



# Jednota

THE UNION

USPA#273500 ISSN1087-3392



FCSU President Andrew M. Rajec (center) welcomes incoming Board Members (L) Rudolph W. Bernath and (R) James R. Marmol.

## FCSU Holds Successful Annual Meeting

The Board of Directors of the First Catholic Slovak Union held their annual meeting on Monday and Tuesday, March 28 – 29, 2011.

President Andrew M. Rajec gave his welcome address and the annual report on the state of the Society. Reports also were presented by the National Chaplain Rev. Thomas A. Nasta; National Vice President Andrew R. Harcar, Sr.; National Secretary Kenneth A. Arendt; National Treasurer George F. Matta; General Counsel Gary Matta; Chairperson of Auditors Karen Hunka; and Fraternal Activities Director Susan Ondrejco. Larry White of AQS gave an asset management report. A Jednota properties report was then given by its President Regis Brekosky. Regional Directors giving their reports were: Carl Ungvarsky, Damian Nasta, Joseph Minarovich, Henry Hassay, Milos Mitro, Rudolph Bernath, and James Marmol. Mass was celebrated each day by FCSU's National Chaplain, the Rev. Thomas Nasta.

The annual reports of our Board of Directors contain valuable information. All of them

are to be published in the Jednota – starting with the reports of our President, Executive Secretary, and National Chaplain in the April 27th issue, and the reports of the Vice President, National Treasurer, Fraternal Activities Director, and the Chairman of Auditors in this issue. Members are urged to read and study these reports and to take an active interest in our Society.

More photo coverage inside, page 5.

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## May is the month for Mary

Giovanni Battista Salvi "Il Sassoferrato", (1640-1650) National Gallery, London.



May is the "month which the piety of the faithful has especially dedicated to Our Blessed Lady," and it is the occasion for a "moving tribute of faith and love which Catholics in every part of the world [pay] to the Queen of Heaven. During this month Christians, both in church and in the privacy of the home, offer up to Mary from their hearts an especially fervent and loving homage of prayer and veneration. In this month, too, the benefits of God's mercy come down to us from her throne in greater abundance" (Paul VI: Encyclical on the Month of May, no. 1).

Appropriately, this issue contains an article from Dr. Michael Kopanic about Mary, Our Lady of Sorrows and the Patroness of Slovakia, beginning on p 7.

## FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

### FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION ANNUITY AND IRA INTEREST RATES EFFECTIVE MAY 1, 2011

Six Year Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity or IRA	3.65% (3.585% apr)
With the "Cash Interest" Option	3.40% (3.344% apr)
Eight Year Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity or IRA:	3.90% (3.826% apr)
New "Park 2 Annuity"	3.00% (2.956% apr)
New Park Free Plus Annuity or IRA - first year guarantee	3.00% (2.956% apr)
Maximum deposit is \$25,000.00	
New Six-Year Fixed Rate Deferred Annuity or IRA	3.40% (3.344% apr)
New Settlement Options are based on an interest rate of	3.15% (3.102% apr)



# Insights and Viewpoints

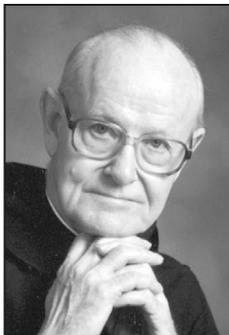


## St. Vincent Archabbey — Homilies, Father Demetrius R. Dumm O.S.B.

**May 29, 2011**  
**Sixth Sunday of Easter**  
**John 14:15-21**

### Gospel Summary

To love Jesus means to trust him. And that means that we trust his radical teaching about an ideal of unselfish loving. Those who think this is dangerous foolishness belong to the "world," which is interested only in self-promotion and self-



Demetrius R. Dumm  
O.S.B.

protection. The secular ideal is to take care of oneself first, and to think of others later... which too often means not at all.

Jesus knows that his teaching seems unpromising and so he sends to those who try to be unselfish an Advocate who is the "Spirit of truth." This divine Spirit will be present to our inmost being and will assure us that the path traced out by Jesus will in fact lead to freedom and joy. This powerful Spirit will also guide us in knowing how to love properly in all the circumstances of our lives. This Spirit will also provide the wisdom required to help us to distinguish between true self-giving and misguided loving.

Those who are truly concerned for the welfare of others will often appear foolish and may even be ridiculed for their apparently improvident behavior. But the Spirit will convince them that they are with Jesus, and therefore with the Father. For "whoever loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and reveal myself to him."

### Life Implications

As mere creatures, we are all vulnerable to a deep anxiety about personal extinction. For this reason, being self-centered becomes a kind of defense mechanism by which we struggle to hold ourselves together against all the forces of disintegration. The gospels tell us, however, that it is only by taking the risk of loving vulnerability that our identity can be assured. Those who seem to gain their lives in this world by selfish behavior will lose it, and those who seem to lose their lives by loving others will gain it back again in the richest measure imaginable.

In attempting to live this paradox, we are assured of the gift of the divine Spirit, who will stand by us (which is what Paraclete/Advocate literally means) and will give us a deep confidence about the wisdom of the way of Jesus. Contrary to all expectations, the more we dare to reach out in love to others, the more our "home base" will be protected and strengthened.

When Jesus promised an Advocate to his disciples, who dreaded his imminent departure from them, he was telling them that he would be with them in this divine Spirit more truly than he had ever been present to them in the flesh. This re-assurance is meant for us also. Sometimes we may think that those who knew Jesus in his earthly life had a great advantage over us but this is not at all the case. Jesus is far more truly present now "in the Spirit" than he ever was in his bodily existence in Palestine. As we struggle to maintain our identity as good and loving persons, we must know that Jesus is ever at our side.

The most important consequence of this presence of Jesus in our lives is the profound

conviction, given to us by the Spirit, that we are embraced by the heavenly Father's love, just as Jesus was embraced by that love. This is what St. Paul tells us when he writes, "God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, 'Abba! Father!'" (Galatians 4:6). If we listen to this Spirit, we will become ever more confident, peaceful and generous in spite of the adversities that we may find in our lives.

**June 2 (5), 2011**  
**Ascension of the Lord**  
**Matthew 28:16-20**

### Gospel Summary

There is no account of the actual ascension of the Lord in Matthew's gospel but the equivalent passage, describing the leave-taking of Jesus from his disciples, is rich in spiritual meaning.

Jesus meets with his eleven remaining disciples at an unidentified mountain in Galilee. His disciples seem to have sensed that they will not see him again because they are filled at the same time with awe and hesitation—awe at his resurrection glory and hesitation because they cannot imagine a future without him. Jesus reassures them with the words: "All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me."

Then follows the final commissioning: "Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you." The supreme power of Jesus is thus shared with the disciples (and with us) for the purpose of making his salvation available to the whole world.

This is a daunting task, far beyond ordinary human ability, but Jesus then adds the precious and comforting words, "I will be with you always, until the end of the age." This refers to the gift of the Holy Spirit, who will accompany all the followers of Jesus so that they may spread his gospel with courage and enthusiasm.

### Life Implications

One of the subtle but powerful effects of 9/11 has been a deep and pervasive sense of helplessness in the face of unknown threats. We can never be quite as confident and carefree as we once were. Life suddenly seems more fragile and we worry more about the safety of our children and grandchildren. But "all power" has been given to Jesus, and he is ready and willing to use that power to protect us from any danger that might be truly destructive.

This power of Jesus is not the power of bombs and bullets, however. It is the much more reliable power of the love of God, which is present in our uncertain human situation with the potential to transform the world. It is our baptism in the name of the all-powerful Trinity that allows us to tap into that invincible current of love that flows through these divine Persons. We will never be able to understand fully just how powerful this goodness of God really is and how easily it can defeat the power of evil. The problem is that the threat of evil seems so real and our faith in God's love is still so weak.

The final words of Jesus ought to be memorized and repeated over and over again: "I am with you always, until the end of time." Jesus is saying these words to us every moment of every day...but too often we are not listening! We hear all the prophets of doom and gloom and we live in fear of their dire predictions. But we need most of all to hear the far more truthful words of Jesus, who has all power in heaven and on earth, and who will never abandon us if we trust in his love. In the presence of that love, even death can be changed from potent enemy to benign friend.

## NEWSPAPER DEADLINES

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

Issue Date	Copy Date
WEDNESDAY, MAY 25	MONDAY, MAY 16
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8	MONDAY, MAY 30
WEDNESDAY, JULY 6	MONDAY, JUNE 27

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

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## Report of the National Vice-President

Reverend Father, President Rajec and Members of the Board of Directors...

Before I get into my report, I'd like to take a moment to thank the Membership and Marketing Committee, which is comprised of Brothers Andrew Rajec, Kenneth Arendt, and George Matta, for all the time and effort they spend on the problems and solutions that concern membership and marketing. Each and every member is a dedicated officer, concerned with the growth and success of our Jednota.

### Membership

As you can see by our annual statement, the First Catholic Slovak Union had a record year. Our assets grew by 37.5 million dollars and our surplus increased by 4.3 million dollars. Our risk based capital (RBC) ratio topped off at 667%. Our recommenders and agents brought in annuities totaling over 34 million dollars.

As far as insurance...we had an increase of approximately 1 million dollars. This year should be a lot better. As of this date, we have 60 licensed agents under contract. We will go into all the statistics when we get into our marketing report.

Our existing sales force is doing a tremendous job for the First Catholic Slovak Union. The Membership and Marketing Committee would like to express their sincere thanks to those recommenders who consistently recommend new or increased business during the year.



Andrew Harcar

Congratulations to the society's TOP 10 Insurance/Annuity Proposers by Total Points for the year 2010.

1. Joseph T. Scavina
2. Andrew R. Harcar, Sr.
3. Cluey Sandy
4. Robert Kopco
5. George A. Sprock
6. Rosemary Deliman
7. Florence Matta
8. John A. Jurcenko
9. Charles Terek
10. Geraldine Buchheit

Congratulations to the Society's TOP 10 Proposers by Amount of Insurance Sold for the year 2010.

1. James R. Marmol
2. Joseph T. Scavina
3. Dorothy J. Petrus
4. Arlo H. Meeker
5. Michael J. Slovenkai
6. Joseph J. Yuros
7. Frances Tarquinio
8. Carl J. Ungvarsky
9. Audrey J. Balazik
10. Margaret A. Graytok

Congratulations to the Society's TOP 10 Proposers by Amount of Annuity/IRA/Park Money brought in for the year 2010.

1. Andrew R. Harcar, Sr.
2. Cluey Sandy
3. Robert J. Kopco
4. Joseph T. Scavina
5. George A. Sprock
6. Rosemary Deliman
7. John A. Jurcenko
8. Florence K. Matta
9. Geraldine Buchheit
10. Joseph E. Rura

Congratulations to the Society's TOP 10 Proposers by the Number of Policies Sold for the year 2010.

1. Dorothy J. Petrus
2. Audrey J. Balazik
3. Kathleen M. Persun
4. Joseph T. Scavina
5. Timothy M. Porter
6. Josephine E. Gerba
7. Patricia Conner
8. Arlo H. Meeker
9. Carl J. Ungvarsky
10. George A. Sprock

To each and everyone who signed a member and/or who sent in an Annuity/IRA/Park Money contract for the year 2010. My heartfelt thanks and congratulations for a Job Well Done!

### Marketing

This past year the Membership and Marketing Committee...

\* In January, started a new 8 year annuity product. The committee decided that the first year

bonus on deposits of \$10,000.00 and greater will be 5.60% for the first year. The bonus will expire on July 31, 2010.

\* Will continue with the recruitment of more independent agents.

\* Applications for licensing have been submitted to 13 additional states.

\* Started a Presidential Campaign with insurance and annuity incentives. It was a year long campaign. It ran from August 1, 2009 to the Presidential Banquet in August 2010. There were special convention prizes ~ drawings totaling \$4,450.00 for those who signed at least 2 new insurance members. Drawings totaling \$4,450.00 were also awarded for every \$10,000.00 in annuities brought in.

### 2010 Presidential Campaign Winners

Insurance:		
First Prize	\$1,500.00	Geraldine Buchheit
Second Prize	\$1,200.00	Joseph Bugel
Third Prize	\$1,000.00	Ameila Franek
Fourth Prize	\$500.00	Patricia Conner
Fifth Prize	\$250.00	Karianne Barnes
Annuities:		
First Prize	\$1,500.00	Joseph Scavina
Second Prize	\$1,200.00	Ann Kacsanek
Third Prize	\$1,000.00	Albert Valo, Sr.
Fourth Prize	\$500.00	Eleanor Bernard
Fifth	\$250.00	Carl Ungvarsky

Congratulations to our winners and to all those who entered the Presidential Campaign.

\* On April 24, 2010 – A district president meeting and seminar was held at the home office. District presidents came from New Jersey, Ohio, and New York.

\* On April 25, 2010 – A sales seminar was held at SS Cyril and Methodius Church Hall in Sterling Heights, Michigan.

\* On May 14th and 15th 2010 – An informational booth was set up at the 53rd International Pittsburgh Folk Festival at the Monroe Convention Center.

\* On July 15, 2010 – An informational booth was set up at the 87th Annual Slovak Day at Kenywood Park near Pittsburgh. Copies of the Jednota newspapers and information on FCSU products were distributed. The annual event draws large crowds each year from Western Pennsylvania, Eastern Ohio, and West Virginia.

\* On July 18, 2010 – Attended the combined meeting of Ohio Districts 10 and 14 in Akron, Ohio.

\* August 8, 2010 – An informational booth was set up at the Annual Fest Celebration at the Center for Pastoral Leadership in Wickliffe, Ohio. The fest is a day-long event that gathered over 35,000 people from across North Eastern Ohio. The fest has grown to become one of the largest faith-based summer events. It is sponsored by the Cleveland Diocese.

At the booth, information was provided on the FCSU and its insurance and annuity products. This booth was part of the on-going campaign to make the FCSU more visible by attending the many festivals held during the summer months.

\* On September 5, 2010 – Attended the Annual Cleveland Slovak Radio Club Festival held at St. Anthony of Padua Church in Parma, Ohio. Operated a booth at the festival where information was provided on the FCSU's insurance and annuity products.

\* On September 26, 2010 – A booth was set up at the 33rd New Jersey Slovak Heritage Festival. The festival was held at the New Jersey Arts Center in Holmdel, New Jersey.

\* On October 3, 2010 – A sales seminar was held for the member of SS Cyril and Methodius District at the Keyser Valley Community Center in Scranton, PA.

\* On October 10, 2010 A sales seminar was held for the Reverend Stephen Furdek District of Easter PA, Maryland, and Washington D.C. at St. John the Baptist Church Hall in Allentown, PA.

\* Hired the MT Software Inc., represented by Roger Gertz and Myron Thomas, for their software illustration for our insurance and annuity products.

\* Interviewing potential agents to help the society with the recruitment and retention of insurance agents.

### Activities

Some of my activities in the year 2010 were: Attended all monthly Executive meetings as well as meeting called by the President. Letters concerning marketing/seminars were sent to the recommenders. I wrote articles pertaining to insurance and had them published in the Jednota. From April thru December I send the "Top Guns" to the editor. Inform all Regional Directors of their districts insurance and annuity production. I attended various district meetings and/or social functions. Attended the Annual Illinois Fraternal Congress meeting as a delegate in Springfield, Illinois. I am a director in the Indiana Fraternal Congress and attend all their meetings. Attended Bruce and Bruce Seminar in Pittsburgh. Represented the Society at the wake of Louis Kollar in Muskegon, Michigan. I attended and chaired 4 seminars in Michigan, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. Set up booths at 5 festivals in Ohio, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey. I also chair the Membership and Marketing Committee.

At this time, I personally want to thank our Executive Committee and the Board of Directors for their help and encouragement. I would also like to thank the branch and district officers for their untiring commitment to our great society. Last, but not least, I want to express my sincerest thanks to our great home office staff for the excellent help and cooperation given to me throughout the year.

Until next time,  
Good Luck and God Bless,

Andrew R. Harcar, Sr.

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

**THINK ABOUT IT!**

## Report of the National Treasurer

Reverend Father, President Rajec, and Brother and Sister Officers:

I am pleased to report that all the financials and other reports as required by the various states where the First Catholic Slovak Union is licensed to do business have all been properly filed by March 1, 2011.

In spite of wars, overthrow of governments in the Far East, Egypt, Libya, and now the tragic Tsunami in Japan, the First Catholic Slovak Union continues to progress forward. Total asset and surplus has shown positive results.



George F. Matta

Surplus – 12-31-06 – \$11,555,594

Surplus – 12-31-07 – \$13,112,264 inc of \$1,557,670 +13.5%

Surplus – 12-31-08 – \$ 9,059,592 loss of \$4,071,420 -31.0%

Surplus – 12-31-09 – \$13,169,012 inc of \$4,109,420 +45.3%

Surplus – 12-31-10 – \$17,519,864 inc of \$4,350,852 +33.4%

The above charts represent a 59.6% increase in five years and an increase in our surplus of \$5,964,270. The Society also enjoyed an increase to our Solvency ratio to 106.88% for the same period.

Unfortunately, the very successful Victory Hedge Fund which provided the FCSU with significant and unexpected results in our investment yields was dissolved. A new Hedge Fund investment was established by the managers of the Victory Hedge Fund. The investment is smaller than the Victory Fund and in line with Ohio Regulations.

In spite of the continuing economic turmoil in the world, the investment portfolio remains well diversified. The bonds offered to the Executive Committee provide a variety of quality bonds with the assistance of the Society's Investment Manager, (AQS). The Society also utilizes low interest funds that are available from the Society membership in the Federal Home Loan Bank. This enables the Society to use those low-interest rates to Arbitrage our investments in securities that pay a higher interest rate.

The prevailing economic climate resulted in a necessary re-evaluation of the Society's investment procedure. The long time philosophy for the Society as well as with other fraternal was the purchase of quality securities with attractive interest rates. Little trading was involved as the bonds were held to maturity and generate income. As we have experienced in the past few years, this type of technique is no longer prudent. Therefore, the Society engaged an asset manager (AQS) to assist the Society in analysis of securities owned, purchased selection and necessary reposition of the portfolio when needed.

As a result of the low interest rates offered by the banks, the investment committee attempted to keep our purchases short term. In some cases, our purchases can be for periods of anywhere from 6 months to 3 years. The yields, depending on the length of maturity, may be as low as 3 to 4½%. Our philosophy is that the yield may not be as high as we would prefer, but it is more than funds being offered by the banks and earning substantially lower interest. In addition, once interest rates improve and rise, the Society may be in a position to secure those higher rates with longer maturities.

In spite of the overall low rate of interest, the Society enjoys a very respectable rate of return on its investments of 5.89%. Effect with the 2007 Annual Statement, current year's income from the IMR is now included as part of investment income. The Society's net investment rate of return will continue to rank near the top among fraternal and commercial insurers.

In 2010, \$177,563 of prior years' bond/preferred stock profits were included as a part of income. This amount was released from the Interest Maintenance Reserve (IMR). The IMR requires that most profits or losses realized when bonds or preferred stocks are matured, called, or sold, must be placed in this reserve and amortized to the original date of the security. The Total IMR is now \$1,578,788, which will provide annual income to the Society for approximately \$160,000 for the next 10 years.

The Society purchased almost \$119,600,000 of securities in the year 2010, while over \$93,400,000 of maturities were matured, called, or sold. The combined total of \$213,000,000 equals 78.2% of the current asset total. These transactions do not include the FHLB bonds obtained and invested primarily with the Victory Hedge Funds. The large volume of activities is a result of the large number of calls, such as FNMA, FHLMC, and others. The difficulty is trying to find replacement bonds of equal value and the best interest rates available while maintaining value.

PREMIUM INCOME			
	LIFE INSURANCE	ANNUITIES	TOTAL
2006	\$1,356,060	\$ 3,369,327	\$ 4,725,387
2007	1,455,478	4,238,394	4,693,973
2008	1,465,268	6,560,316	8,025,584
2009	1,327,244	16,438,878	17,676,121
2010	1,517,156	32,118,507	33,635,663

In conclusion, I would like to take this opportunity to extend congratulations to our loyal recommenders who continue to amaze me with continued bigger results each year, our agents, to Members of the Board of Directors, and my fellow Officers. And especially, our Home Office Staff who do an outstanding job every day. May the Good Lord continue His blessings on the First Catholic Slovak Union.

Respectfully submitted,

George F. Matta  
National Treasurer  
March 17, 2011

## Report of the Internal Audit Team

Father Nasta, President Rajec, and Board of Directors,

During the fiscal year 2010, the Audit committee fulfilled its duties and responsibilities as outlined in the Bylaws of the First Catholic Slovak Union of the United States and Canada, effective January 1, 2007. The committee conducted four regular quarterly audits. These audits were conducted to examine on a test basis:

- Death Claims
- Payroll
- Insurance Applications
- Credit Card Payments
- Certificate/Mortgage Loans
- Branch Stipend Payments
- Annuity Interest Calculations
- Fraternal Activities Financial Reports
- Bank Reconciliations
- Vouchers submitted for payment

In accordance with Section 7.06 (f) of the Bylaws, meetings were held to review, in its entirety, the Bylaws of the organization in effect from January 1, 2007 – December 31, 2010. Numerous recommendations were presented to the Bylaws committee six months prior to the Convention. Several of these recommendations were acted on at the convention.

