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Volume 132

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9, 2023

NUMBER 6030

LIMITED TIME SPECIAL OFFER

for our existing members

IN-HOUSE TRANSFER



Your policy may qualify to receive our special offer. You can choose to transfer all funds from your policy into a new FCSU policy with the highest interest rate:

6% APY for 8 Year Flex or IRA

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If you are interested in this special offer and would like to get an interest of 6% APY, please fill out the form on page 11 and send it back to: FCSU Financial, 6611 Rockside Rd. #300, Independence, OH 44131 or email the form to annuity@fcsu.com. We will mail you an application along with more information.

This special offer expires **October 31, 2023.**

See page 11 for the In House Transfer Form.

President's Message

This summer the FCSU has joined hundreds of Members together at different fraternal events to create life long memories and friendship. As we are wrapping up some of our bigger events, and many of you are enjoying your Branch picnics and summer fun, I wanted to give my thanks to those who attended and helped organize these events.

The National Picnic at Knoebels Amusement Resort in Elysburg, PA was a great success as we had over 200 FCSU Members in attendance. Members enjoyed a tail-

gating party at the Hampton Inn the night prior and a day full of rides, games and a buffet of food at the resort. I want to thank our Home Office staff members who were running the registration desk and passed out tickets for rides to our Members as well as Executive Secretary Kevin Collins for organizing a golf match before the picnic. I also want to thank former Jednota editor Terri Ivanec and Region 6 Director



Kenneth A. Arendt
President

Tom Ivanec for taking photos, capturing the fun memories of the day. And, of course, a big thanks to our National Chaplain Fr. Nasta who celebrated Mass at the event. The picnic is always something to look forward to and I'm thrilled we had nice weather to enjoy the day.

The FCSU also hosted a National Picnic

at Wiegand Lake Park in Novelty, Ohio. We had a great turn out despite the unpredictable weather. I am glad everyone made an effort to come enjoy the beautiful park and that the skies cleared up for some of the afternoon. I once again want to thank our Home Office staff for organizing and running the check in desk as well as Fr. Nasta for celebrating Mass. I also want to thank

the staff at Wiegand Lake Park who welcomed us and helped serve food, call bingo and faced the rain to assist our Members. I hope to see everyone next year and for more Members to come visit the park at our next picnic.

We also had the privilege of attending the

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Reflection

August can truly be called a Marian month with its three renowned Marian feasts:

1.) August 5th is the commemoration of the Dedication of the Papal Basilica of Saint Mary Major in Rome – erected in 432 A.D. by order of Pope Sixtus III on the Esquiline Hill. This basilica has often been in the press the last ten plus years due to Pope Francis's stopping to pray at the basilica statue of Mary under the title of "Salus Populi Romani" ("Health of the Roman People") on his first day as Pope and more than a 100 times since--before and after each of his papal pilgrimages out of Rome, as well as on his leaving the Rome Gemelli Hospital more recently.

2.) August 15 is the feast of the Solemnity of Mary's Assumption into Heaven--declared an official dogma of the Roman Catholic Church by Pope Pius XII on November 1, 1950. The Eastern Catholic Church calls this feast "The Holy Dormition of Mary." As the Catechism of the Catholic Church states, "The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary is a singular participation in her Son's Resurrection and an anticipation of the resurrection of other Christians" (No. 966).

3.) On August 22, the Roman Catholic Church honors the Queenship of Mary, close to the feast of the Assumption. Although this feast was established officially by Pope Pius XII on October 11, 1954 (Feast of the Maternity of the Blessed Virgin Mary), there are writings from 4th century Fathers of the Church who refer to Mary as Queen: St. Ephrem to Mary as "Lady" and "Queen" and St. Gregory of Nazianzen (also known as Gregory of Nazianzus - ed.) as "Mother of the King of the Universe." Pope Pius XII referred to the Council of Ephesus (431) that officially declared Mary as the "Mother of God" or "Theotokos" (the Greek term for "The God-bearer") – the first Marian dogma of the Church.

Each of these feasts helps to remind us that as Mary became the Mother of Jesus, He in turn gave her to us as a Mother – before His death on the Cross. Christ empowered Mary to be the Benefactrix of graces, which her Son wishes to send us through her. So it is that Mary continues to return to earth – sometimes in apparitions such as at Lourdes, France; at Fatima, Portugal; and at the first and only approved Marian Apparition Site in the United States – at Our Lady of Champion, also called The Shrine of our Lady of Good Hope, in Champion Wisconsin. At times other than apparitions, Mary comes to us who turn to her in prayer and reflection --with spiritual gifts of encouragements, admonitions, and healing for our spiritual and physical lives.

The hymn chosen for the August Jednota issue, Srdce Svoje, (My Heart) speaks first of our plea for the graces of God in our daily life--and then concludes with a plea to Mary for protection from sin. As a closure, Mother Mary is addressed as the loving Guardian and Guide on our life's journey. This hymn prayer is a favorite Morning Offering taught to me by my devout Slovak mother. It may be one you might consider adding to your spiritual life devotions.

Sr. Maria Theresa Hronec, SS.C.M.
RECEIVE MY HEART

SRDCE SVOJE K TEBE DVÍHAM

hneď za rána, Bože môj!
Jako si ma chránil v noci,
ak i cez deň pri mne stoj.

2. Klaniam sa Ti, milujem Ťa,
ako dieťa s dôverou;
srdce moje len to žiada,
čo je milé pred Tebou.

3. Daj mi, Pane, cez celý deň
hojnej Svojej milosti,
aby som sa hriechu chránil,
a žil vždy v nevinosti.

4. Ô Mária, Matka Božia,
nádej naša jediná!
ochraňuj nás, keď sa blíži
pokušenia hodina

1. O my God, receive my heart now
as a morning offering.
You protected me all night
So stay by me throughout the day.

2. I adore You, see, I love You,
as a trusting little child.
All my heart desires and hopes for
is what's pleasing in Your eyes.

3. Grant, my Lord, within this day
an abundance of Your grace,
that I will all sin avoid,
strive to live in innocence.

4. O, Maria, God's own Mother,
faithfully our primal hope;
help to save us from all danger
when temptation hovers nigh.

Message from the National Chaplain

July 18, 2023 was the 700th anniversary of the day Pope John XXII (1316-1334) declared Thomas Aquinas (1225-1274) a saint of the church. The church is deeply indebted to Saint Thomas for his voluminous writings in philosophy, theology and spirituality. He is so highly regarded that one hundred years ago, Pope Pius XI (1922-1939) wrote an encyclical about him. Entitled Study Guide (Studiorem ducem), he takes the occasion of the 600th anniversary of Thomas' canonization to teach and remind the church of the great impact Saint Thomas has had and will continue to have on the church.

Pius begins the encyclical by telling us he will first comment on the holiness and teachings of Saint Thomas and then show that learning about the saint's holiness and teachings will be of great benefit for seminarians, priests, and all Christians.

Chastity, wisdom, and humility were the three overriding virtues that greatly influenced his prayer life. It was reported that like Saint Dominic (1170-1221), Thomas' conversations were only about God or with God.

Pius notes the several popes through the ages have lauded Thomas Aquinas, including Alexander IV (1254-1261) and John XXII, who canonized him. Saint Pius V (1566-1572) called Saint Thomas the Angelic Doctor. Leo XIII (1878-1903) insisted the philosophy of Saint Thomas be taught. Benedict XV (1914-1922) said the 1918 Code of Canon Law endorses the "system, philosophy and principles of the Angelic Doctor." Pius XI makes his own contribution by naming Saint Thomas Aquinas the Universal Doctor of the Church.

According to Pius XI, the theology of Saint Thomas brings all people to a close intimacy with God. The greatest blessing one can receive from sacred studies, says Thomas, is the inspiration to love God above all else and to yearn for the things of heaven.

Pius then proceeds to write of Thomas' philosophical teachings. His philosophical arguments to prove that God exists were used at the First Vatican Council (1869-1870).

As much as Thomas is regarded for his philosophy, he is held in even greater esteem for his theology. His theological studies have influenced every branch of theology so much Pius says he can be called the Prince of Catholic school teachers.

Nobody has come close to Saint Thomas in teaching various theological mysteries ranging from the Trinity, to the ability of rational beings to achieve their ultimate end, to the redemption of humanity through Jesus Christ and which is continued by the Church and through the sacraments. He clearly taught the difference between faith and reason as well as the natural and the supernatural.

His moral theology gives unfailing rules for individuals, the family, and civil society. Pius XI notes that the groundwork for establishing a League of Nations can be found in studying Saint Thomas' teachings on laws governing mutual relations of peoples and international law.

Pius affirms one must have recourse to the Angelic Doctor in order to understand all the ramifications of the commandment to love God with one's entire being, the Gifts of the Holy Spirit, and all areas of ascetics and mysticism in striving to unite oneself to God.

Saint Thomas Aquinas based all his writings on Sacred Scripture, for he believed without a doubt that it was the true word of God. His teaching that the Holy Spirit is the principal author of the Bible while individual humans were the instrumental authors was affirmed by both Popes Leo XIII and Benedict XV in their own encyclicals on the Bible.

The deep love the saint had for the Most Holy Eucharist carried over into his liturgical prayers and hymns which the Church continues to use.

Pius urges young men to follow Saint Thomas' example of humility and chastity, of turning away from all pride, and of a prayer life that opens their minds to the presence of God in their studies.

Pius XI offers this analogy from the Book of Genesis. Just as the Egyptians in time of famine were told to go to Joseph to receive food to nourish their bodies, so too anyone desirous of learning the truth are to go to Thomas for the "food of substantial doctrine" by which one's soul is nourished.

Instructions given by Popes Leo XIII and Saint Pius X which strongly promoted the usage of Thomistic philosophy and theology in teaching the faith are affirmed by Pius XI. He reminds all teachers of philosophy and theology of the requirement in the 1918 Code of Canon Law to employ "...the method, doctrine and principles of the Angelic Doctor..." in their instructions.

Study Guide concludes with an announcement calling for worldwide celebrations to mark the 600th anniversary of the canonization of Saint Thomas Aquinas to occur anytime from July 18, 1923 (the actual anniversary of the canonization) to the end of 1924. Those who participate in



Rev. Thomas Nasta
Chaplain

continued on page 3

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. Any article that is not received by this deadline will not necessarily appear in the following Wednesday's issue.

Issue Date	Copy Date
Wednesday, Sep 13	Wednesday, Aug 30
Wednesday, October 11	Monday, October 2
Wednesday, Nov. 8	Monday, October 30

When submitting announcements for upcoming events, remember that JEDNOTA is printed MONTHLY, and time is lost in the postal system. Please plan to have your announcements to us in ample time for them to be edited and printed. **Please send all Branch & District announcements to branch@fcsu.com or district@fcsu.com.**

Send all articles (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

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Editor Letter

Dear Fellow Fraternal Members and Readers,
I hope that many of you were able to attend some of our fraternal picnics and Slovak festivals. We wind down with a few more feasts such as the one in Youngstown, OH on August 13, the Golf Tournament in Canfield, OH, and some branch picnics and baseball events.

I spent most of July in Slovakia and attended some folk group performances in Spišská Nova Ves and Telgárt, and I will have some pictures and stories about my trip in the September issue. Professor Martin Javor took me to Kasigarda, the Museum of Emigration from Slovakia to North America, in Ťahyňa, just a few miles from the Ukraine border, and to the village of blessed Anna Kolesárová, who was murdered by a Soviet soldier. Javor is also intent on collecting and preserving as many Slovak newspapers, journals, and documents and I spent another day with him at the University of Prešov. If you wish to visit or help his cause, he can be reached at javorisko@gmail.com.

Please be sure to turn in all submissions for the September Jednota issue by Wednesday, August 30, for Labor Day is Sept. 4, and the Home Office is closed.

S Bohom – God be with you.

Fraternally yours in the Risen Christ,
S krajanským pozdravom v zmŕtvychvstalom Kristovi,
Dr. Michael J. Kopanic, Jr., editor (redaktor)
e-mail: editor@fcsu.com



Dr. Michael J. Kopanic, Jr.
Editor

UPCOMING EVENTS

September 2023

- 1** Br 746 – Mass in Linden, NJ
- 4** Labor Day – Home Office Closed.
- 9** Cleveland Heritage Club Pig Roast - Broadview Hts,
- 10** Br 19 – Zoom Meeting
Br 731 – Meeting in Boardman, OH
Dist 1 – Zoom meeting
- 13** Br 682 – Meeting in Struthers, OH
- 14** Br 853 – Pirates Game (RSVP ASAP)
- 15** Johnstown Slavic Festival - Johnstown, PA (evening)
- 16** Johnstown Slavic Festival - Johnstown, PA (all day)
Br 5P – Meeting in Wyoming, PA
- 17** Toronto Slovak Open Golf Day – Etobicoke, ON
- 18** Br 228 – Meeting in Lorain, OH
- 23** Mass at Jednota Chapel of Our Mother of Sorrows,
National Basilica Washington, DC
- 24** New Jersey Slovak Heritage Festival - E Brunswick, NJ
- 30** Dist 3 – Meeting in United, PA

For more info go to the Branch and District announcement pages.

SS. Cyril and Methodius Appeal

The Saints Cyril and Methodius Appeal is in its 45th year raising money to assist the Pontifical Slovak College of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Rome with its day-to-day operations. The Appeal relies upon the generosity of individual donors in addition to collections taken up in personal parishes of Slovak ancestry. A direct mailing asking for donations was sent in January to local district and branch leaders from the four Catholic Slovak Fraternal Organizations, members of the Slovak Catholic Federation, clergy with Slovak ancestry, and previous donors.

As of July 24, the 2023 Appeal has received \$22,853.51 from 180 donors. Among the 56 donations received from Catholic Slovak Fraternal Branches and Districts, Branch 1, Branch 3, Branch 19, Branch 35, Branch 40, Branch 85, Branch 96, Branch 112, Branch 153, Branch 213, Branch 290, Branch 320, Branch 382, Branch 450, Branch 484, Branch 743, Branch 746, Branch 855, Branch 856, District 16, and the Home Office of the First Catholic Slovak Union have donated a combined total of \$4,000. Donations to date have also been received from 6 parishes, 27 clergy and religious, and 91 individuals. On behalf of the Pontifical College, thank you for your continued generosity and support.

All wishing to contribute to the 2023 Appeal is asked to fill out the information in the box at the bottom of this article and mailing it along with your check payable to the Slovak Catholic Federation to the address provided. Donations in any amount are deeply appreciated and are acknowledged. Gifts received after November 30, 2023 will be credited toward the 2024 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. Hvozdic, V.F., Supreme Chaplain of the Slovak Catholic Sokol and Pastor of Our Lady of Victory Parish, Harveys 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

45th 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

Modlitba k Joachimovi a Anne

Pane, Bože našich otcov, Ty si svätého Joachima a Annu milostivo vyvolil za rodičov Matky Tvojho vteleného Syna, prosím Ťa, pomáhaj nám, aby sme na ich spoločné orodovanie dosiahli spásu, ktorú si sľúbil svojmu ľudu. Skrze nášho Pána Ježiša Krista, Tvojho Syna, ktorý je Boh a s Tebou žije a kraľuje v jednote Ducha Svätého po všetky veky vekov. Amen

Svätí MANŽELIA - Svätá Anna a Joachim
PATRÓNI STARÝCH RODIČOV

Svätá Anna a Joachim sú príkladom svätého manželského života i starostlivej výchovy detí

Svätá Anna a Joachim boli rodičia Panny Márie a teda starí rodičia Ježiša Krista. V kánonických evanjeliách, ktoré tvoria Nový Zákon, o nich zmienky nie sú. Ich mená sú uvedené v apokryfnom evanjéliu sv. Jakuba. Sv. Anna podľa tradície pochádzala z rodu izraelských prorokov a prvého kňaza Áriana, Mojžišovho brata. Starobylá ikonografia ju zobrazovala so svojou dcerou Pannou Máriou v naručí, tá zase držala v náručí Božieho Syna. Joachim a Anna boli svätými ženami a boli manželmi. Žili v Nazarete. Boli manželstvom božím a zároveň manželstvom svätým. Joachim manželom žil na 3 casti: 1. dol Jeruzalemskemu chrámu 2. dával chudobným a 3. si pomohol pre svoju rodinu. Sv. Anna a Joachim veľmi trpeli tým, že nemali mat' deti. Po mnohých modlitbách, abetách a pástoch, keď už boli vo vyššom veku, Sv. Anna počala a porodila dceru - Mariam - Bohom obľúbenú. Keď mala Mária 3 roky, zasnúbili ju Pánovi v Jeruz. chráme.

Svätí manželja - svätá Anna a svätý Joachim, patróni starých rodičov. (The holy spouses - St. Ann and St. Joachim, the patron saints of grandparents).

Message from the National Chaplain

continued from page 2

these celebrations are granted a spiritual benefit, a plenary indulgence.

Observance of the Jubilee today

Fast forward one hundred years, not only was July 18, 2023 the 700th anniversary of St. Thomas Aquinas' canonization, but March 7, 2024 is the 750th anniversary of his death and January 28, 2025 is the 800th anniversary of his birth. All three jubilees are being celebrated in a special way by the Order of Preaches, the religious community to which Saint Thomas belonged.

The Vatican is granting a plenary indulgence to anyone who participates in the current period of jubilee celebrations leading up to January 28, 2025.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church defines an indulgence as "a remission before God of the temporal punishment due to sins whose guilt has already been forgiven."

