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Slovaks traditionally celebrate All Saints and All Souls Day as times to reconnect with their ancestors, as this church cemetery in Slovakia suggests



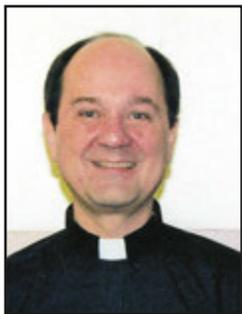
Year of Faith: Sacred Liturgy, Part III

Dear Friends,

The summary of the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy from the Second Vatican Council continues with the Council's teaching on the Sacraments and Sacramentals,

After spending a great deal of time discussing the Mass and the Holy Eucharist, the Council Fathers addressed the other sacraments to renew them in light of the ancient practice of the church.

For the celebration of Infant Baptisms, the Council Fathers desired that the Rite be revised in order that the roles of parents and godparents (sponsors) in their respective duties and responsibilities can be more clearly distinguished. A Mass text specifically for the conferral of Baptism is to be inserted into the Roman Missal.



Rev. Thomas Nasta

Also, the manner in which non-baptized persons are admitted into the Catholic Church is to be restored to the practice of the ancient church. This provided the groundwork for the development of what is known today as the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (R.C.I.A.) In addition, the Council also desired the establishment of a new Rite for welcoming people into the Catholic Church who were validly baptized in other Christian communities.

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The Forerunners of Christ with Saints and Martyrs, a painting by Fra Angelico, 15th century

All Saints' Day, or as its officially known in the Roman Catholic Church, the Solemnity of All Saints is a solemnity celebrated on November 1st throughout most of Western Christianity which commemorates all those who have attained the beatific vision in Heaven. It is a national holiday in many historically Catholic countries, including Slovakia.

Halloween, All Saints Day, and All Souls Day Customs in Slovakia

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

Slovaks have traditionally celebrated All Saints Day and All Souls Day as religious holidays. Before the Velvet Revolution of 1989, Halloween was never practiced in Slovakia as it was here in the United States. In contrast to our secular celebration of Halloween, Slovaks have traditionally emphasized the spirituality of this time of year, and used the religious holy days to reconnect with their ancestors. Since the fall of communism, and mainly in some of the larger cities like Bratislava, some Slovaks have begun to incorporate some of the spooky and costume dressing customs that Ameri-

cans are more familiar with.

Traditionally, Slovaks have considered All Saints Day (*Sviatok všetkých svätých*), November 1, to be a sacred feast, and in keeping with the Catholic tradition dating from the seventh century, it is a Holy Day of Obligation. It is also a state holiday in the Slovak Republic, which means government offices and many businesses close that day. Practicing Catholic Slovaks attend Holy Mass and many also go to Mass again on November 2, All Souls Day (*Dušičky*), in order to pray for their deceased family members and friends.

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FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

FCSU LIFE ANNUITY & IRA

INTEREST RATES EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 1, 2012

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| Eight Year Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity or IRA | 3.60% APY |
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at 1-800-533-6682

Email: fcsu@aol.com
Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary



Insights and Viewpoints



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

October 28, 2012

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mark 10:46-52

Gospel Summary:

The curing of a blind man in today's gospel passage is remarkable for several reasons. First of all, it is quite unusual in the gospels to give a name to the person healed and this suggests that Bartimaeus was a recognizable member of the early

Christian community from which Mark's gospel came.

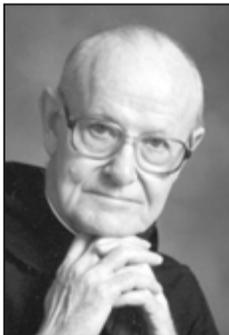
Secondly, the blind man refers to Jesus as "son of David," a clearly Messianic title, but Jesus does not correct him, as he does elsewhere in Mark's gospel out of concern that he be seen as a political Messiah. No doubt the fact that he has by now made it clear that "the Son of man must suffer many things" (8:31), there is less danger of mistaking him for one who will lead them in a war of liberation against the Romans.

Finally, it is worth noting that this is the last miracle of Jesus in Mark's gospel prior to his death and resurrection. As such, it forms a kind of book-end with another curing of a blind man in 8:22ff. This may very well be intended as a way of highlighting the transfiguration of Jesus (9:2ff). These blind men receive their sight just as Jesus is illuminated as he discovers the full meaning of his messianic mission. He has been sent to save the world through his loving rather than through violence. In all three cases, though in very different ways, an enlightenment is portrayed. This suggests that the real cure of blindness, for Bartimaeus and for all of us, involves a discovery of the true purpose of our human existence, namely, that we, like Jesus, must "die" for others by loving them to the end.

Life Implications:

All of the miracles of Jesus have symbolic as well as historical significance. They certainly have an historical basis and certainly did establish the credibility of Jesus for those who were open-minded. At the same time, they represent the healing through Jesus of various spiritual maladies. Christians of all ages are in danger of spiritual blindness because they do not "see" that human life is primarily for loving concern and not for acquiring power or for building monuments. Jesus also cured paralytics, whose muscles were non-functional, just as he is prepared to heal the far more dangerous spiritual paralysis of cynicism and negativity. In a similar way, Jesus is prepared to "drive out the demons" in our lives by helping us to experience the presence of God and thus to be delivered from the chaos of a life of confusion and disorientation.

Of course, there are many who are too "practical" to allow for this kind of divine influence in their lives. They are represented by the crowd in today's gospel who "rebuked" the blind man, telling him to be silent. We note with wonder that they nonetheless respond to Jesus' command to "call him" by saying to Bartimaeus, "Take courage; get up, Jesus is calling you." We would all be much happier people if we also could bring ourselves, in faith, to offer this same encouragement to the people in need whom we meet every day.



Demetrius R. Dumm
O.S.B.

November 4, 2012

Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mark 12:28-34

Gospel Summary

In a friendly conversation a scribe asks Jesus what he believes the first of all the commandments to be. Jesus replies by quoting from a prayer that the scribe, he himself, and every faithful Jew would recite every day from memory: "Hear, O Israel! The Lord our God is Lord alone! You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength" (Dt 6:4-5). To this commandment Jesus then immediately joins a commandment from Leviticus 19:18: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." When the scribe expresses agreement with understanding, Jesus says to him: "You are not far from the kingdom of God." Mark adds that no one dared to ask Jesus any more questions.

Life Implications

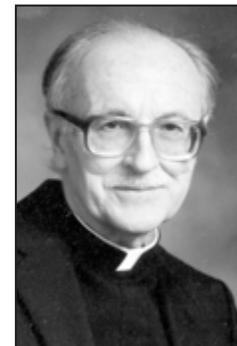
After reading dozens of pages in the various biblical dictionaries, one wishes that someone had dared to ask Jesus what he meant when he said, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." The expression "kingdom of God" appears more than 150 times in the New Testament. It not only points to the mystery of Jesus, God incarnate, but also to the mystery of human communion in divine life now and at the end-time. A recent declaration of the Congregation for the Doctrine of Faith ("Dominus Iesus") states that the meaning of the kingdom of God both in Sacred Scripture and in documents of the Catholic tradition is not always exactly the same.

With the disclaimer that the divine-human reality cannot fully be contained by human concepts, the kingdom of God seems to include three principal aspects: (1) God's plan and saving presence in history, not as a tyrant, but to invite all of us to loving communion in divine life; (2) the human acceptance of the divine gift through conversion in childlike faith and gratitude; and (3) the realm of life with God in and through the Church, fully to be realized only at the end-time.

Except for spatial proximity, the life implication of Jesus' saying "You are not far from the kingdom of God" is the same for us as it was for the scribe. Jesus himself is the saving presence of God inviting all of us to loving communion in divine life. Is it possible for us to respond by loving God with all our heart, all our soul, all our mind, all our strength, and to love our neighbors as ourselves? It is possible only if we remember through the gift of faith that God in every moment of our life loves us with a total, personal love.

To the command that we must respond to God's love with total love, Jesus adds the command that we must love our neighbors as ourselves. The conjunction of the two commandments is already present in the Exodus tradition into which Jesus grew up. As a response to the love that was given to them through their liberation from slavery, the Israelites must never forget God's word to them: "...have the same love for him [the alien] as for yourself; for you too were once aliens in the land of Egypt" (Lev 19:34). A graphic statement in the First Letter of John forcefully reminds us that we must never forget the meaning of Jesus' words to the scribe of today's gospel and to us: "If anyone says, 'I love God,' but hates his brother, he is a liar..." (4:20).

The Spirit enabled Jesus perfectly to realize the kingdom of God in himself by accepting the Father's infinite love, by responding to that love in total trust and obedience, and by loving his neighbors even to giving up his life. When we pray "thy kingdom come" in our Eucharist today, we ask that the Spirit will bring about the realization of God's plan and loving presence in us and in each of our neighbors.



Campion P. Gavaler,
O.S.B.

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 | Copy Date |
|--------------------|----------------|
| WEDNESDAY, NOV. 7 | MONDAY OCT. 29 |
| WEDNESDAY, NOV. 21 | MONDAY NOV. 12 |
| WEDNESDAY, DEC 5 | MONDAY NOV. 26 |

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.

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Teresa Ivanec, Editor; fcsulifeeditor@gmail.com
First Catholic Slovak Union, Attention "JEDNOTA"
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LIGHT ONE CANDLE

Tony Rossi, Director of Communications, The Christophers

Media, Morality, and Uncommon Virtue

Though summer tends to be a time of vacation for most people, my July and August were largely spent working on The Christophers' new "Three Minutes a Day" book. As Volume 47 in the series, it continues the tradition started by our founder, Maryknoll Father James Keller, of sharing inspirational stories and reflections for each day of the year, along with an accompanying Scripture quote and short prayer.

As I learned while putting the book together this year, "Three Minutes a Day" is more than an engaging and enjoyable read; it's also good for you as an individual—and for our culture.

You see, one of the entries in the book highlights a recent study conducted by the University of British Columbia. As reported in The Canadian Press, the study's lead author, Karl Aquino, found there was a "direct link between a person's exposure to media accounts of extraordinary virtue and their yearning to change the world...These things have to be beyond just everyday goodness...We're talking here about exceptional acts of virtue...acts that require enormous sacrifice, that put people at risk for the sake of others."

Aquino concludes, "If more attention was devoted to recounting stories of uncommon acts of human virtue, the media could have a quantifiable positive effect on the moral behavior of a significant group of people."

If you think about it, the results of the study seem like common sense. The types of stories to which we expose ourselves are bound to have an effect on our minds, hearts, and spirits. And while "Three Minutes a Day" includes numerous spiritual reflections and stories about the impact of ordinary kindnesses, it also presents examples of "uncommon acts of human virtue." Here's just one of them:

It was 1972 when Lou Xiaoying, a woman in China who made a living by recycling trash, found her first abandoned baby lying in a pile of junk on the street. She took the baby girl into her modest home where she and her husband raised her.

Xiaoying told The Daily Mail, "Watching her grow and become stronger gave us such happiness, and I realized I had a real love of caring for children. I realized if we had enough strength to collect garbage, how could we not recycle something as important as human lives."

Thousands of parents abandon their children in China either due to extreme poverty or the country's one-child policy. As a result, Xiaoying would find more than 30 abandoned babies in the trash over the next 40 years. She kept four children to raise herself, and found homes with family and friends for the others.

Now 88 and suffering from kidney failure, Xiaoying's story is finally being widely heard, and she is being declared a hero. Said one supporter, "She is shaming governments, schools, and people who stand by and do nothing. She has no money or power, but she saved children from death."

That's the kind of story that makes you say, "Wow!" Can you imagine how much better a place the world would be if more of us acted like Lou Xiaoying?

As I said, that's just one of the 365 stories you'll find in Volume 47 of "Three Minutes a Day." All of us at The Christophers are proud of the book and believe it will bring everyone who reads it some much-needed hope, joy, and spiritual comfort. If you're interested in buying a copy, call our office at 1-888-298-4050. Or you can order on our website at www.christophers.org.

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

Christmas Oplatky 2012

Oplatky, the traditional Slovak Christmas wafers are available from Jankola Library. Orders will be accepted from October 22 until December 19, 2012.

The Oplatky, five in one package are thermal-sealed and can be purchased for \$3.00. In addition, the minimum cost of shipping and handling is \$5.75 and upwards depending upon the number of packets ordered and the rising costs of priority mailing. Customized requests can be filled to meet your needs. Payment to Jankola Library is expected before receiving an order.

For more information or to place an order contact

Sister Catherine Labouré Bresnock, SS.C.M. at 570-275-5606 or

write to Jankola Library and Slovak Museum

580 Railroad Street, Villa Sacred Heart, Danville, PA 17821-1698



Year of Faith: Sacred Liturgy, Part III

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The Council mandated these revisions to the celebration of other Sacraments. A person is to renew his or her Baptismal Promises immediately before receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation. Extreme Unction is more fittingly called the Anointing of the Sick and is no longer exclusively for those who are in immediate danger of dying. It is also proper for one to receive this sacrament who is seriously ill or elderly. A continuous Rite by which a person can go to Confession, be Anointed, and receive Viaticum is to be prepared.

The texts and ceremonies for the Ordination of bishops, priests and deacons are to be revised. At the beginning of the ordination ceremony, the bishop may address the candidates to be ordained in Latin. At the ordination of a bishop, all bishops present may participate in the laying on of hands.

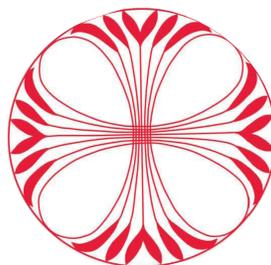
A change to the time when a bride and groom exchange their marriage vows was given. It is now to take place after the Gospel and homily and before the General Intercessions (today known as the Universal Prayer).

The final two installments of the summary of the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy from the Second Vatican Council will cover the Divine Office, the Liturgical Calendar, the Saints, and Sacred Music.

Fraternally,

Fr. Thomas A. Nasta National Chaplain

The Benedictine Monks of Saint Andrew Svorad Abbey 2012 Benefit



THE BENEDICTINE MONKS
PRESENT
A N T
ANDREW SVORAD
A B B E Y
Benefit

The Benedictine Monks of Saint Andrew Svorad Abbey will host their annual Abbey Benefit on Sunday, November 4, 2012. "Celebrating the 90th Year Anniversary of Our Foundation" is this year's theme. The benefit will celebrate the significant events marking the 90 years of service the Benedictine Monks have provided in the Cleveland area and throughout Ohio.

A Mass of thanksgiving will be offered at 12:15 p.m. at the Church of the Assumption, 9183 Broadview Road, Broadview Heights, OH 44147. A reception, banquet and program will follow at the Parish Center.

Entertainment will be provided by The John Pastirik Band – "The Slovak Polka King." Catering will be provided by Billy Hricovec of Tom's Country Place. The beautiful flower arrangements are donated by Orban's Flowers. There will be a silent Slovak

Auction held after the main program. The benefit concludes around 4:00 p.m. with the Monks singing The Ultima.

Your support of our Abbey Benefit is a very important part of the monks' present and future ministry. Please join us in honoring our Monks for their many years of service. If you can not attend, a gift in their honor will be greatly appreciated.

The ticket price is \$65.00 with additional sponsorships available, including \$100.00 "Honor-a-Monk" contributions. For reservations and additional information please contact Rose Stifter at Saint Andrew's Abbey at 216-721-5300 ext. 0 or Marie A. Golias at 216-228-8179.

