Jesus had been executed in the Roman Empire by the time Luke wrote his gospel. Paul's experience, a few decades earlier in Athens, could well have happened in any modern city. After he had proclaimed the resurrection of Christ to the Athenians, the response was mostly ridicule or indifference. Some said, "We should like to hear you on this some other time" (Acts 18:32). A few men and women, however, came to believe.

If the celebration of the Eucharist today is to renew our beleaguered hope, we like the Twelve and the seventy-two must hear Jesus speaking the words of the gospel personally to each of us. It is we, either as successors of the Twelve or of the seventy-two, who are being sent for the same purpose that Jesus was sent. The seemingly impossible mission to do what Jesus did would paralyze our spirit unless today we also hear Jesus say to us, "Rejoice because your names are written in heaven." We rejoice because we are members of the household and family of God.

What is the reality to which the biblical expression "kingdom of God" points? The expression is richly multifaceted in meaning. The kingdom of God comes into being wherever God reigns, and wherever God's will is done. The kingdom of God is present in persons through whom God acts. It is no surprise that in the early church the kingdom of God soon came to be identified with Christ himself. God reigns in Christ. God's will is done in Christ. God acts through Christ. To proclaim the kingdom of God is the same as to proclaim Christ. In fact, the church from its beginning, by proclaiming the good news of Christ, was being faithful to his mandate to proclaim the kingdom of God.

The kingdom of God has come upon us if God reigns in our hearts, if God's will is done



Pilgrimage of Faith 2007 at Villa Sacred Heart in Danville, PA

The Slovak Catholic Federation will sponsor a Pilgrimage of Faith on Saturday, September 22, 2007, at the Villa Sacred Heart in Danville, Pennsylvania. Everyone is invited to participate in this annual event.

The day will begin with a lunch (pre-ordered only \$6.00) at 11:00 a.m. in the Motherhouse Dining Room. At 12:00 noon all will assemble in SS. Cyril and Methodius Basilica for the opening remarks by the Rev. Philip Altavilla, National President of the Federation, and the recitation of the rosary. From 12:45 to 3:00 p.m. pilgrims may take a tour either of the Basilica or the Jankola Library. At 3:00 p.m. a conference will be held in Maria Hall Auditorium led by Sister John Vianney. The subject of the conference will be the story of women religious during the communist period in Slovakia. A Slovak Hymn Sing will take place at 3:30 p.m. in the Basilica led by the Slovak Heritage Society of Northeast Pennsylvania. The day will conclude with a Pontifical Mass in the Basilica at 4:00 p.m. The Most Rev. Joseph V. Adamec, Bishop of Altoona-Johnstown, will be the celebrant and homilist.

All who wish to attend this pilgrimage must contact Dolores Evanko at 570/454-5547 or email jje@intergrafix.net no later than August 20, 2007. Bus leaders will make reservations for those traveling by bus.

in us, if God acts through us. Sometimes one can sense God's presence in a person or in a community. Thus what the Second Vatican Council says of Christ may also be said of us: "The presence of the kingdom is seen in the words and works, but above all in the person, of Christ himself" (Lumen Gentium, #5).

There is a sense of urgency in the words Jesus addresses to us. Even though we are urged to action, it is equally clear that by our own strength we cannot subdue the evil powers of this world and cure its ills. So that we do not forget to trust in God's power in all we do, Jesus tells us to "carry no money bags, no sack, no sandals." We will be able to continue Christ's mission in the particular circumstances of our lives with audacious hope only if we believe that whatever good we do, it is by the finger of God. And when this happens, we can say with Christ, "The kingdom of God has come upon you."



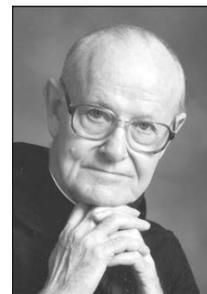
July 15, 2007 (Year C)

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Luke 10:25-37

Gospel Summary

The lawyer in today's gospel is not to be confused with the lawyers of our day. He was a student of the Jewish Torah or Law--a word which is more properly translated as "instruction" or "revelation." Today, he would be called a theologian. And he asks the question that is primary in the mind of every theologian, namely, how do we human beings achieve the fulfillment intended by our Creator? Jesus gives the classic answer from Deut. 6:5 and Lev. 19:18. Everything depends on our love of God and of neighbor.



Demetrius R. Dumm,
O.S.B.

Jesus moves quickly then to illustrate the practical implications of these commands in the story of the Good Samaritan. The contrast drawn is dramatic: the priest and Levite belong to the class of professional men of religion whereas the Samaritan is a descendent of that group of Jews who were left in Palestine during the Exile, who intermarried with non-Jews and whose religious "purity" was therefore highly suspect.

According to Jesus' story, however, it is this religious outcast who has understood the real meaning of the Torah while the professional practitioners of religion seem concerned only about the external, ritual elements of Judaism. As in the case of the publican and the Pharisee, Jesus is not suggesting that one should become a publican or a Samaritan. Rather, he insists that we should be authentic persons who know how to observe the spirit of our religion and not just its externals.

Life Implications

We should note, first of all, that this is only a story. The fact that it never really happened should cause us to focus on its powerful symbolic message. As such, it offers us a sharp lesson about the danger of hypocritical behavior. It is relatively easy to claim an office or a title or hold a membership card, but the only proof of one's religious sincerity and authenticity is the way in which one's religious profession actually changes one's behavior.

In this story, the new behavior is to respond to need regardless of whether we think the one in need deserves our help. Observing religious rituals or even receiving the Eucharist can unfortunately co-exist with self-centeredness and rash judgment. Real conversion demands that our following of Christ include our determination to offer help to others to the best of our ability, which usually means doing all that we think we can...and then a little bit more!

Such Christian behavior does not mean that we should become doormats or cater to obsessive-dependants. But it does mean that we should be sensitive to the often hidden needs of others and ready to help in any way we can. Real love will know how to do this wisely and effectively.

We should also note that, when professing Christians do not act in accordance with the ideals taught by Jesus, they scandalize others who may well reject Christianity because they are so repelled by those who proclaim themselves Christians. We all recall the challenging words of Jesus: "By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another" (John 13:35).

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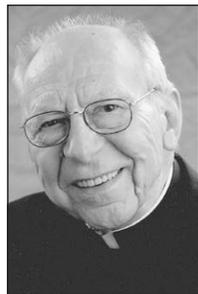
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Reflections on Our Christianity Msgr. Edward V. Rosack



Msgr. Edward V. Rosack

The Equestrian and the Priest

Article 5

Enter Jesus Christ!

The Jewish divine system of faith and worship was well established and long extant. The Roman Empire controlled a great many lands and hosts of people. Each institution felt unchallenged.

Appearing as if out of nowhere, Jesus Christ began to call men to himself, saying, "Come and see," and "Follow me." Answering, there were Andrew, Simon Peter, Philip, and continuing until he had but twelve men: James and John Zebedee, Bartholomew, Thomas, Matthew, James son of Alpheus, Jude (Thaddeus), Simon the Cananean and Judas.

Jesus began curing people of their illnesses and preaching in the synagogues, attracting the attention of the Scribes and Pharisees and, then, their anger when he said to the paralytic at Capernaum, "Have courage, son, your sins are forgiven." (Matthew 9:2) "This man blasphemes," they charged. (Matthew 9:3) Their fury increased when he said, "The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath." (Mark 2:27) When Jesus' actions took on the tenets of the Jewish religion, the Pharisees "immediately began to plot with the Herodians on how they might destroy him." (Mark 3:6) So it began and so did the animosity between Jesus and the leaders of the Jewish faith grow.

Events approached the explosive point when Jesus "made a (kind of) whip of cords and drove out sheep and oxen alike out of the temple area, and knocked over the money-changers' tables, spilling their coins. He told those who were selling doves: "Get them out of here! Stop turning my Father's house into a marketplace." (John 3:15-16)

Matthew 23 is full of Jesus' exhortation of the Scribes and Pharisees. "Woe to you scribes and Pharisees, you frauds! You pay tithes on mint and herbs and seeds while neglecting the weightier matters of the law, justice and mercy and good faith. It is these you should have practiced, without neglecting the others." (Matthew 23:23)

For the third time, Jesus predicted: "We are on our way up to Jerusalem, where the Son of Man will be handed over to the chief priests and the scribes. They will condemn him to death and hand him over to the Gentiles, who will mock him and spit at him, flog him and finally kill him. But three days later he will rise." (Mark 10:33-34)

At Gethsemani, Judas "accompanied by a great crowd with swords and clubs...sent by the chief priests and elders of the people...arrested him." (Matthew 26:47-50) Luke describes those who came against Jesus as "the chief priests, the chiefs of the temple guard and the ancients." (Luke 22:52) John describes those who seized Jesus and bound him as "soldiers of the cohort, their tribune, and the Jewish guards." (John 18:22) In Matthew and Luke's accounts, the prefect Pontius Pilate is not involved. John's account differs. The chief priests are not present but the soldiers of the cohort and their tribune are. The word "cohort" can refer to a group of subjects defined by experiencing and event in a particular time span. "Tribune" originally meant representatives of the tribes into which the Roman people were divided for military and voting purposes. Thusly, "cohort" and "tribune" here do not refer to the military personnel of the Roman prefect. Pontius Pilate as prefect is not involved in this Gethsemani incident.

Jesus was brought first to Annas, the retired High Priest, who sent him to Caiaphas called the Sanhedrin to his house where they interrogated Jesus. The intention of the High Priest and the Sanhedrin was to seek witnesses against Jesus so that they could condemn him to death. They could not find any although false witnesses did come forward. Caiaphas then said to Jesus: "I order you to tell us under oath before the living God whether you are the Messiah, the Son of God." Jesus answered, "It is you who say it. But I tell you this: Soon you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of the Power and coming on the clouds of heaven." (Matthew 26:63-64)

Caiaphas yelled, "He has blasphemed!" The Sanhedrin responded, "He deserves death!" (Matthew 26:65-66)

It was early Friday morning when Jesus was brought before Pontius Pilate in the praetorium. Note this exchange between Pilate and Caiaphas and company.

"What accusation do you bring against this man?"

If he were not a criminal, we would certainly not have handed him over to you.

Why do you not take him and pass judgment on him according to your law?

We may not put anyone to death." (John 18:29-31)

Caiaphas and company dodged Pilate's question as they did Pilate's second. They did reveal however what their real intention was.

Caiaphas and company now realized that they had to make a better case against Jesus.

"We found this man subverting our nation, opposing the payment of taxes to Caesar, and calling himself the Messiah, a king." (Luke 23:5)

Now this exchange between Pilate and Jesus Christ.

"Are you the king of the Jews?"

Are you saying this on your own or have others been telling you about me?

I am no Jew! It is your own people and the chief priests who have handed you over to me. What have you done?

My kingdom does not belong to this world...my kingdom is not here.

So, then you are a king?

It is you who say I am a king...the reason I came into the world, is to testify to the

continued on page 4

Apostleship of Prayer Intentions for July 2007

General Intention

Common Good. That all citizens may participate actively in working to achieve and maintain the common good.

In this era of special interest politicking, the Church reaffirms our duty to seek the common good- not just our own good. Pope Benedict XVI asks us to pray that all citizens-not just all Christians- work for the common good.

What does the Pope mean by "common good"? The common good, says the Catechism, is a "sum of social conditions" that allow individuals and groups to attain personal fulfillment. The common good requires respect for the person, social development, and peace (1906-1909). Whenever we have a chance to advance any of those, we should do so.

If a person or a group suffers degradation, deprivation of essentials, or violence in any form, we must do what we can to restore that person or group to dignity, an acceptable standard of life, and peace. In other words, we are to do good in the world as Jesus did. More than an institution, the Church is Christ's presence in the world.

By saying that "all citizens" should seek the common good, the Pope assumes a universal morality. Whatever religion or circumstances, people everywhere share a basic understanding of what's right. Conscience tells all of us that it's wrong for example, to kill, enslave, or use others. The Pope is asking us to pray that all may be called back to following their consciences.

Besides praying, we can also act to promote the common good. That's why we have a duty to vote- and when we do, we are to vote our consciences, not our preferences. When we pray and when we act, we remember that the common good is "founded on truth, built up in justice, animated by love" (1912).

Pray that all may be motivated to seek the common good. The whole world is at stake.

For Reflection

Besides voting your conscience, is there anything else you can do to promote the common good?

Mission Intention

Help for Missionaries. That all Christians, aware of their missionary duty, may actively help those engaged in the evangelization of peoples.

After Jesus died and rose from the dead, His disciples realized why he had come. Inspired by the Holy Spirit, they understood that it was all about the love of God. As St. John wrote, "In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent His only Son into the world, so that we might live through Him (I John 4:9). This was the Good News He had commanded them to proclaim to the ends of the earth.

In his message for the 80th World Mission Sunday, 2006, Pope Benedict XVI stated that love, and love alone, is the "soul" of evangelization. "Unless the mission is oriented by charity, that is, unless it springs from a profound act of divine love, it risks being reduced to mere philanthropic and social activity."

Similarly, Pope John Paul II wrote in the Encyclical Redemptoris Missio that we come from the God of Love, we are saved from sin and death by the God of Love, and we are sent into the world to represent the God of Love. Apart from that great Love, therefore, we Christians have nothing to say or to do (n. 60).

"This I command you," Jesus said, "to love one another" (John 15:17).

The Holy Spirit is still guiding the Church. Love calls many to missions at home and throughout the world. We pray that love will call many more. Whatever our own call, we pray that God's love will inspire all of us to obey, to serve, to work, to speak, to go, and to give generously. We pray that the Good News will go forth always and everywhere in love.

For Reflection

Love is a high standard by which to measure our motives. How does love motivate what you do every day?

NEWSPAPER DEADLINES

All copy is due by 4:30 P.M., THE MONDAY BEFORE THE ISSUE DATE, unless otherwise stated below because of special holiday scheduling. Copy that is not received by this deadline will not necessarily appear in the following Wednesday's issue.

Issue Date

WEDNESDAY, JULY 11

WEDNESDAY, JULY 25

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8

Copy Deadline

MONDAY, JULY 2

MONDAY, JULY 16

MONDAY, JULY 30

Correspondents who are announcing upcoming events should remember that the JEDNOTA is printed EVERY OTHER WEDNESDAY, and should take into account the extra time lost in the postal system. Therefore, please plan to have your announcements to us in ample time for them to be printed and received by the readership.

Send all copy (English AND Slovak) to:

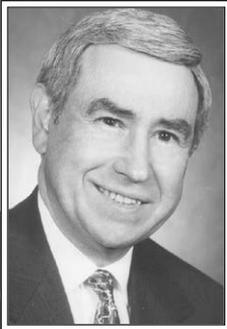
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MONEY MANAGEMENT & TAX TIPS



By Joseph T. Senko

*Certified Public Accountant
Certified Financial Planner
Personal Financial Specialist
(AICPA)*

Vacation Homes Come With Tax Benefits

Tax breaks can make owning a vacation home more affordable, but if you're looking to claim the most tax breaks possible, you need to carefully track the amount of time you and your family spend at your vacation home. There are three basic scenarios of vacation home use, and a different tax treatment applies to each.

Personal versus Rental Use

The tax treatment of your vacation home depends on the number of days you rent it at fair market value and the number of personal use days. In addition to the days you use the home, you must also count as personal use any part of a day that the residence is used by a relative or any individual who rents the residence for less than fair market rent.

Days you spend working on your vacation home, however, are not counted as personal use days if they are primarily spent making repairs or getting the property ready for tenants. Bear in mind that for tax purposes, a second home can be a boat or a recreational vehicle as long as it has permanent sleeping, cooking, toilet facilities.

Use Often, Rent Seldom

If you rent your home for less than 15 days during the year, any rental income you collect is tax-free. You don't even have to report the income on your tax return. You can still deduct property taxes and mortgage interest whether or not the property is used to produce income. However, you cannot deduct rental-related expenses.

Use Seldom, Rent Often

If personal use of your vacation home doesn't exceed 14 days a tax year, or 10 percent of the total number of days it is rented out at a fair market value, whichever is greater, your vacation home qualifies as a rental property. As the owner of a rental property, you must report the entire rental income you receive. However, you may qualify to deduct expenses related to renting, such as depreciation, utilities, repairs, and property management fees.

If you end the year with a net profit from the rental income, you may deduct all your rental expenses. However, if you had a net loss, your deduction will be limited by the passive activity rule. A passive activity involves the conduct, trade, or business in which you are not materially participating. An exception applies if you actively participate in managing rental activities. In such cases, you can deduct up to \$25,000 in rental losses against other nonpassive income, such as wages. This deduction begins to phase out when your adjusted gross income (AGI) exceeds \$100,000, and disappears completely when your AGI reaches \$150,000. Any passive activity loss that is not used cannot be carried forward to future years.

Use Some and Rent Some

If you and your family use the place more than 10 percent of the number of days it is rented to others at fair market value, your vacation home is treated as a residence. You must report all rental income on your tax return and you may be able to deduct your rental expenses, but only up to the total amount of rental income.

You cannot use the excess rental expenses to offset income from other sources. You can, however, carry the excess expenses forward to the next year and treat them as rental expenses for the same property up to the amount of rental income for the year.

If you have additional questions on this subject, contact Joe Senko at Manor Oak Two, Suite 500, 1910 Cochran Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15220 or 412/531-2990 or fax 412/531-4793 or jsenko@mvs-cpa.com.



Reflections on Our Christianity

continued from page 3

truth.

Speaking for myself, I find no case against this man." (John 18:33-38)

The Jews persisted. "He stirs up the people by his teaching throughout the whole of Judea, from Galilee, where he began, to this very place." (Luke 23:5)

Pilate, hearing "Galilee," sent Jesus to Herod, who had jurisdiction over Galilee. The chief priests and scribes went with Jesus to Herod and denounced him there. Herod clothed Jesus in a bright robe and sent him back to Pilate.

To be continued

Annual Slovak Picnic in Ontario

The Monsignor Shuba District cordially invites you to their Annual Slovak Family Day Picnic on Sunday, July 29, 2007, at Creditvale Park, Barbertown Road, Mississauga, Ontario. The day will begin with a Mass at 12:00 noon followed by lunch. Admission is \$6.00 for adults. Children under 12 are free.



Officers of Branch 553 present Jared Orndorff with a check to finance his studies. L-R are: President Emeritus Stephen E. Petrasek, Jared Orndorff, President Joseph Petrasek, Chaplain Father Ralph Coletta, and Treasurer George Kacsanek.



L-R George Kacsanek, Stephen Petrasek, Ondrej Dalibor, Jared Orndorff, Terry Eller, Joseph Petrasek, Martin Chovanec, Father Ralph Colleta, and Greg Petrasek.



Many members of Branch 553 attended the dinner and presentation. In the front row L-R are: Michele Still, Gigi Thomas and Bob Danish. Back row L-R: Brian Thomas, Seminarian Jared Orndorff, Paula Danis, G. Still, and Connor Danish.

Akron Branch 553 Honors Seminarian

The members and officers of Branch 553 in Akron, Ohio, recently honored a fellow member and seminarian Jared Paul Orndorff at their monthly spaghetti dinner. Branch President Joe Petrasek and the board members presented Jared with a \$500.00 grant to continue his studies. Jared was very grateful for the gift and said that he would use the money for his clerical vestments and his ordination chalice.

