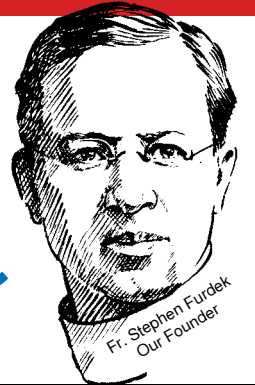




Catholic Fraternal Jednota



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NUMBER 6001

November Commemorates Slovakia's Gentle Revolution

Michael J. Kopanic, Jr.
The University of Maryland
Global Campus

The Velvet Revolution – or Gentle Revolution, (Nežná Revolúcia) as it has been known in Slovakia – was a non-violent transition of power in what was then Czechoslovakia. The period of upheaval and transition took place from November 16/ 17 to December 29, 1989. Popular demonstrations against the one-party government of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia brought together students and older dissidents. The final result was the end of 41 years of Communist rule in Czechoslovakia, and the subsequent conversion to a parliamentary republic.

On November 16, 1989, Slovak high school and university students organized a peaceful demonstration in the center of Bratislava. The next day, November 17, 1989 (International Students' Day), riot police suppressed a big student demonstration in Prague where they arrested and injured some protesters (A rumor had spread that Martin Smid had been beaten to death by the police, but it later proved to be false.). That event sparked a series of demonstrations throughout the country from November 19 to late December. On November 24, the

entire top leadership of the Communist Party, including General Secretary Miloš Jakeš, resigned. A two-hour general strike involving all citizens of Czechoslovakia was held on November 27.

In response to the collapse of other Warsaw Pact governments and the increasing street protests, the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia announced on November 28 that it would relinquish power and dismantle the single-party state. Two days later, the legislature formally deleted the sections of the Constitution giving the Communists a monopoly of power. Barbed wire and other obstructions were removed from the border with West Germany and Austria in early December. On December 10, President Gustáv Husák appointed the first largely non-communist government



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Fill Your Fall with FCSU Fun!

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The Officers and Members of the Board of Directors of the First Catholic Slovak Union extend their most sincere Fraternal Greetings and Best Wishes to all Members on Thanksgiving!

Thank you for keeping the traditions alive.

- Rev. Thomas A. Nasta.....Chaplain
- Andrew M. Rajec.....President
- Andrew R. Harcar, Sr.....Vice-President
- Kenneth A. Arendt.....Executive Secretary
- George Matta II.....Treasurer

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Insights and Viewpoints



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

160 – Christ the King – November 22, 2020

As we celebrate the feast of Christ the King it is interesting to note that the scriptures express the nature of his Kingship in terms that borrow as much from the pastoral language of the Good Shepherd as from the expected regal imagery of royal courts. We indeed hear that the Lord will be seated like a king "upon his glorious throne, and all the nations will be assembled before him." Immediately afterward



Fr. Edward Mazich,
O.S.B.

we read "he will separate them one from another, as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats" (Matt 25:31-32).

What follows is a powerful description of the standard by which Christ, our King and Shepherd, will judge us—something we should take to heart. The judgement will be conducted on the basis of how each Christian has responded to Christ present in and through others. We read: "I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me" (Matt 25:35-36).

Let us not think this is a saccharine vision of Christianity reduced to being "nice," but rather a practical lens through which to view the authenticity of our faith—whether we are truly animated by the Spirit to love God and love our neighbor (and strangers) or whether our faith is superficial. I am reminded of the words of the First Letter of John: "If anyone says, 'I love God,' but hates his brother, he is a liar; for whoever does not love a brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen" (1 John 4:20).

The Old Testament reading anticipates Jesus' stark message not so much in specifying actions we are to take but in identifying experiences we can expect if we are faithful disciples of the Lord. The prophet Ezekiel announces, "I myself will pasture my sheep... The lost I will search out, the strays I will bring back, the injured I will bind up, and the sick I will heal; but the sleek and the strong I will destroy" (Eze 34:15-16).

Being lost, strayed off-course, and wounded are experiences that every follower of the Lord encounters at some point in life. Standing firm in faith in Christ the King and the Good Shepherd we know that he will search, find, and heal us according to our need. The Psalmist affirms this in one of the most famous passages of the Psalter he sings: "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. In verdant pastures he gives me repose. Beside restful waters he leads me; he refreshes my soul" (Ps 23:1-3).

Saint Paul, too, contributes to the picture of Christ as a righteous King, emphasizing that his judgement will encompass all: "just as in Adam all die, so too in Christ shall all be brought to life," and will be over all earthly powers: "then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to his God and Father, when he has destroyed every sovereignty and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet" (1 Cor 15:22, 24-25).

Throughout life we take shelter in our faith in a God who leads us as both a gentle Shepherd and a just and gracious King. Let us remain faithful by responding with joy to Christ whom we encounter in all our brothers and sisters, that we may one day hear the words:

"Come, you who are blessed by my Father. Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world" (Matt 25:34).

First Sunday of Advent – November 29, 2020

We begin Advent and the new church year with the same message we heard near the end of the church year; it is a call to be "watchful and alert." We heard the parables of the wise and foolish virgins, the master entrusting servants with talents, and the clear message last week of being prepared for when the Son of Man returns and he will separate the good from the bad like a shepherd separates sheep from goats. In these parables as well as the Gospel today Jesus makes it clear that we don't know when the Lord is coming so watch and be ready to greet and welcome him.

What does it mean when Jesus tells us to be watchful and alert? If we perceive Jesus as a judge who holds every fault against us, we can be filled with fear and anxiety regarding his Second Coming. Rather than it being his Return in Glory we view it as his return in wrath. If, however, we see Jesus as the one who came into the World as He announced in the beginning of John's Gospel; "For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him." John 3:17, we can be at peace as we await the return of the Divine Physician. This image can fill us with humility, contrition and gratitude for his healing as we await his glorious return. The readings today call us to be watchful and alert by allowing God into our lives to help us with the ongoing conversion that brings us closer to the Lord each day.

Isaiah describes our relationship with God in a beautiful way. He calls God, "Father" and describes our relationship as one in which; "we are the clay and you the potter: we are all the work of your hands." God gently fashions us and molds us with his own hands. He smooths away the rough edges and carefully molds us again and again into his image and likeness as we continually struggle with sin and wander away. We each have rough edges and we can have the attitude that it is better to hide them from God and escape his wrath, than to let him see them even though we know we cannot hide anything from God. When we freely acknowledge and confess our sins we invite the hand of God to touch us and fashion us and heal us.

Saint Paul never lost sight of how God was always present with him, even during suffering and persecutions. He begins the First Letter to the Corinthians with the warm greeting and encouragement over all the good things the Lord is doing for them. It's a greeting that we should receive for all our efforts to be faithful. In his letter he continues to instruct them and to also correct them. Correction and instruction is the way that helps us get back on, or stay on the right track. We need the continued opportunities of growth and conversion in order to be watchful and alert.

As we begin Advent we have the choice of how we wait for the Lord. We can be sitting in the courtroom waiting to be judged and sentenced, or we can be waiting in the doctor's office waiting for the physician to treat and heal us. Both require one to be alert and watch. Hopefully we will approach Advent waiting for the Divine Physician. This involves knowing ourselves well enough that we are honest about our need to visit the doctor's office, rather than pretending that there is nothing wrong, or we can take care of it ourselves. Be alert and watchful of those parts of our lives that need the healing touch of Jesus and expectantly wait for his coming.



Fr. Killian Loch,
O.S.B.

NEWSPAPER DEADLINES

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

Issue Date	Copy Date
WEDNESDAY, DEC. 9	MONDAY, NOV. 30
WEDNESDAY, JAN 13	MONDAY, JAN 4
WEDNESDAY, FEB 10	MONDAY, FEB 1

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Saints Cyril and Methodius Appeal Continues in November

The 42nd Annual Saints Cyril and Methodius Appeal is drawing to a close. Money raised goes to assist the Pontifical Slovak College of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Rome with its day to day operations.

As of October 31, \$27,288.50 has been received from 187 donors. Thank you, Branches 1, 3, 19, 35, 40, 41, 45, 85, 112, 166, 173, 276, 290, 313, 450, 746, and 764 for your response. On behalf of the Pontifical College, thank you everyone for your continued generosity and support.

Anyone who wishes to contribute to the 2020 Appeal is asked to fill out the information in the box at the bottom of this article and mailing it along with your check payable to the Slovak Catholic Federation to the address provided before November 30. Gifts received after that date will be credited to the 2021 Appeal. Donations in any amount are deeply appreciated and are acknowledged. Thank you again for your goodness and generosity.

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

42nd Annual Saints Cyril and Methodius Appeal

Name _____

Address _____

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State _____ Zip _____

Amount \$ _____

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

Rev. Thomas A. Nasta, National First Vice President
Slovak Catholic Federation
Sacred Heart Church
120 Jefferson Street
Swedesburg, PA 19405

November Commemorates Slovakia's Gentle Revolution

continued from page 1

in Czechoslovakia since 1948, and resigned. Alexander Dubček was elected speaker of the federal parliament on December 28, and Václav Havel the President of Czechoslovakia on December 29, 1989.

In June 1990, Czechoslovakia held its first democratic elections since 1946. On January 1, 1993, Czechoslovakia split into two countries—Slovakia and the Czech Republic.

The term Velvet Revolution (Samatová revoluce) was coined by Rita Klímová, the dissidents' English translator, who later became the ambassador to the United States. The term was used internationally to describe the revolution, and the Czechs also adopted it. In Slovakia, citizens prefer the phrase Gentle Revolution (Nežná revolúcia). It originated after a television discussion with students in November 1989, when the communist writer Vladimír Mináč stated "your revolution is so different, so gentle." Slovaks then adopted the term "Nežná revolúcia" to describe the events of 1989.



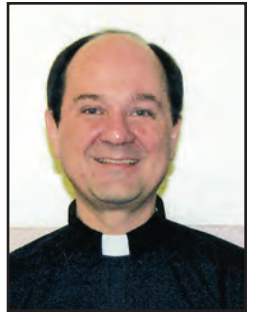
Sunday

November 29, 2020

Advent begins

Thanksgiving Message from the National Chaplain

This year is unlike any other. There is the disappointment over the cancellation of events long planned in the making. There is the hurt over losing a job because a company went out of business or lost its source of funding. There is the sadness over not being able to spend time with a loved one in a hospital or long term care facility. Who can forget not being able to attend Mass for nearly 3 months to receive Holy Communion?



Rev. Thomas A. Nasta

And yet, here we are, getting ready for Thanksgiving, a day we thank God for blessings received throughout the year, and we draw a blank. It's hard to think of anything because the hurts and disappointments are so many. But upon further review (as college and professional football referees say on occasion) perhaps we can use the effects COVID-19 has had and is having on us as a teaching moment regarding discipleship.

Jesus told his disciples that hardships and sufferings are to be expected if one is to be his follower. Self-denial and bearing the cross are hallmarks of discipleship. Yes, any kind of disappointment or hurt is difficult to undergo, but as Paul tells us in his Second Letter to Timothy: Bear your share of hardships for the sake of the Gospel with the strength that comes from God.

By bearing our hardships courageously and carrying our crosses faithfully, we can find ourselves becoming more closely united to Jesus as his disciple. And for that, we never cease giving thanks.

Fr. Thomas A. Nasta, National Chaplain

LIGHT ONE CANDLE

Tony Rossi, Director of Communications, The Christophers

Living in Thanksgiving

Every November, on the fourth Thursday of the month, we make it a point to remember the people and things for which we are grateful. But instead of just celebrating Thanksgiving once a year, what would happen if we were willing to live in thanksgiving the whole year through? That's a question we ask in the Christopher News Note "Living in Thanksgiving," and it certainly can be a challenge to focus on gratitude when life is tough. But a classic song offers a fresh perspective on how to do that.

We usually associate the words "Why me, Lord," with a lament when things are going wrong. But singer-songwriter Kris Kristofferson turned that idea on its head in the early 1970s when he wrote, "Why Me, Lord," which became the biggest hit of his career up to that point. Instead of complaining to God about hardship, the lyrics offer a song of praise to the Creator: "Why me, Lord? / What have I ever done / To deserve even one of the pleasures I've known? / Tell me, Lord. / What did I ever do / That was worth loving You or the kindness You've shown?"

The song grew out of Kristofferson joining a friend for church one Sunday morning (something he rarely did), and hearing the preacher ask, "Does anyone feel lost in their lives?" Though he didn't want to raise his hand, Kristofferson couldn't resist the urge. He then responded to an altar call where the preacher asked him if he would accept Jesus as his savior. Kristofferson answered, "I don't know." The preacher then prayed over him, leaving Kristofferson weeping on his knees. Not long after, he wrote, "Why Me, Lord." The lyrics continue, "Tell me, Lord, if You think there's a way / I can try to repay / All I've taken from You. / Maybe Lord, I can show someone else / What I've been through myself / On my way back to You."

This song is a reminder that even when life seems dark, we can still be grateful for the love of God. And that, in sharing His love with others, we can emerge from the darkness—and help them emerge from theirs. That's what happened a couple of years ago to an 11-year-old girl in foster care, who saw a star falling from the sky and did what young kids do at that sight: make a wish. In her case, it was to be adopted, along with her six siblings.

As reported by Yahoo, Terri and Michael Hawthorn of Hot Springs, Arkansas, had been foster parents to several of these children, ranging in age from eight to 15. The brothers and sisters had been bounced around the foster care system for years because their parents were drug addicts.

Terri and Michael grew to love them all, so they decided to adopt the seven siblings. They shared the news with the kids at church on the Sunday before Thanksgiving. The siblings were overjoyed! Terri told WFTV, "This is a blessing, they are a blessing. Every day these kids wake up and they are giggling and they are happy...Lots of prayer and love is what made this possible."

This Thanksgiving may be different than in the past due to the pandemic. But I pray each of you finds at least one blessing for which to be grateful, and that you reflect God's love to someone else, giving them a sense of gratitude as well.

**For news about Slovakia, Financial Tips, and more,
find us on:  Facebook.**

Visit www.facebook.com/FirstCatholicSlovakUnion

FCSU 2020 Christmas Coloring Contest for Kids

A



C



B



PRIZES

Winners in each Region and age group will receive the following:

1st Place – \$25.00 Gift Card
 2nd Place - \$15.00 Gift Card
 3rd Place - \$10.00 Gift Card

RULES

1. Each age group is assigned a certain picture:
 4 – 6 year olds – picture A
 7 – 9 year olds – picture B
 10 – 12 year olds – picture C
2. Enlarged reproductions of picture A, B, or C will be disqualified.
3. Pictures may be reproduced for families with more than one child in a particular age group.
4. Children **MUST** be members in good standing of the FCSU in order to be eligible for prizes.
5. **Entries without a branch number filled in will be disqualified.**
6. Your child's completed entry form & colored picture must be postmarked by **December 31, 2020.**
7. Mail to:
 Kevin Collins
 Fraternal Activities
 Director 628 Heather
 Brite Cr. Apopka, Fl.
 32712

Child's Name: _____ Age: _____

Certificate Number: _____

Branch Number: _____ (MUST be filled in)

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Please submit this form with your child's entry by December 31, 2020





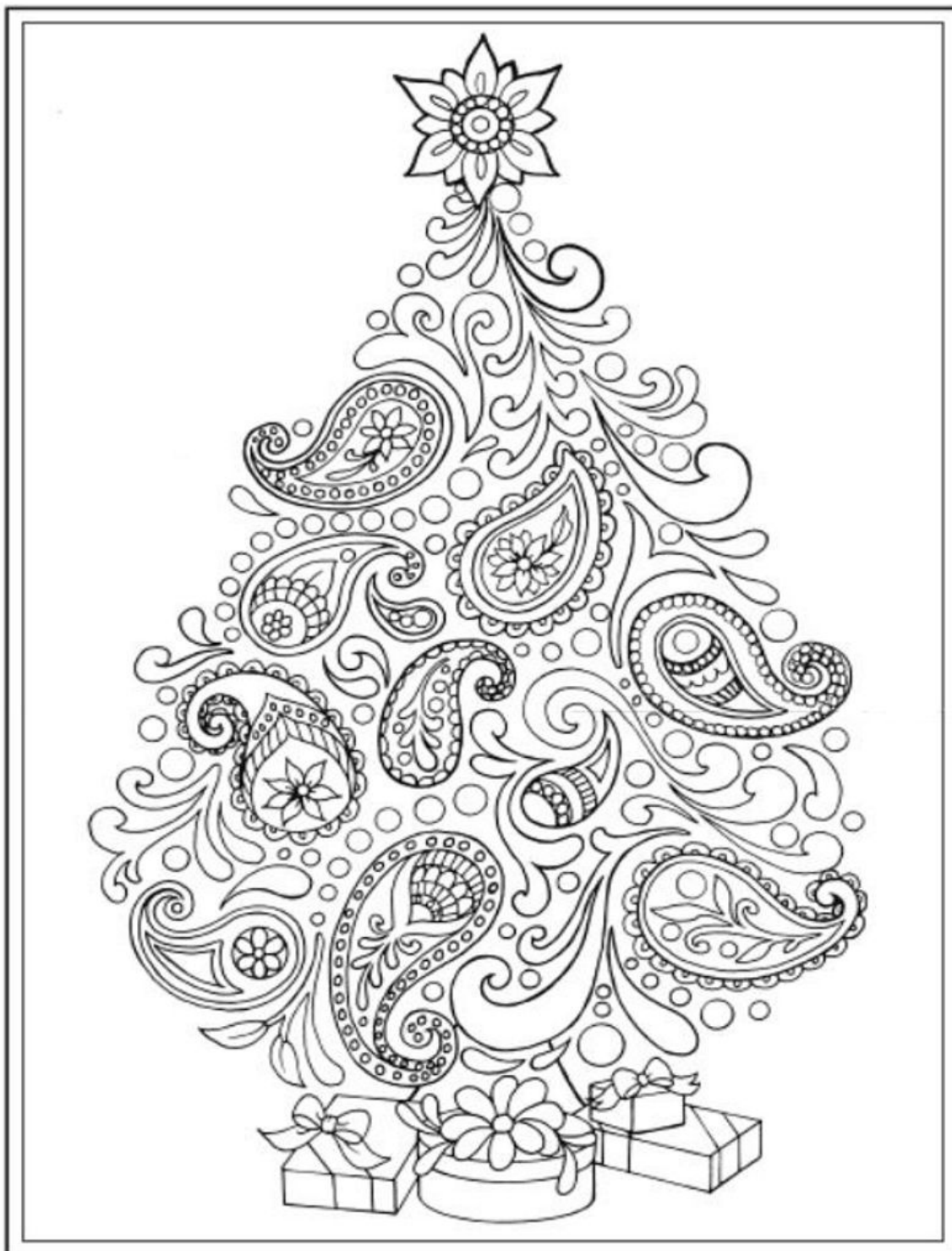
FCSU 2020 Christmas Coloring Contest for All Those Young at Heart



Color the image below and submit according to instructions

RULES

1. This contest is for all those Young At Heart Members:
You must be 55+ to enter
2. Enlarged reproductions of the picture will be disqualified.
3. You **MUST** be a member in good standing of the FCSU in order to be eligible for a prize.
4. **Entries without a branch number filled in will be disqualified.**
5. Your completed entry form with colored picture must be postmarked by **December 31, 2020**
6. Mail to:
Kevin Collins
Fraternal Activities Director
628 Heather Brite Cr.
Apopka, Fl. 32712



PRIZES

Winners in each Region will receive the following:

- 1st Place –\$50 Gift Card
- 2nd Place –\$35 Gift Card
- 3rd Place –\$25 Gift Card



Name: _____ Age: _____
 Certificate Number: _____ **Branch Number:** _____
 (MUST be filled in)
 Street Address: _____
 City, State, Zip: _____
 Phone Number: _____
 Email Address: _____

FCSU Christmas Tree Decorating Contest 2020



It's been a difficult year. Lots of events have had to be cancelled or put on hold. But one thing remains the same ...

