



Jednota®

USPA#273500 ISSN1087-3392

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

Volume 134

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, 2025

NUMBER 6049

Update From The President

As we continue to grow and evolve as an organization, one of our most exciting opportunities lies in engaging and empowering the next generation of members. The future of our society depends on the passion, energy, and commitment of young people—those who share our values and are eager to contribute to the legacy we've built together. I want to take a moment to highlight the ways we bring together families and younger members through our national events. Each year, we host three major picnics that offer great opportunities for members of all ages to connect, celebrate our Slovak heritage, and enjoy time together:



Kenneth A. Arendt
President, CEO

- Knoebels Amusement Park Picnic – A summer gathering at this beloved park, where families can enjoy rides, games, and fellowship.
- Weigand Lake Park – Members enjoy the paddle boats and swimming in the beautiful lake, have access to playgrounds, a softball diamond, sand volleyball courts, corn hole, basketball, and horseshoes, lively bingo games as well as lots of great food.
- Simmons Farm Fall Festival – A festive autumn celebration featuring pick-your-own pumpkins, hayrides, flower fields, outdoor field activities, bingo, and, of course, delicious Slovak food. Families came together to enjoy the beautiful fall scenery while creating lasting memories.

These events have been incredibly well attended by members of all ages, and they continue to foster a strong sense of community among younger members and their families.

We have expanded our scholarship program to include members from grade school through graduate school, reinforcing our commitment to education. To be eligible, members must be with us for a minimum of three years, ensuring long-term engagement with our fraternal family.

We continue to offer contests and activities that engage members of all ages, including our coloring contest, crossword puzzles, dog days of summer photo contest, March Mania Basketball contest, and the Biggest Loser Football contest. Our national golf and bowling tournaments provide additional opportunities for young members to get involved, and we actively encourage them to invite guests to learn more about our fraternal community.

Through our Branch Liaison program, we have implemented a reimbursement program to help offset the cost of branch activities, providing up to \$10 per person for multiple events throughout the year. This initiative was designed to encourage greater participation and make gatherings more affordable for everyone. This department is available to all branches to get the most up-to-date resources to help our members.

Upcoming Deadlines

FCSU SCHOLARSHIP

Applications must be received by Thursday, March 20, 2025.
Send it in today!

BOWLING TOURNAMENT

Choose your teams and register by April 11!

CONTRIBUTE TO YOUR IRA

There's still time to contribute to your IRA or Roth Accounts for the 2024 and 2025 tax season.
The deadline is April 15.

Discover the History of the First Catholic Slovak Union 1890-1945

By **Kenneth A. Arendt, President, CEO**

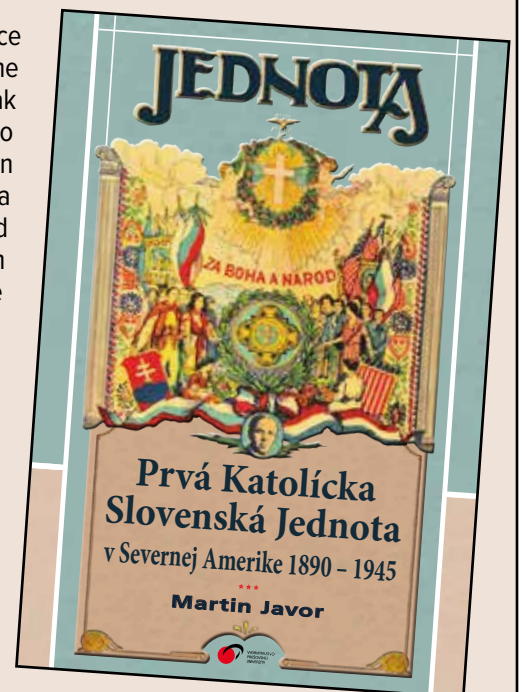
It is an honor and a privilege to announce this important book documenting the history of the First Catholic Slovak Union. I extend my deepest gratitude to Professor Martin Javor for his dedication to preserving and sharing our story—a story of faith, perseverance, and community. His meticulous research and commitment ensure that future generations will understand the sacrifices and determination that built the foundation of our beloved society.

For me, this history is personal. My connection to the organization began the day my grandparents purchased a life insurance policy for me as an infant. Like so many Slovak families, they recognized the value of fraternalism—not just as financial security, but as a lifelong bond to faith, heritage, and service. That single act set me on a path of deep involvement with the society, from serving as a branch and district officer to contributing to committees that shaped our society's future. My journey led me to the position of Executive Secretary, a role I held for 28 years and in 2022, I was honored to be elected President.

Reading about the early struggles of Slovak immigrants in Cleveland resonates deeply. The labor was grueling, the opportunities limited, but their resolve was unshakable. In the face of adversity, they banded together to create something greater than themselves—a fraternal society that provided protection, unity, and hope. That same spirit endured for years as we continue to serve our members with life insurance, annuities, and education savings products, ensuring financial security for future generations.

Jednota captures the essence of our shared history, from our humble beginnings in 1890 to the challenges and triumphs that defined us through 1945. It is a testament to the vision and courage of those who came before us, and a reminder of the responsibility we carry to uphold their legacy.

Once again, I extend my heartfelt appreciation to Professor Martin Javor for his dedication and effort in bringing this history to life. May this work inspire pride in our past and a renewed commitment to our future.



FOR GOD AND NATION - ZA BOHA A NÁROD



Father Stephen Furdek and twelve other men formed the First Catholic Slovak Union in 1890. The Jednota branches were instrumental in the founding of hundreds of Catholic parishes in the United States and Canada. The first edition of its renowned bilingual newspaper was published

in 1891. Today, *Jednota* is still read by members and people interested in Catholic and Slovak life all over the world.



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

FCSU Corporate Center
6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300
Independence, OH 44131-2398

800.533.6682

MISSION STATEMENT

Since 1890 the FCSU mission has been to provide financial security for our members through competitive investment products, while offering fraternal and cultural benefits through community-based member events.

VISION STATEMENT

Enhancing your financial future through fraternalism.

Send all articles (English AND Slovak) to:
Shannon Trivise • editor@fcsu.com

First Catholic Slovak Union, Attn: "JEDNOTA"
6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300
Independence, OH 44131-2398
FAX: 216.642.4310

(ISSN 1087-3392)

Catholic Fraternal - Published Monthly
Publisher and Proprietor

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

USA - \$25.00 • Other Countries - \$30.00

PRINTED AT: SUSQUEHANNA PRINTING,
1407 Hempstead Road, Lancaster, PA 17602

POSTMASTER:

Please send address changes to:

Jednota, First Catholic Slovak Union

6611 Rockside Rd • Suite 300 • Independence, OH 44131-2398

Periodical Postage paid at Cleveland, OH 44131

and additional mailing offices

FCSU.com



Message from the National Chaplain

Next month on Palm Sunday we will hear the account of our Lord's Passion according to the evangelist Luke. Here is a reflection for you in anticipation of the day.

All the evangelists tell of the three times Peter denied he knew the Lord Jesus. Luke adds his own threefold event. He writes the chief priests and the crowds shouted three times for Jesus to be crucified.

What is interesting is that the word in English "shout" is the proper translation for three different words Luke uses in this scene. Those words gives the reader a clearer insight into the feelings the chief priests and crowds had for Jesus. You will notice the gradual progression and intensity of their anger:

- "All together they shouted out." The verb used here means they shouted with great emotion.
- "They continued their shouting." The verb used here describes they did so with the greatest sense of urgency.
- "With loud shouts they persisted in calling for his crucifixion." The verb used here indicates they yelled and screamed at the top of their voices.

The intentions of the chief priests and the crowds are very clear. They not only wanted Jesus to be put to death, but to be put to death in a manner that brought about not only excruciating pain, but also exposure to public humiliation and shame. And to think that Jesus willingly endured all that out of love for us, all humanity, and even those who yelled and screamed at the top of their voices for his death on the cross.



**Rev. Thomas Nasta
Chaplain**

SS. Cyril and Methodius March Appeal

The Saints Cyril and Methodius Appeal is in its 47th year raising money to assist the Pontifical Slovak College of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Rome with its day-to-day operations. Today, the Appeal relies upon the generosity of individual donors in addition to collections taken up in personal parishes of Slovak ancestry. A direct mailing asking for donations was sent in January to local district and branch leaders from the four Catholic Slovak Fraternal Organizations, members of the Slovak Catholic Federation, and previous donors.

As of February 13, 93 donors have given \$6,800.00 for the 2025 Appeal. Among the 26 donations received from Catholic Slovak Fraternal Branches and Districts, Branch 35, Branch 40, Branch 45, Branch 112, Branch 166, Branch 181, Branch 320, Branch 484, Branch 731, Branch 743, Branch 746, Branch 857 and District 14 of the FCSU have donated a combined total of \$950.00. Donations have also been received from 15 clergy and religious and 50 individuals. On behalf of the Pontifical College, thank you for your continued generosity and support.

Anyone wishing to contribute to the 2025 Appeal but did not receive a letter asking for a donation is asked to fill out the information in the box at the bottom of this article and mailing it along with your check payable to the Slovak Catholic Federation to the address provided. Donations in any amount are deeply appreciated and are acknowledged. Gifts received after November 30, 2025 will be credited toward the 2026 Appeal. Thank you again for your goodness and generosity.

The Slovak Catholic Federation was founded in 1911 by Rev. Joseph Murgas, founding Pastor of Sacred Heart of Jesus Slovak Church, Wilkes-Barre, PA. The Federation brings together under one banner both individuals of Slovak heritage as well as Catholic Slovak Fraternal Organizations for cultural, religious and educational needs. Serving as Moderator is the Right Reverend Gary Hoover, O.S.B., Abbot of St. Andrew Svorad Abbey, Cleveland, OH. National President is Reverend Andrew S. Hvozdvic, V.F., Supreme Chaplain of the Slovak Catholic Sokol and Pastor of Our Lady of Victory Parish, Harvey's Lake, PA and Gate of Heaven Parish, Dallas, PA. Reverend Thomas A. Nasta, National Chaplain of the First Catholic Slovak Union and Parochial Vicar with Senior Priest status at Our Lady of Grace Church, Pennel, PA, serves as First Vice President of the Federation and is the Appeal Coordinator.

47th Annual Saints Cyril and Methodius Appeal

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Amount \$ _____

Please make check payable to Slovak Catholic Federation and mail to:
Rev. Thomas A. Nasta, National First Vice President
Slovak Catholic Federation
Our Lady of Grace Church • 225 Bellevue Avenue • Pennel, PA 19047-4052

NEWSPAPER GUIDELINES	ISSUE DEADLINES
All copy is due by 4:30pm, THE MONDAY THE WEEK BEFORE THE ISSUE DATE, unless otherwise stated because of special holiday scheduling. All articles are reviewed for possible publication. FCSU reserves the right to edit and format submitted articles and pictures. Remember that JEDNOTA is printed MONTHLY. Submit your articles in ample time for them to be received at the Home Office.	<p>APRIL 2025 ISSUE</p> <p>COPY DATE - Monday, March 31</p> <p>ISSUE DATE - Wednesday, April 9</p> <p>MAY 2025 ISSUE</p> <p>COPY DATE - Monday, May 5</p> <p>ISSUE DATE - Wednesday, May 14</p>

Executive Secretary's Message

As we continue making strides toward our goals this year, I want to take a moment to give a huge shout-out to our Home Office team. As in previous years, we've been navigating the complicated field of three separate audits. Each department rose to the occasion, responding quickly and thoroughly to requests for information.



Kevin J. Collins
Executive Secretary, COO

One of our biggest projects has been rebranding and redesigning the forms we use. Thanks to everyone's hard work and collaboration, we've developed new, easier-to-use forms across departments. Once we launch our brand-new website later this month, all of the most commonly used forms will be available as fillable .pdf files. You'll be able to type directly onto the forms, making your information clearer and easier to read. We hope these updates will make filling out paperwork smoother and more efficient. For a step-by-step guide on how to use these new fillable forms, be sure to check out the article on page 5. We're confident these changes will make a positive impact for both staff and members.

We're excited to announce that our new website is almost ready to go live! It has been a lot of work, but thanks to the dedication of our team, we're almost ready to launch. This new website will provide a better user experience overall, helping us stay connected and continue improving the services we offer.

In addition to these key projects, our team has been diligently working on cyber security changes, and we've seen a lot of positive progress in that area. We are happy to announce a new feature in the newspaper where the Home Office staff's name, extension and short description of their position has been posted on page 23. This information is available on our website as well. We hope this helps direct your questions to the right person.

Looking ahead, there are more changes coming, and I'm confident that our team will continue to work together. Once again, thank you to everyone who's been a part of these efforts. The way you've come together to reach our goal is truly inspiring. We may not be at the finish line yet, but we're definitely on the right path.

Update From The President Continued from Page 1

To modernize our outreach, we have rebranded to better appeal to wider audiences. We will be launching our updated website soon, have redesigned marketing materials, and expanded our social media presence. Our newspaper has also been refreshed, ensuring timely and relevant information while maintaining a connection to our traditions.

These are just a few examples of the ways we are reaching out to engage younger members. However, we know that each branch has its own unique way of connecting with its local community, and I encourage you to think about how you can tailor similar efforts in your area. Young people today are looking for meaningful ways to contribute and belong to something greater than themselves, and by creating spaces for them to get involved, we will build a stronger future together.

I would love for each branch to consider ways to highlight our core values while incorporating the energy and fresh perspectives of our younger members. Whether it's hosting social events, creating volunteer opportunities, or simply opening up the conversation about the importance of financial security, every small step counts.

Together, we can help the next generation understand the value of what we stand for and inspire them to carry the torch forward. Thank you for all your dedication and for continuing to serve as role models for the young people who will one day become the leaders of our society.

UPCOMING EVENTS



MARCH 2025

- 3/15 Branch 200 - Soup Sale, Ford City, PA
- 3/15 Branch 855 - Social Saturday, Middleburg Heights, OH
- 3/16 Branch 743 - Mass and Meeting, Sterling Heights, MI
- 3/17 Branch 228 - Meeting, Lorain, OH
- 3/20 Branch 410 - Meeting, Uniontown, PA (RSVP by 3/17)
- 3/20 Branch 731 - Mass, Youngstown, OH
- 3/22 Branch 856 - Zoom Meeting
- 3/26 Branch 290 - Meeting, Middlesex, NJ (RSVP by 3/19)
- 3/29 Branch 181 - Meeting, Latrobe, PA (RSVP by 3/20)
- 3/29 Branch 393 - Meeting, Latrobe, PA (RSVP by 3/20)
- 3/29 Branch 670 - Polka Festival, Wheeling, WV (RSVP)
- 3/29 District 3 - Meeting, Latrobe, PA (RSVP by 3/20)
- 3/30 Branch 746 - Meeting, Linden, NJ (RSVP by 3/21)
- 3/30 District 4 - Meeting, Linden, NJ (RSVP by 3/21)

APRIL 2025

- 4/3 Branch 200 - Meeting, Ford City, PA
- 4/3 Branch 401 - Meeting, North Apollo, PA
- 4/4 Branch 746 - Mass, Linden, NJ
- 4/6 Branch 23 - Meeting, Johnstown, PA
- 4/6 Branch 60 - Meeting, McKeesport, PA
- 4/6 Branch 553 - Meeting, Akron, OH (RSVP by 3/25)
- 4/6 Branch 670 - Meeting, Canonsburg, PA (Hybrid)
- 4/6 Branch 721 - Meeting, Bannister, MI
- 4/6 District 2 - Meeting, Oak Forest, IL (RSVP)
- 4/6 District 10 - Meeting, Akron, (RSVP by 3/25)
- 4/6 District 12 - Meeting, Canonsburg, PA
- 4/6 District 16 - Meeting, New York, NY
- 4/12 Branch 450 - Meeting, Brooklyn, OH (RSVP by 4/9)
- 4/13 Branch 173 - Meeting, Mountain Top, PA (RSVP)
- 4/18 **Good Friday - Home Office Closed**
- 4/23 Branch 682 - Meeting, Struthers, OH
- 4/24 Branch 260 - Meeting, Struthers, OH
- 4/26 **FCSU International Bowling Tournament**
- 4/27 **FCSU International Bowling Tournament**
- 4/26 District 17 - Meeting, Scranton, PA (RSVP by 4/16)
- 4/27 Branch 1 - Meeting, Rocky River, OH
- 4/27 Branch 716 - Meeting, New York, NY
- 4/27 District 6 - Meeting, West Mifflin, PA (RSVP by 4/19)

For more information, go to the Branch and District announcement pages.

MAILING LIST UPDATES

Email changes to editor@fcsu.com or call 800.533.6682 ext. 123.

We are updating our Jednota newspaper mailing list. Please let us know if you would like to update your mailing status:

- You want to receive a newspaper but don't
- You prefer not to receive a newspaper but do
- You receive multiple newspapers at your household
- Address label has an incorrect name



The Home Office Will be Closed on Good Friday, April 18th

March Reflection

If anyone wishes to come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me (Luke 9:23).

