



Catholic Fraternal

Jednota

THE UNION

USPA#273500 ISSN1087-3392



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

Volume 128

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14, 2019

NUMBER 5986

Our Slovak Spiritual Heritage: Our Mother of Sorrows - Patroness of Slovakia

By Sister Catherine Laboure
Bresnock, SS.M.

In Slovakia the feast of Our Mother of Sorrows is a Catholic non-working national holiday celebrated on September 15th in the small town of Šaštín-Stráže in Western Slovakia at the National Basilica of Our Mother of Sorrows.

The pilgrimage to Šaštín traces its roots back to 1564 when the wife of a Hungarian nobleman commissioned a statue of the Sorrowful Mother to be erected as an answer to a prayer. Since that time this statue, the Šaštín Pieta, had become the focus of devotion for pilgrims. The Empress Maria Theresa noticed that a large

number of pilgrims had continued to visit the shrine, so she requested that a larger church be built to house the Pieta. In 1764, with Maria Theresa in attendance, a cathedral was consecrated to the Mother of Sorrows in Šaštín.

In 1667 the Vatican approved the feast of Our Sorrowful Mother to be recognized and celebrated. In 1814 Pope Pius VII added the feast of Our Sorrowful Mother to the Roman Catholic calendar of Saints on the third Sunday in September. In 1913 Pope Pius X moved the feast to September 15th.

In 1927 Pope Pius XI first proclaimed Our Mother of Sorrows as patron of all Slovakia. In 1964 Pope Paul VI strength-

ened this proclamation by designating the Šaštín cathedral to be a Minor Basilica, the first basilica in Slovakia. In 1995 Pope John Paul II added a golden crown to the statue.

Within the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC a chapel was built to honor Our Mother of Sorrows, the Patroness of Slovakia. This monument was a gift from the First Catholic Slovak Union of the United States and Canada (Jednota). On September 5, 1965 this Slovak shrine was dedicated to Our Mother of Sorrows as a true and lasting tribute to the deep faith and faithful devotion of the Slovak people in Slovakia and America.

Editor's Note: This article first appeared in the August 22, 2012 Jednota.

Join the FCSU 2019 Pilgrimage to Our Mother of Sorrows Chapel, the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception on Sept 15, 2019. Details on page 14, Branch 856.



Your Chance to Win This Cruise Is About to Sail Away! See p 12



APPLICATIONS FOR 2019 JEDNOTA
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Insights and Viewpoints



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

120 – 20th Sunday of the Year – August 18, 2019

I have noted before that in order to establish the readings at each Sunday Mass the Gospel passage is chosen first and then the remaining texts are selected to anticipate or complement the message of the Gospel. Except for this past Easter season when the Gospel of John took center stage, we have been wending our way through the Gospel of Luke continuously



Fr. Edward Mazich,
O.S.B.

at Sunday Masses since last December. Having witnessed him in many other situations, we now meet Jesus as he takes up the theme of opposition to his message.

The point about anticipating the Gospel theme helps to explain why we encounter an otherwise unexpected tone today as we see the prophet Jeremiah thrown into a cistern that he might die there of starvation (though he is eventually rescued). The reading from Jeremiah describing his grim treatment was chosen to foreshadow what happens in the Gospel, where, in the face of persistent misunderstanding and opposition, Jesus speaks some of the most striking words of his ministry — “I have come to set the earth on fire, and how I wish it were already blazing!” If this “bombshell” from the gentle Good Shepherd were not enough, he drives home his point, adding: There is a baptism with which I must be baptized, and how great is my anguish until it is accomplished! Do you think that I have come to establish peace on the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division” (Luke 12:49, 50-51).

The second reading, from the Epistle to the Hebrews, amplifies this theme, urging disciples of the Lord to “consider how [Jesus] endured such opposition from sinners, in order that you may not grow weary and lose heart” (Heb 12:3). The author of Hebrews adds a note underlining our own need to be prepared to face opposition on account of our beliefs: “In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding blood” (12:4). Amid these dire straits hope comes from the Psalmist: “The Lord heard my cry. He drew me out of the pit of destruction, out of the mud of the swamp” (Ps 40:2-3).

The scriptures are telling us that just as the prophet Jeremiah was opposed by his own countrymen, and just as Jesus himself suffered misunderstanding from his own disciples and persecution from many others, so too we can expect opposition as we seek to live our faith in Christ and his Kingdom. What then does Jesus mean by his unusually sharp words regarding “setting the earth on fire” and coming to establish, not peace on the earth, but “division”? These almost certainly refer to the split that would arise between the closest of friends and relatives over the message of the Kingdom of God that Jesus constantly preached.

The words of the Lord himself confirm this: “From now on a household of five will be divided, three against two and two against three; a father will be divided against his son...a mother against her daughter...a mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law” (Luke 12:52-53). We are not defeated when we confront opposition to our faith or misunderstanding of it, however, because we take courage in the advice of the Epistle to the Hebrews and look to Jesus himself as our inspiration: “Consider how he endured such opposition from sinners, in order that you may not grow weary and lose heart” (Heb 12:3).

Like Jeremiah the prophet, like the author of Hebrews and like so many Christians through the centuries, we should not be surprised nor “lose heart” when those close to us reject the Gospel. Rather, we who claim to be disciples of Jesus must live our faith in its fullness, hoping that either our justice or mercy—both manifested humbly—might win back those who have turned away.

August 25, 2019 –Twenty-First Sunday of Ordinary Time

The reading from Hebrews is a word of encouragement during difficult times. In particular it is referring to the times when we find it hard to follow the discipline that comes with being a follower of Jesus. This passage compliments well the message of the Gospel in which Jesus calls his followers to “Strive to enter through the narrow gate.” It might be difficult, but if we remain strong we will succeed. And those who enter through the narrow gate are the ones who the Lord will recognize. If we look at our Christian Faith as something that is easy to live, and minimize the call of the Gospel in such a way so as to maximize my personal wants and desires and all the baggage that comes with these, we are passing through a wide gate. A gate in which we are able to carry the excess baggage of inattentiveness to God, fleeting moments of happiness, and sin. We might make it through the wide gate, but all of that baggage will make us unrecognizable to the Lord.



Fr. Killian Loch,
O.S.B.

In Jesus’ day the narrow gate was not only narrow, it was also a low gate. It was the way one entered the city after the main gates were locked at sundown, and during times of alert for enemies. One had to enter with head down and empty handed, trusting that no one was waiting on the inside to club them on the head, to injure them, or rob them. In order to enter the narrow gate one had to trust as well as to be traveling light. This is the image Jesus gives with regards to entering the kingdom. His message is that we are to humble ourselves by letting go of the unnecessary things in life, and to approach the kingdom with humility. It is a call for us to trust that God does love us and will provide what we truly need. We will stand before the Lord with nothing but ourselves, no possessions, no pretensions, no pride; only in simple humility. The Lord will recognize us for who we are, not what we possess. He will welcome us as a brother or sister.

I have shared this before, but it is worth repeating. At the funeral of Crown Prince Otto von Habsburg, known as the last of the Habsburg Crown Princes. When the funeral procession reached the church in Vienna the Court Herald knocked on the door, a friar then asked “who seeks to enter?” The Herald responded with the name and a long list of titles of the deceased Prince. The friar responded “we don’t know him.” The herald knocked a second time and asked by the friar “who seeks to enter.” He repeated the name with all the titles. The friar gave the same response, “we don’t know him.” The herald knocked a third time, but this time when asked “who seeks to enter?” the Herald responded; “a sinful, mortal human being.” The doors were opened and they brought the casket into the church.

When it comes to standing before the Lord we are called to put aside pride in titles, accomplishments and possessions and focus more on the presence of God in our lives. May we begin to let go of these things that we deem as important, but more often they are nice, but not necessary. What is necessary is to adjust our lives so that we can walk through the narrow gate with confidence in God, and humility in receiving his mercy. The way to the narrow gate may be difficult, but it is the way to Christ.

NEWSPAPER DEADLINES

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

Issue Date	Copy Date
WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 11	MONDAY, SEPT. 3
WEDNESDAY, OCT. 9	MONDAY, SEPT. 30
WEDNESDAY, NOV 13	MONDAY, NOV. 4

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

Send all copy (English AND Slovak) to:
Teresa Ivanec, Editor; fcsulifeeditor@gmail.com
First Catholic Slovak Union, Attention “JEDNOTA”
6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence, OH 44131-2398
FAX: 216-642-4310

JEDNOTA

(ISSN 1087-3392)

Catholic Fraternal

Publisher and Proprietor

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

FCSU Corporate Center

6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300

Independence OH 44131-2398

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES: UNITED STATES - \$25.00 All other countries – \$30.00

PRINTED AT: SUSQUEHANNA PRINTING, 1 East Main Street, Ephrata, PA 17522

Telephone: 216/642-9406 Fax: 216/642-4310

POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to:

Jednota, First Catholic Slovak Union, 6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence, OH 44131-2398

Periodical Postage paid at Cleveland, OH 44131 and additional mailing offices

An Invitation from the National President

Great News!

The life-sized statue of our founder Fr. Štefan Furdek has been re-bronzed and moved from Middletown, PA, to the front entrance of the FCSU Home Office in Independence, OH.

We will be hosting a re-dedication ceremony on Friday, September 13, 2019, at 4:00PM. All members are invited to attend. Slovak-born Bishop Milan Lach, Bishop of the Eparchy of Parma, OH, will be blessing the statue.

If you plan on attending, please call Miriam at the Home Office at 1-800-533-6682, ext 110 so we can prepare refreshments.

Please come help us commemorate the return home of Fr. Furdek to the FCSU Home Office from the property originally purchased in 1911.

President Andrew M. Rajec



FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION
FCSU FINANCIAL

Message from the National Chaplain

Pope Francis has designated October 2019 as an Extraordinary Mission Month. In preparation for the commemoration, profiles of certain individuals who left their homeland for work in the vineyard of the Lord are being presented. This month's article is about Saint Daniele Comboni.

Saint Daniele Comboni was born in Italy in 1831. He was the fourth of eight children, but was the only one of the eight to live into adulthood. Listening to and reading about stories of the seventeenth century missionary martyrs in Japan inspired him at the age of 18 to make a vow to join the African missions. Father Comboni was ordained a priest in 1854 and three years later he, along with five other missionaries, left on a four month journey to Khartoum in Sudan.

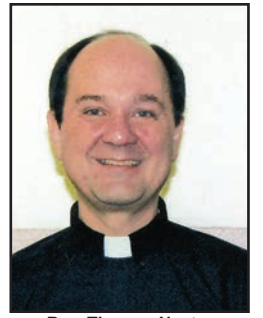
The newly arrived missionaries shared the same unspeakable living conditions as the people to whom they ministered. They faced oppressive climate, disease, sickness, poverty, hunger and thirst. Three of the five succumbed to disease within a matter of months after their arrival. After witnessing the death of one of his missionary companions, Father Comboni further committed himself to his mission by saying, "Either Africa or death." He came down with malaria himself and returned home to Italy in January 1859.

Back in Italy, Father Comboni taught for a few years at the Mazza Institute, where he was once a student. One day in September 1864 while praying before the tomb of Saint Peter in Rome, he became inspired to "Plan for the Rebirth of Africa," a venture which led to the slogan, "Save Africa through Africa."

He had two burning desires. One was for the evangelization of Africa. The other was for Europe and the Universal Church to share his same passion. From December 1864 to June 1865, Father Comboni made the first of several appeals he would make throughout Europe asking for spiritual and material aid for the African missions. He eventually established two missionary Institutes, one in 1867 for men, known today as the Comboni Missionaries, and in 1872, the Comboni Missionary Sisters, for women.

Father Comboni was present at the First Vatican Council (1868-1870). Through his persistence and persuasion, he was able to get 70 bishops to agree for the Council to make an official statement charging every local church to be involved in the conversion of the peoples of Africa to the faith. However, the outbreak of the Franco-Prussian War and the dissolution of the Papal States caused Pope Blessed Pius IX to adjourn the Council before any action could be taken.

In July 1877 Father Comboni was appointed Vicar Apostolic of Central Africa and ordained a bishop. He made a total of eight trips between Europe and Africa, his last was in November 1880. On October 10, 1881 he died during a cholera epidemic in Khartoum, Sudan at the age of 50. Pope Saint John Paul II declared Father Daniele Comboni a saint in 2003.



Rev. Thomas Nasta

Father Thomas Nasta
National Chaplain

LIGHT ONE CANDLE

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

The Heart of Mary

We dedicate the month of August to the Immaculate Heart of Mary as a reminder that we should venerate Mary's heart for its purity and devotion to Christ. We know from the message of Fatima that God wants Mary's Immaculate Heart venerated around the world and especially in places of turmoil because it can bring healing and guide souls to the love of Christ.

Mother Teresa once prayed, "Mary, give me your Heart: so beautiful, so pure, so immaculate; your Heart so full of love and humility that I may be able to receive Jesus in the Bread of Life and love Him as you love Him and serve Him in the distressing guise of the poor."

In these words, we are reminded that Mary is the one who shows us how to love Christ. To experience Christ with the Heart of Mary is to experience the Beatific Vision. This is the goal of our spiritual lives, and Mary shows us the way.

As Mother Teresa's prayer so beautifully shows, veneration of Mary's Immaculate Heart can lead to deeper communion with Christ in the Eucharist, and this in turn can awaken Christ in our own hearts and guide us towards service to those in need. Realizing the call to service can be a challenge in a world with so many distractions and temptations to selfishness. But this is only proof of the miraculous fruits of venerating Mary's Heart because she can awaken us to the joys of following Christ and guide us to live in awareness of the eternal rewards that await those who persevere in service to God and neighbor.

This month we also celebrate the Assumption of Mary into Heaven, which falls on August 15 and is a holy day of obligation. The dogma of the Assumption teaches that, at the end of Mary's earthly life, God assumed her body and soul into heaven. It is a belief we trace back to the earliest years of the Church when Christians knew that the site commonly referred to as Mary's tomb was actually empty.

Have you ever imagined what Mary's life must have been like between the time of Christ's death and resurrection and her own assumption into heaven? Filmmaker Andrew Hyatt brought this concept to life with his 2017 movie *Full of Grace*, which speculates on the last days of Mary's earthly life. It is a beautiful film about Mary's role in guiding the early Church with a profound message about how to follow Christ.

At one point in the film, Mary counsels, "The question is not whether we will struggle. We will struggle greatly. The question is: to whom do we look to in the struggle?"

Full of Grace is an excellent film to share with friends and loved ones during this month dedicated to her Immaculate Heart. And honoring Mary's assumption into Heaven by attending Mass on this holy day of obligation can provide a great focal point for veneration of our spiritual mother.

It is most certainly the sacrifice of the Mass that Mary wishes to show us as the way to draw closer to her son. All we need do is open our hearts to her and she will lead us into this life-changing encounter. So remember to venerate her Immaculate Heart and have faith in the miraculous circumstances of her life and assumption into heaven, and you will prepare yourself to become a servant with a heart molded by the compassion of Christ.

