



Jednota

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Fr. Stephen Furodek
Our Founder

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

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HAPPY THANKSGIVING 2010

As I write this message today is Election Day across the USA. Political pundits for the past several weeks have flooded the newspapers and the radio and TV screens. The Democrats, the Republicans, the Tea Party activists have spread their "gospels" preaching their solutions for what's wrong in America.

I don't pretend to have the solutions for our Nation's ills. However, I think we all can see evidence of underlying problems in our Nation's fabric :

The near 10 % unemployment rate while at the same time economists report that we have the greatest concentration of wealth since the Great Depression in the wealthiest 10% of the population and especially in the wealthiest 1%; the foreclosure rate on homes and the widespread devaluation of real estate, especially residential real estate; the disastrous conditions in many of our cities, both large and small, especially those in the northern "rust belt"; the seemingly almost permanent existence of an "underclass" that cannot or does not rise out of poverty; our National Debt that appears out of control and threatens us and our children to foreign servitude; the destruction of our basic industries; the decline of our social and moral fabric. I could go on but

continued on page 4



Andrew M. Rajec



The First Thanksgiving, painting by Jean Leon Gerome Ferris (1863-1930)

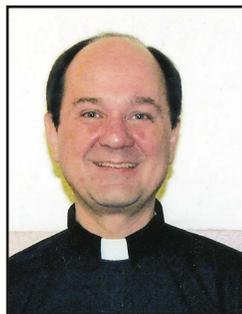
Thanksgiving Day is a harvest festival that is observed primarily in the United States and Canada, historically as a religious observation to give thanks to God. In Canada it is celebrated on the second Monday in October. An annual tradition in the United States since 1863, it currently celebrated is on the fourth Thursday in November.



A Thanksgiving Day Message From Our National Chaplain

Dear Friends,

Thanksgiving is the one holiday that has countless events and activities associated with it. There are the traditional football games between local high schools. Small towns as well as large cities have the yearly Thanksgiving Parade. Neighboring religious congregations come together for the annual Thanksgiving ecumenical service. Highways and airports are crowded with people anxious to be with loved ones for the holiday.



Rev. Thomas Nasta

Many things take place once a year at around the fourth Thursday of November, including the traditional Thanksgiving meal. Whether we share it with others or we find ourselves eating it alone, the Thanksgiving

continued on page 4

Thanksgiving Wishes

On behalf of myself, my family, and the Home Office staff, the very best wishes to all of our members for a happy and safe Thanksgiving holiday.



Kenneth A. Arendt,
National Executive Secretary



FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION ANNUITY & IRA INTEREST RATES EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 1, 2010

Six Year Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity or IRA's with the "Cash Interest" Option	3.65% (3.585% apr)
Eight Year Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity or IRA New "Park 2 Annuity"	3.40% (3.344% apr)
New Park Free Plus Annuity or IRA—1st yr guarantee	3.90% (3.826% apr)
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New Settlement Options are based on an interest rate of	3.15% (3.102% apr)

If you have any questions about our annuities or IRA's, please contact your local branch officer or the Home Office!

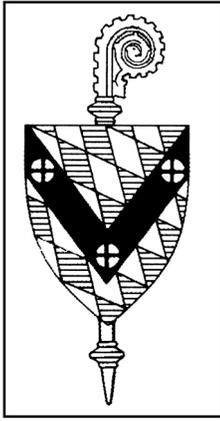
Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary



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Insights and Viewpoints



St. Vincent Archabbey — Homilies Father Demetrius R. Dumm O.S.B., Father Campion P. Gavaler O.S.B.

November 14, 2010
33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Luke 21:5-19

Gospel Summary

It has been traditional to reflect on an end-of-the-world gospel passage as we approach the end of the liturgical year. We will also be offered a similar gospel passage on the First Sunday of Advent.

It is important to note this because, from a biblical perspective, the end of one world is not such a tragic event since it also announces the beginning of a new one. A sorrowful Goodbye must sometimes be accepted before there can be a joyous Hello!

We should note that in today's gospel the end of the world is presented on various levels. The immediate end is the chaotic and painful experience that came when the Romans destroyed the Jewish temple. For Christians at least, this represented the end of the Old Testament era. Secondly, there are hints also of the final, cosmic end of our world with falling stars and dimming of the sun and moon. Finally, in both of these endings we see the elements of the end of our own earthly world in the event we call death.

The phenomena that accompany the final, cosmic end are surprisingly similar to the experiences that often come with our own last days. The failure of the sun and moon and the erratic behavior of the stars are replicated among us when we lose the security represented by these usually reliable heavenly bodies. For instance, when we grow old we sometimes find it hard to remember what time of the day it is. But this is only the end of a world that was never meant to last. We hate to see it go, but God knows what is best for us.

Life Implications

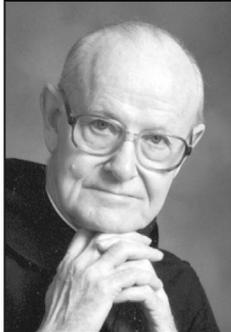
When we try to understand the gospel passages concerning the end of the world, it may be helpful to compare this event with human birth, which, for the infant being born, must surely be a traumatic experience. In fact, if an infant were able to choose, I suspect that it would opt for a continued existence in the warm, safe womb of its mother. The infant does not yet know how tragic it would be to miss all the possibilities of independent human life.

We too live in this world in a kind of womb that is meant to prepare us for birth into a new and better existence. Unlike the infant, however, we can resist that birth and we may even see it as a kind of personal tragedy. If our faith were as strong and vital as it should be, this would not be the case. Instead, we would embrace our present life with gratitude and still be ready to leave it with grace and peace, as we welcome the homecoming that God keeps in store for his beloved children.

But we don't have to wait until death to begin living by the wisdom of the Bible. In our lives there are little worlds ending all the time--the end of childhood, of education, of employment, of strength, etc. The courage and generosity and trust with which we deal with these endings will prepare us for the final ending.

It is also true that every time we love unselfishly we die a little bit to our own precious plans and preferences. If we die daily in these small ways, we will have little difficulty with the final dying as our plans are once again revised and we offer out lives, once and for all, to a merciful and loving God.

A confrere, in a pensive mood, said to me one time that it didn't seem fair for God to give me life without consulting me and then to allow me to make a mess of it. I thought about that and concluded that the baptismal experience, as one begins to see its implications, is that incredible opportunity to agree with my Creator, that life is always a wonderful gift and we should be saying continuously: "Thank you, dear Lord!"



Demetrius R. Dumm
O.S.B.

November 21, 2010
Christ the King
Luke 23:35-43

Gospel Summary

After his arrest, Jesus has been accused before Pilate, the Roman governor, of being opposed to Caesar and of claiming to be the Messiah of God, a king. Now, having been condemned to death under Roman law, Jesus is being crucified along with two criminals. The rulers and the soldiers taunt Jesus and call out that if he is the Messiah and king of the Jews, he should be able to save himself. One of the criminals also reviles Jesus saying, "Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us." The other criminal, however, recognizing his own crimes and the goodness of Jesus, says, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." Jesus responds, "Amen, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

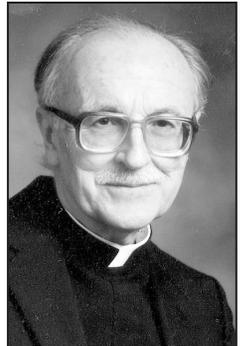
Life Implications

The rulers, soldiers, and the criminal who taunted Jesus had a definite notion of what it would mean if Jesus had been anointed by God as king. In their minds it would mean that Jesus would be a ruler of an empire--certainly more powerful than Caesar, and most certainly not a helpless victim of Caesar's power. We too may fall into the trap of projecting our own notions of what it means to honor Jesus as our king. Instead of projecting our own expectations, we must reflect on how Jesus reveals the meaning of authority in the kingdom he came to establish on earth.

Pope Pius XI, in his 1925 encyclical *Quas Primas* establishing the feast of Christ the King, reminds us of key texts for us to reflect upon today. In response to his disciples who were coveting positions of power, Jesus said that those who are rulers over the Gentiles make their authority over them felt. In his kingdom, however, whoever wishes to be great must be a servant, for he tells them that he himself "did not come to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for all" (Mk 10:35-45). To Jesus, the king anointed by God, all power in heaven and on earth was given; yet he issued no imperial decree to be enforced by the power of the sword. Rather he said to all who would listen, "Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart" (Mt 11:28-29). This is a king?

It is on the cross that Jesus ultimately reveals what it means to be king. The supreme power and glory of God that Jesus reveals is love. And in a world under Satan's reign of evil violence, it must be crucified love. Even though he challenges us to become engaged in the struggle to establish Christ's kingdom of justice and peace on earth, Pius XI calls us to a choice even more fundamental. In his encyclical, the Pope connects the feast of Christ the King to the feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. As king, Jesus gave his heart to us. "Lifted high on the cross, Christ gave his life for us, so much did he love us" (Preface for the feast of the Sacred Heart). He did so asking that we give our hearts to him.

At our Eucharist today we pray that each of us may truly believe that Jesus "the Son of God has loved me and given himself up for me" (Gal 2:20). And we ask for the grace to respond to this supreme love by giving ourselves and entrusting our lives to his reign. Perhaps for many of us, we may only be able to repeat the words of the criminal dying on his own cross: "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."



Campion P. Gavaler,
O.S.B.

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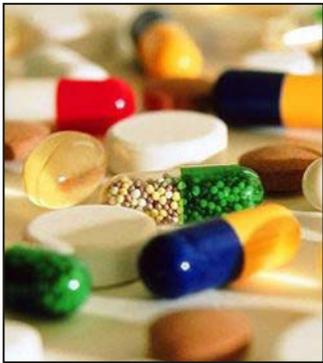
REFLECTIONS ON POPE BENEDICT XVI'S MONTHLY INTENTIONS

November 2010

General Intention

Victims of Addiction. *That through the support of the Christian community, all victims of addiction may find in the power of our saving God strength for a radical life change.*

We all know people who are suffering from addiction. Addictions can be more or less severe, but they all do damage both to those who are addicted and to their families, friends, and our whole community. Sometimes this damage is very great, including accidents, abuse, sickness, financial hardship, and even death.



An addiction is doing something you can't quit. We think first of alcohol and other drugs, but people are also addicted to things such as gambling, video games, pornography, smoking, eating, shopping, and even working. These activities can be more persistent than bad habits because they release powerful chemicals in the brain. Our bodies begin to crave those chemicals as much as the body of a heroin or nicotine addict craves those drugs. An addiction robs you of your freedom.

To overcome addiction, people must learn positive ways to cope with stress and pain. We need to substitute healthy behaviors for addictive behaviors. This takes planning, self-control, and support from others. Sometimes it takes medical treatment or counseling.

What can we do when all else fails? We can do what we should have done in the first place: turn to God in prayer.

Many people successfully overcome their addictions by turning to God. God gives power to the powerless. With Advent approaching, let this be a season of prayer and spiritual enrichment. Drawing close to God is the best way to overcome and prevent addictions. Closeness to God gives us strength and joy, love and peace. When God is with us, we have greater riches within than this world could ever give us. God gives us the freedom to say no and stick to it.

Pope Benedict asks us as a community to support victims of addiction. We begin by praying, but we must also find practical ways to help, not those who are addicted, but also the many among us who suffer because of others' addictions.

Reflection:

How can you and I as individuals and we as a Church better understand addictions and help those who suffer from them?

Reading:

Galatians 5: 13-26 You were called for freedom, but do not use this freedom as an opportunity for the flesh; rather serve one another through love.

Mission Intention

Mission in Latin America. *That the Latin American Churches may move forward with the continent-wide mission proposed by their bishops, assuming their share of the universal missionary task of God's people.*

The mission intention this month is a follow-up to a meeting the Pope attended in Brazil in 2007, the Fifth General Conference of Bishops of Latin America and the Caribbean. The Pope was there to affirm the plan of the Latin American Bishops to re-evangelize their peoples. Our prayer of the month was adapted from the Pope's long and moving prayer at the end of his message.



In his message Pope Benedict celebrated the rich spirituality of Latin Americans. He commends their "love for the suffering Christ, love for the Eucharist, love for the God who is close to the poor, and love for the holy Virgin of Guadalupe."

Speaking at length about the Eucharist, the Pope said this: "The encounter with Christ in the Eucharist calls forth a commitment to evangelization and an impulse toward solidarity; it awakens in the Christian a strong desire to proclaim

the Gospel and to bear witness to it in the world so as to build a more just and humane society. Only from the Eucharist will the civilization of love spring forth which will transform Latin America."

The Holy Father and the bishops recognize that many Latin countries need the wisdom and compassion of authentic Christian conversion as they strive against terrible social problems, including injustice, poverty, violence, and drugs.

The Latin American mission affects all of us because the grave problems in those countries often lead to illegal immigration to the U.S. Most Latino immigrants came to the U.S. as a desperate effort to survive.

As the Church in the U.S. becomes increasingly Latino, we recognize the many gifts that Latinos bring to our community, including their love of family and their great devotion to God.

Although the diversity of cultures and languages within the Church and society is not without tension, we Catholics remember that each person is loved by God and deserving of our welcome.

Reflection:

What are some of the ways that you see the increasing Latino population helping the Church in the U.S.?

Reading: 2

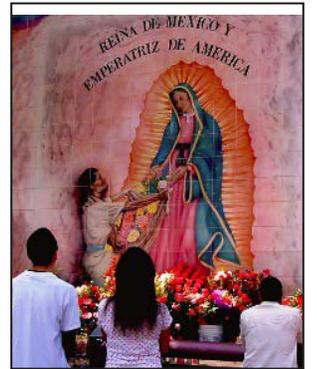
Timothy 4: 1-2 Proclaim the word; be persistent whether it is convenient or inconvenient.

Prayer of the Month



Stay with us, Lord, because all around us the shadows are deepening, and you are the Light. Stay with us, Lord, when mists of doubt rise up around our Catholic faith for you are Truth itself. Stay with our families that they may be nests where life is respected from conception to natural death for you are Life itself. Stay, Lord, with our most vulnerable, our poor, our lonely, our elderly, and our sick. You are our Hope.

- Adapted from Pope Benedict XVI's address to Latin American bishops, May, 2007



FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY ~ HOLIDAY HOURS

The Home Office and Jednota Estates Office will be closed on the following days during the holidays:

Thanksgiving Holidays
November 25 & 26, 2010

In observance of Christmas Eve and Christmas Day
December 23 & 24, 2010

In observance of New Years Day
December 31, 2010

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, NOV 24
WEDNESDAY, DEC 8

Copy Date
MONDAY, NOV 15
MONDAY, NOV 29

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:
Teresa Ivanec, Editor; fcsulifeeditor@gmail.com
First Catholic Slovak Union, Attention "JEDNOTA"
6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence, OH 44131-2398
FAX: 216-642-4310

Taylor Marie Mizikar competes in Miss Pennsylvania Teen USA Pageant

Miss Taylor Marie Mizikar has been invited to participate as a contestant in the upcoming MISS PENNSYLVANIA TEEN USA PAGEANT. The wonderful fun-filled pageant weekend will take place Friday, November 26th. and conclude Sunday, November 28th. All shows will be presented at the Hyatt Regency at the Pittsburgh International Airport.

Taylor is the daughter of Ed & Beth (Piper) Mizikar and sister to Reno of Mammoth, PA. Proud Grandparents include Mr. & Mrs. Edward & Barbara Mizikar of Mammoth, PA and Mr. & Mrs. Timothy & Kathi Piper of Latrobe, PA.

Taylor is in her sophomore year attending Mt. Pleasant Sr. High School. During her time in high school. Taylor has been a member of the Mt. Pleasant Aqua Club. Tennis Team, and statistician of the Swim Team. Her current activities include competing as a member of the Track and Field team, and Drama Club.

Taylor is active within her community as an active member of St. Florian Church, PA., and the First Catholic Slovak Union, (Jednota) Branch 181. She has participated in many charity races, including the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure. One of her most fulfilling activities, is serving as junior volunteer rescue squad member for the Kekcksburgh Volunteer Fire Department.

She describes herself as outgoing, respectful, and helpful. Taylor's hobbies include, fashion, swimming, yoga, music, spending time with friends and family, and her love for running.

Taylor has future ambitions of pursuing a career in the Medical Field as a Nurse. She dreams the career as a nurse will fulfill her aspirations in making a difference in the lives of those in need, also allowing her to continue her volunteer efforts.

Taylor would like to thake this opportunity to extend her heartfelt gratitude to all who have sponsored her, and everyone who has helped her to compete in the pageant.



Order Christmas Oplatky

Oplatky, the traditional Slovak Christmas wafers, are available from Jankola Library. Orders will be accepted from November 1 until December 17, 2010. The Oplatky, five per packet, thermal-sealed and securely packaged can be obtained for a donation of \$3.00. In addition, shipping and processing has a minimum cost of \$5.50 and upwards. Customized requests can be packaged to meet your needs.

For more information or to place an order contact Sister Catherine Labouré, SS.C.M. at 570-275-5606, Extension 140 or write to Jankola Library and Slovak Museum 580 Railroad Street, Villa Sacred Heart, Danville, PA 17821-1698.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING 2010

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you know the issues.

Unfortunately, only a little over 50% of eligible voters will vote at this election. The old saying "People get the government they deserve" may have some merit.

We have seen in the past few years a general polarization of our Nation. Some can be attributed to the strong stands, both pro and con, on abortion. Others point to the trend toward socialism.

Others say we just don't respect each other anymore. It is a "me first" attitude.

The strength of America has been its ability to have its citizens and political groups make compromises for the general good of all (I don't suggest a compromise on abortion).

Whether or not the new Congress, whatever its make-up, can work together for the common good, remains to be seen. With billions of dollars spent on advertising of all kinds, some critics say that our political system is now made up of the "best politicians money can buy". I hope that is not the case.

Election night Tuesday will be very interesting. I know I will stay up late. We all hope and pray that our elected officials have the welfare of our Nation as their priority.

On another note, Ken Arendt and I are pleased with all the letters, notes and phone calls we have received from Members telling us how much they enjoyed the Jednota Convention this past August. A significant number said it was the best Jednota Convention they ever attended.

I would like to thank all our Delegates for their attendance and participation and also those who served on the various Committees and everyone who worked to make the Convention a success. The last four years passed by quickly. The future demands constant planning and working for the future success of our Society.

We still live in the greatest country on Earth. May it remain that way.

God bless America and best wishes to the newly elected government in Slovakia!

Happy Thanksgiving!

Andrew M. Rajec
President

Message from our Chaplain

continued from page 1

meal, as special as it may be, is really no different from any other meal we eat, for it begins and ends with a remembrance of God in prayer.

Bless us our Lord, and these your gifts, which we are about to receive from your goodness, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

We give you thanks, Almighty God, for these and all your benefits, You who live and reign, forever and ever. Amen.

We have offered these prayers since our childhood. They are little reminders to us that all we have comes from our benevolent and loving God and we can never cease giving Him thanks. They tell us over and over again that every day is Thanksgiving Day.

Fraternally,

Fr. Thomas A. Nasta
National Chaplain

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LIGHT ONE CANDLE

Gerald M. Costello, *The Christophers*

Serving and Protecting America – Not Just Somebody Else’s Job

Veterans Day used to be more of a stirring occasion than it is today, and that’s too bad. We still have the ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery that honors those who died for their country, of course, and some towns still hold parades to pay tribute to the men and women who have served the colors. But local parades aren’t as prevalent as they used to be, and sometimes those in the line of march outnumber the people who turned up to watch.

You can find reasons for that without looking too hard. Robert M. Gates, the Secretary of Defense, pointed to some of them a few weeks ago when he spoke of the growing disconnect between military service and the country at large. “For a growing number of Americans,” he said, “service in the military, no matter how laudable, has become something for other people to do.”

And there are those who don’t think that serving in the military is laudable at all. Consider the colleges, for example, that have barred ROTC units, which train officers-to-be, from having any campus presence. That’s particularly true of so-called “elite” institutions, such as Harvard and Columbia. In fact, as New York Post columnist Glenn Harland Reynolds noted last month, Columbia won’t allow the ROTC program on campus even as it welcomes such critics of America as Iran’s President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad.

Gates said that while those coming home from service in Iraq and Afghanistan are still being treated warmly, “for most Americans the wars remain an abstraction – a distant and unpleasant series of news items that do not affect them personally.”

Some, tragically, are affected very personally. They are the families and friends of those young people dying every day in those wars; those who will never become “veterans” because they have given their lives for their country while serving on active duty.

One of them was Navy Lt. Brendan Looney of Silver Spring, Maryland, who was among nine U.S. military personnel killed when their helicopter crashed Sept. 21 in southern Afghanistan. A graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy and a member of the Navy’s elite SEAL force, Lt. Looney was buried following a funeral Mass at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. His death did not pass unnoticed. The congregation, which filled the vast church, numbered 3,000.

Among them were Lt. Looney’s wife, Amy; his parents and his five brothers and sisters. Also there were midshipmen from the Naval Academy, who were among those recalling that Lt. Looney had now joined in death his Academy roommate, Marine 1st Lt. Travis Manion, killed while serving in Iraq in 2007.