Christmas is on the way!

This season is the perfect time to show off a bit, have some fun, and share with other members how you get ready for this glorious holiday with your beautifully decorated Christmas tree.

Snap a digital picture of it, include the necessary info and ...

Merry Christmas!

You'll be entered in our All-new FCSU Christmas Tree Decorating Contest – and you might just win!

CONTEST RULES:

1. You enter by emailing a digital picture of your decorated Christmas tree with each member who helped decorate it next to the tree AND a recent copy of the Jednota Newspaper in the picture to the FCSU Fraternal Activities Director Kevin Collins at: Kevinfcsu@outlook.com.
2. Everyone in the photo must be a member. You must include your name (s), address, and branch number(s) in the body of the email with your digital photo. Please see the box below for a checklist of the information needed to constitute a qualified entry.
3. The preferred format for your digital photo is jpeg; pdfs can be accepted.
4. You may decorate your Christmas tree any way you choose. Consider including some decorations with special meaning, to your Slovak heritage, your FCSU district or branch, or your family. Have fun; be creative!
5. **Deadline to enter is Thursday December 31, 2020. The email with your digital photo and entry information (see below) must be time dated by midnight of the deadline day.**
6. Contest winners will be posted on the FCSU website and published in Jednota.

PRIZE LEVELS:

* FIRST PRIZE – \$100 * SECOND PRIZE – \$50 * THIRD PRIZE - \$25

Info that MUST be submitted in your emailed entry along with your digital Decorated Christmas Tree photo:

- * Your Name (s): please list the full names of all the members in your photo next to your tree
- * A recent copy of the Jednota newspaper must be in the photo as well
- * Your Branch Number: you MUST include your branch number and the branch number of all the people in the photo (if different from yours)
- * Your Street Address: please include your main mailing address where you would like your prize mailed. Please include City, State, Zip
- * Phone Number :please also include a number where you can be reached if questions



NAJDA, JULIA
Parents: Melissa and Chris Najda; Branch: 855K; College: Miami University; Major: Sports Management

Jednota apologizes for the error in running the wrong photo in our Oct 14 issue. Congratulations 2020 Jednota Scholarship Winner Julia Najda



FCSU's First-Ever



We know like a lot of us, you're probably not going too many places this Christmas season. But that's no reason to mothball your favorite ugly Christmas sweater!

Come on. We know you have one (or two) really ugly sweaters from Christmases

past tucked into the back of your closet. So dig it out, put it on, snap a picture, and email it to the FCSU Fraternal Activities Director and ...

You'll be entered in our First-ever FCSU Ugly Christmas Sweater Contest. May the ugliest sweater win!

CONTEST RULES:

1. You enter by emailing a digital picture of you and/or fellow members dressed in the ugliest Christmas sweater you own WITH a recent copy of the Jednota Newspaper in the picture to the FCSU Fraternal Activities Director Kevin Collins at: Kevinfcsu@outlook.com.
2. Individual in the photo must be a member. You must include your name, address, and branch number in the body of the email with your digital photo. Please see the box below for a checklist of the information needed to constitute a qualified entry.
3. The preferred format for your digital photo is jpeg; pdfs can be accepted.
4. **Deadline to enter is Thursday December 31, 2020. The email with your digital photo and entry information (see below) must be time dated by midnight of the deadline day.**
5. Contest winners will be posted on the FCSU website and published in Jednota.

PRIZE LEVELS:

* FIRST PRIZE – \$100 * SECOND PRIZE – \$50 * THIRD PRIZE - \$25 (prizes awarded in 3 categories: age 15 & Younger; age 16 – 39; age 40 & Better)

Info that MUST be submitted in your emailed entry along with your digital Ugly Christmas Sweater photo:

- * Your Name: please list the full name of the member in your photo
- * A recent copy of the Jednota newspaper must be in the photo as well
- * Please indicate the category you are entering: under 15, age 16-39, or over 40
- * You MUST include your branch number.
- * Your Street Address: please include your main mailing address where you would like your prize mailed. Please include City, State, Zip
- * Phone Number :please also include a number where you can be reached if questions

From the Desk of the Executive Secretary – Holiday Hours



The Home Office will be closed on Thursday, November 26 and Friday 27, 2020, in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday.

The Home Office will be closed on Thursday, December 24 and Friday, December 25, 2020, in observance of the Christmas holiday.



Reminder For All Branches

Among the requirements to complete in order to qualify for your branch stipend, under Bylaw Section 14. RULES GOVERNING LOCAL BRANCHES, is the following:
14.01 General Rules

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

Immigrant Sisters of SS Cyril & Methodius

It is no secret that immigrants have provided our nation with a strong and blessed support. Our Sisters who emigrated from central Europe have contributed mightily not only by their spiritual presence but also by the works they have performed in convents, parishes, schools, hospitals, homes for the elderly and by their very presence which has brought joy and comfort to all with whom they came into contact.

If my calculations are correct, fifty-one Sisters have come to the U. S. to live fruitful lives and to minister to people who always proved to be thankful for their presence.

The next sister in the series, Sister Mary Anna Pavelka, immigrated from Vieska, Slovakia to become our designated horticulturist.

- Sister Bernadette Marie Ondus, SSCM

Sister Mary Anna Pavelka



One of the Sisters who came from Vieska, Slovakia, became what we designate as a horticulturist. Even as a young person Mary Anna was interested in plants, flowers, sunshine and soil. When she became an SSCM, it was clear what her ministry would be, tending the truck garden and fruit orchards at our Motherhouse, Villa Sacred Heart in Danville, PA. Later, she had a dedicated helper, Sister Isidore, who also had a background in agriculture since she had come from a farming family in Connecticut. Sandy McCloughan, who lives here in Danville, PA, later joined the two Sisters and contributed her willingness and expertise at Villa Sacred Heart. Sister Mary Anna, who was formerly known as Sister Afra, had a motto she always lived by, "Never think you are doing too much." It is no surprise that

Sister Isidore and Sandy also lived by that motto.

Much of what follows are Sandy's memories of Sister Mary Anna. When Mary Anna was still young, her dad died. Known to be able to work with incredible speed, Mary Anna helped her mother weed the garden. When her mother realized how fast she could work, she gave Mary Anna two rows to weed instead of one.

When she was about eight, Mary Anna and her mother attended the final profession of a second cousin, Sister Emerita. When Sister asked Mary Anna "What are you going to be when you grow up?" she quickly replied, "I'm going to be a Sister." When Sister Emerita asked, "What are you going to do as a Sister?" Mary Anna smiled and said, "I'm going to take care of flowers."

When Mary Anna immigrated to the U. S. as a so-called "Greenhorn," she lived with her aunt and uncle in Broome County in New York state. She did piece work in a shoe factory where her uncle also worked. Mary Anna, however, made more money than he did because, as she proved back home in Slovakia, she could work at phenomenal speed.

One of the products of her devotion to producing beauty in the form of flowers is a memory treasured by those who, like Sister Donna Marie, remember the time the Feast of Christ the King was celebrated at the end of October. The altar in the chapel (now the Basilica) at the Motherhouse was decorated with large gold chrysanthemums. Those who prayed there on that special day could not help but be in awe of her contribution to the beauty of the altar where the Blessed Sacrament was present for adoration.

It was not just chrysanthemums, however, that enhanced the beauty of our place of worship, but also orchids, calla lilies, gardenias, camellias and poinsettias. Of all the flowers Sister Mary Anna grew so lovingly, the calla lily was her favorite. The Christmas poinsettias which grew to six feet were saved from the year before and cultivated for the next year's celebration. It might have been a problem to transport them to the chapel but, of course, not for Sister Mary Anna. She used her creativity to fashion sides and a top for her old jeep so they would be protected in transit. Not only was Christmas and Forty Hours special but the Easter season as well. Sister Mary Anna planted 250 Easter lily bulbs and a few weeks later 250 more. What an array of lilies adorned the altar at this special time of the Lord's Resurrection.

Sister Nadine, OSF, considers Sister "a saint." She remembers "how hard Sister worked in full habit under the grueling sun." Sister Nadine also recognized that Sister Mary Anna had a special way with plants. She believes that Sister Mary Anna spoke to the plants and they did her bidding. As proof she offers this: "She always had the poinsettia plants blooming for Christmas and she always had them in the right series of heights to frame the altar in the Basilica." Continues Sister, "I was really impressed when I saw her come in all dirty from the farm and somehow be all cleaned up for chapel and dinner."

Sister also made corsages for the Academy girls, wreaths from the grapevines for Christmas and heart-shaped ones for Valentine's Day as well as pussy willows, money plants, and dry flower arrangements for



Sr. Pavelka among apples grown on the property, and reportedly once used by an applesauce company

the yearly women's retreats. Sister also made artificial flower arrangements which might include dried weeds picked from the field. These and live plants were sold at the annual Summer Festival.

Besides working in the barn, the greenhouse, the vegetable and flower gardens, and tending the grapevines, the Sisters pruned and sprayed the fruit trees, cherry, pear, plum, peach, and of course apple, so that in the fall the Sisters could enjoy delicious apple cider. The apples were harvested on one day, and the next they were pressed, using our own cider press. According to Sandy, there was a time that the apples grown in our orchards were used by an applesauce company.

Sandy has another story that focuses on Sister Mary Anna and trees. Sister had a bad back which gave her considerable pain. One day Sister fell out of a tree, an apple tree no doubt. From that day on, miraculously, she no longer had back pain. Sandy does not recommend this "remedy" for back pain, however.

Naturally on such a productive operation one needed dogs. Over the years there were three barn dogs, Lad, Snowball and Lassie. In the far distant past, Sister Mary Anna also raised chickens. The eggs they produced, one or two at a time, were carried in a basket, by one of the dogs, either Lad or Snowball. Because the dog swayed as he carried the basket, the eggs would crack.

When she visited her home in 1967, Sister Mary Anna kept a record of events in a small black book written in Slovak. Someday it would be wise to translate it into English so that all may share in her love for family, especially her two sisters, Anne and Lenora, and for her native land.

A special joy was having a nephew a priest, Father Štefan Vargaš in Vienna, Austria, with whom she corresponded. Father wrote a touching note to Sister Paracleta when she informed him of Sister's death. "She was deeply religious, sacrificing for God and her dear ones," he said. He commended Sister Mary Anna for praying for Slovakia and the church in Slovakia "suffering under an oppressive political regime. Her prayers helped her country become free," he said. Father expressed gratitude for her prayers for him and his priesthood.

When her health failed, Sister went to GMC for her ailing heart and on discharge told the doctor she was going home to heaven. When the Sisters who were caroling on Christmas night stopped at her room, she asked them to sing, "Narodil sa Kristus Pan," her favorite carol. She sang softly with them. Sister Mary Anna died early on the morning of the feast of St. John the Evangelist. In his Gospel, St. John speaks of light and life. Of course we are aware of the importance of light to the growth of crops, but we must also consider how important light is to sight as we ponder what occurred at Mary Anna's birth. To her dismay Mary Anna's mother saw that her daughter had only flesh where her eyes should have been. She asked Mary Anna's aunt to get water from a nearby shrine and faithfully poured water on the place her eyes should have been until they appeared. Since her mother always reminded

Mary Anna that the Blessed Virgin Mary gave her sight, it is no surprise that Sister had great devotion to Mary and her Rosary.

Sister Mary Anna summed up her work in these words, "The flowers are God's handiwork, and we are here to see they get special treatment. We do God's work all year round and we love it." Surely she was speaking for those who worked with her also, especially Sister Isidore and Sandy.

Currently in the archives are photos and articles from local newspapers of Sister Mary Anna. Because of their fascination with Sister's work, they asked to inter-



A tractor-riding Sr. Pavelka captured attention in the local press

view her. For example, Sister is pictured on a tractor in the September 7, 1984 issue of the Shamokin News-Item and in the Danville News on September 10, 1994. Even her obituary carries a photo of Sister standing by her truck.

Sister Mary Anna completed 66 years in the Lord's service. As already mentioned, she died on the feast of St. John the Evangelist, December 27, 1994, and was buried on December 29. The celebrant and homilist of the liturgy was Father Edward Deller, Maria Hall chaplain, and concelebrants, Father Augustine Zan and Father V. Leonard Casey. In her tribute, Sister Paracleta called Sister Mary Anna "a symbol of life and growth." "Rejoice," she said "because she died within the octave of Christ's new birth among us and several days after the winter solstice when days begin to lengthen and move slowly toward a new spring and creation's rebirth." Those of us who live at Villa Sacred Heart can never forget what Sister Mary Anna accomplished as we look out at the grounds, the fruit trees, the grapevines and recall her steadfast dedication to tending and preserving the beauty of the earth.

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

THINK ABOUT IT!

News From Slovakia

Obmedzené na základné výlety do 1. Novembra

Bratislava 22. októbra (TASR) - Od soboty 24. októbra do nedele 1. novembra je zavedená výluka na celom Slovensku, s výnimkou ciest na testovanie, práce a poskytovania potrebných potrieb alebo prechádzok v prírodnom prostredí okolo bydliska, povedal po stretnutí ústredného tímu pre krízové riadenie a vlády v tento deň predseda vlády Igor Matovič.

Prísnejšie pravidlá platia v najviac postihnutých okresoch Námestovo, Tvrdošín, Dolný Kubín (všetky v Žilinskom kraji) a v Bardejove (Prešovský kraj). Vysvetlil, že v najviac postihnutých okresoch budú môcť ľudia využívať výnimky zo zákazu, iba ak majú negatívny test PCR alebo test na antigén, ktorý nebol vykonaný neskôr ako 23. októbra. Podľa premiéra to bolo najťažšie rozhodovanie v dejinách samostatného Slovenska.

Podľa výnimiek nebude zákaz vychádzania z rezidencie platiť od 1:00 do 5:00. Aj v prípade cesty na testovanie do práce, sprevádzať deti do školy, navštíviť najbližší obchod s potravinami, lekárňu, lekára alebo sa postarať o blízkeho. Výnimkou je tiež starostlivosť o vlastné hospodárske zvieratá alebo chôdza s domácimi miláčikmi do 100 metrov od miesta bydliska. Ľudia môžu tiež ísť na pohreb, poštu, do banky, do poisťovne, do čistiarne alebo do autoservisu alebo na benzínovú pumpu. Výnimkou sú tiež prechádzky po prírode v oblasti bydliska.

Predseda vlády potvrdil, že v okresoch Dolný Kubín, Tvrdošín a Námestovo na Orave a v okrese Bardejov sa plošné testovanie nového koronavírusu začína v piatok 23. októbra o 8.00 h. Celoštátne testovanie sa uskutoční na zvyšku Slovenska počas nasledujúcich dvoch víkendov.



Fotka od TASR / AP

Stock photo by TASR/AP

Going Out Limited to Essential Trips through Nov 1

Bratislava, October 22 (TASR) - A lockdown throughout Slovakia has been put in place from Saturday, October 24, to Sunday, November 1, except for trips to be tested, to work and to provide necessary needs or to walk in natural surroundings in residences' districts, Prime Minister Igor Matovic said following the meeting of the Central Crisis Management Team and the Government on this date.

Stricter rules apply in the most affected districts of Namestovo, Tvrdošín, Dolný Kubín (all in the Zilina region) and in Bardejov (Presov region). He explained that in the most affected districts, people will be able to use exemptions from the ban only if they have a negative PCR test or antigen test that has not been taken later than October 23. According to the premier, this was the most difficult decision-making in the history of independent Slovakia.

According to exceptions, the ban on going out of residences won't apply from 1AM to 5AM. Also in the case of a trip to be tested, to work, to accompany children to school, to visit the nearest grocery store, pharmacy, doctor or take care of a loved one. An exception is also given to take care of one's own farm animals, or to walk pets within 100 meters from the place of the residence. People can also go to a funeral, post office, bank, insurance company, dry cleaner's, or car service as well as to a petrol station. Exceptions are also walks in the countryside in the district of residence.

The prime minister confirmed that in the districts of Dolný Kubín, Tvrdošín and Namestovo in Orava area and in Bardejov district, pilot testing for novel coronavirus begins at 8 a.m. on Friday, October 23. The nationwide testing will be carried out in the rest of Slovakia during the next two weekends.

Začína národné testovanie na koronavírus

Bratislava 26. októbra (TASR) - Celoplošné testovanie slovenskej populácie na koronavírus sa uskutoční podľa predsedu vlády Igora Matoviča 31. októbra a 1. novembra, o termínoch rozhodol tím centrálného krízového riadenia.

„Som veľmi rád, že plošné testovanie [v štyroch najviac postihnutých oblastiach uplynulého víkendu] potvrdilo svoj zmysel a dáva nám nádej, že operácia počas nadchádzajúceho víkendu nám pomôže identifikovať desaťtisíce infekčných ľudí. Požiadame ich a ich rodiny, aby zostali nasledujúcich desať dní v izolácii, aby nenakazili ostatných,“ uviedol Matovič.

Minister zdravotníctva Marek Krajci uviedol, že verí, že testovanie zachytí väčšinu infikovaných, a pomôže tak zvrátiť šírenie koronavírusov na Slovensku.

Podľa ministra obrany Jaroslava Naďa, tím centrálného krízového riadenia potom rozhodne, či dôjde aj k druhému kolu celonárodných testov.



Hromadné testovanie na koronavírusy na severnom Slovensku 25. októbra (Foto TASR)

Mass testing for coronavirus in northern Slovakia on October 25. (Photo by TASR)

National Testing for Coronavirus Begins

Bratislava, October 26 (TASR) - Across-the-board testing of Slovakia's population for coronavirus will begin October 31 and November 1, dates decided upon by the Central Crisis Management Team, according to Prime Minister Igor Matovic.

