

FOR GOD AND NATION - ZA BOHA A NÁROD

Catholic Fraternal Bi -Weekly



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Fr. Stephen Furdek
Our Founder

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NUMBER 5852



HAPPY THANKSGIVING 2011

Message From The President

It is unbelievable how the time goes by. Most of us have heard this statement or said it ourselves.

Thanksgiving 2011; it seems like only yesterday that we were looking forward to the year 2000 with worries about the "new millennium" and all its concerns. 2000 is history and the world is still with us. 2012 is on the near horizon.

The First Catholic Slovak Union is financially stronger at Thanksgiving 2011 than 2010. However, we still have membership concerns (as the Society has had since its membership peak in 1965). We are in the process of addressing this issue while at the same time respecting our Recommenders, our Society, our heritage, and of course you, our members.

We thank the Lord for all our Blessings. I wish you and your loved ones a Blessed and Happy Thanksgiving.

Fraternally,
Andrew M. Rajec
National President



Andrew M. Rajec



Hey, kids:
Christmas Coloring
Contest inside this issue.
See pp 6 - 7



Inside

Editorial/Commentary	2
Top Guns.....	4
Coloring Contest.....	6 - 7
Branch/District Announcements ..	14,15
Slovak	21 - 24



Thanksgiving Wishes



On behalf of myself, my family, and the Home Office staff, the very best wishes to all of our members for a happy and safe Thanksgiving holiday.

Kenneth A. Arendt,
National Executive Secretary



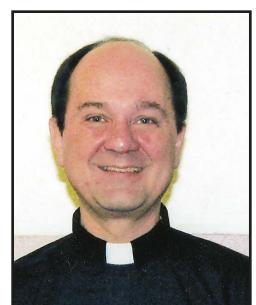
Thanksgiving Message from Our Chaplain

Dear Friends,

People who study the Gospels will point out that the manner in which a particular evangelist arranges his gospel will convey the different theological messages he wants to get across. The Gospel of Mark offers a perfect example. Mark writes in chapter 8 that Jesus cured a person from blindness. Two chapters later, Mark has Jesus restoring the sight of a second person.

Between these two stories, Mark has Jesus predicting his suffering, death and resurrection three separate times. After each prediction, the disciples give every indication they do not comprehend the message of their Teacher. Mark cleverly arranges his gospel to show the disciples were blind to the identity of Jesus and the true meaning of discipleship.

We commemorate two observances during the month of November, one at the beginning of the month and the other at the end. The universal church sets aside the second day of the month for us to remember our beloved dead, to pray for the souls in purgatory, and ask God to have mercy on them and bring them to the fullness of life in the kingdom of heaven. Our nation designates the fourth Thursday of the month Thanksgiving Day for us to give special praise and thanks to God for His abundance of blessings.



Rev. Thomas Nasta

continued on page 3

Insights and Viewpoints



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

November 20, 2011
Feast of Christ the King
Matthew 25:31-46

Gospel Summary

Today's selection from the gospel of Matthew is very appropriate for the feast of Christ the King because it portrays Christ as a king who presides over the scene of final judgment. The sheep, being economically more valuable than goats, represent those who have been found worthy of final victory and reward.

The central point of the story concerns the criterion that will be used for determining who will be judged worthy and who will be rejected. We are told that the decisive factor in rendering judgment will be an account of how well we have cared for the less fortunate people among us. They are listed twice in the gospel story so that there can be no doubt about their identity: they are the hungry, the thirsty, strangers, the naked, the sick and prisoners. These are, of course, only examples of a more general category of the powerless and needy ones.

The gospel then gives us the surprising information that Jesus has chosen to identify himself with these powerless ones, so that our attitude toward them will reveal how we really feel about Jesus also. In some respects we can say that the Bible is too big for its own good. There are so many words in it that we feel obliged to be selective, and being selective can often mean passing over passages that should never be ignored. This story of the final judgment is certainly one of those indispensable passages.

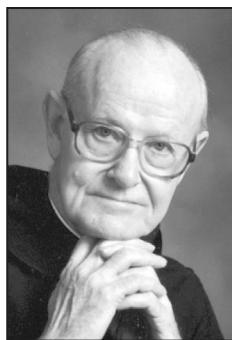
Life Implications

We need always to ask ourselves about our concern for the needy people mentioned in this parable. However, the primary emphasis should be placed on the unselfish love that ought to animate us and which will reach out to all who are more in bondage than ourselves. This may very well include many rich and powerful people who are desperately in need of love and peace and hope.

The whole process of salvation can be reduced to an initial cry for help, followed by an experience of God's liberating love (mediated often through good people and the beauty of creation), from which comes a sense of confidence and freedom. Then we are asked to convert our freedom (such as it is) into love and concern for others, so that they too may become free and confident. All this is summed up in the words of the First Letter of John: "Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another" (4:11).

Some of the neediest among us are those who are living in the bondage of low self-esteem. This kind of bondage often hides behind a facade of feigned self-sufficiency or even joviality. The loving, sensitive person will know how to penetrate such defenses and to bring a degree of freedom to such unhappy ones. I have often thought that perhaps the only question that will be asked of us at the last judgment will be taken from the story of the Exodus: Did you let my people go? Our strong inclination is to hoard our precious freedom and to use it only to protect ourselves against the needs of others.

The thought of a final judgment is often a source of fear and anxiety. However, it will be a wonderful experience for all those who have helped to free others from the bondage of paralyzing fear and guilt and low self-esteem. In this way, they will have become one with Jesus, who came into our world for that very purpose.

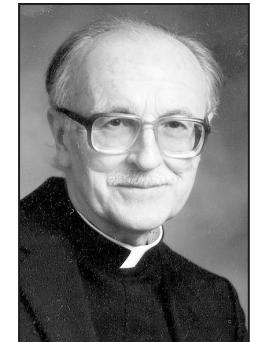


Demetrios R. Dumm
O.S.B.

November 27, 2011
First Sunday of Advent
Mark 13: 33-37

Gospel Summary

In this gospel passage Jesus illustrates the mystery of his future, final coming in power and glory with a simple parable. He says to his disciples: "Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come." He compares his final coming to a man traveling abroad who had placed his servants in charge of his house. The servants must do the work assigned to them, and the gatekeeper must be on constant watch awaiting the return of the master of the house. The parable, with its accompanying admonition to work and watch for the Lord's final advent, completes chapter 13 of Mark's gospel -- Jesus' last teaching before his passion.



Campion P. Gavaler,
O.S.B.

Life Implications

The First Sunday of Advent marks the beginning of a new church year: the liturgical actualization for us of the saving events of Christ's life, death and resurrection. The gospel passage proclaims the essential truth that will be celebrated in all its dimensions throughout the year -- namely, the "advent" truth that God has come in the person of Jesus Christ, and that the same Lord, now invisibly present through the Spirit, will come again in power and glory.

This Sunday's homily might serve as an overture, anticipating some of the life implications of the Lord's coming which will be celebrated on the Sundays and holy days of the coming year. Here are a few of the major themes.

In the first reading from the prophet Isaiah, we hear that the exiles have returned from Babylon to find their homeland devastated and the holy temple destroyed. We can remember the prophet's prayerful plea and make it our own at those times when our life-situation appears hopeless, and God seems far away: "Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down" (Is 63:19).

Paul, in the second reading from his First Letter to the Corinthians, presents a life implication that can also be a constant throughout the coming year. Paul assures us that the heavens have been rent, and God has come among us. Jesus, the Risen Lord, is now truly "God with us." Because of this grace, we are able to stand firm with the Lord's strength as we await his final revelation in glory. And as we wait, despite difficulties and suffering, we thank God always for the gifts of the Spirit that we have received.

Because the Church gives us the gospel in the context of the celebration of the liturgy, we are reminded that throughout the year the Lord comes, not only to proclaim the word, but also comes to give himself to us as friend and life-giving savior. It is in the context of the liturgy of the Last Supper that Jesus says to his disciples: "I have called you friends" (Jn 15:15).

The First Sunday of Advent is also a good moment to hear a major theme of the liturgical drama -- every human being, particularly a person in need, is a sign or sacrament of the Lord's coming. In fact, as Jesus tells us in the parable of his final Advent, our treatment of even the least of his brothers or sisters will be the essential criterion of judgment (Mt 25: 30-46).

Finally, there is the beautiful Advent theme of the sacrament of the present moment. Each moment, each event of our life is a sign of the Lord's coming. Whatever the moment, we can say in faith: It is the Lord. And it is the Lord who awaits our response of love and gratitude.

"The one who gives this testimony says, 'Yes, I am coming soon!' Amen! Come, Lord Jesus" (Rev 22:20).

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
WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 23
WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 7
WEDNESDAY JANUARY 4

Copy Date
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28
TUESDAY DECEMBER 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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Teresa Ivanec, Editor; fcsulifeeditor@gmail.com
First Catholic Slovak Union, Attention "JEDNOTA"
6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence, OH 44131-2398
FAX: 216-642-4310

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TERESA IVANEC, Editor; fcsulifeeditor@gmail.com

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St. Mathias Celebrates Štedrý Večer Dec 11 in Youngstown, OH



It will soon be time to celebrate one of our most beloved Slovak traditions, Štedrý Večer, or Vilja...the traditional Christmas Eve dinner. The family would gather for a special meal before going to celebrate midnight Mass. This dinner is filled with tradition and memories of our Slovak heritage. In eastern Slovakia it is a meatless meal but by no means a meager one. The American Slovak Cultural Association of the Mahoning Valley will be hosting their annual Christmas Vilija Dinner at 4:00 pm on December 11, 2011. It will be held at the Father Snock Hall of St. Matthias Church at 2800 Shady Run Road in Youngstown, OH.

This traditional Christmas Eve dinner has been being held for nearly 30 years at St. Matthias Parish. It was put on by the parish members for a number of years and is now sponsored by the ASCA.

The dinner will have all of the traditional Slovak menu items: the oplatky with honey, bobalý with poppyseed, mushroom soup or mačanka, baked fish and peas and potato pirohy. There will also be kolač for dessert and the traditional apples which were cut open to reveal the fortune of the coming year. Wine or coffee will be served with the dinner, but Slovak beer will be available for purchase along with domestic beer and soda.

His Excellency, George Murry, Bishop of the Diocese of Youngstown will be attending. The authors of Slovaks of the Greater Mahoning Valley will also be there and their book will be available. There will be music provided by the John Lapinsky band.

All are welcome to join us for an evening of good food, good music, warmth and friendship as we remember our Slovak heritage during this holiday season.

The cost for the evening is \$20/person and seats are reserved as payment is received. The program begins at 4:00pm and should be finished by approximately 8:00pm. Tickets may be obtained by sending a check made out to ASCA for \$20/ticket to:

Ron Garchar
6917 Slippery Rock Dr.
Canfield OH 44406

For further information, you can call Loretta Ekonik at (330) 549-3760, or email her at loretta.ekoniak@gmail.com

Veselé Vianoce!

Merry Christmas

Sts Cyril and Methodius

Annual Slovak Bazaar

5255 Thornwood Dr Mississauga

Held on Sunday

November 29 , 2011

The Fun starts at
10:00 am until 2:00pm !

In the Church Hall

Halupky, Jaternica,
Baking, Noodles,
Knedle, Pirohy,
Slanina and more



Raffle • Kids Corner!

27th Christmas Concert & Dinner at Yonkers, NY Parish on Dec.11

Continuing in a time-honored and beloved tradition spanning more than a quarter of a century, Most Holy Trinity Parish in Yonkers, N.Y. will host its 27th annual Christmas concert and dinner on Sunday, December 11.

The concert, which will be presented in the church located at 18 Trinity Plaza, off Walnut Street in the historic Hollow section of Yonkers, begins at 3:30 p.m. will be under the direction of Stephen J. Knoblock, veteran Music Minister of the parish and a member of FCSU Branch 41. The concert will feature an array of seasonal works presented by the choir of the parish. The voices of the choir, one of the finest in the Archdiocese of New York, will be accompanied by a 12-piece orchestra.

Following the concert, a buffet supper will be served in the parish social hall. The dinner begins with the sharing of the traditional Oplatky - Christmas wafers and honey. The menu will include some traditional Slovak culinary specialties, including pirohy, halusky and kolbasy and kapusta. A cash bar will be available. Tickets for the concert and dinner are \$35.00 per person with children ages 12 and younger \$17.50. Tickets for the concert alone are \$10.00. For reservations, call the rectory at (914)963-0720. Tickets will be available following the weekend liturgies in church.

Father George Onnoonny, pastor of the parish, extends a cordial invitation to area Jednota members to join the parish on December 11 for an enjoyable afternoon and evening of seasonal merriment and dinner fare.



Thanksgiving Message from Our Chaplain

continued from page 1

Is there a connection between All Souls Day and Thanksgiving Day? I believe there is. It is the gift of life God has given to all humanity. In remembering the faithful departed we thank God that they were part of our lives while they were with us on earth. By thanking God for every blessing we have received, we recall that our beloved dead and everything, including ourselves, come from God and are destined for God.

God has blessed us with an abundance of His goodness. In whichever way you plan to celebrate Thanksgiving Day, remember to spend part of the day in prayer to God, offering your gratitude for the gift of life He has given you, your family and your friends.

Happy Thanksgiving.

Sincerely,

Fr. Thomas A. Nasta
National Chaplain



FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

FCSU LIFE ANNUITY & IRA INTEREST RATES EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 1, 2011

Eight Year Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity or IRA	3.75% APY
Six Year Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity or IRA's with the "Cash Interest" Option	3.50% APY
New six-year fixed rate Deferred Annuity or IRA	3.25% APY
New "Park 2 Annuity"	3.25% APY
New Park Free Plus Annuity or IRA—1st yr guarantee (new Park Free Plus maximum deposit \$25,000.00 PER PERSON)	2.50% APY
New Settlement Options are based on an interest rate of	2.15% APY
	3.00% APY

If you have any questions about our annuities or IRA's, Please contact your local branch officer or the Home Office at 1-800-533-6682

Email: fcsu@aol.com

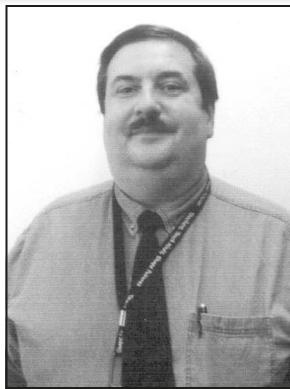
Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary

The Best of the Best!

