



# Jednota

THE UNION

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Fr. Stephen Furedek  
Our Founder

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

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NUMBER 5943

## The All-new Hilton Cleveland Downtown Hotel: Home to the 51st Quadrennial Convention of the First Catholic Slovak Union, August 4 – 8, 2018

The First Catholic Slovak Union's Board of Directors has named the Hilton Cleveland Downtown Hotel as the site of the 51st Quadrennial Convention of the First Catholic Slovak Union, to be held Saturday, August 4 – Wednesday, August 8, 2018.



Located on Lakeside Avenue in the heart of downtown Cleveland, OH, the all-new Hilton is minutes away from attractions and sports venues, such as the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, Playhouse Square (the 2nd largest performing arts center next to NYC), the Q (home of the Cleveland Cavaliers), Progressive Field (home of the Cleveland Indians), shopping on East 4th Street, and the downtown casino JACK.

The 32-story facility opened in 2016 and has 600 guest rooms – 99 percent of which feature spectacular views of Lake Erie, the city, or both. In-room amenities include: a 55-inch LCD TV, MP3 connectivity, WiFi access, mini refrigerator, and in-room safe. Hotel amenities include an indoor pool, fitness center, and business center. Look for details in upcoming issues of Jednota.

## Facts for Life Insurance Awareness Month – September 2016

Andrew R. Harcar, National Vice President

One of the most important purposes of life insurance is to replace your income for your family when you pass away.

Keep in mind that insurance isn't intended to guarantee that your spouse won't have to work after you die. It's to make your family as financially comfortable without you as with you.

During September, designated Life Insurance Awareness Month by leaders in the insurance industry, I'd like to share some important facts\* from LIMRA (the Life Insurance Marketing and Research Association).

### Fact: Buying Insurance is An Act of Love

The first fact is that love and life insurance are inseparable. Love is powerful. Nowhere is it more apparent than when you're getting married and starting a family. LIMRA research shows that life events like these are the most likely to prompt shopping for life insurance. Love and life insurance are inextricably linked together. Why? Because you want to protect the ones you love.

The top reasons people buy life insurance are: to cover burial and other final expenses; to help replace lost income; to help pay off the mortgage; and to transfer wealth or leave



Andrew R. Harcar Sr.

continued on page 3



### TIME IS RUNNING OUT FOR THESE GREAT FCSU EVENTS:

**\$500 Scholarship: Deadline Sept 30th**  
See page 3



**FCSU Membership Meet in Vegas: Deadline Sept 30th**  
See page 13



**National Fall Photo Contest: Deadline Oct 1st**  
See page 6

## Inside

Editorial/Commentary.....	2
Branch: Announcements.....	14 & 17
District Announcements.....	15
Slovak .....	21-24

## RAKE IN THE SAVINGS!!!

EIGHT YEAR FLEXIBLE PREMIUM DEFERRED ANNUITY OR IRA	3.60%
SIX YEAR FLEXIBLE PREMIUM DEFERRED ANNUITY OR IRA	3.20%
WITH CASH INTEREST OPTION	2.95%
SIX YEAR FIXED RATE ANNUITY OR IRA	3.10%
PARK TWO ANNUITY (NOT AVAILABLE IN THE STATE OF NEW YORK)	2.10%
PARK FREE PLUS ANNUITY OR IRA	1.50%

Interest rates effective September 1, 2016

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT OUR ANNUITIES OR IRA'S,  
PLEASE CONTACT YOUR LOCAL BRANCH OFFICER OR THE HOME OFFICE

FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION - 6611 ROCKSIDE RD, SUITE 300 - INDEPENDENCE OH 44131

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The Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network  
APOSTLESHIP OF PRAYER  
UNITED STATES

## September 2016 Universal Intention

**Centrality of the Human Person:** *That each may contribute to the common good and to the building of a society that places the human person at the center..*

Made in the image of God and redeemed by the Son of God, each person is sacred. The individual ought to be at the center of society which protects and fosters the dignity of each.

From this reality arises "the common good" which the Catholicism says "concerns the life of all" and consists in "what is needed to lead a truly human life: food, clothing, health, work, education and culture, suitable information, the right to establish a family, and so on." Because human beings are social by nature, "the good of each individual is necessarily related to the common good, which in turn can be defined only in reference to the human person."

Unfortunately the world does not operate in this way. In many places the power, wealth, and comfort of some come before the common good and the sanctity of human life. Addressing this situation in his Exhortation "The Joy of the Gospel," Pope Francis wrote: "The dignity of each human person and the pursuit of the common good are concerns which ought to shape all economic policies."

He went on to say that only openness to God will bring about the necessary change: "It is vital that government leaders and financial leaders take heed and broaden their horizons, working to ensure that all citizens have dignified work, education, and healthcare. Why not turn to God and ask him to inspire their plans? I am firmly convinced that openness to the transcendent can bring about a new political and economic mindset which would help to break down the wall of separation between the economy and the common good of society."

Jesus said that the greatest commandment is to love God and to love one's neighbor. We pray with Pope Francis that all may live that commandment by placing God's beloved creature, the human person, at the center and work for the common good of all.

### Reflect

How do the centrality of the human person and the common good influence the choices I make, especially when I vote?

### Scripture

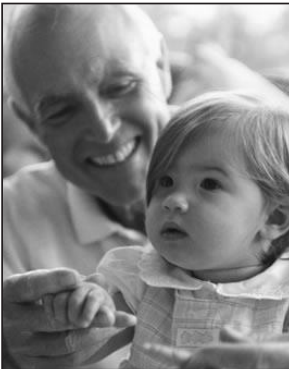
*Genesis 1: 27* In the divine image God created humanity.

## EVANGELIZATION INTENTION

**Seminarians and Novices.** *That by participating in the Sacraments and meditating on Scripture, Christians may become more aware of their mission to evangelize.*

The Mass consists of two parts—the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist. In the first, we hear about God's love and in the second we receive that love in the flesh as Jesus offers himself to the Father for the salvation of all and then gives us his Body and Blood. We are finally sent forth to live the Mass in our daily lives. Our sharing of the love we have received is evangelization.

Jesus was so passionately in love with humanity that he suffered and died for us. Through



Word and Sacrament we now share in his passion and offer ourselves with him for the salvation of souls. Pope Francis said: "Mission is a passion for Jesus and at the same time a passion for his people. When we pray before Jesus crucified, we see the depth of his love which gives us dignity and sustains us. At the same time, we realize that the love flowing from Jesus' pierced heart expands to embrace the People of God and all humanity. We realize once more that he wants to make use of us to draw closer to his beloved people."

The Pope went on to say that "all the faithful are called to live their baptismal commitment to the fullest, in accordance with the personal situation of each." In baptism we were joined to the Body of Christ. The Eucharist strengthens our life in Christ so that we can go forth and be his living witnesses wherever we are.

We pray this month that we may not only receive the love that Jesus gives us in Word and Sacrament, but also give that love to a world that is looking for true love but unaware of where it can be found. We know, and we don't want to keep the answer to ourselves!

### Reflect

How do the Scriptures and Sacraments make me more aware of Jesus' passion for mission? In what ways does this passion lead me to offer myself with Jesus for the ongoing work of salvation?

### Scripture

*Luke 24: 13-35* "Were not our hearts burning within us...?"



BYZANTINE CATHOLIC  
EPARCHY OF PARMA

## Serving Cleveland in Body & Soul during the Year for Mercy

### Saturday Morning, October 15 (8-11 am)

Ready, set, show mercy! A 5k charity race starts the weekend to benefit St. Mary Hospitality House, St. Herman House of Hospitality, and St. Augustine Church.

### LOCATION:

St. John the Baptist Cathedral  
Corner of Broadview and Snow roads Parma, Ohio 44134

### TIME:

Registration 8AM, race and walk start at 9 AM

### ENTRY FEES:

Pre-registration - \$20  
Race Day Registration - \$25  
\$70 family of 4\*

\*(mail in only one form per person, all forms together in one envelope.)

### REGISTER AT:

<http://www.hermescleveland.com/roadracing/events/mercyrun5k.asp>

### Saturday Evening, October 15 (6-10 pm)

We are leaving the light on for you! Come for evening prayer (Vespers) and confession. Listen to Fr. David Anderson, a dynamic Eastern Catholic priest from California. Multiple confessors will be available, stay for the social!

### Sunday Morning, October 16 (9am-12pm)

Join the Cathedral at 9 am for Morning Prayer (Matins) followed by the Divine Liturgy. Fr. Anderson will preach. Enjoy a meal and fellowship afterwards!

See you there @

Cathedral of St. John the Baptist  
Corner of Snow and Broadview Roads  
Parma, Ohio 44134

# 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. 5	MONDAY, SEPT 26
WEDNESDAY, OCT 19	MONDAY, OCT 10
WEDNESDAY, NOV 2	MONDAY, OCT 24

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

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**SEPT 30th IS ALMOST HERE!**

## DON'T MISS OUT: THE JEDNOTA BENEVOLENT FOUNDATION 2016 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION DEADLINE APPROACHES

The Jednota Benevolent Foundation, Inc is still accepting applications for its 2016 Scholarship Program. However, the **deadline** for applications to be received in the FCSU Home Office is **September 30, 2016**.

### About the Scholarship

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

- Any individual of Slovak descent and Catholic faith who attends an Approved Post Secondary Educational Institution is eligible for a Scholarship.
- Applicants will be required to describe accomplishments they believe would qualify them for recognition in general, and specifically, accomplishments in the areas of:

- Scholarship
- Leadership
- Service to school, church and community
- Applicants will also be required to provide:
- An official college transcript of grades and all standardized test scores achieved, including all ACT or SAT scores; (if applicable)
- One (1) letter of recommendation authored by a teacher, counselor, administrator or an employment supervisor familiar with the applicant;
- Examples of applicant's community involvement;
- A list and description of leadership positions held by applicant;
- A list of awards received by applicant for scholastic excellence, community involvement, or leadership ability;
- A description of the applicant's academic or career objectives;
- A statement demonstrating an applicant's need for education financing.

The Jednota Benevolent Foundation, Inc is still accepting applications for its 2016 Scholarship Program. However, the deadline for applications to be received in the FCSU Home Office is September 30, 2016.

### About the Scholarship

For applications, please contact:

Jednota Benevolent Foundation, Inc.

First Catholic Slovak Union, 6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence, Ohio 44131

Phone 1-800-533-6682 - Fax 216-642-4310

E-mail: fcsu@fcsu.com – Website: www.fcsu.com

**APPLICATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY MIDNIGHT SEPTEMBER 30, 2016**

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



## Clerical – Office Support Position Available at The First Catholic Slovak Union

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

## Facts for Life Insurance Awareness Month – September 2016

continued from page 1

an inheritance. Each of these protects loved ones from financial stress.

Industry findings indicated that one-third of Americans would be financially impacted by the loss of the primary wage earner in just one month. September is a great time to remember that purchasing life insurance is a great way to say "I love you" to your family members, by keeping them financially secure.

### Fact: Confusion & Misunderstanding Abound

Unfortunately, studies also show that many people don't have the coverage they need. Only 44 percent of American households have individual life insurance – that's the lowest number in half a century. The good news is that half of all households realize they need more. But only 10 percent of households will actually buy life insurance this year. What's holding people back? LIMRA research finds that consumers misunderstand insurance as too expensive when in actuality the great majority of them have overestimated the cost of purchasing a policy. Or they prioritize other financial needs over insurance rather than thinking of life insurance as a critical part of an overall sound financial plan.

The bottom line is that there is a lot of confusion and misunderstanding surrounding the idea of life insurance. LIMRA has found that there are some 19 million "stuck" shoppers – i.e., those unable to make the final decision to buy a policy - in the U.S. who are confused by what they see.

### Fact: Conversations Can Get Things Started

It doesn't need to this way. With a little guidance and support, more people can get their loved one protected with the right insurance policy. LIMRA finds that the more people talk about their long-term goals, the less likely they are to put them off. Getting the conversation started is a great step in the right direction.

Don't procrastinate! Talk over your insurance needs with your family, then call or visit your local branch officer and have them explain our different insurance products; or call the Home Office at 1-800-533-6682.

*\*All findings are from LIMRA'S recent U.S. consumer studies.*

## Message from the National Chaplain

*Pope Francis declared December 8, 2015 to November 20, 2016 to be an Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy. A series of articles featuring a saint who lived a particular Spiritual Work of Mercy is offered to help mark the Year. Today's subject is **Pray for the Living and the Dead**.*

Elizabeth Ann Bailey was born in New York City to a family that were devout Episcopalians and members of the upper class of society. In her formative years, she learned to speak French fluently and became an active socialite. She married William Seton, a wealthy merchant shipper, when she was 19. They had 5 children.

As much as it appears Elizabeth Ann Bailey Seton (1774-1821) led a charmed life, much of it was filled with sorrow and hardship. Her mother died when Elizabeth was 3 years old. Her father remarried, but her stepmother eventually left her father. Less than 5 years after she and William were married, several of William's ships were sunk due to a dispute between the United States and France. Consequently, the young Seton family went bankrupt and lost their home in lower Manhattan. Meanwhile, William contracted tuberculosis and his doctors suggested the warmer climate of Italy would hasten his recovery. When William, Elizabeth, and their oldest daughter Anna Maria arrived in Italy after weeks at sea, they were quarantined for over a month because of fears they were carriers of yellow fever. After William Seton died, Mrs. Seton was 29 years old, a widow with 5 children, an ocean apart from her homeland and family, and had no means of support.

Families of her late husband's business partners took in Elizabeth and Anna Maria and introduced them to Catholicism. Elizabeth returned to New York and was received into the Catholic Church in 1805. She supported herself by opening an academy for young women, but many families withdrew their daughters when it was learned she was Catholic. She eventually moved to Emmitsburg, Maryland in 1809 and, with the help of a generous benefactor and the Sulpicians, established a school for Catholic girls.

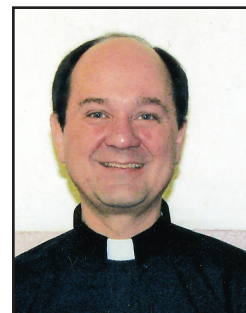
It was in Emmitsburg that Elizabeth, her 3 daughters, 2 sisters-in-law, and four other women pronounced vows of poverty, chastity and obedience. The newly formed religious community called themselves the Sisters of Charity of St. Joseph's. Elizabeth, now known as Mother Seton, led and developed her community the remaining 10 years of her life. She was 46 when she died.

St. Elizabeth Seton remained steadfast in prayer through all the joys and sorrows of her life. He had a deep devotion to Mary and the Eucharist. Her favorite prayer was Psalm 23, which is frequently used today as the Responsorial Psalm at a Funeral Mass. We can picture her praying this psalm for her parents, husband, and two children who predeceased her.

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton's feast day is January 4.

### A Concluding Thought

The capsule stories of seven men and women who practiced a Spiritual Work of Mercy can make us believe that what they did was extraordinary and very heroic. They would all disagree. With minds and hearts formed by the Gospel of Jesus, Saint John Neumann, Saint Katharine Drexel, Blessed Oscar Romero, Saint Marianne Cope, Saint Kateri Tekakwitha, Saint Martin de Porres and Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton did what anyone and everyone in Christ is supposed to do. Treat others as you wish to be treated.



Rev. Thomas Nasta

Fr. Thomas Nasta  
National Chaplain

**Back by popular demand!**  
**Extended to December 31, 2016**

# 1st Year Premium Waived on Juvenile Enrichment Plan (JEP)



- 1st year premium waived on \$10,000 Term Insurance \*
- \$14 annual premium
- Premium never increases
- Guaranteed convertibility at any time up to age 25 (no medical examination required)
- College scholarships available
- Free newspaper subscription
- Youth activities



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All applications must be  
 received in the Home Office  
**postmarked**  
**by December 31, 2016.**

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



Members of St. Matthew's Branch 5 outside enjoying the picnic.