A Catholic News Service story quoted from the eulogy by Lt. Looney’s sister Bridget, who told the mourners, “When Brendan went to the Naval Academy and I saw him for the first time in his uniform, I realized this new version of our brother was important not just to us, but to our entire country.”

Brendan Looney, she said, was “an American hero, a military hero, a hometown hero.”

And, I might suggest, Lt. Looney – a hero, as his sister said, to the entire country – is one to remember, to keep in our hearts, and hold in our prayers this Veterans Day.

For a free copy of the Christopher News Note, *YOUR CAREER COUNTS*, write: *The Christophers*, 5 Hanover Square, New York, NY 10004; or e-mail: mail@christophers.org

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SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2010 (10AM TO 5PM)

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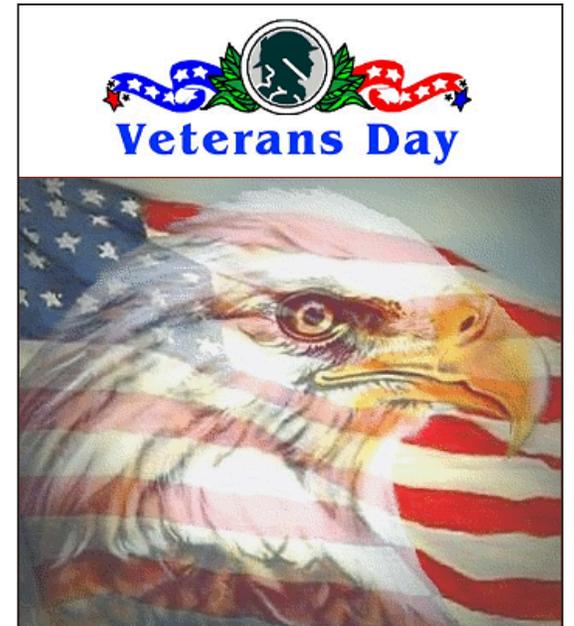
Veteran’s Day Observed November 11

U.S. President Woodrow Wilson first proclaimed an Armistice Day for November 11, 1919. In proclaiming the holiday, he said

“To us in America, the reflections of Armistice Day will be filled with solemn pride in the heroism of those who died in the country’s service and with gratitude for the victory, both because of the thing from which it has freed us and because of the opportunity it has given America to show her sympathy with peace and justice in the councils of the nations.”[2]

The United States Congress passed a concurrent resolution seven years later on June 4, 1926, requesting the President issue another proclamation to observe November 11 with appropriate ceremonies. An Act (52 Stat. 351; 5 U.S. Code, Sec. 87a) approved May 13, 1938, made the 11th of November in each year a legal holiday; “a day to be dedicated to the cause of world peace and to be thereafter celebrated and known as ‘Armistice Day.’”

Congress amended this act on June 1, 1954, replacing “Armistice” with Veterans, and it has been known as Veterans Day since.



“PARK FREE PLUS” ANNUITY

Effective November 1, 2010

The new annuity plan that combines features from our most popular annuities...
The Park Annuity and the Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity.

The “Park Free Plus” offers a first year interest rate of 3.15% (3.102% APR) that is guaranteed for the entire first year of the Annuity policy. At the first anniversary date of the policy, the **Annuitant has 15 calendar days to elect this option:**

1. **Withdraw the full value of the accumulated Annuity funds (principal plus interest)**

WITHOUT INCURRING A SURRENDER CHARGE!

Note: If the funds are withdrawn prior to the first anniversary of the policy, a 6% surrender will be imposed on the funds withdrawn.*

2. If this option is not exercised, the Annuity will continue for an additional five years. The interest rate at that time will be based on the interest rate established by the Society on its Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity. This rate is published regularly in the official publication and on our website.

If the policy is continued, the Annuitant may withdraw up to 10% of the policies cash value at the beginning of each policy year, without incurring a surrender charge.*

If the Policy is continued, withdrawals that exceed 10% of the policy’s cash value will incur a surrender charge of 5% in the second year and withdrawal charges will decrease by 1% each year until the end of the sixth year from the issue date*.

INITIAL DEPOSIT MAY BE AS LOW AS \$1,000!

Low Minimum Deposit. Initial deposit may be as low as \$1,000 for the “Park Free Plus” Annuity. Maximum deposit for this program is \$100,000.00. No additional deposits are permitted during the first year.

Flexible Deposits. Additional deposits of \$1,000 or more accepted at any time after the first year.

Maturity Options. At the end of the six year policy period; the Annuitant has these options:

(a) The policy can be continued with no surrender charges on any withdrawals.* The interest rate will be based on FCSU Life’s Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity interest rate.

(b) The policy can be converted to any Annuity product offered by FCSU Life at that time. The interest rate will be based on the then current declared interest rate on the selected policy.

(c) Taxes on all interest earned on the “Park Free Plus” Annuity and any subsequent policy selected, will be deferred until funds are withdrawn.

For additional information, contact your Branch officer or the Home Office.

* Early withdrawals may be subject to IRS penalties.

Scenes from a Successful Sales Seminar in Scranton

The Membership and Marketing Committee held a Sales Seminar on Sunday, October 3, 2010, in Scranton, PA. The seminar was held in the Keyser Valley Community Center, as part of the SS Cyril & Methodius District events of catered luncheon, meeting and seminar that directly followed the 10:00am Mass in St. Peter's Cathedral, Scranton.

Recommenders from the SS Cyril & Methodius District (District 7) were invited to attend. The seminar was very well attended, with over 30 people including District President Michael Slovenkai and Regional Director Carl Ungvarsky. National Vice President Andrew R. Harcar, Sr. and National Executive Secretary Kenneth A. Arendt gave power point presentations about the FCSU portfolio. The purpose of the seminar was to better acquaint recommenders with the Society's insurance and annuity products.

These seminars are available to all branch members, district officers, and recommenders. Any member of the First Catholic Slovak Union interested in learning about and selling insurance and annuity products are urged to attend seminars in your respective district.



First Row (L-R): District Secretary Theresa Chupka, Treasurer/Financial Secretary Dorothy Ungvarsky, District President Michael Slovenkai, and Arlo Meeker. **Back Row (L-R):** Chaplain Margaret Chupka; Sgt-at-Arms Frank Wassil; Marie Gryzko; National Executive Secretary Kenneth A. Arendt; Elizabeth Slovenkai; National Vice President Andrew R. Harcar, Sr.; Regional Director Carl Ungvarsky; and Auditor Mary Chupka.



Scenes from a Successful Sales Seminar in Scranton



Useful Websites

www.skonline.sk
www.travelguide.sk
kosice.region.sk
www.slovakia.org
www.vtatra.sk
www.tatry.net
www.hotel-net.sk
www.skonline.sk
www.kultura.sk
www.snm.sk
www.savba.sk
www.government.gov.sk
www.snd.sk
www.stv.sk
www.nbs.sk

Slovakia Travel Guide
 Hotel and Spa Guide
 Kosice-City Travel Guide
 Bratislava-Information about the City
 Useful Information about the High Tatras
 Complete Information on Tatra Region
 Tourist Accommodation
 Slovakia On-Line (general information)
 Slovak cultural calendar
 Slovak National Museum
 Slovak Academy of Sciences
 Government of the Slovak Republic
 Slovak National Theater
 Slovak Television
 National Bank of Slovakia

WANTED

The First Catholic Slovak Union of the United States & Canada is seeking agents or licensed Recommenders who are fluent in the Slovak language to represent the Society and market our Life Insurance and Annuity products, especially in the New York and New Jersey area.

Please call or e-mail:

President
 Andrew M. Rajec –

1-800 JEDNOTA (533-6682) or

Vice-President
 Andrew R. Harcar, Sr. –

1-800-JEDNOTA (533-6682)

E-mail: president@fcsu.com



FCSU 2010 Christmas Coloring Contest

STAR OF THE EAST

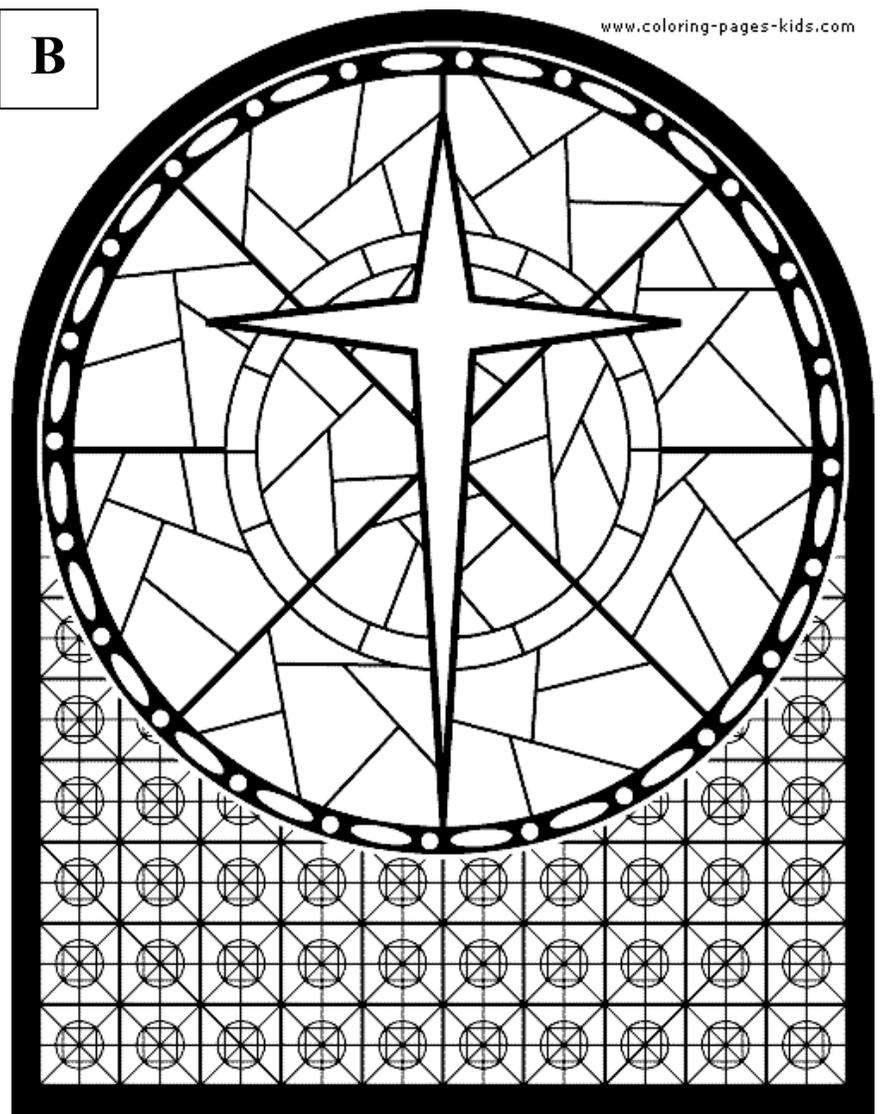
Star of the East, that long ago
Brought wise men on their way
Where, angels singing to and fro,
The Child of Bethlehem lay--
Above that Syrian hill afar
Thou shinest out to-night, O Star!

Star of the East, the night were drear
But for the tender grace
That with thy glory comes to cheer
Earth's loneliest, darkest place;
For by that charity we see
Where there is hope for all and me.

Star of the East! show us the way
In wisdom undefiled
To seek that manger out and lay
Our gifts before the Child--
To bring our hearts and offer them
Unto our King in Bethlehem!

--EUGENE FIELD

B



A



C



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!
Veselé Vianoce a Šťastný Nový Rok!

Insights and Viewpoints

November Traditions of Slovak Culture

By Michael J. Kopanic, Jr., Ph.D.

November is upon us, and the inevitable coming of colder days and longer nights. Slovak cultural traditions during this month reflect the transition from autumn to winter. In the past, the typical peasant and villagers' lives very much revolved around the calendar and the weather.

Slovaks never celebrated Thanksgiving in November as we do in the USA, but they kicked off the month with the two religious holy days, Sviatok Všetkých svätých (the Feast of All Saints) on November 1, and All Souls Day on November 2, called Dušičky in Slovak (pronounced Doo-sheech-kee).

All Saints Day and All Souls Day

Since the eighth century, when Pope Gregory III (731-741) proclaimed the Feast of All Saints Day, Slovak Catholics have kept that day holy and the faithful attended Holy Mass. November 1st is still a national holiday in Slovakia, with most businesses closed.

During the evening of All Saints Day, Slovaks did and still pay visits to cemeteries to show love and pay tribute to their ancestors. Across Slovakia, in both towns and villages, people still visit the graves of their deceased loved ones. Today, most faithful light candles and/or place flowers on the graves. The attached photo by Rudo Pavlovič of Prešov, Slovakia, shows how fantastic the sea of candles looks on the night of All Saints Day.

In former times, the visits continued every day, from November 1 until November 8. Villagers also used to make place-settings on their tables for the deceased (mŕtvi), and placed moss (rašelníky), pine-branches (vetvičky), and pine-wreaths (vence) at the graves of the dead.

Páračky -- Stripping Feathers

Another common Slovak custom during the month of November was that of páračky (pronounced "paa-raach-kee"). Because a full feathered down (perina) was traditionally part of the dowry of every girl of marriageable age, the family took great care to ensure that their young daughter were fully prepared when the right young man came along.

The process of making a good quality perina started long before November. All summer the lady of the house (gazdina) took care to collect just the right feathers from geese (huši) so there would be an ample supply when it was time to make a perina. Perina were huge, so they required lots of feathers and lots of work.

Feathers (pera) had to be soft and pliable, not hard and scratchy. By late October and November, the family assembled baskets of goose feathers, and would commence the laborious and time-consuming process of páračky for making periny.

Feathers had to be steamed and cleaned in pots, without the modern conveniences which we enjoy today. Work continued every day, except Saturdays, which was bad luck, and certainly not on Sunday, a holy day. When the gazdina had prepared and cleaned enough feathers, they had to be dried outside, but not in the sun, for that would dry out the feathers and also cause a foul odor, something not welcome in any bed. Rather the feathers kept their softness when gently dried in a nice breeze in the shade. When all was ready, a long winter provided ample time to sew the feathers to make the most comfortable feather-quilt that one might imagine.

Priadky – Spinning

Another Slovak custom that began in late October and continued through the winter was the practice of priadky. Spinning was a major event, much like the American "quilting bees" of yesteryear. Women and young teenage girls of the village gathered to make yarn or thread by twisting fibers from flax and sheep's wool, so that they could in turn create a usable cloth. The process took many weeks and even months of work, and became major social events for the ladies. Young men also attended and played games or flirted with girls of eligible age. When the work finally finished, a feast of singing, dancing and merriment ensued.

Katarína - St. Catherine's Day

The next noteworthy day on the traditional Slovak calendar was St. Catherine's Day, which arrived on November 25. Catherine of Alexandria was an early fourth century saint who suffered torture and martyrdom for refusing marriage because she claimed she was already engaged to Christ. Christians in Slovakia recognized her as a model of moral virtue and uncompromising faith.

Superstitious villagers believed that magic could occur on her feast day, both for ill and for good. To protect themselves from harm, they ate garlic and put crosses on their doors to keep out strigy (witches). Some believed that if the first visitor on that day was a woman, the gazdina would spend the whole year smashing dishes!

No one could work with wheels (kolesa) on Katarína, for the female martyr had endured torture on the wheel. So no priadky occurred on that day. To do so was asking for trouble.

Instead Katarína marked a time for merriment, for Advent was approaching, and song and dance was strictly prohibited during the season before Christmas. So villages often celebrated with feasting and dancing until the light of morning. At midnight, each young man would choose the girl he wished to dance with, and she would present him with a small gift, usually some tasteful homemade koláče (pastry).

Ondrej - St. Andrew's Day

The last day of November, the 30th, St. Andrew's Day, was also considered a portent of



Slovak Cemetery on All Souls Day. Personal Photo Archive of Rudo Pavlovič, Prešov, Slovakia.



things to come. Typically Slovak villagers would finish their last preparations for the worst parts of winter. They would steam bleached lime on their windows to protect their cottages from the coming cold.

Another common practice on Ondrej was cooking halušky (Slovak dumplings). Young girls would mix flour dough and potatoes in a large bowl and then shape small bits of dough into the letters of names of eligible young men. Then when a girl put the pieces of dough into water, the first to float to the top was thought to be the name of her future husband.

Ondrej was also a time to forecast weather. If it snowed on Ondrej, the snow would be laying there for a long time (Keď na sv. Ondreja sneží, sneh si dlho poleží.)

Here are a few other common pranostiky (Weather Proverbs) about the month of November. We can only hope for this first one to bear fruit!

Slovak Pranostiky in November

Keď na deň Všetkých svätých prinesie zimu, tak Martin (11. novembra) prinesie leto.

When All Saints Day is wintery, St. Martin's Day (November 11) will bring summer-like weather.

But then there is this added warning!

Keď na Dušičky jasné počasí panuje, príchod zimy to oznamuje.

When clear weather prevails on All Souls' Day, that means the arrival of winter.

Then we have the truth about the inevitable onset of winter on St. Martin's Day.

Od sv. Martina zahreje len perina. From St. Martin's Day, only a feather quilt is warming.

And at the end of the month, we see predictions based on St. Katherine's Day.

Katarína (25. Novembra) na ľade, svätý Štefan (26. Decembra) na blate.

Ice on St. Katherine's Day (November 25) means mud on St. Stephen's Day (December 26).

Another reads, Na svätú Katarínu sneh už klope na oblok.

On St. Catherine's Day, snow is knocking on the window.

Let us hope we have a mild winter. But the traditional Slovak pranostiky offer us some good advice that even Ben Franklin would have found useful for his Poor Richard's Almanac.

All these traditions show how Slovaks prayed and amused themselves as they prepared for the beginning of Advent and the coming long and cold winters of Slovakia.

"1. november - Sviatok všetkých svätých," <http://www.hnusta.sk/1-november-sviatok-vsetkych-svatych> (accessed October 23, 2007).

Kristína Havasová, "Halloween 'BOOOO' or cemetery visits?" Slovak Spectator, 10/28/2002, retrieved at <http://www.slovak-spectator.sk/clanok.asp?vyd=2002041&cl=10852>.

"Novembrové zvyky na Slovensku." November 30, 2008. <http://stephanie-slovakiaherecome.blogspot.com/2008/11/thanksgiving-slovak-style.html> (accessed October 31, 2010).

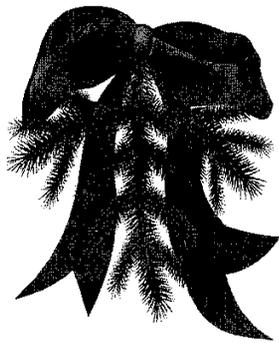
Bosák, Martin, and Bosák, Rudolf, Slovak Folk Customs and Traditions, (Prešov, Slovakia: Slovak Heritage Society of N.E. PA, 2006), pp. 54-56.

"Novembrové zvyky na Slovensku." November 30, 2008. <http://stephanie-slovakiaherecome.blogspot.com/2008/11/thanksgiving-slovak-style.html> (accessed October 31, 2010).

"Pranostiky." <http://pranostiky.host.sk/pranostiky.htm#november> (accessed October 31, 2010).

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

THINK ABOUT IT!



The Monks of St. Andrew Abbey
invite you to our 2010

VILIYA
SLOVAK CHRISTMAS EVE SUPPER

Sunday, December 5th
12:00 PM (Noon) Mass
Dinner Following

Held at the Abbey Church and
Benedictine High School Cafeteria

Tickets to this event are ADVANCE SALES ONLY
TICKETS WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR.

TICKETS - \$20.00 PER PERSON - ADVANCE SALES ONLY

**Please send a check or money order
along with a self addressed stamped envelope made out to
Saint Andrew Abbey - Viliya: 2900 Martin Luther King Jr., Drive,
Cleveland, OH 44104
Your tickets will be mailed out to you.**

**TICKET ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED BY
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2010**

If you have any questions please call: (216) 721-5300 ext. 0
(Monday through Friday 8am till 3:30pm)

Entertainment:

*Lučinka Junior Slovak Folklore Dancers
Slovenske Mamichky Singers
Religious Articles * Exhibitions * Christmas Bakery*

Gentle Revolution Remembered

Although the term Velvet Revolution was used internationally to describe the non-violent phenomenon that saw the overthrow of the authoritarian government in the (then) Czechoslovakia, Slovaks prefer the Gentle Revolution (nežná revolúcia).

Carried out from November 17 – December 29, 1989, Slovak citizens, along with their Czech counterparts, began to openly express discontent with the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia that began ruling on February 25, 1948. The increasing street protests were among the factors that led to the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia announcing on November 28 that it would relinquish power and dismantle the single-party state.

The commemorative 2 Euro coin was issued by Slovakia on 17 November 2009, to mark the twentieth anniversary of the Revolution. The coin depicts a bell with a key adjoining the clapper, reflecting the symbolic role of keys, to represent the unlocking of doors.



FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION OF
THE UNITED STATES & CANADA
6611 ROCKSIDE ROAD, SUITE 300
INDEPENDENCE, OHIO 44131

1-800-JEDNOTA

IMPORTANT NOTICE

PRIVACY – PERSONAL FINANCIAL AND MEDICAL INFORMATION

Protecting the privacy of your personal financial and medical information has always been and will continue to be a matter of top priority for us. When used in this notice, the following terms have the meaning shown.

