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September Honors Mary Our Mother of Sorrows

By Sister Maria Theresa Hronec, SS.C.M.



Our Mother of Sorrows, depicted as "Mater Dolorosa," shows Mary alone with a tearful and anguished expression. It is one of three common artistic representation of a sorrowful Virgin Mary in Marian art. The other two are the Stabat Mater depicting Mary at the Cross and the Pieta depicting the body of Jesus on Mary's lap after the Crucifixion.

On September 15th, we honored God's mother and ours as we recall the seven deep sorrows she endured. She was chosen by her Son and graced as His pure and sinless mother. Yes, "With God all things are possible (Mt 19:26)." In his plan, Mary was immaculately prepared, body and soul, to enshrine the Son of God within her womb. Even John the Baptist recognized the Lord and leapt for joy when Mary visited his mother, Elizabeth (Lk 1:41).

Yet, Mary, so gloriously gifted and filled with profound joy, was not spared the excruciating pain of seeing her Son Maligned, tortured and killed in her presence. She could truly say, "A mother should not have to bury her child." This overwhelming sorrow links her uniquely to use in our humanity.

Christ himself, before He died on the cross, placed his mother in to the care of the Apostle John as both his mother and ours. As she experienced the death of her only child, she was now to enlarge her heart and share her love with a world of God's children. How grateful we are to have such a loving, compassionate mother. In particular, as a Slovak nation, we are grateful that the Mother of Sorrows was declared Patroness of Slovakia by Pope Pius XI, in 1927.

Singing the hymn, Bells of Shastin, we travel in spirit as pilgrims to the revered Basilica of our Mother of Sorrows. Just as the bells resound throughout the countryside, our fervent prayers soar joyfully and trustingly to Mary. As our mother she understands our struggles

and sorrows and obtains for us all the blessings we need.

Editor's note: please see page 3 for the hymn *Tie Šaštinske Zvony (Bells of Shastin)* and its English translation, courtesy of Sister Hronec.

Year of Faith: Sacred Liturgy, Part I

Dear Friends,



Rev. Thomas Nasta

The first two documents from the Second Vatican Council were promulgated by Pope Paul VI on December 4, 1963. These documents are the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy (Sacrosanctum concilium) and the Decree on the Media of the Social Communications (Inter mirifica). A summary of the former document begins today and will continue for the next four issues of the Jednota. A summary of the second document will follow.

The first area of concentration the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy undertakes is the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. The teachings given here center on the manner in which Jesus is present at every Mass, the supreme rank the celebration of Mass has over all other celebrations, and the power contained in every Mass.

The Church has always believed that Jesus is really and truly present at Mass after the host and wine are consecrated and become the Body and Blood of Christ. This teaching is affirmed, but the Council also teaches that Christ is present in other means. Jesus is present at every Mass in the person of the priest who is the celebrant of the Mass. This is true most especially when the priest says the words of Institution. At that time, he does not say, "This is the Body of Jesus, or "This is the Blood of Jesus." Instead, he says, "This is my body." "This is my blood."

Jesus is present when the word of God is proclaimed during the Liturgy. This is why the ambo (sometimes known as the pulpit) is located in a special place of honor in a church. The ambo is to be used only for the proclamation of God's word, the preaching of God's word

continued on page 4



Who Needs Life Insurance? As it Turns Out, Just About Everyone.

September, as Life Insurance Awareness Month, once again serves as a golden opportunity to take a good look at one of most under-appreciated ways to provide cash to your loved ones after your death. This cash – know as the death benefit in a life insurance policy – can help the ones who mean the most to you meet many important financial needs in your wake. What's more, there is no federal income tax on life insurance benefits.

While all that sounds good, life insurance is not necessarily a priority among today's households. The non-profit LIFE Foundation reports that just two percent of Americans say they plan to purchase life insurance within the next 30 days. Perhaps you are among the millions who put off buying life insurance, thinking your particular situation doesn't warrant taking swift action to obtain or upgrade a policy. The reality is, no matter where you are in life – whether you're young or old, married or single, have children or don't – it is critical to those you love to consider how insurance might fit into your financial plans right now.



Andrew R. Harcar Sr.

You're Married



Buying insurance helps avoid this potential problem.

When you're married, you share everything with your significant other, including your financial obligations. Many people mistakenly believe that they don't need to think about life insurance until they have children. Not true. What if one of you died tomorrow? Even with the surviving spouse's income, would that person have the ability to pay off debts like credit-card balances and car loans, let alone cover the monthly rent and utility bills?

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Chewy Learns All About "The Father of The Slovaks,"

Our Own Father Stephen Furedek. For details, see page 6 of this issue



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Insights and Viewpoints



St. Vincent Archabbey — Homilies, Father Demetrius R. Dumm O.S.B., Father Campion P. Gavaler O.S.B.

September 30, 2012

Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Gospel Summary

Mark's gospel is noted for its use of plain and blunt language and today's gospel passage is a good example of that. John and his brother James were called "sons of thunder" (Mark 3:17) because of their impulsive natures and this is manifested here again

when John wishes to stop those outsiders who are using Jesus' name in their exorcisms. Jesus, however, rebukes John with the reminder that he is here to love and to heal; he is not interested in copyrights or credits.

Jesus then speaks forcefully about what really constitutes sinfulness and where one's passion should come into play. It is scandal that should arouse our indignation. This means taking advantage of vulnerable people who can so easily be exploited when they should be protected and assisted. These are obviously children but all vulnerable persons of whatever age are included. This is where real sinfulness lies and the punishment is swift and severe. Gehenna was the place where Jerusalem's trash was deposited. It was usually smoldering and was infested by all sorts of vermin. It was certainly not where one would hope to end up.

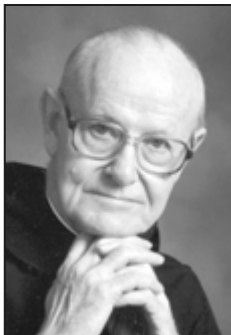
Life Implications

The failure to distinguish between major and minor sinfulness is a special danger in the way in which we organize our priorities in life. It is all too easy to be more concerned about appearances and reputation than about the far greater sinfulness of racism or sexism or other kinds of deep-seated prejudice.

All religions have a tendency to claim exclusive control of the avenues of salvation. But God is surely free to work outside of our familiar religious structures also. This doesn't mean that such structures are unnecessary or unimportant. It does mean that we should work in genuine humility to make our own religious structures as open as possible to the saving power of God.

Scandal is often thought to be behavior that shocks people by departing from traditional patterns. The emphasis is placed on the exceptional nature of the scandalous person's actions. We see in today's gospel that this is not what Jesus meant by scandal. For him, scandal occurs when we use actions or words to mislead and deceive those who are not able to understand what is happening. Thus, a person who holds a position of trust can easily take advantage of those who rely on his or her authority or influence. This is so sinful because it destroys the very fabric of trust, which makes community life possible.

In a certain sense, one can also scandalize oneself by pursuing limited goals and thus endangering the real purpose of life. It is not wrong to seek wealth or power or knowledge but all these goals must be made subordinate to the goal of eternal life. In other words, they must be placed under the control of unselfish love. Otherwise, the "eye" or the "hand" can become more important than life itself, with disastrous consequences. The language here seems harsh because so much is at stake. Actually, it means exactly what is intended by the frequent gospel references to gaining one's life in this world but losing it forever.



Demetrius R. Dumm
O.S.B.

October 7, 2012

Mark 10:2-16

Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Gospel Summary

Some Pharisees, wanting to involve Jesus in current controversies about divorce, ask him whether it is lawful for a husband to divorce his wife. Jesus replies that only because of the hardness of the human heart, Moses permitted a husband to write a bill of divorce and dismiss his wife. At the beginning, however, God created humans, male and female, to be joined together as one in marriage. Jesus says that what God has joined together, a man cannot separate by writing a bill of divorce. And if he attempts to do so and marries another woman after dismissing his wife, he commits adultery.

People were bringing children to Jesus so that he might touch and bless them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this, he became indignant and said that the kingdom of God belongs to such as these children. And furthermore, whoever does not accept the kingdom of God like a child will not enter it. Then he embraced the children and blessed them.

Life Implications

If we do not hear a homily as good news leading to thanksgiving and hope, it means that we are missing something essential in the text or context of the gospel passage. In the present passage, the point is not that Jesus is making a more severe law about marriage, but that he is continuing to proclaim the good news of God's kingdom. This central proclamation of Jesus' mission means the possibility of a new kind of human existence for those who accept God's reign, including men and women who enter marriage. To suggest what the experience of God's reign in marriage would be like, Jesus recalls God's dream of how a man and woman could live together as one in a beautiful garden created for their delight.

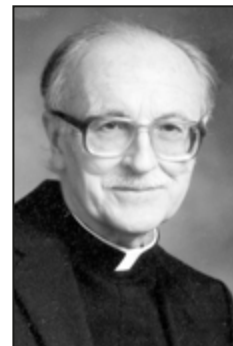
Today against the background of tragic divorce statistics and the feeling among many that marriage is only a human, social construction to be defined anyway we please, the saying of Jesus about Garden-of-Eden marriage sounds like an impossible dream. Jesus indicates that in our fallen state, it is an impossible dream. The kingdom he promises is a free, divine gift as much as the original kingdom at the beginning of creation. Only those enter who come and accept God's gift like a child.

Our gospel passage today may be experienced as good news if we follow the lead of Jesus by praying for a deeper awareness and trust that God creates us for love and happiness. The Genesis story of creation that Jesus refers to tells us of the wonderful harmony that God intended for men and women to enjoy as equal partners in marriage. The text of Genesis does not describe their delight when the man and woman discovered that they were suitable partners for each other, except that they were "both naked, yet felt no shame" (Gn 2:25).

A small book of the Bible, the Song of Songs, is a lyrical love poem that completes the story begun in Genesis, and thus gives us a deeper sense of God's intention in creating human beings capable of enduring love. In the Song we have a description of the beauties of their bodies as the man and woman discover each other. We also have a description of the unspoiled beauties of nature, fresh from the hand of the Creator: roses, lilies, fig trees, cedars, palm trees, pomegranates, dates, honey, wine, gazelles, turtledoves, sheep, horses.

The innocently erotic images of the Song of Songs describing without shame the loving relationship of the young man and woman were soon extended to describe the marriage covenant of Israel with God, and later by Christians to describe the union of the Church with Christ. For the Jewish people, the Song came to be associated with the Passover feast; for Christians, the Song was used in the baptismal liturgy. Many saints have used the Song's images to describe the mystical experience of union with God.

God's creative love for us has not changed because we have eaten forbidden fruit and our hearts have become hardened. The good news that Jesus proclaims is that God's dream can become real again not only for men and women in marriage but for all of us. In Jesus' proclamation, the beginning-time of harmony and delight is also the hoped for end-time of God's reign, already present now for those who will accept it with childlike faith.



Campion P. Gavaler,
O.S.B.

NEWSPAPER DEADLINES

All copy is due by 4:30 P.M., THE MONDAY 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. 10	MONDAY, OCT. 1
WEDNESDAY, OCT. 24	MONDAY, OCT. 15
WEDNESDAY, NOV. 7	MONDAY OCT. 29

Correspondents who are announcing upcoming events should remember that the JEDNOTA is printed EVERY OTHER WEDNESDAY, and should take into account the extra time lost in the postal system. Therefore, please plan to have your announcements to us in ample time for them to be printed and received by the readership.

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September Honors Mary Our Mother of Sorrows

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Mary, surrounded by the Seven Sorrows. Photo by Georges Jansoone (JoJan) - Artwork by Adriaen Isenbrant (ca; 1490-1551); KMSKB, Brussel

Tie Šaštínske Zvony

1. Tie šaštínske zvony – k sebe nás volajú,
Patrónke Slovenska – poklonu vzdávajú.
Sedembolestná – Panna Mária,
tebe Slovenská – spieva krajina:
Tisíc ráz buď Zdravas, – oroduj vždy za nás!
2. Radostná chvíľa nám, – vždy vtedy nastáva,
keď Matka Šaštínska – zvonmi nás zvoláva.
Podme rodáci, ženy a panny,
milostivý chrám – tu je pred nami.
Radostne spievajme, – Máriu vítajme.
3. Šaštínsky chrám vzácnou – zdobený je perlou;
Patrónka Slovenska - tu si tróni s berlou.
Matka premilá – nášho národa,
oroduj za nás u svojho Syna!
Národ ťa zve, – volá, – vypros mu pokoja!
4. Vy, šaštínske zvony, – hlaholte slávnostne,
nech sa váš zvučný hlas – Slovenskom roznesie.
Zaznej radosťou – každá dedina, – slávou zajasaj – celá krajina!
Slovenský národ náš – ochraňuj v každý čas!

Bells of Shastin

1. Shastin bells ring your song, joyfully call us here;
Patroness of our land, we honor and revere.
Mother Sorrowful, hear our nation's praise.
Trusting in your care, now our prayers we raise.
Thousand times, "Hail," we pray, guide us in every way.
2. With joy we hear your voice, 'tis Mary's welcome-call.
Gladly we come, respond, hastening one and all,
To this wondrous place, children young and old,
This your glor'ous shrine, which we now behold.
Our Slovak nation sings, receive the thanks we bring.
3. Our Shastin shrine now glows with one majestic pearl –
Our Patroness who reigns, her royal throne endures.
Loving Mother/Queen, hear us as we come.
Lift our fervent prayers to your loving Son.
Our nation begs for peace, may your love never cease.
O Shastin bells peal forth, echo for all to hear.
4. Our prayerful hearts are glad, your hopeful sound is here.
Every hill and plain rings with joyous praise.
May each town resound with the song we raise.
O bless our land we pray, this day and every day.

Sister Maria Theresa Hronec, SS.C.M. ©2012

Learn More about FCSU Insurance & Annuity Products in October



The First Catholic Slovak Union Membership and Marketing Committee will hold sales seminars in October in Pennsylvania and New York for Districts 7 and 16, respectively.

These seminars are available to all you branch officers, district officers and recommenders interested in learning about insurance and annuity products. *Form a car pool and get involved in FCSU sales!*

Please be sure to make your reservations by calling Executive Secretary, Kenneth Arendt at 1-800-533-6682.

October Sales Seminars from the FCSU

District 7

Sunday, October 7, 2012 at
SS Cyril & Methodius Church
604 Graham Ave
Windber, Pennsylvania 15963

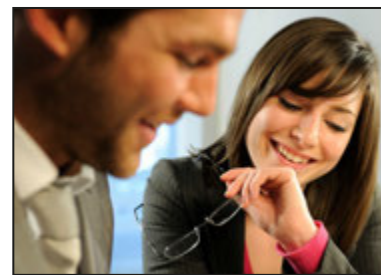
Meeting Time: 1:00PM

District 16

Sunday, October 21, 2012 at:
Church of St. John Nepomucene
411 East 66th Street at First Avenue
New York, New York 10121

Mass: 11:00 AM

Meeting Time: 1:00PM



**AN OPPORTUNITY FOR MEMBERS
of the
FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION
OF THE USA & CANADA**

QUESTION: - Are you currently a
Recommender for the FCSU?

or

- Are you a Member who would

like to represent the FCSU as a licensed agent?

OPPORTUNITY: The FCSU has a program to answer these questions.
Obtain a state insurance license to represent the FCSU.

HOW? The FCSU will pay you 1/2 (one half) of the cost to obtain a Life Insurance License in your state to represent the FCSU. This includes the cost of the License School and the license fee (the tuition and license fee varies by state).

RENEWALS: Based on productivity the FCSU will pay for 1/2 (one half) of the license renewal.

INTERESTED? Call 1-800-JEDNOTA and ask for Bob (ext. 116) or Andy (ext. 112).

FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

FCSU LIFE ANNUITY & IRA

INTEREST RATES EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 1, 2012

Eight Year Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity or IRA	3.75% APY
Six Year Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity or IRA's	3.50% APY
with the "Cash Interest" Option	3.25% APY
New six-year fixed rate Deferred Annuity or IRA	3.25% APY
New "Park 2 Annuity"	2.50% APY
New Park Free Plus Annuity or IRA—1st yr guarantee (new Park Free Plus maximum deposit \$25,000.00 PER PERSON)	2.15% APY
New Settlement Options are based on an interest rate of	3.00% APY

If you have any questions about our annuities or IRA's,
Please contact your local branch officer or the Home Office at 1-800-533-6682

Email: fcsu@aol.com

Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary



Who Needs Life Insurance?

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You're Married With Kids



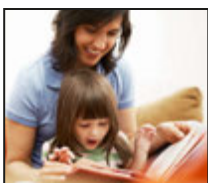
These days, most families depend on two incomes to make ends meet. If you died suddenly, could your family maintain their standard of living on your spouse's income alone, including such standard living expenses as the rent or mortgage, food, clothing, transportation costs, healthcare, etc? Against these on-going costs, could your surviving spouse have the money to pay for your final expenses like the funeral, medical bills, taxes, lawyer fees, etc? The answer to all is, sadly, probably not. Consider, too, that getting insurance for your children at an early age when the cost of a policy is at its most affordable and you have the peace of mind of knowing they are covered regardless of what the future holds. Life insurance is your assurance that all your family plans for the future don't die when you do.

You're a Single Parent



As a single parent, you're the caregiver, breadwinner, cook, chauffer, and so much more. Yet, according to the LIFE Foundation, nearly four in ten single parents have no life insurance whatsoever, and many with coverage say they need more than they have. With so much responsibility riding on your shoulders alone, you need to make doubly sure that you have enough life insurance to safeguard your children's financial future.

You're a Stay-at-Home Parent



Just because you don't earn a salary doesn't mean you don't make a financial contribution to your family. Childcare, transportation, cleaning, cooking and other household activities are all important tasks, the replacement value of which is often severely underestimated. Industry surveys have estimated the value of these services at over \$90,000 per year. Could your spouse afford to pay someone for these services? With life insurance, your family can afford to make the choices that best

preserve their quality of life.

You Have Grown Children, Grandchildren



As the years go by, you may feel your need for life insurance has passed. But just because the kids are through college and the mortgage is paid off doesn't necessarily mean that Social Security and your savings will take care of whatever lies ahead. If you passed today, your spouse will still be faced with daily living expenses. What if your spouse outlives you by 10 years – or even 30 years, which is certainly possible today? Without life insurance, would your financial plan enable your spouse to maintain the lifestyle you worked so hard to achieve? And would you be able to pass on something to your children or grandchildren?

