



# Catholic Fraternal Bi-Weekly

# Jednota

THE UNION

USPS #273500 ISSN #1087-3392



Fr. Stephen Furdek  
Our Founder

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION OF THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA

Volume 117 WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, 2008 Number 5778



L-R: Member of the Supreme Court James Bench, National President Andrew M. Rajec, and District 3 President Clarence Pfeifer.

## From the Office of the Vice President

### Sales Seminar Held in Greensburg

The Membership and Marketing Committee held a Sales Seminar on Sunday, April 20, 2008, at the Bishop Connare Center in Greensburg, Pennsylvania. Members from the George Onda District were invited to attend.

Among those present were National President Andrew M. Rajec, National Vice President Andrew R. Harcar, Sr., and National Treasurer George F. Matta, Members of the First Catholic Slovak Union's Membership and Marketing Committee. Also present were National President Emeritus Thomas M. Hricik, Regional Director George A. Sprock and Supreme Court Member James M. Bench. Many thanks to District President Clarence Pfeifer for making the arrangements for the seminar.

The informative seminar centered on the society's insurance products, annuities, Home Office procedures and other topics relating to insurance.

Our society has high quality, competitive and affordable insurance products as well as very attractive rates on our IRA/Annuities, but not all of our members know how to sell them. This is the reason the Membership and Marketing Committee is having seminars. We have

to educate ourselves by attending them. The knowledge we gain will become a practical sales tool. The more we know our products, the more confident and the more effective we'll become as proposers

Hope to see you at the next seminar in your area.

Until then...  
Good Luck and God Bless!

**Andrew R. Harcar, Sr.**  
National Vice President/Chairman,  
Membership and Marketing Committee

MORE PHOTOS ON PAGE 5

## Inside

Editorial/Commentary.....	2
Branch/District Announcements.....	6-7
Obituaries .....	10
Youth .....	3
Slovak.....	19-24

## Message from the President

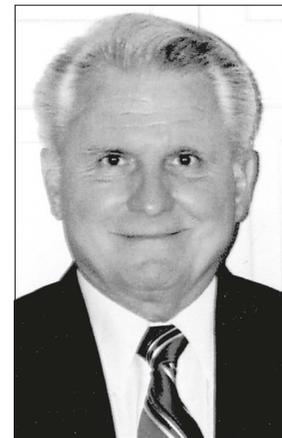
I have received several letters and phone calls regarding Monsignor Jozef Tiso and the March 14th anniversary of what a significant number of Slovaks recognize as the founding of the "First Slovak Republic" in 1939. Monsignor Tiso served as Prime Minister of Slovakia from March 14, 1939 until he became President on October 26, 1939.

The period 1939 – 1945 in Slovakia is a time that is very controversial and can be viewed by different people in somewhat different ways. Completely understanding the complexity and tragedy is in some ways beyond my capacity, since I did not live in those times.

Some facts are without argument; that Slovakia was then a small country of less than 5 million people, that the Slovak people were under foreign domination for over 1000 years; that Slovakia was at that time still primarily agricultural with a thirst for development; that Slovaks were and still are, to a great extent, religious people; that the great European powers were beginning to be engaged in World War II, that would ultimately kill an estimated 30 million people; that Slovakia was located in the middle of those great European powers with Germany on the West and the Soviet Union on the East as well as Austria and Hungary on the South; that no Allied powers would or could come to its rescue.

It is uncontroverted that thousands of Jews who lived in Slovakia were deported and many of them ultimately died in concentration camps. The disagreements stem from the role Mon-

continued on page 4



Andrew M. Rajec

## A SAILING WE WILL GO - COME JOIN US ON A BAHAMAS CRUISE!



Come on board with the First Catholic Slovak Union for a four (4) night Bahamas Cruise. Last year's cruise was so successful; we are planning another cruise.

The Membership and Marketing Committee is sponsoring their Membership Meet aboard the "Majesty of the Seas", from November 17 – 21, 2008. The "Majesty of the Seas" is a Royal Caribbean Cruise Ship. The itinerary from Miami includes stops in the Bahamas: Nassau/Paradise Island, Cococay and Key West, Florida.

The cost for an outside ocean view stateroom is \$496.00 per person based on double occupancy and an inside stateroom is \$456.00 per person based on double occupancy which includes the cruise, port and government taxes, all pre-paid gratuities and transfer from the airport to the cruise ship and back. Included in this cost are your meals and entertainment as provided by Royal Caribbean. (Optional insurance and airfare package is available through Paul J. Hudak of Adventure International Travel, Inc. at (216) 288-7171 or (800) 542-2487). A \$100.00 non-refundable deposit is required to secure a cabin.

The First Catholic Slovak Union is not responsible for your travel arrangements or cost to and from Miami, Florida. Please contact Adventure International Travel, Inc. or your own travel agent to make those arrangements. A valid U.S. passport will be required.

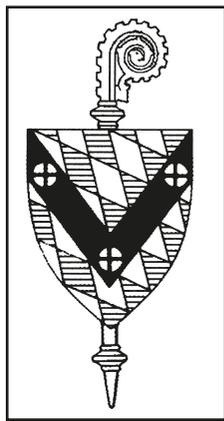
The deadline for final payment is September 1, 2008; anyone interested after this date must contact Adventure International Travel directly for available cabin space. The cruise is open to all members of the First Catholic Slovak Union and their guests.

If you have any questions, please contact the Home Office and ask for Karen at 1-800-533-6682.

**HURRY – STATEROOMS ARE LIMITED**  
Staterooms will be reserved on a first come – first served basis.  
Make your reservations today!



# Insights and Viewpoints



## St. Vincent Archabbey — Homilies Father Demetrius R. Dumm, O.S.B.

May 25, 2008

### The Body and Blood of Christ

John 6:51-58

Gospel Summary

When John records the words of Jesus that “the bread that I shall give for the life of the world is my flesh,” he is giving us his account of the institution of the Eucharist, which is noticeably absent from its normal location at the Last Supper. John’s radical decision to move this account from the Last Supper (chapter thirteen) to chapter six can best be explained by his desire to provide no less than fifty verses of introduction to this central sacrament. In this introduction, he spells out in

great detail the absolute necessity of faith for a fruitful reception of the Eucharist. And when John speaks of faith, he always means a personal decision to replicate in one’s own life the unselfishness of Jesus, which is also the primary meaning of the Eucharist.

John then goes beyond the other gospels in spelling out the amazing consequences of both receiving and living the Eucharist. For Jesus goes on to say, “Just as the living Father sent me and I have life because of the Father, so also the one who feeds on me will have life because of me”. This daring statement implies that the one who participates in the Eucharist will begin to share the very life of God—the life that courses between the Persons of the Trinity. Such a life laughs at death and makes our earthly life seem to be little more than sleepwalking.

Life Implications

The gospel of John was written some sixty years after the resurrection of Jesus and deals with problems that inevitably occur when a fresh, new religion begins to settle into a routine of doctrine and ritual. In this way, the fourth gospel anticipates the perennial problems of a sacramental religion like Catholicism. And, of course, at the very center of this religion is the sacrament of the Body and Blood of Christ.

The problem is easily recognized. Jesus calls his followers to a radical conversion from the natural but disastrous tendency to be self-centered to a new kind of life where the concerns and needs of others become a major factor in all one’s decisions. Jesus himself modeled this ideal by giving his life for us. Small wonder then that the central sacrament of the Eucharist, representing his Body broken and his Blood poured out for others, should be the very heart and soul of Christian teaching and ritual.

Accordingly, the Christian church has surrounded this sacrament with elaborate ceremony and has made it the subject of fine art and music and poetry. The great danger is, of course, that we focus on these externals and fail to live the message of the Eucharist about behaving unselfishly. Unfortunately, it is quite possible to be very devout in one’s reverence for the Eucharist and still live in a way that is self-centered, thoughtless and hardhearted. Today’s splendid liturgy should not be allowed to obscure the real meaning of the Eucharist, which John sums up elsewhere with the words of Jesus, “This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you” (15:12).

Finally, the invitation of Jesus to share through the Eucharist in the very life of God is a wonderful challenge to enter into a mystical union with God that promises to drive all fear and anxiety out of our lives. It is infinitely consoling to realize that this is what God wishes for us and that only our cooperation is required. Unselfish love is difficult but the rewards are beyond imagining.

June 1, 2008

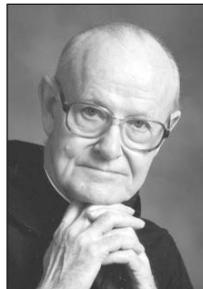
### Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Matthew 7, 21-27

Gospel Summary

The message from today’s gospel is painfully plain. There are no fine distinctions or careful qualification. When it comes to the evaluation of our behavior in this life, mere words, like “Lord, Lord,” will not count for very much. Even in a non-religious context, we are accustomed to say, “Words or cheap.”

What will finally be revealed as the one thing important in life will be, according to



Demetrius R. Dumm,  
O.S.B.

Jesus, “the will of my Father.” Unfortunately, there will be no lack of those who will recite the list of their supposed accomplishments. They will claim to have prophesied, or cast out demons, or even to have performed mighty deeds... but all of these “good works” will have been by their own definition and under their own control.

There will be a terrible judgment on these self-chosen deeds. The words that we hope never to hear are the words of Jesus: “I never knew you.” Surely there is nothing more urgent in our lives than to discover how to forestall such a frightening divine judgment.

The story of a house built on sand which cannot withstand the storm aptly illustrates the sad situation of a person who never really accepts and lives in accordance with the wisdom of God as revealed in Jesus.

Life Implications

This divine wisdom, so powerfully revealed in the life of Jesus, is found everywhere in the gospel, but one of the most dramatic revelations of this occurs at the Last Supper. We must remember that this is the last opportunity that Jesus will have to speak with his disciples. It should not surprise us then to hear him summarize all his teaching in one dramatic and challenging statement. Taking the bread in his hands, he says to his disciples something that they never heard him say before: “Take and eat; this is my body,” and then, taking the cup, “Drink from

it, all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant” (Matthew 26:26-28).

Jesus tells us, his present-day disciples, that we must imitate him as he gives his body and blood—his very life—for the sake of others. This is the wisdom that will allow us to build a house that can resist all possible storms. We need to open our hearts to the love of God so that we may be free enough to choose to love others... and then we must do so, as much as we can and as much as they need. If we can dedicate ourselves to this apparently foolish, but really supremely wise way of living, we will surely hear God say to us, “I have always known you. Welcome home!”

## Reflections on Our Christianity Msgr. Edward V. Rosack

### He Taught With Authority Part II

(continued from the April 30 issue)

In Matthew 23, Jesus Christ uses these phrases in addressing the scribes and Pharisees: “Woe to you scribes and Pharisees, you frauds!” “Blind guides!” “Vipers nest! Brood of serpents!”

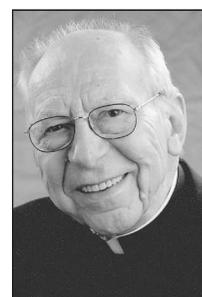
“... the chief priests and elders of the people were assembled in the palace of the high priest, whose name was Caiaphas. They plotted to arrest Jesus by some trick and kill him; but they said, ‘Not during the festival, for fear of a riot among the people. (Matthew 26:3-5)... Judas Iscariot went off to the chief priests and said, ‘What are you willing to give me if I hand him over to you?’ They paid him thirty pieces of silver, and from that time on he kept looking for an opportunity to hand him over.” (Matthew 26:14-16)

“Even while he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, made his appearance accompanied by a crowd with swords and clubs; these people had been sent by the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders. The betrayer had arranged a signal for them, saying ‘The man I shall embrace is the one; arrest him and lead him away, taking every precaution.’ He then went directly over to him and said, ‘Rabbi!’ At this, they laid hands on him and arrested him.” (Mark 14:43-46)

“They lead him away under arrest and brought him to the house of the high priest.” (Luke 22:54) To Annas first, father-in-law of Caiaphas. (John 18:13) Annas was high priest from A.D. 6 to 15.

In response to questioning by Annas, Jesus said, “I have spoken publicly to any who would listen. I always taught in a synagogue or in the temple area where all the Jews come together. There was nothing secret about anything I said. Why do you question me? Question

continued on page 3



Msgr. Edward V. Rosack

# Reminder...

Please send all articles for publication (both English and Slovak) to Jednota Estates, 1011 Rosedale Avenue, Middletown, PA 17057.

Readers are reminded that all address changes for the JEDNOTA newspaper must be

done at the Home Office in Independence, Ohio. If you have an address change, a cancellation or wish to receive the paper write to: First Catholic Slovak Union, FCSU Corporate Center, 6611 Rockside Rd., Independence, OH 44131-2398. Phone 1/800-JEDNOTA.

# JEDNOTA

(ISSN 1087-3392)

Catholic Bi-Weekly Issued 26 Times Annually

Publisher and Proprietor

FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION of the United States of America and Canada

FCSU Corporate Center

6611 Rockside Road

Independence OH 44131-2398

ANTHONY X. SUTHERLAND, Editor

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: United States—\$25.00 All other countries—\$30.00

PRINTED AT: PRESS AND JOURNAL, 20 S. Union Street, Middletown, PA 17057

Telephone: (717) 944-0461 FAX: (717) 944-3107

POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to:

Jednota, First Catholic Slovak Union, 6611 Rockside Road, Independence, OH 44131-2398

Periodical Postage paid at Cleveland, OH 44131 and additional mailing offices.

**FROM THE DESK OF THE NATIONAL SECRETARY**  
**FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION**  
**ANNUITY & IRA INTEREST RATES**

**EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 2008**

**THRU JUNE 30, 2008**

**The annual yield on existing Flexible Premium Deferred Annuities & IRA's is 5.00% (4.879% APR)**

**The annual yield on a new "Park 2 Annuity" is 4.50% (4.402% APR)**

**The annual yield on accounts with the "Cash Interest" Option is 4.75% (4.641 APR)**

**The annual yield for new Settlement Options is based on 4.50% (4.402% APR)**

*If you have any questions about our annuities or IRA's, please contact the Home Office!*

**1-800-533-6682**

*Kenneth A. Arendt, National Secretary*

**FLEXIBLE PREMIUM DEFERRED ANNUITY**  
**FLEXIBLE PREMIUM DEFERRED ANNUITY/IRA**

**Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity – Currently Earning 5.00% (4.879 APR)**

Under the Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity, you may make periodic payments into an annuity fund that accumulates interest at, or greater than, the guaranteed rate. You can open the account with as little as \$500.00 and make additional deposits (\$25.00 minimum) as your financial situation allows. Additional deposits are not mandatory.

At the retirement age you choose, the funds accumulated in the Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity may be withdrawn using any of the FCSU's lump sum or periodic income settlement options.

**Features of the Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity include:**

- The FCSU guarantees your deposits will accumulate interest at no less than 3.0%.
- Your annuity continues to accumulate interest after you have stopped contributing and have begun to receive retirement income. The interest rate you receive on your annuity after settlement will never be less than 3.0%.
- Death Benefit-If you die prior to settlement, your beneficiary receives the full cash value of the annuity. If you die while receiving retirement benefits, the value of your remaining guaranteed benefits will be paid to your beneficiary.
- Withdrawal Privileges-Since annuities are meant to be long-term investments for providing retirement funds, funds withdrawn during the first six years of your contract are subject to an FCSU Early Withdrawal Charge. You may withdraw 10% of your 'beginning of the year balance' with no FCSU Early Withdrawal Charge.
- Your interest will be added to your account. You may, however, elect to have your interest paid directly to you on a monthly, quarterly, semi-annually, or annually basis. This is called an Interest Option and the interest rate is slightly lower than if you left your interest to accumulate.
- 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.
- Also available in a Traditional IRA or Roth IRA (subject to IRA Guidelines)

## Reflection on Our Christianity

*continued from page 2*

those who heard me when I spoke. It should be obvious that they will know what I said." (John 18:19-21) One of the guards standing by gave "Jesus a sharp blow on the face." "Is that the way to answer the high priest?" "Jesus replied, 'If I said anything wrong produce the evidence, but if I spoke the truth why hit me?'" "Annas next sent him., bound, to the high priest Caiaphas." (John 18:22-24)

"The chief priests with the whole Sanhedrin were busy soliciting testimony against Jesus that would lead to his death, but they could not find any. Many spoke against him falsely under oath but their testimony did not agree." (Mark 14:55-56) [The Sanhedrin [Greek "sin-eh-dree-on" - sitting together] was an assembly of Jewish judges who constituted the supreme court and legislative body of Israel and their total number was 71.)

Caiaphas put two questions to Jesus Christ. Keeping his silence to the first, the chief priest then asked, "Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?" "I am," answered Jesus to which the high priest replied, "What further need do we have of witnesses? You have heard the blasphemy. What is your verdict?" "Guilty," unanimously. The sentence was death. (Mark 14:60-64)

"Then they began to spit in his face and hit him. Others slapped him, saying: Play the prophet for us, Messiah! Who struck you?" (Matthew 26:67-68)

"At daybreak, the elders of the people, the chief priests, and the scribes assembled again" and questioned him. "So you are the Son of God?" they asked in chorus. He answered, "It is you who say I am." They said, "What need have we of witnesses? We have heard it from his own mouth." (Luke 22:66 and 71)

They took him to Pontius Pilate because the Jews had no authority to execute anyone. This sentence of death had to come from the occupying Roman authorities.

They said to Pilate, "We found this man subverting our nation, opposing the payment of taxes to Caesar, and calling himself the Messiah, a king." (Luke 23:2) At the Sanhedrin, the Jews charged him with blasphemy. Before Pilate, they charged him with civil offenses. Pilate's response was, "I do not find a case against this man." (Luke 23:4) The Jews pressed on, "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)

When Pilate learned that Jesus was a Galilean, he sent Jesus to Herod who had jurisdiction over Galilee.

Herod was in Jerusalem. He was pleased to see Jesus and hoped to see Jesus perform some kind of miracle. Jesus kept silent. "Herod and his guards then treated him with contempt and insult, after which they put a magnificent robe on him and sent him back to Pilate." (Luke 23:11)

Pilate's response to the Jews was, "I have examined him in your presence and have no charge against him arising from your allegations. Neither has Herod, who therefore has sent him back to us; obviously this man has done nothing that calls for death. Therefore I mean to release him, once I have taught him a lesson." (Luke 23:14-16)

Obviously feeling that their case for the execution of Jesus Christ had collapsed, the Jewish religious leaders turned to the crowd and soon there was the cry, "Crucify him." (Luke 23:21) Three times, Pilate protested "for he wanted Jesus to be the one he released" rather than the crowd's choice, Barabbas. (Luke 23:20) "But they demanded with loud cries that he be crucified, and their shouts increased in violence." (Luke 23:23)

Fearing a riot with Herod in town, Pilate "released the one they asked for, who had been thrown in prison for insurrection and murder, and delivered Jesus up to their wishes." (Luke 23:25)

Jesus Christ did not shrink from his mission nor was he cowered by the religious establishment.

He challenged and took on the scribes and the Pharisees and at the end the judgment against him was, "I do not find a case against this man." (Luke 23:4)

## 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, MAY 28

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11

WEDNESDAY, JULY 9

**Copy Deadline**

MONDAY, MAY 19

MONDAY, JUNE 2

MONDAY, JUNE 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:

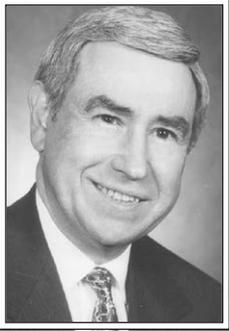
Anthony Sutherland, Editor

"JEDNOTA"

1011 Rosedale Avenue, Middletown, PA 17057-4835

FAX: (717) 944-3107

## MONEY MANAGEMENT & TAX TIPS



**By Joseph T. Senko**

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



### Last-Minute College Financing Ideas

College education costs continue to spike upward. For the 2006-2007 academic year, total college costs, including tuition, fees, and room and board, averaged \$12,796 at four-year public colleges and \$30,367 at four-year private colleges, according to the College Board. If you have a child who will be attending college soon, and you haven't begun to save, there are options available for parents whose college nest egg is not what it should be.

#### Find Financial Aid Dollars

Nearly two-thirds of full-time students receive some form of aid from federal and state governments, college and universities, and other private sources, the College Board reports. CPAs advise that if you think you may be eligible for federal student aid, you should file the free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). There are many types of aid available, including loans, grants, scholarships, or work study programs. You can find out more at [www.fafsa.edu.gov](http://www.fafsa.edu.gov).

There are other sources of financial aid beyond the federal government. The College Board site ([www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)) offers advice on conducting a scholarship search and provides links to several free search services. Don't forget to look close to home for college dollars, including scholarships that may be available from community organizations or from your employer.

Be careful not to be taken in by scholarships scams. The Federal Trade Commission warns against working with unscrupulous companies that promise to find financial aid in exchange for a fee. The FTC offers tips for parents at <http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/online/edcams/scholarship/>.

#### Seek a Match

Students who apply to colleges where their grades and test scores are securely in the top 25 percent of the student body are more likely to get generous aid packages. Most colleges battle to attract the best students they can, and they're often willing to offer good grants and other financing assistance to land top students.

#### State Your Case

What happens when a school has accepted your child and offered some aid, but not enough to realistically cover expenses? There is no harm in asking for more. Arrange to meet the financial aid officer in person, and let him or her know that the school is your child's top choice, but the family just can't swing the payment. Don't try to haggle with the aid officer, but do present your situation candidly.

#### Start at a Community College

Some students may have their hearts set on attending a prestigious college, but their families may not be able to afford the high tuition. To solve the problem, many begin at a less expensive community college and live at home during the first year or two. The student can then transfer to, and graduate from, a more elite school. Your child will graduate with the same degree at a much lower cost. Before taking this step, though, find out what amount of transfer credit your ideal college will accept and what grades students must earn in order to transfer.

#### Maximize Tax Benefits

College savings plans, such as 529 plans, make it possible to invest money for college that can grow tax free. Pennsylvania residents contributing to any 529 plan receive a Pennsylvania income tax deduction for contributing into such a plan. Studies show that college graduates earn about 75 percent more than high school graduates through the course of their working lives so a college degree is a worthwhile investment.

## Message from the President

*continued from page 1*

signor Tiso had or did not have in the treatment and deportation of Jews from Slovakia, as well as what he did or did not do with regards to Slovakia's relationship with Nazi Germany.

I of course, have my own opinion, but I encourage our interested readers to do some research on their own. Scanning the Internet will produce a large number of hits. Two authors who were brought to my attention are Tomas J. Veteska and Michael J. Kopanic, Jr.

Remember, in the 1920's and 1930's, much of the world was in fear of the atheistic "Red Menace", i.e. Communism, none more so than the countries of Europe. Remember the war in Vietnam was fought because of the "domino theory"; that if the U.S. didn't stop Communism in Vietnam it would spread to all of Asia. Consider for example, if China instead of Canada lived next door to the U.S.

The "Tiso issue" still continues in Slovakia today and I suspect will continue for some time. It is interesting that such similar history in other countries such as France, Italy, Hungary, Poland etc. have been largely laid to rest. Many consider Monsignor Jozef Tiso a national hero and martyr.

I suggest you read about the history of the land of your ancestors.

**Andrew M. Rajec**  
President

## For the Good of the Household

By Bishop Joseph Adamec

### Our Saint



Bishop Joseph Adamec

The Confirmation Season is in full swing. Administering the Sacrament of Confirmation is one of my favorite things to do. It is the step that fully initiates our young men and women by completing their Baptism into the Lord's life, making them full-fledged members of the Assembly of Believers that we call the Church. Gifted with the Holy Spirit, they are called to join us in witnessing to the reality of God among us. Anointed with Sacred Chrism, they become anointed ones of the Lord, after the pattern of our Lord, who is the Anointed of the Lord.

