



# Jednota

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## Scenes From 125th Anniversary, August 29, 2015, Cleveland Downtown Renaissance



FCSU Board of Directors attending the celebration with President Rajec and his wife Ida (L - R) Standing: Leonard Zilko, National Auditor; Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary; Andrew P. Rajec, Supreme Court Member ; Henry G. Hassay, Region 6 Director; Sabina Sabados, Region 1 Director, Rudolph W. Bernath, Region 7 Director; James R. Marmol, Region 4 Director; and Rudolf Ondrejco, Fraternal Activities Director. (L - R) Seated: Robert J. Kopco, Supreme Court Member; Andrew M. Rajec, National President ; Mrs. Ida Rajec; Karen M. Hunka, Chairman of Auditors; and George F. Matta, II, Treasurer.

## President Andrew M. Rajec's Address at the First Catholic Slovak Union's 125th Anniversary August 29, 2015, Downtown Renaissance

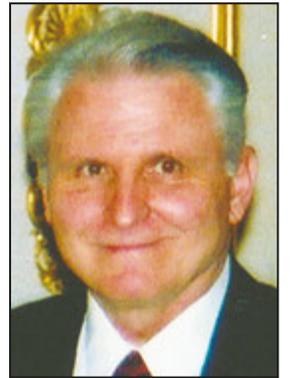
Abbott Hoover, Ambassador Kmec, Ambassador Obsitnik, Reverend Clergy, Members and Guests:

Vitajte. I would like to welcome all of you personally to our 125th Anniversary event. This is the fourth of six 125th Anniversary celebrations held by the Society. Thank you to the Home Office staff for all their work in helping to put on this event tonight.

As you know, the year 2015 marks several important milestones in the history of the First Catholic Slovak Union.

It is the 125th anniversary of our founding in 1890. For example, in 1965 insurance in force was \$116 million with approximately \$30 million in assets. Today in 2015 the Jednota has approximately \$334 million of insurance in force and over \$364 million in assets with \$25 ½ million in surplus. We can proudly say we are now at the financially strongest point in the society's long history.

In addition to this anniversary, we are recognizing two other important occasions. The 100th anniversary of the death of our founder, Fr. Štefan Furdek ( Father Brunovsky will give his story later in our program) and also the 50th anniversary of the dedication of the Chapel



Andrew M. Rajec

continued on page 3



Key events at the celebration included a Mass in honor of FCSU Founder Fr. Stefan Furdek and performances by Slovak Folk Ensembles Veselica of Chicago and Lucina of Cleveland. Andrew P. Rajec was the MC for the evening. See pages 12 - 13 for more photos of the event



FCSU Executive Secretary Kenneth A. Arendt (L) and National President Andrew M. Rajec (R) present a gift of an engraved Pieta to His Excellency Peter Kmec, Slovak Ambassador to the United States, shown here with Mrs. Monika Kmec, after giving his keynote speech.

### FCSU 125th Celebrations around the Society:



See pages 14 and 15 of this issue for details on upcoming celebrations around our Society celebrating the founding of the First Catholic Slovak Union 125 years ago

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# Insights and Viewpoints



## St. Vincent Archabbey — Homilies, Father Edward Mazich, O.S. B., Father Killian Loch, O.S.B.,

**September 27, 2015 –  
Twenty Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Mark 9: 38–43, 45, 47–48**

We rarely hear from the book of Numbers in the readings at mass; aside from New Year's Day, a reading from this important book only occurs today among all the Sundays in the three year cycle of the lectionary. In today's passage we hear a frustrated Moses trying to deal with overly-

zealous followers who want to defend him, but who miss a deeper point that the wise Moses grasps.

Jealousy is the basic theme here. In the book of Numbers (so named because in it the tribes of Israel are numbered on two distinct occasions by means of a census (see Numbers 1-4 and 26)) Moses' chief aide Joshua is upset that two men, Eldad and Medad, were given the Spirit of the Lord and prophesy even though they had not come out to the "tent of meeting" to receive the Spirit as they were directed. Joshua seems to have interpreted their remaining behind as a sort of disrespect being shown to Moses, and he protests: "My lord, Moses, stop them!" (Numbers 11:28).

Moses was well aware that the men had not come out to the tent of meeting, but he does not bother to ascribe any ill motive to them; instead he responds in exasperation to his faithful but not yet well-seasoned aide: "Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the people of the Lord were prophets!" (Numbers 11:29). Here Moses shows the wisdom of: 1.) Letting God be God, deciding to whom he will give gifts; and 2.) Not being jealous of the gifts of others.

In the gospel a similar jealousy arises among the apostles when John runs up to Jesus and complains: "Teacher, we saw someone driving out demons in your name, and we tried to prevent him because he does not follow us!" (Mark 9:38). What this "someone" was doing was perfectly good, and he was doing it (driving out demons) in Jesus' name, underlining that his action was motivated by faith in Christ. Just like Moses, Jesus tells his would-be defenders not to be jealous of this person, and to let him go ahead using the gift God gave him, for "...whoever is not against us is for us" (Mark 9:40).

In the Jewish moral thought of our Lord's day jealousy was (and is today) seen as a sin of the gravest order since it takes umbrage at something good, and seeks to deprive another of this good that God made and freely bestowed upon a person. Catholic morality has always followed this good reasoning, teaching that to wish that a gift be taken from another if we cannot also have it is not only remarkably small of us, but it also opens us to a host of other evil intentions and jeopardizes our stewardship of the gifts that God has entrusted to us.

The Benedictine monk and Pope St. Gregory the Great once commented: "From jealousy there arise hatred, whispering, detraction, exultation at the misfortunes of a neighbour, and affliction at his prosperity" (Gregory the Great, *Moralia in Job* xxxi, 45). We have all fallen into the trap of jealousy at times, often starting from a good motive as did Moses's aide Joshua and John the apostle. Worse yet, we are tempted to feel ill will toward those who



Fr. Edward Mazich,  
O.S.B.

have relationships or successes or possessions that we would like to have, and we are secretly happy to see them get their comeuppance. Following the advice of good Pope Gregory let us resolve anew to avoid jealousy in all its forms, rejoicing in the God whose Spirit blows where it wills, and whose true disciples always delight in his good gifts, wherever and in whomever they may be found.

**October 4, 2015 – Twenty-seventh - Sunday in Ordinary Time  
(Respect Life Sunday)**

**Genesis 2: 18 – 24; Mark 10: 2 - 16**

The reading from Genesis is one of the more popular readings that couples select for their wedding ceremony. Even if the parents of the bride and/or groom are divorced, couples preparing for marriage often times opt for this reading from Genesis. I think it is the intention and hope of everyone entering into marriage that it will truly last until death does its part. Even though the reality of our time is that many marriages do end in divorce, couples approach the altar with the firm belief that theirs will last. The readings from Genesis and of the Gospel speak of the beauty of the love that unites a man and woman in marriage, and the commitment that is necessary for a true and lasting marriage. The readings challenge us to look upon marriage as a divinely ordained institution.

Because marriage between a man and woman was initiated by God and is important to look at it in the context of not only the couple entering into marriage, but also God's presence in that relationship. We hear throughout the scriptures, in homilies, and we read on prayer cards and bumper stickers that God loves us. In the writings of John; the Gospel, his epistles and even in revelation the main message is the love of God. It is a pure and perfect love that is poured out on us, an unconditional love. We are not accustomed to a love that is unconditional; we oftentimes experience so-called love that includes some conditions. Conditional love is that someone does the right thing, they will be loved, or if they do the wrong thing love will be withdrawn. Conditional love is not true love; true love is given and received without conditions. This is the love God has for us, and the love we are called to have for God.

Other than our relationship with God, where do we experience unconditional love? We do so in marriage. When a couple exchange vows the various forms all say the same thing; that they promise love each other in good times and in bad, in richness or poorness, in sickness and health, all the days of their lives. They promise to love each other without conditions. Marriage is the best human example we have of the love God has for us. It mirrors the unconditional love of God and brings it down to earth for us.

When a man and woman enter into marriage it is with God who sanctifies their union and is very much present in their marriage. His love is the gift that enables the husband and wife to love each other and to share in creation with him through the gift of children. What a beautiful and precious gift children are in marriage. Children are the fruit of the unconditional love that binds the husband and wife to each other and to God. The new born baby is received with awe and love by the parents.

Unfortunately, just as every marriage does not last until the death of a spouse, every gift of conception is not respected and revered. Abortion is a tragedy that we should never lose sight of, nor cease to pray for its end. "Every Life is Worth Living" is the theme for Respect Life Sunday and focuses on the value of human life. We are called to value and respect life from the moment of conception until natural death. Today, and throughout the month of October, let us pray for married couples



Fr. Killian Loch,  
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.

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WEDNESDAY NOV. 4	MONDAY, OCT. 26

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# President Andrew M. Rajec's Address

continued from page 1

of our Lady of Sorrows, at the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington D.C. paid for by the Jednota. It cost over \$140,000 in 1965. We have planned and are participating in a pilgrimage on Saturday, September 12, 2015, at the Shrine. Ambassador Kmec is hosting a reception at the Slovak Embassy after the pilgrimage. I am sure many of you have or will visit the Shrine in the future.

Our great Society is 125 years young. Many people have both contributed and benefited over these past 125 years. Many of our members, both living and deceased have contributed great time and effort on a branch, district and even national level.

On September 4, 1890, twelve men from 4 states, under the leadership of Father Štefan Furdek, gathered at the home of Jacob Gruss on Corwin avenue in Cleveland and formed the First Catholic Slovak Union. While Jednota was founded by men, today almost 50% of our members are women.

Our Society goes by the shortened name of Jednota, which in Slovak means union or united. The First Catholic Slovak Union is a "union" of hundreds of branches and members throughout the United States and Canada.

The First Catholic Slovak Union has been the mainstay and promoter of Slovak culture and Catholic fraternal life for over a century. The Catholic faith has always been close to the hearts of a large majority of Slovak American people. During the 1890's and early years of this century, the Jednota branches were instrumental in the founding of over 200 catholic parishes in the United States and Canada.

In the 1960s, the Society contributed \$100,000 to help found the Pontifical College in Rome, set up to train Slovak priests, to return to Slovakia after the fall of communism, and we continue to support it annually. The Jednota was also involved in the 1920s with the founding of Saint Cyril Academy in Danville, Pennsylvania, and Benedictine High School in Cleveland, both designed originally to educate the children of Slovak immigrants. Our Society, through our newspaper "Jednota," was for many years the leader in the fight for Slovak independence, finally realized in 1993.

## What has changed?

WWII and especially the 1960s coincided with many changes in the us in general, and also in the Catholic Church; Vatican II, the sexual revolution, the Vietnam war, the rise of materialism, the decline of the family, rising divorce rates, mothers' working outside the home, increased racial tensions etc.

The changes in the First Catholic Slovak Union in many ways mirrored changes in society as a whole. Add to that the thousands of lost vocations, with priests and religious leaving the priesthood and convents, the decline in Mass attendance, along with changing demographics that ultimately led to the merger and closings of many parishes founded by Slovaks.

Also the march of time and gradual assimilation of our forefathers into the American fabric, caused a stretching of ethnic ties, the great melting pot.

You could say that our ancestors were almost too successful in attaining the "American dream," if not for themselves, certainly for their kids and their grandchildren.

## What's the future of the First Catholic Slovak Union?

Will Rogers – the famous humorist – once said: "Even if you are on the right track, you'll get run over if you just sit there."

We know of the long treasured past, and of the many sacrifices of our past members and the successes of the Society.

We also know of the condition of the Society in the years following/and of the critical stage the Society reached in 1993 when the Society's surplus was down to less than \$3 million dollars.

In the ensuing years the losses were erased and with hard work and good fortune, today we are financially very strong. Today the society's surplus stands at \$25 ½ million dollars.

But while we have been very successful financially, in the past 15 years we have not been able to attract enough new members to offset deaths and terminations.

Almost all fraternal, especially those ethnic based, face the same challenge.

The branch system is breaking down. Younger people don't have the time or interest in being branch officers.

## What is our response?

We honor and pay tribute to our founders and our heritage. We are dedicating the Jednota Memorial on September 13, 2015. It is a beautiful granite memorial to remember all of our deceased members, families, and branches, as well as our veterans, in a permanent, beautiful setting on the Jednota grounds in Middletown, PA.

We want to preserve the best of our foundations; our Catholic faith, the legacy of hard work, integrity and fraternalism.

But we have to change the ways we appeal to younger generations. We have entered the social media age where communication is instant and widespread. Texting, smart phones, Facebook, Twitter, Skype etc., are common everyday words. To paraphrase the TV jingle: "we can't be your grandfather's Jednota anymore."

Some changes have already been made. We use video and Facebook and have an up-to-date IT system. We are currently interviewing several advertising and media agencies to assist us in defining, attracting and serving specific age groups and attract new members.

We are examining how we can improve and help our branches and officers. Money helps, but you cannot replace volunteerism and dedication. So we ask you for ideas and support.

I give a big "thank you" to the current and past branch and district officers whose efforts built our great society.

The Society was built on Slovak fraternalism and respect. Please promote the First Catholic Slovak Union with your family, friends as associates.

We have a great story. With our strong financial picture, you and they can't go wrong.

That being said, at every Slovak fraternal to which i am invited, I make this same pitch – "Let's get together, pool our resources, cut our duplicate expenses and unite." So far, I have a lot of "sure, good idea; we should do it" but no – "Ok, let's do it!"

Throughout its history, the main thread holding the Jednota together, was and is, "Service to its members, which promotes their spiritual as well as their financial well-being." That will not change. The First Catholic Slovak Union is more than an insurance company.

"Za Boha a národ – for God and nation."

In a word, Jednota.



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

THINK ABOUT IT!

## LIGHT ONE CANDLE

**Tony Rossi, Director of Communications, The Christophers**

### Golden Anniversary for “Three Minutes a Day”

Three minutes a day. That's the minimum amount of time that The Christophers' founder, Maryknoll Father James Keller, encouraged people to spend on their spiritual lives. No matter how busy you are, he thought, you've got to be able to squeeze in three minutes, right? And to help people along, Father Keller created a book titled, appropriately enough, “Three Minutes a Day.” It consisted of a daily story or reflection, along with a Scripture verse and short prayer.

The book proved popular so he kept publishing new volumes, and we've kept up that tradition. In fact, we've reached the 50th volume, so you could say it's the series' golden anniversary. We're proud to have reached such a special number! I also think the book may be more relevant to people's lives now than in the past because everyone seems busier than ever. Also, our attention spans have decreased. The younger generation, especially, often communicates in Twitter-sized messages of 140 characters or less. While the entries in “Three Minutes a Day” aren't quite that short, they're certainly the ideal length for anyone who wants to add some moral and spiritual substance to their lives in today's fast-paced world. Consider this story:

Tara and her one-year-old daughter went to visit her great-grandparents at their nursing home. She could see on the faces of the elderly couple the joy that her visit brought them. On her way home, Tara listened to “The Jennifer Fulwiler Show” on Sirius-XM's Catholic Channel radio station and heard Christopher Award-winning author Kerry Weber being interviewed about her book “Mercy in the City.” The conversation prompted Tara to reflect on the idea of mercy, so she shared the following thoughts on her Instagram page:

“Sometimes the corporal works of mercy don't look like we expect. Visiting the imprisoned doesn't always mean visiting those in jail. Sometimes the imprisoned are those imprisoned by their bodies, unable to...do the things they want [to do]. Sometimes the imprisoned are those who receive no visitors from the outside world. Sometimes your daughter offering a smile to the elderly and the infirm can teach you more about love and mercy than years of theology. Opportunities for mercy abound in our lives, if only we take the time to see them.”

Hopefully, that reflection will leave you thinking about simple ways that you can reflect God's love to the people around you. The book also includes stories about courage, gratitude, forgiveness, and more. There's even a beautiful nighttime prayer I found online that was written by Lutheran pastor Dietrich Bonhoeffer, who was killed during World War II for his anti-Nazi activities. He wrote:

“O Lord my God, thank You for bringing this day to a close; Thank You for giving me rest in body and soul. Your hand has been over me and has guarded and preserved me. Forgive my lack of faith and any wrong that I have done today, and help me to forgive all who have wronged me. Let me sleep in peace under Your protection, and keep me from all the temptations of darkness. Into Your hands I commend my loved ones and all who dwell in this house; I commend to You my body and soul. O God, Your holy name be praised. Amen.”

We sell the book for \$10 plus shipping, so if you want a daily dose of inspiration for yourself or a loved one, you can order by calling us toll-free at 1-888-298-4050, or by visiting our website at [www.christophers.org](http://www.christophers.org).

For a free copy of the Christopher News Note, *LISTENING WHEN GOD SPEAKS*, write: The Christophers, 5 Hanover Square, New York, NY 10004; or e-mail: [mail@christophers.org](mailto:mail@christophers.org) 09/27/15

## Message from Our National Chaplain

Love Is Our Mission: The Family Fully Alive is the preparatory catechesis (teaching manual) for the World Meeting of Families to be held September 22-27, 2015 in Philadelphia. The catechesis contains 10 chapters, each concluding with four questions for reflection. One of the reflections from Chapter 9, Mother, Teacher, Family: The Nature and Role of the Church, is offered here.

Why does Jesus love the Church? What about the Church pleases him? What disappoints him?

To answer these questions, it may be helpful to realize that Church is defined in several different ways. The Second Vatican Council described the Church as the People of God, an image which has its foundation in the First Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians where he calls the Church the Body of Christ. Church is also thought of in terms of an institution or an organization, complete with property and buildings, a form of governance, and outreach programs. Still others equate Church with its hierarchy, the bishops, the successors of the apostles, who in union with the Bishop of Rome strive to fulfill the mandate Jesus gave to the apostles to make the Gospel known to the ends of the earth.

The answers to these questions touch upon all three understandings of Church. Jesus loves the Church for he desires it to be one with him. Just as a wife's and husband's love for each other draws them together in a special union, so also Jesus loves the Church as his spouse. This is why the Church is sometimes called the Bride of Christ.

The performance of the corporal and spiritual works of mercy, loving God with all one's being and our neighbor as ourselves, being good stewards of our gifts and possessions, forgiving our enemies, and evangelizing are just some of the many ways the Church pleases Jesus. All of them can be summed into these words of Jesus from the Gospel of Mark. “Whoever does the will of God is brother and sister and mother to me.”

Just as there are countless examples of the Church pleasing the Lord, there are as many instances where some in the Church disappoint the Lord. They include: dissension from his teachings on marriage and the family and the desire to have them redefined, failures to protect the innocent, an increase in the secularization of culture accompanied with a decline in following moral norms, work and leisure activities having a priority over Sunday Mass attendance, and seeing moral truth as something that needs to change with the times. Although members of the Church may be at times unfaithful to her spouse, Jesus always remains steadfast in his love for her.



Rev. Thomas Nasta

**Fr. Thomas A. Nasta**  
National Chaplain

## Share A Prayer Smartphone and Facebook App Experiencing Staggering Growth and Phenomenal Use With Almost 20 Million Reached!