(L – R) Jan Zeman, Joseph Jurasi, Anna Korcak, Maria Jurasi, and Jozef Korcak



## Branch 45's Summer Picnic

The members of the St. Matthew's Society Branch 45 organized a summer picnic on August 20, 2016, for members, family, friends, and guests at the property of Maria and Milan Zakovic in Greenville, NY.

Throughout the beautiful and sunny day, filled with a variety of great food and drinks, everyone enjoyed a wonderful Sunday afternoon. A big surprise came when the Zakovic's daughter Ivetka and son Janko prepared a 50th wedding anniversary cake for Maria and Milan.

With the success of this summer picnic, I strongly believe that the members of St. Matthew's Branch 45 will look forward to continuing the tradition next year.

- Submitted by Jozef Jurasi, Branch 45 Athletic Activities Coordinator



Milan and Maria Zakovic with their 50th Anniversary cake.

## Slovak Cooking & Languages Classes at Westmoreland CCC – Youngwood, PA



### "Real Potato" Halusky

Learn to make "real" halusky like Baba (grandma) made. Potato halusky (not noodle halusky) has been made for more than 100 years in eastern Slovakia. You will eat the fare that is prepared. It is recommended you bring an apron. Dennis Ragan, \$22 tuition + \$5 material fee, .Tuesday, November 1, 2016, 6-9 p.m.

### Slovak I – Language & Culture

Discover your Slovak heritage as you learn basic Slovak phrases and vocabulary, along with the rich traditions, culture, history of Slovakia, and the emigration of Slovaks to America. Dennis Ragan, \$89 tuition + \$5 material fee, Thursdays starting September 22, 2016, 6-8:30 p.m. (no class October 6) (Westmoreland-Latrobe)

The classes are provided by Westmoreland County Community College at their Youngwood, PA campus near Greensburg.

To register, interested students should call Sylvia Detar, director of Continuing Education, WCCC. 1-800-262-2103 x 4190 or email her at [detars@wccc.edu](mailto:detars@wccc.edu)



### 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>

## LIGHT ONE CANDLE

Tony Rossi, Director of Communications, The Christophers

### Stories of Goodness Make Us Better

One of the primary ways that Jesus taught His disciples and others is through parables, through stories. It's an approach that The Christophers follow in a lot of our work, especially our annual "Three Minutes a Day" book, which features stories and reflections for each day of the year. Volume 51 is available for pre-order, and we should be receiving copies from the printer any day now.

So, what's so special about "Three Minutes a Day?" Well, good news can be hard to find nowadays. Our newspapers, TV screens, and computer screens are filled with images of war, violence and hatred. It's easy to forget the divine goodness that exists in every human heart, so many of our featured stories serve as a necessary reminder. Consider this entry:

As a 911 operator in Fayetteville, North Carolina, Marilyn Hinson was used to getting all kinds of pleas for help. But her call from 81-year-old prostate cancer survivor Clarence Blackmon was different than most.

As reported by Beth Dreher in Reader's Digest, Blackmon, a widower, returned home to an empty refrigerator and pantry after months in the hospital. Unable to get out of the house himself—and with no one in the area to go shopping for him—he dialed 911 and asked if someone could bring him food because he couldn't get out of his chair.

With approval from her supervisor, Hinson bought Blackmon several bags of groceries and made him a few sandwiches that afternoon. She told a local TV station, "I've been hungry. A lot of people can't say that, but I can, and I can't stand for anyone to be hungry."

Blackmon lives in hospice care now, but Hinson still visits him "a few times a week to chat, fill his candy dish, and collect his laundry." He says, "Thank God for people [like Marilyn.]"

Kindness like that often goes unnoticed, but we believe there are many more people around the country who go out of their way for someone in need, and become living examples of Jesus's call to "love your neighbor as you love yourself."

There's also another wonderful story that is especially relevant to this age when we often focus more on what divides us than unites us: In 1996, the KKK held a rally in Ann Arbor, Michigan, that also drew many protesters who didn't want the racist organization in their community. At one point, a white supremacist with an SS emblem found himself amidst the protesters, and a small group of them chased him, knocked him to the ground, and kicked him, while shouting, "Kill the Nazi!"

That's when African-American high school student Keshia Thomas got involved. She threw herself on top of the man to protect him from being hit anymore. Then she told the crowd, "[You] can't beat goodness into a person." When asked her motivation, Thomas said, "I knew what it was like to be hurt. I wish someone would have stood up for me...Nobody deserves to be hurt, especially not for an idea."

Thomas never received thanks from the man she helped but, months later, his son approached her to express gratitude for what she had done. She hoped that maybe her act of kindness would end the cycle of hatred and violence in that family.

"Three Minutes a Day" includes more stories like that, as well as prayers and spiritual wisdom to move you closer to God. It's available for purchase by calling 1-888-298-4050 or visiting [www.christophers.org](http://www.christophers.org).

## 2016 SS Cyril & Methodius Annual Appeal Underway

The 2016 Saints Cyril and Methodius Appeal is progressing well. 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.

While collections taken up in personal parishes of Slovak ancestry at one time provided the bulk of the donations, today the Appeal relies upon the generosity of individual donors. If you have already made your donation to the 38th Annual Appeal, thank you. If not, 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. As of July 31, the 2016 Appeal has raised \$20,869. 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

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_  
 State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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

# Holy Trinity Slovak Grade School Class of 1966 Reunion

Former classmates of Holy Trinity Slovak Grade School in Duquesne, PA, celebrated the 50th anniversary of their grade school graduation at a special reunion celebration on Saturday, August 6. The reunion began with a tour of the old grade school building, located on Third Street in Duquesne, PA, that is now used by another Christian denomination. Many classmates and family members, as well as other parishioners from Holy Trinity, joined the tour to walk the halls of the school and recall experiences from their years at the school. The tour was ended, appropriately, by ringing the bell that was used to signify the end of classes each school day.

Following the tour, classmates attended Mass at Holy Trinity church in West Mifflin, which, in 1969, replaced the old church building that was located on First Street in Duquesne. The Mass was celebrated by Father Thomas Lewandowski for members of the 1966 class and their families. In his homily Father Lewandowski encouraged the 1966 graduates—and all those in attendance—to continue to remember and celebrate their Slovak heritage and their upbringing in the Faith.

Following communion, Dave Repko, on behalf of his classmates, acknowledged all



those — in particular the Slovak emigrants, who founded Holy Trinity church in 1901 and built the grade school in 1924 — that made it possible for the class of 1966 to complete their Catholic grade school education at Holy Trinity. He recognized by name each of Holy Trinity's pastors and assistant pastors — many of whom were Slovak emigrants or sons of Slovak emigrants -- who served the people of our parish and Slovak community during our years in school. Lastly, Dave acknowledged and thanked each of our teachers, most of whom were Vincentian Sisters of Charity, who taught the 1966 graduates during our eight years at the school.

Following Mass, a dinner was held at the Westwood Golf Club (formerly Duquesne Country Club) on Commonwealth Avenue in West Mifflin, PA. Eighteen of the thirty nine graduates of the class of 1966 joined in the celebration. Following dinner, classmates shared memories of their years at Holy Trinity and each provided an update about his or her life and family. At the end of the evening, the consensus was that we should not wait another twenty five years for the next get-together.

- Submitted by David Repko, Branch 38

## Chewy says September is SENSATIONAL!

### Hey Kids (& All Those Young At Heart).

It seems like the year just got started and here we are, already falling into September (September. Fall. Get it? !)

Actually, September is one of my most favorite-est of months. And not just because it's National Insurance Awareness Month, like our Vice President Mr. Andrew R. Harcar, Sr. has been telling us – which is SUPER important; c'mon people! What better way to make sure the people you love are taken care of when you're not here?

September has many other totally cool things about it. Check it out:

✓ September is the ninth month and the only month with the same number of letters in its name in English as the number of



September is the morning glory.

✓ September has a number of "national" holidays besides Labor Day and National Insurance Awareness Month. They

the month.

✓ The only US president to have had a September birthday was William Taft (president 1909-13).

✓ The birthstone for September is the sapphire.

✓ The zodiac signs for September are Virgo (August 23 - September 22) and Libra (September 23 - October 22)

✓ The birth flower for Sep-

include: National Chicken Month, National Rice Month, National Potato Month and National All-American Breakfast Month.

✓ At least six films have had the title 'September', which is more than any other month.

So there you have it. Lots of warm sunny days and cool soft nights. That's September, all right!

Hope you are enjoying yours.

In the meantime, keep your ears up and your tail waggin' Your friend (tvoj priateľ!)



Chewy

## CALLING ALL PHOTOGRAPHERS!

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

Submit your photo in one of the following categories:

People

Nature or Environment

Travel or Destinations

FCSU Fraternal Activity

Mail your entry to:

Rudy Ondrejco  
Photo Contest  
234 Ilion St.  
Pittsburgh, PA 15207

postmarked by October 1, 2016.



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

For each category, the following prizes will be awarded.

\$50 – First Place

\$30 – Second Place

\$20 – Third Place

An Overall Winner will be awarded \$100

Rules:

1. The photos have to be taken by the member submitting it (no computer generated photos, other than digital ones).

2. One Entry per Category

3. Any size photo up to 8" x 10", unmounted, in black and white or color is permitted. (No touched up or computer enhanced photos permitted.)

4. Name, address, email address, Branch: number, age, photo category, and where the picture was taken should be submitted on a separate sheet of paper.

DO NOT MARK BACK OF PICTURE

# Lazor/Lazúr Family Reunion

Fifty-four extended Lazor Family members re-united on the 23rd of July in Mammoth Park in Mount Pleasant Township, PA, for a celebration of a proud Slovak Family – Lazor/Lazúr. They came from as far south as Texas, as far East as Maryland, as far North as Connecticut and as far West as California in honor of the marriage of Anna Safko originally of Tolcselmes (Šarišské Sokolovce, Slovakia) and Adam S Lazor originally of Bartošfalva (Bartošovce, Slovakia).

Anna and Adam arrived humbly in America as many Slovaks did in the late 1800's - with little to nothing except youthful aspirations and the promise of a new life in America. At the reunion, Chairwoman of Honor Mary Catherine "Cass" Schacte Lazor reigned supreme over her extended family. She represented the 2nd generation (in America) and greeted each successive generation in attendance – 3rd, 4th, and 5th. The oldest grandchild of Adam and Anna was in attendance and the youngest great-great grandchild was there as well. To their homage a fifteen-foot family chart was unveiled which displayed connections to each other and even to their extended present day family in Slovakia. The USA Adam Lazor family alone now numbers 100 in total, with 2 remaining in generation 2, 20 in generation 3, and 43 and 27 in generations 4 and 5, respectively.

Highlights of the event included much love and laughter of the shared family past and various versions of family stories. Many of those stories began with "You probably are a Lazor if ..." Befitting the occasion, a "Lazor Rodina" Cake and various Slovak and non-Slovak culinary delights were presented. A memory table displayed - historical certificates of baptisms, weddings, and citizenship - and historical information regarding boat passages, censuses, and maps- and rare photographs. In addition to the 15-foot wide family chart which included ancestors from the 1700's to the present day (in USA and Slovakia), there were illustrations of Slovak family life of the past which included a household census account of Adam's boyhood home which included 6 adults and 6 children – how many farm animals and how many rooms. There were meeting minutes which attested to Adam's role in the founding of Saint Florian Slovak Catholic Church (and a stained glass window from that first church which possessed Adam's and Anna's names).

A special treat was enjoyed by all when through the wonders of technology, a Skype call was made to connect the present USA family gathering with a similar but smaller representative gathering of family in Bartošovce, Slovakia. They shared the same great-grandfather and the family resemblances were remarkable. "Ahoj!", "ako sa máš", and "boh vám žehnaj" were heard from both sides of the Atlantic. And of course no celebration would be complete without "na zdravie!"

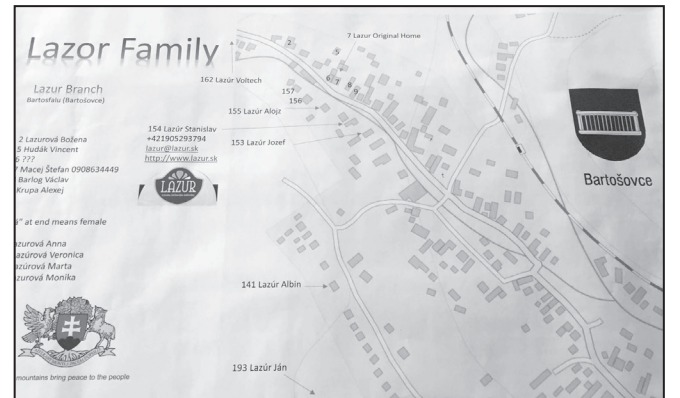
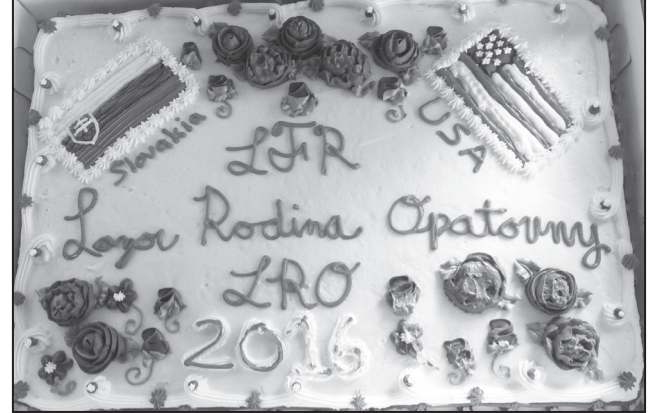
- Submitted by Donald Lazor, Branch 181



The Lazor family reunion in July, 2016



Adam and family in 1948



A 15 ft family chart displayed the connections to family members in the US and present-day Slovakia



A memory table displayed the family's historical information and items



A family treasure: Adam & Anna's wedding certificate



St. Florian Slovak Church window attest to Adam's role as founder



From the 1930s: Adam and other mine workers



Circa 1909: A young Adam and family

# Parish Mourns the Passing of its Pastor Father Francis G. Lendacky

**Helena T. Gaydos, Branch 55**

Parishioners of St. Agnes-St. John Nepomucene Church mourn the passing of their beloved Pastor, Rev. Francis G. Lendacky who died on June 26, 2016. Born January 16, 1934, he was the oldest still active pastor in the Archdiocese at the time of his death. Father steadfastly persevered in his pastoral ministry for 38 years, even with a heart condition, knowing the Church would close when he passed. With this knowledge in mind, Father was determined to keep himself healthy and did so by being disciplined.

And the Philadelphia Archdiocese provided Father Lendacky a glorious farewell on June 30, 2016. Archbishop Charles J. Chaput Celebrated the funeral Mass with Concelebrants Bishop Louis DeSimone, Retired Vicar General; Bishop Robert Maginnis, Retired Vicar General, a seminary classmate; Msgr. Daniel Sullivan, Father Frank A. Giuffre; and Father Edward P. Kuczynski, a friend of many years. In addition, there were 40 priests who Concelebrated in the pews paying tribute to this highly esteemed priest. We have a special feeling of gratitude to the Redemptorists who attended from the Shrine of St. John Neumann and who faithfully served our Parish for many decades whenever they covered Masses and preached the Annual Mission Retreats—most notably was Father Donald C. Miniscalco. We were especially pleased that Father William C. Kaufman, who is a member of Branch 55 and Pastor of St. Pius X Church in Broomall, PA, led the Entrance procession of 40 priests. (He was also a Concelebrant and led the procession of priests for the Opening Mass at our FCSU Convention in Philadelphia.) Father John R. Weber, also from St. Pius X Church, came with Father Kaufman—both are close to the Gaydos Family.