You're Retired



Did you know that depending on the size of your estate, your heirs could be hit with a large estate tax payment after you die? The proceeds of a life insurance policy are payable immediately, allowing your spouse to take care of estate taxes, funeral costs, and other debts without having to hastily liquidate other assets, often at a fraction of their true value. And life insurance proceeds are generally income tax free and can be arranged to avoid probate. Finally, if your insurance

program is properly structured, the proceeds from your life insurance policy won't add to your estate tax liability.

You're a Small Business Owner



Besides taking care of your family, life insurance also can protect your business. What would happen to your business if you, one of your fellow owners, or perhaps a key employee, died tomorrow? Life insurance can help in a number of ways. For instance, a life insurance

policy can be structured to fund a "buy-sell" agreement. This would ensure that the remaining business owners have the funds to buy the company interests of a deceased owner at a previously agreed-upon price. That way, the owners get the business and the family gets the money. To protect a business in case of the death of a key employee, "key person insurance" that is payable to the company provides the owners with the financial flexibility needed to either hire a replacement or work out an alternative arrangement.

You're Single



Most single people don't need life insurance because no one depends on them financially, right? Not so fast. Consider the single person who provides financial support for aging parents or siblings. Then there are other singles that may be carrying significant debt they wouldn't want to pass on to family members who survive them. Insurability is another reason to consider life insurance when you're single. If you're young, healthy, and have a good family health history, your insurability is at its peak and you'll be rewarded with the best rates on life insurance. If you anticipate a need for life insurance down the road (for example, you're the marrying type) and you can fit the premiums into your budget, it might make sense to lock in coverage while you're young and single. Doing so can eliminate the worry of having to qualify for coverage when you're older and maybe not as healthy as you once were.

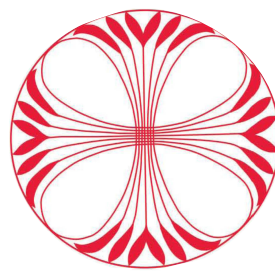
So – who needs life insurance? As it turns out, just about everyone. The death of a loved one is always a struggle. But the truth is, emotional struggles don't have to be compounded by financial difficulties. Life insurance helps make sure that the people you care about will be provided for financially, even if you're not there to care for them yourself.

Don't let another September, the official Life Insurance Awareness Month, pass you by without taking action to protect your loved ones. Find out more about the excellent insurance products available to you from the First Catholic Slovak Union <http://www.fcsu.com/insurance>. Contact your local branch today, or call the FCSU Home Office at 1-800-JEDNOTA.

Until next time, good luck and God Bless.

Andrew R. Harcar, Sr.
National Vice President

The Benedictine Monks of Saint Andrew Svorad Abbey 2012 Benefit



THE BENEDICTINE MONKS
PRESENT
ANDREW SVORAD
ABBAY
Benefit

The Benedictine Monks of Saint Andrew Svorad Abbey will host their annual Abbey Benefit on Sunday, November 4, 2012.

"Celebrating the 90th Year Anniversary of Our Foundation" is this year's theme. The benefit will celebrate the significant events marking the 90 years of service the Benedictine Monks have provided in the Cleveland area and throughout Ohio.

A Mass of thanksgiving will be offered at 12:15 p.m. at the Church of the Assumption, 9183 Broadview Road, Broadview Heights, OH 44147. A reception, banquet and program will follow at the Parish Center.

Entertainment will be provided by The John Pastirik Band – "The Slovak Polka King." Catering will be provided by Billy Hricovec of Tom's Country Place. The beautiful flower arrangements are donated by Orban's Flowers. There will be a silent Slovak Auction held after the main program. The benefit concludes around 4:00 p.m. with the Monks singing The Ultima.

Your support of our Abbey Benefit is a very important part of the monks' present and future ministry. Please join us in honoring our Monks for their many years of service. If you can not attend, a gift in their honor will be greatly appreciated.

The ticket price is \$65.00 with additional sponsorships available, including \$100.00 "Honor-a-Monk" contributions. For reservations and additional information please contact Rose Stiffar at Saint Andrew's Abbey at 216-721-5300 ext. 0 or Marie A. Golias at 216-228-8179. Please make **reservations by October 22, 2012.**

Year of Faith: Sacred Liturgy, Part I

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(homily) and for the reading of the petitions for the Prayer of the Faithful (now known in the Roman Missal as the Universal Prayer).

Finally, referring to the words of Jesus himself, who said, "Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there in their midst," Jesus is also present in the assembly at every Mass.

The Council teaches that every Mass is a sacred action that surpasses all others. No other action (for example, Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, devotional prayer, service to the community in the name of Jesus, etc.) has the same level of spiritual effect, nor can it be a substitute for the Mass. The Mass is the summit to which activity in the church directed and font from which all power flows.

The summary will continue in the next issue with the vision the Council had for the role of the laity at Mass and the liturgical texts.

Faternally,

Fr. Thomas A. Nasta, National Chaplain

Useful Websites

www.skonline.sk
www.travelguide.sk
kosice.region.sk
www.slovakia.org
www.vtaty.sk
www.tatry.net
www.hotel-net.sk
www.skonline.sk
www.kultura.sk
www.snm.sk
www.savba.sk
www.government.gov.sk
www.snd.sk
www.stv.sk
www.nbs.sk

Slovakia Travel Guide
Hotel and Spa Guide
Kosice-City Travel Guide
Bratislava-Information about the City
Useful Information about the High Tatras
Complete Information on Tatra Region
Tourist Accommodation
Slovakia On-Line (general information)
Slovak cultural calendar
Slovak National Museum
Slovak Academy of Sciences
Government of the Slovak Republic
Slovak National Theater
Slovak Television
National Bank of Slovakia

The FCSU at September Slovak Festival in Parma, OH

On Sunday, September 2, 2012, the Slovak Radio Club of Greater Cleveland held its Annual Slovak Festival at St. Anthony of Padua Church Hall in Parma, OH. The event ran from noon until 8:00PM and featured great Slovak food, beverages, pastries, and entertainment. Hundreds of attendees enjoyed music by the John Pastirik Band and the Frank Moravic Band for dancing and listening pleasure. A cultural program started at 3:00PM and featured performances by the Šarišan Slovak Folk Ensemble of Sterling Heights, MI, and the Lučinka Children's Slovak Folk Ensemble of Cleveland, OH. Šarišan, which recently won a prestigious competition to perform at the Detva Folklore Festival in Slovakia, July of 2013, is under the direction of Branch 743 Member Milan Straka. Lučinka is under the direction of Branch 228 Member Michele Mager. The First Catholic Slovak Union participated throughout the event in many ways - including National President Andrew M. Rajec, National Vice President Andrew R. Harcar, Sr., and Executive Secretary Kenneth A. Arendt who shared information about our Society's products, services and the benefits of membership with Festival attendees. And then there's our very own Chewy Čuvač who wouldn't have missed a great Slovak "party" for the world! The photos attest to the good time had by all!



Chewy poses with the entire cast of entertainers at the Slovak Festival, the amazing dancers of the Sarisan Slovak Folk Ensemble of Sterling Heights, MI and the Lucinka Children's Folk Ensemble of Cleveland, OH.



(L - R) Chewy, Branch 24 Member and Jednota Editor Teresa Ivanec, National President Andrew M. Rajec, Branch 855 Member and Home Office Staffer Barbara Sutula, National Vice President Andrew R. Harcar, Sr., and Executive Secretary Kenneth A. Arendt



(L - R) Branch 450 Vice President George Carny, National President Andrew M. Rajec, National Vice President Andrew R. Harcar, Sr., George Terbrek, Executive Secretary Kenneth A. Arendt, Chewy, and Slovak Radio Club Program Director Milan Kobulsky



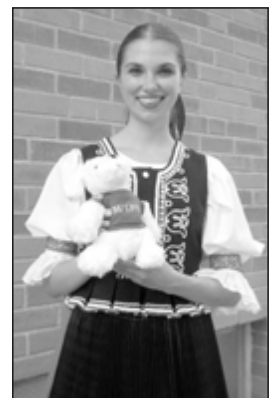
Branch 89 Members Mrs. Idka Rajec and Andrew P. Rajec with Chewy

Chewy samples some of the Slovak Festival's delicious Slovak dishes such as this potato pirohy.

★ CONGRATULATIONS! ★
Congratulations Joyce Stockman of Brunswick, OH!
 Winner of a \$50 gift card from the First Catholic Slovak Union. Thanks to all who stopped by the booth, visited us, and participated in the FCSU raffle held at the Slovak Festival. The winner was randomly drawn from all participants.



Branch 450 Member Frank Anderko, bears the Slovak flag during the entrance of entertainers to start the Slovak Festival program



Chewy poses with Sarisan dancer and Branch 743 Member Lauren Wietchy



(L - R) Branch 450 Vice President George Carny leads the assembly in singing the Slovak National Anthem, accompanied by Band Leader John Pastirik

Branch 1 Member and Slovak Radio Club First Vice President Joseph Oros relinquishes the American flag he bore as part of the program's opening ceremonies



Branch Publication Requirements: A Q & A Refresher with National Executive Secretary Kenneth A. Arendt



Kenneth Arendt

Editor's Note: As we move into the fall of 2012, I thought it would be a good idea to rerun an interview previously published in Jednota with our Executive Secretary Kenneth A. Arendt concerning branch requirements for publication in this newspaper. This is particularly critical for members who are assuming office for the first time, as well as the membership in general. Teresa Ivanec

TI: How often does a branch need to publish a meeting in Jednota to qualify for a branch stipend?

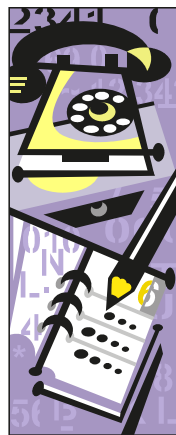
KA: Once. Local branches do need to conduct two semiannual meetings, one of which is for the election of officers, and submit the required paperwork to my attention at the FCSU Home Office by February 15th of the following year. But you only need to publish the announcement of each meeting one time in the *Jednota* during that same time period. This is in accordance with Section 4.05 of our Bylaws.

That said, I would encourage all of our members responsible for submitting their branch announcement to *Jednota* to publish it more than once, space permitting in the newspaper. This way your members have maximum advance notice of the meeting and can plan accordingly. This is especially important if your meeting requires reservations or a head count because you will be serving refreshments or a meal with the meeting. I also encourage you remember our website, which by its very nature can post information quickly and with as much (linked) information as possible about your branch meeting or other event. In general, when you submit a branch announcement to *Jednota* for publication, it also is simultaneously submitted for posting on our website. If an event is extremely time-sensitive and needs to be posted right away, contact me or our editor Teresa Ivanec at the Home Office and we will see that it gets posted immediately.

TI: So, to recap: branches never have to publish information about their meetings more than once in order to qualify for their stipend?

KA: Not for their regular stipend, no. But there is another circumstance when branches need to publish a meeting notification two times in the Official Organ. Election of delegates to convention

You can submit your branch announcements for publication in *Jednota* to the editor at FCSU Home Office by mail, fax, phone, or email



must be published twice in *Jednota* in order for the branch to send delegates to that upcoming convention. Many members will have Bylaw Section 11.04 fresh in their minds as we just completed a very successful 49th Quadrennial Convention in August of this year. But this is a requirement that only comes into effect only every four years, which is when our conventions are held.

TI: What information should be included a typical published branch announcement?

KA: The date, time and place of the meeting, and some idea of what will be on the agenda so attendees can come prepared – to listen, ask questions, or enjoy a nice meal or whatever is planned for that particular meeting. Often, members put in a branch contact (branch president or secretary) to call or email for more information, or if members need to reserve a place at the meeting in advance.

We have forms available in the home office for branches to use as a guide for submitting branch announcements for publication in *Jednota*. You can download them from our website at www.fcsu.com or by calling the home office and requesting a blank form.

TI: After the meeting is conducted, doesn't a local branch need to submit details of the meetings, such as reports, for publication in *Jednota*?

KA: No, we generally do not publish the details of a branch meeting. You do need to submit information about your meeting directly to me, as Executive Secretary, by February 15th of the following year. This information includes a branch annual report, a branch financial report, and a district-level report on branch attendance. All of the details about what each local branch needs to do in order to qualify for its branch stipend are listed in Bylaw Section 4.05.

And, of course, you have a question or concern about your branch requirements, please don't hesitate to call me at the home office.



Chewy Discovers FCSU Founder Father Furdek Also "Father of The Slovaks"

Hi, Kids (and all those Young at Heart)

It's me, Chewy.

I hear school's about to start for most of you guys here in America. I've been busy learning, too. Not in school, silly. Dogs don't go to school – well, if you don't count that doggie "boot camp" our Master at the Slovak homestead up in the High Tatras put me and my sibs through one insane week. Hey, it was so not fair that we got blamed for chasing the husi (Slovak for geese) into that pond. They started it!



Chewy greets visitors like Lukas Scally at the FCSU Home Office

As all of you my BFFs (or Best Friends Forever, as the cool kids here say) are aware, I've recently been on the road learning all about Slovaks and Slovak-Americans in excellent places like Pennsylvania, Ohio, Illinois, Indiana, and Wisconsin. I'm looking forward to traveling up to the New Jersey, New York area real soon, too. Those are like the very top spots Slovak immigrants settled in the US. Yea, lots of us came here in the early part of the twentieth century. Like a quarter of the population of Slovakia was in America by 1915. Crazy numbers, right,

but too true. And because I am here at the awesome Home Office of the First Catholic Slovak Union, I intensely wanted to learn more about our founder Father Stephen Furdek.

He's been uber famous in our family forever. He came from the same part of Slovakia as our village, which is in the outrageously excellent region of Orava. I'm talking high up in the mountains, where the living is beautiful and hard and we grow 'em tall and strong. My dad, a full grown čuvač who's over 100 lbs, told me the story about a young man he'd heard from his dad who heard it from his dad who visited our homestead in the late 1800s. He was good and kind to my great-great-grand's family and fed us table scraps and scratched our ears in all the right places. But that's not the reason we remember. We remember because of who he became.

The Father of the Slovaks Founded Us

I'm talking The Father of the Slovaks. Yep. That's what they eventually called him – not just in Cleveland, but throughout America, and around the world, all the way back to the homeland he loved. To think, here was this young guy fresh out of the seminary chosen to go to Cleveland, Ohio, America to help the Church there minister to the growing immigrant population. He did great. Actually, more than great. We're talkin' vyborne, people (Slovak for excellent). Can you imagine a 24 year old coming to an entirely new country, getting ordained and getting busy as a pastor right off the bat? But that's what our Father Furdek did. Vyborne to the max! So much so that the Bishop of Cleveland ordered him to organize the Czech parish Our Lady of Lourdes in Cleveland where he served until his death in 1915. And with all this going on, he still remembered his people. Us Slovaks. He sought out those there and did everything he could to help in every aspect of a good life - body and soul.

At the ripe old age of 26, he got together with the guy supposed to be the first Slovak in Cleveland – Jacob Gruss. The story goes that Pan (Slovak for Mister) Gruss came to Cleveland after telling an

agent at Ellis Island, New York, that he wanted to work "above ground" when the dude suggested the mines of Pennsylvania. "Ok, then," the dude said, "Try Cleveland. It's a new city with lots of factory jobs," or something like that. Having to start small didn't stop Father Furdek, though. In 1890, he and Pan Gruss and 10 other Slovaks formed the First Catholic Slovak Union. They founded it to help newly arrived immigrants adjust to life in America – gain their citizenship while also holding tight to their heritage and faith. Father Furdek became an advisor to the Bishop of the Cleveland Diocese and had a hand in helping had a hand in helping start new Slovak churches (five grew up in the time we was in Cleveland).

He also was real concerned about our people getting good places to live and be able to support their families and stuff. He petitioned for better housing, getting Slovaks in Cleveland to move from tenement rentals to neat little cottages of their own. He believed in better education; he even wrote readers for school children, among other books. He wanted Slovaks to be able to stand on their own four paws, so to speak, when it came to finances. So when no one was offering our hard-working people the chance to get insurance – even though they took just about the hardest jobs around with many, many risks to life and limb – he started organizing Slovaks fraternal for just that reason. Most especially, he founded the First Catholic Slovak Union (or FCSU) to make sure men, women and children were covered when tragedy struck. The fact that the FCSU is helping members all these years later protect themselves and their families with insurance and annuities is almost too cool to contemplate! Small wonder the FCSU is also called Jednota, which is Slovak for Union or United. I'm only a little dog so I don't qualify; but, man, if it were me, I'd call my local branch today or the Home Office at 1-800-JEDNOTA or jump on the website at www.fcsu.com to get all the super details. I'm just sayin'.

And, wowie zowie, if Father Furdek didn't care about an independent Slovakia. He got together with other fraternal leaders to focus like a laser on supporting the founder of the National Slovak Society to start the National Slovak League. They focused like a laser on supporting the Slovak quest for freedom and this thing called "self-determination." I looked it up. It's just a fancy way of saying Slovakia wanted to be its own country. He started this very newspaper you are reading right now, to deliver all these messages and offer all kinds of support. Because of him, *Jednota* became a beacon of light shining on Slovak independence.

All the way around, Father Furdek is my definition of a hero. It's really something to know we're members of a Society with such an awesome start. Maybe someday, we can meet and swap stories about what you and your family are doing to continue Father Furdek's legacy of faith, family and heritage ...

Until then, check out this smokin' Slovak Festival I went to over Labor Day weekend (editor's note: see p. 5 of this issue), and – samozrejme (Slovak for "of course") – keep your ears up and your tail wagging.

Your Friend, (in Slovak, Tvoj Priateľ)
Chewy



Chewy with a bust of his hero, Father Stephen Furdek, at the FCSU Home Office



YOUTH ROUND-UP

Slovenkai Cousins Receive First Communion in Scranton, Pennsylvania



Briana C. Slovenkai, daughter of Michael J. Slovenkai, Sr., and John J. Slovenkai, Jr., son of John J. Slovenkai, Sr., celebrated the joyous event of their First Communion on Sunday, May 6, 2012. They participated in the Liturgy and received Communion in their home parish of St. Ann's Basilica, Scranton. Both children are members of the Saints Cyril and Methodius Society, Branch 382, Scranton, where Michael Sr. serves as treasurer and John Sr. is financial secretary.