Top Guns Thru August 2011



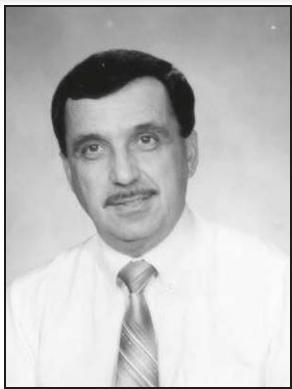
Dorothy J. Petrus
First Place



Michael J. Slovenkai
Second Place



Michael E. Lako
Third Place



Cluey Sandy
First Place



Robert J. Kopco
Second Place



Rose A. Froncek
Third Place

TOP PROPOSERS BY AMOUNT OF INSURANCE SOLD

Name	Branch	Insurance Amount
Petrus, Dorothy J.	670	320,000
Slovenkai, Michael J.	382	200,000
Lako, Michael E.	2	195,000
Balazik, Audrey J.	367	165,000
Froncek, Rose A.	401	160,000
Rura, Joseph Edward	484	130,000
Matta, Florence K.	38	125,000
Marmol, Dolores	162	95,000
Rimarcik, Joseph C.	743	90,000
Tarquinio, Frances	20	80,000

Name	Branch	Total Points
Sandy, Cluey	322	486
Kopco, Robert J.	24	392
Froncek, Rose A.	401	352
Lako, Michael E.	2	296
Scavina, Joseph T.	682	241
Jurcenko, John A.	153	226
Rajec, Andrew M.	89	221
Petrus, Dorothy J.	670	161
Kelchak, George J.	581	151
Zakovic, Maria	45	127



Cluey Sandy
First Place



Robert J. Kopco
Second Place



Joseph T. Scavina
Third Place

TOP PROPOSERS BY AMOUNT OF ANNUITIES/IRA SOLD

Name	Branch	Annuities
Sandy, Cluey	322	486,614.65
Kopco, Robert J.	24	394,631.06
Scavina, Joseph T.	682	242,089.57
Rajec, Andrew M.	89	221,422.29
Jurcenko, John A.	153	216,500.00
Zakovic, Maria	45	127,322.30
Swartz, Douglas J.	228	110,000.00
Nowatkoski, Katherine	856	100,000.00
Harcar, Andrew R.	40	99,441.17
Roman, Stephen A.	157	96,097.51



Check out the redesigned
FCSU website @ www.fcsu.com.

Same great resource –
now with a great new look!

Let us know what you think.
We want to hear from you.

Christmas Sales at Slovak Institute



Oplatki sales and traditional Slovak and English Christmas cards – as well as various Slovak and English books – are for sale.

Orders will be accepted until December 17, 2011.

The following is a list of available items, with prices:

- Oplatki – 3/pk - \$1.00
- Slovak or English Christmas Cards – 10 cards with envelopes - \$10.00
- To Canada – Christmas Cards – 10 cards with envelopes - \$12.00
- Large map of Slovakia (black & white) - \$10.00
- Large Slovak Flag - \$20.00
- Small Slovak Flag - \$4.00

Please add an additional \$4.00 for shipping and handling.

For additional information, you may contact Andrew F. Hudak, Jr., at the Slovak Institute, 10510 Buckeye Road, Cleveland, OH, 44101. Telephone: 216-721-5300, ext. 294.

FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY ~ HOLIDAY HOURS

The Home Office and Jednota Estates Office will be closed on the following days during the holidays:



Thanksgiving Holidays
November 24 & 25, 2011



In observance of
Christmas Eve and Christmas Day
December 23 & 26, 2011



In observance of
New Years Day
January 2, 2011





The Šarišan Slovak Folk Ensemble celebrates its 40th Anniversary in 2011

Šarišan Slovak Folk Ensemble of Michigan Celebrates 40 Years

2011 marks the 40th anniversary of the Šarišan Slovak Folk Ensemble of Sterling Heights, Michigan. The ensemble was founded in 1971 by director, Milan Straka, and continues to proudly promote Slovak folklore today.

The ensemble celebrated this 40 year milestone at a Harvest Dinner Dance on Saturday, October 8 at Ss. Cyril and Methodius Slovak Catholic Church in Sterling Heights. Nearly 300 people were in attendance, including former group members who returned to recognize the anniversary.

Both the senior and junior ensembles performed, followed by a brief recognition ceremony for Milan Straka and his wife Eleanor in honor of their commitment and dedication to the group over the past 40 years. The couple was presented with a proclamation from the Slovak Embassy, a proclamation from the mayor of the city of Sterling Heights, a Certificate of Recognition from the governor of Michigan, and a plaque and gift from the current group members, all in congratulations of 40 years of success.

For more information about the Šarišan Slovak Folk Ensemble, visit their website at www.sarisanusa.com or contact Milan Straka at mstraka@twmi.rr.com or at 248-478-3818. Milan is also a member of Branch 743.



(L - R) Front row:
Art Fayta, Secretary
Branch 706; Robert
Magruder, Secretary
Branch 493; back
row: Ed Uram, Vice-
President Branch 706
; Rudy Bernath Region
7 Director; Father
Jaminicky; John
Jurcenko, President
of District 2.

Annual Midwest Slovak Pastoral Seminar

The Annual Midwest Slovak Pastoral Seminar, under the auspices of the Slovak Catholic Federation, took place October 2, 2011 in Chicago, IL. Father Jaminicky, with the Archdiocese of Chicago, presented "A Journey of a Slovak-American Priest". He grew up in a home where the parents spoke Slovak, but did not teach their son Slovak. Father Jaminicky was the chaplain for O'Hare Field in Chicago and later became Pastor of St. Raphael the Archangel in Antioch, IL.

Father Jaminicky is building a new church in the area, utilizing parts of nearby closed Catholic churches, including stones, church bells, pews, and an old but very impressive organ. They look forward to completion of their new church in about three years.

- Submitted by Rudy Bernath, Region 7 Director

Upcoming Events at American Slovak Club in Lorain, OH

The United Slovak Societies is comprised of members of many of the leading Slovak organizations in Northeastern Ohio, including the First Catholic Slovak Union (FCSU) Branch 228; the Slovak Catholic Society (SCS), wreath 111 and assembly 77; the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association (FCSLA), Branch 114; the National Slovak Society (NSS), Branch 160; and the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union, LPSCU, Branch 77.

The United Slovak Societies – together with the American Slovak Club in Lorain, OH – are proud to announce two upcoming events for the remainder of 2011.

Sunday November 20, 2011

Fall Harvest Polka • 3-7p.m.

Music by Ralph the Accordion Man & the Party Band
Slovak Kitchen, Cash Bar, door prizes and Surprises

\$5.00 donation at the door....And if you can...

bring a non-perishable food item and help us collect for a local food bank.

Sunday December 11, 2011

United Slovak Societies Vilija Dinner • Cocktails 5:30 p.m., Dinner 6:00p.m.

Menu includes ASC Ladies Auxiliary Perch with homemade sauerkraut soup, pierohi, bobalki, oplatky, wine toast and more.

Slovak Entertainment.

Advanced ticket sales, \$20.00 per person
Contact Len Zilko at 440/988-3236

- Submitted by Michele Mager, Branch 228



FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2011
7:30pm at Quicken Loans Arena

Features:

- \$1 Dogs & Sodas – Presented by FS Ohio and Pepsi
- Free Post Game Skate (must provide own skates)
- Mustache Sticker Giveaway
- \$3 Discount off game day value for Lúčina Family & Friends!



Complete order form below and return with payment
to Mary Montani by November 9th! Questions call Mary at 216-849-7553
Lúčina Slovak Folklore Ensemble
P.O. Box 6431
Cleveland, OH 44101-6431



Complete the order form below and return with payment to Mary Montani by November 9th.
Please make all checks payable to: Lake Erie Monsters

IF PLACING ORDER AFTER NOV. 9, CALL JESSICA at 216-420-2402

All group members and spectators must have a game ticket.

\$15 TICKETS (\$18 game day value)	TOTAL: \$
TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED	

CONTACT INFORMATION (Please fill out completely)
NAME _____ CITY _____ ST _____ ZIP _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ ST _____ ZIP _____

EMAIL (REQUIRED - Seats cannot be issued without valid email address) _____

PAYMENT INFORMATION (Please select one)
 CHECKS PAYABLE TO LAKE ERIE MONSTERS

PLEASE CHARGE VISA MASTERCARD AMERICAN EXPRESS DISCOVER

CARD# _____ EXP. DATE _____ SIG. _____

METHOD OF DELIVERY:
ALL SEATS WILL BE DELIVERED VIA FLASH SEATS - Just swipe the credit card used to make the purchase at any arena gate to enter with ease and convenience. Flash Seats eliminates paper tickets and prevents lost or stolen tickets. It's really fast and easy!

FLASH SEATS
Flash Seats is the primary method of delivery for seating at Quicken Loans Arena events.
www.flashseats.com

All orders are subject to availability.
No ticket required for children under the age of two. Video cameras are not allowed in Quicken Loans Arena.
Orders must be placed online, by mail, fax, or phone. Offer and discounts not available at arena box office. No refunds or exchanges.

Jessica Naderer W: 216-420-2402 E: jnaderer@lakeeriemonsters.com

Hilton Garden Inn Cleveland Downtown | LakeErieMonsters.com | [Twitter.com/MonstersHockey](http://twitter.com/MonstersHockey) | Facebook.com/LakeErieMonsters

R eminder...

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

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

FCSU 2011 Christmas Coloring Contest

THE ADORATION OF THE WISE MEN

Saw you never in the twilight,
When the sun had left the skies,
Up in heaven the clear stars shining,
Through the gloom like silver eyes?
So of old the wise men watching,
Saw a little stranger star,
And they knew the King was given,
And they follow'd it from far.

Heard you never of the story,
How they cross'd the desert wild,
Journey'd on by plain and mountain,
Till they found the Holy Child?
How they open'd all their treasure,
Kneeling to that Infant King,
Gave the gold and fragrant incense,
Gave the myrrh in offering?

Know ye not that lowly Baby
Was the bright and morning star,
He who came to light the Gentiles,
And the darken'd isles afar?
And we too may seek his cradle,
There our heart's best treasures bring,
Love, and Faith, and true devotion,
For our Saviour, God, and King.

-- CECIL FRANCES ALEXANDER

B



A



C



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!
Veselé Vianoce a Šťastný Nový Rok!

RULES

1. Each age group is assigned a certain picture:
4 – 6 year olds – picture C
7 – 9 year olds – picture B
10 – 12 year olds – picture A
2. Enlarged reproductions of picture A, B, or C will be disqualified.
3. Pictures are allowed to be reproduced for families with more than one child in a particular age group.
4. Children MUST be members in good standing of the FCSU in order to be eligible for prizes.
5. Your child's completed entry form, colored picture, and a photo of your child must be postmarked by **December 31, 2011**.
6. Mail to:
Susan Ondrejco
Fraternal Activities Director
234 Ilion St.
Pittsburgh, PA 15207

**LIGHT ONE CANDLE**

Tony Rossi, Radio host/producer for The Christophers

The Catholic Side of Dean Koontz

Describing Dean Koontz as a popular author of suspense novels is an understatement. His books have been published in 38 languages and sold more than 400 million copies worldwide. But what I discovered when I read his book Brother Odd a few years ago was that you can enjoy a Koontz story strictly for its engaging writing, characters and plot. But if you read the same story through a spiritual lens, you'll be able to appreciate it on an even deeper level.

One of the main reasons for that is the fact that the author converted to the Catholic faith many years ago. During an interview with me on Christopher Closeup, Koontz explained, "By the time I was going to college, I was looking for a different path from where I had been...I [became] engaged by the intellectual rigor that lies behind the Catholic Church. A lot of people will possibly laugh at that, but if you know St. Thomas Aquinas and some of the other famous writers of the Church—or laymen who wrote brilliantly from a Catholic perspective like G.K. Chesterton—then you understand what I'm talking about."

Koontz's study of Catholic history also taught him that, contrary to the modern assertion that religion and science are enemies, the opposite is true. He said, "Through various times in the Catholic Church, various sciences were founded and encouraged. There is no distance between [faith and science] except for what people try to make for political reasons."

Koontz often integrates a Catholic worldview into his stories, though it's done in subtle ways in which the reader might not even notice. This is especially true when it comes to issues dealing with the sanctity of life. Koontz's interest in these issues developed because he and his wife, Gerda, have long worked with a charity for people with disabilities called Canine Companions for Independence. The organization trains service dogs for people who are paraplegic or quadriplegic so they can live on their own. The animals also have a great effect on autistic children.

After working around the disabled, Koontz became troubled at the world's view of them. He explained, "I saw that a lot of these [disabled] people were shunted aside. There are also a lot of people who think they shouldn't be given medical care. People like Peter Singer think a disabled child should be allowed to die or should not be given antibiotics because they have nothing to contribute to the world. He's an idiot...I've never found one [disabled person] who whined or complained like average people do. I've never found one who wasn't grateful for every good thing that comes their way. And I haven't found one that wasn't an inspiration to people. If you can inspire other people by your own courage, you've had a valuable and important life. That's why I wish people would stop thinking that you have to be the perfect physical specimen in order to be worthy of living. That is far from the truth."

Koontz believes that addressing these issues in story form can be an effective means of getting the point across without doing any actual preaching. He concludes, "You disarm people with a story, you charm them with humor, and then you let them think about these other issues. For me, it's a wonderful method by which to promulgate at least the thought of these things, to make people wonder if they're really right to think these things."

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How Slovakia's Government Fell over the Euro

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

After only 16 months in office, the government headed by Iveta Radičová took a fatal tumble on October 12, 2011. Slovakia's right-center coalition government fell after the Slovak parliament failed to pass changes related to subsidizing Greece through the European bailout mechanism, the European Financial Stability Facility (EFSF). Only 55 of the 150 parliament members voted for approving new powers for the 440 billion euro European financial stability fund. Having put her job on the line over the vote, Radičová had to acknowledge a vote of no-confidence in her government.