The presence of so many priests was quite moving to see. And to hear the power in the unity of their voices in prayer and song reminded us of the times long past when we had 40 priests chanting Ora Pro Nobis for the Annual Forty Hours devotion. After Mass, Archbishop Chaput expressed his amazement at the large number of priests that attended.

Rev. Gerald Dennis Gill, Master of Ceremonies orchestrated every detail with meticulous care and the love of the grandeur of the Holy Mass. And he worked with the organists, Brian Padla by incorporating English as well as the beloved Slovak hymns of the parish. The Choir members: Johanna Leso, Rosemary Kridla, member of Branch 55 and the one who found Father the day he went into the hospital, Joannie Babusik, Elain Roditis, and Helene Rapchick, sang with all their hearts and provided a beautiful sound. The nostalgic Gift of Finest Wheat brought back memories of our Parish's participation in the Parade of Nations wearing our Slovak Kroj for the opening and closing ceremonies of the 41st Eucharistic Congress held in Philadelphia in 1976; while the three Slovak Hymns: Offertory-Na Tichom Oltarom (On the Silent Altar); Communion-O Pane Nie Som Hodem (O Lord I Am Not Worthy); Meditation-Zdravas Maria (Hail Mary) were led by the Choir (Names) and more lovingly treasured knowing that we may only have a limited time in which to sing them at Mass.

Eileen Schweyer and Mary Giampietro, both cradle members of St. Agnes, did the Readings: Eileen read the First (Wisdom 3:1-9) and Mary read the Second Reading (Romans 8:31-39) while The Responsorial Psalm 23 The Lord Is My Shepherd was chanted; and the Gospel was Matthew 5:3-10 (the Beatitudes). The Prayers of the Faithful were read by Eileen Schweyer.

Father Edward Kuczynski gave the homily and described Father Lendacky even as we remember him: "He was an amazing, humble, and kind man, probably the best priest I've ever met. When he wasn't in his parish, he was visiting the sick and shut-ins wherever they were." (On a personal note, I can attest to father's holy zeal that in his weakened condition and through an icy snow storm, he drove all the way from the City out to the suburbs to anoint me with the healing sacrament while I was in intensive care at Bryn Mawr hospital.)

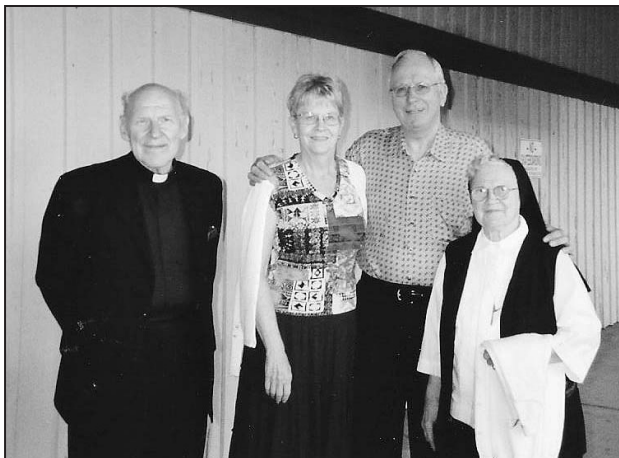
In his opening statement, Father described the sacred character of the priest as the foundation for his moral life of teaching as presented by Dr. John M. Haas, a moral theo-



**Fr. Lendacky with his parents, Albert and Pauline Lendacky, at his Ordination in May, 1961 at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in Overbrook, PA.**



**(L - R): Charles Krkoska, Sister Paulette, SS.C.M., Father Lendacky, and Eleanor Krkoska.**



**(L - R) Father Lendacky with his cousin Jerri Harrison and husband Roy of Placentia, CA, and his sister, Sr. M. Paulette Lendacky, SS.C.M. in Danville, PA.**

logian at a Symposium held at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in Overbrook, PA in which he said that even more than administering the Sacraments, a priest must develop the virtues of holiness and godliness as the foundation of his moral life of teaching in order to be an effective moral teacher for his parishioners. Accordingly, Dr. Haas explained: "A holy priest makes for a Godly people. A Godly priest makes for a pious people. A pious priest makes for a decent people. A decent priest makes for a godless people." Decent being lukewarm—and we know what lukewarm means to Christ!

A note of humor was interjected in his telling of Father Lendacky's two loves—a South-Philly cheese steak and ten-

nis, which he had to give up because of his heart problem. (We know how he learned to love steaks—St John Nep. was located directly across from the famous Pat's Steaks.) So being self-disciplined, he set up one day a month to indulge in a steak sandwich.

Father Kuczynski gave an extensive account of Father's devotion to Our Blessed Mother through the Legion of Mary, saying that Father Lendacky never wavered in this devotion and held on steadfastly to the end. Upon ordination in May, 1961, his official Legion membership began as he became Praesidium Spiritual Director to the parishes to which he was assigned and served in that capacity for over 50 years, including more than 15 years as Spiritual Director of the Philadelphia Senatus Regional Council. In addition, he served as Spiritual Director for two non-parochial Praesidia, and presented several Peregrinatio Pro Christo evangelization projects, and weekend retreats for Legionaries.

Father Kuczynski talked about Father Lendacky's book Insights of a Legion of Mary Priest that was published in 2006 and is a collection of the talks he gave to Legion of Mary members. Finally, to define the mission of the Legion of Mary, he quoted directly from Father Lendacky's book:

"The Legion of Mary should be looked upon as not merely another organization that performs all the solid works, but ought to be received as a singular instrument for the spiritual development of an apostolic laity in the parish as an agency which truly evangelizes. The Legion of Mary does not only consist of dedicated working members, but of devoted, praying members."

After Mass, we had a chance to visit with the faithful and dedicated parishioners, the remnant so to speak, those who continued to support the Church and made all events successful in spite of a dwindling membership. Sadly missed was another Branch 55 Member and FCSU Toronto Convention Delegate, Eleanor Krkoska, as she was in the hospital after surgery. Eleanor, who together with her late husband Charlie, volunteered full-time service to the Church during their retirement years. When Charlie died, Father Lendacky said: "I considered him to be my assistant pastor." We remember many others who are no longer with us, who were very active in supporting the Church in every way they could.

Surely, it was a sad day for all of us, and yet a most blessed day, filled with the beauty and graces from the mighty hand of His gentle love through the power of the Sacrifice of the Mass—our hope in God's promise of our redemption.

We were gratified by the presence of the Legion of Mary Members that came in numbers from various parishes throughout the Archdiocese to pay their respects. During the viewing, they prayed the Tessa and the Rosary and concluded with the hymn Jesus Living in Mary. This hymn exemplifies Father's many teachings about the need to develop our relationship with Jesus and Mary.

Just before Mass began, I and Annarose Payne were called up by Father Gill to make their presentation on behalf of the officers and members of St. Joseph Society Branch 55 of the FCSU. The tribute was offered in gratitude to Father Lendacky for his service as their Chaplain. His service covers four Branches, three that merged with the Philadelphia Branch 55: Nicetown Branch 374, Phoenixville Branch 206, and Father's original membership in Bridgeport Branch 779.

This tribute will be carved in granite on the space of four bricks at the newly developed Memorial Park that was dedicated in Middletown, PA in September of last year. The Memorial Park is part of the Jednota properties that once housed an Orphanage for members of the FCSU, a Chapel and Convent for the Sisters of SS. Cyril and Methodius, a cultural Museum, and the Jednota Printery.

Their presentation went on to reminisce about Father's 55 years of priestly ministry to his Slovak heritage—a ministry characterized by his most gentle and humble manner. Always emphasizing the Catholic faith with the celebration of our Slovak devotions and traditions including our Christmas Eve Vilia; the individual blessing of homes according to the Epiphany Tradition; the Blessing of the Easter Baskets of Food; the annual May Procession; the beloved Corpus Christi Procession; the annual Heritage Mass that started in

continued on page 9



Father Lendacky with members of Slovak Catholic War Veterans Post 1132 with Comdr. Charlie Krkoska, seated to the immediate right of Father.



Father Lendacky with the Committee planning his 55th Anniversary as a priest, May, 2017: (L – R) Elain Schweyer, President of the Sodality; Charles Rapchick, representing the Holy Name Society; Father Lendacky; Larry Leso, Cmdr. Of the Slovak Catholic War Veterans Post 1132, and Robert Leso, representing the Slovak Catholic Sokol.

## Father Francis G. Lendacky continued from page 8

1976 when John S. Gaydos, past President of Branch 55, convinced the Archdiocese that Slovaks want to march behind their own flag and continued doing so each year thereafter; and the memorable ceremony honoring the deceased veterans of the Catholic War Veterans Post 1132 on each Memorial Day. Every event and every trip was preceded by a Mass and the recitation of the Rosary on the bus going and coming home.

The most notable of these ministries that embraced our faith and heritage is the monthly First Sunday Mass celebrated in Church Slavonic—a privileged continuation of our heritage of an oral language (we were people of the word) for which SS. Cyril and Methodius developed an alphabet, thereby gifting us with a written language.

The tribute to Father was extended to his beloved Sister, Sister M. Paulette Lendacky, of the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Danville who shared a mutual love of their faith and heritage, and their cousin, Jerri and her husband Roy Harrison from CA. Then they thanked God for father's deceased parents, Albert F. and Pauline (Posivak) Lendacky



for their gift of a son to serve Holy Mother Church by his priesthood.

In 1980, I wrote about the consolidation of the three Slovak Churches in the area: St. Agnes, St. John Nepomucene, and the Little Flower Chapel in Clifton Heights and observing rather triumphantly hoping this would last: "And now we are one!" Now we sadly await the future closing of our Church when we may be none! Our hope of retaining the unity of faith with our Slovak heritage lies with the dedicated Slovak Sisters of SS Cyril and Methodius, the monks and religious men St. Andrew Abbey, The Slovak Catholic Federation, The Slovak Institute, and especially our fraternal societies: The First Catholic Slovak Union, the Slovak Catholic Sokol, the Slovak League of America and the National Slovak Society.

**(L - R) Annarose Payne and Helena Gaydos, President of Branch 55, presented a tribute in gratitude to Father Lendacky for his service as their Chaplain. His service covers four branches: Philadelphia 55, Phoenixville 206, Nicetown 374, and Bridgeport 779. The tribute will be carved in granite on the space of four bricks at the newly dedicated Jednota Memorial in Middletown, PA.**

## Archbishop Dominik Hrusovsky, 90 laid to rest in his native village

The Most Rev. Dominik Hrusovsky, titular Archbishop of Tubia and retired Papal Nuncio in Belarus, passed away peacefully on the feast of St. Gorazd, successor of St. Methodius and the first canonized Slovak saint, in Nitra, Slovakia on July 27. He was 90.

Archbishop Hrusovsky's great spiritual legacy and nearly 66-year priestly ministry was recalled during a Mass celebrated on July 27 in the Cathedral-Basilica of St. Emeram in Nitra by Bishop Viliam Judak where the area's faithful had an opportunity to honor his memory as he lay in state in Slovakia's oldest cathedral. Bishop Judak noted that most of Archbishop Hrusovsky's years of priestly and episcopal ministry were devoted to serving the spiritual needs of Slovaks residing outside Slovakia. The liturgy was an opportunity for the many friends and admirers of Archbishop Hrusovsky to pay tribute to his great life-long witness of faith. Ever the optimist, the prelate was eulogized by Bishop Judak who spent his final years in Nitra in the episcopal complex.

The funeral liturgy was celebrated on August 1 in Archbishop Hrusovsky's native village of Velka Mana located in southwestern Slovakia near the Hungarian border. Interment followed in the parish cemetery with members of his family.

Born on June 1, 1926 in Velka Mana, Archbishop Hrusovsky attended local schools and in 1945, he began studies for the priesthood at SS. Cyril and Methodius Seminary in Bratislava. In the fall of 1946, he was sent to Rome to complete his theological studies. He received a licentiate in Theology at the Pontifical Lateran University and was ordained a priest on December 23, 1950. Due to the Communist takeover of Czechoslovakia, he was unable to return to his homeland. His early priestly ministry was served in the northern Italian Diocese of Belluno. Beginning in 1955, he taught philosophy and theology at the seminary in Viterbo. In 1962 with his fluency in languages, including French, he was appointed to serve as the pastor of the Slovak community in Paris, France where he served for four years. In 1966, he was assigned to the Slovak Institute of SS. Cyril and Methodius (now the Pontifical Slovak College of SS. Cyril and Methodius) in Rome where he became editor of its publication Slovenske hlasy z Rima (Slovak voices from Rome). The Ustav, as the college



**Archbishop Dominik Hrusovsky  
1926 - 2016, R.I.P.**

was previously known, was built by the American Slovak community and the Slovak Catholic fraternal under the leadership of the Slovak Catholic Federation. In 1973, he became its second rector. On June 17, 1975, Pope John Paul II appointed him director of ministry to Slovaks residing outside Slovakia. The same Pontiff named him a Prelate of Honor with the title of Monsignor on the occasion of his 50th birthday in 1976. It was during these years, that Msgr. Hrusovsky began his close association with the American Slovak community, especially with the Slovak Catholic Federation and our Slovak Catholic fraternal. On December 18, 1982, Pope John Paul II named him titular Bishop of Tubia and personally ordained him a bishop on the feast of the Epiphany, January, 6, 1983 in St. Peter's Basilica. On that occasion, under the leadership of the Slovak Catholic Federation, a large number of American Slovaks traveled to Rome for this historic event. Bishop Hrusovsky was the guest of honor and celebrant at several gatherings of our Slovak Catholic fraternal. He participated in several national conventions of the Slovak Catholic Federation as well as the former Slovak World Congress.

Following the fall of Communism in eastern Europe, Pope John Paul II named him Auxiliary Bishop of Trnava in Slovakia in 1992. In April 1993, he was elected as secretary of the Bishops Conference of Slovakia and was elected a delegate to the 1984 Synod of Bishops in Rome. On April 15, 1996, Pope John Paul II named him Papal Nuncio in Belarus and elevated him to the rank of an archbishop. Following his retirement in 2002, he took up residence in Rome at the Casa Santa Martha, currently the residence of Pope Francis. In July 2007, he returned to his native village of Velka Mana. For the past three years, he had lived in retirement in Nitra. In early June of this year to celebrate his 90th birthday, Archbishop Hrusovsky traveled to Rome where he was received in private audience by Pope Francis.

Archbishop Hrusovsky, a great evangelizer and beautifully mirrored our Cyrilo-Methodian heritage of faith throughout his life. May this kind and loving minister of the Gospel now enjoy a special place in the house of the Lord in the heavenly kingdom. May he enjoy the beatific vision and rest in peace.

**- Daniel F. Tanzone, Branch 41**

# Žatva and Dožinky - The Slovak Harvest and Harvest Festivals (Part 1)

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

The harvest or Žatva was one of the most important events in the traditional life of Slovak peasants and farmers. Historically, Slovakia was mainly an agricultural area, so for most people, a good harvest could mean the difference between a bountiful or poverty-stricken year. Slovaks had to work hard and fast, and protect the fruit of their labor. Bringing in a successful harvest was a cause for great rejoicing.

The Dožinky or Harvest Festivals marked the final step in celebrating the conclusion of the growing season of agricultural work in Slovakia. They are the equivalent of the American and Canadian feasts of Thanksgiving, which express gratefulness to God for a bountiful harvest. Both the Žatva and Dožinky played a significant role in enabling many Slovaks to survive and enjoy the fruits of their labor.