“I'm very happy that the pilot testing [in the four hardest-hit districts this past weekend] confirmed its sense and it makes us hopeful that the operation during the upcoming weekend will help us to identify tens of thousands of infectious people. We'll ask them and their families to stay in isolation for the following ten days, so that they don't infect others,” said Matovic.

Health Minister Marek Krajci said that he believes that the testing will catch most of the infected and it will thus help to reverse the coronavirus spread in Slovakia.

According to Defense Minister Jaroslav Naď, the Central Crisis Management Team will then decide whether there will also be a second round of national testing.

Prezidentka: Je dôležité, aby ľudia počúvali vedcov a lekárov

Bratislava 27. októbra (TASR) - „Považujem za dôležité, aby ľudia počas prepuknutia koronavírusu počúvali vedcov, odborníkov a lekárov,“ uviedla prezidentka Zuzana Čaputová po diskusiách s odborníkmi v súvislosti s touto problematikou a komplexným testovaním COVID-19 s tým, že ich názory považuje za absolútne relevantné. Podľa Čaputovej sa odborníci domnievajú, že je potrebné sprístupniť testovanie. „Ľudia chcú byť testovaní. Počujme príbehy ľudí, ktorí si museli na testy počkať niekoľko dní,“ uviedla.

Čaputová ďalej uviedla, že zníženie mobility je kľúčovým faktorom. Malo to vplyv v iných krajinách, kde bola obmedzená mobilita ľudí. „Ak obmedzíme pohyb ľudí, je spravodlivé, aby ľudia z iných krajín nemali prichádzať na Slovensko bez kontroly,“ uviedla prezidentka a dodala, že odborníci tiež zdôraznili potrebu hraničných kontrol. Môžu sa tiež použiť aplikácie na kontrolu karantény.



Hlava štátu opäť upozornila, že účasť zdravotníckych pracovníkov na celoštátnom testovaní by nemala ísť na úkor nemocníc a poskytovania zdravotnej starostlivosti. To isté platí pre zdravotnícky materiál a pomôcky. Nemali by chýbať ani personálne kapacity pri pátraní po osobách, s ktorými boli nakazení ľudia v kontakte.

Prezidentka Zuzana Čaputová (foto TASR)

President Zuzana Caputova (stock photo by TASR)

President: Important for People to Listen to Scientists and Doctors

Bratislava, October 27 (TASR) - “I consider it to be important for people to listen to scientists, experts and doctors during the coronavirus outbreak,” said President Zuzana Caputova following discussions with experts in connection with this issue and comprehensive COVID-19 testing, adding that she considers their opinions to be absolutely relevant. According to Caputova, experts believe that there's a need to make testing more available. “People want to be tested. I'm hearing the stories of people who had to wait several days for tests,” she said.

Caputova went on to say that reducing mobility is a key factor. This has had an effect in other countries where people's mobility has been limited. “If we restrict the movement of people, it's fair that people from other countries shouldn't come to Slovakia without being checked,” said the president, adding that the experts also stressed the need for border checks. Quarantine-control apps could be used as well.

The head of state again pointed out that the participation of health-care professionals in the nationwide testing should not come at the expense of hospitals and the provision of health care. The same applies to medical supplies and aids. Nor should personnel capacities be lacking when it comes to tracing those with whom infected people have been in contact.

It's Zoom time! District 4 meets virtually!

Msgr. Rura District 4 held another successful virtual meeting on Sunday, October 4th using the Zoom platform. In attendance were 22 participants members of Branch 290 and Branch 746. The district attendees recalled that this was the weekend that we were supposed to host our Oktoberfest outdoors activity but it was cancelled due to Covid19. Members reaffirmed that they felt most comfortable meeting virtually as some members of the district in are in the vulnerable category and it is best to take necessary precautions. The meeting covered the agenda topics including potential virtual activities, the Regional Director's update as well as elections of officers. Some members were interested in organizing an apple picking event. The District also decided to offer two masses for the intentions of all members of District 4 living and deceased on Friday, November 13th at 7pm (Slovak mass) at Holy Family Church in Linden and on Saturday, November 14th at 4pm at St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church in Raritan -- both churches are our usual meeting places for district meetings. Congratulations to the District 4 officers who were re-elected for the 2021 term!

At the end of the meeting Jednota members had a chance to provide updates on



what is happening in their lives including expected additions to the family, upcoming weddings, and new indoor and outdoor "pets"! It was wonderful to see everyone through Zoom and also connect via the

telephone. We wish everyone continue health and strengthen in these challenging times.

We continue to encourage all the branches of District 4 to join us virtually or tele-

phonically! Our next meeting will be announced in the newspaper and website! We would love for you to join!

- submitted by Sabina Sabados, Region 1 Director



Scenes from Branch 716 Semi-annual Meeting

On Sunday October 4, 2020, St Stephen Society Branch 716 held its semi-annual meeting at St. Catherine Park immediately after the Slovak Mass at St. John Nepomucene Church in New York City. Coffee and homemade strudel made by Branch 716 member Serafina Sulak was served to attendees. Also Pastor Michal Misina from the Slovak Lutheran Church paid us a visit.

- Submitted by Recording Secretary Joan Skrkon



(L - R) Pastor Michal Misina with Branch 716 treasurer Maria Bozekova and Branch 716 President Jan Skrkon.

Bingo with Branch 23

On Sunday, October 4, 2020. Branch 23 had an Annual Fraternal Bingo Get-together. A group of 10 ventured out to enjoy some fun! We had some lucky winners!

- Submitted by Marian Hockycko, Branch 23 President



Pictured are Patti Carpenter, Janet Mical, Annette Fenimore, Maryann Bellack, MaryLynn Evans, Mitchell Hockycko and Patty Respet. Bingo caller was Branch President, Marian Hockycko. Photo & caption courtesy of Marian Hockycko.

Your Phone Call Is Important to Us!



At the First Catholic Slovak Union, we take every phone call very seriously. Our goal is to deliver the best customer service possible – even in these challenging times.

Per current COVID-19 government guidelines and mandates, we remain closed to in-person visits with restricted hours for our Home Office employees that allow them to practice social distancing and other methods for ensuring their wellbeing.

Please take the following steps when you get our voice mail so that we can provide you with the level of service and attention you deserve.

1. Leave a brief reason for your call.
2. Be sure to state your full name, and spell your last name.
3. Along with your phone number, let us know the best time to contact you between the hours of 8:00AM and 4:30PM, M- F.
4. Remember that we can only discuss a contract or certificate with the owner or with permission from the owner.

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



Bartolomej and Juliana Rada Celebrate 60th Wedding Anniversary in November

We would like to congratulate longtime members of Branch 746, Bartolomej and Juliana Rada on celebrating their 60th Wedding Anniversary on November 24, 2020. Bartolomej and Juliana met in Michalove Slovakia back in 1960 where they soon fell in love. They married in November and eventually had their first son Bartholomew. They immigrated to the US in 1965, first landing in Brooklynn, New York, before making their way to Linden, New Jersey. After settling in Linden, they soon found their new family at the Slovak speaking Holy Family Church. Here, they made lifelong friends and continued to raise their family, adding another son and two daughters. Juliana and Bart soon discovered their passion for cooking Slovak food and started Julie's Catering, while maintaining their fulltime employments at General Motors and the Empire State Building. They catered many events such as Slovak Dances, Weddings, Communion, and many more celebrations at Monsignor Komar Hall in Linden, New Jersey. Their reputation for delicious homemade food made them a staple in the Linden community for 25 plus years.

Bartolomej served as Slovak Heritage Festival President and was very involved in the festival activities for many years. Juliana is a trustee for the church and had the great honor to be chosen by the archdioceses to bring up the wine during Pope John Paul II's historic mass at Giants Stadium in 1995. Through the years, husband and wife have remain devoted to each other and to their Slovak community. They raised four children and now have 7 grandchildren, who are all members of Jednota and are proud of their Slovak heritage, thanks to their parents. Bart and Julie's dedication and service to their church, their heritage, their community, and their families is a testament to the immigrant Slovak spirit. We congratulate them on 60 years of marriage and hope for many more years of wedded bliss.

- submitted by the loving children of Julie and Bart Rada.



Happy Birthday Branch 716 Recording Secretary Joan Skrkon

On October 11, 2020, Branch 716 members helped its Recording Secretary Joan Skrkon celebrate her birthday with parishioners of St. John Nepomucence, NYC. The celebration was held in the nearby St Catherine Park, immediately following the Slovak Mass at St. John Nepomucene. President Jan Skrkon prepared lunch for those who attended.

Branch 199's October Golf Outing

Branch 199 hosted a Scramble Golf Outing for its members on Saturday, October 10, 2020. It was held at the Chestnut Ridge Resort & Conference Center in Blairsville, PA, with golf taking place on the Center's beautiful golf course. The event included a great afternoon of fraternalism with food and prizes. The branch wishes to thank Robert Patula, Jr. for all his efforts in planning an awesome event!

- Submitted by Barbara Patula, Secretary/Treasurer



Branch 199 Members enjoyed a great afternoon of golf, including: (L - R) Greg Heider, Joe Donoughe, (Anthony) Mike Pipak, John Pipak, Gary Hill, Robbie Titterington, and Tom Pipak



John Patula (C) tees up with Robbie Titterington (R), and Branch 199 President Tom Pipak (L) looking on.

Waiting their turn: (L - R) Robert Patula and Robbie Titterington



John Patula takes a swing.



(L - R) Chris Zamboni, Tiffany Torchia, Joe Ostinowsky, Joe Donoughe, and Lou Wolford

(L - R) Lou Wolford, Tiffany Torchia, Joe Ostinowsky, Greg Heider, Gary Hill and Joe Donoughe





ANNOUNCING
Jednota Branch 746 Scholarship

- ✓ Are you a member of Branch 746?
- ✓ Are you currently accepted and/or enrolled in full-time college, post-secondary educational institution, or vocational school?
- ✓ Are you active in Branch 746 or want to become active?

If you answered YES to the above, you may be eligible for a \$1,000 scholarship!

For more information on the application criteria and requirements go to: <https://www.fcsu.com/membership-benefits/scholarships/>

Get FCSU In Your Inbox – Never More Important than Now



Today when we are all facing rapidly changing challenges, it's more important than ever to stay up-to-date with information from the First Catholic Slovak Union. Provide/update your email address at the link below – and receive the FCSU latest info right in your inbox. It's free, easy and safe. We'll never share your email address! Please go to: <https://www.fcsu.com/contact/>

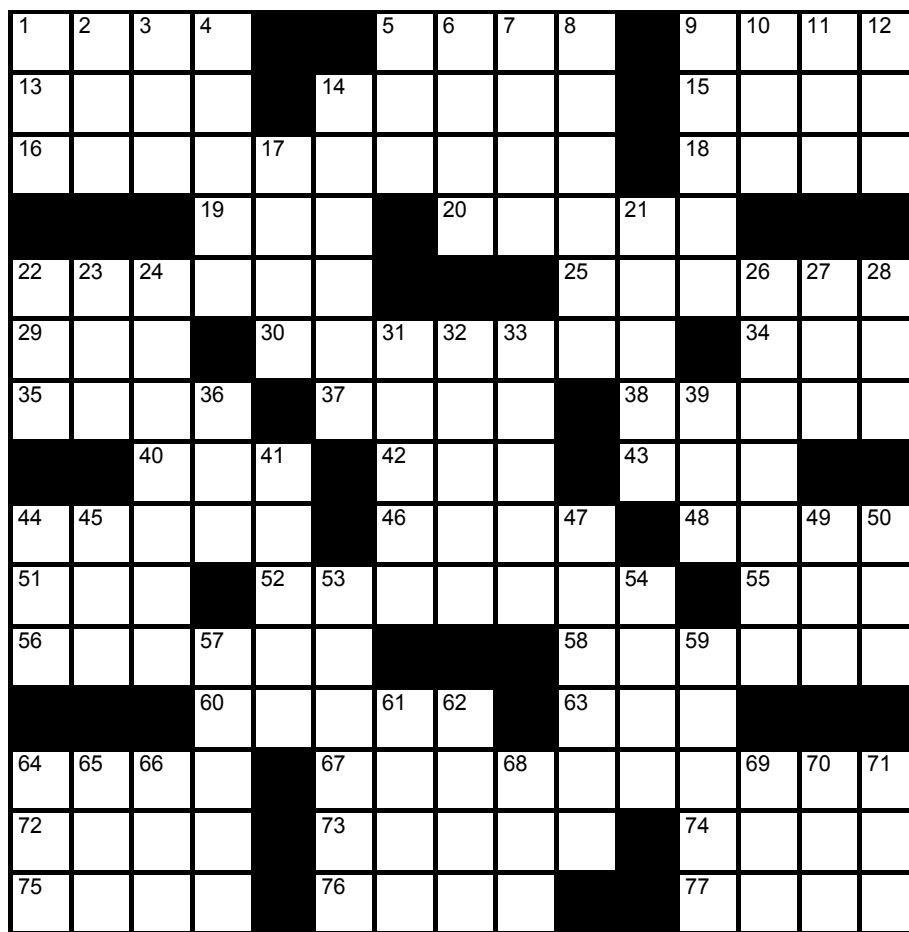
JEDNOTA Publication Schedule for 2020

Issue Date	Deadline to Receive Information
December 9	November 30

2021 JEDNOTA Publication Schedule

Issue Date	Deadline to Receive Information
January 13	January 4
February 10	February 1
March 10	March 1
April 14	April 5
May 12	May 3
June 9	June 1 (Memorial Day, May 31)
July 14	July 6 (Observed Independence Day, July 5)
August 11	August 2
Sept 8	August 30
October 13	October 4
November 10	November 1
December 8	November 29

Jednota Crossword Puzzle



Across

- 1 Liturgical vestments
- 5 "Dracula" author Stoker
- 9 Hints
- 13 Harvest
- 14 Disney dog
- 15 Ultimatum word
- 16 Ballet moves
- 18 Guitar relative
- 19 German direction
- 20 Slowpoke
- 22 Farm implement
- 25 Like some leaders
- 29 Chapel vow
- 30 Take back
- 34 Rap sheet abbr.
- 35 Stake driver
- 37 Hideaway
- 38 Crayola color
- 40 Compete
- 42 ___ de France
- 43 ___ Paulo, Brazil
- 44 Measures
- 46 Eye piece
- 48 Pass over
- 51 Craggy peak
- 52 Waxworks Marie
- 55 Harem room
- 56 Flunkies
- 58 Dam builder
- 60 Suffix with sect
- 63 Newsmen Rather
- 64 Collar type
- 67 Depth of wisdom
- 72 Stallion's mate
- 73 Stan's partner in comedy
- 74 Great Lakes city
- 75 Poses
- 76 Kind of prize
- 77 Ooze

Down

- 1 Sculptor Jean
- 2 Hilo garland
- 3 Tavern
- 4 Thread holder
- 5 Deli sandwich
- 6 Dead-end jobs
- 7 Solar disk
- 8 Artistic olio
- 9 Quartet member
- 10 Eskimo knife
- 11 "C" ___ la vie!"
- 12 Get the picture
- 14 Oceanic bird
- 17 Consumer
- 21 Seizure, e.g.
- 22 He was Tiny
- 23 Cretan peak
- 24 Jalousie parts
- 26 "Lolita" novelist
- 27 White House nickname
- 28 Elevator part
- 31 Flip response?
- 32 Steams up
- 33 Boxing venue
- 36 Back talk
- 39 More, in Madrid
- 41 Banana oil, e.g.
- 44 Hog haven
- 45 Corn site
- 47 Quell
- 49 Chemical suffix

- 50 Average
- 53 One-legged support
- 54 Student overseer
- 57 Flowing tresses
- 59 Chilean range
- 61 Folk singer Guthrie
- 62 ___ contendere
- 64 German spa
- 65 ___ chi (martial art)
- 66 Morsel
- 68 Evergreen
- 69 Hot temper
- 70 Dead heat
- 71 Slangy assent

See Solution on Page 22



Veterans Day Is in November: A Great Time to Remember our Jednota Memorial

History of Veterans Day

World War I – known at the time as “The Great War” – officially ended when the Treaty of Versailles was signed on June 28, 1919, in the Palace of Versailles outside the town of Versailles, France. However, fighting ceased seven months earlier when an armistice, or temporary cessation of hostilities, between the Allied nations and Germany went into effect on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. For that reason, November 11, 1918, is generally regarded as the end of “the war to end all wars.”

In November 1919, President Wilson proclaimed November 11 as the first commemoration of Armistice Day with the following words: “To us in America, the reflections of Armistice Day will be filled with solemn pride in

the heroism of those who died in the country’s service and with gratitude for the victory, both because of the thing from which it has freed us and because of the opportunity it has given America to show her sympathy with peace and justice in the councils of the nations...”

An Act approved May 13, 1938, made the 11th of November in each year a legal holiday—a day to be dedicated to the cause of world peace and to be thereafter celebrated and known as “Armistice Day.” Armistice Day was primarily a day set aside to honor veterans of World War I, but in 1954, after World War II had required the greatest mobilization of soldiers, sailors, Marines and airmen in the Nation’s history; after American forces had fought aggression in Korea, the 83rd Congress, at the urging of the veterans service organizations, amended

the Act of 1938 by striking out the word “Armistice” and inserting in its place the word “Veterans.” With the approval of this legislation (Public Law 380) on June 1, 1954, November 11th became a day to honor American veterans of all wars.

Veterans Day continues to be observed on November 11, regardless of what day of the week on which it falls. The restoration of the observance of Veterans Day to November 11 not only preserves the historical significance of the date, but helps focus attention on the important purpose of Veterans Day: A celebration to honor America’s veterans for their patriotism, love of country, and willingness to serve and sacrifice for the common good.

- From a post on the US Department of Veterans Affairs

Jednota Members: Have you Participated in our Memorial?

If you haven’t yet participated in the Jednota Memorial, consider purchasing a brick to honor those who served in any wars and also to honor and remember ancestors and family members who have made and make our Society great. Dedicated in September 2015 by the First Catholic Slovak Union for our members and their families, the permanent site of 1 1/2 acres is located in Middletown, PA. The land was once occupied by the Jednota Orphanage, purchased at the urging of our founder Fr. Štefan Furdek for just such a purpose.

All those who purchase a “brick” or “bricks” in the granite panels found throughout the Memorial will receive a photo of the panel on which their brick or bricks are mounted. If you haven’t yet ordered your “brick” you can go to <https://www.fcsu.com/about/jednota-memorial/> to download your order form or call the Home Office at 1-800-533-6682.

This is another of the latest panels to be completed. To view more complete panels, or if you haven’t yet ordered your “brick” you can go to www.fcsu.com to Jednota Memorial to download your order form. Or you can request an order form by calling the FCSU Home Office at 1-800-533-6682.



