



# Jednota

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## Žatva and Dožinky - The Slovak Harvest and Harvest Festivals ( Part II)

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

### Dožinky or Harvest Festivals

The Slovak Harvest Festival, dožinky, or what used to be called obžinky, generally began in mid-September after most of the harvest was gathered. Some places called it kármeš or kirmeš.

The celebration drew from pre-Christian and religious traditions. According to Biblical sources, the first harvest celebration occurred when King Solomon dedicated his new grand temple; he organized a grand feast, and associated it with the consecration of the tabernacle. Some villages timed the festival to start at the time of their patron saint, if it occurred that time of the year.

Since each parish celebrated their patron saints on different dates, and people would use the occasion of the dožinky for an extended family feast (like a family reunion today!) and to visit friends and relatives in nearby villages. Since they ate so well, imbibed plenty of alcoholic spirits, and rested from the work on these occasions, some talked about a moral decline in past centuries. In the late 18th century, Emperor Franz Jozef II tried to bring some uniformity and ordered the harvest feast to be celebrated the third Sunday of October, after the feast of St. Gall. However, the emperor miscalculated. His obedient subjects did greet the new regulation with enthusiasm and called it an "Imperial Feast," but they continued to celebrate the original feasts associated with local patron saints!



A dožinky team of today presents the harvest wreath.

on localities, and whether the harvesters worked as seasonal workers for a local lord.

### Presenting the Harvest Wreath

As part of the ceremony, women would make a Harvest wreath (veniec) from the last and most beautiful of the sheaves, or the stems and ears of the corn/grain. The peasants believed the folk superstition that the last sheaves of grain which they collected could heal infirmities and make both their households and the farm more fertile in the future.

Slovaks used parts of the last sheaves and wove them into the wreaths. They might give a wreath to newlyweds or place sheaves under an expectant mother's bed to ensure safety and good health for the mother and child. Women also hid sheaves in hen houses so that the chickens would

continued on page 9

For much of history, the harvest and the feast afterwards were closely tied to religious ideas. During the Middle Ages, the church became the cultural and social center of the village. The Posvícení was the Mass or church service during the harvest festival where the harvesters would give thanks to God for a good harvest and to ask Him to bless the grain. Some of that connection was lost in the 20th century, and the communist era and rising secularization have helped accelerate that disconnect, though it still shows traces in more traditional villages.

In a 1865 description, ethnologic researcher August Horislav Krčméry noted that the harvest feast began early in the evening and the celebration with eating and singing lasted through the next day. The harvesters consumed meat, cakes, and plenty of liquor. Wealthier people added honey and cinnamon to their drinks. Relatives from nearby villages might also join the feast.

The Harvest Feast would typically occur on a Sunday, and sometimes start after the weighing in of the last sheaves in the fields. Sometimes they would carry on for several days. So there were variations, based

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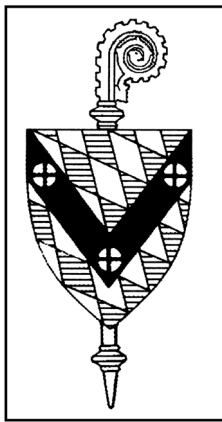
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<h2 style="margin: 0;">Inside</h2>	
Editorial/Commentary.....	2
Branch: Announcements.....	14 & 17
District Announcements.....	15
Slovak .....	21-24

# Insights and Viewpoints



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

**October 16, 2016 –Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Luke 18: 1-8**

This is a fascinating parable, it pits a widow against a dishonest judge. The widow is persistent in her desire for the judge to make a decision in her case. She has waited a long time, and he continues to put her off, so she decides to pester him until he makes a decision. He makes a decision because her persistence is disrupting his lifestyle, and even has him wonder if she might act violently against him. These are not the purest motives for making a decision, but they were effective. The judge showed neither love nor concern for the widow. Jesus points out that if this judge can answer the woman's request with a wrong attitude and motive, how much more will God respond to our pleas for help.



Fr. Edward Mazich,  
O.S.B.

The lesson for us is three-fold; be persistent in prayer, and God responds to our needs out of love, and a teaching on how we should respond to the needs of others. There are saints who are known to have great patience and persistence in placing their needs before God. St. Monica, the mother of Saint Augustine, prayed for the conversion of her son for seventeen years. After the death of Mother Theresa it was learned from her letters that she had suffered a long dry period of faith for forty years. The secular media saw this struggle as making her unworthy of the praise given to her, let alone Sainthood. Her canonization last month is a testimony that in the midst of weakness and not feeling God's presence, her persistence in prayer and spreading the message are signs of true sanctity. These are two different types of persistence, and both show the importance in being persistent in our faith.

There are both needs that we have, and struggles in our faith that can affect our relationship with God. One response is to minimize our faith or even to walk away, the other is to be persistent. To be persistent is to never lose trust that God is listening to us, and that in his time and way our prayers will be answered. Persistence in faith takes moving beyond faith as a feeling, to faith as a gift from God. The letter to the Hebrews describes faith as, "the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things unseen." It is the persistence in praying, trusting that God is there.

The second lesson in the parable is that God responds to our needs out of love. God does not act out of fear, obligation, or to get us quiet; God acts out of love for us. He knows our hearts, and he knows more than we know, what it is we need that will bring us true and lasting happiness. God knows the whole picture of our lives, while we live one frame at a time. This is not to minimize the anxiety or pain that our struggles might bring us, but it puts into perspective that in the midst of these, God is lovingly present.

The third lesson comes from comparing the unjust judge to God. When people come to us with a need which one of these are we? Are we like the judge and put things off, only to help when we are tired of someone pestering us? Are we like God who looks upon the one in need with love? Hopefully we will work to respond as God does, out of love. May these three lessons help us in our persistence in prayer, our faith in God's love for us, as well as in our helping others out of love.

**October 23, 2016 – 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Luke: 18: 9-14**

The story of the Pharisee and the tax collector is not one of the more famous of our Lord's parables, though it has long been a favorite of mine, in large part since it is depicted in a beautiful stained glass window in the abbey church where my brother monks and I pray each day. The window was made in the early 1900's in Munich and shipped with all the others in our church to Latrobe, being installed in the transept of the church where the Blessed Sacrament is reserved.

Many of our stained glass windows are easily identifiable: the good Samaritan, the prodigal son, the Good Shepherd, the nativity, and so forth. However, only a few of the many visitors whom I have shown around the church have been able to recognize the window illustrating the important lesson from the Bible we hear today. The parable of the Pharisee and the tax collector is found only in St. Luke's gospel, and is only read once every three years at Sunday mass, and on the Saturday of the third week of Lent each year.

As is normally the case in our liturgies we are prepared for the gospel by the Old Testament reading and the Psalm; in the first reading from Sirach we are reminded that God judges justly and shows no favorites: "he is not unduly partial toward the weak, yet he hears the cry of the oppressed" (Sir 35:16). The Psalmist reinforces the notion that "the Lord hears the cry of the poor" (Ps 34:7). The first part of Sirach's teaching, that God is not unduly partial to the weak, is expressed in the ancient manuscripts of this book through a colorful idiom literally meaning "to receive the face of a person". We might think of a sly con artist smiling broadly and welcoming someone they only want to cheat out of some money—God does not put on such false shows. Nonetheless, God does receive the prayer of the poor, and in fact has a predisposition toward them: not in the dishonest way that a con artist affects, but in a genuine and loving recognition of their vulnerability and indeed a desire to be close to them in their humble state.

When it comes to the gospel we hear that the Pharisee approached the presence of the Lord in the Temple with arrogance and a sense of entitlement, saying to himself: "O God, I thank you that I am not like the rest of humanity—greedy, dishonest, adulterous—or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week, and I pay tithes on my whole income" (Luke 18:11-12). He is essentially justifying himself before God, "smiling broadly" as I put it earlier and expecting that he can manipulate God by this public show of piety. The tax collector by contrast stands off in the distance and strikes his breast saying: "O God, be merciful to me a sinner" (Luke 18:13). The former was taken by pride and the mistaken notion that he could "win" the Lord's approval by false piety, the latter understood properly that God shows no partiality, but is rich in mercy to those who revere him and who are humble of heart.

Every time I see the window representing this parable in the Basilica I think of the many temptations we all face to try to "sway" God or to win God's favor, as foolish as those thoughts are. As we listen carefully to the gospel this Sunday let us resolve not to be proud like the Pharisee of our Lord's parable, but rather to embrace in humility the weak and the poor whom we encounter daily, and to rejoice in the brilliance of God's gracious mercy which delivers us from our own weakness into his radiant light.



Fr. Killian Loch,  
O.S.B.

## NEWSPAPER DEADLINES

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

Issue Date	Copy Date
WEDNESDAY, OCT 19	MONDAY, OCT 10
WEDNESDAY, NOV 2	MONDAY, OCT 24
WEDNESDAY, NOV 16	MONDAY, NOV 7

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

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## 12th Annual Adult Retreat

Sponsored by  
**The Lakewood Cluster**  
 St. Clement, St. Luke, St. James and  
 Transfiguration



Date: Wednesday, October 19, 2016  
 Time: 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.  
 Place: St. Clement Church & Hall  
 14401 Madison Ave., Lakewood, Ohio  
 Speaker: Fr Tom Schubeck, S.J.  
 "From Hopelessness to Hope"  
 Cost: \$12.00

Continental Breakfast will be served in St. Clement Hall at 9:00 a.m., followed with reflections by Fr. Thomas Schubeck, S.J., a Jesuit, afterwards we will move into the church for Mass. We will conclude with a delicious hot lunch served in St Clement Hall followed by dessert.

**Questions?** Please Kathy Cordonni (216-521-7288) from Transfiguration, Susan Simmons, 216-226-5116, from St. Clement, Marilyn Streeter (216-521-0184)/Kathy Collins 216-226-2050 from St. Luke, or Diane Mravec (216-712-6755) from St. James.

Please register as soon as possible but **no later than October 14, 2016.**

(Please detach)

**Registration Form for Wednesday, October 19, 2016 Adult Retreat** (Please print)

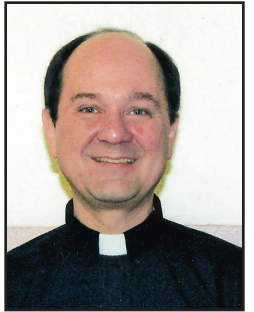
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\*\*\*\*\*I would like to be a part of the planning committee for next year-2017 \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to your parish. Submit your registration form and check/cash in an envelope marked "2016 Adult Retreat". Mail or take to your rectory. No refunds will be issued. Thank You!

## Message from the National Chaplain

October 11 is the feast day of Pope St. John XXIII. On July 1, 1962, he promulgated the seventh of eight encyclicals he wrote during his pontificate. Although *Paenitentiam agere* (Doing Penance) was directed to the bishops around the world in union with Rome to help prepare the Church for the upcoming Second Vatican Council, it offers some points for us today to ponder as we draw near to the end of the Jubilee Year of Mercy.



Rev. Thomas Nasta

John begins by stating a divinely revealed truth from Christ himself: first step one takes to obtain forgiveness for one's sins and eternal salvation is by doing penance for one's sins. This is why, in an earlier apostolic constitution to prepare for the upcoming Ecumenical Council, he urged the entire church to do works of penance.

He points out that every solemn encounter God had with his people was preceded by a call to repentance. Moses, the Prophets, John the Baptist are cited as examples. Even Jesus himself began his public ministry by urging people to repent.

The frequent call to repentance has happened throughout the ages, John writes, so Christians may recognize that this message comes from Christ himself for a spiritual renewal of his people. Three previous instances when popes issued calls to the faithful to perform the three traditional forms of penance (prayer, fasting, and works of charity) before ecumenical councils were convened are given: Innocent III prior to IV Lateran (1215), Gregory X before II Lyons (1274) and Pius IX prior to Vatican I (1869). John calls for the universal church, clergy and lay, to do the same before the start of Vatican II.

Public prayer, prayer in community, is the most effective means by which divine favor can be gained, according to John. He hopes community prayer prior to the Council will reinvigorate and intensify the faith, love and moral lives of Catholics to cause people of all faith denominations not in union with Rome to actively pursue unity.

Diocesan bishops throughout the world are asked to organize a solemn novena to the Holy Spirit in every parish in their diocese immediately prior to the start of the Ecumenical Council so that the light of the Holy Spirit may guide all at the Council. John granted a plenary indulgence to all who participated in the novena.

In addition to the emphasis on prayer, he also advocates homilists to invite the faithful to "redouble their works of mercy and penance" before God so that a major aim of the Council, the renewal of Christian life, may take place.

The summary concludes in the next issue of the Jednota.

Fr. Thomas Nasta  
 National Chaplain

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## SS Cyril & Methodius Preschool and Kindergarten Host September "High Tea"



Sister Donna Marie, Principal of Saint Cyril Preschool and Kindergarten, pours tea at the annual Mothers' Tea at Saint Cyril Preschool and Kindergarten in Danville.



(L-R) Isabel Helwig, Miranda Behm, Saumya Mehta, Victoria Want, Charlotte Mori and Adelena Mori enjoy the Mothers' Tea at Saint Cyril Preschool and Kindergarten in Danville. Mothers and daughters gathered for a "High Tea" at the school on September 18, 2016.



Girls sing for their Mothers at the beginning of the annual Mothers' Tea at Saint Cyril Preschool and Kindergarten in Danville.

- Submitted by Sister Barbara Sable, SSCM

## SS Cyril and Methodius Appeal Continues

**Fr. Thomas Nasta, Appeal Coordinator**

Thank you to all who have already made a donation to the 2016 Saints Cyril and Methodius Appeal, either through your local parish or directly to the Slovak Catholic Federation. As of September 14, the 2016 Appeal has raised \$35,397 from parish collections, as well as from the direct mailing to clergy of Slovak heritage, fraternal branch presidents, and individuals and member bodies of the Federation. This year's Appeal is well on its way to surpassing the \$35,650 raised in 2015.

As many of you know, most of the funds raised in this annual Appeal are sent to the Pontifical Slovak College of Saints Cyril and Methodius to assist with its day to day operations. The College is the residence of priests from Slovakia who are sent to Rome by their bishops for graduate studies. After receiving their degrees, these priests return to their dioceses to work as seminary teachers, Tribunal officials, and in other ministries. Communities of men and women Religious which have a counterpart in the United States represented on the Conference of Slovak Religious are also beneficiaries of the Appeal.

If you have not made your donation to the 38th Annual Appeal, please consider doing so by filling out the information in the box at the bottom of this article and mailing it along with your check to the address provided. Donations in any amount are deeply appreciated. Again, thank you for your goodness and generosity to the Annual Saints Cyril and Methodius Appeal.

The Slovak Catholic Federation was founded in 1911 by Rev. Joseph Murgas, founding Pastor of Sacred Heart of Jesus Slovak Church, Wilkes-Barre, PA. The Federation brings together under one banner both individuals of Slovak heritage as well as Catholic Slovak Fraternal Organizations for cultural, religious and educational needs. Serving as Moderator is the Right Reverend Gary Hoover, O.S.B., Abbot of St. Andrew Svorad Abbey, Cleveland, OH. National President is Reverend Andrew S. Hvozdic, V.F., Supreme Chaplain of the Slovak Catholic Sokol and Pastor of Epiphany Parish, Sayre, PA. Reverend Thomas A. Nasta, National Chaplain of the First Catholic Slovak Union and Pastor of Our Lady of Ransom Parish, Philadelphia, PA, serves as First Vice President of the Federation and is the Appeal Coordinator.

### 38th Annual Saints Cyril and Methodius Appeal

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Please make check payable to **Slovak Catholic Federation** and mail to:

Dolores Evanko, National Secretary/Treasurer  
 Slovak Catholic Federation  
 173 Berner Avenue  
 Hazleton, PA 18201

## Christmas Oplatky – 2016



Oplatky, the traditional Slovak Christmas wafers, will be available this holiday season from Jankola Library. Orders will be accepted from October 24 until December 16, 2016.

The Oplatky, five in one package are thermal-sealed and can be purchased for \$5.00 per pack. In addition, the minimum cost of shipping and handling is \$6.00 and upward depending upon the number of packets ordered and the cost of priority mailing. Customized requests

can be filled to meet your needs. Payment to **Jankola Library** is expected before receiving an order.

For more information or to place 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.

## LIGHT ONE CANDLE

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

### Rising Above the Win-At-All-Costs Culture

Two-time Christopher Award-winning author Joan Bauer believes that books are "weapons of mass instruction," especially for the pre-teen and teen audiences for which she writes. Her latest novel, "Soar," fits the bill by delivering an entertaining story about our win-at-all-costs culture, while also exploring themes of adoption and autism.

It seems a cruel twist of fate that a boy who loves baseball can't play the game because of a medical condition, but that's the case with 12-year-old Jeremiah Lopper in "Soar." While he feels blessed to be alive after undergoing heart transplant surgery at age 10, he can't help but mourn the loss of his dream of playing baseball. Bauer, however, never lets her heroes wallow in self-pity because she knows it's a dead end. Instead, dreams are adjusted and new roads (or base paths) are traveled, highlighting the idea that we can still find fulfillment even when life doesn't go as planned.

For Jeremiah, that new dream involves becoming a coach for a makeshift middle school baseball team in a town tainted by a steroid scandal. During a "Christopher Closeup" interview, Bauer explained, "I think we parents have to take our power back and remember how effective a strong role model can be. And that role model needs to be us!...People have become addicted to winning. Even Little League coaches are acting out of control, and parents are screaming at umpires from the stands. In my opinion, we [need to] step back and say, 'This is not who we are. Sports is not war.' We need to teach our kids [about good behavior] the way our parents taught us."

"Soar" is also notable in the relationship it depicts between an adoptive father and son. Jeremiah was abandoned as a baby in the snack room of the computer company where Walt Lopper worked. The note the mother left with the baby indicated that she wanted Walt to find him because she knew he was a good man. Her judgment proved wise because Jeremiah couldn't have asked for a more caring dad than Walt. Bauer explains, "I believe caring for a person is trying to see who God made them, and then caring enough to want to move alongside and say, 'I want to help whatever is inside you to come out, to see the beauty that can come through so many different kinds of experiences.'...[Walt] sees that muscle in Jeremiah of hope and determination and inspiration and wanting to help other people - and he keeps working that."

While "Soar's" focus is on Jeremiah, there's another character who plays a major part in the story: Benny, who is on the autism spectrum but comes to be an important part of Jeremiah's staff. Bauer said, "I have a friend who has a severely autistic [daughter], now a young woman. To watch her find the gifts in her child and fight for those has been an amazing experience. I spoke with her about this book. I spoke with a lot of teachers [and] therapists...Benny was this amazing voice that talked about the beauty of being positive and being loving."

In conclusion, Bauer notes that she lets her characters "soar" because of the words from Isaiah 40:31. Though they don't appear in the book, they were written across her heart while she worked on the story: "Those who wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength. They shall mount up with wings like eagles. They shall run and not be weary."