Babička Blahunka's Potato Squares

(Potato sausage, or "Droby," without the casing)



Ingredients:

- ½ lb bacon, diced
- ½ lb ground pork
- ¼ lb ground beef
- 1 medium onion, diced
- 5 lbs potato, pared

- 1 (full) tablespoon flour
- ½ tablespoon salt
- ½ teaspoon marjoram
- ½ cup water
- ¼ teaspoon black pepper

Instructions:

1. Brown ½ lb of bacon well. Add in ½ lb ground pork, ½ lb ground beef, and 1 med diced onion, browned. Cook until meat is no longer pink and juices run clear (5 – 10 min).
2. Pare 5 lbs potatoes; keep covered in cold water until ready to grind.
3. Grind potatoes and immediately add to meat mixture. Then add in 1 heaping tablespoon of flour, ½ cup water, ½ tsp marjoram, ½ tbl salt, and ¼ tsp black pepper. Mix well.
4. Place into well greased 9x13x2 pan. Bake uncovered at 350 for 1 hour.
5. Cool in pan. Cut into square portions.

NOTE: These squares freeze well. Flash freeze before wrapping to keep shape better.

- Submitted by Art Mackay (Machaj in Slovak), Donora, PA.

Based on family recipe from Bobrovec, Slovakia

National Offices at the FCSU: A Q & A with National Executive Secretary Kenneth A. Arendt

Editor's Note: Recently, the Society filled the vacant position on the Supreme Court caused by the untimely death of Secretary Stephen Wishdosh; therefore, it seemed appropriate to continue our Q & A Refresher Series with Executive Secretary Kenneth A. Arendt on the subject of FCSU National Officers – who they are and how they are elected. Teresa Ivanec

TI: What positions are considered National Offices in our Society?

KA: Our National Officers are: Chaplain, President, Vice President, Executive Secretary, Treasurer, Chairman of Auditors, three Auditors, Medical Examiner, Director of Fraternal Activities, General Counsel, Chairman of the Supreme Court, Secretary of the Supreme Court, the Pension Board, and 10 members of the Supreme Court. These are as listed in Section 6.01 of our Bylaws.

TI: How are national offices at the FCSU filled?

KA: In general, all officers, including the Chaplain, are elected at Convention and hold their offices for four years, from January 1st following their election, or until a successor is elected, appointed, and duly qualified. This is according to Bylaw 6.04.

If a vacancy occurs within that four year period for any number of reasons – death, resignation, or suspension – in any national office except for the President or those on the Board of Directors it will be filled by the Board of Directors by any member who meets the requirements for office. This is in accordance with Section 6.05(a) of our Bylaws.

TI: Who can apply for a national office?

KA: Any FCSU member in good standing is eligible to apply for national office, as stated in Section 6.05 (b) 2 of the Bylaws.

TI: How do members of the Society know about an open position?

KA: A “call out” for members to apply for consideration to a national office is published in our official house organ, Jednota.

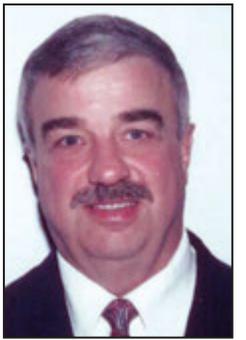
TI: Is there a deadline to fill open positions at the national level?

KA: It depends on the national office that is vacated. Positions considered critical to the operation of the Society are immediately filled on a temporary basis by appointment of the

President, and then later filled on a permanent basis by election by the Board of Directors. All other open positions are elected by our Board of Directors and then officially appointed by the President. This is in accord with Section 6.05 (b) 3 of our Bylaws.

TI: How does the candidate selection process actually work?

KA: The recent vacancy of the Secretary of the Supreme Court is a good example. President Rajec placed announcements in Jednota, requesting interested FCSU members apply for the position of Secretary of the Supreme Court which was open due to the death of Stephen Wishdosh. The announcements were in advance of the September 2012 Quarterly Board Meeting at the Home Office, so that all applications could be received prior to the meeting, reviewed by the Board, and all eligible candidates could be voted on through a secret ballot during the quarterly meeting. The Home Office received applications from seven members of the Society, along with their submitted resumes. These were all passed on to the Board prior to the Sept 2012 Board Meeting. The Board elected Sabina Sabados, who was then officially appointed by FCSU National President Rajec.



Kenneth A. Arendt

Who's Who At the FCSU?



The following is a listing of “Who's Who” among the Home Office staff at the First Catholic Slovak Union, so all of our members can easily key in extensions when prompted by our telephone system – and easily know who to call when you need assistance.

After the general number: 1-800- JEDNOTA or locally 1-216-642, 9406, please dial the following extensions when prompted:

| | |
|------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| MARGE (x 117) | Insurance rates Reinsurance Endowments Matured Certificates Term to age 25 conversion Billing - Paid Up Policies Delinquency - Lapsed Dividends Conversion Medical Assistance Calls Medical (all new insurance or missing info) |
| ADRIANA (x121) [or] BEATA (x121) | IT/Website |
| ROSANNE (x126) | Annuities – Park Money – IRA's Annuity Beneficiaries/Annuity Cash Withdrawals Commissions Forms - 1099-R / 5498 |
| BARBARA (x122) | Claims - death & cash withdrawals Cash value calls Cash surrender letters |
| AMBER (x128) | Loans - Mortgages Account Payable Checks Form - 1098 |
| JOSEPH (x111) | Accounting Department Bonds and Stocks Forms – 1099-misc and 1099-Int Annual Statement |
| JULIE (x125) | Newspaper address changes Beneficiaries Lost Policies |
| ANDY (x112) | Insurance Agents Annuities – IRA/Roth |
| BOB (x116) | Branch and District Calls Branch Transfers Insurance Agents Annuities – IRA/Roth |
| KAREN (x110) | Administrative Assistant to Executive Secretary Kenneth A. Arendt Jednota Benevolent Foundation Scholarships |
| PIROSKA (x114) | Administrative Assistant to President Andrew M. Rajec Scholarships (FCSU) |
| TERESA (x123) | Jednota Editor; all articles and submissions for the newspaper. |
| ANNA | Jednota Slovak Section Editor, seated in Middletown at 717-257-0379 |



Shown here, the historical center of Trnava, one of the many places you will visit on the Youngstown/Spišska Nová Ves Sister Cities Tour 2013.

Youngstown/Spišska Nová Ves Sister Cities Tour 2013

If you have always wanted to take a tour of Slovakia and never got around to it, NOW IS THE TIME!! Slovakia is celebrating 10 years in the European Union in 2013 and is in the process of refurbishing all their buildings, churches, castles etc. See Slovakia at its finest.

Get started early, find out the names of the villages from your oldest living relatives and once your deposit is made we will help you in trying to locate family. Get out your walking shoes, practice your Slovak and get ready for the time of your life. We stay in the best hotels and you get a flavor of many different hotels, the food is great, our air conditioned bus is large and roomy with a bathroom. We have the finest guide in all of Slovakia and have access to translators for a fee if you want to visit your relatives. You pay these people directly; there is no middle man fee. We do a bus/ walking tour of Vienna, Bratislava, visit castles, white water raft on the Dunajec, have a picnic lunch, visit Nitra, Slovak Bethlehem, Trnava (little Rome of Slovakia) St Jacob's cathedral, Piestany (the spa town) attend a folk performance in Trencin, travel to the high Tatras and take a ride on the cog railway or gondola ride depending on the weather. We have several dinners in a koliba (a shepherd's cottage with Slovak cooking and music) and everyone lets their hair down and enjoys the evening.

Once again Jim and Kay Bench have agreed to host the tour, which should be scheduled after the first week in July.. If you have any questions please contact Jim or Kay at 724-684-5101 home—Jim's cell 724-858-5843-Kay's cell 724-771-7900 or e-mail them at jmbench@yahoo.com or Adventure International Travel Paul Hudak at 216-228-7171---800-542-2487---Fax 216-228-7174 or www.adventure-intl.travel.com or e-mail Paul@aits.webmail.com.

WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR? Sign up for the trip of a lifetime.

Watch for our write-up and pictures from our very successful 2012 trip. Any of the people on the trip are willing to talk with you and tell you about the trip.

Brochure and cost of the trip with final dates will be available near the end of the year.

Halloween, All Saints Day, and All Souls Day Customs in Slovakia

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When one travels through Slovakia at this time of year, the villages and towns glow with sparkling lights from the cemeteries on All Saints evening. Slovaks honor their dead (*zosnuli*) with candles, wreaths, and/or flowers on this sacred night², and they literally light up the night. Young and old alike both pay honor to the deceased, and unlike many other European countries, such customs continue among all generations in Slovakia. Many Slovaks, even those who have moved to the cities, still place a high value on their religious and village traditions.

Origins

The custom of commemorating All Saints Day (*Sviatok všetkých svätých*) dates from the fourth century A.D., when Christians paid tribute to the Holy Martyrs who suffered death for their faith in Jesus Christ. Initially, the feast of All Saints occurred in May on the old Julian calendar, specifically on the first Sunday after Pentecost. Pope Gregory III (731-741) changed the Feast of All Saints Day to November 1, and began the tradition at a Mass celebrated in St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. By the eighth and early ninth centuries, the feast had become widespread throughout the European Christian Church.³

The Feast of All Souls Day on November 2, called *Dušičky* in Slovak (pronounced Doo-sheech-kee), began as a memorial to all deceased believers of the faith. The Medieval reformist French monastery of Cluny started the practice in 998 and it soon spread throughout much of Europe by the 11th century. The Church in Rome formally incorporated the day as an official Church Holy Day in the 14th century.⁴

Grace for Faithful

According to Church tradition, those who attend Mass on All Souls Day and pray, reciting the Nicene Creed, could receive special graces – a full indulgence from their sins. To fulfill the conditions for a plenary indulgence, one had to meet three pre-conditions:

- 1) Go to Confession either before or shortly after Mass.
- 2) Receive Holy Communion on All Souls Day or shortly afterwards.
- 3) Pray an Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory Be, keeping in mind the Holy Father.

Thus for Slovak Catholics, All Saints and All Souls Day not only meant prayers for the deceased, but a chance to obtain forgiveness for one's sins and attain the promise of eternal paradise. Slovaks would often visit the cemetery and pray for the deceased loved ones not just on All Saints Day and All Souls Day, but every day, from November 1 until November 8. People symbolically placed food on their table for the deceased (*mŕtvi*), and placed moss (*rašelníky*), pine-branches (*vetvičky*), and pine-wreaths (*vence*) at the graves of the dead.⁵

Contrasting Customs

When Slovaks visit the United States today, they are surprised at how we celebrate Halloween and the Holy Days. Americans tend to associate "Trick or Treat" (in Slovak, *trik alebo maškrtá?*) with this time of year.

When in the USA, Kristína Havasová of Slovakia was shocked to find that instead of solemnly praying for the dead, Americans turned the holiday into time to collect candy and celebrate autumn. We carve pumpkins (*vyrezávať tekvice*), decorate homes and yards with witches, demons, zombies, vampires, bats, monsters, black cats, graveyards, and signs saying like "Happy



Pavol Kurilla, at the grave of his father, Ján Kurilla, and his mother, Mária Kurillová, childhood friends of the author's mother in the Spiš village of Richnava.

Halloween" or "Trick or Treat." Havasová wrote, that "while Slovaks went to visit the dead in the cemeteries, the American dead came to visit the living."⁶

While All Saints and All Souls Days are Christian traditions, Halloween derives from pagan traditions from the ancient Celts of Ireland. Those customs of dressing in costumes came to the USA with Irish immigrants in the 19th century. Since World War II, the gory side of Halloween has steadily gained more of a following, and since the 1960s, much of the fun dissipated when some morbid derelicts started putting razor blades in apples and terrorizing children.

In Slovakia, the religious side of the feasts still tends to predominate, especially in the villages and small towns. In larger cities like Bratislava, where many expatriates and foreigners reside, revelers celebrate Halloween at the pubs in a more secular fashion. Havasová wrote that in 2002, pub employees wore masks and encouraged customers to come in costumes. The bar (*krčma*) served spooky drinks, such as Bloody Marys, voodoo cocktails, and *bosorkine prsia* (witch breasts). One bar it even staged a show of costumed women posing as eight dancing witches. Several other pubs held similar events on Halloween.

For Catholics, it is more fitting to emphasize the spiritual side of these Holy Days. Halloween can be a fun treat for children, and the adults dressing them up, if done in the right spirit. But after the little witches and goblins have gone away, we need to kindle in our families the spiritual side of early November.

When I was in grade school at St. Edward in Youngstown, Ohio, we children all used to dress us in white sheets on All Saints Day. We were remembering that God meant for us to be saints, and live accordingly. The good nuns had us march around the block in prayer, and one could imagine what it was like to see this massive wave of hundreds of children parading. It was quite impressive and those religious memories remain in my thoughts every November 1.

American Catholics are obligated to attend Mass on All Saints Day, and some still honor deceased loved ones on All Souls Day. For many of those who have passed before us are the very ancestors who left their homelands and came to America in search of a better life. Recite some very special prayers for them, and ask those who are saints to pray for us.

We might think about following some of these traditions in our families, which help keep our Slovak customs alive and give our children some reflective lifelong memories. Light candles for our ancestors, and remind our children and grandchildren of the spirituality we need to embrace, so that our faith become a living and growing tradition that will endure in an increasingly secular society.

1 Lillian Gallagher, "A Letter from the Slovak Republic: All Eyes Are on America,"

Retrieved on October 16, 2007 from <http://www.catholicerald.com/articles/00articles/slovak.htm>

2 "SR Slovensko atmosféra prípravy Sviatok všetkých svätých," TASR, October 31, 2010. Accessed October 15, 2012. http://195.46.72.16/free/jsp/search/view/ViewerFoto.jsp?Document=.%2F.%2FFondyF%2F10%2F10%2F20101031_TN100137419.1%40Foto&QueryText= . "Halloween vs. All Souls Day traditions," Slavija. October 29, 2007. Accessed October 15, 2012. <http://slavija.proboards.com/index.cgi?board=culture&action=display&thread=5458> .

3 "1. november - Sviatok všetkých svätých," retrieved October 23, 2007 at

<http://www.hnusta.sk/1-november-sviatok-vsetkych-svatych>

4 "Sviatky: Slávnosť Všetkých svätých," retrieved 23 October 23, 2007 at:

<http://www.isidorus.net/sk/modules.php?name=News&file=article&sid=216>

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

6 Ibid.

The author at the gravestone of his mother, Ann Kopanic, also at Calvary Cemetery.



Dr. Michael Kopanic, wife Rebecca, and daughters, Milenka Feighner and Erika Kopanic at the gravestone of the author's paternal grandparents at Calvary Cemetery in Youngstown, Ohio.



The cemetery in Kluknava, a village adjacent to Richnava, and home of the author's maternal grandfather, Stefan Susa.

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 22 & 23, 2012**



**In observance of
Christmas Eve and Christmas Day
December 24 & 25, 2012**



**In observance of
New Years Day
January 1, 2013**



Latest Carpathian Cookbook Available



The 14th edition of the Carpathian Cookery cookbook is now available for sale. The cookbook, which has sold nearly 14,000 copies, was requested by the Library of Congress to be in their ethnic cooking collection. The latest printing is 330 pages, and features a protective plastic cover. It includes sections on Christmas and Easter customs and recipes, traditional Rusyn and Slavic foods, other ethnic dishes, and many other "tried and true" recipes of St. John parishioners.

There is a variety of paska bread and kolachi (filled roll) recipes, as well as meatless dishes and Lenten recipes suitable for the Great Fast as well as the pre-Christmas Fast.