This teaching by Jesus is meant to focus on our incidents of daily Christian living. Jesus knew life on earth is not meant to be an easy road. His own life on earth would culminate with a total sacrifice on the cross.

This is the challenge Jesus extends to us with the cross. I recall from his writings how St. John Vianney (May 2, 1786 - August 14, 1859) reminded his parishioners of the need to take up their cross: "If you carry it well, it will take you to heaven." This is the very promise with which Jesus lived, died and resurrected.

Now we each receive our own cross as a gift lovingly prepared and sustained by God. This was taught by St. Francis de Sales (August 21, 1567 - December 28, 1622). He wanted all to accept and believe in God's merciful love supporting us with the cross as only God can make it life-giving. This is the ransom recalled by the hymn, "O Holy Cross," (Ach, Kríž Svätý).

As Jesus, we, too, are called for presence with those who suffer or are being lost. I have witnessed numerous acts of faith in these ways. In particular, my own mother, knowing her life was hard, relied on her religious background, ---"Take the cross and follow Me." I thank God for this.

Sister Maria Theresa Hronec, SS.C.M.

O HOLY CROSS

(English translation to fit Slovak melody)

1. Cross most holy, precious branches,
Blest, life-giving, choice fruit you give us:
Jesus Christ, Beloved One---Holy One,
Gracious mercy now is won.
2. Three and thirty years were counted,
Total life-gift---the price demanded;
Healed, restored our innocence---
innocence,
Paid the ransom for our debt.
3. Jesus, taunted, scourged and bleeding,
Scorned, rejected with hateful scheming;
Bound with ropes of cruelty---cruelty,
Painful, gaping wounds I see.
4. Jesus Christ, O King most Sovereign,
Lord descended from glor'ous heaven,
Wears a woven crown of thorns---crown of
thorns,
Patiently and humbly born.

ACH, KRÍŽ SVÄTÝ

1. Ach, kríž svätý, ty strom vzácny,
Sladký nesieš plod krásny:
Jezu Kista milého,
Pre mňa umučeného.
2. Tridsaťtri liet si pracoval,
Kým si život Svoj dokonal:
Mne nevinnosť navrátil, navrátil,
Otcovi dlh zaplatil.
3. Ó Ježišu bičovaný,
Pre mňa celý oplúvaný;
Ukrutne si zviazaný, zviazaný
A do krvi šľahaný.
4. Ježiš Kristus, Kráľ nad kráľmi,
Pán najvyššej večnej slávy,
Má korunu trňovú,
Plnú hlavu rán boľu.

The music for the hymn above can be found at
<https://tinyurl.com/OHolyCross>

LIGHT ONE CANDLE

The Love Between Jesus and Mary

Fr. Ed Dougherty, M.M., The Christophers' Board of Directors

On March 25th, we celebrate the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord, when the Angel Gabriel announced to Mary that she had been chosen by God to be the mother of Christ. It is a day that pierces the Lenten season with joyful anticipation of the birth of Christ. It also reminds us of the deep bond between Mother and Son as we move towards Holy Week, with all the pain and loss it held for them, but also harkening to the joy of Easter, when God's promise of salvation was fulfilled in Christ's Resurrection.

There is a scene in the film *The Passion of the Christ* when Mary sees Jesus fall down during His grueling walk to Calvary. This prompts a memory, captured in a flashback, of her running to Jesus when He falls as a child. And seeing Him fall under the weight of the cross, she runs to Him again, falling to her knees beside Him and declaring, "I am here."

It's such a beautiful and heartbreaking moment because it recalls a time when these words spoken from Mother to Son would have been enough to assuage the pain of a simple childhood accident. But those words cannot mitigate the pain of the Passion and all that has been heaped upon our Savior's shoulders. And here, Jesus raises His bloodied face to Mary and says, "See, Mother, I make all things new."

It's a line spoken by Christ in Revelation, when He declares, "Behold, I make all things new." But it is brilliantly transported here to this moment because it so perfectly captures the crux of all that is being accomplished in the Passion. And that childhood scene highlights the nature of the sacrifice because it is the most perfect earthly love between Mary and Jesus and the most perfect life ever lived that is being sacrificed on our behalf.

The Solemnity of the Annunciation reminds us of the beautiful love-filled life of Christ that was so cruelly taken from Him in the Crucifixion. But those words, "Behold, I make all things new," remind us of all that is accomplished in the pain that beset Mother and Son in the Passion because Mary's "Yes" to the Annunciation had the intention of mission about it. And the love Jesus and Mary shared from the moment of His conception and throughout His life had the intention of mission about it because they both knew God was calling them to a purpose that required sacrifice.

This perfect love between Mother and Son sheds light on how we should look upon those placed in our lives by God. We know there will always be a struggle when we set out to accomplish great things together, but that struggle should not mitigate the joy of the love we share when we keep our eyes set on the hope of the Resurrection.

So let us greet the Solemnity of the Annunciation with the proper pause it requires during this Lenten season and appreciate all that Mary took upon herself in her "Yes" to God and all that Christ gave up in His "Yes" to suffering for our salvation. It's a pause that can draw us into the most beautiful contemplation of the nature of the love that existed between Mary and Jesus and point us towards a new and deeper way of loving all those God entrusts to our care.

Insights and Viewpoints

Phil 3:17 – 4:1 Father Killian Loch, O.S.B.

Where are you a citizen? Often I meet people who tell me that they are a(an) _____ - American with pride of their national heritage and of their current status as a United States Citizens. When we travel abroad we show our U.S. passports and know that it is a document that proves we are U.S. citizens, and gives us the comfort of knowing that while even in a foreign country our Government will help us if we need it. St. Paul reminds us that our true identity is "citizens of heaven." We were issued our heavenly citizen papers on the day of our Baptism.

Being a citizen of Heaven is a privilege and a Blessing; it also gives us the responsibility to be faithful citizens. It is a sign of God's love for us that our citizenship begins at Baptism. Our Heavenly Father sent his son to take on the punishment for our sins so as to take down the alienation of Original Sin that separated us from full union with God. Jesus revealed to us that his Father has adopted us as Sons and daughters. God is our Father, Jesus is our Brother, and the Spirit sanctifies us

in that Triune relationship. What would the response of friends, neighbors and even strangers be if we began claiming our citizenship by telling them, "I am a citizen of Heaven?" It would certainly get their attention, and it might even provide us with the opportunity to do some basic evangelization. It is also a good way for us to remind ourselves, first and foremost, we are citizens of Heaven.

Some of the privileges we are given are receiving the Sacrament, in particular the Lord himself in the Eucharist, being able to approach God as His sons and daughters and to address him in prayer as, "Our Father," and the ultimate privilege we receive as citizens of heaven is the opportunity for eternal life with Christ. We are given a glimpse of this in the Gospel with the account of the Transfiguration. Peter, James and John saw a "change of appearance", "dazzling white" clothing, Moses and Elijah, glory, and the voice of the Father. I suspect that St. Luke was not able to give an adequate account of that experience; after all, how could he

begin to describe the infinite glory of this vision of eternity? The privilege of eternal life leads to an eternity of being in the presence of God, and of being changed from our mortal bodies to bodies that will conform with Christ's glorified body. This gives us much to look forward to.

Lent is the season for us to see how we are living as citizens of heaven, and how we are preparing for the privileges that come with that. We began Lent with the three-fold call from Christ to pray, fast, and give alms. During Lent we tend to be mindful of these and even to take on different practices to help us in our journey through Lent. Lent, however, is not just a preparation for Easter Sunday, 2025, it is a preparation for our Easter, whenever that might be. It is a preparation that should not be limited to forty days, but rather the rest of our lives. As citizens of Heaven we have the responsibility to live each day in faithfulness to our Baptismal promises. We each have our own struggles, temptations and sins: our responsibility is to face them, repent of our sins and strive to be more faithful. In this way we will be faithful citizens of Heaven.

The Blessing of Easter Baskets

Traditional Easter foods are gathered in "blessing baskets" comprising of cooked eggs, bread, preserved meat, beetroot and horse-radish, along with dairy products like syrek (a cheese dish) and hrudka (a loaf made from eggs and milk), as well as paska sweetbread.

FCSU National Chaplain Fr. Thomas Nasta will be blessing Easter baskets via live-stream on Holy Saturday, April 19 at 12:00pm (EST).

The blessing will be live streamed from Our Lady of Grace Church, Penn del, PA.

You can watch the blessing on-line at
www.olgparishpenndel.org

N·E·W·S *from the Home Office*

Introducing Our Redesigned Forms

Since our founding in 1890, we have continued to evolve to better serve our members. As part of our recent rebranding, we are excited to announce the redesign of all our forms. These new forms are designed to be more user-friendly, efficient, and aligned with our refreshed look.

In today's digital world, many forms are available in a fillable PDF format, making it easier to complete. To make the transition as smooth as possible, we want to provide a brief overview of how to properly complete these fillable PDFs.

HOW TO FILL OUT THE FORM:

When you open a fillable PDF form, you will notice highlighted fields appearing in light purple. These are the areas where you can type your information. To move from one field to the next, simply press the **Tab** key on your keyboard. This will ensure that you complete all the necessary fields without accidentally skipping any. If you prefer to click directly into each field, you may also do so with your mouse.

CHECK BOXES:

In some sections of the form, you may come across checkboxes and circles. **Square checkboxes** allow you to select more than one option. For example, if a form asks you to indicate which products interest you and provides checkboxes, you may check all that apply. **Circular buttons**, on the other hand, are designed for single-choice answers. If you see a row of circular options, you will only be able to select one before the previous choice is automatically deselected. In this area, you will need to use your mouse to click your option. If you hit tab, the cursor will move to the next section.

BANKING INFORMATION:

If the form requires banking information, you will need to enter your **9-digit routing number** and your **account number (up to 17 digits)**. Each number will be entered into individual boxes. Press the Tab key to move to the next box and continue entering your information. Be sure to double-check your numbers to ensure accuracy before submitting the form.

SAVE, EMAIL OR MAIL:

It is important to save the form to your computer. To do this, click **File > Save As**, choose a location on your hard drive, and give the file a recognizable name. This will allow you to easily access it later if needed. If you need to make changes after filling out the form, you can reopen the saved file and edit any fields before finalizing your submission. If emailing the form, please attach the saved PDF to an email and send it to us.

If you prefer to print the form instead of emailing, you can do so without worrying about the highlighted fields. The purple boxes that appear on your screen will **not** be visible on the printed document.

SIGNATURE:

It is important to note that our forms do not allow digital signatures. **Please print the form, sign it by hand** and either scan and email the completed document to the correct contact or mail it to the Home Office.

We are committed to making our processes more accessible and efficient for our members. If you have any questions, please contact the Home Office at 800.533.6682.

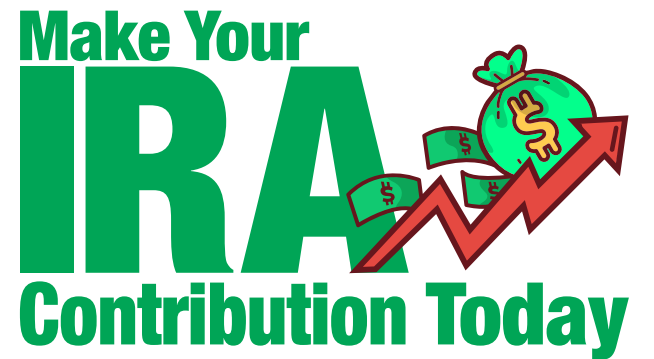
Stay Connected with Us! Update Your Contact Information Today

As a valued member of FCSU Financial, it's important to keep your contact information up-to-date. This ensures you receive the latest updates on your policies, as well as news about our fraternal activities and benefits.

LET US KNOW IF YOU'VE HAD ANY CHANGES TO YOUR:
Address • Phone Number
Email Address • Name Change
Marital Status • Death of a Loved One

Fillable .pdf File Sample

- 1** Click your mouse on the first line. You can use the tab key for each section after that. You can also use your mouse to click in each area.
- 2** Click inside the check box to make your selection.
- 3** The circular buttons will only allow you to make one choice. Use your mouse to choose.
- 4** When typing your banking information, hit the tab button after each numeral.
- 5** This form requires a signature. Save your file and print it. Sign the form and email or mail it back to the Home Office.



There's really no bad time to start investing, but the earlier you begin, the more you can benefit from the power of compound growth. By contributing sooner rather than later, your money has more time to grow and accumulate earnings, potentially leading to a much larger return in the long run. One smart step is to make your 2025 IRA contribution as early as possible to give your investment more time to grow throughout the year. Additionally, don't forget that you still have until April 15, 2025, to make contributions for the 2024 tax year, so you can take advantage of tax benefits before the deadline. Planning ahead and making those contributions sooner can have a significant impact on your financial future.

IRA Contribution Limits

Tax Year	Under Age 50	Age 50 or Older
2024	\$7,000	\$8,000
2025	\$7,000	\$8,000

NOTE: You may not contribute more than your taxable compensation for the year.

IRA Contribution Coupon

If you wish to make a deposit into an existing account with FCSU Financial, simply complete this coupon and return it to the Home Office. Please indicate which year for which you are making a contribution.

Name: _____
 Certificate #: _____
 Deposit Amount: _____

Traditional IRA for year:
 2024 2025

Roth IRA for year:
 2024 2025

YOU CAN ALSO MAKE CONTRIBUTIONS THROUGH OUR FCSU.COM MEMBER PORTAL.

Branch 181 Youth Member Scholastic Assistance

\$500 Scholarships



Applications must be postmarked by May 31, 2025

For the Fall 2025 start of the academic year, the St. John the Baptist Society – Branch 181 of United, PA, will be offering \$500.00 scholarships to eligible high school senior members planning to attend college or career/technical school. These will be one-time scholarships selected by an independent panel that will evaluate each application. The number of scholarships awarded is dependent on the number of eligible applicants.

- You are a member in good Standing of the First Catholic Slovak Union, St. John the Baptist Society – Branch 181.
- You have been a member of Branch 181 for 4 years prior to applying with a minimum \$5000 insurance policy.
- You are a high school senior preparing to graduate in 2025 and have applied for the 2025 Fall term at a qualifying Educational institution.

**Contact Vicki at 724-433-8469 or
vicki15@zoominternet.net for an application**

These scholarships are solely funded by your local Branch 181 and are independent of the First Catholic Slovak Union Home Office.



Pennsylvania Fraternal Alliance Scholarship Program

\$500 Scholarship Applications are Now Available!

At least two \$500 scholarships will be awarded. Additional scholarships may be awarded depending upon available funds.

How to obtain an application:

Email Theresa@lpscu.org • Call 888-834-6614

Download from www.pafraternals.org

Applicants must:

- Be a resident of Pennsylvania and a member of a Fraternal Benefit Society that is a member of the Pennsylvania Fraternal Alliance.
- Be a current year high school graduate attending an accredited college, university, trade school, etc. in the summer/fall as a full-time student (twelve semester credits).
- Obtain a recommendation letter from their Fraternal Benefit Society.
- Submit a 500-word essay on: “What has membership in a Fraternal insurance company meant to you”?

**Return the completed application packet to
FCSLA Life • 1114 Surrey Lane • Vandergrift, PA 15690
postmarked no later than June 30th**

The Importance of Life Insurance: Which Product is Best for You?

Life is unpredictable and it's crucial to be prepared for the unexpected. Life insurance is one of the most important tools to ensure your loved ones are financially secure when you're no longer around. Whether you have young children, aging parents, or dependents relying on your income, life insurance helps provide peace of mind and financial stability during a difficult time.

What Life Insurance Can Do for You

At its core, life insurance is designed to replace lost income and cover the expenses that may arise after your passing. From funeral costs to paying off debts or mortgages, life insurance can ease the financial burden left behind. But it's not just about covering immediate costs. Life insurance can also pay for your children's education, help your spouse maintain their standard of living, or protect your business partners from unexpected financial strain.

Term Life Insurance: Affordable Protection for the Short-Term

For those looking for affordable coverage, term life insurance can be an excellent option. Term life policies offer coverage for a specific period (10 or 20 years), and in the event of your passing during that time, your beneficiaries receive a payout. Because term life insurance is more affordable than whole life insurance, it can be a practical solution for young families, individuals with mortgages, or anyone who needs coverage for a set period. However, it's important to note that once the term ends, the policy expires unless renewed or converted.

Whole Life Insurance: Lifetime Coverage with Cash Value

Unlike term life, whole life insurance offers coverage for your entire life and includes a savings component, called “cash value.” The policyholder's premiums contribute to the cash value, which grows over time. Whole life insurance can provide lifelong protection, with the added benefit of building wealth that you can borrow against or use in retirement. This makes it a popular choice for those who want permanent protection and are interested in the investment aspect of the policy.