## Žatva - The Harvest

Before one can begin to talk about harvest feasts, it is necessary to look at the reasons for the great celebration - the žatva, the harvest itself (Also referred to as the žeň, sklúdzneň). A Slovak saying (porekadlo) expresses how important the harvest was to Slovak peasants and farmers.

*Čižmár sa teší dratve, sedliak žatve.*

A shoemaker looks forward to strong thread, a peasant to the harvest.

Praying for a good harvest was an essential religious practice, and the harvest typically began with blessings. The harvesters would pray that their heavenly Father would protect them from harm, for "Everything depends on God's power" (Všetko je v Božskej moci), for "the Lord God blesses grain, and the devil makes thorns (třňa)." The hospodár, the manager of the harvest, would give a short speech and say: "Lord God help us, for He is the oldest hospodár." For he could grant them a bountiful feast and celebration for the whole family.

The ancient Slavs had the custom of praying before the harvest, taking a handful of grain and lifting it toward heaven, and crying out: "Lord, you who took care to give us food, grant us abundance today." They would then offer the first handful of ears to St. Blaise for his intercession, and a second handful to the demons of field, so they would leave them alone.

Then male and female harvesters (ženci, žnice) would bless the field by making a cross with a sickle or a scythe, and then kneel down and pray that the Lord grants them good health and dry weather to complete the harvest successfully. A saying about the weather that was popular stated:

Rok blativý, zle nás živí; rok slnečnosti všetko dá v hojnosti. No, a „V dobrý rok sa všetko podarí.

A muddy year feeds us poorly; a year of sunshine gives everything in abundance. Well, in a good year, everything will go well.

Another saying notes the need for a good balance of hay and straw from the harvest. It states: "The horse wants a good oats crop because "The oats carry the wagon; the hay is just that ..." But "straw is a stryga (witch) when there is no hay."

In previous times and into the early 20th century, the žatva, was also referred to as the žeň or the žne. It revolved mainly around the reaping (žať - to reap) of cereal grains, especially wheat, barley, corn, rye, oats etc. - (pšenica, jačmeň, kukurica, žito, ovos atď.) The people tore off the grain by hand and was very labor intensive, involving as many hands as possible from families. It was also oftentimes very hot, and sweat (pot, znoj) freely flowed.

Timeliness and working quickly was important, so people prayed for good weather. Regardless, the church prohibited all field work on Sundays, so all the work had to take place from Monday through Saturday. So work usually started on Mondays.

Before machines came to Slovakia, the work of harvesting was done laboriously by hand in the fields (na roli). People used a sickle with a toothed blade (kosák or srp). By the 18th century, they used a more efficient sickle with a smooth blade, most likely imported from the shops of Steierland in Austria. Typically, the reaper held the grain or corn with his



**Mothers who worked the harvest would care for their babies in portable field cradles.**

left hand, and cut it with his right hand, and cut it close to the ground. The work was done quickly, but also resulted in much dropped grain or corn. This basic labor intensive method lasted for a long time in Slovakia because of the cheap and abundant supply of surfeit labor, and especially on small plots of land.

Another innovation during the agricultural revolution of the 18th century was the adoption of the long scythe (kosa). Scythe usage expanded in the 19th century gradually in Slovakia, for it was expensive for most poor Slovaks and the tool often used to break during the course of work. Slovaks would buy the blade and attach their own homemade wooden handle.

There were two types of scythes: one to cut bare grass and clover, and a second type of scythe with a rake to cut and then toss the grain. It could have as many as 4-5 wooden teeth. Each harvester shaped a handle based on local needs and often the scythe doubled (a kosoc) as a pitchfork (vidly). This enabled the harvester to toss the sheaves into rows for the women to gather. The kosa had to be very sharp to work effectively, so it was frequently sharpened. But on small farms in mountainous regions, both genders continued to use mainly the sickle.

The harvesters scythed the grain in one of two ways to dry, either in a row (zákos, pokos, válok), or into standing grain (na stene, na odberanie, na klas). Harvesting in rows



**Before machines, Slovaks harvested by hand.**

usually involved winter wheat, and they bound the sheaves with straw bands. Mountainous areas used rods, and more productive areas used string as well.

On larger estates and farms, more of a division of labor occurred. Men would often do the cutting and women would gather the sheaves (viazať do snopov), so they would dry out when bound (viazané). Once cut, the grains or hay was then gathered with a long wooden rake (hrable). Women usually collected the grains and the men bound them. Older people and children would help carry the sheaves to their props. Children also buried the stubbles into the earth.

In the oldest method, the harvesters placed about 11-22 sheaves in the fields in crosses (križe), so that grain would dry out and not rot. Some places they would use wooden props. People took care not to lose grains or ears of corn, and would not leave a single stem on the field if they could help it. Food was a precious gift from God not to be wasted.

Depending on the locality's climate and altitude, most of the gathering of the harvest occurred from late June through September, during the more dry periods of summer. Harvests in southern Slovakia started earlier, and were completed even later in the mountainous areas. The grains had to be ripe and sufficiently dry so they could be put into storage without rotting or getting moldy. If it was too humid a summer or wet, grains had to be put out to dry or later, in a special drier (a sušička).

Slovaks were very preoccupied with not wasting. The children would also help with the harvest and would gather grain or ears of corn that the adults had missed. Finally, the family would send geese out into the fields to eat any grains which remained on the ground.

## Hired Labor

As early as the 18th century, many large-scale farmers and nobles hired migrant laborers from Slovakia to bring in the harvest. Often they lived in northern and eastern Slovakia and traveled to the lowlands of Hungary and Austria for work.

While more of these type of laborers were men, women would also sometimes accompany their husbands, along with other members of the family, or relatives. They would frequently work in pairs if they were free, and not serfs. (Serfdom was abolished in 1848.) Some couples would even bring their children with them and would render assistance if they were old enough.

Babies would be cared for by other children during the work, or they would be wrapped up for protection and carried around on a mother's back in a zajda, a type of portable baby backpack. Mothers would also put a baby in a portable field cradle (poľná kolíska or in dialect, kolemba), which could rock the little one to sleep.

During the harvest, a young unmarried man might choose to work with his sweetheart. A wealthy farmer could employ as many as 40-60 pairs of workers. When they finished the harvest, they could take a share (podiel) of the harvest with them home for their own use or to sell.

When working on large estates, the agricultural laborers were housed in barns or wooden barracks. Each set of laborers usually had their own boss who managed and directed the work for the harvest. The laborers would refer to him as a "harvest farmer" (žatevný gazda), and he would organize the work, including their compensation for work. According to Slovak ethnomusicologist, Dr. Ondrej Demo, who spent a lifetime recording folk music, the amount agreed to pay for set work would be documented in a written contract.

The seasonal laborers would get a small share of the harvest, around 10 percent of the harvest, plus they would receive a pre-determined weekly food ration. Each couple received a kilo of bacon, 2 kilos of flour, 1 kilo of fat, 1 kilo of beans, a half a kilo of meat for Sunday's meal, and 3 deciliters of brandy for each day they worked.

Not only cereal grains and corn, but vegetables were also harvested in this time frame, including legumes such as peas, beans, soybeans (hrach, fazuľa, sója), oilseeds (repka - rapeseed), and the ever-present potatoes (zemiaky), which were the main staple of many Slovak diets. Other common vegetables included cabbage, carrots, garlic, onion, and parsley. Since vegetables required greater attention and

continued on page 18

## Branch 320 Supports Festival of Nations Slovak Booth in Charleroi, PA



Bruce E. Higginbotham, II, presents a generous check on behalf of the First Catholic Slovak Union to Fr. Mikonis of Mary, Mother of the Church for their Festival of Nations Slovak Booth. The Festival was held August 13, 2016, in Charleroi, PA. Bruce is the son of Mary Anne and Bruch Robert Higginbotham as well as the grandson of Frances Tarquinio and the godson and nephew of Joseph Tarquinio – all members of Branch 320. The Slovak Booth is a favorite at the Festival of Nations, with Agnes Braunegg of Branch 320 in charge and – along with Elaine Weiss and Barbara Lombardi –working hard to prepare delicious foods including pierogies, halushki and halupki. The Festival is a yearly event and everyone is invited to attend next year.

2016 Festival of Nations Slovak Booth participants: Front row: Bruce E. Higginbotham, II; Middle row (L – R): Elaine Weiss, Barbara Lombardi, and Agnes Braunegg; Back row (L – R): Joseph Tarquinio, Fr. Mikonis, and Frances Tarquinio. Missing from the picture is photographer Mary Anne Higginbotham.



- Submitted by Frances Tarquinio, Branch 320 Financial Secretary

## 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.

### JEDNOTA

### Publication Schedule for 2016

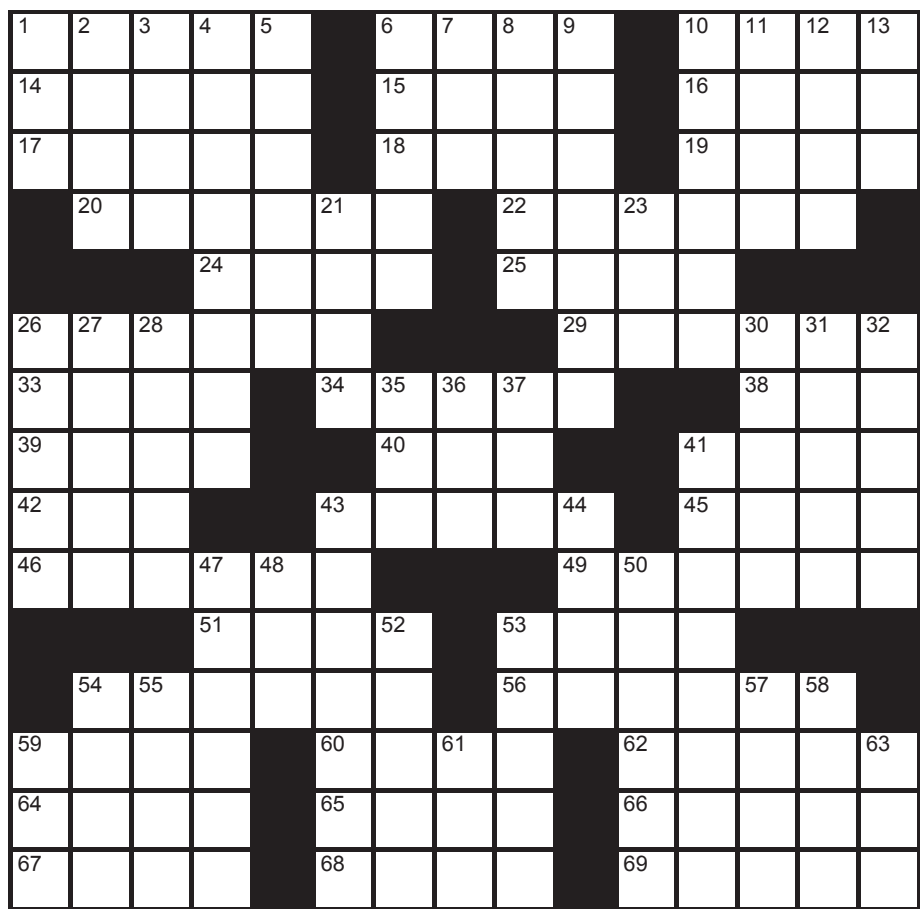
**Issue Date**

**October 5**  
**October 19**  
**November 2**  
**November 16**  
**December 7**

**Deadline to  
Receive Information**

**Sept 26**  
**October 10**  
**October 24**  
**November 7**  
**November 28**

# Jednota Crossword Puzzle



**Across**

- 1 Nettle
- 6 Took off
- 10 Collar type
- 14 Carpenter's tool
- 15 \_\_\_ the lonely
- 16 Not one
- 17 Fun-loving river mammal
- 18 Chick's cry
- 19 Aphids
- 20 Comfort
- 22 Woman, in Brisbane
- 24 Kentucky town of less than one sq. mile
- 25 *Bonanza* nickname
- 26 Fragrances
- 29 Choosing
- 33 Zest
- 34 *Tom Sawyer* creator
- 38 Perish
- 39 Conclusions
- 40 Taxing mo.
- 41 Sheltered, at sea
- 42 Up (Prefix)
- 43 Avarice
- 45 Bushel weight
- 46 Legitimate
- 49 Idolizes
- 51 Discharge
- 53 Mooring space
- 54 CA county, El \_\_\_
- 56 Banker
- 59 Acerbic
- 60 James of jazz
- 62 Carpenter's tool
- 64 Wager
- 65 Weather forecast
- 66 Red lead
- 67 Tormentor

**Down**

- 68 Winter toy
- 69 Man-made fiber
- 43 Sailplanes
- 44 Valley
- 47 Polecat
- 48 Thurman of *Kill Bill*
- 50 *Gunsmoke* name
- 52 Aggregate
- 53 Grove of trees
- 54 Finished
- 55 On the \_\_\_
- 57 Malevolent
- 58 Make over
- 59 Buffoon
- 61 Draw
- 63 *Ipcress File* author Deighton
- 1 \_\_\_-magnon
- 2 Shacks
- 3 Singing voice
- 4 Emotions
- 5 Fallible
- 6 Jennifer of *Bordertown*
- 7 Compass pt.
- 8 \_\_\_ and bone
- 9 Cyclone
- 10 Join the army
- 11 Appendage
- 12 Killer whale
- 13 *Steve Allen Show* regular Louis
- 21 \_\_\_ la vie
- 23 Second sight
- 26 Pilfer
- 27 Arrowroot
- 28 Empower
- 30 Do-nothing
- 31 Family girl
- 32 Eccentrics
- 35 Armed combat
- 36 Emulator
- 37 Wrath
- 41 Stroke

See Solution on Page 17

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# FREE

## Estate Planning Booklet from the First Catholic Slovak Union



First Catholic Slovak Union

### Estate Planning Booklet



Your Personal Record Keeper

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

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

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



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*(Plus airfare)*

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# BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

## BRANCH 2 – PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Michael's Archangel, Branch 2, will be holding their annual meeting on October 19, 2016, at Kretzlers on Babcock Blvd in the North Hills. Please RSVP 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. 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 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 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 200 – FORD CITY, MICHIGAN

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 and the Slovak Club at americanslovakclub.com for an update on current activities. Please come to our meetings. You won't be disappointed.

**Thomas B. Zuffa, Recording Secretary**

## RANCH 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 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 367 – FAIRCHANCE, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Joseph's Branch 367 of Fairchance, PA will be holding a meeting on Thursday September 22, 2016 at 5 PM at the home of Patty Speshock located at 11 Ash Street, Fairchance, PA. Ideas for the rest of the year will be discussed and planned. All members are invited. Please call Audrey Balazik, President 724-438-3887 or Kathryn Baranek, Secretary 724-569-1006 if planning to attend.

**Patricia Speshock, Vice President**

## 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**

## 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 410 – UNIONTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The SS. Peter and Paul Society, Branch 410, will hold a meeting on Thursday, September 29, 2016, at 1:30 p.m. at the Highland House, 92 West Main Street, Uniontown, PA.

All members are invited to attend.

**Geri Buchheit, Recording/  
Financial Secretary**

## 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 553 – AKRON, OHIO

Branch members will gather to celebrate Holy Mass on September 25, 2016, at St John's, 1034 Brown St, Akron OH 44301, at 10:00AM; we will be meeting in the lobby of the church at approximately 9:30AM. Following the Mass we will be hosting a breakfast for all bona fide members. Please call and let Linda Hanko at 330-773-4978 to let her know you are coming so that we can plan for the brunch.

Sept 7th - don't forget our luscious Spaghetti Dinner 4:30 to 7PM.