Public Information means information that is lawfully available to the general public from: Federal State or local government records; widely distributed media; or, disclosures to the general public that are required to be made by Federal, State or local law.

Non-Public Information means personally identifiable financial and medical information. It also means any list, description or other grouping of individuals, and publicly available information pertaining to them, that is derived from any personally identifiable information that is not publicly available.

Consumer Reporting Agency means an entity, which regularly provides reports (Consumer Reports) including information regarding an individual's: general reputation, character, personal characteristics or mode of living and financial status. The information may be obtained through interviews with the individual or third parties such as the individual's: business associates, family members, friends, neighbors, acquaintances or financial sources.

We obtain information about you from the following sources:

- information you provide to us in an application or other form;
- information about your transactions with us (such as premium payments, loans, claims, etc.), or others; and
- information that we may receive from a Consumer Reporting Agency.

We do not disclose any personal, Non-Public Information about you to anyone, except as permitted or required by law. We will not disclose personal medical information about you, except as permitted by law or as you may authorize.

We restrict access to your personal, insurance and medical information to those of our employees who need to know that information in order to provide insurance or service to you. We are, and will continue to be, vigilant in the safeguarding of your personal, financial, and medical information. We maintain physical, electronic and procedural safeguards to comply with Federal and State regulations regarding the safeguarding of Non-Public Information.

It is our sincere desire to maintain complete, accurate and up-to-date records. You may contact us to access, as provided by law, information included in your file. We will promptly correct any error in our information. To protect your privacy, you will need to identify yourself by providing us with your name, date of birth and social security number.

Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity or IRA 3.65% (3.585% apr)

Rate Effective November 1, 2010



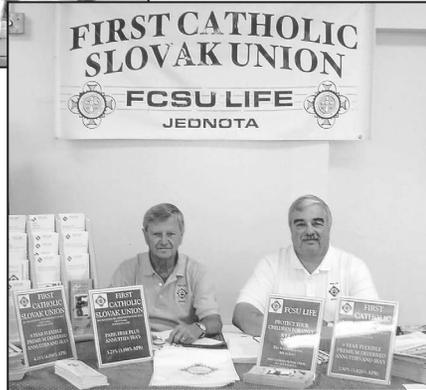
Features of the Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity include:

- ✘ 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)

CONTACT THE HOME OFFICE OR YOUR LOCAL BRANCH FOR MORE INFORMATION.
YOU CAN ALSO VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT FCSU.COM



The great nieces of the Reverend Stephen Furdek stop by the FCSU Booth to visit. L-R, National Vice President Andrew R. Harcar, Sr., Victoria Fedor, Joan Veres, and National Executive Secretary Kenneth A. Arendt

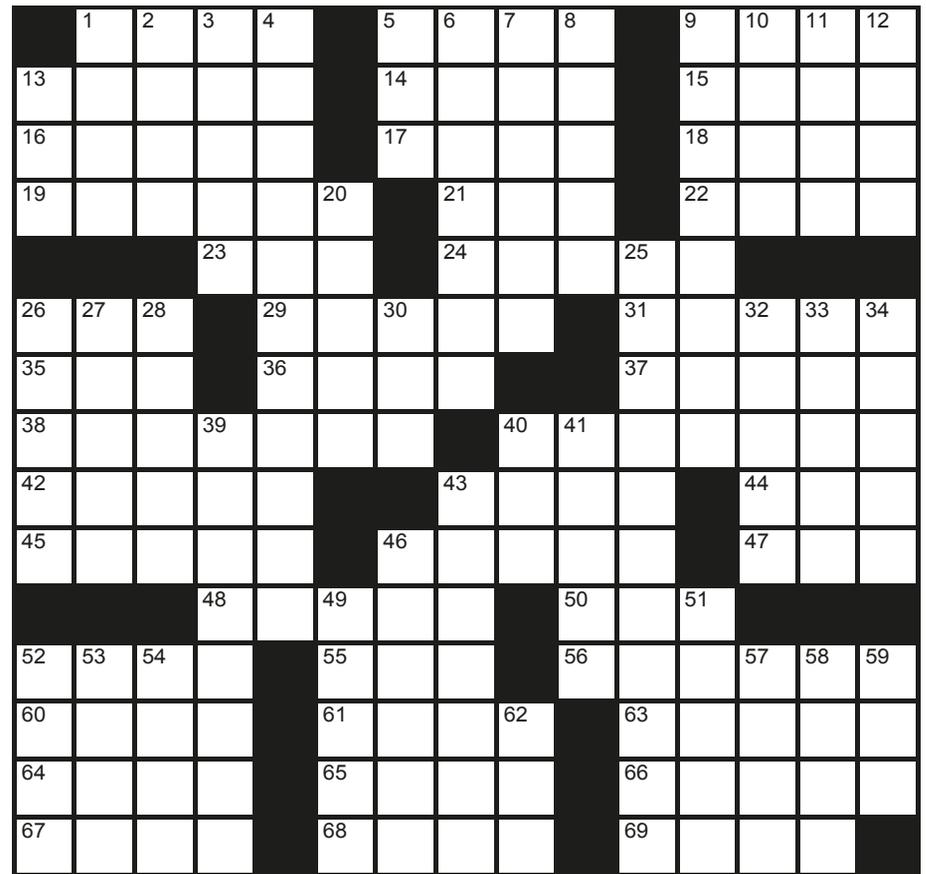


Manning the FCSU booth at the annual Slovak Festival sponsored by the Cleveland Slovak Radio Club, (L-R): National Vice President Andrew R. Harcar, Sr. and National Executive Secretary Kenneth A. Arendt

FCSU Officers Attend Cleveland Radio Club Festival

Officers of the First Catholic Slovak Union attended with annual Slovak Festival sponsored by the Cleveland Slovak Radio Club, which was held on Sunday, Sept 5, 2010 from noon until 8:00pm at St. Anthony of Padua Church in Parma, Ohio. The First Catholic Slovak Union operated a booth at the festival where information was provided on the FCSU and its insurance and annuity products.

Jednota Crossword Puzzle



Copyright ©2010 puzzlejunction.com

Across

- 1 Direction
- 5 Heroic verse
- 9 Blue-green
- 13 Capital of India
- 14 Pop
- 15 Wolf (Sp.)
- 16 Comforts
- 17 Clip
- 18 Ripened
- 19 Crimp
- 21 Digit
- 22 Crown
- 23 Hard liquor
- 24 Plaudit
- 26 Bundle
- 29 Tropical tree
- 31 Comic falls
- 35 Anger
- 36 Fuel
- 37 Turk. title
- 38 EU member
- 40 Ceremonial staff
- 42 Up next
- 43 Actress Clayburgh
- 44 Gr. letter
- 45 Fritter away
- 46 Religious song
- 47 Cheer
- 48 Squeak
- 50 Tub
- 52 Just about
- 55 Resort
- 56 Opuses
- 60 Saddle horse
- 61 Variety
- 63 Linen type
- 64 Bull (Sp.)
- 65 Poker term
- 66 Weighty

- 67 Cameo stone
- 68 Votes
- 69 Write down

Down

- 1 Put on
- 2 Other
- 3 Prune
- 4 Gift wrap
- 5 id __; n' -ce-pa:
- 6 Foreboding
- 7 High degree of foolishness
- 8 Dromedary
- 9 Pompous rhetoric
- 10 Hindu theistic philosophy
- 11 Assist
- 12 Lymph gland
- 13 Month (Abbr.)
- 20 Coal
- 25 Name
- 26 Heir
- 27 Stadium
- 28 Auto mishaps
- 30 Hardwood
- 32 Daisylike flower
- 33 Gr. letter
- 34 Singer Vaughan
- 39 Toy car name
- 40 Title
- 41 Spice
- 43 Indonesia city
- 46 Gangster
- 49 Composition
- 51 Before charger or jet
- 52 World org.
- 53 Golf club
- 54 Indiana city
- 57 Food selection
- 58 To be (Lat.)
- 59 Her
- 62 Your (Fr.)



"Park 2 Annuity" 3.00% (2.956% apr) Rate Effective November 1, 2010

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

Features of the "Park 2 Annuity" include:

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

Please contact your Branch Officer or the Home Office for applications or visit our web site at FCSU.com

See Solution on Page 18



Book Corner

2010 Edition of The Good Shepherd

Dobry Pastier is off the press

The Rev. Philip A. Altavilla, V.E., national president of the Slovak Catholic Federation, the representative body of American Catholics of Slovak ancestry, is pleased to announce that the 2010 edition of *The Good Shepherd - Dobry Pastier* is off the press. Edited by Sister Bernadette Marie Ondus, SS.C.M., this year's 247-page edition is replete with interesting and informative articles on Slovak faith, cultural and historical topics. This year's volume is dedicated to the memory of Thomas M. Hricik, former national president of the First Catholic Slovak Union and long-time member of the Executive Board of the Slovak Catholic Federation. Mr. Hricik, who was a Knight of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem, passed away on January 5, 2010.

The 2010 edition is filled with a variety of stories in both English and Slovak to suit the interests of those who want to learn more about their rich heritage. Articles include those related to Slovak history, milestones in important institutions both here and in Slovakia as well as general interest stories on American Slovak communities of religious and groups which promote Slovak music and dance. The book makes a perfect Christmas gift. Contributors to this year's edition include some well-known personalities in American Slovak life. Some of them including, Dr. Mikulas Halko, Justine Wesnak, Joseph T. Senko, Margaret A. Ferri, Cecilia Rahl, Andrew F. Hudak, Jr., Joseph J. Hornack, Paul Berish, Ivan S. Kralik, Anne Z. Sarosy, Sister Elaine Kisinko, O.S.B.M., Sister M. Philothea Fabian, SS.C.M., Dr. John Karch, Dr. Michael J. Kopanic, Jr., Jerry Jaroslav Krupa and Daniel F. Tanzone, among others. In addition to the feature articles, the volume includes a directory of all Slovak Catholic churches and institutions in the U.S. and Canada. It also contains a directory which features the names and addresses of more than 600 priests of Slovak ancestry in the U.S. and Canada. The book also includes the names and addresses of the Roman Catholic and Greek Catholic hierarchy in Slovakia as well as the religious communities of men and women there.

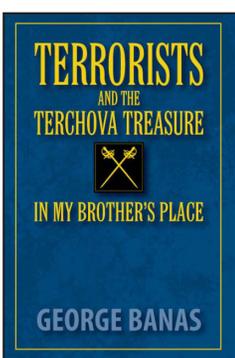
This year's is a welcome edition to the treasury of *Slovakanna in America*. It marks the 91st anniversary of the founding of *The Good Shepherd* as the Slovak Catholic Federation's official publication. *The Good Shepherd* has been published since 1919. This interesting book belongs in the home of every American family which values its Slovak heritage. Cost of the volume is just \$15.00 plus \$4.00 for shipping and handling. Make checks payable to Slovak Catholic Federation and send same to the national secretary-treasurer, Dolores M. Evanko, 183 Berner Ave., Hazleton, PA 18201. We congratulate the Slovak Catholic Federation on this year's publication and commend its editor, Sister Bernadette Marie Ondus, SS.C.M. on yet another beautiful edition.

Father Joseph Murgas, noted pioneer in wireless telegraphy and pioneer Slovak religious leader, founded the Slovak Catholic Federation in 1911 in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. to coordinate the work of Slovak Catholic fraternals, parishes and other institutions in the United States. In 2011, the Slovak Catholic Federation will observe its 100th anniversary on Sunday, May 11 with an appropriate liturgy at St. Peter's Cathedral in Scranton, Pa. followed by a festive banquet. Complete details on the centennial celebration will be forthcoming.

- Daniel F. Tanzone



Terrorists And The Terchova Treasure: In My Brother's Place



In a novel that could be taken directly from today's news, this suspenseful story blends fact and fiction to create a powerful tale of action and intrigue.

The story is told on many levels. Following the devastating attacks of September 11, 2001 on the United States, Joe Legion reactivates his secret life as a military and civilian operative to find and destroy international terrorists.

Joe fights to protect his American family and European relatives from unknown enemies or former friends who may have changed allegiances. To do so, Joe sharpens his unique fighting and survival skills, learned years earlier in the Army when he replaced his brother in special operations.

Frequently using his role as an international responder, Joe infiltrates and disrupts smaller terrorist organizations and supplier networks. Joe enlists family and friends to help him hunt for the legendary treasure of Juraj

Janosik, the early 18th-century Robin Hood and national hero of Slovakia. If found, Joe can use the treasure as bait to bring other terrorists and their collaborators out of hiding.

With American patriotism and an international flair for action, Joe sets forth on a quest against dangerous adversaries. This first book in a trilogy will whet your appetite for more.

For more information, go to amazon.com or to the publisher's website:

<http://www.strategicpublishinggroup.com/title/TerroristsAndTheTerchovaTreasure.html>

ISBN: 978-1-60860-618-4

About the Author: George Banas dedicates this book to all the defenders of the United States, from its origin to the present day. The author interweaves his personal experiences with the horror of 9/11, as well as actual historical events that have shaken our nation, but never defeated it. A Vietnam-era veteran, the author lives in suburban Chicago with his wife, Barbara. He has been a member of the FCSU since he was 15 years old.

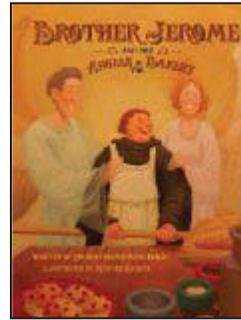
Editorial Reviews

"The character of Joe Legion is highly memorable, and the dialog inspired, smart, philosophical, and funny." --Chris Yurko - Professional Editor

"The story keeps your interest because you do not know what the next turn of events will be." --Lauren Earleywine - Uncompensated reviewer

Brother Jerome and the Angels in the Bakery

by Fr. Dominic Garramone, OSB



PBS's 'Baking Monk' Cooks Up Charming Illustrated Keepsake Children's Book About Faith, Persistence, And Sweet-Smelling Breads

Angels love to spend time in Br. Jerome's bakery because it's the place that smells the most like heaven. But when the abbot orders Br. Jerome to open the monastery bakery to the public, the young monk is worried he won't be able to attract customers. With the encouragement of his abbot and a little help from his angelic companions, Br. Jerome gains the confidence he needs to run a successful bakery.

With classic storybook illustrations sure to capture the imagination of children and adults alike, *Brother Jerome and the Angels in the Bakery* by Father Dominic Garramone is a meaningful story about faith and determination. Garramone, host of the popular PBS show "Breaking Bread with Father Dominic" which aired from 1999 through 2001, wrote the book to inspire young readers to follow their passions. The tale of Br. Jerome teaches children the importance of perseverance through life's difficult moments.

As Br. Jerome struggles with initial setbacks and disappointments by his lack of bakery customers, he's given the encouragement he needs to keep trying and ultimately learns he had the strength within himself the whole time.

"I want children to develop greater confidence in their abilities to handle challenges," said Garramone. "Br. Jerome symbolizes the part in all of us that may want to do great things, but may lack confidence in ourselves."

Brother Jerome and the Angels in the Bakery is filled with messages of faith and valuable lessons for the whole family including:

- Learning to remain positive and persevering after failures and disappointments
- The importance of developing greater confidence in your abilities to handle the unique challenges that will come your way
- Promoting an attitude of gratitude and giving thanks to God for successes you achieve
- Helping children develop a deeper faith and promoting awareness in guardian angels in modern Christian culture

Set in a monastery kitchen, the book provides a little peek into the world of a monk while offering universal messages of encouragement and love. *Brother Jerome and the Angels in the Bakery* is an ideal springboard for parents to discuss how to handle failures, work for success and the importance of perseverance.

Father Dominic Garramone was the host of the popular PBS cooking show, "Breaking Bread with Father Dominic" from 1999-2002 and wrote three cookbooks for the series. He is also the author of *Bake and Be Blessed* on the spirituality of bread baking, and a Christmas cookbook titled 'Tis the Season to be Baking and the recently released Thursday Night Pizza, an easy-to-follow pizza cookbook inspired by the recipes he created for his fellow monks.

Father Dominic Garramone is a Roman Catholic priest and monk of the Order of Saint Benedict and has worked in teaching, theaters and writing as extension of his vocation as a monk. Garramone currently teaches at St. Bede Academy in Illinois where he is the head of the religion department and the drama director. He is an avid baker ever since making his first baguette for his French class in the 5th grade.

Brother Jerome and the Angels in the Bakery by Father Dominic Garramone with illustrations by Richard Bernal is available for purchase at www.reedypress.com www.borders.com



The Backwaters Press Announces

Closing Distances, by Paul Martin

In *Closing Distances*, Paul Martin keeps alive for a little longer the people who lived in the working class town where he grew up. Here are the old Slovak women, husbands, parents, and grandparents, brothers, the racy butcher. Here is the Slovak language that is slowly being forgotten. And here are beauty and sorrow, humor, tenderness and wisdom. In the aptly named "The Fading Photograph," a poem about his paternal grandfather, we read, "Proud old man, forgive me for thinking I understand." Thing is, Paul Martin does understand, and to read these wonderful, often heartbreaking poems is to share in that understanding and to be uplifted. We are much richer for these poems.

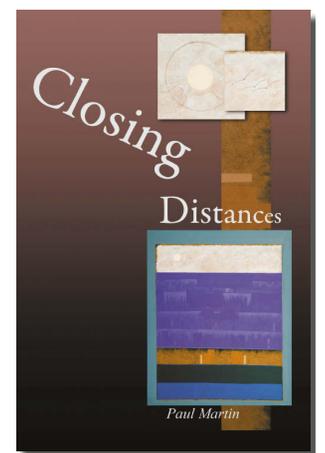
Harry Humes

For over thirty years I have admired Paul Martin's poems. He is a master of extracting and presenting the extraordinary power of a so-called ordinary image, his rhythms are spell-bindingly sure-footed, and his language has a great, subtle music that remains with the reader long after the poems are done. And, perhaps most importantly—for I believe it is the source of his great gifts—Paul Martin dares to write about love and death, their bitter-sweet intermingling, with an emotional courage and poetic mastery that is rarely encountered these days.

Len Roberts

The virtues and value of Paul Martin's poetry lie in its emotional steadiness and the honesty of its reports of the rituals of everyday acts. Memory, like a barber's scissors, "whispers in (his) ears" assembling in art of social conscience an immigrant history and account of a life beyond Canal and Lehigh Streets. There are no pyrotechnical formal effects—but, then, would you choose to sit by fireworks or by a well-banked hearth for warmth?

Peter Fallon



Available at Amazon.com or B&N.com, or ask your local bookstore to order through Ingram

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DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISTRICT 3 - GEORGE ONDA DISTRICT-WESTMORELAND COUNTY,PENNSYLVANIA

The George Onda District will hold its annual Stedry Vecer on Sunday, December 5, 2010 at the Bishop Connare Center, Route 30 East, Greensburg, Pennsylvania. Begin the evening with Mass at 4:00 p.m. in the chapel. Our traditional Slovak Christmas Eve Dinner (including pirohi) will follow in the festively decorated dining room. After dinner and the awarding of door prizes, the Pittsburgh Slovaks will entertain. Please plan to attend and help us preserve this beautiful custom. Tickets are \$17 for adults and \$11 for children 16 and younger. Reserve your tickets early (they are limited) by calling Darlene Patty at 724-537-7743. Absolutely no reservations will be accepted after November 27 or by the Bishop Connare Center.

Linda L. Gonta, Secretary

DISTRICT 4 – MSGR. RURA DISTRICT – NEW JERSEY

The next semi-annual meeting of the Msgr. Rura District of New Jersey will be held on Sunday, November 21, 2010 at 1:00 PM. Branch 290 will host the meeting at St. Joseph's Church Hall, 16 East Somerset Street in Raritan, NJ. Branch secretaries are asked to call Joe Minarovich @ 732-469-5256 by November 7th with the number of delegates who will be attending.

Refreshments will be served.

Mary J. Kapitan, Secretary

DISTRICT 6 - PITTSBURGH DISTRICT

Local Branch 60 will host the annual meeting of the Pittsburgh District of the F.C.S.U. on Sunday, December 5, 2010. The meeting will begin promptly at 1:00 p.m. in the St Barnabas Parish Hall, Swissvale, PA. All branches are expected send representatives. The Steelers don't play till evening so that's not an excuse. The meeting will include officers' reports and discussion of F.C.S.U. national and district business. In particular, branch hosts for 2011 events will be selected. District officers for 2011 will be elected at this meeting.

The Pittsburgh District would like to thank this opportunity to extend thanks to all of its members who served as delegates at the 49th Convention this August in Cleveland, OH.

The District Christmas Party will follow the business meeting. The officers of the Pittsburgh District wish all members a happy and holy Holiday Season.

Fraternally,

Margaret A. Nasta, Secretary

DISTRICT 10 – REV. STEPHEN FURDEK

Rev. Stephen Furdek, District 10, will be meeting at 2:00 pm, on Sunday, November 14, 2010 at the Slovak J Club, 485 Morgan Avenue, Akron, Ohio 44311. This meeting is being held to update members on convention data and election of officers for the 2011 year.

If you have any questions or concerns please call Linda Hanko @ 330.706.0151 or via email at lhanko@neo.rr.com.

