



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, MARCH 13, 2019

NUMBER 5981



Enter the FCSU's  
Kentucky Derby  
Hat Contest –  
Details on p 10

Book the 2019 FCSU  
Caribbean Cruise –  
Or possibly win it!  
Details on p 15



Bowl with the  
Best! Register for  
the National Bowling  
Tournament  
Details on pp 4 - 5



## Inside

Editorial/Commentary.....	2
Branch Announcements.....	12, 17
District Announcements.....	13
Slovak .....	25-28

## March: Significant for Slovaks as Saint Joseph's Month

by Sister Maria Theresa Hronec, SS C.M.



The month of March has always been significant for Slovaks as St. Joseph's month. I fondly recall my mother's unique devotion as she claimed St. Joseph to be in charge of the keys to her home.

In St. Matthew's Gospel, we meet him as a righteous man, unwilling to disgrace Mary. God saw the anxiety in Joseph's heart and sent an angel to both approve the marriage and announce the birth of their son. The directive to name the child Jesus also serves to rightfully establish Joseph as the father of the child, the Savior of all. Joseph realized the meaning and power of the title, Emmanuel – God's presence in their lives.

Immediately, dutifully, he took charge as head of the family. Joseph managed the trip to Bethlehem, the escape to Egypt and the return to Nazareth in Galilee (Mt 1,2).

So obvious and filial was Jesus' own devotedness to his foster father that the villagers referred to him as "the son of Joseph" (Lk4:22). We venerate you, St. Joseph, not only as the Protector of Christ in his childhood, but also as the Guardian of his Mystical Body now, the Church. This devotion was promulgated by Pope John Paul II.

*This March, it is fitting that Jednota reprints the reflections and beautifully translated hymn to St. Joseph by Sister Maria Theresa Hronec, SS C.M., originally penned for our readers. See page 21 for hymn*

continued on page 21

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# Insights and Viewpoints



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

27 – 2nd Sunday of Lent – March 17, 2019

I am of more or less half Croatian and half Irish ancestry, with perhaps a little bit of German stock added in way back. This year the second Sunday of Lent happens to fall on the seventeenth of March, the feast of Saint Patrick, and so naturally my Irish side (and eyes) are smiling today. Alas, for the sons and daughters of Erin the world over our great feast day humbly



Fr. Edward Mazich,  
O.S.B.

defers to the Lenten Sunday, but if we are careful we can find some inspiration in today's scripture readings that forecast the powerful movement of faith that would characterize the life of Saint Patrick and the people he came to adopt as his own.

We begin in the Book of Genesis, with the account of the covenant the Lord made with Abram. Hoping for a sign from the Lord, Abram bemoans his childlessness and his need for an heir, and at that moment the Lord calls him forth from his tent and says: "Look up at the sky and count the stars, if you can. Just so, shall your descendants be." The author of Genesis adds: "Abram put his faith in the Lord, who credited it to him as an act of righteousness" (Gen 15:5-6).

The Irish have very often stood in need before the Lord, and have lived their lives through strong faith, on both counts resembling our forefather Abram. They have indeed endured great hardships and injustices, some of which were visited upon them precisely on account of their faith in God, and they withstood these things with the spirit of Saint Paul, who in the reading today from Philippians reminds us that "our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we also await a savior, the Lord Jesus Christ" (Phil 3:20).

The lesson in this is that none of us escapes life without some measure of uncertainty and vulnerability (like that felt by Abram), and suffering (like that endured by Saint Patrick and the Irish people). Further, we learn from Abram and Saint Paul that finding the strength to bear such things in faith is not a weak-minded "pie in the sky" attitude but is instead a very natural response—to trust in the goodness of humanity and to look beyond it in the hope that a greater and definitive good lies at its source.

Still, faith doesn't make the uncertainties and pains of life go away; rather, it helps us to look past them and to see the end toward which we are moving, and the glory that awaits those who abide, like Abram and Saint Patrick, in God's righteousness. This is where today's gospel reading catches us: Peter, James, and John saw Jesus "transfigured" before their eyes, if only for a moment: "While he was praying his face changed in appearance and his clothing became dazzling white" (Luke 9:29). They had a glimpse in faith of what awaited them beyond the hardship of Jesus' passion and death. But they first had to endure with Christ in faith—just as Abram, Saint Patrick, and Saint Paul endured their hardships in faith—before they tasted his victory.

The glimpse of Christ's exaltation seen in the Transfiguration today was the fulfillment of Abram's dreams and gives us hope as we follow his footsteps in faith. Let us pray in this Lenten season that we might persevere through the difficult moments in life with the spirit of Abram, Saint Patrick, and Saint Paul, so that one day in the presence of Christ we might join with all our ancestors of every nation in saying "Master, it is good that we are here" (Luke 9:33).

March 24 2019 – Third Sunday of Lent

The Third Sunday of Lent is a loud and clear call to repentance. We are halfway through Lent and these readings are a reminder to continue to do some soul searching and examination of our consciences during this season of repentance.

The people told Jesus about the Galileans who Pilate had slaughtered insinuating that their deaths were because of their sins. Jesus responds by telling them that their sins were not greater than any other Galileans, and tells them, "I tell you, if you do not repent, you will perish as they did." He then brings up the account of a tower that fell and killed eighteen people in Siloam, and reiterates that they were no more sinners than the rest of the people of Jerusalem, and repeats, "I tell you, if you do not repent, you will perish as they did." The message is clear, "Repent or die." The Church observes this yearly season of repentance so that we might not die, but live.



Fr. Killian Loch,  
O.S.B.

Lent leads us to the Triduum during which we celebrate the victory of Jesus over death, and the promise he gives us to everlasting life. If we want to live we need the true desire to turn away from sin and walk more and more faithfully with Jesus. Jesus ends this teaching with the lesson of the fig tree. If it doesn't bear fruit at first, let's give it another year. Eventually, if it doesn't bear fruit it will be cut down. Jesus gives us time to repent and bear fruit, but sooner or later the day of judgement will come for each one of us. Repentance should not be put off, but is something we should be mindful of every day.

In Second Corinthians Saint Paul reminds us of the lesson to be learned from the history of Israel. Time and time again God intervened to help them and rescue them, and time and time again they soon forgot and turned away again. We receive many blessings from the Lord, and have the opportunity to celebrate his mercy in Confession, yet we soon turn back to sin. Every year we observe Lent as our opportunity to return to the Lord, to begin fresh so as to bear fruit. This repeated turning away from and returning to the Lord can be both discouraging and heartening.

When we repent and make the resolution to turn away from a particular sin or sins we do so with deep sincerity, as well as the knowledge that we will find ourselves in sin again. It can be discouraging to face the same sins repeatedly and just as repeatedly ask God's forgiveness. We can easily get to the point where we wonder, "what's the use of confessing, I'm only going to sin again." This discouragement could keep us away from God's mercy and lead us farther and farther away from the Lord. We can learn from the Israelites that as often as they sinned and wandered away from God, that it was they who wandered, not God. God was always present and awaiting their return. Jesus points out that God's love is even greater than the Israelites understood. Like the Good Shepherd, when we wander off, God is seeking us out.

The lack of repentance leads to death, but Jesus shows us how to escape death by repentance. When we repent we embrace the love and mercy of Jesus, we accept the depth of God's love who sent his Son Jesus, who died for us. God's desire for us is that we have life everlasting with him. Lent is our time to rediscover God's desire and all he does for us to bring us back to him.

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find us on:  Facebook.

Visit [www.facebook.com/FirstCatholicSlovakUnion](http://www.facebook.com/FirstCatholicSlovakUnion)

## 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, APRIL 10	MONDAY, APRIL 1
WEDNESDAY, MAY 8	MONDAY, APRIL 29
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12	MONDAY, JUNE 3

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](mailto: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

TERESA IVANEC, Editor; [fcsulifeeditor@gmail.com](mailto:fcsulifeeditor@gmail.com)

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





Photos Courtesy of Slovak Embassy

Amb. Korcok (C) presenting the Golden Medal Award to Amb. Russell (L) and Mr. Senko (R).



(L – R) New FOS Chairman Scott Thayer presents plaque honoring their service to Amb. Russell and Mr. Senko, with Amb. Korcok looking on.

## Slovak Foreign Minister Selects FOS' Russell and Senko for Prestigious Award

Slovak Foreign Minister Miroslav Lajčák has selected Friends of Slovakia (FOS) Founding Chairman, Amb. Theodore Russell, and Board Chairman, Joseph Senko, to receive the prestigious Golden Medal of the Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic. The medals were presented to the two recipients on Feb. 15, 2019 by Slovak Ambassador Ivan Korčok, prior to the Annual Meeting of the FOS Board of Directors, at the Slovak Embassy in Washington. In his remarks, Amb. Korčok cited the outstanding work of both recipients in promoting the democratic aspirations of Slovakia and Slovak – U.S. relations and friendship.

Amb. Russell's long career in the U.S. Foreign Service was capped by his becoming the first U.S. ambassador to the newly independent Slovak Republic. He went on to help found Friends of Slovakia, which advocated for Slovakia's integration into NATO and other Western institutions, and which continues to support U.S. - Slovak relations. Mr. Senko has had a long-career as an advocate for Slovak –American solidarity and for U.S.-Slovak friendship, in serving as Slovak Honorary Consul for Pennsylvania, as well as Chairman of FOS. He also has been active in the Slovak American fraternal organizations, founded the Western Pennsylvania Slovak Cultural Association (WPSCA), and is a long-standing member of the First Catholic Slovak Union, Branch 254. The Golden Medal award is a fitting tribute to these two individuals as they step down from their long service on the FOS Board of Directors, while they will stay engaged with the organization on its Board of Advisors.

At the FOS Annual Meeting that followed the presentation, election for the Board of Directors was held, and the slate of Officers and Executive Committee were appointed. FOS saw transitions, with three new members added and three members, in addition to Amb. Russell and Mr. Senko, departing. The new members welcomed to the Board are Dr. Elizabeth Guran, Dr. Martina Hrvolova and Dr. Cecilia Rokusek. FOS expresses appreciation and best wishes to its departing board members, Dr. Sharon Fisher, Dr. Eva Jenkins and Mr. David Blazek.

Marking the transition in leadership, the Board appointed new officers for 2019. Scott N. Thayer, a career Foreign Service officer and former Chargé d'affaires in Bratislava, was appointed FOS Chairman. Ken Bombara and Lillian McEnany will continue as Vice Chairman and Secretary, respectively, and Tom Skladony was appointed Treasurer. Roger Kodat, Richard Marko and Jan Surotchak were appointed to join the officers on the FOS Executive Committee. At the meeting, the Board also presented Amb. Russell and Mr. Senko with a plaque honoring their service to FOS. The new Board and Executive Committee look forward to building on FOS' outstanding accomplishments as it moves into a new era in support of U.S. –Slovak friendship.

For more information about FOS, please visit [www.friendsofslovakia.org](http://www.friendsofslovakia.org)

- Submitted by: Ken Bombara, Vice Chairman, FOS

## Message from the National Chaplain

Pope Francis has designated October 2019 as an Extraordinary Mission Month. It is his intention to awaken within the entire Catholic Christian community of faith the mandate of Jesus to proclaim the Gospel to all peoples and to reinvigorate a missionary spirit among the faithful.

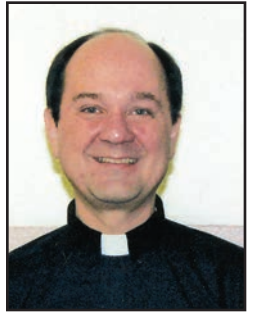
As we prepare for this commemoration next October, I have prepared a series of profiles of individuals who left their homeland to travel to a distant land for the sake of making known the Gospel of Christ. Some of these people are well-known, others not so much. Some are Saints of the Church, others were known for their sanctity of life, still others gave the supreme sacrifice of their lives and died martyrs for the faith. It is hoped that by these profiles one may become more inspired to support missionaries through prayer and financial resources, and maybe even willing to become a missionary oneself.

The first missionary to be profiled is Father James Borst, MHM. Father Jim, as he was known, used his talents as an educator, retreat director, evangelist, and author in his mission work. Born in the Netherlands on August 3, 1932, he joined the Saint Joseph Missionary Society of Mill Hill (England) and was ordained to the priesthood in 1957. He continued his studies for another six years before setting out for the Apostolic Prefecture of Kashmir and Jammu, which is in the northern part of India near the Pakistani border. A great majority (93%) of the population there is Muslim. Christians account for only 14,000 people or 0.0014% of the population.

In 1975, Father Jim began to travel throughout India, giving retreats to priests and religious as well as in local villages. By 1991 he returned to Kashmir where he established two schools, both named after the Good Shepherd. At this time, he also began collaborating on a translation of the New Testament and the Psalms into the local language of the Kashmiri.

Not everyone was pleased with Father Jim's work. It is suspected that Islamic intellectuals, jealous at the success of the Good Shepherd schools, were behind government efforts in 2010 and 2011 to have him expelled from the country on charges of proselytism and forced conversions. The orders were later rescinded.

Father Jim Borst died September 5, 2018 at the age of 86. He spent 55 years as a missionary in India. He was the last missionary from Mill Hill to serve in the Kashmir region.



Rev. Thomas Nasta

Fraternally,

Fr. Thomas A. Nasta  
National Chaplain

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# ATTENTION JEDNOTAR BOWLERS



Friday May 17th and  
Saturday May 18th, 2019

No applications will be accepted after April 15, 2019.

8<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL NATIONAL JOINT SLOVAK BOWLING  
A JOINT TOURNAMENT OF FCSU, GCU & JEDNOTA  
"USBC MORAL SUPPORT CENTER"  
Noble Manor Lanes ✦ Pittsburgh, PA  
Friday, May 17 & Saturday, May 18, 2019  
Please note: Bowling Fees must accompany this application for each bowler.

**Friday:**

**Teams Event** – Opening Ceremonies to begin at 5:15PM. The Team Events will start at 5:30PM and 8:00PM at AMF Noble Lanes.

**Hospitality Night** - Hospitality Night begins at 7:00PM. Enjoy food, refreshments, and socializing at AMF Noble Lanes.

**Hotel** – Rates: \$99.00/night plus tax. Single or Double Beds  
Hampton Inn (Greentree) 555 Trumbull Dr. Pittsburgh, Pa. 15205 412-922-0100  
Rebecca Gourley (Contact) Block Code: NBT (1.2 Miles from Noble Lanes)  
\*\*\*Pittsburgh Plaza Hotel (Greentree) 401 Holiday Drive Pittsburgh, Pa. 15205 412-922-8100  
Barbara Christian (Contact) Block Code: GCU (1 Miles from Noble Lanes)  
**BANQUET LOCATION**

**Saturday:**

**Doubles/Singles Event** - To begin at 9:30AM and 1:00PM.

**Mass** - TBD

**Banquet** - will be held at The Pittsburgh Plaza Hotel (Greentree) Please see above for address.

**Social** - 6:00PM. Followed by banquet.

**AMF Noble Lanes:** 2440 Noblestown Rd., Pittsburgh, Pa. 15205, 412-922-4622

If you require additional information, please contact Kevin Collins at your convenience at 813-493-1515 or kevinfcsu@outlook.com

BOWLER INFORMATION (LIST CAPTAIN FIRST)	
Name: _____	_____
Address: _____	
_____	
Phone: _____	Last 4 Digits SS# _____
E-mail: _____	
Name: _____	
Address: _____	
_____	
Phone: _____	Last 4 Digits SS# _____
E-mail: _____	
Name: _____	
Address: _____	
_____	
Phone: _____	Last 4 Digits SS# _____
E-mail: _____	

Please check one:  Men's Application  Women's Application

TEAM EVENT—FRIDAY, MAY 17

5:30 PM  8 PM

Team Name: \_\_\_\_\_

(Please place team bowlers in the order they will be bowling.)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_

Name of your Local USBC: \_\_\_\_\_

Association Secretary: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Make all Checks or Money Orders payable to: First Catholic Slovak Union

Mail to: Kevin Collins, 628 Heather Brite Cr, Apopka, FL 32712.

Important: Every Individual and Captain on this entry agrees to relinquish his rights to prize money if it should be found that any information herein is false.

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# BOWLERS: SAVE THE DATE IN MAY



BOWLING TOURNAMENT  
 & SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL  
 CERTIFIED”  
 tsburgh, PA  
 ay 18, 2019  
 the bowlers to be registered in the tournament.

No applications will be accepted after April 15 2019.

**Important to All Tournament Entrants  
 Read Carefully Information Given Below  
 Rules and Regulations of Annual FCSU/  
 GCU/SCS Bowling Tournament**

1. The Tournament shall be conducted in compliance with the rules and regulations of the United States Bowling Congress (USBC).

2. This event is being sponsored by the First Catholic Slovak Union, Slovak Catholic Sokol and GCU. The goal of the tournament is to promote fraternalism and good sportsmanship and to generate nationwide interest in the Slovak fraternal organizations. The National Officers of the First Catholic Slovak Union, Slovak Catholic Sokol and GCU wish to extend to all members a cordial invitation to attend the tournament.

3. ELIGIBILITY: This Tournament is open to all First Catholic Slovak Union male and female bonafide MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING. All winners will be checked before any prize money is awarded.

4. CONSENT RULES: Any grade or high school student who has not attained the age of eighteen (18) must have written consent of his/her parents or guardian in order to participate in USBC Certified Tournament where cash or merchandise prizes are offered. Said written consent must be on a form approved by USBC and must be on file with Tournament Committee at least one week before the bowler is eligible for tournament competition unless the student is accompanied by his/her parents, in which case the parental consent form may be filed up to the time the student starts to bowl. USBC Rule No. 13.

5. The total cost per person for each event shall be:  
 a. Prize Fee \$10.00  
 b. Bowling Fee \$7.50  
 c. Hospitality Fee \$4.50  
 TOTAL COST (per event) \$22.00  
 Banquet Fee (Optional) \$29.00  
 \*All Events (Optional) \$5.00  
 \*Only bowlers paying the \$5.00 for the All-Events will be eligible for the cash awards.

PRIZE FEE WILL BE RETURNED 100 PERCENT IN EACH EVENT

At least 1 of 10 of participants in each event will win prizes.

Note: Contestant may win only one cash prize event (gross or net), whichever cash prize is higher. Excluding special prizes. Awards will be presented to the Contestants who roll the highest gross and highest actual net scores in each event.

6. SUBSTITUTES. Bowlers may compete only once in each event. However, the tournament manager may allow a bowler who has previously bowled to substitute on a four bowler team when one of its original entrants is absent. The score of such bowler in the team event rolled with his entering team must count for all events. No one may bowl in this tournament except those originally entered before the tournament opens or such substitutes who may be authorized by the captain of a team or his appointee provided the individual whose name appears on the entry blank is unable for sufficient reason to attend the tournament at the time scheduled. The National Fraternal Director shall have power as to the substitutes that are offered by the captain or his legalized representative, and if accepted, each substitute must bowl each event under his full name and only at scheduled time in each event. In keeping with the FCSU's fraternal objectives, if there are no substitutes available for the team or doubles events, a blind draw may be held from the eligible participants to complete a four person team or to supply a doubles partner if needed. The substitutes score and handicap from the said event will be used.

7. Any contestant whose current average as of March 15, 2019 of at least 21 games is ten pins or more above his highest average from the previous season must use his current average.

HANDICAP - Handicap (Men) allowed will be 85% of the difference between 240 and last season's 2017-2018 highest sanctioned league average of at least 21 games. Bowlers who have no established average will use their highest sanctioned league average of at least 21 games as of March 15, 2019. Male bowlers who have no established average for this year or last year will be listed as 175 average and will be handicapped accordingly. Male bowlers with an average over 240 will receive no handicap and will bowl scratch in the tournament.

Handicap (Women) allowed will be 85% of the difference between 200 and last season's 2017-2018 highest sanctioned league average of at least 21 games. Bowlers who have no established average will

use their highest sanctioned league average of at least 21 games as of March 15, 2019. Female bowlers who have no established average for this year or last year will be listed as 150 average and will be handicapped accordingly. Female bowlers with an average over 200 will receive no handicap and will bowl scratch in the tournament.

Under no circumstances will handicaps be increased after participant has bowled.

Contestants in this tournament are not required to report any tournament prize winnings for the previous 12-month period.

8. FALSIFYING AVERAGES - PENALTY - The team captain is responsible for reporting all averages of the individual team members, and they are responsible to him. Should the Tournament Committee find at any time that the averages have been falsified, the team shall forfeit all claims for prize money as well as their entry fee and will be subject to disqualification and suspension from organized bowling.

All prize winners are subject upon request to submit an affidavit of correct league averages.

9. Rerating of Bowlers - According to USBC Rule No. 319 A-E, bowlers may be rerated by the Tournament Committee.

10. All entry applications and bowling fees are to be sent directly to: Kevin Collins, 628 Heather Brite Cr, Apopka, FL 32712; not later than April 15, 2019. Rule 310-A2 is in effect.

11. Bowlers who participate in tournament games must be dressed in a presentable manner to appear before public and when possible to use an emblem attached to shirt or dress so that participant can be identified.

12. Both USBC and eligible non-USBC members may participate in moral support tournaments with high score protection automatically extended to USBC members. Eligible non-USBC members can qualify for high score protection at their option by paying a \$21.00 fee for which the Congress will issue an unattached membership card.

13. NO MONEY WILL BE REFUNDED. All prize fee money will be paid in prizes.

14. In the Doubles contest the names of both members of the team must be given, because entries with the word "Partner" will not be accepted. Entry blanks so compiled will be returned and the entry money retained until proper blank is received. If both entrants in the Doubles event appear when scheduled, it is understood that they must bowl as they have been entered on the original entry blank and no change in position will be allowed at any time after entry blank has been filed.

15. Assignment of Alleys - The Tournament Committee will make up the alley assignments for all entrants in the Doubles, Singles and Team Events. Entrants in the Doubles and Singles Events are required to report fully 30 minutes prior to the time they are scheduled to bowl.

Captains of teams must report their line-up at least 30 minutes before scheduled to bowl.

16. In the Doubles & Singles Events bowling entrants will bowl all six of their games on the same pair of lanes. Bowlers entered in the Singles Event only will be assigned to alleys by the Committee.

17. A team may use a name other than its league name for tournament entry without the payment of additional membership dues as formerly required.

18. Failure to use the correct average shall disqualify score if submitted average is lower than correct average thereby resulting in a lower classification or more handicap. Prize winnings shall be based on the submitted average if it is higher than the correct average. However, corrections in averages may be permitted up to the completion of the first game of a series.

**Entries will close at midnight April 15, 2019.**

Please note: all forms must be filled in completely and sent to: Kevin Collins, 628 Heather Brite Cr, Apopka, FL 32712. Entry fees, as stated on the front of this entry blank, must accompany this entry. All incomplete forms will be returned to team captain for resubmission.