Juvenile Life Insurance: Securing Your Child's Future

It's never too early to think about your child's future. Juvenile term life insurance is a great way to do so. Juvenile life policies offer coverage for children, which can later be converted to adult coverage. By purchasing life insurance for a child, you lock in affordable premiums and guaranteed insurability at the time of conversion.

Why You Shouldn't Wait: The Impact of Age and Health on Premiums

One of the most compelling reasons to purchase life insurance early is that premiums tend to be lower when you're young and healthy. As we age, the likelihood of developing health issues increases, which can raise premiums or even make certain policies inaccessible. By securing life insurance early, you ensure the most affordable premiums, giving you and your family long-term financial security at a cost-effective rate.

Tailoring Life Insurance to Your Needs

No two people have the same financial situation or family dynamic, which is why it's essential to choose the right life insurance policy for your unique needs. Whether you need temporary coverage, lifelong protection, or a plan that can provide for your child's future, it's important to consult with a life insurance professional to help guide you through your options. By selecting a policy that fits your financial goals, you can ensure that your family will be cared for no matter what the future holds.

Life insurance is not just a financial product; it's a promise to your loved ones that you've planned ahead to protect their well-being. With options like term life, whole life, and juvenile life insurance, you can find the right policy to secure the future of those who matter most. Don't wait until it's too late—take the step today to make sure that your family's financial future is in good hands.

FCSU Financial offers many choices of life insurance products. Call 800.533.6682, ext. 115 to reach Suzanne or ext. 125 to reach Julie. They can answer all of your questions and help guide you to the product that is best for your needs.





FCSU SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES!

RULES AND REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must have: a minimum of \$5,000 of reserve insurance (Ordinary Whole Life, Twenty Pay Whole Life, or Single Premium Whole Life), or minimum of \$25,000 JEP policy (on new policy); or minimum of \$1,000 of Juvenile Life Savings; or minimum of \$500 in an annuity or Coverdell IRA with the FCSU for at least three years prior to April 1st of the year in which they are applying.

Applicants are eligible to win once in each of the 5 categories.

All scholarship winners must maintain an active policy during their school years.

Applicants must submit an official Scholarship application obtained from a branch officer, the Home Office or www.fcsu.com and mail it to: FCSU Scholarship Program, 6611 Rockside Rd, #300, Independence, OH 44131 or email to scholarship@fcsu.com.

Winners will be chosen by the Scholarship Committee and checks will be made payable to the winners.

FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION

helps its young members succeed through education by awarding over \$142,000 in scholarships each year.

SCHOLARSHIP CATEGORIES

CATHOLIC GRADE SCHOOLS (5-8 gr)	\$500
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOLS	\$1,000
VOCATIONAL/TRADE SCHOOLS	\$1,000
COLLEGES	\$1,500
GRADUATE SCHOOLS	\$1,500

Applications are available at FCSU.com/membership-benefits/scholarships or call 800.533.6682, ext. 114

Applications must be RECEIVED by March 20, 2025



Branch 670 2025 Scholarship Program

Three \$1000 Scholarships Available

Branch 670 of Donora, PA is excited to announce that it is accepting applications for its 2025 Scholarship Program. The committee will award, to the candidates who best satisfy the criteria, up to three one-time \$1000 scholarships. Any individual of Branch 670 that has had a policy for at least 4 years, is current in their premiums, is a high school senior and will attend ANY post education institution is eligible to apply.

For applications, you may email your request or send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to:
Joe Matinko, 85 Crestline Ave., Charleroi, PA 15022
matinko305@comcast.net

ALL APPLICATION REQUESTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY APRIL 30, 2025



ANNOUNCING Jednota Branch 746 Scholarship

- ✓ Are you a member of Branch 746 with a paid-up life insurance premium of \$5,000 or more?
- ✓ Are you currently accepted and/or enrolled in full-time college, another post-secondary educational institution, or vocational institution?
- ✓ Are you active in Branch 746 or want to become active?

If you answered YES to the above, you may be eligible for a \$1,500 scholarship!

For guidelines on how to apply go to: fcsu.com/membership-benefits/scholarships/
Email JednotaBranch746@gmail.com for more information.

Deadline to Apply: April 30th



MEMBER TRAVEL ADVENTURES

Embracing Nostalgia: A Summer Journey through Slovakia and Poland

Last summer, I had the unique pleasure of joining my parents on a remarkable adventure that interwove family heritage, classic cars, and the breathtaking landscapes of Eastern Slovakia and Poland. My father, Peter Poncak, is a dedicated enthusiast and founder and member of numerous classic car clubs. He was eager to participate in the Partizan Open 2024, an exhilarating drive tour celebrating vintage automobiles. With over 60 classic cars revving their engines for the journey, the excitement was palpable.

My father has always had a passion for classic cars. Throughout his life, he has owned more than 40 classic cars, though he currently keeps only three prized possessions: a Tatra 603, a Škoda Favorit, and a Fiat 850.

The convoy of classic cars, each a piece of history, lined up as we set out from small town Svidnik. It was a joy to travel alongside fellow car enthusiasts, exchanging stories and admiring each other's vehicles.

One of the highlights of our trip was a stop that held personal significance for my family. During our stop, we paid homage to a monumental sculpture by Dusan Poncak, my father's brother. The sculpture commemorates the Czechoslovak Army Corps first entering to Czechoslovakia on October 6, 1944 during the Battle of Dukla Pass. This poignant piece of art is situated directly on the Slovak-Polish border, serving as a reminder of the bravery of those who served.

Learning about the history behind this sculpture was a powerful experience. I discovered that my father was involved in its creation between the years 1980-1982, a revelation that deepened my appreciation for our family legacy. The monument stands not only as a tribute to the valor of the soldiers but also as a testament to our family's connection to this significant moment in history.

As we hit the road, the joy of driving these classic cars was palpable. The scenic landscapes unfolded before us, with the Carpathian Mountains as our backdrop. We cruised along winding roads, through charming villages, and across expansive fields adorned with wildflowers. Each mile brought a rush of nostalgia and a deep connection to my heritage. In addition to driving among the stunning landscapes, we visited classic car museums and vintage garages in Poland, where we learned about the restoration process and the history behind various models.

As we returned home, I felt not just a closer bond with my parents, but also a renewed sense of appreciation for history, heritage, and the timeless beauty of classic automobiles. The summer of 2024 is a chapter I will forever cherish, a reminder of the importance of family, history, and the joy that classic cars bring to our lives.

Terezia Balega, Member, Branch 24 and Home Office Staff - Annuity Department



Open to the Public

SLOVAK J CLUB
485 MORGAN AVE • AKRON, OH

***Call 330-786-9972 by the Monday before Dinner to RSVP**

MARCH

- Mar. 19 Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner – 4:30-6:30pm *RSVP REQUIRED
- Mar. 22 Karaoke Night – 6:30pm Food; 7:00pm Crooning – \$15 per person *RSVP REQUIRED
- Mar. 30 Breakfast Buffet - 9:00-11:45am

APRIL

- Apr. 2 Spaghetti Dinner – 4:30-7:00pm
- Apr. 4 Fish Fry – 4:30-7:00pm *RSVP REQUIRED for Cod Dinner
- Apr. 8 Trip to Meadows Casino – Trip is \$50; \$20 back in free play. Call Joan Lewis at 330-730-8285 to secure your spot.

- Apr. 11 Fish Fry – 4:30-7:00pm *RSVP REQUIRED for Cod Dinner
- Apr. 16 Pork Chop Dinner – 4:30-6:30pm Call early to reserve your spot to enjoy this popular dinner!!
- Apr. 18 LAST Fish Fry – 4:30-7:00pm *RSVP REQUIRED for Cod Dinner
- Apr. 25 Food Open House for Early Arrival Tournament Bowlers; homemade pizza & other hors d'oeuvres
- Apr. 27 Breakfast Buffet – 9:00-11:45am

MAY

- May 7 Spaghetti Dinner – 4:30-7:00pm
- May 21 Swiss Steak Dinner – 4:30-6:30pm *RSVP REQUIRED

The Slovak Ball 2025: A Celebration of Heritage, Music, and Community in NJ

Submitted by Sabina Sabados, FCSU Region 1 Director
 Photo credit: Maynard Wallace of Profoto

On Saturday, February 15th, the Slovak-American Cultural Center hosted the 31st annual Slovak Ball at The Royal Manor in New Jersey, bringing together over 430 guests for an unforgettable evening of elegance, tradition, and cultural pride. This year's ball was especially momentous as it marked the 10th anniversary of the event's move from the New York Athletic Club to The Royal Manor — a transition that has allowed the celebration to grow into the premier gathering of the Slovak-American community.

The night was imbued with a theme of "love," fittingly embodied by the special guest performers, Kapela SRDCOVKA. Hailing from the High Tatras of Slovakia, this dynamic ensemble captivated attendees with their unique fusion of traditional Slovak melodies and modern folk rhythms, creating an electric atmosphere that kept guests dancing all night. Their vibrant performance was complemented by the Express Band, led by Marek Soltis and featuring renowned drummer Martin Valihora, ensuring that music remained at the heart of the celebration.

The Slovak Ball's extended cocktail hour allowed guests to indulge in an array of traditional Slovak delicacies, including open-faced sandwiches, "bryndzové halušky," and mini breaded cutlets, while toasting with authentic Slovak spirits such as Nestville Whisky, Original Spisska Slivovica Malinovica, Marhulovica, and Goral Vodka Master, courtesy of Wesmont G4 Liquors. As the evening progressed, guests enjoyed a stunningly decorated Grand Ballroom adorned in burgundy and white, reflecting the "love" theme. The midnight buffet, featuring a roasted pig, potato pancakes, and other beloved Slovak specialties, ensured the festivities continued until the early morning hours.

Dignitaries and esteemed guests added to the significance of the evening, including the Permanent Representative of Slovakia to the United Nations, Ambassador Peter Hulényi, and his wife Tatiana, as well as the Consul General of Slovakia in New York, Milan Vrbovský, and his wife Zuzana. Other distinguished attendees included Kevin Collins, Executive Secretary, COO of FCSU Financial, Dr. Cecilia Rokusek, President and CEO of the National Czech and Slovak Museum and Library, along with former Consul General of Slovakia in New York, Jana Trnovcová Ragucci, and her family. The event also welcomed Broadway star Luba Mason (Branch 716), a longtime supporter of the Slovak Ball, alongside her husband, the legendary 23-time Grammy and Latin Grammy winner Rubén Blades, who

is one of the most influential figures in Latin music. This past year he was named "Lincoln Center's VISIONARY ARTIST". He is a prolific composer, actor, and former Minister of Tourism in Panama. With over 50 film appearances and multiple Emmy nominations, his impact spans music, film, and activism.

Several Slovak parish communities were also in attendance. In addition, esteemed clergy including Fr. Peter Bujdos (Branch 746 Chaplain) from St. Michael's in Trenton, NJ who also gave the benediction, Fr. Stefan Chanas from St. John Nepomucene in New York, NY, Fr. Francis Conka from the Parish of St. Paul and St. Ann in Congers, NY, Fr. Tadeusz Mierzwa, Administrator of Holy Family Church in Linden, NJ, and Fr. Marek Visnovsky and his wife Miriam Visnovsky from St. Michael the Archangel in Passaic. Their attendance reinforced the deep ties between faith and heritage within the Slovak-American community.

A highlight of the evening was The Slovak Ball Raffle, featuring enticing prizes such two round-trip airlines tickets to Europe courtesy of LOT Polish airlines, 7-night ocean front stay in Mexico, weekend getaway to Chateau Franz in Czechia, dinner at the private residence of the Ambassador, NY Rangers fan basket with 2 superb tickets and many more! Proceeds from the raffle support the S-ACC Scholarship Fund, which awards scholarships to students eager to learn the Slovak language through the Slovak Language Institute at the University of Pittsburgh. Opportunities for this summer's language program and how to apply for scholarships can be found on the website: SlovakAmericanCC.org.

For over 31 years, The Slovak Ball has remained a cherished tradition, bringing the Slovak-American community together to celebrate heritage and unity. Organized by the dedicated volunteers of the Slovak-American Cultural Center, under the leadership of Region 1 Director Sabina Sabados and with steadfast support from First Catholic Slovak Union and its Jednota members, the event continues to flourish as a signature annual gathering. A heartfelt thank you goes out to FCSU Financial as well as to the many donors and volunteers who made this extraordinary evening possible. As guests bid farewell to another remarkable Slovak Ball, they carried with them a renewed sense of cultural pride, lasting memories, and anticipation for next year's celebration.



Kevin Collins, Executive Secretary, COO, of FCSU Financial and Sabina Sabados, Region 1 Director.



Region 1 members from Branch 45, 716, and 746 pictured with Kevin Collins, Executive Secretary, COO, FCSU Financial. A few members missed the photo – we will try to recreate again next year!



The FCSU Table - from left to right Mrs. Anna Korcak (Branch 45), Jozef Korcak (Branch 45), and members of Branch 746: Viera Kolesar, Dusan Kolesar, Justina Chobor, George Chobor, Emilia Filak (Supreme Court member), Emil Filak, Darina Zentko, Martin Zentko and Lois Schmidt.



Pictured from left to right: Anna Rendekova, Vlad Rendek, Consul General of the Slovak Republic in New York Milan Vrbovsky and Mrs. Zuzana Vrbovska. Second row: Mrs. Tatiana Hulényi, Dr. Cecilia Rokusek, President and CEO at National Czech and Slovak Museum and Library and Friends of Slovakia Board member, Dr. Robert Perrik, Sabina Sabados, FCSU Region 1 Director and Slovak Ball Chairwoman, and H.E. Permanent Representative of the Slovak Republic to the United Nations Peter Hulényi.



Slovak-American Cultural Center Board members of which many are also very active FCSU members of Branches 45, 716, and 746.



Rubén Blades, 23-time Grammy and Latin Grammy winner alongside his beautiful wife Broadway star, singer and songwriter Luba Mason (Branch 716).



Fr. Peter Bujdos, Branch 746 Chaplain, gave the benediction in Slovak.



Michaela Stachova won the NY Rangers super fan prize: 2 NHL tickets and light up teddy bear adorned in NY Ragners swag courtesy of Iveta Zakovic of Branch 45.



Branch 746 Jednota members including Fr. Francis Conka posing at the flower wall banner.

For a glimpse of the evening's magic, including photos and videos, visit SlovakAmericanCC.org

Ancestry & Opportunity: Find Out If You're Eligible for an EU Passport!

By Zuzana Palovic, PhD

For generations, Slovakia's children have been seeking better opportunities across the world. The greatest exodus, however, took place at the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries, when nearly one-third of the Slovak nation—an estimated 750,000 Slovaks—crossed the Atlantic in search of a better life in the New World.

Today, their descendants number in the millions. They may no longer speak the old language, but they still carry their ancestors' names, blood, and a silent bond to their homeland.

For decades, that bond lay dormant, severed by war, the Iron Curtain, and the slow passage of time, as migration and communication flows between East and West came to a virtual standstill. But at the dawn of the 21st century, Slovakia's transformation—its independence, EU integration, adoption of the euro, and rapid modernization—has made it not only a thriving European nation but a welcoming homeland for its far-flung descendants.

At the same time and across the ocean, a quiet revolution has been unfolding.

The rise of DNA testing and genealogy platforms has reawakened old family histories, revealing long-forgotten Slovak ancestry. People who once held only a vague notion of their heritage now find their surnames embedded in centuries-old records, tracing their lineage back to villages they have never seen—but suddenly feel drawn to. But what if that reconnection could be more than just sentimental? What if it came with real, tangible benefits—like an EU passport?

Do you qualify? You might be eligible and not even realize it!

As of April 1, 2022, individuals with Slovak ancestry can apply for Slovak citizenship by descent if their grandparent, or great-grandparent was a Czechoslovak citizen born within the present-day territory of Slovakia.

For many, this is more than just a legal opportunity—it's a chance to reconnect with a heritage that has shaped their family for generations. Mark Sedio, a second-generation Slovak-American from Minnesota, put it best: "We never said we were American. We always said we were Slovak." Despite the passage of time and the miles in between, traditions persist—cherished recipes, family stories, and even echoes of the Slovak language once spoken around kitchen tables.

What are the benefits of an EU Passport?

For those who qualify, reclaiming Slovak citizenship is not just about honoring the past—it's about opening the door to the future. With an EU passport in hand, Slovak citizens can live, work, and study freely in any of the 27 European Union nations. There's no need to relocate to Slovakia, yet the benefits of European citizenship remain vast. Lower university tuition, access to free healthcare, business opportunities, and seamless global travel are just a few of the advantages. And this isn't just for you—Slovak citizenship is heritable, meaning your children and future generations will also gain the right to call Europe home.



Pioneering change and reaping the rewards.