The news of little Slovakia not voting for an EFSF solution to the Greek debt crisis flashed across world financial headlines for several days. Websites from Yahoo Finance to leading newspapers such as the New York Times, the Wall Street Journal, and the Financial Times featured stories on the vagaries of Slovak politics holding up an EU agreement. A Christian Science Monitor article featured the headline "The mouse that roared: How tiny Slovakia could prolong Europe's massive debt crisis," a reference to the 1955 satirical Cold War novel by Leonard Wibberly, which was made into a 1959 film starring Peter Sellers. All other eurozone states had already approved the EFSF package and were waiting for an affirmation from Slovakia, a country of 5.5 million people, whose GDP comprises only 0.5 percent of the EU's economy. Slovakia ranks as the second poorest state in the eurozone.

In 2009, Slovakia joined the 17 member eurozone. All states in this economic and monetary union have adopted the euro (€) as their only form of legal tender and common currency. A European Central Bank controls monetary policy with the agreement of member states' finance ministers in a body called the Euro Group. After the financial crisis rocked world financial markets in 2008, the eurozone created conditions which have granted emergency loans to members which are in dire economic straits, such as Greece. The gigantic scope of the Greek bailout necessitated some coordination of member states' fiscal policies and budgets. For this reason, the eurozone needed to have a consensus from member states in order to renegotiate the terms of Greece's debt. Without a solution to its economic crisis, Greece would be forced to leave not only the eurozone, but also the EU, which would call into question the strength of euro and the EU itself. With an EU summit scheduled for late October to decide on a package of solutions to stabilize the Greek situation, a Slovak affirmative vote loomed crucial.

Prime Minister Radičová could not convince one of her four coalition partners, the Freedom and Solidarity Party (Sloboda a Solidarita -SaS), to vote with all other EU states, which had already approved the reorganization of loans owed to banks. Led by its cavalier free market head and the speaker of the parliament, Richard Sulík, the SaS uncompromisingly opposed bailing out Greece, where pensioners collect three times what Slovak retirees are paid. Sulík argued that on principle, he could not vote for the measure, calling the European Stability Mechanism the "road to socialism". His party members followed suit in the Slovak parliament. He had told delegates that "I'd rather be a pariah in Brussels than have to feel ashamed before my children, who would be deeper in debt should I back raising the volume of funding in the EFSF bail-out mechanism."

On the other end of political spectrum, Radičová had repeatedly stated that Slovakia must back the EFSF agreement because it was so important to EU solidarity and the integrity of the Euro currency. In the end, she was willing to risk her job as Prime Minister and her political career.

Ironically, Radičová had started her term in office by standing firm in refusing to back an 817 million Euro bailout of Greece in the summer 2010. She had tried to accommodate her coalition partner, Sulík's SaS Party, and the 70 percent of Slovak citizens who had opposed contributing to the Greek piggybank.

When I had questioned Radičová about the bailout issue at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars on November 10, 2010, she asserted that she had "no problem" when consulting with EU officials about her move. What she insisted on was the construc-



Richard Sulík, the leader of the Freedom and Solidarity Party whose failure to back the Radičová government led to its demise.

tion of safeguards so that such irresponsible spending would not recur. Apparently, by October 2011, she believed the EFSF had put those conditions in place.

During late September 2011, Radičová attempted to reach a compromise with Sulík's party, but she could not alter the wording of the eurozone amendment allowing for the bailout. She met with Jozef Kollár, the chairman of the parliamentary caucus of SaS, but proved unable to iron out a deal. Sulík insisted that he would not vote for any alterations to the bailout schemes unless the prime minister could come up with a solution that "would not cost Slovak taxpayers a single cent." Slovakia was being obligated to contribute 7.7 billion euros (\$10.5 billion) to prop up the fund which would benefit other wealthier EU states.

In the end, SaS boss Richard Sulík stuck to his guns and abstained from voting for the eurozone changes which would not exempt Slovakia from the obligation to contribute to the fund. On October 11, the other three parties in the coalition voted for the measure – Radičová's Slovak Democratic and Christian Union (SDKÚ), the Christian Democratic Movement (KDH) and Most-Híd, the moderate Hungarian party.

The leader of the biggest opposition party, former Prime Minister Robert Fico of Smer-SD (Direction-Social Democracy), lay in waiting to seize the political opportunity presented. He had earlier predicted that the Radičová-led coalition would last no longer than a year, and it barely exceeded that. Fico instructed his faithful to abstain from voting, even though he supported the EFSF agreement. Exploiting the inability of the coalition to reach a consensus, Fico pledged that his party would vote for the changes only if the entire coalition backed them. Otherwise, he would back the EFSF amendment when the government resigned and called for early elections.

In the end, Radičová did obtain the backing of Smer in a new vote on the amendment just two days later. Parliament approved the agreement with a vote of 114 to 30, with three abstentions. In doing so, Slovakia pledged to offer debt guarantees of about \$10 billion of the approximately \$590 billion total.

While financial markets and other European leaders greeted the news of Slovakia's ratifying the accord with great relief, Radičová became the "Fall Gal" in the ordeal. When she asked Sulík and all other Freedom and Solidarity Party members to resign their portfolios and leave the cabinet, her coalition crumbled.

In the meantime, Slovakia still needed a government to carry out administrative tasks. By the constitution, the President, Ivan Gašparovič, appeared unsure as to whether to permit Radičová to retain her position in a caretaker government until the March election or to appoint a new government. Finally, on October 20, Gašparovič agreed to a solution that would leave the current cabinet in power until new elections in March 2012. The move required changing the constitution, but Fico readily agreed to ratify such a change. The parliament readily passed the changes a few days later, and Radičová went on to represent Slovakia at the EU summit in Brussels.

In a bit of an ironical twist, Slovakia will not after all have to contribute to the increase in the bailout funds for Greece. When eurozone members met in Brussels on October 26-27, they decided to exempt Slovakia from its financial contribution. Thus Sulík got his wish. But just maybe this was a way of thanking Radičová for her unwavering support in the face of adversity, and rewarding Slovakia.

After her trip to Brussels, Radičová announced that she was leaving her SDKÚ party after a party congress to be held following the March elections. She also stated that she would not run for election and had no plans to found a party of her own, despite some speculation that she might make a future run for office when the next round of presidential elections occurs in 2014.

With Radičová out of the picture, former prime minister and SDKÚ party leader Mikuláš Dzurinda and Finance Minister Ivan Mikloš stand to benefit. Dzurinda was often the power behind the scenes and both men often posed roadblocks for her in the past. Only a potential scandal kept Dzurinda in the background in 2010, but now the road is open for new political



Radičová leaving Slovak Democratic and Christian Union (SDKÚ) office.

continued on page 9

How Slovakia's Government Fell over the Euro

continued from page 8

deals to put together a new coalition after the 2012 parliamentary elections. Some observers have even speculated about a "grand coalition" of Smer-SD and the SDKU. Making that hodgepodge a political reality will require some political wheeling and dealing.

In an interview with the Slovak daily Sme just a week after her coalition fell, Radičová affirmed that she had chosen the right course of action. She said, "It was my duty to focus all my energy and skills on improving the image of Slovakia and strengthening faith in our trustworthiness." She added that even if the vote had passed, conflicts would emerge over other issues because of fundamental disagreements over policy and the personality of Sulík. The whole affair placed a heavy toll on her shoulders. She noted that "After my final speech, the SaS applauded me and then brought down the government. That's the reality. If it was up to me, I would have cried... But I cannot afford that. The world doesn't like tears. So the expression on my face was a fight against tears. Whether I succeeded or not."

In many ways, the fall of Radičová reminds one of Woodrow Wilson, the preeminent academic president and statesman who tirelessly worked to construct a League of Nations after World War I, only to come home and have the Senate refused to ratify the Versailles Peace Treaty over concerns about the US losing its sovereignty. Like Wilson the Progressive reformer, the scholar Radičová endeavored to stem corruption, ensure transparency, significantly reduce the budget deficit, and secure for Slovakia a place of respect among fellow EU members. She possessed high ideals and pursued them with zest and vigor. For the short time she served in office, just a little over 15 months, her accomplishments may continue to live long after her government has fallen. If nothing else, she will long be remembered as the first female to serve as prime minister in the history of Slovakia.

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Radičová gives her goodbye to Dzurinda and the SDKÚ.

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Sir Zdeno Chára and Rice Pudding

By Stephan Reistetter

When Zdeno Chára arrived in the American historic city of Boston in 2006, he was awarded the title of Captain (of the Boston Bruins). Over the next five years he worked hard as leader of the team and in 2011, the team succeeded in storming Vancouver and recovering the Stanley Cup. When the 34 year old defenseman brought the spoils of war (Lord Stanley's Cup) home to the Slovak historic city of Trenčín, Slovakia, he was rewarded with the title of "Sir".

The Knighting of Chára took place in Trenčín Castle, overlooking the Trenčín region and the majestic Vah river. A parade was held in Trenčín Square where according to NHL.com's Paul Vinciguerra, around 5,000 people were in attendance. Parties were held, autographs were signed and photos were taken with the proud captain the Cup. Later, the new knight was presented with a statue of himself that will be auctioned off to benefit local children's hospitals. But no statue, including this one, could capture the essence of one so great. Although the statue was adorned with a Boston Bruin jersey sporting the number 33, it was right handed and not up to Zdeno's life size. (Zdeno shoots left handed and has the hardest slapshot in the NHL and perhaps the world).

While in Slovakia, (the trophy is becoming a frequent visitor), the Stanley Cup has been used to serve up traditional Slovak dishes such as tripe soup, halušky, pirohy, plum balls (Slivkové Gule). Sir Chára was not about to break with a tradition that dates back all the way to 2003 (the cup's first visit to Slovak soil) and served up Ryžový Nákyp from the cup. Ryžový Nákyp is a Slovak from of rice pudding.



Zdeno Chára (far left), with Bruin teammates, one Columbus Day, on the USS Doyle

When asked how it tasted, Sir Chára replied, "It tasted great like it always does...grrreat! It is a light food, made with a good grade of rice, and full of fruit. I really like it, and since it is rather low in calories, I eat it throughout the (hockey) season, sometimes before a game, sometimes after the game."

Given the political situation in Slovakia, and Chára's leadership abilities and quiet charisma and acts of charity, perhaps the next title awarded him should be that of "King".

This was the Stanley Cup's sixth visit to Slovakia. Slovak hockey fans are already anticipating and wondering what lucky town in Slovakia will welcome the Stanley Cup next year, and more importantly, what culinary delicacy will fill its bowl.

The list below gives the year and place of visit and the name of the bearer with his Stanley Cup Championship team.

- 2003 Košice - Jiří Bicek/New Jersey
- 2004 Liptovský - Mikuláš Martin Cibák/Tampa Bay
- 2008 Ilava - Tomáš Kopecký/Detroit
- 2009 Topoľčany - Miroslav Šatan/Pittsburgh
- 2010 Ilava - Tomáš Kopecký & Marián Hossa/Chicago
- 2011 Trenčín – Zdeno Chára/Boston Bruins

Recipe Fit for a Knight

When Zdeno Chára, captain of the Stanley Cup Winners Boston Bruins, brought Hockey's Holy Grail to Slovakia, he was knighted at Trenčín Castle for his achievement. Later, following what is now a Slovak Tradition related to the Stanley Cup, he served up a favorite culinary delicacy from the hallowed hockey vessel.

Tomas Kopecky of Detroit served up Tripe Soup (Držková Polievka) in 2008 and in 2009 Miroslav Šatan offered Plum Balls (Slivkové Gule) from Lord Stanley's bowl. This year, the freshly minted knight, Sir Zdeno Chára, took great delight in filling the bowl with Ryžový Nákyp, a form of Slovak Pudding sometimes called "Koch". It is a healthy, practical dish that can be eaten at any time of day; it can form the main course of a meal, or just serve as dessert.

Ingredients:

- 500 ml (2 cups) rice
- 1 litre (1 quart) milk
- A "pinch" of salt
- 300 ml (1 ¼ cups) butter
- 200 ml (3/4 cup) of "superfine" sugar
- Grated lemon rind
- 4 egg yolks
- Raisins
- Whites from 4 eggs

Directions:

- In a saucepan, bring milk slowly to a boil
- Wash rice and place in the saucepan with slowly boiling milk
- Cook until all milk is absorbed
- Let rice mixture cool
- Mix butter, sugar yolks until creamy
- Add lemon rind and salt to taste
- Beat egg whites
- Mix cooked rice into creamed butter, add raisins and fold in egg whites
- Put the mixture into a casserole dish greased with butter and sprinkled with bread-crumbs (if desired)
- Bake for approximately 40 minutes in oven 160 – 180 Centigrade (320 – 355 F)

Author's comments: You can use vanilla essence instead of lemon rind, if you prefer. The Noble Sir Chára likes to put a layer of sliced apples or some other fruit in the middle of the mixture before baking. If you don't have any superfine sugar on hand, you can make your own by grinding granulated sugar for a couple of minutes in a food processor - this also produces sugar dust, so let it settle for a few moments before opening the food processor.

