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October Dedicated to Holy Rosary

The month of October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary. According to an account by fifteenth-century Dominican, Alan de la Roch, Mary appeared to St. Dominic in 1206 after he had been praying and doing severe penances because of his lack of success in combating the Albigensian heresy. Mary praised him for his valiant fight against the heretics and then gave him the Rosary as a mighty weapon, explained its uses and efficacy, and told him to preach it to others.

- From Month of the Holy Rosary on www.catholicculture.org

Message From The President

So far we have had a very pleasant Fall Season in most of the country. We all hope it continues.

You may have read in the July 17, 2013 issue of the Jednota of my being named Slovak-American of the Year by the prestigious organization "Friends of Slovakia".

I am humbly thankful for this honor and I recognize this is in great part due to my being the President of our great Society, the First Catholic Slovak Union, and the success we have had in the past several years.

I thought you might want to read what I said to the assembly at that event on June 14, 2013 in Washington, D.C. as my acceptance remarks, as it also pertains to our Society. In my introduction, "Joe" refers to Mr. Joseph Senko who is the Honorary Slovak Consul from Pittsburgh, PA.

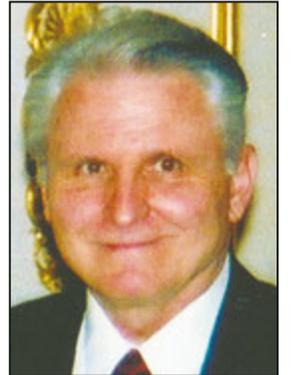
"Good evening,
Thank you for the introduction Joe.

Ambassador Kmec, honored guests, ladies and gentlemen:
The First Catholic Slovak Union was founded in 1890 by US immigrants from what was then known as Upper Hungary, now Slovakia. It is a fraternal benefit society similar to the Knights of Columbus or Thrivent for Lutherans or the Woodmen. Our Fraternal is very financially stable and growing and we welcome new members. You don't have to be Slovak. You may have seen copies of our 24 page newspaper "Jednota" published 19 times a year.

In addition to providing financial benefits the FCSU or the "Jednota" as it is known, is also a social organization. We have been deeply supportive of the struggle for self-determination of Slovaks in Eastern Europe since prior to WWI, continuing until the new Slovak Republic was founded in 1993. Many of FCSU officials and members were very actively involved with the original Cleveland Pact and later the Pittsburgh Pact signed in 1918.

Throughout the Communist years there was active communication between American Slovaks and their relatives in Czechoslovakia on a personal level. There was a sizeable migration to the US and Canada after WWII and in 1968 around the Warsaw Pact invasion.

continued on page 3



Andrew M. Rajec

From the Desk of the Executive Secretary

FCSU LIFE ANNUITY & IRA

INTEREST RATES EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2013

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|---|-----------|
| Eight Year Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity or IRA | 3.60% APY |
| Six Year Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity or IRA | 3.20% APY |
| with the "Cash Interest" Option | 2.95% APY |
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| (new Park Free Plus maximum deposit \$25,000.00 PER PERSON) | |
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Please contact your local branch officer or the Home Office at 1-800-533-6682
Website: www.FCSU.com Email: fcsu@aol.com

Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary

Attention

Attention All FCSU Members: Act now! Benevolent Scholarship Fund Deadline Ends in October.

See page 3 of this issue for details.



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Insights and Viewpoints



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

October 20, 2013

Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Luke 18: 1-8

Gospel Summary

The classic way to stay in touch with God is prayer. Small wonder then that Luke writes so insistently about prayer when he shows us how to accompany Jesus on his journey to Jerusalem. Although the ideal prayer for Christians is praise and

thanksgiving, there is also a place for prayers of petition, as today's gospel parable makes quite clear.

The story-line of the parable is clear and compelling. In ancient Israel, widows were often listed among the more vulnerable members of society. And it appears that the widow of the parable has in fact been defrauded of her property by unscrupulous persons. Her only recourse is the local judge. But he has long since abandoned his covenant morality and is swayed only by bribes—something that the destitute widow cannot provide.

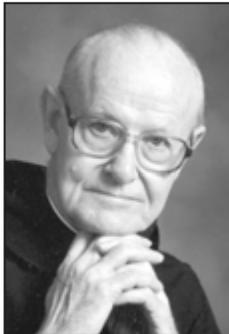
This unprincipled judge is proud of his freedom from the demands of true religion. Moreover, he is happy to proclaim this false freedom on every occasion. (He may remind us of the agnostic physician in Bernanos' *Diary of a Country Priest*). However, the persistence of the widow gradually wears him down and finally causes him to grant her justice. The lesson drawn by Jesus is crystal clear: How much more likely is God, the most just of all judges, ready to grant our requests for justice when we are treated unfairly!

Life Implications

The point of this parable is probably more subtle than we may at first surmise. Jesus is not just telling us that we must doggedly persevere in prayer even when no answer seems to be provided. That is true, no doubt, but the real point here concerns our attitude toward God. For many of us, God seems so remote and so insensitive to our pleas that we may feel that he is not that different from the judge in the parable. As a matter of experience, our God does not always seem ready to give us the justice that we seek.

The deeper lesson of the parable is concerned, therefore, with our experience of the reality and presence of God in our lives. It is faith alone that enables us to experience God as One who is exceedingly good and who loves us very much. We will want to persist in our prayers to him, not just because we need his help, but primarily because we want simply to stay in touch with this wonderful Person, who loves us unconditionally. In the long run, this loving God will give us all that we need...and much more.

Our relationship with God is not unlike that of children who expect their parents to respond positively to every request they have. But good and loving parents know that these requests are not always in the best interest of their children. I suspect that many children would quit school or eat only junk food if their parents would allow it. The important thing for all concerned is to maintain a loving and trusting contact, in spite of occasional bumps in the road. Today's parable reminds us that this is even more true of our relationship with God.



Demetrius R. Dumm
O.S.B.

October 27, 2013

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Luke 18:9-14

Gospel Summary

Luke introduces the parable about a Pharisee and a tax collector with the statement that it is addressed "to those who were convinced of their own righteousness and despised everyone else." Two men go up to the temple to pray. The Pharisee, standing in a prominent place, thanks God that he is not like the rest of humanity—or even like the tax collector he had noticed. He also reminds God that he fasts twice a week, and pays tithes on his whole income. The tax collector, standing at a distance, beats his breast and prays, "O God, be merciful to me a sinner." Jesus then remarks that the tax collector who humbled himself before God went home justified, not the Pharisee who had exalted himself.

Life Implications

Jesus chose to make the Pharisee a principal character of his parable because Pharisees were the most highly respected religious group in the community. Pharisees were intensely committed to the religious traditions of the people. They refused any collaboration with the occupying Roman military power. They kept the commandments, voluntarily fasted beyond the obligatory annual day of fasting, and even cut down on their standard of living to support the needs of the temple.

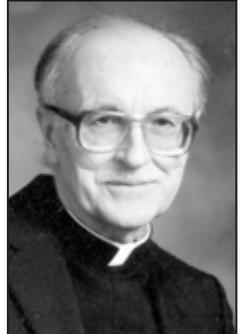
Jesus chose a tax collector as the opposite principal character because tax collectors were generally held in contempt by the people. They were not only collaborators with the hated Roman oppressors, but by collecting funds to support a corrupt imperial system, made it impossible for many people to fulfill their financial obligations to the temple. These petty government officials were adept at defrauding people by various strong-arm methods, and were regarded as no better than robbers.

The Pharisee of the parable had every good reason to thank God for the worthiness of his own life, and to despise the tax collector as one who was a threat not only to the temple, but to everything that was worthwhile and holy. When Jesus at the conclusion of his parable remarked that the tax collector went home justified, not the Pharisee, it must have seemed like a shockingly unfair conclusion. He had taken the risk of pressing the parable to the edge of unfairness in order to teach something essential about the way we stand with God.

Jesus in his parable obviously is not advocating collaboration with an oppressive military power, cheating people, moral relativism, or much less, forbidding evaluation of evil behavior or false teaching. The Pharisee is condemned because he assumed God's role in judging the spiritual worth of a fellow human being. He exalted himself above the rest of humanity, and despised another through the comparisons he fashioned in his prayer.

It is incidental whether the Pharisee or the tax collector is the one who exalts himself to in the sight of God. In today's culture, Jesus would probably have someone like the tax collector exalt himself and despise others in his prayer: "God, I thank you that I am not like the rest of humanity—do-gooders and church-going Pharisees. I may be greedy, dishonest, and adulterous, but I am grateful not to be a hypocrite like them." The desire to exalt oneself can always find a reason—even one's humility.

Today at our Eucharist we ask to be freed from illusions that we have fashioned about ourselves, and pray for the grace of sharing in Christ's humility. Through his authentic humility, we will be able to stand before God in our own unique truth, and thus make it possible to receive divine mercy and go home justified.



Campion P. Gavaler,
O.S.B.

NEWSPAPER DEADLINES

All copy is due by 4:30 P.M., THE MONDAY OF THE WEEK 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, OCT 23 | MONDAY, OCT. 14 |
| WEDNESDAY, NOV 6 | MONDAY, OCT. 28 |
| WEDNESDAY, NOV 20 | MONDAY, NOV. 11 |

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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6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence, OH 44131-2398
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Message From The President

continued from page 1

I'd like to introduce my family who has supported me over the years. My wife Idka who came from Slovakia in 1968. My daughter Idka Ann and my sons Andy and Daniel.

I'd also like to introduce members of our Executive Committee who have been an essential part of our success. Andy Harcar, our VP and his wife Maria, George Matta, our Treasurer and his wife Flo. Our Executive Secretary Kenneth Arendt could not be present.



FCSU National President Andrew M. Rajec (standing, center) surrounded by FCSU family, executives, and members on the evening of June 14, 2013, as he was honored as Slovak-American of the Year in Washington, DC.

You all are here because you have an interest in Slovakia.

I first visited Slovakia in 1966, at age 23, one month out of the U.S. Army after 2 years as a 2nd Lieutenant, with a military crew cut and an interest to visit my ancestral homeland, as all four of my grandparents were from there.

With the vigor of youth and the assumption that I would be treated as a blood brother I had no fear and little concern. I spent 2 weeks in Slovakia and enjoyed every minute, even the contact with the local police officer who helped push my rented Skoda when it wouldn't start. The only harsh words I heard was from the Tuzex travel agent when I returned the car and he found that the Skoda auto had run out of engine oil.

I had previous advice to have cigarettes and lots of žuvačka (chewing gum) for little gifts. It came in handy.

Interestingly, at the customs stop when leaving Bratislava on my way back to Vienna, my bag was opened and thoroughly searched and it revealed the 15 rolls of undeveloped camera film I used, much of it taken in Slovakia. The young soldier and the customs official looked at it, said nothing, and returned my bag with the film and my passport. Were we "krajania" or "countrymen"? I still show those pictures today.

When I returned home everyone asked "how was Slovakia"? My response was that Slovakia was wonderful and beautiful and the people were very friendly, but that in Bratislava the country economically was 30 years behind the US and the villages were 50 years behind the US.

After I married we visited Slovakia in 1992 with my entire family and my wife and I visited again in 1995, 2007 and 2013.

In the visits following 1992 the economic landscape had changed considerably with dramatic changes in 2007 and especially 2013. Unfortunately, with prosperity came higher prices, especially when converting dollars into Euros.

Bratislava is now a booming international city; and in many ways a smaller Vienna. The smaller towns and villages across the country, but especially in Western Slovakia, are seeing dramatic improvement, investment and an increase in civic pride.

The Friends of Slovakia should be congratulated and commended.

The work and efforts of the members of the Friends of Slovakia have played an important role in the economic and democratic transformation of Slovakia.

Challenges for Slovakia remain, including unemployment, energy dependence and investment. Others will arise as the years pass, some just because of Slovakia's small size and geographic location. However, I believe that the Slovak Republic and its people have proven that they can and will meet these challenges.

If you haven't visited I urge you to do so."

Dakujem – Thank you.

I wish to each of you and your family best of health and fortune and may God be with you.

Fraternally,

Andrew M. Rajec, President



Year of Faith: Ministry and Life of Priests, Part 2

Dear Friends,

The summary of the Decree on the Ministry and Life of Priests (Presbyterorum ordinis) from the Second Vatican Council continues with the relation a priest is to have with other priests and the laity. A priest's daily living is to encompass possessing a fraternal spirit, extending hospitality, cultivating helpfulness, and sharing his goods. He is also to exhibit concern for the sick, the afflicted, those overburdened with work, the lonely, those exiled from their homeland, and those who suffer persecution.

Priests are encouraged to have a common life. This can take the form either of by living under the same roof, sharing a common table for meals, or attending periodic meetings. Priests are obliged in a special manner to care for their brother priests who labor under certain difficulties. They should always treat their brother priests who have failed in some matters with fraternal charity.

Priests must not only work together with the lay faithful, they are to sincerely acknowledge and promote the dignity of the laity, willingly listen to them, consider their wants in a fraternal spirit, and recognize their experience and competence.

The third section of the chapter dedicated to the ministry of priests pertains to the distribution of priests. The Council reminds all priests that Christ intended his priesthood for all peoples and all times. Since the care of all churches is to be the greatest concern of priests, the Council is in favor of a more equitable distribution of priests. Priests in dioceses that have an abundance of priestly vocations should obtain the permission of their bishop and offer themselves to volunteer for work in other regions, mission, or endeavors where there are few priests. The council recommends that the pastoral norms of incardination and excardination be revised in order to better correspond with the pastoral needs of the day.

As an aside and to use language from the world of professional sports, no priest is a "free agent" and can determine on his own where he can exercise his ministry. A priest licitly exercises his ministry only with the permission of the local bishop, who assigns the priest to ministry within the bishop's jurisdiction, a diocese. A priest is ordained for a particular diocese. This special bond or unity that exists between a priest and his bishop and the diocese is called incardination. For a priest to go and minister in another diocese (and another bishop), he must undergo excardination from his former diocese first in order to be incardinated into his new diocese. The procedures for excardination and incardination is lengthy and complex. The Council recommends that the process be simplified.

A priest's life, the next chapter tells, is to be one of perpetually seeking growth in holiness, or what is known as spiritual perfection. He is to do this through a daily reading and hearing of God's holy word and by performing his priestly duties sincerely and tirelessly in the Spirit of Christ. The Council point out that priests act in the person of Christ and are united with Christ's love particularly when they administer the Sacraments, and especially when celebrating Mass or the Sacrament of Penance.

The summary of the Ministry and Life of Priests will conclude in the next issue with the Council's teaching on priestly celibacy and other topics.

Fraternally,

Fr. Thomas A. Nasta National Chaplain



ATTENTION FCSU MEMBERS:

THE JEDNOTA BENEVOLENT FOUNDATION, INC 2013 SCHOLARSHIP FUND DEADLINE HAS BEEN EXTENDED

The Jednota Benevolent Foundation, Inc has just announced it is extending applications for its 2013 Scholarship Program to **Monday, Oct 28, 2013**.

THE COMMITTEE SHALL AWARD UP TO TEN ONE-TIME \$500 SCHOLARSHIPS TO THE CANDIDATES WHO BEST SATISFY THE AWARD CRITERIA.

- Any individual of Slovak descent and Catholic faith who attends an Approved Post Secondary Educational Institution is eligible for a Scholarship.
- Applicants will be required to describe accomplishments they believe would qualify them for recognition in general, and specifically, accomplishments in the areas of:
 - Scholarship
 - Leadership
 - Service to school, church and community
- Applicants will also be required to provide:
 - An official college transcript of grades and all standardized test scores achieved, including all ACT or SAT scores; (if applicable)
 - One (1) letter of recommendation authored by a teacher, counselor, administrator or an employment supervisor familiar with the applicant;
 - Examples of applicant's community involvement;
 - A list and description of leadership positions held by applicant;
 - A list of awards received by applicant for scholastic excellence, community involvement, or leadership ability;
 - A description of the applicant's academic or career objectives;
 - A statement demonstrating an applicant's need for education financing.

For applications, please contact:
Jednota Benevolent Foundation, Inc.

First Catholic Slovak Union, 6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence, Ohio 44131
Phone 1-800-533-6682 - Fax 216-642-4310
E-mail: fcsu@aol.com

OR, download a scholarship application by going to: www.fcsu.com

APPLICATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY MIDNIGHT **OCTOBER 28, 2013**

*Family members of the Scholarship Committee are not eligible to apply for this scholarship.

Bishop Jozef Halko celebrates Mass in the Basilica of SS. Cyril and Methodius in Danville, PA

Dan Tanzone

As part of his first pastoral visit to the American Slovak community, Bishop Jozef Halko in his capacity as delegate of the Slovak Bishops Conference for the pastoral care of Slovaks and those of Slovak ancestry residing outside Slovakia, had the opportunity to celebrate Mass in the Basilica of SS. Cyril and Methodius in Danville, PA, on Tuesday, August 13, 2013. The basilica, which is located at the Motherhouse of the Sisters of SS. Cyril and Methodius, is the only one in the world dedicated to the Apostles of the Slavs. Bishop Halko, who serves as Auxiliary Bishop of Bratislava, chose his visit to coincide with the Year of Faith and the Jubilee Year commemorating the 1,150th anniversary of the arrival of SS. Cyril and Methodius in Slovakia. He brought with him the relic of St. Cyril to be venerated by the faithful in American and Canadian communities whose faith traditions are descended from the great evangelizers.

Bishop Halko was principal celebrant of the Votive Mass of SS. Cyril and Methodius in the basilica beginning at 11 a.m. Concelebrants included the Most Rev. Joseph V. Adamec, Bishop-emeritus of Altoona-Johnstown, Pa.; the Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdic, Supreme Chaplain of the Slovak Catholic Sokol and First Vice President of the Slovak Catholic Federation; Rev. Msgr. Michael J. Chaback and the Rev. Francis Straka, both of Northampton, Pa.; Rev. Msgr. Thomas Derzack of Walnutport, Pa.; Rev. Martin Kertys, C.O. of Tappan, N.Y. and the Rev. Gerard Heintzelman, rector of the Basilica of SS. Cyril and Methodius. Master of ceremonies was the Rev. Philip A. Altavilla, national president of the Slovak Catholic Federation. Father Hvozdic was chosen to carry the relic of St. Cyril in the procession which was then placed on the altar during the liturgy.

At the opening of the liturgy, a word of welcome was extended by Sister Michael Ann Orlik, SS.C.M., General Superior of the Sisters of SS. Cyril and Methodius. Serving as lector during the liturgy was Sister Maria Theresa Hronec, SS.C.M. The richness of the liturgy was enhanced with the beautiful hymns, including those dedicated to the Apostles of the Slavs. During the Preparation of the Gifts, a solo was rendered by Cyril Stretansky. Organist at the liturgy was Sister M. Sara Swayze, SS.C.M.

In his homily, in both Slovak and English, Bishop Halko recalled the legacy of SS. Cyril and Methodius whose evangelization efforts begun 1,150 years ago continue to bear fruit in the lives of faith-filled individuals in all parts of the world. He noted the strength of faith of the early Slovak immigrants who came to the United States with few material assets but rich in their faith in God who built churches in many American communities. He thanked the Sisters for their devotion to the legacy of the brother saints as well as the generous support of the American Slovak community given the Church in Slovakia through the annual SS. Cyril and Methodius Appeal of the Slovak Catholic Federation.

At the conclusion of the liturgy, Bishop Halko led the assemblage in the recitation of the Litany in honor of SS. Cyril and Methodius. Following the litany, those assembled in the basilica each revered the relic of St. Cyril who died in Rome in 869 A.D. The festive liturgy then concluded with the traditional hymn to SS. Cyril and Methodius, Dusa Krestanska.

Following the impressive liturgy, the Sisters hosted a luncheon for invited guests. During the luncheon, remarks were offered by Sister Michael Ann Orlik and Sister M. Catherine Laboure Bresnock, SS.C.M., director of Jankola Library and Slovak Archives located at the Motherhouse. During the luncheon special recognition was given Bishop Joseph V. Adamec, who celebrated his birthday. A special cake was prepared along with appropriate birthday wishes offered in song by the Sisters.