If you plan to attend this meeting, please contact Linda Hanko @330.706.0151 or via email at lhanko@neo.rr.com so that we may have a proper head count for refreshments.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda M. Hanko, Recording Secretary/Treasurer

DISTRICT 12 – ANDREW HLINKA DISTRICT

On Sunday, November 14, 2010, at 1:00PM, a meeting of the Andrew Hlinka District will be held at King's Restaurant in Bentleyville, PA. In addition to general business, there will be an election of officers. Members of the various branches are urged to attend.

Frances Tarquinio, Secretary

DISTRICT 14 - REV. JOSEPH L. KOSTIK DISTRICT

The Rev. Joseph L. Kostik District will hold its next meeting Tuesday, November 16, 2010, at 7:00pm at the St. Matthias Church rectory. On the agenda will be election of officers and discussions on the Christmas party and general business.

Carla Peshek, President

DISTRICT 19 - MONSIGNOR MICHAEL SHUBA DISTRICT, TORONTO, CANADA

This year's Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday Dec 12, 2010 at 1:30pm, at Sts Cyril's and Methodius Slovak Church in Mississauga, 5255 Thornwood Dr. Lunch will be served, but please contact Mike Kapitan to confirm attendance, so that proper quantities can be available for all members attending.

Regards,
Mike Kapitan, President

DISTRICT 20 - PRINCE RASTISLAV DISTRICT - MONTREAL

The Prince Rastislav District - Montreal and Branches 784 and 810 will hold their Annual Meeting on Sunday November 28, 2010 after Mass at Sts Cyril and Methodius Parish Hall, Montreal, Quebec. On the agenda will be the election of officers and a discussion of the social calendar for 2010 and 2011. Refreshments will be served.

Branch 784 will host the traditional Slovak Christmas Dinner from Sunday November 28 to Sunday November 21, 2010. We invite members and friends of both branches to attend.

Alexander S. Dobrik, President



Prince of Peace Parish

Prince of Peace Parish on Pittsburgh's South Side will host its Annual Slovak Vilija on Saturday, December 18, 2010. The Vilija is the re-creation of a traditional Slovak Christmas Eve dinner, featuring authentic homemade Slovak delicacies and authentic folk entertainment sure to warm your spirit. The meatless meal features baked fish, mushroom soup, pirohy, nut and poppy seed rolls— all made by parish volunteers! The evening's highlight is the performance by the Pittsburgh Slovaks which re-enacts the visit of the shepherds to the Christ Child, entirely in Slovak songs, verse and dance. Tickets are available by reservation only: \$20 for adults and \$10 for children under 16. Group discounts are available. Call the Prince of Peace Parish Center at 412-481-8380 before December 13th to make reservations or request additional information.

BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

BRANCH 1 - CLEVELAND, OHIO

The Saint Joseph Society, Branch 1, will hold its next meeting on Tuesday, December 21, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the St. Cyril & Methodius School Hall, 12608 Madison Avenue, Lakewood Ohio. We will have our election of officers. Our annual Christmas party will take place after the conclusion of the meeting. All members are encouraged to attend. If you have any questions please call 216.228.8179

Marie A. Golias, Secretary

BRANCH 2 – PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Michael the Archangel Society Branch 2, will hold its annual meeting on Tues. Nov. 30, 2010 at 7 pm in the Eat n' Park at 7370 McKnight Rd. We will have election of officers and planning of events for 2011. All members are encouraged to attend. Snacks will be served afterwards. Any questions call (412) 766-3222. We also ask that you make a reservation by calling (412) 766-3222.

Joanne Lako, Secretary

BRANCH 3 – HAZLETON, PENNSYLVANIA

The 2010 annual meeting of Saint Joseph Society, Branch 003P, will be held at 9:30 am on Sunday November 21, 2010 in Saint Joseph's Church cafeteria at North Laurel Street in Hazleton, PA. Election of officers for 2011 will be conducted followed by a short update on local branch activities. New ideas for branch activities will be entertained and any changes of address or beneficiaries can be submitted at this meeting. All members are encouraged to attend and get involved.

Mike Koval Financial Secretary

BRANCH 4 – PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 4, will hold a semi-annual meeting on Sunday, November 21, 2010, at the home of Anna Marie Hanlon (Secretary), 2338 Lucina Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA, 15210, at 3:00pm.

Anna Marie Hanlon, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 5 – EXETER, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. John The Evangelist Society, Branch 05P, will hold a meeting on Sunday November 14, 2010, at 1:00pm at the home of Vice President Marion Rubino, 67 Ninth St., Wyoming, PA. On the agenda will be the nominations and election of officers for the coming year and future branch activities.

BRANCH 6 – STREATOR, ILLINOIS

The St. Stephen's Society, Branch 006, will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, Dec. 12, 2010, at Chippers Grill, 1733 N. Bloomington St., Streator, IL. The meeting will begin at 1:00PM with a lunch provided for all members after the meeting. The agenda will include the nomination and election of officers for the year 2011. All members are welcome to attend this meeting. Any questions, please call 815-822-8851 or 815-672-1764. Thank you.

Paul Chismar, Secretary

BRANCH 7 - HOUTZDALE, PENNSYLVANIA

The Sacred Heart of Jesus Society, Branch 7, will hold its next meeting on Sunday, December 12, 2010, at 9:00am at Christ the King Parish Center, 100 Brisbia Street, Houtzdale, PA. Election of officers will take place. Members are urged to attend.

Marie Sedlak, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 10 – OLYPHANT, PENNSYLVANIA

St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 10 K. J., First Catholic Slovak Union of Olyphant, Pennsylvania will hold its Annual Meeting, Audit and Election of Officers at 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, Nov-

ember 28, at the home of Recording Secretary William A. Nalevanko, 405 North River Street, Olyphant, Pennsylvania.

William A. Nalevanko, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 19 – BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 19, will hold its Breakfast Meeting on Sunday, November 14, 2010. A Mass will be offered by Msgr. Joseph Pekar for our members at 8:30AM in SS. Cyril and Methodius Church, 79 Church Street, Bridgeport, CT. Following the Mass, members are invited to return to the Rev. Matthew Jankola Hall in the lower level of the church for our regular meeting and breakfast.

At this meeting, the John A. Zahor Scholarship will be awarded to the following college freshmen: Lauren Bruchansky, Daniel Kowalski, Nicholas Kuruc, Meredith Lorys, Elise Kapitancek, Stephanie Johnson, and Lisa Quadgliarol. This scholarship was established in recognition of the many years John A. Zahor served as president of the St. Joseph Society and his commitment to the education of its members.

Also, the Andrew J. Imbro Grant will be given to the following college juniors for their college expenses: Stephen Dolan, Jessica Johnson, Alia Elnabas, Peter Kapitancek, Matthew Minese, Amanda Nelson, and Johnathan Solek. The grant was established in honor of Andrew Imbro and his years as financial secretary of the St. Joseph Society and his commitment to its young members.

The Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, December 12, 2010, at 9:30AM in SS Cyril and Methodius Church Hall, 79 Church Street, Bridgeport, CT. The election of officers also will take place at this meeting.

We cordially invite our members to attend these meetings and enjoy seeing their friends.

Henry Zack, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 24 – CLEVELAND, OHIO

St Andrew Svorad Society, Branch 24, offers Congratulations to Branch Chaplain

Rev. Albert Marflak, OSB, on the 35th anniversary of his ordination.

We will be providing complimentary tickets for branch members only for the St. Andrew Abbey Viliya Dinner on Sunday, December 5, 2010, at St. Andrew Abbey, 10510 Buckeye Road. Mass is at 12:00 noon, with dinner to follow. Reservations are required and available by call Activities Director Susan Lang at 216/896-0957 after 6:00pm. The deadline is Monday, November 22. For non-members or to purchase additional tickets, call the Abbey at 216/721-5300, extension 0. For further details, see announcement in this newspaper.

Bob Kopco, President

BRANCH 38 – DUQUESNE, PENNSYLVANIA

The Holy Trinity Society, Branch 38, will hold its Annual Meeting on Thursday evening, November 11, 2010, at 7:00PM at the home of Secretary Florence Matta, 3409 Eisenhower Court, White Oak, PA.

Officers' reports will be given, along with discussion on the 49th Convention. Branch Officers will be elected for 2011. All Branch 38 members are urged to attend.

Florence Matta, Secretary/Treasurer

BRANCH 41 – YONKERS, NEW YORK

The Holy Trinity Society, Branch 41KJ, will hold its Annual Meeting on Saturday, December 11, 2010, in the Rectory of the Most Holy Trinity Church, 18 Trinity Plaza, Yonkers, NY, after the 5:00pm Mass. Financial reports will be presented and suggestions will be discussed. A presentation of the 49th International Convention of the First Catholic Slovak Union of the United States and Canada will take place. We urge all members to attend this meeting. Refreshments will be served.

Fraternally,

Robert J. Lutz, Recording Secretary
continued on page 15

BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

continued from page 14

BRANCH 45 – NEW YORK, NEW YORK

The St. Matthew the Evangelist Society, Branch 45, will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, November 28, 2010, at 12:30pm after the Slovak Mass at St. John Nepomucene Church, 66th Street and First Avenue, New York City. On the agenda will be a financial report, officers' reports, a report on last year's activities, and a discussion on events for the upcoming year. The election of officers also will be chosen. We urge all members to attend this meeting.

Sincerely,

Maria Jurasi, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 55 – BROOMALL, PENNSYLVANIA

The Annual Meeting of Branch 55 K.J. is scheduled to be held on Sunday, November 14, 2010 at the home of the Vice-President, 188 Di-Marco Drive, Philadelphia, PA 19154. Officers will be elected and regular business will be conducted. Refreshments will be served. Please bring non-perishable food for Aid For Friends. All members are cordially invited to attend. Please call the President at (610) 356-7956 or Secretary at (215) 637-6530 for directions.

Fraternally yours,

Josephine E. Gerba Secretary-Treasurer

BRANCH 75 – SHAMOKIN, PENNSYLVANIA

The Assumption of the B.V.M. Society, Branch 75, will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday, December 5, 2010, at 10:00AM, at the residence of President and Financial Secretary Ronald M. Anderson, 8 South Shamokin Street, Shamokin, PA. The fiscal end of the year reports and financial statements will be presented. The auditor's report will be submitted and the nomination of officers for the coming year will take place. The delegates to the 49th Convention of the First Catholic Slovak Union will present their reports. The merger of Branch 18K, Kulpmont, PA into Branch 75, Shamokin, PA, and how the combined branches will be affected by the jointure, will be discussed. All members are requested to attend this semi-annual.

Ronald M. Anderson, President/Financial Secretary

BRANCH 112 MAHANAY CITY, PA

Branch 112 will hold a meeting on Sunday, December 19, 2010 to discuss end of year business. The meeting will be at 86 Spring Street, Pottsville, PA at 1PM. Please call 570-544-6694 for directions.

Refreshments will be served.

Karen Sterling

BRANCH 112 – MAHANAY CITY, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 112, Mahanoy City, will hold their annual meeting and holiday party on Sunday, December 5, 2010 at 1PM. The meeting will be held at 86 Spring Street, Pottsville, PA. The agenda will include election of officers, a report on the convention and ideas for gaining membership. Please call 570-544-6694 for directions.

Thank you.

Karen Sterling

BRANCH 153 – CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

The St. Stephen Society, Branch 153, will hold its annual meeting on Saturday, November 13, 2010, at 12:00 noon at the home of President John Jurcenko, 7113 West Talcott Avenue, Chicago, IL. On the agenda will be officers' reports, election of officers for 2011, and a discussion on charitable donations.

All members are invited to attend this annual meeting. There will be a fraternal luncheon after the meeting.

Please remember in your prayers all of our deceased members, especially those who have passed away during the past six months: Helen

Kersjes, Frank Juraska, and Joseph Cuma.
Dorothy Jurcenko, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 173 & BRANCH 232 – GREATER WILKES-BARRE AREA, PENNSYLVANIA

The Annual Meeting of The Saint John The Baptist Society, Branch 173, and The Holy Trinity Society, Branch 232, of the Greater Wilkes-Barre Area, Pa., will be held on December 10, 2010 at 1:00 pm. The meeting will be held at Norms, North Sherman St., Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

The meeting will be for general business and the discussion of the 49th Convention of the First Catholic Slovak Union, that was held in Cleveland, Ohio.

We request that all members make every effort to attend and in any event please contact Dorothy A. Ungvarsky, 15 Grove St. Mountaintop, Pa. 18707, Phone 570-403-2067, if you plan to attend or do not plan to attend but wish to make any comments or suggestions for the betterment of the First Catholic Slovak Union.

Fraternally,

Dorothy A. Ungvarsky President

BRANCH 181 – UNITED PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 181 will hold a meeting on November 13, 2010, immediately following the 5:00pm Mass, St. Florian Formation Building, St. Florian Church grounds, 4261, Rt. 981, P.O. Box 187, United PA. On the agenda: The election of officers as well as finalizing Viliya arrangements. All members are urged to attend.

Gerry Kovacina

BRANCH 228 – LORAIN, OHIO

The St. John the Baptist/Holy Trinity Lodge, Branch 228 will hold their next meeting on Monday, November 15, 2010 at 7 P.M. at the American Slovak Club on 30th and Broadway in Lorain, Ohio. Our meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of each month except for the months of January, February, July and August when no meetings are held. All meetings begin at 7 P.M. and are held at the American Slovak Club. The branch will hold its annual election of officers and bylaw review as is done during each December meeting. At that time, we will also elect three (3) representatives to serve on the American Slovak Club Board of Directors. This is an opportune time to get into office and help run our branch as well as becoming involved with the Slovak Club. Anyone interested in running for branch office and / or ASC board representative should contact the branch officers and attend the December 20, 2010 meeting. Visit the websites for the FCSU at fcsu.com and the Slovak Club at americanslovakclub.com for an update on current activities. See you at the Club!

Thomas B. Zuffa, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 254- PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

The Saint Wenceslaus Society, Branch 254, will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, January 9, 2011, at noon at Panera's restaurant in the Galleria located at the corner of Washington and Gilkeson Roads, Mt. Lebanon, PA. The purpose of the meeting is to elect officers, review the activities for the past year, discuss new products and plan activities for 2011. Lunch will be provided. For reservations, call Albina at 412/343-5031.

Albina Senko, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 259 – STRUTHERS, OHIO

The St. Michael the Archangel Society, Branch 259, will hold its Annual Meeting on December 12, 2010, at the Bedford Trails Golf Course in Coitsville, OH, following a Mass at 8:30am at Holy Trinity Church for all living and deceased members. All members are invited to attend this fraternal event.

Vivian Sedlacko, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 260 – CAMPBELL, OHIO

St. Matthews Branch 260 will hold its Annual Meeting, Sunday, December 12, 2010 at

Msgr. Cyril Adamko Hall, St. Elizabeth Church, at 1:30pm. Election of officers will take place, along with plans for the coming year. We urge members to attend and participate in our discussions and submit their ideas for the betterment of the Society.

Charles M. Terek, President

BRANCH 266 – HAZLETON, PENNSYLVANIA

The annual meeting of Saint Peter and Paul Society, Branch 266, will be held on Sunday November 21, 2010 at 9:30 am in Saint Joseph's Church cafeteria at 604 North Laurel Street in Hazleton, PA. Officers will be elected for 2011, and suggestions for branch activities for next year will be discussed. Please spread the word so more of our members will attend and become involved in branch activities. Please plan to attend.

Richard Lazar, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 276 - MCKEESPORT, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. John the Baptist, Branch 276, will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, November 21, 2010, at Woody's Restaurant in Versailles, PA at 1:00pm. On the agenda will be election of officers for 2011. All members and officers are urged to attend this meeting.

Nancy Gerdich, Secretary

BRANCH 320 -

The officers of SS Peter & Paul Society, Branch 320, invite their members to attend the branch's next meeting and Christmas luncheon on Saturday, December 18, at noon at Rego's Restaurant in Charleroi, PA. There will be no cost to members; however, there will a \$10.00 charge for non-members. In addition to conducting general business, there will be an election of officers. Please make your reservation by calling Fran at (724) 929-9788 before December 12 and let her know if you will be attending.

Mary Anne Higginbothan, President

BRANCH 362 - ST. CLAIRSVILLE, OHIO

Our Lady of Angel, Branch 362, will have meeting on Nov. 28 at 12:00 noon at 70820 Crescent Rd. St. Clairsville, Ohio all member are ask to attend.

John Wodarczyk

BRANCH 367 – UNIONTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

On November 22, 2010, St. Joseph Society, Branch 367, will hold its annual meeting and election of officers and clear up all donations to our five parishes for the year 2010. The meeting will be held at Bogeys Restaurant & Golf Club on Duck Hollow Road, Uniontown, PA.

Please call 724-438-3887 for reservations. I also would like to extend an invitation to any members from the other four branches to come and join us for any input and to help you with your insurance problems. I need some new officers and if you would like to have a part-time job, the money earned is up to you.

Fraternally yours,

Mrs. Audrey J. Balazik, President

BRANCH 372 – BEVERDALE, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Joseph's Society, Branch 372, of Beaverdale, PA, will hold its annual meeting Sunday, December 5, 2010, at 2:00pm. The meeting will be held at the home of President Michael P. Hudak, 829 Cameron Ave, Beaverdale, PA.

The agenda for this meeting will be the election of officers for the year 2011, and any other appropriate lodge business. All members are urged to attend.

Thank you.

Michael P. Hudak, President

BRANCH 393 – HANNASTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 393, will hold a meeting on Sunday, November 14, 2010, at 1:00pm at the home of Mary Ann Nalevanko, 459 Front Street, Greensburg, PA.

Mary Ann Nalevanko, Secretary

BRANCH 401 – EAST VANDERGRIFT, PENNSYLVANIA

The semi-annual meeting of Branch 401KJ, St. Anthony of Padua, will be held at the King's Restaurant, 315 Hyde Park Road, Leechburg, PA, Sunday, November 14, 2010, at 11:00AM. The agenda will include nomination of officers, and financial matters. Also graduates of high school and college for the years 2009 and 2010 are requested to get in touch with the president or secretary – Patrick or Rose Froncek, respectively. If possible, it would be great to see you at the meeting!

Please note that the new mailing address for Branch 401 is: P.O. Box 178, North Apollo, PA, 15673.

The annual meeting of Branch 401KJ, St. Anthony of Padua, will be held at the King's Restaurant, 315 Hyde Park Road, Leechburg, PA, Sunday, December 5, 2010, at 11:00AM. Scheduled for the agenda will be the election of officers and any other matters to be addressed.

Best wishes to all for the upcoming holidays. Štastliva Sviatky.

Fraternally, Rose Froncek, Secretary

BRANCH 410 UNIONTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The SS. Peter and Paul Society, Branch 410, will hold a meeting on Thursday, Dec. 2, 2010, at 4:00 p.m. at the Highland House, 92 West Main Street, Uniontown, PA. The agenda will include the election of officers for the year 2011.

All members are invited to attend.

**Geri Buchheit,
Recording/Financial Secretary**

BRANCH 419 – WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Stephen the Martyr, Branch 419, will hold its semi-annual meeting, November 14, 2010, at 1:00PM at Norm's Pizza located on Sherman Street. On the agenda will be reports of convention, as well as the election of officers. Any inquiries and reservations should be directed to Marie Gryczko at 824-4125 no later than November 6, 2010. Refreshments will be served after the meeting.

Marie Gryczko, President

BRANCH 484 - CORAL, PENNSYLVANIA

The Annual Meeting of the St. Joseph's the Guardian Society, Branch 484, will be held Sunday, December 12, 2010, 2:00 PM at the home of the president Rose Ann Rura, 819 Power Plant Road, Coral, Pa. 15731. On the agenda will be the fiscal year financial statements, branch donations, report of the District 7 annual meeting and the election of 2011 officers. All members are welcome.

Joseph E. Rura, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 493 – CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Society, Branch 493, in Chicago, will hold its Annual Meeting and Election of Officers, with the branch Christmas Luncheon following, on Saturday, December 4, 2010. Location: Mabenka's Restaurant, 7844 South Cicero Avenue, Burbank, IL 60459.

At 1:30 pm, members will gather for a period of fraternal fellowship. The meeting will start at 2:00 pm, with a delicious dinner following.

If you plan to attend, please call the Financial Secretary Robert Tapak Magruder at (773) 505-0117 or (502) 244-6643 by November 26th. Members of other FCSU lodges who attend will pay via separate check.

Robert Tapak Magruder, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 553- UNIONTOWN, OHIO

A "Save the Date" Announcement from Branch 553: Save the date December 5, 2010. That is the date set aside for our annual Viliya sponsored by Branch 553 to be held at the Slovak J Club, 485 Morgan Avenue, Akron, Ohio 44311.

This is a time to celebrate your Slovak heritage and Catholic faith by participating and re-

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BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

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member the traditional Christmas Eve meal. We will be sharing the symbolism of each part of the meal and the traditions our forefathers entrusted to us.

The cost is \$15.00 per person and children 16 and under are free. The event will start at 4:00 pm.

