



Catholic Fraternal Jednota

THE UNION
USPA#273500 ISSN1087-3392



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

Volume 131

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2022

NUMBER 6015

Message from President

As I look at my office window with the blowing snow and the temperature at 23°F I think of the Society's past and look into the future.

I see a small group of Slovak men (at that time there were no women members) with Fr. Furdek in Cleveland Ohio getting together to form a fraternal Society for the purpose of providing death benefits to members and their families.

Their "mission statement" was "ZA BOHA A NÁROD" – "For God and Nation".

The First Catholic Slovak Union has tried to fulfill that goal for over 130 years.

The original "Jednota" newspaper was entirely in Slovak. Today, we still have several pages in Slovak. The Society was founded as a fraternal under the IRS code with a branch system. As with most fraternal the branch system has showed signs of age with branches combining and more fraternal merging.

Over the years, there were more than 200 Catholic and Byzantine Slovak parishes in the United States and Canada that were founded with assistance and support of the First Catholic Slovak Union and its Members. Unfortunately, many have been closed or merged. The Slovak clergy and religious staffed many of these churches and schools. We thank them all for their service and dedication.

These churches and schools not only were places of worship and learning but also places where our Members and Branches could meet and socialize.

I am well aware that things have changed; in our Churches and in our Branches. Fewer young people are attending Mass, even before



Andrew M. Rajec

the COVID issue. All we can do is try to encourage our young people and set an example.

Our Branches are impacted, along with all other fraternal, with changes in state laws that impact our Recommenders and require licensing. These changes have required most fraternal to do business with independent insurance agents. In 2021 independent agents generated \$88 million in FCSU annuity sales, over 80% of our

2021 premium income. We thank our annuity staff and Andrew P. Rajec, Director of Independent Agents for their efforts.

The Society had assets of \$192.31 million at 12/31/2006. Today we have assets of over \$500 million.

To give some help to Catholic parishes and hopefully provide an incentive to our Branches to be more active we are implementing a "Matching funds" program in 2022.

I will be presenting to our Board of Directors proposals for a 5-year plan to address the future of the Society in a challenging fraternal environment.

I believe that we have an obligation to our Members and our Catholic Faith to stay true to the vision that Furdek and our founders had when they established the Society.

I intend that we continue to honor our Slovak heritage by continuing our Slovak section in the Jednota, continuing our excellent relationship with the Slovak Embassy in Washington DC, and finding ways that we can promote relations with the people in Slovakia and our Members of Slovak descent in the US and Canada.

I am Slovak and proud of it and I hope you feel the same.

In closing, I would like to announce that we have hired a new Editor to continue the high quality of our Jednota newspaper. He is Michael Kopanic whose bio follows. In addition to his excellent scholarship credentials, he reads and speaks Slovak. He will be responsible for the February 2022 issue.

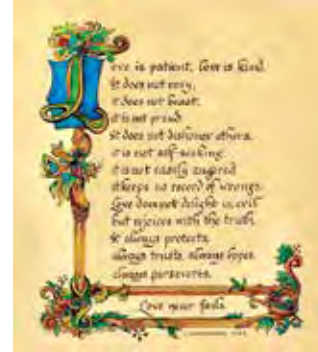
His email is editor@fcsu.com.

I would like to thank our retiring Editor, Terri Ivanec for her 12 years of excellent service.

Terri, best wishes in your retirement years.

Fraternally,

Andrew M. Rajec
President



Love is patient in Slovak and English

Láska je trpezlivá, láska je dobrotivá; nezavidí, nevypína sa, nevystatuje sa, nie je nehanebná, nie je sebecká, nerozčuľuje sa, nemyslí na zlé, neteší sa z nepravosti, ale raduje sa z pravdy.

Všetko znáša, všetko verí, všetko dúfa, všetko vydrží.

Láska nikdy nezanikne.

- 1 Korint'anom 13: 4-6

Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous, [love] is not pompous, it is not inflated, it is not rude, it does not seek its own interests, it is not quick-tempered, it does not brood over injury, it does not rejoice over wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails.

With Corinthian photo quote on Love



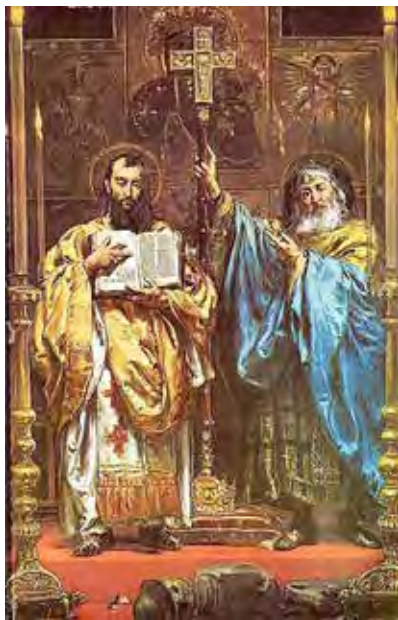
You'll Fall in Love with our Rates!

8 Year Flex Annuity or IRA	3.70%
6 Year Flex Annuity or IRA	3.35%
6 Year Fixed Annuity or IRA	3.15%
Park 2 Annuity (not available in the state of NY)	2.25%
Park Free Plus Annuity or IRA- 1st year guarantee	1.75%
(new Park Free Plus max deposit \$25,000 per person)	2.50%
Settlement Options are based on an interest rate of	(5 yrs +)

Find an Annuity That's Right for You

FCSU Financial® First Catholic Slovak Union
Contact your Branch Officer or the Home Office
800-533-6682, www.fcsu.com, annuity@fcsu.com

Inside	
Editorial/Commentary	2
Branch Announcements	14,20
District Announcements	15
Articles in Slovak/English	



February Reflection

S. Maria Theresa Hronec, SSCM

Feast of SS. Cyril and Methodius/St. Valentine's Day—February 14th is such a special day and tribute for us to celebrate!

As missionaries, SS. Cyril and Methodius were devoted to spreading God's love. So it behooves us as Christians to live with this missionary spirit.

Cyril and Methodius, painting by Jan Matejko, 1885

SING, CELEBRATE

1. Sing, celebrate! These stars so bright,
Saints Cyril and Methodius,
Heavenly glowing lights so holy,
they inspire our sacred trust.

CHORUS

Fervently our prayers resound
as with one voice we say,
Saints Cyril and Methodius,
intercede for us we pray.

2. With ardent zeal you preached our Savior
to our Slavic ancestors,
So to ensure our faith's firm hope
and growth to glorious destiny.

3. Pastoral Shepherds, help us follow
What God wills for us each day.
By your example keep us gentle,
Kind, compassionate, we pray.

4. As radiant light your lives burned out
for peace and truth in every way.
Grant us this gift for drawing souls
to God's own loving heart, we pray.

5. Celestial vision now your glory
where our hope eternal lies.
Fearlessly may we spread your message
and proclaim God's Word survives.

OSLAVUJME HVIEZDY JASNE--
Cyrila a Metoda
tieto z hora svetlá krásne--
slovenského národa

SBOR

Vrucne zaznej v národe
jediný všetkých hlas:
O. svaty Cyril i Metod,
orodujte za nás.

2. Otcom našim Pána Krista
s prácou veľkou hlásali
aby sa tak dozaista
k sláve večnej dostali.

3. Ako verní pastierovia
pásli stáda Pánove
odrážali jak strážcovia
všetky klami diablove.

4. Ako sviece pravovzorné
svetlom pravdy svietili
srdce čisté a pokorné
k láske Božej vznietili.

5. Už koruna spravodlivá
v nebi krásli hlavu vám
vaša prosba starostlivá
vyžiadať tu slávu nám.

Message from the National Chaplain

We are coming up on the 2nd anniversary of when life as we know it came to a standstill. At that time the spread of COVID-19 closed schools, businesses, and entertainment venues. Hospitals and long term health care facilities were closed to visitors. Public Mass was unable to be celebrated.

Things are different now, but it is not the same. Schools are open, but online learning is now an option. We can go to Mass, but not as many people are attending as before. Some businesses and entertainment venues have reopened, but only to those who can show proof of being vaccinated against COVID-19. A number of hospitals and health care facilities now welcome visitors, but visitors must wear a mask, answer a questionnaire, and have their temperature taken before being permitted to go beyond the reception area.

How much we'd like to go back to the way things were before the pandemic!

March 2 is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the holy season of Lent, that annual time for us to renew ourselves and put into practice what we pray at the end of the Act of Contrition, namely, to confess our sins, to do penance, and to amend our lives. In other words, Lent challenges us to return ourselves to the way we once were at the moment of our Baptism.

At our Baptism we received the grace of God to be holy and ever-pleasing before him. At our Baptism we became children of God. At our Baptism we began a lifetime journey of discipleship in Christ Jesus. With the help of God's grace to reject Satan, his works and his empty promises, what we once were then can be who we are now.



Rev. Thomas Nasta

Fr. Thomas A. Nasta
National Chaplain

St. Cyril, Monk and St Methodius, Bishop Memorial: February 14 -

Cyril and Methodius were Greek Byzantine Church brothers, born in Salonika about 825 and educated in Constantinople. They translated the Bible, and liturgical texts, into the Slavonic language. Cyril died in Rome on 14 February 869. Methodius was made a bishop and spent many years preaching the Gospel in Great Moravia, despite resistance and hostility. He died in 885, in what became Czechoslovakia 1918.

Father, you brought the light of the gospel to the Slavic nations through Saint Cyril and his brother Saint Methodius. Open our hearts to understand your teaching and help us to become one in faith and praise. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

SV. Cyril, Mnich A SV. Method, Biskup;

Spomienka: Spomienka: 14: 14. Februar

Otče, priniesli ste svetlo evanjelia slovanským národom prostredníctvom svätého Cyrila a jeho brata svätého Metoda. Otvor naše srdcia, aby sme pochopili tvoje učenie a pomôž nám stať sa jedným vo viere a chvále.

Skrze nášho Pána Ježiša Krista, tvojho Syna, ktorý s tebou žije a kraľuje v jednote Ducha Svätého, jeden Boh, na veky vekov. Amen.

NEWSPAPER DEADLINES

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

Issue Date	Copy Date
Wednesday, March 9	Monday, February 28
Wednesday, April 13	Monday, April 4
Wednesday, May 11	Monday, May 2

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

Send all copy (English AND Slovak) to:
Michael Kopanic, Editor; editor@fcsu.com
First Catholic Slovak Union, Attention "JEDNOTA"
6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence, OH 44131-2398
FAX: 216-642-4310

JEDNOTA

(ISSN 1087-3392)

Catholic Fraternal - Published Monthly

Publisher and Proprietor

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

FCSU Corporate Center

6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300

Independence OH 44131-2398

MICHAEL KOPANIC, Editor; editor@fcsu.com

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

PRINTED AT: SUSQUEHANNA PRINTING, 1407 Hempstead Road, Lancaster, PA 17602

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

POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to:

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

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

Saints Cyril & Methodius Appeal Continues in February

A direct mailing for the 2022 Appeal has been sent to local district and branch leaders from the four Catholic Slovak Fraternal Organizations, members of the Slovak Catholic Federation, and previous donors. As of January 30, 2022, 17 donors have given \$3,450 to the 44th Annual Appeal. Your support is needed each year because money collected in the Appeal goes to help pay for the operating costs of the Pontifical College of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Rome, the residence of priests from Slovakia selected by their bishops to undertake graduate studies.

Anyone who wishes to contribute to the 2022 Appeal but did not receive a letter asking for a donation 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. Donations in any amount are deeply appreciated and are acknowledged. Gifts received after November 30, 2022 will be credited toward the 2023 Appeal. 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. Hvozdivic, V.F., Supreme Chaplain of the Slovak Catholic Sokol and Pastor of Our Lady of Victory Parish, Harvey's Lake, PA and Gate of Heaven Parish, Dallas, PA. Reverend Thomas A. Nasta, National Chaplain of the First Catholic Slovak Union and Parochial Vicar with Senior Priest status at Our Lady of Grace Church, Pennel, PA, serves as First Vice President of the Federation and is the Appeal Coordinator.

44th Annual Saints Cyril and Methodius Appeal

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

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
Our Lady of Grace Church
225 Bellevue Avenue
Pennel, PA 19047-4052

From the Desk of the Executive Secretary – February Holiday Hours



**The Home Office will be closed
on
Monday, February 21, 2022,
in observance of Presidents' Day.**

Get FCSU In Your Inbox!



Stay up-to-date with the FCSU. Receive the current issue of Jednota right in your inbox – along with all the latest member info. It's free, easy and safe. We'll never share your email address! To sign up: <https://www.fcsu.com/contact/>

Dear Fraternal Members and Readers,

I am privileged to introduce myself as the new editor of Jednota (The Union), the publication of the Catholic fraternal, the First Catholic Slovak Union (FCSU).

Starting in February 2022, I have taken the reins of putting together the newspaper which our members and readers have shared and cherished since 1890. As many of you know, I am not new to Jednota and began writing articles in the late 1980s. Since 1995, I have been regularly publishing a column in Jednota on topics about Slovak culture and history, as I am a specialist on Slovak history. Thus becoming editor is indeed an honor and the culmination of a lifetime of work on Slovakia and Slovak-Americans.



Dr. Michael J. Kopanic, Jr

My goals for our Jednota are: 1) to meet your needs for timely news and content about our society and its members; 2) to continue to promote the Catholic faith and Slovak culture; 3) to stimulate members and the Slovak-American community to be more involved in helping to create a quality publication; 4) to attempt to obtain greater participation and readership among younger members.

I would like to thank President Andrew Rajec for his ongoing outstanding leadership of our fraternal society. I am also indebted to the former editor, Terri Ivanec, for her excellent job in putting together Jednota over the past 12 years. I very much appreciate the assistance she has provided in helping me to make a smoother transition to the new task that I have embraced. Finally, I am also grateful to the previous editor and fellow historian, Dr. Anthony Sutherland, who first invited me to be a regular contributor.

I welcome your feedback as our society grows and evolves. Be aware that you may also access online the current and past issues of Jednota since 2006 at the following URL web address: <https://www.fcsu.com/newspaper/>

Feel free to send a message to the editor by mail to the society or at the following e-mail address: editor@fcsu.com - Note this is a new e-mail for the editor.

First Catholic Slovak Union
6611 Rockside Rd, #300
Independence, OH 44131
800-533-6682

I look forward to facilitate FCSU's work in pursuing the mission started by our founder, Father Štefan Furdek, to promote "For God and Nation" (Za Boha a národ). FCSU will continue to provide fraternal insurance and financial alternatives to our members, and at the same time, promote the Catholic faith and Slovak culture.

Most sincerely,

Dr. Michael J. Kopanic, Jr., Editor
e-mail: editor@fcsu.com

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

**HOLIDAY INN CLEVELAND SOUTH - INDEPENDENCE
6001 ROCKSIDE RD
INDEPENDENCE, OHIO, 44131
FRIDAY, MARCH 25 AND SATURDAY MARCH 26, 2022**

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

Friday, March 25, 2022 and Saturday, March 26, 2022
8:30am Mass with meeting to follow

All Officers are requested to consult Section 6.03(b) and Section 6.03(c) of our Bylaws for further information concerning officer participation and the conduct of this meeting.

Officers who are required to give reports at the Annual Meeting should send them to the attention of the Executive Secretary, Kenneth A. Arendt, and should be sent for receipt at the Home Office on or before Friday, March 18, 2022.

All correspondence relative to the Annual Business Meeting of the Board of Directors should be directed to the attention of the Executive Secretary, Kenneth Arendt, and should be mailed for receipt at the Home Office prior to March 18, 2022.

The Executive Committee Meeting will be held following the Board of Directors Meeting on Saturday, March 26, 2022.

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



The 100th Anniversary Committee from the Slovak Community: Front Row - Jozef Sukovsky, Ingrid Sokolsky, Gabriela Porubská, Sylvia Warywoda, Dagmar Sabová; Back Row - Jana Vyvecková, Jana Homolová, Jaroslav Homola; Not pictured - Fr. Peter Bujdos (Branch 746) and Maria Krutkova



Fr. Peter Bujdos (Branch 746) currently serving as pastor to the Slovak community in Trenton thanking the 100th Anniversary Celebration Chairwoman, Mrs. Dagmar Sabová, for her dedication and hard work.



FCSU Region 1 Director Sabina Sabados with the members of the organizing Committee enjoying the festivities. Left to right: Gabriela Porubská, Fr. Peter Bujdos (Branch 746), Adam performing from the Slovak school Pramiенок, Sabina Sabados (Branch 746), and Jaroslav Homola from the band, Relax

St. Michael Church a 100-year support to Slovak, Korean communities

EmmaLee Italia, Contributing Editor, TrentonMonitor.com

The church motto "No one comes to St. Michael's as a stranger and leaves us that way" was abundantly evident Dec. 12 when Bishop David M. O'Connell, C.M., celebrated a Mass and blessed a St. Michael mosaic to commemorate the 100th anniversary of St. Michael Church in Trenton. Coined by Father Louis W. Kralowich, St. Michael's administrator in the late 1970s to early 1980s, the phrase emphasizes the sense of community and common purpose that has married the historically Slovak Catholic community of St. Michael Church with the Korean Catholics and English-speaking Catholics who also now share the worship site affiliated with St. Ann Parish, Lawrenceville.

"Anniversaries are a time for 'going home,' for reaching back through the years and remembering the good things and the good times that were part of our lives," said Bishop O'Connell in his homily. "Today we celebrate a homecoming of 100 years here when St. Michael Church was built and consecrated by my predecessor Bishop Thomas Walsh a century ago yesterday.

"As we celebrate a homecoming of 100 years today, we also recognize that Advent, in a sense, is a homecoming," the Bishop continued, "a return to the Church and all that it offers: a family; things familiar; the opportunity to be 'at home' with God and one another – all things to celebrate with joy."