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

QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION OF THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA

HOME OFFICE
6611 ROCKSIDE ROAD, SUITE 300
INDEPENDENCE, OHIO 44131
PHONE: 216-642-9406 * FAX: 216-642-4310

SEPTEMBER 13 - 14, 2019

The *QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING* of the Board of Directors of the First Catholic Slovak Union of the United States and Canada will be held on:

Friday, September 13, 2019 8:30 AM Mass with meeting to follow

Saturday, September 14, 2019 at 9:00 AM - Executive Committee Meeting to follow

All correspondence relative to the Quarterly Business Meeting of the Board of Directors should be directed to the attention of the Executive Secretary, Kenneth A. Arendt, and should be sent to the Home Office prior to September 6, 2019.

For any additional information contact the Home Office at (216) 642-9406 or (800) JEDNOTA.

Andrew M. Rajec
National President

Kenneth A. Arendt
Executive Secretary

Region 1 Goes to Danville:

Districts 4 & 16 organize a bus trip to visit the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius

On Saturday, July 13th, Jednota Districts 4 and 16 of Region 1 went on a bus day trip to Villa Sacred Heart in Danville, PA to the Summer Festival celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Danville. It was a perfect day to visit the beautiful Villa Sacred Heart. The bus left from St. John Nepomucene Church in New York City in the morning, made a stop in Linden at the Church of Holy Family to pick up members of District 4 and then continued to Danville. During the long drive to Danville members enjoyed delicious danishes and commenced their journey with the Holy rosary led by Fr. Martin Kertys.

At Villa Sacred Heart, the participants were met and greeted by Sister Michael Ann Orlik, SS.C.M. General Superior. The Sisters and their helpers prepared a great Festival with many activities for grownups and children, food, flea market and stands with craft items; even the weather cooperated—a beautiful sun shine filled day! Sister Barbara Sable, SS.C.M., who was very helpful in planning our trip also greeted members of our group, but she was busy at the Sister's Art booth, where we could buy beautiful craft items designed and made by the sisters. Members of our group also had an opportunity to taste the Slovak food specialties - potato pancakes, holupky and pierogi. There were also food carts with the usual fair foods - hot dogs, fries and hamburgers, cotton candy and beverage stands. Some members went to visit the Basilica, some went on a guided tour of the Jankola Library and the Slovak Museum, and some took a tram tour of the beautiful, well maintained grounds of lawns, gardens and woodlands, the tram also drove by the motherhouse and the cemetery. The day ended in the Basilica with a Holy Mass at 5 pm. During the Mass, the children from our group were asked to come to the altar for a special homily. It was truly moving and inspiration to see the next generation active and engaged in the Holy Mass. After the Mass ended Jednota members sang a few beautiful Slovak hymns and then we boarded the bus to return home. After the Linden stop where we dropped off our New Jersey members we were on the way to New York when the five hour blackout happened on the west side of New York and our bus got stuck in the middle of it, but in spite of that we made it safely back to St. John Nepomucene Church and home. It was a perfect day to visit the sisters, support their work and enjoy a fantastic day at the beautiful Villa Sacred Heart.

We would like to thank the following Jednota branches who made this trip possible --Branches 41, 45, 716, 746, District 16, the Jednota home office, and our Regional Director Sabina Sabados.

- Submitted by Zelka Beckova-Kucharovic, District 16 President



District 15 Hosts Retired Consul General of the Slovak Republic

Retired Consul General of the Slovak Republic František Hudák met on June 18, 2019 with representatives of Slovak community from Los Angeles in resort city of Trenčianske Teplice, Slovakia.

Gathering occurred in beautiful hotel Krym where František Hudák was presented with the letter of Heartfelt Greeting and Recognition for his active participation in cultural life of the Slovak community in Los Angeles during his assignment 2005-2008 as Consul General of the Slovak Republic. Recognition from Slovak American Center and National Slovak Society in Los Angeles was presented by Prince Pribina District 15 President Ing Paul Skuben.

- Submitted by Paul Skuben, District 15 President



(L-R) Prince Pribina District President Paul Skuben presented the letter of Heartfelt Greeting and Recognition to the retired Consul General of the Slovak Republic František Hudák



(L-R) Branch 844 Member Dr. Alice Skuben, Prince Pribina District 15 President Paul Skuben, Branch 844 Member and Recording Secretary Dr. Maria Cyprich, Consul General of the Slovak Republic František Hudák with his wife Mrs. Danka Hudáková



Members of Branch 844 after the official ceremony, relaxing with Consul General František Hudák and his wife Mrs. Danka at Dedinka restaurant



Members of the Branch 844 attending the Feast of Corpus Christi – the Most Holy Body and Blood of Jesus Christ Mass and procession in the resort city of Trenčianske Teplice, which was celebrated on June 20, 2019. Petitions for prayers for the wellbeing and protection of Slovak believers scattered throughout the world have been submitted by members of Branch 844.



Proposal

1. A New Super Fun FCSU Fraternal Event
2. In A Beautiful, Family-friendly Location
3. At A Time Most of Us Are Ready for a Getaway

During the Dog Days of Summer



The dog days of summer are here and for the younger people among us it is a time for fun in the sun, but for older folks it's a dangerous time of the year, says the Association of Mature American Citizens.

It's okay to enjoy a walk or a picnic in the outdoors when the weather is mild and dry. But when it's steamy outside you are better off engaging in indoor activities, preferably in a space that's climate controlled for comfort. Check in with your doctor if you experience symptoms such as weakness, wooziness or cramping, suggests AMAC.

And, make sure you drink lots of water to avoid dehydration.



FCSU FRATERNAL ACTIVITIES PROPOSAL: POCONO MOUNTAINS WEEKEND FOR VALENTINE'S DAY AND PRESIDENT'S WEEKEND 2020

Proposed date: Friday February 14th - Monday 17th, 2020

Proposed location: Pocono Mountains, PA

Please let us know what activities you would be interested in:

Skiing Snowmobiling Ice Skating Tubing

Possible number of attendees:

Over 21+ _____ Young Adults: _____ Children: _____

Please email FCSU Fraternal Activities Director Kevin Collins at: kevinfcsu@outlook.com

Please put in email subject line: Poconos 2020 and indicate in the body of the email as much of the above information as possible. **Your response does not equal a commitment on your part – we're just trying to gauge interest at this point! If enough members are interested, we'll plan on it!**

Deadline: respond to this proposal by September 30, 2019 so we can get the best group rates.

FCSU Members Lauded for Good Works in the Catholic Accent

Editor's Note: The following article and photo – submitted to Jednota by National Auditor Greg Maurer and reprinted with permission from the June 20, 2019 edition of the Greensburg Diocese's magazine, the Catholic Accent – features five parish members who continue to donate their time and talents to help their church – and most of whom happen to be members of the First Catholic Slovak Union, Branches 199 and 181. Fraternalism and faith in action!

Fantastic five: Senior volunteers set example at St. Florian Parish

By Alec Italiano
Contributing Writer

UNITED — At St. Florian Parish, five people help set the Catholic example through their volunteer work with the church and in the community.

The volunteers spend much of their free time helping with parish ministries, they all help run the parish festival, and they are all between the ages of 88 and 92.

Of the approximately 130 volunteers at the parish, the five are "definitely the core of our volunteers," said Angela Reese, secretary.

Margaret Klimchock, known as "Mrs. Marge" around the parish, is one of the core volunteers who has seemingly helped in every aspect of the parish. She formerly taught faith formation classes, serves as an extraordinary minister of holy Communion, sings in the choir, is a member of the Altar Society and the ministry of consolation and, most importantly, is in charge of the fried dough stand at the festival.

"My dad had me working with him back when we were going house to house taking collections," Klimchock said. "My husband and I even fit in as janitors when he got sick one year."

Klimchock, whose four sisters became nuns, says going to the funeral home with the consolation group is one of the more rewarding areas of

her volunteer work.

"I just took it upon myself to say the 'Our Father' and the 'Hail Mary.' I can't believe how much that little prayer means to them," Klimchock said. "It just gives me the chills. I look forward to doing that because I know how it can help."

Father John Sedlak, pastor, says Klimchock "has a gift for bringing people back to church."

She helps them feel welcomed, which keeps them coming back, he said.

Joe and Betty Mizikar, who celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary June 18, also volunteer. Joe taught faith formation classes for two

generations. He serves as an extraordinary minister of holy Communion and goes to Harmon House in Mount Pleasant twice a month to lead the rosary.

"I think one of the highlights of my life was the first time I was permitted to do the readings in church," Joe said. "I was so scared. We had the lapel microphones, and I swear you could hear my heart beating right through it."

Betty has been a member of the women's choir since its formation, is in the Altar Society and has volunteered at Excelsa Health Frick

Hospital, Mount Pleasant, for nearly 20 years.

The Mizikars have four children, eight grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren. Both volunteer for the festival and love to dance.

Virginia Vahaly was one of the first members of the Altar Society, volunteers at the St. Vincent de Paul store, makes haluski for the festival, and helps knit prayer shawls for patients at Excelsa Health Frick Hospital.

Thelma Heide was a member of the former St. Boniface Parish before joining St. Florian. She helps with the festival and knits for patients at the

hospital. She was an active leader with the local 4-H club, too, putting in 60 years with the organization.

"I joined as (an adult) leader," she said. "I really enjoyed working with the girls."

The volunteers are not slowing down their involvement in the parish and community, and have started a popular book club while preparing for the parish's annual festival Aug. 11.



ALEC ITALIANO FOR THE CATHOLIC ACCENT

Father John A. Sedlak stands with volunteers, from left, Thelma Heide, Virginia Vahaly, Joe and Betty Mizikar, and Margaret Klimchock.



Queenship of Mary - August 22

Pope Pius XII established this feast in 1954. But Mary's queenship has roots in Scripture. At the Annunciation, Gabriel announced that Mary's Son would receive the throne of David and rule forever. At the Visitation, Elizabeth calls Mary "mother of my Lord." As in all the mysteries of Mary's life, she is closely associated with Jesus: Her queenship is a share in Jesus' kingship. We can also recall that in the Old Testament the mother of the king has great influence in court. www.franciscanmedia.org/queenship-of-mary



From the Desk of the Executive Secretary – Holiday Hours

The Home Office and Jednota Estates Office will be closed on Monday, September 2, 2019, in observance of Labor Day.



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\$5,000 for \$410

AGE 10

\$5,000 for \$485

AGE 15

\$5,000 for \$570

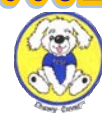


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(L – R) Branch 24's Anna Gibson, Henry Strekal, Elias Strekal, and Frances Strekal; Branch 450's Cindy Brunovsky, Alex Brunovsky, John Brunovsky, and Nathan Brunovsky



The acclaimed Cleveland Orchestra performed a live version of composer John Williams' notable score during giant screenings of a Harry Potter film while families watched the movie and picnicked from seats on the lawn at the Blossom Music Center in Cuyahoga Falls, OH.



(L – R) Branch 450 Caroline Visnovsky, Livia Nebesniková, Branch 450 Marco Visnovsky and Branch 24 Miriam Visnovsky.



Ohio Region Enjoyed the Magic of Membership at Blossom Music Center This June

Members in Ohio Region 6 – which includes District 10 & District 14 – gathered for a spectacular evening of music, movies, and the magic of fraternalism on June 29, 2019. FCSU members, including Ohio Region 6 Director Thomas Ivanec, along with thousands of other attendees enjoyed watching a Harry Potter film while the Cleveland Orchestra played the musical score. Founded in 1918, the Orchestra is acknowledged among the world's very best orchestras and considers Blossom Music Center its summer home. Clearly on this summer Saturday evening, a good time was had by all!

Branch 181's Michael Hricik Meets with Senator

Michael Hricik, Professor of English and PSEA Higher Education Chair, attended the Pennsylvania State Education Association Lobby Day on June 18, 2019. He met with PA Senator Pat Stefano and was invited to take a photograph with him on Senate floor in the PA State Capitol. Hricik is the son of former FCSU President (Emeritus) Thomas and Geraldine Hricik. He is a member of Branch 181 in United, PA. He is a Professor of English at Westmoreland County Community College in Youngwood, PA, where he has been employed since 1992.



Branch 181's Michael Hricik (R) with PA Senator Pat Stefano

Branch 716 Hosts Slovakia's LUX TV After Sunday Broadcast in NYC



LUX New York is a Slovak Catholic Media Production Company, once a month they broadcast the Slovak Holy Mass live to the Catholic TV LUX in Slovakia. On June 22nd, after a broadcast of the Slovak Holy Mass at St. John Nepomucene Church in New York City, attendees enjoyed refreshments downstairs in Church recreation hall. Branch 716 President Jan Skrkon prepared and served traditional Slovak Goulash soup with bread.

- Submitted by Joan Skrkon, Branch 716 Secretary



(L – R) Zoe Elizabeth Shaffer, and her father, Scott Shaffer.

(L – R) Scholarship recipient Martin Trach, Jr, with his parents, Marty and Sue Trach.



Branch 181 Awards Scholarships to 2019 High School Graduates

The St. John the Baptist Society Branch 181 has awarded one-time scholarships of \$500 each to four very worthy 2019 high school graduates. Recipient awards were based on academic achievement, community service, leadership and financial need.

Congratulations and success in their endeavors is extended to each scholarship recipient!

Hunter Morris is a graduate of Mount Pleasant Area Jr.-Sr. High School. Hunter wishes to pursue a career as a Pennsylvania Game Warden or a State Policeman by attending Westmoreland County Community College and/or the Ross Lefflan School of Conservation in Harrisburg, PA. It has been his lifelong dream to become a game warden since he is an avid hunter and fisherman. He would like to encourage young people to enjoy it as well.

Jessica Pendrick is a graduate of Mount Pleasant Area Jr.-Sr. High School. Jessica will attend Saint Vincent College to study Graphic Design. She hopes to become a successful graphic designer and possibly start her own company.

Zoe Elizabeth Shaffer is a graduate of Greater Latrobe High School. Zoe plans to attend Indiana University of Pennsylvania to study Speech Language Pathology. Her life goal would be to help people in skilled nursing facilities.

Martin Trach, Jr. is a graduate of Mount Pleasant Area Jr.-Sr. High School. Martin plans to attend Westmoreland County Community College this fall, then transfer to either Point Park University or Edinboro University to study Animation. His life goal is to create something that will revolutionize the animation industry as well as people's view of the animation storytelling medium.

- Submitted by Vicki Hricik, Branch 181 Secretary

Branch 181 Annual Family Picnic



1st row (L – R): Gerry Hricik, Supreme Court Members Jim Bench, and Director of Independent Agents & Supreme Court Member Andrew P. Rajec, National President Andrew M. Rajec, Mrs. Idka Rajec, Kay Bench, National Auditor Greg Maurer, and Branch 181 President Darlene Patty

The Annual Family Picnic of the St. John the Baptist Society Branch 181 of United, PA, was held at Mammoth Park on June 30, 2019. Registration began at noon and the picnic lunch was served at 1PM. Delicious entrees were provided by the branch along with favorite side dishes brought by attendees. The picnic was well attended by faithful branch members and their guests. Children were delighted with fun, engaging activities. Wonderful door prizes were won by registered members

It is always wonderful to reconnect with members each

year and make new friends as well! It was a pleasure to have our National President Andrew M. Rajec, his wife, Idka, and son, Supreme Court Member Andrew P. Rajec attend the picnic and socialize with members. As Supreme Court and Branch 181 Member James Bench said, "It was the best picnic ever!"