To give them an example to follow, they choose a saint and take to themselves his or her name. In order for that relationship to be as effective as possible, I insist that they know a good bit about the saint. In addition, I want to know why they choose that particular saint and what their relationship with him or her will do for their lives.

The candidates usually turn for information to the internet, which is not always reliable. Once a young man took Saint Augustine and proceeded to tell me that he was once emperor of Rome. I usually try to work with our young men and women when they choose unusual names. When it is not a saint's name, I make some adaptation. Kennedy became Jacqueline. Goliath became David-Who-Slew-Goliath. However, when it came to Jericho, there was not much that I could do.

Once a young man took the name of Jesus. I thought about that for a while. But, I should not have had the need to do so. Other nationalities baptize their children with that name. Actually, it is the same name as Joshua. The candidate explained that if he was to have an example of good, Christian living, he could not do better than to have Jesus. I had to agree with him.

My confirmation name is Victor. I use it as my middle name, since I was not baptized with two names. (I guess we were too poor to have two names.) In our family, it was the custom that one takes the name of the sponsor. That is why I am Joseph. My godmother's name was Mary. So if I had been a girl, I would have been a Mary. That is rather nice, that my godparents were Mary and Joseph.

Victor was my confirmation sponsor's name. So, naturally, that was the name that I was expected to take. I have to admit that I do not know which Victor he was; there are a good number of them. Several saintly popes were Victors. A number of martyred Roman soldiers had that name. And, there are a number of other Victors of various professions and callings. Basically, it refers to being a person that has overcome or survived some ordeal. I'll take that.

A popular name has been Sebastian. He is the patron of soldiers and athletes. Being athletic, he was able to withstand a barrage of arrows. I remind those taking that saint that we, too, are liable to be shot up with arrows, - except it will mostly likely be the verbal type. When it's a young lady taking the name of Veronica, I remind her that the name means the image of Christ, which she has taken upon herself to become.

Do you remember your confirmation name? How much do you know about the saint that is to be your example for Christian living? How should you be applying his or her virtues to your life? You may wish to do some research on the internet.

## Attention Members of the Msgr. Stephen Krasula District and the Msgr. John E. Rura District, New York and New Jersey

The Membership and Marketing Committee will hold a Sales Seminar on Sunday, June 1, 2008, at 1:00 p.m. at St. John Nepomucene Church Parish Hall, 411 East 66<sup>th</sup> Street, New York City.

These seminars are open to all members of the first Catholic Slovak Union interested in acquiring knowledge about our insurance and annuity portfolio.

At the seminars, sales brochures and new 2001 CSO rate charts will be distributed and discussed. All branch officers, district officers, recommenders and First Catholic Slovak Union members interested in learning and selling our insurance and annuity products are urged to attend these seminars. Form a car pool...lets get involved in establishing new membership.

Please be sure to make your reservations by May 28 by calling Executive Secretary Kenneth Arendt at 1/800-533-6682 or Maria Zakovic at 646/823-3561.

Until we meet at the seminar...

Good Luck and God Bless

**Andrew R. Harcar, Sr.**

**National Vice President &**

**Membership and Marketing Chairman**

# Photos from Sales Seminar Held in Greensburg

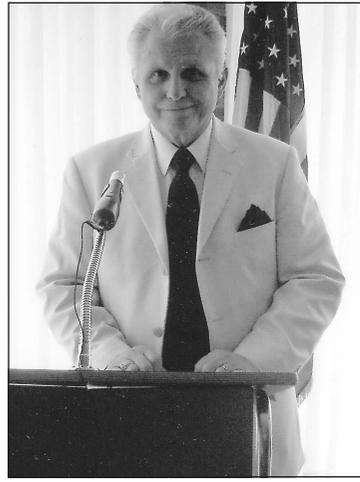
*continued from page 1*



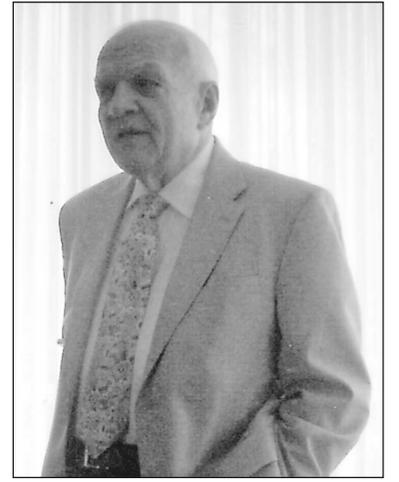
L-R: National President Emeritus Thomas M. Hricik, Member of the Supreme Court James Bench, and National Vice President Andrew R. Harcar, Sr.



National Vice President Andrew R. Harcar, Sr. explains our insurance portfolio to the seminar attendees.

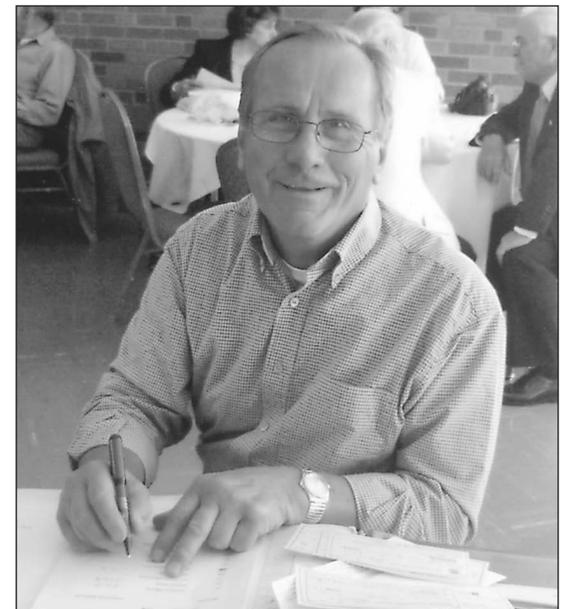


National President Andrew M. Rajec welcomed the members of the George Onda District to the seminar.



National Treasurer George F. Matta reviews our annuity products.

## Scenes from the Greensburg Seminar



## BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Branch 1 — CLEVELAND, OHIO

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 1, will hold its next meeting on Tuesday, June 10, 2008, at 7:00 p.m. at SS. Cyril and Methodius Hall, 12608 Madison Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio. All are welcome. Please attend. Come and meet the members.

**Mary Dubber, Secretary**

### Branch 5P — EXETER, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 5P, will hold its regular Quarterly Meeting on Sunday afternoon, May 25, 2008, at 2:00 p.m. at the home of Leonard J. Zavada, 141 Second Street, Wyoming, Pennsylvania. On the agenda will be a discussion on the possible merger with two other local branches, advance planning for our District picnic; a discussion regarding the possibility of doing some local advertising, and a discussion on membership, news sales opportunities and sales techniques. All members are urged to attend and participate in these important discussions.

**Leonard J. Zavada, President**

### Branch 24 — CLEVELAND, OHIO

Members of the St. Andrew Society, Branch 24, are invited to the Slovak Radio Club Picnic on Sunday, June 29, 2008 and the Zemplin Club Picnic on Sunday, July 20, 2008. Both picnics will be held from 12:00 noon until 8:00 p.m. at the Sokol Camp, 2069 Royalwood Road, Broadview Heights, Ohio. There will be plenty of Slovak food, music and dancing. Hope to see you there.

**Bob Kopco, President**

### Branch 41 — Yonkers, New York

The Holy Trinity Society, Branch 41, will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Saturday, May 24, 2008, at the home of Brother Robert Lutz, 10 Meadow Avenue West, Bronxville, New York, after the 5:00 p.m. Mass at Most Holy Trinity Church. Financial reports will be presented and suggestions will be discussed. We urge all members to attend this meeting. Refreshments will be served.

**Robert J. Lutz, Recording Secretary**

### Branch 61 — BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

The St. Stephen the King Society, Branch 61, will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Thursday, May 29, 2008, at 7:00 p.m. at the home of the president, Victor Sabo, 6802 Roberts Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland. Matters of importance to our branch and all fraternal activity will be on the agenda. All members are urged to attend.

**Victor Sabo, President**

### Branch 153 — CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

The St. Stephen Society, Branch 153, will hold its Mid-Year Meeting on Saturday, June 21, 2008, at 12:00 noon at the home of President John Jurcenko, 7113 West Talcott Avenue, Chicago, Illinois. All members are invited to attend. There will be a fraternal luncheon after the meeting.

Please remember in your prayers the following members who have passed on to their eternal rest: Joseph Soltes, Andrew Karkoska, Charles Capiak, Steve Cermak, Frank Cerven, John Kudia, Anthony Guzik, and John Mayer.

**Dorothy Jurcenko, Financial Secretary**

### Branch 162 — UNIONTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Wendelin Society, Branch 162, will hold its Quarterly Meeting on Sunday, June 15, 2008, at 9:30 a.m. in the third floor meeting room of the Meridian Point Apartments, Confer Vista Road, Uniontown, Pennsylvania. Branch activities will be discussed. All members of Branch 162 are invited to attend.

**Dolores Marmol, Secretary**

### Branch 166 — Binghamton, Capital Area, Peekskill, Syracuse, and Poughkeepsie, New York

The St. Joseph the Guardian Society, Branch 166, will hold its Semiannual Meeting and Dinner on Sunday, June 1, 2008, at 1:15 p.m. at the Old Country Buffet, Town Square Mall, Vestal Parkway. The agenda will consist of Branch business and a discussion of the District meeting held in Scranton in April. If you plan to attend, please call Sue Gabriel at 607/729-8034 or Arlo Meeker at 607/775-4896. Thank you and hope to see you at the meeting.

**Arlo Meeker, President**

### Branch 173 — GREATER WILKES-BARRE-WYOMING VALLEY, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 173, located in the Wilkes-Barre and surrounding areas, will have its annual Mass for the living and deceased members of Branch 173 on Sunday, June 1, 2008, at 10:30 a.m. at The Catholic Community of North Wilkes-Barre Church (formerly the Sacred Heart Slovak Church), North Main Street, Wilkes-Barre. The semiannual meeting will be held after the liturgy at approximately 12:00 noon at Norm's, North Sherman Street, in Wilkes-Barre. If you plan to attend, please notify Dorothy A. Ungvarsky at 570/403-2067 no later than May 26 so arrangements can be made.

**Dorothy A. Ungvarsky, President**

### Branch 199 — HOSTETTER, PENNSYLVANIA

The Holy Trinity Society, Branch 199, will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Sunday, June 8, 2008, at 1:00 p.m. at the home of Francis Pipak. On the agenda will be a discussion of life insurance and annuities.

**Sophie Pipak, Financial Secretary**

### Branch 260 — CAMPBELL, OHIO

The St. Matthew Society, Branch 260, will hold its Quarterly Meeting on Sunday, June 15, 2008, at 1:30 p.m. at St. Elizabeth Church Msgr. Adamko Hall. A review of the Bowling Tournament held April 25-27 in Youngstown will be on the agenda along with a discussion of activities for the remaining months of the year. Members are urged to attend and to participate in the discussions to improve our fraternal status as a society.

**Charles M. Terek, President.**

### Branch 276 — MCKEESPORT, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 276, will hold its next meeting on Sunday, June 8, 2008, at 1:00 p.m. at St. Martin de Porres School Hall, Seventh Street, McKeesport, Pennsylvania. The Father's Day Brunch will be the main topic of discussion. Members interested in attending the Father's Day Brunch can contact Margaret Nasta. All members are invited to attend this meeting.

**Nancy Gerdich**

### Branch 278 — MIDDLETOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Peter Society, Branch 278, will hold its next meeting on Monday, May 19, 2008, at 1:00 p.m. at Seven Sorrows Church, Middletown, Pennsylvania. All members are welcome to attend.

**Andrew Trojczak, President**

### Branch 293 — LANSFORD, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 293, will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Sunday, June 8, 2008, at 1:00 p.m. at St. Michael's Church Social Hall, 124 East Abbott Street, Lansford, Pennsylvania.

Anyone needing insurance or service should contact Robert J. Lakata, 527 E. Bertsch St., Lansford, PA 18232. Phone: 570/645-4872.

**Robert J. Lakata**

### Branch 320 — STOCKDALE, PENNSYLVANIA

The officers of the SS. Peter and Paul Society, Branch 320, invite their members to attend the next Branch meeting on Sunday, July 13, 2008, 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 484 — CORAL, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Joseph the Guardian Society, Branch 484, will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Sunday, June 8, 2008, at 1:00 P.M. in St. Francis Church Hall, Coral, Pennsylvania. All members are welcome. Details for a branch scholarship will be discussed.

**Joseph E. Rura, Financial Secretary**

### Branch 553 — AKRON, OHIO

The St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 553, will hold a lodge meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 14, 2008, in the Slovak Club, 485 Morgan Avenue, Akron, Ohio. All bona fide members are encouraged to attend this meeting.

Members are encouraged to take an active part in their fraternal organization, to step up to the plate and volunteer to assist with our activities. Your participation and support make this a great organization.

We thank all who volunteer for our monthly Spaghetti Dinner the first Wednesday of each month. All volunteers are appreciated- whatever the occasion.

**Linda M. Hanko, Secretary**

### Branch 600 — LEECHBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Mary's Society, Branch 600, will hold its half-year meeting on Sunday, May 18, 2008, at 1:00 p.m. at John's Tours Office, Route 66 in the Village of Riverview. All members are invited to attend.

**John Mago, Financial Secretary**

### Branch 644 — MCKEES ROCKS, PENNSYLVANIA

The Holy Trinity Society, Branch 644, will hold a "Special Meeting" on Sunday, June 1, 2008, at 2:00 p.m. at the Slovak Civic Federation of Allegheny County, 1200 Hodgkiss Street, Northside, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The purpose of the meeting will be to discuss the future of the branch. As a member, your input will help decide whether a merger with a local branch will

be necessary. This will be the last request for members to consider becoming an officer and attend branch meetings. I am looking forward to seeing a majority of the members present. Refreshments will be served following the meeting.

**Michael R. Jablonsky,  
President/Financial Secretary**

### Branch 670 — DONORA, PENNSYLVANIA

The officers of the St. Anthony of Padua Society, Branch 670, invite their members to attend the next Branch meeting on Sunday, June 22, 2008, at 12:00 noon at the Donora Donut Station, Eighth and Meldon, Donora, Pennsylvania. All members are urged to attend.

**Dorothy Petrus, President**

### Branch 731 — YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 731, will have a meeting on Sunday, May 18, 2008, at 12:30 p.m. at St. Matthias Church, Cornell Street, Youngstown, Ohio. We will be planning summer events at this meeting. Please attend to be included in these activities.

**James Bobby, Recording Secretary**

### Branch 844 — LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

The St. Joseph the Guardian Society, Branch 844, will hold its Annual Father's Day Mass on Sunday, June 15, 2008, at St. John Bosco High School, 13640 Bellflower Boulevard, Bellflower, California. Mass will begin at 11:00 a.m. A delicious, authentic Slovak lunch will be served after the liturgy. Come and join us in celebrating the Slovak spirit of Father's Day.

Following the festivities, Branch 844 members will conduct a meeting to review officers' report and to discuss branch activities.

We hope to see you all there. We wish all the fathers a very special and safe Father's Day.

**Milan Konkol, Secretary**

### Branch 853-Ellsworth, Pennsylvania

The Holy Name of Jesus Society, Branch 853, will hold a meeting on Saturday, July 5, 2008, at 9:00 a.m. at the McDonald's restaurant in Charleroi, Pennsylvania. Members are encouraged to attend.

**Monica Rodacy Boone**

## St. Thomas A' Becket Parish Annual Festival

The Annual St. Thomas A' Becket Festival will be held in the evenings of Thursday, Friday and Saturday, June 26-28, 2008, on the church property in Jefferson Hills, Pennsylvania. Each evening there will be entertainment, rides, dinners and various types of food and snacks. New to the festival this year will be the homemade donuts. The attraction for the young folks will be the rides, especially the giant slide and Ferris wheel. The Steel Valley Sky Divers will be the main attraction on opening night, Thursday, June 26. Bingo players are welcome to join others in the big tent. There will also be various booths and games for the entire family. The public is invited to come and enjoy three evenings of fun at the annual festival. For more information call 412/655-2885.

# John's Tour of Slovakia Planned for September 10-27, 2008

John Mago of John's Tours will conduct his annual tour of Slovakia and surrounding countries September 10-27, 2008. The itinerary includes Vienna, Budapest, Prague, Krakow, Wieliczka Salt Mine, Auschwitz, and Wadowice, birthplace of Pope John Paul II.

In Slovakia, the tour will visit Bratislava, Trnava, Nitra, Piešťany, Martin, High Tatras, Banská Bystrica, Banská Štiavnica, Košice, Bardejov and Prešov. Tourists will see a folklore wedding in Krakovany, the Slovak National Museum in Martin, St. James Church in Levoca, Spis Castle, Goral museum in Zdiar, and a cultural performance in Tichý Potok. No visit to Slovakia is complete without a wooden raft ride down the Dunajec River. Tour participants will also have the opportunity to invite friends and relatives to the cultural performances, at their own expense. The tour includes 16 nights lodging in first class hotels, an air-conditioned bus for touring, and English speaking guide, two meals a day, and airfare from Pittsburgh. Airfare from other cities is also available.

John Mago along with the Slovak guide will help make arrangements for transportation and a translator for anyone wishing to contact relatives in Slovakia.

For a brochure with further information contact John's Tours, P.O. Box 154, Vandergrift, PA 15690, Phone: 1-800-260-8687 or 724-567-7341.



## JUNE

- 1 – The Msgr. Stephen Krasula District's Semiannual Meeting at 1:00 p.m. in St. John Nepomucene Church Parish Hall, 411 East 66th Street, New York City.
- 1 – The Msgr. Stephen Krasula District's Semiannual Meeting at 1:00 p.m. in St. John Nepomucene Church Parish Hall, 411 East 66th Street, New York City.
- 8 – The Frank T. Holly Jr. District's Semiannual Meeting at 1:00 p.m. in the third floor meeting room at the Meridian Point Apartments, 112 Confer Vista Road, Uniontown, Pennsylvania.
- 15 – The Pittsburgh District's Annual Father Day's Brunch at Holy Trinity Parish, 529 Grant Avenue Extension, West Mifflin, Pennsylvania. Mass at 9:30 a.m. followed by the brunch in the parish hall.
- 22 – A meeting of the Msgr. Andrew Hlinka District at 1:00 p.m. at the Donora Donut Station, Eighth and Meldon, Donora, Pennsylvania.

## DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

### FRANK T. HOLLY JR. DISTRICT — Uniontown, Pennsylvania

The Frank T. Holly Jr. District will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Sunday, June 8, 2008, at 1:00 p.m. in the third floor meeting room at the Meridian Point Apartments, 112 Confer Vista Road, Uniontown, Pennsylvania. Members of the District branches are invited to attend this meeting.

**Barbara Ann Holly, Secretary**

### REV. JOSEPH L. KOSTIK DISTRICT — Youngstown, Ohio

The Rev. Joseph L. Kostik District will have its next meeting on Tuesday, May 20, 2008, at 7:00 p.m. at St. Matthias Church Rectory, Youngstown, Ohio.

**Carlie Peshek, President**

### MSGR. STEPHEN KRASULA DISTRICT — New York

The Msgr. Stephen Krasula District will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Sunday, June 1, 2008, at 1:00 p.m. in St. John Nepomucene Church Parish Hall, 411 East 66th Street, New York City. We urge all District branches to send their representatives to this meeting. All FCSU members are also invited to attend. The St. Matthew Society, Branch 45, will serve the refreshments.

After the meeting, the FCSU Membership and Marketing Committee will conduct a Sales Seminar. At this seminar, sale brochures and new 2001 CSO rate charts will be distributed and discussed. All members interested in learning about our insurance and annuity products are urged to attend.

**Henrieta H. Daitova, Secretary**

### MSGR. ANDREW HLINKA DISTRICT — Monongahela Valley, Pennsylvania

The Msgr. Andrew Hlinka District will hold its next meeting on Sunday, June 22, 2008, at 1:00 p.m. at the Donora Donut Station, Eighth and Meldon, Donora, Pennsylvania. Members of various branches are urged to attend.

**Frances Tarquinio, Secretary**

### PITTSBURGH DISTRICT — Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

The Pittsburgh District will hold its annual Father's Day Brunch on Sunday, June 15, 2008. Holy Mass will be said at 9:30 a.m. at Holy Trinity Parish, 529 Grant Avenue Extension, West Mifflin, Pennsylvania. Brunch will follow in the parish hall.

This event is being hosted by Branch 2 and Branch 254. If you wish to attend, or if you have an advertisement for the event booklet, please contact your local branch president or Sue Ondrejco at 412/421-1204 by Sunday, June 1.

**Margaret A. Nasta, Secretary**

## FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY:

The New Jersey Fraternal Congress is offering its Youth Volunteer Award Program. Each year the New Jersey Fraternal congress chooses deserving young students from a member society, based on their volunteer achievements with their society as well as the community at large.

This year, thanks to the generosity of the Recreation Farm Society, each award winner will receive \$500 with an additional \$500 award to their designated charity.

The deadline for submitting applications is September 1, 2008 postmark. All completed applications and supporting information are to be mailed to:

Monica Kanopka  
5 Butterfly Court  
Stafford, NJ 08050  
Phone: 800-816-8031

The Youth Volunteer Award Committee of the NJFC will make the selection of the award recipients and all decisions are final. The award recipients will be announced at the 75th Annual New Jersey Fraternal congress Convention to be held at the Hilton Casino Resort in Atlantic City, New Jersey on October 9 & 10, 2008.

## NEW JERSEY FRATERNAL CONGRESS 2008 YOUTH VOLUNTEER AWARD APPLICATION

This application may be copied.  
Please print or type.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Your Fraternal Benefit Society: \_\_\_\_\_  
Civic (non-school) Activities\*: \_\_\_\_\_  
Fraternal Benefit Society Activities\*: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Information can be submitted on a separate sheet of paper. Please type or print.

### Rules/Regulations/Requirements

#### Applicant must:

1. Be a resident of NJ and a member of a Fraternal Benefit Society that is a member of the NJFC
2. Be between the age of 16 and 22 at the time of application
3. Obtain a recommendation letter from your Fraternal Benefit Society
4. Sign the *Statement of Application* below
5. Return the completed application and letter of recommendation, postmarked no later than 9/1/08 to:

Monica E. Kanopka  
NJFC Youth Volunteer Award Committee  
5 Butterfly Court  
Stafford, NJ 08050

- \$500 award to both the recipient and their favorite charitable organization.
- \$500 given to the Recipient's Charity is compliments of the Recreation Farm Society
- Judging will be done by the Youth Volunteer Award Committee of the NJFC.
- Awards will be announced at the NJFC Annual Meeting, October 2008

### STATEMENT OF APPLICATION

I understand that my selection for this award is based upon my answers to these questions; and further that my application is in competition with other eligible persons and that the decision of the NJFC is final. This application is completed with my knowledge and consent, and false information will void the award. The information that is provided in this application is true and complete.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicant

**WE HAVE A NEW LOOK**  
**www.fcsu.com**

*Visit our new updated website! See our many features!*

You will find history, forms, rates and applications!

**Our website is easy to navigate – try it!!!**

Send your suggestions for any changes to our website.