Submitted by Elizabeth M. Slovenkai, Proud Aunt and Branch 382 Vice President



New Member for Branch 493 in Chicago

Jacki and Ricky Lazzara are the proud parents of their new daughter. Big brother Logan would like to introduce his little sister Adrianna Mia Lazzara who was born on May 11, 2012. Grandpa Greg and Grandma Linda are proud of their two grandchildren, as is Great-grandma Beverly Rusinak.

- Submitted by Robert Tapak Magruder, Branch 493 Financial Secretary



LIGHT ONE CANDLE

Jerry Costello for The Christophers

Love of God Remakes the Soul

It's that time of year again. Come Oct. 4, or thereabouts, people all over will celebrate the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi by bringing their pets to church for a blessing. This will include not only the "usual" pets--dogs, cats, fish, birds--but some of the more exotic ones as well: hamsters, geckos and the like. (One Franciscan priest even celebrated the feast day by blessing a boa constrictor, and you can't blame him if he decided to draw the line after that.) In short, the blessing of the animals is here to stay.

What's wrong with this picture? Why, not a thing. Some priests see it as part of the New Evangelization. Others welcome the influx of people it brings to their churches. And no less a Franciscan than Father Jeremy Harrington, current Guardian of the Franciscan Monastery in Washington, D.C., reminded the Catholic Standard there last year that everyone loves St. Francis. "He saw animals as a beautiful sign of God's care and friendliness toward us," he said. "Of course we want to share that with those who bring their animals here."

It's just that--well, there's so much more to Francis. Although advocates tend to view him as a spokesman for contemporary causes--animal rights, perhaps, or ecology, or feminism--the truth is that St. Francis was very much a man of his times. And those times were rugged indeed, without all the trappings of the 21st century.

"The one thing people need to remember [is that] Francis was a devout, committed 13th-century Catholic," said Dominican Father Augustine Thompson, author of a new biography of the saint ("Francis of Assisi") that appeared earlier this year. "That helps explain many things about him."

For example, Father Thompson told Our Sunday Visitor last April, Francis was not at war with the institutional Church.

"One of the things Francis taught me is that holiness is impossible without fidelity to Catholic teaching," he said. His study of St. Francis, he continued, revealed to him that "the love of God is something that remakes the soul," and that "true Christian freedom comes from obedience, not autonomy."

As many earlier biographers have done, Father Thompson debunks many of the myths about Francis, the pious legends that have so colored popular impressions of the saint.

"Francis is not the birdbath saint," he said, "not someone who never discovered he was wrong or who never had any doubts."

And yet, he continued, "The image of him spontaneously desiring to follow God's will wherever it would lead him; that's the kind of free spirit part of Francis that is true. If he perceives God is telling him to do something if it's something he doesn't expect or it's weird, he will do it. I think that is beautiful and it's true."

Years ago I wrote these words about St. Francis: "Francis did not choose a simple way of life for its own sake. Rather he did so to enable him to be possessed by God completely, without distraction; to choose every action in a way that would bring him closer to the Lord."

I think those words, written for a Treasury of Catholic Stories published by Our Sunday Visitor, still hold up well as a summary of his remarkable life.

So by all means bring the pets to be blessed, and do so in the spirit of Francis. But at the same time try to remember: there's a lot more than that to all the things that St. Francis of Assisi really was.

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

News From Slovakia

NBS Upgrades Forecast for 2012 GDP Growth to 2.7 percent

Bratislava, September 18 (TASR) - The Slovak economy will grow by 2.7 percent this year, according to the latest forecast by the country's central bank (NBS) on this date.

This constitutes a rise of 0.2 percentage points in comparison to an earlier prediction going back to June. NBS governor Jozef Makuch said that, due to overall trends in the Slovak economy, economic growth is expected to slow down this year when compared to 2011.

As regards expectations for this year's figures, the growth in Slovakia's GDP will be influenced by a higher contribution of foreign trade as well as by lower domestic demand. Household end consumption will grow only at a moderate pace in the latter half of 2012, particularly on the back of unfavorable developments on the labor market. Meanwhile, net exports should remain the main propelling force behind growth.

The latest forecast takes into account the Government's consolidation measures worth €1.57 billion, of which €950 million will have a direct influence on the economy. The bank considered changes to the pension system's second pillar, an increase in levies, income from special levies on selected entities, a rise in corporate tax from 19 to 23 percent, changes in taxes vis-a-vis individuals and alterations in administrative fees.

Ban on Czech Spirits Has Consequences for Distributors

Bratislava, September 19 (TASR) Distributors of traditional Czech spirits [such as herbal liqueurs Fernet, Becherovka, pear brandy called hruskovica and others - ed. note] are suffering the consequences of a ban on selling Czech spirits introduced by Slovak Health and Agriculture Ministries on Tuesday, September 18, 2012, Hospodarske Noviny daily reported on its front page on this date.

"This is a very unfortunate solution. Our brands, which are even one hundred years old, will lose their reputation," said Roman Pocs, director of Fernet importer Stock Slovakia. It will be difficult for the company to catch up on the loss.

The ban came as a response to the methyl-alcohol scandal, which burst upon the scene in the Czech Republic following the poisoning and death of at least 20 people. Four Slovaks suffered minor poisoning as well when drinking a homemade Czech plum brandy at a family party.

Most of the alcohol imported to Slovakia from abroad comes from the Czech Republic. According to estimates from customs officials, it was around 5 million bottles last year.

Slovak Food Chamber head Jarmila Halgasova says this represents €120 million per year, which is a half of the overall spirit imports.

According to Martin Katriak from the food chain COOP Jednota Slovensko, the ban was premature and groundless. "This will cause us additional costs and problems related to contracts with our Czech partners," he said.

The state will compensate the loss to the affected businesses, but exact figures can't be estimated at the moment.

NATO Experts Meet in Trencin to Discuss Disposal of Explosives

Trencin, September 18 (TASR) - The presentation of new technological solutions and innovations in the field of detection and deactivation of detonation systems was the focus of the five-day NATO Demonstration and Trials 2012 which took place September 17-21 at Trencin's Expo Center.

As TASR learnt from Slovak Armed Forces spokesman Milan Vanga, participants discussed the latest trends in detection of explosive threats, international efforts at making detection and ammunition deactivation work more efficiently, the collection of digital data and other issues. Organized by Trencin-based NATO Explosive Ordnance Disposal Centre of Excellence (EOD), the first official NATO institution in Slovakia, the event also featured practical, "open-to-the-public" demonstrations of technologies and products.

"This event, which we organize every other year, represents a unique opportunity to put together scientists from the field of detection, operators from the field of explosive ordnance disposal, and the munitions industry, plus it establishes benchmarks for the industry and the overall network," EOD director Jaroslav Bieleny told TASR, adding that specialists from all NATO countries are involved.

Slovakia has assumed the role of NATO lead country in explosive ordnance disposal since 2004, with Slovak specialists particularly making a name for themselves last year in Afghanistan, where they deactivated explosives located in vehicles that were under fire from insurgents. A report on their heroism was read aloud before the US Congress.

REFLECTIONS ON POPE BENEDICT XVI'S MONTHLY INTENTIONS September 2012

General Intention - Politicians

That politicians may always act with honesty, integrity, and love for the truth.



Pope Benedict's timely general prayer intention reminds us of our responsibility to elect officials who have three qualities: honesty, integrity, and love for the truth. Honest leaders do not say only what people want to hear just to get elected, but speak their hearts no matter how unpopular it may be to some. Leaders with integrity match actions to their words. Leaders who love the truth act on it for the common good. We will deserve such leaders only when we ourselves strive to live with honesty, integrity, and love for the truth. Pope Benedict XVI has spoken of the duty of the laity to participate in political life. He enjoins them to participate "in accordance with the Church's teaching, bringing their well-

founded reasons and high ideals into the democratic debate and into the search for a broad consensus among all those who care about the defense of life and freedom, the safeguarding of truth and the good of the family, solidarity with the needy and the crucial search for the common good." The Pope calls this duty a "demanding challenge" necessitated by the "large and complex problems" of our time. (May 21, 2010, Message to Pontifical Council for the Laity). Earlier this year, Pope Benedict encouraged some U.S. bishops to help Catholics understand our personal responsibility to speak out "especially with regard to the great moral issues of our time: respect for God's gift of life, the protection of human dignity, and the promotion of authentic human rights."

Despite the separation of Church and state, all worldly affairs remain under God's dominion. The Pope believes that a more consistent witness on the part of U.S. Catholics would help to renew our society.

Reflection: What should we do when our politicians are not honest, upright, and truthful?

Reading: 1 Timothy 2:1-6 I ask that prayers be offered for all in authority



Mission Intention - Help for the Poorest Churches

That Christian communities may have a growing willingness to send missionaries, priests., and lay people, along with concrete resources, to the poorest Churches.



Many Christians live in poverty. The Pope asks us to join him in praying for the "poorest Churches." Where are they? Of the world's 20 poorest nations, 18 are in Africa, Catholicism's fastest growing continent. The other two are Haiti (80 percent Catholic) and Afghanistan, where the Christian population is tiny.

And there are "poorest Churches" near to us too. Four of the five poorest counties in the U.S. are in South Dakota and home to the Lakota Sioux. The Church is present there with missions that help provide for the needs of the people through such organizations as St. Francis Mission Among the Lakota (www.sfmission.org).

The poorest Churches need personnel—missionary priests, sisters, brothers, and lay people—and concrete resources. Our service to these needs begins with prayer. The mission of the Apostleship of Prayer has always been to support the missions through prayer,

fasting, and the sacrificial offering of one's day with all its prayers and works, joys and sufferings. As Pope Benedict wrote: "May prayer be intensified ever more in the Christian people, the essential spiritual means for spreading among all peoples the light of Christ" (2008 Message for World Mission Day).

But prayer leads to action. We cannot pray for something and then ignore opportunities to meet the needs for which we are praying. And so also the Holy Father hopes that our prayer will move us to support the poorest Churches. In his 2010 Message he said: "I renew to everyone the invitation to pray and, despite financial difficulties, to offer fraternal and concrete help to support the young Churches."

Reflection: How can you add concrete help to your prayers for the poorest Churches?

Reading: James 2:14-26 Faith, of itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

Links

- Pope Benedict's 2008 Message for World Mission Day
- Pope Benedict's Address to the National Directors of the Pontifical Mission Societies, May 11, 2012
- May 30, 2009 Dialogue of Pope Benedict with members of the Holy Childhood Association



Prayer of the Month



Almighty ever-living God, in whose hand lies every human heart and the rights of peoples, look with favor, we pray, on those who govern with authority over us, that throughout the whole world the prosperity of peoples, the assurance of peace, and the freedom of religion may through your gift be made secure. Through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

—"For Those in Public Office" from *The Roman Missal*

Two Slovak Churches Reopened in Cleveland Catholic Diocese

Jednota printed the good news that the Slovak Church, St. Wendelin's, recently was reopened within the Cleveland Catholic Diocese. However, the article incorrectly described St. Wendelin's as the only Slovak-based parish to reopen its doors within that Diocese, when actually two Slovak churches were reopened – the other being St. John the Baptist Parish in Akron, OH, on July 15, 2012.

Our apologies to Father Jonathan Zingales, pastor of St. John's as well as all the parishioners. Our thanks go out to our member and careful reader Father John Olsavsky, Branch 24.

Teresa Ivanec, Jednota Editor

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

Pilgrimage in Honor of Our Lady of Sorrows

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

On September 16, 2012, the Slovak Catholic Federation sponsored its annual pilgrimage in honor of Our Lady of Sorrows. The yearly event includes a novena, an Anointing of the Sick, Confessions, Holy Mass, and a dinner. The pilgrimage took place at National Shrine of Our Lady of Lebanon in North Jackson, Ohio.

The feast of Our Lady of the Seven Sorrows (Sedembolestná Panna Mária) actually falls on September 15, but the pilgrimage always occurs on the Sunday closest to that date. Our Lady of the Seven Sorrows (or Dolours) refers to the seven trials which the Blessed Virgin Mary endured throughout her life. Sedembolestná Panna Mária has also inspired a rich Marian art in the Catholic and Eastern Rite Churches.

Over the centuries, the Christian faithful have traditionally contemplated and meditated over the trials of Mary. They have typically recited devotional prayers in her honor, and this event continued that custom.

Christians who observe these customs typically recite daily an Our Father and seven Hail Marys for each of the Seven Sorrows, which are listed below.

1. The Prophecy of Simeon. (Luke 2:34-35) or the Circumcision of Christ
2. The Flight into Egypt. (Matthew 2:13)
3. The Loss of the Child Jesus in the Temple. (Luke 2:43-45)
4. Mary Meets Jesus on the Way to Calvary.
5. Jesus Dies on the Cross. (John 19:25)
6. Mary Receives the Body of Jesus in Her Arms. (Matthew 27:57-59)
7. The Body of Jesus Is Placed in the Tomb. (John 19:40-42)

This year's devotions at Our Lady of Lebanon Shrine commenced with a Novena in honor of Saints Cyril and Methodius, the two brothers who are the co-patron saints of Europe. Over the next year, Slovaks and all Christians are commemorating the 1,150th anniversary of their mission to Central Europe in 863 A.D.

The Rev. George M. Franko composed a prayer booklet used for the novena. He introduced the prayers with a brief history of the "Apostles of the Slavs," who evangelized the Khazars and the Slavs of Central and South Europe. St. Cyril, a recognized scholar in the 9th century, translated Holy Scripture and Holy Liturgy into a literary form of the Old Slavonic language. They used the alphabet which St. Cyril had created (Glagolitic) and its modified form is today known as Cyrillic.

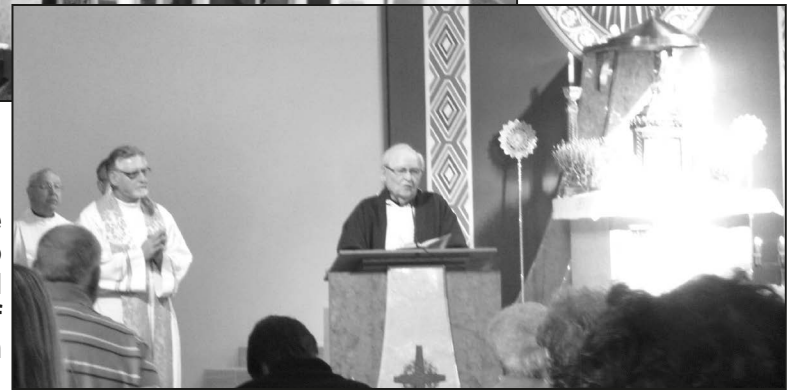
Among the novena prayers which Father Franko wrote was the hymn sung with the tune used for Tantum Ergo. Here is the verse.

Method's courage, Cyril's wisdom
 Bid us follow Christ our Lord.
 He has promised us a kingdom,
 Thank Him, praise Him in accord.
 Christ has conquered, whom should we fear?
 Threats and dangers matter naught.
 Amen.

The sacraments of Anointing of the Sick and Confession followed the novena. A concelebrated Slovak Mass started at 3:30 p.m., with Rev. Franko serving as the principle celebrant. The entire liturgy was recited in Slovak. The Rev. Msgr. Robert J. Siffrin, the vicar-general of



Priests who concelebrated Slovak Mass Our Lady of Lebanon



Rev George M Franko reads Gospel Our Lady of Lebanon

the Youngstown Diocese who administers St. Edward Parish, delivered an English-language homily about the importance of faith. Miroslav Puškár read the Epistle readings in Slovak.

The Slovak hymns sung at Mass included the following:

Entrance hymn – Anjelským pozdravením zvon sa ozýva – The Bell Echoes an Angelic Greeting

Offertory hymn – Mária, ochrana – Mary our Protector

Communion hymn – Velebme, kresťania – We Christians Proclaim

Processional hymn – Ó, Mária bolestivá – Oh Agonizing Mary

After Holy Mass, participants had the option of enjoying a dinner banquet.

The annual pilgrimage sponsored by the Slovak Catholic Federation has offered Slovak-Americans an ideal opportunity for honoring the Blessed Virgin and attending a pilgrimage using the Slovak language, which is rarely used today. I urge all our readers to keep this annual event in their plans for Marian devotions in future years.

(L - R) Mudgie Yurko, her daughter Nancy, Dr M Kopanic, Our Lady of Lebanon Sep 16 2012



(L - R) Rudy Ondrejco, Miroslav Puškár, Sue Ondrejco, Erika Kopanic



SAVE MONEY AND POSSIBLY MORE:



ATTEND AN AARP DRIVER SAFETY PROGRAM – FREE for First 25 Who Sign Up

Branch 855 is sponsoring an AARP DRIVER SAFETY PROGRAM class on October 11, 2012 from 9:00AM to 1:00PM, at the Activities Center of St. Charles Borromeo Church; 5901 Ridge Road; Parma, Ohio 44129.

Course material includes safe driving strategies for drivers over 50, however, much of the material is extremely useful to drivers of all ages.

You can register for the course by calling Linda Kolesar at 440-886-0206.

The course fee will be subsidized by Branch 855 for the first 25 Jednota members who register.

Attendees could be eligible for premium discounts on their auto insurance. Check with your insurance agent for specifics on the discount percentage.

For more information, call 440-886-0206.

CHEWY SAYS, “PLEASE TAKE ME HOME”

Purchase a \$25,000 (or higher)
Single Premium Juvenile Enrichment
Plan (JEP) and receive a **FREE** Gift



For a limited time, when you purchase a \$25,000 (or higher) Single Premium JEP, you receive a **Chewy Čuvač** of your very own—complete with FCSU shirt, dog tag, and an “official” certificate of ownership

How it Works

- Guaranteed convertibility at any time up to age 25 (no medical examination required)
- College scholarships available
- Free newspaper subscription
- Youth activities



FCSU LIFE
6611 Rockside Rd
Independence, OH 44131
1-800-533-6682
fcsu@aol.com
www.fcsu.com

For more info please contact your Branch Officer or the Home Office at 1-800-533-6682

Accent on Activities

Photo Contest

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

Submit your photo in one of the following categories:

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

Judging will be done by an outside professional and all photos will be returned. Judging is based on creativity.