From Roots to Branches

Erected in 1921 to serve the Slovak community of North Trenton, St. Michael Church sits at 1130 Brunswick Avenue. Slovak and Polish priests from the surrounding area served the parish until a permanent pastor was found in Father Michael J. Kallok, installed in 1926. Under his direction a social hall was added under the church in 1927 and a rectory was constructed in 1929.

Plans were made for a more majestic church in the current parking lot, with the smaller original building rebuilt into a school – but financial income in the hard-strapped 1930s wouldn't allow for the expansion. A long-celebrated tradition of the St. Michael community is the St. Jude Novena, a fixture among the Slovak faithful of the church since 1939. Father Ladislav J. Rakvica – who became administrator in 1936 and served for 36 years – initiated the first Solemn Novena to St. Jude Oct 20, 1939, as a thank you to the saint for his miraculous recovery from a near fatal illness. The novena tradition continued weekly on Thursdays, gaining in popularity, and devotion to St. Jude continues today.

When Father Rakvica, after 10 years of assisting at St. Michael's following his retirement, died in 1982, the Slovak language Mass was not regularly celebrated again in the church until 20 years later. In the meantime, the community was administrated by Father William Capik (1972-1974); Father Kralowich (1974-1982), and then-Father (now Msgr.) James G. Innocenzi, who was appointed administrator in 1982 and pastor in 1986. Through his guidance and assistance, Msgr. Innocenzi welcomed weekly Masses in the Slovak language and the Slovak community back to St. Michael's in 2002, with the approval of then-Bishop John M. Smith.

Father Vladimir Chripko, a native Slovak priest, began celebrating the Slovak Mass there, ushering in a return of St. Michael's as a center of spiritual and cultural life for Slovaks of the wider area. Msgr. Innocenzi remained until 2005 when St. Michael's merged with St. Ann Parish. The Korean Catholic community was welcomed to St. Michael Church in 2006.

Currently under the ministry of Father Peter Bujdos, who replaced Father Chripko in 2015, many repairs and updates were made to the church and rectory structures, including

continued on page 7

100. výročie konsekrácie Kostola svätého Michala v Trentone

12. decembra 2021 oslávil Kostol svätého Michala v Trentone 100. výročie svojho vysvätenia.

Bol postavený slovenskými imigrantmi v severnej časti mesta, kde sa slovenská komunita v tom čase rýchlo rozrastala.

11. decembra 1921 sa v ňom konala prvá svätá omša, počas ktorej ho posvätil vtedajší trentonský biskup Thomas Walsh.

V začiatkoch kostol nemal stáleho kňaza. Sväté omše tu slúžili slovenskí a poľskí kňazi z blízkeho okolia. Prvým stálym kňazom vo farnosti svätého Michala bol Michael J. Kallok (1926-1931).

Za jeho pôsobenia sa v roku 1927 postavila spoločenská hala pod budovou kostola a o dva roky neskôr aj fara.

Plány rozrastajúcej sa slovenskej komunity boli dokonca oveľa odvážnejšie. Na mieste dnešného parkoviska mal stáť väčší, majestätnejší kostol a pôvodná budova kostola mala byť prerobená na katolícku školu. Veľká hospodárska kríza, ktorá prišla v roku 1929, všetky tieto plány zastavila.

Významnú rolu v histórii kostola zohral duchovný otec Ladislav Rakvica (1936-1972).

Vo farnosti pôsobil ako farár 36 rokov a aj po odchode do dôchodku prichádzal ďalších 10 rokov do Kostola sv. Michala každú nedeľu, aby tu odslúžil slovenskú svätú omšu.

20. októbra 1939 začal v Kostole svätého Michala s novénami a pobožnosťami k svätému Júdovi ako poďakovanie za jeho zázračné uzdravenie z veľmi vážnej choroby. Prosby mnohých veriacich boli vypočuté na orodovanie svätého Júdu Tadeáša, ktorý je patrónom ľudí v beznádejných a zúfalých situáciách. Pobožnosť k sv. Júdovi v Kostole sv. Michala si počas rokov získala v širokom okolí Trentonu veľkú popularitu a aj dnes sa tu koná pobožnosť k sv. Júdovi každý štvrtok o 7:30 PM ako aj slávnostná 9-dňová novéna každý rok od 20. do 28. októbra.

S odchodom duchovného otca Ladislava Rakvicu sa z kostola vytratil aj slovenský jazyk na dlhých 20 rokov.

Ďalšími kňazmi, ktorí tu pôsobili boli Father William Capik (1972-1974), Father Louis Kralowich (1974-1982) a Msgr. James Innocenzi (1982-2005).

V roku 2002 pani Mária Kolcunová iniciovala obnovenie slovenských bohoslužieb v Kostole sv. Michala. Vtedajší trentonský biskup John Smith jej žiadosti vyhovel.

Msgr. Innocenzi, farár vo farnosti sv. Michala, prijal slovenskú komunitu s otvorenou náručou.

Duchovným otcom pre Slovákov žijúcich v okolí Trentonu sa stal Father Vladimír Chripko, ktorý tu prichádzal v nedele a vo sviatky vysluhovať slovenské sväté omše a sviatosti v slovenčine. Svojím obetavým prístupom k ľuďom stmeloval slovenskú komunitu, ktorá pod jeho vedením rástla na duchovnom poli aj v počte svojich členov. Začalo sa s vyučovaním náboženstva v slovenskom jazyku. V rámci komunity sa konalo a stále koná množstvo krásnych kultúrno-spoločenských podujatí.

V roku 2005 zanikla farnosť sv. Michala a kostol sa stal súčasťou susednej farnosti sv. Anny v Lawrenceville, NJ. Father Vladimír začal vysluhovať aj anglické sv. omše pre americkú komunitu, ktorá zostala v Kostole sv. Michala.

Kórejská katolícka komunita pribudla do kostola v roku 2006.

Fr. Vladimíra Chripka (člen Branch 746) vystriedal vo vedení slovenskej komunity v roku 2015 Father Peter Bujdos (člen Branch 746), ktorý pokračoval v podpore duchovných a spoločenských aktivít. V roku 2019 sa slovenská komunita pod jeho vedením zaviazala na

continued on page 7



NEW SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES!

FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION

helps its young members succeed through education by awarding over \$142,000 in scholarships each year.

SCHOLARSHIP CATEGORIES

CATHOLIC GRADE SCHOOLS (5-8 gr)	\$500
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOLS	\$1,000
COLLEGES	\$1,500
GRADUATE SCHOOLS	\$1,500
VOCATIONAL/TRADE SCHOOLS	\$1,000

RULES & REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must have: a minimum of \$5,000 of reserve insurance (Ordinary Whole Life, Twenty Pay Whole Life, or Single Premium Whole Life, NOT a JEP -JEP members as of December 31, 2021 are still eligible as long as they have been a member for 4 years); or minimum of \$500 in an annuity or Coverdell IRA with the FCSU for at least four years prior to April 1st of the year in which they are applying.

Applicants are eligible to win once in each of the 5 categories.

All scholarship winners must maintain an active policy during their school years.

Applicants must submit an official Scholarship application obtained from a branch officer, the Home Office or www.fcsu.com and mail it to: Scholarship Program, FCSU, 6611 Rockside Rd, #300, Independence, OH 44131.

Winners will be chosen by the Scholarship Committee and checks will be made payable to the winners.

Find Scholarship Applications at WWW.FCSU.COM
(www.fcsu.com/membership-benefits/scholarships)

Applications must be postmarked by **MARCH 31, 2022**
For more info call us at 800-533-6682

Branch 785's January Meeting

On Sunday January 9, 2022, Branch 785 held its Annual meeting by means of ZOOM since Ontario's Covid-19 public health rules were again in place and person-to-person meetings were prohibited. The attendance was good as there were few households together and some were on telephone.

- Submitted by Helen von Friedl,
Branch 785



What are the some of the most common words in the Slovak language that Slovak-Americans hear?

Joj! [yoy] – Oh! Wow! – My baba used to say this about almost everything!

Dobre [doe-bre] – Good! This is the answer to lots of questions.

Baba [Bu-ba] – Grandmother, in eastern dialect.

Čekaj! [Check-eye] – Wait! Eastern dialect.

Cetka [tset-kah] – Aunt, or sometimes to any adult who is a close friend as a sign of respect.

Ja ti dám! [Yah tee daam] - I'll give it to you. (When we misbehaved!)

S Bohom [S Bo-home] – Goodbye, literally meaning "God be with you," the traditional form

Pirohy [pee-row-he] – Dumplings filled with potatoes, sauerkraut or other fillings.

Halubky [ha-lup-kee] – Stuffed cabbage or pigs in the blanket.

Halušky [ha-loosh-kee] - Boiled dumplings made with grated raw potatoes, flour, and salt, with cabbage usually added in the USA.



The FCSU cup traveled to Region 1: Ranahan family fun!

The Ranahan family enjoyed the holidays with the Jednota Traveling Cup! Pictured here are Mrs. Mary Tkach with her five great-grandchildren -- all Jednota members of Branch 746! The newest addition to the Ranahan family is baby Owen Daniel Ranahan whose surrounded by proud big brothers Jack and Benjamin and cousins Colin and Kellie! Mrs. Mary Tkach was the winner of the "Gingerbread House 2019" competition and shared the trophy with Colin Ranahan who won 1st place in the kids coloring contest (December 2020).

Attention:



New suitability forms

Dear Branch Officers/Members;

The NAIC has released new recommendations for our annuity suitability forms. These recommendations have been adopted by the State Department of Insurance.

According to the State Department of Insurance we can **NO LONGER** accept the old suitability form with new annuity applications.

Please disregard any old annuity applications.

For **NEW ANNUITY APPLICATIONS and SUITABILITY FORMS** go to our website www.fcsu.com/forms and download the entire application.

If you have any questions, please contact us at 800 533 6682.

Thank you,

Kenneth A. Arendt
Executive Secretary

St. Michael Church a 100-year support to Slovak, Korean communities

continued from page 4

the addition of a camera system and internet access to allow for livestreaming of Masses.

A Century to Remember

"I would like to thank God we are here ... can we imagine how many sacraments, graces and blessings people have received here these 100 years?" Father Bujdos reflected at the end of the anniversary Mass. "The church is not big – however it is cozy, and we are thankful to those who have built this church. ... We should be joyful people because we are people of light ... for all three communities – American Slovak and Korean – St. Michael is not only a building, but as Bishop David said, it is home."

A St. Michael parishioner for 18 years, Maria Krutkova helped plan the celebratory Mass and music selection as a member of the liturgical committee, and also worked on the committee creating a commemorative St. Michael booklet, due to be distributed in a few weeks.

"This centennial celebration means so much to me," said Krutkova, who came to the U.S. from Slovakia at a young age. "What made it so much easier for me is that the Slovak community at St. Michael's was already established; I have found [my] home away from home. ... I'm so proud and grateful that our Slovak predecessors, with great dedication, built a place where people of many origins found their spiritual home."

In addition to the anniversary Mass, the committees have been organizing events and commemorations throughout the year that celebrate St. Michael's legacy in the community: the writing and recitation of an anniversary prayer and logo; slideshows and photo collections; archival material in Slovak language curated and updated; clothing drive, bake sale and anniversary souvenir sales held as fundraisers; the installation of a St. Michael the Archangel mosaic above the church entrance, and much more.

Dagmar Sabova, chair of the 100th Anniversary Committee and parish religious education teacher, has been a member of St. Michael's since 2002, along with her husband, Jozef Sabo; son, Michal Sabo, and daughter, Emma Sabova. Father Kralovich's motto "is how I felt on our special day," she said. "It was so nice to see the church full of people; everyone was smiling and enjoying the beautiful ceremony."

"Our ancestors... found time, energy and, most importantly, funds to build a new church," she continued. "They brought from their homeland a hard-working mentality, but also a deeply rooted faith in God. This led to the conviction that, with His grace, they would be able to fulfill their dreams of a better life."

Sabova's second grade class contributed to the anniversary Mass with a song sung in the Slovak language following Communion. Their group name is Pramienok, meaning small fountain or small river flow.

"Commemorating 100 years is even more meaningful given that we are even now able to exalt our Heavenly Father [at St. Michael] in our language," Sabova noted.

Krutkova agreed. "It was a pure joy and blessing," she said. "In these uncertain times, we are grateful we could celebrate with such honor and joy. This celebration and its planning surely brought our three communities – English speaking, Slovak and Korean – closer together."

- As posted on 12/20/2021 TrentonMonitory.com.
Reprinted with permission from Trenton Monitor.

100. výročie konsekrácie Kostola svätého Michala v Trentone

continued on page 4

5 rokov finančne podporovať nevyhnutné opravy na budove kostola. Aj takto sa trentonskí Slováci snažia zachovať a udržať dedičstvo našich predkov.

Oslavy storočnice kostola boli nádherným vyvrcholením viac ako polročnej prípravy, obetovaného času a námahy mnohých dobrovoľníkov z Kostola sv. Michala. Boh štedro požehnal tento slávnostný deň. Kostol bol zaplnený do posledného miesta. Svätú omšu celebraval trentonský biskup David O'Connell spolu s ďalšími 13 kňazmi a dvoma diakonmi. Aj svätý Otec František poslal svoje apoštolské požehnanie. Čítania a prosby boli prednesené v jazykoch všetkých troch komunít Kostola sv. Michala; v anglickom, slovenskom a kórejskom.

Počas svätej omše zaspievali aj deti zo slovenskej komunity pieseň Vďaka Ti, Pane.

Pri príležitosti 100. výročia sa všetky tri komunity v kostole dohodli na inštalovaní mozaiky s vyobrazením Michala archanjela nad vstupné dvere do kostola.

V závere slávnostnej sv. omše biskup David novú mozaiku požehnal.

Oslavy 100. výročia pokračovali po sv. omši v banketovej hale Ambassador v Trentone, na ktorej sa zúčastnilo viac ako 300 hostí. Oslavu spestrili krásnym kultúrnym programom deti zo slovenskej školy Pramienok, ktorá funguje pri Kostole sv. Michala.

V príjemnej atmosfére, o ktorú sa postaral Jaroslav Homola zo skupiny Relax sa ľudia zabávali až do neskorých večerných hodín.

Ďakujeme našim slovenským predkom za krásny Boží stánok, za to, že si našli čas, energiu a hlavne financie na výstavbu kostola. Z rodnej krajiny si so sebou priniesli nielen pracovitost' ale aj pevne zakorenenu vieru v Boha a presvedčenie, že s jeho pomocou si dokážu v novej krajine vybudovať život o akom snivali. Výstavba chrámu bol určite aj na vtedajšiu dobu odvážny zámer. Podarilo sa im však postaviť krásny útulný kostolík, ktorý až do dnešného dňa slúži svojmu účelu a aj po sto rokoch tu zaznieva ich rodná slovenská reč.

Aj dnes je Kostol sv. Michala v Trentone pre mohých Slovákov druhým domovom. Nachádzajú tu nielen duchovné posilnenie, možnosť pristupovať ku všetkým sviatostiam v slovenskom jazyku, ale aj príležitosť stretnúť sa s rodákmi na rôznych spoločenských akciách, zaspievať si, zatancovať, pomôcť si v núdzi, byť si navzájom oporou a udržiavať naše krásne ľudové tradície stále živé.

Slovenské sväté omše sa konajú v Kostole svätého Michala v Trentone každú nedeľu o 10:00 hodine.



March Madness 2022 ... at the FCSU

March Madness – one of the biggest, most exciting and most fun events in all of sports – has once again come to the FCSU!

General March Madness Rules

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

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

In 2022, Selection Sunday is March 13th. The official bracket game of the NCAA will open immediately after the committee announces the field on Selection Sunday.

FCSU March Madness Rules

Note: the contest will take place online

1. Each entrant in the FCSU March Madness Contest must have an active policy and be a member in good standing with the FCSU.
2. 1 Entry per person ONLY.
3. Each Player must HAVE AND USE THEIR OWN EMAIL ADDRESS.
4. Each Player MUST FILL OUT AN ENTRY FORM.
5. After the office reviews your entry and you are ruled in good standing, an email will be sent to you to enter the pool. (The Email will be sent to the email address you provide. Print Clearly).
(One Email Address may only be used once for the contest).
6. Please CHECK YOUR EMAIL OFTEN. ALSO CHECK YOUR JUNK EMAIL.
7. Once you receive the email, follow the instructions to sign up on the game site.
8. Once you sign up on the game site, your account will automatically become FROZEN until start of competition. Your account will REOPEN on Sunday March 13th, 2022.
9. You must have your account set up by 5:00PM Thursday March 10th, 2022.
10. All pool rules will be listed on the Official Contest Site.

Entry Form: (All Information Must Be Filled In)

(MISSING INFORMATION WILL CAUSE DISQUALIFICATION TO CONTEST)
PRINT OR TYPE CLEARLY

NAME _____
BRANCH: _____
ADDRESS: _____
PHONE NUMBER _____ :
EMAIL: _____
(EMAIL CAN ONLY BE USED ONCE. No exceptions).

11. Mail to:

Kevin Collins
628 Heather Brite Cr.
Apopka, FL 32712

(More than 1 entry form may be mailed in an envelope).

MUST BE POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN Tuesday March 1st, 2022
And arrive in Office by 5:00pm Wednesday March 9th, 2022
PLEASE PLAN AHEAD.

FCSU March Madness Prizes

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

News From Slovakia

EC sa zaviazalo spracovať výsledky CoFoE počas tohto obdobia

Brusel 24. januára (TASR-spravodajca) – Plenárne zasadnutie Konferencie o budúcnosti Európy (CoFoE) v sobotu (22.1.) v Štrasburgu zúžilo okruh odporúčaní občanov, ktoré vzišli z dvoch už uzavretých občianskych panelov. Podpredseda Európskej komisie (EK) Maroš Šefčovič, ktorý je poverený riadením pracovnej skupiny CoFoE pre zdravie, pre TASR uviedol, že jeho pracovná skupina zúžila odporúčania občanov v tejto oblasti na štyri tematické okruhy.