**Investigate – www.fcsu.com - Today**

## Western Pennsylvania Radio Hour

The Western Pennsylvania Slovak Radio Hour can now be heard around the world! The station has set up a live direct feed of all the programs on WPIT AM to the internet. So, anyone who subscribes to the internet- can listen to the Western Pennsylvania Slovak Radio Hour LIVE! To listen over the internet log on to HYPERLINK "http://www.wpitam.com--" www.wpitam.com-- at 3 pm EASTERN STANDARD TIME, and look for "Listen Live" in the box at the top of the page. You should see Slovak Radio Hour, click on it. And that's all there is to it. We are looking forward to hearing from our "cyberspace listeners".

Since 1979, Rudy & Sue Ondrejco, hosts of the Western Pennsylvania Slovak Radio Hour have been providing a wonderfully entertaining program. Each week listeners tune in to hear Slovak music and songs, and news and announcements affecting the Tri-State area as well as Slovakia.

## FROM THE OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY:

As of April 1, 2008 pursuant to the bylaws section 4.05 Financial Obligations, the following branches have not met all the requirements to receive their branch stipend. If any branch officer feels there is a discrepancy please contact the home office immediately at 1-800-533-6682.

List of branches that did not qualify for a branch stipend:

### REGION 1

<u>District 1</u>	<u>District 4</u>	<u>District 16</u>
Br. 053 K	Br. 032 K	Br. 082 K
Br. 098 K	Br. 102 K	Br. 339 K
Br. 517 K	Br. 121 K	Br. 340 K
Br. 661 K	Br. 132 K	
Br. 725 K	Br. 168 K	
Br. 890 K	Br. 201 K	
	Br. 324 K	
	Br. 381 K	
	Br. 652 K	

### REGION 2

<u>District 8</u>	<u>District 8</u>	<u>District 8</u>
Br. 018 K	Br. 131 P	Br. 270 K
Br. 040 P	Br. 136 K	Br. 294 K
Br. 051 P	Br. 144 P	Br. 326 K
Br. 061 K	Br. 156 K	Br. 327 K
Br. 064 K	Br. 157 K	Br. 332 K
Br. 075 K	Br. 215 K	Br. 335 K
Br. 114 K	Br. 226 P	Br. 505 K
Br. 116 P	Br. 659 K	Br. 775 K
	Br. 779 K	

### REGION 3

<u>District 17</u>	<u>District 17</u>
Br. 016 P	Br. 240 P
Br. 152 K	Br. 263 K
Br. 237 P	Br. 356 P
Br. 238 K	Br. 368 K
Br. 240 K	Br. 461 K

### REGION 4

<u>District 3</u>	<u>District 7</u>	<u>District 9</u>	<u>District 12</u>	<u>District 13</u>
Br. 086 K	Br. 096 K	Br. 108 K	Br. 565 K	Br. 149 K
Br. 122 K	Br. 321 P	Br. 323 K	Br. 851 K	Br. 198 P
Br. 211 K	Br. 549 K	Br. 826 K		Br. 233 K
Br. 388 K	Br. 571 K	Br. 835 K		Br. 299 K
	Br. 577 K			Br. 322 K
	Br. 604 K			Br. 417 K
				Br. 667 K

### REGION 5

<u>District 6</u>	<u>District 6</u>	<u>District 11</u>	<u>District 11</u>
Br. 004 K	Br. 487 K	Br. 164 K	Br. 701 K
Br. 254 K	Br. 618 K	Br. 200 K	Br. 831 K
Br. 315 K	Br. 644 K	Br. 401 K	
Br. 454 K	Br. 704 K	Br. 429 K	
Br. 465 K	Br. 733 K	Br. 600 K	

### REGION 6

<u>District 10</u>	<u>District 14</u>	<u>District 18</u>	<u>District 18</u>
Br. 319 K	Br. 165 K	Br. 114 P	Br. 741 k
Br. 714 K	Br. 342 P	Br. 348 K	Br. 888 K
Br. 754 K	Br. 759 K	Br. 362 K	
Br. 862 K		Br. 472 K	

### REGION 7

<u>District 2</u>	<u>District 2</u>	<u>District 5</u>	<u>District 5</u>	<u>District 15</u>
Br. 083 K	Br. 591 K	Br. 221 K	Br. 748 K	Br. 028 K
Br. 089 K	Br. 624 K	Br. 332 P	Br. 756 K	Br. 100 K
Br. 163 K	Br. 686 K	Br. 595 K	Br. 774 K	Br. 109 K
Br. 224 K	Br. 703 K	Br. 615 K	Br. 780 K	Br. 128 K
Br. 358 K	Br. 717 K	Br. 633 K	Br. 788 K	Br. 226 K
Br. 480 K	Br. 718 K	Br. 721 K		Br. 296 K
Br. 510 K	Br. 729 K	Br. 743 K		Br. 330 K
Br. 543 K	Br. 762 K			Br. 403 K
Br. 586 K				Br. 404 K
				Br. 407 K
				Br. 700 K
				Br. 702 K
				Br. 735 K
				Br. 844 K

## REMEMBER OUR DEPARTED MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

### Anna Ondrek Branch 716 New York City

Anna Ondrek, 61, of Deland, Florida, passed away in the arms of her family on Wednesday, April 23, 2008. She was the husband of Karol Ondrek.

Mrs. Ondek was born October 12, 1946, in Skalka nad Vahom, Slovakia, a daughter of Jozef Strnad and Maria Lajchova. She spent her early years living on the family farm with her three brothers and four sisters. She met her future husband, Karol Ondrek, when he was sent to intern at her father's farm in 1965. They met at her parents' house and it was love at first sight. Karol decided to move to the United States in 1968. Anka, (as she was called by her friends) debated whether she should leave her family to follow the man she loved or not. Finally, with the encouragement of her parents, she decided to leave on October 7, 1968. This was the date the communist government in Czechoslovakia closed the borders prohibiting any citizens from leaving. She managed to leave just in time prior to their action. After arriving at JFK Airport in New York, she began a new life. She lived with one of Karol's relatives and within a year learned to speak English. Karol and Anna were married January 31, 1970 and soon bought their first home in Farmingdale, New York. They later moved to Hauppauge, New York. The couple had three sons, Joseph, Simon and Charles, who survive.

Mrs. Ondrek earned a Associates Degree and began to work outside the home. She was employed by Safelight in Hauppauge for several years and then with Entenmann's Bakery in Bayshore, where she worked as a payroll accountant.

Anna maintained a strong connection with the Slovak community in New York by attending Mass and participating in many activities at St. John Nepomucene Church in New York City. She was also a member of Jednota Branch 716.

After retiring, Anna and Karol moved to the Victoria Gardens Community in Deland, Florida where they discovered a new circle of loving friends who have become their new family.

Anna enjoyed gardening, sewing, cooking, walking, skiing, spending time with her family and friends, and talking via web cam to her grandson in New York.

She is survived by her husband, Karol; three sons, Joseph of Nyack, New York, Simon of Longwood, Florida, and Charles of Queens, New York; and a grandson, Riley Stefan of Nyack.

Memorial donations maybe made to The Hospice of Volusia/Flagler, 1625 Veterans Memorial Parkway, Orange City, FL 32763 or online at [www.hovf.org](http://www.hovf.org).

### William E. Capkovic Branch 567 Allentown, Pennsylvania

William E. Capkovic, 80, of Whitehall, Pennsylvania, died Wednesday, April 16, 2008. He was married to the love of his life, June (Kratzer) Capkovic for 57 years on June 3.

Born in Allentown, Pennsylvania, he was the son of the late Stephen and Mary (Au-

gustovic) Capkovic.

Bill was a life long member of St. John the Baptist Slovak Catholic Church in Allentown. He was the Founder and President of Dual Temp Co. and Dual Temp Fuels. "Cap" was a past president of the Sertoma Club of Allentown, a past president and charter member of Lehigh Valley A.B.C. He served in the Coast Guard during World War II, patrolling the North and South Atlantic Oceans.

He will be sadly missed by his entire family. In addition to his wife, he is survived by a son, Thomas and wife Susan Capkovic of Pittsburgh; two daughters, Rebecca and fiancé John D. Burd of Schnecksville, Pennsylvania and Jennifer and husband Joe DiClemente of Lake Ariel, Pennsylvania; grandchildren, David, Adrienne and William; sisters, Mary Marth and Eleanor Baer; and a brother, Edward and wife Mary Capkovic. He was predeceased by his brothers, Robert and Stephen, and sisters Frances and Anne.

Friends were received at the Kohut Funeral Home, Allentown. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated in St. John the Baptist Church. Burial was in Cedar Hill Memorial Park.

Memorial donations may be made to St. John the Baptist Church, 924 N. Front St., Allentown, PA 18102, or to Meals on Wheels of the Lehigh Valley, 4234 Dorney Park Rd., Allentown, PA 18104.

Helen Fiala

### Al Smurda, Vice President Branch 55 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania



Albert Joseph Smurda, 78, of Harleysville, Pennsylvania, a lifetime member of the First Catholic Slovak Union, died April 20, 2008 of lymphoma after a long illness at the Manor Care Nursing Home in Montgomery Township. He was predeceased by his brother, Michael F. Smurda, also a lifetime FCSU member, and a sister, Mary Theresa Smurda, who died tragically in an automobile accident at the age of 20.

Al worked for Minneapolis-Honeywell in Fort Washington, Pennsylvania for 35 years and for the Hatfield Township for 15 years. He served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. He loved golf and played locally and in the Jednota golf tournaments. He also loved to sing and collected Slovak folk songs in addition to the popular songs of his day. Our bus trips to Jednota picnics were great fun as he always led us in singing both Slovak and popular songs.

Always a kind and compassionate man, Al ministered to his brother by giving him swimming lessons during his illness. For many years, he volunteered as a swimming instructor to the elderly in rehabilitation at the Hatfield Pool.

Originally a member of Branch 374, Al was elected a delegate to represent Branch 55 at the 46<sup>th</sup> National Convention in Toronto, Canada in 1998, the year Branch 574 merged with Branch 55. He was then elected Vice President of Branch 55 in January 1999. He served with faithful devotion and distinction as Vice President and as a delegate to District 8 meetings and national conventions. When he was hospitalized in 2006, he resigned his position as Vice President. At the annual

continued on page 9

# News From Slovakia

## Bryndza Sheep's Cheese Set to Acquire European Trademark

Slovakia's quest to acquire another protected geographical designation in Brussels for a food product looks set to come to fruition, as no other EU country objected to its request for a European trademark for its bryndza sheep's cheese within the stipulated period.

The six-month response period ended at midnight on Friday, April 4, without any objections lodged, meaning that the European Commission can now begin internal

procedures aimed at officially registering the product within weeks.

Bryndza is set to become the second Slovak food product to be officially registered by the EU, the first being the Skalica trdelnik cake.

Other products for which Slovakia is seeking registration include the Parenica and Slovensky Ostiepok cheeses, several types of sausage, and a long-life salami.

TASR

## New Fun Centre to Open in Donovaly

A new 'adrenaline center' costing almost 1.54 million euros will be opened this year at the holiday resort in Donovaly located in the Banska Bystrica region.

The center's owner, Park Snow Bratislava, has begun building the fun center in April using its own resources, said director Branislav Velky. The center will include a bobsled run, an obstacle course, trampolines, a rope-climbing center, climbing walls and frames, and other attractions for both children and adults.

This year's skiing season at the resort ended in early April. "The season met our expectations. It lasted longer than in previous years, thanks to the artificial snow. The number of Polish holiday vacationers- who made up almost one-quarter of all visitors-increased, as did the number of Hungarian tourists," said Velky. Other skiers came from the Czech Republic, Lithuania, Latvia and Ukraine.

Donovaly currently offers 4,000 beds in

hotels, guesthouses, apartments, cottages and private homes. Another 800 beds will be added during the upcoming summer season in new accommodation facilities.

TASR

## Slovak Foreign Policy Goals Successfully Attained in 2007

Slovak foreign affairs policy goals for last year were successfully attained, while one of the most important tasks was Slovakia's membership in the UN Security Council, it was announced recently by Slovakia's chief of diplomacy Jan Kubis.

"No one can say that we didn't succeed in reaching this and other goals," Kubis said at the ninth annual Foreign Affairs Policy Evaluation Conference.

Kubis said that 2007 was a successful year for Slovak foreign affairs policy. He noted, however, that some tasks defined within the scope of Slovakia's ongoing chairmanship in the Council of Europe Ministers' Committee have not been completely finished. One example, he said, was building cooperation between the Council and Belarus.

The minister criticized the Opposition, which, according to him, tried to create an impression that the Government's policy is anti-American. "As if the criticism of some of our partners' position, would automatically mean that we're anti-American," said Kubis, adding that Slovakia has its own views and interests, which are being pursued by Slovakia as a sovereign state.

Kubis also pointed out that in December the Schengen zone was enlarged by another nine (including Slovakia) countries, which, according to him, wasn't an easy task.

During its 15-year existence Slovakia has developed into a country that is firmly anchored in international organizations. "Even though Slovakia isn't a great power, it managed to create suitable conditions to put forward its own interests. It acts unequivocally and consistently for the benefit of the international community," said Kubis, adding that Slovakia adheres to principles of democracy, solidarity, humanity and human rights.

The minister said the ministry will require more financial means in next year's budget in the form of aid for developing countries.

TASR

## Slovaks Less Interested in Working Abroad

Slovaks have become less interested in working abroad during the last two years, according to recent data. The data shows that only 15 percent of Slovaks want to work abroad, a 5-percent fall from the peak level in 2006.

The United Kingdom recorded the most significant fall in Slovaks interested in employment, with a reduction of one-half over the last two years. Only 4 percent of Slovaks now say that they want to work in Britain.

A slight decline in interest has also been recorded in the Czech Republic, Ireland, the United States, Germany and Austria. On the contrary, interest in working in the Netherlands and Switzerland has increased during the last two years.

At the same time, job vacancies have fallen at a faster rate than interest in working abroad, with the number of vacancies down by 7 percent. Vacancies abroad currently

make up 11 percent of the total number in the website's database.

The main reason for the drop in interest in working abroad are the high number of foreigners looking for jobs in the countries concerned, less attractive incomes due to the strengthening of the Slovak koruna, and lower unemployment and more rapid salary growth in Slovakia due to the domestic labor shortage.

The average age for those interested in working abroad is 28 for men and 25 for women. In most countries, the main interest is in temporary posts, administrative work and jobs in cafes and restaurants. One exception is the Czech Republic, where most Slovak job seekers are university graduates, and are viewed as qualified and reliable employees by Czech companies.

TASR

## Pittsburgh Diocese Celebrates 49<sup>th</sup> Annual Investiture for Ladies of Charity

Recently, one hundred nineteen Ladies from across the Diocese of Pittsburgh were invested into the Association of Ladies of Charity by Bishop David Zubik at a Mass in St. Paul's Cathedral in Pittsburgh. The Ladies of Charity are a volunteer group of women who reach out to the elderly, sick, needy, poor and hurting people in their parishes and in their communities. St. Vincent de Paul along with St. Louise de Marillac founded this association to help those in need. Living up to their motto: "To Serve rather than to be Served," many of these ladies reach out beyond their parishes, making sandwiches and cookies for the homeless and visiting them at Christmas and Easter with seasonal gifts.

Among the 119 Ladies who were invested by Bishop David Zubik were five Ladies from St. Thomas A' Becket Church in Jefferson Hills. These Ladies are: Helen Iannacchione, Carolyn Peternel, Tanya Wardlaw, Connie Yanick and Dolores Yogan. Other parishes in the area also participated in this Investiture.



Ladies from St. Thomas A' Becket Parish, Jefferson Hills were invested in the Diocesan Association of the Ladies of Charity by Bishop David Zubik. They are L-R: Connie Yanick, Tanya Wardlaw, Dolores Yogan, Bishop David Zubik, Carolyn Peternel, and Helen Iannacchione.

**REMEMBER  
OUR DEPARTED  
MEMBERS  
AND FRIENDS**

*continued from page 8*

meeting in October 2006, he was unanimously elected Vice President Emeritus. The officers held him in high esteem for his gentle and wise suggestions that served the Branch. This true Slovak-American gentleman will be greatly missed by the officers and members of Branch 55.

A Funeral Mass was held at St. Maria Goretti Church, Hatfield. Mass was celebrated by the pastor, Rev. Leonard N. Peterson, who spoke warmly of him. Father Peterson came to know him well while ministering to him during his illness. Father Peterson also conducted the Burial Services at Holy Sepulcher Cemetery in Cheltenham Township. The Huff and Lakjer Funeral Home in Lansdale handled the funeral arrangements. Memorial donations may be made to St. Maria Goretti Church, 1601 Derstine Rd., Hatfield, PA 19440.

Helena Gaydos

# YOUTH

## ROUND-UP

### Newest Branch Member

Mary Boone, age 6, is the newest member of branch 853. Mary is the newly adopted daughter of Ron Boone and Monica Rodacy-Boone, former FCSU Pension Board Trustee and former National Auditor. The Boones also have an 8 year old son, Charles who is an active member of the branch. In the month since Mary came to the States from Guatemala, her big brother Charles has enjoyed sharing with her and showing her many new experiences of our treasured life in the United States. Ron, Monica, Charles and Mary reside in the Beechview section of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania



Charles Rodacy Boone, 8, and his new sister, Mary, 6, on the day after she arrived in the United States.



### Branch 853 Member Receives First Holy Communion

Charles Rodacy Boone, Branch 853, received the sacrament of the Holy Eucharist for the first time on Sunday April 27.

The 8-year-old is a second grader at St. Bernard's School in Mt. Lebanon. Charles received his First Holy Communion at his home parish of St Catherine of Siena Church in the Beechview section of Pittsburgh.

We pray for God to bless Charles at this very special time.

## REPORT OF REGIONAL DIRECTOR #1

Reverend Father, Mr. President and fellow members of the Board.

My activities for the past months consisted of attending different meetings. I attended both some annual and semi-annual meetings of the Board along with telephonic meetings. I further attended the Monsignor John E. Rura Okres (District) meeting, Branch 746, Linden, New Jersey, Branch 290, Raritan, New Jersey and the New Jersey Fraternal Congress. I took part in the Seminar in Carteret, New Jersey held in October 2007. I also attended the Slovak Festival held in New Jersey along with President Andrew Rajec, Vice President Andrew Harcar and numerous officers and members of Jednota and other Societies.

I sent branch surveys to all branches in my region, but sorry to say the response was very poor.

The Officers and I have been discussing having a Hoop Shoot either in different branches or "okresoch" (districts). More will follow after our okres (district) meeting in April. A picnic is also being planned and details will follow.

It is very difficult to get all the branches together due to the long distance between them. But we will try to accomplish something in the future.

Respectfully submitted,  
**Joseph F. Minarovich**  
Regional Director #1

## REPORT OF REGIONAL DIRECTOR #2

March 2008

Rev. Thomas Nasta, President Andrew Rajec and fellow members of the FCSU Board of Directors:

It has once again been a privilege and an honor to serve as the Regional Director for Region 2.

In 2007, I performed all duties required of me as stipulated by the bylaws. I've attended the semi-annual and annual Board of Directors meetings held in Independence, OH as well as both full board teleconference meetings. I've also attended both district meetings that my region held in Landsford, PA and in Washington, DC. In April, my region held a sales seminar in Allentown, PA. I attended and participated in the annual golf tournament in Huron, OH in July. In August, I represented my region at the funeral of Region Director Emeritus Joseph Krajsa.

At the semi-annual meeting following the 2006 convention, I was charged by President Hricik to look into the placement of branches within districts. That research was completed and was presented to the board and the executive committee for their review at the annual meeting in March 2007.

While traveling to branch meetings is very difficult due to my work schedule, I've tried to keep in contact with my branches through the mail and at district meetings. I've sent out letters informing them of the by-law changes that took effect January 1, 2007 that could effect their branch's per-member stipend as well as their attendance at the next convention. I also sent them a survey attempting to get an idea of their branch's activity and if it would be possible or necessary to merge with another branch. While the response thus far has been light (about 8.5%) I intend to follow up with branches that I have not heard from.

Fraternally,  
**Damian D. Nasta Regional Director - Region 2**

## REPORT OF REGION 3

**CARL UNGVASKY, REGIONAL DIRECTOR**

Reverend Thomas Nasta, President Andrew Rajec and fellow members of the First Catholic Slovak Union Board of Directors.

It has once again been a privilege and honor to serve as Director for Region 3.

In 2007 I performed all duties required of me as stipulated by the First Catholic Slovak Union Bylaws. I have attended and participated in the semi-annual and annual meetings of the Board of Directors held in Independence, Ohio, and both telephone conference meetings of the Board of Directors.

I have attended the semi-annual and annual meetings of District 17 that were held in Scranton, Pennsylvania. At each meeting of District 17 I have reported to the members and officers any action from the national board meetings. I spoke of ways to promote the First Catholic Slovak Union and answered any questions.

I am always available to any member or branch officer to help in filling out forms or to explain any other society business.

As an insurance and annuity licensee, I have outlined the latest insurance forms and rates at each meeting and have promoted both the insurance and annuity programs of the FCSU to our members.

In April 2007 our Region had a sales seminar in Scranton, Pennsylvania which I attended. In August I represented Region 3 at the funeral of Regional Director Emeritus Joseph Krajsa.

I have attended branch meetings and outlined the reporting process required.

*continued on page 11*

## Annual Pittsburgh International Folk Festival, May 16, 17, 18

The Pittsburgh Slovaks and Junior Pittsburgh Slovaks will represent the Slovaks at the 52nd Annual Pittsburgh International Folk Festival, May 16, 17, 18, to be held at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center in downtown Pittsburgh. Throughout the weekend festival goers will have the opportunity to experience the foods, traditional music & dance, cultural exhibits, folk crafts, global marketplace and Ethnic Cooking Demonstrations from more than thirty nationalities. The Pittsburgh Slovaks will perform Friday evening, May 16th, while the Junior Pittsburgh Slovaks will participate in the Children's Matinee on Saturday, May 17th.

In the Global Marketplace shop for the finest Slovak crystal, glass and jewelry at LaBoheme, or stop by the Slovak Folk Crafts display and choose from an array of various handcrafted Slovak items.

The Slovak kitchen will be serving, Chicken Paprikaš, Pork & Sauerkraut, Mushroom Soup, Halušky, and Palacinky with fruit fillings. If you have a sweet tooth listen to this—stop by and choose from our array of baked goods. Get them while they last. Festival times are: Friday 4 – 10 p.m.; Sat. Noon – 10, and Sunday Noon – 6. Tickets are \$ 8.00 each if you order them in advance. Call (412) 421-1204 and reserve your tickets today. Admission price at the gate is

\$10.00, so the best deal is to buy them in advance. We'll be looking for you!

## REPORT OF REGIONAL DIRECTOR #4

President Andrew Rajec, National Officers and Board of Directors attending the March Annual Meeting.

I have attended all Board of Directors meetings and meetings at different districts when called.

As Vice President of the George Onda District, I have answered any questions asked, to the best of my ability, and reported any new information from the home office.

There were 2 seminars, in Johnstown and Uniontown, given by Mr. Harcar, Mr. Arendt and Mr. Matta, that I attended.

The St. John the Baptist Branch 181 is a large branch in the Jednota, I am the Financial Secretary. There is much paper work and visiting those who call about our insurance. When other recommenders need forms, I copy forms for them. When members of our branch or district pass away, I go to the funeral home and offer my condolences and have a Mass for them from Branch 181. The officers try to attend the Mass. I talk to the family and tell them when they are ready to talk about the insurance, to call me.