FCSU TOURNAMENT INFORMATION	
Highest Avg. 2017-18 _____	USBC No. _____ Branch/District _____
Team: _____	
Please Check Tournament Events Bowler at Left Is Submitting Payment for on this Application:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Team <input type="checkbox"/> Singles <input type="checkbox"/> Doubles <input type="checkbox"/> All Events	
Highest Avg. 2017-18 _____	USBC No. _____ Branch/District _____
Team: _____	
Please Check Tournament Events Bowler at Left Is Submitting Payment for on this Application:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Team <input type="checkbox"/> Singles <input type="checkbox"/> Doubles <input type="checkbox"/> All Events	
Highest Avg. 2017-18 _____	USBC No. _____ Branch/District _____
Team: _____	
Please Check Tournament Events Bowler at Left Is Submitting Payment for on this Application:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Team <input type="checkbox"/> Singles <input type="checkbox"/> Doubles <input type="checkbox"/> All Events	
Highest Avg. 2017-18 _____	USBC No. _____ Branch/District _____
Team: _____	
Please Check Tournament Events Bowler at Left Is Submitting Payment for on this Application:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Team <input type="checkbox"/> Singles <input type="checkbox"/> Doubles <input type="checkbox"/> All Events	

**DOUBLE & SINGLES EVENT—SATURDAY, MAY 18**

9:30 AM    1 PM    We could bowl Sunday if necessary.

**Financial Totals for this Application**

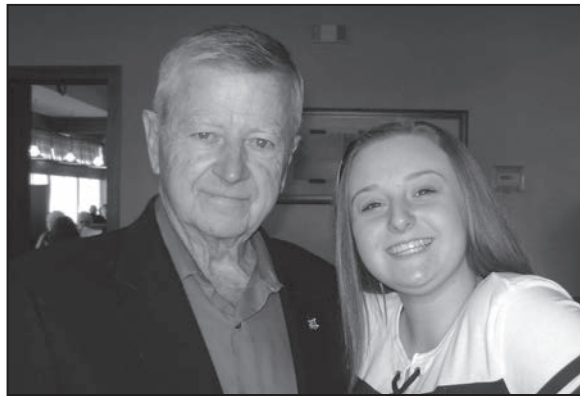
_____ Singles Event..... @ \$22 ea. =	\$ _____
_____ Doubles Event..... @ \$22 ea. =	\$ _____
_____ Team Event..... @ \$22 ea. =	\$ _____
_____ All Events..... @ \$5 ea. =	\$ _____
_____ Banquet Fee (Optional).... @ \$29 ea. =	\$ _____
Total Enclosed	\$ _____



# Branch 40's Annual Meeting in January

The St. Clement Society, Branch 40, held its annual meeting on Sunday afternoon, January 20, 2019 at Chipper's Grill in St.reator, Illinois. Lunch was enjoyed, along with an afternoon of friendship and fraternalism after the meeting which included election of officers.

- Submitted by Andrew R. Harcar, Sr.,  
National Vice President



## More than just a word... Slovo Celebrates 50 years

Daniel Černý

Fifty years ago, a new magazine was published entitled Slovo – the Word. This event in 1969 marked a special day for the Byzantine Catholics in Slovakia. It was published on February 14, the feastday of St. Cyril, Apostle of the Slavs, and its content was a true honor to the 1100th anniversary of the passing of St. Cyril. Slovo - which indicates not only God the Word, but also the Cyrilo-Methodian mission with their translation of the Word of God – has become throughout the intervening 50 years a real companion for countless Byzantine Catholics, living not only in Slovakia, but also abroad.

The very first issue was a great success, a testament to which is the fact this single project regularly printed and has continued even to this day. Among the editors have been: Rev. Ladislav Hučko (father of the current Exarch of Prague, Msgr. Ladislav Hučko); Rev. Emil Korba (who was at time also editor of the largest Slovak Catholic newspaper – Katolícke noviny); Rev. Štefan Papp; Rev. František Dancák; layman Blažej Kransovský; and since 2000, Rev. Juraj Gradoš, who presently steers the wheel of this magazine. The magazine includes interesting articles to appeal to all generations, informing them also about the Church life, not only within the Byzantine Catholic Church in Slovakia, but also in the more universal Catholic World.

If we consider the invasion of August 1968 and the events afterwards, it was sort of a miracle to start a new religious magazine in the then Czecho-Slovakia. A special academic conference was held in Prešov in February 2019 to commemorate this anniversary.

Slovo was not the first Slovak magazine for Byzantine Catholics in Slovakia, as this honor goes to Jednota sv. Cyrila a Metoda (Union of Ss. Cyril and Methodius), which was a magazine by an organization of the same name published during WWII. This organization responded to the growing need for Byzantine Catholics, who considered themselves to be

Slovaks. The response to this magazine was marvelous, and soon the organization started to publish annual calendars as well. Yet, the liquidation of the Byzantine Catholic Church in Slovakia in 1950 brought an end to this organization, as well as its magazine.

At approximately the same time, when the Church was persecuted in Slovakia, several new parishes for Byzantine rite Slovaks in Canada offered publications. One such magazine was entitled Maria, which was published in 1955-1969 and then again in 1976-1989 after a short break. Among its editors were Rev. František Fuga, Reverend and later Bishop Michael Rusnák, CSsR, Rev. Andrej Krafcík, and for the whole second period (1976-1989) Mária was blessed with an outstanding editor in the person of layman Jozef E. Suchý. These people, together with their most faithful contributor Rev. Michael Lacko, SJ from Rome, helped to communicate the life of the church and the truths of the Byzantine Catholic faith - not only to Slovaks in diaspora, but also, when smuggled, to the homeland. It was thanks to these personalities that many Byzantine Catholic articles were printed in additional publications like Jednota, Sokol, Slovák v Amerike, Kanadský Slovák and others. They were like torchbearers to those in the darkness.

After the fall of Communism in the then Czecho-Slovakia, Mária ceased to exist, whereupon its last editor, Mr. Jozef Suchý, became a regular contributor to the very same Slovo which is now celebrating 50 years. Since its inception all the way until today, Slovo definitely has been more than just a word. It tries to be a reflection of the good news, brought to the world, by the one and only true Word, the Word of God. Christ himself.

### About the Author

Daniel Černý (1983) was born in Košice, Slovakia. He received his PhD from the Pontifical Oriental Institute in Rome, with a thesis on the Slovak Greek Catholics in Canada. He focuses in his writings on Slovaks and their diaspora, especially those of the Byzantine rite.

## SLOVO

K 1100. VÝROČIU  
ÚMRTIA  
SVATÉHO CYRILA

14. februára 1969

Къ НАЧАЛѢ КЪ СЛОВО, И СЛОВО КЪ  
КЪ БГЪ, И БГЪ КЪ СЛОВО. ГИИ КЪ  
ИКОНИИ \*\* КЪ БГЪ. ВЕЛЪ ТЪЕМЪ ВЪША, И ВЕЗ  
НЕГЪ НИЧТОЖЕ ВЪСТЪ, СЪЖЕ ВЪСТЪ. КЪ  
ТОМЪ ЖИВОУЪ КЪ, И ЖИВОУЪ КЪ ВЪСТЪ

To Slovo, ktoré na počiatku bolo u Boha,  
z ktorého vyvrela a ešte vyvrie všetko bytie,  
to Slovo, v ktorom večne zrkadli sa obloha  
a hviezdy bez konca sa hmýria na zenite.  
To Slovo, najznamenitejšie a živý štep  
zastepili ste, svätí bratia, rodu nášmu do duše.  
To Slovo, od večnosti Boží čyn, čoho sa kedy dychom svojim dotklo,  
so sebou bralo premenené do výšin.

14. februára 969 zomrel v Ríme vo veku 42 rokov  
mních Cyril, pôvodným menom Konštantín, apoštol  
našich predkov.  
Jeho meno uvádza tohoročný zoznam jubilatov, ktorí  
sa významným dielom pričinili o rozkvet svetovej kul-  
túry a civilizácie.  
Na odporúčanie organizácie UNESCO OSN, bude si  
na nich vďačne spomínať celý kultúrny svet.



### SVĚTÝ KONŠTANTÍN-CYRIL

Miesto moderného životopisu svätého  
Konštantína-Cyrila uvádzame iba nie-  
ktoré základné dáta z jeho života.  
Spoliehame sa na vás, milí čitatelia:  
sami dokážete oživiť suché fakty. Kon-  
štantín bol človekom – ako my. Bol  
kňazom, apoštolom, učiteľom. Mal  
túžby, ideály, záujmy – ako my; mal  
pochybnosti, pokušenia, poznal skla-  
mania, stretával ťažkosti, prekážky;  
ľudia ho nie vždy chápali, často ho  
podceňovali; vedel sa tešiť i smútiť;  
mocil sa, obetoval sa, študoval, prac-  
oval. Zomrel.  
Priestor od jedného faktu k druhému  
vyplňte vy.

Konštantín, mladší brat Metoda, sa  
narodil v meste Solúni v roku 827.  
Jeho otec Lev mal vysoké postavenie  
v štátnej správe. Mladý Konštantín  
mal dobrú pamäť a hlbokú povahu.  
Ako 16-ročný, v roku 843, sa dostal

Cover of the first issue of Slovo magazine, published in 1969.





# Rev. John J. Spitkovsky District 2

## For Illinois, Indiana & Wisconsin • March 2019



### Hey Kids.....

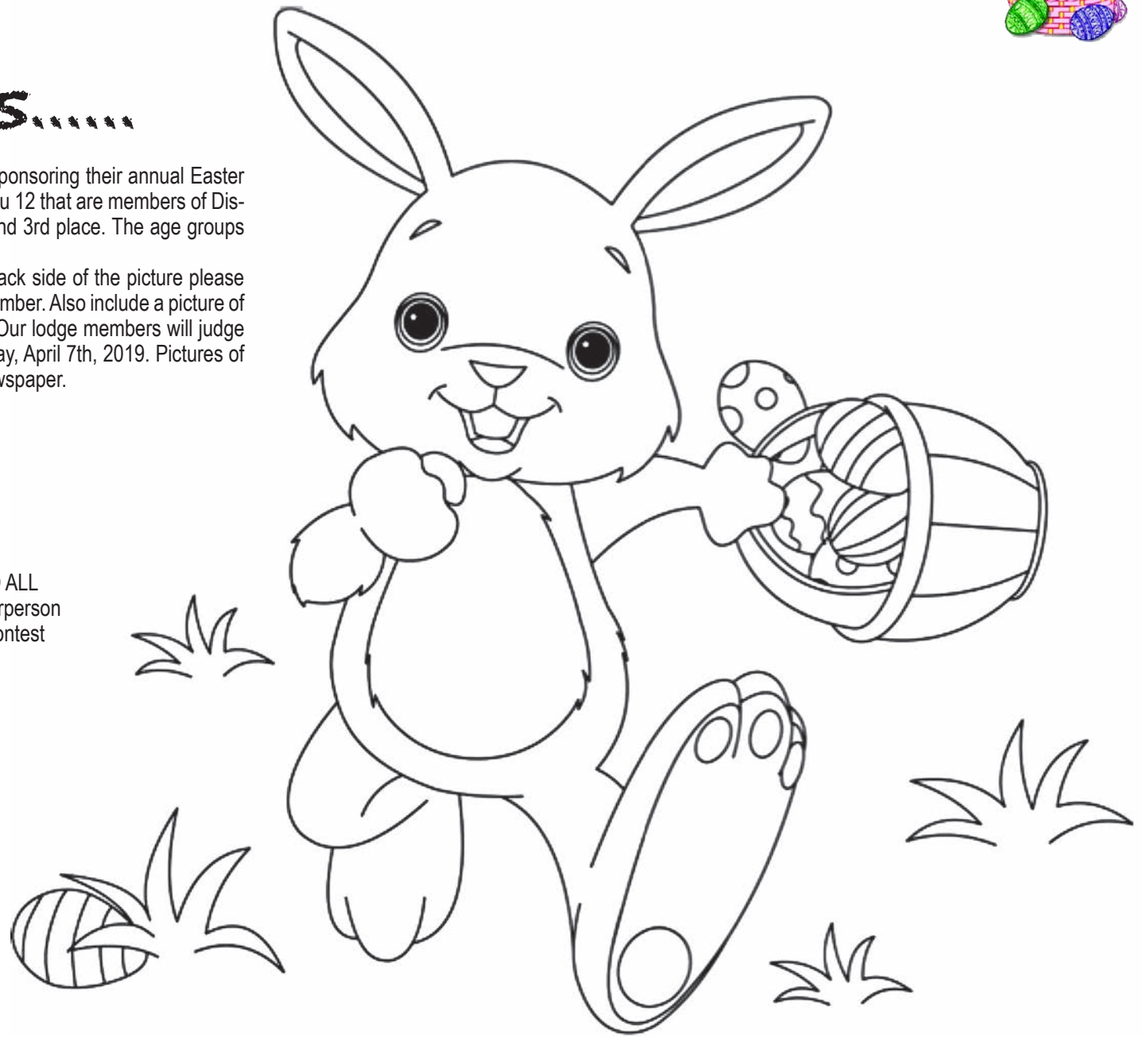
The Rev. John J. Spitkovsky District 2 is sponsoring their annual Easter Coloring Contest for boys and girls ages 4 thru 12 that are members of District 2. Prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place. The age groups are 4-6, 7-9, 10-12.

Send in your colored picture and on the back side of the picture please print your name, age, address, and branch number. Also include a picture of yourself. Return entries by March 29, 2019. Our lodge members will judge the entries at our District 2 meeting on Sunday, April 7th, 2019. Pictures of the winners will be printed in the Jednota newspaper.

Mail your entry to:

Mrs. Barbara Fayta  
1544 Rokosz Lane  
Dyer IN 46311

GOOD LUCK TO ALL  
Barbara Fayta, Chairperson  
Easter Coloring Contest



## March Madness Is Coming to the FCSU

The NCAA Division I men's basketball tournament is a single-elimination tournament comprised of 68 teams that compete in seven rounds for the national championship. The final round is known as the Final Four, when only four teams are left.

The NCAA Men's Division I Basketball Committee selects, seeds and brackets the field for the NCAA Tournament. Then on what is known as Selection Sunday, a Selection Committee reveals the full NCAA tournament bracket, including all teams and all seeds.

In 2019, Selection Sunday is on March 17. The official bracket game of the NCAA will open immediately after the committee announces the field on Selection Sunday. The brackets will lock on Wednesday, March 20, 2019, before the first game of the first round begins, so entries for picks must be in by then.

### FCSU March Madness Rules

1. Each entrant in the FCSU March Madness Contest must have an active policy and be a member in good standing with the FCSU.
2. 1 Entry per person ONLY.
3. 1 Entry per envelope ONLY.
4. Each envelope must be:
  - POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN 11:59PM, Wednesday March 20th, 2019.**
5. Each entry must be sent by regular mail. No emails will be accepted. Mail to: Kevin Collins, FCSU Fraternal Activities Director  
628 Heather Brite Cr.  
Apopka, Fl. 32712
6. Each entry must be completed on an FCSU bracket form, and must include total points and total fouls. No other bracket forms will be accepted.
7. Each entry must be accompanied by 1 completed FCSU March Madness Info Sheet.
8. Starting on Monday MARCH 18TH, 2019, you can download your FCSU bracket

form and FCSU March Madness Info Sheet by going to this website: [fcsu.com/events](http://fcsu.com/events)

9. The First 4 Play in games will not be counted.
10. Check the website regularly to see the current standings, which will be posted on [fcsu.com/events](http://fcsu.com/events).

### FCSU March Madness Scoring

Scoring:

1. Round 1: 1 Point for each correct pick
2. Round 2: 2 Points
3. Round 3: 4 Points
4. Round 4: 8 Points
5. Round 5: 16 Points
6. Round 6: 32 Points (Championship)

### TIEBREAKER:

1. Guess the total number of points scored by both teams in the final game. Closest to the total points wins (must be under the total)
2. If still tied: Number of total fouls by both teams (must be under the total)
3. If still tied: Prizes will be split.

### FCSU March Madness Prizes

1ST PLACE:	\$1000.00
2ND PLACE:	\$750.00
3RD PLACE:	\$500.00
4TH PLACE:	\$250.00
5TH PLACE:	\$50.00

All National Officers and Home Office Employees are ineligible to participate.



# Canada's District 19 & Branch 785 Hold Annual Meeting in Jan

District 19 – the Msgr. Michael Shuba District –and Branch 785 held their Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 13, 2019, at the Sts. C&M Parish Hall, Mississauga, Ontario, Canada.

The members were elected for the District and Branch 785 for 2019. Also John Tokarsky received recognition of his long term support of Sts. C&M Parish and the fraternal goals of FCSU - Branch 785 - congratulations John. Everyone enjoyed an afternoon of fraternalism, which the pictures reflect.

- Submitted by Helen von Friedl, Branch 785



(L – R) Jerry Siman, Marilyn Jursa, Ed Forma, Milan Zoldak, Sharon Thomas, Jimmy Szabo, and Helen von Friedl



(L – R) John Tokorsky, Emil Jursa, Helen von Friedl, Jerry Siman, Anne Mitro, Mike Kapitan, and Ed Forma



## Deadline Extended to June 30, 2019

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



- 1st year premium waived on \$10,000 Term Insurance \*
- \$14 annual premium
- Premium never increases
- Guaranteed convertibility at any time up to age 25 (no medical examination required)
- College scholarships available
- Free newspaper subscription
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 Independence, OH 44131  
 800-533-6682  
 fcsu@fcsu.com  
 www.fcsu.com

All applications must be received in the Home Office postmarked by June 30, 2019.

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



Deadline Extended MARCH 30, 2019

## ATTENTION COLLEGE-BOUND FCSU MEMBERS

From the desk of the Executive Secretary Kenneth A. Arendt

### THE FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION IS NOW ACCEPTING 2019 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

Ninety (90) ONE-TIME SCHOLARSHIPS will be awarded to the winners.

- 85 scholarships in the amount of \$1000.00.
- A "Philip Hrobak Scholarship" and "Stephanie Husek Scholarship" in the amount of \$1,250.00 each will be awarded to the highest ranking male and female applicants respectively.
- Three Scholarships of \$1000.00 each will be given from the "John A. Sabol Nursing Scholarship Fund" to applicants who have been accepted into either an approved three or four year hospital nursing program or a fully-accredited college of their choice.

In addition, upon proof of college graduation and completed insurance application, each recipient will be issued a paid up \$3,000 Single Premium Life Insurance Policy.

For rules, requirements and applications go to [www.fcsu.com/membership-benefits/scholarships](http://www.fcsu.com/membership-benefits/scholarships)

or call the Home Office at 800.533.6682

**Applications must be postmarked by midnight, March 30, 2019**





# Book Corner



An overview of Trenčianske Bohuslavice

Book review by Michael J. Kopanic, Jr., Ph.D.

Matilda Macháčová *Spomínanie : na minulosťnárečie, zvyky, život a prácu obyvateľov v Trenčianskych Bohuslavici najmä na rozhraní 19. a 20. storočia (Recollections: the past, customs, customs, life and work of the inhabitants of Trenčianske Bohuslavice, especially at the 19th and 20th centuries), consultant Dušan Zaťovič, Trenčianske Bohuslavice: Obecný úrad Trenčianske Bohuslavice, 2017, 217 pp. ISBN: 978-80-972886-8-6*

In recent years in Slovakia, many towns and villages have published mounds of materials about their communities, industry and business, the history and local attractions in various brochures, newspapers, specialized journals, and books. In this work, *Spomínanie (Recollections)*, journalist Matilda Macháčová, wished to depart from the usual formal types of histories which features the story of the noble Erdödy family and its marvelous chapel (kaplnka) of the Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary (Nepoškvrneného počatia Panny Márie), which I wrote about in an earlier article.

Instead she concentrates on the *človečina*, i.e., the regular people, in her native village of Trenčianske Bohuslavice. Her book focuses on how the village people lived over the years through attention to their customs, dialect, holidays, and the happy and sad occasions of their lives. What emerges is a rich mixture of history with a concentration on the lives and customs of ordinary folk, a more ethnographic picture of the past.

She embarked on her effort to record the story of the people of Trenčianske Bohuslavice after retiring from her profession as a writer for a teachers' magazine. After having worked in Bratislava for most of her life, she returned to her native village. In a sense, she never left her village, for like many Slovaks working in cities, she spent many weekends and all her holidays there; it is where she felt at home, where her roots were. Her mission became an attempt to put in writing about her home and the character of the people, mainly from the 19th and 20th centuries.

## Historical Background

After presenting a brief history of the village and its former manor house, Macháčová elaborated on its demography and agriculture-based economy based on raising and selling fruits, their byproducts, especially *palenka* (brandy). The village counted only 280 inhabitants in the late 18th century, but the number rose to 586 by 1948, 663 by 1970, and over 900 by the 1990s.

As small as the village was, people still employed a variety of terms for *chotári*, the territories belonging to the community. Again a few examples provide a taste of the several dozen local expressions: Dolinky, Kozie nohy, Lúcky, Nad Balázom, Pod Tureckom, Vojnové.

Interestingly, after the formation of independent Czechoslovakia after 1918, due to interruption of markets, many local residents worked abroad performing seasonal work in Bohemia, Moravia, Silesia, Austria, Germany, France, and the lowlands. They usually left before Easter and did not return home with their savings until December! Others left and stayed abroad, permanently settling especially in the USA, Canada, and Argentina. Since the Velvet Revolution, the relatively peaceful setting has become an increasingly preferred residence for a home form many who are employed in a larger nearby city.

## The Local Dialect and People

To a great extent, the location of Trenčianske Bohuslavice helped shape the character of the people and their local dialect. Situated just a few kilometers north of Nové Mesto nad Vahom and about 21 km south of Trenčín, it lies at the gateway of the Bošáčka valley, and close to the Váh River, which drains much of western Slovakia, and provided an historical highway for travel, trade, and commerce to Budapest and other markets. The proximity of the Váh impacted its history, customs and spoken dialect. Since it was so close to Moravia in the Czech Republic, the village stood at the crossroads of many cultures. Czech, German, and Hungarian culture influenced the evolution of its history and its unique dialect.

Ironically, when visiting during the summer of 2018, I found that quite a number of local words resembled those of the Spiš region, probably due to the pervasive German similarities. Macháčová elaborates on that in the book. For instance, some of the older inhabitants of Trenčianske Bohuslavice use the "dz" which compares with the Spiš dialect for words like *dzekujem* (Thanks!) or *dzedzina* (village)! Other consonant (spoluhlásky) and diphthongs (dvojhlásky) bear a similar pronunciation: *šťascje* (happy or lucky) instead of the standard literary Slovak "šťastie". Likewise, both dialects use *gdo* instead of *kto* for the word "who". On the other hand, unlike eastern Slovak dialects which are softer, the Bohuslavice dialect often uses a hard rather than a soft sound for verbs, such as in *bákat*, meaning "to speak loudly", and in *mlet* instead of the literary *mliet'* (to grind).