One of the highlights of the afternoon was introducing and awarding the Branch 181 2019 Scholarship Awards by Branch President Darlene Patty. Recipients able to attend the picnic to receive their award were Zoe Elizabeth Shaf-

fer, 2019 graduate of Greater Latrobe Area High School and Martin Trach, Jr., 2019 graduate of Mount Pleasant Area Jr.-Sr. High School. Unable to attend the event were Hunter Morris and Jessica Pendrick, both 2019 graduates of Mount Pleasant Area Jr.-Sr. High School.

Plans are already being made for the annual picnic to be held again at Mammoth Park on Sunday, June 28, 2020. Hope to see our many branch members next year!

- Submitted by Vicki Hricik, Branch 181 Secretary



Martin Trach, Jr. receiving his scholarship award



(L – R) Supreme Court Member James Bench, his wife Kay, and National Auditor Greg Maurer



(L – R) Branch 181 President Darlene Patty, Zoe Shaffer- scholarship recipient, Scott Shaffer (Zoe's father), District 3 President Bill Patty, and National Auditor Greg Maurer



Zoe Shaffer receiving her scholarship award



(L – R) Region 4 Director James Marmol and National President Andrew M. Rajec



District 3 President, Bill Patty with members and guests



Lori Marcinik led fun activities with children



Darlene Patty and Andrew P. Rajec



ATTENTION

**THE JEDNOTA BENEVOLENT FOUNDATION, INC
2019 SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

The Jednota Benevolent Foundation, Inc is accepting applications for its 2019 Scholarship Program.

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

Jednota Benevolent Foundation Award Criteria:

- Any individual of Slovak descent and Catholic faith who is **currently enrolled in college or another post secondary educational institution** is eligible for a Scholarship.
- Applicants will be required to describe accomplishments they believe would qualify them for recognition in general, and specifically, accomplishments in the areas of:
 - Scholarship
 - Leadership
 - Service to school, church and community
- Applicants will also be required to provide:
 - An official college transcript of grades and all standardized test scores achieved, including all ACT or SAT scores; (if applicable)
 - One (1) letter of recommendation authored by a teacher, counselor, administrator or an employment supervisor familiar with the applicant;
 - Examples of applicant's community involvement;
 - A list and description of leadership positions held by applicant;
 - A list of awards received by applicant for scholastic excellence, community involvement, or leadership ability;
 - A description of the applicant's academic or career objectives;
 - A statement demonstrating an applicant's need for education financing.

For applications, please contact:
Jednota Benevolent Foundation, Inc.

First Catholic Slovak Union, 6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence, Ohio 44131
Phone 1-800-533-6682 - Fax 216-642-4310

E-mail: fcsu@fcsu.com – Website: <http://www.fcsu.com/membership-benefits/scholarships/>

APPLICATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY MIDNIGHT SEPTEMBER 30, 2019

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



(L - R) FCSU Members at Kennywood included: Andrew P. Rajec, Director of Independent Agents; Margaret Nasta, District 6 Secretary; Rev. Thomas Nasta, National Chaplain; and Andrew R. Harcar, Sr., National Vice President; Margaret Nasta; Damian Nasta, Region 2 Director

FCSU Helps Celebrate 96th Annual Slovak Day at Kennywood Park

The 96th Annual Slovak Day took place on Thursday, July 18, 2019, at Kennywood Park in West Mifflin, PA. It proved to be an exciting day for Americans of Slovak descent to celebrate their heritage with each other while enjoying colorful displays, authentic costumes, a Slovak liturgy, spectacular Slovak Folk Dance performances, scrumptious Slovak food, special children's activities as well as foot-tapping music for dancing.

Members of the First Catholic Slovak Union were on site to meet and greet attendees, and provide information on our Society.

**Deadline Extended:
December 31, 2019**

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Juvenile Enrichment Plan (JEP)**



- 1st year premium waived on \$10,000 Term Insurance *
- \$14 annual premium
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**All applications must be
received in the Home Office
postmarked
by December 31, 2019**

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

COME PIG OUT!



SATURDAY, SEPT. 21

(WEATHER PERMITTING)

-OPEN TO THE PUBLIC-

SPONSORED BY THE SLOVAK HERITAGE
SOCIETY OF GREATER CLEVELAND

**-DOORS OPEN AT 3 PM-
-FOOD SERVED FROM 4PM TO 8PM-**

**WHERE: SOKOL FARM
2069 ROYALWOOD RD.
BROADVIEW HTS, OH 44147**



**COST: \$20 (includes meat, sides, dessert, and water)
\$5 Kids meal (hot dog, chips, & juice box)
Cash bar**

ACTIVITIES -PRIZES-MUSIC Cash or credit accepted.

For advanced tickets call:

Limited tickets available at the door.

Tom Ivanec 440-668-7797	Joe Oros 440-238-3655	Mike Anderko 216-396-2831	Susie Halley 440-263-1573
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Contact us on Facebook at "Cleveland Slovak Social"

The 100th Anniversary of the Renewed Matica slovenská (the Slovak Cultural Society)

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

University of Maryland Global Campus

On August 4, 2019, the Matica slovenská (MS - the Slovak Cultural Society) is commemorating the 100th anniversary of its rebirth after World War I. August 4 is known as Deň Matice Slovenskej (The Day of the Matica slovenská), a Remembrance Day in Slovakia.

Ceremonies commenced with a Christian worship service in Martin, and continued with the unveiling of the bust of Ján Vanovič, a former chairman and activist of the organization in the 1930s. A cultural program followed and concluded with a festive procession to honor patriots at the Slovak National Cemetery (Národný cintorín). A summary of the historic events will be documented on Youtube.

According to the new chairman of the Matica slovenská, Marián Gešper (since November 2017), "the restoration of the Matica slovenská is one of the most important historical milestones of our modern history, not only for Matica members, but for the whole Slovak nation. The fate of the association also symbolized the resistance and existence of the Slovaks as an independent nation in Hungary. It was abolished in 1875 during the violent Magyarization, but immediately after its inception and with the participation of several original MS members, the young Czech-Slovak state proceeded to revitalize maternal activity in Slovakia for political, ideological and cultural reasons." It contributed significantly to recognizing Slovakia's legal status in the first Czech-Slovak Republic.

The Matica slovenská aims to raise awareness of the contributions of Ján Vanovič. Society has little awareness of this Slovak patriot. MS chairman Gešper explained this about Vanovič. "He advocated improving the material situation of the Slovaks, who at that time were affected by post-war poverty. He urged land reform and the rebuilding of war-torn schools to provide education, especially for children from poor families. The scope of his policy was visibly national, social, and democratic."

Vanovič advocated the gradual decentralization of the state and equal rights for Slovakia in the first Czechoslovak Republic. He served as a founding member of the Committee of the restored Matica slovenská, Vice - Chairman of the Slovak National Party, signed the Declaration of the Slovak Nation, served as a member of the Slovak National Council and the Revolutionary National Assembly, and worked in the Chamber of Deputies of the National Assembly. From 1931 to 1938, he headed the Matica slovenská through the throes of the Great Depression, yet survived and even thrived the organization.

Origins of the Matica slovenská

The Matica slovenská first formed in 1863 when Austria permitted its founding. Hungary still did not have autonomy and could not force its laws on other nationalities. The establishment of the Matica slovenská came about after years of effort by Slovak patriots to promote Slovak national life and to document contributions in Slovak culture and academics through the founding of libraries and museums. It also aimed to raise Slovak self-awareness through educational activities and make other peoples aware of Slovak cultural contributions.

The name of the Matica slovenská derives from the Serb word for "source" or a "Mother Bee." The idea of establishing volunteer cultural associations became widespread in many Slavic countries in this era of nationalism, and Slovaks wished to protect and promote their culture and history. The Serbs had founded their Matica srpska in 1826 and the Czech followed with their own Matice česká in 1831. The Slovak first founded a cultural association known as Tatrín in 1844, but Hungary abolished it and the 1849-49 revolution disrupted cultural activities.

The First Matica Slovenská (1863 - 1875)

The Matica slovenská first formed in city of Turčiansky svätý Martin (Today's Martin -- the communists eliminated the svätý [saint] prefix in all names after 1948). The Austrian emperor Franz Jozef responded to the requests of the 1861 Memorandum of the Slovak Nation and permitted the Slovaks to found a national cultural institution. Over 5,000 Slovak national patriots gathered on August 4, 1863 and celebrated its formation. Donations from Slovaks and the Austrian emperor financed the new institution. Slovak founders selected Štefan Moyses as its first chairman and Karol Kuzmány, Ján Országh and Ján Francisci-Rimavský served as vice-chairs. By 1873, the Matica counted about 1,300 members from across Slovakia, including many towns, libraries, schools and various associations.

Although it was at first prohibited from involvement in politics and forming local branches, it quickly evolved into the people's representative institution and a symbol of Slovak "independence." The Matica slovenská soon pursued gathering funds to promote Slovak culture and laid the basis for a national library and archives and a museum of sciences in Slovakia. It also published educationally enriching material for the Slovak public, including practical manuals, calendars, readers, and academic works. Likewise it promoted the formation of amateur theater and singing societies.

The society also promoted research on Slovak culture and subsidized grants for scholars, who published their work in the first Slovak academic journal "Letopisy" (Annals). To house artifacts and provide a place for research, the Matica slovenská built a Slovak National Museum in Turčiansky Svätý Martin. It began preparing a place for studies in linguistics, law and history, philosophy, mathematics, ethnography, etc. Soon it became the central organ of Slovak national life.

Construction of its first headquarters was completed in August 1865 under the supervision of Ján Nepomuk Bobula; Milan Urban of Vsetín served as the architect of a neo-classical style U-shaped building with a courtyard in the middle.

The first Matica slovenská came to abrupt end when Kálmán Tisza, the Hungarian Interior Minister, shut down the organization in 1875 and seized all of its funds and properties. Hungarian authorities claimed the Matica was "anti-patriotic" and anti-government, even though it did not delve into politics. A policy of Magyarization could not live with a Slovak cultural association and instead founded a pro-Magyar "Upper Hungary Magyar Educational Society." A Serb parliamentary member questioned the move against Slovaks and the confiscation of property, but the prime minister just retorted that there was no Slovak nation.



**Statue in front of
Matica slovenská
building**

As more and more Slovaks were migrating abroad and organizing, Slovaks in the USA were founding fraternal benefit societies in the early 1890s. As a result of their concerns over Magyarization, they founded the Matica slovenská v Amerike in order to continue the work of the banned institution in Hungary. Unfortunately, it only lasted until 1904, and the Slovak League of America met with more success by aiming to enlighten the world about the repressive political situation for Slovaks living in Hungary.

The Restoration of the Matica slovenská (1919)

The Austro-Hungarian defeat in World War I led to the formation of a new Czecho-Slovakia in 1918. This meant that Slovak national life could once again engage in public activities, thus the Matica slovenská reopened in 1919.

On August 5, 1919, President Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk attended the grand opening ceremonies, and he generously donated over 100,000 crowns to help the Matica renew its activities. He added another half million crown grant to the Matica in 1930, an obvious approval of its uplifting work on behalf of Slovaks.

A second Matica slovenská building went up between 1924 and 1926, designed by Ján Palkovič. The larger structure is divided by three deep buttresses on the facades. A welded steel statue by national artist Ján Kulich has stood in front of the building since 1964 and is the current seat of the Matica slovenská.

A publishing company was founded, Neografia, which issued scholarly journals, educational literature, practical handbooks, calendars, translations of world literature, and Slovak classics as well as contemporary Slovak writing. The Matica emphasized publishing of literature for children and youth, and involved young people in amateur theater and singing ensembles. It also collected prints, manuscripts and pictures about Slovak national culture, creating a Slovak National Library. Research divisions in history, literature, history, linguistics, ethnography, philosophy, sociology, psychology, and other fields provided support for scholarly endeavors and publishing. It also became the center for study and the development of the Slovak language, publishing dictionaries, grammars, and a variety of academic works. In 1922, it started the scholarly journal Slovenské pohľady (Slovak Views) and later published a children's magazine, Slniečko (Sunshine).

The Matica once again had emerged at the center of Slovak national life. Membership grew as more Slovaks joined and educational opportunities abounded in the First Republic. Local branches sprouted up across Slovakia. The Matica helped keep alive local customs and record local dialects. By 1950, the Matica counted 1,125 local branches and over 100,000 members.

In addition to its work in Slovakia, the Matice slovenská also expanded its contacts with Slovaks living abroad, especially in the 1930s. It sent over a million crowns worth of books to its foreign compatriots and solidified ties mainly with American Slovaks, but also Slovaks living in Bulgaria, Belgium, France, and Romania. A delegation from the Matica solidified ties with Slovak Americans when it visited the USA in 1935-36.

During World War II, cultural life flourished at the Matice slovenská in Slovakia, but the war stifled ties abroad. The Matica founded a Slovak National Library and in 1943, it modernized a printery for Neografia. The MS also assisted in establishing the Slovak Academy of Sciences and Arts (SAV - Slovenská akadémia vied a umení) to further academic research.

The Communist Era

The communist seizure of power in 1948 initially threatened the existence of the Matica slovenská, for communist ideology opposed nationalism and the nationalist principles of the Matica slovenská. The communists nationalized Neografia and stifled MS research and publications. Local branches disappeared. A 1954 law limited the role of the Matica slovenská to that of a glorified library, the Slovak National Library and Biographic Institute, and even here, strictly limited its scope of research. The Communist party and state took control of the leadership and persecuted, discriminated, or fired those who did not tow the party line. It drove the exiled writer Jozef Ciger Hronský to establish in 1959 a Matica slovenská for Slovaks abroad in Luján, Argentina.

Still the spirit of the Matica persisted despite communist oppression. At the 1963 centenary of the founding of the Matica slovenská, people demonstrated that broad support for the institution still existed. During the 1968 Prague Spring reform movement, the Matica reemerged once more as a significant cultural and political institution and new local branches quickly resurrected. Plans even emerged for a new modern building. In April of that year, the Matica formed a specialized institute to broaden contacts with Slovaks abroad and promote the research and study of Slovak emigrants.

Once the Warsaw Pact invasion occurred in 1968, the communists again struck a blow at the hallowed Slovak institution and disrupted foreign contacts as well. "Normalization" meant the ouster of many MS leaders and its future seemed rocky. The regime reduced the MS to its

continued on page 23



Art Anyone? Branch 746 Paints!

To kick off the summer, on June 12th at the Blackthorn Restaurant and Irish Pub in Kenilworth, NJ, Branch 746 members explored their artistic side at a "Paint Nite" evening where members participating in painting a common masterpiece entitled "Tahitian Sunset". Following the step by step process, members first painted the skyline, the setting sun, the rocks, and then concluded by adding their own special touches. It was a wonderful evening full of laughter and fun! Branch 746 member discovered they all had some hidden talents. For many, this was the first time they had ever put a paint brush to a canvas!