The team also convened to validate the credentials of delegates selected to attend the 49th Quadrennial Convention. Every effort was made to insure those individuals chosen as delegates met all qualifications as outlined in the bylaws of the organization.

Given the added work load associated with the planning and execution of the convention, it is our opinion that the Home Office operated exceptionally in fiscal year 2010.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen M. Hunka – Chairman  
Raymond G. Lako  
John J. Leskovyansky, Jr.  
Thomas Bardar

## Report of the Fraternal Activities Director

Fr. Nasta, President Rajec, and Members of the FCSU Board,

The monthly ur\_space.jrs page has been published throughout the year. It includes games, challenges, trivia, and culture. Due to the positive response, this monthly column will be continued this year.

The 2010 Bowling tournament was held the weekend of April 30-May 2 in Erie, Pennsylvania. There were 134 bowlers in the tournament and approximately 60 people for the banquet. The banquet was held at the Comfort Inn in Erie. After dinner, the group enjoyed playing a few games at the Presque Isle Downs Casino. The "Don't Stand a Chance" and "Better Luck Next Year" Awards were presented at the banquet to the men's and women's team in last place. Saturday and Sunday Sweepstakes were added benefits, once again, to the Singles and Doubles competitions. The bowler who met certain criteria for each game was awarded a chance to win an extra cash bonus.

The 2010 Golf tournament was held the weekend of July 24-25 in Belle Vernon, Pennsylvania. Seventy-four golfers participated in the weekend-long festivities. The banquet featured music and karaoke with Accents Unlimited. In addition to the monetary prizes, donations were solicited to provide additional skill prizes. A hole in one contest took place on both Saturday and Sunday. Unfortunately, the weather did not cooperate with us and special circumstances required innovative ways to determine winners.

The 2010 Coloring Contest was again met with enthusiasm from our young members. We received 125 entries. Congratulations to all the entrants and especially to all the winners. An analysis of the number of entries over the past five years shows that most of the participation is in the 7-9 year-old age group, followed by the 4-6 year-old age group. The monthly ur\_space.jrs page will be geared towards these age groups.

Plans for all scheduled events for this year are well underway.

The 57th Bowling Tournament will take place the weekend of April 29 – May 1 at Carolier Lanes in North Brunswick, New Jersey.

The Golf Tournament will take place July 16-17, 2011, at the Tam O'Shanter and Oak Tree Country Club Golf Courses in Sharon, Pennsylvania.

A national picnic will be held on Sunday, August 14, 2011, at Wiegand's Lake Park in Novelty, Ohio. Watch the Jednota paper for more details on this exciting event!

In conclusion, I thank the Members of the Board for supporting the various activities throughout the year, and I encourage all of you to promote participation in activities at all levels, of our organization. Please feel free to contact me if I can help to coordinate or promote any activities in your area.

Fraternal submitted,

Susan Ondrejco  
Director of Fraternal Activities

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.

# Scenes From A Successful FCSU Annual Meeting

*continued from page 1*



Going over the annual statement at the Board Meeting are (L-R): President Andrew M. Rajec, Vice-President Andrew R. Harcar, Sr.; and Executive Secretary Kenneth A. Arendt.



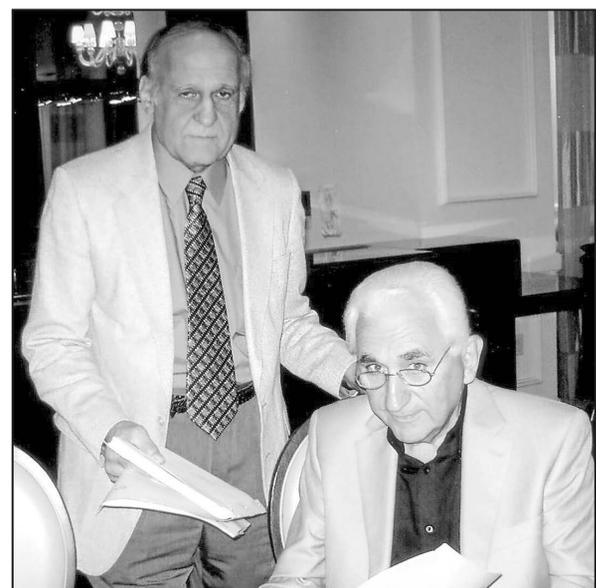
(L - R) Regional Directors Carl Ungvarsky, Damian Nasta, and Joseph Minarovich go over the agenda.



(Left) FCSU's Asset Manager Larry White from AQS goes over our investments with Executive Secretary Kenneth A. Arendt



National Chaplain Rev. Thomas Nasta celebrates daily Mass for Board Members and their wives.



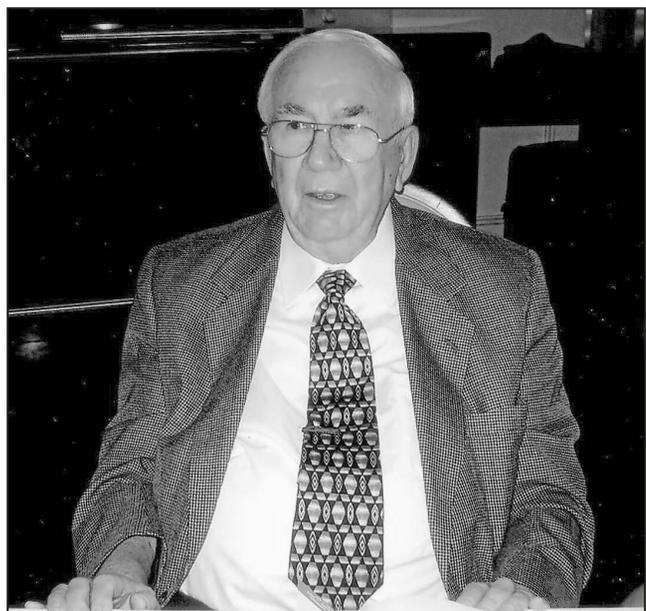
(L - R) Regional Directors Carl Ungvarsky and Henry Hassay



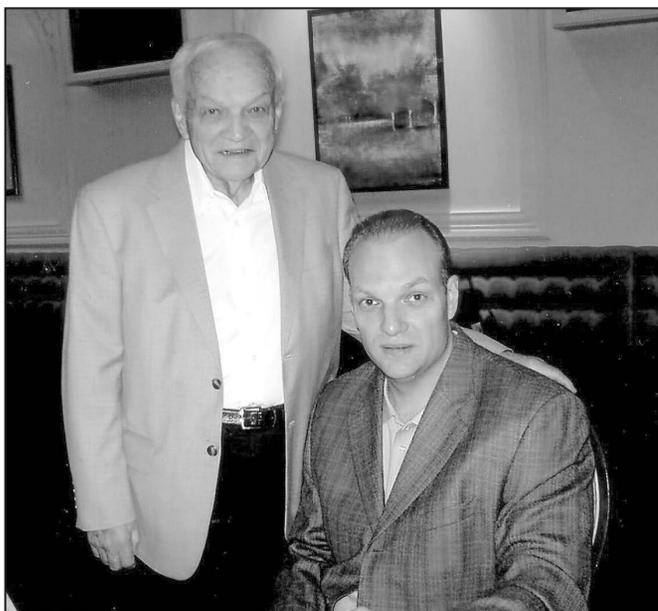
(L - R) Regional Directors Milos Mitro and Rudolph Bernath



(L - R) Chairperson of Auditors Karen Hunka and Fraternal Activities Director Susan Ondrejco



President of Jednota Properties, Inc. Regis Brekosky presents his annual report to the Board.



(L - R) National Treasurer George F. Matta goes over reports with our General Counsel Gary J. Matta



President Andrew M. Rajec addresses the Board of Directors with this annual report.

# MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

## TUESDAY, MARCH 29, 2011

### LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

**OPEN**

President Andrew M. Rajec called the meeting to order at 1:30 P.M. and asked Fr. Thomas A. Nasta, National Chaplain, to lead the prayer.

**ROLL CALL**

Members attending: Andrew M. Rajec, President  
 Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary  
 Andrew R. Harcar, Sr., Vice President  
 George F. Matta, Treasurer  
 Fr. Thomas A. Nasta, National Chaplain, by the invitation of the President  
 Gary J. Matta, General Counsel, by the invitation of the President

**ACCEPTANCE OF THE FEBRUARY MEETING MINUTES**

The Executive Secretary presented the Minutes of the February 2011 Executive Committee Meeting. A motion was made by Kenneth A. Arendt and seconded by George F. Matta to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

**TREASURER'S STOCK AND BOND REPORT**

The Treasurer presented a written report and answered the Committee's questions. The President led a discussion concerning our current annuity interest rates. The Executive Committee decided not to change the annuity rates at this time but will review them again at the April 2011 meeting.

**SALES AND MARKETING**

The Vice President reviewed our sales production report in different Regions and answered the Executive Committee's questions. The Vice President also reviewed the sales production report of our independent agents, noting that we are continuing to add agents. Vice President Harcar reviewed the upcoming seminars for 2011 and encouraged District and Branch officers to contact him if their District or Branch is interested in conducting a seminar.

The Executive Secretary stated that we updated our current Website – www.fcsu.com. He further stated that we will be doing more marketing and advertising thru our new Website.

Vice President Harcar updated the Executive Committee on the upcoming Membership Meet. President Rajec stated that we will make the decision in the next few weeks.

**EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT****FEDERAL HOME LOAN BANK**

Executive Secretary Kenneth Arendt submitted a written report to the Executive Committee which gave a complete update of the investments and updated the Executive Committee on transactions with the Federal Home Loan Bank (FHLB).



## Rosanne Krocker Celebrates 35 Years with the FCSU

Many members of the First Catholic Slovak Union know Rosanne Krocker, who has been helping them since she joined the FCSU right out of high school on April 21, 1976. Among her primary responsibilities, Rosanne keeps all records and sets up all accounts for the Society's Annuities/IRAs/Roths, and handles all annuity beneficiaries/annuity cash withdrawals and deposits. She also handles reinsurance, medicals for life insurance, and commissions.

The FCSU Officers and Members of the Board of Directors extend their most sincere congratulations to Rosanne on her recent 35th Anniversary with the Society, and thank her for her years of excellent service to our members.

**Congratulations, Rosanne!**

(L) As a key member of the Home Office Staff, Rosanne helped greet delegates such as Barbara Holly (R) during the Home Office Tour held before the start of the FCSU's 49th Quadrennial Convention in Cleveland, OH, August 14, 2010.

**PORTFOLIO CUSTODIAN**

The Executive Secretary updated the Executive Committee on our portfolio custodian, Key Bank and stated that everything is in order.

**MORTGAGES AND OVERDUE MORTGAGES**

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

**MONTHLY DISBURSEMENTS**

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

Disbursements for the month of February 2011:

Death Benefits & Accumulations	\$	229,581.37
Cash Withdrawals & Accumulations	\$	6,887.41
Matured Endowments & Accumulations	\$	0.00
Trust Fund	\$	0.00

The Executive Secretary also presented the Membership and Annuity Report. The Executive Committee reviewed the remainder of the disbursements and the Executive Secretary answered all questions. He also presented to the Executive Committee the 2010 Budget Report for their review.

**REQUESTS FOR ADS AND DONATIONS**

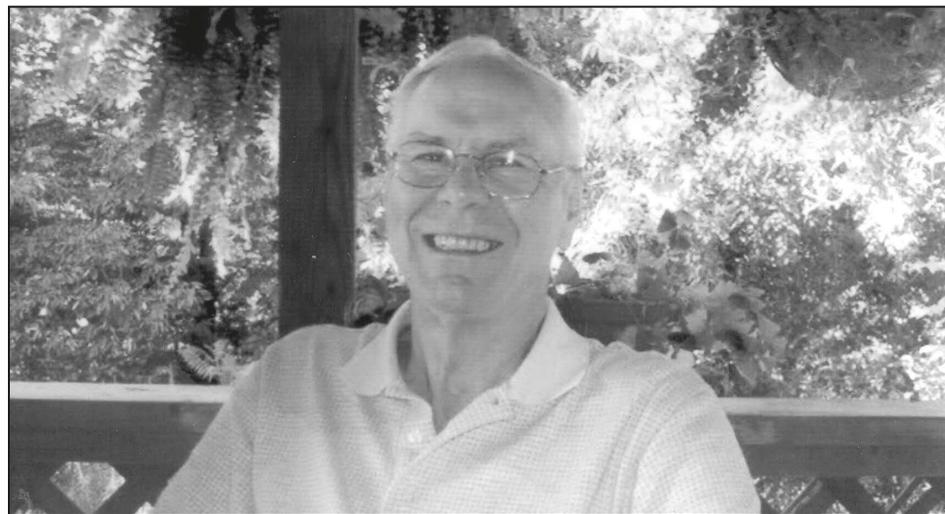
The President stated that the requests for donations have been reviewed and acted upon.

**ADJOURN**

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

Andrew M. Rajec  
National President

Kenneth A. Arendt  
Executive Secretary



**Albert Robert Sunick**

## FCSU Member

### Albert Sunick, 80 Years Young

Albert Robert Sunick celebrated his 80th birthday on April 8, 2011. Truly 80 years "young," he recently had to cancel one of his activities – a skydiving venture – due to fog!

Al was born in Scranton, PA in 1931 to Stephen and Mary (Duchak) Sunick (the name adapted from Cunick). His parents were from Slovakia – Šunava and Rudnik, respectively. He is the "baby" of nine siblings.

Al graduated from Scranton Vocational Tech and married his high school sweetheart Rosemary Laffey in 1950. They moved to Lackawanna, NY where he went to work for Bethlehem Steel. He retired from Bethlehem in 1983.

He and Rosemary had five children.

Al was widowed in 1983. He has since remarried, to Beverly – and now has three step children. Al and Beverly are busy spending their time between New York and Florida.

Al is a member of Holy Family Slovak Church of Scranton, PA, and proud to be a cousin of Msgr. Frances Beda of Hazelton, PA. He is a member of the FCSU's Branch 41, and has made FCSU members of his family.

With the help of family and friends, 2011 will be a year-long celebration of Al's 80th year. In fact, there will be family reunion this summer to celebrate Al's life and love.

Submitted by Branch 41 Member M. Sue Giambione

# The Patroness of Slovakia: Our Lady of Sorrows

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

Many of us know that Our Lady of Sorrows is the patroness of Slovakia. We celebrate her feast on September 15, but often we do not know the story of how the Virgin Mary and her sufferings came to be identified with the people of Slovakia. The identification of the sorrowful Mother with the Slovak nation stems from a miracle which occurred long ago in the 16th century.

It all started in Šaštín, a town in the Trnava region of western Slovakia; the town lies between the Myjava Hills and the Záhorie Lowland, not far from Moravia. It is about 18 km from Senica and 65 km from the Slovak capital, Bratislava. In 2001, the town was renamed Šaštín – Stráže, a city of around 5,000 inhabitants.

## Historical Background

Historians have found evidence of settlement in the Šaštín area from the second half of the 10th century until about 1250. The town's official history dates back to the early 13th century; its oldest record dates from 1218, when the Hungarian King Emeric II (Imrich, in Slovak) gifted the property of the Lebény Benedictine Monastery to the Győr family. The name of the town derived from the Magyar word "sás," (meaning *šašina* or *třstie* in Slovak), a reference to the marshy grass with solid stems in the marshy wetlands area where the town started.

In the late 14th century, Šaštín acquired the formal privileges associated with the status of a town. Aside from serving as the site of several battles and the home to a thriving craft industry, Šaštín did not have any special economic significance until the 18th century. Acquired by the emperor due to outstanding debts, Maria Theresa's husband, Francis of Lorraine, used his new estate for business purposes. He had calico textile factory (*kartúnka*) established that became one of largest enterprises in central Europe. By acquiring a monopoly of the business in the empire, it soon employed over 20,000 domestic spinners and foreign skilled workers. The crown sold the factory to the Viennese banker, Johann Puthon, in the 1780s. It continued to prosper until the late 19th century, when the business declined due to competition.

## Apparitions of the Virgin Mary

Šaštín had no special religious significance until 1564, when the Virgin Mary, as Our Lady of Sorrows, first appeared to Angelika Bakičová, the wife of the landowner named Imrich Czobor. The apparition occurred while she was praying for help to deal with some personal trials in her life.

In thanksgiving for hearing her prayers, Pani Bakičová commissioned an unknown artist to sculpt a wooden statue at the place of the apparition. Soon word spread of her vision, and the faithful from nearby towns and villages began to visit the site as a place of pilgrimage. Before long, pilgrims from far away heard of the apparition and also started to make longer journeys to Šaštín in order to pay homage to Our Sorrowful Mother. A triangular Marian Chapel was then built to house the statue in the late 16th century.

During the Turkish wars, the statue was moved in 1654 for protection to the Chapel of St. Imrich, in a nearby manor house. It did not return to its original chapel until 1710, and soon attracted throngs of pilgrims who credited Our Lady of Sorrows for many spiritual and physical miracles of healing.

## Official Church Recognition

Not until the early 18th century did the Church officially grant its approval for public worship of the statue of Our Lady of Sorrows. But further recognition involved an extensive official Church investigation. On August 25, 1732, the statue was moved to the Loreto Chapel of the town church. In the meantime, an official Church commission found that as many as 726 miracles were associated with the statue.

Finally, Archbishop Imrich Estzterházy in Esztergom, the center of Catholicism in Hungary, sanctioned the chapel in Šaštín as an official place of pilgrimage. The statue returned to its original location in the triangular chapel, under the care of Rev. Ján Schon. A throng of over 20,000 people gathered to celebrate the first Holy Mass at the chapel. This sealed its sanctity as place of worship for centuries to come.

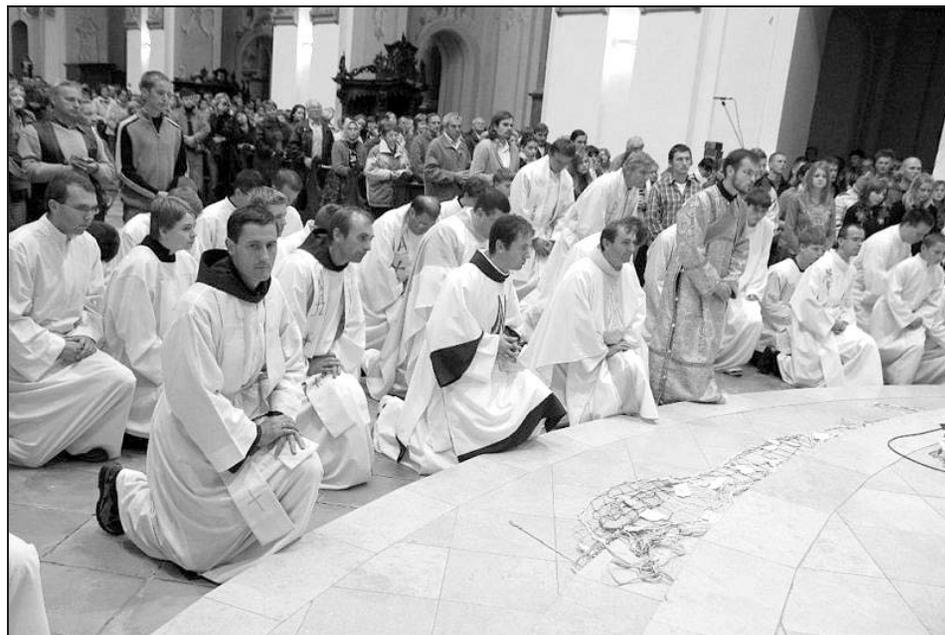
## Building a Basilica and Monastery

The Pauline religious order received responsibility to minister and take care of the shrine starting in 1733. Upon arriving in Šaštín, the Paulines decided to build a basilica to accommodate pilgrims and a monastery to house the clergy. The cornerstone for the new church was laid on July 16, 1736. Johann Damian and later Matej Vepý from Vienna directed its construction. The builders completed construction of the main part of the basilica and its roof in 1748, and three years later, the adjoining monastery was finished.

Once the building was finished, attention turned to the decoration of the interior. In 1757, the Austrian court painter, Jean-Joseph Chamant, adorned the basilica ceiling and the



Basilica of Our Lady of Sorrows, Šaštín



Faithful at 2008 pilgrimage, Šaštín

side altars with a series of colorful frescoes and murals. Another important Austrian master of the era, Johann Lucas Kracker, painted three side altars of the basilica.

During the reign of Empress Maria Theresa, the renowned Habsburg imperial architect, Franz Hildebrand, recommended additional adornments, including the construction of a main altar made of red marble and the decoration of the façade of the basilica. The donations of thousands of ordinary people of Slovakia and Maria Theresa's personal contribution funded the project. All was done to prepare for the 200th anniversary of the apparition in 1764.