This indulgence can be obtained from now until January 28, 2025 by making a pilgrimage to any church, shrine or chapel currently entrusted to the Dominican order and either take part in the jubilee celebrations there or "at least devote a suitable time to pious recollection," concluding by praying the Lord's Prayer, reciting the Creed, and invoking the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary and Saint Thomas Aquinas.

The plenary indulgence is available to "the truly penitent and charitable faithful" under the usual conditions. The individual is to be in the state of grace, have complete detachment from sin, pray for the intentions of the pope, go to sacramental confession and receive Holy Communion up to about 20 days before or after the prayers for the indulgence.

According to the Apostolic Penitentiary, the indulgence can also be applied "to the souls of the faithful departed still in purgatory."

The elderly, the sick and those unable to leave their homes for any serious reason can also obtain the plenary indulgence "if, despising all their sins and with the intention of fulfilling the three usual conditions as soon as possible, they spiritually join in the Jubilee celebrations in front of an image of Saint Thomas Aquinas, offering to the merciful God their prayers as well as the sorrows and ills of their lives."

Fr. Thomas A. Nasta
National Chaplain

Homily of the Most Rev. Larry J. Kulick, Bishop of Greensburg Diocese

Saints Cyril and Methodius Celebration

Nitra, Slovakia

Wednesday, July 5, 2023

Praise be Jesus Christ – now and forever. Amen.

Bishop Judák, Bishop Beňo, my dear brother bishops, priests, deacons, seminarians, consecrated religious – My dear brothers and sisters in Christ – those here present and those who are viewing this mass on a variety of multimedia platforms, I cannot begin to adequately express my profound gratitude for the invitation to be with you today to join in this great celebration of Saint Cyril and Methodius – Here in this beautiful and historic city and Diocese of Nitra!

This is a very humbling moment in my life and a profound honor to be with you today as we together, give witness to our shared Cyril and Methodian legacy and celebrate our Slovak Heritage. We gather to Remember, to Celebrate and to Believe!

I was born and raised as a Slovak American in the Southwestern region of the State of Pennsylvania in the United States of America. As a young boy, I was greatly influenced by so many Slovak immigrants of the late 19th and early 20th century who found refuge, work, and a new home in the region where I grew up. Our strong and wise ancestors raised their families, formed communities, built churches, organized Slovak fraternal societies, and provided a hopeful future for their children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren.

They had very difficult lives, including unsafe working conditions in coal mines and steel mills. Even through their daily hardships, they maintained their culture, heritage and most importantly their faith. It was that faith, which was first handed on to our people and nation by Saints Cyril and Methodius. Today at this celebration, I, along with you, remember the roots of our faith given to us by God and carried to this land and beyond by the work of the First Apostles to the Slavic peoples – Saints Cyril and Methodius.

I could never have imagined that I would one day – today, be standing here with you – united in faith and love celebrating mass with you - sharing that common heritage and tradition we inherited either here or through the timeless faith past onto us by our ancestors coming from this motherland of Slovakia. For me personally as a proud Slovak American, this is a day I will never forget, and I will treasure it for the rest of my life.

In my residence as you are entering my chapel – on the wall is a beautiful stained-glass window that came from one of the Slovak parishes in my Diocese. This window depicts the brothers Cyril and Methodius bringing the Gospel to Slovakia and preaching the word. Above the saints are the words in Slovak: “Na Počiatku Bolo Slovo” (In the Beginning Was the Word).

It is an important reminder to me – everyday to always remember my heritage and the important mandate we all share as baptized Christians to proclaim the Gospel to all lands and to all peoples by word and example – in good times and in bad. We as Slovaks must never forget our heritage, our legacy, the very roots of who we are – whether we are in the heart of Europe, or part of the great fraternity of Slovaks in the Diaspora - in North America or beyond. We are all part of the family of Slovaks, a “Slovak Nation” with a proud past, and a bright future. The only thing that will tarnish this is if we forget who we are, where we have come from and that by God’s grace – “we live and move and have our being.”

Growing up in a Slovak parish where parishioners were either Slovak immigrants themselves or the descendants of Slovaks, we always held in our heart this land - a land many of us never experienced or knew firsthand – but one that we revered and had great love for. This land we visited often in the depths of our minds as we heard repeated over and over descriptions of village life, beautiful agrarian scenery, and close-knit family experiences. This land and heritage we celebrated through holiday and religious customs, Slovak food, songs, and dance.

Our Slovak ancestors celebrated their pride in being children of the Tatry (the Tatra Mountains). They were people with a strong work ethic – helping to be a part of building an American Dream with a family system united in love and strong in character – a People who were known in the American culture as a people of profound and deep faith. In America when one heard the term “Slovak” it was synonymous with hard work, perseverance, family, and faith!

May today’s celebration remind us of not only what we are celebrating but may it motivate all of us to celebrate the best in us – our Faith, our Family, our legacy of hard work, perseverance, and strength.

I can tell you that I am able to stand here before you today as a proud Slovak American – as a priest, Bishop and more importantly as a brother because of my Slovak Heritage – kept alive in America. My Slovak heritage was inseparable from my faith formation, my vocational discernment and my foundational moral principles that influenced me greatly.

It was not only my Slovak Heritage and family that sustained and supported me. I had a great desire to be united to a people and culture far away. This motivated me and many of us of Slovak descent on a different continent to remember in prayer those far away who did not enjoy the same freedom and liberties that we had in America.

As I was growing up, we were highly aware that Slovakia was under the oppression of the communist regime. We realized that the Church was persecuted, and the Slovak people could not freely practice their faith. In America we held a strong belief that someday in the future this would change for the better.

At the end of every Sunday mass, we would always pray an Our Father, a Hail Mary and a Glory Be for our fellow Slovaks and then all in church would raise our voices in song as we sang in Slovak “Hej Slováci” as sign of our unity with all in Slovakia and for Slovak Independence and freedom. We would then conclude Mass with the hymn: “Teba Bože Chválime” (We Praise You God) as a way of thanking God for the many blessings we had in America.

I could never imagine that someday I would be invited to celebrate mass for you and with you on this important State holiday. However, I always believed in my heart that one day Slovakia would be a free and independent nation, because we trusted that God would answer our prayers.

Today, you have your freedom. You are an independent nation. But be very careful. Please do not ever underestimate or underappreciate this blessing. Today, I stand before you and can witness by own experience and ministry, that freedom is fragile. It should never be taken for granted. I can also testify to you today that freedom and the choice we are able to make free of force, fear, or coercion, can allow us to become what God calls us to be.

Freedom must be used correctly and for the proper designed end. In an ever-increasing secular world, it can assassinate culture, disorder society, break down the family, and destroy faith in God,



Rev. Larry J. Kulick, Bishop of Greensburg Diocese, delivering his sermon at the Saints Cyril and Methodius Celebration in Nitra, Slovakia (Larry J. Kulick, biskup z Greensburgskej diecézy, predniesol svoju kázeň na Slávnosti svätého Cyrila a Metoda v Nitre na Slovensku), photo: Lukáš Grinaj, TASR.

others, and even oneself.

Use your Freedom wisely and carefully. Embrace your Slovak heritage, culture, and values. Live your Christian faith fully and joyfully as the great inheritance it is.

Do not look to others and “what’s the latest trends or newest styles” of living. Believe me, secularism, materialism, and self-centeredness can ravage a nation, its people, culture, and faith more severely than communism ever could.

I know this. I live this I experience now in my daily life and ministry in the United States.

Allow this great blessing of faith, family and culture given from God to continue the work of Saints Cyril and Methodius in this present time. Follow their example and courageously, joyfully, and uncompromisingly proclaim the Gospel truths.

Our Holy Father Pope Francis reminds all of us that we must imitate these saintly brothers and be missionary disciples in our world today.

We, each of us, must appreciate and continue the work and legacy of Saints Cyril and Methodius by living and proclaiming the Gospel in word and deed.

As in the past, let us go forth now and into the future without fear, and with confidence, relying on God’s grace as our ancestors did to remember, celebrate, and believe.

Saints Cyril and Methodius, intercede for us!

President’s Message

continued from page 1

100th anniversary of the Western Pennsylvania Slovak day at Kennywood Park in West Mifflin, PA. This is an event we are honored to attend each year and celebrate our heritage. The FCSU had a vendor table which was run by Home Office staff members Beata Begeniova-Fedorouk and Barbara Sutilla. There were many of our Members in attendance and many new people we got to introduce the FCSU to. There was also a beautiful Mass celebrated by Bishop David Zubik, FCSU Protector Bishop Larry Kulick and Fr. Nasta. I am very grateful the FCSU was invited to celebrate such a milestone and those who continue to help make this annual event wonderful for all.

Another great event the FCSU had this summer was the Pittsburgh Pirates vs. the Cleveland Guardians baseball game held in Pennsylvania. This was the first joint event between Cleveland and Pittsburgh with over 140 FCSU Members cheering on the teams. I would like to thank Region 5 Director Bradley Matta and his mother Cathy for organizing the event in Pittsburgh and the tailgate before the game. I also want to thank District 12 Vice President Joe Tarquino for his help with the event and Region 6 Director Tom Ivanec for organizing the Ohio Branches. Branch 553 President Debra Speck and Vice President Joan Dilauro-Lewis with the Akron Slovak J Club also did an amazing job organizing busses from Ohio for the game. I appreciate everyone’s hard work in making this a special event for our Members. This may have been the first event between these two cities, but it is certainly not the last.

I deeply appreciate the continuous dedication to our fraternal and the time spent together this summer. I want to welcome new Members who may have joined after seeing one of our vendor tables at an event. It is nice to see our Society continue to grow and thrive.

In other news, it has come to my attention there have been more and more reports of scam emails, phone calls and texts. These scammers disguise themselves as a trusted friend, a financial company or the government and ask for your personal information. I wanted to let our Members know to be weary of any request for personal information such as a Social Security Number, a credit card or a bank account. The FCSU has a strict privacy policy and will never ask you to share personal information through means of email or text message. If there are any concerns or if you are unsure an email was sent from us, please call the Home Office. Also, please refer to the fraudulent crimes article in this issue of Jednota to learn more and what you can do to avoid being the victim of these crimes.

Again, continue enjoying the season and joining in on all the fun. Please keep a look out in upcoming issues of Jednota or online to stay up to date on any Branch announcements and current offers through the FCSU. Let’s continue to grow our Society financially and fraternally.

Kenneth A. Arendt



You are invited to
Region 1 Picnic
Sun, AUG 13th
 Al Kalla Park
 2801 Highland Ave., Linden, NJ
 RSVP to Joanne at 732-762-3148

Annual Toronto Slovak Open Golf Day

Sunday, September 17, 2023
 Centennial Park Golf Centre
 Etobicoke, Ontario

FIRST TEE OFF AT 1:00 PM

Golf, Food, Prizes and Fun!
 (Includes 18 holes of golf, buffet dinner and prize table)

All members of the Jednota and guests are welcome.

For more information and to register:

John Tokarsky
 Fraternal Activities Director
 (416) 948-6606
jednota-sports-toronto@outlook.com



Sponsored by Toronto/Mississauga Jednota District and Branch

The 8th Annual Johnstown Slavic Festival in September

The 8th Annual Johnstown Slavic Festival will take place in September at the Heritage Discovery Center in the Cambria City section of Johnstown, PA. FCSU Branch 23 will have a booth at the festival. The dates are as follows:

Friday Sep. 15, 2023, at 04:00 pm to 10:00 pm
 Saturday Sep. 16, 2023, at 12:00 to 10:00 pm



This free event features the best Slavic food, entertainment, and beer, including:

- Authentic Slavic music
- Slavic folk dance performances
- Homemade Slavic food, as well as imported Slavic beer
- Educational speakers and cooking demonstrations
- Ethnic vendors

This year's festival link: <https://tinyurl.com/4ydkpa3m>
 Facebook website: <https://tinyurl.com/2jxzsrym>

Cleveland Slovak Radio Club

is HOSTING

SLOVAK FESTIVAL





Saturday AUGUST 19th
 3 pm to 11 pm
Admission-\$1

ST.SAVA SERBIAN CHURCH PROPERTY

2151 W.Wallings Road, Broadview Heights
 (Between State Rd and Broadview Rd)

Serving Traditional Slovak Food, Full Bar & Pastries,
 Anthony Culkar Band & Dancing

Bake Sale
 (Sponsored by the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association as a matching funds project)



SPONSORED BY FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION

UNITING FOR UKRAINE

WELCOME CIRCLES


JOIN OUR JOURNEY!

FCSU is backing Saint Joseph Parish and Holy Spirit Parish, both in Avon Lake, Ohio for a program called "Welcome Circles".

Promoted by the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops (USCCB), Welcome Circles is asking for parishes to form core groups to sponsor a family from Ukraine during their time in need. Each core group is in a two-year commitment, providing basic needs for refugees who have been vetted by the United States government.

Slovakia has supported Ukraine amidst these disruptive times, taking in over 280,000 refugees in March of 2022. Slovak Catholic charities have also dedicated their time to provide meals and necessities as well as collected donations for Ukraine.

FCSU has made a donation to the Saint Joseph Parish and Holy Spirit Parish Welcome Circles, of which Mary Ann Radachi Dzurec of Branch 228 is a member, for their support in sponsoring these families with things such as education, employment, healthcare and housing. Additional donations will help this Welcome Circle's Ukrainian family as they make a new start in Avon Lake, Ohio. Donations can be made by scanning the QR code below or visit the Saint Joseph and Holy Spirit Welcome Circle link at: tinyurl.com/circledonate



Scan to donate

Youngstown's 18th Annual Mahoning Valley Slovak Fest *CELEBRATE YOUR HERITAGE!*

The 18th Annual Mahoning Valley Slovak Fest will be held on Sunday August 13, 2023, on the grounds of St. Matthias Church, Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, at 2800 Shady Run Rd, Youngstown, Ohio 44502.

As usual, the day starts off with a Slovak/English Mass at 10:30am at St. Matthias Church (915 Cornell Ave across the lot from the festival) and continues after Mass in the parking lot until 5:00pm.

The food will be served outside. We will have pick up outside and we will have tents and tables for you to eat under. The meals will be ordered ahead so we can plan how many to get ready. Call ahead to order at the office phone number 330-788-5082.

Taste of Slovakia Dinner: \$12 with holubky (stuffed cabbage), potato/cheese pirohy (bandurky a syr), halušky (sweet cabbage and dumplings), a cucumber salad (uhorkový šalát) and roll and butter (chlieb a maslo).

Klobasa Sandwich Dinner: \$10 includes a large klobasa with Father Jerek's special sauerkraut sandwiches, bag of chips and a large delicious homemade cookie.

Also available on the grounds will be Slovak Chicken fingers with special slaw and pickle (\$5).

And Salvadoran Papiusas (fried onions, cabbage, and cheese in a handmade tortilla (\$3)

And a great selection of Slovak baked goods including kolače and kiffles, and so much more will be at the bake sale.

There will be Slovak items and books for sale. There is also a great Slovak Heritage corner showing many beautiful items on display such as authentic Slovak kroj (folk costumes), maps, corn husk dolls, photos, books, embroidery, and informational items (like free Slovak recipes!).

Of course, there is also a wonderful basket auction, a 50/50, and a cash raffle with a total of \$2000 in prizes from \$50 to \$1000. (The cash raffle tickets will also available if you call the office number).

We will have musical entertainment by the Del Sinchak Band, from 2pm to 4pm. There's even room to dance! So, you know the music will be wonderful!

So come celebrate our Slovak heritage with great food, great music, and great friends!

For more information just give me a call at 330.549.3760 or email me at loretta.ekoniak@gmail.com!

Submitted by Loretta Ekoniak, Branch 731



District 12 - MSGR. Andrew Hlinka District, PA



Celebrated a Night of Fraternal Baseball.



Welcome District 12 friends and family

Cheryl Hyatt (District 12 – President), Joseph Tarquinio (District 12 – Vice President), Maureen Massafra (District 12 – Treasurer), MaryAnne Higginbotham (Branch 320 – President) can be found in our group picture.

District 12 would like to offer a special thanks to Brad Matta, Tom Ivanec, Joseph Tarquinio, Branch 38, Home Office staff and all involved in making this a successful fraternal night of Pirates/Guardians Baseball

Submitted by Joseph Tarquinio, Vice-President, District 12



45TH SLOVAK HERITAGE FESTIVAL
IN NEW JERSEY
24TH SEPTEMBER 2023

PROGRAM 2023

CATHOLIC HOLY MASS
10 AM

MAIN PROGRAM
1:30 PM

LIMBORÁČIK
2 PM | CHILDREN'S FOLKLORE ENSAMBLE | NEW YORK | NEW YORK

LIPKA
2:30 PM | CHILDREN'S FOLKLORE ENSAMBLE | LINDEN | NEW JERSEY

LITMANIVKY
3:40 PM | FEMALE FOLK SINGING GROUP | LITMANOVÁ | SLOVAKIA

ŠARIŠAN
4:30 PM | FOLK ENSAMBLE | PREŠOV | SLOVAKIA

M.VALIHORA | D.KOLLER | LASH&GREY
6 PM | BAND FROM SLOVAKIA & CZECH

SUPPORT OUR FESTIVAL GO FUND ME

SCAN WITH YOUR PHONE CAMERA

at Middlesex County Fair Grounds | 655 Cranbury Rd. | East Brunswick | NJ 08816 | www.slovakfest.org
FOR VENDORS INFORMATION PLEASE FEEL FREE TO EMAIL US TO vendors@slovakfest.org OR CALL 203-236-1908

WITH PARTIAL SUPPORT FROM
CIVIC FOR BLENDED LEADERSHIP

SUPPORTS MAE FESTIVAL
SUPPORT OUR FESTIVAL
gofundme

Branch 162 Scholarship Winners Honored



(L-R) President Mark Marmol, and scholarship recipients Jenna Voyten, Maigen McGinty and Nathan Schwertfeger.