As of September 1, 2015, the Share A Prayer App, found at [www.shareaprayerapp.com](http://www.shareaprayerapp.com), on Facebook and the Apple App Store, has seen its faith-inspired social media application reach over 18,404,000 people. Weekly engaged users, defined as consumers who interact with the App directly and interface beyond an impression, has risen over a remarkable 2,200%. “It is truly amazing and a great testimonial to the global strength of the Christian faith,” stated Joseph Bellissimo, Co-Founder. The organic data has more than doubled and strongly reflects the deep and devout following of the Share A Prayer App.

Further analysis of the data reinforces the undeniable power of faith but also the worldwide growth of Christianity. Although Share A Prayer has exponentially flourished across the globe, the leaders of reach, impressions and usage consistently remain the Philippines, South Africa, Indonesia, the United States and Brazil respectively, with the Philippines at 1,840,920 just in the last 28 days. More encouraging for both Share A Prayer and Christianity, despite media reports to the contrary, is the youth of the world who are actually a very faithful group of believers with Share A Prayer's following consisting of over 35% from the 18-34 age group.

The proprietary Share A Prayer App software offers multiple prayer categories, each containing a database of prayers, inspirational thoughts, bible verses and greetings to show



friends and family that you are thinking about them. Categories include Thinking of You, Birthdays, Pet Sympathy, Sympathy, Get Well Soon, Birth, Wedding, Sacraments, and Congratulations with the expansion of additional prayer categories to coincide with religious holidays. The “one-touch” sharing of the App permits users to send or post a customized prayer, bible verse or message just by pressing the Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, email or text icon for whichever medium they desire- “Press & Pray!”

New and exciting features were added to the Share A Prayer App, which include additional customization options allowing users to personalize their prayers even more. The Facebook App allows users to either upload their own Facebook photos to use as a background or select from preloaded background and color options, as well as frame, filter, placement and text options.

Share A Prayer is Bellissimo's most passionate project. A practicing Catholic and active parishioner himself, he was inspired by people praying for one another on social media, and wanted to create applications that gave individuals the opportunity to share meaningful prayers and greetings with one another via their smart phones, desktops, notebooks through text, email or Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter accounts.

Available on Facebook, in the App Store and at [www.shareaprayerapp.com](http://www.shareaprayerapp.com), Share A Prayer



## New Mobile App Helps Families Pray Each Day with Feature to Post Prayer Petition Directly to World Meeting of Families

Family Rosary now offers a free mobile app to guide families through a short prayer each day. With beautiful images, scripture, meaningful reflection and an inspiring quote from Pope Francis, families can have an enriching prayer experience every day – right in their hands.

The Daily Family Prayer app includes a special feature that allows families to post a prayer that will go directly to the Rosary Sacred Space

at The World Meeting of Families where it will be prayed during the Pope's visit.

The free app is available for download on iTunes and Google Play. A version is also available on iTunes for the new iWatch! The mobile app was created for the World Meeting of Families and the Papal Visit to Philadelphia Sept. 22-27. For more information on the app, go to [www.FamilyRosary.org/PrayerApp](http://www.FamilyRosary.org/PrayerApp).

## This September Plan Ahead for Those You Love

Life Insurance Awareness Month (LIAM) in September is the industry's effort to raise awareness about the need for life insurance. This year marks the awareness campaign's 12th anniversary; yet while many Americans do see value in life insurance, less than half actually have individual life insurance policies. And among those polled by a leading non-profit research group LIMRA, over half the people who manage their household money believe they would run into financial difficulty within a matter of months if they died unexpectedly.



Andrew R. Harcar Sr.

### An Alarming Gap

More alarmingly, just three years ago, the coverage gap — which LIMRA defines as total life insurance needs less existing life insurance — was \$15 trillion. Now it's a trillion dollars more than that. (LIMRA used numbers from the Federal Reserve Board's Survey of Consumer Finances to do the math.)

### Overestimating Costs

Why is this so? One reason may be that people tend to vastly overestimate the cost of life insurance, and often cite the cost of cell phones, the Internet, and cable as necessities that prevent them from buying the coverage they need.



Life insurance, after all, is designed to help protect your assets, allow you to accumulate earnings consistently and safely, and ensure long-term security for you and your loved ones. Life Insurance Awareness Month is the perfect opportunity for you to protect your financial security — and plan ahead for those you love.

Find out the facts about life insurance by contacting your local FCSU branch today or calling the FCSU Home Office at 1-800-JEDNOTA (533-6682).

Until then, God Bless.

Andrew R. Harcar, Sr.  
National Vice President

## Reminder For All Branches

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

### 14.01 General Rules

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

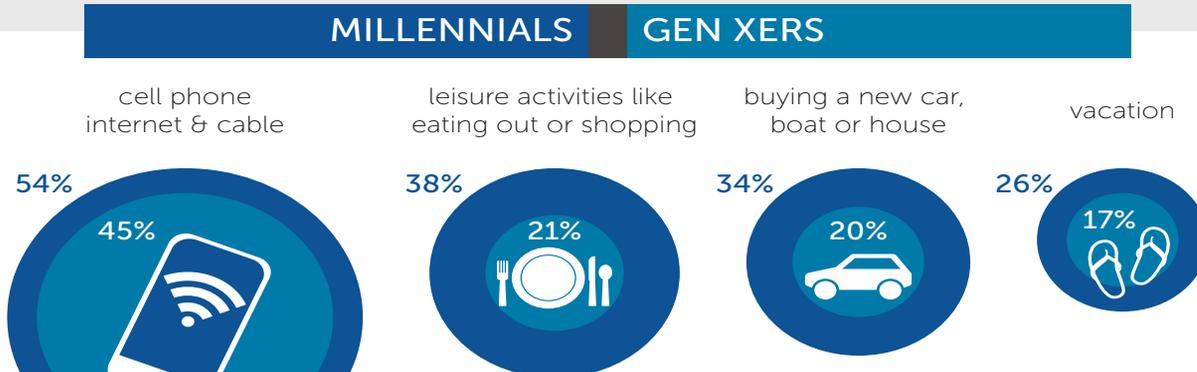
## 2015 INSURANCE BAROMETER STUDY

# FINANCIAL PRIORITIES: Are They Out of Sync?

This is what's keeping people from getting life insurance coverage or more of it

Many **Millennials** think it's more important to pay for their "screens," eating out and shopping than to protect their families.

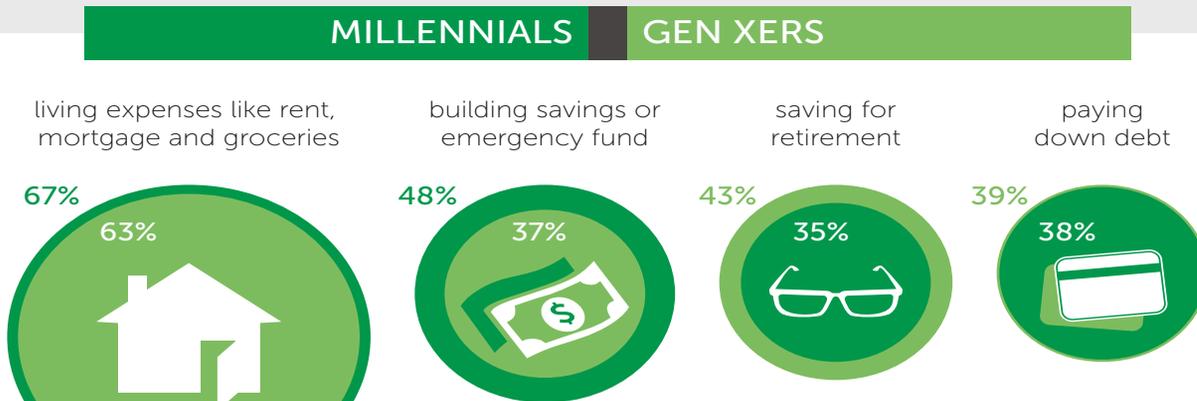
And **Gen Xers** aren't far behind them.



These priorities may be OK if you're single. But what if you have a spouse, partner, or kids? What happens to them financially if something happens to you?

## Getting it right

Prioritizing living expenses such as rent or mortgage, along with saving and getting rid of debt makes sense ...



## But are they missing a critical step?

How do those bills continue to get paid and the money socked away **if the breadwinner died?**



The solution: **life insurance**, which can be had for pennies on the dollar



**SOURCES:**

Statistics are all from the 2015 Insurance Barometer Study from Life Happens and LIMRA. Life insurance quote is from Quick Life Center, quoted in April 2015.

# Cleveland Agreement celebrates its Centennial

Daniel F. Tanzone

2015 marks the 100th anniversary of the Cleveland Agreement. Signed on October 25, 1915, this document was signed in the city bearing its name by representatives of the American Slovak and Czech communities. Beginning with the outbreak of World War I in the summer of 1914, the Slovak League of America, a civic and cultural federation of American Slovaks, went on record advocating the freeing of Slovakia from the Magyar yoke. The Slovaks and Czechs were among the subject peoples of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. The Czechs resided within the Austrian side of the empire in the historical regions of Bohemia and Moravia while the Slovaks were part of Hungary. Their compatriots in America saw an opportunity to advocate on behalf of their liberation and the hopeful collapse of Austria-Hungary.

At this time, a movement was inaugurated known as the Czecho-Slovak National Committee in Paris led by Thomas G. Masaryk, as head; Eduard Benes and General Milan R. Stefanik whose goal was to liberate the Czechs and Slovaks from the dual monarchy and to establish a common state for them at the end of World War I. An intellectual, Masaryk was born in Moravia, presently in the Czech Republic, of a Slovak father and Czech mother in 1850, just two years after revolutionary 1848. He married an American from Brooklyn, N.Y., Charlotte Garrigue in 1878. The marriage led to Masaryk's interest and better understanding of the American philosophy of equality for all peoples. Eduard Benes, a Czech became the right hand of Masaryk and General Milan R. Stefanik who was the son of a Slovak Lutheran pastor. Stefanik proved to be perhaps the most important member of the triumvirate. Highly educated, he was a respected astronomer and engaged in special missions on behalf of the French government. He became a naturalized French citizen in 1912. In January 1915, he joined the French military service, the Air Force. He quickly advanced and attracted the attention of the French high command, soon rising to the rank of General. His many contacts in Paris were essential for the advancement of the cause of liberation for the Czechs and Slovaks.

Both Masaryk and Stefanik looked to the substantial Czech and Slovak immigrant communities in the United States for support to advance the work of the Czecho-Slovak National Council. It was important that these communities go on record in support of Czech and Slovak liberation and the establishment of a common state in Europe. It was Stefanik who is credited with meshing of the two efforts, the one in the United States and the other in Paris toward the common goal of establishing a Czecho-Slovak State.

Representatives of the Czech National Federation and the Slovak League of America met on October 25, 1915 in Cleveland and formulated the provisions of what was to become the ideals and purposes of a common state for the Czechs and Slovaks. As head of the Czecho-Slovak National Council, Masaryk gave full support for the agreement. Formulated by the Czechs, its terms were accepted without any modification by the Slovak League of America which represented the overwhelming majority of organized Slovaks in the United States.

## The provisions of the Cleveland Agreement include the following:

1. The autonomy both of the Czech lands (Bohemia and Moravia) and of Slovakia.
2. The union of the Czech and Slovak peoples in a "federative union of states, with complete national autonomy for Slovakia. Slovakia is to have its own schools, its own state administration, cultural freedom, and the use of the Slovak language as the official language of the State.
3. An electoral right that is to be universal, secret, and direct.
4. A form of federal government in the nature of a personal union, with democratic organization of the State "as in England."
5. The right to change the basis of mutual agreement by enlarging or extending it only through the consent of both parties. The Czech National Federation is to retain the right of incidental alteration, and the Slovak League is to retain the same right.

Formally executed by representative Czechs and Slovaks in America, it was important that its provisions be accepted by the Czecho-Slovak National Council at their offices in Paris and other western European capitals. The Slovak League gave full support for the provisions of the Cleveland Agreement. In May 1916, the Slovak League sent two representatives to Europe, Gustav Kosik, editor of the Slovak Catholic Sokol and Stephen Osusky an attorney. Osusky remained in Europe in charge of the Czecho-Slovak office at Geneva and subsequently became Czecho-Slovak Minister to France (1920-1940). Kosik went to Russia. The leaders of the Czech central revolutionary committee in London, Paris and Moscow conferred with the representatives of the Slovak League, and thus the Cleveland Agreement became the basis for future negotiations between the representatives of the Czechs and Slovaks in Europe and their counterparts in the United States. There were some American Slovak leaders who had some misgivings regarding the binding force of the Cleveland Agreement upon the Czech leaders in any future Czecho-Slovak State. Since the Slovaks in America were providing the chief support for the movement and wanted the assurances of the Czech leadership.

When Thomas G. Masaryk came to the United States in 1918, he visited many Czech and Slovak communities on his way to Washington, D.C. A major stop for Masaryk was in Pittsburgh where a downtown mass rally of more than 20,000 Slovaks, Czechs and other Slavs welcomed him on May 30, 1918. He spoke at Exposition Hall before a crowd of 10,000 Slovaks and in his address settled any misgivings regarding the position of the Slovaks within the newly proposed Czecho-Slovak State. On that occasion, Masaryk noted his own Slovak pride, noting that he was born of a Slovak father and that the Slovak language had been used at home. Thunderous applause rose as Masaryk noted "I am a Slovak," to the delight of the primarily Slovak crowd even though he was speaking to them in Czech. He said Czechs and Slovaks were equals; however, lest any misunderstanding should arise, the Czechs and Slovaks could be assured that only by a union of their forces - "as equals united" - could they



This map shows the Slovak Republic, a small country with a population of approximately 5 million people. It is located in central Europe and surrounded by the Czech Republic, Poland, the Ukraine, Hungary, and Austria.

defeat their common enemy - Austria-Hungary. Following that historic address the leaders of the Czechs and Slovaks in America met with Masaryk. At the meeting, the Slovak League presented the Cleveland Agreement to Masaryk for his approval. Instead, Masaryk revised the provisions that were incorporated in what became known as the Pittsburgh Agreement written by Masaryk in Slovak. Unfortunately the provisions of neither the Cleveland Agreement nor the Pittsburgh Agreement were ever incorporated into the constitution of the first Czecho-Slovak Republic which was proclaimed on October 28, 1918. There is no doubt that had the provisions of the Cleveland Agreement been accepted and respected, perhaps Czecho-Slovakia might have been successful. Instead, Slovakia's promised autonomy finally came in 1938 as war clouds darkened Europe. On March 14, 1939, Hitler marched into Bohemia and Moravia establishing a protectorate and Slovakia declared its independence, unfortunately with Hitler as the midwife. After World War II, the Slovaks were again reincorporated into Czechoslovakia without their consent. Beginning in 1948, Communism took hold of the entire country and prevented any future autonomy for the Slovaks. It would not be until the fall of Communism in November 1989 that the question of Slovakia's future would finally be resolved. In the summer of 1992, the so-called "Velvet Revolution" gave way to the "Velvet Divorce" which saw the peaceful breakup of Czechoslovakia. On January 1, 1993, Slovakia and the Czech Republic declared their independence. The centuries-old dreams and aspirations of the Slovaks and Czechs had finally come to fulfillment.

Thus, the Cleveland Agreement is considered as a major step in the movement which led to the liberation of the Slovaks and Czechs from Hapsburg domination nearly a century ago. We can see then how important the role of the American Slovak community was in securing the rights of self-determination for their brethren in their ancestral homeland which led to the establishment of the first Czecho-Slovak Republic on October 28, 1918 and subsequently, the Slovak Republic in 1993. Today, Slovakia's celebrates its 22 years of its independence. It has successfully been incorporated into important international, transatlantic and European bodies. It is one of the 28 countries which make up the European Union. Beginning on July 1, 2016, Slovakia will serve its six-month term as head of the European Union. From a small downtrodden yet determined subject people of the old Austro-Hungarian monarchy, Slovaks now stand proudly on their own feet and contribute mightily to world peace and prosperity. The American Slovak community is proud of its success and continues to pledge its support for Slovakia and continued USA-Slovak economic, social, educational and cultural ties. Celebrating the centennial of the Cleveland Agreement is an opportunity for those of Slovak ancestry in the United States to review and reflect on the familial ties which have bound our community with our ancestral homeland. From the beginnings of Slovak emigration to the United States in the late 19th century, impressed with the American dream of freedom and liberty, the American Slovak community wanted their brethren in the homeland to enjoy the same. The Cleveland Agreement contributed to the realization of that dream.

## About the Author

Daniel Tanzone, a member of Branch 41 in Yonkers, N.Y. serves as president of the Slovak League of America.

## CALLING ALL PHOTOGRAPHERS!

Get your cameras ready! We are having a photography contest for all members. There will be two groups: the 12 – 18 age group and an over 18 age group.

Submit your photo in one of the following categories:

- People
- Nature or Environment
- Travel or Destinations
- FCSU Fraternal Activity

Judging will be done by an outside professional and all photos will be returned.

For each category, the following prizes will be awarded.

- \$50 – First Place
- \$30 – Second Place
- \$20 – Third Place

An Overall Winner will be awarded \$100



Mail your entry to:

Rudy Ondrejco  
Photo Contest  
234 Ilion St.  
Pittsburgh, PA 15207  
postmarked by October 1, 2015.

Rules:

1. The photos have to be taken by the member submitting it (no computer generated photos, other than digital ones).
2. One Entry per Category
3. Any size photo up to 8" x 10", unmounted, in black and white or color is permitted. (No touched up or computer enhanced photos permitted.)
4. Name, address, email address, Branch number, age, photo category, and where the picture was taken should be submitted on a **separate sheet of paper**. DO NOT MARK BACK OF PICTURE

## St. Thomas A Becket 9th Annual Golf Outing



St. Thomas A Becket will host their 9th Annual Golf Outing at South Hills Country Club located at 4305 Brownsville Road in Whitehall, PA, on Columbus Day, Monday, October 12, 2015. Registration forms are available online at [www.stainthomasbecket.com](http://www.stainthomasbecket.com) or by calling Ben Huber at 412-650-1505. A single package is \$200.00 which includes: range, golf, cart, lunch, dinner, prizes and entertainment. Foursome and corporate packages are also available starting at \$800.000.

This event will kick off with registration at 10:00AM followed by lunch and a Shotgun Start Team Shamble at 12:00PM. Cocktails and dinner will follow starting at 5:30PM. Non golfers are cordially invited to attend dinner only at \$50.00 per person. Reservations for tables of eight or ten can be made by calling Debbie Madden at 412-655-9335.

The Master of Ceremony, back by popular demand, is Kimberly Richards, the "Funny Nun" from the Pittsburgh City Theater. This is a Premier Event with all proceeds benefiting St. Thomas a Becket Building Fund.

- Submitted by Sister Mary Judith Seman, SCN

The First Catholic Slovak Union  
is now accepting VISA, Mastercard and  
Discover credit cards as newspaper  
subscription payments.

Contact the  
Home Office for details:

1-800-JEDNOTA or [fcsu@aol.com](mailto:fcsu@aol.com).

### THE CLEVELAND AGREEMENT

This year, 2015, is the 100<sup>th</sup> year anniversary of the quest that brought the Czech and Slovak communities in America together to help gain independence and form a new nation . . .

. . .Czechoslovakia

A document, known as The Cleveland Agreement, was the result of this quest. It was conceived and signed right here at the Bohemian National Hall on Broadway Avenue, Cleveland Ohio, in 1915

You have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to celebrate your ethnic history at this momentous event.