After the luncheon Bishop Halko toured the Motherhouse and visited Jankola Library to view its extensive collections. The author of several books, Bishop Halko is currently preparing one on the life and legacy of Father Joseph Murgas, noted pioneer in wireless telegraphy and early spiritual leader of the American Slovak community. The bishop was pleased to view the extensive archives on Father Murgas as well as that of Father Matthew Jankola, founder of the Sisters of SS. Cyril and Methodius. It was Father Jankola who invited Father Murgas to come to the United States in 1896.

Bishop Jozef Halko, far right, is shown with from the left, Bishop Joseph V. Adamec, Sister Barbara Sable, Sister Michael Ann Orlik, General Superior of the congregation; and Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdic.



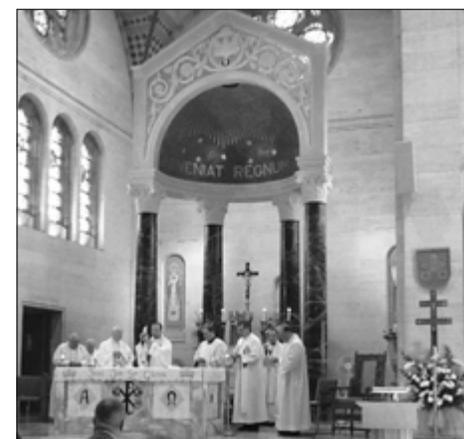
Bishop Joseph V. Adamec is shown flanked by members of the community's councillors including, l-r, Sister Donna Marie Ivanko, Sister Michael Ann Orlik, General Superior; Sister Barbara Sable and Sister Madonna Figura.



Bishop Joseph V. Adamec and Bishop Jozef Halko pose for a photo with some of the Sisters present at the special liturgy.



Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdic, second from the left, is shown holding the relic of St. Cyril prior to the liturgy. Shown with, L-R, are Bishop Joseph V. Adamec, Bishop Jozef Halko, and Monsignor Thomas Derzack.



Bishop Halko and concelebrants during the liturgy in the Basilica of SS. Cyril and Methodius.

Following an enjoyable and fulfilling day, Bishop Halko returned to Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Rectory in Tappan, N.Y. where he has been staying anticipating his next stop on the pastoral visit. On August 14, 2013, he departed for Toronto, Canada where he visited SS. Cyril and Methodius Parish in Mississauga.



LIGHT ONE CANDLE

Jerry Costello for The Christopher

“I Did What a Priest Does”

It had all the earmarks of a great wire-service news story, the kind that reporters hope will fall into their laps one day: a priest mysteriously shows up at the scene of a motor vehicle accident, consoles a victim and prays with her, and then just as mysteriously disappears, before anyone could even offer a word of thanks. The story had legs for a couple of days, with reports of an “angel priest” who appeared and suddenly disappeared, all in the middle of Missouri.

Before long everyone was talking about “the mystery” and, perhaps, a sign from heaven—but just as quickly, all the questions were cleared up. There was no mystery at all; just a priest quietly doing his job.

The priest was Father Patrick Dowling of the Jefferson City Diocese in Missouri, an Irish-born veteran of the diocesan missions in Peru. Ordained in 1982 for Jefferson City, now involved in prison ministry and work with Spanish-speaking residents of the diocese, Father Dowling was a bit bemused by all the speculation the incident had caused. He treated it matter-of-factly, though, and said that if any angels were present it was the emergency personnel who worked “so professionally,”

“I hope the credit goes where it is due,” he said.

The Sunday-morning accident involved vehicles driven by Katie Lentz, 19, and 26-year-old Aaron Smith. Lentz, who was struck head-on, was trapped in her car with serious injuries. Father Dowling, en route from one parish Mass assignment to another, stopped to offer whatever assistance he could. Once he discovered the media attention centered on his presence at the accident, he promptly came forward with a full explanation.

“I asked the sheriff’s permission and approached the scene of the accident,” he said. “I absolved and anointed Katie, and, at her request, prayed that her leg would not hurt. Then I stepped aside to where some rescue personnel and the [helicopter] pilot were waiting, and prayed the rosary silently. I left when the helicopter was about to take off, and before I got to my car it was on its way.”

Father Dowling didn’t stop there, of course. He made sure he visited Lentz in the ICU unit at Blessing Hospital in Quincy, and when she saw him she reached out her hand. And then she cried and offered her thanks.

The thanks, he repeated, belong to the rescue people—“people of faith and prayer,” he called them. “I have no doubt that the Most High heard their prayers, and I was part of his answer...but only one part.”

Reflecting on the role he played, he said, “I try to be a priest, not a hero. And I did what a priest does. And every priest that I know, if they would pass by an accident, they would stop and do what I did.”

Is there a lesson to be learned from all this? There sure is, Father Dowling said, and it’s simply this: “God loves us, he is here close to us, and when we’re in trouble, he’s there.”

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

Adam Plutko Named Series MVP, Drafted by Cleveland Indians



The grandson of Branch 844's Ray and Sharon Plutko, Adam Plutko, was named the Most Valuable Player for his efforts in guiding UCLA to the NCAA College World Series title in Omaha, NB, this past season. Adam pitched the Bruins to a 2 – 1 win over LSU and followed that outing four days later with a 3 – 1 victory over Mississippi State.

He finished his three-year career at UCLA with the second most pitching victories (29) in the school's history and had a perfect 9-0 win-loss record in NCAA post-season play. Not to be overlooked was a 0.94 ERA in the playoffs.

Adam also was named as an All-American for the second straight year and capped his stellar season being drafted by the Cleveland Indians. He will report to spring training in Arizona to begin what he hopes is a journey to the Indian's major league roster.

- Submitted by Ray and Sharon Plutko



Dorothy and John Jurcenko of Branch 153 greet Slovak Bishop Milan Sasik on September 15. Milan Sasik, the Bishop of the Eparchy of Mukacheve, celebrated Mass at St. Simon Church in Chicago, IL, in honor of the 1150 Anniversary of Sts. Cyril and Methodius.
- submitted by John Jurcenko



The Slovak Ambassador to the United States Peter Kmec is flanked by Branch 24 Member and Home Office Staffer Beata Begeniova-Fedoriuk (R) and renowned Carpatho-Rusyn folk singer Maria Macoskova of Presov, Slovakia (L) after their joint performance at the Slovak Embassy in Washington, DC on Sept 7, 2013.



Michelle Colbaugh, Branch 35, is a featured artist in the PA art exhibit, Alloy Pittsburgh.

Branch 35's Michelle Colbaugh Featured in PA Art Exhibit

Michelle Colbaugh, a 2005 Penn Trafford High School graduate, is being featured as one of 15 professional Western Pennsylvania artists to participate in an art exhibition entitled Alloy Pittsburgh. The exhibit is held at the Carrie Furnace Works located in Rankin, which is a National Historic Landmark and part of the US Steel Homestead Works. Michelle was selected after submitting a proposal for her idea which incorporates the use of live plants inspired by the ideas of transition, change, and permanence constantly at odds throughout the mill. The exhibit opened on Saturday, 9/28/13 and runs through 10/26/13. For more information or tickets, please visit www.alloypittsburgh.blogspot.com.

Michelle is pursuing a Master of Fine Arts (MFA) degree at Indiana University of Pennsylvania with a concentration in painting. She has a standing of high honors and served as president for the Graduate Art Association. Her work has appeared in many regional exhibitions, including the Latrobe Arts Center, where she received the Ned J. Nakles Award for excellence in oil painting. Michelle is the daughter of Michael and Maribeth Colbaugh of Trafford (Level Green), PA, and the granddaughter of Joseph Yuros and the late R. Berniece Yuros of Forest Hills, PA. She is a member of Branch 35, Braddock, PA.

- Submitted by Maribeth Colbaugh



Christmas Oplatky 2013

Oplatky, the traditional Slovak Christmas wafers, will be available this holiday season from Jankola Library. Orders will be accepted from October 21 until December 18, 2013.

The *Oplatky*, five in one package are thermal-sealed and can be purchased for \$4.00. In addition, the minimum cost of shipping and handling is \$5.75 and upwards depending upon the number of packets ordered and the rising cost 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 and order contact:

Sister Catherine Laboure 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.



Branch 181's Conrad Firment caught this nine pounder fishing near his home off Lovers Key Beach, Estero Island, FL. It's the "lucky" hat!



Check out the First Catholic Slovak Union website at www.fcsu.com

A great source for the latest information about our Society - and events in the greater Slovak community.

If each member would sign up just one new member, we could double our Society immediately
THINK ABOUT IT!

Our Lady of Sorrows Slovak Pilgrimage (Panny Márie Bolestné slovenská púť)

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

A rich Slovak-American tradition in the Youngstown, Ohio area continued in 2013 with the successful 20th annual Slovak Mass and pilgrimage in honor of Our Lady of Sorrows. The event took place on September 15th, in North Jackson, Ohio at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Lebanon. The Youngstown chapter of the Slovak Catholic Federation sponsored the pilgrimage.

In addition to honoring Mary, Our Lady of Sorrows, this year's pilgrimage also commemorated the 1150th anniversary of the arrival in Slovakia of Saints Cyril and Methodius, the apostles of the Slavs. During the ninth century in 863, the two missionary brothers from Constantinople brought the Christian faith to the area of Slovakia and other Slavic lands in Central Europe. Slovaks in Slovakia and throughout the world have been celebrating the two saints' arrivals with special devotions.

The ceremonies commenced with a novena in honor of Saints Cyril and Methodius. The Anointing of the Sick and the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) followed. The event culminated with the celebration of Holy Mass in the Slovak language, and a choir leading the hymns in Slovak. The retired pastor of Holy Name, Rev. George Franko, concelebrated Mass with a half dozen other priests.

Before Mass, the faithful joined in the singing of *jak sa sladko spieva, tve meno Mária* (Oh, how sweet sounds, your name Mary). Then Mass began with the processional hymn of devotion to Our Sorrowful Mother, *Mária bolestivá* (Oh Agonizing Mary). Readings followed, with epistles read in Slovak by Agatha Fabny and Miroslav Puškar, both longtime parishioners of St. Mathias Church, part of Our Lady of Sorrow Parish in Youngstown.

Rev. Martin Celuch, pastor of that same parish, delivered the homily. A native of eastern Slovakia, Father Celuch presented a moving sermon about the importance of the Virgin Mary and the meaning of the Mother of Seven Sorrows, the patroness of Slovakia and all Slovaks.

Putting Jesus' Mother in context, Father Celuch emphatically explained how a mother feels all the pains, joys and sorrows that her children experience. For instance, when a child is sick in bed, a mother might not be ill, but she still suffers emotionally and commiserates with her son or daughter. All moms know that. In the same way, Mary suffered through the passion and death of her son, Jesus. While she may not have endured the direct torture which Jesus experienced, like any good mother, she deeply felt the emotional and physical trauma of seeing the son she loved so much being cruelly abused and put to death on a cross. His suffering was her suffering.

Father Celuch concluded his sermon with an appeal to the faithful to honor the Blessed Virgin Mary and to confide in her. What better way to pray to Jesus than through the intercession of His Mother, who loved Him so dearly. For what son would does not listen to the appeals of his own mother. There is nothing like the love of a mother.

Following this excellent homily and the Nicene Creed in Slovak, the faithful joined in



Father Martin Celuch delivers a homily during the 20th Annual Pilgrimage at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Lebanon. Courtesy of T.L. Wagner.

the Offertory hymn, *Pod' k Spasiteľu pod' ešte dnes* (Come to the Savior, come today). After the Consecration and Prayers of the Faithful, all heartily joined in reciting the Our Father (*Otče náš*) in Slovak. During Holy Communion (*sväté prijímanie*), the choir led in singing *Hosti vítajme, tej manne česť dajme* (Welcome guests, let us honor the manna), followed by the reflective hymn, *láska nádej, spása, Spasiteľu môj* (Oh love, hope, salvation, oh my Savior). Mass concluded with the recessional hymn *Teba Bože chválime, Teba Pána vyznávame* (We praise you God, Lord we acknowledge you Lord). An optional dinner followed in Cedar's Hall at the shrine.

After Mass concluded, I had the opportunity to meet the two seminarians from the Košice Archdiocese in Slovakia, who have spent part of the summer in the Diocese of Youngstown. A third year seminary student, Michal Lacko comes from a parish in Košická Nová Ves, just east of Košice, and Peter Szeles, a second year seminarian from Janík, a small town near the Hungarian border. Each is considering possibly working for the Youngstown Diocese after completing their studies.

Among the attendees at this year's pilgrimage in honor of Our Lady and Saints Cyril

continued on page 7



Erika Kopanic (lower) and her mother Rebecca (above) on the tower of the Shrine of Our Lady of Lebanon

Courtesy of Dr. Michael Kopanic



(L – R) Seminarians from Slovakia, Michal Lacko and Peter Szeles

Courtesy of Dr. Michael Kopanic

The 20th Annual Pilgrimage in honor of Our Lady of Sorrows on Sunday, September 15, 2013, was sponsored by the Youngstown Chapter of the Slovak Catholic Federation. The Youngstown Chapter, in addition to supporting the mission of the national organization, strives to enlighten, promote and strengthen the cultural and religious heritage of the Slovak community throughout the Diocese of Youngstown. The pilgrimage is one of two primary events held by the local group. The other is a celebration of the Feast of Saints Cyril and Methodius on February 14th of each year at the mother church of Slovak Catholics in Youngstown, OH – Saints Cyril and Methodius Church of Our Lady of Sorrows Parish.

This year's pilgrimage and dinner had the largest attendance of the past several years. A display for the Workforce of Prayer, part of the ministry of the of the School Sisters of Saint Francis, an order of nuns who came to the US from the Bohemia region of Slovakia a hundred years ago in 1913 to serve the needs of the children of Slovak immigrants and their families, was also presented during the event.

- Submitted by T.L. Wagner, Secretary/Treasurer, Youngstown Chapter of the Slovak Catholic Federation



Our Lady of Sorrows Slovak Pilgrimage

continued from page 6



Father George Franko, along with the concelebrants, consecrates the Eucharist during the Mass in honor of Our Lady of Sorrows during the 20th Annual Pilgrimage sponsored by the Youngstown Chapter of the Slovak Catholic Federation at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Lebanon in North Jackson, OH. Courtesy of T.L.Wagner.



Courtesy of Dr. Michael Kopanic

The faithful, including Erika and Rebecca Kopanic, join in singing Slovak hymns featured throughout the Mass.

and Methodius were a number of out-of-town visitors. They included Jednota members Rudy and Sue Ondrejco, the well-known hosts of the Pittsburgh Slovak Radio Program on WPIT-AM 730 (which can also be listened to every Sunday at 3-4 pm. on WPIT-AM 730, or online on the worldwide web at <http://www.wpitam.com/>).

The Annual Slovak pilgrimage in honor of Our Mother of Sorrow is an excellent way to keep alive our Slovak religious heritage and celebrate Mass in the Slovak language. The experience serves to resuscitate our faith and strengthen us for the many challenges of life by following the model of the Blessed Virgin Mary, who humbly accepted the will of God. May we always remember her trials and sufferings, learn to live by her example, and pray for precious grace from her Son as we tread the path to our heavenly goal.



(L – R) Miroslav Puskar, who served as a reader during the Mass, with the Rev. Martin Celuch. Courtesy of Dr. Michael Kopanic.

AMERICAN SLOVAK ZEMPLIN SOCIAL CLUB

SPONSOR THEIR

72nd ANNUAL DINNER DANCE

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2013

At

ST. CYRIL & METHODIUS AUDITORIUM
12608 Madison Ave. Lakewood, Ohio

Starting at 1:00 PM with Slovak Mass

THE FULL COURSE HOMEMADE DINNER WILL BE SERVED AT 2:30PM

CULTURAL PROGRAM STARTS AT 3:30PM
PERFORMANCE BY:

“Lucinka”

Live Music By Johnny Pastirik Band

TICKETS: \$ 15.00 ADVANCE TICKETS SALES ONLY

Last day to order tickets; Wed. Oct. 16, 2013

FOR TICKETS AND INFORMATION CALL:

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Only \$14.00 a year to protect us kids.

- **Lock in a low premium now:** you can get \$10,000 in term life insurance coverage to age 25, for children ages 0-21 — *for only \$14.00 a year.* Contact your branch officer or the home office for larger amounts.

- **Protect your kids' insurability tomorrow:** JEP policies allow the members to convert at any time at or prior to age 25 to a regular permanent policy, without evidence of insurability for insurance amounts up to the amount in force at the time of conversion.

- **Be eligible for fraternal benefits at no additional cost** - as FCSU policies come with FCSU fun like sporting events, picnics, festivals, membership meets as well as access to scholarships.



P.S. Act now! This offer is too good to pass up!



To receive free information on the JEP, simply call your branch officer or the home office at 800.533.6682 or visit www.fcsu.com

First Catholic Slovak Union, 6611 Rockside Road, Independence, OH, 44131

Mushroom Picking in Slovakia

Amanda Lee



Somewhere, deep inside every one of us, there lies the magic that once accompanied the stories we heard as children. Beneath the common sense exterior of our adult lives as parents, spouses, professionals and the like, there remains that part of us that practicality has taught us to keep hidden, like sparkling jewels, locked deep within the muddy caverns of memory. Seldom are we, as adults, presented with the rare and beautiful opportunity to unlock those memories and live the innocence

and magic we only dreamed about as children; and when we are, it hardly seems possible that it's true.

I had heard stories as a child of the "old country" from Grandma Johanka; stories of the house in Studienka where she was born, the geese that roamed their yard and the gypsy caravans that journeyed through their village at dusk. There was always a far-away look in her eyes when she spoke of her motherland. I knew that many important things must have happened to Grandma while she lived in this magical place called Slovakia, and that someday I too, would go there and have wonderful, beautiful adventures, just like her.

My favorite stories were the ones about mushroom picking. "Oh, Mandy," Grandma would say, "You can't imagine the mushrooms we'd find! Some were this big!" and she'd make a large circle with her hands. "Oh, how I loved to go to the forest." Grandma's Uncle Klement used to take her along on his frequent mushroom picking adventures in the forest that bordered their village, Studienka. "I'll never forget how special he made me feel," she would tell me, tears in her eyes. "Sure, there were others from the village there, looking for mushrooms like we were, but Uncle Klement, he knew where the biggest ones were. He'd take my hand so proudly, and we would walk together. He'd teach me about all the different kinds of mushrooms there were and show me the best spots to find them; I'll always be grateful for those wonderful days we spent together in the forest."

Since I had only seen white mushrooms that came from the store, I couldn't imagine finding big, brown-capped "dubaky" growing wild among the pine needles and fallen logs on the forest floor. It sounded like a dream; like the rest of the stories Grandma had told me; a dream that was too good to be true.

As I grew older, I never forgot my Grandma's mushroom picking stories, but as the years went by, my world of friends, high school, college in Madison, a semester abroad in Ireland and the start of my career took me further away from the enchanted forests of Slovakia and more into my "practical" life as a young adult. I remained very close with Grandma. Every couple of years, various members of my family - including Grandma - would make a trip to visit our relatives who still lived in Slovakia and Moravia. I had been given several chances to go on these trips, but turned them down for other priorities such as college and work. Little did I know that, years later, I would be presented with a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

In the spring of 2002, when I was 25 years old, Grandma Johanka was diagnosed with a terminal illness; her doctors couldn't offer us any hope of recovery. Considering my close relationship with Grandma, I made the decision to leave my apartment on the south side of Milwaukee and move in with her. With my help, my mother, uncle and aunt could avoid placing Grandma in nursing care and could keep her at home where she felt comfortable.

As summer passed, I spent many nights with Grandma, drinking coffee with her on the couch, and listening to her stories of Slovakia. It was strange; as the dementia began to muddle her short-term memory, her stories of the "old country" became only more detailed and clear. Once again, I felt myself lost in the magic I had felt as a child.

You can imagine the surprise and utter sadness we all felt when my Uncle Mike announced to our family that nine of us would be taking Grandma back to Slovakia, for a final visit with family there. Among the list of those who were to go, were Grandma's brother and sister, her three children, and her three granddaughters. I was speechless!

It was with a combination of disbelief, excitement and a heavy heart that I packed my suitcase just days before our trip. I think I was still in disbelief as we crossed the tarmac and boarded the plane that cool September morning. Not only was I finally going to Slovakia, but I was also going to finally experience, first-hand, the life that I had only heard about in story and song. I would be able to smell, hear, touch, taste and feel that part of Grandma's history that had been the foundation of our family here in America for so long. I was excited to meet my relatives; the bright-eyed, smiley faces of aunts, uncles and cousins I had only seen in pictures. Most of all, I was excited to go mushroom picking with Grandma.