Šefčovič upozornil, že ďalším krokom jeho pracovnej skupiny bude vo februári štruktúrovaná debata na vybrané témy. Zhrnutie záverov skupiny následne zašle – ako v prípade ostatných pracovných skupín – vedúcim troch hlavných inštitúcií EÚ: Rade EÚ, Európskej komisii a Európskemu parlamentu.

„Ich úlohou bude prijať tieto závery počas francúzskeho predsedníctva a navrhnúť ich ďalšie rozpracovanie. V mene Európskej komisie sme sa politicky zaviazali, že hneď ako sa konferencia skončí konkrétnymi výstupmi, urobíme všetko pre to, aby sme v tomto volebnom období prišli s konkrétnou implementáciou,“ povedal Šefčovič. Súčasný mandát Európskej komisie vyprší v polovici roku 2024.

Európska komisia musí byť podľa neho pripravená, že po konferencii bude musieť v niektorých ohľadoch vytvárať nové politiky či právne predpisy.



Ilustračná snímka (foto TASR)

Illustration picture (photo by TASR)

EC Committed to Process CoFoE Outcomes During This Term

Brussels, January 24 (TASR-correspondent) – The plenary of the Conference on the Future of Europe (CoFoE) in Strasbourg on Saturday (January 22) narrowed down the range of citizens' recommendations that emerged from the two already closed citizens' panels, European Commission (EC) Vice-President Maros Sefcovic, who is in charge of managing the CoFoE working group on health, told TASR that his working group had narrowed the citizens' recommendations in this area to four thematic ranges.

Sefcovic pointed out that the next step of his working group will be a structured debate on selected topics in February. It will then send a summary of the group's conclusions – as in the case of the other working groups – to the heads of the three main EU institutions: the EU Council, the European Commission and the European Parliament.

„Their task will be to adopt these conclusions during the French Presidency and to propose their further elaboration. On behalf of the European Commission, we've made a political commitment that as soon as the conference concludes with specific outcomes, we'll do everything we can to come up with specific implementation in this electoral term,“ said Sefcovic. The current mandate of the European Commission expires in mid-2024.

According to him, the European Commission must be prepared that following the conference it will have to create new policies or legal regulations in some respects.

Štatistiky: Inflácia narástla na 3,2 percenta v roku 2021, najvyššia hodnota za deväť rokov

Bratislava 14. januára (TASR) – Celoročná inflácia v roku 2021 vzrástla na 3,2 percenta, čo je najvyššia hodnota za posledných deväť rokov, a to v dôsledku prudkého rastu cien v druhej polovici roka, informoval Štatistický úrad SR k tomuto dátumu.

Štatistickí poznamenali, že vlni ceny rástli rýchlejšie, ako odborná verejnosť očakávala. V roku 2020 dosiahla inflácia pod vplyvom pandémie len 1,9 percenta.

„Vývoj počas roka 2021 bol turbulentný, pričom v prvých dvoch mesiacoch vzrástli spotrebiteľské ceny o menej ako jedno percento, ich tempo rastu sa postupne zvyšovalo. Od júla rástol celoročný rast cien nad tri percentá a v poslednom mesiaci roka sa priblížil k šiestim percentám,“ poznamenal vedúci odboru cenovej štatistiky Štefan Adamec.

Ceny v minulom roku vzrástli vo všetkých 12 hlavných zložkách spotrebného koša. Výrazný vplyv mali vyššie ceny v doprave, najmä rast cien pohonných hmôt – v medzioročnom priemere o 17,3 percenta. Tento rast je podľa štatistikov aj dôsledkom bázického efektu, keďže ceny pohonných hmôt klesli v rokoch 2020 a 2019. Výrazný vplyv malo aj zvyšovanie cien tabakových výrobkov po úpravách daní v marci 2021, ktoré celoročne vzrástli o 13,7 percenta.



Sídlo Štatistického úradu v Bratislave (foto TASR)

Statistics Office headquarters in Bratislava (stock photo by TASR)

Stats: Inflation Swelled to 3.2 percent in 2021, the Highest Rate in Nine Years

Bratislava, January 14 (TASR) – Yearly inflation in 2021 increased to 3.2 percent, the highest value in the past nine years, as a result of rapid growth in prices in the second half of the year, the Statistics Office reported on this date.

The statisticians noted that last year prices rose faster than the professional public expected. In 2020, under the influence of the pandemic, inflation reached only 1.9 percent.

„Developments during 2021 were turbulent, while in the first two months consumer prices rose by less than one percent, their growth rate gradually increased. From July, year-on-year price growth grew above three percent and in the last month of the year approached six percent,“ noted head of the price statistics department Stefan Adamec.

Last year, prices rose in all 12 main components of the consumer basket. Higher prices in transport had a significant effect, especially the growth of fuel prices – with an annual average by 17.3 percent. According to statisticians, this growth is also a consequence of the base effect, as fuel prices fell in 2020 and 2019. Rising prices of tobacco products after tax adjustments in March 2021 also had a significant impact, rising by 13.7 percent year-on-year.

Vlhová po víťazstve v slalome v Kranjskej Nie je také ľahké stále vyhrať

Kranjska Gora 9. januára (TASR) – Slovenská lyžiarka Petra Vlhová triumfovala v nedeľu v ďalších pretekoch Svetového pohára v slalome v Kranjskej Gore, pričom si pripísala 25. víťazstvo a 52. pódiové umiestnenie v prestížnej sérii.

V slovinskom lyžiarskom stredisku predstihla Švajčiarku Wendy Holdenerovú o 0,23 s, tretia skončila Švédka Anna Swenn Larssonová s výrazným odstupom 1,06 s. Američanka Mikaela Shiffrinová nedokončila druhé kolo.

Dvadsaťšesťročná Vlhová v tejto sezóne dominuje slalomu. Vyhrala už piatu zo šiestich súťaží, postupne sa dvakrát radovala vo fínskom Levi, raz v rakúskom Lienzi a v chorvátskom Záhrebe. Až v americkom Killingtone ju Shiffrinová zdolala. Vlhová oslavuje 17. slalomové víťazstvo v kariére. Z možných 600 bodov má 580 a suverénne vedie poradie v disciplíne, pred druhou Shiffrinovou má obrovský náskok 240 bodov.

„Nie je také ľahké neustále vyhrávať a podmienky boli dnes ťažké. [V] druhej jazde som urobila všetko perfektne a na konci je to ďalšie víťazstvo,“ povedala Vlhová pre Eurosport.



Slovenská lyžiarka Petra Vlhová s trofejou na pódiu v Kranjskej Gore 9. januára 2022 (foto TASR)

Slovak skier Petra Vlhova with a trophy on a podium in Kranjska Gora on January 9, 2022 (photo by TASR)

Vlhova after Winning Slalom in Kranjska Gora: Not So Easy to Win All the Time

Kranjska Gora, January 9 (TASR) – Slovak skier Petra Vlhova triumphed in another World Cup slalom race in Kranjska Gora on Sunday, notching up her 25th victory and 52nd podium appearance in the prestigious series.

In the Slovenian ski centre, she edged out Swiss Wendy Holdener by 0.23 seconds, the third place was taken by Sweden's Anna Swenn Larsson with a significant gap of 1.06 seconds. American Mikaela Shiffrin didn't finish the second round.

Twenty-six-year-old Vlhova is dominating slalom this season. She has already won the fifth of six competitions, gradually rejoicing twice in Levi, Finland, once in Lienz, Austria and in Zagreb, Croatia. Only in Killington, USA did Shiffrin defeat her. Vlhova is celebrating 17th slalom victory in her career. Out of a possible 600 points, she's scored 580 and is sovereignly leading the ranking in the discipline, she has a huge lead of 240 points over second Shiffrin.

„It's not so easy to win all the time and the conditions were tough today. [In the] second run I did everything perfect and at the end, it's another victory,“ Vlhova told Eurosport.

In a Slovak-made plane, 19 year-old Belgian-British pilot Zara Rutherford lands in the Guinness World Book of Records,

By Michael Kopanic, Jr., Ph.D.

On January 20, 2022, Zara Rutherford entered the Guinness Book of World Records as the youngest female pilot flew solo around the world, and she did so in a challenging manner, in a very light aircraft. Her sponsors included her former school in Hampshire, and Shark - the Slovak manufacturer of her Shark UL aircraft.

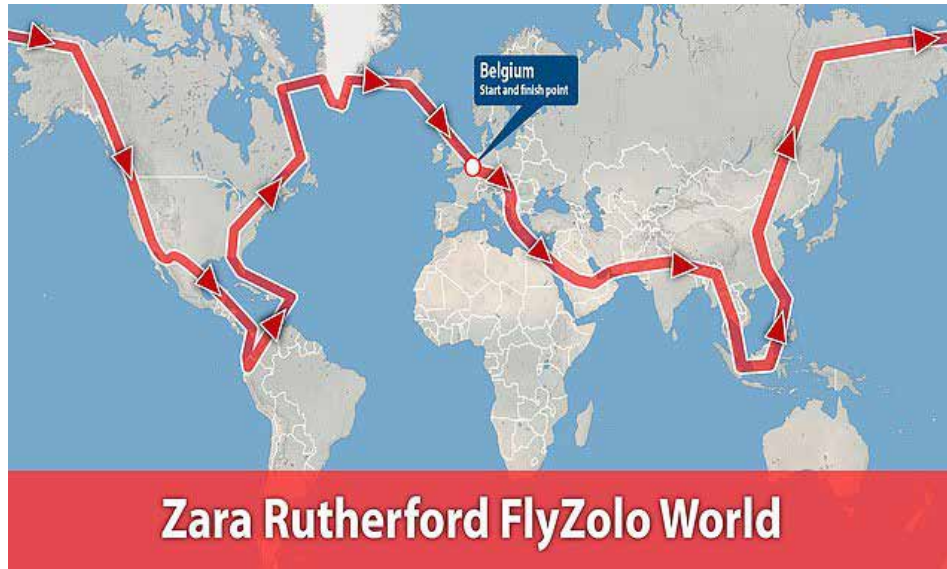
She started out her journey on August 18, 2021, two months later than originally planned due to inclement weather. Her trip included over 60 stops across five continents. During her trip, she was stuck a month in Nome, Alaska, and 41 days in Russia.

Upon completing her journey, she wrapped herself in British and Belgian flags and told reporters: "It's just really crazy, I haven't quite processed it."

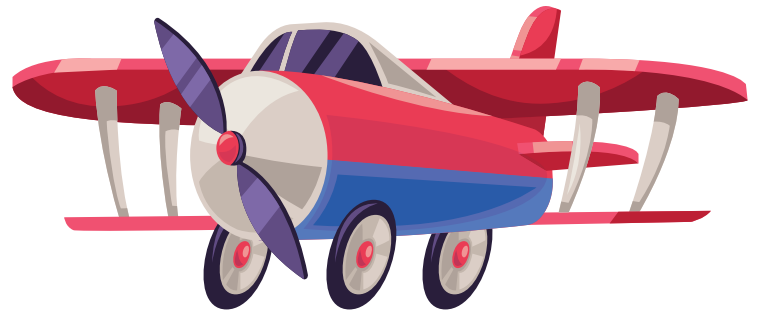
Her parents are both pilots, and she aspired to inspire other girls to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering and math.



Zara Rutherford piloting a Slovak plane (photo credit: TASR)



Zara Rutherford FlyZolo World



Zara Rutherford FlyZolo World Tour Flight

Participating In Our Jednota Memorial: A Great Start to the New Year!

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

Slovak Radio Online in 2022

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

In addition to our treasured publication Jednota, Slovak Radio offers another medium to reach the Slovak-American audience and those interested in Slovakia and its culture. Here are some examples of the many radio programs which one may access online or on live radio. Some have podcasts or youtube videos, but other have to be listened to live. They all offer a way to keep up with events in Slovakia and the Slovak community abroad and keep us aware of our rich Slovak culture and heritage.

The online radio show "Notes of Slovakia" offers live broadcasts from Cleveland and an online recording on its website YouTube. One may listen to it anytime, even in short segments, and it has an archive to access. And it is easy to find on the web, with a simple Google search. One can go straight to the website and click on "Listen Now": <https://notesofslovakia.com>, or go directly to <https://notesofslovakia.com/listen-now>. There also is a Facebook site with links: <https://www.facebook.com/NotesOfSlovakia/>. The most recent program from January 2022, can be accessed at: "Notes of Slovakia January 2022 show movie" on youtube: tinyurl.com/2xk3jbt5.

Every "Notes of Slovakia" program is broadcast in both English and Slovak. So everyone will understand, material in Slovak is usually translated. The show offers a great variety which should appeal to listeners. The program also offers an array of short talks about Slovak culture, history, and the language. And if one wishes to watch while listening, there are pictures of the speakers, the subject matter, and during the music.

Mike Wojtila (Vojtilla) of USA and Slavomir Vojtilla of Slovakia co-host the program. A native of Slovakia, Slavo Vojtilla teaches some words and phrases in every show. Yours truly, the new Jednota editor, Michael Kopanic, offers short talks history and traditions on Slovak Spotlight during the program. My most recent talk featured Slovak New Years greetings.

Other Slovak Radio Online

There are several other online Slovak radio programs broadcast in the USA, and most broadcast on Saturday and Sunday. The Cleveland Slovak program on WERE 1490 AM airs on Sunday mornings at 11 am EST, and airs live. Organized by the Cleveland Slovak Radio Club, it is the longest running Slovak radio program that has been continually broadcasting in the USA since 1939. Milan Kobulsky, a native of eastern Slovakia, serves as the principle announcer. The radio website is <https://newstalk-cleveland.com/listen-live/> and the Club also hosts a Facebook website: <https://www.facebook.com/ClevelandSlovakRadioClub>.

Another Slovak program airs on WPIT 730 am in Pittsburgh and is hosted by the well known Jednota couple from the Pittsburgh area, Rudy and Sue Ondrejco; it may be heard at 3-4 pm EST on Sundays and must be listened to when broadcast. Sue does a fantastic job explaining various Slovak customs, and Rudy supplements her with his excellent Slovak. To listen on the web, search WPIT on the web, or go to: <http://player.listenlive.co/57381>.

The WPIT Rusyn program hosted by Dean Poloka now airs live from 3:30-4 pm. The Carpatho-Rusyn Society offers an archived list of the programs, so it is easy to listen even if a computer or mobile device is not handy at the time of the broadcast. For info, go to: <https://c-rs.org/Rusyn-Her->



Announcer Julie Satinský on The Slovak broadcast on radio 4EB 98.1FM from Brisbane, Australia.



Dean Poloka - Rusyn program host



Dennis Spisak of WKTL Slovak Radio Program with Dr Michael Kopanic



Fr Martin Kertys St John Nepomucene vicar



Rudy and Sue Ondrejco hosts of WPIT Slovak Program



Cleveland Slovak Radio
Streaming Live: NEWSTALKCLEVELAND.COM
On The Air Continuously Since 1939

MILAN KOBULSKY
Director/Announcer
Email: milankobulsky@hotmail.com 3321 State Road
Medina, Ohio 44256-9276

Phone: (330) 239-2256
Cell: (440) 897-3326

Milan Kobulsky
WERE Cleveland
Slovak Radio host

Notes of Slovakia
Co-host Slavomir
Vojtilla



itage-Radio-Program. One may listen to Rusyn Radio any time on Rusyn FM. Don't forget that 3:30 pm in Pittsburgh is 9:30 pm in Prešov and 10:30 pm in Uzhorod. Listen at the website below: tinyurl.com/2prsye7z.

In the Youngstown, Ohio area, Dennis Spisak hosts a live Slovak Radio Program from 9-11 pm EST on Saturdays. Broadcast from WKTL FM 90.7 as a public service from Struthers, Ohio, the show plays many traditional Slovak polkas and čardašes as well as current news about the local Slovak community of the Mahoning and Shenango valleys. Dennis is always willing to dedi-

cate songs to listeners and has experience hosting a polka program for many years, and is known as "the Polka Rabbit". While one must listen live, the show now offers a listening site on the internet, and it can be heard on live radio as far away as the outer suburbs of Akron and Pittsburgh. The station may have just changed its website in 2022 to the following link: <https://thewide-worldofmusic.com/listen-live>.

Another Slovak program, CJAM, 99.1 FM, broadcasts for the Detroit/Windsor area from the University of Windsor, Canada. Co-hosted by Mary Boldizar Jacko and

Anna Bagin, the program presents Slovak music as well as information on Slovak culture and local happenings. If one lives outside the broadcast area, the shows are recorded and the 5 most recent are posted on the internet at the website: tinyurl.com/3uswued2.

The Chicago area offers Krajanské Rádio/Centrum Chicago (Countryman Radio / Downtown Chicago) and also hosts a website with mainly modern Slovak and Czech music: <https://www.radiokrajan.com/>. Recent younger immigrants host the program and it appeals to the taste of youth with some knowledge of Slovak and Czech. It also hosts a Facebook website: <https://www.facebook.com/krajanskecentrum/>.

Finally, I discovered a Slovak program in Brisbane, Australia which broadcasts over the internet and keeps an archive of recent programs. It announces mainly in Slovak and is staffed by emigrés who are native Slovaks. It is broadcast at 6 pm on Fridays, Australian time, but has podcasts at: tinyurl.com/2p92amxs.

To hear Slovak radio programming in English directly from Slovakia, visit the RTVS radio site: <http://enrsi.rtvs.sk>. The show features news of the day and special features about Slovakia and its culture. RTVS stands for Radio TV Slovakia, and it also has an archive in case you missed a program you wished to hear.

There are many other Slovak radio programs which one may find with an internet search. One of my favorites is Rádio Regina, which plays mainly folk music, and one may choose variants from western central and eastern Slovakia. I prefer Radio Regina Východ, which features music from the east where my family origins are. It offers an extensive archive in case you missed a show. Listen at <https://reginavychod.rtvs.sk/>.