The cost of Carpathian Cookery in the US is \$14.00, plus \$3.00 postage and handling, for a total of \$17.00. If ordering from Canada, please send a \$20.00 US Postal money order payable in US dollars to reflect the difference in the exchange rate and postage costs.

Please send your check or money order to: Ethnic Craft Club, St. John Byzantine Catholic Church, 201 E. Main Street, Uniontown, PA 15401. For more information, call (724) 438-6027 or email carpathiancookery@gmail.com.



8 YEAR FLEXIBLE PREMIUM DEFERRED ANNUITY OR IRA

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FCSU Annuity policy owners now have an additional opportunity to earn increased interest earnings.

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The "8 Year Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity" will offer the highest annuity interest rate paid by FCSU. To receive the benefit of this product, the annuitant agrees not to withdraw funds for an eight year period from the date of issue. If the funds are withdrawn within the first year, the surrender charge is 8% of the amount withdrawn. Thereafter, the withdrawal penalty decreases by 1% each year through the eighth year. After the eighth year there is no longer a surrender charge. (Withdrawals before age 59 1/2 may be subject to a Federal Tax Penalty)

After the first year, emergency withdrawals are permitted from the "8 Year Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity" for up to 10% annually without a FCSU surrender charge. (Withdrawals before age 59 1/2 may be subject to a Federal Tax Penalty)

This is a can't-be-beat opportunity to earn extra interest on your long term annuity savings. Anyone who wants to take advantage of this opportunity to earn higher interest is eligible to participate.

Contact your local Branch Officer or the Home Office!

First Catholic Slovak Union ~ 6611 Rockside Road ~ Independence OH 44131
Phone 1-800-533-6682 fax 216-642-4310 Website www.FCSU.com



Upcoming United Slovak Societies Vilija in Lorain, OH

The United Slovak Societies will host a traditional Vilija dinner on Sunday December 9th, 2012 at the American Slovak Club, 2915 Broadway Avenue, Lorain, OH.

Cocktails 5:30, Dinner 6:00p.m.

Menu will include the American Slovak Club Ladies Auxiliary perch, sauerkraut soup, pierohi, oplatky, wine toast and more.

Slovak entertainment and cash bar available. Cost \$20.00pp

The event is open to the public

Advanced ticket sales only, Contact Len Zilko at 440/988-3236.

**Michele Mager, Secretary-United Slovak Societies
FCSU Br. 228; SCS Wr. 111; FCCLA Br. 114**

28th Christmas Concert and Dinner at Yonkers, N.Y. parish on December 9

Continuing in a time-honored and beloved tradition, Most Holy Trinity Parish in Yonkers, N.Y. will host its 28th annual Christmas concert and dinner on Sunday, December 9.

The concert will be presented at 3 p.m. in the church located at 18 Trinity Plaza, off Walnut Street in the historic Hollow section of Yonkers where the first Slovak immigrants settled nearly 125 years ago. The concert is under the direction of Stephen J. Knoblock, a member of Jednota Branch 41, who serves as Music Minister of the parish. The concert will feature an array of seasonal works by the choir of the parish. The voices of the choir, one of the finest choral groups in the Archdiocese of New York, will be accompanied by a 12-piece orchestra.

Following the concert a buffet supper will be served in the parish social hall. The dinner begins with the sharing of the Oplatky - the Christmas wafers. The menu will include feature Slovak culinary specialties, including halusky, pirohy, klobasy and kapusta along with roast loin of pork. Beer, wine and soda along with dessert are included in the dinner price. Tickets for the concert and dinner are \$35.00 for adults, prior to the deadline date of December 3 and \$40.00 after the deadline. Dinner tickets for children age 12 and younger \$17.50. For reservations call the rectory at tel. (914) 963-0720. Tickets are also available following the weekend liturgies in church on Saturday at 5 p.m. and Sunday at 9:30 a.m. Tickets for the concert alone are \$10.00. Members of Holy Trinity Society, Branch 41 which founded the parish in 1894, are serving on the Christmas dinner committee.



Lúčina NIGHT WITH THE MONSTERS

Friday, November 16th at 7:30pm

Quicken Loans Arena-Cleveland, OH

Come out and support Lúčina Slovak Folklore Ensemble as they perform in the SPOTLIGHT during the first intermission at the Lake Erie Monsters Hockey game!

Save \$7 on each ticket with this special offer!

A portion of every ticket sold through this special offer benefits Lúčina!

SPECIAL OFFER

\$12 Lower Ends

\$7 savings!

(\$19 game day ticket)



FEATURES

\$1 Hot Dogs & \$1 Sodas

Free Post Game Skate (must provide own skates)

\$7 Discount off game day value for

Lúčina Family & Friends!

Complete order form below and return with payment by November 1st to:
Lúčina Slovak Folklore Ensemble
P.O. Box 6431, Cleveland, OH 44101-6431
Or call Jessica at 216 420 2402 to order by phone



* Phone Orders or questions: Contact Jessica Naderer at 216-420-2402
Orders must be received by 4pm on November 1, 2012

| | |
|--------------------------------------------|-------|
| LOWER ENDS (R17-25) | Total |
| # OF \$12 TICKETS (\$19 game day value) | |
| TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED | \$ |

*If interested in discounted tickets closer to the ice, just ask!



NAME _____ DAY PHONE () _____
ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ ST _____ ZIP _____
EMAIL (REQUIRED- Seats cannot be issued without valid email address) _____

PAYMENT INFORMATION (Please select one)

PLEASE CHARGE VISA MASTERCARD AMERICAN EXPRESS DISCOVER
CARD# _____ EXP. DATE _____ SIG. _____
 CHECK/MONEY ORDER (MADE OUT TO THE LAKE ERIE MONSTERS)

METHOD OF DELIVERY:

ALL SEATS WILL BE DELIVERED VIA FLASH SEATS - Just swipe the credit card used to make the purchase (or Driver's License if paying with check/money order) at any arena gate to enter with ease and convenience. Flash Seats eliminates paper tickets and prevents lost or stolen tickets. You also have the ability to transfer seats at no cost.

Jessica Naderer W: 216-420-2402 E: jnaderer@lakeeriemonsters.com



LakeErieMonsters.com

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Jednota Crossword Puzzle

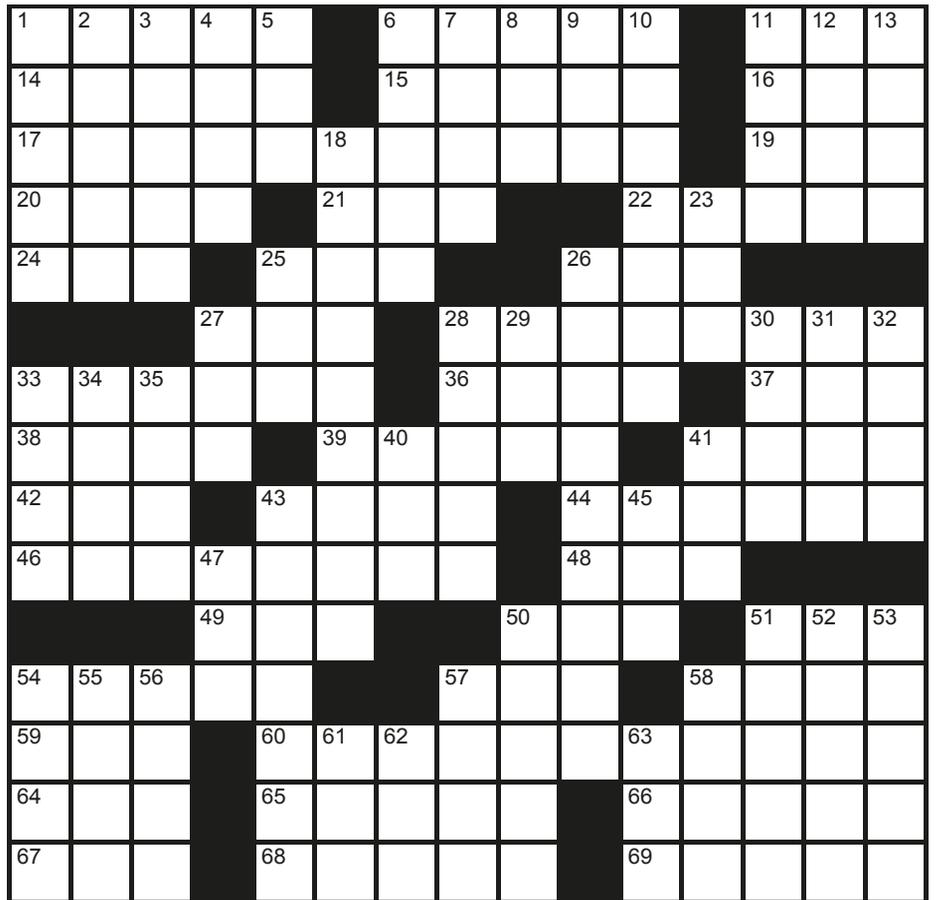
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I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).

See Solution on Page 15



Book Corner

Slovakia in pictures and stories

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Spectacular Slovakia

Slovakia is still, for many foreigners, hidden in the middle; however the 17th edition of the annual Spectacular Slovakia travel guide will help travellers to discover the country over the course of 2012 and 2013. It presents well and less-known tourist destinations in Slovakia, enriched by the experience of both national and foreign writers. The full colour 200-page publication was officially launched on World Tourism Day (September 27).

This year's edition also contains an exclusive 24-page photo-story entitled "Hidden in the Middle" by Chris Steele-Perkins – member of the prestigious photographic agency Magnum Photos and holder of several international awards.

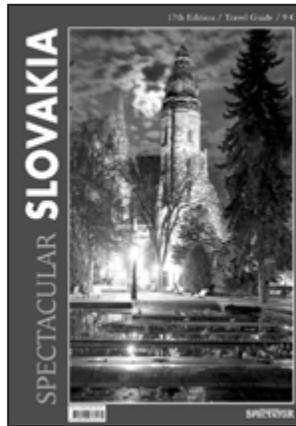
Mr. Steele-Perkins, a British photographer of world renown, can through his lens - usually in a single shot - capture more vitality, mystery and depth than could be contained in thousands of words. This famous photographer wasn't visiting Slovakia for the first time – he had the opportunity to get acquainted with our country in 2004, when he took photographs for a project mapping the 10 new countries of the European Union. Perkins said: "Some things had changed: there were whole new parts to Bratislava, but culturally, in the large sense of the word, it remained the same".

The authors of this year's Spectacular Slovakia have chosen a new approach to guide readers around the country's most interesting tourist sites: rather than follow the official administrative divisions of Slovakia they have created 18 tourism "hubs" or bases. These each have considerable tourism potential, featuring various spas, wellness centres, golf courses, and other tourist attractions. Traditionally, the publication contains contact details for a wide range of touristic attractions and offers all the information necessary to discover Slovakia.

The publication for season 2012/2013 was created by a team of 31 authors, 14 of whom are journalism students. The students' participation was based on a joint educational project by The Slovak Spectator and the Department of Journalism of Comenius University - "Get trained and then get published". The project was held for the second time and consisted of training and fieldwork for students under the supervision of experts and foreign editor Howard Swains. The project participants travelled to Slovakia's regions to prepare, under the supervision of editors, a detailed view of our country based on interviews with locals and foreigners living in Slovakia. Together young journalists created more than half of this year's Spectacular Slovakia. The whole project was made possible also thanks to the support of Orange Slovakia. The Pontis Foundation awarded the publisher of The Slovak Spectator, The Rock s.r.o., its Award for Socially Responsible Market Operations at the 12th year of the prestigious Via Bona Slovakia Awards, for the pilot project implemented in 2011.

The publisher of the 17th edition of Spectacular Slovakia was Ján Pallo, and the editorial team was led by editor-in-chief Beata Balogová. British journalist Howard Swains edited all the prepared materials. Together with Swains and the photographer Steele-Perkins, an American couple, Donald and Pat Stoll, contributed to the new travel guide. They share their experiences of visiting spas and golf resorts, as well as some other touristic destinations. They found Slovakia largely undiscovered by non-Europeans, which is OK from the more selfish traveller's point of view, but they added: "Still, we think the country needs to blow its own horn just a little bit louder".

Another American, Jeff Whiteaker, who has been living in Slovakia for several months, shares his perceptions of Bratislava and thus offers the possibility to see the Slovak capital through the eyes of a foreigner who would like to call the place home.



The new edition of Spectacular Slovakia guides readers around the country's most interesting tourist sites.

The Spectacular Slovakia 2012/2013 can be purchased directly in the reception of Petit Press at Lazaretská 12 in Bratislava, online at spectator.sk (www.spectator.sk/products) or martinus.sk; from the bookstores Panta Rhei, Eurobooks and Megabooks; and at selected newsstands and Interpress shops selling foreign-language literature around Slovakia. All subscribers to The Slovak Spectator weekly will receive a free copy as part of their subscription. Older editions of Spectacular Slovakia can be viewed at the website www.travel.spectator.sk, where online versions of the publications are available. Beside destination descriptions and original photography, the foreign journalists who wrote the previous editions also convey their experiences and practical observations from their travels across Slovakia.

About the project "Get trained and then get published"

The educational project "Get trained and then get published" was implemented by The Slovak Spectator for journalism students at the Journalism Department of Comenius University in the summer semester of 2012. The Pontis Foundation awarded the publisher of The Slovak Spectator, The Rock s.r.o., its Award for Socially Responsible Market Operations at the 12th year of the prestigious Via Bona Slovakia Awards, for the pilot project implemented in 2011. For the second year of the project experienced professional journalists and one renowned photographer shared their experiences and helped prepare students for real-life situations in the field. They walked the trainees through the whole process of story creation, from the birth of a story idea, through data collection, preparation for travelling, working with sources, data verification, and final revision of the edited product. Lectures and workshops by professionals from the international sphere and the Slovak media environment exposed the students to various journalistic skills such as working with text, photographs, and video material. After the theoretical part, the contributors travelled to all corners of Slovakia to visit museums, castles, and other sights, and to interview locals and tourists for additional travel tips. The results of their weeks of effort were, after fulfilling strict journalistic standards and taking into account remarks by their lecturers, included in the travel guide Spectacular Slovakia 2012/2013. Howard Swains, who was one of the instructors, also edited the prepared materials and authored a special part about Košice as a 2013 European Capital of Culture. The Get trained and then get published project was carried out thanks to the support of Orange Slovakia.

Of particular interest to the students involved in the project, was the opportunity to listen to the stories and observations of Chris Steele-Perkins, the world-famous British photographer and member of the prestigious photographic agency Magnum Photos. As well as helping to train the students, Mr. Steele-Perkins also prepared his own photo-story for Spectacular Slovakia. The students, after passing the theoretical training, got a unique opportunity to accompany him on a tour around Slovakia and watch him work on the exclusive photo-story which was published in the latest edition of the annual Spectacular Slovakia.

About Chris Steele-Perkins:

Chris Steele-Perkins, a member of the photographic agency Magnum Photos, was born in 1947. He is best known for his depiction of Africa, Afghanistan, England and Japan.

While studying psychology at the University of Newcastle upon Tyne he worked as a photographer and picture editor for the student newspaper. After graduation in 1970 he moved to London and started working as a freelance photographer, taking a particular interest in urban issues, subcultures and urban poverty. In 1973 he started his first foreign work in Bangladesh and worked for relief organisations. In 1975, he started working with EXIT, a group dealing with social problems in British cities. This involvement culminated in the book Survival Programmes in 1982.