Our first week in Slovakia was a whirlwind of activity. There were relatives to visit, cities to explore, songs to be sung, and slivovitz to be drunk! With every passing day, I kept asking "When are we going to go mushroom picking?" My cousin, Igor, told me, in very broken English, that I must be patient for good weather; so far it had been cool and damp.

One morning I was shaken awake by my mother. "Wake up," she said, "We're going mushroom picking!" I don't think I've ever gotten out of bed so quickly. Everyone else was already dressed, ready to go, and waiting for me outside. As I stepped out into the front yard, my cousin, Tanya, placed a medium sized wicker basket in my left hand, and a small, thin knife in my right. Armed with these simple tools, we took to the forest.

I wish I could find words adequate enough to explain the humbling beauty I felt in the forest that morning. Sunlight filtered through the pine trees, illuminating the needles on each branch so that the trees themselves appeared to be made of emerald. The ground was soft, and thickly blanketed with pine needles and moss. I had never seen such tall pine trees;

their tops swayed and swished gently, slowly, in the crisp autumn air. The smell of that place was intoxicating.

It didn't take long for someone in my family to find the first mushroom, and then the second, and the third, and before I knew it, the forest was alive with the tiny echoes of excited voices. "Here's one!" ... "I found one over here!" ... "Here's a bunch of 'em by this log!" ... "Hey you guys, come see the big one I found!"

As I stood there, in the awesome splendor of that moment, I felt... complete. There is no other way I can describe it; it was as though my heart had opened and spilled out everywhere and then was being filled up again and again. I could have stayed there, like that, forever.

I don't know how long it was before I finally looked off into the distance to my right. I could see a figure standing, one hand leaning on a tree trunk, the other grasping a walking stick; it was my Grandma. Her back was to us, she was looking off into the distance, where the forest grew thicker, and darker. Slowly I walked up to her; there was a faraway look in her eyes. When she turned and looked at me, I saw tiny tears in the corners of her eyes. I took her soft, warm hand in mine, and she smiled at me.

We left the forest that morning with baskets brimming with mushrooms. It was like manna from heaven. We took turns having our pictures taken with our treasure. We had harvested more than 30 pounds of mushrooms, a cache that would be worth several hundreds of dollars in the United States, and best of all, it was free.

That evening, my cousins prepared for us a mushroom feast. There were fried mushrooms, mushroom bread, mushroom soup, mushroom dumplings and mushroom gravy. Every bite tasted better than the one before. I had never, and have yet to have, such a wonderful feast. Who could imagine all these different dishes you could make with mushrooms?

The next week we traveled north to Moravia, to visit more family. While we were gone, my cousins took the remainder of our mushrooms, neatly sliced and carefully dried them, then presented each of us with a bag-full to take home. The night before we left to return to the U.S. we worked diligently to hide the mushroom parcels in our luggage. We knew they would be confiscated if the customs officials found them. "Hide them in your dirty clothes," my mother said, "the dogs won't smell them there!" We all laughed and did just that.

Thanksgiving and Christmas were special that year. We ate the prized dubaky, in soups, in stuffing, in gravy and I thanked our Lord for Grandma and the opportunity to share my dream with her.

Scrambled Eggs with Mushrooms (Huby s Vajcom)

Luboš Brieda, from slovakcooking.com

Here is a recipe for scrambled eggs (praženica) with mushrooms (huby). This combination is very popular in Slovakia, and it's the most common way to prepare gathered wild mushrooms. If you have never had scrambled eggs with mushrooms, try this combination. It's very tasty!

Ingredients: mushroom pieces, one small onion, 2 eggs
Prep Time: 25 minutes



Start by peeling and chopping up the onion (*cibuľa*). Fry it on oil for about 3 minutes until it starts turning yellow. Then add the chopped up mushroom pieces and also a small cup of water. Cover, and let cook on low heat for about 15-20 minutes until the mushrooms are soft and most of the water stored in the mushrooms has evaporated. To help the water evaporate, you may want to remove the lid the last few minutes.



Then crack the **eggs** (*vajcia*) into a bowl, add a dash of salt, and scramble with a fork till bubbles start forming. Pour into the pan. Keep stirring. It's better to have the heat on low. I like the eggs watery like shown in the photo. I turned the heat off moments before they were the way I like them, and let them finish cooking on the plate. Top with chives, paprika, or peppers, and serve with good bread.

MINUTES OF THE QUARTERLY MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION OF THE USA AND CANADA SATURDAY, JUNE 29, 2013 • HOME OFFICE, INDEPENDENCE, OHIO (TELECONFERENCE)

OPEN MEETING

President Andrew Rajec called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. and asked the National Chaplain, Fr. Thomas Nasta, to offer the opening prayer.

ANTHEMS

The President asked Susan Ondrejco, Fraternal Activities Directors, to lead in the singing of the anthems.

ROLL CALL

Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary, read the roll call:
 Rev. Thomas Nasta, National Chaplain – present via telephone;
 Andrew M. Rajec, National President – present;
 Andrew R. Harcar, Sr., National Vice President – present
 Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary - present;
 George F. Matta, National Treasurer – present;
 Karen M. Hunka, Chairman of Auditors – present via telephone;
 Susan M. Ondrejco, Fraternal Activities Director – present via telephone;
 Joseph F. Minarovich, Regional Director, Region 1 –present via telephone;
 Damian Nasta, Regional Director, Region 2 – present via telephone;
 Carl Ungvarsky, Regional Director, Region 3 – present via telephone;
 James Marmol, Regional Director, Region 4 – present via telephone;
 Regis P. Brekosky, Regional Director, Region 5 – present
 Henry Hassay, Regional Director, Region 6 – present via telephone
 Rudolph Bernath, Regional Director, Region 7 – excused
 Milos Mitro, Regional Director, Regions 8 – present via telephone;
 Gary J. Matta, General Counsel – present via telephone;

All present and accounted for.

READING OF THE CALL

The Executive Secretary then read the Call to the Quarterly Meeting.

ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 2013 BOARD MEETING

A motion was made by Andrew Harcar and seconded by Father Thomas Nasta to accept the minutes as corrected of the March 15-16, 2013 Board of Directors Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATION OF THE AGENDA

President Rajec presented the agenda for the Quarterly Meeting which had previously been sent to all the Board members and asked for its acceptance. A motion was made by Kenneth Arendt and seconded by Andrew Harcar to accept the agenda and to allow the President to change the order if necessary. Motion carried.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The President presented his report.

Investment Update

President Rajec stated that FCSU has made a slight change in the investment policy. We have requested AQS, our asset manager, to invest in longer maturity with higher yield bonds in order to increase our portfolio return.

Annuity Rates

The President stated that as of July 1, 2013 the new rates will be as follows:

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Eight Year Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity or IRA | 3.60% apy |
| Six Year Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity or IRA | 3.20% apy |
| With the "Cash Interest" Option | 2.95% apy |
| New Six Year Fixed Rate Deferred Annuity or IRA | 3.10% apy |
| New "Park 2 Annuity" | 2.15% apy |

Branches

President Rajec reported that he and Executive Secretary Arendt, with information gathered by Robert Kopco, as previously reported to the Regional Directors, are continuing to merge inactive branches with the active branches.

AQS – ASSET MANAGEMENT COMPANY, LLC.

Larry White, of AQS Asset Management Company, LLC, presented his report to the Board via teleconference. A copy of his presentation was distributed to each Board Member prior to the meeting. Following his report, he answered all the Board's questions.

FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR FIRST QUARTER 2013

Executive Secretary's Report

Secretary Arendt presented a detailed summary of the Financial Report for the first quarter of 2013. After his report he answered the Board's questions. The Executive Secretary stated that the 2013 first quarter Financial Report will be published in the Jednota newspaper.

The Executive Secretary submitted a written report to the Board of Directors which gave a complete update of all MPAM, UBS, MAI investments and all current transactions with the Federal Home Loan Bank of Cincinnati.

Portfolio Custodian

The Executive Secretary updated the Board of Directors on the report from our portfolio custodian, Key Bank, and found everything in order and answered the Board's questions.

MEMBERSHIP AND MARKETING

The Vice President reviewed the sales production by Districts and also by General Agents and Independent Agents and answered the Board's questions.

The Vice President updated the Board on the recruiting process for independent agents to sell our products. He informed the Board we already have 160 agents.

The Vice President further led a discussion regarding seminars for the remainder of 2013 and encouraged the Regional Directors to contact him regarding seminars within their region.

The Vice President reported the November Membership Meet will be a 7-day Caribbean Cruise on the Crown Princess from November 9-16, 2013 and reservations have been coming in to the office.

DIRECTOR OF FRATERNAL ACTIVITIES REPORT

Director of Fraternal Activities, Susan Ondrejco, presented her report and gave a summary of the joint bowling tournament co-sponsored by the First Catholic Slovak Union, the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, the National Slovak Society, and the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union that was held on May 3-5, 2013, in Buffalo, New York. The Director stated the joint event was well received by all. Fraternal Director Ondrejco further stated plans were in place for the FCSU Golf Tournament for July 20-21, 2013, in Canton, Ohio.

The Director announced the FCSU National Family Picnic will be Sunday, August 11, 2013 at Frogbridge Picnic and Event Center in Millstone Township, New Jersey. The Director encouraged members to register online as soon as possible.

CHAIRMAN OF AUDITOR'S REPORT

Chairman of Auditors Karen Hunka presented the Auditor's Report for the first quarter of 2013, and answered the Board's questions. She stated that the Internal Auditors conducted a thorough audit and found everything was in order.

The Chairman of Auditors stated she was placing an article in the Jednota newspaper about forming a FCSU Soccer League. She believes it would be a good opportunity for our young members and will wait and see if anyone shows an interest.

PRESENTATION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS

Executive Committee

The Executive Secretary gave a report on the Executive Committee Meetings. He stated that in accordance with the Bylaws of the First Catholic Slovak Union, the Executive Committee meets monthly and whenever else it is necessary to take care of the business of the Society.

Investments

The Executive Secretary stated all investments were made in accordance with the laws of the State of Ohio and with the investment policy adopted by the Board of Directors. The Executive Committee members work very closely with AQS Asset Management Company and all investments are approved by a vote of at least three members of the Executive Committee.

Scholarships

The Scholarship winners have been announced and notified, the schools have been notified, and the announcement has been printed in the Jednota newspaper along with the winners' pictures.

A motion was made by Henry Hassay and seconded by Father Thomas Nasta to accept all reports as presented. Motion was carried.

MISCELLANEOUS

Home Office Window Problem

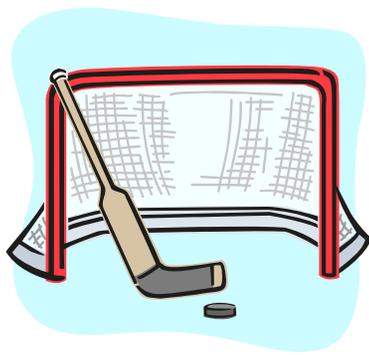
The President updated the Executive Committee on the problem with the windows leaking on all three floors at the Home Office in Independence, Ohio, causing interior damage. The President stated a company has been hired to examine the problem and make recommendations on solving the issue. The company did an extensive study of the problem and also took out several window panels to really look closely at the situation. We expect a report and cost estimates within 2-3 weeks. The Executive Committee and Board will be kept informed of the progress.

2014 Convention

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Slovaks at NHL Training Camps this September

Tichomir Miko



A total of twenty Slovak-born hockey players are making an appearance at various NHL training camps, vying for a contract with an NHL team. The 2013 – 2014 season for most camps in North America kicked off in September.

The Detroit Red Wings have the largest number of Slovaks vying for a permanent position on the team. Tomáš Jurčo, Tomáš Tatar and Marek Tvrdý are currently on two-way contracts with the team. A two-way contract stipulates that an athlete's salary is dependent upon the league in which the athlete is assigned to play, while a one-way contract means that the player

is paid the same amount of money regardless of whether he plays in the NHL or the AHL.

Slovak hopefuls in Edmonton are Martin Gernát and Martin Marinčin, both currently on two-way contracts. Montreal Canadiens have veteran NHL goalie Peter Budaj and newcomer Martin Réway. The 18 year old Slovak was selected by Montreal in the fourth round (116th overall) of the 2013 NHL Draft. He impressed the coaches at the junior camp and so was invited to the senior camp. He is without any contract at the moment and because of his youth will probably return to the Gatineau Olympiques to further develop his hockey skills. Michal Čajkovský is in a similar situation in Washington. The Capitals are giving the talented

defenceman a tryout, after three years in the Ontario Hockey League.

Marek Hrivík of the New York Rangers, Marek Viedenský of the San Jose Sharks and Richard Pánik of Tampa Bay, all have two way contracts at the moment and are hoping to earn permanent spots on the respective teams.

It is expected that at least ten Slovak-born players will start the season in the NHL. Zdeno Chara will continue as captain of the Boston Bruins, while the Chicago Blackhawks will be defending the Stanley Cup with Marian Hossa and Michal Handzus in their ranks. Columbus will be relying on the scoring skills of Marian Gaborik and Florida on those of Tomáš Kopec. Jaroslav Halak is expected to be number one goalie for St. Louis while Peter Budaj will be number two behind Carey Price in Montreal. Lubomír Višňovský is one of the most experienced defensemen on the New York Islanders, and Andrej Meszároš will be returning to the ranks of the Philadelphia Flyers after time off due to injury. Andrej Sekera will be taking up his defensive duties for the Buffalo Sabres.

There are other Slovaks playing for various NHL farm teams but they did not receive an invitation to the training camps.



Youngstown/Spišská Nová Ves 17th Annual Heritage Tour

**GET READY, GET SET,
LET'S GO TO SLOVAKIA!
JULY 2014**



The time is **NOW** to get ready to go to Slovakia with the Youngstown/Spišská Nová Ves Sister Cities Heritage tour set for July 2014. Once again the tour will be hosted by Jim and Kay Bench of Derry, PA.

Start talking with your grandparents or older members of your family to get information on your ancestral home in Slovakia. You will have a wonderful feeling walking the streets of the village of your ancestors.

Enjoy rafting on the Dunajec, visit Litmanova where there were sightings of the Blessed Mother in the 1990's, visit Nitra and the oldest church in Slovakia, the fairy tale castle Bojnice, enjoy museums, kolibas, traditional Slovak food, folk groups and attend the Kezmarek fair and watch craftsmen make their wares. These are just a few of the highlights of the tour.

Contact Jim and Kay Bench at jmbench@yahoo.com or phone 724-858-5843 or 724-771-7900 for further information. Paul Hudak at Adventure International Travel will be making travel arrangements. He can be reached at 216-228-7171 or 800-542-2487 or Fax 216-228-7174.

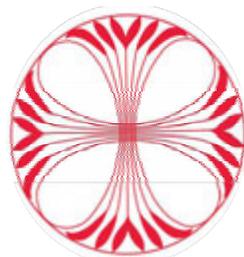
Also unique to our tour is an informative luncheon meeting with the tour participants regarding tips on currency, dos and don'ts, luggage preparations, clothing and other related tour items.

We fly out of Washington Dulles Airport to Vienna. A Mercedes Benz air-conditioned bus with a rest room awaits us there. Watch for the highlights of our very successful 2013 tour. Hope you will join us.



The Benedictine Monks of Saint Andrew Svorad 2013 Abbey Benefit

The Benedictine Monks of Saint Andrew Svorad Abbey will host their annual Abbey Benefit on Sunday, November 3, 2013. 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.



THE BENEDECTINE MONKS
PRESENT
SAINT
ANDREW SVORAD
ABBNEY
Benefit

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 \$75.00 with additional sponsorships available, including \$100.00 "Honor-a-Monk" contributions. For reservations and additional information please contact Rose Stiffar at Saint Andrew's Abbey at 216-721-5300 ext. 0 or Marie A. Golias at 216-228-8179. Please make reservations by October 21, 2013.

Enjoy Oktoberfest at St. John Nepomucene in NYC



Branch 716 invites all members, guests and friends to come enjoy Oktoberfest from 1:00PM – 6:30PM, on October 13, 2013, at St. John Nepomucene Church, 411 East 66th Street, 1st Avenue, New York City.

Attendees can enjoy Slovak, Czech and German food, music for dancing and listening pleasure from two bands – Express and Hans Schneider - and draft beer, with a beer mug you can take home. Jan Skrkon serves as Chairman for the event.

Admission price per person: \$40.00. Reservations are required. For more information or to reserve your seat, call:

Jozef Bilik at 1-718-463-2084; Anna Korčák at 1-201-670-8162; Paul Flalkovič at 1-914-375-1650; Henrieta Daitová at 1-201-641-8922; or Maria Bažckova at 1-347-612-1934.

Submitted by Henrieta H. Daitova, Branch 716 Secretary-Treasurer

Quarterly Meeting Minutes

continued from page 6

The President said after a very extensive search of possible convention sites, the search was narrowed to about 30 hotels. At that time those 30 hotels were asked to submit proposals. After careful consideration, Indianapolis and Philadelphia were chosen as possible sites for the convention, and the Executive Committee did an in-depth site visit to a total of 8 hotels. The hotels were checked to make certain they would meet our criteria for meeting space, banquet facilities, break-out rooms, and reasonable rates. The Executive Committee recommended the Sheraton Philadelphia Downtown Hotel in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The President asked the Board for comments or objections. The Board unanimously approved having the 50th Quadrennial Convention in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania at the Sheraton Philadelphia Downtown Hotel on August 23-27, 2014. The President stated he would make the official announcement in our official organ, the Jednota newspaper.

PAYMENTS OF BILLS ASSOCIATED WITH THE QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING

A motion was made by Henry Hassay and seconded by James Marmol to pay all the bills associated with the meeting. Motion carried.

DONATIONS

Donation requests were reviewed and acted upon.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to conduct, a motion was made by Henry Hassay and seconded by James Marmol to adjourn. Motion carried.

The President asked Father Thomas Nasta to end the meeting with a prayer.

Andrew M. Rajec
President

Kenneth A. Arendt
Executive Secretary

Check out the First Catholic Slovak Union website at www.fcsu.com

Upcoming United Slovak Societies Events in Lorain, OH

The United Slovak Societies will host a children's costume Halloween Bowling Party on Saturday October 26th, 2013, 1:00PM, at the American Slovak Club, 2915 Broadway Avenue, Lorain, OH. The party is open to children of St. John the Baptist Branch 228, ages 16 and under. All children must be signed up by October 18th. Contact Slovenska.Hviezda@hotmail.com.

The United Slovak Societies will host a Barnyard Polka Party on Saturday November 9, 2013 from 5-9 PM at the American Slovak Club, 2915 Broadway Avenue, Lorain. Featured musician is Ed Klimcak. The event is free and open to the public. There will be raffles, food and fun!

The United Slovak Societies will host the Annual Vilija Dinner on Saturday December 7th at 5:30PM, at the American Slovak Club, 2915 Broadway Avenue, Lorain. Advanced ticket sales only, \$20.00 pp, contact Len at 440/988-3236.

Michele Mager, Branch 228, and Secretary – United Slovak Societies

Fun Fall FAQs



Q: What did the tree say to autumn?
A: Leaf me alone.