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—Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)



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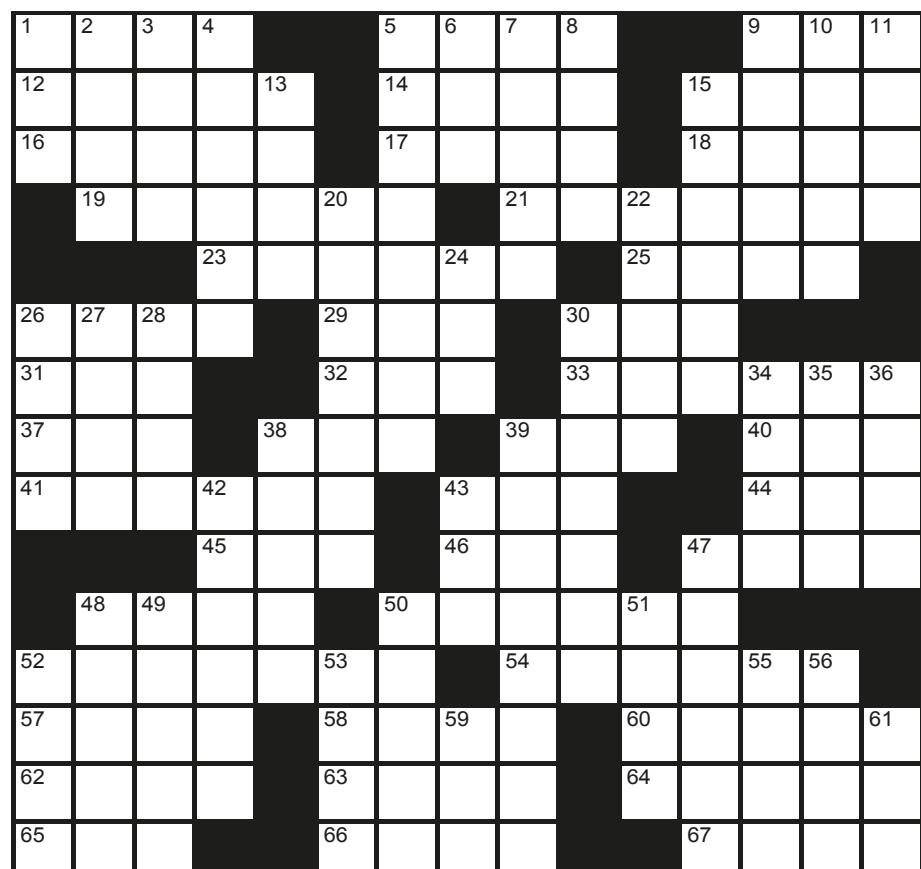
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Across

- 1 Snowdrift
- 5 Currency
- 9 Holiday resort
- 12 Utopian
- 14 Film's Preminger
- 15 Ammo holder
- 16 Diacritical mark
- 17 Swamp grass
- 18 Ancestry
- 19 Business leader
- 21 Facets
- 23 Critter
- 25 Boats
- 26 Wood file
- 29 Guided
- 30 Energy unit
- 31 Away
- 32 Tobacco measure
- 33 Natural spring
- 37 Wrath
- 38 Elec. unit
- 39 Burbot
- 40 Mineral
- 41 Legitimate
- 43 Rodent
- 44 Cover
- 45 Feverish
- 46 Hockey name
- 47 Roman date
- 48 Colliery
- 50 Numberless
- 52 Goddess of wisdom
- 54 Emetic
- 57 Choppers
- 58 Solo
- 60 Muster
- 62 Retained
- 63 Croon
- 64 Mountain nymph
- 65 Morsel

- 66 Comfort
67 Bears' lairs

Down

- 42 Best
- 43 Singer Orbison
- 47 License, for one (Comb. wd.)
- 48 Blender
- 49 Clumsy
- 50 Opera's Callas
- 51 Flight (Pref.)
- 52 Mackerel shark
- 53 Flower holder
- 55 Toward shelter
- 56 Tribe
- 59 Elected officials
- 61 Length measurements (Abbr.)



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- ★ The “Park 2 Annuity” can be converted to any of the FCSU Annuity Plans at any time.
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- ★ 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

See Solution on Page 19

Some Thoughts on Thanksgiving and Slovaks

- An excerpt from Allan Stevo on his original post "St. Martin and the Geese – St. Martin's Day Celebrations" on 52 Weeks in Slovakia (52insk.com)

It's often said among Slovaks that they have no holiday like the American Thanksgiving with our roasted bird and family gatherings. Our strange sweet potatoes are regularly pointed out in Slovak conversation about this American holiday. Sweet potatoes seem like a great sacrilege in Slovakia, where cultural cuisine tends to be built around the potato and people are generally not fond of overly sweet foods. Most often this is pointed out by those who've never tasted a sweet potato. But, the mere image of a potato that is sweet seems to indicate that there is something wrong with that American culture and their unusual Thanksgiving celebration.

And if all that sweetness from the potatoes was not enough, Americans also make a sweet and spicy "squash cake" as one might translate "pumpkin pie." Everyone enjoys that odd dessert before they retire to the living room to watch something strange on television. Our barbaric games of "rugby" (as American football is often referred to in Slovakia) shown on TV with that strange ball that the entire family gath-

ers around to watch is a sport that – I am told time and again – could not possibly become popular in Slovakia, let alone be multigenerational and worthy of gathering the family around.

And in some ways it's true. Slovaks don't have a holiday quite like Thanksgiving. They have many harvest celebrations.

At the same time, they don't really need family events in the same way that our busy culture does. They have a different appreciation for family.

Appreciation for family

Despite living in Bratislava, despite growing up in Bratislava, despite having parents who grew up in Bratislava, it's not unusual for a person to have very close family contacts in a village in Slovakia. For those who were raised in a village, but now live in Bratislava, going back to the village for the weekend most weekends is not uncommon.

The standing room only (every seat taken and every inch of hallway occupied) trains testify to the weekend migration of Slovaks back home, for no other reason than "it's the weekend." These aren't trips home for their parents' anniversary, or grandma's 70th birthday celebration, these are trips home that really take place for no other reason that "it's the weekend."

Being among immediate and extended

family during the weekend is so common that I constantly hear about it when I ask about weekend plans. Family members play a significant role in the weekend plans of many – a trip to see grandma, a trip to see mom and dad, a visit with a godfather or godmother, or maybe an aunt and uncle are visiting from the village.

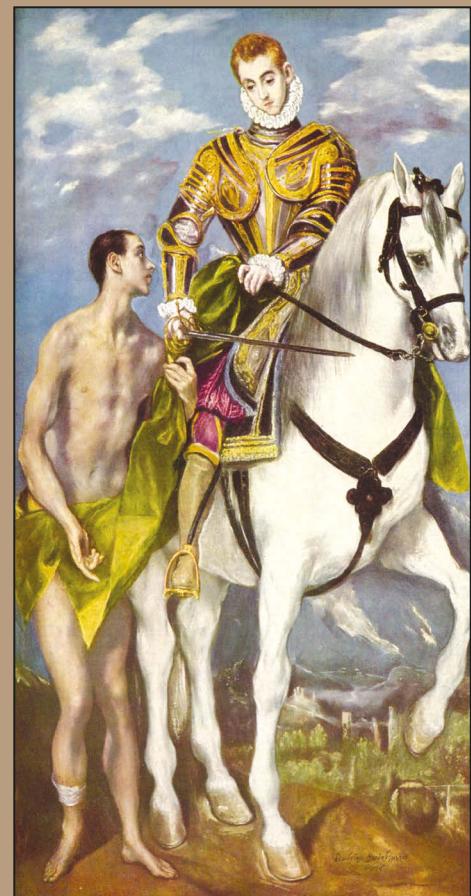
Slovaks have familial networks that are virtually impossible for me to understand. Everyone has many levels of relatives and everyone seems to remembers all their relatives, even those many generations removed, as if there were some type of charting software in the mind of every Slovak. But I have no memory for such things. It's a talent that apparently left my family bloodline due to a lack of training.

For me, Thanksgiving has always been an important time for family. Slovaks don't seem to need an excuse to get together with family.

In terms of family or friends sitting down to a celebratory harvest feast with a big bird at the center – the "husacie hody" or "goose feast" that takes place on and around St. Martin's day are it. These three or four hour feasts appear to have some similarities to Thanksgiving – the gathering, the feasting, the season, the time of the year, the feeling

of bounty and relaxation. This is the time of year when geese born in the spring naturally reach a mature size and weight and it simply makes sense that this would be the time of the year to eat a goose. It's a rich meal at a time when the geese have matured and are more plentifully available at market.

Who Was St. Martin?



The time on and around St. Martin's Day – November 11 – is celebrated by some Slovaks with a feast of roast goose, or "husacie hody." The day is a significant one throughout Europe and has a long history – going back hundreds of years, in celebration of St. Martin's life, a life that began near present-day Bratislava.

The man commemorated on this day was Martin of Tours. He was born in the Roman province of Pannonia in the city of Savaria, the capital of Pannonia Prima, about 100 miles south of present-day Bratislava, Slovakia. Savaria is the present-day town of Szombathely, Hungary.

His father being a Roman officer, it is not surprising that Martin was named "Martin" after Mars, the Roman god of war. His biographers tell us that at a young age he insisted on joining the still fledgling Christian church, against his parents' wishes. As the son of a Roman officer he followed his father's occupation, as was expected of him. A famous story surrounding St. Martin was that while serving in the Roman cavalry, he encountered a poor beggar who did not have enough clothing. Martin pulled out his sword and cut his own cloak in two, giving half of it to the beggar and leaving Martin only half of his cloak with which to continue on the cold day ahead. This took place before he'd reached the age of 18.

- From Allan Stevo's "St. Martin and the Geese – St. Martin's Day Celebrations" post on 52insk.com. Artwork: El Greco



"The First Thanksgiving at Plymouth" (1914) By Jennie A. Brownscombe

The Origins of Thanksgiving Day

In the United States, the modern Thanksgiving holiday tradition traces its origins to a 1621 celebration at Plymouth in present-day Massachusetts. There is also evidence for an earlier harvest celebration on the continent by Spanish explorers in Florida during 1565, as well as thanksgiving feasts in the Virginia Colony. The initial thanksgiving observance at Virginia in 1619 was prompted by the colonists' leaders on the anniversary of the settlement. The 1621 Plymouth feast and thanksgiving was prompted by

a good harvest. In later years, the tradition was continued by civil leaders such as Governor Bradford who planned a thanksgiving celebration and fast in 1623. While initially, the Plymouth colony did not have enough food to feed half of the 102 colonists, the Wampanoag Native Americans helped the Pilgrims by providing seeds and teaching them to fish. The practice of holding an annual harvest festival like this however, did not become a regular affair in New England until the late 1660s.

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DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISTRICT 3 – GEORGE ONDA DISTRICT – WESTMORELAND COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

The George Onda District will hold its annual Stedry Vecer on Sunday, December 4, 2011 at the Bishop Connare Center, Route 30 East, Greensburg, Pennsylvania. We will begin the evening with Mass at 4 P.M. in the chapel. Our traditional Slovak Christmas Eve Dinner (including pirohi) will follow in the festively decorated dining room. After dinner, door prizes will be awarded and the Pittsburgh Slovaks will entertain. Please help us preserve this beautiful custom by attending. Tickets are \$18 for adults and \$12 for children 16 and younger. Tickets are limited and must be reserved early by calling Darlene Patty at 724-537-7743 after 6 P.M. No reservations will be permitted after November 28. Extra seating will be available.

Linda L. Gonta, Secretary

DISTRICT 6 – PITTSBURGH DISTRICT

Local Branch 35 will host the annual meeting of the Pittsburgh District of the F.C.S.U. on Sunday, December 11, 2011. The meeting will begin promptly at 1:00 p.m. in the Holy Trinity Parish Hall, West Mifflin, PA. All branches are expected to send representatives. The Steelers don't play that Sunday so come and visit with your friends instead. The meeting will include officers' reports and discussion of F.C.S.U. national and district business. In particular, branch hosts for 2012 events will be selected. District officers for 2012 will be elected at this meeting.

Please note that all branches are asked to call: Janet Sullivan 412 824 4185, or Joseph Yuros, 412 271 2991 with the number of members attending. Please call by December 6.

Local Branch 35 will host the annual meeting of the Pittsburgh District of the F.C.S.U. on Sunday, December 11, 2011. The meeting will begin promptly at 1:00 p.m. in the Holy Trinity Parish Hall, West Mifflin, PA. All branches are expected to send representatives. The Steelers don't play that Sunday so come and visit with your friends instead. The meeting will include officers' reports and discussion of F.C.S.U. national and district business. In particular, branch hosts for 2012 events will be selected. District officers for 2012 will be elected at this meeting.

Please note that all branches are asked to call: Janet Sullivan 412 824 4185, or Joseph Yuros, 412 271 2991 with the number of members attending. Please call by November 27.

Branches are reminded that the dues for 2012 have been raised to \$10. The officers of the Pittsburgh District wish all members a happy and holy Holiday Season.

Fraternally,

Margaret A. Nasta, Secretary, Pittsburgh District

DISTRICT 12 – MSGR. ANDRE HLINKA DISTRICT

On Sunday, Dec 4, 2011, at 1:00 PM, a meeting of the Andre Hlinka District will be held at Kings Restaurant in Bentleyville, PA. On the agenda: election of officers. Members of the various branches are urged to attend.

Frances Tarquinio, Secretary

DISTRICT 14 - REV. JOSEPH L. KOSTIK DISTRICT

The Rev. Joseph L. Kostik District will hold its next meeting Tuesday Nov. 22, 6:00 PM, at St. Matthias Church Rectory. This meeting and all future meetings will continue to meet at 6:00 PM. On the agenda will be nominations and election of officers for year 2012. The agenda will include selection and time for Annual Christmas Party. All District Branch Members are urged to attend.

Carla Peshek, President

DISTRICT 19 - MONSIGNOR MICHAEL SHUBA DISTRICT

A joint meeting with Branch 785 is to be held on Sunday Dec 11, 2011 at 1:30pm at Sts Cyril's and Methodius Slovak Church Hall. Please contact Anne Mitro 905-279-8154, if you are attending the luncheon and meeting.

Anne Mitro, Secretary

DISTRICT 20 - PRINCE RASTISLAV DISTRICT - MONTREAL

The Prince Rastislav District will hold its annual meeting November, 27 2011, along with Branches 784 and 810. The meeting will be held in the Parish Hall of Sts. Cyril and Methodius following the 10.30 AM Mass.

Both branches are encouraged to send representatives. Election of officers and social calendar for 2012 will be discussed. Refreshments will be served.

Alexander S. Dobrik, President

Reminder For All Branches

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

14.01 General Rules

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

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

BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

BRANCH 1 – CLEVELAND, OHIO

The Saint Joseph Society Branch 1 will hold its next meeting on Tuesday December 20, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the Sts. Cyril & Methodius School Hall, 12608 Madison Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio. We will hold our elections at this time. It is also our Christmas party and all members are encouraged to attend. Members of our branch will be attending the annual Abbey Benefit on November 6, 2011 at the Church of the Assumption in Broadview Hts. Also members will be attending the Viliya that will be held on Sunday, December 4, 2011 at Benedictine High School cafeteria and will be sponsored by the Slovak Radio Club. If you have any questions or are interested in attending please call 216.228.8179.

Marie A. Golias, Secretary

BRANCH 2 – PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Michael the Archangel Society, Branch 2, will hold its Annual Meeting on Saturday, December 10, 2011, at 1 PM at Kretzler's Tavern, 2240 Babcock Blvd, Pittsburgh, PA. The election of officers for the new year will take place.