The St. Wendelin Branch 162 of the First Catholic Slovak Union sponsored a brunch for the national scholarship recipients and their families. Recipients included Jenna Voyten, Maigen McGinty and Nathan Schwertfeger. The brunch was held at Shoney's Restaurant in Uniontown, PA on Sunday, June 25, 2023. Attending branch officers included President, Mark Marmol; Vice President, Joanne Marmol; Secretary, Dolores Marmol and Auditor Frank Marmol, Treasurer, Patty Marmol and Regional Director James Marmol. All the officers want to congratulate them on their success and their next step to an eventful education and successful career. God bless.

Submitted by Patty Marmol

Branch 746 Member Anna Matas Celebrated her 92nd Birthday!

Our dearest Anna Matas, member of Branch 746, celebrated her 92nd birthday on June 11th surrounded by her family - her daughters, grandchildren, and great grandchildren. We want to wish her a wonderful birthday and much health and God's blessings. She is the cornerstone of our family, and we are so blessed to have her with us for so many happy years.

Dožiť sa takého krásneho veku je iste dar Boží. Tohoto požehnanie sa dostalo našej drahej mamke pani ANNE Maťašovej. Skromná, tichá, nábožná a pracovitá, ktorá sa 11. júna dožila v pomerne relatívnom zdraví 92. rokov. Anna si so svojou skromnou povahou získala dôveru kamarátov a rešpekt, je členkou kostola Svätej rodiny v Linden New Jersey, členkou slovenského ružencového spolku a členkou Prvej katolíckej slovenskej Jednoty číslo 746. Annu za jej oddanosť viery Pán Boh požehnal dvoma dcérami, tromi vnúčatami a 4 pravnúčatkami.

Chceme sa poďakovať za všetkú lásku, všetky obete, niet veru lepšej mamy na svete. Veď každá chvíľa v tvojom náručí, na dlhý čas nám šťastie zaručí!

Mamičke Anne, k jej krásnym narodeninám prajeme veľa dobrého zdravia, šťastia, pokoja a božieho požehnanie na každom kroku!

Submitted by Emilia Filak, Supreme Court member, Branch 746



Branch 112 Stephen and Janice Engle Celebrate Their 60th Wedding Anniversary

Stephen and Janice Engle of Branch 112 celebrated 60 years of marriage this past July. Steve and Jan were married on July 6, 1963, at SS. Peter and Paul Church in Altoona, PA. They had two receptions: this first was immediately following the ceremony in Altoona and the second was the next day in Mahanoy City, PA. Over the years they welcomed three children: Deanna, Stephen and Joanne, and lived in New York, Ohio, Virginia, Wisconsin, and Pennsylvania. They now have three grandchildren: Stephanie,

Joanna, and Jack, and six great grandchildren. Both are active in the First Catholic Slovak Union and Steve recently retired as Chairman of the Supreme Court. They celebrated their 60th anniversary with a dinner accompanied by their children in Lancaster, PA where they currently reside.

Submitted by Jo Austin



Honoring Stephen G. Engle's Many Years of Service to the FCSU

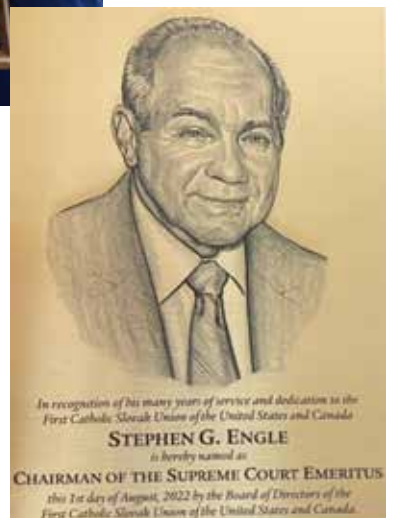
FCSU President, Kenneth A. Arendt, had the pleasure of honoring Stephen G. Engle with a plaque at the national picnic at Knoebels on July 15th, for his time and dedication to FCSU.

Stephen has contributed many years serving as the Chairman of Supreme Court for the FCSU before stepping down last year. The plaque not only recognizes him for his dedication but also, by the body of the 52nd quadrennial convention, hereby names him as Chairman of the Supreme Court Emeritus. He undoubtedly was committed to his role and has left an impact on the Society.

The Board of Directors recognizes and honors Stephen for the years he dedicated to this role. Congratulations Stephen on this outstanding achievement!



Executive Secretary Kevin Collins, Chairman of the Supreme Court Emeritus Stephen G. Engle, FCSU President Kenneth Arendt.



Plaque awarded to Stephen G. Engle at Knoebels for his dedication to FCSU.

Money Scams and Fraud



DON'T FALL VICTIMS TO SCAMMERS!

In 2022, over 2.5 million reports of fraud were submitted to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), racking up over nine-billion in total money loss. This, of course, does not include the hundreds occurring daily which go unreported.

With everything being online or through smart-phones, scammers are working overtime finding new and innovative ways to commit fraudulent crimes. These days you need to be extra careful with what information you are sending where and who you are communicating with. Once someone has a piece of your information, there's no telling what they can do next.

HOW DO SCAMMERS COMMIT FRAUD?

According to the FTC, credit/debit card information is the number one way that scammers are committing fraud. So how do they do this? The top reported issue to the FTC is through im-poster scams or "phishing". Besides your common sketchy websites and pop-up ads, these scams are done through text messages, emails, phone calls and even social media. For example, a criminal would send an email which appears to be from a financial institution, a popular online retailer or even a federal agency such as the Internal Revenue Service. The email asks the recipient to supply personal information such as a bank account, credit card or Social Security number. This is later used to make fraudulent transactions or commit other crimes.

More and more people are reporting cases of imposters claiming to be family, friends, banks, credit lines or the government. With the advancement of technology, people can modify their voice to sound like a familiar friend and make a call from their number, copy the same text or mannerisms from companies or tell personal information to make them seem more legitimate.

HOW CAN YOU PROTECT YOURSELF?

As concerning as it may seem, there are ways you can protect yourself and your family from falling victim to these scams.

Firstly, double check the number or email address you received the request from. For texts and calls, if the number doesn't match the company's website, is blocked, or doesn't align with your contact information, report it right away and block the number. For emails, you should always look the message over to see if there is anything suspicious such as too many typos, attachments or if their communication style has changed. If the name does not match the email address and is not someone you have communicated with before, **DON'T CLICK ANYTHING**. Find the correct email address for the company or person, then proceed to report the email and block them.

Secondly, check where you are storing private information and/or passwords. Anything saved on your computer or phone can be easily hacked into and accessed. Even if you think you're safe with Face ID or fingerprint access, there is always a way around it. Try keeping a booklet, such as the FCSU password keeper, and keep your information written down instead of online. Always remember to come up with unique passwords for each website and, if you are notified of a breach, change your password right away.

Lastly, keep in mind most legitimate organizations never ask you to supply personal information in email, text or through social media. If so, it is always a good idea to directly call the organization or person to confirm information as needed. If the scam happens over the phone and you are unsure if it is who they say they are, hang up, find the right number and give them a call yourself.

If you want to learn more about identity theft, current scams and how to report an incident, head over to FTC's website at www.consumer.ftc.gov.



L-R: Elaine Zavada, Lynne Mylet, Colleen Matthey, Michelle Pisaneschi, Branch 5 Vice President Robert Zavada, and Region 3 Director Martha Zavada.

Sisters of SS. Cyril and Methodius Summer Festival Held in Danville, PA

On Saturday, July 8th, Sister of SS. Cyril and Methodius held their summer festival on the lovely grounds of Danville, PA. Members and guests were welcomed with lots of food, baked goods, and a flea market with unique items. Thank you to Sr. Thomas More for the invitation and warm hospitality. It truly brought back memories of attending the summer event with my deceased grandparents Steve and Helen Engle, longtime Members of the FCSU.

Submitted by Executive Secretary Kevin Collins

Branch 716 Summer Events

Branch 716 Members & Friends on the Circle Line NYC Cruise



(L-R) Branch 716 members Maria Božekova, President Eva Lysakova, Jan Škrkon, Peter Gašpar, Anna Billikova, and Jan Lysak.

As Summer began and days grew longer, Branch 716 had been planning events for members and the parishioners in our community. On June 9th, branch members of 716 and friends gathered and went on a Circle Line boat cruise around Manhattan. Attendees relaxed as they enjoyed the views from the East and Hudson rivers, and afterward had a party at a member's home that looked upon the New York City skyline.

On July 9th, Branch 716 also hosted a barbecue picnic for parishioners at St. John Nepomucene Church to celebrate the 4th of July Holiday. A variety of delicious food was prepared and grilled by Peter Gašpar and other branch members. On behalf of Branch 716, we thank everyone for attending and we wish everyone a wonderful summer.

Submitted by Emily Lysáková, Recording Secretary



THE JEDNOTA BENEVOLENT FOUNDATION, INC 2023 SCHOLARSHIP FUND

**The Jednota Benevolent Foundation, Inc is accepting applications for its
2023 Scholarship Program.**

THE COMMITTEE SHALL AWARD UP TO **TEN (10) \$500 SCHOLARSHIPS**
TO THE CANDIDATES WHO BEST SATISFY THE AWARD CRITERIA.
Applicants, even those who are previous recipients of this scholarship, may apply yearly.

Jednota Benevolent Foundation Award Criteria:

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

For applications, please contact:

Jednota Benevolent Foundation, Inc.

First Catholic Slovak Union, 6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence, Ohio 44131

Phone 1-800-533-6682 - Fax 216-642-4310

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

APPLICATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY MIDNIGHT OCTOBER 31, 2023

The 100th Anniversary of Slovak Day at Kennywood Park, PA



On July 20th, crowds gathered in the hot sun to celebrate their heritage at Kennywood in Pennsylvania for the 100th anniversary of Slovak Day. In between the amusement rides, guests enjoyed traditional Slovak food, music, dancing, raffles, vendors tables and a meet and greet with Ambassador Radovan Javorcik. Slovak Liturgy was also later celebrated by Bishop David Zubik, Bishop Larry Kulick, and Fr. Thomas Nasta.

The FCSU staff were located under the pavilion with the vendor tables. They had the privilege of seeing many Members as well as introducing the fraternal to other attendees. Free merchandise, Jednota issues and information about our financial products were all given away at our booth.

We had a blast and are honored to be a part of this event each year! Thank you to all who came and stopped by to visit our table, we hope to see you again next year!



Visit to FCSU Home Office from the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library



The FCSU welcomed Rick Martin, Director of National and International Development at the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library to the Home Office on July 24th. President Kenneth Arendt, Executive Secretary Kevin Collins, and Executive Assistant Beata Begeniova-Fedorouk sat down with Rick to discuss future plans involving the FCSU. The museum, associated with the Smithsonian, is located in Cedar Rapids, Iowa and consistently hosts new exhibits and events.

Thank you to Rick for coming to speak with us, and we are excited to see what the future holds! For more information on the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library head to www.ncsml.org

Pittsburgh Newspaper Highlights How Slovaks Have Been Celebrating Their Culture at Kennywood Park for 100 Years.



Rick Schen at Slovak Day at Kennywood with Sisters of Cyril and Methodius from Danville, PA

FCSU Branch 553 Member Rick Schen was interviewed and highlighted in an article for the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette. Rick was interviewed by Steve Bohnel during the fun and festivities at the 100th Slovak day at Kennywood. He touched on what Slovak identity is to him, traditions and the memories of his family celebrating their heritage. Ambassador Radovan Javorcik and Bishop Larry Kulick also made it into the article discussing the significance of the day. It is great to see one of our Members sharing their story and highlighting what it mean to celebrate your heritage! To read the article please visit tinyurl.com/Kennywood100.

2023 Stephen C. Matula Scholarship Winners



BOLCAR, ZACHARY
College: James Madison University;
Major: Business Mgmt & Accounting



BORYCZEWSKI, GABRIELLE
College: Franciscan University of Steubenville;
Major: Mechanical Engineering



RUDAT, DAVID
College: The University of Vermont;
Major: Biomedical Engineering



RUSH, HOLLIANN
College: Galen College of Nursing;
Major: Nursing



SMEARCHECK, LUKE
College: Penn State University;
Major: Mechanical Engineering

Simply Slavic Gift Card Winners

Thank you to Rachel Dorsey and Edward Szczypinski for stopping by our table at the Simply Slavic Festival on June 16th and 17th! They were the lucky entrants picked from our drawing and will each receive a \$50.00 gift card. Congratulations!



Continued from page 1

IN-HOUSE
MONEY TRANSFER

FIRST AND LAST NAME:

ADDRESS:

POLICY NUMBER:

EMAIL ADDRESS:

PHONE NUMBER:

SIGNATURE:

Mail the form to:
**FCSU Financial, 6611 Rockside Rd. #300,
 Independence, OH 44131**
 or email the form to annuity@fcsu.com.

Summer Fun at the FCSU National Picnic at Knoebels Amusement Park

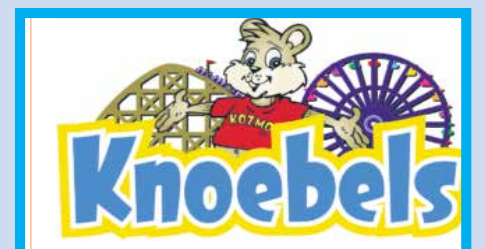
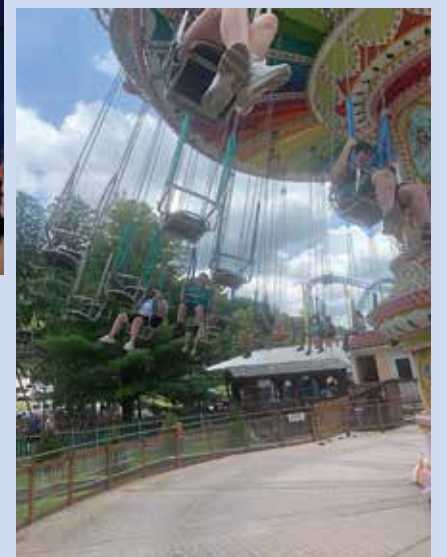
Good times were had and great memories were made this year at the National Picnic at Knoebels Amusement Park in Pennsylvania. Over 200 FCSU Members from far and wide beat the heat July 15th for the annual event.

The party kicked off the night before with a tailgate at the Hampton Inn featuring pizza, drinks and more. This year, the hotel was nice enough to let the festivities take place indoors to stay cool.

The morning of the picnic, Executive Secretary Kevin Collins hosted a best ball scramble golf match of nine holes at Sunny Hill golf course. The course has beautiful, peaceful scenery and the weather was perfect for the morning. The intense match came to an end when Stephen Engle Jr., Kevin Collins, and Ed Nasta took the lead in the last hole, coming out on top as the winners of the game. All are welcome to join next year and take on the challenge of beating the champs.

Later at the picnic, each Member was greeted by the FCSU staff with giveaways and a ticket booklet to use on rides around the park. The day was spent enjoying amusement rides, games, a delicious lunch under the FCSU pavilion and a Mass offered by Fr. Thomas Nasta. Several Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Danville, PA also attended and joined in on the fun. Thankfully, the storms held out until after the scheduled itinerary and everyone was able to enjoy the beautiful day.

Thank you to everyone who came to the event and brought your friends and family. It was great to see everyone come together and have some fun! We look forward to seeing more people next summer!





A Terrific Time at the FCSU National Picnic at Wiegand Lake Park, Ohio

The FCSU held their annual National Picnic at Wiegand Lake Park in Ohio this past July 29th, where Members enjoyed a day full of outdoor fun. Although the weather was rapidly changing, the sun came out after the rain and everyone had an amazing time! Paddle boats, cornhole, bingo, and facepainting were just a few activities Members partook in along with a Mass celebrated by Fr. Thomas Nasta. Also, one of the best parts, the delicious food and unlimited ice cream to keep everyone cool. It was a great day full of laughter and fun! We look forward to spending times like these together and can't wait for next year!



News from Slovakia - Správy zo Slovenska



**Maďarský
premiér
Viktor Orbán
(Hungarian
Prime Minister
Viktor Orbán,
TASR)**

Rezort diplomacie si predvolal maďarského veľvyslanca

Bratislava 24. júla (TASR) - Rezort diplomacie si predvolal maďarského veľvyslanca Csaba Balogha v súvislosti s výroky predsedu vlády Maďarska Viktora Orbána o "práci pre vlasť na odtrhnutých územiach". Požiadali ho, aby Orbánove slová vysvetlil. Pre TASR to potvrdil komunikačný odbor Ministerstva zahraničných vecí a európskych záležitostí (MZVEZ) SR, upozornil na to Denník N.