If you are interested in attending contact Linda Hanco at 330.706.0151 or via email at HYPER-LINK "mailto:lhanko@neo.rr.com" lhanko@neo.rr.com.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda M. Hanco
Recording Secretary

BRANCH 567 – ALLENTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, Branch 567KJ, will have their annual meeting on Wednesday, December 15, 2010, at St. John the Baptist Church, 924 North Front St., Allentown, PA. The election and swearing in of officers for the year 2011 will take place at this time.

The following officers were elected: President, Bernadine Gerhard; Recording Secretary, Rosalie Favere; Treasurer, William Micek; and Auditor, Loretta Dashner.

The annual report also will be given at this time. Members are encouraged to attend meetings.

Wishing everyone a very Blessed and Happy Holiday Season.

Rosalie Favere, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 580 - WEST MIFFLIN, PENNSYLVANIA

The Sacred Heart of Jesus Society Branch 580 will hold a meeting on Sunday, November 14, 2010 after the 9:30 mass in the Holy Trinity Social Hall. All members are welcome.

Virginia Jasek, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 581 – PORTER, INDIANA

The St. Michael the Archangel, Branch 581, will hold its regular luncheon-meeting at 1 p.m., Sunday, December 5, at the Lake Park Restaurant, 7 East Old Ridge Rd., Hobart, IN.

The agenda will be -- Election of Officers, Insurance premium for children with the Branch paying the first premium.

Also, new business for the year will be discussed.

RSVP Ann at 219-947-2793.

Ann Buczek, President

BRANCH 595 – MUSKEGON HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN

Branch 595 in Muskegon Heights, MI would like to announce our monthly pork and kraut dinners being served at the club. They will be held on the second Sunday of each month. This is a complete traditional dinner including dessert. Only \$6 for adults and children under 12 pay only \$4. We will be serving from noon until 3 p.m.

Our monthly breakfast is held the fourth Sunday of each month. We serve from 8:30 a.m. until noon. We serve a wide variety of breakfast items. The cost remains at \$6.50 for adults and \$3.50 for children.

We are located at the corner of Sixth Street and Sherman Boulevard in Muskegon Heights. Our phone number is 231 733 7525. Please contact us if you have any other questions.

Thank you,

Donna Stone, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 633 – FLINT, MICHIGAN

The Sacred Heart of Jesus Society, Branch 633, will hold its annual meeting at 1:00pm, Saturday, November 20, 2010, at Empire Wok Restaurant, located at 4211 East Court Street in Burton across from Courtland Mall. All members are asked to attend. This meeting is dependent on the future of this Lodge.

Eva Craine, Secretary

BRANCH 670 – DONORA, PENNSYLVANIA

The officers of St. Anton of Padua, Branch 670, invite their members to attend the branch's next meeting on Sunday, November 14, at noon at King's Restaurant, located in Bentleyville, PA. In addition to general business, there will an election of officers. Members are urged to attend.

Dorothy Petrus, President

BRANCH 686 – HUNTLEY, ILLINOIS

The Annual Meeting of Branch 686 will be held on Sunday, November 21, 2010, at the home of President Mark Davis in Genoa City, Wisconsin, located on the border of Illinois and Wisconsin and can be readily accessed off Highway 12. The meeting is scheduled for 1:30 P.M. Election of Officers for the coming year and a summary of events of the FCSU Convention will also be on the agenda. All members are invited to attend. Please phone 262-279-9648 if you plan on attending the meeting.

Fraternally,

Rudolph D. Glogovsky, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 721 – BANNISTER, MICHIGAN

Branch 721 of the First Catholic Slovak Union will have a meeting on Sunday, December 5, 2010, at 2:00pm, at the St. Cyril's Meeting Room. All members are encouraged to attend.

Joseph L. Beno, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 731 – YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

On December 19, 2010, Branch 731 will celebrate Mass at 11:30am at Saint Matthias Church, Cornell Street, Youngstown, Ohio in commemoration of deceased members of Saint Joseph Branch 731. Monsignor Peter M. Polando will be the celebrant.

Following the Liturgy, we will meet at the Saint Matthias rectory for our annual meeting and election of officers for the 2011 year.

Jim Bobby, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 738 – MUNHALL, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Michael's Branch 738 will hold its semi-annual meeting on Tuesday 12/7/10 at 6:30 pm at the VFV Post 6673, Whitaker Way, Munhall, Pa. The meeting will include election of officers and a review of the financial audit. All members are invited to attend.

BRANCH 743--- STERLING HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 743 will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, December 5, 2010, at 1:00 p.m. On the agenda will be Officer Report, a 2010 financial report, approval of the 2011 budget, discussion of branch activities, convention report and other business pertaining to the branch and the First Catholic Slovak Union. The election of branch officers will also take place.

Members are urged to attend the celebration of the Slovak Mass before the meeting at 11:30 a.m. at SS. Cyril and Methodius Church, 41233 Ryan Road, Sterling Heights, MI.

The annual meeting will follow mass in the Church Social Hall.

Please come and enjoy our annual Christmas meeting with your fellow branch members.

Members who need assistance with their policy or need to change their address or beneficiary should contact the Financial Secretary of Branch 743, Joseph C. Rimarcik, 42909 Sussex Park Dr. Sterling Heights, MI 48314-3087 or phone @586-254-0225.

On behalf of the Officers of Branch 743 we wish you a Merry Christmas and a healthy New Year.

Joseph C. Rimarcik,
President and Financial Secretary

BRANCH 746 – LINDEN, NEW JERSEY

The St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 746, will hold its next meeting on Sunday, December

12, 2010 at 12:30 PM in the upstairs meeting room of the Msgr. Komar Hall of Holy Family Church in Linden, NJ. The agenda will include election of officers for 2011, as well as discussion of activities for the next year. A holiday get together will follow the meeting.

Mary Kapitan, Secretary

BRANCH 764 WARREN, OHIO

SS Cyril & Methodius Branch 764 will hold a meeting on November 14, 2010 at Christ Our King Social Hall, 1000 Tod Avenue, Warren, OH at 12:15PM. We will be discussing election of officers for 2011 and plans for a Christmas Party. We will also be discussing a possible site and date for a meeting in Newton Falls to welcome those members into our Branch 764. All members of the previous Branch 759K Newton Falls and Branch 342 Warren are urged to attend this meeting.

Joy Brunetti, Recording Secretary

BRANCHES 784 AND 810 – MONTREAL, QUEBEC.

Branches 784 and 810 will hold their annual meeting on Sunday November 28, 2010. Elections of officers will take place. All members are requested to attend. The meeting will be held at the SS Cyril and Methodius Parish hall after the mass. Discussion of the social calendar for year 2010 and 2011 will take place. Refreshments will be served.

Alice Dobrik, President

BRANCH 785 – TORONTO, CANADA

This year's Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday Dec 12, 2010 at 1:30pm, at Sts Cyril's and Methodius Slovak Church in Mississauga, 5255 Thornwood Dr. Lunch will be served, but please contact Anne Mitro to confirm attendance, so that proper quantities can be available for all members attending.

Regards,

Anne Mitro, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 796 – EGYPT, PENNSYLVANIA

The Holy Trinity Society, Branch 796, will hold its annual meeting Sunday Nov. 14, 2010 at 1pm in the church basement of Holy Trinity Egypt, Pa. The selection of delegates for the district meeting will take place as well as discussion of new members. All members of Branch 796 are cordially invited to attend. Food and drink will be served following the meeting. God Bless All.

Jerry Lloyd, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 844 – LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

The Los Angeles Branch 844 will hold its Annual Slovak Mass on Sunday, December 19, 2010 at St. John Bosco High School located on 13640 Bellflower Blvd., Bellflower, CA 90706. Mass will begin 11:00am. A delicious authentic Slovak lunch will be served after Mass along with the presentation of gifts for the children. Come and join us in celebrating the Slovak Spirit of Christmas.

Also, following the festivities, Branch 844 members will hold a meeting to review officers' reports, hold elections of new officers, and discuss branch activities.

We hope to see you all there and would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a very special New Year.

Fraternally yours,
Milan Konkol, Secretary

BRANCH 853 – CHARLEROI, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 853 will hold its annual Spaghetti dinner Christmas party on Saturday November 27, 2010 at Regos Restaurant in Charleroi, PA at 11:00 am. Due to seating, reservations are required.

To make your reservation please call 412-341-1577 and leave your name, phone number and number of adults and children attending. There will be no cost to branch members attending.

Non-branch members will be charged \$12 per person which will be payable at that time.

After the luncheon, the branch meeting will be held. This includes the election of the branch officers.

Branch members are requested to bring their list of volunteer hours and fraternal service hours for the 2010 year.

Branch 853 wishes all a blessed Christmas season.

Monica RodacyBoone, President

BRANCH 855 – PARMA, OHIO

The Holy Name of Jesus Society, Branch 855, will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, November 21, 2010. The meeting will be held at 1:00PM; at Carrie Cerino's Restaurant; 8922 Ridge Road; North Royalton, Ohio 44133. We will have an election of officers for 2011.

All members are invited to attend. Please call Linda at 440-886-0206 by November 15, 2010, if you plan to attend.

Linda L. Kolesar, Secretary-Treasurer

BRANCH 856 – WASHINGTON, DC

Our Mother of Sorrows Society will hold its annual meeting, December 13, 2010, at 1:30PM at the Pimmit Hills Regional Library, located at 7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA, (703) 790-8088. The purpose of the meeting will be to nominate Officers for 2011. We also will discuss success of the recent convention held in Cleveland, OH, August 2010.

We urge our members and our newly acquired Branch 61 from Baltimore to attend. The floor will be open to hear and discuss new ideas. For additional information, please feel free to contact Steve Matula at (703) 671-3013 or Katherine Nowatkoski at (703) 860-1693.

Sincerely,

Katherine Nowatkoski, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 857 – LEVITTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The Annual Meeting of the St. Michael the Archangel Branch 857 in Levittown, PA will be held on Tuesday December 7, 2010. The meeting will be held at 7:30PM at 15 Kraft Lane, Levittown, PA. At this meeting we will be electing our branch officers for 2011.

On behalf of all the officers in Branch 857, we wish to everybody a safe, happy, and holy holiday season.

Fraternally,

Damian D. Nasta, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 888 - WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA

The Holy Trinity Society, Branch 888, will hold its next two meetings on Sunday, November 28, 2010, at 3:00pm at 4649 Perth Road, West Palm Beach, FL, 33410; and on Friday, December 10, 2010, at 5:30pm at 4649 Perth Road, West Palm Beach, FL, 33410. Contact David Rafaidus, President, at (561) 776-0449 or jednota888@yahoo.com for directions and further information.

On the agenda will be future Branch activities, treasurer's report, nomination and election of officers, and items of mutual interest to the membership. All Branch members are invited to attend.

David Rafaidus, President



Rest in Peace, Our Departed Members



The First Catholic Slovak Union has a Mass said for each of our deceased members at St. Andrew Abbey in Cleveland, Ohio.

Branch	Name	Branch	Name	Branch	Name	Branch	Name
002K	Andrew A Babjak	090K	Agnes Fron	308K	Andrew J Serenko Jr	717K	Bartholomew Pesko
002K	Helen M Fischer	116P	John Andrew Belusko	312K	Mary Ann Polochko	721K	Helen Sipkovsky
002K	Henry Graeber	153K	Lawrence S Ogarek	321K	Margaret M Gophus	731K	Elizabeth T Petro
006K	Eugene J Novotney	164K	Margaret L Bakes	321P	Pearl Marie Klimek	731K	Joseph G Yuhaniak
006K	Leona V Sullivan	166K	John J Filipek	321P	Frank S Novotny	746K	Edward J Pietrosky
010K	Michael J Antonik	166K	Constance M Wood	367K	Clare Ann Marshall	746K	Robert J Thomas
023K	James S Christofes	181K	Francis J Parana Sr	372K	Marie T Deegan	754K	Pauline Sills
024K	Dr Edward A Tomko	181K	Catherine I Soblesky	393K	John J Nalevanko Sr	762K	Margaret Skundrich
038K	George Starek	199K	John M Emerick	419K	John F Krupa	764K	James D Ulishney
040K	Mary B Denton	215K	James Sauers	425K	Virginia S Kerechanin	830K	Walter J Mahon
040K	Thomas D Richardson	228K	Paul S Dziak	505K	Irene Svrcek	831K	Paul A Pavlik
040P	Irene Motil	228K	James A Hudak	549K	Suzanna Holliday	855K	James W Day
041K	Genevieve Misiaszek	232K	Susan B Stofko	553K	Johnnie B Adams	855K	Margaret E Dorsz
045K	Deborah Lynn Tirpak	240P	George Sochovka	553K	Clarence Carl Zavoda	900K	Jean M Ferrari
055K	Rosanne Simko	240P	Jessica Lynn Voytko	635K	John J Hovancik Sr		
060K	Richard Matta	299K	Michael J Cingle Sr	652K	Cecelia H Dougherty		

* Processed in the month of October 2010



Longtime FCSU Member and Jednota Contributor Dr. John Karch Passed Away on September 7, 2010

As reported in the September 29 Jednota, FCSU Member, *Jednota* Contributor, and Slovak Activist Dr. Karch passed away on Tuesday, Sept 7, 2010, leaving behind his loving family: wife, Loretta, R. Karch; son Paul J. Karch (Susan); daughter Anne Marie Wujick (David); and four grandchildren Rachel, Helena, John, Paul Jr., Andrew, and Natalie.

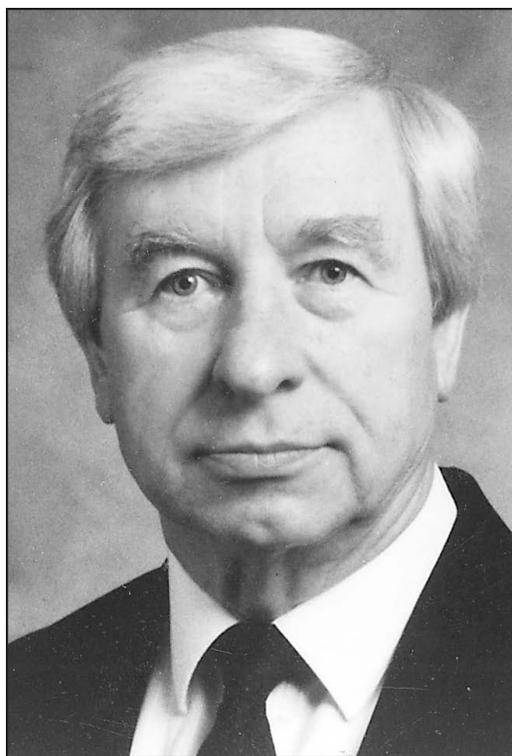
Graveside services for Dr. Karch with full military honors will be held at Arlington National Cemetery on Wednesday, December 22, 2010 at 11:00am. This is a final honor for a man who "spent over half a century promoting the best of Slovakia and Slovaks in the best possible way – through his own personal example of what a Slovak can achieve in a totally different world than his home country, and through his many deeds ..." (from the speech of Dr. Branislav Lichardus, then Slovakia's Ambassador to the United States, in presenting Slovakia's Golden Medal Award to Dr. Karch in 1998).

Dr. John Karch was born in eastern Slovakia, in the village of Velká Domaša in 1923. He immigrated to the United States in 1934, with his mother and brother, to join his father who was already an American citizen. He spent his formative years in Trenton, New Jersey.

During World War II, Dr. Karch served with the US Navy (Air), saw duty at Iwo Jim and Okinawa, and was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and Air Medal with five stars. Later, from 1956 to 1976, he served as a member of the US Army Active Reserve, as a Lieutenant Colonel.

Dr. Karch as graduated from Temple University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in 1948 and received his M.A. and Ph.D. from the American University, Washington, in 1950 and 1951, respectively.

During 1951 – 1956, he served with the Department of Defense in Germany and from 1957 to 1986, in various US government posts in Washington and abroad. He was Policy Officer for Europe and Chief of the European Division at the Voice of America from 1960 to 1968; during the period of 1964-1965, he was a Federal Executive Fellow at Brookings Institute, Washington; Public Affairs Officer at the US Embassy, Sofia, Bulgaria, from 1976 to 1978; professor at the National War College, Washington, from 1979 to 1982; Public Affairs Advisor to the US Delegation at the Mutual and Balanced Force negotiations in Vienna, Austria, from 1982 to 1986; and midway through that latter assignment, also became Public Affairs Counselor with the US Mission to International Organizations, Vienna, until 1986. In his retirement, Dr. Karch dedicated his time, pro bono, in campaigning for Slovakia's membership in



Dr. John Karch

NATO and for the establishment of a Slovak American Information Council in Washington. In 1992, he was appointed an advisor to the Slovak government.

Over the decades, Dr. Karch taught, lectured, edited and wrote about Slovakia, Central/Eastern Europe, and the Soviet Union, serving as associate editor, author, reviewer, and contributor to many prestigious publications such as *The Washington Star*, *The Temple Review*, *The Worldmark Encyclopedia of the Nations*, *American Legion Magazine*, and *World Affairs*. He was a regular contributor *Jednota*, focusing primarily on national and world affairs. In 1994, he coordinated a visit of Apollo 17 Commander Eugene Cernan to Slovakia.

In addition to being a member of our Society, Dr. Karch was a founding member of The Slovak Society of Washington; a member of the Board of Directors and Chairman of Regional Conferences, The National War College Alumni Association; past president, All-Pennsylvania College Alumni Association; a member of the Board of Directors, General Alumni Association, Temple University; past president, Temple University Alumni Club of Washington, DC; a member of the World Affairs Council, the Overseas Press Club of America, the Reserve Officers' Association, and the Knights of Columbus, among others.

Dr. Karch was honored many times throughout his lifetime, including awards from The National War College and Temple University. In 1998, he was presented with the Golden Medal, a prestigious award of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Slovak Republic. The Golden Medal is given to an individual whose activities have helped spread the good name of Slovakia and have improved and broadened mutual relations between the Slovak Republic and the United States.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

All English and Slovak articles should be sent directly to the editor Teresa Ivanec, First Catholic Slovak Union, 6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence, OH 44131-2398. The E-Mail Address for the articles is fcsulife-editor@gmail.com. Articles may also be sent by Fax at 216/642-4310. Teresa Ivanec can be reached by phone at 216/642-9406 or 1/800-533-6682.

Norwegian Royals Interested in Slovakia, Its Cities and People

Slovakia welcomed His Majesty Norwegian King Harald V and Her Majesty Queen Sonja to the country on October 25-28. To mark their first state visit to Slovakia, the news agency TASR held an interview with Norwegian Ambassador to Slovakia Trine Skymoene in order to find out more about the couple, their visit, hobbies and homeland.



Photos taken by Jarle Vines

TASR: It's known that the Norwegian royal couple enjoy travelling and that they travel a lot. What is the main aim of their foreign trips?

You might say that they travel a lot. At the same time it's true that they go on a limited number of state visits. They go on two state visits abroad per year. And this year this is going to include Slovakia. We're very happy that it was indeed possible for Slovakia to host them ... and for the royal couple to come here, so they accepted the invitation to come here with pleasure.

TASR: What is the main aim of the visit to Slovakia?

The main aim of a visit is always to strengthen the contacts and relations between the two countries. In this case, with Slovakia, we have a very good basis, very good contacts and very good ties. And the purpose of the state visit then is to continue to build on these relations and also to promote Norwegian interests abroad.

A state visit is different from other official visits in the sense that the program includes ceremonial elements. This means that there are more formal arrival and departure ceremonies, a welcoming ceremony at the Presidential Palace. There are banquets, there is official entertainment and there are meetings between the heads of state and delegations. In addition to these ceremonial elements, a state visit may also include bilateral political meetings, business conferences, activities promoting culture, trade and industry, and visits to social and cultural institutions. The program prepared by the hosts in co-operation with us [the Norwegian Embassy - ed. note] contains most of the activities that I've mentioned.

When the royal couple go on state visits they are accompanied by the Norwegian foreign minister and also other representatives of the government. Of course, when heads of state come on state visits to Norway, the King and Queen are their hosts.

TASR: A question that will certainly be very interesting for the Slovak public is whether people will have a chance to see the royal couple

May I say that yes, the answer is yes, and it will also be interesting for the royal couple to see the country, to see cities, to meet people.

TASR: What sort of program has been prepared for the honored guests in Slovakia? Have they been to Slovakia before?

The host [President Ivan Gasparovic - ed. note] is lucky to have such a beautiful country to show to the royal couple. I know that the royal couple will enjoy Bratislava, they will go to Modra district and there are also plans for them to visit Banska Stiavnica, which is on UNESCO's World Heritage List. They will also see some of the countryside. This will be the first time that the couple has visited Slovakia.

TASR: Do you mean the first official visit or the first visit ever?

The first ever, as far as I know, the first. So it's going to be very exciting.

TASR: What are the royal couple interested in?

I can tell you that the royal couple take great pleasure in sports and outdoor recreational activities. These are very popular in Norway and - as I have seen during my one-year stay here - are also popular here. When I go hiking or walking or cycling on Sundays I always meet a lot of people.

King Harald enjoys spending time in the wilderness. He's an active hunter and also likes fishing. He's deeply concerned about issues regarding the environment and the protection of the environment. In fact he served 20 years as president of the Norwegian Chapter of the World Wildlife Fund.

His Majesty the King and Her Majesty the Queen were actively involved in preparations for the Winter Olympics that took place in Norway [in Lillehammer - ed. note] in 1994. His Majesty opened the Winter Olympics and Her Majesty was also very active in preparing the cultural programme linked to the Olympic Games.