To assist the reader in understanding the local dialect, the author included a useful "Dictionary of the Bohuslavice Dialect" (*Slovník bohuslavického nárečia*) of 101 pages, which proves useful when reading as a reference to words when reading the text (although it might be better placed at the end of book rather than in early pages). For example, she refers to the ancestors of Bohuslovičania as "Močkári", i.e., their predecessors liked to smoke pipes and chewed tobacco and snuff (*žuvali "dohán a močku"*).

Other features include individual and family of people in the village under a variety of categories. Among them are the last names common in the village, which often made reference to one's family background, work, or craft. Here is brief sampling: Borica, Citrón, Dočtor, Kalendár, Mračno,

Ovečka, Pekný Jozko, Sova, Veverička, etc.

The overwhelming majority of the people tilled the land for a living, and they often raised horses, cows, pigs, chickens, geese, ducks, turkeys, and sometimes guinea fowl (*perličky*) or oxen (*voly*). Women played a vital role in keeping the household afloat during tough times, such as between the world wars, when they made soap from pork bones. The ladies filled their spare time during winters by embroidering (*vyšívateľ*), crocheting (*hačkovateľ*), knitting (*pliet'*), weaving (*tkať*), etc.

Craftsmen also worked in the village: *stolári* (carpenters), *murári* (bricklayers), *pánsky krajčír* (a gentleman's tailor), *dámska krajčírka* (a lady's tailor), *mlynár* (a miller), and *kováč* (a blacksmith), etc. Here again, some names of these masters are listed, as well as the people who helped build the railroad. Other lists include those whom the author found to have performed military service in World War I, with some photos to add a face to some of these soldiers.

## Traditional Customs

Trenčianske Bohuslavice had its own local traditions and a particular way of practicing them in. Complete with original photos, the author explains some pre-Christmas practices, Christmas (*Vianoce*), New Years Eve through Epiphany, the pig slaughter (*Zabijačky*), the Easter period (*Veľkonočné obdobie*), and the St. George Day fire (*Juraské ohne*). The book also details of the customs and speeches surrounding the preparations for a wedding, rites at the reception, and the post-nuptial ceremonial wishes for blessings as the bride enters a new stage in life. Finally, the customs conclude with the burial observances, including the original text of a typical funeral message to the mourners, which Anna Švančariková recited in 1941.

Besides special occasions, Bohuslovičania utilized their free time for cultural enrichment. They regularly put on plays and operetta; the book features photos of the amateur theater group (*divadelný súbor*), with the performers' names. The local factory Hydrstav sponsored its own singing group, and during the 1940, Emil Polák founded a band complete with accordion, guitar, mandolin, clarinet, and drums. In summers, they put on outdoor concerts and sang Czech and Slovak folk songs. Women of the village regularly played sports such as volleyball and soccer, and some even joined the fire brigade.

When people became ill, few could afford to go to a doctor (the nearest in Nové Mesto nad Váhom, Trenčín or Moravia), so most utilized to deal with various illnesses. Examples of herbal medicines as remedies are presented. For example, they got rid of tapeworms (*hlísty*) with a mixture of warm milk and garlic. A hissing in the ears (*hučanie v ušiach*) was soothed with steam over hay droppings (*naparovanie nad senným trusom*). For measles (*osýpky*) and other pains and wounds they used fresh cabbage leaves (*kapustové listy*). Putting the leaves on a child's face would prevent pockmarks (*rapavá*). And home remedies applied to keeping important domestic animals healthy as well. These are just a few samples, but show how poor people had to be resourceful with available remedies for common maladies.

Other customs were more cosmetic and aimed to keep a maiden beautiful. For instance, village lore recommended the young ladies wash their faces with morning dew. When they first saw a swallow (*lastovička*) flying, they were supposed to run quickly to a nearby stream and wash there so they would be as healthy and nimble as the little bird. But they were not to open their mouth around a frog (*žaba*), because it would supposedly count her teeth, an omen of bad luck.

## Foods

All are interested in eating and a variety of foods also counted among local customs. Bread was the staple food for both the rich and the poor, and people considered it a gift from God. When a piece of bread fell on the ground, they would pick it up, blow on it, and kiss it. Generally, they baked bread on Friday and Saturday for the entire week.

The poorest families ate soup with bread three times a day. Some other staples of the diet included legumes, potatoes, cabbage, rutabaga, and kale (*strukoviny, zemiaky, kapusta, kvaka, and kel*). Those who had the means could afford a better diet that might include noodles sprinkled with poppy seeds, nuts and cheese or "frflanky" – plum jam noodles sprinkled with poppy seeds and sugar (*slíže s makovou, orechovou a tvarohovou posýpkou alebo "frflanky" – číže lekvárové slíže posypané makom a kryštálovým cukrom*). Also popular were potato pancakes, a bread pastry, cookies, filled rolls, plum balls, noodle and potato porridge (*lokše, pagáčky, beneše, buchty, slivkové gule, strukovinové a zemiakové kašče*); a fruit syrup added even more flavor. Meat was only eaten on Sundays. For snacks, bread spread with onions, butter or plum preserves was typical. People also made their own "lazy man's" cheese (*hníly syr*) with paprika, horseradish, and other spices to eat themselves, but also sold molded forms as well as eggs, poultry, and cottage cheese (*tvaroh*) at the market to earn some extra money.

## Conclusion

While it is impossible to relate all the rich history, events, happenings, and customs in this short review, one does get a taste for the immense variety of information in Macháčová's book. In addition to the topics discussed above, the book surveys everything from the paths around the village, various sayings, lore, and proverbs, clothing styles, the types of greenery and flowers in the village, to the schools, how children played, and the myriad of individual personal stories that people have related to her. The book covers an immense mountain of information, but even she admits that it far from perfect or comprehensive, and represents just a drop in a sea (*"kvapka v mori"*). But it offers an important starting point to build on.

In her final pages she acknowledges how the people have endured and this mosaic of the lives of ordinary folk gives us a better idea of village life over the last century. Despite many challenges and pitfalls of chance and history, the people have endured. *Oni a viera v Boha ich aj tých najťažších chvíľch držali nad vodu. Vážmi si ich, lebo bez ich, lebo bez ich by sme neboli.* (They and their faith in God, even in the most difficult of circumstances, held their heads above water. Appreciate them, for without them, without their contributions, we would not be what we are.)

## Notes

"K novinárčine sa dostala náhodou," *MyTrenčín*, July 5, 2007, <https://mytrencin.sme.sk/c/4778527/k-novinarcine-sa-dostala-nahodou.html> (Accessed Feb. 2, 2019).



## Ohio Region 6 Sponsors Pirohy-Making Class in May



**What:** Pirohy- Making Class\*  
**Day:** Sunday, May 5, 2019  
**Time:** 2:00PM  
**Place:** Slovak J Club, 485 Morgan Ave,  
 Akron, OH, 44311  
**Instructor:** Milka Anderko, Branch 450  
**Assistant:** Maria Cvicela, Branch 24  
**Cost:** \$10 per member

**Deadline:** must reserve space by April 26, 2019 by calling Region 6 Director Tom Ivanec at 440-668-7797

Attention Ohio Region 6 Members (which includes all members in Districts 10 & 14):  
 Want to learn to make pirohy like it's done in "the old country?" Then register for our members-only pirohy-making class, taught by Slovak-born Milka Anderko, Branch 450. Supplies will be provided. Space is limited, so call today!

\*Plus, for anyone accompanying a pirohy-class attendee, the Slovak J Club offers food & beverages for sale – including sausages –& a game's always on in the bar!

## Join us for the 15th Consular Tour of Slovakia And its Neighbors July 13 – July 27, 2019



Visit the historic sites of three beautiful countries for the price of just one tour. Begin in Vienna where you will tour the city including a visit to the Schonbrunn Palace. Then onto Bratislava, the capital of Slovakia, where we will see old town, St. Martin Cathedral, Primatial Palace, Devin Castle and many other historic sites. Along the way, we will visit the nearby towns where we will enjoy a wine tasting, folk music, a traditional folk wedding and the famous Červený Kameň and the Trenčín Castle. You will also have an opportunity to enjoy some spa treatments at Trenčianske Teplice. Some of the towns that we will see in Slovakia include the Tatras, Čičmany, Levoča, Kežmarok, Košice, Bardejov and Prešov. Other unique features of this tour include Demänovská caves, rafting on the Dunajec, another wine tasting in the Tokaj region and meeting with the Mayor of Prešov. A recent New York Times article on "52 Places to Go in 2019" lists the Tatra Mountains as #19. We will take you there.

While in Poland, we will shop in Zakopane, visit Auschwitz, Pope John Paul II former home, Shrine of St. Stanislaus, shrine of Blessed Faustina, Our Lady of Czestochowa and the Wieliczka salt mine.

The total package price for this fantastic tour is just \$4,300 per person (double occupancy), the same as last year. This includes round trip airfare from either Pittsburgh or New York, two delicious meals daily, four star hotels, free admission to all the sites, air conditioned bus, a professional guide and more. Compare this itinerary with other tour packages. For a detailed copy of the daily itinerary or more information, contact Joe Senko at [jtsenko@aol.com](mailto:jtsenko@aol.com) or 412-956-6000.

### YOUTH MEMBER SCHOLASTIC ASSISTANCE: BRANCH 181 MEMBERS

For the fall 2019 school year, St. John the Baptist Society - Branch 181 of United, PA, will be offering scholarships to eligible youth members. These will be one-time scholarships selected by an independent panel that will evaluate each applicant. The number of scholarships awarded is dependent on the number of eligible applicants.

Scholarships of \$500.00 will be available on a one-time basis to be used for a college or trade school.



**THESE SCHOLARSHIPS ARE SOLELY FUNDED BY YOUR LOCAL BRANCH 181 AND ARE INDEPENDENT OF THE FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION NATIONAL OFFICE.**

To obtain an application and more information, please contact Vicki Hricik phone 724-547-0803 or email [vickihricik@gmail.com](mailto:vickihricik@gmail.com).

**\*Applications should be postmarked by April 12, 2019 to be eligible.**

#### ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST SOCIETY- BRANCH 181 YOUTH MEMBERS

You may be eligible to qualify for a scholarship if you meet the following requirements:

- You are a member in good standing of The First Catholic Slovak Union, St. John the Baptist Society - Branch 181.
- You have been a member of Branch 181 for four years prior to applying with a minimum \$5,000 insurance policy.
- You are high school senior preparing to graduate in 2019 and have applied for the 2019/20 fall term at a qualifying educational institution.



**"THE MOST EXCITING TWO MINUTES IN SPORTS"**  
**SATURDAY MAY 4<sup>TH</sup>, 2019**  
**1<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL F.C.S.U. KENTUCKY DERBY HAT PHOTO CONTEST**

Ladies & Gentlemen, Children of All Ages: Help us celebrate the 145<sup>th</sup> running of the Kentucky Derby by submitting a picture of yourself in your Derby Hat and attire!!!

Listed below are some suggestions, however the more creative the better chance of winning.

Ladies - examples:

- Babuška
- Pillbox
- Fascinator
- Beret
- Cocktail

Men - examples:

- Klobuk
- Fedora
- Bowler
- Cowboy
- Panama

Examples of attire: cocktail dresses for the ladies; seersucker suits for the men

**ENTRIES WILL BE JUDGED IN THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES:**

**FEMALE: 3 CATEGORIES: 40 – older; 16 – 39; 15 – younger**

**MALE: 3 CATEGORIES: 40 – older; 16 – 39; 15 – younger**

**FAMILY: 1 CATEGORY**

**PRIZES FOR EACH CATEGORY:**

**1<sup>st</sup> Place - \$250**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place - \$150**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place - \$75**

**WINNERS - To be Announced In Jednota**

All National Officers and Home Office Employees are ineligible to participate

**RULES:**

- All entries must be postmarked no later than 11:59pm. Friday May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2019
- Contestant in Photo AND ALL Contestants in Family Photo must be:

**Members of F.C.S.U.**

**And in Good Standing**

**To be eligible for prizes.**

- ENTRIES WITHOUT a Branch Number filled in will be disqualified.**
- Contestant must be holding a current Jednota 2019 Newspaper in picture.
- All pictures must be 8 x 10.

**Any other sizes will not be accepted.**

- Please write on back of the photo:

Name

(All family names must be written on back of Family Photo)

Branch Number

Entry Category

- Mail to:

Kevin Collins  
 Fraternal Activities Director  
 628 Heather Brite Cr.  
 Apopka, FL 32712



**ENTRY FORM:**

**NAME:**

**Certificate Number:**

**Branch Number:**

**Street Address:**

**City, State, Zip**

**Phone Number:**

**Email Address:**

**CATEGORY:**

If entering Family Category; please fill in information for each person in the photo as below:

**NAME:**

**Certificate Number:**

**Branch:**

**NAME:**

**Certificate Number:**

**Branch:**

## From the Desk of the Executive Secretary –April Holiday Hours



The Home Office and Jednota Estates Office will be closed on Friday, April 19, 2019, in observance of Good Friday.

## District 16's Semi-Annual Meeting



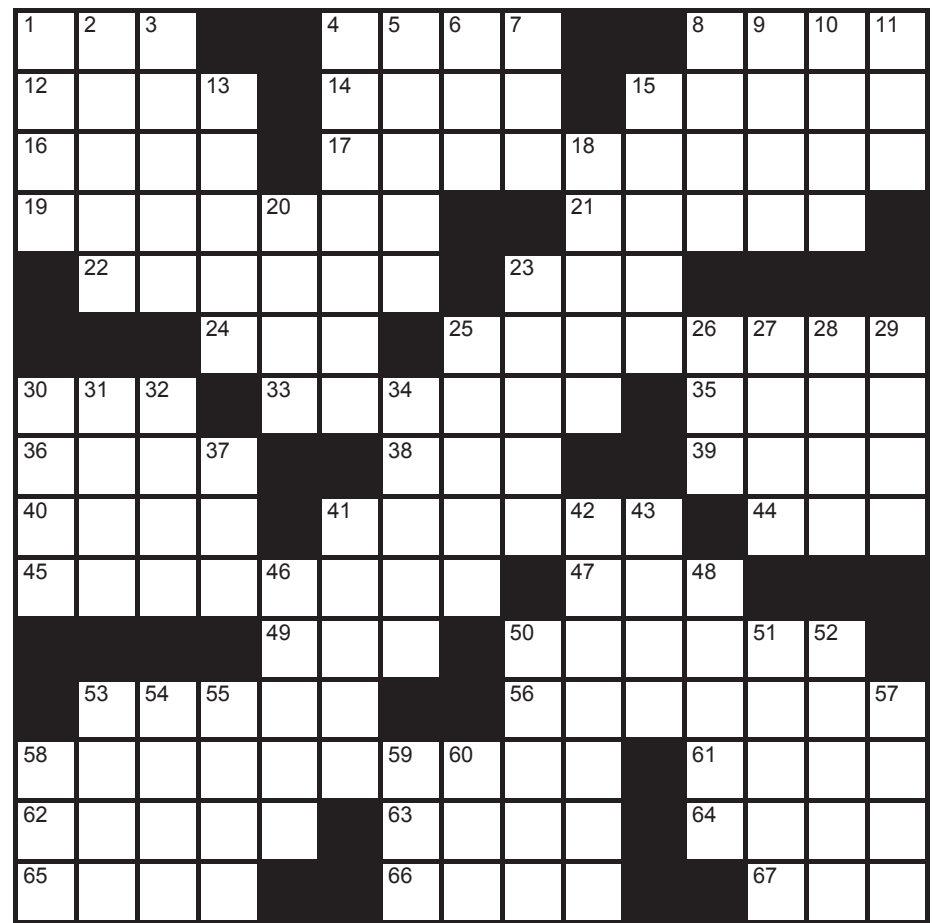
District 16 held its semi-annual meeting on Feb. 24, 2019, in St. John's Nepomucene Rectory, New York City. After the meeting, lunch was enjoyed by all.

- Submitted by Joan Skrkon, Secretary

## JEDNOTA Publication Schedule for 2019

Issue Date	Deadline to Receive Information
April 10	April 1
May 8	April 29
June 12	June 3
July 10	July 1
August 14	August 5
Sept 11	Sept 3 to accommodate Labor Day
October 9	Sept 30
November 13	November 4
December 11	December 2

# Jednota Crossword Puzzle



### Across

- 1 Scottish cap
- 4 Farrier's tool
- 8 After onion or sweet
- 12 Astringent
- 14 Toward shelter
- 15 Persian Gulf emirate
- 16 Mediocre
- 17 Triumphant
- 19 Big bash
- 21 Had supper
- 22 Director's cry
- 23 One of the Three Stooges
- 24 Actor Holbrook
- 25 Garden feature, at times
- 30 Duffer's dream
- 33 Defames
- 35 New York canal
- 36 Prune
- 38 River inlet
- 39 Ranch type
- 40 Recipe direction
- 41 Railroad crossing item
- 44 Funnyman Brooks
- 45 Risky venture
- 47 Reel's partner
- 49 Shoshonean
- 50 Crowns
- 53 Suspicious
- 56 Japanese warrior
- 58 Printed stationery
- 61 Agrippina's slayer
- 62 Pointless
- 63 Horse houser
- 64 Make a sweater
- 65 *J'accuse* author
- 66 Yorkshire river
- 67 Simile phrase

### Down

- 1 Itar-\_\_\_ news agency
- 2 Hilo hello
- 3 CD contents
- 4 Pasta dish
- 5 Set straight
- 6 "Wait a \_\_\_!"
- 7 Hamster, for one
- 8 Archeologist's bonanza
- 9 Symphony member
- 10 Praise
- 11 Fleur-de-\_\_\_
- 13 Calendar section
- 15 Desiccated
- 18 Bouquets
- 20 Watch face
- 23 Lombardy capital
- 25 Neutral shade
- 26 Hospital unit
- 27 Cuckoopint root starch
- 28 Lunar effect
- 29 Scoundrel
- 30 Basilica feature
- 31 Ligers and tignons, e.g.
- 32 Playwright Bogosian
- 34 Wedding party member
- 37 The Horse-and-buggy \_\_\_

- 41 Nymph chaser
- 42 Half sister of the Minotaur
- 43 Rich soil
- 46 Blender setting
- 48 Blotto
- 50 Autocrats of old
- 51 Combat zone
- 52 Agra attire
- 53 Late-night host
- 54 Bibliography abbr.
- 55 Lab item
- 57 Greek letter
- 58 Claiborne of fashion
- 59 SHO alternative
- 60 \_\_\_ de toilette

See Solution on Page 20



# BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

## BRANCH 1 – CLEVELAND, OHIO

The Saint Joseph Society, Branch 1, will hold its next meeting on April 10, 2019 at 7:00PM. The meeting will be held at the Sts. Cyril & Methodius Hall located at 12608 Madison Avenue, Lakewood, OH 44107. All members are encouraged to attend.

**Marie A. Golias, Secretary**

## BRANCH 2 – PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

St Michael's Branch 2 will be holding a meeting on May 7th 2019 at Kretzlers on Babcock Blvd. Meeting will start at 7 pm. We will be discussing upcoming fraternal activities. Please RSVP to Joanne at 412-715-5577

**Joanne Lako, Secretary**

## BRANCH 7 – HOUTZDALE, PENNSYLVANIA

The Sacred Heart of Jesus Society Branch 7 of the First Catholic Slovak Union will hold a meeting on Sunday, April 7, 2019 at 9:00AM at Christ the King Parish Center, 100 Brisbin St. Houtzdale, PA. All members are invited to attend the meeting.

**Joseph C. Cervenak, President**

## BRANCH 19 - BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 19 will offer a Mass in celebration of the feast day of our patron saint St. Joseph for the living members of our branch on March 17, 2019, at 8:30AM in Sts. Cyril & Methodius Church, 79 Church St., Bridgeport, CT.

The first meeting of the year will be held on April 28, 2019 in Sts. Cyril & Methodius Church hall at 9:30AM. Officers' reports will be given and plans for activities during the year will be discussed. All members are cordially invited to attend.

**Deborah Nelson, Secretary**

## BRANCH 23 – JOHNSTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 23 will hold its first Annual Branch Meeting. The meeting will be held 1:30 PM Sunday, May 19, 2019, at Denny's Family Restaurant on Theatre Drive, Johnstown PA. We encourage all members of Jednota Branch 23 to Attend. We welcome You!!

The meeting is always a good time to hear what the status of our Membership and the First Catholic Unions' situation is. You have an investment in this Company, come to see what it's all about.

The percentage rates of our company for annuities are very good. The insurance that is offered is very good. A good place to invest. We are a fraternal organization, we are family. Please Attend. If you have any questions you can call Theresa at 814-254-2532.

**Theresa Cassat, Secretary**

## BRANCH 35 – BRADDOCK, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Michael's Branch 35, will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday, May 5, 2019 at 12:00 p.m. at 1987 Centurion Drive, Forest Hills, PA. The agenda will include officers' reports and a discussion of district and branch activities.

**Janet Sullivan, Recording Secretary**

## BRANCH 38 – WHITE OAK, PENNSYLVANIA

Holy Trinity Society, Branch 38 will hold its semi-annual meeting on Thursday, April 25, 2019 at 7:00 pm at Red Robin: 175 E Waterfront Drive, Homestead, PA 15120. The agenda will include officers' reports and discussion on 2019 fraternal social activities. All Branch 38 members are urged to attend.

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

**Logan Haselhoff, President of Branch 38**  
**Florence Matta, Secretary/  
Treasurer of Branch 38**

## BRANCH 45 – NEW YORK, NEW YORK

The St. Matthew's the Evangelist Society, Branch 45, will hold a semi-annual meeting on Sunday, April 7, 2019, at 12:00 PM after the Slovak mass at St. John Nepomucene Church, 66th Street and 1th Avenue, New York City. We urge all members to attend this meeting.

**Maria Jurasi, Financial Secretary**

## BRANCH 157 – CATASAWQUA, PENNSYLVANIA

St Andrews, Branch 157, will be holding a meeting at the Roman residence on March 24, 2019 at 12:00 noon. Meeting is being called by President Christopher Roman. Any Questions call Greg Harakal @ 484-908-9200.

**Gregory M. Harakal, Secretary/Treasurer**

## BRANCH 162 – UNIONTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Wendelin Society, Branch 162, will hold its quarterly meeting on Sunday, March 17, 2019, at 8:30AM at the Park Inn by Radison Restaurant, 700 West Main Street, Uniontown, PA, 15401.