Branch 181 has a summer picnic each year. We are lucky to have all the help we get from our officers and members. The members and their guest are asked to bring a covered dish and the branch provides drinks, chicken, haiupky, rigatoni, haluski, sauerkraut, kolbosa and hot dogs. The children enjoy the games and prizes we have for them, and the adults receive tickets for door prizes.

I sent out 45 letters to branches in my region asking them for information that was needed by the home office to have a better look at the active branches and to see if they met all the requirements to receive the \$4.00 per member. This also gives an idea of the branches that are inactive.

Some of our branches are fading away due to the fact that our members are getting older, can't do the book work and leg work that is needed. Some branches are willing to merge with other branches. I have two branches who are willing to take other branches that need help, this is reported in my report to the home office.

God Bless.

Fraternally,

**George A. Sprock, Region 4 Director**

## REGIONAL DIRECTOR, REGION #5

### REPORT TO THE FCSU BOARD OF DIRECTORS BOARD MEETING MARCH 14-15, 2008 INDEPENDENCE, OHIO

I have attended all Board of Directors Meetings, (four), two meetings with entire board present and two meetings via telephone. I also attended District Meetings and conducted mini seminars on FCSU products, insurance and annuities.

I passed on to the lodge salesman their standings for quarterly sales, individual performance, lodge performance and totals for the quarters.

I have made telephone calls to current members in the region on the senior promotion program. Many members know of this program and show interest. I have sent information to a few people.

I attended all regional functions to which I was invited. Some of the functions I have attended:

Pittsburgh District Father's Day Luncheon at Holy Trinity Church, West Mifflin.

Western Pennsylvania Slovak Radio Hour 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Dinner Dance at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Center Southside, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, October 6, 2007.

In addition, I sent letters to fifteen (15) lodge secretaries requesting branch information as to present officers, addresses, membership etc. with requests that these forms be completed and returned to the Regional Director, Region #5.

In Region #5, our Pittsburgh District met and exceeded their sales goals for 2007.

End of report.

Fraternally,

**Regis P. Brekosky**

**Regional Director #5**

## REPORT OF REGIONAL DIRECTOR #6

To: F.C.S.U. President Andrew Rajec, Rev. Nasta, Fellow Directors

From: Henry Hassay Director Region 6

Re: Branch Mergers/Sales

Dear Mr. President, Rev. Nasta, Fellow Board members,

Since our last semi annual meeting I have exhausted much of my personal time trying to contact Branch Presidents and officers to discuss possible mergers and sales.

I experienced 90% no contact, no response. The remaining 10% showed no interest in added responsibility or mergers.

With all due respect, Mr. President, any further efforts on my part as an unpaid Regional Director, will have to be initiated by you and or your staff at the Home Office with specific instructions, names, phone numbers and addresses of people to contact.

I am willing to spend time at the Home Office in order to have the assistance of your staff and the necessary information to intelligently execute the important challenge of mergers and declining sales.

Our Recommenders are very important to us to remain as a Fraternal. I'm sure we are under the scrutiny of the Government and the major Insurance Companies with their paid Lobbyists, who would be happy to see us fail, as we did in Canada. It is imperative that we improve our Branch, District concept in order to survive.

I fulfilled my duties as Director by attending my share of meetings, fraternal activities, funerals, working the F.C.S.U. Booth at the St. Matthias's Church Slovak Day in Youngstown, which was very well attended. I attended the seminar held in Youngstown.

We will not improve our status without the cooperation of our few remaining Slovak Church's and priests. We must continue to induce our priests to support us and fraternalism.

In conclusion I would like a report from the Home Office reciting all the Home Office direct sales, and which branches they are assigned. This should not be labor intensive because of the diminishing sales.

Fraternally,

**Henry Hassay, Director Region 6**

## REPORT OF REGION 3

*continued from page 10*

I have attended and participated as a member of the FCSU at the Slovak Flag Raising Ceremony at the Luzerne County Court House in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania.

I stand ready and available to help in any way to serve the interests of the First Catholic Slovak Union.

**If each member would sign up just one new member, we could double our Society immediately.**

**THINK ABOUT IT!**

### FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION ANNOUNCING AVOID STOCK MARKET VOLATILITY The FIXED RATE 6-YEAR\* ANNUITY

**4.50%**  
(APR 4.402%)

\*Interest rate Guaranteed for 6 years  
RATE EFFECTIVE UNTIL 6/30/2008

**Our FIXED RATE 6-YEAR annuity offers you the following benefits:**

- A much higher interest rate than other current low rates available
- Rate is guaranteed for 6 years. No interest rate fluctuation or changes
- The power of annuity tax deferral
- A safe, secure and competitive investment for your retirement (IRA) funds
- Opportunity to lock-in a competitive rate for 6 years and avoid the turmoil of stock market volatility

**The FIXED RATE 6-YEAR annuity has the following features and terms:**

- Interest rate fixed for 6 years
- 10% penalty free annual withdrawal (based on contract cash value at the beginning of each year)
- 6-year withdrawal penalty period: 1st year-6%, thereafter reduces 1% each year for next 5 years. Bank withdrawal penalties are much higher
- Not applicable to any settlement option annuity funds, or interest only annuities
- Annuity withdrawal prior to age 59 ½, subject to Federal Excise Tax Penalty
- Minimum deposit \$5,000

**COMPARE OUR FIXED RATE 6-YEAR ANNUITY RATE TO YOUR LOCAL BANK RATES DON'T DELAY, ACT NOW!**

**For information, contact:**

**FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION**

**6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300**

**P. O. Box 318013**

**Independence, OH 44131-8013**

**Call 1-800 JEDNOTA or 1-216-642-9406**

# REPORT OF REGIONAL DIRECTOR, REGION #7

Reverend Thomas Nasta, President Andrew Rajec and Officers and Board of Directors of the First Catholic Slovak Union.

As prescribed by the Bylaws of the First Catholic Slovak Union as amended in our most recent National Convention, in Boca Raton, Florida; I hereby present my annual report. In the year 2007, I was in attendance to all quarterly meetings of the First Catholic Slovak Union, telephonically and personally.

I also attended all meetings in the Reverend John J. Spitkovsky District 2 and Michigan District 5. I was not in attendance to the Prince Pribina District 15 meetings as they are located in Los Angeles, California. However, to keep our District FCSU membership informed, I sent written reports of the FCSU annual and semi-annual meeting activity to the presidents of Districts 2, 5 and 15.

I also attended a Membership and Marketing Seminar in Michigan given by Vice President Andrew Harcar and Executive Secretary Kenneth Arendt. I was in attendance at Branch 686's semi-annual and annual meetings and coordinated FCSU's presence at the Wisconsin Federated Slovak Societies Annual Picnic at Croatian Park, Franklin, Wisconsin.

I mailed out 51 FCSU Branch Status Reports, to every branch in District 2, 5 and 15 and only received 29 responses in return.

I personally traveled to Kenosha and Union Grove, Wisconsin to assess the functionality of the branches in these communities.

I also attended the pre-Thanksgiving Folk Fare in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, an event that draws 30,000 to 40,000 people every year, an event that has a strong Slovak participation with the intent of having the FCSU presence exhibited and marketed in the year 2008.

Region 7 had the highest participation in the Christmas Coloring Contest, having close to one-third of all entries out of the 9 regions. I sent the Christmas Coloring Contest entry names to the presidents of District 2, 5 and 15. I further extended my gratitude to all district presidents and officers for their promotion of this fraternal activity chaired by the Fraternal Activities Director, Susan Ondrejco. To all branches from District 2, 5 and 15, many thanks for their participation in this event. These children represent the future of the First Catholic Slovak Union.

Respectfully submitted,  
**Rudolph D. Glogovsky**  
Regional Director, Region 7

# REPORT OF REGIONAL DIRECTOR, REGION 8 & 9

MARCH 2008

Mr. President, Executive Committee and Fellow Board Members:

It has been a privilege and honor to serve as the Regional Director for Region 8 & 9. In 2007 I performed all duties required of me as stipulated in the bylaws.

I attended both the annual and semi annual Board of Directors meetings held at the Home Office in Independence, Ohio and participated in both quarterly teleconference meetings. I have also attended local annual meetings of the Monsignor Michael Shuba District and Branch #785 as well as their semi annual meetings.

I have stayed in contact with the presidents of branches #865 and #789 in Ontario and #810 and #784 in Quebec.

I personally participated in the fraternal activities of the Jednota by taking part in the International Bowling Tournament held April 2007 in Buffalo, New York and the Golfing Tournament July 2007 in Sandusky, Ohio. For our local activities; I assisted and participated in our successful annual summer regional picnic, held on July 29, 2007, in Mississauga, Ontario which was well attended by our members.

I represented Jednota in September 2007 at a private luncheon for his Excellency Archbishop Jan Sokol who was visiting Canada from Slovakia.

I represented the Jednota at the funeral celebration for Reverend John Moravsky S.J. in September 2007 who was a past Canadian Chaplain for the Jednota from 1982 to 1988.

I sent out questionnaires to all branches (11 in total) in Region 8 & 9 in December 2007 and received eight responses back. The responses are very discouraging and it appears that we only have two active branches, #785 in Toronto and #784 in Montreal. Three branches did not respond #810, #821 and #402.

Respectfully submitted,  
**Milos Mitro**  
Regional Director, Region 8 & 9



Photo by Gretchen Crowe, Arlington

**Crowds of Catholics wave and cheer Pope Benedict XVI as he enters Nationals Park in the Popemobile April 17.**

## Pope Benedict XVI Received Warm Welcome and Media Reflected His Themes of "Christ Our Hope," Love, Truth, Human Dignity, Peace & Freedom

By **John Karch**  
Part 1

Although, as Cardinal, he had visited the United States several times, he was not well-known in this country even by Catholics. Last fall, three years into his Papacy, the Vatican announced that Benedict XVI would make his first trip to the U.S.—to Washington, D.C. and to New York. As can only be imagined, the prodigious effort began to unfold: venues, security, itineraries, Masses (including concelebrants, choir(s), soloists, gift takers, readers, Eucharistic Ministers, meetings, key personalities, rehearsals, meals, and the print and electronic media).

### Pope, Church, Public

Polls/surveys indicated that Benedict XVI was not well-known to the American public but that number decreased after his visit. Pre- and post- Knights of Columbus surveys of the Pontiff's visit, were conducted by the Marist College Institute for Public Opinion. The respondents were eighteen years of age and older. This writer is a long-time member of the Knights.

Most Americans (57%) still do not feel they know the Pope well. However, those that know nothing declined from 29% to 18%. The visit was an "historic event." The survey reported that 84% of Americans "saw, read, or heard something" about Benedict XVI's visit to the U.S.: 61% of Americans "feel" the Pope's trip "met or exceeded their expectations for his visit"; 65% have a "more positive view" of the Pope and 52% of the Catholic Church"; 71% now have a "more favorable impression" of the Pope compared to 58% before; 67% of Americans now have a "favorable impression" of the Catholic Church, only 2% higher than pre-visit.

By more than two to one, Americans think "the most meaningful part" of the Pope's visit is his meeting with the victims and the families of children abused by priests; 14% are also "moved" by his visit

to Ground Zero, while 9% "feel" his Stadium Masses were "most important to them."

Regarding their "View" of the Pontiff, 53% pre-visit Americans described him positively as a "spiritual leader," which increased nine points post-visit. Regarding Benedict XVI as "someone who cares about people like themselves," the positive response increased from 48% to 60%.

Thirty-five percent say they are now "more in touch with their own spiritual values" and only 10% "less in touch," the result of the Pope's visit; "No difference" in spiritual values was reported by 55% of respondents. Now, nearly half of Americans (49%) have a "better understanding of the Catholic Church's positions on important issues"; 41% "more likely to lead a moral life"; 38% "make family a bigger part of your life." By a margin of three to one, Americans assess the Pontiff's world view "positively."

As to the sex-abuse scandal, the majority of Americans believe he spent "the right of time" in discussions and 58% are "satisfied" with his apology, with 22% unsure and 22% dissatisfied. However, 46% of Americans believe the Catholic Church "has not done enough to avoid a recurrence of a sex abuse scandal in the future."

Prior to the Pope's visit, 95% of Americans had a "positive view of Jesus Christ," and 96% after Pope Benedict XVI's visit, the latter with 69% very favorable and 27% favorable.

Even before the Pontiff's visit, Supreme Knight of the Knights of Columbus, Carl Anderson, concluded that despite recent negativism of the Church and the Pontiff, the American people "have a very sensible and balanced view of Benedict and the Church and they are very open to hearing his views on matters of how they might live their faith and put it into action in their daily lives."

**The Media**

*continued on page 13*

## 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](mailto:fcsu@aol.com)

# Pope Benedict XVI Received Warm Welcome and Media Reflected His Themes of “Christ Our Hope,” Love, Truth, Human Dignity, Peace & Freedom

*continued from page 12*

The print and electronic media, especially TV, can be characterized as giving “historic” coverage to Pope Benedict XVI’s visit to the U.S. This term can be applied to the Vatican’s appreciation of the value of the mass media, EWTN, and to a lesser extent Fox TV News. The Catholic News Agency (CNA) carried numerous stories on the Pope’s visit, so valuable to Diocese publications, and LifeSiteNews.com even more. The Catholic weeklies and biweekly gave substantial coverage to the event and the periodicals somewhat less. Coverage by the secular media—press, TV, radio, internet—varied in quantity and quality, including bias of the institutions and personalities.

The Vatican Information Service (VIS), which is available on the internet, sending Holy See events Monday-Friday, furnished the Pontiff’s detailed activities and remarks during the U.S. visit.

LifeSiteNews.com is a daily Monday-Friday service citing many website articles, including its own, on life and family. It carried numerous articles on Pope Benedict XVI’s visit.

According to EWTN, the Global Catholic Radio Network, Irondale, AL, it is available in nearly 150 million TV households in 144 countries and territories. With its direct broadcast satellite television and radio services, AM & FM radio networks, world-wide shortwave radio station, Internet website [www.wetn.com](http://www.wetn.com), and publishing capability, it is the largest Catholic media network in the world. Most recently its TV Service is being carried on the direct-to-home platform ASTRA, the leading satellite system for reception in Europe.

On April 4, EWTN issued a Media Advisory offering EWTN experts for interviews on the Pope’s visit. These included Raymond Arroyo, Fr. Richard John Neuhaus, and Supreme Knight Carl Anderson. On its website, it lists “Catholic Headlines” for the last thirty days from the CATHOLIC NEWS AGENCY, CATHOLIC WORLD NEWS, VIS, and ZENIT.

EWTN provided extensive coverage through English and Spanish networks. Its Live TV coverage was led by well-known News Director Arroyo, also an author, who was joined by Commentator Father Neuhaus, Editor and author, and Knights’ Anderson. Appearing with them from time to time were priests and media activists, as well as U.S. Ambassador to the Holy See and others. EWTN gave a detailed and precise schedule of events from Tuesday, April 15 through Sunday, April 20.

## Diocesan Print Medium

The Pope’s visits to Washington and New York prompted extensive coverage in the Washington Archdiocese CATHOLIC STANDARD (WCS), Arlington, VA Diocese ARLINGTON CATHOLIC HERALD (ACH), and the New York Archdiocese CATHOLIC NEW YORK (CNY). In addition to articles and photos, the WCS and Arlington ACH weeklies issued special inserts, with many pictures. The 12-page WCS, in English and Spanish, had an article on “President Bush Welcomes Pope Benedict to the United States,” with snapshots of deplaning; Popemobile with



*Photo by Gretchen Crowe, Arlington*

**Pope Benedict XVI makes his way through Washington to Nationals Park as thousands look on.**

the Pope waving to the attendees at the Nationals Park, the caption reading “I come as a friend and preacher of the Gospel”; celebration of the Mass; of people praying, singing, and reaching out to the Pope.

The ACH began writing about the Pope early. In its March 6-12 issue, it carried a CNS article, with a photo, “Pope influenced by St. Augustine’s conversion.” With the March 27-April 2 issue, it began a series on “The Papacy from Peter to Benedict.” In addition to the articles, the ACH prepared a 24-page 11½-14½ inch beautiful special issue, with a separate 8X10 photo of a smiling Pope and numerous articles and photos about Benedict XVI’s visit. Among these were CNS’ “Pope comes to strengthen faith, hope, love” and Arlington Diocese Bishop Paul Loverde’s “The Vicar of Christ among us.”

The last two issues of April reflected the Pope’s speeches, such as, in the first, “A teaching moment”, CNS’ “Jesus Christ is hope for all” and “From baseball stadium to cathedral” with many photos.

The April 24-30, 32-page edition was devoted almost entirely to “Reaching out to his flock, Pope Benedict brings message of hope, healing, unity,” with a large, attractive front-page color photo of the Pontiff extending his arms, and the former article by Staff Writers Gretchen Crowe and Henrietta Gomes. Some others were “A Presidential welcome,” “A reason for your hope,” “Farewell is just the beginning,”

“Gathered together in prayer, Pope challenges Church leaders to nurture Catholics’ relationships with Christ,” “Pope calls for renewal in the Church,” “Pope affirms Catholic educators,” “Pope meets privately with sexual abused victims,” and “No government or religion can limit human rights.” The two center pages were devoted to nine colorful photos under the heading “As pilgrim of hope, Pope Benedict connects with American flock.”

## Catholic New York

In 1981 Terence Cardinal Cooke established the CATHOLIC NEW YORK (CNY),

the first official paper of the Archdiocese which, he said, “would bring the work and the message of the Church into the homes of our families in a fresh and interesting way; provide a forum for dialogue; highlight the positive and practical; and become an invaluable educational tool for all of us.” Reviewing the comprehensive coverage of Benedict XVI’s pre-, during, and post-visit, his belief seems justified.

As early as July 16, 2007, the Archdiocese issued a statement on the upcoming visit of the Pope to address the United Nations in the coming spring. “His Eminence, Edward Cardinal Egan, told the Holy Father in Rome last week that all of the People

of God of the Archdiocese will be praying over the months that lie ahead that his Apostolic visit will be crowned with every grace and blessing.” On November 12, the Archdiocese confirmed the April 2008 visit of Pope Benedict XVI and preparations were enhanced accordingly.

The biweekly CNY, in articles, columns, editorials, and photographs, as well as the Pope’s texts, gave comprehensive treatment of the Pontiff’s visit in its April 10, and especially the April 24, issues. The former included Cardinal Egan’s fascinating, detailed history of the Archdiocese since 1808 (“Peter and Patrick”) to Benedict XVI’s Mass. The April 24 issue contained the following: “A Land of Great Faith,” “A Future of Hope,” “Pope Describes Life as a ‘Journey of Hope’ at Youth Rally,” “With God’s Help,” “In Solemn Ceremony, Pope Prays at Ground Zero,” “Ever Deeper Faith,” “Pope’s Visit ‘a Reminder’, Says 9/11 Mother,” “Ever Deeper Faith.”

Also, “Sound Teaching, Prayer Must Be Used To Promote Christian Unity, Pope Says,” “Students at St. Joseph’s, Yorkville, Welcome Pope Benedict XVI,” “Building Bridges,” “Welcoming the Holy Father” (by Cardinal Egan); “Pope Blesses Disabled Youths, and Asks for Their Prayers.” Editor John Woods wrote “Reflecting on the Holy Father’s Many Gifts to Us” and his Editor’s Report “The Holy Father Blessed Us All,” ending with “Pope Benedict showed Catholics and other people of the United States that he loves our country and he loves us. I think we did our best to return the favor.”

The non-Diocesan Catholic and the secular print medium will be covered in Part 2 of Benedict XVI’s U.S. visit.

## Events Planned to Save Sacred Heart Church

Sacred Heart Church in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, is one of the most beautiful churches in the United States. The church was built under the direction of Father Joseph Murgas. The church contains original art by Father Murgas. The stained glass windows were the work of the Tyrolean Art Guild while the Austrian type altar is breathtaking. Nationally acclaimed organ recitals have been performed on the organ in Sacred Heart Church. It is a church with a great historical, religious and cultural legacy.

The Sacred Heart Wilkes-Barre Foundation (SHWBF) was established as a nonprofit corporation whose only mission is to preserve, maintain and protect the structure, contents and artifacts during this uncertain time of diocesan downsizing and church closings. The members of the Foundation believe this building, because of its significant religious, cultural, historical and social importance, must be preserved for future generations. The Sacred Heart Wilkes-Barre Foundation invites everyone interested in saving Father Murgas’s church to join at our website: [shwbfoundation.com](http://shwbfoundation.com), or call Noreen Foti at 570/639-2979.

The Foundation has initiated and coordinated a series of events for the church. On Saturday, May 24, 2008, there will be a “Join Hands Day” to beautify the parish grounds. Members of the parish and members of the fraternal are invited to help. Clean up will be held from 9:00 a.m. to noon. Please bring a broom and gardening tools.

On Wednesday, May 28, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. the SHWBF will show the movie, “The Saving of a Parish: The St. Joseph Shrine of St. Louis, Missouri,” in the Burke Auditorium at Kings College. It is the story of the faith and commitment of The Friends of St. Joseph who began an effort that would ultimately save the church. Light refreshments will be served. Call Mary Ann Usaitis at 570/288-5811 for details.

Finally, the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the dedication of Sacred Heart Church will be observed on May 30, 2008. This event will be celebrated in Sacred Heart Church with a Mass at 7:00 p.m. requested by the SHWBF. A rosary will be recited at 6:40 p.m. Call Mary Ann Petrenchak at 570/822-2449 for details. All are invited to attend.



# Accent on Activities



## 2008 International Bowling Tournament

The 54<sup>th</sup> Men's and 45<sup>th</sup> Women's International Jednota Ten Pin Handicap Bowling Tournament was held the weekend of April 25 - 27 in Youngstown, Ohio. Bowlers from Akron, Barberton, Ford City, Mon Valley, Pittsburgh, Toronto, and Youngstown arrived at Wedgewood Lanes to meet and compete in the tournament. Friday night, men's and women's teams tried to knock over the most pins. Saturday and Sunday, the men and women competed in doubles and singles events.

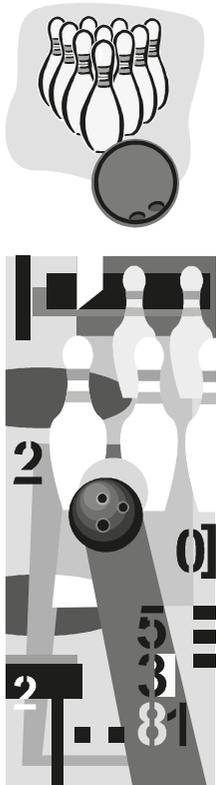
Saturday evening, National Chaplain, Fr. Tom Nasta, celebrated Mass at the Holiday Inn Boardman. At the conclusion of Mass, the bowlers attended dinner at the Holiday Inn Boardman. After a bountiful buffet dinner, the current standings were announced and two special awards were presented to the men's and women's team who put their best foot forward and played with utmost enthusiasm, even though it wasn't reflected in their final scores. The winner of the women's "Better Luck Next Year Award" was Mon Valley #8 and the winner of the men's "Don't Stand a Chance Award" was Mon Valley #16. Then the King of Rock 'n Roll, Elvis, entertained.

May 2008



James Shank, from Mon Valley, bowled a 300 game during the doubles competition on Saturday, April 26.

Congratulations!



