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Fr. Stephen Furedek
Our Founder

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Resurrection of Christ by Noel Coypel, 1700.

"I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die."

-- John 11:25-26

The Board of Directors, Executive Committee, and Home Office Staff of the First Catholic Slovak Union wish all of our Members and their Families a Blessed and Joyous Easter.

PRESIDENT'S EASTER MESSAGE

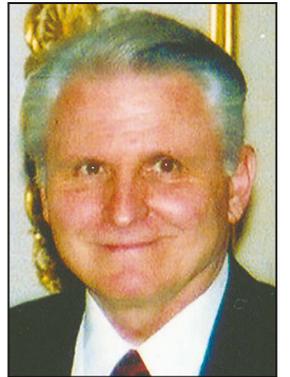
During this liturgical time of the year that we Catholics call Lent, I, as many other Catholics around the world, have been called to reflection. As I write this Easter Message I contemplate not only about our Society and myself, but of the Catholic Church, and the world in general. I am left pondering most keenly the issue of spiritual well-being.

As a young single man, in the late 1960's, attending Church regularly, I had the feeling that the Sunday homily (called a "sermon" back then), many times was not relevant to what was happening in my daily life. I remember the Priest continually warning about the sin of "gossip". I didn't gossip and that seemed to me to be an "old person's sin". That, I thought, was a "safe sermon", not taking a more vocal position on more controversial issues of the time. I was waiting to hear more on the Church's teaching on pre-marital sex, birth control, abortion, war etc.

As I got older, the Church "sermons" changed to "homilies", but the contents seemed to me about the same. The Bible in Matthew 22:34-40 relates that one of the Scribes tested Jesus, "What commandment of the law is the greatest". Scribes, at the time of Jesus were the experts (the lawyers) of interpreting Jewish Law (the Torah). If the "law" consisted of only the Ten Commandments, this would be tough enough. But the Torah included many more moral, ceremonial and dietary prescriptions including 248 laws of positive actions or "dos" and 365 prohibited actions or "don'ts".

To this question Jesus replied by linking two passages from the Torah. He said: "You shall love the Lord your God with your whole soul, and with all your mind (Deuteronomy 6:5). This is the greatest and first commandment. The second is: You shall love your neighbor as yourself". (Leviticus 11:18).

This message is very solid but sometimes we all need a translation as it pertains to our *continued on page 3*



Andrew M. Rajec

Message from Our Chaplain Lent 2011

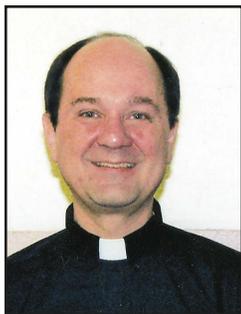
Dear Friends,

The images and pictures we have seen on television, in the newspapers, and on YouTube of the great damage tsunamis are causing in Japan due to the extremely powerful earthquake and aftershocks there have prompted many of us to pray for the survivors. We can only imagine the trauma they are going through not only with the loss of life, but also the loss of their homes, businesses, highways, power sources, and more.

Even though so much is lost and is in ruin today, there is a sense that it will not remain that way forever. It may take a

long time, even years, but we have to believe that eventually everything will be rebuilt.

The holy season of Lent invites us to examine our minds and hearts for areas where the sins we have committed have caused our relationship with God to be broken or destroyed. Then, after recognizing our sinfulness, we resolve to rebuild our relationship *continued on page 3*



Rev. Thomas Nasta

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Insights and Viewpoints



St. Vincent Archabbey — Homilies, Father Campion P. Gavaler O.S.B, Father Demetrius R. Dumm O.S.B.

April 17, 2011

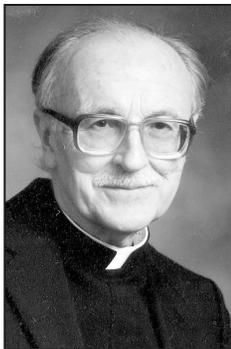
Matthew 26:14-27:66

Palm Sunday of the Lord's passion

Gospel Summary

Matthew's passion narrative begins with the plot of Judas Iscariot to betray Jesus and continues through the well-known scenes: celebration of the Passover meal; the promises by Peter and all

the disciples that they would never lose faith in Jesus; the agony in the garden called Gethsemane; the arrest of Jesus; the abandonment of Jesus by all his disciples; the trial; Peter's denial of Jesus; the suicide of Judas; Pilate's release of Barabbas and condemnation of Jesus to death by crucifixion; the torture and mockery by the Roman soldiers; the crucifixion accompanied by dramatic signs of a new age; the burial of Jesus.



Campion P. Gavaler,
O.S.B.

Life Implications

Jesus began his mission with his baptism at the Jordan. The Spirit of God came upon him, and a voice came from heaven, saying, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased" (Mt 3:13-17). Immediately following this event, Matthew tells us that from that moment until the end Jesus would undergo temptations to reject his truth of being beloved Son, pleasing to God. The passion narrative presents the last and most severe trial of Jesus' fidelity. Every earthly reason is progressively removed for trusting in God's love, even to experiencing a horrible and shameful death on a cross.

Matthew in his passion narrative gives us some insight into the mystery of how the Spirit enabled Jesus to pray through his experience of suffering and dying. It is in this pattern that the Spirit of Jesus now enables us to pray through the trials of our own life and death.

Jesus begins his passion with the observance of the Passover meal with his disciples. The structure of this sacred ritual meal consists of readings, hymns and psalms of the biblical tradition he knew so well. Through these prophecies and prayers of the Hebrew scriptures, he recognized and accepted his sacrificial role in the divine plan to create a new covenant with all humanity. Matthew mentions that after Jesus sang a final hymn with his disciples, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

With three of his disciples Jesus went to a place called Gethsemane, where he began to feel sorrow and distress. Here again, now foreseeing his imminent suffering and death, Jesus prays, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet, not as I will, but as you will" (Mt 26:39).

Finally, Jesus dying upon a cross, cries out in prayer the heart-rending plea of the twenty-second psalm: "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me" (Mt 27:46)? In his dark night of the soul, emptied now of every human evidence of God's loving presence, Jesus is sustained in hope through the pure light of faith. Trusting that even in this fearful moment of dying he is beloved Son, Jesus freely gives up his life into God's hands (Mt 27:50).

April 24, 2011

Easter Sunday

John 20:1-9

Gospel Summary

John's resurrection account is relatively brief and differs significantly from the Synoptic accounts. Mary Magdalene has a prominent role here and the mysterious "disciple whom Jesus loved" appears again just as he did at the Last Supper. The special attention given to Mary Magdalene suggests that she is a person who embodies the ideal of love that is so evident in the fourth gospel.

After hearing about the empty tomb, Peter hurries there to see what this might mean. But the unnamed "beloved disciple" outruns him, and then defers to him, thus permitting Peter to be the first to enter the tomb. This gesture acknowledges the authority of Peter but it also reveals how deeply the beloved disciple has understood the teaching of Jesus about unselfish love. It has been noted that in John's gospel Peter is the unquestioned leader of the Church, (see John 21, 14-17), thus guaranteeing good order, while the "disciple whom Jesus loved" represents the prophetic and mystical dimension of the Church that prevents authority from becoming too authoritarian.

Life Implications

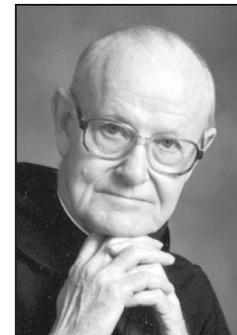
Easter is the feast of all feasts. The feast of Christmas did not even exist for the first two centuries of the church's life, but Christianity is inconceivable without Easter. This feast is the contact point between the Hebrew Scriptures and the New Testament for it occurred on the anniversary of the Exodus of Israel from Egyptian bondage and fulfills the promise in that central event in Israel's history. If we do not understand Easter, we do not have a clue about the meaning of Christianity or about its relationship to Israel.

To understand this central feast, we must realize that it is, as it were, the third act in a drama that begins already on Holy Thursday and continues through Good Friday. Missing the first two acts of the drama almost guarantees that one will miss the meaning of the drama. Therefore, to ignore Holy Thursday and Good Friday almost guarantees a misunderstanding of Easter Sunday.

On Holy Thursday, Jesus sums up the whole meaning and purpose of his mission on earth. This meaning is found in the Eucharist in which Jesus offers his Body and pours out his precious Blood for others. In other words, Jesus has come to tell us that the only path to real life and happiness is the path of unselfish love. We must begin our Easter celebration, therefore, with our acceptance of this ideal as the model for our own behavior.

Good Friday tells us that living unselfishly will be very difficult. Every act of unselfish love is a little dying. But in such dying there is also a hint of the happiness and life that are promised to those who are not afraid to walk the path of Jesus.

On Holy Saturday, the liturgy is muted and there is a quiet but powerful sense of expectation. It seems that the whole universe, here and in heaven, is holding its breath as it waits to see whether unselfish love, which often appears to be so foolish, really does make sense for us. The triumphant answer is given on Easter Sunday when the flowers and the bells and the Alleluias attempt to capture the glory of this resounding victory of Jesus over sin and death. The celebration of Easter joy thus confirms the wisdom of believing what Jesus taught on Holy Thursday and of living this wisdom, patiently and trustingly, on the Good Fridays of our lives. Have a happy Easter!



Demetrius R. Dumm
O.S.B.

NEWSPAPER DEADLINES

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Issue Date	Copy Date
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27	MONDAY, APRIL 18
WEDNESDAY, MAY 11	MONDAY, MAY 2
WEDNESDAY, MAY 25	MONDAY, MAY 16

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Easter Greetings from the National Vice President



Andrew Harcar

Spring is the beginning of new life. As Easter approaches, families throughout our Society get ready for the celebration. Dad is helping the children color eggs while Mom is baking hot cross buns – and we all are preparing for the Resurrection of our Lord. We will get our Sunday's best ready to attend mass the next day. During Mass, we will reflect on our Lord Jesus who died so we could live. He rose again so we would believe. His Resurrection is the renewal of life; what more beautiful time to remember our Lord Jesus, as the beauty and newness of nature is springing up around us?

On behalf of my wife, Maria, and our family, may the blessings of Jesus guide you, protect you and be with you on Easter and always.

Andrew R. Harcar, Sr,
National Vice-President

Easter Greetings from the Executive Secretary



Kenneth Arendt

As we enter the Easter Season, leaving behind the dark days of winter and enjoying the sunshine of longer days, we are reminded of our Lord's Resurrection. Easter's message of hope and renewal allows us to remember our Lord's sacrifice for us and to renew our faith in Him. On behalf of myself, my wife Theresa, our family, and the Home Office Staff, I wish all of our members and their families a Joyous Easter.

Kenneth Arendt
Executive Secretary

Easter Message from the National Treasurer



George F. Matta

From Ash Wednesday, throughout Lent and into the Easter Season, we as Christians are able to recall all that our Savior, our Lord Jesus Christ, suffered – during the forty days in the desert, the Last Supper, His death on the cross for all our sins, and, ultimately, His glorious Resurrection from the dead three days later on Easter Sunday.

On behalf of my wife and my family, we extend our prayers along with the blessings of the Easter Season to all of you and your loved ones.

George F. Matta
National Treasurer

Message from Our Chaplain

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with God by seeking His forgiveness through the Sacrament of Penance.

We listened at Mass on the First Sunday of Lent to Jesus citing three verses of Scripture as the means by which he turned away the devil's temptations. These verses identify one who lives in a right relationship with the Lord. One does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes forth from the mouth of God. You shall not put the Lord, your God, to the test. The Lord, your God, shall you worship and him alone shall you serve.

These verses can aid us in rebuilding a right relationship with the Lord from our sinful past. We can also reflect on additional words Jesus spoke to renew and rebuild the commitment we made at our Baptism to be his faithful follower. [Forgive] not seven times, but seventy-seven times. Love your enemies, and pray for those who persecute you. Love one another as I love you.

It may take some time to rebuild a relationship with God that we have wounded by our sins. By continuing to pray, fast and give alms during these remaining days of Lent, we trust God in His mercy to heal and reconcile us to Himself.

Fraternally,
Fr. Thomas A. Nasta
National Chaplain

President's Easter Message

continued from page 1

everyday lives and problems. This is even more true as our lives and the lives of our loved ones and people in general, become even more fast moving and complex and subject to many more situations, including sex, marriage, pornography, birth control, abortion and now mercy killings, elderly neglect, "end of life" issues, etc.

Who is your neighbor?

Does it include the people of Haiti? China? or Iran? And how do you love them? Should we be tithing (giving 10% of our income) to the UN? Catholic Charities? Our Parish? The Missions? What does "Treat your neighbor as yourself" mean in specific situations?

Unfortunately, in these ever more modern, complex times, Catholic education, at all levels, grade, high school and college has been severely weakened leaving several generations of baptized Catholics that are almost "religiously illiterate". Many young Catholics have no formal religious education. The Sunday sermon, if they attend, is their only spiritual learning. This is in contrast to the many hours of television, movies, video games and Internet they are exposed to each week, much of it containing messages contrary to good faith and morals.

What can we do about the situation?

Individually, we all possess a Free Will. Whether we take guidance or reject it, is up to each of us. As a young person, I asked myself why our civilization, and individuals in it, were not so much better off, both spiritually and materially, than our parents and ancestors? Parts of our civilization and some individuals have made significant material gains but much of our world is still suffering war, sickness, hunger and poverty. Even many who have made material gain have suffered spiritual loss. Why isn't each succeeding generation more advanced materially and spiritually than the previous?

What happened? Well, a lot of things, but in many respects it boils down to "Free Will". Every human makes some mistakes and many humans make many mistakes of judgment. We believe this was the consequence of Adam and Eve's decision in the Garden of Eden.

Unfortunately, over the recent past, while the number of baptized Catholics has increased, there has been a significant reduction in Catholics attending Mass in North America and Europe. At the same time we all have seen a mushrooming of Evangelical churches, some of them "mega churches", which are the new "Cathedrals", while Catholic churches are closing.

There has been a movement in education calling for a "return to the basics". I believe that the Catholic Church also needs to re-emphasize a "back to the basics". We, as I previously noted, have been and continue to be confronted with many very important practical and moral issues: sex, marriage, birth control and other issues, such as abortion, mercy killings, elder neglect, and "end of life" issues. I'd like to urge our Clergy to tackle these difficult issues in our modern life in their Sunday homilies and daily interactions, and challenge each of us to show patience and attention while listening and learning; at least as much attention as we give watching NFL football or American Idol.

Our Society tries to help by providing the excellent "Insights and Viewpoints" section, which can always be found in the front of the Jednota newspaper. Written by Frs. Campion Gavalier and Demetrius Dumm of St. Vincent Arch-abbey, their homilies are intended to educate us in the content and meaning of the Gospels. We also print articles and report actions and events that pertain to our Catholic Faith and its practices and observance throughout our Society's scope including in Slovakia.

Most of us are not trained to provide formal spiritual counseling to others; that is the domain of our Priests and Religious, but as we have been told many times before, personal example is often many times more powerful than preaching. Actions speak louder than words. Individually, we all possess a Free Will. Therefore, all of us can – and if we are parents, must – in a sense, provide spiritual counseling in our daily lives to those we come into contact with through our own personal example.

Perhaps, in this Easter season we each can make a renewed effort to attend Mass and Easter Services with our families. As I said before, a good example is often more powerful than preaching. While change takes time, small steps are crucial and could mean all the difference to the future of Catholicism and the world in general.

In closing, on a more temporal note, I'm proud to report, that 2010 was again a new record year financially for the Society. Results will appear in the next Jednota issue along with my President's Annual Report.

Happy Easter to your family from my family and myself.

Happy Easter, Christ is Risen, Let Us Rejoice and be Glad!
Pán Ježiš Kristus vstal z mŕtvych, Radujme sa!

Andrew M. Rajec
President

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Insights and Viewpoints

Holy Week Traditions in Slovakia -- *Pašiový týždeň*

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

Holy Week, or *Pašiový týždeň* (Passion Week), marks the holiest of times on the Christian calendar. The faithful of Slovakia and Slovak Americans have always regarded Holy Week as a sacred time to reflect on one's sins and ponder the suffering, death, and ultimately, the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. The week leading up to Easter represents a chance for Slovaks and all Christians to prepare for Easter by cleansing both their homes and their souls.

Having suffered centuries of wars and foreign occupation, Slovaks have identified with the passion of Christ. His Resurrection and the promise of salvation provided something which the Slovak people could hope for – eternal life when they leave a world full of uncertainty and hardships.

Traditionally during Holy Week, Slovaks fasted and cleaned as they prepared for the celebration of Easter. They aimed to cleanse themselves both physically and spiritually, and made sure to go to Confession so that their homes and souls would be spotless.

The Tridium (the three days before Easter), Easter itself, and Easter Monday, were all special days in Slovak culture. Unlike here in the U.S.A., even today, most Slovak businesses and offices remain closed all day on Good Friday, Holy Saturday, and Easter Monday. But before the joy of Easter arrives, one must experience the intense agony and sadness of Christ's passion.

Zelený Štvrtok -- Green Thursday (Maundy Thursday)

In Slovakia, believers refer to Holy Thursday as *Zelený Štvrtok* (Green Thursday). The name stems from the tradition of eating lots of foods made from green vegetables on that day. Greens would keep a person strong and healthy, and as we know from more scientific studies today, the old folk wisdom proved far ahead of its time.

Slovaks also associated Holy Thursday with a tradition of intense cleansing. People would thoroughly clean themselves, their homes, and their cooking utensils on that day. According to custom, they always preferred to use fresh running water from a spring, stream, or river, since that represented living water. While holy water would cleanse their souls when they attended church services, moving water would purify their bodies and grant good health.

Young girls, who desired a beautiful complexion without blemishes, took special care to cleanse themselves very carefully early in the morning, usually before the sun rose, for the water exuded more impact before sunrise. They typically bathed in a nearby spring to perfect their skin and to ensure that they would have long and flowing hair, which would grow quickly throughout the year.

People also believed that drinking spring water on Holy Thursday helped improve one's health throughout the entire year. In times before fluoride toothpaste, Slovaks thought that they could head off toothaches and have a sparkling smile if they rinsed their mouths with pure water.

They believed that everything cleansed with this pure running water would benefit from its purifying power. Since most Slovak villagers owned one or more cows, they painstakingly cleaned their milk jugs so that the cows would produce more. In the village of Drahovce, villagers even took their horses two feet into the Váh River, so they would enjoy the magical results of cleansing.

One of the more unusual Slovak customs concerned anthills. An age-old superstition held that a household could experience a joyful year if the family members would transport an anthill, complete with ants, into their home! Those carrying the anthill only took great care to avoid carrying these prized ants over any water, for that would nullify the magic. How odd to be hauling ants into the house when the women were already so busy meticulously cleaning on this day!

While women dutifully cleaned their homes, attending Holy Mass was certainly the most important custom on Holy Thursday. The entire village would empty into the church and commemorate the Last Supper of Christ with his apostles. A cleansing of feet with water took place after the sermon. Following Mass, the faithful would commence a fast as they mourned Christ's passion and sufferings for their sins.

Another noteworthy custom revolved around the tying of church bells, a tradition which some



A display at Prince of Peace's annual Easter Breakfast in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.



Msgr. Polando blessing baskets on Holy Saturday at Holy Name Church in Youngstown, Ohio

of us are familiar with from a former practice in our own churches in America. No church bells sounded after 10 a.m. on Holy Thursday in order to remember the bounding of Christ. The silence of the bells symbolized an emotional grief. Only a rattling of wooden sticks would woe-fully sound from the church tower and at Mass. The bells remained silent until Holy Saturday evening at the Easter Vigil.

Veľký Piatok -- Great Friday (Good Friday)

The day of Jesus' death, Good Friday (*Veľký Piatok*, literally Great Friday) was a day of strict fasting in Slovak Lenten traditions. People spoke very little and concentrated their thoughts on Christ and his passion and death. Church attendance occurred both in the afternoon, and many also attended Stations of the Cross (*križová cesta*) in the evening as well. This occurred in a dark church, lit only by candles, and in some villages it included a candlelight procession in the streets. All would engage in a constant state of prayer, and each believer at church would kiss the Holy Cross to show love for our Lord.

The following websites from Rožnava in 2010 on Youtube provide a brief glimpse of the sanctity of Good Friday services in Slovakia.

www.inforoznava.sk * Veľký piatok 2010 v Rožňave

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wyqAw7f9KYY>

www.inforoznava.sk * Križová cesta 2010

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_kj26HwXuQs&NR=1

The highlight of the day occurred when the men would carry the body of Christ around the church and the Slovak assembly would sing a traditional hymn of sorrow as they laid a statue of Christ in the tomb. All would leave the church in a very solemn and quiet manner as they pondered the passion of our Lord.

In the town of Kežmarok in the Spiš region, Lutheran youths carry on a tradition of performing a passion play that dates from the early 16th century.

Good Friday Superstitions

While Good Friday was a very solemn day, Slovaks kept a number of superstitions on this day, for they considered it a sad and haunting day. Many peasants thought that witches and warlocks could make their appearance on this day, and folklore advised people to avoid contact with such creatures of darkness. In addition to causing physical harm to persons, they could wreak havoc on the family garden, attack trees, and even take milk from their cows.

In order to guard against evil spirits, peasants wore crosses and displayed them prominently. They also placed garlic around their homes and barn to counter the powers of evil spirits. Any food eaten contained heavy doses of garlic, and people even added garlic to the feed given to animals. At the entrances of houses and barns, they hung garlic to guard against evil spirits.

Some peasants would also run around their fields and loudly ring bells. This was not aimed at evil spirits, but at moles, who would threaten the productivity of the soil. By scaring them off, the farmers believed they would have a better crop that year.

Biela Sobota -- White Saturday (Holy Saturday)

Holy Saturday marked the final day of cleaning and preparation before the Easter holiday. Typically the day involved preparing special foods for the Easter meal – klobasa, ham (*šunka*), syrek (a special cheese), sweet Easter bread (*paska*), nut rolls (*koláče*), kraslice or pysanky (painted eggs that symbolized new life in Christ), horseradish (*chrem*), etc. Aromas of cooking and baking swarmed the home, portending the coming of the special holiday of rebirth, Easter.