Sokol Greater Cleveland, Cleveland Bratislava Sister Cities, and the Cleveland Chapter of the Czechoslovak Society of Arts and Sciences have organized a commemorative banquet to be held at the very place the document was created:



THE HISTORIC BOHEMIAN NATIONAL HALL  
Beautifully restored and listed with  
The National Register of Historic Places and  
The Cleveland Landmarks Commission



Celebrating 150 Years of  
Sokol in America

### COMMEMORATION BANQUET



SATURDAY  
OCTOBER 24, 2015

DOORS OPEN  
5:30 PM

BOHEMIAN NATIONAL HALL  
4939 BROADWAY AVENUE  
CLEVELAND OHIO

DINNER 6:30 P.M.

salad, pork chops, stuffed cabbage, roasted potatoes, green beans, dessert and coffee/tea

One bar beverage included  
with price of dinner

Cash bar featuring European beers

Performance by Lucina Dancers

Speakers: Dr Stephen Sebesta & Fr Michael Brunovsky

Kroje Exhibit by George R. Terbrack

Sokol Greater Cleveland  
Czech Cultural Center Museum

RESERVATION DEADLINE  
OCTOBER 10<sup>TH</sup>

For further information call  
PAUL BURIK  
440-934-4420

### BANQUET RESERVATION FORM

NAME (PLEASE PRINT) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ CELL PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL (OPTIONAL) \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE RESERVE:

OR \_\_\_\_\_ DINNER TICKETS @ \$35 EACH  
\_\_\_\_\_ TABLE FOR 8 @ \$260/TABLE

TOTAL FOR DINNER \$ \_\_\_\_\_

VEGETARIAN DINNER \_\_\_\_\_ HOW MANY?

I/WE WOULD LIKE TO BE PART OF THIS HISTORIC & MOMENTOUS EVENT, AND REQUEST THE FOLLOWING NAME(S) BE LISTED IN THE DINNER PROGRAM BOOK (PAMATNIK)

\$10 PARTICIPANT LEVEL NAME(S) \_\_\_\_\_

\$25 SUPPORTER LEVEL NAME(S) \_\_\_\_\_

\$50 PATRON LEVEL NAME(S) \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(DINNER &/OR PROGRAM LISTING)

*Reservation & program listing deadline Oct 10.*

Send checks Payable to  
CZECHOSLOVAK SOCIETY OF ARTS & SCIENCES  
P. O. BOX 522, AVON OH 44011

# YOUTH ROUND-UP

## Branch 853's Charles Boone Enjoys Hike of A Lifetime with Fellow Boy Scouts

16 year old Charles Boone of Pittsburgh, enjoyed and endured a hike of a lifetime. In July, Charles went with a crew of Boy Scouts from the Laurel Highland Council in Pennsylvania, to the BSA high adventure Philmont Scout Ranch in Cimarron, New Mexico. The Scouts who set out on this trip represented 6 local troops. The hiking trek itself lasted 12 days, but the total trip west was an enjoyable 17 days.

American petroleum businessman and philanthropist Waite Phillips, donated the land which later became known as the Philmont Scout Ranch, to the Boy Scouts of America in 1938. Although Philmont is the world's largest youth camp consisting of hundreds of square miles of mostly undeveloped open land with 315 miles of trails, it is also a working cattle ranch with hundreds of horses, burros and ponies.

The contingent's crew flew into Denver to start the adventure. Before the trek began, the group toured the US Air Force Academy. 12% of the Air Force cadets are Eagle Scouts. After they went to Pikes Peak and rode the Cog railway up to the top of "America's Mountain" which tops at 14,000+ feet.

On the way to Philmont, the crew stopped again, toured and Charles marveled at the engineering feats of the Royal Gorge Bridge in Colorado.

Charles and his crew hiked 98 miles of the trails. Reaching the highest point in the Philmont Ranch, summit of Baldy Mountain at 12441 feet, was the highlight of their trek. The air was so thin, that for Charles, it felt like breathing through a straw. Hike 50 feet, stop to breath, and repeat. He endured the steep rocky grade of the mountain. Charles was lucky that his crew scaled the mountain on a clear day where he enjoyed the 5 state view of Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Colorado and New Mexico at the summit. The air was cold; the wind whipped; and Charles relished in this accomplishment.

During the hike, there were many things to see and do. Black powder shooting ranked as one of Charles' favorite activities. As a remembrance of the event, he shot a hole in his 3" x 5" tally sheet. That, is accurate shooting.

Bouldering, which is rock climbing without a belay system, rated as one of the harder activities which Charles did while on the trek. Panning for gold, and touring one of the turn of the century gold mines provided history and fun during the hike.

Charles along with the entire crew, helped lay rail road ties at one of the staff camps. A ride on the push hand rail car provided fun and a different type of exercise.

Blacksmithing is harder than it looks was Charles' thought when he made an S hook and a triangle dinner bell.

Throwing tomahawks is a lost art, but Charles rose to the challenge and tried the sport.

The days were long and tiresome. On only 2 nights of the 12, they built a campfire. Everyone was tired. Charles and his crew shared awesome campfires of other crews while at check points on

their trek. One quiet evening when he was in his tent, a chilling mountain lion's growl broke the still of the night.

For the group's Conservation project, Charles and his crew made a new trail for upcoming scout groups to use.

Charles' trek passed one of the archeological digs on the land as they were headed back to the staff camp. The archeologist taught the scouts what to do and what to look for so that the scouts can experience the tiny thrills which exists in their tedious work. Petroglyphs also appears on rocks in certain areas of the trek.

Shortly after leaving the leaving the dig area, one of the scouts saw an unusual rock. It turned out to be an arrowhead. Charles' crew turned the arrowhead into one of Philmont's various museums. It will be put on displayed with Charles' trek number (713-T2) and date of where and when it was found.

As the hike wound down, Charles toured the Chase Ranch and the house built in the mid 1800s. Although the East was growing after the Civil War, the west was sparse. One of the road going into this area of New Mexico is part of the old Sante Fe Trail.

Celebrating the accomplishments of hiking the near 100 mile journey, Charles went sand boarding at the Great Sand Dunes National Park. He also toured Old Ben's Fort National Park. The group also stopped and saw a performance of a tribal Indian dance.

After backpacking for 12 days and carrying with you everything that you need, Charles says the best reward was stopping at a buffet and not seeing any freeze-dried foods or trail mix.

Charles is the only current member of his Boy Scout Troop 23 in Dormont, to participate in any of the BSA high adventure camps. Charles achieved the rank of Life Scout. He is currently working on his project which is part of the requirements for the rank of Eagle Scout.

Charles is a very active member of Branch 853. In 2014, Charles missed the first couple days of school as he enjoyed his third FCSU Convention. Charles Boone is the son of Ron Boone and Monica Rodacy Boone, who was past National Auditor and past Pension Board Trustee. All are members of Branch 853.

Congratulation Charles on your achievements in Boy Scouts.



Photos courtesy of Nancy Hornack



## Young Members of the FCSU Perform at the Cleveland Slovak Radio Club's Annual Festival

On Sunday, September 6, 2015, the Cleveland Slovak Radio Club, under the direction of President Henry Horvath, hosted its annual Slovak Festival, a fundraiser for its hour long Slovak radio program that airs every Sunday morning from 11:00AM to noon on WERE AM 1490. Several Radio Club officers are members of the FCSU as well, including Program Director Milan Kolbusky, Branch 450.

The festival was held at St. Anthony of Padua Church Hall in Parma, OH, from 12:00 Noon – 8:00 PM, with homemade Slovak food and pastry, music for dancing and listening pleasure by the Anthony Culkar Band and Frank Moravcik Bands, and vendors –including the First Catholic Slovak Union. National President Andrew M. Rajec, along with Home Office staffers Joseph Mitrik, Branch 24, and Bob Kopco, Branch 24 President, were available throughout the day, offering information about the Society's insurance products and annuities, while FCSU home office staffers and members Teresa Ivanec, Jednota Editor and Branch 24 Auditor, and Barbara Sutilla, Claims Department and Branch 855 Member, helped with set-up and serving.

The Festival's cultural program started at 3:00PM, with Tom Ivanec, Branch 24 Auditor, acting as MC, and leading the audience in singing the American National Anthem. George Carny, Branch 450 President, led the singing of the Slovak National Anthem. The featured performing group, directed by Tom, was the Lučina Slovak Folk Ensemble of Cleveland, OH, with a special performance by the troupe's youngest performers, Lučinka. Many of the children of the group are members of the First Catholic Slovak Union, including Branch 1, Branch 24, 228, and Branch 450.

## Branch 382 K Donates Flag of Slovakia to Anthracite Heritage Museum

John J. Slovenkai, Jr. presents the flag of Slovakia to Chester Kulesa of the Anthracite Heritage Museum in Scranton, Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania. This new flag replaces the worn-out flag which has flown outside the museum for several years. Since 1999, when Branch 382 K formally presented the flag of Slovakia to the Museum, the Branch has ensured that the Museum has a Slovak flag in pristine condition. Throughout the spring, summer and early autumn, the Museum displays -- on a rotation basis -- the flags of the nationalities that settled in Northeastern Pennsylvania. Young John is a member of Branch 382 K and is the son of John J. Slovenkai, Sr., branch financial secretary.



- Submitted by Elizabeth Slovenkai, Branch 382 Vice President

## Young Members of Branch 382 K Enjoy Slavic Fest in Scranton



Members of Branch 382 K of Scranton, Pennsylvania recently attended and supported the Annual Slavic Fest of St. Mary's Byzantine Catholic Church in Scranton. Michael J. Slovenkai, Jr. and his sister Briana prepare to enjoy the potato pancakes prepared by the parishioners at the festival. Michael and Briana are members of Branch 382 K where their father, Michael Sr. serves as treasurer.

- Submitted by Elizabeth Slovenkai, Branch 382 Vice President

# Anniversary Celebration

## The Patoprstys Celebrate 65th Wedding Anniversary in September



Steve and Ronnie (Veronica V. Sivak) Patoprsty of Okemos, MI, will celebrate their 65th Wedding Anniversary on September 30, 2015. They were married on September 30, 1950, at St. Michael Church in Oakley, MI. They have six children: Ann K. Pohl, Barbara J. Alpha, Stephan F. Patoprsty, Sally J. Dishaw, Jean M. Jorgensen, Amy V. Schouman, and spouses. The Patoprstys also have 12 grandchildren, several of whom are married; and one great grandchild.

They had a great family reunion during the summer, when most of

them could be in town. They came from Vienna, Austria; Shanghai, China; Anchorage, AK; Grand Junction, CO; Houston, TX; Boston, MA; Rochester, NY; several from Michigan; and a USAirforce Trainee

## The Most Reverend Edward C. Malesic Installed as Bishop of Greensburg

Bishop Edward C. Malesic, J.C.L., greets "Lady of the Holy Sepulchre Gerry Hricik, wife of Thomas Hricik, President Emeritus of the First Catholic Slovak Union. The ordination and installation took place at the Blessed Sacrament Cathedral on Monday, July 13, 2015 [editor's note: for more on this story, go to the Tribune Review website at <http://tinyurl.com/p8g3u9m>].

The Knights and Ladies of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem participated in the Mass. Geraldine Hricik is a member of Branch 181, United, PA.

It was a joyful occasion.

- Submitted by Geraldine Hricik



Saturday, September 26th

### Slovak Heritage Day at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History

#### PLANNED EVENTS:

- 10:00am: Official Opening of Amazing Planet Photography Exhibit by Slovak Nature Photographer Filip Kulisev
  - 11:00am: "Behind the Scenes" Video Presentation by Filip Kulisev in Murch Auditorium
  - 11:30am: Meet & Greet with Slovak Photographer Filip Kulisev in Murch Auditorium
  - Lunch: Specialty Slovak Foods Offered for Purchase in Museum Restaurant
  - All Day: Kroj & Slovak Folk Dress Exhibit by George Terbrack in Corning Gallery
  - 12:30pm: Musical Performance by Harmonia in Sears Gallery: Sponsored by First Catholic Slovak Union & First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association
  - 1:30pm: Slovak Village Life Presentation by Helene Cincebeaux in Murch Auditorium
  - 2:45pm: Musical Performance by the Three Mamickas in Sears Gallery
  - 3:15pm: Slovak Dance Performance by Lucina: Sponsored by Cleveland-Bratislava Sister Cities, Inc.
  - 4:00pm: Commemoration of the 100th Anniversary of the signing of the 1915 Cleveland Agreement in Murch Auditorium
  - 5:00pm: Open Reception with US and Slovak Ambassadors, Slovak Foreign Minister, Filip Kulisev and Mayor Jackson (as schedule allows)
- Cost: Entrance fees for the museum include all events for Slovak Family Day.  
 Parking: Parking is available in the Museum of Natural History parking lot. If full, additional parking is available at the Cleveland Museum of Art garage, the Botanical Garden garage and at metered parking spots around Wade Oval.

Cleveland-Bratislava Sister Cities Looks Forward to Seeing You at the Event

## Upcoming Events by United Slovak Societies in Lorain, OH

United Slovak Societies will host a Children's Halloween Costume Bowling Party at the American Slovak Club, 2915 Broadway Avenue, Lorain, OH, for ages 16 and under on Sunday, October 25, 2015 at 1:00PM, followed by pizza and treats. The party is for members and children of members of SCS Wr. 111, FCSU Br. 228, FCSLA Br. 114, NSS a.160 and LPSCU Br. 77. All children must be signed up by October 19, 2015 at the American Slovak Club at the bowling alley or in the bar area.



A traditional Slovak Christmas Eve dinner hosted by United Slovak Societies will be held at the American Slovak Club, 2915 Broadway Avenue, Lorain, OH, on Sunday December 6, 2015. Cocktails 5:30, dinner 6:00p.m. Entertainment will be provided by violinist Jozef Janis and special guest Celebration Ringers. Advanced ticket sales only. \$20pp with cash bar. Please contact Len at 440/988-3236.

The American Slovak Club in Lorain OH, is seeking children and juniors to participate in their Bumper and Slovak Junior Bowling Leagues held at the Club, 2915 Broadway Avenue, Lorain, OH. For more information please contact the Alley at 440/244-1293 or visit their site, [www.americanslovakclub.com](http://www.americanslovakclub.com).



- Submitted by Michele Mager

FCSU Branch 228  
 Secretary-United Slovak Societies  
 Board of Director Member,  
 American Slovak Club- Lorain, OH



### ATTENTION

#### THE JEDNOTA BENEVOLENT FOUNDATION, INC 2015 SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The Jednota Benevolent Foundation, Inc is pleased to announce it is accepting applications for its 2015 Scholarship Program.

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@fcsu.com](mailto:fcsu@fcsu.com) - Website: [www.fcsu.com/scholarships](http://www.fcsu.com/scholarships)

APPLICATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY MIDNIGHT OCTOBER 23, 2015

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

# 100th Anniversary of Basilica Pilgrimage Celebrated in Wisconsin on September 7th

The Milwaukee-area Slovak community celebrated its 100th Anniversary of the Pilgrimage to the Basilica of Holy Hill located in Hubertus, WI.

This special anniversary was celebrated on Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 7, 2015. It began at 8:30 am with the outdoor Stations of the Cross at the bottom of the Hill. At 9:30 am, Reverend Joseph Hornacek celebrated a Holy Mass in the Basilica.

It all started in 1915 when our parents and grandparents walked the last eight miles to get to this beautiful place to honor the Blessed Virgin Mary, Help of Christians, and sang Slovak songs and prayed the rosary.

This beautiful ritual takes place during the recitation and singing of the Stations when several young girls carry the statue of Our Lady on their shoulders bedecked with colorful streams of ribbons and rosemary.

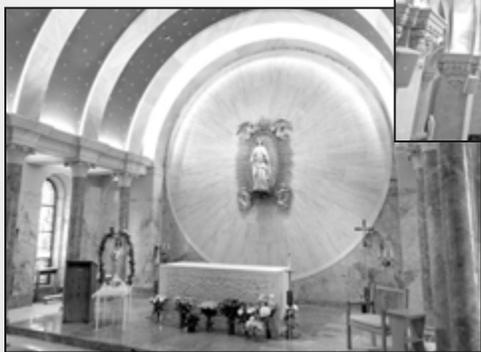
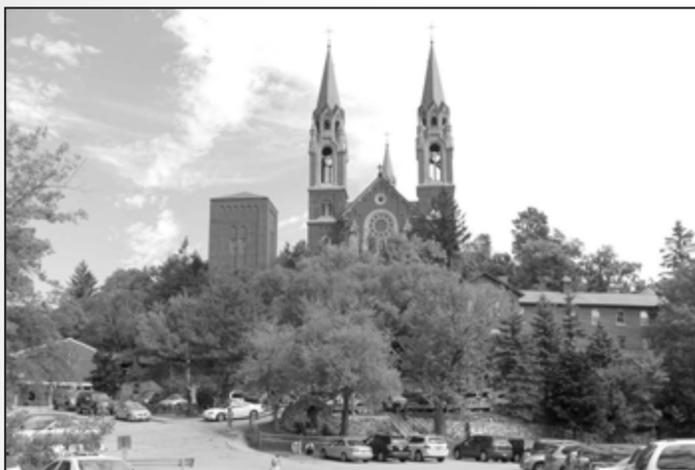
After the Holy Mass, a Brunch was served at the Holy Hill Café.

Holy Hill was declared a Shrine with "Portiuncula privilege" by Pope Leo XIII in 1903. And, as a result of the increasing number of pilgrims, the Discalced Carmelites of Bavaria were invited to staff the Shrine in 1906. On November 19, 2006, the Shrine was elevated to the status of Basilica.

The Shrine's Neo-Romanesque Church sits atop a glacial hill, and is surrounded by 435 acres of breathtaking scenery.



(L - R) Michael Novak, Branch 89 President, with Andrew P. Rajec, Director of Independent Agents at the Home Office and Branch 89 member.



(L - R) Rudolph W. Bernath, Region 7 Director; Mrs. Liz Bernath; and Andrew P. Rajec



All photos courtesy of Andrew P. Rajec

**Attention Members of the Msgr. John E. Rura District 4 & Rev. Joseph L. Kostik District 14**

Want to learn more about the FCSU's excellent portfolio of insurance and annuity products?