Officers' reports will be given, and upcoming year 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 March 10, 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 166, will hold its Semi-Annual Meeting and Dinner on Sunday, March 31, 2019, at 1:15 P.M., at Buffet Star, 4089 Old Vestal Road, Vestal, New York. On the agenda will be information from the District Meeting and Branch business. Please bring any questions about life insurance or annuities for discussion at the meeting. All members are encouraged to attend.

Please call Arlo Meeker at 607-775-4896 by March 26, 2019, to make a reservation if you plan to attend. We hope to see you at the meeting.

**Arlo Meeker, President**

## BRANCH 181 – UNITED, PENNSYLVANIA

St. John the Baptist Society - Branch 181 of United, PA – will meet on Saturday, April 27, 2019, after the 5PM Mass in the St. Florian Church Social Hall. Refreshments will be served. All members are encouraged to attend. Plans for the annual family picnic in June will be discussed. Contact Vicki for more information at 724-547-0803. Branch 181 scholarship applications for youth members are available by emailing Vicki at vickihricik@gmail.com. [Editor's note: look for details on page 10 of this issue.]

**Vicki Hricik, Recording Secretary**

## BRANCH 199 – LATROBE, PENNSYLVANIA

Members of Branch 199 will hold a luncheon meeting on Sunday, March 17, 2019 at 1:00 PM at Sharky's Cafe, 3960 Route 30, Lincoln Highway, Latrobe, PA 15650. Lunch will be provided by the Branch.

Lunch will be provided by the Branch. You are encouraged to join us for luncheon, a meeting, and fellowship! See you on March 17th, 2019.

Fraternally,

**Barb Patula, Secretary**

## BRANCH 200 – FORD CITY, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 200 wants to extend wishes for a happy and blessed Easter to all members of the FCSU. 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 meeting dates for 2019 are as follows: 04/04/19, 05/02/19, 08/01/19, 09/05/19, 10/03/19, 11/07/19 with Nomination of Officers, and 12/05/19 with Election of Officers. There are no meetings in June or July. [See p13 for District 11 Mtg]

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 228 – LORAIN, OHIO

The St. John the Baptist/Holy Trinity Lodge, Branch 228 of the First Catholic Slovak Union will hold their next meeting on Monday, March 18, 2019, at 7 PM at the American Slovak Club on 30th and Broadway in Lorain, OH. Our meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of each month except for the months of January, February, July and August when no meetings are held. All meetings begin at 7 PM and are held at the American Slovak Club. Delicious food is served by Theresa Arendt at the last meeting of each calendar quarter. The branch will hold its annual election of officers and bylaw review during each December meeting. The exact date for this year's election meeting is December 16, 2019. At that time, we will also elect two (2) representatives to serve on the American Slovak Club Board of Directors. This past December, incumbent officers President Leonard Zilko, Vice-President Luis Palos, Financial Secretary Lisa Trifiletti-Palos, Activities Director/Auditor Theresa Arendt and Recording Secretary Thomas Zuffa were re-elected to their respective offices. Ken and Theresa Arendt were re-elected to a 3-year term on the American Slovak Club Board of Directors representing our local Branch 228.

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 2019 Spring meetings at 1 PM on Sunday, March 17 and Sunday, May 19. A Fall meeting is planned for November 17. The location for the meeting on March 17 as previously published has been changed to Twin Oaks in White Oak, PA. We will be collecting information to RSVP for both the district meeting and the Father's Day Brunch. Our branch is hosting the April 7 district meeting and we will be handing out final work assignments at the March meeting.

Fraternally,

**Margaret Nasta, President**

## BRANCH 292 – WINDBER, PENNSYLVANIA

St. John the Baptist Society, FCSU, Branch #292 KJ will hold their semi-annual meeting on Sunday, June 23, 2019.

The meeting will be held at the Slovak Club, 1300 Jackson Avenue, Windber, Pa. 15963 at 12:30 p.m. This meeting will be in conjunction with our annual celebration of our patron, St. John the Baptist. A Mass will be celebrated at SS. Cyril and Methodius Slovak Roman Catholic Church, Windber, Pa. 15963 (see church bulletin for date

and time). All members are asked to attend both events. A buffet dinner will be held.

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

## BRANCH 320 – BELLE VERNON, PENNSYLVANIA

The officers of SS Peter & Paul Society, Branch 320, invite their members to attend the branch's next meeting on Sunday, April 7, 2019, 11:00AM, at the residence of Frances Tarquinio, 209 Sylvan Drive, Belle Vernon, PA. Since a light brunch will be prepared, please call Fran at (724) 929-9788 and let her know if you will be attending.

**Mary Anne Higginbotham, President**

## BRANCH 367 – FAIRCHANCE, PENNSYLVANIA

Saint Joseph Branch #367 of Fairchance, PA, 15436, will hold a meeting on Saturday, April 13, 2019 at 1:30 PM. The meeting will be held at the Flamingo's Hollywood Steak House at 660 North Gallatin Avenue Ext., Uniontown, PA 15401. Please call Kathryn Baranek, Secretary at 724-569-1006 or Audrey Balazik, President at 724-438-3887 by Saturday, April 6, 2019 if panning to attend.

**Kathryn Baranek, Secretary**

## BRANCH 410 – UNIONTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The SS. Peter and Paul Society, Branch 410, will hold a meeting on Tuesday, March 19, 2019, at 2:30 at the Texas Roadhouse, 666 W. Main Street, Uniontown, PA.

Please call for reservations by Friday, March 15, 2019 at 724-425-2576

Members are encouraged to attend.

**Geraldine Buchheit, Secretary**

## BRANCH 450 – CLEVELAND, OHIO

St. Joseph the Guardian Society, Branch 450, will hold its Semi-Annual Meeting on Saturday, April 6, 2019, at 11:00 A.M., at Holy Spirit Byzantine Catholic Church Hall, 5500 West 54th Street, Parma, OH, 44129 (between Brookpark and Snow Roads. On the agenda will be a discussion of branch business and the summer activities for members. We look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

Fraternally,

**George P. Carny, Recording Secretary**

## BRANCH 553 – AKRON, OHIO

St. John the Baptist, Branch 553 will hold our first Lodge Meeting for 2019 on Sunday, April 28, 2019 at 3 pm. The meeting will be held at the Slovak J Club, 485 Morgan Avenue, Akron, Ohio 44311. Mark your calendar and plan to attend.

Upcoming Events:

Lenten Fish Fry –Now through April 19 from 4:30 pm to 7:00 pm

May 2019 – “Senior” Prom – details in the near future

June 29th – Kielbasa Open at Mayfair Country Club. Get your teams together now.

Spaghetti Dinner – 1st Wednesday of every month 4:30-7:00 pm

Attend the meeting and support your Branch – hope to see you soon at the Slovak J Club.

**Linda M Hanko, Financial Secretary**

## BRANCH 580 – WEST MIFFLIN, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 580 Sacred heart of Jesus of Holy Trinity church will hold a meeting on April 7, 2019 at Holy Trinity Social Hall, 529 Grant Street Extn, West Mifflin, PA, 15122 at 12:20 PM prior to the District 6 meeting which will be at 1PM. All members are welcome.

**Virginia Jasek, Secretary**

## BRANCH 595 – MUSKEGON HTS, MICHIGAN

Sunday, April 28: monthly Branch 595 meeting at 2 pm.

**continued on page 17**



## DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

### DISTRICT 2 - REVEREND JOHN J. SPITKOVSKY DISTRICT

On Sunday, April 7, 2019, at 2:00PM, a district meeting will be held at Missionary Sisters of St. Benedict, 5900 West 147th Street, Oak Forest, IL. All members from Illinois, Indiana and Wisconsin are invited to attend. Dinner will be served after the meeting. For directions and or questions, please call me at 773 763 0810

**John Jurcenko, President**

### DISTRICT 4 – THE MSGR. RURA DISTRICT

The next semi-annual meeting of the Msgr. Rura District of New Jersey will be held on Sunday, March 31, 2019, at 1:30PM. Branch 746 will host the meeting in the basement meeting room of Holy Family Church, 210 Monroe Street, Linden, NJ. The agenda includes election of officers. Immediately following, at 2:00PM, there will be an insurance seminar. District and non-district members are invited to join us for this informative, informational gathering. Come learn about insurance and investment products, educational savings, and retirement plans. Get informed and plan for your future. Lunch will be served at 3:00PM. Kindly RSVP to Joanne Tkach Polt @732-762-3148 by March 23rd. Please bring non-perishable food items for donation to a local food pantry.

**Mary Kapitan, Secretary**

### DISTRICT 6 – THE PITTSBURGH DISTRICT

Branch 276 will host the Spring Business Meeting on Sunday, April 7 at 1 PM at Holy Trinity Social Hall, 529 Grant Street Extn, West Mifflin 15122. Expect a pizza party. Please RSVP by March 24 to 412-672-0379 or manasta@verizon.net.

We need host branches for Fathers' Day and the Fall Business Meeting. Please consider volunteering.

Heavy rains ruined our plans to attend an afternoon Pirates baseball game last September. We will reschedule in the spring, possibly May 31. Your tickets from September will be honored. You can still get additional tickets – contact Annie Ondrejco. Bring your suggestions for other district activities to the April meeting.

As always, members are urged to check the Jednota for updates on FCSU business matters as well as contests and tournaments.

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: Become a member of the WPSCA to get the newsletter listing all of their events.

\*\* Slovak wine tasting – April 6 – contact Joe Senko.

\*\* Slovak Day at Kennywood Park – Thursday, July 18, 2019; Tickets will be available from Sue Ondrejco.

\*\* Slovak beer tasting – October 7 – 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; they start February 26. A summer class for children will start May 25, 2019.

\*\* 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.

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

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

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

\*\* 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.

\*\* 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, District Secretary**  
manasta@verizon.net

### DISTRICT 7 – THE REV. JOHN MARTVON DISTRICT

All members of District 7, Rev John Martvon, are welcome to attend the 1st annual district meeting of 2019. The meeting will be held on Sunday, April 28, 2019 at 2:00PM. It will be in Windber at St. Cyril Methodius Church. The meeting will be hosted by Branch 242. As always they will have a delicious dinner after the meeting in the church hall. We hope all can come and fellowship with friends. Attendance has been down; we need more people to get involved.

Any questions call Sharon Allison, recording secretary. 814-322-1052

**Sharon Allison, Recording Secretary**

### DISTRICT 8 – THE REV. STEPHEN FURDEK DISTRICT

District 8 will hold their semi-annual meeting March 31, 2019. Mass will be at 10:15 am. Mass will be at Sacred Heart Church 120 Jefferson Street, Bridgeport, PA. 19405.

Lunch will be served at 1130 am in the parish building. The cost of the meal will \$15/person, immediately following lunch our meeting will be held.

Any question feel free to contact Monica Fabian at 610-417-0468 or email at mfabi-

am922@gmail.com.

Best Regards,

**Monica Fabian, Recording Secretary**

### DISTRICT 11 – MSGR JOSEF TISO DISTRICT

The semiannual meeting of District 11 will be held Sunday, April 28, 2019, at 2PM. This meeting will take place at Eat N Park, 1626 Broadview Blvd., Natrona Heights, PA 15065. Lunch will be provided at 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. On the agenda: Nomination and election to fill the vacancy of Recording Secretary previously held by Grace Charney and topics of discussion for upcoming events.

Questions may be directed to Vicki Schaub 724-763-9229 or vschaub123@gmail.com.

**Vicki Schaub, Financial Secretary/Treasurer**

### DISTRICT 12 – ANDRE HLINKA DISTRICT

On Sunday, April 7, 2019, at 1:00PM, a meeting of the Andre Hlinka District will be held at Kings Restaurant in Bentleyville, PA. Members of the various branches are urged to attend.

**Frances Tarquinio, Secretary**

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

Reverend Joseph L. Kostik, District 14, Region 6 of the FCSU, Youngstown, OH, is cancelling the March 19, 2019 at the Falcon Grille in Austintown. The next meeting dates are as follows: Tuesday May 21 at 6pm a semi-annual meeting; Tuesday, July 16 at 6 pm; Sept. 17 at 6 pm; November 19 at 6 pm (election of officers, semi-annual meeting) and December 17 will be our Christmas party (no meeting). Hope to see you all on May 21st.

**Recording Secretary, Grace Kavulic**

### DISTRICT 17 – SAINTS CYRIL & METHIDIUS DISTRICT

Saints Cyril & Methodius District 17 of Lackawanna and Luzerne Counties in Pennsylvania and Broome County in New York will conduct its Annual Spring meeting on Sunday, April 28, 2019. Branch delegates will gather in the Shrine Room of St. Ann Basilica, 1233 St. Ann Street, Scranton, PA.

District Auditors will meet at 1:00PM to check the books. The business meeting will convene at 1:30PM. Refreshments and socializing will follow.

All branches are urged to send representatives to this meeting. Branches are encouraged to contact District President Michael J. Slovenkai, Sr., at 570-342-7562 to confirm attendance.

**-Michael J. Slovenkai, Sr., President**

### DISTRICT 19 – MSGR. MICHAEL SHUBA DISTRICT

All Jednota members are invited to our Annual Easter Communion Breakfast being held on Sunday March 24, 2019 at 10:00AM. This event will be held after the 9AM Mass at Sts Cyril and Methodius Slovak Church in Mississauga, in the church hall. This event has been held each year for the past 60 years and continues with the new generations! Again: "All are Welcome!"

**Anne Mitro, Secretary**

## 2019 TOUR OF SLOVAKIA

# YOUNGSTOWN/SPIŠSKÁ NOVÁ VES SISTER CITIES TOUR



Mark your calendars—July 15-29, 2019, pack your bags, grab your passports and get ready to fly to Slovakia for the time of your life.

We are one big family on our tours. Everyone watches out for each other.

First class hotels, great food, entertainment, large roomy air-conditioned bus with rest room—best tour guide and bus driver in all of Slovakia.

We have people coming back for 7 and 8 times, so we must be doing things right. Visit family and friends—walk the

streets of your ancestors, reconnect to your heritage.

Previous tour participants are willing to talk with you regarding the tour and their experiences.

For further information contact Kay and Jim Bench. This will be their 19th trip to Slovakia. Tour arrangements are being made by Paul Hudak, Adventure International Travel Inc. Phone 216 228 7171—800 542-2487 Jim Bench, Phone 724-858-5843 or Kay Bench Phone 724-771-7900.

Don't wait, space is limited, be ready for a fantastic time.

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



# Part II - Final Entry of 2018 Photo Contest

Overall Winner – Ages 12 - 18



John Kristoff-Kichka  
Independence, OH, Branch 1

“Put-in-Bay, Ohio”

Correction: the name of this photo ran incorrectly in the Feb 13 issue. It is entitled The Cloud Gate Sculpture.

People



First Place – James Petrosky  
Baden, PA, Branch 10

## Is your FCSU profile up to date?



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

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

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

# SINGLE PREMIUM INSURANCE SPRING SPECIAL

## EXAMPLES

male	female
NEWBORN \$5,000 for \$410	NEWBORN \$5,000 for \$345
AGE 5 \$5,000 for \$475	AGE 5 \$5,000 for \$410
AGE 10 \$5,000 for \$565	AGE 10 \$5,000 for \$485
AGE 15 \$5,000 for \$670	AGE 15 \$5,000 for \$570

Purchase Single Premium Whole Life Insurance coverage for your children or grandchildren (0 -18) and receive a

## FREE \$10.00 GIFT CARD

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### Features:

- Pay one premium and have fully paid-up Insurance
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# Rest in Peace, Our Departed Members

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

Branch:	Name	Branch:	Name	Branch:	Name	Branch:	Name
001K	Jim Fugelsang	040K	Vincent C Yuhas	254K	John Skosnik Jr	484K	Mary E Ostinowsky
002K	Raymond P Mager	041K	Joseph Popovic	260K	Marlane Bone	497K	George J Pavlik
003P	Bernard J Gasper Sr	075K	Robert L Mummaw	266K	Margaret M Grega	543K	Anne Kurey
003P	Leo Sofianek	085K	Andrew Fetcho	292K	Theodore F Wodoslavsky	633K	Gladys Uhelski
005P	Robert Kopec	085K	Thomas Fetcho	293K	Francis Petko	670K	Patricia Wood
005P	Joanne M Phillips	157K	Mary T Doyle	313K	Robert K Hennis	682K	Richard Soltis
005P	Donald Stofik	157K	Joseph P Pluta Sr	315K	George B Fetcho	733K	Helen R Fotta
006K	Louise Elias	157K	Mary A Vidonya	315K	Anthony V Wisniewski	733K	Karey Lea Krueel
006K	Walter John Havrilka	169P	Francis G Ozog	320K	John Pawlish	735K	Mary Margaret Baker
007K	Gerard A Hansel	169P	John F Zahornetz	362K	Julius Smereck Jr	735K	Celestine E Duris
019K	Margaret M Coloske	173K	Jane M Kavulich	368K	Eleanor R Goch	743K	Valerie Scasny
019K	John Karandisevsky	173K	Elmer Kolinovsky	382K	Jean Ann Kelminski	746K	George J Ankosko
019K	Helen M Plucinski	181K	John G Zemba	382K	Renee M Yenko	746K	Maryann Medvetz
019K	Maureen E Zahor	200K	Grace M Charney	401K	Irene A Ruzbacki	746K	Michael Mizerak
023K	Edward Balmuta	200K	Mary A Charney	401K	Florence L Valasek	746K	Michael J Mudrak Jr
024K	Ann Kysilka	200K	Richard J Michaux	401K	Rudolph Veselicky	764K	Mary C Maddix
038K	Albert G Canfield Jr	215K	Thomas Stephen Pupko	410K	Edward Britt	796K	Methodius Kocis
038K	Hugh B Donnelly	228K	Brian F Maiher	410K	Josephine F Kopachko	831K	Mildred V Paletta
038K	Devin Stein Matta	228K	Christina Veronica Rush	429K	Anna Fedak	855K	Ann A Gnall
040K	Msgr Thomas Badovsky	254K	Janet M Gutilla	430K	Joseph G Zurine	901K	Jerry H Peterson

\*Processed through the month of February

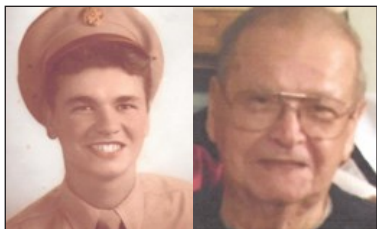
## OBITUARIES

### JUSTINA MARY (GASPER) RYS BRANCH 85 – BLAKELY, PENNSYLVANIA



Justina Mary (Gasper) Rys, 93, of Woodland Park, passed away on November 8, 2018. Born and raised in Jessup, PA, she moved to Passaic, NJ, in 1961, settling in Woodland Park, NJ, in 1979. Justina was a Seamstress at The Barbizon in Jessup, for many years. She was a parishioner at Holy Rosary R.C. Church in Passaic and was a proud member of the Woodland Park Seniors. Justina loved to cook and pray the rosary. Her love language was cooking and feeding others. She was passionate about making so many delicious dinners for her loved ones. She was the loving sister of Joseph Gasper of Jessup, and Anna Dupay of Blakely, PA, and dear aunt of many nieces and nephews. She is predeceased by her beloved husband Frank; nine brothers, Andrew Jr., Martin, George, John, Clement, Peter, Paul, Michael and Thomas Gasper; and three sisters, Mary Kukol, Agnes Carnogursky and Catherine Glowacki.

- Submitted by Mark Glowacki



### JOHN BABYAK BRANCH 157 – CATASAWQUA, PENNSYLVANIA

John Babyak, 90, of Slatington, PA, passed away Sunday, December 2, 2018 at the Lehigh Valley Hospital Hospice Unit. He was the husband of Josephine (Siverski) Babyak, to whom he was married for 67 years. Born on February 5, 1928, in Slatington, he was the son of the late Stephen

and Mary (Papay) Babyak. John was past president of Penn Big Bed Slate Company where he worked for over 50 years. He was also a director at Structural Slate Company in Penn Argy. He was stationed in Japan while serving in the US Army from 1945-1946. John was a member of Assumption BVM Church in Slatington, member of the Slatington Skeet Club, Slatington Lions Club, American Legion Post 16, Palmerton Hungarian Club, and the Vigilant Fire Co, Slatington. John lived his whole life for his family. In addition to his wife, he is survived by daughters: Teresa wife of Dennis Kistler, Celeste wife of Ralph Williams both of Slatington; Grandchildren: Jason Williams and wife Shea, Jessica wife of Andrew Mack; Great Granddaughters: Madelynn and Samantha Mack, Rebecca and Aria Williams; Brother: Thomas Babyak and wife Susie, Richard Babyak; Sisters: Mary Duyka, Margaret Babyak, and Veronica wife of Ronald Scheffler. He was predeceased by a brother Stephen. A Mass of Christian Burial was held Friday morning, December 7, 2018 at Assumption BVM Church, Slatington, with a calling hour held directly prior to Mass. Interment followed at the parish cemetery.

### ELIZABETH (BETTY) HOLOMAN BRANCH 181 – UNITED, PENNSYLVANIA

Elizabeth (Betty) Holoman, 81, of Greensburg, PA, passed away Monday, Nov. 12, 2018, at home. Born in Calumet, PA, she was a daughter of the late John M. and Mary K. Tressa Holoman. She attended St. Florian Catholic School and graduated from Hurst High School in Norvelt. She was a lifelong member of St. Florian Catholic Church. In addition to her parents, Betty was preceded in death by three brothers and one sister, Steve, Monsignor Thomas, William and Mary Holoman. She is survived by one brother and one sister, John Holoman, of New Castle, PA and Ann Quinn, of



Rhode Island; and many nieces and nephews. Prior to retirement, she owned Betty's Beauty Shop in Calumet and was the sexton for St. Florian Church in United. Her funeral Mass was celebrated November 19, 2018, in St. Florian Catholic Church, United, with the Rev. John A. Sedlak as celebrant and the Rev. Charles Townsend concelebrant. Interment followed in St. Florian Cemetery, Trauger, PA.

- Submitted by Michael Quinn

### GEORGE R. BUYNAC SR. BRANCH 857 – LEVITTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

George R. Buynak Sr., 88, of Mount Pocono, died Saturday morning, Nov. 3, 2018, while under hospice care at home. He was the husband of Janet A. (Zidock) Buynak for the past 63 years. He was the son of the late George T. Buynak and Estelle (Guida) of Wilkes-Barre. He had careers in music and TV/radio broadcasting.

Born March 30, 1930, in Wilkes-Barre, PA, he began studying piano at the age of seven. He attended Coughlin High School and studied TV and radio broadcasting at SRT and New York University.

In his teens, George began playing with various bands in the Wilkes-Barre area, including his own known as the George Buynak Trio. He performed on tour nationwide with "The Ted Mack Original Amateur Hour" and the "Horace Heidt Youth Opportunity" program, one of the first talent shows on TV. George played with orchestras in the New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania

areas. He also performed at many resorts in the Poconos, including Fernwood and Mount Airy. He had a musical group, Music Unlimited, for 10 years in the Philadelphia area. He also composed songs and background music for TV and film productions. You can hear George's recordings at [store.cdbaby.com/artist/georgebuynak](http://store.cdbaby.com/artist/georgebuynak).