"Československo (a neskôr Slovensko) či Maďarsko sú rovnakými nástupníckymi štátmi Rakúsko-Uhorska. Od dnešného Maďarska teda nemohlo byť nič odtrhnuté," reagovalo ministerstvo. Šírenie takýchto naratívov kýmkoľvek ide podľa neho "nezmyselne proti dobrým susedským vzťahom a stabilite v našej oblasti".

Spochybnovanie územnej integrity či suverenity Slovenska akýmkoľvek priamym alebo nepriamym spôsobom je pre rezort absolútne neprijateľné. "Opakujeme preto, že máme záujem na normálnych a pokojných vzťahoch s Maďarskom, ale s rešpektom a vnímaním vzájomných citlivostí. Aktuálne vyjadrenia maďarského premiéra nejdú týmto smerom," uviedlo MZVEZ.

Maďarský premiér Orbán cez víkend na letnej univerzite Maďarov v Rumunsku kritizoval maďarskú menšinu na Slovensku, ktorá napriek tomu, že tvorí zhruba desať percent obyvateľstva, nie je schopná zabezpečiť svoje zastúpenie v slovenskom parlamente. "Milí Maďari z Felvidéku, je to dosť absurdná situácia. Žije tam (na Slovensku) pol milióna Maďarov. Nemôžeme povedať, že kvôli Slovákom sa nedokážeme zmobilizovať, aj keď iste aj oni robia rôzne špekulácie. To však je už súčasťou života," povedal. Situáciu označil za slabý výkon, pokiaľ niekto chce niečo urobiť pre svoju vlasť v "odtrhnutých častiach krajiny".

Ministry of Foreign Affairs Summons Hungarian Ambassador over Orbán's Statements about Slovakia

Bratislava, July 24 (TASR) - The Slovak Foreign Affairs Ministry summoned Hungarian ambassador Csaba Balogh to explain the statements of Hungary's Prime Minister Viktor Orbán about "working for the motherland in the breakaway territories", TASR was confirmed by the ministry's communications department on Monday. The Denník N daily first broke the news.

"Czechoslovakia (and later Slovakia) and Hungary are equally successor states of Austria-Hungary. So nothing could have been separated from today's Hungary," said the ministry, adding that it considers spreading such narratives by anyone to be "pointlessly going against good neighborly relations and stability in our area".

Questioning the territorial integrity or sovereignty of Slovakia in any direct or indirect way is absolutely unacceptable for the ministry. "We repeat therefore that we're interested in normal and peaceful relations with Hungary but with respect and perception of mutual sensitive issues. The current statements of the Hungarian premier don't go in this direction," said the Foreign Affairs Ministry.

Hungarian Prime Minister Orbán criticized [the situation of the] Hungarian minority in Slovakia over the weekend at the summer university of the Hungarians in Romania. He said that despite the fact that they make up roughly ten percent of the population, the ethnic Hungarians in Slovakia are unable to ensure their representation in the Slovak Parliament. "Dear Hungarians from Felvidek [a Hungarian name for Slovakia viewed as derogatory in Slovakia - ed. note], it's a rather absurd situation. There are half a million Hungarians living there [in Slovakia]. We can't say that we can't mobilize because of the Slovaks, even though they certainly make various speculations. But that's part of life," he said, describing the situation as a poor performance, if someone wants to do something for their homeland in the "breakaway parts of the country".

Na Slovensko pricestoval ukrajinský prezident V. Zelenskyj

Bratislava 7. júla (TASR) - Na Slovensko pricestoval v piatok popoludní ukrajinský prezident Volodymyr Zelenskyj. Ide o jeho druhú návštevu SR, ale prvú od začiatku rozsiahlej ruskej vojenskej agresie na Ukrajine. TASR o tom informoval hovorca prezidentky SR Zuzany Čaputovej Martin Stržišinec. Zelenskyj sa stretol s Čaputovou v Prezidentskom paláci. Po oficiálnom uvítacom ceremoniáli čakal hlavy štátov spoločné rokovanie. Avizovaná je spoločná tlačová konferencia.

"Diskutovať budú najmä o bezpečnostnej situácii vrátane aktuálnej situácie na fronte, ako aj o ďalšej podpore Ukrajiny a o jej Mierovej iniciatíve, teda ukrajinskom návrhu mierového riešenia na skončenie vojny. Ďalšími témami rozhovorov bude podpora euroatlantických ambícií Ukrajiny aj v súvislosti s blížiacim sa samitom Severoatlantickej aliancie vo Vlniuse," priblížil Stržišinec.

Kľúčovou témou však bude podľa jeho slov aj ďalší rozvoj bilaterálnej spolupráce vrátane dopravných prepojení medzi oboma krajinami a účasti slovenských firiem na obnove Ukrajiny.

Ukrajinský prezident prichádza na Slovensko z Českej republiky, kde absolvoval stretnutie s prezidentom Petrom Pavlom, premiérom Petrom Fialom aj predsedami oboch komôr parlamentu. Tento týždeň navštívil Zelenskyj aj Bulharsko. Pokračuje tak v sérii návštev krajín, ktoré podporujú Ukrajinu.

Pre Zelenského išlo o druhú návštevu Slovenska, no prvú od začiatku vojny v jeho vlasti. Počas návštevy sa stretne aj s premiérom Ľudovítom Ódorom a predsedom parlamentu Borisom Kollárom.



Prezidentka SR Zuzana Čaputová a ukrajinský prezident Volodymyr Zelenskyj púžujú počas rokovania v Prezidentskom paláci v Bratislave v piatok 7. júla 2023 (Slovak President Zuzana Čaputová and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyj pose during negotiations in the Presidential Palace in Bratislava on Friday, July 7, 2023). Foto: TASR - Jaroslav Novák

Zelenskyj Visited Slovakia

Bratislava, July 7 (TASR) - Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyj arrived in Slovakia, President Zuzana Čaputová's spokesman Martin Stržišinec has reported. Zelenskyj is set to be received by Čaputová at the Presidential Palace, where the two presidents held talks. This was followed by a joint press conference.

"They will discuss in particular the security situation, including the current situation on the front in Ukraine, as well as further support for Kiev and its Peace Initiative, i.e., Ukraine's proposal for a peaceful solution for ending the war. Other topics will include support for Ukraine's Euro-Atlantic aspirations against the backdrop of the upcoming NATO summit in Vilnius," said Stržišinec.

The further development of bilateral cooperation, including transport links between the two countries and the participation of Slovak companies in the reconstruction of Ukraine, will be the key theme discussed as well, the spokesman added.

Zelenskyj arrived in Slovakia from the Czech Republic, where he met both President Petr Pavel and Premier Petr Fiala as well as the chairs of both parliamentary chambers. Earlier this week, the Ukrainian president visited Bulgaria, continuing his series of visits to countries that support Ukraine.

This was Zelenskyj's second visit to Slovakia, but his first since the start of the war in his homeland. He also met with Slovak Premier Ľudovít Ódor and Parliamentary Chairman Boris Kollár during his visit.

Hovorkyňou slovenských biskupov sa stala po prvý raz žena. Je ňou Katarína Jančíšinová

(Vatican, 13 júna 2023) Konferencia biskupov Slovenska (KBS) bude mať od 1. augusta novú hovorkyňu. Stala sa ňou Katarína Jančíšinová, ktorá predtým pracovala ako redaktorka a prekladateľka pre Vydavateľstvo Nové Mesto. Zároveň sa venovala prekladom a tlmočeniu z talianskeho a nemeckého jazyka. Voľba sa konala na úvod 105. plenárneho zasadnutia KBS v Badíne.



**Juraj Sarvaš.
Foto: TASR
Radovan
Stoklasa**

For the First Time, a Woman Selected the Spokesperson of Slovak Bishops - Katarína Jančíšinová

(Vatican, June 13, 2023) The Bishops' Conference of Slovakia (KBS) will have a new spokesperson starting August 1 - Katarína Jančíšinová. She previously worked as an editor and translator for the publisher Vydavateľstvo Nové Mesto. At the same time, she was engaged in translations and interpreting from Italian and German. The election was held at the beginning of the 105th plenary



PLAY THE LOSER'S POOL

2023 with the FCSU

PRIZES:

1st Place - \$750

2nd Place - \$500

3rd Place - \$250

FCSU RULES

- 1) Must be an FCSU member in good standing, age 16 years or older, to play.
- 2) Each player picks one NFL Team they think will lose that week.
- 3) All picks are "Straight Up" and are not using any point spread.
- 4) If your pick (team) loses that week, you advance to the following week.
- 5) If your pick (team) wins, you are eliminated from the pool.
- 6) Pre-plan projections: You can only pick a team once to lose throughout season & playoffs.
- 7) Games ending in a tie will count as your team winning and you will be eliminated.
- 8) If you miss the deadline to enter your team for that week, you will be eliminated.
- 9) Deadline for submitting your team TBD each week based on start of the first NFL game.
- 10) Must use email address* from your submitted entry form.**
- 11) Email address* can only be used once. No exceptions.**
- 12) Check email address* and spam folders for an email from *contest@fcsu.com* to register.
- 13) After registering with FCSU—you will receive a link to enter your player information on the official Run Your Pool game site **before 5:00pm (EST) Tuesday, September 5, 2023.**



----- ENTRY FORM -----

Name: _____ Player Name: _____

Certificate Number: _____ Branch : _____ Email Address* _____
 (Must be your entry email)

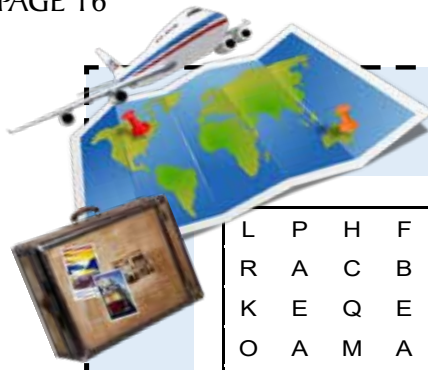
Street Address: City, State, Zip: _____

_____ Phone Number: _____

Mail to: FCSU, Attention: Football Pool, 6611 Rockside Rd, #300, Independence OH, 44131

OR Email to: *contest@fcsu.com*

All entry forms must arrive by 5:00PM (EST) Thursday, August 31, 2023



FCSU PUZZLE CONTEST ENTRY

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

“August” Word List

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| AUGUST | DOVOLENKA (Vacation) |
| CAMPING | ZMRZLINA (Ice Cream) |
| SUMMER | PLÁŽ (Beach) |
| ICE CREAM | CESTOVANIE (Travels) |
| SWIMMING | UTERÁKY (Towels) |
| SUNGLASSES | TÁBOR (Camp) |

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____
 State: _____ Zip code: _____
 Email: _____
 Branch #: _____ Phone: _____

Rules

All FCSU members are eligible to enter. **One entry per member!**
 Complete the word puzzle and email it along with your name, address, email and branch number to contest@fcsu.com or mail it to:

FCSU PUZZLE

6611 Rockside Rd, Independence, OH 44131

Entries must be received by **September 24, 2023.**

Five winners will be drawn from all correct entries.

Each winner will receive \$50.

August Puzzle Contest

Each month 5 winners of the FCSU Puzzle Contest will be announced in this section.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE JUNE CONTEST WINNERS:

Clement J. Adams Br 38

Chris A. Jurik Br 89

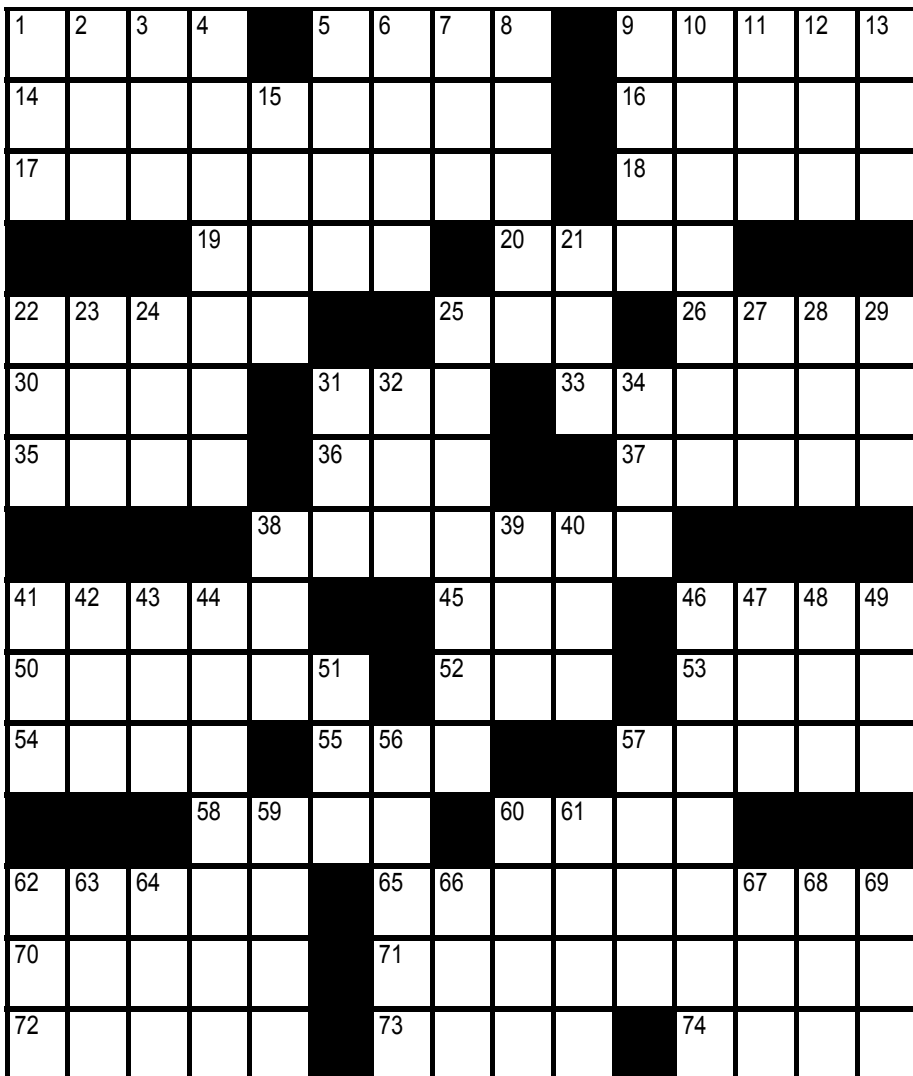
Joseph Moynihan Br 24

Pam Kelly Br 855

Elias Strekal Br 24

KEEP PUZZLING!

Jednota Crossword Puzzle



Across

- 1 Partner of void
- 5 Brake part
- 9 West Pointer
- 14 Claim
- 16 Critical
- 17 Maligns
- 18 City-like
- 19 Throngs
- 20 Hideous
- 22 Unexciting
- 25 Attention-getter
- 26 Highway division
- 30 Enthusiasm
- 31 Self center
- 33 Ticket costs
- 35 Zingy taste
- 36 Bell and Barker
- 37 Largish combo
- 38 Short-handled receptacle
- 41 Primitive calculators
- 45 Suffix with ideal
- 46 Kind of collar
- 50 Pristina locale
- 52 Mouth piece
- 53 Bozos
- 54 Petri dish filler
- 55 British verb ending
- 57 Stock
- 58 Look like a creep
- 60 Partiality
- 62 Spa feature
- 65 Turncoats
- 70 Map within a map

- 71 It's short on purpose
- 72 Cubic meter
- 73 Cravings
- 74 ___ does it!

Down

- 1 Arrest
- 2 It's a free country
- 3 Hallucinogen
- 4 Furry-footed roder
- 5 Ticket part
- 6 Strikes
- 7 “___ la la!”
- 8 Come after
- 9 Veil
- 10 Man-made fiber
- 11 Nickname
- 12 Capt. 's prediction
- 13 Half a score
- 15 Crucifix
- 21 Swindle
- 22 Check for accuracy
- 23 Miss. neighbor
- 24 Prospector's need
- 25 Antagonistic
- 27 Take steps
- 28 Born
- 29 Extreme suffix
- 31 Outback runner
- 32 Heating fuel
- 34 Ely of Tarzan fame
- 38 Army unit, briefly
- 39 Last Greek consonant
- 40 Current unit
- 41 Alias preceder
- 42 Slough
- 43 Botanist Gray
- 44 Medical examiner
- 46 Abandon
- 47 Pathet ___
- 48 Little wriggler
- 49 Havana residue
- 51 Engine need
- 56 Squalid
- 57 Upside-down sleepers
- 59 Fence part
- 60 City on the Rhine
- 61 Horned goddess
- 62 Start of a cheer
- 63 After fire or harvester
- 64 Don't waste
- 66 Quiche, e.g.
- 67 Spanish aunt
- 68 Hesitant sounds
- 69 Hog heaven?

See Solution on Page 23

BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

All new BRANCH Announcements should be sent to branch@fcsu.com

BRANCH 5P EXETER, PA

The Saint John the Evangelist Society, Branch 05P, will hold a meeting on Saturday, September 16, 2023, at 12:00 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 and the election of officers. Members are invited and encouraged to attend.

Members who want to attend the branch meeting should contact Marion Rubino, President, by September 12, at 570-693-0399.

**Submitted by Mary Jo Rubino,
Recording Secretary**

BRANCH 7 – HOUTZDALE, PA

The Sacred Heart of Jesus Society Branch 7 will hold a meeting on Sunday, October 15, 2023, at 9:00AM at Holy Trinity Catholic Church Parish Hall, 52 Parish St. Ramey, PA 16671. Election of officers will be held. All members are invited to attend the meeting.