The official blessing and dedication of the basilica occurred on August 15, 1764. The culmination of the ceremony featured the presentation of the statue at the main altar. In addition to the many thousands of pilgrims who came for the grand event, the attendees at the event sounded like a list of "who's who" in the Habsburg Empire – the Esztergom Archbishop Barkoczi, Empress Maria Theresa and her husband Francis of Lorraine, and many other clergy and dignitaries.

Other improvement continued in the ensuing years. Just a year later, the bells were blessed and the domes finished. In 1771, a lectern was completed, as well as a magnificent organ with 25 variations to fill the basilica with heavenly music. Gradually over time, construction workers completed the side altars and finished the project.

## Decline and Revival

When the reforming Emperor Joseph II (1780-90) dissolved the monasteries in the empire, the basilica became government property. The Paulines fled to Poland in 1786. The Šaštín pastor Jakub Schneider and four chaplains then closed their parish church, moved to the monastery quarters, and took over administering the basilica. The Salesian Order would later take over the ministering of the shrine when the monastery was later reopened after Joseph II's reign.

The next notable event occurred in 1864 – the 300th anniversary of the apparition. In preparation for the event, Deacon Štefan Hřebíček contracted Jozef Bárta from Hodonín to raise the two towers to their current height and renovate the basilica. A grand ceremony took place on September 8, 1864, at which 300 clergy and over 120,000 pilgrims attended. Presided over by the Esztergom Archbishop, Cardinal Ján Scitovsky, he placed on the statue a crown of gold blessed by Pope Pius IX.

Šaštín appeared in the news again when the Emperor Franz Joseph paid a visit to the shrine in 1902. But details were lacking about this historic visit.

Next mention of the shrine is during World War I, when the bells were hidden to protect them from possible damage or melting down to make weapons. After the war in 1926, the basilica had four more large bells consecrated.

## Patroness of Slovakia -

The greatest moment for the shrine came the following year in April, when Pope Pius XI declared that Our Sorrowful Mother would be the patroness of Slovakia. In order to acknowledge the Holy See's decision, this patronage, three bishops celebrated a Holy Mass on May 22, 1927, attended by over 40,000 pilgrims.

Improvements to the basilica continued over the next couple decades: in 1929 a new national bell to Our Lady of Seven Sorrows weighed about 5,000 pounds. The next year the basilica acquired electric lighting. During World War II, renovations improved the sanctuary, the organ, and the building itself. Slovaks living in Vienna donated the Stations of the Cross for the shrine.

## Communist Suppression

After the Second World War, the communist dictatorship attacked all Holy Orders and in 1950, state police forcefully expelled the Salesians from the shrine. The shrine once again came under the administration of the diocese and the local parish. Nonetheless, the pilgrims continued to flock to the shrine and a new grander organ was even completed.

On the occasion of the 400th anniversary of to Angelika Bakičová's apparition, Pope Paul VI declared in 1964 the church in Šaštín would be a minor basilica. Trnava's Bishop Lazik presided at the celebration Mass shortly after Christmas in that year.

continued on page 19

# 2011 Jednota Handicap Golf Tournament

July 16 and 17, 2011

Tam O'Shanter and Oak Tree Golf Courses

Sharon, PA



Registration Forms postmarked after May 27, 2011 will NOT be accepted.

## 1. Golfer Name

My Personal Information is the same as 2010\*\* (check the box)

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Branch Number \_\_\_\_\_

Certificate Number \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. Golfer Name

My Personal Information is the same as 2010\*\* (check the box)

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Branch Number \_\_\_\_\_

Certificate Number \_\_\_\_\_

\*\* If you participated in the 2010 tournament and your personal information has not changed, you do not need to complete the rest of the information.

Notes: Golfers aged 62 and over will be placed into their appropriate flights based on handicap, then will tee off from the senior tees.

Handicap calculations will not include the 2010 results. The handicap allowed will be 75% of the average strokes over par for the last 8 years. 100% of the average strokes over par for the last 8 years will be used to divide into flights.

Those who have not participated in 2 tournaments in the last 8 years will be placed in the Callaway Division.

Foursomes will be paired at the discretion of the Tournament Committee.

Those who provide email addresses will be notified of the schedule via email.

Golfers must be members in good standing of the FCSU.

Any Golfer who acts in an un-sportsmanlike manner will be disqualified from the tournament.

Fees (per person):

Full Golf Package*	2 rounds of golf with cart 2 nights lodging Friday night hospitality Sat. and Sun. breakfast Radisson drink coupon	Package Fee: \$ 245.00 Prize Fee: \$ 12.00 Tournament Fee: \$ 8.00 <b>TOTAL DUE: \$ 265.00</b>
Golf Only Package	2 rounds of golf with cart Friday night hospitality	Package Fee: \$ 100.00 Prize Fee: \$ 12.00 Tournament Fee: \$ 8.00 <b>TOTAL DUE: \$ 120.00</b>
Non-Golf Package*	2 nights lodging Friday night hospitality Sat. and Sun. breakfast Radisson drink coupon	Package Fee: \$ 140.00 <b>TOTAL DUE: \$ 140.00</b>
Saturday Night Dinner		<b>\$25.00</b>
Sunday Awards Barbecue		<b>\$15.00</b>

\*Also indicate:

Roommate Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Room Type: 2 Double Beds / 1 King Bed  
Smoking / Non-Smoking

Please make checks payable to "FCSU Activities" and mail this registration form with check to:

Susan Ondrejco  
234 Iliion St.  
Pittsburgh, PA 15207

### Saturday Night

(at Radisson Hotel, Sharon)

Meal includes:

Salad, Roast Sirloin of Beef, Chicken Marsala,  
Marinara Pasta, Green Beans Almondine, Herb  
Roasted Redskin Potatoes, Dessert

Cash Bar

Cost: FCSU Members \$25  
Guests \$40

### Sunday Afternoon

(at Tam O'Shanter Golf Course)

Meal includes:

Roasted half chicken, Roasted Potatoes, Buttered  
Corn, Italian bread and butter, Soft Drinks

Cost: Golfers and Guests \$15

## 2011 Golf Tournament Info Sheet

### Friday, July 15

◆ Hospitality Room, Tam O'Shanter Golf Course, 6 PM - 10 PM

### Saturday, July 16

- ◆ Registration begins at 9 am. Tee times start at 9:32 am\*.
- ◆ Oak Tree Country Club Golf Course
- ◆ Mass begins at 5:30pm at the Radisson Hotel, Sharon.
- ◆ Banquet begins at 6:30pm at the Radisson Hotel, Sharon.

### Sunday, July 17

- ◆ Golf starts at 8:30 am, Tam O'Shanter Golf Course
- ◆ Awards Barbeque to begin at conclusion of tournament

\*Tee times on Saturday will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis.

Seniors (ages 62+) will play from the senior tees, in their appropriate flight, based on handicap.

The round on Sunday is a shotgun start.

Your rooming information (if using the full golf package) will be completed by the Fraternal Activities Director. **You do not need to call the hotel.** It is very important to have your forms in on time since the rooming list is due to the hotel June 1.

Hotel check in time is 3 PM on Friday. Checkout time is 12 noon.

Reservations can be cancelled 2 weeks prior to arrival date. Any reservations cancelled less than 2 weeks before the tournament will not be refunded.

## Slovak League of America to offer 12 scholarship grants in 2011

The Slovak League of America, a civic and cultural federation of Americans of Slovak ancestry founded in Cleveland in 1907, will offer college scholarship grants to students of Slovak ancestry in 2011. A total of 12 grants of \$1,000 each will be awarded to students currently enrolled as a full-time student at a college, university or professional school. These scholarship grants are available to both students on the undergraduate or graduate level of study.

This year's grants are made possible through the generous support of Mrs. Mimi Danihel of Calabasas, California. The grants are given in memory of her late husband, Leo J. Danihel, a prominent member of the American Slovak community. Mr. Danihel was a well-known cultural and business leader and a former president of the Slovak World Congress. Ms. Danihel serves as the vice president of the Slovak League of America for the state of California. The 2011 grants will be designated as the Leo J. Danihel Memorial Scholarship Grants.

Applicants are asked to prepare a study paper on some theme from Slovak history or culture of no less than five type-written double-spaced pages. Through the preparation of this paper, the applicant enjoys a learning experience hopefully acquiring a better appreciation of his/her rich Slovak heritage. The completed application along with the study paper is to be returned by the deadline date of October 15, 2011. The scholarship grants will be paid directly to the individual student in December 2011.

For an application, write: Slovak League of America, 205 Madison St., Passaic, NJ 07055, tel. daily Monday-Friday 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at (973) 472-8993. Applications must be requested by July 30, 2011.

The Slovak League of America Scholarship Fund, Inc. was established in 1972 to assist American students of Slovak ancestry in their quest for a good education. To date more than 150 students have received scholarship grants from this fund. Tax deductible donations are welcome. Make checks payable to: Slovak League Scholarship Fund and sent to the address listed above. We encourage students of Slovak ancestry to make application for this year's scholarship grants.

## Insights and Viewpoints

# Milan Rastislav Štefánik: Hero of the second Slovak Republic?

By Stanislav J. Kirschbaum

In 2009, on the occasion of the 90th anniversary of his death, the second Slovak Republic made Milan Rastislav Štefánik one of its heroes. In May of that year, the highest representatives of the state, President Ivan Gašparovič and Prime Minister Róbert Fico, along with other Slovak officials, paid homage to him during a ceremony in Bradlo, where Štefánik is buried. Also in attendance were representatives from France because Štefánik not only had French citizenship and was a general in the French Army when he died tragically in May 1919, but had also been awarded the Légion d'Honneur, France's highest decoration. To mark the occasion, the French Ministry of Defence produced a video on Štefánik's life entitled "Milan Rastislav Štefánik. L'incroyable destin (The Incredible Destiny)," which is well worth seeing. It is based on the archival evidence available at the French Ministry in addition to other sources. This video in French and in Slovak includes a report on the 2009 ceremonies in Košariská, Bradlo, Meudon, France, as well as an exhibition and a conference on Štefánik in Bratislava that was held with French participation. It serves as the basis for my comment on this unique personality in Slovak history.

The video gives an interesting and accurate account of Štefánik's life, however, with some minor errors and omissions. Given the period and the circumstances when Štefánik played a role in Central Europe, but also given the fact that he is generally identified with the creation of Czecho-Slovakia, this presentation is remarkable because of its emphasis not only on his Slovak origin, but above all on his place in Slovak history. This is made clear by Colonel Frédéric Guelton, who is the narrator and also an historian. Is this a case of historical revisionism or an attempt at myth making? As it turns out, it is a bit of both.

Before weighing in on this issue, a few words need to be said about Slovak historiography, which, until recently, was primarily Marxist and Czechoslovak in Slovakia. In other words, Slovak history was interpreted in order to serve two causes – proletarian internationalism in the first case and the preservation of Czechoslovakia as a Czech state in the second. The latter has also been the approach taken by most Western scholars who write on Slovak history. Each cause is now in the dustbin of history and Slovak historiography requires, as a result, redirection. This does not mean that the history of Czecho-Slovakia (as it was spelled when it was created) is to be ignored or belittled, as has been the case with the history of the first Slovak Republic. What is required is a reassessment of Slovakia's role in Czecho-Slovakia in terms other than as a post-script to Czech history. This is where the story of Štefánik presented in the video makes an interesting contribution.

The video shows how Štefánik participated directly in the creation of Czecho-Slovakia. He is one of its three founders. The best known is Tomáš G. Masaryk, a Czech academic and politician, who already knew him before he began his political career abroad. Štefánik had been his student at university in Prague before the war. During the First World War, Štefánik agreed to lend support to him and to the second founder, Edvard Beneš, a pedantic bureaucrat who worked with Masaryk, in their desire to create a state for the Czechs and Slovaks. This state was seen as a solution to the exercise of the right of self-determination of both nations. Štefánik was born in Slovakia, but was by then a French citizen, an acknowledged astronomer and scientist, and a soldier in the French Army who had seen action, become a pilot, and helped create the French meteorological service. He was promoted through the ranks to the rank of Brigadier General. He had been instrumental in creating the Czecho-Slovak legion, not just in France, but also in Italy and in Russia after the start of the Bolshevik revolution. As a result, he was very well connected in French military and political circles. He thus opened doors for his two Czech colleagues in Paris, where the Peace Conference eventually took place. There is no evidence to suggest that Štefánik's role was to represent Slovak political interests. His untimely death in 1919 also prevented him from eventually acting in this capacity. Štefánik, therefore, quite rightly belongs to the history of the creation of Czecho-Slovakia. Thanks to his Slovak origin, he made Slovakia's contribution to it. Except during the communist period, this was always acknowledged in Slovakia.

Štefánik, however, was not one of the three builders, nor like Masaryk and Beneš, one of the presidents of what, in February 1920, became Czechoslovakia, the home of a newly conceived nation henceforth called Czechoslovak. He died when the common state of the two founding nations was just over six months old. He made no known public contribution to the desire of the Slovak nation for the national self-determination and certainly none to the subsequent battle against the state ideology of Czechoslovakism, which went into full swing with the constitution of 1920. However, he did become a symbol in that struggle, a reminder to Masaryk, Beneš, and all Czechs that their common state had had a Slovak founder who thereby represented those whose national identity and presence deserved acknowledgement and respect. The break-up of Czecho-Slovakia in March 1939 and again in December 1992 is an indication of the failure to make good on this acknowledgement. Not surprisingly, Štefánik was given special recognition after the first break-up, during the time of the first Slovak Republic.

The video does not go into the history of Czecho-Slovakia/Czechoslovakia or the first Slovak Republic. Nevertheless, Colonel Guelton considers Štefánik to be one of the founders of the second Slovak Republic. Michal Kšiňan, a young Slovak historian who comments in the video, is more circumspect. He refers to Štefánik as a symbol of the pro-European and pro-Western orientation of contemporary Slovakia. But, Colonel Guelton, basing him-

self on the correspondence that Štefánik had had with Louise Weiss, a talented French journalist who was in love with him, also ascribes to Štefánik an understanding of coming developments in Europe, the Far East, and even outer space that was very much ahead of his time. This is why he sees Štefánik, in his role as a co-founder of Czecho-Slovakia, also as someone who foresaw the reorganization of the Central Europe space where the Slovaks would exercise their right of self-determination in a Europe of nations. What Štefánik could not foresee is that this would not happen immediately. An independent Slovakia exists today because of a second reorganization that took place in the years after the fall of communism; this reorganization is the link Colonel Guelton sees between Štefánik and the second Slovak Republic. This also allows Colonel Guelton to define Štefánik as a mythical hero as well as a hero of modern Slovakia. The current Slovak political elite seem to do so as well.



Milan\_Rastislav\_Štefánik

This acceptance of Štefánik as a hero is a tad far-fetched.

The Slovaks have a complex history with regards to national self-determination to which many individuals contributed over the last two centuries in their own way and in their own time. Štefánik deserves his place in the pantheon of Slovak heroes for what he did: Help create in 1918 a state in which the Slovaks, initially at least, were seen not only as co-founders, but also as partners. In this way, he was the clearest symbol of Slovak self-determination at that time. But the state he helped create failed, not once, but twice. Other events influenced thereafter the Slovak struggle for national self-determination.

In establishing historical links to the new state, the creators of the second Slovak Republic, as well as current political leaders, have preferred to ignore all those who came after Štefánik. Their focus on him is thus a deliberate choice; it does not, however, make him a hero of the second Slovak Republic. He had nothing to do with its creation. That state will, one day, define its own heroes. They will join, with Štefánik, the list of Slovak personalities who helped shape the Slovak struggle for national self-determination in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

There are many statues of Štefánik in Slovakia. I like the one in Trnava, found at the end of a park in front of the Lutheran Church. It is a life-size statue and he is shown wearing his general's uniform; he looks statesman-like. The larger than life statue in an aviator's uniform, which stands in front of a column with the lion of Czecho-Slovakia on top, at the entrance of the recently opened Eurovea Galleria shopping complex along the shores of the Danube, is a more recent homage to him, whose unveiling is shown in the video. Some people object to the column because it commemorates Czecho-Slovakia. Yet the 68-year existence of this state is very much a part of modern Slovak history. It is not inappropriate to commemorate this state and placing Štefánik's statue in front of it makes perfect sense: It underlines clearly that this state was made up of two founding nations and that his contribution to its creation was on behalf of the Slovak nation.



## Useful Websites

[www.skonline.sk](http://www.skonline.sk)  
[www.travelguide.sk](http://www.travelguide.sk)

[kosice.region.sk](http://kosice.region.sk)  
[www.slovakia.org](http://www.slovakia.org)

[www.vtaty.sk](http://www.vtaty.sk)  
[www.tatry.net](http://www.tatry.net)

[www.hotel-net.sk](http://www.hotel-net.sk)  
[www.skonline.sk](http://www.skonline.sk)

[www.kultura.sk](http://www.kultura.sk)  
[www.snm.sk](http://www.snm.sk)

[www.savba.sk](http://www.savba.sk)  
[www.government.gov.sk](http://www.government.gov.sk)

[www.snd.sk](http://www.snd.sk)  
[www.stv.sk](http://www.stv.sk)

[www.nbs.sk](http://www.nbs.sk)

Slovakia Travel Guide  
Hotel and Spa Guide

Kosice-City Travel Guide  
Bratislava-Information about the City

Useful Information about the High Tatras  
Complete Information on Tatra Region

Tourist Accommodation  
Slovakia On-Line (general information)

Slovak cultural calendar  
Slovak National Museum

Slovak Academy of Sciences  
Government of the Slovak Republic

Slovak National Theater  
Slovak Television

National Bank of Slovakia

# Groundbreaking at St. Thomas A'Becket Parish for New Church

The Parish of St. Thomas A'Becket was established in 1957 in Jefferson Hills, PA, to meet the needs of the growing population in this part of the Diocese of Pittsburgh. Rev. John Griffith was the Founding Father who supervised the building of a temporary church, while celebrating Mass and conducting other Parish business in a renovated building on Gill Hall Road. Following his tenure, Rev. Gerard D. Kelly was appointed the Pastor, and built on the good works of Father Griffith. Both of these priests left the congregation with a legacy of spiritual growth and hospitality that continues to this day.

At the retirement of Father Gerard Kelly, Rev. Robert L. Seeman was appointed the new Pastor. With the continued development in Jefferson Borough, it was evident that the temporary church was beginning to be inadequate. Parish size increased from over 900 families in 2000 to more than 1,550 families in 2011.

Since 2005, Father Seeman, seeing the growing need, appointed two committees to seriously pray and deliberate on the need of a new church. A CAPITAL CAMPAIGN was begun with the theme "Fulfilling the Promise." During the past six years, the people of the parish generously made pledges and offered financial support for this project. Additional monies came in from grants and bequests from parishioners and friends from other areas. So far, \$5million was raised. The total project will cost around \$7.3million dollars. So the Capital Campaign continues.

A line from the Capital Campaign Prayer says, "Inspire us to make choices that will benefit the St. Thomas A'Becket Parish Community, so that rooted in our past and dedicated to our present, we might be visionaries of the future."

These words have become a reality on Sunday, April 10, 2011, when Bishop David Zubrick with Rev. Robert L. Seeman held the groundbreaking ceremony on the site of the new St. Thomas A'Becket Church. On this historic day, Bishop Zubrick officiated at the Eucharistic Liturgy with concelebrants: Rev. Robert Seeman, pastor; Rev. Fred Cain, Episcopal Vicar for Region Two; Rev. John Keane; and Rev. Thomas Manion. Also present at the Mass were members of the Astorino Architects and Martini Contractors, members of the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth (formerly the Vincentian Sisters of Charity); and members of the Building Committee and Capital Campaign, which was chaired by Mr. Thomas Kondrat.

Father Bob, as he is known by his parishioners, spent many hours in meeting with the Diocese, the committees, and the architects and contractors. His deep interest in the project will continue until the day of its dedication. The congregation of St. Thomas A'Becket looks forward and anticipates worshipping in the beautiful edifice to their God.



Groundbreaking for St. Thomas A'Becket Church, Jefferson Hills, PA



(L - R) Rev. Robert L. Seeman, Pastor of St. Thomas A'Becket Church; Bishop David Zubick, Ordinary of the Diocese of Pittsburgh; and Rev. Fred Cain, Episcopal Vicar for Region Two at the Mass for the groundbreaking of the new St. Thomas A'Becket Church

We are pleased to invite you to the **FCSU National**

# Picnic

104 acres of beautiful grounds, with plenty to do for everyone: paddle boats, play-grounds, softball, sand volleyball, corn hole, basketball, soccer, horseshoes, swimming, and more. Food is served all day.

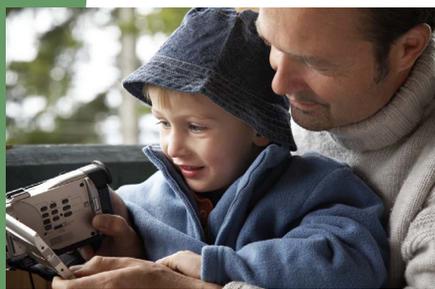
Wiegand's Lake Park  
9390 Kinsman Road  
Novelty, Ohio 44072

**Sunday, August 14, 2011**

Watch the Jednota paper for more details!