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:

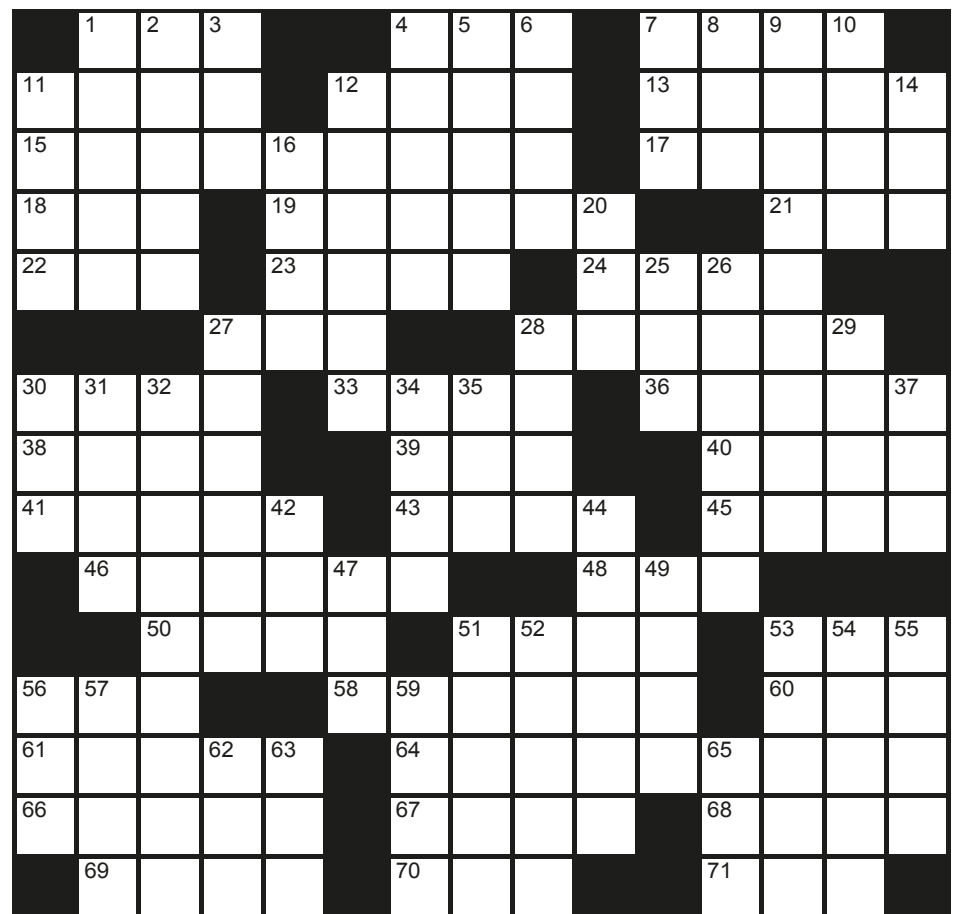
1. The photos have to be taken by the member submitting it (no computer generated photos, other than digital ones).
2. One Entry per Category
3. Any size photo up to 8" x 10", unmounted, in black and white or color is permitted. (No touched up or computer enhanced photos permitted.)
4. Name, address,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

Mail your entry to:
 Susan Ondrejco
 Photo Contest
 234 Iliion St.
 Pittsburgh, PA 15207

postmarked by October 1, 2012.



Jednota Crossword Puzzle



Across

- 1 Do yard work
- 4 Sombrero, e.g.
- 7 Source
- 11 Comic Carvey
- 12 100 centavos
- 13 Receded
- 15 "Get to your feet, kiddo!"
- 17 Biblical mount
- 18 Bar order
- 19 Exit
- 21 Mine find
- 22 Allow
- 23 Not quite all
- 24 Trojan War hero
- 27 Pantheon member
- 28 Typeface
- 30 Dalai ____
- 33 Breezed through
- 36 Swell
- 38 Spoken
- 39 Author Harper
- 40 Buggy terrain
- 41 Young haddock
- 43 Woeful word
- 45 Nick and Nora's dog
- 46 Bug deflector
- 48 Humorous
- 50 Grasped
- 51 District
- 53 Actress ____ Marie Saint
- 56 Cigar residue
- 58 Stomach supplier
- 60 Animal house
- 61 Prepared
- 64 Respite
- 66 Madame Tussaud
- 67 Engine parts
- 68 Andy's radio partner

- 69 Landlord's due
- 70 Before *Doubtfire* or *Miniver*
- 71 Starchy tuber

Down

- 1 Syrup flavor
- 2 Assault
- 3 Path
- 4 Inheritors
- 5 Black ink item
- 6 1992 Robin Williams movie
- 7 Legal thing
- 8 ____-Wan Kenobi
- 9 Offensively crude
- 10 Eye drop
- 11 Twofold
- 12 Chinese temple
- 14 Expire
- 16 Floor model
- 20 Convened
- 25 Boxer's punch
- 26 ____ sucker
- 27 Aplenty
- 28 Brain wave
- 29 Tilt
- 30 ____ Alamos, N.M.
- 31 Circle parts
- 32 *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* character
- 34 Family group
- 35 Slippery one

See Solution on Page 19

Slovakia or the Slovak Republic?

The full and official designation for Slovakia is the Slovak Republic and hence both terms refer to the same nation-state. For formal purposes use the official designation: the Slovak Republic. e.g. When I traveled to Slovakia I visited the parliament of the Slovak Republic.

Slovak refers to an inhabitant or native of Slovakia. Slovaks is the plural. e.g. I only met one Slovak but there are many more Slovaks who didn't come.

Slovak also refers to the language of Slovakia. e.g. Although I can understand some Slovak, I can't speak it.

Slovak can also be used as an adjective. e.g. We studied Slovak literature by reading Slovak books.

Slovakian is equivalent to Slovak. The term Slovakian is less common and not used in official environments. Certain references recognize the term but it should be avoided. e.g. I am studying Slovakian history from a book called "Slovak History"

"Slovensko" is the Slovak equivalent of the term "Slovakia" and "Slovenska Republika" translates as "the Slovak Republic".

- from slovakia.org, the official news portal of the Slovak Republic

Publication Schedule for 2012

Issue Date	Deadline to Receive Information
October 10	October 1
October 24	October 15
November 7	October 29
November 21	November 12
December 5	November 26

Slovak Catholic Family Day P

The annual Slovak Catholic Family Day picnic, sponsored by Sts. Cyril and Methodius Parish and First Catholic Slovak Union Msgr. Michael Shuba District was held Sunday, August 12, 2012 at Creditvale Park in Mississauga, Ontario. There were over 500 people in attendance.

Father Jozef Vano, pastor of Sts. Cyril and Methodius Parish Church in Mississauga Ontario was the celebrant for mass.

Ken Arendt, FCSU Executive Secretary and his wife Theresa, were our guests at the picnic.

The day started out with rain in the morning and then sunny from noon on.

Events of the day started with mass at noon, followed by Slovak home cooked lunch (schnitzel & goulash), a cultural program by the Vychodna Slovak dance group, races for the children, and games for the adults. After the games, ice cream cones and cut up watermelon was available for all to enjoy. Bacon (slanina) and (de-brecinky) sausages (hot dogs) were bar-b-qued later in the afternoon.

A large variety of Slovak pastries and baked goods were available for sale.

Music provided by Miro Letko. Inflatables donated by Main Event (Brian Vacval).

- Submitted by Jerry Siman

(L - R) Seated: Ted Golla, George Onuska, and Mary Golla; Standing: Helen Hrcka and Arnold Hrcka



Parking control (L - R) Joe Jursa, Emil Jursa



(L - R) Standing: Ted Golla Jr. and Milos Mitro; Myra Gazo, Mike Kapitan, Ruzenna Kapitan, and



Enjoying lunch around the picnic



Vychodna Slovak junior dance group



Balloon toss game



Vychodna Slovak Dancers



(L - R) Ken Arendt, FCSU Executive Secretary, Theresa Arendt, Josie Siman, Jerry Siman

Picnic in Mississauga, Ontario



Seated: Maureen Jursa, and Monica Slovak



Father Jozef Vano, pastor of Sts. Cyril and Methodius Parish Church in Mississauga Ontario, alter server Tomas Telepanic



Customers buying Slovak pastries and baked goods



pic table



(L - R) Cooks in the kitchen: Jara Ragan, Marta Zjavka, and Jana Puskar



(L - R) Jerry Siman; Kenneth A. Arendt, FCSU Executive Secretary; Theresa Arendt; and Mike Kapitan



e



Children's inflatable castle



(L - R) Food and refreshment sellers: Rose Carey, Irene Gorman, and Nellie Zeman



Center (L - R): Sue Babinchak, Anne Mitro, and Cathy Szabo giving ice cream cones to children

BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

BRANCH 3P – HAZLETON, PENNSYLVANIA

The 2012 annual meeting of THE Saint Joseph Society, Branch 003P, will be held at 9:15 am on Sunday November 11, 2012 in Saint Joseph's Church cafeteria at North Laurel Street in Hazleton, PA. Election of officers for 2013 will be conducted followed by a short update on local branch activities. New ideas for branch activities will be entertained and any changes of address or beneficiaries can be submitted at this meeting. Refreshments will be served. Come join us to offer your input for future success of our society.

Mike Koval, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 3 – MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

Branch 3, Sts. Cyril & Methodius Society, will hold their annual meeting of Sunday, October 12, 2012, in Minneapolis, MN. The meeting will begin at 11:30AM in Father Dargay Hall, Church of Sts. Cyril & Methodius, 13th Ave. N.E. & 2nd Street. The agenda will include officers' reports, schedule of activities for 2013, and the election of officers.

A lunch will be available after the meeting.

Fraternally yours,

James T. Genosky, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 24 CLEVELAND, OHIO

Branch 24, St. Andrew Society, will have a branch meeting/luncheon at 1:00PM, Sunday November 18, 2012 at the Old Town Hall, 6652 Brecksville Rd. (Rt. 21) in Independence. Parking is available behind the gazebo on the town square. The agenda will include the election of officers for 2013.

Please phone Activities Director Susan Lang at 216/896-0957 evenings after 6:00PM before Thursday November 15th, if you plan to attend.

Bob Kopco, President

BRANCH 38 – DUQUESNE, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 38, the Holy Trinity Society, will hold its annual meeting on Thursday, November 8, 2012, at the home of Secretary Florence Matta, 3409 Eisenhower Court, White Oak, PA. The meeting will begin at 7:30PM.

On the agenda will be a review of the financial report through September 30, 2012, branch activities for the year 2013, and any other discussion items that may develop. The annual election of officers for the year 2013 will be held.

Fraternally yours,

Florence K. Matta, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 153 – CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

St. Stephen Branch 153 will hold its annual meeting on Saturday, October 20 at 12:00 Noon. At this meeting, we will elect officers for 2013, discuss charitable donations and other business. The meeting and the fraternal luncheon will be held at a local restaurant. The location has not been finalized. Please call Dorothy (773) 763-0810 for the location and directions.

Dorothy Jurcenko, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 153 – CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

All members are invited to attend a Christmas performance at the Theatre at the Center in Munster, Indiana on Sunday, December 9, 2012. The performance is Forever Plaid presents "Plaid Tidings" at 2:30 p.m. We will start with a Brunch at 12:30 p.m. The cost for Branch 153 members is \$34.00; the branch will subsidize the \$22.50 cost for the Brunch. The cost for non-members will be \$56.50.

Please mail checks payable to Rudy Bernath, 810 Fairhope Avenue, Glenview, IL 60025. Deadline is October 1, 2012. For further information call Rudy Bernath at 847 724-5243 or Dorothy Jurcenko at 773 763 0810.

Dorothy Jurcenko, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 166 – BINGHAMTON, CAPITAL AREA, PEEKSKILL, POUGHKEEPSIE, AND SYRACUSE, NEW YORK

The St. Joseph the Guardian Society, Branch 166, will hold its Annual Meeting and Dinner on Sunday, October 28, 2012, at 1:15 P.M., at Ponderosa Steak House, 1261 Upper Front Street, Binghamton, New York. On the agenda will be a discussion of Branch business and the Election of

Officers. All members are encouraged to attend. Please call Sue Gabriel at 607-729-8034, or Arlo Meeker at 607-775-4896 by October 25, 2012, to make a reservation if you plan to attend. We hope to see you at the meeting.

Arlo Meeker, President

BRANCH 380 – CANONSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Ignatius Society, Branch 380KJ, will hold its annual meeting and lunch on Sunday, October 28, 2012, at 2:30PM at Kings Restaurant, Canonsburg, PA.

Fraternally,

Margaret Graytok, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 266 – HAZLETON, PENNSYLVANIA

The annual meeting of Saint Peter and Paul Society, Branch 266, will be held on Sunday November 11, 2012 at 9:15 am in Saint Joseph's Church cafeteria at 604 North Laurel Street in Hazleton, PA. Officers will be elected for 2013, and suggestions for branch activities for next year will be discussed. Please spread the word so more of our members will attend and become involved in branch activities. Light refreshments will be served. Join us for a relaxing and hopefully refreshing experience.

Richard Lazar, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 382 – SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA

Saints Cyril and Methodius Society, Branch 382 of Scranton, Pennsylvania, will hold its Annual Fall Meeting on Sunday, November 4, 2012. Members will gather at noon in the VFW, 110 Chestnut Street, Dunmore, Pennsylvania.

On the agenda will be Officers' reports, District 17 report, information from the home office, donations, and future activities. Election of officers for 2013 will take place. Refreshments will be served.

All members are encouraged to attend.

Elizabeth M. Slovenkai, Vice President

BRANCH 401 – EAST VANDERGRIFT, PENNSYLVANIA

The semi-annual meeting of branch 401k, St. Anthony of Padua, will be held at 1223 Wysocki Ave, North Apollo, Pa. on Sunday October 21, 2012 at 11:00 am. The agenda will consist of branch re-organization and nomination of officers. Recent 2012 graduates of high school or college are urged to contact Patrick Froncek, PO Box 178, N. Apollo, Pa. 15673 (ph # 724-664-8216) for financial rewards.

Look forward to seeing you at the scheduled meeting.

Fraternally,

**Patrick Froncek, President
Loretta Dashner, Recording Secretary**

BRANCH 419 – WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Stephen-the-Martyr, Branch 419, will hold its semi-annual meeting at Norm's Restaurant on Sherman Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA, on Sunday, October 28, 2012, at 1L00PM. Election of officers will be held. Discussions will be held pertaining to sales and annuities. All members are urged to attend. For more information, please call 570-824-4125. A light lunch will be served.

Fraternally,

Marie Gryczko, President

BRANCH 450 – CLEVELAND, OHIO

St. Joseph branch 450 will hold its semi-annual meeting, Friday, October 26, 2012 at 7 pm at the home of Jozef Valencik at 13501 Park Drive, Brook Park, OH 44142.

Margaret M. Valencik, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 493 – CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Society, Branch #493 in Chicago, will hold its Annual Meeting and Election of Officers, with the branch Christmas Luncheon following, on Saturday, November 24th, 2012. Location: Mabenka's Restaurant, 7844 South Cicero Avenue, Burbank, IL 60459.

At 1:30 pm, members will gather for a period of fraternal fellowship with refreshments. The meeting will start at 2:00 pm, with a delicious dinner following.

If you plan to attend, please call the Financial Secretary Robert Tapak Magruder at (773) 558-5956 or (502) 244-6643 by November 20. Members of other FCSU lodges who attend will pay via separate check.

Robert Tapak Magruder, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 553 – AKRON, OHIO

St. John the Baptist Branch 553 is very thankful that our founding church has been reopened. We are reviving our tradition of a special Mass, Communion Breakfast followed by a lodge meeting.

The Mass to honor the living and deceased members of Branch 553 will be held on Sunday, October 28, 2012 at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church located on Brown Street in Akron, Ohio.

Following the Mass we will hold a Communion Breakfast at The Slovak J Club, 485 Morgan Avenue, Akron, Ohio 44311. Following the breakfast we will hold a lodge meeting.

All members of Branch 553 are invited to attend all three events. The lodge meeting will include election of officers for 2013. Anyone wishing to run for office must submit a letter of intent and state the office for which they are running to the Nominating Committee Chairperson, Vera Thomas. Letter must be received by October 21st.

We request that all who plan to attend the Communion Breakfast call Linda Hanko at 330-706-0151 or contact her via email at Lhanko@neo.rr.com or call the Slovak J Club at 330-773-4978 so we may adequately prepare refreshments. Please contact her by Thursday, October 25, 2012.

Also, mark your calendars and save the date of Sunday, December 2, 2012 when Branch 553 will be holding our Annual Vilija Celebration.

We are looking forward to seeing everyone on October 28.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda M. Hanko, Recording/Financial Secretary

BRANCH 580 – WEST MIFFLIN, PENNSYLVANIA

The Sacred Heart of Jesus Society Branch 580 will hold a meeting on Sunday, October 14, 2012, after the 9:30 mass in the Holy Trinity Social Hall. All Members are welcome.

Virginia Jasek, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 706 – ORLAND PARK, ILLINOIS

The St. Anthony of Padua Branch 706 will hold its Annual Meeting on Friday, October, 26th, 2012, at 3:00pm at the home of the President Shirley Uram, 13861 S. 86th Avenue, Orland Park, IL. If you plan to attend please call Shirley at 1-708-349-9049, so arrangements can be made for refreshments. The meeting will start at 3:00pm sharp. Insurance selling new policies are on the agenda along with the Election of Officers for the coming year. If any member has moved or changed telephone numbers please call Shirley Uram to update our records. Dinner will follow the meeting.

Barbara Fayta, Vice-President

BRANCH 721 – BANNISTER, MICHIGAN

Branch 721 of Bannister, MI, will have a meeting on Sunday, September 30, 2012, at 2:00PM in the St. Cyril Parish Hall in Bannister. All members are invited to attend.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Beno, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 764 – WARREN, OHIO

Branch 764 held their monthly meeting on May 30, 2012 at Bella Women's Center. We discussed the upcoming breakfasts scheduled at St. Mary & St. Joseph Church in Newton Falls on September 16, 2012 following the 8:00am Mass and also the breakfast at St. Cyril & Methodius in Warren on October 28, 2012. We scheduled a Mass at St. Cyril & Methodius on November 4, 2012 at 9:30am for the living and deceased members of the Branch. Hope to see you there!

Joy Brunetti, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 780 – SAGINAW, MICHIGAN

The Saints Peter & Paul Society, Branch 780, will hold their next meeting on Tuesday October 16, 2012, at the home of the Treasurer, 4090 Emerick Street, Saginaw, Michigan, at 7:00pm. All members are invited to attend. On the agenda is the election of officers for 2013 and other branch matters.