Jared is a fourth generation Jednotar. His mother, Catherine Petrasek Armbruster, grandfather, Stephen Petrasek, and great-grandfather, Vincent Petrasek, are all active members of Branch 553. At the dinner, Jared was accompanied by our chaplain Father Ralph Coletta and two seminarians from Slovakia, Ondrej Dalibor from the Diocese of Kosice, and Martin Chovanec from the Diocese of Roznava. Seminarians receive little financial support from the diocese so must rely on benefactors, family and friends. Recognizing this, member Bryan Thomas and family donated their evening winnings from the drawing to support Jared. They were honored to have the opportunity to provide some financial support to Jared. Although Jared does not speak Slovak, he did say "Dakujem" for the gift.

Gregory Petrasek, Vice President, Br. 553

Annual Thomas Kukucka Scholarships Presented in Pittsburgh

The 19th annual Thomas Kukucka memorial Scholarship and Lecture was held on Sunday, April 15, 2007, at Posvar Hall at the University of Pittsburgh in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The event was attended by a large number of students and interested people from the region.

There were two recipients of the Thomas Kukucka Scholarship this year: Judy Sheary of Germantown, Maryland, and Mike Kozak of Pittsburgh. Both are taking Slovak language courses at the University of Pittsburgh. Ms. Sheary is a Slovak language student majoring in History with a business interest. She is considering attending law school. She hopes this trip will help her learn more about Slovak history and business.

Mike Kozak is an undergraduate student at the University of Pittsburgh with an English Literature major. His family is of Slovak origin and he has an interest in learning more about Slovak business and culture.

Dr. Martin Votruba opened the program by welcoming those in attendance. He then spoke about the history of the Slovak Studies Program at the University of Pittsburgh, and stressed how important it is to keep the language and history alive. He introduced Christine Metil, Secretary of the Slovak Studies Program, who spoke on Thomas Kukucka's background and how this scholarship is an example on how to deal with the loss of a loved one in a positive way.



Thomas Kukucka Scholarship Recipients Judy Sheary and Mike Kozak.

Thomas Kukucka was raised in Cambria County, Pennsylvania, and played football for Bishop Carroll High School in Ebensburg. He was an avid participant in sports, enjoyed baseball and football, and skiing. He ran in Marathons in Charleston, WV, Erie and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and in the New York City Marathon, where his sisters cheered him on.

After receiving a degree in journalism from the University of Pittsburgh, he worked in Charleston, West Virginia as a news reporter for the Charleston Gazette for seven years before moving to Pittsburgh. In Pittsburgh he worked as a reporter for the Pittsburgh Press (now the Post Gazette). He was excited to know Slovak studies were available at the University of Pittsburgh, so he and a co-worker, Bill Zlatos, enrolled. They were planning a trip to Slovakia in 1989 and wanted to be able to speak and understand the language. He spoke Slovak constantly and was so proud of his Slovak heritage. Both sets of grandparents were Slovak, and he felt he was carrying on a family tradition. He often tried out his Slovak skills on his parents.

Tom was killed in a car crash on July 31, 1988 while visiting his sister Christina in New York City. His co-workers at the Pittsburgh Press discussed how best they could honor Tom's memory. Bill Zlatos suggested that since he hoped to travel to Slovakia, perhaps they could set up a scholarship in his name to enable students of the language to travel and study there. Contacting the Slovak Language Department of the University of Pittsburgh, the wheels were set in motion for a Thomas Kukucka Memorial Scholarship Fund, with the initial investment made with matching funds from Scripts/Howard. Since the scholarship's inception, at least 26 students have received this award.

The scholarship is given based on the reason for travel and essays written by Slovak language students at the University of Pittsburgh. The scholarship covers travel expenses and some spending money. The students are enrolled at Comenius College in Bratislava. Many of the recipients keep in touch with the Kukucka family, sending cards while in Slovakia. Many of them stay on in Slovakia for a time, teaching English while they refine their own language skills.

Dr. Votruba introduced the Guest lecturer, Professor Charles Sabatos, who spoke on the Slovak language and culture in Thomas Bell's *Out of This Furnace*. Professor Sabatos holds a Ph.D. in Comparative Literature from the University of Michigan, and a M.A. in International Studies with a focus on Russia, Eastern Europe and Central Asia from the University of Washington. He was awarded a Fulbright Research Fellowship at the Slovak department at Comenius University in 2005 and is the author of various articles, reviews and translations on Slovak and East European literary topics. Currently, he is a Visiting Assistant Professor at Oberlin College.

In reviewing *Out of This Furnace*, Professor Sabatos noted that Thomas Bell based his story on his own family experiences. It follows several generations of Slovak steelworkers who at first cannot fit in, then eventually "embrace" American society. He goes into detail about how the generations eventually resolved their differences and developed a sense of pride in their Slovak heritage. The talk was well received. Refreshments followed.

The Kukucka family was represented by Dr. Stephen P. Kukucka, and Janet, Ed, Carrie and Tom Blazina, all of Pittsburgh. Because of a snow storm warning, Dr. Steve and Betty Kukucka of Ebensburg were unable to attend.



Guest Lecturer Professor Charles Sabatos.

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

TUESDAY, MAY 22, 2007

HOME OFFICE INDEPENDENCE, OHIO

OPEN

President Andrew M. Rajec called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. Treasurer George F. Matta led the prayer.

ROLL CALL

Members Attending: Andrew M. Rajec, President
Andrew R. Harcar, Sr., Vice President
Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary
George F. Matta, Treasurer

Also attending was the General Counsel, Gary J. Matta, by invitation of the President.

ACCEPTANCE OF APRIL MEETING MINUTES

Executive Secretary presented the Minutes of the April 2007 Executive Committee Meeting. A motion was made by Andrew R. Harcar and seconded by George F. Matta to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S STOCK AND BOND REPORT

Treasurer George Matta passed out a written report summarizing the investments for the month of April 2007 and answered the questions of the Executive Committee. (The report is attached to the Minutes).

The Treasurer led a lengthy discussion and said that he had a very busy month reviewing and purchasing bonds. He said that we are sticking to the same investment policy and it has been working very well.

The Treasurer led a discussion about a policy which would offer estate and financial planning to our members. This will be discussed further at our Annual Board of Directors Meeting.

The Treasurer stated that we had a very good quarter, surplus and assets are on increase and look very positive.

April 2007 Treasurer's Report

SMITH BARNEY

| | | | | | | |
|---------|-------------|------|-------------------|--------|------|------|
| Aaa/AAA | FED NAT MTG | 6.00 | 04-04-22 | 100.00 | 6.00 | 500K |
| | | | CALLABLE 04-04-08 | | | |

WACHOVIA SECURITIES

| | | | | | | |
|-------|---------------|------|----------------------|--------|------|------|
| A3/a- | WESTERN UNION | 5.93 | 10-01-16 | 100.00 | 5.93 | 300K |
| | | | CALL WHEN MAKE WHOLE | | | |

| | | | | | | |
|---------|------------|-------|-------------------|-------|-------|------|
| AAA/AAA | FANNIE MAE | 6.125 | 10-20-21 | 99.99 | 6.119 | 400K |
| | | | CALLABLE 12-20-07 | | | |

| | | | | | | |
|---------|------------|------|-------------------|--------|------|------|
| AAA/AAA | FANNIE MAE | 6.00 | 04-04-22 | 100.00 | 6.00 | 300K |
| | | | CALLABLE 04-04-08 | | | |

UBS

| | | | | | | |
|---------|---------------|------|-------------------|--------|------|------|
| AAA/AAA | FED HOME LOAN | 6.00 | 05-15-26 | 100.00 | 6.00 | 400K |
| | | | CALLABLE 05-15-08 | | | |

MERRILL LYNCH

| | | | | | | |
|---------|---------------|------|-------------------|--------|------|------|
| AAA/AAA | FED HOME LOAN | 6.05 | 04-11-22 | 100.00 | 6.05 | 500K |
| | | | CALLABLE 04-04-08 | | | |

| | | | | | | |
|---------|---------------|------|-------------------|--------|------|------|
| AAA/AAA | FED HOME LOAN | 6.00 | 04-04-22 | 100.00 | 6.00 | 265K |
| | | | CALLABLE 04-05-10 | | | |

BPU

| | | | | | | |
|-------|---------------|------|----------|--------|-------|------|
| A1/A+ | MERRILL LYNCH | 6.22 | 09-15-26 | 101.85 | 6.056 | 400K |
| | | | NON CALL | | | |

FERRIS BAKER WATTS

| | | | | | | |
|---------|---------------|------|-------------------|--------|------|------|
| AAA/AAA | FED HOME LOAN | 6.25 | 05-17-27 | 100.00 | 6.25 | 300K |
| | | | CALLABLE 08-17-07 | | | |

MORTGAGES AND OVERDUE MORTGAGES

The Executive Secretary presented the report for the month of April for the Committee's review and answered their questions.

MONTHLY DISBURSEMENTS

Executive Secretary Arendt reported that the following disbursements were incurred and paid during the month of April:

DISBURSEMENTS FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL 2007

| | |
|------------------------------------|--------------|
| Death Benefits & Accumulations | \$237,684.53 |
| Cash Withdrawals & Accumulations | \$ 29,645.70 |
| Matured Endowments & Accumulations | -0- |
| Trust Fund | -0- |

The Executive Secretary presented the Annuity Report and answered the Executive Committee questions. The Executive Committee reviewed the rest of the disbursements and the Executive Secretary answered their questions.

A motion was made by Kenneth Arendt and seconded by Andrew Harcar to accept the

continued on page 6

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

TUESDAY, MAY 22, 2007

HOME OFFICE ~ INDEPENDENCE, OHIO

continued from page 5

Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT

Bank Relationships, Assets

The Executive Secretary stated that he has been in contact with the representatives of Key Bank, the bank presently handling our account, to review the new options available to us and analyze and reduce the fees. He will update us as more information becomes available.

The Executive Secretary stated that we will have a meeting with Dave Jancisin, Investment Advisor, representing Merrill Lynch.

ANNUITIES/GENERAL AGENTS

The President discussed the commission paid to our general agents. He stated that he will be in contact with Ed DePersis to review options. He will keep us informed as more information becomes available.

FOLLOW UPS ON APRIL 20, 2007 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

The President led a discussion on follow-ups from the April 2007 meeting and the following agenda was reviewed:

a) Building maintenance – The President led a discussion concerning the painting of the outside of our Home Office building. He said the painting is done but some of the areas required 3 coats of paint. We met with an outside Landscaping company to make sure that the landscaping work around the Home Office building is done properly.

b) In-House Agent - The President stated that we received 10 (ten) resumes for this position and will be reviewing them in the near future and will make a decision.

c) Newspaper Ad – The Home Office is almost done with the insert and will be used a sales tool for our insurance products.

The Vice President led a discussion concerning the gifts to be given during this sale campaign. It will be a teddy bear and a \$10.00 Wall Mart Gift Certificate.

d) Jednota newspaper - The President led a discussion regarding the number of issues of the Jednota newspaper. We are committed to increase the number of copies of the newspaper, which will be mailed to our membership. Our goal is one copy in every Member's household. We now send out 13,000 copies. We intend to distribute 30,000 – 35,000 copies. To keep overall costs in line we will reduce the number of issues each year from 26 to 21. We will not reduce the number of pages.

The Executive Secretary also stated that one of our employees from the Printery retired as of June 1, 2007 after many years of service with the FCSU.

1st QUARTER SALES

The Vice President led a discussion regarding seminars. He summarized and updated the Board of Directors on each of the seminars. He felt that they were productive and will bring some good results in sales. A motion was made by George Matta and seconded by Kenneth Arendt to accept the Vice President's report as presented. Motion carried.

New Reports

The Executive Secretary led a discussion regarding new reports that he is developing for the Executive Committee and for the Board of Directors.

One of the reports will show the amount of the insurance sold and the premium income by month compared to the sales of insurance premium income for the same month in the past two years. A motion was made by George Matta and seconded by Andrew Harcar to accept the Executive Secretary's Report as presented. Motion carried.

CRUISE, BOWLING & GOLFING TOURNAMENT

The President led a discussion regarding the Bowling Tournament. He, Father Thomas Nasta and George Matta attended the Bowling Tournament and Banquet.

The Golfing Tournament of the FCSU will be held on July 21 and 22, 2007 in Huron at the Thunderbird Golf Course.

The Vice President updated us on the upcoming Alaskan Cruise for the Membership Meet. He stated that as of now we have 35 attending the Membership Meet. He also stated that he is exploring a mini cruise in the Caribbean for fall.

At this time Dave Jancisin and Cindy Neel representing Merrill Lynch, the custodian of our Portfolio, arrived.

Dave Jancisin led a discussion regarding the Society's Investment Portfolio, answered the Committees' questions and presented the new options which will be available in the future.

The Executive Secretary stated that he has been in contact with Cindy Neel regarding developing new management reports that can be available to us from Merrill Lynch.

RECESS OF SESSION

At this time the Executive Committee broke for lunch.

SECOND SESSION

Tuesday Afternoon, May 22, 2007

At this time the President asked Ray Lako, in the Home Office, as part of a routine Auditor's review, to give us a brief outline of the Golfing and Bowling tournament. Ray Lako informed us about new options they will be offering at our future Bowling Tournaments and outlined the positives and negatives of having our Bowling tournament sanctioned by the ABC.

CALENDAR ART CONTEST

The President stated that he talked to Susan M. Ondrejco, our Fraternal Activities Director,

regarding some issues. She will revisit these issues and come up with some new ideas.

MIDDLETOWN

a) Printery – The President updated us on his recent trip to Middletown. He stated that he and the Vice President met with George Pagula, as a potential independent agent for the FCSU. He will keep us updated.

He also met with Kevin Fry, representing C.B. Richard Ellis, who stated that his firm is interested in presenting a developing plan, at no cost to us, regarding our Middletown holdings.

The President went to Building # 2 and found that the landscaping needed attention. The President met with Anthony Sutherland, Manager of the Estates to correct this matter, working with Regis Brekosky.

He also met with the Manager of Swatara Township regarding development in the area and for general good will.

He also met with the group who purchased the shopping center near our property and had a lengthy conversation regarding the status of development in this area.

He also met with Jim Epley, who represents U.S. Airways, our tenant, regarding the lease renewal of this building and other building maintenance and landscaping issues.

MISCELLANEOUS

The Vice President led a discussion about bringing back the Senior Insurance Program we had in 1990. The Executive Secretary will get information how many policies were sold, how many are still in effect, insurance produced and commission.

General Counsel, Gary Matta, updated the Executive Committee concerning "No hunting" on our Middletown property.

He stated that we must post a "No hunting" sign on our property in Middletown. He will research the exact specific requirements and report at a future time.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING BY TELECONFERENCE

The President led a discussion concerning our Teleconference Meeting on Saturday, June 16, 2007.

REQUEST FOR ADS AND DONATIONS

Requests were reviewed and acted upon.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Kenneth Arendt, seconded by Andrew Harcar to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

The President closed the meeting with prayer.

Andrew M. Rajec
President

Kenneth A. Arendt
Executive Secretary



Zemplin Club Annual Picnic

The American Slovak Zemplin Club will hold its Annual Picnic on Sunday, July 15, 2007, at the Slovak Sokol Farm, 2069 Royalwood Road, between State Road and Broadview Road, Broadview Heights, Ohio. The picnic committee invites all Slovaks from all corners of Ohio. There will be big variety of good Slovak food, home baked pastries, refreshments and music. Music will be provided by the John Pastirik Band from 3:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Doors open at 12:00 noon and the event will last until 8:00 p.m. We will be looking forward to seeing you there. Come bring your family and friends. Help us to preserve and keep alive our Slovak culture and heritage. For information call George Carny at 440/885-5702 or Mary Chura at 440/238-4177.



Slovak Day at Kennywood

The 84th annual American Slovak Day will be celebrated on Thursday, July 19, 2007, at Kennywood Park, West Mifflin, Pennsylvania. There will be cultural displays, folklore performances and much more. The main program at the Main Pavilion # 5 includes children's games and treats at 12:30 p.m.; folk dancing at 2:00 pm.; guest introductions at 3:00 p.m.; Eucharistic celebration at 4:00 p.m.; and Slovak folk entertainment at 5:00 p.m. Slovak national costumes will also be exhibited. Tickets are \$20.00 per person and \$10.00 for seniors. For more information and tickets call 412/351-2381 or 412/466-6545.

The Kennywood Park Slovak Day is the oldest and largest Slovak festival in Western Pennsylvania. Mark your calendars and plan to join the fun at Kennywood Park.

VISIT THE FCSU'S WEBSITE

Home page at: <http://www.fcsu.com>

Send e-mail to the FCSU at the following address:

fcsu@aol.com



Accent on Activities



2007 International Bowling Tournament

June 2007

The results from the International Bowling Tournament have been published in the past several issues of the Jednota paper. Several requests have been made to also publish prize amounts. Listed below are the prize amounts for each competition. Prize checks were mailed the week of May 28. If you did not receive your prize check, please contact Susan Ondrejco at (412) 421-7967.

| Team Event | Amount |
|----------------------|----------|
| Barberton Jednota #1 | \$545.60 |
| Barberton Jednota #2 | \$399.00 |
| Three & Out | \$249.00 |
| Mon Valley #8 | \$149.00 |

| Doubles | Amount |
|-------------------|----------|
| Nichols Sabo | \$316.60 |
| Lako Silay | \$276.00 |
| Roberts Smith | \$236.00 |
| Hlas Hlas | \$176.00 |
| Kopanic Radic | \$176.00 |
| Shank Shank | \$106.00 |
| Barron Patsilevas | \$56.00 |

| Singles | Amount |
|--------------------|----------|
| Klacka Paul | \$164.90 |
| Grys Greg | \$152.00 |
| Lako Ray | \$132.00 |
| Shank James | \$132.00 |
| Shank Clarence Sr. | \$132.00 |
| Kacsanek George | \$112.00 |
| Sabo Ron | \$102.00 |
| Hlas Jim Jr. | \$92.00 |
| Hlas Jim Sr. | \$82.00 |
| Larson Michael | \$72.00 |
| Linn Richard | \$62.00 |
| Krasonic John Jr. | \$52.00 |
| Smith Vernon E. | \$42.00 |

| Seniors | Amount |
|--------------------|---------|
| Klacka Paul | \$50.00 |
| Shank Clarence Sr. | \$40.00 |
| Kacsanek George | \$30.00 |
| Hlas Jim Sr. | \$20.00 |

| All Events | Amount |
|---------------------|---------|
| Nichols Michael Jr. | \$45.00 |
| Sabo Ron | \$41.00 |
| Hlas Jim Jr. | \$36.00 |
| Lako Ray | \$29.00 |
| Klacka Paul | \$24.00 |
| Shank James | \$19.00 |

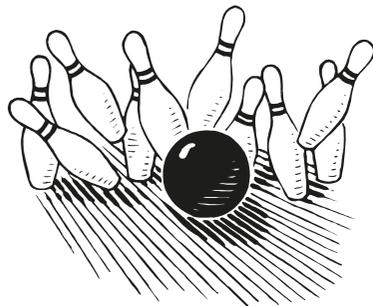
| Team Event | Amount |
|---------------|----------|
| 4 of a Kind | \$361.80 |
| Mon Valley #3 | \$241.00 |

| Doubles | Amount |
|-----------------|----------|
| Miller Neff | \$166.20 |
| Brown Mavrovich | \$146.00 |
| Pusatere Stasko | \$126.00 |
| Hlas Hlas | \$96.00 |
| Newman Robb | \$96.00 |

| Singles | Amount |
|------------------------|----------|
| Newman Jessica | \$108.50 |
| Winterhalter Mary Beth | \$98.50 |
| Robb Bonnie | \$88.50 |
| Salvino Tracey | \$78.50 |
| Sadler Shannon | \$68.50 |
| Tiano Lynn | \$58.50 |
| Kuma Charlotte | \$48.50 |
| Sunega Sue | \$38.50 |
| Mavrovich Mary | \$28.50 |

| Seniors | Amount |
|----------------|---------|
| Kuma Charlotte | \$30.00 |
| Sunega Sue | \$25.00 |
| Forma Anne | \$20.00 |

| All Events | Amount |
|----------------|---------|
| Mavrovich Mary | \$47.00 |
| Newman Jessica | \$21.00 |
| Salvino Tracey | \$18.00 |



2007 International Golf Tournament

This year's golf tournament will be held Saturday and Sunday, July 21 - 22, at Thunderbird Hills Golf Course near Sandusky, OH. Since we are so close to Cedar Point, we are encouraging families to spend the weekend with us.