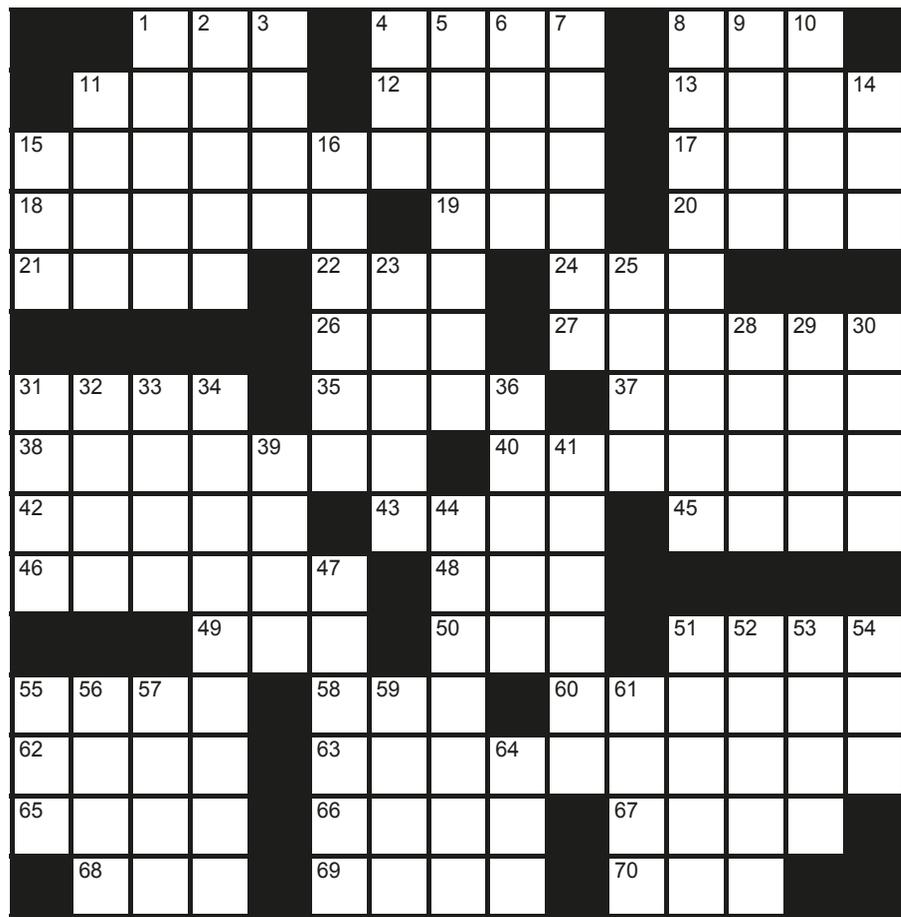
Q: What did one autumn leaf say to another?
A: I'm falling for you.

Q: How do you fix a broken pumpkin?
A: With a pumpkin patch

Q: What's the ratio of a pumpkin's circumference to its diameter?
A: Pumpkin Pi



Jednota Crossword Puzzle



Copyright ©2013 PuzzleJunction.com

Across

- 1 Bog
- 4 Aroma
- 8 Bumped into
- 11 Fury
- 12 Hibernia
- 13 Building block
- 15 TV type
- 17 Old dagger
- 18 Black Sea port
- 19 Bunk
- 20 Autos
- 21 *Diamond Lil* actress, Mae
- 22 Extinct flightless bird
- 24 Tokyo, formerly
- 26 Dash lengths
- 27 Idolize
- 31 Bad day for Caesar
- 35 Soaks, as flax
- 37 Youngster
- 38 Carryall
- 40 Magazine word
- 42 Admittance
- 43 Helper
- 45 Time zones
- 46 Gawks
- 48 Hiatus
- 49 Egyptian cobra
- 50 A, in Acapulco
- 51 Seed cover
- 55 Assist illegally
- 58 Actress Balin
- 60 Lose weight
- 62 Sandwich shop
- 63 Like a raccoon, e.g.
- 65 Assortment
- 66 Jai ____
- 67 Cattail, e.g.
- 68 *The Joy Luck Club* author, Amy

69 Fewer

70 Big ____, Calif.

Down

- 1 Withers
- 2 Cast out
- 3 Capone nemesis
- 4 Over (Poet.)
- 5 Molded, as metal
- 6 Cookie
- 7 Tenant
- 8 Moscow resident or isinglass
- 9 Sicilian city
- 10 Level
- 11 Fair attraction
- 14 French possessive
- 15 Surprise word
- 16 Photo taker
- 23 Alpha's opposite
- 25 Moore of *G.I. Jane*
- 28 Oklahoma city
- 29 Source
- 30 Sea eagles
- 31 Followers (Suffix)
- 32 "____ stop now!"
- 33 Kett of the comics
- 34 Condition of being notched
- 36 Roomy vehicle

39 Tournament passes

- 41 Extradite
- 44 Tropical lizards
- 47 Curved
- 51 French farewell
- 52 King or queen
- 53 Decorated, as a cake
- 54 ____ Zeppelin
- 55 Big fuss
- 56 Buckle holder
- 57 Lamb alias
- 59 Cairo's river
- 61 Corn units
- 64 Enlisted folks (Abbr.)

FCSU LIFE Single Premium Insurance Fall Special!

| | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Newborn Male | Newborn Female |
| \$5000 for \$410 | \$5000 for \$345 |
| \$10000 for \$820 | \$10000 for \$690 |

| | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Male - age 5 | Female - age 5 |
| \$5000 for \$475 | \$5000 for \$410 |
| \$10000 for \$950 | \$10000 for \$820 |

| | |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| Male - age 10 | Female - age 10 |
| \$5000 for \$565 | \$5000 for \$485 |
| \$10000 for \$1,130 | \$10000 for \$970 |

| | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| Male - age 15 | Female - age 15 |
| \$5000 for \$670 | \$5000 for \$570 |
| \$10000 for \$1,340 | \$10000 for \$1,140 |

Purchase Single Premium Whole Life Insurance coverage for your children or grandchildren (0 -18) and receive a **FREE \$10.00 GIFT CARD** to present with the certificate!

Features:

- Pay one premium and have fully paid-up Insurance
- Issued in any amount (\$5000 or more) subject to current FCSU LIFE non-medical limits
- Excellent gift for children or grandchildren

See Solution on Page 19

New **FREE**

Estate Planning Booklet
from the First Catholic
Slovak Union



First Catholic Slovak Union

Estate Planning Booklet



Your Personal Record Keeper

As National President Andrew M. Rajec and Executive Secretary Kenneth A. Arendt state in the beginning of the newly published Estate Planning Booklet from the First Catholic Slovak Union (FCSU) - the very foundations of our Society have been built on values that honor and protect our loved ones. The FCSU portfolio of insurance and annuity products itself, they point out, is designed with the financial protection of loved ones in mind, as well.

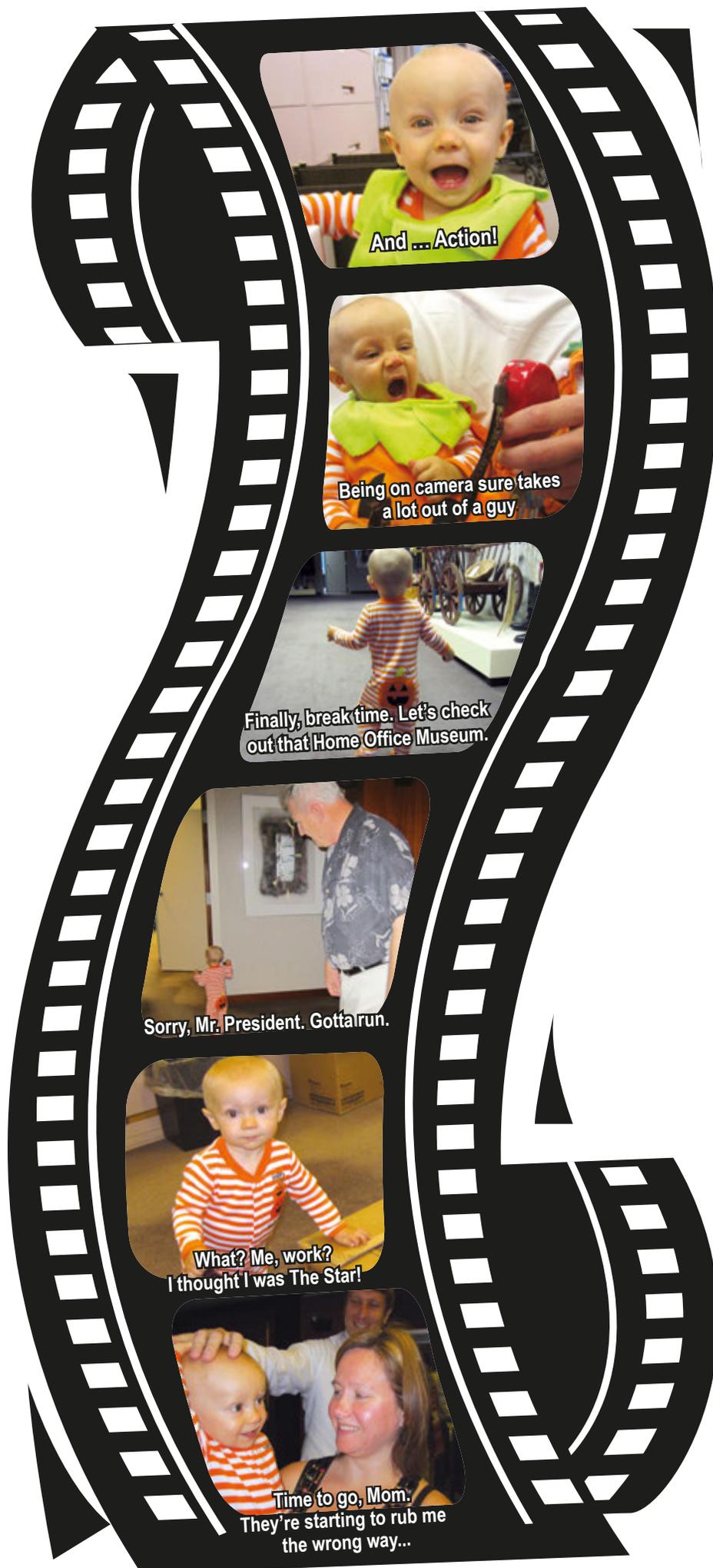
Now, as a member of the FCSU, you can receive a valuable tool for free that allows you to help your loved ones once again. Inside the pages of this personal record keeper are easy ways to record and centralize all the pertinent information for processing your estate – from personal, medical and financial information to life insurance policies, real estate holdings and other assets to final wishes for your family.

To request your free copy of the First Catholic Slovak Union Estate Planning Booklet, please call at 1-800-JEDNOTA (533-6682).

A Star on Set:
New FCSU Ad Series
Sneak Preview

Plenty of Jednota readers have commented on the sweet little boy Lukas featured in Slovak kroj (costume), posing with Chewy Čuvač to highlight the First Catholic Slovak Union's Juvenile Enrichment Policy (JEP) [Editor's note: see page 7 of this issue]. Well, readers, stay tuned ... our little star will be back, hanging out with Chewy in all manner of costumes, helping the FCSU highlight terrific product offerings.

In the meantime, here's sneak preview of what's to come in the next FCSU ad, just in time for Halloween!



The Chewy Challenge:



Check out these rates!

FCSU ANNUITY AND IRA INTEREST RATES AS OF SEPTEMBER 1, 2013

3.60% (APY) – 8 Year Flexible Premium Annuity or IRA

3.20% (APY) - 6 Year Flexible Premium Annuity or IRA

3.10% (APY) - Six Year Fixed Rate Annuity or IRA

Call today ... and get a **FREE Chewy Čuvač** with a minimum deposit of \$10,000 on any one of the above products. *Effective on deposits received by December 31, 2013.*



TAKE ME HOME!

Your very own Chewy Čuvač comes complete with FCSU Life t-shirt, dog tag, and "official" certificate of ownership



FCSU LIFE
6611 ROCKSIDE RD, STE 300
INDEPENDENCE, OHIO 44131
1-800-533-6682
FCSU@AOL.COM
WWW.FCSU.COM

BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

BRANCH 2 – PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 2 will hold its annual meeting on Tuesday Nov 11, 2013, at 7pm. It will be held at Kretzlers in Babcock Blvd. We will hold election of officers for 2014, speak about delegates for the Philadelphia convention August 23rd thru 27th in Philadelphia, PA, and discuss activities for 2014. Please reserve a place for yourself by calling Sue Ondrejko at 412-421-1204 or Joanne Lako at 412-766-3222.

Joanne Lako, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 3 – MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

Branch 3, Sts. Cyril & Methodius Society, will hold their annual meeting on Sunday, October 13, 2013, in Minneapolis, MN. The meeting will be held at 11:30AM in Father Dargay Memorial Hall, Church of Sts. Cyril & Methodius.

The agenda includes: reports of officers, activities for 2014, election of delegates to the 2014 Quadrennial Convention of the First Catholic Slovak Union, and the election of officers.

Lunch will be served after the meeting.

Fraternally yours,

James T. Genosky, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 5P - EXETER, PENNSYLVANIA

The Saint John the Evangelist Society, Branch 05P, will hold a meeting on Sunday, October 27, 2013 at 1:00 pm.

The meeting will be held at the home of Marion Rubino, Vice President, 67 9th St. Wyoming, PA.

On the agenda will be a discussion of branch business and activities. The agenda will include election of officers for 2014.

Please call Marion Rubino if you plan to attend 570-693-0399.

Marion Rubino, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 19 – BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 19K, will hold its Breakfast Meeting on Sunday, November 10, 2013. A Mass will be offered by Msgr. Joseph Pekar for our members at 8:30AM in Sts. 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:

- Emily Agoglia
- Sierra Frye
- David Gerics

This scholarship was established in recognition of the many years John A. Zahor served as preside of the St. Joseph Society and his commitment to the education of its young members.

Also, the Andrew J. Imbro Grant will be given to the following college juniors for their college expenses:

- Meghan Barry
- April Gulotti
- Renee Lorys
- Leah Phillip
- Peter Solek

This grant was established in honor of Andrew Imbro for his many years as financial secretary of the St. Joseph Society.

The annual meeting will be held Sunday, December 8, 2013, at 9:30AM in Sts. Cyril and Methodius Church Hall, 79 Church Street, Bridgeport, CT. The election of officers will take place at this meeting. We also will elect delegates for the 50th Convention of the First Catholic Slovak Union at this annual meeting.

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

Henry Zack, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 24 – CLEVELAND, OHIO

Branch 24 St. Andrew Society, will have a branch meeting at 1:00PM, with a luncheon immediately following, on Sunday, October 20, 2013 at the Old Town Hall, 6652 Brecksville Road (Rt. 21) in Independence, OH. Free parking is available behind the gazebo on the town square. The agenda will include election of officers for 2014. Please phone Branch Activities Director Susan Lang at 216-896-0957 (evenings after 6:00PM) if you plan to attend.

Bob Kopco, President

BRANCH 45 – NEW YORK, NEW YORK

The St. Matthew the Evangelist Society, Branch 45, will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, December 1, 2013 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 upcoming year. The election of officers will be held as well as the election of delegates to the 50th International Convention of the First Catholic Slovak Union in Philadelphia, PA. We urge all members to attend this meeting.

Sincerely,

Maria Jurasi, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 112 – MAHANAY CITY, PENNSYLVANIA

St. John the Baptist will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, October 13, 2013, at 1 PM at Palermos Restaurant in Minersville. The agenda will include election of officers and officers reports.

Please call 570-640-1796 for information and directions.

Members who have had a recent address change should notify:

Karen Sterling
384 Beacon Circle
Boalsburg, PA. 16827

Karen Sterling, Secretary/Treasurer

BRANCH 153 – CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

St. Stephen Branch 153 will hold our annual meeting on Saturday, October 19, at Riggio's Restaurant, 7530 West Oakton, Niles, IL.

The meeting will begin promptly at 11:30 a.m. Lunch will follow. All members are invited.

The agenda will include: Election of Officers, Membership, Charitable donations, and a discussion on the forthcoming convention in Philadelphia in August 2014. Please call if you plan to attend – (773) 763-0810.

Dorothy Jurcenko, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 162 - UNIONTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The Officers of Branch 162 and their invited guests will have a night out at the Lady Luck Casino, Nema-colin in Farmington, PA on Saturday, October 12, 2013 starting at 6:00 pm. Officers and invited guests are asked to arrive 15 minutes earlier. Non-members of the casino will have to pay a \$10 entrance fee or purchase an annual membership for \$45. Current members can use their membership to get into the casino without a fee. Lady Luck is planning to provide \$15 free Fan Play to all members with a Fan Play card, either existing or whoever signs up that night.

The evening is tentatively scheduled to start off with registration and sign-up for free fan play, a short 5 minute tour of the casino, followed by a dinner at your expense and then the rest of the evening can be spent having fun on the casino floor. There are 600 slot machines and 28 table games available for your enjoyment. For more information about Lady Luck Nema-colin, please visit their website <http://nemacoln.isleofcapricasinos.com/casino.aspx>

Dolores Marmol, Secretary

BRANCH 166 – BINGHAMTON, CAPITAL AREA, PEEKSKILL, POUGHKEEPSIE, AND SYRACUSE, NEW YORK

The St. Joseph the Guardian Society, Branch 166, will hold its Annual Meeting and Dinner on Sunday, October 13, 2013, at 1:15 P.M., at Ponderosa Steak House, 1261 Upper Front Street, Binghamton, New York. On the agenda will be the Election of Officers and a discussion of the District Meeting and Branch business. All members are encouraged to attend.

Please call Sue Gabriel at 607-729-8034 or Arlo Meeker at 607-775-4896 by October 11, 2013, to make a reservation if you plan to attend. We hope to see you at the meeting.

Arlo Meeker, President

BRANCH 166 – BINGHAMTON, CAPITAL AREA, PEEKSKILL, POUGHKEEPSIE, AND SYRACUSE, NEW YORK

The St. Joseph the Guardian Society, Branch 166, will hold its Annual Meeting and Dinner on Sunday, October 13, 2013, at 1:15 P.M., at Hibachi Grill and Sushi Supreme Buffet, Town Square Mall, 2433 Vestal Parkway East, Vestal, New York. On the agenda will be the Election of Officers and a discussion of the District Meeting and Branch business. All members are encouraged to attend.

Please call Sue Gabriel at 607-729-8034 or Arlo Meeker at 607-775-4896 by October 12, 2013, to make a reservation if you plan to attend. We hope to see you at the meeting.

Arlo Meeker, President

BRANCH 200 – FORD CITY, MICHIGAN

Branch 200 will be holding "Nomination of Officers" on November 7, 2013 following the 7:00 pm Officers

meeting. On December 5, 2013, following the 7:00 pm Officers meeting, there will be the "Election of Officers". Delegates also will be elected/appointed to the 50th Quadrennial General Convention of the FCSU at the December meeting.

All beneficial members are encouraged to attend and vote. Hope to see you at the meetings on the 1st Thursday of each month except June and July.

Fraternally,

Vicki L. Schaub, Ben./Fin. Sec./Tres.

BRANCH 228 – LORAIN, OHIO

The St. John the Baptist/Holy Trinity Lodge, Branch 228, regularly holds meetings on the 3rd Monday of each month except for the months of January, February, July and August when no meetings are held. All meetings begin at 7 P.M. and are held at the American Slovak Club on 30th and Broadway in Lorain, OH. The branch will hold its annual election of officers and by-law review during each December meeting. The exact date for this year's election meeting is December 16, 2013. At that time, we will also elect two (2) representatives to serve on the American Slovak Club Board of Directors. I appeal to our younger members to become active in our lodge to help direct our branch as well as becoming involved with the Slovak Club and the United Slovak Societies. The First Catholic Slovak Union will conduct another convention next year and we will be sending delegates to voice our local's concerns. Input from any and all members is appreciated. Visit the websites for the FCSU at fcsu.com and the Slovak Club at americanslovakclub.com for an update on current activities. Come to our meetings. You won't be disappointed.

Thomas B. Zuffa, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 380 – CANONSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Ignatius Society, Branch 380, will hold its annual meeting on October 27, 2013, at King's Restaurant, Canonsburg, PA. The time is 2:00PM. On the agenda: election of officers.

Fraternally,

Margaret Graytok

BRANCH 382 – SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA

The Saints Cyril and Methodius Society, Branch 382 K of Scranton, PA, will hold its Annual Fall Meeting on Sunday, November 3, 2013. The meeting will convene at noon in the VFW, 110 Chestnut Street, Dunmore, PA.

On the agenda will be the reports of the officers, a report from District 17 representatives, information from the Home Office, donations, and future activities. Auditing of the books will be conducted.

Election of officers for 2014 will take place as well as election of Branch delegates to the 2014 Quadrennial Convention of the First Catholic Slovak Union.

Refreshments will be served.

All Branch 382 members are encouraged to attend.