His Majesty is a distinguished sailor, so he participates in sailing competitions. In fact, in 1965, during the Olympic Games in Tokyo, he was the flag-bearer of the Norwegian team at the opening ceremony. He's won several competitions: [he became] World Champion in 1987, European Champion in 2005, and he still takes part in regattas.

Your current president was also present at the Olympics in 1994. Ivan Gasparovic wasn't the president at that time, but he was in Lillehammer.

Queen Sonja has many interests as well. She's particularly interested in art and culture. Her private art collection was exhibited on the occasion of the wedding of her son - the Crown Prince - and the Crown Princess.

As I mentioned, Queen Sonja took part in the preparations for the cultural part of the 1994 Olympics. When you see pictures and photos of the Olympics in Lillehammer in 1994, as well as in Vancouver this year, you can see the royal couple cheering and really giving their support. They are really, really interested in sport. Norway also had an ice-hockey team participating in the Olympics in Vancouver. We congratulate Slovakia, even though you beat us (laughter)... It's OK. You did a great job, it was so exciting.

Queen Sonja is very fond of skiing and hiking, which she does a lot. And the Queen is an avid photographer and has, for instance, organised presentations of some of the places where she has been hiking in Norway.

TASR: Can you tell us some interesting facts about the couple?

Now King - then Prince - Harald was in fact the first prince born in Norway for 567 years. He has undergone military training and studied social sciences, history and economics as well.

The couple had known each other for nine years before their marriage received approval.

Her Majesty Queen Sonja has a diploma in dress-making and tailoring, she also studied social sciences, accounting, fashion-design, French, English and, of course, art, art history.

She is also very engaged in issues concerning refugees. In fact, she has been awarded the

Nansen Medal by the UN High Commissioner for refugees for her efforts. Every year in Norway there's a big fund-raising TV event in late October. This year, the event will be aimed at helping refugees, so Her Majesty is very involved and it will take place under her auspices. In preparation for this, Her Majesty visited the world's largest refugee camp in Kenya in September, where she met families who've been living there since the camp was set up. The Queen met families who had just arrived, visited schools that provide the refugees with education and a platform for their future life. So when we say that Her Majesty is actively engaged, it's very true - she's very active in these matters.

TASR: Let's now talk about the monarchy, as it's quite difficult for Slovaks to imagine what it's like to have a king and queen. What attitude do ordinary Norwegian people have towards the monarchy? What kind of relationship is the royal couple trying to develop with the Norwegian people?

His Majesty's constitutional role is mainly representative and ceremonial. Executive power is vested in the government. His Majesty performs a great deal of important ceremonial duties. He's the one who opens Parliament - the formal opening of Parliament every autumn. He presides over the Council of State - government meetings at the Royal Palace. The King and Queen go on state visits. His Majesty also receives ambassadors, who are posted to Norway. They present their credentials to the King, just as we here present our credentials to the president.

His Majesty is also Commander-in-Chief of the country's Armed Forces and is the formal head of the Church of Norway. His day-to-day duties also include meetings with the foreign affairs minister and with other ministers, in order to be updated on the situation and international issues.

His Majesty also travels a lot within the country, in Norway. Both members of the royal couple do that. They try to visit as many places as possible in Norway. They visit small and large places and it's an excellent opportunity to meet the people of Norway and to meet them where they live, where they work, and to get to know what's going on, what their concerns are, etc. In Norway, they visit 46 municipalities. This frequent contact with people also means that people see them, they know them and their popularity is very, very high in Norway. Generally two countries are visited every year - two by the King and Queen, but His Royal Highness and Her Royal Highness Crown Prince and Crown Princess also visit. Each trip normally lasts two or three days.

TASR: On what level are Slovak-Norwegian relations? In which spheres do Slovakia and Norway co-operate?

May I say it's a pleasure to serve in a country with which we have excellent relations. We have very good relations in several areas. We have business co-operation that is still increasing. We have very good co-operation in several cultural fields through the European Economic Area (EEA) and Norway Grants, via which Slovakia is receiving €70 million over a five-year period that will end next year. It will receive another €80 million in the five-year period that will begin after that.

And that co-operation really does cover a great number of areas - it's cultural, it's environmental, it involves scholarships, so that young people can get to know each other, civil society, which plays a very important role in all countries - I could mention many things, we have 101 projects ... So, very good relations.

When it comes to co-operation, I have to mention Jan Garbarek as an example - a famous

continued on page 20

Answer to Puzzle

Solution to Puzzle from page 11

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News From Slovakia

Clinton: Slovakia is Crucial for Integration Processes in Western Balkans

Washington/Bratislava, October 20 (TASR) - Slovakia is crucial in the integration process of the Western Balkans and the country's eastern neighbours into Euro-Atlantic structures and is a very good example of the benefits that come with broader integration into the European Community, said U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton at a meeting with her Slovak counterpart Mikulas Dzurinda on this date.

The Slovak Foreign Affairs Ministry press department told TASR on Tuesday that Clinton expressed her appreciation for the friendly relations with Slovakia, which, she added, has undergone a significant transition from a country locked behind the Iron Curtain into a vibrant democracy. "It's a pillar of regional stability and co-operation, which is achieving among the fastest rates of growth in Europe," said Clinton.

The two partners discussed issues concerning the Balkans and Eastern Europe, including energy security and the protection of minorities. "I would like to thank the head of Slovak diplomacy, the Government and the people of the Slovak Republic for their persistent support and defense of our common values in the world," said Clinton, also mentioning the Slovak contribution to the NATO mission in Afghanistan. "We're really pleased and honored by the service of the Slovak soldiers marching side by side with American troops," she said, adding that the Slovak troops are helping Afghanistan to build a better and more prosperous future.

According to Dzurinda, three areas were discussed at the meeting, with the first, and most important, being political dialogue. "I pointed out that Slovakia is currently presiding over the Visegrad Four countries [Slovakia, Poland, Czech Republic and Hungary]. I mentioned the upcoming meeting of V4 foreign affairs ministers with their partners from the Western Balkans, which will take place in Bratislava on Friday. A ministerial meeting with our partners from Eastern Europe will take place at the beginning of next year, which is a demonstration of our efforts and interest in the Eastern Partnership," said Dzurinda.

The second part of the discussion concerned defense and military co-operation, while economic co-operation featured at the end.

Ambassador: Slovak Public Will Have Chance to See Norwegian Royals

Bratislava, October 21 (TASR) - The Norwegian royal couple has never been to Slovakia, but this will change on October 25-28, when they will visit Bratislava and other parts of the country, TASR has been told by Norwegian Ambassador Trine Skymoene, who also revealed some more details about the event.

"We're very happy that it was indeed possible for Slovakia to host them ... and for the royal couple to come here," said Skymoene.

The aim of the visit is to strengthen ties between the two countries. "We have very good contacts and relations, and the purpose of the visit is to continue to build these relations and also to promote Norwegian interests abroad," said the ambassador.

The Slovak public will have an opportunity to see King Harald V and Queen Sonja, confirmed Skymoene. "And it will also be interesting for the royal couple to see the country, to see the cities, to meet people," she said, adding that the King and Queen will visit Bratislava, the nearby Modra district and Banska Stiavnica (Banska Bystrica region) and "see some of the countryside as well". The program was chosen by the couple's host - Slovak President Ivan Gasparovic. "The host is lucky to have such a beautiful country," she said.

Skymoene also praised the very good bilateral relations between Slovakia and Norway. "It's a pleasure to serve in a country with which we have excellent ties," she said, noting the very good business and cultural relations, along with co-operation in the spheres of the environment, scholarships and civil society.

The ambassador also believes that the visit will promote Slovakia in Norway and vice versa. As an example, she pointed to the recent interest shown by the Norwegian media, who have come to Bratislava willing to learn more about Slovakia as a destination simply because the royal couple have chosen to come on a visit.

Slovakia and Neighbours Help Facilitate Better Kosovo-Serbia Relations

Bratislava, October 22 (TASR) - Slovakia and neighboring countries the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland - forming the Visegrad Four group - succeeded Friday in informal talks with Serbia and its breakaway province Kosovo to have them agree to meet and discuss their bilateral relations in the near future.

"This day has brought a positive change into this issue," Hungarian Foreign Minister Janos Martonyi told reporters after a luncheon that involved Western Balkans officials from Serbia and Kosovo.

Belgrade and Pristina, according to Martonyi, could begin talks as early as this month - with sensitive issues planned to come up later on.

Foreign Minister Mikulas Dzurinda said that non-recognition of Kosovo on the part of Slovakia does not hinder Kosovo from pursuing European Union entry. The aim is to help

establish truly good relations between Serbia and Kosovo at one point in time.

According to Dzurinda, Slovakia is not prepared to recognize Kosovo any time soon, but will be actively involved in initiating talks on a positive note.

Agenda of Several Ministries to Be Changed as of November

Bratislava, October 25 (TASR) - President Ivan Gasparovic on Monday signed a legislative amendment to the Central State Administration Organization Act according to which the powers of individual ministries will be changed as of November, the President's Office press department has told TASR.

The tourism agenda and the co-ordination of the use of EU Funds will be transferred from the Culture and Tourism Ministry to the Transport Ministry.

In line with the plans, the Culture Ministry will lose its minority cultures agenda. The deputy premier for human rights and minorities will participate in ensuring radio and TV broadcasting for national minorities.

The Transport Ministry will also co-ordinate regional-development policies, and will be responsible for the sphere of construction work and products, housing policy and land planning.

According to the amendment, the Economy and Construction Ministry will lose its remit over foreign trade consulates, which will be transferred to the Foreign Affairs Ministry, as will be the co-ordination of carrying out EU policies.

The names of three ministries will be altered to reflect the changes. The Economy and Construction Ministry will become simply the Economy Ministry. The Transport, Posts and Telecommunications Ministry will be renamed as the Transport, Construction and Regional Development Ministry, while the Culture and Tourism Ministry will be called simply the Culture Ministry.

Public Finances Gap Puts Slovakia Alongside Countries at EU Tail-End

Bratislava, October 22 (TASR) - Slovakia's 2009 public finances deficit reported by the Statistics Office on Friday at 7.9 percent of gross domestic product puts Slovakia alongside the European Union's worst-performing countries Portugal, Ireland, Greece and Spain (PIGS), said the finance ministry in reaction.

The 7.93 percent gap forwarded to European Union Eurostat was revised as of October 1 by the Stats Office from this past spring's estimate of 6.77 percent of GDP.

Spokesman for the ministry Martin Jaros said that Slovakia expects a similarly high deficit for this year of 7.8 percent of GDP as opposed to 5.5 percent projected by the previous representatives of the ministry. The package of recovery measures is intended to rein in the growth of new debt to 4.9 percent.

Finance Minister Ivan Miklos (SDKU-DS) said already last month that the 2009 public finance deficit would be nearly 8 percent rather than the 6.8 percent of GDP as calculated by the former finance ministry.

NBS: Prices Should Grow More Slowly This Year Than Previously Expected

Bratislava, October 25 (TASR) - The prices of goods and services in Slovakia should increase at a slightly slower rate this year than was previously expected, with bank analysts in October slightly reducing their estimates for average inflation for 2010 from the 1.8 percent expected in September to 1.6 percent, Slovakia's central bank (NBS) has reported.

Estimates of GDP growth remained at the same level. The analysts expect that the Slovak economy will have grown by 4.1 percent in fixed prices in 2010.

The Finance Ministry's estimate is a little less optimistic, as it expects GDP to have grown by 4 percent. NBS itself puts its estimate at 4.3-percent, warning at the same time, however, that growth will decelerate considerably next year.

No Bomb Found at Bratislava's Airport

Bratislava, October 21 (TASR) - Police pyrotechnics didn't find a bomb at the Bratislava's Airport of Milan Rastislav Stefanik on this date, despite a report of one.

The police examination was closed at 2.45 p.m., Bratislava police spokesman Frantisek Peczar confirmed to TASR.

"An investigator has launched investigation into the bomb scare," said Peczar.

Police arrived in the afternoon at Bratislava's M.R. Stefanik airport in search of a bomb that was reported via an anonymous e-mail. An unknown perpetrator was demanding money, allegedly one million euros to defuse the situation. The airport has temporarily suspended its operation, with all airplanes rerouted.

Norwegian Royals

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Norwegian jazz musician, who recently had a concert in St. Martin's Cathedral. That was a very successful combination of a wonderful, beautiful Slovak Cathedral and a very talented Norwegian jazz musician. To bring those together - it was really a good experience.

You can also see that through our EEA and Norway Grants, for instance, that the cultural sector, the protection of cultural heritage is very important. We support the protection and preservation of cultural heritage throughout Slovakia, but you can also see some of it here in Bratislava. You may know that the Reduta building is being renovated and it's partly being done with the support of the EEA and Norway Grants. It's very costly, so it doesn't involve only Norwegian money. It's definitely a joint project, but we are contributing almost €2 million.

When it comes to economic co-operation, there's the Norwegian company Slovalco in Ziar nad Hronom (Banska Bystrica region), for example, - A majority stake is owned by one of the largest Norwegian companies – Norsk Hydro ASA, and Hydro made that first investment in 1994. They've been here for 20 years, but this investment is providing technology and knowledge in order to help production at Slovalco become more efficient and more environmentally-friendly.

We also co-operate on the international arena, we're both members of NATO. Norway isn't a member of the EU, but you are ... and we co-operate closely in Europe, of course. We're both members of the Human Rights Council in Geneva, so we take our obligations seriously.

There's one thing I haven't mentioned. There are almost 250 Norwegian medical students in Martin. And that's quite a substantial number of Norwegian students abroad. I think that this connects us well and it's very good co-operation.

TASR: What agenda does the Norwegian Embassy in Bratislava most often deal with?

The main agenda for us now is the state visit. A state visit is the highest-level visit possible and we're very happy to help prepare a successful visit. So that's our main task at the moment, and after October 28 we'll start focusing again on the main issues that we normally work on. We'll work to further the results of the state visit, because the state visit will, we think and hope, contribute a great deal towards providing a good basis, a good platform for increasing our ties in business, culture, politics. So an important task for us, of course, is to follow up on this. And, as I mentioned, the EEA and Norway Grants. We'll enter the second period of such grants and, at the same time, the projects financed under the first period are being finalized, so it's going to be a busy period.

In general, we have an important role in promoting Norway, promoting Norway's interests. We want to inform Slovakia about Norway and, as I said, we believe that the state visit will increase awareness in Slovakia about Norway, but also about Slovakia in Norway. The media is also important in this respect. I look forward to seeing these results.

TASR: What about economic co-operation between Slovakia and Norway? Are Norwegian companies still interested in Slovakia?

There are already some Norwegian companies established here in Slovakia. Some of them made investments many years ago; some are newer on the market. I mentioned Norsk Hydro with its majority stake in Slovalco in Ziar nad Hronom. In addition, Sapa Profily in the same town is owned by a large Norwegian company called Orkla. There are two Norwegian companies in the Liptovsky Mikulas area (Zilina region) – Eltek Valera and Nera Networks. Then there's TIMM. TIMM is a rope factory, mainly producing ropes for boats. In fact, they produce ropes for the royal boatyard. So these are some examples of Norwegian business interests. And I mentioned that when the royal couple goes on a state visit abroad they're often accompanied by a business delegation. And they will be in this case as well. We're happy that there is quite a large level of interest among Norwegian businesses in coming to Slovakia and taking part in the business seminars and conferences that we're going to hold. And I hope that this will provide the basis for co-operation in the future.

TASR: Are you aware of some of the major obstacles that investors face in Slovakia?

Generally, the investment climate is good, and most Norwegian companies don't face any big difficulties. Some obstacles? - yes, I can think of one. One of the general challenges that we can see in reports drawn up by chambers of commerce here is that they are concerned about the perceived level of corruption based on Transparency International's index.

TASR: Are Norwegian companies interested in advancement, capacity growth and the use of renewable energy sources in Slovakia?

In fact, renewable energy will be one of the items on the agenda of a business seminar. One seminar will be devoted to looking into the opportunities for such co-operation, so we're very happy to see that. You have your own experience, we have ours. We have experience of wind energy, hydro-power and solar energy. Through the EEA and Norway Grants that I mentioned we also support a biomass project aimed at installing environmentally-friendly energy sources in schools. So these are some of the projects that we support.

TASR: What opportunities do we have to import gas from Norway?

You may be aware that Norway is the fifth-largest oil exporter in the world, and we're the third-largest gas exporter. And we're the second-largest exporter in Europe. Even though the Norwegian state has its own interests in the petroleum industry, decisions on selling oil or gas are commercial decisions, not political ones. Gas is generally a long-term thing. If you're going to sell gas directly from Norway to Slovakia, it traditionally goes through pipes. And you have to build those pipes. The European market is interlinked.

TASR: What about tourism? Are Norwegians interested in traveling to Slovakia?

I sometimes say that Slovakia is a treasure waiting to be discovered by Norwegians. There is interest, there is knowledge. We already have Slovak tourists in Norway. Some go fishing in the Norwegian fjords. Our countries have a lot in common. But one thing that we have and you don't are fjords. So that's quite interesting for Slovaks. When you measure the fish this is the biggest one.

TASR: That's great. But how can this interest be increased even more? I suppose by new air-links between the capital cities.

It helps a lot to have good flight connections when expanding tourism. I think that quite a large number of the Norwegian tourists that come here combine it with Vienna, because there's a direct flight from Oslo. I think that more people would come if there were direct flights to Bratislava. But, of course, that's up to the airlines. It's a commercial decision as well.

Catholic school, University of Portland, is top producer of US Fulbright Students

The Fulbright Program, the US government's flagship international educational exchange program, recently announced the complete list of colleges and universities that produced the most 2010-2011 U.S. Fulbright Students. Five students from the Catholic university, the University of Portland, won Fulbright awards for 2010-2011. It topped the list of Master's Institutions, ahead of Villanova, Gallaudet and Seattle University. For a complete list of Master's Institutions, visit <http://chronicle.com/article/Table-Top-Producers-of-US/125073/>.

Under the Fulbright program, almost 1,700 American students, artists and young professionals in more than 100 different fields of study have been offered grants to study, teach English, and conduct research in over 130 countries throughout the world beginning this fall. Of the 1,700 Fulbrighters, 19% are at the Ph.D. degree level, 17% are at the Master's level, and 65% are at the Bachelor's degree level. Students receiving awards for this academic year applied through 600 colleges or universities. Lists of Fulbright recipients are available at: www.fulbrightonline.org/us.

Since its inception in 1946, the Fulbright Program has provided more than 300,000 participants—chosen for their academic merit and leadership potential—with the opportunity to study, teach and conduct research, exchange ideas and contribute to finding solutions to shared international concerns. In the past 64 years, more than 44,000 students from the United States have benefited from the Fulbright experience.



In Slovakia, the Fulbright Commission awards grants to up to 15 US students and professionals in various programs each year. The grants and awards are administered in accordance with worldwide regulations guided by principles of open competition, academic excellence and professional promise.

General requirements

-US Citizenship

- High level of academic achievement

The Fulbright program expects from its grantees not only high academic performance, but also an active contribution to the promotion of mutual understanding of their countries. The Fulbright Commission co-operates closely with the U.S. Department of State, and engages on the US-side with non-profit organizations: the Institute of International Education and Council for International Exchange of Scholars. US candidates have to contact these institutions to obtain more information and application material.

However, the Fulbright Commission can assist candidates with finding and contacting possible partner schools, research institutes and other academic and research institutions in the Slovak Republic. For more, go to www.fulbrightonline.org/us, click on Country Summaries and follow the links to Slovakia or click on Resources for Applicants and follow the links provided.



Ampol Hall Welcomes Karlin Club Members in Cleveland, OH

Now that Karlin Hall has closed its doors on Fleet Avenue in Cleveland, OH, the Ampol Hall & Club at 4737 Pearl Road, Cleveland, welcomes former members to enjoy the same meals by Bonnie's Catering and entertainment that made up the Wednesday night dinners at Karlin.

Upcoming Monthly Entertainment:

November 12 – Poorman's Raffle – the Polka Pirates . For tickets, call Joe Kocab, 216-883-4760

November 17 –Tony Culkar

November 24 –Frank Moravcik

Upcoming Wednesday dining:

Reservations needed for all Wednesday dinners. Pick your own menu on reservations of 10 or more; duck dinners available by special order, call 216-581-4362. For a November menu, call Ron Smotek at 216-581-4362 or go to www.bonniecatering.com for the latest schedules and events.

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

THINK ABOUT IT!

Jubilujúci Slovenský matematik v Medzinárodnom meradle Prof. RNDr. Pavel Galajda, DrSc., akademik

V plnej vedeckej aktivite oslávil 9. novembra 2010 svoje jubilejné sedemdesiate piate narodeniny. Narodil sa v Čertiznom, okres Medzilaborce. V roku 1959 absolvoval štúdium aplikovanej matematiky na Prírodovedeckej fakulte Univerzity Komenského v Bratislave. CSc. – 1965, RNDr. – 1966, DrSc. – 1982, doc. – 1968, prof. – 1980. Na základe výsledkov jeho vedeckej a výskumnej práce, odbornej, pedagogickej a publikačnej činnosti doma i v zahraničí mu boli udelené hodnosti: v roku 2000 - akademik Akadémie pedagogických a sociálnych vied Ruskej federácie a v roku 2002 - akademik Medzinárodnej akadémie vied pedagogického vzdelávania so sídlom v Moskve.