On Friday, July 20, we will spend the day at either Cedar Point or Soak City. A group rate discount for Cedar Point or Soak City tickets is available. Cedar Point tickets can be used any other day in the 2007 season, with an applied surcharge at the gate. Soak City tickets are only good on July 20.

On Saturday, July 21, we're planning to take a trip to Swings 'N Things, where they have paintball, laser tag, mini golf, bumper boats, and more. Lunch will be served at Swings 'N Things. Saturday night, everyone will get together for a good old-fashioned country hoe-down. We'll have a BBQ dinner and country entertainment which will include a program of popular country songs and dances. There will also be lots of audience participation in line dances and square dances.

Package Prices for 2 days of fun are based on height:

| | Under 48" Tall* | Over 48" Tall |
|----------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Cedar Point | \$51 | \$75 |
| Soak City | \$51 | \$62 |
| Ride & Slide** | \$69 | \$109 |

* Children 2 and under are free

**Special 2 Parks 2 Days Pass

Package includes: Admission to either Cedar Point, Soak City, or Ride & Slide Pass, Swings n Things Trip, and Country Hoe-Down

Make checks payable to FCSU Activities and mail check with list of participants by July 7 to:

Susan Ondrejco
234 Ilion St.
Pittsburgh, PA 15207

2007 Regional Picnics



Watch for notices of the Regional Picnics in your area this summer. Requirements for reimbursement of your regional picnic are posted at www.fcsu.com. Your Regional Director also has the guidelines for reimbursement. If your picnic qualifies, your district could be entitled to \$5 per member in attendance.



My point of view ~ “Town and Gown” in Trnava

Stanislav J. Kirschbaum

The camera that I own is not a digital one and for this reason I could not send with my last article on cultural vandalism in beautiful and historic Trnava the attached photo, which I took soon after my arrival at the beginning of May. Taken from the top of the main building of the University of Trnava, it gives one a good perspective on what was the common (grassy area), now the space for the new hotel. (Isn't it nice that the tree was spared? ...) Notice the buildings just beyond the hole and the one on the left, currently the Faculty of Health and Social Work; these are the historic buildings. Only the one on the left has been restored. The other ones are not in a state of disrepair, but they could use some renovation; one is a gymnasium and the remaining ones belong to the diocese of Bratislava-Trnava. Absent in the picture but in the general area is another building, once used as an orphanage, which is in total disrepair and empty. It too belongs to the historic buildings of the old university. When one considers the condition and status of these buildings, one has to wonder about the relationship between town and gown in Trnava.

There are many instances of a good relationship between town and gown in North America and Europe – that is to say in towns whose main “industry” is a university: Antigonish, NS in Canada, with St. Francis Xavier University and Chapel Hill, NC in the USA with the University of North Carolina, Marburg in Germany, Tartu in Estonia, and Oxford and Cambridge in the United Kingdom come to mind. There is also the case of Kingston, Ont., which is special by virtue of the fact that one speaks there of “town, crown, and gown” – the crown being the Royal Military College, Canadian Forces Base Kingston, and the federal penitentiaries; the gown is Queen's University. An interesting, perhaps unique, Canadian feature?

Trnava's status and reputation as an important town in the Kingdom of Hungary and also in Central Europe developed from the fact that it became the seat of the Archbishopric of Ostrihom in 1534 after the Ottoman Turks occupied most of Hungary as a result of their victory at Mohács in 1526. A century later, as I pointed out in my earlier piece, it became the seat of one of Central



Trnava University.

Europe's outstanding universities, created by Peter Cardinal Pazmán in 1635, Universitas tyrnaviensis (the University of Trnava). This prelate of Hungarian origin, a convert from Calvinism, was very sensitive to the needs of Trnava's Slovak inhabitants, as Professor Jozef Šimoncic, one of Slovakia's outstanding historians and the foremost specialist on Trnava and its university, pointed out in a recent publication. When put in modern terms, this means that there was a good symbiotic relationship between town and gown, a relationship that lasted until 1777, when Empress Maria Theresa took that “terrible decision” to move the university to Buda. The link between town and gown was broken, not to be restored, at least in theory, until the last decade of the twentieth century, when the university was re-created in 1992.

In fact, it would not be incorrect to say that the link was never restored. There is no evidence of any attempt by the officials of Trnava after 1777 to consider this extraordinary historical legacy as something to renew, something to help define and celebrate Trnava's (and also Slovakia's) rich cultural and academic patrimony. In fact, the renewed university possesses only one

historic building and its main edifice is an unattractive construction from the Communist period. The university also possesses other buildings outside the historic town. The main point, however, is that since the sixteenth century, the university has had a well defined campus, something quite unusual in Central Europe. Rather than recognize this and focus

on it to enhance Trnava's historical legacy, the town fathers, especially since 1918, have completely ignored the university. Put in other terms, Trnava never renewed the town and gown symbiosis that Peter Cardinal Pazmán created. To add absurdity to injury, the Slovak government created a second university in Trnava in 1998!

I experienced personally the consequences of the cultural vandalism perpetrated on the university and the city that is the hotel on one of the warmest days during my teaching in May; all windows were open and I had to compete during my lecture with the incredible noise of the jackhammers and other modern equipment across the street. Even now, as the university holds various convocations in the building of the Faculty of Health and Social Work, so delightful with their Latin invocations and the singing of the Medieval student song “Gaudeamus igitur,” the decibel level of modern construction easily drowns the ceremonies in the aula (the university's convocation hall).

Is this the new town and gown symbiosis in Trnava, is this how modern Slovakia deals with its patrimony? This act of cultural vandalism is something about which all Slovaks, at home and abroad, should be very unhappy and particularly sad. To the leaders and citizens of Trnava I repeat: “Nehanbite sa?”



National Chaplain

continued from page 1

Father Nasta is the son of Donald and Charlotte Nasta. He attended Buchanan Elementary School in Levittown and St. Michael the Archangel High School, also in Levittown, and Holy Ghost Preparatory School in Bensalem. He completed his theological studies at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in Philadelphia. He was ordained to the priesthood on May 15, 1992.

Following ordination, Father Nasta was assigned as Assistant Pastor to St. Thomas Aquinas Parish in Croyden. Following that assignment, he served as Parochial Vicar at St. Bridget's in Philadelphia, St. Francis Assisi in Norristown, Our Lady Help of Christian in Abington, and St. Gabriel's in Norwood. After these assignments, he was named pastor of St. Irenaeus in Philadelphia and is now serving as pastor of the Church of St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother in Stowe near Pottstown.

Father Nasta and his entire family have been very active in the life of the First Catholic Slovak Union for many years. Currently, two of his brothers are also serving as national officers, Damian Nasta as Regional Director, and Edward Nasta as a Member of the Supreme Court. Father Nasta was first elected as National Chaplain at the 47th Convention in Orlando, Florida in 2002, and was reelected at the 48th Convention in 2006 in Boca Raton, Florida.

We all congratulate Father Nasta on his anniversary of ordination and wish him many more years in the service of the Church and the First Catholic Slovak Union.

Coming Events

JULY

15 – The Frank T. Holly Jr. District's Semiannual Meeting at 1:00 p.m. at St. Mary's Church Hall, North Mt. Vernon Avenue, Uniontown, Pennsylvania.

SEPTEMBER

9 – The Rev. Stephen Furdek District's Annual Meeting at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, D.C. Mass at 11:00 a.m. in the Crypt Church followed by lunch and the meeting in the Basilica Executive Conference Center.



Annual Midwest Slovak Pastoral Seminar Set for September 30

The Slovak Catholic Federation will host its annual Midwest Slovak Pastoral Seminar on Sunday, September 30, 2007, at the Annunciation Byzantine Catholic Church, 14610 Will Cook Road, Homer Glen, Illinois.

Father Thomas Loya will be the presenter at this year's seminar. He will give a detailed explanation of the icons that he has painted in Annunciation Church. A Divine Liturgy will be celebrated at 1:00 p.m. followed by a delicious lunch.

The offering for this event (pre-registration) is \$15.00 per person and \$20.00 at the door. For pre-paid registration contact John Jurcenko at 773/763-0810 no later than September 5, 2007. For more information call Geraldine Hletko at 708/387-7812.



At the reception FCSU Executive Secretary Kenneth Arendt presented Father Nasta with a proclamation from the society marking his anniversary. L-R are Edward Nasta, a member of the FCSU Supreme Court; Executive Secretary Kenneth Arendt, Editor Anthony Sutherland, Regional Director Damian Nasta, Father Nasta, Geraldine Hricik, National President Emeritus Thomas Hricik, Lillian Minarovich and Regional Director Joseph Minarovich

BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Branch 3— MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

The SS. Cyril and Methodius Society, Branch 3, will hold its Annual Picnic on Sunday, July 22, 2007, from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. at Kordiak Park, 49th Avenue, northeast of Central Avenue N.E., Columbia Heights, Minnesota. A luncheon will be served at no charge. There will also be games and races along with treats for the children. Come and enjoy an afternoon of socializing and fellowship.

Joseph Matlon, Publicity Chairman

Branch 75— SHAMOKIN, PENNSYLVANIA

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Society, Branch 75, will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Sunday, July 15, 2007, at 10:30 a.m. at the residence of the president and financial secretary, Ronald M. Anderson, 8 South Shamokin Street, Shamokin, Pennsylvania. On the agenda will be a discussion of mid-year business topics. All members are requested to attend this semiannual meeting.

Ronald M. Anderson, President & Financial Secretary

Branch 90— OLYPHANT, PENNSYLVANIA

The Holy Trinity Society, Branch 90, will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Sunday, July 1, 2007, at 2:00 p.m. at the residence of Michael P. Glinsky, 129 Grant Street, Olyphant, Pennsylvania.

Barbara Sochovka, Financial Secretary

Branch 181— UNITED, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 181, will hold its Annual Family Picnic on Saturday, June 30, 2007, from 1:00 to 6:00 p.m. at Pavilion #14, located at the lower level ball diamond across from the dam at Mammoth Park, Mammoth, Pennsylvania.

As in past years, there will be good food, prizes and games. Each member is asked to bring a covered dish with some extra to share with others. All guests of members are also asked to bring a covered dish. The halusky, halupky, rigatoni, chicken, kolbasy, wieners, sauerkraut, and drinks will be provided by Branch 181. There will be chances to win some very nice door prizes. There will also be games and gifts for the children. Lots of fun for all! Come and enjoy an afternoon of friendship, fellowship and fraternalism.

To give the officers an idea of how much food to prepare, please call Clarence Pfeifer at 724/423-2983, Ed Mizikar at 724/423-2616, or Gerry Kovacina at 724/423-4278, if you plan to attend. If there is no answer, please leave a message.

Gerry Kovacina, Recording Secretary

Branch 240— TAYLOR, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 240P, will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Sunday, July 8, 2007, at 2:00 p.m. at the home of Stephen J. Kavulich, 41 Hedge Row Run, Clarks Summit, Pennsylvania. All members are welcome to attend.

Stephen J. Kavulich, President

Branch 290— RARITAN, NEW JERSEY

The St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 290, will hold a meeting on Thursday, June 28, 2007, at 6:30 p.m. We will be discussing our plans for 2008 and also reports on the

school awards. Please try to attend. Call Joe at 732/469-5256 after 6:30 p.m. for location of the meeting.

Joseph Minarovich, President

Branch 320— STOCKDALE, PENNSYLVANIA

The officers of the SS. Peter and Paul Society, Branch 320, invites the members to attend the next meeting on Sunday, July 1, 2007, at 12:00 noon at the residence of Frances Tarquinio, 209 Sylvan Drive, Belle Vernon, Pennsylvania. Since lunch will be served, please call Fran at 724/929-9788 and let her know if you will be attending.

Mary Anne Higginbotham, President

Branch 581— GARY, INDIANA

The St. Michael the Archangel Society, Branch 581, will hold its next meeting on Sunday, July 8, 2007, at 1:00 p.m. at the Pruzin Funeral Home, 6360 Broadway, Merrillville, Indiana. On the agenda will be a discussion of an outing to the Railcats Ballgame at USS Steel Yard in Gary, Indiana.

Our branch will pay the premium (\$14.00) for a children's JEP \$10,000 Policy for the first year. This is a special offer from our branch. Members are also reminded that our Park 2 Annuity is now paying 4.75 percent. Our Flex Annuity is paying 5 percent with a 2 percent Annuity Bonus, while other insurance companies pay only 3 percent. For more information call 219/926-2410.

George Kelchak, Financial Secretary

Branch 628— MUNHALL, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Michael the Archangel Society, Branch 628, will hold a meeting on Monday, July 2, 2007, at 7:00 p.m. at 821 Laura Avenue, West Mifflin, Pennsylvania. On the agenda will be a summary of the merging of Branch 628 and Branch 311. The election of new officers for the new combined branch will be held. There will also be a discussion of future plans and events.

Sylvia J. Vehec, Recording Secretary

Branch 735— PORTLAND, OREGON

The St. Michael the Archangel Society, Branch 735, will hold its Annual Picnic on Sunday, July 29, 2007, from 12:00 noon until dusk at Picnic Area Number 11 at the Oaks Park Amusement Park in the Sellwood area of Portland.

We invite members, guests and visitors who are of Slovak descent to meet for good food and fellowship. Bring your favorite picnic basket and friends for an enjoyable afternoon. Food and beverages are available at a nominal cost. Amusement ride bracelets and tickets can be purchased from President Herb Hirst.

Meetings are held in April and December at St. Patrick's Church Hall, N.W. 19th and Savior Streets in Northwest Portland.

John Kovach, Recording Secretary

Branch 853— ELLSWORTH, PENNSYLVANIA

The Holy Name of Jesus Society, Branch 853, will hold its next meeting on Thursday, July 5, 2007, at 10:00 a.m. at McDonalds Restaurant, McKean Avenue, Charleroi, Pennsylvania. Branch members are encouraged to attend.

Monica Rodacy-Boone, President



American tourists outside the offices of U.S. Steel in Kosice.

Consular Tour a Huge Success

The Slovak Honorary Consul Joseph Senko and his wife, Albina, just concluded their 8th annual tour of Slovakia and its neighbors. A group of 60 tourists from Pittsburgh visited Bratislava, Vienna, Tatras, Presov, Kosice and Prague for eleven days. Some of the highlights of the tour included meetings with the U.S. Deputy Ambassador, Mayor of Presov and Mayor of Kosice; mock weddings in Krakovany and in Zdiar; rafting on the Dunajec; a cruise on the Moldau; a tour of the U.S. Steel plant; and daily live musical entertainment.

Mr. Senko is already planning his 9th annual tour of Slovakia for August 2008. He can be contacted at 412/531-2990.

DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

FRANK T. HOLLY JR. DISTRICT— Uniontown, Pennsylvania

The Frank T. Holly Jr. District will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Sunday, July 15, 2007, at 1:00 p.m. at St. Mary's Church Hall, North Mt. Vernon Avenue, Uniontown, Pennsylvania. On the agenda will be a discussion of district and branch activities. All members are invited to attend.

Barbara A. Holly, Secretary

REV. STEPHEN FURDEK DISTRICT— Eastern Pennsylvania, Maryland and Washington, D.C.

The Rev. Stephen Furdek District will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, September 9, 2007, in Washington, D.C. Mass will be celebrated at 11:00 a.m. in the Crypt Church in the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. The lunch and meeting will take place after the liturgy in the Basilica Executive Conference Center. More information will be announced later.

Helen Fiala, Recording Secretary

PRINCE RASTISLAV DISTRICT—Montreal, Quebec

The Prince Rastislav District will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Sunday, July 15, 2007, at 12:00 noon at SS. Cyril and Methodius Parish Hall, Montreal, Quebec. Members are urged to attend.

Anthony S. Makovsky, President

"PARK 2 ANNUITY" – NOW PAYING 4.75%

Under the "Park 2 Annuity", you make a one-time deposit of at least \$1,000.00 into an annuity fund that accumulates interest at a guaranteed rate for two years. Additional deposits are not allowed.

Features of the "Park 2 Annuity" include:

- The FCSU guarantees your initial interest rate for two years. After two years, your funds will continue to accumulate interest at no less than 3.0%.
- The "Park 2 Annuity" can be converted to any of the FCSU Annuity Plans at any time.
- The "Park 2 Annuity" is not applicable to any settlement option or interest option.
- Withdrawal Privileges-Funds withdrawn during the first two years are subject to an FCSU Early Withdrawal Charge. The charge is 6% the first year and 5% the second year. You may, however, withdraw up to 10% of your 'beginning of the year balance' with no FCSU Early Withdrawal Charge.
- Even though you may not incur an FCSU Early Withdrawal Charge, withdrawals before age 59 ½ may be subject to a federal tax penalty.
- Tax on the interest earned is deferred until the annuity funds are drawn.
- The minimum deposit is \$1,000.00.

Please contact your Branch Officer or the Home Office for applications.

2007 Golf Tournament Info Sheet

Friday, July 20

- ◆ Family Day at Cedar Point or Soak City
 - Golfer's Admission Prices to Amusement Parks:
 - Cedar Point - \$26
 - Soak City - \$13
 - Ride & Slide - \$60
- ◆ Hospitality Room, Holiday Inn, Sandusky. 7 PM - 11 PM

Saturday, July 21

- ◆ Registration begins at 7am. Shotgun start at 8am, Thunderbird Hills Golf Course - SOUTH course
- ◆ Mass begins at 5:30pm at the Holiday Inn, Sandusky.
- ◆ Banquet begins at 6pm at the Holiday Inn, Sandusky.

