



Jednota

THE UNION

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Fr. Stephen Furedek
Our Founder

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

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WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2014

NUMBER 5911

Message from Our National Chaplain



Rev. Thomas Nasta

Dear Friends,

The 8th World Meeting of Families is planned to take place in Philadelphia September 21-27, 2015. The first Meeting took place in Rome in 1994, two years after St. John Paul came up with the idea in 1992 as a means by which the bonds of family throughout the world can be strengthened and supported.

The event is less than one year away and much groundwork has already taken place. Pope Francis himself is expected to come. Everyone is invited to go to the website, world-meeting2015.org, for any and all information.

A 127 page catechesis, or teaching document, entitled Love Is Our Mission: The Family Fully Alive was prepared for the World Meeting. The document is divided into 10 chapters with the following themes: Creation, Mission, Human Sexuality, Marriage, Children, Vocation, Temptations, Struggles, the Church, and Choosing the Good.

Four questions for discussion are given at the end of each chapter. As a means to aid our Jednota family for this historic event, my plan is to take one of the four questions and offer a reflection. These reflections will be monthly, beginning in November and going to next September.

In the meantime, please remember to pray the World Meeting of Families Prayer in your homes, before going to school or work, at branch or district meetings, whenever "two or three gather" in the name of Jesus.

God and Father of us all, in Jesus your Son and our Savior, you have made us your sons and daughters in the family of the Church.

May your grace and love help our families in every part of the world be united to one another in fidelity to the Gospel.

May the example of the Holy Family, with the aid of your Holy Spirit, guide all families, especially those most troubled, to be homes of communion and prayer and to always seek your truth and live in your love.

Through Christ our Lord.

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, pray for us!

Fraternally,
Father Thomas A. Nasta
National Chaplain



The Officers and Members of the Board of Directors of the First Catholic Slovak Union extend their most sincere Fraternal Greetings and Best Wishes to all Members on Veterans Day 2014

Rev. Thomas A. Nasta.....Chaplain
Andrew M. Rajec.....President
Andrew R. Harcar, Sr.....Vice-President
Kenneth A. Arendt.....Executive Secretary
George F. Matta.....Treasurer

Veteran's Day is a wonderful time to consider participating in the Jednota Memorial project currently underway on our Jednota Estates in Middletown, PA.

For the latest photos on the construction and for more information, please see pages 12 - 13 of this issue.

Christmas Coloring Contest Begins with this Issue



Hey, Kids. Sharpen your crayons!

It's time once again for the annual National Christmas Coloring Contest. See pages 4-5 of this issue for details.

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Insights and Viewpoints



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

November 9, 2014 –

**Feast of the Dedication of the
Lateran Basilica in Rome**

**Second Reading I Corinthians
3:9C – 11, 16 - 17**

Gospel John 2: 13 - 22

The Vatican Website, <http://w2.vatican.va/content/vatican/it.html>, has a link that leads to a set of webpages for the Major Basilicas. The one for St. John Lateran includes a detailed history as well as many colorful photos of the beautiful basilica. Here is an excerpt from the Vatican website about St. John Lateran;

“The basilica was consecrated in 324 (or 318) by Pope Sylvester I, and dedicated to SS.mo Savior. In the ninth century, Sergio III, also dedicated to St. John the Baptist, while in the twelfth century, Lucio II also added San Giovanni Evangelista. From the fourth century until the end of the period of Avignon (XIV c.), in which the papacy moved to Avignon, the Lateran, was the only seat of the papacy. The Patriarchate, or stay the Lateran (the ancient seat of the Papal), adjacent to the Basilica was the residence of the Popes throughout the Middle Ages. The Lateran, therefore, it was from this period until the fourteenth century, the seat and symbol of the papacy and therefore, the heart of the Church's life. There were also hosted five ecumenical councils.”

On November 9th we celebrate the Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica in Rome. The above history tells of the spiritual and historical importance of this place of worship going back to the early fourth century. In celebrating this Feast the church gives us readings that present to us two different perspectives of church.

The Gospel points out the importance of treating a holy place with respect, and Saint Paul emphasizes the community as being the Church.

The dwelling place of God has always been seen as a sacred place, whether it be the tent used from the time of Moses to Solomon to house the Ark of the Covenant, the grand temple constructed by Solomon, or the temple begun by Herod the Great. Jesus was brought to the temple when he was eight days old to be circumcised, and later on pilgrimage with his family he was left behind. He preached there, ministered there, and most importantly, he prayed there. When Jesus sees how his “Father’s House” was made into a “den of thieves” selling animals to be offered, changing money and other practices that had crept into the holy place, he became infuriated and cleansed the temple of these people who are showing disrespect to the sacred dwelling.

This reading should make us look at how we view our churches and chapels. Do we approach them as holy places and demonstrate that in the way we behave, dress and conduct ourselves? We might not have made our churches into dens of thieves, but do we enter it as we do a public gathering space like a theatre or auditorium? Or are we entering them with a sense of awe at being in God’s dwelling?

When Saint Paul encountered Jesus on the road to Damascus he heard the voice of Jesus say, “Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?” What Paul was doing in persecuting the Christians was a persecution of Jesus himself. From this encounter comes the realization of

the unity of the believers with Jesus and with each other. Christ dwells within the community and as Paul writes to the Corinthians, “we are living stones.” Sometimes we focus on our imperfections to the point that it is hard to accept the fact that we are the body of Christ. He dwells in us and those around us. This calls us to respect and honor his presence in ourselves, and in others.

November 23, 2014 –

Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

Gospel Matthew 25 – 31 - 46



Fr. Killian Loch,
O.S.B.

Let us begin by quoting some of the beliefs we regularly profess in the Nicene Creed; “the Only Begotten Son of God, ... begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father, ... by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man ... He suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day, ... He ascended into Heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.”

Only one man, Jesus, can claim all of the statements above, no one else who has ever walked upon this earth can claim even one of them.

The last Sunday of the Church year is commonly known as Christ the King. Next Sunday we begin the new Church Year with the First Sunday of Advent. This last Sunday of the Church year is one on which we sum up all that we celebrated in the past year, under the title of “Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe.” As we come to the end of the Church Year it is similar to our coming to the end of the calendar year when we take stock of our lives and make “new year’s” resolutions.

The Gospel is a story of judgment that reflects the line we profess in the Creed, “He will come to judge the living and the dead.” How am I preparing for judgment? Have I grown in my faith and how have I live my faith during this past church year? What Jesus presents as the criteria for eternal life is how we recognize and care for him. He identifies himself with those in need. The list he gives is the basis for what we know as the Corporal Works of Mercy; feeding the hungry, giving drink to the thirsty, clothing the naked, caring for the sick, and visiting those in prisons. To this the church adds, to shelter the homeless and bury the dead. The failure to practice these works of mercy is a failure on our part to care for Jesus himself. Jesus is telling us that the attitude we have and our actions or lack of actions toward the hungry, thirsty, the homeless, the naked, the sick, the prisoners, is the attitude and action or lack of action toward Jesus Himself.

If you feel a little unsettled because you are lacking in attitude or deed in helping the various needs as identified above, then this is the time of year to rethink those attitudes and to work at seeing Jesus more and more in those in need. Maybe this is the “new (church year) resolution” that we should make, to grow more aware of Jesus in the various needs of the people around us. We can begin Advent next Sunday not only with hearts generous in donating to the numerous charities that make appeals to us, but also in working to change the way that might not be to accepting and loving, and might even be judgmental toward those who are in need.

Finally, I believe that when Jesus speaks of judgment he does not do so to frighten us away from him, nor to beat ourselves up because of our failings. Jesus desires that we be with him in the Father’s house, and his words are a call for us to change for the better. They are words that challenge us to leave behind our faults, and then to move ahead with new zeal to follow more faithfully Christ our King.

NEWSPAPER DEADLINES

All copy is due by 4:30 P.M., THE MONDAY OF THE WEEK BEFORE THE ISSUE DATE, unless otherwise stated below because of special holiday scheduling. Copy that is not received by this deadline will not necessarily appear in the following Wednesday’s issue.

Issue Date	Copy Date
WEDNESDAY, NOV. 19	MONDAY, NOV. 10
WEDNESDAY, DEC, 3	MONDAY, NOV. 24
WEDNESDAY, JAN, 14	MONDAY, JAN. 5

Correspondents who are announcing events should allow ample time for them to be received by the readership, taking into account the publication schedule and the extra time in the postal system.

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LIGHT ONE CANDLE

Jerry Costello for The Christophers

An Air Force Major's Legacy

The nice thing about Veterans Day is that it has a very democratic base for those it honors. All you have to do is serve in the U.S. Armed Forces. They don't ask when you did, what you did, or how you did it. You qualify, period.

Of course, there are those who rate a special recognition—the combat veterans, the "Greatest Generation" of World War II, the heroes of all wars. All who won mention for bravery, as well as those who didn't get mentioned but were brave nonetheless. And there is that unique category, those who have been awarded the Medal of Honor. They're veterans too, with a capital "V." One of them died not long ago after a full and active life, and he deserves our thanks as we pause once again to salute those who served their country. He did so, and did it in an extraordinary way.

His name was Bernard Fisher, and he served in the Vietnam War. Col. Bernard F. Fisher, U.S. Air Force, 87. After a childhood in both California and Utah, he was commissioned in the Air Force while serving in the ROTC at the University of Utah. Paul Vitello's obituary told his story in The New York Times:

Fisher, then a major, led a group of planes strafing North Vietnamese positions and helping Special Forces commandos who were under attack by enemy forces. It was March 10, 1966. One of the other planes was hit by a shell, and had to crash-land—where it skidded first, then burst into flames. Maj. Fisher saw what was happening from the air: the crash, the fiery wreckage, the pilot's escape from the downed plane, and his disappearance into the underbrush.

First he decided to radio for a rescue helicopter, then quickly realized that there wouldn't be enough time. Enemy soldiers were everywhere, and, as the major later recalled, "They weren't taking any prisoners." The other pilot turned out to be Maj. Dafford Myers, someone from another unit whom Maj. Fisher had met infrequently and hardly knew. Still, another pilot was in trouble and needed him. Maj. Fisher knew what his answer would be: he would land his own plane on the debris-scarred runway and rescue Myers himself.

"It's important," he later reflected, "that you respond to your feelings when the time comes for it. It all happened just as he planned—the rescue, the hurried takeoff, the dash to safety—and that's why he found himself, less than a year later, in the White House in Washington, D.C. And that's where President Lyndon B. Johnson awarded him the Medal of Honor.

Fisher retired as a colonel in 1974, then settled down on a farm in Idaho, where he and his wife raised seed corn and alfalfa. But a postscript goes with his story, too: every year on March 10, Maj. Myers called him to wish him well. And after Myers' death in 1992, his daughter continued the tradition, right up to the anniversary date this year.

End of story, but hardly the end of Veterans Day. It goes on year after year, honoring all the men and women who answered the call. The requirements for entrance, to repeat a point, are remarkably democratic. It's just that some, like Col. Fisher, answered in a special way. And they deserve equally special thanks this day.

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

March for Life



Our presence at the 42nd Annual Right to Life March on Thursday, January 22, 2015 in Washington, DC is extremely important. The First Catholic Slovak Union and the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association support the position of the Pro Life Movement.

The FCSU and the FCCLA are once again offering free transportation from the FCCLA Home Office in Beachwood, OH, for this very important trip. For the past few years we have filled two buses for this march. Again this year, we will reserve two buses for the March. Our organizations are proud to encourage our members, along with many young students from area Catholic High Schools, to participate. It is a very rewarding experience to actively participate and help relay this very important message of supporting the Right to Life mission.

Will you join us? Please call Kelly at the FCCLA home Office. Her phone number is 800-464-4642 EXT. 1051 or email her at Kelly@fcsu.org for details or questions and to reserve your seat on the bus before December 29th. The buses fill up quickly and seating is limited so don't wait until the last minute to reserve your seat.

If you would like to attend and are unable to join those leaving from the FCCLA Home Office, please look online for information and transportation. Call your local church or diocese, they may be able to help.

Christmas Oplatky 2014



Oplatky, the traditional Slovak Christmas wafers, will be available this holiday season from Jankola Library. Orders will be accepted from October 20 until December 19, 2014.

The Oplatky, five in one package are thermal-sealed and can be purchased for \$4.00. In addition, the minimum cost of shipping and handling is \$5.75 and upwards depending upon the number of packets ordered and the rising costs of priority mailing. Customized requests can be filled to meet your needs. Payment to **Jankola Library** is expected before receiving an order.

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

From the Office of the Executive Secretary

In observance of the following holidays, the Home Office and Jednota Estates will be closed:



Thanksgiving - Thursday, November 27, 2014, and Friday, November 28, 2014.



Christmas - Wednesday, December 24, 2014 - Friday, December 26, 2014

New Year's - Thursday, January 1, 2015, and Friday, January 2, 2015

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FCSU 2014 Christmas Coloring Contest

Christmas Angels
by P.Z. Mann

A

The Whittles lived in Humbleburg,
As poor as poor can be,
But all their neighbors loved them,
For their generosity.

For though the Whittles' shelves were bare,
Their cottage tumbledown,
When Christmas came they made a toy,
For every child in town.

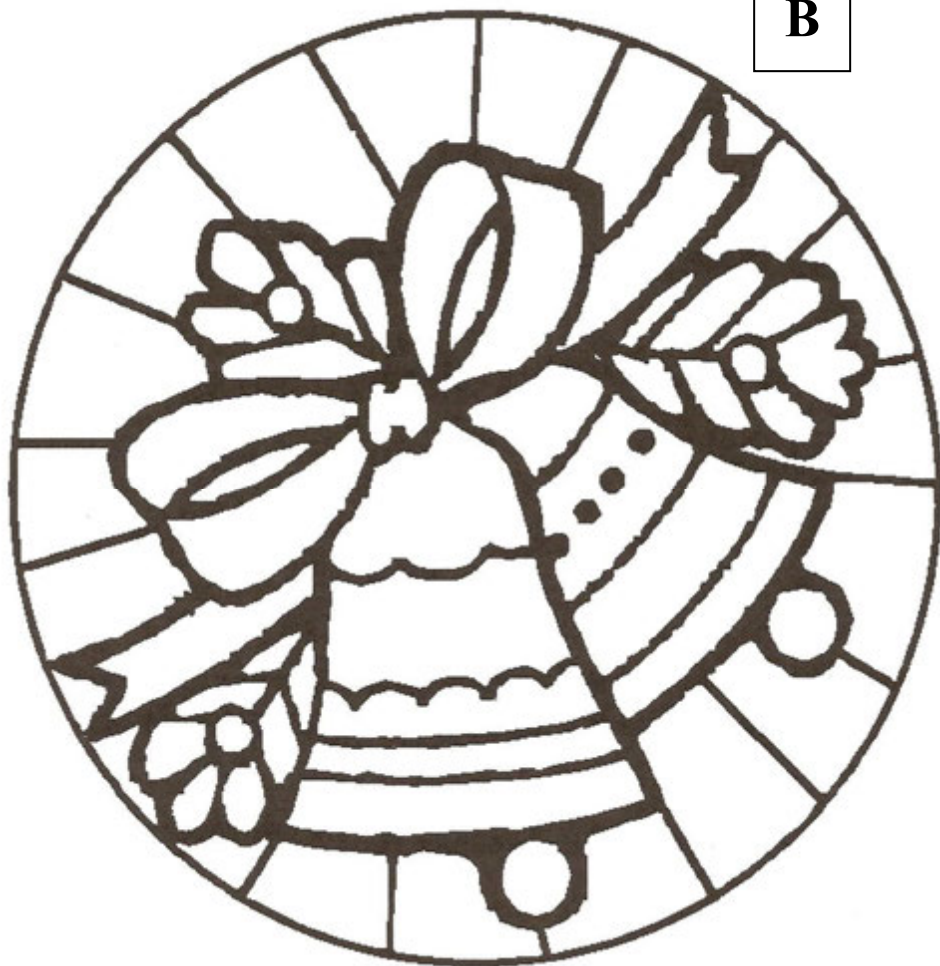
One Christmas Eve they climbed in bed,
After all the toys were made;
And while they dreamed of better times,
The Whittles were repaid.

That night three Christmas angels came,
To give them a reward --
For heaven won't let any act
Of kindness be ignored.

One angel searched the cupboard
And found just a crust of bread;
"Now, this won't do", she whispered,
"Let's prepare a feast instead!"



B



The angels flapped their magic wings,
As only they are able,
And in a flash a flood of food
Filled all the shelves and table!

The tiny house still looked quite drab,
It needed to be cheered;
And as the angels waved their wings,
A Christmas tree appeared!

Two angels trimmed the pretty tree;
The third flew to and fro,
Hanging bells and holly boughs,
And sprigs of mistletoe.

Outside, the angels dressed the house
With icicles and snow,
And on the door they placed a wreath,
Complete with a bright red bow!

They finished all they came to do,
Before the break of day,
And as the Whittles roused from sleep,
The angels flew away.

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

FCSU 2014 Christmas Coloring Contest

C

Now, when the Whittles saw the food
And all the decoration,
They pinched themselves and wept for joy,
Then danced in celebration!

As word spread through the village
Of their heaven-sent surprise;
Every Humbleburger came
To see with their own two eyes!

The Whittles shared their Christmas feast-
They emptied all the shelves;
Their kindness wouldn't let them keep
Good fortune to themselves.

When everyone had cleaned their plate,
They all joined in a song;
And up above-though no one heard-
The angels sang along!



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RULES

- Each age group is assigned a certain picture:
4 – 6 year olds – picture A
7 – 9 year olds – picture B
10 – 12 year olds – picture C
- Enlarged reproductions of picture A, B, or C will be disqualified.
- Pictures are allowed to be reproduced for families with more than one child in a particular age group.
- Children **MUST** be members in good standing of the FCSU in order to be eligible for prizes.
- Your child's completed entry form, colored picture, and a photo of your child must be postmarked by **December 31, 2014**.
- Mail to:
 Rudy Ondrejco
 Fraternal Activities Director
 234 Ilion St.
 Pittsburgh, PA 15207

Please submit this form with your child's entry by December 31, 2014

Child's Name: _____ Age: _____

Certificate Number: _____ Branch Number: _____
 (MUST be filled in)

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

T-Shirt Size: (Please Circle One)

Child S M L XL Adult S M L XL

PRIZES

Winners in each Region and age group will receive the following:
1st Place – Jednota Long Sleeved T-Shirt and \$25.00
2nd Place - Jednota Long Sleeved T-Shirt and \$15.00
3rd Place - Jednota Long Sleeved T-Shirt and \$10.00
Honorable Mention - \$5 Gift Card

REBRANDING THE FCSU TRADEMARK:



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From FCSU Life to FCSU Financial

Note:

- This rebranded trademark will be used on all product literature and advertisements produced by the Home Office of the First Catholic Slovak Union.
- Any other use of this trademark by any other entity than the Home Office needs to be approved by the Home Office. For more information call: 1-800-533-6682.

Slovak Christmas Eve Dinner at American Slovak Club, Lorain, OH

United Slovak Societies will host a Vilija, traditional Slovak Christmas Eve dinner, on Sunday December 7, 2014 at 5:30p.m. at the American Slovak Club, 2915 Broadway Avenue, Lorain, OH. The cost of dinner which includes the award winning Ladies Auxiliary perch is \$20.00 and will include all the traditional delights. Advanced tickets sales please contact Len Zilko at 440/988-3236. The dinner is open to the public.



Michele Mager, Secretary-United Slovak Societies, Member – Branch 228

Scene from 2013 United Slovak Societies' Slovak Christmas Eve

Scenes From the Mahoning Valley Slovak Fest

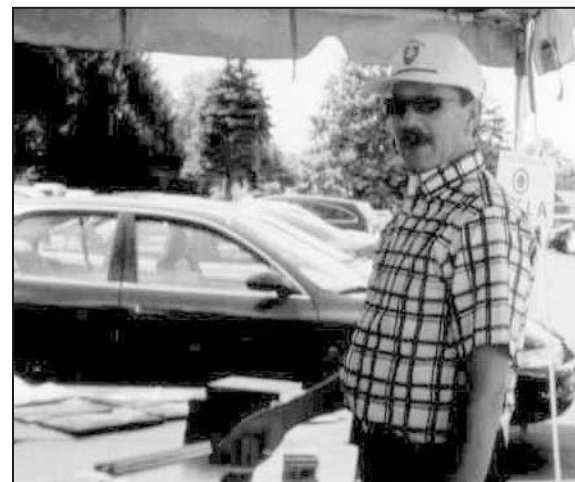
The Mahoning Valley Slovak Fest was celebrated on August 10, 2014 on the grounds of Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, St. Matthias Church, Youngstown, OH. Slovaks began coming to the Youngstown area in the late 1800's for the opportunity to work in the area's steel mills and the supporting businesses. As the Slovak population grew, churches and schools were built and neighborhoods formed. Typical of the Slovak ethnic heritage, hard work and daily struggles meant that when there was a chance to gather and celebrate some event it was done enthusiastically and with food, music and camaraderie.