Check out the First Catholic Slovak Union website at [www.fcsu.com](http://www.fcsu.com)

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



(L – R) National President Andrew M. Rajec, National Chairman of Auditors Karen Hunka, Linda Shoup, and Executive Secretary Kenneth A. Arendt.

The Plum Kick-off Classic is held annually in Plum, PA, and is a well-attended youth soccer tournament for boys and girls throughout the region.



## FCSU at 2016 Plum Kick-off



The First Catholic Slovak Union (FCSU) was proud to be a major sponsor of the 2016 Plum Kick-off Classic, held August 26 – 28, 2016 in Plum, PA. According to Tournament Director Jamie Stewart, the youth soccer tournament drew 185 boys and girls teams in various age divisions from all over the region including southwestern Pennsylvania and West Virginia. The tournament serves as a kick-off event for the Plum Area Youth Soccer Association and was well attended by officials, coaches, parents and players.

National President Andrew M. Rajec, Executive Secretary Kenneth Arendt, and National Chairman of Auditors Karen Hunka represented the First Catholic Slovak Union at the FCSU Booth, giving information about our products, services and Society and handing out some fun giveaways.

### ★ CONGRATULATIONS! ★ Anita Herbulock

Winner of a \$50 gift card from the First Catholic Slovak Union

Thanks to all who stopped by the booth, visited us, and participated in the FCSU raffle held during this year's Plum Kick-off Classic. The winner was randomly drawn from all participants.

## Nov Forum on Respect for Tweens, Teens & Their Parents in Parma, OH



Join St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Church, in conjunction with The Cathedral of St. John the Baptist & Holy Spirit Byzantine Church, as we present The Forum on Respect on Sunday, November 13, 2016. Doors open at 11:30 am. Come and celebrate the 10:00 am liturgy at St. Mary Byzantine Catholic (4600 State Rd, Parma, OH, 44134) Church and then walk over to the Crystal Chalet for this inspiring

event. Lunch will be provided, as will childcare for children 11 and younger. Tickets are \$15 per adult and \$10 per child and are currently on sale online at <http://stmarybyz.com/> and at St. Mary Byzantine Catholic school office (216) 741-7979. We are called to action by our insightful speakers; Dr. Ray, Rita Basalla and John Popp. Help us change the staggering statistic that 60% of our youth will leave the church in college and never return. Let us continue to give them a solid foundation of Faith, Love for Jesus Christ and RESPECT for themselves and others. Join us as we build that foundation starting with RESPECT.



The semi-annual meeting of the Board of Directors of the First Catholic Slovak Union of the United States and Canada was held on Friday, September 16, 2016 – Saturday, September 17, 2016 in Middletown, PA. The Board visited the Jednota Memorial site as part of their meeting: (L-R) National Treasurer George Matta, II, National Fraternal Activities Director Rudolf Ondrejco, National President Andrew M. Rajec, Region 5 Director Michael E. Lako, Region 4 Director James R. Marmol, Region 3 Director Martha Zavada Wojcik, General Counsel Gary Matta, Region 7 Director Rudolph Bernath, National Chaplain Fr. Thomas Nasta, Region 2 Director Damian Nasta, National Vice President Andrew R. Harcar, Sr., Region 6 Director Henry G. Hassay, National Chairman of Auditors Karen Hunka, Executive Secretary Kenneth A. Arendt, Region 1 Director Sabina Sabados, and Region 8 Director Milos Mitro.

## There's Still Time to be a Part Of the Jednota Memorial



### A Site Dedicated to Members & Their Families

As highlighted in the October 21, 2015 issue of Jednota, the First Catholic Slovak Union dedicated a Jednota Memorial site last September for our members and their families. The site is on a permanently dedicated ½ acre of land of Jednota property fronting on Rosedale Avenue in Middletown, PA. It sits on land that was once occupied by the Jednota Orphanage, purchased at the urging of our founder Fr. Štefan Furdek for just such a purpose. A rebronzed "Doughboy" statue is a key highlight of this Memorial, honoring those who served in any wars and also giving the opportunity for our Members to honor and remember their ancestors and family members who have made and make our Society great.

### Jednota Memorial Granite Bricks are Available for Purchase



It is important, however, to remember that this memorial is not restricted to veterans or families of veterans. You can remember a loved one, a branch or a district in our Society. All those who purchase a "brick" or "bricks" in the granite panels found throughout the Memorial will receive a photo of the panel on which their brick or bricks are mounted.

If you haven't yet ordered your "brick" you can go to [www.fcsu.com](http://www.fcsu.com) to download your order form or call the Home Office at 1-800-533-6682.

## 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](mailto:fcsu@fcsu.com).

# Scenes From Branch 181's Summer Picnic

Branch 181's annual family picnic was held on June 26, 2016, at Mammoth Park Pavilion #14, Mammoth, PA. Registration started at noon, and the picnic at 1:00PM. Beverages and main entrée (chicken, kolbasi, halupky, halušky, and rigatoni) were provided courtesy of the branch. Members also brought dishes to share, and all enjoyed a great afternoon of fun, food and fraternalism. A branch meeting was held directly after the picnic.

- Submitted by Geri Kovacina, Branch 181 Secretary



Special guests at the picnic included national officers of the First Catholic Slovak Union and guests, including (L - R): National Chairman of Auditors Karen Hunka, National Treasurer George Matta II, Kathy Matta, Director of Independent Agents and Supreme Court Member Andrew P. Rajec, Idka Rajec, Theresa Arendt, Kay Bench, Executive Secretary Kenneth A. Arendt, Supreme Court Member James Bench, and National President Andrew M. Rajec



George Onda District Officers: (L - R) Recording Secretary Linda Gonta, Vice President Darlene Patty, and President William Patty



Branch 181 Officers: (L - R) Vice President Edward Mizikar, Secretary Gerry Kovacina, and President Darlene Patty



Branch 181 President Darlene Patty announces the door prize.

# Where there's a Slovak, there's a Song!

## Master Folk Instrument Maker Tibor Koblicek

**Helene Baine Cincebeaux,  
Branch 278**

Rare folk instruments lovingly created bring the world to a modest workshop in remote Turicky, Slovakia. Visitors pass the wooden bell tower and church that sheltered villagers from the Turks in the 1700s to arrive at Tibor Koblicek's home workshop. He is Slovakia's premier folk musical instrument maker. Although highly acclaimed for his artistry, it is a hobby for Tibor who worked in the advertising department of the Poltar glassworks.

For more than 30 years Tibor has been creating folk instruments with artistry, skill and a touch of whimsy. He fashions fujaras, folk violins, shepherd's flutes, whistles and pipes, lutes and rare instruments such as the citara, lyre and ninera. He is Slovakia's only maker of gady, bagpipes. Slovak bagpipes were recently named a UNESCO World Heritage Treasure.

Tibor's work is renowned for the fine quality of the instruments and the sounds they make. Every one of his instruments is elegantly made and uniquely decorated; they are valued as works of art. His wood carving is lyrical.

As a dedicated exponent of folk music, Tibor has displayed his work on three continents with major exhibits in Hanover, Germany for a six month exhibit at EXPO in 2000, Taiwan in 2005 and in Japan where he performed with Sarisan and exhibited his work. The West Berlin Museum has a permanent exhibit of a variety of his creations. He made the musical instruments for the film "Dragon Heart" – folk violins, flutes, a lyre and a bagpipe. His unique animal headed bagpipe is on display at the Museum of Musical Instruments in Uruena – Valladolid, Spain.

Not only does Tibor create these treasures but he plays them all and performs as a soloist with the famed Datelinka group in Slovakia and other countries of Europe. He has a number of CDs featuring fujara, bagpipe and shepherds' songs.

His instruments are used by soloists in many folk ensembles in both the Czech and Slovak Republics, as well as treasured by admirers in the US, Canada and around the world. He has garnered accolades galore at Vychodna and Detva folk festivals - Dr Ladislav Lenga awards for fujara, for stringed instruments, for flutes, for high technical skill in his creations and for outstanding performance of folk music culture. He was awarded a commemorative silver medal at Detva in 1988.

Tibor holds court each year at Detva Folk Festival. At his booth surrounded by his masterpieces friends come along to pick up the instruments from fujaras to pistalkas and play and sing with him. There is always a crowd enjoying the impromptu jamming – talk about joyful, wide smiles on everyone's faces.

Tybor is a typical Detvan, tall and commanding and full of charisma and joie de vivre. He bursts into song and has a number of CDs featuring his fujaras and the shepherding songs of his region.

The style of singing here in Podpolanie



**Although he is Slovakia's premier folk musical instrument maker, Tibor has always considered it a hobby and instead made his career in advertising.**



**For more than 30 years Tibor Koblicek has been creating folk instruments such as this fujara that are much acclaimed for their artistry.**

(under Polana Mountain) is rozkazovsky, or calling for a song. One man lifts his hand in the air and hits one note and everyone joins in. I have never been able to fathom how they know which song is which among

limb is carefully chosen and placed in an iron form to straighten it. Then it's hollowed out with hot rods being ultra-careful so the wood doesn't crack. Then placed back in the iron mold and heated over a fire for flexibility and shaping. Three holes are drilled, spaced so they sound the required tones, a secret that no maker ever reveals.

In Slovakia's heartland, fujary were decorated, incised, inlaid with metal decoration or wood-burned with ancient motifs, often flowers such as tulips and geometric designs and then dyed with color. Over time the instrument becomes burnished with oils from the hands which add a soft patina.

After mastering the classical style Tibor developed a new element that resulted in a deeply cut carved technique that made every fujara an original work of art.

Tibor experimented with double, triple, even a quadruple fujara. An eight foot masterpiece he created, named "Obor," is on display at the Slovak National Ethnographic Museum in Martin where some 70,000 precious folk objects are preserved.

After fujaras came flutes and all the other instruments. He decided to try his hand at making a bagpipe and it won an award in 1976. He does the entire process from skinning the goat to producing the leather, carving the animal head and decorating the horns. Years ago in Orava villagers danced to spirited tunes played on a folk violin and a bagpipe it must have been a lively time!

A sojourn in France led to Tybor's greatest achievement so far, he was inspired to recreate a forgotten instrument called then-nera. It has the sound of a violin but is worn hanging from the neck and played by turning a handle and pushing and pulling bars on the instrument. Tibor has made several – each intricately carved and decorated with the year and his initials.

I treasure the gadica I bought from Tibor years ago at Detva. The cow horn is carved and decorated with his initials. A highlight of each summer is arriving at his booth at the Detva Folk Festival for a big, joyful hello for his American friend.

"Where there's a Slovak, there's a song!" as the old saying goes and Tibor Koblicek is doing all he can to carry on the tradition!

thousands, but they do. Everyone joins in, young and old, and it's pure musical heaven!

Tibor started off his instrument making by fashioning a fujara. Unique to Slovakia, the fujara (defined as a Slovak shepherd's pipe) and its music were named Masterpieces of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity by UNESCO in 2005 and honored again in 2008. The fujara is an extremely long flute with three finger holes traditionally played by Slovak shepherds. Fujara music ranges from melancholic to rhapsodic and reflects a shepherd's life and work. The distinctive bass, sonorous tones of the fujara are unforgettable. Many of the sounds imitate nature; the bubbling of a brook for example.

Traditional musical instruments in Slovakia range from the "mini", the tiniest flutes only an inch or two long to the "maxi", the 17 foot long trombita. Forty-five different types of shepherd's flutes or pipes have been documented from the 1300s.

Making a fujara is an intricate task. A tree



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Full time position available at the Home Office of the First Catholic Slovak Union in Independence, OH. Computer skills required. Previous office support experience preferred. Detail oriented, with good communication and organizational skills desired. Must be highly motivated and dependable.

Benefits provided. Salary commensurate with experience and education.

To apply, send a resume to:

Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary  
The First Catholic Slovak Union  
6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300  
Independence, OH 44131

# The FCSU at the Cleveland Slovak Radio Club's Annual Festival

On Sunday, September 4, 2016, the Cleveland Slovak Radio Club, under the direction of President Henry Horvath, hosted its annual Slovak Festival, a fundraiser for its hour-long Slovak radio program that airs every Sunday morning from 11:00AM to noon on WERE AM 1490. Several Radio Club officers are members of the FCSU as well, including President Henry Horvath, Branch 855, and Program Director Milan Kolbusky, Branch 450. The festival was held at St. Anthony of Padua Church Hall in Parma, OH, from 12:00 Noon – 8:00 PM, with homemade Slovak food and pastry, music for dancing and listening pleasure by the Anthony Culkar and Frank Moravcik Bands, and vendors –including the First Catholic Slovak Union. Home office staffers Andrew P. Rajec, Director of Independent Agents and Branch 89 Member, and Kimberly Kuzminski, Annuities Customer Service Representative, were available throughout the day, offering information about the Society's insurance products and annuities, while FCSU's Teresa Ivanec, Jednota Editor and Branch 24 Auditor, Tom Ivanec, Branch 24 Auditor, Ann Sutilla, and Barbara Sutilla, Claims Administrator and Branch 855 Member, helped with set-up and serving.

The Festival's cultural program started at 3:00PM, with Tom Ivanec acting as MC. George Čarny, Branch 450 President, led the singing of the Slovak National Anthem. The featured performing group, directed by Tom Ivanec, was the *Lučina* Slovak Folk Ensemble of Cleveland, OH, with a special performance by the troupe's youngest performers, *Lučinka*.



FCSU Home Office Staffers at the 2016 Slovak Festival: [L – R] Claims Administrator Barbara Sutilla, Director of Independent Agents Andrew P. Rajec, and Annuities Customer Service Representative Kimberly Kuzminski.



Andy and Kim flank co-worker Beata Begeniova-Fedoriouk, Marketing Specialist and Assistant to the National President.



The *Lučina* Slovak Folklore Ensemble of Cleveland were featured performers at the 2016 Slovak Festival, along with the children's group *Lučinka*.

## The 2016 *Lučina* Slovak Gala: An Evening in the Heart of Europe

Saturday, November 12, 2016

Holy Spirit Party Center  
5500 W. 54<sup>th</sup> Street • Parma, OH 44129

Featuring:

*The Lučina* Slovak Folklore Ensemble of Cleveland  
*Lučinka* Children's Ensemble  
*Šarišan* Slovak Folk Ensemble of Detroit  
DJ Denis

Tickets. \$50/Person  
\$360/Table of 8  
\$40/Person under 21

Limited Seating! Only 250 seats available. Advanced sales only.  
No tickets sold at the door.

Ticket includes:  
Entertainment

Full-course dinner with 3 entrees & dessert  
(vegetarian and gluten-free meals available if preordered)  
Open Bar

Raffles & Gift Baskets throughout the evening

Followed by music for dancing and listening pleasure with DJ Denis  
Doors open 6:00PM \*\* Dinner 6:30PM \*\* Program: 7:30PM

For tickets, call. Tom Ivanec, 440-668-7797  
Christine Matis-Hearn, 440-655-8244  
Jenna Allen, 440-439-4119

All proceeds to benefit the *Lučina* Slovak Folklore Ensemble,  
celebrating their 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



The Anthony Culkar Band, sponsored by the First Catholic Slovak Union, takes a break while in the foreground Cleveland Slovak Radio Club President Henry Horvath (L) and Cleveland Slovak Radio Club Trustee Barbara Sutilla (R) pull the names of lucky raffle winners.



The annual Slovak Festival sponsored by the Cleveland Slovak Radio Club draws hundreds of people every year, including this 2016 crowd watching the entertainment program in the upstairs hall on the grounds of St. Anthony of Padua, Parma, OH.

All photos courtesy of Andrew P. Rajec

# Žatva and Dožinky - The Slovak Harvest and Harvest Festivals ( Part II)

continued from page 1

lay more eggs. So the wreath possessed all sorts of magical powers.

They decorated it with colorful ribbons and flowers, today more with paper flowers. Then a young woman and a young man (znica a zniec) carrying the wreath led the laborers in song as they paraded to the home of the gazda. The znica would present the harvest wreath to the gazda, make a request, and announce the conclusion of the harvest. Under communism, the wreath would go to the head of the cooperative farm.

Edward Kováč wrote that in former times, some of the young male or female harvesters would place the wreath on their head as they headed home or to their abodes. They would sing:

*Žali sme my žali, pod zelenou horou, ved sme sa našali, už ideme domov!*

*Už sme dohrabali, nášho pána roľu, už ideme domov, chvála Pánu Bohu!*

*Už nám Pán Boh pomohol, inšim ľuďom nemohol, ak sa budú ponáhať, aj tým bude pomáhať.*

We harvested, we reaped under green mountain, for we finished harvesting, we're going home!

We have already done our raking, our lord fields, we're going home, praise to the Lord God!

The Lord God had helped us, not so much other people, if they will hurry, he will help with that.

The female harvester (znica) would then present a wreath to the gazda and his wife, usually at the porch of his home. Then they would sing the following verse or a similar variation of it, announcing that the harvest was completed.

*Gazda náš, gazda náš, dajže nám oldomáš,*

*dajže nám ho z lásky, zbierali sme klásky, dajže nám ho smele, ej, žali sme vesele.*

*Dajže nám ho smele, hrabali sme vesele.*

*Už sme sa našali žitka zeleného, ešte sme nepili vínka červeného.*

Master, master, give us a concluding drink,

Give it to us out of love, for we gathered the ears,

Grant it to us boldly, ej, we reaped cheerfully.

Grant it to us boldly, for we raked cheerfully.

We have already harvested the green grain, yet we have not drunk red wine.

Another variation of the presentation might feature the harvesters all singing this ditty.

*Nesieme pánu vienok, a panej podarúnok, pánovi do stodoly, a panej do komory.*

We bring a wreath to our lord, and a gift to the lady, the master to the barn, and his lady to the pantry.

In some places, one of the harvesters might give greetings to the couple at the end of the harvest and wish good luck.

*Napoli úrod, na statku priplod = A crop in the fields, fertility for the livestock.*

*Zdravia, šťastia a hojného božského požehnania = Health, good fortune, and plenty of God's blessings.* Upon accepting the wreath, the gazda would deliver a speech of thanksgiving to all the laborers for their hard work. In some instances, the couple would sing their gratefulness.



A harvest festival celebration in 1939.



Celebrating dožinky in Rožďalovce, Slovakia, circa 1945.



Gazda a gazdina: the man and the woman of the household.



Honoring dožinky in the Slovak village of Porúbka years ago.

Bože nám požehnaj, všetko nám dobré daj, daj zdravia a chleba, však nám viac netrebe.

Bože nám požehnaj, aj tie naše volky, čo nám navzily, žita do stodolky.

God bless us, grant us everything good, give us health and bread, nothing else is needed.

God bless us, and our oxen, that enable us to transport, the rye into the barn.