Sunday, July 22

- ◆ Shotgun start at 8am, Thunderbird Hills Golf Course - NORTH course
- ◆ Awards Barbeque to begin at conclusion of tournament

Hotel Information

Prices have been negotiated at the following hotel:
 Holiday Inn, Sandusky
 5513 Milan Rd. - Sandusky, OH 44870
 (419) 626 - 6671
 Rate: \$119/night +tax
**** Cut off date June 20, 2007, for Group Rate****

Other area hotels:

Plantation Motel (877) 677 - 2770
 Comfort Inn (419) 433 - 5359
 River's Edge Inn (800) 947 - 3400

Directions to Holiday Inn

CLEVELAND

Route 2 west. Stay on Route 2 to the Route 250 exit. Turn right onto Route 250. Holiday Inn is on the left side of Route 250.

Ohio Turnpike west to exit 7 (Norwalk/Sandusky), proceed north on Route 250. Holiday Inn is located on the left side of Route 250, just past the Route 2 intersection.

COLUMBUS

I-71 to route 13 north, which will join Route 250. Stay on Route 250 to Sandusky. Holiday Inn is located on the left side of Route 250, just past the Route 2 intersection.

DETROIT

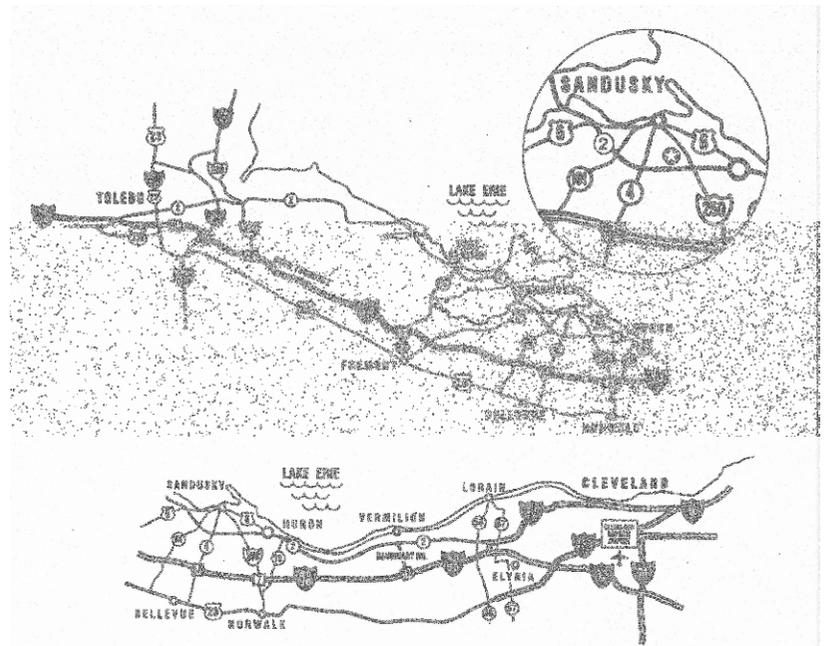
I-75 south to Route 280. Get off Route 280 at exit 7/118. Take Route 2 east approximately 90 miles to the Route 250 exit. Turn left onto Route 250. Holiday Inn is located on the left side of the road just past the Route 2 intersection.

TOLEDO

Ohio Turnpike to exit 7, route 250 north. Holiday Inn is located on the left side of Route 250 approximately six miles from the turnpike.

DAYTON / CINCINNATI

I-75 north to Findlay. Take 12 north past Fremont, to Route 2 east. Follow Route 2 east to Route 250 exit. Turn left onto Route 250. Holiday Inn is located on the left side of the road just past the Route 2 intersection.



2007 Jednota Handicap Golf Tournament

July 21 and 22, 2007

Thunderbird Hills Golf Club, North and South Courses

Huron, OH



Registration Forms postmarked after July 12, 2007 will NOT be accepted.

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Email** _____ Phone Number _____
 Branch Number _____ Certificate Number _____

If over age 65, would you like to be placed in the over 65 class? (Check one)

Yes No N/A

Note: Those who have not participated in 2 tournaments in the last 10 years will be placed in the Callaway Division.

Name of preferred riding partner: _____

Fees: South Course Greens Fees (played Saturday): \$39
 North Course Greens Fees (played Sunday): \$39
 Tournament Expenses: \$10
 Prize Fund: \$12
TOTAL DUE: \$100

Please make checks payable to 'FCSU Activities' and mail this registration form with check to:

Susan Ondrejco
 234 Ilion St.
 Pittsburgh, PA 15207

**Those who provide email addresses will be notified of schedule via email.
 ***Golfers must be members in good standing of the FCSU
 **Any Golfer who acts in an un-sportsmanlike manner will be disqualified from the tournament.

2007 Jednota Golf Tournament SOCIAL EVENTS

Saturday Evening Dinner and Sunday Awards Barbeque

Join us for a Country Hoe-Down Saturday evening,
 and for an awards ceremony Sunday afternoon.

Saturday Night (at Holiday Inn, Sandusky):

We invite you to 2-step back in time to a good ole country hoe-down. So don't just sit there like a bump on a log, come join us in a little southern hospitality. And ya'll can't pass up the lively entertainment of those square dancers. They'll get ya off your bum a-right! Meal includes fresh salad greens, BBQ chicken, hamburgers, twice baked mashed potatoes, corn on the cob, coleslaw, watermelon, and dessert. Cash bar, 6pm - 10 pm.

Cost: GOLFERS \$15
 GUESTS \$30

Sunday Afternoon (held at Thunderbird Hills Pavilion):

Meal includes 12 oz. sirloin steak, potatoes, green beans, corn, salad, soda.

Cost: GOLFERS & GUESTS \$15

Make checks payable to FCSU ACTIVITIES and return form with

payment by July 12 to:

Susan Ondrejco

234 Ilion St.

Pittsburgh, PA 15207

Name _____

Check all that apply:

Golfer Saturday Only Guest Saturday Only
 Golfer Sunday Only Guest Sunday Only

Amt Enclosed _____

YOUTH

ROUND-UP



John Munoz, a member of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Society, Branch 493 in Chicago, Illinois, celebrated his 12th birthday on May 5, 2007. His birthday present was a Dell Computer. John lives in the Hegwisch neighborhood on Chicago's Southeast Side, and attends 6th grade at Henry Clay School. He is a past winner of the FCSU Christmas Coloring Contest and District 2's Easter Coloring Contest. His siblings Ben, Megan, Trisha, and Crystal are also members of Branch 493. His godfather Robert Tapak Magruder serves as Rev. Spitzkovsky District II Recording Secretary.



Rev. Edward E. Mehok Celebrates 50 Years as a Priest

Reverend Edward E. Mehok, a priest of the Diocese of Cleveland and a member of Branch 553 in Akron, Ohio, celebrated the 50th anniversary of his priestly ordination recently.

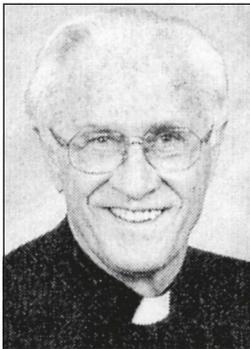
Father Mehok received his elementary education at St. John the Baptist School in Akron. He continued his Catholic education at St. Vincent High School in Akron. He studied for the priesthood at St. Gregory College Seminary in Cincinnati and St. Mary's Seminary in Cleveland. He was ordained a priest in 1957.

Following ordination, he continued his education receiving a Master's degree in English from the Catholic University in Washington, D.C. and a Ph.D. at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland.

From 1961 to 1987, Father Mehok was a professor teaching and working with seminarians at Borromeo College of Ohio. Father Mehok has served in various parishes in the Cleveland Diocese. He served as Assistant Pastor at St. Catherine's Church in Cleveland, was involved in Team Ministry at St. Felicitas in Euclid, and taught scripture courses at various parishes in the diocese. He also served as Dean of Students and Vice President of Borromeo Seminary. He was active in many national organizations including the National Catholic Educators of America. Presently, he is Professor Emeritus and Chaplain at Notre Dame College of Ohio while continuing to handle liturgies at St. Felicitas Parish.

The officers and members of St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 553, are extremely proud to have Father Ed Mehok as a Life Member of our society. "Dakujeme a chvalabohu za vasu 50 rocnu sluzbu a zelame vam vsetko dobre."

Stephen E. Petrsek, President Emeritus



Rev. Edward E. Mehok

A Slovak boy's growing-up days in the Buckeye neighborhood

By Frank M. Stipkala

It was December 1942. The evening sky was tar black as the eerie wailing from a Civil Defense siren punctuated our Lamontier Avenue neighborhood. My parents had gathered my brother, sister and me around a single candle in our living room with the shades drawn.

Then we heard someone pounding on our front window and a booming voice exclaimed: "Hey you inside, put out that candle. You wanna give the enemy (bombers) a target to hit?" The voice: a Civil Defense air raid warden. Such was life in Cleveland, Ohio during World War II.

When we weren't involved with air raid drills, in our own ways we did what we could to aid the war effort: collecting tin cans, rubber, papers, silver foil, copper, steel and aluminum.

At St. Benedict School, we regularly held war bond drives. Our Notre Dame nuns, with hawk-like tendencies, encouraged us to bring in our nickels and dimes to speed up the war against the Japs, Germans and Italians. We were fortunate to have a class member whose dad was well to do. Each month he gave his son \$18.75 to purchase a \$25.00 war bond, which put our class in first place nearly every month.

I self appointed myself as a junior air raid warden and spent countless hours studying the configurations of all planes in the Nazi and Jap Air Forces. I also trained my ears to recognize the sounds of the various planes flying overhead: B-17, B-24, B-25, B-26, P38, P-39, P-40, P-47, P-51, C-46 and C-47. No enemy plane would ever fly undetected over Lamontier Avenue. Had one every flown over my house, I would have reported my sighting to Civil Defense.

Even though it's been 60 years since the war ended, the sounds of those vintage plane engines are still in my memory bank. For example, an air show was held last summer at the nearby airport and when the planes flew overhead, I still remembered the distinctive sounds of the Flying Fortress and Liberator's engines.

My biggest thrill occurred while caddying at Shaker Country Club one Sunday afternoon in early 1945. A large bomber, with an engine sound I hadn't heard before, passed overhead. It was a B-29, the plane that would speed up the surrender of the Japs by dropping the atomic bomb on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Talk about scares, one day in 1943, two P-39 Bell Aerocobras flew by our house, but minus the traditional Air Force insignia. Rather, they had what looked like red circles on their wings and fuselages. Are we being invaded I thought? The morning paper provided the answer. They were planes purchased by our ally, Soviet Russia, the ones used in their battles with Germany. My worries were over! So much for the war effort.

My dad had a green thumb and decided to plant four grape seedlings in our back yard, so as to make wine. A couple summers later, we had the best-tasting purple and red grapes. Now it was time for making wine. My dad assigned me to the job of plucking buckets of grapes and placing them in large barrels. Next was the fun part which involved going barefooted and stomping on the grapes so that the juice was separated from the skins and seeds, which were then discarded. Dad poured the juice into 30 quart bottles, capped them and, voila, in a month's time, we were enjoying (my parents that is), the best wine that an amateur could brew.

Since I did such a good job stomping on the grapes, my dad commissioned me to do the same on the cabbages he shredded to make kapusta (sauerkraut). I must say, that was the tastiest kapusta I've ever eaten and I'll have to take some credit for its excellence, thanks to my skilled foot-stomping.

My dad's other specialty was making old-fashioned root beer. He made about 35 bottles and to this day, I've never found a brand that tastes as good as my dad's root beer.

For entertainment, we looked forward to going to weekend movies. We had four theaters in our neighborhood, the Regent, Moreland, Colony and Sun. We liked the nickel movies on Saturday afternoons, because we got to see a double-feature, a cartoon, Telenews, previews and a serial which lasted for about 15 weeks: Flash Gordon, Captain Marvel, Superman, Buck Rogers, or the Green Hornet.

The wealthier kids went to the Colony, because they could afford those 15-cent prices to see first-run movies. The Moreland Theater was in a Hungarian neighborhood and often showed Hungarian films. I went there about once a month in an attempt to increase my limited Hungarian vocabulary.

In my early teens, I was a voracious book reader, thanks to Miss Martin who came to our school each year to encourage us to visit Harvey Rice Library, where she was the librarian in the children's book section. So, I visited the library and quickly became a book worm. Every time someone finished reading a book, Miss Martin placed a gold star beside the person's name. I vowed to go one better. I told her I was going to read every book in the children's library. I began checking out so many books that Miss Martin eventually got tired of adding stars beside my name. But read every book I did indeed. My favorite authors were Jack London, Howard Pease and Joseph Altsheler.

Very few people owned a car in our Slovak neighborhood, but a few of my dad's buddies owned Model-T Fords. One Sunday, while we were enjoying my mom's cooking, I glanced out the front window and saw a Model-T Ford sitting on our front lawn. Apparently the owner, who had gone to the 11:00 Mass, had left the emergency brake in the off position when he parked his car next to the church hall, some 150 yards away. With the brake released, the car rolled down a long driveway, crossed over Lamontier Avenue, jumped over a six-inch-high curb and ended up two feet away from our front porch.

When Mass ended, the ashened-faced owner, John Oncak, dashed across the street and apologized profusely to my dad for messing up his beautiful front lawn. It was fortunate that the Model-T did not strike another car or pedestrian as it crept over busy Lamontier Avenue. Had the car begun its journey 20 minutes later, some 300 church goers would have been walking back down the street, and some of them would have been struck by the riderless Model-T. Call it a miracle!!!!

continued on page 15

FROM THE DESK OF THE NATIONAL SECRETARY: FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION ANNUITY INTEREST RATE INCREASES THROUGH JUNE 30, 2007

Effective April 1, 2007, the annual yield on existing First Catholic Slovak Union Flexible Premium Deferred Retirement Annuity and Individual Retirement Account (IRA) is 5.00% (4.879% APR).

The annual yield on the Park 2 Annuity 4.75% (4.641% APR).

The annual yield on accounts with the "Cash Interest" Option will be 4.75% (4.641% APR).

Settlement Options will be based on an annual yield of 4.50% (4.402% APR).

If you have any questions about our annuities or IRAs, please contact the Home Office at 1-800-JEDNOTA.

THESE RATES WILL REMAIN EFFECTIVE THROUGH JUNE 30, 2007.

**Kenneth A. Arendt
National Secretary**

2007 Jednota Scholarship Winners

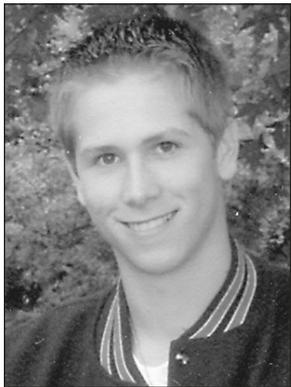
The students pictured on these pages were chosen scholarship recipients by our Scholarship Committee as a result of their SAT scores, cumulative grade point average and class rank. In addition, each applicant was judged on the basis of his/her involvement in extra-curricular and volunteer activities. Emphasis was placed upon pride of being Catholic and Slovak as evidenced throughout the required essays on the application. Finally, financial need and the cost of their chosen colleges were evaluated.

There was a total of 107 applicants for the First Catholic Slovak Union scholarship grants this year. Out of those, 73 were selected by the Committee as the winners and each will receive a one-time grant of \$500.00. Included in these 73 winners are Rachael Begler, Laura Guyer and Lydia Talarico who were selected for the "John A. Sabol Nursing Scholarship Fund". In addition to the above winners, there were two special awards given. David Lingelbach is the recipient of the "Philip Hrobak Scholarship" and Maria Shaffo is the recipient of the "Stephanie Husek Scholarship". These awards are also one-time grants and are in the amount of \$750.00 each. Additionally, each scholarship winner will be issued a \$3,000.00 Single Premium Life Insurance Policy upon proof of graduation from college.

All applicants who did not receive a scholarship will be given a one-time \$50.00 U.S. Savings Bond in appreciation of their efforts.

Kenneth A. Arendt
Executive Secretary

Philip Hrobak Award



DAVID J. LINGELBACH
Parents: David and Johna Lingelbach, Branch 164K, New Kensington, PA, Pennsylvania State Univ, Major: Information Science and Technology

Stephanie Husek Award



MARIA E. SHAFFO
Parents: Joseph and Diane Shaffo, Branch 213 K, Pittsburgh, PA, St. Vincent, Major: Secondary Education



EMILY L. BIALAS
Parents: John and Suzanne Bialas, Branch 831 K, Tarentum, PA, University of Pittsburgh, Major: Health Sciences



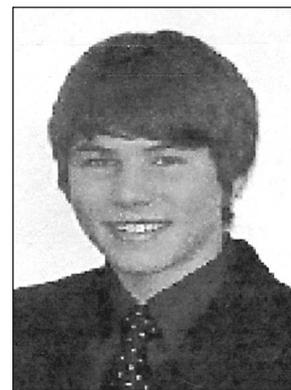
DANIELLE BRUNOZZI
Parents: Daniel and Janet Brunozzi, Branch 181 K, United, PA, Gannon University, Major: Physical Therapy



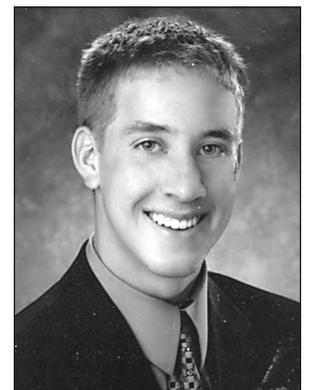
ALLISON BUTASH
Parents: John and Donna Butash, Branch 10 K- Olyphant, PA, Marywood University, Major: Elementary Education



NICOLE E. CALABRO
Parents: Dion and Teresa Calabro, Branch 382 K, Scranton, PA, The University of Scranton, Major: Biology/Pre-Med



NATHAN C. CHISMAR
Parents: Edward and Carol Chismar, Branch 006 K, Streator, IL, Undecided Major: Undecided



ANDREW G. COLLINS
Parents: Patrick and Susan Collins, Branch 002 K, Pittsburgh, PA, University of Pittsburgh, Major: Mechanical Engineering

John A. Sabol Nursing Awards – 3



RACHAEL L. BEGLER
Parents: David and Kathleen Begler, Branch 35 K, Pittsburgh, PA, Duquesne University, Major: Nursing



LAURA A. GUYER
Parents: David and Joann Guyer, Branch 731 K, Youngstown, OH, Youngstown State University, Major: Nursing



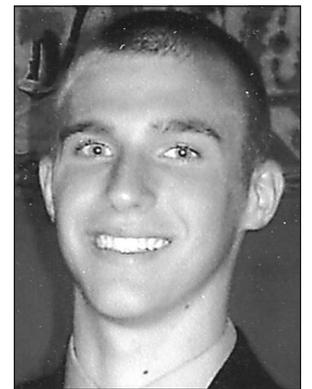
LYDIA M. TALARICO
Parents: Florine Treon, Branch 175 K ~ Reading, PA, The Pennsylvania State University, Major: Science and Humanities



ANDREA M. COUTU
Parents: Louis and Andrea Coutu, Branch 493 K, Chicago, IL, The Benedictine University, Major: Political Science/Pre-Law