For Catholic religious radio in Slovak, Rádio Lumen (Radio Light) has a website with live and archived broadcasts. It offers religious music, talks, airings of pilgrimages, etc., and offers daily mass in Slovak (svätá omša) at 6pm European time, which is 12 noon EST. The website is: <https://www.lumen.sk/> and to listen live, one must click on Spustiť naživo (Listen Live).

Another option for Slovak language religious programming is on TV Lux or Televízia Lux from Slovakia. It features Masses as well as many podcasts and an archive to choose from. See: <https://www.tvlux.sk/>.

Live Mass in Slovak is also available on Sundays at 10:15 EST and on holy days from St John Nepomucene Church in New York City at Lux New York. Masses are visible and celebrated by either visiting priests or Rev. Martin Kertys, C.O., the Parochial Vicar, who speaks a clear literary Slovak and offers some very insightful sermons. The site also stores Masses on the Facebook website: <https://www.facebook.com/luxnewyork.net>.

Conclusion

All of these Slovak programs are well worth listening to, and can help one learn and reinforce Slovak language skills while learning something and enjoying the music. I recommend that listeners send a donation to their favorite program, so they can continue in the future as we try to preserve our Slovak heritage.

If you have any questions, comments, or know of a Slovak program not mentioned and worth bringing to the attention of our readers, feel free to e-mail me at: editor@fcsu.com.

Your Phone Call Is Important to Us!



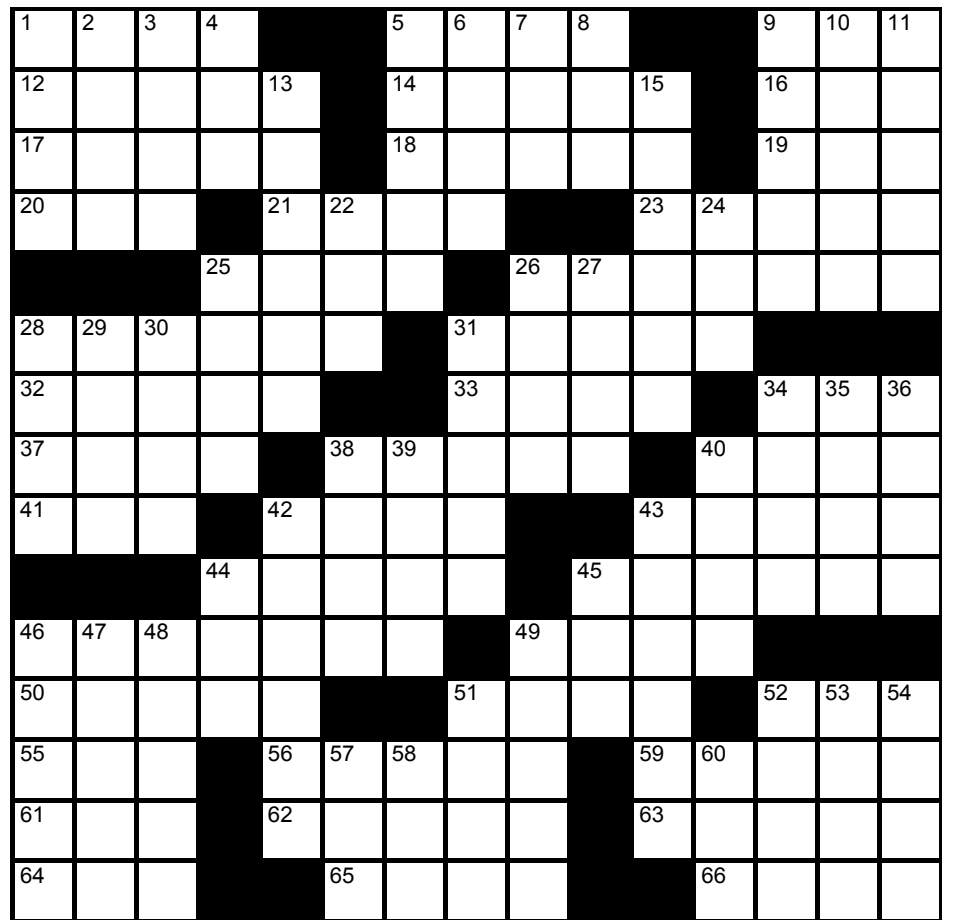
At the First Catholic Slovak Union, we take every phone call very seriously. Our goal is to deliver the best customer service possible – even in these challenging times.

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.

Jednota Crossword Puzzle



Is your FCSU profile up to date?



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

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

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

2022 Branch 670 Scholarships Available for Qualified Members: *Apply Today!*



Branch 670 of Donora, PA is excited to announce that it is accepting applications for its 2022 Scholarship Program. The committee will award, to the candidates who best satisfy the criteria up to three, one-time \$1000.00 scholarships. Any individual of Branch #670 that has had a policy for at least 4 years, is current in their premiums, is a high school senior and will attend an Approved Educational Institution is eligible to apply.

For applications, you may email your request or send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to:
Joe Matinko, 85 Crestline Ave., Charleroi, PA 15022 (email: matinko305@comcast.net)

ALL APPLICATION REQUESTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY MARCH 31, 2022

Publication Schedule for 2022

Issue Date	Deadline to Receive Information
March 9	February 28
April 13	April 4
May 11	May 2
June 8	May 31
	(Memorial Day, May 30)
July 13	July 5
	(Independence Day, July 4)
August 10	August 3
	(Convention, Aug 1 & 2)
Sept 14	Sept 6
	(Labor Day, Sept 5)
October 12	October 3
November 9	October 31
December 14	December 5

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 Smoker's purchase | 63 Healthy | 42 Radio-controlled aircraft |
| 5 Impoverished | 64 Before, poetically | 43 Trial figure |
| 9 Selene's sister | 65 Small whirlpool | 44 Down Under bird |
| 12 To no ____ (fruitlessly) | 66 Physics calculation | 45 King's title (Abbr.) |
| 14 Governed | | 46 Sharp narrow ridge |
| 16 Shred | Down | 47 Joystick |
| 17 Shouldered | 1 Sunscreen ingredient | 48 Boiling mad |
| 18 Court call | 2 Declare openly | 49 Fencing move |
| 19 ____ vaporeur (steamed) | 3 Give a hoot | 51 Garden intruder |
| 20 Blow away | 4 Family | 52 Pop |
| 21 Venus de Milo's lack | 5 School affairs | 53 Bookie's quote |
| 23 Horse opera | 6 Willa Cather's "One of ____" | 54 Ottoman Empire governors |
| 25 Prima donna problems | 7 Hackneyed | 57 1967 Monkees song |
| 26 The Big Apple | 8 Sandpiper | 58 Guitarist Nugent |
| 28 Jacuzzi | 9 Sister of Calliope | 60 Piña colada ingredient |
| 31 Taste or touch | 10 Persian Gulf ship | |
| 32 Sheeplike | 11 Fire starter | |
| 33 Shade of blue | 13 Sports association | |
| 34 Cyst | 15 Sleepy | |
| 37 Zola heroine | 22 Fleece | |
| 38 Pan, e.g. | 24 Reply to a captain | |
| 40 Like the White Rabbit | 25 Mount SW of Messina | |
| 41 Chicago trains | 26 In apple-pie order | |
| 42 Kaput | 27 A deadly sin | |
| 43 Numbers game | 28 Fine-tune | |
| 44 Expunge | 29 Racetrack | |
| 45 Wicker material | 30 Anchovy containers | |
| 46 Ex's due, at times | 31 Sarcastic | |
| 49 Sunday seats | 34 Light bulb unit | |
| 50 Summer TV offering | 35 Jazzy James | |
| 51 Like some hair | 36 It's a gas | |
| 52 Blubber | 38 Actor Cain or Stockwell | |
| 55 Actress Bartok | 39 Effortless | |
| 56 Organic compound | 40 They may be drawn | |
| 59 Waste away | | |
| 61 Hanoi holiday | | |
| 62 Like some lingerie | | |

See Solution on Page 23



A JOINT FRATERNAL EVENT FOR
FCSU, GCU, NSS & SCS MEMBERS



Brookgate Lanes

14950 SNOW ROAD
BROOK PARK, OH
216-676-4325



**2022 NATIONAL BOWLING TOURNAMENT
CLEVELAND, OH
FRIDAY, MAY 13 & SATURDAY, MAY 14, 2022**

LODGING



CROWNE PLAZA[®]
7230 Engle Road
Middleburg Heights, OH 44130
440-243-4040

Block Code:
SNB



No applications will be accepted after April 11, 2022.

9th ANNUAL NATIONAL JOINT SLOVAK BOWLING TOURNAMENT
A JOINT TOURNAMENT OF FCSU, GCU, NSS & SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL
 "USBC MORAL SUPPORT CERTIFIED"
 AMF Brookgate Lanes ♦ Brook Park, OH
 Friday, May 13 & Saturday, May 14, 2022

No applications will be accepted after April 11, 2022.

Please note: Bowling Fees must accompany this application for the bowlers to be registered in the tournament.

BOWLER INFORMATION (LIST CAPTAIN FIRST)	FCSU TOURNAMENT INFORMATION
Name: _____ Address: _____ Phone: _____ Last 4 Digits SS# _____ E-mail: _____	Highest Avg. 2020-21 _____ USBC No. _____ Branch/District _____ Team: _____ Please Check Tournament Events Bowler at Left Is Submitting Payment for on this Application: <input type="checkbox"/> Team <input type="checkbox"/> Singles <input type="checkbox"/> Doubles <input type="checkbox"/> All Events
Name: _____ Address: _____ Phone: _____ Last 4 Digits SS# _____ E-mail: _____	Highest Avg. 2020-21 _____ USBC No. _____ Branch/District _____ Team: _____ Please Check Tournament Events Bowler at Left Is Submitting Payment for on this Application: <input type="checkbox"/> Team <input type="checkbox"/> Singles <input type="checkbox"/> Doubles <input type="checkbox"/> All Events
Name: _____ Address: _____ Phone: _____ Last 4 Digits SS# _____ E-mail: _____	Highest Avg. 2020-21 _____ USBC No. _____ Branch/District _____ Team: _____ Please Check Tournament Events Bowler at Left Is Submitting Payment for on this Application: <input type="checkbox"/> Team <input type="checkbox"/> Singles <input type="checkbox"/> Doubles <input type="checkbox"/> All Events
Name: _____ Address: _____ Phone: _____ Last 4 Digits SS# _____ E-mail: _____	Highest Avg. 2020-21 _____ USBC No. _____ Branch/District _____ Team: _____ Please Check Tournament Events Bowler at Left Is Submitting Payment for on this Application: <input type="checkbox"/> Team <input type="checkbox"/> Singles <input type="checkbox"/> Doubles <input type="checkbox"/> All Events

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

DOUBLE & SINGLES EVENT—SATURDAY, MAY 14

9 AM 12:30 PM We could bowl Sunday if necessary.

TEAM EVENT—FRIDAY, MAY 13

5:30 PM 8 PM

Team Name: _____

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

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

1. _____
2. _____
1. _____
2. _____

Name of your Local USBC: _____

Association Secretary: _____

Address: _____

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

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

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

Financial Totals for this Application	
_____ Singles Event..... @ \$22 ea. =	\$ _____
_____ Doubles Event..... @ \$22 ea. =	\$ _____
_____ Team Event..... @ \$22 ea. =	\$ _____
_____ All Events..... @ \$5 ea. =	\$ _____
_____ Banquet Fee (Bowler)..... @ \$0 ea. =	\$ _____
_____ Banquet Fee (Guests)..... @ \$55 ea. =	\$ _____
Total Enclosed	\$ _____

Important to All Tournament Entrants
Read Carefully Information Given Below

Rules and Regulations of Annual FCSU/GCU/NSS/SCS Bowling Tournament

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

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

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

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

5. The total cost per person for each event shall be:

- a. Prize Fee\$10.00
- b. Bowling Fee.....\$7.50
- c. Hospitality Fee.....\$4.50
- TOTAL COST (per event).....\$22.00
- Banquet Fee (Optional).....\$0
- *All Events (Optional).....\$5.00

*Only bowlers paying the \$5.00 for the All-Events will be eligible for the cash awards.

PRIZE FEE WILL BE RETURNED 100 PERCENT IN EACH EVENT

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

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

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

7. Any contestant whose current average as of March 15, 2022 of at least 21 games is ten pins or more above his highest average from the previous season must use his current average.

HANDICAP - Handicap (Men) allowed will be 85% of the difference between 240 and last season's 2020-2021 highest sanctioned league average of at least 21 games. Bowlers who have no established average will use their highest sanctioned league average of at least 21 games as of March 15, 2022. Male bowlers who have no established average for this year or last year will be listed as 175 average and will be handicapped accordingly. If the bowler does not have a sanctioned average over the last two years, but has competed in the Joint Fraternal Tournament, the most recent 5 year history from the Joint Fraternal Tournaments will be used. Male bowlers with an average over 240 will receive no handicap and will bowl scratch in the tournament.

Handicap (Women) allowed will be 85% of the difference between 200 and last season's 2020-2021 highest sanctioned league average of at least 21 games. Bowlers who have no established average will

use their highest sanctioned league average of at least 21 games as of March 15, 2022. Female bowlers who have no established average for this year or last year will be listed as 150 average and will be handicapped accordingly. If the bowler does not have a sanctioned average over the last two years, but has competed in the Joint Fraternal Tournament, the most recent 5 year history from the Joint Fraternal Tournaments will be used. Female bowlers with an average over 200 will receive no handicap and will bowl scratch in the tournament.

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

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

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

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

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

10. All entry applications and bowling fees are to be sent directly to: Kevin Collins, 628 Heather Brite Cr., Apopka, FL 32712; not later than April 11, 2022. Rule 310-A2 is in effect.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Entries will close at midnight April 11, 2022.

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

BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

BRANCH 1 - LAKEWOOD, OHIO

The next branch meeting of the Saint Joseph Society will be held on March 27, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. Those interested in attending, please contact Rochelle Popovich at 216-789-6390 by March 12, 2022. Social distancing will be observed so we need to know in advance if you will be attending. All members are welcome to attend. Wishing everyone a very happy New Year filled with health and happiness.

Marie A. Golias, Secretary

BRANCH 2 - PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 2 will hold its semi-annual meeting on Tuesday March 15, 2022, at the Eat n' park on Route 65 in Bellevue at 7PM. The agenda includes a discussion of upcoming events and election of delegates for the upcoming convention. Please RSVP to Joanne at 412-715-5577.

Jo Ann Lako, Secretary

BRANCH 5P - EXETER, PENNSYLVANIA

The Saint John the Evangelist Society, Branch 05P, will hold a meeting on Saturday, April 2, 2022, at 12:30 pm at Angelo's Restaurant and Pizza, Midway Shopping Center, 1000 Wyoming Avenue, Wyoming, PA. Pizza luncheon will be provided.

On the agenda will be a discussion of branch business and activities. The agenda will also include a discussion and election of delegates to the 52nd Quadrennial Convention of the First Catholic Slovak Union. The Convention will be held Saturday, July 30 - Monday, August 2, 2022, in Ohio.

Members are invited and encouraged to attend. Members who want to attend the branch meeting should contact Marion Rubino, President, by March 26, 2022, at 570-693-0399.

Mary Jo Rubino, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 7 - HOUTZDALE, PENNSYLVANIA

The Sacred Heart of Jesus Society Branch 7 will hold a meeting on Sunday, April 3, 2022, at 9:00 AM at Holy Trinity Catholic Church Parish Hall, 52 Parish St. Ramey, PA 16671. All members are invited to attend the meeting.

Joseph C. Cervenak, President

BRANCH 19 - BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 19 will offer a mass in celebration of the feast day of our patron saint St. Joseph for the living members of our branch on March 13, 2022, at 8:30AM in Sts. Cyril & Methodius Church, 79 Church St., Bridgeport, CT.

The first meeting of the year will be held via Zoom on Sunday, March 13, 2022, at 10:00AM. Officers' reports will be given and plans for activities during the year will be discussed. Also at this meeting, we will be choosing delegates for the August 2022 Jednota Convention. We cordially invite interested members to contact me at csteacher3@gmail.com to obtain a link for the meeting. We look forward to reconnecting with our members.

Deborah M. Nelson, Secretary

BRANCH 23 - JOHNSTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 23 will hold their 1st annual branch meeting on Sunday, April 3, 2022. The meeting place will be at Denny's Family Restaurant on Theatre Drive in Richland. The meeting will begin at 1:30PM. Please try to attend, as a Branch member you are welcome. It's always a pleasure to meet with fellow members of our Branch and share time. We come from good stock and it makes for a good time.

Voting for Delegates to attend the FCSU 52nd. Convention will take place at this meeting. The Convention will be held on Saturday, July 30-Monday, Aug 2, 2022 in Ohio. Other upcoming events will be talked about too. Please join us. If you have any questions, please call Theresa 814 254 2532

Theresa Cassat, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 24 - CLEVELAND, OHIO

Branch 24, St Andrew Svorad Society, is providing special Branch 24 members-only pricing for the Saturday evening (7PM), April 2, 2022, Monsters hockey game at Quicken Loans Arena in downtown Cleveland, OH. A non-branch member ticket is \$24. A Branch 24 member ticket is \$5. Reservations are required and available by calling Branch 24 Fraternal Activities Director Tom Ivanec at 440-668-7797. Please make checks payable to Branch 24 FCSU. The deadline is March 1, 2022. Order now, and join other FCSU members and guests - from Branch 24 and other branches in our District 10 - for a family-friendly evening of fun and fraternalism.

Robert Kopco, President

BRANCH 24 - CLEVELAND, OHIO

Attention all Branch 24 members: the branch is starting a New Member Referral Program. Branch 24 is offering \$25 for each new member you refer who purchases an insurance policy or annuity through a licensed agent or the Home Office.