Following the expression of thanks and song, his wife would sprinkle water from a vessel on the wreath, so the grain would be clean. The gazda would hang the wreath on the beam in his front entrance hall (predsieň). On very large estates, the lord of a manor would hang the wreath on a nail above his gate; in the spring when it was time for sewing, the first handful of seed would come from the wreath.

In some places, a gazda might place the wreath in a special place until Christmas Eve, and then feed some of the grain to his cattle for a good milk supply, and to his chickens so they would lay lots of eggs.

Then he would offer them an oldomáš, a drink for all to mark the conclusion of the harvest. Even small farmers who worked at their own field themselves also kept this tradition.

During the toast, the retinue would sing to the gazda.

*Náš pán gazda, dobrý gazda, dobrý trúnok dáva, a my z jeho lásky, napime sa z flašky,*

*keď on dá, nech on dá, nech mu Pán Boh požehná.*

Our gentleman farmer, a good farmer, gives good hard drinks, and for his love, we will drink from the bottle, when he gives it, let him give it, may the Lord God bless him.

## The Feasting

A sumptuous banquet would follow, which the gazdina had prepared. Singing, music, and dancing would follow, with participation by all, including the children. The harvest wreath would then be put away in storage until either Christmas or used again after the next harvest.

If the festival was more of an extended family occasion, the hosting families would often give from their abundance to relatives: fruits, livestock, chickens, fish, and even animals they had hunted. When it was more a whole village affair, the community would buy an animal to slay, such as a goat, lamb, a ox, ram, or a rooster. There would be a public slaughter, similar to ancient pagan sacrificial practices.

The ceremony of beheading of a rooster or a goat was a main event. Two men would tie a rope through a rooster's crest and hold it at each end. Two others would hold a rope under the wings of the rooster. There would also be a couple men in costume, one playing the role of priest and the other the executioner. They would lead a procession around the village. Once they returned to the starting point, they would hold a mock trial, accusing rooster of immoral behavior and condemn him to execution. Once its head was severed, the wife of the starosta cooked it for dinner. A ritual feast followed.

Harvest festivals might also include other forms of entertainment such as displaying a

continued on page 18

# News From Slovakia

## Kiska and Kissinger Discuss Migration, USA, Russia and Europe

New York, September 22 (TASR-correspondent) - Former US secretary of state and renowned diplomat Henry Kissinger was an advisor to four US presidents and is still one of the most respected figures in global diplomacy, said Slovak President Andrej Kiska after an informal meeting with Kissinger on this date.

Kiska noted that Kissinger is 93 years old, but he's still a passionate debater with a huge amount of knowledge. He likes to hear out your opinion first before he tells you his, added Kiska.

"We spoke about global politics, the migration crisis, the global role of the USA, Russia, the situation in Europe, the US presidential election as well as the election of a new UN secretary-general," Kiska told TASR.

Apart from meeting Kissinger, Kiska also spoke to Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko. "He [Kiska] spoke with Poroshenko about the implementation of the Minsk Agreements and the current situation in Ukraine. They also discussed the liberalization of visa requirements for Ukraine," said the President Office's communications department director Roman Krpelan.

Kiska attended several bilateral meetings while on his working trip to New York. Along with Foreign and European Affairs Minister Miroslav Lajcak he also attended the 71st session of the UN General Assembly, where he delivered a speech.

In addition, Kiska met representatives of the Slovak-American Business and Innovation Council (SABIC) for a working lunch that was co-organized by former US ambassador to Slovakia Theodore Sedgwick. He also took part in an event dedicated to the fifth anniversary of the Open Government Partnership, where he stated that Slovakia is one of only a few countries that disclose contracts concluded by state, regional and local administrations.

## USA Has Ambassador in Slovakia After Year-long Hiatus

Bratislava, September 21 (TASR) - The United States has sent an ambassador to Slovakia after a more than one year hiatus, with Adam Sterling a few weeks ago taking up the post vacant since the departure of Theodore Sedgwick in early summer 2015.

Such a long period without an ambassador doesn't mean that the US wanted to make any kind of statement about US-Slovak relations, however, Sterling told TASR in an interview.

He noted that it's actually quite common with US embassies to have such gaps because the ambassadorial selection process in the United States is quite long. Unlike in other countries, all US ambassadors – following their appointment by president – have to be approved by the Senate, which means that the process of evaluating nominees takes a long time.

In Slovakia, which is the diplomat's first ambassadorial assignment, Sterling wants to focus both on political and economic issues, apart from people-to-people issues. "I realize that there are no clear dividing lines between those areas. Businesses look at the political environment when deciding on investments," he said.

The American ambassador noted that he doesn't have to deal with any urgent issues in Slovakia, so this allows him to focus more on learning about Slovakia and the US-Slovak relationship in the early weeks and months.

Slovakia, as the presiding country of the Council of the EU, has the opportunity to build consensus in the EU on many important issues that the United States is working together with the European Union, he said.

Before being appointed as ambassador in Slovakia, Sterling served at six US embassies. "My focus is now still very much on learning how the world looks for Slovak people and how Slovakia works," he said.

He said he has already met President Andrej Kiska, Prime Minister Robert Fico and Foreign and European Affairs Minister Miroslav Lajcak, apart from businesspeople and ordinary citizens.

Sterling is married to Veerle Coignez, a native of Belgium and an international development consultant specializing in public health. They have a daughter, Elka, and a son, Bram. Elka left Slovakia recently, as she's beginning her university studies in California. Meanwhile, the ambassador's wife and son have remained in Slovakia and are looking forward to spending weekends hiking in Slovak mountains. "We have not recently been in a country with good mountains," explained Sterling.

## UNESCO Programs Presented at SAV Congress Center in Smolenice

Smolenice, September 20 (TASR) - Slovak Ambassador and Permanent Delegate to UNESCO Klara Novotna and Coordinator and Director of the UN World Water Assessment Program (WWAP) Stefan Uhlenbrook delivered speeches at the international Global Megatrends and Slovakia conference at the Slovak Academy of Sciences (SAV) congress center at Smolenice Castle (Trnava region) on this date.

Organized by SAV's Social and Psychology Sciences Center and SAV's Land Ecology Institute in cooperation with the Foreign and European Affairs Ministry, the three-day event is taking place during Slovakia's Presidency of the Council of the EU.

Novotna in her presentation of UNESCO - the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization - spoke about the opportunities and benefits for nation states cooperating with this international organization.

Uhlenbrook in his speech focused on UNESCO programs dedicated to water. In terms of

water, Slovakia has a privileged position, according to Uhlenbrook. The country has many water resources and a lot of knowledgeable experts in this field, he said.

Moreover, Uhlenbrook hopes that a joint interdisciplinary project related to the Danube River will be launched soon.

## Bratislava Becomes Center of European Diplomacy; Hosting EU Summit

Bratislava, September 16 (TASR) - Comments are emerging concerning a 'Bratislava process', which is very important, because in this way the EU summit that is taking place in the Slovak capital on this date could be written into the political history of the EU, said Slovak Prime Minister Robert Fico prior to the summit.

The Slovak capital will host the leaders of all EU-member states, excluding Great Britain, for the first time ever.

"I would call this summit self-reflection and a search for solutions. This Bratislava process should continue in Malta and then next spring in Rome, where the anniversary of the Treaty of Rome will be celebrated," stated Fico. [The Treaty of Rome was signed on March 25, 1957 and led to the establishment of the European Economic Community – a predecessor of the EU. – ed.note]

Slovak Foreign and European Affairs Minister Miroslav Lajcak noted that 343 delegates, 1,350 journalists, including 1,100 from abroad, have registered for the summit. "Around 500 suppliers are taking part in ensuring that this event functions well. There will be 75 interpreters and dozens of personal bodyguards. This event doesn't have a precedent here in Slovakia. It can be compared only to the Bush-Putin summit [that took place in Bratislava in February 2005]," said Lajcak.

Bratislava on this date becomes not only the 'capital of Europe', but also the center of attention of the whole world. Journalists from the USA, Mexico, South Africa and Japan are among those accredited.

The most important role of the summit is to halt the surge of pessimism and eliminate the risk of further attempts or referendums on leaving the EU, noted Fico. "If we start the process in Bratislava by saying that the EU is a unique project that we care about, while admitting certain errors and naming concrete topics on which we'd like to focus in the next few months, it will be an extraordinarily successful summit," he stressed.

Fico said that the summit will deal, for instance, with the form that the EU will take after Britain's departure and with security in terms of fighting terrorism as well as in social and economic terms. The EU leaders should also discuss new investments, forms of communication and the global role of the Union.

EU leaders will meet at Bratislava Castle. The first session will be dedicated to diagnosing the current situation in the EU, while the second will focus on specific steps that need to be taken in the next few months. The two sessions at the castle will be separated by an informal lunch during a boat trip on the Danube River, where the delegates will discuss the fallout from Brexit.

## Official Construction of Jaguar Land Rover's Plant Begins in Nitra Today

Nitra, September 13 (TASR) - With unveiling of the cornerstone in Nitra on Tuesday has begun the official construction of the new plant of British carmaker Jaguar Land Rover, TASR learnt on the same day. Prime Minister Robert Fico was present at the event.

According to the representatives of the company, the total investment in the first phase exceeds €1.4 billion through which the company wants to create 2,800 new jobs. According to the company's operative director Alexander Wortberg, the first production operators should be hired at the turn of 2017/18 and first cars should roll off the production lines in the second half of 2018.

Wortberg noted that the Nitra plant will be one of the most modern in terms of automotive industry.

"This is our first plant in the continental Europe, and Europe itself is an important market for us. Slovakia is situated in its heart, and therefore the location in Nitra is extremely useful. There is an excellent infrastructure and many of our suppliers are also close by," said Jaguar Land Rover CEO Ralph Speth. "People in Slovakia can be sure that our partnership and our commitments are serious and the future is bright."

Fico sees the arrival of Jaguar to Slovakia as a great success. "We had a dream to create a top-notch industrial park that would bring Slovakia to the first world league (in terms of industry). I'm glad that such a world-class strategic park has been constructed in Nitra," said Fico.

"Nowadays, there are 470 hectares of the land prepared, 31 kilometres of road infrastructure, a special railway terminal and flood-protection construction adjustments," added the prime minister, noting that the flood barriers will protect the industrial park and the town of Nitra in the future.

"I assure the investors that they can rely on us also during the approximately 24-month construction of the plant. I believe that around September 12-13, 2018 at the latest, we will be celebrating the manufacture of the first car," said Fico.

As many as 40,000 people have already applied for a job at the new carmaker. However, the company takes into consideration that not everyone will be eligible to work in the factory. "They must have the appropriate qualification and a certain level of skills. We certainly want to invest in a variety of local projects aimed at training young people in particular," said Wortberg, adding that the company would like to raise a new generation of automotive engineers in Slovakia in due course.

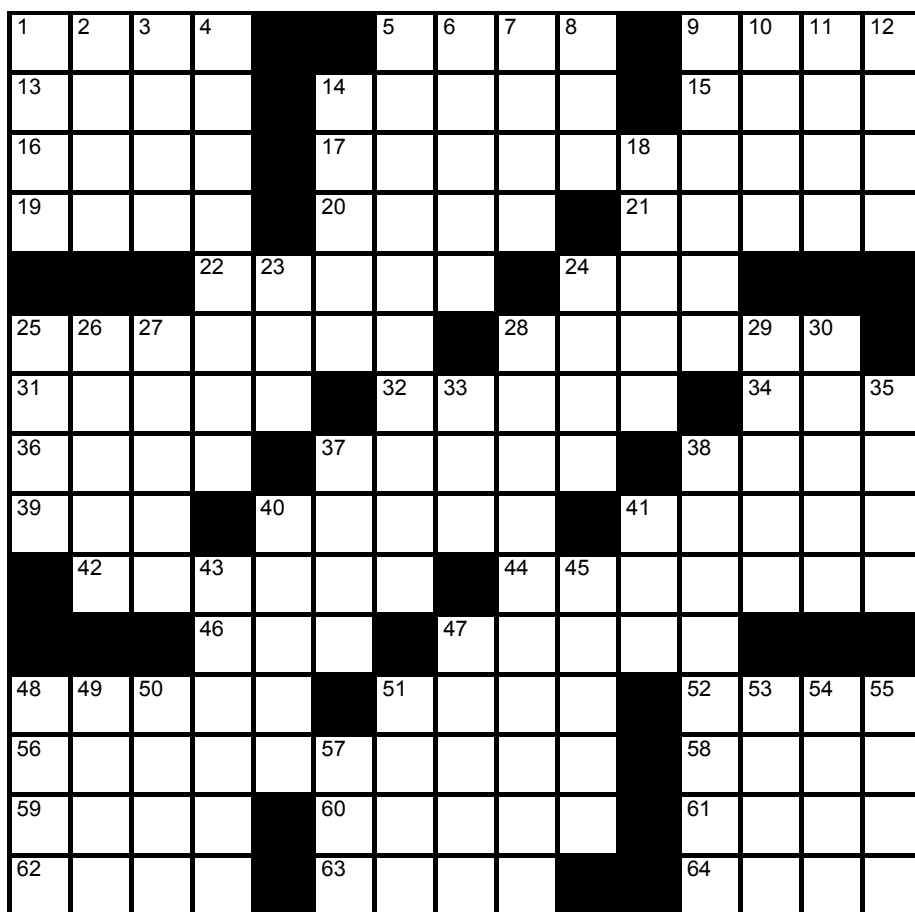


## The George Onda District's September Meeting

The George Onda District held a meeting held on September 24, 2016 at St. Florian Roman Catholic Church in United, PA. Shown in the photo are the district officers that have been re-elected to their positions (L – R): Darlene Patty, Vice President; Stephen J. Gonta, Treasurer; William Patty, President and Linda Gonta, Recording Secretary. Karen Hunka, FCSU Chairman of Auditors, performs the swearing-in of the officers.

- Submitted by Jim Marmol, Region 4 Director

# Jednota Crossword Puzzle



## From the Office of the Executive Secretary



In observance of Thanksgiving, the Home Office and Jednota Estates will be closed:  
Thursday, November 24, 2016, and Friday, November 25, 2016.



### Is your FCSU profile up to date?

Help us serve you by making sure we have all your latest information on file – address, phone, email, beneficiary

Call the Home Office and Update Your Profile Today at: 1-800-533-6682 (JEDNOTA)

Or go to <http://www.fcsu.com/update-profile>

## JEDNOTA

### Publication Schedule for 2016

#### Issue Date

October 19  
November 2  
November 16  
December 7

#### Deadline to Receive Information

October 10  
October 24  
November 7  
November 28

#### Across

- 1 Wild party
- 5 Theater production
- 9 Beanies
- 13 Choir voice
- 14 Fragrance
- 15 Mark's replacement
- 16 Peter the Great, e.g.
- 17 It can be transplanted
- 19 Wails
- 20 Frozen treats
- 21 Conducts
- 22 Downy duck
- 24 Narrow inlet
- 25 Liberate
- 28 Property
- 31 Seed structure
- 32 College bigwigs
- 34 Chow down
- 36 Depend (on)
- 37 Sojourn
- 38 *Goldberg Variations* composer
- 39 Coast Guard rank (Abbr.)
- 40 Sheets and stuff
- 41 Alcove
- 42 Subduing
- 44 Skittish
- 46 Mineral suffix
- 47 Thwarts
- 48 Oater group
- 51 Deserve
- 52 Forum wear
- 56 Socialized
- 58 Wild goat
- 59 Prophet
- 60 \_\_\_ apso (dog)
- 61 Ice cream holder
- 62 Treaty subject
- 63 Roll of cloth
- 64 Ship part

#### Down

- 1 Baseball items
- 2 1957 Tyrone Power movie, *The Sun \_\_\_ Rises*
- 3 Injure with a khukuri
- 4 Stable pest
- 5 Going forward
- 6 Hermit
- 7 Iowa State's home
- 8 Air potato
- 9 Breakfast food
- 10 Mystique
- 11 Motivate
- 12 Farm females
- 14 Tolerate
- 18 Old TV show, \_\_\_ *Smith and Jones*
- 23 Wrath
- 24 Cost of living?
- 25 Painful
- 26 Media attraction
- 27 Oklahoma city
- 28 Tropical growth site
- 29 Instruct
- 30 Ritzy vessel
- 33 Compass pt.
- 35 He and she
- 37 Kudzu, for one
- 38 "Speak softly but carry a \_\_\_"
- 40 Wine bottle size

- 41 Goose egg
- 43 Tightwads
- 45 *Terminator* actress Hamilton
- 47 Deadly
- 48 Galileo's birthplace
- 49 Unique person
- 50 Hold back, as an attack
- 51 Audio effect
- 53 Mitch Miller's instrument
- 54 Professional golfer Littler
- 55 Figure skating jump
- 57 Priest's robe

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First Catholic Slovak Union

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**by December 31, 2016.**

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

# BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

## BRANCH 2 – PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

The Annual Meeting of St. Michaels Archangel Branch 2 will be held October 19, 2016, at Kretzlers on Babcock Blvd in the North Hills. This meeting will include election of officers and will be at 7PM. Please RSVP for reservations to 412-766-3222 or 412-421-1204.

Respectfully submitted,

**Joanne Lako Recording Secretary**

## BRANCH 3 – MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

Branch 3KJ, Sts. Cyril & Methodius Society, will hold their annual meeting on Sunday, October 30, 2016, in Minneapolis, MN. The meeting will begin at 11:30AM in Father Dargay Hall, Church of Sts. Cyril & Methodius, 13th Avenue, NE & 2nd Street.

The agenda will include officers' reports, schedule of activities for 2017, and the election of officers.

A lunch will be available after the meeting.

Fraternally yours,

**James T. Genosky, Financial Secretary**

## BRANCH 3P – HAZLETON, PENNSYLVANIA

The semi-annual meeting of Saint Joseph Society, Branch 3P, will be held at 9:45AM on Sunday October 16, 2016, at the Faith United Church of Christ Hall, 21 Faith Drive, West Hazleton, PA. All members are invited to attend. A breakfast buffet sponsored by the Pardeesville Christian Association will be provided free for all branch attendees immediately following the meeting. Future branch activities will be discussed and nominations for officers for 2017 will be accepted. Please call M. Koval at 570-454-0004 for details and directions, if needed.

**Mike Koval, Financial Secretary**

## BRANCH 23 – JOHNSTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

"Come One! Come All" - On Sunday, November 13, 2016, at 1:00PM, Branch 23 St Joseph Society will hold its second annual meeting at Hoss's Family Restaurant, Johnstown Pa. Near Walmart Richland on 411 Theatre Drive. Jednota: come find out what it means.

All members of Branch 23 are welcome and encouraged to attend. If you have any questions please call Theresa Cassat 814-254-2532.