The women of the household would carry baskets of foodstuffs to church, where the priest would offer special prayers and bless their baskets. That tradition still continues among many Slovak, Carpatho-Rusyn, Ukrainian, and Polish churches in the United States and Canada today.

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Holy Week Traditions in Slovakia

continued from page 4

The custom prepared the household for a great feast which always included meat from swine. In recipes, Slovaks cooked pork or ham as a main ingredient, for they considered these foods would help them obtain greater prosperity and power.

When I was a child, I remember how my mother always prepared for my father a dish called *huspenina*, or jelled pigs-feet. She used to boil the pork feet and rinds for half the day, and then poured the hot broth into bowls spiced with garlic and pepper. Once they cooled, she refrigerated them for several hours until they gelled. Just my father would eat them though, because we children did not enjoy the taste, and the thought of eating pigs-feet did not sound appetizing. Only later did I understand the reason for this custom, and we can appreciate how Slovaks tried to use all the meat from the animals they had slaughtered, not wasting food as we are so accustomed to do so today.

Another custom common on Holy Saturday involved Slovaks burning all that was considered old and potentially dangerous. The custom was called the "burning of Judas," a reference to the traitorous apostle who betrayed Jesus for a few coins. Slovak Christians needed to discard all that is sinful. Some folk believed that they could harness the protecting power of goodness by gazing into the embers of the fire that burned the old useless materials.

Veľká Noc – Great Night (Easter Sunday)

Great joy filled the whole household on Easter morn as all celebrated the resurrection of Christ. The entire family attended Holy Mass in their best attire and the solemnity of the passion gave way to new hope. Easter was a time to show off one's good fortunes as well as celebrating Christ's victory over death.

Easter Sunday was always a day for family togetherness. The family feasted on the foods blessed the day before, and the mother saved a little ham to be used to heal any injuries throughout the year. Each family member ate heartily and each has his or her special egg to enjoy as a symbolic new beginning. As the Church taught, "all life sprang from the egg."

The *gazdina* (lady of the household) carefully gathered any crumbs from the meal and painstakingly saved them. She would mix these crumbs with seeds in the hope of helping produce a bountiful crop that year. Some crumbs also went to the chickens in the belief that this would enable them to lay more eggs.

After the meal, much like Christmas time, extended families would gather and socialize, sharing some good alcoholic beverages and sweet treats for the children. There was new hope, for Easter had dawned and life had renewed itself.

Veľkonočný pondelok - Easter Monday

The celebration of Easter continued on Easter Monday, which Slovaks also refer to as *Šibačka/Polievačka or Oblievačka* (Whipping Day/Watering Day or Water Sprinkling Day). The most memorable customs involved boys and young men whipping and sprinkling their favorite girls with water. Young girls considered this something to enjoy and relish, for the branch would supposedly enhance their fertility and the water would grant them good health throughout the year.

The girls would rise very early on Monday in preparation for the young men (*kupáci*) who would search out the girls they liked. Oftentimes it turned into a fun game of hide-and-seek, with the girls challenging the guys to find them. The girls might hide in a barn, a shed, a pantry, or elsewhere in order to avoid a soaking. When the males inevitably found their sought-after female victims, they would perform a ritual whipping with a stick made from freshly cut willow branch (*korbáč*, the ritual whip). The boys then sprinkled the girls or even got a bucket of water to pour over a favorite. It was all done in good fun, and the girls would often reward the boys with treats such as eggs (*vajičky*) or *koláč*, and even *borovička* (a strong brandy made from the berries of the Juniper evergreen tree).

In many places, the girls sought their male counterparts on Tuesday morning and did their own share of watering and whipping. Again it was all intended to be carried out in a good spirit, and served as a mating ritual in the peasant villages. In an age before television and served-up entertainment, these customs made for interesting times. But this tradition in particular, still finds many practitioners among young Slovaks to this day.

When I lived in Slovakia and did research in Bratislava, I observed this custom first-hand at



The author's family gathered together at Easter. Back row (L - R): James Kopanic, Sonia Nero, Becky Kopanic, Robert Kopanic, and Michael Kopanic, Jr. Front row (L - R): Erika Kopanic, Milenka Feighner, and Michael Kopanic, Sr., who is 92 years young!

the university dormitory. Some guys went so far as dumping whole buckets on girls from their dormitory windows. Some girls did not appreciate such a thorough drenching.

While the watering of the other sex involved much playfulness, Slovaks always kept the true meaning of the season in their hearts – the resurrection of Christ and the fulfillment of the promise of eternal redemption.

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Kent Dudince Sister City Association Eighth Annual Anniversary Banquet

Sunday, May 22, 2011

Kent Elks Lodge Hall

Elks Lane – State Route 59

(behind Twin Star Bowling Lanes – 2245 State Route 59)

1:00pm – Social Hour

2:00pm – Dinner

3:00pm – Program

Music by Johnny Pastirik Band during Social Hour and Dinner

Orchestra Members: Johnny Pasitirk, Len Jacko, and Ken Javor

The Pittsburgh Slovaks Folk Dance Ensemble

Directors: Sue and Rudy Ondrejco

Slovenske Mamicky of Greater Cleveland Vocal Ensemble

Members: Milka Anderko, Maria Cvicela, Monica Smid

Lucinka Children's Slovak Folk Ensemble of Greater Cleveland

Director: Christine Matis Hearn

Dancing following the program

Tickets – \$15.00 per person – Advance ticket sales only

Deadline for purchasing tickets: May 6, 2011

Ticket orders with directions will be mailed.

Please include names of all guests.

Donation of Baked Goods would be appreciated.

Make checks payable to:

Kent-Dudince Sister City Association

1544 Vine Street

Kent, OH 4420

Rudy Bachna: 330 – 673-3255

Hey Kids.....



The Rev. John J Spitzkovsky District II of the First Catholic Slovak Union is sponsoring an "EASTER COLORING CONTEST" for all boys and girls ages 4 thru 12, that are members of District II for Illinois, Indiana and Wisconsin. Color the picture and you could win. Prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places, for age groups from 4-6, 7-9, and 10-12. All entries will receive a "Certificate" for participating.

Send in your coloring page and on the back side of the picture please print your name, age, address, Branch Number and include a picture of yourself and return by **April 1, 2011**. If there are other children in the family entering the contest, you may make a copy of the picture from the newspaper to color or download it from the FCSU website by going to www.fcsu.com, clicking on Fraternal Events and following the link provided.

Pictures of the winners will be printed in the "Jednota" newspaper after Easter. Our lodge members will judge the entries at our District II Meeting on Sunday April, 10, 2011.

Mail your entry to:

Mrs.. Barbara Fayta
1544 Rokosz Lane
Dyer, IN 46311

GOOD LUCK TO ALL
Barbara Fayta, Chairperson
Easter Coloring Contest



New officers of District 9, the Frank T. Holly, Jr. District



St. Clement's Society Branch #40 Scholarship for 2011



Attention all students: the St. Clement's Society Branch 40 is once again offering scholarships to its youth members. You may be eligible to win a one-time scholarship if:

- * You are a member of the FCSU St. Clement's Society Branch 40 for at least 4 years.
- * You are in high school and have applied for a fall term at a qualifying institute, OR
- * You are attending a private grade school.

The available scholarships - a one-time award of \$500 for college and a one-time award of \$250 for a private grade school - are solely funded by your local lodge (Branch 40), and not by the FCSU National Office.

For more criteria and an application, please call Theresa at (815) 672-6142 and leave a message. Or you can email her with any questions atttgraves@mchsi.com.

All applications must be postmarked by April 30, 2011.

Theresa Graves, Scholarship Committee



Slovak Alliance of Greater Bridgeport, CT, Inc. 2011 Scholarship

Application, Guidelines, and Procedures Forms for this year's \$1,000 Scholarship are available by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Chairperson Eileen S. Wilson, 395 Pilgrim Lane, Stratford, CT, 06614.

Among the requirements, applicant, parent(s), grandparent(s) must be a Member of the Alliance for a minimum of three years and of Slovak descent. RSVP deadline is May 11, 2011.

The Alliance is independent of any other Slovak Fraternal/Society.

Eileen S. Wilson, Chairperson

A meeting of the Frank T. Holly, Jr. District was held on Sunday, March 13, 2011 at Denny's Restaurant in Uniontown, PA. Newly elected District 9 officers: (L - R) Frances Tarquinio, Recording Secretary of District 12 who administered the oath of office, James R. Marmol, President; Barbara Holly, Secretary; Dolores Marmol, Treasurer; Tom Kocis, Auditor; and Audrey Balazik, Auditor. Missing from the photo is Geraldine Buchheit, Vice President.

Studia Academica Slovaca Scholarship Now Available

The prestigious "Studia Academica Slovaca" (SAS) has been an educational program organized by Comenius University in Bratislava for the past 46 years. This year, SAS will run from July 31 to August 20, 2011, with a curriculum aimed at all those studying the Slovak language and culture, and all Slavists in general. This intensive program is especially geared toward university or college professors, experienced teachers, postgraduates and advanced undergraduates of Slovak and Slavonic studies, as well as writers, translators and all others interested in the Slovak language and culture. The program also offers the opportunity to study the basics of the Slovak language at any level of proficiency, including beginners, with the goal of helping students improve and extend their Slovak language competence, as well as increase their level of expertise in Slovak literature and culture. More information about SAS is available at www.fphil.uniba.sk/sas

To promote participation from the U.S., the Ministry of Education of the Slovak Republic offers 3 scholarships for participants from the U.S. to the SAS program. (Scholarships do not cover travel and insurance)

Scholarship application

Applications for the SAS scholarship should be submitted to the Embassy of the Slovak Republic, 3524 International Court, NW, 20008 Washington, DC. Deadline for the scholarship applications is April 20, 2011. Applications may be made in the form of a general letter, fax (202-237-6438) or email (terezia.sajgalikova@mzv.sk – please use as the subject line Studia Academica Slovaca when expressing interest in receiving a scholarship for the Studia Academica Slovaca).

All applications should include: Date of Birth, Address of Permanent Residence, Ad-

dress of Temporary Residence, Nationality, Citizenship, Current Employment, Telephone contact, Fax (if available), E-mail contact, Indication whether the candidate has received a SAS scholarship in the past, Current skills in Slovak language (proficiency, intermediate, beginner), and an indication of how the candidate will be using their Slovak language skills - including to which of the groups (listed below) the applicant belongs.

Properly submitted applications will be confirmed by the Embassy. If your application has not been confirmed within 3 days following submission, please contact the Embassy without delay.

Applicants for SAS scholarships will be selected according to following priorities (Priority Groups).

1. University or college professors, experienced teacher, postgraduate and advanced undergraduate of Slovak and Slavonic studies in the U.S,
2. Writers, translators, journalists, artists using Slovak language in the U.S.,
3. U.S. Businessmen and employees of the U.S. based companies active in the Slovak Republic,
3. Members of the Slovak American organizations and families,
4. All other with interested in Slovak language and culture.

Within the same group, priority will be given to those:

1. whose work is perceived as most beneficial for promotion of the Slovak language and culture in the U.S. or for the promotion of strong Slovak-U.S relations,
2. who are in the most need of financial assistance (i.e., students, postgraduates, etc.)
3. who haven't received a SAS scholarship in the past.

Previous application for scholarship has no positive or negative influence on the decision making process.

All applicants will be informed about a decision on their application by April 25, 2011. Successful candidates will then individually apply online using a special scholarship code provided by the Embassy. Applications for coursework should be submitted online at "www.e-slovak.sk/apply/", by May 15, 2011.

Candidates who do not qualify for a SAS scholarship will still have the opportunity to apply as a self-paying participant in the program. Note: if you are applying for a scholarship, please do not apply online prior to a decision being rendered on your eligibility. An applicant who applies online without an assigned special scholarship code will be automatically processed as a self-paying applicant.



1911 – Slovak Catholic Federation – 2011 100th Anniversary Year 33rd Annual Slovak Catholic Federation SS Cyril & Methodius Appeal

When our ancestors came to these shores more than a century ago, they brought with them few monetary assets. However their most precious possession was their faith. The seeds were nurtured by the Slovak priests who came with the immigrant people and helped build our Slovak Catholic Fraternal, Religious Communities of men and women and nearly 300 Slovak Parishes. Today, in response to this legacy, the Slovak Catholic Federation will sponsor the **33rd Annual SS. Cyril & Methodius Appeal**. The Church in Slovakia has enjoyed a great renaissance since the fall of Communism in 1989. We in America and Canada take pride in the fact that the Slovak Catholic Fraternal, our Parishes and individuals of Slovak ancestry have responded generously to assist the Church in our ancestral homeland. The 2011 Annual Appeal begins during the month of February in the churches of Slovak descent across the United States and Canada, and will continue to the end of the year.

The 2010 Appeal collected \$58,229.89

Since its inception, this Appeal has raised \$2,232,988.49.

Funds raised from the Appeal will aid the priest-graduate students at the Pontifical Slovak College of SS. Cyril & Methodius. These fine priests are being called upon to be the future leaders of the Diocesan Churches in Slovakia both as Vicars and Bishops, in addition to providing qualified instructors/professors for the seminaries that educate future priests. As well, funds benefit those Religious Communities both men and women which share a counterpart which belongs to the Slovak Catholic Federation and the Slovak Conference of Religious. These Communities being: Vincentian sisters of Charity (*Ruzomberok*); Dominican Sisters (*Dunajska Luzna*); School Sisters of St. Francis (*Zilina*); Daughters of St. Francis (*Bratislava-Prievoz*); Byzantine Catholic Sisters of St. Basil the Great (*Secove and Presov*), Franciscan Friars Minor (*Bratislava*), House of St. Benedict (*Bacurov*).

The Slovak Catholic Federation, founded in 1911, under the spiritual leadership of Rev. Joseph Murgas, founding Pastor of Sacred Heart of Jesus Slovak Church, Wilkes-Barre, PA. The purpose of the Slovak Catholic Federation is to federate individuals of Slovak origin under one banner; for cultural, religious and educational needs. Serving as National President is Rev. Philip Altavilla, V.E., Episcopal Vicar for the Northern Pastoral Region of the Diocese of Scranton. The Episcopal Moderator is the Most Rev. Joseph V. Adamec, D.D. The National First Vice President, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdic, Pastor of Epiphany Parish, Sayre, PA., is the Coordinator for this Annual Appeal.

In our Church today, we are finding more and more individuals of Slovak descent/background do not attend traditionally founded Slovak Parishes, for a number of reasons. Because of this reality today, the monies raised for this Appeal come both from the collections taken in our Slovak Parishes as well as from individual donors.

Your tax deductible donation made out to the **Slovak Catholic Federation**, noting for the **Annual Appeal**, can be sent directly to the National Secretary/Treasurer of the Slovak Catholic Federation:

**Dolores Evanko
173 Berner Avenue
Hazleton, PA 18201**

Editors note: For the full 2010 Appeal Report for the Slovak Catholic Federation, please visit www.fcsu.com, click on Announcements, and follow the link provided

'Twas I, Lord

Who mocked and spat upon you, Lord,
Inflicting countless injury,
Never once showing signs of sympathy,
By sin adding to your agony?
'Twas I, Lord.

Who thorn-crowned your sacred head,
Turning from you to creatures instead,
Too steep in sin, ashamed to beg,
Living yet dead?
'Twas I, Lord.

Who upon your shoulders through a wooden cross
Laid the world's guilt without remorse,
And every grace and blessing tossed
Away a life – so great a loss?
'Twas I, Lord.

Who nailed you to a wooden tree
To hang there and suffer shamefully,
Never to answer your thirsty plea,
Letting you die in misery?
'Twas I, Lord.

Who pierced your loving heart,
A poisonous lance, shooting its dart,
Causing blood and water to clot and smart,
That last ounce of life, ripped apart?
'Twas I, Lord.

Who gazes now upon that sacred form
Where from a death a soul is born,
Made free by your immortal agony,
Looking down in love, forgiving me?
'Tis I, Lord.

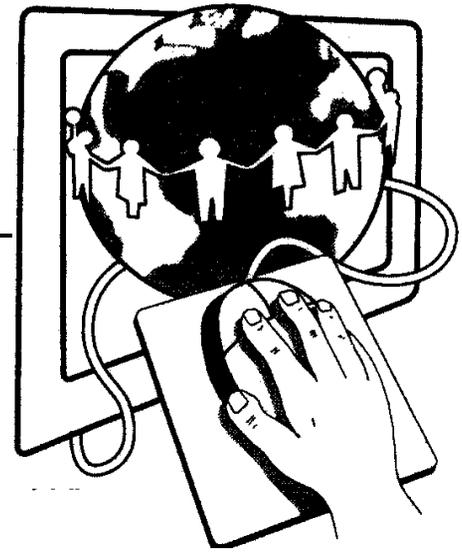


1986, Francis X. Markley



UR_space.jrs

Friends Events Sports Culture Trivia Activities Holidays



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Holiday Space

April 2011

*Prajem vám veselu Veľku noc!
(I wish you a happy Easter!)*

Celebrations of Easter in Slovakia continue for a week that is also known as Holy week. These rituals are observed throughout the nation over five days. Here is a look at some of the Easter traditions in Slovakia.

Send your ideas, letters etc. to:

UR_Space.jrs
234 Ilion St.
Pgh., PA 15207

Good Friday

On Good Friday, people observe various rituals. One of the most interesting rituals observed on the day is using garlic to ward off evil. According to the popular belief, witches, evil souls, and warlocks can cause possible harm to the human, cattle, food and farms. To do away with the evil, people eat garlic and even offer it to their cattle.



Holy Thursday

Easter in Slovakia begins with Green Thursday, which is also known as Holy Thursday. On this day, the people clean their house. Running water is often used for the clean-up. This tradition of cleaning with running water is an age-old custom that is still being followed in Slovakia, with a belief that the water symbolizes purity and being alive. Women also observe a custom of cleaning themselves with flowing water to have a spotless complexion.

Easter Saturday

On Easter Saturday, a celebration takes place, including age-old customs like burning old goods and having grand feasts. This day is also termed as White Saturday. The burning of old things signifies the "burning of Judas". The grand feast includes pork recipes. Pork is believed to symbolize wealth, power and prosperity.

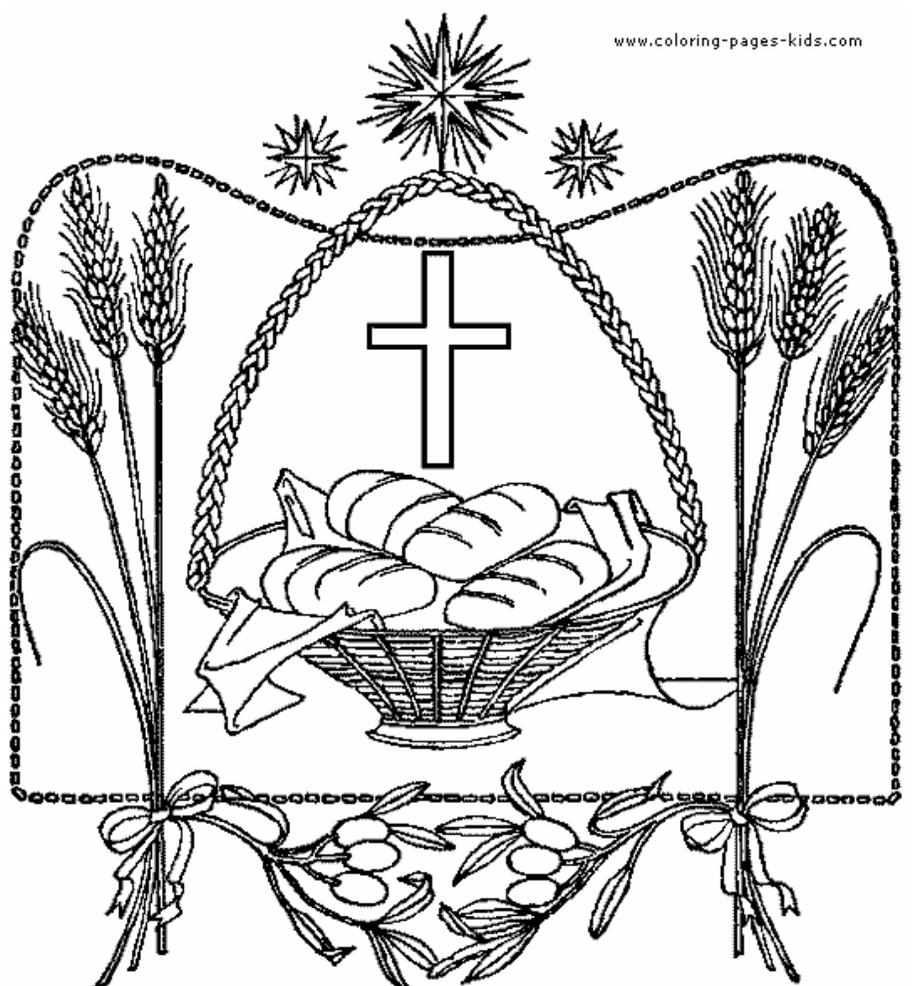


Easter Sunday

Major celebrations of Easter are held on Easter Sunday. On this day, Jesus came back to life; this rebirth of the Christ is the reason of the fun and festivity that is observed on this particular day. On this day, people take their food to church for a blessing. This blessed food is offered to the hens to ensure that they lay more eggs.