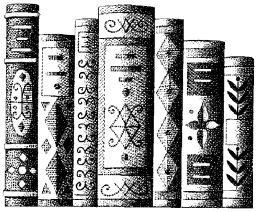
The Mahoning Valley Slovak Fest started the celebration at 11:00 am at St. Matthias Church. After the Mass, there were indoor and outdoor activities for everyone to enjoy, including displays of Slovak crafts, outfits, pictures, books, and information about various Slovak organizations and projects, cookbooks and recipes, and maps for to locate your ancestral villages. Entertainment was provided by the Eddie Vallus Band, the Del Sinchak Orchestra, and Living Traditions Folk Ensemble.

The First Catholic Slovak Union had a booth, with members from Region 6, offering information about our Society's insurance and annuity products and offering refreshments for Festival goers as well.



All photos courtesy of Joe Scavina, Branch

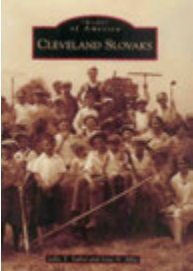




Book Corner

Cleveland Slovaks (Images of America)

by John T. Sabol (Author), Lisa A. Alzo (Author)



Cleveland's Slovaks can best be characterized as survivors. Many survived ethnic persecution and poverty so they could have a chance at something better. Beginning with a small core of immigrants seeking work above ground rather than in the coal mines of neighboring states, Cleveland's Slovak community grew through a giant chain migration. Their neighborhoods flourished close to their jobs and their churches. Many of the ancestors of today's Slovaks came to the United States classified as Hungarians. In their hearts, though, they knew what they were and what language they spoke. They held on to their native language even as they learned English and unwaveringly encouraged their children to strive for the opportunity America offered. According to the 2000 census, 93,500 northeast Ohioans claim Slovak heritage. The photographs in *Cleveland Slovaks* show their neighborhoods and family life and give readers an appreciation of the community's legacy.

About the Authors

John T. Sabol is a Cleveland native, writer, and historian who has published several church histories and genealogical articles. Lisa A. Alzo, a freelance writer, instructor, and lecturer, is the author of six books and numerous magazine articles and serves on the board of directors for the Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International. Both are members of the First Catholic Slovak Union.

This paperback is available at local booksellers, through www.arcadiapublishing.com, or through www.amazon.com

Saint Vincent Archabbey Sunday Homily Column Now In Book Form



The popular Sunday homily columns featuring the scholarship and wisdom of Father Demetrius Dumm, O.S.B., and Father Campion Gavalier, O.S.B., is now available in paperback. Their columns have been appearing for years in *Jednota*.

Sunday Homilies: Saint Vincent Archabbey, Cycle B, contains reflections on Cycle B, which is the upcoming cycle for the next liturgical year. Cycle C will be released mid-winter and Cycle A in the spring of 2015. All books, in paperback, will retail for \$12.95 and will be available on www.stvincentstore.com. Orders can also be mailed to Archabbey Publications, 300 Fraser Purchase Rd., Latrobe, PA 15650, and should include an additional \$3 for shipping and handling.

About the Authors

Father Demetrius (1923-2013), a former rector and professor of Scripture at Saint Vincent Seminary in Latrobe, Pennsylvania, was the author of *Flowers in the Desert: A Spirituality of the Bible*, *Cherish Christ Above All: The Bible in the Rule of Saint Benedict*, *A Mystical Portrait of Jesus*, *New Perspectives on John's Gospel*, *Praying the Scriptures*, and *So We Do Not Lose Heart: Biblical Wisdom for All Our Days*. In addition to studies at Saint Vincent Seminary, Father Demetrius earned a Doctor of Sacred Theology Degree from the Pontifical Institute of Sant' Anselmo, Rome.

Father Campion studied at Saint Vincent Seminary, Notre Dame, and received the S.T.L. degree from Sant' Anselmo in Rome. His article "Theology of the Sermon as Part of the Mass" (Worship-March 1964) explains that the purpose of a homily is to convey the good news of the Lord's presence to redeem our present situation — however hopeless it may appear to be. He taught theology at Saint Vincent College and Seminary, and was visiting professor at Penn State and Seton Hill. He also has served as academic dean, provost, and acting president of Saint Vincent College.

A Treasury of Slovak Folk Dress

by Helene Cincebeaux



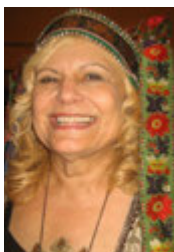
Published in part by a grant of financial support from the Slovak Republic's Office for Slovak's living abroad, this just-published 136-page soft cover book features Slovak kroj (folk dress) from the magnificent Baine/Cincebeaux Collection of Slovak Folk Dress & Folk Art. The book is dedicated to Helene's mother, Helene Zemek Baine, who was so instrumental in helping her daughter obtain many of the pieces in the collection.

About the Author

Helene, along with her mother, has traveled extensively in Slovakia and Central Europe, visiting literally thousands of villages and collecting traditions and folk dress for the past 40+ years. She has had many exhibitions, lectures and publications. Her love for these places led her to help others learn more about Slovakia and to help reunite Americans with their long-lost families there. Helene is a member of Branch 278.

To purchase a copy or for more information, contact the author, Helene Cincebeaux, 151 Colebrook Drive, Rochester, NY, 14617; phone, (585) 342-9383; email,

Author Helene Cincebeaux in colorful folk dress from Lendak



Slovak President Visits U.S.

Andrej Kiska, President of the Slovak Republic since June 15, 2014, recently visited New York to participate in the official meetings at the United Nations. On September 25, the second day of debate he addressed the 69th General Assembly. While in New York, Frantisek Ruzicka, Permanent Representative of Slovakia to the United Nations, held a private reception welcoming Mr. Kiska to the United States. Attending the reception were Miroslav Lajcak, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic; Peter Kmec, Slovak Ambassador to the United States; Jana Trnovcova, Consul General of the Slovak Republic in New York; Martin Butora, former Slovak Ambassador to the United States; Joseph Senko, Honorary Consul for Pennsylvania; and active members of several Slovak organizations.



Kiska was born in Poprad in 1963 and graduated from the Faculty of Electrical Engineering of the Slovak Technical University of Bratislava. In 1990, Kiska moved to the United States for 18 months, working at various jobs before returning to Slovakia to pursue a business career. He started by dealing with jewelry imports. In 1996, Kiska co-founded Triangle and Quatro, the first consumer lending firms to appear on the Slovak market. In recognition of his business activities, Kiska won the 2006 Manager of the Year award from the economic weekly *Trend*. He sold his shares in those businesses in 2005. After selling his businesses, Kiska turned to philanthropy. In 2006, he co-founded the charitable organization Dobry Anjel [Good Angel], which helps financially strapped families in Slovakia and the Czech Republic whose children suffer from serious health conditions. Kiska received the Slovak Crystal Wing award in 2011 for his achievements in philanthropy.

November Commemorates Slovakia's Gentle Revolution



The Velvet Revolution or Gentle Revolution, (Nežná Revolúcia) as it was known in Slovakia, was a non-violent transition of power in what was then Czechoslovakia. The period of upheaval and transition took place from November 16/17 to December 29, 1989. Popular demonstrations against the one-party government of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia combined students and older dissidents. The final result was the end of 41 years of Communist rule in Czechoslovakia, and the subsequent conversion to a parliamentary republic.

On November 16, 1989, Slovak high school and university students organized a peaceful demonstration in the center of Bratislava. The next day, November 17, 1989 (International Students' Day), riot police suppressed a big student demonstration in Prague. That event sparked a series of demonstrations from November 19 to late December. By November 20, the number of protesters assembled in Prague had grown from 200,000 the previous day to an estimated 500,000. A two-hour general strike involving all citizens of Czechoslovakia was held on November 27. On November 24, the entire top leadership of the Communist Party, including General Secretary Miloš Jakeš, resigned.

In response to the collapse of other Warsaw Pact governments and the increasing street protests, the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia announced on November 28 that it would relinquish power and dismantle the single-party state. Two days later, the legislature formally deleted the sections of the Constitution giving the Communists a monopoly of power. Barbed wire and other obstructions were removed from the border with West Germany and Austria in early December. On December 10, President Gustáv Husák appointed the first largely non-communist government in Czechoslovakia since 1948, and resigned. Alexander Dubček was elected speaker of the federal parliament on December 28 and Václav Havel the President of Czechoslovakia on December 29, 1989.

In June 1990, Czechoslovakia held its first democratic elections since 1946.

The term Velvet Revolution was coined by Rita Klímová, the dissidents' English translator who later became the ambassador to the United States. The term was used internationally to describe the revolution, although the Czechs also used the term internally. After the dissolution of Czechoslovakia in 1993, Slovakia used the term Gentle Revolution, the term that Slovaks used for the revolution from the beginning.

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

A Timely Reminder: Why You Should Update Your Beneficiaries

Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary



As mentioned in an earlier edition of Jednota, the need to review and update the designated beneficiaries on your life insurance policies, annuities, or IRA plans is very important.

We only have to pick up a recent newspaper to read the sad details of worst-case scenarios. There is the elderly person who died with a million dollar insurance policy whose spouse and family receive nothing because that person never reviewed and updated a policy that was taken out before the marriage, and so the money goes to a cousin. Or the bachelor who earmarked his retirement account for a charity that no longer exists, and where the money now goes will be determined by the government.

It Pays to Review

The bottom line is that you need to take care of the people and things that matter most to you - the very ones you have designated as heirs to your financial legacy in the first place. Most financial advisors suggest you review your designated beneficiaries at least every three years. Certainly, you need to do so when life hands you a major change. This includes: marriage, divorce, the birth of a child, moving to a new state, or any significant change in financial status that may occur through inheritance or career changes.

Consider Your Contingents

Consider, too, that insurance policies or retirement plans that allow beneficiaries to be directly named should include secondary or contingent beneficiaries as well. This is the person or persons who will receive the proceeds if those you named as primary beneficiary are no longer living. If no contingency beneficiaries are listed, proceeds have to pass through the probate system, causing needless delays and sometimes creating extra costs before being paid.

A Final Thought

Reviewing the beneficiaries on all your important accounts is a straightforward process, and one that should be done on a regular basis. It is also a good time to check with your financial or legal advisor to make sure these changes will produce the results you desire. Then, keep a copy of all beneficiary designations and review them periodically, realizing that you may change your beneficiary designations at any time.

To review or update the beneficiaries on an FCSU insurance policy or annuity, contact your branch officer or the Home Office at 1-800-533-6682, ext. 125. Or you can visit www.fcsu.com/forms and locate the Member Service Request form to download.

Branch 24 Welcomes Cora Rose Strekal

One of Branch 24's newest members, Cora Rose Strekal, was born August 18, 2014, in Mayfield Hts., OH. Cora's entire family, including her father Justin Strekal, mom Frances Strekal, and big brothers Henry and Elias Strekal are members of the branch as well, as grandparents Tom and Terri Ivanec, aunts Anna Gibson and Rose Ivanec, and uncle John Ivanec. Welcome, Cora Rose!



Branch 682's Hirts Featured in Local Newspaper

Andrew M. Hirt, president of Branch 682, and his wife Carol, also a member of Branch 682, were recently featured in the Vindicator, a local newspaper in the Youngstown, OH area. The article highlights their company, Materials Research Laboratories, Inc., a state-of-the-art facility in Struthers, OH. Andrew Hirt is president and senior scientist, while Carol serves as vice president and head of microscopy services. Materials Research Laboratories provides materials-analysis services to industries in the US and abroad. For more, go to: <http://tinyurl.com/kws66ge>

- Submitted by Joseph Scavina, Branch 682

Treasures of Slovakia Tour July 10 - 19, 2015

Touch the heart of Slovakia, find long-lost family



Our 85th Treasures Tour begins with Bratislava's Old Town, and a welcome party with Slovak champagne! Marvel at Banska Bystrica's medieval tower. Enjoy Detva's 49th Folk Festival and unique folk crafts and performers at historic Kezmarok's International Crafts Festival. Marvel at the High Tatra peaks along the way.

Visit walled Levoca to admire Master Pauls' altars from the 1500s. Explore glorious Spis Castle and 13th century Zehra Church, UNESCO Treasures. Feast on Slovak specialties & dance at a Rusyn wedding.

Stara Lubovna's museum of homes depicts birth, wedding & death

customs. Take a unique raft ride on the Dunajec River in scenic Pieniny National Park plus a Goral Picnic with lively local tunes.

A village museum showcases the daily life of your ancestors. Tour Presov and then Kosice to marvel at St. Elizabeth's Cathedral and the famed Singing Fountain. Elegant

Bardejov, the Pearl of Saris, & another UNESCO Treasure, charms with grand St. Egidius Church, a unique Icon Museum and a visit to an ancient onion domed wooden church.

Follow the mighty Vah River on a castle-studded ride. Visit a famed Nativity that focuses on Slovak village life. Immerse in charming Ciemany with its decorated homes.

Take part in a village wedding in Krakovany. Toast the bride! Tour medieval Cerveny Kamen Castle & a historic mill, now a museum of naive folk art.

Explore the Royal Carpathian Wine Road, tour vineyards and sample vintages as we learn about 700 years of wine culture on these verdant slopes. Festive farewell dinner.

Land only price \$2,199 per person

- Submitted by Helene Cincebeaux, Branch 278

- For more information, contact Helene:
151 Colebrook Drive, Rochester, NY 14617
Phone: (585) 342-9383
Email: helenezx@aol.com
Or visit www.treasurestours.com

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Presents

21ST ANNUAL SLOVAK VILIIJA & JASLICKARI PROGRAM



5 p.m. Saturday
December 13,
2014

Traditional Meatless
Christmas Eve Dinner

Entertainment by

The Pittsburgh Slovaks

Performing songs and dances depicting the winter traditions practiced in the Slovakia of our ancestors.

**Donation: \$24 Adults
\$12 Children (ages 3-12)**
Group Discount Available

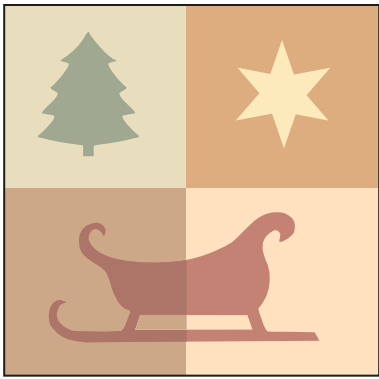
By Reservation Only: 412-481-8380

Prince of Peace Parish Center

81 So. 13th Street, South Side, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Handicap Accessible / Only 150 tickets will be sold

Annual Slovak Christmas Meal (Vilija) at Benedictine



Early in December each year, held in the cafeteria of Benedictine High School, Cleveland, OH, has been a Slovak Traditional Christmas Meal. This traditional meal prepared by local members of the Cleveland Slovak Radio Club and served by monks from St. Andrew Abbey, truly has been considered the start of the Holy Christmas season for many years. This is a meatless meal as was celebrated in Europe and continued here in America.

The date this year is Sunday, December 7, 2014. Beginning the event, noon Mass will be celebrated in the Abbey Church, a short walk on the St. Andrew Abbey grounds from the High School. The meal follows immediately after.

follows immediately after.

Tickets to attend are only sold in advance, to ensure food supply. Dinners are \$20.00 each. Orders are placed by mail, with check, sent in care of:

Saint Andrew Abbey – VILIJA
10510 Buckeye Road
Cleveland, OH 44104

For more information, phone 216 721-5300, ext. 0 (zero), Monday – Friday, 8am until 3:30pm.

Along with the Mass and meal, there is always traditional music and a performance; this year features the Lúčina Slovak Folk Ensemble of Greater Cleveland. Exhibits and tables with sale items are also there. The abbey monks, the Slovak Radio Club members, and staff at the Slovak Institute Library all work together in keeping this tradition going.

The Slovak Institute has been located in the Abbey building since 1952, and before that since 1936 known only as a Slovak Library.

- Submitted by Joe Hornack, Branch 1 Member

VISIT SLOVAKIA---- “THE OLD COUNTRY”



Remember how your parents or grandparents referred to their birthplace as “the old country.” Well now is the time for you to go to Slovakia and visit the ancestral homeland and villages of your family.

Join Kay and Jim Bench as they host the 18th annual Youngstown/Spisska Nova Ves Sister Cities Tour July 13-27, 2015.

See the capital of Slovakia—Bratislava, enjoy award winning folk groups, visit Litmanova where there were documented apparitions of the Blessed Mother appearing to three school children in the 1990’s, enjoy traditional Slovak

food, attend several kolibas, enjoy shopping, go whitewater rafting on the Dunajec River, the natural border between Poland and Slovakia, visit villages such as Cicmany where you will see decorated homes, visit historic Tichy Potok, stay in a beautiful spa in Sliac and enjoy the thermal waters, indoor and outdoor pools and other amenities. Visit relatives and enjoy a luncheon reception with our Sister City Spisska Nova Ves. There are many more activities and cities too numerous to mention in this short article. For further information call Jim or Kay Bench.

Jim Bench cell phone 724-858-5843 e-mail jmbench@yahoo.com

Kay Bench cell phone 724-771-7900

Travel arrangements are made through Adventure International Travel. Contact Paul Hudak at 216-228-7171 or 800-542-2487 or Fax 216-228-7174. E-mail Paul@advintravel.com

Slovak Christmas Items Available from Slovak Institute

Dear Friends!
The Slovak Institute has the following books available:

- Just some books in ENGLISH about Slovaks**
- Let's Learn Slovak - SOLD OUT!!! \$ 5.00
By Philip A. Hrobak - 4th edition 1990
 - Slovak Songs and Dances \$ 7.00
Michael Sinchak, Original edition 1942
 - Slovaks in Florida \$10.00
As researched and written by Andrew F. Hudak, Jr.
 - Remembrances and Testimony \$18.00
Dr. Jozef Tiso and the Slovak Republic 1939 - 1945
By Dr. Charles (Karol) Marin, Secretary for Tiso
 - Cleveland's Buckeye Neighborhood \$22.00
Collection of early ethnic photos with captions, by John T. Sabol
 - Cleveland Slovaks \$22.00
by John T Sabol & Lisa Alzo, described vintage photos
 - Slovaks of the Greater Mahoning Valley \$22.00
Vintage photos from Ohio cities Youngstown to Warren, plus border towns in Pennsylvania, by Susan J. Summers and Loretta A. Ekoniak
 - History of the Slovaks in Cleveland & Lakewood \$24.00
Jan Pankuch's forty years in America, translation of his 1929 book
 - The Night of the Barbarians \$28.00
Experiences under Communism, written by Cardinal Jan Chryzostom Korec, S.J.



SLOVAK INSTITUTE
Reference Library
10510 Buckeye Road
Cleveland, OH 44104
www.slovakinstitute.com
(216) 721-5300 ext. 294

ORDER FORM:

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____

STATE: _____ ZIP _____

Payment Enclosed: \$ _____

Shipping & Handling + 4.00

Total: \$ _____

We thank you for your support of the Slovak Institute

Andrew F. Hudak Director
Joseph J. Hornack Assistant Director

slovakinstitute@cbhs.edu

Seasonal Items

- Odporúčame knihy v Slovenčine.**
- Sv. Andrej-Svorad \$ 7.00
In 1952 by Fr. Mikuláš Šprinc
 - Slovenské Reholie v Amerike \$10.00
In 1955 by Dr. František Hrušovský
 - V Kráľoch Dediny \$10.00
In 1968 by Jozef A. Mikuš
 - Slovenská Republika (SR) 1939-1949 \$20.00
Written by Slovak Institute Member Writers, 1949
 - Driftwood Poems by Mikulas Sprinc \$12.00
Translated to English from Slovak
 - Various Slovakia Landspaces \$15.00
Large used picture books of either Bratislava, Kosice, Orava, Levoca, Tatry or Slovensko (Circle one)
- Large Map of Slovakia (black & white) \$ 10.00
 - SLOVAK Christmas Cards (10/ pkg.) \$ 10.00
 - SLOVAK Christmas Cards (10/pkg) \$ 12.00 U.S. TO CANADA
 - ENGLISH Christmas Cards(10/pkg.) \$ 10.00
 - ENGLISH Christmas Cards (10/pkg) \$ 12.00 U.S. TO CANADA
 - Christmas Oplátky - (1 env. of 3 pcs.) \$ 1.00
 - SLOVAK Easter Cards (10/pkg.) \$ 10.00
 - SLOVAK Easter Cards (10/pkg.) \$ 12.00 U.S. TO CANADA
 - ENGLISH Easter Cards (10/pkg.) \$ 10.00
 - ENGLISH Easter Cards (10/pkg) \$ 12.00 U.S. TO CANADA
 - Flag of Slovak Republic - Small (4"x5.5") \$ 4.00
 - Flag of Slovak Republic - Large (3'x5') \$ 20.00

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800.533.6682, www.fcsu.com, insurance@fcsu.com



Address Changes?

