



# Jednota

THE UNION

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

Volume 118

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5, 2009

NUMBER 5803



Joseph Bugel and Art Fayta display the District banner at the 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Indiana Slovak Day

## John J. Spitkovsky District Represented at Annual Indiana Slovak Day

The Salvatorian Shrine in Merrillville, Indiana was once again the site for the Annual Indiana Slovak Day Celebration on Sunday, June 28, 2009. Chairperson Karl and Betty Yurechko of Merrillville once again prepared the day's activities.

The day began with the celebration of a Mass at 10:30 a.m. Following the liturgy, musical entertainment was provided in the main air-conditioned hall, along with Slovak dancers from Milwaukee. On the menu were a variety of Slovak foods, halusky, pirohy, kolbasy with cabbage and chicken soup.

The Rev. John J. Spitkovsky District was well represented at the event. Staffing the Jednota  
*continued on page 9*

## Quarterly Business Meeting of the Board of Directors of the First Catholic Slovak Union of the United States and Canada

RENAISSANCE HOTEL  
107 6TH STREET  
PITTSBURGH, PA 15222

PHONE: 216-642-9406 \* FAX: 216-642-4310

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2009 & SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2009

The Quarterly Business Meeting of the Board of Directors of the First Catholic Slovak Union of the United States and Canada will be held on *Friday, September 11, 2009, 9:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M. & Saturday, September 12, 2009, 9:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M. at the Renaissance Hotel, Pittsburgh, PA.*

*continued on page 3*



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DAY	PORT	ARRIVE	DEPART
Sat.	Miami		4:00 PM
Sun.	Half Moon Cay	9:00 AM	4:00 PM
Mon.	"Fun Day" at Sea		
Tues.	St. Thomas/St. John	8:00 AM	6:00 PM
Wed.	San Juan	7:00 AM	3:30 PM
Thurs.	Grand Turk	11:00 AM	5:30 PM
Fri.	"Fun Day" at Sea		
Sat.	Miami	8:00 AM	

The Society is not responsible for airline delays or cancellations, please allow adequate time for transfers between the airport and pier. We strongly suggest you allow at least 3 hours before departure from Miami which is 4:00 pm.. The cruise is contingent on booking at least 25 cabins or 50 passengers; please do not make airline reservations before June 30<sup>th</sup>.

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## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY - Editor - Jednota Newspaper

After 13 Years of service as Editor of the Jednota newspaper Dr. Anthony Sutherland, PhD., has decided to retire upon reaching his 65th birthday in October 2009. We thank him for his dedicated service and wish him the best in his retirement.

Because of his retirement, we are seeking applicants for the position of Editor, Jednota newspaper.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND REQUIREMENTS FOR THE POSITION OF EDITOR:

Edit the Jednota newspaper, currently 21 issues per year.

Generate and develop articles on fraternal activities and other articles of religious, historical, economic and social interest with specific emphasis on FCSU activities for members of both sexes and all ages.

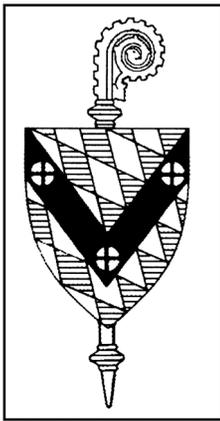
Prepare for publication all communications from the Home Office and Branches.

*continued on page 3*

## Inside

Editorial/Commentary.....	2
Obituaries.....	15
Recipes.....	10
Sports.....	16,17
Branch/District Announcements.....	14,18
Slovak.....	20-24

# Insights and Viewpoints



## St. Vincent Archabbey — Homilies Father Campion P. Gavaler; Father Demetrius R. Dumm O.D.B.

August 16, 2009

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

John 6:51-58

### Gospel Summary

The eight verses that constitute today's gospel reading represent the climax of the lengthy Bread of Life Discourse in chapter six of John's gospel. The first fifty verses have been concerned with the spiritual nourishment that Jesus has brought into

our spiritually famished world. In fact, Jesus declares, in v. 35, that he is "the bread of life," that is, the nourishment that provides the kind of spiritual life that cannot be threatened by illness or death. He makes it clear, however, that this nourishment is available only to those who believe in him, that is, to those accept and adopt in their lives his teaching about unselfish love.

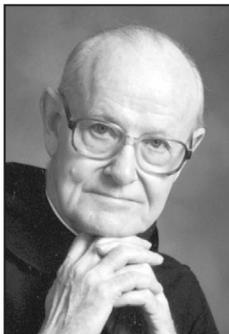
In the climactic verse fifty-one, we find the first mention of the Eucharist itself: "the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world." This verse, therefore, represents John's version of the institution of the Eucharist, which is found here in his gospel rather than at the Last Supper. This radical change gives John ample opportunity to insist, in the previous fifty verses, on the importance of a believing, rather than a merely routine, reception of the Eucharist.

### Life Implications

John uses much more graphic language than the other evangelists in his description of the institution and the implications of the Eucharist. When the audience of Jesus resists his statement about his "flesh for the life of the world," he repeats and reinforces his original words: "Amen, amen, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life within you" (v. 53).

This forceful statement not only insists on the importance of receiving the Eucharist but it also means, as we see everywhere in this gospel, that the meaning of the Eucharist must be reflected in the lives of those who receive the sacrament. For this is Body-broken and Blood-poured-out for others. Accordingly, we will participate fully in the benefits of the Eucharist only to the extent that we imitate, in all aspects of our lives, the generosity and unselfishness that we see in the life of Jesus himself. The Eucharist will certainly help us to be more thoughtful and compassionate and forgiving but this cannot happen without our own serious commitment to love and service of others.

John then goes beyond the other gospels in spelling out the practical implications of conforming our lives to the demands of the Eucharist. The most significant consequence is presented in v. 57: "Just as the living Father sent me and I live because of the Father, so also



Demetrius R. Dumm  
O.S.B.

the one who feeds on me will have life because of me." This is a truly daring and wonderful assurance that we fragile human beings can hope to share in the very life of God. We can actually enter into that flow of life that courses between the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. And to the extent that this happens, through our commitment to God's unselfish way of loving, our eternal life will be assured.

August 23, 2009

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

John 6:60-69

### Gospel Summary

This passage brings the sixth chapter of John's gospel to a climactic conclusion. Jesus has fed a large crowd with bread and fish; he has revealed his divine identity as I AM by showing his power over the sea; in the synagogue at Capernaum he has revealed that he himself is the bread of life given by the Father--as the bread of his teaching and as bread of the Eucharist. Now upon completion of his teaching, many of his followers murmured, saying, "This saying is hard; who can accept it?" Jesus responds that human nature alone (the "flesh") is of no avail in coming to believe and to have life in him. This faith and life is possible only as a gift of the Father.

After the exchange in the synagogue, many of his disciples left him. Jesus said to the Twelve, "Do you also want to leave?" Simon Peter answered, "Master to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and are convinced that you are the Holy One of God."

### Life Implications

Faith and life in Jesus is a gift beyond human expectation and understanding. This is the implication not only of this passage but of John's entire gospel. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but have eternal life" (Jn 3:16). The gift of eternal life is NOW; it does not begin after we die. In faith we can live without fear: "Even though I walk in the dark valley I fear no evil; for you are at my side" (Ps 23:4). The saints of every age witness to the reality that faith is participation in the joy, the prayer, the gratitude of Christ's life now: "Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. In all circumstances give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus" (1 Thes 5:16-18).

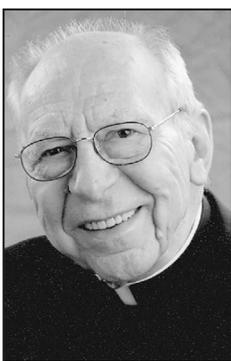
Today we hear the good news that the Risen Lord is present among us sacramentally as the bread of life given by the Father--as the bread of his teaching and as bread of the Eucharist. We too may be inclined to murmur, "This saying is hard; who can accept it?" Our gospel passage does not tell us why many of his followers refused to believe Jesus and left him. We do know, however, the countless factors in our own culture that dissuade us from giving ourselves to the Lord in faith. Suffering is often experienced as incompatible with God's love. Our "subjective-value" culture reduces faith to no more than "religious preference." Nobel Prize winners tell us there is no God.

There are likewise moral decisions that lead to belief or away from belief. After her lecture at a university, a student asked Flannery O'Connor how he could be certain that God exists. She replied, "Give alms." Jesus himself said, "How can people like you believe, when you accept praise from one another yet do not seek the glory that comes from the One" (Jn 5:44)?

Today's gospel passage alerts us to the fact that faith is not primarily assent to a creed about God but a personal covenant with God. Like friendship, faith is mutual self-giving; it can become stronger or become weaker; it can begin and it can end. Jesus emphasizes the radically personal nature of faith by using the word "betray" and by asking whether the

*continued on page 4*

## Reflections on Our Christianity Msgr. Edward V. Rosack



Msgr. Edward V. Rosack

Thessalonica was the chief seaport and administrative capital of the Roman province of Macedonia. It was ruled by a popular assembly (eis ton demon) and magistrates (epi tous politarchas) (Acts 17:5-56). Cassander founded the city c. 315 B.C. and named it after his wife, Thessalonica, the sister of Alexander the Great. It was the most populous city in Macedonia and because its inhabitants supported Marcus and Antonius in the battle of Philippi, it was declared a "free city" (civitas libera). Its people were Jews and gentiles. Free cities were governed by the emperor.

When Paul came to Thessalonica with Silas (a Jewish name; same as Silvanus, a Greek name. In Greek: Silouanos), he went to the synagogue and for three Sabbaths spoke of the Messiah/Jesus Christ. Some Jews were convinced by Paul as were a "great number of Greeks sympathetic to Judaism, and numerous prominent women." (Acts 17:4)

However, other Jews resented Paul and his preaching and they "engaged loafers from the public square to form a mob and start a riot in the town." (Acts 17:5) They went to Jason's home looking for Paul and Silas and when they could not find Paul and Silas, "they dragged Jason and others with him to the town magistrates, shouting, 'These men have been creating a disturbance all over the place. Now they come here and Jason has taken them in. To a man they disregard the Emperor's decrees and claim instead that a certain Jesus is king.' In this way they stirred up the crowd. When the town's magistrates heard the whole story, they released Jason and the others on bail." (Acts 17:6-9)

"As soon as it was night, the brothers sent Paul and Silas off to Beroea." (Acts 17:10)

This first Epistle to the Thessalonians records three authors: Paul, Silvanus (Silas) and Timothy and verses 2 through 10 of chapter 1 uses the plural "we" and "us" repeatedly. Verses 17 through 20, however, besides using "we" and "our" says, "I, Paul," in verse 18.

Paul writes from Corinth.

Remembering that he had to be escorted from Thessalonica at night, Paul defends his ministry there. "We were not guilty, as you well know, of flattering words or greed under any pretext, as God

*continued on page 4*

# JEDNOTA

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## Dear Friends,

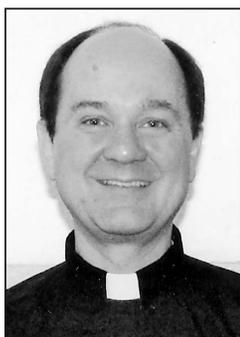
Tuesday, August 4 is the feast day of St. John Vianney, the patron of parish priests. Pope Benedict has called the universal church to commemorate this year, the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of St. John's death, as the Year of the Priest.

When the Year of the Priest began back on June 19, the Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, a number of articles about St. John Vianney began to be printed in a variety of Catholic periodicals. The one common element in all these biographies is that John Vianney was a person who desired to be holy and desired to bring others to holiness, especially while in the confessional.

St. John Vianney possessed qualities we like to see in all our priests and every priest needs to look up to him as a role model.

The Year of the Priest is an opportunity for all of us to reflect on the gift of priesthood, to pray for our priests, and to encourage vocations to the priesthood among young men of high school age or older. Through the intercession of St. John Vianney, may all our priests draw near to Christ.

Sincerely,



Rev. Thomas Nasta

Fr. Thomas A. Nasta  
National Chaplain



## Quarterly Business Meeting

*continued from page 1*

The monthly Executive Committee Meeting will be held on Thursday, September 10, 2009, 1:00 P.M. – 5 P.M.

All correspondence relative to the Quarterly Business Meeting of the Board of Directors should be directed to the attention of the Executive Secretary, Kenneth A. Arendt, and should be sent for receipt at the Home Office prior to August 31, 2009.

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

Andrew M. Rajec  
National President

Kenneth A. Arendt  
Executive Secretary



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- Tax on the interest earned is deferred until the annuity funds are drawn.
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Please contact your Branch Officer or the Home Office for applications  
Visit our web site at [FCSU.com](http://FCSU.com)

## From the Desk of the Executive Secretary, Kenneth A. Arendt

The following is an update from the list published May 27, 2009 of the branches that did not qualify for a branch stipend for the year 2008 based on the requirements as stated in the Bylaw Section 4:05:

### Region 1, Regional Director, Joseph Minarovich -

004K, 032K, 047K, 053K, 082K, 098K, 102K, 121K, 132K, 159K, 168K, 201K, 282K, 324K, 339K, 340K, 381K, 499K, 514K, 517K, 652K, 661K, 719K, 725K, 890K

### Region 2, Regional Director, Damian Nasta -

001P, 018K, 040P, 051P, 061K, 064K, 114K, 116P, 131P, 136K, 144P, 156K, 175K, 196P, 215K, 226P, 270K, 278K, 294K, 326K, 332K, 335K, 353P, 505K, 659K, 775K, 779K, 796K

### Region 3, Regional Director, Carl Ungvarsky -

005K, 006P, 016P, 027P, 152K, 237J, 238K, 240K, 240P, 258K, 263K, 321K, 356P, 368K, 419K, 461K

### Region 4, Regional Director, George Sprock -

086K, 110K, 122K, 124K, 127P, 149K, 189K, 198P, 211K, 233K, 299K, 321P, 322K, 323K, 333K, 369K, 380K, 388K, 417K, 512K, 549K, 563K, 565K, 571K, 577K, 604K, 623K, 667K, 732K, 823K, 826K, 835K, 851K

### Region 5, Regional Director, Regis Brekosky -

164K, 189P, 280K, 315K, 429K, 434K, 454K, 465K, 487K, 580K, 600K, 618K, 635K, 701K, 704K, 733K

### Region 6, Regional Director, Henry Hassay -

114P, 165K, 268K, 308K, 319K, 348K, 353K, 362K, 373K, 414K, 472K, 497K, 654K, 714K, 741K, 759K, 777K, 852K, 862K, 888K

### Region 7, Regional Director, Rudolph Glogovsky -

028K, 083K, 100K, 109K, 128K, 163K, 221K, 224K, 226K, 296K, 330K, 358K, 403K, 404K, 407K, 408K, 480K, 500K, 510K, 543K, 584K, 586K, 591K, 595K, 615K, 624K, 633K, 636K, 686K, 700K, 702K, 703K, 717K, 718K, 721K, 729K, 735K, 748K, 756K, 762K, 774K, 780K, 788K, 830K

Checks have been sent to all branches that did qualify for their \$4.00 per member stipend for the year 2008. If anyone feels there is a discrepancy, please contact me at the home office.



## Business Opportunity

*continued from page 1*

Prepare for publication communications from individual members if they are proper for publication.

Rewrite and retype articles when necessary and correct all grammatical errors and misspellings found in articles and communication sent to the office for publication.

Answer correspondence received from readers and answer questions.

Be familiar with and be able to use Microsoft Windows XP and be generally computer literate.

Knowledge of the history and traditions of the First Catholic Slovak Union and the fraternal system is very helpful.

Ability to speak Slovak desirable, ability to read and write in Slovak helpful.

Position will be located at the Home Office, Cleveland, Ohio.

Salary – Open, Competitive Employee Benefit Package.

Starting date – September 2009.



## Golf Tournament



FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, KENNETH ARENDT:

The First Catholic Slovak Union 2009 International Golf Tournament will be held jointly with the Slovak Catholic Sokol on August 14-16, 2009 at the Clarion Oaks and Hi-Level Golf Resorts in Clarion, Pennsylvania. We are very excited at this opportunity to have a historic social event with the Slovak Catholic Sokol. We encourage all our members to get involved and come out and support this event. We are asking all our branches to consider being a sponsor for one or more of your members so they may participate in this exciting event. We look forward to seeing everyone on August 14<sup>th</sup>. Mark your calendars!

Registration entry form and further information detailing the packages available will be in the next issue of the Jednota Newspaper and on our Website.

# Insights and Viewpoints

## Homilies

*continued from page 2*

Twelve will also decide "to leave" him. Jesus knows that the human commitment of faith is not so steadfast as God's commitment. He knows that his refusal to let the people make him king (Jn 6:15) and Judas' love of money (Jn 12:6) will lead to a loss of faith in him and to betrayal.

In the Last Supper Discourse Jesus knows that the faith of his followers will be tested again, not by his teaching as in the synagogue at Capernaum but by his death on a cross. "Do you really believe? You will be scattered, leaving me quite alone" (Jn 16:31-32). His followers of weak faith did leave him--Judas betrayed him, Peter denied that he had ever known him. The story of Judas and Peter is both a warning and a source of hope. Like Judas, we too can finally choose to place ultimate, suicidal trust in something other than God. Like Peter, we too may grievously sin; yet trust that if we return, the Lord will welcome us with the joy of steadfast love.



## Reflections on Our Christianity

*continued from page 2*

is our witness! Neither did we seek glory from men, you or any others, even though we could have insisted on our own importance as apostles of Christ." (Thessalonians 2:5-7)

"You are witnesses, as is God himself, of how upright, just, and irreproachable our conduct was towards you who are believers." (Thessalonians 2:10)

"Brothers, you have been made like the churches of God in Judea which are in Christ Jesus. You suffered the same treatment from your countrymen as they did from the Jews who killed the Lord Jesus and the prophets, and persecuted us. Displeasing to God and hostile to all mankind, they try to keep us from preaching salvation to the gentiles. All this time they have been 'filling up their quota of sins,' but the wrath has descended upon them at last." (Thessalonians 2:14-16) Paul here condemns the Jewish opposition to the gospel of Jesus Christ. They gave him a rough time in Thessalonica as we have seen above.

Paul tried to return to Thessalonica but "Satan blocked the way." (Thessalonians 2:18)

"...we decided to remain alone at Athens and send you Timothy. He is our brother and God's fellow worker in preaching the gospel of Christ, and so we sent him to strengthen and encourage you in regard to your faith, lest any of you be shaken by these trials." (Thessalonians 3:1-3)

"But now, brothers, since Timothy has returned to us from you reporting the good news of your faith and love, and telling us that you constantly remember us and are as desirous to see us as we are to see you, we have been much consoled by your faith throughout our distress and trial- so much so we shall continue to flourish only if you stand firm in the Lord!" (Thessalonians 3:6-8)

"And may the Lord increase you and make you overflow with love for one another and for all, even as our love does for you. May he strengthen your hearts making them blameless and holy before God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his holy ones." (Thessalonians 3:12-13)

"It is God's will that you grow in holiness: that you abstain from immorality, each of you guarding his members in sanctity and honor, not in passionate desire as do the Gentiles who know not God; and that each refrain from overreaching or cheating his brother in the matter at hand; for the Lord is an avenger of all such things, as we once indicated to you by our testimony." (Thessalonians 4:3-6)

"Make it a point of honor to remain at peace and attend to your own affairs. Work with your hands as we directed you to do, so that you will give good example to outsiders and want for nothing." (Thessalonians 4:11-12)

## The Shrine at Levoča: A Sacred Spiš Gem

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

The town of Levoča and its accompanying shrine have always fascinated me. Well known as the city next to the famous Marian shrine of *Mariánská Hora*, Levoča becomes the focus of all of Slovakia on the first Sunday of every July as hundreds of thousands of pilgrims flock to pay homage to the Blessed Virgin. Besides this religious significance, the city itself is a jewel – a Medieval/Renaissance town with fortified walls, arched gates, and a plethora of tasteful burgher homes that line the main square.

The first time I had heard about Levoča involved what my mother believed to be a miracle in her own family. My late Aunt Mary (*Cetka Mára*) had very sore eyes as a child and could barely see. My *baba* (grandmother) sought solace and help from Our Lady of Levoča. Going to the shrine and the nearby spring, which lay high above the city, *baba* had my aunt rinse her eyes with the running water. Lo and behold, she could see; she was cured. At the time, Aunt Mary was about three years old and could hardly have understood the events which took place or the miracle of the Blessed Mother. Little wonder, that when I traveled to Slovakia during 1997, my aunt sent a donation with me for the sisters Our Lady of Levoča.

### The American Shrine to Our Lady of Levoča

Many Slovak-Americans are acquainted with Levoča because of its religious significance. Some know of or have been to the Shrine of Our Lady of Levoča at grounds of the convent of the Vincentian Sisters of Charity in Bedford, Ohio, where an annual pilgrimage takes place every July.

A Slovak women's club at St. Wendelin's parish on Cleveland's west-side had originally organized the effort in 1928 to build a shrine to Mary in the Cleveland area. The *Klub verných Sloveniek* (Club of Faithful Slovak Women) raised the funds for its construction and secured a replica of the original Marian statue with the aid of the Slovak Benedictine Fathers and the Rev. Ján Vojtaššák, the Bishop of Spiš Diocese, Slovakia.

The statue was hand-carved from the wood of one solid apple tree, the same wood used for the original image. It features Our Lady, crowned in golden glory, holding a scepter, and surrounded by radiant rays of light streaming from her presence.

Bishop Vojtaššák agreed to ship the replica of the statue to the U.S.A, with the stipulation that it would be the only one of its kind in the country. The statue arrived and received its blessing by Archbishop Joseph Schrembs of the Cleveland diocese on October 5, 1930. It has been an object of veneration for Slovak-Americans ever since.

### Medieval Origins

The tradition of pilgrimages to Our Lady of Levoča in Slovakia date from the Middle Ages. Historical records first mention the town itself in 1249. The sources indicate that a wooden statue of the Virgin Mary was already in a chapel on Mary's Hill when a parish church was being constructed in the 13<sup>th</sup> century. According to legend, local residents fled to the hilltop when the Tatars invaded the region in 1241-42, and they pledged that they would build a church to Our Lady if she interceded to keep them safe.