If you are planning to attend the meeting, call (412) 421-1204 or (412) 766-3222 to make a reservation. Hope to see many of you on December 10, 2011, at 1 PM at Kretzler's Tavern.

Anna Ondrejco, Treasurer

BRANCH 3P –

HAZLETON, PENNSYLVANIA

The 2011 annual meeting of Saint Joseph Society, Branch 003P, will be held at 9:15 am on Sunday December 11, 2011 in Saint Joseph's Church cafeteria at North Laurel Street in Hazleton, PA. Election of officers for 2012 will be conducted followed by a short update on local branch activities. New ideas for branch activities will be entertained and any changes of address or beneficiaries can be submitted at this meeting. All members are encouraged to attend and get involved.

Mike Koval, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 6 - STREATOR, ILLINOIS

The St. Stephen Society, Branch 06KJ, Annual Meeting and Election of Officers will take place on Sunday, December 11, 2011, at Chippers Grill, 1733 N. Bloomington Street, Streator, IL. The meeting will be held first with lunch and fraternal fellowship to follow. All members of Branch 06 are welcome to attend. If you plan to attend, please call Secretary Paul Chismar at 815-822-8851.

Paul Chismar, Secretary

BRANCH 7 –

HOUTZDALE, PENNSYLVANIA

The Sacred Heart of Jesus Society, Branch 7, will hold its next meeting on Sunday, December 11, 2011, at 9:00AM at Christ the King Parish Center, 100 Brisbin Street, Houtzdale, PA. Election of officers will take place. Members are urged to attend.

Marie Sedlak, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 10 –

OLYPHANT, PENNSYLVANIA

St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 10 K. J., First Catholic Slovak Union of Olyphant, Pennsylvania will hold its Annual Meeting, Audit and Election of Officers at 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 4, at the home of Recording Secretary William A. Nalevanko, 405 North River Street, Olyphant, Pennsylvania.

William A. Nalevanko,
Recording Secretary

BRANCH 19 –

BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 19, will hold its breakfast meeting on Sunday, November 13, 2011. A Mass will be offered by Msgr. Joseph Pekar for our members at 8:30AM in Sts. Cyril and Methodius Church, 79 Church Street, Bridgeport, CT.

Following the Mass, members are invited to return to the Rev. Matthew Jankola Hall in the lower level of the church for our regular meeting and breakfast. At this meeting, the John A. Za-

bor Scholarship will be awarded to the following college freshmen: Meghan Barry, Nora Elanhas, April Gulotti, Renee Lorys, Kenneth Novak, Leah Phillip, and Peter Salek. This scholarship was established in recognition of the many years John A. Zahor served as president of St. Joseph Society and of his commitment to the education of its members.

Also, the Andrew J. Imbro Grant will be given to the following college juniors for their college expenses: Marie Berarducci, Christopher Danielczuk, Matthew Lumas, Lydia Grace Monks, and Peter Nielson. This grant was established in honor of Andrew Imbro and his years as financial secretary of the St. Joseph Society and his commitment to its young members.

The annual meeting will be held on Sunday, December 11, 2011, at 9:30AM in Sts. Cyril and Methodius Church Hall, 79 Church Street, Bridgeport, CT. The election of officers will take place at this meeting. We cordially invite our members to attend these meetings and enjoy seeing their friends.

Henry Zack, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 23 - JOHNSTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Joseph Society, Branch 23 will hold a semi-annual meeting at Our Son's Family Restaurant, Broad Street, Johnstown.

The meeting will commence at 2:00 PM SHARP, Sunday, December 11, 2011.

All members are encouraged to attend since election of officers is on the agenda.

Sincerely

Lawrence Fenimore, President

BRANCH 24 – CLEVELAND, OHIO

On behalf of Branch 24, St Andrew Svorad Society, congratulations to our branch members Rev Anselm Zupka OSB, who is celebrating the 50th anniversary of his Profession of Vows and Rev Dismas Boeff OSB on the 30th anniversary of his Ordination.

We will be providing complimentary tickets to branch members only for the St Andrew Abbey Viliya Dinner on Sunday, December 4, 2011, at St. Andrew Abbey, 10510 Buckeye Rd., Cleveland. Mass is at 12:00 Noon with dinner to follow.

Reservations are required and available by calling Activities Director Susan Lang at 216/896-0957 after 6:00 PM. The deadline is Monday, November 21.

For non-members or to purchase additional tickets, call the Abbey at 216/721-5300 ext 0. For further details, see the announcement in this newspaper.

Veselé Vianoce a Šťastný Nový Rok!

Bob Kopco, President

BRANCH 35 –

BRADDOCK, PENNSYLVANIA

The annual meeting of Branch 35 will be held on Saturday, December 17, 2011, at 1:30PM. The meeting will be held at the residence of Joseph Yuros, 15 Sumner Avenue, Forest Hills, PA. Agenda items include election of officers and discussion of branch activities. All members are invited to attend.

Fraternally,

Janet M. Sullivan, Secretary

BRANCH 41 –

YONKERS, NEW YORK

The Holy Trinity Society, Branch 41KJ, will hold its Annual Meeting on Saturday, December 3, 2011, in the Rectory of Most Holy Trinity Church, 18 Trinity Plaza, Yonkers, NY, after the 5:00PM Mass. Financial reports will be discussed. Election of officers for Branch 41 KJ will take place. We urge all members to attend this meeting. Refreshments will be served.

Fraternally,

Robert J. Lutz, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 45 –

NEW YORK, NEW YORK

The St. Matthew the Evangelist Society, Branch 45, will hold its Annual Meeting on Sun-

continued on page 15

BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

continued from page 14

day, December 4, 2011 at 12:30 p.m. after the Slovak mass at St. John Nepomucene Church, 66th Street and First Avenue, New York City. On the agenda will be a financial report, officers' reports, a report on last year's activities, and a discussion on events for the upcoming year. The election of officers will also be chosen. We urge all members to attend this meeting.

Sincerely,

Maria Jurasi, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 60 –

WHITE OAK, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 60 will hold its annual meeting Sunday, November 20, 2011 at 1:00 p.m. at the home of President Ann Wargovich, 58 Lilmont Drive, Swissvale, PA. On the agenda will be election of officers. All members are urged to attend.

Fraternally,

Julie Perla, Secretary

BRANCH 75 -

SHAMOKIN, PENNSYLVANIA

The Assumption of the BVM Society, Branch 75, will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday, December 11, 2011. At 10:00AM at the residence of President and Financial Secretary Ronald M. Anderson, 8 South Shamokin Street, Shamokin, PA.

The fiscal end of the year reports and financial statements will be presented. The auditors' report will be submitted, and the nominations of officers for the coming year will take place. Any additional branch business will be entertained. All members are requested to attend this semi-annual meeting.

Ronald M. Anderson, President and Financial Secretary

BRANCH 85 –

BLAKELY, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Florian Society, Branch 85K, will hold a meeting on Tuesday, November 22, 2011, at 7:00PM at the Jessup American Legion Post, 411 Church Street, Jessup, PA, for the election of officers. Members are urged to attend.

Bernard Skivora, President

BRANCH 112 –

LANCASTER, PENNSYLVANIA

The annual meeting of Branch 112 will be on Sunday, December 4, 2011. The meeting to elect officers and discuss new business will be at 57 Hill Road, Pottsville, PA beginning at 1PM.

A Christmas social will follow the meeting. Please call for directions: 570-640-1796.

Happy Holidays to all of our JEDNOTA members.

Karen Engle Sterling

BRANCH 153 –

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

St. Stephen Branch 153 will hold its annual meeting on Saturday, December 3, 2011, at 11:00AM at the Jurcenko home at 7113 West Talcott Ave. A fraternal luncheon will follow at the restaurant.

May God grant eternal rest to members Joseph Ciliak and Irene Kubik who passed away recently.

Dorothy Jurecenko, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 169 –

JOHNSTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Michael's Society, Branch 169P, will hold its annual meeting on Monday, December 5, 2011, at 6:00PM at the Slivosky residence, 1510 Emmett Drive, Johnstown, PA. On the agenda will be branch business and election of officers.

Betty Slivosky, Secretary

BRANCH 173 –

WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA

The Saint John Baptist Society, Branch 173, located in the greater Wilkes-Barre – Wyoming Valley Area, will hold its annual meeting on December 11, 2011 at Norms, North Sherman Street, Wilkes-Barre, beginning at 12:30 pm.

General business and activities of Branch 173 will be discussed, and the insurance, annuities and fraternal activities of the First Catholic Slovak Union. Please make every effort to attend and notify Dorothy A. Ungvarskey at 570-403-2067 so arrangements can be made.

Fraternally,

Dorothy A. Ungvarskey, President

BRANCH 199 –

NORVELT, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 199, Hostetter, PA, will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, December 4th, 2011 at 1:00 PM at Chumps Restaurant, Main Street, Norvelt, PA. This meeting will be used for the election of officers. A good turnout is requested.

Barbara Patula, Secretary/Treasurer

BRANCH 200 –

FORD CITY, PENNSYLVANIA

The Sacred Heart of Jesus Society, Branch 200, holds regular meetings on the first Thursday of the month for the benefit of its members. All meetings start at 7:00PM and are located in the upstairs hall of the CU Club, 914 6th Avenue, Ford City, PA.

Regularly scheduled meeting dates through the rest of 2011 are as follows:

November 3, 2011, with a final annual meeting on Dec 1, 2011, during which time election of officers also will be held.

We encourage all members to come to our meetings. Let us hear your ideas and help us make our branch more productive.

Fraternally,

Vicki L. Schaub,
Financial Secretary/Treasurer

BRANCH 213 –

RENFREW, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Michael, Branch 213, will hold a semi-annual meeting on Sunday, December 4, 2011. It will be held at 3061 Kensington Court, Renfrew, PA, at 1:30 PM. We will have election of officers and discuss the upcoming district meeting, and other issues. All members are asked to attend.

Wishing everyone a Holy and Happy Thanksgiving and Christmas Season,

Joseph W. Belechak, Secretary

BRANCH 228 –

LORAIN, OHIO

The St. John the Baptist/Holy Trinity Lodge, Branch 228 of the First Catholic Slovak Union, will begin holding their monthly meetings again at the American Slovak Club on 30th and Broadway in Lorain, Ohio. Our meetings begin at 7 P.M. and are held on the 3rd Monday of each month except for the months of January, February, July and August when no meetings are held.

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

This is an opportune time to get into office and help manage our branch as well as become involved with the Slovak Club. Anyone interested in running for branch office and/or ASC board representative should contact the branch officers and attend the December 19, 2011 meeting. Visit the websites for the FCSU at fcsu.com and the Slovak Club at americanslovakclub.com for an update on current and future activities.

See you at the Club!

Thomas B. Zuffa,
Recording Secretary

BRANCH 259 –

STRUTHERS, OHIO

The St. Michael the Archangel Society, Branch 259, will have a Mass offered for all members, both living and deceased, on Sunday, December 11, 2011, at 8:00AM in Christ Our Savior – Holy Trinity Church, Struthers, OH. The Annual Meeting will be held after the liturgy at the Bedford trails Golf Course in Coitsville, OH. The election of officers will take place along with the discussion of plans for the coming year. All members are urged to attend.

Vivian Sedlacko,
Recording Secretary

BRANCH 260 –

CAMPBELL, OHIO

St. Matthews Branch 260 will have their annual meeting Sunday December 11, 2011, at Bedford Trails at 1:00PM. There will be election of officers plus other issues for the coming year. We hope to have a good turnout of members.

Charles M. Terek, President

your diploma is requested.

If you know a member who is not receiving Jednota - and would like to be informed on some special Slovak happenings - please have them call Rose Froncek at 724-478-3059. Or call the FCSU Home Office at 1-800-533-6682. The Jednota is free to all policy holders!

God bless you, and may you all enjoy Happy Holidays.

Šťastlive sviatky,

Patrick Froncek, President

ROSE FRONCEK, SECRETARY

BRANCH 410

UNIONTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The SS. Peter and Paul Society, Branch 410, will hold a meeting on Thursday, Dec. 1, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. at the Highland House, 92 West Main Street, Uniontown, PA. The agenda will include the election of officers for the year 2012.

All members are invited to attend.

Geri Buchheit, Recording/Financial Secretary

BRANCH 450 –

CLEVELAND, OHIO

St. Joseph the Guardian Society, Branch 450, will hold its next meeting at the home of Jozef Valencik on Thursday, November 17, 2011, at 7:00 pm. The address is 13501 Park Drive, Brook Park, OH. All members are encouraged to attend.

Margaret Valencik, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 484 -

CORAL, PENNSYLVANIA

The Annual Meeting of St. Joseph's Society, Branch 484, Coral, PA, will be held Sunday, December 11, 2011 at the home of President Rose Ann Rura, Power Plant Road, Coral, PA. The meeting will begin at 2:00 PM, all members are welcome. On the agenda will be financial reports and election of officers.

Joseph E. Rura, Financial Secretary

CORRECTION BRANCH 493 -

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Society, Branch 493 in Chicago, will hold its Annual Meeting and Election of Officers, with the branch Christmas Luncheon following, on Saturday, November 26th, 2011.

Location: Mabenka's Restaurant, 7844 South Cicero Avenue, Burbank, IL 60459.

At 1:30 pm, members will gather for a period of fraternal fellowship. The meeting will start at 2:00 pm, with a delicious dinner following.

If you plan to attend, please call the Financial Secretary Robert Tapak Magruder at (773) 505-0117 or (502) 244-6643 by November 22nd. Members of other FCSU lodges who attend will pay via separate check.

Robert Tapak Magruder,
Financial Secretary

BRANCH 553 –

AKRON, OHIO

St. John's the Baptist, Branch 553, will be holding lodge meetings in 2011 on the following dates at the Slovak J Club, 485 Morgan Avenue, Akron, Ohio 44311.

Save this date:

- Sunday, December 11, 2011 at 2:00PM (please note this is a time change from the previously published 1:00PM time)

Mark your calendars now so that you can hold the date and attend your lodge meeting. Your participation is what makes our society a success.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda M. Hanko,
Financial Secretary

BRANCH 567 –

ALLENTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, Branch 567 KJ will have their Annual meeting on Wednesday, December 14, 2011 at 1:00pm at 419 East Hamilton St., Allentown, PA.