Catherine Karlsen, Secretary

BRANCH 784 – MONTREAL, QUEBEC

Sts Cyril and Method Society, Branch 784, will hold its annual meeting on November 4, 2012, following the 10.00am Mass at Sts Cyril and Method Parish Hall, Montreal, Quebec. On the agenda will be election of new officers and the social calendar for 2013. Refreshments will be served. Please keep your date open for November 25, 2012. We will be having our annual Christmas dinner following the 10.00am Mass at the Parish Hall. All members and friends are invited. Please call the committee members by November 10, 2012 for reservations.

Alice Dobrik, President

BRANCH 888 – WEST PALM, FLORIDA

The Holy Trinity Society, Branch 888, will hold its next meeting on Wednesday, November 7, 2012, at 5:15PM at 4649 Perth Road, West Palm Beach, FL, 33410. Contact David Rafaidus, President at (561) 776-0449 or jednota888@yahoo.com for directions and further information.

On the agenda will be future branch activities, election of officers, Treasurer's report, and items of mutual interest to the membership. All branch members are invited to attend.

David Rafaidus, President

BRANCH 888 – WEST PALM, FLORIDA

The Holy Trinity Society, Branch 888, will hold its next meeting on Wednesday, November 7, 2012, at 5:15PM at 4649 Perth Road, West Palm Beach, FL, 33410. On the agenda will be future branch activities, election of officers, Treasurer's report, and items of mutual interest to the membership. All branch members are invited to attend.

David Rafaidus, President

WPSCA Beer Tasting



Come and join Western Pennsylvania Slovak Cultural Association for their second European beer tasting event. We will be sampling some of Europe's best beers, including beers from Slovakia and Germany (in the spirit of Oktoberfest), enjoying great ethnic food and listening to traditional music.

This year's beer tasting will be on Saturday, October 13, beginning at 1:00pm at Penn Brewery on the North Side (800 Vinial Street). We will have a private room (Eisenhalle Room) which is adjacent to the parking garage (free parking) on the second floor.

The price for this event is \$30 per person payable in advance. Attendance is limited to 50 members and guests on a first come-first serve basis. For reservations, call Joe at (412) 956-6000 during the day or Albina at (412) 343-5031 in the evening. Send your checks to WPSCA, Manor Oak Two, Suite 500, 1910 Cochran Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15220.

Accordianist Jerry Jumba will be back to entertain us. Also, tours of the brewery will be available starting at 3:30PM and the beermasters will be available for questions. When you make your reservations, let us know if you will also be going on the tour.

- Submitted by Joe Senko, Branch 254

DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISTRICT 2 - THE REV. JOHN J. SPITKOVSKY DISTRICT

The Rev. John J. Spitkovsky will hold its annual meeting and election of officers on Sunday, October 14, 2012 at the Missionary Benedictine Sisters Priory, 5900 W. 147th Street, in Oak Forest, IL. We will enjoy a short period of fraternal fellowship and refreshments starting at 1:30 pm.

The Annual Meeting will start promptly at 2:00 pm.

Attendees will enjoy a scrumptious catered meal. All branches are asked to send delegates; individual FCSU members who wish to learn more about becoming active in District 2 are also welcome to attend. If you plan to attend, please call District President John Jurcenko at (773) 763-0810, so enough food and beverages can be ordered for the meeting.

Robert Tapak Magrudery

DISTRICT 3 – GEORGE ONDA DISTRICT-WESTMORELAND COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

The George Onda District of the First Catholic Slovak Union will hold its Annual meeting on Saturday, September 29, 2012. We will meet following the 5:00P.M. Mass at St. Florian Roman Catholic Church in United, PA. in the Formation Room of the Convent. On our agenda will be the election of officers for 2013 and planning for our annual Stedry Vecer. Attendance from each branch is encouraged and will be appreciated. Refreshments will be served.

Linda L. Gonta, Secretary

DISTRICT 4 – MSGR. JOHN E. RURA DISTRICT – NEW JERSEY

The next semi-annual meeting of the Msgr. Rura District of New Jersey will be held on Sunday, November 18, 2012 at 1:00 PM. Branch 290 will host the meeting at St. Joseph's Church Hall, 16 East Somerset Street in Raritan, NJ. Branch secretaries are asked to RSVP to Joe Minarovich @732-469-5256 by November 4th. Refreshments will be served.

Mary J. Kapitan, Secretary

DISTRICT 5 – MICHIGAN DISTRICT

The Michigan District will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, October 29, 2012, at St. Patrick's Ryan Church Hall in Merrill, MI.

A Thanksgiving dinner will be served starting at 11:00AM, and the business meeting will begin at 1:00PM. The Church Hall is located at 4708 South Meridan Road (M30).

Branch 774 is hosting this meeting. Please notify Katherine Stevens at (989) 835-9895 by October 23, 2012 of the delegates attending from your branch.

Since this is our annual meeting, election of officers will be on the agenda along with new events for the coming year. Our District President Robert Kristofik encourages all branches to send delegates to represent their branch.

Remember, branches must attend these meetings in order to get branch compensation from headquarters.

Anna Magusin, District Secretary

DISTRICT 6 – PITTSBURGH DISTRICT

The Pittsburgh District of the FCSU will hold its annual Fall/Winter meeting on Sunday, December 2, 2012. The meeting will include officers' reports, discussion of district business and planning for 2013. Officers for 2013 will be elected at this meeting. Please note that there is a time change - the business meeting will start promptly at 12:00 noon. Luncheon will be served at 1:30. You won't miss the game. The Steelers play at Baltimore & the kick-off is at 4PM.

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

** 30th Annual Dinner-Dance benefiting the Western PA Slovak Radio Hour, on Saturday, October 6, at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Center on Carson Street in Pittsburgh's South Side. The event features a "Ties with Tradition" Apron Parade. Donations of prizes or baked goods are welcome. Tickets are \$35 per person if purchased by September 12, or \$40 afterward. Cash bar opens at 5 PM. Contact Sue Ondrejco at 412-421-1204 for more information. Don't forget to listen to the Slovak Radio Hour Sundays 3-4 PM at WPIT AM73.

** 29th Slovak Language Classes, every Tuesday, September 4 through October 30, at the Brashear Association, 2005 Sarah Street, Pittsburgh. Call Joe at 412-956-9000 during office hours for information about reservations and fees.

** WPCSA monthly meetings will start again after the summer recess on Monday, October 1 at 7 PM at the Mt Lebanon Public Library. Meetings are the 1st Monday of each month. Margaret Nasta will be speaking on December 3 on "Finding Your Slovak Immigrant Before and After World War One."

** 2nd Slovak Beer Tasting on Saturday, October 13 at 1 PM at Penn Brewery on Pittsburgh's North Side. Tickets are \$30 per person & attendance is limited to 50. Call Joe at 412-956-9000 during office hours for information.

** 22nd Annual Slovak Heritage Festival will take place on Sunday, Nov 4, Pitt Cathedral of Learning, 12-5 PM. Admission is free. The event features Slovak music and food, lectures on Slovak culture, and many vendors with Slovak items for sale.

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

Fraternally,

Margaret A. Nasta, Secretary Pittsburgh District

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

The Annual Meeting of the Rev. John Martvon District will be held on October 28, 2012, at the Beaverdale Fire Station, 411 Cedar St., Beaverdale, PA. The meeting will begin at 2:00PM with St. Joseph's Society, Branch 372, Beaverdale, as the host.

On the agenda will be the election of officers and other business pertaining to the district. Branches are reminded to be eligible for the annual stipend from the home office. The branch must have one delegate at one of the yearly meetings and have the dues current.

Joseph E. Rura, Recording Secretary

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

The Rev. Stephen Furdek District will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, October 14, 2012. The Mass will be at St. Joseph's Church, 604 N. Laurel St., Hazelton, Pa. 18201 at 11:15 AM. An ethnic dinner will be served at 12:30 PM. The meeting will take place at 1:30 PM. The dinner and meeting will take place in the church basement.

Donation for the dinner is \$15.00 per person. Please make checks payable to Branch 003. All checks and credentials must be returned by Saturday, September 29, 2012. PLEASE be prompt!!

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

Loretta Dashner, Recording Secretary

DISTRICT 9 – FRANK T. HOLLY, JR. DISTRICT

The Frank T. Holly, Jr. District will hold a meeting on Sunday, November 4, 2012, at 1PM, which will be at K2 Engineering Building, 234 Pittsburgh Road. Members are invited to attend.

Fraternally,

Barabara A. Holly, Secretary

DISTRICT 10 – THE REV. STEPHEN FURDEK DISTRICT

The Rev. Stephen Furdek District 10 meeting will be held on Sunday, October 21st at 2 pm. The meeting will be held at the Slovak J Club, 485 Morgan Avenue, Akron, Ohio 44311.

The meeting will include updates from the International Organization and election of officers for 2013.

We ask that you contact Linda Hanko at 330-706-0151 or via email at Lhanko@neo.rr.com if you plan on attending the meeting, so we may plan for refreshments.

We look forward to seeing all members of District 10 at the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda M. Hanko, Secretary/Treasurer

DISTRICT 11 - MSGR JOSEF TISO DISTRICT

Msgr Josef Tiso District (District 11) will hold its 2012 Annual Meeting on Sunday, October 28, at 2:00 PM at the C.U. Club, 912 Sixth Avenue, Ford City. Meeting location will be on the first floor (in the Bowling Lanes). All Branches are invited to send representatives; please call District Secretary, (724) 763-1104, to confirm participation.

Reminder: To qualify for membership reimbursement from HQ FCSU, each Branch must have at least one voting representative at one of the two District meetings (semi-annual meeting in Spring; annual meeting in Fall) each year; annual District attendance records are submitted in February.

Grace M. Charney, Secretary

DISTRICT 14 – THE REV. JOSEPH L. KOSTIK DISTRICT

District 14, the Rev. Joseph L. Kostik District, will hold its next meeting on Thursday, October 16, 2012, at 6:00PM, at St. Matthias Church Rectory. On the agenda will be general business items and planning for upcoming district events such as the Annual Christmas Party and a casino trip. All District Branch Members are urged to attend.

Carla Peshek, President

DISTRICT 20 - PRINCE RASTISLAV DISTRICT – MONTREAL

The Prince Rastislav District will hold its annual meeting November 4, 2012 in the parish hall of Sts Cyril and Method following the 10.00 am Mass. Branches 784 and 810 are encouraged to send representatives. Election of officers and social calendar for 2013 will be discussed.

Refreshments will be served.

Alexander S. Dobrik, President

Christmas Oplatky 2012

Oplatky, the traditional Slovak Christmas wafers are available from Jankola Library. Orders will be accepted from October 22 until December 19, 2012.

The Oplatky, five in one package are thermal-sealed and can be purchased for \$3.00. In addition, the minimum cost of shipping and handling is \$5.75 and upwards depending upon the number of packets ordered and the rising costs of priority mailing. Customized requests can be filled to meet your needs. Payment to Jankola Library is expected before receiving an order.

For more information or to place an order contact

Sister Catherine Labouré Bresnock, SS.C.M. at 570-275-5606 or

write to Jankola Library and Slovak Museum

580 Railroad Street, Villa Sacred Heart, Danville, PA 17821-1698



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

In Memoriam

A Fond Farewell to Norma Rudinsky (1928-2012)

By Ginny Parobek



I first became acquainted with Norma Rudinsky, noted translator of important Slovak novels, when I was a literature student at Ohio University in the late 1990s. While perusing the Encyclopedia of Women Writers one day, I spotted a paragraph about a Slovak woman writer by the name of Timrava (1867-1951). Norma Rudinsky had translated a group of her short stories into a collection called *That Alluring Land*, which the Encyclopedia described as "a rare glimpse of the lives of Slovak peasants, especially women, in rural Slovakia at the beginning of the 20th century."

My curiosity then was piqued. It also did not hurt that this Timrava hailed from Abelová in the Gemer region of Slovakia where my own family hails.

I ordered *That Alluring Land* online from Amazon.com (my first online purchase ever), read it cover to cover in record time and then wrote an online review of it for Amazon.

At about the same time, I was corresponding via email with Father Gerald Sabo, SJ, of John Carroll University (we had not yet met in person) as I was deciding on enrolling in graduate school in Slavic Studies either at JCU or at Ohio State University. I happened to mention Norma Rudinsky in one of my emails and Father Sabo supplied me with her email address.

My first email to Norma, who lived in Oregon, was August 1999. I told her I was her #1 fan now and was it true that she'd translated Martin Kukučín's stories as well?

Indeed she did, was the reply, and she graciously sent me her very last copy of Kukučín's *Seven Slovak Stories* (published, incidentally, by the Slovak Institute Cleveland-Rome). Interesting as well is that Norma and the Rudinsky family donated two bronze statues of Kukučín; one sits on the campus of Oregon State University where both she and her late husband were professors. The other statue is in Bratislava.

After the Kukučín stories, Norma also sent me *Jozef Mak* by Jozef Ciger-Hronský, which she thought was "the best Slovak novel ever." To my delight, she inscribed copies of both books.

After my book review of *Jozef Mak* was published in the Spring 2001 issue of *Helene's Slovakia*, I received an email from Norma gently explaining that the Alex Rudinsky who provided the illustrations for *Jozef Mak* was her son (who, sadly, preceded Norma in death in 2011) and not her husband as I had erroneously written. She was very gracious about this faux pas.

No, rather, Norma's husband, Julius Rudinsky had passed away in 1980. His family, originally hailing from the Orava district, migrated down to the Banská Štiavnica region in the 1600s and worked as miners. Julius' father married a Detvan woman then and moved to Pukanec. (An extensive history of the Rudinsky family can be found in the 2000 and 2001 issues of *Dobry Pastier*). Norma herself, was of Welsh background; she and Julius met in Oregon where he had emigrated, married and raised six children.

Norma's nonfiction work was as important as her translations. *Incipient Feminists: Women Writers in the Slovak National Revival*, published in 1991, was a pioneering work which evolved out of the 7-year research into Timrava's life and work. IF theorized that Slovak women developed their own gender awareness alongside national efforts to aide Slovak men in the push for nationhood versus the AustroHungarian Empire.

Professors Jan Simko and Mark Stolarik both wrote glowing reviews of Norma's work and celebrated Norma's scholarship on "a valuable contribution to the field."

In 1993, the Association for Women in Slavic Studies awarded Norma Rudinsky "Best Translation by a woman in Slavic Women's Studies" for *That Alluring Land*.

In a later email, April of 2003, Norma praised the new Slovak Republic with Slovaks have done really well at learning how to take care of their own affairs, in relation to the

Czechs and the Hungarians as well as more generally in the European Union, NATO, etc...

In December of 2003, our final email correspondence (hard to believe!), Norma writes:

I hope the New Year of 2004 will bring Slovakia into the European Union and really tie it to the West, rather than to the East with all of its' problems. I hope they don't become too consumerist, as we are here!

Farewell, Norma. Your good work will live on!



The Šarišan Slovak Folk Ensemble and Junior Šarišan (from Sterling Heights, MI) and the Slovak Domovina Dancers (from Windsor, Ontario)]



Anna & Paul Magusin at the Slovak merchandise table



District Auditor Bernard Ivin and District Treasurer J. Rimarcik



Ruzena Kovacova at the palacinky stand

Martin Kamensky at the lemonade stand

Šťastný Leto! Happy Summer!

What a happy and fun way to wrap a beautiful summer! Ss. Cyril and Methodius Slovak Catholic Church in Sterling Heights, MI, held its annual picnic on the weekend of August 24, 25 & 26, 2012. It was the church's twenty second annual Slovak Festival that once again attracted thousands of people for Slovak delicacies like Holubky (Stuffed cabbage), Sliže s kapustou (Noodles & cabbage) Pirohy (Pierogi), Fašírky (Slovak burgers) Klobásas kapustou (Kielbasa with sauerkraut) Parky (Hot Dogs), Hranolky (French Fries), Cyril Burgers (specialty pocket sandwiches), Palacinky (Crepes), Zmrzlina (Ice Cream) and for those wanting to bring some Slovak tradition home there was a wonderful Predaj Koláčov (Bake Sale). F.C.S.U. Region Five members were invited to participate and help out at the picnic.

The Festival kicked off with the fourth annual Michigan's Got Talent Show Friday night. F.C.S.U. Branch 746K President Joseph Rimarcik played host for the event that featured dancing to the traditional musical stylings of the Tri-City Plus Band and the very popular Hank Haller Ensemble. The crowds cheered as the Šarišan and Junior Šarišan Slovak Folk Ensembles and the Slovak Domovina Dancers from Windsor, Ontario Canada took the stage each day, giving numerous spirited performances of traditional Slovakian folk dance in their colorful costumes. F.C.S.U. Region Five President Robert Kristofik attended. It is wonderful our Slovak heritage is still presented and celebrated in such a beautiful and welcoming fashion for all in Southeast Michigan to see and enjoy. The crowd really enjoyed a special treat. The Region Five leadership thanks everyone who attended.

- Submitted by Roderick Meloni

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.**

Branch 45 Dedicates Chalice in Memory of Rev. Martin Svitan



The gold-plated chalice with cross

The St. Matthew's Society, Branch 45, in New York, New York, recently donated a chalice in memory of the Reverend Martin Svitan, the recently deceased pastor of St. John Nepomucene Parish in New York City. Reverend Svitan died on April 10, 2012, while in residence at the parish rectory. He was 72. He was scheduled for heart surgery the very next day. Cardinal Dolan celebrated his Funeral Mass on April 16, 2012, at St. John Nepomucene Church. Father Stefan Chanas, as parochial vicar, delivered the homily. On June 26, 2012, Branch 45 presented the beautiful gold-plated chalice from its membership to Reverend Chanas in honor of the late Reverend Svitan.

Reverend Martin Svitan served as pastor from 1999 until his death in April at the parish many call "the Slovak Basilica in New York." Reverend Svitan himself was from Slovakia, born in Kravany, a village in the Spis region.

St. John Nepomucene Parish in Manhattan was founded by Slovaks from Slovakia, who wished to band together in their new land. With the approval of Archbishop Corrigan, on October 25, 1895, the first Mass was offered in the new St. John Church, on East 4th Street. The Reverend Francis Pribyl was the first Pastor.

The inscription along the bottom of the chalice reads "In Memory of Fr. Martin Svitan, Donated by St. Matthew the Evangelist Society, Branch 45, FCSU, April 10, 2012."