A new member is someone who does not already own an FCSU product. To learn how to participate in this program, please call Branch 24 Fraternal Activities Director Tom Ivanec at (440) 668-7797.

Tom Ivanec, Fraternal Activities
Director

BRANCH 24 - CLEVELAND, OHIO

Branch 24 will hold a meeting on Sunday, February 20, 2022. This will be a hybrid meeting that starts at 1PM. Branch 24 members will meet in the Activity Center of St. Joseph Byzantine Catholic Church, 8111 Brecksville Road, Brecksville, OH. We will elect branch delegates to the FCSU 52nd Quadrennial Convention at this meeting. All COVID protocols in place at the time such as masking and social distancing will be observed at the in-person meeting. If preferred, members may participate in the meeting virtually.

Intent to Run for Delegate Required: We will compile a ballot of potential delegates prior to the meeting. Any eligible Branch 24 member who wishes to be on the ballot of potential delegates for election must email their name(s) to Branch 24 Secretary Anna

Gibson prior to the meeting @ branch24fcsu@gmail.com.

Meeting RSVP Required: All members who plan to attend this meeting, either in-person or virtually, must call Branch 24 Fraternal Activities Director Tom Ivanec at 440-668-7797 by February 13, 2022 - either to make in-person reservations or get details on how to join the meeting virtually.

Note: should circumstances in February preclude a safe in-person gathering, the meeting will be changed to an all virtual meeting. If this happens, Branch 24 Secretary Anna Gibson will send an email to all branch members from whom we have an address from the most recent branch meetings. Also, please check the FCSU website closer to the meeting date and/or call Branch 24 Fraternal Activities Director Tom Ivanec at 440-668-7797 prior to the meeting.

Robert Kopco, President

BRANCH 35 - BRADDOCK, PENNSYLVANIA

St Michaels, Branch 35 will hold a virtual meeting on Sunday, February 20, 2022, at 1:00 PM. The agenda will include election of delegates for the upcoming 2022 FCSU National Convention. Branch members who are interested in attending the meeting are asked to call Janet Sullivan at (412) 824-4185.

Janet Sullivan, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 45 - NEW YORK, NEW YORK

The St. Matthew's the Evangelist Society, Branch 45KSJ, will hold a semi-annual meeting on Sunday, April 3, 2022, at 1:00PM after the Slovak Mass at St. John Nepomucene Church in New York City. The agenda will include election of delegates to the 52nd Quadrennial Convention at the Holiday Inn Cleveland South in Independence, OH. We kindly ask all members to attend the meeting.

Maria Jurasi, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 60 - MCKEESPORT, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 60 will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday, April 3, 2022, at the home of President Ann Wargovich (58 Lilmont Drive, Swissvale) at 1:00PM. On the agenda will be Officers' reports, upcoming events, and election of delegates to the 52nd Quadrennial Convention. All members are urged to attend.

Julie Perla, 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 novak-ncp@charter.net for more information or to request an award application.

Paul Novak, Secretary/Treasurer

BRANCH 153 - CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

St. Stephen Branch 153 will host its semi-annual meeting on Saturday, March 26 at 11:30AM. The meeting will be at Cucina Biagio 7319 West Lawrence Avenue, Harwood Heights, IL. At this meeting, we will elect 4 delegates and alternate delegates to the National Convention. Please call Dorothy Jurcenko at (708) 995 7378 before March 16 to reserve a place at the meeting.

Dorothy Jurcenko,
Financial Secretary

BRANCH 162 - UNIONTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Wendelin Society, Branch 162, will hold its branch meeting on Sunday, February 27, 2022, at 9:00AM at the Dairy Queen Restaurant, 575 West Main Street, Uniontown, PA. Officers' reports will be given and upcoming branch activities will be discussed. The Donations Committee will make its recommendations, election of delegates to the 52nd Quadrennial Convention of the FCSU will take place, and Region 4 Director James Marmol will advise us of developments from the Home Office. Call Dolores Marmol at 724-437-4983 before February 20th if you and your guest wish to attend the meeting.

Dolores Marmol, Secretary

BRANCH 166 - BINGHAMTON, NEW YORK

Greetings Members of the St. Joseph the Guardian Branch 166K! A meeting will be held Sunday, April 24, 2022, from 2PM-4PM for the election of Delegates to the FCSU Quadrennial Convention being held in Independence, OH, July 30-August 2, 2022. More information about the location of the meeting along with details will be announced in the March Jednota.

If you have any Questions contact Morgan Dendler, Branch 166 President, by phone (607) 206-7243 or by email at catholicfcsu@gmail.com.

Judie Dendler, Secretary

BRANCH 181 - UNITED, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 181 members are invited to attend the March 5, 2022 meeting after the St. Florian Parish 5PM Mass in the parish social hall. This will be combined with the George Onda District 3 meeting to be conducted first. Election of Delegates for branch members will take place for the upcoming FCSU 52nd Quadrennial Convention to be held July 30 - August 2, 2022. Delegate qualifications for Branch 181 members are to attend at least 1 branch meeting per year every year prior to the convention in addition to being active in fraternal activities. These guidelines are based on Bylaw 11.03 and Bylaw 11.04 in the FCSU Bylaws. The annual family picnic

continued on page 20

DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISTRICT 2- REVEREND JOHN J SPITKOVSKY DISTRICT

District 2 will hold an in person meeting on Sunday, April 3, 2022, at 2PM. Meeting will be held at the Missionary Sisters of St Benedict, 5900 West 147th Street, Oak Forest, IL. The District Delegate and the alternate Delegate to the 2022 National Convention will be elected. The District Raffle will be resumed at this meeting. Please bring a RAFFLE PRIZE. Reservations are required to order the proper amount of food. Please call Dorothy at (708) 995 7378 no later than March 25. All safety procedures will be enforced including wearing a mask.

John Jurcenko, President

DISTRICT 3 - GEORGE ONDA DISTRICT - WESTMORELAND COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

The George Onda District 3 will hold its Semi-Annual meeting on Saturday, March 5, 2022. We will meet in the Social Hall following the 5PM Mass at St. Florian Roman Catholic Church in United, Pa. As has been the custom lately, we will follow CDC guidelines and masks WILL be required to be worn. On the agenda will be news from the branches and the choosing of ONE delegate to attend the National Convention of July 20, 2022 to August 2, 2022 at the Holiday Inn Cleveland South. Refreshments will be served. We look forward to a good attendance.

Linda L. Gonta, Secretary

DISTRICT 4 – THE MSGR RURA DISTRICT

The next semi-annual meeting of the Msgr. Rura District of New Jersey will be held on Sunday, March 20, 2022 in the downstairs meeting room of Holy Family Church (210 Monroe Street, Linden, NJ, 07036). The District Luncheon will be served at 2:15 PM. Okres meeting will follow. Convention delegate (and alternate) for the July 2022 Convention will be elected at this meeting. Kindly RSVP to Joanne Tkach Polt @ 732-762-3148 by March 9th if you plan on attending. Please bring non-perishable items for donation to a local food pantry.

Mary Kapitan, Secretary

DISTRICT 6 – THE PITTSBURGH DISTRICT

The Pittsburgh District will meet on Sunday, April 24, 2022 at 1PM at the Holy Trinity Church Hall of St Thomas the Apostle Parish. The meeting will be hosted by Branch 35. Please be in touch if your branch would like to host Father's Day or the Fall Business Meeting. The 52nd Convention is planned for July 30 to August 2 at the Holiday Inn in Independence, Ohio. District president David Matta was elected district delegate. The district urges all branches to be sure to follow all bylaws as you elect convention delegates.

Other announcements:

* WPSCA: Contact Joe Senko to see when meetings might resume.

* Slovak classes: Contact Joe Senko for additional information.

As always members are urged to check the Jednota for updates on FCSU business matters as well as contests and tournaments. Insurance information and forms can be found at the FCSU website.

Fraternally,
Margaret Nasta, Secretary

DISTRICT 7 – THE REV. JOHN MARTVON DISTRICT

District 7 will hold our 1st Annual Meeting on April 24, 2022. Branch 23 will be the host. This District meeting will be at The Bistro on Nees Avenue at the Clover Leaf in Geistown (Near OSheas Candy). The meeting is set to begin at 2PM. We would like to have our Branches come to let us know how you all are doing. Come and see what's happening in our District. We will need to discuss the upcoming Convention. The Convention will be held on Saturday, July 30 - Monday, August 2, 2022 in Ohio. All Branch members in our District are welcome to attend this meeting. We are still taking precautions concerning the Viruses. If you have any questions please call Theresa Cassat @ 814 254 2532.

Theresa Cassat, Vice President

DISTRICT 8 – REVEREND STEPHEN FURDEK DISTRICT

The Rev. Stephen Furdek District 8 is holding its semi-annual meeting on Saturday, March 26th, 2022 in Washington D.C. Mass will be at 12:10 PM at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception/Crypt Church located at 400 Michigan Ave NE, Washington, DC 20017. Due to ongoing COVID issues the cafeteria is closed and lunch will be 'bring-your-own brown bag' in a nearby meeting room immediately following Mass. Please email Jo Austin for information: jeaustin89@gmail.com or call her at 315.391.0526.

Joanne Engle Austin, Recording Secretary

DISTRICT 9- THE FRANK T. HOLLY JR. DISTRICT

The Frank T. Holly Jr. District of Uniontown, PA will hold a meeting on Sunday, March 6, 2022, at 1:00 -3:30 PM at Caporella's Italian Ristorante at 90 Pittsburgh Street, Uniontown, PA.

Election of officers will be on the agenda. Regional Director Marmol will be informing the members of Jednota upcoming events.

Members who attend will be asked to contribute \$5.00 toward their meal. Reservations need to be made by Wednesday, March 2, 2022, by contacting President James Marmol at 724-970-7642. All members are urged to attend.

Barbara A. Holly, Secretary

DISTRICT 10 – THE STEPHEN FURDEK DISTRICT

The first meeting of District 10 in the new year will be held on Sunday, February 27, 2022, at the Slovak J Club, 485 Morgan Avenue, Akron, OH 44311 at 3PM. This will be a hybrid meeting with members able to attend in-person or virtually. Please contact Tom Ivanec at 440-668-7797 for instructions on signing into the virtual meeting. Please email me at lhanko@neo.rr.com or call me at 330-706-0151 if you are planning to attend the meeting in person for the purpose of refreshments.

On the meeting agenda: the upcoming 52nd Quadrennial Convention, delegate requirements, and election of a delegate and an alternate to attend the Convention.

Look forward to seeing you at the meeting. Happy New Year from your District 10 officers. Wishing you a year of God's continued blessings on your home and family.

Respectfully submitted

Linda M Hanko, Treasurer and Recording Secretary

DISTRICT 11 - THE MONSIGNOR TISO DISTRICT

Attention Members of District 11: Election of Delegates to the 52nd Quadrennial Convention July 30 - August 2, 2022 will be held at the quarterly meeting on February 6, 2022 at the CU Club in Ford City, PA, at 2PM. Hope to see you there.

Karen Greggs, Recording Secretary

DISTRICT 12 – THE MONSIGNOR ANDREW HLINKA DISTRICT

The semi-annual meeting of the Monsignor Andrew Hlinka District of the Mon Valley will be held on March 27, 2022, at 1PM at the Hoss' Restaurant in Belle Vernon, PA. Reservations are required for seating. Meal costs will be the responsibility of the individual or branch. Please contact the District Secretary at 412-341-1577 or email the secretary at hlinkadistrictsecretary@gmail.com to make your reservation. Leave a message with name, phone number, and the names of the people attending.

At this meeting, the District has organized a fundraiser and will be collecting non-perishable food items for the Food Bank. Please bring your donation to the event.

All branches are urged to send their representatives.

Monica Rodacy Boone, Secretary
hlinkadistrictsecretary@gmail.com

DISTRICT 12 – THE MONSIGNOR ANDREW HLINKA DISTRICT

Save the date:

March 27, 2022. Monsignor Andrew Hlinka District members save the date for the next district meeting.

More information in upcoming issues of THE JEDNOTA.

Happy New Year, 2022!

Monica Rodacy Boone
HlinkaDistrictSecretary@gmail.com

DISTRICT 14 – THE REV JOSEPH L. KOSTIK DISTRICT

Following are the currently Scheduled District Meetings for Calendar Year 2022:

1. Tuesday, March 15, 2022 at 6:00 P.M.; Fireplace
2. Tuesday, May 17, 2022 at 6:00 P.M. (Semi-Annual Meeting); Fireplace
3. Tuesday, July 19, 2022 at 6:00 P.M.; Fireplace. (Convention Related Update)
4. Tuesday, September 20, 2022 at 6:00 P.M.; Fireplace
5. Tuesday, November 15, 2022 at 6:00 P.M. (Annual Meeting for Election and Installation of Officers for 2022); Fireplace
6. Tuesday, December 13, 2022 at 6:00 P.M. (Short Meeting and Christmas Dinner); Location TBD

Appropriate social distancing and masking protocols will be followed as long as the Covid-19 issue remains. Dates and locations may change for the same reason. An Additional meeting might be scheduled if needed for convention or fraternal activities.

Meetings will be held at The Fireplace 2075 E. Western Reserve Rd. Poland, OH 44514; unless otherwise specified, indicated, or announced. Alternate location will be The Falcon Grille; 39 N. Canfield-Niles Rd., Austintown, OH 44515.

Sincerely,

John J. Leskovyansky, Jr., President
Home: (330) 549.3788
Cell: (330) 559.5981

DISTRICT 16 – THE MSGR KRASULA DISTRICT

The semi-annual meeting of District 16, the Msgr Krasula District, will be held on Sunday March 27, 2022, in the church rectory of St. John Nepomucene Church, NYC, immediately following the 10:15 AM Slovak Mass. Agenda will include financial matters, future activities and election of future delegates to Convention. All members are urged to attend. Some light refreshment may be served after the meeting.

Joan Skrkon, Recording Secretary

DISTRICT 19 – THE MSGR MICHAEL SHUBA DISTRICT

The District will hold a meeting of Convention Delegates and Selection of Alternates to Convention on Sunday March 27, 2022, at 1:30PM. An email will be sent out with details to the Canadian members for the location. Dependent on current Covid 19 Restrictions this meeting will be either at Sts Cyril Church hall in Mississauga or via ZOOM.

Anne Mitro, Secretary

Fill out your Forms Online! Save your Time!



Now you can fill out the FCSU forms online at <https://www.fcsu.com/forms>

Fill them out, print, sign and mail them to the Home Office.

Take advantage of our Faster, More Readable and Time Saving Feature.

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
040K	Nancy E Battershell	228K	Ethel B Stasny	553K	Thomas Walsh	785K	Paul Kralik
040K	Edward J Leskanich	260K	Frank R Sebest	584K	Mary A Slavik	796K	John Berosh
045K	Helen Zakutny	320K	Janet Devito	587K	Catherine A Frey	796K	Mary Ann E Reese
085K	Antonia J Herman	322K	Marilyn D Sandy	618K	Mary Jane Varley	831K	Elizabeth P Backo
089K	Anthony Budiach	367K	Robert R Miscovich	746K	Joseph G Kostick	831K	Timothy Brian Detman
152K	John V Payer	382K	Mark Kuna	746K	Mary Ann Matuska	915K	Earnest Lee Laster
173K	Lorraine Dorin Cudo	382K	Barbara Olenick	746K	Danielle S Weldon	916K	Robert E Ahlstrom
173K	Michael J Jurnak	429K	Andrew Puvak	764K	George Tomko	921K	Lawrence J Ricard
181K	Bernice Ostrosky	553K	John N Michalak	780K	Raymond L Gulvas	918K	Susan M Koziak
181K	Andrew Smail						

* Processed in the month of Jan 2022

OBITUARIES

RUBEN S. SILVA BRANCH 181 – UNITED, PENNSYLVANIA



Ruben S. Silva, 62, of Greensburg, died January 6, 2022, at Excelsa Westmoreland with his loving wife and dear son by his side. He was born September 14, 1959, in Cebu City, Province of Cebu, Philippines. Ruben was the son of the late Francisco and Serenaya Silva. Ruben's first introduction to Americans was when he worked on an oil rig in the Philippines. He fell in love with root beer floats. He worked a variety of jobs before becoming a registered nurse. Ruben previously worked at Bronx Municipal Hospital Center as an assistant head nurse of surgery; at Cornell Medical Center, New York City, as the head nurse of the burn unit; and Excelsa Frick in the emergency room. He was currently working at home for United Healthcare/Optum 360. Ruben was a member of St. Vincent Basilica Parish, Latrobe. He had a passion for skiing as he traveled throughout the United States to his favorite ski resorts. Ruben was a long time member of the ski patrol at Seven Springs. His friend and fellow ski patroller, Robert Horrell, shared these thoughts, "To know Ruben was to see a smile when he greeted you, to hear a light hearted laugh as you spoke, to see excitement when talking about his family or the Philippines. He was always sharply dressed and the first to say yes when something needed taken care of; oftentimes, he was already taking initiative. Ruben was a joy to chat with and had an amazing life story; we experienced quite a few amazing chapters in his life the best one reads how a boy from the Philippines ended up loving the mountain lifestyle." Another fellow ski patroller, Jeff Freedman, said it best when he heard the news of Ruben's passing saying, "In native tribes, snowfall is a symbol befitting great warriors. Ruben passed as the snow began to fall last night. How appropriate." He enjoyed vacationing with his wife and son taking them to his native Philippines, and traveling to Europe and the Caribbean. He also enjoyed playing volleyball and working out at the gym. Ruben is survived by his devoted wife of over 33 years, Beth Hricik Silva, and his son, Drew (Crystal) Silva, of Jackson, Mich., and his mother-in-law, Geraldine Firment Hricik, whom he

welcomed to live with him and Beth since February 2020. Ruben is also survived by his sisters, Vilma and Marla. He was predeceased by his brother, Elmer. He is also survived by many in-laws, nieces, nephews and his faithful dog, Chocolate Chip. He was the love of Beth's life and wonderful father to Drew. He will be greatly missed by all!