Respectfully,

**Sandie Klucar, Secretary**

## BRANCH 682 – YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

Branch 682 will have a meeting on September 25, 2016, at 2:30PM at MRL Lab, 250 Bridge Street, Struthers, OH, 44471. This will be a general meeting with nomination of officers. All members are encouraged to attend.

**Joe Scavina, Vice 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, Egypt, Pennsylvania, will hold their Annual Meeting Sunday, November 13, 2016, at 1:00 P.M. The meeting will be 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 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 encouraged to attend Mass. For more information call Marion Mistrik at 301-654- 5638 or Stephen Matula at 703-671 -3013.

**Katherine Nowatkoski,  
Financial Secretary**

## 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 3 – GEORGE ONDA DISTRICT – WESTMORELAND COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

The George Onda District will hold its Semi-Annual meeting on Saturday, September 24, 2016 following the 5 P.M. Mass at St. Florian Roman Catholic Church, United, Pa. We will meet in the Formation Room of the Convent. All branches are encouraged to attend with their news. We also will plan our popular Stedry Vecer. Refreshments will be served.

**Linda L. Gonta, 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 annual winter business meeting on Sunday, November 27 at the Holy Trinity Church Hall in West Mifflin. The meeting will start at 1 PM. 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.

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 to know if there is any interest in additional activities such as an art class or attending a Pirates game or going out to the Meadows Casino or a visit to the NSS Museum. 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. The August 17 issue has information about the scholarship fund and a story by Father Jared Orndorff about his Slovak grandparents.

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: October 3 – Discover Your Slovak Roots, 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.

\*\* Mass in honor of the Mother of Sorrows, Patroness of Slovakia, will be held at Holy Trinity Church at 7 PM on Thursday, September 15.

\*\* Septemberfest at the NSS Museum – Saturday, September 24, 11-4 – free admission.

\*\* 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. Their annual dinner dance is planned for Sunday, September 25 at the Westwood Golf Club in West Mifflin.

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

\*\* Slovak Heritage Festival at Pitt – Sunday, 12-5, November 6 – free admission.

\*\* 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](http://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/](http://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](http://www.nsslife.org/Museum.php).

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

\*\* FCSU information and forms can be found at [www.fcsu.com](http://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](mailto:manasta@verizon.net)**

### **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 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. 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 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 & METHIDIUS 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.

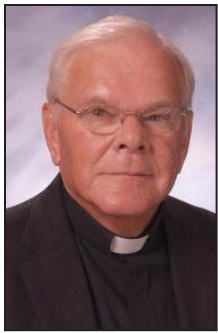
Branches 784 and 810 are urged to send representatives.

A light lunch will be served.

**Alexander S. Dobrik, President**

## OBITUARIES

### REVEREND EDWARD F. LAJACK BRANCH 1 – CLEVELAND, OHIO



The Reverend Edward F. Lajack, Senior Priest-Retired, died Monday, 25 July 2016, after having received the prayerful support and consolation of the Sacraments.

Edward Francis Lajack was born on January 29, 1942. His parents were the late Stephen A. and Mary (Lestinsky). His brother is Fr. Jerome M. Lajack, Senior Priest-Retired. He was educated at SS. Cyril & Methodius Elementary School, Lakewood, OH, Borromeo High School, Wickliffe, OH; Borromeo Seminary, Wickliffe; and St. Mary Seminary, Cleveland, OH. On May 25, 1968, in Saint John Bosco Church, Parma Bishop Clarence G. Isenmann ordained him to the priesthood for the service of the Diocese of Cleveland.

Fr. Lajack's first assignment was as Parochial Vicar of Sacred Heart of Jesus, Cleveland. On September 25, 1968, he was transferred to St. John the Baptist, Akron, OH, to serve as Parochial Vicar. Fr. Lajack was assigned Parochial Vicar of St. Patrick, Cleveland on July 5, 1973. On June 29, 1978, he was assigned Parochial Vicar of St. Mark, Cleveland. On January 17, 1979, Fr. Lajack was named Pastor of SS. Cyril and Methodius, Barberton, OH. In addition to this assignment he served as Chaplain for the Knights of Columbus Barberton Council #1617 in December of 1984. He concluded his assignment on June 8, 2009, and was granted a medical leave of absence to attend to his personal health. Fr. Lajack retired on January 29, 2012. He was a member of the First Catholic Slovak Union, Branch

The wake began with Vespers on Thursday, July 28, 2016, in St. Colette Church, Brunswick, OH, at 3:00 p.m. Fr. Donald Oleksiak was the presider and Fr. Robert Stec, the homilist. The Funeral Mass was celebrated Friday, July 29, 2016, in St. Colette Church. Bishop Richard Lennon was the main celebrant and Fr. William Krizner, the homilist. Interment was at Holy Cross Cemetery, Brook Park, OH.

### THERESA B. SEMAN BRANCH 152 – PLYMOUTH, PENN- SYLVANIA



Theresa B. Seman (Gamma Terry), 83, of Gaylord Avenue, Plymouth, PA, passed away Tuesday, July 12, 2016, at St. Luke's Villa in Wilkes-Barre, PA.

She was the daughter of the late Andrew and Mary Wanyo of Plymouth. She was preceded in death by her loving husband, Andrew George Seman; brothers, Andrew Wanyo, John Wanyo and Stephen Wanyo;

and sisters, Mary Belinka and Josephine Meletsky.

She is survived by her daughter, Sharon Gonda and husband, Joseph, St. Augustine, FL; son, Andrew G. Seman Jr. and wife, Barbara, Larksville, PA; grandchildren, Candace Skaff, David Staniecki and wife, Nicole, Stephen Walko and Andrew J. Seman; great-grandchildren, Michael Ferris, Giana Skaff, Isabella Skaff, Elizabeth Staniecki, Olivia Staniecki and Rebecca Staniecki; brother, Joseph Wanyo, Larksville; and sisters, Matilda Costa, Wilkes-Barre; Ruth Telnock, Plymouth; and Helen Keene, Larksville.

She was a devoted mother and loving grandmother and great-grandmother. She was always Gram Terry to everyone. She left this world well-loved and will be deeply missed. In her later years she developed a strong and loving bond with her grandson's wife, Nicole Staniecki. Gram Terry loved music and loved to dance. She was surrounded by all of her family when she left this world.

Relatives and friends called from 9 to 10:30 a.m. Saturday, July 16, 2016, at Yeosock Funeral Home, Plains Township, PA. A committal service with interment was held in St. Stephen's Cemetery, Lehman, PA.

- Submitted by Sharon Gonda

### CLARENCE E. "FUDGIE" PFEIFER BRANCH 181 – UNITED, PENNSYLVANIA

Clarence E. "Fudgie" Pfeifer, Sr. 83 of Mammoth, PA, passed away peacefully on August 27, 2016.

Visitation was held at Jay A. Hoffer Funeral Home, Norvelt, PA on Tuesday, August 30, 2016. A Catholic Mass was held at St Florian Church, United, PA on Wednesday, August 31, 2016 with Reverend John Sydlak officiating. Burial followed at St Florian Cemetery, Trauger, PA.

Clarence ("Fudgie") was born in Mount Pleasant, PA to Edward and Mary Pfeifer on August 19, 1933. He attended Ramsey High School in Mount Pleasant and graduated in 1952. He worked as a welder at Over Myer Mold Company for 30 years. He then worked on the building maintenance crew at Westmoreland County Community College until his retirement in 2000. "Fudgie" was President of the Jednota George Honda District 3 from 2003 until 2015 and was also President for the Jednota Branch 181 United, PA until his retirement. He loved to play bingo at the Polish Falcon 147 in Mount Pleasant. He loved to tell stories to everyone of how proud he was of his children and their accomplishments and how especially proud he was of his grandkids: Jon, Sports Facility grounds crew at Louisiana State University and Alyssa, Registered Nurse at Pittsburgh Children's Hospital.

Clarence "Fudgie" is survived by his four children, Clarence, Jr ("Butch") (Dee Dee) of Lawndale, NC, Kathleen of Baton Rouge, LA, Linda Boggs (Tim) of Pleasant View, TN and Thomas of Mammoth, PA. His grandchildren, Jon Michael of Baton Rouge, LA and Alyssa Pfeifer of New Alexandria, PA. His

two sisters, Janet Pfeifer of Mount Pleasant, PA and Arlene Zelenske of Ligonier, PA. His nephew, Andrew "Tuggy" Zelenske of Hunt, TX.

His Mizikar In-Laws; brothers, sisters, nieces and nephews around the country. His Garczyk cousins in St Clairsville, OH. He is preceded in death by his wife, Joanne Mizikar Pfeifer, and his parents, Edward and Mary Pfeifer.

- Submitted by Linda Boggs

### MICHAEL A. ANDROSTIC BRANCH 211 – LATROBE, PENNSYLVANIA



Michael A. Androscopic, 63, of Latrobe, died suddenly and peacefully Thursday, August 11, 2016, at home. Born May 5, 1953, in Latrobe, PA, he was a son of the late George E. Androscopic and Marie I. (Rachiel) Androscopic. Michael was a member of St. Rose Church, where he served as a lector. He was retired from Standard Steel with 29 years of service, and had also been employed at Coca-Cola and True-Value Hardware. Michael was a member of the First Catholic Slovak Union Branch 211 and the American Slovak Society, Bradenville. He enjoyed golfing, fishing, telling jokes and stories, playing with his grandchildren and "tormenting" his cat, Sadie. He is survived by his beloved wife of 38 years, Florence M. "Flossy" (Sobota) Androscopic, of Latrobe; his five loving children, Michel Wright, of Pittsburgh, Rachel (Jeff) Ruffing, of Latrobe, Andrew (Michelle) Androscopic, of Edinboro, Ashley (Chad) Vinglas, of Duncansville, Pa., and Aaron Amos Androscopic, of Latrobe; three siblings, George (Barbara) Androscopic, of Mt. Pleasant, Suzie (John) Mowry, of Solon, Ohio, and Anita Androscopic, of Latrobe; his four grandchildren, "Pap-Pap's little angels," Kyle Michael Young, Brennan Joseph Wright, Kaitlyn Irene and Ryan James Androscopic; also survived by many nieces and nephews.

Family and friends were received from 3 to 5 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. Monday, August 15, 2016, at the John J. Lopatich Funeral Home Inc, Latrobe, where the rosary also was recited by The St. Rose Rosary Altar Christian Mothers at 2:30 p.m. A funeral Mass was celebrated at 10 a.m. Tuesday, August 16, 2016, at St. Rose Church with the Rev. Rogelio "Rod" Rodriguez as celebrant. Interment followed at St. Rose Cemetery.

- Submitted by  
Florence Androscopic

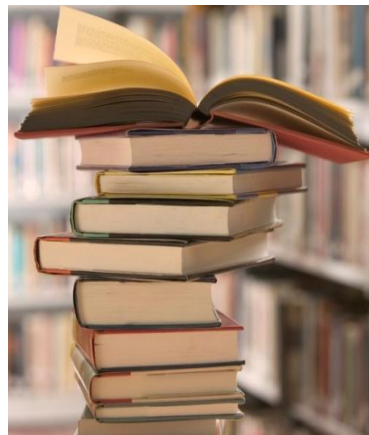
### MILDRED BALOG BRANCH 856 – WASHINGTON, DC



Mildred Anna (Strobel) Balog was born in Rochester, PA on April 5, 1927 and died July 9, 2016. She was the cherished wife of John Balog for 65 years. She was predeceased by her father, Frank, and mother, Katherine Strobel, her two sisters and three brothers. She was a devoted mother to Celeste Balog (Wes Miller), Stephen Balog (Joan), Gary Balog and Joseph Balog (Cheryl). She rejoiced in her eight grandchildren, Alyssa, Travis and Thomas Rosenbloom, Marcus and Valerie Balog, Alison, Andrew and Brooke Balog, and her great-granddaughter, McKinley Rosenbloom. Mildred began her career as a secretary at the Pentagon during the closing days of World War II. John and Mildred were long-time residents of Northern Virginia, and recently moved to Wichita to be closer to family. She was a member of Branch 856 of the First Catholic Slovak Union, always active in her church, a loyal friend, a great bowler and Scrabble enthusiast. She will be forever missed by all who loved her. The rosary was recited at 9:00AM Thursday, July 14, 2016, and a Funeral Mass followed at 9:30AM – both at St. Elizabeth Chapel, Catholic Care Center.

- Submitted by Katherine  
Nowatkoski, Branch 856 Secretary

## 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).



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.

## Branch 320's Noah Allen Awarded Presidential Scholarship

Noah William Allen of Branch 320 has been awarded the Presidential Scholarship, a four-year scholarship at West Virginia University where Noah will major in Engineering this fall. He also has been awarded a college scholarship from the First Catholic Slovak Union.

Noah is the son of Eric and Cindy Allen of Mt. Nebo, WV. He is the grandson of Agnes Braunegg and the late Paul Braunegg of Charleroi, PA. All are members of Branch 320.

Noah is a recent graduate of Nicholas County High School. He graduated with Sergeant-at-Arms National Honor Society and placed 13th for Related Technical Math at Skills USA. He received an award for Excellence in Mathematics from the USA Achievement Academy.

In addition, he is on the Nicholas County Dive Team and has been a rescue diver for three years. Noah has served as a volunteer firefighter at Wilderness VFD for the past two years as well, and recently became an EMT.



Submitted by Frances Tarquinio,  
Branch 320 Financial Secretary



The winning team of Rusnaci od Starej Lubovne (L – R): Jan Forvalsky, Jan Zeman, Maros Derevajanic, Jaroslav Vislocky, Milan Derevanik, Rado Rusin, and Jozef Korcak.

## A Successful St. Matthew Society Indoor Soccer Tournament

The St. Matthew Society, Branch 45, organized an indoor soccer tournament at the church hall of St. John Nepomucene in New York City on April 23, 2016. The main organizers of the event were Jan Zeman and Jozef Korcak.

The four teams that competed were: Fofu, Kostol, Superstar, and Rusnaci od Starej Lubovne. The atmosphere and effort of the participants were excellent. Team Rusnaci od Starej Lubovne ended up being the winner. Refreshments were served as all participants deserved a good break after the tough tournament.

- Submitted by Jozef Jurasi, Branch 45 Sports Coordinator

### The 2016 Lúčina 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 Lúčina Slovak Folklore Ensemble of Cleveland*

*Lúčinka 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 Lúčina Slovak Folklore Ensemble,  
celebrating their 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



## Reminder For All Branches

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

14.01 General Rules

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

## Answer to Puzzle

Solution to Puzzle from page 11

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# Žatva and Dožinky - The Slovak Harvest and Harvest Festivals (Part 1)

continued from page 10

more personal care, Slovaks mainly raised such crops in their own home gardens, and used these to supplement their diets. In fertile areas of western Slovakia, which were located closer to city markets, some Slovaks sold their vegetables in Vienna.

Slovak-Americans of the first and second generation would almost always take great pride in their large gardens. When we visited others of Slovak descent as a child during the summer or fall, going to see someone's garden was a given.

Evidence of the first threshing machines reaching southwestern Slovakia dated from around 1900. In the north and east, threshing by hand continued in many regions as late as the first Czechoslovak Republic between the world wars. By 1930, most communities at least possessed hand threshing machines.

Many areas of Slovakia did not begin using machines extensively until after World War II, when the communist government seized farmlands and compelled peasants to join an agricultural cooperative called a družstvo. Factories churned out tractors and combines for farming, and the old ways gradually died out during the 1950s.