News of the miraculous powers of the statue and the nearby spring spread far and wide across the countryside and ignited the beginnings of individual devotions, and eventually, the annual pilgrimages that go on to this day.

Interestingly, during the 15<sup>th</sup> century, the Czech Hussites, a heretical sect from Bohemia, entered Slovakia and was destroying religious images. Local residents took it upon themselves to hide the statue, which was safely returned to its original place when the threat passed.

### Surviving Communism

Another threat to the statue appeared after 1950, when the Communists began raiding churches and destroying sacred relics. During those early years after seizing power, the Communists prohibited religious pilgrimages, and the tradition of a pilgrimage at Levoča was put on hold.

The statue suddenly disappeared and many feared that a thief had stolen it. The statue reappeared in public, but not until 1968, when Slovakia experienced a breath of religious freedom under the Slovak party leader, Alexander Dubček. A secret room was discovered under the Levoča town hall, and there was the statue, safe and sound after centuries of hiding. The pilgrimages restarted and grew tremendously by the last decades of the 1980s, when it was clear that a bankrupt communist ideology could not kill the devotions of the ordinary people of Slovakia.

### The Marian Shrine Today

To this day in Slovakia, the pilgrimages continue as an annual event of major proportions. Many of the pilgrims are youth and they travel to Levoča by foot, literally. They start out several days in advance of the pilgrimage weekend and pray the rosary and sing hymns as they hike across the verdant Slovak countryside. Overnight, they camp out in fields along the way, and once they arrive in Levoča, they also sleep on the hillside adjacent to the town. American young people would be shocked to discover that such pilgrimages are one of the great popular celebrations of Slovak youth.

On two occasions, during both 1990 and 1995, Pope John Paul II attracted huge audi-

*continued on page 17*

## NEWSPAPER DEADLINES

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

Issue Date	Copy Date
WEDNESDAY, SEPT 2	MONDAY, AUGUST 24
WEDNESDAY, SEPT 16	MONDAY, SEPT 7
WEDNESDAY, SEPT 30	MONDAY, SEPT 21

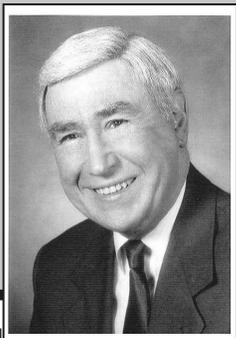
Correspondents who are announcing upcoming events should remember that the JEDNOTA is printed EVERY OTHER WEDNESDAY, and should take into account the extra time lost in the postal system. Therefore, please plan to have your announcements to us in ample time for them to be printed and received by the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

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# MONEY MANAGEMENT & TAX TIPS

By Joseph T. Senko

Certified Public Accountant  
 Certified Financial Planner  
 Personal Financial Specialist  
 (AICPA)



## Finances for Two: Newlyweds and Money

The summer months are a popular time for weddings, and it's important that newlyweds get off on the right foot as far as their finances are concerned. According to a Money magazine survey, 84 percent of couples say money causes arguments in their marriages. Taking the right steps now can prevent a lot of tension and disagreement later. Here are some recommendations for getting the right start financially.

### Be Honest

To avoid unexpected surprises, talk about each person's financial situation before you tie the knot. A marriage is sure to get off to a rocky start if one spouse learns that the other has thousands of dollars in debt or earns far less than they had claimed. It's best to reveal your financial secrets before marriage so both people enter the union with realistic expectations.

### Share Your Dreams

Be candid about your financial hopes so you're sure your spouse shares them. There could be disagreements down the road if one spouse is aspiring to a luxury lifestyle while the other has a more low key approach in mind. Have a truthful discussion about your income, your assets and liabilities, and your plans for the future. Talk about how you will make financial decisions in the future and how you will handle regular bookkeeping and investment planning. Understanding each other now will cut down on disagreements later.

### Get Your Documents in Order

Marriage triggers several changes that should be reflected in key financial paperwork. For example, you may want to make your new spouse the beneficiary for your insurance policies, 401 (k) plan, individual retirement account, investment and savings account, or other assets. If you are taking your spouse's name, make sure the name change is made on your Social Security card, driver's license, and other identification, as well as on insurance policies and bank retirement accounts.

### Review Your Insurance

A newly married couple may find that their combined insurance leaves them with too much or too little coverage in some areas. If you are moving into a new home or combining households, assess your homeowner's or renter's policy to make sure it fully covers your new location. Look into each spouse's health insurance to determine if one policy is cheaper and can be used to cover both spouses. This is also a good time to begin analyzing life insurance options to ensure each spouse is well provided for and that you have chosen the policy that best suits your needs. Jednota offers a variety of policies for your consideration. Contact your local branch officer or the home office for more information.

### Look to the Future

To set a sound foundation for your future immediately, create a budget based on your combined incomes and monthly expenses, and stick to it. A realistic budget can help you avoid financial problems and disappointments down the road. It's also a great tool to use when setting your financial goals.

Finally, as you begin your new life together, don't forget to write or update your wills. This step will ensure that there are no unnecessary delays with inheritances later.



## From the Office of the Vice President

### Seminars

Would you like to see your branch increase membership? If so.. it is imperative that every branch have recommenders to sell our insurance and annuity products.

In order to qualify for your branch's \$4.00 per member stipend you must meet certain requirements-one of them being- produce at least one (1) new contract in the previous year. Branches with two hundred fifty (250) or more members must produce at least two (2) new contracts.

It's not hard to do. Our insurance and annuity portfolio is great and our commissions are just as good. All we need are members to sign up their families, friends, neighbors, church, and club members. You also have a perfect source for insurance...your current client file, which is your branch membership roster.

Right now the vast majority of branch members have an orphan policy. By that we mean, after the member bought an insurance policy, they never heard from the branch recommender again.

Your branch roster is a valuable source. You have to service your members. Your member's personal circumstances are changing all the time. So, too, are his or her insurance needs.

If you are unsure about insurance premiums or our annuity plans and you would like me to give an informal seminar at one of your annual or semiannual branch or district meetings—call the Home Office at 1/800-533-6682, and give Karen your name, branch number, phone number and the best time of the day to return your call. After that, we can decide on a date and place to hold the training session.

Our society has high quality, competitive and affordable insurance products as well as attractive rates on our IRA/Annuities, but very few members know how to sell them. This is the reason the Membership and Marketing Committee is having seminars. We have to educate ourselves by attending them. The knowledge we gain will become a practical sales tool. The more we know about our products, the more confident and the more effective we'll become as proposers.

Hope to see you at the next seminar.

Until then,

Good Luck and God Bless

Andrew R. Harcar, Sr.  
 National Vice President/Chairman, Membership and Marketing Committee

## ATTENTION The Jednota Benevolent Foundation, Inc 2009 Scholarship Fund



The Jednota Benevolent Foundation, Inc is pleased to announce it is accepting applications for its 2009 Scholarship Program.

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

- Any individual of Slovak descent and Catholic faith who will attend an Approved Educational Institution is eligible for a Scholarship
- Applicants will be required to describe accomplishments they believe would qualify them for recognition in general, and specifically, accomplishments in the areas of:
  - Scholarship
  - Leadership
  - Service to school, church and community
- Applicants will also be required to provide:
  - An official college transcript of grades or an official copy of applicant's high school transcript which indicates applicant's high school 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.  
 c/o First Catholic Slovak Union,  
 6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300,  
 Independence, Ohio 44131  
 Phone 1-800-533-6682 - Fax 216-642-4310  
 E-mail:fcsu@aol.com – Website: www.fcsu.com

**APPLICATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY MIDNIGHT OCTOBER 2, 2009**

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



L-R Chicago Treasurer Maria Pappas, Rosemary Mlinarich of the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, FCSU National Vice President Andrew R. Harcar Sr., and FCSU Regional Director Rudolph Glogovsky.

## Slovak Folk Ensemble Welcomed in Chicago

On May 4, 2009, the Zobor Dance and Folklore group of the University of Nitra, Slovakia performed in Chicago, Illinois at the invitation of Chicago Treasurer Maria Pappas. The performance took place at her Cook County downtown office on Clark Street. Attending were FCSU National Vice President Andrew Harcar Sr. and his wife Maria, Regional Director Rudolph Glogovsky and his wife Anita, and Rudy and Liz Bernath. Other prominent people present included Archbishop Jan Sokol of Slovakia, John Vacval, president of the Slovak World Congress Abroad; and Alojz Jurcik, president of the Slovak Alliance. John Vacval and Alojz Jurcik were presented awards of excellence by the Treasurer for their contributions to the Slovak American community.

Maria Pappas and the Department of Ethnic Affairs, Chicago, have long supported the Chicago Slovak community throughout the years with various Slovak programs.

Members of the Zobor ensemble with Alojz Jurcik, Archbishop Jan Sokol, Maria Pappas and John Vacval.



# MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION OF THE USA AND CANADA, MARCH 13-14, 2009 HOME OFFICE, INDEPENDENCE, OHIO

## FIRST SESSION

Friday Morning, March 13, 2009

## OPEN MEETING

President Andrew Rajec called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. and asked Reverend Thomas A. Nasta, Chaplain, to offer the opening prayer. The President asked Susan Ondrejco, Fraternal Director, to lead the Board in singing the Anthems of the United States, Canada, Slovakia and the recitation of the Pledge of the Allegiance.

## ROLL CALL

Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary, read the roll call with the following members present:

Rev. Thomas Nasta, National Chaplain;  
Andrew M. Rajec, National President;  
Andrew R. Harcar, Sr., National Vice President;  
Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary;  
George F. Matta, National Treasurer;  
Karen M. Hunka, Chairman of Auditors;  
Susan M. Ondrejco, Fraternal Activities Director;  
Gary J. Matta, General Counsel;  
Joseph F. Minarovich, Regional Director, Region 1;  
Damian Nasta, Regional Director, Region 2;  
Carl Ungvarsky, Regional Director, Region 3;  
George Sprock, Regional Director, Region 4;  
Regis P. Brekosky, Regional Director, Region 5 – absent, excused  
Henry Hassay, Regional Director, Region 6;  
Rudolph Glogovsky, Regional Director, Region 7;  
Milos Mitro, Regional Director, Regions 8 & 9.

## READING OF THE CALL

The Executive Secretary then read the Call to the Annual Meeting.

## ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES OF THE QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING DECEMBER 13, 2008 AND THE SPECIAL DECEMBER 30, 2008 MEETING (TELECONFERENCE)

A motion was made by Joe Minarovich and seconded by Carl Ungvarsky to accept the minutes of the Quarterly Board of Directors Meeting and the minutes of the Special December 30, 2008 Meeting as presented. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Carl Ungvarsky and seconded by Damian Nasta to summarize the minutes of the Executive Committee meetings and the Board of Directors meetings for publishing in the newspaper. Motion carried.

## PRESENTATION OF THE AGENDA

President Rajec presented the agenda for the Annual Meeting and asked for its acceptance. A motion was made by Damian Nasta and seconded by George Matta to accept the agenda and allow the President to change the order of the agenda, if necessary. Motion carried.

## APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES

The President appointed the following committees:

### DONATIONS COMMITTEE

George Matta  
Carl Ungvarsky

### RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

Reverend Thomas Nasta  
Gary Matta  
Karen Hunka

A motion was made by Rudolf Glogovsky and seconded by Damian Nasta to accept the appointment of the committees. Motion carried.

## PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

The President read his welcome to the Board of Directors.

## PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT

President Rajec turned the meeting over to Vice President Andrew Harcar, who recognized President Rajec. President Rajec read his annual report. At the conclusion of the President's Report, a motion was made by Fr. Thomas Nasta and seconded by Carl Ungvarsky for its acceptance. Motion carried. (The President's Report is to be published in the Jednota newspaper).

Regional Director Regis Brekosky joined the meeting via teleconference during the presentation of the Financial Reports.

## OUTSIDE AUDITOR'S REPORT

On behalf of the accounting firm of Hosack, Specht, Muetzel & Wood, LLP., Mr. Ed Mertz presented a written report and answered the Board of Directors' questions. Mr. Mertz stated that he found all financial reports in good order and that he received excellent cooperation from the Home Office staff. He stated he would give a clean audit opinion on behalf of the FCSU.

Mr. Mertz also reported on the audit of the transfer of our custodianship from Merrill Lynch to Key Bank. He stated that everything is in order. A motion was made by George Matta, seconded by Carl Ungvarsky, to accept the outside auditor's report. Motion carried.

## ACTUARIAL REPORT

Mr. Edward DePersis of the actuarial firm Bruce and Bruce presented the actuarial report for 2008. Mr. DePersis stated that since each Board Member received a copy of the report, he will not read the

entire report, but will just give some highlights. The actuary recommended that a dividend to be paid for 2008. After his presentation, Mr. DePersis answered the Board's questions.

## FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR 2008

### Executive Secretary's Report

Kenneth A. Arendt presented the 2008 Financial Report and answered the Board Members' questions. The Executive Secretary asked to defer the acceptance of his report until Saturday in order to allow the Board additional time to review it. He stated that his report would be published in our Jednota newspaper.

## CHAIRMAN OF AUDITORS REPORT

Chairman of Auditors Karen Hunka presented her report and answered the Board's questions. Her report will be published in the Jednota newspaper.

## RECESS OF SESSION

The President introduced the Home Office staff to the Board of Directors and then the meeting broke for lunch.

## SECOND SESSION

Friday Afternoon, March 13, 2008

## OPEN MEETING

President Andrew Rajec opened the afternoon session with a prayer and call to order. The Executive Secretary stated that all members are present, except Regis Brekosky, who is absent and excused.

## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TREASURER

Treasurer George F. Matta presented his report and answered all of the Board's questions. (The Treasurer's Report is to be published in the Jednota newspaper).

## AQS, ASSET MANAGEMENT COMPANY, LLC. REPORT

Mr. Larry White, representing AQS, Asset Management Company, LLC., at the invitation of the President presented his report to the Board of Directors. He gave a Web-ex visual presentation to the Board of Directors outlining the goals that can be achieved by implementing an objective investment strategy as follows:

- Specify the maximum acceptable level of residual risk;
- Select the minimum cost cash flow match for a specified level of residual risk;
- Select assets other than the matching treasury only when they stochastically dominate US Treasuries; and
- Immunize to within an acceptable worst case scenario.

The President then asked Larry White to hold his presentation and introduced guests from Key Bank to the Board of Directors. The President stated that these guests, representing the Victory Asset Management Fund, will offer a scenario as how we may invest funds available thru the Federal Home Loan Bank of Cincinnati, as well as regular Society funds and then answer any questions from the Board. After the presentation by Victory Asset Management, a motion was made by Ken Arendt and seconded by Henry Hassay to authorize the Executive Committee to obtain up to ten million US dollars (\$10,000,000) from the Federal Home Loan Bank to be invested with the Key Bank Capital Fund. The motion passed by a vote of 14 to 1).

President Rajec stated that he will give the Board of Directors one more week to study the proposal presented by the Key Bank Victory Asset Management to see if there are any questions regarding this investment.

Mr. Larry White continued with his presentation by analyzing our existing portfolio and led a discussion reviewing our investment portfolio. He introduced a new investment policy for its review and adoption by the Board of Directors. A motion was made by Henry Hassay and seconded by Rudolf Glogovsky to accept the new investment policy as presented. Motion carried.

## ADJOURN

There being no further business to conduct for today, a motion was made to adjourn. Reverend Thomas Nasta closed the meeting with prayer.

## THIRD SESSION

Saturday Morning, March 15, 2008

## OPEN

President Andrew Rajec called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. Father Thomas Nasta led us in prayer.

## ROLL CALL

The Executive Secretary took a visual roll call. He stated that everybody is present except Regis Brekosky, Regional Director, Region 5, who is absent and excused.

The President reviewed the annual interest rates for the second quarter and answered the Board's questions.

## APPOINTMENT OF ACTUARIES FOR 2009

President Rajec led a discussion regarding the actuaries Bruce & Bruce Company. A mo-

*continued on page 8*

# MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

## FRIDAY, JUNE 19, 2009

### HOME OFFICE, INDEPENDENCE, OHIO

#### OPEN

President Andrew M. Rajec called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. and asked Vice President Harcar to lead the prayer.

#### ROLL CALL

Members Attending: Andrew M. Rajec, President  
Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary  
Andrew R. Harcar, Sr., Vice President  
George F. Matta, Treasurer

#### ACCEPTANCE OF THE MAY MEETING MINUTES

The Executive Secretary presented the minutes of the May 2009 Executive Committee meeting. A motion was made by Andrew Harcar and seconded by George Matta to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

#### TREASURER'S STOCK AND BOND REPORT

The Treasurer presented a written monthly report and reviewed the monthly activity report. The Treasurer then answered the questions of the Executive Committee. A motion was made by Andrew Harcar and seconded by Kenneth Arendt to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. Motion carried.

Larry White from AQS Asset Management, LLC. joined the Executive Committee meeting via teleconference and presented the Investment Portfolio Briefing for the month thru WebEx.

His agenda included:

- The monthly transaction report
- Portfolio reinvestment versus projected annual yield
- Projected portfolio cash flow
- Reinvestment strategy analysis.

When Mr. White completed his presentation, he answered the questions of the Executive Committee.

#### KEY BANK INVESTMENTS

The Executive Secretary reported on the investments we have with Key Bank and answered the questions of the Executive Committee.

#### PORTFOLIO CUSTODIAN

The Executive Secretary updated the Executive Committee on our portfolio custodian. He stated that everything is in order and working well.

The President led a discussion regarding the interest rate to be paid on the "Park 2 Annuity" for the third quarter of 2009. A motion was made by George Matta and seconded by Kenneth Arendt to pay 4% on the "Park 2 Annuity" starting July 1, 2009 and keep the same interest rate as in the second quarter 2009 on other annuities.

First Catholic Slovak Union Annuity & IRA interest rates effective July 1, 2009:

The annual yield on existing Flexible Premium Deferred Annuities & IRA's is 4.75% (4.641% APR).

The annual yield on a new "Park 2 Annuity" is 4.00% (3.922% APR).

The annual yield on a new six year Fixed Rate Annuity & IRA is 4.25% (4.162% APR).

The annual yield on accounts with the "Cash Interest" Option is 4.50% (4.402% APR).

The annual yield for new Settlement Options is based on 4.25% (4.162% APR).

#### SALES AND MARKETING

The Vice President reviewed our Sales Production Report in different Regions and answered the Executive Committee's questions. The Vice President also reviewed the Sales Production Report of our independent agents.

The Executive Secretary updated the Executive Committee on the FCSU becoming licensed in 13 additional states. He stated that applications for licensing have been submitted. The Executive Secretary will update the Executive Committee as more information becomes available.

The Vice President further stated that we will continue with our advertisements in the Jednota newspaper and on our website and in all the mailings from the Home Office.

The Vice President also updated the Executive Committee on the dates of the upcoming sale seminars. He stated that he will develop a presidential sales campaign that will start on August 1, 2009 and continue until end of July 2010. The Vice President will update the Executive Committee as more information becomes available.

#### FRATERNAL ACTIVITIES

The President updated the Executive Committee on the progress of joint outings with Slovak Catholic Sokol. He stated that Sue Ondrejco, Fraternal Activities Director, will give more information regarding the joint Golf Tournament and possibly more information of the joint Bowling Tournament in 2010 at the June 20, 2009 Board of Directors meeting.

#### 2010 CONVENTION

The President stated that by the direction of the Executive Committee and with the approval of the Board of Directors of the First Catholic Slovak Union of the United States and Canada, the 49th International Convention of the FCSU will be held at the Renaissance Hotel, 24 Public Square, Cleveland, Ohio, 44113. The Convention dates are: Saturday, August 14, 2010 – Wednesday, August 18, 2010.

The President stated that the "call" for the Convention will be published in the Jednota newspaper, placed on our website and mailed to all National Officers, District and Branch Officers.

#### BRANCH MERGERS

The President led a discussion regarding Branch mergers. The President stated that a letter with his and the Executive Secretary's recommendations was sent to all Regional Directors for their review and input. After receiving no objections from the Regional Directors the Executive Secretary will proceed with recommended mergers as efficiently and prudently as allowable.

#### EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT

#### MORTGAGES AND OVERDUE MORTGAGES

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:

#### Disbursements for the month of May 2009

Death Benefits & Accumulations	\$309,281.82
Cash Withdrawals & Accumulations	\$ 44,369.72
Matured Endowments & Accumulations	\$ - 0 -
Trust Fund	\$ - 0 -

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

#### MISCELLANEOUS

The President also informed the Executive Committee that he received a letter from our Editor, Anthony Sutherland, about his retirement in October, 2009. The President stated that, because of Mr. Sutherland's retirement, we will be seeking applicants for the position of Editor. He stated that he will prepare an ad for the Jednota newspaper outlining the requirements and responsibilities for the position of Editor.

The Executive Secretary stated that he is in process of updating the "What is Jednota" pamphlet to be distributed at different functions (picnics, festivals, etc.).

#### REQUESTS FOR ADS AND DONATIONS

Requests were reviewed and acted upon.

#### ADJOURN

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

The Vice President closed the meeting with prayer.

Andrew M. Rajec  
President

Kenneth A. Arendt  
Executive Secretary

## DON'T BUY LIFE INSURANCE

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VISIT US ON THE WEB AT [WWW.FCSU.COM](http://WWW.FCSU.COM)



*You'll find out about our products:*

*\*Ordinary Whole Life*

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*\*Juvenile Life with Savings Plan*

*\*Yearly Renewable Term*

*\*10 Year Level Term*

*\*20 Year Level Term*

*\*Term to age 25*

*\*Annuities*

**FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION  
OF THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA**

# Minutes of Annual Meeting

*continued from page 6*

tion was made by Henry Hassay and seconded by George Matta to appoint the existing actuaries for 2009. Motion carried.

## APPOINTMENT OF OUTSIDE AUDITORS FOR 2009

A motion was made by Rudolf Glogovsky and seconded by Joseph Minarovich to retain Hosack, Specht, Muetzel & Wood, LLP, as our outside auditors for 2009. The Executive Secretary stated that the firm is in the third year of its 3 year contract with the FCSU. Motion carried.

## HOME OFFICE BUILDING & EMPLOYEES

The Executive Secretary updated the Board of Directors on the maintenance and the lease of our Home Office Building and answered the Board's questions.