- Submitted by Beth Hricik Silva

ELIZABETH "BETTY" P. BACKO BRANCH 831 – TARENTUM, PENNSYLVANIA



Elizabeth "Betty" P. Backo, 92, of Tarentum, PA, passed away peacefully at home with her family by her side December 14, 2021. She was the daughter of the late John and Pauline (Karac) Pracko. Betty lived her entire life in this area, where she was a member of the former St. Clement Church, Tarentum (Guardian Angels Parish, Holy Martyr's Church) and later was a Eucharistic minister. She also was a member of the Holy Family Prayer Group of Natrona. A 1947 graduate of St. Joseph High School, Betty was captain for the first all-girls basketball team. Upon graduation, she worked at her family's store in Tarentum, Pracko's Meat Market. Betty was a devoted daughter, wife and mother. Besides being a homemaker, she was a teacher's aide for Allegheny County School District. Betty enjoyed dancing, live music, Slovak food and traveling throughout the United States and Europe. She also enjoyed bowling on a duckpin league and playing cards. She was an avid doll collector and also collected plates and figurines from all of her travels. She will always be remembered for her classic Thanksgiving Dinners...room for all. Survivors include her children, Paula (James) Valicenti, James Backo, and Alice Backo; three grandchildren, Marcy, Jonathan and Tony; 10 great-grandchildren, Lauren, Brandon, Tyler, Scott, Sydnie, Noah, Alanna, Kyle, Jillian and James; and one great-great-granddaughter, Harper. Also surviving is a sister, Margaret M. Eberhart. Besides her parents, she was preceded in death by her beloved husband, John L. Backo; and her siblings, Emil, Bernard, Aloysious, Edward, Francis, Marian Detman, John, Joseph and Richard Pracko.

- Submitted by James Backo

MARTHA J. HORNACK BRANCH 746 – LINDEN, NJ



Martha J. Hornack, 94, of Roselle, NJ, entered into eternal rest on Sunday, January 23, 2022. She was laid to rest on Tuesday, February 1st, 2022.

Martha was born to Michael and Ana (Estok) Antonich in Ubrez, Slovakia, and has resided in Roselle, NJ, since 1956, prior she lived in Elizabeth, NJ. She was employed as an Inspector for Accurate Bushing in Garwood for 12 years retiring in 1989.

Martha was a member of the Holy Name Rosary Society in Linden. She was an active member of Jednota Branch 746 for many years attending meetings, dances (zabava s), picnics and pilgrimages. She loved to cook and bake.

Martha was predeceased by her beloved husband, George Hornack in 1976, and her son, Stephen Hornack in 2002. Surviving is her loving daughter, Martha M. Stawarz, 3 cherished grandchildren, Michael and Matthew Stawarz, and Aimee Lane and her husband Travis, her sister, Maria Varchula, great grandson, Matthew Rodriguez-Stawarz, and nephews, Viktor Antonich and his wife Milkusa, Robert Varchula, John Antonich and his children Michele Schiumo, Mark and Lori Antonich, and Steven Antonich, and many other relatives in Slovakia.

For wishing to commemorate Martha's life are encouraged to donate to Holy Fam-

ily Roman Catholic Church, 210 Monroe Street, Linden, NJ, 07036, in her memory.

Submitted by Sabina Sabados

SUSAN M. VRABELY BRANCH 746 – LINDEN, NJ



Susan M. Vrabely, 89, of Linden, entered into eternal rest on Saturday, January 1, 2022.

Mrs. Vrabely was born in Swedeland, PA to Frank and Susan (Kimak) Lorinc. Her family moved to Slovakia for 10 years and returned to the United States in 1948, settling in Linden.

Mrs. Vrabely was the Owner of Susan's Catering in Linden for many years. She was a communicant of Holy Family RC Church in Linden, as well as a member of their Slovak Rosary Society and their English Rosary Society. She was also a member of the Tremley Point Senior Citizens. She was also a long-time member of FCSU Branch 746 where she was actively engaged in branch activities including dances, picnics and pilgrimages.

Mrs. Vrabely was predeceased by her beloved husband John J. Vrabely, Sr.; her brother Frank Lorinc and sister Mary Murga. She is survived by her devoted children, Michael Vrabely, John Vrabely, Jr. and Karen S. Fisher and her husband Ronald; her cherished granddaughters, Christina Fisher and Lori Marino; her dear sister Anna Mizichko and many loving nieces and nephews.

Submitted by Sabina Sabatos

IN MEMORIAM

The Life of ElNora Metroka Rusnak (1935- 2022), by Anthony Rusnak

ElNora Metroka Rusnak, a lifelong Jednota member, was born in 1935 in Scranton, PA. Her great-grandparents counted among the first wave of Slovak immigrants escaping cultural suppression from the Austro-Hungarian Empire around 1880. Her parents, Anthony Metroka, and Helen Kozub, were both born in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania in 1906. The children of coal miners, they later moved to Scranton for a new job.

A life centered around music came early to ElNora. Around 1943, her mother took eight year old ElNora to a singing teacher for lessons, for she was a natural talent and determined to learn. ElNora's singing voice was so beautiful. Even answering the phone "hello" was a

continued on page 17

The Life of ElNora Metroka Rusnak

continued from page 16

little song. Her "Ave Maria" was spot on.

St. Mary's Byzantine Catholic Church in Wilkes-Barre benefited from her trained voice and natural talent. In the choir, she mastered the liturgy - Chrysostom and Basil, the matins, the vespers, and even the Holy Week and Easter services. She was confident and capable, but rarely was offered the lead cantor role in the male dominated choir. This strong willed teen was not happy being limited by her gender.

In her late teens, she and her girlfriends formed the choral group, "The Chansonnettes," which performed throughout eastern Pennsylvania. Her brother Dan loved to play the drums, and introduced her to the club scene, and she occasionally performed as his band's lead singer.

ElNora was smart and had a determination not just to finish high school. With her parents' support and despite questions about her going to college, she earned a degree in accounting from Wilkes College in 1957. ElNora did not see the option of getting a college degree and having a family as mutually exclusive, and she confided to a friend, "I want to have a dozen kids."

When her Aunt Verna from the Chicago area invited her to come live with her, ElNora left Wilkes-Barre. The real love of ElNora's life, however, was Nicholas Richard Rusnak. His parents were part of the final wave of immigrants to come from Slovakia in the early 1920s. His father, Andrej, was a steel worker, and his mother, Maria, was ... unhappy with life in the United States. A determined and headstrong woman, Maria did what many immigrants at that time dreamt of doing: she took her five children she birthed in the United States and moved them back to Slovakia in the early 1930s. Her husband, Andrej, and her oldest son, Andrew, stayed in the United States, sending money back to Slovakia. Initially, life in Slovakia was good for the separated family.

For the family, the Greek Catholic Church was now central to their life. World War II, however, brought great hardship, and tragically left 14 year old Nick orphaned in Slovakia. Eventually, he and his siblings found their way back to the United States.

While visiting her brother and attending liturgy at the small mission church in San Diego, Holy Angels Byzantine Catholic Church, ElNora met her future husband Nick when singing in church and he was smitten by her voice. They shared the same ideals: a devotion to their Byzantine Rite Church, a love of music, a love of Slovak culture, and a commitment to education. Nick was also a great dancer and an excellent cook and he found his life partner. In time, ElNora sewed her own wedding dress, and she and Nick were married in Chicago. In the 1960's, they lived in Southern California and raised a family of 11 children. Holy Angels parishioners were the source of many of ElNora's friendships, as were the cloistered nuns across the street.

They sent their children to parochial schools, a great expense to the family, but education was worth the cost. To defray the cost, in the late 1970s, ElNora obtained teaching credentials, and began substitute teaching fourth grade at St. Didacus Elementary School. Her husband Nick worked overtime to pay the mounting food bills. When their asthmatic child passed away in 1982, at age 11, ElNora, Nick and the family were shaken to the core.

Nick's brother, Bishop Mike, suggested that ElNora and Nick form a Slovak Heritage organization in San Diego. These organizations were common in Canada and the eastern United States, but non-existent in Southern California. With Nick's culinary skill for Slovak fare, ElNora's organizational skills, and enough of an interest among their children to form a dance group, ElNora had suddenly found an outlet for her boundless energy.

The Slovak Heritage Association quickly expanded outside of the congregation. With the other Slovak Heritage members, ElNora organized Slovak picnics, Christmas dinners, and cultural events. A hundred in attendance was not unusual. A number of the Association's events occurred at the newly built Holy Angels Byzantine Catholic Church. The church's congregation also grew as a result of this influx of new visitors. Even though ElNora did not speak Slovak, she could phonetically sing the traditional Slovak songs as well as a native born Slovak. She was the cantor on Holy Days, but on Sundays she shared cantoring with her male counterparts. Old traditional stereotypes were hard to break, but ElNora was undeterred. With the approval of the priest, she became the first female to sing the epistle on a Sunday morning liturgy at Holy Angels - with a few parishioners walking out in protest. She ultimately became the first female cantor at Holy Angels as well.

In 1987, ElNora posed an idea to Nick about going to law school. Nick agreed, and ElNora was accepted into the first class of law students with National University. Upon graduation in 1990, she flawlessly sang the National Anthem.

In the years that followed, she enjoyed weddings, grandchildren, Nick's eventual retirement, the Holy Angels choir, some travel, Slovak cultural events, and occasional part time work. In February 2003, she lost her lifetime partner. ElNora still had much to give, especially to her grandchildren. She genuinely enjoyed the company of the children, taking them on outings or just picking them up from school and quizzing on times tables.

In 2017, ElNora no longer felt comfortable driving, and she progressively became homebound. She suffered a series of health setbacks. ElNora passed away to the Lord on January 12, 2022.

The epitaph on her headstone will be in Slovak, translated to English, "OUR DEAR MAMA." This epitaph hardly begins to describe her energy, her dogged determination, her accomplishments, her strength of character, her love of family, her love of Slovak culture, and her truest passion, singing. It truly was beautiful.

It is difficult to say "goodbye,"
we long to hear you sing "hello,"
just one more time, a little song,
a chansonnette.

[Edited by Michael Kopanic]



Novoročné pranie z Matice slovenskej

Zaužívali sme si tradíciu, že začiatkom zimy si sadáme k stolu a v mene Matice slovenskej pripravíme vianočný pozdrav krajanom do celého sveta. Pri jeho koncipovaní často spomíname na typické slovenské tradície, ktoré si naši krajanovia odniesli do ďalekého sveta a z pokolenia na pokolenie si ich desaťročia odovzdávali všade tam, kde sa usadili. Rozkrojené jablko s hviezdicovým jadernikom ako symbol zdravia, reťaz okolo stola pre súdržnosť rodiny, peniaze pod obrusom ako znak hmotného dostatku či med s oblátkou pre dobro detí sú emblémami typickej slovenskej vianočnej atmosféry. Minulý rok však vianočná nálada neprichádzala do pera v tom správnom čase. Pod vplyvom udalostí spôsobených pandémiou sme cítili, že skôr ako bilancovať minulé, je čas s nádejou očakávať budúce.

a tak sme privítali rok 2022. O čosi menej pompézne, menej okázalo i tichšie, zvyčajne len v kruhu svojich najbližších. Pri polnočnom ohňostroji nejeden z nás vyslovil najmä pranie pevného zdravia, ale i návratu ľudského života do starých koľají, do čias, keď sme sa nebáli stretať, spoločne žiť, tancovať i spievať.

Rozprávky nás od mala učili veriť magickým číslam a tak rok 2022, v ktorom sa snúbia tri dvojky prináša nádej na rok zdravý a krásny. V krajanom svete prinesie jubileá Sokola, Jankolu, Hletka, Klátika, Pavča i 220. výročie osídlenia Kovačice, ... Matica slovenská vyhlásila rok 2022 za Rok odkazu Štúrovcov. Pracovné plány sú ambiciózne a smelé, no nesmieme zabúdať na ciele osobné.

Zo sídla Matice slovenskej Vám, drahí naši krajanovia, želáme rok šťastný a úspešný. Nech sa v ňom naplnia všetky túžby, ktoré ste s nádejou v roku 2021 vyslovili a ktoré ste si úprimne želali. Prajeme Vám pevné a neoblomné zdravie, hojnosť chleba, radosť a rodinné šťastie.

Veríme, že Vám ostane i čas na prácu na poli roli dedičnej, chvíle na udržiavanie našich tradícií, na zveladenie jazyka i na slovenskú modlitbu pri nedeľnom obede.

Nech je rok 2022 rokom splnených priani a túžob, rokom rodiny i rokom zdravia.

Zuzana Pavelcová

We enjoyed the tradition of sitting at a table at the beginning of winter and preparing a Christmas greeting for compatriots all over the world on behalf of the Matica slovenská. When designing it, we often remember the typical Slovak traditions that our compatriots took to the distant world and passed them down for decades from generation to generation wherever they settled. A sliced apple with a core in the shape of a star represented a symbol of health, a chain around the table stood for family cohesion, and money under a tablecloth was a sign of material sufficiency. Honey with a wafer for the benefit of children are the emblems of a typical Slovak Christmas atmosphere. Last year, however, the Christmas mood did not have the same type of atmosphere. Under the influence of the events caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, we felt that rather than balancing the past, it was time to hope for the future and so we welcomed the year 2022. It was a little less showy, less flashy and quieter, usually we were around those closest to us. During the midnight fireworks, many of us expressed a wish for good health, and for the return of human life to the old ways, to a time when we were not afraid to meet, live together, dance and sing.

Fairy tales have taught us to believe in magic numbers since then, and so the year 2022, in which three twos are together in one year, offers hope for a healthy and beautiful year. In the expatriate world, the anniversaries of Sokol, Jankola, Hletka, Klátik, Pavča and the 220th anniversary of the settlement of Kovačice will be upon us ... Matica slovenská declared the year 2022 as the Year of the Štúrovci (the followers of L'udovít Štúr, the founder of the literary Slovak language). Work plans are ambitious and bold, but we must not forget personal goals.

We wish you, our dear compatriots, a happy and successful year from the headquarters of the Matica slovenská. May all your wishes from 2021 and be fulfilled in the new year. We wish you the best of health, an abundance, joy and happiness in your family.

We believe that you will also have time to carry on the work in the realm of our ancestral role, and that you make time to maintain our traditions and to spread the Slovak language and to pray a Slovak prayer at Sunday dinner.

May the year 2022 be one with wishes and longings fulfilled, and a year of the family and good health.

Zuzana Pavelcová (Translated and edited by Michael Kopanic)



New Year's card from Matica slovenská



Branch 581 New Officers

On December 5, new officers were elected to St. Michael Archangel, Branch 581. Pictured Ann Buczek, President and Financial Secretary. Kathy Demeter, vice president and Treasurer. Not present, Bernadette Bailey, Secretary. After 66 years, George Kelchak is retiring from his role as Financial Secretary. George has worn many hats. He started as Financial Secretary in the 50's. At that time, his duties included accounting, record keeping and receiving members' dues each month. Today, although George retained the title of Financial Secretary, he has been doing many of the duties of President, Recording Secretary and Treasurer. He has done just about everything and anything for Branch 581 along of scheduling activities for the Spitzkovski District for many years. We thank him for his dedication and for a job well done.

- Submitted by Ann Buczek, President and Financial Secretary



Branch 200 Enjoyed January Fellowship

The Officers & Board of Directors of Branch 200 joined in fellowship at the Villa Restaurant January 6, 2022. This was much enjoyed by all following the hustle & bustle of the Christmas season. There was talk to make this an annual event.

- Submitted by Vicki Schaub, Branch 200 Financial Secretary/Treasurer



United Slovak Societies offer scholarship grants in Lorain Ohio

The United Slovak Societies of Lorain, Ohio will again make available non-renewable scholarship awards to eligible high school seniors who will graduate in June of 2022. Applicants must maintain a GPA of 3.0 or better and enjoy membership of at least 5 years in any of the local Slovak Fraternal Lodges in Lorain.

The lodges include Wreath 111 of the Slovak Catholic Sokol, First Catholic Slovak Union Branch 228K, First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, and the National Slovak Society.

To obtain rules and an application, please visit www.americanslovakclub.com or contact the scholarship coordinator, Sue Naelitz, at snaelitz@hotmail.com. Deadline for applications is May 30, 2022



ATTENTION CLEVELAND-AREA JEDNOTA MEMBERS & FRIENDS



Hockey Night in Cleveland
Saturday, April 2, 2022
7:00pm



Monsters vs. Rochester Americans
Rocket Mortgage FieldHouse - Cleveland, OH

Special Offer Includes:

- Discounted Lower Goal End Tickets!!
 - \$24 group rate per seat, with possible deeper discounts for MEMBERS ONLY through your branch
 - The Purple Game Benefiting the American Cancer Society: Special Jersey Auction
 - GIVEAWAY - Purple Cheer Sticks (to first 10,000)

To get your branch discount and order tickets, please contact the representative in your branch:

- Branch 1: Marie Golias, 216-338-8179
- Branch 24: Tom Ivanec, 440-668-7797
- Branch 228: Lisa Trifiletti-Palos 440-960-2111
- Branch 450: George Carny, 440-885-5702
- Branch 553: Linda Hanko, 330-706-0151
- Branch 855: Barbara Sutilla, 440-864-4744



Special FCSU member rates, courtesy of your FCSU branch.
Contact your branch officer for details!!

Deadline to order: Tuesday, March 1, 2022
Seating is Limited: First Come, First Serve, So Don't Delay

TICKET DELIVERY:

From your branch officer or Ohio Regional Director Tom Ivanec

All orders are subject to availability. No ticket required for children under the age of two. Video cameras are not allowed in the arena. Offer and discounts not available at arena box office. No refunds or exchanges.