George worked at CBS Television in Philadelphia at WCAU for 20 years in news and production. He came to the Poconos in 1977, where he organized and constructed WPCN Radio in Mount Pocono in 1981. He went on to a career in TV advertising sales in 1995 with Blue Ridge Communications TV-13, and later Target Select, which became ViaMedia. He retired in 2011.

George is survived by his two sons, George (Robert) Buynak Jr. and his wife Constance of Stroudsburg; and Alan J. Buynak and his wife Terri of Tulsa, OK; two daughters Christine Weissman and her husband Willard of Mount Pocono, and Jennifer Buynak-Smith of California; and grandchildren Ralph, Samantha, Zakariah, George, Justin, Katherine, Christopher and Devon, along with great-grandchildren Liam, Nolan and Reese.

A public viewing was held Friday evening, November 9, 2018, at Yanac Funeral Home, Mount Pocono, and Saturday morning, November 10, 2018, at Our Lady of Victory Roman Catholic Church, Tannersville, PA, before the Mass of Christian Burial celebrated by Father Richard Czachor. Interment followed at Stroudsburg Cemetery, Stroudsburg, PA.

## 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](mailto: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](mailto:FCSU@aol.com)



# BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

**continued from page 12**

Refreshments every Tuesday and Thursday are .50 off.

Hours are Mon-Fri 1-8 pm, Sat 12 noon-8 pm.

Come down and enjoy yourself. All Events Will take place at Tatra Hall 2536 Sixth Street, Muskegon Heights, MI 49444 231-733-7525

**Cora Garcia, Secretary**

**BRANCH 670 – DONORA, PENNSYLVANIA**

The officers of St. Anton of Padua, Branch 670, invite their members to attend the branch's next meeting on Sunday, April 7, 2019, at 11:30AM at Kings Restaurant in Bentleyville, PA. Members of Branch 670 are urged to attend.

**Dorothy Petrus, President**

**BRANCH 682 – YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO**

The next meeting for Branch 682 is scheduled for Noon on Thursday, April 25, 2019, at Materials Research Laboratories, 290 N Bridge St in Struthers, OH 44471. Discussion of plans for summer activities and the Slovak Fest at St. Matthias grounds will take place.

**Drew Hirt, President**

**BRANCH 716 – NEW YORK, NEW YORK**

The St. Stephen, Branch 716, will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday, March 31, 2019 after the Slovak Mass at 1:00PM in the meeting room downstairs in St. John Nepomucene Church hall in New York City. The agenda will include a financial report and discussion on upcoming activities for the Branch. All Members are invited to attend. A hot lunch will be provided after the meeting.

**Joan Mary Skrkon, Recording Secretary**

**BRANCH 721 – BANNISTER, MICHIGAN**

Jednota Branch 721 will have its Spring meeting on Sunday, May 5, 2019, at 2:00PM at the home of Julius Remenar, Financial Secretary. His home is located at 8977 S. Mason Road, Bannister, MI. All members are encouraged to attend.

Respectfully submitted,  
**Joseph Beno, Recording Secretary**

**BRANCH 731 – YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO**

Members are invited to celebrate Mass commemorating of the feast day of Saint Joseph, Patron Saint of our Branch 731. Mass will be on March 17, 2019 at 11 am at Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, Saint Matthias Church, 915 Cornell Street, Youngstown, Ohio. Our December 2018 meeting included the election of officers for 2019. Elected were President Grace Kavulic, Vice President Irene Makovec, Recording Secretary Jim Bobby, and Financial Secretary Jackie Bobby. We wish everyone a healthy and happy new year.

**Jim Bobby, Secretary**

**BRANCH 743 – STERLING HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN**

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 743, will celebrate the feast day of St Joseph on Sunday, March 17, 2019, with a Slovak Mass for all living and deceased members at 11:30AM at St. Cyril and Methodius Church, 41233 Ryan Road, Sterling Heights, MI.

Refreshments including coffee and Slovak baked goods will be served in the Social Hall following the liturgy. All members and their families are invited to attend this annual celebration of St. Joseph's Day and to enjoy fellowship with other members.

A Branch meeting will take place at 1:30 pm. in

the Slovak Heritage Room.

Any member who has recently moved or requires Branch services should contact the Branch Secretary Joseph C. Rimarcik, 4945 Wavewood Dr, Commerce Twp., MI 48382 or phone 248-714-9620.

No obligation insurance quotes are free and simple, all that is required is date of birth and gender.

**Joseph C. Rimarcik, President/Financial Secretary**

**BRANCH 746 – LINDEN, NEW JERSEY**

The St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 746, will hold its next meeting on Sunday, March 31, 2019, in the basement meeting room of Holy Family Church, 210 Monroe Street, Linden, NJ. The meeting will begin promptly at 1:00PM. Agenda will include planning of this year's activities. Okres meeting will follow at 1:30PM. The agenda includes election of officers. Immediately following, at 2:00PM, we will be hosting an insurance seminar. Branch and non-branch members are invited to join us for this informative, informational gathering. Come learn about insurance and investment products, educational savings, and retirement plans. Get informed and plan for your future. Lunch will be served at 3:00PM. Kindly RSVP to Joanne Tkach Polt @732-762-3148 by March 23rd. Please bring non-perishable food items for donation to a local food pantry.

**Mary Kapitan, Secretary**

**BRANCH 785 – MISSISSAUGA, ONTARIO**

All Jednota members are invited to our Annual Easter Communion Breakfast being held on Sunday March 24, 2019 at 10:00AM. This event will be held after the 9AM Mass at Sts Cyril and Methodius Slovak Church in Mississauga, in the church hall. This event has been held each year for the past 60 years and continues with the new generations! Again: "All are Welcome!"

**Sharon Tomas, Secretary**

**BRANCH 856 – WASHINGTON, DC AND AREA**

Branch 856-K will hold their first meeting of the new year on April 1, 2019 at 1:00pm at the Tyson Pimitt Library located at 7584 Leesburg Pike Falls Church, VA, 22043. All members are invited to attend. On the agenda will be election of officers for 2019. A discussion on activities that would interest members. Report on District Meeting that was held in Bridgeport, PA, hosted by Branch 857. Branch 856 has arranged for Mass in honor of our Slovak Chapel at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Located at 400 Michigan Avenue N.E. Washington, DC, on Sunday September 15, 2019 at 11:30 am in Crypt Church. Please note change of time. This is the 54 anniversary of the dedication. All are welcomed. For more information call Marion Mistrik at 301-654-5638 or Katherine Nowatkoski at 919-651-0363.

**Katherine Nowatkoski, Financial Secretary**

## United Slovak Societies Accepting Scholarship Applications



### Scholarship

The United Slovak Societies at the American Slovak Club in Lorain, Ohio, announces 2019 scholarship availability to graduating high school seniors who are entering college and are five year members of our local lodges that include: First Catholic Slovak Union #228, National Slovak Society Assembly 160, Slovak Catholic Sokol Wreath 111, First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association Branch #114 and Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union #77. The one-time scholarship application and rules may be obtained by visiting [www.americanslovakclub.com](http://www.americanslovakclub.com). Deadline for completion is May 30, 2019.

Submitted by: **Michele Mager, FCSU National Auditor, FCSU Branch 228 Member, Secretary-United Slovak Societies Board of Director Member, American Slovak Club- Lorain, OH**

## Your Phone Call Is Important to Us




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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.

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



### Attention Branch 200, Branch 401 & All Other District 11 Members:

Save the date for an upcoming District 11 meeting on April 28, 2019.

See District 11 announcement on page 13 for details.

## SLOVAK MASS & EASTER CUSTOMS BREAKFAST

### Saturday, April 13, 2019



**St. Adalbert Church**  
160 So.15<sup>th</sup> Street, South Side, Pittsburgh, PA

10:45 a.m. -- Recitation of Rosary *(in Slovak)*

11:00 a.m. -- Slovak Mass

### Prince of Peace Parish Center

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\*\* SAMPLE SLOVAK EASTER FOODS \*\*

paska (sweet bread) šunka (ham) sirek (egg cheese) hrin (beets & horseradish)

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- \* Craft Demonstrations
- \* Cultural Displays
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- \* Slovak "Auction" /Raffle



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# 2018 Youngstown-Spišská Nová Sister Cities Tour: Lasting Friendships, Memories and Bumper Cars

By James Bench

Despite a direct flight from Newark to Vienna, Austria, a trip to Slovakia is still a relatively long trip. As such, it is always comforting to board our waiting 49 passenger, air-conditioned bus complete with restroom, for the short ride to Bratislava. Upon crossing the border to enter Slovakia, Arnie Mesaros, the best bus driver in Slovakia, safely parked the bus to allow the traditional toast to Slovakia, and the beginning of the land tour. The bus was stocked with a variety of beverages including red and white wine, borovička, hruškovica and a few others, certainly ample to toast our arrival. Those familiar with borovička will recognize it as a gin like liquor made from Juniper berries, while hruškovica uses pears as its base. Many Slovaks claim that borovička has medicinal qualities that will be of benefit to those suffering bodily ailments particularly the digestive system. The initial experience will leave little doubt as to its potency.

Prior to the toast, super guide Viera Marecova announced that she had a video to play on the large screen at the front of the bus. Expecting to see a video of a folk group toasting or something similar, a huge surprise surfaced on the screen in the person of Andrei Kiska, President of Slovakia welcoming the tour to Slovakia, and wishing for a safe, memorable, and enjoyable trip. He specifically noted his awareness of the many assistive projects in which the Youngstown-Spišská Nová Ves Sister Cities Program has engaged and extended his personal gratitude. It was a huge surprise, and a most thoughtful gesture considering the demands on his time. What an auspicious beginning to a memorable tour.

Staying at the newly renovated Park Hotel, formerly the Danube, was quite comfortable and the four-star rating completely justified. The restaurant in particular was restored to its former excellence which we had enjoyed years ago. A visit to Petržalka, and Sad Janka Kráľa were welcome additions to the other interesting sites in Bratislava, and environs such as Devín Castle, St. Martins Cathedral, the Blue Church, as well as the old town. The welcome dinner at the Garden Spot was a huge hit consisting of fine food, unlimited drinks (the wine flowed), great entertainment, and private accommodations exclusive to our group. In addition to the fine performance by the musicians, singers and dancers, a session involved volunteers from the group joining the performers. What followed was highly enjoyable and hilarious, as the volunteers struggled with the demands of the dance steps in a rapidly increasing musical tempo. The finale featured a competitive hat dance exchange while dancing to musical instruction concluded with Mary Wagner as the winner. However, all of the participants in actuality were winners given the total enjoyment of all the spectators. Thus, the group bonding was established early and gave



Group picture with Joe Duraci in foreground



Tour members in lobby of Spa Hotel Kaskady

evidence of a very special group.

Šaštín was a worthy addition to the 2018 tour. A young, newly ordained priest related the history of the Basilica of the Sorrows of The Blessed Virgin Mary, and was an excellent host admitting his nervousness as it was his initial assignment relative to tour groups. Highly inspirational can best summarize the visit.

Most Slovak Americans are not familiar with the Slovak delicacy trdelník, which originated in Skalica. Arrangements were made for a first-hand view of the baking process that involved a cake made from rolled dough wrapped around a stick, grilled, and then topped with sugar and walnuts. Our visit to Skalický Trdelník od Havlíků was informative not only in disclosing the entire baking procedure, but also allowing select members of the group to participate in the procedure. We were treated to unlimited portions and once again seemingly unlimited servings of wine. We look forward to revisiting this delightful Slovak gem in the 2019 tour.

Smolenice is one of the many castles that

may be visited in this country of historic castles. We were able to enjoy a traditional Slovak lunch while there in addition to the castle tour. Not far from the castle is the cemetery where Štefan Banič is buried. Slovak Americans should recognize Banič as the inventor of the modern parachute. Banič who worked as a coal miner in Greenville, PA, returned to his native Smolenice in his later years and was buried there. A parachute is engraved on his tombstone. His story is interesting and readily available to all.

Aah! ---Trenčín and Jozef Duraci. Our very good friend of many years, the highly personable and talented former singer/dancer greeted us as always with a welcome and program that exceeds an adequate description. The festive evening included a delightful folk performance, goulash in unlimited portions, an endless supply of wine, borovička, hruškovica, and others. Joe delights when he is credited with making the best goulash in all of Slovakia, which of course is served with bread and pastries in ample portions. In keeping with past receptions, the tour group was invited to join the folk group and "learn" some basic dance steps which once again proved most enjoyable, humorous, and just plain fun. The evening ended with much socializing, and picture taking with the young performers eager to participate. The Finale. ----- All were invited to join Joe in singing, "Hej Slováci." Of course, good friend and returnee Jerry Geibel, joined Joe along with Dr. John Adan (6 tours), Greg Maurer (3 tours), Bob Matsco (many tours), Robert Magruder, Bill Gaspar and some others. As we were returning to our bus a mixture of sadness and joy was prevalent. It is little wonder that the "Joe Duraci evening" is always a hit with all involved. As our hosts accompanied us to the bus there were many hugs and fond farewells.

Due to mechanical problems, the previously arranged boat ride with wine on the River Vah was cancelled. However, we substituted a visit

to St Benedict of Sayord Monastery located near Trenčín. The uphill challenge to the chapel in a cave was met by most of the group.

Following a stop in Čičmany with the decorated houses and museum we proceeded to Terchová, home of the Slovak Robin Hood Juraj Janošik. The large impressive monument to Janošik sits upon a very high hill, representing a challenge to anyone wishing to hike to its base. It is also highly visible to those wishing to view it from the small recreation area near the bus parking area. Among the rides available in this area was a bumper car ride. One of the female tour members expressed interest in riding the cars, and made an inquiry to the operator, who smiled while nodding in the affirmative. Within an instant, many other tour participants got on board. They were the only riders and the amused operator allowed them a very long ride, also inviting them to return in typical Slovak cordiality. A most interesting incident occurred during our visit to Svätý Križ, the historic old and beautiful wooden church. The group spaced out during the short walk from the bus, and suddenly voices erupted expressing surprise and obvious joy. Jerry Geibel, by coincidence, ran into a young Slovak woman who had been a good friend of his nephew when they were both students at John Cornell University, when she was an exchange student. She was now living in the Czech Republic with her husband and was on a short visit to Slovakia visiting friends and family. They were exiting the church as Jerry was entering. What timing ---five minutes either way and there would not have been such a serendipitous occasion.

Always enjoyable is a visit to the famous walled city, Levoča also known as "The Holy City." Always a favorite, Levoča offers many attractions including the awe-inspiring cathedral, Bazilika svätého Jakuba (Basilica of St. James) with the world's highest hand carved wooden altar. The altar carved by Master Pavol is one of his many carvings, and although they are all "masterful", the altar in St. James ranks at the top of his many gorgeous works. Eleven separate alters enhance the overall beauty of this magnificent edifice. This city is the site of the annual pilgrimage (Odpust) every July.

Spiš Castle, the largest castle in Slovakia, presents a challenge inasmuch as it requires some walking to get there. Most members were able to handle the long semi-circular road leading to the castle proper, and it is worth seeing for first time visitors.

Always a tour highlight is the official welcome reception with our Sister City, Spišská Nová Ves. Mayor Jan Volny PhD., seems to enjoy the visit while exerting maximum effort to make the occasion enjoyable and memorable. Proceeding Mayor Volny's greeting was a succession of highly talented performers, and once again Lucas Francovic sang so magnificently that tears were evident in the eyes of many. We have seen and heard Lucas from the time he was just sixteen years of age. Presently he is enrolled in a prestigious university pursuing a degree in the Performing Arts. Equally impressive, Zuzanna Kleinova earned a standing ovation with her rendition of "Smoke Gets in Your Eyes". She is an administrative assistant to the mayor and tours have been privileged to have seen her perform over the past years. A college junior, Petra Pravlikove, majoring in Voice and Music also was spectacular. Certainly she seems destined to have a successful career.

Following Mayor Volny's welcome, and a brief response from James M. Bench, President of the Youngstown/ Spišská Nová Ves Sister Cities Program. Tour participants were called individually to sign the official registry. The highly popular mayor then greeted each person while presenting a variety of gifts.

Following the ceremony, the group was led to



John Adam



Gerald - aka Peach - Pundzak



# Sister Cities Tour

continued from page 18

the Reduta Concert Hall for a sumptuous meal, informal socializing, and a few more vocals. Lucas, Zuzanna, and Petra stated, that they enjoy performing for the Sister Cities Tour because they can see the appreciation in the eyes of the people. Free time in the afternoon allowed for browsing and shopping in Spišská Nová Ves followed by dinner in the Hotel U Leva, with soothing piano music. The blind musician was very good and was brought in by the gracious hotel owner distinctly for our pleasure.

Slovaks revere the Tatra Mountains and the two-day stay in the Grand Hotel went by rapidly. The Grand Hotel lives up to its name providing splendid accommodations. We were able to experience the majesty of the mountains, and rafting on the Dunajec River, which serves as the natural boundary between Slovakia and Poland. The day was dampened (no pun intended) by rain. However, it did not dampen (no pun intended) the hardy spirit of the group. The group had a memorable visit to the small village of Tichý Potok where several members of the tour dressed in folk attire (kroj).

The Zbojnická Koliba (shepherd's hut) in Stará Lesná features excellent food, good wine, and a great atmosphere. The flaming Hot Toddy served as soon as we were seated was an early indication of a cheerful evening. Owners Strojini and Bicko usually join us for the majority of the time we are there. They are aware that their tradition of cutting off the neckties of any customer wearing one, was compromised years ago when Kay Bench provided neckties for all including women. Ever since, the necktie slashing has become a tradition. The evening of eating, drinking, dancing and overall merriment was enhanced by the Roma (gypsy) musicians who know virtually every song, Slovak and American, and are anxious to demonstrate their talents. For some reason, as in previous years, a congo line was started which extended throughout the entire building, and guests in other sections of the koliba joined in. As the evening was winding down, the owners were announcing the closing time and directing people to the exit. At the same time they were motioning for our group to stay for some additional expressions of friendship. The partiality of the owners once again surfaced as it did throughout the evening. The hilarity ended with the cutting of the one person in our group purposely wearing the cravat.

Bardejov, famous for its spas, has much to offer inasmuch as the city square is full of interesting café's, restaurants, and antique shops. The church St. Egidius as in many of Slovakia's villages and cities is gorgeous. The hand carving of St. Barbara, according to many, is possibly Master Pavol's finest work. For people interested in the Second World War history, Dukla Pass would qualify for a must see. Tourists should prepare for a highly organized and thorough ori-



Hat dance in Bratislava



Greg Maurer

entation of the historic battle. As we proceeded to Kosice, we stopped in the village of Sačurov for dinner and entertainment. The hall and stage were spotless with breath taking decorations causing some to wonder if a wedding was to take place. We were served with such a variety of what we perceived to have been the meal only to discover that what we had eaten were the appetizers. The entertainment was very good and included group participation following the initial performance. Another Super Day!

Two days in Košice allowed for a little free time to explore the city independently, visit relatives or simply enjoy the biggest city in Eastern Slovakia. The free time followed a tour of the city, the centerpiece being the gorgeous Cathedral of St. Elizabeth. Staying at the Doubletree Hilton located on the main square was highly beneficial given its proximity to shopping, restaurants, parks and the colorful musical water cascade, which also provided for a relaxing evening.

The two days passed quickly, and we proceeded to Sliach, and the wonderful spa Hotel, Kaskady. Staying at the hotel allowed time to relax while enjoying the soothing thermal pools and other amenities. We continued with the sightseeing visiting the Andrassey Mausoleum as well as the city of Banská Bystrica, where we enjoyed a specially prepared halupky (stuffed cabbage) dinner at the Červený Rak restaurant. The family-owned establishment for years has welcomed our tour with real Slovak hospitality.

The tour was nearing the end as we arrived in Nitra, and once again there was concern relative to the challenging uphill walk to the Cathedral of St. Emmeran, a must see in Nitra. We were fortunate to persuade a local tour trolley driver to add our destination to his route. He agreed-----another example of Slovak hospitality.

It is difficult to adequately describe St. Emmeran and perhaps Bill Gaspar said it best when he looked upward to the ceiling stating "I have been to Italy—I have been to Israel—I have traveled extensively, and Slovak churches are unbelievable!" The visit to this treasure, was highly inspiring, and it is difficult to describe the emotion it evokes. The Chapel of Pribina with its monastic choir niches or choir stalls was also an emotional experience. It is the place where monks chant in prayer. In order for us to experience the variation of tones acquired through the indentation in the concrete wall, Bill Gaspar was chosen to demonstrate the tonal qualities which he did impressively.

As in recent tours, wine rich Pezinok was chosen for the farewell dinner, and we enjoyed an evening of excellent food, fine entertainment, and the very best wine that the Pezinok wineries produce. The dinner, wine, and entertainment was a fine conclusion to a memorable tour rich in history and culture of a beautiful nation and its people.

A look back at the Youngstown Sister City Tour brings to mind people and events that added greatly to the enrichment of the trip. It was immediately obvious that we had an extraordinary gathering of accomplished people eager to learn about and enjoy a wonderful country. Throughout the tour they readily participated in all the activities with zest and enthusiasm.

## A Retrospective View—This & That

Interesting highlights added immeasurably such as the cartwheel by Stephanie Miller following the group Folk Dancing in Trenčín. Certainly the BUMPER CAR episode instigated by Pamela King and Mary Wagner, subsequently joined by Stephanie Miller, and the ubiquitous Gerald (Peach) Pundzak, was spontaneous, providing the amused ride-operator with a story to tell his friends about the crazy Americans.

The broom dance in Tichy Potok will be fondly treasured. We will remember Dr. John Adan with an inexhaustible supply of knowledge regarding Slovakia, and most other things. Dr. John has joined our tour for the past 6 years.

The tour welcomed for the first time an extraordinary couple, Bill and Ethel Gaspar, who were responsible for many joining the tour. Ethel's fluency in Slovak was a bonus, and we enjoyed Bill's singing voice. A "thank you" is extended to good friend and returnee Jerry Geibel in having his sister Marilyn Piech and cousin Louis Fedor join the tour. Another returnee, Dorothy Kizner, showed true grit in coping with some serious spider/insect/poison she endured a couple of days prior to the trip. Carole and Robert Janesko had compiled considerable research in regard to their ancestry which paid dividends as they were able to visit their ancestral villages. Sisters Susan Letarski and Cynthia Mostoller were able to spend quality time with relatives. Mary Hovanes discovered that her relatives were typical hard working villagers and it was exciting for all to see her ancestral village as the bus driver drove through the village crossroads. Mary Bacak was indeed a welcome addition and active participant in all activities, having joined her friend Mary on the tour. Elisa Demis, a lovely woman of Greek heritage, was totally responsible for awakening Gregory Rusnak's interest in his Slovak heritage. Another returnee on the tour was Greg Maurer, who has done extensive genealogy and has found many relatives all over Slovakia. He has even found some among our tour participants on previous tours and through the research he found that one of his co-workers is also his cousin. Be prepared, he may be asking you about your heritage! Also note, he is a great friend of ours.