- Submitted by Sabina Sabados, Region 1 Director

Jednota Crossword Puzzle

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15						16			
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	49				50			51			52			
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66			67						68					
69						70					71			
72						73					74			

Across

- | | | |
|--|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1 Detective's priority | 1 Baby elephant | 47 Actress Dern |
| 5 Celebrated | 2 Seed covering | 50 Free (from) |
| 10 Scarlett's home | 3 Japanese wrestling | 52 Paths |
| 14 Starch | 4 Start out | 55 Essence |
| 15 Be wild about | 5 Distant | 56 "Render therefore ___ Caesar ..." |
| 16 Door sign | 6 Periphery | 57 Ivan the Terrible, e.g. |
| 17 Smelly snack | 7 Low digits | 59 Andy's radio partner |
| 20 Levitate | 8 Bungles | 60 Famed loch |
| 21 English exam finale often | 9 Time period | 61 Arrow poison |
| 22 Family room | 10 Driver's aid | 63 Manufacturing plant |
| 23 Barbecue offering | 11 Gave the boot | 64 Tree trunk |
| 25 Cotillion girl | 12 Greet the day | 65 All over again |
| 27 Gherkins | 13 Egyptian solar deity | 67 Attempt |
| 31 Unskilled servant | 18 Serviceable | 68 QBs' goals |
| 34 Hail, to Caesar | 19 African howler | |
| 35 Chip away at | 24 Ice mass | |
| 37 Vacuum tube filler | 26 Wren or hen | |
| 39 Slant | 27 Sunblock ingredient | |
| 41 "Ick!" | 28 Like some walls | |
| 43 Awful | 29 Discontinue | |
| 44 Fable writer | 30 Tender spots | |
| 46 Painting holder | 31 Unkempt | |
| 48 Jeans brand | 32 Mentally quick | |
| 49 Wreckage | 33 Sophia of <i>Two Women</i> | |
| 51 Dec. 31st, e.g. | 36 1988 Meg Ryan film | |
| 53 <i>The Belles of St. Trinian's</i> actor Alastair | 38 Must have | |
| 54 Batman and Robin, e.g. | 40 Wails | |
| 55 Kind of instinct | 42 Lawn starter | |
| 58 Muscat native | 45 Rap sheet listing | |
| 62 Cuban dance | | |
| 66 Musical score | | |
| 69 Headliner | | |
| 70 Just beat out at the wire | | |
| 71 Fashion magazine | | |
| 72 Whig's rival | | |
| 73 Twisty turns | | |
| 74 A whole bunch | | |

See Solution on Page 19

JEDNOTA Publication Schedule for 2019

Issue Date

Deadline to
Receive Information

Sept 11

Sept 3

to accommodate Labor Day

October 9

Sept 30

November 13

November 4

December 11

December 2



WIN a spot on our **Sold-Out Cruise**

SIGN UP a NEW MEMBER and you and the new member each will be ENTERED into a DRAWING to WIN this CRUISE.

ACT NOW!

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Minimum \$1,000 deposit on 6 - or 8 - Year Annuity, \$5,000 Whole Life Insurance Policy, \$25,000 Term Life Insurance (Excludes JEP Policy).



APPLICATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY **AUGUST 31, 2019**

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800-533-6682



BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

BRANCH 2 – PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

St Michael's Branch 2 will be having a meeting on Tuesday, November 12, 2019, at 7 pm at Eat N' Park on Ohio River Blvd, 15202. Election of officers will take place at this meeting. Please RSVP to Joanne at 412-715-5577.

Joanne Lako, Secretary

BRANCH 3 – MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

Branch 3, Sts. Cyril & Methodius Society, will hold their annual meeting on Sunday, October 13, 2019, in Minneapolis, MN. The meeting will be held at 11:30AM in Father Dargay Memorial Hall, Church of Sts. Cyril & Methodius. The agenda includes: reports of officers; merge or dissolve Branch 3; or elect new officers. Lunch will be served after the meeting.

Fraternally,

James T. Genosky, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 3 – MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

Minneapolis Branch 3 will hold their annual family picnic on Sunday, August 18, 2019. The picnic will be held from 1:00PM until 4:00PM on the St. Cyril & Methodius school grounds. There will be games for the children, and refreshments and food for all members.

James T. Genosky, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 6 – STREATOR, ILLINOIS

The St. Stephen Society, Branch 6, will provide a fraternal activity for all their members. The branch will provide tickets to the performance of "Bright Star." "Bright Star" tells a sweeping tale of love and redemption set against the rich backdrop of the American South in the 1920s and 40s. Engle Lane Theatre is located at 1012 Columbus Rd, Streator, IL. The play is October 8th (Tuesday). Any member that intends on going, please call (815) 822-8851 or (815) 672-1764. The play starts at 7:30PM.

Paul Chismar, Secretary

BRANCH 19 - BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 19, will hold its regular meeting on Sunday, September 8, 2019 at 9:30 a.m. in the church hall of Sts. Cyril & Methodius Church, 79 Church Street, Bridgeport, Connecticut.

At this meeting, we will plan our scholarship meeting for November 10, 2019. The annual District 1 Meeting will be held directly after the branch meeting.

Our annual branch meeting will be held on November 10, 2019 in the church hall at Sts. Cyril & Methodius Church Hall, 79 Church Street, Bridgeport, Connecticut.

We cordially invite our members to attend our meeting and take advantage of the opportunity to spend time with their fellow branch members.

Deborah M. Nelson, Secretary

BRANCH 24 – CLEVELAND, OHIO

Attention Branch 24 members: the branch is once again offering its CHRISTMAS IN JULY MEMBERSHIP PROMOTION. For every WHOLE LIFE INSURANCE POLICY or ANNUITY you purchase or sell by November 1, 2019, Branch 24 will give you a complimentary ticket to the Vilija (Christmas Eve) Dinner sponsored by St. Andrew's Abbey every Christmas season.

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

Bob Kopco, President

BRANCH 89 – MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

Branch 89 invites members and guests in going to Arlington Park Racetrack (horse races) on Saturday, September 14, 2019.

Time/Location: Bus leaves Alioto's at 9:30AM sharp. Bus returns to Alioto's 7:30/8:00PM approximately. Alioto's is located at: 3041 North Mayfair

Road, Wauwatosa, WI 53222.

Trip includes: coach bus ride; soda and cocktails on the bus; box seat admission; and hors d'oeuvres back at Alioto's upon return.

Cost: Members are complimentary; guest cost is \$60.00.

Reservations: reservations must be made by calling Mike Novak at 414-445-5382. Make checks out to: Knights of St. Mary & Joseph Branch 89. Mail checks to: Mike Novak, 3237 N. 93rd Street, Milwaukee, WI 53222. RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE BY AUGUST 17, 2019, AND CHECKS MUST BE RECEIVED BY AUGUST 17, 2019. NO EXCEPTIONS. THOSE WITHOUT RESERVATIONS OR PAYMENTS BY REQUIRED DEADLINE OF AUGUST 17, 2019 WILL NOT BE GOING.

We hope everyone will join us for a fun day at the races!

Fraternally,

Mike Novak, President

BRANCH 153 – CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

St Stephen Branch 153 will hold its annual meeting on Saturday, October 12, 2019. It will begin at 11:30AM at Cucina Biagio, 7319 West Lawrence Avenue, Harwood Heights, IL. Officers will be elected at this meeting. A complimentary fraternal luncheon will be served. You must have a reservation, if you plan to attend this meeting. Please call Dorothy at 773 763 0810 before October 5.

Dorothy Jurcenko, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 153 - CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

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

John Baraniak	Linda Johnson
Joseph Bishop	Thomas Kerch
James Carbonneau	Edward Lorence
Audrey Cermak	Joseph Makurat
Peter Cortez	Mary McGibbon
Dennis Dean	James Morvay
Susan Donis	John Nuter
Susan Doyle	Chun Pesko
Robert Hakala	Joann Porter
Joseph Hovanec	Stephen Supa
Richard Hudziak	Rob Tomasek

Anyone with information, please contact me at (773) 763 0810.

Dorothy Jurcenko, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 162 – UNIONTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Wendelin Society, Branch 162, will hold its quarterly meeting on Sunday, September 22, 2019, at 8:30AM at the Ramada Restaurant, 700 West Main Street, Uniontown, PA, 15401.

Officers' reports will be given, and upcoming events and branch activities will be discussed. Regional Director James Marmol will advise us of developments from the Home Office.

All members and guests of Branch 162 are cordially invited to attend the brunch meeting. Call for reservations by September 16, 2019, to Dolores Marmol at 724-437-4983 as well as any changes for policies or address changes.

Dolores Marmol, Secretary

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

The St. Joseph the Guardian Society, Branch 166K, will hold its Annual Meeting and Dinner on Sunday, October 6, 2019, at 2:15 P.M., at Buffet Star, 4089 Old Vestal Road, Vestal, NY. On the agenda will be the Election of Officers and a discussion of District and Branch business. All members are encouraged to attend.

Please call Arlo Meeker at 607-775-4896 by September 28, 2019, to make a reservation if you plan to attend. We hope to see you at the meeting.

Arlo Meeker, President

BRANCH 200 – FORD CITY, PENNSYLVANIA

Congratulations to Paul Klacka who took 2nd place and Jack Augustine who took 3rd place bowling in the Armstrong County Senior games. Jack Augustine and Ed Skukelak recently loaned me some historical information on Holy Trinity Parish

book from 2001 and the CU Sokol baseball team from 1922-July 1931. I also have made copies of the "Dedication and Souvenir Banquet Program" booklet from September 5, 1954. Branch 200 was organized by Jacob Matava Sr, Frank Sporny Sr. and George Ondrechowski on October 11, 1895. I have also made a copy of "Sokol, Slovak, Czech Folk Songs" booklet. Branch 200 would truly appreciate any historical information and/or pictures any member would like to donate or loan to Vicki to make copies. Phone: 724-763-9229 or email vschaub123@gmail.com.

Sincerely and fraternally,

Vicki Schaub Financial Secretary

BRANCH 200 – FORD CITY, PENNSYLVANIA

We invite all members to attend Branch 200's meetings held in the upstairs Social Hall @ 910 6th Avenue, Ford City, PA 16226. The Officers and Board of Directors meet @7:00PM with the members to meet directly following. The remainder of the 2019 meeting dates are as follows: 9/05/19, 10/03/19, 11/07/19 with Nomination of Officers, and 12/05/19 with Election of Officers. We are asking our members to attend the meetings and we welcome any involvement you are willing partake.

Branch 200's 125th Anniversary is coming in 2020.

Vicki Schaub, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 221 – TOLEDO, OHIO

There has been a merger between Branch 221K Toledo, OH and Branch 721K Bannister, MI.

All members of Branch 221K will now hold membership in Branch 721K. This merger has taken place as of June 25, 2019.

If you should need any service on your policy, or new or additional insurance, please contact:

JULIUS PAUL REMENAR
8977 S MASON RD
BANNISTER, MI 48807-9776
(989) 862-5150

We wish to thank all the past officers for their dedication and efforts through the years performed in the spirit of fraternalism.

Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary

BRANCH 228 – LORAIN, OHIO

St. John the Baptist/Holy Trinity Lodge, Branch 228, has meetings on the 3rd Monday of each month except for the months of January, February, July and August when no meetings are held. All meetings start at 7PM and are held at the American Slovak Club on 30th and Broadway in Lorain, OH. Delicious food is served by Theresa Arendt at the last meeting of each calendar quarter. The branch will hold its annual election of officers and bylaw review during each December meeting. The exact date for this year's election meeting is December 16, 2019. At that time, we will also elect two (2) representatives to serve on the American Slovak Club Board of Directors. Once again, I ask that our members plan to attend our meetings whenever possible. It is pleasing to see the attendance at our monthly meetings slowly trending upward. Let's keep that trend going. Our District 10 officers are currently discussing ways to increase fraternal activities in our district. Attendance at our Branch 228 meetings can give you first-hand knowledge of items and events being discussed. All of this helps to promote comradery. Please attend the branch meetings to stay informed. Visit the websites for the FCSU at fcsu.com and the Slovak Club at americanslovakclub.com for an update on current activities. You won't be disappointed.

Thomas B. Zuffa, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 276 – MCKEESPORT, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 276 will hold its next 2019 meeting at 1 PM on Sunday, November 10, 2019, at the Twin Oaks Lounge in the Rainbow Shopping Center on Lincoln Way in White Oak, PA. Officers for 2020 will be elected. We will also discuss other branch and district business matters. The next district business meeting is scheduled for Sunday, December 8, 2019, at the Holy Trinity Church social hall in West Mifflin. Members are urged to check both the Jednota and the FCSU web site for updates on

FCSU business matters as well as contests and tournaments.

Fraternally,

Margaret Nasta, President

BRANCH 290 - RARITAN, NEW JERSEY

Attention Branch 290 Members: the next semi-annual meeting of the Msgr. Rura District of New Jersey will be held on Sunday, October 20, 2019 at 1:00 PM. Branch 290 will host the meeting at Carpaccio Ristorante, 651 Bound Brook Road, Middlesex, NJ 08846. Please RSVP to Steve at 908-507-0505 by October 10th if you plan on attending. Agenda will include recap of 2019 events including the Regional picnic and bus trip to Danville. Please bring non-perishable food items for donation to a local food pantry. Lunch will be served after the meeting.

Mary Kapitan, District Secretary

BRANCH 367 - FAIRCHANCE, PENNSYLVANIA

St Joseph Branch 367 will hold a meeting on Thursday, August 22 at the Bob Evans Restaurant on 681 West Main Street, Uniontown, PA 15401 at 2:00PM. All members are welcome. If any questions please call Audrey Balazik, President 724-438-3887, or Kathryn Baranek, Secretary 724-569-1006.

Secretary, Kathryn Baranek

BRANCH 401 - EAST VANDERGRIFT, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Anthony of Padua, Branch 401K of East Vandergrift, PA, invites all branch members to attend the 2019 Annual Meeting to be held at 6:30PM on Thursday, December 5, 2019, at the Hillview Tavern located at 1517 Hancock Ave., Apollo, PA. 15613. Members are encouraged to attend as your input is vital and welcomed. In addition to general branch business, election of 2020 Branch 401 officers will be conducted.

Fraternally,

Patrick Froncek, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 410 - UNIONTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The SS. Peter and Paul, Branch 410, will hold a meeting on Monday, November 18, 2019, at 2:30 at the Highland House, 92 West Main Street, Uniontown, PA. Election of officers for the year 2020 will take place. Call for reservations by Thursday, November 14, 2019, at 724-425-2576. All members are invited to attend.

Geraldine Buchheit, Secretary

BRANCH 553 - AKRON, OHIO

Thank you to all volunteers and participants of the 50th Kielbasa Open – you made it a big success. Hope to see you all next year.