# Save the Date!

*FCSU LIFE*



**PROTECT YOUR CHILDREN FOR ONLY \$14.00 YEARLY!**

This is not a misprint. Read on to find out how.

**YOUR FAMILY COMES FIRST.**  
Your family is the center of your life. You would do anything for them. We are offering you this economical opportunity to guard your children and help them on their way to financial responsibility.

**WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME?**  
The many benefits of insuring your children with JEP include:

- \$10,000 in term life insurance coverage to age 25, for children ages 0-21 — for only \$14.00 a year. (Contact the home office for larger amounts)
- Protection for your kids' future insurability by offering conversion at age 16 or older to a regular permanent policy — regardless of health (if policy has been in force for at least two years).
- Enrollees become eligible to apply for the Societies fraternal benefits at no additional cost.
- Annual premiums are eligible for scholarships

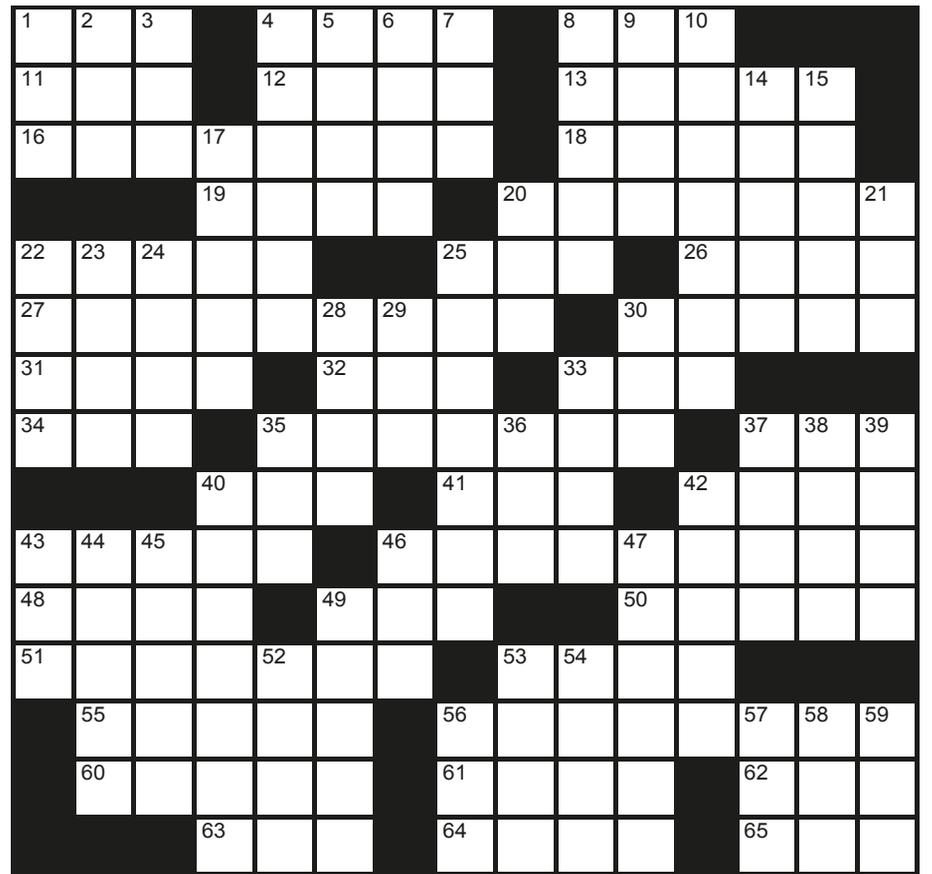
**CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?**  
Yes. We want you to receive our free, no obligation information on JEP! Simply call us at 1-800-533-6682, and we'll send you information and applications for the program. We're confident after reviewing our literature that you'll find this one of the best values to help your children for years to come.

**DON'T DELAY, CALL TODAY!  
CONTACT YOUR LOCAL BRANCH OFFICER  
OR THE HOME OFFICE AT 1-800-533-6682**



**FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION**  
of the United States and Canada  
6611 Rockside Road  
Independence, OH 44131-2398

# Jednota Crossword Puzzle



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**Across**

- 1 Cleopatra's undoing
- 4 At what time
- 8 Crow noise
- 11 Hawaiian dish
- 12 Grade
- 13 Higher up
- 16 Courtliness
- 18 Danger
- 19 Just about
- 20 *War and Peace* author
- 22 Acclamation
- 25 Son of Prince Valia
- 26 Record
- 27 Where overspending will land you
- 30 *Twister* actress Hur
- 31 Opaque gem
- 32 Robin Williams role *Doubtfire*
- 33 Secreted
- 34 Japanese coin
- 35 Jackals
- 37 Note taker
- 40 Sunburned
- 41 Paycheck (Abbr.)
- 42 Talipot palm leaf
- 43 Daisylike flower
- 46 Word study
- 48 Utter discomfort
- 49 Existed
- 50 Greedy king
- 51 Quest
- 53 Biscuit
- 55 Aim at
- 56 Photo covering
- 60 Unemotional
- 61 Aspect
- 62 Deuce
- 63 Greatest degree
- 64 Let it stand!

**65 Congeal**

**Down**

- 1 Emulator
- 2 Sun god
- 3 Pastry
- 4 Phantom
- 5 Suspend
- 6 Engrave
- 7 Maiden name
- 8 Chicken
- 9 Eve's son
- 10 Twisted woolen yarn
- 14 Critical
- 15 Run off to wed
- 17 Twist
- 20 Three (It.)
- 21 Hankering
- 22 Aeneid
- 23 Make do
- 24 Borrowed money
- 25 Helps out
- 28 Persian Gulf peninsula
- 29 Vase
- 30 Not hers
- 33 Steering system
- 35 Convertible
- 36 Vote type
- 37 Trudge
- 38 Seaweed
- 39 Time periods

- 40 Stress
- 42 Medlies
- 43 Unit of elec. current
- 44 Entree forerunner
- 45 Fortune teller's a.
- 46 Consume
- 47 Egg dish
- 49 Crone
- 52 Building block
- 53 Leave out
- 54 Impolite
- 56 Sharp curve
- 57 Common contraction
- 58 Be obliged
- 59 Negation

## Dr. Edward Keshock Posthumously Honored At Cleveland International Film Festival



In its 35th year, the Cleveland International Film Festival drew some 70,000 attendees from across the area, and even the nation during its run from March 25 – April 3, 2011. This year, the Festival paid honor to Dr. Edward Keshock who died this past December. Three showings of the 2009 Slovak documentary *The Border* (Hranica) were presented in memory of Dr. Keshock who served as Honorary Consul to the Slovak Republic from the state of Ohio. Cleveland-Bratislava Sister Cities, an organization for which Dr. Keshock served as president for many years, was a community partner for all three screenings on March 31, April 2, and April 3, and members of the organization spoke about Dr. Keshock before the start of the film. Dr. Keshock also was a member of the FCSU, Branch 24.

Cleveland-Bratislava Sister Cities also hosted a tributary reception to Dr. Keshock following the Saturday, April 2, screening in the same complex as the film festival, the Tower 230 Bar and Grill. The band Harmonia played for listening and dancing pleasure, a tribute was offered by Mr. Phil Brasfield, and many friends and family from the Greater Cleveland Slovak-American community were in attendance.



(R) Branch 1 Secretary and CBSC President Marie Golias gets ready to address the audience at a showing of the Slovak film, *The Border*, in honor of Dr. Keshock at the Cleveland Film Festival. (L) Bill Guentzler, Festival Artistic Director and impetus for the tribute, provides the introduction.



Harmonia plays at the well-attended reception hosted by Cleveland-Bratislava Sister Cities in honor of Dr. Keshock, with many members of the FCSU, CBSC, and the greater Slovak-American community of Cleveland looking on.

All photos courtesy of Jim Stracensky, Picture Yourself/Stargazer Photography & Video

See Solution on Page 19

# 2011 Easter Coloring Contest Winners



## Rev John J. Spitkovsky District II For Illinois, Indiana and Wisconsin



The Rev. John J. Spitkovsky District II has announced the winners of the 2011 Easter Coloring Contest. There were 28 entries. Prizes were awarded for first, second, third place and Honorable Mention for ages 4-6, 7-9 and 10-12. We wish to thank all of our young branch members of District II for their participation and creative drawings. The winning entries were chosen by the members attending the District II meeting on April 10, 2011.

**Our District II Winners:**

- Ages 4 – 6: 1st Place Viola Graham, 2nd Place Emma Graves, 3rd Place Joseph Kudia
- Ages 7 – 9: 1st Place Aiden Jurcenko, 2nd Place Evan Jurcenko, 3rd Place Mia Wyatt
- Ages 10 – 12: 1st Place Julian Seida, 2nd Place Mary Fayta, 3rd Place Anne Marie Yurik

**Honorable Mention:**

- Ages 4 – 6: Ayden Fayta, Marijayne Hochgraber, Regina Turner, Elizabeth Colby, Mandi Jo Wyatt, Jackson Hochgraber, Miles Mokosaik, Madison Mokosaik, Riley McAllister
- Ages 7 – 9: Jonathan Fayta, Austin Graham, Stephanie Colby, Jennifer Manzella, Rachel Rossman, Natalie Vaughan, Sharon McAllister
- Ages 10 – 12: John Yorik, Kurtis Graham, Katelynn Graham

### Ages 4-6



**1st PLACE  
Viola Graham**



**2nd PLACE  
Emma Graves**



**3rd PLACE  
Joseph Kudia**

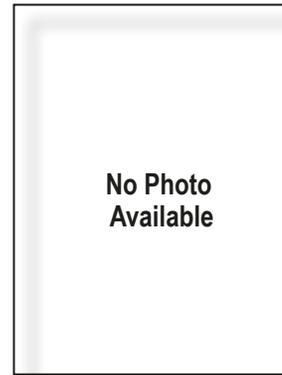
### Ages 7-9



**1st PLACE  
Aiden Jurcenko**



**2nd PLACE  
Evan Jurcenko**



**3rd PLACE  
Mia Wyatt**

### Ages 10-12



**1st PLACE  
Julian Seida**



**2nd PLACE  
Mary Fayta**



**3rd PLACE  
Anne Marie Yurik**

# Congratulations to all!

Barbara Fayta, Chairperson, Easter Coloring Contest



Save the Date:  
 First Catholic Slovak Union  
 Membership Meet  
 November 14 - 18, 2011

Round-trip from Miami on Norwegian Sky  
 Cruise to Nassau, Grand Bahama Island, and Great Stirrup Cay  
 Look for details in upcoming issues of Jednota!



**“Park 2 Annuity” 3.00% (2.956% apr)**

**Rate Effective May 1, 2011**

Under the “Park 2 Annuity”, you make a **one-time deposit of at least \$1,000.00** into an annuity fund that accumulates interest at a **guaranteed rate for two years**. Additional deposits are not allowed.

Features of the “Park 2 Annuity” include:

- \* The FCSU **guarantees your initial interest rate for two years**. After two years, your funds will continue to accumulate interest at no less than 3.0%.
- \* The “Park 2 Annuity” can be converted to any of the FCSU Annuity Plans at any time.
- \* The “Park 2 Annuity” is not applicable to any settlement option or interest option.
- \* Withdrawal Privileges-Funds withdrawn during the first two years are subject to an FCSU Early Withdrawal Charge. The charge is 6% the first year and 5% the second year. You may, however, withdraw up to 10% of your ‘Beginning of the year balance’ with no FCSU Early Withdrawal Charge.
- \* Even though you may not incur an FCSU Early Withdrawal Charge, withdrawals before age 59 ½ may be subject to a federal tax penalty.
- \* Tax on the interest earned is deferred until the annuity funds are drawn.
- \* The minimum deposit is \$1,000.00.

*Please contact your Branch Officer or the Home Office for applications or visit our web site at FCSU.com*

**FCSU LIFE  
 Single Premium Insurance  
 Spring Special!**

<b>Newborn Male</b> \$5000 for \$290 \$10000 for \$580	<b>Newborn Female</b> \$5000 for \$250 \$10000 for \$500
<b>Male - age 5</b> \$5000 for \$340 \$10000 for \$680	<b>Female - age 5</b> \$5000 for \$290 \$10000 for \$580
<b>Male - age 10</b> \$5000 for \$400 \$10000 for \$800	<b>Female - age 10</b> \$5000 for \$340 \$10000 for \$680
<b>Male - age 15</b> \$5000 for \$480 \$10000 for \$960	<b>Female - age 15</b> \$5000 for \$405 \$10000 for \$810
<b>Male - age 20</b> \$5000 for \$545.00 \$10000 for \$1090.00	<b>Female - age 20</b> \$5000 for \$470.00 \$10000 for \$940.00

Purchase Single Premium Whole Life Insurance coverage for your children or grandchildren and receive a **FREE \$10.00 GIFT CARD** to present with the certificate!

**Features:**

- Pay one premium and have fully paid-up Insurance
- Issued in any amount (\$5000 or more) subject to current FCSU LIFE non-medical limits
- Excellent gift for children or grandchildren



## DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

### DISTRICT 6 – PITTSBURGH DISTRICT

The Pittsburgh District Annual Fathers Day Brunch will be held Sunday, June 19, at Holy Trinity Parish in West Mifflin. The event will begin with the celebration of Mass at 9:30 and wrap up by 1:00. There will also be a short business meeting to discuss the possibilities for district participation in local cultural events. Reservations are required. Branches should have received a notice from Host Branch 2 regarding prices for the brunch and ad booklet.

Branches are encouraged to look for ways to increase attendance. Possibilities are putting a notice in your church bulletin, offering to pay for the children's meals, etc. The deadline for reservations is June 10. If you need additional information, please contact Branch 2 at smosr@verizon.net

Branch 35 will host the Fall meeting on a date to be determined later following publication of the Steelers Fall schedule.

The district is collecting e-mail addresses from each branch in order to facilitate communications. If we don't already have your e-mail, please contact the district secretary at manasta@verizon.net

Fraternally,

**Margaret A. Nasta, Secretary**  
Pittsburgh District

### DISTRICT 7 – REV. JOHN MARTVON DISTRICT – BLAIR, CAMBRIA, INDIANA, SOMERSET AND BEDFORD COUNTIES, PENNSYLVANIA

The Rev. John Martvon District will hold its Semi-annual Meeting on Sunday May 15, 2011 at 2:00 PM at St. Francis Church Hall Coral, PA. The St. Joseph's Society Branch 484 will be the host. Holy Mass will be offered at 11:00 am in Our Lady of the Assumption Church, Coral Site, for the living and deceased members of the district.

Member branches should have received by now their dues notices. These dues may be paid at the meeting. Spring is here, the weather is nicer, so let's show our fraternalism with a good turnout of delegates.

**Joseph E. Rura, Secretary**

### DISTRICT 9 – FRANK T. HOLLY JR DISTRICT

The Frank T. Holly Jr. District will hold a meeting at 1PM at the Hampton Inn located at 698 West Main Street, Uniontown PA 15401. The First Catholic Slovak Union Officers will do a presentation regarding insurance and annuities (see p 15 of this issue for more details). District activities and insurance programs will be discussed.

Fraternally,

**Barbara A. Holly, Secretary**

### DISTRICT 11 – MSGR. JOSEF TISO

The Semiannual Meeting of the Msgr. Josef Tiso District (District 11), normally scheduled on the last Sunday of April, will be held on Sunday, May 22 this year. Time and place are 2:00 PM in the Upstairs Banquet Room, C.U. Club 910 Sixth Avenue, Ford City, PA 16226. All Branches should identify their representatives who will attend to Grace Charney, District Secretary, at (724) 763-1104 by June 4. Per FCSU By-Laws, Branch representation at one District meeting per year is required to qualify for receipt of the annual Branch stipend."

Thank you.

**Grace M. Charney, 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 14 - REV. JOSEPH L. KOSTIK DISTRICT

Rev. Joseph L. Kostik District will hold its next meeting Tuesday, May 17, 2011 7:00PM at St. Matthias Church Rectory. On the agenda will be a discussion of upcoming activities. All members are urged to attend.

**Carlie Peshek, President**

### 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 19 - MSGR. MICHAEL SHUBA DISTRICT- TORONTO

Semi Annual meeting to be held on Thursday June 16, 2011 at Sts Cyril and Methodius Church hall in Mississauga. Meeting to start at 7:30pm. Refreshments will be available.

**President Mike Kapitan**

### DISTRICT 20 -PRINCE RASTISLAV DISTRICT - MONTREAL

The Prince Rastislav District - Montreal will hold their Semi-Annual Meeting on Sunday June 12th after Mass at Sts Cyril and Methodius Parish Hall, Montreal, Quebec, immediately following the Church Banquet. Branches 784 and 810 are urged to send representatives.

**Alexander Dobrik, President**

## BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

### BRANCH 1 –

#### CLEVELAND, OHIO

The Saint Joseph Society Branch 1 will hold its next meeting on Wednesday, June 15, 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 24 -

#### CLEVELAND, OHIO

Branch 24, St. Andrew Svorad's Society, will hold a branch meeting on Sunday, May 29th. This meeting will be in conjunction with - and which we are co-sponsoring - the "Celebrating Our Slovak Catholic Culture" series being held at the St. Andrew Svorad's Abbey Church located at 2900 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Cleveland, OH, 44104.

Mass will be at 1:00PM followed by lunch at 2:00PM with a presentation about the Marian Shrines of Slovakia at 3:00PM.

Tickets for Branch 24 Members are complimentary. Tickets for Non-members are \$14.00 per person. Checks for Non-members should be made out to St. Andrew's Abbey and sent to the above address in care of Fr. Albert Marflak.

RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE AND ARE DUE NO LATER THAN MAY 18th. Please call our Activities Director Susan Lang at (216) 896-0957 evenings after 6:00PM if you plan to attend.

**Bob Kopco, President**

### BRANCH 38 –

#### DUQUESNE, PENNSYLVANIA

The Holy Trinity Society, Branch 38, will hold its semi-annual meeting on Tuesday, May 24, 2011, at 7:00PM at the home of the Secretary, Florence Matta, 3409 Eisenhower Court, White Oak, PA.

On the agenda will be financial reports, the Fathers' Day brunch at Holy Trinity Church, West Mifflin, PA; Slovak Day at Kennywood Park; and the National Picnic, to be held on August 14, 2011, at Wiegand's Lake Park in Novelty, OH.

All members are invited to attend.

**Florence Matta, Secretary/Treasurer**

### BRANCH 41 -

#### YONKERS, NEW YORK

The Holy Trinity Society, Branch 41KJ, will hold its Semi-annual Meeting on Saturday, June 18, 2011, in the Rectory of Most Holy Trinity, 18 Trinity Plaza, Yonkers, NY, at 6:00PM, after the 5:00PM Mass. On the agenda will be our financial reports and suggestions will be discussed. We urge all members of Branch 41KJ to attend this meeting. Refreshments will be served.

Fraternally,

**Robert J. Lutz, Recording 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 60 –

#### MCKEESPORT, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 60 will hold its semi-annual meeting Sunday, May 22, 2011 at 1:00 p.m. at the home of President, Ann Wargovich, 58 Lilmont Drive, Swissvale, PA. All members are urged to attend.

**Ann Wargovich, President**

### BRANCH 112 –

#### MAHANOEY CITY, PENNSYLVANIA

A picnic meeting for Branch 112 will be held at Knoebles Grove in Elysburg, PA on Thursday, June 23 at 12PM. If you are interested in attending please call 570-544-6694 before June 10.

Drinks and picnic snacks will be provided.

**Karen Sterling**

### BRANCH 132 -

#### WHIPPANY, NEW JERSEY

Branch 132 will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday, June 12, 2011, at 2:00PM at The home of the Branch President Susan Salko, Whippany, NJ. All members are invited to attend.

**Susan Salko, President**

### 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 260 –

#### CAMPBELL, OHIO

St. Matthews Branch 260 will hold their semi-annual meeting Sunday, June 12, 2011 at Bedford Trails at 1:30PM. The meeting was rescheduled due to Father's Day. Members are urged to attend and participate in the discussion pertaining to important business that the Society will act upon. The viability of our Branch and Society depends on membership interest and also on members being more active. We have to improve our sales and increase our membership in order to survive. Hoping for a good attendance.

Fraternally submitted,

**Charles M. Terek, President**

### BRANCH 276 –

#### MCKEESPORT, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. John the Baptist Branch 276 will be holding its next meeting on Sunday, May 22, 2011 at 1:00 P.M. at Woody's Restaurant in Versailles. All members and officers are urged to attend.

Respectfully submitted,

**Nancy Gerdich, Recording 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

The St. Ignatius Society, Branch 380 Canonsburg, will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday, May 29, 2011, at 2:00PM at Wendy's in Canonsburg, PA. Welcome Branch 851 to Branch 380.