The expansion of Slovak citizenship eligibility didn't happen overnight. It was the result of years of advocacy, research, and unwavering dedication. As the founder of Global Slovakia, I played a pivotal role in the One Slovak Family Movement, spearheading nearly two years of lobbying efforts to urge the Slovak government to recognize the right of Slovak descendants to reclaim their birthright (Slovak citizenship).

This milestone was not achieved alone. It was the result of tireless collaboration with an incredible team, including Parviz Malakouti, a Slovak descendant and attorney based in California, and Samuel Ďurovčík, a brilliant Slovak law student (now graduate) in Brno, Czech Republic. Our shared passion and expertise were amplified by thousands of Slovak descendants worldwide who stood with us—signing petitions, contacting ambassadors, and even sending letters directly to then Slovak Prime Minister Eduard Heger.

Our collective persistence paid off. In April 2022, Slovakia amended its Citizenship Act, for the first time in history extending eligibility to the third generation of Slovak descendants. If your grandparent or great-grandparent was Slovak, this is your moment—an opportunity to reclaim what was always yours.

Claim your Slovak citizenship today!

Your Slovak roots are more than just a story—they are a gateway to new opportunities. Whether you seek the freedom to live and work in Europe, access world-class education and healthcare, or simply reconnect with your heritage, reclaiming Slovak citizenship is a step toward securing your future. At Global Slovakia, we are here to guide you every step of the way. Reach out for a FREE consultation. Email zuzana.palovic@globalslovakia.com and begin your journey home.

Slovak Studies Program at the University of Pittsburgh

By Renáta Kamenárová, PhD., Director, Pitt Slovak Studies Program



The University of Pittsburgh is the only university in the United States where students have been able for 34 years take Slovak language and culture classes and opt to receive a Minor in Slovak Studies. The Director of the Slovak Studies, Professor Renáta Kamenárová currently offers Elementary, Intermediate and Advanced Slovak classes in hybrid format. She also launched popular courses focusing on East European immigration to Pittsburgh, Slovak and Central European film and contemporary cultures of Eastern Europe. (If interested in any class, contact slavic@pitt.edu).

An Afternoon with the Slavic Department at the University of Pittsburgh

On Tuesday, February 18th, the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures at the University of Pittsburgh hosted a reception for its alumni and benefactors. During the reception, faculty and students delivered engaging presentations about their summer experiences in the Pitt's study abroad program. Two students of the Slovak Studies program Abigail Kraus and Olivia Beckage highlighted the insights gained from their travels in Slovakia.

The event was attended by Beata Begeniova-Fedoriouk (FCSU Financial), Joseph Senko (Honorary Consul of the Slovak Republic), Dr. Michael J. Kopanic (University of Maryland), Natasha Herleman (GBU Life), Maria Silvestri (John and Helen Timo Foundation), Joanna Spontak-Getting and Thomas Getting (Czechoslovak Nationality Room at the University of Pittsburgh), Janett Kukucka, Maryann Sivak, Karen Melis, and Andrew Stefanick.

2024 Slovakian Study Abroad Program Participants



I am a biology major with a certificate in sustainability and minors in Chemistry and Slovak Studies. I was thrilled to study Advanced Slovak for 10 weeks in SLI 2024. One of my favorite experiences is practicing my language skills abroad. One of the best places we visited was the Tatra Mountains. -- *Abby Kraus*

Through the Summer Language Institute, I was able to attend Comenius University in Bratislava. As a student of Public and International Affairs, it was critical for me to be able to travel abroad and go to the area of interest that I have spent my graduate education studying in person. This opportunity was once in a lifetime. -- *Colin Bistarkey*

My time in Slovakia allowed me to gain an experience that left an impact that will stay with me for the rest of my life. This was the second time I traveled abroad and the first time I fully engaged in life with the locals. It made me realize how much I love being a part of and learning about different cultures and people. -- *Bailee Hassen*



FCSU Search-A-Word

MARCH Word List



R E U I J M N B V F G H J K L
 T Y Z U U I O Y N E L E Z H P
 Y T T A Y T R E W Q A O U I K
 N R L F I Q A S D F C A H U D
 U E E G U N Y U F I J R U S J
 A W G H T D E Q W R H F I T H
 H S E B O V T P D E L C O A G
 C D N V P B E T S V O V P S F
 E D D C V H P R D O O B C T D
 R V A S B J I E G L H G I I C
 P C U A N U P W Q C A F T E V
 E B Y W M Y G J G H H R L K B
 L H T F K L A H J I O P E L N
 I U Y T R E B Q W S A X C M M
 O T A L Z F D H J B V C X Z E

- LEPRECHAUN** **PENIAZE (Money)**
- CELTIC** **ZLATO (Gold)**
- BAGPIPE** **ZELENÝ (Green)**
- CLOVER** **LEGENDA (Legend)**
- EMERALD** **ŠTASTIE (Luck)**
- POT** **DÚHA (Rainbow)**

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Branch #: _____ Phone: _____

Search-A-Word Rules

Five monthly winners will receive \$50!

All FCSU members are eligible to enter. One entry per member! Complete the puzzle and email it along with your name, address, email and branch number to contest@fcsu.com. Or mail puzzle and form to:

FCSU PUZZLE

6611 Rockside Road • Independence, OH 44131

Entries must be received by May 1, 2025.

Five winners will be drawn from all correct entries.

January Puzzle Winners

Phyllis M. Bodnar (Branch 831)

Jill Fosbrink (Branch 23)

Mary Loyd (Branch 166)

Robyn Nobili (Branch 670)

Mary C. Tajc (Branch 162)

Congratulations and Keep Puzzling!

FRANTastic Cuisine

BY FRAN STREKAL



SEKANIČE EASTER MEATLOAF

YOU WILL NEED

- 2.5 - 3 pounds pork shoulder cooked and shredded
- 6 cloves of minced garlic
- 6 slices of toasted and cubed bread
- 5 eggs
- 1 ½ - 2 cups strained broth from the cooked pork
- 1 tsp salt
- ¼ tsp pepper
- (More salt and pepper to taste)

In a crock pot or pressure cooker, cover the pork in salted water and cook until tender. Remove from the broth and let cool. While the pork is 'chilling', preheat your oven to 350 degrees. Make your toasted bread cubes, mince the garlic, and beat the eggs. Once the meat is cool enough to handle, shred the pork and combine all ingredients. Pour your mixture into a greased 9x9 baking dish and bake uncovered for 45-60 minutes checking periodically so that the edges don't burn.

This recipe has been handed down for generations! I remember sitting in the kitchen watching my mother shred the pork into the large stock pot reminiscing of Easter's past, anxiously waiting to enjoy the fruits of our labors! I hope this dish becomes one of your family's favorite holiday recipes too! - Fran

Welcome New Member

Branch 38 welcomes Silas John Shope born on September 4, 2024. He is the son of Tyler and Langley Shope and the grandson of our National Legal Counsel, Gary Matta and his wife Larissa. He is also the great-grandson of former National Treasurer, George and Florence Matta.



Silas John Shope



Chewy's Corner

March is a fun month because there are so many cool things to celebrate! First, there's St. Patrick's Day on March 17th, where people wear tons of green and pretend they are Irish! We also celebrate the first day of spring (3-20), when the weather starts to warm up, flowers bloom, and we can play outside more. March is when Pi Day (March 14 = 3.14) happens, where people eat lots of yummy pie to celebrate the math number "pi." Anything in the shape of a pie counts! March also has National Waffle Day (3-25), which means eating waffles for breakfast (or dinner) and adding lots of toppings! It's a month full of fun, treats, and new adventures! I hope you can try something new! Your friend, Chewy!

2025 FCSU INTERNATIONAL BOWLING TOURNAMENT

CASH PRIZES
FABULOUS FOOD
FUN & FELLOWSHIP
RAFFLES



WINNER'S SHIRTS
DOOR PRIZES
BRAGGING RIGHTS
GIVEAWAYS

APRIL 26-27

Exclusively for FCSU Members and Their Guests

Bowling Alley: Kent Lanes-11th Frame

1524 South Water St. • Kent, Ohio • 330-673-1448

Headquarters Hotel: Kent State University Hotel

215 South Depeyster St. • Kent, Ohio • 330-346-0100

Reservations Group Code: FCSU 25 • Group Rate \$189 + tax • Expires March 22, 2025

Call hotel now to secure your reservations at 330-346-0100 • Rate valid for April 25th and/or April 26th

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

SATURDAY, APRIL 26TH AT BOWLING ALLEY	
8:45-9:45am	Registration & Breakfast
10:00am-12:30pm	Teams Event
12:00-1:30pm	Lunch Buffet
1:00-3:30pm	Doubles Event

SATURDAY, APRIL 26TH AT HEADQUARTERS HOTEL	
4:30pm	Vigil Mass
5:15pm	Cocktail Hour
6:15-9:15pm	Dinner, Program & Raffles

SUNDAY, APRIL 27TH AT BOWLING ALLEY	
8:45-9:45am	Registration & Breakfast
10:00am-12:30pm	Singles Event

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES - Deadline: April 1st

SHOW OUR BOWLERS THEY HAVE YOUR SUPPORT BY BECOMING A LANE SPONSOR OR TOURNAMENT PATRON.

Make checks payable to: FCSU (Write Lane Sponsor or Bowling Patron on the memo line).

Mail to: Joanne Fibbi, Fraternal Activities Director, 1741 Hempstead Lane, Pittsburgh, PA 15241

LANE SPONSORSHIP LEVELS

- Individual FCSU Member \$ 50
- FCSU Branch or District \$100
- Business \$150

Your sign will be on display at the bowling alley during the two days of tournament play.

Sign dimensions: 24" x 18" (horizontal or vertical)

Provide sign copy on the form or Email to jfibbi@fcsu.com.

PATRON LEVELS

- Bronze Donor \$ 50
- Silver Donor \$100
- Gold Donor \$250
- Platinum Donor \$500

Your name will be on welcome sign at the bowling venue, headquarters hotel and acknowledged during the Celebration Dinner.

All donations will be used for monetary prizes or to purchase raffle and door prizes.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Sign Copy: _____

Entry Forms, Sponsorship Forms, Guest Policy & Official Rules and Regulations Are Available at www.FCSU.com/events

2025 FCSU International Bowling Tournament

OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM

Deadline April 11, 2025

Entry Forms Are Also Available at www.FCSU.com/events

IMPORTANT ENTRANT INFORMATION

- Non-USBC Bowlers: Men must enter 175 as highest average. Women must enter 150 as highest average.
- Non-Members must be invited guests of current FCSU members in good standing.
- Bowler and Team Captain agree to relinquish their rights to prize money, should any information provided herein be found to be false.
- All tournament information, rules and regulations, etc. will be disseminated by email and available online at fcsu.com/events. Please advise if you do not have an email address. The tournament will be conducted under USBC Rules and Regulations.



Personal Information

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

FCSU MEMBER? YES NO FCSU BRANCH #: _____ LAST 4 DIGITS SS#: _____

IF NO, FCSU MEMBER SPONSOR & BRANCH #: _____

METHOD OF PAYMENT: Check enclosed payable to FCSU Credit Card payments may be made by phone. Call 800.533.6682, ext. 122.

Tournament Information

Please select your events* Teams Doubles Singles-Men Singles-Women All Events-Men All Events-Women

NAME OF TEAM: _____ TEAM CAPTAIN: _____

MY ORDER IN THE TEAM LINE-UP IS BOWLER #: 1 2 3 4

MY ORDER IN THE DOUBLES LINE-UP IS BOWLER #: 1 2 MY DOUBLES PARTNER IS: _____

USBC HIGHEST AVERAGE: _____ USBC #: _____ NON USBC BOWLER

LOCAL USBC & CONTACT: _____

*Teams and Doubles are open to men, women or mixed teams. To compete in All Events you must bowl Teams, Doubles & Singles.

PRICING

FCSU MEMBER BOWLER FEES	
Check All That Apply	
<input type="checkbox"/> Teams	\$25.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Doubles	\$25.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Singles.....	\$25.00
<input type="checkbox"/> All Events.....	\$5.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Saturday Breakfast.....	No Cost
<input type="checkbox"/> Saturday Lunch	No Cost
<input type="checkbox"/> Saturday Drink Tickets (2)	No Cost
<input type="checkbox"/> Saturday Dinner	No Cost
<input type="checkbox"/> Sunday Breakfast.....	No Cost
Total Enclosed: \$ _____	

NON-MEMBER BOWLER FEES	
Check All That Apply	
<input type="checkbox"/> Teams	\$30.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Doubles	\$30.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Singles.....	\$30.00
<input type="checkbox"/> All Events.....	\$5.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Saturday Breakfast.....	\$8.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Saturday Lunch	\$10.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Saturday Drink Tickets (2)	\$10.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Saturday Dinner	\$35.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Sunday Breakfast.....	\$8.00
Total Enclosed: \$ _____	

FCSU MEMBER GUEST FEES	
Check All That Apply	
<input type="checkbox"/> Saturday Breakfast.....	\$10.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Saturday Lunch	\$12.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Saturday Drink Tickets (2)	\$10.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Saturday Dinner	\$40.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Sunday Breakfast	\$10.00
Total Enclosed: \$ _____	
* Seating is limited, with preference given to bowlers.	

Mail entry and payment by April 11th to: FCSU, 6611 Rockside Rd., Suite 300, Independence, OH 44131
Payment must accompany entry form. Make check payable to FCSU (with Bowling on the memo line).

QUESTIONS? Contact Joanne Fibbi at jfibbi@fcsu.com, call 412-953-4721 or email events@fcsu.com

Christmas Coloring Contest Winners

We are pleased to announce the finalists of the 2024 Christmas Coloring Contest, where FCSU members of all ages showcased their artistic skills. It was wonderful to see multiple entries from within our families, often spanning two or three generations. We are glad the Coloring Contest has become a holiday tradition for so many. Once again, the children's submissions were a delight, as our youngest members colored with great exuberance and creativity. Members aged 4-13 competed within their FCSU Regions, resulting in a maximum of 12 finalists per Region. Some Regions did not have enough entrants to fill all of the top spots in each age group, while other Regions had stiff competition. The adult categories were highly contested, as the winners were chosen at large, and not within specific Regions. The skill level shown in the three Young at Heart groupings was beyond expectation.

This year we received a number of entries from individuals who are not members of the FCSU. While we appreciate members encouraging their children and grandchildren to participate, the contestant must be the FCSU member. Please consider an FCSU membership for your youngest. Member benefits include eligibility for contests, activities, events, and educational scholarships. Thanks to all who took the time to color, and congratulations to this year's finalists. Checks and gift card prizes will be mailed to our finalists this month.