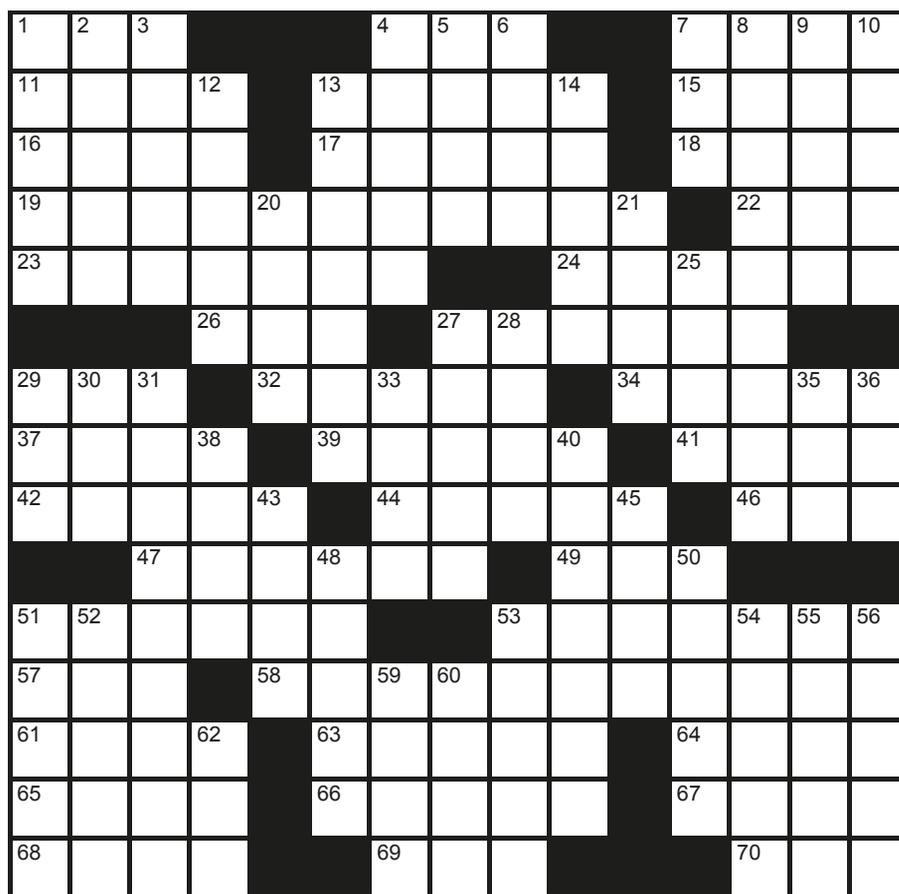
**SAVE THE FOLLOWING DATES:**

The First Catholic Slovak Union Membership and Marketing Committee will hold a sales seminar for the following district in October:

- **Sunday, October 4, 2015:** The Msgr. John E. Rura District, see Branch 746 notice on page 14 of this issue for details.
- **Saturday, October 24, 2015:** The Rev. Joseph L Kostik District, see page 15 of this issue for details.



# Jednota Crossword Puzzle



## JEDNOTA

### Publication Schedule for 2015

Publication Date	Deadline to Receive Materials
October 7	Sept 28
October 21	October 12
November 4	October 26
November 18	November 9
December 9	November 30

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All applications must be received in the Home Office **postmarked by December 31, 2015.**

*\*Higher amounts available - please contact your Branch Officer or the Home Office Standard underwriting applies.*

**Across**

- 1 Upper limit
- 4 Enlisted folks (Abbr.)
- 7 Fear or Horn, e.g.
- 11 Dutch export
- 13 Cogent evidence
- 15 March time
- 16 Rural route
- 17 Washer cycle
- 18 Tacks on
- 19 Chinese menu staple
- 22 Intense anger
- 23 Assail
- 24 Church official
- 26 Garage contents
- 27 Truant
- 29 Televisé
- 32 Starbucks order
- 34 *Gone With the Wind* actress
- 37 Narrow opening
- 39 Back tooth
- 41 Musical note
- 42 Distant
- 44 Limnologists study them
- 46 Convent dweller
- 47 Palace figures
- 49 Pertinent
- 51 Foray
- 53 Great Plains
- 57 Period in history
- 58 Ocean State
- 61 Slangy negative
- 63 Composer Copland
- 64 Bell sound
- 65 Overhaul
- 66 Fetch
- 67 Old dagger
- 68 Great deal

**Down**

- 1 Famous person, for short
- 2 Words of wisdom
- 3 Twinges
- 4 Complain
- 5 Charged particles
- 6 Mediocre
- 7 Cloak-and-dagger org.
- 8 Dependency
- 9 California's San \_\_\_ Bay
- 10 City on the Ruhr
- 12 Doc
- 13 TV show
- 14 Vendettas
- 20 True-to-life
- 21 Rind
- 25 Dill seed
- 27 Gazetteer
- 28 Schnozz
- 29 Botanist Gray
- 30 In poor health
- 31 Border river
- 33 Snitched
- 35 Bearded beast
- 36 Egg warmer
- 38 Tipster
- 40 Raising

- 43 Weather forecast
- 45 Jacuzzi
- 48 Post-op time
- 50 Slants
- 51 Scorches
- 52 Bay window
- 53 Spring bloom
- 54 Precipitates
- 55 Word with ear or peace
- 56 Boundaries
- 59 Sculls
- 60 Plumbing problem
- 62 Auto wrecker's job

See Solution on Page 20

# 125th Anniversary Celebration of August 29, 2015, Cleveland



To view all the photos from this event, go



# BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

## BRANCH 1 – CLEVELAND, OHIO

The Saint Joseph Society, Branch 1, held a meeting on August 19, 2015. There was discussion about attending the FCSU 125th Anniversary Celebration on August 29th, the Abbey Benefit on November 8th and the Viliya on December 6th. The branch will hold its next meeting on November 12th at 6:30 p.m. at Joe's Deli located at 19215 Hillard Blvd. Rocky River, Ohio 44116. If you will be attending please RSVP at 216.228.8179. Election of officers for next year will be held at this meeting. All members are encouraged to attend. If you have any questions please call 216.228.8179.

**Marie A. Golias, Secretary**

## BRANCH 2 – PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Michaels Branch 2 will hold an annual meeting on Monday October 5 2015 at 7pm at Kretzlers on Babcock Blvd, in North Hills. We will hold election of officers. Events for next year will be discussed. Planning for our annual Christmas Caroling event will be discussed also. Refreshments will be provided. Please call for reservations: Joanne at 412-766-3222 or Sue at 412-421-1204.

**Joanne Lako, Secretary**

## BRANCH 3 – MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

Branch 3, Sts. Cyril & Methodius Society, will hold their annual meeting on Sunday, October 11, 2015, in Minneapolis, MN.

The meeting will begin at 11:30AM in Father Dargay Hall, Church of Sts. Cyril & Methodius, 13th Ave., NE & 2nd Street.

The agenda will include officers' reports, schedule of activities for 2016, and the election of officers.

A lunch will be available 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 Saturday, October 17, 2015, at 1:00 pm.

The meeting will be held at the home of Marion Rubino, 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 2015.

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

**Mary Jo Rubino, Secretary**

## BRANCH 19 – BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 19K, will hold our special breakfast meeting at 9:30AM (directly following the 8:30AM Mass) on Sunday, November 8, 2015, when we will award our college-bound members with scholarships for their college expenses. The meeting will be held in the Church Hall of Sts. Cyril and Methodius Church, 79 Church Street, Bridgeport, CT.

We cordially invite our members to attend our meetings held on the second Sunday of the month at Sts. Cyril and Methodius Church Hall.

Our annual meeting will be held on December 13, 2015.

Fraternally,

**Henry Zack, Secretary**

## BRANCH 24 – CLEVELAND, OHIO

Branch 24, St. Andrew Society, will hold a branch meeting/luncheon at 1:00 PM, Sunday, October 25, 2015 at the Old Town Hall, 6652 Brecksville Rd. (Rt. 21) in Independence. Parking is available behind the gazebo on the town

square.

The agenda will include the election of officers for 2016.

Please phone activities director Susan Lang at 216/896-0957 evenings after 6:00 PM if you plan to attend. Thanks.

**Bob Kopco, President**

## BRANCH 35 – BRADDOCK, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Michaels, Branch 35, will hold its semi-annual meeting on Saturday, October 17, 2015, at 1:00 p. m. at the residence of Joseph Yuros, 1987 Centurion Drive, Forest Hills, PA. The agenda will include officers' reports and a discussion of district and branch activities.

**Janet Sullivan, Recording Secretary**

## BRANCH 89 – MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

Branch 89 invites all members to join us on Saturday, October 31, 2015, for our meeting and social, with a luncheon to follow. The location is Allio's Restaurant, 3041 North Mayfair Road, Wauwatosa, WI, 53222. Social time is from 12:00 (noon) – 12:30PM, with the meeting from 12:30 – 1:00PM (approximately). On the agenda: donations; 2016 activities. Lunch will be served directly following the meeting at 1:00PM.

Reservations are required by the restaurant. Reservations must be made by October 22, 2015 by calling Mike Novak @414-445-5382.

Lunch for members in complimentary; guest's cost is \$20.00. Make checks payable to: Knights of St. Mary & Joseph BR 89. Mail to: Mike Novak, 3237 N. 93rd St., Milwaukee, WI 53222.

## BRANCH 153 - CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

St. Stephen Branch 153 will have its annual meeting on Saturday, October 17, 2015. Please note the change of date. The meeting will begin at 11:30 am at Andrew's Restaurant, 2610 East Dempster, Park Ridge, IL. We will elect our 2016 officers at this meeting. A luncheon will follow with no charge for branch members. All members are invited to share in fraternalism.

Please call me at 773 763-0810 if you plan to attend.

**Dorothy Jurcenko, Financial 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 11, 2015, at 1:15 P.M., at Buffet Star, 4089 Old Vestal Road, Vestal, New York. On the agenda will be the Election of Officers and a discussion of District and Branch business. All members are encouraged to attend.

Please call Arlo Meeker at 607-775-4896 by October 9, 2015, to make a reservation if you plan to attend. We hope to see you at the meeting.

**Arlo Meeker, President**

## BRANCH 260 – CAMPBELL, OHIO

Branch 260 will hold a general meeting on Sunday, September 27, 2015, at the Bedford Trail Restaurant, Coitsville, OH. The meeting will start at 1:30PM, with a luncheon to follow.

Fraternally,

**Paul J. Ritz, President**

## BRANCH 312 – BAGGALEY, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 312 will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday, October 18, 2015, at 1:00PM at the home of Branch President Mark Smolleck, 1121 Monastery Drive, Labtrobe, PA, 15650.

**Michalene Smolleck, Financial Secretary**

## BRANCH 382 – SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA

Saints Cyril and Methodius Society, Branch 382 K of Scranton, Pennsylvania will conduct its Annual Fall Meeting on Sunday, November 8, 2015. Officers and members will gather at noon in the VFW, 110 Chestnut Street, Dunmore, PA.

The agenda will include reports of the executive officers and representatives to District 17 events: the annual summer picnic, the semi-annual meeting, and the 125th anniversary celebration of the FCSU. Members will also discuss charitable donations and future branch activities. Information from the home office will be disseminated.

Election of officers for 2016 will be held.

Refreshments and socializing will follow the meeting. All members are urged to attend.

Current officers of Branch 382 K include: President Frank M. Slovenkai, Jr.; Vice President Elizabeth M. Slovenkai; Financial Secretary John J. Slovenkai, Sr.; Recording Secretary Michael J. Czankner; and Treasurer Michael J. Slovenkai, Sr.

**Elizabeth M. Slovenkai, Vice President**

## BRANCH 393 – GREENSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 393, the St. Joseph Society, will hold a meeting at 1:00PM on Sunday, October 18, 2015, at the New City Buffet, 5142 State Rt. 30, Suite 175, Greensburg, PA, 15601. The branch will hold election of officers at this meeting. All members are invited. For reservations, contact Mary Ann Nalevanko at 724-834-6386.

**Mary Ann Nalevanko, Secretary/Treasurer**

## BRANCH 553 – AKRON, OHIO

Mass will be held at St. Johns on Nov.15th. Meeting in the Lobby of the church at 9:45 for procession into the church for the 10AM mass.

There will be a brunch at the Slovak "J" Club following the Mass for all Bonafide members.

We are still looking for groups to form a bowling league for the fall. Please support your club. Don't forget to come and bring your friends to our monthly Spaghetti Dinner on the first Wednesday of the month. Hope to see you all there.

Respectfully submitted,

**Recording Secretary Sandie Klucar**

## BRANCH 567 – ALLENTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, Branch 567 KJ will hold their regular meeting on Tuesday, October 13, 2015 at 1:00PM. It will be held at the home of the Recording Secretary, Loretta Dashner, 419 East Hamilton St., Allentown, PA. 18109. Various issues will be discussed at this meeting.

God Bless All!

**Loretta Dashner, Recording Secretary**

## BRANCH 595 MUSKEGON HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN

Sunday, Oct 18 Monthly meeting 2pm Sunday, Oct 25 Breakfast 8:30am-12noon all you can eat and the best breakfast in town.

Sunday, Nov. 1 Polka Dance 3pm-6pm food available for purchase.

Every Tuesday and Thursday all drinks .50 off Hours are Mon-Fri 1pm-8pm Sat 12noon-8pm Come down and enjoy yourself!

All events take place at Tatra Hall 2536 Sixth St. Muskegon Heights, MI 733-7525

**Susan Hornik, Recording Secretary**

## BRANCH 716 – NEW YORK, NEW YORK

The Stephen the Martyr Society, Branch 716, will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, October 25, 2015, 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: 1) the election of Branch 716 officers for 2016 2) a financial report and 3) a discussion of plans for next season.

Refreshments will be served after the meeting.

Fraternally,

**Henrieta H. Daitova, Secretary**

## BRANCH 746 – LINDEN, NEW JERSEY

There will be an insurance seminar on Sunday, October 4th at Msgr. Komar Hall in Linden, NJ. The session will start after a brief branch meeting at 10:30 am. We will host a luncheon after the seminar.

On Saturday, November 7th, there will be a dinner-dance in honor of the 125th Anniversary of the First Catholic Slovak Union. Details are still being finalized.

Join us on November 21st for a Saturday matinee at the Hunterdon Hills Playhouse for a showing of "A Playhouse Christmas Musical 2015." This musical revue features songs and dances, carols, humorous skits, and a live onstage orchestra. Lunch and dessert are included. Cost is \$80.00 non-members; \$60.00 members. Bus will leave Holy Family Church in Linden, NJ at 9:45 sharp.

To reserve your spot for any of these events, please call Mary Karch @732-572-2331.

**Mary Kapitan, Secretary**

## BRANCH 756 - OWOSSO, MICHIGAN

An Organization meeting will be held on Sunday, October 4, 2015 at 1:30 pm at the home of Stephan J. Patoprsty, 1910 Danbury E., Okemos MI, 48895. Please RSVP attendanceto 517-381-8358.

**Stephan J. Patoprsty**

## BRANCHES 784 AND 810 – MONTREAL, QUEBEC

Both branches will hold their annual meeting on November 8, 2015, following the 11 o'clock Mass in the Sts Cyril & Methodius Parish hall – Montreal.

On the agenda: plans for the next season along with the election of officers for 2016.

A light lunch will be served.

**Alice Dobrik, President**

## BRANCH 796 – EGYPT, PENNSYLVANIA

The Holy Trinity Society, Branch 796, will hold its annual meeting on Sunday November 8, 2015. The meeting will take place at 1 pm. In the church basement of Holy Trinity R.C. Church, Egypt, PA. All members are invited to attend. Food and drink will be served following the meeting. God Bless.

**Jerry Lloyd, Treasurer**

# DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

## DISTRICT 2 – THE REV. JOHN J. SPITKOVSKY DISTRICT – ILLINOIS, INDIANA AND WISCONSIN

The Rev. John J. Spitkovsky District 2 for Illinois, Indiana and Wisconsin will hold its Annual Meeting and Election of Officers on Sunday, October 11, 2015. Location: Missionary Benedictine Convent, 5900 W. 147th Street in Oak Forest, IL. Attendees will meet at 1:30 pm for a period of fraternal fellowship with refreshments. The meeting will start promptly at 2:00 pm. A delicious catered dinner will be served to all attendees. All branches in District 2 are encouraged to send representatives. Individual Jednota members who wish to become more active in District 2 are encouraged to attend. If you have any questions, call Robert Tapak Magruder at (502) 244-6643 or (773) 558-5956.

**Robert Tapak Magruder, District 2 Recording Secretary**

The meeting will begin after dinner. The cost is \$20.00 per person. Checks are to be made out to Branch 796.

Any questions, please call Loretta Dashner at 610.432.8350. Thank You!

**Loretta Dashner, Recording Secretary**

## DISTRICT 9 – THE FRANK T. HOLLY JR. DISTRICT – UNIONTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The Frank T. Holly Jr. District will hold a meeting on Sunday, November 8, 2015, at 1PM. The meeting will be held at the Dairy Queen meeting room located on West Main Street. A social will follow the meeting.

All district branches are invited to attend.

**Barbara Holly, Secretary**

## DISTRICT 10 - THE STEPHEN FURDEK DISTRICT

The Stephen Furdek District 10 meeting will be held on November 8, 2015 at the Slovak J Club, 485 Morgan Avenue, Akron, OH 44311. The meeting will start at 2 PM.

This will be our last meeting for 2015 so we will be holding election for 2016 officers.

Please call Linda Hanko at 330-706-0151 or 330-773-4978 or email her at lhanko@neo.rr.com to let the Club know how many will be attending so we may plan and prepare refreshment.

We look forward to fellowshiping with all District #10 members.

Respectfully submitted,

**Linda M. Hanko, Secretary/Treasurer**

## DISTRICT 13 – JOZEF CARDINAL TOMKO DISTRICT

District 13 Jozef Cardinal Tomko will hold a semi-annual meeting on October 11, 2015, followed by a complimentary meal. Time: 2:00pm. Location: Cozy Corners in Osceola Mills, PA, 16666 (Route 53 South Of Philipsburg, PA, 16866) Members from District 13 branches are requested to attend. Please call Rosemary Deliman at 814 342 5592 if you are able to be present.

**Rosemary Deliman, Secretary/Treasurer**

## DISTRICT 14 – THE REV. JOSEPH L. KOSTIK DISTRICT – YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

The Rev. Joseph L. Kostik District, District 14, will hold a luncheon and meeting on Saturday, October 24, 2015 starting at noon at the Magic Tree Restaurant, 7463 South Ave., Boardman, OH, 44512. Directly following the meeting at 2:00PM, the district will host a sales seminar by the FCSU Membership & Marketing Committee [editor's note: please see p11 of this issue for details about the seminar].

Reservations are requested. Please RSVP by October 16, 2015, to Joe Scavina at 1-330-758-4536.

**Joseph T. Scavina, Recording Secretary**

## DISTRICT 17 – SS. CYRIL 7 METHODIUS DISTRICT – LUZERNE AND LACKAWANNA COUNTIES, PA AND BROOME COUNTY, NY

The District's annual meeting will be held on Sunday, October 18, 2015, with Mass celebrated at 12:15PM at St. John the Evangelist Church, William and Church Streets. Pittston, PA, followed by dinner at 1:30PM and a meeting immediately after.

Are your district dues up to date?

Election of officers will take place at this meeting. You may be nominated from the floor and everyone has the opportunity to hold a position. Do you, as a member of your branch, have a special gift of talent/service/interest in Jednota? Even your presence as a member is appreciated. Come ... join in keeping FRATERNALISM alive!!!

Reservations and any questions you might have may be made by calling District President Michael Slovenkai at (570) 342-7562.

We hope to see you on Sunday, October 18th.

Fraternally,

**Theresa Chupka, Secretary**

## DISTRICT 17 – SAINTS CYRIL & METHODIUS DISTRICT - BROOME COUNTY, NEW YORK AND LACKAWANNA AND LUZERNE COUNTIES, PENNSYLVANIA

District 17, Region 3, will celebrate the 125th Anniversary of the First Catholic Slovak Union and commemorate the death of Father Stephen Furdek, founder of the FCSU, on Sunday, October 25, 2015.