Fraternally,

**Margaret Graytok**

### BRANCH 553 –

#### AKRON, OHIO

The St. John the Baptist, Branch 553, will hold a lodge meeting on Sunday, June 5, 2011 at 2

## 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

- 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.**

*continued on page 15*

## BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

*continued from page 14*

pm. The meeting will be held at the Slovak J Club, 485 Morgan Avenue, Akron, Ohio 44311.

A discussion will be held on upcoming events for the year sponsored by the lodge. Refreshments will be served.

A special thanks to all volunteers that provide services for our monthly spaghetti night and for the Lenten fish fry's. Thank you to our loyal members who support us through attending the different meals. Your loyalty is appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

**Linda M. Hanko, Financial Secretary**

### BRANCH 581 –

#### PORTER, INDIANA

The St. Michael the Archangel, Branch 581, will hold its regular luncheon-meeting at 1 p.m., Sunday, June 12, at the Lake Park Restaurant, 7 East Old Ridge Rd., Hobart, IN. Anyone interested in insurance for their children, grandchildren should call Ann, 219-947-2793 or George, 219-926-2410, as the branch will pay the first years premium. RSVP for luncheon-meeting Ann.

**Ann Buczek, President**

### BRANCH 587 –

#### ALIQUIPPA, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 587 Will hold its semi-annual meeting on Monday, June 13, 2011, at 1:00PM at the home of Albert Valo, 1835 Brodhead Road, Aliquippa, PA. On the agenda will be the discussion of all policies and annuities. All members are welcome to attend.

**Edith Valo, 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 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 686 –

#### HUNTLEY, ILLINOIS

The Sacred Heart of Jesus Branch 686 will hold its Semi-Annual meeting on June

12, 2011, at the home of its Financial Secretary, Rudolph D. Glogovsky, 12946 Bull

Ridge Drive, Huntley, IL at 1:30 P.M. The meeting site can easily be found just north of the I 90

interchange and north on Hwy 47. The important issue of membership and involvement thereof will be discussed along with insurance and annuity programs.

Congratulations to Len Jenels, and Ronald J. Glogovsky on being awarded their

50-year membership. Other membership 50 year pin awards will also be announced at the meeting. Those attending needing more information on the meeting site can phone 847-659-1580.

Fraternally,

**Rudolph D. Glogovsky,  
Financial Secretary**

### BRANCH 731 –

#### YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

On May 15, 2011 at 12:30 pm, Saint Joseph Branch 731 members will meet at Saint Matthias Church Rectory, 915 Cornell Street, Youngstown, Ohio.

We will be planning the activities for the rest of the year.

**Jim Bobby, Recording Secretary**

### BRANCH 785 –

#### TORONTO, ONTARIO

Semi Annual meeting to be held on Thursday June 16, 2011 at Sts Cyril and Methodius Church hall in Mississauga. Meeting to start at 7:30pm. Refreshments will be available.

**Recording Secretary , Anne Mltro**

### BRANCH 844 -

#### LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

The Los Angeles Branch 844 will hold their Annual Father's Day Mass on Sunday, June 19, 2011 at St. John Bosco High School located on 13640 Bellflower Blvd., Bellflower, CA 90706. Mass will begin at 11:00AM. A delicious authentic Slovak lunch will be served after Mass. Come and join us in celebrating the Slovak Spirit of Father's Day.

Also, following the festivities, Branch 844 members will hold a meeting to review officer reports and discuss branch activities.

We hope to see you all there and would like to wish everyone a very special and safe Father's Day.

Fraternally yours,

**Milan Konkol, Secretary**

### BRANCH 853 –

#### CHARLEROI, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 853 will hold a meeting of all members at the McDonald Restaurant on McKean Avenue, in Charleroi, Pennsylvania on Saturday July 2. The meeting will begin at 10:00am. Due to seating, please leave a message with Branch President Monica Rodacy-Boone at 412-341-1577 if you are planning on attending. Information regarding the FCSU national picnic will be discussed. Members are urged to attend.

**Monica Rodacy Boone, President**

### BRANCH 857 –

#### LEVITTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The Semi-Annual meeting of the St. Michael the Archangel Branch 857 in Levittown, PA will be held on Wednesday June 8, 2011. The meeting will be held at 7:30PM at 15 Kraft Lane, Levittown, PA.

Fraternally,

**Damian D Nasta, Recording Secretary**

## Attention District 9 – Frank T. Holly District – FCSU Insurance and Annuity Presentation

The Frank T. Holly, Jr. District, District 9 will sponsor an insurance and annuity presentation by the First Catholic Slovak Union (FCSU). The presentation will take place on Sunday, June 12, 2011 at 1:00 pm at the Hampton Inn located at 698 West Main Street, Uniontown PA 15401. A light luncheon will be served that will include a sandwich, potato salad, vegetable and fruit trays, cookie dessert, snacks, and beverages. Reservations will be on a first come first serve basis for the first 30 people. Please call James Marmol, Regional Director and District President, at 724-437-0892 to make your reservation. A special invitation is extended to all members and guests of the Msgr. Andrew Hlinka District, District 12 of the F.C.S.U. All other members and guests are cordially invited to attend this informative presentation. If you are interested in learning more about the F.C.S.U., annuities and insurance, please make plans to attend as soon as possible. Reservations will not be taken after June 6 or when the presentation becomes full.

Should you need any additional information, please contact me at my office at 724-439-3440 or my home at 724-437-0892 or sending me an email at [jmarmol@verizon.net](mailto:jmarmol@verizon.net). Please visit the home office's newly developed website at [www.fcsu.com](http://www.fcsu.com) to learn more about the First Catholic Slovak Union.

Fraternally,

**James R. Marmol,  
Region 4, Regional Director  
President of the Frank T. Holly, Jr. District**

## "PARK FREE PLUS" ANNUITY

**Effective May 1, 2011 the "Park Free Plus" Annuity is earning**

3.00% (2.956% APR) for the first year and is limited to \$25,000.00 per individual.

*The new annuity plan that combines features from our most popular annuities...*

*The Park Annuity and the Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity.*

The "Park Free Plus" offers a first year interest rate of 3.00% (2.956% APR) This initial interest rate is guaranteed for the entire first year of the Annuity policy. At the first anniversary date of the policy, the **Annuitant has 15 calendar days to elect this option:**

- 1. Withdraw the full value of the accumulated Annuity funds (principal plus interest) WITHOUT INCURRING A SURRENDER CHARGE!**

*Note: If the funds are withdrawn prior to the first anniversary of the policy, a 6% surrender will be imposed on the funds withdrawn.\**

2 If this option is not exercised, the Annuity will continue for an additional five years. The interest rate at that time will be based on the interest rate established by the Society on it's Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity. This rate is published regularly in the official publication and on our website.

If the policy is continued, the Annuitant may withdraw up to 10% of the policies cash value at the beginning of each policy year, without incurring a surrender charge.\*

If the Policy is continued, withdrawals that exceed 10% of the policy's cash value will incur a surrender charge of 5% in the second year and withdrawal charges will decrease by 1% each year until the end of the sixth year from the issue date\*.

**INITIAL DEPOSIT MAY BE AS LOW AS \$1,000!**

**Low Minimum Deposit. Initial deposit may be as low as \$1,000 for the "Park Free Plus" Annuity.** Maximum deposit for this program is 25,000.00 per individual. No additional deposits are permitted during the first year.

**Flexible Deposits.** Additional deposits of \$1,000 or more will be accepted at any time after the first year.

**Maturity Options.** At the end of the six year policy period; the Annuitant has these options:

(a) The policy can be continued . There will be no surrender charges on any withdrawals.\* The interest rate will be based on FCSU Life's Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity interest rate.

(b) The policy can be converted to any Annuity product offered by FCSU Life at that time. The interest rate will be based on the then current declared interest rate on the selected policy.

(c) Taxes on all interest earned on the "Park Free Plus" Annuity and any subsequent policy selected, will be deferred until funds are withdrawn.

**For additional information, contact your Branch officer or the Home Office.**

\* Early withdrawals may be subject to IRS penalties.

6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence OH 44131-8013  
1-800-JEDNOTA - Website: [www.fcsu.com](http://www.fcsu.com) - E-mail: [FCSU@aol.com](mailto:FCSU@aol.com)

## Branch 382 Members: Your Help Is Needed

Branch 382 is trying to update their member list and addresses. If you have move or know a relative or another member that has moved, please send the new information to:

John J. Slovenkai, Sr.  
Financial Secretary  
FCSU Branch 382  
318 Fourteenth Avenue  
Scranton, PA 18504-2512



# Rest in Peace, Our Departed Members



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

Branch	Name	Branch	Name	Branch	Name	Branch	Name
001K	Andrew Klostik	035K	George J Bandik	157K	Richard R Leiby	189K	Phyllis Sekowski
001K	Mary Yano	040K	Joseph John Harcar Sr	162K	Charles J Balcik	200K	Edward D Pavlekovsky
002K	David Janicko	045K	Dorothy J Simonson	162K	Joseph B Haragos Sr	211K	Albert Michael Onega
002K	Mary Novak	055K	John Sklencar Jr	162K	Marie C Hrics	238K	John M Cherniga
005P	Mildred Loyack	089K	Gertrude M Barboriak	162K	Lewis Bernard Kremposky	254K	Edwin C Laird
005P	Edmund W Zigmund Sr	089K	Gejza L Micech	166K	Steven Bobik	259K	Stephen Repasky
006K	Matilda M Churney	090K	Richard P Chorba	166K	Patricia L Burns	259K	Gregory William Sedlacko
006K	Florence M Rettof	096K	Mary A Gavalier	166K	Stephen M Lonce	260K	Sr Mary Matthew Gmucs
016P	John M Baloga	102K	Helen A Kurtz	181K	Martha J Dorko	276K	Alice E Kapfer
019K	Irene A Fedak	112K	Janice Pecika	181K	Donald E Funk	290K	Francis I Marcin
019K	Jeannette B Mahoney	122K	John K Pass	181K	Msgr Thomas L Holoman	855K	Andrew J Butela
019K	Jerry K Misur	128K	Mary J Jones	181K	Michael S Hudak	855K	Dorothy H Hudac
024K	Mary Jane Sper	136K	Edward Louis Flaim Sr	181K	Mary Ann Klinchock	857K	Stephen M Murr
024K	Albert Joseph Vasko	136K	Lawrence A Swetz	181K	Stephanie M Ungvarsky		
027P	Theresa Nawrocki	152K	Josephine E Yanek	181K	Dr Stephen J Whisdosh		

\* Processed in the month of April 2011

## OBITUARIES

### Stephanie M. Ungvarsky, Widow of Former Supreme Secretary and Secretary Emeritus Stephen F. Ungvarsky, Passes February 21, 2011

Stephanie M. Ungvarsky, widow of the former Supreme Secretary and Secretary Emeritus, Stephen F. Ungvarsky, died on February 21, 2011 at the Excelsa Health Frick Hospital in Mt. Pleasant, PA, after a brief illness. She was born on August 31, 1916, the daughter of Stephen and Florence Vangrin. She lived her early years in Slickville, PA, but then moved to United, PA, upon her marriage to Steve on October 4, 1941. They lived in United until 1955 when they built a new home in the neighboring town of Norvelt, and she lived there until her death.

They raised four sons: Edward, Timothy, Captain William USN Retired, and Dr. Richard, the current Medical Director of the FCSU. Her current family also includes three daughters-in-law, Sally, Lyn and Carol, along with her grandchildren: Chirstopher (Jenn), Robert (Alisha); Erin; Stephen; Andrew (Amber); Lauren (Navy Lt. Alex Bock); Jonathan; and Jeffrey; and great-grandson Austin.

Upon her marriage to Steve, the Jednota and Steve's Slovak heritage became an integral part of her life even though she was of Polish ancestry. Together, they attended numerous conventions, membership meets, Jednota Days, Slovak Days, and other religious and social functions related to the Jednota for almost 60 years. These functions provided them the opportunities to travel throughout the USA and Canada; and they also made three trips to Europe where they visited Slovakia and Poland, their parents' homelands. These functions and travels enabled them to become lifelong friends with many members of the Jednota, many of the religious orders of priests and nuns, and members of many other fraternal societies. Stephanie maintained a long list of those friends for exchanging Christmas cards every year.

Slovak traditions also became a part of her life. She became an excellent cook and baker. She made all the foods for the Christmas holidays and the blessed basket at Easter. She was particularly renowned for her haluski, a recipe that was featured in the St. Florian Church Slovak Cookbook along with many other of her favorite recipes. It was a tradition for her to make a roaster of haluski for the Mt. Pleasant Township Lions Club family picnic every year. As she was eulogized at a recent annual dinner, the Lion remembering Stephanie said, "Now who will make the haluski for the picnic, and will it be as good as Stephanie's?" She also taught her sons and daughters-in-law how to prepare or bake many of the traditional foods in order that they retain the traditions of the holidays after her passing.

Upon Steve's election as Supreme Secretary, they resided on a part-time basis in the apartment above the home office on East 55th Street in Cleveland. They were always gracious hosts to many of the Supreme Officers and visitors to the office during Steve's twelve years in office. Steve often would have Stephanie walk down to the delis on Broadway to purchase various foods to serve lunches, especially to the Supreme Auditors. Steve always felt that the auditors and other officers would have more time to work with in-house lunches along with being less expensive, while Stephanie questioned why she never got paid for her efforts. Steve was very frugal with the Jednota's money.

Stephanie always said that she only wanted to live as long as she could care for herself. God truly granted her that wish since she was only hospitalized for four nights prior to her death. She lived at her home and cared for herself along with her husband and family throughout her life, and never spent a day in a rest home. She was a truly remarkable person who never had any serious illnesses, took no medications, never used a cane or hearing aid, and hadn't been hospitalized since the late 1960s. We should all be so lucky to live to the age of 94 and enjoy such wonderful health throughout our own lifetimes.

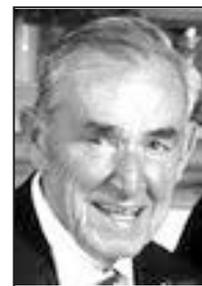
Stephanie's Mass of Christian Burial was held on February 25 at St. Florian Church in United with the Rev. Richard P. Karenbauer as celebrant. She was buried next to Steve, her husband of 60 years, in the St. Florian Cemetery. The Rev. John Voytek conducted

the interment services. Rev. Voyek's late father, John, was a lifelong friend of Steve's; and he played the organ for Steve and Stephanie's wedding Mass at St. Sylvester Church in Slickville, PA.

-Submitted by Edward Ungvarsky, Branch 181



Edward J. Tudjan  
Branch 510 –  
Kenosha, WI



Edward J. Tudjan, 85, of Kenosha, WI died on Saturday, March 12, 2011, at United Hospital System - Kenosha Campus, surrounded by his loving family.

Born in Kenosha on Feb. 24, 1926, he was the son of the late Charles and Mary (Slamar) Tudjan. He attended local schools.

From April 17, 1944, until his honorable discharge on May 29, 1946, Ed served our country in the United States Navy as a Boatswain's Mate, Second Class. For his service, he was awarded the Victory Medal, the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with a bronze service star, and the Philippine Liberation Ribbon with a bronze service star.

Ed met Dorothy Jurik at a friend's wedding reception in 1946, and after becoming engaged on Valentine's Day, they were united in holy matrimony on Sept. 27, 1947, at St. Anthony Catholic Church.

Ed worked at the Snap-On Tools Corp. machine shop and joined the Kenosha Fire Department in 1951, retiring as a lieutenant in 1983. He also worked part time at David Nelson Mayflower Movers and with Tudjan's Antenna Service.

Ed was a member of St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church. He shared his time with many organizations and was a charter mem-

ber of the St. Jude League, a member of V.F.W. Post 2751, the First Catholic Slovak Union of the United States and Canada, the Senior Action Council, the Wisconsin Slovak Historical Society, Friends of the Museum, the Encore Club at Johnson Bank and was a retired member of the Firefighter's Union, Local 414. In his free time, he enjoyed traveling, playing Pinochle, baking and cooking with Dorothy, attending performances at the Rhode Opera House and Fireside Theatre, and taking daily walks. His greatest joy was time spent with his family, especially his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Surviving Ed are his beloved wife of over 63 years, Dorothy; three loving children, Jeanne (Donald) Howland of Somers, Nancy (Andrew) Schwarz of Crystal Lake, Ill., and Randy (Sheryl) Tudjan of Somers; six adored grandchildren, Michelle Frentzel, Katy (Angel) Silva, Adam and Amy Schwarz, and Raechel and Erin Tudjan; three cherished great-grandchildren; two brothers, Richard Tudjan of Somers and Robert Tudjan of Mesa, Ariz.

Funeral services for Ed were held on Thursday, March 17, 2011, at 9:15 a.m. from the Piasecki-Althaus Funeral Home. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at 10 a.m. at St. Anthony Catholic Church, Kenosha, WI. Interment with full military honors followed at St. George Cemetery. A visitation was held on Wednesday, March 16th from 4 - 7 p.m. at the funeral home.

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

**THINK ABOUT IT!**

# A Summit in Slovakia

By Rich Kocur

Beginning on April 29th, 2011 and continuing through May 15th world powers including the United States, Russia, and Canada will meet in Slovakia for a summit filled with pride, passion, drama, and competition. It's a summit unlike any other. It's the 75th International Ice Hockey Federation World Championship and this year, Slovakia will play the role of both competitor and host.

Ice hockey is arguably the most popular spectator sport in Slovakia and one which fans across the country follow with religious fervor. From local club teams, to the Slovak elite league, to the NHL, Slovaks show a passion for hockey that rivals that of fans in any country with a rich hockey tradition.

This year's world championship will be held in dual locations across Slovakia. In Bratislava, eight of the teams, including the host, will compete in the newly re-furnished Ondrej Nepela arena (Nepela was a gold medalist in figure skating during the 1976 winter Olympics). Since the announcement five years ago that Slovakia would host the tournament, the arena has received a complete overhaul at a cost of more than sixty-five million Euros, financed by the Slovak government. It now features a seating capacity of nearly 10,000 along with two practice rinks, underground parking, and a new state-of-the-art roof. Meanwhile, across the country in Kosice the newer Ladislav Trojak arena (Trojak was one of the early Slovak hockey superstars) was upgraded into one of the finest multi-purpose sports-cultural-social facilities of (Ondrej Nepela Arena – Bratislavits kind and will play host to the other eight teams in the tournament including the U.S. and Canada.



Ondrej Nepela Arena – Bratislava

Different from what North Americans are used to when it comes to hockey championships, the International World Championship is played in a tournament format where each team is placed in a four team group, must qualify for advancement, and plays through a quarter, semi, and final round. Team Slovakia, currently ranked eighth in the world, finds itself in a group with Russia, Germany, and Slovenia; a difficult draw but not one which should prevent

the Slovaks from advancing. Given the performance of the team in the 2010 Olympic Games where they narrowly missed a bronze medal, expectations for a strong performance in front of the home crowds are high.

One of the unique aspects of the Ice Hockey World Championship is the fact they are held every year and give national teams the opportunity to compete for a significant championship

Group A Bratislava	Group B Kosice	Group C Kosice	Group D Bratislava
Russia	Canada	Sweden	Finland
Slovakia	Switzerland	USA	Czech Rep.
Germany	Belarus	Norway	Latvia
Slovenia	France	Austria	Denmark

more frequently than every four years in the Olympic Games. The World Championships, however, are not viewed as significant as the Olympics by either fans or players. Given the timing of the tournament each year (April-May), the Worlds find themselves in competition with the NHL playoffs and all of the top professional players will stay with their NHL teams if they are still in pursuit of the Stanley Cup. If their team is eliminated from the NHL playoffs, players will then join their national team. This factor tends to be a wildcard during the World Championships with rosters being fluid even up to the semi-final and final rounds.

The Slovaks have enjoyed past success in the World Championship but not in recent years. Since independence, team Slovakia has garnered a bronze medal (2003), silver medal (2000), and gold medal / World Championship (2002), and continues to be one of the world's most consistent hockey competitors. Over the last 5 years, however, the team has not been able to crack the semi-final round.



(2002 World Champions)

(2002 World Champions)

Will 2011 be a special year, the year Slovakia returns to the World Championship medal stand? Only the play between the teams over the next few weeks will determine that. Whether they win or not on the ice, however, the Slovak people and their country will be in the winner's spotlight when the world comes to visit this spring.