REGION 1



1ST PLACE
AGES 4-6

Claire Adamczyk
Branch 290



1ST PLACE
AGES 7-9

Benjamin Ranahan
Branch 746



2ND PLACE
AGES 7-9

Kenneth Rodriguez
Branch 290



3RD PLACE
AGES 7-9

Jan Vasil
Branch 45



1ST PLACE
AGES 10-12

Jack Ranahan
Branch 746



2ND PLACE
AGES 10-12

Madison Shenloogian
Branch 716

REGION 1



1ST PLACE
AGES 13-17

Ashton Lewis
Branch 746



2ND PLACE
AGES 13-17

Violet McNamara
Branch 290



3RD PLACE
AGES 13-17

Kaitlyn Shenloogian
Branch 716

REGION 2



1ST PLACE
AGES 4-6

Claire Herman
Branch 857



1ST PLACE
AGES 7-9

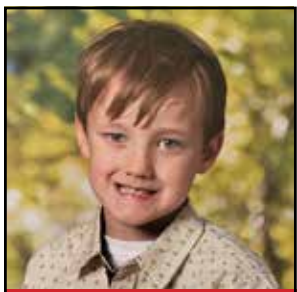
Lily Desiere
Branch 157



2ND PLACE
AGES 7-9

Garrett Sterling
Branch 112

REGION 2



3RD PLACE
AGES 7-9

Oliver Sterling
Branch 112



1ST PLACE
AGES 10-12

Olive Keller
Branch 796



2ND PLACE
AGES 10-12

Jonah Sterling
Branch 112

REGION 3



1ST PLACE
AGES 4-6

Chloe Mylet
Branch 5



2ND PLACE
AGES 4-6

Helen Pechmann
Branch 166



3RD PLACE
AGES 4-6

William Hammes
Branch 166

REGION 3



1ST PLACE
AGES 7-9

Jack Hammes
Branch 166



2ND PLACE
AGES 7-9

Oliver Pechmann
Branch 166



3RD PLACE
AGES 7-9

Nora Hammes
Branch 166



1ST PLACE
AGES 10-12

Sofia Costantino
Branch 173



2ND PLACE
AGES 10-12

Stella Costantino
Branch 173



3RD PLACE
AGES 10-12

Paige Keiser
Branch 166

REGION 3



1ST PLACE
AGES 13-17

Margot Mokosaik
Branch 153

REGION 4



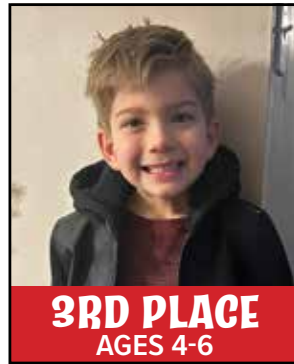
1ST PLACE
AGES 4-6

Lily Harr
Branch 181



2ND PLACE
AGES 4-6

Nina Petrus
Branch 670



3RD PLACE
AGES 4-6

Reid Patty
Branch 181



1ST PLACE
AGES 7-9

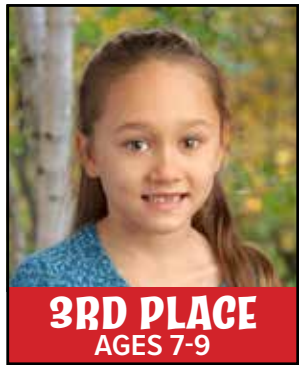
Avelyn Kardohely
Branch 456



2ND PLACE
AGES 7-9

Evelyn Creak
Branch 484

REGION 4



3RD PLACE
AGES 7-9

Kylie Rush
Branch 670



1ST PLACE
AGES 10-12

Maria Meyer
Branch 393



2ND PLACE
AGES 10-12

Luke Petrus
Branch 670



1ST PLACE
AGES 13-17

Leolin Divonzo
Branch 456



2ND PLACE
AGES 13-17

Martin Meyer
Branch 393

REGION 5



1ST PLACE
AGES 4-6

Ethan Hodge
Branch 35

REGION 5



2ND PLACE
AGES 4-6

Noah Nixon
Branch 213



3RD PLACE
AGES 4-6

Macy Skoloda
Branch 254



1ST PLACE
AGES 7-9

Isabella Nixon
Branch 213



2ND PLACE
AGES 7-9

Natalie Kroniser
Branch 38



3RD PLACE
AGES 7-9

Eli Hodge
Branch 35



1ST PLACE
AGES 10-12

Braden Skoloda
Branch 254

REGION 5



2ND PLACE
AGES 10-12

Michael Kroniser
Branch 38



1ST PLACE
AGES 13-17

Morgan Skoloda
Branch 254



2ND PLACE
AGES 13-17

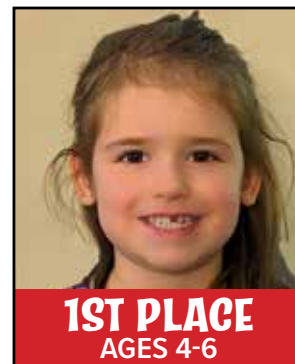
Laurelei Kroniser
Branch 38



3RD PLACE
AGES 13-17

Zachary Skoloda
Branch 254

REGION 6



1ST PLACE
AGES 4-6

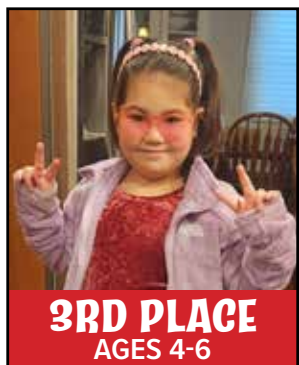
Sophia Miller
Branch 900



2ND PLACE
AGES 4-6

Walter Instone
Branch 24

REGION 6



3RD PLACE
AGES 4-6

Ava Argoso
Branch 1



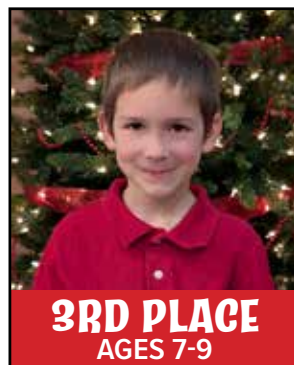
1ST PLACE
AGES 7-9

Hailey Cisco
Branch 24



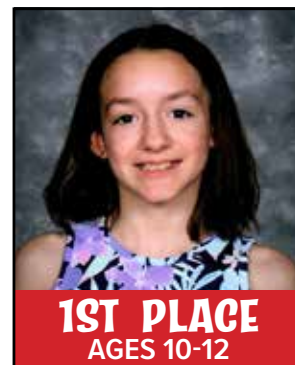
2ND PLACE
AGES 7-9

Gertrude Surovy
Branch 855



3RD PLACE
AGES 7-9

Thomas Miller
Branch 900



1ST PLACE
AGES 10-12

Valerie Kandra
Branch 1



2ND PLACE
AGES 10-12

Josie Brady
Branch 24



REGION 6



3RD PLACE
AGES 10-12

Joseph Miller
Branch 900



1ST PLACE
AGES 13-17

Anne Miller
Branch 900



2ND PLACE
AGES 13-17

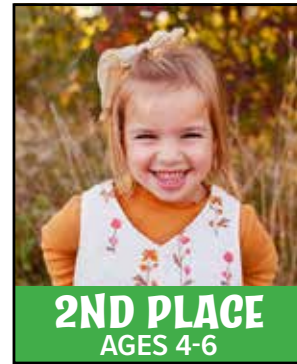
Dawson Whisenhunt
Branch 855

REGION 7



1ST PLACE
AGES 4-6

Oliver Whittington
Branch 40



2ND PLACE
AGES 4-6

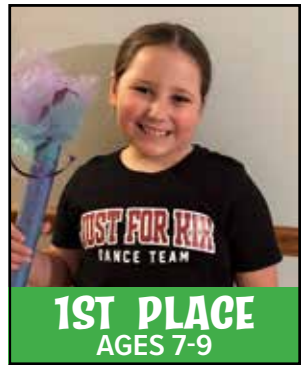
Callie Krzan
Branch 40



3RD PLACE
AGES 4-6

Elliana Urbanec
Branch 40

REGION 7



1ST PLACE
AGES 7-9

Makenna Urbanec
Branch 40



2ND PLACE
AGES 7-9

Emma Harding
Branch 153



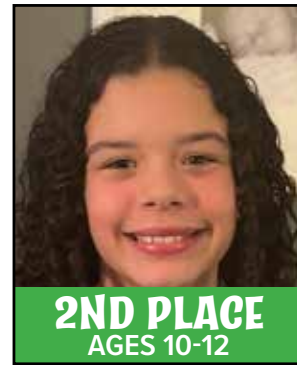
3RD PLACE
AGES 7-9

Cole Krzan
Branch 40



1ST PLACE
AGES 10-12

Addison Urbanec
Branch 40



2ND PLACE
AGES 10-12

Rylin Bobo
Branch 313



3RD PLACE
AGES 10-12

Brent Oost
Branch 313

REGION 7



1ST PLACE
AGES 13-17

Maya Bobo
Branch 313



2ND PLACE
AGES 13-17

Macie Bobo
Branch 313

REGION 8



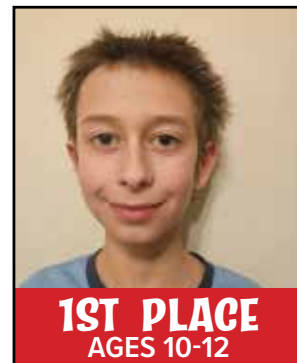
1ST PLACE
AGES 4-6

Oscar Fazzolari
Branch 785



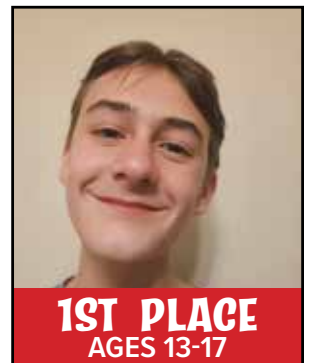
1ST PLACE
AGES 7-9

Grace Oakes
Branch 785



1ST PLACE
AGES 10-12

Maxim Kapitan
Branch 785



1ST PLACE
AGES 13-17

Landon Kapitan
Branch 785

YOUNG AT HEART WINNERS

ADULT 18-39

- Nicole Adamczyk..... Branch 290
- Kyle Petrilak.....Branch 746
- Shane Simpson Branch 670

ADULT 40-64

- Nadia MitroBranch 785
- Steven Huie.....Branch 746
- Mary Estright Branch 55

ADULT 65+

- Constance Widmer.....Branch 746
- Karen DlugosBranch 199
- Janet Sullivan Branch 35

FCSU 2025 INTERNATIONAL GOLF TOURNAMENT
Lakeview Golf Resort, Morgantown, WV | July 18-20, 2025

FCSU members and guests* save the dates for the 2025 tournament! This year, we will be traveling to Lakeview Golf Resort, conveniently located off I-68 overlooking the scenic beauty of Cheat Lake, just outside of Morgantown, WV. Come out to enjoy golf, fun, food, and fraternalism, in a relaxing atmosphere.

Lakeview is an all-inclusive destination. Once you arrive, all activities will be on-site, with no need to drive for golfing, lodging, or dining. The entire package is attractively priced, with morning and evening meals free to all FCSU member golfers.

In addition to the prize money awarded in six flights of competition, you may enter closest to the pin, longest putt, and hole-in-one contests. You will have chances to win door prizes, gift baskets, gift cards, and a 50/50 raffle.

WEEKEND SCHEDULE

Friday, July 18

- Practice Round: Schedule directly with the golf pro; Special rate of \$40
- Welcome Barbeque Buffet with Door Prizes - 7:00pm

Saturday, July 19

- Breakfast Buffet – 6:30am
- Tournament Check-in and Opening Ceremony – 7:30am
- Round 1: Lakeview Course – 8:00am Shotgun Start
- Sunday Vigil Mass – 4:00pm
- Cocktails – 5:00pm



- Tournament Buffet Dinner – 6pm with Door Prizes, 50/50 Raffle, and Gift Basket Raffle
- Sunday, July 20**
- Breakfast Buffet – 6:30am
- Tournament Check-in – 7:30am
- Round 2: Lakeview Course – 8:00am Shotgun Start

MORE FUN ACTIVITIES

Extend your stay and enjoy Cheat Lake Park, including boat rentals, hiking, biking, fishing, children’s playground, picnic, and beach areas.

Watch for the official entry form and more tournament details in the April issue of the Jednota.

* Guest Policy: If you participated as a guest at the 2024 golf tournament, you must become a member of the FCSU to enter this year.

BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

All new BRANCH Announcements should be sent to branch@fcsu.com

BRANCH 1 – LAKEWOOD, OH

The next meeting of the Saint Joseph Society will be held on Sunday, April 27, 2025 at 1:00pm at Panera Bread, 19705 Center Ridge Road, Rocky River, OH. Those interested in attending, contact Rochelle Popovich at 216-789-6390 by April 15th. All members are welcome to attend.

Submitted by **Barbara J. Golias, Secretary**

BRANCH 23 – JOHNSTOWN, PA

We will hold our first annual meeting on Sunday, April 6, 2025 at 1:00pm. This meeting will be held at the Graystone Restaurant located in the Graystone Apartment Building on 375 Theatre Drive, Johnstown, PA. All new and long-time members of Branch 23 are welcome. We need more members to join us. Please come and see what you're missing. Bring new ideas or just bring yourself for a nice lunch with fellow members. A light lunch will be served. Any questions, call Theresa at 814-254-2532.

Submitted by **Theresa Cassat, Financial Secretary**

BRANCH 24 – CLEVELAND, OH

Join us to see the Tamburitzans Folk Ensemble perform at Independence High School, 6001 Archwood Rd, Independence, OH on Sunday, April 27, 2025 at 3:00pm. All Branch 24 members, and their guests, who wish to see these highly talented college students perform musical numbers from different countries will receive a discounted ticket when PURCHASED THROUGH THE BRANCH. All tickets must be paid in full up front; no refunds for no-shows; non-transferable. If purchased at the box office we will not reimburse your ticket cost. Tickets range from \$16.00 student (free after additional discount), \$28.00 senior (only \$5.00 after additional discount) and \$32.00 adult (only \$7.00 after additional discount). Children 10 and under free. Guests of Branch 24 members may also purchase tickets through the Branch at the group rate (no additional discounts for non-members). Call or text Fran Strekal at 216-308-1728 for more details on how you can attend!

Submitted by **Fran Strekal, Fraternal Activities**

BRANCH 45 – NEW YORK, NY

The St. Matthew's the Evangelist Society will hold a semi-annual meeting on Sunday, June 1, 2025 at 1:00pm after the Slovak mass at St. John Nepomucene Church, 66th Street and 1st Avenue, New York, NY. We urge all members to attend this meeting.

Submitted by **Maria Jurasi, Financial Secretary**

ČLENSKÁ SCHÔDZA SPOLKU SV. MATÚŠA Č. 45 1KSJ V

Oznamujeme členom nášho spolku, že sa uskutoční polročná členská schôdza sv. Matúša č. 45 1KSJ v New Yorku po slovenskej svätej omši v nedeľu 1. júna, 2025 o 13:00 hodine v osadnej hale slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého na Prvej Avenue a 66-tej ulici. Láskaovo žiadame našich členov o

aktívnu účasť na tejto schôdzi.

Mária Jurášiová - pokladníčka

BRANCH 60 – MCKEESPORT, PA

We will hold our semi-annual meeting on Sunday, April 6, 2025 at Tillie's Restaurant (308 36th Street, McKeesport, PA) at 1:00pm. On the agenda will be officers' reports and upcoming events. All members are encouraged to attend.

Submitted by **Julie Perla, Secretary**

BRANCH 162 – UNIONTOWN, PA

The St. Wendelin Society Branch 162 will hold its quarterly meeting at 11:00am on Sunday, June 22, 2025 at the Bud Murphys Restaurant, 718 McCormick Avenue, Connellsville, PA. All members and their guests are invited to attend by calling Dolores Marmol at 724-437-4983 for reservations by June 16th. Officers' reports will be given and discussion of branch activities, charitable donations and upcoming FCSU events will follow. We hope you will join us to learn more about our branch and activities.

Submitted by **Dolores Marmol, Secretary**

BRANCH 166 – BINGHAMTON, NY

Happy almost Spring, Branch members! We hope you have been well!

We will be having our semi-annual meeting Saturday, May 3, 2025 at 10:30am at Denny's Restaurant, 1250 Upper Front Street Binghamton, NY. Please NOTE the time change. We are looking forward to seeing you at the meeting!

Address any questions to Morgan Dendler at 607-206-7243. Have a great month! Spring is right around the corner!

Submitted by **Judie Dendler, Secretary**

BRANCH 173 – WILKES-BARRE, PA

The Saint John the Baptist Society, located in Northeast Pennsylvania, will hold its next meeting on Sunday, April 13, 2025 at Adelina's Restaurant, 166 S. Mountain Blvd., Mountain Top, PA starting at 1:00pm. General business and activities of Branch 173 will be discussed, as will the insurance, annuities, and fraternal activities of the FCSU.

Please try to attend and notify Dorothy Ungvarsky, at 570-403-2067, so arrangements can be made.

Submitted by **Matthew Ungvarsky, Recording Secretary**

BRANCH 181 – UNITED, PA

The St. John the Baptist Society members are invited to the dinner meeting at Aroma Italiano at 5:00pm on Saturday, March 29, 2025. It's located at 220 Ligonier St., Latrobe, PA. BYOB if desired. Please RSVP by Thursday, March 20th. Call Vicki at 724-433-8469 or Darlene at 724-493-8712 as reservations are required. Walk-ins without a reservation will not be served dinner. The agenda will include planning for the Annual Family Picnic and other branch activities.

This will be a combined branch and district meeting. Dinner will be served first, then The George Onda District - District 3 meeting will take place with the

Branch 181 meeting to follow.

We look forward to a great turnout!

Submitted by **Vicki Hricik, Recording Secretary**

BRANCH 200 – FORD CITY, PA

The Slovak CU Branch 200, located at 910 6th Ave., Ford City, PA is having a soup sale on Saturday, March 15th. Price is \$8.00 a quart. Pick up between 12:00pm and 2:00pm. No presales. Questions may be directed to Vicki Schaub at 724-763-9229. This benefits the Building Fund.

Submitted by **Vicki Schaub, Secretary & Treasurer**

BRANCH 200 – FORD CITY, PA

Please join us at our regular Board Meetings on the first Thursday of each month except June & July. Our next meeting is April 3, 2025. The meeting will be held at the Slovak CU at 910 Sixth Ave., Ford City, PA. The Board meeting starts at 7:00pm. All other members will be called in at approximately 7:20pm.

Bring your ideas and suggestions. We look forward to seeing you there!

Submitted by **Vicki Schaub, Secretary**

BRANCH 228 – LORAIN, OH

The St. John the Baptist/Holy Trinity Lodge will hold their next meeting on Monday, March 17, 2025 at 7:00pm IN-PERSON at the American Slovak Club on 30th and Broadway in Lorain, OH.