Mark your Calendars for upcoming events:

August 20: Casino Trip to Rivers Casino – Call Joan Lewis to reserve a seat on the bus 330-730-8285

September 28: Steak Fry featuring the Lucina Folk Ensemble (Youth Slovak Dancers)

October 19: Casino Night (ROOF REPAIR FUNDRAISER)

November: Monthly Mystery Dinner/Scotch Doubles

December: Annual Vilija Dinner

Monthly Spaghetti Dinners: 1st Wednesday of each month = served from:30-7:00 pm

Watch for further details or call the club 330-786-9972

Support your Branch – we appreciate your patronage.

Linda Hanko, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 580 – WEST MIFFLIN, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 580 Sacred of Jesus of Holy Trinity Church will hold a meeting on Sept 25, 2019, at Abruzzi Restaurant in Irwin, PA, at 1PM. Members are welcome.

Virginia Jasek, Secretary

BRANCH 595 –

continued on page 17

DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISTRICT 1 - REVEREND MATTHEW JANKOLA DISTRICT

The Reverend Matthew Jankola District 1 will hold their annual meeting on Sunday, September 8, 2019, at 11:00AM in St. Cyril and Methodius Church Hall (now called the Reverend Matthew Jankola Hall), 79 Church Street, Bridgeport, CT. We will discuss plans for the coming year. We will conduct election of officers for 2019-2020. We hope our branch members will plan to attend this meeting.

Laura Minese, District Secretary

DISTRICT 2 - REVEREND JOHN J SPITKOVSKY DISTRICT

District 2 will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, October 6, 2019, at the Missionary Sisters of St. Benedict Convent, 5900 West 147th Street, Oak Forest, IL. Hospitality will begin at 1:30PM. Meeting will begin at 2PM. Officers will be elected. Future events will be discussed.

All branches are asked to send representatives. Come and share in fraternalism and enjoy a delicious complimentary dinner.

John Jurcenko, President

DISTRICT-3 - THE GEORGE ONDA DISTRICT - WESTMORELAND COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

The annual meeting of the George Onda District will take place on Saturday, September 7, 2019. It will be held following the 5PM Mass at St. Florian Roman Catholic Church's Social Hall. On the agenda will be plans for our annual Stedry Vecer, suggestions for our Semi-annual meeting venue and info from our branches. We look forward to a great attendance and as usual, refreshments will be served.

Linda L. Gonta, Secretary

DISTRICT 4 – THE MSGR RURA DISTRICT

The next semi-annual meeting of the Msgr. Rura District of New Jersey will be held on Sunday, October 20, 2019 at 1:00 PM. Branch 290 will host the meeting at Carpaccio Ristorante, 651 Bound Brook Road, Middlesex, NJ 08846. Please RSVP to Steve at 908-507-0505 by October 10th if you plan on attending. Agenda will include recap of 2019 events including the Regional picnic and bus trip to Danville. Please bring non-perishable food items for donation to a local food pantry. Lunch will be served after the meeting.

Mary Kapitan, Secretary

DISTRICT 6 – THE PITTSBURGH DISTRICT

Branch 60 will host the Fall Business Meeting on December 8 at the Holy Trinity Social Hall. The meeting will include planning of events for 2020. District officers will be elected for the next year.

As always, members are urged to check the Jednota for updates on FCSU business matters as well as contests and tournaments. This notice is also posted on the FCSU District 6 web page.

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

** WPSCA monthly meetings are held on the 1st Monday of the month at 7 PM at the Mt Lebanon Public Library, 16 Castle Shannon Blvd, Mt Lebanon PA. Meetings resume October 7 with a discussion of Slovak genealogy. Become a member of the WPSCA to get the newsletter listing all of their events.

** SeptemberFest at the NSS museum in McMurray – Saturday, September 28. Free admission. Vendors, Slovak music, Slovak food.

** Slovak beer tasting – Saturday, October 12 – contact Joe Senko.

** Slovak Heritage Day at Pitt – Sunday, November 3, 2019 – Noon to 4 PM. Free admission. Lectures on Slovak culture, Slovak entertainment, Slovak food, & many vendors.

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

** "Notes of Slovakia" has programs in English and Slovak. You can find them on Facebook or at notesof-slovakia.com.

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

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

** The Carpatho-Rusyn Society maintains a web page at www.c-rs.org.

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

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

** The National Slovak Society Museum in McMurray PA is available to visitors Monday-Thursday from 9-3. Contact Sue Ondrejko for information and reservations. See www.nsslife.org/Museum.php. Plan a trip to see the hand-carved Bethlehem scene with 80 animated figures.

** The CzechoSlovak Genealogical Society International will hold its next conference in Lincoln, Nebraska, October 15-19, 2019. "Nasa Rodina," their quarterly publication, has many interesting articles on Slovak history and genealogy. See www.cgsi.org. The Eastern European Family History Society holds annual conferences in Salt Lake City. See feefhs.org.

** FCSU insurance information and forms can be found at www.fcsu.com. Many interesting Slovak-related links may be found at fcsu.com/resources.

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

Fraternally,

Margaret A. Nasta, Secretary
manasta@verizon.net

DISTRICT 7 – THE REV. JOHN MARTVON DISTRICT

The Annual meeting of the Rev John Martvon District 7, will hold its meeting on October 27, 2019, the last Sunday in October, from 2-4PM. Hosted by Branch 372/ Beaverdale. It will be held at The Homestead Inn, 1939 Forest Hills Drive, Elton PA, 15934. All members including Southfork and Gallitzin are welcome to attend. Officers will be chosen at this meeting. Your input is greatly appreciated. Please mark the date on your calendar. Always happy to see new faces.

Sharon Allison, Recording Secretary

DISTRICT 8 – THE REV. STEPHEN FURDEK DISTRICT

District 8- Rev. Stephen Furdek - will be having its annual meeting October 13, 2019. Mass will be held at 10:00AM, at Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church, 4456 Main St, Egypt, Whitehall Township, PA. 18052.

Immediately following the Mass, a luncheon will be served, concluding with our annual meeting. The cost of meal will be \$17.50 per delegate. The location for the luncheon/meeting will be held at the VFW Post 7293, 5209 Springmill Road Whitehall PA. 18052.

All branches are encouraged to attend District 8 meetings. Also, it is important all delegate forms be returned promptly by September 30, 2019. There will be no exceptions. Thank you.

Any branch dues can be paid prior to the meeting or at the meeting. We have a few branches who have not yet paid the district dues. They can mailed to Gerald Fabian 4137 Wilson St, Whitehall, PA 18052-1615.

Any questions regarding the meeting please contact Monica Fabian at mfabian922@gmail.com.

Respectfully Submitted,

Monica Fabian, Recording Secretary

DISTRICT 9 - THE FRANK T. HOLLY JR. DISTRICT

The Frank T. Holly Jr. District of Uniontown, PA will hold a meeting on Sunday, October 13, 2019, at 1:00 P.M. at the Uniontown Dairy Queen Grill and Chill, 575 West Main Street. Regional Director James Marmol will brief the group of current events taking place at the Home Office. All members are urged to attend. A Dairy Queen social will follow.

Barbara A. Holly, Secretary

District 11 – MSGR JOSEF TISO DISTRICT

The semiannual District 11 meeting will be held Sunday, November 17 @ 2pm. This meeting will take place @ Rachel's Roadhouse, 27 Franklin Village Mall, Kittanning Pa.16201. Lunch will be provided @ no cost for members who attend. Any beneficial member is welcome to represent his/her branch at District meetings with or without formal identification by the Branch or to the District Secretary of intent to attend the meetings. We encourage members to attend, your input is invaluable.

Agenda: nomination and election of 2020 officers; and topic of discussion for upcoming events, including the Polka Party to be held in January of 2020. Questions may be directed to Karen Greggs @ 724-372-0690 or by email @ patrickf007@yahoo.com.

Fraternally,

Karen Greggs, Recording Secretary

DISTRICT 14 – REV. JOSEPH L. KOSTIK DISTRICT

Reverend Joseph L. Kostik, Region 6, District 14 will be holding its next meeting on Tuesday, September 17, 2019 at 6 pm at the Falcon Grille, 29 N. Canfield-Niles Road (Rt. 46) in Austintown. We encourage all branches of the District to try attending the meeting.

Grace Kavulic, Secretary

DISTRICT 16 – MSGR. STEPHEN KRASULA DISTRICT

The Msgr. Stephen Krasula District 16 will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, November 24, 2019 after the Slovak Mass in the Rectory of St. John Nepomucene Church. On the agenda will be a financial report, future activities for 2020 and election of officers for 2020.

Refreshments will be served after the meeting. All Members are urged to attend and voice their opinions and concerns.

Joan Mary Skrkon, Recording Secretary

DISTRICT 17 – STS CYRIL & METHODIUS DISTRICT – LUZERNE & LAKAWANNA COUNTIES, PA, & BROOME COUNTY, NY

The district's annual meeting will be held on Sunday, October 27, 2019, at St. John's The Evangelist Church Hall, William and Church Streets, Pittston, PA. We will be included in the Mass celebrated at 11:30AM for those who can attend; the Mass will be followed by lunch at 12:20PM, with the meeting immediately after.

Jednota updates, summer activities held, and upcoming activities will be discussed. Election of officers will take place and everyone has the opportunity to hold a position. Are you active in your branch? You may be nominated from the floor. Share your gifts of talent, interest in the Jednota, and its growth and benefits. COME AND KEEP FRATERNALISM ALIVE. Make friends through your presence.

District dues – are you up-to-date?

Hope to see you on Sunday, October 27th. Reservations are not necessary. Call Michael Slovenkai, District President, at (570) 342-7562 if you have any questions.

Fraternally,

Theresa Chupka, Recording Secretary

District 17 Plans Summer Picnic



SS. Cyril & Methodius District 17 of Broome County, NY, and Lackawanna County and Lucerne County, PA, will hold its Summer Picnic on Sunday, September 8, 2019, from 11:30AM to dusk. District members and guests will gather at Pavilion 2 in McDade Park, Scranton, PA.

Registration will begin at 11:30AM. A catered lunch will be served at noon. Snacks and beverages will be available throughout the afternoon. Branch 166K of Binghamton, NY, and Branch 382K of Scranton, PA, will sponsor a late-afternoon cookout with hamburgers and hot dogs grilled to order.

Drawings for prizes will be held throughout the afternoon. As we have done in the past, we are asking each branch to donate \$25 toward the picnic or to donate a gift basket or item (\$25 value) for our raffle on picnic day.

If your branch is attending the picnic, you may bring your donation with you. If your branch is not attending the picnic, please mail your \$25 branch donation before August 31 to: Elizabeth M. Slovenkai, 505 Emmett Street, Scranton, PA, 18505-1016. Checks should be made payable to: SS. Cyril & Methodius District 17.

The cost of the event is \$15 per adult and \$7 per child, 12 years of age and younger.

Reservations are required for the caterer and must be made by Wednesday, August 28, 2019.

To make reservations, contact Elizabeth M. Slovenkai, Fraternal Activities Director, at 570.344.3854. Messages can be left on voicemail.

McDade Park offers a variety of outdoor activities including a play area for children and walking trails. The Anthracite Heritage Museum and the Lackawanna Coal Mine Tour are within walking distance of Pavilion 2 and are also accessible by car.

McDade Park is easily reached from both north and south of Scranton:

From the North, take 81 South to Exit 191B-South 11. At stop sign, turn right and stay in left lane to the Expressway. Stay on Expressway to Exit for Keyser Avenue. At the end of the ramp at the light, turn right and get in center lane. Stay on Keyser Avenue for approximately 2.5 miles. At the 5th light, turn right onto Ransom Road at the corner where Open Door Baptist Church is located. Follow signs to the entrance to McDade Park – about 4/10 mile. When you enter the park, proceed straight and pass the park office. Pavilion 2 is approximately 3/10 mile from the entrance. Parking is available near the Pavilion.

From the South, take 81 North to Exit 182 for Davis Street/Montage. At the light at the bottom of the ramp, turn left and follow signs to Davis Street. At the next light, turn left onto Davis Street. Stay on Davis Street for five (5) lights and approximately three (3) miles. In Taylor, the road becomes Union Street. Stay on this winding road to Keyser Avenue. Turn right onto Keyser Avenue and go 1.8 miles. Turn left at the corner where Open Door Baptist Church is located. Follow signs to the entrance to McDade Park – about 4/10 mile. When you enter the park, proceed straight and pass the park office. Pavilion 2 is approximately 3/10 mile from the entrance. Parking is available near the Pavilion.



Rest in Peace, Our Departed Members



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

Branch:	Name	Branch:	Name	Branch:	Name	Branch:	Name
001P	Mary Novotnak	083K	Gerald Kuban	382K	Bernard Martin Lafko	682K	Helen Paros
002K	Irene Soeder Holder	085K	Lisa M Kliamovich	401K	Stephen A Marhefka	764K	Emory Holowatch
002K	Ross A Madia	108K	Michael Yankovich	410K	Paul Kondria	780K	Frances C Langley
002K	James Porvaznik	153K	Carolyn M Wallace	419K	Irene G Latsko	780K	Mary Mitchell
005P	Joan Ann Morris	162K	Fr Thomas M Lukac	456K	Loretta Truhan	796K	Dolores C Bond
005P	Beverly Severnak	166K	Albert A Vaskovic	465K	Ann Chawner	831K	Margaret Kachurik
005P	Bernard S Stodola	181K	Frances M Rizzo	484K	John Joseph Chimelewski	831K	Andrew E Magoc
019K	Raymond F Pistey Jr	226P	Mary Gaisior	497K	Leonard N Gress	857K	Lillian Kallock
024K	Florence T Bollo	228K	Thomas J Simulcik	543K	Frank Zubricki Sr	857K	Ronald Messer
035K	Irene Koncerak	254K	Andrew Drukalsky	553K	George J Kacsanek	900K	Helen Jo Bollitto
038K	Jane Parknavy	290K	Joseph F Minarovich	580K	Dolores J Gombita	926K	Shirley C. Boehnen
040K	John J Redd	313K	James Judicki	581K	Joseph Gersna	926K	Victor G Richter
055K	Nancy Pinelli	320K	Helen Ann Cesari	667K	Joseph P Duke		
060K	Edward F Buzek	333K	John J Krupa	670K	John E Krempasky		
060K	Joseph R Matta	373K	Rosemary Ann Tulencik	682K	Catherine Gayan		

*Processed through the month of July

OBITUARIES

**JOHN J. "JACK" REDD
BRANCH 40 –
STREATOR,
ILLINOIS**



John J. "Jack" Redd, 80, of Streator passed away peacefully Friday, April 12, 2019 at his residence in Streator with his family by his side after a 5 year battle with pulmonary fibrosis.

Born February 6, 1939, in Streator, he was the son of Clarence and Anna (Fialko) Redd. He married Jolanka Kiss. She survives in Streator.

He is also survived by sons, Ralph (Carleen) Redd of Streator and Joseph (Brandi) Redd of Bloomington, IL ; grandchildren, Emily (Brad) Lang of Rathdrum, ID; Alex Redd of Streator; and Rebecca Redd of Bloomington; great grandchildren, Jordy and Stella Lang; sisters, Carol Hall of Streator, June Redd of Ottawa, IL; and Linda (Richard) Zurlinden of Streator; brothers, Robert Redd of Streator and Will (Dilma) Redd of Claremont, FL; a sister in law, Ellen Redd of Streator and a brother in law, John Ross of Streator; numerous nieces and nephews also survive.