Sgt. At Arms
Pete Turner



The Affrunti Family



The
Januseks



(L - R) Financial
Secretary Robert
Tapak Magruder with
Recording Secretary
Valerie Vesely



(L - R) Don
Cummings with
Ed Bach



Tom and
Beverly
Rusinak

Slovak American Society Presents Book Talk At Slovak Embassy in October

The Slovak American Society of Washington, D.C. (SASW), together with the Czech and Slovak Heritage Association and the Czechoslovak Society for Arts and Sciences, Washington Chapter (SVUW) present:

A BOOK TALK: THE CZECH AND SLOVAK LEGION IN SIBERIA, 1917-1922

By Joan McGuire Mohr

Where: Embassy of the Slovak Republic, 3523 International Court., N.W., Washington, D.C.

When: Saturday, October 13, 2:00pm

Cost: Free, but an RSVP is required, as space is limited. Please RSVP to SASW by the end of Wednesday, October 10, either via < dcslovaks@yahoo.com > or at (571) 265-4436 (leave name and phone number).

During World War I and the Russian Revolution, a specialized battalion of ethnic Czech and Slovak former prisoners of war – the Legion – became a pawn in an international game of power and deceit. Fighting with hopes of founding a nation, the Legion's heartbreaking detour through Siberia became one of the greatest human interest stories of the war, and was chronicled weekly in the New York Times and the New York Herald. During their harrowing journey through Siberia, the legionnaires grudgingly became protectors of the Russian Treasury and of the Trans-Siberian Railroad, while accidentally precipitating the murder of the Russian royal family. Stripped of their weapons and betrayed by their former allies, over half of the legionnaires lost their lives. For political purposes, tales of the Legion's odyssey have been buried or expunged. The Czech and Slovak Legion in Siberia, 1917-1922 offers a thorough account of a once-hidden yet epic journey, shedding light on a fascinating but forgotten facet of World War I.

Joan McGuire Mohr is a U.S. historian and writer in military history, historical fiction, and biography. As an immigration historian, she specializes in Slavic immigration to the United States, with an emphasis on Czech and Slovak homeland and host-settlement conditions between 1850 and World War I. She consults as a Research Fellow for the Institute for Learning, a think tank at the University of Pittsburgh, and for museums throughout the United States and the Iparművészeti Múzeum (Museum of Applied Arts) in Budapest. Dr. Mohr earned her BA at the University of Colorado at Boulder, an MA at the University of San Diego, and her PhD at the University of Pittsburgh. She became a professor at the University of Pittsburgh while intermittently studying at Charles University in Prague, and at Comenius University in Bratislava. She served as contributing historian to the Czech & Slovak National Museum & Library, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, organizing, designing, and lecturing on an exhibit of rare World War I-era photographs and material culture.

Books will be available for purchase and signing.

Branch 493 Semi-Annual Meeting

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Society, Branch 493 in Chicago, IL, held its semi-annual meeting and summer luncheon on Saturday, August 11, 2012 at Bohemian Crystal Restaurant in Westmont, IL.

Attendees gathered at 1:30PM for a period of fraternal friendship with refreshments. The meeting started at 2:00PM. During the meeting, Ed Bach, FIC, spoke about the many insurance and annuity products offered by Jednota. Afterwards, attendees enjoyed a family-style dinner. We all left happy and stuffed!

Robert Tapak Magruder, Financial Secretary

District 2's Afternoon At The Ballpark

The Rev John J. Spitkovsky District had its annual baseball outing on Sunday, July 29th, 2012, at the US Steelyard Minor League Baseball Park in Gary, IN. The 23 attendees watched the Gary South Shore Railcats play the Fargo Redhawks. Although our team lost 3 to 14, the attendees enjoyed excellent seats along the first baseline, in the shade.

Children attended for free, compliments of District 2, and received souvenir baseballs paid for by Branch 581. District 2 subsidized tickets for adult members, as well.

Thanks go out to District 2 Director of Fraternal Activities George Kelchak for arranging this successful fraternal event.

Robert Tapak Magruder, District 2 Recording Secretary



The Branch 581 Crowd takes in the game from great first baseline seating



Branch 581 Members enjoying the day



The Peters Family helps cheer on the Gary South Shore Railcats



Branch 493 were among the 24 District attendees



Lúčina NIGHT WITH THE MONSTERS

Friday, November 16th at 7:30pm

Quicken Loans Arena-Cleveland, OH

Come out and support Lúčina Slovak Folklore Ensemble as they perform in the SPOTLIGHT during the first intermission at the Lake Erie Monsters Hockey game!

Save \$7 on each ticket with this special offer!

A portion of every ticket sold through this special offer benefits Lúčina!

SPECIAL OFFER

\$12 Lower Ends

\$7 savings!

(\$19 game day ticket)



FEATURES

\$1 Hot Dogs & \$1 Sodas

Free Post Game Skate (must provide own skates)

\$7 Discount off game day value for Lúčina Family & Friends!

Complete order form below and return with payment by November 1st to:

Lúčina Slovak Folklore Ensemble
P.O. Box 6431, Cleveland, OH 44101-6431
Or call Jessica at 216 420 2402 to order by phone

* Phone Orders or questions: Contact Jessica Naderer at 216-420-2402
Orders must be received by 4pm on November 1, 2012

LOWER ENDS (R17-25)	Total
# OF \$12 TICKETS (\$19 game day value)	
TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED	\$

*If interested in discounted tickets closer to the ice, just ask!



NAME _____ DAY PHONE () _____
ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ ST _____ ZIP _____
EMAIL (REQUIRED- Seats cannot be issued without valid email address) _____

PAYMENT INFORMATION (Please select one)

PLEASE CHARGE VISA MASTERCARD AMERICAN EXPRESS DISCOVER
CARD# _____ EXP. DATE _____ SIG. _____
 CHECK/MONEY ORDER (MADE OUT TO THE LAKE ERIE MONSTERS)

All orders are subject to availability. No ticket required for children under the age of two. Video cameras are not allowed in Quicken Loans Arena. Orders must be placed online, by mail, fax, or phone. Offer and discounts not available at arena box office. No refunds or exchanges.

METHOD OF DELIVERY:
ALL SEATS WILL BE DELIVERED VIA FLASH SEATS - Just swipe the credit card used to make the purchase (or Driver's License if paying with check/money order) at any arena gate to enter with ease and convenience. Flash Seats eliminates paper tickets and prevents lost or stolen tickets. You also have the ability to transfer seats at no cost.

Jessica Naderer W: 216-420-2402 E: jnaderer@lakeeriemonsters.com



LakeErieMonsters.com

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THE FULL COURSE HOMEMADE DINNER WILL BE SERVED AT 2:30PM

CULTURAL PROGRAM STARTS AT 3:30PM
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Live Music By Johnny Pastirik Band

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M. Chura	440-238-4177	G. Balak	440-934-5482
M. Cvicela	440-888-7028	M.Kobulsky	330-239-2256
J. Buydos	440-843-2305	N. Ruttkay	440-237-9012

Pork Ribs with Vegetables (Bravčové Rebierka so Zeleninou)

By Luboš Brieda, slovakcooking.com

This website started over 3 years ago with a recipe for karbonárske špagety. In those three years, I think I managed to post recipes for all the dishes I more-or-less remember from living in and visiting Slovakia. So this time, I decided to reach for a cookbook for an inspiration. I wanted to make some sort of a meat dish, and I found in my trusty Recepty Starej Mamy (Grandma's recipes) a recipe for pork ribs with rice and vegetables. This sounded good so I decided to give it a try. I am not a big meat eater, but sometimes you just get that meat craving. This turned to be a really simple and tasty recipe. It's different from the American way to prepare ribs – first of all, there is no barbecue sauce. And the ribs are “grilled” rapidly in the frying pan instead of being slow-cooked.

Ingredients: 1 lb pork ribs, half a large onion, one tomato, half a green pepper, one clove garlic, flour, oil, rice

Prep Time: About 30 minutes



If the ribs come as single long slabs, cut them in half to make more manageable portions. Using a tenderizing mallet, tenderize the meat slightly from both sides. Season with salt and pepper and coat one side with flour.



Then finally add the meat back to warm it up. You can alternatively warm up the meat in another frying pan – this will give you crunchier meat than cooking it in the vegetable broth. Serve with rice. I also added few fresh veggies (obloha) to give the dish more color. Enjoy!



Fry in a hot pan containing small amount (few teaspoons) of oil.



The ribs will cook fast. When done from both sides, remove and place them in some container. Reduce the heat and add a diced onion into the meat juice. Stir fry until the onion turns yellow. Then add a diced tomato and green pepper. Finally add a crushed clove of garlic. Stir and simmer covered for about 10 minutes until the vegetables soften.

Reminder...

All English and Slovak articles should be sent directly to the editor Teresa Ivanec, First Catholic Slovak Union, 6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence, OH 44131-2398. The email address for articles is fcsulifeeditor@gmail.com. Articles may also be sent by Fax at 216/642-4310. Teresa Ivanec can be reached by phone at 216/642-9406 or 1/800-533-6682.

Readers are reminded that all address changes for the JEDNOTA newspaper must be done at the Home Office in Independence, Ohio. If you have an address change, a cancellation or wish to receive the paper, write to: First Catholic Slovak Union, FCSU Home Office, 6611 Rockside Rd., Independence, OH 44131-2398. Phone 1/800-JEDNOTA; fax at 216/642-4310 E-mail: FCSU@aol.com

Answer to Puzzle

Solution to Puzzle from page 11

	M	O	W		H	A	T		R	O	O	T				
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Putovanie po regiónoch Slovenska

Motto: *Rodný môj kraj, zo všetkých
najkrajší, tys' môjmu srdcu najdrahší...*

Štáty majú svoje oficiálne názvy s patričnými štátnymi znakmi a vlajkami. Pri niektorých už z ich názvu je zrejmé, aký je to druh zriadenia, napr.: *Spojené štáty americké*, (bývalý) *Zväz sovietskych socialistických republík*, (bývalá) *Československá federatívna republika*, *Nemecká spolková republika*, *Holandské kráľovstvo*... Vnútorne sa však všetky delia na menšie územné celky, ako sú: kraje, oblasti, župy, okresy, regióny, kantóny, vojvodstvá, obvody, obce...

Na Slovensku je takým celkom popri oblasti a kraji často používaný názov región (niekedy to bola župa a možno v budúcnosti ňou opäť bude). Nahliadnime postupne do nich a nechajme sa upútať pozoruhodnosťami, pamätihodnosťami a krásami prírody, ktorá sa v nich nachádza. Začíname na východnom Slovensku.

Abov

Tento pomerne malý región na juhu východného Slovenska, je akoby včlenený medzi regióny Gemer, Zemplín, Šariš a Spiš a svojou južnou časťou hraničí s Maďarskom. Jeho centrom sú starobylé Košice, metropola východu, druhé najväčšie mesto Slovenska nachádzajúce sa v údolí rieky Hornád. Pýši sa najstarším erbom v Európe. Obyvatelia si o ňom zložili aj pesničky. Jednou z nich je:

Na košickej turňi...

*Na košickej turňi dva holubki šedza,
Pudze jim zavidza, že še radzi vidza.
Ach pudze, prel'udze nezavidzce že jim,
šak je to šumna vec dzivce i mladzenec...*

Košice sa stanú v r. 2013 európskym hlavným mestom kultúry. Známe sú aj Medzinárodným maratónom mieru (42195 km), prvým v Európe, ktorý sa tam koná každoročne v októbri od roku 1924. Z architektúry je pozoruhodný Dóm sv. Alžbety, považovaný za najkrajšiu sakrálnu gotickú stavbu na Slovensku. V budove Východoslovenského múzea návštevníkov mesta upúta Košický zlatý poklad je komplex 2 920 zlatých mincí, troch zlatých medailí a zlatej renesančnej reťaze objavený pri kopaní základov budovy finančného riaditeľstva na Hlavnej ulici č. 68 v Košiciach v roku 1935.

Treba podotknúť, že v rokoch 1938 – 1945 okupovalo horthyovské Maďarsko značnú časť južného Slovenska (najúrodnejšiu rovinatú nížinu) od Komárna až po hranice terajšej Ukrajiny s početnými obcami a mestami: Komárno, Galanta, Šurany, Levice, Lučenec, Košice...

Odtiaľ iba na skok sa ocitneme v Herľanoch, kde sa nachádza turistami hojne navštevovaný studený gejzír (jediný v Európe a po Islande druhý na svete) tryskajúci cca v 34 minútových intervaloch až do výšky 40 metrov silný prúd železitej, jódovej a uhličitej vody. Erupcia trvá približne 30 minút.

Vzácnosťou je aj starobylý kláštor premonštrátov v Jasove s kvapľovou jaskyňou, sprístupnenou už v r. 1846 zaradenou do zoznamu svetového kultúrneho a prírodného dedičstva UNESCO, nad ktorou sa nachádza štátna prírodná rezervácia s bohatou flórou. Za zmienku stojí aj neďaleké mestečko Medzev, rodisko exprezidenta Rudolfa Šustera, známe svojou starou železiarskou tradíciou vo výrobe motýk, lopát, sekier, krompáčov... Pôvodní obyvatelia boli Nemci a ich potomkovia ešte aj dnes hovoria svojím mantáckym nárečím.

V oblasti ľudového umenia sú pozoruhodné predovšetkým obce Myslava, Parchovany, Hrabina, Vinica, Kojšov... tanečnospeváckymi súbormi. Folklorný súbor Železiar je známy aj v zahraničí.

Andrej Štelmák, Sliach

(Pokračovanie)



Kláštor v Jasove.



Gejzír v Herľanoch.



Kroj z Parchovian.



Dievčatá z Kojšova.



Erb Košíc.

KBS udelila ceny Fides et ratio za dialóg medzi vierou a vedou

Konferencia biskupov Slovenska (KBS) po treťi raz udelila vedcom ocenenia Fides et ratio (Viera a rozum). Na návrh Rady KBS pre vedu, vzdelanie a kultúru cenu Fides et ratio za rok 2012 získali: emeritný prefekt Kongregácie pre evanjelizáciu národov, kardinál Jozef Tomko a biologička zo Slovenskej akadémie vied (SAV) doc. RNDr. Oľga Erdelská, DrSc. In memoriam toto ocenenie udelili astronómovi a pedagógovi prof. Antonovi Hajdukovi, DrSc.

Ceny významným osobnostiam odovzdali vo štvrtok večer (13.9.) v Primaciálnom paláci bratislavský arcibiskup metropolita, predseda KBS Stanislav Zvolenský spolu s vojenským ordinárom biskupom Františkom Rábekom, ktorý je predsedom Rady KBS pre vedu, vzdelanie a kultúru. Ocenenie pre prof. Antona Hajduka prevzala jeho manželka.

Zmyslom oceňovania zástupcov vedeckej obce zo strany katolíckej cirkvi má byť motivácia pre výnimočné kresťanské svedectvo v tejto oblasti a vyjadrenie dialógu vedy a viery či viery a rozumu.

Predseda SAV prof. Jaromír Pastorek priblížil prítomným život a dielo kardinála Jozefa Tomka, rodáka z Udavského na východnom Slovensku, ktorý vyštudoval v Ríme, kde aj dlhé roky pôsobil na rôznych postoch. Vyzdvihol okrem iného zásluhu kardinála o vytvorenie a činnosť Ústavu sv. Cyrila a Metoda v Ríme, jeho dlhoročné pôsobenie ako prefekta Kongregácie pre evanjelizáciu národov, počas ktorého vykonal misijné cesty po celom svete, zaslúžil sa o zblížovanie ľudí rôznych náboženstiev. Pripomenul takisto bohatú literárnu činnosť kardinála Tomka, odborné publikácie o histórii cirkvi, o živote sv. Cyrila a Metoda a o uskutočnených cestách a ďalšie, jeho záujem o slovenskú vedu a návštevy ústavov SAV, ako aj početné ocenenia, ktoré získal na Slovensku a vo svete.

Biologička doc. RNDr. Oľga Erdelská, DrSc., vyštudovala na Prírodovedeckej fakulte Univerzity Komenského. Od roku 1956 pracovala v Botanickom ústave SAV v rôznych funkciách až do svojho odchodu do dôchodku. Je zakladateľkou rastlinnej embryológie na Slovensku a na túto tému prednášala na univerzitách. Vydala početné publikácie, skripta a články. Zaslúžila sa o vytvorenie a činnosť Združenia pre vedu a vieru, organizovala v rámci tohto združenia početné prednášky, semináre, konferencie, diskusie a iné aktivity pre vedeckých pracovníkov a študentov. Bola predsedníčkou Slovenskej botanickej spoločnosti, získala početné ocenenia.

Prof. RNDr. Dr.h.c. Anton Hajduk, DrSc. (1933-2005) bol významným pedagógom a medzinárodne uznávaným vedcom v oblasti astronómie a astrológie. Vyštudoval na Prírodovedeckej fakulte UK. Osobne sa angažoval za znovuoživenie Trnavskej univerzity v Trnave a v rokoch 1992-1996 bol jej prvým rektorom. Prednášal na viacerých slovenských univerzitách. Roky pracoval v Astronomickom ústave SAV - v oddelení medziplanetárnej hmoty. Rozvinul radarovú sieť na pozorovanie meteorov. Pôsobil aj ako predseda Slovenskej astronomickej spoločnosti pri SAV. Vydal vyše 150 vedeckých prác, získal mnohé ocenenia doma i v zahraničí.

TASR

Projekt digitalizácie kultúrneho dedičstva SNK do júna 2015

Generálna riaditeľka Slovenskej národnej knižnice (SNK) Katarína Krištofová chce urobiť všetko preto, aby stihli zdigitalizovať kultúrne dedičstvo do konca júna 2015. Po svojom nástupe 11. júla dala vypracovať správu o tom, v akom stave sa digitalizácia nachádza.

Na základe národného projektu Digitálna knižnica a digitálny archív je naplánované, že SNK od 1. apríla tohto roka do júna 2015 zdigitalizuje 259,495,150 strán knižničných a archívnych dokumentov.

Knižnica nerobí plánovaných 300,000 strán denne, lebo na to nemá potrebné technologické vybavenie. Reálne je to denne 4,000 až 5,000 strán. V projekte sa totiž počítalo, že na 29 skeneroch bude počas troch pracovných zmien pracovať do 150 zamestnancov. V súčasnosti majú k dispozícii iba šesť skenerov.

Bývalé vedenie nepodalo ani žiadosť o zálohovú platbu, takže SNK nemala ďalšie technologické vybavenie za čo kúpiť. Podaná bola až začiatkom augusta po nástupe Krištofovej. Ide o sumu šesť miliónov eur, za ktoré knižnica nakúpi ďalšie vybavenie.