We respectfully ask all of our FCSU members to pray for a calm environment and unity among the leaders of the world.

Submitted by **Thomas B. Zuffa, Recording Secretary**

BRANCH 260 – COITSVILLE, OH

Branch 260 will be having the following meetings for 2025:

- Thursday, April 24th

- Thursday, September 25th
- Thursday, December 4th (This will be our election of officers and holiday celebration.)

All of our meetings will begin at 5:00pm and are at Belleria Restaurant, 1010 Youngstown-Poland Rd., Struthers, OH. Hope to see all of you in the coming year and God Bless!

Submitted by **Carlie Peshek, Vice President**

BRANCH 276 – MCKEESPORT, PA

The next branch meeting will be held Sunday, May 18, 2025 at 1:00pm at Tillie's Restaurant at 308 36th Street, McKeesport, PA. We will hear reports from the treasurer and financial secretary. We will also review the Pittsburgh District meeting held in April.

Submitted by **Margaret A. Nasta, President**

BRANCH 290 – BRIDGEWATER, NJ

St. John the Baptist Branch 290 will hold a dinner meeting on Wednesday, March 26, 2025 starting at 6:00pm for all members. The location is Carpaccio Ristorante at 651 Bound Brook Rd., Middlesex, NJ. The agenda will include report of officers, membership, and branch activities. RSVP is required, so please call or text Steve Minarovich at 908-507-0505 by March 19th if you plan on attending.

Submitted by **Steve Minarovich, Recording Secretary**

BRANCH 320 – ROSTRAVER TOWNSHIP, PA

We are in the process of planning various 2025 outings. Please watch Jednota for District 12 and Branch 320 events. Stay safe this year.

Submitted by **Joseph Tarquinio, Vice President**

THE TAMBURITZANS PRESENT :

LEGACY

A WORLD MUSIC & DANCE PRODUCTION

INDEPENDENCE HIGH SCHOOL
6001 ARCHWOOD RD., INDEPENDENCE, OHIO 44131
SUNDAY, APRIL 27TH 2025 @ 3:00 PM

TICKET PRICES VARY
CALL THE BOX OFFICE AT (412) 224-2071
OR HEAD TO THE QR CODE BELOW!
GROUP AND VETERAN DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE



WELCOME HOME CLEVELAND NATIVE
ALEXANDRA GLOVA!



BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

All new BRANCH Announcements should be sent to branch@fcsu.com

BRANCH 393 – GREENSBURG, PA

Branch 393 members are encouraged to attend the George Onda District 3 dinner meeting at Aroma Italiano, 220 Ligonier St., Latrobe, PA at 5:00pm on Saturday, March 29, 2025. Please see the District 3 Announcement on page 21 for more details.

Submitted by Eileen Myers,
Recording Secretary

BRANCH 401 – EAST VANDERGRIFT, PA

St. Anthony of Padua invites all branch members to attend the 2025 semi-annual meeting which will be held on Thursday, April 3rd at 4:30pm. This meeting will be held at the President's home at 1223 Wsocki Avenue, North Apollo, PA. Dinner will follow the meeting. Members are encouraged to attend as upcoming activities will be discussed.

Submitted by Kathy Froncek,
Recording Secretary

BRANCH 410 – UNIONTOWN, PA

The SS. Peter and Paul Branch 410 will hold a meeting on Thursday, March 20, 2025 at 1:30pm at the Highland House, 92 West Main St., Uniontown, PA. All members are welcome to attend. Please call for reservations by March 17th at 724-425-2576.

Submitted by Geraldine Buchheit,
Financial & Recording Secretary

BRANCH 450 – CLEVELAND, OH

St. Joseph the Guardian Society, Branch 450, will hold its semi-annual meeting at 11:00am on Saturday, April 12, 2025. The meeting will be held in the Community Room at Panera Bread restaurant located at 5090 Tiedeman Road, Brooklyn, OH. On the agenda will be the officer's reports, any correspondence that we may receive and discussion of District 10 and Branch activities for the summer. All members are encouraged to attend. Refreshments will be served after the meeting. Please RSVP by Wednesday, April 9th if you are

planning on attending so we can make sure there is enough food for all. RSVP by calling Frank Woyma at 216-225-5688.

Submitted by Frank Woyma,
President

BRANCH 553 – AKRON, OH

All members are invited to our lodge meeting on April 6, 2025 at 1:00pm at 485 Morgan Ave., Akron, OH. Following our meeting, there will be a District 10 meeting at 2:00pm. Branch 553 will be hosting the district meeting. Lunch will be served after the conclusion of both meetings.

FRATERNALISM IN ACTION: Please bring any of the following items to support our local charity, The Christ Child Society of Akron. Please be generous in your donation of disposable diapers, onesies, socks or booties, newborn hats, blankets, baby wipes, washcloths, baby lotion, etc. The FCSU Home Office will graciously donate \$250.00 to The Christ Child Society of Akron on our behalf.

We look forward to seeing you at all of our Slovak J Club events. Check this issue or the website for more details.

Submitted by Debbie Speck,
President

BRANCH 670 – DONORA, PA

Our branch will hold a meeting on Sunday, April 6, 2025 at 12:00pm at Kings Restaurant, 580 McClelland Rd., Canonsburg, PA. If you are unable to attend the meeting in person, the meeting will also be held via Zoom. Any branch member wanting to attend the meeting via Zoom, please contact branch670secretary@gmail.com, a day in advance for the Zoom link. All members are invited to attend.

Submitted by Maureen Massafra,
Recording Secretary

BRANCH 682 – YOUNGSTOWN, OH

Our next regular meeting is scheduled for noon on Wednesday, April 23, 2025 at Materials Research Laboratories, 290 N

Bridge St. in Struthers, OH. The meeting will address planning for the remainder of the year.

Submitted by Drew Hirt,
President

BRANCH 716 – NEW YORK, NY

The St. Stephen Society will hold its first semi-annual meeting of the year 2025 on Sunday, April 27th. The meeting will be held in person at St. John Nepomucene Church, 411 E 66th St, New York, NY, following the conclusion of the Slovak Mass at 12:30pm. The agenda will include a discussion of branch activities, financial reports, and event planning. Refreshments will be provided at the meeting and all members of Branch 716 are highly encouraged to attend.

Submitted by Emily Lysáková,
Recording Secretary

BRANCH 721 – BANNISTER, MI

Jednota Lodge Branch 721 will have their Spring meeting on Sunday, April 6, 2025 at the Remenar home located at 8977 S. Mason Rd., Bannister, MI at 2:00pm. All members are encouraged to attend.

Submitted by Joseph Beno,
Recording Secretary

BRANCH 731 – YOUNGSTOWN, OH

The branch approved its 2025 Schedule of events. Mark your calendars!

- Patron Saint Mass: March 20th at 12:10pm at St. Columba Cathedral (159 W Rayen Ave, Youngstown, OH)
- Branch Meetings: May 18th, July 13th, September 14th, November 16th (meeting + election of officers) - all meetings at 5:00pm at Belleria (8485 Market Street, Boardman, OH)
- Mass for Deceased Members: November 11th at 12:10pm at St. Columba Cathedral (159 W Rayen Ave, Youngstown, OH)

Submitted by Anna Schwanitz,
Recording Secretary

BRANCH 743 – STERLING HEIGHTS, MI

The St. Joseph Society will celebrate the feast day of St. Joseph on Sunday, March 16, 2025, with a Slovak Mass at 11:30am for all living and deceased members at Sts. Cyril and Methodius Church, 41233 Ryan Road, Sterling Heights, MI. All members and their families are invited to attend this annual celebration of St. Joseph's Day.

A Branch meeting will take place at 1:30pm in the Slovak Heritage Room.

Any member who has recently moved or requires a beneficiary update should contact Branch Secretary:

Joseph C. Rimarcik
4945 Wavewood Dr.
Commerce Twp., MI 48382
248-714-9620
josephrimarcik@gmail.com

No obligation insurance quotes are free and simple, all that is required is date of birth and gender.

The Home Office and Branch 743 are unable to contact the following members because we do not have their current address:

John Bacha(a)
(a) Passed away Sept. 8, 2006 survived by son John Jr, daughter Carolyn, addresses unknown.

Andrew Bleeda	Dorothy Comito
Natalia Greslikova	Elizabeth Harman
Judith Likavec	Judith Madar
Ann Moss	Diane F. Rench
Daniel M. Reszka	Joseph Tribisondi

If you have information, or know of someone who might help, please contact me at the information above.

Submitted by Joseph C. Rimarcik,
President & Financial Secretary

BRANCH 746 – LINDEN, NJ

Members are encouraged to attend Friday Holy Masses at 7:00pm (in Slovak)

Jednota Crossword Puzzle

Across

- 1 Defective
- 4 Fossil fuel
- 8 Excavates
- 12 Alone
- 13 Cereal grass
- 14 Film part
- 15 Jury
- 16 Final demand
- 18 Get older
- 19 Gown
- 21 Fine fiddle
- 22 Youth
- 23 Groove
- 24 Actress Carrere
- 25 Summer mo.
- 26 Harness part
- 28 Increases
- 31 Loathing
- 34 Vermouth
- 35 Voyaging
- 36 Travel annoyances
- 39 Angers
- 40 Contends

Down

- 1 Studied; ___ up
- 2 Tavern quaff
- 3 Stagnation

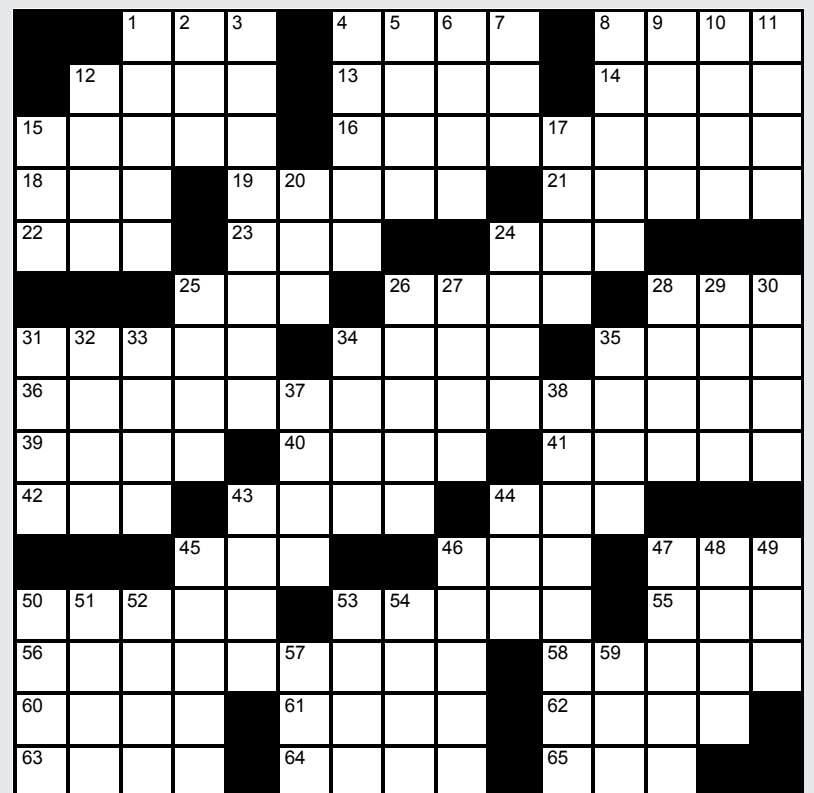
Across

- 4 Vinegar holder
- 5 Lubricates
- 6 Accepts a part
- 7 Waikiki necklace
- 8 Video store category
- 9 Greek letter
- 10 Gorge
- 11 Highway big rig
- 12 Heroic tale
- 15 Paisano
- 17 Type of man
- 20 Numdah or Persian, e.g.
- 24 Stadium level
- 25 Razorbilled birds
- 26 Ceremonies
- 27 Pulls the plug
- 28 Consumer
- 29 Vivacious
- 30 Impudence
- 31 Passing notice
- 32 Challenge
- 33 Frosted
- 34 "Hold on a

Down

- moment!"
- 35 Declare true
- 37 Eternally
- 38 Cut off, in a way
- 43 Rani's wear
- 44 Checkers color
- 45 Aquamarine
- 46 Hostile force
- 47 Sufficient
- 48 Flower fanciers
- 49 Riviera season
- 50 Treaty
- 51 Qualified
- 52 Hockey announcer's cry
- 53 Brad of Benjamin Button
- 54 Celebes dwarf buffalo
- 57 Auto need
- 59 QB Manning

Answers can be found on Page 23



American Slovak Club
LENTEN FISH FRY
 Perch, Walleye, Shrimp & Cod
2915 Broadway Ave, Lorain, OH

AmericanSlovakClub.com/Fish-Fry

Please call ahead for reservations
 for parties of six or more at 440-245-5146



Voted the BEST Fish Fry in NE Ohio!
 Once Featured on a Travel Channel show with Andrew Zimmern

at Holy Family Church in Linden, NJ. Masses are offered for the intention of all Branch members living and deceased as follows: April 4th, May 2nd, June 6th, July 4th, August 1st, September 5th, October 3rd, November 7th, and December 5th.

The first meeting of 2025 will be on Sunday, March 30th at 1:00pm in the downstairs meeting room of Holy Family Church at 210 Monroe Street, Linden, NJ. The agenda will include discussion and planning of this year's activities. Lunch will be served after the meeting.

FRATERNALISM IN ACTION: Please bring non-perishable food items for the St. John the Apostle Church Food Pantry. The FCSU Home Office will generously donate \$250.00 to the food pantry on our behalf.

Please note that the Okres meeting will follow after the luncheon. Kindly RSVP to Joanne Tkach Polt at 732-762-3148 by March 21st if you plan on attending.

SAVE THE DATE: Members will be attending the May 10th showing of NOAH at the SIGHT AND SOUND THEATER in Lancaster, PA. Transportation will *not* be provided. We will meet in front of the theater prior to the 11:00am show. Cost of theater tickets is \$79.00, a portion of which will be reimbursed by the branch. We will meet for lunch after the show. More details to follow.

**Submitted by Mary Kapitan,
 Secretary**

BRANCH 853 – CHARLEROI, PA

SAVE THE DATE: Contact the branch president for more information and to make a reservation for upcoming 2025 events:

April 5: Attend an information discussion with fellow branch members at 1:00pm. Topic: "Strange Aspects of the Elusive Big Foot".

April 6: Hlinka District Mtg. at 1:00pm.

June 1: Hlinka District Picnic at 1:00pm.

Reservations are required for all events. Contact FCSUBranch853@gmail.com to get the details and/or to make a reservation. There is no cost to Branch 853 members.

We wish all FCSU Financial members have a Happy and Productive 2025.

**Submitted by Monica Boone,
 President**

BRANCH 855 – CLEVELAND, OH

April 6, 2025 – Join District 10 members at the Slovak J Club at 485 Morgan Ave. in Akron, OH for the District 10 meeting at 2:00pm. Lunch will be served after the meeting. Please RSVP by March 25th to Ohiodistrict10@yahoo.com.

FRATERNALISM IN ACTION – We are collecting items for a "Baby Drive" at this meeting. The donations will be donated to The Christ Child Society of Akron. Please bring disposable diapers, onesies, socks, booties, blankets, baby wipes...anything baby related.

April 26-27, 2025 – Come join other FCSU members in Kent, OH for the FCSU International Bowling Tournament. Branch 855 members will receive their bowling fees paid for by the branch. Let's get together and form some teams. This is a fun fraternal spring event. See the Jednota newspaper and website for more details.

April 27, 2025 – The Tamburitzans Folk Ensemble will perform at Independence High School, 6001 Archwood Rd, Independence, OH on Sunday, April 27th at 3:00pm. All Branch 855 members who wish to see these highly talented college students perform musical numbers from different countries will receive a FREE ticket if PURCHASED THROUGH THE BRANCH. We have special group ticket pricing. If purchased at the box office we will not reimburse your ticket cost. Tickets range from \$16.00 Student, \$28.00 Senior and \$32.00 Adult. Guests of Branch 855 members may also purchase tickets at the group rate through the Branch. Members and guests must pay for their tickets in advance. There will be no refunds for no-shows. Call or text Branch President Barbara Sutilla at 440-864-4744 for details.

**Submitted by Stephanie Sutilla,
 Activities Coordinator**

BRANCH 856 – WASHINGTON, DC

Branch 856 will hold their first meeting of the year March 22, 2025 at 1:00pm. This will be a ZOOM meeting. All members are encouraged to join in.

Topic: Katherine Nowatkoski's Jednota Zoom Meeting
 Time: March 22 - 1:00pm Eastern
 Link: tinyurl.com/Branch856
 Meeting ID: 865 7300 4489
 Passcode: OTZTJY

A discussion will be held on what members are interested in doing as a group. Plans are in place for the

FISH FRY

Served Every Friday through Good Friday
4:30 - 7:00 pm

- All you can eat HERE twice thru the buffet – fried fish, mac & cheese, fries, haluski, hot rice, coleslaw, bread & butter: **\$20**
- Six Piece Chicken tenders with all sides: **\$15**
- Four Piece Chicken tenders (10 and under): **\$10**
- Baked Cod (2 pcs.) includes all you can eat fried fish and sides: **\$25**
 Available by reservation only.