Slovakia was once again enriched by the presence of our very good friend Bob Matsco, who has been on our tour many times. A quiet, unassuming intelligent man with a career of accomplishments, Bob is a proud Slovak with many

friends and relatives throughout Slovakia. Pride is also evident in Janet Zumrick, inherited we are sure from her late, great father.

We had almost enough people with medical backgrounds to staff a hospital. John Adan, a heart surgeon, is noted along with registered nurses retired and active - including Kay Bench and her best friend since nurses training, Mona Lepis. Toss in Janet Zumrick and Stephanie Miller. Not to be excluded is Gerald (Peach) Pundzak, a practicing respiratory therapist.

Finally----The Sister Cities is fortunate to have the best tour guide in all of Slovakia, Viera Marecova. Her encyclopedic knowledge is enhanced by a sparkling personality, and impeccable communication skills. Her early background as a folk singer/dancer adds greatly to her impressive array of talent. Bus driver Arnie Mesaros is a tour must have. His great skill allows the bus to go where others do not venture. Hence a great reduction in walking which in addition to the accommodation, saves time. He also blends in so well that he is just another person in the group. Arnie is always available to assist anyone in need.

## In Memorium

We were profoundly saddened to learn that Robert Tapak Magruder passed away on December 23, 2018. Bob will be remembered as a highly intelligent and well-educated individual with a great sense of humor. He was proud of his Slovak heritage and active in Slovak fraternal organizations such as the First Catholic Slovak Union, serving as a member of the FCSU Supreme Court and Secretary for Branch 493. He was also active with the Slovak Catholic Federation. We extend to his friends and relatives our most sincere condolences. We were fortunate to have had Bob on our tour where he was finally able to have walked the streets in his ancestral village.

## About the Author

James M. Bench is a Retired Professor from Indiana University of Pennsylvania. He is the President of the Spisska Nova Ves Sister Cities Program and a member of the First Catholic Slovak Union Supreme Court. Both he and his wife Kay are members of Branch 181, United, PA.



Party on the bus

Kay and Jim in Pezinok with the Sedlak family - Lubica, Tereza and Justin Sr.





# MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

## FRIDAY, JANUARY 18, 2019

### HOME OFFICE, INDEPENDENCE, OHIO

**OPEN MEETING:**

President Andrew Rajec opened the meeting at 9:00 AM and asked Andrew R. Harcar, Sr., to lead the prayer.

**ROLL CALL:**

Members attending: Andrew M. Rajec, President  
 Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary  
 Andrew R. Harcar, Sr., Vice President  
 George F. Matta II, Treasurer  
 Leonard Zilko, Chairman of Auditors (by invitation of the President)  
 (via teleconference)

**ACCEPTANCE OF THE DECEMBER MEETING MINUTES:**

The Executive Secretary presented the minutes of the December 2018 Executive Committee Meeting. A motion was made by Kenneth A. Arendt and seconded by Andrew R. Harcar, Sr., to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

**AQS MANAGEMENT, INC.:**

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

**EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT:**

Investment Updates

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

Portfolio Review

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

Mortgages and Overdue Mortgages

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

Monthly Disbursements

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

Disbursements for the month of December 2018:	
Death Benefits & Accumulations	\$ 222,206.94
Cash Withdrawals & Accumulations	\$ 43,505.65
Matured Endowments & Accumulations	\$ 0.00
Trust Fund	\$ 0.00

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

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

The Treasurer and the Executive Secretary gave a full written report on the investment update to the Executive Committee. Following the report, they answered the Committee's questions.

**KROLL BOND RATING AGENCY:**

The President introduced Andrew Edelsberg and Tina Bukow representing Kroll Bond Rating Agency. Mr. Edelsberg and Ms. Bukow made a presentation to the Executive Committee outlining their process for assigning insurance financial strength ratings (IFSRs) and the cost of doing so. After their presentation, they answered the Committee's questions.

The President stated he will present their presentation to the Board of Directors at the Annual meeting for discussion.

**SALES AND MARKETING:**

The Vice President gave a production report on our agents to the Executive Committee. He stated we are still recruiting and adding new agents, and at present have 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. Agents now produce over 70% of annuity sales. The Home Office continues an extensive Facebook ad recruiting campaign to recruit agents in the states we are licensed in. FCSU Commissions will be reviewed and compared against the competition.

The President stated he and Andy P. Rajec, Director of Independent Agents, made personal calls to several agents to get input on how to improve our marketing strategy and the service of our agents.

The Executive Secretary led a discussion on the introduction of a bonus program for the agents that will go into effect February 1, 2019 – August 31, 2019. The bonus program features a free cruise for 2 at the FCSU Membership Meet if certain sales goals are met.

The Executive Secretary stated that a referral program for recommenders will be introduced on July 1, 2019.

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.

**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 February.

**MIDDLETOWN:**

The President stated that the Lower Swatara Township will have a meeting in February regarding the rezoning of the property in Middletown. The President will keep the Committee updated on any developments.

**MISCELLANEOUS:**

The President stated we will have joint bowling and golf tournaments this year with the Greek Catholic Union and the Slovak Catholic Sokol. Details of the events 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 Kenneth A. Arendt and seconded by George F. Matta II to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

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

Andrew M. Rajec  
President

Kenneth A. Arendt  
Executive Secretary

## Answer to Puzzle

*Solution to Puzzle from page 11*

T	A	M			R	A	S	P			R	O	L	L												
A	L	U	M		A	L	E	E			D	U	B	A	I											
S	O	S	O		V	I	C	T	O	R	I	O	I	O	S											
S	H	I	N	D	I	G					D	I	N	E	D											
					A	C	T	I	O	N		M	O	E												
							H	A	L			B	I	R	D	B	A	T	H							
					A	C	E			L	I	B	E	L	S		E	R	I	E						
					P	A	R	E				R	I	A			D	U	D	E						
					S	T	I	R			S	I	G	N	A	L			M	E	L					
					E	S	C	A	P	A	D	E			R	O	D									
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										L	E	T	T	E	R	H	E	A	D			N	E	R	O	
										I	N	A	N	E			B	A	R	N			K	N	I	T
										Z	O	L	A				O	U	S	E				A	S	A

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

*THINK ABOUT IT!*



## LIGHT ONE CANDLE

Tony Rossi, Director of Communications, The Christophers

### Give Up Worry For Lent

Gary Zimak absolutely LOVED eating sweets. So for many years, he gave them up for Lent as a sacrifice for God. Though he stuck to his commitment, he came to realize that the spiritual benefits were lacking.

During a "Christopher Closeup" interview, Gary told me, "Several weeks into Lent, the focus shifted and I lost sight of why I was doing it. All I kept thinking was: Two weeks until cake! I would literally be standing at the convenience store drooling over doughnuts...It took me a while to realize, is this helping me grow spiritually?"

Gary suspected that a lot of other people may be having the same kind of results with their Lenten sacrifices, so he wrote a book of daily reflections geared toward the topic that he knows the most about: worrying. And he titled his book "Give Up Worry for Lent: 40 Days to Finding Peace in Christ." Gary used to suffer from debilitating worry that caused him to endure panic attacks, stomach disorders, and heart palpitations. Though he was a cradle Catholic who went to Mass every week, his anxiety didn't change until he had a "personal encounter with Jesus."

Gary now travels the country, talking to church groups about how God can help them move beyond worrying, and he has discovered that the problem is widespread. He said, "I hear it over and over again. Kids worry, adults worry. People are stressed out about the state of the world, their finances, their health, you name it. It is such a powerful open door to lead people to Jesus. They're looking for relief, and He's the relief they're looking for, even though they don't realize it."

In "Give Up Worry For Lent's" first reflection, Gary shares a personal story about one of the most troubling times of his life. His wife was pregnant with twin girls, but they were given only a ten percent chance of survival because they had a condition called twin-to-twin trans-fusion syndrome. After going for treatment at Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital in Camden, New Jersey, the couple would go to the chapel.

"When you're going through something like that," recalled Gary, "you realize just how helpless you are and how much you need the Lord. Above the sanctuary were the words of Matthew 11:28: 'Come to Me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.' I remember looking up at those words while my wife and I were kneeling...[and] saying, 'Lord, I need rest. I need You.' That's the message for each of us, especially those who are worried. He wants us to come to Him. That's the answer."

Thankfully, the Zimak girls are healthy and now 21 years old. But Gary can never forget about the lesson he learned during that experience. In the book, he also shares a wise quote from Venerable Fulton Sheen: "Nothing is more destined to create deep-seated anxieties in people than the false assumption that life should be free from anxieties." Gary knows that quote is especially relevant in the modern age.

He said, "In John 16, Jesus said, 'You will have problems, you will have tribulations, but be of good cheer. Why? Because I have overcome the world.' Jesus never promised a problem-free life. He didn't have one. His mother didn't have one. St. Joseph didn't have one...So when we look to eliminate all our problems, we're trying to control something we can't control. Peace is found in the Lord."

## March: Significant for Slovaks as Saint Joseph's Month

continued from page 1

### Tisíc ráz pozdravujeme Teba – Slovak Hymn to St. Joseph



Sister Maria Theresa Hronec's favorite hymn, Tisíc ráz pozdravujeme Teba (Slovak version) translated into English by her in hopes of sharing its joy with you, our readers.

### Tisíc ráz pozdravujeme Teba

1. Tisíc raz pozdravujeme Teba, - šťastný Pestún Krista Ježiša!  
Ty si druhá jasnosť v sláve neba, teba zveľbuje duša naša.  
Ty si po Márii najprvnejší, tvoj trón pred svätými najslávnejší,  
Anjeli ti chválu vzdávajú, Pestúnom teba nazývajú.

2. Zhladni na nás, ó blažený Jozef, srdcom vrúcny teba žiadame.  
Tys' bezpečné útočisko naše, po Márii teba len máme.  
Chválospev ti chceme prespevovať, meno tvoje chceme zveľbovať,  
najkrásnejšie po Božej Matke, spievame ti piesne presladké.  
3. Zhladni na rodiny ubiedené, ktoré v núdzi k tebe volajú.  
Pohľad na siroty opustené, ktoré s plačom k tebe vzdychajú.  
Lebo v svete nemáme žiadneho: po Márii zástupcu iného,  
krome teba, Otče, Ochranca, svätej Cirkvi mocný Obranca!

4. Prilúvaj sa, dobrý, svätý Jozef, za každého svojho čiteľa.  
Odvráť od nás mor, hlad a vojnu, chráň od škody duše i telá.  
Keď budeme konečne umierať, k tebe zrak svoj budeme upierať.  
Nech sú naše posledné slová: Ježiš, Jozef, Matka Mária!

### Blessed Joseph

1. Thousand fold we greet you, Blessed Joseph, Favored Guardian of the Child Jesus;  
Faith and trust in God you lived profoundly; Help us daily follow you completely.  
Now rejoicing, loved, esteemed with Mary, Heaven magnifies your life in glory;  
Angels join in praise for all you've done, Cherished Foster Father of God's Son.

2. Caring Joseph, gifted with compassion, Hear, accept, embrace our prayer-petition;  
Gentle parent, powerful protector, named with Mary, faithful intercessor,  
Be our precious friend, a steadfast guide, walk as life's companion by our side;  
Songs and hopeful prayers we bring to you, Filled with gratitude for all you do.

3. Listen to each poor and needy fam'ly, When they call to you in poverty.  
Hear the orphaned, lost, abandoned children, as they cry in fear, abuse and pain.  
While on earth, we need you, Intercessor, after Mary, advocate to treasure.  
Gen'rous Joseph, dutiful and kind, Father of Christ's Church our humankind.

4. Intercede for us, O good St. Joseph, as we honor and revere your name.  
Turn away all war, floods, plagues and hunger, shield us from such violence and danger.  
When at last our time of death is come, help us join you in our heav'nly home.  
May our final words of prayer request Jesus, Joseph, Mother Mary, bless.

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### SLOVAK RADIO CULTURAL & SOCIAL CLUB 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

**WHEN:** SATURDAY: APRIL 27, 2019

**WHERE:** COUNTRY LAKES PARTY CENTER  
8626 Broadview Rd, Broadview Heights, OH 44147

**WHAT:** COCKTAILS (OPEN BAR), FULL COURSE DINNER, MUSIC FOR LISTENING & DANCING PLEASURE

**TIME:** 4:00 P.M. – 10:00 P.M.

**SEATING IS LIMITED - NO SALES AT DOOR**  
**ADMISSION IS BY PRESALE TICKET ONLY**  
**TICKETS ARE \$50.00 PER PERSON**

TO ORDER OR FOR MORE INFO, CALL KARIN SCALLY @440-213-8552 OR EMAIL HER @  
[meraiova@hotmail.com](mailto:meraiova@hotmail.com)



Annual Statement for the year 2018 of the **FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA & CANADA**  
**ASSETS**

	Current Year			Prior Year
	1 Assets	2 Nonadmitted Assets	3 Net Admitted Assets (Cols. 1 - 2)	4 Net Admitted Assets
1. Bonds (Schedule D).....	353,011,701		353,011,701	348,541,005
2. Stocks (Schedule D):				
2.1 Preferred stocks.....			0	
2.2 Common stocks.....	2,987,141		2,987,141	2,710,635
3. Mortgage loans on real estate (Schedule B):				
3.1 First liens.....	371,258		371,258	609,764
3.2 Other than first liens.....			0	
4. Real estate (Schedule A):				
4.1 Properties occupied by the company (less \$.....0 encumbrances).....	373,070		373,070	401,326
4.2 Properties held for the production of income (less \$.....0 encumbrances).....	991,961		991,961	1,045,630
4.3 Properties held for sale (less \$.....0 encumbrances).....	785,946		785,946	779,196
5. Cash (\$.....11,888,225, Schedule E-Part 1), cash equivalents (\$.....0, Schedule E-Part 2) and short-term investments (\$.....3,943,679, Schedule DA).....	15,831,904		15,831,904	30,811,526
6. Contract loans (including \$.....0 premium notes).....	1,107,398		1,107,398	1,094,955
7. Derivatives (Schedule DB).....			0	
8. Other invested assets (Schedule BA).....	7,210,059		7,210,059	5,280,869
9. Receivables for securities.....			0	
10. Securities lending reinvested collateral assets (Schedule DL).....			0	
11. Aggregate write-ins for invested assets.....	0	0	0	0
12. Subtotals, cash and invested assets (Lines 1 to 11).....	382,670,437	0	382,670,437	391,274,906
13. Title plants less \$.....0 charged off (for Title insurers only).....			0	
14. Investment income due and accrued.....	4,627,912		4,627,912	4,658,595
15. Premiums and considerations:				
15.1 Uncollected premiums and agents' balances in the course of collection.....	21,785		21,785	23,586
15.2 Deferred premiums, agents' balances and installments booked but deferred and not yet due (including \$.....0 earned but unbilled premiums).....			0	
15.3 Accrued retrospective premiums (\$.....0) and contracts subject to redetermination (\$.....0).....			0	
16. Reinsurance:				
16.1 Amounts recoverable from reinsurers.....			0	
16.2 Funds held by or deposited with reinsured companies.....			0	
16.3 Other amounts receivable under reinsurance contracts.....			0	
17. Amounts receivable relating to uninsured plans.....			0	
18.1 Current federal and foreign income tax recoverable and interest thereon.....			0	
18.2 Net deferred tax asset.....			0	
19. Guaranty funds receivable or on deposit.....			0	
20. Electronic data processing equipment and software.....			0	
21. Furniture and equipment, including health care delivery assets (\$.....0).....	4,865	4,865	0	
22. Net adjustment in assets and liabilities due to foreign exchange rates.....			0	
23. Receivables from parent, subsidiaries and affiliates.....			0	
24. Health care (\$.....0) and other amounts receivable.....			0	
25. Aggregate write-ins for other-than-invested assets.....	550	550	0	0
26. Total assets excluding Separate Accounts, Segregated Accounts and Protected Cell Accounts (Lines 12 to 25).....	387,325,549	5,415	387,320,134	395,957,087
27. From Separate Accounts, Segregated Accounts and Protected Cell Accounts.....			0	
28. TOTAL (Lines 26 and 27).....	387,325,549	5,415	387,320,134	395,957,087



Annual Statement for the year 2018 of the **FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND CANADA**  
**LIABILITIES, SURPLUS AND OTHER FUNDS**

	1 Current Year	2 Prior Year
1. Aggregate reserve for life contracts (Exhibit 5, Line 9999999) (including \$.....0 Modco Reserve).....	315,165,261	313,139,204
2. Aggregate reserve for accident and health contracts (Exhibit 6, Line 16, Col. 1) (including \$.....0 Modco Reserve).....		
3. Liability for deposit-type contracts (Exhibit 7, Line 14, Col. 1) (including \$.....0 Modco Reserve).....	28,783,032	39,687,240
4. Contract claims:		
4.1 Life (Exhibit 8, Part 1, Line 4.4, Column 1 less sum of Columns 9, 10 and 11).....	300,000	300,000
4.2 Accident and health (Exhibit 8, Part 1, Line 4.4, sum of Columns 9, 10 and 11).....		
5. Refunds due and unpaid (Exhibit 4, Line 10).....		
6. Provision for refunds payable in following calendar year-estimated amounts:		
6.1 Apportioned for payment.....	400,000	400,000
6.2 Not yet apportioned.....		
7. Premiums and annuity considerations for life and accident and health contracts received in advance less \$.....0 discount; including \$.....0 accident and health premiums (Exhibit 1, Part 1, Col. 1, sum of Lines 4 and 14).....	47,645	61,288
8. Contract liabilities not included elsewhere:		
8.1 Surrender values on canceled contracts.....		
8.2 Other amounts payable on reinsurance including \$.....0 assumed and \$.....0 ceded.....		
8.3 Interest Maintenance Reserve (IMR, Line 6).....	1,030,876	1,128,886
9. Commissions to fieldworkers due or accrued-life and annuity contracts \$.....0 ; accident and health \$.....0 and deposit-type contract funds \$.....0.....	14,273	23,126
10. Commissions and expense allowances payable on reinsurance assumed.....		
11. General expenses due or accrued (Exhibit 2, Line 12, Col. 7).....	76,626	62,102
12. Transfers to Separate Accounts due or accrued (net) (including \$.....0 accrued for expense allowances recognized in reserves).....		
13. Taxes, licenses and fees due or accrued (Exhibit 3, Line 8, Col. 6).....	18,683	18,072
14. Unearned investment income.....		
15. Amounts withheld or retained by Society as agent or trustee.....	5,791,613	6,190,944
16. Amounts held for fieldworkers' account, including \$.....0 fieldworkers' credit balances.....		
17. Remittances and items not allocated.....		
18. Net adjustment in assets and liabilities due to foreign exchange rates.....	9,511	9,511
19. Liability for benefits for employees and fieldworkers if not included above.....		
20. Borrowed money \$.....0 and interest thereon \$.....0.....		
21. Miscellaneous liabilities:		
21.1 Asset valuation reserve (AVR, Line 16, Col. 7).....	2,783,323	2,913,033
21.2 Reinsurance in unauthorized and certified (\$.....0) companies.....		
21.3 Funds held under reinsurance treaties with unauthorized and certified (\$.....0) reinsurers.....		
21.4 Payable to subsidiaries and affiliates.....		
21.5 Drafts outstanding.....		
21.6 Funds held under coinsurance.....		
21.7 Derivatives.....		
21.8 Payable for securities.....	100,013	
21.9 Payable for securities lending.....		
22. Aggregate write-ins for liabilities.....	424,693	1,240,835
23. Total liabilities excluding Separate Accounts business (Lines 1 to 22).....	354,945,549	365,174,241
24. From Separate Accounts statement.....		
25. Total liabilities (Lines 23 and 24).....	354,945,549	365,174,241
26. Aggregate write-ins for other than liabilities and surplus funds.....	0	0
27. Surplus notes.....		
28. Aggregate write-ins for surplus funds.....	0	0
29. Unassigned funds.....	32,374,585	30,782,846
30. Total (Lines 26 through 29) (Page 4, Line 47) (including \$.....0 in Separate Accounts statement).....	32,374,585	30,782,846
31. Totals (Lines 25 + 30) (Page 2, Line 28, Col. 3).....	387,320,134	395,957,087



Annual Statement for the year 2018 of the **FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND CANADA**  
**SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS**

	1 Current Year	2 Prior Year
1. Premiums and annuity considerations for life and accident and health contracts (Exhibit 1, Part 1, Line 20.4, Col. 1).....	12,068,358	19,448,102
2. Considerations for supplementary contracts with life contingencies.....		
3. Net investment income (Exhibit of Net Investment Income, Line 17).....	15,936,994	15,764,562
4. Amortization of Interest Maintenance Reserve (IMR, Line 5).....	461,105	485,085
5. Separate Accounts net gain from operations excluding unrealized gains or losses.....		
6. Commissions and expense allowances on reinsurance ceded (Exhibit 1, Part 2, Line 26.1, Col. 1).....		
7. Reserve adjustments on reinsurance ceded.....		
8. Miscellaneous Income:		
8.1 Income from fees associated with investment management, administration and contract guarantees from Separate Accounts.....		
8.2 Charges and fees for deposit-type contracts.....		
8.3 Aggregate write-ins for miscellaneous income.....	13,273	31,642
9. Totals (Lines 1 to 8.3).....	28,479,730	35,729,391
10. Death benefits.....	2,642,835	2,607,722
11. Matured endowments (excluding guaranteed annual pure endowments).....		
12. Annuity benefits.....	17,516,462	15,550,939
13. Disability benefits and benefits under accident and health contracts, including premiums waived \$.....0.....		
14. Surrender benefits and withdrawals for life contracts.....	572,287	559,825
15. Interest and adjustments on contract or deposit-type contracts funds.....	179,936	169,629
16. Payments on supplementary contracts with life contingencies.....		
17. Increase in aggregate reserve for life and accident and health contracts.....	2,026,057	10,847,624
18. Totals (Lines 10 to 17).....	22,937,577	29,735,739
19. Commissions on premiums, annuity considerations and deposit-type contract funds (direct business only) (Exhibit 1, Part 2, Line 31, Col. 1 less Col. 5).....	166,490	304,518
20. Commissions and expense allowances on reinsurance assumed (Exhibit 1, Part 2, Line 26.2, Col. 1 less Col. 5).....		
21. General insurance expenses and fraternal expenses (Exhibit 2, Line 10, Cols. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6).....	3,721,729	3,038,946
22. Insurance taxes, licenses and fees (Exhibit 3, Line 6, Cols. 1, 2, 3 and 5).....	106,341	95,852
23. Increase in loading on deferred and uncollected premiums.....		
24. Net transfers to or (from) Separate Accounts net of reinsurance.....		
25. Aggregate write-ins for deductions.....	(409,342)	(192,209)
26. Totals (Lines 18 to 25).....	26,522,795	32,982,846
27. Net gain from operations before refunds to members (Line 9 minus Line 26).....	1,956,935	2,746,545
28. Refunds to members (Exhibit 4, Line 17, Cols. 1 + 2).....	422,699	420,527
29. Net gain from operations after refunds to members and before realized capital gains (losses) (Line 27 minus Line 28).....	1,534,236	2,326,018
30. Net realized capital gains (losses) less capital gains tax of \$.....0 (excluding \$.....363,096 transferred to the IMR).....	97,832	(151,690)
31. Net income (Lines 29 + 30).....	1,632,068	2,174,328
<b>SURPLUS ACCOUNT</b>		
32. Surplus, December 31, previous year (Page 3, Line 30, Col. 2).....	30,782,846	28,099,397
33. Net income from operations (Line 31).....	1,632,068	2,174,328
34. Change in net unrealized capital gains (losses) less capital gains tax of \$.....0.....	(162,804)	784,400
35. Change in net unrealized foreign exchange capital gain (loss).....		
36. Change in nonadmitted assets.....	2,919	2,919
37. Change in liability for reinsurance in unauthorized and certified companies.....		
38. Change in reserve on account of change in valuation basis (increase) or decrease.....		
39. Change in asset valuation reserve.....	129,710	(305,475)
40. Surplus (contributed to) withdrawn from Separate Accounts during period.....		
41. Other changes in surplus in Separate Accounts statement.....		
42. Change in surplus notes.....		
43. Cumulative effect of changes in accounting principles.....		
44. Change in surplus as a result of reinsurance.....		
45. Aggregate write-ins for gains and losses in surplus.....	(10,155)	27,278
46. Net change in surplus for the year (Lines 33 through 45).....	1,591,738	2,683,450
47. Surplus December 31, current year (Lines 32 + 46) (Page 3, Line 30).....	32,374,585	30,782,846



## Správy zo Slovenska

**Bratislava** – Hnutie OĽaNO vyčíta Ministerstvu zdravotníctva (MZ) SR, že výstavba nemocnice na bratislavských Rázsochách stále stojí, napriek tomu, že štát na ňu doteraz vynaložil približne 65 až 80 miliónov eur. Podľa podpredsedu parlamentného výboru pre zdravotníctvo Alana Suchánka (OĽaNO) sa zdá, že nemocnica Penty na bratislavských Boroch bude vystavaná už možno v roku 2020. MZ SR tvrdenia opozičnej strany odmieta.