JEDNOTA MEMORIAL, MIDDLETOWN, PA. Dedicated, 2015

Presenting The FCSU 2020 Winners:

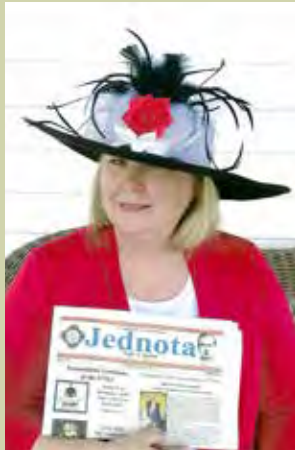
KENTUCKY DERBY HAT CONTEST

FEMALE:

40 – Better



1st Place:
Jeanne Oost,
Branch 313 –
Chicago, IL



2nd Place:
Patricia Marmol,
Branch 162 –
Uniontown, PA



3rd Place:
Maureen Murphy,
Branch 831 –
Tarentum, PA

16 – 39



1st Place:
Sabina Sabados,
Branch 746 –
Linden, NJ

15 – Younger



1st Place:
Juliana Oost,
Branch 313 –
Chicago, IL



2nd Place:
Violet McNamara,
Branch 290 –
Raritan, NJ

MALE:

40 – Better



1st Place:
Ronald Boone,
Branch 853 –
Charleroi, PA



2nd Place:
Joseph Rubino,
Branch 5P –
Exeter, PA

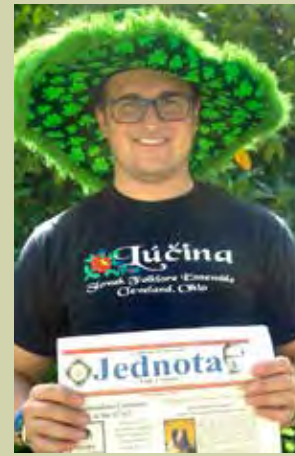


3rd Place:
David Oost,
Branch 313 –
Chicago, IL

16 – 39



1st Place:
Charles Boone,
Branch 853 –
Charleroi, PA



2nd Place:
John Moynihan,
Branch 24 –
Cleveland, OH



3rd Place:
Sean Murphy,
Branch 831 –
Tarantum, PA

15 – Younger



1st Place:
Brent Oost,
Branch 313 –
Chicago, IL

The Overall Winner in the 2020 FCSU KY Derby Hat Contest is ... Jeanne Oost.

Her name will be placed on the FCSU Traveling Cup!



BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

BRANCH 3 – MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

Branch 3 will not hold its annual meeting for 2020. If members have questions concerning their policies, please refer to the Home Office: 1-800-533-6682.

James T. Genosky, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 6 – STREATOR, ILLINOIS

The St. Stephens Society, Branch 06K, will hold its ANNUAL meeting on Sunday, December 13, 2020, at 1PM at 1406 N. Baker St., Streator, IL. Branch 06K will hold a virtual meeting. Those wishing to participate are asked to email Paul Chismar at pchismar51@yahoo.com. Members will need to download Zoom, a no charge app. The agenda for the meeting will include old and new business and the ELECTION OF OFFICERS for 2021. All members are asked to participate in this Zoom meeting. You may call for information at 815-822-8851.

Paul Chismar, Secretary

BRANCH 23 – JOHNSTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 23 the St. Joseph Society will hold our 2nd annual branch meeting on Monday, November 30, 2020. This meeting will take place at Denny's Family Restaurant on Theater Drive in Richland. The meeting will be at 5:30 PM. Election of Officers will take place at this meeting. The world situation is not what it was, but we will stand together as a Fraternal Brotherhood to continue our heritage. Please attend this meeting if you are able. We will support each other although we need to wear masks and keep our distance. You can RSVP to Theresa Cassat (814-254-2532) or call if you have any questions. May God Bless all of our members.

Theresa Cassat, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 24 – CLEVELAND, OHIO

Branch 24 is providing special members-only pricing for the St. Andrew Abbey Vilija (takeout only) Dinner on Sunday, December 6, 2020, at Benedictine High School in Cleveland, OH. The Abbey will have boxed dinners of the traditional Slovak Vilija meal available for pick up. Carry-out will be available between 1:00 - 3:00PM. [Editor's note: please see page 15 for details on this event.]

Branch 24 members may purchase a takeout Vilija dinner at the special discounted price of \$10. The regular cost per dinner is \$20 and may be purchased at this price for non-members. Reservations are required by calling Tom Ivanec, Branch 24 Fraternal Activities Director, at 1-440-668-7797. Please make checks payable to Branch 24. The deadline to order your meals from Branch 24 (for members and nonmembers) is Wednesday, November 14, 2020.

Bob Kopco, President

BRANCH 24 – CLEVELAND, OHIO

In keeping with continuing restrictions due COVID-19 and per directives from the FCSU Board of Directors discouraging in-person meetings to protect our members, Branch 24 will hold a virtual meeting on Saturday, December 5, 2020. The meeting will begin at 11:00AM. At this meeting, Election of Officers will be held. Members can access the meeting by phone, smartphone, or computer. Please call Fraternal Activities Director Tom Ivanec at (440) 668-7797 by Friday, December 4, 2020, for instructions on how to participate in the meeting.

Bob Kopco, President

BRANCH 35 – BRADDOCK, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Michaels, Branch 35, will hold their annual meeting, virtually, on Sunday, December 13, 2020, at 1:00PM. The agenda will include reports, branch business and election of officers. Branch members who would like to attend the meeting are asked to call Janet Sullivan at (412) 824-4185 for information on how to access the meeting.

Fraternally,

Janet Sullivan, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 38 – WHITE OAK, PENNSYLVANIA

Holy Trinity Society, Branch 38 will hold its semi-annual meeting on Monday, November 16, 2020. With concern and regard for all of our members, this Branch 38 meeting will be held virtually. Any member interested in attending this meeting should contact Logan Haselhoff, Branch President, by calling 412-956-9411 or emailing LLHASELHOFF@gmail.com, to set up the virtual meeting invitation and details. All Branch 38 members are urged to attend. Thank you for your understanding and patience as together we navigate these challenging and unusual times.

Also, if anyone is interested in FCSU Annuities or Life

Insurance, please call Florence Matta at 412-466-7460. Logan Haselhoff, President
Florence Matta, Secretary/Treasurer

BRANCH 38 – WHITE OAK, PENNSYLVANIA

Holy Trinity Society, Branch 38 will hold its semi-annual meeting on Wednesday, December 16, 2020. The agenda will include discussion on 2021 potential fraternal social activities and election of Branch officers. With concern and regard for all of our members, this Branch 38 meeting will be held virtually. Any member interested in attending this meeting should contact Logan Haselhoff, Branch President, by calling 412-956-9411 or emailing LLHASELHOFF@gmail.com, to set up the virtual meeting invitation and details. All Branch 38 members are urged to attend. Thank you for your understanding and patience as together we navigate these challenging and unusual times.

Also, if anyone is interested in FCSU Annuities or Life Insurance, please call Florence Matta at 412-466-7460. Logan Haselhoff, President

Florence Matta, Secretary/Treasurer

BRANCH 41 – BRONXVILLE, NEW YORK

There has been a merger between Branch 041K Bronxville, NY and Branch 045K New York City, NY. All members of Branch 041K will now hold membership in Branch 045K. This merger has taken place as of September 09, 2020. If you should need any service on your policy, or new or additional insurance, please contact:

MARIA JURASI
96 MARKET ST
GARFIELD, NJ 07026-2525
(973) 253-9841

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

Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary

BRANCH 45 – NEW YORK, NEW YORK

St. Matthew's the Evangelist Society, Branch 45, will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, December 6, 2020, virtually at 1:00PM. Instructions on how to proceed will be sent electronically. On the agenda will be a financial report, officers' reports, a report on last year's activities, election of officers, and a discussion on events for the upcoming year.

Sincerely,

Maria Jurasi, Financial Secretary

ROČNÁ SCHŔDZA SV. MATÚŠA ČÍSLO 45 KSJ

Oznamujeme našim členom, že ročná schôdza sv. Matúša číslo 45 KSJ bude v nedeľu 6. decembra 2020 o 13:00 hodine. Schôdza bude virtuálna, inštrukcie ako postupovať dostanú členovia elektronicky. Na programe budú podané správy úradníkov, finančnej správy, zhodnotenie činnosti za uplynulé obdobie, potom budú nasledovať voľby do nového výboru, ktorý vypracuje program činnosti na ďalšie obdobie.

Ďakujem s pozdravom,

Mária Juráš, pokladníčka

BRANCH 55 – PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 055KJ will hold a final branch meeting of the year on Sunday, December 27, 2020. It is being planned as a Zoom Meeting to start at 2:00 PM. Those who plan to participate should contact John Gaydos at (919) 604-3590, or President Erik Payne at (215) 280-1554 and they will provide you with the Zoom sign-on ID Pin number. The December meeting has traditionally been held as our Christmas party. Should circumstances permit, we may yet be able to accommodate this beautiful annual branch tradition in some way. Any additional details will be printed in an upcoming issue of Jednota and/or posted on the FCSU website.

Helena Gaydos, Secretary/Treasurer

BRANCH 60 – MCKEESPORT, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 60 will hold a meeting on Sunday, November 15, 2020, at the home of President Ann Wargovich (58 Lilmont Dr. Swissvale, PA) at 1:00PM. Social distancing will be practiced and masks are required.

On the agenda will be Officers' reports and discussion of upcoming events. All members are urged to attend.

***If we are unable to meet in person, the meeting will still take place via telephone conference. Members may contact the branch secretary @ 412/672-1510 with their phone number to be connected to the meeting.

Fraternally,

Julie Perla, Secretary

BRANCH 60 – MCKEESPORT, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 60 will hold a meeting on Sunday, December 13, 2020, at the home of President Ann Wargovich (58 Lilmont Dr. Swissvale, PA) at 1:00PM. Social distancing will be practiced and masks are required.

On the agenda will be Election of officers, Officers' reports and discussion of upcoming events. All members are urged to attend.

***If we are unable to meet in person, the meeting will still take place via telephone conference. Members may contact the branch secretary @ 412/672-1510 with their phone number to be connected to the meeting.

Fraternally,

Julie Perla, Branch Secretary

BRANCH 89 – MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

As an incentive to grow Branch 89, members who refer new branch members or add a new contract of their own are now eligible to receive a Branch award. Specifically, Branch 89 members who successfully refer new members can receive an award of up to \$100. Members that add a new contract of their own can receive an award of up to \$50. To be eligible for an award, new policies must be issued during the calendar year in which Branch 89 otherwise qualifies for an FCSU stipend under bylaw section 4.05. Award amounts will depend on the amount of the FCSU stipend for the year and the number of members qualifying for an award. Awards cannot be combined or multiplied and members are limited to one award per calendar year.

Contact Financial Secretary Nancy Carol Novak at 262-305-4041 or email "novakncp@charter.net" for more information or to request an award application.

Paul Novak, Secretary/Treasurer

BRANCH 112 – MAHANAY CITY, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 112 will hold an annual meeting on Sunday, December 13, 2020 on Zoom at 1PM. If you are interested in attending the meeting please contact sgenle1@cs.com so that Steve can send you the Zoom link. Members that plan to attend will need to download Zoom, a no charge app. Steve will help with the download if necessary.

The agenda will include officers' reports, old business, new business and election of officers.

Fraternally yours,

Karen Sterling, Secretary

BRANCH 153 – CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

St. Stephen Branch 153 will hold its Annual Meeting on Saturday, November 14, 2020 at 11:30AM.

This meeting will be by telephone. Please call Dorothy at (708) 995 7378 on November 12 or 13 for instructions on how to connect to the conference call. The agenda will include election of officers and charitable donations.

Please pray for an end to the COVID-19 pandemic so that our lives may return to normal.

Dorothy Jurcenko, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 153 – CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Throughout the month of November, we remember our members who have passed on to their eternal reward. Please pray for the following members who have died during this past year:

Joseph Zmrazek
Sandra Kloster
Anna Vicchiarelli
Ann Tomaszek
Helen Ahrens
Arthur Eggert
Thomas Walla

Dorothy Jurcenko Financial Secretary

BRANCH 157 – N.CATASAUQUA PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 157 is having two upcoming meetings, both to be held virtually. The first meeting will be on Sunday, November 22, 2020 at 1:00PM. On the agenda: general branch business including the feasibility of having a branch Christmas party this year. The second meeting will be on Sunday, December 13, 2020 at 1:00PM. Members can attend these meetings by computer or by telephone. To get information about how to connect to the meetings, please call Greg Harakal at (484) 908-9200. We encourage all of our members to attend.

Greg Harakal, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 162 – UNIONTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Wendelin Society, Branch 162, will hold

its branch meeting on Sunday, December 6, 2020, at 9:00AM, with a virtual/Zoom meeting. Officers' reports will be given and upcoming branch activities and Christmas donations will be discussed. Regional Director James Marmol will advise us of developments from the Home Office. Election of officers will take place.

Please call Dolores Marmol at 724-437-4983 before December 1st if you plan on attending the meeting. We will give details on how to connect to the meeting by phone or computer.

Dolores Marmol, Secretary

BRANCH 173 – WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA

The Saint John the Baptist Society, Branch 173, located in Northeast Pennsylvania area, will hold its annual meeting on December 13, 2020, at Norms, North Sherman Street, Wilkes-Barre, beginning at 12:30PM. Due to Pa. State COVID-19 Requirements face masks and social distancing guidelines will be followed. General Business and activities of Branch 173 will be discussed, and insurance, annuities and fraternal activities of the First Catholic Slovak Union. In addition officers will be elected for the new year.

Please make every effort to attend and notify Dorothy A. Ungvarsky at 570-4032067, so arrangements can be made.

Fraternally,

John A. Ungvarsky, President

BRANCH 181 – UNITED, PENNSYLVANIA

A combined meeting with the St. John the Baptist Society - Branch 181 and District 3 - George Onda District members is planned for Friday, November 20, 2020, at 5:30 pm in the St. Florian's Social Hall in United, PA. Members planning to be present must RSVP by November 13 since attendance will be limited to 25 according to Pennsylvania and CDC Covid-19 guidelines. The agenda will include election of officers. Refreshments will be served. Please call Vicki Hrick at 724-547-0803 or Darlene Patty at 724-493-8712 to reserve your place. Any changes for the meeting, including COVID-19 information, will be printed in the November Jednota issue and posted at www.fcsu.com as soon as possible.

- Submitted by Vicki Hrick, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 200 – FORD CITY, PENNSYLVANIA

Meetings for Branch 200 are held upstairs in the Banquet Hall, 910 6th Avenue, Ford City, PA. Officers meet @ 7PM with the Members meeting directly following. We meet the first Thursday of each month except June and July. Meeting dates for the remainder of this year (2020) are as follows: Election of Officers December 3rd. We look forward to you attending.

Please note that we are continuing to hold in-person meetings as we are able to follow the COVID-19 guidelines for PA. Face masks are required and we have ample space to distance. Our Social Club's doors, however, remain locked. We cannot operate with no seating at the bar and we would only be permitted up to 25% of customers in order to accommodate the 6' distancing requirement. Hopefully in the near future this will change. We wish all members and your families and friends stay safe and healthy.

Fraternally,

Vicki Schaub, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 200 – FORD CITY, PENNSYLVANIA

Attention Branch 200 Members: the annual meeting of the MSGR Josef Tiso District 11 will be held Sunday, December 20, 2020 at 6PM. The meeting will be held in Ford City at the CU Club, address: 910 6th Avenue, Ford City, PA 16226. On the agenda: Officer election for 2021 and discussion to plan events for 2021. We encourage all members to attend as your input is greatly appreciated. No advance notice of attendance is required. Members attending are asked to bring an unwrapped toy, the toys will be donated to Toys for Tots. We pray all is well with you and your family during this pandemic. Masks and social distancing guidelines will be followed. Be Safe. Be well. May God be with you.

Fraternally submitted,

Karen L. Greggs, District Recording Secretary

BRANCH 213 – NORTH VERSAILLES, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Michael the Archangel, Branch 213, will hold its second semi-annual meeting on Sunday, December 13, 2020. It will be held at 306 Barclay Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA. You may also access the meeting via phone. Contact information: weaz1958@aol.com.

The agenda will include: Election of officers, Branch

continued on page 17

DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISTRICT 3 - GEORGE ONDA DISTRICT - WESTMORELAND COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

The George Onda District of the First Catholic Slovak Union plans to hold their semi-annual meeting on Friday, November 20, 2020. We will meet in the St. Florian Social Hall in United, PA, at 5:30 PM. We again will follow the CDC outlines as required. If you plan on attending, please RSVP to Vice President Darlene Patty at 724-493-8712 by Monday, November 16, 2020. Please note: due to the continuing COVID-19 pandemic and for the protection of our members, our annual Stedry Vecer honoring our Christmas Eve meal customs has been canceled for this year.

Linda L. Gonta, Secretary

DISTRICT 4 – THE MSGR. RURA DISTRICT

Msgr. Rura District 4 of New Jersey will offer two Masses for the intention of all District 4 members living and deceased on Friday, November 13, 2020, at 7PM at Holy Family Church in Linden, NJ (Mass will be in Slovak) and Saturday, November 14, 2020, at 4:00PM at St Joseph's Church, 16 East Somerset St., Raritan, NJ. Those who are able to attend are welcome..

Mary Kapitan, Secretary

DISTRICT 5 – THE MICHIGAN DISTRICT

Due to the current Coronavirus-related statewide stay-in-place order, the April 26, 2020 meeting at Deer Lake Inn has been cancelled, and a future date is yet undetermined. Please continue to check upcoming issues of Jednota and the FCSU website at www.fcsu.com.

Diane Rimarcik, District Secretary

DISTRICT 6 – THE PITTSBURGH DISTRICT

The Pittsburgh District will hold its Fall meeting at the Holy Trinity Social Hall of St Thomas the Apostle Parish, 529 Grant Street Extn, West Mifflin, PA, 15122, on Sunday, November 22, 2020 at 1PM. Branches are encouraged to limit attendance to one or two representatives. District officers are asked to attend as is anyone who wishes to be a candidate for 2021.

Please let the secretary know who will be coming from your branch. In an effort to keep everyone safe, social distancing will be required at the meeting. Please wear your face masks. No meal will be served.

We will discuss events for 2021 and district officers for the next year will be elected.

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

We hope all of you are safe and well during these uncertain times.

Fraternally,

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

DISTRICT 7 - THE REV. JOHN MARTVON DISTRICT

District 7, the Rev. John Martvon District, will gather on Sunday, December 6, 2020, from 2:00PM to 4:00PM, at St. Michael Catholic Church Hall, St. Michael, PA. The event will open with a district meeting, at which time election of officers will be held. A meal will follow directly after the district meeting. Then, following the meal, Branch 372 will hold its meeting. For reservations, please call Pete Gerko at 814-659-0976. Please note that all COVID-19 protocols in place at the time will be followed, including wearing masks.