Akron Jednota – Akron, OH

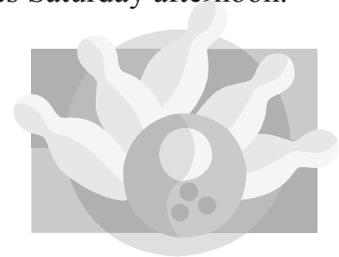
Sweepstakes Winners:  
Michael Kapitan, Toronto  
Ruzena Kapitan, Toronto  
Charlotte Kuma, Mon Valley  
Dave Joscak, Braddock  
Joe Burkhart, Pittsburgh  
John Augustine, Ford City



National Secretary, Ken Arendt, presenting the "Don't Stand a Chance" Award at the banquet to Larry Healey, captain of Mon Valley #16.



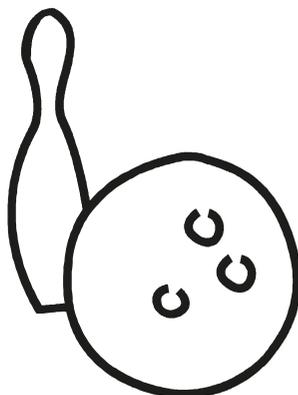
National President, Andy Rajec, with the First Lady of the Jednota, greet the bowlers at the Lanes Saturday afternoon.



Coors Light Silver Bullets – Youngstown, OH



Mon Valley #14 – Donora, PA



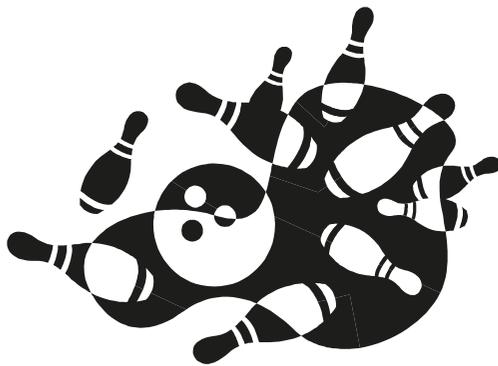
Toronto members enjoying the banquet.

# 54<sup>th</sup> Men's International Jednota Ten Pin Handicap Bowling Tournament Results

Place	Team Event	Total Pins
1	Torpedoes Loose	2696
2	Mon Valley #18	2679
3	Teenies Tavern	2651
4	Mon Valley #14	2606
5	Barberton Jednota #1	2547
6	Mon Valley #13	2532
7	Catullo's	2522
8	Mon Valley #9	2520
9	Barberton Jednota #2	2518
10	Mon Valley #10	2503
11	Koncerak's	2495
12	Youngstown Jednota #2	2485
13	Kapitan Limousine	2457
14	Mak's Pro Shop	2438
14	Bear's Bad Boys	2438
16	Youngstown Jednota #1	2430
17	Mon Valley #15	2421
18	Holmes	2418
19	Happy Hookers	2367
20	Joscaks	2365
21	Jamison's	2341
22	Mon Valley #17	2328
23	Mon Valley #12	2323
24	The Professors	2308
25	Pallo's	2257
26	Akron Jednota	2233
27	Mon Valley #16	2167

Place	Doubles Partners	Total Pins
1	Krasonic Sr Krasonic Jr	1440
2	Nichols Sabo	1424
3	Tancabel Dodge	1393
4	Kapitan Szabo	1372
5	Johnston Johnston	1355
6	Sabo Sabo	1344
7	Ward Jamison	1329
7	Joschak Joscak	1329
9	Hlas Hlas	1328
10	Healey Tretinik	1319
11	Silay Lako	1316
12	Albrecht Gbur	1306
13	Forma Polack	1303
14	Shank Shank Sr	1300
15	Larson Stasko	1293
16	Hynes Newman	1291
16	Pavlinsky Zavada	1291
18	Pallo Pallo	1287
19	Newman Gaydos	1284
20	Detwiler Detwiler	1278
21	Jursa Romolock	1269
22	Hankinson Koncerak	1267
23	Joscak Joscak	1261
24	Roth Lucansky	1256
25	Nasta Nasta	1255
26	Peshek Morella	1251
26	Schwab Frolo	1251
28	Tokarsky GryS	1250
29	Montemarano Gordulic	1246
30	Kopanic Bright	1242
31	Kuma Hyatt	1240
32	Jursa Pella	1226
33	Smith Roberts	1222
34	Joscak Holmes	1219
36	Burkhart Sinagra	1219
36	Gmerek Kacsanek	1214
37	Sanders Andrasik	1213
37	Mannella Koncerak	1213
39	Prentice Hunt	1208
40	Klacka Augustine	1203
41	Sadler Pusatere Jr	1191
42	Eller Arnold	1189
43	Brown Bozik	1185
44	Walko Lako	1178
45	Valerio Stellato	1176
46	Duda Sr Duda Jr	1169
47	Richnafsky Beckinger	1162
48	Speers Kozar	1144
49	Slota Linn	1140
50	Kapsa McKenna	1139
51	Rice Lutes	1130
52	Dunham Moravec	1120
53	Mitro Barron	1114
54	Lejeune Hickler	1090

Place	Singles Competition	Total Pins
1	Sabo Ronald	796
1	Dodge Jim	796
3	Montemarano Dan	787
4	Joscak Edmund	768
5	Stasko Edward	761
6	Nasta Fr. Tom	743
7	Krasonic Sr John	726
8	Kozar Ronald	720
9	Detwiler Dean	718
10	Joscak Dave	710
11	Brown Kevin	709
12	Shank James	708
13	Sadler Richard	701
14	Forma Ed	697
15	Johnston Lynn	693
15	Burkhart Joe	693
17	Silay Tom	692
18	Sanders Brian	688
19	Krasonic Jr John	686
20	Kapitan Michael	685
21	Szabo Jim	684
22	McKenna Joe	682
22	Jursa Joe	682
24	Nichols Michael Jr	676
24	Peshek Jeff	676
26	Jursa Emil	666
26	Hynes William	666
28	Tancabel Jeff	664
29	Lejeune Dave	663
30	Gordulic John	660
31	Albrecht Mike	659
32	Kuma John	658
33	Newman Kevin	650
34	Augustine John	649
35	Frolo Robert	648
35	Sinagra Dave	648
37	Prentice Douglas	646
38	Zavada John	644
39	Hlas Joseph	640
39	Larson Michael	640
41	Lutes Donald	638
41	Arnold Weldie	638
43	Slota Paul Jr	637
44	Romolock Harry	636
45	Roth Dennis	634
46	Sabo John Jr	632
47	Hlas James Sr	630
48	Gbur Paul	628
48	Koncerak Frank	628
50	Eller Terry	627
51	Linn Richard	622
52	Pavlinsky George	621
53	Pallo Chris	619
54	Mannella James	617
55	Johnston Derek	616
55	Shank Sr Clarence	616
55	Joscak Dan	616
55	Duda Jr Ronald	616
55	Lako Mike	616
60	Tokarsky John	615
60	Bright Richard	615
60	Hankinson Brian	615
63	Dunham Kevin	614
63	Klacka Paul	614
65	Rice David	613
65	Gmerek Len	613
65	Valerio Mark	613
68	GryS Greg	609



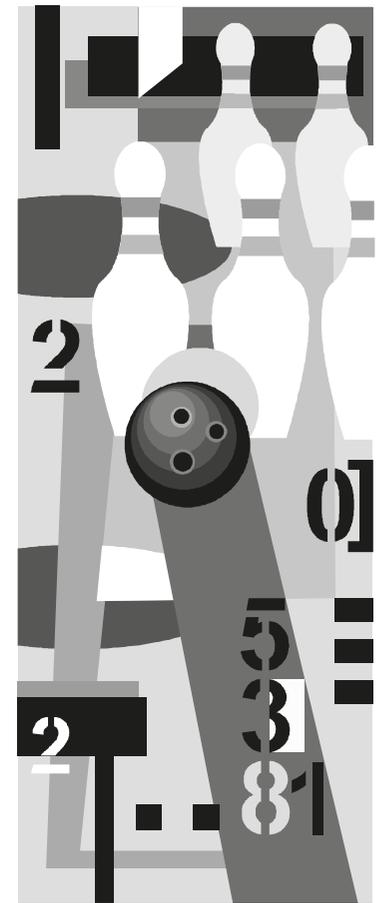
Place	Seniors Competition	Total Pins
1	Forma Ed	697
1	Ward James	697
3	Kapitan Michael	685
4	Jursa Joe	682
4	McKenna Joe	682
6	Jursa Emil	666
7	Duda Ronald Sr	660
8	Albrecht Mike	659
9	Romolock Harry	636
10	Augustine John	631
11	Gbur Paul	628
12	Eller Terry	627
13	Linn Richard	622
14	Gmerek Len	613
15	Polack John	601
16	Morella Tom	599
17	Klacka Paul	572
18	Sabo John Sr	563
19	Kacsanek George	556
20	Shank Clarence Sr	526

Place	All Events Competition	Total Pins
1	Dodge Jim	2246
2	Montemarano Dan	2170
3	Shank James	2168
4	Krasonic Jr John	2166
5	Nasta Fr. Tom	2118
6	Sabo Ronald	2117
7	Johnston Lynn	2087
8	Silay Tom	2073
9	Nichols Michael Jr	2045
10	Szabo Jim	2043
11	Stasko Edward	2042
12	Joscak Edmund	2040
13	Newman Kevin	2015
14	Tancabel Jeff	2013
15	Albrecht Mike	1992
16	Detwiler Dean	1980
17	Krasonic Sr John	1974
18	Lejeune Dave	1971
19	Larson Michael	1961
20	Sabo John Jr	1959
21	Sadler Richard	1958
22	Burkhart Joe	1956
23	Kapitan Michael	1954
24	Kozar Ronald	1953
25	Forma Ed	1951
26	Sanders Brian	1946
27	Joscak Dave	1943
27	Hlas James Sr	1943
27	Hlas Joseph	1943
30	Augustine John	1941
31	Hankinson Brian	1937
32	Duda Sr Ronald	1931
33	Morella Tom	1927
34	Pallo Chris	1919
35	Roth Dennis	1907
36	Lako Ray	1906
37	Johnston Derek	1905
38	Bright Richard	1896
39	Shank Sr Clarence	1890
40	Jursa Joe	1889
41	Prentice Douglas	1883
42	Zavada John	1881
43	Newman Douglas	1875
44	Sinagra Dave	1870
45	Joscak Ron	1869
46	Kuma John	1865
47	Richnafsky Nathan	1855
48	Grys Greg	1854
48	Sabo John Sr	1854
50	Jamison Michael	1850
50	Pella Stan	1850
50	Linn Richard	1850
53	Roberts John	1849
54	Koncerak Frank	1848
55	Romolock Harry	1847
56	Polack John	1846
57	Rice David	1845
58	Smith Vernon C	1844
59	Healey Larry	1840
60	Bozik Joseph	1833
61	Koncerak Steve	1830
61	Hynes William	1830
63	Joscak Dan	1829
64	Valerio Mark	1828
64	Joschak Rich	1828
66	Gbur Paul	1824
67	Frolo Robert	1823
68	Walko Dan	1822
69	Gmerek Len	1815
70	Pusatere Jr Joseph	1812
71	Mannella James	1810
72	Ward James	1807
73	Brown Kevin	1806



Place	Singles Competition Cont.	Total Pins
68	Beckinger David	609
70	Kopanic Robert	605
70	Pallo Eugene	605
72	Polack John	601
72	Roberts John	601
74	Joscak Ron	600
74	Pusatere Jr Joseph	600
76	Morella Tom	599
76	Richnafsky Nathan	599
78	Newman Douglas	598
79	Jamison Michael	596
80	Mitro Milos	592
81	Gaydos Richard R.	590
81	Koncerak Steve	590
83	Joschak Rich	588
84	Pella Stan	585
85	Duda Sr Ronald	584
86	Smith Vernon C	582
87	Detwiler Charles	580
88	Bozik Joseph	579
89	Tretinik Robert	575
90	Ward James	574
91	Andrasik Robert	571
91	Hunt Zachary	571
93	Barron Joe	570
94	Sabo John Sr	563
95	Lako Ray	560
96	Nasta Damian	558
97	Stellato Ralph	557
98	Kacsanek George	556
99	Hyatt Jesse	547
100	Schwab Randy	546
101	Walko Dan	543
102	Healey Larry	541
102	Moravec Michael	541
104	Lucansky John	529
105	Holmes Howie	510
106	Hickler George	458

Place	All Events Cont.	Total Pins
73	Peshek Jeff	1806
75	Pallo Eugene	1802
76	Hyatt Jesse	1795
77	Kopanic Robert	1792
78	Tokarsky John	1791
79	Jursa Emil	1786
79	Slota Paul Jr	1786
81	Stellato Ralph	1785
82	Lutes Donald	1778
83	Gaydos Richard R.	1770
84	Gordulic John	1768
85	Lucansky John	1767
85	Eller Terry	1767
87	Mitro Milos	1765
88	Lako Mike	1764
89	Arnold Weldie	1754
90	Barron Joe	1752
91	Klacka Paul	1751
92	Beckinger David	1747
93	Dunham Kevin	1737
94	Detwiler Charles	1736
95	Holmes Howie	1735
96	Kacsanek George	1734
97	Tretinik Robert	1725
98	Pavlinsky George	1722
99	Andrasik Robert	1709
100	Hunt Zachary	1704
101	Duda Jr Ronald	1683
102	Schwab Randy	1659
103	Moravec Michael	1658
104	Nasta Damian	1543
105	Hickler George	1448



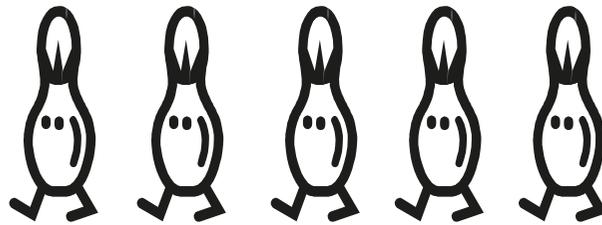
## 45<sup>th</sup> Women's International Jednota Ten Pin Handicap Bowling Tournament Results

Place	Team Event	Total Pins
1	Canadian Ladies	2279
2	Mon Valley #2	2192
3	Mon Valley #1	2179
4	Mon Valley #5	2166
5	Mon Valley #3	2139
6	Ragan Girls	2135
7	Mon Valley #7	2126
8	Mon Valley #4	2097
9	Kostik District Women	2093
10	4 Striking Gals	2083
11	Mon Valley #6	2069
12	Coors Light Silver Bullets	2065
13	The Canucks	2026
14	Mon Valley #8	2007

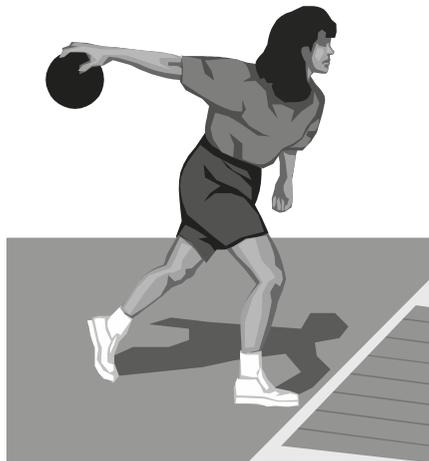
Place	Doubles Event		Total Pins
1	Bennett	Smith	1217
2	Hlas	Hlas	1177
3	Fisher	Sadler	1134
4	Ragan	Ragan	1107
4	Kopanic	Dotson	1107
6	Sunega	Polack	1102
7	Hrcka	Gorman	1095
8	Mitro	Szabo	1085
9	Goodyear	Kapitan	1079
10	Bozik	Prentice	1078
11	Miller	Neff	1074
12	Rice	Barney	1056
13	Brown	Mavrovich	1053
14	Tokarsky	von Friedl	1043
15	Tomas	Bis	1039
16	Salvino	Winterhalter	1037
17	Nuth	Zouck	1035
18	McKenna	Ricciuti	1030
19	Stasko	Pusatere	1027
20	Hunt	Erhardt	1023
21	Kuma	DeMarco	1021
22	Brincko	Sanko	1019
23	Farquhar	Bickerton	1011
24	Forma	Novak	994
25	Seese	Bright	991
26	Ramsey	Roberts	983
27	Bright	Boden	960
28	Robb	Kozar	914

Place	Singles Event		Total Pins
1	Sadler	Shannon	645
2	Boden	Diane	624
3	Sanko	Pat	612
4	von Friedl	Helen	589
5	Fisher	Kay	578
6	Szabo	Cathy	572
7	Ragan	Joelyn	568
8	Kapitan	Ruzena	566
8	Mavrovich	Mary	566
10	Winterhalter	Mary Beth	562
11	Bozik	Kim	558
12	Sunega	Sue	552
13	Tomas	Sharon	551
14	Barney	Beth	548
15	Forma	Anne	547
15	Dotson	Andrea	547
17	Kopanic	Blanche	544
17	Bright	Tracey	544
19	Gorman	Irene	540
20	McKenna	Mary	538
21	Bennett	Bev	534
22	Bis	Mary	533
22	Goodyear	Chris	533
22	Smith	Loretta	533
25	Prentice	Marna	531
26	Novak	Mary	530
27	Rice	Nancy	527
27	Bright	Kim	527
27	DeMarco	Marla	527
27	Hunt	Eileen	527
31	Kozar	Anita	525
32	Brown	Cindy	523
33	Seese	Christine	521
34	Ragan	Jara	519
35	Brincko	Julie	512
36	Tokarsky	Christine	511
37	Salvino	Tracey	507
38	Roberts	Brea	505
39	Kuma	Charlotte	500
40	Stasko	Melissa	499
41	Zouck	Theresa	497
42	Ramsey	Jennifer	495
43	Hrcka	Helen	493
44	Bickerton	Bonnie	490
45	Mitro	Anne	488
46	Hlas	Brenda	485
47	Polack	Mary	481
47	Neff	Mikki	481
49	Erhardt	Debbie	479
50	Robb	Bonnie	473
51	Miller	Marti	471
52	Ricciuti	Denise	469
53	Farquhar	Linda	467
54	Hlas	Jeanne	457
55	McKenna	Mary	441
56	Pusatere	Leslie	433

Place	All Events Competition		Total Pins
1	Sadler	Shannon	1888
2	Kapitan	Ruzena	1685
3	Ragan	Joelyn	1682
4	Szabo	Cathy	1669
5	Dotson	Andrea	1666
6	Bennett	Bev	1662
7	Smith	Loretta	1658
8	Gorman	Irene	1646
9	Hrcka	Helen	1642
10	Bozik	Kim	1638
11	Fisher	Kay	1627
12	Sanko	Pat	1625
12	Prentice	Marna	1625
14	Sunega	Sue	1621
15	Hunt	Eileen	1615
15	DeMarco	Marla	1615
17	Goodyear	Chris	1612
18	Winterhalter	Mary Beth	1601
19	Rice	Nancy	1598
20	Kopanic	Blanche	1591
21	Boden	Diane	1590
22	Ragan	Jara	1589
23	Bis	Mary	1587
24	Erhardt	Debbie	1585
25	Tomas	Sharon	1575
26	Brown	Cindy	1574
26	Roberts	Brea	1574
28	Miller	Marti	1573
29	Seese	Christine	1572
29	Bright	Tracey	1572
31	Polack	Mary	1571
32	Barney	Beth	1564
33	Mavrovich	Mary	1563
34	Nuth	Judy	1562
35	Bright	Kim	1559
36	Brincko	Julie	1547
37	Novak	Mary	1541
38	Tokarsky	Christine	1535
39	Zouck	Theresa	1534
39	Mitro	Anne	1534
41	Kuma	Charlotte	1531
42	Farquhar	Linda	1530
43	Stasko	Melissa	1523
44	Robb	Bonnie	1516
45	Salvino	Tracey	1509
46	Forma	Anne	1499
46	Ricciuti	Denise	1499
48	Neff	Mikki	1487
49	Bickerton	Bonnie	1481
50	Kozar	Anita	1459
51	Pusatere	Leslie	1439
52	Ramsey	Jennifer	1430



Place	Seniors Competition		Total Pins
1	Boden	Diane	624
2	Sunega	Sue	552
3	Forma	Anne	547
4	Kopanic	Blanche	544
5	Gorman	Irene	540
6	Bis	Mary	533
7	Novak	Mary	530
8	Ragan	Jara	519
9	Hrcka	Helen	493
10	Polack	Mary	481
11	McKenna	Mary	441



# Mother's Day UR\_space.jrs

Friends Events Sports Culture Trivia Activities

## Events Space

### 10 Good Reasons to Treat Your Mom

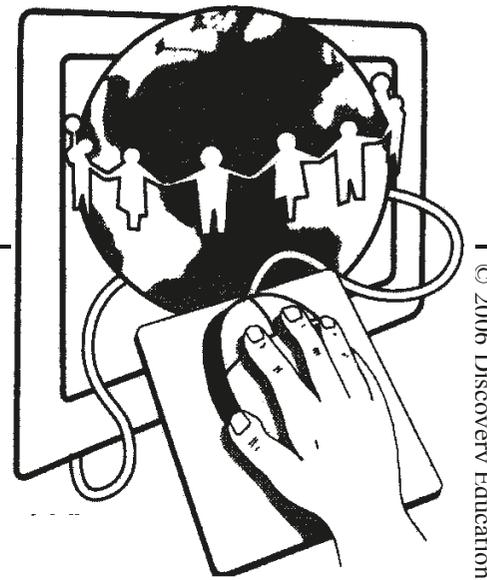
It is your mother who brings you to see the light of this world. It is she who looks after the helpless you and serves you with all her heart and does everything to make your life comfortable. Just for a day, at least, we shall stop taking our mothers for granted.

Mother's Day is one occasion that gives you the opportunity to do something for your mother. And if you start wondering about the reasons you need to treat your mother, you would end up with nothing less than a zillion reasons. Let's just remember the most important reasons for which we need to be grateful to our mom and that would be enough to arrange a lavish treat for her on the special occasion of Mother's Day.

- ◆ Since your childhood you have watched your mom washing and ironing your clothes, keeping your school uniform sparkling and spotless, and your jumpers without a single crease.
- ◆ You have been lucky enough to be picked and dropped to and from your school every single day right from your first day at school.
- ◆ Whenever you had a fight and for the slightest reason or if you needed a reason to cry on someone's shoulders, your mom was the one giving you the comfort and patiently listening to all your heartburns and grumbling.
- ◆ Just remember the innumerable times you wanted a fresh new set of designer clothes and your mother dug out her pocket money to fulfill your wish.
- ◆ The food world in which you gorged ever since you were a child and grew up on, was cooked day in and day out by your beloved mother. Just think of the hundreds of incredible dishes she prepared for you, the tasty lunchboxes she fixed for you, the cakes she baked, the snacks, the cups of tea and delicious suppers. It surely makes your mouth water even now.
- ◆ Your mother is always there for you through every thick-and-thin of your life. She is the person you can depend upon to stand by you anytime you need her.
- ◆ Remember all those difficult undecided moments of life and you needed someone who could make you see reason and pour some worldly-wise advice in your ears. It was surely your mother who lent you patient ears and then pulled you out of the mess in your life.
- ◆ Think about the tons of love she professes for you everyday through all her acts, big and small. It can't even be measured. It can only be felt.

What your mother does for you is absolutely beyond assessment but when the enormity of her love and sacrifice is felt you realize that surely your mom deserves a special treat this Mother's Day.