Elizabeth M. Slovenkai, Vice President

BRANCH 382 – SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 382, of Scranton, Pa., is updating their files and looking for the following members:

Stephen Bonick, Jared Brown, Taryn Brown, Nannette Contardi, Nicholas Edward Cook, Paul Crambo Sr., Ronald Crambo Jr., Tara M. Crambo, Christopher Czankner, Jessica Czankner, Sarah M. Czankner, Jami Lyn Dougherty, Ryan J. Dougherty, Cheryl A. Glinesky, Thomas Hanis, Jillian Louise Hetsko, Michael Kapacs, Kenneth G. Kochis, Michael J. Kolebar, Mark Kosko, Edward Kucha, James T. Legg Jr., Michelene Malosh, Nicholas August McDonald, Henry Moeller, Bevin Monaghan, Colleen Monaghan, Todd Morgan, Margaret Opsasnick, Dianne Parsons, Ann Polovitch, Joanne Rovani, Lynn M. Schultz, Sarah Ann Scotchlas, Darlene M. Skrip, Charlene Strodoski, Carol Swartz, Erin Walsh, Beverly Marie Yedinak.

If you are, or know any of these members, please contact:

John J. Slovenkai Sr.
Financial Secretary
FCSU Branch 382KJ
318 Fourteenth Avenue
Scranton, Pennsylvania
18504-2512

John J. Slovenkai, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 393 – GREENSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 393, will hold a meeting and election of officers on Sunday, November 3, 2013, at 1:00PM at New City Buffet, 5142 State Route 30, Suite 175, Greensburg, PA, 15601. All members are invited. For reservations, please call

Mary Ann Nalevanko at 1-724-834-6386.

Mary Ann Nalevanko, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 493 – CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Society, Branch 493 in Chicago, IL, will hold its Annual Meeting, Election of Officers, and Election of Convention Delegates on Saturday, November 30, 2013. Location: Mabenka Restaurant, 7844 S. Cicero Avenue, Burbank, IL. Attendees will gather at 1:30 pm for a period of fraternal fellowship with refreshments. The meeting will start at 2:00 pm. After the meeting, attendees will enjoy a delicious dinner. If you plan to attend, call the Financial Secretary at (773) 558-5956, or (502) 244-6643 by Wednesday, November 27. We need to give an accurate head count to the restaurant.

Robert Tapak Magruder, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 553 – AKRON, OHIO

St. John the Baptist Branch 553 will be hosting our first Oktoberfest on October 19, 2013, at the Slovak J Club, 485 Morgan Avenue, Akron, OH, 44311. The evening will include a buffet with Slovak homemade sausage, kielbasa, haluski, kraut, onions, peppers, and much more. Cocktail hour will begin at 5PM (cash bar). Dinner will be served at 6PM and the music and dancing will start at 7PM. Music will be provided by Eric Noltkamper. The cost is \$15.00 per person. Reservations only and the ticket sales will be limited. Contact Linda Hanko at 330-773-4978 or pick up your tickets at the club.

Mark your calendar for Sunday, November 24, 2013. The branch will be holding the last lodge meeting of the year. Election of officers will take place at this meeting for the year 2014. Come take an active role in your branch. We look forward to seeing all members at this meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

**Linda M. Hanko, Recording/
Financial Secretary**

BRANCH 567 – ALLENTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, Branch 567 KJ will hold their annual meeting on Wednesday, November 13, 2013 at 10:00AM at the home of the Recording Secretary.

On the agenda will be our annual financial report; nomination and election of officers for the year 2014 and the election of delegates for the FCSU 50th Quadrennial Convention being held in Philadelphia, PA in August 2014.

We will also discuss our fundraising plans for the year 2014.

Loretta Dashner, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 587 – ALIQUPPA, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 587, will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Sunday, November 10, 2013, at 2:00PM at Alexander Restaurant in Ambridge, PA. All members are invited to attend for the election of officers for the coming year. The election of delegates to the convention in Philadelphia, PA, in August 2014 will also take place. For reservations, call Albert Valo at 724-375-2287 by November 1st.

Edith Valo, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 595 – MUSEKOGON, MICHIGAN

Branch 595 is announcing to all our members that our fabulous "All you can eat Breakfast" has just resumed September 22, 2013, at Tatra Hall, 2536 Sixth Street, Muskegon Heights, MI. Breakfast is served from 8:30am till noon. Come and enjoy all the great food.

We would like to thank everyone that attended the "Hotter than Hades" party. The party, to raise money for the air-conditioning fund, was FUN!!!

We will be having election of officers in December. The member' meeting will be held at Tatra Hall. Please mark your calendar for this important date-- December 15, 2013 at 2:00pm.

The officers of Branch 595 would like to encourage you visit your club and check into the amenities that membership in the FCSU has to offer.

Thank you

Laura Karafa, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 633 - FLINT, MICHIGAN

The Sacred Heart of Jesus Society, Branch 633, will hold its annual meeting at 1:00PM on Saturday, November 10, 2013, at Teppanyaki Grill at G-3583 Miller Road in Flint (former Old Country Buffet) by the Target store. Election of officers will be held. All members are asked to attend.

Eva Craine, Secretary

BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

continued from page 14

BRANCH 633 – FLINT, MICHIGAN

Branch 633 will hold its annual group outing on November 22, 2013 @ 7pm. District 5 President and Branch 633 Vice President Robert Kristofik will be leading the cheers as the branch attends the Friday night Detroit Pistons game against the Atlanta Hawks. We will meet in the main lobby of the Palace of Auburn Hills @ 6:30pm. Anyone in the branch interested in attending please call Rod Meloni @ 248-444-9141 as soon as possible so we can arrange to have everyone seated together.

Rod Meloni

BRANCH 682 – YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

The St. George Society, Branch 682, will hold its next general meeting on Sunday, October 20, 2013, at 2:30PM at Material Research Laboratories, located at 290 North Bridge Street, Struthers, OH, 44471. On the agenda will be nomination of officers, and possible election. All members are encouraged to attend. Members should also mark their calendars for Sunday, December 1, 2013, as Branch 682 will hold its Christmas party then, starting at 2:30PM in the same location.

Joseph T. Scavina, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 706 – ORLAND PARK, ILLINOIS

The St. Anthony of Padua Branch 706 will hold its Annual Meeting on Friday, November 1st, 2013, at 3:00pm at the home of Vice President, Barbara Fayta, 1544 Rokosz Lane, Dyer, Indiana. If you plan on attending, please call Barbara at 219-864-8251, so arrangements for refreshments can be made. Dinner will follow the meeting. On the agenda discussion on insurance sales and new business will be discussed. If you have moved or know of a member that has moved; please send us their address so we may update our files.

At the meeting a discussion will be held about the upcoming FCSU Convention in August of 2014.

Fraternally,

Barbara Fayta, Vice President

BRANCH 716 – NEW YORK, NEW YORK

The Stephen the Martyr Society, Branch 716, will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, December 1, 2013, at 1:00PM in the Parish Hall, St. John Nepomucene Church, 411 East 66th Street, 1st Avenue, New York City.

On the agenda will be a financial report, election of officers for 2014, and discussions of plans for the next season. Also on the agenda: the election of delegates to the 50th International Convention of the First Catholic Slovak Union in Philadelphia, PA.

All members are urged to attend this meeting. After the meeting, refreshments prepared by Jan Skrkn will be served, courtesy of Branch 716.

Fraternally,
Henrieta H. Daitova, Secretary/Treasurer

BRANCH 731 – YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

Saint Joseph Branch 731 will meet on October 20, 2013 at Noon at Saint Matthias Church rectory, 915 Cornell Street, Youngstown, OH. The agenda includes our annual meeting of December and the election of officers at that meeting. Also on the program is the National Convention in August of 2014. Please try to attend.

Jim Bobby, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 735 – PORTLAND, OREGON

The next regular branch meeting is scheduled for 1:00pm on Sunday, December 8, 2013, in the St. Patrick's Church hall, NW 19th and NW Savier Streets in Portland, Oregon. This is our annual meeting where there will be the election of officers for 2014. All Slovaks are welcome to join us in a party celebrating the Christmas season after the meeting.

Herbert L. Hirst, President

BRANCH 738 – MUNHALL, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Michael's Branch 738 is planning its biannual membership appreciation gala dinner on October 13, 2013, at the Westwood Country Club, West Mifflin, PA. Cocktails at 5 pm and dinner will be at 6 pm. RSVP to 412-496-0224 if you can attend. All members are welcome and we would love to see you all. Cost is \$5 per member and \$15 per guest.

Also Branch 738 will be holding its semi-annual meeting Tuesday December 3rd at 6:30 pm at the VFW Post on Whitaker Way in Munhall PA. All members are invited. Nominations for delegates to the National Convention will be discussed along with current lounge business. Please plan on coming and becoming a more active member of your branch.

Patricia Guidish, Secretary/Treasurer

BRANCH 743 – STERLING HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 743 will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, December 1 2013, at 1:00 p.m. On the agenda will be Officer Report, a 2013 financial report, approval of the 2014 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.

In addition, the 50th Convention of the FCSU will be held in Philadelphia, PA from August 23rd through the 27th, 2014 at the Sheraton Downtown Hotel. Election of delegates and alternates will take place at this meeting.

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 8, 2013 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 2014, as well as discussion of next summer's convention. 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 784 - MONTREAL, QUEBEC

Our Annual meeting of Branch 784 will be held on November 17, 2013, at the Sts Cyril and Methodius Parish Hall following the 10.30 Mass. Elections of officers for 2014 and New Year's agenda will be discussed. A light lunch will be served. Please contact Ann Boyce at 514-685-4236 or Ann Chandik at 514-684-0177 to confirm your attendance.

Alice Dobrik, President

BRANCH 796 – EGYPT, PENNSYLVANIA

The Holy Trinity Society, Branch 796 will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, November 10, 2013, at 1PM in the church basement of Holy Trinity R.C. Church Egypt, PA. All members are welcome to attend. We will also be joined by Sokol Branch 255. Many topics to be discussed. Slovak food and drink to follow the meeting.

Jerry Lloyd, Secretary

BRANCH 810 – MONTREAL, QUEBEC

Our Annual meeting of branch 810 will be held on November 17, 2013, at the Sts Cyril and Methodius Parish Hall following the 10.30 Mass. Elections of officers for 2014 and New Year's agenda will be discussed. A light lunch will be served. Please contact Elka Gadosy at 514-634-9650 to confirm your attendance.

Mary Jarabek, President

BRANCH 855 – PARMA, OHIO

The Holy Name of Jesus Society, Branch 855, will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, November 10, 2013.

The meeting will be held at 1:30PM at Carrie Cerino's Restaurant, 8922 Ridge Road, North Royalton, OH, 44133.

The Agenda includes the election of officers and discussion of the upcoming 2014 Convention.

Please contact Linda Kolesar at 440-886-0206 by November 1, 2014, if you plan to attend.

Fraternally,

Linda Kolesar, Secretary-Treasurer

BRANCH 855 – PARMA, OHIO

Branch 855, will hold an officer's meeting on Sunday, November 24, 2013 at 2:00PM at the residence of Branch President Michael Kolesar.

The Agenda includes a discussion of the upcoming 2014 Convention and a newly elected officer orientation.

Fraternally,

Linda Kolesar, Secretary-Treasurer

DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISTRICT 2 - REV. JOHN J. SPITKOVSKY DISTRICT

The Rev. John J. Spitkovsky District will hold its Annual Meeting & Election of Officers on Sunday, October 27, 2013. Location: the Missionary Benedictine Convent at 5900 W. 147th Street in Oak Forest, IL. Attendees will gather at 1:30 pm for a period of fraternal fellowship and refreshments. The meeting will start at 2:00 pm. All branches are urged to send delegates to the meeting. Individual Jednota members who are interested in becoming more active in District 2 are also welcome to attend. We will enjoy a delicious catered dinner. If you plan on attending, please call the District Spiritual Advisor Dorothy Jurcenko at (773) 763-0810 so she can order enough food and beverages.

Robert Tapak Magruder

DISTRICT 4 – MSGR. JOHN E. RURA DISTRICT

The next semi-annual meeting of the Msgr. Rura District of New Jersey will be held on Sunday, October 20, 2013 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 October 13th. Agenda will include discussion of next summer's Convention. Refreshments will be served.

Mary J. Kapitan, Secretary

DISTRICT 5 – MICHIGAN DISTRICT

The Michigan District will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, October 27, 2013 at St. Patrick's Ryan Church Hall in Merrill, MI. The traditional Thanksgiving dinner will be served, starting at 11:00AM. The business meeting shall begin at 1:00PM. The church hall is located at 4708 South Meridan Road (M30). Please notify Katherine Stevens, at 989-835-9895 by October 24, 2013, with the number of delegates that will be attending from your branch.

Since this is our annual meeting, the election of officers will be on the agenda, along with discussion of the convention in Philadelphia next year.

Our district president, Robert Kristofik, encourages all branches to be represented. Hoping to see many new faces.

Anna Magusin, District Secretary

DISTRICT 6 – PITTSBURGH DISTRICT

Branch 2 will host the annual Fall/Winter meeting of the FCSU/Pittsburgh District on Sunday, December 15, 2013, at the Holy Trinity Parish Hall in West Mifflin. The business meeting will start promptly at 1 PM. You won't miss the game. The Steelers play Cincinnati & the kick-off is at 8:30 PM.

The meeting will include officers' reports, discussion of district business, and planning for meetings and events in 2014. District Officers for 2014 will be elected at this meeting. The 50th FCSU convention, to be held next year in Philadelphia, will also be discussed and we will elect our District Delegate. The Call for Convention can be found at www.fcsu.com.

This year the District will host a Christmas Eve Vilija in conjunction with our meeting. The Vilija will start at 2 PM. The Vilija is open both to members and to the general public. JEDNOTA members will pay \$5.00 per person.

Non-members will pay \$20.00 per person. RESERVATIONS are a MUST. RSVP to Sue Ondrejco at 412-421-1204 or by email to smosr@verizon.net.

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:

** The Pitt Slovak Heritage Festival will be held Sunday, November 3 at the Cathedral of Learning.

** A photographic exhibit marking the 1150th anniversary of the arrival of Sts. Cyril and Methodius in Eastern Europe will be shown in conjunction with the Pitt Slovak Heritage Festival.

** Another Slovak Vilija will be held Sunday, December 8 at Bishop Connare Center in Greensburg PA. Call Darlene for information at 724-537-7743.

** Yet another Slovak Vilija will be held Saturday, December 14 at Prince of Peace Parish in Pittsburgh PA. Call Paul for information at 412-481-8380.

** WPSCA monthly meetings are held on the 1st Monday of the month at 7 PM at the Mt Lebanon Public Library. Topics are: October 7: Andy Warhol, November 4: History of Immigration – Slovakia to US, December 2: Slovak Dolls & a Visit from St Nick, January 6: 1st Timer's Travelogue, February 3: Egg Decorating.

** Slovak Language Classes will be held Tuesdays in the fall & spring. Call Joe Senko at 412-956-9000 during office hours for information about reservations and fees.

** The National Slovak Society Museum in McMurray PA is open Monday-Thursday from 9-3. Call Sue Ondrejco for information.

** The WPSCA is going to establish a Slovak Lending Library. Contact Joe Senko for information.

** Various Slovak programs and courses are available through the University of Pittsburgh Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures. See www.slavic.pitt.edu

Anyone with additional Slovak events in Western Pennsylvania that they wish to be included in our district notice should send information to manasta@verizon.net

Fraternally,

Margaret A. Nasta, Secretary

DISTRICT 7 - REV. JOHN MARTVON DISTRICT - BLAIR, CAMBRIA, INDIANA, SOMESSET, AND BEDFORD COUNTIES, PENNSYLVANIA

The Rev. John Martvon District will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, October 27, 2013, beginning at 2:00PM. The meeting will be held in Sts. Cyril and Methodius Church Hall, Graham Ave., Windber, PA, with Branch 292, St. John the Baptist, as the host.

On the agenda will be the election of officers and a delegate to the 50th Quadrennial Convention to be held in Philadelphia, PA. Also, a matter tabled from the semi-annual meeting of officers missing two consecutive meetings without a valid excuse will be brought up. Member branches that have not paid their dues may do so at this meeting, and also the requirement to have a delegate from their branch at one yearly meeting to receive the yearly stipend.

Joseph E. Rura, Recording Secretary

continued from page 16



Rest in Peace, Our Departed Members

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



| Branch | Name | Branch | Name | Branch | Name | Branch | Name |
|--------|-----------------------|--------|---------------------|--------|----------------------------|--------|-----------------------|
| 001K | Rose M Smolko | 075K | Emma L Walsh | 553K | William J Clawson | 784K | Stanley Kubina |
| 002K | Frederick R Dalak | 153K | Stephen Cermak Iii | 553K | Lizabeth M Colando | 785K | Marie Elizabeth Kapsa |
| 002K | William J Hirschfield | 166K | Irene C Dellapenta | 553K | Mark A Garbinsky | 831K | Ronald P Collins |
| 002K | Joseph L Nicolella | 166K | Jeanne R Kavulich | 595K | Bartholomew A (bert) Hanis | 831K | Andrew J Makara |
| 004K | John W Cabalik Jr | 173K | Catherine Broderick | 682K | Helen Louise Wacht | 855K | Edward R Beno Sr |
| 019K | Richard J Kikta | 173K | Thomas Maslowsky | 716K | Joseph S Grena | 855K | Robert J Plavcan |
| 023K | George J Kollar | 221K | Anthony Sopko | 731K | Eleanor L Biej | 855K | Joanne Kmets Walsh |
| 035K | Ruth A Darak | 240P | Jean M Ahearn | 731K | Alma E Macejko | 857K | Michael J Stanya Jrr |
| 038K | Louise S Mihalek | 312K | Todd Michael Homer | 743K | Clement C Kolesar | | |
| 040K | Maxine Brierly | 484K | Louise C Adamo | 746K | Barbara J Opalach | | |
| 040K | Mary Arlene Corrigan | 484K | Francis E Dolney | 756K | Mary Ellen Klco | | |
| 040K | Mary H Mackovic | 543K | Robert K Janowski | 764K | Susan M Dolgae | | |

*Processed through the month of September 2013

OBITUARIES

CATHERINE C. BRODERICK BRANCH 173 – WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA



On August 12, 2013, Catherine Chupka Broderick, loving wife of George V. Broderick, passed away peacefully at home while surrounded by family. She was born in Wilkes Barre, PA on October 2, 1918, and moved to the Washington, DC area in the 1940's. Catherine was the cherished mother of Mary and Susan; grandmother of Allyson, Erin, Emily, and Ryan. She is also survived by her sisters Margaret, Mary, and Theresa Chupka; and by many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by siblings Joseph and Helen.

Visitation was held on Friday, August 16, 2013 from 9 a.m. until the time of the Mass of Christian Burial at 10 a.m. at St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church, Silver Spring, MD. A reception immediately followed the Mass in the Williamsburg Room. Interment was at Gate of Heaven Cemetery.

- Submitted by George Broderick

GEORGIA ZELEZNICK BRANCH 327 – POTTSTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

Georgia Zeleznick, 65, of Bards Way, Pottstown, PA, passed away on Thursday, March 28, 2013 at her residence. Born in Pottstown, she was the daughter of the late George W. and Veronica R. "Verna" (Piroschak) Zeleznick. Georgia was a retired Adjunct for St. Joseph's University, Philadelphia, PA. She was a member of St. John the Baptist Byzantine Catholic Church, Pottstown. She was a former member of Holy Trinity R.C.C., South Street, Pottstown, and a member and the First Catholic Slovak

Union (Jednota) Branch 327. She is predeceased by her parents and her two brothers, Stephen and Eugene Zeleznick. Divine Liturgy was celebrated in St. John The Baptist Byzantine Catholic Church on Wednesday, April 3, 2013 at 10:30 a.m. Interment was in Holy Trinity Cemetery, Stowe, PA. The family received friends on that same Wednesday from 9 - 10 AM at Warker-Troutman Funeral Home, Pottstown, with Panachida services at 10 a.m. at the funeral home.

- Submitted by Jill Diffendal

MICHAEL J. STANYA, JR. BRANCH 857 – LEVITTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA



Michael J. Stanya Jr. of Levittown, PA, passed away Tuesday, Aug. 27, 2013. He was 38.

He was a graduate of Bishop Egan High School, Class of 1993; was employed by Penn Power / Northeast Energy Systems; and was an avid Pittsburgh Steelers fan, but most of all, he was a devoted husband, father, and son.