## REPORT OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL

General Counsel Gary Matta made a report and answered the Board's questions.

## APPOINTMENT OF OUTSIDE LAW FIRM FOR 2009

The President led a discussion concerning outside law firms. He stated that he will retain Buckingham, Doolittle and Burroughs, LLP. and Thompson, Hine and Flory Law Firms as and if the need occurs.

## BRANCH REPORT

The President led a discussion regarding the condition of our Branches.

He stated that, after consulting with Regional Directors, he and Kenneth Arendt will present a plan for merger and consolidation.

## VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

At this time the President recognized the Vice President, who presented his Annual Report to the Board of Directors and answered the Board's questions. (The Vice President's Report to be published in the Jednota newspaper).

## MEMBERSHIP AND MARKETING

### Membership

The Vice President distributed a written report to the Board of Directors. The report contained a listing of the top proposers of insurance and annuity sales, a detailed report of sales production by districts and a five year comparison report broken down by districts.

The Vice President led a discussion regarding seminars in the year 2009.

He will look into new and better ways of presenting the seminars.

## PRESENTATION OF STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Executive Committee** The Executive Secretary gave a report on the Executive Committee. In accordance with the Bylaws, the Executive Committee did meet monthly, and whenever necessary to take care of business.

**Pension Committee** The Executive Secretary gave an update on the FCSU Pension Plan. He stated that we are in full compliance with all federal regulations and answered the Board's questions.

**Scholarship Committee** The Executive Secretary gave a report on Scholarship Committee. The applications for FCSU scholarships are being processed and will be sent to the Scholarship Committee. He also gave a report on the Jednota Benevolent Foundation and answered the Board's questions.

## RECESS OF SESSION

At this time the Board of Directors broke for lunch.

## FOURTH SESSION

Saturday afternoon, March 14, 2009

## OPEN MEETING

President Andrew Rajec opened the afternoon session with a prayer and call to order. The Executive Secretary stated that all members are present, except Regis Brekosky, who is absent and excused.

## DIRECTOR OF FRATERNAL ACTIVITIES REPORT

Director of Fraternal Activities Susan Ondrejco gave a Power Point presentation to the Board of Directors and answered their questions. (Her report will be published in the Jednota).

## SUBSIDIARIES REPORT

Jednota, Inc. The President of Jednota, Inc., George Matta, gave his report to the Board of Directors and answered the Board's questions.

Jednota Properties, Inc. In the absence of Regis Brekosky, President of Jednota Properties, Inc., George Matta presented a report for Jednota Properties, Inc. and answered questions.

The reports of Jednota Inc. and Jednota Properties are informational in nature.

A motion was made by Henry Hassay and seconded by Carl Ungvarsky to elect the following members to the Jednota, Inc. Board : George Matta, Andrew Rajec, James Marmol, Ed DePersis and Rudolf Glogovsky. Motion carried.

## ESTATES

**Printery leasing** The President led a discussion regarding the leasing of our Printery building. He will keep the Board updated as more information becomes available.

**Development of Land** The President stated that he has been in contact with several developers in the Harrisburg and Middletown area concerning any new development that is being planned for the area. The President will keep the Board updated as he receives further information.

## 2010 CONVENTION

The President reported on two site inspections that were made in Las Vegas, Nevada and Cleveland, Ohio. He gave pros and cons of both cities and stated that the Executive Committee will make a determination for approval by the Board of Directors.

A motion was made by Father Thomas Nasta and seconded by Rudolph Glogovsky to accept the Chaplain's Report, all the Financial Reports and all the Officers Reports as presented. Motion carried. (They will be all printed in the Jednota newspaper).

## REPORT OF THE RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

General Counsel Gary Matta gave the report of the Resolutions Committee. A motion was made by Carl Ungvarsky and seconded by Damian Nasta to accept the Resolutions Committee's recommendation. Motion carried.

## REPORT OF THE DONATIONS COMMITTEE

George Matta made the report of the Donations Committee. All requests were reviewed and acted upon. A motion was made by Rudolph Glogovsky and seconded by George Matta to accept the recommendations of the Donations Committee as presented. Motion carried.

## BOARD MEETINGS

The President updated the schedule of Board of Directors Meetings in 2009.

## PAYMENT OF BILLS ASSOCIATED WITH THE ANNUAL BOARD MEETING

A motion was made by Henry Hassay and seconded by Father Thomas Nasta to pay all the bills associated with the meeting. Motion carried.

## ADJOURN

There being no further business to conduct, a motion was made by Damian Nasta and seconded by Andrew Harcar to adjourn. Motion carried.

Father Thomas Nasta closed the meeting with prayer at 4:00 P.M.

Father Thomas Nasta celebrated the Mass for the Board of Directors.

Andrew M. Rajec  
National President

Kenneth A. Arendt  
Executive Secretary



## St. Louis Branch 109 Sponsors Flag Collection Ceremony



Collecting the flags are L-R Eagle Scout Joshua Miklovic, Sam Miklovic, and Andrew Tague

Members of the Holy Trinity Society, Branch 109 in St. Louis, Missouri, along with Knights of Columbus Council # 453 and Boy Scout Troop 115, held a flag collection ceremony and conducted a donut and coffee fellowship on Sunday, July 5, 2009, after all the Masses at St. Mary Magdalen Church in St. Louis. Approximately 350 flags were honorably collected.

The United States Code Title 4, Chapter 1, Section 8 Paragraph K states: "The flag, when it is in such condition that it is no longer a fitting emblem for display, should be destroyed in a dignified way, preferably by burning."

The flag was carried by the Continental Army; it led the Armies which preserved the American Union; it was present as Americans came ashore to liberate Europe. It has been

sewn on the battle dress of our military and has covered the caskets of America's heroes. It has a potent, unifying effect. It reminds us of our common purpose.

When we look at the flag, may we always be able to see, feel, remember and to always be grateful for the men and women who served, suffered and died to keep us free, because freedom is not free.

Branch 109 was happy to be part of this noble effort.

Joe Miklovic.

**NEW FROM FCSU**

### FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY:

The First Catholic Slovak Union is pleased to announce that it can now accept credit cards for Insurance premium payments.

\*Annuity payments cannot be made with credit cards.

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Sister Canice SS. CM.

## Eucharistic Liturgy and Perpetual Profession of Vows at the Basilica of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Danville, Pennsylvania

As the congregation's Centennial Year draws to a close, the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius rejoiced at a special ceremony on Sunday, July 5, 2009. The Reverend Ronald R. Cellini, pastor of St. Gregory the Great parish, Bluffton, SC, celebrated a Eucharistic liturgy during which Sister M. Canice Adams made her perpetual profession. Father Cellini was also the homilist.

Sister Canice, a native of Charleston, South Carolina, is currently in her fourth year as principal of St. Gregory the Great School in Bluffton. From 2005-2006 she was Director of School Development at the school. Sister Canice has also served as Associate Headmaster of Heathwood Hall and Head of the Lower School and principal of St. John Neumann School in Columbia, South Carolina. For three years Sister Canice was also Superintendent of Schools for the Diocese of Charleston. Sister was Assistant Professor in the Department of Education at the University of South Carolina, teaching both graduate and undergraduate levels.

The congregation to which Sister Canice belongs has a strong commitment to education, as well as eldercare, ecumenism and evangelization. The Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius were founded in Scranton in 1909 by the Reverend Matthew Jankola. His goal was to provide Slovak immigrants to the U.S. with a strong education that would enable them to preserve their faith and to become productive citizens in their new country.

In 1946, the congregation, which served primarily in the East and Midwest, began its mission to schools in South Carolina. The Sisters have taught and served in administrative posts at St. Patrick School, Nativity BVM, Divine Redeemer, Blessed Sacrament and Bishop England High School. The diocesan post of Director of Catechesis and Christian Initiation is held by Sister Pamela Smith, SS.C.M.



## Top Performances by Young Slovak Musical Virtuosi

By Jan Simko

Wednesday, April 22, 2009, was an unprecedented day in the activities of the Embassy of the Slovak Republic in Washington, D.C. It was invaded by waves of young top-class Slovak musical virtuosi. No sooner did a warm applause by enthusiastic listeners in response to this overpowering performance by one young Slovak virtuosi died down that was followed by a no less enthusiastic reception of the same enthusiastic audience of a following piece.

In earlier seasons, we had been treated to outstanding performances by high-class single Slovak virtuosi, such as the singer Eva Blahova, pianist Daniel Buranovsky and others. This time, again it was mostly small groups of musicians who occupied the stage including, as a rule, a piano accompanist or a soloist joined by a violin or a singing soloist.

This warm, enthusiasm-producing sequence kept repeating itself for about two hours making it unambiguously clear to the capacity audience that here is a young Slovak musical generation, as a rule, under twenty, that is going to soon to occupy the musical stage for several following decades! Let's be patient a little and we'll soon be treated to regular outstanding performances as a matter of fact.

The high quality of the latter is the product of not just the obvious innate talent of these young performers but also of their diligent daily work and practice under the guidance of devoted, qualified instructors. The well-known slogans: "Practice makes the master" and "Practice, practice, practice" have proved to be productive bearing good results.

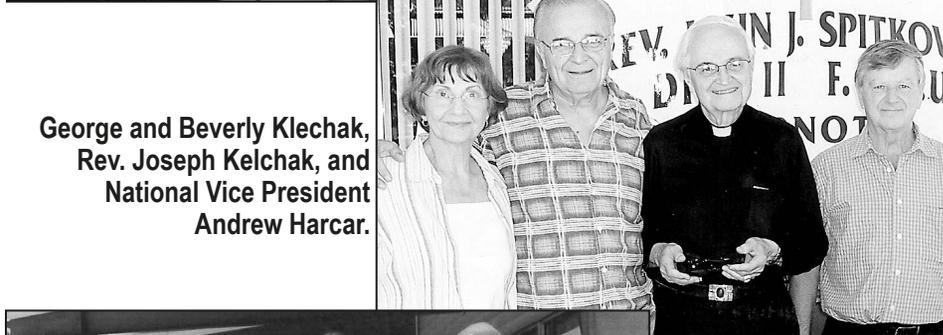
The young performers presented themselves in a very orderly, disciplined manner, with no showmanship whatsoever, thereby also earning the thankful audience's respect and appreciation. After an English introduction by a lady host the respective performers proceeded with their advertised presentations.

A pianist's solo was, as a rule, followed by a piano accompanist of a violinist's or a singer's respective solo performance. There was hardly a virtuosi composition of the world repertoire left here unperformed in a brilliant manner.

The young performers thus proved their familiarity with, and mastery of their respective instruments' repertoire. They tackled the performed pieces with a self-assured mastery, as if they had been born with the latter, clearing the technical difficulties, as if they had always done so with fluency, skill, and ease.



Bottom row L-R are Rev. Jeffrey Small, Rosemary Mlinarich, and Msgr. Peter E. Bolerasky. Top row L-R are Ed Uram, Shirley Uram, Barbara Fayta, and Andrew Harcar



George and Beverly Klechak, Rev. Joseph Kelchak, and National Vice President Andrew Harcar.



Branch 706 in South Chicago, Illinois was well represented at the Annual Indiana Slovak Day

## John J. Spitkovsky District Represented at Annual Indiana Slovak Day

*continued from page 1*

notable were Msgr. Peter E. Bolerasky, former pastor of St. Stephen the King Parish in Streator, Illinois; Rev. Jeffrey Small, Assistant to Monsignor Bolerasky; National Vice President Andrew Harcar and his wife Maria; District II Financial Secretary Barbara Fayta, Art Fayta, Joseph and Theresa Bugel, and Ed and Shirley Uram. As in the past, current FCSU literature products were on display and homemade rozeks, nut, poppy seed and fruit filled rolls, were available for sale.

The afternoon concluded with hours of music by the Gene Mikrut Band.

**Art Fayta, District Picnic Chairman**



## 49th INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION OF THE FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION OF THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA

**THE RENAISSANCE HOTEL  
24 PUBLIC SQUARE  
CLEVELAND, OHIO, 44113  
PHONE: 216-696-5600; FAX: 216-696-0432**

SATURDAY, AUGUST 14, 2010 through WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18, 2010

By direction of the Executive Committee and with the approval of the Board of Directors of the First Catholic Slovak Union of the United States and Canada, the 49th International Convention of the First Catholic Slovak Union will be held at

THE RENAISSANCE HOTEL, 24 PUBLIC SQUARE, CLEVELAND, OHIO, 44113.

All National Officers, Regional Directors, District Officers, Branch Officers, and Members of the First Catholic Slovak Union are notified herewith that the Convention dates are: Saturday, August 14, 2010 – Wednesday, August 18, 2010 so they may schedule their 2010 calendars accordingly.

All Officers and Members are directed to review Section 11.03 through Section 11.08 of our By-Laws to determine delegate eligibility and duties and Section 11.09 through 11.12 for the Convention business. Election of delegates to our 49th International Convention must be completed by May 17, 2010, ninety (90) days prior to the opening of the Convention (see Section 11.03c). However, to assure guaranteed hotel registration and room assignments, it is requested that all delegates to the 49th International Convention be elected as early as the annual meetings of the districts and branches in December 2009, or by January 31, 2010 at the latest. The final delegate count shall be based on members as of February 1, 2010 (see Section 11.04c). Appointments to the various convention committees will begin as soon as delegate credentials are received and certified at our Home Office at 6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence, Ohio 44131.

The National Officers and Board of Directors of the First Catholic Slovak Union are looking forward to a cost effective and productive 49th International Convention. All potential delegates to this 49th International Convention are requested to study our existing By-Laws, ask questions of the National Officers and Members of the Board of Directors, and review the programs and financial statements (see our website (www.fcsu.com) for the Financial Statements for 2006, 2007 & 2008). Proposed By-Law change forms will be sent out to the Branches and Districts in September 2009 and are due back by January 31, 2010.

Andrew M. Rajec  
National President

Kenneth A. Arendt  
National Secretary

## Mom's Butter Nut Rolls

10 cups of flour (5lb. Bag - I use Gold Metal Bread Flour)  
 1 lb of butter  
 10 X-tra large egg yokes and two whole eggs  
 1 cup sugar  
 2 to 3 packets of dry yeast  
 1 tsp. vanilla  
 pinch of salt  
 1 can of canned mild (not sweetened and not skim, just regular)  
 1 quart of whole milk, less the number of ounces in the can of canned milk

In a small heavy saucepan, heat canned milk until lukewarm and add 1 tbs. of sugar. Take off heat and stir in dry yeast and set aside and allow to proof. (approx. 10 to 15 minutes)

In a larger saucepan, heat whole milk (less the number of ounces of canned milk), heat gently. Set aside to cool.

In a separate bowl, beat egg yokes until well blended and add vanilla. Mix until vanilla is incorporated. Set aside.

In a large, deep bowl or soup pot (I use my 18 quart soup pot), place flour, the remainder of the sugar and pinch of salt. Mix together with one hand until blended. Add room temp butter and squeeze together with flour mixture until butter is incorporated. make a well in the center of the flour mixture and add the egg yokes. Slowly add the proofed canned milk mixture, and then slowly add the whole milk. Using both hands scrape sides and bottom of bowl/pan and make sure all dry ingredients are incorporated. Mix with both hands until dough comes off your hands completely. Depending on the humidity, it can take 10 to 15 minutes. The well mixed dough should be soft and you should not be able to see or feel any unmixed lumps. The color of the dough will be a beautiful butter yellow. The color should be uniform without the darker color ribbons, etc. Distribute dough evenly on bottom of pot/bowl (the Pot/Bowl should be pretty clean at this point with no little bits of flour, etc. - Do Not Wash Pot/Bowl at this point) Cover pot/bowl tightly with either lid/plastic wrap. Place in warm dry spot without drafts and also cover bowl/pt with a bath towel and a blanket. Set aside for approx. 6 hours until dough more than doubles in size. Gently punch/scrape down and recover and allow to double in size again. (This should take approx another two hours)

After second rise, dump dough in mass onto a clean surface and divide in 3/4 balls. you should be between 10 to 12 balls. On a lightly floured cotton towel, place rounded balls next to each other and cover with another cotton towel.

Walnut Mixture - finely grind walnuts and use approx. 2 21/2 cups of ground nuts to a 1/2 to 3/4 cup of sugar. Add Golden raisens. The sweetness and number of raisens are a matter of judgement.

Lightly crisco or spray flat baking sheets and set aside. (I use airbake flat pans) two rolls fit on one baking sheet.

Lightly flour rolling surface and rolling pin. Roll one ball out at a time leaving the others covered. Note that the balls should begin to rise and slightly stick together. It's ok You want them to do it.

The rolled out ball should be about 1/4 of an inch thick or so. Try to maintain a slightly rectangular shape. You should be able to move the dough around without it sticking but do not over flour as that will cause the roll to burn and dry out.

Dump 1 to 2 cups of the nut mixture in the center of the roll and spread evenly on the rolled out dough. On one of the longer sides, leave a one inch space clean. I.E. no nut mixture. Then, starting at the longer end with the nut mixture, roll the dough inward on itself until you reach the one inch strip without the nuts. Roll over onto the one inch strip (This will be the bottom of the nut roll) Then gently form ends into closed envelope style ends. Place baking sheet close to completed nut roll and then gently pick up roll and place on center of 1/2 half of the baking sheet. Make sure you place the roll seam side down. If you don't the seam will split and the nut mixture will ooze out. Sweep any extra nut mixture on rolling surface back to the nut mixture bowl. Repeat this process for second roll. Cover the completed baking sheet with a cotton towel and place in a warm dry spot. It is important that you roll out and fill all the dough balls before baking. This process should take between 1 to 2 hours. This allows the completed raw rolls to rise before baking.

Start baking with the very first sheet you finished. You can brush the tops and sides of the rolls with a beat egg. this will give the rolls a gloss.

Preheat oven to 350. Depending on the oven, it should take between 20 to 30 minutes per baking sheet. Do not bake more than one sheet in the oven at a time. Rack should be in the center of the oven. Rolls should be a beautiful golden brown.

To cool, place grocery bags (cut open and laid flat) on table and place hot, baked rolls side by side with a couple of inches between and cover again with a clean cotton dish towel. Allow rolls to cool completely before cutting or wrapping.

I use white freezer paper to wrap rolls and I do freeze them.

I have used pecans, almonds and hazelnuts in place of the walnuts and in fact, usually bake a few rolls using different nuts.

The finished rolls should be approx 12 inches long and maybe 3 inches wide.

Margaret Graves

## Spitkovsky District Plans Afternoon at the Ballpark

FCSU members and their families and friends are invited to attend an Afternoon at the Ballpark on Sunday, August 16, 2009, at the USS Steelyard in Gary, Indiana. At 2:00 p.m. the Gary SouthShore RailCats will play the Winnipeg Goldeyes. There are reserved seats with a great view and free parking in fenced lots. Tickets are \$8.00 for FCSU members and \$9.00 for nonmembers. If you wish to attend, please contact Fraternal Activities Director George Kelchak, 953 Portage Ave., Porter, IN 46304. Phone: 219/926-2410. Come and enjoy minor league baseball at its best.

## YOUTH ROUND-UP



Zachary George Morella of Las Vegas, Nevada is the newest member of Branch 682 in Youngstown, Ohio. Zachary was born June 18, 2008 and is the son of Anthony and Trina Morella. His grandparents are Tom and Marilyn Morella of New Middletown, Ohio and Henry and Nancy George of Rio Rancho, New Mexico. To help secure Zachary's future, his grandparents Tom and Marilyn Morella purchased for him a "Juvenile Life with Savings Plan." Tom and Marilyn Morella and Anthony Morella are all well known and active Jednota members.

Alex Kozusko of Whitney, Pennsylvania and a student at the Linsley School in West Virginia, was named Player of the Year in the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference. Alex's pitching led his school to capture the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference championship in 2009. This season Alex had a record of 10 and 2, with a 2.20 earned run average and 56 strikeouts.

Alex will attend Wheeling Jesuit University in the fall where he plans to play baseball.

Alex is the son of Tim and Michelle Kozusko. Alex and his entire family are members of the First Catholic Slovak Union.

Lesley Gregoricka, a member of Branch 756 in Owosso, Michigan, is living an exciting life as an archaeologist. She has excavated all over the world, in the Middle East, including Israel, Turkey and the United Arab Emirates. Most recently, she has done research on human mobility in the Bronze Age.

Lesley was valedictorian for the class of 2001 at Corunna High School. She graduated summa cum laude from the University of Notre Dame in 2005 with a degree in anthropology. She received a Master's degree in anthropology from The Ohio State University, where she served as an assistant editor of the American Journal of Physical Anthropology. Currently she is a Ph.D. candidate in bioarchaeology at The Ohio State University. She has also recently completed a doctoral minor in anatomy.

We are all proud of Lesley and all her achievements and wish her much success in the future. Lesley is the daughter of Susan and Larry Gregoricka of Owosso and a 2001 Jednota Scholarship recipient.

Alexandria C. Muzika of Uniontown, Pennsylvania, a double major in communication and psychology at Saint Vincent College in Latrobe, was awarded the 2009 Saint Vincent Alumni Council Scholarship. The announcement and presentation took place during the Council's annual Easter Ball, held this year at The Priory in Pittsburgh on April 25.

Alexandria has been president of her class for two years. She is chair of the Student Government Association's Academic Affairs Committee, a member of and secretary of the Public Relations Student Society of America, and a member of the Orientation Committee for three years. After graduation, she plans to enter the field of broadcast journalism.

A 2006 graduate of Albert Gallatin High School, Alexandria is the daughter of Marianne Muzika of Uniontown and a member of Branch 367 in Fairchance, Pennsylvania. She is also the granddaughter of Mrs. Mary Arendas, a lifelong member of the First Catholic Slovak Union. The member and officers of Branch 367 are all very proud of Alexandria and wish her the best.

Audrey J. Balazik



Some "Crazy for You" attendees



More "Crazy for You" attendees

## Dinner-Theater Outing Near Chicago

The Rev. John J. Spitkovsky District sponsored its popular annual dinner-theater outing on Sunday, May 31, 2009. Fraternal Activities Director George Kelchak arranged for 35 attendees to enjoy a bountiful champagne brunch buffet, followed by the Gershwin musical comedy "Crazy for You." The event took place at the Theater at the Center in Munster, Indiana.