## Mlátenie a Cepy - Threshing and Flails

After gathering grains, it had to be transported to a barn or other area for threshing. Harvesters threshed the crop in order to loosen the edible parts from the chaff. Threshing preceded the process of winnowing, which would separate the loose chaff from the grain, for threshing did not take off the bran from the grain. Threshing was dangerous too, for dried-out chaffs could easily lead to fires, so they had to work fast.

Slovaks typically did threshing using a hand-held flail (cep) consisting of two parts on a threshing floor. It involved a very labor intensive process and took about an hour to produce a bushel of grain. In southern Slovakia, using cattle or horses to trample grain on a hard surface bed (posád, nasád, postat') was more widespread. Grain sheaves had to be turned over several times to ensure all the sheaves were thrashed.

Flails or cepy, also called a bilen, a bijak, or a bosák, were among the oldest agricultural tools used by the ancient Slavs, and Slovaks made the flails by hand and used them into the early 20th century, even though the first threshing machines in Britain dated from 1786. Today, combine harvesters perform the multiple processes of harvesting, threshing, and winnowing the grain in the fields.

Ethnological researchers have identified two types of flails used. Both resembled a cudgel and one type had one part, and the more common type consisted of two parts. A ring would sit on top of a long, smooth handle (ručník, húlka, dzeržák) made from hardwood, especially hazelwood. From it would hang and rotate a halter, a shorter leather piece known as the ohlávky or kapiče. It was most often made of leather from a cow, a pig, or dog skin. Some museums in Slovakia also contain metal halters which blacksmiths made in northern and central Slovakia.

Most of the threshing occurred in open-air barns, even though the poorest Slovaks could not afford their own. Threshing involved two processes, the pre-thresh (okle-



**Threshed-out straw often would be gathered to store in barns for cattle.**

palo, obokoval, objialo), and the final thresh. In pre-threshing, the farmers worked with the sheaves while they were still bound together. The pre-threshing forced the highest quality grain to drop out, and these grains were often used for seeds for the next planting. They used either a flail or a pitchfork or stick in pre-threshing.

During the second phase of threshing, the farmers would place unbound sheaves in a one or two rows. Generally, barley and oats had two rows, and wheat and rye just had one row. The farmers would thrash the grains twice, turning it over, and thresh it twice again with flails. They would gather the threshed-out straw and store it in a barn for cattle, and some was put in an open air stack.

The grain was then scraped away for cleaning. The oldest traditional way to clean involved viatie, tossing the grain against the wind with a wide wooden shovel (vejačka), which blew away the husks and portions not useful. By the mid-19th century, mechanical hand-driven cleaners first came to Slovakia, called a fukár or rajtár.

The blowing of the grain would have the men sorting out the residue of straw and ears of threshed grain. Then they would use a sieve called a riečica with a large mesh to remove any remaining residue. Then they would again toss the grain with the wooden shovel. The work often took place in an open air barn to ensure there would be a draft to blow the grain.

Finally, the women would take over and pour the grain, corn, or poppy onto a large sheet. Apparently, this final phase of cleaning continued on a small scale in some Slovak communities right up through contemporary times.

## Storage of Crops

The last phase of the harvest involved safe storage. Grain had to be stored safe from insects and away from the houses, in case of fire. One of the oldest methods placed the grain in pits. This method was widespread in the flatter grain-growing areas of western, southwestern, and southeastern Slovakia. So the grain would not get wet, the men built pits on higher ground or built up earth. Sometimes they would place the pits in a courtyard or in a village common area. Sometimes a village might hire pit-makers to dig out the holes, burn out the walls, and strew it with rye straw. They used non-wooden building materials except for the upper part of the storage hut. Kept cool, the grain could be stored for several years, useful in case of famine.

Slovaks also used portable storage bins for grains. Usually they were made from the trunk of a tree hollowed out at both ends, and grain was poured in from an opening

made on the top. Eastern Slovaks called these wooden bins kadluby. Other portable storage bins included slamenice, made of burnt clay and straw, and plaited (braided) bins made from tree bark or willow rods (priluby).

Carpenters would also construct long-lasting storage chests, referred to as a súsek, a skriňa, or a štok. These proved efficient in keeping out bugs and moisture, and were also used to store flour.

By the early 20th century, most storage huts were made of bricks and built with fire-proof roofs. Grains also were kept in bags more frequently in more modern times.

Unlike grains, potatoes were more often kept in a house. They were less susceptible to fire and could be protected from freezing and kept cool in holes dug in the kitchen or under a table. They would be covered with clay and hemp. In the home, they were also safer from possible theft. This method was especially widespread in the less fertile mountainous regions.

Vegetables such as carrots, celery, kohlrabi and beets were also stored in holes dug in homes. But outdoors, they stored vegetables such as parsley and cole crops (Brussel sprouts, cabbage, cauliflower, kale, kohlrabi, mustard, , turnips). They dug holes in the earth in rows and covered the vegetables with hay or straw. On the other hand, garlic and onions were tied in bundles and stored in the attic to dry. Cabbage and cucumbers were cut up and placed into barrels. Some of these methods of storage continue to this day.

Fruits also helped supplement the Slovak diet as well as provide extra income for large estates. While fresh fruit was sold in towns if there was enough for a family, Slovaks also preserved fruits by drying them in drying houses or ovens. With canning in the 19th century, jars helped preserve fruits over the winter, and the kompót became a common dessert in winter. Slovaks also made jam, and used plums to make the very powerful slivovica, a very invigorating plum brandy. My own grandfather used to make his own slivovica and peach brandy (broskyňovica).

Though it was hard life in agriculture, Slovaks managed to eat a fairly balanced diet, especially in the summers and autumn. But winter menus were richer in carbohydrates and bread and potatoes were a daily part of the menu. As my mother used to say, they ate potatoes in the morning, for lunch, and for dinner. Meat was a more rare treat among the common folk, but many had a few cows and chickens, so eggs were plentiful.

## Traditions while working

Slovaks also practiced many customs associated with the harvest. For instance, women would tie a batch of corn to his right arm when a gazda came to the field, in the hope work would go well. As a reward, the gazda would pay the women and provide brandy for the male laborers. If the farmer's wife or their female cook would arrive at the field, the men would sprinkle water on her, in the hope that it would freshen her and make her work easier. When the men returned from working in the field, the cook would in turn sprinkle water on them so they would be refreshed and continue to work well.

Traditional songs resounded throughout the harvest. A Slovak expression goes, Kde Slovák, tam spev (Where there is a Slovak,

there is song), and it was no different during their laborious work. The songs helped to pass the time and make the work more enjoyable. Most harvest songs were rather slow, keeping in character with the nature of the steady, ongoing jobs. They worked most of the day, from morning to dusk. The harvesters sang on their way to and from the fields, while working, and when they took a break to rest.

The themes of the harvest songs (žatevné piesne) most often reflected the work they performed, nature, and were sprinkled with ideas about love. Most contain very simple texts with 6 syllabic verses and 2-4 line stanzas. Quite a few regional differences existed, and such songs were prominent in the Považie and Trenčín regions, mountainous areas and even after more advanced agricultural methods started. Here is a short sample (<http://www.ludovakultura.sk/index.php?id=4748>).

Hreje slniečko hreje, zelené žitko zreje,  
niže slniečko niže, bolá ma moje križe.

The sun is heating up, green grain is ripening,  
the sun is going down, down, it was my cross.

Young men and eligible girls would use songs to tease and taunt one another, and would frequently use song as a vehicle to send messages of attraction or rejection. Many a marital match started in the fields. Here is a sample of the type of songs they sang.

Nevyberaj dievča v tanci, ale v lete medzi ženci,

pozriže si po údolí, aké ona hrstí valí.

Don't choose a girl in a dance, but in summer among the reapers,

Look across the valley, see how she rolls the piles.

Note the practical approach the guys take. Do not just seek some pretty girl at a dance, but grab a gal who can work well in the fields! Thus the girls also worked harder so they could prove a valuable partner to a young lad (šuhaj).

Žnime len žnime -- od kraja do kraja,  
azda si vyžneme švarneho šuhaja.

Žnime len žnime, od konca do konca,  
azda si vyžneme švarneho mládenca.

We reap, just reap -- from end to end,  
Maybe we'll harvest a good-looking lad.

We reap, just reap -- from end to end,

Perhaps we'll harvest a good-looking young man.

Another occasion for song was obed, lunch, which was the main meal. Cooking could not take place in the fields, due to the danger of fire. Such hard work meant that the workers needed to be well fed. If a gazdiná (a wife) did not have lunch ready on time, the men harvesters (ženci) would complain and sing the following ditty.

Naši pani mladá, robí jej čel'ad rada, ale je neopačná,  
robí jej čel'ad lačná.

Our young lady makes her family happy, but if the reverse happens, she makes her family very hungry.

As the harvest and raking was nearly finished, the women harvesters (žnice) would surround the gazda and refresh him with a handful of grain and bind his hands and feet. Sometimes they would even tear his clothes and not let him go until they received some money.

When the harvest finally ended, Slovaks

continued on page 19

# Žatva and Dožinky - The Slovak Harvest and Harvest Festivals (Part 1)

continued from page 18

would be sure to guard their good fortune. According to Viera Feglová, they would perform sacrificial acts. For instance, they would leave behind several ears of grain on the field for ghosts and birds to gather. Prayer was another common gesture, since they knew whom they owed their harvest to - Pán Boh (the Lord God).

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# 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 1/2 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" statute 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.

# Slovak Singer Jozef Ivaska to Perform at the Pitt Slovak Festival Nov 6

Slovak singer/author/composer Jozef Ivaska has a new book "Život na hrane" or "Life on the Edge" documenting people who left Slovakia and had success in the world. The book was christened at three festive concerts in Bratislava, Slovakia, Prague, the Czech Republic, and Jozef's hometown of Ruzomberok, Slovakia.



past dozen years his new career is judging singing competitions in Europe and Asia, often working with university vocal students. He performs with orchestras in Novy Sibirsk and other exotic places singing everything from opera to folk, rock, pop and his own compositions. Jozef will be singing at the Pitt Slovak Festival at the University of Pittsburgh's Cathedral of Learning on November 6, 2016 and at a gala

event in Oak Ridge, Tennessee on Nov 12. A globe-trotting performer, Jozef has been dubbed "Man of A Thousand Songs," singing in 30 countries on four continents. Jozef sang in the Baden Operetta Theatre for some 20 years and then left to travel the world with his songs. For the

Contact Helene Cincebeaux, 585 342-9383 or [helenezx@aol.com](mailto:helenezx@aol.com) for more info.

- Submitted by Helene Cincebeaux, Branch 278

# MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

## SATURDAY, JULY 9, 2016

### HOME OFFICE, INDEPENDENCE, OHIO

**OPEN:**

President Andrew Rajec opened the meeting at 12:30 p.m. following the close of the Board of Directors Meeting 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  
Martha Zavada Wojcik, Regional Director  
(by invitation of the President)

**ACCEPTANCE OF THE JUNE MEETING MINUTES:**

The Executive Secretary presented the minutes of the June 2016 Executive Committee Meeting. A motion was made by George Matta II. and seconded by Andrew Harcar, Sr., to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

**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 August.

**AQS Management, Inc.**

Larry White, representing AQS Management, Inc., presented an extensive Investment Portfolio Transaction Report by telephone to the Board of Directors Meeting on July 8, 2016. Each member of the Board received a copy of the presentation in advance for his review. Following the report, Mr. White answered the Executive Committee's questions.

**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 June 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 June:

**Disbursements for the month of June 2016:**

Death Benefits & Accumulations	\$ 144,830.22
Cash Withdrawals & Accumulations	\$ 42,850.26
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.

**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.

**MISCELLANEOUS:**

The President stated he sent a memo to all Board Members asking for opinions and suggestions on the future of the property in Middletown, Pennsylvania. This will be on the agenda for the September Board Meeting for further discussion and action. Meetings with the Township are anticipated. Outside consultants are not being sought at this time at the recommendation of our General Counsel.

The President stated we continue to receive proposals from various hotels interested in handling our 2018 convention. The Executive Committee will prepare a recommendation to the Board.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

The President stated the second and third of a series of four diskettes on Corporate Governance will be played at the next Board of Directors Meeting.

The President announced we have submitted an application to the Internal Revenue Service to act as a non bank trustee for the Government Coverdale Plan. Once we receive the approval, more information will go out to our branches and members.

**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 George Matta II and seconded by Kenneth Arendt to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Andrew M. Rajec  
President

Kenneth A. Arendt  
Executive Secretary

*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 Fújara*

**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

## Správy zo Slovenska

### Slovenský futbalový reprezentant Marek Hamšík zostáva na San Paolo

Slovenský futbalový reprezentant Marek Hamšík oficiálne spečatil predĺženie zmluvy s jeho doterajším zamestnávateľom SSC Neapol do roku 2020 s opciou na ďalšiu sezónu. Informáciu priniesol web csm-agency.sk. „Som veľmi rád, že sme sa dohodli na predĺžení zmluvy. S Marekom sme boli dohodnutí, že keď mu Neapol predostrie novú zmluvu, ktorá mu bude vyhovovať, tak nebude rozmýšľať o prípadnom odchode. Stalo sa, Marek zostáva na San Paolo. Pri rokovaniach Neapol bral ohľad na doterajšiu športovú výkonnosť Mareka a na jeho lojalitu ku klubu. Tieto atribúty sa premietli do novej zmluvy. Tá platí do 30. júna 2020 plus rok opcia. Neboli to jednoduché rokovania.“

### Chcú na Slovensku cenzurovať internet

Internet po roku 2018 môže vyzeráť inak. Vláda sa začne starať o to, aké stránky sa ľuďom smú zobrazovať. Podľa návrhu ministerstva financií by boli cenzorským orgánom daniari. Operátorom budú prikazovať, aby blokovali prístup k on-line hazardným hrám, ktoré na Slovensku nemajú licenciáciu, a tak tu neplatia dane. Podľa návrhu bude cenzurovaná aj ich propagácia. Na zoznam blokováných stránok sa tak môže dostať aj blog vysvetľujúci, ako hrať ruletu v zahraničnom on-line kasíne. Hrozí aj to, že pre jednu reklamu či jeden blog dajú daniari zablokovať celý web. Návrh kritizujú niektorí telekomunikační operátori a aj Asociácia stávkových spoločností.

### Štát stráca na dani z benzínu ročne stá milióny

Analýza Inštitútu finančnej politiky ukazuje, že Slováci, ktorí tankujú pohonné látky za hranicami oberajú štát o milióny eur. Podľa analýzy totiž stratil štát vlani na dani z minerálnych olejov zhruba štvrtú miliardu eur. V sume však nie sú zahrnuté len cezhraničné výjazdy Slovákov za lacnejším benzínom, ale aj daňové úniky. Ekonomovia zatiaľ nevedia určiť, ktorá časť „kradne“ viac. Analýza však ukazuje, že vývoj takzvanej daňovej medzery, teda rozdielu medzi našou spotrebou benzínu a nafty a skutočného výnosu dane vybraného finančnou správou, kopíruje vývoj kurzov mien našich susedov. Tankovanie za hranicami má teda na výber dane pravdepodobne ešte väčší vplyv ako nepoctiví podnikatelia.

### Tanky na koľajniciach strašia ľudí

Železnice v posledných mesiacoch prevádzali netradičný tovar. Niektorí cestujúci spozorovali na nákladných vozňoch naložené obrnené vozidlá a tanky. Vojská technika mala pritom zakryté označenie, odkiaľ pochádza a pod aký štát či organizáciu patrí. U ľudí táto skutočnosť vyvoláva obavy. Železnice Slovenskej republiky na otázky v súvislosti s tým odpovedali, že prevoz vojenskej techniky nie je ničím ojedinelým a transporty s podobným nákladom sú na bežnom poriadku. Väčšinou ide o prevoz kvôli vojenským cvičeniam.