Readers are reminded that all address changes for the JEDNOTA newspaper must be done at the Home Office in Independence, Ohio. If you have an address change, cancellation, or wish to receive the paper, write to: First Catholic Slovak Union, FCSU Corporate Center, 6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence, OH 44131-2398; Phone: 1/800-JEDNOTA (1/800-533-6682); Fax: 1-216-642-4310; or E-mail: fcsu@fcsu.com.

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



**Kerstenije (Krstenie)
- Baptism - Baptism
christening**



**Kečera
performance
in Johnstown,
Pennsylvania**



Kečera's Performance in Johnstown

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

On September 19, 2014, the Rusyn folk group Kečera from Slovakia put on a fabulous performance in Johnstown, Pennsylvania. Kečera treated a packed house to a startling array of Rusyn folk customs and danced away to the delight of the audience.

Kečera hails from the Rusyn village of Jakubany in northeastern Slovakia, just a few miles south of Stará Ľubovňa, and not far from the Polish border. The Johnstown event marked the first stop on Kečera's maiden voyage to the USA. The venue was the Hiram G. Andrews Center in the Westmont section of the Johnstown area, and the attentive audience would not be disappointed. They would enjoy a first class rendition of Rusyn song, dance, and folk traditions from Slovakia.

The Rusyn folk group entertained the audience with traditions which stem from their mountainous environment in the Carpathians. Pastoral and agricultural traditions predominated for centuries in this rural community, as the Rusyns celebrated various events of the year and religious calendar with a flurry of moving songs and lively dancing.

Kečera's program in Johnstown featured the enactment of the following folk customs acted out, and often danced to with accompanying songs.

1. Brata vjinca - The taking of the wreath, a part of a wedding ceremony.
2. Čepiňa - Bonneting, which occurs when a bride proudly receives her marriage bonnet.
3. Spivy - a Medley of Rusyn folk songs, including Ej poď ty divče za mňa (Come marry me girl), and Navčas ráno (Early in the morning).
4. Kerstenije - Baptism/Christening
5. Spiv - A song - Nebudu tu pydu ďale (I'm not staying here, I'm moving on)
6. Na švatoho Jana - On St. John's Day, the time of the summer solstice, which featured the customs of a procession with torches and young men jumping over the St. John's Fire, a vatra (bonfire) to impress the girls.
6. Terta ľanu - Scutching flax

If interested in reading more about these customs, one may refer to the Carpatho-Rusyn society website, which has a link to a brochure about folk customs practiced by Kečera in Jakubany. See http://www.c-rs.org/National/2014Kecera_brochure.pdf.

While Johnstown was Kečera's first stop, it did a nearly two week tour across the USA, including performances at the Tenth Annual Vatra in Parma, Ohio (Cleveland area), at Munhall near Pittsburgh, at Minersville in eastern Pennsylvania, in Harrisburg, in Fairfax, Virginia, in Linden and Hightown, New Jersey, and at the Slovak festival in Holmdel, New Jersey, where Slovakia's new President Andrej Kiska proudly greeted them.

If one wishes to see and hear Kečera performing and could not attend any of these events, the magic of the internet allows one to enjoy the troupe's music. One may find links at the following websites.

Carpatho-Rusyn Society website: <http://www.c-rs.org/National/14kecera.html>

YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CpOI8O-Cpww>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zyDa3uLAjg>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zyDa3uLAjg>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FpimfSGLifM>

Visiting these links will take one to yet more sights and sounds of Kečera. While not the same as attending in person, they give one an idea of the rich traditions in Slovakia which Kečera and the Rusyns of Jakubany have tried to preserve and continue to practice.

All those who attended the Johnstown event owe a round of applause to Mary Ann Sivak from the Pittsburgh area, and Ann Yurcisin, an active member of the Slovak Heritage Society of the Laurel Highlands who worked so hard to bring Kečera to the city for its American debut. Hopefully, Kečera will return again someday to dazzle our eyes and ears.

Fall Slovak Sports Roundup

Tichomir Miko

Slovakia on Road to European Championships



On Sunday, October 12th, the Slovaks continued their winning ways by defeating Belarus 3-1 to strengthen their place on 1st place in Group C of UEFA Euro 2016. So far they are unbeaten in the group, having defeated Ukraine and Spain in their first two matches.

Playing in Boris, Belarus, it took the Slovaks until the 65th minute of the game to score the first goal by Marek Hamšík on a pass from Vladimir Weiss. Timofej Kolačov of Belarus tied the game, but when Miroslav Stoch's cannon shot rebounded off the Belarus crossbar in the 84th minute, Hamšík was there to put it in for his second goal of the game. In the closing minute of the match, Stanislav Šesták added one more goal to make it 3 - 1.

On Thursday, October 9th in Zilina, the Slovak national team ambushed the defending European Champions Spain. Slovakia took a 1-0 lead early in the game on a goal by Juraj Kucka. Spain's goalkeeper couldn't punch out Juraj Kucka's powerful free kick that flew straight at him, letting it glance off his fists and into the net.

The Spaniards finally managed a tying goal late in the second half but Miroslav Stoch answered less than four minutes later racing forward to head in Marek Hamsik's cross with three minutes left in the game, sending the home fans into delirious rapture.

"We were victorious over the Spaniards who are one of the top teams in the world. What a great feeling! We have shown that we can go toe to toe with the best teams in the world," commented team captain Martin Škrtel after the game.

In its first game of the qualifying round in Kiev on Monday, September 8, 2014 Slovakia edged out the Ukrainians 1:0. The goal was scored by Róbert Mak. It was the first time Slovakia had ever defeated Ukraine.

UEFA Euro 2016 is the competition leading to the crowning of Europe's Champion, considered the second most prestigious football (soccer) tournament after the FIFA World Cup. This is a competition among European nations, not individual clubs like the Europa League. The European countries have been divided into nine groups of five or six teams which will contest home and away matches. Slovakia is in group C with Spain, Ukraine, Belarus, Macedonia, and Luxembourg. Slovakia is the only team in group C to have won all its games so far.

Slovakia's next game is on November 15th in Macedonia.

Slovaks in the NHL 2014-2015

The National Hockey League began its 2014-15 on October 9, 2014, with 12 Slovak born players playing on nine teams.



Detroit Redwings have two young forwards Tomáš Tatar and Tomáš Jurčo. It is Tatar's second season, Jurčo's first. Boston carries two veteran Slovak defensemen: the captain of the team Zdeno Chara and Andrej Meszároš. The New York Islanders have defenseman Ľubomír Višňovský playing in front of his countryman, netminder Jaroslav Halak.

Marian Gaborik picks up where he left off, starring on the Los Angeles Kings just as Marian Hossa in Chicago, Andrej Sekera in Carolina, and Tomáš Kopecky in Florida. Marko Dano is rookie playing for the Columbus Blue Jackets.

19 year old Marko Daňo was overjoyed to score his first goal in the NHL in only his second game. "That was an incredible moment for me. I am glad I was able to do it in front of the home crowd and with my father here to witness it," said the Bratislava native after Columbus' 5-2 win over the New York Rangers on October 11th.

Paul Stastny, Canadian born son of Slovak hockey legend Peter Stastny has fit in well with his new team, the St. Louis Blues. He is already leading the team in scoring with four points after only two games. The St. Louis Blues have employed several Slovak players over the last two decades including Peter Stastny, Pavol Demitra, Ľubos Bartecko, and Michal Handzus.

The Maple Leafs claimed forward Richard Panik off waivers from the Tampa Bay Lightning after their disappointing 4-3 loss to Montreal in their season opener. The 23-year-old from Martin, Slovakia had three goals and 13 points in 50 games last season for Tampa. The 6-foot-2, 212-pound right winger played his first game for the Leafs in their second game of the season, a 5-2 loss at home to the Pittsburgh Penguins.

Marian Hossa is inching closer to Peter Bondra's record of most short-handed goals by a Slovak in the NHL. On Saturday, October 11th, he scored his 30th shorthanded goal in the Chicago Blackhawks' 6-2 win over the Buffalo Sabres.

Less than 24 hours after being traded to Winnipeg from Montreal, Slovak netminder Peter Budaj was put on waivers making him available to any club that wished to claim him. With no club showing interest, he was sent to the Winnipeg AHL farm club, St. John's IceCaps. It is first time since entering the NHL with Colorado in 2005 that the 32-year-old finds himself on a farm team. The Banská Bystrica native will be the Jets' highest-paid farmhand, earning a salary of \$1.4 million.

Defenseman Martin Marinčin who played 44 games for Edmonton in the second half of the last season did not keep his spot on the Oilers. Following training camp, the 22 year old native of Kosice was sent to the Oklahoma City Barons of the AHL where he is expected to further develop his offensive skills. He is expected to return to the Oiler line up from time to time to replace injured or unproductive players, and eventually earn a permanent spot.

Ľubomír Višňovský suffered a back injury in training camp and missed the opening games of the Islanders. The 38 year old from Topolčany only played 24 games last season due to a concussion; he scored 3 goals and added 8 assists.

30th Christmas Concert & Dinner December 14 in Yonkers, NY



Continuing in a time-honored and beloved tradition, Most Holy Trinity Parish in Yonkers, NY, will host its 30th annual Christmas concert and dinner on Sunday, December 14, 2014.

The concert, "Upon a Midnight Clear" which will feature traditional and seasonal works, is scheduled for 3 p.m. in the church located at 18 Trinity Plaza in the historic Hollow section of Yonkers where the parish was founded by Slovak immigrants 120 years

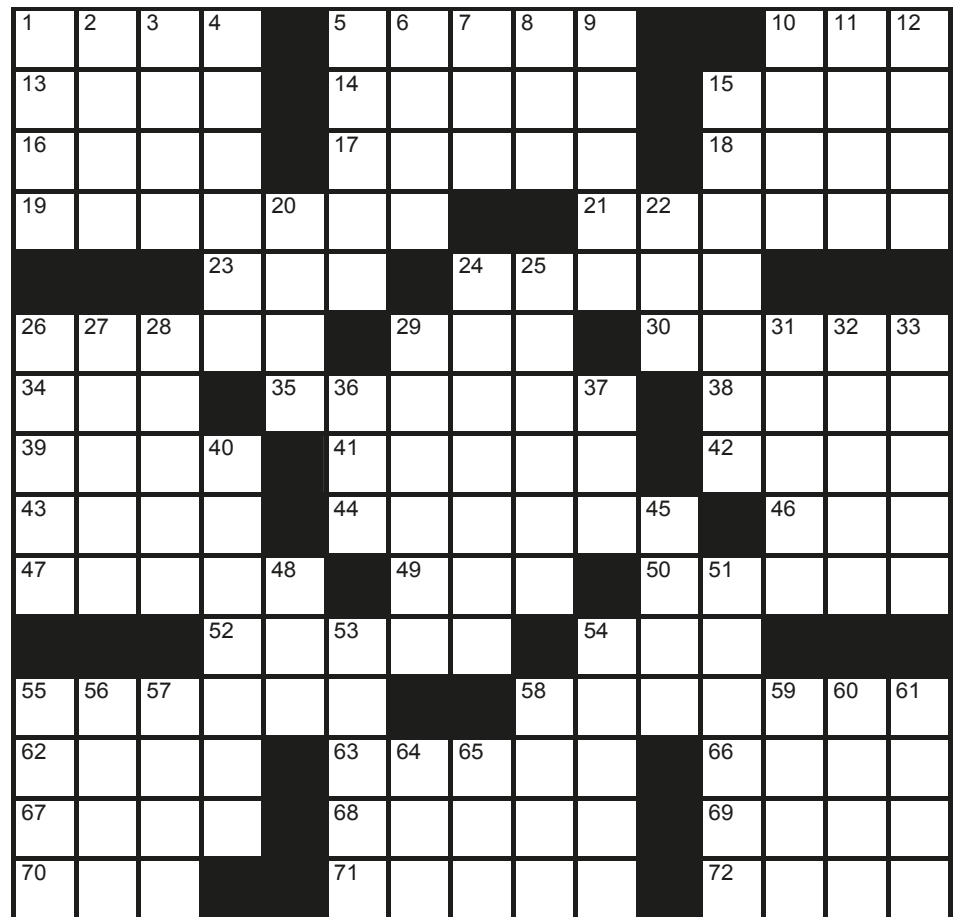
ago. The concert will be under the direction of the Music Minister of the parish and our Jednota member of Branch 41, Stephen J. Knoblock. The voices of the choir, one of the finest in the Archdiocese of New York, will be accompanied by a 12-piece orchestra.

Following the concert, a buffet dinner will be served in the parish social hall. The dinner begins with the traditional sharing of the Oplatky - the Christmas wafers eaten with honey. The dinner's menu will feature an array of Slovak culinary specialities including klobasy and kapusta, pirohy, halusky as well as roast pork and chicken, followed by an assortment of pastries for dessert along with tea and coffee. Beer, wine and soda are included in the ticket price. The cost of the ticket which includes the concert and dinner is \$35.00 per person for adults and \$17.50 for children, ages 12 and younger. Cost of the concert alone is \$10.00. Advance reservations only. For reservations, call the rectory at tel. (914)963-0720. Tickets are also available following the weekend liturgies in church.

Father Susai Antony D, administrator of the parish, extends a cordial invitation to Jednota members both near and far to join the parish as it celebrates its 120th anniversary at this year's concert and dinner. An enjoyable evening is assured.

- Submitted by Dan Tanzone, Branch 41

Jednota Crossword Puzzle



Across

- 1 Pub offerings
- 5 Lay out dough
- 10 Garden tool
- 13 Hillock
- 14 Coat of mail
- 15 Tableland
- 16 Little devils
- 17 Bruce Dern's daughter
- 18 Certain paints
- 19 Allegiance
- 21 *Some Like It Hot* actress
- 23 Word of possibility
- 24 Tropical fruit
- 26 Sat for a picture
- 29 Criticize
- 30 Bouquet
- 34 Phone number add-on (Abbr.)
- 35 Burns with liquid
- 38 Study hard
- 39 Buttonhole, e.g.
- 41 Gazetteer
- 42 Parsley or sage
- 43 Game piece
- 44 Rampaged
- 46 Ripen
- 47 Impact sound
- 49 Be in debt
- 50 Staler
- 52 Some horses
- 54 *Tarzan* extra
- 55 Protrudes
- 58 High crime
- 62 Literary pseudonym
- 63 Lukewarm
- 66 Disreputable nightclub
- 67 Baseball's Slaughter
- 68 Muse of poetry
- 69 Modify
- 70 Summer cooler

Down

- 71 Stubble remover
- 72 Cincinnati nine
- 40 SWAT weapon
- 45 Ignoramus
- 48 Boot part
- 51 Chieftain
- 53 Daisylike bloom
- 54 Passion
- 55 Meat choice
- 56 Arm bone
- 57 Zoo sight
- 58 Mambo king Puente
- 59 Type of order
- 60 *Tristia* poet
- 61 Trawling equipment
- 64 Victorian, for one
- 65 La ___, Bolivia
- 1 Seed coat
- 2 Car with a bar
- 3 Glimpse
- 4 Seed type
- 5 Brackish
- 6 Beseech
- 7 Australian runner
- 8 Neither's partner
- 9 Video store category
- 10 Child of fortune?
- 11 Kon-Tiki Museum site
- 12 Alleviate
- 15 Large migratory American butterfly
- 20 Chaps
- 22 Egg cells
- 24 Humor type
- 25 Add new news
- 26 Annoying persons
- 27 Primrose
- 28 Moonshine machine
- 29 Food allowance
- 31 Greek mountain nymph
- 32 One of the Simpsons
- 33 Natural resin
- 36 Caboose, e.g.
- 37 Compass dir.

JEDNOTA

Publication Schedule for 2014

Issue Date	Deadline
November 19	November 10
December 3	November 24

Publication Schedule for 2015

January 14	January 5
January 28	January 19
February 11	February 2
March 4	February 23
March 18	March 9
April 22	April 13
May 6	April 27
May 20	May 11
June 10	June 1
July 15	July 6
August 12	August 3
Sept 9	August 31
Sept 23	Sept 14
October 7	Sept 28
October 21	October 12
November 4	October 26
November 18	November 9
December 9	November 30

See Solution on Page 18

VETERANS DAY IS NOVEMBER 11



Veterans Day is an official United States holiday that honors people who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces, also known as veterans. It is a federal holiday that is observed on November 11. It coincides with other holidays such as Armistice Day and Remembrance Day, which are celebrated in other parts of the world and also mark the anniversary of the end of World War I. (Major hostilities of World War I were formally ended at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918, when the Armistice with Germany went into effect.)

Not to be confused with Memorial Day, Veterans Day celebrates the service of all U.S. military veterans. Memorial Day is a day of remembering the men and women who died while serving.

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

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

The United States Congress passed a concurrent resolution seven years later on June 4, 1926, requesting that President Calvin Coolidge issue another proclamation to observe November 11 with appropriate ceremonies. A Congressional Act approved May 13, 1938, made the 11th of November in each year a legal holiday: "a day to be dedicated to the cause of world peace and to be thereafter celebrated and known as 'Armistice Day'."

In 1945, World War II veteran Raymond Weeks from Birmingham, Alabama, had the idea to expand Armistice Day to celebrate all veterans, not just those who died in World War I. Weeks led a delegation to Gen. Dwight Eisenhower, who supported the idea of National Veterans Day. President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed the bill into law on May 26, 1954.

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

Although originally scheduled for celebration on November 11 of every year, starting in 1971 in accordance with the Uniform Monday Holiday Act, Veterans Day was moved to the fourth Monday of October. In 1978, it was moved back to its original celebration on November 11. While the legal holiday remains on November 11, if that date happens to be on a Saturday or Sunday, then organizations that formally observe the holiday will normally be closed on the adjacent Friday or Monday, respectively.

TO ALL JEDNOTARS:

As discussed by our National President Andrew M. Rajec in previous issues of Jednota, the Memorial site on the facing page is on a permanently dedicated 1/2 acre of land on the Jednota property fronting on Rosedale Avenue in Middletown, PA. It sits on the land once occupied by the Jednota Orphanage. The Society is utilizing the existing "Doughboy" statute, re-bronzing it and also including those who served in any wars.

While Veteran's Day is a wonderful time to consider participating in this project, it is important to reiterate that this memorial is not restricted to veterans or families of veterans - giving the opportunity for our Members to honor and remember their ancestors and family members who have made and make our Society great.



BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

BRANCH 2 – PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

St Michael's Branch 2 will hold its annual meeting on Tuesday December 2, 2014, at 7pm at Silviani's on Babcock Blvd in the North Hills. On the agenda is election of officers for the 2015 term; plans for the 125th anniversary of our lodge and events for the coming year. If you plan to attend you must make a reservation by calling Joanne at 412 766 3222 or Susan at 412 421 1204.

Respectfully submitted

Joanne Lako, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 3P – HAZLETON, PENNSYLVANIA

The 2014 annual meeting of Saint Joseph Society, Branch 003P, will be held at 9:30 am on Sunday November 16, 2014 in Saint Joseph's Church cafeteria at North Laurel

Street in Hazleton, PA. Election of officers for 2015 will be conducted followed by a short update on local branch activities. New ideas will be entertained and any changes of address or beneficiaries can be submitted at this meeting. Refreshments will be served.

Come join us to offer your input for the success of our society.

Mike Koval, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 6 – STREATOR, ILLINOIS

The St. Stephen Society, Branch 06K, will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, December 28, 2014, at Chippers Grill, 1733 N. Bloomington St., Streator, IL. A meeting will begin at 12 noon and will be followed with a lunch and fraternalism. The agenda will include: the election of officers for 2015, a discussion of the 2015 schedule, and a membership drive. We urge all our members to attend and call 815-822-8851 or 815-672-1764 for insurance questions or problems.

Paul Chismar, Secretary/Treasurer

BRANCH 10 – OLYPHANT, PENNSYLVANIA

St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 10, will hold its Annual Meeting, Audit and Election of Officers at 12:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 7, at the Regal Room, 216 Lackawanna Ave., Olyphant, Pennsylvania.