Robert Tapak Magruder

# Wedding Celebration



Thomas James Ivanec of Bainbridge, Ohio and Teresa Ann Kysilka, daughter of Ann Kysilka of Parma, Ohio, were united in Holy Matrimony on May 2, 2009, at St. Andrew Abbey in Cleveland, Ohio.

The wedding Mass was celebrated by Rev. Joachim Pastirik, OSB, with immediate family in attendance. The couple honeymooned in Ontario, Canada. They now reside in Parma.

Both Teresa and Thomas are members of Branch 24 in Cleveland.



# Coming Events

## August 28-30

- The Michigan District Picnic at SS. Cyril and Methodius Church, 41233 Ryan Road, Sterling Heights, Michigan.

## September 13

-The Rev. Matthew Jankola District's Annual Meeting at 11:00 a.m. at SS. Cyril and Methodius Church Hall, 79 Church Street, Bridgeport, Connecticut.

## September 20-

The SS. Cyril and Methodius District's Annual Summer Picnic from 10:30 a.m. until dusk at McDade Park, Scranton, Pennsylvania.

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4.25% (APR 4.162%)

\*Interest rate Guaranteed for 6 years

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- Not applicable to any settlement option annuity funds, or interest only annuities
- Annuity withdrawal prior to age 59 ½, subject to Federal Excise Tax Penalty
- Minimum deposit \$5,000

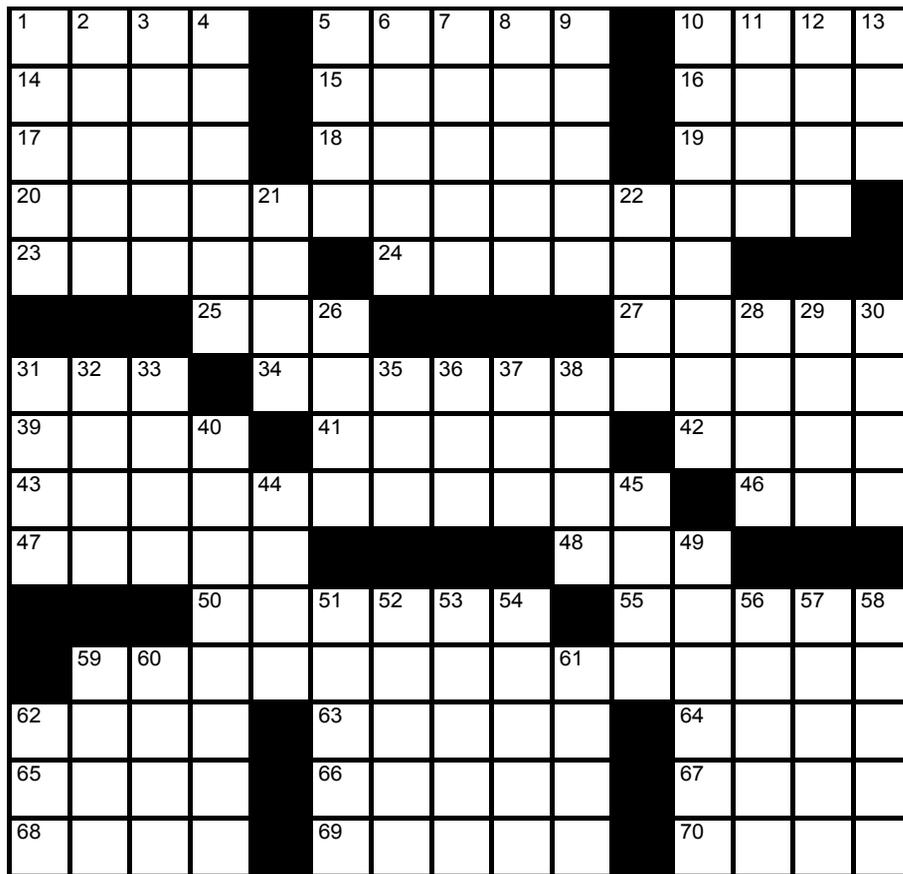
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Independence, OH 44131-8013  
Call 1-800 Jednota or 1-216-642-9406

# Jednota Crossword Puzzle



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### Across

- 1 Hebrew calendar month
- 5 Nervous person, times
- 10 Soft drink
- 14 One of the Three Bears
- 15 Lacking company
- 16 British school
- 17 Bird (Lat.)
- 18 Bear cat
- 19 Comedienne Rud
- 20 Arrogance
- 23 Burgled
- 24 Saturated
- 25 Sweet potato
- 27 Organization or church fund raise
- 31 Gossip
- 34 Slave drivers
- 39 Actor Guinness
- 41 Honks
- 42 Slangy affirmativ
- 43 Darkness aid
- 46 Some business in
- 47 Floral leaf
- 48 Hankering
- 50 Brawn
- 55 Artery
- 59 Cruise ship safety equipment
- 62 Comic strip, *Marge's Little* \_\_\_
- 63 Mouths off
- 64 Heroic verse
- 65 Dog wagger
- 66 Old World vines
- 67 Carson follower
- 68 Twofold
- 69 Expressive style
- 70 Incision

### Down

- 1 Maidservants
- 2 Ship's crane
- 3 Sp. friend
- 4 Hastily
- 5 See 14 Across
- 6 Actors Hale and Hale, Jr.
- 7 Vacation spot, sometimes
- 8 Concluded
- 9 Sum up again
- 10 Peace of mind
- 11 Up and down ma
- 12 Periods
- 13 Literary collectiv
- 21 Energy
- 22 Beaks
- 26 School subj.
- 28 Require
- 29 Seize
- 30 Workplace federal agency inits.
- 31 Short inhalation
- 32 Downwind
- 33 Tired
- 35 Sun god
- 36 Japanese carp
- 37 House loan inits
- 38 Pale gray
- 40 Stuffed
- 44 Hint

- 45 Rupture
- 49 Books
- 51 Branchlet
- 52 Thirst for
- 53 Bolsheviks founder
- 54 Organic compound
- 56 Drive back
- 57 *If I Had a Hammer* singer Lopez
- 58 Cravat
- 59 Island party
- 60 Hip bones
- 61 To be (Lat.)
- 62 Brit. co. inits.

See Solution on Page 18

# FCSU LIFE



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**FROM THE DESK OF THE NATIONAL SECRETARY**

**FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION ANNUITY & IRA INTEREST RATES  
EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2009**

- The annual yield on existing Flexible Premium Deferred Annuities & IRA's is 4.75% (4.641% APR)
  - The annual yield on a new "Park 2 Annuity" is 4.00% (3.922% APR)
  - The annual yield on a new six year Fixed Rate Annuity & IRA is 4.25% (4.162% APR)
  - The annual yield on accounts with the "Cash Interest" Option is 4.50% (4.402% APR)
  - The annual yield for new Settlement Options is based on 4.25% (4.162% APR)
- If you have any questions about our annuities or IRA's, please contact the Home Office by calling 1-800-533-6682, or your Local Branch Officer.

Kenneth A. Arendt, National Secretary

**4.75%**

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FLEXIBLE PREMIUM DEFERRED ANNUITY/IRA**

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**Features of the Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity include:**

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- **Death Benefit**-If you die prior to settlement, your beneficiary receives the full cash value of the annuity. If you die while receiving retirement benefits, the value of your remaining guaranteed benefits will be paid to your beneficiary.
- **Withdrawal Privileges**-Since annuities are meant to be long-term investments for providing retirement funds, funds withdrawn during the first six years of your contract are subject to an FCSU Early Withdrawal Charge. You may withdraw 10% of your 'beginning of the year balance' with no FCSU Early Withdrawal Charge.
- Your interest will be added to your account. You may, however, elect to have your interest paid directly to you on a monthly, quarterly, semi-annually, or annually basis. This is called an Interest Option and the interest rate is slightly lower than if you left your interest to accumulate.
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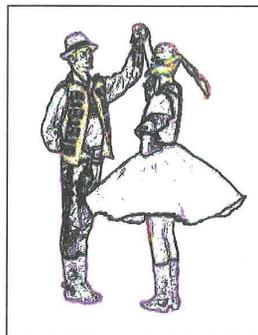
**CONTACT THE HOME OFFICE OR YOUR LOCAL BRANCH FOR MORE INFORMATION.  
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**SLOVAK FESTIVAL**



**19<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL SS. CYRIL & METHIDIUS  
PARISH SLOVAK FESTIVAL**



<u>FRIDAY</u>	<u>SATURDAY</u>	<u>SUNDAY</u>
Aug. 28, 2009	Aug. 29, 2009	Aug. 30, 2009
7:00 – 11:00 p.m.	3:00 – 11:00 p.m.	12:00 – 7:00 p.m.
Family Night		(Parish Raffle @ 5:00)
St. Cyril Alumni Reunion		

Ethnic Food – Bake Sale – Parish Raffle  
Dunk Tank – Inflatables – Kids' Games  
Rock Climbing Wall – 50/50 Raffle  
Beer – Wine – Pop – Live Music & More

**ENTERTAINMENT PROGRAM**

- Friday: \* Parish Talent Show  
\* St. Cyril Alumni Reunion  
\* Family Night "Karaoke"
- Saturday: \* Šarišan Slovak Folk Ensemble and Junior Šarišan from Sterling Heights, MI  
\* Slovak Domovina Dancers from Windsor, Ont.  
\* Tri-City Plus Band
- Sunday: \* Šarišan Slovak Folk Ensemble and Junior Šarišan from Sterling Heights, MI  
\* Harmonia from Cleveland, OH  
\* The Varitones Band
- Public Dancing on Saturday and Sunday -----  
(Program subject to change)

**FOOD**

- Holubky (Stuffed cabbage)
- Halušky (Cabbage & dumplings)
- Pirohy (Pierogi)
- Faširky (Slovak burgers)
- Klobása s kapustou (Kielbasa with sauerkraut)
- Parky (Hot Dogs)
- Hranolky (French Fries)
- Cyrl Burgers
- Palacinky (Crepes)
- Zmrzlina (Ice Cream)
- Predaj Koláčov (Bake Sale)

**BEVERAGES**

- Pivo (Beer) \* Vino (Wine)
- Malinovsky (Pop)
- Káva (Coffee) & More

All Proceeds to Ss. Cyril & Methodius Church Building Fund

**Ss. Cyril & Methodius Slovak Catholic Church**  
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**\$500,000  
Accidental Death & Dismemberment (AD&D)**

- Including:**
- Accidental Loss of Life
  - Child Care
  - Cobra Premium & Educational Expense
  - Home Invasion
  - Evacuation & Repatriation
  - Spouse or Domestic Partner Employment
  - Training Expense
  - Permanent Total Disability Benefit

**Quarterly Premium Rates**

<u>Principal Sum</u>	<u>Single</u>	<u>Family</u>
\$100,000	\$12	\$18
\$200,000	\$24	\$36
\$300,000	\$36	\$54
\$400,000	\$48	\$72
\$500,000	\$60	\$90

Premiums can be paid with Credit Cards, Debit Cards, or a Bank Account.

**Special Fraternal Benefit**

If a member or a new member (ages 30-65) is issued a minimum \$10,000 Whole Life, a 20-Pay Life, or a \*Single Premium Policy, issued after August 1, 2008, FCSU will include, as a Fraternal Benefit, a single \$25,000 \*\*AD&D Benefit at no additional charge for as long as a premium is being paid. Contact your local branch officer or the Home Office at 1-800-533-6682 for further details.

\*Single Premium Policies are eligible for the first 5 years  
\*\*Insurance is underwritten by Federal Insurance Company, a member insurer of the Chubb Group of Insurance Companies. Exclusions may apply. Insurance may not be available in all jurisdictions.

# Realm of Slovak Genealogy



Ray Plutko

## Using a Roadmap of Zupas

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This is another in a series of feature articles addressing the realm of genealogy. It is one specifically designed for Slovak descendants and is so structured to serve as an introductory course for the novice, meet the needs of the advanced researcher— or, if nothing else, the curious.)

Over the course of the past few months I have received a growing number of requests from individuals just embarking on the challenge of tracing their Slovak ancestral past— seeking access to a few of the foundation articles published previously. In keeping with these requests the following marks the initial “reprint” to help set your course, while making certain to note updates (new addresses, internet sites, etc.) where appropriate. And for those regular readers well along in your research we will continue to probe new directions and territory.

It is time to pack those suitcases as we are headin' back to the Mother Country in a continuing search for our Slovak ancestral line. However, in order to make the most of our tour package – not to mention your sense of direction – we've thrown in a brief geography lesson just for the asking.

We have noted on a number of occasions the frustration of many just starting to trace their family history, a notable absence of the word “Slovakia” when working with papers and official documents.

Terms such as Austria-Hungary, Upper Hungary and the Kingdom of Hungary are commonplace for earlier time periods. And each has left the researcher with an instant roadblock and seemingly, no alternate route to follow.

However, there is a common thread which runs through the centuries of geographical boundaries in Slovakia and your individual attempts at pinpointing a village of family origin. One magical key, which hasn't changed over this lengthy span of time, is using the various

counties in Slovakia as a roadmap.

In fact, our parents and grandparents most often referred to the county or district from which they emigrated and NOT the often obscure village in which they lived. This was further perpetuated by newspapers in the United States and Canada as obituaries generally made note of the county or district as the place of birth and many of us fell right in line with this new-found “evidence.”

However, as with virtually everything in the art of research, it is sound advice to familiarize oneself with a few terms that are critical to the success of your efforts. The county may also be referred to as the zupa and on occasions, you may see the term written as the stolice. These should comprise new geographical entries to your research vocabulary.

When studying maps of Slovakia, there are 19 counties (zupas) to take into consideration. These 19 are the most widely referenced in terms of genealogical research and relate to time periods when our relatives were part of the mass migrations in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

In an attempt to assist with your points of reference, I have broken down the 19 counties into general Western, Central and Eastern regions:

**WESTERN**— Bratislava County (sometimes written at Pressburg on documents), Nitra, Rabska, Komarno, Ostrihom, Tekov, and Hont.

**CENTRAL**— Trenčin, Turiec, Zvolen, Novohrad, Gemer (which sometimes makes reference to a smaller sector known at Malohont), Liptov, and Orava.

**EASTERN**— Spis, Abov (which sometimes makes reference to a smaller sector known as Turna), Saris, Zemplin and Uzka (sometimes written as Uh).

These designations do not follow true vertical west-central-east boundary lines as we would know it, but should assist greatly in narrowing your search for that elusive Slovak village of origin.

Additionally, each county (zupa) in Slovakia is further broken down into districts known as okres. If you have the name of the zupa and are fortunate enough to have the okres (often written as okr: as part of an address), you are within a few miles of the exact village!

One note of caution as you begin your tour, it is not uncommon to have two and sometimes three villages in Slovakia with the exact spelling. The challenge is to then uncover the zupa of geographical location in an effort to validate your search and exact village.

“Please. . . watch your step as you depart our tour bus.



First row, left to right—  
Sisters Gabriella LaGanga,  
Susan Polchin, Georgene  
Luther and Paulette  
Lendacky celebrating 60  
years. Second row, left to  
right—Sisters Marguerite  
Hruby, Joseph Therese  
Pohorenc and Maria  
Theresa Hronec, celebrating  
50 years, with the General  
Superior, Sister Linda Marie.

## Jubilee Celebration and Prayer Service at Sacred Heart Statue

The Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Danville celebrated the profession anniversaries of seven Sisters on June 20, 2009, with a liturgy celebrated in the Basilica. The Reverend Francis Lendacky of Philadelphia was main celebrant and homilist.

The Sisters have been in Danville exactly 90 years. On June 19, 1919, the Sisters traveled from Middletown to move into Castle Grove, their new Motherhouse. On Friday, June 19, 2009, the Sisters marked the occasion with a prayer service at the Sacred Heart statue led by Sister Linda Marie. Mother M. Emmanuel, on the day of the arrival, made it known to the Sisters with her that the property would be dedicated to the Sacred Heart.



## Address Changes?

Readers are reminded that all address changes for the JEDNOTA newspaper must be done at the Home Office in Independence, Ohio. If you have an address change, cancellation, or wish to receive the paper, write to: First Catholic Slovak Union, FCSU Corporate Center, 6611 Rockside Road, Independence, OH 44131-2398; Phone: 1/800-JEDNOTA (1/800-533-6682); Fax: 1/800-642-4310; or E-mail: FCSU@aol.com.

## DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

### MICHIGAN DISTRICT-MICHIGAN

The FCSU Michigan District Picnic will be held in conjunction with the SS. Cyril and Methodius Parish Festival on Friday, August 28; Saturday, August 29; and Sunday, August 30, 2009, on the Parish grounds, 41233 Ryan Road, Sterling Heights, Michigan. Festival hours are Friday (Alumni Night), 7:00 to 11:00 p.m.; Saturday, 2:00 to 11:00 p.m.; and Sunday, 12:00 noon until 8:00 p.m.

Now that the Church construction is over, attendees will be under the Big Tent once again. There will be bands, Slovak dancers, ethnic food, adult beverages and much more. There will be children's games, prizes, a dunk table, bake sale, crafts, and a silent auction. Look for the Slovak specialties from the kitchen and grill.

For complete and current Festival information, please visit the web-site at [www.saintcyriils.org](http://www.saintcyriils.org).

Come and enjoy the festival and meet with your fellow Slovaks!

Joseph C. Rimarcik

### REV. MATTHEW JANKOLA DISTRICT-NEW ENGLAND

The Rev. Matthew Jankola District will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, September 13, 2009, at 11:00 a.m. at SS. Cyril and Methodius Church Hall, (now called the Rev. Matthew Jankola Hall), 79 Church Street, Bridgeport, Connecticut. The election of District officers will take place at this meeting.

Members of the various branches are encouraged to attend this Annual Meeting. We look forward to seeing many members at this meeting.

Jacqueline Zack, Secretary

### SS. CYRIL AND METHODIUS DISTRICT-LACKAWANNA & LUZERNE COUNTIES, PENNSYLVANIA AND BROOME COUNTY, NEW YORK

The SS. Cyril and Methodius District will hold its Annual Summer Picnic on Sunday, September 20, 2009, at McDade Park, Scranton, Pennsylvania.

The event will begin at 10:30 a.m. with a continental breakfast sponsored by Branch 382 of Scranton and Branch 166 of Binghamton. A catered lunch featuring Slovak foods will be served at 12:45 p.m. Hamburgers and hot dogs will be grilled to order in the afternoon. Snacks will be available throughout the afternoon until the end of the picnic at dusk.

Tickets are \$12.00 for adults and \$6.00 for children under age 10. Reservations are required. To make reservations, contact District 17 Fraternal Activities Director Elizabeth Slovenkai at 570/344-3854 before Friday, September 11, 2009.

Members and friends of the FCSU are cordially invited to attend.

Elizabeth M. Slovenkai, Fraternal Activities Director

## Obituaries Announcements

### Sister M. Huberta, SS.C.M., 92

Sister M. Huberta (Helen C. Novak) died on Tuesday, July 7, 2009, at Maria Hall, Danville, Pennsylvania. Born on April 21, 1917, in Olyphant, Pennsylvania, she was the daughter of Jacob and Catherine (Knapik) Novak. She attended Holy Ghost School and graduated from St. Patrick High School in Olyphant. Sister received a B.A. from Marywood University, Scranton, PA, and an M.A. in Latin from Villanova.

Sister entered the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Danville on October 2, 1935, was received as a novice on May 4, 1936, and made her profession of vows on May 11, 1938.

Sister Huberta was engaged in the ministry of education in both elementary school and high school. She taught grades 4-8 in parish schools in Connecticut, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and South Carolina. Sister also taught in religious education programs and prepared students for the Sacrament of Confirmation. On several occasions she served as superior and principal. She also served as superior at Maria Hall for four years.

For 15 years she taught at St. Cyril Academy, Danville, Pennsylvania, and for 13 years at Andrean High School, Merrillville, Indiana.

Sister Huberta is survived by a niece, Mrs. Barbara McGoldrick, Great Bend, Pennsylvania, and the following nephews, John, Joseph and Robert Yedinak, all of Moscow, Pennsylvania.

The transferal rite and recitation of the Rosary took place on Friday, July 10, 2009, at 8:30 a.m., followed by a Wake Service at 10:15 at Maria Hall. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at 11:15 a.m., also at Maria Hall, by the Reverend Gerard Heintzelman, assisted by Deacon Thomas Baranoski. Father Heintzelman was also homilist. Burial was in the Sisters' cemetery.

Memorial donations may be made to the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius, Villa Sacred Heart, Danville, Pennsylvania 17821-1698.

### William J. Barlock Sr.

#### Branch 199

#### Hostetter, Pennsylvania

William J. Barlock Sr., 87, of Whitney, Pennsylvania, died Sunday, June 14, 2009, in St. Anne Home, Greensburg.

He was born September 1, 1921, in Whitney, a son of the late Michael and Mary (Hvizdos) Barlock. Prior to his retirement, he was employed by Latrobe Steel. He was a member of St. Cecilia Church, Whitney. He was a World War II veteran of the Army, a member of Jednota, and a life member of Unity Township American Legion Post 982 and Hecla Sportsmen's Club.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, Mary (Osif) Barlock, on May 22, 2001; brothers, John "Shimmy," Steve "Patty" and Paul; and sisters, Mary Barlock Hvizdos, Ann Kostelnik, Sophia Dziak, Elizabeth Andros, Julia Menarcheck and Helen Rabic.

He is survived by his sons, David W. Barlock of Whitney, William J. Barlock Jr. and his wife, Amy, of Penn Hills, and Robert W. Barlock and his wife, Sheila, of State College; four grandchildren, Nathaniel, Trevor, Alena and Alejandro; and nieces and nephews.

Friends were received at the Gaut-Bacha Funeral Home, Pleasant Unity. A Funeral Mass was celebrated in St. Cecilia Church with Rev. Peter Augustine Pierjok, OSB, as celebrant. Interment was in St. Mary's Byzantine Cemetery, Mt. Pleasant Township.

#### Sophie Pipak

### Sister M. Clarence Kominak, SCN

Sister M. Clarence Kominak, a member of the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth of North Hills, Pittsburgh, died at the age of 98 on Sunday, May 31, 2009 at the Vincentian Home, Pittsburgh. Sister was in the 84<sup>th</sup> year of her religious life.