The observance will begin with a Mass at 12:15 P.M. in St. Peter's Cathedral, 315 Wyoming Avenue, Scranton, Pennsylvania.

Following the Mass, there will be a dinner at St. Mary's Center, 320 Mifflin Avenue, Scranton. The Center is approximately 5 1/2 blocks from the Cathedral which is the Mother Church of the Diocese of Scranton, Pennsylvania.

There will be a half hour open bar. The dinner will begin with a wine toast followed by Caesar salad, choice of entree (filet mignon or fillet of salmon with lemon buree blanc), twice baked duchess potatoes, roasted vegetables, and a celebratory cake.

A short program will follow with Pennsylvania State Legislator Sid Kavulich as speaker.

Each branch of District 17 is asked to send ten representatives to this event. Of course, guests are always welcome. Children are also welcome and are encouraged to attend.

This event affords branches the opportunity of fulfilling a fraternal activity by attending, by assisting members with the cost of the dinner, or by paying for the children's dinners.

If there are questions or if you wish to make reservations, contact Martha Zavada, Region 3 Director, at 570.655.4141 (Home) or 570.954.3771 (Cell).

Reservations are due before Thursday, October 15, 2015.

Thank you.

**Elizabeth M. Slovenkai, District 17 Fraternal Activities**

## DISTRICT 7 – REV. JOHN MARTVON DISTRICT – BLAIR, CAMBRIA, INDIANA, SOMERSET AND BEDFORD COUNTIES, PENNSYLVANIA

The Rev. John Martvon District will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, October 25, 2015, at Hoss's Steak and Sea Restaurant, 441 Theater Drive, Richland, Johnstown, PA. St. Joseph's Society, Branch 372, will be the host branch. Holy Mass will be offered earlier in the day at St. Michael's Church, St. Michael's, PA.

On the agenda will be the election of officers and a discussion of the low attendance at the district meetings. Branches are reminded to receive the annual stipend from the Home Office they must have their dues current and attend one district meeting annually. Let's have a good turnout.

**Joseph E. Rura, Recording Secretary**

## DISTRICT 8 - REV. STEPHEN FURDEK DISTRICT- EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA, MARYLAND AND WASHINGTON, D.C.

The Rev. Stephen Furdek District will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, October 11, 2015.

Mass will be at 11:30AM at Holy Trinity Church, 4456 Main St., Whitehall, Pa. 18052.

Dinner will be served at 1:00PM at the Egypt VFW located at 5209 Spring Mill Road, Whitehall, PA, 18052. This is about a half mile up the road from the church.

## DISTRICT 20 PRINCE RASTISLAV, MONTREAL, QUEBEC

The District's Annual meeting will be held on November 8, 2015 at the STS CYRIL & METHODIUS Church Hall immediately following the eleven (11) o'clock Mass.

The Agenda will include the Social calendar for 2016 as well as election of officers. Branches 784 and 810 are urged to send representatives. A light lunch will be served.

**Alexander S. Dobrik, President**

# Rest in Peace, Our Departed Members

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

Branch	Name	Branch	Name	Branch	Name	Branch	Name
016P	Cecilia I Morris	157K	Elizabeth A Vincent	299K	Paul A Simcisko	670K	Robert D Stinogle
023K	Margaret R Filo	162K	Bernard Dwayne Pensock	313K	Eugene W Joniak	701K	Lillian A Cesario
024K	Wilma Ann Jancuk	166K	Andrew Michael Baluch	348K	Robert Killian	701K	Helen Pacuch
024K	William J Skladany	166K	Elizabeth A Barina	367K	Albert Francis Kremposky	706K	William J Fayta
024K	Raymond Thomas Vasko	166K	Leonard Zeleznik	367K	Michealene Yaniga	731K	Andrew R Wayda
040K	Rolf Demoll	200K	Rose A Cieply	484K	Rose Ann M Rura	738K	Joseph W Yesko
055K	Caroline S Gondal	200K	Pauline Wolsonovich	553K	Donald David Olenick	746K	John A Bednar
060K	John L Gdovic	215K	Frank C Zatorsky	567K	John B Pavlacka Jr	746K	George L Kocsik
060K	Paul Michael Matura	228K	Mary M Whittaker	567K	Ronald F Puksar	746K	John Kubulak
085K	John H Tobias	238K	Irma Caputo	581K	Martha L Munro	764K	Genevieve Toth Chachko
086K	Charles R Koza	240P	Francis Kavulich	628K	Paula Ann Smith	764K	Dolores A Cooper
089K	James D Budjac	254K	Elizabeth Mitchell	667K	Emma Marie Belin	831K	Michael F Barnas
152K	Eugenia Jean Kotulak	260K	Frank R Hovanec	670K	Cecilia A Koskoski	855K	Thomas M Smolko
156K	Irene M Anthony	292K	Rita Yacisin	670K	Drew James Molinari	919K	Marjorie A Hansen

\*Processed through the month of August 2015

## OBITUARIES

### MARY ZBELLA BRANCH 153 – CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Mary Zbella, passed away suddenly on July 21, 2015, at her current home in Largo, Florida. The daughter of John and Johanna Zolna, both from the Orava region of Slovakia, Mary was born and raised on the south side of Chicago where her family had a neighborhood tavern business. She was baptized at St. Michael Slovak Church and attended grammar school at St. Simon the Apostle Slovak Parish. In her class for eight years was her future husband, Emil J. Zbella. The couple became engaged after World War II and they were married in 1946.

In 1959, Mary and Emil took over the family tavern business which they ran for 25 years until they retired and moved to the town of Crandon in northern Wisconsin. After 58 happy years of marriage, Emil passed away in 2004. To be closer to family, Mary moved to Florida in 2013 where she continued to be a loyal fan of the Chicago Cubs and Bears. She was a member of a number of Slovak organizations.

Mary was the loving mother of Emil E., James (Kathy), and Joanne (David) Barnes; and loving grandmother of Laura, Jimy (Monika), Nicole (Dave), and Samantha; loving great-grandmother of Emma and Paige.

Funeral Mass was celebrated at St. Simon the Apostle Church in Chicago by Rev. Francis Kub, Rev. Robert Roll and Rev. Alfredo Salera. Mary was laid to rest in Our Lady of Sorrows Slovak cemetery.

- Submitted by Emil E. Zbella

### ANNE Z. SAROSY BRANCH 260 – CAMPBELL, OHIO

Anne Dolores Zvara Sarosy, a former resident of Campbell, Ohio and resident of Colorado Springs for the last nine years, began her eternal life on August 4, 2015, three weeks following her 92nd birthday. Anne was born on July 14, 1923, to Joseph and Dorothy (Sarvas) Zvara in Campbell, Ohio. She was an accomplished accordionist having her own orchestra heard weekly on WKBN



Radio in the late 1930's and early 40's. It was here she met her future husband, John Sarosy, the vocalist. They were married on May 10, 1941 and spent the summer in New York City, where John studied voice at the Metropolitan Opera. World War II changed the direction of their lives. While John was serving his country with the famed Jolly Rogers-Army Air Corps in the South Pacific, Anne worked as an apprentice draftsman for Republic Steel in Youngstown, Ohio and studied machine drawing/engineering at Case School of Applied Science in Cleveland, Ohio. She later earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Education, Cum Laude, from Youngstown State University and a Master in Education/Counseling degree at Westminister College, New Wilmington, PA. In addition, she did Slovak language studies at the University of Akron, University of Pittsburgh and the Slovak Jesuit Institute in Toronto, Canada.

Anne was extremely proud of her Slovak heritage and was a founding director of the Mahoning Valley Slovak Cultural Society. She served as Wreath, Assembly and Group president of the Slovak Catholic Sokol in the Youngstown area and as Ladies Vice-President of the national/international SCS. She was a Vice-President of the Slovak League of America and Scholarship Committee director; chair of the Slovak World Congress Women's Committee, and a delegate to the World Peace Conference in Munich. She held membership in the First Catholic Slovak Union as well as numerous other Slovak organizations and traveled twice to Slovakia, visiting her parents' birthplace. The appreciation and preservation of Slovak customs and culinary heritage led to the publication of two cookbooks: "Treasured Tastes and Traditions" and "A Culinary Collection of our Slovak Heritage", co-authored with her daughter, Sandra Sarosy Duve.

Enriching young minds was always in the forefront for Anne. She was a dedicated teacher who set high goals and expectations for each of her many students during her 32 years with the parochial and public schools in Campbell, Ohio. She was instrumental in early childhood development programs in the area, working with Head Start.

She is survived by her daughters, Sandra Duve (James) of Colorado Springs, and Martha Vercellone (Joseph) of Dothan,

Alabama; granddaughter, Julianne Gndt (Dr. Ryan) and grandsons Christopher Duve (Laura) and Jonathan Zetts; and great-grandchildren: Madeline and James Duve and Matthew, Andrew, Nicholas and Jonathan Gndt plus "Baby Sister", who is due in October. She was preceded in death by her husband, John, her parents, sister, Esther DeSanto, and brother, Bill Zvara, all for whom she greatly grieved.

A Mass of Christian Burial in celebration of her life was held at 11 AM on Thursday, August 13, 2015, at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church in Woodmen Valley. The family received friends in the church narthex one hour prior to the service. Interment was at St. John's Cemetery, Lowellville, OH, with a private committal service set for a later date.

Memorials in Anne's name may be made to the Penrose-St. Francis Foundation - Wall of Honor, 2222 North Nevada Ave. Colorado Springs, CO 80907, or, the University of Pittsburgh Office of Institutional Advancement, 128 N. Craig Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15260; memo line-"Slovak Language, Literature and Culture Program in memory of Anne Sarosy", or online at www.giveto.pitt.edu.

Anne was a deeply prayerful woman and found great joy in her family, heritage and life-long learning. The 103rd Psalm was her daily prayer: "Bless the LORD, O my soul and all that is within me, Bless His Holy Name."

- Submitted by Sandra Duve

### PAUL L. KRIVACEK BRANCH 320 – BELLE VERNON, PENNSYLVANIA

Paul L. Krivacek, 81, of Greensburg, PA, died Friday, Sept. 4, 2015, in Forbes Regional Hospital, Monroeville, PA. He was born July 21, 1934, in Roscoe, PA, a son of the late Louis and Anna (Sninchak) Krivacek. Prior to his retirement, he had been the supervisor of special education for the Westmoreland Intermediate Unit 7. He was a member of Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church, Greensburg, an Army veteran and a member of the PSEA. He was a graduate of California State Teachers College with a Bachelor of Science degree and a graduate of West Virginia University with a Master's of Arts degree, specializing in speech and hearing. He is survived by his wife of 50

years, Donna L. (Huweart) Krivacek; a son, Paul D. Krivacek and his wife, Colleen, of San Diego, CA; a daughter, Kristy Johnson and her husband, Steve, of Latrobe; four grandchildren, Owen and Olivia Krivacek and Brayden and Kenzie Johnson; three sisters, Margaret Kopach, of Charleroi, Catherine Martin, of Roscoe, and Julia Brudnik, of Elco; and several nieces and nephews. Friends were received from 4 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, September 8, 2015, in the Leo M. Bacha Funeral Home Inc., Greensburg. Prayers were offered at 9:30 a.m. Wednesday, September 9, 2015, in the funeral home, followed by a funeral Mass celebrated at 10 a.m. in Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church, Greensburg. Entombment followed in the St. Clair Cemetery Mausoleum.

- Submitted by Frances Letavec Tarquinio, Branch 320 Financial Secretary

### EMMA ELEANOR GALETKA BRANCH 484 – CORAL, PENNSYLVANIA

Emma Eleanor Galetka, 92, of Indiana, passed away peacefully on Sunday, August 23, 2015, in the Indiana Regional Medical Center. Born in 1922 in Aultman, PA, she lived most of her life in Getty Heights, White Township, PA.

She was an extraordinary faith-filled Catholic and a member of St. Bernard of Clairvaux Roman Catholic Parish in Indiana since 1947.

Survivors include a daughter, Joan Galetka Kort and her husband, Lawrence, of Natrona Heights, PA; two granddaughters, Dr. Elizabeth A. (Christopher) Von Barga of New Freedom, PA and Theresa M. Kort of Lexington, KY, many nieces and nephews and one sister-in-law, Jeannette Berish Spence, Rural Valley, PA.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Emil J. "Aim" Galetka in 2002, her parents, Michael and Anna (Mudry) Berish; six sisters, Anna Timko, Mary Briscoe Stapinski, Theresa Hudak, Margaret McBride, Elizabeth Nemitt, and Susan Dellafiora; and six brothers, John Berish, Andrew Berish, Peter Berish, Joseph Berish, Michael Berish and Paul Berish. She was the last surviving member of the Berish family.

Emma attended grammar school in Ault-

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# OBITUARIES

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man, PA and Warren G. Harding High School in Warren, Ohio. She served as a catechist as a young adult for the former St. Anthony's Church in Aultman and enjoyed her time teaching and being mentored by the Sisters of St. Joseph.

She was a recipient of an award for volunteer hours with United Cerebral Palsy of Western Pennsylvania, and was a supporter of the Downtown Indiana "Vinegar Hill Project."

Emma married her husband, Emil, in April, 1944 in Holy Trinity Church, Norfolk, VA, and experienced World War II as the wife of an active-duty US Marine, who served in the Pacific Theater of Operations.

As a new bride, she worked at Day's Dry Cleaners in Oceanview, VA and was an employee of Indiana State Teachers College, working and living in John Sutton Hall in the 1940s.

Emma was a good listener and friend to many. She could frequently be found sitting on her front porch, where she loved to converse with neighbors. As a homemaker, Emma was known for her healthy vegetable crops, berries, fruits and flowers. She loved to cook, make jams and jellies, and bake. She especially enjoyed visits with family and friends, old photographs, picnics in the yard and camping in State Parks. She was well-read and always informed of current events. She had a good sense of humor, was creative and was known for her cheerful laugh.

Emma was proud of her daughter and granddaughters and all of their achievements, her Slovak heritage and genealogy,

and her own personal history which she documented in a journal after her husband's death.

Visitation was from 6:00 to 8:00 PM on Tuesday, August 25, 2015, at the Bowser-Minich Funeral Home, Indiana, PA. Mass of Christian Burial was at 12:00 Noon Wednesday at St. Bernard of Clairvaux Parish.

Interment followed in St. Bernard's Cemetery, Indiana, PA.

- Submitted by Joan Kort

**ELEANOR A. KOVACH  
BRANCH 831 –  
TARENTUM, PENNSYLVANIA**

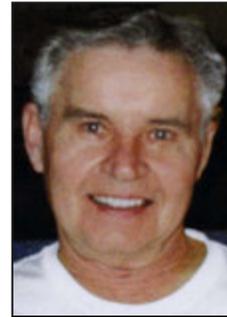
Eleanor A. (Matjasko) Kovach, of Tarentum, passed away Saturday, April 4, 2015, at the Allegheny Valley Hospital, Natrona Heights. She was born in Tarentum and lived in the Valley all of her life. She graduated from Tarentum High School and attended New Kensington Business School. She retired from PPG Industries Pittsburgh Office after nearly 34 years of service as a secretary in the executive department. Early in her career, she was a stenographer in the United States Department of Justice, in Pittsburgh, PA. Mrs. Kovach was a member of Holy Martyrs Church in Tarentum and a former American Red Cross Gray Lady volunteer, Pittsburgh Chapter at Children's Hospital and a member of Tarentum Jednota Branch 831. Survivors include sisters, Marlene E. Jaros, of Tarentum, with whom she lived, Marcella Demeter, of Arizona, and Joelanne Wikes, of California; and several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband, Steve J. "Pip" Kovach, in 1972; her son, S. Byron Kovach, in

1949; her parents, John and Mary (Mokry) Matjasko; her stepfather, Adam Jaros; a brother, Frank J. Matjasko; and three sisters, Ann Kurland, Mary D. Matjasko and Margaret D. Altman. Visitation was from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, April 7, 2015, in the DUSTER FUNERAL HOME INC., Tarentum, where a blessing service was conducted at 9:30 a.m. Wednesday, April 8, 2015, followed by a Christian Funeral Mass at 10 a.m. in Holy Martyrs Church with her pastor, the Rev. Aaron J. Kriss, officiating. Burial followed in St. Clement Cemetery, Tarentum.

- Submitted by Kathy Persuns, Branch 831 Secretary

**RUDOLPH S.  
PALKO  
BRANCH 831 –  
TARANTUM,  
PENNSYLVANIA**

Rudolph S. Palko, 91, of Natrona Heights, PA, passed away Saturday, June 20, 2015, in the Good Samaritan Hospice Unit at Concordia, Cabot, PA. He was born Aug. 20, 1923, in Tarentum, PA, a son of the late Paul and Mary Kulisek Palko. Rudy was a World War II veteran, having served as a motor machinist mate second class in the Navy. He was stationed in the Pacific Theater for 29 months. He retired in 1985 after 39 years of service from PPG in Creighton, PA, where he worked as a machinist. Rudy was a member of Our Lady of the Most Blessed Sacrament Roman Catholic Parish, Most Blessed Sacra-



ment Church, in Natrona Heights, VFW Post 894 in Natrona Heights, a 30-year member of the St. Vincent DePaul Society, where he was a former secretary and treasurer, and a former member of American Legion Post 226 in Brackenridge. He was an avid Steelers and Pirates fan and enjoyed traveling, gardening and doing handyman work, but he especially enjoyed fly fishing and tying his own flies. Rudy is survived by his wife of 64 years, Patricia S. Robson Palko; his children, Joan (Edward) Sikora, of Moon Township, PA; Elaine Kushner (Sam McCune), of Springdale, PA; Mark Palko (Rebecca Daugherty), of Natrona Heights; and Laura Ann (Richard) Palko Crawford, of Columbus, OH; five grandchildren, Erin (John) Wilfong, Justin (Dorothy) Sikora, Elyse Sikora, Ashley (Quino) Martin and Scott Kushner; 10 great-grandchildren; brothers, the Rev. John Palko, of New Brighton, PA, and Frank Palko, of Tarentum; and by his sister, Agnes Dubnicay, of Tarentum. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brothers, Paul and Matthew Palko. Friends were received from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. Monday, June 22, 2015, in the Cicholski-Zidek Funeral Home Inc., Natrona Heights, where a blessing service was held at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, June 23, 2015. A Mass of Christian Burial followed at 10 a.m. in Most Blessed Sacrament Church with his pastor, the Rev. James Mazurek, as celebrant. Burial with full military honors accorded by the Tarentum VFW was in Mt. Airy Cemetery, Natrona Heights.

- Submitted by Kathy Persuns, Branch 831 Secretary

As seen in





**125<sup>th</sup>  
Anniversary**

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*Vítajte, Welcome, Pope Francis!*



**Mother of Sorrows Chapel  
Washington, DC**

# Slovaks in Alaska? Alexander Liška's Life

**Michael J. Kopanic, Jr., Ph.D.,  
University of Maryland  
University College**

Yes, there were Slovaks in Alaska! But very few. This summer I ventured on a trip through western Canada and Alaska. One of my aims was to search for Slovaks in these regions. I met mixed success.