Peter Gerko, President

DISTRICT 8 – THE REV. STEPHEN FURDEK DISTRICT

Dear Members of the Rev. Stephen Furdek District: we will be holding our second meeting for the year on December 6, 2020 at 1:00 pm. It will be conducted virtually, on the Zoom app. Members attending this meeting should get in touch with Karen Sterling at 570-640-1796 between the hours of 1:00 to 4:00PM. No calls will be taken after that time. By calling Ms. Sterling, you will be given instruction on how to connect to the meeting. At this meeting, we will have election of officers. For more information, call Monica Fabian at 610-417-0468.

Katherine Nowatkoski, President

DISTRICT 10 – THE REV. STEPHEN FURDEK DISTRICT

District 10 will be holding the final meeting for 2020 on Sunday, November 15, 2020 at 2:30PM at the Slovak J Club, 485 Morgan Ave, Akron, OH 44311. This will be an in-person and virtual meeting. Officers will be elected for 2021 at this meeting.

If you are planning to attend in person, please contact Linda Hanko @ lhanko@neo.rr.com or 330-706-0151. If you plan on attending the meeting virtually – please contact Tom Ivanec at tivanec@aol.com or 440-668-7797 for details on accessing the meeting.

Hope to see or hear all of you at the meeting.

Linda Hanko, Secretary/Treasurer

DISTRICT 11 – THE MSGR TISO DISTRICT

The annual meeting of the Msgr. Josef Tiso District 11 will be held Sunday, December 20, 2020, at 6PM. The meeting will be held in Ford City at the CU Club, address: 910 6th Avenue, Ford City, PA 16226. On the agenda: Officer election for 2021 and discussion to plan events for 2021. We encourage all members to attend as your input is greatly appreciated. No advance notice of attendance is required. Members attending are asked to bring an unwrapped toy, the toys will be donated to Toys for Tots. We pray all is well with you and your family during this pandemic. Masks and social distancing guidelines will be followed. Be Safe. Be well. May God be with you.

Fraternally submitted,

Karen L. Greggs, Recording Secretary

DISTRICT 12 - THE MSGR ANDREW HLINKA DISTRICT

For the safety of our members during this continuing COVID-19 pandemic, and per recommendations from the FCSU Board of Directors District 12, the Msgr. Hlinka District will hold its next meeting on Sunday, December 6, 2020, at 1:00PM as a virtual meeting. District officers for the next year will be elected at this meeting.

Please call District 12 Secretary Frances Tarquinio at 724-929-9788 by December 1st for details as to how to participate.

Fraternally,

Joseph Tarquinio, President

DISTRICT 14 - THE REV. JOSEPH L. KOSTIK DISTRICT

The Reverend Joseph L. Kostik District - District 14 - Youngstown, Ohio will hold its Annual Meeting on Tuesday, November 17, 2020 at 6:00 PM. This will be an Annual Meeting for the Election and Installation of Officers for 2021. The meeting will be held at the Fireplace 2075 E. Western Reserve Rd. Poland, OH 44514. Old business and plans for 2021 also will be discussed.

Face masks will be required except when eating or drinking. Other social distancing protocols will be followed.

Fraternally,

John J. Leskovyansky, Jr., President

DISTRICT 15 – THE PRINCE PRIBINA DISTRICT

The Prince Pribina District will hold an in-person Annual Meeting on Saturday December 12, 2020. The meeting will be held at 11:00 AM at the Slovak American Center, 1690 Placentia Ave., Fullerton, CA 92831. Please follow the guidelines for Covid -19 including face masks and social distancing. On the agenda will be: Officer Reports and financial report, election of officers for the year 2021, and planning of activities for year 2021. All Branches in our area are encouraged to participate and have their concurrent Annual Meeting. After the meeting lunch will be at the Olive Garden.

Paul Skuben, President

VÝROČNÁ SCHŔDZA OKRESU PRINC PRIBINA - LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

Okres Princ Pribina bude mať výročnú schôdzu v sobotu 12-teho decembra 2020.

Výročná schôdza začne o 11:00 hod. v Slovak American Center, 1690 Placentia Ave., Fullerton, CA 92831. Riadte sa prosím Covid-19 smernicou na použitie rúšok. Na programe sú správy funkcionárov a finančná správa, voľba funkcionárov na rok 2021 a plán aktivity na rok 2021. Členovia všetkých spolkov v okolí sú pozvaní a doporučuje sa základným organizáciám v Distrikte FCSU vykonať súčasne výročné voľby. Po schôdzke bude spoločný obed v Olive Garden

Paul Skuben, Prezident

DISTRICT 17 – THE SAINTS CYRIL & METHODIUS DISTRICT

Saints Cyril & Methodius District 17 has scheduled its second meeting of 2020 for Saturday, December 5, 2020. This will be a virtual meeting via ZOOM. The meeting will begin at 1:00 P.M. Branch delegates will be able to log in on computer or call in by phone. Branches must contact Regional Director Martha Zavada at 570.954.3771 to confirm participation via ZOOM and to receive codes and phone numbers. Deadline to reply is Friday, November 27, 2020.

- Michael J. Slovenkai, Sr. President



*Slovenská Vilija
Slovak Christmas Eve
Sunday, December 6, 2020*

*Take-out only 1–3 PM
Benedictine High School*

*Pre-sale tickets only
\$20 for full meal*

*Tickets through Rose Stiftar
at St. Andrew Abbey
Please call 216-721-5300 ext. 0
to reserve your tickets*

*Last day for ticket purchase is
November 21*



Branch 888 Announces

“Slovaks in America Presentation”



On November 22, 2020, Dr. Cecilia Rokusek, President & CEO of the National Czech & Slovak Museum and Library will explain the history and vitality of the Czech and Slovak museum in Cedar Rapids, IA and how you can help preserve the past and forge the future of Slovaks in America.

All members planning to participate in the virtual meeting must RSVP by contacting David Rafaidus, President, Branch 888, West Palm Beach, FL, at jednota888@yahoo.com prior to November 19, 2020. For security purposes, once you RSVP you will be provided the necessary information on how to connect.

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	John J Gaydosh	157K	Joseph D Balik	484K	Michael Katchmer	831K	Evelyn Eileen Adams
001K	Elizabeth J Gresko	173K	Monica Novak	543K	Mary Zubricki	831K	John F Kraig
003K	George A Perzel	173K	Raymond R Ondish	553K	Cecelia M Petrasek	831K	Magdalene R Kulik
005P	Raymond Sobota	181K	John R Firment	553K	Evelyn Twardzik	831K	Robert A Mike
007K	Helen Catino	199K	Terasa L Scurci	553K	Edward F Voytko	831K	John Sebak
024K	Dorothy Ann Gray	226P	Margaret Cassatt	553K	Edward A Zuschak	855K	Betty J Drda
035K	Stephen Bernard Parlak	226P	Catherine J Miller	587K	Elizabeth L Cipolla	855K	Patricia Anne Hope
035K	Robert J Tomasic	293K	James T Logan	587K	Michele A Jacinto	855K	James John Humenik
040K	Robert P Maiter	294K	John M Tokash	628K	Scott R Albert	857K	Loretta M Bodenschatz
045K	Valeria Blaha	321P	Mary Linda Trexler	652K	Eleanor A Nowacki	916K	Celia M Baylon
045K	Robert Kuderna	373K	Kathleen Beal	743K	John A Juriga	924K	Robert R. Rybitski
055K	Agnes P Terlecki	382K	Alois C Peck Sr	796K	John M Hurban	926K	Christine C Gibberd
075K	Paul C Demko Jr	401K	Eugene E Luna Sr	796K	George Neupauer		

*Processed through the month of October

OBITUARIES

TERASA SCURCI BRANCH 199 – HOSTETTER, PENNSYLVANIA



Terasa "Teri" Lenore Scurci, 61 of Jeannette, PA, passed away peacefully June 24, 2020 at home after a long illness. Teri has said that she tried everything available to beat this illness and it is not God's will. She was born July 25, 1958, in Greensburg, PA, a daughter of the late Frank and Lucille Scurci of Jeannette. Teri was a loving sister and is survived by siblings Marc Scurci (Nancy) of Greensburg, Patti Scurci of Jeannette; Chris Vitale (Reno) of Latrobe, PA; and Elisa Glenn (Skip) of Ligonier, PA. She is also survived by her loving companion of 25 years, Tom Pipak. She will be dearly missed by all, including, many cousins; nephews Brent and Todd Scurci and Tristan and Jesse Glenn; Tom's grandchildren who knew Teri as Grammy Teri; and many friends, extended family members and co-workers. Teri was a graduate of Jeannette High School and had a business degree from Robert Morris University. She was employed at Jeannette Hospital, Excelsior North Huntingdon and most recently with the offices at the Catholic Diocese of Greensburg. Always there at your side if you needed her, helping friends and family alike, Teri reached out to so many and became instant friends with those whose lives she touched. Her delightful personality, open and loving nature will be missed.

- Submitted by Barbara Patula,
Branch 199 Secretary/Treasurer

JOHN M. STAS, BRANCH 199 – HOSTETTER, PENNSYLVANIA



John M. Stas, 65, of Acme, PA, died September 26, 2020, at his home. He was born June 4, 1955, in Latrobe, PA, and was a son of the late John R. "Jumbo" and Ethel M. (Hudak) Stas. He was a graduate of Greater Latrobe High School class of 1973 and Clarion State College and was the owner of Custom Contracting in Acme. He enjoyed John Deere

tractors, driving his dad's John Deere tractor and tractor pulls. John also loved making playgrounds and play spaces for children and talking on the phone with his five brothers. He was a member of St. Cecilia Catholic Church, Whitney, PA. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a brother, Daniel J. Stas. He is survived by his wife of 30 years, Valorie A. (Brown) Stas; three sons, John, Chris and wife Karla and T.J. and wife Rebecca; two daughters, Kathleen and husband Jeremy and Mellissa and husband Jonathan; 16 grandchildren; his brothers, Robert E. (Lynn), Thomas R. (Ellen), David J. (Robin), Benedict J. (Lori), and Donald D. (Jessica) Stas; and three sisters, Diane C. (Bruno II) Holnaider, Marian E. (Michael) Ferlin, and Ethel E. (Joe) Hess. Also surviving are his mother-in-law, Rose Brown; brothers-in-law, Scott (Julie) Brown, and Donnie (Stacey) Brown; his aunt and godmother, Theresa Stas; uncles, Michael (Phyllis) Hudak and Joseph Dlugos; and a multitude of nieces, nephews and cousins.

- Submitted by Barbara Patula,
Branch 199 Secretary/Treasurer

JOHN M. HURBAN BRANCH 796 – EGYPT, PENNSYLVANIA



John M. Hurban, 79, of Walnutport, PA, passed away August 7, 2020, at Lehigh Valley Hospital, Muhlenberg Campus. He was the husband of Elaine R. (Beaber) Hurban, whom he married on August 6, 1993. Born in Allentown, PA, on March 30, 1941, he was the son of the late Augustus and Sophie H. (Andrews) Hurban. John was a graduate of Allentown Central Catholic HS, Class of 1959. He then went on to learn the trade and became an electrician and member of IBEW Local 102 of New Jersey. Throughout his working years, John helped construct many large power plants and casinos, including the Golden Nugget Casino. He loved to travel with his wife Elaine, they visited Reno, Las Vegas and Hawaii to name a few. An avid casino player, John referred to gambling as going to work, and enjoyed his weekly Saturday trip to Mount Airy. In addition to his wife, he is survived by sons: John Hurban; Richard Mann of FL; Scott Mann of Lehigh, PA;

daughters: Theresa (James) Corcoran of Slatington, PA; Lori (Stephen) Thompson. and Hannelore Green, all of Lehigh; 10 grandchildren, 6 great-grandchildren; brother; Augustus Hurban of WA.; Sister: Sophie and husband Robert Schwoyer of Tioga, PA; nieces & nephews, as well as aunts, uncles and cousins; and beloved cat Mia. John was predeceased by a son James Hurban and sister Dorothy Quier.

- Submitted by Elaine Hurban

BETTY J. DRDA BRANCH 855 – PARMA, OHIO



Betty J. Drda (nee Platko), age 86, passed away peacefully on July 30, 2020. Beloved wife of 45 years to the late Paul F. Drda, loving mother of Laura (Jim) Drda Tasker, Lisa (Frank) Schaefer, Mark (Karen)

Drda, and James (Debbie) Drda. Loving grandmother of Adam (Denise) Schaefer, James (Rachel) Tasker, Julie (Edward) Wisneski, Lynn Tasker, Sarah, Dana, and Joshua Drda; great grandmother of James J. and Chase Tasker, Eddie Wisneski, and Liam Schaefer. Dear sister of the late Joseph (Tillie), John, Michael (Alice), Andrew (Mickey), William (Joy) Platko, Mary (Howard) Carl, and Rona (Larry) Young. Sister-in-law to the late George Drda, Ernest Drda Sr., and Eleanor Chipchak. Survived by brother-in-law Leonard Chipchak Sr., and many loving nieces and nephews. Betty was born in Cleveland and graduated from Jane Addams High School in 1951. She worked as a dental assistant before devoting her life to loving and caring for her family. She was a volunteer at Fairview Hospital from 1982 – 2012, member of Our Lady of Angels and St. Ladislav parishes, and a Eucharistic Minister.

An Autumn Prayer

I see Your trees of autumn, Lord;
Your lovely leaves of gold;
And how You hung the crimson ones
So wondrous to behold.

And when the sun upon them shines
On cloudless days serene,
My joyous heart can barely hold
The loveliness that's seen.

I'll gaze each day until they fall,
And in their glory see:
The beautiful Eternal One
In autumn's majesty.

By George Kossik, Branch 584
© 2011



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BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

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business, and an overview of the activities and contributions of the branch. All Covid 19 regulations and protocol will be followed.

Respectfully,

Joe Belechak, Secretary

BRANCH 228 – LORAIN, OHIO

St. John the Baptist Branch 228 will hold their next meeting on Monday, November 16, 2020, at 7 P.M. This meeting will be held virtually using the FreeConferenceCall.com Audio Conferencing service. To join in the meeting, participants would make a phone call at the appropriate time and enter an access code followed by a pound sign or hash mark (#) when prompted. For phone and access code numbers, please call Lisa at 440-773-1442.

Important Update: The Monday December 21, 2020 election meeting will be held as a "hybrid" meeting at 7 PM in the downstairs hall of the American Slovak Club on the NE corner of Broadway and 30th Street in Lorain. Lodge members can attend in-person with a mask and physical distancing, virtually by cellphone using the method above or by teleconferencing. This important meeting will have delicious snacks made by our Activities Director Theresa. The decision to hold this hybrid meeting at the Club was made at the September 21st meeting so that more members could attend in the manner they feel most comfortable with and participate in the activities of our lodge. Any further updates will appear in future editions of The Jednota.

We are looking forward to safely meeting again. Please continue to pray to our Lord God for a cure for the Covid 19 virus and to bless all the sick ones, those in the healthcare field, those that provide the world with their needs. Thank you very much.

Thomas B. Zuffa, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 254 – PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Wenceslaus Society will hold an annual virtual meeting on Sunday, January 3, 2021, at 11:30AM. The meeting will include election of officers and a report of activities as well as a year-end financial report. If you wish to attend, please contact Joe Senko at 412-956-6000 for information on how to be connected.

Joseph Senko, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 259 – STRUTHERS, OHIO

The St. Michael the Archangel Society, Branch 259, will hold their Annual Meeting at TJ's in the Holiday Inn, 7410 South Avenue, Boardman, Ohio, on Sunday, December 6, 2020, at 1:00 PM. We will have an election of officers for the coming year 2021, followed by a luncheon. Reservations can be made by calling 330-755-8316. We would like to extend our wishes for a Holy and Happy Holiday Season to all members.

Vivian Sedlacko, Secretary

BRANCH 260 – CAMPBELL, OHIO

Branch 260 will hold its next meeting on Sunday, December 6, 2020, at 1:00PM at Salvatore's Italian Grill Restaurant in Austintown, OH. On the agenda: election of officers. A luncheon will follow directly after the meeting. All COVID-19 restrictions and guidelines still in place will be followed, including social distancing and wearing masks.

Carlie Peshek, Vice President

BRANCH 276 – MCKEESPORT, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 276 has scheduled Sunday November 15, 2020, for our Fall meeting. The meeting will be held at 1PM at Twin Oaks Restaurant in the Rainbow Shopping Center on Lincoln Way, White Oak, PA. We will discuss events for 2021 and Branch officers for next year will be elected. Please bring your face mask.

Fraternally,

Margaret Nasta, President

BRANCH 290 – RARITAN, NEW JERSEY

St. John the Baptist Branch 290 will hold a virtual meeting on Tuesday, December 1, 2020, starting at 7:00PM for all members. The agenda will include the election of officers, membership, and branch activities. Please call or text Steve Minarovich at (908) 507-0505 by November 29th to get the details to attend by either phone or computer.

Steve Minarovich, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 292 – WINDBER, PENNSYLVANIA

St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 292 KJ, will hold their annual meeting and Christmas Party at 12:30 p.m., Sunday December 13, 2020, at SS. Cyril and Methodius Church, 604 Graham Ave., Windber, PA. A buffet dinner will follow the meeting. All members are asked to attend this event. The Officers extend to all wishes for a Blessed and Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

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

BRANCH 320 – BELLE VERNON, PENNSYLVANIA

For the safety of our members during this continuing COVID-19 pandemic, and per recommendations from the FCSU Board of Directors, Branch 320 will hold its next meeting on Sunday, December 6, 2020, at 11:00AM as a virtual meeting. Election of officers will take place at this meeting. Please call Branch 320 Secretary Frances Tarquinio at 724-929-9788 by December 1, 2020, for details as to how to participate.

Fraternally,

Mary Anne Higginbotham, President

BRANCH 372 – BEAVERDALE, PENNSYLVANIA

There will be a branch meeting held directly after the District 7 meeting and meal, which begins at 2:00PM (Editor's note: please see District 7 announcement on p 15) on December 6, 2020 at the St. Michael Church Hall in St. Michael. PA.

Mary Kuzilla, President

BRANCH 382 – SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA

Due to the current pandemic and in keeping with the recommendations from the Home Office, Saints Cyril & Methodius Society, Branch 382 K of Scranton, Pennsylvania, will conduct its Second Virtual Meeting on Sunday, December 6, 2020, at 2:00 PM.

The agenda will include reports of the executive officers. Members will also discuss future community service activities and projects during the pandemic. The status of the annual report will be discussed. Additional information from the home office will be disseminated.

All members planning to participate in the virtual meeting must contact Elizabeth Slovenkai at 570.344.3854 by Monday, November 30, to receive information regarding the conference call procedures.

Frank M. Slovenkai, Jr. is branch president. Other officers include Michael J. Slovenkai, Sr., treasurer; Michael J. Czankner, recording secretary; and John J. Slovenkai, Sr., financial secretary.