Sister entered the Vincentian Sisters of Charity from St. Mary's Parish, Brownsville, Pennsylvania. Sister attended St. Francis School of Nursing, Pittsburgh and became a Registered Nurse in 1939.

Before her nursing career, Sister Clarence taught elementary grades in Youngstown and Struthers, Ohio for several years. As a Registered Nurse, Sister served at the Motherhouse, Regency Hall Nursing Home, Belvedere Hospital, Vincentian Home and Villa de Marillac Nursing Home, all in Pittsburgh, Holy Ghost Mission, Marbury, Alabama, St. Jude Hospital, Montgomery, Alabama, Mother Mary Mission, Phenix, Alabama, and St. Vincent Hospital in Monett Missouri. Sister Clarence served 17 years at Holy Ghost Mission. Sister Clarence returned to the Motherhouse in 1991 and joined the Prayer Ministry Group. She became a resident of the Vincentian Home in 2003.

Sister is survived by 700+ Sisters of Charity of Nazareth. Friends were received at St. Louise Convent, 8200 McKnight Road, Pittsburgh on Monday, June 1, from 1:00 to 8:00 p.m. and Tuesday, June 2 from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. after which a Mass of Christian Burial was offered in the Chapel. Burial was in the Sisters' cemetery on the convent grounds.

Donations may be made to the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth Mission Fund.

### Sister Raynita Kristofco, SCN

#### Viola C. McDowell

#### Branch 857

#### Levittown, Pennsylvania

Viola C. McDowell, 87, of Levittown, Pennsylvania, died Tuesday, June 16, 2009, at St. Mary Medical Center

Born in Cleveland, Ohio, Mrs. McDowell was a longtime resident of the Kenwood section of Levittown before moving to Grundy Gardens in Fairless Hills.

She was an active member of St. Michael the Archangel parish. Over the years, she was involved in sodality, was an officer with the Bishop Egan Mother's Club and various other community services.

She enjoyed card games with her many friends, bingo and bowling, and would never refuse an opportunity to visit Atlantic City.

Vi loved life and lived it as fully as possible even in her later years.

Mrs. McDowell was the wife of the late John W. McDowell and the mother of the late Laurence T. McDowell, who was killed in Vietnam in 1969.

Survivors include her children, Rev. John W. McDowell, OFM of Stoneville, North Carolina, retired Lt. Col. Paul McDowell and his wife, Deborah, of Tolland, Connecticut, Edwin G. McDowell and his wife, Patricia, of Durham, North Carolina, Mary Jane Herrick

(Bruce) and children of Langhorne, Deacon David McDowell and his wife, Colleen, of Millsboro, Delaware, and Joseph McDowell and children of Inwood, West Virginia; 19 grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; a sister, Mrs. Virginia VanHorssen of Grand Haven, Michigan; and her many nieces nephews and friends.

Friends were received at St. Michael the Archangel Church, Levittown, where a Funeral Mass was celebrated. The Rite of Committal followed in Resurrection Cemetery.

Memorial donations may be made to Saint Michael the Archangel Memorial Foundation, 66 Levittown Parkway, Levittown, PA 19054.

### Donna Antal

#### Branch 260

#### Campbell, Ohio

Donna Antal, 71, of Struthers, Ohio, died Wednesday, July 1, 2009, at her residence after a two-year battle with cancer.

Donna was born February 26, 1938 in Youngstown, a daughter of Harry and Winifred Bohn Schilling and was a lifelong resident of Struthers.

A 1956 graduate of Struthers High School, Donna was a homemaker. She had also worked at Montgomery Ward, Casey's restaurant and then in collections for Gold Cross Ambulance. She was a member of St. Joseph the Provider Church in Campbell, the Altar and Rosary Society, Infant Jesus of Prague Guild, and the Renewal Committee. Donna was also a member of the 1956 Class Reunion Committee.

Besides her husband, Richard Antal, whom she married October 12, 1957, she leaves two daughters, Michelle (Larry) Wichert of Henderson, Nevada, and Debbie Madomo of Poland, Ohio; one sons, Rick (Norma) Antal of Henderson; one sister, Linda Deidrick of New Springfield, Ohio; and four grandchildren, Deanna Madomo, Danielle Timkovich, Caludia and Jonathan Ramirez; and five sisterhood friends, Joann,

Marie, Helen, Anne, and Marianne.

Friends were received at the Cunningham-Becker Funeral Home. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated in St. Joseph the Provider Church by Rev. Michael Swierz, pastor.

The officers of the St. Matthew Society, Branch 260, offer their deepest sympathy to Richard and family. May she rest in peace.

Charles M. Terek

### Mary Kuzma

#### Branch 260

#### Campbell, Ohio

Mary Kuzma, 86, passed away Sunday, June 30, 2009, at Briarfield at the Nursing Home.

Mary was born October 30, 1922 in Youngstown, Ohio, the daughter of Michael and Julia Krivan Terek.

She was a 1941 graduate of Woodrow Wilson High School, a member of St. James Church, the Christian Women's organization, Den Mother of Pack 23 and a 4-H Leader.

Her husband George, whom she married October 6, 1945, passed away on January 28, 2002.

She leaves to cherish her memory, a son Ronald (Carol) of Austintown, Ohio; a daughter Mary Rose Nordquist of Boardman, Ohio; one brother, Charles Terek of Campbell, Ohio; grandchildren, Jennifer (Kevin) Maloney, Julia Kuzma, and Daniel Kuzma; and one great-grandson, A.J. Maloney.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband George and a sister, Rose Hurchik.

Friends were received at the Wasko Funeral Home. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated in St. James the Apostle Church in New Bedford, Pennsylvania, by the Rev. John Rebel, pastor.

The officers and members of Branch 260 offer their deepest sympathy to the family. May she rest in peace.

Charles M. Terek



## Annual Midwest Pastoral Seminar

The Slovak Catholic Federation's annual Midwest Slovak Pastoral Seminar will take place on Sunday, September 27, 2009, at the Motherhouse of the Sisters of St. Casimir, 2601 West Marquette Road in Chicago, Illinois. Rev. Marek Sitar, a priest from Slovakia who is currently serving in the Archdiocese of Chicago, will give a bilingual (English and Slovak) presentation on "The Life, Mission and Journey of Saints Cyril and Methodius-as it survives today." Registration for the seminar will start at 2:00 p.m. Father Sitar will be welcomed at 2:45 p.m. followed by his presentation. A buffet dinner will be served at 4:00 p.m.

The offering for this event is \$15.00. Prepaid registration can be arranged through John Jurcenko at 773/763-0810 by Thursday, September 27, 2009. For more information call Geraldine Hletko at 708/387-7812.



## Memories of the Dominican Sisters of Oxford, MI?

Diana Culbertson of Akron, Ohio is writing the history of the Dominican Sisters of Oxford, Michigan. If anyone has any memories of the Sisters, please send them to: Diana Culbertson, 171 Belhar Dr., Akron, OH 44313, E-mail: dculbert@roadrunner.com. This will be greatly appreciated.



# Accent on Activities



## 2009 International Golf Tournament

May 2009

We are proud to announce that the First Catholic Slovak Union and the Slovak Catholic Sokol will be having a joint Golf Tournament this year. The Golf Tournament will take place August 14 – 16, 2009, at the Clarion Oaks and Hi-Level Golf Courses in Clarion, PA. The Holiday Inn hotel is adjacent to the Clarion Oaks golf course and located in the picturesque community of Clarion, PA. The surrounding area offers a selection of restaurants, shopping centers and other local amenities.



Both golf courses offer our members spectacular golf facilities with a professional driving range, putting greens and a slope rating of 127. Clarion Oaks is an established course with 18 holes and is ranked one of the best courses in the region. The second course is Hi-Level Golf club also has 18 holes and a wonderful clubhouse with many amenities. Both golf courses have several individual holes that gracefully cut through the country hills. We are working closely with the resort and golf management, to host a wonderful fraternal, golf weekend.

The cost for this year's event is \$285.00 for golfers which includes your three (3) full rounds of golf with carts, two nights lodging at the resort, two (2) breakfasts, (Saturday and Sunday mornings), one (1) wonderful dinner, (Saturday night) a sponsored hospitality evening on Friday night, a complimentary host bar on Saturday night, your tournament entry fee and prize money. (All taxes and gratuities are included)

The non-golf weekend package rate is \$140.00 (inclusive), which includes meals and lodging. Finally, for our local members who may not require the entire hotel and meal package, there is a golf only package for \$145.00, which includes entry and tournament expense fees. These are outstanding packages for the service, quality of meals and golfing that one will enjoy throughout the weekend.

All meals will be served at the Holiday Inn hotel, as well as the Saturday night victory banquet. There will be a charge of \$25.00 for those members that would like to purchase additional banquet tickets for Saturday night only. The banquet will feature a wonderful 4 course sit down meal with host bar. All of this is part of your golf or non-golf package. Holy Mass of obligation will take place shortly before dinner at approximated 5:30 pm followed by a cocktail hour. A short program will follow dinner including the announcement of our tournament leaders and a welcome from our keynote speaker.

You can expect to see your registration forms in the mail later this month.

This is a historic event that we hope shows that Slovak Fraternalists can work together and build stronger relationships that will result in benefits for all members. Come and be a part of history at this year's Golf Tournament!



## CALLING ALL PHOTOGRAPHERS, AGES 12 - 18!

Get your cameras ready! We are starting a photography contest for those members between the ages of 12 and 18.

Submit your photo in one of the following categories:

- People
- Nature or Environment
- Travel or Destinations
- FCSU Fraternal Activity

Judging will be done by an outside professional and all photos will be returned.

For each category, the following prizes will be awarded.

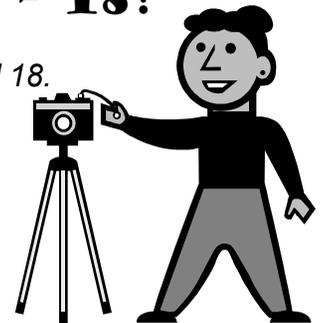
- \$50 – First Place
- \$30 – Second Place
- \$20 – Third Place

An Overall Winner will be awarded \$100

Mail your entry to:

Susan Ondrejco  
Photo Contest  
234 Ilion St.  
Pittsburgh, PA 15207

postmarked by October 1, 2009.



Rules:

1. The photos have to be taken by the member submitting it (no computer generated photos, other than digital ones).
2. One Entry per Category
3. Any size photo up to 8" x 10", unmounted, in black and white or color is permitted. (No touched up or computer enhanced photos permitted.)
4. Name, address, Branch number, age, and where the picture was taken should be submitted on a **separate sheet of paper**. DO NOT MARK BACK OF PICTURE

## 2009 Regional Picnics



Watch for notices of the Regional Picnics in your area this summer. Requirements for reimbursement of your regional picnic are posted at [www.fcsu.com](http://www.fcsu.com). Your Regional Director also has the guidelines for reimbursement. If your picnic qualifies, your district could be entitled to \$5 per member in attendance.

## 2009 Golf Tournament Info Sheet

### Friday, August 14

- ◆ Practice Round of Golf – You call the Pro Shop of the Course you want to play to set up a tee time
  - Clarion Oaks Golf Course (814) 226 – 8888
  - Hi-Level Golf Course (814) 797 - 1813
- ◆ Hospitality Room, Holiday Inn, Clarion. 6 PM – 10 PM

### Saturday, August 15

- ◆ Registration begins at 7am. Golf starts at 8am.
- ◆ Clarion Oaks or Hi-Level Golf Courses
- ◆ Mass begins at 5:30pm at the Holiday Inn, Clarion.
- ◆ Banquet begins at 6:30pm at the Holiday Inn, Clarion.

### Sunday, August 16

- ◆ Golf starts at 8am, Clarion Oaks or Hi-Level Golf Courses

#### Hotel Information

Prices have been negotiated at the following hotel:

Holiday Inn, Clarion  
45 Holiday Inn Road  
Clarion, PA 16214  
814-226-8850

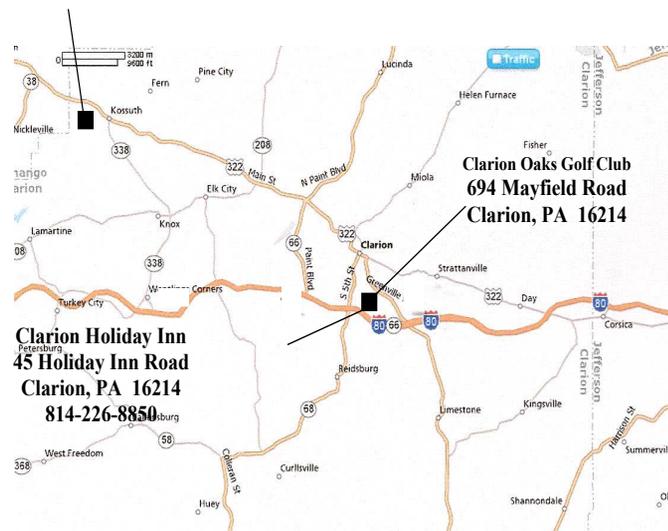
As in the past, you must make your own hotel arrangements by contacting the hotel directly and leaving a credit card for all incidentals. The room rate is included in the package price and is based on double occupancy.

This year a block of 150 rooms have been reserved per night at the resort, on behalf of the organization.

## Jednota Handicap Golf Tournament August 14<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup>, 2009 Clarion Oaks and Hi Level Golf Resorts – Clarion, PA

### Map and Directions (to the Clarion Holiday Inn)

Hi-Level Golf Course  
148 High Level Lane  
Kossuth, PA 16331  
814-797-1813



Clarion Holiday Inn  
45 Holiday Inn Road  
Clarion, PA 16214  
814-226-8850

Clarion Oaks Golf Club  
694 Mayfield Road  
Clarion, PA 16214

#### From the North/West (Cleveland):

Take I-77 S via the ramp to Akron. Take exit 146 to merge onto I-80 E toward Youngstown (Partial toll road). Take exit 218 to merge onto I-80 E (Partial toll road entering Pennsylvania) Take exit 62 for PA-68 E toward Clarion. Turn left at PA-68 W, Turn right at Holiday Inn Rd.

#### From the South (Pittsburgh):

Take I-579 N/PA-380 E. Merge onto I-579 N via the ramp on the left to Veterans Bridge. Take the exit onto PA-28 N toward Etna. Take the exit onto PA-28 N/US-422 E toward Kittanning/Indiana. Continue to follow PA-28 N. Turn left at PA-66/Wood St. Continue to follow PA-66. Turn left to merge onto I-80 W/PA-66 N. Take exit 62 to merge onto PA-68 W toward Clarion. Turn right at Holiday Inn Rd.

## 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Mahoning Valley SlovakFest

Summer is in full force and everyone is looking for fun things to do with their time. Well, for the last three years, Ohio's Mahoning Valley Slovaks have been providing just that. This August 16<sup>th</sup>, the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Mahoning Valley SlovakFest will be held on the grounds of St. Mathias Church in Youngstown OH from 11:30AM to about 8 PM. It was begun in 2006 by a group of people who remembered the great Slovak picnics of their youth, usually held by the area's Slovak parishes or organizations. They wanted to carry on this summer activity and share their love of their Slovak heritage with everyone in this Valley. And of course, you can't get more than 3 Slovaks together without there being food and music!

The SlovakFest kicks off with a wonderful Polka Mass at St. Matthias Church, on Youngstown's Southside, an area where many Slovak families settled in the early 1900s. This joyful Mass will be offered at 11:30AM with the music provided by the Eddie Vallus Band. After the celebration of Mass, the festivities will move to the church parking lot and the former school, in the Father Snock Center at 2800 Shady Run Rd., Youngstown, OH 44502.

Inside the hall, dinners will be served from noon till 3 with a choice of Lamb, Chicken or Halubky (stuffed cabbage). Outside you will find halušky, klobassi, lamb, pirohy and more throughout the day. There will also be wonderful Slovak baked goods available!

Starting at 4PM, the Grammy nominated Del Sinchak polka band will be playing for those who love to polka or those who just want to sit and listen. There will also be Slovak dancers and singers for your listening pleasure. It has been said, "kde je Slovak, tam je spev." -- "where there is a Slovak, there is singing." And there will be plenty of music and singing at the Mahoning Valley SlovakFest.

The SlovakFest also has many Slovak items on display or for sale. There will be a silent auction of baskets filled with all sorts of items, and a raffle of \$2000 worth of Get Go/Giant Eagle gift cards for gasoline or food! There will be children's games, clowns and other activities throughout the day. Admission is free, so if you remember the Slovak picnics of your childhood, or if you don't, but would like to make some new memories, plug us into your GPS, jump in your car, and join us on August 16<sup>th</sup> for a wonderful time at the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Mahoning Valley SlovakFest!

Loretta A. Ekoniak

## The Shrine at Levoča: A Sacred Spiš Gem

*continued from page 4*

ences of a half million people when he offered Holy Mass there. Slovaks have always considered the Marian shrine at Levoča to be a very holy place, and the Holy See granted it the title of a Minor Basilica in 1984. Today some sisters stay in a convent on the hill and attend to the nearby chapel. It is a calm and peaceful place of prayer during the workweek, ideal for prayer and meditation.

#### A Personal Recollection

When my eyes gazed upon Levoča from a distance, its beauty dazzled me. I thought I was in heaven. One could see the tall Marian Hill chapel from miles away because of its height. That was in 1982. I was on a bus and traveling with a group of students from the Slovak Summer Language course, Studia Academica Slovaca. What struck me about Levoča was the gold glow that beamed from town, a reflection of the setting sun. It looked like a perfect example of a quaint Renaissance town whose architecture harkened back to the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> centuries.

One of the most delightful walks I have even taken in my life occurred that summer. I decided to take the jaunt by foot up the steep slopes to the chapel. I passed by a man shepherding his healthy looking cattle that grazed on the hillside, and I bid him "Good Day" (*Dobrý deň*). Along the pathway are Stations of the Cross, where pilgrims could pray as they saunter up to the shrine. I finally arrived at the summit, where I enjoyed a spectacular view of the surrounding countryside for miles around.

It was a particularly gorgeous day and all was at peace. When I finally arrived at the summit, I found myself being chased around by a very disturbed male turkey, who probably belonged to the nuns at the convent. I caught the comical incident on my camera, but it would take a videotape to capture the full humor of the incident.

Regardless, I would recommend that all who are capable of doing so should take the trek to Levoča. And if at all possible, go not only when there is the great annual pilgrimage in July, but if one can manage it, spend a half day climbing the steep hill, taking in the fantastic scenery, and pondering the marvelous beauty and religious gem which Slovakia has in Levoča. Actually it is one of the nicest solitary walks I have ever taken in my life.

The Slovak people have a great love and devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary, and a visit to Levoča helps one feel what they experience in giving honor and glory to Our Lady's Mother.

## Reminder...

Please send all articles for publication (both English and Slovak) to Jednota Estates, 1001 Rosedale Ave, Middletown, PA 17057. Fax 717-944-3107. Email editorjednota@yahoo.com.

Readers are reminded that all address changes for the JEDNOTA newspaper must be done at the Home Office in Independence, Ohio. If you have an address change, a cancellation or wish to receive the paper, write to: First Catholic Slovak Union, FCSU Corporate Center, 6611 Rockside Rd., Independence, OH 44131-2398. Phone 1/800-JEDNOTA; Fax: 1-800-642-4310; E-mail: FCSU@aol.com

# BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

## BRANCH 1- CLEVELAND, OHIO

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 1, will hold its next meeting on Tuesday, September 8, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. in St. Cyril School Hall, 12608 Madison Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio. If you have any questions, please call 216/228-8179. All members are encouraged to attend.

**Marie A. Golias, Secretary**

## BRANCH 55- PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 55, will hold a meeting on Sunday, August 16, 2009, at 1:30 p.m. at the home of the vice president, Steven J. Gerba, 188 DiMarco Drive, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Reports of branch activities, the District meeting and general branch business will be discussed. Refreshments will be served. For further information please call the president, Helena T. Gaydos at 610/356-7956 or the secretary, Josephine E. Gerba at 215/637-6530.

**Josephine E. Gerba, Secretary**

## BRANCH 7- HOUTZDALE, PENNSYLVANIA

The Sacred Heart of Jesus Society, Branch 7, will hold its next meeting on Sunday, August 9, 2009, at 9:00 a.m. at Christ the King Parish Center, 100 Brisbin Street, Houtzdale, Pennsylvania. All members are invited to attend.

**Marie Sedlak, Recording Secretary**

## BRANCH 24- CLEVELAND, OHIO

Members of the St. Andrew Society, Branch 24, are encouraged to attend the Slovak Radio Club 38<sup>th</sup> Slovak Festival on Sunday, September 6, 2009 (Labor Day Weekend), from 12:00 noon until 8:00 p.m. at St. Anthony of Padua Church, 6750 State Road, Parma, Ohio.

This is the largest annual Slovak event in Ohio. Why not meet with your fellow Branch members for some authentic Slovak food, entertainment, music (3 bands) and dancing.

**Bob Kopco, Presiden**

## BRANCH 228- LORAIN, OHIO

The St. John the Baptist/Holy Trinity Society, Branch 228, will take off during the months of July and August to enjoy the summer and rest up for the work to be done in preparation of the FCSU Convention of 2010. Therefore, the next meeting will be held Monday, September 21, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. at the American Slovak Club, 30th and Broadway, Lorain, Ohio.

Our meetings are held on the third Monday of each month except for the months of January, February, July and August when no meetings are held. All meetings begin at 7:00 p.m. and are held at the American Slovak Club. The branch will hold its annual election of officers and bylaws review during the December meeting as is done each December. At that time, we will also elect two (2) representatives to serve on the American Slovak Club Board of Directors. There is a lot to be considered during the summer in preparation for the convention as various issues will be discussed and acted upon during this time. Any issues you would like to see discussed at the convention should be considered now so they may be properly presented for concern by the convention body. Also, now is the time to consider being a convention delegate. We expect to be able to send six (6) delegates to represent our branch. It is an honor and a privilege to serve as a delegate and the experience will never be forgotten. So enjoy the summer, rest up for the work to be done September, and visit the websites for the FCSU at fcsu.com and the Slovak Club at americanslovakclub.com for updates.