Slovaks refer to Alaska as Aljaška (pronounced Alee-awsh-kah), and the spelling more closely resembles that of the original Russian. The Russians first used the name "Alaska" (Аляска) when the territory was a Russian colony, and it first referred to the entire peninsula. The Russians obtained the name from an Aleut, or Unangam idiom, which figuratively refers to the mainland of Alaska. Literally, it means object to which the action of the sea is directed. It is also known as Alyeska, the "great land", an Aleut word derived from the same root.

According to the US census and zipatlas.com, the number of Slovaks in Alaska is quite small. Joe Hornack's investigation of the 1990 US census found just 1,895 Slovak ethnic roots. Zipatlas.com listed just a few dozen Slovaks, but it seems to include just those recent immigrants from Slovakia, and not those with Slovak roots. The 1980 census showed 44 people who spoke Slovak as their primary language. In zipatlas.com, Anchorage registered the largest number, with 12 people identifying themselves as Slovak; Fairbanks came in a distant second with 4 persons of Slovak ancestry. The capital of Juneau accounted for just 2 Slovaks, and Sarah Palin's hometown of Wasilla matched that figure. Most towns only counted one Slovak resident.

## Alexander Liška, Slovak Adventurer

The most famous Slovak to venture to Alaska was Dr. Alexander Liška (1883-1941). His native town of Zamarovce near Trenčín even named a street in his honor.

There is little written about him in English, but Ján Martiš published a book about him in Czech, which I list in the bibliography.

I first heard the name of Liška when I met a certain Slovak gentleman in Alaska, as he saw my T-shirt with Slovakia written on it. He related that a famous Slovak once graced the state, and his name was Liška, which means "fox." The native Alaskans



**A Russian Orthodox church in Ninilchik, Alaska.**

were so enamored of him that they even erected a monument to him. Upon hearing this, I was determined to dig deeper and find more about Liška.

Alexander Liška traces his origins to Bosnian town of Višegrad, where he was born in 1883. The 1930 census listed him as from Yugoslavia. While born there, he was Slovak, and raised in Zamarovce, Slovakia. His father was of Czech nationality, and served as an officer in the famous 71st Trenčín Infantry Regiment. In the final year of World War I, the Trenčín regiment achieved notoriety for participating in the Kragujevač rebellion against the Austro-Hungarian monarchy on June 2-3, 1918. As a result, 44 Slovaks soldiers were executed for treason. Kragujevač had been the first capital of modern Serbia from 1818-1839, and is where Serbs first proclaimed their own constitution in 1835. During World War I, it briefly became the capital of Serbia again from 1914-1915, when Belgrade fell.

While his father enjoyed a distinguished military career, Liška's mother Malvína came from the Slovak noble family of Medňanský. The family moved to Zamarovce after the war when his father reassumed the Trenčín regiment. Thus the young Alexander grew up in Zamarovce.

With his father usually abroad serving in the army, his Slovak mother raised the young Alexander Liška for the most part. He studied at the gymnasium in Trenčín, but found it did not suit his tastes. So he decided to pursue training in business. But his real passion was adventure and he showed an acute interest in learning more about foreign lands. He left his hometown and tried for a short time to work as a businessman in Šahy, and then in Kežmarok, and finally in Vienna. He decided to finish his secondary education in a business school in Vienna, and then set off on ventures around the world. One of his stops took him to Berlin, where he had to undergo an operation for

appendicitis. The medical issue inspired him to opt for a career in medicine and the medical school in Berlin accepted him as a young student.

After his stint in Vienna, Liška's history is somewhat less clear, and various histories offer contradictory versions of his life. But he did use his education and business schools and worked as a clerk and later a manager for the foreign branch of Lawrence Savings Trust Co. in New Castle. While employed, he continued his medical studies.

Then an opportunity arose, which would quench his thirst for adventure and travel. A travel agency, which had just opened a branch in the USA, presented him with a chance to tour the North American West when it offered him a job as a paramedic. He sailed to the port of Seattle, Washington, and from there we know of his treks in North America from his correspondence with family at home.

**continued on page 19**



**A railroad bridge across the Tanana River, built in 1923, leads to Nenana where Alexander Liška explored.**



**Dr. Kopanic by Kenai Lake, situated on the Kenai Peninsula of Alaska, an area associated with Liška and his explorations.**



# News From Slovakia

## NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg to Visit Bratislava

Bratislava, September 9 (TASR) - NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg will visit Bratislava on Thursday (September 10) to prepare for 2016 NATO Summit in Warsaw, the press department of the Foreign and European Affairs Ministry informed TASR on this date.

Slovak chief of diplomacy Miroslav Lajcak will talk with Stoltenberg about the Alliance's future and the context of the next year's summit.

Stoltenberg will also meet with Slovak President Andrej Kiska, Prime Minister Robert Fico, Parliamentary Chairman Peter Pellegrini and Defense Minister Martin Givac.

## Troop Movements to Start in Slovakia As Part of Slovak Shield Exercise

Bratislava, September 9 (TASR) - Large troop movements will occur on Slovak soil in the following days as part of the Slovak Shield military exercise, TASR learnt from the Defence Ministry on this date.

"Next week, we'll see large troop movements practically across entire Slovakia," said second deputy to Chief of the General Staff of Slovak Armed Forces Pavel Macko. Heavy military equipment from Trebisov and Presov will be transported to Lest military training facility (Banska Bystrica region) also by trains, as some 4,000 soldiers will take part in the exercise.

It will be also 640 US soldiers and 150 pieces of military equipment, including Stryker and Humvee vehicles that will participate in the Slovak Shield, slated for September 14-17. American troops are heading from their base in German Vilseck through the Czech Repub-

lic, Slovakia to Hungary, where they are due to take part in the NATO exercise Brave Warrior 2015. "This troop movements represent a great opportunity to test our capabilities at a relatively low cost," said Chief of the General Staff Milan Maxim.

Aside from Slovak and US troops, the exercise will also see participation from soldiers of Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic and observes from Germany and Turkey.

## Departure of Storks Puts End to Live Feed from Nests in Liptov Area

Liptovsky Mikulas, September 9 (TASR) - A gradual departure of storks to Africa put an end for this year to a popular project involving live streaming from their nests through specially mounted cameras in Liptov area.

"Storks nesting in Demanova, Partizanska Lupca, Pribylina and Vavrisovo (Zilina region) are now on their long route to Egypt, to the southern Nile, and some of them may be heading even farther," said head of the Tatra National Park (TANAP) administration Pavol Majko. TANAP has been involved in the project with a company called Profi-Net for a couple of years now.

Thousands of people kept themselves in the know on the life of storks in their nests in the four aforementioned locations day and night. "There were some dramatic moments, but eventually we didn't need to step in. Nature took care of everything, and all young have flown out of their nests," said Majko.

Majko promised that the cameras will keep tabs on the nest inhabitants next year, too. What is more, TANAP and Profi-Net have "several surprises" up their sleeves for the public when the storks come back next year.

## President Kiska Meets Ukrainian Prime Minister Yatsenyuk

Bratislava, September 10 (TASR) - Slovak President Andrej Kiska held talks with Ukrainian Prime Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk at the Presidential Palace in Bratislava on Thursday, the President's Office press department informed TASR.

Kiska expressed support for Ukraine's independence and territorial integrity, stressing that compliance with the Minsk Agreements is essential for the return of peace and stability to the country.

Kiska praised the progress in reforms that Ukraine has made but pointed to the need to intensify reform efforts. "Reforms are the basis for a stable and prosperous Ukraine and the only way for the country in its efforts to join the European Union," stated the President's Office.

Yatsenyuk thanked Kiska for the support with which Slovakia has been providing Ukraine. "In particular, he praised help in the form of gas supplies to Ukraine via a reverse flow. With its help Slovakia has saved Ukraine hundreds of millions of euros yearly," stated the President's Office.

The two officials agreed they will continue to seek opportunities for further deepening assistance in this area.

*The 2015 Lúčina Slovak Gala...*

## An Evening in the Heart of Europe

*Saturday, November 14, 2015*

Holy Spirit Party Center  
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*Featuring:*

**The Lúčina Slovak Folklore Ensemble of Cleveland**

**Lúčinka Children's Ensemble**

**Východná Slovak Dancers of Greater Toronto**

**DJ Denis**

TICKETS: \$50/Person

\$360/Table of 8

\$40/Person under 21

*Limited Seating! Only 250 seats available. Advanced sales only.*

*No tickets sold at the door.*

Ticket includes:

Entertainment

Full-course dinner with 3 entrees & Dessert

Open bar

Followed by music from DJ Denis for your dancing and listening pleasure.

Raffles & gift baskets throughout the evening

Doors open: 6:00PM

Dinner: 6:30PM

Program: 7:30PM

For tickets call: Tom Ivanec, 440-668-7797

Christine Matis-Hearn, 440-655-8244

Jenna Allen, 440-439-4119



## Answer to Puzzle

*Solution to Puzzle from page 11*

C	A	P				G	I	S			C	A	P	E		
E	D	A	M			P	R	O	O	F		I	D	E	S	
L	A	N	E			R	I	N	S	E		A	D	D	S	
E	G	G	D	R	O	P	S	O	U	P			I	R	E	
B	E	S	I	E	G	E				D	E	A	C	O	N	
				C	A	R		A	B	S	E	N	T			
A	I	R			L	A	T	T	E			L	E	I	G	H
S	L	I	T			M	O	L	A	R			T	O	N	E
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					G	U	A	R	D	S		A	P	T		
S	O	R	T	I	E					P	R	A	I	R	I	E
E	R	A			R	H	O	D	E	I	S	L	A	N	D	
A	I	N	T			A	A	R	O	N			T	I	N	G
R	E	D	O			B	R	I	N	G			S	N	E	E
S	L	E	W				S	P	Y				S	R	S	

## Správy zo Slovenska

### ÚMRTIE: Zomrel dlhoročný diplomat Juraj Migaš

Dlhoročný diplomat Juraj Migaš zomrel 31. augusta 2015 vo veku 58 rokov. K smrti Juraja Migaša sa ešte predtým vyjadril na sociálnej sieti minister Miroslav Lajčák. „Su veci, na ktoré človek nie je pripravený nikdy a intenzívne zabolia. Takou je aj správa o nečakanom a predčasnom odchode dobrého priateľa, spofahlivého kolegu a vynikajúceho diplomata Juraja Migaša. Juraj bol veľký bojovník - bojoval za záujmy Slovenska ako veľvyslanec v Bruseli, Budapešti, Lubľane. Bojoval na tenisových kurtoch, futbalovom ihrisku, na bežeckých tratiach. Vždy s plným nasadením, odhodlaním, dobrou náladou a úsmevom. Dlhotrvalý boj s chorobou však neustál. Bude chýbať nášmu rezortu ako profesionál a ako človek bude veľmi chýbať mne,“ napísal.

Juraj Migaš sa narodil 13. júna 1957 v Prešove. V diplomacii pracoval viac ako 30 rokov, naposledy pôsobil ako veľvyslanec v slovenskej Lubľane. Bol bratom niekdajšieho predsedu SDL a šéfa NR SR Jozefa Migaša

### MÉDIÁ: Zahraničné vysielanie RTVS vstúpi do slovenského éteru

Zahraničné vysielanie Rozhlasu a televízie Slovenska (RTVS) vstúpi do slovenského éteru. Rádio International Slovakia (RSI) spustí terestriálne vysielanie 31. augusta o 18.00 h na bratislavskej frekvencii Rádía Patria 98.9 FM. „Z našich analýz vyplýva, že cudzinci v Bratislave a okolí majú záujem získať informácie o dianí na Slovensku v cudzích jazykoch,“ uviedol generálny riaditeľ RTVS Václav Mika. Tvrdí, že nejde o experiment ani o vysielanie spojené s konkrétnou udalosťou. Služba je podľa neho skôr prevkapením, od ktorého očakáva trvalé usadenie v slovenskom éteri. RSI prináša informácie najmä poslucháčom, ktorých slovenčina nie je materinským jazykom. Vysiela v angličtine, nemčine, francúzštine, ruštine a španielčine. Informoval o tom Juraj Kadáš, PR manažér RTVS.

### CIRKVI: Armáda spásy oficiálne pôsobí aj na Slovensku

Kresťanské hnutie Armáda spásy od 5. septembra oficiálne funguje aj na Slovensku, poskytovať má sociálne a duchovné služby. SR sa tak stala 127. krajinou, kde pôsobí. Služby poskytovala na Slovensku aj doteraz, a to prostredníctvom občianskeho združenia. Pôsobí v troch lokalitách – Bratislave, Plaveckom Štvrtku a Galante. Armáda spásy má vo svete viac ako 15.000 zborov a asi 26.500 dôstojníkov. „Dôstojníci v Armáde spásy sú vnímaní ako kazatelia, pastori, sú to duchovní pracovníci. Máme takmer 1.750.000 členov. Vo všetkých pobytových službách máme takmer pol milióna postelí a viac ako 19 miliónov osôb ročne využije služby, ktoré Armáda spásy poskytuje,“ priblížila ďalej jej hovorkyňa Pavla Vopeláková. Armáda spásy pôsobila na Slovensku už v roku 1921, keď založila svoj prvý cirkevný zbor. V roku 1950 jej činnosť ukončili komunisti. Po obnovení jej činnosti v ČSFR v roku 1990 začali vyjednávania aj so slovenskými predstaviteľmi štátu o znovuoživení činnosti, zastavilo ich však rozdelenie republiky.

V roku 2013 dvaja dobrovoľníci Armády spásy položili prvé základy jej súčasnej práce na Slovensku. V tom istom čase oslovilo Armádu spásy občianske združenie Slovo života so žiadosťou o prevzatie služby a práce v rómskych osadách. Slovenská legislatíva neumožňuje Armáde spásy registrovať sa ako cirkev, keďže nemá dostatočný počet členov. Preto bola oficiálne zaregistrovaná ako občianske združenie, a to v auguste 2014.

### Najlepšiu pôdu skupujú na Slovensku cudzinci

Ani rok po prijatí zákona, ktorý zmenil pravidlá obchodovania s poľnohospodárskou pôdou, sa nepodarilo zabrániť úniku pôdy do rúk cudzincov. To sa nepáči domácim poľnohospodárom ani vláde. Premiér Robert Fico ohlásil, že vláda sa zaoberá myšlienkou, ako ústavnou cestou zastaviť prevody pôdy do rúk zahraničných vlastníkov. Otázku vlastníctva pôdy vyostrilo tohtoročné suché a rekordne horúce leto. To pripomenulo nielen poľnohospodárom, ako ľahko je zraniteľná výroba potravín pri nestálosti počasia, ale aj to, že kľúčovým z hľadiska potravinovej bezpečnosti krajiny sa stáva dostatočný rezervoár pôdy.

### Ceny benzínov a nafty sa rúta na dol

V jednej z bratislavských benzínových staníc cez víkend klesla suma za naftu pod historické jedno euro. Preceňovanie možno očakávať aj na ďalších miestach. Ceny pohonných hmôt dosiahnu svoje historické minimum za posledných 6 a pol roka. „Ak sa neudejú nové mimoriadne udalosti, cena benzínu by mohla ešte klesať. Cena ropy v súčasnosti je podobná cene z decembra 2008. Podľa našich údajov stál vtedy liter benzínu na Slovensku v prepočte na eurá asi 1,040 za liter“, povedal Marián Illéš z portálu benzín.sk.

### Turizmus: Po prepadáku úspešný rok

Záujem o dovolenky na Slovensku za posledné tri roky vyvíjal ako na hojdačke. Hlavný dosah na odvetvie má počasie, aj keď odborníci stále volajú po silnejšej štátnej podpore, keďže krásy krajiny majú obrovský potenciál. V roku 2013 bol na Slovensku rekordný počet dovolenkarov - štyri milióny. Vlni po slabej zime a poloprázdných lyžiarskych strediskách nasledoval prepádak s 3,7 milióna a tento rok sa zase zdá, že by mohol byť ešte lepší ako rekordný rok 2013. Je za tým opäť počasie, keď zima priala lyžovačkám a leto, naopak, kúpaliskám a letným strediskám.

### Cena lístkov je rovnaká ako pred 120 rokmi

Mestskú verejnú dopravu si bez nej už nevieme ani len predstaviť. Je najrýchlejšia, časovo najspoľahlivejšia a najpresnejšia. Napriek týmto pozitívam funguje len v dvoch slovenských mestách. V Košiciach ju poznajú ako brikú, v Bratislave je pre všetkých elinou. Elektrická doprava funguje v slovenskej metropole už dlhých 120 rokov. Aj keď sa história podpísala pod vývoj električiek, jedno sa nezmenilo: výška cestovného. Vtedy stálo cestovné 10 grajciarov pre dospelých, čo je na úrovni dnešných cien.

### Obezita spôsobuje aj psychické problémy

Pediatier a predseda Lekárskeho odborového zväzu Peter Visolajský na otázku, či majú slovenské deti dostatok pohybu, odpovedal: „Nemajú. Obezita detí je na Slovensku rovnako závažný problém ako inde v Európe a netreba ho podceňovať. Prvou príčinou je ich strava. Deti majú vysoký príjem sladených a energetických nápojov, mastných a slaných jedál. Druhou je, prirodzene, nedostatok pohybu. Stačí, ak sa pozriete na akúkoľvek slovenskú dedinu - pred niekoľkými rokmi behali deti po vonku, dnes ich tam nevidíte,“ vysvetlil Peter Visolajský. Na otázku, aké zdravotné komplikácie môžu u dieťaťa vzniknúť, pediatier a predseda LOZ odpovedal, že „pre obezitu dieťa sa začne kolotoč behania po lekároch - pošlú ho k endokrinológovi, aby sa zistilo, či nemá sekundárnu príčinu obezity“. Ďalej popísal ďalšie možné zdravotné problémy. „Obezne deti majú aj ďalšie problémy v škole. Keď sa dostanú do puberty, sú podceňované, kolektív ich vyčleňuje, vznikajú u nich psychické problémy,“ zdôraznil.

### Po dvoch rokoch obnovili činnosť honorárneho konzulátu SR v Monaku

Podpredseda vlády a minister zahraničných vecí a európskych záležitostí SR Miroslav Lajčák odovzdal v stredu 9. septembra v Monte Carle konzulský patent a uviedol tak do funkcie novú honorárnu konzulku SR v Monaku Tatienu Parackovú. Na znovuoživení honorárneho konzulátu, ktorý bol neobsadený od roku 2013, sa zúčastnil v rámci oficiálnej návštevy Monackého kniežatstva.

### Správy čerpané z TASR a slovenských časopisov



## Mariánski ctitelia sa zišli opäť na národnej púti k Sedembolestnej v Šaštíne

Pokračovanie zo str. 24

Podľa slov hlavného kazateľa, sekretára Kongregácie pre východné cirkvi, arcibiskupa Cyrila Vasil'a Mariánska púť je tradičnou púťou slovenských katolíckych veriacich a končí obdobie púťových slávností. „Som vďačný za pozvanie, ktoré som dostal už po druhý raz behom posledných dvoch-troch rokov. Je to pre mňa veľká radosť a česť sa stretnúť s mojimi bratmi biskupmi, ktorí prichádzajú spoločne prosieť Božiu matku. Chceme sa poďakovať za vytvorenie príjemnej pútnickej atmosféry, ktorá charakterizovala toto stretnutie,“ uviedol.