Ako zdôraznila Krištofová, do 30. júna 2015 musí byť zdigitalizovaných 2,8 milióna objektov, na čo sa chce v rámci schváleného národného projektu sústrediť. Z toho je polovica zo zbierok SNK a zvyšok sú archívne dokumenty zo zbierok Slovenského národného archívu. Ide o dokumenty a knihy od roku 1915, noviny, časopisy, ale aj rukopisy či články sprístupnené zo zborníkov.

Ešte pred samotnou digitalizáciou musia prejsť dokumenty chemickým čistením od prachu, avšak tie, ktoré sú napadnuté baktériami alebo plesňami sa musia pre zdravotné riziko vyradiť z čistiaceho procesu, a tým pádom aj z digitalizácie. SNK preto musí spraviť ešte verejné obstarávanie na dodávku konzervačných technológií, ale aj na dostavbu pracoviska, kde by sa tieto práce vykonávali. Rozpočet celého projektu je stanovený na 49,5 milióna eur.

TASR

Kohézia je hlavným mottom NATO

Spolupráca v oblasti rozvoja obranných spôsobilostí, "inteligentná obrana", nasadenie spojeneckých jednotiek v Afganistane a ďalšie témy súvisiace s našim členstvom v NATO boli predmetom nedávneho stretnutia námestníka generálneho tajomníka NATO pre politické záležitosti a bezpečnostnú politiku Dirk Brengelmann so štátnym tajomníkom ministerstva obrany SR Milošom Kotercom.

Hovorilo sa najmä o potenciáli v súčasnej zložitej situácii v obranných rozpočtoch, ale aj o možnostiach ako napomôcť prehĺbeniu transatlantického partnerstva a spolupráce medzi spojencami. V tejto súvislosti štátny tajomník MO SR uviedol, že sme plnohodnotným členom NATO, a hoci sa výdavky na obranu SR oproti minulému roku opäť o niečo zredukovali, pre rezort obrany to predstavuje výzvu: "Sme si vedomí skutočnosti, že je potrebné stabilizovať súčasnú situáciu a súběžne s tým zaistiť maximálnu efektívnosť pri vynakladaní obranných výdavkov," povedal M. Koterec a zároveň hosťa informoval, že MO SR je v záverečnej fáze prípravy Bielej knihy o obrane, ktorá definuje obranné priority Slovenska nielen doma, ale i v zahraničí.

Dirk Brengelmann sa zaujímal o postoj Slovenska k operácii ISAF v Afganistane a uviedol, že pre NATO bola v istom smere mimoriadne poučná: "Ukázalo sa, že v budúcnosti zrejme prísť k modelu, v ktorom budeme mať v misii menej partnerov. Ukázalo sa, že čím viac ich je, tým vyššie nároky sú kladené na koordináciu krokov."

Miloš Koterec potvrdil náš záujem zotrvať v Afganistane vo forme tímov špecializovaných na výcvik a podporu afganskej armády, vrátane nasadenia väčšieho počtu inštruktorov, mentorov a v dlhšom časovom období aj jednotiek špeciálnych síl. Na záver sa obaja predstavitelia dohodli na pokračovaní dialógu pri očakávanej návšteve štátneho tajomníka MO SR M. Koterca v sídle NATO v Bruseli. Informovala o tom hovorkyňa Ministerstva obrany SR Martina Balleková.

TASR

Oznámenia spolkov a okresov IKSJ

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

Oznamujeme všetkým členom Spolku sv. Štefana č. 716 Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty, že v nedeľu dňa 21. októbra 2012 o 9:30 hodine dopoludnia sa uskutoční Výročná členská schôdza vo farskej hale Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého 411 East, 66th Street v New York City.

V programe schôdzy je podanie finančnej správy, voľby úradníkov na rok 2013 a diskusia o návrhoch na ďalšiu činnosť. Vyzývame všetkých členov, aby sa tejto dôležitej schôdzy zúčastnili. Po schôdzy sa bude podávať občerstvenie.

Ostávam s kresťanským pozdravom

Henrieta H. Daitová, tajomníčka

Výročná členská schôdza Okresu Štefana Krasul'u IKSJ

Oznamujeme všetkým členom, že výročná členská schôdza Okresu Štefana Krasul'u, Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty sa bude konať v nedeľu dňa 21. októbra 2012 o 1:00 hodine dopoludnia v osadnej hale Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého v New York City, 411 East 66th Street, 1st Avenue, NYC po slovenskej svätej omši, ktorá sa začína o 11:00 dopoludnia.

Prosíme predsedov všetkých spolkov, ktoré patria do nášho Okresu, aby poslali čo najviac delegátov. Upozorňujeme, že aj nedelegáti sú vítaní. Na programe bude podanie finančnej správy, budú prevedené voľby úradníkov na rok 2013 a príprava činnosti na budúce obdobie.

Po skončení výročnej členskej schôdzy bude SEMINÁR, ktorý usporiada Hlavný úrad Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty – predseda, alebo podpredseda, pravdepodobne aj sekretár Jednoty.

Po týchto dvoch podujatiach sa bude podávať bohaté občerstvenie, ktoré pripravila členovia Spolku sv. Štefana č. 716 IKSJ. Variť bude Janko Škrkoň.

Ostávam s kresťanským pozdravom

Henrieta H. Daitová, tajomníčka

Prvá Októbrová zábava „Oktoberfest“ v NYC

Asociácia ACF „Big Apple Chapter“ a Spolok sv. Štefana č. 716 Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty si Vás dovoľujú pozvať na PRVÚ OKTÓBROVÚ ZÁBAVU „OKTOBERFEST“ ktorá sa bude konať v nedeľu dňa 14. októbra 2012 od 1:00 - 5:30 odpoľudnia v osadnej hale Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého v NYC, 411 East 66th Street, 1st Avenue, New York, NY 10065.

Budú sa podávať nemecké, slovenské a české špeciality bufetovým spôsobom. Tiež bude otvorený bar s čapovaným pivom, vínom a nealkoholickými nápojmi. K dobrej nálade prispeje aj slovenská kapela a nemecký harmonikár, ktorí budú hrať do tanca a na počúvanie.

Vstupné je 30.00 dolárov, v čom sú zahrnuté spomínané špeciality a otvorený bar. Platí sa v hotovosti, alebo money orderom. Každý účastník obdrží pamiatkový pohár na pivo.

Rezervácia vstupeniek: 1-877-556-4642 alebo Jozef Bilik 1-718-463-2084.

Srdečne vás všetkých vítame!

Dar Spolku sv. Matúša IKSJ pre slovenskú farnosť sv. Jána Nepomuckého v NYC

Spolok sv. Matúša č. 45 Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty v New York City na pamiatku zosnulému Rev. Martinovi Svitanovi venoval pre kostol sv. Jána Nepomuckého v New York City, Oplátkový kalich. Odovzdali ho členovia Spolku sv. Matúša č. 45 v New York City 26. júna 2012 osobne do rúk novému správcovi slovenskej farnosti sv. Jána Nepomuckého, Štefanovi Chanasovi.

Ty ostaneš navždy v našich srdciach!

Jozef Juráši, predseda



Pozlátý oplátkový kalich s krížikom, na spodnej časti s textom: „IN MEMORY OF FR. MARTIN SVITAN, DONATED BY ST. MATTHEW THE EVANGELIST SOCIETY BRANCH 45 FCSU, APRIL 10, 2012.“

Americká obchodná komora má záujem o zastúpenie na strednom Slovensku

Na to, aby Americká obchodná komora v SR mohla v Banskej Bystrici, ako v centre kraja, otvoriť svoje stále zastúpenie, potrebuje predovšetkým miestnu podporu, uviedol výkonný riaditeľ Americkej obchodnej komory na Slovensku Jake Slegers na pracovných raňajkách v Banskej Bystrici. Podujatie sa konalo pod záštitou primátora Banskej Bystrice Petra Gogolu.

Komora svoje aktivity v SR vykonáva už 19 rokov a od začiatku mala snahu preniknúť aj do regiónov. Prvým rozšírením jej pôsobenia bolo zriadenie jej zastúpenia v Košiciach, ktoré sa podarilo otvoriť pred deviatimi rokmi. Plánom bolo rozšíriť aktivity a pôsobenie komory aj na región stredného Slovenska a možno mať akési zastúpenie v Banskej Bystrici ako v centre kraja. Celosvetová ekonomická kríza tieto plány podľa Slegersa, bohužiaľ, spomalila.

Témou pracovných raňajok boli prezidentské voľby v USA a americko-slovenské vzťahy. Na otázku médií, akým spôsobom ovplyvní výsledok volieb ekonomiku Európskej únie (EÚ) Theodore Sedgwick, veľvyslanec USA na Slovensku, uviedol: „Myslím si, že veľmi veľa podnikateľov alebo ľudí, ktorí sa v USA zaoberajú biznisom, je do istej miery zdržanlivých, čo sa týka investícií, pretože ešte nie je jasné - nie sú si úplne istí, aký bude politický program nasledujúceho prezidenta.“ Sedgwick verí, že potom uvidíme akési znovunastolenie ekonomickej spolupráce medzi USA a EÚ, pretože tá je najväčším obchodným partnerom USA. Sedgwick je šťastný, že môže povedať, že aj v tomto čase ekonomickej krízy stále vidíme jednak príchod nových amerických investorov na Slovensko. „Ale napríklad, a čo je veľmi zaujímavým a pozitívnym ukazovateľom, tak ako ho vnímam ja, je aj to, že napríklad slovenské firmy expandujú aj na americký trh,“ dodal Sedgwick.

Gogola podľa vlastných slov využil svoje nadštandardné vzťahy so Sedgwickom a pozval zástupcov Americkej obchodnej komory, ktorí majú veľmi dobre fungujúce zastúpenie v Bratislave a Košiciach. Stredné Slovensko je podľa Gogolu stále „jedna veľká čierna diera, kde ich aktivity zatiaľ nemali odozvu.“ Primátor sa rozhodol v tomto smere podniknúť konkrétne kroky, pričom toto stretnutie banskobystrických podnikateľov so zástupcami komory za prítomnosti veľvyslancu bolo prvým krokom.

TASR

Národná púť v Šaštíne pri príležitosti sviatku Sedembolestnej Panny Márie

Pokračovanie zo str. 24

Na svätej omši sa stretli pútnici z celého Slovenska. „Už od piatku prichádzali pešie púte, stretávali sme pútnikov skutočne z celého Slovenska – z Košíc, Oravy, juhu, i západu našej krajiny, prišli aj mariánski ctitelia z Moravy a Čiech“ povedal salezián Jozef Zachar, zodpovedný za pastoračiu pútnikov pri národnej Bazilike. Púť pokračovala popoludňajším koncertom Jany Kocianovej a večer programom pre mladých. V nedeľu boli pripravené sväté omše a v pondelok púť skončila Púťou seniorov a chorých.

Sedembolestnú Pannu Máriu si uctievali Slováci ako svoju národnú patrónku už od 15. storočia. Číslo sedem má symbolický význam a v biblickom slova zmysle znamená plnosť. Tradícia hovorí o siedmich bolestiach, ktoré Panna Mária vo svojom živote prežila. Prvou je prorocstvo Simeona v chráme, keď jej oznamuje, že jej „dušu prenikne meč“. Druhou bolesťou je útek do Egypta pred kráľom Herodesom, ktorý chcel zabiť malého Ježiša, treťou je stratenie sa dvanásťročného Ježiša v chráme, štvrtou je stretnutie s Ježišom na krížovej ceste, piatou bolesťou bolo ukrižovanie a smrť Ježiša, šiestou je jeho snímanie z kríža a poslednou bolesťou je Ježišov pohreb.

Prvá zmienka o sviatku Sedembolestnej Panny Márie pochádza z roku 1412. Pre celú Cirkev bol ustanovený pápežom Benediktom XIII. v roku 1727. Ten povolil, aby sa Sedembolestná Panna Mária uctievala ako Patrónka Slovenska. Bazilika minor v Šaštíne je slovenskou najväčšou národnou svätynou Sedembolestnej Panny Márie. Dejiny chrámu siahajú až do roku 1564. O 500 rokov neskôr, v roku 1964 bola vyhlásená pápežom Pavlom VI za baziliku minor. Ten istý pápež v roku 1966 riadne ustanovil a vyhlásil Sedembolestnú Pannu Máriu za hlavnú Patrónku Slovenska. Sochu Sedembolestnej Panny Márie 1. júla 1995 korunoval pápež Ján Pavol II.

TASR, TK KBS

Peter Dvorský si vo Viedni prevzal Cenu Centrope za rok 2012

Operný spevák Peter Dvorský si 13. septembra vo Viedni prevzal Cenu Centrope za rok 2012. Získal ju za cezhraničné aktivity ako iniciátor a garant najväčšej detskej piesňovej súťaže „Slávik Slovenska“ v interpretácii slovenských ľudových piesní. Dvorský totiž začína svoju kariéru ako spevák ľudových piesní.

V roku 1990 bol Slávik Slovenska čisto slovenskou piesňovou súťažou, neskôr sa etabloval v Čechách. Potom sa dostal aj do Maďarska, Rumunska, Poľska a na Ukrajinu. Medzičasom sa už konal v Toronte a New Yorku. Tento rok je naplánovaný Viedenský slávik.

„Dakujem za tvoju usilovnosť, tvoju inšpiráciu a tvoju ľudskosť“, obrátil sa pri odovzdávaní ceny na Dvorského jeho dobrý priateľ Otto Schenk. Dvorský strávil na doskách Viedenskej štátnej opery 23 sezón. Cena Centrope sa udeľuje od roku 2007 za mimoriadne zásluhy o rozvoj stredo európskeho regiónu Centrope. Jej tradíciu založili mesto Viedeň a krajinská banka Raiffeisenlandesbank NÖ-Wien spolu s veľvyslanectvami Slovenskej republiky, Českej republiky a Maďarska. Oceňuje osobnosti, ktoré dosiahli výnimočné výsledky v cezhraničných regiónoch krajín strednej Európy.

Každoročne sa o ňu uchádzajú jednotlivci alebo inštitúcie z daného regiónu. Dotovaná je sumou 10,000 eur. Prvým oceneným bol v roku 2007 starosta Wolfsthalu Gerhard Schrödinger, o rok ju získal starosta Záhorskej Vsi Boris Šimkovič, v roku 2009 cenu odovzdali viedenskému komerčnému radcovi Eduardovi Harantovi, minulý rok putovala do rúk riaditeľovi Základnej a materskej školy v Brne Petrovi Kotyzovi.

TASR



FOTO TK KBS/ Peter Zimen

Socha Sedembolestnej Panny Márie v Šaštíne.



Peter Dvorský

Krátko správy zo Slovenska

• **Majitelia** smartfónov so systémom Android môžu využiť hlasové vyhľadávanie Google aj v slovenčine. S novou aktualizáciou Google podporuje hlasové vyhľadávanie už vo 42 jazykoch vrátane češtiny a slovenčiny. Okrem vyhľadávania je novú funkciu možné použiť aj pri diktovaní textu a písaní textových správ, či elektronickej pošty. Google nezverejnil presný počet slov, ktoré dokáže rozoznať, uvádza len hrubú hodnotu niekoľko stotisíc. Technológia sa neustále učí a postupne sa bude rozširovať o ďalšie slová. Nová funkcia je určená pre smartfóny so systémom Android verzie 2.2 a vyššej. Aktualizácie budú pre rôzne zariadenia uvoľnené postupne.

• **Štatistický úrad (ŠÚ)** zverejnil definitívne výsledky sčítania obyvateľov, domov a bytov (SODB) 2011 o materinskom jazyku a najvyššom dosiahnutom vzdelaní obyvateľov s trvalým pobytom. Za desať rokov od sčítania v roku 2001 sa na Slovensku výrazne zmenila vzdelanostná úroveň spoločnosti v prospech obyvateľov s ukončeným vysokoškolským vzdelaním. Potvrdzujú to údaje z najnovšej publikácie ŠÚ prezentujúcej výsledky Sčítania obyvateľov, domov a bytov 2011 o obyvateľstve podľa najvyššieho dosiahnutého vzdelania.

• **Pápežské** slovenské kolégium sv. Cyrila a Metoda ponúka slovenským pútnikom na svojom webe novinku. Je ňou prehľad o ubytovaní v rehoľných domoch a cirkevných organizáciách v Ríme. Informácie sú na stránke kolegiumrim.kbs.sk zoradené v dvoch kategóriách. Pre tých, ktorí hľadajú ubytovanie, kde je možné dohovoriť sa aj bez znalosti cudzieho jazyka a tie, pri ktorých je na vybavenie potrebná aspoň základná znalosť talianskeho či anglického jazyka. Nechýbajú kontaktné údaje a ceny.

• **Ministerstvo zahraničných vecí (MZV)** SR ešte nemá vytypovanú novú budovu v Bruseli, ktorá bude slúžiť aj pre potreby slovenského predsedníctva v EÚ v druhej polovici roku 2016. Rozbehlo však prieskum trhu. Súčasný objekt Stáleho zastúpenia (SZ) SR pri EÚ, otvorený koncom 90. rokov minulého storočia, už nestačí pokryť personálne potreby. "A už nevyhovuje ani technologicky, že je neudržateľné, aby sa využíval počas predsedníctva. Počet diplomatov na stálom zastúpení totiž v tejto súvislosti môže vzrásť až do 100 percent oproti súčasnému stavu.

• **Hoci** je pre demografický vývoj v Slovenskej republike charakteristický dlhodobý pokles pôrodnosti, počet detí narodených mimo manželstva naopak stúpa. Uvádza to Ministerstvo zdravotníctva SR v Správe o zdravotnom stave obyvateľstva SR za roky 2009-2011. Kým v roku 2006 sa nemanželským párom narodilo 14,888 detí, čo predstavovalo 27.5 percenta všetkých narodených detí, do roku 2010 narástol počet na 20,009 detí, čo tvorilo 33 percent z celkového počtu narodených. Vo všeobecnosti celkový počet narodených detí z dlhodobého hľadiska klesá.