Pôsobil na Technickej univerzite (predtým Vysoké školy technickej) v Košiciach (1959 – 1998), Od r. 1998 bol pracovníkom Podnikovohospodárskej fakulty Ekonomickej univerzity v Bratislave so sídlom v Košiciach. Vedúci katedry 1970 – 1988, prodekan 1970 – 1975, prorektor 1975 – 1980. Pracuje v oblasti približných a numerických metód, teórie funkcií komplexnej premennej a teórie vyučovania. Už v roku 1965 mu bolo udelené v rámci republiky Vyznamenanie II. stupňa za vedeckú prácu. Je autorom niekoľkých vysokoškolských učebníc a učebných textov, vyše 200 vedeckých a odborných prác publikovaných v domácich a zahraničných časopisoch a zborníkoch so značným medzinárodným ohlasom. Vykonával rozsiahlu expertízu a posudzovateľskú činnosť. Bol predsedom a členom viacerých vedeckých a odborných komisií, členom medzinárodnej redakčnej rady časopisu Problems of Theory and Methods of Education (Moskva).

Absolvoval mnohé zahraničné prednáškové pobyty (ZSSR, USA, Fínsko, Maďarsko, Bulharsko, Rumunsko, Kazachstan). Sústavne naďalej vedecky pracuje. V rokoch 2000 a 2004 organizoval Medzinárodné vedecké konferencie: „Vzdelávanie veda a ekonomika na univerzitách. Integrácia do medzinárodného vzdelávacieho priestoru“, ktoré sa konali vo Vysokých Tatrách. Jeho činnosť v priebehu 20 rokov sa vysoko oceňuje ruskými vedcami v organizovaní a v prevedení na Slovensku a v Rusku rad medzinárodných konferencií, venovaných problémom matematického vzdelávania a integrácii do medzinárodného vzdelávacieho priestoru.

Neoceniteľný je jeho prínos v práci upevňovania priateľstva medzi ruskými a slovenskými národmi, čo konštatovala Vedecko-metodická Rada matematiky Ministerstva vzdelávania a vedy Ruskej federácie, ktorá v mene matematikov Moskvy a Ruska pozdravila jubilanta a sú šťastní s jeho spoluprácou v oblasti matematického vzdelávania pre blaho Slovenska a Ruska. Z pozdravu ďalej vyberáme: „*Sme nadšení Vašimi schopnosťami prezentovať úspechy Vášho slávneho národa, krásy Vašej peknej zeme svetovému spoločenstvu vedcov na všetkých spoločných fórach a Vaším vysokým ocenením kvality ruského matematického vzdelávania.*“

Prof. Pavel Galajda, je nositeľom čestných titulov a vyznamenaní (vzorný učiteľ 1978, zaslúžilý učiteľ 1985, zaslúžilý člen Jednoty česko-slovenských matematikov a fyzikov, zlatá medaila Matematicko-fyzikálnej fakulty Univerzity Komenského v Bratislave).

Želáme jubilantovi, známemu matematikovi, skromnému a ľudskému človekovi s vynikajúcimi osobnými vlastnosťami, odbornými a pedagogickými schopnosťami, ktorý všetky svoje sily a čas obetoval práci, ďalším tvorivým úspechom, dobrého zdravia, šťastia a Božieho požehnania.



Významné životné jubileum Viktora Magdolena

V týchto dňoch sa významného životného jubilea dožíva významný predstaviteľ kultúrnej a organizátorskej časti krajanského života, chynoriansky rodák Viktor Magdolen. Pri tejto vzácnej príležitosti mu gratulovali aj predstavitelia Matice slovenskej.

Vážený pán Magdolen, milý majstre!

Dovoľte, aby som Vás úprimne matične pozdravil zo Slovenska v mene Matice slovenskej, ako i vo svojom mene, a zaželel Vám všetko dobré. Po tieto dni sláviť svoje významné životné jubileum, vzácne nielen pre vek, ale i úsilia, ktoré ste mu v slovenskom i neslovenskom živote obetovali.

Deväť desiatky sú už nestorským dátumom hodným nielen osobitnej pozornosti, ale aj úcty.

Vý ste po celý svoj tvorivý život doma i vo svete pristupovali s úctou k slovenskému slovu, piesni, životu a identite, obetovali ste mnoho rokov na ich povzbudenie a zveladenie doma i vo svete, najmä v Nemecku.

Dovoľte teda, aby som Vám za toto, mnoho ostatného nemenovaného, ale prežitého a darovaného Vašej i mladším generáciám, úprimne poďakoval, zablahoželal k cennému dátumu Vášho plodného života, poďakoval všetkým, ktorí Vám boli vo Vašej doterajšej životnej dráhe nápomocní, keďže sa spolu zúčastnili na Vašich bolestiach i Vašom šťastí.

Som si vedomý, že niekoľko slov alebo viet nedokáže oceniť ani doceniť Vašu osobu i osobnosť pre Slovensko a Slovákov celého sveta.

Pri tejto príležitosti si Vás teda dovoľujem aspoň skromne oceniť matičnou medailou sv. Cyrila a Metoda, ktorých poslaniu ste zasvätili celý svoj tvorivý, odvážny, odhodlaný a neoblomný život pre dobro a krásu slovenského národa.

Nech Boh žehná Vaším ďalším krokom, zdraviu a vitalite, ktorou obohacujete všetky priestory a prostredia, kde sa ocitáte.

Ad multos annos, majstre!

Jozef MARKUŠ, predseda MS

Ctený majstre,

dovoľte, aby sme sa aj my zaradili do radu gratulantov a Vašich sympatizantov pri príležitosti Vášho cenného životného jubilea, keďže v knižnici a archíve Krajanského múzea Matice slovenskej v Bratislave, najmä v súvislosti s Vaším životom v Nemecku, ako i dejinami Svetových festivalov slovenskej mládeže a nielen tam máme možnosť poskytovať bádateľom a výskumníkom viac dokumentačných materiálov aj o Vás. Za nás, za mnohých, ktorí sa aj našim prostredníctvom stretli s Vaším menom a dielom, Vám úprimne ďakujeme, blahoželáme Vám a pripájame sa ku gratulácii a oceneniu predsedu Matice slovenskej.

Milý Viktor, meno Magdolen a Chynorany sú nesporne späté s najvýznamnejšími okamihmi našich národných, duchovných a kultúrnych dejín. Vy ste k tomu životodarné prispeli. Aj za to Vám Pán Boh zaplatí!

Pociťujem potrebu byť aj trochu osobný ako jeden z tých, ktorým ako Vám udelil Stvoriteľ možnosť potešovať ľudí spevom a hudbou, keďže skromne viem, čo všetko musí podstúpiť umelec, aby zadosť učinil Božiemu daru a národu. Verím, že sa ešte dožijeme okamihu, keď si možno aj spolu zaspievame pri organe alebo mimo neho. Vám a všetkým okolo Vás, ktorí Vám za uplynulých 90 rokov pomáhali a žičili, vyslovujem osobitné poďakovanie.

Myslím teraz aj na Vašich drahých rodičov, ktorí Vás vyslali do života a vystlali Vám svojou vierou cestu života trnistú. Nech ich Pán opatruje vo svojom náručí.

Prijmite pozvanie, ak sa budete zdržiavať v Bratislave, aj na našu pôdu, kde by sme sa s Vami veľmi radi stretli. Ak sa nám podarí ísť skôr okolo Vás, radi Vás navštívime. Nech Boh žehná Vášmu dielu a ďalšiemu Vášmu životu.

Vivat, crescat, floreat patria nostra!

Stanislav Bajanič, riaditeľ KM MS

Letná sezóna vo Vysokých Tatrách veľmi dobrá

Vysoké Tatry (TASR) – Združenie cestovného ruchu (ZCR) Vysoké Tatry hodnotí letnú sezónu ako veľmi dobrú. Riaditeľ ZCR Peter Chudý informoval, že sa dá hovoriť o šesť až sedempercentnom zvýšení návštevnosti oproti minulému roku.

Podľa neho bolo dobrým krokom pre turistov rozhodnutie mesta Vysoké Tatry, že parkovanie pre ubytovaných hostí bolo na mestských parkoviskách zadarmo. Toto bezplatné parkovanie pre viacdenných hostí pokračovalo aj v septembri. Paradoxom podľa Chudého bolo, že o parkovaní zadarmo vedeli viac prichádzajúci turisti ako samotní hotelieri.

Klientela sa vo Vysokých Tatrách veľmi nezmenila, teší však nárast českých turistov. Najviac Tatry navštevujú tradične Poliaci, Slováci a Česi, na začiatku leta sa zvýšil počet po nemecky hovoriacich turistov, či už zo samotného Nemecka, Švajčiarska a Rakúska.

Ďalej uviedol, že do situácie pred dvoch rokov, keď bola sezóna najsilnejšia, sa môžu Vysoké Tatry dostať tak do dvoch rokov. „Hospodárska kríza má ešte svoje dopady aj v súčasnosti, najmä čo sa týka počtu nezamestnaných, návrat k pôvodným číslam je beh na dlhé trate, pretože dopad hospodárskej krízy nie je krátkodobý ako napr. na priemysel, ale trvá dva aj tri roky,“ zhodnotil Chudý. Dodal, že turisti pozitívne vnímali, že sa naďalej v Tatrách buduje niečo nové, skrášľujú sa priestory a rozvíjajú sa jednotlivé mestské časti. „Negatívom bola určite doprava, ktorá je stále problémová, niektorým turistom, naopak, vadilo, že je v Tatrách veľa rozostavaných budov,“ priblížil riaditeľ ZCR. Mnohým návštevníkom tiež prekážalo, že v noci sa v našich veľhorách takmer nič nedeje. Chudý to zdôvodnil tým, že mesto Vysoké Tatry sa nachádza na území národného parku, a preto tu zábava nikdy nebude taká bujará ako napr. v pohorí.



Štrbské pleso vo Vysokých Tatrách.



Hotel Kempinsky na Štrbskom plese.



Pohľad na Solisko.

Martinove proroctvá

Ani kone na slávnej Veľkej pardubickej nedokážu v tradícii ani sledovanosti konkurovať legendárnemu tátošíkovi oslávenca – Martina (11. novembra). Celé generácie s napätím sledujú, na akom koni prifujazdí.

Biely (sneh) veští dlhú, no nevelmi krutú zimu, ale aj s fujavicami, **sivý (hmly)** striedanie zimných oteplení a ochladiení, **plavý (jasné nebo a slnko)** nabáda k opatrnosti, zime môže byť veľmi mrazivá, **hnedý (teplo, pod mrakom)** má zaprahnuté na miernu zimu.

Napriek farbe koňa príde citeľné chladno na Slovensku často akurát okolo 11. novembra.

Vrávi sa: Na svätého Martina, pravá zima začína. Alebo: Na svätého Martina, drží sa synku komína, zohreje len perina. Na Martina s mocí, vtrhne zima v noci. Je to i termín, kedy medveď v minulosti zvykol obliekať pyžamo – a predkovia mali pre toto obdobie aj označenie – martinské chladná.

Oslávenec je aj vľúdny, dedovské pravdy upokojujú:

Martinov sneh a ľad budú zaraz vodou, Martinova biela perina dlho neleží.

Ako prvý pranosticky dovidí i na vianočné počasie:

Ak hus na Martina chodí po ľade, na Vianoce sa prejde po blate.

Na Martina je tiež i dnes vo vinárskych oblastiach prvá koštovka nového vína, aby milovníci moku overili, či platí: Na svätého Martina – iskra do vína.

Oznámenia spolkov a okresov

Ročná schôdza Spolku sv. Matúša číslo 45 IKSJ

Oznamujeme našim členom, že ročná schôdza Spolku sv. Matúša číslo 45 IKSJ v New Yorku bude v nedeľu 28. novembra 2010 o 12:30 hodine (po slovenskej omši) v osadnej hale Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého na 1st Avenue, 66th Street. Na programe budú podané správy úradníkov, finančná správa, zhodnotenie činnosti za uplynulé obdobie. Za tým budú nasledovať voľby do nového výboru, ktorý vypracuje program činnosti na ďalšie obdobie.

Úctivo žiadame o hojnú účasť na tejto výročnej členskej schôdzi. Ďakujem a s pozdravom

María Jurasi, pokladníčka

Štedrovečerná večera - Vigília v New York City

Farská rada pri Slovenskom kostole sv. Jána Nepomuckého v New York City pozýva všetkých farníkov na Štedrovečernú večeru – Vigíliu, ktorá sa bude konať v nedeľu 12. decembra o 1:00 hodine odpoľudnia vo veľkej hale Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého 411 East 66th Street v New York City. Vstupné za osobu je 20.00 dolárov v čom je započítaná aj večera. Lístky na Štedrovečernú večeru si môžete objednať na : Farskom úrade Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého, telefón (212) 734-4613; Jozef Bilik (718) 463-2084; Henrieta Daitová (201) 6412-8922.



Mikulášske odpoľudnie s Mikulášskou nádielkou

Farská rada pri Slovenskom kostole sv. Jána Nepomuckého v New York City pozýva slovenskú verejnosť na Mikulášske odpoľudnie s Mikulášskou nádielkou, ktoré sa bude konať v nedeľu dňa 5. decembra 2010 o 1:00 hodine odpoľudnia vo veľkej hale Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého 411 East 66th Str. v New York City.

Prosíme rodičov, ktorých deti by mohli spestriť naše Mikulášske posedenie básničkou, spevom, alebo iným vystúpením, nech zavolajú vo večerných hodinách na číslo telefónu (201) 641-8922 pani Henrietu.

Vstupné na podujatie je voľné a o občerstvenie bude postarané.



Slovensko privítalo na historickej návšteve nórskeho kráľa a kráľovnu

Pokračovanie zo str. 24

V. vysoké štátne vyznamenanie - Rad Bieleho dvojkríža I. triedy a kráľovnej Sonji zase Rad Bieleho dvojkríža II. triedy. Monarcha takisto vyznamenal svojich hostiteľov. Gašparovič sa tiež môže popýšiť rytierskym Radom Svätého Olafa (Veľký kríž), ktorý zaviedol švédsky a nórsky kráľ Oscar I. v roku 1847. Hlavám štátov sa udeľuje ako prejav zdvorilosti.

Rad je pomenovaný po kráľovi Olafovi II., ktorý bol neskôr známy ako svätý Olaf. Veľkým majstrom radu je nórsky kráľ. Tento rad sa udeľuje osobám ako zásluha za významné činy vykonané v mene krajiny a ľudstva. Odznak musí byť po smrti jeho držiteľa vrátený.

Manželka prezidenta SR Silvia Gašparovičová sa stala držiteľkou Nórskeho kráľovského radu za zásluhy, ktorý bol zavedený kráľom Olafom V. v roku 1985. Je najnovším nórskym radom a udeľuje sa cudzincom, nórskym občanom žijúcim v zahraničí, diplomatom, štátnym úradníkom cudzích krajín pracujúcim v Nórsku či honorárnym konzulom za výnimočné zásluhy v prospech Nórska. Ženy ho nosia na stuhe umiestnenej cez ľavú časť hrude.

V záverečný deň ich nabitého programu šli na stredné Slovensko, kde si pozreli objekty zrekonštruované z Nórskeho finančného fondu. V historickej Banskej Štiavnici navštívili Slovenské banské múzeum, Starý zámok, kaštieľ Sv. Antona a v Žiari nad Hronom spoločnosti s nórskym kapitálom podnikajúce v oblasti metalurgického priemyslu Slovaco a Sapa Profily.

Späť do vlasti nórsky kráľovský pár odletel vo štvrtok 28. októbra v podvečerných hodinách.



FOTO TASR - Alexandra Ďurníková

Návšteva nórskeho kráľovského páru v Banskej Štiavnici 28. októbra 2010. Na snímke (tretí sprava) kráľ Harald V. na námestí s prezidentským párom SR Ivanom Gašparovičom (druhý zľava) s manželkou po pravici I. Gašparoviča. Po ľavici kráľa Harald a nórska kráľovná Sonja.

Norwegian King Harald V. and his wife Sonja tour Banská Štiavnica with President Ivan Gasparovic and his wife Silvia.

Slovenská recepcia na počesť prezidenta SR Ivana Gašparoviča v New Yorku

Slovak reception honoring Slovak President Ivan Gasparovic in New York City

Prezident Slovenskej republiky, Ivan Gašparovič bol na návšteve v New Yorku od 21.- 26. septembra 2010. Zúčastnil sa na Generálnom zhromaždení Organizácie Spojených národov, (OSN) a pred odchodom na Slovensko bol hosťom Festivalu slovenského dedičstva v New Jersey. Prezident Gašparovič okrem prejavu v OSN mal tiež súkromné stretnutia s generálnym tajomníkom OSN, Ban Ki-moonom a viacerými predstaviteľmi iných štátov.

Dňa 24. septembra 2010 vedúci Slovenskej misie pri OSN, veľvyslanec Miloš Koterec usporiadal na počesť prezidenta recepciu v miestnostiach rezidencie veľvyslanca. Prezident tam mal možnosť stretnúť približne 80 predstaviteľov slovenského života v New Yorku a na okolí. Po skončení recepcie mal súkromné posedenie s predstaviteľmi slovenských fraternalistických organizácií a významnejších spolkov v New Yorku. Po krátkom príhovore prezidenta nasledovala voľná diskusia, v ktorej témami boli vzťahy USA so Slovenskom, slovenský život v USA a maďarsko-slovenský problém.



Recepciu spestrili hrou na klavíri známej koncertnej pianistky Evy Virsikovej (na snímke sprava) a spevom operného speváka Radoslava Lesaya (v prostriedku). Zľava sa prizerajú : prezident SR Ivan Gašparovič a veľvyslanec Miloš Koterec.



Z posedenia s prezidentom SR Ivan Gašparovičom.

HĽADÁME

Prvá Katolícka Slovenská Jednota v Spojených štátoch a v Kanade hľadá zástupcov plynne po slovensky hovoriacich alebo licencovaných odporúčateľov, ktorí by reprezentovali našu organizáciu a ponúkali naše životné poistky a anuitné produkty, najmä v oblasti štátov New York a New Jersey.

O bližšie informácie zavolajte alebo pošlite e-mail:

Predseda, Andrew M. Rajec: 1-800 JEDNOTA (533-6682) alebo

Podpredseda, Andrew R. Harcar, Sr.: 1-800-JEDNOTA (533-6682)

E-mail: president@fcsu.com

Katarínska zábava v New York City

Spolok sv. Štefana , č. 716 Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty a I. Zbor Slovenskej ligy v NYC srdečne pozýva slovenskú verejnosť na „Katarínsku zábavu“, ktorá sa bude konať v sobotu dňa 13. novembra 2010 o 7:00 hodine večer v osadnej hale Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého v New York City, 411 East, 66th Street. Do tanca Vám bude hrať známa hudobno-spevácka skupina KONTAKTY. Vstupné za osobu je \$25.00 v čom je započítaná aj večera.

Lístky na Katarínsku zábavu si môžete objednať u týchto osôb: Milan a Henrieta Dait tel. č. (201) 641 8922; Jozef Bilik tel. č. (718) 463 2084; Mária Božeková tel. č. (347) 612 1934.

Krátké správy zo Slovenska

• **Ministerstvo** kultúry a cestovného ruchu nebude realizovať základnú zmluvu na digitalizáciu kultúrneho dedičstva. Na tlačovej konferencii to vyhlásil minister Daniel Krajcer. Ako uviedol, dokument sa neposudzoval na základe politických stimulov, ale na základe faktov. Vychádzalo sa pritom z právnych analýz a podrobného auditu. Ak by sa postupovalo podľa zmluvy, tak by to bolo v príkrom rozpore so základným cieľom Operačného programu informatizácia spoločnosti (OPIS) Prioritná os 2, čo je rozvoj pamäťových a fondových inštitúcií. "S pravdepodobnosťou hraničiacou s istotou by Slovensko muselo vrátiť stovky miliárd korún naspäť do Bruselu," upozornil s tým, že v celom projekte išlo predovšetkým o zaujímavý a lukratívny biznis pre súkromné firmy. Bývalé vedenie ministerstva kultúry podpísalo deň pred parlamentnými voľbami na základe verejnej súťaže zmluvu do 170-miliónovú zmluvu bez dane s jej víťazom - spoločnosťou Tender Media Group. Tá sa týkala ochrany a digitalizácie predmetov a obsahu kultúrneho dedičstva.