VICTORIA M. DANIELCZUK
Parents: Stanley and Kathleen Danielczuk, Branch: 019 K, Bridgeport, CT, Waynesburg College, Major: Forensic Science



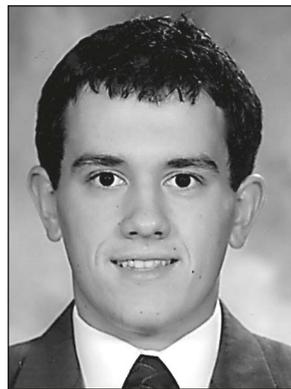
TYLER F. DILLINGER
Parents: George Dillinger and the late Jodie Dillinger, Branch: 38 K, Duquesne, PA, University of Pittsburgh, Major: Education



BRITTANY M. AUGUSTYN
Parents: Dale and Mary Alice Augustin, Branch 855 K, Perrysburg, OH, Miami University, Major: Speech Pathology/Audiology



KIMBERLY A. M. AUGUSTYN
Parents: Dale and Mary Alice Augustin, Branch 855 K, Perrysburg, OH, University of Toledo, Major: Pre-Pharmacy



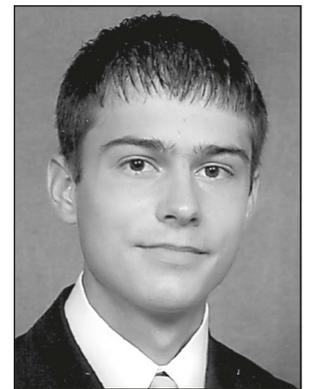
JASON W. BANISH
Parents: Jay and Donna Banish, Branch 380 K, Canonsburg, PA, University of Michigan, Major: Biology/Pre-Medicine



CAITLIN T. DORBISH
Parents: Joseph and Barbara Dorbish, Branch 731 K, Youngstown, OH, Youngstown University, Major: Special Education



TIFFANY DZIAK
Parents: Michael and Terri Dziak, Branch: 228 K, Lorain, OH, Bowling Green State University, Major: Speech Pathology



LUKE A. FETKOVICH
Parents: George and Marilee Fetkovich, Branch 199 K, Hostetter, PA, Pennsylvania State University, Major: Communication Media/Spanish

2007 Jednota Scholarship Winners



CHELSIE N. FRIS

Parents: Richard and Kimberly Fris, Branch 023K, Johnstown, PA, University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown, Major: Pharmacy



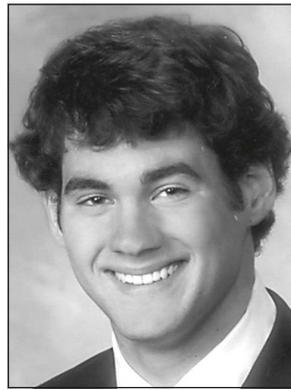
KARISA M. FRYER

Parents: Troy M. Fryer and Jacquelyn M. Formica, Branch 454 K, Clairton, Pennsylvania. Bethany University, Major: Elementary Education



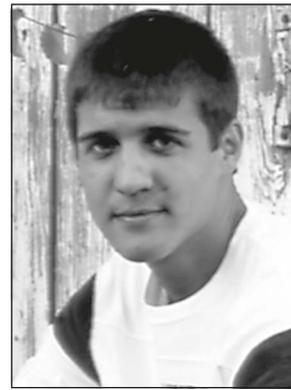
JOHN D. GALLO

Parents: Fred and Faith Gallo, Branch: 682 K, Boardman, OH, Adrian College, Major: Business Administration



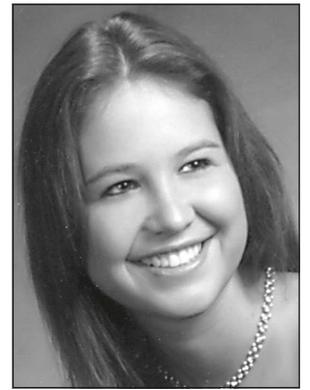
WILL C. GEORGIC

Parents: Greg and Jennifer Georgic, Branch 831K, Tarenton, PA, Case Western University, Major: Pre-Med



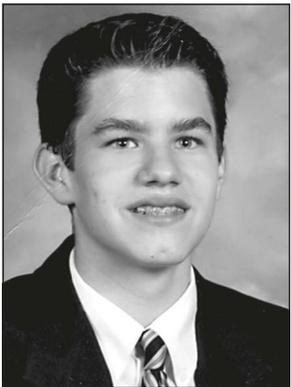
MARK C. GILGER, JR.

Parents: Mark and Paula Gilger, Branch 75 K, Shamokin, PA, Undecided Major: Teaching/History



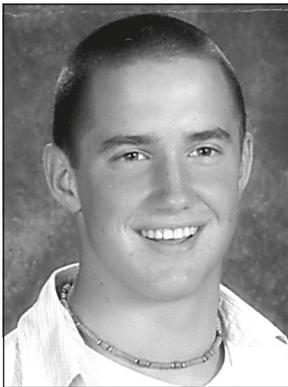
TARYN L. GILGER

Parents: William and JoAnne Gilger, Branch: 75 K, Shamokin, PA, Bloomsburg University, Major: Exercise Science – Cardiac Rehabilitation



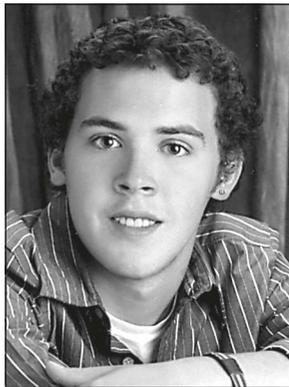
JUSTIN R. HAGEN

Parents: Teresa Jarabek and Thomas Hagen, Branch 810K, Montreal, Quebec, Marionopolis College, Major: Commerce (Honours)



MATTHEW E. HARTSOG

Parents: Kent and Rosanne Hartsog, Branch 670K, Donora, PA, United States Naval Academy, Major: Chemistry



JOSHUA M. HERDMAN

Parents: John and Michelle Herdman; Branch 577 K, Johnstown, PA, West Virginia University, Major: Athletic Trainer



SHANA M. HLAS

Parents: Joseph and Brenda Hlas, Branch 425 K, Barberton, OH, The University of Akron, Major: Radiology



JOHN M. HOLOMAN

Parents: John and Tracy Holoman, Branch 181K, Latrobe, PA, Gannon University, Major: Bachelor of Science Nursing



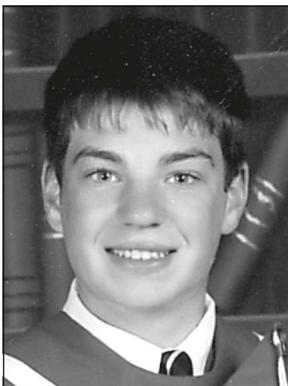
NATALIE A. HRUSKA

Parents: Gary and Elaine Hruska, Branch 233K, Brockport, PA, Westminster College, Major: Forensic Chemistry/Criminal Justice



STEPHEN G. HUDAK

Parents: Edward and Kimberly Hudak, Branch 372 K, Beaverdale, PA, Duquesne University, Major: Biology/Pre-Med



TRAVIS R. HUGHES

Parents: Patrick and Myria Hughes, Branch 857 K, Levittown, PA, DeSales University, Major: Sports and Exercise Sciences



JILL M. JONDA

Parents: George and Joyce Jonda, Branch 731 K, Youngstown, OH, Youngstown State University, Major: Physical Therapy/Exercise Science



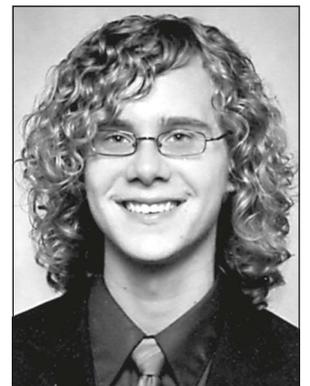
CAITLIN A. KENDERES

Parents: Michael and Patricia Kenderes, Branch 166 K, Binghamton, NY, DeSales University, Major: Nursing



RYAN M. KERILA

Parents: Michael and Renee Kerila, Branch 393 K, Crabtree, PA, Robert Morris University, Major: Business



ALEXANDER G. KIRSCH

Parents: Gregory and Marie Kirsch, Branch: 96 K, Carroltown, PA, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Major: Music Education



NICOLE A. KOZAK

Parents: John and Maryann Kozak, Branch 003P, Hazleton, PA, Temple University, Major: Actuarial Science



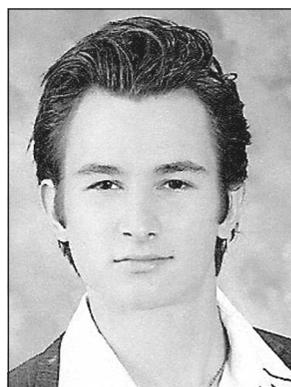
NORA K. KOZIOL

Parents: Daniel and Margaret Koziol, Branch 717 K, Antioch, IL, Saint Louis University, Major: Journalism



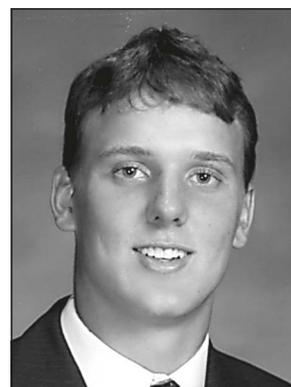
KRISTEN LACKNER

Parents: John and Mary Lackner, Branch 089 K, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Major: Nursing



JAMES MARIA

Parents: Amy Heffner and John Maria, Branch 27 P, Pittston, PA, Kutztown University, Major: Art Education



WILLIAM M. MATTERN

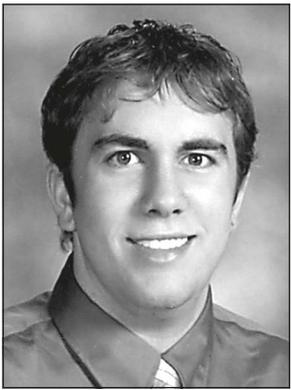
Parents: William and Susan Mattern, Branch 181 K, Latrobe, PA, University of Delaware, Major: Mechanical Engineering



ASHLEY S. MATTIS

Parents: Terri and Brenda Mattis, Branch 484 K, Carol, PA, Pennsylvania State Altoona, Major: Communication Disorders/ Speech Pathology

2007 Jednota Scholarship Winners



SCOTT A. MILLER

Parents: Patrick and Carol Miller, Branch 181 K, United, PA, Saint Vincent College, Major: Finance



KATHERINE A. MINESE

Parents: David and Laura Minese, Branch 19 K, Bridgeport, CT, James Madison University, Major: Biology



ERIN MITCHELL

Parents: Gregory and Christine Mitchell, Branch 484 K, Carol, PA, Pennsylvania State University, Major: Kinesiology



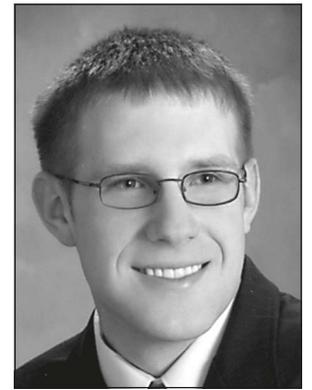
KATHERINE E. MOBERG

Parents: Keith and Mary Beth Moberg, Branch 670 K, Donora, PA, Undecided Major: Political Science



KARA R. MOORE

Parents: Greg and Kathryn Moore, Branch 567 K, Allentown, PA, Millersville University, Major: Education, Mathematics



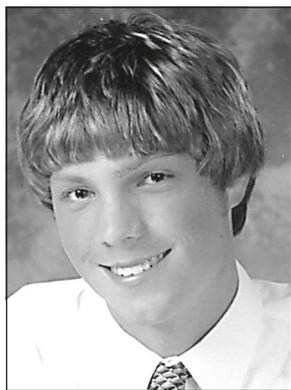
TIMOTHY MURRAY

Parents: Michael and Nancy Murray, Branch: 240 P, Taylor, PA, The University of Maryland, Major: Fire Protection Engineering



ANNA M. ONDREJCO

Parents: Rudolf and Susan Ondrejco, Branch 2 K, Pittsburgh, PA, Duquesne University, Major: Nursing



JERRY P. OURADA

Parents: Jerry and Susan Ourada, Branch 006K, Streator, IL, Bradley University, Major: Music Education



KARIN PANKOVGIN

Parents: Robert and Jane Pankovcin, Branch 716 K, New York, College of Mount Saint Vincent, Major: English



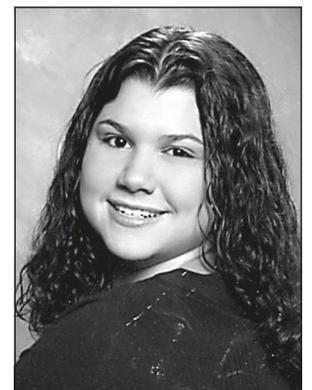
KRISTEN PANKOVGIN

Parents: Robert and Jane Pankovcin, Branch 716 K, New York, College of Mount Saint Vincent, Major: Business



RYAN REED

Parents: David and Julianna Reed, Branch 553 K, Akron, OH, Baldwin Wallace College, Major: Education



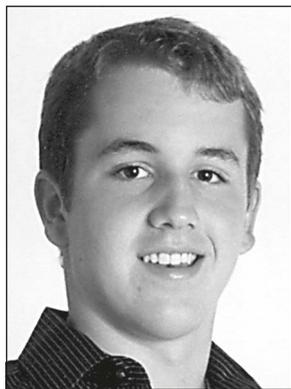
HEATHER M. ROSATO

Parents: Ronald and Joann Rosato, Branch 144P, Hazleton, PA, King's College, Major: Special Education



JESSICA M. SALKIEWICZ

Parents: Patrick and Sharon Salkiewicz, Branch 228 K, Lorain, OH, The University of Toledo, Major: Business Management



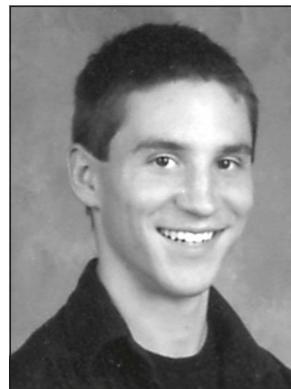
THOMAS L. SCANLON

Parents: Thomas and Lisa Scanlon, Branch 682 K, Youngstown, OH, Walsh University, Major: Biology, Pre-Med



VICTORIA SEMON

Parents: Brian and Debra Semon, Branch: 382 K, Scranton, PA, PennState Worthington Scranton, Major: Undecided



ERIC SHAFFER

Parents: Robert and Margaret Shaffer, Branch 823 K, Youngwood, PA, University of Pittsburgh, Major: Nursing



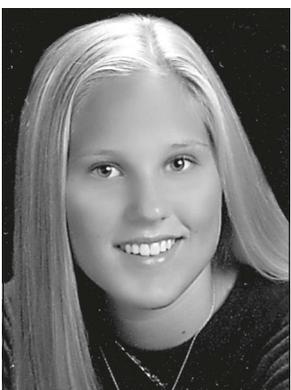
CASEY L. SHERRILL

Parents: Ted and Donna Sherrill, Branch 016P, Wilkes-Barre, PA, Norwich University, Major: Architecture



MONIQUE C. SILVA

Parents: Justin Kmetz and Alicia Silva, Branch: 040 K, Streator, IL, Evergreen Valley College, Major: Nursing



JORDANN A. SMAK

Parents: Joseph and Pamela Smak, Branch 278 K, Middletown, PA, Gettysburg College, Major: Biology/Mathematics



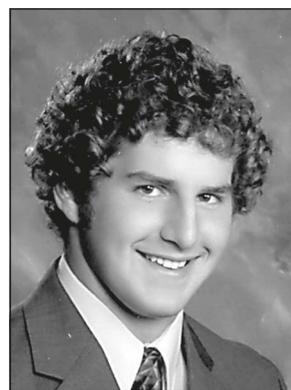
KELSEY L. SOBECKI

Parents: Matt and Kathleen Sobecki, Branch 831 K, Tarentum, PA, Duquesne University, Major: Journalism/Sports Marketing



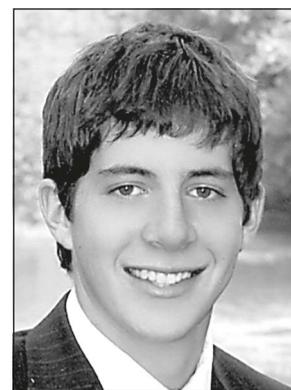
KRISTA M. SOBECKI

Parents: Matt and Kathleen Sobecki, Branch 831 K, Tarentum, PA, Duquesne University, Major: Sociology



LUCAS E. STAS

Parents: Ed and Nancy Stas, Branch 199 K, Hostetter, PA, Pennsylvania State University, Major: Architectural Engineering



CHRISTOPHER J. STEWART

Parents: James and Jeanne Stewart, Branch 200 K, Ford City, PA, Pennsylvania State University, Major: Engineering



CHRISTINA R. SOBONA

Parents: Gerald and Sharon Sobona, Branch 024 K, North Royalton, OH, The Ohio State University, Major: Registered Medical Dietetics

FCSU 2007 Jednota Scholarship Winners



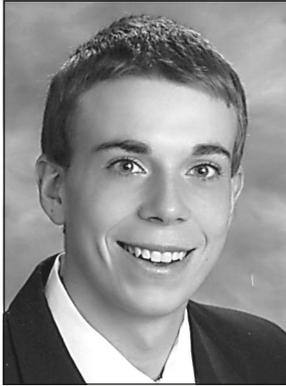
JAMES K. TASSONE

Parents: Vincent and Caroline Tassone, Branch 060 K, McKeesport, PA, Duquesne University, Major: Marketing



VANESSA TOMCHIK

Parents: Jeff Tomchik and Sabbia Varrati, Branch 738 K, Munhall, PA, Northeastern University, Major: Engineering



MICHAEL A. VAVRICA

Parents: Anton and Jane Vavrica, Branch 45 K, New York, NY, Dutchess Community College, Major: Liberal Arts and Engineering



LAURA A. VELAS

Parents: Andrew and Mary Jean Velas, Branch 55 K, Philadelphia, PA, The Pennsylvania State University, Major: English Studies



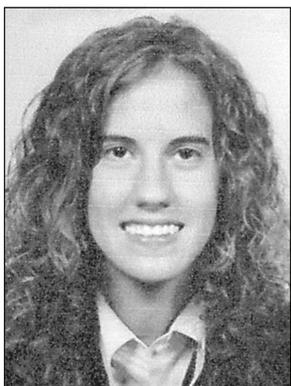
RACHAEL E. ZAJAC

Parents: Raymond and Lynnette Zajac, Branch 454 K, Clairton, PA, Carlow University, Major: Nursing



KATYA E. ZATEK

Parents: Paul and Constance Zatek, Branch 738 K, Pittsburgh, PA, Carlow University, Major: Undecided



MARY E. ZORECHAK

Parents: Gerald and Maria Zorechak, Branch 238 K, Moscow, PA, University of Scranton, Major: Biochemistry and Neuroscience

*Congratulations
and best wishes
to all our
scholarship
winners*



Sisters of SS. Cyril and Methodius to Hold Summer Festival July 14

The Sisters of SS. Cyril and Methodius invite all to their annual Summer Festival on Saturday, July 14, 2007, at Villa Sacred Heart in Danville, Pennsylvania. The day begins at 10:30 a.m. and concludes at 5:30 p.m. with the Sunday Liturgy celebrated in the Basilica of SS. Cyril and Methodius.