Elizabeth M. Slovenkai, Vice President

BRANCH 393 – GREENSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 393, will hold a meeting on Sunday, November 15, 2020, at 4:00PM at the New City Buffet, 5142 State Rt. 30, Suite 175, Greensburg, PA. All members are welcome. Precautions for COVID-19 still in practice at the time of the meeting will be taken, including wearing masks and social distancing.

A second branch meeting for the election of officers will be held on Sunday, December 6, 2020, at 4:00PM at the New City Buffet, 5142 State Rt. 30, Suite 175, Greensburg, PA. All members are welcome. Precautions for COVID-19 still in practice at the time of the meeting will be taken, including wearing masks and social distancing.

For more information on either meeting, please call John Nalevanko at 1-724-396-6256.

John Nalevanko, President

BRANCH 393 – GREENSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 393, will hold a branch meeting for the election of officers on Sunday, December 6, 2020, at 4:00PM at the New City Buffet, 5142 State Rt. 30, Suite 175, Greensburg, PA. All members are welcome. Precautions for COVID-19 still in practice at the time of the meeting will be taken, including wearing masks and social distancing.

For more information, please call John Nalevanko at 1-724-396-6256.

John Nalevanko, President

BRANCH 401 – EAST VANDERGRIFT, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Anthony of Padua, Branch 401 of East Vandergrift, PA, invites all branch members to attend the 2020 Semi-Annual Meeting to be held on Sunday, November 15, 2020 at 5PM. Due to Covid-19, this meeting will take place on Zoom. To protect our members' internet safety, members should send an email to kmfroncek@yahoo.com in order to receive the Zoom code. This meeting

will accept nominations for 2021 officers. Members are always encouraged to attend as your input is vital and welcome.

Also, the Branch 401K Annual Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, December 20, 2020 at 1PM. Due to Covid-19, this meeting also will be held on Zoom. Again, to protect our members' internet safety, members should send an email to kmfroncek@yahoo.com in order to receive the Zoom code. Election of 2021 Branch 401 Officers will take place at this meeting. Members are encouraged to attend as your input and enthusiasm are always welcome.

Fraternally,

Patrick Froncek, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 401 – EAST VANDERGRIFT, PENNSYLVANIA

Attention Branch 401 Members: the annual meeting of the MSGR Josef Tiso District 11 will be held Sunday, December 20, 2020 at 6PM. The meeting will be held in Ford City at the CU Club, address: 910 6th Avenue, Ford City, PA 16226. On the agenda: Officer election for 2021 and discussion to plan events for 2021. We encourage all members to attend as your input is greatly appreciated. No advance notice of attendance is required. Members attending are asked to bring an unwrapped toy, the toys will be donated to Toys for Tots. We pray all is well with you and your family during this pandemic. Masks and social distancing guidelines will be followed. Be Safe. Be well. May God be with you.

Fraternally submitted,

Karen L. Greggs, District Recording Secretary

BRANCH 410 - UNIONTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The SS. Peter and Paul Society Branch 410, will hold a meeting on Monday December 7, 2020 at 1:00 P.M. at the Highland House, 92 West Main Street, Uniontown, PA. Call for reservations by Wednesday, December 2, 2020 at 724-425-2576. On the agenda, election of officers will take place for the year 2021. Members are encouraged to attend.

Geraldine Buchheit, Secretary

BRANCH 429 – BUTLER, PENNSYLVANIA

Attention Branch 429 Members: the annual meeting of the MSGR Josef Tiso District 11 will be held Sunday, December 20, 2020, at 6PM. The meeting will be held in Ford City at the CU Club, address: 910 6th Avenue, Ford City, PA 16226. On the agenda: Officer election for 2021 and discussion to plan events for 2021. We encourage all members to attend as your input is greatly appreciated. No advance notice of attendance is required. Members attending are asked to bring an unwrapped toy, the toys will be donated to Toys for Tots. We pray all is well with you and your family during this pandemic. Masks and social distancing guidelines will be followed. Be Safe. Be well. May God be with you.

Fraternally submitted,

Karen L. Greggs, District Recording Secretary

BRANCH 450 – CLEVELAND, OHIO

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 450 will hold its annual meeting on Saturday, November 21, 2020. The meeting will be held at 11:00AM, at Holy Spirit Byzantine Catholic Church Hall, 5500 West 54th Street, Parma OH. 44129 (between Brookpark and Snow Rd.)

On the agenda will be officers' reports, the financial report, discussion of branch activities for year 2021 and other business pertaining to the branch. The election of branch officers will take place at this meeting. All members are urged to attend. The meeting will be held, again in the large hall, which will allow for social distancing. Also please be sure to bring your mask. Please try to attend, all safety guidelines will be followed.

We pray for the health and safety of all our members.

Fraternally,

George P. Carny, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 484 – CORAL, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Joseph Society, Branch 484KJ, will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, December 13, 2020, at 2:00PM at the Eat'n Park Restaurant, 2301 R. 286 So., Indiana, PA. The agenda will include the election of officers, reports, payment of bills, donations, COVID-19 pandemic issues in our area, and general branch and business issues.

All coronavirus mitigation practices will be strictly followed for the health and safety of all.

Fraternally,

Monica Rura, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 553 – AKRON, OHIO

St. John the Baptist, Branch 553 will be holding the final Lodge meeting of the year on Sunday, November 15, 2020 at 2PM at the Slovak J Club, 485 Morgan Avenue, Akron, OH 44311. Officers for 2021 will be elected at this meeting. If you wish to run for an office, send your letter of intent stating the position you wish to run for to the Nominating Committee in care of the Slovak J Club by November 12, 2020.

Mark your calendar:

November 14: Annual 125 Club Drawing; members will be sent reservation forms via US Mail

November 15: Lodge 553 and District 10 meetings (in person and virtual)

November 18: Monthly Mystery Dinner served 4:30-7:00 pm

December 2: Spaghetti by Reservation – served 4:30-7:00pm

December 6: Annual Vilija Celebration 4:00 pm Cost \$20.00 per person

ALL EVENTS are by RESERVATION ONLY – due to social distancing requirements all events limited to 90 people. Call the club AFTER 3:00PM @ 330-786-9972 to make any reservation.

Look forward to seeing you at the club.

Linda M Hanko, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 580 – WEST MIFFLIN, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 580 will hold its next meeting on November 15, 2020, via telephone. I will be contacting everyone to see if you have any important business. Please have your notes ready and all will be discussed. For further information or with any questions, please call me at 724-593-2715.

Virginia Jasek, Secretary

BRANCH 581 – GARY-WHITING, INDIANA

The St. Michael the Archangel, Branch 581, will meet on Sunday, December 6, 2020, at 1 p.m. at the Paragon Restaurant, 1701 E. 37th Ave., Hobart, IN. The agenda will be the election of officers. RSVP to Ann Buczek, 219-947-2793 or George Kelchak, 219-926-2410.

Ann Buczek, President

BRANCH 587 – ALQUIPPA, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 587K is holding its second semi-annual meeting on December 6, 2020, and will be for the election of officers. A Christmas party is tentatively planned for the December 6th meeting, depending on COVID restrictions. Both meetings will be held from 2:00 – 4:00PM at the home of Branch President Joanne Fibbi, 1741 Hempstead Lane, Pittsburgh, PA, 15241. Or, members may attend virtually, if preferred. For instructions on how to attend virtually, please email Branch President Joanne Fibbi at jfibbi@gmail.com. For more information or if you have questions, please call Branch President Joanne Fibbi at 412-953-4721.

Joanne Fibbi, President

BRANCH 595 – MUSKEGON HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN

Branch 595 will hold two branch meetings for the remainder of the year. The first will be on Sunday, November 29, 2020, with an agenda of general branch business. The second meeting will be on Sunday, December 13, 2020 at which time branch officers will be elected. Both meetings will start at 1:00PM in Tatra Hall, 2536 Sixth St. Muskegon Heights, MI. Members are welcome. All appropriate COVID-19 protocols will be in place, including wearing masks and social distancing.

Mindy Redmon, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 628 – MUNHALL, PENNSYLVANIA

A meeting of Branch 628 St. Michael Archangel will be held virtually via Zoom on Sunday, December 27, 2020, at 2:00 PM. The agenda will include a review of the past year's business of the branch and election of officers for 2021. Members may contact Sylvia Vehec one week prior to this meeting for more information at sjevehec@aol.com.

Sylvia J. Vehec, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 670 – DONORA, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 670 will hold a virtual and/or telephonic meeting on Sunday, December 6, 2020 beginning at 11:30AM. For instructions on how to join the meeting please contact Cheryl Hyatt (724-622-1982).

Joseph A. Matinko, President

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BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

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BRANCH 682 – YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

The next regular meeting of Branch 682 members will take place at Noon on Wednesday, November 18th, 2020, at Materials Research Laboratories, 290 N Bridge St. in Struthers, OH, 44471. The meeting will be conducted using face masks and social distancing and both masks and sanitizer are available at the meeting. Planning for the coming year will be discussed and election of officers will take place.

Current officers are President - Drew Hirt, Vice President - Barb Hosa, Recording/Financial Secretary - Selma Bolash, Treasurer - Suzanne Carney. Any interested in an officer position with Branch 682 please contact Drew Hirt, drew@hirt.com or 330-750-0776.

The first regular meeting of 2021 for Branch 682 is scheduled for Noon on Wednesday, January 6, 2021 at Materials Research Laboratories, 290 N Bridge St. in Struthers, OH 44471. The meeting will be conducted using face masks and social distancing and both masks and sanitizer are available at the meeting. The meeting will include the assembly of the branch annual report and continued planning for activities in 2021.

Drew Hirt, President

BRANCH 716 – NEW YORK, NEW YORK

St. Stephens Society Branch 716 will hold its outdoor annual meeting November 29, 2020, in St. Catherine Park, 1245 First Ave, NYC. The Park is half a block away from St. John Nepomucene Church. The meeting will begin immediately after the 10:15AM Slovak Mass. Election of officers for 2021 will be held. All members are urged to attend.

Joan Skrkon, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 721 – BANNISTER, MICHIGAN

The winter meeting for Branch 721 will be held on Sunday, December 13, 2020, at 2:00PM. The meeting will take place at the Remenar home located at 8977 S. Mason Road, Bannister, MI. Face masks will be required as well as practicing social distancing. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Beno, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 743 – STERLING HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN

Due to the current pandemic and in keeping with the requirements of the Home Office, The St. Joseph Society, Branch 743 will conduct a Virtual Meeting (its annual meeting) on Sunday, November 22, 2020, at 2:15PM. On the agenda will be Officer's Report, a 2020 financial report, approval of the 2021 budget, discussion of branch activities, and other business pertaining to the Branch and the First Catholic Slovak Union. The election of 2021 Branch Officers will also take place.

All Members planning to participate in the virtual meeting MUST contact Joseph Rimarcik @ 248-714-9620 no later than Friday November 20, 2020 to receive information regarding the Zoom call procedures.

All Officers have indicated they are candidates for re-election. They are Joseph C Rimarcik, President & Financial Secretary; Ruzena Kovacova, Treasurer; Auditors, Milan Straka; Stefanie Gervais; Daniela Grisak and Jozef Kovac.

Members who need policy assistance in regards to a change of address or to change a beneficiary should contact the Financial Secretary of Branch 743, Joseph C. Rimarcik, 4945 Wavewood Dr., Commerce Township, MI 48382. Phone 248-714-9620.

You can receive a no obligation quote for insurance coverage for any family member including grandchildren with just a birth date and gender.

Joseph C. Rimarcik, President and Financial Secretary

BRANCH 746 – LINDEN, NEW JERSEY

The St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 746 will offer Holy Mass in Slovak for the intention of all Branch 746 members living and deceased on Friday, November 27, 2020, at 7PM at Holy Family Church in Linden, NJ. Those that are able to attend are encouraged to come. Branch 746 is planning our Christmas party for Sunday, December 13, 2020 at Luciano's Ristorante & Lounge in Rahway, NJ. If you are planning to attend, please RSVP to Mary Ann Ranahan at 732 589 1608 by November 13th. The Branch officers will re-assess the situation closer to the date if anything changes regarding state and local regulations on the indoor dining. Branch members who have RSVPed will be informed. Also, please check the FCSU website for latest updates.

Mary Kapitan, Secretary

BRANCH 756 – OWOSSO, MICHIGAN

St. Joseph the Guardian, Branch 756, will hold its Fall meeting on Sunday, November 15, 2020 at 1:00pm. The meeting will be held at the Gregoricka home located at 825 W. Oliver St. Owosso, MI. Face masks will be required as well as practicing social distancing. Everyone is encouraged to attend. We hope to see you there! If you are unable to attend, please contact us at 989-277-8787 with any questions or policy/address changes.

Warm regards,

Rita Gregoricka, Executive Secretary

BRANCH 756 – OWOSSO, MICHIGAN

St. Joseph the Guardian, Branch 756, will be holding a (virtual) Zoom meeting on Sunday, December 13, 2020 at 1:00pm. Any members planning to attend are asked to email Tyler Gregoricka at tyler.m.gregoricka@gmail.com for further details. Everyone is encouraged to attend. We hope to see you there! If you are unable to attend, please contact us at 989-277-8787 with any questions or policy/address changes.

Warm regards,

Rita Gregoricka, Executive Secretary

BRANCH 831 – TARENTUM, PENNSYLVANIA

Attention Branch 831 Members: the annual meeting of the MSGR Josef Tiso District 11 will be held Sunday, December 20, 2020, at 6PM. The meeting will be held in Ford City at the CU Club, address: 910 6th Avenue, Ford City, PA 16226. On the agenda: Officer election for 2021 and discussion to plan events for 2021. We encourage all members to attend as your input is greatly appreciated. No advance notice of attendance is required. Members attending are asked to bring an unwrapped toy, the toys will be donated to Toys for Tots. We pray all is well with you and your family during this pandemic. Masks and social distancing guidelines will be followed. Be Safe. Be well. May God be with you.

Fraternally submitted,

Karen L. Greggs, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 844 – LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

Branch 844 will hold its Annual Meeting on Saturday, December 12, 2020, at the Slovak American Center, 1690 Placentia Ave., Fullerton, CA 92831. The meeting will start at 11:00 AM with the following agenda: officer reports and a financial report; election of officers for the year 2021; and planning activities for year 2021. Please follow the guidelines for Covid-19 personal protection. All members in our area are encouraged to participate.

Milan Konkol, Secretary

BRANCH 853 – CHARLEROI, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 853 will hold a virtual annual meeting on December 13, 2020 at 11AM. The election of officers will be on the agenda along with planning events for the 2021 year. A lunch stipend will be mailed to all attendees. Call 412-341-1577 or email FCSUBranch853@gmail.com to confirm your attendance. Directions on how to attend will be provided at that time. Branch 853 wishes all a blessed Christmas season and a Healthy 2021.

Monica Rodacy Boone, President

BRANCH 855 – PARMA, OHIO

Branch 855, Holy Name of Jesus Society, will hold a hybrid meeting on November 14th at 12:00 noon. Members can join by telephone or online. The topic of discussion will be charitable donations and setting a date for election of officers in a December hybrid meeting. Please contact Branch Secretary Karen Habian BY TEXT at 216-409-9812 or by email at fcsu855@gmail.com to receive your instructions before November 10th. We hope this new format will encourage more participants.

Until we can safely meet again, may God keep you and your loved ones in His care.

Barbara Sutilla, President

BRANCH 856 – WASHINGTON, DC & AREA

Branch 856 is holding its second semi-annual meeting on December 7, 2020 at 1:00PM. For the safety of our members and in keeping with recommendations from the FCSU Board of Directors that all districts and branches hold their meetings virtually, our Dec 7 meeting will be held virtually by way of Zoom. Members may participate by telephone or computer.

For more information on how to connect to the meetings, call Marion Mistrik at 301-654-5638.

Katherine Nowatkoski
Financial Secretary/President

BRANCH 857 – LEVITTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The meeting schedule of the St. Michael the Archangel Branch 857 will be as follows: Sunday November 1, 2020, at 2:00PM and Sunday December 20, 2020 at 2:00PM. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, the meetings will be held virtually via a Zoom meeting. Those who wish to attend, please call 267-795-7930 and leave a message (your contact information) or email n.nasta@aol.com and we will send you information on how to connect to the meeting.

Fraternally,

Nicole L Nasta, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 888 – WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA

Due to the current pandemic and in keeping with recommendations from the Home Office, the Holy Trinity Society, Branch 888 will conduct their next two upcoming semi-annual virtual meetings on Sunday, November 22, 2020 and on Sunday, December 13, 2020. Both meetings will be held at 1:00PM.

All members planning to participate in the virtual meeting(s) must RSVP by contacting David Rafaidus, President, Branch 888 at 561-776-0449 or jednota888@yahoo.com prior to November 19, 2020 for the November 22, 2020 meeting and prior to December 10, 2020 for the December 13, 2020 meeting. For security purposes, once you RSVP you will be provided the necessary information on how to connect.

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

On November 22, 2020, Dr. Cecilia Rokusek, President & CEO of the National Czech & Slovak Museum and Library will explain the history and importance of the Czech and Slovak museum and how they are preserving the past and forging the future of Slovaks in America.

On December 13, 2020 Dr. Blanka Kudej, President of the Czech/Slovak American Society of Arts and Sciences will present information on historical moments in the Czech & Slovak Republic.

David Rafaidus, President

Acclaimed Slovak-American Vocalist Luba Mason Releases Stunning New Solo Album Triangle

With her last album, *Mixtura*, vocalist Luba Mason established her own musical genre, a "blend of different musical currents" that draws upon a staggeringly eclectic palette of influences and approaches. Her breathtaking new release, *Triangle*, carries the concept forward with a wholly unique, spare yet vibrant new line-up. Captured before an intimate gathering of invited friends, family and fans at Manhattan's renowned Power Station studio, the album features an unprecedented trio of vocals, vibraphone and bass featuring master musicians Joe Locke (Grover Washington Jr., Dianne Reeves) and James Genus (Saturday Night Live Band, Herbie Hancock) and produced by longtime Prince collaborator Renato Neto.

Triangle exemplifies the passion for fresh perspectives and unexpected choices that led Mason to trademark the "Mixtura" name. The material is jaw-droppingly diverse: from pop classics by the Beatles and Paul Simon to a Monk standard, a well-known Slovak folk song *Čerešne* by Jaro Filip & Milan Lasica, and a recent Broadway hit, and surely the first time that Brazilian legend Antonio Carlos Jobim and heavy metal band System of a Down have been represented in the same repertoire. Add to that the surprising instrumentation and you have a collection that is absolutely gorgeous in its unfamiliarity while remaining vividly engaging.