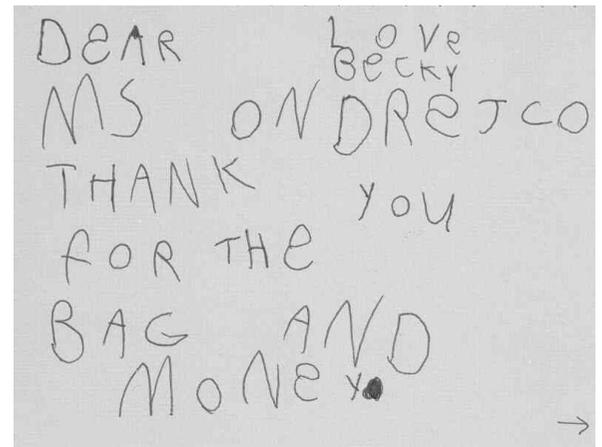
May 2008



© 2006 Discovery Education

Send your ideas, letters etc. to: UR\_Space.jrs  
234 Iilon St.  
Pgh., PA 15207  
sueo99@yahoo.com

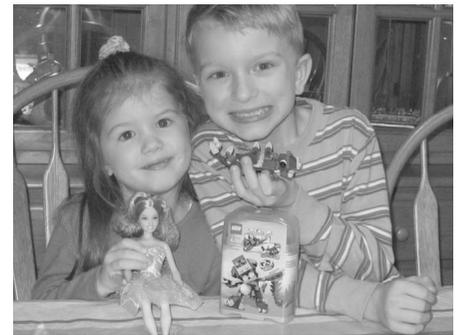
## Mail Space



Sue:

Thank you for our honorable mentions in the 2007 Jednota youth Christmas coloring contest. With our prize money, we bought Legos and a Barbie doll. We have included a picture with our prizes.

Thanks again,  
Andrew and Julia  
Windsheimer

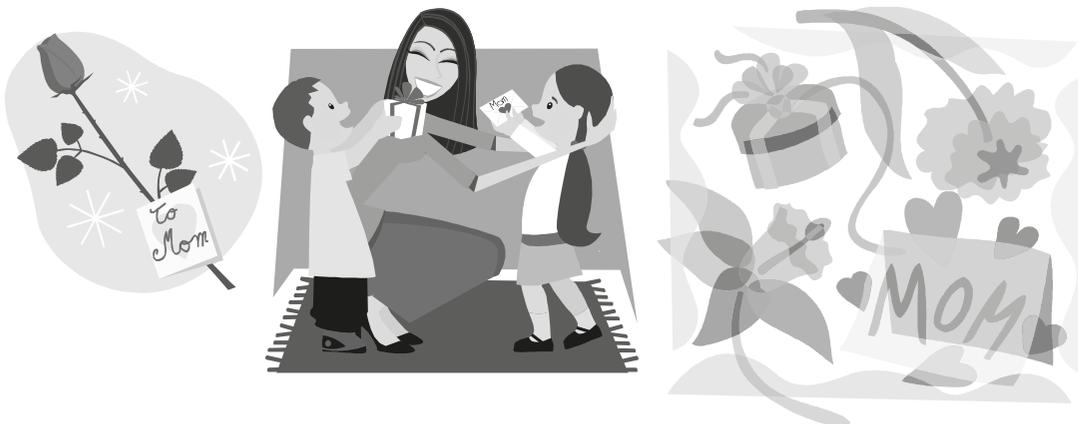


Dear Susie,

Thank you very much for the duffel bag and the \$15.00 check. I will use the bag for my overnight trips to my grandma and pap's house. The check will go into my account for college.

Thank you for choosing my picture.

Rachel Katekovich



## Recenzia

**AGOSTINO CASAROLI: Il martirio della pazienza: La Santa Sede e i paesi comunisti 1963 - 1989 (Mučeníctvo trpezlivosti: Svätá stolica a komunistické krajiny, 1963-1989). Torino: Einaudi, 2000. 335 s. Cena 15.50.**

V roku 1964 Svätá stolica podpísala prvú zmluvu s komunistickou vládou. A vtedy sa zrodil mýtus o dialógu. Kniha, ktorá vyšla po smrti kardinála Agostino Casaroliho, tento mýtus dekonštruuje. Dilema zostáva aj dnes tá istá: viesť odboj, alebo sa vzdať?

Keď 9. júna 1988 zomrel Agostino Casaroli, mnohí si kládli otázku či tento kardinál napísal svoje memoáre, pretože spomienky vysokopostavených hodnostárov Rímskej kúrie sú v memoárovej literatúre skôr vzácnou výnimkou ako pravidlom. V roku 2000, dva roky po smrti tohto katolíckeho kňaza, ktorý v službách ústredných orgánov Katolíckej cirkvi absolvoval mimoriadnu kariéru, ktorú zavŕšil za pontifikátu Jána Pavla II. úradom kardinála-štátneho tajomníka, vyšla v Taliansku jeho kniha spomienok Il martirio della pazienza: La Santa Sede e i paesi comunisti 1963 - 1989 (Mučeníctvo trpezlivosti: Svätá stolica a komunistické krajiny, 1963-1989). V roku 2001 kniha vyšla v českom preklade Trýzeň trpezlivosti (Kostelní .... Karmelitánske nakladateľstvá, 2001). Úvod do nej napísal kardinál Achille Silvestrini a edične ju pripravili talianski historici Giovanni Maria Vian a Carlo Felice Casulla. Na vydanie kardinálových spomienok reagoval celý svet záplavou recenzií a informačných článkov. Skoro všetky memoáre vychvaľovali, no ich autori znova opakovali zvyčajné hodnotiace stereotypy. Memoárová kniha kardinála Casaroliho však stereotypy otvorene vyvracia a perom hlavného strojcu vatikánskej Ostpolitik načrtáva taký profil tejto politiky, ktorý bol pravým opakom obrazu, aký by radi videli prívrženci dialógu.

Keď Agostino Casaroli ešte žil, mal povest' "červeného" kardinála. Nie kvôli purpurovej farbe jeho sutany, ale kvôli politickej línii, ktorá sa mu pripisovala: dialóg medzi Katolíckou cirkvou a dobrou tvárou komunizmu.

Nebolo to tak. Dnes nám z neba v tejto knihe spomienok zaručuje, že opak bol pravdou: preňho, kardinála- štátneho sekretára a ospevovaného strojcu vatikánskej Ostpolitik, bol komunizmus len a len abominatio desolationis ( ohavnosť spustošenia). Toto biblické slovo zo Starého zákona označuje tú najhoršiu ničivú bezbožnosť namierenú proti Bohu a proti ľuďom.

Svoje spomienky napísal v ústraní a v posledných rokoch života. Na jeho písacom stole ich našla jeho neter Orietta a zverila ich jeho priateľovi, kardinálovi Achille Silvestrinimu. Memoáre sú nedokončené. Nehovoria skoro nič o krakovskom biskupovi Karolovi Wojtylovi, ktorý sa stal rímskym pápežom. Pri Poľsku osemdesiatych rokov sa autor pristavuje len zbežne. Mlčí ohľadom Sovietskeho zväzu.

Avšak jedným úderom na drví na črepiny hromadu článkov, esejí a knižných rozpráv, ktoré napísali uznávaní historici a špecialisti na Vatikán. Tí počas štvrtstoročia potvrdzovali verejný obraz Casaroliho ako zamaskovaného komunistu, ako namierené ostrie koncilovej Katolíckej cirkvi.

Casaroli za svojho života nerobil nič pre to, aby sa tejto povesti zbavil. Naopak, ako obozretný diplomat z nej ťažil. Ján Pavol II. si ho vyžiadal, aby stál pri jeho boku ako štátny sekretár práve preto, aby "sa Moskva upokojila". Vtedajší Sovietsky zväz (ZSSR) totiž mal obavy z nástupu poľského pápeža.

No za zdvorilou tvárou rokujúceho Casaroliho sa skrývala nezlomná povaha človeka odhodlaného brániť nevyhnutný životný priestor Katolíckej cirkvi. "Mučeníctvo", ktoré sa spomína v názve knihy, bolo dvojitého rázu. Mučeníkom bola Katolícka cirkev v komunistických krajinách, kde "musela znášať systematické ničenie, ktoré nikdy neprerušila žiadna čiastočná dohoda". A mučeníkom bol svojím spôsobom aj on, lebo musel znášať obvinenia, že ustupuje nepriateľovi.

Casaroli trpel a mlčal. Naučil sa mlčať práve v tom "väzenskom svete", kde sa hemžili špióni veľkého aj malého kalibru - teda v stredo-východnej Európe pred pádom Berlínskeho múru.

Keď sa v Budapešti stretol s kardinálom Józsefom Mindszentyom v jeho útočisku na americkej ambasáde, zatvoril sa s ním "do akejsi kocky, ktorá mala hrubé steny z plastu. Stála na podeste, kde mali prístup len vojaci, ktorí boli zamestnancami veľvyslanectva". Aj tam mal však podozrenie, že ho niekto špehuje.

S iným väzneným kardinálom, s Čechom Josefom Beranom, sa stretol naposledy v malej hotelovej miestnosti a viedol s ním rozhovor "plný ťaživého mlčania, ktorý pozostával z písomných odpovedí na malých papierikoch".

Na druhej strane boli funkcionári režimu a ich "nadutá" výrečnosť, ich "drzosť" a "záľudná dvojtvárnosť", ktoré dosahovali vrchol vo vzťahu k duchovným, ktorí spadali pod ich vládu. Príkladom bol starý a chorý český salezián Štěpán Trochta, menovaný za kardinála in pectore, ktorý zomrel na porážku "po tom, čo si na ňom nepretržite šesť hodín vylieval hnev istý komisár Dlábál, evidentne v alkoholickom opojení". Tento vtrhol do kardinálovho bytu s revom: "Ty stará veteš, rozlámem ti hnáty!"

Casaroliho Ostpolitik pozostávala aj z tohto: zo stretnutí s kňazmi a biskupmi, ktorí boli vyčerpaní z rokov prenasledovania, s ľuďmi, na ktorých tvárach bolo vidno stopy väzenia", s biskupmi, ktorí museli žiť uväznení mimo sveta a pritom, ako objímali muža z Ríma, šepkali mu po latinsky svoju neuskutočniteľnú nádej: "Všetci očakávame veľkú vojnu, ktorá nás oslobodí."

A on im musel zapchávať ústa, lebo ako vždy po dlhé roky mal v pätách zloduchov ako bol Karel Hraza, pražský činovník, ktorý mal v kompetencii cirkevné záležitosti, ktorý už svojim priezviskom vyjadroval "hrôzu, teror".

Od týchto funkcionárov sa nemohol nikto oslobodiť, ani politici vyššieho stupňa. Casaroliho rozprávanie je napísané pokojným štýlom, no v ich osobe autor nevidí ani záblesk svetla.

Ani efemérna Dubčekova jar v roku 1968 nenechala za sebou stopy. Casaroli píše, že až do posledného okamihu, teda do pádu Berlínskeho múru, režimy napredovali ako "slepé" a nevedeli, že idú na smrť.

Prečo teda Moskva, Praha, Budapešť a Varšava od roku 1963 počnúc poslednými mesiacmi pontifikátu pápeža Jána XXIII. otvárali chodníčky dialógu, ktoré Vatikán hneď použil a pretavil na Ostpolitik?

Cassaroli odpovedá veľmi presne. Píše, že komunistické štáty to robili cielene. Chceli utíšiť medzinárodnú kritiku na tému ľudské práva. Chceli umlčať Katolícku cirkev a pápeža. Chceli rozptýliť napätie u seba doma. Nikdy však nemali v úmysle narušiť svoj plán zameraný na zničenie kresťanstva. Ústupky, ktoré z času na čas robili, boli minimálne, ak nie nulové. Boli neisté.

V Maďarsku sa znova rozpútal protináboženské prenasledovanie práve po podpísaní prvej, veľmi zredukovanej dohody v roku 1964.

V roku 1965 sa pápež Pavol VI. v prejave pri Domitilliných katakombách vyslovil, že "by sa nemal ráznejšie pozdvihovať protestný hlas iba kvôli kresťanskej trpezlivosti a preto, aby sa nevyvolali ešte horšie problémy". To v mocenských štruktúrach krajín tzv. reálneho socializmu vyvolalo búrlivé reakcie.

Juhoslávia bola umiernenějšía, ale len preto, lebo Tito sa chcel od Moskvy odkloniť. A Poľsko? Je to zvláštny prípad vďaka sile Katolíckej cirkvi, hlboko zakorenenej v ľudových masách, ktorú viedol veľký bojovník kardinál-prímás Stefan Wyszyński. Poľská vláda chcela Wyszylského "ukľudniť", a preto vsadila práve na Casaroliho, spolupáchateľa "istého dôstojného pána talianskej národnosti, ktorý mal dobré kontakty so Svätou stolicou. V danom prípade bol dokonca mojím hovorcom, ale nebola to pravda. Musel som ho vyviešť z omylu". Agostino Casaroli hral diplomatickú fair play a meno toho pána neuviedol. Je to malé vynechanie v knihe, ktorá je ako stvorená na novú interpretáciu veľkej histórie.

Slovenského čitateľa zaujme koľko Agostino Casaroli vo svojich memoároch spomedzi Slovákov spomína a koľko nie. Je symptomatické pre kontroverznú politiku tohto vatikánskeho diplomata, že vo svojich spomienkach sa zmieňuje len o niekoľkých: Alexander Dubček (3x), Jozef Feranec (1x), Július Gábriš (2x), Pavel Gojdič (3x), Ján Hirka (3x), Vasiľ Hopko (4x), Gustáv Husák (3x), Bohuslav Chřoupek (2x), Ján Chryzostom Korec (1x), Ambróz Lazík (2x), Matej Lúčan (2x), Róbert Pobožný (2x), Ján Sokol (2x), Ján Vojtaššák (2x). Neobjavuje sa v nich meno nijakého prominentného emigranta, napr. kardinála Jozefa Tomku, biskupov Pavla Hnilicu, Dominika Hrušovského, Michala Rusnáka či Andreja Gregora Grutku. Alebo preláta Štefana Náhalu, ktorý bol prvým rektorom Slovenského ústavu sv. Cyrila a Metoda v Ríme a až do svojej predčasnej smrti predsedom Slovenského ústavu, organizácie slovenských vedeckých pracovníkov žijúcich v zahraničí. Nezmieňuje sa ani o slovenských pracovníkoch pôsobivších v ústredných orgánoch Rímskej kúrie ako Jozef Zlatňanský, Daniel Faltin, Jozef Kútny či František Škoda (jeden z najlepších znalcov otázok ateizmu a marxizmu-leninizmu na svete).

Vari najpozoruhodnejším "zabudnutím je nespomenutie mena slovenského verbisku Jána Bukovského (\*1924), ktorý sa s Agostinom Casarolim od roku 1973 pravidelne zúčastňoval na vyjednávaniach Svätej stolice s Prahou ako "trvalý pracovník" Štátneho sekretariátu Vatikánskeho mestského štátu, kde v Rade pre mimoriadne cirkevné záležitosti (ministerstvo zahraničných vecí) mal na starosti Česko-Slovensko, Maďarsko, Rumunsko, Bulharsko a Albánsko. Tento slovenský rodák z Cerovej sa neskôr stal arcibiskupom, v roku 1995 bol vymenovaný za pápežského nuncia v Rumunsku a v rokoch 1995 - 2000 bol nunciom v Moskve. O svojom pôsobení v kúrii vydal síce Spomienky spoločníka (Nitra: Spoločnosť Božieho slova, 2006. 146 s.), tie sú však príliš skromné, "deravé", nie celkom presné, pretože ich autor napísal už v pomerne vysokom veku, a navyše neobsahujú nič, čo by nebolo pre znalcov cirkevných dejín druhej polovice 20. storočia neznáme. Je to nesmierna škoda, pretože priame svedectvá o tomto dôležitom období vo vzťahoch medzi Katolíckou cirkvou a štátmi niekdajšej sovietskej mocenskej sféry je veľmi málo a pre dokumenty, ktoré opatruje Vatikánsky tajný archív platí železné pravidlo archívnej praxe Rímskej kúrie: súčasníci sa k nim zaživa nikdy nedostanú.

**Jozef M. Rydlo**

## O výstavu historických fotografií prejavili záujem aj v Pittsburghu

Banská Bystrica (TASR) – Slovensko, Slováci, súvislosti na historických fotografiách a pohľadniciach je názov putovnej výstavy, ktorú sprístupnili koncom marca verejnosti v banskobystrickej Štátnej vedeckej knižnici. Na trinástich výstavných paneloch predstavovali rovnaký počet historických kontextov, z ktorých návštevníkov zaujali napríklad vynálezcovia, bankári, podnikatelia a politici, medzi inými aj vynálezca z oblasti rádiotelegrafie Jozef Murgaš a politik Milan Hodža. Slávnych umelcov so slovenskými koreňmi reprezentujú kráľ popartu Andy Warhol a tiež fotografie osobného priateľa Ernesta Hemingwaya, fotografia Deža Hoffmana, ktorý sa preslávil napríklad fotkami The Beatles či Marilyn Monroe s Laurenceom Olivierom. Starú slovenskú kinematografiu zastupovali na výstave nezabudnuteľní bratia Jaroslav a Daniel Siakelovci s ich prvým filmovým Jánošíkom a bohato sú zastúpené fotografie s témou Slovensko a Spojené štáty americké druhej polovice 19. a začiatku 20. storočia.

Výstava je medzinárodným projektom vzájomnej spolupráce Gettyho konzervačného inštitútu z Los Angeles, bratislavskej Vysoké školy výtvarných umení a Slovenskej národnej knižnice v Martine. Cieľom projektu je položiť základy budúcej medzinárodnej spolupráce pri budovaní vzdelávacích programov a školení v oblasti idenfikácie a konzervovania fotografie, ktoré môžu pomôcť pri ochrane bohatého fotografického dedičstva v krajinách strednej, južnej a východnej Európy. Prezentovanú zostavu v nasledujúcich týždňoch vystavia v ďalších knižniciach západného Slovenska a prvýkrát sa objavila myšlienka vystaviť súbor fotografií a pohľadníc i v Amerike.

## Posledné mesiace života Dr. Jozefa Tisu

(Prednáška na seminári o Prezidentovi Slovenskej republiky J. Tisovi v Evanjelizačnom dome Quo vadis v Bratislave 18. apríla 2007)

(Pokračovanie z JEDNOTY zo dňa 30. apríla 2008)

Národný súd sa zišiel na svoje záverečné zasadanie 15. apríla 1947. Z troch obžalovaných bol v sieni prítomný iba Dr. Tiso - Dr. F. Ďurčanský sa skrýval v zahraničí a Alexander Mach bol v nemocnici. Ortieľ Národného súdu znel: trest smrti povrazom pre Dr. Tisu a Dr. Ďurčanského. (Rozsudok nad A. Machom mal byť vyhlásený po jeho prepustení z nemocnice.)

Rozsudok Národného súdu je 23-stránový dokument a jeho čítanie trvalo (s dvomi krátkymi prestávkami) od 9.30 do 21.00 hod. Po prečítaní sudca položil Dr. Tisovi otázku, či bude žiadať milosť. Dr. Tiso odpovedal: "Z mravnej povinnosti žiadam." Jeho obhajcovia mali žiadosť už vopred pripravenú a teraz začala dramatická reťaz udalostí, ktorá sa však skončila neúspešne.

Žiadosť o milosť sa dostala najprv pred Poverenie spravodlivosti. Poradný zbor Poverenia v zložení Dr. Pavol Seko, Dr. Karol Vagač, Dr. Ivan Vesel a Dr. František Satzke sa zišiel 16. apríla za prítomnosti poverenika Ivana Štefánika a prezidiálneho šéfa Ladislava Udváryho. Po dlhšej a vyčerpávajúcej debata sa traja odborníci vyjadrili za udelenie milosti, štvrtý Dr. Ivan Vesel, odporúčal milosť neudelieť. Výsledok však vyznel v tom zmysle, že Poverenie spravodlivosti doporučilo udelenie milosti, dokonca s varujúcim dodatkom, že neudelenie by mohlo mať "mnohé neželateľné výsledky".

Povereník Ivan Štefánik odniesol toto doporučenie Predsedníctvu SNR 16. apríla o 18. hod. Predsedníctvo pozostávalo z piatich členov: Dr. Jozef Lettrich, predseda a štyria podpredsedovia, Andrej Cvinček a pplk. Milan Polák za DS a Karol Šmidke a Ivan Horváth za KSS. DS mala tu prevahu 3:2 a očakávalo sa, že v tomto zložení výsledkom bude jednoznačná podpora žiadosti o milosť. Ale Milan Polák na naliehanie odbojárov a tlaku komunistov (do tábora ktorých prešiel po februári 1948) odmietol hlasovať za udelenie milosti a zdržal sa hlasovania. A tu sa predseda SNR dopustil fatálnej chyby. Namiesto toho, aby vyžadoval od člena DS podriadenie sa straníckej disciplíne, rozhodol sa postúpiť žiadosť o milosť pražskej č.-s. vláde bez vyjadrenia. Minister spravodlivosti Dr. Prokop Drtina v svojich pamätiach Československo - mój osud tvrdí, že o živote a smrti Dr. Tisu bolo rozhodnuté vtedy, keď SNR zvalila zodpovednosť za doporučenie milosti na č.-s. vládu. On vraj sľúbil Dr. Lettrichovi, že podporí žiadosť o milosť, ako ju odporučí SNR, ale vraj Dr. Lettrich nemôže čakať, aby jeho povinnosť vykonal niekto iný.

Keď sa žiadosť o milosť dostala pred vládu, tá väčšinou hlasov odporučila prezidentovi Benešovi milosť neudelieť. Za udelenie milosti hlasovali iba ministri Demokratickej a Lidovej strany a to bolo veľmi málo. Ešte v ten deň prezident Beneš oznámil Národnému súdu v Bratislave, že "vláda sa na svojej schôdzke 16. apríla 1947 uzniesla nedoporučiť milosť. Vzhľadom k tomuto usnesení vlády milosť neudeliť."

Ráno 17. apríla 1947 člen senátu Národného súdu Ludvik Benada oznámil toto kruté rozhodnutie Dr. Tisovi. Zároveň ho informoval, že poprava bude prevedená na druhý deň, t.j. 18. apríla 1947 o 5. hod. ráno.

Dr. J. Tiso prijal zamietnutie kľudne, ako vec, na ktorú bol pripravený. Žiadal iba kňaza, aby sa mohol pripraviť na kresťanskú smrť. V tom mu vyhovel. Jeho spovedníkom a duchovným spoločníkom v posledných hodinách života bol kapucínsky páter Hilár (občianskym menom Štefan Párik) z kláštora, ktorý je iba 150 metrov od miesta, kde si dnes pripomínáme 60. výročie potupnej smrti nášho prvého prezidenta.

Páter Hilár, ktorý neskôr utiekol na Západ, nám zanechal podrobný opis posledných chvíľ života Dr. Tisu. Odcitujem aspoň niektoré časti tohto dokumentu:

"Do väznice Krajského súdu som prišiel 17. apríla okolo 18. hod. Pána prezidenta som našiel v návštevnej miestnosti, kde sa lúčil so svojou najbližšou rodinou. Potom nás dvoch odvedli do väzenskej cely a nechali osamote. Pán prezident navrhol, aby sme sa spolu pomodlili modlitby, ktoré sa zvykol modliť každodenne a síce celý sv. ruženec a potom štvoro litánií, k Božskému Srdcu, Menu Ježiš, sv. Jozefovi a Loretánske... Čo ma najviac u neho udivovalo to nebol ani tak jeho pokoj, vyrovnanosť, odvaha a zmierenie sa s Božou vôľou, ale to bola jeho úžasná pokora. Po modlitbách prehovoril: "Teraz by sme mohli pristúpiť k sv. spovedi. Ešte sa trochu prichystám, chcel by som si vykonať generálnu sv. spoveď..." Ja som ho nechal jeho príprave a vzal som si štólu, tiež sa chystajúc a modliac sa Duchu svätému, aby ma osvietil. Pán prezident si kľakol a prichystal. Ja som odišiel najskôr k dverám, povedal som dozorcom, aby nás teraz nevyrušovali, že bude spoveď. Potom som dvere privrel, ale zavrieť sa nedali, lebo zámka bola otočená. Sv. spoveď trvala asi hodinu. Po spovedi som mu pomohol vstať..."