**SIX YEAR FIXED  
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IRA 3.40%** (3.344% APR)



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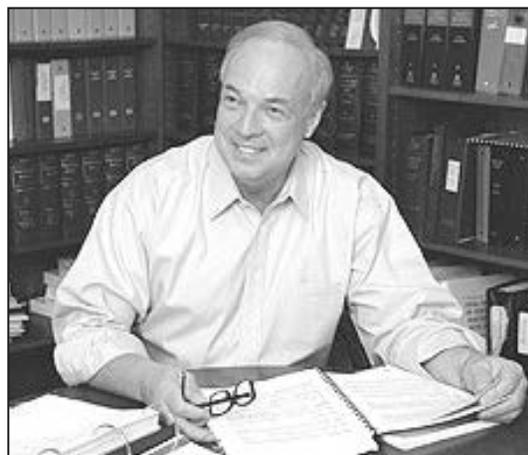
P.O. Box 318013

Independence, OH 44131-8013

Call 1-800 Jednota or 1-216-642-9406

## Focus on Fraternalism

Fraternalism, a foundation of the First Catholic Slovak Union, extends beyond our Society, into service to the community at large. One example of fraternalism at work is George Matta II, a lifelong member of the First Catholic Slovak Union, who is seeking the Democratic nomination for Allegheny County Controller in their upcoming primary election on May 17, 2011. He is the son of George and Florence Matta, both active in Branch 38 and the FCSU. Mr. George F. Matta is the FCSU National Treasurer.



In addition to serving for the past five years as President of the Pittsburgh District and a member of Branch 38, Matta successfully chaired two of the organization's national conventions: one in Boca Raton and one in Cleveland.

"My involvement with the First Catholic Slovak Union is one of the key reasons I was able to develop the leadership skills needed to run for office when my public career started," said Matta, whose career in politics began when he was 32. "My heritage is an integral part of who I am, and ethnic pride is one our region's strengths. I see that on the campaign trail every day."

Matta's public service also includes stints as a board member of the Allegheny County Pension Fund and the Regional Industrial Development Corporation, and he served two terms as the County's Clerk of Courts. He also held terms as the city Controller and Mayor of Duquesne.

Matta graduated from Penn State University with a degree in Business Administration and a Master's Degree from St. Francis University in Industrial Relations and Business Management. He is the Director of business development and community relations for The Rivers Casino.

He and his wife, Cathy Love Matta, live in White Oak, PA. They have two adult children, Bradley, an attorney, and Brittany, all of whom are members of Branch 38.

# News From Slovakia

## Jobless Rate Dropped Slightly to 13.13 percent in March

Bratislava, April 20 (TASR) - The unemployment rate reached 13.13 percent in March, a contraction by 0.03 percentage points on the month but representing an annual rise of 0.25 percentage points, the Labor, Social Affairs and the Family Center (UPSVaR) announced on this date.

"This constitutes a reversal, a change in trend," said UPSVaR head Ivan Juras in response to March figures. The labor market is going through a revival, as the number of available vacancies rose.

A total of 392,483 people were registered at labor offices in February, of which 350,328 were immediately available to begin work.

The average unemployed person had been registered at a labor office for 13.81 months, down 0.04 months m-o-m, but up 0.87 months y-o-y.

## Gov't Okays National Reforms Program Aimed at Boosting Economy

Bratislava, April 20 (TASR) - The Government at its session on Wednesday approved Slovakia's ongoing National Program of Reforms due to remain in practice until the middle of 2014, TASR learnt on the same day.

The document introduces a package of measures targeting revival of the Slovak economy and improving the standards of life. Gradual compliance with the objectives set forth in Europe 2020 is also addressed.

The goals include boosting the unemployment rate of people aged 20-64 above 72 percent while curtailing the long-term jobless rate below 3 percent.

The Government also has its eyes set on improving business conditions to a level that will position the country among the top 15 countries in the World Bank's 'Doing Business' ranking by 2020.

In addition, the program also addresses vows such as suppressing the occurrence of corruption and favoritism practices.

Meanwhile, a total of 170,000 people ought to be extricated from the risk of poverty by 2020, according to the document.

## Analysts Estimate that Slovak Economy Grew by 3.3% Y-o-Y in 1Q11

Bratislava, April 21 (TASR) - An estimate by Slovak bank analysts published on this date reads that the Slovak economy was growing a bit more slowly in the first quarter of 2011 than previously expected.

While the analysts spoke about a 3.4-percent growth of GDP in March, they are a bit more pessimistic at present, expecting 3.3-percent growth in 1Q11.

Apart from the deceleration of GDP growth, analysts are expecting an accelerated year-on-year growth of consumer prices in the given period - by 3.6 percent. This is by 0.2 percentage points more than they estimated a month ago.

The estimate of the Slovak economic growth for 2011 hasn't been changed by analysts and still stands at 3.6 percent. They expect an accelerated rate of 4.5 percent in 2012, however.

The predictions of analysts from commercial banks are regularly collected and updated by the Slovak central bank (NBS).

## Slovakia with Most Expensive Petrol in V4 Plus Austria

Bratislava, April 21 (TASR) - Petrol prices in Slovakia are the highest in the whole Visegrad Four region (Slovakia, Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland) plus Austria, the natankuj.sk website reported on this date.

The prices of gas are under the most heavy burden of taxes and further fees in Slovakia compared to the aforementioned countries. When it comes to diesel, however, the tax burden on diesel is the second lowest among the countries, behind Poland. [The government last year significantly reduced the tax burden on diesel, following road haulers' protests after the electronic tolls for trucks were introduced. - ed. note.]

At the same time, the prices of gas in Slovakia are 8.3 cents per liter lower than the EU average, while the diesel price is 4.6 cents below the EU average.

## Middle-aged People Represent Lion's Share of Unemployed in Slovakia

Bratislava, April 21 (TASR) - The biggest proportion of unemployed people in Slovakia

is aged 35-49, according to statistics presented by the Labor, Social Affairs and the Family Center (UPSVaR) on this date.

Middle-aged people represented 130,876 from the total 392,483 unemployed Slovaks in March.

The second hardest-hit group are people aged 25-34 (97,787). Almost the same number of unemployed people is registered among the 50 and overs. Meanwhile [unlike European countries such as Spain and Greece - ed. note], the lowest number of unemployed is among the young generation - people aged 15-24. [This profile always changes considerably in June, when school is out and graduates sign on at Labor Offices - ed. note].

When it comes to the regions, the greatest number of jobless people is in Presov region, followed by Kosice, Banska Bystrica, Nitra, Zilina, Trencin and Trnava. Bratislava region traditionally has the lowest unemployment rate.

## Companies to Run into Problems in Finding Suitable Employees

Bratislava, April 21 (TASR) - Despite the significant rate of unemployment, companies will have problems finding suitable employees in the future, Board of Directors Chairman of the Trenkwalder personal agency Lubos Sirota told the media on this date. This phenomenon, he said, should translate into higher pay packets for high-quality people.

The unemployed in Slovakia tend to be unskilled and have been unemployed long-term, and this fact, too, should gradually increase the cost of labour among those who already have jobs, Sirota explained.

Sirota pointed out that more than 50 percent of registered unemployed do not have a specific skill set, with the second largest portion of the unemployed being auxiliary or temporary workers who are unqualified.

"The data confirms the ongoing unfavorable structure of the unemployed in Slovakia," says Trenkwalder. It means that after depleting its actual reserves the growing Slovak economy will eventually face the problem of a shortage of suitable workers.

Trenkwalder specializes in providing personnel services in the central and eastern Europe and is active in 21 countries.

## SACR: "Slovakia" Brand Suffers from Low Recognition

Bratislava, April 21 (TASR) - Slovakia as a brand still suffers from poor recognition due to the change of the country's position from a European perspective in the wake of the collapse of the Eastern bloc and the transformation to democracy plus the break-up of Czechoslovakia, reads the marketing strategy drafted by the Slovak Tourism Agency (SACR) that was released on Thursday.

"The primary reason behind the lack of recognition of Slovakia brand is also a long-term absence of a systematic and coordinated presentation of the country," reads the material. It adds that "recognize-ability" represents one of the key factors influencing the tourism competitiveness of a country.

The process of building the brand "Slovakia" should be coordinated with all relevant subjects including the Foreign Affairs Ministry, its diplomatic representations in foreign countries or the Economy Ministry via the promotion of pro-investment and pro-export policies. Also, an important role should be played by the Culture Ministry in promoting cultural values abroad.

## 550 Yellow-clad Volunteers to Assist During Hockey Championship

Bratislava, April 26 (TASR) - A total of 550 volunteers clad in yellow jackets and wearing caps of the same color will help in the process of press accreditation, accommodation, manning the help-desk and logistics during the upcoming Ice-hockey World Championship, TASR learnt on this date.

The volunteers, mostly students and OAPs, will also provide assistance at airports as well as stadiums in Bratislava and Kosice. They will instruct hockey fans on, for example, items that can or cannot be brought into the hockey arenas.

"Many high-quality people have applied, and they are all well-versed in terms of foreign languages," said chief manager for volunteers Zuzana Janosova.

The average age of the volunteers, who aside from Slovakia come from countries such as Canada, Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic, is 25. Women account for a third of the volunteers.

# Our Lady of Sorrows

*continued from page 1*

When Slovak leader Alexander Dubček relaxed many of the anti-religious in Czechoslovakia during 1968, the Salesians could return temporarily to minister the shrine. While short-lived, further improvements to the bells and church included a new marble altar completed in 1975.

Another great moment in the history of the shrine was the visit of Mother Theresa of Calcutta, who made a pilgrimage to Šaštín in 1987. The then newly appointed Archbishop-Metropolitan of Trnava, Ján Sokol, hosted the occasion.

## Renewal in a Free Slovakia

The fall of communism after 1989 meant the final return of the Salesians to take care of the shrine in February 1990. The Rev. Ján Malženický continued to renovate the basilica and monastery in preparation for the first national pilgrimage after years of totalitarian rule. During his sojourn to Bratislava, Pope John Paul II flew over the shrine in a helicopter during April on his first visit to Slovakia and blessed it, promising to return personally to pay homage to Our Lady of Sorrows. The faithful of Slovakia responded with a massive celebration, which counted 900 priests and many thousands of pilgrims at the May event.

The Pope fulfilled his promise to Our Lady and the people of Slovakia in 1995, when he made an afternoon visit to the shrine on July 1. Over one half million pilgrims attended for the papal visit. There he concelebrated Holy Mass with 48 high Church dignitaries, but his sermon addressed the poor, whom he said gave him strength to carry on his mission. He repeatedly mentioned how he joined with the poor in prayer. The pope also blessed 20 cornerstones from which new churches would be built across Slovakia.

The papal visit in 1995 was indeed the culmination of the revitalization of the Šaštín shrine to Our Lady of Sorrows. Since then the annual pilgrimages continue to take place annually on September 15 and on the Feast of SS. Cyril and Methodius on July 5. Improvements to the basilica continue and the slow process of restoring the beautiful interior and Chamant's frescoes is ongoing.

In 1998, the Slovak Republic also issued a stamp with the Pieta statue from main altar of the Marian Basilica of Our Lady of Sorrows. The picture included shows the stamp.

## The Jednota Chapel in Washington

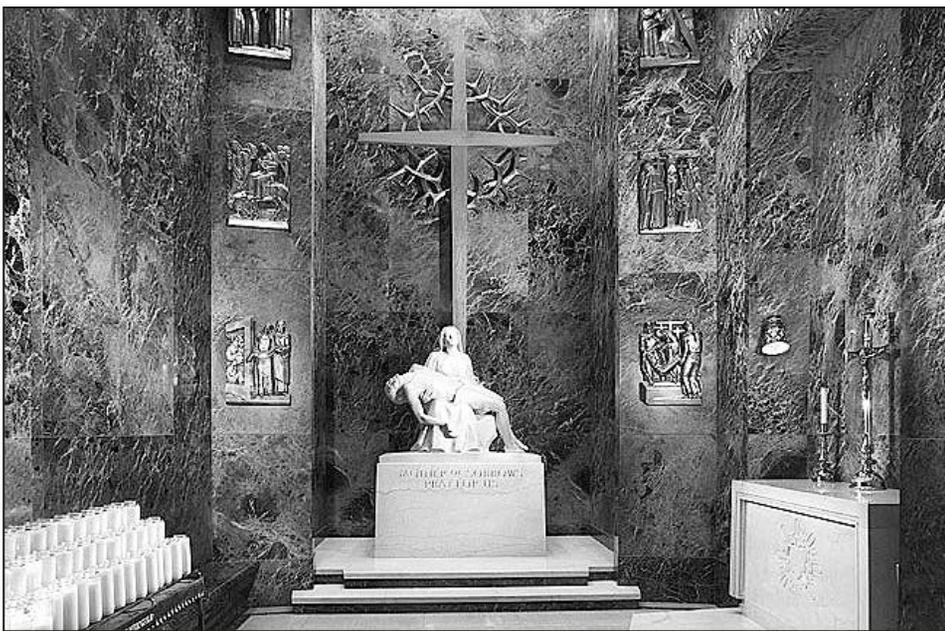
Here in the United States, Slovak Americans also have remembered Our Lady of Sorrows. In 1965, our First Catholic Slovak Union contributed the funds to build the Jednota Chapel in Our Lady's honor at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. Our Lady of Sorrows is also the patron of the First Catholic Slovak Union.

The shrine depicts the seven sorrows of Mary in a series of bronze reliefs and a life-sized sculpture of the Mary holding the crucified Christ (most often called a "Pieta," meaning "mercy"). The theme resembles that of the famous statue by Michelangelo which rests at St. Peter's Basilica in the Vatican. Ernest Morenon sculpted the statue for the Washington shrine. The statue is notable for its simple and realistic lines, which reveal the depths of Mary's sorrows and grief at the death of her Son.

A Slovak language inscription above the altar with the statue reads:

"Our Mother of Sorrows, patroness of Slovakia, pray for us."

*(Matka naša Patrónka Slovenska – oroduj za nás.)*



**Our Lady of Sorrows Chapel at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. Donated by the First Catholic Slovak Union in 1965.**

## Annual Pilgrimages

Members of the First Catholic Slovak Union often gather in Washington around September 15 in order to pay homage to Our Lady of Sorrows at the chapel in the National Basilica.

Many Slovak parishes also hold special Masses each year to honor Our Lady on and around September 15. It is important that Slovak Americans continue to pay homage to Our Lady and remember her sufferings when we face our own trials in life. One such Mass and pilgrimage which this author has attended several times takes place annually at the National

Shrine of our Lady of Lebanon, in North Jackson, not far from Youngstown. Special prayers, confessions, and the Holy Rosary precede a solemn Mass said in Slovak.

The Seven Sorrows of the Blessed Virgin Mary consist of the following events.

- 1) The prophecy of Simeon that a sword of sorrow would pierce Mary's heart (Luke 2:25-38).
- 2) Mary and Joseph flee to Egypt with Jesus to avoid King Herod's murderous plot (cf. Mt 2:13-18).
- 3) Jesus' parents search for Him in Jerusalem (Luke 2:41-52).
- 4) Mary's encounter with Jesus on the way to Golgotha.
- 5) Mary's witnessing His crucifixion (John 19:16-30).
- 6) Jesus' body placed in His mother's arms (depicted by the Pieta statue).
- 7) The burial of her Son (Luke 23:50-55).

## Prayer in honor of Our Lady of Sorrows

Father, as your Son was raised on the cross,  
His mother Mary stood by Him, sharing His suffering.  
May she, who is also our spiritual Mother and patroness in heaven,  
help us to find renewed strength at the cross of Christ  
and so to come to share in His rising to new life,  
where He lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God forever and ever. Amen.

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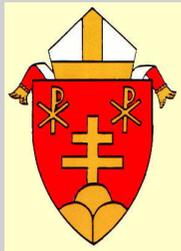
# Answer to Puzzle

*Solution to Puzzle from page 11*

A	S	P		W	H	E	N		C	A	W						
P	O	I		R	A	T	E		A	B	O	V	E				
E	L	E	G	A	N	C	E		P	E	R	I	L				
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E	C	L	A	T				A	R	N		T	A	P	E		
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O	P	A	L		M	R	S		H	I	D						
S	E	N		C	A	N	I	N	E	S		P	A	D			
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A	S	T	E	R				E	T	Y	M	O	L	O	G	Y	
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## LIGHT ONE CANDLE

**Tony Rossi, Radio host/producer, The Christophers**

### A Mother Gets Spiritually In Tune

Being an award-winning musician who's performed with the likes of Luciano Pavarotti, Faith Hill, and even Carlos Santana hasn't spared Natalie MacMaster from the self-doubt that afflicts many busy wives and mothers. Her Catholic faith, however, provides a source of comfort she can turn to during those inevitable times.

A native and resident of Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, MacMaster has earned her reputation as an electrifying fiddle virtuoso with numerous gold albums, Juno Awards, and successful concert tours to her name. Married to Donnell Leahy - an acclaimed fiddler himself with the band Leahy - the couple has four children. Though they balance work and family life well, MacMaster recently experienced a bout of self-pity and gloom after comparing herself to other mothers who seem to be able to "do it all" with ease. Instead of staying focused on the negative, she tried a different approach. As she explained to me on Christopher Closeup, "I went down in the basement, cried real hard, gritted my teeth and was praying to Mary. I said, 'Mary, please help me. I don't want to be like this.'...And you know what? My day turned around. I attribute that to Mary as a mother and a woman helping me to see how much God loves me, how much the things that I do are of value, and how I shouldn't be comparing myself."

MacMaster first learned about relying on her Catholic faith from the example set by her mother and father. She admits that her parents only "knew the basics" and weren't deeply schooled in theology. Yet they believed in Catholicism and lived it - "I watched my Mom live her faith through loving people...My father always lived the commandments in an obvious but unspoken way... My Mom and Dad (were) the only example I watched from the time I was born. Now that's so ingrained in me that anything less than what they did is just not acceptable."

Another key factor during her formative years was that MacMaster's father would never accept her or her brothers missing Mass. When she started traveling a lot for concerts, she continued to attend weekly Mass, originally out of obligation. In retrospect, she believes that receiving the Eucharist throughout that time gave her the graces to transform her lukewarm faith into a Catholicism that's "on fire" today. She says, "I really do believe the Eucharist... gives you strength that's not human. It's God trying to help you do things that are much too hard to do on your own."

After years of focusing on her own goals like developing a career and falling in love with the right man, marriage and motherhood required an adjustment in attitude and some divine assistance. She observes, "Love itself, after the ooey-goey part is over...is a denial of self that's not so easy. Our faith mentions giving up things for great reward and it's so true. Life would be so shallow without my family, if I was just living for myself."

Though MacMaster is busier than ever, she wouldn't change a thing about her family life. She says, "It is way harder than anyone ever told me - and it is absolutely the most gratifying, fulfilling, loving thing I've ever done!"

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](mailto:mail@christophers.org)

## 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 Fraternals, 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 Fraternals, 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. HvozdoVIC, 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](http://www.fcsu.com), click on Announcements, and follow the link provided*

**American Slovak Club  
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- Submitted by Michelle Mager, Branch 228**

## Ampulka s krvou Jána Pavla II. ako relikvia

Vatikán – Malá ampulka naplnená krvou Jána Pavla II. je relikviou vloženou do vzácného relikviára, ktorý bol vystavený k osobnému ucteniu veriacich pri príležitosti blahorečenia ctihodného pápeža. Mimoriadne vzácny relikviár dal špeciálne na túto príležitosť vyhotoviť Úrad liturgických slávení Svätého Otca. Relikvia pochádza z obdobia posledných dní pápeža Jána Pavla II. Lekár vtedy kvôli krvným testom odobral pápežovu krv, ktorá mala byť k dispozícii pre Transfuziologické centrum Nemocnice Bambino Gesù pre prípad potreby krvnej transfúzie pre pápeža. Prof. Isacchi, primár tohto nemocničného centra v tom čase zodpovedal za túto službu pre pápeža.

Transfúzia však nebola potrebná a táto krv bola uložená do štyroch malých nádob. Dve z nich boli odovzdané osobnému tajomníkovi Jána Pavla II. kardinálovi Dziwiszovi a ďalšie dve zostali v Nemocnici Bambino Gesù v opatere rehoľných sestier pracujúcich v tejto nemocnici. Pri príležitosti blahorečenia boli tieto dve nádoby s krvou umiestnené do dvoch relikviárov. Prvá z nich bude vystavená k ucteniu veriacich pri príležitosti slávnosti blahorečenia dňa 1. mája, a potom bola uložená do tzv. „Sacraia“, ktoré má na starosti Úrad liturgických slávení Svätého Otca, a v ktorom sa uchováva aj ďalšie dôležité relikvie. Druhý relikviár s pápežovou krvou bude vrátený späť do Nemocnice Bambino Gesù. Krv je tekutá, čo sa vysvetľuje prítomnosťou antikoagulačnej látky, ktorá bola prítomná v skúmavke v čase odberu.

RV, TK KBS



Andrej Štelnák

### Po stopách vzniku slovenských priezvisk

(Pokračovanie z JEDNOTY zo dňa 2. marca 2011)

#### III. ČASŤ

##### Zhoda alebo príbuznosť s rodnými menami

Niektoré sú zhodné s rodnými menami, napr.: Štefan, Roman, Václav, Jakub, Ivan... a odvodenými: Štefko, Romančík, Václavík, Jakubisko, Ivančo, Filip... Iné sú zhodné alebo príbuzné so ženskými rodnými menami ako... Štefka, Ivanka, Andrejka, Maruška, Žofka, Ančina...

Spoznanie farieb a ich všestranné využitie tiež prispelo k ich vzniku, napr.: Farba, Bílý, Ružový, Sedivý, Zelený, Sivý... a odvodených: Farbiak, Bílik, Ružinský, Šedo, Zelenaj, Sivák...