• **Spoločnosť** Siemens nedávno v Žiline otvorila medzinárodné inžinierske centrum pre automatizáciu železníc, v ktorom získalo prácu 30 projektantov. Do roku 2010 sa kapacita centra rozšíri na 130 dopravných expertov. Generálny riaditeľ Siemens, s.r.o. a predstaviteľ koncernu Siemens AG na Slovensku Vladimír Slezák uviedol, že divízia Mobility s divíziou Corporate Technology koncernu Siemens rozšírením oddelenia inžinieringu zintenzívňuje aktivity v oblasti projektovania. „V Žiline už od začiatku roku 2003 pôsobí skupina 21 inžinierov, zaoberajúca sa projekciou železničných zabezpečovacích systémov. Celkovo má dnes Inžinierske centrum spolu s touto skupinou 51 projektantov.“

• **Príspevkom** Katedry klasickej archeológie na Filozofickej fakulte Trnavskej univerzity k oslavám 375. výročia založenia inštitúcie je medzinárodná vedecká konferencia na tému Fenomény kultúrnych hraníc a hraničných kultúr v toku času (od doby bronzovej do neskoréj antiky). Do Trnavy prišli poznatky z výskumov prezentovať experti na klasickú archeológiu 14 krajín, okrem Slovenska a Česka aj z Poľska, USA, Turecka, Talianska, Srbska, Veľkej Británie, Bulharska, Francúzska i Nemecka. Spoluorganizátorom konferencie je občianske združenie Pro Archaeologia Classica, ktoré vychádza v ústrety potrebám študentov a pedagógov trnavskej katedry archeológie.

• **Obyvatel'ov** Stuttgartu rozdeľuje železničný projekt Paríž - Bratislava. V meste sa trikrát do týždňa demonštruje, zasahovať musela aj kancelárka Angela Merkelová. Nestáva sa často, aby sa slovenská metropola dennodenne objavovala v nemeckých správach a diskutovali o nej bežní Nemci v kaviarňach. Koncom leta sa však rozbehli stavebné práce na projekte, ktorý zrýchli cestovanie vlakom na 1500-kilometrovej trati Paríž - Štrasburg - Mníchov - Viedeň - Bratislava. Nový železničný uzol v centre Stuttgartu je jeho súčasťou. Starú železničnú stanicu nahradia nové moderné nástupištia pod zemou, v okolí vybudujú 16 tunelov, 18 mostov a 60 kilometrov nových koľajníc.

• **Na Regionálnom** úrade verejného zdravotníctva v Bratislave zistili miliónový podvod. V rokoch 2002 a 2008 štyria kľúčoví zamestnanci pripravili štát o 5.5 milióna korún. Podľa polície nelegálne peniaze zarobili na fiktívnych pracovných zmluvách. Na sprenevere sa podieľala vedúca služobného úradu, vedúci osobného úradu, mzdárka a personalistka. Zamestnávali desiatky fiktívnych ľudí a nechávali sa na nich vyplácať mzdy. Reálne si polepšili o 3.5 milióna korún, ďalšie peniaze do sumy 5.5 milióna korún tvoria odvody.

• **Košice sa** stávajú mestom počítačových spoločností. Sú tu už viacerí investori z tohto odvetvia, v tomto roku pribudla pobočka výrobcu bezpečnostného softvéru Eset. O obrovskej investícii sa hovorí v súvislosti so spoločnosťou IBM. V hre sú viaceré krajiny, medzi nimi aj Slovensko, kde majú šancu Žilina a Košice. V prípade úspechu by v prvom roku pôsobenia mohlo nájsť prácu 200 ľudí, ich počet by sa mohol počas troch rokov rozšíriť na 3,000 zamestnancov. Pri košickom letisku v týchto dňoch začala aj výstavba priemyselného parku Immpark.

• **Na Slovensko** prichádza najväčšie zdražovanie za posledné dva roky. Po povodniach a slabej úrode by ceny potravín mali od novembra vzrásť priemerne o sedem percent. V niektorých prípadoch bude zdražovanie ešte výraznejšie. Ceny mlieka, mäsa či chleba zrejme porastú o viac ako desatinu, vajčka či cestoviny zdražujú až o štvrtinu.

• **Bratislavské** letisko bude mať v zimnom letovom období od 31. októbra do 26. marca 2011 pravidelné spojenia piatich leteckých spoločností do 19 destinácií v jedenástich krajinách. Pravidelné lety budú prevádzkovať Ryanair, České aerolinie, Danube Wings, LOT Polish Airlines a Sun d'Or International. Ponuku pravidelných liniek v zimnej sezóne tradične rozšíria charterové spoje, o ktorých informácie získajú cestujúci v cestovných kanceláriách alebo agentúrach. V porovnaní s letnou sezónou nebudú v ponuke vyslovene letné dovolenkové destinácie, ktoré by mali pribudnúť opäť v apríli budúceho roku. Oproti minuloročnej zime ponuku oživí linky Ryanairu do španielskej Malagy a na londýnske letisko Luton, ako aj LOT-u do poľskej metropoly Varšava. Najviac pravidelných liniek počas zimného obdobia, a to trinásť, zabezpečuje najväčší prepravca na bratislavskom letisku írsky nízkonákladový podnik Ryanair. Najväčší počet jej liniek, šesť, spája Bratislavu 29-krát týždenne s destináciami vo Veľkej Británii - Londýn - Luton a Stansted, Bristol, Birmingham, Liverpool a Edinburgh.

• **Materská** spoločnosť košických železiarní, americký koncern U. S. Steel, sa v treťom kvartáli tohto roka prepadol ešte viac do červených čísiel. Kým za druhý štvrtrok tohto roka vykázali Američania stratu 18 miliónov eur, za uplynulé tri mesiace dosiahol ich záporný hospodársky výsledok sumu až 36.7 milióna eur. Indický koncern ArcelorMittal, o ktorom analytici špekulujú ako o potenciálnom "ženíchovi" pre košický U. S. Steel, dosiahol za rovnaké obdobie zisk 971 miliónov eur. Ukazovatele pittsburských oceľiarní sa prejavili už aj na poklese cien ich akcií, ktoré bezprostredne po oznámení výsledkov stratili 3,5 percenta. Od začiatku roka pritom akcie U. S. Steelu prišli o takmer tretinu ich hodnoty. U. S. Steel dosiahol zisk naposledy v roku 2008. Straty spoločnosti pociťujú aj zamestnanci v Košiciach, ktorí nedostávajú takú variabilnú zložku mzdy, na akú boli zvyknutí. Kým pred tromi rokmi to bolo aj 250 eur mesačne, tento rok to bola maximálne 65 eur, pričom v poslednej výplate mali hutníci nulu.

• **Podľa** výsledkov nedávneho prieskumu spoločnosti Cisco a univerzity v Oxforde, zameraného na kvalitu broadbandu, teda širokopásmového internetového pripojenia v jednotlivých krajinách sveta, sa umiestnilo Slovensko na 29. priečke. Prieskum kvality internetového pripojenia vo svete robili v Cisco už tretíkrát, podľa posledných výsledkov medzi mestami skončili Košice na veľmi dobrej 13. priečke.

TASR a slovenské časopisy

Slávnosť Všetkých svätých a Spomienka na všetkých verných zosnulých – Dušičky

V novembri si Katolícka cirkev pripomína dva významné sviatky: 1. novembra je to slávnosť Všetkých svätých. Cirkev už po stáročia spája s touto slávnosťou nádej na vzkriesenie. Je to deň radosti a nie strachu. Pre iných je smrť realitou, ktorú treba prijať. Po vzkriesení Krista sa nachádzame na ceste do večného mesta, kde nás očakáva blaženosť všetkých tých, ktorí boli Pánom oslávení. To má byť zmyslom slávnosti Všetkých svätých.

Začiatky slávenia sviatku Všetkých svätých nás vedú až do 4. storočia po Kristovi. Svätý Efrém Sýrsky (306-373) a sv. Ján Zlatoustý (354-407) už poznajú sviatok všetkých svätých mučeníkov, ktorý sa slávil 13. mája, prípadne na prvú nedeľu po Turíciach. Ešte aj v dnešnom gréckom kalendári sa táto nedeľa volá Nedeľa svätých.

Slávnosť všetkých svätých sa prvýkrát slávila v Ríme 13. mája 609, keď pápež Bonifác IV. prebral od cisára Fokasa pohanský chrám všetkých bohov, tzv. Pantheon a zasvätil ho Preblahoslavenej Panne Márii, vždy Panne a všetkým svätým mučeníkom. Pápež Gregor III. (731-741) zmenil slávenie Všetkých svätých z 13. mája na 1. novembra, keď v Bazilike sv. Petra slávnostne posvätil kaplnku k úcte všetkých svätých.

Prvého novembra sa sviatok Všetkých svätých (už nielen mučeníkov) začal sláviť v 8. storočí, najprv v Írsku, potom v Anglicku. Pápež Gregor IV. (827-844) rozšíril sviatok na celú cirkev. Veriaci si v tento deň pripomínajú aj svätých, ktorí nemajú miesto v kalendári alebo nie sú oficiálne vyhlásení za svätých. Na Slovensku je slávnosť Všetkých svätých dňom pracovného pokoja.

Spomienka na všetkých verných zosnulých – ľudovo nazývaná Dušičky

Na slávnosť Všetkých svätých nadväzuje Spomienka na všetkých verných zosnulých – ľudovo nazývaná Dušičky. Spomienku zaviedol svätý opát Odilo z Cluny roku 998. Vplyvom clunýjskych mníchov sa táto spomienka behom 11. storočia veľmi rozšírila. V Ríme ju prijali v 14. storočí.

Veriaci, ktorí v deň Spomienky na všetkých verných zosnulých nábožne navštívi kostol alebo kaplnku a pomodlí sa Modlitbu Pána a urobí vyznanie viery (Verím v Boha), môže získať úplné odpustky, ktoré sa môžu privlastniť iba dušiam v očistci. Okrem tohto odpustového úkonu sa žiada splniť tri podmienky: sv. spoveď (krátko predtým alebo potom), sv. prijímanie (Najlepšie v ten istý deň) a modlitba na úmysel Sv. Otca (stačí Otče náš, Zdravas a Sláva). Okrem toho ako vo všeobecnosti treba vylúčiť akúkoľvek pripútanosť k hriechu aj k všednému. Tieto odpustky možno získať od poludnia predchádzajúceho dňa až do polnoci určeného dňa.

Veriaci, ktorí nábožne navštívi cintorín a aspoň mysl'ou sa pomodlí za zosnulých, môže získať odpustky, ktoré sa môžu privlastniť iba dušiam v očistci, raz denne od 1. novembra do 8. novembra. Treba splniť aj ďalšie obvyklé podmienky.

(Direktórium 2005. Liturgická komisia KBS. Trnava. SSV.2003) TK KBS

V Slovenskom národnom múzeu v Bratislave výstava Štefánikových predmetov

Bratislava (TASR) – Časť zo zbierky exponátov Milana Rastislava Štefánika, ktoré si doniesol z najväčšieho ostrova Francúzskej Polynézie – z exotického Tahiti do svojho parížskeho bytu, je v tom čase na výstave v Slovenskom národnom múzeu (SNM) v Bratislave.

Medzi najvzácnejšie dokumenty patria drevorezy a drevoryty francúzskeho maliara Paula Gauguina, ktoré Štefánik našiel zastrčené v plote dvora pri jednej chatrči. Vzácne sú aj textilné prikrývky - tapy, ktoré sú tkané z rastlinných vlákien s rôznymi ornamentálnymi vzormi. Pozoruhodné sú tiež kamenné drvidlá, plastiky, nádoby a iné úžitkové či obradné predmety s výtvarnou hodnotou. Ženy poteší kolekcia vyše 40 šperkov z prírodných materiálov. Z nich niektoré slúžili ako ochranné amulety. Chlapcov a mužov viac zaujmú modely vojnových člnov, luky, šípy a asi 20 niekoľkometrových obradných a pracovných kopijí či lebka a pancier korytnačky. Navštevník uvidí aj Štefánikov cestovný pas a môže si prečítať jeho rukopisné poznámky i korešpondenciu. Medzi exotické exponáty patria čelenky, čiapky vo vtáčej podobe, zástera, šaty a iné obradové časti odevu.

Podľa generálneho riaditeľa SNM Rastislava Púdelku Štefánik zachránil pre Slovensko kus kultúry z krajiny, kde počas deväťmesačného pobytu prežil svoje najkrajšie obdobie, našiel pohodu a šťastie. Aj keď tam išiel pracovať ako astronóm, veľmi sa zaujímal i o život a kultúru domorodcov. Expozícia Tahiti (Milan Štefánik) je prioritným projektom SNM. Je venovaná 130. výročiu jeho narodenia a 100. výročiu pobytu na Tahiti. Pripravili ju SNM - Múzeum Slovenských národných rád Myjava a Slovenský národný archív. Výstava sa koná s finančnou podporou Ministerstva kultúry a cestovného ruchu SR a potrvá do 31. mája 2011.



FOTO TASR - František Iván



Katolícky fraternalistický dvojtýždenník Jednota



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

Ročník 119

STREDA, 10. NOVEMBRA, 2010

Číslo 5831



FOTO TASR - Pavel Neubauer

Nórsky kráľ Harald V. s manželkou kráľovnou Sonjou (vľavo) počas spoločného fototerminu s prezidentom SR Ivanom Gašparovičom a jeho manželkou Silviou 26. októbra 2010 vo Veľkej sále Prezidentského paláca v Bratislave.

Norwegian King Harald V. and his wife Sonja were welcomed by Slovak President Ivan Gasparovic and his wife Silvia in the Great Hall of the Presidential Palace in Bratislava on October 26, 2010.

Slovensko privítalo na historickej návšteve nórského kráľa a kráľovnu

Bratislava (TASR) - Na historicky prvú návštevu priletel 25. októbra na Slovensko nórsky kráľ Harald V. s kráľovnou Sonjou. Ide o šestnástu kráľovskú návštevu v dejinách krajiny, ktorou zástupcovia monarchií poctili SR. Naposledy bol na Slovensku v apríli minulého roku jordánsky kráľ Abdalláh II. Trojdňová návšteva je pre Slovensko nielen významnou diplomatickou a spoločenskou udalosťou, ale má význam aj pre upevňovanie bilaterálnych a hospodárskych vzťahov medzi krajinami.

Oficiálny program kráľovského páru sa začal v utorok 26. októbra **uvítacím ceremoniálom** na nádvorí Prezidentského paláca v Bratislave. Hostitelia, prezident SR Ivan Gašparovič s manželkou Silviou, vítali hosťa tradičným slovenským zvykom - chlebom a soľou.

V ten istý deň sa Jeho Veličenstvo Harald V. stretol aj s dvojicou najvyšších ústavných činiteľov - predsedom parlamentu Richardom Sulikom a premiérkou Ivetou Radičovou. Bratislavčania mali príležitosť vidieť kráľovský pár popoludní v uliciach hlavného mesta pri prehliadke historického centra v sprievode primátora Andreja Ďurkovského. Kráľovná Sonja spolu s manželkou prezidenta SR navštívili aj galériu moderného umenia Danubiana, kde si pozreli výstavu diel umelca Jozefa Jankoviča. Kráľovský pár sa stretol aj so zástupcami nórskych a slovenských médií a poskytol rozhovor spravodajskej televízii TA3.

Nórsky panovník v stredu 27. októbra slávnostne otvoril konferenciu o rozvoji ekonomických vzťahov, ktorej dominovali témy zodpovedného prístupu k podnikaniu a dôstojných pracovných podmienok. Kráľovná Sonja si v rámci dámskej časti programu pozrela hydroterapeutické centrum Gaudeamus pre postihnuté deti a dospelých v bratislavskom Lamači a tvorivé dielne v Ústredí ľudovej umeleckej výroby.

Kráľovský a prezidentský pár si našiel čas na ochutnávku vín vo vinohradníckej Modre, kde navštívili aj galériu zasvätenú kráľovi pop-artu Andyemu Warholovi, ktorý v roku 1982 kráľovnú Sonju maľoval. Do Bratislavy sa vrátili popoludní, aby na Hrade otvorili výstavu o nórskom spisovateľovi Björnsterne Björnsonovi. Program druhého dňa ukončili na koncerte nórskych hudobnej skupiny Valkyrien Allstars.

Veľkú krištáľovú súpravu ako jednu zo štvorice suvenírov od prezidenta SR Ivana Gašparoviča a prvej dámy si zo Slovenska odviezli nórsky kráľ Harald V. a kráľovná Sonja. Okrem vínnej súpravy rozšírili ich zbierku darov ešte krištáľová plastika Gordany Turuk. Ide o plachetnicu odlievanú v čistom krištáli s prímiesou zlata a platiny, do ktorej je zakomponovaný symbol slovenského dvojkríža.

Kráľ Harald V., známy svojim vzťahom k jachtárskemu športu, je aj vášnivým poľovníkom. Zrejme preto sa prezidentský pár rozhodol darovať mu lovecký kalich zo striebra a zlata v tvare medvedej hlavy. Ďalšou záľubou panovníckeho páru je cestovanie, v knižnici im odteraz nebude chýbať ani encyklopédia o Slovensku.

Prezident Gašparovič pri príležitosti oficiálnej návštevy udelil nórskemu kráľovi Haraldovi

Pokračovanie na str. 22

Biskup Ján Vojtaššák na Zakarpatskej Ukrajine

V rámci Roka kresťanskej kultúry 2010, z iniciatívy Matice slovenskej na Zakarpatskej Ukrajine, Krajanského múzea Matice slovenskej v Bratislave, vďaka finančnej podpore Matice slovenskej bola 16. októbra 2010 v Hlbokom na Zakarpatskej Ukrajine odhalená pamätná tabuľa významnej slovenskej duchovnej osobnosti, martyrovi za Boha a národ, biskupovi Jánovi Vojtaššákovi (1877-1965). Slávnostnú ďakovnú bohoslužbu celebroid biskup mukačevskej diecézy Rímsko-katolíckej cirkvi Anton Vajnek, spolucelebroval v zastúpení spišského biskupa Františka Tondru jeho generálny vikár Ľubomír Štefanák, Jozef Mrkvica, tunajší kňaz zo Slovenska. Pamätnou tabuľou a slávnosťou si obe Matice slovenské, Slováci na Zakarpatsku, spišské a mukačevské biskupstvá uctili pamiatku na jeho častý pobyt a kontakty s cirkevníkmi na Zakarpatskej Ukrajine, kde počas prvej CSR vlastnilo Spišské biskupstvo vinohradnícke plochy pod dohľadom Jozefa Hajniša st., ktorého syn Jozef Hajniš ml. ako predseda MŠ na Zakarpatsku garantoval toto významné národno - kresťanské podujatie.

Po skončení slávnostnej omši sa všetci prítomní presunuli na nádvorie kostola, odhalili pamätnú tabuľu s nasledovným textom:

Z ÚCTY A VĎAKY
BOŽIEMU SLUHOVI, MONS. JÁNOVI VOJTAŠŠÁKOVI
(1877-1965)
SPIŠSKÉMU BISKUPOVI
MUČENÍKOVI ZA VIERU A SLOVENSKÝ NÁROD
OCHRANCOVI DIECÉZNEHO MAJETKU NA ZAKARPATSKU
V R. 1938-1945

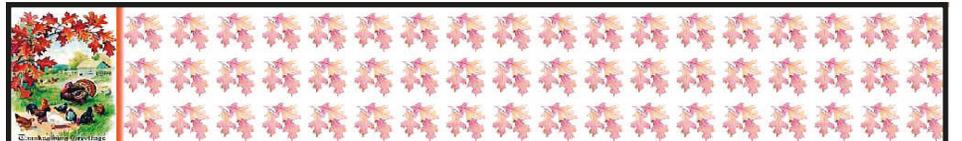
A
VŠETKÝM, KTORÍ TU V ČASE TOTALÍT NEOCHVEJNE SLUŽILI BOHU A NÁRODU.

HLBOKÉ OKTÓBER 2010 MATICA SLOVENSKÁ NA ZAKARPATSKU
ROK KRESŤANSKEJ KULTÚRY MATICA SLOVENSKÁ - SLOVENSKO
BISKUPSKÝ ÚRAD V SPIŠSKEJ KAPITULE - SLOVENSKO

Jozef Hajniš poďakoval Matici slovenskej, duchovným autoritám, Spišskej kapitule, ako i mukačevskému biskupovi za podporu tejto matičnej národno- kresťanskej myšlienky v rámci Roka kresťanskej kultúry 2010.

Napokon sa všetci zhromaždení pomodlili za blahorečenie Božieho sluhu Jána Vojtaššáka s vierou, že aj týmto pekným dielom prispievajú k jeho pozitívnemu vyvrcholeniu.

Stanislav Bajaník
riaditeľ
Krajanského múzea
Matice slovenskej



Vďakyvzdanie — 2010

Vďaka Ti Pane Bože, za všetko čo máme,
za všetky tie dobrodennia, ktoré z štedrosti Tvojej požívame.
Ďakujeme Ti za všetky plody zeme,
ktoré do našich komôr, stodôl pozvážame.

Vďaka Ti, za krčah čerstvého mlieka,
keď deň, do nedeľného šatu sa oblieka.
Ďakujeme Ti za kus slaniny a vyúdenú šunku,
aj za ten pohár čerstvej, studenej vody v hrnku.

Zvlášť, ale ďakujeme, za tradičného, upečeného moriaka,
keď pred jedlom, naša ďakovná modlitba, sa odieka.

Ďakujeme Ti za dobré, jablká, hrušky, orechy,
za misu šošovice, zemiaky a za maminé varechy.
Ďakujeme Ti Pane, za hojné a šťastné vinobranie,
s vďakou a láskou, prijímame Tvoje Božie požehnanie.

Vďaka Ti, za náš každodenný peceň chleba,
ktorý požívame z Tvojich rúk z neba.

Jozef Smák