Arcibiskup v homílii zosumarizoval aktuálne otázky a problémy dnešného Slovenska. V siedmich bodoch okrem iného hovoril o absencii autority v rodine a spoločnosti, o chybách súdnicstva. „V šiestom bode som sa zaoberal súčasnou migráciou. Táto otázka je mediálne prežívaná, nakoľko väčšina ľudí situáciu pozná len z televízie, rozhlasu a novin. Preto sa treba problematike venovať obozretne, aby sa predišlo vytváraniu hystérie,“ zdôraznil.

Šaštín je starobylým pútnickým miestom. Začiatky pútnictva sa spájajú s rokom 1564, v ktorom nechala zhotoviť Angelika Bakičová, manželka grófa Imricha Czobora, majiteľa šaštínskeho panstva, sochu Sedembolestnej ako splnenie sľubu za vypočutie v rodinných trápniach. Bakičová mala s manželom spory, ktoré vyvrcholili tým, že ju na jednej spoločnej ceste nechal vyhodit' z koča. Angelika prosila o pomoc za obrátenie a uzdravenie vzťahov s manželom práve Sedembolestnú. Sochu uložili k verejnej účte do trojhrannej kaplnky, ktorá dodnes stojí v Šaštíne.

TASR

## Nový starý most

Prvý most, ktorý spojil brehy Dunaja z Petržalky do Bratislavy pomenovali po panovníkovi, most Františka Jozefa I. Otvorili do 31. decembra 1890. Dovtedy slúžili na prechod z jednej strany na druhú brody, alebo pontónové mosty. Po prvej svetovej vojne most premenovali po M. R. Štefánikovi. Na sklonku II. sv. vojny bol most zničený a po jeho obnove ho pomenovali Most Červenej armády. Ostatných dvadsať rokov dostal jednoduché meno, Starý most. Staroba sa však na ňom prejavila na niekoľkých miestach tak výrazne, že dopravu na ňom museli zastaviť a vlni ho celý rozobrali. Tento rok intenzívne stavajú nový, ktorý bude o meter vyššie nad hladinou Dunaja, aby nebol prekážkou pre vyššie lode a budú po ňom jazdiť aj električky namiesto plánovaného metra. Most by mal byť odovzdaný 15. decembra 2015. So stavbou sa však mešká asi tri týždne. Ak most nedokončia načas bude to pre mesto veľký problém, lebo príde o dotácie z EÚ. Ak by stavbu mal bratislavský magistrát financovať z vlastného rozpočtu znamenalo by to zvýšenie miestnych daní, mestskej hromadnej dopravy a obmedzenie kultúrnych podujatí hlavného mesta.



**Ktovie aké meno ponese nový „Starý most“. Zatiaľ vieme iba to, že bude zelenej farby.**



**Súčasťou mosta je aj rekonštrukcia Štúrovej ulice. Zmeny projektu spôsobili nové rozkopávky, čo narobilo vrásky obchodníkom, ktorí stratili zákazníkov. Aj keď sa vraj na stavbe pracuje na tri smeny, robotníkov takmer nevidieť.**

So stavbou sa však mešká asi tri týždne. Ak most nedokončia načas bude to pre mesto veľký problém, lebo príde o dotácie z EÚ. Ak by stavbu mal bratislavský magistrát financovať z vlastného rozpočtu znamenalo by to zvýšenie miestnych daní, mestskej hromadnej dopravy a obmedzenie kultúrnych podujatí hlavného mesta.

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## Slávne kúpele Slovenska sa vydali na cestu k čitateľom

S architektúrou 21 kúpeľných miest od Bardejovských kúpeľov cez Piešťany, Trenčianske Teplice, Sliač až po Vysoké Tatry sa možno zoznámiť v novej publikácii Slávne kúpele Slovenska. Slávnostne ju predstavili v lete v Piešťanoch na 1. česko-slovenskej konferencii liečebných kúpeľov, ďalšie uvedenie ju čakalo aj v Slovenskom inštitúte v Prahe a v Kúpeľoch Sliač.

Knihu, ktorá prináša zaujímavé texty 16 autorov a bohatú fotografickú prílohu, vydalo české nakladateľstvo Foibos Books, s.r.o., v spolupráci s Balneologickým múzeom v Piešťanoch. Autor projektu Oldřich Janota ňou nadviazal na publikáciu Slávne vily Slovenska, ktorá mala v čitateľskej a nielen odbornej verejnosti veľký ohlas.

Editorom novej knihy o kúpeľoch je slovenský architekt Matúš Dulla. Slávne kúpele Slovenska predstavujú 121 významných architektonických objektov. „Chceli sme predstaviť architektúru kúpeľných miest, opísať osudy majiteľov či projektantov kúpeľných domov, ktoré sú nie vždy známe,“ povedal Dulla. Kniha je podľa jeho slov osobitá práve tým, že sa venuje stavebnej stránke. „Známych je množstvo kníh, ktoré rozoberajú kúpele z balneologického hľadiska. No história objektov a ich tvorcovia či záchrancovia zostávajú väčšinou akosi v úzadí. Pritom kúpeľná architektúra je osobitá, rada sa predváža, strojí, vždy jej záležalo na tom, aby bola efektná,“ povedal Dulla. Medzi kúpeľmi podľa jeho slov vynikajú Piešťany. „Po tejto stránke sú najefektnejšie. Máme tam vedľa seba najstarší objekt - klasicistické Napoleonské kúpele, najreprezentatívnejšiu secesnú budovu Thermia Palace a vrcholné dielo funkcionalistického architekta Emila Belluša Kolonádový most,“ uviedol Dulla.

Autori sa v jednotlivých kapitolách knihy nevenujú iba kúpeľným domom, popísali stavby nad prameňmi, balneoterapie, kolonády, kaplnky, vily, termálne kúpaliská, dvorany, kostoly i administratívne budovy. Najviac zaradených objektov je z vysokých Tatier (33), Piešťan (15), Trenčianskych Teplic (13), Bardejovských kúpeľov (7) a Kúpeľov Sliač (6). Publikácia vznikla za podpory Ministerstva kultúry SR a v spolupráci so Slovenskou agentúrou pre cestovný ruch. Má 300 strán a náklad 3000 kusov.

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## Oznámenia spolkov a spoločenské podujatia

### Výročná členská schôdza Spolku sv. Štefana č. 716 IKSJ

Oznamujeme všetkým členom Spolku sv. Štefana č. 716 Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty, že v nedeľu dňa 25. októbra 2015 o 1.00 hodine odpoľudnia sa uskutoční Výročná členská schôdza v hale Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého, 411 East, 66th Street v New York City. Program schôdze: 1. Voľba úradníkov na ďalšie obdobie; 2. Finančná správa; 3. Plán podujatí na ďalšie obdobie. Po schôdzi sa bude podávať občerstvenie. Ostávam s kresťanským pozdravom.

Henrieta H. Daitová  
tajomníčka Spolku sv. Štefana IKSJ

### Máš záujem spoznať slovenský jazyk lepšie?

Slovenské centrum Lipka pri kostole sv. Rodiny v Linden, NJ vám túto možnosť ponúka. Prijímame deti od troch rokov a deti školského veku. Vyučovanie prebieha každú sobotu od septembra do mája v čase od 9:30 do 12:30. Deťom sa ponúka možnosť spoznať slovenský jazyk v ústnej a písomnej forme a na základe komisionálnych skúšok na konci školského roka získajú deti právoplatné slovenské vysvedčenie, ktoré im otvára dvere do budúcnosti nielen v Amerike, ale aj na Slovensku a v ďalších krajinách Európskej únie. Okrem iného deti spoznávajú slovenské rozprávky, ľudové tradície a udržujú si slovenské korene. Bližšie informácie o zápise a poplatkoch na telefónnom čísle: (908) 494-7994.

## Šatan bude na Svetovom pohári GM tímu Európy

Bývalý kapitán slovenskej hokejovej reprezentácie Miroslav Šatan bude generálnym manažérom hokejového tímu Európy pre Svetový pohár 2016. V stredu ho podľa nhl.com vo funkcii na slávnostnej prezentácii turnaja v zámorí potvrdil šéf hráčskej asociácie NHL Donald Fehr. Prezidentom špeciálneho európskeho výberu sa už dávnejšie stal šéf Nemeckej hokejovej federácie Franz Reindl.

Šatana na tento post navrhlo vedenie Slovenského zväzu ľadového hokeja (SZLH). Reindl a Šatan budú zodpovední za nomináciu, výber realizačného tímu a celú prípravu tímu, ktorý bude poskladaný z hráčov z európskych krajín okrem Česka, Fínska, Ruska a Švédska. Trénerom európskeho tímu bude bývalý kouč Edmontonu Oilers, či švajčiarskej reprezentácie Ralph Krueger.

NHL a NHLPA v stredu oznámili detailné plány Svetového pohára vrátane rozdelenia do skupín, kľúčových dátumov a pravidiel. Svetový pohár 2016 sa uskutoční od 17. septembra do 1. októbra, pričom všetky zápasy sa uskutočnia v Toronte. Na turnaji bude štartovať osem tímov - Kanada, USA, Rusko, Švédsko, Fínsko, Česko, výber mladých severoamerických hviezd a tím Európy, ktoré budú rozdelené do dvoch skupín. Zápasy v skupinách sa budú hrať od 17. do 22. septembra.

TASR



## Slovenská republika má najviac obyvateľov v histórii

K 31. decembru 2014 mala Slovenská republika 5.421.349 obyvateľov, čo je najvyšší počet obyvateľov v histórii. Z celkového počtu bolo viac žien, tie zastupujú 51,3 percenta obyvateľstva. Vyplyva to z údajov Štatistického úradu (ŠÚ) SR za rok 2014.

Predsedníčka ŠÚ SR Ľudmila Benkovičová na dnešnej tlačovej konferencii informovala, že na Slovensku sa v minulom roku narodilo 55.033 živých detí, čo je o 210 viac ako v roku 2013. Naopak, znížil sa počet úmrtí, v minulom roku zomrelo 51.346 obyvateľov krajiny, teda o 743 osôb menej ako v roku 2013. V dôsledku zvýšenia pôrodnosti a poklesu úmrtnosti sa v roku 2014 zvýšil prirodzený prírastok obyvateľstva na hodnotu 3687, čo v porovnaní s rokom 2013 znamená zvýšenie o 953 osôb.

Pri bilančovaní roku 2014 Benkovičová uviedla, že vývojové trendy sa zásadne nezmenili. „Najzávažnejším problémom ostáva starnutie obyvateľstva, ktoré sa začalo v 60. rokoch. V súčasnosti zaznamenávame akceleráciu tohto procesu a trend sa potvrdí aj v nasledujúcich rokoch,“ uviedla šéfka ŠÚ. Priemerný vek Slovákov dosiahol v roku 2014 39,9 roka, u mužov to bolo 38,2, u žien 41,4 roka.

V roku 2014 bolo uzavretých 26.737 manželstiev a rozviedlo sa 10.514 manželských dvojíc. V porovnaní s rokom 2013 bol počet sobášov vyšší o 1246 a počet rozvodov nižší o 432. Tento vývoj sa podpísal na poklese indexu rozvodovosti, na 100 sobášov pripadlo 39 rozvodov. Z regionálneho hľadiska je najvyššia miera sobášnosti v Bratislavskom a Prešovskom kraji, najnižšia v Banskobystrickom kraji. „Vysokú mieru sobášnosti v Bratislavskom kraji možno vysvetliť tým, že sa tu koncentrujú ľudia v sobášnom veku, v Prešovskom kraji je to zasa prevládanie starého modelu rodinného a reprodukčného správania sa,“ vysvetlila generálna riaditeľka sekcie sociálnych štatistík a demografie ŠÚ SR Ľudmila Ivančíková. Upozornila tiež na výrazné regionálne rozdiely v prípade rozvodovosti. „Najvyšší index rozvodovosti dosiahol Banskobystrický kraj, kde na 100 sobášov pripadá 48 rozvodov, najmenej v Prešovskom kraji, kde je to 26 rozvodov na 100 sobášov,“ uviedla Ivančíková.

Zahraničnou migráciou získala Slovenská republika 1713 osôb, pričom sa prisťahovalo 5357 osôb a vysťahovalo 3644 osôb. Migračný prírastok sa medziročne znížil o 666 osôb.

Najviac obyvateľov sa k nám prisťahovalo z Českej republiky, Spojeného kráľovstva, Maďarska a Rakúska, naopak, do cudziny najviac Slovákov odchádzalo do ČR, Rakúska, Spojeného kráľovstva a Nemecka,“ informoval riaditeľka odboru štatistiky obyvateľstva ŠÚ SR Zuzana Podmanická. Pri imigrácii prevažujú muži (58 percent), pri emigrácii, naopak, ženy (60 percent).

TASR/HSP



Pútnici počas Ružencovej pobožnosti.

## Tradičná Mariánska púť do West Haverstraw, NY

Pokračovanie zo str. 24



Otec Rev. Štefan Chanas, počas svätej omše.

zaspevali prítomní počas svätej omši krásne mariánske piesne. Zároveň operný spevák Rado Lesay pozdravil Nebeskú Matku svojim sólovým spevom „Ave Maria“.

Záverom púte sa konala v areáli Marian Shrine, kde sú umiestnené v parku krásne sochy znázorňujúce tajomstvá sv. Ruženca, Ružencová pobožnosť, ktorú viedol otec Rev. Štefan Chanas.

Vďaka za túto úspešnú Slovenskú katolícku púť patrí: otcovi Rev. Štefanovi Chanasovi, ktorý pred svätou omšou umožnil sa vyspovedať mnohým pútnikom; otcovi Rev. Jamesovi McKenna, ktorý pripravil vonkajší oltár k svätej omši a miestnosť, kde sa pútnici zišli pri dobrom obede; Jankovi Škrkoňovi, Márii Božekovej, manželom Bilikovým, ktorí sa zaslúžili o prípravu obeda; ako aj Karolovi Vidovi, ktorý priviezol materiál z Kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého v NYC i pútnikov, ktorí potrebovali odvoz z tohto kostola. Samozrejme vďaka patrí aj všetkým členom Spolku sv. Štefana č. 716 IKSJ, ktorí sa akýmkoľvek spôsobom zaslúžili za dobrý priebeh podujatia.

*Ochraňuj Matka Božia národ slovenský, aby zotrval v láske a svornosti.*

Henrieta H. Daitová  
tajomníčka Spolku sv. Štefana IKSJ

Pred sv. omšou na obrázku zľava: otec Rev. Štefan Chanas, miništrant Kristián Hric, Henrieta H. Daitová - prečítala I. čítanie; Viktória Zemanová, Lacko Korček - prečítal druhé čítanie.



## Staršia generácia si zaslúži pozornosť a šancu na prácu

Európsky parlament (EP) 9. septembra prijal správu, ktorá hodnotí Európsky rok aktívneho starnutia a solidarity medzi generáciami. Autorom správy je slovenský europoslanec Eduard Kukan (SDKÚ-DS).

Kukan, ktorý je náhradníkom vo výbore EP pre zamestnanosť a sociálne záležitosti (EMPL), pripomenul, že Európska komisia vyhlásila rok 2012 za Európsky rok aktívneho starnutia a solidarity medzi generáciami. Jeho cieľom bolo zvýšiť všeobecné povedomie o tejto problematike, podnietiť vzájomnú výmenu informácií a skúseností a vytvoriť rámec pre prijatie konkrétnych záväzkov a opatrení. Jedným z hlavných cieľov bol aj boj proti diskriminácii na základe veku a prekonávanie stereotypov spojených s vekom a odstránenie bariér.

„Táto správa je mojou prvou správou vo výbore pre zamestnanosť a sociálne záležitosti. Som rád, že bola podporená kolegami z europarlamentu a rovnako aj eurokomisárkou pre zamestnanosť a sociálne veci Marianne Thyssenovou. Nadávam tak na svoj volebný sľub, že sa chcem venovať otázkam, ktoré sa týkajú našich seniorov,“ uviedol Kukan v správe pre TASR. Zopakoval svoj postoj, že aj naši starší občania si zaslúžia byť „Európanmi prvej kategórie“.

Kukanom predstavená správa uvádza, že celkové ciele EÚ v tejto oblasti boli v roku 2012 dosiahnuté, zároveň však vyjadruje poľutovanie nad tým, že Európsky rok 2012 bol značne podfinancovaný. Avšak aj napriek nedostatku prostriedkov v niektorých členských krajinách EÚ to pomohlo k prijatiu komplexných stratégií a plánov, zatiaľ čo v iných štátoch sa objavili výstupy na úrovni koncepčných dokumentov, chárta a právnych predpisov reagujúcich na konkrétne problémy a projekty.

Slovenský europoslanec zdôraznil, že téma aktívneho starnutia a medzigeneračnej solidarity je pri dnešnom demografickom vývoji v Európe mimoriadne dôležitou otázkou. „Starší ľudia sú pridanou hodnotou pre svoje rodiny, rovesníkov, komunity a národy. Tak sa k nim musíme správať. Zaslúžia si žiť plnohodnotný život aj vo vyššom veku,“ upozornil Kukan. Dodal, že cieľom jeho správy bolo nielen objektívne zhodnotiť Európsky rok 2012, ale aj pripraviť odporúčania na odstránenie vekovej diskriminácie.

V tejto súvislosti priznal, že najviac ho trápi nezamestnanosť osôb vo veku nad 50 rokov, a dodal, že EP podporuje rozvoj takzvanej „striebornej ekonomiky“, čiže ekonomický prínos, ktorý predstavujú zamestnané osoby v staršom veku.

TASR

## Na letecké dni do Sliacha prišlo 140.000 divákov

Najväčší medzinárodný sviatok letectva na Slovensku, ktorý sa v nedeľu 30. augusta 2015 úspešne skončil na leteckej základni Sliach, pritiahol po oba víkendové dni takmer 140.000 návštevníkov. Diváci mali možnosť sledovať statické i dynamické ukážky účastníkov zo 14 krajín sveta. Organizátori na záver rozdávali ocenenia.

„Piaty ročník Medzinárodných leteckých dní bol dôstojnou oslavou majstrovstva pilotov a krásy leteckej techniky. Som rád, že na sliachskom letisku sa prezentovalo to najlepšie z letectva. Dakujem všetkým, ktorí sa pričínili o úspešný priebeh tohto významného leteckého sviatku a tešíme sa na ďalší ročník,“ reagoval riaditeľ Medzinárodných leteckých dní (MLD) SIAF 2015 Hubert Štoksa.

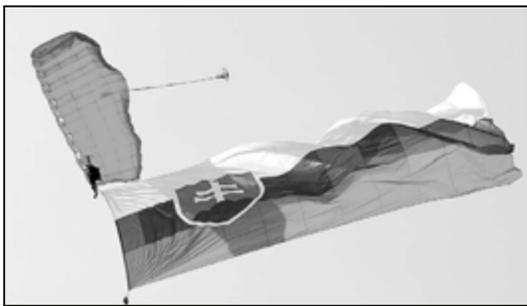
Umenie pilotov a krásu strojov ocenila nielen verejnosť, ale i odborníci, ktorí v závere leteckých dní rozhodli o víťazoch jednotlivých súťažných kategórií.