**Thomas B. Zuffa, Recording Secretary**

## BRANCH 233- BROCKPORT, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. George Society, Branch 233, will hold its next meeting on Sunday, August 16, 2009, at 2:00 p.m. at the residence of Irene Halko, Route 219-5119 by the Brockport Post Office in Brockport, Pennsylvania.

There will also be a meeting on Sunday, September 20, 2009, at 2:00 p.m. at the residence of Irene Halko.

**Irene Halko, President**

## BRANCH 254- PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Wenceslaus Society, Branch 254, will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Sunday, August 23, 2009, at 1:00 p.m. at Panera's restaurant in the Galleria located at the corner of Washington and Gilkeson Roads, Mt. Lebanon, Pennsylvania. The agenda will include a discussion of new products, fraternal benefits and the 2010 convention. Lunch will be provided. For reservations, contact Albina Senko at 412/343-5031.

**Albina Senko, Financial Secretary**

## BRANCH 393- HANNASTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 393, will hold a Meeting and Picnic on Sunday, August 23, 2009, at 1:00 p.m. at the home of Mary Ann Nalevanko on 459 Front Street. All members and their families are invited to attend.

**Mary Ann Nalevanko, Secretary**

## BRANCH 401- EAST VANDERGRIFT, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Anthony of Padua Society, Branch 401, will hold a meeting on Sunday, September 27, 2009, at 11:00 a.m. at King's Restaurant, Hyde Park Road, Leechburg, Pennsylvania. On the agenda will be a discussion of the next convention in 2010, any new resolutions, convention delegates and new branch officers. All members are invited to attend.

**Rose Froncek, Secretar**

## BRANCH 430- SIMPSON, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Stephen Society, Branch 430, will hold its next meeting on Sunday, August 16, 2009, at 2:00 p.m. at the home of Elizabeth M. Pisarcik. Branch 430 held its last meeting on May 3, 2009 at the home of Elizabeth M. Pisarcik.

**Elizabeth M. Pisarcik, President**

## BRANCH 553- AKRON, OHIO

The St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 553, will hold a lodge meeting on Wednesday, August 19, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. at the Slovak J Club, 485 Morgan Avenue, Akron, Ohio.

Please attend the lodge meetings and take an active part in your fraternal organization.

**Linda M. Hanko, Recording Secretary**

## BRANCH 567- ALLENTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus Society, Branch 567, will hold its next regular meeting on Wednesday, August 19, 2009, in St. John the Baptist Church Social Hall, 924 North Front Street, Allentown, Pennsylvania. Members are urged to attend and participate in all of our activities. Our District semiannual meeting will be discussed along with plans for the remainder of the year.

**Helen Fiala, Recording Secretary**

## BRANCH 731- YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 731, will have a meeting on Sunday, September 13, 2009, at 12:30 p.m. at St. Matthias Church Rectory, 915 Cornell Street, Youngstown, Ohio.

We urge all members to attend as we will be discussing proposed Bylaw changes that we would like to submit to the 49<sup>th</sup> International Convention.

**Jim Bobby, Recording Secretary**

## BRANCH 743- STERLING HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 743, will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, December 6, 2009, at 1:00 p.m. On the agenda will be officers' reports, a 2009 financial report, approval of the 2010 budget, a discussion of branch activities and other business pertaining to the branch and the First Catholic Slovak Union. The election of branch officers will also take place. In addition, there will be the Nomination and Election of Delegates to the 49<sup>th</sup> Convention of the FCSU to be held in Cleveland, Ohio August 14-18, 2010.

Members are urged to attend the celebration of the Slovak Mass before the meeting at 11:30 a.m. at SS. Cyril and Methodius Church, 41233 Ryan Road, Sterling Heights, Michigan. The annual meeting will follow the Mass in the Church Social Hall. Please come and enjoy our annual Christmas meeting with your fellow branch members.

Members who need assistance with their policies or need to change their address or beneficiary should contact the Financial Secretary of Branch 743, Joseph C. Rimarcik, 42909 Sussex Park Dr., Sterling Heights, MI 48314-3087 or phone 586/254-0225.

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

## BRANCH 743- STERLING HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 743, would like to invite all FCSU members and their friends to the SS. Cyril and Methodius Parish Festival and FCSU Michigan District on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, August 28, 29 and 30, 2009, on the parish grounds, 41233 Ryan Road, Sterling Heights, Michigan.

Festival hours are 7:00 to 11:00 p.m. on Friday (Alumni Night); 2:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. on Saturday; and 12:00 noon to 8:00 p.m. on Sunday.

Now that the Church construction is completed, attendees will be under the Big Tent once again. There will be bands, Slovak dancers, ethnic foods, adult beverages and much more. There are children's games, prizes, a dunk table, bake sale, crafts and a silent auction. Look for the Slovak specialties from the kitchen and grill! For complete and current Festival information, please visit the web-site at www.saintcyrils.org.

Come and enjoy the festival and meet with your fellow Slovaks!

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

## BRANCH 743- STERLING HEIGHTS/DETROIT, MICHIGAN

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 743, is sponsoring a Detroit Tiger Baseball Game outing on Tuesday, August 4, 2009 at 7:05 p.m. against the Baltimore Orioles. Members will be in section 213 (upper deck-1<sup>st</sup> base side). This is also a Tiger promotion night, and the first 10,000 fans get a Tiger 2009 All-Star poster. The individual price for each ticket is \$15.00, however your cost will be only \$8.00 We have initially ordered only 40 tickets for this promotion. Therefore, there is a limit of 4 tickets per household. The deadline for ordering tickets is June 18. All purchases up to 40 tickets will be honored. If we do not sell all

the tickets we will contact all ticket purchasers after June 18 affording them the opportunity to increase their purchase. However, there will be no refunds after June 18. Tickets will be mailed to you the first week in July. Send your check payable to FCSU-Branch 743 before June 18 to: Joseph C. Rimarcik, 42909 Sussex Park Dr., Sterling Heights, MI 48314-3087. Be sure to include your phone number and email address when ordering. Go Tigers!

**Joseph C. Rimarcik, President**

## BRANCH 796- EGYPT, PENNSYLVANIA

The Holy Trinity Society, Branch 796, will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Sunday, August 9, 2009, at 1:00 p.m. in Holy Trinity Church Hall, Egypt, Pennsylvania. All members are cordially invited to attend.

**Jerry Lloyd, Recording Secretary**

## BRANCH 853- ELLSWORTH, PENNSYLVANIA

The Holy Name of Jesus Society, Branch 853, is please to announce a new School Stipend Program.

This program is designed for use by all members. The program will benefit the traditional younger members who are in the formal educational years. In addition, the program is designed to benefit members who are in the enrichment portion of their lives.

The Formal Education Portion of the program is designed for the person who is enrolled in school grades 1-12 in which you have to pay tuition. It is also designed to benefit those who are working toward their career goal in a post high school degree or certificate program.

The enrichment classes can be any type of class from Bible Studies, to an ecological awareness class, to sewing, to yoga, and more. This encourages our members to keep active in their lives and to be active in the branch. Proof of taking the class, such as a copy of the class announcement and agenda, and proof of payment of the class (cancelled check) or other receipt is required. Attendance at branch meetings is also required.

All Branch 853 members are invited to use this new Program.

**Monica Radocy Boone, President**

# Answer to Puzzle

*Solution to Puzzle from page 11*

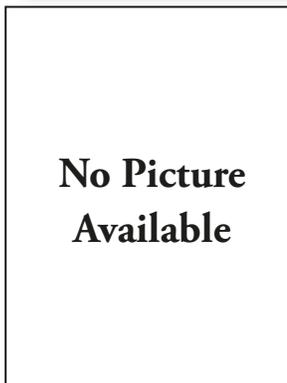
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**If each member would sign up just one new member, we could double our Society immediately**

**THINK ABOUT IT!**

# The Best of the Best!

## Top Guns Thru June 2009

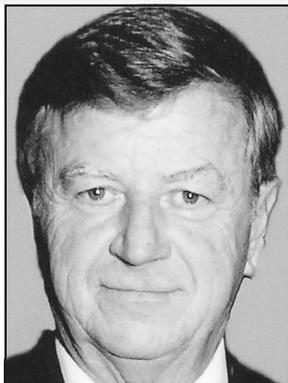


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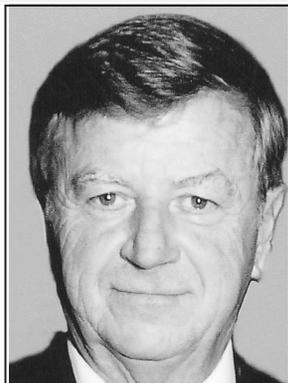
Thomas Podrasky  
First Place



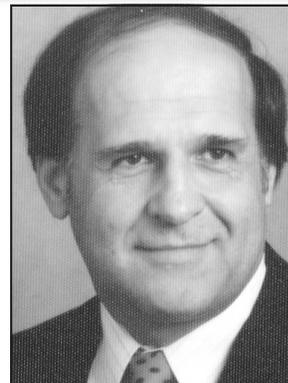
Kimberly M. Meeker  
Second Place



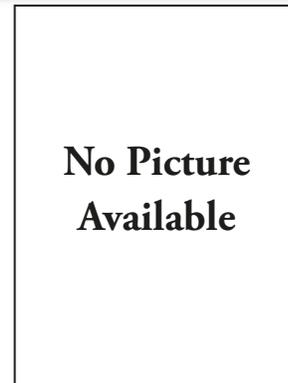
Andrew R. Harcar  
Third Place



Andrew R. Harcar  
First Place



Carl J. Ungvarsky  
Second Place



No Picture Available

Thomas Podrasky  
Third Place

### TOP PROPOSERS BY AMOUNT OF ANNUITIES/IRA SOLD

Name	Branch	Annuities
Thomas Podrasky, Jessup, Pennsylvania	85	\$365,000.00
Kimberly M. Meeker, Windsor, New York	166	\$323,900.00
Andrew R. Harcar, Streator, Illinois	40	\$239,126.93
Kenneth A. Arendt, Vermillion, Ohio	228	\$221,207.98
Roger T. Soltis, Massillon, Ohio	410	\$144,428.52
Joseph John Lucas, Parma, Ohio	855	\$138,579.79
George A. Sprock, Latrobe, Pennsylvania	181	\$137,469.76
David A. Pease, Chinchilla, Pennsylvania		\$86,884.85
Bernard J. Madeja, Whitehall, Pennsylvania	796	\$80,000.00
Al Tipul, Columbia Station, Ohio	319	\$75,986.64

### TOP PROPOSERS BY TOTAL POINTS

Name	Branch	Total Points
Andrew R. Harcar, Streator, Illinois	40	396
Carl J. Ungvarsky, Mountain Top, Pennsylvania	173	370
Thomas Podrasky, Jessup, Pennsylvania	85	365
Kimberly M. Meeker, Windsor, New York	166	322
Kenneth A. Arendt, Vermillion, Ohio	228	221
George A. Sprock, Latrobe, Pennsylvania	181	162
Dorothy J. Petrus, Donora, Pennsylvania	670	151
Roger T. Soltis, Massillon, Ohio	410	143
Joseph John Lucas, Parma, Ohio	855	137
Mark Marmol, Uniontown, Pennsylvania	162	122



Mark Marmol  
First Place



Anna Magusin  
Second Place



Michael P. Kolesar  
Third Place

### TOP PROPOSERS BY AMOUNT OF INSURANCE SOLD

Name	Branch	Insurance Amount
Mark Marmol, Uniontown, Pennsylvania	162	\$520,000
Anna Magusin, Warren, Michigan	743	\$300,000
Michael P. Kolesar, Olmsted Township, Ohio	855	\$250,000
Dorothy J. Petrus, Donora, Pennsylvania	670	\$205,000
Albert R. Valo, Aliquippa, Pennsylvania	587	\$110,000
Andrew C. Herman, Levittown, Pennsylvania	857	\$101,000
Michael J. Slovenkai, Scranton, Pennsylvania	382	\$85,000
Joseph T. Scavina, Boardman, Ohio	682	\$60,000
Margaret A. Graytok, Canonsburg, Pennsylvania	380	\$51,000
Albert J. Figura, Yonkers, New York	41	\$50,000
Joseph C. Rimarcik, Sterling Heights, Michigan	743	\$50,000
John J. Mago, Vandergrift, Pennsylvania	600	\$50,000



## John M. Golias Winner in Jednota All-Events Sweepstakes

John M. Golias of Brecksville, Ohio and a member of Branch 1, captured top honors in the Jednota All-Events Bowling Sweepstakes at the 67<sup>th</sup> annual Slovak Bowling Congress of America tournament held this past spring at Crest Lanes in Warren, Ohio. This year's tournament attracted 136 teams.

Golias's winning total score was 1936. The Jednota sponsored Sweepstakes attracted bowlers from Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Illinois. Congratulations John, and thanks to FCSU for their sponsorship of the sweepstakes.

Hope to see more Jednota bowlers in the spring of 2010 at Freeway Lanes in Warren, Ohio for the 68<sup>th</sup> Slovak Bowling Congress of America National Tournament.



## Minneapolis Parish Festival to be Held August 16

SS. Cyril and Methodius Parish will hold their Annual Festival on Sunday, August 16, 2009, on the parish grounds in Minneapolis, Minnesota. This event will replace our annual family picnic.

The festival will begin with a Polka Mass at 10:30 a.m. and conclude at 5:00 p.m. with a cash raffle drawing. There will be Slovak and Spanish food available, along with games for children, a cake walk, pull-tabs, refreshments, and door prizes.

All Jednota members and their families and friends are invited to attend. Members will be volunteering at the food and game booths. Members are invited to register at the Big Raffle Booth for a free cash raffle entry and a food/refreshment ticket.

Joe Matlon, Publicity Chairman, Br. 3  
James T. Genesky, Financial Secretary, Br. 3

## Outdoor Mass and Parish Picnic in Chicago

Assumption of the B.V.M. Parish will celebrate its annual Outdoor Mass and Parish Picnic on Sunday, August 16, 2009 on the church grounds, 24<sup>th</sup> Street and South California Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois. The Assumption of the B.V.M. Society, Branch 493, was founded at Assumption Parish in 1903. The Archdiocese of Chicago's Kolbe House Prison Ministry is headquartered at Assumption Parish. For more information, call 773/247-0070.

Robert Tapak Magruder

**FCSU LIFE**

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## 25. výročie vyhlásenia chrámu na Mariánskej hore za baziliku minor

Pokračovanie zo str. 24

Modlíme sa, aby tento akt slúžil na svätosť pastierov, ako aj na úžitok ľudu.“

### Súdrhovia boli proti

Radosť Štefana Garaja, Štefana Kluberta a tisícov spišských a slovenských kresťanov však vonkoncom nepreživali stránice a štátne orgány. Štátna moc nechcela dovoliť verejne prečítať dekrét – apoštolské breve – počas levočskej púte v roku 1984. Dva dni pred púťou predvolali kapitulného vikára na ONV do Spišskej Novej Vsi. Čakali naňho piati súdrhovia: podpredseda KNV Jozef Dobšínský, krajský cirkevný tajomník Michal Sičák, cirkevný tajomník ONV Jozef Orenič a dvaja príslušníci Štátnej bezpečnosti z Košíc, ktorí ho štyri a pol hodiny prehovárali, presviedčali a napokon sa mu aj vyhrážali, aby ustúpil od zverejnenia apoštolského breve počas slávnostnej svätej omše na levočskej púti. Keď videli, že nezlomí sedemdesiatročného starca, začali sa mu vyhrážať, že ho hneď po prečítaní dekrétu odvolajú z funkcie dočasného spišského ordinára. Štefan Garaj však tvrdému nátlaku odolal, apoštolské breve slávnostne odznelo. Slávnostnú svätú omšu 8. júla o 10.00 celebroval Štefan Garaj, koncebrovali Michal Klučar, riaditeľ biskupského úradu, a Štefan Klubert, dekan a správca baziliky. Po pozdrave ordinár Spišskej diecézy slávnostne vyhlásil, že tento pútnický chrám, do ktorého s radosťou rok čo rok prichádzajú veriaci zo všetkých končín, Ján Pavol II. z vlastného popudu poctil titulom a hodnosťou baziliky menšej. Štefan Garaj v slávnostnej homílii zdôraznil: „Slávime prvý odpust najmladšej baziliky svätej Cirkvi. Sme dojatí náklonnosťou Svätého Otca Jána Pavla II. Vieme, že tento dar je odmenou pútnickému kostolu za významný zástoj pri udržiavaní viery a náboženstva slovenského ľudu a zároveň výzvou na plnšie úsilie o kresťanský štýl života.“

### V mene kríža

Symbolickým pripomenutím povýšenia kostola na Mariánskej hore je drevený krížik a zasväcujúca modlitba: „Ježišu Kriste, tvoje evanjelium a kríž nám hlásajú, že si Vykupiteľ človeka. Vieme, že v kríži je spása a záchrana sveta, preto sa ti zasväcujeme v znamení kríža. Obetujeme ti svoje radosti a nádeje, sklamanie a obavy. Prejav svoju moc a príď! Naplň svojou milosťou srdcia mládeže a rodín, starých, chorých a trpiacich ľudí. Nauč nás žiť a konať podľa tvojho prikazu lásky. Sme národom apoštolov svätých Cyrila a Metoda, pomáhaj nám zachovať a zveľadiť dedičstvo viery. Ježišu Kriste, zasväcujeme sa ti pre dobro Cirkvi a sveta v blízkosti a pod ochranou tvojej a našej Matky Márie.“ Keď Štefan Garaj začal prediekať túto modlitbu zasvätenia, zdvihli sa do výšky desaťtisíce krížov, ktoré si veriaci sami zhotovili a doniesli na Mariánsku horu.

### Pozdrav priamo z Vatikánu

Ohlas na túto púť bol veľký. Nielen doma, medzi účastníkmi púte a Levočanmi, na Slovensku, ale i v zahraničnej tlači. K najdôjmovejším chvíľam levočskej púte 1984 patrilo prečítanie dekrétov a zasvätenie celého národa Kristovmu krížu. Vzápätí sa nad priestranstvom levočskej hory rozľahol hlas Jána Pavla II.: „Boh vás žehnaj, drahí veriaci na Slovensku!“ Pozdrav zaznel o 12.10, keď sa Ján Pavol II. po modlitbe Anjel Pána prihovárať v Ríme pútnikom. Do svojho textu zaradil aj pasáž o Levoči: „Osmeho júla sa koná na Slovensku púť do Levoče k Panne Márii. Jej zverujem všetkých kňazov, rehoľníkov a rehoľníčky a všetkých veriacich tohto vznešeného národa, aby im vyprosila silu vždy vydávať jasné svedectvo o kresťanskej viere a tradícii otcov.“ Posolstvo počuli všetci prostredníctvom rozhlasu cez reproduktory ozvučujúce areál Mariánskej hory.

Komunistická moc ignorovala korektné pravidlá v dekréte o povýšení pútnického kostola na baziliku. Pre Štefana Kluberta nastali ťažké časy. Arogancia štátnych úradníkov sa stupňovala. Zložité a nepríjemné rokovania s funkcionármi pre veci cirkevné levočského dekana čoraz väčšmi fyzicky aj duševne vyčerpávali. Toto ťažké obdobie s veľkou pravdepodobnosťou neblaho prispelo k jeho predčasnej smrti.

### Celosvetový význam

Mariánska hora sa počtom pútnikov stala najväčším mariánskym miestom na Slovensku a zaradila sa medzi dvadsať svetových pútnických centier. Začiatkom tohto roka sa Mariánska hora dočkala ďalšej medzinárodnej pocty. Vatikánsky kardinál Bernard Francis Law v liste z 28. februára 2009 potvrdil duchovné spojenie levočskej svätej s rímskou Bazilikou Santa Maria Maggiore. Z tohto privilégia vyplýva možnosť získať úplné odpustky jednotlivcom aj skupinám pútnikov pri splnení zvyčajných podmienok počas celého roka.

Katolícke noviny 25/2009



## Vatry zvrchovanosti sú spomienkou na vyhlásenie Deklarácie SNR

Pokračovanie zo str. 24

vo svete i v EÚ. Prvá Vatra zvrchovanosti horela na Kremnických baniach - v geografickom strede Európy. Za symbolické pre celé Slovensko sa považuje zapálenie Vatry zvrchovanosti na takmer 2,000 metrov vysokej Kráľovej holi. V Šumiaci Vatru zvrchovanosti tradične zapalujú na kopci Úboč nachádzajúcom sa nad touto obcou. Práve Úboč, okrem Kráľovej holi, sa najviac spája so Šumiacom a spomína sa aj v piesňach z tohto regiónu. V Novej Bystrici zapálili najvyššiu vatru - svojou výškou viac ako 7.5 metra sa zapísala do Guinnessovej knihy rekordov. Slávnostné podujatia spojené so zapálením Vatry zvrchovanosti sa konali na veternom mlyne v Holiči, v Hlohovci na vyhliadke Šianec alebo v lesoparku nad Prievidzou. Vatra zvrchovanosti vzplanula aj na Trenčianskom hrade.

Vatry zvrchovanosti nie sú jediným podujatím, ktoré pripomína úspech Slovenska v boji za sebaurčenie. Napríklad na počesť 3. výročia vyhlásenia zvrchovanosti SR sa v Trebišovskom okrese uskutočnil Deň otvorených hraníc. Pri príležitosti 16. výročia prijatia Deklarácie o zvrchovanosti Slovenskej republiky sa uskutočnil 7. ročník Národného výstupu na legendami opradené Sitno, jeden z najvýznamnejších symbolov slovenského národného povedomia. V Starej Bystrici symbolicky zasadil prvý strom Aleje zvrchovanosti Vladimír Mečiar. K atmosfére týchto podujatí prispeli vystúpenia speváckych a folklórnych súborov, ľudových zabávačov, opekanie a posedenie pri harmonike, bývajú tiež spestrené futbalovými zápasmi. Bohatý kultúrny program vrcholil zapálením Vatry zvrchovanosti a ľudovou veselnicou.