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.

Sister Bernadette Marie Ondus, SSCM

Sister M. Helena



Elizabeth Slezak was born on July 6, 1903, in Sabinov, Slovakia, the daughter of Louis and Mary (Hrapchak) Slezak. When she was six years old, she emigrated to the U. S. to join her father Louis who had been working in Pittston, PA, as a shoemaker. Three years after arriving, she transferred to St. John's School, particularly to prepare for First Holy Communion. Classes were held under the church and her teachers were two novices in the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius, Sister Pius who later became General Superior, and Sister Annunciata who taught Kindergarten and first grade. Sister Helena never forgot their gentle expressions and kind words.

As a child Elizabeth was attracted to the long rosaries the Sisters had. They were worn at their sides and were attached to their cinctures (belts around their waists.) Elizabeth wanted to purchase one for herself from the Sisters at St. John's Convent in Pittston. Evidently they told her they had none to sell, but with the determination of a youngster, she crossed the street to the convent of the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary and obtained one from the "Sisters in blue."

When Elizabeth's mother was reluctant to let her enter the SSCM's, (It seems that mothers who have all boys and only one girl feel reluctant about letting her become a Sister), Elizabeth reminded her that Sister Joachim who had lived on their street in Exeter had been accepted the year before. She told her mother, "If they accepted her, who is so small, surely the Sisters will accept me." When Elizabeth was accepted, she met Mother Monica, director of novices, whom she remembers for her gentleness. In her second year as a novice Sister Helena went to Vandergrift where she was a substitute teacher for two months.

Sister Helena has many memories of her days with the SSCM's. Two stand out—the retreats in which she participated over six decades and the plays she directed every December and June and whenever an assembly was required. A special joy was preparing the boys to be servers at Mass. Later when some of them became priests, she was especially delighted to participate in their Masses. An outstanding quality she possessed was her willingness to meet every situation as it occurred, being pliable and accommodating. No doubt one source of her ability to meet any demand was the peace she found in prayer.

Sister Helena died on August 17 and her funeral was celebrated on August 18, the traditional feast of St. Helena, mother of the Emperor Constantine who was instrumental in Christianizing the Roman Empire. According to historians St. Helena persisted in the search for the True Cross. She was also a builder of Basilicas. Our Sister Helena prepared a dwelling place for God in her own heart and soul and in the souls of thousands of young people. She carried with her a sense of the Holy of Holies. (from the tribute to Sister Helena.)

Father Edward Deller, Maria Hall chaplain, celebrated Sister's funeral with concelebrants Father Waters and Father Suknaic.

Prayer to St Michael the Archangel - Modlitba k svätému Michalovi Archanjelovi

Svätý Michal archanjel, bráň nás v boji, buď nám ochrancom proti zlobe a úkladom diabla.

Pokorne prosíme, nech mu Boh ukáže svoju moc. A ty, knieža nebeských zástupov, Božou mocou zažeň do pekla satana a iných zlých duchov, ktorí sa na skazu duší potulujú po svete. Amen.

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil.

May God rebuke him we humbly pray; and you, O Prince of the Heavenly hosts, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.



Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel

LIGHT ONE CANDLE

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

A Mother's Enduring Faith

In Chapter VIII of his Confessions, Saint Augustine writes, "For Thou, O our God, shalt lighten our darkness: from Thee riseth our garment of light; and then shall our darkness be as the noon day." This sentiment reveals Augustine's journey from spiritual desolation to his discovery that fulfillment is only found in pursuit of a relationship with God.

In his Confessions, Saint Augustine describes losing his way many times and for long periods throughout his life, but his story also demonstrates how God pursued a relationship with him and continually invited him to walk in the light of Christ. One of the greatest gifts God placed in Augustine's life was Saint Monica, his mother, a devout Christian who became a saint through the practice of an abiding faith.

While Augustine strayed from the faith often in his youth and well into adulthood, Monica remained steadfast in her loyalty to God and continually invited her son and her husband, who was a pagan, to discover the joy of sacrificial love. Saint Monica epitomized The Christophers' motto, "It's better to light one candle than to curse the darkness," because she never gave up hope and always chose to believe her loved ones could find their way.

Monica's influence on Augustine, who became one of the greatest saints in Church history, and on her husband, who converted to Christianity on his deathbed, demonstrates the power of faith to transform the lives of those around us. The Christophers' recent prayer card captures this profound sentiment that faith can guide us to God and help us lead others along their own path to Christ. Our Faith Prayer Card articulates the language of the heart reaching out to God, and this was the type of faith Monica practiced as she continually spoke to God, in fervent prayer for the spiritual well-being of those she loved.

In the opening of his Confessions, Augustine writes, "Thou hast made us for Thyself, O Lord, and our heart is restless until it finds its rest in Thee." These are the words of a man who had searched the world for happiness and found that only God could lead us to true and lasting joy. Imagine what a sense of reward his mother must have felt to know her son had come home to the faith. She lived to see him baptized by none other than Saint Ambrose, who had adopted Augustine as a spiritual son after the death of his father.

Monica died in the same year Augustine was baptized, living to see the conversion of the two men she loved most in the world. What a triumph this was for her life of prayer and her patience in waiting on God to mold the hearts of those for whom she prayed.

The story of Monica and Augustine demonstrates that faith and patience go hand in hand, because it is only in patience that we demonstrate our faith. We must have the courage to believe in God even when things don't work out exactly as we want. Faith is about knowing that God is at work in the world and is constantly guiding events to bring about the greater good. Only when we have that kind of faith can we focus on all we are called to do to play our part in God's plan of love for humanity. And when we exercise that kind of faith, we exercise the virtues that animated Saint Monica and her beloved son Saint Augustine



The Slovak-American Cultural Center cordially invites you to:

The Slovak Ball 2022 on: **Saturday, February 26, 2022** at: The Royal Manor in Garfield, NJ

The black-tie affair will begin with cocktail hour at 7pm followed by served dinner, entertainment, and dancing. Premium open bar all night!

Tickets available via Eventbrite, PayPal or by check.

Buy early, limited tickets available! For more information, visit:

SlovakAmerican-CC.org

BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

continued from page 14

scheduled for June and other branch activities will be discussed. Please RSVP if you plan to attend by calling Vicki Hricik at 724-547-0803. Refreshments will be served. CDC guidelines will be followed as needed.

Vicki Hricik, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 200 - FORD CITY, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 200 will hold the following board meetings in 2022: Thursday, March 3rd, April 7th, May 5th, August 4th, September 1st, October 6th, Nominations of Officers November 3rd, and Election of Officers December 1st. We welcome all members to attend. All meetings will be held starting at 7:00PM at 910 6th Avenue, Ford City, in the bowling alley or upstairs in the Social Hall.

Due to COVID, there may be last minute changes to meetings or cancellations. We realize many of our members do not use the internet. But please remember to look at the Branch 200 announcements on our page of the FCSU website. If we need to reschedule or cancel a meeting because of unforeseen circumstances, we will not always be able to advertise ahead of time due to JEDNOTA deadlines. For any questions, contact Vicki Schaub @ 724-763-9229 or vschaub123@gmail.com.

Please note we have decided to close the bowling alley. Please thank Manager Cathy Eddy for the 28 years of dedication for running the lanes.

Fraternally,

Vicki Schaub, Secretary/Treasurer

BRANCH 228 - LORAIN, OHIO

The St. John the Baptist/Holy Trinity Lodge, Branch 228 will hold their next meeting on Monday, March 21, 2022 at 7 PM IN THE VIRTUAL FORMAT using the FreeConferenceCall.com Audio Conferencing service method as used for our 2021 meetings. Our meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of each month except for the months of January, February, July and August when no meetings are held. All meetings begin at 7 P.M. and will be held VIRTUALLY until further notice. Contact Lisa at 440-773-1442 for specific instructions to attend virtually.

The branch will hold its annual election of officers and bylaw review during each December meeting. The exact date for this year's election meeting is December 19, 2022. At that time, we will also elect two (2) representatives to serve on the American Slovak Club Board of Directors.

This past December's election results for Br. 228 officers were as follows: President - Luis Palos, Vice-President - Ryan Trifiletti, Financial Secretary - Lisa Trifiletti-Palos, Activities Director/Auditor - Theresa Arendt and Recording Secretary - Thomas Zuffa. Their terms expire December 31, 2022.

For representatives to the American Slovak Club Board of Directors, Ken Arendt and Theresa Arendt were each elected to a 3-year term expiring December 31, 2024.

Please continue to pray to our Lord God for a cure to all the problems of our world. And, remember to give thanks to God for all His blessings.

Thomas B. Zuffa, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 276 - MCKEESPORT, PENNSYLVANIA

The meeting scheduled for March is cancelled. The next meeting will be held Sunday, May 15 at 1 PM at Eat & Park Restaurant on Route 30, North Versailles PA, near Walmart and the Great Valley Shopping Center. We will hear reports from the treasurer and financial secretary. We will also discuss district events and the upcoming convention.

Fraternally,

Margaret Nasta, President

BRANCH 290 - RARITAN, NEW JERSEY

St. John the Baptist Branch 290 will hold a meeting on Monday, March 14, 2022 starting at 6:30PM for all members. The agenda will include reports of officers, membership, and branch activities. We will also elect delegates to attend the 52nd Quadrennial Convention, July 30 - August 2, 2022.

The location is still tentative, as this may end up being a virtual meeting. If that is the case you will be able to attend by either phone or computer. Please call or text Steve Minarovich at (908) 507-0505 by March 12 to get the details.

Steve Minarovich,
Recording Secretary

BRANCH 367 - FAIRCHANCE, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Joseph Lodge 367 will hold a regular meeting on Thursday, March 17, 2022, at 12:30 PM. The meeting will be held at the Mountain View Cafe 1618 Georges Fairchance Road, Smithfield, PA, 15478. Additional delegates and alternate delegates from our lodge will be elected to attend the 52nd convention of the FCSU in Independence, OH this summer. Any new ideas or donations will also be discussed. Members planning on attending please call Kathryn Baranek, Secretary 724-569-1006 or Audrey Balazik, President 724-438-3887.

Kathryn Baranek, Secretary

BRANCH 382 - SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA

Saints Cyril & Methodius Society, Branch 382K, will conduct its Annual March Meeting on Sunday, March 6, 2022, in the VFW, 110 Chestnut Street, Dunmore, PA. Auditors will meet at 12:30 PM to check the books. Officers and members will gather for the business session at 1:00 PM.

The agenda will include reports of the executive officers and auditors. Members will also discuss future branch activities. Information from the home office will be disseminated. Election of delegates to the 52nd Quadrennial Convention of the FCSU will be conducted. The convention is scheduled for July 30 to August 2, 2022, in Independence, OH. A copy of the Annual Report to the Home Office will be presented.

Refreshments and socializing will follow. All members are urged to attend. Please contact Branch Vice President Elizabeth Slovenkai at 570.344.3854 by Tuesday, March 1, to confirm your attendance and to allow for arrangements.

In view of the continued Covid 19 pandemic and the omicron variant, we will follow Pennsylvania Department of Health guidelines: all in attendance must wear

face masks and observe social distancing. 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 401 - EAST VANDERGRIFT, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Anthony of Padua, Branch 401, invites all branch members to attend the 2022 Semi-Annual Meeting at 2PM, on Sunday, March 6, 2022 at Stars Restaurant, 1612 Allison Ave, North Apollo, PA 15673. Election of Delegates to the 52nd Quadrennial Convention July 30 - August 2, 2022 will be held. Members are encouraged to attend as your input is vital and welcome.

Fraternally,

Kathy Froncek, Secretary

BRANCH 410 - UNIONTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The SS. Peter and Paul, Branch 410, will hold a meeting on Thursday, March 24, 2022, at 1:30PM at the Highland House, 92 West Main Street, Uniontown, PA. On the agenda will be information regarding the FCSU's 52nd Quadrennial Convention which will be held in the Holiday Inn at Independence, OHIO from July 30 to August 2, 2022. Call for reservations by Monday, March 21, 2022, at 724-425-2576. All members are invited to attend.

Geraldine Buchheit, Secretary

BRANCH 450 - CLEVELAND, OHIO

St. Joseph the Guardian Society, Branch 450, will hold its Semi-Annual Meeting on Saturday, April, 9, 2022. The meeting will be held at 11:00 AM, at Holy Spirit Byzantine Catholic Church Hall, 5500 West 54th Street, Parma, OH, 44129 (between Brookpark and Snow Rd.) The meeting will be held in the large hall, which will allow for social distancing. Also please be sure to bring your face mask. Please try to attend; all safety guidelines will be followed.

The agenda will include officer reports and a financial report will be given; also Branch business and activities will be discussed. Election of branch Delegates to the 52nd Quadrennial Convention in Cleveland, Ohio (July, 30- Aug. 02, 2022.) will take place at this meeting.

We encourage all of our members to attend. For more information, please call George Carny at: (440) - 885 5702. Refreshments will be served after the meeting.

George Carny, President

BRANCH 553 - AKRON, OHIO

Please mark your calendar for the upcoming events in February 2022:

2/16 Wednesday, Mystery Dinner - Served 4:30-6:30PM (Reservations required-call the Club after 3:00PM)

Pierogi & George's Homemade Sausage with sides - \$12.00

2/19 Saturday - Live Music - Celebrate a late Valentine's Day with us. Finger Food - Served 6:30PM: Music 7:00PM

2/27 Sunday Breakfast - Served 9:00AM - 11:45AM

Lodge Meeting - 2:00PM

District 10 Meeting - 3:00PM
3/2 Wednesday - NO SPAGHETTI - DUE TO ASH WEDNESDAY
3/4 First Fish Fry of the Lenten Season
Come join us for our various events - look forward to seeing you.

Linda M Hanko, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 670 - DONORA, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 670 will hold its meeting on Sunday, March 27, 2022 beginning at 12 pm at Hoss's Restaurant in Belle Vernon, PA.

The agenda will include discussions regarding the 52nd Quadrennial Convention of the FCSU. Members are asked to bring canned goods to be distributed to a local food bank. Please RSVP to the Treasurer at 724-622-1982 or you can email branch670secretary@gmail.com. Branch members are urged to attend.

Maureen Massafra,
Recording Secretary

BRANCH 682 - YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

The next meeting for Branch 682 is scheduled for noon on Friday April 1, 2022, in the conference room of Materials Research Laboratories located at 290 N Bridge Street in Struthers, OH. Further plans for branch participation during the year will be addressed and election of delegates to the 52nd FCSU National Convention this coming July 30 - Aug 2 in Independence, OH will take place. Those interested to serve as delegates or alternates should contact Branch President Drew Hirt at drew@hirt.com or 330-750-0776 prior to the April 1 meeting.

Drew Hirt, President

BRANCH 716 - NEW YORK, NEW YORK

The St. Stephen Martyr Society Branch 716 will hold its semi-annual meeting on March 7, 2022, after the 10:15AM Slovak Mass in St. John Nepomucene Church Hall in NYC. The agenda will include a financial report, upcoming activities, and election of delegates to Convention. All members are urged to attend; refreshments will be served after the meeting.

Joan Mary Skrkon,
Recording Secretary

BRANCH 731 - YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

Saint Joseph Branch 731's annual Mass honoring our Patron Saint Joseph will be on March 18, 2022. Both will be at The Cathedral of Saint Columba, 159 West Rayen Avenue, Youngstown, OH at 12:10PM.

We hope everyone has a healthy New Year.

James Bobby, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 746 - LINDEN, NEW JERSEY

The St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 746, will hold its next meeting on Sunday, March 20, 2022 at 1:00 PM in the downstairs meeting room of Holy Family Church (210 Monroe Street, Linden, NJ, 07036). The meeting will be followed by a luncheon and the Msgr. Rura District meeting. The agenda will include election of delegates

continued on page 22



Branch 55 Honors Jillian Washco Outstanding Member and Winner of the Soltis & Bosak Family Nursing Scholarship

At the Annual Meeting of Branch 55 held on January 2, 2022, the Officers paid tribute to its most outstanding young member, Jillian Washco, the winner of the prestigious Soltis & Bosak Family Nursing Scholarship. With the threat of the DELTA virus and CDC restrictions, we were limited to holding a ZOOM meeting which turned out to be a blessing because our honoree was in California with her parents, Daniel and Terri, and her sister, Ainsley--all were able to attend. Her grandparents, Alec and Helen Washco also attended from Media, PA.

The Officers and members were proud and delighted to meet this charming young lady. Not only is she academically exceptional, but Jillian also devoted many of her younger years reaching out to those in need. At the young age of 8, being diabetic herself, Jillian became a member of Pump It Up for Diabetes whose intent is to educate the public about the illness and teach those who are diabetic how to better care for themselves. She immediately immersed herself into creating and developing new ideas for raising funds that were used with success in increasing the funds received. Not only was she a great asset to Pump It Up for Diabetes, but Jillian also dedicated 12 years of study to Classical Ballet with the Brandywine Ballet Company.

Surely, the Lord does bring good people together. Jillian's membership was recommended by her Great Uncle Steve Gerba and his wife Josephine who, together were always there for family or friends who needed help. Imagine how happy they are for her! We are grateful to them for recommending two special people for membership in our Branch -- Jillian and her sister, Ainsley.

The following is the Tribute presented to her by the President, Erik S. Payne:

"The Officers and Members of Branch 55 of the FCSU hereby honor
Jillian Washco for her

outstanding commitment to community service. She has spent her young life fund raising for a cure for Diabetes while maintaining academic excellence as an honors student and now she wants to extend her services to those who need nursing care. Thus, she is the 2021 Winner of the prestigious FCSU
Soltis & Bosak Family Nursing Scholarship.