William Nalevanko, Secretary

BRANCH 19 - BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 19K, will hold its breakfast meeting on Sunday, November 9, 2014. Mass will be offered by Msgr. Joseph Pekar for our members at 8:30AM in St. Cyril and Methodius Church, 79 Church Street, Bridgeport, CT. Following the Mass, members are invited to return to the Rev. Matthew Jankola Hall in the lower level of the church for our regular meeting and breakfast.

At this meeting, the John A. Zahor Scholarships will be awarded to the following college freshman:

Lauren Brainard
Elizabeth Bruchansky
Nicole Alyssa Clehowsky
Alyssa Pudill
Christopher Ambrose Zahor

This scholarship was established in recognition of the many years John A. Zahor served as president of the St. Joseph Society from 1936 until his death in 1979. His commitment to the education of young members is furthered by this scholarship.

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

Paul Kavanewsky
Adam Kocurek
Christopher Skolka

This grant was established to honor Andrew J. Imbro for his dedication and service as Financial Secretary of St. Joseph Society, Branch 19K.

The branch's annual meeting will be held on Sunday, December 14, 2014, at 9:30AM in St. Cyril and Methodius Church Hall, 79 Church Street, Bridgeport, CT. The election of officers will take place at this meeting and the distribution of our annual donations to our special charities.

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

Henry Zack, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 24 - CLEVELAND, OHIO

Branch 24, St. Andrew Society, will hold a branch meeting at 1:00 PM, Sunday, November 23, 2014 at the Old Town Hall, 6652 Brecksville Rd. (Rt. 21) in Independence, OH. Free parking is available behind the gazebo on the town square. Refreshments will be served.

The agenda will include the election of officers for 2015.

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

Bob Kopco, President

BRANCH 24 - CLEVELAND, OHIO

Branch 24, St. Andrew Svorad Society, will again be providing complimentary tickets for branch members only for the St. Andrew Abbey Viliya Dinner Sunday, December 7, 2014 at St. Andrew Abbey 10510 Buckeye Road. Mass is at 12:00 with dinner to follow.

Reservations are required and available by calling Activities Director Susan Lang at 216/896-0957 after 6:00PM. The deadline is Friday, November 21.

For non-members or to purchase additional tickets call the Abbey at 216/721-5300 extension 0.

For further details see announcement in this newspaper [Editor's note: see p. 9]

Bob Kopco, President

BRANCH 35 – BRADDOCK, PENNSYLVANIA

The annual meeting of Branch 35 will be held on Saturday, December 20, 2014, at 1:00PM at the residence of Joseph Yuros, 1987 Centurion Drive, Pittsburgh, PA.

Agenda items will include convention reports from delegates, officers' reports, discussion of branch activities, general business and election of officers for the new year.

Janet Sullivan, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 45 - NEW YORK, NEW YORK

The St. Matthew the Evangelist Society, Branch 45, will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, November 30, 2014 at 12:30 p.m. after the Slovak Mass at St. John Nepomucene Church, 66th Street and First Avenue, New York City. On the agenda will be a financial report, officers' reports, a report on last year's activities, election of officers, and a discussion of events for the upcoming year. We urge all members to attend this meeting.

Maria Jurasi, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 55 – BROOMALL, PENNSYLVANIA

The Annual Meeting of Branch 55 K.J. is scheduled to be held on Sunday, December 28, 2014 at 2:00 P.M. at the residence of the Secretary-Treasurer in the Dining Room at the Wesley Enhanced Living complex, 8401 Roosevelt Boulevard, Philadelphia, PA.

Elections will be held for Branch Officers and Delegates and their Alternates to the District 8 meetings, Regular business will also be conducted. Lunch will be served. Please bring non-perishable food for Aid for Friends in Need. All members are cordially invited to attend.

Lunch will be catered; therefore, we request that you RSVP by December 8th in order to

make reservations at the Wesley.

For directions to the meeting, please call the President at (610) 356-7956 or Secretary at (215) 637-6530.

In the event of severe weather, or any other emergency, we will conduct a telephone conference meeting with those who cannot attend.

Fraternally yours,

Helena T. Gaydos, President

BRANCH 60 - MCKEESPORT, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 60 will hold its annual meeting Sunday, November 23, 2014 at the home of President Ann Wargovich (58 Lilmont Drive, Swissvale, PA) at 1:00 p.m.

On the agenda will be Officers' reports, election of officers, and discussion of the Jednota 2014 convention in Philadelphia.

All members are urged to attend.

Julie Perla, Secretary

BRANCH 85 - BLAKELY, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Florian Society, Branch 85K, will hold its fall meeting on Tuesday, November 18, 2014, at 7:00PM, at the Jessup American Legion Post 411, Church Street, Jessup, PA. The agenda will include election of officers for 2015.

Bernard Skovira, President

BRANCH 112 – MAHANAY CITY, PENNSYLVANIA

The annual meeting of St. John the Baptist, Branch 112, Mahanoy City, PA will be held on Sunday, December 7, 2014. The meeting will begin at noon at Palermo's Restaurant on the Pottsville-Minersville Highway. The agenda will include a report on the convention and election of officers. Please call Karen Sterling at 570-640-1796 for more information.

Karen Sterling, Secretary

BRANCH 157 – CATASAUQUA, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Andrew, Branch 157, will be holding a meeting on November 23, 2014. The meeting will be held in the upstairs hall at 5th & Grove in N Catasauqua PA. On the agenda will be the Christmas party, discussion on the Convention, recent district meeting. Ways to get new members. Hope to see new faces at the meeting. Branch 157 wishes everyone a Happy and safe Thanksgiving.

Gregory Harakal, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 169P - JOHNSTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Michael's Branch 169P will hold its yearly meeting on Tuesday, December 9, 2014 at 2:00PM at the Slivovsky residence: 1510 Emmett Drive, Johnstown, PA 15905. Lodge business will be discussed. All members are welcome.

Betty Slivovsky, Secretary

BRANCH 173 – GREATER WILKES-BARRE-WYOMING VALLEY AREA

The Saint John the Baptist Society, Branch Number 173, located in the greater Wilkes-Barre-Wyoming Valley Area, will hold its annual meeting on **December 7, 2014** at Norms, North Sherman Street, Wilkes-Barre, beginning at 12:30 pm.

General Business and activities of Branch 173 will be discussed, and insurance, annuities and fraternal activities of the First Catholic Slovak Union. In addition officers will be elected for Branch 173.

Please make every effort to attend and notify Dorothy A. Ungvarsky at 570-4032067, so arrangements can be made.

Fraternally,

John A. Ungvarsky, President

BRANCH 181 – UNITED, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 181 will hold a meeting on November 8, 2014, immediately following the 5PM Mass at St. Florian Church, 4261 Rt. 981, PO Box 187, United, PA. The meeting will be held in the St. Florian Formation Building on church grounds. On the agenda: finalizing plans for the Vilija.

The next meeting of Branch 181 will take place on Dec 6, 2014, immediately following the 5PM Mass at St. Florian Church, 4261 Rt. 981, PO Box 187, United, PA. On the agenda: the election of officers.

Geraldine Kovacina, Secretary

BRANCH 199 – HOSTETTER, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 199 will hold their semi-annual meeting for the election of officers on Sunday, December 7th at 1:00 PM at Jioio's Restaurant, Route 981, Latrobe, PA 15650. We encourage you to attend.

Barb Patula, Secretary/Treasurer

BRANCH 200 – FORD CITY, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 200 will hold its annual Election of Officers at our regular meeting on December 4, 2014, following our 7:00pm Board of Directors meeting upstairs in the Social Hall @ 910 6th Avenue, Ford City, PA.

We encourage ALL members to attend and get involved with. We are looking forward to seeing you there. There are open positions on the Board if anyone is interested in more details, please call Vicki Schaub @ 724-763-9229.

The Slovak CU Club is very proud to have been able to give \$11,000.00 in scholarship donations this past August. The money came from the SGOC that was supported by social and beneficial members at the Club. Thanks to all the patrons that helped make this happen.

We had eight delegates, John Augustine, Paul Klacka, Rudy Popolis, Grace Charney, Bill Charney, Twila Anthony, Karen McCullough, and myself that attended the National Convention in Philadelphia, PA. "Thank You" for your representation of Branch 200. This was a wonderful and educational experience for each of us.

Fraternally,

Vicki Schaub, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 228 – LORAIN, OHIO

The St. John the Baptist/Holy Trinity Lodge, Branch 228 of the First Catholic Slovak Union will hold their next meeting on Monday, November 17, 2014 at 7 P.M. at the American Slovak Club on 30th and Broadway in Lorain, Ohio. Our meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of each month except for the months of January, February, July and August when no meetings are held. All meetings begin at 7 P.M. and are held at the American Slovak Club. The branch will hold its annual election of officers and bylaw review during each December meeting. The exact date for this year's election meeting is December 15, 2014. At that time, we will also elect two (2) representatives to serve on the American Slovak Club Board of Directors. We have two vacant (2) lodge offices (Vice-President and Auditor) we would like to fill as current officers are doing double duties. I appeal to our younger members to become active in our lodge to help direct our branch as well as becoming involved with the Slovak Club and the United Slovak Societies. Visit the websites for the FCSU at fcsu.com and the Slovak Club at americanslovakclub.com for an update on current activities. Come to our meetings. They are fun, informative and help to promote fraternal camaradery.

At this time, I would like to give special recognition to the gang from Akron Branch 553 for the outstanding job they do with the Kielbasa Open. Greg Petrask, Debbie Speck, Linda Hanko and

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BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

continued from page 14

many others combine their talents to present one of the finest golf outings one could find in our area. And a special shout out to George Kacsanek and the kitchen staff at the Akron J Club for some of the best kielbasa you will ever taste. Keep up the great work. May God bless all of you.

Thomas B. Zuffa, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 259 – STRUTHERS, OHIO

The St. Michael the Archangel Society, Branch 259, will hold an annual meeting at the Bedford Trails Golf Course in Coitsville, OH, on Sunday, December 14, 2014, at 1:00PM. We will have an election of officers, followed by a discussion of plans for the coming year. All members are invited to attend.

We wish all our members a Holy and Happy Holiday Season.

Vivian Sedlacko, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 266 - HAZLETON, PENNSYLVANIA

The annual meeting of Saint Peter and Paul Society, Branch 266, will be held on Sunday November 16, 2014 at 9:30 am in Saint Joseph's Church cafeteria at 604 North Laurel Street in Hazleton, PA. Officers will be elected for 2015, and suggestions for branch activities for next year will be discussed. Please spread the word so more of our members will attend and become involved in branch activities. Light refreshments will be served. Join us for a relaxing and hopefully refreshing experience.

Richard Lazar, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 276 - MCKEESPORT, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 276 will hold its winter meeting at 1PM on Sunday, November 23, 2014. The meeting will be held in the hall at St Patrick Roman Catholic Church on 32nd Street in McKeesport, PA. The meeting will include officers' reports, discussion of branch business, and planning for 2015. Branch officers for 2015 will be elected at this meeting. We will review highlights of decisions made at the 50th convention. Final plans will be made for hosting the district meeting on December 14.

Fraternally,

Margaret A. Nasta, President

BRANCH 292 – WINDBER, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. John the Baptist Society, FCSU, Branch 292, will hold their Annual Meeting and Christmas Party on Sunday, December 14, 2014 at 12:30 p.m. at the Slovak Club, 1300 Jackson Avenue, Windber, Pa. The meeting will be held first, followed by the Christmas Party. All members are asked to attend.

We wish all members a Blessed and Happy Christmas and a Blessed New Year.

Edward T. Surkosky, F.I.C., President

BRANCH 293 - LANSFORD, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Joseph's Society, Branch 293KJ, will hold its annual meeting on Monday, December 8, 2014, at the home of the financial secretary Robert J. Lakata, 527 E. Bertsch St., Lansford, PA 18232, at 6PM. Anyone needing service or more insurance should call 570-645-4872, and your call will be returned as soon as possible.

Robert J. Lakata, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 313 – CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Branch 313 will hold its meeting on Saturday, December 6, 2014, at 11:30AM at the home of Curtis Johnson, 16913 Creekside Ave., Tinley Park, IL, 60477. Elections of officers will take place. We also will have a discussion on how to

increase membership enrollment. We still have members with unknown addresses. Please call our Branch Secretary Curtis Johnson at (708) 429-6496 or President Joseph Bugel at (708) 349-7873.

Thank you kindly,

Joseph M. Bugel, President

BRANCH 320 – STOCKDALE, PENNSYLVANIA

The officers of SS Peter & Paul Society, Branch 320, invite their members to attend the branch's next meeting on Sunday, December 6, 2014, at 1:00PM, at the residence of Frances Tarquinio, 209 Sylvan Drive, Belle Vernon, PA. Since lunch will be prepared, please call Fran at (724) 929-9788 and let her know if you will be attending. On the agenda will be the election of officers, along with other business. Members are urged to attend.

Mary Anne Higginbotham, President

BRANCH 372 – BEAVERDALE, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 372, will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, December 28, 2014, at 2:00PM. The meeting will be held at the home of President Michael P. Hudak, Sr., 829 Cameron Avenue, Beaverdale, PA. The agenda for the meeting will include a review of financial reports and election of officers for the year 2015.

Respectfully,

Michael P. Hudak, Sr., President

BRANCH 382 – SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA

The Saints Cyril and Methodius Society, Branch 382K, will hold its Annual Fall Meeting on Sunday, November 9, 2014. Branch President Frank M. Slovenkai, Jr. will convene the meeting at noon in the VFW, 110 Chestnut Street, Dunmore, Pennsylvania.

The agenda will include reports of the officers. Delegates will report on the 50th Quadrennial Convention of the FCSU as well as the District 17 picnic and meeting. Information from the home office will be disseminated. The body will discuss charitable donations and future activities.

Election of officers for 2015 will take place.

Refreshments will be provided.

All Branch 382K members are encouraged to attend. The officers remind all members that "Fraternalism is a family affair."

In addition to President Frank, the other Branch 382K officers include Elizabeth M. Slovenkai, vice president; Michael J. Czankner, secretary; Michael J. Slovenkai, Sr., treasurer; and John J. Slovenkai, Sr., financial secretary.

Elizabeth M. Slovenkai, Vice President

BRANCH 410 – UNIONTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

Members of Branch 410 will meet at the Bob Evans in Uniontown at 1:00pm on December 4, 2014. Elections of officers for 2015 will be on the agenda. Members are encouraged to attend.

Geri Buchheit, Recording & Financial Secretary

BRANCH 419 - WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Stephen the Martyr will hold an annual meeting on Sunday, December 7, 2014. Discussions will be held on plans for next year, as we will also hold election of officers. The meeting will be at 1:00PM at Norm's Restaurant, Sherman St., Wilkes-Barre, PA. Refreshments will be served.

Frank Wassil, President

P.S. - Bring a potential member!

BRANCH 450 – CLEVELAND, OHIO

Branch 450 will be holding a meeting on Saturday December 6, 2014 at noon at Holy Spirit Byzantine Catholic Church hall, 5500 West 54th

Street, Parma Ohio 44129.

A Christmas party for children will be held at 1 pm following the meeting. Those planning to attend are asked to contact George Carny at 440-885-5702 so that we can have an accurate count to provide gifts for the children attending.

Lori Valencik, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 493 – CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Branch 493 will hold a meeting on November 29, 2014, at Mabenka Restaurant, 7844 S. Cicero Avenue, Burbank, IL. The event will begin at 1:30PM, with fraternal fellowship and refreshments, followed by the annual meeting at 2:00PM and a Christmas luncheon afterwards. Reservations must be made by November 6, 2014 by calling Robert Ľapák Magruder at (773) 558-5956 or (502) 244-6643.

Fraternally,

Robert Ľapák Magruder

BRANCH 553 – AKRON, OHIO

November 23 - Branch Lodge Meeting will

be held at the Slovak "J" Club at 2:00PM for the election of officers.

December 7th - Annual Vilija Celebration - details will be published at a later date.

Hope to see everyone at these upcoming events.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandie Klucar, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 567 - ALLEN TOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, Branch 567KJ will hold their annual meeting on Tuesday, November 18, 2014 at 1:00pm at the home of the recording secretary-- Loretta Dashner, 419 East Hamilton St., Allentown, PA.

On the agenda will be our annual financial report and nomination and election of officers for the year 2015.

There will be a discussion regarding the annual District Meeting which was held in Washington, DC. on September 14, 2014.

We will have a report for our fundraiser for this year. We will also discuss fundraising ideas for

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DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISTRICT 3-GEORGE ONDA DISTRICT-WESTMORELAND COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

The George Onda District will hold its annual Stedry Vecer on Sunday, December 7, 2014, at the Bishop Connare Center, Route 30 East, Greensburg, Pennsylvania. The evening will begin with Mass at 4:00 p.m. in the Chapel. Our festive traditional Slovak Christmas Eve Dinner will follow in the dining room. After the awarding of door prizes, the Pittsburgh Slovaks will entertain. Please plan to attend and preserve this beautiful custom. Tickets this year are: \$22 for ages 12 to adult; and \$10 for ages 3 to 11. Reserve your tickets prior to November 30 by calling Darlene at 724-537-7743 after 6 p.m. No reservations will be accepted after November 30 or by the Bishop Connare Center.

Linda L. Gonta, Secretary

DISTRICT 6 - THE PITTSBURGH DISTRICT

Branch 276 will host the annual Fall/Winter meeting of the Pittsburgh District on Sunday, December 14, from 5:30 to 7:30, at Holy Trinity Parish, 529 Grant Street Extension, West Mifflin, PA 15122. The meeting will begin with dinner; the business meeting will follow. Reservations are a must. Please RSVP to manasta@verizon.net or leave a message at 412-672-0379. Please respond by December 1. The meeting will include officers' reports, discussion of district business, and planning for meetings and events in 2015. District Officers for 2015 will be elected at this meeting. We will also review highlights of decisions made at the 50th convention. There will be a Christmas presentation after our meeting by the Pittsburgh Slovaks.

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

** WPSCA monthly meetings are held on the 1st Monday of the month at 7 PM at the Mt Lebanon Public Library. Topics are: December 1: Ellis Island, January 5: Wood Carvings, February 2: Researching and Publishing Slovak Family History, March 2: Slovak Easter Customs. Consider joining the WPSCA and get their newsletter.

** Slovak Language Classes are held Tuesdays in the fall & spring. Call Joe Senko at 412-956-6000 during office hours for information about reservations and fees.

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

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

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

Fraternally,

Margaret A. Nasta, Secretary

DISTRICT 12 – MONSIGNOR ANDREW HLINKA

On Sunday, November 16, 2014, at 1:00PM, a meeting of the Andrew Hlinka District will be held at Kings Restaurant in Bentleyville, PA. There will be an election of officers and discussions relative to district business. Members of the various branches are urged to attend. Any questions, call Dorothy Petrus at (724) 379-5881.

Frances Tarquinio, Secretary

DISTRICT 20 – PRINCE RASTISLAV

The District's Annual meeting will be held on November 16, 2014 at the STS CYRIL & METH-ODIUS Church Hall immediately following the eleven (11) o'clock Mass.

The agenda will include the Social Calendar for 2015, the purchase of a Memorial Brick, results of Convention, and election of officers. Branches 784 and 810 are urged to send representatives.

Refreshments will be served.

Alexander S. Dobrik, President



Rest in Peace, Our Departed Members

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



Branch	Name	Branch	Name	Branch	Name	Branch	Name
005P	Mary Catherine Eshelman	211K	Catharine Louise Smith	382K	Robert P Kaskiel	667K	Bernard Hirchak
016P	Thomas S Territo Sr	240P	Joseph S Samson	388K	John J Megrey	670K	Frank L Zemencik
024K	Emily Baricak	259K	Donald P Joseph	388K	Robert P Milyak Sr	731K	George Vukovich
055K	Ann E Zlatkus	312K	George J Ridilla Sr	497K	Raymond J Kendzicky	746K	Rita Rose Fedor
152K	Thomas P Korshalla	312K	Adelaide Marie Semanchek	553K	Helen D Garanich	746K	Keith Peter Sorensen
165K	John A Dzuricky	320K	Theodore Stawovy	553K	Andrew J Kacsanek	769K	Samuel A Kucko
169P	Francis Oleksak	358K	John J Kantarik	553K	Donald F Mace	856K	Albert P Solga
173K	Robert J Kolman	362K	Margaret Malaney	581K	Stephen G Zabrecky Jr	900K	Franklin J Klesack
181K	William John Kern	372K	Joseph T Dobis	587K	Stephen Andrascik		
199K	Martin M Kitsko	372K	Emory Hovanec	628K	Elaine C Opatick		

*Processed through the month of October 2014

OBITUARIES

SISTER ANNA MAE KUZMA BRANCH 4 – PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA



Sister Anna Mae (formerly known as Sister Roseleen), 83, a member of the School Sisters of St. Francis, United States Province and in her 66th year of profession, died at Vincentian Home on October 13, 2014.