In 1976 Chris Steele-Perkins joined the Paris-based Viva agency. Three years later he published his first solo book, The Teds, that is now considered a classic of documentary and even fashion photography. The same year, 1979, he joined Magnum Photos and soon began working extensively in

the developing world, in particular in Africa, Central America and Lebanon. His last large-scale project in the developing world was on the situation in Afghanistan. He is now also working extensively in Japan and England, and his latest book is Fading Light, on British people who have reached the age of 100.

His reportage has received high public acclaim and won several awards, including the Tom Hopkinson Prize for British Photojournalism (1988), the Oscar Barnack Prize (1988), the Robert Capa Gold Medal (1989), and the latest Royal Photographic Society Terrence Donovan Award (2008), among others. His photos have been published in Times, Newsweek, The Sunday Times, The Observer, The Guardian, The Independent, National Geographic Traveller, Condé Naste Traveller, Stern and Paris Match.

About Spectacular Slovakia:

Spectacular Slovakia is a travel guide about Slovakia which has been published annually since 1996 and records the real experiences of its authors and the places they write about. For the second time in its history, it was created based on a joint educational project of The Slovak Spectator and the Department of Journalism of Comenius University - "Get trained and then get published".

Spectacular Slovakia was published in a print run of 15,000 copies on 200 pages, where readers can find information on 302 interesting places in Slovakia and its border regions. This year's edition also contains an exclusive photo-story entitled "Hidden in the Middle" by famous photographer Chris Steele-Perkins. The whole project was made possible also thanks to the support of Orange Slovakia.



The Spectacular Slovakia staff in Bratislava Publication for season 2012/2013 was created by a team of 31 authors, 14 of whom are journalism students from the Department of Journalism of Comenius University in Bratislava.

“PAS’s” Performance at the New Jersey Slovak Festival for President Gašparovič of Slovakia

Angela M. Lipchick, Director of PAS

The Pittsburgh Area Slovak Folk Ensemble (PÁS) once again was invited to share some music and dance of “the old country” with audiences at the New Jersey Slovak Heritage Festival in

Holmdel, New Jersey, on Sunday, September 23, 2012. This year’s invitation was made even more special because of the opportunity to perform for the President of the Slovak Republic Ivan Gašparovič, who visited the festival to celebrate its 35th Anniversary.

PÁS, a group of first- through fifth-generation American Slovaks, presented a program of songs and dances from the Horehron region of Slovakia featuring the beauty and precision of their stamping and rhythmic movement.

The program opened with members of PÁS’ Junior Ensemble creating the atmosphere of the region by pretending to be sheep in the fields while women worked nearby. Soon, the celebration of spring and the flirting that begins after a long winter warmed up the stage as the Adult Ensemble began the lively program.

Highlighted by Horehronsky Dupak, in which young men and women compete to impress each other with unique dancing, and stamping “calls” to attract their romantic partner.

President Gašparovič told members of PÁS that the program was “Just beautiful!”

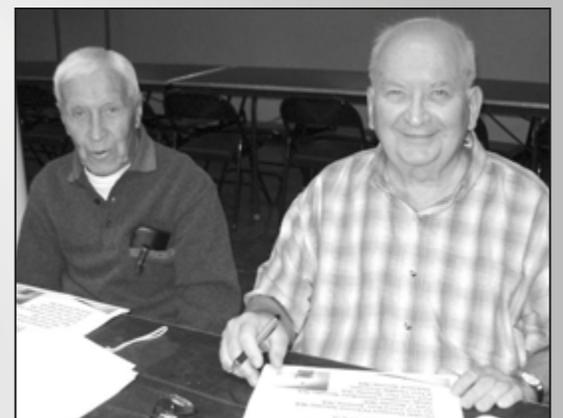
PÁS is proud to add this honor to its ever-lengthening list, which also includes performances at venues ranging from annual performances at Slovak Day at Kennywood Park in Pittsburgh to repeat invitations to participate in Disney World’s Performing Arts On-stage Program. PÁS was also invited to represent all Americans of Slovak descent in Det’va, Slovakia at the 44th Annual Folklorne Slávnosti Pod Poľana v Detve (Folklore Celebration below Poľana Mountain), and has performed in concert with the Pittsburgh Philharmonic Orchestra for its “Going Abroad” series.

For more information about the Pittsburgh Area Slovak Folk Ensemble (PÁS), visit <http://www.pasfolkensemble.com/index.html>.



Scenes from Sales Seminar on October 7th in Windber, PA

The First Catholic Slovak Union (FCSU) Membership and Marketing Committee held a Sales Seminar on Sunday, October 7, 2012. Starting at 1:00PM, the seminar was at SS Cyril & Methodius Church in Windber, PA. It was open to all officers in the Rev. John Martvon District 7, on both a district and branch level, as well as any FCSU member interested in learning about and selling the Society’s insurance and annuity products.



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For more info please contact your Branch Officer or the Home Office at 1-800-533-6682

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**Higher amounts available - please contact
your Branch Officer or the Home Office*

BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

BRANCH 1 – CLEVELAND, OHIO

The Saint Joseph Society Branch 1 will hold its next meeting on Wednesday, December 12, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the Sts. Cyril & Methodius School Hall, 12608 Madison Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio. We will hold our elections at this time. If you have any questions or are interested in attending, 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 Tuesday December 4, 2012 at 7:00 PM at Kretzlers located on 2240 Babcock Blvd. We will have election of officers and planning of events for 2013. All members are encouraged to attend. snacks will be served afterwards. Any questions call (412)-766-3222 We ask that you make a reservation by calling (412)-766-3222.

Joanne Lako, Secretary

BRANCH 3P – HAZLETON, PENNSYLVANIA

The 2012 annual meeting of THE Saint Joseph Society, Branch 003P, will be held at 9:15 am on Sunday November 11, 2012 in Saint Joseph's Church cafeteria at North Laurel Street in Hazleton, PA. Election of officers for 2013 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. Refreshments will be served. Come join us to offer your input for future success of our society.

Mike Koval, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 19 – BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 19K, will hold its breakfast meeting on Sunday, November 11, 2012. A Mass will be offered by Msgr. Joseph Pekar for our members at 8:30AM in St. 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 Scholarships will be awarded to the following college freshmen:

Sydney Ann Ciejak
Paul Kavanewsky
Adam Kocurek
Paul Joseph Monks
Emily Maria Nelson
Christopher Skolka

This scholarship was established in recognition of the many years John A. Zahor served as President of the St. Joseph Society and of 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:

Lauren Bruchansky
Daniel Kowalsky
Nicholas Kurec
Elise Kapitanec
Stephanie Johnson
Meredith Lorys
Lisa Quagliaroli

This grant was established in honor of Andrew J. Imbro for his many years as Financial Secretary of the St. Joseph Society.

The Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, December 9, 2012, at 9:30AM in St. Cyril and Methodius Church Hall, 79 Church Street, Bridgeport, CT. The election of officers 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

Branch 24, St. Andrew Society, will have a branch meeting/luncheon at 1:00PM, Sunday November

18, 2012 at the Old Town Hall, 6652 Brecksville Rd. (Rt. 21) in Independence. Parking is available behind the gazebo on the town square. The agenda will include the election of officers for 2013.

Please phone Activities Director Susan Lang at 216/896-0957 evenings after 6:00PM before Thursday November 15th, if you plan to attend.

Bob Kopco, President

BRANCH 38 – DUQUESNE, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 38, the Holy Trinity Society, will hold its annual meeting on Thursday, November 8, 2012, at the home of Secretary Florence Matta, 3409 Eisenhower Court, White Oak, PA. The meeting will begin at 7:30PM.

On the agenda will be a review of the financial report through September 30, 2012, branch activities for the year 2013, and any other discussion items that may develop. The annual election of officers for the year 2013 will be held.

Fraternally yours,

Florence K. Matta, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 41 – YONKERS, NEW YORK

The Holy Trinity Society, Branch 41KJ, will hold its Annual Meeting on Saturday, December 1, 2012, 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. Election of Officers for Branch 41KJ will take place. We urge all members to attend this meeting. Refreshments will be served.

Fraternally,

Florence Lutz, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 45- NEW YORK, NEW YORK

The St. Matthew the Evangelist Society, Branch 45, will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, December 9, 2012, at 12:30 p.m. 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 up coming year. The election of officers will also be chosen. We urge all members to attend this meeting.

Sincerely,

Maria Jurasi, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 60 – MCKEESPORT, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 60 will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, November 18, 2012 at 1:00 p.m. at the home of President Ann Wargovich, 58 Lilmont Avenue, Swissvale, PA. On the agenda will be officer's reports and discussion of branch activities. All members are urged to attend.

Fraternally,

Julie Perla - Branch Secretary

BRANCH 85 – BLAKELY, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Florian Society, Branch 85K, will hold a meeting on Tuesday, November 20, 2012, at 7:00PM at the Jessup American Legion Post 411, Church Street, Jessup, PA, for the election of officers. All members are asked to attend.

Bernard Skovira, President

BRANCH 157 – WHITEHALL, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Andrew Society, Branch 157, will hold a meeting on November 11, 2012 in the upstairs Jednota Hall, located at 5th & Grove, North Catasauqua, PA. The meeting will be for nomination of officers, and branch business. The meeting will begin at 1:00PM.

Gregory Harakal, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 169P – JOHNSTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Michael's Lodge, Branch 169P, will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, November 25, 2012, at the Slivasky residence, 1510 Emmett Drive,

Johnstown, PA, at 1:00PM. Election of officers and branch business will be discussed.

Betty Slivasky, Secretary

BRANCH 181 – UNITED, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 181 will hold a meeting on November 10, 2012, following the 5:00PM Mass at St. Florian. The meeting location is on church grounds, in the St. Florian Formation Building, 4262 Rt. 981, United, PA. On the agenda: election of officers as well as finalization of our Velija arrangements. All members are urged to attend. Refreshments follow the meeting.

Gerry Kovacina, Secretary

BRANCH 200 – FORD CITY, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 200 would like to announce our next regular meeting will be held on Thursday, November 1, 2012. We will have our "Nomination of Officers" AND "Election of Officers" meeting on Thursday, December 6th, immediately following the Officers Meeting which begins at 7:00 pm.

Fraternally,

Vicki Schaub, Secretary/Treasurer

BRANCH 200 – FORD CITY, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 200 would like to announce Nomination of Officers will be held on Thursday, November 1, 2012 at our regular meeting. Election of Officers will be held Thursday, December 6, 2012 at our regular meeting. All meetings are held in the club's Social Hall at 910-912 6th Avenue, Ford City, PA. Members are encouraged to attend the meetings which are held the 1st Thursday of each month except June or July. The regular meeting follows the officers and directors meeting which begins at 7:00pm. In the event of a holy day, the meeting will be held the 2nd Thursday of that month. Hope to see you there!

Fraternally,

Vicki Schaub, Secretary/Treasurer

BRANCH 259 - STRUTHERS, OHIO

The St. Michael the Archangel Society, Branch 259, will hold an Annual Meeting at the Bedford Trails Golf Course in Coitsville, OH, on Sunday, December 9, 2012, at 11:00AM. We will have an Election of Officers, followed by a discussion of plans for the coming year. All members are invited to attend.

We wish all members a Holy and Happy Holiday Season.

Vivian Sedlacko, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 266 – HAZLETON, PENNSYLVANIA

The annual meeting of Saint Peter and Paul Society, Branch 266, will be held on Sunday November 11, 2012 at 9:15 am in Saint Joseph's Church cafeteria at 604 North Laurel Street in Hazleton, PA. Officers will be elected for 2013, 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. Light refreshments will be served. Join us for a relaxing and hopefully refreshing experience.

Richard Lazar, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 276 - MCKEESPORT, PENNSYLVANIA

The St John the Baptist Branch 276 will hold its annual meeting on Sunday November 25, 2012 at Woody's restaurant on Walnut Street in McKeesport at 1:00 P.M. On the agenda will be reports from the officers and election of officers for 2013. We will be discussing charitable donations and new business for the coming year. All members are invited to attend.

Fraternally

Nancy Gerdich, Rec. Secretary

BRANCH 320 – BELLE VERNON, PENNSYLVANIA

The officers of the SS Peter & Paul Society, Branch 320, invite their members to attend the

branch's next meeting and Christmas luncheon on Saturday, December 8, 2012, at 1:00PM, at Rego's Restaurant in Charleroi, PA. There will be no cost to members; however, there will be a \$10.00 charge for nonmembers. 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 1, 2012, and let your know if you will be attending.

Mary Anne Higgenbotham, President

BRANCH 367 – FAIRCHANCE, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Joseph's Branch 367, Fairchance, PA, will hold a meeting on Monday, November 26, 2012 at 5:00PM at the IHOP Restaurant, 702 Walmart Drive, Uniontown, PA. A review of yearly and new projects will be discussed. Anyone wishing to attend please call Audrey Balazik, President at 724-438-3887, or Kathryn Baranek, Secretary at 724-569-1006.

Kathryn Baranek Secretary

BRANCH 372 – BEAVERDALE, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 372 of Beaverdale, will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, December 2, 2012, at 2:00PM. The meeting will be held at the home of President Michael P. Hudak, Sr., 829 Cameron Avenue, Beaverdale, PA. The agenda for the meeting will include a review of financial reports and election of officers for the year 2013.

Respectfully,

Michael P. Hudak, Sr.

BRANCH 380 – CANONSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Ignatius Society, Branch 380KJ, will hold its annual meeting and lunch on Sunday, October 28, 2012, at 2:30PM at Kings Restaurant, Canonsburg, PA.

Fraternally,

Margaret Graytok, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 382 – SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA

Saints Cyril and Methodius Society, Branch 382 of Scranton, Pennsylvania, will hold its Annual Fall Meeting on Sunday, November 4, 2012. Members will gather at noon in the VFW, 110 Chestnut Street, Dunmore, Pennsylvania.

On the agenda will be Officers' reports, District 17 report, information from the home office, donations, and future activities. Election of officers for 2013 will take place. Refreshments will be served.

All members are encouraged to attend.

Elizabeth M. Slovenkai, Vice President

BRANCH 393 – HANNASTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Joseph Branch 393 will hold a meeting on Sunday, December 2, 2012, at 1:00PM. The meeting will be at Hoss's Steak & Sea House, Rt. 119 Greensburg, PA, 15601. All members are welcome. For reservations, please call Mary Ann Navelanko at 1-724-834-6386.

**Mary Ann Navelanko,
Financial Secretary/Treasurer**

BRANCH 410 UNIONTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The SS. Peter and Paul Society, Branch 410, will hold a meeting on Thursday, December 13, 2012, at 4:00 p.m. at Bob Evans of Uniontown, Route 40 W, Uniontown, PA. The agenda will include the election of officers for the year 2013. All members are invited to attend.

Geri Buchheit, Recording/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

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BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Christmas Luncheon following, on Saturday, November 24th, 2012. Location: Mabenka's Restaurant, 7844 South Cicero Avenue, Burbank, IL 60459.

At 1:30 pm, members will gather for a period of fraternal fellowship with refreshments. 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) 558-5956 or (502) 244-6643 by November 20. Members of other FCSU lodges who attend will pay via separate check.

Robert Tapak Magruder, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 587 – ALQUIPPA, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 587, will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday, November 4, 2012, at 2:00PM at Alexander's Restaurant, 720 Merchant Street, Ambridge, PA.

The election of officers will be held. All members are welcome to attend. For reservations, call 1-724-375-2287 by October 29, 2012.

Edith Valo, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 595 – MUSKEGON, MICHIGAN

The Muskegon Heights Branch will hold elections of officers on December 16, 2012, at the Hall, 2526 6th Street, Muskegon Hts., MI, 49444.