The challenge of venturing into unexplored territory comes naturally to Mason, in part a natural outgrowth of her unique background. A first-generation American of Slovak descent, she grew up in Astoria, Queens, and studied classical piano and voice. She went



Luba Mason's new CD *TRIANGLE* is available to purchase. The track list includes the Slovak song *Čerešne*! Go to: www.lubamason.com for information.

on to realize her dream of starring on Broadway. Most recently Mason learned to play the drums for her role in Conor McPherson's *Girl From the North Country*, a Broadway musical based on the songs of Bob Dylan that achieved critical acclaim before going on hiatus due to the Coronavirus pandemic.

The album has received numerous accolades. A review by the Sounds of Timeless Jazz notes that "Overall the diversity and beauty of *Triangle* is why you'll love this recording. The choice of songs and the rarely heard format of vibraphone, bass and vocals in a trio setting is another reason to add this remarkable recording to your collection. Order it now."

- Submitted by Sabina Sabados,
Region 1 Director

Slovakia featured in the Oct 23, 2020 Wall Street Journal:



"As Covid-19 Sweeps Europe, One Country Tries to Test the Entire Population: Slovakia asks every adult to get tested twice for the new coronavirus before Nov 8"

Read the entire article by going to fcsu.com/resources/

A Tale of Two Countries and a Statue of Milan R. Štefánik

Stanislav J. Kirschbaum

An inhabitant from the historic Languedoc-Roussillon region of France might feel very much at home in some parts of Slovakia. Although a Mediterranean coastal region in the southern part of the country, extending from Provence to the Pyrenees, the region boasts small mountains and is especially well known as a major wine producer, highlighting a Vin de Pays d'Oc and a sparkling Crémant de Limoux among its best-known varieties. It is peppered with rustic villages and small towns that take you back in time, to the Middle Ages and beyond, with their history, architecture, culture, and gastronomy. It is a region of sun and warmth, not one where you would expect to find a statue of a Slovak historical figure. Yet, unexpectedly, in a village called Paulhan in Hérault Department there is a statue of Milan Rastislav Štefánik on one of its squares. How it got there is a fascinating tale of mystery, politics, and one man. What follows complements an article on Paulhan by Michael Kopanic published in Jednota in October 2017.

The village of Paulhan is named after Paulianus, a provincial Roman official of the first century of the common era about whom almost nothing is known. It appears as a village community in the first millennium and was owned by the Church and various aristocratic families until the French Revolution when it became independent. It is a delightful circular, historical sleepy hamlet on the banks of the river Hérault. It is worth visiting, not just for its wine cellars, its 11th century church, Notre-Dame-des-Vertus, the hermitage Saint-Jean de Vareilles, but also for the statue of a Slovak historical personality with very special links to France. This statue, in a very curious way, is also seen to be associated with a famous French aviator who, curiously has the same name as the village: Louis Paulhan.

Throughout France, and indeed throughout most of Europe, cities, towns, and villages have public spaces that recognize and/or commemorate events or persons of historical significance. In 1911, the village of Paulhan erected to the glory of the armies of the French Revolution a statue called "Soldat de l'An II" (Soldier of Year II) that featured a soldier brandishing a sword and a tattered standard. It was destroyed in 1942 under the Vichy regime. Its plinth was left empty until 1955 when a statue was put up without any identification, just an indication that it represented an aviator ("L'aviateur"). It was in fact one of three statues of Milan Rastislav Štefánik created by the Czech sculptor Bohumil Kafka between 1928 and 1933. How did it get there, why was it put up unnamed, and when, how, and by whom was it identified? These are three mysteries that beg to be solved.

Štefánik had died tragically on 4 May 1918. In 1919, the Slovak politician Milan Hodža suggested in a newspaper article that a monument in honour of Štefánik be erected in Bratislava. Nothing came of it. However, in 1928, for the 10th anniversary of the creation of Czecho-Slovakia, as Minister of Education and National Culture, Hodža successfully launched a competition for a sculpture of Štefánik, which Bohumil Kafka won. The sculptor proposed two statues: One of Štefánik in a French general's uniform, the other as an aviator. Deterred possibly by the French uniform, the selection committee chose the aviator one where Štefánik is holding in his right hand, it is thought, a copy of the 1918 Pittsburg Agreement. Kafka said of the statue: "I conceived a monument to Gen. M. R. Štefánik that expressed fully in its heroic, national, and state importance the personality of this great son of Slovakia. I created Štefánik as a general at the moment of departure with a message of freedom to his people at home." The statue for Bratislava would not be erected until 1938. Kafka created two smaller models in 1933: The first was sent to France and the second to Prague where it was put in storage at the National Gallery. It stayed there until 1994, when it was placed in front of the observatory named after Štefánik in 1928.

In France, the fate of Štefánik's statue is the first of three mysteries in this story. It was exhibited in the fall of 1933 at the "Salon d'Automne" in the Grand Palais in Paris. What happened to it after that is not clear. The sculptor, thanks to very good French contacts, succeeded in having it purchased by French cultural authorities who, however, rejected an initial suggestion to put it on the "Place du Général Štefánik" in the 16th arrondissement of Paris once the salon closed. According to an article in the daily La Croix in July 1934, it was being featured that year in the Musée du Jeu de Paume des Tuileries as part of an exhibition of Czechoslovak art. After the closing of that exhibition, its whereabouts were unknown until 1937 when, according to documents that were uncovered later, it was placed in storage at the Palais de Tokyo in Paris where it remained until 1955. In an article published in *Études héraultaises* in 2012, Marie-Sylvie Grandjouan points out that storing it "had the happy consequence of saving it from destruction during the Vichy regime."

The man who brought Štefánik to Paulhan in 1955 was its mayor, Vincent Badie, who wanted to put a statue on the empty plinth that had held the "Soldat de l'An II." Stripped of his position as mayor and National Assembly deputy in 1941 because he had opposed giving the Vichy regime full powers, he joined the résistance, was arrested, deported to Dachau, survived, returned to Paulhan, and re-elected mayor in 1944; he decided to look for a replacement statue. After a long search, among many available, he chose the one of Štefánik in storage in Paris. When it was put up, however, it was identified only as "L'Aviateur." Why was Štefánik's name omitted? We now have a second mystery. Claire Alric Devèze, in an article on the Štefánik statue in *Études héraultaises*, published in 2014, was puzzled by this. She writes about Vincent Badie: "He chose Štefánik. Was it fate or possibly the beauty of the statue, work of one of the greatest Czech sculptors, Bohumil Kafka, or perhaps the fact that he [Badie] was aware of an unusual event that happened during the First World War: The aviator Louis Paulhan (homonym of the name of the village) saved Štefánik's life when he was sick on the Russian front [it was actually the Serbian front], making it the first medical air rescue [medevac] in history." Louis Paulhan hailed from the neighbouring village of Pézenas and had been the winner of the London-Manchester air race in April 1910 organized by The Daily Mail of London, making him one of the early heroes of French aviation. He flew for the French Army during the war where he met Štefánik who had also become an aviator, and who eventually rose to the rank of general.



Štefánik in Paulhan



Alexandre Matus in a plane

How can one account for the decision not to identify Štefánik? There are two possible explanations: As with the previous statue destroyed during the Vichy regime, the monument in Paulhan was meant to be symbolic, not representative of anyone in particular. The Štefánik statue is an impressive work of art and whoever took the decision might have thought that to identify it simply as "L'Aviateur" fulfilled the purpose of placing it on the plinth, namely to pay respect to all those who had fought for France in war, especially airmen. Another explanation has political overtones: Vincent Badie knew it was a statue of Štefánik (he said as much in a newspaper interview) but what was also known was that Communist Czechoslovakia had destroyed Štefánik's statue in front of the Reduta theatre in Bratislava the year before. Might erecting an identified Štefánik statue not have created a diplomatic incident between France and Czechoslovakia? Or could the non-mention of Štefánik have been a condition of releasing the statue, again in response to political considerations? Vincent Badie remained silent on the subject. Whatever the explanation, villagers and tourists in Paulhan admired from 1955 until 1989 a beautiful statue of an aviator without a name atop what had been since 1942 an empty plinth. A retired Slovak Air Force officer, Major Alexander Matuš, had some years previously set in motion a series of events that made possible its public identification in 1989.

Alexander Matuš, was born in Vrútky in 1914, served in the Czechoslovak and Slovak Air Force, left Slovakia at the end of World War II, and emigrated to France in 1954 with his wife Magdalena and their four children. He worked in intelligence for the Office Général de l'Air in Paris until 1979 when he and his wife retired to Saint-Felix-de-Lodez, about 22 km from Paulhan. We now come to our third mystery: What role did he play in bringing about the identification of the statue? It was during one of his trips exploring the Languedoc-Roussillon region in 1983 that he passed through Paulhan and recognized the statue. He must have been puzzled by the fact that it was unidentified. What could be done to have it identified? Alexander Matuš had three possible avenues: The first was to contact the mayor's office in Paulhan. We know that he did but also that he was given no more than an explanation of the history of how the statue got there. There is no indication that village authorities had any interest in doing anything further. The second was to get the news to Slovakia in one way or another. This was very problematic; the discovery took place at a time when the Cold war was in full swing with no hint that it would begin to unravel six years later, and the Communist regimes of Central Europe would fall. Štefánik was persona non grata in Communist Czechoslovakia and the discovery of a statue of him was of no interest or significance to the regime. Furthermore, it would have been perilous for someone in Slovakia to have made this known publicly. A third option was to contact the Slovak World Congress, which was created in 1970 in New York with headquarters in Toronto with the mission of speaking on behalf of Slovakia and the Slovaks internationally.

There is evidence that Alexander Matuš contacted Slovak friends in the Slovak World Congress to tell them of his discovery. We can assume that word got around. Shortly after his visit, in February 1984, John P. Harris, a British correspondent who lived in a village near Paulhan, published in The Times of London a short piece entitled "The Sorry Story of a Statue called Štefánik." The article was primarily about the French aviator Louis Paulhan rather than Štefánik, but still had the merit of identifying the statue and bringing it to the attention of interested readers. The article was most likely the catalyst for the visit in the summer of 1986 by Miloš Mečíř of the Association of Czechoslovak Legionaries in London to the mayor of Paulhan to consider a fund-raising campaign for an identification plaque. Thanks to the funds raised, a ceremony took place on 14 October 1989 in Paulhan to dedicate the statue to Štefánik. Present was retired Major Miloslav Kašpar who, as a young officer in the Czechoslovak Army in Bratislava in the late 1930's, had been a custodian of the Štefánik memorial at Bradlo. The local press reporting on the ceremony attributed the discovery of its identity to John Harris; Alexander Matuš, the quiet and discreet retired Slovak aviator with intelligent eyes very likely played a role behind the scenes but would only later be given credit. His actions, on the other hand, connected to other events.

With the fall of communism and the creation of the second Slovak Republic in 1993,

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District 4 Goes Apple Picking

In keeping with the harvest tradition, on a picture perfect October afternoon a few members of District 4 (Branch 746) met at Hillview Farms in Gillette, NJ to pick apples—the selection included Macintosh, Brite Mac, Empire, Gala and Golden Delicious. As they say, “an apple a day keeps the doctor away!” District 4 members will certainly be in good health as they enjoy their freshly picked apples as snacks or dessert - homemade pies!



Hillview Farm is family-owned and operated and has been home to 53-acres of locally grown goodness for almost 150 years. The general store sells fresh produce, fresh eggs, honey and a variety of other quality goods. There's even a resident peacock on the farm!

The activity was organized by District 4 for members who expressed interest. The informal event was a great way to reconnect with each other and spend some time outdoors in nature!

-Submitted by Sabina Sabados, Region 1 Director



A Tale of Two Countries and a Statue of Milan R. Štefánik

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Štefánik's role in Slovak history was acknowledged once more in Slovakia. His French citizenship and activities in and for France allowed for a special relationship between that country and Slovakia, thanks especially to Vladimír Valach, Slovak ambassador to France from 1997 to 2001. He organized a commemorative Štefánik year in 1998, which ended on 4 May 1999, on the 80th anniversary of Štefánik's death. On that day, the ambassador attended the unveiling of a new statue of Štefánik in a French general's uniform at the observatory in Meudon, where Štefánik had worked as an astronomer from 1904 to 1907. On that very same day, thanks again to Ambassador Valach, a meeting was held in Slovakia with representatives from Paulhan, Brezová pod Bradlom where Štefánik's mausoleum is located, and Košariská, his birthplace, to consider the twinning of Paulhan with these two Slovak towns. A year later, in Paulhan, on 7 May 2000, a twinning agreement was signed and since then there have been cultural events and regular exchanges between inhabitants of these municipalities, with many personal friendships resulting.

It is on 31 October 2000, that the National Council of the Slovak Republic passed Law 402 on the merits of Milan Rastislav Štefánik for Slovakia, honouring him with a memorial plaque inside the building. This recognition and the increasing contacts between France and Slovakia brought about the creation in November 2005 of l'Amicale Paulhanaise Autour de Štefánik in Paulhan, one of the most significant outcomes of the identification of the statue. Under the leadership of its president, Joël Diaz, it has organized many events, especially with Paulhan's twinned cities in Slovakia. On 11 November 2015, at the armistice celebrations, members of the Amicale were present at the unveiling of a reconditioned statue of Štefánik, in the presence of Slovakia's ambassador to France, Marek Eštok. The ambassador was instrumental in getting the Slovak government to finance the reconditioning of the statue and the commune and Hérault Department financed the plinth. At this solemn occasion, Alexander Matuš's role in identifying the statue was acknowledged in the presence of his son Dušan and daughter Suzanne.

Štefánik had, at last, been given full honours in both countries. In 2020, he was voted Slovakia's greatest Slovak in a public poll. Alexander Matuš, who passed away in 2003, deserves special recognition in this tale of two countries and the fate of Bohumil Kafka's statue of Milan Rastislav Štefánik in Paulhan. What he did was more than just an aviator honouring another; Alexander Matuš ensured that this unusual son of Slovakia received the recognition he deserved.

Fraternalism in Action



Branch 746 Vice President Joanne Tkach Polt with one of the flags brought to the cemetery for Veteran's Day



Some unexpected helpers showed up to help Branch 746



Branch 746 placed US flags on graves at St. Gertrude Cemetery, a final resting place of many Branch 746 members

Branch 746 Answers the Call: Placing US Flags in Cemetery

In honor of Veterans Day, American flags were brought to St. Gertrude's Cemetery in Colonia, NJ, honoring the patriotic deceased of FCSU Branch 746. St. Gertrude's Cemetery is the resting place for many Jednota families including Balas, Budis, Estok, Karch, Krall, Macai, Nedelsky, Tkach, Vrabely and others.

Submitted by Joanne Tkach Polt, Branch 746 Vice President

FCSU Asks: How Are You Helping?



It's one of the founding tenets of our Society – fraternalism. Jednota has been asking FCSU members to think about how to put our fraternalism into action. Branch 746 answered the call.

What are you doing? Email Jednota at fcsulifeeditor@gmail.com and share what your branch, district or family is doing to help others. After all, as socially distant as we must be right now, we're all in this together.

Hey Kids, & All Those Young At Heart.



I hope you are all doing well, keeping safe. I bet this Thanksgiving will be a little different at your house this year ... it sure will be at mine!

But I also bet you'll still be celebrating somehow, so let's think of some fun trivia about that big ol' bird at the center of our dinner tables ... let's talk Turkey!

Until we can call be together again, take care of yourselves, keep your ears up & your tail waggin' ...

Your pal (priateľ)
Chewy



Turkey Fun Facts

- *Wild turkeys sometimes sleep in trees!
- *Only male turkeys gobble. Female turkeys make chirping sounds.
- *Wild turkeys can fly. They fly short distances- up to 55 miles per hour!
- *The turkey's eyes are on the side of his head. By rotating his head, he can see 360 degrees- the whole way around!
- *The skin on a turkey's head can change colors- to red, blue, or white- when he or she gets excited or anxious.
- *Turkeys have all sorts of names: adult male turkeys are "toms", females are called "hens". Babies are called "poults", young boys are "jakes", and young girls "jennys".



„Verím, že sa do dialógu zapoja aj krajanovia mimo organizovaných slovenských komunít“

Rozhovor s Milanom Jánom Pilipom, predsedom Úradu pre Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí

Vzdelaním politológ a filozof, Milan Ján Pilip, sa nedávno ujal vedenia Úradu pre Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí. Tento úrad je orgánom štátnej správy, ktorý zabezpečuje výkon štátnej politiky vo vzťahu k Slovákom žijúcim v zahraničí a štátnu podporu Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí. Milan Ján Pilip sa angažuje najmä v menšinovej politike – pracuje v Rade vlády SR pre ľudské práva, národnostné menšiny a rodovú rovnosť a ako podpredseda zasadá vo Výbore pre národnostné menšiny a etnické skupiny. Je zároveň poslancom mesta Bardejov. Na ÚSZZ nastúpil z Ministerstva obrany SR – zo sekcie majetku a infraštruktúry.

Onedlho bude za Vami prvý, zdá sa, že i veľmi aktívny štvrtrok práce na predsedníckej stoličke Úradu pre Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí. Nová vláda Vás do funkcie vymenovala 16. júla 2020. S akými očakávaniami ste do úradu nastupovali?

Mal som veľké šťastie, že práve v čase môjho nástupu sa na úrade spustili práce na spracovaní návrhu Koncepcie štátnej politiky voči Slovákom žijúcim v zahraničí na roky 2021 – 2025, lebo práve tu ide o možnosť nastaviť smerovanie krajanovej problematiky na nasledujúcich päť rokov. To je práve platforma, kde mám možnosť pretaviť svoje predstavy, samozrejme v súlade s platným programovým vyhlásením vlády, a tiež predstavy samotných krajanov. Chcem, aby sa na príprave tohto materiálu podieľali aj oni. Okrem toho očakávam, že úrad jednak zmodernizuje komunikáciu s krajanmi, a že podchytiť, resp. zosieťuje aj tých krajanov, ktorí o úrade doteraz nevedeli.

Dnes sú za Vami prvé rokovania, zasadania i konzultácie návrhov, ktoré by ste mali postupne uviesť do praxe. Programové vyhlásenie vlády krajanov neopomenulo, ba naopak, je v mnohom štedré. Aké nástroje úrad zvolí na ich postupné napĺňanie?

Chceme zapojiť všetky relevantné rezorty. Snažím sa vysvetľovať, že štátna politika voči krajanom je komplex politik jednotlivých rezortov, od kultúry, cez školstvo, dokonca aj rezort práce, vnútra či hospodárstva a ďalšie. Pri nastavení, a neskôr aj pri realizácii štátnej politiky voči krajanom je nevyhnutná spolupráca celej štátnej správy, ale aj mimovládneho sektora či politickej reprezentácie. O to viac, ak chceme prehodnotiť krajanovú politiku nielen z hľadiska kultúry a vzdelávania, ale aj ďalšie oblasti, či už je to volebné právo zo zahraničia, dvojité občianstvo. Chceme sa tiež pozrieť na možnosti návratovej politiky, zdieľania informácií a skúseností v oblasti vedy a podnikania a mnohé ďalšie oblasti, ktoré sa krajanov týkajú.