Po spovedi strávil Dr. Tiso krátky čas s pátrom Hilárom v priateľskom rozhovore, počas ktorého mu prezident povedal: "O udelenie milosti som žiadal, lebo som bol vyzvaný zvonka a nechcel som, aby sa povedalo, že azda svojou tvrdohlavosťou som zmaril dobré úmysly tých, ktorí ma chceli zachrániť. A dnes som vďačný Pánu Bohu, že mi doprial čas na pokánie - dva roky - a že mi dal vedieť poslednú hodinu. Považujem si to za jednu z najväčších milostí, že mi doprial, aby som sa dobre

pripravil na poslednú hodinu." Po týchto slovách sa zahĺbil do svojich myšlienok a tak sme zotrvali v krátkom rozjímaní. Potom sme sa ešte pomodlili litánie Loretánske a litánie k sv. Jozefovi, jeho patrónovi, patrónovi to šťastnej hodine smrti. Boli asi dve hodiny zrána, posledné to ráno v jeho živote."

Páter Hilár využil túto chvíľu kľudu, ktorá po modlitbách nasledovala a požiadal prezidenta Tisu, aby nadiktoval svoj odkaz národu. Dr. Tiso to aj urobil a tento jeho "Posledný odkaz" je verejnosti dobre známy. Páter Párik ho stenograficky zachytil, ukryl vo svojej kapucni a tak ho vyniesol von. Odkaz končí slovami: "Ako si prosím od vás, aby ste si v modlitbách svojich spomenuli na mňa, tak sľubujem, že i ja budem za vás prosieť vševládneho Boha, aby národu slovenskému a jeho životnej borbe za Boha a národ žehnal, aby národ slovenský bol vždy verným a oddaným synom Cirkvi Kristovej."

V tejto súvislosti páter Párik zaznamenal aj jeden pozoruhodný detail: "Pán prezident ma požiadal, aby som mu to, čo som napísal ešte raz prečítal, lebo pri diktovaní som neopakoval, čo mi hovoril. Keď som mu prečítal to, čo som bol napísal na jeho diktát, pri posledných slovách sa pozastavil a povedal. "Bude lepšie, páter, keď miesto Cirkvi katolíckej napíšeme Cirkvi Kristovej, aby sa evanjelici necítili vylúčený zo zväzku slovenského národa". Ja som teda škrtnol posledné slovo a pripísal som to, čo si žiadal."

O 3. hod. ráno sa prezident Tiso a pátróm Hilárom ešte pomodlil krížovú cestu a ráno o 3.30 hod. začal slúžiť svoju poslednú sv. omšu. "Pri sv. omši bol mimoriadne kľudný a slúžil s nevšednou sústredenosťou a zbožnosťou. Sv. omša bola tichá, mimo mňa boli prítomní naši dvaja dozorcovia a ten starší, čo nám pripravil oltár... Po omši sa zoblíkol z omšových rúch v sakristii a znovu vošiel do kaplnky, kde sa modlil poďakovanie... O štvrt' na šesť konečne prišiel ten starší dozorca a dal mi rukou pokyn, že je čas zostúpiť. Pristúpil som ticho k pánu prezidentovi a povedal som mu, že je čas. On sa poďakoval, vstal a rozhodným krokom sa pobral smerom k sakristii. Keď mi dozorca pokynul, aby sme vyšli hlavnými dverami, upozornil som ho a tak sme sa spoločne pobrali na poslednú cestu.... Bol zabraný do svojich myšlienok a v pravej ruke držal ruženec. V tichu sme zostúpili na prizemie, kde rôznymi dverami, ktoré dozorcovia pred nami otvárali a zatvárali, sme sa dostali až na nádvorie, kde mala byť poprava. Nádvorie, kde sa poprava vykonáva, je úzky obdĺžnikový priestor, asi 40 metrov dlhý a 7 - 8 metrov široký, ohraničený zo všetkých strán múrom... Po oboch stranách stáli svedkovia popravy. Bolo ich asi dvadsať. Keď sme sa blížili k šibenici, prechádzali sme popri týchto pánoch, z ktorých niektorí boli vo vojenskej rovnošate. Dvaja z nich - v civilnom obleku - pozdravili nás, keď sme pomimo nich prechádzali. Boli to pravdepodobne jeho obhajcovia. Pán prezident i ja sme odpovedali na pozdrav pokývnutím hlavy.

Jeden dozorca nás odprevadil až k šibenici, kde v oddelenej skupine stáli traja kati: za šibenicom, po pravej i ľavej strane... Pán prezident sa postavil kľudne pred schody šibenice a obrátil sa ku skupine sudcov, ktorých pravdepodobne poznal od súdu. Ja som sa postavil vedľa neho tak, aby som mohol pozorovať šibenicu a zistiť, ako mu budem môcť dať zavčasu posledné pomazanie..."

Akt obesenia a sedem minút zomierania na šibenici páter Hilár v svojej správe nespracoval. Povedal, že sa to vraj "slovami opísať nedá".

Takouto potupnou smrťou sa skončila životná púť kňaza a prezidenta Dr. Jozefa Tisu, ktorý dve hodiny pred svojou popravou sa neváhal vyhlásiť "za mučenika v prvom rade Božieho zákona. V druhom rade cítim sa byť mučenikom obrany kresťanstva proti boľševizmu." Umučili ho nepriatelia Boha a kresťanstva a ich zloba a nenávisť siahala až za hrob. Úhlavný nepriateľ Dr. J. Tisu, prezident Dr. E. Beneš, akoby nedôveroval slovenským katom, vyslal svojho špeciálneho emisára, majora ŠtB Bedřicha Pokorného, aby svojou prítomnosťou na poprave zariadil, že vražda bude dôsledne prevedená a odsúdenec mŕtvy. A tak na naliehanie majora Pokorného, po lekárskom konštatovaní o smrti o 5.30 hod., mŕtvolu Dr. Tisu musela ostať visieť na šibenici ešte ďalších 30 minút.

Dr. Tiso si pred smrťou želal, aby ho pochovali na cintoríne v Bánovciach nad Bebravou, kde pôsobil najprv ako kaplán (1912 - 1914) a potom ako dekan-farár (1924 - 1945). Nevyhoveli mu. Nevyhoveli ani žiadosti jeho brata prof. Jána Tisu, ktorý žiadal, aby mohol jeho telo uložiť do rodinnej hrobky vo Veľkej Bytči. Úradné miesta rozhodli, že mŕtvolu Dr. J. Tisu sa pochová v prísnej tajnosti na Martinskom cintoríne v Bratislave dňa 19. apríla 1947 o 1. hod. ráno. Aj o pohrebe sa zachoval úradný záznam, ktorým chcem zakončiť tento svoj príhovor:

Zápisnica spísaná na verejnom cintoríne v Bratislave dňa 19. apríla 1947 o 1.00 hod. vo veci pochovania mŕtvoly Dr. Jozefa Tisu.

Pohreb bol vykonaný vo výše označenom čase na verejnom cintoríne v Bratislave v prítomnosti rímskokatolíckeho farára, pátra saleziánov, Jozefa Staša, ktorý vykonal pohreb podľa obradu Rímskokatolíckej cirkvi s príslušnými ceremóniami.

Totožnosť mŕtvoly Dr. Jozefa Tisu pred uložením do hrobu bola osobne na vlastné oči zistená úradne pánom Jánom Novomeským prokurátorom Štátneho zastupiteľstva v Bratislave a pánom Jánom Hrivňákom, správcom väznice Krajského súdu v Bratislave, ktorí túto skutočnosť dosvedčujú.

Na to truhla bola zavretá a v prítomnosti vyššie uvedených úradných osôb zahrabaná, čo svojimi podpismi potvrdzujú.

Dr. Jozef Tiso odišiel do večnosti pred 60. rokmi. V očiach roduverných Slovákov ostáva byť mučenikom, ktorý položil svoj život za svoj národ. Ostáva svetlou postavou našich dejín aj napriek neprestajnej kampane očierňovania a potupovania jeho pamiatky. V tomto je jeho osud podobný mnohým veľkým kresťanským dejinám. A je isté, že kým budú v ľudských srdciach žiť city pre spravodlivosť a pravdu, jeho meno sa bude vyslovovať s úctou a vďačnosťou medzi synmi a dcérami svetla a bude dráždiť do nepríčetnosti synov a dcéry sveta. Česť jeho pamiatke!

František Vnuk



František Vnuk

## Medzinárodný letný tábor Matice slovenskej

Matica slovenská organizuje mnoho podujatí pre deti a mládež. Jedným z nich je i Medzinárodný letný tábor Matice slovenskej (MLTMS), ktorý sa uskutoční od 29. júna 2008 do 13. júla 2008 v škole v prírode, Detský raj Tatranská Lesná.

Obsahovým zameraním MLTMS je zoznámenie sa detí s malebnými krásami Vysokých Tatier, Pienin, spoznávanie pamiatkových hodnôt Spiša, Zamaguria, absolvovanie vysokohorských túr, účasť na turistických, športových, záujmovo umeleckých aktivitách, besedou s členmi horskej služby, spisovateľmi, športovcami.

Medzinárodný letný tábor je určený deťom vo veku od 7 do 16 rokov. Poplatok za jedného účastníka je 4,800.- Sk. MLTMS je možné sa zúčastniť aj v skrátenom termíne od 29. júna 2008 - 6. júla 2008, resp. 6. júla 2008 - 13. júla 2008 (cena 2,400.- Sk). Do MLTMS sa treba prihlásiť písomne v termíne do 20. mája 2008 na adrese: Matica slovenská, Informačné ústredie, Mudroňova 1, 03601 Martin; Tel.: 043/4239548; Fax: 043/4239197, 0918 904 919; e-mail: iumsfoto@matica.sk. Platbou poukážete na účet Matice slovenskej: Istrobanka a.s. číslo účtu: 10006-291302/4900, KS 0308, správa pre prijímateľa meno(á) účastníka.

V cene pobytu sú zahrnuté ubytovanie v účelových izbách a strava. K dispozícii sú sprchy s teplou vodou a stravovanie pozostávajúce z raňajok, pri ktorých sa podáva desiata, obeda, olovrantu, večere a ďalšej ľahšej večere. V cene nie je zahrnutá preprava osôb na historické miesta Vysokých Tatier Spiša, Zamaguria, kúpanie v bazéne pod., ktoré ak o to účastníci MLTMS prejavia záujem, si hradia individuálne. Dieťa je potrebné poistiť proti úrazom pri hrách a športovaní. Poistenie z dôvodu vychádzok do hôr sa bude individuálne uzatvárať v tábore. Príchod a odchod z Tatranskej Lesnej je individuálny. MLTMS začína 29. júna 2008 podaním večere a končí 13. júla raňajkami a balíčkom na cestu. Objekty Detského raja - Školy v prírode účastníci MLTMS uvoľnia 13. júla 2008 do 10.00 hod.

Mgr. Ján Eštok, v.r.  
správca MS

### Prihláška

do Medzinárodného letného tábora Matice slovenskej v Tatranskej Lesnej  
Škola v prírode - Detský raj  
V termíne: 29. júna - 13. júla 2008, 29. júna - 6. júla 2008, 6. júla - 13. júla 2008

Meno a priezvisko: .....

Dátum narodenia: .....

Adresa bydliska: .....

Termín pobytu: .....

Tel., mobil: .....

Upozornenie pre vedúcich (choroby, alergie, iné): .....

.....

.....

.....

Dátum Podpis rodiča

## Každý život treba chrániť od počatia

Predseda KBS Mons. František Tondra vydal k navrhovanému interrupčnemu zákonu vyhlásenie, v ktorom sa okrem iného uvádza: "Každý ľudský život treba rešpektovať a chrániť od jeho počatia až po prirodzenú smrť. Tiež je nevyhnutné účinne sa zasadzovať za plné rešpektovanie ľudskej dôstojnosti a prirodzených práv každého človeka, ako aj za vytváranie primeraných podmienok, aby sa všetkým členom ľudskej rodiny umožnilo prežiť dôstojný, zmysluplný a hodnotný ľudský život, ktorý je súčasne otvorený aj perspektíve večnosti." Mons. Tondra dodáva: "V tejto súvislosti sa cítim povinný vyjadriť hlboké poľutovanie a znepokojenie nad predloženým návrhom Ministerstva zdravotníctva SR o umelom prerušení tehotenstva, ktorý umožňuje ukončiť život nenarodených

detí až do 24. týždňa v prípade predpokladanej genetickej poruchy dieťaťa." Podľa predsedu KBS "treba dôrazne odmietnuť akékoľvek znevažovanie alebo relativizovanie hodnoty ľudského života, jeho dôstojnosti, ako aj každé oslabovanie jeho morálnej alebo právnej ochrany, i keď vedené so zdanlivo dobrými úmyslami". Mons. Tondra zdôrazňuje, že "život každého človeka je rovnako hodnotný. Nepoznáme viac alebo menej cenný život človeka. Nie je prípustná žiadna selekcia na základe zdravotného stavu. Preto je úlohou štátu chrániť život od jeho počatia až po prirodzenú smrť. Apelujem na svedomie všetkých, ktorí budú v tejto záležitosti rozhodovať, aby rozhodovali v prospech života."

KN, TK KBS

## Cestovať po svete sa dá aj bez peňazí na ubytovanie

Bratislava (TASR) – Cestovať po svete sa dá aj bez toho, aby ste potrebovali peniaze na ubytovanie. Stačí iba poznať správne spôsoby, ako na to. Internetové adresy hospitalityclub.org a couchsurfing.com združujú ľudí z celého sveta, ktorí zadarmo poskytujú ubytovanie vo svojej domácnosti. Taktiež vás podľa dohody môžu napríklad sprevádzať po meste, upozorniť na exkluzívne miesta, ktoré sa oplatí vidieť či stráviť s návštevníkmi svoj voľný čas.

Kluby fungujú na báze dobrovoľníkov snažiacich sa pomôcť cestovateľom s nízkym finančným rozpočtom alebo ľuďom, ktorí jednoducho uprednostňujú autentický kontakt s obyvateľmi iných krajín a kultúr. "Každý spôsob ako pomáhať cestovateľom je vítaný. Tieto kluby sú skvelá cesta, ktorá rozširuje možnosti turistického ruchu," povedal šéfredaktor časopisu Cestovateľ, Ľubomír Motyčka. Podľa jeho názoru tieto cesty sa netreba báť využiť i keď na Slovensku v porovnaní s inými krajinami nie sú veľmi známe. "Každý by mal byť, samozrejme, opatrný, pretože nikdy neviete, s kým máte do

činenia, ale to je podobné vo všetkých sférach života," dodal. Účasť je bezplatná, stačí sa len zaregistrovať na uvedených internetových stránkach, vyplniť svoj profil a môžete sa aktívne zapájať či už poskytovať strechu nad hlavou alebo sami využívať hositeľské služby druhých ľudí. Nie sú tu žiadne záväzky, ani povinnosti, všetko sa deje na báze dobrovoľnosti.

On-line sieť hospitalityclub.org a couchsurfing.com je rozprestretá po celom svete, takmer v každej krajine a oblasti, kde sa možno pripojiť na internet. Ako povedal Peter Chrenka, zakladateľ užívateľskej skupiny Bratislava na couchsurfing.com, s oboma klubmi má zatiaľ iba dobré skúsenosti. "Sám som hostil ľudí z viacerých krajín, naposledy jednu Nemku, ktorá chce na bicykli prejsť okolo sveta. Rovnako aj mňa hostili na rôznych miestach v zahraničí," informoval. Zároveň upozorňuje, že hlavným účelom organizácií však nie je "prespávanie zadarmo", ale skôr "spoznávanie nových ľudí rôznych kultúr".

## Košičania obnovili tradíciu stavania májov

Košice (TASR) – Stavanie májov ako symbolov lásky obnovili v Košiciach. V pešej zóne pri súsoší Immaculaty pri stavaní mája za hojnej účasti Košičanov asistoval 27. apríla podvečer premiér Robert Fico, predseda parlamentu Pavol Paška, minister hospodárstva SR Ľubomír Jahnátek, štátny tajomník rezortu Peter Žiga a poslanci NR SR za stranu Smer-SD. Takmer 20 metrov vysokú štíhlu brezu, ktorú dovezli pracovníci košických Mestských lesov, ozdobili farebnými stužkami členovia folklórneho súboru Čarnica. Hostia pridali už len posledné symbolické stužky a máj o chvíľu ozdobil námestie.

"Je to návrat k pekným ľudovým tradíciám. My sme už niekoľkokrát povedali, že rok 2008 bude rokom zvyšovania národnej hrdosti, a to nielen pripomínaním si významných osobností a udalostí, ale aj opakovaním pekných tradícií," uviedol Fico.

Máje staval premiér aj v Poprade a v Prešove a pokračoval ďalší týždeň v Novom Meste nad Váhom a v Považskej Bystrici.

### O VERNOSTI

Počítam... Rachujem...  
nijak mi to neštímuje.  
Život skúpo verných dáva,  
smrť - neúrekom celé roje.

Po smrti lišacie chvály  
pravde oči krijujú,  
sláva skutky husto tieni  
a slová prázdne pomník vijú.

Lementujú:  
Mŕtvy to bol verný Slováč (?),  
rodoľub(?), verný Bohu(?),  
prajný svojmu rodu(?).

Verabože, nie!, kým na Zemi žil.  
Boha, vieru nepoznal,  
vernosť nesvojím na tánci dal.

Štefan Hreha  
(Zo zbierky Hrst' epigramov)

## SNS chce zrušiť Ústav pamäti národa

Bratislava (TASR) – Zrušenie Ústavu pamäti národa (UPN) navrhujú poslanci parlamentu za SNS Ján Šlota, Rudolf Púčík, Rafael Rafaj a Ján Slabý. Ako informoval spravodajský server aktualne.sk, zákonodarcovia 25. apríla do parlamentu doručili návrh na zrušenie zákonov o sprístupnení dokumentov o činnosti bezpečnostných zložiek štátu 1939 - 1989 a o založení UPN. Podľa dôvodovej správy si ústav neplní svoje spoločenské poslanie a úlohy. Dokumenty UPN by mali prejsť pod správu Vojenského historického ústavu. Ako uvádza webová stránka, podľa kuloárnych informácií má návrh podporu aj poslancov LS-HZDS. Server informuje, že pred dvoma týždňami v emotívnom telefonickom rozhovore oznámil predseda LS-HZDS Vladimír Mečiar šéfovi správnej rady UPN Ivanovi Petranskému, že túto inštitúciu zákonom zrušia. O likvidácii UPN sa mal Šlota zhovárať aj s premiérom Robertom Ficom.

## Slovenský historický ústav Matice slovenskej

### PROTEST

Slovenský historický ústav Matice slovenskej v Bratislave čo najrozhodnejšie protestuje proti návrhu poslancov NR SR za Slovenskú národnú stranu (J. Šlota, R. Púčík, J. Slabý a R. Rafaj) prijať zákon NR SR o zrušení Ústavu pamäti národa. Ústav pamäti národa vznikol na základe všeobecnej vôle občanov, vyjadrenej v novembri 1989, vyrovná sa s dedičstvom komunistického režimu. Podobné inštitúcie boli založené aj v iných postkomunistických štátoch a majú všeobecnú podporu demokratických síl. Počas svojej päťročnej existencie Ústav pamäti národa prispel významnou mierou k odhaľovaniu zločinov totalitného režimu. V súčasnosti je jediným špecializovaným pracoviskom na Slovensku, ktorý sa systematicky venuje výskumu komunistického režimu.

Pozoruhodné na poslanceckom návrhu je predovšetkým tá skutočnosť, že poslanci za SNS chcú delimitovať archívne fondy na úzko špecializované pracovisko - Vojenský historický ústav, ktorý sa zaoberá vojenskou históriou -, s tým, že úlohy zo zákona zverené ÚPN štátom však už Vojenský historický ústav nebude plniť. A toto je podstata poslanceckého návrhu Slovenskej národnej strany. Vedeniu SNS nejde o zlepšenie podmienok pre prácu ústavu a jeho pracovníkov, ale o to, aby v Slovenskej republike zanikla verejnoprávna inštitúcia, ktorá má vo svojej náplni práce: výskum doby neslobody (1948 - 1989); sprístupňovanie prenasledovaným osobám dokumenty o ich prenasledovaní; zverejňovanie údajov o vykonávateľoch tohto prenasledovania a ich činnosti; Podávanie podnetov na trestné stíhanie zločinov a trestných činov v období neslobody; propagovanie myšlienky slobody a obrany demokracie; rozhodovanie o priznaní postavenia účastníkov protikomunistického odboja a pod. Týmto bezprecedentným návrhom autori poslanceckého návrhu zákona o likvidácii ÚPN zrušia nielen zákon č. 553/2002 o Ústave pamäti národa, ale chcú podstatne obmedziť aj Zákon o protikomunistickom odboji č. 219/2006.

Trend, ktorý nastolilo vedenie Slovenskej národnej strany svojim návrhom zákona na likvidáciu Ústavu pamäti národa je v zásadnom rozpore s budovaním demokracie, a je hodný všeobecného odsúdenia.

PhDr. Ján Bobák, CS.  
riaditeľ

## Oznámenia spolkov a okresov

### Polročná schôdza Okresu Msgr Štefana Krasul'u IKSJ

Oznamujeme všetkým členom, že polročná schôdza Okresu Msgr. Krasul'u, Spolok č. 16 Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty sa bude konať v nedeľu dňa 1. júna 2008 o 1:00 hodine poobede, po slovenskej omši v osadnej hale Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého 411 East 66th Street v New York City. Prosíme všetky spolky, ktoré patria do nášho Okresu, aby láskavo poslali čo najviac delegátov. Upozorňujeme, že aj nedelegáti sú vítaní. Program schôdze bude zameraný na prípravu plánu činnosti na budúce obdobie.

Po schôdzi sa bude konať "Seminár v rôznych formách poistenia (insurance) pre členov Jednoty za prítomnosti niektorého hlavného úradníka z Hlavného úradu Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty. Za tým bude nasledovať občerstvenie, ktoré pripraví Spolok sv. Matúša.

Ostávam s kresťanským pozdravom: "Pochvalený buď Ježiš Kristus".

Henrieta Daitová, tajomníčka

## Jarná zábava v Linden N.J.

Pozývame širokú slovenskú verejnosť aby prišla medzi nás na tanečnú zábavu, ktorú usporiada Slovenské kultúrne stredisko v sobotu 17. mája 2008 v Msgr. Komar Hall 2806 Parkway Ave (Tremley Point) v Linden, New Jersey.

Večera sa bude podávať od 8.00 - 9.00 hodine na bufetový spôsob. Prosíme záujemcov aby prišli na toto podujatie načas. Vstupné za osobu je \$25.00 v čom je započítaná aj večera. O občerstvení v bare je tiež postarané. Do tanca bude hrať hudobno-spevácka skupina Kontakty.

O rezervácii a zakúpení lístkov volajte na tieto čísla: Mary Karch: (732) 572-2331; Kamila Halas: (732) 888-3131.