The November meeting will be held on the 18th, at 2:00pm.

Branch 595 will be starting "All you can Breakfast" on October 28th, 2012 starting at 8:30. Best in town!!

We need your help locating several members:

- Rose Dawson
- David Harley
- Sherri Mierendorf

If you have any information on these people please contact Branch 595 at 733-7525.

Laura Karafa Recording Secretary

BRANCH 628 - MUNHALL, PENNSYLVANIA

A meeting of Branch 628, St. Michael Archangel will be held on Sunday, November 25, 2012, at 4:00 PM at 141 Bellevue Drive, Penn Hills, PA.

The agenda will include ongoing business of the branch and the election of officers for 2013.

Sylvia J. Vehec, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 633 – FLINT, MICHIGAN

The Sacred Heart of Jesus Society, Branch 633, will hold its annual meeting at 1:00PM Saturday, November 17, 2012, at Teppanyaki Grill & Buffet at G-3583 Miller Road in Flint (former Old Country Buffet) by the Target store. All members are asked to attend.

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, December 9, at 11:30AM at King's Restaurant located in Bentleyville. On the agenda will be the election of officers. Members are urged to attend.

Dorothy Petrus, President

BRANCH 731 - YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

A Noon Mass for deceased members of Saint Joseph Branch 731 will be celebrated on December 16, 2012 at Saint Matthias Church, 915 Cornell Street, Youngstown, Ohio.

Our annual meeting will follow at the Saint Matthias Rectory. The agenda includes the election of officers for 2013.

Please try to attend.

Jim Bobby, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 743 – STERLING HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 743 will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, December 9 2012, at 1:00 p.m. On the agenda will be Officer Report, a 2012 financial report, approval of the 2013 budget, discussion of branch activities, 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.

**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 9, 2012 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 2013, as well as discussion of activities for the next year. A holiday get together will follow the meeting. Please call Mary Karch @ 732-572-2331 if you plan on attending.

Mary J. Kapitan, Secretary

BRANCH 764 - WARREN, OH

Branch 764 held their meeting on August 29, 2012 at Bella Women's Center. Plans were discussed for the upcoming breakfast scheduled at St. Elizabeth Seton (194 Laird Avenue NE, Warren, OH) on November 4. On the menu will be donuts, fruit cocktail, egg strata, sausage, potatoes, with coffee and juice.

The breakfast at St. Mary & St. Joseph Church in Newton Falls on September 16 following the 9:30am Mass was well attended.

Our October 17 meeting was held at 10:30am at Bella Women's Center, 1192 North Park Road, NE, Warren, OH. On the agenda was the nomination of officers for 2013 and suggestions for future activities. Election of officers will be held following the breakfast at St. Elizabeth Seton on November 4.

A Mass at St. Elizabeth Seton on October 28 at 9:30am for the living and deceased members of the Branch has been scheduled.

All members are encouraged to attend.

Joy Brunetti, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 784 – MONTREAL, QUEBEC

Sts Cyril and Method Society, Branch 784, will hold its annual meeting on November 4, 2012, following the 10.00am Mass at Sts Cyril and Method Parish Hall, Montreal, Quebec. On the agenda will be election of new officers and the social calendar for 2013. Refreshments will be served. Please keep your date open for November 25, 2012. We will be having our annual Christmas dinner following the

10.00am Mass at the Parish Hall. All members and friends are invited. Please call the committee members by November 10, 2012 for reservations.

Alice Dobrik, President

BRANCH 796 – EGYPT, PENNSYLVANIA

The Holy Trinity Society, Branch 796, will hold its Annual meeting on Sunday Nov. 11 at 1pm in the church basement of Holy Trinity R.C. Church Egypt, PA. All members are invited to attend. Sokol Branch 255 will also be in attendance for this meeting. We will be selecting delegates to attend the next district meeting and discuss charitable donations for the upcoming year. Slovak food and drink to follow the meeting. God Bless.

Jerry Lloyd, Secretary

BRANCH 853 – CHARLEROI, PENNSYLVANIA

Attention all Branch 853 members. The annual meeting of the branch 853 will take place on Monday November 26 3pm at Regos restaurant in Charleroi, PA.

We will again be celebrating the birth of Our Lord with friendship at our annual spaghetti dinner. There is no cost for branch members, and a cost of \$16 for non-branch members. Elections will be held.

Members are asked to bring their fraternal activities list for 2012.

Please leave a message at 412-341-1577 with your name and how many people will be attending.

All members are encouraged to attend.

Monica Rodacy-Boone, President

BRANCH 855 – PARMA, OHIO

Branch 855 will hold an Officer's meeting on November 11, 2012 @ 1:30PM at the home of President Mike Kolesar. The agenda shall include preparations for the Annual Membership meeting, a review of current year activities, and a discussion of activities for 2013.

Linda Kolesar, Secretary-Treasurer

BRANCH 855 PARMA, OHIO

Branch 855 will hold its annual membership meeting on November 18, 2012 @ 2:00PM at Carrie Cerino's Ristaraunte; 8922 Ridge Road; North Royalton, Ohio. Agenda shall include a discussion of next year's branch activities, election of officers for 2013, and a report of 2012 activities.

All members are encouraged to attend.

Please RSVP to Linda Kolesar at 440-886-0206 by November 11, 2012.

We look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

Linda Kolesar, Secretary-Treasurer

BRANCH 856 – WASHINGTON, DC

Branch 856 will hold their next meeting on Saturday, December 8, 2012, at 1:00PM at the home of Recording Secretary Marion Mistrik at 4513 Gladwyne Drive, Bethesda, MD, 20814. On the agenda will be future branch activities, election of officers, Treasurer's report, report on attendance at the Mass held in honor of our Slovak Chapel. All branch members are invited to attend. For information, call Marion Mistrik at 301-654-5638 or Katherine Nowatkoski at 703-860-1693.

Katherine Nowatkoski, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 888 – WEST PALM, FLORIDA

The Holy Trinity Society, Branch 888, will hold its next meeting on Wednesday, November 7, 2012, at 5:15PM 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, election of officers, Treasurer's report, and items of mutual interest to the membership. All branch members are invited to attend.

David Rafaidus, President



Keeping the Keys

[Helping Extend Your Safe Driving Career]

On Sunday, November 11th, 2012 between 1 and 3pm AAA Michigan safe driving experts will conduct a safe driving seminar. While this course is specifically designed for drivers 50 and over, it is helpful for all drivers as it teaches the very latest changes in highway safety and signage. Only classroom instruction will be offered and no test drives are required. This seminar is free and open to the public.

Sandra Maxwell of AAA Michigan will conduct this class at the St. Patrick Church Adult Meeting Room, 9086 Hutchins Street, White Lake, Michigan 48386.

This seminar is sponsored by Branch 633 of the First Catholic Slovak Union of the United States and Canada. Anyone needing more information can call Branch 633 President Robert Kristofik @ 248-444-9141.



Reminder...

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 email address for articles is fcsulifeeditor@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.

Readers are reminded that all address changes for the JEDNOTA newspaper must be done at the Home Office in Independence, Ohio. If you have an address change, a cancellation or wish to receive the paper, write to: First Catholic Slovak Union, FCSU Home Office, 6611 Rockside Rd., Independence, OH 44131-2398. Phone 1/800-JEDNOTA; fax at 216/642-4310 E-mail: FCSU@aol.com

DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISTRICT 4 – MSGR. JOHN E. RURA DISTRICT – NEW JERSEY

The next semi-annual meeting of the Msgr. Rura District of New Jersey will be held on Sunday, November 18, 2012 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 RSVP to Joe Minarovich @732-469-5256 by November 4th. Refreshments will be served.

Mary J. Kapitan, Secretary

DISTRICT 6 – PITTSBURGH DISTRICT

The Pittsburgh District of the FCSU will hold its annual Fall/Winter meeting on Sunday, December 2, 2012. The meeting will include officers' reports, discussion of district business and planning for 2013. Officers for 2013 will be elected at this meeting. Please note that there is a time change - the business meeting will start promptly at 12:00 noon. Luncheon will be served at 1:30. You won't miss the game. The Steelers play at Baltimore & the kick-off is at 4PM.

While we look forward to seeing everyone at the FCSU district meeting, remember there are many other local Slovak events that also merit your attention:

** 30th Annual Dinner-Dance benefiting the Western PA Slovak Radio Hour, on Saturday, October 6, at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Center on Carson Street in Pittsburgh's South Side. The event features a "Ties with Tradition" Apron Parade. Donations of prizes or baked goods are welcome. Tickets are \$35 per person if purchased by September 12, or \$40 afterward. Cash bar opens at 5 PM. Contact Sue Ondrejco at 412-421-1204 for more information. Don't forget to listen to the Slovak Radio Hour Sundays 3-4 PM at WPIT AM73.

** 29th Slovak Language Classes, every Tuesday, September 4 through October 30, at the Brashear Association, 2005 Sarah Street, Pittsburgh. Call Joe at 412-956-9000 during office hours for information about reservations and fees.

** WPSCA monthly meetings will start again after the summer recess on Monday, October 1 at 7 PM at the Mt Lebanon Public Library. Meetings are the 1st Monday of each month. Margaret Nasta will be speaking on December 3 on "Finding Your Slovak Immigrant Before and After World War One."

** 2nd Slovak Beer Tasting on Saturday, October 13 at 1 PM at Penn Brewery on Pittsburgh's North Side. Tickets are \$30 per person & attendance is limited to 50. Call Joe at 412-956-9000 during office hours for information.

** 22nd Annual Slovak Heritage Festival will take place on Sunday, Nov 4, Pitt Cathedral of Learning, 12-5 PM. Admission is free. The event features Slovak music and food, lectures on Slovak culture, and many vendors with Slovak items for sale.

Anyone with additional Pittsburgh area Slovak events that they wish to be included in our district notice should send information to manasta@verizon.net
Fraternally,

Margaret A. Nasta, Secretary Pittsburgh District

DISTRICT 9 – FRANK T. HOLLY, JR. DISTRICT

The Frank T. Holly, Jr. District will hold a meeting on Sunday, November 4, 2012, at 1PM, which will be at K2 Engineering Building, 234 Pittsburgh Road. Members are invited to attend.
Fraternally,

Barabara A. Holly, Secretary

DISTRICT 12 – MSGR. ANDRE HLINKA DISTRICT

On Sunday, December 9, 2012, at 1:00PM, a meeting of the Msgr. Andre Hlinka District will be held at Kings Restaurant in Bentleyville. On the agenda will be the election of officers. Members of the various branches are urged to attend.

Frances Tarquinio, Secretary

DISTRICT 20 - PRINCE RASTISLAV DISTRICT – MONTREAL

The Prince Rastislav District will hold its annual meeting November 4, 2012 in the parish hall of Sts Cyril and Method following the 10.00 am Mass. Branches 784 and 810 are encouraged to send representatives. Election of officers and social calendar for 2013 will be discussed.

Refreshments will be served.

Alexander S. Dobrik, President

OBITUARIES

BEATE KORFONTA BRANCH 856 – WASHINGTON, DC

Beate Korfonta (nee Bauer) of Fairfax, VA, died on October 7, 2012 as a result of a massive stroke. She was preceded in death by her loving husband, John A. Korfonta, who passed in November 1980. She was born in North Bavaria, Germany and studied to become an actress at the Munich Academie of Fine and Performing Arts during WWII. She met her husband while working in Frankfurt, Germany in the Displaced Persons Commission after the war. She immigrated to the United States in 1951.

Devoted mother to sons John H. and Michael M., she worked as a full-time Senior Beauty Consultant for Estee' Lauder Cosmetics in Woodward & Lothrop retail since 1966. Upon retirement in 1989, she became avidly interested in oil painting. She exhibited her paintings at shows and with the former Moser Gallery in Fairfax, VA. Survivors include her sons; daughter-in-law Judy; and granddaughters, Kathryn, Sarah, and Kristen. Friends visited at Fairfax Memorial Funeral Home, Fairfax, VA, on Wednesday, October 10 from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Grave-side Service was private.

Beate was a member of Branch 856, which was founded and organized by her late husband John. Attending the wake was Stephen Matula, Branch President, and Katherine Nowatkoski, Branch Financial Secretary.

- Submitted by Katherine Nowatkoski, Financial Secretary

SISTER M. AQUINA, SS.C.M.

Sister M. Aquina (Irene Ann Kolodziej), 93, died at Emmanuel Center, Danville, on Wednesday, September 19, 2012. Born in West Leissenring, PA, on January 18, 1919, she was the daughter of Joseph and Sophia (Dvornicky) Kolodziej.

She attended Henry B. Endicott School and graduated from Union Endicott High School, Endicott, NY. Sister received a B.S. in Education from Marywood University, Scranton, PA, and a Master's in Education with a concentration in Reading from Boston College, Boston, MA.

On September 29, 1941, Sister entered the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Danville. She was received as a novice on August 17, 1942, and made her first profession of vows on August 16, 1944.

Sister Aquina taught for over 50 years in Grades K-6 in parish schools in Connecticut, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania and South Carolina. She also served as superior/principal. In March 1995 at the recommendation of parents of students at St. Joseph School, Endicott, New York, Sister Aquina was one of three teachers in the Syracuse Diocese receiving a "Teacher of the Year" award. In 1998 after leaving full-time teaching, Sister continued her ministry at St. Joseph School, Endicott, New York, as Director of the After-School Program, teacher aide, library assistant and teacher of remedial reading. In 2004 she took up residence at Maria Hall in Danville.

Funeral services were held at Maria Hall on Saturday, September 22. The transfer of the body and recitation of the Rosary took place at 8:30 A.M. followed by a Wake Service at 10:00 A.M. The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at 11:00 A.M. The Reverend Gerard Heintzelman was the celebrant and homilist.

Sister Aquina was preceded in death by her parents and six siblings, among them the Reverend Alfred Kolodziej, O.F.M. Cap. She is survived by a sister, Mrs. Elizabeth Pinto, Fort Lauderdale, FL, and nieces and nephews.

SISTER MARY VINCENT O'NEILL

Sister Mary Vincent O'Neill, a Sister of Charity of Nazareth, died peacefully October 8, 2012 at the age of 87. She served God and the Church for 67 years as an educator and in later years as an LPN in the Dioceses of Pittsburgh, Greensburg, and Mobile, Alabama. Sister was predeceased by parents, Hugh and Teresa (Sheehan); and by her sister, Teresa Dohlin. She is survived by sisters, Eugenia Lane, Margaret Gilliard, and Catherine O'Neill; and brothers Father Hugh O'Neill and Daniel O'Neill, many nieces, nephews and their families, friends, and all her Sisters of the SCN Community. Friends were received at St. Louise Convent, Pittsburgh, PA on Sunday, October 14, 2012 from 2-8 p.m. The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated by her nephew, Msgr. Thomas Bolin on Monday, October 15, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. in St. Louise Convent Chapel. Burial followed in the Sisters' cemetery

Reminder For All Branches

Among the requirements to complete in order to qualify for your branch stipend, under Bylaw Section 14. RULES GOVERNING LOCAL BRANCHES, is the following:

14.01 General Rules

a) Branch and district meetings must be held in the close proximity of the hub of its members. The meetings shall be held at least semiannually, one of which must be for the elections of officers, who shall assume their duties upon election. **Notice of each of these meetings shall be published in the Official Organ at least thirty (30) days in advance of such meeting.**

Answer to Puzzle

Solution to Puzzle from page 7

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News From Slovakia

Slovakia Plans to Open Three New Diplomatic Mission Offices Abroad

Bratislava, October 3 (TASR) - Slovakia is expected to open three new embassies in Moldova, Tunisia and the United Arab Emirates, according to a Foreign Affairs Ministry report on the situation of Slovak diplomatic mission offices abroad in 2012 submitted at the Government session on this date.