The main goal of our society, as set forth by our founder, *Fr. Stefan Furdek*, is, to help our members to be good Christians. Jesus told us how to do that when he said:

"Whatsoever you do to the least of my brethren, that you do unto me."

Surely, Jillian is a good role model of His teachings for our young members. And we hope by reading her story, that they will be inspired to follow her good example.

We know that her parents must be proud of their daughter for they themselves have shown precedence by their own extraordinary services to the community. Congratulations Jillian! Go forth with the Blessing of God to meet success in all that you do.

Please accept our check as a token of our appreciation."

Jillian is blessed to have great parents who support and encourage her endeavors. In fact, Jillian comes from a family of three generations involved in community outreach programs to those in need. And we applaud them with our heartfelt gratitude for they are the leaven-in-the-dough, especially now when the authority of parents and family values are being attacked on so many levels. A few examples tell us of their awareness of community needs:

Jillian's grandparents, Alec and Helen Washco, are spending their retirement years volunteering for community programs that serve the needy. Jillian's parents, Daniel and Terri Washco, support both her grandparents and their children in their charitable endeavors. Her father (Daniel) has been serving the Healthcare Hospital in New York City for the past 18 years as Senior Information Technology Manager.

We were happy to also learn about Ainsley, Jillian's sister, and her high academic honors and dedication to the Rustin Dance Team. We also learned about her cousin, Cole Washco, who, while still in High School and bound for college, became a Certified Fire Fighter for the Goshen Fire Company just like his father, Drew Washco, who is presently the Assistant Fire Chief at Goshen Fire Company in PA.

May God continue to bless Jillian, and her family with His choicest blessings.

- Submitted by Helena Gaydos, Branch 55 Secretary/Treasurer

SLOVANSKÝ OBZOR

2021
ročník 1

Informačný spravodajca Matice slovenskej pre slovanský svet a slovenské zahraničie

**SPOMIENKA NA SVÄTÚ
MUČENÍCKU LUDMILU**

**ROZHOVOR S JIŘÍM
MALÍŘEM, PŘEDSEDOM
MATICE MORAVSKEJ**

**ZPRÁVA O ČINNOSTI
MATICE ČESKÉ V ROCE 2020**

**STARONOVÝ PŘEDSEDA
MATICE SLOVENSKEJ**

**O AKTUÁLNÍ ČINNOSTI
MATICE LUŽICKOSRBSKÉ**

**CYRILU-METODSKÉ
BRATSTVO: ZABUDNUTÝ
SLOVANSKÝ SPOLOK**

Slavic Horizon - Slovanský obzor

Dear friends, we are pleased to announce that the second issue of the periodical Slovanský obzor (Slavic Horizon) has been published, which is also available online in three language versions - Slovak, English and Russian. <https://matica.sk/slovansky-obzor/> . English version - https://matica.sk/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/SO_2021_1_en_compressed.pdf

If you are interested, we will be happy if you also participate in its content and send you a contribution to the editors in the history of Slovak and Slavic Maticas, current book news, biographies of important Slavic personalities, or a contribution from current events or plans of your organization next year. At the same time, we express our sincere thanks to the authors of the articles in both issues of the new parent periodical. (Translated by Michael Kopanic)

Vážení priatelia, s radosťou Vám oznamujeme, že vyšlo druhé číslo periodika Slovanský obzor, ktoré je dostupné aj online v troch jazykových mutáciách – slovenskej, anglickej a ruskej. <https://matica.sk/slovansky-obzor/> .

V prípade záujmu budeme radi, ak sa budete aj Vy podieľať na jeho obsahu a zašlete redakcii Váš príspevok do rubriky dejín slovanských a slovanských matic, aktuálnych knižných novínok, biografii významných slovanských osobností, či príspevok z aktuálneho diania či plánov Vašej organizácie v budúcom roku. Zároveň vyslovujeme úprimné poďakovanie autorom príspevkov do oboch čísel nového matičného periodika.

- PhDr. Zuzana Pavelcová domhronskeho@matica.sk

A Tragic Mining Accident in British Columbia in 1902

When leafing through the compatriot press, Prof. Martin Javor of Prešov University read reports of accidents in mines, ironworks in almost every issue ... This one from Fernie, British Columbia is one of the most tragic ... 200 died, including 50 members of the National Slovak Society. Source: Amerikánsko slovenské noviny (American Slovak newspaper), May 29, 1902.

Pri listovaní krajanskej tlače takmer v každom čísle čítam správy o nešťastiach v baniach, železiarňach... Táto z Fernie, Britskej Kolumbie patrí k najtragickejšim...

Amerikánsko slovenské noviny. 29. máj 1902.



Mining Tragedy in Amerikánsko slovenské noviny (American Slovak newspaper), May 29, 1902.

BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

continued from page 20

(and alternates) to the 52nd National Convention in Independence, OH. We will also be discussing future events for the branch. Kindly RSVP to Joanne Tkach Polt @ 732-762-3148 by March 9th if you plan to attend. Please bring non-perishable items for donation to a local food pantry.

Additional branch news:

Branch 746 members are encouraged to attend Friday Holy Masses at 7:00pm (in Slovak) at Holy Family Church in Linden, NJ offered for the intention of all Branch 746 members living and deceased. Masses will be offered in 2020 as follows: January 7th, February 4th, March 4th, April 1st, May 6th, June 10th, July 1st, August 5th, September 2nd, October 7th, November 4th, and December 2, 2022.

Jednota Branch 746 Scholarship deadline is April 30th. If you are currently accepted and/or enrolled in full-time college, post-secondary educational institution, or vocational school and active in Branch 746 or want to become active, 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/>.

Mary Kapitan, Secretary

BRANCH 743 – STERLING HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN

St. Joseph Branch 743 announces a branch meeting on Sunday March 20, 2022 at: Saints Cyril & Methodius Church, 41233 Ryan Road, Sterling Heights, MI. The meeting will start at

1:15PM. in the Slovak Heritage Room. Members are urged to attend the Slovak

Mass at 11:30AM. At the meeting, our financial records will be audited. Fraternal activities and charitable giving are topics open for discussion.

Victor Jiomkowski, President

BRANCH 785 – MISSISSAUGA, ONTARIO

The branch will hold a meeting of Convention Delegates and Selection of Alternates to Convention on Sunday March 27, 2022, at 1:30PM. An email will be sent out with details to the Canadian members for the location. Dependent on current Covid 19 Restrictions this meeting will be either at Sts Cyril Church hall in Mississauga or via ZOOM.

Anne Mitro, Secretary

BRANCH 796 – EGYPT, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 796 will hold their semi-annual meeting on Feb. 27, 2022. Meeting will convene at 1:00PM at Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church, in the basement. Location is 4456 Main St., Egypt.

For everyone's safety and in keeping with COVID-19 recommendations, we will be following the current CDC guidelines at the time of the meeting.

At this meeting we will discuss and elect delegates for the upcoming convention July 30, 2022 through August 2, 2022 at the Holiday Inn. All delegates and alternates will be selected at this meeting so the certification process can begin immediately following this meeting. At this time our Branch should have 5 seats available. I hope to inspire members to attend this meeting, especially our younger members. May God bless us all and keep us safe.

Stay Strong, Stay Safe, and Stay POSITIVE!

God Bless,

Monica Fabian, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 853 – CHARLEROI, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 853 members save the date of February 13 for a fun time at the 5th Street Escape Room in Charleroi, PA. Reservations are limited and are required for this event. Contact FCSUBranch853@gmail.com or call the branch president at 412-341-1577 by leaving your name and phone number for a confirmation callback.

Monica Rodacy Boone, President
FCSUBranch853@gmail.com

BRANCH 853 – CHARLEROI, PENNSYLVANIA

St Pio Branch 853 will hold its next meeting on March 27, 2022, at Hoss's restaurant in Belle Vernon, PA, at noon. Reservations are required for seating. Upcoming events and the Convention will be discussed and planned. Please call 412-341-1577 or email FCSUBranch853@gmail.com to make your reservation. Members are urged to attend.

Any member who has recently moved or requires branch or policy services should contact the Branch President by email FCSUBranch853@gmail.com or call 412-341-1577.

Monica Rodacy Boone, President
FCSUBranch853@gmail.com

BRANCH 855 – PARMA, OHIO

Branch 855 will hold its first meeting of the new year on February 19, 2022, begin-

ning at 2PM at Panera, 5090 Tiedeman Rd, Brooklyn, OH.

On the agenda: election of delegates to the 52nd Quadrennial Convention. All COVID protocols in place at the time such as masking and social distancing will be observed at this meeting. Note: Should circumstances in February preclude a safe in-person gathering, the meeting will be changed to an all virtual meeting or postponed. If this happens, an email will be sent to all branch members for whom we have an email address. Also, please check the FCSU website closer to the meeting date and/or contact me at fcsu855@gmail.com or 440-864-4744 prior to the meeting.

Barbara Sutilla, President

BRANCH 856 – WASHINGTON, DC AND AREA

Branch 856 will hold their first meeting of the new year on March 5, 2022, all members are urged to attend. In keeping with the restrictions due to the Covid-19 and the safety of our members we will try to do lunch then have the meeting. This will take place at Tavira Restaurant 8401 Connecticut Avenue Chevy Chase, MD, 20815. This place all depends on another thing: WEATHER PERMITTING. If an in person meeting cannot be held, it will be done by ZOOM at the same day and time. At this meeting we will have an election of delegates to the 52nd Quadrennial Convention to be held in Cleveland, OH, from July 30th to August 2nd, 2022. For more information call Marion Mistrik at 301-654-3856 or Katherine Nowatkoski at 919-651-0363.

Wishing all a Merry Christmas and a Healthy Happy New Year.

Katherine Nowatkoski President

FCSU MEMBER PORTAL ACCESS

Right at your fingertips!

member
login

As an FCSU member you are now able to log in to your account anytime!

CREATE

- Go to www.fcsu.com
- Click MEMBER LOGIN
- Click **Create Account**
- Enter the required information
- Create your username & password
- Click Create User

VERIFY

- Verify your phone number and click TEXT
- Enter the 4 digit code and click OK
- Congratulations! You've created your account!

LOG IN

- Next time you want to check your account, just go to www.fcsu.com
- Click **MEMBER LOGIN**
- Enter your username/password
- Verify your phone number/TEXT
- View your policies

For assistance call us at

1-800-533-6682

FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION OF THE UNITED STATES & CANADA

6611 ROCKSIDE ROAD, SUITE 300, INDEPENDENCE, OHIO 44131

1-800-JEDNOTA

IMPORTANT NOTICE

PRIVACY – PERSONAL FINANCIAL AND MEDICAL INFORMATION

Protecting the privacy of your personal financial and medical information has always been and will continue to be a matter of top priority for us. When used in this notice, the following terms have the meaning shown.

Public Information means information that is lawfully available to the general public from: Federal State or local government records; widely distributed media; or, disclosures to the general public that are required to be made by Federal, State or local law.

Non-Public Information means personally identifiable financial and medical information. It also means any list, description or other grouping of individuals, and publicly available information pertaining to them, that is derived from any personally identifiable information that is not publicly available.

Consumer Reporting Agency means an entity, which regularly provides reports (Consumer Reports) including information regarding an individual's: general reputation, character, personal characteristics or mode of living and financial status. The information may be obtained through interviews with the individual or third parties such as the individual's: business associates, family members, friends, neighbors, acquaintances or financial sources.

We obtain information about you from the following sources:

- information you provide to us in an application or other form;
- information about your transactions with us (such as premium payments, loans, claims, etc.), or others; and
- information that we may receive from a Consumer Reporting Agency.

We do not disclose any personal, Non-Public Information about you to anyone, except as permitted or required by law. We will not disclose personal medical information about you, except as permitted by law or as you may authorize.

We restrict access to your personal, insurance and medical information to those of our employees who need to know that information in order to provide insurance or service to you. We are, and will continue to be, vigilant in the safeguarding of your personal, financial, and medical information. We maintain physical, electronic and procedural safeguards to comply with Federal and State regulations regarding the safeguarding of Non-Public Information.

It is our sincere desire to maintain complete, accurate and up-to-date records. You may contact us to access, as provided by law, information included in your file. We will promptly correct any error in our information. To protect your privacy, you will need to identify yourself by providing us with your name, date of birth and social security number.

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2021

HOME OFFICE, INDEPENDENCE, OHIO

OPEN MEETING:

President Andrew Rajec opened the meeting at 12:00 PM and asked Rev. Thomas Nasta, National Chaplain, to lead the prayer.

ROLL CALL:

Members attending: Andrew M. Rajec, President
 Kevin Collins, National Vice President
 Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary
 John Tokarsky, Treasurer (via teleconference)
 Rev. Thomas Nasta, National Chaplain (by invitation of the President) (via teleconference)

ACCEPTANCE OF THE NOVEMBER MEETING MINUTES:

The President presented the minutes of the November 19, 2021 Executive Committee Meeting. A motion was made by John Tokarsky and seconded by Kenneth A. Arendt 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.

Mr. White also reviewed new investment opportunities at the Board of Directors Meeting that the Committee will review and take under consideration.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Investment Updates

The Executive Secretary submitted a written report to the Executive Committee on the investments and transactions with the Federal Home Loan Bank (FHLB), UBS, MAI Fund, and Clutterbuck Fund. The Executive Committee discussed the report and the Executive Secretary answered the Committee's questions. The Executive Secretary presented a detailed summary of the Financial Report for the third quarter of 2021. After the Executive Secretary's report, he 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 November for the Committee's review and answered its questions.

Monthly Disbursements

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

Disbursements for the month of November 2021:	
Death Benefits & Accumulations	\$ 1,040,905.94
Cash Withdrawals & Accumulations	\$ 240,288.92
Matured Endowments & Accumulations	\$ 0.00
Trust Fund	\$ 3,879.19

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

SALES AND MARKETING:

The Vice President presented a report at the Board of Directors Meeting held prior to the Executive Committee Meeting. After his report, he answered the Board's questions.

The Vice President stated that he is looking into an agency to recruit independent agents. The Home Office will use email to recruit agents in the states we are licensed in. As more information is available, he will present it to the Board.

The Vice President stated he will work with the Home Office to develop training, recruitment, and informational videos for the Branches and Districts.

The President stated that since the Membership Meet is not being held this year due to the coronavirus pandemic, a Membership Meet will be held in 2022. He is looking into possible sites.

ECONOMIC OVERVIEW:

Annuity Rates:

The President stated that the annuity rates will remain the same and be reviewed at the next Executive Committee meeting. The Committee agreed.

CONVENTION:

The President and the Executive Secretary stated that the Home Office staff is making preparations with the Holiday Inn – Cleveland South Independence, the host of our 52nd Quadrennial Convention. The President and Executive Secretary are working on the Convention Agenda and activity schedule. As more details are finalized, a report will be presented to the Board.

The Executive Secretary reminded the Board to inform all the Branches and Districts in their Region to refer to Bylaw 11.03 and Bylaw 11.04 in preparation for the 52nd Quadrennial Convention. If they have any questions, they should contact the Home Office. The Executive Secretary stated that information regarding the estimated number of delegates will be based on the number of members as of October 1. The estimated delegate count letters were mailed out to the Branches who qualify to attend the Convention. The final delegate count will be based on the number of members as of February 1, 2022.

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 still following the recommendations of the CDC. The Office is open with limited hours to maintain day to day operations. Any guests are asked to call before visiting.

VIRTUAL MEETINGS:

The President stated that he is still encouraging Branches and Districts to hold either virtual or in-person meetings, and follow all the recommended CDC guidelines. Hopefully, conditions will improve.

BRANCH REVIVAL COMMITTEE:

The President stated that the Branch Revival Committee will hold a meeting prior to the March Board of Directors Meeting.

LONG TERM PLANNING:

The President stated that he is in discussion with two consulting firm on long term planning for our Society. As more information is available he will present it to the Board.

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 Kevin Collins to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Rev. Thomas Nasta closed the meeting with prayer.

Andrew M. Rajec
President

Kenneth A. Arendt
Executive Secretary

Slovak Language Classes Online Spring 2022



Want to try learning Slovak online? Sokol MN is again offering Slovak and Czech language classes online in the Spring of 2022. Go to sokolmn.org to learn more or register for a class.

- Submitted by Michael Kopanic

Answer to Puzzle

Solution to Puzzle from page 11

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

So Little Can Protect So Much

1st year premium WAIVED on \$10,000 JEP Term Insurance

- **\$14 annual premium**
- Premium never increases
- Guaranteed convertibility at any time up to age 25 (no medical examination required)
- Fun youth activities

Deadline:

December 31, 2022

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



FCSU FINANCIAL® - First Catholic Slovak Union, 6611 Rockside Rd, Suite 300, Independence, OH 44131 800-533-6682, fcsu@fcsu.com, www.fcsu.com

Plan ahead and leave a positive legacy behind

DID YOU KNOW THAT...?

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

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

Inquire today about **FINAL EXPENSE INSURANCE**

The sooner you do, the less it costs!

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



FCSU Financial - First Catholic Slovak Union
Contact Branch Officer or the home office

6611 Rockside Rd, #300, Independence, OH, 44131, 800.533.6682, www.fcsu.com, insurance@fcsu.com



ARE YOU PLANNING ON PASSING YOUR ASSETS TO LOVED ONES?



Then consider

WEALTH TRANSFER

Wealth management

through our Single Premium Whole Life Policy

Here are the benefits:

- Avoid income tax
- Avoid probate
- Cash value growth

Interested? Call 800.533.6682 today!



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



FEATURES:

Pay ONE premium and have fully paid-up life insurance

Issued in any amount (\$5000 or more)

Excellent for Estate Planning or final expenses.

(Subject to normal underwriting)

FCSU SINGLE PREMIUM

Protect your family's future

Purchase Single Premium Whole Life Insurance coverage for your Children, Grandchildren or Yourself.

To learn more go to www.fcsu.com or contact your local branch officer or call

First Catholic Slovak Union at 1-800-533-6682.