Reservations MUST be made by the Wednesday before the Friday dinner. Carry out prices vary.
 Call 330-786-9972 for details.

SLOVAK J CLUB
485 MORGAN AVE • AKRON, OH

The Somerset Patriots Welcome District 4 (NJ) & District 16 (NYC)



FCSU FINANCIAL® BALLPARK BBQ EVENT
Sunday, July 13, 2025 @ 12pm

TD Bank Ballpark
860 E Main Street
Bridgewater, NJ

Sunday, July 13th
Gates open at 12pm
First Pitch is 1:05pm

Members are FREE
Guests cost \$38* each

RSVP to Jo Anne Peppe @ gsmgjap@aol.com
no later than Friday, June 20th.
Send her an email to coordinate guest payments.



Guests will have access to the Ballpark BBQ, with a 90 minute Buffet, Cash Bar and designated picnic style seating.

Buffet runs from 12pm-1:30pm

celebration of our Slovak Chapel in September and would like to see new faces in attendance.

If you are not getting the newspaper and would like to see what is going on in the organization let me know and we

can get you on the list for delivery; many times there are very interesting articles published. For more information my phone number is 919-651-0363.

**Submitted by Katherine Nowatkoski,
 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.

Eternal rest, grant unto them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.
 Odpočinutie večné daj im, Pane, a svetlo večné, nech im sviati. Duše všetkých verných zomrelých, pre milosrdenstvo Božie, nech odpočívajú v pokoji. Amen

BRANCH	NAME
002K	Lois L. Helferty
019K	Jean Irene Beezel
024K	Paul A. Bacho
045K	Ivana Rapova
055K	Anna T. Lucas
060K	John N. Pastor
060K	Leonard Potemra
075K	Matthew Treese
075K	Rose M. Parfitt
153K	Susan M. Slowik
157K	Cesaria Babyak
157K	Mark Anthony Reed
157K	Michael Kostival
157K	Nancy L. Peters
162K	Roslyn M. Herrilko
173K	Dorothy Nestor

BRANCH	NAME
173K	Francis Mamola
181K	Josephine Cernuska
181K	Mary Ann Sheele
199K	John Dennis Fajt
226P	Magdaline Szczerba
254K	Joan P. Chvostal
293K	Andrew Martonyak
293K	Lamont Richard Ebbert
293K	Leonard Joseph Mikulski
293K	Michael P. Zavodny
312K	John P. Repko Jr
313K	Joanne Dinga Wenz
330K	Patricia A. Fox
333K	Joseph M. Fenush
382K	Anthony J. Poplawski
382K	Nicholas Klem

BRANCH	NAME
401K	Ann T. Ausk
581K	John Simko
581K	Paul Balas
595K	Daniel Joe Woodring
615K	Rev Ronald Kurzawa
670K	Ronald Y. Aitken
670K	Shirley Ann Triscik
682K	Charles Brosko
682K	Pauline C. Gleydura
721K	Stephen J. Slamka
731K	John J. Leskovyansky, Jr.
733K	Richard Bellock
746K	Emilia Karak
746K	Francis E. Hannon
746K	Ruth M. Ciszewski
831K	Edward J. Pastrick

BRANCH	NAME
855K	Andrew V. Stopiak, Sr.
900K	Frank Mrnik
904K	Glen E. Bartels
904K	Joyce E. Myrick
904K	Susan B. Ohms
907K	Steven A. Stemper
915K	Catherine E. Moon
916K	Joan L. Kozar
916K	Stephen N. Hetman
924K	R. Edward Rozell
924K	William Whitlock
926K	Rhoda L. Baumgarten

* Processed in the month of February 2025

OBITUARIES – NEKROLOGY

Ann Theresa (Milanak) Ausk Branch 401 East Vandergrift, PA



Ann Theresa (Milanak) Ausk, 100-years-young, peacefully left this life on Earth for her next chapter of life on Wednesday, November 20, 2024, in Naples, FL. Ann lived the majority of her life in Pennsylvania, residing in East Vandergrift and West Leechburg, and later resided with her daughter in Harwick, Valencia, and for the last four years in Naples, FL.

Born on June 26, 1924, in East Vandergrift, she was the daughter of the late Andrew Milanak and Catherine (Stefaniak) Milanak.

Ann was a 1942 graduate of Vandergrift High School. Her early work career saw her employed at the Vandergrift News and at a military airplane-parts factory during World War II. Primarily a homemaker, she was later employed at the Andy Gard Toy Factory, Mastrone Mushroom Farm, Ben Franklin Store, Georgian Manor Nursing Home as a nurse's aide, and as a home healthcare aide.

Locally, Ann was a member of Christ the King Catholic Parish in Leechburg, and a member of St. Peter the Apostle Catholic Church in Naples, FL. When she turned age 100, Ann was declared an Honorary Member of the First Catholic Slovak Union of the United States and Canada.

Ann had a passion for traveling. She enjoyed taking multiple daily walks, reading non-fiction, going to bingo, visiting casinos, and playing cards, even at age 100. In spite of her advanced age, Ann took no medication!

In addition to her parents, Ann was preceded in death by her husband of 58 years, Frank Albert Ausk, Sr., who passed away on December 3, 2004; four

brothers, Andrew, John, and Michael P. Milanak, and Paul Lopata; three sisters, Catherine Zidek, Rose Stedrak, and Mary Tsois.

Ann is survived by her three sons, Frank (Linda) Ausk, Jr., of South Park, Robert A. (Anna Marie) Ausk of West Leechburg, and Raymond (Patricia) Ausk of Vandergrift; and her only daughter, Lois Ann (Jefferey) Urczyk of Naples, FL; grandchildren, Derek, Robert M., Gregory Ausk, and Jessica Leech; step-grandchildren Christopher Gruendl, Michelle Campbell, Donny King, Anita King, Dede Dilick, Eric Urczyk, and Ariel Urczyk; and several great-grandchildren; one great-great grandchild; a niece, many nephews, great-nieces, and great-nephews. Ann was especially fond of her niece, Cathy Straley, her great-nephews Michael E. Zidek, and Father Vincent Zidek, each of whom kept in touch with Ann during her lifetime.

Ann also was a loving dog-grandma to Frankie, and previously to Sammy and Stanley. Please honor Ann's memory by being kinder than necessary to everyone you meet.

Michael Kostival Branch 157 Catasawqua, PA



Michael Kostival, 89, passed away December 16, 2024, at his residence.

Born in Reading on May 19, 1935, he was the son of the late George M. and Veronica (Bujnovsky) Kostival and is survived by his wife, Nancy C. Kostival.

He was a 1952 graduate of Central Catholic High School. Upon graduation, he became a journeyman bricklayer, working for John B. Kelly Brickworks. In 1958, he was drafted into the U.S. Army. After two years of service, he entered the Pennsylvania Air National

Guard and became a flight engineer on the Lockheed C-121 Constellation. Upon completion of military service, he studied Architecture at Penn State University and graduated in 1970 with a Bachelor of Architecture Degree with honors.

Mr. Kostival became a Registered Architect and established his own firm in 1978 working on a variety of projects including achieving USGBC LEED Certification and designing his own homes. He was a member of the American Institute of Architects Emeritus, Rotary Club of Reading, and South Mountain YMCA Board Member Emeritus.

He was a member of Sacred Heart R. C. Church. He enjoyed spending time at his home at the shore. He loved aviation and enjoyed sharing this love with his grandchildren through attending air shows and museums with them.

In addition to his wife, Nancy, Michael is survived by his three daughters: Lynn, wife of David Griffith, of Exeter; Kathleen, of Switzerland; and Ann, of Reading. He is also survived by his brothers, Richard, Robert, Frank, Carl, and Albert. He was predeceased by his brother, George. He is also survived by six grandchildren, Zachary, husband of Julia, William, husband of Alexandra, Nicholas, Camille, Joshua, and Veronica, and two great granddaughters, Grace and Natalie.

Shirley Ann (Bowen) Triscik Branch 670 Donora, PA



Shirley Ann (Bowen) Triscik departed life on December 31, 2024 in Kennesaw, GA, though her memory and life will forever remain shining brightly in our hearts.

Her life journey began on May 11, 1938 in Kane, PA. She was the middle child of three daughters, born to George and

Helen Bowen. She grew up in Donora, PA where she graduated in 1956. She then married the love of her life, Raymond Triscik, in October 1959. They moved and resided in Valparaiso, IN for 40 years.

Shirley was preceded in death by her father George, mother Helen and sister Nancy. Survived by her devoted husband of 65 years, Raymond Triscik Sr, her sister Beverly Giuffrida, mom to her seven children, Tina Athens (Nick), Dean, Lisa Schnick (Ron), Raymond Jr. (Kiley), John (Caroline), Michael (Stacey) and Mark (Michele), and Grammy to her 21 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Unconditional love and immovable faith were the hallmarks of Shirley's life, and is her lasting legacy to her family and to all of those she touched during her 86 years of life.

Dorothy Eve Nestor Branch 173 Mountain Top, PA



Dorothy Eve Nestor, 93, entered into her eternal reward on December 20, 2024.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, took Dorothy into her arms and presented her to Jesus following a sudden, devastating illness. Born in Taylor, PA, she was the daughter of the late James and Eva Ruscin Jurnak. She attended Taylor High School and has been an active member in the community and the Taylor Senior Center.

Dorothy was best known for showing her love through food. She was part owner of The Mink Bar and Jur-Nes Furs in Taylor and was a caterer for many years. Even at 93, Dorothy cooked for all family events. Sunday family dinner with four generations present was a weekly event that Dorothy cherished, and she maintained Slovak holiday traditions. Her cooking, including homemade pierogies, halupki, haluski, paska bread, and kolachi

DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

All new DISTRICT Announcements should be sent to district@fcsu.com

DISTRICT 2 – REV. JOHN J. SPITKOVSKY DISTRICT – IL, IN, WI

District 2 will hold its semi-annual meeting in person on Sunday, April 6, 2025 at the Missionary Sisters of St. Benedict, 5900 West 147th Street, Oak Forest, IL. There will be socializing and refreshments at 1:30pm; the meeting will begin at 2:00pm. Reservations are required. Please call Dorothy Jurcenko at 708-995-7378.

Submitted by Paul Chismar, President

DISTRICT 3 – GEORGE ONDA DISTRICT – PA

The members of the George Onda district are invited to a dinner meeting at Aroma Italiano at 5:00pm on Saturday, March 29, 2025. It is located at 220 Ligonier St., Latrobe, PA. BYOB if desired. Reservations are required, so please RSVP by Thursday, March 20th by calling Darlene at 724-493-8712. Walks-ins without a reservation will not be served dinner. **This will be a combined branch and district meeting.** Dinner will be served first, then the George Onda District - District 3 meeting will take place with the Branch 181 meeting to follow. We look forward to a great turnout!

Submitted by Kirstin Meyer, Recording Secretary

DISTRICT 4 – MSGR. JOHN E. RURA DISTRICT - NJ

The next semi-annual meeting will be held on Sunday, March 30, 2025 in the downstairs meeting room of Holy Family Church (210 Monroe Street, Linden, NJ). Lunch will be served at 2:00pm. The Okres meeting will follow the luncheon. The agenda will include discussion and planning of this year's activities.

FRATERNALISM IN ACTION: Please bring non-perishable food items for the St. John the Apostle Church Food Pantry. The FCSU Home Office will generously donate \$250.00 to the food pantry on our behalf. RSVP to Joanne Tkach Polt at 732-762-3148 by March 21st if you plan on attending.

Submitted by Mary Kapitan, Secretary

DISTRICT 6 – PITTSBURGH DISTRICT, PA

Branch 35 will host the Spring District 6 business meeting on Sunday, April 27, 2025 at 1:00pm at the Holy Trinity Church hall of St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, 529 Grant Avenue Extension, West Mifflin, PA. We will discuss business matters and plan events for the season. Please RSVP by April 19th to 412-824-4185 or fcsu35@gmail.com.

- WPSCA: Meets at 7:00pm first Monday at the Mt Lebanon Public Library.
April 7: Slovak pastries; May 5: Julia Warhola.
- WPSCA sponsors scholarships and hosts various events such as wine tastings.
Become a member and get the newsletter.
- Slovak language classes: February 20 to April 10. Contact Bozena Hilko at bozi@comcast.net.
- Slovak Day at Kennywood: Thursday, July 17th.
- Slovak Heritage Day at Pitt: Sunday, November 2th.
- Western PA Slovak Radio Hour: WPIT 96.5 FM / 730 AM.

As always, members are urged to check the Jednota for updates on FCSU business matters, social events, and contests. Be sure your beneficiaries are up to date. FCSU insurance information and forms can be found at FCSU.com

Submitted by Margaret A. Nasta, Recording Secretary

DISTRICT 7 – REV. JOHN MARTVON DISTRICT – PA

District 7 will hold our first Annual Meeting on Sunday, May 4, 2025. The meeting place will be at the Hoss's Family Restaurant at 441 Theater Drive in Johnstown, PA. The meeting is scheduled to start at 1:30pm with New Year, New News. We will have lunch following the meeting. Branch 23 will host this meeting. Please call Theresa at 814-254-2532 with questions.

Submitted by Mary Kuzilla, Secretary

DISTRICT 10 – REV STEPHEN FURDEK DISTRICT – OH

All members of District 10 in Branches 1, 24, 228, 450, 553 and 855 are invited to our first meeting of the year on April 6, 2025. The meeting will take place at 2:00pm at the Slovak J Club, 485 Morgan Ave., Akron, OH. Branch 553 has graciously offered to host this meeting. We will discuss news from the Home Office along with upcoming events happening in the district. Please RSVP to the District Secretary, Barbara, by texting or calling 440-864-4744 or emailing Ohiodistrict10@yahoo.com by March 25th.

FRATERNALISM IN ACTION: We are having a "baby drive". We are joining Branch 553 in participating in our project to support The Christ Child Society of Akron. Please be generous in your donation of disposable diapers, onesies, socks or booties, newborn hats, blankets, baby wipes, washcloths, baby lotion, etc. The FCSU Home Office will kindly donate \$250.00 to The Christ Child Society of Akron on behalf of the District.

Attention Hockey Fans:

District 10 is going to the Cleveland Monsters hockey game at Rocket Mortgage FieldHouse on April 5th at 7:00pm. Check with your branch officer to see if any tickets are available.

Attention Bowlers:

The FCSU International Bowling Tournament will be taking place in our own backyard at Kent Lanes in Kent, OH on April 26-27th. Be sure to sign up for this fun fraternal event! You can bowl as a single bowler on Sunday, get a partner for doubles bowling or form a team of four for team bowling on Saturday. Don't have enough for a team? That's ok – you will be placed on a team.

Submitted by Gregory Petrasek, President

DISTRICT 12 – MSGR ANDREW HLINKA DISTRICT – PA

The Monsignor Andrew Hlinka District of the Mon Valley will hold the first meeting of the year on Sunday, April 6, 2025 at 1:00pm. The meeting will be held at the Kings Family Restaurant on 580 McClelland Rd., Canonsburg, PA. On the agenda will be the activities for 2025.

FRATERNALISM IN ACTION - The Hlinka District will also take part in the Fraternalism in Action program. We are asking district members to bring shelf stable foods for the St. Andrew the Apostle Parish Food Bank, 624 Washington Ave., Charleroi, PA. By participating in the program, our FCSU Home Office will donate \$250.00 to the charity. Hlinka District members are urged to attend the district meeting. Each branch is responsible for the cost of their own meals.

Any Hlinka District member interested in being on the district bowling team for the FCSU Financial Bowling Tournament 2025, please contact Nikki the District Activities Coordinator at Branch670activities@gmail.com. Costs will be the responsibility of the bowler.

SAVE THE DATE: Hlinka District Picnic on June 1, 2025. Watch for details.

If questions, please contact the Hlinka District Secretary, Monica Boone, at Hlinkadistrictsecretary@gmail.com. We look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

Submitted by Monica Boone, Secretary

DISTRICT 16 – MSGR STEPHEN KRASULA DISTRICT - NY

The District 16 semi annual meeting of the Msgr. Stephen Krasula District in New York City will be held on Sunday, April 6th, at 1:00pm at the rectory of the St. John Nepomucene Church at 411 E. 66th St. in New York City. The agenda will include financial report updates and discussion of District 16 activities for the upcoming year 2025. After our meeting, refreshments will be served. We are kindly asking all officers and members to attend.