### Čínsky gigant stavia v Prešove svoju jedinú fabriku v Európe

Čínska jednotka vo výrobe veľkoplošných obrazoviek Leyard Shenzhen Opto Electronics v Prešove na zelenej lúke vybuduje svoj jediný výrobný závod v Európe. Ten vyrastie v mestskom priemyselnom parku Záborské. Najväčší výrobca obrích displejov na svete si tak poistuje svoju pozíciu lídra trhu. „Spoločnosť vyrába obrazovky veľkých rozmerov, ktoré sa používajú napríklad na športových štadiónoch, v nákupných centrách alebo v televíznych štúdiách. Naša pobočka Leyard Europe obsluhuje trh celej Európy, Blízkeho východu a Afriky, kam dodávame obrazovky,“ povedal výrobný manažér spoločnosti Leyard Europe František Pečke. V súčasnosti firma sídli v prenajatých priestoroch oproti športovej hale v Prešove, kde obrie panely montuje. Táto prvotná investícia Číňanov sa na východe Slovenska pohybuje vo výške 2,3 milióna eur. Aktuálne spoločnosť zamestnáva viac ako 50 ľudí. Po dokončení druhej etapy výstavby koncom budúceho roka toto číslo narastie na zhruba 200.

### Brexit zvyšuje Európanom školné

Desiatky slovenských študentov každý rok odchádzajú za štúdiom na britské univerzity. Z nich si odnášajú buď bakalárske, magisterské či doktorandské tituly, alebo rôzne diplomy. Po výsledkoch britského referenda o zotrvaní alebo odídení krajiny z Európskej únie (EÚ), ktoré hovoria v prospech tzv. brexitu, sa Slovákom na tamojších vysokých školách školné predraží. Britské univerzity už na svojich webových stránkach informujú, že školné na akademický rok 2016/2017 bude ešte v pôvodných sumách, ktoré zvýhodňujú študentov z únie, no od budúceho roku musia pristúpiť k zvyšovaniu cien. Momentálne študenti, ktorí sa rozhodnú študovať práve v Británii, zaplatia ročne školné v sume 9000 libier. Podľa údajov britskej vlády aktuálne študuje bakalársky program na britských univerzitách 1,8 milióna Britov, 125.000 študentov z EÚ a 312.000 študentov z krajín mimo EÚ.

### Diaľnica D1 do Košíc si vyžiada tunel navyše

Diaľnica D1 do Košíc si vyžiada tunel navyše. Jeden takmer 6-kilometrový tunel sa bude musieť neplánovane raziť, aby Bratislavu a Košice spojila diaľnica. Ide o tunel Korbeľka, ktorý spojí Turiec s Liptovom. Tahať diaľnicu údolím Váhu po sanácii zosúvajúceho sa svahu by bolo finančne nákladné. Diaľnica sa preto radšej pred Krpelanmi zavrtá do kopca Vysoký Grúň a vyjde na Liptove. Sanácia svahu by si vyžiadala 202 miliónov eur s ďalšími rizikami. Tunel bude stáť 278 miliónov eur, ale ochráni sa ním príroda a trasa bude kratšia.

### O prácu v automobilke Jaguar Land Rover sa uchádza 43.653 ľudí

O prácu v nitrianskom závode automobilky Jaguar Land Rover (JLR) sa uchádza vyše 40.000 ľudí. Záujemcovia sa môžu o prácu v novej automobilke uchádzať cez registračný dotazník, ktorý spolu s investorom pripravilo Ústredie práce, sociálnych vecí a rodiny (ÚPSVR) SR. V dotazníku záujemcovia o prácu vyplňujú napríklad údaje o ich špecializácii, kvalifikácii, taktiež musia uviesť informácie o ich aktuálnom alebo poslednom zamestnaní. Vyplnené registračné dotazníky odchádzajú priamo automobilke. V nitrianskom závode by malo zamestnanie nájsť asi 2800 pracovníkov. Ako avizoval prevádzkový riaditeľ investície JLR Alexander Wortberg, výber budúcich zamestnancov plánuje automobilka odštartovať v budúcom roku.

### Štát otvorí na jeseň dvere zahraničným pracovníkom

Ministerstvo vnútra vypočulo volanie nespokojných firiem, zníži byrokraciu pri zamestnávaní cudzincov. Z novely ministerstva, ktorá začne platiť od novembra vyplýva, že príchod pracovníkov z tretích krajín bude jednoduchší. Ministerstvo informuje, že novela sa týka zamestnancov z krajín mimo Európskej únie. Medzi nimi sú pracovníci, ktorí sa dostanú na Slovensko vďaka vnútropodnikovým presunom. Ak pracovník medzinárodnej spoločnosti pochádzajúcej z tretej krajiny pracuje pred svojim príchodom v inej európskej krajine, kde si vybavil prechodný pobyt, nebude si ho už viac musieť vybavovať zvlášť na Slovensko.

### La Manche pokoril za 15,5 hodiny!

Lekár internej kliniky v Martine František Nehaj (28) pokoril ako piaty Slovák v histórii slávny Lamanšský prieliv. Prieliv v Atlantickom oceáne medzi Francúzskom a Britániou zvládol v takmer dvojmetrových vlnách. Kysučan sa na plavbu vydal 31. júla tohto roku, v deň narodenín svojej priateľky Marianny, s ktorou je už tri roky. Pre rôzne prekážky bol nútený plávať esovite a namiesto 34 kilometrov zdolal 45 kilometrov za 15,29 hod. Po dramatickej plavbe bol František Nehaj úplne vyčerpaný, poriadne sa však zapotila i jeho posádka.

### Výber zo slovenskej tlače



FOTO TASR - Martin Baumann

Na snímke zľava štátny tajomník ministerstva kultúry ČR Patrik Košický, primátorka mesta Praha Adriana Krnáčová, veľvyslanec SR v ČR Peter Weiss, minister kultúry SR Marek Maďarič a riaditeľ Slovenského inštitútu v Prahe Vladimír Valovič pri príležitosti otvorenia nových priestorov Slovenského inštitútu na Námestí republiky 3 v Prahe 22. augusta 2016.

On August 22, 2016, the Czech and Slovak governments officially opened new space for the Slovak Institute in Prague. Marking the occasion are L-R Secretary of the Ministry of Culture for the Czech Republic Patrik Kosický, Prague Mayor Adriana Krnacova, Slovak Ambassador to the Czech Republic Peter Weiss, Slovak Minister of Culture Marek Madaric and Director of the Slovak Institute in Prague Vladimír Valovic.

## Minister Marek Maďarič otvoril v Prahe nové priestory Slovenského inštitútu

Minister kultúry Slovenskej republiky Marek Maďarič a námestník ministra kultúry Českej republiky Patrik Košický za prítomnosti veľvyslancu Slovenskej republiky v Českej republike Petra Weiss a primátorky hlavného mesta Praha Adriany Krnáčovej 22. augusta popoludní slávnostne otvorili nové priestory Slovenského inštitútu na Námestí republiky 3 v Prahe.

V úvode oficiálneho otvorenia zaspieval operný spevák Miroslav Dvorský hymny oboch štátov, v ďalšej časti programu pridal aj pieseň Gejzu Dusíka Pieseň o rodnej zemi, taliansku pieseň Ernesta De Curtisa Non Non ti scordar di me a spevák Karel Štědrý uviedol zmes piesní z éry divadla Semafor. Zároveň v nových priestoroch bola otvorená aj výstava Stretnutie – výber zo súčasného slovenského umenia. „Vzťahy sú vynikajúce aj kultúrna výmena je celkom prirodzená. Ale predsa, sme už dva rozdielne štáty a je našou povinnosťou si vzájomné vzťahy ošetrovať. V dobrých časoch sú priatelia fajn, a v tých horších – a tie sú dnes často sa opakujúce – potrebujeme dobrých spojencov a kultúra má dnes vytvárať hlboké priateľstvá a spojenectvá. Preto sa musíme starať o to, aby slovenská kultúra pôsobila v Čechách a o to viac, že tu je naša kultúra zrozumiteľná. Myslím si, že naši umelci a naše kultúrne podujatia tu zažívajú reálnu spätnú väzbu, a potom sa obohacujú aj českou kultúrou. Mimochoodom, musím aj povedať, že tu bol pekný krátky kultúrny program, ktorý mi napovedal, že ani český ani slovenský hlas sa v Európskej únii nestraťtia,“ uviedol minister Marek Maďarič.

Cieľom Slovenského inštitútu je prezentovať jedinečnú slovenskú kultúru českej verejnosti a upevňovať kultúrne a spoločenské vzťahy medzi oboma národmi. Prezentácia slovenskej kultúry a umenia v Českej republike prebieha v súlade s prioritami kultúrnej diplomacie Slovenskej republiky s prihliadnutím na významné výročia a udalosti. Rámcové projekty inštitútu ponúknu prehliadku slovenského divadla v Prahe aj prezentáciu filmovej dokumentárnej aj hranej tvorby súčasných filmových tvorcov.

TASR



FOTO: TASR

Predseda strany SMER - SD Robert Fico (v strede), predseda Slovenskej národnej strany Andrej Danko (vľavo) a predseda strany Most-Híd Béla Bugár (vpravo) podpísali na Bratislavskom hrade novú Koaličnú dohodu. Z doterajšej štvorkoalície po necelých šiestich mesiacoch vypadla strana #Siet', ktorá prišla o väčšinu poslancov. V Bratislave 1. septembra 2016.

## Oznámenia spolkov a spoločenské podujatia

### 39. slovenský festival v New Jersey, v nedeľu 2. októbra

Populárny Festival slovenského dedičstva v NJ sa bude konať v nedeľu, **2. októbra 2016** v Mercer County parku vo West Windsor, N.J. v blízkosti exitu 8 na NJ Turnpike. Ako po iné roky, program bude bohatý a pestrý. Vystúpi v ňom aj na Slovensku veľmi populárna speváčka Katarína Knechtová so svojim súborom. Znova sa predstaví aj newyorský súbor Limbora, ktorý tohto roku oslavuje 50. výročie svojej existencie. Ďalej je na programe aj tradičná prehliadka krojov a výstupy detí zo slovenských škôl. Športovo naladení návštevníci budú môcť sledovať futbalový turnaj o Pohár festivalu a deti sa môžu pobaviť na klzačkách a podobnom zariadení.

Park bude otvorený od 10. hod. kedy už budú pripravené výstavné a predajné stánky, vrátane potravínových. O 11. hodine budú katolícke bohoslužby a o 2. hod. sa začne varietný program na javisku. Očakávame aj významných hostí zo Slovenska.

Vstupné na festival je \$10 za osobu. Mládež do 15 rokov má vstup voľný.

### 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 Nep. (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 Krasulu č. 16

Oznamujeme všetkým členom Okresu Msgr. Štefana Krasulu 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 schôdzy: 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



Spoločná fotografia všetkých účastníkov na pikniku.

## Letný piknik spolku sv. Matúša č. 45 v Greenville, New York

Členovia spolku sv. Matúša č. 45 IKSJ v sobotu 20. augusta 2016 zorganizovali letný piknik pre všetkých členov, rodinných príslušníkov a hostí na pozemku Márii a Milana Zakoviča v Greenville, New York.

Za veľmi pekného slnečného počasia v krásnom prostredí pri chutne pripravených jedlách a nápojoch sme všetci spoločne strávili príjemné nedeľňajšie odpoľudnie.

Zlatým klincom programu bola oslava 50. výročia sobáša Márii a Milana Zakoviča, kde jej dcéra Ivetka a syn Janko s rodinou pripravili krásnu jubilejnú tortu.

Verím, že v peknej tradícii našich letných piknikoch spolku sv. Matúša č. 45 IKSJ budeme aj naďalej pokračovať na budúci rok.

Mária Jursi, pokladníčka



50. výročie sobáša Milana a Márii Zakovič v kruhu svojej rodiny dcéry Ivetky a syna Janka s rodinou.



Pútnici počas svätej omše

## Slovenská katolícka púť do West Haverstraw, NY

Pokračovanie zo str. 24

Na úvod púte v mene organizátorov privítala tajomníčka spolku, Henrieta H. Daitová kňazov a všetkých prítomných pútnikov. Slávnostnú svätú omšu odslúžil otec George Török za koncelebrácie hlavného farára Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého v N.Y.C., otca Rev. Richarda D. Bakera.

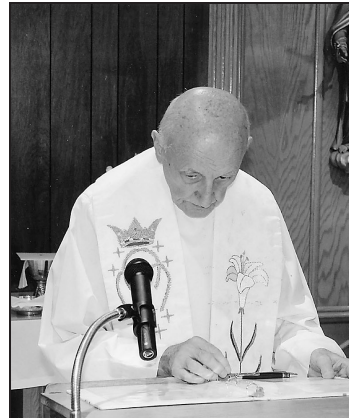
Slávnostnú svätú omšu umocňovali spevy, pod vedením organistu Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého, Rada Lesaya.

Po svätej omši sa podával v Areáli Marian Shrine veľmi dobrý obed, ktorý pripravila Veronika Pachová za pomoci Márii Božekovej, manželov Bilikových, Karola Vidu a ostatných členov Spolku sv. Štefana.

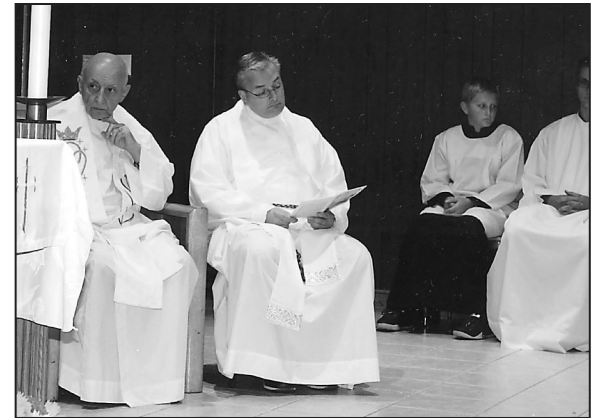
V závere púte sa konala Ružencová pobožnosť v kostole, ktorý bol vybudovaný v Areáli Marian Shrine, NY.

Touto cestou sa chceme poďakovať otcovi James Mc.Kenna S.D.B. z Marian Shrine, West Haverstraw, NY, ktorý nám pripravil miesta na služby Božie. Tiež kňazom: George Török, Msgr. Rev. Richard P. Baker. Lektorom: Henrieta H. Daitová, Jozefína Solotráková a Nina Holá a všetkým, ktorí sa akýmkoľvek spôsobom zaslúžili o pekný priebeh tohto podujatia. Pán Boh zaplať! Ochraňuj Matka Božia národ slovenský!

Henrieta H. Daitová  
tajomníčka Spolku 716 IKSJ



Otec George Török počas omše.



Zľava otec George Török a otec Rev. Richard D. Baker.



## Oslavy ku Dňu Ústavy a Ozbroyených síl SR

Podujatie ku Dňu Ústavy a Ozbroyených síl SR. Na pôde Zastupiteľského úradu SR vo Washingtone sa 1. septembra 2016 konala recepcia ku Dňu Ústavy a Ozbroyených síl SR na ktorej bolo prítomných viac ako 300 hostí – predstaviteľov vládnych inštitúcií, Ministerstva obrany USA, civilného a vojenského diplomatického zboru, zástupcov amerických firiem, a vybraných hostí z krajankej komunity.