## Slovenská katolícka televízia navštívila farnosť v Tappan, N.Y.

Pokračovanie zo str. 24

do Talianska. V Turíne bol vysvätený za kňaza. Neskoršie dosiahol doktorát cirkevného a civilného práva ako aj akademickú hodnosť v psychológii zameranú na mládež. V Taliansku sa tiež dostal ku filmovaniu. Študoval a pracoval v filmovej spoločnosti „Istituto Luce“. Toto je len krátke zhrnutie činnosti a životných zápasov rev. J. Toroka. V novinách toho bolo oveľa viac.

Slováci hlavne z New Yorku a New Jersey vedia, že rev. J. Torok 14 rokov vypomáhal v slovenskej farnosti Sv. Jána Nepomúckeho v New Yorku. Mimo toho založil Hallel Institute. Je to organizácia, ktorá produkuje videá a podporuje duchovný život laikov. Vieme, že venoval mnoho času a energie práci pastoračnej. Nedeľami slúžil v dvoch kostoloch: Holy Family v Linden, N.J. a St. Cyril and Methodius v Clifstone, N.J. Krstil, pochovával a ženil Slovákov a bol im aj duchovným poradcom. Jeho zásluhou je, že sa mu podarilo dostať do farnosti Our Lady of the Sacred Heart troch slovenských kňazov: Rev. František Čonka, rev. Martin Kertys a rev. Vladimír Chripko. Bývalý správca O.L.S.H. rev. John F. Dwyer si z hĺbka vydychol: „Táto osada sa nemusí starať aspoň 50 rokov kto ju bude spravovať a slúžiť našim farnikom.“

Aj Slovensko-americké kultúrne stredisko si ocenilo bohumilú prácu rev. J. Toroka keď mu udelilo cenu Múza Tatier 8. februára 1997 na Slovenskom plese v New Yorku.

Dnes vo farnosti O.L.S.H. cítiť kus Slovenska a vidieť obetavé služby slovenských kňazov. Osada je vysoko aktívna a rev. J. Torok je obľúbeným spravcom.

Želáme farnosti O.L.S.H. aby ju Všemohúci Boh žehnal a milosť svoju naň zosiela. Nech sa ona stane ohniskom ľudskej lásky, teplým hrejivým domovom a milým cirkevným spoločenstvom.

Rudo L. Greguš



## Arcibiskup Bezák inštaloval nového generálneho vikára

Trnava (TASR) – Novým generálnym vikárom Trnavskej arcidiecézy sa stal Pavol Zemko. Na slávnostnej omši 12. júla v Katedrálnom chráme sv. Jána Krstiteľa v Trnave ho do funkcie uviedol arcibiskup Róbert Bezák. Doterajší správca farnosti Majcichov, 45-ročný Zemko nastúpil na uvoľnenú funkciu zástupcu najvyššieho predstaviteľa arcidiecézy po súčasnom pomocnom biskupovi Jánovi Oroschovi. Ten post zastával od marca 2008, jeho poverenie zaniklo odchodom arcibiskupa Jána Sokola.



Generálny vikár Pavol Zemko



## Na Slovensku dobiehanie vyspelých krajín sa spomalí

Bratislava (TASR) - Aj keď sa tempo dobiehania vyspelých krajín v najbližších rokoch na Slovensku spomalí, nemalo by sa úplne zastaviť. Globálna hospodárska kríza bude mať silný negatívny dopad na slovenské hospodárstvo najmä v tomto roku, jej nepriaznivý vplyv bude ale citelnejší aj v ďalších rokoch, konštatujú v aktuálnej Analýze konvergencie slovenskej ekonomiky analytici Národnej banky Slovenska (NBS). Výsledky SR globálna kríza ešte vlni ovplyvnila len mierne, keď sa jej rast spomalil na 6.4 %, pričom sa medziročne zvýšila zamestnanosť a klesla nezamestnanosť. Výkonnosť slovenskej ekonomiky prekročila 70 % priemeru Európskej únie (EÚ) a výrazne sa zvýšila aj relatívna cenová hladina. Začiatkom tohto roka, pripomína NBS, sa však už aj u nás citelne prejavil negatívny vplyv poklesu globálneho dopytu banky. Hrubý domáci produkt (HDP) tak v roku 2009 poklesne podľa aktuálnych prognóz NBS o 4.2 %, pričom hlavným faktorom bude nízky zahraničný dopyt, ktorý obmedzuje produkciu vývozne orientovaných podnikov. Výsledkom bude výrazné spomalenie konvergencie slovenskej ekonomiky aj jej relatívnej cenovej hladiny k vyspelejším krajinám. Podiel cenových hladín by sa mal v tomto období zvýšiť na 73.5 %. V dôsledku poklesu objemu zahraničného obchodu SR sa zároveň v nasledujúcich rokoch bude znižovať otvorenosť slovenskej ekonomiky.



## Slovákov v lete najviac láka Paríž a Londýn

Bratislava (TASR) - Podľa prieskumu portálu cestovanie.sk sú najvyhládavanejšími letnými destináciami európske veľkomestá Paríž a Londýn. Na portáli je najväčší záujem o cesty do romantického Paríža a kozmopolitného Londýna. Až po domácich destináciách (Bratislava, Košice) nasledujú typické letoviská. Je zaujímavé, že pred Aténami dominuje andalúzska Malaga. Prekvapením je šieste miesto cyperskej Larnaky, ktorá predbehla New York, ale i tradičné španielske tromfy (Tenerife, Palma de Mallorca a Barcelona). V celkovom hodnotení sa najviac predávajú letenky do Londýna. Paríž si drží druhú pozíciu a trojkou je tohtoročný hit (spôsobený zrušením víz do USA) New York. Po ňom nasleduje euroúradnícky Brusel. Zaujímavosťou je pozícia v TOP10 pre exotický Bangkok, čo zrejme spôsobil pomerne výrazný pokles cien leteniek do juhozápadnej Ázie. Portál cestovanie.sk je súčasťou portálu azet.sk, ktorý vlni zaznamenal obrat 5.4 milióna eur (163 miliónov Sk), čo oproti roku 2007 predstavuje 70-% rast.

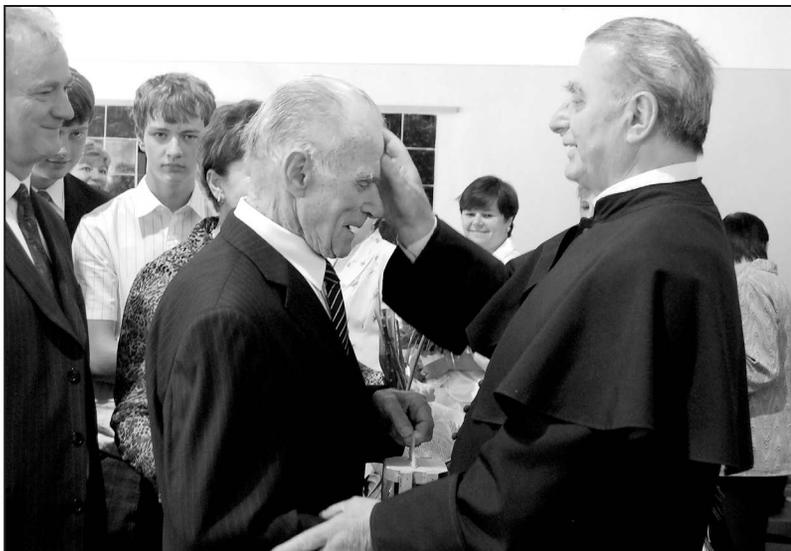
## Som šťastný, že som kňazom



**Pomocný biskup Spišskej diecézy Andrej Imrich.**



**Mgr. Ján Biroš, hlavný celebrant; po ľavej strane koncelebrat Mgr. Bartolomej Urbanec; po pravej strane dekan Thlic. Tomáš Cap.**



**Jubilant Mgr. Ján Biroš venuje požehnanie 82-ročnému bratovi Valentovi.**

Toto vyznanie zaznelo dňa 11. júla 2009 pri slávnostnej svätej omši v Dubovici na východnom Slovensku, z príležitosti 70. narodenín Mgr. Jána Biroša, bratranca môjho manžela Jozefa. Za prítomnosti ďalších 12. kňazov slávnostnú svätú omšu celebraval jubilant Mgr. Ján Biroš a koncelebrantmi boli z Košíc Msgr. ThDr. Bartolomej Urbanec a z Torisy dekan Thlic. Tomáš Cap. Pomocný biskup Spišskej diecézy, Andrej Imrich, vo svojej homílii sa prihovril slovami v ktorých zdôraznil: „hlavne v pokore hľadať najväčší poklad – Boha Stvoriteľa. On nám dal svojho Syna Ježiša Krista ako cestu k nemu aby ľudstvo nezblúdilo. To je to Svetlo, ktoré svieti na ceste životom a ukazuje nám smer, ale hlavne istotu nášho cieľa – večného života. Márna je snaha človeka po bohatstve na tomto svete, keď nemá a nežije podľa Evanjelia. Človek sa musí stíšiť v tomto svete, ktorý zväzda viac ku Zlému. Lebo len v tichu môže človek rozpoznať Zlo od Dobra. Prosiť Ducha Svätého o Jeho dary, aby svedomie nebolo znečistené nánosom špiny, nespávaním, neláskou, honbou za mamonom a ďalšími nástrahami Zlého. Áno, nie je to ľahká cesta, ale je to proces každého z nás, len nestratiť cieľ – Boha v Jeho Trojjedinosti“. Otec biskup je aj blízky priateľ otca Jána Biroša zo školských lavíc seminaristov. Tento pokorný človek zasial dobré semeno do svedomia prítomných, ako zdôraznil neskôr vo svojom príhovore, starosta obce Bystrík Hudák.

Vo svojom príhovore jubilant Mgr. Ján Biroš sa opätovne vyznal aký je šťastný, že je kňazom a že môže slúžiť svojim veriacim, hoci cesta ku kňazstvu, po štvornásobnom odmietnutí štátnych orgánov, nebola ľahká. Ale jeho túžba bola Bohom vyslyšaná a slúži veriacim už plných 38 rokov. Aj to je dôkaz o tom, že keď sa človek nevzdá svojho cieľa a je to Bohu milé, tak to dosiahne. Aj so samotnou vysviackou boli problémy, zvlášť po jeho vystúpení na Devíne s básňou Márie Rázusovej Martákovskej „Nepoznanému“. Aj tam zasiahli pazúry komunistickej moci, ale aj neskôr ako už kňazovi, plniac si len a len svoje poslanie. Na záver jubilant predovšetkým ďakoval svojim rodičom a príbuzným, ktorí ho na životnej ceste sprevádzali ako aj Bohu za pomoc v prekonávaní rôznych prekážok. Otec Biroš obklopený aj ďalšími príbuznými a veriacimi žiaril ako kvety ktorými bol obdarovaný. Vďaka patrila aj miestnemu zboru, ktorý krásnymi hlasmi obohatil a prekvapil všetkých, ktorí sme ho nepoznali.

Drahý Janko, nech Ti Pán časov dopraje do ďalších rokov ešte veľa energie v rozsievani Božieho slova všade, kde vstúpi tvoja noha.

**Vďační príbuzní Anna a Jozef Biroš**

## Spevácky zbor Lúčnice na umeleckom turné v USA

Bratislava (TASR) - Spevácky zbor Lúčnice sa nedávno vrátil z umeleckého turné v Spojených štátoch amerických. Vystúpili v štáte Missouri v mestách Kansas City, Columbia a St. Luis. Zbor Lúčnice cestoval do USA po 40 rokoch, naposledy tam účinkoval v roku 1969, uviedol riaditeľ Lúčnice Marián Turner.

Počas turné v Spojených štátoch vystúpil spevácky zbor na dvoch koncertoch na medzinárodnom hudobnom festivale v Missouri Theatre Center for Arts s Missouriským symfonickým orchestrom a dirigentom Kirkom Trevorom, známym aj na Slovensku. Prvý koncert bol venovaný 200. výročiu úmrtia Josefa Haydna. Druhý koncert symfonického orchestra a ženskej zložky speváckeho zboru Lúčnica, venovali jednej z najvýznamnejších skladieb začiatku 20. storočia Planéty od Gustava Holsta.

Súbor vystúpil aj v samostatnom a cappella koncerte s názvom Concert Slovakia, teda bez sprievodu akéhokoľvek iného telesa, len so svojimi vokálnymi silami. Americké publikum malo možnosť spoznať nielen slovenskú zborovú kultúru, ale vypočuť si aj skladby slovenských autorov, medzi nimi Eugena Suchoňa, Ivana Hrušovského, Jána Cikkera, Tibora Andrašovana, Ladislava Burlasa a Dezidera Kardoša. V speváckom zbere Lúčnica pôsobí v súčasnosti 45 členov. Vo svojej histórii absolvoval niekoľko samostatných zahraničných turné a jeho členmi boli v minulosti dnes významní umelci ako Edita Grúberová, Lucia Poppová či rodina Babjakovcov.



## Karpatská nadácia spravuje dedičstvo kanadských prisťahovalcov

Košice (TASR) – Dedičstvo zo zahraničia v hodnote jedného milióna kanadských dolárov spravuje na Slovensku Karpatská nadácia (KN). Podľa vyjadrenia riaditeľky nadácie Laury Dittel je táto forma správy pozostalosti v SR aplikovaná prvýkrát.

„Je to dedičstvo, ktoré zanechal Cyril Gazdarica, syn slovenských vysťahovalcov, ktorí začiatkom 20. storočia odišli do Kanady,“ poznamenala riaditeľka. Ako ďalej uviedla, rodina pochádzala z osady Tri Revúce na Liptove. Dnes už by sme túto osadu na mape hľadali márne. Aj v novom domove si Gazdaricovi zachovali silné puto k rodnému Slovensku. V mene tejto pamiatky Cyril Gazdarica odkázal dedičstvo na finančnú podporu škôl a študentov zo Slovenska. Za správcu pozostalosti určil svojho brata Ludvíka, ktorý spolu s Karpatskou nadáciou vytvoril Fond Cyrila Gazdaricu.

Darovanie prostredníctvom závetu je v zámorí bežná prax. Na Slovensku však zatiaľ nemá tradíciu, aj preto KN považuje získanie práva na administrovanie tohto závetu za príležitosť a úspech zároveň. Fond Cyrila Gazdaricu vznikol vo februári tohto roka s cieľom podporovať zvyšovanie kvality vzdelávania prostredníctvom stredných odborných škôl najmä v regióne Liptova a pod Tatrami. Vykonávateľ závetu Ludvíka Gazdaricu sa aktívne zúčastňuje procesu hodnotenia projektov. Ako prvý podporili projekt Inovácia prírodovedného vzdelávania z Gymnázia J. Kollára v Žiari nad Hronom. Výška grantu použitého hlavne na modernizáciu učební, laboratórií a technológií je 139,907 eur (4.21 milióna Sk).



## Do slovenských regiónov sa sťahuje stále viac cudzincov

Sucháň/S.Plachtince/Cerovo/Uňatín (TASR) - Slováci v posledných rokoch zamieňajú rušný život mesta za pokoj na vidieku. Usadlosti na dedinách, často aj v odľahlých chotároch, kupujú však nielen našinci, ale čoraz častejšie aj obyvatelia z krajín západnej Európy.

„Niekoľko Holanďanov sa prišlo pozrieť do našej dediny ešte v roku 1997,“ povedala starostka obce Sucháň v okrese Veľký Krtíš Anna Triznová. Boli zvedaví na Dom ľudového bývania z roku 1875, ktorý verejnosti sprístupnili rok predtým. Odvtedy prichádzali takmer každý rok. Prostredníctvom nich si iní obyvatelia z krajiny tulipánov kúpili nad obcou staršiu usadlosť. Je v blízkosti ďalšej obecnej atrakcie, tzv. trúbiceho kameňa. Bývajú tam najmä v lete. Skupina Holanďanov má prísť do dediny aj tento rok. Obec s 265 obyvateľmi medzitým zriadila v bývalej škole turistickú ubytovňu. Je tam desať lôžok. Západoeurópania budú bývať práve tam.

Cudzinci ale prichádzajú natrvalo aj do ďalších obcí mikroregiónu Východný Hont. Napríklad do Stredných Plachtiniec v okrese Veľký Krtíš sa pred niekoľkými rokmi prisťahovala holandská rodina. „Kúpili od cirkvi bývalú školu a usadili sa tu,“ povedal starosta obce Ján Nad'. „Vravia, že sa im zapáčilo natoľko, že by sa už naspäť nevrátili,“ dodal. Hlava tejto holandskej rodiny vraj podniká a riadi obchody v rodnej zemi cez internet. Vo svojom novom dome v Plachtinciach navyše poskytuje ubytovanie pre svojich krajanov.

Hospodársku usadlosť nad dedinou kúpil pred časom aj občan Belgicka. Objekty v súčasnosti prestavuje. Podľa starostu aj on v nich mieni podnikať. Holanďania, Rakúšania, Švajčiari a dokonca občan Juhoafrickej republiky sa za posledné dva roky usadili v obci Cerovo v okrese Krupina. V dedine sa zabýval jeden dôchodcovský pár, na prilahlé lazy sa prisťahovala mladá rodina. Chovajú tam domáce zvieratá. Chov, tentoraz koní, prilákal do Cerova aj mladého Rakúšana. Svoju koničku prispôbil aj kúpenú usadlosť. Svojho cudzinca má aj Uňatín v okrese Krupina. V dedine býva už desaťročie Pedro Gonzáles z Kuby. Známý je najmä medzi ľudovými remeselníkmi, ako tvorca hontianskej roľníckej paličkovanej čipky.

## Diplom samovraždy v našich základných školách

V deviatich obecných stredných školách v New Yorku zriadili zdravotné kliniky, aby zabránili epidémii tehotenstva u mladých dievčat. V Chicagu otvorili podobnú kliniku. Tento krok bol ostro kritizovaný verejne a kritika neutíchla dodnes. Po celých Spojených štátoch je vyše 60 takýchto kliník a 100 ďalších je v pláne. Kliniky sú finančne podporované štátnymi agentúrami a súkromnými fondáciami.

Skutočnosťou je, že viac ako milión mladých dievčat ročne zostáva v pozhnanom stave! Tehotenstvo je hlavnou príčinou, že dievčatá nechávajú školu predčasne. Väčšine z nich sa už potom nedostane formálneho vzdelania. Takto narodené deti sú často nezdravé, nemajú primeranej výchovy, vyrastajú v chudobe a neskoršie majú ťažkosti v škole a vôbec v celom ich živote. A na koniec padnú do toho istého osídla ako ich matky – tehotenstvo. Istá študentka z Junior High hovorí, že v jej triede skoro každé dievča či slobodné alebo vydaté je matkou.

Toto sú poplašné správy, ktoré stavajú vychovávateľov pred problémy, ktoré nikdy predtým nepoznali.

Rodičia sú pobúrení a protestujú proti zriadeniu zdravotných kliník i proti voľnému rozdávaniu ochranných prostriedkov v školách, lebo takéto opatrenia schvaľujú sexualitu a podryvajú rodičovskú autoritu. Mnohé farnosťi protestujú lebo ich učenie o morálke je podlamované. Ale všetky tieto protesty vyznievajú ako osamelé hlasy proti školskému systému.

Je smutné, že školy voľne poskytujú ochranné prostriedky proti tehotenstvu a vidia v tom jedinou záchranu. Ale takáto metóda môže mať ešte smutnejšie následky u mládeže v budúcnosti.

Zodpovednosť za tento žalostný stav spadá na politikov a vodcov, ktorí s úsmevom prikyvujú všade na všetko. Kritike sa nevyhnú ani starostovia a školy v mestách, ktoré namiesto toho, aby pomáhali rodičom udržiavať autoritu a vychovávať mládež, povoľujú zamedzovanie pôrodnosti (birth control) a nezdôrazňujú spôsob sebaovládania (self control).

Kritickou otázkou zostáva, či kliniky a rozdávanie ochranných prostriedkov v školách skutočne zredukuje tehotenstvo a rozšírenú sexualitu. Na túto otázku ešte dnes nemožno dať zodpovednú odpoveď.

Ale mnohí tvrdia, že na miesto kliník a ochranných prostriedkov treba dať mladým morálne vedenie a výchovu. Treba im dať hodnoverné a motivované perspektívy pre zmysel ich života. Treba im dať filozofiu, ktorá dodáva identitu, zmysel a cieľ. Mládež a ani ľudia nemôžu žiť bez takej filozofie a potrebujú tieto predstavy hodnôt. Treba sa nám hlboko zamyslieť nad žalostnou skutočnosťou, že naša mládež kúpe svoje zmysly v krvi: krvavé a sexom prepchané filmy, ktoré otupujú oči a ohlušujú uši. To nie je zábava ale omamnosť. A keď ani to nestačí, mládež aby necítila prázdnotu a bolesť, oddáva sa alkoholu, drogám a sexuálnemu životu.

Ak ešte nie je neskoro, musíme zamerať našu pozornosť na kultivovanosť charakteru našej mládeže, aby bola veselá, radostná, plná života a vedela sa radovať zo všetkého dobrého a krásneho.

Relativizmus 21. storočia môže mať miesto vo fyzike, ale je zničujúcim faktorom v morálke. Ľudstvo nemôže prekvitať bez absolútna.

Rudolf L. Greguš



Rudo L. Greguš



FOTO TASR – Pavol Remiáš

Churchillské ľadové medvede je názov novej, v poradí už 34. knihy bývalého prezidenta SR Rudolfa Schustera, ktorú nedávno slávnostne uvítali do života v Bojnickom zámku. Na snímke Rudolf Schuster (vľavo) so svojim spulucestovateľom Tomislavom Jurikom.

The polar bears of Churchill, Manitoba, Canada is the subject of a new book by former Slovak President Rudolf Schuster. This is the 34th book by the former president. Rudolf Schuster (left) with his fellow traveler Tomislav Jurik.