**Theresa Cassat, Secretary**

## BRANCH 24 – CLEVELAND, OHIO

Branch 24 will hold a meeting on Sunday, November 20, 2016, at 1:00PM at the Hungarian Business Club, 15805 Libby Road, Maple Heights, OH, 44137. The branch will hold election of officers at this meeting. Luncheon will be served directly after the meeting; for reservations, please call Branch Activities Director Susan Lang at 216-577-9699.

**David Lang, Treasurer**

## BRANCH 24 – CLEVELAND, OHIO

ATTENTION BRANCH 24 MEMBERS: For every WHOLE LIFE INSURANCE POLICY or ANNUITY you purchase or sell by November 1, 2016, Branch 24 will give you a complimentary ticket to the Vilija (Christmas Eve) Dinner sponsored by St. Andrew's Abbey every Christmas season.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (216) 524-0952. For more information about FCSU products and to download applications or forms, go to our website at [www.fcsu.com](http://www.fcsu.com). We hope you take advantage of this great opportunity and can join us at this year's Vilija.

**Bob Kopco, President**

## BRANCH 38 – WHITE OAK, PENNSYLVANIA

Holy Trinity Society, Branch 38 will hold its semi-annual meeting on Monday, October 17,

2016, at 7:00PM at 3409 Eisenhower Court, White Oak, PA 15131. The agenda will include officers' reports and discussion on 2017 fraternal social activities. All Branch 38 members are urged to attend.

If anyone is interested in FCSU Annuities or Life Insurance, please call Florence Matta at 412-466-7460.

**Logan Haselhoff, President  
Florence Matta, Secretary/Treasurer**

## BRANCH 45- NEW YORK, NEW YORK

The St. Matthew the Evangelist Society, Branch 45, will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, November 20, 2016 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 on events for the upcoming year. We urge all members to attend this meeting.

**Maria Jurasi, Financial Secretary**

## BRANCH 60- MCKEESPORT, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 60 will hold its semi-annual meeting Sunday, October 16, 2016 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 upcoming events. 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 15, 2016, at 7:00PM at the Jessup American Legion Post 411, Church Street, Jessup, PA. The agenda will include election of officers for 2017.

**Stella Skovira**

## BRANCH 89 – MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

Branch 89 extends an invitation to all members and guests to join the branch for a meeting and social, with luncheon to follow on Saturday, November 5, 2016, at Alliot's Restaurant, 3041 North Mayfair Road, Wauwatosa, WI 53222. Social time is from noon until 12:30PM; the meeting is from 12:30PM to (approximately) 1:00PM, with lunch to be served directly afterwards. Lunch for members is complimentary. Guest cost is \$20.00 per person. Reservations are required and must be made by November 1, 2016, by calling Mike Novak at 414-445-5382. Please make checks payable to Knights of St. Mary & Joseph Branch 89. Mail to: Mike Novak, 3237 N. 93rd Street, Milwaukee, WI, 53222. Among the topics of discussion: Donations, 2017 activities.

Fraternally,

**Mike Novak, President**

## BRANCH 153 – CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

St. Stephen Branch 153 will hold its annual meeting on Saturday October 22 at Cucina Bigagio 7319 West Lawrence Avenue, Harwood Heights, IL. The meeting will begin at 11:30 am. Election of officers will take place and charitable donations will be discussed. A fraternal luncheon will follow.

**Dorothy Jurcenko, Financial Secretary**

## BRANCH 162 UNIONTOWN, PA

The St. Wendelin Society, Branch 162, will hold its quarterly meeting on Sunday, December 4, 2016, at 9:00 a.m. at the Park Inn By Radisson, at 700 West Main Street, Uniontown, PA.

Officers' reports will be given, and upcoming events and branch activities will be discussed. Election of Officers for the coming year will be held. All members and guests of Branch 162 are cordially invited to attend the meeting and breakfast. Call for reservations by November 21, 2016,

to Dolores Marmol at 724-437-4983.

**Dolores Marmol, Secretary**

## BRANCH 181 – UNITED, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 181 will hold its next meeting on Saturday November 5, 2016 immediately following the 5 PM Mass at St. Florian church in United, PA.

The meeting will be in the school hall on the church grounds. On the agenda: election of officers and finalizing plans for the Vilija to be held on December 4, 2016 at the Bishop Connare Center in Greensburg, PA. All members are welcome. Food and refreshments will be served. For more information or directions call 412-216-5527.

**Gerry Kovacina, Secretary**

## BRANCH 199 – HOSTETTER, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 199 will meet on Sunday, November 13, 2016, at 1:00 PM at Jioio's Restaurant, Latrobe, PA 15650

All members of the branch are encouraged to join for the election of officers at this luncheon meeting.

See you there.

Respectfully submitted,

**Barbara Patula/Secretary-Treasurer**

## BRANCH 200 – FORD CITY, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 200 invites you to attend our monthly branch meetings which are held the 1st Thursday of every month (except June & July) in the upstairs Social Hall, 910 6th Avenue, Ford City, PA 16226. So for the remainder of the year, the monthly meetings are as follows: October 6th, November 3rd (with nomination of officers on the agenda), and December 1st (with the election of officers on the agenda).

The branch meeting begins directly following the regularly held 7:00PM monthly meeting of the CU Club. Please mark your calendars.

We look forward to seeing you.

Fraternally,

**Vicki L. Schaub, Financial Secretary**

## BRANCH 228 – 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. Delicious food is served by Theresa Arendt at the last meeting of each calendar quarter. 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 19, 2016. At that time, we will also elect two (2) representatives to serve on the American Slovak Club Board of Directors. Visit the websites for the FCSU at [fcsu.com](http://fcsu.com) and the Slovak Club at [americanslovakclub.com](http://americanslovakclub.com) for an update on current activities. Please come to our meetings. You won't be disappointed.

**Thomas B. Zuffa, Recording Secretary**

## BRANCH 260- CAMPBELL, OHIO

Branch 260 will hold its next meeting on Sunday, November 20, 2016, at 1:00PM at the Bedford Trails & Golf Course Restaurant. On the agenda: general branch business and election of officers for 2017 will take place at this meeting.

Fraternally,

**Paul Ritz, President**

## BRANCH 266 – HAZLETON, PENNSYLVANIA

The semi-annual meeting of Branch 266, Saint Peter and Paul Society, will be held on Sunday October 16, 2016 at 9:45AM at The Faith United Church of Christ Hall, 21 Faith Drive, West Hazleton, PA. All members are invited to attend. Nominations for branch officers for 2017 will be accepted and ideas for future branch activities are encouraged.

A buffet breakfast sponsored by the Pardeesville Christian Association will be provided at no charge for all branch attendees. For more information, and to get directions, if needed, contact R. Lazar or any other branch officer.

**Richard Lazar, Financial Secretary**

## BRANCH 276 – MCKEESPORT, PENNSYLVANIA

The St John the Baptist Branch 276 will hold its next meeting on Sunday November 20, 2016 at St Patrick's church hall on 32nd Street in McKeesport, Pa, at 1:00 P.M. Branch activities will be discussed. Also on the agenda will be a discussion of the election of officers for the New Year. We will also be hosting the District meeting on November 27, 2016 at Holy Trinity church hall in West Mifflin, Pa. All officers and members are urged to attend.

**Nancy Gerdich, Recording Secretary**

## BRANCH 312 – BAGGALEY, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 312 will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday, October 23, 2016, at 1:00PM at the home of Branch President Mark Smolleck, 1121 Monastery Drive, Latrobe, PA, 15650.

**Michaelene Smolleck, Secretary/Treasurer**

## BRANCH 313 – CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

St. John Baptist Society Branch 313 will hold a meeting on Wednesday, November 16, 2016 11:30 AM at Arrowhead Ales Restaurant 2101 Calistoga Dr. New Lenox, IL. The agenda will be a discussion of branch business and membership. A lunch will follow. All members are invited and encouraged to attend. Any questions please call Branch 313 President Joseph Bugel 708-349-7873.

**Joseph Bugel, President**

## BRANCH 320 – BELLE VERNON, PENNSYLVANIA

The officers of SS Peter & Paul Society, Branch 320, invite their members to attend the branch's next meeting on November 13, 2016, at 11:00AM at the home of Frances Tarquinio. In addition to conducting general business, there will be an election of officers. Please call Fran at (724) 929-9788 before November 5, 2016, and let her know if you will be attending.

**Mary Anne Higginbotham, President**

## BRANCH 320 – BELLE VERNON, PENNSYLVANIA

Any branch member planning on going to the FCSU Membership Meet in November, please contact Fran at 1-724-929-9788. A small stipend may be available.

**Frances Tarquinio, Financial Secretary**

## BRANCH 382 – SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA

Saints Cyril and Methodius Society, Branch 382K will conduct its Annual Fall Meeting on Sunday, November 6, 2016. 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 from Branch officers and the Branch delegates to the District 17 meeting. Information from the Home Office will be presented. Members will also consider charitable donations and future activities.

Election of officers for 2017 will take place.

President Slovenkai reminds members that "Fraternalism is a family affair," and invites all members to attend this meeting.

Following the meeting there will be refreshments and time for socializing.

The other executive officers include Vice President Elizabeth M. Slovenkai, Secretary Michael J. Czankner, Treasurer Michael J. Slovenkai, Sr., and Financial Secretary John J. Slovenkai, Sr.

**Elizabeth M. Slovenkai, Vice President**

**continued on page 17**

# DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

The Rev. John J. Spitkovsky District 2 will hold its Annual Meeting and Election of Officers on Sunday, October 16, 2016. Location: Missionary Benedictine Convent, 5900 W. 147th Street in Oak Forest, IL. Attendees will meet at 1:30 pm for a period of fraternal fellowship with refreshments. The meeting will start promptly at 2:00 pm. A delicious catered dinner will be served to all attendees. All branches in District 2 are encouraged to send representatives. Individual Jednota members who wish to become more active in District 2 are encouraged to attend. If you have any questions, call Robert Tapak Magruder at (502) 244-6643 or (773) 558-5956.

**Robert Tapak Magruder, Recording Secretary**

## DISTRICT 4 – MSGR. JOHN E. RURA DISTRICT

The next semi-annual meeting of the Msgr. Rura District of New Jersey will be held on Sunday, October 16, 2016 at 1:00 PM. Branch 290 will host the meeting at St. Joseph's Church Hall, 16 Somerset Street in Raritan, NJ. Branch secretaries asked to RSVP to Joe Minarovich @ 732-469-5256 by October 7th. Agenda will include plans for future events. Lunch will be served.

**Mary Kapitan, Secretary**

## DISTRICT 5 - MICHIGAN DISTRICT

The Michigan District will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, October 30, 2016, at the Deer Lake Inn located at 7504 Dixie Highway, Clarkston, MI 48346. (that's exit 93 on I-75, and just 1 mile west of I-75)

Our meeting will begin at 12:45 pm. Lunch will be served at 1:00 pm. The business meeting will follow the lunch. On the Agenda will be ELECTION OF OFFICERS, Officer Reports and the 2016/17 Budget.

Branch 633 is hosting this meeting. Please notify Dianna Rimarcik at (NEW PHONE NUMBER) 248-714-9620 with the number of delegates attending from your branch no later than October 15th so the restaurant can be notified of the number of attendees expected. If you are unable to confirm prior to the event but wish to attend, a \$20.00 fee will be collected at the restaurant. Those making advance reservations will not be charged.

\*\*\*\*Please remember, a branch delegate must attend at least one District meeting in order to be eligible for compensation from the Home Office.

Dianna Rimarcik, District Secretary  
NEW ADDRESS: 4945 Wavewood Dr.  
Commerce twp., MI 48382  
248-714-9620

**Dianna Rimarcik, Secretary**

## DISTRICT 6 – PITTSBURGH DISTRICT

Branch 276 will host the Pittsburgh District winter business meeting on Sunday, November 27 at the Holy Trinity Church Hall in West Mifflin. A luncheon will be served at 1 PM. The business meeting will follow. Officers for 2017 will be elected at this meeting. We will also plan meetings and activities for the coming year. By the way, the Steelers play the Colts on Thanksgiving Day so there is no game on Sunday. Please RSVP by November 1 at the latest so we can finalize details with the caterer. Leave a message at 412-672-0379 or emailmanasta@verizon.net.

The District Activities Director Annie Ondrejco is organizing a Facebook group to be called Jednota Pittsburgh District Activities. Join the group to keep up with district activities. Annie would like suggestions for additional activities. Bring your ideas to the winter meeting or contact Annie at aondrejco@gmail.com.

As always, members are urged to check the Jednota for updates on FCSU business matters as well as contests and tournaments. Watch for information about trips to Slovakia and local Vilijas. Check out the interesting article on Slovak Harvest Festivals by Michael Kopanic.

While we look forward to seeing everyone at the FCSU district meetings, 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: November 7 – Show & Tell, December 5 – Slovak Christmas Customs. Become a member of the WPSCA to get the newsletter listing all of their events.

\*\* Slovak Language Classes are held Tuesdays in spring and fall. Contact Bozena Hilko at bozi@comcast.net. Fall classes are directed toward intermediate and advanced students. Spring classes are for beginners.

\*\* Slovak Beer Tasting – October 8 – contact Joe Senko.

\*\* Don't forget the Western Pennsylvania Slovak Radio Hour – 3-4 PM, Sunday's – WPIT-AM 730. The program is also streamed live at www.wpitam.com.

\*\* Slovak Heritage Festival at Pitt – Sunday, 12-5, November 6 – Slovak food, cultural displays, lectures, entertainment, vendor tables – free admission – Cathedral of Learning Commons Room. Polishfest – November 13.

\*\* You can follow the Pittsburgh Slovaks and the Western PA Slovak Cultural Association on Facebook. The National Czech & Slovak Museum and Library in Cedar Rapids also has a Facebook page. Check out your family's hometown in Slovakia. Even a small village may have a Facebook page.

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

\*\* If you're interested in study abroad, Slovakia has a number of major universities; some have programs taught in English. Check out www.slovakia.com/study-in-slovakia/

\*\* The National Slovak Society Museum in McMurray PA is available to visitors Monday-Thursday from 9-3. Contact Sue Ondrejco for information and reservations. See www.nsslife.org/Museum.php.

\*\* The CzechoSlovak Genealogical Society International will hold its next meeting on October 18-21, 2017 in Pittsburgh. Your correspondent will be giving a presentation on Slovak Alias Names. Further information can be found at www.cgsi.org.

\*\* FCSU information and forms can be found at www.fcsu.com

If anyone knows of additional Slovak events in Western Pennsylvania that they wish to be included in our district notice, they should email information to the secretary.

Fraternally,

**Margaret A. Nasta, District Secretary**  
manasta@verizon.net

## DISTRICT 7 - THE REV. JOHN MARTVON DISTRICT

District 7 will hold its 2nd Annual Meeting on Sunday, October 30, 2016.

The meeting will be held at the Hoss's Seafood and Steakhouse at 1198 Wayne Avenue, Indiana PA. at 2 PM.

Branch 484KJ St. Joseph Society, will be the host of this meeting. All Branches of District 7 are asked to attend.

If you have any questions please call 814 -254 -2532.

**Theresa Cassat, Secretary**

## DISTRICT 9 – THE FRANK T. HOLLY JR DISTRICT

The Frank T. Holly Jr. District will hold a meeting on Sunday, October 9, 2016 at 1:00PM in the meeting room of the Dairy Queen Grill and Chill at 575 West Main Street, Uniontown, PA. Branch members are invited to attend.

A Dairy Queen Social will take place following the meeting.

**Barbara A. Holly, Secretary**

## DISTRICT 10 - OHIO DISTRICT

District 10 will be holding their final meeting for 2016 on Sunday, November 13, 2016 at 2 pm at the Slovak J Club, 485 Morgan Avenue, Akron, OH 44311. All district members are invited to attend.

This is our final meeting for the year and we will be electing officers for 2017 at this meeting. Join us for an informative meeting and fellowship.

If you are planning on attending, please call Linda Hanko at 330-773-4978 (J Club office). 330-706-0151 (home) or email me at lhanko@neo.rr.com. We would like a head count for refreshments.

Hope to see you there!

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

## DISTRICT 11 – MSGR. JOSEF TISO DISTRICT

The 2016 Annual Meeting of the Msgr. Josef Tiso District (District 11) is scheduled for Sunday, October 23, 1:30 PM at the C.U.Club, 910 Sixth Avenue, Ford City, PA. When possible, Branches should designate their representatives to Grace Charney, District Secretary, at (724) 664-7185 by October 22; however, Branch members not previously identified are welcome to participate in all District meetings on a walk-in basis.

Significant Agenda Item

-- Possible reallocation of responsibility for servicing policies of beneficial members of inactive/non-participating Branches within District 11

Reminders

- Per FCSU By-Laws, Branch representation at one of the two District meetings each year is required to qualify for receipt of the annual Branch stipend.

- Up-to-date payment of District dues and attendance at District meetings are requirements for Branch eligibility to send delegate(s) to the quadrennial FCSU convention.

- Branch representation at District meetings need not be by Branch officers; any beneficial member may represent his/her Branch.

**Grace M. Charney, Secretary**

## DISTRICT 13 – JOZEF CARDINAL TOMKO DISTRICT

Jozef Cardinal Tomko District 13 will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday, October 9, 2016 at Cozy Corners in Osceola Mills, PA, 16666 at 2:00 pm. (Route 53 South on Osceola Mills/ Houtzdale Highway.

There will be election of officers for 2017 and update of branch dues. All local branches belonging to the district are to send a member to the meeting. Luncheon will be served immediately prior to meeting.

Call Rosemary Deliman 814 342 5592 if you plan to attend.

**Rosemary Deliman; Secretary/Treasurer**

## DISTRICT 14 – THE REV. JOSEPH L. KOSTIK DISTRICT

The Rev. Joseph L. Kostik District will have a meeting on November 15, 2016, at St. Matthias Church, 915 Cornell Street, Youngstown, OH starting at 6:00 pm in the cry room. Also, the Christmas Party will be held on December 20, 2016. Save the date.

**Joe Scavina, Vice President**

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

The Msgr. Stephen Krasula District 16 will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, October 30, 2016, at 1:00PM at St. John Nepomucene Church, 411 East 66th Street, 1st Avenue, New York, NY 10065. On the agenda will be a financial report, activities, and election of officers of the district for 2017.

We urge all district branches to send their representatives to this meeting. After the meeting, refreshments will be served courtesy of Branch 716, the St. Stephen Society, NYC.

Fraternally,

**Henrieta H. Daitova, Secretary/Treasurer**

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

The District's annual meeting will be held on Sunday, October 23, 2016, with Mass celebrated at 12:15PM at St. John the Evangelist Church, William and Church Streets, Pittston, PA, followed by dinner at 1:30PM and a meeting immediately after.

Election of officers will take place at this meeting. You may be nominated from the floor and everyone has the opportunity to hold a position. If you are willing to contribute in the special interest of the Jednota with your talent and service, make your presence known and attend this meeting. Fraternalism must be kept alive!

Are your district dues up to date?