He was preceded in death by his parents; sisters, Loretta Morris and Darlene Ross; brothers, Francis and Leon Redd; a sister in law, Sherri Redd and brothers in law, Gerald Hall and Daniel Morris.

Born and raised in Streator Jack attended St. Stephen's Grade School and graduated from Woodland High School.

He served in the United States Army from 1961 to 1964. He served his country with honor and was stationed at NATO South in Naples Italy and Christmas Island for nuclear testing in the South Pacific. He was an Atomic Veteran and belonged to the Atomic Veterans Association.

He worked for Thatcher's Glass Manufacturing as a machine operator for 36 years until the plant closed in 1992. He also served as his Union president while at Thatcher's. He then worked for Mitsubishi Motors for 6 years until he took early retirement at the age of 60. He was able to enjoy 20 years of retirement. He enjoyed traveling and was

able to be a snowbird for 11 years in Haines City, FL.

He was a member of the former St. Stephens Church and currently belonged to St. Michael the Archangel Church. He was also a member of the Leslie G. Woods American Legion Post 217.

Jack loved his family and was a loving husband and awesome father. He was a fun Grandpa and special Opa to Jordy and Stella. He was the best son, brother and uncle.

- Submitted by Jolanka Redd

**STEPHEN J. KUBASEK, JR.
BRANCH 41 –
YONKERS,
NEW YORK**



Stephen J. Kubasek, Jr., president of Holy Trinity Society, Branch 41, passed away at his home in Yonkers, NY, on June 9 following a brief illness. He was 75.

He was born in Yonkers, NY. December 29, 1943, to the late Stephen J. Kubasek, Sr. and the former Marion Grace. In 1984, he married the love of his life, Joanne Christie and shared their love for over 35 years.

Steve graduated from the former Most Holy Trinity School and Yonkers High School. He received a B.A. degree in Political Science from St. Procopius College in Lisle, IL, now Illinois Benedictine University. As a youth, he joined the Boy Scouts of America and remained active all his life.

He was an active member of the former Most Holy Trinity Parish all his life until its closing in August 2015. His late uncle, the Rev. John J. Kubasek was pastor of the Slovak parish from 1912 until his death in 1950. Steve became the volunteer facility manager of the parish hall in 1997. In recent years, he has been a member of the parish of St. Anthony in Yonkers.

Steve was an active fraternalist all his life. He was enrolled as a member of Holy Trinity Society, Branch 41 of the Jednota at birth. This Society, founded in 1891, was the oldest Slovak society in the state of New York. The Society established the former Most Holy Trinity Parish in 1894. At the time of his death, Brother Kubasek was serving as

president of Branch 41 and helped to revive interest and activities in the lodge. He also enjoyed membership in the Knights of Columbus, the Slovak Catholic Sokol and the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association and was a life member of the Slovak League of America and was also active in area Slavic groups.

For 19 years, he was employed by the County of Westchester and was active in local politics. He served on the Yonkers City Council from 1974 until 1985, serving three years as Republican Majority Leader. In 2005, he retired from the Greenburgh Water Department where he worked for 16 years. Through his efforts numerous projects were successfully completed in Yonkers, including Trinity Plaza, the Kubasek-Trinity Manor for seniors, the Milan R. Stefanik Park, the monument honoring Major Jan Ladislav Polerecky - a Slovak who fought in the Revolutionary War; the Pulaski Crossway among others. Throughout his life, he was a mover and shaker; role model and a positive for good in the community.

In addition to his wife, Joanne, Brother Kubasek is survived by his brother Jack, sister Marion Aiello, daughters, Grace Ann and Emily, son, Stephen Bartholomew and their spouses; and four grandchildren as well as his right-hand man, brother-in-law, John Christie.

May our Brother Steve, who so beautifully mirrored our Cyrilo-Methodian heritage of faith, as well as the high ideals of the fraternal benefit system, now rest in peace. He was a credit to the American Slovak community and will be sorely missed.

- Submitted by Daniel F. Tanzone. Branch 41

**GERALD B. KUBEN
BRANCH 83 –
MT. PROSPECT,
ILLINOIS**



Gerald B. Kuban "Jerry" age 76 passed away April 17, 2019. Jerry was a longtime resident and business owner of the Aspen Leaf Motel in Lyons, CO. He was born on July 9, 1942 in Whiting, IN. He received a Bachelor's degree in Political Science, a

Master's degree in Public Administration and his Juris Doctorate from the University of Denver. He was also a Fellow for the Institute of Court Management. Jerry had an impressive career as a Senior Principal Consultant for the National Center for State Courts. He worked as an Independent Management Consultant; an Assistant Director of Administrative Services for the Administrative office of the Illinois Courts, was a Senior Associate for Public Administration Services as well as a Personnel Management Officer for the Colorado Judicial Department and Management Consultant and Research Assistant for the State of Colorado. Over the years, Jerry worked all over the United States and outside of the country. He was the primary author of the "Trial Court Personnel Management Guide" and the "Employee Discipline and Grievance Handbook." He was preceded in death by his brother James D. Kuban. Jerry will be dearly missed by his loving partner Sue Wright and her son Samuel (Nicolene); his ex-wife and dear friend Rita Brzuz; sister Jeanne Kuban; brother-in-law Charlie Kyle; sister-in-law Candyce Jones Kuban; and nephews Daniel and Peter Klempner and his many friends.

**JOSEPH F. MCGONIGLE
BRANCH 293 –
LANSFORD,
PENNSYLVANIA**



Joseph F. McGonigle, age 47, of Franconia Township, went home to be with his Lord and Savior Wednesday, April 17, 2019 after a courageous four-year battle with cancer. Born in Media, PA, he was the son of Kathleen (Bimler) McGonigle, of Jim Thorpe and the late Bernard J. McGonigle. Joe graduated from Penn Crest High School, Class of 1990. Joe was employed as a supervisor for the PA Dept. of Agriculture, Weights & Measures Department. He loved fishing, hunting and passing on his knowledge to others. Joe was an excellent marksman who won many first-place shooting competitions in the Tri-State area. No matter what Joe set his

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OBITUARIES

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mind to, he always gave it 100%. He was a member of Central Schwenkfelder Church, Lansdale. Joe's cancer journey brought him closer to the Lord. He never complained even through all his suffering. Joe was an inspiration to many and will be deeply missed by his family and friends. In addition to his mother Kathleen, he is survived by his wife Sherri L. (Clemens) McGonigle, to whom he would have been married 18 years on April 21, two children Shyanne and Brandon, his in-laws Ken & Fran Clemens, Mike & Pam Clemens, Karen & John Reininger, Bruce & Jen Clemens, many nieces and nephews; Stephanie & Todd, Jessica, Andrew, Brad, Jason, Jacob & Abigail, Tristan, Deanna, and Kurtis. In addition to his father Bernard, he was preceded in death by his brother Timothy McGonigle.

- Submitted by Sherri L. McGonigle

SHIRLEY ANNE (JACKENS) KOVACH BRANCH 484 – CORAL, PENNSYLVANIA

Shirley Anne (Jackens) Kovach, 84, Nanty Glo, PA, passed away April 20, 2019



at home. She was born Sept. 15, 1934 in Nanty Glo. Daughter of the late Joseph and Catherine (Mahan) Jackens. Preceded in death by husband Paul P. Kovach. Brother John "Jack" Jackens. Shirley is survived by her children: Paul Kovach, Elizabeth Hayes, Lynette (Brian) McEvoy. Grandchildren: Seth (Allie), Austin (Cede), and Olivia. Great grandchildren Mya, Bella, Annalyse, Addley, and Waylon. Sister of Mary Jane Crnarich and Patricia Jackens. Many nieces and nephews. Member of St. Mary's Church, Nanty Glo, where she belonged to the Altar and Rosary Society. Member of Nanty Glo Senior Center, the First Catholic Slovak Union, and the National Slovak Society.

- Submitted by Lynette McEvoy

ANTHONY M. "TONY" CHISMAR, SR. BRANCH 682 – YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

Anthony M. "Tony" Chismar, Sr., 91, passed away peacefully after a short illness, at Hospice House on Thursday, May 9, 2019.



Tony was born June 3, 1927 in Youngstown and raised in Smokey Hollow, a son of William A. Chismar and Mary Maurer Chismar.

He attended St. Cyril & Methodius School and Rayen High School until drafted into the Army in 1945. He served in the 2nd Division 9th Infantry in Seattle, Washington. He worked at the A&P Grocery Stores part time before being drafted and then full time upon his return in management for 30 plus years. He then worked at Rhiel Supply, retiring early to enjoy family and friends. Tony was known as "Mr. Chiz" to his daughter's and sons' numerous friends.

He was a member of St. Christine Church, where he was an usher at the 4:00 Saturday Masses and a former member of St. Dominic Church. He was also a member of St. George's Croatian Lodge #66 and past President of Retail Clerks #298. He was a bowler for over 60 years in the St. Dominic league and other leagues with his brothers and he liked to polka.

He leaves to cherish his memory a daughter, Barbara (Charles "Butch") Lias; four sons, William (Linda) Chismar, James (MaryEllen) Chismar, Robert Chismar and Anthony (Judy) Chismar, Jr., all of Boardman, OH; five brothers, William (Mariann) Chismar, Austintown, OH; Joseph Chismar, Poland; Michael Chismar, Youngstown; Jack (Betty) Chismar, Boardman; and Ed Chismar, Poland; a brother-in-law, Br. Louis Petruska of The Abbey of the Genesee, Piffard, NY; five grandchildren, Michael and Mark Lias, Jessica and James Chismar and Lexi Chismar; and many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends too numerous to mention.

He was preceded in death by his parents; sister and brother-in-law, Dorothy and Andrew Stolar; sister, Mary Pauline Kral; sisters-in-law, Nancy Chismar and Janie Chismar; nephews, Edward Chismar and Edward Delbrugge; nieces, Nancy and Tammy Kral and his former wife and mother of his children, Barbara Petruska Chismar.

- Submitted by Barbara Lias

JOAN TKACH BRANCH 746 – LINDEN, NEW JERSEY

Joan (Simora) Tkach, 89, of Edison, NJ, passed away on Monday, May 6, 2019, at Brighton Gardens of Edison.

Joan was born in Pusté Sady, Czechoslovakia (now Slovakia), and raised in Risnovce. She came to the U.S. in 1946 after World War II, lived in Astoria, NY, and moved to Edison in 1982.

Joan worked in sales, catering, and managed the family real estate for over 25 years.

She was a communicant of St. John Vianney Church in Colonia, NJ, and a member of St. John Vianney Seniors Club, AARP No. 3459, and First Catholic Slovak Union - Jednota Branch 746.

Joan provided and processed Graymoor Mass Cards for her neighbors for many years. She also volunteered with costume preparations for the Limbora Slovak Folk Ensemble dancers.

Joan enjoyed spending time with her family down the shore, in the Poconos, and traveling to many great places.

She attended numerous cultural festivals and religious pilgrimages.

Joan was devoted to her family, was a kindhearted friend who had strong values, was a great inspiration, and always gave the best advice to all.

Joan was predeceased by her beloved husband of 51 years, John Tkach (2003), and her son, John Thomas Tkach, (1992).

Surviving are her loving son, Jerry Tkach; her daughter, Joanne (Eugene) Polt, and

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BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

continued from page 14

MUSKEGON HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN

Branch 595 will hold a general branch meeting on Saturday, September 14, 2019, at 2PM at Tatra Hall, 2536 Sixth St. Muskegon Heights, MI. All members are welcome.

Mindy Redmon, Vice President

BRANCH 716 – NEW YORK, NEW YORK

St. John Nepomucene Church with the support of Branch 716 will hold its annual Pilgrimage to Graymoor Spiritual Center on September 15, 2019. Confessions will be heard at 10:00 AM, Holy Mass celebrated at 11:00 AM. Lunch available for purchase, Bus will leave from St. John at 8:00 AM

Cost of bus is \$15.00 per person, children under 12 free. For more information and bus reservations please call Lisa Calabrese at 212-734-4613 or email at parishfin@eastrivercatholics.org. Reservations must be made by 9/6/2019.

Joan Mary Skrkon, Secretary

BRANCH 731 – YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

Saint Joseph Branch 731 members will gather for the performance of Disney on Ice at the Covelli Center, Youngstown, OH. The designated date is December 29, 2019 at the 5pm performance. Any Branch 731 member who purchases a ticket for this particular event on December 29, 2019 will be reimbursed \$15 for their ticket. This early announcement is in anticipation of a sellout crowd at this event. We don't want you to be left out. More details will follow at our September 22, 2019 meeting regarding your reimbursement. The meeting on September 22, 2019 is at 4PM at Café 422, South Avenue, Boardman, OH. Get your tickets and join your fraternal friends.

Jim Bobby, Secretary

BRANCH 746 – LINDEN, NEW JERSEY

Members of St. John the Baptist Society - Branch 746 - are asked to save the date for the upcoming branch meeting and Christmas party which is planned for Sunday, December 8th! More details in the next issue.

Please also note that the next semi-annual meeting of the Msgr. Rura District of New Jersey will be held on Sunday, October 20, 2019 at 1:00 PM. Branch 290 will host the meeting at Carpaccio Ristorante, 651 Bound Brook Road, Middlesex, NJ 08846. Please RSVP to Steve at 908-507-0505 by October 10th if you plan on attending. Agenda will include recap of 2019 events including the Regional picnic and bus trip to Danville. Please bring non-perishable food items for donation to a local food pantry. Lunch will be served after the meeting.

Mary Kapitan, Secretary

BRANCH 784 – MONTREAL, QUEBEC

Branch 784 Montreal will be merging with Branch 785, Toronto. Branch 784 will hold a farewell to Montreal Banquet on October 27, 2019, at the St. Cyril and Method Parish Hall following the 11o'clock Mass. All current members of Branch 784 are invited to attend. This will be catered. We ask that members planning to attend to advise the following at least two weeks prior to the event: Anne Boyce

514-685-4236 – Anne Chandik 514-684-0177; Helen Corej 514-747-5600; or Julie Zemanovich 450-424-1279

Our sincere thanks to all past officers for their dedication throughout the years.

Alice Dobrik, President

BRANCH 855 – PARMA, OHIO

The next meeting of the Holy Name of Jesus Society Branch 855 will be Thursday August 22, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. in the meeting room at Panera Bread – 5090 Tiedemann Rd – Brooklyn 44144. Please bring a donation for the Parma Animal Shelter (food, treats, kitty litter, leashes, towels...think pet friendly). RSVP Barbara by text or voice mail 440-864-4744.