Submitted by Joseph C. Cervenak, President

BRANCH 19 - BRIDGEPORT, CT

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 19, will hold its regular meeting via Zoom on Sunday, September 10, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. At this meeting, we will plan our scholarship meeting for November 12, 2023.

We cordially invite our members to virtually attend our meeting and take advantage of the opportunity to spend time getting together with their fellow branch members. Please contact me at cstecher3@gmail.com if you plan on attending the meeting.

**Submitted by Deborah M. Nelson,
Recording Secretary**

BRANCH 24 – CLEVELAND, OH

Branch 24 is having a branch picnic at Walton Hills Lake Club, 7157 Rotary Dr, Walton Hills, OH, on Saturday, August 12, 2023, from 1 PM to 6 PM. We will begin with a brief meeting. Bring a side dish or dessert to share. The branch will provide hamburgers and hotdogs for the cookout as well as water and soft drinks. Alcohol is allowed but no glass bottles. The covered pavilion is near a manmade lake that is open for swimming with a lifeguard on duty. Beach volleyball and other activities are also available.

Please contact Branch 24 Fraternal Activities Director Tom Ivanec at 440-668-7797 before August 4 if you plan on attending. We hope to see many of you there.

Submitted by John Moynihan, President

BRANCH 24 – CLEVELAND, OHIO

Branch 24 encourages our branch members to attend the August 19, 2023, Cleveland Slovak Radio Club Picnic. This year, the picnic will be held at the outdoor pavilion on the grounds of St. Sava Church, 2151 West Wallings Road, Broadview Hts, OH. The picnic starts at 3PM. Admission is \$5. Admission is free for children 12 and under.

Members of the Cleveland Slovak Radio Club will be serving Slovak food, beer, and pastries for purchase; there also will be music by the Anthony Culkar Band for dancing and your listening pleasure. Adult members of Branch 24 will receive \$5 toward admission and \$10 in food/beverage tickets. Children (10 and under) who are members of Branch 24 will receive \$5 in food/beverage tickets. If you need more information, please contact me at 440-668-7797.

**Submitted by Tom Ivanec,
Fraternal Activities Director**

BRANCH 24 – CLEVELAND, OH

Branch 24 is offering branch members discounted tickets to the annual Slovak Heritage Society Pig Roast which will be held on Saturday September 9 at the American Slovak Sokol Camp, 2069 Royalwood Rd, Broadview Hts. For further information, contact branch Fraternal Activities Director Tom Ivanec at 440-668-7797.

Submitted by John Moynihan, President

BRANCH 55 – PHILADELPHIA, PA

The Meeting of St. Joseph Society Branch 055K is scheduled to be held on Sunday, August 27, 2023, at 2:00 P.M. as a Zoom meeting. All members are cordially invited to attend. Please send your Email address to helenagaydos@outlook.com, so we can send you the private Zoom link to attend the meet-

ing.

Along with conducting regular business, we will be making honorable mention of all our recent Graduates. We will also be holding discussions on upcoming Fraternal Gathering Activities and the possibility of making a bus trip to Washington, DC for Mass at the Basilica to celebrate the 58th Anniversary of our Jednota Chapel dedicated to Our Mother of Sorrows.

Attention! Any high school or college student that attends this meeting will receive a copy of Joseph Trojcek's essential book, FOCUS ON YOUR LIGHT. For those interested in building a successful career, Joe presents helpful ideas for anyone interested in starting a business or furthering his/her career.

**Submitted by Helena T. Gaydos,
Secretary & Treasurer**

BRANCH 89 – MILWAUKEE, WI

Dear Members:
Please join us for our meeting on August 20, 2023. Time is 11:30 AM. Members are free. Guests are welcome but will pay for their own meal.

The cost is \$40.00 per person.
Location: Brisco County Wood Grill
N96W16865 Cumberland Court
Menomonee Falls, WI
That is at Highway 41 North and County Q exit.
Please call to make your reservation by 8/15/2023. You MUST CONFIRM. Please call the President of Branch 89, Mike Novak, at 414-445-5382.

Please make checks payable to KNIGHTS OF ST. MARY AND JOSEPH BR 89
Mail to Mike Novak - 3237 N. 93rd St - Milwaukee, WI 53222

On the meeting agenda: Donations and Activities. Fraternal Regards,

Submitted by Michael Novak, President

BRANCH 153 - CHICAGO, IL

St. Stephen Branch 153 will hold the Annual Meeting on Saturday, October 21, 2023, at 11:30 a.m. at Cucina Biagio, 7319 West Lawrence, Harwood Heights, IL. Election of officers and Charitable Donations are on the agenda. Luncheon will follow. Reserve your place by October 15 with Dorothy (708) 995 7378.

Submitted by John Jurcenko, President

BRANCH 162 – UNIONTOWN, PA

The St. Wendelin Society, Branch 162, will hold its branch meeting on Sunday, August 27, 2023, at 9:00 a.m., at the Uniontown Country Club, 25 Bailey Lane, Uniontown, PA.

Officers' Reports will be given, and branch activities will be discussed. The Donations Committee will make its recommendations for the coming months. Regional Director, James Marmol, will advise us of developments from the home office and the activities of the summer. The meeting will be followed by breakfast. Call Dolores Marmol at 724-437-4983 before August 22nd for reservations for you and your guest to attend the meeting.

Submitted by Dolores Marmol, Secretary

BRANCH 181 – UNITED PA

All Branch 181 members are invited to join Branch 162 of Uniontown to attend the celebration of the 58th anniversary of the Slovak Chapel in the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington D.C. on Saturday, September 23, 2023. A mass will be celebrated by The Most Reverend Larry J. Kulick, Bishop of the Diocese of Greensburg and the FCSU Protector.

A chartered bus provided by Branch 162 will take participants to the Basilica. A bus seat per person is \$50 and is non-refundable. Reservations will be confirmed when payment is made and will be on a first come, first served basis. The bus holds 54 occupants. Snacks and water will be provided. The bus will stop for breakfast on the way to D.C. and for dinner on the return trip. Meals are at your own expense. Bus will depart from St. Mary's Church parking lot at 61 North Mt. Vernon Ave. in Uniontown at 6:00 AM and leave at 5:00 PM from D.C. The trip and stops will take about 5 hours and bathroom facilities will be available on the bus. For reservations, please contact Nancy Blake at St. Mary Church by calling 724-437-4441. Payments and reservations must be completed by September 1, 2023.

**Submitted by Vicki Hricik,
Recording Secretary**

BRANCH 181 – UNITED, PA

Branch 181 members are invited to the dinner meeting at Aroma Italiano at 5:30 p.m. on Saturday, October 14, 2023. The restaurant is located at 220 Ligonier St, Latrobe, PA 15650. BYOB if desired. Reservations are required so please RSVP by Sunday, October 1, 2023.

Walk-ins without a reservation will not be served dinner.

RSVP to Vicki at 724-547-0803 or Darlene at 724-493-8712. The meeting agenda will include Election of Officers.

**Submitted by Vicki Hricik,
Recording Secretary**

BRANCH 228 – LORAIN, OH

The St. John the Baptist/Holy Trinity Lodge Br. 228 will hold their next meeting on September 18, 2023, at 7 P.M. IN-PERSON at the American Slovak Club on 30th and Broadway in Lorain, Ohio. Beginning in 2023, all quarterly meetings (March, June, September, and December) will be held in the IN-PERSON format at the American Slovak Club. All other monthly meetings will be held in the VIRTUAL format using the FreeConferenceCall.com Audio Conferencing service we have used since late 2020. All meetings will be conducted on the 3rd Monday of the month at 7 P.M. Please keep in mind that there are no meetings held in the months of January, February, July, or August. You may contact Lisa at 440-773-1442 for specific instructions to attend virtually if needed.

The branch will hold its annual election of officers and bylaw review during each December meeting. The exact date of this year's election meeting is December 18, 2023. At that time, we will also elect two (2) representatives to serve on the American Slovak Club Board of Directors.

We respectfully ask all of our FCSU members to please pray to our Lord God to bless us all with His love, peace and mercy. May He unite the leaders of all nations to diligently work together for world peace.

**Submitted by Thomas B. Zuffa,
Recording Secretary**

BRANCH 254 -- PITTSBURGH, PA

St. Wenceslaus Society will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday, August 13, 2023, at noon at Panera's restaurant located in the Mt. Lebanon Galleria at the corner of Washington and Gilkeson Roads. The meeting will include past, present, and future 2023 activities.

For reservations, contact Joe Senko - 2000 Cliff Mine Rd – Park West Two – Suite 210 – Pittsburgh, PA 15275 – Office (412) 531-2990 – Fax (412) 531-4793 – Cell (412) 956-6000 – Home (412) 343-5031 – email: jtsenko@aol.com.

**Submitted by Joseph Senko,
Financial Secretary**

BRANCH 276 - MCKEESPORT PA

Our next branch meeting will be held Sunday, November 12 at 1 PM at Eat & Park Restaurant on Route 30, North Versailles PA, across from the post office and Great Valley Shopping Center. We will hear reports from the treasurer and financial secretary and will discuss upcoming district events. Officers for 2024 will be elected. Meeting dates for next year will be selected.

**Submitted by Margaret A Nasta,
President, Branch 276**

BRANCH 320 – ROSTRAVER TOWNSHIP, PA

All Branch 320 members – Please come join us at one or more of these late summer events. Would love to see you!!

NATIONAL FRATERNAL EVENTS: Branch 320 members expressing interest in any fraternal events, please see this issue of Jednota for details.

MASS WASHINGTON DC: Branch 320 members expressing interest in attending Mass, on September 23, to be celebrated by Bishop Kulick, JCL (FCSU National Protector) at the National Shrine in Washington, DC, please RSVP ASAP. There is a limited numbers of seats available (Bus sponsored by Branch 162) from St Mary's Nativity Church (Uniontown, PA). Please see this issue of Jednota for details.

**Submitted by Joseph Tarquinio,
Vice-President**

BRANCH 382 – SCRANTON, PA

SS. Cyril & Methodius Society, Branch 382 of

Scranton PA, will hold its summer picnic on Saturday August 26, 2023, from noon to dusk. Branch members and guests will gather at the pavilion on the grounds of the Holy Family Social and Welfare Club in Covington Township, PA.

Planning committee members, Laura Christianson, Becky Czankner, and Michael J. Slovenkai Sr., cordially invite all Branch 382 members to join them for an afternoon of good food and friendly socializing in the beautiful outdoors of Northeastern Pennsylvania.

The cost of the event for Branch 382 members is \$10.00 per person. The price for a guest is \$15.00 per person. A catered lunch will be served. Members and guests will enjoy beverages and snacks throughout the afternoon. A late afternoon cookout and corn roast will end the day.

To make reservations contact Elizabeth M. Slovenkai, Branch President, at 570-344-3854. Messages can be left on voicemail. The deadline to make reservations is Friday, August 18, 2023.

Your check guarantees your reservation and should be received by August 23, 2023.

Checks are to be made payable to:
FCSU Branch 382K and mailed to Elizabeth M. Slovenkai – 505 Emmett St – Scranton, PA 18505-1016.

**Submitted by Elizabeth M. Slovenkai,
President**

BRANCH 382 – SCRANTON, PA

Members of FCSU Branch 382 are kindly asked to mail any correspondence to the following address, due to issues with phone service. Thank you for your co-operation.

John J. Slovenkai Sr.
Financial Secretary, FCSU Branch 382KJ
308 S. 9th Avenue
Scranton, PA 18504-2602

**Submitted by John J. Slovenkai, Sr.,
Financial Secretary**

BRANCH 393 – GREENSBURG, PA

Branch 393 will be holding their semi - annual meeting on Sunday August 20th at 4:00 PM at the New City Buffet 5142 US - Rt 30 Greensburg. On the agenda will be the election of officers. Members are encouraged to attend.

**Submitted by John Nalevanko,
President**

BRANCH 410 - UNIONTOWN, PA

The SS. Peter and Paul Branch 410 will hold a meeting on Thursday, October 19, 2023, at 1:30 PM at the Highland House, 92 West Main St., Uniontown, PA.

All members are encouraged to attend. Call for reservations by Monday, October 16, 2023, at 724-425-2576.

Submitted by Geraldine Buchheit, Secretary

BRANCH 553 – AKRON, OH

Looking forward to seeing our members at the following functions – mark your calendars now:

Aug 16 Wed Baked Chicken Dinner – Served 4:30 – 6:30 pm, Reservations REQUIRED call 330-786-9972 after 3 pm Tuesday – Saturday

Aug 19 Sat Slovak Festival 2:00-7:00pm – Food, Music, Corn Hole Tournaments, Water Balloon toss and much more

Bowling Season is fast approaching. We have established leagues on Monday Evening, Tuesday Evening, Thursday Mornings and Every other Saturday Evening. If you are interested in bowling on one of these leagues call the club at 330+786-9972 after 3 pm – Tuesday thru Saturday. Someone will put you in contact with the Appropriate personnel. Hope to see you at the club. Have a Safe Labor Day Holiday.

**Submitted by Linda Hanko,
Financial Secretary**

BRANCH 682 – YOUNGSTOWN, OH

The next regular meeting for Branch 682 is scheduled for Noon on Wednesday, September 13, 2023, at Materials Research Laboratories, 290 N Bridge St. in Struthers, OH 44471. The meeting will include discussion of sponsored projects/programs for the remainder of the year.

Submitted by Drew Hirt, President

continued on page 18

BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

All new BRANCH Announcements should be sent to branch@fcsu.com

continued from page 18

BRANCH 716- NEW YORK, NY

Branch 716 had its first semi-annual meeting on April 23rd, 2023, and the following information was discussed. Masses at St. John Nepomucene Church in New York, NY, are offered for the intentions of all Branch 716 members living and deceased on the following dates; October 2nd, November 13th, and December 4th. The branch also plans to host a picnic event at St. John Nepomucene Church on July 9th. We invite all Branch 716 members, families, parishioners, and prospective Jednota members to our events. For additional information or questions, contact our branch president Eva Lysakova at (718)-223-0379.

Submitted by Emily Lysáková,
Recording Secretary

BRANCH 716 – NEW YORK, NY

The St. Stephen Society Branch 716 will hold its second semiannual meeting of the year 2023 on Sunday, October 22nd, 2023. The meeting will be held in person at St. John Nepomucene Church in New York, NY following the conclusion of the Slovak Mass at 12:30 pm. The agenda will include the year 2023 financial report updates, as well as the election for Branch Officers for the year 2024. Refreshments will be provided at the meeting and all members of Branch 716 are highly encouraged to attend.

Submitted by Emily Lysáková,
Recording Secretary

BRANCH 731 - YOUNGSTOWN, OH

Saint Joseph Branch 731 members will meet on Sunday, September 10, 2023. The meeting will be at Café 422, 8586 South Avenue, Boardman, Ohio, at 5:00 PM. We will decide if we want a Christmas celebration this year, and what activities we will have in 2024. Also, November 12, 2023, at 5:00 pm we will have election of officers for 2024. The meeting

will also be at Café 422.

Submitted by Maura Blumer,
Recording Secretary

BRANCH 746 - LINDEN, NJ

Branch 746 is hosting a Summer Picnic in the Park for Region 1. Join us on Sunday, August 13, 2023, at 1:00 PM at Al Kalla Park (2801 Highland Avenue, Linden, NJ) to gather for food and fun. Branch scholarships will also be presented this afternoon. Food will be provided by Julie Rada Catering. Members are free. Non-members are welcome to attend for a nominal fee of \$20. Please RSVP to Joanne Tkach Polt @ 732-762-3148 by August 5th if you plan on attending. See this issue of the Jednota for our flyer!

Submitted by Mary Kapitan, Secretary

BRANCH 746 - LINDEN, NJ

Members are encouraged to attend Friday Holy Masses at 7:00 PM (in Slovak) at Holy Family Church in Linden, NJ. Masses are offered for the intention of all Branch 746 members living and deceased as follows: September 1st, November 3rd, and December 1st. October 6th mass is offered for blessings on Branch 746 on the occasion of its 101st Anniversary.

Submitted by Mary Kapitan, Secretary

BRANCH 844 - LOS ANGELES, CA

St. Joseph Society, Branch 844 will hold its semi-annual Meeting on Saturday October 07, 2023, at 11:00 AM at Slovak American Center, 1690 Placentia Ave., Fullerton, CA 92831.

The Branch program will focus on Activities based on membership drive. Luncheon will be served directly after the meeting.

Submitted by Milan Konkol, Secretary

BRANCH 853 – CHARLEROI, PA

Branch 853 will have its second annual branch event at the Washington County Fair in Washington, PA on August 14, 2023. If interested in attending,

contact Branch President Monica Boone at FCSUB-ranch853@gmail.com. Details will be given at that time.

Submitted by Monica Boone, President

BRANCH 853 – CHARLEROI, PA

Branch 853 invites its members to a Pittsburgh Pirates baseball game on Thursday Sept 14 at 12:35 at PNC Park in Pittsburgh. The Pirates play host to the Washington Nationals. The highlight of the afternoon will be meeting and talking to a coach from the Washington Nationals. Tickets are limited so place your orders early. Contact Branch President Monica Boone at FCSUBBranch853@gmail.com for ticket information.