Encourage all branch members to attend, and we hope to see you on Sunday, October 23, 2016.

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

Fraternally,

**Theresa Chupka, Recording Secretary**

## DISTRICT 20 – PRINCE RASTISLAV, MONTREAL, QUEBEC

The District Annual meeting will be held on November 6, 2016 at the Sts. Cyril & Methodius Church Hall immediately following the Eleven (11) o'clock Mass.

The Agenda will include a social calendar for 2017, as well as election of officers.

Branches 784 and 810 are urged to send representatives.

A light lunch will be served.

**Alexander S. Dobrik, President**

# Rest in Peace, Our Departed Members

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

Branch:	Name	Branch:	Name	Branch:	Name	Branch:	Name
001K	Edward L Cajka	085K	Mildred Race	293K	Lorrie A Herbert	714K	Robert Eugene Plsek
001K	Edward F Lajack	152K	Theresa B Seman	313K	John M Petro	738K	John J Brekosky
001K	Jacob R Surovy	162K	Adelaide Smorada	367K	Nicholas P Ursiny	743K	Irene May Baldwin
006K	Margaret Ann Havrilka	181K	Christine B Huchko	373K	Edward Martaus	853K	Deborah K Massini
038K	John Burcin	181K	Lynn A Woytus	419K	James Hischak Sr	855K	Mildred A Norris
040K	Rita Donahue	200K	James K Conner	514K	John Jack Sestak	856K	Dolores A Ichniowski
040K	Mary Fabricius	259K	Steven Eugene Yugas	553K	Virginia M Mitchen	857K	Olga M Mitchell
040K	Lorraine H Wahl	278K	Mariann Dorothy Bardell	581K	Julia J Kotulock	900K	Stephen F Ancy
041K	Marilyn S Becker	290K	Theresa Kovac	591K	Elizabeth Marie Skorich	900K	Theresa Pickett

\*Processed through the month of September

## OBITUARIES

### GEORGE J. MERVA BRANCH 456 – HAWK RUN, PENNSYLVANIA



George J. Merva, 88, of Springfield, PA, passed away on Friday, March 11, 2016. He was born in Morrisdale, PA, to the late Michael and Mary Balogh Merva. George is survived by six children, Mary Ellen Kenworthy, George J. Merva, Jr., Michael Merva, Jean Bulmer, John R. Merva, David Merva; and three grandchildren, Beau Kenworthy, Claire Merva and Grace Anne Merva, and one brother, John Edward ("Ed") Merva. George was the oldest son of a coal miner and his wife, and one of 7 children. He enlisted in the Marines towards the end of World War II. After the war ended, he was stationed in Philadelphia at the Navy Yard. He remained in the reserves and went to officer's training, finishing his service as a second lieutenant. He went to college in Philadelphia and graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 1955, where he met a nurse named Josephine Mariana, whom he later married. They were married for over 40 years when she passed in 1994. They lived in Springfield, PA. In addition to George graduating from the University of Pennsylvania, he was a Staff member of the Pathology Department of the School of Medicine for 58

years, assisting in research administration and the education of medical students during his many years of service. Fittingly for a former Marine, he finally retired from Penn at age 84, on Veteran's Day, November 11, 2011. George enjoyed hunting and camping with his sons at Black Moshannon State Park near Philipsburg, PA not far from where he grew up. There was a viewing at St. Kevin Roman Catholic Church, Springfield, PA, on Saturday, March 19, 2016 at 9:30 AM, followed by a Funeral Mass at 10:30 AM. Immediately afterward, the interment, with military honors, took place at SS Peter & Paul Cemetery, Springfield, PA.

- Submitted by John Merva

### STEPHEN M. VRABELY BRANCH 746 – LINDEN, NEW JERSEY



Stephen M. Vrabely, 60, of Linden, NJ, passed away on Wednesday, February 5, 2014. Visitation was held on Monday, September 22, 2014, from 6PM to 8PM at the Krowicki McCracken Funeral Home, Linden, where friends and relatives gathered on the following day, Tuesday, September 23, 2014, at 9AM, preceding the church service..

The Funeral Mass was conducted at St. Theresa R.C. Church, Linden, at 10 a.m.,

with inurnment following later at Mount Calvary Cemetery, Linden.

Stephen was a lifelong resident of Linden. He attended St. Theresa's School from kindergarten to the sixth grade. He was a graduate of Soehl Middle School, Class of 1969, and of Linden High School, Class of 1972. He was a member of the First Catholic Slovak Union, Branch 746. Stephen was predeceased by his loving parents, Michael J. and Isabelle (Takacs) Vrabely.

### JOHN JAROLYN JURSA BRANCH 785 – MISSISSAUGA, ONTARIO



John Jarolyn Jursa passed away peacefully on May 31, 2016, at the age of 85, surrounded by his family. Loving husband of Mary Kavčák, proud father of Christine (Rick Turosky), Janine, Michelle (Joseph Krupa) and devoted grandfather of Olivia, Maddi, Mila and Katarina. Brother of Joseph (Maurine), Emil (Marilyn) and the late Edward (Pauline) and eldest son of the late Paul and Suzanna Jursa. John will also be missed by many nieces, nephews, Godchildren, friends and colleagues. A graduate of the Ryerson School of Journalism in Toronto, John started his career with Thomson Newspapers as a Reporter in Orillia. He returned to Toronto to work as Police Reporter and News Editor with the Toronto Telegram, and when the "Tely" folded in 1971, John joined the Toron-

to Sun as an original staff member in the role of News Editor. He then went to the Toronto Harbour Commission, where he spent the core of his career as Director, Public Affairs. Among his many accomplishments, John produced the book "The Passing Years", a history of the Harbour Commission, he wrote for numerous trade publications, and was a consultant and board member for many industry associations. John retired in 2000 after completing his career in the role of Executive Director for the Canadian Port and Harbour Association.

John was a life-long member of the First Catholic Slovak Union, and was active in both the Okres (District) Monsignor Michael Shuba, and in Branch 785, Canada. He and his family attended numerous bowling and golf tournaments for the Society over the years; and he facilitated Public Relations during the Jednota Convention held in Toronto, Canada in 1976.

Sincere thanks to the Emergency and 8B staff at Toronto Western Hospital for their outstanding care and compassion. Friends and family were received at the Newediuk Funeral Home, Etobicoke, on Friday, June 3, 2016, from 3pm-8pm. A Funeral Mass was celebrated at Transfiguration of Our Lord Church, Etobicoke, on Saturday, June 4, 2016 at 11am. Cremation followed.

- Submitted by Mary Jursa

## Slovakia has a new zoo - at Slovakia Ring Racetrack



The Malkia Park Zoo, which opened in June of 2016, is on the site of the famous Slovakia Ring racetrack in Orechová Potôň - a village in the Dunajská Streda District in the Trnava Region of south-west Slovakia.

Much more than an ordinary zoo, it was established to provide a refuge and dignified conditions for big cats rescued from circuses, who had spent years of their lives in small cages during long trips from city to city.

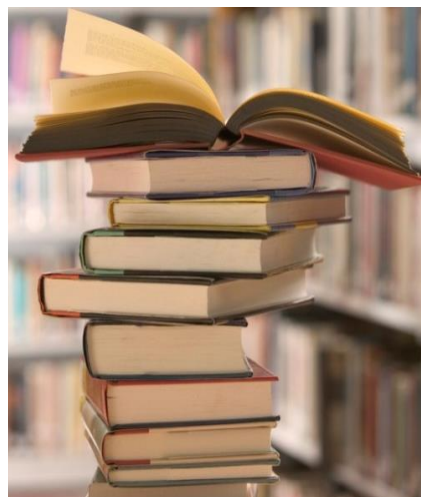
These animals are used to noise and people, which is why Malkia Park provides the opportunity to feed, touch, and be photographed with them - when accompanied by professional staff.

Malkia is also the only zoo in Slovakia where you can see the exceptionally rare snow leopard. In addition to big cats, the zoo also has other species including a cheetah, zebra, llama, parrots, lemurs, and tortoise.

The park also features accommodations at Hotel Ring and breakfasts on-site, as well as meals at the Malkia bistro. For more go to [www.malkiapark.sk](http://www.malkiapark.sk)

- From [Slovak.travel/en/news](http://Slovak.travel/en/news)

## A Newly Updated Resource for Slovak-related Topics



Interested in reading more about Slovakia? Now, thanks to Fr. Gerald J. Sabo, S.J., of John Carroll University, a central list of publications with Slovak-related topics has been newly updated for 2016.

This handy list includes ISBN numbers for those books published in Slovakia - which makes for easier identification when searching for them at the library or online. Websites for locating remaindered and used books, and where to purchase them, are included at the end of the file, as well.

Go to [www.fcsu.com/resources](http://www.fcsu.com/resources) and click on Reading to access the list.

Or, for more information, please contact Fr. Gerald Sabo at [gsabo@jcu.edu](mailto:gsabo@jcu.edu).

# BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

continued from page 14

**BRANCH 393 – GREENSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA**

St. Joseph Society, Branch 393, will hold a meeting at 1:00PM on Sunday, October 23, 2016, at 1:00PM at the New City Buffet, 5142 State Rt. 30, Suite 175, Greensburg, PA, 15601. The branch will hold election of officers at this meeting. All members are invited. For reservations, contact Mary Ann Nalevanko at 724-834-6386.

**Mary Ann Nalevanko, Secretary/Treasurer**

**BRANCH 425 – BARBERTON, OHIO**

St. Mark's Society, Branch 425, will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday, October 9, 2016, at 1:00PM at the home of Vice President Paul Slota, 1371 Eastern Road, Rittman, OH, 44270. All branches members are invited to attend.

**Jeanette Willis, Financial Secretary**

**BRANCH 484- CORAL, PENNSYLVANIA**

St. Joseph the Guardian Society, Branch 484, will hold its Annual Meeting on December 18, 2016, at the home of Treasurer Monica Rura, 819 Power Plant Road, Coral, PA, 15731. The meeting will start at 2:00PM. On the agenda will be financial reports, election of officers, payment of donations, bills, and the latest district meeting. All members are welcome.

**Joseph E. Rura, Financial Secretary**

**BRANCH 493 – CHICAGO, ILLINOIS**

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Society, Branch #493 in Chicago, wants to congratulate the following members who recently received their 50 year Jednota pins: Robert J. Dzurko, Terry Hepner, Virginia Hucek, Francis

Stefka, Gerald Strezo, Donna Tadey, Joseph Czerkies, Arlene Derma, Cheryl Colson, Theodore Derma, Jeffrey Gromos, and Stephen Koscik.

**Robert Tapak Magruder, Financial Secretary**

**BRANCH 587 – ALIQUIPPA, PENNSYLVANIA**

The St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 587, will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday, November 13, 2016, at Harold's Inn, 2134 Brodhead Road, Aliquippa, PA, at 2:00PM. Election of officers will be held. All members are welcome to attend. Please make reservations by calling (724) 375-2287 before November 7, 2016.

**Edith Valo, Secretary**

**BRANCH 595 – MUSKEGON HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN**

Sunday, October 23: Breakfast, 8:30-12noon, all you can eat and the best breakfast in town

Sunday, November 6: Polka Dance, 3pm-6pm, food available for purchase

Sunday, November 27: Breakfast, 8:30-12noon, all you can eat and the best breakfast in town

Sunday, December 18: Branch meeting with election of officers, please try to attend

Refreshments every Tuesday and Thursday .50 off. Hours are Mon-Fri 1pm-8pm, Sat. 12noon-8pm.

Come down and enjoy yourself! All events take place at Tatra Hall 2536 Sixth St. Muskegon Heights, MI (231)733-7525

**Susan Hornik, Secretary**

**BRANCH 633 – MT. MORRIS, MICHIGAN**

FCSU Branch 633 will hold its annual membership meeting on Sunday November 13, 2016 at Mr. B's Roadhouse 6761 Dixie Hwy, Village of Clarkston, MI 48346 at 1PM. We intend to hold

our officer elections and encourage everyone in the branch to attend. Please prayerfully consider running for an office and help our branch grow. Please contact Branch President Rod Meloni @ 248-444-9141 with questions and RSVPs.

**Rod Meloni, President**

**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 13, 2016, at 11:30AM at King's Restaurant located in Bentleyville, PA. On the agenda will be election of officers. Members are urged to attend.

**Dorothy Petrus, President**

**BRANCH 764 – WARREN, OHIO**

Branch 764 will hold a meeting on October 6, 2016, at 12:30PM at the Covered Bridge Restaurant, 22 W. Broad Street, Newton Falls, OH 4444. This is replacement meeting for the last one which was cancelled due to illness.

**Joy Brunetti, Secretary**

**BRANCH 756 – OWOSSO, MICHIGAN**

Branch 756 will hold its next meeting on Nov, 20, 2016 at 12:30 pm. It will be in the Hospitality room of St. Joseph School, 811 E. Oliver St. Please enter on the South East side of the building. Still looking for additional officers. May go to lunch immediately after. May review pictures of last year's trip to Slovakia, Vienna, Prague and Krakow, Poland.

Please RSVP attendance to 517-381-8358.

**Stephan J. Patoprsty, President**

**BRANCHES 784 AND 810 – MONTREAL QUEBEC**

Both branches will hold their annual meeting on November 6, 2016, following the 11 o'clock Mass for the deceased members of Branch 784 in Sts. Cyril & Methodius Parish, Montreal, Quebec, Canada.

Following the Mass our meeting will be held at the Parish hall. On the agenda: plans for the next season along with the election of officers for 2017.

A light lunch will be served. Please advise us

of your attendance so that we may prepare an exciting lunch. It could be sandwiches, soup, steaks or more. It depends on your attendance.

**Alice Dobrik, President**

**BRANCH 796 – EGYPT, PENNSYLVANIA**

Holy Trinity Society, Branch 796, will hold their Annual Meeting Sunday, November 13, 2016, at 1:00 P.M. The meeting will held at Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church, 4464 Main Street, Egypt, Whitehall, PA, 18052.

All members are encouraged to attend. Agenda items will be general Branch business as well as election of officers for the upcoming year 2017. Concluding the meeting we will have a luncheon.

**Monica Fabian, Secretary**

**BRANCH 844 – LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA**

Branch 844 will hold their annual Slovak All Saints and All Souls Mass on Sunday, October 30, 2016, at John Paul II Polish Center, 3999 Rose Drive, Yorba Linda, CA, 92886. The Slovak Mass will begin at 1:00PM, with Fr. Pavol Sochulak, SVD, from San Bernadino, as celebrant. An afternoon of fraternal fellowship is planned directly after the Mass, with coffee, donuts and good Slovak music for your dancing and listening pleasure. We invite everyone – Slovaks and Slovak friends - to join us.

Fraternally,

**Milan Konkol, Secretary**

**BRANCH 856 - WASHINGTON, D.C. AND AREA**

Branch 856K will hold their annual meeting October 8, 2016 at 1:00pm at the home of Secretary Marion Mistrik 4513 Gladwyne Drive, Bethesda, Maryland 20814. On the agenda will be discussion of branch business and activities. We will also elect officers for the coming year 2017. A report on attendance at the September 18, 2016 Mass in honor of the Slovak Chapel at the shrine in Washington, DC, a report on the district meeting. All members are encourage to attend Mass. For more information call Marion Mistrik at 301-654- 5638 or Stephen Matula at 703-671 -3013.

**Katherine Nowatkoski, Financial Secretary**

## Answer to Puzzle

*Solution to Puzzle from page 11*

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

You are cordially invited to the  
**AMERICAN SLOVAK ZEMPLIN SOCIAL CLUB**

**75<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2016**

At  
*Holy Spirit Party Center*  
5500 W, 54<sup>th</sup> Street, Parma, Ohio, 44129

Program featuring  
~  
*Lucina Slovak Folklore Ensemble of Cleveland*  
*Slovenské Mamicky ~ Michael Anderko on Fajara*

**1:00 PM** Slovak Byzantine Catholic Liturgy (at Holy Spirit Church)  
For living and deceased members of the Zemplin Club  
**2:00PM** Cocktails Hour  
**3:00PM** Dinner & Program  
Music by Johnny Pastirik Band, Dancing and open bar to follow

**TICKETS:** \$ 30.00, Table of 8 - \$ 200. Advance Tickets Sale only  
Last day to order tickets: Sun. Oct. 9, 2016

For Tickets and Information please contact:  
G. Carny 440-885-5702 M. Chura 440-238-4177  
G. Balak 216-759-8684 M. Cvicela 440-888-7028  
M.Kobulsky 330-239-2256 J. Buydos 440-843-2305  
N. Ruttkay 440-237-9012

PS: Listen To,  
Slovak Radio program Every Sunday 11:00 AM – Noon, On WERE 1490 AM  
Slovak Radio Hour Every Sunday 8:05 PM – 9:00 PM, On WCPN 90.3 FM

# Žatva and Dožinky - The Slovak Harvest and Harvest Festivals ( Part II)

continued from page 9

tamed bear. Children might play on a wooden merry-go-round (kolotoč) or a seesaw (hojdačka), and play various games, similar to our potato sack races.

In some localities, guests from other villages arrived on Sundays from traveling, and the feasting did not begin until Monday. The local residents cleaned their houses thoroughly and the area in front of each home should look pristine. Women would spend the whole weekend cooking and baking in preparation for the feast.

In Catholic villages, all would attend Holy Mass in thanksgiving, and to pray for and remember the deceased of the parish. A celebration with music and dancing would ensue after Mass either in the local tavern or at the mayor's (starosta) house. During the feudal era, the starosta often sold beer and whiskeys made in the brewery and distillery of the local landlord.

The party might last well into the night under the light of a candle, and youth would often dance until the candle burnt out. They believed that the souls of the departed were present and having fun dancing with those still alive. A different folk superstition stated that the candle enabled them to avoid interacting with the souls of the dead, for if one encountered the soul of a deceased relative, it portended death in the coming year.

## Present Day Harvest Feasts

Today Slovaks still have harvest feasts, but the dožinky are more of a weekend folk celebration. People recall the hard labor their ancestors performed and many localities perform demonstrations of how the harvest occurred in the old days. Men and women dress in folk costume work clothes and do the harvest the old-fashioned way, with a sickle and a scythe. Women bound the sheaves as they did in days gone by, and stack it in forms consistent with local customs. They then prepare it for threshing, with an original type tool, flails or cepy.

The harvest festival also often includes a display of historical agricultural machines, sometimes with them actively working for people to see.

For example, in Hrušov which in the Veľký Krtíš district of the Hont region of central Slovakia, the village hosted a parade which attracted thousands of visitors. People still take pride in their traditions and customs, and they want youth to see how hard their ancestors worked.

The festivals usually include other forms of entertainment such as singing and folk dance troupes perform traditional harvest dances. Myjava in western Slovakia hosts an annual event with meticulous attention to folk dress and maintaining the continuation of historical memory.