Aj formovanie armád a vojenských zložiek bolo vhodnou príležitosťou pre zrod takých ako: Vojaček, Husár, Slobodník, Kaprál, Karabín, Puška, Šabla, Maršal... a odvodených: Vojenčiak, Husárik, Kaprálik, Šablica, Maršálek, Karabinoš, Puškár, Maršálek...

##### Vplyv nárečí

Keďže v období tvorenia sa priezvisk nebol ešte spisovný jazyk, mnohé z nich sú poznačené nárečím, napr. východoslovenským: Kukelka, Smerek, Rokyta, Marchevka, Jarec, Parobek, Servatka Kakaš, Kačmar, Tlumač, Tchurik, Huňa, Sciranka..., stredoslovenským: Nvoška, Šoučík, Bravčok, Diovoč, Poljovka..., západoslovenským: Mosný, Macek, Macejko, Polák, Svátek, Pomichal, Bílik, Chládek ...

##### Zemiansky stav, poddanstvo, kráľovstvo

S utváraním sa zemianskeho stavu, šľachty, poddanstva, panstiev, grófstiev, kráľovstiev, stavania hradov a zámkov vznikali také ako: Kráľ, Pán, Cisár, Zeman, Gróf... a odvodené: Kráľovič, Pánik, Cisárik, Zemanovič, Grofič...

Furmani, postilióni a náhodní pocestní sa často pristavovali v pohostinstvách (krčmách), aby si zajedli, občerstvili a posilnili na ďalšiu cestu, čo pripomínajú priezviská: Krčma, Šenk, Pálenkár... a odvodené: Krčmárik, Šenkár, Palenčár...

Aj vytvorenie regiónov umožnilo vzniku niektorých, napr.: Považan, Turčan, Orava, Gemer, Kysučan. Záhorák... či odvodených: Považanec, Turček, Oravec, Gemerský, Kysucký, Záhoránsky...

V Gemeru (inde len ojedinele) sa vyskytuje zvláštny druh priezvisk s koncovkou -e utvorených väčšinou od rodných mien ako: Dureje, Števove, Kubove, Jankeje, Adamove, Macove, Paľove, Šimove...

Sú aj také, vznik ktorých ovplyvnil žart, vtip, frk ako: Nič, Stoj, Joj, Nebehaj, Frk, Sralík, Nemtuda, Bzík, Pipiš, Balamuta, Šarkan, Strigáč...

Ročné obdobia, niektoré mesiace a dni boli podnetom pre vytváranie nových, napr.: Leto, Jesenai, Zima, Marec, Máj, Pondela, Streda, Sobota... či odvodených: Letko, Jesenko, Zimka, Marec, Májek, Pondelák, Stredák, Piatko, Sobota, Nedela...

Po zániku výmenného obchodu a zavedení peňažnej meny sa objavili takéto ako: Zlatník, Dukát, Grajciar, Korunka, Peniažka... i odvodených; Zlatoň, Grajčár, Peniaška...

Niektoré vznikli podľa pomenovania ľudského tela a odevu, napr.: Hlávka, Nosko, Zub, Uško, Krkoš, Brada, Čepec, Šatka, Nohavica, Šál... a odvodené: Hlaváč, Nosál, Zubáč, Ušiak, Krkoška, Bradáč, Čepčár, Šátek, Nohavička, Šály...

Sú aj také, ktoré nesú názov po príbuzných a členoch rodiny ako: Zaľko, Svák, Strýčko, Babka, Dedko, Bratko, Vnuk... či odvodené: Zaľovič, Sváčík, Strýček, Babina, Dedok, Bratinka, Vnučka...

Veľký počet, v tvare prídavných mien vytvárajú priezviská-antonymá: Biely-Čierny, Krátky-Dlhý, Chudý-Tučný, Lahký-Ťažký, Horný-Dolný, Malý-Veľký...

Zrod niektorých ovplyvnili poveternostné zmeny, napr.: Mrákava, Hrmo, Vietor, Mráz, Fujak... či odvodené: Mračko, Hromek, Vetrák, Mrázik, Fujko...

Aj výroba hudobných nástrojov a vznik hudobnospeváckych súborov (kapiel, bánd) prispeli k obohateniu takých ako: Banda, Hudák, Huslíca, Cimbál, Basa, Gajdoš... a odvodených: Bandura, Hudec, Huslík, Cimbálák, Bašista, Gajdošík...

Niektoré zvýrazňujú svojím názvom povahu alebo iné črty osobnosti, napr.: Bojko, Smutko, Klamár, Lakomec, Chvastoň, Dudrák, Figliar, Vážny, Plachý...

Iné sú zaujímavé tým, že vznikli spojením dvoch slov, napr.: Horeháj, Bolibruch, Kosinoha, Parimucha, Valihrad, Novýsedlák, Nechajdoma ...

Kým sa niektoré vyskytujú len ojedinelé, iné neščíselne krát, napr.: Horváth, Kováč, Varga, Toth, Nagy, Baláz, Szabó, Novák, Tkáč, Lukáč ...

Kým jedny sa obohacujú (po meči), druhé (po praslici) postupne vymierajú.

(Pokračovanie v budúcom čísle JEDNOTY)

## Bronzovú bustu Jána Pavla II. odhalili v Terchovej

Terchová (TASR) – Bronzovú bustu Jána Pavla II. odhalili pri príležitosti jeho blahorečenia 1. mája 2011 pred kostolom sv. Cyrila a Metoda v Terchovej. Odhalenie busty bolo súčasťou siedmeho ročníka veľkonočného koncertu Poďakovanie za lásku.

Autorom busty je terchovský rodák, akademický sochár Milan Opalka. „Trvalo to skoro jeden a pol roka. Je to úžasná vec. Na začiatku je ako vždy mierny strach a hľadanie v niečom neznámom a vzdialenom. A pomaly sa to prisúva k človeku, až nakoniec začne hliňa pod rukami rásť a vznikne z toho nejaké dielko,“ povedal na margo vzniku busty odliatej metódou na stratený vosk v ateliéri Andreja Margoča v Perneku. „Blahoslaveného Jána Pavla II. som chcel zobraziť ako mladého človeka, keď ako krakovský kardinál chodil pomedzi nás tu, v Terchovej. A v čase, keď prišiel na svätopeterský stolec do Ríma. Postavil som ho pod vežu, pod najvyššiu stavbu v Terchovej. Pod stavbu, ktorá má silné základy a ukazuje smerom do neba. Zobrazil som ho s pozhňavajúcou rukou, aby sme mali my, Terchovčania, keď budeme odchádzať alebo prichádzať do Terchovej, jeho pozhňanie,“ skonštatoval Opalka.

Správca farnosti Terchová Pavol Kurták vyjadril presvedčenie, že ľudia si všimnú bustu Jána Pavla II., ktorý nepatrí len do minulosti a dejín. „Ale môže nám niečo povedať aj dnes. Každý pomník alebo nápis nám niečo pripomína alebo nás v niečom podnieti. Verím, že aj dnes odhalená busta bude miestom, ktoré nám pripomenie tohto vzácného človeka a povzbudí nás tak trochu nasledovať ho,“ povedal Kurták.

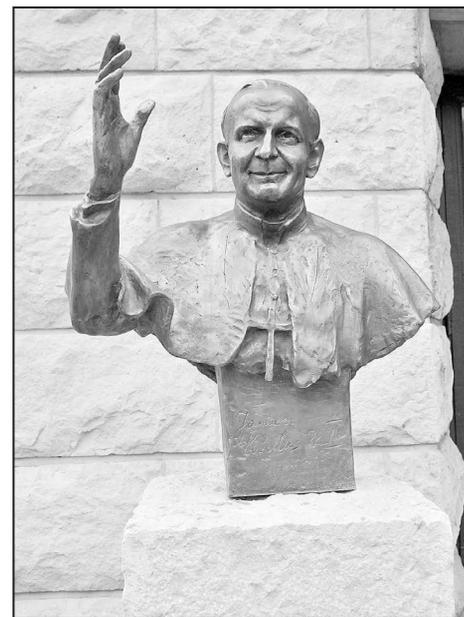


FOTO TASR - Pavol Ďurčo

### Bronzová busta Jána Pavla II.

**A bust of Pope John Paul II was unveiled in front of the Church of SS. Cyril and Methodius in the village of Terchova on the occasion of the pope's beatification.**



## Cech bryndziarov Slovenska sa obáva zániku ovčiarstva

Považská Bystrica (TASR) – Snaha o záchranu pravej bryndze bola hlavným dôvodom 19. apríla mimoriadneho zasadnutia predstavenstva a dozornej rady Cechu bryndziarov Slovenska v Považskej Bystrici. Cech tak reagoval na závery stretnutia ministra pôdohospodárstva Zsolta Simona s výrobcami bryndze, výsledkom ktorého má byť zmena Potravinového kódexu.

Podľa zmeneného kódexu má dôjsť k používaniu názvu „Slovenská bryndza“ s 50-% podielom ovčej hrudky a následné zrušenie tejto požiadavky v Potravinovom kódexe pre bryndzu ako takú, ale s požiadavkou na doplnenie označovania množstva ovčej hrudky v percentách na ostatných druhoch bryndze. Cech bryndziarov hovorí o hrozbe zániku tradičného slovenského výrobku, výraznom dosahu na zamestnanosť a dokonca o „výživovej genocíde“. Spochybňuje tiež hlasovanie na ministerstve, kde podľa nich neboli rozhodujúci výrobcovia bryndze.

Ako povedal minister Simon, na stretnutie pozvali všetkých bryndziarov zo Slovenska. „Pokiaľ budeme dodržiavať terajší kódex, museli by sme postihovať takmer všetkých výrobcov bryndze na Slovensku,“ povedal minister. Zdôraznil, že požiadavka cechu chrániť označenie bryndza je irelevantná, pretože bryndza nie je typické slovenské označenie, ale používajú ho aj v Česku, Poľsku a Rumunsku.

„Potravinový kódex platí len pre slovenských výrobcov. Ak niekto vyrobí bryndzu s nižším podielom ovčej hrudky v Poľsku, môže to doviezť na Slovensko a predávať. Ak slovenský výrobca nedá do bryndze najmenej 50 % ovčej hrudky, sme povinní ho postihovať,“ zdôraznil Simon s tým, že ministerstvo zmení potravinový kódex a každý výrobca bude musieť výrazne vyznačiť podiel ovčej hrudky. „Ak sa kódex zmení, budeme dovážať tovar z Poľska a distribuovať ho po Slovensku. Prepustíme 60 zo 70 pracovníkov, zostane ich desať, z ktorých šiesti budú vodiči,“ povedal konateľ bryndziarne vo Zvolenskej Slatine Bohuš Kaliarik.

Predseda Zväzu chovateľov oviec a kôz na Slovensku Igor Nemčok je presvedčený, že zrušením kódexu by klesol záujem o ovčie mlieko, znížil by sa počet oviec na Slovensku a počet zamestnancov v ovčiarstve až o 1200 ľudí a sekundárne by mohlo prísť o prácu až 7000 ľudí.

Podľa predsedu Cechu bryndziarov Slovenska Jána Keresteša pravá bryndza má výrazné protirakovinové účinky predovšetkým rakoviny hrubého čreva, čo preukázateľne dokázali klinické testy. „Je dokázané, že tam, kde sú ovce, v horských oblastiach, je výskyt rakoviny hrubého čreva oveľa nižší, ako v oblastiach, kde sa ovce nechovajú.“

„Bryndza je perla slovenského výživového priemyslu, je klenot slovenskej kultúry a nie je to len spoločné dedičstvo Slovákov. Je to dedičstvo všetkých národov a národností. Už osvietenecká panovníčka Mária Terézia si nechávala dovážať bryndzu zo Slovenska,“ dodal Keresteš.

Zmena Potravinového kódexu umožní podľa neho dovoz výrobkov označených slovom bryndza, i keď podiel ovčej hrudky bude minimálny. „Ľudia budú kupovať lacnú, no falšovanú bryndzu a budú si myslieť, že keď to má názov bryndza, prospieva to ich zdraviu. V skutočnosti sú probiotické účinky takýchto výrobkov zanedbateľné,“ zdôraznil Keresteš.

Cech bryndziarov Slovenska 19. apríla sformuloval výzvu, v ktorej žiada zachovať súčasne platný Potravinový kódex. Výzvu pošle prezidentovi republiky, členom vlády, šéfom parlamentných politických strán, stavovským organizáciám, vzdelávacím inštitúciám, médiám, vyšším územným celkom, ale i Európskej komisii.

## Oznámenia o pripravovaných podujatiach spolkov

Polročná členská schôdza Okresu  
Štefana Krasuľu, č. 16 IKSJ

Oznamujeme všetkým členom, že členská schôdza Okresu Štefana Krasuľu, 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 vítani.

Program schôdze bude zameraný na prípravu plánu činnosti na budúce obdobie a taktiež finančná správa. Po skončení sa bude podávať občerstvenie, ktoré pripravia členovia spolku sv. Štefana č. 716 IKSJ.

Ostávam s kresťanským pozdravom

Henrieta H. Daitová, tajomníčka

## 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.



## Stále nižší predaj ukončil v Hrušove výrobu krojovaných bábik



Na snímke vitrína krojovaných slovenských bábik zo zbierky bývalého Slovenského múzea JEDNOTA v Middletowne, PA.

*The manufacturing of dolls has been discontinued in Slovakia. Here are some dolls from the former Jednota Museum.*

paráda, ale aj na iných prehliadkach tradičnej kultúry po celej krajine. Hrušovské ženy šili bábiky na polovičný úväzok, ich výrobu nejaký čas združenie financovalo aj prostredníctvom grantu. V uplynulých dvoch rokoch sa však vyrábali už len na základe väčších objednávok.



## Zo spomienok kardinála Jozefa Tomka na pápeža Jána Pavla II.

Pokračovanie zo str. 24

Kardinál sa v spomienkach vracia aj k trom návštevám Jána Pavla II. na Slovensku, i k posledným chvíľam tohto veľkého pápeža, k 2. aprílu 2005, keď vydýchol naposledy: „Hneď po tom, čo som počul smutnú správu, okamžite som navštívil telo tejto veľkej historickej osobnosti, stále ležiace na posteli jeho utrpenia, s majestátnym pokojom smrti na jeho tvári. Kľáčiac som sa krátko pomodlil, držiac jeho ruku, tú ruku, ktorú som stále cítil na mojej hlave, a pobožkal som ju v oddanosti. Bola to ruka môjho duchovného otca. Existujú isté neviditeľné putá, ktoré nikdy nemôžu byť prerušené. A teraz mám potešenie vidieť naplnenú túžbu davu, volajúceho „Santo subito!“: Vietor, ktorý tak úžasne obracal stránky Evanjelia na rakve Jána Pavla II., stále vanie. Jeho práca pokračuje aj v súčasnosti a prináša ovocie: Peter ďalej žije vo svojich nástupcoch tak, ako Kristus žije vo svojej Cirkvi.“

TK KBS, L'Osservatore Romano

IN MEMORIAM

## Karol Belak, hispanista a spisovateľ

Narodil sa 8. 9. 1927 v Nových Zámkoch. Zomrel 23. 3. 2011 v New Yorku. Svoje gymnaziálne štúdiá začal v Šuranoch, ktoré sa po Viedenskej arbitráži v r. 1938 a obsadení Južného Slovenska horthyovským Maďarskom ocitli na okupovanom území. Otec musel opustiť miesto školníka, stratil zamestnanie a musel rýchlo opustiť aj Nové Zámky. Odišiel do Slovenskej republiky, do Nitry, kde získal zamestnanie v Ponirianskom regulačnom družstve. Mladému Karolovi sa však zakrátko podarilo s ostatnými členmi rodiny prekročiť hranice a nasledovať otca do Nitry, kde pokračoval v štúdiu na Piaristickom gymnáziu. Tu zažil (a len o vlások unikol smrti) katastrofálne bombardovanie Nitry 26. marca 1945.



Karol Belak

Po maturite začal študovať právo na Slovenskej univerzite v Bratislave. Keď sa vo februári 1948 zmocnili vlády v Česko-Slovensku komunisti a nastalo prenasledovanie Cirkvi, v novembri 1949 so svojím spolužiakom Štefanom Glejdurom (neskorším profesorom ústavného práva na Universidad Complutense v Madride), za dramatických okolností prekročili hranice pri Chebe a ocitli sa v utečeneckom tábore Valka pri Norimbergu. V januári 1951 získal štipendium na Madridskej univerzite ako chovanec študentského domova Collegio Mayor Santiago Apostol, zriadeného katolíckou charitou za podpory španielskeho štátu pre študentov-utečencov z krajín komunistického bloku a ktorého rektorom bol Dr. Jozef Cieker, prvý a posledný vyslanec a splnomocnený minister 1. Slovenskej republiky v Španielskom kráľovstve. Štúdium moderných dejín ukončil r. 1958 a dostal povolenie usadiť sa v USA, kam ihneď odcestoval. V nasledujúcom roku sa z USA vrátil do Madridu, aby obhájil svoju dizertačnú prácu a oženil sa s Mercedes Junquera Lozano. S manželkou potom vycestoval natrvalo do USA, ale pre neznalosť angličtiny musel najskôr sedem rokov pracovať ako robotník v obuvníckom veľkoslade. Po večeroch študoval na Fordhamskej univerzite, kde r. 1966 získal Master v odbore španielsky jazyk a literatúra. V rokoch 1966-1969 učil na Manhattan College a v r. 1969-1979 na Rockland Collage, kde učil španielsky jazyk, dejiny a literatúru. Po strate zamestnania pôsobil na strednej škole Barnard, odkiaľ odišiel do dôchodku.

Aktívne sa zúčastňoval na krajskom spolkovom živote v New Yorku a v New Jersey. Ako jemu pomohli krajanovia uchýtiť sa po príchode do USA v New Yorku, tak aj on pomohol ďalšiemu Nitranovi, ktorý nelegálne opustil Česko-Slovensko, zakotviť natrvalo v tom istom meste.

Do dejín slovenskej kultúry sa zapísal už svojou dizertačnou prácou *Fernando II en relación con Bohemia* (Madrid: Imprenta Rodrigo, 1969), v ktorej potvrdil, že o smrti Valdeštejna v Tridsaťročnej vojne sa rozhodlo na dvore španielskych Habsburgovcov v Madride. Trvalé miesto v dejinách slovenskej kultúry mu patrí za literárnu činnosť. Preložil známe dielko Sancheza Silvu: *Marcelino, pan y vino* [Marcelinko, chlieb a víno], publikované v slovenskom časopise *Priateľ dietok* v USA v roku 1955. Neskôr vyšlo aj v samostatnom slovenskom knižnom vydaní. Vo svojej literárnej činnosti pokračoval až po odchode do dôchodku. Najskôr preložil novelu Miguela de Unamuna *Svätý Manuel Dobrák, mučeník* (Nitra: Eko, 1997), neskôr so svojim priateľom Ferkom Chajmom aj novelu *Teta Tula* toho istého španielskeho spisovateľa a filozofa.

V ďalšom sa venoval pôvodnej tvorbe. Na prezentácii svojej knihy *Madrid: Zástavka a krížovatka slovenského študenta, 1951-1960* (Nitra: Agroištitút, 1999) sa osobne zúčastnil. Touto autobiografickou knihou sa stal literárnym kronikárom komunity slovenských študentov v povojnovom období v Madride. Najrozsiahlejším jeho dielom je román, autobiografická rodinná kronika, ktorá vyšla tiež v Nitre pod názvom *Život v tieni mrakodrapov* (Nitra: SVD, 2004, 410 s.). Posledným jeho dielom bolo knižné vydanie novely o postihnutom chlapcovi, ktorá vyšla v Nitre pod názvom *Matúš* (Nitra: Garmond, 2009, 189 s.). Jeho brat RNDr. Jozef (Čučo) Belák bol v 50. rokoch minulého storočia známym nitrianskym futbalistom a čs. futbalovým reprezentantom.

V osobe Karola Beláka stráca Slovensko i slovenská kultúra významného spisovateľa a kronikára ťažkého života pobebrúrových emigrantov, ako aj významného krajského činiteľa a kultúrneho pracovníka v newyorskom prostredí, ktorý bol dobrým pomocníkom každému z nás pri príchode do tohoto novodobého babylonu. Strácame v ňom aj dobrého Slováka a vyslanca svojej domoviny v americkom prostredí a morálnu autoritu uprostred slovenskej komunity v New Yorku.

Čeť jeho pamiatke!