The election of officers for the year 2012 will

continued on page 16

BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

continued from page 15

take place at this time.

The annual report will also be given at this time. We will also discuss plans for our upcoming fundraisers for the year 2012.

Thank you and Blessed Holidays to all!
Loretta Dashner,
Recording Secretary

BRANCH 581 -

GARY, INDIANA

The St. Michael the Archangel, Branch 581, of Gary, IN will hold its regular luncheon-meeting at 1 p.m. Sunday, December 11, at the Lake Park Restaurant, 7 East Old Ridge Rd., Hobart, In. The agenda will be -- Election of Officers, possible merger of Branch 762 to Branch 581 and discussion of upcoming play in Munster, IN. Please RSVP to Ann Buczak, 219-947-2793 or George Kelchak, 219-926-2410.

Ann Buczak, President

BRANCH 587 -

ALIQUIPPA, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 587, will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday, November 13, 2011, at 2:00PM at Alexander's Restaurant, 720 Merchant Street, Ambridge, PA. The election of officers will be held. All members are welcome to attend. For reservations, call 1-724-375-2287 by November 10, 2011.

Edith Valo, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 595 -

MUSKEGON, MICHIGAN

Monthly meetings are held at Tatra Hall, Sixth Street and Sherman Blvd., on the third Sunday of each month at 2 p.m. (September through May).

The election of officers for the 2012 year, will be held at the Sunday, December 16, 2011, meeting.

As always, you can call 231 733 7525 for additional information of current events.

Donna Stone, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 633 -

FLINT, MICHIGAN

The Sacred Heart of Jesus Society, Branch 633, will hold its annual meeting on Saturday, December 10, 2011, at 1:00PM at the Empire Wok Restaurant, Burton, MI. The restaurant is across from Courtland Mall. All members are invited to attend. Election of officers will be held.

Eva Craine, 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, December 4, 2011, at NOON at Kings Restaurant in Bentleyville, PA. On the agenda: election of officers. Members are urged to attend.

Dorothy Petrus, President

BRANCH 682 -

YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

The St. George Society, Branch 682, will hold its annual Christmas Party and Election of Officers on Sunday, December 4, 2011, at 2:30PM at Material Research Laboratories, located at 290 North Bridge Street, Struthers, OH, 44471. An annual meeting also will be held. All members are encouraged to attend.

Andrew J. Hirt, President

BRANCH 686 -

NORTH CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

The Annual Meeting of Branch 686 will be held on Sunday, December 11, 2011, at 1:30PM at the home of President Mark Davis in Genoa City, WI. Election of officers and coming FCSU activities for District 2 for the year 2012 also will be on the agenda. Mark Davis' address is 505 Walworth Avenue, just off Hwy 12 on the Illinois-Wisconsin border. Please phone Mark Davis if you plan on attending at 262-279-9648.

Fraternally,

Rudolph D. Glogovsky,
Financial Secretary

BRANCH 706 -

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

The St. Anthony of Padua Branch 706 will hold its Annual Meeting on Friday, November 18, 2011, at 3:00pm at the home of Vice President, Barbara Fayta, 1544 Rokosz Lane, Dyer, Indiana. If you plan on attending, please call Barbara at 219-864-8251, so arrangements for refreshments can be made.

Dinner will follow the meeting. On the agenda discussion on insurance sales, new business and election of officers for 2012. If you have moved or know of a member that has moved, please send us their address so we may update our files.

Sincerely,

Barbara Fayta, Vice-President

BRANCH 721 -

BANNISTER, MICHIGAN

Branch 721 will have its annual meeting on Sunday, December 4, 2011, at 2:00PM. It will be held in the St. Cyril Catholic Church meeting room, Bannister, MI.

Election of officers will be held. All members are encouraged to attend.

Respectfully,

Joseph Beno, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 731-

YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

Members of Branch 731, Youngstown, OH, will participate in the celebration of Mass for our deceased members on December 18, 2011 at Noon. Liturgy will be at Saint Matthias Church, 915 Cornell Street, Youngstown, Ohio. We will have our annual meeting with election of officers immediately following at the Saint Matthias rectory. Your attendance is welcome.

Jim Bobby, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 738 -

MUNHALL, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Michael's Branch 738 will be holding its semi-annual meeting Tuesday December 6, 2011 at 6:30 pm at the VFW Post 6673 Whittier Way Munhall, Pa. This meeting will include discussion of the branch party and other branch activities, fraternal activities, and planning for 2012. All members are invited.

Pat Guidish, Secretary

BRANCH 743 -

STERLING HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 743 will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, December 4, 2011, at 1:00 p.m. On the agenda will be Officer Report, a 2011 financial report, approval of the 2012 budget, discussion of branch activities, and other business pertaining to the branch and the First Catholic Slovak Union. The election of branch officers will also take place.

Members are urged to attend the celebration of the Slovak Mass before the meeting at 11:30 a.m. at SS. Cyril and Methodius Church, 41233 Ryan Road, Sterling Heights, MI.

The annual meeting will follow mass in the Church Social Hall.

Please come and enjoy our annual Christmas meeting with your fellow branch members.

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

On behalf of the Officers of Branch 743 we wish you a Merry Christmas and a healthy New Year.

Joseph C. Rimarcik, President
and Financial Secretary

BRANCH 774 -

MERRILL, MICHIGAN

The next meeting of Branch 774 will be held on Sunday, December 4, 2011, at 1:00PM. The meeting will be held at the home of Branch President Frank Radosa, 4084 Kane Road, Merrill, MI, 48637. On the agenda: election of new officers and also a discussion of branch activities.

All members are encouraged to attend.
Fraternally,

Frank Radosa, President

BRANCH 784 -

MONTREAL, QUEBEC.

The SS Cyril and Methodius Society, Branch 784, will hold its annual meeting on November 27, 2011, at SS Cyril and Methodius Parish Hall, Montreal, Quebec, following the 10:30 Mass. On the agenda will be election of new officers and the social calendar for 2012. Refreshments will be served.

Alice Dobrik, President

BRANCH 785 -

MISSISSAUGA, ONTARIO

A joint meeting with the Msgr. Michael Shuba District is to be held on Sunday Dec 11, 2011 at 1:30pm at Sts Cyril's and Methodius Slovak Church Hall. Please contact Anne Mitro 905-279-8154, if you are attending the luncheon and meeting.

Fraternally,

Anne Mitro, Secretary

BRANCH 853 -

CHARLEROI, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 853 will hold its annual Christmas dinner meeting for all members at Regos Restaurant in Charleroi, Pennsylvania on Friday, December 9, 2011.

The spaghetti dinner will begin at 6:00pm with a meeting immediately following.

There is no cost to branch members for the dinner. Cost for non-branch members will be \$19.

Due to seating arrangements, please call and leave a message with one of Branch 853 youngest active members Charles Boone at 412-341-1577 if you are planning on attending.

Any member attending should bring a list of their fraternal and altruistic activities for the year.

Branch 853 extends to all, wishes for a Blessed Christmas season and a happy, prosperous 2012.

Monica Rodacy Boone, President

BRANCH 855

PARMA, OHIO

The Holy Name of Jesus Society, Branch 855, will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, December 11, 2011. The meeting will be held at 1:00PM, at Carrie Cerino's Restaurant, 8922 Ridge Road, North Royalton, Ohio 44133. We will have an election of officers for 2012.

All members are invited to attend. Please

contact Linda Kolesar at 440-886-0206 by December 1, 2011, if you plan to attend.

Linda L. Kolesar, Secretary/Treasurer

BRANCH 856 -

WASHINGTON, DC

Our Mother of Sorrows Society will hold its annual meeting November 15, 2011, at 1:00PM at the Pimmit Hills Regional Library located ta 7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA (703-790-8088).

The purpose of the meeting will be to elect officers for 2012, review the activities of the past year, and discuss new ideas for the coming year 2012.

We urge our members to attend and get involved in your society.

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

Katherine Nowatkoski,
Financial Secretary

BRANCH 857 -

LEVITTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The Annual Meeting of the St. Michael the Archangel Branch 857 in Levittown, PA will be held on Wednesday December 7, 2011. The meeting will be held at 7:30PM at 15 Kraft Lane, Levittown, PA. Election of officers for 2012 will be held. The officers of Branch 857 wish all a Happy and Holy Christmas season.

Fraternally,

Damian D Nasta, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 888 -

WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA

The Holy Trinity Society, Branch 888, will hold its next two meetings on Wednesday, November 16, 2011, at 5:30PM at 4649 Perth Road, West Palm Beach, Florida, 33410, and on Friday, December 9, 2011, at 5:15PM at 4649 Perth Road, West Palm Beach, Florida, 33410. Contact President David Rafaidus by phone at (561) 776-0449 or by email at jednota888@yahoo.com for directions and further information.

On the agenda will be future branch activities, election of officers, treasurer's report, and items of mutual interest to the membership. All branch members are invited to attend.

David Rafaidus, President

Branch 200 Members: We Need Your Help!

I am currently updating our beneficial membership list. I need information for any member that has a change of address, name, and/or phone number. I also would like to obtain email addresses and cell phone numbers. There may be policy holders that are deceased and the beneficiaries are entitled to life insurance proceeds. You may want to make beneficiary changes to existing policies or purchase additional insurance.

You can contact me by mail, email or phone. My mailing address is: Vicki L. Schaub, Financial Secretary/Treasurer, 910 6th Avenue, Ford City, PA, 16226. My email is vshaub123@gmail.com . The phone is 724-763-9229 (Monday-Friday, between noon and 5PM).

Your assistance is greatly appreciated!

Fraternally,

Vicki Schaub, Branch Financial Secretary/Treasurer

Useful Websites

- www.skonline.sk
- www.travelguide.sk
- kosice.region.sk
- www.slovakia.org
- www.vtatry.sk
- www.tatry.net
- www.hotel-net.sk
- www.skonline.sk
- www.kultura.sk
- www.snm.sk
- www.savba.sk
- www.government.gov.sk
- www.snd.sk
- www.stv.sk
- 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

OBITUARIES



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.

<u>Branch</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Branch</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Branch</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Branch</u>	<u>Name</u>
001K	Francis E Vasinko	156K	Andrew T Jasso	410K	Joseph L Cielensky	670K	Donald A Heisler
001P	William M Kovalick	162K	Helen K Valusek	419K	Joseph R Shimley	682K	Joseph Richard Rohovsky
002K	Madeleine A Sabo	215K	Paul Robert Demko lii	425K	Paul Kosuth Sr	706K	Michael Gerberi
003K	Joseph M Check	228K	John Metelsky	429K	Anna Marie Yamnitzky	721K	Paul M Minarik
006K	George E Novotney	260K	Mary A Bonish	454K	Michael J Svac	729K	Anne D Warga
019K	Frances A Balint	278K	Charlene A Boslego	456K	Helen M Patrick	731K	Cyril M Ferenchak
024K	Stephen L Liptak	294K	Kathleen M Brutosky	456K	Joseph J Zahuranec	746K	Joseph J Butzko
024K	Alexander L Slafkosky	312K	Ruth M Ridilla	505K	Mary J Sikora	746K	Irene L Herbst
035K	Anna L Puhala	315K	Evelyn M Hricisak	512K	John S Urban Sr	764K	Alexander T Masaitis
038K	John Kinner	353K	Harlan Robert Hughes	543K	Joseph Paul Kmet	855K	Elizabeth Schultz
096K	Mary G Senyitko	356P	Cyril M Tomko	567K	Theresa M Debach	888K	Francis E Fetsko
112K	Alexander F Sakowski	369K	Stephen Albert Petrus	567K	Anna Minarovic	900K	Helen D Sandor
153K	Joseph J Potocek	388K	Joseph A Milko Jr	595K	Fred C Bowen Sr		
153K	Raymond J Tomaszek	403K	David Matthew Hornick	635K	Irene M Koza		

* Processed in the month of Oct. 2011



CATHERINE VANCHO

BRANCH 381 –

PASSAIC, NEW JERSEY

Catherine Vancho (nee Brezina) of Lake Hauto, PA, 87, formerly of Jersey City, New Jersey and Williamsburg, Virginia, died on October 16, 2011 at Maple Shade Meadows Assisted Living in Nesquehoning, Pa. She was the widow of McAdoo, Pa. native, Stephen Vancho who died in 1995.

Surviving are a daughter, Catherine Vancho Scott and her husband Thomas; a son, Mark and his wife, Sylvia; a sister, Sister Mary Ann Brezina, OP, a Caldwell Dominican Sister; a granddaughter Emily Vancho Bannister and her husband, Patrick.

Catherine was preceded in death by her parents, Stefan and Katarina Brezina (nee Kneznik) and her two brothers, Stephen and Joseph Brezina.

Catherine was born in Kubacky, Slovakia and emigrated to America at 6 years old. Her husband, Steve, also came to America at 6 years old from Palvica, Slovakia. Her father, Stefan, settled in Jersey City and served as president of the Jednota Branch 381 located at Assumption Slovak Parish, Jersey City, for over 25 years.

It was at a church social that a young, handsome Coast Guard soldier, Stephen met Catherine. It was to become a match truly "made in heaven". They were both fiercely proud of their Catholic Slovak heritage and roots.

May Catherine and all the deceased members of the Brezina and Vancho families forever rest in peace.

Sister Mary Ann Brezina, OP

SISTER M. JANE, SS.C.M.

Sister M. Jane (Lillian Pavlovic), 78, died on October 20, 2011, at Maria Hall, Danville. The daughter of John and Mary (Hrusecky) Pavlovic, she was born on July 19, 1933, in Binghamton, New York.

She attended Saints Cyril and Methodius School and Dickinson Junior High School and graduated from Binghamton Central High in Binghamton. Sister attended Marywood University, Scranton, and Mount Mercy College in Pittsburgh from which she received her B.A.. She received an M.A. in Spanish from Notre Dame in Indiana. In 1993, Sister received a certificate in Dietary Management.

On September 12, 1954, she entered the novitiate in Danville, Pennsylvania, and was received as a novice on August 3, 1955. Her first profession of vows was on August 6, 1957.