**Košice** – Exprezident Rudolf Schuster sa vo štvrtok 14. februára v nočných hodinách podrobil operácii srdca. Informoval o tom prednosta Kliniky srdcovej chirurgie a generálny riaditeľ Východoslovenského ústavu srdcových a cievnych chorôb, a.s. (VUSCH) František Sabol. Operačný tím chirurgov z kliniky pod vedením jej prednostu vykonal aortokoronárne bajpasy v mimotelovom obehu. „Stav pacienta je stabilizovaný, zdravotný stav je uspokojivý,“ dodal Sabol.

**Bratislava** – Voči plastickému chirurgovi Yassinovi G. ktorý pôsobil bez atestácie v bratislavskom súkromnom zariadení Adelaís Clinique a ktorého odsúdili na začiatku tohto roka za podvodné praktiky aj v Rakúsku, v súčasnosti vedie Okresná prokuratúra Bratislava I tri trestné konania.

**Košice** – Primátor Košíc Jaroslav Polaček bude od 1. marca poberať mesačný plat vo výške 5316 eur. Poslanci mestského zastupiteľstva (MsZ) na svojom štvrtkovom zasadnutí 14. februára odobrili zvýšenie zákonom stanovenej výšky platu primátora o 40 percent.

**Prešov** – Nový mestský cintorín v Prešove je nominovaný na ocenenie za architektúru Big see architecture awards 2019. Projekt Prešov – mestský cintorín - lesopark z ateliéru STOA architekti bol vybraný na spomínanú cenu a nominovaný medzi najlepšie projekty Grand Prix v kategórii krajinný a urbánny priestor. Nadnárodné ocenenie Big see architecture awards 2019 vyberá najkvalitnejšie projekty z 18 krajín Európy v kategóriách komerčná architektúra, rezidenčná architektúra a krajinný a urbánny priestor.

**Bratislava** – Systém eZdravie, ktorý má obsahovať všetky informácie o pacientoch potrebné pre poskytovateľov zdravotnej starostlivosti, bude fungovať kvalitnejšie a bude prepracovanejšie. Pomôcť tomu má národný projekt Úradu podpredsedu vlády SR pre investície a informatizáciu (ÚPVI). Ten pripravilo Národné centrum zdravotníckych informácií (NCZI). Je naň vyčlenená suma vo výške takmer 7,5 milióna eur.

**Bratislava** – Národný ústav tuberkulózy, pľúcnych chorôb a hrudníkovej chirurgie vo Vyšných Hágoch sa stane kolaboratívnym centrom Svetovej zdravotníckej organizácie (WHO) pre prácu s marginálnymi skupinami obyvateľstva v krajinách strednej Európy. Má sa tak stať prvým takýmto centrom. Informoval o tom informoval Ivan Solovič z národného ústavu.

**Bratislava** – Zástupcovia študentov Lekárskej fakulty Univerzity Komenského (LF UK) sa pridali ku kritike zo strany rektora UK a dekanov slovenských lekárskech fakúlt. Tá sa týka rozhodnutia ministerky zdravotníctva Andrey Kalavskej (nominantka Smer-SD) o hodnotení spôsobilosti uchádzačov o výkon funkcie prednostov kliník. V spoločnom vyhlásení sa zástupcovia študentov ohradili, že takýto krok môže poviesť k výraznému poklesu kvality výučby medicíny, ako aj k zhoršeniu zdravotnej starostlivosti na Slovensku.

**Košice** – Mesto Košice bude na Európsky olympijský festival mládeže - EYOF 2021 požadovať od vlády SR sumu 30 miliónov eur, Košický samosprávny kraj (KSK) desať miliónov. Na spoločnej tlačovej konferencii to povedali primátor mesta Jaroslav Polaček a predseda KSK Rastislav Trnka, ktorí listom požiadali o stretnutie na túto tému premiéra Petra Pellegriniho (Smer-SD). Vláda sa prostredníctvom vicepremiéra Richarda Rašiho (Smer-SD) predtým vyjadrila, že mestu poskytne na organizáciu 12 miliónov eur. Predchádzajúcu požiadavku KSK, a to 15 miliónov eur, nepovažovala za relevantnú a racionálnu.

**Trenčín** - Letecké opravovne (LO) Trenčín sú pripravené odovzdať afganským vzdušným silám ďalší vrtulník Mi-17 po generálnej oprave. Ide už o druhý vrtulník, ktorý opravovali na základe kontraktu s agentúrou NSPA (NATO Support and Procurement Agency). Môžeme zhodnotiť, že práce prebiehajú v súlade so zmluvou.

**Bratislava** - Vyšetrovateľ finančnej polície obvinil zo zneužitia právomoci verejného činiteľa manažérov Národnej banky Slovenska (NBS). Informuje o tom Polícia SR na svojom profile na sociálnej sieti.

**Budapešť/Bratislava** - Chceme, aby hlas strednej Európy – Slovenska, Maďarska a krajín Vyšehradskej štvorky (V4) - bolo jasne počuť, vyhlásil v pondelok v Budapešti slovenský minister zahraničných vecí Miroslav Lajčák (nominant Smer-SD), ktorý sa tam stretol so šéfom maďarskej diplomacie Péterom Szijjártóom.

**Bratislava** - Prezident SR Andrej Kiska bude pri vyšetrovaní údajného vydierania zo strany predsedu Smeru-SD Roberta Fica súčinný. „Ukážem všetky dokumenty, ktoré mám k dispozícii, ktoré jasne ukážu, ako to všetko bolo a ako to vydieranie prebehlo,“ povedal Kiska. Pripravený vypovedať je aj predseda vlády Peter Pellegrini (Smer-SD).

**Bratislava** – Titul doktora vied, ktorý je na Slovensku najvyššou vedeckou hodnosťou, udelili nedávno v priestoroch Univerzity Komenského v Bratislave 23 osobnostiam vedy. Predseda vlády Peter Pellegrini (Smer-SD) vo svojom príhovore uviedol, že okrem základného výskumu treba zabúdať na aplikovaný výskum, vývoj a inovácie.

**Bratislava** – Ak by sa prezidentské voľby konali vo februári (11. - 23. 2.), ľudia by najviac volili Zuzanu Čaputovú (23,5 percenta). Na druhom mieste by skončil Maroš Šefčovič s 20,5 percenta hlasov. Roberta Mistríka, ktorý sa v utorok vzdal kandidatury, by volilo 15 percent opýtaných, čo by znamenalo tretie miesto. Vyplýva to z prieskumu, ktorý na vzorke 1002 respondentov vypracovala spoločnosť Median SK pre RTVS.

**Bratislava** – Na Slovensku pribudne nový typ ambulancie zdravotnej záchranných služieb (ZZS), ktorá bude slúžiť na prepravu pacientov. Vláda totiž na svojom zasadnutí v stredu schválila novelu zákona o poskytovateľoch zdravotnej starostlivosti. Tá pochádza z dielne Ministerstva zdravotníctva (MZ) SR. Rezort novelou reagoval na sťažnosti slovenských pacientov, ktorým sa nepáčilo používanie starých vozidiel či neetické správanie niektorých súkromných poskytovateľov taxi služieb. Podľa MZ by nový typ ambulancie záchranných zdravotných služieb bol určený najmä na neodkladnú prepravu pacientov medzi zdravotníckymi zariadeniami.

**Bratislava** - V prvom kole marcových prezidentských volieb môžu hlasovať 4.450.000 voličov. Z toho 2.310.000 sú ženy a 2.140.000 muži. Pre 17.500 ľudí to budú vôbec prvé voľby, v ktorých môžu odovzdať svoj hlas. Prezidenta môže prvýkrát voliť aj 280.000 ľudí, pre ktorých to ale nie sú úplne prvé voľby, keďže už mohli hlasovať v iných. Vyplýva to z údajov, ktoré poskytol Štatistický úrad SR.

Výber zo slovenskej tlače

## Na Devíne spomínali na 1 150. výročie smrti sv. Konštantína – Cyrila

Tisícstopäťdesiate výročie smrti sv. Konštantína - Cyrila oslávili aj v Bratislave - Devíne. Slávnostná spomienka sa konala uplynulú sobotu 16. februára 2018 vo farskom Kostole Svätého Kríža. Program bol spojený so svätou omšou a kultúrno-spoločenským programom, ktorý pripravilo Dedičstvo otcov, o. z., Rastic, o. z. a Rímskokatolícky farský úrad Bratislava-Devín. Hlavným celebrantom a kazateľom liturgie bol Mons. Marián Gavenda.

Koncelebrovali Dušan Mesík, Marcel Mecko, SJ a Marek Vadna, CCG.

Kazateľ Marián Gavenda v homílii zdôraznil význam obidvoch svätcov pri kristianizácii nášho územia. Dotkol sa viacerých aktuálnych a nástojčivých problémov, ktoré prináša dnešná doba, a tiež povedal, že ani súčasná Európa nemôže prežiť bez kresťanstva, ktorého sa teraz liberálne kruhy snažia zbaviť. Na záver svätej omše prítomní kňazi udelili požehnanie v tvare kríža relikviami sv. pápeža Klimenta Rímskeho, sv. Cyrila a sv. Klimenta.

Predseda občianskeho združenia Dedičstvo otcov Gabriel Smatana v príhovore poukázal na jedinečný význam diela svätého Cyrila pre náš národ. Po svätej omši Daniela Suchá a Gabriel Smatana prečítali pozdravy biskupov, ktorí sa na slávnostnej svätej omši nemohli zúčastniť a prítomným poslali svoje požehnanie. Posolstvá zaslali biskupi zo Slovenska, Azerbajdžanu, Islandu a USA.

Pochvalu Konštantína Filozofa, ktorú napísal sv. Kliment Slovenský, predniesol Miroslav Vetrík. Na slávnosti sa zúčastnili aj členovia Veľvyslanectva Bulharskej republiky a Ruskej federácie. Nechýbali zástupcovia Národnej rady SR. Pamiatku solúnskych bratov si prítomní uctili kladením vencov pred pomníkom sv. Cyrila a sv. Metoda.

Podpredsedníčka občianskeho združenia Dedičstva otcov Daniela Suchá vyzvala prítomných, aby sa rozchádzali v duchu zásad lásky a svornosti našich učiteľov zo Solúna a toto posolstvo sprostredkovali svojim rodinám, priateľom, nášmu národu a našej vlasti.

TK KBS



The 1150 anniversary of the death of St. Cyril was marked with a special Mass in Devin, Slovakia.

## MK SR podporí folklór v sume 1,5 mil. eur, o rok to môže byť dvojnásobok

Nový projekt Ministerstva kultúry (MK) SR s názvom Folklór - duša Slovenska podporí v tomto roku aktivity v oblasti tradičnej slovenskej kultúry v celkovej sume 1,5 milióna eur. Na tlačovej konferencii v Remeselnom dome v Očovej to v piatok oznámili premiér Peter Pellegrini a ministerka kultúry Ľubica Laššáková (obaja Smer-SD).

„Asi nie je na svete krajiny, akou je Slovensko, kde môžeme na takom malom kúsku zeme vidieť takú rôznorodosť a pestosť folklóru,“ povedal premiér. „Preto, čo iné ako folklór, by sme mali podporiť,“ dodal. Folklór a tradičné slovenské umenie sú podľa neho takým vzácnym dedičstvom, že na budúci rok, ak to bude potrebné, vyčlenia na ich podporu aj dvojnásobok tohtoročnej sumy.

Podľa Laššákovskej Slovensko oplýva nesmiernou rozmanitosťou prejavov folklóru, tradičných krojov či remesiel. Práve na uchovávanie a rozvíjanie týchto daností je určený nový projekt MK SR. „O podporu sa môžu uchádzať profesionálne a neprofesionálne folklórne telesá, ale aj individuálni ľudoví umelci,“ pripomenula.

Súbory sa môžu uchádzať o podporu do 60.000 eur, pričom ich povinné spolufinancovanie predstavuje päť percent. Podľa rezortu kultúry sa tieto financie môžu využiť na pokrytie nákladov na vytvorenie nového predstavenia, nákup krojových kostýmov, vydanie CD, ale aj napríklad na cestovné náklady či výrobu príslušných propagačných materiálov. Individuálni umelci môžu žiadať o štipendium vo výške viac ako 5000 eur.

Žiadosti na všetky projekty sú podľa riaditeľa Fondu na podporu umenia Jozefa Kovalčíka jednoduchšie, ako sú žiadosti uchádzajúce sa o podporu v samotnom fonde. Uzávierka na ich prijímanie je 25. marca. Všetky aktivity sa musia uskutočniť od 1. júna 2019 do 30. mája 2020. Rozhodovať o nich budú príslušné odborné komisie. Viac informácií uvádza na svojom webe Fond na podporu umenia.



FOTO TASR - Dušan Hein

Na snímke sprava ministerka kultúry SR Ľubica Laššáková a predseda vlády SR Peter Pellegrini počas prezentácie projektu Ministerstva kultúry SR pod názvom Folklór - duša Slovenska v priestoroch Remeselného dvora v Očovej v piatok 1. marca 2019.

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## Oznámenia spolkov a spoločenské podujatia

### Členská schôdza spolku sv. Matúša č. 45 IKSJ v New York City

Oznamujeme členom nášho spolku, že sa uskutoční polročná schôdza sv. Matúša č. 45 IKSJ v New Yorku po slovenskej svätej omši v **nedelju 7. apríla 2019** o 12:00 hodine v osadnej hale slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého na Prvej Avenue a 66-tej ulici. Láskaovo žiadame našich členov o aktívnu účasť na tejto schôdzi.

Mária Juráši – pokladníčka

### Veľkonočné raňajky v Pittsburgh, PA

V **sobotu 13. apríla 2019** bude vo farnosti Knieža Pokoja v Pittsburgh, PA veľkonočné podujatie, ktoré farnosť usporiada už 29 rokov. Slovenská sv. omša bude v St. Adalbert Church, 160 South 15th Street. O 10.45 dopoludnia začne modlitba slovenského sv. ručenca a omša začne o 11.00 hodine. Po omši budú v Prince of Peace Parish Center (81 South 13th Street) podávané veľkonočné raňajky (šunka, paska, syr, klobása a vajíčka). Vstup je bezplatný, usporiadatelia však budú vd'ачní za finančné dary. Účastníci podujatia si budú mať možnosť prezrieť výstavu o ľudových tradíciách na Slovensku. Na predaj budú výrobky dovezené zo Slovenska a ručné práce. Atraktívou bude aj ukážka pletenia palmových listov a maľovanie veľkonočných vajec. Na predaj budú makové a orechové koláče, palacinky a pečivo. Bližšie informácie: Connie Zatek, telefónne číslo: 412-657-6364.



FOTO pre TASR - Pavol Demeš , 8. február 2019

**Slovensko-kanadské vzťahy od Nežnej revolúcie až po súčasnosť mapuje nová kniha zahraničnopolitického analytika a bývalého ministra medzinárodných vzťahov SR Pavla Demeša. Určená je pre odbornú i laickú verejnosť na Slovensku aj v zahraničí. Kniha vyšla pri príležitosti 25. výročia nadviazania diplomatických vzťahov týchto dvoch krajín. Na snímke bývalí slovenskí veľvyslanci v Kanade zľava, Andrej Droba, Anton Hykisch, Miroslav Mikolášik a kanadská veľvyslankyňa pre Slovensko Heidi Hulan počas krstu knihy.**

## Slovenská pošta vydáva známku Slováka, ktorý bojoval o ostrov Iwo Jima

Slovenská pošta vydáva 1. marca poštovú známku s podobizňou Michaela Stranka. Rodák z obce Jarabina je zvečnený na kultovej fotografii Joea Rosenthala, zachytávajúcej jeden z kľúčových okamihov ťažkej bitky o pacifický ostrov Iwódžima (Iwo Jima) na prelome februára a marca 1945. Znáмка „Osobnosti: Michael Strank (1919 – 1945)“ bude mať nominálnu hodnotu jedno euro. Informovala o tom Jana Pôbišová zo Slovenskej pošty.

Ústredným motívom na poštovej známke je portrét Michaela Stranka. „Súčasne s poštovou známkou vydávame obálku prvého dňa s pečiatkou First Day Cover (FDC) s dátumom 1. marca 2019 a domicilom obce Jarabina. Motívom prítláče FDC obálky je symbolické vztyčovanie americkej vlajky na pacifickom ostrove Iwódžima a motívom FDC pečiatky sú náhrobné kamene na cintoríne,“ opísala Pôbišová. Autorom výtvarného návrhu je Igor Piačka, autorom rytiny Lubomír Žálec.

Pôbišová pripomína, že medzi rokmi 1880 až 1938 odišiel zo Slovenska do Spojených štátov amerických prevažne zo sociálnych dôvodov približne jeden milión obyvateľov. Uplatnili sa najmä v banskom a oceliarskom priemysle. „Ale mnohí z nich sa už v prvej, ale najmä v neskorších generáciách, výrazne zapísali do dejín USA. Jedným z nich, o ktorom sa dlho v rodnej vlasti nevedelo, bol aj Michal Strenk (Michael Strank),“ doplnila.

Michal Strenk sa narodil v rusínskej obci Jarabina v okrese Stará Lubovňa 10. novembra 1919. Ako šesťročný sa vystaňoval s rodičmi do Pensylvánie, kde jeho otec pracoval v oceliarni. Slúžil v americkej námornej pechote. „Počas vylod'ovania na ostrov Iwódžima velil čate špeciálnych síl námornej pechoty a po dobytí hlavnej výšiny na ostrove, kopca Suribači, sa 23. februára 1945 zúčastnil na druhom vztyčovaní americkej zástavy, symbolizujúcej ovládnutie bojiska,“ uviedla Pôbišová.

Fotografia z tohto aktu sa podľa jej slov stala predobrazom bronzového monumentu na vojenskom cintoríne v Arlingtone (pri Washington, DC) a mnohých reprodukcii, vrátane poštových známok. „Padol 1. marca 1945 v pokračujúcich bojoch na ostrove. Seržant Strenk nebol v čase svojho pôsobenia v americkej armáde formálnym občanom USA. Certifikát o udelení občianstva dostali jeho príbuzní od imigračného úradu až 29. júla 2008,“ uzatvorila.

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## Verejné zhromaždenie v Bratislave Za slušné Slovensko

Pokračovanie zo str. 28

moc, aké majú kšefty s pochybnými ľuďmi, ako sa krajina rozkráda,“ povedal Juraj Šeliga z iniciatívy Za slušné Slovensko. Ako tvrdí, ľudia na námestie v Bratislave aj v iných mestách prišli preto, aby ukázali, že verejnosť stále volá po slušnej a spravodlivej krajine. Predstavitelia iniciatívy naďalej žiadajú nezávislé vyšetrovanie vraždy Kuciaka a Kušnírovej. Chcú poznať mená objednávateľov vraždy a zároveň odmietajú politické zásahy do vyšetrovania. Rovnako požadujú dôveryhodnú vládu.

Ľuďom na Námestí SNP sa prišiel prihovoriť a poďakovať aj Kuciakov otec Jozef. Za rok od vraždy sa toho podľa neho udialo na Slovensku veľa. Poukázal na súčasných vládných politikov. Najsmutnejšie podľa neho je, že sa po roku ukázalo sledovanie jeho syna Jána zo strany bývalých príslušníkov Slovenskej informačnej služby, ale aj to, že bol lustrovaný v policajných databázach. „Keď zistia aj objednávateľa vraždy, protesty nemôžu prestať. Lebo toho človeka niečo vytvorilo, nejaké prostredie, pre aké sa on začal cítiť ako nedotknuteľný,“ vyhlásil neskôr pre médiá.

Na pódiu sa pred davom vystriedali herci, zástupcovia cirkví a mimovládnych organizácií, hudobníci i nespokojní farmári, ktorí protestujú tento týždeň v Bratislave. Prihovorili sa aj zástupcovia médií. Verejné zhromaždenia pri príležitosti prvého výročia vraždy Jána Kuciaka a Martyiny Kušnírovej zorganizovala iniciatíva Za slušné Slovensko okrem Bratislavy aj v 35 ďalších slovenských mestách, rovnako aj na 22 miestach v zahraničí.