Slovakia is the only V4 country not to have a diplomatic mission in Moldova, and has so far dealt with questions related to Moldova via the country's embassy in Romania, which is viewed as insufficient by the ministry.

The need to open the missions in Tunisia and United Arab Emirates has stemmed chiefly due to economic reasons.

Conversely, Slovakia will close its embassy in the Malaysian capital Kuala Lumpur, with the powers entitled to the office transferred to another representative Slovak office in the country.

In addition, according to the report Slovakia won't open a general consulate in Manchester (the United Kingdom), the establishing of which was approved by the previous government of Iveta Radicova (2010-12) in 2011. The current administration of the Foreign Affairs Ministry claims that such a project will be too financially demanding.

Slovakia to Pay €264 million to ESM in Cash by Mid-October

Bratislava, October 3 (TASR) - Slovakia will send its first two cash payments to the European Stability Mechanism (ESM) worth almost €264 million in total by October 12 and disburse another three installments of the subscribed share capital of €396 million within 2013 and 2014, the Government approved on this date.

The ESM overall capital is divided into two parts: first is the paid-in capital (€80 billion), with Slovakia contributing almost €660 million (in cash) divided into a number of installments. Second is the capital subscription, which has been calculated to reach €5.786 billion in Slovakia's case - from the overall subscribed ESM share capital of €700 billion.

Slovakia is to gain the money needed for ESM's in-paid capital via issuing government bonds. The installments will not have an influence on the deficit of public finances, but will increase Slovakia's state debt.

The European Stability Mechanism (ESM) may be viewed as something like the European monetary fund, said Slovak Finance Minister Peter Kazimir in Luxembourg later on Monday, October 8, 2012, after the inaugural meeting of ESM, attended by 17 Eurogroup ministers.

"Time has shown that old institutions alone don't suffice for us ... and that we need something like a European monetary fund. A year ago, this idea seemed to be unrealistic, but today it has become true," said Kazimir concerning the mechanism, which is believed to ensure stability in the eurozone.

Another three installments of the subscribed share capital of €396 million in total will be paid within 2013 and 2014.

According to Kazimir, when it comes to accounting, the capital provided for ESM will only change its form. "We've become a shareholder of ESM. From our point of view, it's an investment, thanks to which ... we'll have the right to receive dividends," he said.

Slovak Financial Sector Recorded Revival in First Half of 2012

Bratislava, October 3 (TASR) - The Slovak financial sector recorded a revival in the first half of 2012, with most segments reaching a more significant rise in assets compared to the second half of 2011, according to a central bank (NBS) report approved by the Government on this date.

The banking and insurance sectors in 1H12 recorded a y-o-y (year-over-year) fall in profitability on equity after significant growth in 1H11. Conversely, profitability was up in the sectors of collective investment and pension saving.

The debt crisis had a more moderate effect on the Slovak financial sector in the first six months of 2012. The negative effects on the prices of governmental bonds was reduced, while it is governmental bonds that represent the main link of the domestic financial sector to foreign financial markets. Conversely, indirect effects of the debt crisis were still in place, mainly in the form of economic slowdown in the eurozone and ongoing uncertainties on foreign financial markets.

Slovakia's economic growth was strong enough in 1H12 to enable bank clients able to pay their obligations towards banks. On the other hand, the growth wasn't that robust to provide a significant impetus vis-a-vis lending to companies and households, which decelerated over the first six months of 2012.

The first half of 2012 also brought some material legislative changes concerning the financial sector, among them the introduction of the bank levy and amendment to the pension saving system.

Also, the effects of the Act on Collective Investment - enabling new categories of special shares funds to be created - that was adopted in 2011 were more visible in 2012.

One in 20 Employees Paid Millionaire's Tax in 2011

Bratislava, October 4 (TASR) - The so-called millionaire's tax concerned one in 20 Slovaks working full-time in 2011, Postova Banka announced on this date.

"The millionaire's tax is understood as a gradual decreasing of non-taxable part of the tax base of an employee, whose average annual tax base exceeded €18,538 - so, those who earned at least €1,773 per month gross," the bank stated.

According to the statistics, one in 14 employees aged 30-39 earned more than €1,800 per month last year. This also applied to around 6 percent of employees aged 40-44.

The millionaire's tax especially concerned university-educated people, with 16 percent of the graduates paying the tax.

When it comes to sectors, 26 percent of people working in the sphere of IT and communications were obliged to decrease their non-taxable tax base, as well as 23 percent of those working in financial and insurance sectors and 16 percent of people employed in energy supplies. "In the sphere of education, only 8 percent of employees saw a sum higher than €1,800 on their pay slips," Postova Banka added.

Kremnica Mint Granted Contract for Guatemalan Coins

Bratislava, October 4 (TASR) - The National Bank of Guatemala (Banco de Guatemala) has concluded a contract with the Slovak mint in Kremnica (Banska Bystrica region) and Dutch mint Koninklijke Nederlandse Munt worth \$8.1 million (€6.3 million), TASR was told by the Slovak Foreign Affairs Ministry on this date.

The Slovak mint will be responsible for minting 210 million Guatemalan coins with a nominal value of \$3.453 million (€2.66 million) in total.

In addition, the Slovak company also has a chance to strengthen its position on the Central American market if it also gains the contract for minting 240 million Honduran coins, according to the ministry.

Americans in Slovakia Can Vote in Presidential Election on November 6

Bratislava, October 5 (TASR) - A lively and typically American ambience greets voters at the advanced polling station opened at the American Embassy in Bratislava on this date for this year's presidential election.

As TASR was told on Friday by American Consul Nikolas M. Trendowski, Americans can vote in every election from destinations all around the world. For that to happen, the Embassy provides American compatriots with the necessary information and sends them ballots by post to be filled out and cast in the ballot box. "Our main task is to provide information," said Trendowski, adding that most frequently asked question from Americans living in Slovakia concerned ways how they can vote from abroad.

The polling station was opened on Friday, a month before the November 6 official election date, as diplomatic post takes time to deliver the filled ballots across the Atlantic Ocean. Registered American voters received e-mail to inform them about the option of exercising their right to vote at the embassy.

There are approximately 1,600 American citizens living in Slovakia, with their numbers usually swelling in the summer. They can be found in American companies active on the Slovak market, mostly in managerial positions.

President: Knowledge-based Society Mustn't Be About Decorations

Bratislava, October 9 (TASR) - President Ivan Gasparovic emphasised the importance of knowledge-based society at the Swiss-Slovak symposium dedicated to the value of innovations which was held on this date.

According to Gasparovic, such a society should be based on knowledge and not so called 'decorations'. "It's not about certificates, which, although recently swelling in number, bring only minimal added value to society," claimed Gasparovic in his speech addressing symposium-goers in Bratislava.

Gasparovic sees the significantly higher Swiss expenditures on education and science as the reason behind the country claiming top spots on knowledge-based economy development charts. Conversely, the fact that Slovakia lags behind most EU countries in this field can be attributed also to low expenditures on education of Slovaks.

"Our Swiss friends understand better that educational and research institutions can substantially contribute towards the generation of wealth in a country," said the President. He praised Swiss people for their respect for knowledge, themselves and the beauty of their country.

Gasparovic also claimed that natural sciences can't provide solutions to the most pressing issues of the contemporary era, particularly those in socio-economic field.

Sviatok Všetkých svätých

Mesiac november charakterizujú návštevy cintorínov, zapalovanie sviečok na hrobch našich blízkych a modlitby za ich duše. Tento čas nás často naplnia istým druhom smútku, reflexie, spomienkami. V tomto mesiaci si zároveň Katolícka cirkev pripomína dva významné sviatky: 1. novembra to je sviatok Všetkých svätých. Cirkev už po stáročia spája so sviatkom Všetkých svätých nádej na vzkriesenie. To je 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 sviatku Všetkých svätých.



FOTO TASR

Cintorín v obci Horovce, okres Michalovce, počas Sviatku všetkých svätých.

All Saints Day in the village cemetery of Horovce near Michalovce, Slovakia.

Sviatok Všetkých svätých sa prvýkrát slávil 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. Pápež Gregor III. (731-741) zmenil slávenie Všetkých svätých z 13. mája na 1. novembra, keď v Bazilike sv. Petra slávnostne vysvätil kaplnku k úcte všetkých svätých. 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 sviatok Všetkých svätých dňom pracovného pokoja. Na sviatok Všetkých svätých nadväzuje sviatok Pamiatky na všetkých verných zosnulých – ľudovo nazývaný Dušičky.

TK KBS

Košice obdivovali desiatky zahraničných veľvyslancov

Centrum mesta Košice s Dómom sv. Alžbety obdivovali v polovici októbra veľvyslanci zo 46 krajín sveta akreditovaní na Slovensku v rámci návštevy košického regiónu, ktorý organizoval slovenský rezort diplomacie. Veľvyslancov sprevádzal minister zahraničných vecí SR Miroslav Lajčák. V rámci programu sa veľvyslanci stretli s košickým primátorom Richardom Rašim, oboznámili sa s investičnými projektmi EHMK a navštívili firmu U. S. Steel.

“Cieľom akcie je prezentovať zahraničným diplomatom naše regióny a napomôcť budovaním kontaktov, naznačiť investičné možnosti a predstaviť kultúrny i spoločenský život v jednotlivých častiach Slovenska,” uviedol Lajčák. “Tento rok sú destináciou Košice a okolie, pretože metropola východu sa v roku 2013 stane Európskym hlavným mestom kultúry.” Podvečer sa veľvyslanci zúčastnili na otvorení fotografickej výstavy “Košice, Európske hlavné mesto kultúry 2013, očami diplomatov” v átriu Fakulty teológie Košice.

Na záver dvojdňového programu sa ďalej diplomati stretli s predsedom Košického samosprávneho kraja Zdenkom Trebulom, navštívili Trebišovské vlastivedné múzeum, ako aj vínnu pivnicu vo Veľkej a Malej Trni. Pravidelné diplomatické stretnutie každoročne organizuje Ministerstvo zahraničných vecí a európskych záležitostí SR v niektorom slovenskom regióne.

TASR

Slovensko prispeje na výstavbu nového sídla NATO

Slovenská republika prispeje v priebehu nasledujúcich piatich rokov na výstavbu nového sídla NATO sumou 7.36 milióna eur. Na návrh rezortu diplomacie o tom rozhodol vládny kabinet.

Financie na nové sídlo Severoatlantickej aliancie pôjdu z rozpočtu ministerstva zahraničných vecí. Už v budúcom roku by to malo byť asi 1.9 milióna eur a v roku 2014 zhruba 2.8 milióna eur. Riešenie financovania výstavby a zariadenia národných priestorov je ohraničené rokom 2017, kedy je naplánované ukončenie projektu a presťahovanie NATO do nového sídla.

To súčasne bolo postavené v roku 1967 pre vtedy 15 členských štátov. V súčasnosti má NATO 28 členov. Náklady na plnohodnotnú rekonštrukciu sídla, ktoré musia odrážať aj požiadavky na nové technológie, by podľa rezortu diplomacie výrazne presiahli náklady na výstavbu nového objektu. Na konečnej podobe vnútorných priestorov Stálej delegácie SR pri NATO spolupracujú ministerstvá zahraničných vecí, obrany, Slovenská informačná služba a Národný bezpečnostný úrad SR.

TASR

ZEMI AKY

Zemiaky sú pre nás, akoby druhý každodenný chlieb, dar to Boží, vyprosený z našich úprimných modlitieb. Zemiaky – zemiaky, akoby sme mohli bez nich žiť? Celý svet, by bol odsúdený hladovať, alebo len živorit’.

Preto vďaka Ti Bože, za skromné, slovenské zemiacky, čo pre nás pripravia, naše šikovné gazdinky – mamičky. Zemiaky rastú nám, veľké-biele, ružové, malé-modravé, rastú nám na Slovensku, dolniakoch, či chudobnej Orave.

Chutia nám, či uvarené, upečené, usmažené, s kyslým mliekom, cesnakom, slaninou, oškvarkami, klobásou, sú našim liekom. Keď na jeseň, sa kopali zemiaky na poli a my šarvanci, sme ich vybrali z horúcej pahreby, boli sme veselí, šťastní, akoby na hody.

Nik neochorel, ani nik nemal bolenie brucha, každému chutili, či bol mladý, starý a či mladucha. Dakujeme Ti Bože za zemiaky „Náš druhý-každodenný chlieb“, vymodlený, vyprosený, z našich úprimných modlitieb.

Jozef Smák

Putovanie po regiónoch Slovenska

Región susediaci s Maďarskom a Ukrajinou, sa nachádza na východoslovenskej nížine. Okrem Slovákov žije tam aj početná rusínska, ukrajinská a maďarská menšina a podľa religiozity sú to: rímskokatolíci, gréckokatolíci, protestanti a kalvíni.

Srdcom regiónu sú Michalovce na rieke Laborec so starobylým dvojkrídlým kaštieľom zo 17. storočia, v ktorom je múzeum a gotickým rímskokatolíckym kostolom zo 14. storočia.

Neďaleká obec Pozdišovce je známa ručnou výrobou rôznej keramiky s charakteristickým maľovaným dekorom. Južné svahy okolitých pahorkov sú bohato pokryté vinicami. Turistami je hojne navštevovaná Zemplínska širava označovaná ako „Slovenské more“, ktorá poskytuje výborné podmienky pre vodné športy a rekreáciu. Obec Borša je známa tým, že sa tam narodil uhorský cisár František II. Rákoczi, vodca posledného uhorského povstania proti Viedni.

V pohraničnej slovensko-maďarskej oblasti sa už od 13. storočia pestuje vinič, z ktorého sa vyrábajú znamenité suché a sladké vína značky TOKAJ, ktoré sa uskladňujú v hlbokých až 16 metrov tufových a pieskovcových pivniciach.

Viaceré obce ako Zalužice, Zamutov, Hrabina, Vinica... sú známe folklórnymi a charakteristickými pestrofarebnými krojmi s krátkymi riasenými sukňami žltej, červenej, zelenej, bielej a modrej farby. Folklórny súbor Zemplínčan je známy aj v zahraničí.

Obec Zalužice sa spomína aj v obľúbenej piesni: *Ej, zalužicki poľo s ružami okolo. Ej, nehodno ku mne prisc počeseňe moja...*

V tomto regióne, v obci Veľký Ruskov, sa narodil aj Štefan Boleslav Roman, ktorý emigroval do Kanady a stal sa tam uránovým veľkopodnikateľom. Bol zakladateľom a prvým predsedom Svetového kongresu Slovákov.

Viaceré obce majú v názve tento región, napr.: Zemplín, Zemplínsky Klečenov, Zemplínske Jastrabie, Zemplínske Hradište Zemplínske Hámre, Zemplínska Teplica...

(Pokračovanie)

Andrej Štelmák, Sliac



Kaštieľ v Michalovciach



Pozdišovská keramika



Zemplínska širava

V Bratislave medzinárodná konferencia: Kultúra života - kultúra pre život

Konferencia biskupov Slovenska a Fórum života pozývajú odborníkov a laikov na medzinárodnú konferenciu s názvom Kultúra života - kultúra pre život. Konferencia sa koná pri príležitosti 20. výročia 2. svetového kongresu za život v Bratislave a 15. výročia okrúhleho stola o demografickej situácii v SR. Konferencia sa uskutoční dňa 27. októbra 2012 v Bratislave.