• **Slovenská** ekonomika v 2. štvrtroku tohto roka vzrástla medziročne o 2.7 %. Po očistení výsledkov o sezónne vplyvy sa hrubý domáci produkt (HDP) zvýšil oproti predchádzajúcemu kvartálu o 0.7 %. Vyplýva to z rýchleho odhadu, ktorý v auguste zverejnil Štatistický úrad (ŠÚ) SR. V bežných cenách sa v 2. štvrtroku vytvoril produkt v objeme 17,825 miliardy eur, čo predstavuje nárast o 3. % oproti rovnakému štvrtroku predchádzajúceho roka. Rýchly odhad HDP bude na základe ďalších dostupných štatistických a administratívnych údajov spresnený, doplnený o štruktúry jednotlivých ukazovateľov.

• **Najčítanejším** denníkom v prvom polroku 2012 bol Nový čas. Každý deň si ho vyľadil takmer každý piaty Slováč (19 percent). Oproti predchádzajúcemu polroku (4. kvartál roku 2011 a 1. kvartál roku 2012) to znamená pre Nový čas pokles zhruba o jedno percento. Vyplýva to z prieskumu spoločnosti MEDIAN. Sedem percent respondentov si každý deň vyľadá denníky SME a Plus jeden deň. Nasledovala Pravda so šiestimi percentami pravidelných čitateľov a denníky Šport a Korzár, ktoré si prečítajú každý deň zhruba štyri percentá Slováčkov. Rebríček denníkov uzatvárajú denníky Hospodárske noviny a Uj Szó, ktorých posledné číslo videli približne tri percentá oslovených respondentov. Celková čítanosť celoštátnych denníkov v porovnaní s predchádzajúcim obdobím klesla o jeden percentuálny bod na úroveň 36 percent populácie. Aspoň raz za dva týždne si pritom niektorý denník prečíta 77 percent populácie.

• **Očakávaná** Slováčkov na nasledujúcich 12 mesiacov sa v júli v porovnaní s januárom o niečo zlepšili. Oproti zime sú Slováci optimistickejší nielen ohľadom budúceho vývoja ekonomiky, predpokladaného rastu cien tovarov a služieb či vývoja nezamestnanosti, ale aj v súvislosti s vlastnou finančnou situáciou. Vyplýva to z výsledkov aktuálneho spotrebiteľského barometra, zverejneného Štatistickým úradom SR.

• **Biskupský úrad** v Banskej Bystrici pripravuje vydanie prvej ucelenej monografie o živote Mons. Rudolfa Baláza, pätnásteho diecézneho biskupa Banskobystrickej diecézy. Cieľom je spracovať ucelenú časť života biskupa Rudolfa Baláza po jeho biskupskú vysviacku, teda detstvo, jeho mladosť, štúdiá a kňazskú službu. Monografia sprítomní život Mons. Baláza aj prostredníctvom fotografií, ktoré zvečnili okamihy jeho verejných i neformálnych stretnutí s ľuďmi. Kniha vyjde v novembri, a to pri príležitosti 72. nedeľných narodenín biskupa Baláza, po viac ako roku od jeho smrti.

• **V Bratislave** sa od 30. augusta do 2. septembra konal európsky kongres ušnej medicíny EAO-NO 2012, na ktorom sa stretlo okolo 500 otolaryngológov z Európy, Severnej a Južnej Ameriky, ako aj Ázie. Témou kongresu boli choroby stredného ucha, moderná ušná implantológia, nádory ucha a príľahlej časti lebky. "Účastníci mali možnosť sledovať aj ukážky chirurgie ucha a bázy lebky na preparátoch a trénovať základy ušnej chirurgie na modeloch spánkovej kosti," informoval prezident Európskej Akadémie Otológie a Neuro-otológie profesor Milan Profant.

• **Na Slovensku** je viac nezamestnaných mužov ako žien. Podľa posledných štatistík Ústredia práce, sociálnych vecí a rodiny (UPS VaR) SR za júl tohto roka žien bolo 198,305. Najviac, 39,134, ich mal Prešovský kraj. Po Prešovskom nasledoval Košický kraj. Žien, ktoré si tam hľadali prácu, bolo 35,921. Regiónom s tretím najvyšším počtom žien bez zamestnania bol Banskobystrický kraj. Ďalšie priečky patria Nitrianskemu (26,458), Žilinskému (21,084), Trenčianskemu (16,576) a Trnavskému kraju (15,337). V Bratislavskom kraji nemá prácu 10,602 osôb.

• **Tohtoročná** letná sezóna prilákala na Slovensko viac turistov zo zahraničia a domácu dovolenku si doprialo aj viac Slováčkov než vlani. V porovnaní s minulým rokom ale hostia na Slovensku míňali menej peňazí. Kvôli zlej hospodárskej situácii ale turisti na Slovensku nevyužívali dosť platených služieb a väčšinou si vybrali kratšie a lacnejšie pobyty. Prevádzkovatelia hotelov, reštaurácií či iných subjektov v cestovnom ruchu tak počas sezóny pocítili úbytok tržieb.

TASR a slovenské časopisy

Pred 20 rokmi prijali okrem Ústavy SR aj štátne symboly samostatnej SR

V sobotu 1. septembra si Slovensko nepripomenulo iba 20. výročie schválenia Ústavy Slovenskej republiky, ale aj uzákonenie štátnych symbolov samostatného Slovenska – štátneho znaku, pečate, vlajky a hymny. Renesancia slovenskej štátnej symboliky sa však začala už na jeseň v roku 1989.

Práve v tom období rástol záujem heraldickej obce prinavrátiť historický slovenský symbol – dvojkríž na trojvrší do štátneho znaku Československej socialistickej republiky.

Po kongrese sa dokonca ustanovila šesťčlenná komisia, ktorá od ústredných výborov komunistickej strany v Prahe i Bratislave žiadala zmenu štátneho symbolu. "My sme chceli vrátiť dvojkríž a Česi zasa žiadali, aby nad hlavou leva už nebola hviezda, ale koruna, ktorá tam bola od stredoveku," uviedol Ladislav Vrtel, ktorý dodal, že spolu s kolegami vtedy cítil aj obavy, či kvôli svojej iniciatíve nebudú mať problémy. "Našťastie, práve vtedy zasiahla do našej histórie Nežná revolúcia," povedal Vrtel a dodal, že po prevrate bolo znovuoobnovenie štátneho symbolu jednou z hlavných tém národne orientovanej časti VPN.

"Začiatkom roka 1990 sa preto téma znovuoobnovenia štátneho symbolu dostala aj do programu NR SR, ktorá napokon 1. marca 1990 jednohlasne prijala zákon o vrátení historických symbolov do symboliky Slovenskej republiky, vtedy samozrejme ešte súčasťou československej federácie. Súčasne sa v tom období ustanovila aj heraldická komisia, ktorá riešila kompozíciu federálneho štátneho znaku.

V súvislosti s kreovaním samostatných štátov sa symbolika, ktorá bola prijatá pre Slovenskú republiku v rámci federácie v roku 1990, konštituovala na štátne symboly samostatnej Slovenskej republiky. Musela sa však pozmeniť vlajka, pretože v tom čase sa Rusko vrátilo k svojej historickej vlajke z čias Petra Veľkého s bielo-modro-červenou trikolórou. Presne takú zástavu mali Slováci za svoju od roku 1848.

V roku 1992 sme sa teda dostali do situácie, kedy sme mali vlajku rovnakú ako Ruská federácia. Situáciu bolo treba riešiť. "Heraldická komisia vtedy vyberala z 10 návrhov a napokon rozhodla, že vlajka bude obsahovať aj štátny znak," uviedol Vrtel a dodal, že napriek prvotným miernym rozpakom sa to ukázalo ako veľmi dobré rozhodnutie.

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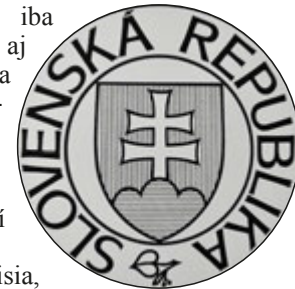


FOTO TASR - Pavel Neubauer
Na snímke originálny návrh štátnej pečate Slovenskej republiky.

IBM Slovensko sa rozširuje aj do Košíc

Americká IT korporácia IBM, ktorá pred časom plánovala na východe obrovskú investíciu, pri ktorej by mohla vytvoriť až 3,000 pracovných miest, rozbehla na Slovensku veľký nábor stoviek zamestnancov. Informoval o tom nedávno denník Hospodárske noviny (HN). Na rozdiel od minulosti však neprijíma len v Bratislave, ale aj v Košiciach. Spoločnosť sem chce presunúť činnosti s vyššou pridanou hodnotou a plánuje zamestnať hlavne lepšie platených ľudí - konzultantov a špecialistov. Výhod láka investorov najmä kvalitnou a lacnou pracovnou silou a dobrým univerzitným zázemím.

V prípade, že sa košické pracovisko IBM osvedčí, spoločnosť chce v náboroch pokračovať a rozširovať základňu na východe o ďalšie pozície. IBM už v tejto súvislosti požiadala vládu o investičné stimuly na infraštruktúru a zamestnanosť v celkovej výške 2 milióny eur. Ľudí firma hľadá cez vlastných personalistov, agentúru Manpower i sociálne siete.

Riaditeľ marketingu IBM Slovensko Branislav Kohl sa k otázke, aké veľké pracovisko budujú v Košiciach, odmietol vyjadriť. Firma v tomto roku už prijala podľa informácií HN štyri stovky pracovníkov a zamestnáva tak rekordný počet 4,600 ľudí. V Bratislave má spoločnosť dnes otvorenú viac ako stovku nových miest. Náboru IBM v Košiciach pomohlo aj júlové prepúšťanie vo fínskej softvérovej spoločnosti Ixonos. Práve Ixonos v júli ohlásil prepustenie stovky ľudí.

Spoločnosť už podala žiadosť o investičné stimuly na ministerstve hospodárstva a ministerstve práce. Prvý vo výške 400,000 eur má firme pomôcť pri budovaní infraštruktúry a druhý v hodnote 1.6 milióna eur zahŕňa žiadosť o podporu pri zamestnávaní mladých ľudí.

Spoločnosť do Košíc prilákali nižšie platy a dostatok pracovnej sily. Technická univerzita v Košiciach v súčasnosti produkuje dostatočný počet absolventov odboru informatika, ktorí si môžu v IBM vyskúšať, aká práca by im vo firme vyhovovala. Po úvodných školeniach prechádzajú noví zamestnanci IBM stážami na viacerých pracoviskách a po čase sa môžu rozhodnúť pre prácu, v ktorej sa cítia najviac doma a ktorá im vyhovuje.

Druhým argumentom, ktorý mohol IBM pomôcť v rozhodovaní sa, prečo ísť do Košíc, bol práve nižší platový strop oproti západnému Slovensku. A ten logicky pre IBM znamená aj nižšie náklady na pracovníkov.

Nové pracovisko IBM v Košiciach bude poskytovať služby pre krajinu stredoeurópskeho regiónu. Práve na Slovensko sa v súčasnosti intenzívnejšie, vďaka doterajším výborným výsledkom IBM u nás, presúvajú pozície s vyššou úrovňou odbornosti. Ide pritom najmä o pozície, ktoré k nám prinášajú služby s vyššou pridanou hodnotou a zahŕňajú okrem spracovávaní objednávok a faktúr a práce s databázami konzultačné služby. Jediným väčším problémom, s ktorým v súčasnosti IBM v Košiciach zápasi, je nie úplne vyhovujúca infraštruktúra. Mesto, kde pôsobia aj nadnárodné IT spoločnosti Ness či T-Systems má priame letecké spojenie len s Prahou a Viedňou, pričom do druhého z menovaných miest sa v súčasnosti v niektoré dni v týždni lieta len raz denne.

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FOTO TASR - Slovenská pošta

Slovenská pošta v piatok 14. septembra 2012 vydala poštovú známku s motívom Baziliky Sedembolestnej Panny Márie v Šaštíne v nominálnej hodnote 40 eurocentov. Pošta taktiež vydala nálepny list formátu A5, na ktorom je zobrazená šaštínska Pieta na oblaku, pod ktorým sú dve symbolické postavy anjelov. Špeciálna známka a nálepny list boli vydané symbolicky deň pred sviatkom Sedembolestnej Panny Márie, ktorý si Slovensko pripomína 15. septembra. Tento sviatok je spojený s tradičnou národnou púťou do Šaštína.

Na snímke nálepny list formátu A5, na ktorom je zobrazená šaštínska Pieta na oblaku, pod ktorým sú dve symbolické postavy anjelov.

On September 14, 2012, the Slovak Postal Service issued a stamp in honor of the Basilica of the Seven Sorrows of the Blessed Mother in Sastin.



Katolícky fraternalistický dvojtýždenník

Jednota

O. Štefan Furdek
Náš zakladateľ

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

Ročník 121

STREDA, 26. SEPTEMBRA 2012

Číslo 5870

Národná púť v Šastíne pri príležitosti sviatku Sedembolestnej Panny Márie



FOTO TK KBS/ Peter Zímen

Pontifikálna svätá omša s kardinálom Jozefom Tomkom v Šastíne.

Around 40,000 people participated in the national pilgrimage in Sastin on September 15, 2012. The culmination of the program was a Pontifical Mass celebrated by Jozef Cardinal Tomko and bishops from Slovakia.

Kardinál Jozef Tomko vyzval veriacich k ochrane morálky

Okolo 40-tisíc pútnikov z celého Slovenska sa 15. septembra 2012 zišlo na národnej púti v Šastíne. Vyvrcholením programu bola pontifikálna svätá omša, ktorú celebraval za účasti viacerých biskupov kardinál Jozef Tomko. Na svätej omši sa zúčastnili aj predstavitelia politického a verejného života.

„Akoby nemohla Matka Božia po takom utrpení svojho syna nevidieť tých, za ktorých to všetko on pretrpel? Ako každá matka trpí, keď trpia jej deti.“ zdôraznil kardinál Jozef Tomko. Na svätej omši sa zúčastnili aj predstavitelia politického a verejného života. „Jej úlohou je pomáhať a potešovať v utrpení. A náš národ zažil množstvo utrpenia.“

„Náš národ má i dnes svoju patrónku a ochrankyňu. Zápas o zachovanie mravnosti sa neskončil. Súčasná pokusy o oslabenie morálky, dokonca cestou zákonov, tiež vzbudzujú k bdelosti veriacich,“ pokračoval kardinál Tomko. „Široko vládnuca korupcia, rozšírený alkoholizmus, závisť, nebezpečný rozpad manželstva... Dnes sa nemôžeme vyhovárať na cudzích nepriateľov, toto je výmer našich slabostí a bolesti,“ uviedol kardinál Tomko. V závere homílie povzbudil veriacich k tomu, aby Matka Božia ostala vždy našou Matkou. „Ona pomáha udržiavať v našom ľude zdravé hodnoty. Ona túži, aby ste ju prijali do každého slovenského domu. Dal by dobrotivý Pán Boh, aby sa tak stalo.“



FOTO TK KBS/ Peter Zímen

Slovensko má nového stáleho predstaviteľa OSN v New Yorku

Novým stálym predstaviteľom SR pri OSN v New Yorku je František Ružička, ktorý v stredu 5. septembra odovzdal poverovacie listiny generálnemu tajomníkovi OSN Pan Ki-munovi. Informoval o tom tlačový odbor Ministerstva zahraničných vecí SR. Počas úvodnej ceremónie a zdvorilostného prijatia si partneri vymenili názory na pôsobenie medzinárodnej organizácie pri riešení globálnych a regionálnych výziev a ciele Slovenska na pôde OSN v najbližšom období.

Pan Ki-mun ocenil silné vzťahy so slovenskými predstaviteľmi a prínos SR pre posilnenie postavenia organizácie. Ružička na tomto poste nahradil Miloša Koterca, ktorého súčasná vláda navrhla odvolať po marcových predčasných voľbách. Koterec sa totiž stal štátnym tajomníkom na ministerstve obrany.



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František Ružička

Na Slovensku Európsky rodinný kongres

Kultúra a morálka rodiny v globalizovanej spoločnosti - taká bola téma VII. Európskeho rodinného kongresu, ktorý sa konal od 29. augusta do 1. septembra v Trnave. Jeho organizátorom bolo Hnutie kresťanských rodín na Slovensku z poverenia Celosvetovej konfederácie hnutí kresťanských rodín - ICCFM.

Na kongrese sa zúčastnili aj viceprezident Európskej federácie združení katolíckych rodín (EFZKR) Giuseppe Barbaro, ktorý podľa vlastných slov vníma postavenie kresťanských rodín v dnešnej spoločnosti ako istý „zápas“, ktorý vedú rodiny od určitého času. Ide o zápas o uznanie rodiny ako sociálneho, právneho a politického subjektu. „Ved' hodnoty a vzťahy, ktoré sa prežívajú vo vnútri rodiny, majú byť - nejakým spôsobom - modelom pre vzťahy, ktoré sa majú žiť tiež v rámci spoločnosti,“ povedal.

Barbaro, ktorý je 30 rokov ženatý a má tri deti, zdôraznil dôležitosť uznania rodiny, jej postavenia a funkcie v rámci spoločnosti. Ako však povedal, žiaľ, najmä zo strany politiky sa ukazuje, že „status rodiny sa ignoruje alebo sa rodine prisudzuje len vedľajšia rola“.

V záverečný deň rodinného kongresu v sobotu 1. septembra Barbaro vystúpil s príspevkom na tému Umiernenosť a solidarita v rodine, informovala Tlačová kancelária Konferencie biskupov Slovenska (TK KBS) v Bratislave.

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Recepcia na Veľvyslanectve SR vo Washingtone

Na Veľvyslanectve Slovenskej republiky vo Washingtone sa 12. septembra 2012 konala recepcia k štátnym sviatkom Slovenskej republiky – k Dňu Ústavy Slovenskej republiky, k 68. výročiu Slovenského národného povstania a ku Dňu ozbrojených síl SR. Pozvanie Chargé d'affaires a.i. Petra Zeleňáka a pridelenca obrany Slovenskej republiky gen. mjr. Juraja Baránka prijalo a na recepcii sa zúčastnilo približne tristo hostí - predstaviteľov civilného a vojenského diplomatického zboru, viacerých ministerstiev a vládných agentúr USA, zástupcov významných amerických firiem a hostí z krajanskej komunity. Peter Zeleňák v príhovore ocenil vynikajúcu úroveň slovensko-amerických vzťahov. Prítomná námestníčka Ministerstva zahraničných vecí USA Marie L. Yovanovitchová zablagožehala Slovenskej republike k štátnemu sviatku a vysoko ocenila partnerstvo a spojenectvo so Slovenskom a vyjadrenú podporu.

MZV SR

Pokračovanie na str. 22