Easter Monday, boys wake up early in the morning. They go from house to house in the village knocking on girls' doors. When she answers, they douse her with water or sprinkle her with perfume. At the end of this little ceremony, called "oblievačka," the girl and her family present the boys with tokens of appreciation such as cookies, "kraslice," or a shot of homemade plum brandy ("šlivovica"). The "oblievačka" lasts from early morning until evening. The boys are expected to come to the girls' homes. Not coming is considered an insult to the girl and her family!



www.coloring-pages-kids.com

Christ Jesus, Savior, Is Risen (Pán Ježiš Kristus Vstal z Mŕtvych)

Translated by Sr. Maria Theresa Hronec, SS.C.M.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Pán Ježiš Kristus vstal z mŕtvych
Sbor: Aleluja, chváľme Boha, Boha svojho.
1a. Christ Jesus, Savior, is risen.
Ref: Alleluia! God, we praise you! God, our Savior. | 8. Od neho sa dozvedeli:
8a. Who revealed this message so wondrous: |
| 2. Na potechu všetkých hriešnych,
2a. That we sinners are forgiven, | 9. Že Kristus Pán dnes z mŕtvych vstal,
9a. Christ Our Lord this day is risen, |
| 3. Ktorý t'ažkú smrť podstúpil,
3a. He, a painful death enduring, | 10. Jak pred smrťou to zvestoval.
10a. As before his death, he told us. |
| 4. Aby hriešnych nás vykúpil.
4a. Rescues us – our souls redeeming. | 11. Preto plesaj vo dne, v noci,
11a. Let's rejoice both day and night, |
| 5. Ku hrobu tri Márie šli,
5a. To the graveside three Marys hasten, | 12. Že Kristus vstal v svojej moci.
12a. Christ has risen by His own might. |
| 6. Drahé masti ony niesli.
6a. Bearing costly spices, ointments. | 13. Všetci teda prespevujme;
13a. Celebrate with song and rejoicing; |
| 7. Anjela tam uvideli,
7a. There they saw an angel most glor'ous, | 14. Česť a chválu Mu vzdávajme.
14a. Laud our God with praise and thanksgiving. |

Easter Alleluia

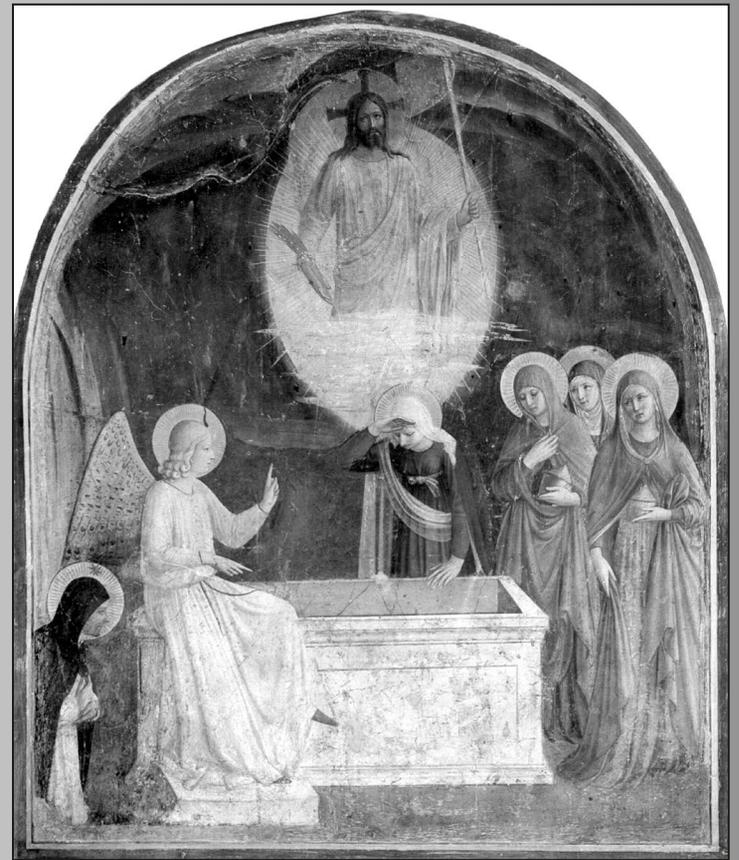
By Sister Maria Theresa Hronec, SS.C.M., Villa Sacred Heart, Danville, PA

Lent is a time of longing for fulfillment, joy and peace. These are the gifts of God's mercy and compassionate forgiveness, which we receive as we strive daily to meet God in our encounters and commitments. As life remains a struggle, during Lent we focus on positive ways to return to God. We choose to remove what could diminish our trust and friendship with him.

This beloved Easter hymn, Pán Ježiš Kristus Vstal z Mŕtvych, is a song of triumph and celebration. As Jesus lived and struggled through his life, passion and death, he trusted his Father for the glorious victory. We,

too, believe in the fulfillment of our faith and hope and achievement of a glorious resurrection. God asks that we live daily, to the best of our ability, in faithfulness and gratitude, for the love which he embraces us. His love is ever faithful, as he responds to our simplest request and rewards the smallest act of kindness. How can we ever thank him adequately?

I am reminded of a significant quotation from Tolstoy's War and Peace: "The most essential, but the most difficult thing is, to love life, for to love life is to love God and God is the most essential thing in life."



Women at the empty tomb, by Fra Angelico, 1437-1446.

Scholarship For University Study in Slovakia Now Available

The Ministry of Education of the Slovak Republic has just announced its 2011/2012 Government Scholarship Program. The Scholarship Program provides for University study in the Slovak Republic in the Slovak language (both Undergraduate and Graduate), including one year of preparatory language training at Comenius University in Bratislava.

The Government Scholarship Program is specifically intended to provide a University educational opportunity for Slovaks living abroad. As a result, Slovak organizations in the U.S. offer candidates a unique advantage, because the Ministry of Education requires any candidate to be endorsed by a local Slovak organization.

Candidates may select any study program of their interest at any accredited University in Slovakia. Ministry of Education, however, recommends following priority study departments (candidates to the following study departments shall be prioritized during selection process).

Pedagogy /Učiteľstvo, vychovávateľstvo a pedagogické vedy/ 1.1.1 - 1.1.10 /
Humanities sciences /Humanitné vedy/ 2.1.1 - 2.1.28
Art / Umenie/ 2.2.1 - 2.2.8
Social and behavioural sciences / Spoločenské a behaviourálne vedy/ 3.1.1 - 3.1.16
Journalism and information /Žurnalistika a informácie/ 3.2.1 - 3.2.4
Economy and Management /Ekonomika a manažment/ 3.3.1 - 3.3.25
Inanimate Nature Sciences /Vedy o neživej prírode/ 4.1.1 - 4.1.39
Animate Nature Sciences /Vedy o živej prírode/ 4.2.1 - 4.2.16
Ecology and Environmental Sciences /Ekologické a environmentálne vedy/ 4.3.1 - 4.3.5
Architecture and Civil Engineering /Architektúra a staviteľstvo/ 5.1.1 - 5.1.7
Construction Engineering, Technology, Production and Communication /
Konštrukčné inžinierstvo, technológie, výroba a komunikácie/ 5.2.1 - 5.2.60
Agriculture /Poľnohospodárstvo/ 6.1.1 - 6.1.17
Forestry /Lesníctvo/ 6.2.1 - 6.2.6
Veterinary Sciences /Veterinárske vedy/ 6.3.1 - 6.3.11
Water Management /Vodné hospodárstvo/ 6.4.1 - 6.4.2
Nonmedical Health Sciences /Nelekárske zdravotnícke vedy/ 7.4.1 - 7.4.11
Mathematics and Statistics /Matematika a štatistika/ 9.1.1 - 9.1.11
Information Sciences and Technologies /Informatické vedy, informacné a
komunikačné technológie/ 9.2.1 - 9.2.10

Please be advised that medical sciences, dentistry and pharmaceuticals are not recommended in 2011/2012 by the Ministry of Education.

Application and Selection Process

Candidates shall submit their applications to the **Ministry of Foreign Affairs** of the Slovak Republic latest **by May 30, 2011. Applications received after May 30, 2011 will not be accepted.**

Candidates may apply individually - directly to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs - OKUD, Hlboka cesta 2, 833 36 Bratislava, Slovakia.

The Slovak Embassy in Washington is willing to provide assistance in submitting applications; however, please be advised that the deadline to submit complete application at the Embassy is **May 1, 2011.**

The Scholarship Application shall include following documents (please consult also Section 32 of the attached Application Form):

- Document proving the level of education (superlegalization required; please contact Embassy)
- Study results from an accredited College or other higher education institution, if available,
- Birth Certificate (verified translation)
- Recommendation from two professors including their working field and institution they represent,
- A personally signed Curriculum Vitae,
- A Medical Certificate (Form enclosed in the Scholarship Application)
- Documents giving evidence of scientific or specialized publications by the applicant (if available),
- Photographs, slides, cassettes, scores of original work (art study only),
- Document of Integrity
- Recommendation from a local Slovak organization

The Selection Committee of the Slovak Ministry of Education shall evaluate the candidates according to two basic criteria, which are:

- 1) High School grade - average of minimum 80 %,
- 2) Selected study program

Selected candidates must begin education according to the date set by the University, the latest being September 30, 2011.

Please find all additional information at www.studyin.sk or www.minedu.sk and attached is the application form.

Note: Those with Slovak citizenship are not eligible to apply

Terézia Šajgaliková
First Secretary
Embassy of Slovakia
3523 International Court, NW
Washington, DC 20008
Tel.: +12022371054 ext. 223
Fax: +12022376438

Scenes of Slovak Christmas with Ss. Cyril & Methodius Parish

Ss. Cyril & Methodius RC Church, of Fairchance, PA, together with the Christian Mothers, celebrated 100 and 50 years respectively last Christmas season with a fabulous Vilija on Friday, December 10, 2010 at 6:00PM. Photos courtesy of Branch 367 Member Jean Thompson, who also served on the Vilija Committee and as an officer of Ss. Cyril's.

The Pittsburgh Area Slovak Folk Ensemble (PAS) presented a program of Slovak music, song, and dance during the evening.





(L – R), FCSU President Andrew Rajec accepts a past convention photo from Region IV Regional Director James R. Marmol. Mr. Marmol, his brother Andrew and sister-in-law Joanne Marmol presented various other convention photographs. The photographs were donated by Elizabeth Holly, wife of the late Frank T. Holly, Jr., and former Chairman of Auditors, along with daughter Barbara Holly.

Donation to Home Office Museum

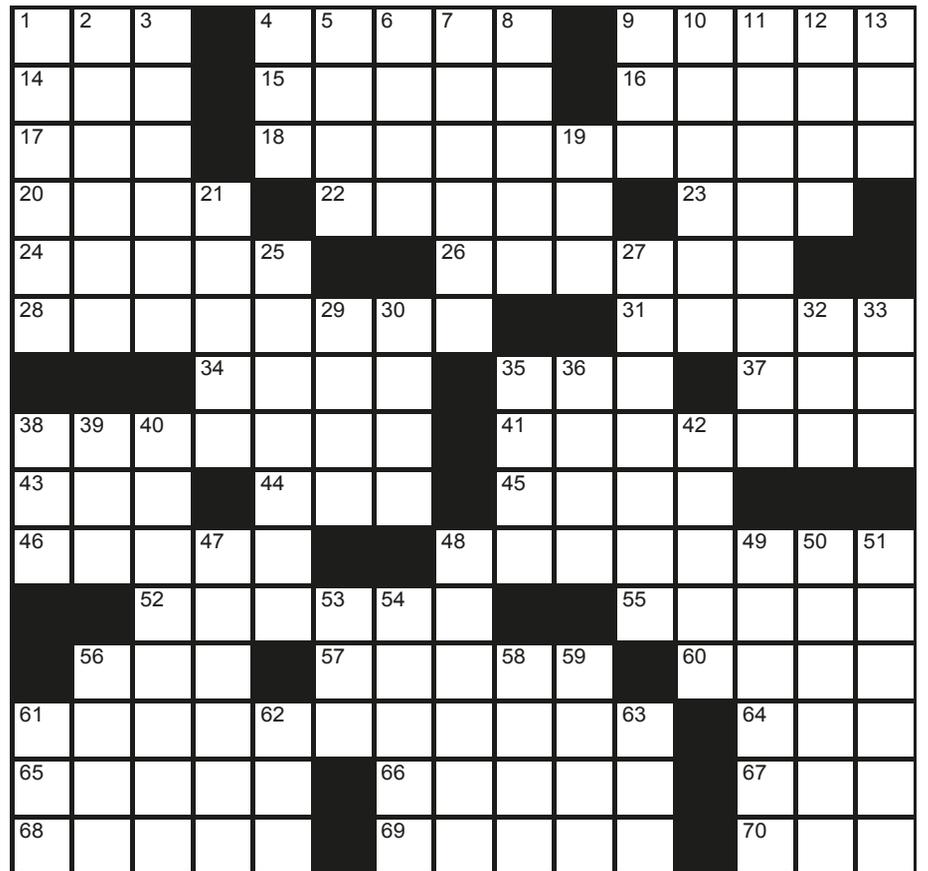
If you have an item that you would like to donate – either permanently or on loan – to the Home Office Museum, please contact us with a description of the piece, its history and/or its significance to the Society at the First Catholic Slovak Union, Home Office Museum Archives, 6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence, OH, 44131, 1-800-JEDNOTA; or via email www.fcsu.com.



Branch 280 Member Conor Frampton Achieves Eagle Scout Award

Conor Frampton received his Eagle Scout award on February 13 @ St. Anthony's church in Forestville PA. Conor is a member of Troop 380 in Harrisville PA. For his Eagle Scout project, he replaced the outside steps and railings to St. Anthony's church and also cleaned, repaired and stained the picnic pavilion. Conor is a senior at Slippery Rock High School where he is on the golf and Academic Decathlon teams, is a lector at St. Anthony's church and will be attending Slippery Rock University next Fall. He is the son of Tracy Frampton and Kathy Howryla Frampton of Slippery Rock PA.

Jednota Crossword Puzzle



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Across

- 1 Romaine lettuce
- 4 Ayn Rand's ____
Shrugged
- 9 Stage, in time
- 14 Strike
- 15 Prepared
- 16 Fur of the marten
- 17 So. state (Abbr.)
- 18 Butterfly beginning
- 20 Tennis units
- 22 Rich brown pigmer
- 23 Jacuzzi
- 24 Clips
- 26 Bull's eye
- 28 Fugitives from justice
- 31 Gazelle
- 34 Permits
- 35 Chum
- 37 Single
- 38 Shellac, e.g.
- 41 Maldives
- 43 Vase
- 44 Norma ____
- 45 Fibs
- 46 Hush money
- 48 Marine mammal
- 52 Former Ford
- 55 Scandinavian
- 56 Sense organ
- 57 Tempts
- 60 Grade
- 61 Overwhelmed, totally
- 64 Swedish river
- 65 Go furtively
- 66 Fisherman
- 67 Fr. summer
- 68 Disturbances
- 69 Halts

- 70 Stoplight color

Down

- 1 Pure
- 2 Certain tankers
- 3 Radio noise
- 4 Rainbow shape
- 5 Receptions
- 6 Tardy
- 7 Tao virtuosos
- 8 Middle East nation
- 9 Pressure unit (Abbr.)
- 10 Horse's headgear
- 11 Washing of hands
- 12 Concrete section
- 13 Always (Poet)
- 19 Golf score
- 21 Diminutive
- 25 Impaled
- 27 Sailing vessel
- 29 Volcano
- 30 This (Sp.)
- 32 Conclusion
- 33 Guitarist Paul
- 35 Heap
- 36 Orient
- 38 U-boat
- 39 Slip up
- 40 Like some cartoons
- 42 John Jacob ____
- 47 Part of the Mala Archipelago
- 48 Sidewalks divider
- 49 Stock dealer
- 50 Real property
- 51 Staggered
- 53 Shade tree
- 54 Greases
- 56 Monetary unit
- 58 ____ Stanley Gardner
- 59 Appear
- 61 Fall mo.
- 62 Increases
- 63 Medics (Abbr.)

See Solution on Page 19

OUR FAVORITE EASTER RECIPES

Easter Breads

Basic Sweet Dough

2 1/3-3 cups flour divided
1/3 cup sugar
1 package active dry yeast
3/4 teaspoon salt
1/3 cup each milk and water
1/4 cup butter, cut in chunks
1 egg at room temperature

In a large mixer bowl mix well 1 cup flour, sugar, yeast and salt; set aside. Heat milk water and butter until liquids are very warm (120-130); butter need not melt. Gradually beat into flour mixture. Beat at medium speed 2 minutes, scraping bowl occasionally. Add egg and 2 cups flour. (add special spices, fruits and nuts at this point). Beat at high speed, scraping bowl occasionally, 2 minutes or until dough is thick and smooth. Stir in enough remaining flour to make a soft dough. Turn out on lightly floured surface. Knead 5 to 8 minutes or until dough is smooth and elastic. Shape in smooth ball; place in greased bowl; turn to grease top.

Cover; let rise in warm, draft-free place 1 to 1 1/4 hours or until doubled. Punch down, knead lightly; cover; let rest 5 to 10 minutes. Shape as desired on baking sheet. Cover; let rise until doubled. Bake in preheated 350 oven about 15 minutes for small breads (12 per piece dough) or about 35 minutes per single loaf. Makes 12 servings.

Apricot Bread

3 cups sifted all-purpose flour
4 tablespoons baking flour
1 teaspoon salt
1/3 cup white sugar
1/4 cup butter
1 cup (8 oz.) very finely chopped dried apricots
2 eggs
1 cup milk
1 teaspoon grated lemon rind

Sift together flour, baking powder, salt and sugar. Cut in butter until mixture is fine. Stir in apricots. Beat together eggs, milk and lemon rind until just blended. Add to dry ingredients. Stir until well mixed. Pour into greased and floured loaf pan. Makes 1 large or 2 small. Bake in 350 oven for 1 hour or until tests done. Turn out on rack. Best when sliced and served on day after baking.

Slovak Fanky (Cheregi)

4 egg yolks
1 whole egg
4 tablespoons sugar
1 teaspoon vanilla
Pinch of salt
Flour

Beat egg yolks until creamy. Add whole egg and beat again adding sugar and salt. Add enough flour to make a sticky dough. (A tablespoon of rich cream may

be added). Roll out very thin; cut in diamond shape. Make a slit in the center of each.

Fry in hot oil until brown, turning immediately after being placed in oil. Do not over fry. Drain on paper toweling. Dust with powdered sugar. Note: Adding too much flour will take away the crispness.

Paska (Easter Bread)

1/2 cup butter
1 cup scalded milk
1 tablespoon salt
3/4 cup sugar
1 cake yeast (large)
4 eggs, well beaten
5 cups flour (approx.)
1/2 cup seedless raisins (color optional)

Add shortening to hot milk, then salt and sugar. Dissolve and cool to lukewarm. Add crumbled yeast; stir in eggs; add flour and raisins, and knead well (about 20 minutes) until smooth and elastic. Dough should be lighter than for bread. Let rise until double in bulk. Punch down and let rise again. After it has risen for the second time, put dough on board and let rest for 10 minutes. Form into round loaf to fit a 2 quart greased casserole or pan. Let rise for about 45 minutes, or until double in size. Top can be decorated with a cross made of strips of dough, braided and each end of braid pressed firmly into dough. Bake about 45 minutes at 350.

Babka (Easter Coffee Cake)

1 tablespoon dry yeast
1/4 cup warm water (105-115)
1 stick unsalted butter, melted
1/2 cup sugar
4 egg yolks
3 1/2 to 4 cups all-purpose flour
1/2 teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
1 teaspoon rum
3/4 cup warm milk (105-115)
Fine dry bread crumbs
Confectioner's sugar

Dissolve yeast in warm water. Set aside for 5 minutes. Cream butter and sugar in mixing bowl. Add egg yolks, 1 1/2 cups flour, and mix thoroughly. Add yeast mixture, salt, vanilla, and rum. Add milk and enough remaining flour to form a soft dough. Knead on lightly floured surface until smooth- about 10 minutes. Place dough in greased bowl, turning to coat top. Cover, let rise in warm place until double, about 1 hour.

Punch down dough. Generously grease 10 inch bundt pan. Lightly coat pan with bread crumbs. Put dough into prepared pan. Cover, let rise in a warm place until double, about 45 minutes. Bake in a preheated 350 oven 45 minutes or until done. Cool in pan on wire rack 10 minutes. Then remove from pan. Cool on rack. Sprinkle with confectioners' sugar before serving.

Nut or Poppy Seed Roll

6 cups flour
1 cup shortening
1 teaspoon salt
1/2 cup sugar
1 large can evaporated milk
3 egg yolks
1 tablespoon vanilla
1 cake yeast
1/4 cup lukewarm water
Nut Filling:
1 pound walnuts, ground
1/4 cup milk
2 tablespoons butter, melted
1 cup sugar
Poppy Seed Filling:
1 pound poppy seed, ground
1 cup sugar
Juice of 1/4 lemon or 1 tablespoon lemon extract
3 tablespoons shortening
1 cup milk

Mix flour, shortening, salt and sugar as for pie crust. Combine milk, egg yolks and vanilla and add to first mixture. Add also the yeast which has been dissolved in warm water. Work together a few minutes until dough forms into a ball. Set aside for 2 1/2 hours to rise. Divide dough into four pieces and roll

out on slightly floured board. The dough should be about 1/4 inch thick. Spread with desired filling and roll. Bake immediately at 350 for 50 minutes.

Filling: Combine all ingredients for nut filling. For poppy seed filling, combine ingredients and cook for 5 minutes.

Roshky

6 cups flour 1/2 teaspoon salt
1 1/2 cups sugar
1 pound shortening
1/2 pound butter
1/2 pint sour cream
1 yeast cake
6 eggs beaten
Filling
1 pound nuts, ground
3 small apples, grated
1 cup sugar
3 egg whites, stiffly beaten
1 teaspoon vanilla

Sift flour, salt and sugar. Cut in shortening. Add sour cream and eggs. Soften yeast in a little cream and add to first mixture. Put in refrigerator over-night. Divide dough into 4 parts. Roll out 1/4 inch thick, cut in 2-inch squares. Place 1 teaspoon filling on each square, roll and shape into crescents. Bake 12 to 15 minutes at 400.

Easter in a Slovak Home



Photo courtesy of Eugene Kalman

Easter time in a typical Slovak Catholic home shows pussy willows amongst the modra, or Slovak china, as well as, high on the wall, a switch used on Vel'konočný Pondelok (Easter Monday) with the Slovak customs of Kúpanie/Oblievačka and Šibačka (dousing and switching).