Štátna recepcia bola otvorená zaspievaním slovenskej a americkej hymny v podaní slovenského interpreta Jozefa Ivašku. Slovenský veľvyslanec Peter Kmec v príhovore vyzdvihol prvé slovenské predsedníctvo v Rade Európskej únie a výzvy, ktoré pre SR predsedníctvo prináša (migrácia, energetická bezpečnosť). Podčiarkol úspechy, ktoré dosiahla SR od jej vzniku v politickej, ekonomickej oblasti a v inováciách. Ministerstvo zahraničných vecí USA bolo zastúpené zástupcom námestníka ministra zahraničných vecí Hoytom Yee, ktorý vo svojom príhovore ocenil cestu Slovenska k demokracii a podčiarkol vynikajúce bilaterálne vzťahy medzi USA a SR. Súčasťou osláv bolo aj slávnostné otvorenie výstavy J. Horečného „Čičmianske domy“ pri príležitosti predsedníctva SR v Rade EÚ. J. Horečný sa venuje fotografii od polovice sedemdesiatych rokov. Autora výstavy zaujal detailisticko-dekoratívny a konštruktivistický pohľad na jednotlivé domy, ktoré nesú prvky ojedinelého ornamentu. Súčasťou výstavy sú aj fotografie prírody okolia severného Slovenska. Výstava bude sprístupnená verejnosti do konca decembra 2016.

MZV SR



## Na Slovensku A. Maťašová oslávila vzácne životné jubileum

Dlhoročná členka Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty, pani Anna Maťašová oslávila 12. júna 2016 na Slovensku svoje krásne životné jubileum 85 rokov života. Pri tejto príležitosti sa zišli na oslave dcéry s rodinami a priatelia.

Slávnostnú svätú omšu za zdravie a Božie požehnanie Anny odslúžil duchovný otec Križalkovič v kostole Ružencovej Panny Márie v Lekárovcich na Slovensku. Posedenie sa uskutočnilo v restaurácii Družba v Michaloviach.

Prekvapením pre drahú oslávenkyňu bola jej obľúbená pieseň cez rádio Lumen od vnučky Sabinky, ktorá sa babičke poďakovala za výchovu a starostlivosť, počas jej pobytu v USA. Chvilku ticha sme si pripomenuli aj 3. výročie úmrtia nášho drahého otecka, dedka a pradedka Michaela Maťaša. Dobrá nálada pokračovala až do večerných hodín. Nechýbali vrele vinše so želaním dobrého zdravia, šťastia a Božieho požehnanie! Pozvanie prijal aj dlhoročný rodinný priateľ kaplán Tomáš Muzska.

Drahá mamička, prajeme Vám toľko šťastia a radosti, koľko sa len dá, nech na Vašej tvári žiaria iba slzy šťastia a nie smútku, a nech Vás Panna Mária, ku ktorej sa denne utiekate, chráni na každom kroku! Všetko najlepšie do ďalších rokov života, pokojnú starobu a hojne božích milostí, Vám zo srdca vyprosujú dcéry s rodinami, vnúčatá a pravnúčatá! Živio!!!

Emília Fiľak, dcéra oslávenkyne  
Spolok č. 746 IKSJ



Oslávenkyňa, Anna Maťašová



Sediaca Anna Maťaš v prítomnosti svojich vnúčat a pravnúčat.



Na snímke Anna Maťaš (v prostriedku) obklopená so svojimi dcérami Ružena Lorincová (zľava) a Emília Fiľak (sprava).



## Partnerské mestá predstavil Deň európskej kultúry

Kultúru a umenie partnerských miest Žiliny v Českej republike, Poľsku, Srbsku a Belgicku predstavil začiatkom augusta na Mariánskom námestí v Žiline Deň európskej kultúry, ktorého súčasťou bola ochutnávka tradičných jedál partnerských krajín.

Podľa primátora Žiliny Igora Chomu sa úroveň podujatia každý rok zvyšuje. "Svedčí o tom aj stále väčšia účasť partnerských miest, ktorých máme dohromady trinásť a dnes ich tu máme sedem. Záujem tu je, spolupráca s partnerskými mestami funguje veľmi dobre a partneri majú záujem prísť do Žiliny. Stretávame sa, aby sme odkomunikovali spoluprácu. Aby sa spoznali aj naše partnerské mestá navzájom, pretože aj tam môžu potom vzniknúť kontakty a partnerstvá," povedal Choma.

Zástupkyňa starostu mestskej časti Praha 15 Jitka Kolářová doplnila, že Deň kultúry v Žiline je nielen o stretnutí partnerských miest, ale aj o ľuďoch a kultúre. "So Žilinou, respektíve Slovenskom máme k sebe veľmi blízko. Som šťastná, že priateľstvo, ktoré sa začalo dávno pred rokmi, je udržiavané do týchto čias. A nielen tí, ktorí si pamätajú, keď sme ešte boli Československo, ale i mladí, ktorí s nami pricestovali, tancujú, spievajú. Myslím si, že je to perfektné a je to krásna spolupráca," podotkla Kolářová.

Deň európskej kultúry ponúkol návštevníkom vystúpenia súborov z partnerských miest - Dychového orchestra Junior, Tanečného krúžku Aktivní senioři, TK Calipso Praha, Akuma, Kikindski tamburaški orkestar, Damian Luber Quartet, Noemiracles a Jazz Kvintet Plzeň.

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## Nové pravidlá pri nákupe tovarov z Ameriky či Ázie Slovákov neodradili

Viac ako tri mesiace platia nové pravidlá pri nákupe zásielok z Ameriky alebo Ázie. Slovákov to však podľa hovorkyne finančnej správy Patrície Macíkovej neodradilo. „Práve naopak, žilinskí colníci majú medziročne takmer o 50 % zásielok viac,“ vyčíslila Macíková.

Od mája tohto roku totiž vstúpil do platnosti nový Colný kódex únie. Priniesol novinky najmä pre vývozcov a dovozcov tovarov, ale jedna sa podľa Macíkovej dotkla aj občanov. „Ak si z krajín mimo európskeho spoločenstva objedávajú zásielky v hodnote nad 150 eur, mali by podávať colné vyhlásenie,“ opisala. Toto ale platí pri zásielkach doručovaných prostredníctvom súkromných kuriérskych služieb. Ak si ale ľudia objednávajú doručenie zásielok prostredníctvom klasickej pošty, povinnosť podávať colné vyhlásenie sa nevzťahuje na zásielky v hodnote do 1000 eur.

Najväčšie vylievacie pošty sú podľa jej slov v Bratislave, Košiciach a v Žiline. Pobočka v Žiline pritom zaznamenala stúpajúci trend v počte zásielok. „Kým za prvý polrok 2015 vybavili 497.272 zásielok, za rovnaké obdobie tohto roka ich bolo 731.548. Znamená to nárast až o 47 %,“ priblížila Macíková. V Bratislave počet zásielok podľa jej slov od mája oproti začiatku roku v priemere o takmer 10 % a takmer rovnaký nárast hlásia aj Košice.

TASR

## Pápež František vo Vatikáne vyhlásil Matku Terezu z Kalkaty za svätú



Na snímke pápež František prechádza okolo portréty Matky Terezy počas odchodu z jej svätorečenia na vatikánskom Námestí sv. Petra 4. septembra 2016. Svätorečenie zapadá do línie Svätého roku milosrdenstva, ktorý pápež František vyhlásil na tento rok. Matka Tereza je symbolom angažovanosti za chudobných. (FOTO TASR/AP)

*Sisters of the Missionaries of Charity greet Pope Francis during a Canonization Mass for Mother Teresa, in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican, Sunday, Sept. 4, 2016. Francis declared Mother Teresa a saint on Sunday, honoring the tiny nun for having taken in society's most unwanted and for having shamed world leaders for the „crimes of poverty they themselves created.“*

(AP Photo/Alessandra Tarantino)

## Národný park Podunajsko môže vzniknúť aj na území Bratislavy

V Bratislave môže vzniknúť nový národný park. Jeho vznik iniciuje okrem ochranárov aj Bratislavský samosprávny kraj (BSK). Zvýšený stupeň ochrany pôvodných lužných lesov na brehoch Dunaja môže priniesť pozitíva mestským častiam aj ich obyvateľom.

Hlavným zmyslom vytvorenia parku je súlad ochrany prírody s rozširovaním rekreačného zázemia mesta. Bratislave je tak vzorom Viedne, ktorá už na svojom území národný park vytvorila ako prvé európske mesto. „Rekreačné zóny ako hrádza sú preťažené a nie je od nich kam uniknúť. V Bratislave by sme pre miestnych vytvorili vstupné body do národného parku. Tie by slúžili aj ako informačné centrá,“ opisala hlavná architektka Bratislavy Ingrid Konrad.

Vytvorenie Národného parku Podunajsko a s ním spojený zvýšený stupeň ochrany by tiež chránil mesto pred povodňami. „Chránené územia tvoria prirodzenú absorpčnú časť pre vysoké povodňové prietoky. Povodňová voda sa na nich môže rozlievať a nezaplaví mesto,“ vysvetlil Andrej Kovarik zo Štátnej ochrany prírody SR. Zvýšená ochrana by podľa Kovarika prospela aj miestnej faune.

Lužné lesy tiež slúžia ako zdroje pitnej vody.

Národný park by tiež mohol pozitívne pôsobiť na klímu mesta, a to najmä v letných horúčavách. „Dunaj a zóny lužného lesa hrajú dôležitú rolu ako prirodzená klimatizácia hlavného mesta v čase otepľovania,“ vysvetlila Konrad. „To, že na území Bratislavy máme nejaké lužné lesy, pre nás nie je vôbec samozrejmé. Je to výsledkom dlhoročnej práce ochranárov a dobrovoľníkov,“ uzavrel Jaromír Šíbl z Klubu stráže prírody.

TASR

## Neformálny summit EÚ v Bratislave

Neformálny summit EÚ v Bratislave, ktorý sa bude konať 16. septembra, prichádza vo veľmi zložitom období pre Európu a Bratislava je vhodné miesto na naštartovanie procesu sebareflexie pre lídrov Európskej únie. Uviedol to predseda Európskej rady Donald Tusk po privítaní slovenského premiéra Roberta Fica v budove tejto inštitúcie a pred rokovaniami zameranými na prípravu neformálnych rokovaní 27 lídrov EÚ. Tusk na úvod upozornil, že je rád, že Bratislava sa stane skutočným hlavným mestom Európy, aj keď iba na jeden deň, počas konania summitu. Priznal, že príprava neformálnych rokovaní 27 lídrov únie je "ozajstnou výzvou nielen pre premiéra Fica, ale aj pre nás všetkých".

"Stretnutie sa uskutoční vo veľmi kritickom období pre Európu. Je tu migračná kríza, politické dôsledky brexitu a séria obáv a hrozieb, jednoducho povedané, ľudia na Slovensku, v Poľsku, Belgicku a všade v Európe očakávajú, že EÚ po Bratislave bude garantom stability, bezpečnosti a ochrany,“ uviedol Tusk pred slovenskými novinármi.

Zároveň zdôraznil, že pod pojmom ochrana myslí ochranu v tom najširšom zmysle vrátane sociálnej a ekonomickej ochrany.

"Poznajúc dobre Slovákov a premiéra Fica som si istý, že Bratislava je tým najlepším miestom na naštartovanie tohto procesu sebareflexie,“ uzavrel Tusk.

TASR

O. Štefan Furdek  
Náš zakladateľ

Mons. Edward M. Deliman

## Nový biskup slovenského pôvodu v USA

Dňa 18. augusta 2016 sa stal ďalším biskupom slovenského pôvodu v USA Mons. Edward M. Deliman, farár farnosti sv. Karla Boromea vo Philadelphii, PA. Slávnostnú vysviacku vykonal arcibiskup Charles Chaput, O.F.M. v katedrále-bazilike sv. Petra a Pavla vo Philadelphii, Pennsylvánia.

Biskup Deliman sa narodil v Lorain, Ohio 4. marca 1947. Jeho matka slovenského pôvodu Margaret Rackish sa tam vydala za Edwarda Delimana st. Biskup Deliman absolvoval kňazské štúdiá v Seminári Sv. Karla Boromea vo Philadelphii. Za kňaza bol vysvätený v r. 1973. Pastoračnú činnosť konal najviac v španielskych komunitách a začas pôsobil aj v Portoriku. Pápež Ján Pavol II mu udelil titul monsignora v roku 1991. Za biskupa bol menovaný 31. marca 2016.

## Delegáciu Slovenska na 71. Valnom zhromaždení OSN v New Yorku povedie prezident

Delegáciu Slovenska na 71. zasadnutí Valného zhromaždenia OSN povedie prezident SR Andrej Kiska. O návrhu účasti delegácie v auguste rokovala vláda, ktorá odsúhlasila, že zástupcami Kisku v New Yorku budú minister zahraničných vecí Miroslav Lajčák a stály predstaviteľ SR pri OSN František Ružička.

Nadchádzajúce Valné zhromaždenie OSN bude otvorené v sídle OSN v New Yorku 13. septembra. Podľa ministerstva zahraničia sa počas neho očakáva intenzifikácia aktivít reflektujúcich minuloročné hodnotiace procesy týkajúce sa mierových operácií OSN, budovania mieru a úlohy žien v procese udržiavania mieru a bezpečnosti. Rezort diplomacie predpokladá nárast implementačného úsilia v kontexte prijatia viacerých globálnych dohôd, predovšetkým v rozvojovej oblasti a oblasti boja proti zmene klímy.

Účasť na Valnom zhromaždení OSN má byť aj dobrou príležitosťou na získanie podpory členských krajín OSN pre kandidatúry Slovenska v hlavných orgánoch celosvetovej organizácie. SR predložila kandidatúru na post generálneho tajomníka OSN, uchádza sa o miesto v Rade OSN pre ľudské práva a nestále členstvo v Bezpečnostnej rade OSN na roky 2028 až 2029.

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## Slovenská katolícka púť do West Haverstraw, NY



Na snímke zhromaždení pútnici v nedeľu 14. augusta 2016 v rámci Slovenskej katolíckej púte do Marian Shrine vo West Haverstraw, NY.

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

Panna Mária, ktorá bola do neba vzatá nás pútnikov privítala krásnym slnečným počasím na Slovenskej katolíckej púti, ktorú tradične poriadal Spolok sv. Štefana číslo 716 Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty v nedeľu 14. augusta 2016 v Marian Shrine West Haverstraw, New York. Tejto oslavy Matky Božej sa zúčastnilo približne 80 pútnikov z New Yorku, New Jersey, Connecticut a Pennsylvánie.

(Pokračovanie na str. 22)

## Kerry zagrataloval Slovensku k výročiu prijatia ústavy

Americký minister zahraničných vecí John Kerry zagrataloval v mene prezidenta USA Baracka Obamu a amerického ľudu Slovenskej republike k 24. výročiu prijatia ústavy, ktoré pripadá na štvrtok 1. septembra. Kerryho vyhlásenie zverejnili na oficiálnej webovej stránke rezortu diplomacie USA.

Spojené štáty a Slovensko sa tešia pevným bilaterálnym vzťahom založeným na spoločných záujmoch a hodnotách. Slovenská republika ako aktuálne predsedajúca krajina Rady Európskej únie dokazuje svoje regionálne vedenie, úctu voči právnemu poriadku a záväzky voči euroatlantickej integrácii, uvádza Washington.

„Prínos Slovenska do NATO odráža ducha a ideály transatlantickej jednoty a spoločné demokratické hodnoty. USA budú pokračovať v spolupráci so Slovenskom v oblasti riešenia medzinárodných otázok a posilňovania bezpečnosti a prosperity v Európe, ako aj v celom svete,“ uvádza sa vo vyhlásení.

Spojené štáty zostávajú stabilným priateľom a partnerom Slovenska. Kerry pri príležitosti výročia prijatia slovenskej ústavy zaželel obyvateľom Slovenskej republiky všetko najlepšie do ďalšieho roka.



John Kerry

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