Michael is survived by his wife, Jeanine; sons, Jacob and Ryan; his parents, Michael and Doris; his sister, Janeen Kaplan, his brother, Stephen; and many nieces, nephews, aunts, and uncles.

Relatives and friends were invited to Michael's life celebration from 6 to 9 p.m. Tuesday, August 27, 2013, and from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. Wednesday, August 28, 2013, at Beck-Givnish of Levittown, followed by a Mass at 10 a.m. Wednesday, at St. Michael the Archangel Church in Levittown. His interment was in Resurrection Cemetery.

- Submitted by Andy Herman,
Branch 857 Secretary

DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISTRICT 9 - FRANK T. HOLLY J. DISTRICT

The Frank T. Holly J. District of Uniontown, PA, will hold a meeting on Sunday, October 13, 2013, at 1PM at the Hampton Inn meeting room located at 698 W. Main Street, Uniontown, PA. Branch members are encouraged to attend this meeting and seminar.

Barbara Holly, Secretary

DISTRICT 10 – THE REV STEPHEN FURDEK DISTRICT

The Rev. Stephen Furdek District 10 will be holding the last meeting for 2013 on November 17, 2013, at the Slovak J Club, 485 Morgan Avenue, Akron, OH 44311 at 2:00 pm. All District 10 members are urged to attend this meeting.

We will be holding our election for the 2014 year at this meeting. If you are interested in running for office please attend this meeting.

All branches should try to send a representative to this meeting to fulfill your obligations for the yearly stipend and convention attendance.

If you plan on attending this meeting please contact Linda Hanko at lhanko@neo.rr.com or call 330-706-0151. We need a head count for refreshments.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda M. Hanko, Secretary/Treasurer

DISTRICT 11 - MSGR JOSEF TISO DISTRICT

The Annual Meeting of the Msgr. Josef Tiso District (District 11) will be held on Sunday, October 27, 2013. Time and place are 2:00 PM at the C.U. Club 910 Sixth Avenue, Ford City, PA 16226. Branches should identify their representatives who will attend to Grace Charney, District Secretary, at (724) 664-7185 by Oct 26.

Reminders:

- Per FCSU By-Laws, Branch representation at one (1) District meeting per year is required to qualify for receipt of the annual Branch stipend for membership.

- District attendance information is submitted to Headquarters in February each year.

- There is no requirement that Branch representative(s) at District meetings be officers of the Branch; any beneficial member who attends District meetings satisfies this By-Law requirement.

Thank you.

Grace M. Charney, Secretary

DISTRICT 13 – JOZEF CARDINAL TOMKO DISTRICT

Jozef Cardinal Tomko District 13 will hold a semi-annual meeting on Sunday, October 13, 2013, following a complimentary luncheon at 2:00PM at Cozy Corners in Osceola Mills, PA, 16866 – Route 53 South from Philipsburg, PA, 16866.

Members from District 13 branches are requested to attend. 2013 dues are requested if not paid from each branch. There will be election of officers for 2014.

Please call or fax Rosemary Deliman at 814-342-5592 or email her at rmdeliman@comcast.net if you are able to attend.

Rosemary Deliman, Secretary

DISTRICT 15 – PRINCE PRIBINA DISTRICT

The Prince Pribina District cordially extends an open invitation to celebrate with us on Sunday November 3, 2013, at Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, 710 Sultana Ave, Ontario, CA, where Fr. Pavol Sochulak, SVD, serves as pastor. The All Saints and All Souls Mass will begin at 3:00 PM. After Mass we will play Slovak music, while serving refreshments in the cafeteria. We invite all Slovaks and Slovak friends to join us for a very pleasant afternoon in Ontario, CA.

Paul Skuben, President

DISTRICT 16 – MSGR. STEPHEN KRASULA DISTRICT – NEW YORK CITY

The Msgr. Stephen Krasula District 16 will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, November 24, 2013, at 1:00PM in the Rectory of St. Nepomucene Church, 411 East 66th, 1st Ave., New York, NY, 10065.

On the agenda will be a financial report, a discussion of activities, and election of District 16 officers for the year 2014. It also will be election of delegates for the 50th Convention in Philadelphia, PA.

We urge all district branches to send their representatives to this meeting. All members of the FCSU – not just delegates – are welcome.

After the annual meeting, excellent refreshments will be served, prepared by Jan Skrkon, courtesy of Branch 716, the St. Stephen Society.

Fraternally,

Henrieta H. Daitova, Secretary-Treasurer

DISTRICT 20 – PRINCE RASTISLAV DISTRICT – MONTREAL

The Prince Rastislav District will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday November 17, 2013, at the Sts Cyril and Methodius Church Hall, following the 10.30 AM Mass. Discussion of past activities and plans for the New Year, election of officers and the 2014 convention will be on the agenda. Branches 784 and 810 are encouraged to attend. A light lunch will be served, and we ask you to contact Anne Chandik at 514-684-0177 to confirm your attendance.

Alexander S. Dobrik, President

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

News From Slovakia

Indian Ambassador Visits Revuca and Gemer Region

Revuca, September 27 (TASR) - Indian Ambassador to Slovakia Rajiva Misra paid a visit to Gemer (a traditional area that administratively falls in parts of the Banska Bystrica and Kosice regions) on this date to become more familiar with the area and explore venues for co-operation, according to Revuca (Banska Bystrica region) Mayor Eva Cirenova.

Misra will see the production of synthetic carpets later in the day and take a tour of the scenic nature, including Domic Cave. "We're continuing with the process of inviting ambassadors to Revuca in an attempt to establish contacts that could revive the whole region in the future," said Cirenova. She said businessmen in Revuca should be able to find ways to co-operate with India, she said, adding that tourism has great potential in this regard.

"In Revuca, I wanted to learn more about the economic state of the town as well as the region. Furthermore, I also hoped to have someone [a Slovak official] travel to India to pursue further co-operation, too," added Misra.

State Secretary Burian Visits China

Bratislava, September 26 (TASR) - Foreign and European Affairs Ministry State Secretary Peter Burian held talks on bilateral relations and international political issues with Chinese Deputy Foreign Affairs Minister Song Tao in China on Thursday.

Both sides praised the ongoing political dialogue between Slovakia and China and discussed opportunities to develop economic relations.

The Chinese side expressed readiness to negotiate new projects within existing as well as planned co-operation initiatives.

Recent political consultations represent the continuation of renewed co-operation between Slovakia with China after the new political leadership in China took over in March 2013.

Burian's visit is in line with the process of enhanced co-operation between China and the 16 countries of Central and Eastern Europe and paves the way for a planned visit by Slovak Vice-Premier and Foreign and European Affairs Minister Miroslav Lajcak to China.

Another 100 Jobs to be Created at Local Industrial Park

Lipany, September 25 (TASR) - Four new companies intend to launch their operations at the industrial park in Lipany (Presov region), with plans to create a total of 100 new jobs.

According to Lipany mayor Eduard Vokal, two Slovak electric energy producers Repox and BioLipany plan to create 23 jobs in the village. The companies plan to launch the construction works later this year, with the beginning of the production slated for the first half of 2014.

"Currently, the environmental impact assessment is in its final stages also for two other companies that plan to manufacture fuel components and briquettes. The EUROBAU-JM and Expresline are expected to offer employment to some 75 people," said Vokal. Construction for these two production facilities is likely to start 2014.

The industrial park was built in 2006 and contains four mechanical engineering firms at the moment.

Comenius University Launches 95th Academic Year

Bratislava, September 23 (TASR) - Comenius University officially launched the 2013-14 academic year on Monday, with some 30,000 students enrolled in 863 programs at the Bratislava-based university's 13 faculties.

The university is Slovakia's largest and launched what is already its 95th academic year. While the university is facing heavy competition especially from counterparts in the nearby cities of Vienna and Brno, it continues to attract prospective students, said the institution's rector Karol Micieta.

The level of interest in some disciplines is way too high, he added, but pointed out that the opposite is the case vis-a-vis teaching degrees. "That's obviously where some downward development has been observed. I mean, students aren't overly interested and only those who are truly committed to it seek to study in these programmes," said Micieta. [Slovak teachers make, on average, about €840 a month - ed. note]

According to the rector, the university has also seen increased interest coming from foreign students. Currently, 2,400 foreign students are interested in taking up studies at the institution. "We're not striving for large numbers, but for quality. That means not only maintain it but also raise it," said Micieta.

Tens of Thousands Gather in Kosice for First Pro-life March

Kosice, September 22 (TASR) - Tens of thousands of people came to Kosice on Sunday to join the National March for Life, aimed at promoting the need to protect human life from conception to natural death and the institution of marriage between a man and a woman, TASR learnt later the same day.

According to early estimates from the organizers, the march featured between 60,000-70,000 enthusiasts. The rally was kicked off in the afternoon on Hlavna Street in Kosice with a manifesto in which the organizers appealed to Slovakia's senior political representatives to create such legislative conditions that would protect the right to live of all people from conception up to natural death. Their requirements presented in the appeal also involved the legislative protection of the institution of marriage between a man and woman.

The first-ever pro-life march in Slovakia was given a blessing from Pope Francis. His greetings were delivered to the gathering by Papal Nuncio Mario Giordana.

In addition, the event, organized by the Slovak Bishops Conference (KBS) and a number of NGOs, was accompanied by strict security measures.

Zichy Castle in Voderady Can Serve as National Olympic Centre

Voderady, September 22 (TASR) - The castle in the village of Voderady (Trnava region) with its large adjacent park could be reconstructed and serve as a national Olympic Centre, said Prime Minister Robert Fico on Sunday.

The building, currently owned and administered by the Trnava region, formerly seated a high school, but is now abandoned. The first written record of the village itself dates back to 1243, which was commemorated on Sunday in the presence of the prime minister.

As Fico added, the potential reconstruction of the site in its first phases could feature volunteers from the ranks of students and top athletes.

Chairman of the Trnava regional government (TTSK) Tibor Mikus in his speech during the celebrations added that setting up of such a centre could attract both Slovak and foreign tourists to the area and help to promote it. Meanwhile, Mikus has been lobbying for the idea for a couple of years now, presenting the plan to senior representatives of the Slovak Olympic Committee in 2012.

Although it's not known when it was originally built, the castle was completely reconstructed in the mid-18th century by the Zichy family in the late baroque style. It's been estimated that the building, and its 10-hectare park, could be worth €2.63 million.

Number of Foreign Tourists in Slovakia Up 16 percent

Bratislava, September 18 (TASR) - The number of visitors who stayed in accommodation facilities throughout Slovakia posted a sound annual rise in the first half of 2013, with the number of specifically foreign visitors going up at an even higher than the overall pace, reported by the Slovak Tourism Board (SACR) on this date.

The total number of visitors went up by 10.9 percent on the year, while a rise of 16.1 percent was observed with foreign visitors. As far as Slovak tourists are concerned, the rise amounted to 7.6 percent.

In actual numbers, the year-over-year rise amounted to close to 200,000 tourists. A total of some 1,892,000 people were put up in Slovak accommodation facilities between January-June, with 771,000 of them coming from abroad.

The largest numbers of tourists came to Slovakia from the Czech Republic, Poland, Germany, Ukraine, Hungary, Austria and Russia. The most notable annual increases were for tourists from Ukraine - a whopping 162 percent, followed by those from Russia (47 percent), Hungary (26 percent) and Austria (19 percent).

The numbers of tourists arriving in Slovakia from India, Brazil, the USA and China also posted increases on the year. According to SACR, positive developments are also being seen when it comes to tourists from Scandinavia, the Baltic countries, the Netherlands and Spain.

Attention: FCSU Mobile Members!



Use your smart phone to download a QR-code reader. Then take a photo of this icon for more information on our Society wherever you are - at home or on the go.

REFLECTIONS ON THE POPE'S MONTHLY INTENTIONS • October 2013

General Intention - People in Despair

That those feeling so crushed by life that they wish to end it may sense the nearness of God's love..



In his first meeting with the Cardinals who elected him, Pope Francis said, "Let us never yield to pessimism, to that bitterness that the devil offers us every day; let us not yield to pessimism or discouragement." Yet many people fall into depression and despair. Psychiatry shows that the causes of depression and despair can be many and complex, as are the treatments.

The Christian faith tells us that the Son of God entered into human suffering. Jesus offers hope by revealing the love of God to us. On Divine Mercy Sunday Pope Francis said: "For God, we are not numbers, we are important, indeed we are the most important thing to him;...we are what is closest to his heart."

Faith doesn't take suffering away, but it does give the assurance that we are not abandoned in our pain but close to Jesus who has triumphed over suffering and death. As Pope Francis said: "Christ opened the path to us. He is like a roped

guide climbing a mountain who, on reaching the summit, pulls us up to him and leads us to God. If we entrust our life to him, if we let ourselves be guided by him, we are certain to be in safe hands, in the hands of our Savior, of our Advocate."

The Pope reminds us that in suffering "we are never alone...we have with us a multitude of brothers and sisters who, in silence and concealment, in their family life and at work, in their problems and hardships, in their joys and hopes, live faith daily and together with us bring the world the lordship of God's love."

This month with our loving prayers, words, and actions we support all those who feel crushed by life.

Reflection

What is the best thing to say or do for someone who wants to die?

Scripture

Romans 15:1-6, 13 By endurance and by the encouragement of the scriptures may we have hope.

Mission Intention - World Mission Day

That the celebration of World Mission Day may help all Christians realize that we are not only receivers but proclaimers of God's word..

Pope Francis said that "withdrawal into self is a very common temptation." This temptation affects parishes and dioceses, nations and individuals. But as Christians we are called to go out of ourselves and bring the message of God's love to every human being.

For Pope Francis this call is urgent "because there are so many peoples who are still not acquainted with Christ and have not yet encountered him." Thus, "we are called to open ourselves more and more to the action of the Holy Spirit, to offer our unreserved readiness to be instruments of God's mercy, of his tenderness, of his love for every man and every woman and especially for the poor, the outcast and those who are distant."

God wants to give the gift of faith to the whole world, but that is possible only through our efforts. It's natural to feel weak and incompetent in our attempts to share the faith with others, but we do not give in to discouragement. Why? Because, as Pope Francis said: "We all experience our poverty, our weakness in taking the precious treasure of the Gospel to the world, but we must constantly repeat St Paul's words: 'we have this treasure in earthen vessels, to show that the transcendent power belongs to God and not to us' (2 Corinthians 4:7). It is this that must always give us courage: knowing that the power of evangelization comes from God, that it belongs to him."

And so this month, as we pray for the success of World Mission Day, we answer the call of Pope Francis: "Be missionaries of God's love and tenderness! Be missionaries of God's mercy, which always forgives us, always awaits us and loves us dearly."

Reflection

How have I been an instrument of God's mercy, tenderness, and love for the people God has placed in my life?

Scripture

2 Timothy 4:1-5 Proclaim the word whether it is convenient or inconvenient.

Prayer of the Month

(St. Jude's feast day is October 28)

St. Jude, glorious apostle, the Church honors and invokes you universally as the patron of hopeless cases and of things despaired of. Pray for all those in distress. Come to their assistance in their great need that they may receive the consolation of Heaven in all their necessities, tribulations, and sufferings. St. Jude, apostle, martyr, and relative of our Lord Jesus Christ, of Mary, and of Joseph, intercede for us!



Links

Links for October, 2013 General Intention

- Pope Francis' General Audience of April 17, 2013
- Pope Francis' 2013 Palm Sunday Homily
- Pope Francis' General Audience of April 10, 2013
- Dr. Richard O'Connor's "Undoing Depression"

Links for October, 2013 Mission Intention

- Pope Francis' Message for World Mission Day 2013
- Pope Francis' Homily of May 7, 2013
- Pope Francis' Address to the Pontifical Mission Societies on May 17, 2013.

Answer to Puzzle

Solution to Puzzle from page 11



Check out the First Catholic Slovak Union website at www.fcsu.com

BBC travel tip: Bear-watching in Slovakia

The British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) has published the list of ten weekends in Europe's great outdoors. Among Cycling the Tour de France in Corsica, hiking a volcano in Iceland and sea-kayaking around Malta, BBC recommends bear-watching in Slovak Tatras.



High Tatras

"If you go into the woods of the High Tatras, be prepared to find one of the largest mammals on the continent. The Eurasian brown bear has disappeared from much of Europe, but in this mountain range that separates Slovakia and Poland, you have some of the best odds of seeing the magnificent animal in the wild".

- from the National Tourism Portal of Slovakia at www.slovakia.travel/

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IMPORTANT NOTICE

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

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

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

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

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

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Address Changes?

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, cancellation, or wish to receive the paper, write to: First Catholic Slovak Union, FCSU Corporate Center, 6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence, OH 44131-2398; Phone: 1/800-JEDNOTA (1/800-533-6682); Fax: 1-216-642-4310; or E-mail: FCSU@aol.com.

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

THINK ABOUT IT!

Useful Websites

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

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

Putovanie po regiónoch Slovenska

(Pokračovanie)

Podpoľanie

Región na strednom Slovensku, obklopený Slovenským rudohorím a Zvolenskou kotlinou. V porovnaní s inými je pozoruhodný predovšetkým roztrúsenými lazničkami usadlosťami.

Jeho centrom je pomerne mladé mesto Detva nachádzajúce sa pod výbezkami Poľany. Charakterizuje ju ľudová architektúra – drevené kríže vyrezávané a zdobené ornamentmi rôznych tvarov a farieb. Raritou je aj svetový unikát - detvianska fujara.

Známe sú aj každoročne tam usporiadané Podpoľianske slávnosti spevu a tancov, na ktorých sa predstavujú nielen slovenské, ale aj zahraničné súbory. Obdiv si zasluhujú aj detvianske výšivky krivou ihlou, tzv. háčikom.

Tento rázovitý ľud inšpiroval básnika A. Sládkoviča k napísaniu eposu *Detvan* ospevujúceho Detvu a jeho nádhernú prírodu. Uvádžam úryvok:

*Stojí vysoká, divá Poľana,
mat' stará ohromných stínov,
pod ňou dedina Detvou volaná,
mat' bujná vysokých synov:
či tých šarvancov Detvy ozrutných
Poľana na tých prsiach mohutných
nenosí a nenadája?*

Z okolitých obcí sú zaujímavé viaceré, predovšetkým Hriňová so zrubovými domami, ale aj Očová, rodisko významného osvieteného vedca a spisovateľa Mateja Bela, ktorá je stvárnená so zvykmi a zaujímavými ľuďmi obce a okolia vo filme *Očovské pastoraľe*.

Neďaleká Zvolenská Slatina, rodisko spisovateľky Terézie Vansovej, je známa prvou slovenskou bryndziarňou vyrábajúcou od r. 1718 bryndzu, oštiepky, parenice, korbáčiky...

Vo Vigľaši, v údolí riečky Slatina, sú zrúcaniny zámku zo 14. storočia. V 2. svetovej vojne mali tam nemecké vojská obranné postavenie, v ktorom pri bojoch s partizánmi bol zámok silne poškodený a časť vyhořela. V súčasnosti prebieha jeho reštaurovanie.

Zaujímavá je aj obec Poniky so svojím krojom, ale najmä tým, že sa Turci počas nájazdov dostali až tam. Zmieňuje sa o nich aj básnik Samo Chalupka v básni

Turčin Poničan, z ktorej uvádzam úryvok:

*Jajže, Bože, strach veliký:
padli Turci na Poniky;
padli, padli o polnoci,
jajže, Bože, niet pomoci.*

*Ľudia boží, utekajte,
zajať Turkom sa nedajte:
a čo mladé - zutekalo,
a čo staré - nevládalo...*

O mestách a obciach regiónu si ľud vytvoril viacero piesni, napr.: *Okolo Zvolena trávička zelená...*, *Na tej Detve studňa murovaná...*, *Na Hriňovej kostol maľovaný...*, *V tej Slatine, keď ma odobrali...* Najpozoruhodnejšia však je tá, v ktorej je súčasne zmienka o viacerých obciach. Uvádžam z nej niekoľko veršov:

*Sampor, Lukavica, Veľká Lúka aj Sielnica,
cez Garansek na Badín.
Vikanovej na poli, škovránok šveholí.
Sampor, Lukavica, roztrhaná kabanica,
roztrhanie aj gati...*

Neďalekým a podstatne väčším mestom je starobylý Zvolen na sútoku Hrona a Slatiny s dvoma hradmi. Starší, Pustý hrad, z 12. storočia, po spustošení Turkami v r. 1241, je už v ruinách. Novší, renesančný zámok z r. 1360-82, je jedným z málo zachovalých hradov v neporušenom stredovekom stave. Ako pevnosť ochraňoval celé Pohronie od tureckej okupácie, pred ktorými ho ochránili silné opevnenia.