Memories of Easter Paskas Past

By Mae Novak, Branch 19

I married into a Slovak family (all members of Branch 19, Bridgeport, Connecticut) over 35 years ago, and for many years was the consumer rather than the baker of many Slovak delicacies, including paska. My husband's Aunt Marge made the paskas for the entire family every Holy Week; lovely puffy, round, browned loaves of sweet white bread encapsulating sweet yellow bread made with farmer's cheese and colored and lightly flavored with turmeric. Each slice of the paska looked like a giant hard-boiled egg, yellow and white. Whether fresh or toasted, it tasted just heavenly. There was no written recipe for the paska, as Aunt Marge had learned how to make it watching her mother. When Aunt Marge made the dough, I would ask for the recipe, and she would say "I use some of this and about this much of that". She claimed that her paska was never nearly as good as her mother's, but since I had no standard of comparison, Aunt Marge's paska became my standard of excellence, delicious and beautiful.

Years went by. Aunt Marge baked, and we ate. She passed on in 1991, just after my husband and I had moved to the Midwest. Paska baking fell to my sister-in-law Patty (under the watchful eye of Aunt Marge's sister, my mother-in-law Ceil) and to me. Patty's paska usually turned out "good" or "great", while mine was "fairly good" to "inedible", usually falling victim to undercooked or poorly seasoned cheese dough. Since we didn't cut the paskas open until Easter Saturday - to take some to church to be blessed - it was always too late to bake more if the paskas came out badly!

Every year we would talk with the family long distance on Easter Sunday, and Patty and I would compare notes as to how our respective paskas had turned out. In 2001, when Patty was living in Connecticut and I in Wisconsin - and a decade after we had been doing the paska baking - I wrote this poem for her. (Note: Now we actually have the written recipe for the Liscinsky family paska, which has made the results more reliable, however this year we're spending Easter in Connecticut, so I'm off the hook!).

A Paska Odyssey

We await our Easter morning
Sure of Christ's triumphant rise
Our only annual worry is
The Great Paska Surprise

Preparing the Easter breakfast
Eggs, ham, kielbasa, horseradish, salt and butter
Is easy - it's only the paska cutting
That makes us want to shudder.

Will it be as perfect as a hard-boiled egg
Yellow, white and smooth?
Did we knead it long enough
For even Aunt Marge to approve?



Will the paska be sweet enough
To butter and taste yummy?
Or will that pesky cheese dough
Be undercooked and gummy?

Despite our past experiences with
Our paskas' condition
We do our best each and every year
To uphold this Slovak family tradition.

So grab your turmeric and pot cheese, Patty
And a glass of Easter cheer
Here's to another successful paska season
And to my sister-in-law most dear.

The 2010 IRA Contribution Deadline Is April 15

Act now with any of the following FCSU products:

FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION IRA INTEREST RATES EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 1, 2010

Six Year Flexible Premium Deferred IRA	3.65% (3.585% apr)
With the "Cash Interest" Option	3.40% (3.344% apr)
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Maximum deposit is \$25,000.00	
New Six-Year Fixed Rate Deferred IRA	3.40% (3.344% apr)

If you have any questions about our Annuities or IRA's,
please contact the Home Office at
1-800-533-6682 or your local Branch Officer.

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\$5000 for \$290
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Newborn Female
\$5000 for \$250
\$10000 for \$500

Male - age 5
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\$10000 for \$680

Female - age 5
\$5000 for \$290
\$10000 for \$580

Male - age 10
\$5000 for \$400
\$10000 for \$800

Female - age 10
\$5000 for \$340
\$10000 for \$680

Male - age 15
\$5000 for \$480
\$10000 for \$960

Female - age 15
\$5000 for \$405
\$10000 for \$810

Male - age 20
\$5000 for \$545.00
\$10000 for \$1090.00

Female - age 20
\$5000 for \$470.00
\$10000 for \$940.00

Purchase Single
Premium Whole Life
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DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISTRICT 2 - THE REV. JOHN J. SPITKOVSKY DISTRICT

The Rev. John J. Spitkovsky District II Semi-annual meeting will take place on Sunday, April 10, 2011 at Our Lady of Sorrows Benedictine Priory, 5900 W. 147th Street, in Oak Forest, Illinois. We will enjoy a short period of fraternal fellowship and refreshments starting at 1:30 pm.

The Semi-Annual Meeting will start promptly at 2:00 pm.

Attendees will enjoy a delicious meal. All branches are asked to send delegates; individual Jednota members who wish to learn more about becoming active in District 2 are also welcome to attend. If you plan to attend, please call District President John Jurcenko at (773) 763-0810, so enough food and beverages can be ordered for the meeting.

Robert Tapak Magruder, District 2 Recording Secretary

DISTRICT 3 – GEORGE ONDA DISTRICT – WESTMORELAND COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA.

The George Onda District will hold its Semi-Annual meeting on Saturday, April 16, 2011 following the 5 PM Mass at St. Florian Roman Catholic Church, United, PA, in the Formation Room. All branch members are encouraged to attend to provide info on the branches. We look forward to a sizable turnout. Refreshments will be provided.

Linda L. Gonta, District Secretary

DISTRICT 4 – MSGR JOHN E. RURA DISTRICT

The next semi-annual meeting of the Msgr. Rura District of New Jersey will be held on Sunday, March 27, 2011 at 1:00 PM. Branch 746 will host the meeting at Msgr. Komar Hall of Holy Family Church, 2806 Parkway Avenue, Linden, NJ. Election of Officers will take place.

Mary J. Kapitan, Secretary

DISTRICT 5 – MICHIGAN DISTRICT

The Michigan District's semi-annual meeting will be held on Sunday, April 10, 2011, at S.S. Cyril and Methodius Church, located at 41233 Ryan Road, Sterling Heights, MI.

Our day will begin with a Slovak Mass at 11:30 am, followed by refreshments in the adjacent Father Mikus Hall. The actual meeting will begin at 1:00 pm in the Slovak Heritage Room, with a luncheon served after. The meeting will be hosted by Branch 743. Please contact Joseph Rimarcik at (586) 254-0225 with the number of delegates attending from your branch by April 4, 2011.

On the agenda will be important information concerning district business. Hoping that many of you will join us for the day.

Ann Magusin, Secretary

DISTRICT 6 – PITTSBURGH DISTRICT

The Pittsburgh District Spring Meeting will be held on Sunday, April 10, at 1PM at Holy Trinity Parish Hall in West Mifflin. Branch 738 will host. The agenda will include officers' reports and discussion of national and district business items. Plans for the Fathers Day Brunch will be finalized. We will also discuss the possibilities for district participation in cultural events such as Slovak Day at Kennywood or Slovak Heritage Day at Pitt.

Branch 35 will host the Fall meeting on a date to be determined later. Branch 2 will host the Fathers' Day Brunch on Sunday, June 19, at Holy Trinity Parish Hall in West Mifflin. Mass will begin at 9:30 with brunch to follow. Further details on prices for the meal and ad booklet will be provided later.

The district would like to collect e-mail addresses from each branch in order to improve communications. For example, items for the meeting agenda or details of meeting arrangements can be sent directly. If we don't already have your e-mail, please contact the district secretary at manasta@verizon.net

The Pittsburgh District looks forward to seeing everyone at the April meeting.

Fraternally,

Margaret A. Nasta, Secretary

DISTRICT 8 – REV. STEPHEN FURDEK DISTRICT – EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA, MARYLAND, AND WASHINGTON, DC

The Rev. Stephen Furdek District will hold its semi-annual Meeting on Sunday, April 10, 2011, in Saint John the Baptist Church Social Hall, 924 N. Front Street, Allentown, PA, 18102. There will be no Mass for this meeting due to Mass schedule changes. A luncheon will be served at 12:00pm in the Social Hall and the meeting will start at 1:00 pm. Donations for the luncheon are \$10.00 per person. Please make checks payable to Branch 567. All checks and credentials must be returned by Friday, April 1, 2011. PLEASE be prompt! Any questions, please call Loretta Dashner at 610-432-8350. Thank you!

Loretta Dashner, Recording Secretary

DISTRICT 12 – MSGR. ANDRE HLINKA DISTRICT

On Sunday, May 22, 2011, at 1:00 PM, a meeting of the Andre Hlinka District will be held at Kings Restaurant in Bentleyville, PA. Members of the various branches are urged to attend.

Frances Tarquinio, Secretary

DISTRICT 16 – MSGR. STEPHAN KRASULA DISTRICT

The Msgr. Stephan Krasula, District 16, will hold its Semi-annual Meeting on Sunday, May 22, 2011, at 1:00 pm in the Parish Hall at St. John Nepomucene Church 411 East 66th Street, New York City, NY. On the agenda will be a financial report and a discussion of activities for next season.

We urge all District branches to send their representatives to this meeting. All members of the FCSU – not just delegates – are welcome.

Refreshments will be served by Branch 716, the Stephen the Martyr Society, NYC, after the meeting.

Fraternally,

Henrietta H. Daitova, Secretary-Treasurer

DISTRICT 17 – SS. CYRIL & METHODIUS DISTRICT – LUZERNE AND LACKAWANNA COUNTIES, PENNSYLVANIA AND BROOME COUNTY, NEW YORK

The SS Cyril and Methodius District 17 will hold its semi-annual meeting Sunday, April 10, 2011 at St. Peter's Cathedral Rectory, 315 Wyoming Ave., Scranton, PA. Auditors will meet immediately prior to the meeting which is scheduled at 1:30 pm.

All members of the various branches are invited and encouraged to attend. Are your "DISTRICT DUES" up to date? If not, your branch may do so at this meeting. Also, suggestions, concerns, or questions may be addressed and discussed. Join your fraternal brothers and sisters and become active in all fraternal activities.

District President Michael Slovenkai asks that you call him at (570) 342-7562 to make reservations as refreshments will be served after the meeting. We'll see you on April 10, 2011!

Fraternally,

Theresa Chupka, Recording Secretary

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BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

BRANCH 1– CLEVELAND, OH

The Saint Joseph Society Branch 1 will hold its next meeting on Wednesday, April 13, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the Sts. Cyril & Methodius School Hall, 12608 Madison Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio. All members are encouraged to attend. If you have any questions please call 216.228.8179.

Marie A. Golias, Secretary

BRANCH 3 – MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

Minneapolis Branch 3 will hold their annual breakfast meeting on Sunday, April 17, 2011. Mass will be offered for our living and deceased members at 9:00am at Sts. Cyril and Methodius Church, Second Street and 13th Avenue, NE.

After Mass, a full breakfast will be served by the St. Cyril Slovak Men's Club in Father Dargay Hall.

The breakfast is free for all members of Br. 3, and the former St. Joseph Branch 226. Please, no parking in the school lot!

Fraternally yours,

James T. Genosky, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 5 - EXETER, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. John the Evangelist Society, Branch 5P, will hold a meeting on Sunday afternoon, April 3, 2011, at 1:00pm at the home of Leonard J. Zavada, President, 141 Second Street, Wyoming, PA. New ideas for branch activities will be discussed. All members are encouraged to attend and get involved.

Leonard J. Zavada, President

BRANCH 7 – HOUTZDALE, PENNSYLVANIA

The Sacred Heart of Jesus Society, Branch 7, will hold its next meeting on Sunday, April 10, 2011, at 9:00AM at Christ the King Parish Center, 100 Brisbin Street, Houtzdale, PA. Members are encouraged to attend.

Marie Sedlack, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 40P – ONEIDA, PENNSYLVANIA

There has been a merger between Branch 40P Oneida, PA and Branch 136K Nuremberg, PA. All members of Branch 040P will now hold membership in Branch 136K. This merger has taken place as of March 16, 2011. If you should need any service on your policy, or new or additional insurance, please contact: MICHAEL M PALUSHOCK, PO BOX 634, NUREMBERG, PA 18241-0634, (570) 384-4660.

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

Sincerely,

Kenneth A. Arendt, National Secretary

BRANCH 45 – NEW YORK, NEW YORK

The St. Matthew's the Evangelist Society, Branch 45, will hold a meeting on Sunday, April 10, 2011, at 12:30 pm after the Slovak Mass at St. John Nepomucene Church, 66th and 1st Avenue, New York City. We urge all members to attend this meeting.

Maria Jurasi, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 89 – MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

Our Easter Duty Mass will be held at the 9:00AM Mass on April 10, 2011 at St. Margaret Mary, 3970 N. 92nd St., Milwaukee, WI 53222. Breakfast be served immediately after Mass at 10:30AM at the Grecian Inn, 14375 W. Capitol Dr., Brookfield, WI.

Breakfast for Members is complimentary, guest cost is \$15.00, and kids under age 6 are free. Reservations for Breakfast must be made by April 4, 2011. Call Mike Novak @ 414-445-5382 with number attending.

Make Checks payable to KNIGHTS OF ST. MARY & JOSEPH BR 89.

Mail to: Mike Novak 3237 N. 93rd St. Milwaukee, WI 53222.

Thank You,

Mike Novak / President

BRANCH 116P – MCADOO, PENNSYLVANIA

There has been a merger between Branch 116P Mcadoo, PA and Branch 294K Tresckow, PA. All members of Branch 116P will now hold membership in Branch 294K. This merger has taken place as of March 14, 2011. If you should need any service on your policy, or new or additional insurance, please contact: FRANCIS ZAPOTOCKY, BOX 188, 26 S BIRCH ST, TRESCKOW, PA 18254, (570) 459-0631.

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

Sincerely,

Kenneth A. Arendt, National Secretary

BRANCH 131P – TRESCKOW, PENNSYLVANIA

There has been a merger between Branch 131P Tresckow, PA and Branch 294K Tresckow, PA. All members of Branch 131P will now hold membership in Branch 294K. This merger has taken place as of March 14, 2011. If you should need any service on your policy, or new or additional insurance, please contact: FRANCIS ZAPOTOCKY, BOX 188, 26 S BIRCH ST, TRESCKOW, PA 18254, (570) 459-0631.

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

Sincerely,

Kenneth A. Arendt, National Secretary

BRANCH 153 – CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Branch 153 encourages its members to attend the District 2 Brunch and Theatre At the Center, Munster, Indiana performance of "Nunset Boulevard."

This District Fraternal Event is a musical comedy and will be held on May 15, 2011, with brunch starting at 12:45PM. There are special discounts for FCSU members and an extra-special discount for Branch 153 members, as Branch 153 will subsidize part of the ticket cost.

Ticket costs are as follows:

Nonmembers:	\$52.20
FCSU members:	\$42.20
Branch 153 members:	\$27.20

If interested, call Dorothy Jurcenko at (773) 763-0810 before March 22, 2011.

Dorothy Jurcenko, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 166 – WINDSOR, NEW YORK

The St. Joseph the Guardian Society, Branch 166 – Binghamton Capital area, Peckskill, Poughkeepsie, and Syracuse, NY – will hold its Semi-annual Meeting and Dinner on Sunday, April 3, 2011, at 1:15 pm at the Old Country Buffet, Town Square Hall, Vestal, NY. On the agenda will be discussions of the district meeting, branch business, and FCSU current offerings. All members are encouraged to attend this meeting.

Please call Sue Gabriele at 607-729-8043 or Arlo Meeker at 607-775-4896 by March 30, 2011, to reserve a place at the dinner. Hope to see you at the meeting.

Arlo Meeker, President

BRANCH 201K – PERTH AMBOY, NEW JERSEY

There has been a merger between Branch 201K Perth Amboy, NJ and Branch 746K Linden, NJ. All members of Branch 201K will now hold membership in Branch 746K. This merger has taken place as of March 17, 2011. If you should need any service on your policy, or new or additional insurance, please contact: MARY J KAPITAN, 166 ECHO AVE, EDISON, NJ 08837-2631, (732) 225-2658.

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

Sincerely,

Kenneth A. Arendt, National Secretary

continued on page 15

BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

continued from page 14

BRANCH 232K – PLAINS, PENNSYLVANIA

There has been a merger between Branch 232K Plains, PA and Branch 173K Wilkes Barre, PA. All members of Branch 232K will now hold membership in Branch 173K. This merger has taken place as of March 15, 2011. If you should need any service on your policy, or new or additional insurance, please contact: CARL J UN-GVARSKY, 15 GROVE ST, MOUNTAIN TOP, PA 18707, (570) 403-2067.

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

Sincerely,
Kenneth A. Arendt, National Secretary

BRANCH 290 – RARITAN, NEW JERSEY

A meeting will be held on May 4, 2011, at 7:30PM. Please call Joe at (732) 469-5256 as to the location of the meeting. Please attend.

Joe F. Minarovich, President

BRANCH 313 – CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the annual meeting of The St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 313, on Saturday, March 26, 2011, at 11:00AM, has been rescheduled to Saturday, May 28, 2011 at 11:00AM. The place will be the same, at the Mother of Sorrows Convent in Oak Forest, IL, 5600 W 147th St. On the agenda will be the election of officers for 2011, and new membership for our Society.

Joseph M. Bugel, President & Financial Secretary

BRANCH 320 – BELLE VERNON, PENNSYLVANIA

The officers of Ss. Peter & Paul Society, Branch 320, invite their members to attend the branch's next meeting on Sunday, June 19, 2011, at NOON at the residence of Frances Tarquinio, 209 Sylvan Drive, Belle Vernon, PA. Since lunch will be prepared, please call Fran (724) 929-9788 and let her know if you will be attending.

Mary Anne Higginbotham, President

BRANCH 372 - BEAVERDALE, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Joseph Branch 372 will hold a semi-annual meeting on Sunday, May 22 at 1:00pm at the home of President Michael Hudak, 829 Cameron Ave., Beaverdale, PA, 15921. All members are urged to attend.

Fraternally,
Michael Hudak, President

BRANCH 380 – CANONSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Ignace Society, Branch 380, Canonsburg, PA, will hold a meeting on Sunday April 17, 2011, at 2:00PM at Wendy's in Canonsburg, PA.

Margaret Graytok, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 567 – ALLENTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, Branch 567KJ, had the election of officers for the year

2011 at their December 2010 meeting. The following officers were elected and sworn in: President, Bernadine Gerhard; Financial Secretary/Treasurer, William Micek; Recording Secretary Rosalie Favere; and Auditor, Loretta Dashner.

Branch 567KJ will have a regular meeting on Wednesday, April 6, 2011, at 1:00pm in St. John the Baptist Church Social Hall, 924 N. Front Street, Allentown, PA. A discussion will be held regarding our fund raising plans for the year 2011.

All members are cordially invited to attend. Thank you.

Rosalie Favere, Recording Secretary/LD

BRANCH 580 – WEST MIFFLIN, PA

The Sacred Heart of Jesus Society Branch 580 will hold a meeting on Sunday April 3, 2011 after the

9:30 mass in the Holy Trinity Social Hall. All members are welcome.

Virginia Jasek, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 595 – MUSKEGON HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN

Branch 595 in Muskegon Heights, MI would like to announce our monthly pork and kraut dinners being served at the club. They will be held on the second Sunday of each month. This is a complete traditional dinner including dessert. Only \$6 for adults and children under 12 pay only \$4. We will be serving from noon until 3 p.m.

Our monthly breakfast is held the fourth Sunday of each month. We serve from 8:30 a.m. until noon. We serve a wide variety of breakfast items. The cost remains at \$6.50 for adults and \$3.50 for children.

We are located at the corner of Sixth Street and Sherman Boulevard in Muskegon Heights. Our phone number is 231 733 7525. Please contact us if you have any other questions.

Thank you,
Donna Stone, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 633 – FLINT, MICHIGAN

Sacred Heart of Jesus, Branch 633, will hold its first meeting of the year on April 9, 2011 at 1:00 PM @ the Empire Wok Restaurant, 4211 East Court St., Burton, MI. All members are asked to please attend.

Joseph Pirich, Treasurer

BRANCH 670 – DONORA, PENNSYLVANIA

The officers of St. Anton of Padua, Branch 670, invite their members to attend the branch's next meeting on Sunday, May 22, at NOON at Kings Restaurant in Bentleyville, PA. Members are urged to attend.

Dorothy Petrus, President

BRANCH 682 - BOARDMAN, OHIO

Branch 682 is holding a semi-annual meeting. The discussion will be about the upcoming events for the year 2011. It will be held on April 27, 2011 at 7:00 PM at Material Research Laboratories located at 290 N. Bridge St., Struthers, OH 44471. All members are urged to attend. Reservations are not required.

Sincerely yours,
Andrew J. Hirt, President

BRANCH 706 – CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

St. Anthony of Padua Society, Branch 706, will hold its Spring Meeting on May 1, 2011, at 3:30PM at the home of the President, Shirley M. Uram, 1361 S. 86th Avenue, Orlando Park, IL 60462. On the agenda will be discussions on membership, as well as activities for the coming year. Refreshments will be served. All members are invited to attend. If you plan to attend, please call Mrs. Uram at 1-708-349-9049.

Sincerely,
Shirley M. Uram, President

BRANCH 716 – NEW YORK, NEW YORK

The Stephen the Martyr Society, Branch 716, will hold its Semi-annual Meeting on Sunday, May 1, 2011, at 1:00 pm in the Parish Hall, St. John St. John Nepomucene Church, 411 East, 66th Street, New York City. On the agenda will be a financial report and discussion of plans for next season. All members are urged to attend this meeting. Refreshments will be served after the meeting.

Fraternally,
Henrieta H. Daitova, Secretary

BRANCH 731 - YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

The the Patron Saint Feast Day with Mass and lunch to follow at Saint Matthias Church on April 3, 2011, has been cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances.

Jim Bobby, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 738 – MUNHALL, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Michael's Branch 738 will hold its semi-annual meeting Tuesday 5/10/11 at 6:30 pm at

the VFW Post 6673, Whitaker Way, Munhall, Pa. The meeting will include all branch business, fraternal activities and planning for the Branch party in October 2011. All members are invited to attend.

Pat Guidish, Secretary Branch 738

BRANCH 851K – WASHINGTON, PENNSYLVANIA

There has been a merger between Branch 851K Washington, PA and Branch 380K Canonburg, PA. All members of Branch 851K will now hold membership in Branch 380K. This merger has taken place as of March 15, 2011.

If you should need any service on your policy, or new or additional insurance, please contact: MARGARET A GRAYTOK, 236 W PIKE ST, CANONSBURG, PA 15317-1163, (724) 745-8747.

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

Sincerely,
Kenneth A. Arendt, National Secretary

BRANCH 856 – WASHINGTON DC, MARYLAND AND VIRGINIA

Our Mother of Sorrows Society will hold the next meeting May 2, 211 at 1:00PM in the Thomas Jefferson Library at 7415 Arlington Blvd, Falls Church.