Submitted by Renata Jurasiova-Vasil, Financial Secretary

Oznamujeme členom nášho spolku, že členská schôdza Okresu č. 16 – Mons. Štefana Krasulu sa uskutoční v New Yorku v nedeľu 6.aprila o 13:00 hodine po svätej omši na fare slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého na 66th Street a 1st Avenue, New York City. Na schôdzi prejdeme plán činnosti na budúce obdobie a taktiež finančnú správu. Po schôdzi bude malé občerstvenie. Láskavo žiadame našich členov o aktívnu účasť na tejto schôdzi.

Autorka textu Renáta Jurášiová-Vasil', pokladníčka

DISTRICT 17 – SS CYRIL & METHODIUS DISTRICT – NY, PA

Saints Cyril & Methodius District 17 of Lackawanna and Luzerne counties in Pennsylvania and Broome County in New York will conduct its Annual Spring Meeting on Saturday, April 26, 2025. Branch delegates will gather at Cooper's Seafood Restaurant, 701 N. Washington Avenue, Scranton, PA.

District Auditors will meet at 12:30pm to check the books. The business meeting will convene at 1:00pm.

This is an important meeting as Branch representatives will discuss future District activities including the National Picnic, the District baseball game, and transportation to Washington, D.C. for the anniversary of the Chapel of Our Lady of Sorrows. Information from the Home Office will be disseminated.

All branches are urged to send representatives to this meeting.

Attendees will enjoy a buffet lunch and time to socialize.

Branches must contact District Fraternal Activities Officer Elizabeth M. Slovenkai at 570-344-3854 to confirm attendance by Wednesday, April 16th so that we comply with the requirements stipulated by Cooper's Seafood Restaurant.

Submitted by Michael J. Slovenkai, President

OBITUARIES – NEKROLÓGY

was enjoyed by all, and her family even joked that her favorite perfume was "butter and onions."

Upon retirement, Dorothy was employed by FEMA. Since the late 1990s, she also spent her winters in Florida as a "snowbird," in her community, Hidden Cove, in Winter Haven. Dorothy loved to

travel. In addition to annual vacations to Ocean City, MD, and day trips to Pass-a-Grille Beach, FL, Dorothy enjoyed many cruises and summer trips with family to Key West and Mexico. Just this past summer, she swam in the Caribbean Sea. She was blessed with a long life of good health up until her recent illness and has

made many wonderful memories that family will cherish forever. Dorothy was a devout Byzantine Catholic and was an active member of Saint Mary's Byzantine Catholic Church.

Surviving are her children: Nancy Meredith (John), with whom she resided, and John Gary Nestor; five grandchildren:

Christopher Meredith (Tara); Kristin Travis (Michael); April Rudat (Todd); Gary Nestor (Kyle); and Stephanie Nestor; four great-grandchildren: Maverick and Avery Meredith; and David and Julia Rudat. She was preceded in death by her husband, John T. Nestor, and six siblings.

News from Slovakia - Správy zo Slovenska

Autobiography Hope: What does Pope Francis reveal in it?

HOPE is the first autobiography ever published by a pope in history during his lifetime.

Bratislava, February 27 (OTS) - What was the Pope's relationship with girls? Why hasn't he watched TV since 1990? And why was it enough for him not to be born at all?

You will also learn about Pope Francis from his autobiography, which is called Hope and which is published in 80 countries at once, including Slovakia.

HOPE is the first autobiography ever published by a pope in history during his lifetime. Pope Francis has devoted the last six years to writing it and in it he recalls in detail his entire life. He begins with his ancestors who emigrated from Italy. He perfectly placed the experiences and stories in a historical context, gives contexts, refers to the Holy Scriptures and literature, various novels and poems. His family has a strong place in the book.

Mom used to say that we five children are like fingers on our hands, each different and all the same to her: "Because when I prick myself in one finger, it hurts as much as if I pricked myself in another finger."

Her last birth was not easy and left consequences on her: the mother suffered from some kind of paresis, from which she fully recovered only after a year. And that's when I learned to cook. I was almost twelve years old, I was the oldest, so I had to take care of everything.

He is dedicated to various topics such as football, books and music, which he loves. How he secretly transported people, he writes about girls, the pandemic, egoism, about previous popes.

Interesting and powerful are the passages about poverty, refugees, the war in Ukraine, Gaza, climate change, but also about young people.

He writes about key moments in his pontificate, including the two assassination attempts he faced during a visit to Iraq in 2021, which were only revealed later.

At the beginning of my pontificate, I went to visit my predecessor, Benedict XVI, in Castel Gandolfo. He handed me a large white box. "It contains everything," he told me, "the most difficult and painful situations, abuses, cases of corruption, dark acts, transgressions. I've gotten this far, I've taken these measures, I've excluded these people, now it's your turn."

I continued on his way. But in the end, he also devotes himself to humor, he even told a well-known joke about himself, the limousine and the police.

Why is it worth reading the pope's autobiography Hope? And is it intended only for believers or for all people? Watch the video in which church analyst Imrich Gazda talks about his impressions after reading the book.

The book was originally supposed to be published after his death, but in the end, Pope Francis came to the conviction that all this message was needed now, because we are really in difficult times.

Although he maps the past, he turns to history, but this self-portrait seems to want to direct him to the future, as if he is preparing the end of his pontificate and what will follow...

It is said that "as long as we live, we have hope", but the opposite is true – it is hope that sustains life, protects it, guards it, and thanks to it grows. If men and women had not cultivated this virtue, if they had not relied on it, they would never have come out of the caves and would not have left a mark on history. He is the most divine that can exist in the human heart.

About football

I always liked to play football, even if I wasn't the best. In Buenos Aires, people like me were called pata dura, those who have both left feet. I played it anyway. I stood in the goal many times. This is also a good task – you will learn to look reality directly in the eye and face problems. While you may not know where the ball came from, you need to try to catch it. Just like in life.

The text of the autobiography Hope is supplemented by several private and never published unique photographs from the personal archive of Pope Francis.

Autobiografia Nádej: Čo všetko v nej prezrádza pápež František?

NÁDEJ je prvá autobiografia, ktorú kedy pápež v histórii vydal počas života.

Bratislava 27. februára (OTS) - Aký bol vzťah pápeža k dievčatám? Prečo od roku 1990 nepozera televíziu? A prečo stačilo málo, aby sa vôbec nenarodil?

Aj to sa dozvieme o pápežovi Františkovi z jeho autobiografie, ktorá má názov Nádej a ktorá vychádza v 80-tich krajinách naraz, vrátane Slovenska.

NÁDEJ je prvá autobiografia, ktorú kedy pápež v histórii vydal počas života. Pápež František jej písaniu venoval posledných šesť rokov a podrobne v nej spomína na celý svoj život. Začína svojimi predkami, ktorí emigrovali z Talianska. Zážitky a príbehy výborne zasadil do historického kontextu, dáva súvislosti, odkazuje na Sväté písmo a literatúru, rôzne romány a básne. Silné miesto má v knihe jeho rodina.

Mama vravievala, že my päť detí sme ako prsty na ruke, každý iný a všetky rovnako jej: „Pretože keď sa pichnem do jedného prsta, bolí ma to rovnako, ako keby som sa pichla do iného prsta.“

Jej posledný pôrod nebol ľahký a zanechal na nej následky: mamička trpela nejakým druhom parézy, z ktorej sa úplne zotavila až po roku. A práve vtedy som sa naučil variť. Mal som takmer dvanásť rokov, bol som najstarší, preto som sa musel o všetko postarať najmä ja.

Venuje sa rôznym témam ako futbal, knihy a hudba, ktoré miluje. Ako tajne prevádzal ľudí, píše o dievčatách, pandémie, egoizme, o predchádzajúcich pápežoch.

Zaujímavé a silné sú pasáže o chudobe, utečencoch, o vojne na Ukrajine, o Gaze, klimatických zmenách, ale aj o mladých ľuďoch.

Píše o kľúčových momentoch svojho pontifikátu, vrátane dvoch pokusov o atentát, ktorému čelil počas návštevy Iraku v roku 2021, čo sa odhalilo až neskôr.

Na začiatku svojho pontifikátu som išiel navštíviť svojho predchodcu Benedikta XVI. do Castel Gandolfo. Podal mi veľkú bielu škatuľu. „Je v nej všetko,“ povedal mi, „najťažšie a najbolestivejšie situácie, zneužitia, prípady korupcie, temné činy, priestupky. Dostal som sa potiaľto, urobil som tieto opatrenia, vylúčil týchto ľudí, teraz je rad na tebe.“

Pokračoval som v jeho ceste. No v závere sa venuje aj humoru, dokonca prerozprával známy vtíp o ňom samom, limuzíne a policajtoch.

Prečo sa oplatí prečítať pápežovu autobiografiu Nádej? A je určená len veriacim, alebo všetkým ľuďom? Pozrite si video, v ktorom cirkevný analytik Imrich Gazda hovorí o svojich dojmach po prečítaní knihy:

Kniha mala pôvodne vyjsť až po jeho smrti, ale napokon pápež František dospel k presvedčeniu, že všetko toto posolstvo je potrebné už teraz, pretože sa nachádzame naozaj v ťažkých časoch.

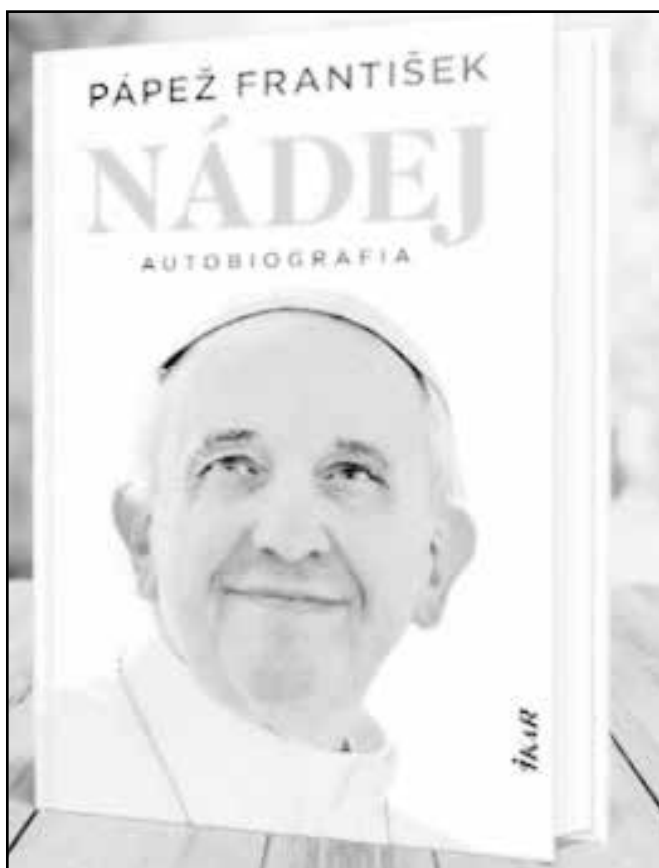
Mapuje síce minulosť, obracia sa do histórie, ale tento autoportrét akoby chcel nasmerovať na budúcnosť, akoby pripravoval koniec jeho pontifikátu a čo bude nasledovať...

Hovorí sa, že „kým žijeme, máme nádej“, ale opak je pravdou – práve nádej udržiava život, chráni ho, stráži, vďaka nej rastie. Keby muži a ženy nepestovali túto cnosť, keby sa o ňu neopierali, nikdy by nevyšli z jaskýň a nezanechali by stopu v dejinách. Je tým najbožskejší, čo môže v ľudskom srdci existovať.

O futbale

Vždy som rád hrával futbal, aj keď som nebol najlepší. V Buenos Aires takých ako ja nazývali pata dura, tí, čo majú obe nohy ľavé. Aj tak som ho hral. Veľakrát som stál v bráne. Aj to je dobrá úloha – naučíte sa dívať realite priamo do očí a čeliť problémom. Aj keď možno neviete, odkiaľ lopta prišla, musíte sa ju pokúsiť chytiť. Presne ako v živote.

Text autobiografie Nádej je doplnený o niekoľko súkromných a nikdy nepublikovaných unikátnych fotografií z osobného archívu pápeža Františka.



Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting

Friday, January 17, 2025

Home Office

OPEN MEETING:

President Kenneth A. Arendt opened the meeting at 9:00am and asked Damian Nasta to lead the prayer.

ROLL CALL:

Members Attending By Video Conference:

- Kenneth A. Arendt..... National President
- Damian Nasta..... National Vice President
- Kevin J. Collins Executive Secretary
- John Tokarsky Treasurer
- Joanne Fibbi Fraternal Activities Director
(by invitation of the President)

ACCEPTANCE OF THE MEETING MINUTES:

The Executive Secretary presented the minutes of the December 14, 2024 Executive Committee Meeting. A motion was made by Damian Nasta and seconded by John Tokarsky to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

AQS MANAGEMENT, INC.:

Larry White, representing AQS Management, Inc., presented an extensive Investment Portfolio Transaction and Review Report. Each member of the Committee received a copy of the presentation in advance for his/her review. Following the report, he answered the Committee's questions.

TREASURERS REPORT:

Treasurer John Tokarsky presented his monthly written Treasurer's report. Following the report, he answered the Committee's questions.

ECONOMIC OVERVIEW:

Annuity Rates

The President led a discussion on the current annuity rates. The Executive Committee decided the annuity rates will remain the same and be reviewed at the next Executive Committee meeting.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Investment Updates

The President and the Executive Secretary submitted a written report to the Executive Committee Meeting on the investments and transactions with the Federal Home Loan Bank (FHLB), UBS, MAI Fund, and Clutterbuck Fund. The Committee discussed the report and the Executive Secretary answered the Committee's questions.

Financial Report

The President and the Executive Secretary presented a detailed summary of the Financial Report for the third quarter of 2024 and answered the Committee's questions.

Portfolio Review

The President and the Executive Secretary updated the Committee on the report from our portfolio custodian, Key Bank, found everything in order, and answered the Committee's questions. The President stated he will invite representatives from MAI, UBS and Clutterbuck to attend a future Executive Meeting to review our investment portfolios.

Mortgages and Overdue Mortgages

The President and the Executive Secretary presented the report for the month of December for the Committee's review and answered their questions. The President led a discussion regarding new mortgage investments and answered the Committee's questions.

Monthly Disbursements

The Executive Secretary reported that the following disbursements were incurred and paid during the month of December:

Death Benefits & Accumulations.....	\$158,198.00
Cash Withdrawals & Accumulations.....	\$27,638.39
Matured Endowments & Accumulations	\$0.00
Trust Fund.....	\$0.00

The Executive Secretary also presented the Membership and Annuity Report.

The Committee reviewed the remainder of the disbursements and the Executive Secretary answered all questions.

The President led a review of our FHLB advances and their current rates for possible future advancements.

SALES AND MARKETING:

The President and Executive Secretary led an overview of our current and new sales program.

The Home Office is collaborating with our external marketing firm on a program to recruit independent agents. The President stated that ten additional states have given their approval for the FCSU to be licensed: Alaska, Arkansas, Delaware, Idaho, Kansas, Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Utah, and Vermont. We are still waiting on one more state. Additionally, we are developing a marketing strategy specifically aimed at recruiting new agents in these new states.

The Executive Secretary led a discussion regarding the tv ads running on Fox 8 and stated they will be doing a second taping. We are getting a good response.

FRATERNAL ACTIVITIES REPORT:

Fraternal Activities Director Joanne Fibbi presented an extensive report on past fraternal activities, and she gave an update on upcoming fraternal activities in 2025. All upcoming fraternal activities will be published in the Jednota newspaper and posted on our website.

REQUESTS FOR ADS AND DONATIONS:

Requests for donations and ads were reviewed and acted upon.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Damian Nasta and seconded by John Tokarsky to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Kenneth A. Arendt Kevin J. Collins
President, CEO Executive Secretary, COO

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Jednota Editor, Newspaper Subscription Requests and/or Changes

Crossword Puzzle Solution from Page 18

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

Your Privacy Matters

We want to assure you that your personal information is used solely for maintaining accurate records and serving your needs. We do not sell or share your information with third parties.

Keeping your records current helps us serve you better. Updating your information is quick and easy—just contact us at 800.533.6682, ext 125, email juliec@fcsu.com or visit our website at www.fcsu.com. Thank you for helping us stay connected and continue supporting you and your family!

Why did the leprechaun go outside?

“To sit on his paddy-o”

What’s a leprechaun’s favorite cereal?

“Lucky Charms”

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with FCSU Annuity Rate!



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Other Annuity Products:

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4.75%

Park 2 Annuity
(not available in the state of NY)

4.50%

6 Year
Flex Annuity or IRA

4.50%

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*1st year guaranteed (new Park Free Plus
max deposit \$25,000 per person)*

3.00%

Settlement Options are
based on an interest rate of
(5 yrs +)

4.00%

- **FCSU Financial®** Founded in 1890
- **\$600M in Assets**
- **Solvency Ratio 115%**
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