Mary Karch  
Za Slovenské kultúrne stredisko



FOTO TASR - Jakub Holý  
Spomienkové podujatie pri príležitosti 89. výročia tragického úmrtia generála M. R. Štefánika v sobotu 3. mája 2008 na mohyle M. R. Štefánika na Bradle v okrese Myjava.

## Pripomíname si pamätný deň M. R. Štefánika

Bratislava (TASR) – Na základe zákona NR SR č. 241/1993 Z.z. z 20. októbra 1993 je 4. máj - výročie úmrtia Milana Rastislava Štefánika - pamätným dňom SR ako výraz úcty k jednej z najväčších osobností moderných slovenských dejín. V nedeľu 4. mája uplynulo 89 rokov od jeho tragickej smrti, od smrti politika, diplomata, vedca-astronóma, vojaka, generála letectva francúzskej armády a generála Ozbroyených síl SR.

Svojou diplomatickou činnosťou sa Štefánik výrazne zaslúžil o vznik medzivojnovej Česko-slovenskej republiky. Cez prvú svetovú vojnu spolupracoval s Tomášom G. Masarykom a Edvardom Benešom a aj ako podpredseda Národnej rady československej sa snažil realizovať víziu spoločného československého štátu. Vďaka svojmu spoločenskému vplyvu mal najväčšiu zásluhu na formovaní československého zahraničného odboja. Z postu francúzskeho generála a neskoršie československého ministra vojny (1918 -1919) prvej československej vlády reorganizoval československé jednotky na Sibíri.

Milan Rastislav Štefánik sa narodil 21. júla 1880 v Košariskách, v rodine evanjelického farára, materiálne chudobnom, no intelektuálne podnetnom prostredí vzdelanca. Vysokoškolské štúdiá absolvoval v Prahe. Začal študovať stavebné inžinierstvo, prešiel však na Filozofickú fakultu Karlovej univerzity, kde vyštudoval astronómiu a filozofiu. Pracoval v meudonskom observatóriu neďaleko Paríža u profesora Janssena. Absolvoval astronómické výskumné cesty do viacerých krajín v Ázii, Afrike a Amerike. Viackrát podnikol vedecké expedície na Mont Blanc.

Ako francúzsky občan sa zúčastnil na bojových a iných zahraničných akciách, ktorými ho poverila francúzska vláda, a jeho aktivity ohodnotila udelením najvyššieho francúzskeho vyznamenania - Radu čestnej légie a udelila mu hodnosť generála.

V prvej československej vláde pôsobil Štefánik v rokoch 1918-1919 ako minister vojny. Cestou z Talianska domov dňa 4. mája 1919 jeho lietadlo krátko pred pristátím v Ivanke havarovalo a Štefánik spolu s talianskymi letcami a mechanikom zahynuli. Tragédia, či zostrelenie lietadla sa nikdy spoľahlivo nevysvetlilo a v poslednej dobe sa novo analyzovali historické okolnosti smrti generála Štefánika.

Pochovali ho nad jeho rodnými Košariskami na Bradle 11. mája 1919, spolu s tromi talianskymi letcami, ktorí s ním zahynuli. O päť rokov po jeho smrti (4. mája 1924) položili základný kameň pamätníka, ktorý navrhol architekt Dušan Jurkovič. Mohyly so štyrmi pylónmi, obrátenú na štyri strany sveta slávnostne odhalili 23. septembra 1928 a v roku 2000 vyhlásili za pietne miesto.

Štefánikova busta s pamätnou tabuľou, faksimile jeho podpisu, ako aj jeho životné krédo "Veriť, milovať, pracovať", ktorým sa riadil po celý svoj krátky, ani nie 40-ročný život, zdobí vestibul novej budovy NR SR v Bratislave.

Prezident SR Rudolf Schuster vymenoval 7. mája 2004 M. R. Štefánika do hodnosti generála Ozbroyených síl SR in memoriam. Generálovi Štefánikovi udelili 21. júla 2004 preukaz vojnového veterána s číslom 0001. Stalo sa tak na slávnosti v Košariskách pri príležitosti 124. výročia jeho narodenia.



Generál M.R. Štefánik

**PRAKTIZUJTE FRATERNALIZMUS**

# Krátke správy zo Slovenska

Na leteckej linke Poprad - Londýn a späť, ktorej priemerná 90-percentná obsadenosť je snom každej leteckej spoločnosti, stúpa počet turistov. Doteraz jadro cestujúcich linky tvoria Slováci a Poliáci cestujúci do Veľkej Británie za prácou. "Turisti sú väčšinou Angličania, ktorí k nám prichádzajú v osem až dvanásťčlenných skupinkách. Chodia však aj individuálni turisti či dvojice", vysvetlil Juraj Rokfalusy z medzinárodného letiska Poprad-Tatry.

Veľký kancelár Katolíckej univerzity (KU) v Ružomberku, košický arcibiskup Mons. Alojz Tkáč, súhlasí s tým, aby bol novým rektorom profesor Tadeusz Zasepa. Akademický senát (AS) KU ho zvolil do funkcie na svojom zasadnutí v druhej polovici apríla. V súlade s platným Štatútom KU sa mal k voľbe vyjadriť aj veľký kancelár KU. Podľa vnútorných predpisov univerzity je arcibiskup Tkáč autoritou, ktorá zastupuje Konferenciu biskupov Slovenska na KU, vystupuje aj pred Svätou stolicou. Okrem iného sa vyjadruje napríklad k voľbám do AS KU, k voľbe a návrhu na odvolanie rektora, dozerá aj na vyučovanie teologických disciplín na univerzite, môže napomínať učiteľov a pedagogických pracovníkov pri porušovaní predpisov kanonického práva. Rektora do funkcie vymenuje prezident Ivan Gašparovič.

Možnosť voliť cez internet by využilo 37 percent Slovákov, 54 percent takúto možnosť vyjadrenia politických preferencií odmieta. Vyplýva to z výsledkov reprezentatívneho prieskumu, ktorý v auguste 2007 zrealizoval Inštitút pre verejné otázky (IVO). Medzi priaznivcov elektronického hlasovania patria predovšetkým mladí ľudia, obyvatelia veľkých miest, digitálne gramotnejší, voliči SDKÚ-DS, Smeru-SD a nerozhodnutí. Na opačnom póle sa nachádzajú voliči SNS, KDĽ, SMK a S-HZDS.

Počet záchranárov v slovenských horstvách je poddimenzovaný. Horská záchranná služba (HZS) eviduje viacerých záujemcov o tento post, ale požiadavky kladené na záchranárov sú náročné. "Na pozícii záchranár nám chýba ešte 21 príslušníkov. Poddimenzované sú najmä oblasti Západných Tatier, Veľkej Fatry a Vysokých Tatier. Záujem o profesiu záchranár je relatívne veľký, ale kritéria na prijatie sú prísne, takže ich dokáže splniť len časť z nich," uviedol riaditeľ HZS Jozef Janiga.

V kalamitnom území spravovanom Štátnymi lesmi (ŠL) TANAP-u vysadili v apríli viac ako 500,000 sadeníc ihličnatých a listnatých drevín. Jarnú výsadzbu pozitívne ovplyvnilo počasie bohaté na zrážky. "Z ihličnatých sú najpočetnejšie zastúpené smrekovec a borovica, nasleduje jedľa a limba. Smrek vysádzame iba ojedinele. Nechávame dostatočný priestor na prirodzenú obnovu. Predpokladáme, že v tomto roku umelo obnovíme asi 350 ha. Ďalších približne 55 ha budú plochy s prirodzeným zmladením," informoval Ján Marhefka z Odboru starostlivosti o lesy ŠL TANAP-u. Spresnil, že celkové náklady na obnovu lesa dosiahnu v tomto roku takmer 31,000,000 Sk (961,568 eur).

K veľmi slabému zemetraseniu došlo 2. mája okolo 06:00 západne od Banskej Bystrice. Informoval o tom Geofyzikálny ústav Slovenskej akadémie vied (SAV). "Podľa predbežných údajov lokálne magnitúdo zemetrasenia bolo 1.2", informoval Cipciar zo SAV. Podľa neho mohli obyvatelia okolitých obcí zemetrasenie pocítiť. Všetky informácie o zemetrasení sú veľmi dôležité pre skúmanie seizmickej aktivity a účinkov zemetrasení na Slovensku.

Nezamestnanosť na Slovensku zostala aj v marci najvyššia v rámci celej Európskej únie (EÚ). Sezónne upravená miera nezamestnanosti v SR klesla na 9.8% z 9.9% vo februári. V marci 2007 bola miera nezamestnanosti na Slovensku 11.3%. Informoval o tom 30. apríla štatistický úrad únie Eurostat. V celej EÚ nezamestnanosť klesla v 23 z 27 krajín. Na Slovensku sa miera nezamestnanosti medziročne znížila z 11.3 na 9.8%. Výrazný pokles zaznamenalo aj Poľsko (z 10.3% na 7.7%) a Bulharsko (zo 7.5% na 5.9%). Najviac vzrástla v Španielsku (z 8.1% na 9.3%) a Írsku (zo 4.6% na 5.6%). Najnižšiu nezamestnanosť v únii malo v marci Holandsko (2.6%).

Z rúk prezidenta SR Ivana Gašparoviča prevzali 30. apríla poverovacie listiny Peter Brno, ktorý povedie diplomatickú misiu SR v Českej republike, František Kašícký, ktorý povedie Stálu delegáciu SR pri NATO a Marianna Oravcová, ktorá povedie diplomatickú misiu SR v Slovinskej republike. Informovala o tom Elena Bianchi z Tlačového oddelenia Kancelárie prezidenta SR.

Na Slovensku sa v roku 2007 zlepšilo politické prostredie, ale zhoršila právna situácia médií. Konštatuje to organizácia Freedom House (FH) v najnovšej správe o slobode tlače vo svete. Mimovládna organizácia so sídlom vo Washingtone hodnotí Slovensko v otázke postavenia tlače, resp. médií ako "slobodné". Celkové hodnotenie SR sa však zhoršilo - z 20 na 22 bodov, pričom nižší výsledok znamená väčšiu slobodu. O niečo lepšie skončili Česká republika (18 bodov) a Maďarsko (21 bodov), pričom rovnaký pokles o dva body zaznamenali Slovinsko (23 bodov) a Poľsko (24 bodov).

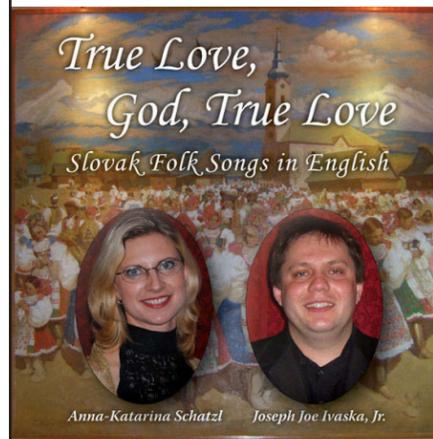
Bilancií prvých 100 dní v schengenskom priestore bol venovaný dvojdňový prvý svojho druhu medzinárodný kongres vyšehradskej štvorky Komunalforum, ktorý sa konal v Košiciach od 29. apríla. Podľa splnomocnenca vlády pre Schengen a štátneho tajomníka MV SR Jozefa Bučeka pozitíva sú obrovské. "Po tých 100 dňoch môžem hodnotiť Schengen ako veľký prínos pre občanov SR, ktorí môžu slobodne cestovať bez toho, aby sa zamyšľali, či sú v Maďarsku, Poľsku, Česku či Rakúsku," uviedol Buček. Vyskytujú sa však aj problémy, hlavne v prevádzkačstve na ukrajinsko-

slovenskej hranici, ale vďaka dobrej práci hraničnej a cudzineckej polície sa ich podľa Bučeka darí eliminovať. Do prípravy Slovenska do Schengenu bolo vrátane prostriedkov z EÚ investovaných 3.4 miliardy Sk (106.2 milióna eur). Na prvú Komunalfórum prišlo vyše 100 účastníkov z krajín V4 a Ukrajiny a organizátori ním zakladajú tradíciu diskusných stretnutí stredo európskych komunálnych a regionálnych politikov.

Polovica slovenských nositeľov doktorátov zarába menej ako 25 tisíc korún (775 eur). Vyplýva to z predbežných výsledkov prieskumu o kariernom postupe osôb a ukončeným doktorandským vzdelaním, ktoré zverejnil Štatistický úrad SR. Viac ako 40 tisíc Sk (1,240 eur) mesačne zarába 11.6 percenta doktorov. Tri štvrtiny z 2,638 osôb, ktoré úradu poskytli údaje, sa venuje pedagogickej činnosti. Držitelia doktorátov sú spokojní s lokalitou pracoviska, intelektuálnymi výzvami, mierou zodpovednosti, stupňom nezávislosti a prínosom pre spoločnosť. Najvýraznejšiu nespokojnosť prejavili s platmi.

TASR a slovenské časopisy

## Slovenské piesne v angličtine



Sólisti Jozef Ivaška a Anna K. Schatzl naspievali na Slovensku CD slovenských ľudových piesní v anglickej reči s titulom True Love, God, True Love (Láska, Bože, láska). CD vyšla vo vydavateľstve Bolchazy-Carducci Publishers, Inc. Disketu si možno objednať cestou telefónu: (847) 526-4344; Fax: (847) 526-2867; e-mail: lou@bolchazy.com.

## Veľvyslanec Obsitnik na návšteve Banskej Bystrice

Obhajoval aj rozmiestnenie rakiet a radaru

Banská Bystrica (TASR) – Veľvyslanec USA v Slovenskej republike Vincent Obsitnik navštívil 30. apríla Banskú Bystricu. Predpoludním prednášal študentom Fakulty politických vied a medzinárodných vzťahov Univerzity Mateja Bela o americkej zahraničnej politike, najmä z hľadiska bezpečnosti vo svete a ďalšieho vývoja medzinárodného terorizmu. Veľkú časť prednášky venoval postoju USA k osamostatneniu Kosova, k čomu smerovali aj všetky otázky študentov, a obhaje rozmiestnenia 10 rakiet v Poľsku a radarového systému v Česku.

AnneMarie Obsitnikova navštívila mimovládnu organizáciu Centrum Návrat, ktorá sa venuje vytváraniu podmienok pre náhradné rodičovstvo a ochranu biologickej rodiny. Popoludní veľvyslanec Obsitnik rokoval s primátorom Banskej Bystrice Ivanom Saktorom a s predsedom Banskobystrického samosprávneho kraja Milanom Murgášom. Na stretnutí s riaditeľkou Štátnej vedeckej knižnice Oľgou Laukovou riešili ďalší rozvoj knižničného fondu v odbore InfoUSA, ktorý v Banskej Bystrici pracuje už tri roky.

## SR je jedinou krajinou V4, ktorá vstúpi čoskoro do eurozóny

Bratislava (TASR) – Po tom, ako Slovensko prijalo jednotnú menu v roku 2007, je SR jedinou krajinou, ktorá vstúpi do eurozóny v blízkej budúcnosti. Rozhodnutie Európskych orgánov (Európskej komisie, Európskej rady a Európskeho parlamentu) bude prijaté ešte pred letom a šanca Slovenska na prijatie eura v roku 2009 sú okolo 90%, konštatuje hlavná ekonómka UniCredit Group pre SVE Debora Revoltellová. Na rozdiel od Slovenska jeho traja regionálni kolegovia - Poľsko, Maďarsko a Česká republika - si ešte nestanovili žiadny oficiálny cieľový dátum na prijatie jednotnej meny. Všetky tri krajiny si však dali záväzok splniť

maastrichtské kritéria konvergencie. V súčasnosti zostávajú roky 2012/2013 najpravdepodobnejším dátumom vstupu pre spomínané tri štáty, pričom ťažisko sa podľa Revoltellovej posúva skôr do roku 2013. Tri baltské krajiny, ktorých meny sa už ustálili voči euru, majú cieľový termín vstupu nastavený na roky 2011/2012. "Je to optimistické," uviedla Revoltellová. Príčinou postupného posunu v časovej schéme prijatia eura je, ako ďalej vyhlásila, inflácia. Euro ako nová národná mena je cieľom aj pre ďalšie členské krajiny EÚ - Rumunsko a Bulharsko - ktoré sa pokúšajú o jeho zavedenie do rokov 2013/2014.



# Katolícky fraternalistický dvojtýždenník

# Jednota



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

Volume 117

STREDA, 14. MÁJ 2008

Číslo 5778

## Vicepremiér Čaplovič na pracovnej návšteve USA

Bratislava (TASR) – Podpredseda vlády SR pre vedomostnú spoločnosť, európske záležitosti, ľudské práva a menšiny Dušan Čaplovič absolvoval pracovnú návštevu Spojených štátov amerických. Jej program pripravil Zastupiteľský úrad vo Washingtone spolu so slovenskými krajanmi v Chicagu. V metropole štátu Illinois, ktorá bola 2. mája prvou zástavkou, ho privítali veľvyslanec SR v USA Rastislav Káčer, prvý tajomník slovenského veľvyslanectva Martin Kaco, honorárny konzul SR v Illinois Thomas Klimek Ward a predseda krajanskej organizácie Slovenskej národnej aliancie v Chicagu Alojz Jurčík.

V sobotu 3. mája navštívil Čaplovič na chicagskom predmestí municipálnu knižnicu v Bridgeview, v ktorej sa otvára nové oddelenie slovenskej literatúry. Týmto významným krokom sa podstatne zvýši dostupnosť slovenských kníh nielen pre krajanov v Chicagu, ale vzhľadom na knižničný zásielkový systém aj v celých USA. Následne si vicepremiér SR prezrel niektoré historické a novodobé pamätihodnosti mesta. Súčasťou jeho programu bolo i

spoločenské stretnutie miestnej slovenskej podnikateľskej a intelektuálnej komunity, ktorá má záujem nadviazať tesnejšie vzťahy spolupráce so SR. Z jej kruhov, prostredníctvom profesora matematiky a inžinierstva na Chicagskej Richard J. Daley College, Alojza Jurčíka vyšla iniciatíva pozvať Čaploviča, ktorý má v pracovnom portfóliu aj oblasť starostlivosti o Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí, do Chicaga.

Očakáva sa, že z tohto stretnutia vziđu nové zámery, ktoré pomôžu skvalitniť a rozšíriť spoluprácu v prospech oboch strán. V nedeľu 4. mája sa Dušan Čaplovič zúčastnil v Bridgeview na katolíckej omši, ktorú celebroidal arcibiskup Ján Sokol. Popoludní odletel do texaského Austinu na návštevu spoločnosti Dell, kde sa stretol s jej predstaviteľmi, prezrel si jej prevádzku a zúčastnil sa na prezentácii programov v oblasti vzdelávania pracovníkov, politiky ľudských zdrojov a informatizácie školstva a spoločnosti. Na Slovensko sa vicepremiér Čaplovič vrátil v utorok 6. mája 2008. TASR o tom informoval Ľubomír Šišák z Kancelárie podpredsedu vlády SR.

## Ekonomická univerzita otvára centrum severoamerických štúdií

Bratislava (TASR) – Nové centrum severoamerických štúdií na bratislavskej Ekonomickej univerzite (EU) inaugurovali 3. mája v Slovenskom národnom divadle (SND) v Bratislave. Hlavným poslaním centra bude šíriť poznatky o Kanade a Spojených štátoch amerických. Centrum je výsledkom projektu bratislavskej EU a Euroatlantického centra.

“Zaoberať sa bude nielen štúdiom reálií a politiky Kanady a USA, ale v rámci neho sa budú uskutočňovať výmenné pobyty študentov a pedagógov,” povedal o centre Michal Kovács z Euroatlantického centra (EC). Vysvetlil, že EC považuje rozvoj bilaterálnych vzťahov s Kanadou a USA za jeden z najdôležitejších aspektov zahraničnej politiky SR. Centrum, aj keď vzniká na pôde EU, môžu navštíviť všetci študenti a pedagógovia z iných univerzít. Konkrétne výstupy práce centra predstavia študentom v nasledujúcom semestri - v

septembri 2008.

Medzi aktivitami nového centra bude aj organizácia kurzov, odborných seminárov a konferencií zameraných na rozvoj medzinárodnej spolupráce. Poslaním centra bude nielen šíriť poznatky o krajinách Severnej Ameriky, ale takisto podporovať rozvoj vzťahov EU s ďalšími univerzitami, podnikmi a inštitúciami v tejto oblasti. Inauguráciu spreievadalo baletné predstavenie inšpirované odkazom umelca Andyho Warhola. Na inaugurácii sa zúčastnil rektor EU Rudolf Sivák a minister školstva SR Ján Mikolaj. Účasť prisľúbili Olga Algayerová z Ministerstva zahraničných vecí SR, Lawrence Robert Silverman, zástupca vedúceho misie z veľvyslanectva USA, a John Broadbent, charge d'affaires z kanadského veľvyslanectva. nechýbali ani študenti. Po predstavení a inaugurácii slávnosť pokračovala recepciou.

## Základná zmluva medzi Svätou stolicou a Slovenskou republikou

Diplomatické vzťahy medzi Svätou stolicou a Slovenskou republikou dosiahli jeden zo svojich cieľov podpísaním Základnej zmluvy medzi Svätou stolicou a Slovenskou republikou 24. novembra 2000 vo Vatikáne predsedom vlády SR Mikulášom Dzurindom a štátnym sekretárom Svätej stolice kardinálom Angelom Sodanom. Zmluvu, ktorá sa stala historicky prvým medzinárodným dokumentom tohto charakteru, pripravil apoštolský nuncijs na Slovensku Mons. Luigi Dossona. Jej cieľom bolo dosiahnuť komplexnú úpravu vzťahov medzi Slovenskou republikou a Katolíckou cirkvou, ako aj medzi Slovenskou republikou a Svätou stolicou.

Medzinárodná zmluva sa konkretizuje v ďalších štyroch osobitných zmluvách, ktoré obsahujú riešenie určitých čiastkových úloh v špecifických oblastiach vzťahu medzi štátom a Katolíckou cirkvou na Slovensku. Prvou

čiastkovou zmluvou, ktorá bola podpísaná 21. augusta 2002, je Zmluva medzi Svätou stolicou a Slovenskou republikou o duchovnej službe katolíckym veriacim v Ozbrojených silách a Ozbrojených zboroch Slovenskej republiky. Ďalšou zmluvou, ktorá nadobudla platnosť 9. júla 2004, je zmluva o katolíckej výchove a vzdelaní. Zmluva o finančnom zabezpečení Katolíckej cirkvi medzi Svätou stolicou a Slovenskou republikou zatiaľ nie je podpísaná, rovnako tak i Zmluva o výhrade vo svedomí.

“Osoby s katolíckym vierovyznaním majú vo výchovno-vzdelávacom procese právo uplatňovať svoje presvedčenie, pokiaľ ide o výchovu k rodičovstvu, v súlade so zásadami kresťanskej etiky.”

Základná zmluva medzi Svätou stolicou a Slovenskou republikou, článok 13.

Katolícke noviny



FOTO TASR - Henrich Mišovic  
V duchu ľudových tradícií 30. apríla 2008 na Svätoplukovom námestí v Nitre postavili máj študenti nitrianskej Univerzity Konštantína Filozofa a Slovenskej poľnohospodárskej univerzity. Spoločná akcia obidvoch fakúlt sa uskutočnila v rámci Nitrianskych univerzitných dní. O dobrú zábavu študentov i okoloidúcich Nitranov sa postarali folklórne súbory Zobor, Ponitran a súbor Atikus.