Food is always plentiful with koláče and pampušky (fried dough) for sale. Local people display their jams and homemade foods. Craftsmen might display their handmade products for sale, including traditional harvest tools. It very much resembles our American church festivals, but with an emphasis on the cultural traditions more than is true here. Still craftsmen and ladies exhibit their creations and try to sell them, as well as vendors of all sorts of goods. It is an occasion to celebrate the harvest and offers a good time for all.

Here are a few samples of some songs that were sung at the harvest festivals. The first is from the youth group Mladost' Komjatice, which children sang at a visit to the Slovak parliament in 1998: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fH3W8HqWxMM>.

The second example features an adult group, Vánok from Michalovce, singing Keď sa žitko zelenalo - When the harvest turned green. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nkQcKp78tBY&feature=youtu.be>

The final video features a very amusing dance and song by the youth group from Komjatice singing the Kosový tanec, the scythe dance. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=77-xbvBgWd0>.

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## FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION OF THE UNITED STATES & CANADA

6611 ROCKSIDE ROAD, SUITE 300

INDEPENDENCE, OHIO 44131

1-800-JEDNOTA

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

### PRIVACY - PERSONAL FINANCIAL AND MEDICAL INFORMATION

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

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

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

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

We obtain information about you from the following sources:

- information you provide to us in an application or other form;
- information about your transactions with us (such as premium payments, loans, claims, etc.), or others; and
- information that we may receive from a Consumer Reporting Agency.

We do not disclose any personal, Non-Public Information about you to anyone, except as permitted or required by law. We will not disclose personal medical information about you, except as permitted by law or as you may authorize.

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

It is our sincere desire to maintain complete, accurate and up-to-date records. You may contact us to access, as provided by law, information included in your file. We will promptly correct any error in our information. To protect your privacy, you will need to identify yourself by providing us with your name, date of birth and social security number.

# MINUTES OF THE QUARTERLY MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION OF THE USA AND CANADA • JULY 8-9, 2016 INDEPENDENCE, OHIO

**FIRST SESSION:**

Friday, July 8, 2016

**OPEN MEETING:**

Reverend Thomas Nasta opened the meeting at 8:30 a.m. by celebrating a Memorial Mass for our deceased officers and members who passed away in 2016.

President Andrew Rajec called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and asked Reverend Thomas Nasta, National Chaplain, to offer the opening prayer. The President asked Regional Director Sabina Sabados to lead the Board in singing the Anthems of the United States, Canada, and Slovakia, and the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL:**

Kenneth Arendt, Executive Secretary, read the roll call with the following members present:

Rev. Thomas Nasta	National Chaplain
Andrew Rajec	President
Andrew Harcar, Sr.	Vice President
Kenneth Arendt	Executive Secretary
George Matta II	Treasurer
Karen Hunka	Chairman of Auditors
Sabina Sabados	Regional Director, Region 1
Damian Nasta	Regional Director, Region 2
Martha Zavada-Wojcik	Regional Director, Region 3
James Marmol	Regional Director, Region 4
Michael Lako	Regional Director, Region 5
Henry Hassay	Regional Director, Region 6
Rudolph Bernath	Regional Director, Region 7
Milos Mitro	Regional Director, Region 8
Rudolf Ondrejco	Fraternal Activities Director
Gary Matta	General Counsel

**READING OF THE CALL:**

The Executive Secretary then read the Call to the Quarterly July 2016 Meeting.

**ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL BOARD MEETING MARCH 2016:**

A motion was made by George Matta II and seconded by Rudolf Ondrejco to accept the minutes of the Annual Board of Directors Meeting of March, 2016, as amended. Motion carried.

**PRESENTATION OF THE AGENDA:**

President Rajec presented the agenda for the Annual Meeting and asked for its acceptance. A motion was made by Damian Nasta and seconded by Karen Hunka to accept the agenda and to allow the President to change the order of the agenda, if necessary. Motion carried.

**AQS REPORT:**

Larry White, representing AQS Asset Management, Inc., presented his extensive investment portfolio report by telephone and Web Ex. to the Board of Directors. Each member of the Board of Directors received a copy of the presentation in advance for his or her review. During and after the presentation, Larry White answered questions from the Board.

Larry White then led an extensive discussion on our Investment Policy. Following a further review of our existing investment policy, he will make recommendations on possible changes or updates.

**SUBSIDIARIES REPORT:**

The President turned the meeting over to Andrew Harcar, Sr., President of Jednota, Inc.

Jednota, Inc.

The President of Jednota, Inc., Andrew Harcar, Sr., gave his report to the Board of Directors and answered all the Board's questions. President Harcar stated FCSU has received the dividend check from Jednota, Inc.

Jednota Properties, Inc.

The President then turned the meeting over to James Marmol, President of Jednota Properties, Inc., for his report and to answer the Board's questions. The President stated the Jednota Properties, Inc., and Jednota, Inc., held a joint meeting on May 26, 2016 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

The reports of Jednota, Inc., and Jednota Properties, Inc., are informational in nature.

**FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 2016:**

Executive Secretary's Report  
Kenneth Arendt presented the financial summary report for the second quarter and answered the Board's questions.

The Executive Secretary also presented a comparison report between what was budgeted for 2016 and the actual expenditures.

Federal Home Loan Bank of Cincinnati

The Executive Secretary submitted a written report to the Board of Directors which gave a complete update of the 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.

Investment Updates

The President and Executive Secretary reviewed the Matlin Patterson Fund (MPAM), UBS Fund, and MAI Fund, and the Executive Secretary gave a complete transaction report for the month.

Following the reports, the Executive Secretary answered the Board's questions.

**RECESS OF SESSION:**

The Board recessed for lunch.

**SECOND SESSION:**

Friday afternoon, July 8, 2016

**OPEN MEETING:**

President Andrew Rajec opened the afternoon session with a prayer and called the meeting to order. The Executive Secretary stated that all members were present.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Treasurer George Matta II presented the Treasurer's Report for 2016.

**THIRD SESSION:**

Saturday, September 17, 2016

**OPEN:**

Reverend Thomas Nasta opened the meeting with prayer and reflection at 8:30 a.m. President Andrew Rajec called the meeting to order at 9:00a.m.

**ROLL CALL:**

The Executive Secretary took a visual roll call. He stated that everyone is present.

President Rajec asked James Marmol to continue with his report on the Jednota Properties, Inc. The report is informational in nature.

**MISCELLANEOUS:**

The President asked the Executive Secretary to review our investment expenses. The Executive Secretary passed out an informational sheet on all expenses and following the review answered all the Executive Committee's questions.

The President stated we are in the process of becoming a non-bank trustee for the IRA Coverdale Education Plan. Edward DePersis, our consultant, is in the process of filing our application.

**MISCELLANEOUS:**Convention

The Executive Secretary stated the Executive Committee has reviewed and determined the most favorable convention sites for 2018 and will be ready to make recommendations for the Board's approval at the September 2016 meeting.

Fraternal Activities Director, Rudolf Ondrejco, stated he felt some of the branches had received their stipend but did not properly advertise for their meetings. The Executive Secretary said he would review the matter in question.

Executive Committee

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

Investments were made in accordance with the laws of the State of Ohio and with the invest-

continued on page 20

# MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

## FRIDAY, AUGUST 19, 2016

### HOME OFFICE, INDEPENDENCE, OHIO

**OPEN:**

President Andrew Rajec opened the meeting at 9:00 AM and asked Vice President Andrew Harcar, Sr., 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 II, Treasurer  
Rudolph Bernath, Regional Director (via telephone by invitation of the President)

**ACCEPTANCE OF THE JULY MEETING MINUTES:**

The Executive Secretary presented the minutes of the July 2016 Executive Committee Meeting. A motion was made by Andrew Harcar, Sr., and seconded by Kenneth Arendt, to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

**EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT:**Investment Updates

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

Mortgages and Overdue Mortgages

The Executive Secretary presented the report for the month of July 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 July:

Disbursements for the month of July 2016:		
Death Benefits & Accumulations	\$	211,476.41
Cash Withdrawals & Accumulations	\$	44,708.26
Matured Endowments & Accumulations	\$	0.00
Trust Fund	\$	0.00

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.

The Executive Secretary gave a complete summary of the second quarter financial report and answered all the Executive Committee's questions. He further stated the financials will be published in the newspaper.

**TREASURER REPORT:**

The Treasurer gave a report on the investment update.

**ECONOMIC OVERVIEW:**Annuity Rates:

The President led an extensive review of the current annuity rates. It was decided the rates remain the same and will be reviewed at the next meeting in September.

AQS Management, Inc.

Larry White, representing AQS Management, Inc., presented an extensive Investment Portfolio Transaction Report by telephone and WebEx to the Executive Committee. Each member of the Committee received a copy of the presentation in advance for his review. Following the report, Mr. White answered the Executive Committee's questions.

Michael Vary, representing UBS Financial Services, Inc., presented an extensive Investment Report to the Executive Committee. He presented several recommendations for future investments to the Committee. The President stated the Committee will review the recommendations. Mr. Vary answered all the Committee's questions.

2018 Convention

At this time the Executive Committee adjourned and went to the Hilton Downtown Cleveland for a site tour of the hotel and facilities as a possible convention site. After returning to the office the Committee had an extensive discussion and review on other convention sites. Among them were Nashville, Indianapolis, and the Homestead in Virginia, two sites in Pittsburgh, several sites in Florida, and the Hershey Lodge in Pennsylvania. Florida was ruled out for 2018 because of the Zika virus situation and the unknown future. We have to

decide with what we know now. The other sites were not recommended because of lack of facility size; ease of access; cost; or lack of suitable dates. The Executive Secretary stated the Hilton Downtown Cleveland Hotel is a brand new facility and was built for hosting conventions. The hotel meets all our requirements for a convention, including a floor plan adequate for meetings and other amenities. Their proposal dates of August 4-18, 2018 work well for us. The Executive Committee unanimously agreed and recommends to the Board of Directors the Hilton Downtown Cleveland hotel as the site for our 2018 convention.

**SALES AND MARKETING:**

The Vice President gave a production report on our agents. He stated we are still recruiting new agents and at present have over 230 agents. The Home Office is sending the independent agents monthly updates on our products.

The Vice President will continue to schedule seminars for 2016 once our marketing firm updates our seminar presentation. The Vice President continues to encourage the districts and branches to contact him concerning acceptable dates.

The Vice President announced the 2016 Membership Meet will be held in Las Vegas on November 6-10, 2016. He stated we are now accepting reservations and final payment is due on September 30, 2016.

The Vice President announced our marketing firm has completed the new website design. We will have a review before going on line with the new design.

The President stated the possibility of bringing the top 3 independent agents to the Home Office for a round table discussion on improving our marketing and service to the agents and their clients in the near future.

**MISCELLANEOUS:**

The President stated there is a need for an in-house office employee to help branches and districts in organizing and doing activities within the various regions. This idea will be considered in the near future.

**REQUESTS FOR ADS AND DONATIONS:**

Requests for donations and ads were reviewed and acted upon.

**ADJOURN:**

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Andrew M. Rajec  
President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kenneth A. Arendt  
Executive Secretary

## MINUTES OF THE QUARTERLY MEETING

continued from page 19

ment policy adopted by the Board of Directors. All investments are approved by a vote of at least three members of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee members work very closely with the Society's Investment Advisor, AQS Asset Management.

**REQUESTS FOR ADS AND DONATIONS:**

Requests for donations and ads were reviewed and acted upon.

**PAYMENT OF BILLS ASSOCIATED WITH THE ANNUAL BOARD MEETING:**

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

**ADJOURN:**

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

Reverend Thomas Nasta closed the meeting with prayer.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Andrew M. Rajec  
President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kenneth A. Arendt  
Executive Secretary

## Správy zo Slovenska

### Miliardárov pribúda, nerovnosť sa zväčšuje

Najnovšie údaje z prieskumu spoločnosti Wealth-X Billionaire Census poukazujú na to, že aktuálne má svet 2473 dolárových miliardárov, ktorí držia majetok v hodnote 7,7 bilióna dolárov. Keď naposledy Organizácia pre ekonomickú spoluprácu a rozvoj (OECD) porovnávala príjmové rozdiely na Slovensku, vyšlo jej, že desať percent najbohatších Slovákov zarába takmer šesťnásobne viac ako desať percent najchudobnejších. „Vo väčšine európskych spoločností sme svedkami skôr narastajúceho počtu chudobnej skupiny obyvateľov, a na druhej strane ešte väčšieho nárastu majetku bohatých ľudí. Zlyháva totiž systém ako taký. Zlyháva kapitalizmus“, uviedol Christian Schweiger, profesor na Katedre medzinárodných vzťahov na Durham University v Británii.

### Automobilky idú na rekord

Automobilky dávajú slovenských závodcom vyrábať nové modely, ktoré sa dobre predávajú. Vedia totiž vyrábať kvalitne a efektívne,“ vysvetlil analytik Slovenského automobilového inštitútu Martin Jesný. V roku 2015 vyrobili slovenské automobilky vyše milióna áut a dopyt po nich stúpa aj v rámci celej Európskej únie.

### Cenová vojna na železnici sa skončila zdražovaním

Cestovné vo vlakoch súkromného prepravcu RegioJet je vyššie, vlaky sú plnšie a štátne IC vlaky nejazdia. Podľa RegioJetu budú ceny lístkov aj tak o 30 percent nižšie, ako pred jeho príchodom na trh. Cenovú bitku dopravcov ovplyvnilo aj zavedenie bezplatného cestovného pre študentov a dôchodcov od 17. novembra 2014. Pred príchodom konkurencie štátne IC vlaky jazdili medzi Bratislavou a Košicami za 20 až 24 eur. Cenový strop RegioJetu je 21,50 eur.

### Bratislava dostane nový prístav. A tiež lodné linky

Zo hlavného mesta Slovenska bude plávať viac lodí do Viedne a pribudnú aj pravidelné plavby do Budapešti. Sľubuje to nový majiteľ bratislavského osobného prístavu. Podľa informácií kúpila prístav skupina okolo podnikateľa Juana Ramóna Hernándezza Soubleta. Vlastní ju cez firmu Danpon. Prístav spravuje spoločnosť Slovenská plavba a prístavy - lodná doprava. Podľa jej podpredsedu Mareka Považana plánujú zvýšiť počty liniek najneskôr od apríla 2018.

### Prácu Slovákom ponúkajú aj susedia

Slováci môžu ísť pracovať do cudziny. Sú tam tisíce pracovných miest. Takmer 400-tisíc voľných pracovných miest majú spolu Česko, Maďarsko, Poľsko a Rakúsko. Praha hľadá takmer dvadsaťtisíc zamestnancov, Viedeň vyše šesťtisíc. V júli sa firmy najviac zaujímali o montážnych pracovníkov, stavbárov či zvaračov. „Netreba zabudnúť ani na technické profesie naprieč všetkými odborami, málo je obrábačov kovov, zámočníkov aj ľudí, ktorí obsluhujú CNC stroje“, uviedla Kateřina Beránková z Úradu práce Českej republiky.

### Silnejšia ekonomika nabáda zvyšovať platy

Slovenská ekonomika dobieha susednú českú. V druhom štvrtroku rast slovenského hospodárstva dosiahol medziročne 3,7 percenta a Česko si polepšilo „len“ o 2,5 percenta. Dá sa očakávať, že o štyri roky sa úroveň ekonomík vyrovná. Ľudia na Slovensku si to všimnú len v prípade, že reálne platy porastú rýchlejšie ako v Česku. Troj až štvorpercentný rast miezd pri nulovej inflácii má zatiaľ Slovensko aj Česko. Bude na odborároch aj vláde, aby Slováci v bežnom živote pocítili aktuálne druhý najrýchlejší rast hospodárstva krajiny v Európskej únii.

### Slovensko má v PSA veľmi dobré meno

„Je pred nami skutočná produktová ofenzíva“, povedal nedávno generálny riaditeľ automobilky Peugeot-Citroën a DS (PSA) Matúš Paľa. Generálny riaditeľ PSA ďalej uviedol, že „vstupujeme do nových segmentov, preto očakávame ďalší rast predajov“. Predpokladá, že predaje automobilov ich značky v tomto roku u nás prekročia 11.500, pričom minulý rok to bolo necelých 10.000 kusov vozidiel. Rast rovnako očakáva pri tržbách, ktoré vlani dosiahli 371 miliónov eur.

### Nová motivácia podnikat' Ľudia dostanú dotácie.

Ľudí, ktorí majú nápad na rozbehnutie podnikania štát odmení. Ide zvyšovať začínajúce inovatívne firmy, nazývané ako startupy. V návrhu rozpočtu na budúci rok sa uvádza, že rezort hospodárstva vyčlení viac ako 94 miliónov eur na rozvoj priemyslu a podnikania na Slovensku. V tejto položke je zahrnutá aj pomoc pre inovatívne podniky. Štát ich plánuje odbremeniť od regulátornej a administratívnej záťaže a finančne ich podporiť, ak sa venujú vede a výskumu.

### Pravda o chudobe slovenských penzistov

Podľa správy Organizácie pre svetovú hospodársku spoluprácu a rozvoj (OECD) o dôchodkoch v Európe, sú slovenskí dôchodcovia na tom lepšie ako Rakúšania či Nemci. Podľa správy sú naši seniori vo veku nad 65 rokov dobre finančne zabezpečení a relatívna chudoba sa týka len mála z nich. Slováci sa s 3,7 percenta relatívne chudobných seniorov umiestnili na úctyhodnom 6. mieste. Výskum zisťoval, prečo sa rebríček nezhoduje s realitou. Podľa Martina Halása z Inštitútu pre výskum sociálno-ekonomických rizík až 40 percent našich seniorov má mesačný príjem nižší ako 350 eur, čo bola v roku 2015 hranica chudoby vypočítaná pre Slovensko.

### Návštevnosť Tatier zlomí rekord, pomohol aj Izrael

Do našich veľhôr vo veľkom prúdila turisti zo Slovenska aj zo zahraničia. Dôvodom je strach z terorizmu. Z údajov za prvých päť mesiacov tohto roka vyplýva, že pre dovolenku na Slovensku sa rozhodlo až 1,1 milióna domácich. Oproti minulému roku je nárast o viac ako päťinu. K tomu treba pripočítať 690-tisíc zahraničných turistov, ktorých počet rástol podobným tempom ako domácich. V auguste na Slovensko zavítali aj turisti z Izraela. Pomohla tomu aj nová letecká linka medzi Popradom a Tel Avivom.

### Potravinový záruke neskončia v koši

Obchodníci dostanú možnosť darovať potraviny po záruke. A to nielen Potravinovej banke Slovenska, ale aj akejkoľvek charitatívnej organizácii, ktorá splní podmienky. Naklonené sú tomu obchodné reťazce aj charita. „Slovensko je jednou z posledných členských krajín EÚ, v ktorých je darovanie trvanlivých potravín zakázané, čo má za následok nadmernú tvorbu potravinového odpadu,“ povedal hovorca Slovenskej aliancie moderného obchodu (SAMO) Milan Kisztnier. Aj preto sa mu pozdáva pripravovaná novela, ktorá obchodníkom umožní darovať potraviny hneď charite a nie povinne Potravinovej banke Slovenska. Na novele sa však podľa ministerstva pôdohospodárstva ešte stále pracuje. Ak novela prejde, reťazce budú môcť trvanlivé potraviny odovzdať akejkoľvek charite.