Sister Anna Mae entered the community from Holy Family Parish in Erie, PA, in 1944 and professed her first vows in 1948 at Mount Assisi Convent Chapel in Pittsburgh, PA. She received a B.S. in Education from Carlow University, a M.S. in Education and a M.S. in Religious Education from Duquesne University, both in Pittsburgh.

Throughout her earlier years of ministry, Sister Anna Mae taught grades one through six in parish schools in New Castle, McKees Rocks, Canonsburg, Northampton and Clymer, PA. She later taught Home Economics or Family & Consumer Sciences at Mount Assisi Academy from 1961-68. After completing her Master's Program for Religious Education, she spent the next 10 years coordinating parish catechesis programs in Canonsburg, Center Township and Erie Pa. From 1981-85 she served as Vocation Director for the former Pittsburgh Province. Throughout her religious life she was known to encourage young men and women to enter religious life. Her nephew, Deacon John Paul Kuzma, OFM, Cap. thanks Sister Anna Mae for encouraging him to become a Franciscan priest.

She used her gifts and talents as a campus Minister at Penn State-Behrend Campus in Erie, PA until her stroke in 1996. She then came to live at Mount Assisi and spent her remaining years in prayer ministry and reaching out to others.

Sister Anna Mae was very creative and, during her time at Mount Assisi, she was the author of the following books: Tales of Franciscan Calls – The School Sisters of St. Francis, The Faith Journey of a God Jr., The Shadow of a Great Rock, and Surviving a Stroke with Style and Grace. She also spent her time writing to shut-ins, the elderly and those who needed to hear God's "Good News" from someone who also shared their sufferings.

Sister Anna Mae was the first child of 10 siblings, all of whom are still living. She was preceded in death by her parents, Joseph and Anna. She is survived by her religious community, her brothers: Francis, Deacon Glenn, Paul, Joseph and Michael; her sisters: Therese Taft, Sister Roselyn, OSF, Mary Ellen Haynes, Pauline Kisiel, and Marilyn Moore; 29 nieces and nephews, 44 great nieces and nephews, 8 great, great nieces and nephews and many cousins, including Sister Ellen Gresock, OSF, a member of the Sisters of St. Francis of the Neumann Communities.

The viewing was from 2 to 8 p.m. at Mount As-

sisi Convent on Thursday, October 16. The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at 4 p.m. on Friday, October 17, in Queen of Angels Chapel, Mount Assisi Convent in Pittsburgh, PA.

SISTER VIVIAN MITALA BRANCH 4 – PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

A Sister of Charity of Nazareth, KY, passed into eternity on September 19, 2014, at the age of 95 and in the 79th year of her religious life. Sister originally entered the Congregation of the Vincentian Sisters of Charity from St. Joseph Parish in Clairton, PA in 1935. After receiving her teaching credentials, Sister taught for seven years in the elementary school in the Pittsburgh and Greensburg Dioceses. When she expressed an interest in working in the medical field, she spent one year in study at St. Louis University in Missouri. She then went on to Ohio Valley Hospital for training as a Registered Medical Records Librarian. Sister Vivian was assigned to St. Jude Hospital in Montgomery, Alabama to organize and establish the Medical Records Library. Later, Sister Vivian moved on to St. Vincent Hospital in Monett, Missouri, serving as Medical Librarian and head of the Medical Records Department for 43 years. When Sister retired to the Motherhouse in 2003, she helped in the Business Office for two years until complications following surgery left her partially paralyzed. She became a resident at the Vincentian Home, where she remained until her death. Sister was well-known for her gentle demeanor, prayerful spirit and complete trust in God. Very often, she was found in the chapel, deep in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. Sister Vivian was preceded in death by her parents, Andrew and Susan Mitala; and her siblings, Anna, Andrew, and John. She is survived by her nephews, Jack and Ronald Mitala. Friends were received at St. Louise Convent, 8200 McKnight Road, Pittsburgh, PA on Tuesday, September 23, 2014, from 2:00 - 8:00 p.m. The Mass of Christian Burial was offered in the convent chapel on Wednesday, September 24, 2014, at 11:00 a.m., followed by interment in the Sister's cemetery on the convent grounds.

DEANA CELESTA GISSUEBEL BRANCH 254 – PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

Deanna Celeste Giesuebel, age 75, passed away after battling an extended illness on September 8, 2014, with her family surrounding her. She was born in McKees Rocks, PA, the oldest of five children. Predeceased in death by her parents John and Ann Seroky and her sister Mary, she is survived by her husband, Kenneth of Orlando, children Brian (Frances) Giesuebel of Orlando, Danette Giesuebel of Orlando, Tommy (Pamela) Giesuebel of Ocoee, Terriann (Charles) Wright of Ocoee and



grandchildren, Thomas Giessuebel Jr., Peyton Giessuebel and Joseph Giessuebel. She is survived by her brother Ronnie and sisters Elaine and Jonella.

She married her husband of 54 years at St. Paul's the Apostle Catholic Church in Irvington, NJ. After relocating their family to Orlando, Deanna worked for Orange County Public Schools. She enjoyed being a part of her children's and grandchildren's lives by going to their recitals, sporting events and family gatherings. Deanna was an avid reader and she treasured her friends. She and her husband are parishioners of St. James Cathedral. Her favorite season was Christmas where no corner of the house was left unadorned.

Funeral arrangements were entrusted to the DeGusipe Funeral Home, Maitland FL.

- Submitted by Kenneth Giessuebel

DONALD P. JOSEPH, SR. BRANCH 259 – STRUTHERS, OHIO

Funeral Services were held Tuesday, August 19, 2014, at 10:30AM at the Clemente Funeral Home, followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at 11AM at the Christ Our Savior/St. Nicholas Church, both in Struthers, OH, for Donald P. Joseph Sr., 85, who passed away Friday evening, August 15, 2014 at the Hospice House.

Donald was born March 2, 1929, in Struthers (Mahoning County), a son of John and Barbara Popovich Joseph. He was a lifelong Struthers resident and Struthers High School graduate of 1946.

He attended Youngstown College and retired from the Pittsburgh & Lake Erie Railroad after 45 years of service as a car inspector. He was a member of the Christ Our Savior/St. Nicholas Church Parish and its Holy Name Society, Altar and Rosary Society and the Infant Jesus of Prague Guild.

He was a member of the Jednota Branch 259 in Struthers.

Donald married the former Marilyn M. Banovich on Sept. 16, 1967.

Besides his wife, he leaves two children, Mary Lynn Joseph of Atlanta and Donald (Melissa) Joseph Jr. of New Middletown, OH; two sisters, Valeria Krystek of Boardman, Ohio and Geraldine Gingery of New Middletown; and two grandchildren Andrew and Abigail Joseph.

He also leaves many nieces and nephews in the Youngstown, Ohio and surrounding areas.

Donald was preceded in death by his parents and one brother, John Joseph.

Friends called on Monday, August 18, 2014, from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Clemente Funeral Home.

- Submitted by Marilyn Joseph,
Branch 259

GEORGE F. TKACH JR. BRANCH 293 – LANSFORD, PENNSYLVANIA

George F. Tkach Jr., 81, of Lehighon, PA,

passed into eternal rest on Wednesday, Aug. 27, 2014, in the Gnaden Huetten Memorial Hospital, Lehighon. He was the husband of Shirley E. (Walck) Tkach. They were married for 58 years on May 5.

Prior to retiring, he was employed at the U.S. Postal Service in Lehigh County as a maintenance supervisor.

Born in Hauto, he was a son of the late George F. Sr. and Margaret C. (Pillar) Tkach.

He was a veteran of the Pa. Army National Guard.

Tkach was a member of SS. Peter & Paul Catholic Church, Lehighon, and its Holy Name Society; a life member of Lehigh Fire Co. No. 1, Lehighon; and had served on the Lehighon Police Commission.

An avid sports enthusiast, he served as a PIAA official for over 40 years, having officiated many football, basketball and baseball games. He was a former secretary of the Anthracite Chapter of Sports Officials.

In his spare time, he enjoyed watching the Lehighon Indians sporting events, college sports, professional baseball and spending time with his wife and family.

Surviving in addition to his widow are two sons, Bernard M., and his wife, Debra, and Timothy M., and his wife, Jane, a sister Regina, wife of Lamont "Mike" Ebbert, a brother, Stephen "Pappy," and his wife, Helene, all of Lehighon; six grandchildren, Ben Tkach, and his wife, Kelci, Simon Tkach, Noah Tkach and Nathaniel Tkach, and his wife, Mindy, all of Lehighon, Andrew Marsh of Philadelphia and Kristy, wife of Gregory Dawe of Pen Argyl; five great-grandchildren and nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by a brother, Francis G. "Lover."

Prayers were held at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 30, 2014, at the Ovsak Funeral Home, Lehighon, PA; Mass Of Christian Burial was celebrated at 10 a.m., SS. Peter & Paul Catholic Church, Lehighon, with the Rev. Michael E. Ahrensfield officiating. Interment followed at the parish cemetery in Lehighon.

- Submitted by Robert J. Lakata,
Financial Secretary, Branch 293

STEPHEN ANDRASCIK BRANCH 587 – ALTIQUIPPA, PENNSYLVANIA

Stephen Andrascik, 86, of Harmony Twp., PA, died Sunday, August 31, 2014 at Good Samaritan Hospice, Beaver surrounded by his loving family.

Born April 29, 1928 in Kamenica, Slovakia, he was the son of the late Andrew and Veronica (Pormba) Andrascik. He retired from J&L as a Blacksmith; he was a member of Good Samaritan Parish and the Pittsburgh Slovaks.

He will be remembered and missed by his wife of 61 years, Helen (Gladis) Andrascik; two sons and their wives, Allen and Amy Andrascik and Richard and Marie Andrascik; 7 grandchil-

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BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

continued from page 15

next year.

Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and Blessed New Year!

Loretta Dashner, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 581 – GARY/WHITING, INDIANA

The St. Michael Archangel, Branch 581 of Gary/Whiting will hold its regular meeting Sunday, December 2, at 1 pm at the Lake Park Restaurant, 7 East Old Ridge Road, Hobart, IN.. The agenda will include Election of Officers and discussion on the children's insurance. RSVP Ann Buczek, 947-2793 or George Kelchak, 926-2410.

Ann Buczek, President

BRANCH 587 – ALIQUIPPA, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 587, will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday, November 9, 2014, at Harold's Inn, 2134 Brodhead Road, Aliquippa, PA, 15001, at 2:00PM.

Election of officers will be held.

All members are welcome to attend. For reservations, call 1-724-375-2287.

Edith Valo, Secretary

BRANCH 633 – FLINT, MICHIGAN

The Sacred Heart of Jesus Society Branch 633 will hold its annual meeting of 2014 at 1:00PM Saturday, November 15, 2014, at Habachi Grill at 3022 South Linden Road Flint (in front of Kohl's). All members are urged to attend.

Secretary,

Eva Craine

BRANCH 670 – DONORA, PENNSYLVANIA

The officers of St. Anton of Padua, Branch 670, invite their members to attend the branch's next meeting on Sunday, November 16, 2014, at 11:30AM at Kings Restaurant in Bentleyville, PA. There will be an election of officers along with other discussions. Members are urged to attend. Any questions, call Dorothy Petrus at (724) 379-5881.

Dorothy Petrus, President

BRANCH 682 – YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

Branch 682 will have a meeting on Sunday, December 14, 2014, at 1:30PM, at MRL Research Center located at 290 North Bridge Street, Struthers, OH, 44471. Also, we will have our annual Christmas Party and election of officers. All members are welcome.

Andrew J. Hirt, President

BRANCH 716 – NEW YORK, NEW YORK

The Stephen the Martyr Society, Branch 716, will hold an Annual Meeting on Sunday, November 9, 2014, at 1:00PM in the Parish Hall, St. John Nepomucene Church, 411 East 66th Street, 1st Avenue, New York City.

On the agenda will be a financial report and discussion of plans for next season.

Delicious refreshments will be served after the meeting. All members are urged to attend.

Fraternally,

Henrieta H. Daitova, Secretary

BRANCH 721 – BANNISTER, MICHIGAN

Branch 721 will hold a meeting on Sunday, December 7, 2014, at 2:00PM. It will be held at the home of our financial secretary, Julius Remenar, at 8977 South Mason Road, Bannister, MI. Election of officers will be held.

All members are urged to attend.

Joseph Beno, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 731 – YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

Members of Saint Joseph Branch 731 will remember our deceased members at 11:00 am Mass on December 21, 2014 at Saint Matthias Church, 915 Cornell Street, Youngstown, Ohio. Following the Mass, we will have our annual meeting to elect branch officers for 2015. Please try to participate.

Jim Bobby, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 738 – MUNHALL, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Michaels Branch 738 will be holding its next semiannual meeting Tuesday December 2, 2014 at 6:30 pm at the VFW Post on Whitaker Way in Munhall, Pa. All members are encouraged to attend. This meeting will include nominations and election of officers for the new year. Come join us and become a more active member of your branch. We are always looking for some new and fresh ideas to help our branch grow.

Pat Guidish, Secretary

BRANCH 743 – STERLING HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 743 will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, December 7, 2014, at 1:00 p.m. On the agenda will be Officer's Report, a 2014 financial report, approval of the 2015 budget, discussion of branch activities, and other business pertaining to the branch and the First Catholic Slovak Union. A report will also be made regarding the Convention held in Philadelphia, The election of branch officers will also take place.

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

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

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

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

Joseph C. Rimarcik, President and Financial Secretary

BRANCH 746 – LINDEN, NEW JERSEY

The St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 746, will hold its next meeting on Sunday, January 11, 2015 at 12:30 PM in the upstairs meeting room of the Msgr. Komar Hall of Holy Family Church in Linden, NJ. The agenda will include election of officers for 2015, as well as discussion of charitable donations, and plans for upcoming activities. A New Year's holiday lunch will follow the meeting. Please call Mary Karch @732-572-2331 if you plan on attending.

Mary J. Kapitan, Secretary

BRANCH 774 – MERRILL, MICHIGAN

A meeting will be held on Saturday, November 15, 2014, at the home of Frank Radosa at 1:00PM. If you need more information, please call Secretary Katherine Stevens at 989-835-9895.

Katherine Stevens, Secretary

BRANCH 784 – MONTREAL, QUEBEC

Branch 784 will hold its Annual Meeting on November 16, 2014 after the 11.00 Mass in the STS CYRIL @ METHODIUS PARISH HALL, MONTREAL. On the agenda: Election of Officers for 2015: Discussion for the plans for the next season: Purchase of Memorial Brick. All members are asked to attend. A light lunch will be served.

Branch 784 will also be hosting a Christmas Dinner on November 23, 2014 which will also

be held at the STS CYRIL@METHODIUS PARISH HALL, MONTREAL after the 11.00 Mass. All members and friends are cordially invited to attend. This will be a catered affair, so please call for reservations before November 15, 2014. Ann Boyce 514-685-4236 or Ann Chandik 514-684-0177

Alice Dobrik, President

BRANCH 780 – SAGINAW, MICHIGAN

The Saints Peter & Paul Society, Branch 780, will have their Annual Meeting on Wednesday December 10, 2014 at 7:00pm. Included will be our election of officers for 2015. Any questions or concerns, please call Cathy Karlsen at 989-280-4916.

We wish all our members a Happy Thanksgiving, a Blessed Christmas and a Joyous New Year!

Fraternally,

Catherine Karlsen, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 796 – EGYPT, PENNSYLVANIA

The Holy Trinity Society, Branch 796 will hold its annual meeting on Sunday Nov. 9th at 1 pm at Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church Egypt, Pa. We will discuss events from the national convention, selling of policies and have election of branch officers. All members are invited to attend. Food and drink to be served following the meeting. God Bless.

Jerry Lloyd, Secretary

BRANCH 853 – CHARLEROI, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 853 will hold its annual Spaghetti dinner Christmas party on Sunday December 7, 2014 at Rego's Restaurant in Charleroi, PA at

1:00 pm. Due to seating, reservations are required.

To make your reservation please call 412-341-1577 and leave your name, phone number and number of adults and children attending. Non-branch members will be charged \$20 per person which will be payable at that time.

After the luncheon, the branch meeting will be held.

Branch 853 wishes all a blessed Christmas season.

Monica Rodacy Boone, Secretary/Treasurer

BRANCH 855 – PARMA, OHIO

Branch 855 hereby gives notice to all members of the annual meeting to be held on November 16, 2014, in the Cienna Room of Stancato's Restaurant; 7380 State Road; Parma, OH. The purpose of this annual meeting shall be the election of officers for the next year. The meeting will begin promptly at 1:30PM, due to time constraints imposed by our host.

Please RSVP before November 9, 2014, to Linda Kolesar at 440-886-0206.

Linda Kolesar, Secretary-Treasurer

BRANCH 857 – LEVITTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The Annual meeting of the St. Michael the Archangel Branch 857 in Levittown, PA will be held on Wednesday December 10, 2014. The meeting will be held at 7:30PM at 15 Kraft Lane, Levittown, PA.

The officers of Branch 857 wishes all members of the FCSU a safe and Blessed Christmas Season and a Happy New Year.

Fraternally,

Damian D Nasta, Recording Secretary

OBITUARIES

continued from page 16

dren, James, Jaclyn, Kacie, Carly, Katy, Adam and Paul.

Friends were received Wednesday, September 3, 2014, from 2-4pm and 7-9pm at the Gabauer-Matter Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Inc., Ambridge, PA, where prayers were held at 8:30am on Thursday September 4, 2014, followed by a mass of Christian burial at Good Samaritan Parish at 9am with Fr. Joe Carr officiating.

Interment was at Good Samaritan Cemetery, Sewickley, Allegheny, PA.

- Submitted by Edith Valo, Financial Secretary Branch 587

AUGUST L. BALLAS BRANCH 796 – COPLAY, PENNSYLVANIA

August L. "Augie" Ballas, 76, of Coplay, PA, died August 8, 2014, in Lehigh Valley Hospital, Allentown, PA. He was married to Dorothy A. (Matika) Ballas for 54 years. Born in Whitehall, PA, he was the son of the late August A. and Anna (Marks) Ballas. He was a salesman for the former Keystone Building Products, Allentown for 25 years. He was a member of Holy Trinity Catholic Church, Whitehall. Survivors: Wife, brothers, Eugene and wife, Loretta of Walnutport; Kenneth and wife, Theresa of New Ringgold, Phillip and wife, Jan of TN; sister, Annette White of Allentown; sister-in-law, Veronica Madea of Whitehall; brother-in-law, Michael and wife, JoAnn of Coplay; nieces, Michelle, Denise, Melissa, Jessica, Corinna, Dani, Monique, Christina, Diana.; nephews, Rodney, Eric, Dean, Don, Darren, Jayson, Paul, Keith; canine companion, Jolee. Services were held at 9:30AM, on Wednesday, August 13, 2014, at the Robert A. Hauke Funeral Home, Coplay, followed by a Mass at 10:00AM, at Holy Trinity Catholic Church, Whitehall. Monsignor Daniel Yenushosky was the celebrant. Friends called from 8 - 9:30AM on Wednesday in the fu-

neral home. Interment was in St. Andrew's Cemetery, N. Catasauqua, PA.

- Submitted by Dorothy A. Ballas who adds: Augie was very fond of skiing and did so until the end this Spring. He also was an avid bicyclist who biked every day about 10 miles. He bicycled from Maine to Pennsylvania about seven years ago. I miss him very much. Thank you for your extended sympathy to our families. God Bless.

JOHN KULHAN, DECORATED SLOVAK WWII HERO AND AUTHOR, PASSED AWAY

John Kulhan, 91 years old, passed away on September 2, 2014. During WWII, John was a decorated lieutenant in the Czechoslovak Army 3rd Infantry Brigade under General Svoboda whose life he saved three times. He survived the bloody Battle of Dukla Pass-October 5, 1944. In 1950, he came to America with his wife, Marta and their two children.