Emil Vontorčík

*The memory of Milan Rastislav Štefánik was honored in several towns in Slovakia recently marking the anniversary of his tragic death in 1919.*



FOTO TASR - Eduard Fašung

Výročie tragickej smrti Milana Rastislava Štefánika si 3. mája 2011 pripomenuli účastníci 21. ročníka Vlasteneckej pochôdzky po slovenskom juhu. Tradične sa koná v Šamoríne, Dunajskej Lužnej a Ivanke pri Dunaji v rézii Matice slovenskej a miestnych samospráv. Na pietnej spomienke 92. výročia smrti M. R. Štefánika pri jeho múzeu a Mohyle v Ivanke pri Dunaji sa zúčastnili predovšetkým žiaci zo základných škôl, ktoré nesú Štefánikovo meno. Účastníci pochôdzky prijali vyhlásenie, ktoré okrem zdôraznenia dejinného slovenského i európskeho významu osobnosti M. R. Štefánika adresuje povzbudenie slovenskej reprezentácii na prebiehajúcich majstrovstvách sveta v ľadovom hokeji.

## Krátke správy zo Slovenska

• Na jarnom 66. medzinárodnom zasadnutí Európskeho parlamentu pre mladých, ktoré sa konalo začiatkom apríla v gréckych Aténach, sa zúčastnili aj slovenskí delegáti. Traja slovenskí študenti sa na rokovaní stretli s rovesníkmi z takmer 30 krajín Európy. Výsledky práce zaznamenané v rezolúciách na plenárnom zasadnutí mládežníckeho parlamentu predstavujú vynikajúci výsledok slovenských delegátov. Ich národné riešenia sa podarilo pretaviť do celoeurópskeho kontextu. Pre Slovensko bolo jarné zasadnutie (European Youth Parliament- EYP) v Aténach prvou medzinárodnou konferenciou EYP po tom, ako bolo prijaté do organizácie v marci tohto roka.

• **Priemerná** výška starobného dôchodku predstavovala na Slovensku v marci tohto roka 359.59 eura. V porovnaní s predchádzajúcim mesiacom mierne vzrástla, konkrétne o 30 centov. Informuje o tom Sociálna poisťovňa (SP) na svojej internetovej stránke. Najviac dôchodcov, a to vyše 950,000, poberá starobný dôchodok. Ten dosahuje druhú najvyššiu priemernú sumu z dôchodkových dávok. Najvyššia je predčasná starobná dávka, konkrétne 364.12 eura. S viac ako 321 eurami nasleduje na treťom mieste invalidný dôchodok. Celkovo vypláca SP dávky pre takmer 1.3 milióna dôchodcov. Časť z nich poukazuje aj do cudziny. Ich počet z mesiaca na mesiac mierne rastie, v marci tohto roka ich odoslala 14,761. Celkovo vyplatila SP v prvom mesiaci roka 1.60 milióna dávok, čo je viac ako počet dôchodcov, keďže jeden dôchodca môže poberať naraz viacero dávok.

• **Siemens** a Volkswagen ocenili mladých slovenských inovátorov. Hlavnú cenu súťaže Siemens Young Generation Award (SYGA) získal projekt pneumatickej triedičky Michala Bratha a Martina Strapka, študentov Strednej priemyselnej školy v Nitre. Ich projekt sa zaoberá riadením manipulátora, ktorý sa v automobilovom priemysle vyskytuje veľmi často. Súťaž vyhlasuje každoročne spoločnosť Siemens a je určená žiakom stredných odborných škôl a učilišť s elektrotechnickým zameraním. Tohtoročná súťaž bola orientovaná na automobilový priemysel. Ústrednou témou tohto ročníka bola úspora energie pomocou automatizačných prostriedkov v automobilovom priemysle. Do ôsmeho ročníka súťaže SYGA sa zapojilo celkovo 14 škôl s 27 projektmi. Do finálového kola postúpilo 10 najlepších projektov, z ktorých výberová komisia zložená zo zástupcov ministerstva školstva a odborníkov zo spoločností Siemens a Volkswagen Slovakia určila víťazov.

• **Viac** ako desaťtisíc fanúšikov navštívilo zatiaľ stránku [www.ms2011.info](http://www.ms2011.info), ktorú zriadila bratislavská samospráva, aby priblížila návštevníkom Bratislavy prípravu a priebeh svetového hokejového šampionátu. Stránka spája informácie od organizačného výboru Bratislavy a Košíc, ktoré sú od 29. apríla dejiskom majstrovstiev. Dôležitú informáciu o Majstrovstvách sveta 2011 sú publikované nielen v slovenskom či anglickom, ale aj nemeckom a ruskom jazyku. Najčastejšie navštevovanou sekciovou je sekcia Doprava, kde sú praktické informácie týkajúce sa organizácie statickej i dynamickej dopravy v okolí Zimného štadióna Ondreja Nepelu, ale taktiež lokalizácia štyroch mestských záchranných parkovísk pre osobné autá i autobusy. Stránka šampionátu okrem základných textových, obrázkových informácií ponúka Virtuálneho sprievodu bratislavským zimným štadiónom alebo Turistického sprievodu hlavným mestom SR. Návštevníci stránky môžu bez prekážok zavítať do Siene slávy, ktorá pripomína najvýraznejšie osobnosti slovenského ľadového hokeja, akými boli napríklad Stan Mikita, Ladislav Troják, Ján Starší, Vladimír Dzurilla či Dušan Pašek.

• **Pupočniková** krv zo Slovenska putuje do USA za 61-ročným pacientom trpiacim akútnou leukémiou, pri ktorej je narušená krvotvorba v kostnej dreni. Lekári hľadali vhodnú jednotku pupočnikovej krvi prostredníctvom medzinárodnej databázy BMDW združujúcej 44 národných registrov pupočnikovej krvi v 26 krajinách. Databáza okrem 15 miliónov darcov kostnej drene obsahuje aj takmer 500,000 jednotiek pupočnikovej krvi. Ochorenia, pri ktorých dochádza k zlyhaniu tvorby krvi, si vyžadujú transplantáciu krvotvorných buniek. „Slovenská pupočniková krv je najkvalitnejšou na svete. Preto v prípadoch, keď je použitie pupočnikovej krvi jedinou možnou formou liečby pacienta, často sa vhodná jednotka nájde práve v našej verejnej banke. Sme radi, že touto formou môžeme pomáhať pacientom na celom svete,“ uviedol zakladateľ registra a predseda správnej rady Eurocord-Slovakia Zohdy Hamid.

• **Goralská** koliba v hornooravskej obci Mútne sa stala koncom apríla dejiskom ojedinelého stretnutia rezbárov. Spoločnou témou piatich ľudových umelcov z hostiteľského oravského regiónu, po jednom z Liptova a Poľska boli vytváranie sakrálnych drevených plastík. „Už sme organizovali viacero obdobných podujatí, no toto je prvý pokus zameraný výsostne na sakrálnu rezbársku tvorbu. Všetci oslovení rezbári prejavili podľa neho bez akéhokoľvek prehovárania veľký záujem o účasť. „Lipovému a jaseňovému drevu nevtlačali iba klasickú podobu apoštolov. Vo svojich dielach chceli predovšetkým zdôrazniť duchovný rozmer bežného života dedinského obyvateľstva,“ vysvetlil a ako príklad spomenul výjav prežehnávajúcej sa ženy.

• **V nedeľu 8. mája** sa v Šaštíne, v národnej Bazilike Sedembolestnej Panny Márie, uskutočnila po prvý raz Púť mamičiek v pozhnanom stave. „Nepozývali však len samotné mamičky, ale i tiež ich manželov a všetkých, ktorí považujú ľudský život za dar od počatia,“ prezradil správca farnosti salezián Jozef Zachar. Program začal svätou omšou o 10:30, pokračoval svedectvom, debatou, rozhovormi. Mamičky mohli na pútnickom mieste, ktorému prináleží aj prívlastok „miesto rodiny“, prosili za dar ukrytý pod srdcom. Púť sa uskutočnila blízko sviatku sv. Dominika Sávia, ktorý je patrónom tehotenstiev.

• **V rámci prípravy** na slávenie 1150. výročia príchodu svätých Cyrila a Metoda na Veľkú Moravu, po slovenských diecézach putujú relikvie sv. Cyrila. Je to jedinečná príležitosť poznávať životy našich vierozvestov. Tomuto cieľu má slúžiť aj nová životopisná kniha „Svätí Cyril a Metod“, ktorá vyšla vo vydavateľstve Dobrá kniha v Trnave. Jej autor, páter Michal Lacko SJ, v publikácii na podklade neľahkých historických udalostí vykresľuje obdivuhodnú misiu solúnskych bratov u našich predkov. Poznávajme dejiny a príbehy našich predkov a našich vierozvestov, aby ich odkaz, posolstvo, dedičstvo boli pre nás prínosom a hodnotou aj dnes.

• **Stewardky** vo vlakoch, kyvadlová doprava z videnských letísk na Slovensko a špeciálny 19-dňový celosieťový cestovný lístok prichystala Železničná spoločnosť Slovensko (ZZSK) pre svojich pasažierov v súvislosti s hokejovým šampionátom. Na každé IC nasadia železnice jednu stewardku, ktorá sa bude venovať prednostne cestujúcim v 1. triede. V prípade, že ich obslužia, tak bude k dispozícii aj v 2. triede. Stewardky, ktorých je šesť, si železnice zatiaľ externe najímajú, mesačne ich služba stojí necelých 10,000 eur. Železnice sa chcú na videnskom Schwechate zamerať na fanúšikov a ponúknuť im hneď cestovný lístok až do Košíc. Vo Schwechate budú mať železnice pripravený prezentačno-predajný stánok spolu so Slovenskou agentúrou pre cestovný ruch. Cestujúci budú na Slovensko dovezení kyvadlovou dopravou.

TASR a slovenské časopisy

## Majstrovstvá sveta v hokeji 2011 na Slovensku

„Medaily pripomínajú písmeno S a majú nevyčísliteľnú hodnotu“

Bratislava (TASR) - Predstavitelia organizačného výboru majstrovstiev sveta v hokeji 2011 IIHF, desať dní pred začiatkom šampionátu predstavili medaily pre tri najlepšie tímy turnaja. Hlavným motívom sú dva výrezy v ploche v tvare hokejok na kruhovom priemere, vďaka čomu je celkový tvar prednej časti štylizovaný v tvare písmena S - Slovensko.

Autorom dizajnu cenných kovov je Martin Zlejší a vyrázila ich Mincovňa Kremnica. „Mojím zadaním bolo vytvoriť originálnu a zaujímavú medailu, na ktorej bude prevládať hokejová idea, teda to, čo všetkých na šampionáte spája, než dominantné národné motívy,“ vysvetlil art director reklamnej agentúry Wiktor Leo Brunett Bratislava. „Inšpiroval som sa vlastne olympijskými medailami, ktoré disponujú rôznymi tvarmi, úpravami povrchov a zaujímavými prístupmi. Samozrejme, olympiády majú oveľa väčšie rozpočty ako šampionát IIHF, ale napriek tomu sa nám podarilo urobiť veľmi zaujímavú medailu,“ pokračoval.

Medaily vážia približne 220 gramov, ich priemer je 70 mm, šírka stuhu je 30 mm. Jednotlivé medaily sa od seba odlišujú hmotnosťou a pri ich výrobe bola použitá technológia s podielom ručného opracovania, opílovania, leštenia a patinovania. Zvláštnosťou je aj spôsob upnutia stuhu, ktorá vychádza z hrany medaily, takže nemá žiadny spínací prvok a nenaruša vizuálny dojem. Na stuhe je na bielom podklade vyobrazená slovenská trikolóra a na jej povrchu sú umiestnené moaré úpravou vytvorené vzory pripomínajúce vodotlač. Originálnou charakteristikou je aj povrch, ktorý je celý poškrábaný ako hokejové klzisko. Logo Medzinárodnej hokejovej federácie (IIHF), hokejista v popredí s víťazným gestom a písmená sú vystúpené, vysokoleštené a bez rýh. „Sú netradičné tvarom, teda výsekom, povrchom a upnutím stuhu na samotnú medailu. Pre mňa to bola prestížna záležitosť a som veľmi rád, že som na tom mohol pracovať. Samozrejme to bola veľká výzva a verím, že sa budú páčiť, či už verejnosti, tak aj samotným hokejistom,“ povedal autor cenných kovov.

On April 19, 2011, the organizational committee of the IIHF World Championship presented in Bratislava's Winter Stadium the gold, silver and bronze medals to be awarded at the Hockey World Championship to be played in Slovakia. The games will run from April 29 to May 15.



FOTO TASR - Pavel Neubauer

Organizačný výbor predstavil 19. apríla 2011 na Zimnom štadióne Ondreja Nepelu v Bratislave kolekciu medailí - zlatú (uprostred), striebornú (vľavo) a bronzovú (vpravo) pre tri najlepšie tímy 75. majstrovstiev sveta v ľadovom hokeji, ktoré sa konajú na Slovensku. Takmer 220 gramové medaily sú zdobené pravým zlatom a striebrom. Ich priemer je 70 mm. Majstrovstvá sveta v hokeji sa začali v piatok 29. apríla a potrvajú do 15. mája 2011.

## Počas šampionátu v hokeji spustili propagačný film o Slovensku

Film má divákov vtiahnuť do pulzujúceho centra hlavného mesta Bratislavy a metropoly východu Košíc.

BRATISLAVA - (TASR) Počas hokejového šampionátu spustila Slovenská agentúra pre cestovný ruch (SACR) premiérové vysielanie nového propagačného filmu o Slovensku. Bude sa vysielat' na obrazovkách hokejovej kocky počas prestávok v bratislavskej a košickej aréne. Film má divákov vtiahnuť do pulzujúceho centra hlavného mesta Bratislavy a metropoly východu Košíc.

„Hokejovým fanúšikom ukážeme Slovensko z pohľadu naozaj atraktívnej turistickej destinácie, ktorá ponúka možnosti aktívnej dovolenky aj relaxu v jedinečnom prostredí slovenskej prírody a podmanivých miest,“ komentoval generálny riaditeľ SACR Peter Belinský.

„Vo filme nebudú chýbať zábery na relax v kúpeľoch Rajčej Teplice, na golfový areál na Táľoch či adrenalínový rafting na Liptove. Krásy slovenskej prírody sa dynamicky striedajú s pohľadmi na históriu dýchajúce hrady a zámky,“ priblížila manažérka pre komunikáciu a PR aktivity SACR Zuzana Nemcová.

Hokejoví fanúšikovia uvidia snímku aj vo fanzónach a voľne prístupný je tiež na webstránke [www.sacr.sk](http://www.sacr.sk), [www.slovakia.travel](http://www.slovakia.travel) a na facebookovom a youtube kanáli Slovenskej agentúry pre cestovný ruch.

## Rozpoznateľnosť značky „Slovensko“ je pomerne nízka

Bratislava (TASR) - Slovensko ako značka je stále pomerne nízko rozpoznateľná. Dôvodom je podľa marketingovej stratégie Slovenskej agentúry pre cestovný ruch (SACR) zmena pozície krajiny v európskom meradle, teda rozpad východného bloku, osamostatnenie či prechod riadenia štátu od totalitného na demokratický.

„Primárnym dôvodom rozpoznateľnosti značky Slovensko je aj dlhodobá absencia systémovej a jednotnej prezentácie krajiny,“ konštatuje rezort dopravy v materiáli. Dodáva, že pre cestovný ruch je rozpoznateľná značka jedným z kľúčov ovplyvňujúcich rozhodovanie pri výbere cieľovej destinácie a konkurencieschopnosti krajiny.

Proces budovania značky „Slovensko“ by mal byť tak koordinovaný so všetkými významnými subjektmi. Ide o rezort zahraničných vecí cez jeho diplomatické zastúpenia v cudzine či ministerstvo hospodárstva prostredníctvom presadzovania proinvestičnej a proexportnej politiky. Významnú úlohu má zohrávať aj rezort kultúry šírením kultúrnych hodnôt v zahraničí.

Iba jednotná komunikácia prinesie podľa vypracovanej stratégie vytváranie žiadaných asociácií k značke krajiny. „Z hľadiska jednotnej koordinácie tvorby a komunikácie značky Slovensko prostredníctvom rôznych ministerstiev a inštitúcií bude pre SACR nevyhnutné v najbližšom období iniciovať vytvorenie pracovnej skupiny pozostávajúcej z relevantných subjektov aktívne využívajúcich značku Slovensko,“ podotýka rezort.



FOTO TASR - Michal Svítok

Beatifikácia Jána Pavla II. na Námestí svätého Petra vo Vatikáne 1. mája 2011. Na snímke portrét Jána Pavla II. a pápež Benedikt XVI.

## Zo spomienok kardinála Jozefa Tomka na pápeža Jána Pavla II.

Vatikánsky denník L'Osservatore Romano v uplynulých dňoch priniesol vo svojej anglickej verzii rozhovor s kardinálom Jozefom Tomkom o Jánovi Pavlovi II., pri príležitosti slávnostného obradu jeho blahorečenia. Kardinál v ňom spomína na prvé stretnutie s vtedajším mladým arcibiskupom Krakova v októbri 1969, keď prišiel do Ríma. Už vtedy vnímal Wojtylovu „jednoduchú, pokojnú nenútenosť, sprevádzanú hlbokým zmyslom pre osobnú pokoru a biskupskú jednotu“. Bol to práve Ján Pavol II., z ktorého rúk kardinál Tomko v roku 1979 prijal biskupskú vysviacku. Uskutočnila sa v Sixtínskej kaplnke 15. septembra 1979, na slávnosť Sedembolestnej Panny Márie, patrónky Slovenska. Svätý Otec predniesol homíliu v slovenčine. „Nikdy nezabudnem na jeho vkladanie rúk, zdalo sa, akoby tým pápež vtisol pečať Ducha do mojej duše“, vyznáva slovenský kardinál. Po vysviacke Ján Pavol II. pozdravil veriacich a vyjadril túžbu navštíviť Vysoké Tatry. „Pre Slovensko a pre tamojšiu umlčanú Cirkev to znamenalo nesmiernu povzbudenie nádeje, ktoré bol on, majster v čítaní znamení čias a používaní prorockých gest, schopný vstúpiť aj v najtemnejších okamihoch prenasledovania“, uvádza kardinál v rozhovore pre L'Osservatore Romano.

Článok ďalej píše o menovaní kardinála Tomka za prefekta Kongregácie pre evanjelizáciu národov v apríli 1985. Ako priznáva, noc po oznámení menovania nemohol spať, uvedomujúc si nesmierny rozmer svojho budúceho poslania a zodpovednosť, ktorá sa k nemu viaže, čo bolo začiatkom 16 rokov plodnej spolupráce s „prvým misionárom“ Cirkvi. Na otázku, čo sa od Jána Pavla v tomto období naučil, kardinál Tomko reaguje: „Predovšetkým, naučil som sa obracať sa na Spasiteľovo Srdce so svojimi starosťami, aby som zmiernil váhu mojej zodpovednosti, pamätajúc pred krížom na to, že Cirkev je jeho pred všetkým ostatným. Každé dva-tri týždne ma prijal na audienciu, zvyčajne večer, a ja som odchádzal unavený, pretože to bolo také intenzívne, no zároveň pokojné a povzbudzujúce. Pamätám si, že jeho tajomník Mons. Stanislaw Dziwisz často diskretno pootvoril dvere, aby naznačil, že večera je pripravená, ale pápež ďalej trpezlivo hovoril, kládol otázky, dával návrhy, ponúkal informácie a robil rozhodnutia“.

Pokračovanie na str. 22

## Prezident SR Ivan Gašparovič na blahorečení pápeža Jána Pavla II.

Bratislava (TASR) - Prezident SR Ivan Gašparovič odcestoval v nedeľu 1. mája na jednodňovú pracovnú návštevu do Vatikánu, kde sa zúčastnil na slávnostnom obrade blahorečenia zosnulého pápeža Jána Pavla II..

„Účasť hlavy štátu na slávnostnej beatifikácii je prejavom najvyššej úcty štátu a slovenského národa voči osobe Jána Pavla II., ktorý počas svojho pontifikátu uskutočnil tri pastoračné cesty na Slovensko – v roku 1990, 1995 a 2003,“ informoval prezidentov hovorca Marek Trubač. SR tým zároveň vyšle signál, že má záujem pokračovať v prehlbovaní vzájomných vzťahov s najvyšším štatutárom katolíckej cirkvi - Svätou stolicou.

Po skončení eucharistickej slávnosti blahorečenia Jána Pavla II. na Námestí sv. Petra sa prezident Gašparovič s delegáciou presunul do Baziliky sv. Petra, kde vzdal úctu ostatkom Jána Pavla II. a krátko sa stretol s pápežom Benediktom XVI..

Na pôde veľvyslanectva SR pri Svätej stolici sa prezident a členovia delegácie stretli na záver návštevy s emeritným prefektom Kongregácie pre evanjelizáciu národov kardinálom Jozefom Tomkom, sekretárom Kongregácie pre východné cirkvi arcibiskupom Cyrilom Vasilom a ďalšími slovenskými krajanmi, ktorí pôsobia ako profesori na pápežských univerzitách v Ríme.



FOTO: TK KBS/Aižbeta Kováčiková

Svätá omša Svätien olejov v katedrále sv. Emeráma v Nitre, na Slovensku, dňa 21. apríla 2011.

Mass of the Holy Chrism in the Cathedral of St. Emmeram in Nitra, Slovakia in 2011.