### Biotechnológie ako zbraň vo voľbách

Biotechnologické firmy vo veľkom skupujú oligarchovia. Penta kúpila podiel vo firme vyvíjajúcej preparáty na liečbu kmeňovými bunkami, Mario Hoffman z Istrokapitálu financuje vývoj lieku na Alzheimeru, Andrej Babiš má vo svojom portfóliu kliniku pre reprodukčnú medicínu či Peter Kellner investuje do vývoja liekov na rakovinu. „V blízkosti aj vo vzdialenejšej budúcnosti to bude obrovský biznis. Navyše finančníci nezvyknú mať zlý čuch,“ povedal Adam Marťák, slovenský študent biopodnikania na Karolinska institute v Štokholme. Podľa Marťáka biotechnologický priemysel na Slovensku takmer neexistuje. „Bola by však škoda nevyužiť potenciál, ktorý medicínske biotechnológie majú aj ekonomicky,“ zhodnotil Marťák.

### Výber zo slovenskej tlače

## Liptov

Liptov, o rozlohe 1965 km<sup>2</sup>, sa spomína prvýkrát v r. 1231 v donácii kráľa Ondreja II. Obklopujú ho pohoria: Západné Tatry, Nízke Tatry, Chočské vrchy a Fatra. Jeho územie bolo osídlené už od praveku.

Je bohatý na kultúrne pamiatky, svojráznu ľudovú architektúru a folklór ako: Vlkolince so 45 drevenicami zo 16. st., v ktorých býva ešte 20 osadníkov, Východná s každoročne v júli usporiadaným festivalom piesní a tancov, Važec, kde sa v r. 1931 pri požiari zo 416 dreveníc, v typicky svojráznom štýle, zachovalo iba 30.

Zaujímavá je obec Sliač, kde turisti môžu obdivovať popri zrubových dreveniciach aj najkrajšie kroje Liptova, no príťažlivá, najmä v lete, je aj Liptovská Mara (názov má podľa najstaršej obce Liptovská Mara), vodná nádrž a rekreačná oblasť, o rozlohe 216 km<sup>2</sup>, ktorá vznikla zatopením 13 obcí: Čemice, Demčiny, Liptovská Mara, Liptovská Sielnica, Nižné Dechtáre, Paludza, Parížovce, Ráztoky, Sestrč, Sokolče, Vrbie, Vyšné Dechtáre, Liptovský Trnovec.

Dôležité objekty ako: goticko-renesančný kostol z Parížoviec, gotické kostoly a zrubové drevenice z Liptovskej Mary a Liptovskej Sielnice previezli do skanzenu v Pribyline, okrem dreveného kostola v Paludzi, najväčšieho v Európe, z r. 1773-1774, ktorý previezli do obce Lazisko. Zaujímavá je aj Liptovská Lužná s malebnými krojmi a dlhými radmi senníkov na lúkach.

V súvislosti s Liptovom je príznačné, že si jeho názov prevzali viaceré obce a mestá ako: Liptovská Osada, Liptovská Teplička, Liptovská Lužná, Liptovská Teplá, Liptovské Kľačany, Liptovská Kokava, Liptovská Štiavnica, Liptovské Revúce, Liptovský Ján, Liptovský Hrádok, Liptovský Mikuláš. Pre Liptov je charakteristický aj značný chov oviec a výroba syrarských produktov ako: žinčica, bryndza, oštiepky, korbáčiky. Typickým slovenským jedlom sú bryndzové halušky.

Pozornosť si zasluhuje aj Liptovský Hrádok, kde v r. 1796 vznikla prvá lesnícka škola v bývalom Uhorsku. Vodáci tu tradične začínajú svoje obľúbené túry dole Váhom.

Liptovský Mikuláš, stredisko Liptova, je známy nielen kožušníckym a garbiarskym priemyslom, ale aj tým, že tam vážili v Seligovom dome Jánošíka, legendárneho zbojníka a bojovníka proti útlaku poddaných a nespravodlivosti, ktorého obesili pri Paludzi na Šibeničnom vrchu.

Jánošík bol natoľko medzi pospolitým ľudom obľúbený, že si o ňom zložil aj piesne, napr.:

*Jánošík, Jurošík, ty nešťastné dieťa,  
kebyš' nebol zbíjal, nelapili by ťa...,  
alebo:*

*Jánošík, Jánošík, kde tvoja valaška,  
tam hore, na hore, zaťatá v javore...*

A bol inšpiráciou aj pre tvorbu niektorých umelcov, básnikov, spisovateľov, filmových pracovníkov, o čom svedčia: báseň Smrť Jánošíkova, romány Jánošík, opera Jánošík, filmy Jánošík..., ale aj obrazy, sochy, povesti o nazbýjanom a ukrytom zlate, ktoré bohatým bral a chudobným dával...

Návštevníci Liptova sa o ňom môžu viac dozvedieť v Národopisnom múzeu v Liptovskom Mikuláši.

No Jánošík má svojich prívržencov a obdivovateľov dokonca aj v USA, kde si založili Jánošíkov krúžok za úzkej spolupráce Helene Cincebeaux, zanietenej obdivovateľky a propagátorky Slovenska, ale aj vydavateľky v angličtine vychádzajúceho obrázkového časopisu určeného pre amerických Slovákov pod názvom Slovakia.

Turisti a milovníci zimných športov s obľubou navštevujú aj v blízkosti Liptovského Mikuláša nachádzajúce sa pohorie Roháče pre vynikajúci lyžiarsky terén a sneh trvajúci až do konca mája.

Nie každá krajina má aj jaskyne. Slovensko ich má doposiaľ objavených úctyhodný počet, vyše 6200, čo je na takúto malú krajinu rarita, no prístupných verejnosti iba 16, ktoré lákajú turistov svojou zvláštnosťou a nádherou. V Liptove sú tri: Demänovská jaskyňa Slobody (spomínaná v latinských listinách už v r. 1299) s dĺžkou 1655 m, Demänovská ľadová jaskyňa



Zvonica z kostola z Paludze.



Titul knihy Jánošík



Črpák na žinčicu.



Kostolík pri Liptovskej Mare.



Senníky na Liptove.

s bohatou kvapľovou výzdobou a Važecká vo výške 992 m s voskovo kvapľovou výzdobou.

Nuž taký je Liptov. Naozaj krásny, zaujímavý a príťažlivý.

Andrej Štelmák,  
Sliač, Slovensko

## Bratislavský summit Európskej únie

Pokračovanie zo str. 24

našich ľudí. Potrebujeme, aby EÚ lepšie naplnila ich potreby a želania slobodne žiť, študovať, pracovať, cestovať, prosperovať v rámci celého nášho kontinentu a využívať bohaté európske kultúrne dedičstvo.

Musíme zlepšiť vzájomnú komunikáciu: medzi členskými štátmi, s inštitúciami EÚ, ale najmä s občanmi. Naše rozhodnutia by mali byť jasnejšie. Hovoriť jasne a úprimne. Sústrediť sa na to, čo občania očakávajú, a odvážne vzdorovať zjednodušujúcim riešeniam extrémnych a populistických politických síl.

V Bratislave sme sa zaviazali, že našim občanom v najbližších mesiacoch ponúkne víziu atraktívnej EÚ, ktorej môžu dôverovať a za ktorú sa môžu postaviť. Sme presvedčení, že nám nechýba vôľa ani schopnosti, aby sme to dosiahli.

## Oznámenia spolkov a spoločenské podujatia

### Slovenský Oktoberfest v NY bude 23. októbra v kostolnej hale

Farnosť sv. Jána Nepomuckého v New Yorku v spolupráci s International Chef s Assn (NY Chapter) pozývajú slovenskú verejnosť na tradičnú októbrovú zábavu – slovenský Oktoberfest. Bude sa konať v **nedeľu 23. októbra** od 1. do 6.30 hod. vo veľkej a renovovanej hale slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého (66th Street and 1st Ave) Bude sa podávať predjedlo, večera s bohatým výberom zo slovenskej a nemeckej kuchyne, slovenské a nemecké pivo, koláče, káva a čaj. Do tanca bude hrať kapela Kontakty. Vstupné je \$40 za osobu, v čom je zahrnuté jedlo a nápoje. Informácie a rezervácie: fara 212-734-4613 (Lisa), J. Škrkoň 718-626-0195, H. Daitová 201-641-8922, M. Božeková 347-612-1934.

### Výročná členská schôdza okresu Msgr. Štefana Krasul'u č. 16 IKSJ

Oznamujeme všetkým členom Okresu Msgr. Štefana Krasul'u č. 16, že výročná členská schôdza sa bude konať v **nedeľu 30. októbra 2016** o 1:00 hodine odpoľudnia v malej hale Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého v N.Y.C. Prosíme predsedov všetkých spolkov, ktoré patria do nášho okresu, aby poslali svojich delegátov. Program schôdze: podanie finančnej správy; plán práce na budúce obdobie a voľba výboru Okresu na rok 2017. Po výročnej schôdzi sa bude podávať občerstvenie, ktoré pripravia členovia Spolku sv. Štefana č. 716 IKSJ. Ostávam 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 20. novembra 2016** 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

## Vo veku 74 rokov zomrela legendárna Věra Čáslavská

Vo veku 74 rokov zomrela v **30. augusta** legendárna československá gymnastka a sedemnásobná olympijská víťazka Věra Čáslavská. Informoval o tom Český rozhlas (ČRo), pre ktorú správu o úmrtí potvrdila Čáslavskej blízka priateľka, filmová dokumentaristka Olga Sommerová. Čáslavská bojovala od vlnajšieho mája s rakovinou pankreasu a podstúpila odtedy aj niekoľko operácií. Štvornásobná majsterka sveta pre zhoršujúci sa zdravotný stav neodcestovala ani na OH do Ria de Janeiro. Podľa Sommerovej zomrela v nemocnici, kam ju previezli po tom, ako sa zhoršil jej zdravotný stav.

Věra Čáslavská získala na OH v Tokiu 1964 a v Mexiku 1968 sedem zlatých medailí. Bola štvornásobnou majsterkou sveta, jedenásťnásobnou majsterkou Európy a štvornásobnou športovkyňou roka Československa.

Po auguste 1968 ju kvôli jej postojom k invázii vojsk Varšavskej zmluvy vylúčili z telovýchovnej organizácie. Po udalostiach podpísala manifest 2000 slov, pred odletom na OH vyhlásila: „Obetovala by som všetky svoje doterajšie medaily za tohtoročné víťazstvo. Lebo nebojujem za seba, ale za nás všetkých. A naši ľudia si zaslúžia víťazstvo.“

Neskôr sa venovala tréningu, v Prahe a Mexiku vychovávala mladé adeptky športovej gymnastiky. V rokoch 1990 - 1996 bola predsedkyňou Československého olympijského výboru a v rokoch 1995 - 2001 takisto členkou Medzinárodného olympijského výboru.

TASR



## Biskup Judák otvoril a požehnal komunitné centrum irackých kresťanov v Nitre

Irackí kresťania, ktorí na Slovensku získali azyl kvôli prenasledovaniu islamistami v Iraku, majú od 26. augusta komunitné centrum. Nachádza sa v priestoroch Nitrianskej katolíckej charity na Samovej ulici 4, v areáli pod Nitrianskym hradom. Cieľom komunitného centra je vytvoriť priestor a spoločenstvo, ktoré budú irackým kresťanom

pomáhať pri integrácii do slovenskej spoločnosti a zároveň ponúknu Slovákom možnosť spoznať irackú kultúru. Komunitné centrum otvorili pre širokú verejnosť.

Požehnal ho nitriansky biskup Mons. Viliam Judák, ktorý vo svojom príhovore zdôraznil potrebu vytvárania dobrých vzťahov medzi irackými kresťanmi a slovenskou verejnosťou. V centre sa už v septembri rozbehnú rôzne kurzy a školenia zamerané na zlepšenie integrácie irackých kresťanov do slovenskej spoločnosti. K dispozícii budú aj kurzy arabčiny a aramejšiny pre všetkých záujemcov. Centrum je zároveň priestorom nadviazovania kontaktov s irackými kresťanmi. Rozvíjať ich bude možné pri dobrej irackej káve a irackých kulinárskych špecialitách. Centrum bude otvorené každý deň v poobedňajších a večerných hodinách.



TK KBS

## Krajanské múzeum Matice slovenskej víťalo vzácných hostí

S príchodom slnečných dní, ešte pred časom dovoleniek a prázdnin, zvyknú do Matice slovenskej prichádzať početné návštevy hostí nielen zo Slovenska, ale i návštevy krajanov z celého slovenského sveta. Tí, ktorí roky nenavštívili domovinu predkov, ale i tí, ktorí chcú bližšie spoznať chod najstaršej kultúrnej inštitúcie Slovákov, plánujú svoje cesty do Martina s niekoľkomesačným predstihom.

V polovici mája delegáciu Úradu pre Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí, na čele s predsedom ÚSZZ, s p. Varšom, ktorého sprevádzal aj jeho podpredseda, P. Prochávka, čakali na pôde Matice slovenskej viacerí matiční funkcionári. Hostí privítal predseda MS, Marián Tkáč, o kultúrny program sa postarali žiaci z vrútockej základnej umeleckej školy Fríca Kafendu. V zanietenom debate sa matičiari so zástupcami úradu zhovárali o spoločných zámeroch, víziách i projektoch. Tento rok obe inštitúcie prepojila najmä spolupráca pri organizácii Matičného letného tábora pre deti krajanov, ktorý sa už po 25. krát organizoval v Tatranskej Lesnej.

Hostia z Úradu si obhliadli nielen II. historickú budovu MS, ale navštívili aj archív. Neobišli ani matičnú šatnicu – požičovňu a kostýmov, ktorá ukrýva vzácne kostýmové i krojové bohatstvo z celého Slovenska. V poobedných hodinách v Turčianskej galérii prebehla vernisáž výstavy krajanského maliara z Nemecka – Juraja Oscitého, ktorého obrazové umenie nadchlo všetkých návštevníkov.

O viac ako mesiac Matice slovenská privítala delegáciu Slovákov z chorvátskej obce Lipovľany. Ich cesty na Slovensko smerovali najmä vďaka tomu, aby spoločne oslávili 20. výročie vzniku tamojšej Matice slovenskej. Výlet pre matičiarov organizoval predseda Matice slovenskej v Lipovľanoch, p. Jozef Krajčí. Krajania sa zastavili v Bratislave, na Devíne i v Terchovej. Do ústredia MS zavítali v poobedných hodinách. Po úvodných príhovoroch matičných činníkov si vypočuli výklad o dejinách Matice slovenskej a histórii jej II. budovy. Ešte ten večer, po spoločnom jedle, im do tanca a spevu zanítil folklórny súbor Turiec.

Sobotnejšie dopoludnie krajanovia venovali návšteve Národného cintorína, Slovenského etnografického múzea a Múzea slovenskej dediny. Prepojenie minulosti a prítomnosti v expozíciách múzei Lipovľanov potešilo o to viac, že aj oni svoje snahy orientujú na budovanie etnodomu v ich rodnej obci.

Poobede ich cesty smerovali po stopách svojich predkov do Žiliny, kde na mnohých čakalo to najvzácnejšie – stretnutia s rodinami, priateľmi i známymi. Večer, v atmosfére futbalových zápasov, ukončili svoje putovanie po krajine predkov pri spoločnej večeri v neďalekej obci Košťany.

Zuzana Pavelcová



## Sedembolestná Panna Mária priviedla do Šaštína takmer 40 tisíc pútnikov

Pokračovanie zo str. 24

pomáhali zrealizovať. Bol to ďalší vydarený ročník národnej púte. Všetkým patrí úprimná vďaka, povedal don Ján Čverčko, správca baziliky. Národná svätýňa Bazilika Sedembolestnej Panny Márie je súčasťou rímskokatolíckej farnosti v Šaštíne, ktorú spravujú Saleziáni don Bosca – Slovenská provincia. O pútnikov sa na mieste starajú už od roku 1991. Pod ich vedením sa uskutočnila vnútorná i vonkajšia rekonštrukcia baziliky Sedembolestnej a bohato sa rozvinuli púte veriacich.

Úcta k Sedembolestnej Panne Márii u Slovákov sa začala prijatím kresťanstva od vierozvestcov sv. Cyrila a Metoda. Ľud k jej úcte staval kaplnky a chrámy. Podobne aj pri mariánskom Šaštíne, blízko zámku, visel na strome obraz Sedembolestnej. Začiatok pútnictva v Šaštíne evidujú s rokom 1564. Angelika Bakičová, manželka grófa Imricha Czobora, majiteľa šaštínskeho panstva, vtedy dala zhotoviť sochu Sedembolestnej, ako splnenie sľubu za vyslyšanie v rodinných trápeniach. Angelika prosila o pomoc Sedembolestnú práve pri jej obraze. Sochu uložili k úcte do trojhrannej kaplnky, ktorá tu stojí dodnes.

Chrám bol dokončený a posvätený v roku 1762. Pápež blahoslavený Pavol VI. povýšil 23. novembra 1964 Národnú svätýňu Sedembolestnej Panny Márie na baziliku minor – menšiu. Sviatok Sedembolestnej Panny Márie, ktorú pápež Pavol VI. vyhlásil v roku 1966 za hlavnú patrónku Slovenska, si Slovensko u nás tradične pripomína v polovici septembra. Šaštín už navštívili viaceré osobnosti, v roku 1995 napríklad dnes už svätý Ján Pavol II. či svätá Matka Tereza.

TK KBS

## Slovenský knižný sprievodca ponúka aktívne cestovanie po našej krajine

S prvým slovenským knižným sprievodcom pre aktívny turistický ruch po našej krajine prišlo bratislavské vydavateľstvo The Slovak Spectator. Pod názvom Slovensko na vyše 300 stranách vreckového formátu je rozdelený podľa prirodzených regiónov a v druhej časti sú zaujímavé tematické okruhy, od všeobecne známych až po raritné zážitkové možnosti.

Podľa riaditeľa vydavateľstva Jána Palla dlhé roky vydávajú turistického sprievodcu v angličtine (Spectacular Slovakia). Prvýkrát sa rozhodli vydať jeho slovenskú verziu, pretože anglická zaujala aj Slovákov, ale je písaná trochu inakšie ako pre domácich záujemcov a nie všetci sú jazykovo zdatní.