Na námestí je kostol sv. Alžbety zo 14. storočia. Mesto si zvolilo v r. 1847 popredného národovca Ľudovíta Štúra za poslanca na uhorský snem, ktorý sídlil v Bratislave.

Andrej Štelmák, Sliach



Detviensky kríž.



Podpoľianske oštiepky.



Detviensky kroj.



Zvolenský zámok.



Bača s Podpoľania.

Strnisko

Po žatve, na Slovenskej dedine, celý chotár akosi zosmutnel.
Namiesto krásnych, belasích, žitných, ražných, jačmenných klasov,
Chotár ostal akýsi prázdny, nezaváňal už viac chlebom.
Teplý vetrík sa už nehral voňavými klasmi. Nezavodil viac s nebom.
Ale pre našu mladú, dedinskú chasu a naše dedinské deti,
bola to iná, sezóna a pre našich šarvancov, bolo ich tam, ako smetí.
Veselá nálada, poskakovanie, závodenie, veselosť a smiech.
Skákanie, skok do výšky, diaľky, vľavo, vpravo, nebol žiaden hriech.
A keď pri skoku do diaľky, Marienka sa pošmykla, odrela si kolienko,
prišla tam stará babka, potrela kolienko akosi belasou mastičkou
a Marienka vyskočila, veselá a zdravá, jak žitné semienko.
Ktože by pre malú odreninu opustil tak dobré, spoločné hranie,
keď slniečko krásne svieti a žilky hrajú na nepoznanie.
Nuž a keď hra sa zmení na dlho očakávanú Slepú Babu
smiechu a žartov nie je konca kraja, temperament
vystúpi na najvyššiu výšku a smiechu nie je konca kraja
a hranie sa nevyrovná ani hranie a zábavu mesiaca mája.
Nuž a keď slniečko ukáže jeho prvé červenkasté zore,
je čas ísť domov, unavené deťúrence, čaká tam mamička.
Áno, postielka je pripravená, len čo si malá vypije troška mliečka.
Vďaka Ti Pane, za naše dedinské a slovenské „IHRISKO“.

Jozef Smák

Uplynulo 70 rokov od prvého pozorovania z observatória na Skalnatom plese

Dňa 19. septembra uplynulo presne 70 rokov odvtedy, čo na Skalnatom plese uskutočnili prvé pozorovania z observatória. Boli zamerané na slnečnú fotosféru a odborníci zakresľovali už aj prvé slnečné škvrny. „Presne dnes je to 70 rokov, keď sa ráno zakreslila prvá slnečná škvrna na novovybudovanom observatóriu na Skalnatom plese. Odvtedy sme prešli dlhú cestu a zapísali sme sa do svetovej astronómie nemalým počtom významných objavov,“ zhodnotil riaditeľ Astronomického ústavu Slovenskej akadémie vied (AÚ SAV) v Starej Lesnej vo Vysokých Tatrách Aleš Kučera.

Za úplne najväčší prínos tohto observatória považuje zostavenie unikátneho atlasu hviezdnej oblohy, ktorý sa používa prakticky vo všetkých svetových observatóriách už viac ako 50 rokov a vznikol práve vo Vysokých Tatrách. „Stali sme sa vďaka nášmu observatóriu akosi koméťarou veľmocou, pretože sme objavili veľké množstvo komét na Skalnatom plese a svojho času nás považovali za najväčších koméťarov na svete. To bola veľká éra a v tej sa pokračuje, teda konkrétne vo fyzikálnom výskume komét dodnes,“ upozornil Kučera.

Observatórium už pod správou AÚ SAV neskôr začalo robiť aj výskum slnka a hlavne v oblasti výskumu korón dosiahli jeho pracovníci svetové výsledky. Odborníci z Tatier zaviedli napr. tzv. koronárny index, čo je miera aktivity slnka počas jeho cyklu, ktorý sa dodnes používa a obnovuje sa.

„Vďaka štrukturálnym fondom Európskej únie, ktoré nám výrazne pomohli zlepšiť infraštruktúru, máme pripravený k tomuto nášmu veľkému jubileu nový krásny teleskop, ďalekohľad s priemerom zrkadla 1,3 metra, ktorý nahradí starší, ten má iba 60 centimetrov,“ zdôraznil Kučera s tým, že ďalekohľad je praktický hotový, nainštalovať na Skalnaté pleso sa ho však nepodarí skôr ako v apríli kvôli prevádzkovým dôvodom. Bude to podľa neho jeden z najlepších teleskopov v európskej sieti na monitorovanie blízkozemských nebezpečných asteroidov, ktoré by mohli ohroziť Zem.

Astronomické observatórium Skalnaté Pleso sa nachádza neďaleko Skalnatého plesa v nadmorskej výške 1786 metrov. Založené bolo Antoninom Bečvárom, ktorý bol zároveň jeho prvým riaditeľom a to v roku 1943, keď boli vykonané jeho prvé pozorovania. V budove observatória sa nachádza aj meteorologická stanica patriaca Geofyzikálnemu ústavu SAV.

TASR

Slovenský prezident Ivan Gašparovič vystúpil pred Valným zhromaždením OSN

Pokračovanie zo str. 24

tu uskutočňuje prezenčným systémom s podporou počítačov. NYSE vznikla v New Yorku v roku 1792 podpisom tzv. Brettonwoodskej dohody. Najstaršia zo súčasných emisií je zalistovaná v roku 1824.

V piatok 27. septembra pokračoval v pracovnej návšteve Spojených štátov amerických prehliadkou Americkej federálnej vojenskej akadémie vo West Pointe v štáte New York. Ide o vysokú školu pozemných síl ozbrojených síl USA a je jednou z najprestížnejších vojenských škôl univerzitného typu na svete. Akadémia je súčasťou tréningového, výcvikového a výukového centra americkej armády a predstavuje jednu z troch možností ako sa stať dôstojníkom americkej armády. Na akadémii vo West Pointe študuje 4,400 kadetov z 54 štátov a teritórii USA vrátane niekoľkých desiatok zahraničných študentov. V súčasnosti je limit nastavený na 60 zahraničných študentov. West Point však doposiaľ nikto z ozbrojených síl SR neabsolvoval, nakoľko súčasná slovenská legislatíva to neumožňuje.

TASR

Na Národný pochod za život v Košiciach prišlo približne 80,000 ľudí

Pokračovanie zo str. 24

Medzi účastníkmi boli ľudia všetkých vekových kategórií vrátane rodín s deťmi. V rukách mali transparenty s nápismi ako: „Som sa život“, „Chráňme rodinu a počatý život“, či „Žiadame zákaz potratov“. Davy zaplnili Hlavnú ulicu a v rámci pochodu postupne prešli trasou v centre mesta. V rámci akcie vypustili tisíce balónov za nenarodené deti, program dopĺňali hudobné vystúpenia.

Na pochod prišli ľudia z celého Slovenska, do Košíc ich dovezli aj tri špeciálne vlaky vypravené z Bratislavy a Žiliny. Hlavným iniciátorom akcie bola Konferencia biskupov Slovenska (KBS), na organizácii sa podieľali početné mimovládne organizácie a spoločenstvá. Heslom pochodu, ktorý sa rodil viac ako rok bolo „Pod' von a bojujeme za život“.

TASR

Oznamy a spoločenské podujatia

Októbrová zábava „Oktoberfest“ v NYC

Asociácia ACF „Big Apple Chapter“ a Okres Msgr. Štefana Krasuľu č. 16 Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty si Vás dovoľujú pozvať na **OKTÓBROVÚ ZÁBAVU „OKTOBERFEST“ ktorá sa bude konať v nedeľu dňa 13. októbra 2013 od 1:00 - 6:30 odpoľudnia v osadnej hale Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého v NYC, 411 East 66th Street, 1st Avenue, New York, NY 10065.**

Budú sa podávať nemecké, slovenské a české špeciality bufetovým spôsobom. Tiež bude otvorený bar s čapovaným pivom, vínom a nealkoholickými nápojmi. Vstupné je 40.00 dolárov, v čom sú zahrnuté spomínané špeciality a otvorený bar. Nebude chýbať ani tombola a rôzne ceny. Každý účastník obdrží pamiatkový pohár na pivo. K dobrej nálade prispeje slovenská a nemecká hudba, ktorá bude hrať do tanca a na počúvanie. Rezervácia vstupníek: Jozef Bilik : (718) 463-2084; Anna Korčák : (201) 670-8162; Paul Fialkovič: (914) 375-1650; Henrieta Daitová: (201) 641-8922; Mária Božeková: (347) 612-1934. Srdečne vás všetkých vítame!

Oslava storočnice Cliftone, NJ

Oslava storočnice Slovenského kostola sv. Cyrila a Metoda, 235 Ackerman Ave, v Cliftone, NJ bude v nedeľu 3. novembra 2013. Slávnostná svätá omša bude o 10.30 hodine. Po omši bude v reštaurácii Venesia v Garfield, NJ banket. Lístky na banket sú už na predaj na fare sv. Cyrila a Metoda, alebo pred a po slovenskej svätej omši, ktorá je každú nedeľu o 10:30 hod doobeda. Cena lístkov je 80.00 dolárov za dospelých a 40.00 dolárov pre deti vo veku 12 rokov. Bližšie informácie na tel. č. (973) 546-43909.

Kultúrne podujatie Okresu Princa Pribinu v Los Angeles, Kalifornia

Srdečne vás pozývame, na stretnutie Slovákov a priateľov Slovenska v nedeľu 3. novembra 2013 vo farnosti Our Lady of Guadalupe, 710 Sultana Ave., Ontario, California, kde slúži Fr. Pavol Sochulák, SVD ako hlavný farár. Slovenská omša so spomienkou na Všetkých svätých a zosnulých začne v kostole o 3:00 hodine popoludní. Po liturgii bude v jedálni ľahké občerstvenie pri slovenskej hudbe v priateľskom prostredí. Pozývame všetkých na toto podujatie, aj tých, ktorí sa nezúčastnia svätej omše.

Pavol Skubeň, predseda

Výročná členská schôdza Okresu Štefana Krasuľu IKSJ

Oznamujeme všetkým členom, že výročná členská schôdza Okresu Štefana Krasuľu, Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty sa bude konať v nedeľu dňa 24. novembra 2013 o 1:00 hodine odpoľudnia 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 2014 a príprava činnosti na budúce obdobie. Tiež bude prevedená voľba delegátov na 50. Konvenciu 2014 IKSJ vo Philadelphii, PA.

Po skončení výročnej členskej schôdzy bude sa podávať bohaté občerstvenie, ktoré pripraví členovia Spolku sv. Štefana č. 716 IKSJ. Variť bude Janko Škrkoň.

Ostávam s kresťanským pozdravom

Henrieta H. Daitová, tajomníčka

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 1. decembra 2013 o 1:00 hodine odpoľudnia 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 2014 a diskusia o návrhoch na ďalšiu činnosť. Tiež budú prevedené voľby delegátov na 50. Konvenciu 2014 IKSJ vo Philadelphii, PA. Vyzývame všetkých členov, aby sa tejto dôležitej schôdzy zúčastnili. Po schôdzy sa bude podávať občerstvenie, ktoré pripraví Ján Škrkoň. Ostávam s kresťanským pozdravom

Henrieta H. Daitová, tajomníčka

Ročná schôdza Spolku sv. Matúša číslo 45 IKSJ

Oznamujeme našim členom, že ročná schôdza sv. Matúša číslo 45 Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty v New Yorku bude v nedeľu 1. decembra 2013 o 12:30 hodine (po slovenskej svätej omši) v osadnej hale Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého na 1st Avenue a 66th Street. Na programe sú správy úradníkov, finančné správy, zhodnotenie činnosti za uplynulé obdobie. Za tým budú nasledovať voľby do nového výboru, ktorý vypracuje činnosť na ďalšie obdobie. Okrem toho budú zvolení delegáti na 50. Konvenciu 2014 IKSJ vo Philadelphii. Úctivo Vás žiadame, o účasť na tejto výročnej členskej schôdzy.

Ďakujem a s pozdravom

Maria Jursi, pokladníčka

Vianočné podujatia pri Slovenskom kostole sv. Jána Nepomuckého v NYC

Farská rada pri Slovenskom kostole sv. Jána Nepomuckého v New York City si vás dovoľuje srdečne pozvať na:

Mikulášske odpoľudnie s Mikulášskou nádielkou, ktorá bude v nedeľu dňa 8. decembra 2013 o 1:00 hodine odpoľudnia. Vstupné je voľné, občerstvenie bude zabezpečené.

Stedrovečerná večera – Vigília, ktorá sa bude konať v nedeľu 15. decembra 2013 o 1:00 hodine odpoľudnia. Vstupné je 20.00 dolárov, v čom je započítaná Štedrá večera.

Bližšie informácie podajú: Farský úrad Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého, otec Štefan Chanas tel. číslo: (212) 734-4613; Henrieta H. Daitová: (201) 641-8922; Mária Božeková: (347) 612-1934.

Henrieta H. Daitová
kultúrna referentka Farskej rady

Ján Škrkoň 70-ročný

Podpredseda Spolku sv. Štefana č. 716 Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty sa v plnom zdraví a životného optimizmu dožil svojej 70-ty.

Janko Škrkoň sa narodil 10. septembra 1943 v početnej rodine vo Veľkom Rovnom, okres Žilina. Mal 7 bratov a 1 sestru. Je šťastne ženatý so svojou životnou družkou Joann. Jeho kuchárske umenie je veľmi známe medzi priateľmi a členmi jeho rodiny. Veď tradične pripravuje pohostenia v Slovenskom kostole sv. Jána Nepomuckého v NYC pri rôznych podujatiach farníkov a slovenskej komunity v New Yorku.

Na jeho sedemdesiatku prišli gratulovať členovia jeho rodiny, ako aj priatelia s ktorými sa stretával vo svojom plodnom živote. S radosťou mu všetci prítomní zaspievali „Happy Birthday“ kde tajomníčka Spolku sv. Štefana, Henrieta H. Daitová za všetkých mu za gratulovala a poprialala mu ešte veľa rokov šťastného a spokojného života.

Vďaka patrí otcovi Štefanovi Chanasovi, ktorý modlitbou otvoril oslavu jeho narodenín, ako i kuchárom – jeho kolegom Patrikovi a Stivovi. Zároveň vďačíme aj pomocníkom v organizovaní tohto podujatia: Márii Božekovej, Anke Bilikovej, Márii Gaborčíkovej, manželom Lysákovým, Milanovi Brežnému, Veronike Packovej ako aj mnohým ďalším, ktorí sa akýmkoľvek spôsobom pricinili o zdarný priebeh tohto priateľského a rodinného stretnutia.

Henrieta H. Daitová, tajomníčka
Spolku sv. Štefana IKSJ



Kanadský Šaštín-Saria, Ontario Kanada



V nedeľu 22. septembra sa konal výročný odpust na počesť Sedembolestnej Panny Márie patrónky Slovenska v Kanadskom meste Sarnia, Ontario na jazere Huron. Hlavným celebrantom bol Jeho excelencia arcibiskup Ján Sokol, Emeritus biskup trnavský zo Slovenska. Za prítomnosti tamojších Slovákov po procesii odslúžil svätú omšu v spoločnosti otca Juraja Kadleca a správcu slovenskej farnosti v Michigane Rev. Beňa Kostnáča. Po svätej omši všetci prítomní sa presťahovali do kultúrnej miestnosti, kde naše slovenské ženy pre prítomných prichystali dobrý slovenský obed a výborné koláče. Pri tejto príležitosti náš hosť, arcibiskup Sokol oslávil svoje narodeniny. Slováci zo Sarnie mu pripravili pekné oslavy tohoto okrúhleho výročia.



**GREEK CATHOLIC
EPARCHY OF MUKACHEVO**

pl. Andreja Bachinskoho, 1
88000, Uzhhorod, UKRAINE

Uzhgorod, 18th September 2013

**First Catholic Slovak Union
of the United States of America and Canada**
FCSU corporate Center 6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300
Independence OH 44131-2398
U.S.A.

Drahí bratia a sestry!

Chcem sa vám všetkým zo srdca poďakovať za milú slávnosť v Chicagu dňa 15. septembra 2013 pri príležitosti osláv 1150 výročia začiatku misie svätých Cyrila a Metoda a sviatku Sedembolestnej Panny Márie, patrónky Slovenska. Rovnako vám ďakujem za peňažné dary pre potreby mukačevskej eparchie.

Nech vám všetkým dobrý Boh stonásobne obmení vašu štedrosť, ktorú ste prejavili svojím darom pre potreby bratov a sestier v mukačevskej gréckokatolíckej eparchii na Ukrajine.

S úctou, vďakou a pozhnaním,
Váš v Kristovi


Mons. Milan ŠÁŠIK, CM
eparchiálny biskup

Krátke správy zo Slovenska

• **Zahraničný** obchod bude aj tento rok pilierom rastu slovenskej ekonomiky. Celkovo za prvý polrok tohto roka vývoz rástol oproti rovnakému obdobiu vlani slušným tempom, a to o 3.2 %. Pri stagnujúcich či klesajúcich dovozoch našich hlavných obchodných partnerov Nemecka, ČR, Poľska a Rakúska, to znamená, že naši vývozcovia sú konkurencieschopní na týchto náročných trhoch a dokážu sa na nich presadiť a zvýšiť svoj tržový podiel, konštatuje Martin Barto, hlavný stratég Sberbank Slovensko. Znamená to, že slovenské podniky sa aj v období krízy dokážu prispôsobiť a presadiť v tvrdej globálnej konkurencii napriek tomu, že nemáme vlastnú menu. Ukazuje sa, že prijatie eura nijako nepoškodilo slovenských vývozcov, naopak, dalo im ďalší impulz na zvyšovanie vlastnej schopnosti konkurovať.

• **Sledovať** postavenie a význam Košíc v premenách času bolo cieľom dvojkoľovej medzinárodnej vedeckej konferencie, ktorá sa nedávno konala v metropole východného Slovenska. Domáci i zahraniční historici na podujatí "Košice v súradniciach európskych dejín" hovorili o najnovších výsledkoch výskumu týkajúceho sa vývoja a významu mesta počas stáročí. Jednotlivé prednášky prechádzali chronologicky dejinami Košíc od doby bronzovej cez stredovek až po súčasnosť. Do konca tohto roku by mal vyjsť z konferencie trojjazyčný zborník príspevkov. Okrem slovenských historikov na konferencii vystúpili odborníci z ČR, Rakúska, Poľska, Rakúska, Nemecka, ale aj Moldavska, Ruska a Francúzska.

• **Tohtoročný** festival DonauFEST navštívilo počas štyroch festivalových dní približne 8,000 návštevníkov. V programe festivalu vystúpilo viac ako 100 účinkujúcich zo Slovenska i zahraničia. Multizánrový festival ponúkol nielen umelecké vystúpenia, ale bol takisto prehliadkou gastronómie krajín, ktorých spája rieka Dunaj. Bratislavčania, ale aj mnohí turisti mali možnosť ochutnať pochúťky ako bryndzové halušky, strapačky, pleskavicu, jelení guláš s viedenskou knedľou, držkový perkelt, skvelý domáci maďarský chlieb s oškvarkami z mangalice, mangalicový perkelt, bratislavské rožteky či typické nemecké klobásky. Prvý ročník DonauFEST-u bol pokračovaním festivalu, ktorý sa septembri 2012 konal na bratislavskom Hlavnom námestí pod názvom DanubeFest. Festival sa konal pod záštitou primátora hlavného mesta Bratislava Milana Ftáčnika a bol vyvrcholením Kultúrneho leta a Hradných slávností Bratislava 2013.