Hlavnú cenu Best display Smik Trophy - putovnú cenu za najlepšiu letovú ukážku MLD SIAF 2015 získal PC-7 Team a F/A-18 švajčiarskych vzdušných síl. Cenu veliteľa Vzdušných síl OS SR udelenú za najlepšiu vojenskú letovú ukážku si zo Sliacha tento rok odnáša poľský MiG-29 a cena Slovenskej leteckej agentúry za najlepšiu letovú ukážku patrí vrtuľníku Bell 429 v službách MV SR. Cenu letového riaditeľa MLD SIAF 2015 získal Mustang P-51D.

V tomto roku mali diváci možnosť po prvý raz zahlasovať za najlepšiu statickú ukážku. Najviac hlasov od nich získal slovenský MiG-29. Statiku hodnotila aj odborná komisia a za najlepšiu ukážku stanovila prezentáciu belgického lietadla C 130 Hercules.

Ako uviedla hovorkyňa MLD SIAF 2015 Monika Pastuchová, medzi divácky najatraktívnejšie patrili ukážky leteckého umenia belgických vzdušných síl, ktorých pilot sa predstavil na stroji F-16. Švajčiarske vzdušné sily reprezentoval PC-7 Team. O zážitok sa postarali piloti stíhačiek MiG-29 Fulcrum, slovenské farby zastupoval display pilot Martin „MAT“ Kuterka.

„Svoje kúsky na oblohe predviedli aj akrobatické skupiny talianska Frecce Tricolori, poľský akrobatický tím ORLIK, tradičná slovenská skupina Očovskí bačovia a letecké dni uzavreli svojim vystúpením francúzske majstri Patrouille de France,“ dodala Pastuchová. Diváci videli celkovo 49 letových ukážok a 107 lietadiel. MLD mali 720 účastníkov.



TASR

## Festival súčasného umenia Biela noc po prvý raz v Bratislave

Najväčší a najnavštevovanejší festival súčasného umenia v Európe, Biela noc, zavíta 10. októbra po prvý raz aj do hlavného mesta. V uliciach nočnej Bratislavy tak vystavia desiatky unikátnych umeleckých diel. Vyše 150 umelcov z rôznych krajín nainštaluje svoje diela na 50 bodoch v centre.

Diváci sa tak stretnú s najnovšími svetovými trendmi súčasného umenia na netradičných miestach, ako sú parky, mosty, nábregie, fasády, hradby, cintorín, jazero či výklady. Vizualne atraktívne inštalácie, digitálne umenie, mapping, performance, koncerty a tanec potrvajú len jednu noc, od 19.00 do 02.00 h. Trasa povedie od Šancovej ulice cez Medicú záhradu a historické jadro mesta k Mostu SNP, až po námestie Europea.

„Hlavné námestie obsadia obrovské zjazyce z Tasmánie, vesmírna inštalácia 5000 svetielok oživí Ondrejský cintorín, 200 neónov rozpožhybuje obrátenú pyramídu Slovenského rozhlasu, v Medickej záhrade vyrastie vyše metrová tráva, na jazere bude plávajúci priehľadný dom. Pohybom môžete roztancovať dom v centre alebo sa vystaviť pixelovej smršti,“ priblížila riaditeľka festivalu Zuzana Pacáková.

Medzinárodný festival Biela noc vznikol v Paríži, rýchlo sa rozšíril do Európy a celého sveta. Na Slovensko – najprv do Košíc (3.10.2015), ho priniesla Zuzana Pacáková, ktorú festival očaril počas štúdia na parížskej Sorbonne. „Aj keď pri popularizácii umenia v uliciach som po všetkých skúsenostiach opatrná, som rada, že existuje výnimka – Biela noc je naozaj podujatie, kde je zábava, odbornosť a poučenie namiešané v dobrom pomere,“ hovorí riaditeľka Slovenskej národnej galérie Alexandra Kusá.

TASR

## Generálny tajomník NATO ocenil prínos Slovenska ku kolektívnej bezpečnosti

Pokračovanie zo str. 24

„Slovensko robí, čo má,“ povedal Stoltenberg. Po rokovaní s Glváčom uviedol, že Slovensko považuje za zodpovedného spojencu. A to aj v spojitosti so situáciou na Ukrajine. V tejto súvislosti generálny tajomník vyzval na dodržiavanie Minských dohôd a na využívanie diplomatických prostriedkov na riešenie krízy na Ukrajine. Výzdvihol účasť Slovenska na spoločnom úsilí NATO tým, že poskytuje Ukrajine politickú a praktickú podporu.

„Rusko má zvláštnu zodpovednosť, aby prispievalo k politickému riešeniu ukrajinskej krízy. Vidíme, že Rusko dlhodobo podporuje separatistov vojensky. Taktiež má svojich vojakov na východnej Ukrajine a veľmi silnú prítomnosť na ukrajinských hraniciach. Toto všetko prispieva k zvyšovaniu napätia,“ zdôraznil generálny tajomník NATO. Taktiež vyzval na podporu monitorovacích skupín, ktoré by sledovali situáciu v oblasti.

Stoltenberg 10. septembra navštívil Slovensko ako generálny tajomník NATO po prvý raz. Okrem rokovania s Glváčom mal na programe stretnutia s ďalšími predstaviteľmi štátu.

TASR

## Komentár Mariána Gavendu: Nič nie je náhodou

(Mons. Marián Gavenda sa vo svojom komentári venuje téme starostlivosti o núdznych z hľadiska kresťanskej morálky. Komentár reaguje na aktuálnu situáciu v súvislosti s utečencami v Európe.)

Od témy utečencov by už mal človek chuť najradšej utiecť. Nie, že by nebola aktuálna, protiví sa skôr spôsob, akým je celý komplexný fenomén všeobecne prezentovaný. Franklin Delano Roosevelt sa už pomaly pred storočím vyjadril: „V politike sa nič nenecháva na náhodu. Ak sa niečo deje, môžete sa stavať o čokoľvek na svete, že sa to deje presne tak, ako sa to diať má.“ Keď si v posledných týždňoch človek pozrie spravodajstvo ktorejkoľvek televízie, listuje mienkotvornú dennú tlač i magazíny, zo všetkých nápadne unisono rezonuje tá istá utečenecká pesnička. Rovnaký scenár, povinné prvky. Ako filmové týždenníky z päťdesiatych rokov - dokonca nechýbajú ani transparenty, vítajúce „osloboditeľov“, akurát už nimi nemyslia sovietskych vojakov. Aj táto propagandistická zhoda je súčasťou nielen Rooseveltovej skúsenosti, že sa nič nenecháva na náhodu. Do diskusie sa teda žiada povedať aspoň pár jednoduchých téz.

Keď prebiehal naplánovaný integračný proces a rozširovanie Európskej únie a bolo fakticky nemožné, aby do nej nevstúpila krajina, ktorej bolo určené vstúpiť, politici i médiá sa radi oháňali aj výrokmi Jána Pavla II. Ten bol podľa nich jednoznačne za Európsku úniu. Samotný Ján Pavol II. sa opakovane vyjadroval zhruba v tomto duchu: „Ak v Európskej únii prevládnu duchovné a kultúrne hodnoty, bude požehnaním; ak materiálne záujmy, bude kľatbou“. My už môžeme posúdiť i pocítiť, ktoré z hodnôt v nej prevládajú a nakoľko... Podobne sú neustále pristrohované aj výroky pápeža Františka. Posledne jeho výzvy na prijatie utečencov. Aj tie treba brať v kontexte. Je všeobecne známe, že pápež si s rovnakou priamosťou nedáva servítku, aj keď hovorí o príčinách migrácie, o egoizme bohatých krajín a záujmových skupín. Stačí si prečítať jeho nedávnu encykliku *Laudato si*. Nehovorí sa ani o jeho naliehavých výzvach na hľadanie politického riešenia. Cituje sa len vtedy a len tak, ako to vyhovuje.

Vráťme sa k pápežovmu príhovoru pred modlitbou Anjel Pána minulú nedeľu. Čo tu vlastne povedal sám pápež František? Počúvajme slovo za slovom: „Tvárou v tvár tragédii desaťtisícov utečencov, utekajúcich pred smrťou, vojnou a hladom“ evanjelium žiada, aby sme boli „bližnými“ tým najmenším a opusteným.“ V ďalších slovách, ako vieme, pápež navrhuje praktické formy pomoci, do ktorej vyzýva najmä všetky farnosti. Pápež teda hovorí o tých, ktorí utekajú pred smrťou, vojnou a hladom. Masové regrutovanie hľadačov bezstarostného života, ktorým ich má plným priehrdím zahŕňať blahobytná spoločnosť, tu nie je ani slova. A hovorí „tvárou v tvár najmenším a opusteným“. Znamená to, že situáciu treba posudzovať na tvári miesta a že v spleti rozmanitých záujmov treba medzi utečencami rozoznať „najmenších a opustených“. Konkrétne pomoc možno a treba poskytnúť len skutočnej konkrétnej núdznej osobe, podľa povahy jej núdze.

Katolícka morálka pozná termín „poradie služby k bližnému“. Bezprostredná veľká hmotná núdza tu má prvé miesto a zaväzuje konať okamžite a účinne. Keď je však potrebné veľa a možnosti sú obmedzené, nemožno pomôcť rovnako všetkým a vo všetkom. Na prvom mieste sú vtedy najbližší rodinní príslušníci. Potom príbuzní vo viere. Veľká duchovná núdza má prednosť pred menšou hmotnou a podobne... Katechizmus Katolíckej cirkvi okrem iného hovorí (článok 2241): „Bohatšie národy sú povinné, nakoľko je to možné, prijať cudzincov, hľadajúcich bezpečnosť a prostriedky na živobytie, ktoré nemôžu nájsť vo svojej pôvodnej vlasti. Verejná moc má dbať na zachovávanie prirodzeného práva, ktoré stavia hosťa pod ochranu tých, čo o prijímaní“. Ale odpoveď je vyvážená, keď dodáme aj druhú časť toho istého článku: „Politické autority môžu vzhľadom na spoločné dobro, za ktoré sú zodpovedné, podriať uplatňovanie prístahovaleckého práva rôznym právnym podmienkam, najmä čo sa týka povinnosti prístahovalecov voči krajine, ktorá ich prijala. Prístahovalec je povinný s vdakou rešpektovať hmotné a duchovné dedičstvo krajiny, ktorá ho prijala, poslúchať jej zákony a prispievať na jej náklady“. Toľko Katechizmus.

Spomíname to preto, že veriaci sa neraz ocitajú v situácii, keď nevedia, komu skôr pomáhať. Ale aj preto, že hrozí isté morálne vydieranie veriacich, aby napomáhali veľké mocensko-politické záujmy, ktorí na konfliktoch bohatnú a dôsledky hádzu v konečnom dôsledku na plecia druhých, zasievajúc nové konflikty, ktoré sú pre isté skupiny vždy najistejším zdrojom zisku.

Zdá sa opodstatnený aj iný názor, vychádzajúci zo slovenskej situácie. Spoločnosť tu len ťažko dokáže zabezpečiť základné podmienky dôstojného života státisícim vlastných občanov, ktorí v celoživotnej poctivej a tvrdej práci odvádzali nemalé percento svojich príjmov na zaisťovanie svojej staroby a ničili si zdravie a životné sily v službe spoločného dobra, ktoré potom iní rozkrádali a súkromne sa obohacovali. Táto spoločnosť sa musí prednostne postarať o týchto svojich občanov pred hľadačmi lacného blahobytu.

Kresťanská morálka samozrejme nemôže odmietať konkrétneho núdzneho človeka len preto, že sa stal obeťou egoistickej hry iných. Ak poznáme celkové postoje pápeža Františka, popri starosti o núdznych, ktorí sú jeho srdcu veľmi blízki, má tento pápež nemalú starosť o bohatých veriacich členov dominujúcej západnej kultúry, tvorenej prevažne kresťanskými krajinami. Tí sa uzatvárajú do ničivého egoizmu, ktorý je pápežovi z „chudobného juhu“ zjavne odporný. Keď ich vyzýva prijať do svojho stredného núdznych, robí to aj kvôli nim samým. Chce tým dosiahnuť, aby konečne prestali myslieť len na seba. Duchovne sú totiž neraz ešte ohrozenejší a núdznejší než utečenci, čo potrebujú ich pomoc.

Každá minca má dve tváre. I na súčasné dianie sa treba pozerať aj inak než na úradnú verziu mainstreamovej propagandy médií, ktoré patria takmer výlučne bohatým záujmovým skupinám. Na druhej strane si treba uvedomiť, že najmä internetom šírené iné pohľady na tému utečencov sú veľmi často z pozadia platené a tvorené zas inými mocenskými záujmovými skupinami a treba ich tiež brať s potrebným nadhľadom a odstupom. Ak vyvolávajú hnev a nenávisť, pochádzajú isto od Zlého. Najpotrebnejší je však duchovný nadhľad, ktorým sa má veriaci pozerať na každú situáciu. Hľadať, akú nám v nej Boh posielal novú výzvu. A ak sú tu riziká a ohrozenia, pýtať sa, či nie sú priamym dôsledkom málo evanjeliového a veľmi egoistického života veriacich pôvodne kresťanskej Európy. Na záver teda môžeme parafrázovať Rooseveltov výrok a povedať, že „pre kresťana nič nie je náhodou. Ak sa niečo deje, môžeme sa stavať o čokoľvek na svete, Boh tú má svoj prozreteľný plán“.

Vatikánsky rozhlas  
10/09/2015



Katolícky fraternalistický dvojtýždenník

# Jednota



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

Ročník 124

STREDA, 23. SEPTEMBRA 2015

Číslo 5926



FOTO TASR/Lukáš Grinaj

Na snímke veriaci počas sv. omše v rámci národnej púte k Sedembolestnej Panne Márii 15. septembra 2015 v Šaštín-Stráže.

*An estimated crowd of 30,000 pilgrims attended the Mass at the annual pilgrimage to Our Lady of Seven Sorrows shrine in Šaštín-Stráže, Slovakia on September 15, 2015.*

## Mariánski ctitelia sa zišli opäť na národnej púti k Sedembolestnej v Šaštíne

Národná púť na sviatok Sedembolestnej Panny Márie v Šaštíne vyvrcholila 15. septembra 2015 slávnostnou svätou omšou. V preplnenom parku Baziliky Sedembolestnej Panny Márie boli prítomní okrem slovenských a zahraničných biskupov prezident SR Andrej Kiska a ďalší predstavitelia politického a spoločenského života. Na omšu prišlo 30.000 pútnikov. Potvrdil to správca baziliky don Ján Čverčko.

Ako povedal, putovanie už má viac ako 450-ročnú tradíciu. „Minulý rok, keď sme si pripomenuli 450. výročie prvého zázraku - príhovoru Panny Márie v Šaštíne, a 50. výročie potvrdenia Sedembolestnej Panny Márie za patrónku Slovenska, sme privítali 50.000 ľudí,“ konštatoval s tým, že je rád, že tradícia pokračuje. Od začiatku roka do Baziliky prišlo viac ako 100 organizovaných pútí, to znamená, že záujem o uzdravenie rodiny sa zvyšuje.

Pokračovanie na str. 21

## 38. slovenský festival v PNC Arts Center v New Jersey

Organizačný výbor Festivalu slovenského dedičstva v New Jersey pripravuje aj na tohoročný 38. festival bohatý program. Festival sa bude konať v **nedeľu 27. septembra**. Začne sa o 10. hod. ráno a skončí sa večer po 6. hodine. Tohto roku sa tradičné bohoslužby budú konať v grécko-katolíckom obrade a začnú sa o 11. hodine predpoledným. Na kultúrnom programe vystúpi známy ľudový súbor z Pittsburghu PAS a tiež viaceré detské súbory z New Yorku a New Jersey. Znova bude vystupovať aj operný spevák Jozef Ivaška ml., ktorý sa v septembri vráti z dvojmesačného vystupovania v opere v Nemecku.

Program festivalu vyplnia aj ďalšie aktivity, ako hry pre deti, futbalový turnaj a tanečná hudba. Ako po iné roky, na festivale budú desiatky predajných a výstavných stánkov s knihami, keramikou, pamiatkovými predmetmi a rôznymi výrobkami slovenského ľudového umenia. Festival prídu pozdraviť aj slovenskí diplomati v USA a očakáva sa aj účasť vysokých činiteľov Slovenskej republiky.

Festival sa bude konať znova v príjemnom prostredí PNC Arts centra v mestečku Holmdel, NJ, v bezprostrednej blízkosti exitu 116 z Garden State Parkway. Vstup do parku a parkovanie sú bezplatné.

## Generálny tajomník NATO ocenil prínos Slovenska ku kolektívnej bezpečnosti

Slovensko je zodpovedným spojencom, ktorý prispieva ku kolektívnej bezpečnosti. Uviedol to nedávno v Bratislave generálny tajomník NATO Jens Stoltenberg po rokovaní so slovenským ministrom obrany Martinom Glváčom. Obaja partneri sa zaoberali aj témami ako výdavky na obranu, spoločné cvičenia či situácia na Ukrajine.

Glváč zopakoval, že Slovensko sa hlási k záväzkom, ktoré prijalo na minuloročnom summite NATO vo Walese, kde sa zaviazalo, že zastaví pokles výdavkov na obranu, do roku 2020 vyčlení 1,6 percenta HDP na obranu, a že do roku 2016 bude dávať 20 percent obranných výdavkov na modernizáciu armády.

Pokračovanie na str. 23



FOTO TASR - Pavel Neubauer

Na snímke vľavo generálny tajomník NATO Jens Stoltenberg a vpravo minister obrany SR Martin Glváč po tlačovej konferencii na Ministerstve obrany SR v Bratislave 10. septembra 2015.

*General Secretary of NATO Jens Stoltenberg (left) greets Slovak Minister of Defense Martin Glvac after a press conference at the Ministry of Defense in Bratislava on September 10, 2015.*



(Pokračovanie na str.)

Zhromaždení pútnici pred oltárom Marian Shrine spolu s otcom Rev. Štefanom Chanasom, (v prostriedku) počas Mariánskej púte vo West Haverstraw, NY 9. augusta 2015.

## Tradičná Mariánska púť do West Haverstraw, NY

**„Počúvajte vrúcny hlas, jak Mária volá nás! Putujme k nej s radosťou, spievajme jej s vrúcnosťou. Zdravas buď Mária – milosti si plná – buď od nás nastokrát pozdravená ...!“**

V nedeľu 9. augusta 2015 sa konala tradičná Mariánska slovenská púť do West Haverstraw, New York, ktorú každoročne usporiada Spolok sv. Štefana č. 716 Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty za spolupráce Farskej rady pri Slovenskom kostole sv. Jána Nepomuckého v New York City.

Panna Mária Nanebovzatá privítala pútnikov krásnym snečným dňom, ktorému sa tešilo približne 96 prítomných z New Yorku, New Jersey, Connecticut a Pennsylvánie.

Na začiatku podujatia v mene organizátorov privítala pútnikov tajomníčka Spolku sv. Štefana, Henrieta H. Daitová. Slávnostnú svätú omšu pri prekrásnom vonkajšom oltári Marian Shrine odslúžil otec Štefan Chanas. Za doprovodu organistky Márie Rechteríkovej

Pokračovanie na str. 22