A perennial favorite at the festival is the Sisters' Pantry with its assortment of baked goods. There will also be a flea market and games for both children and adults. In addition to the usual picnic fare, there will be holupky dinners and other culinary specialties available beginning at 11:00 a.m.

Once again, the Sisters look forward to seeing you at the festival in Danville on Saturday, July 14.

A Slovak boy's growing-up days

continued from page 11

My dad never owned a car. It wasn't till my brother, Joe, bought a 1942 Olds that our family got around town in style. However when the Korean Conflict began, he was drafted into the U. S. Army, so I inherited the Olds which was the first year for the Hydromatic Drive (no gearshift).

Unfortunately, the Olds had no power when confronting a hill, so to get to the top of Lamontier Avenue's steep hill, I had to push the gas pedal to the floor and hope for the best. One day my golfing buddies and I decided to play golf on a course in Geauga County, which meant I'd have to ride up very steep Mayfield Road in Chesterland. As luck would have it, when my Olds was half way up the hill, it quit on us. What now? My buddy, Bob Yurcisin, said that his dad once told him that "reverse" is the strongest gear on a car. With nothing to lose, all of us except Bob got out of the car in an effort to turn it around, so that it was facing backward. Good thing no police car came upon this unusual scene of three guys turning a car around so that the back end was pointing up the hill.

Bob started the engine and with the three of us directing traffic, he gunned the motor and slowly the Olds crawled the remaining 500 yards to the top of Mayfield Road. We made it!!! Only problem: On the way home, we had to repeat the procedure and drive the car backwards, up Mayfield Road, towards Cleveland. Again, no cops came across our "wrong way Corrigan spectacle!" Boy, were we lucky! St. Christopher must have been watching over us!

The next day I made a vow to get rid of the clunker Olds, and two weeks later I was the proud owner of a 1947 stick-shirt gray Plymouth. Best thing about that car was when I drove up Mayfield Road hill in the future, I could drive it in second gear, going forward, instead of reverse, going backwards.

Now to my caddie days. I started carrying golf bags at age 11 and immediately fell in love with this sport. My venture up the ladder of capitalism had begun. By saving my nickels and dimes, I was able to purchase my first set of golf clubs, made out of hickory wood: a driver, a spoon (3-wood), a mid-iron (5-iron), a niblick (9-iron), a jigger (chipper) and a Bobby Jones putter.

Even though my golfing career spanned 60 years, the closest I came to making a hole-in-one was at age 11, using a spoon on the Par 3, 11th hole at Shaker Heights Country Club. It was early Monday morning, a day when caddies were allowed to play. Dew was on the grass and the sprinklers were going full blast. My drive hit on the soggy green and rolled 20 feet, ending up on the lip of the cup. Had an east wind been blowing, the ball would have fallen into the cup. My guess is that since that day, I've played about 4,800 par 3 holes, most often with steel-shafted clubs, but to this day, my closest encounter with scoring an ace came at age 11 using a hickory-shafted spoon.

to be continued



From the Desk of the Executive Secretary: OHIO FRATERNAL CONGRESS COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP

The Ohio Fraternal Congress is pleased to announce that the Congress will award two (2) scholarships to college-bound high school seniors who are graduating in 2007.

Applicants must be an Ohio resident and a member of a Fraternal Society belonging to the Ohio Fraternal Congress and have been accepted to an accredited school for the 2007 school year.

Contact the Home Office for the application forms which must be submitted before July 15, 2007. The instructions are on the application.

If you have any questions, please contact the Home Office at (800) 533-6682.

FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY PENNSYLVANIA FRATERNAL CONGRESS 2007 SCHOLARSHIP

Pennsylvania Fraternal Congress Scholarship Program is again offering at least one (1) \$500 scholarship to a deserving young student from a member society. Additional scholarships may be awarded depending upon available funds.

The following are the rules and requirements:

Applicants must:

- Be a resident of Pennsylvania and a member of a Fraternal Benefit Society that is a member of the Pennsylvania Fraternal Congress.
- Be a 2007 high school graduate attending an accredited college, university, trade school, etc. in the summer/fall of 2007 as a full time student (twelve semester credits). Proof of attendance must be submitted with application.
- Obtain a recommendation letter from your Fraternal Benefit Society.
- Submit a 500-word essay on: "How has your life been influenced by your Fraternal Benefit Society and what has the experience taught you?"
- Sign the Statement of Application on the bottom of the application page.
- Return the completed application, proof of acceptance from your university and postmarked no later than September 10, 2007.
- Contact the Home Office for an application by calling, (800) 533-6682.

REMEMBER OUR DEPARTED MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

Susan V. Pavlovcak Branch 199 Hostetter, Pennsylvania

Susan V. (Peipock) Pavlovcak, 91, of Whitney, Pennsylvania, died Saturday, June 2, 2007, at St. Anne Home, Greensburg.

She was born April 4, 1916, in Baggaley, Pennsylvania, a daughter of the late Michael and Anna (Chokota) Peipock. Prior to retirement, she was employed for many years at the former Mission Motor Inn, Latrobe. She was a member of St. Cecilia Catholic Church, Whitney, and Jednota Branch 199.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Paul J. Pavlovcak Sr.; three brothers, Stephen Peipock, Joe Pyrock and Andrew Peipock; and four sisters, Mary Rozinsky, Anne Murphy, Sophie Arnold and Helen Petraglia.

She is survived by her son, Paul J. Pavlovcak Jr. and wife, Rosemary, of Mt. Pleasant Township; three daughters, Dolores R. Pavlovcak of Greensburg, Suzanne V. Pavlovcak of Walnut, California, and Sandra M. Ito and husband, Jason, of Northridge, California; four grandchildren, Jeff Pavlovcak and wife Lisa, and Jason Pavlovcak and wife, Tara, all of Mt. Pleasant, Jared Pavlovcak of Fairfax, Virginia, and Jocelyn Fox and husband, Tim, of Greensburg; four great-grandchildren, Gaige, Ariana, Alena and Conner; a sister, Betty Brosnick of Unity; and several nieces and nephews.

Friends were received at the Gaut-Bacha Funeral Home, Pleasant Unity. Prayers were said at the funeral home followed by a Funeral mass at St. Cecilia Church with the Rev. Aaron N. Buzzelli, O.S.B. as celebrant. Interment was in St. Vincent Cemetery, Unity Township.

Sophie Pipak



"The Backwards" in concert

Slovak Beatles Sell Out

"The Backwards", a Beatles impersonator band from Kosice, Slovakia, made their Pittsburgh debut on Sunday, June 3, 2007, at the Sokol Club located on the South Side of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The concert, sponsored by the Western Pennsylvania Slovak Cultural Association, was enjoyed by a sell-out crowd of over 170 people. Their performance was the best impersonation of the Beatles concert. To support this claim, The Backwards were two-time winners of the International New York Beatlefest in 1998 and again in 2003 defeating 36 other bands for the title.

Rev. Steven K. Brunovsky Installed as Pastor of Akron Church

The Reverend Steven K. Brunovsky was installed as pastor of St. Hilary Parish in Akron, Ohio, on Sunday, May 13, 2007. Among those present was Bishop Richard G. Lennon of Cleveland who concelebrated a Mass during which Father Steven Brunovsky was officially installed as pastor. Participating in the celebration were priests and deacons of the diocese, friends and co-workers of Father Steven, including his brother, Rev. Michael P. Brunovsky, OSB and Deacon ed Telepak from Father Steven's home parish of St. Columbkille in Parma, Ohio. The church was filled to capacity with parishioners and guests from parishes where Father Steven had previously served.

During the installation members of the parish staff, parish council and various church committees walked forward to welcome their new pastor. With hugs and handshakes they expressed their pledge to Father Steven and to the parish that they will continue in their noble role to serve and be of assistance when needed.

During his homily, Bishop Lennon expressed the importance of "changing of the guard" in parishes, the faithfulness and cooperation to those who are willing to serve in God's name, comparing the work of the Church today with the work of the early apostles after the resurrection of Christ through the work of the Holy Spirit. He charged Father Steven to "work for the continued spread of the faith so that St. Hilary Parish might increase in its call for the salvation of souls."

Near the end of his remarks, Bishop Lennon acknowledged Father Steven's father, Paul Brunovsky of Seven Hills, Ohio; his older brother, Father Michael, OSB of St. Andrew Abbey in Cleveland; his twin sister Susan of Chicago, and his youngest brother John of Akron. Father Steven's mother is deceased. Other family members present included his maternal grandmother, Josephine Marusa,

and maternal aunt, Mary Jane Lichter, both of Cleveland. Another maternal aunt, Sister Joanne Marusa, OSF, a member of the Franciscan Sisters of Mary Immaculate in Joliet, Illinois, was also present. Cousin Christopher Lichtler with his wife Melissa added to the beauty of the liturgy by participating with the brass choir for the occasion. They are both music teachers with the Cleveland and Chardon school systems. Cousin Marcus Lichtler and son Devon were also present.

The liturgy and ceremony were very beautiful. Following the liturgy, the parish hosted a punch and cake reception during which Father Steven had the opportunity meet many of the parishioners. The family and close friends then adjourned to the rectory for a family-style barbeque.

Father Steven is proud of his Slovak heritage, which he has publicly expressed to all his parishioners through the years. He even added pirohy to the fish dinner menu in Lent at St. Mary's in Hudson, Ohio. His father Paul Brunovsky, well known Slovak activist for the past 48 years, has served as an officer of

Branch 450 in Cleveland, and previously was active in Toronto. He was born and raised in Piestany, Slovakia. Father Steven's maternal ancestors came from Krasna Luka in Saris. The family emigrated to Ramey, Pennsylvania and then to Cleveland. His mother, Kathleen came from a very religious family. Her uncle was the late Rev. Henry Marusa, SVD, and her aunt is Sister Pauline Posedly, DM, of York, Pennsylvania.

St. Hilary Parish is located in the Fairlawn section of Akron. The parish was established about 50 years ago. It has a beautiful modern church with many adjoining structures, a well-developed staff, and an elementary school with an enrollment of about 600 students.

Father Steven is stepping into his new assignment humbly but with confidence, experience and hopes to shepherd his flock in the steps of the Lord Jesus Christ and to bring all parishioners to work together in the vineyards of the Lord. May God bless him in his endeavors. Ad Multos Annos!



L-R Deacon Edward Telepak, Bishop Richard G. Lennon and Father Steven Brunovsky at the installation ceremony.



Father Steven with his family: Bishop Lennon, Father Michael Brunovsky, OSB, Paul Brunovsky, Father Steven, John Brunovsky, and Susan Brunovsky.



Katolícky fraternalistický dvojtýždenník

Jednota



O. Štefan Furelek
Náš zakladateľ

ÚRADNÝ ORGÁN PRVEJ KATOLÍCKEJ SLOVENSKEJ JEDNOTY V SPOJENÝCH ŠTÁTOCH A V KANADE

Volume 116

STREDA, 27. JÚN 2007

Číslo 5757

Deklarácia Národnej rady SR k storočnici založenia Slovenskej ligy v Amerike

S veľkou úctou a potešením vítame jubileum Slovenskej ligy v Amerike - významnej strešnej organizácie slovenských spolkov v Spojených štátoch amerických, ktorá v tomto roku oslavuje storočnicu svojho založenia.

Národná rada Slovenskej republiky v duchu svojej Deklarácie k Slovákom žijúcim v zahraničí prijatej 6. júla 1999 oceňuje mimoriadny prínos Slovenskej ligy v Amerike ako integrujúceho činiteľa a mostu preklenujúceho hranice medzi Slovenskou republikou a Spojenými štátmi americkými.

Pamätáme na jej spoluprácu s českými organizáciami v USA, s ktorými uzavrela v roku 1915 Clevelandskú a v roku 1918 aj Pittsburskú dohodu, čím podstatne prispela k založeniu demokratickej Česko-Slovenskej republiky, počas trvania ktorej neprestávala obhajovať národné práva Slovákov.

Oceňujeme úlohu i podiel amerických Slovákov v zápase za národné oslobodenie a vznik samostatnej a suverénnej slovenskej štátnosti.

Vážime si úsilie Slovenskej ligy v Amerike o udržanie slovenského povedomia štátisícov krajanov žijúcich na americkom kontinente.

Národná rada Slovenskej republiky si želá, aby sa naďalej udržali a rozvíjali stáročiami upevnené, živé a podnetné vzťahy medzi Slovákami žijúcimi v zahraničí a ich starou vlasťou pre spoločné dobro nás všetkých.

Prijaté 15. mája 2007 na návrh poslanca Jozefa M. Rydlu

Slovenskí biskupi na návšteve Vatikánu

Bratislava (TASR) – Katolícki biskupi Slovenska odcestovali 10. júna na návštevu Ad limina apostolorum do Vatikánu, počas ktorej si uctia hroby svätých apoštolov Petra a Pavla, ktorí zomreli v Ríme mučeníckou smrťou. V dňoch 11. až 17. júna absolvujú aj spoločné i osobné stretnutia s hlavou Katolíckej cirkvi - pápežom Benediktom XVI. a budú ho informovať o situácii diecéz na Slovensku. Biskupi si vypočujú programovú reč Svätého Otca týkajúcu sa života cirkvi v nadchádzajúcom päťročnom období. Slovenskí katolícki biskupi uskutočnia návštevu Ad limina apostolorum po deviatich rokoch. Táto udalosť má veľký duchovný a pastoračný význam nielen pre zúčastnených diecéznych a pomocných biskupov, ale i pre všetkých kňazov a

veriacich v Slovenskej republike. Návšteva má posilniť spojenie miestnej cirkvi s univerzálnou, členov cirkvi s jej hlavou. Biskupi navštívia aj jednotlivé vatikánske úrady a kongregácie, viaceré rímske baziliky, zúčastnia sa na liturgických sláveniach.

Návštevy Ad limina apostolorum majú veľmi dávnu tradíciu a sú vyjadrením jednoty biskupov rôznych krajín a Petrových nástupcov v Ríme. Za povinné ich vyhlásil už pápež Zacharias v roku 743 a v XVI. storočí pravidelné biskupské návštevy (európskych biskupov po piatich rokoch) potvrdil aj pápež Sixtus Piaty. Biskupi mali podľa príslušnej konštitúcie Rímskemu Pontifexovi vydať odpočet zo spravovania svojich diecéz a oni zasa prijať od pápeža rady, pomoc i povzbudenie.

Letný kurz slovenského jazyka pre zahraničných Slovákov

Metodické centrum Univerzity Mateja Bela pre Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí a zahraničných študentov v Banskej Bystrici usporiada od 8. júla do 4. augusta 2007 11. ročník Letného kurzu slovenského jazyka a kultúry. Bližšie informácie sú uvedené na internetovej stránka: www.umb.sk alebo na telefónnom čísle 011-421-48/466 6811.

Kurz je určený pre študentov vo veku nad 18 rokov - začiatocníkov i pokročilých. Študenti absolvujú 68 vyučovacích hodín slovenského jazyka a 68 vyučovacích hodín z výberových tém (SR a Európska únia, geografia SR a história SR, slovenská literatúra, staré remeslá, prekladateľstvo) a horskú turistiku so sprievodcom.

Dedičstvo otcov

(Homília kardinála Jozefa Tomka pri návšteve Ad limina, S. Maria Maggiore, 13. júna 2007)

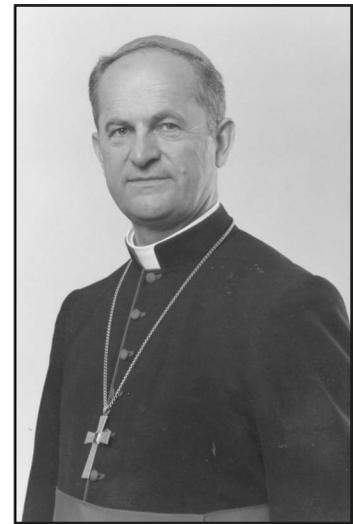
1. Pri koreňoch a pri prameni našej identity.

Dnes 13. júna 2007 vyvrcholí návšteva biskupov zo Slovenska v Ríme. Začali ste ju púťou k hrobu Svätého Petra, prvého pápeža katolíckej Cirkvi, pričom ste vzdali úctu aj pamiatke nášho veľkého priateľa Jána Pavla II. Zajtra zas poputujete k hrobu apoštola národov sv. Pavla a okrem toho vo vašom programe je aj bazilika sv. Jána v Lateráne.

Dnes však ste spolu s reprezentáciou veriacich zo Slovenska boli na generálnej audiencii Svätého Otca, Petrovho nástupcu, a teraz sa nachádzame v staroslávnej bazilike Panny Márie Váčšej. Je to miesto, ktoré nás privádza k našim koreňom, ba aj k prameňu našej kresťanskej, národnej a kultúrnej identity. Vy ste prišli do Ríma ako kedysi sv. Cyril a Metod, naši apoštoli, aby ste - tak ako oni - vyznali a osviežili pri týchto prameňoch našu vieru a jednotu.