Members are encouraged to attend meetings and become more active in our fraternal organization. A warm welcome to Branch 61 of Baltimore that merged with Branch 856.

For more information, call Stephen Matula at 703-671-3013 or Katherine Nowatkoski at 703-860-1693.

Katherine Nowatkoski, Financial Secretary

Reminder For All Branches

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

14.01 General Rules

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

Attention Members: Branch 743 Needs Your Help

As Financial Secretary of Branch 743, I have been unable to contact certain members of the Branch. It may be that the person is deceased and the beneficiaries are entitled to life insurance proceeds, or they are not receiving life insurance policy updates.

Your Branch needs a current address or telephone number for any of the named individuals listed below.

Any assistance provided will be greatly appreciated.

Joseph C. Rimarcik
President/ Financial Secretary
42909 Sussex Park Dr.
Sterling Heights, MI 48314-3087
586-254-0225

Branch 743 Missing Address

As of March 19, 2011

Name	Year Born	Name	Year Born
Anderson, Shirley S	1936	Korpak, John	1914
Atkinson, Frances	1917	Litwin, Madonna	1958
Baldwin, Irene	1926	Maas, Pauline E	1919
Batchik, Mary E	1962	Madar, Douglas	1956
Bratley, Susan	1951	Madar, Judith	1940
Bertolini, Angelo P	1925	Markovich, Laura	1957
Cassar, Kami L	1975	McKolay, Peter	1959
Cassar, Louis	1947	Mracna, George W	1942
Churchran, Donald	1942	Schulte, Dennis	1969
Comito, Dorothy	1932	Smiscik, Maria	1954
Fetter, Beverly	1947	Sotak, Albert E	1921
Gordon, Josephine	1913	Stvrtecka, Anna	1919
Greslikova, Natalia	1974		

DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

continued from page 14

DISTRICT 20 – PRINCE PRIBINA DISTRICT - LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

Prince Pribina District will hold its meeting on Palm Sunday April 17, 2011. Celebration begins at 11:00 AM with a Slovak Holy Mass at St. John Bosco Chapel at St. John Bosco High School, 13640 S. Bellflower Boulevard, BELLFLOWER, CA 90706. The meeting will follow in the cafeteria. After the meeting, a period of fraternal fellowship will follow with a Slovak gourmet lunch, where dessert and refreshments also will be served. Children will enjoy a traditional Easter Egg hunt.

All members are invited and all branches in our area are encouraged to send delegates to the meeting.

On the agenda will be: Promotion and schedule of District fraternal activities and First Catholic Slovak Union Insurance program information.

Sincerely,
Paul Skuben, President

OBITUARIES

**DR. STEPHEN J. WHISDOSH,
FCSU NATIONAL SECRETARY OF
THE SUPREME COURT,
CONVENTION ORGANIST, AND
LIFE-LONG BRANCH 181 MEMBER,
PASSES MARCH 17, 2011**



Stephen J. Whisdosh, Ed.D. 59, of Unity Township, passed away on Thursday, March 17, 2011. Born January 20, 1952 in Latrobe, PA, he was the son of the late Steve A. and Anne (Gruss) Whisdosh. Dr. Whisdosh was a lifelong member of St. Florian Catholic Church,

United, PA, where he served as organist and choir director for 47 years. He was a graduate of St. Joseph Hall, Greensburg, PA, Class of 1969. He earned a Bachelor of Arts, magna cum laude, from Duquesne University in 1973 and a Master of Science in Education from Duquesne University in 1975. In 1996, he was awarded a Doctorate in Educational Administration from the University of Pittsburgh.

He began his career in 1973 as a teacher at St. Vincent Elementary School in Latrobe, PA. In 1975, he was hired by the Mt. Pleasant Area School District where he served as a social studies teacher, guidance counselor and junior high school principal. In 1985, he accepted a position in the

Ligonier Valley School District and served as the principal at Laurel Valley Middle/High School in New Florence, PA. In 1992, he was appointed Superintendent of Schools for the Rochester Area School District in Beaver County. In 1996, Dr. Whisdosh was appointed Superintendent of Schools for the Ligonier Valley School District, a position he held until his retirement in 2008. Since his retirement from public education, Dr. Whisdosh served as an adjunct professor in the masters' and doctoral education programs at Gannon University. He also served as a consultant for the Pennsylvania Department of Education and mentored beginning principals and superintendents throughout the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Dr. Whisdosh previously served as Chairman of the Westmoreland County Chief School Administrators and President of the Beaver County Chief School Administrators. He was also a member of the American Institute of School Administrators, Pennsylvania Association of School Administrators, the Ligonier Valley Educational Trust, the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, the Pennsylvania School Boards Association, the Westmoreland County Educational Consultant to the Boy Scouts of America and the St. Vincent Prevention Program Steering Committee.

Dr. Whisdosh was a lifelong member of First Catholic Slovak Union ("Jednota") Branch 181, United, PA. He served as National Secretary of the Supreme Court and Convention Organist for the First Catholic Slovak Union.

He also served as an organist at St. Raymond of the Mountains Parish in Donegal, PA and as the Director of Music and Choir Director at First Christian Church in Greensburg, PA.

Dr. Whisdosh is survived by his wife of 35 years Kathryn M. (Hoak) and son Stephen M. (Bridget E.) of Mt. Lebanon, PA; granddaughter, Margaret A.; and sister, Suzanne M. (Patsy A.) lezzi of Greensburg. Dr. Whisdosh is also survived by numerous nieces and nephews.

Family and Friends were received from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m. Sunday, March 20, 2011, and Monday, March 21, 2011, in the Jay A. Hoffer Funeral Home, Norvelt, PA. A blessing service was held at 9:15 a.m. Tuesday, March 22, 2011, in the funeral home, followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at 10:00 a.m. concelebrated in St. Florian Catholic Church with the Rev. Richard P. Karenbauer as leading celebrant.

Interment followed in St. Florian Cemetery, Trauger.

**PETER REGULY
BRANCH 402 –
THUNDERBAY, ONTARIO**



Peter Paul "Peps" Reguly, age 85 years, a resident of Thunder Bay, passed away unexpectedly in Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre, on Wednesday, January 26, 2011. Born and raised in Thunder Bay he attended St. Peter's and St. Patrick schools. He served in the

Royal Navy, Unit RCN-VR 1943-1945. He graduated from the University of Windsor and went on to pursue a career in Pharmacy and then Teaching. Teaching for the Federal and Isolate School Boards took him to northern locals such as Gull Bay, Macdiarmid and Osnaburgh where he also served as Principal. Upon retirement, he became involved in many community groups. Peter was a member of St. Peter's Roman Catholic Church, life member of the First Catholic Slovak Union Branch 402KJ, the Knights of Columbus Council #7332, the 4th Degree Father Baxter Assembly and the Royal Canadian Legion Slovak Branch #129. Peps was actively involved with St. Peter's Parish and spent many hours volunteering at the Columbus Centre where he also swam every day. At the Columbus Centre kitchen Peps was known as the "official meatball tester". Peps loved to watch sports, especially football. He loved joining his buddies for coffee at Columbus Centre and Tim Hortons. Peps tended the family garden with loving care. Peter is survived by his daughters Mary (Dennis), Patricia (Don) and son Paul all of Toronto. Also survived by grandchildren Melissa, Laura, James, Paul, Patrick, Jonathan and Chantal; brother Grimes; sisters-in-law Pauline and Bernice, as well as numerous nieces, nephews and cousins. Predeceased by parents Paul and Teresa, sister Mary in infancy and brothers Rev. Joseph, John and George. Prayers were held on Friday, February 4, 2011 at 7:00pm in St. Peter's Church. A Funeral Mass was held on Saturday, February 5, in St. Peter's Church at 10:00am celebrated by Rev. Terry Sawchuk. Final interment followed in St. Patrick's Cemetery. A tree will be planted in memory of Peter Reguly in the Blake Funeral Chapel Memorial Grove. Annual dedication service Sunday, June 10, 2012.

**OSEPHINE FRATELLO
BRANCH 587 –
ALIQUPPA, PENNSYLVANIA**



Josephine "Jo" L. (Steinbach) Fratello, 84, of the Town of Niagara, died on February 16, 2011 at Niagara Hospice House in Lockport, NY. Born in Clymer, PA, she was the daughter of the late Alfred Steinbach and Desoline "Sue" (Stella) Uli and step-daughter of the late Joseph

Uli.

Jo attended school in Pennsylvania and graduated from Aliquippa High School in 1944. In 1945 she moved to the Niagara Falls area where she lived until the present time. On November 13, 1948, she married Cosmo J. "Corky" Fratello at St. Joseph Church in Niagara Falls, NY. Jo was employed at the former Kimberly Clark Corp. and during the 1970's and 1980's, she worked as a receptionist at her family's owned business, C. Fratello Opticians, Inc., both in Niagara Falls, NY. Josephine was an active member of the Town of Niagara Lioness Club. In her leisure time, she enjoyed completing crossword puzzles and was a voracious reader of Louis L'Amour Western Novels. Jo also took great pleasure in sewing when her children were younger.

In addition to her husband, Josephine is survived by five children, Joseph (Kay) Fratello of Pulaski, NY, Susan (Paul) McCoy of East Lake, OH, Alfred (Kathryn) Fratello of Niagara Falls,

NY, David (Lynn) Fratello of Hastings, NY and Mary (Joel) Milleville of Niagara Falls, NY; eight grandchildren, Nicholas Fratello, Holly Jo and Hannah McCoy, Michelle (Nick) Abel, Lou (Shana) Fratello, Julie (Keith) Eberly, Matthew and Rebecca Milleville; four step-grandchildren, Paul and John McCoy, Stephen (Lisa) Przepiora and Peter Przepiora; two great-grandchildren, Allana Abel and David Fratello; 16 step-great-grandchildren; one sister, Dorothy (late Frank) Bruno of Hallandale, FL; and several nieces, nephews and cousins.

Visitation was held on Friday, February 18, 2011, from 3-8 PM at the M.J. COLUCCI & SON NIAGARA FUNERAL CHAPEL, Niagara Falls, NY. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Saturday, February 19, 2011, at 10:00 AM in St. Vincent DePaul Parish at St. Leo's Church, Niagara Falls, NY, with Rev. Robert Stolinski officiating. Interment followed in Gate of Heaven Cemetery, Lewiston, NY.

**VERONICA VANISH
BRANCH 731 –
YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO**



Services were held on March 12, 2011, at St. Matthias Church for FCSU's life-long member, Veronica F. Vanish, 83, who entered into eternal rest on March 3, 2011.

Born May 21, 1927, in Youngstown, OH, she was a daughter of Michal and Franciska (Lihan Svidran)

Tkacik, immigrants from "Polomka nad Hronom" Slovakia.

She graduated from Wilson High School in 1945, attended Youngstown Business School, worked in Republic Steel Corp., attended YSU, and was employed by Blue Cross and Blue Shield, where she retired in 1988 after 22 years of service. She and her husband George owned and operated Vern's Gift Shoppe for 25 years.

In addition to her membership in the First Catholic Slovak Union, St. Joseph Branch 731,

other organizations she was affiliated with included: Infant Jesus of Prague; Campfire Girls; American Business Women's Association; First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, Branch 161; Slovak Catholic Sokols, Wreath 54; Slovak Catholic Sokols National; Slovak Catholic Federation; The Mahoning County Civic and Cultural Society; and St. Elizabeth's Hospital where she served as a Eucharistic Minister.

She enjoyed flower gardening and traveling domestically and abroad, including Medjugorja, Bosnia-Herzegovina; Mexico; Canada; the Bahamas; and her parents' homeland of Slovakia.

She was preceded in death by her husband, George Vanish, who she married on July 24, 1948, and also by her parents and a sister Margaret Ann Tkacik.

She is survived by her son, Capt. George M. Vanish; a daughter, Michele Joly; grandsons Joshua M. Joly and Thomas C. Joly-Behanna; a brother, Frank Tkacik; and a sister, Alma Neapolitan.

All funeral arrangements were pre-arranged by her and handled by Kubina-Yuhasz Funeral Home.

**BERTHA LOUISE KUSNIR
BRANCH 888 –
PALM BEACH GARDENS, FLORIDA**

Bertha Louise Kusnir of West Palm Beach, Florida on February 7, 2011 in her 82nd year. Beloved wife of Donald J. Kusnir, loving mother of Donna L. Carpenter and Sharon M. James, cherished grandmother of Jonathon, Christopher, Whitney and the late Ashley, adored great-grandmother of Cayden. Bertha was an officer for Branch 888 and a long time member of the FCSU. Video tribute can be viewed at www.tillmanfuneralhome.com.

ORDER TICKETS NOW For Branch 743 90th Anniversary

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 743 will hold its 90th Anniversary celebration on Sunday May 15, 2011 at SS. Cyril and Methodius Church, 41233 Ryan Road, Sterling Heights, MI.

The 90th anniversary celebration, will include a banquet lunch and entertainment, and will follow the 11:30 a.m. Mass in the Church Social Hall.

The cost for the event is \$10.00 for members and \$15.00 for non-members. Children's ticket age 17 and under are \$10.00.

Only 100 tickets will be sold for this event. There will be NO tickets sold the day of the event. You are urged to purchase your tickets early! We anticipate a sell out.

Tickets can be purchased from: Anna Magusin (586-751-2960), Milan Straka (248-478-3818) or Daniela Grisak (248-659-8522).

Program information Joseph C Rimarcik (586-254-0225).

**Joseph C Rimarcik
President and Financial Secretary**

**The First Catholic Slovak Union is now accepting
VISA, Mastercard and Discover credit cards
as newspaper subscription payments.**

Contact the Home Office for details: 1-800-JEDNOTA or fcsu@aol.com.

News From Slovakia

Radicova: Slovakia Against Same Retirement Age Across EU

Bratislava, March 14 (TASR) - Upon talks concerning the Competitiveness Pact, Slovakia pushed ahead for wording that jettisoned the harmonization of direct taxes and establishing a uniform retirement age across EU member countries, Prime Minister Iveta Radicova told a session of the Parliament's Committee for European Affairs on this date.

Speaking at greater length about the extraordinary session of the European Council in Brussels on March 11, Radicova added that, courtesy of Slovakia's initiative, the issue of direct taxes will remain under the sole remit of the individual countries.

According to the premier, another issue that was included in the Competitiveness Act thanks to Slovakia's initiative is that the connection between the retirement age and life expectancy should be taken into account. She stressed that there ought to be a gap between the two of at least 15 years, with Slovakia meeting this criterion at the moment. However, should changes at the EU level be made Slovakia may not necessarily comply with the criterion.

"We won't come up with a proposal to raise the pension age," she said when pressed for answers as to whether Slovakia will advocate raising the retirement age, which is currently 62 for men and 60 for women (with early retirement possible for having reared children).

Ministry: Slovaks in Japan's Tsunami-stricken Area Safe and Sound

Bratislava, March 14 (TASR) - The Slovak Foreign Affairs Ministry has succeeded in receiving information concerning 12 Slovak nationals who were probably in the wider area battered by the earthquake and ensuing tsunami in Japan, the ministry's spokesman Lubos Schwarzbacher told TASR on this date.

The ministry has initially got in touch with 10 Slovak citizens who were in the area and who are safe. The latest information indicates that two more Slovaks who were in the disaster-stricken area are also doing fine and are already back in Slovakia.

"A crisis staff held a session at the Foreign Affairs Ministry today (Monday). The ministry is keeping track of the situation in Japan and is evaluating it on a regular basis," said Schwarzbacher.

Meanwhile, the ministry is recommending people not to travel to northeastern Japan as well as greater Tokyo, and to respect the recommendations of Japanese authorities.

Nagy: To Get Rid of Nuclear Energy, Alternatives Must Be at Hand

Bratislava/Brussels, March 14 (TASR) - Neither Slovakia nor Europe as a whole can sufficiently cover their energy needs without using nuclear energy, and that's why European countries need to focus on achieving maximum security and safety in nuclear power plants, according to Environment Minister Jozsef Nagy.

Speaking to journalists in Brussels on Monday, Nagy said that a discussion on possible stress testing in nuclear power plants in the wake of the current situation in Japan cannot take place, as Austrians haven't yet called for it – though they said they would do so on Monday. The matter is expected to be discussed by EU environment ministers in the days ahead.

"If the European stress-test initiative kicked off, I'd support it. It's not only about Slovakia, it's about the whole of Europe," said Nagy, who views the use of nuclear energy circumspectly. He says that Europe first needs to know exactly how to use it in order to make it safe.

Nagy described himself as a supporter of the idea of elimination of nuclear power plants, but only on condition that "there's an adequate alternative in place".

Sulik: Occupation of Cyprus Dangerous Precedent, EU Must Be Resolute

Bratislava, March 14 (TASR) - The EU should take up a more resolute stance towards the issue of the divided island of Cyprus, Slovak Parliamentary Chairman Richard Sulik said after a meeting with his Cypriot counterpart Marios Garoyian on this date.

"I view the fact that the EU allows part of its territory to be occupied [by the Turkish army] as a bad and dangerous precedent," said Sulik.

Cyprus has been divided since 1974, with around 40,000 Turkish troops deployed in the northern part, which claims to be an independent state called the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus. Apart from Turkey, no other country has recognized its independence, however.

According to Sulik, the EU should put more diplomatic pressure aimed at resolving the problem "to the satisfaction of all the parties concerned".

Garoyian claimed that the issue of Cyprus hasn't been resolved because Turkey has an unyielding attitude and continues to observe the principles of the erstwhile Ottoman Empire. Ankara is ignoring UN and EU resolutions, said Garoyian. "Unfortunately, Turkey is disdainful of everybody. It has certain strategic military interests in Cyprus and we've become the victim of this," said Garoyian.

The EU should show Ankara that it must abandon its "cynical attitude", said the Cypriot parliamentary chair, who claimed that Turkey still hasn't met its commitments vis-a-vis the EU dating back to before the beginning of its accession negotiations by recognizing the Republic of Cyprus and making its ports and airports accessible to Cypriot ships and aircraft.

Garoyian praised Slovakia's "firm and principled attitude" on the issue. He expressed gratitude for the deployment of Slovak peace-keeping forces in Cyprus, and the role played by Slovak Ambassador in Nicosia Anna Turenicova in mediating the dialogue between Greek and Turkish Cypriots.

EU Funds Allocated on Science Should Finance Major Projects

Bratislava, March 10 (TASR) - Drawing the EU Funds for science and research should re-focus on major investments in projects such as science-research parks or national technology centers, representatives of Education Ministry, Finance Ministry and Slovak science community agreed on this date.

"We should concentrate on important projects, which would help put Slovak science among the top-rated countries in the world," said Finance Minister Ivan Miklos.

According to Government Proxy for a Knowledge-based Society Martin Bruncko, there are three main spheres in which the future allocations should be focused: creation of science-technology parks, creation of three or four national science centers of European quality and popularization of science among people.

"This is our common interest to use these funds as efficiently as possible. It would be unfortunate for Slovakia if we didn't draw them," said Slovak Academy of Sciences (SAV) chairman Jaromir Pastorek, who agrees with the concentration on major projects.

The Finance Ministry is about to announce an international tender for the services of setting this process in motion. "We want to hire a professional international company for this," said Miklos, adding that he would like to introduce this proposal to the Government as soon as possible, probably on Wednesday (March 16).

For the period of 2007-13, €1.2 billion have been allocated on the sphere of science and research from EU Funds.

Japan's Embassy Thanks Slovaks for Sympathy to Victims of Quake

Bratislava, March 16 (TASR) - Japan's Embassy in Slovakia on this date thanked all Slovaks who expressed sympathy to the people affected by Friday's earthquake and the following tsunami in Japan.

In the statement provided to TASR, the embassy also expressed its gratitude to the Slovak Government for the offer of help, and asked for assistance within the coordinated aid about to be provided by the EU.

The embassy reminded that the Japanese Government on Tuesday requested the EU for help in the shape of humanitarian material reserves. European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso announced that the EU has accepted Japan's request.

Matej: Honeywell Investment to Give Presov and Region Major Boost

Presov, March 18 (TASR) - The plan of US-based Honeywell International Inc. to place a €38.31-million investment into building a factory at the Zaborske pri Presove (Presov region) industrial park will provide a significant shot in the arm for Presov and the surrounding area, co-governing SDKU-DS MP Ondrej Matej said in Presov on this date.

However, some major steps need to be taken before the project gets off the ground, with the local Council's approval of the sale of the land in the park topping the list of concerns.

Matej said that the approval is expected to constitute an historic moment, as it will be supported by all 31 aldermen. The vote is due on March 30.

Next on the agenda, the Government will discuss the Economy Ministry's proposal to provide assistance to Honeywell Turbo, the company's Slovak subsidiary, he said.

Amidst its aims to produce turbochargers designed for engines of passenger cars and lorries, the company is set to create at least 446 jobs in one of Slovakia's worst-off regions in terms of unemployment.

New Rector of Comenius University Micieta Intends to Fight Mediocrity

Bratislava, March 17 (TASR) - The new rector of the oldest university in Slovakia, Comenius University in Bratislava, Karol Micieta, was ceremonially inaugurated on this date.

Micieta, who was appointed by President Ivan Gasparovic in January, pledged on Thursday that he will manage the university responsibly.

"I want to be a rector for everybody. I want to fight mediocrity," said Professor Micieta, who has been active at the university for 40 years.

In his speech Micieta also pointed to the need for stronger support for universities from the state administration. According to him, investments in science and education have been sub-standard for a long time.

Prime Minister Iveta Radicova also took part in the inauguration. She stressed that the most successful graduates of Comenius University are now her employees.

Education Minister Eugen Jurzyca confirmed that the university is the dominant player on the university market in Slovakia. "I believe that this will continue in the future as well," he said.

Micieta will serve as Comenius University rector for four years. He replaced Frantisek Gaher, who served two terms of office.

New deans of the university's schools were inaugurated at the ceremony as well.

Prince of Peace Parish

81 South 13th Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15203 (412) 431-0168 / 481-8380



The annual celebration of a traditional Slovak Mass and Easter Customs Breakfast will take place on Saturday, April 16, 2011, at St. Adalbert Church, (160 So. 15th Street) South Side. The Holy Rosary, prayed in Slovak, will begin at 10:45 a.m., followed by the Holy Liturgy at 11:00 a.m.