V roku 1992 na svetovom kongrese za život v Bratislave vystúpili také osobnosti svetového pro-life hnutia akými boli Dr. Bernard Nathanson z USA, autor svetoznámeho filmu o realite potratu s názvom Nemý výkrik či Prof Jérôme Lejeune, nositeľ Nobelovej ceny za objavenie príčiny Downho syndrómu. Konferencia bude príležitosťou obzrieť sa za dvadsaťročným vývojom na Slovensku a vo svete, ale taktiež nahliadnuť do perspektív budúcnosti.

Organizátori pozývajú všetkých záujemcov, ale zvlášť je to jedinečná príležitosť pre mladých oboznámiť sa s historickým vývojom kultúry života za posledných 20 rokov.

TK KBS

Oznámenia spolkov a okresov IKSJ

Výročná členská schôdza Spolku sv. Štefana č. 716 IKSJ, NYC

Oznamujeme všetkým členom Spolku sv. Štefana č. 716 Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty, že v nedeľu dňa 21. októbra 2012 o 9:30 hodine dopoludnia sa uskutoční Výročná členská schôdza vo farskej hale Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého 411 East, 66th Street v New York City.

V programe schôdzy je podanie finančnej správy, voľby úradníkov na rok 2013 a diskusia o návrhoch na ďalšiu činnosť. Vyzývame všetkých členov, aby sa tejto dôležitej schôdzy zúčastnili. Po schôdzy sa bude podávať občerstvenie.

Ostávam s kresťanským pozdravom

Henrieta H. Daitová, tajomníčka

Výročná členská schôdza Okresu Štefana Krasul'u IKSJ

Oznamujeme všetkým členom, že výročná členská schôdza Okresu Štefana Krasul'u, Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty sa bude konať v nedeľu dňa 21. októbra 2012 o 1:00 hodine odpolednia v osadnej hale Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého v New York City, 411 East 66th Street, 1st Avenue, NYC po slovenskej svätej omši, ktorá sa začína o 11:00 dopoludnia.

Prosíme predsedov všetkých spolkov, ktoré patria do nášho Okresu, aby poslali čo najviac delegátov. Upozorňujeme, že aj nedelegáti sú vítaní. Na programe bude podanie finančnej správy, budú prevedené voľby úradníkov na rok 2013 a príprava činnosti na budúce obdobie.

Po skončení výročnej členskej schôdzy bude SEMINÁR, ktorý usporiada Hlavný úrad Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty – predseda, alebo podpredseda, pravdepodobne aj sekretár Jednoty.

Po týchto dvoch podujatiach sa bude podávať bohaté občerstvenie, ktoré pripravila členovia Spolku sv. Štefana č. 716 IKSJ. Variť bude Janko Škrkoň.

Ostávam s kresťanským pozdravom

Henrieta H. Daitová, tajomníčka

Posedenie Okresu Princa Pribinu v Los Angeles, Kalifornia

Okres Princa Pribinu pripravuje pri príležitosti sviatku Všetkých svätých slovenskú svätú omšu v nedeľu 28. októbra 2012. Oslava začne o 2:00 hodine poobede svätou omšou v kaplnke sv. Jána Bosku pri St. John Bosco High School, 13640 S. Bellflower Bl., Bellflower, CA 90706, ktorú bude slúžiť otec Pavol Sochuľak z Ontária. Pri tejto príležitosti si pripomenieme v modlitbách pamiatku Všetkých svätých a milovaných zosnulých. Po svätej omši bude nasledovať spoločné posedenie s priateľmi pri káve a šiškách a dobrej slovenskej hudbe. Všetky obvody v okolí pozývame na príjemné posedenie.

Pavol Skubeň, predseda

Výročná schôdza Spolku sv. Matúša č. 45 IKSJ

Oznamujeme našim členom, že výročná schôdza sv. Matúša číslo 45 Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty v New Yorku bude v nedeľu 9. decembra 2012 o 12:30 hodine poobede (po slovenskej svätej omši) v osadnej hale Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého First Avenue a 66th Street. Na programe budú správy úradníkov, finančné správy, zhodnotenie činnosti za uplynulé obdobie, za tým budú nasledovať voľby do nového výboru, ktorý vypracuje program činnosti na ďalšie obdobie. Úctivo Vás žiadame o účasť na tejto výročnej členskej schôdzy.

Ďakujem s pozdravom

Maria Jurasi, pokladníčka

Tanečná zábava v Perth Amboy, New Jersey

Slovenské kultúrne stredisko usporiada Katarínsku tanečnú zábavu v sobotu 24. novembra 2012 vo farskej hale kostola St. Nicholas 320, Washington Street v Perth Amboy, N.J. Večera začne o 7.00 hodine večer. Pozývame verejnosť, aby sa prišla medzi nás zabaviť. Do tanca bude hrať Slovenská hudobná skupina Kontakty. Cena za osobu je \$ 30.00 dolárov v čom je zahrnutá aj večera. Prosíme návštevníkov, aby prišli načas. O zakúpenie lístkov a bližšie informácie volajte na tieto tel. čísla: Ján Dračulín (908) 541-0372; Mary Karch (732) 572-2331. Dovidenia na zábave.

Za Slovenské kultúrne stredisko

Mary Karch



Benediktíni oslavujú 90. výročie pôsobenia v Clevelande

Benediktínski mnísi z Opátstva sv. Andreja Svorada v Clevelande, OH usporiadajú dobročinné podujatie, ktoré je venované 90. výročiu ich pôsobenia v Clevelande. Podujatie sa začne v nedeľu 4. novembra svätou omšou vďakyvzdania o 12:15 hodine v Kostole Nanebovzatia Panny Márie na nasledovnej adrese: 9183 Broadview Road v Broadview Heights, OH 44147.

Cena vstupeniek je \$ 65.00 za osobu. Záujemcovia, ktorí sa podujatia nemôžu zúčastniť, môžu opátstvu venovať finančný dar. Šeky majú byť vystavené na St. Andrew Abbey a zaslané na adresu: 10510 Buckeye Rd. Cleveland, OH 44104. Rezervácia vstupeniek do 22. októbra na tel. č. (216) 721-5300, ext.0, alebo (216) 228-8179.

Stretnutie Slovákov s prezidentom SR Ivanom Gašparovičom

Prezident Slovenskej republiky Ivan Gašparovič bol od 22. – 27. septembra na pracovnej návšteve USA, počas ktorej sa zúčastnil 67. zasadnutia VZ OSN v New Yorku. V nedeľu 23. septembra navštívil Holmdel, New Jersey, kde sa zúčastnil 35. Festivalu slovenského dedičstva. So záujmom si prezrel stánky s propagačnými a pamiatkovými suvenírmi zo Slovenska ako aj stánky dodávateľov potravín, kde nechýbali slovenské jedlá ako sú bryndzové halušky so slaninou a slovenské koláče. Pán prezident sa zúčastnil vystúpenia slovenských tanečných súborov a vypočul si krásne slovenské piesne v podaní operného speváka Rada Lesaya.

Niektorí Slováci a členovia prípravného výboru Festivalu slovenského dedičstva mali možnosť sa stretnúť so vzácnym hosťom – slovenským prezidentom Gašparovičom na recepcii, ktorá sa konala pre krajskú komunitu v rezidencii Stálej misie Slovenskej republiky pri OSN v New Yorku.



Niektorí členovia výboru Festivalu slovenského dedičstva spolu s prezidentom SR Ivanom Gašparovičom. Na snímke zľava: Jana Konzelmann, Henrieta H. Daitová, prezident Ivan Gašparovič, Nina Holá, Mária Juráši a v zadu stojaci Karol Vida.

Na snímke Henrieta a Milan Dait spolu s prezidentom Ivanom Gašparovičom počas recepcie Stálej misie SR pri OSN v New Yorku.

Oslava narodenín administrátora kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého v N.Y.C.

Ďalším milým podujatím, na ktoré boli pozvaní farníci a priatelia Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého bola oslava narodenín nového administrátora tejto farnosti, otca Štefana Chanasu.

Oslava sa konala v nedeľu 30. septembra vo farskej hale kostola, kde prítomným podujatie spestrila aj slovenská hudobná skupina Pajtáši, ktorá hrala do tanca a na počúvanie.

Henrieta H. Daitová
tajomníčka Výboru slovenského festivalu
a Spolku sv. Štefana č. 716 IKSJ



Rodina Daitová gratuluje otcovi Štefanovi Chanasovi k jeho narodeninám.



Oslávencovi otcovi Štefanovi Chanasovi prišla zahrať hudobná skupina "Pajtáši".



Členovia Spolku sv. Štefana č. 716 IKSJ pri stretnutí na oslavách narodenín. Zľava: Anna Bilik, Jozef Bilik, Marta Cataláno, otec Štefan Chanas, Serafína Šulák a v zadnom rade zľava Veronika Pachová a Milan R. Dait.



Slovenský festival na Pittsburghskej univerzite

Ako každoročne tak aj toho roku University of Pittsburgh Slovak Studies usporiada už v poradí 22. Festival slovenského dedičstva. Podujatie sa bude konať v nedeľu 4. novembra 2012 v Cathedral of Learning Commons Room v Oakland Pittsburgh, PA., od 1:00 hodine až do 5:00 hodine popoludní. Počas Festivalu sa budú predávať klobásky, halušky, pirohy a domáce koláče. Usporiadatelia odporúčajú tým, ktorí vlastia kroje aby v nich prišli oblečení.

V kultúrnom programe sa predstavia slovenské folklórne súbory Pittsburghskí Slováci a súbor PAS. O bližšie informácie volajte Chris Metil na tel. čísle: (412) 624-5906

Krátke správy zo Slovenska

• **Konferencia** biskupov Slovenska (KBS) spustila novú verziu webovej stránky www.kbs.sk, ktorá sa zakladá na princípe poskytovania informácií a aktuálnych dokumentov zo života katolíckej cirkvi doma i vo svete. Nový web nahrádza stránku, ktorá bola spustená v roku 2005. Web KBS obsahuje viac ako tisíc verejne prístupných dokumentov zo života Katolíckej cirkvi na Slovensku i vo svete a stovky dokumentov pápežov. Nový rozmer elektronickej komunikácie je postavený i na práci s viacerými odkazmi na iné katolícké internetové stránky.

• **Obchody** na Slovensku zostanú počas štátnych sviatkov otvorené, a to aj napriek prvotnému plánu vládneho Smeru zatvoriť ich. Od predloženia takéhoto návrhu do novely Zákonníka práce (ZP) prerokovávanej v Národnej rade Smer definitívne ustúpil po debáte poslaneckého klubu.

• **Po** polročnej misii ISAF v Afganistane sa nedávno vrátilo do vlasti 123 slovenských vojakov. Armádni profesionáli boli súčasťou strážnej jednotky, chránili tam vojenský tábor. Na letisku ich hneď po príchode vyznamenal minister obrany Martin Glváč. Podľa Glváča v najbližšom čase sa rozhodne, či slovenskí vojaci v Afganistane ostanú v tých pozíciách, ako doteraz, alebo sa presunú do iných teritórií. Ako ďalej uviedol náčelník generálneho štábu Ozbrojených síl SR Peter Vojtek, misia síce končí v roku 2014, ale to ešte neznamená, že spojeneckí vojaci z Afganistanu nadobro odídu. "Misia sa z bojovej mení na podpornú. My tam už dnes máme tímy, ktoré pracujú na tejto podpore. Cvičíme napríklad afganských vojakov a policajtov tak, aby boli schopní viesť zodpovedne vlastnú krajinu," konštatoval.

• **Krátky** slovenský film Posledný autobus režisárskej dvojice Martin Snopek a Ivana Laučiková zbiera aj rok po premiére ocenenia na medzinárodných filmových festivaloch. Dve ocenenia - The Golden Octopus Prize za najlepší medzinárodný krátky fantastický film a Cenu študentskej poroty v rovnakej kategórii - získal 22. septembra na Strasbourg European Fantastic Film Festival. Špeciálne uznanie za najlepší slovanský stop-motion film udelili snímke 10. septembra na festivale Stoptrik v Maribore. Tieto ocenenia ho oprávňujú uchádzať sa o Cenu americkej akadémie Oscar v kategórii krátky animovaný film. Spoločnosť feel me film, ktorá film vyrobila, už odoslala do Los Angeles oficiálnu prihlášku. Slovensko bude v tejto kategórii súťažiť vôbec prvý raz.

• **Vzdelávaním** personálu ubytovacích zariadení pokračoval v uplynulých dňoch veľký projekt slovensko-poľskej cezhraničnej spolupráce Klastra Liptov a Biura promocji Zakopaného v oblasti cestovného ruchu pod príznačným názvom Tatry spoločne. Vo významných destináciách dávno pochopili, že nestačí stavať nové lanovky, hotely, akvaparky, mimochodom, v tomto roku sa na Liptove investovalo do cestovného ruchu neuveriteľných 52 miliónov eur, ale treba investovať aj do ľudí, ktorí vytvárajú atmosféru prostredia, kam sa chodí za oddychom. Ak nie je personál pripravený poskytnúť prívetivú pohostinnosť, ani zlaté lanovky a posteľe to nenahradia.

• **Milovníci** dobrého vína budú mať opäť možnosť nazrieť do pivníc malých i stredných vinárov malokarpatského regiónu. Trinásť ročník Dní otvorených pivníc sa uskutoční 16. a 17. novembra. Pre tých šťastných, ktorí si vstupenky na toto obľúbené podujatie zakúpili včas, sa opätovne otvorí, tento rok rekordných 140 pivníc od Bratislavy až po Trnavu. Malokarpatská vína cesta v sebe spája niekoľko fenoménov - víno, krajinu, históriu a gastronómiu oblasti rozloženej medzi Bratislavou a Trnavou ako veľkými centrami juhozápadného Slovenska. Medzi nimi ležia tri menšie vinohradnícke mestá Pezinok, Modra a Svätý Jur a desiatky vinohradníckych obcí.

• **Na** Slovensku je voľných 6,476 pracovných miest. Ako vyplýva zo štatistík Ústredia práce, sociálnych vecí a rodiny (ÚPSVaR) SR, takýto počet bol voľný ku koncu júla tohto roka, pričom najviac ich zaznamenal Bratislavský kraj (1,351). Po ňom nasledovali Nitriansky (801), Trnavský (1,065), Prešovský (826), Trenčiansky (705), Žilinský (639) a Banskobystrický kraj (560). Najmenej neobsadených voľných pracovných ponúk bolo v Košickom kraji (529). Spolu však ku koncu augusta evidovali na úradoch práce niekoľkonásobne viac ľudí, než je voľných miest, a to takmer 400,000 uchádzačov o zamestnanie. Na jedno neobsadené pracovné miesto tak pripadá takmer 62 evidovaných nezamestnaných.

• **Ustanovujúci** slovenský rekord padol v piatok 28. septembra na pivnom festivale Beerfest. Júlia Hurná zo Slovenského združenia výrobcov piva a sladu si prevzala certifikát o rekorde po tom, ako sa na prípitok použilo 61 druhov piva. Zo Slovenských rekordov, na Beerfeste svoje produkty prezentovalo celkom desať pivovarov. Išlo o pivo fľaškové, plechovkové a čapované zo Slovenska, Česka, Nemecka a Holandska. Po spočítaní jednotlivých druhov piva vzorky rozniesli medzi návštevníkov festivalu a na pokyn moderátora sa uskutočnil spoločný rekordný prípitok.