For the next forty-eight years John fought for Slovakia's freedom. To help oppressed nations, he immersed himself in American politics by working with the Captive Nations, Anti-Bolshevik Bloc of Nations, and the National Republican Heritage Groups Council. He also worked alongside Presidents Dwight Eisenhower through George W. Bush. President Nixon honored him with the Bronze Medal of Freedom in 1969. John had been an active member of the Slovak League of America since 1950. In 1957, he served as Chairman of the Slovak Liberation Committee in the United States. He helped establish the St. John Nepomucene Church Council in 1967 of which he was Chairman/Honorary Chairman. In 1970, he became a founder and the first Vice-

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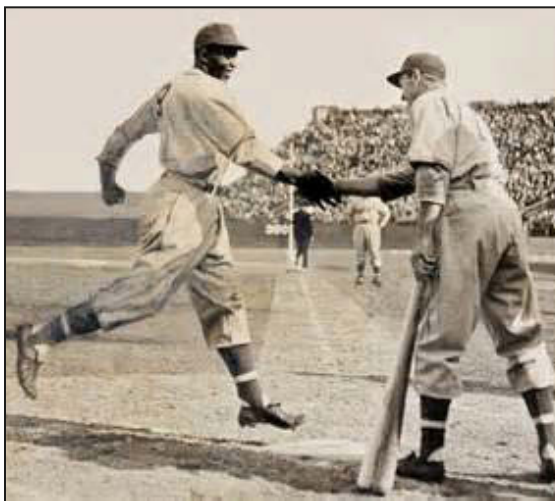


FCSU's George Shuba Extended Handshake of the Century

Tichomir Miko

At first glance, it appears there is nothing special about the black and white photograph: a baseball player welcoming his team mate at the plate and extending his hand to him, congratulating him on a home run as the disgruntled catcher from the opposing team looks on. Today, shots like this appear daily in the media during the baseball season and barely evoke any reaction.

But the moment in time captured by this particular photograph is known in baseball circles as "The Handshake of the Century": this is the first known photograph of black and white ballplayers shaking hands on a field of play. The two history makers in this iconic picture are Jackie Robinson, the first African American major league player of the century, and American Slovak George "Shotgun" Shuba. Mr. Robinson, who battled heart disease and diabetes later in life, died in 1972 at age 53. Mr. Shuba passed away on Sept. 29, 2014 at his home in Youngstown, OH. He was 89.



Mr. Shuba was preceded in death by his parents and brothers, Stephen, Thomas, Rev. Monsignor Michael Shuba, John, and Ed. Survivors include his wife of 56 years, Kathryn Forde Shuba of Youngstown; three children, Michael Shuba of Youngstown, Marlene Delfraino of Poland, Ohio, and Marykay McNeely of Elyria, Ohio; a sister; and eight grandchildren.

George Thomas Shuba, the youngest of his siblings, was born on Dec. 13, 1924 in Youngstown where his father, an immigrant from eastern Slovakia, worked in a steel mill. A sandlot baseball player in Ohio, Shuba signed a minor league contract with the Dodgers in 1944.

He was assigned to the Class AAA Montreal Royals of the International League in 1946. "Montreal was a beautiful city," said Shuba, who last visited with his son, Mike, about 30 years ago. "I loved looking down on the city from Mount Royal, and I loved St. Joseph's Oratory."

On opening day, April 18, at Roosevelt Stadium in Jersey City, N.J., Shuba was batting behind Robinson, who was playing second base. In the third inning, Robinson hammered a three-run home run off pitcher Warren Sandell over the left-field fence. The two runners who crossed the plate ahead of Robinson did not wait to congratulate him. It was up to Shuba, then 21, to extend his hand to a jubilant Robinson in a moment captured by photographers and witnessed by more than 25,000 spectators.

"It didn't make any difference to me that Jack was black," Shuba told the New York Times in 2006. "I was glad to have him on our team." The Slovak American often played baseball and football with African American athletes in Youngstown before signing his first professional baseball contract.

Mr. Shuba, nicknamed "Shotgun" for the way he hit line drives all over the field like buck-

shot, was a part-time player with the Dodgers for seven seasons in the 1940s and 1950s. Mr. Shuba played only 20 games with Robinson in 1946 before being sent to another minor league team in Alabama. They were reunited in 1948 and would play together off and on through 1955, when the Dodgers won their only World Series title in Brooklyn.

Mr. Shuba was featured in writer Roger Kahn's classic 1972 book "The Boys of Summer," which chronicled the Dodgers during the era of Robinson. Mr. Shuba excelled as a part-time outfielder and left-handed pinch hitter, "with a swing so compact and so fluid that it appeared as natural as a smile," Kahn wrote in his book. In 1953 he gained the distinction of hitting the first pinch-hit home run for a National League team in the World Series off Allie Reynolds of the New York Yankees.

Mr. Shuba had his best big-league season in 1952, when he hit .305 with 9 home runs. But a knee injury curtailed his effectiveness, and his final season came in 1955. He played two

more years in the minors before returning to Youngstown, where he spent 25 years working in the office of the U.S. Postal Inspection Service. He often spoke to school groups and appeared at Brooklyn Dodger reunions. On September 18, 2007, Youngstown's Borts Ball Field, a west side recreational spot that Shuba frequented as a child, was renamed as the George "Shotgun" Shuba Field at Borts Park.

Kahn also noted in his book that despite the visibility he gained as a professional athlete, Shuba remained deeply connected to his ethnic and religious roots. Kahn recalled that during a visit to the Shuba household in the early 1970s, the ex-ballplayer recited a mealtime prayer in Slovak. Shuba explained to Kahn that his father had recited the prayer before every family meal.

To many American Slovaks and many Canadian Slovaks, especially in the Toronto area, the name Shuba is well known and respected. George's older brother Rev. Monsignor Michael Shuba came from Fairport, Ohio to Toronto on April 18th, 1934 to become the first pastor for the Slovak faithful in the Diocese of Toronto. Under his leadership, the first Slovak church of Ss. Cyril and Methodius was built at 34 Claremont Street in Toronto and blessed on Sunday, November 9th, 1941. The church was subsequently moved to Mississauga, where present-day members of the First Catholic Slovak Union, such as Branch 785, worship and hold events. George and all of his siblings were members of the First Catholic Slovak Union; District 19 is named after his older brother, the Monsignor Michael Shuba District.

Brothers George and Michael Shuba were both pioneers, each using his God-given talents to make the world a better place. Their legacies will live on in baseball and in the Slovak North American community.

OBITUARIES

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President of the Slovak Cultural Center of New York. In the same year, he became Chairman of the Slovak Catholic Sokol, Branch 182, NY. When plans were underway for the Major John Polerecky Monument in Yonkers, New York, in 1977, John served as Financial Committee Chairman for the Slovak Cultural Center. One year later, he became Secretary of the Political Committee of the Slovak World Congress. He was active in the Slovak Catholic Sokol until his death.

As a WWII hero, John was awarded numerous medals and citations. In 1946, General Ludvik Svoboda awarded him a certificate and the Medal of the White Eagle for his bravery during WWII. The next year, the Czechoslovak Legion honored him with the Czechoslovak War Cross. For his heroism against Hitler and his army, John received the Anti-Fascist Freedom Fighter Medal presented by Rodion Malinovsky, Commander of the Ukrainian Front WWII in 1948. On the 60th Anniversary of WWII, John was presented a medal by the Order of the President of the Russian Federation. Then in 2005, in Svidnik, Slovakia, he was presented with the Dukla Pass Freedom Medal and a WWII Freedom Medal from the Polish Military in Krosno, Poland. One year later,

the Slovak Defense Department gave him the Dukla Pass Battle Freedom Fighter Medal as did the Czech Republic. In 2009, he was once again awarded a WWII Freedom Medal by the Slovak Republic Ministry of Defense.

One of John's greatest accomplishments was the contribution he and his family made in the canonization process for St. Faustina, whose feast happens to be on October 5th. For their efforts, St. Pope John Paul II bestowed an Apostolic Blessing upon John and his family. In addition, John and his family helped collect funds for the building of the Holy Rosary Church in Praznoce, Slovakia. This church, dedicated to The Divine Mercy, was completed in 2000.

Before his death John authored his memoir Freedom's Gate (freedomsgatestory.com). Harry Courniotes and Annette Davies, his grandchildren, produced and directed the screenplay Freedom's Gate which won several awards at the 2009 Queens International Film Festival; Beverly Hills Hi-Def Film Festival; and Indie Fest.

John is survived by five children: Ann Marie, Jean, Dr. Darline, John Jr. and Sonia. He has six grand-children and three great grand-children. Marta, his wife of 67 years, passed away on January 22, 2014. He will be greatly missed not only by his family but also by the Slovak community.

- Submitted by Dr. Darline Kulhan

Answer to Puzzle

Solution to Puzzle from page 11

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

THINK ABOUT IT!

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

MINUTES OF THE QUARTERLY MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION OF THE USA AND CANADA • SATURDAY, JUNE 21, 2014 HOME OFFICE, INDEPENDENCE, OHIO

(TELECONFERENCE)**OPEN MEETING**

President Andrew Rajec called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. and asked the National Chaplain, Fr. Thomas Nasta, to offer the opening prayer.

ANTHEMS

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

READING OF THE CALL

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

ROLL CALL

Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary, read the roll call:

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

All present and accounted for.

ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 21-22, 2014 BOARD MEETING

A motion was made by Henry Hassay and seconded by Carl Ungvarsky to accept the minutes as corrected of the March 21-22, 2014 Board of Directors Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATION OF THE AGENDA

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

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The President presented his report.

Annuity Rates

The President stated that after an extensive discussion it was decided the rates will remain the same and will be as follows:

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

IT System

The President stated the Executive Secretary is in the process of updating the IT System and is having a new server installed and making arrangements for a new carrier.

2014 Convention

President Rajec reported that as of June we have 363 delegates committed to attend the convention. He further stated there are always a few that will not be able to attend due to illness and other circumstances, but there should be good representation at the convention. He informed the Board the final details have been completed and the hotel is ready to host our group.

Officer & Director Reports

The President reminded the Board members that they must submit a written report to the Executive Secretary.

Memorial

The President gave an updated report on the construction of the Middletown Memorial. The Contractor has been chosen and work should be starting very soon. The President

said he would update the Board on the construction progress. He also reminded the Board that memorial bricks will be sold and used as the memorial walkway. The President further stated an article will be in the newspaper about the bricks being for sale.

AQS – ASSET MANAGEMENT COMPANY, LLC.

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

FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR FIRST QUARTER 2014**Executive Secretary's Report**

Secretary Arendt presented a detailed summary of the Financial Report for the first quarter of 2014. After his report he answered the Board's questions. The Executive Secretary stated that the 2014 first quarter Financial Report will be published in the Jednota newspaper.

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

Portfolio Custodian

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

MEMBERSHIP AND MARKETING

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

The Vice President updated the Board on the recruiting process for independent agents to sell our products. He informed the Board we already have 190 agents.

The Vice President further led a discussion regarding seminars for the remainder of 2014 and encouraged the Regional Directors to contact him regarding seminars within their region.

The Executive Secretary stated we have been advertising the insurance and annuity products in our mailings, on the website, Facebook, and through e-mail. The Executive Secretary stated we have been utilizing social media more and more to reach our members and our branches.

DIRECTOR OF FRATERNAL ACTIVITIES REPORT

Director of Fraternal Activities Susan Ondrejco presented her report and gave a summary of the joint bowling tournament co-sponsored by the First Catholic Slovak Union, the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, and the National Slovak Society, held on April 25-26, 2014, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Director Ondrejco stated there were 140 bowlers and 109 were members of the FCSU. The Director stated the joint event was well received by all. Fraternal Director Ondrejco further stated plans were in place for the FCSU Golf Tournament for July 19-20, 2014, in Blairsville, Pennsylvania. Director Ondrejco stated she has 65 entries right now and is hoping more members sign up for the event. She stated she is still working with the other fraternal to hold more joint events together.

The Director announced she is investigating sites for the 2015 FCSU National Family Picnic. The President suggested since the picnic was in the east the last time, perhaps we should look for a venue in the Midwest.

The Chairman of Auditors gave a report on the young members who have shown an interest in forming a FCSU Soccer League. She believes she has had some interest generated from New York and New Jersey.

The President stated 2015 will be the 50th anniversary of our Sorrowful Mother Chapel at the National Shrine in Washington DC and we will work with the Slovak Catholic Federation to honor this occasion.

CHAIRMAN OF AUDITOR'S REPORT

Chairman of Auditors Karen Hunka presented the Auditor's Report for the first quarter of 2014, and answered the Board's questions. She stated that the Internal Auditors conducted a thorough audit and found everything was in order.

PRESENTATION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS**Executive Committee**

The Executive Secretary gave a report on the Executive Committee Meetings. He

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MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2014 • INDEPENDENCE, OHIO

OPEN:

President Andrew Rajec called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and asked Vice President Andrew Harcar to lead the prayer.

ROLL CALL:

Members attending: Andrew M. Rajec, President
Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary
Andrew R. Harcar, Sr., Vice President
George F. Matta, Treasurer
Susan Ondrejco, Fraternal Activities Director (via telephone and by invitation of the President)

ACCEPTANCE OF THE AUGUST MEETING MINUTES:

The Executive Secretary presented the minutes of the August 2014 Executive Committee Meeting. A motion was made by Andrew Harcar and seconded by Kenneth Arendt to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

SALES AND MARKETING:

The Vice President presented a written detailed sales production report on the different regions and the report of our independent agents. This report is always mailed to our Regional Directors for their information. The Vice President stated we are still continuing to recruit new agents and now have 190 agents. Following the report, the Vice President answered the Executive Committee's questions.

The Vice President stated he is still scheduling seminars for 2014 and asked the Regional Directors to contact him with available dates.

ADVERTISING:

The Executive Secretary stated we have been advertising the insurance and annuity products in our mailings, on the website, and through e-mail. The Executive Secretary stated we have been utilizing social media more and more to reach our members and our branches.

AQS MANAGEMENT, INC.:

Larry White, representing AQS Management, Inc., presented his extensive Investment Portfolio Transaction Report via web ex and telephone. Each member of the Executive Committee received a copy of the presentation in advance for their review. Following the report, he answered the Executive Committee's questions.

The President led a discussion on our current annuity rates. It was decided to keep the rates the same and review them again at the October meeting.

INVESTMENT UPDATES:

The Executive Secretary submitted a written report to the Executive Committee for its review of the investments and transactions with the Federal Home Loan Bank (FHLB), the Matlin Patterson Fund (MPAM), UBS Fund, and MAI Fund. Following the report, the Executive Secretary answered the Executive Committee's questions.

PORTFOLIO REVIEW:

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

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT:**MORTGAGES AND OVERDUE MORTGAGES**

The Executive Secretary presented the report for the month of August for the Committee's review and answered their questions.

MONTHLY DISBURSEMENTS

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

Disbursements for the month of August 2014:	
Death Benefits & Accumulations	\$ 152,820.10
Cash Withdrawals & Accumulations	\$ 15,563.18
Matured Endowments & Accumulations	\$ 0.00
Trust Fund	\$ 1,151.15

The Executive Secretary also presented the Membership and Annuity Report. The Executive Committee reviewed the remainder of the disbursements and the Executive Secretary answered all questions.

TREASURERS REPORT:

The Treasurer presented a written report prepared by Larry White of AQS.

MISCELLANEOUS:

The President gave a progress report on the Middletown Memorial Project and stated the contractor is on schedule. The President stated the Executive Committee will be kept informed as the project progresses. The President announced there will be memorial granite bricks available on the walkway for members to purchase in memory of their loved ones. Forms to be completed will be available on our website, in our newspaper, or through the home office.

The President and Executive Secretary gave a brief recap on the convention and stated they will present a detailed report at the next meeting.

The President stated in 2015 there will be many special events including the 125th anniversary of the First Catholic Slovak Union, the 100th birthday of our founder, Stephen Furdek, and the 50th anniversary of our Sorrowful Mother Chapel at the National Shrine in Washington DC. Discussion has begun and plans are being made to celebrate these important occasions.

REQUESTS FOR ADS AND DONATIONS:

The request for donations and ads will be reviewed at the October meeting.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Kenneth Arendt and seconded by Andrew Harcar to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

The President asked Vice President Andrew Harcar to close the meeting with prayer.

Andrew M. Rajec
President

Kenneth A. Arendt
Executive Secretary

MINUTES OF THE QUARTERLY MEETING

OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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stated that in accordance with the Bylaws of the First Catholic Slovak Union, the Executive Committee meets monthly and whenever else it is necessary to take care of the business of the Society.

Investments

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

A motion was made by Henry Hassay and seconded by Andrew Harcar to accept all reports as presented. Motion was carried.

RETIREMENTS

The President informed the Board he has been notified that three National Officers, Joseph Minarovich, Regional Director, Region 1; Regis Brekosky, Regional Director, Region 5; and George Matta, Treasurer, are not seeking re-election. The President asked for a motion to recommend to the Convention that the title of Emeritus be bestowed upon these dedicated officers for their many years of service. The motion was made by Kenneth Arendt and seconded by Henry Hassay, and approved by the Board.

At this time Carl Ungvasky, Regional Director, Region 3, also informed the Board he was considering to not seek re-election. He will formally notify the President of his decision in the next week.

PAYMENTS OF BILLS ASSOCIATED WITH THE QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING

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

DONATIONS

Donation requests were reviewed and acted upon.

ADJOURN

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

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

Andrew M. Rajec
President

Kenneth A. Arendt
Executive Secretary

Správy zo Slovenska

Prezident A. Kiska v San Diegu otvoril centrum pre začínajúce slovenské firmy

San Diego 30. septembra (TASR) – Rozšíriť príležitosti pre nové slovenské spoločnosti v Spojených štátoch amerických a pomáhať im v ich začiatkoch je úlohou nového podnikateľského inkubátora Slovak American Innovation Center, ktorý v pondelok (29.9.) v kalifornskom San Diegu otvoril prezident SR Andrej Kiska.

„Na Slovensku máme mnoho talentovaných, šikovných ľudí, niekedy však na začiatku potrebujete pomocť s priestormi, s ideami. A ak máte niekoho v krajine ako USA, je to skvelé, pretože toto je obrovský trh s obrovskými možnosťami,“ vyzdvihla jeho význam hlava štátu. Centrum by malo po zväžení ich potenciálu podporovať naraz päť až šesť firiem v začiatkoch podnikania. Založila ho slovenská technologická spoločnosť Eset.

Táto firma, ktorá pôsobí celosvetovo a svoje americké sídlo má práve v San Diegu, je podľa Kisku symbolom, že na Slovensku máme talentovaných ľudí aj potenciál pre rozvoj takých odvetví ako informačné technológie. „Eset ponúkol vytvorenie platformy, vďaka ktorej mladí, začínajúci podnikatelia zo Slovenska, ktorí budú mať dobré nápady, budú môcť prísť sem na západné pobrežie Spojených štátov do inkubátora, kde sa budú môcť ich nápady, pokiaľ budú mať potenciál, rozvinúť,“ doplnil počas návštevy sídla spoločnosti.

Podľa ministra zahraničných vecí Miroslava Lajčáka je aktuálna cesta prezidenta v USA symbolom partnerstva medzi SR a Spojenými štátmi v oblasti novej ekonomiky, ktorú chceme rozvíjať aj na Slovensku. „Všetky rozhovory sú vedené práve na tému, ako vytvoriť podmienky pre využitie talentu a schopností našich ľudí, osobitne v oblasti výskumu, vývoja, informačných technológií,“ priblížil. Za vládu SR podpísal Lajčák s Esetom aj memorandum o spolupráci.

Dnes otvorené centrum je prvým podnikateľským inkubátorom mimo slovenského územia, ktorý pomáha slovenským firmám v zahraničí, vyzdvihol Ivan Štefunko z fondu rizikového kapitálu Neology Ventures, ktorý sa zaoberá financovaním start-upov. „Je to v San Diegu, kde už uspela jedna slovenská firma, a myslím si, že úspech spoločnosti ako Eset môže pomôcť aj ďalším firmám, ktoré sem prídu,“ doplnil s tým, že toto mesto na západnom pobreží USA má silnú tradíciu v podporovaní start-upov v technologických oblastiach a biotechnológiách.

PREZIDENT: Inovácie v ekonomike si vyžadujú inovatívnych lídrov a reformy

Bratislava 16. októbra (TASR) – Inovácie na Slovensku i v celej Európe brzdia, či dokonca priamo zabíjajú legislatívne, administratívne a regionálne bariéry. Ak chceme dosiahnuť inovatívne hospodárstvo a podnikateľov, nevyhnutne k tomu potrebujeme aj inovatívnu vládu, verejnú politiku a politických lídrov. Uviedol to dnes prezident SR Andrej Kiska v úvode medzinárodného ekonomického fóra s názvom Economic Ideas Forum, ktoré sa tento rok koná v Bratislave.

„Naše reformy musia byť inovatívne, ak chceme držať krok s hlavnými lídrami svetového biznisu,“ povedal Kiska s tým, že je potrebné vrátiť slovo „reformy“ do politického slovníka. Ako dodal, rozumie, že používanie tohto slova sa dnes v marketingových manuáloch pre politikov najmä na Slovensku považuje takmer za smrteľný hriech.

„Po 25 rokoch nekonečného procesu transformácie dokážem pochopiť, prečo niektorí ľudia volajú po stabilite a pokojnejších časoch v našom politickom vývoji. Nemôžeme však zamieňať stabilitu za pasivitu a pokojné časy za stagnáciu,“ zdôraznila hlava štátu.