Following Mass, guests are invited to gather at the Prince of Peace Parish Center (81 South 13th Street) to sample a traditional Slovak Easter breakfast of sunka (ham), kolbasy (sausage), pysanky (dyed eggs), paska (sweet bread), sirek (cheese made of eggs), hrin (beets and horseradish sauce), and kolace (sweet cakes). Cultural displays, craft demonstrations, a "Slovak Auction," and unique gift items will also be available. An Easter basket, brimming with all of the goodies needed for your own Slovak Easter breakfast, under a unique hand-embroidered basket cover, will be raffled.

Please call ahead if you plan to attend: 412-481-8380. There is NO CHARGE for admission, but donations are gratefully accepted. Doors to the breakfast hall open following the Mass (approximately Noon). For more information a display or to make a donation, call Paul Zatek at (412) 488-8238.



Saint Joseph's Slovak Catholic Church in Tacoma to Celebrate 100th Anniversary

Saint Joseph's Slovak Catholic Church will celebrate its 100th anniversary jubilee in May 2011. The events for this celebration will be held on Sunday, May 15th.

Saint Joseph's will host a jubilee mass at 10:30 am, which will be concelebrated with many of the past priests of Saint Joseph's and local area clergy. Prior to the mass, beginning at 9:30 am, there will be musical programming, including Slovak folk music. Following the jubilee Mass, there will be displays of photographs along with memorabilia on display in the Parish Hall.

The Mass and programming is free and open to the public.

Following the events at the church, there will be a dinner hosted at La Quinta Inn (1425 E. 27 Street). The dinner is by reservation only and costs \$25 per adult and \$10 per child. For more information, please contact the Parish Office at (253) 472-2489.

Lee Bucsko, co-chairman of the 100th Anniversary Committee, is the grandson of

George Bucsko, one of the founding members of Saint Joseph's. "Today looking at our parish it makes me proud to say that St Josephs Slovak Catholic Church is a home to all people who want to love God in a family and supportive atmosphere." Mr. Bucsko stated.

While the commemoration of the Slovak heritage of the past 100 years of Saint Joseph's Parish is an important milestone, the members look forward to celebrating a new generation of a multicultural parish.

ABOUT SAINT JOSEPH'S SLOVAK CATHOLIC CHURCH

Saint Joseph's Slovak Catholic Church, established in 1911, was originally founded and built by Tacoma's Slovak community. Located at 608 S. 34th Street, at the intersection of S. 34th Street and Tacoma Avenue, the parish welcomes people from all races, ages, cultures and socioeconomic levels. For more information, including mass times, visit <http://stjosephstacoma.com/>.



Czech & Slovak American Genealogical Society Bus Tour in Chicago

The Czech & Slovak American Genealogical Society of Illinois is sponsoring a bus tour of the historic Pilsen neighborhood on Chicago's near Southwest side. This neighborhood was settled by Czech immigrants after the Great Chicago Fire of 1871. Slovak immigrants soon followed, founding St. Joseph Slovak Catholic Parish near 17th Place & Halsted Street, and Ss. Peter & Paul Slovak Lutheran Church near 19th Place & Halsted Street. Our Jednota had lodges centered at St. Joseph's and St. Vitus Bohemian Parish, which a lot of Slovaks also attended.

The bus tour will take place on Saturday April 9, 2011. The bus will leave Klas Restaurant in Cicero, IL at 9:30 am, returning at approximately 4:30 pm. The cost for CSAGSI members (includes breakfast & lunch) is \$40.00. Non members pay \$45.00.

For more information, call Dolores at (630) 906-8175. All registrations must be prepaid and postmarked by March 26, 2011.

Robert Tapak Magruder

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

THINK ABOUT IT!

Three Summer Treasure Tours of Slovakia & Neighboring Countries Available



A Treasures Tour group was greeted with the traditional Slavic welcome of bread and salt in charming Vazec in Liptov, plus typical home-made doughnuts filled with jelly.



Treasurer Tours are led by Helene Cincebeaux, FCSU Member, Editor of Slovakia magazine, and Slovak Pride and Director of the Slovak Heritage & Folklore Society International.

Three summer tours of Slovakia and neighboring countries will be led by Jednota member Helene Cincebeaux for Treasures Tours. She is Editor of Slovakia magazine and Slovak Pride and Director of the Slovak Heritage & Folklore Society International.

The trips feature cultural immersion in Slovak history, village life and folklore, and have a 98% success rate in reuniting travelers with long-lost family. Visits to ancestral villages can be arranged with a car, translator and advance genealogical services. People from 47 states and 10 countries have traveled with Helene over the past 22 years; many come back over and over.

Trips include hotels with private bath in room, two large meals a day, bus transport, castle and museum visits, historic towns, quaint villages, crafts people's homes and festive gatherings. It's a chance to step back in time and glimpse the life of your ancestors. All trips are "land only" but round trip airfare can be arranged. Also a Prague add-on is available.

Immersion in Slovak Arts & Crafts, Villages & Castles - June 22 - July 2 \$1,999 Land Trip

Trip begins at Vienna airport, on to Piešťany to sample the spa and folk life; dramatic Beckov Castle, visit a lace-maker, enjoy Banská Bystrica's historic square; charming Helpa Folk Festival with a wonderful array of craftspeople and folk dancers; visit a wood carver, musical instrument maker, embroideress; enjoy a stay in walled Levoča, walk the path to Spiš Castle for a magnificent view, visit a Rusyn village; enjoy a Spiš party; a Liptov manor gives a glimpse of life gone by; meet an 84 year old folk artist, see a woodcarver's museum; visit a wooden church built in 1501 with all over painting inside; explore Orava Castle; see Slovakia's outstanding folk museum in Martin; enjoy the mechanical nativity and Čičmany's decorated homes; visit an exhibit of naïve painters, stroll Bratislava's old town, see a ceramic artist at work and learn about ancient Devín Castle.

Treasures of Slovakia Trip with glimpses of Poland & Austria - July 8 - 17 \$1,999 Land Trip

Our 23rd year for this popular trip. Travel to Modra for glorious ceramics, marvel at Beckov Castle on to central Slovakia. Tour Banská Bystrica, visit Detva Folk Festival with rousing performances and crafts galore. Historic Kezmarok comes alive for the International Crafts Festival - ceramic, glass, textile, wood, leather and metal artists and naïve painters. Enjoy Lubovna Spa or hike/ bike; delight in Stara Lubovna's outdoor museum with Rusyn & Slovak customs; ride a raft in Pieniny Park; feast at a Goral Picnic. Visit UNESCO Treasure Bardejov and famed icon museum; explore majestic Spiš Castle. Touch the heart of Spiš, Šariš and Abov in Levoča, Prešov and colorful Košice with its charming Singing Fountain. Open dower chests in Liptov, tour famed Martin Museum; count the castles as we travel west to Čičmany then dine at a family vineyard. Ancient Devín Castle beckons; then to Vienna for a guided tour of the historic center. Immerse in Bratislava, with a tour of the Old Town.

Five Countries - Five Cultures (Hungary, Slovakia, Poland, Czech Republic & Austria) - July 17 - 25 \$1,999 Land Trip

Meet at Vienna airport, on to Budapest for a highlights bus tour from glorious Heroes Square to dramatic Castle Hill and romantic Fisherman's Bastion. Walk the Old Town, night lights tour. Travel to the Hungarian Putza for a performance showcasing the skills of Hungarian horsemen. To Slovakia's High Tatras and a scenic raft ride in Pieniny Gorge; cross into Poland to stop at charming Zakopane with its crafts and amber, on to Krakow for sightseeing and a Polish specialties dinner in a quaint inn;

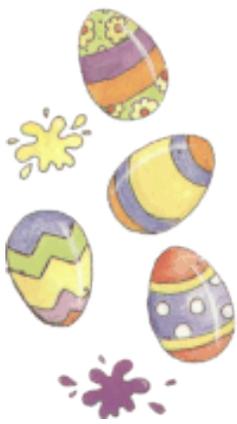
Option to visit the Wieliczka Royal Salt Mine and Auschwitz, the Nazi camp. Continue on to Czech Republic's Straznice, heart of folk culture, sample wines and meet an egg decorator. To Austria to cruise the castle-studded Wachau River Valley, and marvel at dramatic Melk Monastery and charming medieval Durnstein with its castle ruins and apricot specialties. Day in Vienna with a highlights bus tour and then a guided walking tour of the Old Town, feast on traditional Wiener Schnitzel.

For a colorful trip flyer with day by day itineraries, call Helene Cincebeaux toll free at 888/529-7150 or 585 342-9383 or write to 151 Colebrook Dr, Rochester NY 14617 or e-mail helenezx@aol.com. You can also check out the web site www.Our-Slovakia.com or www.TreasuresTours.com - click on the tour name to bring up the day-by-day itineraries.

If you would like a sample copy of the Slovakia magazine published by the Slovak Heritage & Folklore Society International for the past 25 years, send \$2 to Helene at the address above.

To list your surnames in the Slovak Pride data base (now more than 29,500 listings), send your info to Helene at the address above. You can access the Slovak Pride list at www.Our-Slovakia.com or www.SlovakPride.homestead.com or buy it in a book, "Slovak Pride", which has all the listings and 40 additional pages of maps and articles; cost is \$20 plus \$3 postage. You are welcome to submit your Slovak surnames too!

Egg Eggstravaganza & Easter Craft Sale in Uniontown, PA



The 6th EGG EGGSTRAVAGANZA will be held at the St. John the Baptist Byzantine Catholic Church Social Hall, 201 E. Main Street, Uniontown, PA, on Sunday, April 10, 2011, from Noon – 5 PM.

This year, the EGGSTRAVAGANZA is being sponsored by GCU Lodge 81, local egg artists, and the St. John's Ethnic Craft Club.

At least 20 tri-state egg artists will be demonstrating, displaying, and selling their particular art which will include Eastern European pysanky, Polish drop and pull wax relief eggs, Hungarian-style eggs, onion-skin dyed, etched, or scratch-type goose eggs, vinegar-etched emu eggs, wood burned eggs, and other collectable Tiffany-style eggs. Past demonstrators include Mark Jesko, Julie Pillar, Lois Winslow, Monica Sweet, Paul Yackulich, Sister Rita Keshock, Julie Urdenis, Maggie Ujvagi, Allen Krynicki, Keith Koshute, and Carmen Timo. Also demonstrating is Joseph Borytsky, 2010's 1st Place Winner of the Morgantown Dominion Post Egg

Decorating Contest. Egg artists who are interested in participating may call the numbers listed below for registration information.

In addition to the artists, there will be an Egg Marketplace featuring egg dyes, beeswax, tools, books, videos, and pysanky kits for sale. Traditional items used in ethnic Easter baskets also will be available, such as embroidered covers, candles, lamb butter molds, egg wraps, parish cookbooks, and much more. There also will be Easter Crafts for sale made by the St. John's Ethnic Craft Club. Traditional Easter basket covers will be on display. The Carpatho-Rusyn Society, Byzantine Seminary Press, and Mount Macrina Religious Gift Shop will have sales tables as well.

A parish bake sale will include long rolls (nut, apricot, poppyseed, cottage cheese), paska bread, small nut rolls, cookies, homemade candy, and many more delicious goodies.

Visitors can try a hands-on workshop to learn how to decorate eggs. There will be a Children's Corner featuring egg-related crafts, storytelling, cookie decorating, and a jigsaw puzzle area. Tickets can be purchased for a chance to win one of the many raffle items that will be available.

A Lenten Luncheon Menu – including St. John's "famous" pirohi, halushki, pirohi pizza, and soups – will be available for purchase. There is no admission fee. Door prizes will be awarded throughout the day.

For further information, please contact the church office at 724-438-6027 (M – F, 9AM – 3PM) or 724-438-8412 (evenings).

Carpathian Cookbook Available For Easter

The 13th edition of the Carpathian Cookery cookbook includes sections on Easter customs and recipes, along with those for Christmas, as well as traditional Rusyn and Slavic foods, other ethnic dishes, and many other "tried and true" recipes of St. John parishioners.

The cost of Carpathian Cookery in the US is \$14.00, plus \$3.00 postage and handling, for a total of \$17.00. If ordering from Canada, please send a \$20.00 US Postal money order payable in US dollars to reflect the difference in the exchange rate and postage costs.

Please send your check or money order to: Ethnic Craft Club, St. John Byzantine Catholic Church, 201 E. Main Street, Uniontown, PA 15401. For more information, call (724) 438-6027 or email www.carpathiancookery@gmail.com.

10th Consular Tour to Slovakia

Joe Senko, the Slovak Honorary Consul and his wife, Albina, have arranged their 10th tour to Slovakia including a visit to Vienna. The 14-day trip will begin on July 31, and return to the USA on August 13. It will include visits to Bratislava, Piastany, Martin, Tatras, Presov, Kosice and other historical sites. The activities will include two wine tours, a wedding performance, rafting, visit of a cave, sightseeing, castles and shopping.

The tour includes top hotels, breakfast and dinner each day, all admission fees, air-conditioned bus and English speaking guide. It does not include tips and insurance. The total cost per person (double occupancy) from Pittsburgh is \$3,450. For a copy of the daily itinerary, contact Joe Senko at (412) 531-2990 or jtsenko@aol.com, or Manor Oak Two, Suite 500, 1910 Cochran, Pittsburgh, PA 15220.

Reminder...

All English and Slovak articles should be sent directly to the editor Teresa Ivanec, First Catholic Slovak Union, 6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence, OH 44131-2398. The email address for articles is fcsulifeeditor@gmail.com. Articles may also be sent by Fax at 216/642-4310. Teresa Ivanec can be reached by phone at 216/642-9406 or 1/800-533-6682.

Readers are reminded that all address changes for the JEDNOTA newspaper must be done at the Home Office in Independence, Ohio. If you have an address change, a cancellation or wish to receive the paper, write to: First Catholic Slovak Union, FCSU Home Office, 6611 Rockside Rd., Independence, OH 44131-2398. Phone 1/800-JED-NOTA; fax at 216/642-4310 E-mail: FCSU@aol.com

LIGHT ONE CANDLE

Tony Rossi, Radio host/producer, The Christophers

The Miracle of Forgiveness

When you think about Jesus' miracles, chances are His healing of the lepers or walking on water come to mind. Personally, I think one of His greatest miracles was far less overt and spectacular. I'm talking about Jesus' statement "Father, forgive them, they know not what they do" on the day He was crucified.

Think about it. Jesus had just been betrayed by one of his closest friends, denied by another, and abandoned by all but one of the apostles. His own people conspired against Him, turned Him over to Roman authorities who brutalized Him, then jeered as He carried the cross up Calvary to be crucified. Now put yourself in Jesus' shoes. Do you think your primary response to all that would be forgiveness? I can't honestly say mine would be. Yet, that's what we're all called to do and what we're reminded of this Easter season. And even though it's incredibly difficult, it is also definitely possible for us to rise to the occasion with the help of God's grace. Take as an example the story of Immaculée Ilibagiza.

Immaculée is a young Rwandan woman who survived the country's 1994 government-sanctioned genocide against members of the Tutsi tribe by hiding in the cramped bathroom of a pastor's house for 91 days along with seven other women. The fact that these women were never discovered by soldiers is considered miraculous by many. I find what happened next even more amazing.

For obvious reasons, Immaculée harbored anger and hatred toward the people who had killed members of her family. Then one day while she was saying the rosary, she got stuck on the words, "Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us." As she explained to me on Christopher Closeup, she realized that she needed to forgive the killers in order to pray those words sincerely, and therefore asked God to change her heart.

Once the genocide ended, Immaculée went to the prison where the man who killed several members of her family was being held. He walked in the room showing no visible remorse. Then, through tears, Immaculée told him, "I forgive you." The man lowered his head, covered his eyes with his hand, and seemed thrown off-kilter by her words. He didn't specifically apologize, but Immaculée could tell he was sorry.

If the story ended there, it would already be impressive, but this incident had an even wider impact. The prison guard who witnessed Immaculée's act of forgiveness was furious at her for doing what she did. His wife and children had been murdered in the genocide and he told her he planned to devote his life to hating the killers. She ran into him again one year later and he told her, "I want to thank you for saving my life. The day you forgave that killer was the first time I even thought there was another possibility than hatred."

The prison guard stopped hating the killers and he started to teach them to be better people, all because of what he saw Immaculée do. That moment taught her that the grace to forgive is available to anybody.

It's an example that Jesus set for us on that Good Friday long ago - and it's an example people continue to model for us today. So as we celebrate the risen Christ this Easter, remember that forgiveness can raise dead hearts to new life. It may not be easy, but it sure is worth the effort.

For a free copy of the Christopher News Note, YOUR CAREER COUNTS, write: The Christophers, 5 Hanover Square, New York, NY 10004; or e-mail: mail@christophers.org

Answer to Puzzle

Solution to Puzzle from page 11

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John's Tours Sets Yearly Slovakia Tour – Slovakia and Poland

12-Day Tour, June 25 – July 7, 2011

17-Day Tour, September 4 – 20, 2011

This year, John's Tours will set two tours to Slovakia and surrounding countries.

The 12-day tour, from June 25 – July 7 will include: visits to Bratislava, the capital of Slovakia; Čičmany; Rajecká Lesná, the village of a unique wooden Bethlehem wooden carving, 15 years in the making; Levoča, Spania Poprod, Nitra, Trnava, Piešťany, Spišský Hrad, a "castle" which actually consists of three castles – upper, central, and middle. This tour also will include rafting on the Dunajec River which runs between the Slovak and Polish border, and then two days in Krakow, Poland, with visits to Auschwitz, the WWII Nazi Concentration Camp; the Old Town Marketplace; the Royal Castle of Wawel, with time at Czestochowa, the Shrine of the Black Madonna in the Jasna Gora Monestary, and one of the most precious Polish relics.

The September 4 – 20, 2011 tour will cover: Slovakia; Vienna, Austria; Krakow, Poland; and Prague, the Czech Republic. Visits in Slovakia will include: Bratislava, Levoča, Sponia Dolina, Prešov, Banská Štiavnica, Stará Ľubovňa, Poprod, Nitra, Košice, Trnava, Piešťany, Spišský Hrad, the Dunajec raft trip, and Rajecka Lesna. We will have two folklore programs – one in Krakovany and one in Ticky Potok, a Rusyn Village. The Mayor will show us the village, with a folklore program to follow dinner. We will then see sights in Vienna, Austria, such as Schoenbrunn Place, St. Stephen's Cathedral, and the Platz. In the Czech Republic, you can look forward to seeing Old Town Square, St. Vitus Cathedral, Prague Castle, Charles Bridge, the Astronomical Clock, plus many other sights.

Tours include: two (2) meals daily; an English-speaking guide; bus transportation with restroom and air conditioning; admittance to all scheduled sights; accommodations in three- or four-star hotels, all with private baths; and group air transportation, for your convenience and the best possible price.

If you are interested, please call or write for a complete day-to-day itinerary and price:

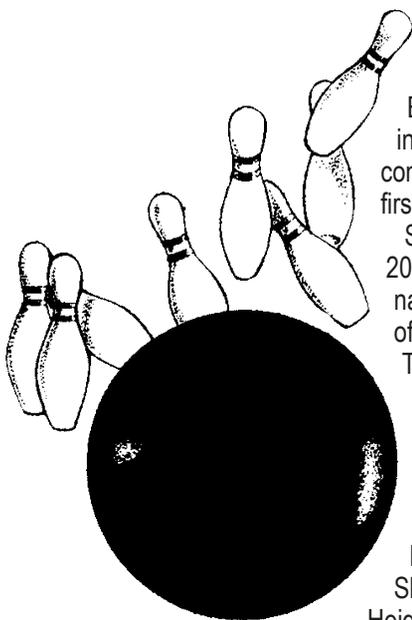
John's Tours, P.O. Box 154, Vandergrift, PA, 15690

1-724-567-7341 OR 1-724-568-3215 OR toll free at 1-800-260-8687



Slovak Bowling Congress celebrates its 69th annual national tournament at Echo Lanes in Warren, Ohio

Come Join America's Foremost Slovak Sports Event



In 1939 two Slovak brothers – Steve "Doc" and Peter Hletko – formed the Slovak Bowling Congress, and organized the first Slovak National Bowling Tournament. The first tournament was held in 1939 at St. Francis recreation in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Two teams, ten bowlers participated in that first tournament.

Since that time, the tournament has grown to almost 200 teams, with 815 bowlers participating in the tournament still known as the Slovak Bowling Congress of America Slovak National Bowling Tournament. The tournament is held in the month of April. The 2011 tournament will cover the weekends of April 2nd through the weekend of May 1st in Warren, Ohio at Echo Lanes.

Past Slovak National Tournaments have been held in Milwaukee, Chicago, Youngstown, Cleveland, Lakewood, McKee's Rocks, Warren, Cicero, Sharon, Hermitage, Struthers, Oak Forest, Natrona Heights, Farrel, Erie, Akron, and this year back to Warren Ohio. Past tournaments have enjoyed entry of 13,131

teams, 32,042 doubles teams, and 74,983 singles and 52,024 all-events bowlers. All time payouts total over \$811,891.01!

This year, entry of over 700 bowlers from some 160 cities throughout the United States and Canada is expected. Bowlers will be competing for a prize fund in excess of \$20,000.00.

As a special incentive to Slovak Bowlers, the following Slovak organizations are offering special prizes and trophies to their members who participate in the tournament. The First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, "Zenska Jednota;" The First Catholic Slovak Union, "Jednota;" The National Slovak Society "N.S.S.;" and the Slovak Catholic Sokol, "Sokol."

Any questions, or for more information on the tournament or the SBC please contact John M Golias: 440 526 3657, 440 526 3445, or Joe Harkulich: 330 448 8630. Hoping to see all Slovak Bowlers at Echo Lanes in Warren, Ohio.

Thank You,

John "Jack" M Golias (National Tournament Committee)

Confession: A Roman Catholic App Now Available on the Android Market

Following the international popularity of Confession: A Roman Catholic App for iPhone users, Little i Apps, LLC is pleased to announce the release of Confession: A Roman Catholic App for Android™ phones.