Barbara Sutilla, President

BRANCH 856 – WASHINGTON, DC AND AREA

Branch 856 has again scheduled a Mass in honor of the 54th anniversary of the dedication of the Slovak Chapel Our Mother of Sorrows. Mass will be in the Crypt Church of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. 400 Michigan Avenue N.E. Washington, DC. Mass will be celebrated Sunday September 15, 2019 at 11:30 (Please note change in time). Would like to see more members of Branch 856 in attendance. Looking forward to seeing all the faithful who travel from New York and New Jersey to attend this celebration. For more information call Marion Mistrik at 301-654-5638 or Katherine Nowatkoski at 919-651-0363.

Katherine Nowatkoski, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 862 – MENTOR, OHIO

There has been a merger between Branch 862K Mentor, OH and Branch 024K Cleveland, OH. All members of Branch 862K will now hold membership in Branch 024K. This merger has taken place as of June 19, 2019.

If you should need any service on your policy, or new or additional insurance, please contact:

ROBERT J KOPCO
6607 HILLSIDE RD

INDEPENDENCE, OH 44131-5348
(216) 524-0952

We wish to thank all the past officers for their dedication and efforts through the years performed in the spirit of fraternalism.

Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary

BRANCH 888 – WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA

The Holy Trinity Society, Branch 888, will hold its next meeting on Sunday Sunday, October 7th, 2019. Both meetings will be at 6:00 pm at 6921 Isla Vista Drive, West Palm Beach, Florida, 33412. Contact David Rafaidus, President at (561) 776-0449 or jednota888@yahoo.com for directions and information.

On the agenda for the meetings will be the discussion of future Branch activities, treasurer report, nomination/election of officers and items of mutual interest to the membership. All Branch members are invited to attend.

David Rafaidus, President
(561) 776-0449

Your Phone Call Is Important to Us



At the First Catholic Slovak Union, we take every phone call very seriously. Our goal is to deliver the best customer service possible. Please take the following steps when you get our voice mail so that we can provide you with the level of service and attention you deserve.

1. Leave a brief reason for your call.
2. Be sure to state your full name, and spell your last name.
3. Along with your phone number, let us know the best

time to contact you between the hours of 8:00AM and 4:30PM, M- F.

4. Remember that we can only discuss a contract or certificate with the owner or with permission from the owner.

OBITUARIES

continued from page 16

cherished grandchildren, Kevin Polt and Brian (Meghan) Polt.

**MICHAL ČAKLOŠ
BRANCH 785
- TORONTO,
CANADA**

Michal (MIKE) Čakloš, 87, of Toronto, Ontario, Canada died December 3, 2018 at Trillium Hospital in Mississauga.



Mike was born on November 27, 1931 in Chotča, Okres Stropkov, Slovakia (former Czechoslovakia). He is survived by his wife of 61 years Olga (nee Kuzmišin) and his children Edward (Kathy), Carolyn (Jim), Brian and Jerry (Lydia). He will be missed by his grandchildren, Ryan, Nicole, Beverly (Rob), Kevin (Laura), Jonathan, Blake, Rachel and Bianca.

Mike came to Canada in 1949 at the age of 17 years to be with his father. He worked in the Toronto area and met Olga at a Slovak church dance and then the Slovak picnics. He and Olga belong to St Mary's Slovak Byzantine Church on Shaw Street in

Toronto. Mike founded two companies, Canadian Masonry Restoration and Chauncey Builders Supply. He worked on many of the tallest buildings in Toronto, repairing stone and brick exterior walls and on many older churches and industrial buildings. The famous hotels, the Royal York Hotel in Toronto and the Chateau Laurier Hotel in Ottawa, were two of his favourite projects. These buildings have a significant historical value in their city. Mike was not afraid of heights and there weren't the safety standards that exist today.

Mike was a long-time member of Jednota, since 1959, and he looked forward every few weeks to the arrival of its newspaper.

-Submitted by Anne Mitro, Secretary, Monsignor Michael Shuba District 19

**CATHERINE LOUISE MATIKO
BRANCH 857 –
LEVITTOWN,
PENNSYLVANIA**

Catherine "Kate" Louise Matiko has gone to be with previously deceased family members on Saturday, May 18, 2019 at the age of 84.



Born and raised in Pittston, PA, Mrs. Matiko was a 1950 graduate of Pittston City High School. She moved to Bucks County in 1957.

A very proud and devoted homemaker, Mrs. Matiko succeeded in making the family house into a warm and comfortable home, raising 4 children in that same love-filled home. She did all and everything for the love of her children. She was extremely proud of her family and never hesitant to inform people.

Mrs. Matiko was an active member of the former Saint Joseph the Worker Church and school, including CYO, bingo socials, cafeteria help and innumerable sporting events. She spent many years caring for others as a home health aide.

She was an avid reader, talented seamstress, bowler, dancer, and rollerskater, but for her, the most enjoyment came from

watching her granddaughters in various performing arts and sports. She was never known to be a quiet and subdued spectator, always loudly cheering them on. Mrs. Matiko was known to be straight forward, always spoke her mind and remained feisty until the end.

Beloved wife of 62 years to Peter, Mrs. Matiko is the loving mother of Peter Jr. (Joann) of Perkasio, David (Leslie) of St. Thomas, PA, Matthew (Donna) of Fairless Hills and Ruthann Fogleman (Steve) of Largo, FL.

She will also be greatly missed by her granddaughters, Lillie, Madilyn and Tori Matiko; brother, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Kirkpatrick; sister, Patsy Evans; sister-in-law Loretta Kirkpatrick, and many wonderful nieces and nephews.

Mrs. Matiko was predeceased by her parents and 5 siblings.



Book Corner

People, Places, and Things: Letting Go and Living Now Paperback – June 12, 2019

by Paul Kocak

People, Places, and Things

Letting Go and Living Now



Paul Kocak

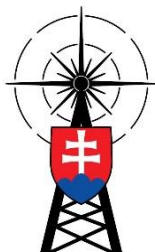
Available for purchase on Amazon at <https://amzn.to/2KjHG10>

"People, Places, and Things" freeze-frames everyday life. Using essays, poetry, stream of consciousness, and flash fiction, this volume focuses on loss. Loss of people, places, and things as we make our way on our individual journeys. The Hole in the Donut. Problems Without Passports. The Weight of Absence. Murder on the Disorient Express. These are but some of the teasing topics. Although highly personal, these verbal snapshots invite readers to laugh or cry, stay or walk away. The main thing is for readers to be entertained or spellbound by these flash cards of modern life. With sparkling wit and snarky humor, as well as passion and compassion, "People, Places, and Things" paints a picture of spiritual challenges and rewards. This is the twelfth book at Amazon.com by critically acclaimed author Paul Kocak. Readers have praised his writing as "charming and engaging" as well as "beautiful and poignant." One reviewer celebrated "the author's use of what might be called Socratic monologues, in which he questions himself to find out what he thinks."

Paul Kocak is an FCSU member, Branch 19

2019 SLOVAK FESTIVAL

SPONSORED BY:
THE CLEVELAND SLOVAK RADIO CLUB



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2019

12 - 8 pm

Admission: \$5.00 (At the door)

ST ANTHONY OF PADUA CHURCH HALL

6750 STATE RD – PARMA 44134

SLOVAK FOOD...BEER-PIVO...PASTRIES...DANCING
FACE PAINTING...BALLOON TWISTER...MAGICIAN



ENTERTAINMENT:

ANTHONY CULKAR BAND
MIKE WOJTELA BAND
RALPH SZUBSKI

FOR INFORMATION CALL: Karin Scally 440-213-8552

Plan ahead and leave a positive legacy behind

DID YOU KNOW THAT...?

According to a recent article in TIME magazine the cost of a funeral is between \$6,000 and \$15,000 with an average of \$7,775?

Don't leave a financial burden for your family or loved ones.

Inquire today about
FINAL EXPENSE INSURANCE

The sooner you do, the less it costs!

Premium based on the Single Premium Whole Life rates
Call 800.533.6682 or visit www.fcsu.com



FCSU Financial - First Catholic Slovak Union
Contact Branch Officer or the home office
6611 Rockside Rd, #300, Independence, OH, 44131, 800.533.6682,
www.fcsu.com, insurance@fcsu.com



Jednota Celebrates Annual Family Day in Mississauga

Annual family picnic held in Mississauga, July 7, 2019. The day was absolutely wonderful, weather was perfect which reflected the attendance. The usual Slovak meals that included: shnitzel, goulash, bacon & sausage, langose, sweets, ice cream, water melon, etc. Thanks go to volunteers that worked endlessly. We also had entertainment from our younger dancers - the community is so proud of them.

- Submitted by Helen von Friedl, Branch 785



Answer to Puzzle

Solution to Puzzle from page 11

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



Photo by Patrick Fore

Ice-Cream Cone

"An ice-cream cone's a tricky thing,
My older brother said:
"You eat too slow, it drips on you;
Too fast you hurt your head."

"Eat not too fast, eat not too slow,
But somewhere in between.
It's good to have a painless brain;
And face and clothes all clean."

© 2001 George Kossik, Branch 584

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

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

SATURDAY, JUNE 15, 2019

HOME OFFICE, INDEPENDENCE, OHIO

OPEN MEETING:

President Andrew Rajec opened the meeting at 12:00 PM and asked Andrew R. Harcar, Sr., to lead the prayer. The meeting is being held following the Quarterly Board of Directors Meeting.

ROLL CALL:

Members attending: Andrew M. Rajec, President
 Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary
 Andrew R. Harcar, Sr., Vice President
 George F. Matta II, Treasurer (via teleconference)
 Martha Zavada-Wojcik, Regional Director (by invitation of the President)

ACCEPTANCE OF THE MAY MEETING MINUTES:

The Executive Secretary presented the minutes of the May 2019 Executive Committee Meeting. A motion was made by George F. Matta II and seconded by Andrew R. Harcar, Sr., to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Investment Updates

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

Portfolio Review

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

Mortgages and Overdue Mortgages

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

Monthly Disbursements

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

Disbursements for the month of May 2019:

Death Benefits & Accumulations	\$ 398,806.71
Cash Withdrawals & Accumulations	\$ 31,760.97
Matured Endowments & Accumulations	\$ 0.00
Trust Fund	\$ 0.00

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

AQS MANAGEMENT, INC.:

Larry White, representing AQS Management, Inc., presented an extensive Investment Portfolio Transaction Report to the Board of Directors at the Board of Directors Meeting. Each member of the Board received a copy of the presentation in advance for his/her review. Mr. White also led a discussion of the new investment opportunities that we may take advantage of. Following the report, Mr. White answered the Board's questions.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The Treasurer and the Executive Secretary gave a full written report on the investment update to the Board of Directors at the Board of Directors Meeting. Following the report, they answered the Board's questions.

ECONOMIC OVERVIEW:

Annuity Rates:

The President led a review of the current annuity rates. It was decided the rates remain the same and be reviewed at the next Executive Committee meeting in July.

SALES AND MARKETING:

The Vice President gave a production report on our agents to the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee. He stated we are still recruiting and adding new agents, and at present have over 300 agents. The Home Office is sending the independent agents monthly updates on our products. The independent agents are also in frequent contact with Andrew P. Rajec, Director of Independent Agents. The Home Office continues an extensive Facebook ad recruiting campaign to recruit agents in the states we are licensed in.

The Executive Secretary stated that the 2019 Membership Meet will be held November 9-17, 2019 aboard Carnival Magic. The 8 day cruise will depart from Fort Lauderdale and stop at Grand Turk, La Romana, Curacao and Aruba. More information will be published in the Jednota and posted on the fcsu.com website.

REQUESTS FOR ADS AND DONATIONS:

Requests for donations and ads were reviewed and acted upon.

ADJOURN:

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

Andrew R. Harcar, Sr. closed the meeting with prayer.

 Andrew M. Rajec
 President

 Kenneth A. Arendt
 Executive Secretary

ATTENTION FOOTBALL FANS

Mark your Calendar and **RESERVE** September 14, 2019

All FCSU / JEDNOTA Branches and their Members

Youngstown, Ohio Reverend Joseph L. Kostik District OKRES

The Youngstown, Ohio Reverend Joseph L. Kostik District (OKRES)
 is sponsoring a

TAILGATE PARTY prior to the **YSU Home Game**
 Saturday, September 14, 2019 for District Branch Members

Contact your Branch Officers

FCSU Branch 259 – FCSU Branch 260

FCSU Branch 682 -- FCSU Branch 731

FCSU Branch 764

All of Our **Ohio** and **Pennsylvania** Fraternal Brethern are Welcome

YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY (YSU) we will be Hosting DUQUESNE University (Pittsburgh)

“FEAR THE PENGUIN” Game

Time is 2:00 P.M.

Tailgate activities will begin at 11:00 P.M.

Lower Tailgate Lot # M62 at Fifth and Lincoln Avenues

Various Kids activities in the Tailgate Lot

Non-Alcoholic Beverages, Hot Dogs, and Snacks (Chips, Pretzels)
 will be provided

Call your Branch Officers if you are planning to attend so that we can have an idea how many to plan for (Adults, Teenagers; Pre-Teens).

Tickets are available in advance @ \$15.00. Call me at **330.549.3788** by September 9 So that I can purchase them. A Check for the tickets is needed in advance. Game day price will be \$20.00

Anyone willing to help with set-up and help host please call:

John J. Leskovyansky, Jr. @ (330) 549-3788

John J. Leskovyansky, Jr.,
 District President and Coordinator

Branch 785 & District 19 Members Help Celebrate Bowling Banquet

End of season bowling banquet. It was successful and we are hoping to continue with our fun activities in the winter. It should be noted that few bowlers turned 60, 70 and 80 during this 2019 bowling season, which we celebrated with a birthday cake and good wishes for happy and healthy years ahead of them.

All in all, a job well done!

- Submitted by Helen von Friedl, Branch 785



A beautiful Happy Birthday cake honored those bowlers that turned 60, 70 or 80 years old in 2019.



FCSU Supported SS Cyril & Methodius Feast Day Last February



February of this year saw a dinner and celebration of the feast day of SS. Cyril & Methodius at the SS. Cyril & Methodius campus of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton parish in Warren, OH. The event was co-hosted by FCSU Branch 764 and FCCLA Branch 422. Many volunteers from SS. Cyril & Methodius and St. James campuses of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton parish helped with cooking and serving a menu including stuffed cabbage, klobassi and kraut, pirohy, green beans, marinated beets and kolach. Proceeds from the dinner were donated to the church's operating fund. A big "Thank you" to all who attended and/or were involved in another successful celebration.

- Submitted by William Hrusovsky, Branch 764 Secretary



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

Don't Miss Out! Send your entry in today. The deadline to play is almost here.