Kiska je presvedčený, že proinovatívne prostredie v Európe musí byť založené na štyroch slobodách, a to slobodou pohybu tovarov, služieb, ľudí a kapitálu, teda na úplnom a funkčnom jednotnom trhu. To bude podľa neho spoločným cieľom všetkých krajín v nasledujúcom období aj v rámci predsedníctva SR v Rade Európskej únie v roku 2016.

Prezident poznamenal, že inovácie sú založené na slobode, riskovaní a spolupráci a za inovatívnym podnikaním stojí sloboda riskovať. „Inovácie vyžadujú nápady aj skúsenosti. Ako politici musíme podporovať užšiu spoluprácu medzi študentmi, výskumníkmi a vynálezcami so zavedenými tradičnými výskumnými centrami a podnikmi. Len tak sa môže začať tvoriť udržateľné a inovatívne podnikanie na Slovensku i v Európe,“ uzavrel.



Dušičky sú príležitosťou na modlitbu

Návštevy cintorínov, zapáľovanie sviečok na hrobách blízkych, ich vyzdobovanie kvetmi, spomienky na tých, ktorí už nie sú medzi živými. To všetko charakterizuje každoročne prvé novembrové dni: Sviatok všetkých svätých a Pamiatku zosnulých.

Sviatok všetkých svätých je sviatok, ktorý môžeme nájsť v dejinách cirkvi už v 4. stor. V tradícii cirkvi postupne narastal počet tých, ktorí boli zapísaní do zoznamu svätých. Čím sme ďalej od založenia cirkvi, tým ich počet pribúda. Sú to všetko vzory konkrétnych ľudí, ktorí svojím životom jednak ukázali vernosť svojej viere i samotnému Kristovi, ale každý aj nejakým iným, svojším, originálnym spôsobom.

Aj v dnešnej dobe sa rozširuje tento počet svätých. Ak by sme zalistovali v dejinách cirkvi, tak nájdeme známe i menej známe osobnosti. Niektoré sú zaradené do liturgického kalendára celej cirkvi a v rámci liturgického roka sa na nich spomína počas slávenia sv. omši. Niektoré sú zaradené len do miestnych liturgických kalendárov, čo znamená, že všetky uvedené formy slávenia sú len napr. v cirkvi jedného národa, odkiaľ uvedený svätec pochádzal, kde pôsobil alebo žil.

Prvé slávenie Sviatku všetkých svätých bolo v 4. storočí vo Východnej cirkvi a od 7. storočia v Západnej cirkvi. Na tento deň však pripadal iný dátum - vtedy sa oslavoval 13. máj. Zásluhou pápeža Gregora III. sa tento sviatok presunul na dnešný 1. november. Stalo sa tak v 8. storočí, sviatok sa však oslavoval predovšetkým v Írsku a Anglicku. O jeho rozšírenie do sveta sa zaslúžil predovšetkým pápež Gregor IV. Šlo o spomienku na všetkých svätých z kalendára, no aj tých, ktorí sa do neho už nezmestili, prípadne neboli oficiálne vyhlásení za svätých.

Postupom času sa k sviatku pridala aj Pamiatka zosnulých, ľudovo nazývaná „Dušičky“. Slávia sa deň po Sviatku všetkých svätých a sú skôr len tichou a pietnou spomienkou.

Pamiatka zosnulých má korene v cirkevnej praxi. Sláviť sa začala v 10. storočí v benediktínskom opátstve v Cluny - tam spojili modlitbu so spomienkovou návštevou cintorínov a pripomenutí si všetkých zosnulých príbuzných. K Pamiatke zosnulých treba povedať, že učenie cirkvi rozlišuje tri stavy, kam sa môže človek dostať po skončení pozemskej púte. Nebo, peklo a očistec. Očistec je prechodným stavom, z neho sa človek dostáva do neba. Práve za tých, ktorí ešte nedosiahli nebeský stav, sa modlí celá cirkev v deň Pamiatky zosnulých. Aby práve modlitbou a nielen súkromnou, ale aj spoločnou, vyprosila dosiahnutie trvalého nebeského stavu.



Kvetmi a vencami vyzdobené hroby na cintoríne v Spišskej Novej Vsi.

J. LEŠINSKÝ: Štvrtá automobilka by urýchlila dostavbu diaľnice do Košíc

Bratislava 23. októbra (TASR) - Slovensko má priestor aj pre štvrtú automobilku, ktorá by mohla vyrásť na východe Slovenska. Jej príchod by mohol urýchliť dokončenie diaľničného prepojenia do Košíc a posilniť tiež výrobu už existujúcich subdodávateľov na západe Slovenska. V diskusnej relácii na teraz.sk to povedal Ján Lešínský zo Strojníckej fakulty Slovenskej technickej univerzity.

Automobilku by Lešínský umiestnil napríklad do priestoru Košíc, Kechneču či Prešova, kde sú diaľničné prepojenia. „Nová automobilka by mohla prísť aj skôr a urýchliť tak dokončenie diaľnice do Košíc. Tak, ako to bolo v prípade príchodu spoločnosti Kia Motors. Ten si vynútil urýchlenie dostavby diaľnice do Žiliny,“ dodal Lešínský.

Východné Slovensko by bolo pre výrobcu podľa Lešínského vhodné aj preto, že by tam mal dostatok ocele, hliníka. „Nemal by problémy s materiálom,“ poznamenal s tým, že východ je vhodný aj z geografického hľadiska.

O štvrtej automobilke na Slovensku sa hovorí v súvislosti s americkým výrobcom elektrických áut Tesla Motors. Ministerstvo hospodárstva podľa portálu sme.sk priznalo, že so zástupcami automobilky rokujú. Tesla hovorí o závodoch v Európe a Ázii už dlhšie, tento rok v lete ich pre portál autonews.com opäť potvrdil jej šéf Elon Musk. Podľa jeho slov sa pustia do stavby, keď predaj ich áut v Európe dosiahne 160.000 ročne. K tomu je však ešte ďaleko, keďže tohtoročný predaj v Európe by mal prvý raz prekročiť hranicu 10.000 áut.

Aj Lešínský upozornil, že masové zavedenie elektromobilov pre Európu nie je také jednoduché. Okrem dobíjajúcich staníc si vyžaduje zavedenie platobných a účtovacích systémov. Celkové náklady Lešínský odhadol na 400 miliárd eur.

Pre Slovensko je automobilový priemysel kľúčovým odvetvím. V roku 2013 sa u nás podľa Zväzu automobilového priemyslu vyrobilo vyše 980.000 áut. Oproti roku 2012 to predstavovalo nárast o 5,8 %. Vlani sa tak v krajine vyprodukovalo 181 áut na 1000 obyvateľov.



Slovensko a USA

spolupracujú v oblasti vzdelávania

Dvadsať rokov trvá spolupráca medzi Spojenými štátmi americkými a Slovenskou republikou v oblasti vzdelávania a výskumu. Prispela k tomu najmä Komisia J. W. Fulbrighta, vďaka ktorej získalo štipendium viac než 600 odborníkov, pedagógov, študentov a aktivistov. Informovala o tom výkonná riaditeľka komisie na Slovensku Nora Hložeková.

Podľa jej slov doterajší slovenskí absolventi štipendijný pobyt absolvovali na prestížnych akademických inštitúciách, akými sú Yale, Columbia, Stanford, University of California či Harvard, alebo pôsobili aj v špecializovaných odborných inštitúciách, ako Museum of Modern Art New York, Argonne National Laboratory alebo Mayo Clinic. „V tomto školskom roku do USA vycestuje sedem slovenských študentov, vedcov, univerzitných pedagógov a zástupcov neziskových organizácií. Odtiaľ k nám naopak pricestuje 14 študentov, univerzitných pedagógov a asistentov výučby angličtiny. Tí pochádzajú z renomovaných akademických a výskumných inštitúcií v USA,“ povedala Hložeková. Na Slovensku budú pôsobiť na stredných školách vo Fiľakove, Svidníku a Trnave, ale aj na Univerzite Konštantína Filozofa v Nitre, Trnavskej univerzite, Vysokej škole výtvarných umení a v Detskom kardiologickom centre v Bratislave. Američania už aj predtým u nás riešili prostredníctvom projektov úlohy v oblasti bioinžinierstva, verejného zdravia, astronomického výskumu, špeciálnej pedagogiky či molekulárneho magnetizmu.

Aktuálne informácie o vzdelávacích možnostiach v USA môžu nájsť záujemcovia v Poradenskom centre, ktoré je súčasťou Fulbrightovej komisie. Centrum spolupracuje s celosvetovou sieťou poradenských centier ministerstva zahraničných vecí USA, nazývaných EducationUSA.

V piatok 24. októbra si Hložeková prevzala Cenu za medzinárodnú spoluprácu, ktorú udelila Nadácia Princa z Astúrie Fulbrightovmu programu. Cena je určená tým, ktorí vykonávajú cennú prácu v oblasti vzdelávania, verejného zdravia, ochrany životného prostredia, sociálneho a ekonomického rozvoja a predstavujú prínos v medzinárodnom rozsahu.

Komisia J. W. Fulbrighta bola zriadená na základe Dohody medzi vládou SR a Spojených štátov amerických v roku 1994. Cieľom je podpora vzájomného porozumenia medzi občanmi oboch krajín prostredníctvom vzdelávacích, vedeckých a kultúrnych výmen. Na zabezpečenie aktivít získala komisia v uplynulých 20 rokoch dotácie v hodnote viac ako 12 miliónov dolárov. Vo svete pôsobí tento program v 155 krajinách a medzi jeho absolventmi je 53 nositeľov Nobelovej ceny.

TASR

Zákon o občianstve pripravil o slovenský pas 907 ľudí

Zákon o štátnom občianstve pripravil za vyše štyri roky (od 17.7.2010 do 13.10.2014) o slovenský pas 907 ľudí. Najčastejšie stratili ľudia slovenské občianstvo prijatím českého (335). Vyplyva to zo štatistik Ministerstva vnútra SR.

O slovenský pas prišli aj osoby, ktoré prijali občianstvo nemecké (178), rakúske (130), britské (81), maďarské (55), americké (23), belgické (21), nórske a holandské (obe po 18), írské (10), talianske (9), švajčiarske (5), francúzske, austrálske a kanadské (všetky po 4), islandské, čínske, poľské a švédske (všetky po 2), ukrajinské, ruské, dánske, novozélandské (všetky po 1).

Slovenský pas strácajú ľudia na základe zákona o štátnom občianstve, ktorý prijala prvá vláda Roberta Fica (Smer-SD). Niekdajší kabinet reagoval právnu normou v roku 2010 na maďarský zákon, ktorý od roku 2011 zjednodušuje udeľovanie dvojakeho občianstva zahraničným Maďarom. Na základe súčasného zákona prichádzajú o slovenský pas tí, ktorí prijali občianstvo iného štátu. Od prijatia zákona sa objavili viaceré pokusy o zjemenie tejto právnej normy, avšak ani jeden z nich nebol úspešný.

V súčasnosti sa zmiernením zákona zaoberá ministerstvo vnútra. Podľa pripravovanej novely by získanie cudzieho občianstva malo byť naďalej viazané na trvalý pobyt. To má byť dostatočná väzba slovenského žiadateľa na danú krajinu a nebude sa tak musieť obávať straty slovenského občianstva. Tí, ktorí oň pre súčasný zákon prišli, budú môcť znova o občianstvo požiadať.

Ministerstvo návrh zákona ešte nepredložilo. Zákomom sa zaoberal aj Ústavný súd SR, ktorý nedokázal povedať, či je protiústavný, alebo nie. Podľa Mosta-Hid je v rozpore s Ústavou SR. Na nadchádzajúcej parlamentnej schôdzi to chcú bugárovci vyriešiť vlastnou novelou zákona. Mala by vrátiť stav pred rok 2010, teda pred prijatie zákona o občianstve. Ľudia by tak mohli mať dvojake občianstvo.

TASR

Oznámenia spolkov a spoločenské podujatia

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

Oznamujeme všetkým členom Spolku sv. Štefana č. 716 Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty, že v nedeľu **9. novembra 2014 o 1:00 hodine odpolednia** sa uskutoční výročná členská schôdza v osadnej hale Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého 411 East, 66th Street v New York City.

Na schôdzi bude podaná finančná správa a uskutoční sa diskusia o návrhoch na ďalšiu činnosť. Vyzývame všetkých členov, aby sa tejto dôležitej schôdzi zúčastnili. Po schôdzi sa bude podávať občerstvenie. Ostávame s kresťanským pozdravom

Henrieta H. Daitová, tajomníčka

Ročná Schôdza sv. Matúša číslo 45 IKSJ

Oznamujeme našim členom, že ročná schôdza sv. Matúša číslo 45 IKSJ v New Yorku bude v nedeľu **30. novembra 2014 o 12:30 hodine** (po slovenskej svätej omši) v osadnej hale Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého na 1st Avenue a 66th Street. Na programe budú podané správy úradníkov, finančné správy, zhodnotenie činnosti za uplynulé obdobie potom budú nasledovať voľby do nového výboru, ktorý vypracuje program činnosti na ďalšie obdobie. Úctivo Vás žiadame, o účasť na tejto výročnej členskej schôdzi. Ďakujem s pozdravom,

Maria Jurasi, pokladníčka

Mikulášske odpolednie s Mikulášskou nádielkou v NYC

Farská rada pri Slovenskom kostole sv. Jána Nepomuckého v NYC, Spolok sv. Štefana č. 716, Spolok sv. Matúša č. 45 IKSJ v NYC a Slovenský katolícky sokol NYC Vás pozývajú na Mikulášske odpolednie s Mikulášskou nádielkou, ktoré sa bude konať v osadnej hale Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého 411 East 66th Street v New York City. Vstupné je voľné. Občerstvenie bude zabezpečené. Bližšie informácie podajú: Farský úrad Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého, otec Štefan Chanas tel. číslo: (212) 734 4613; Henrieta Daitová: (201) 641 8922; Mária Božeková: (347) 612 1934.

Štedrovečerná večera Vigília v NYC

Farská rada pri Slovenskom kostole sv. Jána Nepomuckého v NYC, Spolok sv. Štefana č. 716 IKSJ, Spolok sv. Matúša č. 45 IKSJ a Slovenský katolícky sokol NYC Vás pozývajú na Štedrovečernú večeru - Vigíliu, ktorá sa bude konať v nedeľu dňa **14. decembra 2014 o 1:00 hodine odpolednia** v osadnej hale Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého 411 East 66th Street NYC. Vstupné je 20.00 dolárov. Večera je započítaná vo vstupnom. Lístky na Štedrovečernú večeru si môžete objednať na: Farskom úrade Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého, telefón: (212) 734 4613; Jozef Bilik: (718) 463 2084; Henrieta H. Daitová: (201) 641 8922; Mária Božeková: (347) 612 1934.

Rev. Msgr. Lawrence Connaughton na večnosti

Dňa 29. septembra 2014 zomrel náš pán farár Rev. Msgr Lawrence Connaughton. Bol krátko otcom našej farnosti, ktorý prišiel po neho všetkým nám farníkom milovaným otcom Martinom Svitanom. Obľúbili sme si ho pre jeho milú tvár a lásku k nám všetkým. Nech odpočívá vo svätom pokoji.



**Farníci Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého
Henrieta H. Daitovu, kultúrna referentka Farskej rady**

AUTONÓMIA SLOVENSKA • 75 ROKOV

V týchto dňoch sa k čitateľom dostáva reprezentatívna obrazová publikácia venovaná 75. výročiu dosiahnutia autonómie Slovenska – historickej udalosti, keď Slovensko prvýkrát získalo vlastnú národnú vládu i vlastný parlament.

Jej zostavovateľmi sú M. Lacko a P. Ivánek. Kniha bola vydaná na kvalitnom kniežovom papieri a má dovedna 192 strán. Obsahuje odborné referáty historikov (M. Lacko, P. Mullik, V. Kárpáty), príhovory spoluzostavovateľov (M. Lacko, J. M. Rydlo, M. Tkáč, K. Kalánková) i spomienky pamätníkov (R. Marsina, J. Bulla, M. Hagara). Z historických dokumentov je tu publikovaná reč poslanca HSLS M. Sokola z roku 1938 zdôverujúcu 20-ročný zápas HSLS o autonómiu, i samotné dokumenty 6. októbra prijaté v Žiline. Prvýkrát je tu publikovaný aj mimoriadne cenný dokument – spomienky funkcionára HSLS G. Medrického, ktorý kľúčové žilinské dokumenty redigoval a kde súčasne osvetľuje pozadie ich prijatia. Slávnostný ráz publikácie dotvárajú dobové básne, ktorými slovenská inteligencia autonómiu privítala a farebná príloha z priebehu podujatia. Publikácia bola vydaná v Spolku Slovákov v Poľsku v Krakove.

Cena knihy je 8,50 eur plus poštovné a možno si ju objednať: telefonicky na č. 0908 819 707; mailom na historicke.rozhlady@gmail.com; prípadne zakúpiť v kníhkupectve Svojet (Liga Pasáz) na Grösslingovej ulici v Bratislave.

Konferencia o Slovákoch v zahraničí

Úrad pre Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí (ÚSZZ) so sídlom v Bratislave usporiadal v dňoch 30. a 31. októbra t.r. dvojdnú konferenciu na tému Slovenská republika a Slováci žijúci v zahraničí. Konferencia sa koná každé dva roky v rámci vládneho programu starostlivosti o Slovákov žijúcich v rôznych krajinách sveta. Hlavnými témami diskusií boli prístup rôznych štátov, v ktorých žijú Slováci, k národnostným menšinám a konkrétne ich prístup k podpore a uchovaniu národnej a jazykovej identity menšín. Predmetom diskusií bola aj legislatíva v jednotlivých štátoch, ktorá sa týka národnostných menšín. Konferencia sa konala v hoteli Bratislava.

Slovenský prezident na Stredoeurópskom fóre pre digitálnu ekonomiku v New Yorku

Prezident SR Andrej Kiska vystúpil v stredu 24. septembra 2014 na Stredoeurópskom fóre pre digitálnu ekonomiku v New Yorku. Fórum zorganizoval slovenský zastupiteľský úrad vo Washingtone v rámci slovenského predsedníctva vo V4 v spolupráci so zastupiteľskými úradmi ČR, Maďarska a Poľska. Podujatie sa uskutočnilo v priestoroch hlavného partnera podujatia spoločnosti Google, ktorú na akcii zastupovala viceprezidentka S. Molinari. V hlavnom prejave prezident SR vyzval na systematickejšiu spoluprácu krajín V4 v USA v oblasti podpory inovácií a startup spoločností. Zároveň podporil myšlienku zriadenia spoločného zastúpenia V4 v Silicon Valley formou tzv. 'Visegrad House', ktorý by pomohol budovať značku V4 v USA a zvýšiť atraktivnosť startupov pre komunitu investorov a potenciálnych partnerov zo strednej Európy v USA.

V rámci prezentácie inovatívnych firiem z regiónu V4 na pódiu Slovensko reprezentovala spoločnosť Aeromobil, ktorá vyvíja prototyp lietajúceho auta. Súčasťou podujatia boli tiež prezentačné stánky dvanástich startupov. Na podujatí sa zúčastnilo približne 180 hostí, vrátane predstaviteľov fondov rizikového kapitálu, investorov, zástupcov technologických inkubátorov a viacerých divízií spoločnosti Google.

Stredoeurópske fórum pre digitálnu ekonomiku bolo ťažiskovým podujatím Veľvyslanectva SR vo Washingtone v rámci slovenského predsedníctva V4 v oblasti podpory obchodu a inovácií. **MZV SR**



Slovenskí horolezci zahynuli v Nepále

Telá dvoch mŕtvych horolezcov Jana Matláka a Vlada Švancára, ktorí zahynuli v Nepále, sú už na Slovensku. Ako uviedol šéf tlačového odboru slovenskej diplomacie Peter Susko, ich prevoz sa uskutočnil v súčinnosti s ministerstvom zahraničných vecí.

Komerčnou linkou boli v pondelok (20.10.) v noci najskôr prevezení na viedenské letisko Schwechat, a odtiaľ dopravení na Slovensko. Ostatných sedem členov horolezeckej skupiny sa zatiaľ nachádza na území Nepálu. Vybavujú si všetky potrebné záležitosti tak, aby sa mohli čo najskôr vrátiť domov.

Desaťčlennú skialpinisticko-horolezeckú výpravu v utorok 14. októbra večer zasiahla v základnom tábore pod vrchom Dhaulágirí lavína. Siedmim Slovákom a jednému Čechovi sa podarilo zachrániť, dvom z nich, ako aj trom nepálskym horským vodcom sa vyčistenie počasia stalo osudným.