• **Len** pred pár rokmi bolo Slovensko označované za ekonomického tigra Európy. V súčasnosti skončilo historicky najhoršie v celosvetovom porovnaní podmienok na podnikanie. V rebríčku Svetového ekonomického fóra sme obsadili až 78. miesto - oproti minulému roku je to prepad o sedem miest. Dôvodom poklesu sú podľa expertov vyššie odvody a dane, ako aj novela Zákonníka práce. Takéto medzinárodné rebríčky pritom majú vplyv na príchod nových investorov, čiže aj na tvorbu nových pracovných miest. Z hľadiska krajín Európskej únie je Slovensko pritom v konkurencieschopnosti takmer na chvoste - v rebríčku horšie obstálo iba Grécko. Ministerstvá, ktoré zmeny pripravili, sa však bránia.

• **Šikovný** podnikateľ z Hongkongu skopíroval slovenský nápad. Z internetu si ešte v 90. rokoch stiahol program na tvorbu rozvrhov, ktorú vyvinula bratislavská firma aSc. Tvorcov však obišiel a školám začal predávať hotové rozpisovacie vyučovania za tisíce hongkónskych dolárov. Keď na to Slováci prišli, Číňana nežalovali. Naopak, pomohli mu, hoci to bolo mimo všetkých licenčných dohôd. Paradoxom je, že práve podvod sa pre Slovákov stal zlomovým momentom. Dovtedy ich program na Slovensku a v Česku väčšinou odmietali, keďže počítačová gramotnosť na školách bola ešte v plienkach. O Ázii to však neplatilo a odtiaľ sa softvér firmy aSc začal šíriť do celého sveta. Dnes sa ich program používa v 150 krajinách.

• V bratislavskom závode Volkswagenu nedávno otvorili vzdelávacie centrum, v ktorom sa na princípe nemeckého duálneho systému budú vzdelávať absolventi slovenských stredných škôl. S dvojročným kurzom Mechatronik ako prví začínajú 24 študenti. Štyri dni sa budú venovať praktickému vzdelávaniu, jeden deň teórii. Automobilka si ich vybrala z 300 uchádzačov. Automobilka plánuje prijímať študentov do centra každý rok. Ich počet bude závisieť od potreby firmy. Spoločnosť chce vzdelávanie spustiť postupne aj v ďalších profesiách. Spoločnosť do Centra duálneho vzdelávania a kurzu Mechatronik investovala približne jeden milión eur.

• **Slovensko** sa od 12. septembra prezentuje prostredníctvom reklamného spotu na jednom z najsledovanejších športových televíznych kanálov Eurosport. Počas dvojmesačnej kampane sa propagácia Slovenska objaví v prestávkach prenosov z tenisových, futbalových i cyklistických súťaží. Tridsaťsekundový spot bude celkovo odvysielaný 180-krát. Slovensko bude v spote prezentované ako celoročná turistická destinácia. Cieľom kampane je predstaviť ho širokej verejnosti v 54 krajinách s dosahom na 60 miliónov divákov. Spot je nahovorený v angličtine, na francúzskych okruhoch televíznej stanice bude doplnený o titulky vo francúzštine.

• **Winterovci** vybudovali kúpele, preslávili mesto Piešťany a s pravou receptúrou sa preslávili i s kúpeľnými obľáčkami. Teraz je však všetko inak a z Piešťanských kúpeľoch sa slovenská sladká dobrotá vyparila. Pre súrodenecký spor sa dediči receptúry rozišli a jeden z nich začal Piešťany zásobovať obľáčkami z Česka. Najväčším paradoxom je, že pravé kúpeľné obľátky sa stále vyrábajú v Piešťanoch.

• **Centrum** mladých Rusínov v polovici septembra slávnostne otvorili v bratislavskej Petržalke. V priestoroch Strednej priemyselnej školy elektrotechnickej (SPŠE) na Hálovej ulici bude mať svoje sídlo kancelária mládežníckej organizácie molody.Rusyny a zázemie tu bude mať aj rusínske internetové rádio Rusyn FM a folklórny súbor Ruthenia. Počas slávnostného otvorenia centra sa uskutočnilo aj vystúpenie mládežníckeho rusínskeho folklórného súboru Ruthenia. Súbor bude mať v priestoroch Centra mladých Rusínov sálu a skúšobňu. Rádio vysiela od decembra 2012. Otvorenie Centra mladých Rusínov sa konalo pod záštitou predsedu Bratislavského samosprávneho kraja Pavla Freša.

• Vo Vysokých Tatrách oživa ďalšia legenda. Najvyššie položená chata vo Vysokých Tatrách Chata pod Rysmi prešla za tri roky obnovou za cca 600,000 eur a nedávno bola slávnostne odovzdaná turistom do užívania. Obnoviť sa ju podarilo vďaka finančnej dotácii z Ministerstva financií SR vo výške takmer 260,000 eur a sponzorských darov od rôznych organizácií. Chata má úplne nový vzhľad, kamenné múry nahradil titánovo-zinkový plášť, v konštrukcii strechy je neprehliadnuteľný protilávňový štít. Chata bola zrekonštruovaná od základov, takže je väčšia, z vonku modernejšia, zvnútra útulnejšia. Pribudla sem kachľová pec a súčasťou chaty je aj fotovoltaický zdroj energie, kapacita chaty je teraz 14 lôžok. V priebehu výstavby boli veľmi dôležitými pomocníkmi dva vrtuľníky, ktoré zabezpečovali prísun tovaru spolu uskutočnili 505 letov, nalietali skoro 95 letových hodín a vyviezli na chatu až 520,060 kíl tovaru.

• **Miss Slovensko 2013** Karolína Chomisteková sa 28. septembra stala historicky prvou Slovenkou v dejinách samostatného Slovenska, ktorej sa podarilo postúpiť medzi TOP 20 najkrajších žien sveta. Na svetovej súťaži Miss World, na ktorej sa zúčastnili delegátky z takmer 130 štátov sveta, obsadila 14. priečku. Finále svetovej súťaže krásy sa tento rok uskutočnilo na Bali. Víťazkou titulu Miss World 2013 sa stala 23-ročná Megan Young z Filipín. Titul Miss Slovensko 2013 získala devätnásťročná Karolína Chomisteková z Oravského Podzámku 14. apríla tohto roka.

TASR a slovenské časopisy

Pamätník ľudovej architektúry, ktorý tvoria tri originálne zrubové stodoly, umiestňujú na streche 13-poschodového paneláku na košickom sídlisku Dargovských hrdinov. Autorom netradičného diela, ľudovo nazývaného "tri drevenice na paneláku" je výtvarník Tomáš Džadoň. Na snímke montáž prvej drevenice. Košice, 27. septembra 2013.

A traditional Slovak folk building from Liptovska Teplicka has been placed on the roof of an apartment in Kosice by a noted local artist. In the evening this building is lit and can be seen throughout the neighborhood.



FOTO TASR – František Iván

Na streche paneláka v Košiciach pamätník z ľudových dreveníc

Tesári demontovali originálne zrubové stodoly v Liptovskej Tepličke a Párnici a následne ich dopravili do Košíc. Umiestnenie stodôl na strechu svojho paneláku hlasovaním odsúhlasili obyvatelia bytového domu na Lidickom námestí 1. Vďaka nim sa panelák i oni stanú podstavcom Pamätníka, ktorý bude viditeľný i zo vzdialených častí mesta. V rámci prác došlo k príprave kotvenia na streche paneláka, montáži oceľových roštov a skladaniu dreveníc. Pamätník povolilo mesto ako dočasnú stavbu na dva roky, autor by bol rád, keby jeho umiestnenie na danom mieste bolo trvalé.

Tomáš Džadoň absolvoval ateliér monumentálnej tvorby Jiřího Příhody (AVU, Praha) a doktorandské štúdium v "Neateliéri" Dezidera Tótha na VŠVU v Bratislave. Jeho stavebné projekty a reinterpretácie architektúry otvárajú otázky o hľadani vlastnej identity vo vzťahu k ľudovej a mestskej tradícii, osobnej i spoločnej minulosti. V jeho aktuálnom umeleckom projekte tradičná zrubová architektúra slovenského vidieka vytvorí pamätník v prostredí, ktoré sa dá vnímať ako jej presný protipól. V panelových domoch dnes však žije približne polovica obyvateľov Slovenska.



Košice zaujali National Geographic Traveler

Októbrové vydanie Nacional Geographic prináša o meste článok pod názvom

"Slovensku sa dostáva svojich 15 minút slávy"

Metropola východného Slovenska – Košice – zaujala americký mesačník National Geographic Traveler. V októbrovom vydaní prináša o meste článok pod názvom Slovensku sa dostáva svojich 15 minút slávy. Informovala o tom Alica Štrbavá zo Slovenskej agentúry pre cestovný ruch (SACR). "To, že kultúrne mesto a Slovensko dostali priestor v svetovom médiu, je výsledok návštevy novinárov z USA počas ich európskeho turné. Novinárke Kimberley Lovato sa z mnohých miest zapáčili najviac Košice. Preto sa rozhodla o svojich dojmach napísať práve do uznávaného mesačníka, s ktorým spolupracuje," oznámila Štrbavá.

Podľa Štrbavej v článku prezentuje autorka textu zaujímavú architektúru Košíc. Očarila ju napríklad Ulička remesiel, kde turisti stretávajú súčasných umelcov, hrnčiarov a kováčov. "Je to podľa nej mesto, kde možno ochutnať 800 druhov vín, pochádzajúcich z tokajskej oblasti," doplnila.

Z okolia Košíc sa v článku spomínajú pamiatky svetového kultúrneho dedičstva UNESCO, drevené kostolíky i Vysoké Tatry. Čitatelia si tak podľa Štrbavej urobia obraz o Slovensku, ktorý sa im môže spájať napríklad s menami ako Andy Warhol či tenistka Martina Hingisová.

TASR



Detroit povolal hokejistu Jurča späť do prvého tímu

Talentovaný slovenský hokejista Tomáš Jurčo sa vrátil z farmy do prvého tímu Detroitu. Vedenie klubu NHL ho povolalo späť do prípravného kempu spolu s ďalším útočníkom Lukeom Glendingom po tom, čo viacerých hráčov Red Wings začali trápiť zranenia. Zdravotné problémy neobišli letnú posilu Daniela Alfredssona ani krídelníka Justina Abdelkadera. Informoval o tom portál mlive.com.

Jurčo s Glendingom v prvom tíme nahradili dvojicu Teemu Pukkinen a Riley Sheahan, ktorá putovala opačným smerom do Grand Rapids (AHL). "Červené krídla" čakal v noci na sobotu prípravný zápas proti Torontu a očakáva sa, že slovenský mladík v ňom dostane príležitosť. Kemp Detroitu pritom opustil len pred niekoľkými dňami.

Jurčo podľa všetkého pred štartom sezóny NHL zamieri späť do nižšej súťaže AHL, aj posledná pozvánka je však dôkazom, že svojimi výkonmi v kempе zapôsobil na trénerov a klubový manažment a od sezóny 2014/2015 by si už mohol nájsť miesto v zostave Red Wings.



Foto:TASR

Na snímke Tomáš Jurčo

TASR

O. Štefan Furdek
Náš zakladateľ

Slovenský prezident Ivan Gašparovič vystúpil pred Valným zhromaždením OSN

Súčasná kríza v Sýrii je skúškou rozhodnosti medzinárodného spoločenstva a jeho schopnosti efektívne reagovať. Angažovanosť Organizácie Spojených národov pri riešení tohto konfliktu je nevyhnutná, pretože úloha OSN nemá alternatívu. Vo všeobecnej rozprave 68. zasadania Valného zhromaždenia OSN to 24. septembra povedal prezident SR Ivan Gašparovič.

Prezident
Ivan Gašparovič

Ako konštatoval, neschopnosť Bezpečnostnej rady OSN efektívne konať v tejto otázke je znepokojujúca. OSN má potenciál byť globálnym lídrom pri zabezpečení mieru a prosperity pre všetkých, avšak relevantnosť organizácie bude ohrozená, ak neposilní svoju efektívnosť. "Aby mohla OSN komplexne plniť svoje úlohy, musí byť silná, inkluzívna a otvorená," povedal Gašparovič vo vystúpení, v ktorom tiež bilancoval 20 rokov členstva SR v OSN a predstavil slovenské pozície k aktuálnym problémom medzinárodného spoločenstva.

V súvislosti s konfliktom v Sýrii vyzval prezident SR na mimoriadnu opatrosť pri zvažovaní postupov. Pri posúdení možných dôsledkov vojenského zásahu je totiž jasné, že jediné dobré riešenie je diplomatické. "Nebojme sa prijímať kompromisné riešenia, ktoré môžu poslúžiť ako základ pre budúce pozitívne vyriešenie celého problému," zdôraznil Gašparovič. Slovensko podľa neho zásadne odsudzuje použitie chemických zbraní, ku ktorému došlo v Sýrii, ako zločin proti ľudskosti a dôrazne žiada potrestanie vinníkov Medzinárodným trestným súdom.

Medzi hlavné oblasti pôsobenia Slovenska v OSN bude naďalej patriť posilňovanie kapacít svetovej organizácie v rámci reformy bezpečnostného sektora. Poukázal na to, že SR dlhodobo podporuje aktivity OSN na udržanie mieru a bezpečnosti vo svete. Snahy SR v medzinárodnom krízovom manažmente a pri budovaní mieru, stability a prosperity sa dlhodobo sústreďujú na Afganistan, kde poskytuje vojenskú, civilnú i rozvojovú pomoc.

Gašparovič osobitne zdôraznil, že reforma bezpečnostného sektora je kľúčovou pre tvorbu fungujúceho právneho štátu po konfliktoch. "Ak nedáme ľuďom istotu, bezpečnosť, vzdelanie a prácu, rýchlo v beznádeji opäť siahnu po zbrani," povedal. Privítal tiež, že otázka udržateľného ekonomického rozvoja a sociálnej stability ako prevencie konfliktov je jednou z priorit súčasného zasadania VZ OSN. "Mier nemôže existovať bez hospodárskej stability a prosperity," uviedol.

Gašparovič pripomenul, že SR si tento rok pripomína 20. výročie svojej samostatnej existencie, počas ktorej posilňovala a prehľbovala spoluprácu s OSN. "Slovensko prispieva k širokej škále aktivít OSN prácou v jej hlavných orgánoch, priamou účasťou na vyše sedemástich mierových operáciách či zrealizovaním viac ako štyristo humanitárnych a rozvojových projektov vo viac ako 20 krajinách," dodal s tým, že vďaka dôvere svojich partnerov bolo Slovensko zvolené do všetkých dôležitých orgánov OSN.

Prezident SR Ivan Gašparovič počas pobytu v USA absolvoval aj program venovaný americkým krajanom. Zúčastnil sa otvorenia výstavy pri príležitosti 1150. výročia príchodu svätých Cyrila a Metoda na územie Veľkej Moravy.

Vo štvrtok 26. septembra predpoludním slávnostne otvoril obchodovanie na Burze cenných papierov v New Yorku (New York Stock Exchange). NYSE je považovaná za najväčšiu, najlikvidnejšiu a najznámejšiu burzu cenných papierov na svete. Obchod sa

Pokračovanie na str.21



Minister M. Lajčák sa stretol s profesorom J. Vilčekom

Podpredseda vlády a minister zahraničných vecí a európskych záležitostí Slovenskej republiky Miroslav Lajčák sa v piatok 27. septembra 2013 stretol v New Yorku s profesorom Jánom Vilčekom, ktorý patrí medzi popredné svetové kapacity v oblasti imunologického a mikrobiologického výskumu. Výsledky jeho práce priniesli výrazný pokrok pri liečbe artritídy a ďalších chronických zápalových ochorení.

V roku 2005 upútal profesor Vilček pozornosť svetových médií, keď spolu s manželkou Maricou venovali New York University dar v odhadovanej výške 105 miliónov dolárov; zdrojom ich daru boli práva, ktoré profesorovi Vilčekovi prislúchajú z liekov vyvinutých na základe jeho výskumu.

Minister M. Lajčák a profesor J. Vilček diskutovali o spolupráci nadácie profesora Vilčeka a jeho manželky s vedcami a umelcami zo Slovenska, ako aj jeho skúsenosti s presadzovaním sa imigrantov na akademickej pôde v USA. Rezort diplomacie je s profesorom J. Vilčekom v pravidelnom kontakte a v roku 2010 mu minister M. Lajčák udelil v Bratislave ocenenie Goodwill Envoy, určené pre úspešných Slovákov a Slovenky, ktorí pôsobia v zahraničí a výnimočným spôsobom tam reprezentujú našu krajinu. Vo februári 2013 si profesor Vilček prevzal z rúk prezidenta USA Baracka Obamu ocenenie National Medal of Technology and Innovation. Spomínaná medaila je na pôde Bieleho domu udeľovaná každoročne a predstavuje najvýznamnejšie ocenenie, ktoré je v krajine možné získať za oblasť technologického pokroku. Medzi laureátov ocenenia tradične patria poprední vedci, inžinieri a vynálezcovia pôsobiaci v USA; v r. 1985 toto ocenenie získal Steve Jobs, spoluzakladateľ firmy Apple.

MZV SR



FOTO: TK KBS/Peter Zimen

Európske hlavné mesto kultúry privítalo ľudí zo všetkých regiónov Slovenska i zahraničia. V podobnom rozmere sa konal po prvýkrát v histórii.

Close to 80,000 people took part in the National March for Life in Kosice on September 22. This was the first large national demonstration for life in Slovak history.

Na Národný pochod za život v Košiciach prišlo približne 80,000 ľudí

Desaťtisíce ľudí sa 22. septembra zúčastnili na Národnom pochode za život v Košiciach, ktorý vyjadril potrebu ochrany života každého človeka od počatia po prirodzenú smrť. Cieľom pokojného pochodu bolo tiež podporiť rodinu založenú na manželstve muža a ženy.

Podľa prvotných odhadov organizátorov prišlo na pochod 70.000-80.000 ľudí. Masové zhromaždenie sa začalo popoludní na Hlavnej ulici prečítaním manifestu pochodu. V ňom účastníci osobitne vyzvali verejných činiteľov, zvlášť parlament, vládu SR a všetky štátne inštitúcie, aby vytvorili legislatívne podmienky na ochranu každého človeka od počatia po prirodzenú smrť. Požiadavka sa týka aj legislatívnej ochrany "manželstva muža a ženy ako jedinečného a ničím nenahraditeľného zväzku, ktorý je rešpektovaním prirodzeného zákona rozpoznateľného rozumom". Pochod ďalej vyzval na vytvorenie poradných a podporných mechanizmov, ako aj ekonomických a sociálnych podmienok, v ktorých by sa rodiny nebáli prijímať deti. Ďalšou požiadavkou je aktívna podpora inštitúcií, zameraných na pomoc rodinám v núdzi a tehotným ženám, aby nemuseli uvažovať o potrate.

Historicky prvý Národný pochod za život na Slovensku pozdravil aj pápež František. Jeho pozdrav a apoštolské požehnanie tmočil v Košiciach apoštolský nuncius na Slovensku Mario Giordana.

Pokračovanie na str.21



Pápežov Jána Pavla II. a Jána XXIII. vyhlásia za svätých 27. apríla 2014

Bývalých pápežov Jána Pavla II. a Jána XXIII. vyhlásia za svätých 27. apríla 2014. Na stretnutí s kardinálmi vo Vatikáne to 30. septembra oznámil pápež František.

Oznámenie termínu kanonizácie sa očakávalo od júla, keď František potvrdil druhý zázrak pripisovaný Jánovi Pavlovi II., ktorý pochádzal z Poľska a viedol katolícku cirkev 27 rokov aj počas pádu komunizmu. Otvorilo to cestu najrýchlejšiemu svätorečeniu v novodobých dejinách rímskokatolíckej cirkvi, pripomína agentúra Reuters.

František schválil tiež svätorečenie Jána XXIII., ktorý v roku 1962 zvolal reformný Druhý vatikánsky koncil. Jánovi XXIII. po smrti pripísali dosiaľ len jeden zázrak, František však rozhodol, že v jeho prípade druhý nie je potrebný. Rozhodnutie o tom, že obaja budú vyhlásení za svätých spoločne, považujú analytici za snahu zjednotiť cirkev, keďže obaja niekdajší pápeži majú svojich obdivovateľov i kritikov.

František sa tento rok na výročie úmrtia Jána Pavla II. modlil pri hrobách obidvoch mužov, čo naznačuje, že vidí v ich pôsobení osobnú a duchovnú kontinuitu, domnieva sa agentúra AP.

TASR