PLAY THE LOSER'S POOL

2019 with the FCSU

PRIZES:

1st Place - \$750

2nd Place - \$500

3rd Place - \$250

This contest will be held online weekly

RULES:

- 1) Each player picks one NFL Team they think will lose that week.
- 2) All picks are "Straight Up" and are not using any point spread.
- 3) If your pick (team) loses that week, you advance to the following week.
- 4) If your pick (team) wins, you are eliminated from the pool.
- 5) You can only pick a team once to lose thru the entire season and the playoffs.
You will need to pre-plan your projections thru the season and playoffs.
- 6) Games that end in ties will count as your team winning and you will be eliminated.
- 7) If you forget to pick a team one week, you will be eliminated.
- 8) If you miss the deadline to enter your team for that week, you will be eliminated.
- 9) Deadline for submitting your team will be TBD each week depending on when the first NFL game is being played.
- 10) Mail to: Kevin Collins, Fraternal Activities Director, 628 Heather Brite Cr., Apopka, Fl. 32712
- 11) **Must preregister by Monday, August 19th, 2019**



ENTRY FORM

Name: _____ Player Name: _____

Certificate Number: _____ Branch : _____ Email Address: _____

Street Address: City, State, Zip: _____ Phone number: _____

The 100th Anniversary of the Renewed Matica slovenská

continued from page 10

former role as a library, but did construct a new building in Martin. The communists took control of all top positions, and the writer and communist political activist, Vladimír Mináč, became the new chairman from 1973 to 1990. Over time, the Matica slovenská did work gradually to expand its role, especially in broadening ties with Slovaks abroad in foreign countries, particularly socialist ones. A separate research division under František Bielík compiled bibliographies, studied documents about emigrants, and sponsored conferences and publications. The cultural division led by Viera Kantarová sent books and magazines to institutions and individuals abroad, and the magazine Slovensko (Slovakia) became one of the most popular publications. Cultural ties also included more exchanges of folklore groups and sharing information about traditional folk customs.

On a personal note, despite the Party dominance of the leadership, the Matica slovenská did assist me in some research. It opened an office in Bratislava Called Dom Matice slovenskej Bratislava, headed by Ondrej Karkuš in the 1980s. The staff sent me books that I had bought in Slovakia and provided me with some publications and recordings of folk music for my Slovak radio program. Some key staff members such as Jana Hudcovičová proved most cooperative in assisting with my research, especially regarding Slovak emigration and immigration. MS materials towed the party line and stressed the experiences of the working class, and my study of interwar trade unions helped in this regard. But there was a genuine effort to enlighten and share information about folk customs with compatriots. Foreign Slovak folk ensembles performed at folk festivals in Slovakia. Today the MS Bratislava branch is located on Grössingová, near the center of the city, and headed by Peter Schvantner, and it just recently opened a new library.

A New Life in 1990

Following the fall of the totalitarian regime in 1989, the Matica slovenská revived once more, removed the shackles of state-control, and returned to its original purpose. Once again it allowed the general public to join, former members and employees returned, and local branches revived. In August 1990, a general meeting elected to serve as its new chairman, Jozef Markuš, and Viliam Gruska became the first chair of a modern history department.

In 1992, it cooperated with the Slovak World Congress of Slovaks to sponsor the first time meeting of Slovak youths from around the world under the official name of the Matica World Slovak Youth Festival (Matičný svetový festival slovenskej mládeže). The first festival occurred in July 1992, and has continued to assemble every three years since then.

The following year, the government returned the Neografia printing house to its proper owner, the Matica, and the journal Slovenské pohľady, as well some of its formerly nationalized properties. The Matica then created a National Treasury (Národný poklad) so it could provide awards (ceny Nadácie MS), and it received generous donations from individuals and Slovaks abroad to get back to its original mission of promoting Slovak culture and research. By 2005, the "National Treasury" grew to nearly 40 million Slovak crowns. In 1994, Matica counted about 450 local branches and approximately 60,000 members with club houses in many towns and villages. And in July 1997, the World Year of Slovaks was celebrated in Martin.

The Matica includes the following institutions:

- The Scientific, Informational and Members' Headquarters
- Monument of National Culture
- Slovak Literary Institute
- Slovak Historical Institute
- MS Archives
- MS Center for relationships of nationalities,
- MS Museum of Slovaks living Abroad (Krajanské múzeum),
- Information and culture centers of Matica slovenská abroad,
- MS publishing house (publishing the journals Slovenské národné noviny, Slovenské pohľady, Slovensko)
- The Lending Office of Folk and Other Costumes
- The Cabinet for the Research of the History of Slovak Exile
- Associated entities are especially:
- Nadácia Matice slovenskej – a foundation
- Neografia, a. s. – a printing company taken over by Matica in 1993; historically for decades the most modern and significant printing house in Slovakia.
- Vydavateľstvo MS, s. r. o. – the company of the above-mentioned publishing house

Scandals at MS

Even though the Matica slovenská had once again recovered its status as an independent entity after 1989, ties with the state led to some very serious problems. In 1997, an Act of the Slovak National Council of the Slovak Republic confirmed the Matica slovenská as a public institution with defined tasks related to the state.

Behind the scenes though, all was not well with the Matica under the leadership of Jozef Markuš. Scandals emerged over political deals, wasted funds, and even publishing pornography. It even made its own Las Vegas style casino! Apparently in 1993, Markuš made a bargain with then prime minister of Slovakia, Vladimír Mečiar. Markuš offered the Matica's political support for Mečiar's party, the HZDS and his authoritarian-style leadership. The Matica backed Slovak independence and supported the Language Act which Hungarians in Slovakia felt threatened their nationality's identity. The Matica even sided with Mečiar in opposing integration into NATO and the European Union.

The Matica had Neografia publishing house returned back to it for one Slovak crown, with the option of selling it whenever he wished for over 600 million crowns. Neografia then published memoirs of former members of the Slovak State from World War II. Furthermore, it even printed hardcore pornography and the poetry of the Serb war criminal, Radovan Karadžić.

The Matica slovenská also squandered its finances under Markuš. The Matica receives state funding, EU subsidies, and various donations, but it may also do business and buy and sell property. An investigative journalist, Eva Mihočková, found in 2010 that evidence that the MS lost much of the fund in the Slovak National Treasury (23-28 million Slovak crowns). Markuš

had the MS invest recklessly in Capital Invest, which placed funds in a risky financial institution Podielové družstvo Slovenské investície (PDSI), which was not a bona fide banking institution. The National Treasury amounted to about 995 000 Euros, and about 232 000 Euros of that worth came from works of art and gold. Apparently part of the latter turned up missing!

The Matica slovenská's main task however, is to the support of Slovak national culture and research, and it is subject to law. According to a 1997 law, Matica could compose textbooks for both elementary schools and high-schools in Slovakia. Some criticized the texts as too nationalistic and favoring a right-wing interpretation for youth.

Critics also attacked the Matica slovenská for politicking with the past. It published its newspaper "Matičné zvesti" as an annex of a newspaper published by Slovenské hnutie obrody (Slovak Awakening), which supported Jozef Tiso's Slovak Republic of World War II. Even though it was financed by non-state income at the MS, historian Michal Kováč of the Slovak Academy of Sciences cited "a scandal" that Matičné Zvesti was being published and supported by a public institution. The right-wing Slovak National Party participated in the government coalition of Dzurinda and others and continually sought to increase Matica funding.

Conclusion

Although the scandal over finances and political maneuvering tarnished the image of the Matica slovenská, the organization has attempted to clean up its act since 2010. Marián Tkač replaced Markuš as MS Chair, and he sought to restore integrity and reassure benefactors that it was using its funds for cultural purposes. A two term limit meant that he would be replaced in 2017.

In November 2017, Marián Gešper replaced Tkač as chairman of the Matica slovenská. Born in 1980, he is the youngest man to ever head the society and vowed to lead the organization in a positive direction. He aimed to get the public more involved in the MS and have the society play a greater role in raising awareness of Slovak patriots who have made substantial contributions to Slovakia's history and culture. He especially wished to become more active with folklore groups and branches, reaching out to ordinary people. Administratively, he has expressed his desire to cut down the bureaucracy and introduce younger leaders with fresh ideas to make the MS more appealing to the general population.

The commemoration of the 100th anniversary of its rebirth after World War I offered an opportunity to reach out to public and return to the organization's roots and purpose. Focusing on the achievements of a particular individual like Ján Vanovič provided a grand occasion to educate the public and demonstrate the enormous contributions which the Matica slovenská has made in furthering the popularization of Slovak cultural awareness.

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Jednota



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

Ročník 128

STREDA, 14. AUGUSTA 2019

Číslo 5986

Od Národného Prezidenta

V nasledujúcich riadkoch si môžete prečítať smútočný oznam o predčasnom prechode do Večného života našej milovanej redaktorky slovenskej časti Jednoty, Anny Sutherlandovej. Tento smútočný oznam, ktorý pripravila jej rodina berie na vedomie jej životné úspechy a jej službu Jednote.

Anna bola láskavá, tichá osoba, ktorá bola úplne oddaná svojej rodine a milovaná všetkými, ktorí ju poznali.

Rád by som ocenil celé roky jej oddanosti našej spoločnosti. Nikdy na ňu nezabudneme.

Sme aj naďalej odhodlaní propagovať slovenskú kultúru a budeme to robiť aj v budúcnosti.

Keďže Anna už nedokázala zostaviť slovenskú sekciu za august kvôli jej náhlej chorobe, v každom prípade ju opäť plánujeme obnoviť v našom čísle v septembri 2019.

Nech Boh žehná Annu. Všetci dúfame, že sa s ňou opäť stretne vo večnom živote s našim Pánom.

Zbohom Anna, nech je Boh s tebou.

Andrew M. Rajec

From the National President

The following is the obituary prepared by her family upon the premature passing into Eternal Life of our beloved editor of the Slovak section of the Jednota, Anna Sutherland.

It notes her life accomplishments and her service to the Jednota.

Anna was a kind, soft-spoken person devoted to her family and loved by all who knew her.

I want to acknowledge her years of dedication to our Society. She will not be forgotten.

We are dedicated to promote Slovak culture and will continue to do so in the future.

Anna was not able to compile the Slovak section for August because of her sudden illness. We are making plans to resume the Slovak section in our September 2019 issue.

May God bless Anna. We all hope to join her in Eternal Life with Our Lord.

Goodbye Anna, may God be with you.

Andrew M. Rajec



Anna Sutherland, slovenská redaktorka Jednoty, prešla do večného života 29. júla 2019

64-ročná Anna Sutherland z Harrisburgu, PA, pochádzajúca zo Stony Point v New Yorku, zomrela v pondelok 29. júla 2019. Bola manželkou Anthonyho Sutherlanda a 4. augusta tohto roku plánovali osláviť 40. výročie svadby. Narodila sa 2. marca 1955 vo Švedlári (Schwedler) na Slovensku a bola dcérou zosnulého Vojtecha Chladeka a Eleny Maluckej. Základné vzdelanie a gymnázium absolvovala v Spišskej Novej Vsi a ďalej študovala v Bratislave. Pred emigrovaním do Spojených štátov pracovala na organizovaní kultúrnych aktivít pre deti v Košiciach. V Spojených štátoch pracovala 32 rokov ako redaktorka novín "Jednota" a krátko ako sprievodkyňa múzea Jednoty v Middletowne v PA. Anna mala veľký záujem o hudbu a vniesla túto lásku aj svojim dečram. Anna pochádzala z významnej rodiny organistov, z ktorých niektorí študovali u Antona Dvořáka a Bedřicha Smetanu. Spievala v mnohých

zboroch v USA aj na svojom rodnom Slovensku. Rada absolvovala cesty do Európy spolu s jej manželom a deťmi kde navštívili metropoly ako sú Salzburg, Mníchov, Viedeň, Budapešť a Amsterdam. Mala veľkú záľubu v pečení a nakupovaní. Veľmi rada mala chôdzu a navštevovanie vnúčat. Bola členkou kostola sv. Kataríny Laboure v Harrisburgu a bývalou členkou kostola Nepoškvrneného počatia v Stony Point a Nanebovzatia Panny Márie v Haverstraw v New Yorku. Okrem manžela, zanechala po sebe 3 deti: syn Thomas (Ashley) z Williamsburgu, VA; dve dcéry, Dr. Jeanette Sutherland z Tuckahoe, New York a Louise Sutherland z Harrisburgu; štyri vnúčatá, James, Logan, Finn a Caroline, všetci z Williamsburgu; a sestru Elenu Jančovú z Košíc.



Anna Sutherland, Jednota Slovak Editor, Passed Into Eternal Life July 29, 2019

Anna Sutherland, 64, of Harrisburg, PA, formerly of Stony Point, NY, died on Monday, July 29, 2019. She was the wife of Anthony Sutherland. They planned to celebrate their 40th anniversary on August 4 of this year. Born March 2, 1955, in Švedlár (Schwedler) Slovakia, she was the daughter of the late Vojtech Chladek and Elena Malucky. She received her primary and gymnasium education in Spišská Nová Ves, and did further studies in Bratislava. Before emigrating to the United States, she worked in organizing cultural activities for children in Kosice, Slovakia. In the United States she worked as an editor for the Jednota newspaper for 32 years and briefly as the curator for the Jednota museum in Middletown, PA. Anna had great interest in music and instilled this love to her daughters. Anna came from a

distinguished family of organists, some of whom studied under Anton Dvorak and Bedrich Smetana. She sang in a number of choirs both in the United States and her native Slovakia. She enjoyed traveling to Europe with her husband and children visiting Salzburg, Munich, Vienna, Budapest and Amsterdam. She also enjoyed baking, shopping, walking, and visiting her grandchildren. She was a member of St. Catherine Laboure Church, Harrisburg, and former member of Immaculate Conception Church, Stony Point and St. Mary of the Assumption Church in Haverstraw, NY. In addition to her husband, she is survived by a son, Thomas (Ashley) of Williamsburg, VA; two daughters, Dr. Jeanette Sutherland of Tuckahoe, NY and Louise Sutherland of Harrisburg; four grandchildren, James, Logan, Finn and Caroline, all of Williamsburg; and a sister, Elena Janco of Kosice.

Modlitba k Svätej Anne

Ó, slávna svätá Anna,
Ty si plná milosrdenstva
voči tým, ktorí Ťa vzývajú,
a plná lásky k tým, ktorí trpia.

Obťažkaný bremenom
svojich problémov
prichádzam k Tvojim nohám
a pokorne prosím, aby
si za mňa orodovala,
keď sa porúčam pod
Tvoju ochranu.

Prosím, odporuč ma
Svojej dcére,
Preblahoslavenej Panne Márii,

a polož moje ťažkosti
pred Ježišov trón,
aby ich mohol
láskavo vyriešiť.

Neustále za mňa oroduj
až pokým nebudú moje
prosby vyslyšané.
No predovšetkým pros, prosím,
aby sa mi jedného
dňa dostalo milosti
uzrieť Boha z tváre do tváre,
a s Tebou, Pannou Máriou a
všetkými svätými ho vo
večnosti na veky chváliť.

Amen



Prayer to Saint Ann

O glorious Saint Ann,
you are filled with compassion
for those who invoke you,
and with love for those suffer.
Heavily burdened with the weight
of my troubles,

I cast myself at your feet
and humbly beg of you to take
the present intention,
which I recommend to you in
your special care.

Please recommend it
to your daughter,
the Blessed Virgin Mary,

and place it before the
throne of Jesus,
so that he may bring
it to a happy issue.

Continue to intercede for me
until my request is granted.
But above all obtain for me the
grace one day
to see my God face to face,
and with you and Mary
and all the saints
to praise and bless him
for all eternity.

Amen.