V Nepále sa okrem nich nachádzalo ďalších 41 Slovákov. Počet tých, s ktorými sa nedarí spojiť, zo dňa na deň klesá. Kým v pondelok to bolo 11 ľudí, dnes je to šesť, s ktorými sa zatiaľ nepodarilo nadviazať kontakt. Potvrdil to Susko.

Nepál v pondelok (20.10.) ukončil záchranné operácie v horách na severe strednej časti krajiny a oznámil, že všetci turisti, ktorí podľa predpokladov uviazli na turistickej trase po sérii prudkých snehových víchríc, sú už v bezpečí.

Vo víchriciach a lavínach, ktoré minulý týždeň postihli Himaláje, vrátane obľúbenej okružnej turistickej trasy okolo vrchu Annapurna a oblasti neďalekého vrchu Dhaulágirí, zahynulo 41 ľudí. Nepálske úrady informovali, že zachránili 500 ľudí.

TASR



Pohľad do histórie festivalov

Slovenské dni a festivaly majú v Amerike bohatú tradíciu. V počiatkoch slovenského organizovaného života ich predchodcami boli miestne pikniky, ktorých usporiadateľmi boli slovenské farnosti alebo miestne spolky Slovenskej ligy a slovenských fraternalistických organizácií. Tieto pikniky hrali významnú úlohu v americkoslovenskej histórii. V ťažkých podmienkach, v akých slovenskí prisťahovalci žili na konci 19. storočia a v prvých dekádach 20. storočia, poskytovali pionierskym generáciám rozptýlenie a zábavu, ale aj príležitosť na spoločenské styky. A nadväzko, na týchto poknikoch si slovenskí prisťahovalci udržovali krajové tradície a zvyky a budovali národné povedomie.

Keď sa postupne roširovala organizačná základňa slovenského života, okrem miestnych piknikov národní pracovníci začali organizovať slovenské dni na regionálnej báze, na ktorých okrem hudby a tancov boli na programe prejavy národných vodcov. Tí rozširovali národné povedomie prisťahovalcov a povzbudzovali ich do práce za národ, do boja proti maďarizácii na Slovensku a vyzývali ich, aby vstupovali do slovenských národných organizácií. Takéto slovenské dni sa konali v letných mesiacoch vo viacerých slovenských okolicach v Amerike.

V oblasti New York – New Jersey sa začali slovenské dni na začiatku 20. rokov minulého storočia. Spočiatku ich organizovali spojené farnosti a od 30. rokov Východný okres Slovenskej ligy. Skoro všetky sa konali na rôznych miestach v štáte New Jersey. Po niekoľkoročnej prestávke na začiatku 70. rokov sa v severnej časti USA zorganizoval výbor, ktorý sa podujal usporiadať slovenský národný festival pri príležitosti 200. výročia Spojených štátov amerických v novozriadenom centre umenia – NJ Arts Center, v obvode mesta Holmdel, NJ. Tu sa začala dnes už 37-ročná tradícia festivalov slovenského dedičstva v New Jersey. Na prvom festivale vystúpili poprední umelci slovenského pôvodu pred približne 3000 návštevníkmi. Na ďalších festivaloch vystupovali umelci nielen z Ameriky, ale aj zo Slovenska, vrátane mnohých folklórnych súborov. Tieto festivaly sa postupne zaradili medzi najväčšie etnické festivaly na východe USA. Svojou účasťou ich pocítili aj viacerí guvernéri štátu New Jersey, viacerí senátori, členovia Kongresu a iní verejní činitelia. Návštevníci festivalov mali tiež možnosť privítať významných predstaviteľov Slovenskej republiky, vrátane prezidenta SR, členov vlády, slovenských diplomatov a kultúrnych pracovníkov.

Generácie organizátorov týchto festivalov si zaslúžia uznanie a vďaka slovenskej verejnosti za obetavú prácu a úsilie udržať slovenské národné povedomie v našej americkoslovenskej komunite a propagovať slovenskú kultúru a národné tradície.

V Newarku, NJ blahorečená sestra Miriam Terézia Demjanovičová

Pokračovanie zo str. 24

Kardinál Amato ďalej spomenul jej obdiv k svätým, a to predovšetkým k sv. Terézii z Avily a k sv. Terézii od Dieťaťa Ježiša. V písomnej podobe sa po nej zachovali spisy s názvom Väčšia dokonalosť (Greater perfection). Ide o súbor meditácií pre spolusestry novicky, ktoré napísala na želanie svojho spovedníka a predstavenej. (Pod názvom Kvet z bardejovských záhonov ju neskôr v Kanade do slovenčiny preložil a vydal slovenský jezuita páter Štefan Senčík.)

A ako sa stalo, že zomrela taká mladá? „V januári 1927 bola hospitalizovaná pre vyčerpanie. O niekoľko mesiacov neskôr bola operovaná na zápal slepého čreva. Po náhlom zápale pobrušnice umrela 8. mája spomínaného roku, vo svojich 26 rokoch. Utrpenie prijala s úsmevom na perách. Po jej smrti sa povest' o jej svätosti rozšírila nielen medzi rehoľnými sestrami, ale aj medzi laikmi, ktorým na jej príhovor dostalo veľké množstvo milostí.“ Ako dodal kardinál Amato, radosť, akú mala Miriam Terézia Demjanovičová zo života v reholi dokumentujú slová, ktoré napísala svojej predstavenej: «Teraz už čas pre mňa neexistuje, keďže už žijem vo večnosti». -zk-

Vatikánsky rozhlas

Flámske polia

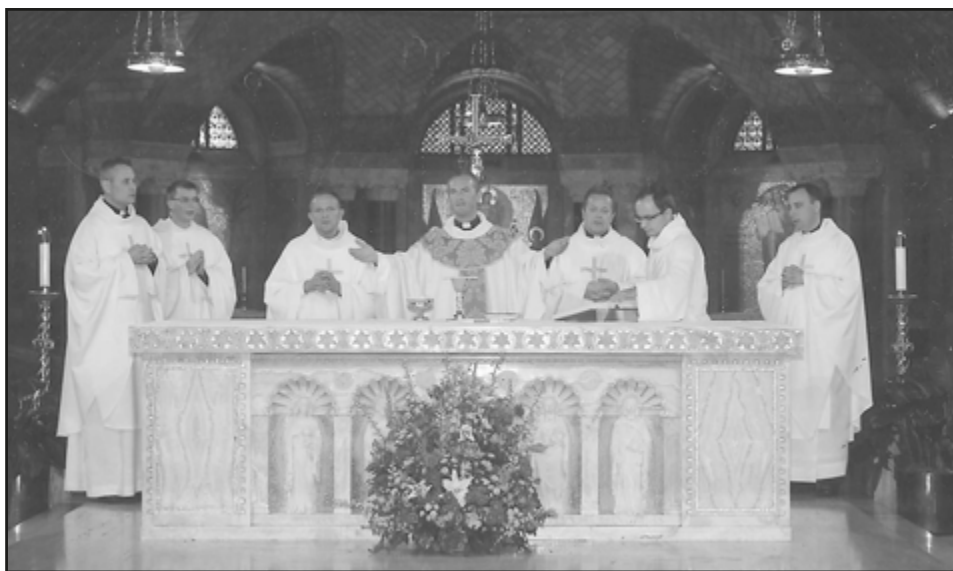
Na flámskych poliach šumí mak,
medzi krížami, rov za rovom,
kde je poznačené naše miesto; a hore
škovránky ešte odvážne spievajú, lietajú,
dolu sotva čuteľné, uprostred paľby kanónov.

Už sme mŕtvi. Pred málo dňami ešte sme žili,
cítilli svit rána, videli ožiarený západ slnka,
milovali, a boli milovaní, a teraz už ležíme
na flámskych poliach.

Preberte náš boj s nepriateľom,
z našich meravých rúk vám zverujeme
fakľu; patrí vám, vztýčte ju vysoko.
A keď zlomíte vieru v nás padlých,
spať nebudeme, trebárs mak rastie
na flámskych poliach.

(Preložil Štefan Hreha, veterán Druhej svetovej vojny (1942-1946). Translated into Slovak by Štefan Hreha, veteran of the Second World War (1942-1946).

Montréal, QC. 2014



Slovenskí kňazi počas svätej omše v krypte, dolnej časti Baziliky.



Pri autobuse pútnici zo Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého, NYC.

Púť slovenských farností do Washingtonu, DC

Pokračovanie zo str. 24

ako aj v štátoch Maryland a Pensylvánia programom pozostávajúcím nielen z diel slovenskej hudby, ale aj z kompozícií európskych a amerických skladateľov. Zbor do Spojených štátov vycestoval vďaka grantom Ministerstva kultúry SR a Ministerstva financií SR.

Po jeho prítlačivom vystúpení celeburovali slovenskú svätú omšu otcovia Marian Kertys, Vladimír Chripko, František Čonka, Roman Palečko, Ján Dolný a Štefan Migač. Touto púťou, za účasti kňazov a veriacich rôznych slovenských farností, vyvrcholil v USA Mariánsky jubilejný rok Sedembolestnej Panny Márie 2014, ktorý vyhlásil biskup Slovenska v súvislosti s 50. výročím potvrdenia Sedembolestnej Panny Márie za patronku Slovenska. Z Farnosti Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého sa púte zúčastnila skupina pútnikov, ktorú zorganizoval otec Štefan Chanas a niektorí členovia Farskej rady.

„Sedmibolestná Panna Mária, Patronka Slovenska oroduj za nás, aby sme tu žili v pokoji a svornosti.“

Henrieta H. Daitová
kultúrna referentka Farskej rady

37. Festival Slovenského dedičstva v Holmdel, NJ

Pokračovanie zo str. 24

Tohtoročný Festival navštívil aj nový prezident Slovenskej republiky pán Andrej Kiska, ktorý prehovoril k účastníkmi Festivalu a tiež si prezrel stánky s pamiatkovými a propagačnými materiálmi. Nevynechal ani stánky v ktorých sa predávali chutné slovenské jedlá a koláče, dokonca aj ochutnal z týchto slovenských špecialít. V sprievode prezidenta SR boli aj podpredseda vlády a minister zahraničných vecí Miroslav Lajčák, americký veľvyslanec v SR Theodor Sedgewick, slovenskí veľvyslanci vo Washingtone a pri OSN Peter Kmec a František Ružička a gen. konzulka SR v New Yorku Jana Trnovcová, ako aj viacerí poradcovia prezidenta a ekonomickí odborníci, na čele s bývalým slovenským veľvyslancom v USA Martinom Butorom.

Slávnostná rímskokatolícka omša na počesť sviatku Sedembolestnej Panny Márie sa začala o 11.00 hodine doobeda, ktorú odslúžil otec biskup Peter A. Libasci, z Manchester, New Hampshire, za koncelebrácie viacerých slovenských kňazov pôsobiacich v Amerike. Homíliu v slovenčine predniesol otec Vladimír Chripko. Počas svätej omši spievali dve slovenské chrámové súbory.

Kultúrny program, ktorý začal o 2.00 hodine poobede bol zameraný na národné piesne a tance nášho rodného kraja. Radoslav Lesay zaspieval americkú a slovenskú hymnu s doprovodom Jurašeho. Spolupredseda festivalu John Duch a Nina Holá privítali prezidenta Kisku a podpredseda vlády Lajčáka a ich sprievod, ako aj všetkých účastníkov festivalu.

Preziden Kiska v anglickom i slovenskom príhovore pozdravil organizátorov festivalu a všetkých prítomných. Vyzýval prítomných, aby nezabúdali na Slovensko. Povedal, že je hrdý na to, že bol zvolený za prezidenta Slovenska, ktoré je krásnou krajinou a úspešne sa zapája do rodiny európskych štátov.

Festival potom pozdravil aj podpredseda vlády Miroslav Lajčák, ktorý povzbudzoval prítomných, aby si v rodinách zachovávali slovenské povedomie, v čom im SR chce byť na pomoci. Oznamoval, že v prezidentovom lietadle priviezli 500 učebníc slovenčiny pre slovenské školy a kurzy v Amerike.

Moderátorkou kultúrneho programu bola Jane Konzelmann, ktorá tiež privítala hostí zo Slovenska a účastníkov festivalu. Renáta Vasílová viedla prehliadku krojov, kde vyše 30 jednotlivcov vystúpilo na javisku v krojoch z rôznych slovenských krajov.

Za tým sa predstavili deti z detského súboru Limboráčik, Hlas z New Yorku a Slnovrátk z Hillsboro, N.J. Zo Slovenska predviedli ľudové tance a spevy členovia hosťujúceho súboru Kečera z oblasti Litmanová. Na fujare zahral a zaspieval krásne slovenské piesne Robert Rychlik z Washingtonu, DC. V ďalšom programe populárny spevák Rado Lesay vystúpil so zmesou ľudových i moderných slovenských piesní. Spevom piesní God Bless America a Hej Slováci sa program skončil. Pohár 37. festivalu vo futbalovom turnaji získal tím Taty Slovakia a jeho neúspešným súperom vo finále bol klub Litmanová. Festivalový program pokračoval hudobnou skupinou Kontakty, ktorá hrala tanečné piesne.

Na koniec jej potrebné poďakovať organizačnému Festivalovému výboru, ktorého členovia obetovali svoj voľný čas, na prípravu programu, ktorým by naplnili očakávania aj tých náročných návštevníkov tohto veľkolepého podujatia amerických Slovákov.

Henrieta H. Daitová
tajomníčka Spolku sv. Štefana č. 716 IKSJ



Pred stánkom Henrieta Daitová s manželom a ich synom, ktorý počas Festivalu, prebral slovenskú tradíciu prípravy halušiek a lángošov.



Na Festivalovom javisku počas svojho vystúpenia detský súbor Limboráčik.



Destký súbor Slnovrátk s prezidentom SR, Andrejom Kiskom (v pozadí).

O. Štefan Furdek
Náš zakladateľ

37. Festival Slovenského dedičstva v Holmdel, NJ

V nedeľu 28. septembra 2014 sa konal v PNC Arts Center v Holmdel, New Jersey 37. festival slovenského dedičstva, ktorý prilákal približne 9,000 účastníkov takmer zo všetkých štátov Ameriky, Kanady ako aj zo Slovenska. Festival sa považuje za najväčšie slovenské podujatie v Amerike, za ktorého usporiadanie zodpovedá organizačný výbor, ktorého členovia sú zároveň aj aktívnymi členmi Spolku sv. Štefana č. 716 Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty. Prípravu a uskutočnenie predaja tradičných slovenských pokrmov tiež zabezpečili členovia Spolku sv. Štefana č. 716 Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty. Stánky s potravinami boli hojne navštevované účastníkmi Festivalu.

Pokračovanie na str. 23



Niekoľko členov organizačného výboru 37. festivalu slovenského dedičstva v spoločnosti biskupa Petra A. Libasci (v prostriedku), v nedeľu 28. septembra 2014 v PNC Arts Center v Holmdel, New Jersey.

Some members of the organizational committee of the 37th Festival of Slovak Heritage together with Bishop Peter A. Libasci on Sunday, September 28, 2014 at the PNC Arts Center in Holmdel, New Jersey.

Púť slovenských farností do Washingtonu, DC

„Ó Mária primlúvnička naša, Teba anjel Pánov pozdravil, Panna čistá počneš Mesiáša, by ľud z moci diabla vymanol. Počuj Matka naša vrúcne prosby, by nás nezasiahli pekla hrozby. Pros, nech Boh Syn tebou zrodenný, otvorí zas nám raj stratený...“

V nedeľu 14. septembra 2014 sa konala pri príležitosti sviatku Sedembolestnej Panny Márie, Slovenská katolícka púť slovenských farností do Národnej baziliky Nepoškvrneného počatia vo Washingtone, DC. Svätej omši predchádzalo vystúpenie Bratislavského chlapčenského zboru, ktorý odštartoval svoju 33. koncertnú sezónu americkým turné. Chlapčenský zbor vystúpil v Národnej Bazilike Nepoškvrneného počatia

Pokračovanie na str. 23



Chlapčenský zbor z Bratislavy sa predstavil pútnikom v nedeľu 14. septembra v Národnej bazilike Nepoškvrneného počatia vo Washingtone, DC.

The Boys Choir of Bratislava performed on September 14, 2014, for the Pilgrims from Slovak National parishes in the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. The Boys Choir tour of the United States was made possible by grants from the Slovak Minister of Culture and Minister of Finance.

V Newarku, NJ blahorečená sestra Miriam Terézia Demjanovičová

V sobotu 4. októbra sa v Newarku, New Jersey uskutočnilo blahorečenie sestry Miriam Terézie Demjanovičovej (1901 - 1927) z Kongregácie milosrdných sestier sv. Alžbety. Miriam, ktorá sa narodila 26. marca 1901 v meste Bayonne (USA), pochádzala z rodiny slovenských gréckokatolíckych prisťahovalcov z Bardejova. Zomrela vo veku 26 rokov 8. mája 1927 v New Jersey. Pápež Benedikt XVI. jej 10. mája 2012 prisúdil hrdinský stupeň čnosti, ktorý sa spája s titulom „ctihodná“ (venerabilis). Dekrét potvrdzujúci zázrak na príhovor sestry Miriam bol zverejnený na základe autorizácie pápeža Františka 17. decembra minulého roku.

Prefekt Kongregácie pre kauzy svätých kardinál Angelo Amato SDB v rozhovore pre Vatikánsky rozhlas opisuje život a čnosti Miriam Terézie Demjanovičovej nasledovne: „Príklad zbožných rodičov posilňoval dušu dievčatka, ktoré už od mala dostalo milosť chápania významu toho, čo znamená vždy konať Božiu vôľu. Silne pociťovala prítomnosť a osobitnú ochranu svojho anjela strážneho, ktorý jej často pomáhal tam, kde mala nedostatky. Takže, zatiaľ čo jej život prebiehal zdanlivo bežným spôsobom, už od mala zakúšala osobitné privilégiá bežné pre mnohých veľkých mystikov.“

Podľa slov kardinála Amata bola sestra Miriam nesmierne inteligentná a aj keď mala túžbu vstúpiť do kláštora, splnila poslednú vôľu matky a študovala na vysokej škole, kde sa preukázala jej talent, zmysel pre humor a veľkodušnosť, ale aj jej zbožnosť. Denne sa zúčastňovala svätej omše, modlila sa ruženec, navštevovala Sviatosť oltárnu, denne sa venovala meditácii a kontemplovala krížovú cestu.

Po skončení vysokej školy v roku 1924 vstúpila do kláštora Milosrdných sestier sv. Alžbety v Convent Station (USA). „V noviciáte bola vzorom čnosti, a to najmä poslušnosti. Vyznačovala sa nezvyčajnou vľúdnosťou, ktorá nerobila rozdiely medzi ľuďmi. Vždy pripravená odpustiť, chválila dobro vykonané druhými, hovorila často o čnostiach, a to s jednoduchosťou a presvedčením, ktoré vychádzali z rýdzosti jej života. ... Bola dokonalá a hrdinská v bežnom kláštornom živote. Mala dar hlbokého chápania toho, čo znamená láska k Ježišovi na kríži a v Eucharistii a čo znamená prítomnosť Božej milosti v dušiach.“

Pokračovanie na str. 22



Sestra Miriam

Vďakyvzdanie

Aj my, sme čiastkou tých pútnikov, čo vylodili sa na brehoch, tejto americkej zemi, ktorá nám ponúka z jej mnohých hodnôt a náš život, sa zo dňa na deň, k lepšiemu mení. Nech nás nazrieť, aj do jej tajných hodnôt. Aj my vzdávame veľkú vďaku Všemohúcemu, tak, ako to zbožne, robili naši prví pútnici. Ďakujeme Mu, za dary, čo nám denne dáva a Jeho svätou rukou požehnáva. Ďakujeme Mu, za veľkého, tradičného moriaka. Nie, nik za ním na dvore neplače, nik nenarieka.

Dnes je chutným jedlom, darom božím, na stole, by, každý člen rodiny, najedol sa do vôle. Ďakujeme Ti Pane, za ten veľký krajec chleba. Verili sme a veríme, že všetko pochádza od Teba. Ďakujeme Ti Pane, aj za ten veľký dar slobody, nie len pre nás, ale aj pre náš, slovenský národ, tam ďaleko, za morom, tam pod Tatrami. Z Tvojich rúk prijímeme každú radu, každý návod. Daj Pane, aby sme žili v porozumení a v láske, nedopúšťali sme sa hriechu, ale boli vzorom iných. Ďakujeme Ti Pane, nech splní sa naše zbožné pranie, či je to na koniec žatvy, alebo čakane vinobranie. Ďakujeme Ti a prosíme o Tvoje požehnanie.

Jozef Smák