Tu stojíme na historickom mieste, pred jasličkami, ktoré nám pripomínajú narodenie Ježiša, -Božieho Slova, ktoré sa stalo telom-, ale aj naše zrodenie pre Krista, ktorého našim otcom ohlasovali naši vierozvestci, keď im priniesli vo vlastnej reči radostnú novinu o Božom Synovi: "Izprva bje Slovo a Slovo bje u Boga a Bog bje Slovo". Sme na mieste, kde roku 867, teda pred 1140 rokmi, pápež Hadrián II. položil na oltár a schválil liturgické knihy v staroslovienskej reči. Tak dovolil, - a to celých tisíc rokov pred Druhým vatikánskym koncilom, - používať ako bohoslužobnú túto reč, do ktorej naši geniálni apoštoli sv. Cyril a Metod preložili Evanjeliá i bohoslužobné knihy a tak uľahčili našim predkom porozumieť a prijať vieru. Zo strany pápeža a našich vierozvestov to bol revolučný krok, ktorý zvyrazňuje aj pamätná tabuľa pred vstupom do sakristie tejto baziliky. Revolučný aj preto, lebo okrem bohoslužobnej reči prišlo aj celkové kultúrne a osvetové povznesenie. Naši apoštoli zakladali školy, starali sa o výchovu kňazov z ľudu, ba priviedli ich aj sem do Ríma a tu ich dali vysvätiť; pomáhali tiež vládcovi, aby vniesli viac kresťanskej ľudskosti do zákonov podľa pokročilého gréckeho vzoru. Arcibiskup Metod si pripravil už aj nástupcu sv. Gorazda. Ale táto kultúra ducha čiastočne podľahla kultúre násilia a mocenských záujmov, keď po Metodovej smrti Svätopluk vyhnal jeho žiakov. Tí potom utiekli do Macedonska a Bulharska, kde vytvorili znovu náboženskú a kultúrnu tradíciu, ktorá pretrvala storočia a je dodnes

Pokračovanie na str. 17



Kardinál Jozef Tomko

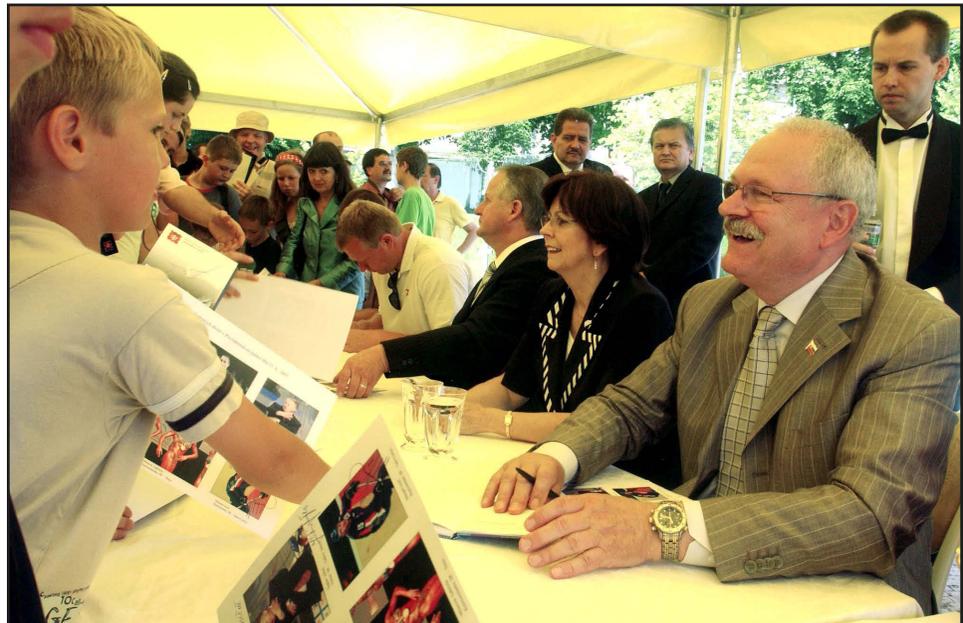


FOTO TASR - Štefan Puškáš

Pri príležitosti tretieho výročia inaugurácie prezidenta SR Ivana Gašparoviča do funkcie bol v piatok 15. júna 2007 v Prezidentskom paláci v Bratislave Deň otvorených dverí. Návštevníci si mohli prezrieť reprezentačné priestory Prezidentského paláca a tiež mohli obdivovať vystúpenie vojenskej stráže, vojenskej hudby a mažoretiek. Na snímke prezident SR Ivan Gašparovič (vpravo) s manželkou Silviou (druhá sprava) počas autogramiády.

Krátke správy zo Slovenska

Poukázat na jazykovú a kultúrnu rozmanitosť a zároveň zdôrazniť potrebu úcty a rešpektu voči iným jazykom a kultúram, ktoré obohacujú život na Slovensku, bolo hlavnou myšlienkou Dňa európskych jazykov začiatkom júna v Bratislave. Podujatie bolo spoločnou iniciatívou bratislavských inštitútov reprezentujúcich Nemecko, Taliansko, Francúzsko, Maďarsko, Rusko, Španielsko, Veľkú Britániu, Bulharsko, Poľsko, Rakúsko a Informačnej kancelárie Rady Európy. Na Hviezdoslavovom námestí stáli stánky všetkých inštitútov, v ktorých mohli záujemcovia nájsť informácie o ich aktivitách, jednotlivých krajinách, možnostiach štúdia a jazykových pobytoch a kurzoch. Inštitúty pripravili aj kultúrny program, ktorý predstavili jednotlivé krajiny.

Európska komisia (EK) schválila navrhovanú akvizíciu slovenského výrobcu automobilových pneumatík a dopravných pásov Matador Rubber nemeckou spoločnosťou Continental. V sektore výroby pneumatík je Matador jedným z menších podnikov, ktorý sa zameriava na lacnejšie pneumatiky určených najmä pre strednú a východnú Európu. V roku 2006 dosiahla spoločnosť obrat 450 miliónov EUR, v prepočte 15.4 miliardy SKK.

Približne 1,100 vojakov I. mechanizovanej brigády z Martina sa od 12. júna zúčastňuje na certifikačnom cvičení Joint Effort 2007 vo Vojenskom výcvikovom priestore Lešť. Ide o najväčšie cvičenie pozemných jednotiek na Slovensku v tomto roku. Minister obrany František Kašický uviedol, že úlohou certifikačného cvičenia je pripraviť brigádu na nasadenie do jednotiek rýchlej reakcie NRF 10, ktorá pôsobí v rámci NATO. Podľa náčelníka Generálneho štábu Ozbrojených síl SR Ľubomíra Bulíka certifikáciu získa asi 600-členný vojenský blok na dva roky. Potom sa certifikácia musí obnovovať. Štvordňové cvičenie vo Vojenskom výcvikovom priestore Lešť je interným cvičením, brigádu preverí ešte medzinárodné certifikačné cvičenie, ktoré bude v októbri v Nemecku. Jednotka by mala byť schopná nasadenia v rámci NRF od 1. januára 2008.

Platy v siedmich krajoch Slovenska za prvé tri mesiace rástli rýchlejším tempom alebo rovnako ako v Bratislavskom kraji. Kým Bratislava reálne zvýšila hrubé platy o 3.3 percenta, ostatné regióny najmä na západe Slovenska o 4 až 6.2 percenta. Najväčší zlom nastal v Trnavskom kraji, v ktorom sa platy zvyšovali tak rýchlo, že napriek tretinovému zaostávaniu za Bratislavským krajom ľuďom pribudla na výplatnej páske najvyššia suma na Slovensku. Trnavský kraj zlepšil priemerný mesačný hrubý plat o 1,467 korún.

Ministerstvo školstva navrhuje novú koncepciu výučby cudzích jazykov na základných školách. Podľa koncepcie by mal byť prvý cudzí jazyk povinný už pre tretiaťakov a druhý od piateho ročníka. So zavádzaním nového modelu chce začať už od septembra 2008. Ministerstvo si však uvedomuje, že mu bude chýbať 1,800 pedagógov. Učiteľov preto chce motivovať aj finančne, ale aby ich dokázalo zaplatiť, bude počas nasledujúcich deviatich rokov potrebovať 140 miliónov korún.

Stovky zdravotných sestier chýbajú nielen nemocniciam, ich nedostatok pociťujú už aj ambulancie súkromných lekárov. Dôvodom nie sú len nízke platy. Problémom je aj norma Európskej únie, podľa ktorej by mali mať zdravotné sestry vyššie vzdelanie. Preto už tri roky nevyšli nijaké absolventky zo stredných zdravotných škôl, všetky totiž pokračujú v bakalárskom či magisterskom štúdiu. Platy sestier sú však stále nízke a preto mnohé odchádzajú do zahraničia. Priemerný ročný plat zdravotnej sestry na Slovensku je 5,000 eur. No napríklad v Írsku si sestra zarobí 50-tisíc eur.

V piatok 15. júna uplynulo rok od tragickej smrti zakladateľa Ústavu pamäti národa Jána Langoša. "Pre inštitúciu, ktorú viedol, znamenal jeho odchod veľkú stratu," konštatoval to Langošov nástupca Ivan Petranský, s tým, že plnenie poslania ústavu sa stalo v nasledujúcom období ešte väčšou výzvou. Seriózna diskusia o vyrovnávaní sa s totalitnými režimami našej novodobej histórie nie je dnes podľa Petranského jednoduchá. "Veľká časť spoločnosti považuje za zbytočné vracať sa k minulosti a hovoriť o hrubej čiare, často pre dôvody, vyplývajúce z jej postojov v danom období. Ústav v súčasnosti naďalej pracuje na všetkých projektoch, rozpracovaných ešte pod vedením svojho zakladateľa. Postupne sa zverejňujú údaje o štruktúre a činnosti Štb, otvárajú sa archívy bádateľom, ktorí sa môžu venovať dosiaľ neznámy súvislostiam.

Prezident Ivan Gašparovič je pripravený znovu sa uchádzať o najvyššiu ústavnú funkciu, ak bude cítiť podporu občanov a politických strán. Prezident tvrdí, že jeho uvažovanie o opätovnej kandidatúre nijako neovplyvnil výsledok minuloročných parlamentných volieb. Ivan Gašparovič zvíťazil v priamych prezidentských voľbách v roku 2004. Do druhého kola volieb postúpil z druhého miesta za predsedom LS-HZDS Vladimírom Mečiarom. Toho porazil v rozhodujúcom súboji 17. apríla 2004 ziskom 59.9 percenta hlasov. Úradu prezidenta sa Gašparovič ujal 15. júna 2004.

Premiér Robert Fico v pondelok 18. júna v Bratislave oficiálne odovzdal na stretnutí predsedov vlád krajín Vyšehradskej štvorky (V4) a Portugalska rotujúce predsedníctvo v zoskupení na nasledujúce ročné obdobie českému kolegovi Mirkovi Topolánkovi. S Topolánkom mal naplánovaný osobitný bilaterálny rozhovor ešte pred samotným samitom. Hlavnou témou bolo jadrové fórum EÚ, ktoré sa bude konať dvakrát ročne striedavo na území Slovenska a Českej republiky. S ďalšími dvoma predsedami vlád, Maďarska a Poľska, Ferencom Gyurcsányom a Jaroslawom Kaczynským na stretnutí V4 rokovali o ďalšej spolupráci tohto regionálneho integračného zoskupenia v rôznych oblastiach.

TASR a slovenské časopisy

Pokles demokracie zaznamenali i na Slovensku

Budapešť (TASR) – Dodržiavanie demokratických princípov vo väčšine nových členských krajín Európskej únie stagnuje alebo dokonca upadá. Pokles v tomto smere zaznamenalo v roku 2006 aj Slovensko a z dlhodobého pohľadu všetky krajiny Vyšehradskej štvorky (V4). Uvádza sa to vo výročnej správe americkej organizácie na ochranu ľudských práv Freedom House.

"Populizmus a antiliberalizmus sú na vzostupe, silnie tlak proti nezávislosti justície, rastie straníckosť médií a slabne ich profesionálna úroveň," uvádza sa v dokumente s názvom Nations in Transit (Národy v prechode). "V oblasti boja proti korupcii je nápadný rozdiel medzi legislatívou a praxou."

Politická situácia sa v roku 2006 zhoršila v Litve, Maďarsku, Poľsku, Slovensku, Slovinsku. Vývoj demokracie v Českej republike, Estónsku a Lotyšsku stagnoval. Určité zlepšenie vlni dosiahli iba Bulhari a Rumuni, ktorým sa úspešne podarilo naplniť štandardy na vstup do EÚ od 1. januára 2007. Politická nestabilita podľa amerických aktivistov zatienila aj sľubný ekonomický rozvoj krajín V4. Medzi-ročné trendy poukazujú na úpadok demokracie vo všetkých štyroch štátoch, ktoré sa pripojili k EÚ v máji 2004: Maďarsku, Poľsku, Slovensku a v Českej republike.

Freedom House - nezávislá organizácia podporovaná americkou vládou pridružuje krajinám takzvané "demokra-

tické skóre" v škále od jedna (najlepšie) do sedem (najhoršie). Vyhodnocuje pritom sedem rôznych kategórií: volebný proces, občianska spoločnosť, nezávislé médiá, centrálna vláda a samospráva, súdnictvo a korupcie.

Slovensko vlni zaznamenalo zhoršenie oproti roku 2005 z 1.96 bodu na 2.14. Správa kritizuje vládu SR za centralizačné opatrenia, napríklad kroky zamerané na zrušenie Špeciálneho súdu, ktorý vykázal úspechy v boji proti korupcii a organizovanému zločinu, a snahy o obmedzenie nezávislosti regulačných orgánov prostredníctvom politických nominácií.

V roku 2006 sa najviac zhoršila situácia v Poľsku (negatívny nárast z 2.14 na 2.36 bodu). Freedom House v tejto súvislosti vyčítal konzervatívnemu režimu bratov Kaczynských najmä snahy o centralizáciu moci a negatívny postoj k občianskej spoločnosti, predovšetkým k homosexuálom. Varšava dostala pochvalu za pokrok v boji proti korupcii.

Demokracia v roku 2006 upadala aj v Maďarsku (z 2.00 na 2.14). Podľa aktivistov Freedom House krajinu rozdelili hlboké politické rozpory, ktoré viedli k vážnej kríze vládnych inštitúcií. Napätie v Maďarsku vyplýva aj z absencie potrebných reforiem a silnej úlohy štátu na úkor rozvoja súkromného a mimovládneho sektora.

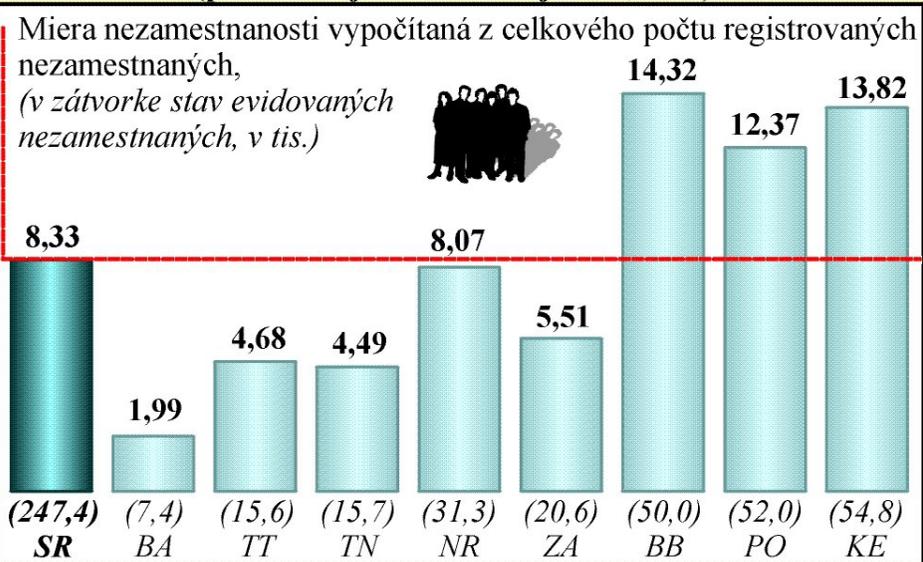
Američania pomôžu Žiline v inovačnej politike

Žilina (TASR) – Hľadanie partnerov pre podporu podnikania a nových inovačných zámerov bolo 7. júna v Žiline cieľom pracovného stretnutia Paula Zukowskeho so zástupcami súkromných firiem, mesta, Žilinskej univerzity (ZÚ) a Žilinského samosprávneho kraja (ZSK). Paul Zukowski je americký expert pre oblasť komerčného využívania technologického výskumu, vytvárania verejno-súkromných partnerstiev medzi univerzitami, súkromnými spoločnosťami a regiónmi. Podujatie pripravilo americké veľvyslanectvo na Slovensku spolu s vedením ZSK, ktorý má veľký potenciál pre nové technológie, najmä v priemysle. "Mnohé firmy a organizácie, vrátane samosprávy, sú

pre nás budúcimi partnermi. Budem rád, ak sa zrealizujú už konkrétne projekty. Rátam, že to môže byť do konca budúceho roka. Najviac nás zaujíma Žilinská univerzita, ktorá má dobré výsledky v praktickom využívaní vedy a výskumu," dodal Zukowski. ZÚ sa výrazne podieľa aj na projekte Žilinská inovačná politika, do ktorého sa zapájajú firmy v celom kraji. "S Američanmi sa dajú odštartovať aktivity, ktoré sa dotýkajú nových technológií a ich využitia. Možno s nimi podporiť napríklad vzdelávanie manažérov v nových firmách, ktoré využívajú najmodernejšie technológie, povedal vedúci projektu Žilinskej inovačnej politiky Milan Dado.

Miera nezamestnanosti v SR

(podľa krajov SR za máj 2007, v %)



Zdroj: ÚPSVAR

Graf: TASR

Láska k deťom

Pred dvanástimi rokmi sme čítali článok v slovenských Katolíckych novinách o deťoch v detských domovoch na Slovensku, ktoré si nemajú čo obuť a obliecť. Nad myšlienkou koľko oblečenia sa v Spojených štátoch povaluje v domácnostiach, ktoré sú buď úplne nové alebo ktoré už deti vyrástli, nám vypadli slzy ľútosť.

To nás tak inšpirovalo, že sme napísali článok a začali sme zbierku pri slovenskej osade Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého v New York City. Pri tomto projekte sme sa stretli aj s veľkým pochopením pána farára Martina Svitaňa a tiež so štedrými farníkmi našej osady. Je ťažko vymenovať všetkých darcov - bolo by ich aspoň dve strany, no nemožno nespomenúť Spolok sv. Štefana IKSJ č. 716 pod ktorým sme túto zbierku mohli previesť. Medzi ďalšími darcami sú: Slovenská liga v Amerike, Danube Travel, Nyack, N.Y., manželia Lepkovi, Korčákoví, Mary Opar, rodina Mišíková, Robert Komár, manželia Bérešovi, Gregušovi, Habínovi, Hlinkovi, celé rodiny Karola, Petra a Pavla Vidu, manželia Bilikovi, Šulákoví, nebohá pani Irenka Polák, pani Cataláno, Miroslav Sečkář, Jozef Hazel a ďalší nemenovaní známi i neznámi darcovia našej farnosti, no aj z iných štátov USA.

Z darov nakúpené šatstvo však bolo potrebné prepraviť s čím nám často pomohli naše deti Karol, Peter a Pavol. No hlavne pani Hanka Korčáková, ktorá vybavila aby nám Rakúske Aerolinie vzali bezplatne navyše kufre so šatstvom pre tieto Detské domovy.

Veď rozdávať lásku deťom je prirodzený cit ľudí najmä tých, ktorí vychovali s láskou aj vlastné deti. A preto už vo februári 1995 Milan Dait navštívil Detský domov v Štose na východnom Slovensku, kde odniesol obuv a oblečenie pre 35 detí vo veku od 1. do 4. rokov. V ďalšom roku 1996 sme navštívili Detský domov v Bratislave pri Železnej studničke pre 120 detí vo vekovej skupine od narodenia do školského veku. V rokoch 1997 a 2003 sme boli v Detskom domove pre mentálne postihnuté deti v Oščadnici okres Čadca. Riaditeľkou tohto detského domova je obetavá pani Anna Pošteková, ktorá so svojimi spolupracovníčkami sa s veľkou láskou stará o nešťastne postihnuté deti. Počas návštevy tohto detského domova sme si veru aj poplakali. V roku 1999 prišiel rad na Detský domov HVIEZDIČKA v Železnej Breznici, okr. Zvolen, kde bolo 20 detí vo veku od 3 do 15 rokov, ktoré nám dodnes k Vianociam posielajú s vďakou úprimné pozdravy.



Domov sociálnych služieb pre deti a dospelých v Oščadnici, okres Čadca.

Púť v Danville, PA

Združenie slovenských katolíkov usporiada púť do Baziliky sv. Cyrila a Metoda v Danville, PA v sobotu 22. septembra. Celodenný program na pozemkoch Villa Sacred Heart bude bohatý.