„V členení sme sa snažili brať historické väzby regiónov, lebo pre umelé administratívne rozdelenie trpí región Spiša delený medzi Prešovský a Košický kraj, aj keď historicky, geograficky, štruktúrou ciest by to mal byť jeden celok. Slovensko sme rozdelili na päť regiónov: Bratislava a okolie, západné Slovensko, stredné Slovensko, severné Slovensko obsahujúce oblasť Kysúc, Horného Považia, Oravy, Liptova, Tatier a Spiša, a východné Slovensko je zvyšok Prešovského a Košického kraja. Je to také prirodzené vnímanie. Celé Slovensko je rozobrať v detailoch a každý si tam nájde všetky dôležité informácie. Snažili sme sa priniesť k jednotlivým miestam aj kontakty, otváracie hodiny, aké je vstupné, aby si človek mohol naplánovať výlet či viacdňový pobyt,“ zdôvodnil Ján Pallo.

Druhá časť sprievodcu sa venuje 33 témam. Lesk a bieda hradov obsahuje ich dávnú históriu a rozmach, osmanské nájazdy, úpadok hradov i záchranu týchto národných pokladov. Čitateľ sa dozvie, že organizujeme veľa folklórnych podujatí, slovenská gotika má vo svete silné meno a kúpeľné domy už nie sú len pre chorých. Tiež všeličo o duchovnom dedičstve, pútnických miestach, kde je kópia turínskeho plátna, v ktorom bol zabalený Ježiš po snáti z kríža, a kto je prvá blahorečená Slovenka. Donedávna tabuizovaná židovská tematika prezrádza, ktoré pamiatky ostali po 71.000 deportovaných židov, alebo kde sú významné miesta bojov druhej svetovej vojny. Inú minulosť potvrdzujú banské a technické pamiatky.

Cestovanie za prarodičmi je zasa návod, ako si vybudovať rodostrom. Pre priaznivcov zvierat nie sú k dispozícii len zoologické záhrady, ale aj pozorovanie medveďov či vtákov, ktorých u nás žije 351 druhov a z nich 222 aj hniezdi. Určité dobrodružstvo ponúkajú zoskoky padákom alebo splavy riek. Aj keď sme suchozemská krajina, máme množstvo akvaparkov, priehrad a iných prírodných lokalít na plávanie. Nielen svetové úspechy Petra Sagana, ale aj budovanie cyklotrás pomáha rozvoju cykloturistiky, ktorá má podľa autorov u nás obrovský potenciál.

Knižného sprievodcu pripravoval tím 40 ľudí. Obsahuje vyše 1000 fotografií, takmer 500 profilov miest a pamiatok, 35 leteckých nákresov hradov, katedrál a historických centier, 22 máp a témy, ktoré sprevádzajú čitateľa aj na menej známych miestach. Sú tam uvedené i rarity našich podobností so svetom. Čitateľ zistí, kde v Španielsku je most podobný bratislavskému Mostu Apollo, ktorý český zámok sa podobá na Kaštieľ v Rusovciach, alebo kde vo Francúzsku je podobná hradná panoráma s centrom Bratislavy.

TASR



## Slovenská robotická plachetnica sa pokúsi preplávať Atlantik

Preplávať Atlantický oceán sa pokúsi prvá slovenská robotická plachetnica, ktorú zostrojil fyzik Andrej Osuský. Loď vyštartuje z amerického ostrova Newfoundland do Írska. Počas plavby by mala vysielat informácie o svojej polohe a na celý priebeh bude dozerať počítač. Ak by sa Osuskému pokus podaril, išlo by o prvé úspešné preplávanie Atlantiku autonómnym plavidlom.



Robotická plachetnica

Teoretický fyzik začal stavať robotické plavidlá počas svojho života na Kanárskych ostrovoch. „Najskôr som chcel postaviť motorovú loď, ale napokon som sa rozhodol pre plachetnicu, ktorá má väčšiu šancu preplávať oceán,“ povedal Osuský. Plavidlo začal vyrábať vo februári tohto roku.

Základom plachetnice je široký surf, na ktorom je pripojená hliníková konštrukcia. „Celý surf je podlepený plechom, aby sa nezlomil. Plachta je zas vyrobená z materiálu, z ktorého sa vyrábajú aj padáky či stany,“ vysvetlil Osuský. Plachtu na plavidlo ušila jeho mama. Na plavidle je tiež umiestnená kamera, ktorá bude nahrávať 30-sekundový záznam každú hodinu. „Kamera má väčšiu spotrebu ako samotná loď,“ dodal Osuský. Celá loď je ovládaná kormidlom. Dôležité sú solárne panely, ktoré poháňajú všetku elektroniku.

„Cesta môže trvať mesiac až tri mesiace, no ak by išlo všetko dokonale, mohlo by sa to stihnúť aj za tri týždne,“ povedal Osuský. Problémom pri plavbe môžu byť búrky, ľadovce, korozia či iní moreplavci. „Jedna z najväčších nástrah na oceáne sú zvedaví kapitáni, ktorí podobné plavidlá už viackrát vylovili z vody a odniesli do najbližšieho prístavu,“ dodal Osuský. Na to, aby sa mu podarilo úspešne vytvoriť rekord, musí plavidlo preplávať určenú začiatočnú a cieľovú čiaru pri brehoch kontinentov. Plachetnicu, podľa Osuského odhadu, čaká asi 3000 kilometrov plavby.

TASR

## Deväťdesiat rokov od slovenského prekladu Svätého písma

Štefan Kucík

V roku 2016 si pripomíname deväťdesiat rokov od zavŕšenia vydania prvého slovenského svätovojeťského prekladu Biblie. Málokto vie, že jeho prípravná fáza trvala viac ako štyri desaťročia. Jeho vydanie spadá do rokov 1913 – 1926, pričom dlhú prestávku v ňom spôsobila prvá svetová vojna. Preklad má desať zväzkov, z toho dva zväzky tvoria Nový zákon a osem zväzkov Starý zákon. Po vydaní celého prvého svätovojeťského prekladu Svätého písma priniesli Národné noviny v oslavnej recenzii informáciu, ktorú prebrali aj iné redakcie, že len revízia prekladu, ktorou sa zaoberal František R. Osvald, trvala celých osem rokov.

Vysoká suma peňazí, ktorú potreboval Spolok sv. Vojtecha na vydanie Svätého písma, by sa po prvej svetovej vojne na Slovensku nenašla, a ktovie, dokedy by sa toto vydanie oddaľovalo, keby nepomohli americkí Slováci. V roku 1920 začali prichádzať štedré dary od slovenských rodákov v USA. Zvlášť štedrá bola v tom čase podpora adresovaná trom slovenským biskupom: nitrianskemu Karolovi Kmeťkovi, banskobystrickému Mariánovi Blahovi a spišskému Jánovi Vojtaššákovi a Andrejovi Hlinkovi (po stotisíc korún), ktorá sa vložila do účastí na vydateľskú činnosť Spolku sv. Vojtecha. V kritickej situácii (v roku 1923) vyslal Spolok sv. Vojtecha do USA trojčlennú delegáciu na čele so správcom spolku Jánom Pöstényim-Kysuckým. Táto delegácia za dva a pol mesiaca navštívila v USA vyše sto slovenských farností. Hneď na prvom stretnutí so slovensko-americkými novinármi a predstavami katolíckych organizácií sa v Pittsburghu vyzbieralo 1 072 amerických dolárov, získalo sa 2 156 nových členov do Spolku sv. Vojtecha (členské bolo 4 doláre, ale 25 zakladajúcich členov prispievalo po sto dolároch, Michal Bosák daroval 600 dolárov).

Aj v roku 1926 vyslal Spolok sv. Vojtecha pri príležitosti 28. medzinárodného eucharistického kongresu v Chicagu, IL, do USA delegáciu, ktorú tvorili správca spolku Ján Pöstényi, ďalej Alexander Šindelár, Štefan Zlatoš a Róbert Pobožný. Návrh vyslať zástupcov Spolku sv. Vojtecha do USA podal správca Ján Pöstényi. Príčinou bola okolnosť, že spolok vydal Sväté písmo vlastným nákladom v sume asi 800 000 Kčs. Ak Spolok sv. Vojtecha nemal upadnúť do nových dlžôb, lebo na Slovensku sa očakávaný záujem o Sväté písmo neprejavoval, bol nútený obrátiť sa na slovensko-amerických katolíkov. Navyše, v Združení slovenských katolíkov v Amerike mal spolok uložených ešte 116 000 korún, ktoré bolo možné vyzdvihnúť len osobne.

Zástupcovia Spolku sv. Vojtecha získavali v Amerike dary po 10 dolároch a darcom dávali na pamiatku slovenské Sväté písmo, z ktorého sa minulo takmer štyritisíc kusov. Zároveň sa do Spolku sv. Vojtecha prihlásilo tisícpäťsto nových členov. Strediskom misie Spolku sv. Vojtecha v USA bolo jeho hlavné zastúpenie v meste Youngstown, Oh., ktoré od roku 1922 viedol rev. Štefan Kočiš. Spolu americkí Slováci prevzali najmenej 6 800 výtlačkov slovenského Svätého písma.

Prvý svätovojeťský preklad sa často označuje aj ako Hlinkov preklad či Hlinkovo a Donovalovo Sväté písmo, pretože Andrej Hlinka i Ján Donoval sa veľkou mierou pričínili o toto dielo. Je až zarážajúce, ako málo pozornosti sa v publikáciách o jednom i druhom venovalo otázke, akým podielom sa obidvaja zúčastnili na prekladaní Svätého písma a akou mierou prispeli k rozvoju našej duchovnej, jazykovej a národnej osvety. Andrej Hlinka má veľké zásluhy aj na vydávaní Svätého písma v rokoch 1922 – 1926 v Spolku sv. Vojtecha, na čele ktorého pôsobil ako predseda od roku 1920.

Slovenský preklad Svätého písma z r. 1913 – 1926. Zdroj: Spolok sv. Vojtecha, Trnava



## Vo Vranove nad Topľou odhalili bustu Andrejovi Hlinkovi

Pokračovanie zo str. 24

Bustu financovala MS a podstavec zaplatilo mesto.

„Je to pre mňa veľký deň, že môžem stáť na tomto mieste a s radosťou v srdci oznámiť, že do Vranova nanovo prišiel Andrej Hlinka,“ povedal v príhovore predseda MS Marián Tkáč. Uviedol, že Andrej Hlinka bol vo Vranove niekoľkokrát a jeho starý otec Michal Tkáč, ktorý bol vládny komisár v neďalekej Čičave, tu vďaka nemu nadobudol národné povedomie. Tkáč uviedol, že Slovensku chýbajú takí politici, akým bol Andrej Hlinka. „Máme politikov, ktorí myslia viac na vlastné vrecká ako na národ, a to nie je dobré,“ povedal matičiar.

Primátor Vranova nad Topľou Ján Ragan v prejave povedal, že Slovensko je malý štát, no narodili sa tu ľudia, ktorí ovplyvnili osudy nielen našej krajiny, ale svojím umom, cieľavedomosťou a obetavosťou dobyli svet. K takým patrí aj Andrej Hlinka. „Postavil sa za práva slovenského národa, proti maďarizácii a sociálnemu útlaku Slovákov v Uhorsku, za to neváhal byť aj väznený. V Slovenskej ľudovej strane od roku 1905 dokázal zmobilizovať široké ľudové vrstvy v zápase za všeobecné volebné právo a základné práva slovenského národa. Zaslúžil sa o vznik československého štátu v roku 1918. Do slovenskej politiky vniesol moment rozhodnosti a neústupnosti. Zmyslom jeho politiky bol sebaavedomý, vzdelaný, hospodársky nezávislý Slováč, ktorý by riadil krajinu podľa svojich vlastných tradícií,“ uviedol primátor.

Tkáč povedal, že o Andrejovi Hlinkovi hovorili, že je otec národa, v čom je povedané všetko, aký mal vzťah k Slovákom. „Za prvej Československej republiky bojoval za autonómiu pre Slovensko. Nedožil sa jej, zomrel tesne predtým. Zaslúžil sa o slovenský národ. Pokiaľ ide o Vranov, Hlinka tu bol päťkrát, možno aj v týchto miestach. A mnoho Vranovčanov, ale aj ľudí z okolitých dedín, aj z Čičavy, odkiaľ pochádzam ja, získal pre národnostnú myšlienku. Veľmi významne ovplyvnil život Vranova nad Topľou,“ povedal Tkáč. Počas tejto slávnosti Marián Tkáč odovzdal arcibiskupovi Alojzovi Tkáčovi cenu predsedu MS za statočnú prácu pre cirkev a národ. Uviedol, že si ju zaslúži za svoje činy a považuje ho za odvážneho Slováka.

Vranovčan Karol Illéš, člen prezídia MS povedal, že Andrej Hlinka bol vo Vranove päťkrát, z toho trikrát na odpustovej slávnosti. Vranov mal vtedy okolo 4000 obyvateľov, no na slávnosť vtedy prišlo okolo desaťtisíc ľudí. „On tu zaoral brázdou – hlbokú. Zmenou politického systému sa to veľmi pokazilo a prenasledovali všetkých. Veľká časť Vranovčanov musela zo svojich postov odísť, ale tá brázdca tu ostala,“ povedal Illéš. Inštaláciu Hlinkovej busty v meste považuje za podstatný krok obrody. Pripúšťa, že môže vyvolať u niektorých skupín aj negatívne reakcie. Ale iba preto, že o Hlinkovi sa málo vie a často sú to skreslené informácie alebo nepravdy. Preto chce iniciovať, aby MS vydala o Andrejovi Hlinkovi odbornú publikáciu.

TASR



V Bratislave sa konalo 16. septembra 2016 neformálne stretnutie 27 hláv štátov a premiérov Európskej únie. Hlavnou úlohou Bratislavského summitu je začať sebareflexiu EÚ a hľadať cestu, ako bude vyzerat' Únia po odchode Veľkej Británie. Na snímke spoločná fotografia účastníkov rokovania.

*An informal meeting of 27 leaders from the European Union was held recently in Bratislava.*

## Bratislavský summit Európskej únie

Dnešné stretnutie v Bratislave sa odohráva v období, ktoré je pre náš európsky projekt kritické. Bratislavský samit 27 členských štátov sa venoval spoločnej analýze aktuálneho stavu Európskej únie a diskusiám o našej spoločnej budúcnosti. Všetci sme sa zhodli na nasledujúcich všeobecných zásadách.

Hoci sa jedna krajina rozhodla vystúpiť, EÚ je pre nás ostatných naďalej absolútne potrebnou. Po vojnách a hlbokom rozdelení nášho kontinentu zabezpečila EÚ mier, demokraciu a umožnila našim krajinám prosperovať. O takéto úspechy sa mnoho krajín a regiónov mimo Únie ešte len usiluje. Na základe tejto spoločnej histórie sme odhodlaní úspešne budovať EÚ s 27 členskými štátmi.

EÚ nie je dokonalá, je to však najlepší nástroj, aký máme na zvládnutie nových výziev, ktorým čelíme. Potrebujeme, aby EÚ bola nielen garantom mieru a demokracie, ale aj bezpečnosti

Pokračovanie na str. 21



## Vo Vranove nad Topľou odhalili bustu Andrejovi Hlinkovi

Vo Vranove nad Topľou má od 24. septembra svoju bustu Andrej Hlinka, slovenský kňaz, politik a národovec. Jeho podobizeň na podstavci s vytesaným výrokom „Za Boha, za národ“ umiestnili v parčíku oproti klášturu pavlínov. Pred slávnostným odhalením pamätníka sa konala svätá omša v Bazilike Narodenia Panny Márie, ktorú celebraval emeritný arcibiskup Košickej rímskokatolíckej arcidiecézy Alojz Tkáč. Iniciátorom umiestnenia busty vo Vranove nad Topľou bola Matica slovenská (MS), ktorú podporila aj vranovská samospráva a rímskokatolícka cirkev. Autorom busty je bratislavský sochár Radovan Mačuha, ktorý vyrobil päť rovnakých sôch, sú umiestnené v Martine, Ružomberku, Černej, v Čičave, oddnes aj vo Vranove.



Pokračovanie na str. 23

## Sedembolestná Panna Mária priviedla do Šaštína takmer 40 tisíc pútnikov

Takmer 40 tisíc mariánskych pútnikov prišlo 15. septembra na tohtoročnú národnú púť k Sedembolestnej Panne Márii do Šaštína. K Sedembolestnej Panne Márii, ktorej národná svätýňa je práve v tomto meste. Vyvrcholením celonárodnej púte k patrónke Slovenska, ku ktorej sa už niekoľko storočí utiekajú tisíce detí, mladých i dospelých, bola pontifikálna svätá omša za účasti viacerých biskupov Slovenska a zahraničia. Hlavným celebrantom a kazateľom na slávnosti bol košický arcibiskup metropolita Bernard Bober.

Na Záhorí, kde sa púť konala, sa stretli všetky vekové generácie. Najviac - okolo 35 tisíc ich prišlo počas hlavnej svätej omše s biskupmi Slovenska a zahraničia na sviatok Sedembolestnej. Záver patril programu pre mladých. Tisíce ľudí pristúpili k sviatosti zmierenia, ktorú zabezpečovali nepretržite počas viacerých dní štyridsiati spovedníci. Pútnici zverili svoje radosti a bolesti patrónke Slovenska - Sedembolestnej Panne Márii.

„Chcem sa poďakovať všetkým, ktorí prišli na národnú púť, ako aj tým, ktorí túto púť

Pokračovanie na str. 22



Foto: TASR-Michal Svítok

Tisíce pútnikov si prišli uctiť sviatok Sedembolestnej Panny Márie.

*Several thousand people participated in the observance of the Feast of Mother of Sorrows in Sastin on September 15, 2016*



FOTO TASR - Paul Martinka

V prestížnej galérii Klompching Gallery v New Yorku otvorili 23. septembra 2016 výstavu 40 víťazných fotografií zo štvrtého ročníka súťaže Slovak Press Photo, vrátane tej z hlavnej ceny súťaže Grand Prix. Hlavnú cenu súťaže Grand Prix získal Robert Tappert s fotografiou zo série ID.

*On September 23, 2016, an exhibition of 40 winning photos from the fourth annual Slovak Press photo competition was opened in the prestigious Klompching Gallery in New York.*

## V New Yorku otvorili výstavu víťazných fotografií Slovak Press Photo

Záštitu nad ňou prevzal minister zahraničných vecí a európskych záležitostí SR Miroslav Lajčák, minister kultúry SR Marek Maďarič a primátor Bratislavy Ivo Nesrovnal. Vernisáž otvorila generálna konzulka SR v New Yorku Jana Trnovcová spolu s predsedom 3. ročníka fotografickej súťaže Paulom Martinkom. Výstavu finančne podporilo Ministerstvo zahraničných vecí a európskych záležitostí (MZVaEZ) SR a Fond na podporu umenia. V minulom roku sa výstava konala v priestoroch generálneho konzulátu SR v New Yorku.