## V Bojnickom zámku uvítali do života novú knihu Rudolfa Schustera

Bojnice (TASR) – Ide o bohato farebnými fotografiami ilustrovaný cestopis z dvoch výprav do okolia mestečka Churchill v Hudsonovom zálive na severe Kanady, ktoré Schuster absolvoval v novembri v rokoch 2007 a 2008. Ako povedal na krste, učarovali mu ľadové medvede, ktoré sú symbolom arktických oblastí. Rozhodol sa splniť jeden zo svojich snov a nielen ich pozorovať v ich prirodzenom prostredí, ale aj fotografovať a filmovať. Podarilo sa mu urobiť doslova unikátne zábery z pomerne veľkej blízkosti. Vďaka svojmu sprievodcovi, kanadskému Slovákovvi Ondrejovi Koprjajdovi, znalcovi miestnych pomerov, mohol sa dostať k týmto dravcom dokonca na niekoľko metrov. Tomislav Jurik, generálny riaditeľ Unipharmy Prievidza, ktorý ho sprevádzal na druhej výprave, potvrdil, že často

riskoval, pretože toto zviera, ktoré dosahuje hmotnosť až pol tony a dokáže skočiť i desať metrov do diaľky a bežať rýchlejšie ako kôň, vie byť nebezpečné. Schuster si však myslí, že medvede sú inteligentné a vycítili, že im nechce ublížiť, tak mu neublížili ani ony.

Publikácia vyšla v náklade 2000 kusov a obsahuje 240 fotografií, ktoré zobrazujú ľadové medvede v rôznych situáciách. V textovej časti okrem opisu svojich zážitkov, Schuster verný literatúre faktu, ponúka čitateľom prakticky všetky informácie, ktoré sú o týchto zvieratách známe vrátane ich vývoja od štvrtohôr. Napísal takisto o spôsobe lovu tuleňov, ktoré sú ich najčastejšou potravou, ale tiež rozmnožovaní, výchove mláďat aj spôsobe ich ochrany zo strany kanadských inštitúcií.

## Oberačková zábava v New York City

Spolok sv. Štefana č. 716 Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty úctivo pozýva slovenskú verejnosť na Oberačkovú zábavu, ktorá sa bude konať v nedeľu dňa 25. októbra 2009 o 1:00 hodine odpoľudnia vo Veľkej sále Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého, 411 East 66<sup>th</sup> Street v N. Y.C. Do tanca a na počúvanie budú hrať hu-

dobná skupina Kontakty. Vstupné za osobu je \$25.00 v čom je započítaný aj obed. Lístky na zábavu si môžete objednať u nasledovných osôb: Jozef Bilik (718) 463-2084; Henrieta Daitová (201) 841-8922; Mária Božeková (347) 612-1934.

## Katolícka púť v Marian Shrine, West Haverstraw, N. Y.

Spolok sv. Štefana č. 716 Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty pozýva slovenskú verejnosť na Katolícku púť v nedeľu 16. augusta 2009 do Marian Shrine, Salesians of Don Bosco, West Haverstraw, New York 10983; Tel.: (845) 947-2200. Pre tých, ktorí by chceli využiť možnosť svätej spovede, budú tak môcť urobiť pred svätou omšou. V programe Katolíckej púte je naplánovaná svätá omša o 11:00 hodine dopoludnia. Obед o 12:30

hodine odpoľudnia a Ružencová procesia o 2:30 hodine odpoľudnia.

Upozorňujeme, že tí ktorí majú záujem cestovať na túto púť autobusom nech sa prihlásia u brata Jozefa Bilika. Autobus bude pristavený pri kostole sv. Jána Nepomuckého v meste New Yorku. Bližšie informácie o púti vam podajú na tel. číslach Jozef Bilik: (718) 463-2084; Henrieta Daitová: ((201) 641- 8922.

## Festival slovenského dedičstva v New Jersey 27. septembra 2009

Výbor Festivalu slovenského dedičstva v New Jersey oznamuje, že tohoročný festival sa bude konať ako v minulých rokoch v štvrtú septembrovú nedeľu, ktorá padne na 27. septembra. Výbory festivalu už pripravujú program. Tohto roku budú bohoslužby v byzantskom obrade. V Kultúrno-zábavnom programe vystúpi známa folklórna skupina z USA a účinkovať budú aj umelci zo Slovenska. Tohoročný 32. festival je venovaný pamiatke gen. Milana Rastislava Štefánika pri príležitosti 80. výročia jeho smrti.

Zájemci o koncesie alebo inzercie v pamätnici sa majú prihlásiť u nasledovných:

Potravinové koncesie: Tomáš Duch, 550 Blvd. Elmwood Park, NJ 07407, tel. (201) 794-7234.

Nepotravinové koncesie: Susan Krčmár, 33 Wieseln Drift Rd., Woodland Park, NJ 07424, tel. (973) 357-1209.

Inzercia v pamätnici: Ján Holý, 205 Madison St., Passaic, NJ 07055, tel. (973) 472-8993 alebo (973) 669-8208.

## Letecká spoločnosť Malév zriadila autobusové linky do Bratislavy a Košíc

Budapešť (TASR) – Štyri autobusové spoje denne medzi Bratislavou a Budapešťou ako aj Košicami a Budapešťou zriadila maďarská letecká spoločnosť Malév. Informovala o tom 23. júla maďarská tlačová agentúra MTI. Pravidelné spoje premávajú podľa hovorcu letiska Ádáma Hegedüsa z centier slovenských miest na letisko Ferihegy v maďarskej metropole. Ako dodal, kvôli krátkej vzdialenosti by ne-

bolo efektívne prevádzkovať lety do Bratislavy či Košíc a z Ferihegy je podstatne viac leteckých spojov ako z letísk v uvedených mestách, preto sa Malév rozhodol pre autobusové spoje.

Autobusy prevádzkuje spoločnosť Budapest Airport Minibusz, spoje premávajú pod kódom Malév. Ceny cestovných lístkov, ktoré predávajú cestovné kancelárie, sa v správe MTI neuvádzajú.

## 50. výročie kňazskej vysviacky Fr. Alojzusa Pestúna, SDB

Slávnosť sa konala v sobotu 13. júna 2009 v rodisku jubilanta, v kostole Krista Kráľa v Šulekove na Slovensku. "Zlatý" jubilant zároveň slúžil aj primičnú svätú omšu, pretože v r. 1959 keď bol vysvätený, mu to vtedajší komunistický režim nedovolil. V sprievode mnohých kňazov, reholníkov a emeritného biskupa Trnavskej arcidiecézy Mons. Štefana Vrablca, ako aj príbuzenstva a početného množstva rodákov a hostí až z Kalifornie, vstúpil do šulekovského chrámu vzácny rodák, ktorého veriaci privítali srdečným potleskom. Správca šulekovskej farnosti Vdp. Mgr. Tibor Sloboda, privítal jubilanta, otca biskupa, duchovenstvo, predstaviteľov štátnej správy, všetkých Šulekovčanov, ako aj pozvaných hostí.

Jubilanta na začiatku slávenia sv. liturgie pozdravil otec biskup Mons. Štefan Vrablec. V krátkosti priblížil jeho pohnutý a ťažký život, ktorým ako príslušník rehole Dona Bosca, sa prebýjal v 50-tych rokoch minulého storočia. Jeho prvá cesta viedla do Ríma, kde sa pripravoval na kňazskú službu. Odtiaľ sa potom dostal do Ameriky, kde vo Watsonville v Kalifornii prijal sviatosť kňazstva dňa 13. júna 1959. Za 50 rokov služby pri oltári, odslúžil jubilant 17, 800 svätých omší, prevažne v Kalifornii, kde stále pôsobí a hlása Božie slovo Slovenskej komunite v slovenskej reči.

Evanjelium sv. Marka práve zo state "Nechajte maličkých ku mne prísť..." bolo aktuálne. Kázeň prednesená spolužiakom jubilanta sa zamerala na roky strávené s Fr. Alojzom počas štúdií. Spolu ich bolo v saleziánskej reholi deväť. Ani jeden z nich však nemal možnosť sláviť primičnú sv. omšu v rodnej obci. Sedem reholníkov bolo vysvätených mimo územia Slovenska (Rím, Kalifornia, Veľká Británia) a dvaja prijali tajné svätenie na Slovensku. Po skončení svätej omše nasledovali blahoželanania "zlatému jubilantovi". Za šulekovskú farnosť predniesol pozdrav a poďakovanie za vzornú reprezentáciu Šulekova a aj Slovenska v USA, kostolný otec pán Marián Svetlík. Svojho milého strýčka pozdravila a poďakovala mu za modlitby, obetované celej Pestúnovskej rodine neter jubilanta, (ešte žijú tri jeho sestry). Pekné slová a spomienky na ťažkú minulosť zazneli z úst spolubrata Fr. Malženického. Za hlohovecký dekanát pozdravil jubilanta Vdp. Juraj Rybanský, ktorý ďakoval za šírenie viery v ďalekej cudzine, kde Fr. Alojzius pôsobí aj ako misionár.

Slávnosti sa zúčastnila aj delegácia krajanov z Kalifornie, Mudr. Mária Cyprichová, Dr. Peter Skubeň a Generálny Konzul Slovenskej republiky v Los Angeles, František Hudák s manželkou Dankou. Mudr. Mária Cyprichová vŕcne poďakovala Fr. Pestúnovi za jeho povzbudivé slová, prednášajúce v rodnej reči Slovákom žijúcim v USA.

Dojímavý pozdrav a príhovor predniesla obyvateľka Šulekova PhDr. Helena Kolníková, ktorá pred 19 rokmi priviedla na svet dcérku Hanku, postihnutú očnou chorobou. Helenka sa sťažovala jubilantovi, prečo ju Pán Boh navštívil takým ťažkým krížom. Fr. Alojzius jej odpovedal, či sa modlí "Buď vôľa Tvoja..." Ak áno, nech odovzdá Hanku do vôle Božej, dostane sa jej iných milostí od Najvyššieho. A stalo sa, dnes je 19-ročná Hanka úspešná reprezentantka – paraolympionička v ľahkej atletike.

Mestský úrad v Hlohovci a mestské zastupiteľstvo schválilo udelenie jubilantovi titul "Čestného občana mesta Hlohovec" k čomu zablahoželal viceprimátor Peter Dvoran. Spomenul, že to je iba malé zadost'učinenie jubilantovi, lebo keď mal odísť do zahraničia, bývalý komunistický režim mu štátnou mocou odobral občiansky preukaz. Pani Sylvia Rybníková sa prihovarila a poprosila o modlitby za celú Šulekovskú farnosť a obec. K slávnosti prispel aj mládežnícky spevokol pri šulekovskej farnosti a sólové spevy s hrou na gitaru, ako aj dychová hudba.

Zlatý jubilant Fr. Alojzius v závere slávnostnej sv. omše poďakoval všetkým duchovným, otcovi biskupovi Mons. Vrablcovi, svojej rodine, spolužiakom, šulekovským rodákom ako aj všetkým zúčastneným na slávení Eucharistie za ich účasť na tejto krásnej slávnosti. Zvlášť vyslovil úprimné Pán Boh zaplat' za zorganizovanie tejto bohumilej akcie.

Princ Pribina District, Prvej Katolickej Slovenskej Jednoty, ako aj St. Joseph Branch 844K srdečne blahožela nášmu jubilantovi Fr. Alojziosovi Pestúnovi a prosíme nášho Nebeského Otca, aby požehnal jubilanta mnohými milosťami, hojnosťou Darov Duha Svätého a ochranou Matky Božej. Tešíme sa na stretnutie v Kalifornii.

**Paul Skuben**  
Predseda  
Princ Pribina District

## Chlieb náš každodenný ...

Chlieb náš každodenný, daj nám dnes,  
vyslovujeme zbožne v Otčenáši, v modlitbe Pána,  
či cez deň, večer, či skoro z rána.

Chlieb svoj, dorábať si budeš v potutvári,  
cez horúce letné dni, vonku na chotári.  
Preto váž si ho, tak nám Sv. písmo hovorí.

Tak modlíme sa my, ako aj predkovia naši,  
aj tí pastieri, čo robili bryndzu na salaši.  
Daj nám Pane, potrebné sily a ducha,  
modlitba naša, nech neostane hluchá,  
by kosci a žnice v zdraví ukončili žatvu,  
nech ražné, či žitné klasy, pod kosou padnú  
a zrno, to očakávané zrno, do mlyna odvezú.

Daj Pane, nech z tej čerstvej múky,  
gazdina upečie „Chlieb náš každodenný ...“

**Jozef Smák**

## Na Mariánsku horu prišlo 65,000 veriacich



FOTO TASR – Zuzana Svitanová

Levočská púť, najväčšia pútnická slávnosť na Slovensku, vyvrcholila 5. júla na Mariánskej hore v Levoči slávnostnou odpustovou svätou omšou, ktorú celebroidal Mons. Alojz Tkáč, košický arcibiskup, metropolita. Vzácny hosťom bol kardinál Philippe Xavier Barbarin, lyonský arcibiskup. Veriaci si tento rok pripomenuli 25. výročie vyhlásenia chrámu na Mariánskej hore za baziliku minor (menšiu) pápežom Jánom Pavlom II.

The Levoca pilgrimage, the greatest pilgrimage celebration in Slovakia, culminated on July 5, 2009 with a Mass celebrated by Archbishop Alojz Tkac. The pilgrims this year recalled the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the proclamation of the church at Marianska Hora as a Minor Basilica by Pope John Paul II.



## Deň zahraničných Slovákov - prístup k informáciám o Slovensku

Bratislava (TASR) - Deň zahraničných Slovákov, 5. júl, symbolizuje spolupatričnosť Slovákov s ich domovinou. Ich národné povedomie však po celý rok podporujú nepretržité informácie, ktoré k nim prúdia zo Slovenska. "Slovenské menšiny a komunity v ostatnom období v dôsledku politických zmien vo svete prekonalí umelo vytvorenú bariéru a obnovili prirodzené kontakty so Slovenskom, čím sa posilnili predpoklady na ich zachovanie a rozvoj v zámorí, v západnej Európe a v strednej a juhovýchodnej Európe," uvádza sa v Konceptii štátnej politiky starostlivosti o Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí do roku 2015.

Slováci žijúci v zahraničí sa o aktualitách zo Slovenska v súčasnosti dozvedajú prostredníctvom zahraničného vysielania Slovenského rozhlasu, ktorý denne vysielá v šiestich jazykoch do celého sveta. Vysielanie rozhlasu môžu zahraniční Slováci počúvať cez satelit a na internete. Na informovaní krajanov v zahraničí sa podieľa aj Tlačová agentúra SR, ktorá poskytuje spravodajský servis webovému portálu Svetového združenia Slovákov v zahraničí, ako aj pritom Kanadský Slovák a katolícky zameranému dvojtýždenníku Jednota. "Zahranční Slováci majú záujem o nosné politické udalosti zo Slovenska a o informácie, týkajúce sa vzťahu SR k Európskej únii a k svetu ako takému," konštatoval generálny riaditeľ TASR Jaroslav Rezník.

To, že internet je technológiou budúcnosti, si dobre uvedomilo Svetové združenie Slovákov v zahraničí, ktoré 24. októbra 2007 uviedlo do života spravodajský portál Slováci vo svete (www.slovacivosvete.sk). Okrem klasických informačných stránok, aké má Svetové združenie Slovákov v zahraničí - SZSZ - (www.szsz.sk), Úrad pre Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí - USZZ - (www.uszz.sk) či jednotlivé slovenské spolky po svete, tak vznikol portál s vyššími cieľmi.

Portál obsahuje informácie o slovenských komunitách vo svete, kontakty na krajské spolky, zastupiteľské úrady. Okrem toho v spolupráci s Tlačovou agentúrou Slovenskej republiky, Slovenským rozhlasom a periodikami vydávanými krajskými spolkami informuje o dianí na Slovensku a živote Slovákov v zahraničí. Sekcia publicistiky obsahuje internetové diskusie a blogy zahraničných Slovákov a na jeho stránkach sa nachádzajú linky na slovenské médiá, on-line rozhlasové a televízne vysielanie, virtuálnu knižnicu publikácií zo sveta, právnu poradňu a praktické rady týkajúce sa víz, pobytov, pracovných povolení, občianstva, volieb zo zahraničia a podobne. Svetové združenie Slovákov v zahraničí portál Slováci vo svete vydáva s podporou Úradu pre Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí, Matice Slovenskej i sponzorov z podnikateľského sveta.



# Katolícky fraternalistický dvojtýždenník Jednota



O. Štefan Furdek  
Náš zakladateľ

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

Ročník 118

STREDA, 5. AUGUST, 2009

Číslo 5803



Bazilika Návštevy  
preblahoslavenej  
Panny Márie

## 25. výročie vyhlásenia chrámu na Mariánskej hore za baziliku minor

### Vyhlásenie baziliky v Levoči chceli komunisti zakázať

Tajomník Posvätné kongregácie pre Boží kult a disciplínu sviatostí arcibiskup Vergilius Noe zaslal vo februári 1984 administrátorovi Spišskej diecézy Štefanovi Garajovi správu: „Považujem si za milé poslať Ti dekrét posvätného dikastéria, ktorým sa verejnoprávne vyhlasuje, že kostol na temene Mariánskej hory nad mestom Levoča, zasvätený Návšteve preblahoslavenej Panny Márie, bol z vlastného popudu najvyššieho veľkňaza poctený titulom a hodnosťou baziliky menšej.“

Onedlho prefekt Posvätné kongregácie pre Boží kult a disciplínu sviatostí kardinál Josephus Casoria zaslal apoštolské breve Jána Pavla II. s prípisom: „Najvyšší veľkňaz Ján Pavol II. vyhovel žiadosti a želaniu kňazstva i veriacych, ktoré mu v liste zo 7. mája 1983 podal najdôstojnejší pán Štefan Garaj, kapitulný vikár a dočasný ordinár Spišskej diecézy, a z vlastného popudu poctil titulom a hodnosťou baziliky menšej svätýňu kostola na temene Mariánskej hory nad mestom Levoča, zasvätený tajomstvu Návštevy preblahoslavenej Panny Márie.“

### Radost' pre Slovensko

Tieto dva príписы, ale predovšetkým apoštolské breve Jána Pavla II. z 26. januára 1984 rozradostnili celé kresťanské Slovensko, nielen Spiš. „My z dôvodu starobylosti tohto svätého chrámu, ako aj pre jeho jedinečnú históriu a súčasne pre vzrast viery a náboženstva slovenského národa rozhodujeme teda, že kostol či svätýňu Návštevy blahoslavenej Panny Márie treba zahrnúť do počtu menších bazilik s právami a liturgickými povoleniami.“

Pokračovanie na str. 20



## Vatry zvrchovanosti sú spomienkou na vyhlásenie Deklarácie SNR

Bratislava (TASR) - V týchto dňoch si Slovensko pripomenulo vyhlásenie Deklarácie Slovenskej národnej rady (SNR) o zvrchovanosti Slovenskej republiky (17.7.1992). Spomienkou na túto udalosť, od ktorej uplynulo sedemnásť rokov, boli slávnostné podujatia spojené so zapálením Vatier zvrchovanosti. Bezprostredne po podpísaní Deklarácie došlo k spontánnemu stavaniu a zapáľovaniu vatier na najvýznamnejších slovenských štítoch. Na počesť tohto významného aktu sa 17. júla 1992 o 19. h rozozvučali zvony slovenských katolíckych kostolov.

Deň prijatia Deklarácie o zvrchovanosti SR je na základe zákona z 20. októbra 1993 pamätným dňom. Na oslavách tohto dňa sa každoročne stretávajú občania pri vatrách, ktoré dostali názov Vatry zvrchovanosti. Ich účastníci si pripomínajú nielen úspech krajiny v boji za sebaurčenie, ale i to, že Slovenská republika ako zvrchovaný štát je akceptovaná

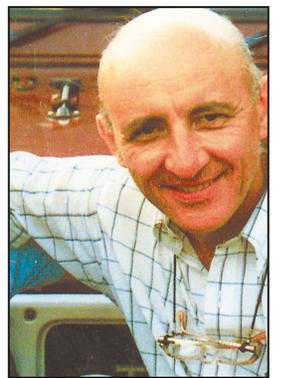
Pokračovanie na str. 20

## Slovenská katolícka televízia navštívila farnosť v Tappan, N.Y.

Slovenská katolícka televízia navštívila farnosť Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, Tappan, N. Y. Stalo sa tak v nedeľu 14. júna 2009. Bolo to príjemné prekvapenie. Filmovali sv. omšu o 10.00 hodine ráno, farský piknik a potom mali dlhší pohovor s rev. J. Torokom. Usudzujeme, že to bude film o celoživotnej a zásluhnej práci rev. J. Toroka vo Vinici Pánovej. Pisateľ dostal túto správu od farničky spomínanej osady.

Vieme, že katolícke kruhy na Slovensku mali dosť viero-hodných správ kde všade rev. J. Torok účinkoval, čomu sa venoval, čo konal a čo aj dosiahol. Preto je na mieste, že Slovenská katolícka televízia prišla sfilmoviť celoživotné dielo rev. J. Toroka aby sa stalo živou pamäťou generácií minulých a živým zdrojom generácií prítomných i budúcich.

Pri tejto príležitosti pisateľ si spomína na deň, keď J. E. Kardinál Egan vymenoval rev. J. Toroka za správcu farnosti Our Lady of the Sacred Heart. Táto radostná udalosť mala ozvenu nielen v slovenskej, ale aj v americkej tlači. The Journal News, White Plains, N.Y. 19. novembra 2006 na dvoch stranách s fotografiami písal veľkými písmenami „Living history joins Church“. A ďalší nápis „Priest brings experience to Tappan“. V článku bol opísaný odvážny útek rev. J. Toroka z komunistického väzenia v Česko – Slovensku cez riekou Moravu do Rakúska a odtiaľ



Rev. J. Torok

Pokračovanie na str. 20



## Veriaci sa modlili na miestach, po ktorých kráčali svätci Cyril a Metod



Veriaci z celého Slovenska sa 5. júla 2009 v rámci nitrianskych Cyrilo-metodských dní prišli pomodliť na historické miesta, po ktorých kráčali vierozvestovia Cyril a Metod. Na Námestí Jána Pavla II. sa konala Národná Cyrilo-metodská púť, v súvislosti s ktorou sa uskutočnila aj slávnostná svätá omša v Chráme sv. Emerána za účasti prezidenta SR Ivana Gašparoviča.

FOTO TASR – Henrich Mišovič

Faithful from all over Slovakia gathered on July 5, 2009 to pray on the Feast of SS. Cyril and Methodius in the historical city of Nitra. Among those present were Slovak President Ivan Gasparovic and other dignitaries from Slovakia.