Submitted by Monica Boone, President

BRANCH 853 – CHARLEROI, PA

Any Branch 853 member who is attending an event celebrating our Slovak heritage, including the following events, may be eligible for a Branch 853 travel stipend to help defray traveling costs. Restrictions apply.

- Johnstown Slavic Festival, September 15-16

- Mass at the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception - September 23

Contact the branch president at FCSUB-ranch853@gmail.com for details.

Submitted by Monica Boone, President

BRANCH 855 – CLEVELAND, OHIO

FREE!!! Branch 855 invites all of our branch members to attend the Cleveland Slovak Radio Club Picnic on the August 19, 2023. This year, the picnic will be held at the outdoor pavilion on the grounds of St. Sava Church, 2151 West Wallings Road, Broadview Hts, OH. The picnic opens at 3:00PM. Admission is \$5.00 for anyone 13 and older. Children 12 and under are free.

The Cleveland Slovak Radio Club will be serving authentic Slovak food, beer, and pastries for purchase; there also will be music by the Anthony

Culkar Band for dancing and your listening pleasure. Branch 855 members 13 and older will receive FREE admission* and \$10.00 in food/beverage tickets. Branch 855 members 12 and under will receive \$5.00 in food/beverage. *Come visit the FCSU table once you arrive for your reimbursement and tickets. For more information see the flyer in this issue of the Jednota or contact me at 440-864-4744. Hope to see you there!

Submitted by Barbara Sutilla, President

BRANCH 855 – CLEVELAND, OH

Free tickets!! On Saturday, August 26, 2023, please join our FCSU members in District 10 for a fun evening of all-you-can-eat dining followed by great seats for minor league baseball with the Lake Erie Crushers in Avon, Ohio. Tickets are \$34.00; children 10 and under are \$29.00. All Branch 855 members wishing to attend will receive one free ticket for themselves and one discounted ticket for their non-member guest. See District 10 flyer in this issue of the Jednota for more details. All attendees must register in advance for this event. Contact Branch 855 Fraternal Activities Director Stephanie Sutilla at 440-409-9405 no later than August 7, 2023, for more information and to reserve your tickets.

Submitted by Barbara Sutilla, President

BRANCH 856 – WASHINGTON, DC

Branch 856 would like to invite all Jednota members and Slovaks to come to Washington D.C. to join the Most Reverend Larry J. Kulick, J.C.L. Bishop of Greensburg and FCSU Protector, in celebrating the 58th anniversary of our Slovak Chapel in the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception on September 23, 2023. The rosary will be said at 1:00pm followed by mass at 1:30pm. A light lunch will be served. For more information call Marion Mistrik at 301-654-3856 or Katherine Nowatkoski at 919-651-0363.

Submitted by Katherine Nowatkoski,
President

DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

All new DISTRICT Announcements should be sent to this email address: district@fcsu.com

DISTRICT #1 - REVEREND MATTHEW JANKOLA DISTRICT – CT, MA

The Reverend Matthew Jankola District will conduct its annual meeting via Zoom on September 10, 2023 at 11:30 a.m. At this meeting, we will discuss plans for the coming year and hold the election of officers for the district. Please contact me at csteacher3@gmail.com if you plan on attending the meeting. We look forward to seeing our dedicated members.

Submitted by Deborah M. Nelson, Recording Secretary

DISTRICT 2 – REV JOHN J SPITKOVSKY DISTRICT, IL/IN/WI

District 2 will hold a meeting on Sunday, October 1 at the Missionary Sisters of St. Benedict Convent, 5900 West 147th Street, Oak Forest, IL.

A Fraternal social will begin at 1:30 pm followed by a meeting at 2:00 pm. At this meeting, we will have elections. A fraternal luncheon will follow.

Please reserve your place by calling Dorothy (708) 995 7378. Bring a raffle prize. Look forward to seeing you.

Submitted by John Jurcenko, President

DISTRICT 3 – GEORGE ONDA DISTRICT-WESTMORELAND COUNTY, PA

The George Onda District will hold its Annual meeting on Saturday, September 30, 2023, after the 5:00 P.M. Mass at St. Florian Roman Catholic Church, United, Pa. We will meet in the Social Hall to elect new officers for the coming year, plan our upcoming Štedrý Večer and receive news from our branches. Food and refreshments will be served. Please RSVP to me via email prior to September 23 at: mamaonnet@aol.com. We look forward to a great turnout.

Submitted by: Linda L. Gonta, Secretary

DISTRICT 4 – MSGR JOHN E RURA DISTRICT - NJ

Branch 746 is hosting a Summer Picnic in the Park for Region 1. Join us on Sunday, August 13, 2023, at 1:00 PM at Al Kalla Park (2801 Highland Avenue, Linden, NJ) to gather for food and fun. Branch scholarships will also be presented this afternoon. Food will be provided by Julie Rada Catering. Members are free. Non-members are welcome to attend for a nominal fee of \$20. Please RSVP to Joanne Tkach Polt @ 732-762-3148 by August 5th if you plan on attending.

Submitted by Mary Kapitan, Secretary Br 746

DISTRICT 6 - PITTSBURGH PA

Thanks to Region 5 Director Brad Matta, District Activities Director Cathy Matta, and Branch 38 for hosting the tailgate at the baseball game on July 17. A bus load of Cleveland fans joined us as well. We are considering a return trip to Cleveland next year for another Pirates/Guardians game.

A September 23-24 bus trip is being planned for Mass at the Mother of Sorrows Chapel at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Washington DC. Contact Sue Ondrejco ASAP for reservations. Per person fare: Double/Single \$299/\$395. Highlights include Mass at the National Basilica, St John Paul II National Shrine, Toby's dinner theater, World War II Memorial, and more.

The Fall Business Meeting will be hosted by Branch 60 at 1 PM on Sunday, November 19 at Holy Trinity Church Hall, West Mifflin PA. We will discuss business matters and plan events for next year. Officers for 2024 will be elected.

Other announcements of local interest:

- WPSCA: Meets at 7 PM first Monday's at the Mount Lebanon Public Library. Consider joining the organization and get their newsletter. Meetings resume in the Fall.

- Local Mother of Sorrows Mass - Thursday, September 14 - Holy Trinity in West Mifflin.

- NSS September Fest - Saturday, September 30 - 11 AM to 4 PM - 351 Valley Brook Road, McMurray PA 15317 - vendors, Slovak food, Giggles the Clown, Polka Classics and the Pittsburgh Slovaks - free admission.

- Slovak Heritage Day at Pitt - Sunday, November 5 - 1 to 5 PM - performers, vendors, food - free admission.

- Slovak Radio Program - WPIT 96.5 FM; 730 AM

As always, members are urged to check the Jednota for updates on FCSU business matters as well as social events and contests. Be sure your beneficiaries are up to date. FCSU insurance information and scholarship information can be found at www.FCSU.com.

Submitted by Margaret A Nasta, Secretary Pittsburgh District

DISTRICT 9 - THE FRANK T. HOLLY JR. DISTRICT, PA

The Frank T. Holly Jr. District of Uniontown, PA will hold a meeting on Sunday, October 22 2023, at 1:00 PM at Dairy Queen Grill and Chill at 575 West Main Street PA.

District President and Regional Director James Marmol will be informing the members of upcoming Jednota events.

All members are urged to attend.

Submitted by Barbara A. Holly, Secretary

DISTRICT 10 – REVEREND STEPHEN FURDEK DISTRICT – OH

On Saturday, August 26, 2023, please join our FCSU members in District 10 for a fun evening of all-you-can-eat dining followed by great seats for minor league baseball with the Lake Erie Crushers in Avon, Ohio. Tickets are \$34; children 10 and under are \$29. Discounted tickets may be available through your branch. Non-members are welcome at the full price per ticket. See District 10 flyer in Jednota or the FCSU website for more details. All attendees must register in advance for this event by contacting your branch officer. Not sure who to contact? Call Barbara at the Home Office at 1-800-533-6682 ext. 122 for assistance. MUST RSVP no later than August 7, 2023, to reserve your tickets.

Submitted by Tom Ivanec, Director Region 6

DISTRICT 11 – MSGR JOSEPH TISO, PA

November 12, 2023 – the Annual District meeting for the election of officers will be held at Villa Blanca 2740 Leechburg Rd., Lower Burrell 15068.

Please plan to attend the district meetings as your opinion and ideas are important to us! Come share your thoughts and enjoy a meal with fellow members. God Bless and stay safe and healthy!

Submitted by Karen Greggs, Recording Secretary

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Rest in Peace, Our Departed Members

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

Odpočinutie večné daj im, Pane, a svetlo večné, nech im svieti. Duše všetkých verných zomrelých, pre milosrdenstvo Božie, nech odpočívajú v pokoji. Amen
Eternal rest, grant unto them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Branch	Name	Branch	Name	Branch	Name	Branch	Name
001K	James M Jacko Sr	165K	Elizabeth McCormick	322K	Helen R Gresock	746K	Robert Tatarka
001K	Patricia M Yurko	166K	Clara Fialla	367K	Margaret L Smith	746K	Theodore Kiyak
001K	Ronald J Seman	169P	Brett G Sibiski	367K	Paula M Guthrie	764K	Thomas J Hrusovsky
002K	Joseph Hamerski	173K	John M Hilla	382K	Barbara Sochovka	796K	Lucille Troxell
003K	Dennis Dancik	181K	Martin Spisak	382K	Suzanne Czankner	831K	Cara Anita Waitkus
003K	John A Kordiak	181K	Steven B Gaul	401K	Daniel Brestensky	831K	Mary Ceschini
019K	Andrew J Tomala	199K	Anna Mae Henry	410K	Christopher Michael Williams	855K	Elizabeth R Walick
019K	Catherine Ann Glinsky	199K	Barbara Bacha	450K	Mary Chura	856K	Valeria Fisher
023K	Nicole Marie Fabrizio-krause	200K	Mildred A Ellermeyer	484K	Theodore J Medvetz	857K	Cecilia T Tshudy
024K	Kenneth Ray Campbell	228K	Mark S Marinik	553K	Rev Edward E Mehok	900K	Barbara A Mareda
038K	Darlene Decker	238K	Helen Cerniga	581K	Udebelle Kacmar	901K	Mary J Barnard
040K	Jerome Yendro	254K	Dorothy M Suddarth	595K	Sister Michael Ann Nic	901K	Orville H Marsh Jr
045K	Emanuel Galus	259K	Michael S Sweder	682K	Joseph D Hanisko	901K	Charles R Martin
055K	Francis Bizon	266K	Marie Yurkanin	682K	Stephen Glejdura Sr	904K	Ralph E Watts
086K	Donna Hoke	290K	Maryanne E Gross	731K	Marilyn Antal	904K	Gary R Stewart
096K	Lucy M Lagaza	292K	Mary Ann Single	733K	Patricia M Kruel	916K	Jean Just
112K	Daria Komishock	299K	Joseph J Swancer	733K	Patricia Savie	916K	John J Hoffmann
153K	John Capiak	320K	Barbara Ann Felak	746K	Joseph Wukitsch	926K	
153K	Maria Capiak	320K	Elizabeth J Herron	746K	Josephine Koller		
157K	Edward Fertal	320K	Joann D Bradica	746K	Patrice Marie Haborak		

* Processed in the month of July 2023

Nekrológy – Obituaries

ROBERT JOSEPH BUDJAC "BOB", BRANCH 89 – MILWAUKEE, WI



Born to life on January 17, 1924, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, the son of Andrew and Katherine (nee Gajdos) Budjac, Bob was born into eternal life on April 21, 2023, at Clement J. Zablocki Veterans Administration Medical Center in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He was 99 years old.

Bob was the longtime friend of Frederick "Tom" Forrest. He is further survived by many nieces, nephews, and other relatives and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, Andrew and Katherine, and siblings Valerie, Helen, Rudolph, Audrey, Emil, Edward, Frank, Mildred, and Elizabeth.

Bob worked as an interior designer for most of his adult life. He had an outgoing and charismatic personality and was the type of person that if you met him one time, you would never forget him. He was fiercely proud of his Slovak heritage and served his country in the United States Army during World War II.

On April 28, 2023, Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at St. Dominic Catholic Parish in Brookfield, Wisconsin. Interment followed at Holy Cross Cemetery in Milwaukee. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to Stars and Stripes Honor Flight.

Submitted by Mark Bordeaux

ELIZABETH (VARGULISH) MARCINKO, BRANCH 181 – UNITED, PA



Elizabeth (Vargulish) Marcinko, 92, of Latrobe, PA. Our dear Elizabeth went to be with the Lord on Jan. 7, 2023, two weeks shy of her 93rd birthday.

One of fourteen siblings, she was born in

Calumet, PA to Anna (Malinish) and Mike Vargulish. She graduated in 1948 from Ligonier High School and was married in 1949 to Robert Glenn Hutchinson Sr. Eliz learned to cook at an early age; family and friends have enjoyed her delicious dishes and baked goods throughout the years.

Eliz always liked to "keep busy" as she would say. She would decorate her entire house every month with the colors and icons of that holiday, even change the curtains. Eliz wasn't big on TV, but she did enjoy watching the Steelers and Pirates games, and an occasional Gunsmoke episode. Music brought her joy. She listened to everything from Charlie Pride to Steve Perry. Eliz loved to play cards, especially Skip-bo. She was an accomplished pinochle player and would love to take your nickel in a game of poker. And good luck if you challenged her to a game of shuffleboard. Eliz made friends wherever she went. She would spark a conversation with a complete stranger and found the good in everyone.

A long-time Jednota member for 20 years, she was an extremely faithful person who said her prayers and read the Bible every night. She was a long-time member of St. Vincent Basilica parish. She loved the Lord and will be happy to be with him.

She will be sorely missed by all who knew her. Left to cherish her memory is her only and beloved son, Robert Glenn Hutchinson Jr. and his wife Debra of Central Valley, NY, her sister, Veronica Crawford and her husband Tom of Ligonier who have been by her side through it all, sisters, Irene Hassel and Joanne Dishman both of TN, brother, George Vargulish and his wife Joyce of Latrobe, brother, Charlsie and his wife Dora of Uvalde, TX, and several loving nieces and nephews. She was preceded by her siblings, Mary, Helen, Aggie, Margie, Jeannie, Johnnie, Mikie and Eddie. Her husbands, John "Jack" Marcinko, Regis Bridge, and Robert Glenn Hutchison Sr.

A Funeral Mass for her was held on January 11, 2023, at St. Vincent Basilica followed by interment will follow in Unity Cemetery, Latrobe. To send flowers or condolences, please visit www.FrederickFuneralHome.com.

Submitted by Robert and Debra Hutchinson

REV. EDWARD E. MEHOK, BRANCH 553 – AKRON, OH



Rev. Edward E. Mehok, Senior Priest retired age 90, died Feb. 19, 2023. He was born on Sept. 25, 1932, in Akron, Ohio. Beloved son of the late Stephen and Mary A. (née Phillips); dear brother of Donald (wife Bonnie); also survived by six nieces and nephews and 13 great nieces and nephews of which he officiated many baptisms and weddings.

He was educated at St. John the Baptist Elementary School, St. Vincent High School, both in Akron, The University of Akron, St. Gregory Seminary, Cincinnati and St. Mary Seminary, Cleveland. On 18 May 1957, in the Cathedral of Saint John the Evangelist, Archbishop Edward F. Hoban ordained him to the priesthood for the service of the Diocese of Cleveland.

Fr. Mehok's first assignment was as Parochial Vicar of St. Catherine, Cleveland. On 21 June 1960, he was appointed to serve on the faculty of Borromeo College Seminary, Wickliffe. During this assignment he attended Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C. to pursue further studies. On 29 August 1967 Fr. Mehok was named Vice Rector of Borromeo College. During this assignment he assumed the duties of Rector of Borromeo College until a new Rector was appointed (1972).

Fr. Mehok was assigned to serve as a member of the Pastoral Team for St. Felicitas, Euclid with residence at Borromeo Seminary effective 1 September 1973. During this assignment he served as Faithful Friar for Archbishop Paul J. Hallinan Knights of Columbus Assembly #1767. On 1 January 1990 he was appointed to serve Notre Dame College, S. Euclid as Campus Minister and faculty member. Fr. Mehok was well read, loved teaching English Literature, having studied Old English at Cambridge University in England, and was dedicated to his priestly ministry. His gentle smile, pipe and tobacco in hand, friendly disposition and words of wisdom sprinkled with humor will be greatly missed.

The wake began with Vespers on Feb. 23, 2023, at St. John of the Cross Parish, in Eu-

clid, Ohio, with Michael G. Woost serving as the presider and Fr. Marty Polito as the homilist. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Feb. 24, 2023, at St. John of the Cross Parish. Bishop Edward C. Malesic was the main celebrant and Fr. Dan Divis delivered the homily. A private Interment followed at Holy Cross Cemetery in Akron.

Submitted by Donald Mehok

ROBERT F. TATARKA, BRANCH 746 – LINDEN, NJ



Robert F. Tatarka, 79, of Plantation, Florida, formerly of Perth Amboy, New Jersey, passed away peacefully on Thursday, June 1, 2023, in Lauderdale Lakes, FL.