Ján Kuciak bol investigatívny novinár v redakcii spravodajského webu Aktuality.sk. Dvojicu mladých ľudí zavraždili 21. februára 2018 v ich dome vo Veľkej Mači výstrelmi z pištole kalibru 9 milimetrov. Za vraždu zaplatil objednávateľ minimálne 70.000 eur. Obvinené sú zatiaľ štyri osoby – Alena Zs., ktorá mala za objednávku Kuciakovej vraždy zaplatiť, Tomáš Sz., ktorý mal strieľať, Miroslav M., ktorý ho mal na miesto činu doviezť, a Zoltán A. ako sprostredkovateľ. Všetci sú vo väzbe.

TASR

Konferencia biskupov Slovenska pozýva všetkých ľudí dobrej vôle do projektu

### PÔST S KONFERENCIOU BISKUPOV SLOVENSKA

Myšlienky budú OD 6. MARCA DO 21. APRÍLA 2019 dostupné:



e-mailom vďaka registrácii na stránke zamyslenia.kbs.sk



na webstránke zamyslenia.kbs.sk



na sociálnych sieťach projektu a ďalších stránkach



## Pozdrav od Matice Slovenskej

Pri príležitosti 100. Výročia 34. zboru Slovenskej ligy v Amerike, Zboru kráľa Svätopluka v Detroite

Drahí krajanovia, bratia a sestry za Veľkou mládkou! Mám česť pozdraviť Vás v mene 30-tisíc členov Matice slovenskej, našej najstaršej ustanovizne, ktorej aj dnes, v ťažkých časoch chaosu ide o slovenský národ, jeho tradície, jeho kresťanskú podstatu. Žiaľ, zlá minulosť rozdelila náš národ, ale chvála Bohu, Slováci pod Tatrami sa vždy mohli spoľahnúť na Slovákov na druhom brehu oceánu. Verím, že prišli časy, že je to aj naopak. A že napriek vzdialenosti vieme sa navzájom vcítiť do pomerov a potrieb „druhej strany“. Že Slováci žijúci v Amerike - a to aj tí, ktorí už vinou osudu nevedia po slovensky - vedia, že len vzájomná spolupráca, hľadanie pravdy, jej podpora či presadzovanie bez ohľadu na možné riziká, nám pomôže prežiť šťastný a spokojný život. Nikto totiž nemôže zato, kde a v akej rodine sa narodil. Každý však môže za to, ako sa správa, aké hodnoty vyznáva, prečo mu v hrudi tlčie srdce. Dal by Boh, aby nám tlkli srdcia rovnako, aby s pokojom a pokorou prežili skúšky, ktoré nás dennodenne čakajú. Skúšky, ktoré sme si nevymysleli, ale v ktorých by sa mala prejaviť základná črta Slovákov, ktorou sa líšime od iných národov. Totiž naša dobrá podstata, naše dobré srdcia a duše, ktoré často vzplanú i rozčertia sa, ale podstata ktorých je láska a milosrdenstvo. Počul som z úst poľského profesora, že niet na Zeme guli lepšieho národa, ako sú Slováci. Nijaký iný národ vraj nespieva o dvoch otčinách. Tej na zemi a tej v nebi. To je asi príčina, že dnes už svätý Ján Pavol II. nás niekoľkokrát vyzval, aby sme sa nebáli a dobre si uvedomili, že máme veľkú úlohu v svete tretieho tisícročia. Prichádza čas, ba už je tu, aby sme aj my, Slováci, boli na strane tých, ktorí chcú prinavrátiť západnej civilizácii kresťanského Boha. Ktorí majú povinnosť hľadiť na svet aj srdcom, ba viac srdcom, ako rozumom. Nech nám v tom Pánboh pomáha. Vám, aby ste sa vžili do dnešných našich dní a nám, aby sme lepšie chápali dni minulé.

Bože, nezabudni na svoj národ, roztrúsený po celom svete!

Marián Tkáč, predseda Matice slovenskej



## K 80. výročiu vyhlásenia štátnej samostatnosti

Z listu Msgr. Viktora Trstenského prezidentovi M. Kováčovi, biskupom, politickej moci a médiám  
(Nemôžem mlčať, Vydavateľstvo Nové Mesto sro. 1995)

**Msgr. V. Trstenský:** Dr. Jozef Tiso bol vzorom kresťanského štátnika, verný služobník prirodzeného práva, tvorca sociálnych reforiem, obranca viery, ochranca kresťanstva pred náporom ateistického komunizmu.

I osobné kvality Dr. Jozefa Tisu hovoria jasnou rečou, aký to bol muž. Bol vzorom kresťanského štátnika, verný služobník prirodzeného práva, tvorca sociálnych reforiem, obranca viery, ochranca kresťanstva pred náporom ateistického komunizmu.... atď.

**Stal sa obeťou komunizmu a benešovského čechoslovakizmu i nepríčetnej nenávisti protikňazských a proticirkevných elementov doma i v zahraničí.** Sám to krásne vyjadril v svojom predsmrtnom duchovnom odkaze národu:

„V duchu tej obety, ktorú prinášam, odkazujem slovenskému národu, aby bol svorný a jednotný v sledovaní veľkej zásady: Za Boha a národ vždy, všade a v každom ohľade. Je to nielen jednoznačný zmysel slovenských dejín, ale aj výslovný príkaz Boží, ktorý ako prirodzený zákon on stvoril a do každého národa vštepil.

Tomuto zákonu slúžil som celý život, a preto sa považujem za mučeníka v prvom rade toho zákona Božieho. V druhom rade cítim sa byť mučeníkom obrany kresťanstva proti bolševizmu, ktorého sa musí národ nielen v duchu svojho kresťanského charakteru, ale aj v záujme svojej ďalšej budúcnosti chrániť.

**Ako si prosím od Vás, aby ste si v modlitbách svojich spomenuli na mňa, tak sľubujem, že i ja budem za Vás prosiť vševládneho Boha, aby národu slovenskému a jeho životnej borbe za Boha a národ žehnal, aby národ slovenský bol vždy verným a oddaným synom Cirkvi Kristovej.“ To povedal 18. apríla 1947 o tretej hodine rannej.**

Pán prezident Dr. Jozef Tiso si teda zasluhuje všeobecný obdiv, úctu, lásku, OLTÁR a tak večnú pamiatku.

Túto vďačnú lásku si zasluhujú aj všetci tí, ktorí, či ako kňazi, rehoľníci, rehoľné sestry alebo laici každého stavu, pred ním, s ním a po ňom obovali svoje životy za Boha a národ! Tých bolo dosť a dosť už za bolševického vpádu na východné Slovensko pod vedením Bélu Kuna, zabíjajúcich na zhrmaždeniach Andreja Hlinku, , no najmä za tzv. národného povstania, za bolševickej vlády v rokoch 1945 – 1989! Naša vďačnosť žiada, aby mená tých mnohých obetí boli zverejnené a dostali sa tak nielen do histórie bojovníkov slovenského národa za jeho slobodu, a za ľudské práva, ale aj aby príkladom takej hrdinskej samožertvy súčasným i budúcim slovenským generáciám zobúdžali z akejsi náboženskej a národnej „dolce far niente“, príjemnej záhalky takých, čo hovoria „nedá sa nič robiť“.

**Arcibiskup K. Kmeťko: Vďačnosť by mal prejavovať slovenský národ aj Dr. Jozefovi Tisovi, prvej hlave Slovenského štátu po Svätoplukovi. To je môj najlepší kňaz!**

Za všetky prostriedky, pomocou ktorých sme sa i napriek mnohým vnútorným a vonkajším ťažkostiam zachovali dosiaľ ako národ a národ veriaci, musíme ďakovať predovšetkým Pánu Bohu, ktorý nás ochraňoval a v ktorého sme vždy verili. Nemusíme sa obávať ani o svoju budúcnosť, ako ostaneme podľa rady nášho pána prezidenta Dr. Jozefa Tisu vernými a oddanými synmi a dcérami Kristovej Cirkvi.

Tú vernosť však musíme zachovať v zmýšľaní, v reči, v skutkoch, v svojich domácnostiach i vo verejnom živote, teda aj v politike, vo vzájomnom styku s blíznymi, v hromadných oznamovacích prostriedkoch, na zábavách, v pohostinských miestnostiach, v obrane viery... atď. Nesmieme ju vylúčiť, ani v debatách okolo okrúhleho stola v televízii, najmä ak sa radíme, ako ochrániť seba a iných pred smrtonosnou chorobou AIDS, pred vzťahujúcimi sa manželskými rozvodmi, pred kriminalitou, pred skazenosťou mládeže, pred drogami, pred hašterivosťou, pred samovraždami... atď.

Pamätajme.: Náš národ nezachráni pred jeho zničením bojový ateizmus, prezervatívy, manželstvá na skúšku, potraty, rozvodov, pornografia, verejné domy oplzlosti a hriechu, sexuálne vyžívanie sa nedospelých a vôbec slobodných, lákavé kšeftárstvo, s „návnadami“ vyžiť sa bez krutých následkov, kupčenie s ľudskými telami... atď., ako radia pri okrúhlych stoloch, žiaľ, žiaľ, tzv. „vzdelanci“ a s doktorskými titulmi „odborníci“ na „blažený život“ bez ohľadu, či sa získa čnosťou, alebo hriechom. Tieto a podobné rady nielen zavaňujú peklom, ale vrhajú do neho už v tejto časnosti každého, kto im podľahne. Záchranou nášho národa pred záhubou je a ostane jedine Pán Boh, život podľa jeho zákonov, živá viera v neho, Kristove prostriedky spásy, ako modlitba, sviatosti, dobrá rodičovská a školská výchova, súce spoločenstvá mládeže, ochrana pred zvodmi do bahna hriechu, teda pred všetkými príležitostami, ktoré ako zradné polypy číhajú na svoju obeť.

Len pomocou týchto a podobných prostriedkov sa náš národ zachráni pred časťou i večnou záhubou a vymôže si čestné miesto medzi tými národmi Európy, ku ktorým sa už v ranej dobe ich tvoriaceho sa spoločenstva pripojil, keď spolu s nimi prijal Krista za svojho ochrancu. Jemu patrí teraz i na veku naša vďaka, chvála a česť aj sláva! Prosme ho, aby bol stále s nami a pomáhal nám všetkým, ktorý sa cítíme a aj sme korunou tvorstva, byť a ostať vždy dobrodincami a nikdy nie katmi a hrobármi slovenského národa a jeho Cirkvi.

Pripravil A. Čulen



## Za úspechom Nutelly a Kinder čokolád je Panna Mária Lurdská

Michele Ferrero, zakladateľ svetoznámeho výrobcu Nutelly, ktorý zomrel vo veku 89 rokov v roku 2015, **patril medzi najbohatších ľudí na svete a za svojím úspechom videl Panu Máriu.** Spoločnosť na výrobu čokolád založil v roku 1946 a časom sa stal producentom najznámejších svetových značiek ako Mon Cheri, Kinder, Ferrero Rocher, Fiesta a Pocket Coffee. Čistá hodnota jeho majetku dosiahla 23,4 miliardy dolárov.



Čo veľa ľudí nevie o Ferrerovi, čo sa aj jemu samotnému podarilo ukryť pred žiarou reflektorov, je jeho hlboká viera. Pri príležitosti 50 výročia založenia spoločnosti povedal: „Za náš úspech vďačíme Pannu Máriu Lurdskú, bez nej by sme veľa neurobili.“

Na každom mieste sveta, kde má spoločnosť fabriku alebo akúkoľvek prevádzku, dal Michele Ferrero vystaviť sochu Panny Márie. Každý rok Ferrero podnikol púť do francúzskeho pútnického miesta Lúrd, kde sa zjavila podľa schválenia Cirkvi, Panna Mária.

Organizovanie púti do francúzskej svätyni bolo samozrejmosťou aj pre zamestnancov. Dokonca sa traduje, že svetoznáma čokoládová guľička Rocher vznikla podľa inšpirácie predlohy skaly zjavenia známej ako Rocher de Massabielle v Lourdoch.

Jeho impérium patrí v Taliansku medzi najznámejšie spoločnosti v oblasti kvality a starostlivosti o zamestnancov. „Moja jediná starostlivosť je, aby spoločnosť bola stabilná a silná, aby mohla všetkým svojim zamestnancom vytvoriť bezpečné miesto,“ uviedol Ferrero. Pod jeho vedením prenikli produkty firmy do 53 krajín, vytvoril viac ako 34 000 pracovných miest v 20 fabričkách a 9 poľnohospodárskych závodoch.

hlavnespravy.sk

## Výročie úmrtia generála Milana M. Štefánika pripomenie mapa histórie a súčasnosti letectva

Sté výročie posledného letu Milana Rastislava Štefánika sa stalo príležitosťou historicko-moderného vydania leteckej mapy Slovenskej republiky, ktorú v tomto období pripravujú banskobystrickí kartografi. Nová mapa s doteraz nepublikovanými podobami slovenského letectva by mala uzrieť svetlo sveta začiatkom mája na festivale letectva v Piešťanoch, a teda presne sto rokov od tragického preletu generála Štefánika z Talianska na Slovensko. Informovala o tom Ivana Krchnavá z VKÚ Harmanec s tým, že toto mimoriadne dielo pripravujú spoločne s odborníkmi zo Slovenského múzea máp v Kynceľovej a profesionálmi z odvetvia letectva.

„Základom mapy s názvom Storočnica M. R. Štefánika budú nedávno aktualizované mapové podklady nášho územia, na ktorých bude v špeciálnej dátovej vrstve vyznačené rozdelenie vzdušného priestoru SR a ďalšie letecké údaje. Zároveň sa zapracujú polohy všetkých slovenských letísk, heliportov, základní leteckej záchranej služby či informácie o riadení letovej prevádzky nad územím štátu. Hlavnou zvláštnosťou mapy je však to, že popri aktuálnych informáciách v nej dostane veľký priestor história,“ konštatovala Krchnavá.

Podľa nej aktuálne dáta a informácie pokryjú niečo viac ako polovicu diela, zvyšok budú tvoriť texty a ilustrácie zo storočnej histórie letectva na území SR. Väčšina obsahu, súčasného i historického, nebola v tejto forme ešte publikovaná.

„Všetky ilustrácie v mape sú vytvorené špeciálne pre túto príležitosť. Portréty osobností letectva maľujú ilustrátori ručne podľa dobových podkladov. Po prvý raz by tak mala byť publikovaná podoba Mikuláša Šingloviča, veliteľa letcov na povstaleckom letisku Tri Duby počas SNP. Originálny bude tiež portrét slovenského leteckého esa v radoch Britského kráľovského letectva počas druhej svetovej vojny Otta Smika. A úplne zaslužená sa medzi zobrazených hrdinov dostane i priekopníčka, lekárka Oľga Kráľová-Mistríková, bez ktorej si u nás nevieme predstaviť vznik leteckej záchranej služby,“ zdôraznila Krchnavá.

Mapa má teda splňať nielen parametre kartografického, ale i encyklopedického diela.

„Verejnosiť si bude môcť pozrieť vývoj tzv. výsoštných znakov vojenského letectva, čo sú symboly štátu, maľované na krídla a trupy lietadiel. Počas vojny tu existovalo niečo, čo sa volalo Slovenské vzdušné zbrane. Výsoštné znaky na ich strojoch takmer v ničom nepripomínali dobovú československú vlajku ani slovenské trojvršie s dvojkrížom. Bol to jednoduchý modro-biely kríž s červenou bodkou,“ priblížila Krchnavá.

Ako dodala, úplne nové, kreslené špeciálne pre toto vydanie mapy, budú i podoby lietadiel a vrtulníkov. A to nielen tých, ktoré počas uplynulých sto rokov zohrali dôležitú úlohu v našich dejinách, ale aj tých, ktoré v súčasnosti schádzajú z výrobných liniek na Slovensku.

„Mnoho obyvateľov možno zostane prekvapených, koľko typov lietadiel sa u nás vyrába,“ poznamenala Krchnavá.

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## USA chcú posilniť vzťahy so Slovenskom v obrane aj obchode

Pokračovanie zo str. 28

výdavky na obranu a nákup vojenskej techniky z USA. „Tieto kroky znižujú závislosť Slovenska od starej sovietskej techniky a otvárajú dvere ďalšej obrannej spolupráci s USA,“ poznamenal.

Pompeo je presvedčený, že Slovensko a USA majú v oblasti obrany spoločné priority. „Slovenská historická skúsenosť so sovietskou dominanciou, poloha v strednej Európe a demokracia umožňujú vašej krajine špeciálne porozumieť agresívnej úlohe, ktorú Rusko v tomto regióne zohráva,“ konštatoval americký šéf diplomacie.

Pompeovu utorkovú návštevu Slovenska označil Lajčák za úspešnú. Zdôraznil, že aj keď ide o prvú návštevu ministra zahraničných vecí USA po 20 rokoch, dialóg medzi Slovenskom a USA je veľmi kvalitný a realizuje sa inými cestami. „USA sú hrdé, že mohli byť súčasťou úspechu tejto krajiny cez podporu politickej transformácie, ekonomického rozvoja, otvorenia trhu a, samozrejme, spolupráce v oblasti obrany v NATO,“ uzavrel Pompeo.

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# Jednota



O. Štefan Furdek  
Naš zakladateľ

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

Ročník 128

STREDA, 13. MARCA 2019

Číslo 5981

## USA chcú posilniť vzťahy so Slovenskom v obrane aj obchode

Na Slovensku je obrovský ekonomický potenciál, ktorý by chceli Spojené štáty americké využiť. Po rokovaní so slovenským ministrom zahraničných vecí Miroslavom Lajčákom (nominant Smeru-SD) to vyhlásil americký šéf diplomacie Mike Pompeo. Naznačil tiež ďalší rozvoj vzťahov v oblasti obrany.

„Slovensko a USA v súčasnosti vyjednávajú dohodu o spolupráci v oblasti obrany, ktorá by využila plány európskej obrannej iniciatívy na zlepšenie slovenskej infraštruktúry aj na posilnenie vojenských vzťahov medzi našimi národmi,“ informoval Pompeo.

Americký minister tiež ocenil záväzok Slovenska zvýšiť

Pokračovanie na str. 27



FOTO TASR - Pavel Neubauer

Na snímke minister zahraničných vecí a európskych záležitostí SR Miroslav Lajčák (vpravo) a minister zahraničných vecí USA Mike Pompeo 12. februára 2019 v Bratislave.

*The US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo visited Slovakia as part of his recent tour in Europe.*

## Kozmonaut Ivan Bella: Človek má svoje miesto vo vesmíre

Prvý pocit odpútania sa od Zeme nastane tesne po vzlete, keď sa odpojí posledný tretí stupeň nosnej rakety a nastane bežný stav. Je to vo výške okolo 200 až 220 km, necelých 9 minút po štarte. Práve na tento moment svojho kozmického letu si zaspomínal slovenský kozmonaut Ivan Bella v relácii Pohľad na oblohu v televízii Tablet.TV.

Prvý slovenský kozmonaut Ivan Bella odštartoval do vesmíru 20. februára 1999 z kozmodromu Bajkonur na palube kozmickej lode Sojuz TM-29. Spolu s ním leteli ruský kozmonaut Viktor Michajlovič Afanasiev a jeho francúzsky kolega Jean-Pierre Haigneré. Po dvoch dňoch sa vo výške 350 kilometrov nad Zemou spojili s orbitálnym komplexom Mir. Na Zem sa Bella vrátil 28. februára spolu s ruským kozmonautom Gennadijom Padalkom, ktorý dovtedy na stanici Mir strávil 198 dní. Dvojica kozmonautov úspešne pristála v Kazachstane. Slovenský kozmonaut sa podieľal na šiestich výskumných úlohách, z ktorých sa štyri realizovali priamo na palube kozmickej lode, resp. na stanici Mir. Súčasťou boli opäť pravidelné odbery krvi, ktorej vzorky sa v zmrznutom stave previezli na Zem, kde boli predmetom ďalšieho skúmania. Ivan Bella bol tiež kozmickým farmárom, keďže v ďalšom experimente sa zisťovalo, ako vplýva prostredie kozmu na japonské prepelice pred vyliahnutím a po vyliahnutí. S prepelicami sa totiž ráta ako so stravou pre kozmonautov, ktorú by mohli chovať priamo vo vesmíre.

Dnes prinášajú veľa nových a zásadných poznatkov aj vesmírne sondy bez ľudskej posádky, no koniec letov do vesmíru to podľa Bellu neznamená. Je totiž možné, že sa človek v bližšej alebo vzdialenej budúcnosti bude musieť z rôznych dôvodov adaptovať na život mimo svojej planéty.

Vo vesmíre strávil Ivan Bella počas 125 obehov Zeme celkovo 7 dní 21 hodín 56 minút 19 sekúnd. Pri príležitosti 20. výročia svojho letu do kozmu plánuje usporiadať stretnutie, na ktoré sú pozvaní aj jeho kolegovia, kozmonauti, s ktorými mal možnosť spolupracovať.

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Na snímke verejné zhromaždenie Za slušné Slovensko, na Námestí SNP v Bratislave.

*Demonstrators assembled in Bratislava on February 21, 2019 marking the anniversary of the unsolved murder of journalist Jan Kuciak and his fiancée Martina Kusnirova.*

## Verejné zhromaždenie v Bratislave Za slušné Slovensko

Nezabudneme a neodchádzame sa vo štvrtok podvečer 21. februára 2019 nieslo centrom Bratislavy. Tisíce ľudí si na Námestí SNP totiž prišli pripomenúť rok od vraždy novinára Jána Kuciaka a jeho snúbenice Martiny Kušnírovej. Dav volal po nezávislom vyšetrení vraždy a odstúpení predsedu Národnej rady SR Andreja Danku (SNS), špeciálneho prokurátora Dušana Kováčika či úplnom odchode bývalého premiéra a šéfa Smeru-SD Roberta Fica. Predsedovi Mosta-Híd Bélovi Bugárovi ľudia vyčítali, že drží súčasnú vládu koalíciu a otáča sa im chrbtom.

“Toto už nie je len o vražde Jána a Martiny, ale aj o tom, že ich smrť a všetko, čo sa stalo v roku 2018 a 2019, strhlo oponu v krajine. My vidíme, akí sú politici schopní zneužívať

Pokračovanie na str. 26

## Majsterka sveta Petra Vlhová



FOTO TASR - Martin Baumann

Na snímke slovenská lyžiarka Petra Vlhová pózuje so zlatou medailou, ktorú získala v obrovskom slalome na majstrovstvách sveta v alpskom lyžovaní 14. februára 2019 vo švédskom Are.

*Slovak skier Vlhová wins giant slalom at the world championships on February 14, 2019.*