Sister Jane had a varied ministry in education and in dietary services. She taught grades 3, 4, 5, 6 and 8 in parish schools in Connecticut, Indiana and South Carolina. Sister taught Spanish, Home Economics and Social Studies in the following high schools: Andrean, Merrillville, Indiana; West Side Central Catholic, Kingston, Pennsylvania, Blessed Sacrament Academy, Yonkers, New York; and St. Cyril Academy, Danville, Pennsylvania.

Sister also served in the dietary departments of Maria Hall, Maria Joseph Manor and St. Methodius Convent in Danville. For five years she was dietary supervisor.

For seven years Sister Jane was involved

in a variety of ministries in Binghamton, New York. She was a parish visitor and was also engaged in Outreach and Volunteer Services and Hispanic ministry.

Sister spent the last year of her life at Maria Hall in Danville.

She is survived by a sister, Mrs. Mary Ciganek, a niece, Mrs. Marie Masi, a grandnephew, John Masi, Jr. and a cousin, Mrs. Evelyn Puhalla.

The transferal and recitation of the Ro-

sary took place on Tuesday, October 25 at 9:30 a.m. and the Wake Service at 11:30 a.m. at Maria Hall. The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at 1:30 p.m. The Reverend Gerard Heintzelman was celebrant and homilist. The Reverend Albert Oldfield and the Reverend Robert Amrhein, O.F.M. Conv., Holy Trinity Church, Binghamton, New York, were concelebrants. Burial was in the Sisters' cemetery in Danville.



FCSU LIFE Single Premium Insurance Fall Special!

Newborn Male

\$5000 for \$290
\$10000 for \$580

Newborn Female

\$5000 for \$250
\$10000 for \$500

Male - age 5

\$5000 for \$340
\$10000 for \$680

Female - age 5

\$5000 for \$290
\$10000 for \$580

Male - age 10

\$5000 for \$400
\$10000 for \$800

Female - age 10

\$5000 for \$340
\$10000 for \$680

Male - age 15

\$5000 for \$480
\$10000 for \$960

Female - age 15

\$5000 for \$405
\$10000 for \$810

Male - age 20

\$5000 for \$545.00
\$10000 for \$1090.00

Female - age 20

\$5000 for \$470.00
\$10000 for \$940.00

Purchase Single Premium Whole Life 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



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

70th Anniversary of American Slovak Zemplin Club Celebrated in Lakewood, OH

The American Slovak Zemplin Club celebrated its 70th Anniversary on Sunday afternoon, October 16, 2011, at Transfiguration Parish Auditorium, Lakewood, OH. The program began with a welcome by Zemplin Club President George Čarny, followed by the signing of the National Anthems of the United States and Slovakia. The Rev. Joachim Pastirik, OSB, gave the invocation before guests enjoyed a full-course dinner catered by Wal-Tam. The John Pastirik Band performed during and after the meal. The cultural portion of the program consisted of several performances by the Lúčinka Childrens' Slovak Folklore Ensemble of Greater Cleveland and songs by the Slovenske Mamičky. The benediction was given by Rev. Marek Visnovsky, after which the assembly concluded with the signing of "God Bless America" and "Hej Slovaci."

The Zemplin Club was founded those born in that region of Slovakia, or those with their roots there. The Zemplin region consists of eleven counties: Humenne, Medzilbroce, Michaelovce, Secovce, Snina, Sobrance, Stropkov, Trebisov, Vranov, Velke Kapusany, and Vysny Svidnik.

The Zemplin Club's current slate of officers are: President George Čarny, First Vice President Maria Cvicela, Second Vice President Maria Zapotokova, Treasurer Milan Kobulsky, Recording Secretary Jozef Valencik, Trustee John Buydos, Trustee Mary Chura, and Chaplain the Rev. Joachim Pastirik. Many members are also members of the First Catholic Slovak Union, including George Čarny, Jozef Valencik, John Buydos, Mary Chura, and the Rev. Joachim Pastirik.



(L-R) Zemplin Club President George Čarny, Second Vice President Maria Zapotokova, First Vice President Maria Cvicela with granddaughter Lily Halley, and the Rev. Marek Visnovsky



Zemplin Club
Trustees John
Buydos and
Mary Chura



Above: Lucina Choreographer Nadia Oros confers with Band Leader John Pastirik

Left: The Lucinka Childrens' Slovak Folk Ensemble of Greater Cleveland perform for the Zemplin Club

Below: Guests enjoy the children's performance.



70th Anniversary Photos



The Monks of St. Andrew Abbey
invite you to our 2011



VILIYA SLOVAK CHRISTMAS EVE SUPPER

Sunday, December 4th
12:00 PM (Noon) Mass
Dinner Following

Held at the Abbey Church and
Benedictine High School Cafeteria

Tickets to this event are ADVANCE SALES ONLY
TICKETS WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR

TICKETS ARE \$20.00 PER PERSON ADVANCE SALES ONLY

Please send a check or money order
(along with a self addressed stamped envelope made out to

Saint Andrew Abbey - Viliya
2900 Martin Luther King Jr., Drive, Cleveland, OH 44104
Your Tickets will be mailed out to you.

**TICKET ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED BY
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2011**

If you have any questions please call: 216.721.5300 ext. 0
(Monday through Friday 8am till 3:30pm)

Entertainment
Lúčinka Childrens Slovak Folk Ensemble of Greater Cleveland
Tri Slovenske Mamicky Singers - Music by Johnny Pastirik Combo
Religious Articles - Slovak Interest Items - Exhibits

Traditional Meatless Meal:
Oplatky - Bobalky - Pirohy - Ryby/Fish - Orechy/ Nuts - Ovocny/ Fruit
Kapustnica s Hubamy / Cabbage Soup with Mushrooms - Vino / Wine
Rozky/ Filled Horns - Orechvniky/Nut Rolls - Makovniky/Poppyseed Rolls

❖❖❖ ❖❖❖ ❖❖❖

Answer to Puzzle

Solution to Puzzle from page 11

B	E	R	M		C	A	S	H		S	P	A
I	D	E	A	L	O	T	T	O		C	L	I
T	I	L	D	E	R	E	E	D		L	I	N
	T	Y	C	O	O	N		A	S	P	E	C
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News From Slovakia

PSA Peugeot Citroen Slovakia to Stop Production for Nine Days

Bratislava, October 19 (TASR) - The Trnava-based PSA Peugeot Citroen Slovakia car plant is halting production for a total of nine working days between October 28-November 4 and between November 14-18, the plant's spokesperson Ivana Pavelkova told TASR on Wednesday.

The measure is due to the tense economic situation and social unrest in certain parts of Europe. Seven of the nine aforementioned days will be used to train staff, or alternatively employees will engage in substitution work.

"The plant is organising training especially because it aims to preserve staff salaries for October and November," said Pavelkova.

Fitch Increases Viability Rating for Slovenska Sporitelna

Bratislava, October 19 (TASR) - Fitch Ratings agency has affirmed the Long-Term Issuer Default rating (IDR) of Slovenska Sporitelna (SLSP) at 'A', with a stable outlook, while upgrading its viability rating from 'bbb-' (bbb minus) to 'bbb', TASR learned from Fitch Ratings on Wednesday.

Slovenska Sporitelna's IDR and the so-called Support Rating reflect the support that, according to Fitch, the bank can receive from its 100-percent stake-holder, the Austrian Erste Group Bank, as well as the strategic importance of SLSP and the current level of its integration. Other reasons for the current IDR are the improvement of efficiency, operational profitability and capitalization along with the stabilization of the quality of its assets.

Fitch has also placed IDR of Volksbank Slovensko at 'BBB+' on Rating Watch Negative (RWN), following the announcement on 14 July, 2011, of the agreed sale of Volksbank International (VBI) by Oesterreichische Volksbanken-Aktiengesellschaft (VBAG; 'A/Stable') to Sberbank of Russia (Sberbank; 'BBB'/Stable).

Banks to Pay Special Levy into Fund Aimed at Tackling Potential Crises

Bratislava, October 20 (TASR) - Commercial banks doing business in Slovakia will have to redirect 0.4 percent of their selected liabilities into a special account, which should contain around €80 million in 2012, according to a law approved by 144 MPs on Thursday.

Most MPs rejected a similar bank levy proposal prepared by Smer-SD that would have introduced a 0.7-percent figure and prevented banks from transferring expenditures onto the shoulders of their clients.

The basis for calculating the special levy on banks will be the banks' liabilities minus shareholder's equity and deposits that are already protected by the state in current legislation. The levies will be paid on a quarterly basis into a special account that will serve as a reserve.

The aim is to create a mechanism for financial institutions to provide funds to tackle potential crises. The move is also designed to motivate banks into restricting system risks and to protect the stability of the Slovak financial sector.

Uhrik: It's Irrational to Worry about Car-makers Leaving Slovakia

Bratislava, October 20 (TASR) - When it comes to speculation that some of the car-manufacturing companies located in Slovakia may want to leave the country, "I always have to laugh", said president of the Car-manufacturing Industry Association (ZAP) Jozef Uhrik on Thursday.

"I don't see any reason for large car-makers to leave Slovakia. I know the managers' way of thinking. Slovakia has so far offered them very beneficial conditions when compared to other countries in Europe. I view such thinking as irrational," Uhrik told TASR at the 'Engineering 2011 - Situation and Prospects' conference in Bratislava.

Uhrik conceded that some small sub-suppliers may leave, as it isn't as complicated for them to transfer production elsewhere. He ruled out the departure of large car-manufacturing companies, however.

According to Uhrik, the worst times have already passed for the sector and assembly plants are now looking for new employees to ensure dynamic development.

"Slovakia is rather lucky that we have three car-makers and each of them has its own philosophy. It's important, however, that these three car-makers have dragged three families of sub-suppliers behind them. Their sub-suppliers have become so interconnected that one works for two car-makers, some even work for all three. This means that the sub-suppliers aren't dependent on one customer only," said Uhrik.

Unemployment Rate in September Highest Since 2005

Bratislava, October 20 (TASR) - Last month the unemployment rate reached 13.37 percent, the highest in six years, UniCredit bank analyst David Derenik said Thursday in the wake of the statistics released by the Labour, Social Affairs and the Family Center (UPSVaR) earlier in the day.

The unemployment rate grew by 0.25 percentage points month-on-month and 0.95 percentage points year-on-year. According to Postova Banka analyst Jana Glasova, the increase can partly be attributed to the large numbers of school leavers joining the ranks of the unemployed.

The number of school leavers registered as unemployed in September was 34,025, which represents 8.7 percent of all 390,000 registered job applicants.

However, the total number of unemployed school leavers dropped by 3.6 percent y-o-y. According to Derenik however, these figures are misleading, as current demographics show a 5-percent decrease in the total numbers of people in the 15-19 age group year-on-year.

NBS: Bank Analysts Expecting 1.9-percent Growth in GDP in 2012

Bratislava, October 25 (TASR) - Slovak bank analysts expect that the country's economy will grow by only 1.9 percent in 2012, which is 0.8 percentage points lower than the seven Slovakia-based banks concerned predicted a month ago, the Slovak central bank (NBS) announced on Tuesday.

The analysts' estimates vis-a-vis next-year's GDP growth range from 1 percent to 2.8 percent.

Conversely, expectations for economic growth this year have become more optimistic, with banks foreseeing 3.1-percent growth instead of the 2.9 percent predicted a month ago.

Economic growth should slow down next year hand in hand with increases in consumer prices. The average estimate for inflation in 2012 is 2.7 percent, while the rate should reach 4.2 percent this year.

Miklos: States and People Won't Lose Money from Bank Recapitalization

Bratislava, October 285 (TASR) - The necessary recapitalization of European banks has been designed in a way that states and their citizens won't lose their money, said Finance Minister Ivan Miklos at a parliamentary committee for EU affairs session on Tuesday.

An estimated sum of €50-€200 billion is currently needed to boost the capital of European banks ahead of writing off part of Greece's debt.

"We're nearing an agreement stating that in order to make the Greek debt sustainable, the restructuring will need to be higher than the one agreed at the July summit. The consensus is that the debt will only be sustainable if it drops below 120 percent of GDP by 2020," said Miklos. Greece's debt currently stands at 160 percent of GDP.

In order to avoid the potential collapse of European banks, which would initiate a chain of events that would lead to the debt crisis spreading to countries such as Spain, Italy, Belgium and France, the system's most significant banks will have to be bailed out, said Miklos.

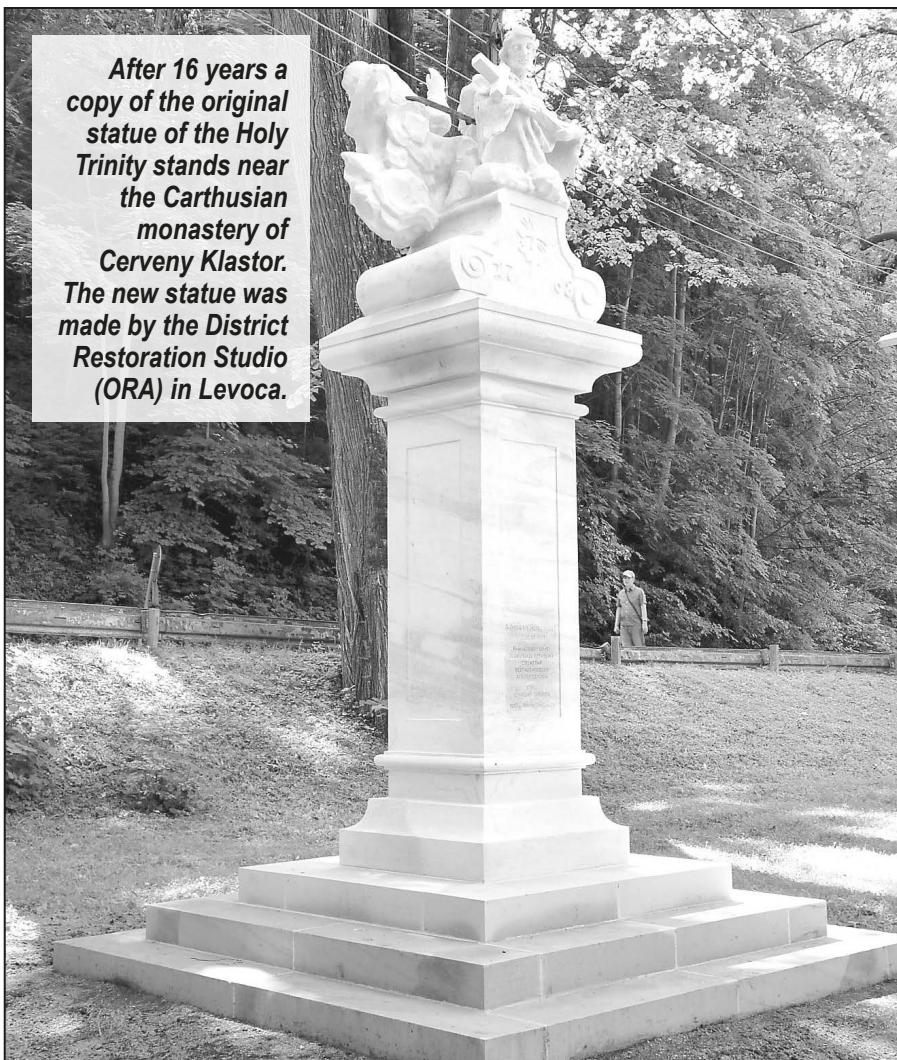
A system worked out by European finance ministers stipulates that primarily bank owners and other private investors should use their own resources to boost bank capital. If this isn't possible, recapitalization from public finances should follow, with the use of EFSF resources as the last resort.