Born in Perth Amboy, Robert was a lifelong resident, before moving to Florida in 2019 to escape the cold weather and snow. He worked at JM Fields in Hazlet and at OK Electric in Perth Amboy in shipping and receiving for most of his life. He was an active member of St. Stephen's Catholic Church. He was a Life Member of San Salvador Council for Knights of Columbus Council #299 and a 4th degree member of Assembly #674. He also served as a Committeeman for the Republican Party for over 20 years. He was an active member of the Seniors at Holy Trinity Church. He was also an avid reader and loved to travel.

Robert is survived by his siblings, Maryann Swiderski, Raymond Tatarka and his wife Sandra, and Paul Tatarka and his wife Karen; his nephews and nieces, Stephen Tatarka and his wife Kelly and Patrick and Emily Tatarka, Kari Anne Headings and her husband Chuck and Jennifer Kiar and her husband Marc, and his great nephews and nieces, Anthony, Amy, Alice, Luke, Kate and TJ.

Funeral services took place on June 10th, 2023, with a Mass of Christian Burial at St. James RC Church, Woodbridge, with interment following at St. Gertrude Cemetery, Colonia. The family received friends at Zylka Funeral Home in Perth Amboy.

In lieu of flowers, donations honoring Robert's memory may be made to the Lori S. Marciniak Nursing Scholarship at www.lsmnursingscholarship.com.

Submitted by Maryann Swiderski

Early Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius



Here we present the story of some of the early Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius. In order to children of early Slovak immigrants, Rev. Matthew Jankola, founded this religious order for women in 1909. He aimed to preserve the faith and Slovak heritage of the growing number of children of immigrants and recruited many novices from among their ranks. Here is the story of a few of those first Sisters of the Order who devoted their lives to educating children and helping orphans.

Sister M. Ambrose Kernasovič

Born in Papin, Slovakia, on November 15, 1894, Elizabeth Kernasovič, immigrated to the United States as a young girl. She settled in Cleveland, Ohio, and attended St. Wendelin parish. She eventually became a Sister of Saints Cyril and Methodius, entering at Middletown, PA in 1918 and professing her vows in 1921. Blessed with a dry sense of humor, she spoke with sincere conviction. Sister Ambrose had the admirable qualities needed for one in domestic service. Neat, orderly, and systematic, she prepared substantial meals, serving as a cook and housekeeper for over 59 years. Sister was so efficient in the kitchen she also had time to help the Sisters who were teachers with their mending and sewing. The greatest gift she possessed, however, was her prayerfulness. Even when she was engaged in active ministry, Sister Ambrose was able to devote much time to prayer and spiritual reading. What edified the Sisters most of all was her spirit of detachment. She kept little or nothing for herself. Unobtrusive and retiring, she died as she had lived, peacefully entering into eternity on the last day of the year December 31, 1979. Her funeral liturgy was celebrated by Father John Zeman, O.S.B., who was also the homilist. Father Augustin Zan, Maria Joseph Manor's chaplain, served as a concelebrant.

Sister M. Teresita Tomčík

Emma Tomčík was born in Parížovce, Slovakia, on December 23, 1892. After emigrating to the U.S., she worked as a servant as did many of the young women who came here from Slovakia. We can thank our Sister Juliana for describing Emma who was received into the congregation on December 28, 1920. She was "quiet, gentle, prayerful, hard-working. She was remembered with love by those who knew her. She was the gift to the convent, the one who always had the time to do all the extras for the Sisters. All her waking hours her lips moved in prayer. Whether she gardened or cooked, cleaned, or washed clothes, she was united with God in prayer." An insight into her values and philosophy of life can be found on a single sheet of paper she herself had written in pencil – "speaking of enemies, don't have them. Don't fight. Don't get even. Ignore. Life is too short for grudges and vengeance. Go on. Let the other fellow stew. You keep Sweet. Nothing can punish him worse. If a man does not like you keep away from him. It's a large roomy world and thank God there is always another side of the Street."

In a paper entitled "They Have Gone Before Us" Sr. Juliana described Sister: "Small, slender, lively—always wore a smile, conscientious, very prayerful, very obliging, grateful for the smallest services—died peacefully in the Academy infirmary shortly before Father Chapman visited her for the last time. (Father Chapman was a Jesuit priest who gave thirty-day retreats in Danville in July.)"

At one time the expression "The novices like it!" was often uttered by the Sisters. It seems it originated with Sister Teresita and was her response to a complaint concerning the unsatisfactory preparation of a certain dish.

After a life of generous service attested to by Sister Juliana and many other Sisters who were the recipients of her goodness, Sister Teresita died on July 27, 1955.

Sister Dorothy Uhrinek

Anna Uhrinek emigrated to the United States from Levertov, Slovakia, and earned her living by doing domestic work. Working as a governess in Yonkers prepared her for ministering to the children in Middletown, PA when she was assigned there as a Sister of Saints Cyril and Methodius. Sister had a pleasant disposition and was very prayerful. Sister Dorothy was only 30 years old when she died of tuberculosis in the fourth year of temporary vows on January 7, 1927.

Sister Dorothy Vaško

Helen Vaško emigrated to the United States from Breznice, Slovakia, and often entertained the Sisters with stories from her native land. She was tall, well-built, had a strong physique and was a hard worker, kind and helpful to all. Devoted to the Sisters and the community, she always prepared meals with joy. The Rosary was her favorite prayer. After being assigned to St. Cyril's in Bridgeport, CT, Sister Dorothy contracted the flu and died on February 26, 1920. The Lord had accepted the offering she had made less than six months earlier. Sister was buried in Bridgeport, CT.

*In the early days of the congregation young members contracted the diseases that at that time had no remedies or deterrents. We are including brief biographies of the two Dorothys to show what the early Sisters had to endure.

Chartering a Bus to the Immaculate Conception Basilica in Washington, D.C. Saturday, Sept. 23, 2023.

Attention to anyone considering reserving a bus for the mass in the crypt at the Immaculate Conception Basilica in Washington, D.C. A local bus provider stated that their company commits to transporting college teams to their destinations, therefore, anyone interested in chartering a bus should book their bus reservations as early as possible so that transportation will be available.

St Wendelin Branch 162 of the FCSU at St. Mary's Nativity Church in Uniontown, PA will be providing a charter bus to the Immaculate Conception Basilica in Washington, D.C. on Saturday, Sept. 23, 2023. A bus seat will cost \$50 per person and is non-refundable. Reservations will be confirmed when payment is made and will be on a first come first serve basis. The bus holds a maximum of 54 occupants. Snacks and water will be provided. The bus will stop for breakfast on the way to DC and for dinner on the return trip. Meals are at your own expense. Bus will depart from St. Mary's Church parking lot at 61 North Mt. Vernon Ave in Uniontown, PA at 6:00 AM and leave at 5:00 PM from DC. The trip and stops will take about 5 hours and a toilet will be available on the bus. Please save this date in your calendar and additional information will be available in the coming months. For reservations, please contact Nancy Blake at St. Mary Church by calling 724-437-4441. Payments and reservations must be completed by September 1, 2023.

Submitted by James Marmol, Region 4 Director

DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

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DISTRICT 12 – MSGR. ANDREW HLINKA DISTRICT, PA

District 12 would like to offer a special thanks to Brad Matta, Tom Ivanec, Joseph Tarquinio, Branch 38, Home Office staff and all involved in making this a fraternal night of Pirates/Guardians Baseball.

Submitted by Joseph Tarquinio, Vice-President

DISTRICT 14, THE REVEREND JOSEPH L. KOSTIK DISTRICT - YOUNGSTOWN, OH

Family Picnic

When: Sunday, August 13th, 2023

Time: 1:00 P.M. until 6:00 P.M.

Where: Mauthe Pavilion; Mauthe Park 156 Smithfield Street, Struthers, Ohio 44471

All members of Branches 259, 260, 682, 731, and 764 are invited. The Elderly and Grandparents are invited to bring their children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren. Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, Snacks, bottled water, and other Family Friendly drinks will be provided.

RSVP Vivian Sedlacko at 330.755.8316 or John J. Leskovyansky, Jr. (330) 549-3788 with the number of attendees.

Submitted by John J. Leskovyansky, Jr., President

DISTRICT 14 – REV JOSEPH L KOSTIK DISTRICT – YOUNGSTOWN, OH

Calendar Year District 14 Meeting Schedule

Following are the currently Scheduled District Meetings for Calendar Year 2023.

Tuesday, November 7, 2023 at 6:00 P.M. (Annual Meeting for Election and Installation of Officers for 2024); Fireplace.

Tuesday, December 12, 2023 at 6:00 P.M. (Short Meeting and Christmas Dinner); Location TBD

*date changes possible due to unforeseen complications.

Appropriate social distancing and masking Covid 19 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 fraternal activities.

Meetings will be held at The Fireplace 2075 E. Western Reserve Rd. Poland, OH 44514; unless otherwise specified, indicated, or announced.

Submitted by John J. Leskovyansky, Jr., President

DISTRICT 15 – LOS ANGELES, CA

The Prince Pribina District will hold a semi-annual Meeting on Saturday October 07, 2023.

Meeting will be held at 11:00 AM at Slovak American Center, 1690 Placentia Ave., Fullerton, CA 92831. On the agenda will be: Activities focused on membership drive. All Branches in our area are encouraged to participate.

Submitted by Paul Skuben, President

SCHÔDZA OKRESU PRINC PRIBINA - LOS ANGELES, CA

Okres Princ Pribina bude mať schôdzu v sobotu 7-ho októbra 2023.

Schôdza začne o 11:00 hod. v Slovak American Center, 1690 Placentia Ave., Fullerton, CA 92831. Na programe je orientácia na aktivity zamerané na získanie nových členov.

Pozvaní sú členovia všetkých spolkov v okolí.

Predkladá Paul Skuben, predseda

DISTRICT 16 – MSGR STEPHEN KRASULA DISTRICT - NY

Branch 746 is hosting a Summer Picnic in the Park for Region 1. Join us on Sunday, August 13, 2023, at 1:00 PM at Al Kalla Park (2801 Highland Avenue, Linden, NJ) to gather for food and fun. Branch scholarships will also be presented this afternoon. Food will be provided by Julie Rada Catering. Members are free. Non-members are welcome to attend for a nominal fee of \$20. Please RSVP to Joanne Tkach Polt @ 732-762-3148 by August 5th if you plan on attending.

Submitted by Mary Kapitan, Secretary Br 746

DISTRICT 16 – MSGR. STEPHEN KRASULA, NEW YORK CITY, NY

Happy summer to all our members and friends of Jednota! The annual meeting District 16 of Msgr. Stephen Krasula in New York City will be held on Sunday October 22, 2023, at 1 pm at the rectory of the St. John Nepomucene Church.

The agenda will include discussion of upcoming activities for the year 2024.

After the meeting, refreshments will be served. We are kindly asking all officers and members to come.

Submitted by Renata Jurasiova-Vasil, Financial Secretary

Maticu slovenskú navštívil redaktor zámorského krajského periodika Jednota – Michael Kopanič

Dňa 26. júla 2023 matičiari privítali na pôde sídelnej budovy Matice slovenskej Michala Kopaniča editora krajského periodika Jednota. V rámci súkromného pobytu na Slovensku zaradil do svojho programu i návštevu Matice slovenskej, ako jednej z primárnych inštitúcií na Slovensku, ktoré i dnes udržiavajú a budujú styky so slovenskou diaspórou v zahraničí.

Michael Kopanič spracováva pre Jednotu tzv. „slovenské spravodajstvo“, ktoré prekladá aj do anglického jazyka. Krajský časopis Jednota je tlačovým orgánom 40 000 tisícového krajského spolku Jednota (First Catholic Slovak Union). Aktuálne vychádza s mesačnou periodicitou a môže sa pochváliť sto tridsiatym druhým rokom vychádzania na americkom kontinente. Na titulnej stránke vyobrazuje podobizeň Štefana Furdeka. Vychádza pod heslom „za Boha a národ“, v 22 000 náklade. Pravidelne uverejňuje aj články z matičného prostredia.

Michaela Kopaniča sprevádzali priestormi a

archívom Matice slovenskej vedecký tajomník MS a riaditeľ Archívu MS, Pavol Madura a riaditeľka Krajského múzea Matice slovenskej, Zuzana Pavelcová. Prezreli si archívne depozity, zbierky KM venované krajanom v USA a iné klenoty matičného archívu. P. Madura informoval o projekte bibliotéky Matice slovenskej. Návšteve sprístupnili ručne vyšívané Stanovy Matice slovenskej, ktorým bol prísaný titul národnej kultúrnej pamiatky.

V neformálnom rozhovore pokračovali v kanceláriách Matice slovenskej, kde komunikovali najmä o krajskej diaspóre v USA, o činnosti Matice slovenskej a budúcich projektoch.

Návštevu zakončili prehliadkou búst v Aleji národných dejateľov pred druhou budovou Matice slovenskej, so zameraním na busty prepojené s krajským dianím.

Zuzana Pavelcová



Profesor Michael Kopanič a PhDr. Pavol Madura v Bibliotéke Matice slovenskej (Professor Michael Kopanic and PhDr. Pavol Madura in the Matice Slovak Library) Photo: Z. Pavelcová.



Profesor Michael Kopanič pri zápise do Pamätnej knihy Matice slovenskej v Martine (Professor Michael Kopanic writing an entry in the Memory Book at the Matice slovenská in Martin, Slovakia).

A Visit to the Matica slovenská by Michael Kopanic, the Editor of the Overseas Compatriot Periodical Jednota

On July 26, 2023, the Matica slovenská welcomed Michael Kopanic, the editor of the compatriot periodical Jednota on the grounds of the Matica slovenská's main building. As part of his private stay in Slovakia, he included in his program a visit to Matica slovenská, as one of the primary institutions in Slovakia, which even today maintains and builds relations with the Slovak diaspora abroad.

Michael Kopanic edits Slovak news for Jednota, which he also translates into English. The compatriot magazine Jednota is the press organ of the over 40,000-strong compatriot association Jednota (The First Catholic Slovak Union). It is currently published monthly and can boast of its 132nd year of publication on the American continent. It is published under the slogan "For God and the nation", with a circulation of 22,000. He also regularly publishes articles about the Matica slovenská.

Michael Kopanic was accompanied through the premises and archive of Matica slovenská by the Academic Secretary and Director

of the Archive of the of the Matica slovenská, Pavol Madura, and the Director of the National Museum of the Slovak Matica, Zuzana Pavelcová. They viewed archival deposits, collections dedicated to compatriots in the USA, and other jewels of the Matica's archives. P. Madura explained the Matica slovenská library project. The original hand-embroidered Statutes of the Matica slovenská, which have been designated as a national cultural memorial, were made available to the visitors.

They continued their informal conversation in the offices of Matica slovenska, where they mainly communicated about the expatriate diaspora in the USA, the activities of Matica slovenska and future projects.

They ended the visit with a tour of the busts in the Alley of National Artists in front of the second building of Matica slovenská, with a focus on the busts connected with compatriot events.

Translation by Dr. Michael Kopanic

LIGHT ONE CANDLE

Increasing Our Faith in Christ's Divinity

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

Our Sunday Gospel readings throughout this month of August are taken from the Book of Matthew and feature a succession of stories that reveal the divinity of Christ and the power of faith in the lives of His followers. These readings begin with the Transfiguration on August 6th and culminate on August 27th with Christ declaring Peter the Rock upon which He would build His Church.

In between these two monumental moments, we have the reading on August 13th in which Christ walks on water—and August 20th presents the Gospel where Christ answers the prayers of a Canaanite woman imploring Him to heal her daughter. In that scene, Jesus at first refuses the woman's request, declaring, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But she persists in her supplications and finally He relents, saying, "O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire."

This beautiful scene demonstrates how Jesus wants us to follow in His footsteps by persevering in faith amid the trials of life. The importance of faith is a recurring theme

throughout August's Gospel readings. When Jesus walks on water, Peter's faith prompts him to join in this miraculous feat by first asking Jesus to summon him and then walking out onto the water with Him. It is only when Peter's faith falters that he begins to sink.

Peter's faith is also at the center of the scene in which Christ declares him to be the Rock. After asking the disciples, "Who do you say that I am?" it is Simon Peter who speaks up, saying, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." It is at this point Jesus says, "You are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the powers of death shall not prevail against it."

We see here that Christ founded His church on a man with faith in His divinity, and it is this kind of faith that we are all called to cultivate within our hearts. Peter's faith was not perfect, and we see it falter at times, such as when he joins Christ in walking on water but then begins to sink. But even in this moment when Peter's faith falters, Jesus takes his hand and lifts him up. So, our faith in Christ's divinity must

also assure us that He will rescue us when we falter.

Christ's divinity is made plain for all to see throughout the Gospels and in the entirety of the message of salvation. The Transfiguration is an important scene that helps to reveal this reality. What a beautiful thing it must have been to witness for Peter, James, and John, who were present for this miraculous event when Christ's "face shone like the sun, and His garments became white as light," and Moses and Elijah appeared beside Him, and the voice of God declared from the heavens, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to Him."

These words of God—heard by Peter, James, and John and passed down to us in the Gospels—should seem as relevant to us today as though we had been standing there when they were spoken. Responding to this call, let us challenge ourselves to believe more fully in the divinity of Christ, because it is in that belief that we will find the faith to take up our cross and follow Him

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

THINK ABOUT IT!

Slováci, o svoje dejiny dbajme! prof. Eva Fordinálová

CYRILOMETODIADA, o. z.

Slováci, o svoje dejiny dbajte, statočný slovenský národ povzneste ku hviezdám hor!