Púť začne o 11.00 hodine príchodom pútnikov a obedom v jedálni Materského domu. O 12.00 hod. bude v bazilike sv. omša, ktorú bude slúžiť Rev. Philip Altavilla. Od 12.45 do 3.00 hod. bude pre prítomných otvorená Jankolova knižnica a Slovenské múzeum. O 3.00 hod. sestra M. John Vianney Vranak, SS.C.M. bude mať prednášku o ženách prenasledovaných na Slovensku počas komunizmu, ktoré svoj život venovali cirkvi. O 3.30. hod. budú v bazilike spievané slovenské hymnické piesne a o 4.00 hod. bude sv. omša, ktorú bude celebrovať biskup Jozef Adamec.

Záujemcovia, ktorí sa na púti plánujú zúčastniť, majú svoje mená nahlásiť do 20. augusta Dolores Evanko na tel. č. 570-454-5547; e-mail: jje@intergrafix.net

Festival slovenského dedičstva v Holmdel, New Jersey

Výbor Festivalu slovenského dedičstva v New Jersey oznamuje, že tohoročný festival sa bude konať 24. septembra v PNC Bank Center v Holmdel, New Jersey. Bude to už 30. festival v tomto peknom centre umenia v štáte N.J.

Výbor pripravuje zaujímavý program s viacerými účinkujúcimi zo Slovenska. Svätú omšu bude celebrovať bratislavsko-trnavský arcibiskup Ján Sokol. Vstup bude aj tohto roku bezplatný.



Detský domov v Hriňovej, okres Zvolen.

Detský domov NÁDEJ v Bernolákove pri Bratislave okr. Senec sme navštívili v r. 2001. Tam žijú deti rôzneho veku, ktorých talent sme obdivovali počas kultúrneho programu, ktoré pre nás pripravili. Vedenie tohto detského domova sa snaží pre nich vytvárať rodinné prostredie a nahradiť im rodičovskú lásku, ktorú tak potrebujú aj od nás všetkých Slovákov. Minulý rok sme navštívili Detský domov v Hriňovej okres Zvolen, kde sú umiestnené deti rôzneho veku. Deti žijú v skupinách, v izbách maximálne po štyroch. Tu sme priniesli peniaze v hodnote 2,740.00 US dolárov, ktoré sa nám podarilo vyzbierať na prestavbu Domova a tiež tričká a čiapky s N.Y.C. z čoho mali deti veľkú radosť.

Tak sa snažíme rozdávať radosť a šťastie tým, ktorí ho dosť nemajú. Dúfame, že ak nám to zdravie dovolí, navštívime niekoľko ďalších detských domovov na Slovensku. Na jeseň tohto roku sa chystáme navštíviť Detský domov RATOLESTĚ v obci Trnie, okres Zvolen, kde žije 85 detí rôzneho veku. Preto už teraz prosíme krajanov, aby mysleli aj oni na tieto deti, ktoré potrebujú našu lásku a pomoc.

Tak ako v minulosti, príspevky môžete poukázať na Slovenský kostol sv. Jána Nepomuckého, 411 East 66th Street, New York, N.Y. 10021 pod heslom "Detské domovy na Slovensku". Po skončení akcie bude uverejnené vyúčtovanie.

Bližšie informácie vám podajú: Milan a Henrieta Dait na tel.: (201) 641 8922.

Slovenská katolícka púť do West Haverstraw, N.Y

Spolok svätého Štefana č. 716 Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty pozýva slovenskú verejnosť a známych na Slovenskú katolícku púť, ktorá sa uskutoční v nedeľu 12. augusta 2007 v Marian Shrine Salesians of Don Bosco, West Haverstraw, New York 10993; Tel.: (845) 947-2200.

Spoveď bude pred svätou omšou; Svätá omša o 11:00 hodine dopoludnia; Obed o 12:30 hodine odpoľudnia; Ružencová procesia o 2:30 hodine odpoľudnia.

Kto má záujem cestovať na túto púť autobusom, nech sa prihlási u brata Jozefa Bilika! Autobus bude pristavený pri Slovenskom kostole Sv. Jána Nepomuckého v meste New York. Bližšie informácie o púti vám podajú: Jozef Bilik: (718) 463-2084; Henrieta Daitová (201) 641-8922.

V Starom Smokovci otvorili Tatranskú informačnú kanceláriu

Starý Smokovec (TASR) – Komplexné informácie o aktivitách a službách dostanú návštevníci Vysokých Tatier v moderne vybavenej Tatranskej informačnej kancelárii (TIK), ktorú 14. júna otvorili v centre Starého Smokovca. Novinkou bude internetový kútik, turisti budú mať k dispozícii kopírovacie zariadenie, množstvo informačných materiálov o ponuke služieb v zariadeniach cestovného ruchu a v prípade záujmu aj možnosť poistiť sa pred túrou. Riaditeľ Združenia cestovného ruchu (ZCR) Vysoké Tatry Peter Chudý konštatoval, že úroveň novej TIK zodpovedá súčasným nárokom. Turisti v

nej nájdu potrebné informácie prakticky nepretržite. Kalendár podujatí, ktorý pripravili Vysoké Tatry spoločne s mestami Poprad a poľským Zakopaným, bude slúžiť návštevníkom z oboch strán hraníc. Texty budú v slovenskom a poľskom jazyku. Tatranské informačné kancelárie nájdu turisti aj v Tatranskej Lomnici a na Štrbskom Plese. Záujem turistov o služby kancelárie od polovice minulého roka vzrástol na dvojnásobok. Kým predtým využilo služby kancelárie v Starom Smokovci počas letnej sezóny 1,000 až 1,500 návštevníkov, po júli 2006 to už bolo viac ako 3-tisíc.

Z Bratislavy lietadlom do USA až na budúci rok

Bratislava (TASR) – Avizované zaoceánske lety do USA a Kanady z bratislavského letiska od júla nebudú. Letecká spoločnosť Air Slovakia, ktorá plánuje z Bratislavy lietať do New Yorku a Toronta, totiž oznámila, že štart oboch destinácií sa odkladá na jar 2008. Odklad je spôsobený tým, že sa spoločnosti nepodarilo získať lietadlo vhodné na zaoceánske lety. Air Slovakia chcela používať Boeing 767-300. Tie sú však dnes na trhu vypredané.

Dedičstvo otcov

Pokračovanie zo str. 20

živá. Len pred niekoľkými týždňami prijal ich osobitné delegácie Svätý Otec Benedikt XVI. vyzdvihol dôležitosť tejto tradície pre obidva národy. Aj táto história nás kladie pred otázku, či sme si my, priami dediči misijného diela solúnskych bratov, dostatočne docenili a uviedli do praktického života celej našej spoločnosti, ale predovšetkým našich veriacich, celý obsah a dosah cyrilometodskej tradície, ktorá sa pri pozornom štúdiu našich dejín javí, ešte viac ako u Bulharov a Macedonov, ako silný prúd, ktorý cez najťažšie storočia udržiaval pri živote našu kresťanskú i kultúrnu identitu. Zaiste treba vysoko oceniť fakt, že Ústava Slovenskej republiky sa v preambule odvoláva na "duchovné cyrilometodské dedičstvo" a že 5. júla slávime pamiatku sv. Cyrila a Metoda ako náboženský i štátny sviatok. Po toľkých dokumentoch viacerých posledných pápežov a po vyhlásení sv. Cyrila a Metoda za spolupatrónov Európy s liturgickým sviatkom v celej katolíckej Cirkvi, sa tieto skutočnosti z našej strany javia oneskorenou, ale povinnou poctou. Lebo ako nás vyzýva dnešné prvé čítanie, naozaj "chváliť nám treba slávnych mužov, našich otcov". Dnešná slávnosť na tomto mieste nám teda priam rukolapne pripomína známky našej kresťanskej i kultúrnej identity, ktorú nám treba pestovať a neustále zveľaďovať. Ide tu o obsah nášho bohatstva, ktoré voláme "dedičstvo otcov".

2. "Dedičstvo otcov"

"O dedičstve otcov sa azda až priveľa hovorí, ale nejde sa do hĺbky na jeho ozajstné bohatstvo. Aj kult sv. Cyrila a Metoda je málo viditeľný, vyhradený skôr na slávnostné príležitosti, najmä ak ho porovnáme s uctievaním iných svätých, ako sú sv. František z Assisi, sv. Terezka, sv. Anton Paduánsky, sv. Patrik u Írčanov, sv. Stanislav u Poliakov, sv. Václav v Čechách, sv. Štefan kráľ u Maďarov, sv. Páter Pio, atď. Naši americkí krajanovia postavili v minulom storočí viac kostolov ako ich je dodnes na Slovensku. Sú sv. Cyril a Metod dosť blízko srdcu Slovákov? Ako často sa vyberá pri krste ich meno? Čo je však oveľa dôležitejšie: ako hlboko preniklo ich poslanstvo do povedomia ľudu, ako sme predstavili jeho konkrétny obsah našim veriacim? Ako často a zamerane sa k nim modlíme, ako vieme aktuálne pre našu dobu vyhodnotiť a ľuďom sprístupniť podstatné črty ich duchovného poslanstva? Čo vlastne je to "duchovné cyrilometodské dedičstvo", aký je jeho ozajstný náboženský a kultúrny obsah? Keď sa pri veľkých slávnostiach na námestí sv. Petra objaví naše zástavy s výrazným dvojramenným krížom, ktorý vyniká medzi inými zástavami, tak sa nám srdce poteší. Ten kríž máme v štátnom znaku na verejných budovách, cyrilometodské dedičstvo je dokonca zakotvené v už spomínanej Ústave. Má to však nejaký dopad na náš kultúrny, politický a verejný život vôbec, na naše zákonodarstvo? Prenikli sme dostatočne základný zmysel a prínos "dedičstva otcov" na tomto spoločenskom poli? Slovensko čaká na prehĺbenie týchto otázok, ktoré kladú nemalé úlohy na celé pastoračné i celonárodné kultúrne a spoločenské úsilie, aby sa cyrilometodské hodnoty dostali do povedomia a do svedomia ľudu. Preto je dobre, ak si osviežime niektoré dnes aktuálne prínosy tohto vzácneho poslanstva.

1. Naši vierozvestci nám priniesli predovšetkým kresťanskú vieru v reči ľudu. Tým umožnili hromadné obrátenie našich predkov. Dar kresťanskej viery s jej mravoučným obsahom zachránil potom náš národ v búrkach storočí, aby fyzicky nezahynul pri toľkých plnoch, vpádoch, za rôzneho moru a útlaku. Po dlhoročnom boji proti viere, ktorý sa len pred sedemástimi rokmi ukončil, sa teraz proti viere a mravom bojuje inými prostriedkami, ktoré dôsledne rozkladajú život rodiny a ponúkajú najmä mládeži bezuzdnú rozkoš a vysnené raje. Deň po deň sa propaguje v rodinnom súkromí aj vo verejnosti kultúra zisku za každú cenu, kultúra smrti pre nenarodené a neproduktívne ľudské osoby, kultúra bezbrehej rozkoše. Je to určitý nový druh "Kulturkampf" proti viere a mravnosti, ktorý vanie na viacerých stranách sveta.

Sv. Cyril a Metod mali do činenia s kmeňami drsných, pohanských mravov. Ako si počínali, ako ich povzniesli? Hlásali im dôsledne Ježiša Krista a ukazovali im jeho cestu k šťastiu a ozajstnej láske. Priniesli im Písmo, Božie slovo, a to v prístupnej reči. Aj dnes nám treba ukázať ľuďom tú istú cestu. Tak ako naši apoštoli a ako dnes to robí Benedikt XVI.: ukázať modernému človeku, že Boh je láska, že historický Ježiš z Nazaretu je Boží Syn, že Boh k nám hovorí cez Písmo -Božie Slovo. Majú naše rodiny záujem aspoň o Nový zákon a o evanjelia? Žijú sa naši kresťania a najmä zasvätené osoby pri tomto prameni? Je náš život, naša katechéza, sú naše kázne naozaj inšpirované Božím slovom?

2. Sv. Cyril a Metod priniesli aj mravnú obrodu našich predkov. Pomohli pretvoriť ich tvrdé, aj ukrutné zvyklosti a zaviesť ľudskejší právny poriadok. Preto sv. Metod napísal "Zákon sudnij ľudem" a "Napomenutia vladárom". Takto sa vtedy vykonávala služba veľpastierov verejnosti a úloha byť "svedomím národa". V etických otázkach sú aj dnes nástupcovia apoštolov povinní poukazovať na ochranu prirodzeného práva a slobody svedomia, a to tým viac, že novodobé štáty začínajú vynášať zákony, ktoré sa protivia prirodzenému právu, vytvárajú a ukládajú novú etiku a morálku v otázkach ľudského života a smrti, ako aj manželstva a rodiny, práva rodičov na výchovu detí a podobne. V mene slobody jednotlivca sa siaha na ľudskú prirodzenosť fyzicky a materiálne slabších. Pritom hrajú dôležitú úlohu staré i nové ideológie ako aj domáci i cudzí kapitál, ktorý používa a zneužíva moderné stratégie a prostriedky, aby zmanipuloval zmýšľanie ľudu. Cirkev a najmä jej pastieri musia byť aj dnes svedomím národa, chrániť dušu mládeže a mravnú výšku spoločenského, i verejného života. Nedajte sa znovu zahnať do mediálnych katakomb, do sakristie, do úplného privátu, nestaňte sa znovu "umĺčanou Cirkvou". Máte právo i povinnosť vystupovať ako kresťania vo verejnom živote.

3. Po sedemástich rokoch slobody nastáva na Slovensku zaujímavý zjav: stupňujú sa plánovite načasované útoky na kňazov, na biskupov a na Cirkev vôbec

Konečne po 60. rokoch sa našiel hrob Dr. Jozefa Tisu

Kňaz a prezident prvej Slovenskej republiky Dr. Jozef Tiso patrí medzi najvýznamnejšie osobnosti moderných slovenských dejín. Bol nielen vynikajúcim štátnikom, ale hlavne vzorným a bezúhonným kňazom. Najzávažnejšiu svedeckú výpoveď o ňom podal jeho predstavený, diecézny arcibiskup Dr. Karol Kmeťko už v roku 1947, ale aj mnohí kňazi a cirkevní predstavitelia sa o ňom vyjadrili veľmi pozitívne. Dr. Jozef Tiso obetoval svoj život za vieru a národ. Za presadzovanie prirodzených národných práv a protibolševické stanovisko bol popravený 18. apríla 1947. Mali by sme si stále pripomínať posledný odkaz tohto mučeníka slovenskému národu, aby bol svorný a jednotný v sledovaní veľkej zásady: za Boha, za národ, a tak ako on prosí za nás vševládneho Boha, aby sme na neho i my mysleli v modlitbách. Väčšina národa verí, že jeho život v budúcnosti bude skúmaný najvyššími cirkevnými miestami a nemožno vylúčiť otvorenie procesu o jeho blahorečení.

Členovia Spoločnosti Andreja Hlinku a Farský úrad Bratislava - Nové Mesto vykonali na Martinškom cintoríne v Bratislave pred realizáciou nového pomníka Dr. Jozefa Tisu v dňoch 29. a 30. marca 2007 exhumáciu telesných pozostatkov nebohého. Exhumácia definitívne vylúčila komunistami šírenú dezinformáciu o spolopení a potvrdila pravosť hrobu, lebo v hrobe sa našli nielen telesné pozostatky nebohého, ale aj predmety, ktoré mu patrili, ako kňazské insígnie, ktoré do truhly vložil pochovávací kňaz.

Dr. Jozef Tiso si vysoko vážil zásluhy amerických Slovákov o svoj národ. Členovia Spoločnosti Andreja Hlinku a farského úradu nezabúdajú ani na vrelý vzťah amerických Slovákov k prezidentovi počas jeho pôsobenia, ale aj po jeho poprave až do dnešných dní. Preto sa rozhodli pre uchovanie pamiatky na Dr. J. Tisu odovzdať im aspoň malú čiastku z exhumovaných pozostatkov, látky z odevu a zeme. Odporúča sa, aby tieto pozostatky boli uložené na primeranom mieste v USA, aby ich mohli vidieť predovšetkým členovia slovenskej katolíckej komunity. Pozostatky boli odovzdané pánovi Dr. Ľudovítovi Pavlovi počas jeho návštevy na Slovensku v máji 2007.

Za Spoločnosť Andreja Hlinku: Stanislav Májek, Marián Šuran
Za Farský úrad Bratislava - Nové Mesto: Štefan Herényi
Pozostatky prevzal: Ľudovít Pavlo, M.D.

V Bratislave 15. mája 2007



Dr. Jozef Tiso si vysoko vážil zásluhy amerických Slovákov o svoj národ. Členovia Spoločnosti Andreja Hlinku a farského úradu nezabúdajú ani na vrelý vzťah amerických Slovákov k prezidentovi počas jeho pôsobenia, ale aj po jeho poprave až do dnešných dní.

až natoľko, že naši biskupi museli protestovať. Čosi podobné sa deje aj v okolitých krajinách. Koľko si museli vytrpieť sv. Cyril a Metod zo strany mocenských intríg, ale aj pre nepochopenie z vlastných radov. Zachovali však jednotu veriacich a vernosť Kristovi a Cirkvi. Dnes nás upozorňujú priatelia, že cieľom týchto útokov je zničiť dôveru veriacich vo svojich pastierov. V podstate sú to útoky proti jednote v cirkevnom spoločenstve na Slovensku.

Drahí bratia a sestry, aj dnes treba podľa príkladu našich apoštolov obhajovať jednotu, ako nás vyzýva dnešné druhé čítanie: "Znášajte sa navzájom v láske a usilujte sa zachovať jednotu ducha vo zväzku pokoja..." (Ef 4, 2-3).

4. "Dedičstvo otcov" si dnes vyžaduje, aby sme ďakovali Pánovi za dobrodenia, ktoré udelil Slovensku: koľko Božích darov nám udelil a neustále udeľuje, koľko dobra sa bez kriku deje. Toto dedičstvo však si dnes vo zvýšenej miere vyžaduje, aby sa všetci veriaci zomkli okolo Ježiša Krista a okolo svojich pastierov a uznali i podporili ich ťažkú a mnohorakú úlohu. Ide o starostlivosť o dušu národa: o rodiny, ohrozené takzvanými novými modelmi, nezamestnanosťou, rozdelením; o mládež, ktorú vábja predmanželské súžitia a iné zvody; o inteligenciu, ktorá si najmä po mestách nenašla vždy srdečný vzťah k Bohu a Cirkvi; o neprestajnú formáciu kňazov, aby rástli v obetavej horľivosti; o svet kultúry a médií, aby vedeli šíriť pravdu, spravodlivosť a krásu.

Na tomto posvätnom a pamätnom mieste teda dnes ďakujeme Bohu za dar viery, za "dedičstvo otcov", za všetky dobrodenia a zároveň vyprosujeme, - na príhovor Božej Matky a našich veľkých apoštolov sv. Cyrila a Metoda, - Božiu pomoc pre pastierov, pre veriacich, pre slabé veriacich a vôbec pre všetkých obyvateľov na Slovensku. Amen.

Kardinál Jozef Tomko

TK KBS