Developed for those who frequent the sacrament and those who wish to return, this confession helper has been designed with new, exclusive features to take advantage of the Android platform and format. The app is priced at \$1.99 and is available for download at the Android Market.

Designed to be used in the confessional, this app is the perfect aid for every penitent. With a personalized examination of conscience for each user, password protected profiles, and a step-by-step guide to the sacrament, this app invites Catholics to prayerfully prepare for and participate in the Rite of Penance. Individuals who have been away from the sacrament will find Confession: A Roman Catholic App to be a useful and inviting tool.

New features, exclusive to the Android app, help penitents create a deeper and more personalized examination of conscience. These features include the ability for users to track the number of times a sin has been committed, edit (or hide) the list of default sins provided in the examination, and add personalized sins to each category. Chip Leinen, co-founder of Little i Apps and lead developer on the Android project, commented, "After hearing the positive response from faithful Catholics around the world, we were inspired to continue to encourage members of our faith community to participate in the Sacrament of Penance – from those who have drifted away, to those who frequent its gifts. It is for this reason that we are excited to share Confession: A Roman Catholic App with a new community of penitents through the Android market."



The text of this app was developed in collaboration with Rev. Thomas G. Weinandy, OFM, Executive Director of the Secretariat for Doctrine and Pastoral Practices of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, and Rev. Dan Scheidt, pastor of Queen of Peace Catholic Church in Mishawaka, IN. The app received an imprimatur from Bishop Kevin C. Rhodes of the Diocese of Fort Wayne – South Bend. It is the first known imprimatur to be given to an Android® application.

Confession: A Roman Catholic app is available for iPhone™, iPad, iPod touch® and Android™ phones.

For more information, please visit Little i Apps online at <http://www.littleiapps.com> or contact Patrick Leinen, developer and co-founder, at marketing@littleiapps.com or call 574-303-8102. Little i Apps is a mobile applications development start-up with a Roman Catholic twist



Slovak Stations of the Cross & Lenten Hymn Sing Held First Sunday of Lent

Traditional Slovak Stations of the Cross – "Krizova Cesta" – and a heartwarming Slovak Lenten Hymn Sing was held the first Sunday of Lent in Wilkes-Barre, PA by the Slovak Heritage Society of Northeastern Pennsylvania.

Seventy-five people attended the event held in St. Mary's of the Immaculate Conception Church, Wilkes-Barre representing a wide range of ages from various churches throughout the area.

Rev. John Albosta, Slovak Heritage Chaplain, presided at the Drizova Cesta and Benediction. Joseph Kowatch served as cross bearer, Anna Hudock and Elaine Palischak were candle bearers.

Before each of the fourteen stations, the traditional hymn "Kresfania Sem Prospiechajte" was sung by all in attendance. Bernadette Yencha led the congregation in singing the six Lenten Hymns, with English translation of all the Slovak hymns provided along with the station booklets. Carl Yanowski served as organist.

One of the hymns was:

O Srdce Kamenné – "O heart of stone, pause and reflect with shame. Look on the suffering Christ, head bowed in pain. The time of grief and woe is now at hand, ah; cease your wickedness, your sinful way. Christ is tortured, oh so cruelly, on the cross of wood slain so brutally."

A Fellowship was held after the service, with kolacky, nut and poppyseed rolls served. Philip R. Tuhy, Society Chairperson, stated that the Slovak Heritage Society of Northeastern Pennsylvania hopes to continue the time-honored Slovak saying "Kde Je Slovak, Tam Je Spev" – Where There Is A Slovak, There is A Song).

The Society has cassettes or CDS of its Lenten Hymn-Sing and Passion-Resurrection. Those interested should visit www.shsnepa.org or write to SHSNEPA, P.O. Box 5004 Station A., Wilkes-Barre, PA, 18710-5004.

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

THINK ABOUT IT!

Vynikajúci slovenský ples v New Yorku

Slovensko-americké kultúrne stredisko v New Yorku (SAKS) usporiadalo v sobotu 26. februára 2011 svoj 19. výročný Slovenský ples. Konal sa v miestnostiach prestížnej inštitúcie The New York Athletic Club v New York City. Zúčastnilo sa ňom približne 150 ľudí.

SAKS každoročne oceňuje národnú alebo umeleckú činnosť niektorého jednotlivca. Tohto roku komisia SAKS-u vybrala súčasnú tajomníčku Slovenskej ligy v Amerike Ninu Holú, ktorá je činná vo viacerých slovenských organizáciách a je tiež spolupredsedníčkou Slovenského festivalu v New Jersey.

Ples sa začal recepciou počas ktorej boli premietané obrázky zo slovenských miest a rôznych historických a turistických atrakcií Slovenska. Hlavnou témou plesu bola propagácia slovenského ľudového umenia, čo zvýraznila výstava slovenských krojov, na manekínach reprezentujúcich západoslovenský, stredoslovenský a východoslovenský kraj.

Pred večerou predsedníčka SAKS-u Rosemary Havrilová Golia privítala prítomných a hostí plesu, osobitne exministra Eduarda Kukana s manželkou Zdenkou, ktorý toho času reprezentuje Slovensko v Európskom parlamente, kde zastáva funkciu podpredsedu Zahraničného výboru. Za tým vyzvala Rev. Richarda Bakera, farára kostola sv. Malachia, aby predriekol invocáciu, za ktorou pokračovala večera. Do tanca hrala slovenská skupina Express, kde prítomní za každej príležitosti zaplňovali tanečnú plochu. Po večeri podpredseda SAKS-u Matúš Čulen predstavil ďalších hostí, ktorí zastávajú významné funkcie v slovenskom živote. Boli to predseda Slovenskej ligy v Amerike, Daniel Tanzone; z Clevelandu predsedníčka Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Ženskej Jednoty, Mary Ann Johaneč a tajomníčka Irene Drotleř; hlavný predseda Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty, Andrej M. Rajec



Zľava: Predseda IKSJ, Andrej M. Rajec; podpredsedníčka Slovenskej ligy pre Kaliforniu, Mimi Danihel; tajomníčka SLvA, Nina Holá; predseda SLvA, Daniel Tanzone a europoslanec, Eduard Kukan.



Na plese bola poctená za jej prácu v slovenských organizáciách Nina Holá. Predsedníčka Rosemary H. Golia jej odovzdala pamiatkový darček. Vpravo je podpredseda Matúš Čulen.



Zľava: exminister SR, Eduard Kukan; tajomníčka SAKS-u, Sabina Sabadoš; podpredseda SAKS-u, Matúš Čulen; tajomníčka SLvA, Nina Holá; člen Výkonného výboru, Ján Holý; manželka predsedu IKSJ, Ildka Rajec; predseda IKSJ, Andrej M. Rajec a predsedníčka SAKS-u, Rosemary Havrilová Golia.

s manželkou Ildkou. Z Wilkes Barre, PA predsedníčka Ženskej Pennsylvánskej Slovenskej Katolíckej Jednoty Tereza Kluchinski; z Výkonného výboru SLvA John Duch, Štefánia Siegelová a Ján Holý, ako aj podpredsedníčka pre Kaliforniu, Mimi Danihel. Ďalej bol predstavený sudca Najvyššieho súdu štátu New York, John Golia; Dr. John Adan z Kalifornie a niekoľko ďalších hostia, ktorí prišli zo vzdialených štátov.

Po predstavení hostí podpredseda M. Čulen predniesol krátke „laudatio“ o národnej práci Niny Holej a predsedníčka SAKS-u Rosemary H. Golia jej s gratuláciou odovzdala aj pamätný darček. Nina Holá vo svojom poďakovaní ocenila prácu Strediska a hlavne okolnosť, že v najväčšom meste Ameriky udržuje tradíciu formálnych plesov. Podujatie obohatil profesionálny spevák Radoslav Lesay, ktorý s ohľadom na tému plesu spieval len populárne slovenské ľudové piesne. Jeho vystúpenie prítomní ocenili nadšeným potleskom.

Ples potom pokračoval vo veselej nálade. Počas oddychovej prestávky, tajomníčka SAKS-u Sabina Sabadoš, ktorá bola predsedníčkou prípravného výboru, konferovala bohatú tombolu. Účastníci mohli vyhrať na svoje vstupenky 11 krásnych cien, medzi ktorými boli letenka na Slovensko, originálny obraz „Okno do duše“ od slovenského akademického maliara D. Broganyiho, víkendový pobyt v luxusnom hoteli Elysee v New Yorku a 200-dolárový Gift Certificate z popredného obchodného domu.

Prezident Slovenskej republiky, Ivan Gašparovič poslal účastníkom plesu písomný pozdrav ako aj veľvyslanec SR vo Washingtone, Peter Burian, ktorý sa každoročne plesu zúčastňuje. Tohto roku nemohol prísť, lebo v tom čase bola vo Washingtone vládna delegácia zo Slovenskej republiky, ktorej sa musel venovať.

Výbor plesu pripravil vkusnú pamiatkovú publikáciu, ktorej redaktorkou bola predsedníčka plesu Sabina Sabadoš. V poďakovaní účastníkom oznámila, že budúci jubilejný 20. ples SAKS-u sa bude konať 4. februára 2012 znova v priestoroch NY Athletic Club-u.



Na plese bola aj malá výstava krojov z rôznych krajov Slovenska.



Zľava: členka Výkonného výboru SLvA, Štefánia Siegel; predsedníčka IKŽSJ, Mary Ann Johaneč; Nina Holá; Rev. Richard Baker a predsedníčka ŽPSKJ, Theresa Kluchinski.

Projekt Košice EHMK 2013 sa môže rozbehnúť naplno

Košice (TASR) – Nič nebráni tomu, aby sa projekt Košice Európske hlavné mesto kultúry (EHMK) 2013 mohol rozbehnúť naplno. Pred novinármi to 17. marca prehlásil minister kultúry (MK) SR Daniel Krajcer. „Došlo k zabezpečeniu 60 miliónov eur pre tento projekt, zriadila sa prioritná os v rámci Regionálneho operačného programu (ROP) a vláda schválila zriadenie sprostredkovateľského orgánu na MK,“ spresnil Krajcer. Dodal zároveň, že napriek tomu že ešte stále prebieha revízia ROP, kvôli iným projektom, tento projekt nebude ničím blokován. „Naplno sa môžu rozbehnúť všetky prípravné a projektové práce. S primátorom mesta Richardom Rašim, aj predsedom Košického samosprávneho kraja Zdenkom Trebuľom sme sa dohodli, že projekt EHMK nebude o politike, ale o pozitívnom výsledku,“ dodal šéf rezortu kultúry. Krajcer garantoval, že najbližšie tri roky bude k dispozícii 10 miliónov eur v rámci dotačného systému v podprogramoch pre kľúčové projekty a sprievodné projekty. O týchto projektoch má podľa ministra kultúry prebiehať široká verejná diskusia.

„Tento projekt je pre Košice ani nie projektom desaťročia, ale storočia. Pokračujeme v prípravách tak, aby v roku 2013 boli investičné akcie pripravené a zrealizované. Zadefinované investičné akcie chceme aj dokončiť,“ vyhlásil primátor Košíc Raši. V rámci týchto investičných akcií sa má zrekonštruovať areál objektu Kasárne/Kulturpark, dokončiť projekt SPOTs – kultúrnych spoločenských centier vo výmenníkových staniách na sídliskách. Mala by tiež vyrásť multifunkčná hala v priestoroch súčasného Amfiteátra, zrekonštruovať a revitalizovať sa bude aj Mestský park, či Košický hrad, alebo aj Ulička remesiel v centre mesta. Na mieste starej krytej plavárne vyrastie Art Water Hall, zrekonštruovať sa bude aj Dóm sv. Alžbety a kaštieľ v Krásnej nad Hornádom.

Oznámenia o pripravovaných podujatiach spolkov

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

Oznamujeme členom nášho spolku, že sa uskutoční schôdza sv. Matúša č. 45 IKSJ v New Yorku po slovenskej svätej omši v nedeľu 10. apríla, 2011 o 12:30 hodine v osadnej hale slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého na Prvej Avenue a 66-tej ulici. Láskavo žiadame našich členov o aktívnu účasť na tejto schôdzi.

Mária Jurášiová – pokladníčka

Schôdza Okresu Princa Pribinu v Los Angeles, Kalifornia

Okres Princa Pribinu v Los Angeles, Kalifornia bude mať svoju schôdzu na Kvetnú nedeľu 17. apríla 2011. Oslava začne slovenskou svätou omšou v kaplnke sv. Jána Boscu pri St. John Bosco High School, 13640 S. Bellflower, CA 90706 o 11:00 hodine ráno. Po svätej omši bude chutný slovenský obed so zákuskom a občerstvením. Deti sa už tradične budú zabávať hľadaním veľkonočných vajičiek.

Za tým bude v jedálni pokračovať schôdza na ktorej programe je plán aktivít a informácie o poistení prostredníctvom Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty. Na toto posedenie pozývame všetky spolky na okolí.

Pavol Skubeň, predseda

Polročná členská schôdza

Spolku sv. Štefana č. 716 IKSJ v New York City

Oznamujeme všetkým členom Spolku sv. Štefana č. 716 Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty, že v nedeľu dňa 1. mája 2011 o 1:00 hodine odpoľudnia sa uskutoční polročná členská schôdza v osadnej hale Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého 411 East, 66th Street v New York City. Na schôdzi bude podaná finančná správa a diskusia o návrhoch na ďalšiu činnosť.

Vyzývame všetkých členov, aby sa tejto dôležitej schôdzi zúčastnili! Po schôdzi sa bude podávať občerstvenie.

Ostávame s kresťanským pozdravom

Henrieta H. Daitová, tajomníčka

Polročná členská schôdza

Okresu Štefana Krasul'u, Okres č. 16 IKSJ

Oznamujeme všetkým členom, že členská schôdza Okresu Štefana Krasul'u, Spolok č. 16 Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty sa bude konať v nedeľu dňa 22. mája 2011 o 1:00 hodine odpoľudnia v osadnej hale Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého v New York City. Prosíme predsedov všetkých spolkov, ktoré patria do nášho Okresu, aby poslali čo najviac delegátov. Upozorňujeme, že aj nedelegáti sú vítaní.

Program schôdze bude zameraný na prípravu plánu činnosti na budúce obdobie a taktiež na finančnú správu. Po schôdzi sa bude podávať občerstvenie, ktoré pripraví členovia spolku sv. Štefana č. 716 IKSJ.

Ostávam s kresťanským pozdravom

Henrieta H. Daitová, tajomníčka

Oslava 100-ročnice Združenia

slovenských katolíkov v Scrantone, PA

Združenie slovenských katolíkov pripravuje oslavu 100 rokov od svojho vzniku, ktoré sa uskutoční v nedeľu 15. mája 2011 v Scrantone, Pennsylvánia. Hlavná časť osláv sa bude konať v diecéznej katedrále sv. Petra. Koncelebrovanú svätú omšu z tejto príležitosti odslúži biskup Jozef Adamec. Nasledujúci deň sa začne konvenca slovenských katolíkov v hoteli Gennetti's.

Zbierka na Detské domovy na Slovensku

Výzva k všetkým tým, čo majú srdce a pevnú vieru!

Motto: Sihote, sihote, zelené sihote, komu je horšie, ako mne sirote?

Nemám otca, mamky, žiadneho priateľa, nemám ku komu ísť, keď príde nedeľa ...

Jakub 1, 27

Prosíme verejnosť o pomoc pre deti umiestnené v Detskom domove na Strednom Slovensku.

Je to výzva k všetkým tým, ktorým nie je ľahostajný osud sirôt. Tento rok už po desiatykrát organizujeme túto pomoc Detským domovom na Slovensku, preto Vás prosíme o príspevok pre deti, ktoré potrebujú Vašu lásku a pomoc.

Tak ako v minulosti príspevky môžete poukázať na Slovenský kostol sv. Jána Nepomuckého, 411 East 66th Street, New York, NY 10021 pod heslom „Detské domovy na Slovensku“. Po skončení akcie bude uverejnené vyúčtovanie. Bližšie informácie Vám podajú: Milan a Henrieta Dait, tel.: (201) 641-8922.

Recept na Veľkonočnú babu

Doba prípravy : 60 min.

Suroviny: údené mäso 400 g, slanina 200 g, rožky 8 ks, vajcia 6 ks, vajičko na potretie 1ks, petržlenová vňať, olej, soľ, mleté čierne korenie

Postup prípravy: Vopred si uvaríme údené mäso a vychladnuté nakrájame na kocky. Slaninu nakrájanú na menšie kúsky opražíme. Rožky nakrájame a polejeme vývarom z údeného mäsa (asi 1 dcl). Nasiaknuté vývarom ich zmiešame s pripraveným údeným mäsom, slaninkou, pridáme žltky, nasekanú petržlenovú vňať, jemne osolíme (nie veľa, lebo údené mäso je slané) a dochutíme korením. Masu dobre premiešame a nakoniec vmiešame vyšľahanú bielku. Masu rozotrieme na olejom vymazaný plech a potrieme rozšľahaným vajičkom. Pečieme vo vyhriatej trúbe na 200 °C doružova.

Doporučené prílohy: kyslá uhorka, chlieb. Do masy môžeme pridať aj na menšie kúsky nakrájanú uvarenú klobásu. Veľkonočná baba chutí najlepšie teplá, ale výborná je aj za studena.



Na archívnej snímke Msgr. František J. Beeda požehnáva na Bielu sobotu veľkonočné košíky na farskom úrade kostola Sv. Jozefa v Hazletone, PA.

Msgr. Francis J. Beeda blesses Easter baskets on Holy Saturday in the parish office of St. Joseph Church in Hazleton, PA

Tajomstvá veľkonočného košíka

Veľká noc je z kresťanského pohľadu najvýznamnejším sviatkom roka. Na východnom Slovensku patrí k jej sláveniu prútený košík plný požehnaných jedál.

Azda ani jeden východniar, nezáleží na tom, či je rímskokatolíkom alebo gréckokatolíkom si nedokáže predstaviť veľkonočné sviatky bez tradičného malého koláča z kysnutého cesta známeho ako paska, údenej mäsovej rolky, a klobásy, vajcovo-mliečnej hrudky, ktorej sa hovorí syrek, a natvrdo uvarených vajec. Presne tieto jedlá majú svoje významné a vyhradené miesto vo veľkonočnom košíku. Okrem nich zvyknú východoslovenské gazdinky prikladať do koša aj hrnček so soľou a na ozdobenie pomaranče a moderné čokoládové vajička. Košík sa prikryje pláteným obrúskom, zvyčajne bielym alebo v príjemných pastelových odtieňoch s vyšivávaným motívom späť s Veľkou nocou alebo jarou – kvety a podobne. Odkryje sa až pri požehnaní jedál kňazom, ktoré sa koná buď na Bielu sobotu, alebo na Veľkonočnú nedeľu. Veriaci vtedy pred kostolom poukladajú košíky tesne k sebe a vytvoria kruh alebo uličku, ktorou prechádza kňaz zehňajúci jedlá svätenou vodou a kadidlom.

Katolícke noviny

Stará babička a šibači

Veľkonočný pondelok, bol na dedine, plný radosti. Mládenci s cigánskou muzikou, šli z domu – do domu vyšibať a v tanci vykrútiť, slobodné dievčatá, bez ostýchavosti. Veď za odmenu dostali, maľované vajičko, pohárik vína, či rumu.



Na koniec, nezabudli vykrútiť aj domácu pani gazdinú, vraj, aby sa dobre starala o rodinu, deti a na dvore hydinu.

Pri krbe sedela aj zababušená, ustarostená, smutná babička. V spomienkach na mladosť, nepovedala ani jedného slovička. So slzou v oku, zabořala ju viac, už ubolená, šedivá hlavička. Aj ona kedysi – dávno, darovala, jej rukou maľované vajičko, mláďencovi, ktorého ľúbila. Áno tomu, čo ukradol jej srdiečko.

Mladý, v najkrajšom veku musel ísť, ďaleko-ďaleko na vojnu a nikdy sa nevrátil späť. A ona, žila bez akéhokoľvek záujmu. Mnohé roky obrali ju o jej krásu a postriebili jej čierne vlasy, prestala si spievať, bo zachrypnuté ostali jej pekné, čisté hlasy.

Nie, už celé roky nemala komu dať, jej maľované vajičko. Šibači však na ňu nezabudli, darovali jej úsmev a priali zdravičko.

Áno, spomienka na mladosť sú, ako balzam na poranené srdiečko. Len si užite mládenci! Dievčatá, aj z vás bude raz tá „Stará babička“. Aj vám osud udelí nepýtanú starobu a pridá neuhy, do vášho balíčka!

Jozef Smák

Krátke správy zo Slovenska

• **Ministerstvo zahraničných vecí (MZV) SR** upozorňuje všetkých záujemcov o účasť na beatifikácii Jána Pavla II., že nepotrebnú žiadne lístky. Beatifikácia sa uskutoční v dňoch 30. apríla až 2. mája 2011 na Námestí sv. Petra v Ríme. Rezort tak reaguje na informácie, podľa ktorých niektoré cestovné kancelárie, predovšetkým prostredníctvom internetu, ponúkajú pomoc pri získaní lístkov. Zároveň upozorňuje pútnikov zo Slovenska, že lístky na audienciu a sväté omše celebrované pápežom sú vždy bezplatné.

• **Kľúče** od prvého predaného elektrického motorového vozidla značky Peugeot iOn symbolicky z rúk obchodného riaditeľa Peugeot Slovensko Matúša Paľu prevzal nedávno generálny riaditeľ Východoslovenskej energetiky a.s. (VSE) Norbert Schürmann. VSE tak po sprevádzkovaní prvej verejnej nabíjacej stanice na Slovensku pokračuje v ďalších krokoch smerujúcich ku komplexnému rozvoju e-mobility v SR. Počas nasledujúceho roka plánuje VSE najazdiť na aute aspoň 20,000 kilometrov v mestskej premávke. Podľa predstaviťa automobilky je vozidlo bezpečné, ľahko ovládateľné, pohodlné a najmä neznečisťuje životné prostredie. „Samozrejme, že vstupné náklady pri nákupe takéhoto auta sú vyššie ako pri bežných typoch. Predpokladáme však, že aj na Slovensku, tak ako v iných krajinách, pristúpi vláda k takým krokom, ktoré budú podporovať nákupy elektromobilov,“ uviedol Paľa.