Toto nadšenie je zároveň výzvou vyslovenou v polovici 17. storočia synom Jakuba Jakobeusa po vydaní otcovho diela Dejiny slovenského národa s básnickým predhovorom Slzy, vzdychy a prosby slovenského národa.

Návšteva Svätého otca Františka, jeho príhovory zostávajú v súčasnosti pre nás rovnako inšpirujúce a podnecujúce k vážnej sebaanalýze. Oslovil dušu nášho národa a upozornil nás, že vďaka sociálnym médiám vieme toho oveľa viac o športovcoch a iných celebritách než o vlastných rodičoch a starých rodičoch. Avšak tu sú vaše korene. Tieto treba polievať!

Prišiel som ako pútnik do mladej krajiny s dávnou históriou, do krajiny s hlbokými koreňmi v srdci Európy. Želám vám, aby ste nikdy nedopustili pokaziť voňavé príchute vašich najlepších tradícií povrchnosťou konzumu, materiálneho zisku alebo ideologickou kolonizáciou.

Opäť potvrdil aj poznanie sv. Jána Pavla II., že Slovensko je stále prameňom živej viery, a zvýraznil historický význam cyrilo-metodskej tradície pre naše dejiny a duchovnú kultúru, ktorú môžeme (a mali by sme) predostrieť nielen Európe, ale aj svetu.

Krajina s hlbokými koreňmi v srdci Európy! Ak chceme poznať plody ovocia – súčasnosť – musíme spoznať aj ich pôvod: korene stromu, na ktorom sa zrodili, ale sú aj určujúce pre osobitosť, a teda aj pre druh jeho plodov. Ak chceme poznať pravdu o sebe, je rovnako nevyhnutné spoznať vlastné korene, ich pevnosť, spoľahlivosť, zakotvenie v hĺbkach histórie!

Avšak o strom sa treba starať, ošetrovať ho, chrániť pred škodcami celý, od koreňov až po korunu – súčasnosť, a kvalitu plodov. Rovnako však sa treba starať aj o svoju vlast-

nú históriu. Inak sa nám môže stať, že ovocie síce máme, ale nepoznáme jeho skutočnú hodnotu a svoje vzácne plody sme ochotní predať cudzím pod cenu, za lacný groš.

Treba polievať korene, treba udržiavať národnú pamäť, národné vedomie! Je to fenomén, ktorý nemožno vedecky presne špecifikovať, a predsa jeho pôsobenie nemožno poprieť rovnako ako lásku, vďačnosť, myslenie... Možno prísť o všetko – ale nie o ľudskú dôstojnosť! A tá má korene v našich nádejach, našom trvaní v duchovnej kultúrnosti – v národnej pamäti. Najzreteľnejšie prehovorí v zlomových situáciách pri vážnom ohrození národnej existencie a základných etických hodnôt. Bez dôrazného oživenia historickej národnej pamäti by sme azda rezignovane prijali „pamäť“ iných: sfalšovanú, ale úporne vnucovanú, vtlačanú cudzími vykladačmi dejín za pamäť vlastnú. A my nevedomí by sme za pravdu prijali stokrát opakovanú lož.

Môžeme milovať, aj keď nechápeme. Avšak môžeme väčšmi milovať, keď chápeme. Národnú pamäť nemožno transplantovať, je podstatnou súčasťou našej duchovnej dimenzie. Pamäť je aj všetko, čo cítime, nie iba to, čo dokážeme formulovať do slov. Národná pamäť je skutočným dedičstvom otcov, prejavujúca sa v ľudovej kultúre. Poznanie dedičstva našich predkov, jeho hodnôt a miesta v našej historicko-kultúrnej tradícii patrí do mozaiky kultúrneho bohatstva, ktoré formuje aj našu súčasnosť. Nezbúdajme, že každý národ je jedinečný práve svojou historicko-kultúrnou tradíciou, ktorá formuje aj našu súčasnosť. Nezbúdajme, že každý národ je jedinečný práve svojou historicko-kultúrnou tradíciou, uchovávanou v jeho pamäti ako dedičstvo otcov, svojim neopakovateľným prínosom do svetovej kultúry. A práve túto jedinečnosť vytvárajú jednotlivosti, ktoré sú pre národnú kultúru charakteristické. Až natoľko, že ich skutočný prínos pokladáme skôr za samozrejmosť, ktorej netreba venovať osobitnú pozornosť. Lenže ony sú dôležitou

súčasťou obrazu nášho historicko-kultúrneho bytia. A pripomeňme až frenetický úspech našich umeleckých i ľudových súborov v zahraničí práve pre ich prekvapujúci, nezvyčajný, silne výrazný, osobitý prejav našej národnej kultúry!

Národná pamäť! Predsa je len rozdiel medzi čítaným a vysloveným. Pri iba „čítanom“ pamäť drieme

v podvedomí, pred „vysloveným“ sa prebúdzajú, stáva sa súčasťou vedomia. Preto sa musíme pozornejšie prizrieť našim nielen vonkajším, ale predovšetkým duchovným dejinám. Ich poslanstvo nám často uniká ako v rádioprijímači: v hluku okolitých razantnejšie sa presadzujúcich staníc ešte stále nedokážeme zachytiť tichý a pokojný hlas vlastného vysielania. Charles Montesquieu vo svojom diele Duch zákona pripomína:

Človek, tá prispôsobivá bytosť, ktorá v spoločnosti podlieha myšlienkam a dojmom iných, je rovnako schopný spoznať svoju povahu, keď mu ju ukážeme, ako o nej úplne stratiť predstavu, ak ju pred ním zakryjeme.

Musíme sa naučiť vyladiť si svoju stanicu, aby sme nestratili predstavu o svojej povahe. Inak budeme musieť naďalej počúvať klamstvá a podvádzajúce polopravdy druhých.



(Photo: Slovenské literárne centrum)

Dr. Eva Fordinálová

Slovaks, let's take care of our history!

Prof. Eva Fordinálová, CYRILOMETODIADAS, Fr. from.

Slovaks, take care of your history, raise the brave Slovak nation to the stars of the mountains! This enthusiasm is also a challenge expressed in the middle of the 17th century by the son of Jakub Jakobeus after the publication of his father's work History of the Slovak Nation with the poetic preface Tears, sighs, and pleas of the Slovak nation. After the visit of our Holy Father Francis, his speeches remain for us today as inspiring and stimulating to serious self-analysis. He spoke to the soul of our nation, reminding us that thanks to social media, we know a lot more about athletes and other celebrities than we do about our own parents and grandparents. But here are your roots. These need to be watered! I came as a pilgrim to a young country with a long history, to a country with deep roots in the heart of Europe. I wish you to never let the fragrant flavors of your best traditions be spoiled by the superficiality of consumerism, material gain or ideological colonization. He also confirmed the knowledge of St. John Paul II, that Slovakia is still a source of living faith, and highlighted the historical significance of the Cyril-Method tradition for our history and spiritual culture, which we can (and should) show not only to Europe, but also to the world. A country with deep roots in the heart of Europe! If we want to know the fruits of fruit - the present - we must also know their origin: the roots of the tree on which they were born, but they are also determining for the particularity, and thus also for the type of its fruits. If we want to know the truth about ourselves, it is equally necessary to know our own roots, their strength, reliability, anchored in the depths of history! However, you need to take care of the tree, treat it, protect it from all pests, from the roots to the crown - the present, and the quality of the fruits. However, you also need to take care of your own history. Otherwise, it may happen that we have the fruit, but we do not know its true value and we are willing to sell our precious fruits to strangers below the price, for a cheap penny. Roots must be watered, national memory, national consciousness must be maintained! It is a phenomenon that cannot be precisely specified scientifically, and yet its action cannot be denied in the same way as love, gratitude, thinking... It is possible to lose everything - but not human dignity! And it has its roots in our hopes, our persistence in spiritual culture - in national

memory. It will speak most clearly in critical situations when national existence and basic ethical values are seriously threatened. Without an emphatic revival of historical national memory, we would perhaps resignedly accept the "memory" of others: falsified, but persistently imposed, pressed by foreign interpreters of history as our own memory. And we ignorant people would accept a lie repeated a hundred times as the truth. We can love even when we don't understand. But we can love more when we understand. National memory cannot be transplanted, it is an essential part of our spiritual dimension. Memory is also everything we feel, not just what we can put into words. National memory is the real heritage of the fathers, manifested in folk culture. Knowing the heritage of our ancestors, its values and place in our historical and cultural tradition belongs to the mosaic of cultural wealth that also shapes our present. Let's not forget that every nation is unique precisely because of its historical and cultural tradition, which also shapes our present. Let's not forget that every nation is unique precisely because of its historical and cultural tradition, preserved in its memory as the heritage of its fathers, its unique contribution to world culture. And it is this uniqueness that is created by the particularities that are characteristic of the national culture. So much so that we consider their real contribution rather a matter of course, to which we do not need to pay special attention. But they are an important part of the image of our historical and cultural existence. And let's recall the frenetic success of our artistic and folk ensembles abroad precisely because of their surprising, unusual, strongly expressive, distinctive expression of our national culture! National memory! After all, there is only a difference between what is felt and what is said. While only "felt" memory only slumbers in the subconscious, before "spoken" it wakes up, it becomes part of consciousness. Therefore, we must look more closely at our not only external, but above all spiritual history. Their message often escapes us like a radio receiver: in the noise of the surrounding stations that are more forcefully asserting themselves, we still cannot catch the quiet and calm voice of our own broadcasting. Charles Montesquieu in his work The Spirit of the Law recalls: Man, that adaptable being who in society is subject to the thoughts and impressions of others, is just as capable of knowing his own nature when we show

it to him, as of losing the idea of it entirely if we hide it from him. We must learn to tune our station so that we do not lose track of our nature. Otherwise, we will have to continue listening to the lies and deceptive half-truths of others.

Source: <https://tinyurl.com/y2ra6tav>

About the author, Eva Fordinálová

Eva Fordinálová po absolvovaní stredoškolských štúdií pokračovala v štúdiu na Pedagogickom inštitúte v Trnave (1961 – 1964), potom vyštudovala popri zamestnaní odbor história – slovenský jazyk a literatúra na Filozofickej fakulte Univerzity Komenského v Bratislave (1964 – 1970). V r. 1959 – 1980 pôsobila ako učiteľka v Hradišti pod Vrátnom, Borským Mikulášom a v Skalici, v r. 1980 – 1984 ako odborná asistentka na Pedagogickej fakulte Univerzity Komenského v Trnave, v r. 1984 – 1998 vedecká pracovníčka Ústavu slovenskej literatúry v Bratislave. Od r. 1995 súčasne prednáša dejiny slovenskej literatúry na Katedre slovenského jazyka a literatúry Trnavskej univerzity a Univerzity sv. Cyrila a Metoda v Trnave. V súčasnosti je profesorkou na Katedre slovenského jazyka a literatúry Pedagogickej fakulty Trnavskej univerzity, kde prednáša staršiu slovenskú literatúru a klasicizmus.

After graduating from high school, Eva Fordinálová continued her studies at the Pedagogical Institute in Trnava (1961 - 1964), then studied the history of Slovak language and literature at the Faculty of Arts of Comenius University in Bratislava (1964 - 1970). In 1959-1980 she worked as a teacher in Hradište pod Vrátnom, Borský Mikuláš, and Skalica. From 1980 to 1984, she was appointed an assistant professor at the Faculty of Education of Comenius University in Trnava, and in 1984-1998, she was a researcher at the Institute of Slovak Literature in Bratislava. Since 1995 she has been a lecturer in the history of Slovak literature at the Department of Slovak Language and Literature at the University of Trnava and the University of St. Cyril and Methodius in Trnava. Currently she is a professor at the Department of Slovak Language and Literature at the Faculty of Education, University of Trnava, where she lectures on historical Slovak literature and classicism.

Source: <https://tinyurl.com/4hx4pewt>

Translated by Dr. Michael Kopanic, Jr.

Minutes Of The Executive Committee Meeting

SATURDAY, JUNE 10, 2023

VIDEOCONFERENCE

OPEN MEETING:

President Kenneth A. Arendt opened the meeting at 11:30 AM and asked Vice President Damian Nasta to lead the prayer.

ROLL CALL:

Members attending: Kenneth A. Arendt, National President
 Damian Nasta, National Vice President (videoconference)
 Kevin J. Collins, Executive Secretary (videoconference)
 John Tokarsky, Treasurer (videoconference)
 Martha Zavada, Regional Director (by invitation of the President) (excused)

ACCEPTANCE OF THE MAY MEETING MINUTES:

The Executive Secretary presented the minutes of the May 18, 2023 Executive Committee Meeting. A motion was made by Damian Nasta and seconded by John Tokarsky 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 to the Board of Directors at the Quarterly Board of Directors Meeting held earlier. Each member of the Board received a copy of the presentation in advance for his or her review. Following the report, he answered the Board's questions.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Investment Updates

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

Financial Report

The President and the Executive Secretary presented a detailed summary of the Financial Report for the first quarter of 2023 and answered the Committee's questions.

Portfolio Review

The President and the Executive Secretary updated the Committee on the report from our portfolio custodian, Key Bank, found everything in order, and answered the Committee's questions. The President stated he will invite representatives from MAI, UBS and Clutterbuck to attend a future Executive Meeting to review our investment portfolios.

Mortgages and Overdue Mortgages

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

Monthly Disbursements

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

Death Benefits & Accumulations	\$ 300,010.00
Cash Withdrawals & Accumulations	\$ 59,849.00
Matured Endowments & Accumulations	\$ 0.00
Trust Fund	\$ 0.00

The Executive Secretary also presented the Membership and Annuity Report.

The Committee reviewed the remainder of the disbursements and the Executive Secretary answered all questions.

The President led a review of our FHLB advances and their current rates for possible future advancements.

TREASURERS REPORT:

The Executive Committee reviewed the Treasurer's monthly written report and he answered the Committee's questions.

ECONOMIC OVERVIEW:

Annuity Rates:

The President led a discussion on the current annuity campaign that began May 1, 2023. There has been a favorable response to the program.

FRATERNAL ACTIVITIES REPORT:

Executive Secretary Kevin Collins announced the many events that will be held in 2023. Mr. Collins stated that the golf tournament will be held August 19-20 in Canfield, Ohio, and two picnics are planned for Knoebels Amusement Resort in Pennsylvania and Wiegand Lake Park in Ohio. The picnic planned for Frogbridge in New Jersey was canceled due to low numbers of advanced reservations. All the information will be published in the Jednota and posted on our website.

Executive Secretary Kevin Collins stated that he is working with Fraternal Activities Director Joanne Fibbi on upcoming fraternal events.

SALES AND MARKETING:

Executive Secretary Kevin Collins is reviewing our current ads and working with local radio stations. There is currently an ad running with the Cleveland Guardians and he is finalizing an ad to run with the Pittsburgh Steelers.

The Home Office is also working on rebranding the FCSU logo and a marketing program for our insurance and annuity products.

The President stated that he is working with our actuary consultants to develop an insurance campaign. This should be finalized by the end of the year. Details will be published in the Jednota newspaper and posted on our website.

MISCELLANEOUS:

The President stated that Barbara from the Home Office will be working closely with our Branches/Districts. If they have any questions or need advice on how to increase fraternal activities or advertising, they should contact her at branch@fcsu.com or district@fcsu.com.

She will also work with Fraternal Activities Director Joanne Fibbi on new fraternal activities.

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 Damian Nasta and seconded by John Tokarsky to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Damian Nasta closed the meeting with prayer.

Answer to Crossword Puzzle

Solution to Puzzle from page 16

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

Kenneth A. Arendt
President

Kevin J. Collins
Executive Secretary

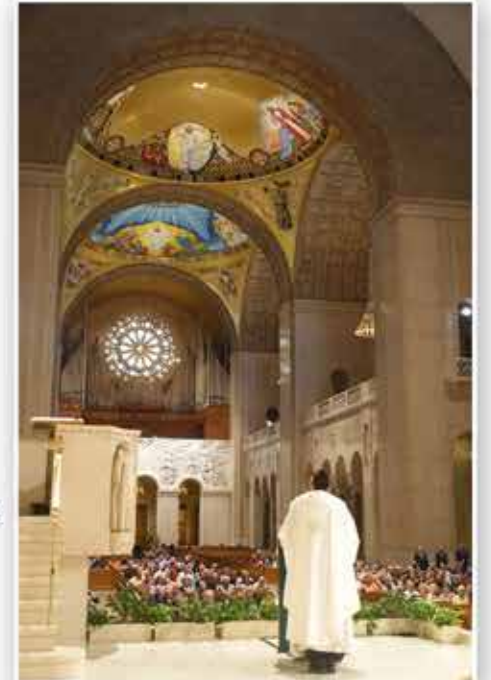
Join FCSU in Washington, D.C. September 23, 2023

58th Anniversary of Our Mother of Sorrows Chapel

Mass at 1:30PM



The Chapel, donated by FCSU, is located within the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Nearly 15,000 people were in attendance for the first Mass in 1965, and hundreds still gather annually to celebrate the most visited Chapel in the Basilica.



The rosary will be said at 1pm followed by Mass at 1:30 celebrated by Bishop Larry Kulick. Don't delay! Contact your Branch to see if they are providing transportation. Join us and your fellow Members in celebrating this special day! We look forward to seeing everyone in D.C on September 23rd.