• **Byť** starý a chorý je zlá kombinácia. Penzie, ktoré berú slovenskí dôchodcovia, v priemere 400 eur u mužov a 315 u žien, nestačia na pokrytie nákladov v domovoch sociálnych služieb. Niektorí seniori majú šťastie, ak sa dostanú do zariadení, kde z väčšej časti prispieva štát, iným pomáhajú deti. Našli sa aj takí, ktorí sa rozhodli žiť v sociálnom zariadení a dokážu si finančne pomôcť. Novým trendom v Bratislave je to, že penzisti prenájmajú svoje byty a odchádzajú žiť do domovov pre seniorov, kde je o nich postarané.

• **Slováci** chcú superbiznis, ako je Zimná olympiáda v Tatrách. Miliónové zisky, vybudovanie ciest, obnova letiska či moderné ubytovacie zariadenia. Slováci chcú do Tatiev dostať zimné olympijské hry v roku 2022. Slovensko by najväčší športový sviatok usporiadalo s Poľskom. Už vo Varšave sa začali prvé rokovania medzi oboma krajinami o spoločnom projekte. V najbližších dňoch sa možnosť uskutočniť na Slovensku olympiádu dostane aj na rokovanie parlamentu. Oficiálnu kandidatúru musia s Poľskom uzavrieť do roka a pol.

• **Asi** 980 miliónov eur by malo stáť dokončenie diaľnice D1 od Košíc po ukrajinskú hranicu. Vláda koncom septembra rozhodla o príprave výstavby. Súčasťou D1 bude aj obchvat Michaloviec. Prvú etapu chcú odštartovať už v roku 2014. Celú stavbu diaľnice plánujú dokončiť v roku 2020. Podľa vlády totiž infraštruktúra pomôže regiónu. Práve prepojenie košického kraja a okresov rýchlostnými cestami chýba tejto časti Slovenska.

• **Najviac** zahraničných Slovákov sa vo svojom rodnom jazyku učí v Maďarsku (3,600), Srbsku (3,062), nasleduje Rumunsko (494) a Poľsko (153). Národnostné školy, kde sa deti krajanov môžu učiť po slovensky, sú aj v Chorvátsku či na Ukrajine. Vyplýva to zo Správy o stave vzdelávania Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí a o postavení slovakistiky na univerzitných pracoviskách, kde pôsobia vyslaní lektori slovenského jazyka a literatúry. Lektori sú do zahraničia vysielaní na základe medzinárodných bilaterálnych dohôd medzi ministerstvami oboch krajín.

TASR a slovenské časopisy

Najromantickejší hotel v Európe je na Slovensku

O veľkom úspechu pre Hotel Château Béla a slovenskú Asociáciu historických hotelov rozhodla prestížna organizácia Historic Hotels of Europe so sídlom v Paríži.

Hotel Chateau Béla sa stal víťazom kategórie "Najromantickejší historický hotel v Európe". O tomto veľkom úspechu pre hotel a slovenskú Asociáciu historických hotelov rozhodla prestížna organizácia Historic Hotels of Europe so sídlom v Paríži na svojom výročnom zasadnutí v írskom Dubline (9. 10.). Hotel Chateau Béla, ktorý sa nachádza v obci Belá na južnom Slovensku, získal toto ocenenie spomedzi 700 hotelov z 22 krajín Európy.

"Hotel Château Béla je vďačný a zároveň hrdý na toto prestížne ocenenie od Historic hotels of Europe. Je to uznanie a hodnotenie exkluzívneho a sofistikovaného zážitku z histórie a skutočne krásneho romantického prostredia nášho hotela," uviedla na margo ocenenia majiteľka päťhviezdičkového hotela Ilona Gräfin von Krockow.

Historické hotely Slovenska združujú tie najkvalitnejšie zariadenia svojho druhu na Slovensku, čoho dôkazom je aj fakt, že získali najviac nominácií na celkový počet členov v európskom porovnaní. Ako uviedla prezidentka asociácie Historické hotely Slovenska Daniela Gloss Miháliková k európskemu úspechu, "cieľom slovenskej asociácie je ukázať, že kvalitou patríme k špičke v Európe. Som veľmi rada, že vytvárame pozitívny imidž Slovenska ako zážitkovej krajiny s históriou, ktorá má čo ponúknuť".

Historické hotely Slovenska boli založené v septembri 2009. Jedenástimi členmi sú Chateau Béla (Belá), Hotel Bankov (Košice), Kaštieľ Péchy - Lovecký Dom a Park (Hermanovce), Kaštieľ Villa Nečas (Žilina), Hotel Sandor Pavillon (Piešťany), Hotel u Leva (Levoča), Hotel Sebastián (Modra), Hotel Amade Chateau (Vrakúň), Hotel Hviezdoslav (Kežmarok), Castel Pension & Restaurant (Mierovo). Historické hotely Slovenska sú členom prestížnej európskej asociácie Historic Hotels of Europe.

TASR

Prečo mám rád slovenčinu, prečo mám rád Slovensko

Ministerstvo školstva, vedy, výskumu a športu Slovenskej republiky, Ministerstvo kultúry Slovenskej republiky, Štátny pedagogický ústav, SPN – Mladé letá, Matica slovenská, Vydavateľstvo Maticy slovenskej, Spolok slovenských spisovateľov, Jazykovedný ústav E. Štúra SAV a Úrad pre Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí vyhlasujú 21. ročník celoštátnej literárnej súťaže s medzinárodnou účasťou PREČO MÁM RÁD SLOVENČINU, PREČO MÁM RÁD SLOVENSKO. Cieľom súťaže je podchytiť, rozvíjať a prehĺbiť záujem detí a mládeže o slovenčinu a Slovensko, o významných dejateľov Slovenska a svojho kraja, o miestne spoločenské a kultúrne problémy a nárečia formou slohových úloh, pokusov o umelecké vyjadrenie myšlienok v podobe prozaických žánrov a básní.

Tento ročník sa bude niesť v znamení 1150. výročia príchodu Konštantína a Metoda na naše územie, 165. výročia prijatia Žiadosti slovenského národa v Liptovskom Mikuláši, 150. výročia založenia Maticy slovenskej, 95. výročia prijatia Deklarácie slovenského národa v Martine a 20. výročia vzniku Slovenskej republiky. V roku 2013 si pripomenieme aj viaceré výročia významných osobností v dejinách slovenského národa – 220. výročie narodenia Jána Kollára, 200. výročie úmrtia Antona Bernoláka, 200. výročie narodenia Samuela Tomášika, 185. výročie narodenia Pavla Dobšinského, 160. výročie narodenia Jozefa Škultétyho, 150. výročie narodenia Jána Čajaka, st., 125. výročie narodenia Martina Rázusa, 110. výročie narodenia Fraňa Kráľa a 90. výročie narodenia Kristy Bendovej.

Do súťaže sa môžu zapojiť žiaci všetkých typov a druhov základných, špeciálnych a stredných škôl na území Slovenskej republiky prostredníctvom škôl a iných subjektov a v zahraničí prostredníctvom spolkov, organizácií, škôl a vzdelávacích centier Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí.

Organizačný poriadok súťaže ako aj celé znenie vyhlásenia súťaže sú uverejnené na internetovej stránke Štátneho pedagogického ústavu www.statpedu.sk a na internetovej stránke Ministerstva kultúry SR www.culture.gov.sk (v sekcii *působnost' ministerstva*, v kapitole *štátny jazyk*, v časti *súťaž Prečo mám rád slovenčinu*).

Vybrané súťažné práce do celoštátneho kola treba zaslať do 1. marca 2013 v štyroch exemplároch na adresu: Matica slovenská, Krajanské múzeum Maticy slovenskej, Mudroňova 1, 036 52 Martin, Slovenská republika alebo na mejlovú adresu domhronskeho@matica.sk.

Zaujímavosťou o súťaž môžu získať **ďalšie informácie** o súťaži v Štátnom pedagogickom ústave (spu@statpedu.sk, tel. číslo: 02/49276111). **Slávnostné vyhlásenie výsledkov 21. ročníka súťaže bude 13. júna 2013 (streda) v Nových Zámkoch.**

doc. PaedDr. Viliam Kratochvíl, PhD., riaditeľ Štátneho pedagogického ústavu



Foto: TK KBS/ Michal Stržinec

Čičmany ako prvá farnosť v Nitrianskej diecéze privítala vo štvrtok 4. októbra 2012 relikviu sv. Cyrila na jej ceste po Slovensku. Vzácná relikvia bude v nasledujúcich mesiacoch putovať po všetkých 17. dekanátoch starobylého biskupstva.

On October 4, 2012, the parish church in Cicmany was the first place in the Diocese of Nitra to receive the relics of Saint Cyril. The relics will be brought to all the deaneries in the Nitra Diocese.



Katolícky fraternalistický dvojtýždenník

Jednota

O. Štefan Furdek
Náš zakladateľ

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

Ročník 121

STREDA, 24. OKTÓBRA 2012

Číslo 5872

50. výročie Druhého vatikánskeho koncilu



FOTO TASR/AP - Andrew Medichini

Presne po päťdesiatich rokoch (12. októbra 1962) od otvorenia II. vatikánskeho koncilu prešla 11. októbra Námestím sv. Petra procesia účastníkov liturgickej slávnosti ako spomienka na sprievod koncilových otcov. Zapojili sa do nej všetci synodálni otcovia, ktorí boli v týchto dňoch na biskupskej synode, predsedovia všetkých biskupských konferencií z celého sveta a 14 konciloví otcovia. Na snímke pápež Benedikt XVI. (vpravo) pozdravuje veriacich na námestí sv. Petra vo Vatikáne vo štvrtok 11. októbra 2012.

Pope Benedict XVI, at right on his pope-mobile, arrives to celebrate a mass marking the 50th anniversary of the Second Vatican Council, in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican, Thursday, Oct. 11, 2012. Benedict, after celebrating mass, greeted churchmen, including a dozen original Vatican II participants, re-enacting the great procession into St. Peter's that launched the council in 1962.

Na Slovensku prípravy na jubilejné 25. výročie Sviečkovej manifestácie

Vzdať hold odvahe tisíckam obyčajných ľudí, ktorý pred 25 rokmi napriek veľkému riziku stáli na námestí so zapálenými sviečkami v modlitbe proti vodným delám a obuškom Verejnej bezpečnosti, chcú organizátori jubilejného 25. výročia Sviečkovej manifestácie. Vyplýva to z ich prvého prípravného stretnutia, na ktorom sa v utorok 9. októbra zišli v priestoroch sídla Konferencie biskupov Slovenska v Bratislave. Predstavitel'ov viacerých organizácií zvolalo Fórum kresťanských inštitúcií (FKI), ktoré spomienku na 25. marca 1988 posledné roky organizuje.

„Pripomínanie si sviečkovej manifestácie nemá byť sterilnou nostalgickou spomienkou niekoľkých pamätníkov. Chceli by sme, aby aj generácia našich detí rozumela tomu, že sloboda nie je samozrejmosťou a priestor slobody si musíme chrániť a zveľaďovať,“ povedala o význame manifestácie členka predsedníctva FKI Katarína Hulmanová. Sprievodné podujatia, ktoré organizácie chystajú budúci rok v marci, majú podľa nej osloviť najmä mladých ľudí a sprostredkovať im trvalý odkaz Bratislavského veľkého piatku.

Téma Sviečkovej manifestácie rezonovala v septembri i na vedecko-didaktickom seminári „Barbarstvo ducha III. Cesta k slobode“, na ktorom sa zišli učitelia z celého Slovenska. O najvýznamnejšom verejnom prejave odporu voči komunistickému režimu hovorili predstavitelia FKI aj s hosťami z Ruska a organizácie Open Doors z Holandska. Manifestácia bola v minulosti spojená s brutálnym zákrokom verejnej moci proti pokojnej demonštrácii za náboženskú slobodu. Vyvolala masívnu reakciu médií a verejnosti v demokratických krajinách a predznamenala pád totality.

TK KBS

Slovensko na Európskej noci 2012

Už piaty ročník spoločnej prezentácie kultúr a kulinárskych špecialít krajín Európskej únie „Euro Night sa uskutočnil v piatok 28. septembra 2012. Prehliadku, ktorá sa teší vysokému záujmu návštevníkov z Washingtonu, DC, a okolitých štátov – najmä Virginie a Marylandu – organizuje na svojej pôde každoročne veľvyslanectvo Francúzska. Slovenské veľvyslanectvo na tohtoročnej „Euro Night 2012“ predstavilo historické pamiatky a prírodné krásy Slovenska ako aj tradičnú kuchyňu. Ukážky slovenskej folklórnej hudby prezentoval fujarista a pišťalkár Bob Rychlík.

Podľa odhadu organizátorov sa na „Euro Night 2012“ zúčastnilo približne 1,600 návštevníkov. Výťažok zo vstupného slúži na financovanie ďalších spoločných prezentačných aktivít krajín EÚ v USA - napr. májový deň otvorených dverí ambasad členských krajín EÚ alebo blížiaci sa októbrový festival venovaný detskému divákovi pod názvom „Kids Euro Festival“.

MZV SR

Slovenská študentka na zasadnutí OSN

Na zasadnutí Valného zhromaždenia OSN v New Yorku 9. októbra 2012 o potenciále mladých ľudí hovorila študentka architektúry Milena Dudášová z Pečovskej Novej Vsi. Je totiž tohtoročnou zástupkyňou slovenskej mládeže v rámci programu Mladí OSN.

Spolu s ďalšími mládežníckymi delegátmi v rámci Tretieho výboru, ktorý sa venuje mládeži, formulovala postoje a tlmočila názory mladých ľudí. Zasadanie tohto výboru je jednou z možností, ako môžu mladí ľudia ovplyvniť rozhodnutia, ktoré sa ich týkajú na oficiálnej úrovni. „Posledné týždne som žila najmä analýzami rôznych textov o vzdelávaní a prípravou prejavu,“ prezradila pred cestou Dudášová. „Teším sa na celú tú skúsenosť, je to veľká výzva. Verím, že získam väčší prehľad o tom, ako to vlastne v OSN funguje a prebieha.“

Program Mladí OSN je súčasťou celosvetovej platformy Mládežníckych delegátov, ktorá dáva mladým zástupcom jednotlivých krajín možnosť zúčastniť sa oficiálneho zasadania OSN v New Yorku. Dudášová je súčasťou oficiálnej národnej delegácie. Okrem prejavu ju čakali stretnutia, semináre a rokovania s mladými delegátmi z celého sveta.

Celosvetový Program mládežníckeho delegáta vznikol z iniciatívy Mládežníckeho programu OSN, ktorý je súčasťou Divízie sociálnej politiky a rozvoja OSN. Jeho cieľom je zvýšiť aktívnu participáciu mladých ľudí na tvorbe politik OSN. Na Slovensku ho od roku 2007 iniciuje Rada mládeže Slovenska. Partnermi programu sú ministerstvo školstva, ministerstvo zahraničných vecí a spoločnosť Tucan.sk.

TASR



FOTO TASR - Radovan Stoklasa

Trenčianska medovníkárka Mária Muráriková získala na celosvetovej kuchárskej olympiáde v nemeckom Erfurte v kategórii cukrárska artistika zlatú medailu. Z medovníka vytvorila renesančnú kachľovú pec a pohovku zo 17. storočia, ktoré sú vernými kópiami múzejných exponátov z Krásnej Hôrky. Na diele, ktoré váži cez 30 kilogramov, pracovala 270 až 290 hodín. Trenčín, 10. októbra 2012.

Gingerbread artisan Maria Murarikova from Trencin won first prize in the cake category at the World Cooking Olympics held in Erfurt, Germany recently. Her creations of a Renaissance stove and sofa were copies of artifacts from the Krasna Horka Castle.