Máte za sebou mnohé rokovania so zástupcami štátnych inštitúcií, zástupcami krajanovských spolkov, zamestnancami zastupiteľských úradov i stretnutia s jednotlivcami. Situácia ohľadom vývoja koronavírusu je zložitá. Momentálne ste ochudobnený o spoznávanie krajanovského sveta. Aké máte od krajanovských komunít očakávania? Ako ste momentálne nastavili spoločný diskurz?

Veľmi ma mrzí, že sa nemôžeme s krajanmi stretávať tak, ako by sme chceli, resp. potrebovali. Lebo okrem tradičnej návštevy podujatí, ktoré krajanovia organizujú (z ktorých sa mnohé našťastie podarilo aj napriek pandemickej situácii zrealizovať), riešime aj otázku investičných dotácií z tzv. srbského dlhu. Najhorúcejšia je podpora z našej strany pre rekonštrukciu budovy bývalého evanjelického kostola v Budapešti, ktorý pre slovenských krajanov kúpila maďarská vláda. Chceme podporiť aj ďalšie investičné akcie – rekonštrukcie alebo nákupy krajanovských domov z týchto prostriedkov na Dolnej zemi, lebo taký bol prísľub vlády. Nezabúdame ani na krajanov žijúcich v západnej Európe a zámorí. Aktuálne pracujeme aj na zosieťovaní týchto komunít cez sociálne siete. Chceme s nimi komunikovať a zmapovať ich potreby. Teda okrem kultúrnych, vzdelávacích či publikačných aj potreby súvisiace s ich prácou v cudzine a ďalších potrieb, následne zapojenie príslušných rezortov do ich riešenia. Verím, že krajanovia prijmú pozvanie na spoločný dialóg o ich potrebách, že sa komunikácia so Slovákami v zahraničí zlepší, a že sa do tohto dialógu zapoja aj krajanovia mimo organizovaných slovenských komunít. Takto budú môcť prispieť svojimi podnetmi aj k tvorbe novej koncepcie.

Ste mladý, vyzerá, i že veľmi agilný človek. Predstavili by ste sa našim čitateľom i trochu súkromnejšie. Čím žijete, aké sú Vaše koničky, čo Vás baví?

Venujem sa otázkam národnostných menšín žijúcich na Slovensku. Pôsobím tiež v miestnej samospráve vo svojom rodnom meste Bardejov ako mestský poslanec. Zaujíma ma o politiku, históriu, zvlášť sa venujem heraldike. Mojim koničkom je aj amatérska astronómia. Chcem sa Vám poďakovať za rozhovor, taktiež sa chcem poďakovať Matici Slovenskej za veľmi dobrú spoluprácu, ktorú má s našim úradom, a určite ju chcem rozvíjať počas svojho pôsobenia. A taktiež by som rád pozdravil krajanov a chcem im odkázať, že sme tu pre nich.

**Za rozhovor ďakuje
Zuzana Pavelcová**

"I believe that compatriots outside established Slovak communities will also participate in the dialogue"

An interview with Milan Ján Pilip, Chairman of the Office for Slovaks Living Abroad

Educated as a political scientist and philosopher, Milan Ján Pilip, recently took over the leadership of the Office for Slovaks Living Abroad. This office is a state administration body that ensures the implementation of state policy in relation to Slovaks living abroad and state support for Slovaks living abroad. Milan Ján Pilip is mainly involved in minority policy - he works in the Council of the Government of the Slovak Republic for Human Rights, National Minorities and Gender Equality and sits as a Vice-Chairman in the Committee for National Minorities and Ethnic Groups. He is also a member of parliament of the city of Bardejov. He joined ÚSZZ from the property and infrastructure sector of the Ministry of Defense of the Slovak Republic

It will soon be your first, and it seems a very active, quarter of work as the chair of the Office for Slovaks Living Abroad. The new government appointed you on July 16, 2020. With what expectations did you have taking office?

I was very lucky that at the time of my appointment, the office began work on drafting a concept of state policy toward Slovaks living abroad for the years 2021 - 2025, because this is the opportunity to set the direction of expatriate issues for the next five years. This is precisely the platform where I have the opportunity to realize my ideas, of course in accordance with the government's program statement, as well as the ideas of the compatriots themselves. I want them to be involved in the preparation of this material. In addition, I expect

that the office will both modernize communication with compatriots – and also network with those who did not know about the office so far.

Today, the first negotiations, meetings and consultations on proposals are behind you, ready to be gradually put into practice. The official program statement of the government on compatriots has not been forgotten; on the contrary, it is in many respects, generous. What tools will the Office choose to gradually fulfill them?

We want to involve all relevant departments. I have tried to explain that the state policy toward compatriots is a complex set of policies involving individual ministries, from culture, through education, even the Ministry of Labor, the Interior or the Economy and others. In setting up, and later also in implementing, the state policy towards compatriots, the cooperation of the entire state administration, as well as the non-governmental sector or political representation, is necessary. All the more so if we want to reconsider compatriot policy not only in terms of culture and education, but also other areas, such as whether it is right to vote from abroad, and the subject of dual citizenship. We also want to look at the possibilities of return policy, sharing information and experiences in the field of science and business, and many other areas that concern compatriots.

You have had many meetings with representatives of state institutions, representatives of expatriate associations, employees of embassies and meetings with individuals. The situation regarding the development of coronavirus is complex. You are currently restricted in getting to know the expatriate world. What are your expectations from compatriot communities? How did you currently set up a common discourse?

I am very sorry that we cannot meet our compatriots as we would like, respectively need. Because, in addition to the traditional visit to events organized by compatriots (many of which fortunately managed to be implemented despite the pandemic situation), we also address the issue of investment subsidies from the so-called Serbian debt. The hottest topic of support from us is for the reconstruction of a building of the former evangelical church in Budapest, which was bought for Slovak compatriots by the Hungarian government. We also want to support other investment projects - reconstructions or purchases of compatriot houses from these funds in the Lower Land, because that was the promise of the government. We also do not want to forget compatriots living in Western Europe and overseas. We are also currently working on networking these communities through social networks. We want to communicate with them and map their needs. Thus, in addition to cultural, educational publishing, there are also needs related to their work abroad and other needs, followed by the involvement of the relevant ministries as part of their solution. I believe that compatriots will accept an invitation to a joint dialogue on their needs, that communication with Slovaks abroad will improve, and that compatriots outside established Slovak communities will also be involved in this dialogue. In this way, they will be able to contribute with their suggestions to the creation of a new concept.

You are young, and seem to be a very active person. Would you introduce yourself to our readers on a little more private level? Where do you live, what are your hobbies, what do you enjoy?

I deal with issues of national minorities living in Slovakia. I also work in the local government in my hometown of Bardejov as a city deputy. I am interested in politics, history; I am especially interested in heraldry. My hobby is also amateur astronomy. I would like to thank you for the interview, I also want to thank Matica Slovenská for the very good cooperation she has with our office, and I definitely want to develop it during my work. And I would also like to send greetings to compatriots, and tell them that we are here for them.

**Thanks for the interview
Zuzana Pavelcová**



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

My First Visit to Slovakia, 1978 (part 4)

Michael J. Kopanic, Jr.
The University of Maryland Global Campus

August 5, 1978

After a day spent visiting my mother's village of Richnava, it was good to spend Saturday as a day of rest in Spišské Vlachy. We were still somewhat tired and underfed from our arduous summer-long trek backpacking across Europe. We had lost 10-15 pounds from a poor diet and all the exercise, so my wife's Slovak family was determined to fatten us up a bit. And it was nice to sleep on a real bed for a change, even though it was a converted couch in their living room.

I had passed out as soon as we had returned from Richnava on Friday night, and I could not wake up that morning. Our hospitable hosts had pumped me with liquor and slivovica and stuffed me with foods and sweets. A healthy young man who is not driving was expected to imbibe heartily, so that he would not offend visited hosts. My wife was luckier, for a woman could get by without drinking, and she had politely refused. That morning I could not get out of bed when they woke me for breakfast. Thus I slept well into the late morning.

My wife then had a strange and memorable experience. She accompanied her cousin's wife Anna to the small grocery store (potraviný) at the end of the block on ulica Komenského (Comenius Street). Just a short walk away, they entered the store which was well-stocked, even though it had a limited variety of good like most stores in the communist country. One could pick some items and put them in a basket provided, but everyone had to bring their own cloth bags (tašky) to haul groceries home. Some items had to be fetched by the saleslady, such as bread (chlieb). A shopper had to tell the attendant what she or he wanted and then purchase those items.

After selecting some groceries, Anna and my wife dutifully entered the queue. There were about five women waiting in line. At that moment, two gypsy women (ciganky or Roma women) entered the store. Without a prompt or word, all the Slovak women immediately stepped back and the gypsies went to the front of the line. No one said a word. Then Anna whispered in my wife's ear – "ciganky"! My wife understood the meaning, since her father had told her about gypsies (cigany) and their reputation for theft. The gypsy women bought their products and the line then proceeded as usual. Apparently the women were so afraid that something might be stolen with the gypsy women behind them that it was customary to let them go to the front of the line.

When I finally awoke, I had a light breakfast, even though they kept urging me to eat more, which is typical in Slovakia. One has to know when to stop eating. After that late breakfast, we went to visit Anna's parents, Pán a Pani Hopta. The Filip's young 8 year- old son followed us on his green bicycle with silver fenders; one could tell that he was so thrilled to have a bike, not something easy to come by in communist Slovakia. They lived on the main street which was an easy walk, as we took a shortcut through the grammar school across the street from the Filip's house where we were staying. They greeted us with a typical Slovak welcome, but I laid off the drinks, but still had an obligatory shot. We found out that Anna had been born in Blazov, which lies in the Levoča hills and was formerly in Šariš County during the Austro-Hungarian era. Today the village no longer exists and is part of Tichý Potok. The family moved to Spišské Vlachy where there was more work in the area.

After an hour of exchanging information, Ján gave us a tour of the center of Spišské Vlachy, an old Medieval town ((Hungarian: Szepesolaszi, German: Wlachi, Wlachy or Wallendorf, Latin: Villa Latina). Settled as long as 5,000 years ago, Spišské Vlachy first appeared in documents dating from the 13th century, when it obtained royal privileges during the reign of Hungarian King Béla IV. In the fourteenth century, the town belonged to the Community of Spiš Saxons, which the King of Hungary mortgaged to Poland as a loan never repaid for 360 years. The Austrian Empire re-annexed the town in 1778. The town center still retains a medieval layout, even though fires ravaged part of the town on three occasions over the centuries.

The most impressive structure in the town was the Roman Catholic Church of St. John the Baptist (Kostol Svateho Jana Krstitela). Constructed in a late Gothic style, the sandstone colored church features a Baroque interior with a late Baroque Marian altar, an 18th century bronze baptistery, a 19th century classical altar dedicated to St. Joseph, an 18th century altar with pilaster columns dedicated to St. Catherine, and a crucifix carved by the workshop of Master Pavol of Levoča from the 16th century. A small altar to St. Mary Magdalene dated from 1929. In addition, the church featured late Baroque statues of Moses and a ledge with the busts of Saints Ann, Mary, Elizabeth on one side and Saints Joachim, Joseph and Zechariah on the other side. Although impressive and a lot for the eyes to take in, the church did need its columns, gold leafing, and statues cleaned, and the communists did not allocate much attention or funding to renovating churches. Unlike back then, today the church is spotlessly cleaned, the statues are restored, and the gold leaf shines. Like many churches, it also had an adjacent graveyard.

Across the street was the sand colored Evangelical church (Lutheran) which dates from 1787. The Lutheran church sits on the site of an old wooden church from 1694 that had burned down. The church was closed, but its tower and the facade are classicist and were built in the first half of the 19th century. The altar is adorned in neoclassical style and depicts an image of Christ at sea. A neoclassical polygonal pulpit is richly decorated with a baroque crucifix. A portrait of the 18th century Austrian Emperor Joseph II adorns the wall, along a painting of the Ascension of the Lord from the 19th century.

Catty corner from the Catholic church is the former white Town Hall (radnica) with a Gothic tower from the 15th century. Part of the building served as a Catholic chapel dedicated to the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, with late Gothic styles dating from around 1500, modified in the romantic style around 1900. Painted panels include the figures of St. James, St. Barbara, St. Christopher, St. Catherine of Alexandria, and the figures of four bishops on the exterior. Though picturesque, it is difficult to take a snapshot in one photo and only a movie camera or the naked eye can do it justice.

After our walk, we came back to Ján's to wait for lunch. To pass the time, we looked over the garden and all the hard work he had done in his fenced yard. There were also chickens and I had some fun feeding them. Then we enjoyed the treat of a Slovak specialty – pirohy - for lunch (obed), which is the main meal in Slovakia. Anna had been cooking after we left her parents' home, and her daughter Zdenka assisted her with the kitchen tasks. Pirohy are potato



The author by the chickens outside the Filip home

The Filip family in Spišské Vlachy



Spišské Town Hall

dumplings and they also put bacon (slanina) on the pirohy, something I had never seen in the USA up to this time. My Slovak-born mother had made pirohy with potatoes, sauerkraut, and lekvár (plum jam), but never added bacon. Since pirohy is my favorite dish, I enjoyed a hearty meal, but I avoided drinking alcohol so I would not have another hangover. Dessert of some freshly baked Slovak koláče (cakes) with coffee was more than enough to satiate us.

Following lunch, Ján took us by car to the village of Bystrany, which used to be called Velbachy when my wife's grandmother, Elizabeth Filip, lived there. Ján's father, Jozef Filip, was her brother. Jozef had died shortly before he was born in 1935, but his mother Veronika was still living in 1978. She lived in a humble small home, and invited us for refreshments. But the main aim was to visit the graveyard and the tombstones of his father and Juraj and Zofia Filip (née Slaninová), his grandparents, who were my wife's great grandparents. After reciting appropriate prayers and saying our goodbyes (do videnia), we headed back to Spišské Vlachy and drove into a drenching rain. When we arrived back, to our surprise, young Jaro was playing with umbrellas, and staying dry! We thought it was hilarious. The memory is still vivid to this day.

Thus the day came to an end with more conversation in our mix of Slovak and German. After a light dinner of bread topped with lunch meat and fresh vegetables, we rested and retired for the day. In fact, this was the most restful day on our entire European trip of over 3 months because we did not walk for miles and miles, we ate well, and I refrained from drinking too much. But we had to retire early, for we had a big day ahead of us and had to rise early. We were going to the High Tatra Mountains!

Answer to Puzzle

Solution to Puzzle from page 11

A	L	B	S			B	R	A	M		C	U	E	S
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P	I	R	O	U	E	T	T	E	S			L	U	T
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T	I	L	L	E	R						I	C	O	N
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M	A	U	L			L	A	I	R		U	M	B	E
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S	T	E	P	S				L	E	N	S		S	K
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Y	E	S	M	E	N						B	E	A	V
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MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2020 HOME OFFICE, INDEPENDENCE, OHIO (TELECONFERENCE)

OPEN MEETING:

President Andrew Rajec opened the meeting at 12:00 PM and asked Andrew R. Harcar, Sr., to lead the prayer.

The Executive Committee Meeting is being held as a teleconference due to the current coronavirus pandemic. The Home Office is open with a limited rotating staff and limited hours to maintain day to day operations. The Home Office will remain on limited hours with no walk-in business until further notice.

ROLL CALL:

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

ACCEPTANCE OF THE AUGUST MEETING MINUTES:

The Executive Secretary presented the minutes of the August 14, 2020 Executive Committee Meeting. A motion was made by George F. Matta II and seconded by Andrew R. Harcar, Sr., to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

AQS MANAGEMENT, INC.:

Larry White, representing AQS Management, Inc., presented an extensive Investment Portfolio Transaction and Review Report via teleconference at the Board of Directors Meeting held prior to the Executive Committee Meeting. Each member of the Board received a copy of the presentation in advance for his/her review. Following the report, he answered the Board's questions.

Larry White presented an extensive review of potential new investment opportunities that may be available. The President stated that we will take Mr. White's recommendations under review.

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 August 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 August:

Disbursements for the month of August 2020:

Death Benefits & Accumulations	\$ 172,714.99
Cash Withdrawals & Accumulations	\$ 35,319.20
Matured Endowments & Accumulations	\$ 0.00
Trust Fund	\$ 0.00

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

SALES AND MARKETING:

The Vice President gave a production report on our recommenders and agents to the Executive Committee during the Board of Directors meeting held prior to the Executive Committee meeting.

The Executive Secretary stated that we are still recruiting agents thru a marketing campaign and an email campaign. The Home Office marketing team is still working with Visia, our outside marketing firm, to develop new marketing material.

The Vice President stated that the membership meet has been canceled this year due to the coronavirus pandemic. If conditions improve, we hope to hold a membership meet in 2021.

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 October.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

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

MISCELLANEOUS:**Home Office Update**

The President and the Executive Secretary gave an update on the Home Office operations. The Executive Secretary stated that the Home Office is open with a limited rotating staff and limited hours to maintain day to day operations. The Home Office will remain on limited hours with no walk-in business until further notice.

District/Branches

The President and the Executive Secretary stated that the Board of Directors strongly recommends that all Branch and District meetings for the rest of 2020 be held virtually. The Executive Secretary stated that a letter has been sent out to all Branches, Districts and Board Members to outline options for virtual meetings and if they have any questions to contact the Home Office.

Fraternal Activities

The Fraternal Activities Director Kevin Collins gave a full report on fraternal activities at the Board of Directors Meetings held earlier. Mr. Collins stated that all fraternal activity gatherings scheduled for 2020 have been cancelled. Mr. Collins is looking to hold more online contests and will inform the Board when more information is available.

Kroll Bond Agency

The President stated that a virtual meeting was held with Kroll Bond to review all the material we have submitted to them in order for them to issue a rating. The President stated we may have a rating before the end of the year.

Chairman of Auditors

The President stated that an election for the Chairman of Auditors position was held earlier during the Board of Directors Meeting due to the passing of Leonard Zilko. The majority vote was given to Gregory Maurer. Mr. Maurer will now hold the position of Chairman of Auditors.

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 Andrew R. Harcar, Sr., to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

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

Andrew M. Rajec
President

Kenneth A. Arendt
Executive Secretary

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

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

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2020

The Quarterly Business Meeting of the Board of Directors of the First Catholic Slovak Union of the United States and Canada will be held on:

Saturday, December 12, 2020 at 9:00 A.M. (telephonically).

The Executive Committee Meeting will be held following the Board of Directors Meeting on Saturday, December 12, 2020.

All correspondence relative to the Quarterly Business Meeting of the Board of Directors should be directed to the attention of the Executive Secretary, Kenneth A. Arendt, and should be sent to the Home Office prior to December 4, 2020.

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

Andrew M. Rajec
National President

Kenneth A. Arendt
Executive Secretary

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December 31, 2020**

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