• **Koncentrácia** na automobilový priemysel je v súčasnosti pre Slovensko prospešná, myslia si analytici. „Zdá sa, že priemysel vie z oživenia našich hlavných obchodných partnerov vyťažiť maximum. Výroba dopravných prostriedkov medziročne vzrástla o viac ako 50 %. Z rastu celej priemyselnej produkcie tvorili automobilky viac ako polovicu,“ uviedol analytik Tatra banky Boris Fojtík. Podľa zverejnených výsledkov Štatistického úradu (ŠÚ) SR priemyselná produkcia v januári 2011 zvolnila tempo svojho medziročného rastu na 17,1 %, na čom sa podpísala predovšetkým vyššia porovnávacía báza z roku 2010. Dôležitým faktorom pre vývoj priemyslu v nasledujúcich mesiacoch bude štart nových výrobných liniek Volkswagenu spolu s rozbehom nových investícií v elektrotechnickom priemysle.

• **Štyri** hlavné investície v celkovej hodnote 450 miliónov eur má na Slovensku Taiwan, ostrovný štát vo východnej Ázii. Najväčšou z nich (225 miliónov eur) je firma Foxconn v Nitre, nasledujú AU Optronics (191 miliónov eur), Delta Electronics (20 miliónov eur) a Eson (14 miliónov eur). Nedávno navštívila Taiwan delegácia slovenského parlamentu, ministerstva školstva a zahraničných vecí. Výsledkom je dohoda o spolupráci medzi malými a strednými podnikateľmi. V súčasnosti nepôsobí v tejto ázijskej krajine žiadny väčší slovenský investor, dohoda preto vytvára priestor na rozvoj spolupráce. Ide o veľkú príležitosť pre slovenských podnikateľov. Vedúci taiwanskej reprezentačnej kancelárie v SR David Nan-Zang Lee zase očakáva, že na Slovensko príde druhá vlna taiwanských podnikateľov. Od januára začal platiť obojstranný bezvízový styk, dosiaľ museli Taiwančania pri vstupe na územie SR žiadať o víza. Aj táto skutočnosť vytvára cestu, ako zlepšiť podnikateľské prostredie.

• **Záchranársky** a vyhladávací tím Komplexnej centrálnej záchranej služby oslovil minister životného prostredia József Nagy v súvislosti so zemetrasením na severovýchode Japonska. Tím z Gabčíkova má techniku na vyhladávanie v ruinách a sutinách. Dokáže ďalej zabezpečiť dezinfekciu postihnutých oblastí a dekontamináciu vôd. Gabčíkovskí špecialisti absolvovali takúto medzikontinentálnu a záchranársku akciu už 18-krát. Ministerstvo životného prostredia (MŽP) SR doručilo list s ponukou pomoci japonskému veľvyslancovi v SR.

• **Slovenskí** politici utracajú za dovolenky tisíce eur. Mnohí poslanci aj ministri využili jarné prázdniny na zaujímavé dovolenky. Minister obrany Ľubomír Galko a predseda parlamentu Richard Sulík trávili dovolenku na Mauríciu, kde cena za týždeň na jednu osobu dosahuje tritisíc eur. Poslanec Dropa si začiatkom roka urobil výlet do USA. Cez víkend bol zase v Španielsku vo vinárskej oblasti Rioja. Predseda národnárov Ján Slota letel s rodinou do Dubaja a lyžovačku v Alpách absolvoval aj bývalý šéf parlamentu Pavol Paška (Smer-SD).

• **Na Považí** nájde prácu ďalších 400 Slovákov. Výrobca televízorov Univerzal Media Corporation (UMC) Slovakia expanduje a v najbližších rokoch chce zásobovať trhy po celom svete. Podnik stavia novú halu a spúšťa ďalšiu linku. Firma sa špecializuje na Európu, kde dodáva televízory do sietí Tesco, či Aldi. K doterajším značkám pribudne Billa. Kým vlni vyrobili v Novom Meste nad Váhom 1.2 milióna televízorov, tento rok ich má byť o pol milióna viac.

• **Slovenskí** vojaci odídu do šestnástich mesiacov z mierovej misie UNFICYP na Cypre. Náklady na misiu sú pre Slovensko príliš vysoké a neodzrkadľujú dôležitosť nášho pôsobenia v porovnaní s misiou v Afganistane. „Strategické hodnotenie obrany nám ukázalo, že pôsobenie našich vojakov na Cypre má do budúcnosti minimálny význam pre rozvoj Ozbrojených síl Slovenskej republiky,“ povedal minister obrany Ľubomír Galko. Slovensko má v súčasnosti na Cypre dvesto vojakov. Pre porovnanie, Česká republika má na Cypre len desať vojakov, Poľsko pätnásť vojakov a Maďarsko 88 vojakov.

• **Japonskí** dobrovoľníci preložili po ničivom zemetrasení z 11. marca do 31 jazykov manuál s radami, ako sa zachovať v prípade zemetrasenia a zverejnili ho 16. marca na internete. Informovala o tom agentúra Kjódo. Manuál s názvom „Japonské zemetrasenie: Ako sa chrániť“ je k dispozícii aj v slovenčine, ale aj v barmčine, lotyštine, uzbečtine, mongolčine, čínštine, arabčine, poľštine, nemčine a ďalších jazykoch. Používateľ sa napríklad dozvie, ako používať služby poskytujúce tiesňové správy, aké veci treba mať pri sebe či ako sa zachovať v prípade núdze. Dobrovoľníci zostavili príručku v reakcii na žiadosť študentov z Tokijskej univerzity zahraničných štúdií, ktorú zverejnili cez sieť Twitter.

• **Letisko M. R. Štefánika - Airport Bratislava (BTS)** sa má prenajať dlhodobo na obdobie 30 rokov. Po rokovaní vlády v polovici marca to uviedol minister dopravy Ján Figel' (KDH). Strategický partner by sa mal letisku nájsť do júna budúceho roka. Figel' má najbližšie do konca apríla predložiť vláde návrh podmienok a krokov, ktoré sa v procese použijú. Vláda pritom rokovala o troch alternatívach - predaj letiska, dlhodobý prenájom alebo majetkové prepojenie medzi Bratislavou a Viedňou. „Z mnohých analýz vychádza ako najvýhodnejšie riešenie koncesia,“ zdôraznil šéf rezortu dopravy. Ministerstvo dopravy, výstavby a regionálneho rozvoja (MDVRR) SR navrhovalo letisko prenajať na 20 až 30 rokov, počas pripomienkového konania však rezort financií presadzoval dlhší prenájom až na 50 rokov. Podľa ministerstva dopravy majú záujem o partnerstvo s bratislavským letiskom spoločnosti nielen z Európy, ale aj iných regiónov. Analýza tiež zhrnula najdôležitejšie investičné potreby BTS, ktoré si vyžadujú prostriedky v objeme minimálne 350 miliónov eur. Ide o kompletnú rekonštrukciu a predĺženie hlavnej vzletovej a pristávacej dráhy, budovanie a skvalitnenie rolovacích dráh, vybudovanie odmrazovacieho stojiska pre lietadlá a rozšírenie počtu parkovacích stojísk lietadiel pred terminálom.

TASR a slovenské časopisy



A special anti-terrorist simulator of a transport helicopter Mi-17 was unveiled recently in Trenčín, Slovakia. In the photo are American ambassador to Slovakia Theodore Sedgwick (second from left) and Iraq ambassador to Slovakia Matheel Dhayif Majeed Al-Sabti.

FOTO TASR, 16. marec 2011

Špeciálnu protiteroristickú verziu simulátora transportných vrtuľníkov Mi-17 predstaviteľom americkej armády odovzdalo medzinárodné konzorcium zložené z trenčianskej spoločnosti Virtual Reality Media (VRM) a amerických spoločností Fidelity Technologies Incorporated a Aeronautical Systems Engineering (ASE). Simulátor v hodnote viac ako štyri milióny eur umožní irackým ozbrojeným silám vykonávať širokospektrálny letecký výcvik. Na snímke americký veľvyslanec na Slovensku Theodore Sedgwick (druhý zľava) a iracký veľvyslanec na Slovensku Matheel Dhayif Majeed Al-Sabti (vľavo) prestrihávajú pásku počas odovzdávania simulátora (uprostred v pozadí).

Z veľkonočných zvykov na Kysuciach

Pokračovanie zo str. 24

pošibali domáci často aj kravy, aby „dobré žrali a dojili“.

S kúpačmi či šibačmi chodieval takmer pravidelne harmonikár. Ďalší zo skupiny mládenčov nosil veľký kôš na vajíčka, ozdobený farebnými stuhami. Prútie na korbáče sa chystalo niekoľko dní vopred. Korbáče sa pletli zo štyroch, šiestich, ôsmich, deviatich i dvanástich prútov do rozličných tvarov. Ukončené bývali jednoducho, hrčkou, alebo rozdvojením – „parôžkami“ a boli zdobené farebnými stužkami. Ak mali mládenci so sebou i dlhý korbáč, každá dievka, ktorú vyšibali, priviazala naň farebnú stužku. Mládenci vyšibali okrem dievok všetky ženy v chalupe – mladé i staré, aby sa ich „nechytil svrab“.

Ak boli dievky pri kúpačke celkom mokré, museli sa rýchlo prezliecť, lebo o chvíľu už bola v chalupe nová skupinka kúpačov. Nikdy však dievky, hoci nebolo na nich suchej nitky, nereptali, pretože voda bola symbolom zdravia a očisty. Vajíčko bolo zasa symbolom života, červená farba stužky znamenala krv, zelená prebúdajúcu sa jarnú prírodu a žltá slnko. Takýmto farbami zdobili dievky aj vajíčka.

Za dobrú kúpačku a šibačku patrila vždy odmena. Bolo to pohostenie pohárikom pálenky, ale nesmeli chýbať vajíčka. Do jednotlivých chalúp kysuckých osád a samôt prichádzalo aj niekoľko skupiniek šibačov po sebe, no pohostenie a vajíčko sa ušlo každému. V šľapajách dospelých kráčali aj tí najmenší. Chlapcom padol vhod koláč, vajíčko alebo i korunka. Populudni sa schádzali na lúkach pri hrách. Vyhadzovali vajíčka do výšky a zápolili, ktoré je najmocnejšie. Zväčša vyhrávali vajíčka malé a končisté.

Mládenci si zasa z vyšibaných vajíčok urobili v niektorej chalupe spoločnú praženicu, dopriali si aj pohárik občerstvenia a pri harmonike si spoločne zaspievali. Nezriedka sa poschádzali i dievky, gazdovia i gazdiné a veselica pokračovala až do nočných hodín. Pokiaľ existovali v osadách súkromné krčmy, odohrával sa tento záver predovšetkým v nich.

Šibači mali v nohách často celé kilometre, pretože chodili z osady do osady, od chalupy k chalupe. Po šibačke, najneskoršie v utorko dopoludnia, bolo treba všetky korbáče spáliť v piecke, aby sa „nepremenili na hady“.

KULTÚRA 8/2010



Najdlhšia Kalvária v Strednej Európe je na Slovensku

Pokračovanie zo str. 24

Jezuitov pôsobiach v tej dobe v Španej Doline a na jej stavbe sa podieľalo obyvateľstvo zo širokého okolia. Z dôvodu veľkej dĺžky a terénnej náročnosti sa na túto Kalváriu organizovali v minulosti celodenné procesie veriacich.

Procesie začínali pri súsoší Krista modliaceho sa na Olivovej hore, ktoré je v súčasnosti osadené na pravom boku Farského kostola v Banskej Bystrici a pokračovalo popri ďalších zastaveniach v Kostiviarskej a Jakube až ku Svätému Božiemu Hrobu v centre Španej Doliny, ktorý sa vo svojej pôvodnej podobe zachoval až do súčasnosti.

Tradicíu celodenných procesií z Banskej Bystrice do Španej Doliny prerušili až morové epidémie a nájazdy tureckých vojsk a mesto Banská Bystrica vydalo pre svoje obyvateľstvo zákaz vychádzania z mesta. Z dôvodu duchovných potrieb obyvateľov mesta sa však neskôr začalo s výstavbou novej Kalvárie na neďalekej hore Urpín.

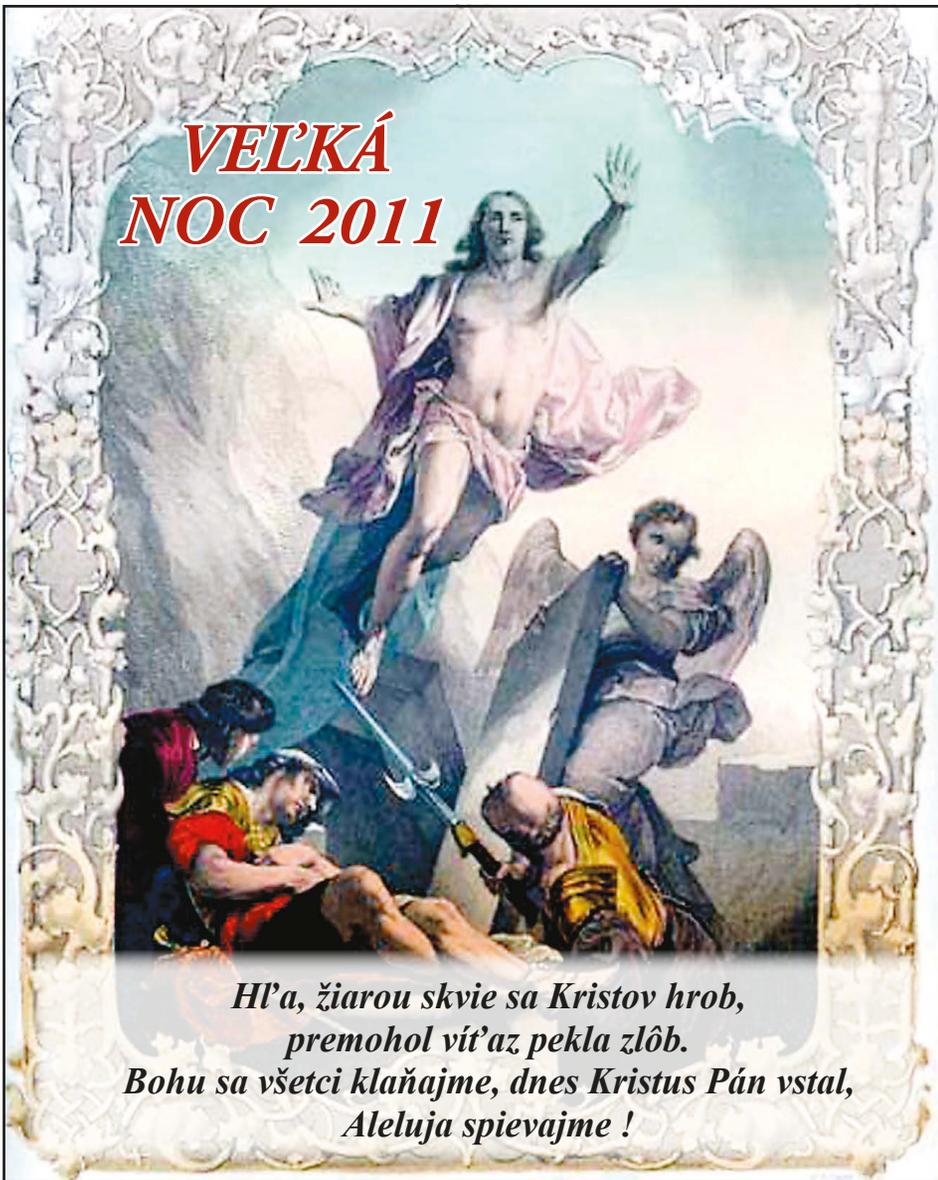
V dnešnej dobe už nie je možné komplexne rekonštruovať túto svojím spôsobom unikátnu Kalváriu ako jeden celok, pretože jej jednotlivé stanice sa nachádzajú v zastavanom území, pri diaľničných viaduktoch, ale aj v neprístupnom horskom teréne. Jedno zo zastavení tejto Krížovej cesty (Pán Ježiš nesie Kríž) bolo prednedávnom zrekonštruované a tak zachránené pred úplnou skazou.

O obnovenie starodávnej tradície celodenných procesií z Banskej Bystrice do Španej doliny sa v súčasnosti usilujú už iba spoločenstvá mladých katolíckych veriacich.

Juraj Pavlišin, Banská Bystrica, Slovakia



O. Štefan Furdek
Náš zakladateľ



**VELKÁ
NOC 2011**

*Hľa, žiarou skvie sa Kristov hrob,
premohol víťaz pekla zlob.
Bohu sa všetci klaňajme, dnes Kristus Pán vstal,
Aleluja spievajme !*

Najdlhšia Kalvária v Strednej Európe je na Slovensku



Na priloženej fotografii je jedno zrekonštruované zastavenie Krížovej cesty (Pán Ježiš nesie Kríž) pod diaľničným viaduktom v obci Kostiviarska za Banskou Bystricou.

Foto archív autora.

V týchto pôstnych dňoch si katolícki veriaci na celom svete pripomínajú Krížovú cestu nášho Pána Ježiša Krista. Svoju spoluúčasť na jeho utrpení vyjadrujú aj formou procesií na Kalvárie postavené vo svojich mestách a dedinách. Len málo katolíckych krajín vo svete sa však môže pochváliť Kalváriou, ktorej jednotlivé stanice by boli postavené v celkovej dĺžke viac ako 10 kilometrov.

A práve takáto dlhá Kalvária sa nachádza na Strednom Slovensku a začína sa pri Farskom kostole v Banskej Bystrici a končí sa vo vysokohorskej baníckej obci Špania Dolina. Jej dĺžka je takmer 11 kilometrov a je pravdepodobné, že sa jedná o najdlhšiu Kalváriu v Strednej Európe a možno aj na celom svete. Po Kalvárii v Trnave je to zároveň aj druhá najstaršia Kalvária na Slovensku. Bola postavená koncom 16. storočia z podnetu Pátrov

Pokračovanie na str. 23

Z veľkonočných zvykov na Kysuciach

Ján Grešák

Veľkonočné sviatky patrili odjakživa k najväčším a najkrajším sviatkom kresťanského roku aj vo vzdialených kysuckých osadách a samotách. Vyznačovali sa viacerými svojráznymi obyčajmi a zvyklosťami. Veľkonočné zvyky, obyčaje a povery sa i tam viazali ku každému dňu tzv. kresťanského Veľkého týždňa, posledného pred Veľkou nocou.

Začínal sa Zeleným štvrtkom. Jeho názov pochádzal z čias, keď sa v minulosti v tento deň varievala polievka z rozličných zelín. Vtedy sa mal siať aj mak, aby bola dobrá úroda. Častým zvykom bolo ranné umývanie sa v potoku. Umývala sa celá rodina, aby bol každý šikovný a zdravý. Aby čaro dosiahlo svoj účinok, malo sa tak stať ešte pred východom slnka a pod sútokom potokov. Ak dievčatá chceli mať pekné dlhé vlasy, chodievali si ich česať včasne zrána pod vrbu.

Keďže ľud našich krajov oddávna veril v očišťujúci účinok vody, ktorá predstavovala symbol zdravia, oblievali dievky pred každým domom pastierov, vyhánajúcich stáda na prvú pašu. Tak ako v iných oblastiach Slovenska, aj na Kysuciach bolo známe „brodenie koní“ v potoku. Dobytky i kone napájali gazdovia odvarom kopytníka, v ktorom bol namočený železný predmet, čo malo chrániť statok pred uhynutím. Zelený štvrtok sa spájal tiež s predstavou o mimoriadnej aktivite bosoriek, preto gazdovia v snahe ochrániť dobytky a hydinu robievali kolomažou kríže na dverách maštalí a chlievov. Gazdiná zároveň povymetala celý dom a smeti odniesla do potoka, aby z domu odišiel všetok škodlivý hmyz.

Veľký piatok bol dňom najprísnejšieho pôstu, preto sa jedli v obmedzenom množstve len bezmäsité jedlá, najmä múčne, strukoviny a ryby. Na obed varievali šúlance a púčky s makom alebo vajcom. Gazdiná ich šúlala veľké a hrubé, aby také narástli aj obilné klasy. Mlieko mútili vždy pred svitaním, pretože vtedy získané maslo malo vraj liečivú moc a nikdy sa neskazilo.

V nasledujúci deň, na Bielu sobotu, varievali šunku (huspeninu) a piekli veľkonočného baránka. Večer uvarili vajíčko, ktoré otec – gazda, rozdelil na toľko dielov, koľko členov mala rodina. Každý zjedol svoj dielik, aby vraj na seba nikdy nezabúdali. Mäso sa mohlo konzumovať až po „rozviazaní zvonov“, t.j. až vo večerných hodinách. Pri ich zvukoch utekali dievky súce na výdaj do kôlne a nabrali za náruč plienok, ktoré po príchode do izby zrátali. Ak ich počet bol párný, budúcim manželom dievky mal byť mládenec, ak nepárny, mala sa vydať za vdovca. Omrvinky z jedál konzumované počas dňa gazdinky starostlivo odkladali do bielych plátenných vrecúšok. Keď odchádzali na roľu, zahrabávali ich do prvej vyoranej brázdy. Zvyk mal podporiť dobrú úrodu.

Počas Veľkonočnej nedele zasadla ráno rodina za spoločný stôl a jedla okrem mäsitých jedál aj vajíčka. Takmer z každého domu v osade odchádzal aspoň jeden človek do dediny do kostola na bohoslužby. Vo vode, v ktorej varili vajíčka sa všetci poumývali, „aby na poli a v hore hada nezočili“. Veľkonočná nedeľa bola posledným dňom, keď dievky ešte zdobili vajíčka – kraslice pre šibačov a kúpačov.

Najočakávanejším dňom tohto obdobia bol Veľkonočný pondelok, kedy chodievali mládenci šibať vrbovými korbáčmi alebo polievať drevenými striekačkami, vyhotovenými obyčajne z bazového dreva, ženy a dievčatá. Po domoch a dvoroch sa ozýval od skorého rána výskot a smiech. Korbáčom prvého mládenca, ktorý vošiel do chalupy,

Pokračovanie na str. 23



FOTO TASR - Henrich Mišovič