"We'd be looking at loans that would have to be repaid, and, at the same time, these banks would in fact become state-owned in order for their owners and managers to pay for it as well," said Miklos.

According to the agreement between European finance ministers, the capital adequacy of the banks should be raised to 9 percent by June 2012, while the paying-out of bonuses and dividends should be halted until the banks' capital is upped or until they draw resources from public funds.

According to Miklos, consensus hasn't been found yet regarding a new loan to Greece, the private sector's role in restructuring the debt or another boosting of the EFSF. Miklos hinted at some progress in negotiations when it comes to the EFSF, however. "The notion that the European Central Bank should be involved has been scrapped as it's the riskiest one," he said.

V Červenom Kláštore kópia sochy Sv.Trojice



After 16 years a copy of the original statue of the Holy Trinity stands near the Carthusian monastery of Červený Kláštor. The new statue was made by the District Restoration Studio (ORA) in Levoca.

Pred Kláštorom kartuziánov v Červenom Kláštore, okres Kežmarok, po 16 rokoch opäť stojí socha Svätej Trojice. Ide o kópiu originálu, ktorú vytvorili v Oblastnom reštaurátorskom ateliéri (ORA) v Levoči a v lete ju nainštalovali na pôvodné miesto.

FOTO TASR - Adriana Antošková

Účasť Slovenska na Detskom festivale Európskej únie vo Washingtone

Slovenský umelec Adrián Ohrádka s divadlom Teáter komika reprezentoval Slovensko na 4. ročníku Detského festivalu Európskej únie v USA. Festival, ktorý sa stáva tradičnou a divákom očakávanou jesennou kultúrnou udalosťou, prináša viac ako 200 verejných a voľných predstavení vo Washingtone a jeho okolí prioritne pre detské publikum (2 – 12 rokov) i celé rodiny. Vystúpenie Adriána Ohrádku pod názvom Klaun muzikantom zožalo počas celého festivalu veľký úspech a počas piatich predstavení ho malo možnosť vidieť okolo 800 divákov. Festival pozitívnym spôsobom propaguje Európsku úniu a jednotlivé členské štáty. Vystúpenie slovenského umelca na tomto i minulých ročníkoch je vynikajúcim prostriedkom prezentácie a propagácie Slovenska v USA. Festival trvá od 14. októbra do 10. novembra.

MZV SR



Poslanci zmenili Ústavu Slovenskej republiky

I. Radičová bude môcť vládnut' s obmedzeniami

Vládu Ivety Radičovej (SDKÚ-DS), ktorá stratila dôveru parlamentu, bude môcť prezident SR Ivan Gašparovič poveriť vykonávaním funkcie až do vymenovania nového kabínetu. Vyplýva to z novely Ústavy SR, ktorú 21. októbra 139 hlasmi schválili poslanci.

Radičovej dočasný kabinet však bude mať len oklieštené kompetencie. Bude môcť rozhodovať len o návrhoch zákonov a nariadeniach vlády, návrhoch štátneho rozpočtu a štátneho záverečného účtu, o medzinárodných zmluvách, návrhu na vyhlásenie vojnového stavu, o nariadení mobilizácie ozbrojených síl, vyhlásenie výnimcového stavu či vyslaní ozbrojených síl mimo územie SR. V kompetencii vlády ostane aj rozhodovanie o ďalších otázkach vyplývajúcich zo zákonov a vymenúvanie a odvolávanie štátnych funkcionárov a troch členov Súdnej rady SR, avšak len so súhlasom prezidenta. Dočasná vláda tak príde napríklad o možnosť rozhodovať o zásadných opatreniach na zabezpečenie hospodárskej a sociálnej politiky či o zásadných otázkach vnútornej a zahraničnej politiky.

Pre zmenu ústavy sa parlamentné strany rozhodli v záujme vyriešenia patovej situácie, ktorá nastala po páde vlády Ivety Radičovej (SDKÚ-DS). Jej kabinet mal byť odvolaný, doterajšie znenie ústavy však neumožňovalo poveriť túto vládu dovládnutím do marcových predčasných volieb.

TASR

Piate výročie úmrtia biskupa Pavla M. Hnilicu SJ v Trnave

Piate výročie úmrtia biskupa Pavla M. Hnilicu SJ si pripomenuli v sobotu, 8. októbra 2011 v Katedrále sv. Jána Krstiteľa v Trnave. Biskup Pavol zasvätil celý svoj kňazský a biskupský život službe Bohu a Cirkvi, predovšetkým prenasledovanej Cirkvi pod komunistickou nadvládou. V každom chudobnom videl Krista, a preto im tak veľmi celý život pomáhal. Stal sa apoštolom Fatimského odkazu a šíril úctu k Nepoškvrnenému Srdcu Panny Márie. Povzbudzujúcimi listami pápežovi Jánovi Pavlovi II. a modlitbami sa zaslúžil a veľkou mierou prispel k blahorečeniu a svätorečeniu sestry Faustíny a k zavedeniu sviatku milosrdenstva pre celú Cirkev na prvú nedelu po Veľkej noci.

Biskup Pavol sa narodil 30. marca 1921 v Uňatíne, malej dedinke pri Krupine. Za kňaza ho vysvätil biskup Pobožný 29. septembra 1950, na sviatok svätého Michala archanjela, v nemocničnej kaplnke v Rožňave za zatvorenými dverami. Za biskupa ho vysvätili 2. januára 1951 v nemocničnej pivnici v Rožňave. Po vysviacke mu biskup Pobožný pripomenal, že mu nemôže určiť najkú osobitnú diecézu, ale jeho diecéza sa rozprestiera od Pekingu cez Moskvu po Berlín. Biskup Hnilica zomrel vo veľkom pokoji 8. októbra 2006 v Kláštore Božieho milosrdenstva v Nových Hradoch v Čechách, obklopený bratmi a sestrmi z misijného spoločenstva Rodina Panny Márie, ktorého bol preidentom.

Dr. Stanislav Bajaník 60 - ročný

**Dr. Stanislav Bajaník sa v
októbri 2011 dožil 60 rokov svojho života.**

Aj keď sám toto jubileum nepovažuje za prelomové, naskytá sa nám príležitosť stručne priblížiť jeho tvorivý život. Rodák z Čiernych Kľačian, okr. Zlaté Moravce po štúdiach na FFUK v Bratislave (slovenčina-latinčina (1970-1975) pracoval v oblasti múzejníctva, ochrany kultúrneho dedičstva, informatiky, médií. Po r. 1982 sa významne angažoval ako autor desiatok publicistických a dokumentárnych relácií v Slovenskom rozhlasu, po r. 1990 aj v STV s národnostnou tematikou. Zostavil viac publikácií z oblasti národných a literárnych dejín, 5 dokumentárnych filmov, 6 autorských monografií. Od r. 1990 sa angažuje na pôde obnovenej Matice slovenskej ako jej tajomník, podpredseda, riaditeľ, hovorca, šéfredaktor, redaktor, člen predsedníctva a výboru MS, predseda MOMS Dunajská Lužná. t.c. odborný a vedecký pracovník Krajského múzea Matice slovenskej. Inicioval a zabezpečil desiatky pamätných tabuľ, búst, reliéfov, cyrilo-metodské súsošia doma i vo svete. Pôsobí ako dlhoročný signatár Stretnutí Slovákov z južného Slovenska v Suranoch, od r. 1990 sa angažoval na Celonárodných zhromaždeniach, Stoloch národnej dohody, celoslovenských podujatiach MS, Vlasteneckej pochôdzke po slovenskom juhu, interetnických otázkach, Stretnutí Kľačian na Slovensku. Okrem slovenského juhu, médií, rozličných postov v MS, uplynulých 15 rokov pôsobil ako riadiaci a vedecký pracovník v slovenských zahraničných vzťahoch, slovensko-slovanskéj problematike, vo vydávaní magazínu MS a a.s. Neografia Slovensko a ročenky Slováci v zahraničí. Je zakladateľom projektu Európsky kongres Matíc slovanských národov, naposledy novej koncepcie Jozefínskej knižnice pri KM MS so špeciálnym zameraním na dokumenty zápasov Slovákov o svoju identitu, štátosť a samostatnosť. Ako autor a dopisovateľ prispieval do celého radu médií doma i v zahraničí, medziiným do týždenníka MS Slovenských národných novín. V jeho ďalšom pôsobení v službách národa a Matice slovenskej mu pri príležitosti životného jubilea želáme ešte mnoho osobných iniciatív a úspechov.



Dr. Stanislav Bajaník

Halloween Dušičky na Slovensku neohrozujie

Prelom októbra a novembra je na Slovensku tradične v znamení sviatku Všetkých svätých alebo Dušičiek. K návštevám cintorínov a spomienkam na zosnulých známych či neznámych sa v poslednom období pridružuje aj iná tradícia, ktorá je skôr typická pre anglosaský svet. Tou je Halloween ako starý pohanský sviatok duchov, ktorý je v znamení vyrezávania tekvic, masiek duchov, či iných strašidelných tvorov.

Halloween sa na Slovensku šíri najmä prostredníctvom podnikových či školských večierkov, zatiaľ čo Sviatok všetkých svätých ľudia berú skôr ako intímny rodinný sviatok. Etnoložka Zuzana Beňušková zo Slovenskej akadémie vied (SAV) si preto nemyslí, že oslava Halloweenu prekrýva pravý význam pamiatky na zosnulých.

„Ľudia rozlišujú privátnu a pracovnú sféru. Je známe, že sviatky sa čoraz viac privatizujú a tento Halloween zostáva stále na tej inštitucionálnej báze,“ povedala pre TASR etnoložka. Vo vedomí ľudí sa však podľa nej tieto jesenné sviatky spájajú práve s tradičným slovenským sviatkom, nie s jeho americkou alternatívou.

Beňušková zdôraznila, že Dušičky a Halloween majú úplne opačný charakter, no keďže trúchlivá povaha pamiatky zosnulých nie je v spoločnosti „sláviteľná“, do verejných priestorov sa dostáva skôr moment roztopaše a zábavy spojený s Halloweenom. Napriek tomu odbornička nevidí riziko v tom, že by sa ľudia pri spomienke na svojich blízkych zosnulých nevedeli stísiť. Na Slovensku má rodina stále veľkú prioritu a aj sviatky na začiatku novembra sú časom, keď sa väčšina ľudí vracia k členom svojej rodiny a spomína na tých, ktorí ju opustili.

Samotný Halloween sa na Slovensko podľa Beňuškovej dostal po roku 1989 vplyvom amerikanizácie. Pôvodne je to však keltský sviatok, ktorý sa oslavoval na prelome letnej a zimnej časti roka. „Verilo sa, že vychádzajú škriatkovia, ktorí môžu ovplyvňovať ľudí. Vtedy sa ľudia prezliekali, aby zmiatli tieto bytosť a v podstate to bol večer plný čarov, ktorý Kelti sviatili,“ vysvetľuje pôvod tradície odbornička z Ústavu etnológie SAV.

Do Spojených štátov sa Halloween dostal s írskymi príslušníkmi a od 19. storočia sa zmenil na americkú podobu. Aj keď zábava a chodenie po domoch v strašidelných maskách neladilo s naším prostredím, Beňušková hovorí, že už v minulosti sa na juhu Slovenska či v Rakúsku tento čas bral ako sviatok tekvic. Tieto plodiny sa v týchto oblastiach pestovali a tak sa v jeseni vyrezávali a ľudia do nich dávali svetielka.

TASR

Oznámenia spolkov a okresov

Ročná Schôdza sv. Matúša číslo 45 IKSJ

Oznamujeme našim členom, že ročná schôdza sv. Matúša číslo 45 IKSJ v New Yorku bude v nedeľu 4. decembra 2011 o 12:30 hodine (po slovenskej svätej omší) v osadnej hale Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého na 1st Avenue a 66th Street. Na programe schôdži bude: podanie správy úradníkov ako aj podanie finančnej správy; zhodnotenie činnosti za uplynulé obdobie; voľby do nového výboru, ktorý vypracuje program činnosti na ďalšie obdobie. Úctivo Vás žiadame o účasť na tejto výročnej členskej schôdzi. Ďakujem s pozdravom,

Maria Jurasi, pokladníčka

Pozvanie na prednášku

„Načriēt do slávy a hrdosti našich predkov“

Pozývame verejnosť na prednášku zo slovenskej histórie pod názvom „Načriēt do slávy a hrdosti našich predkov“, ktorá bude spojená s obrazovou výstavou a DVD v nedeľu 20. novembra 2011 o 2:00 hodine poobede, po svätej omší v kláštore poľských sestier v Oak Forest, IL. na 147 ulici.

Vianočné posedenia a zábavy

Mikulášske odpoludnie s Mikuláškou nádielkou v NYC

Farská rada pri Slovenskom kostole sv. Jána Nepomuckého v New York City a Spolok sv. Štefana č. 716 Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty pozýva verejnosť na Mikulášske odpoludnie s Mikuláškou nádielkou, ktoré sa bude konáť v nedeľu dňa 4. decembra 2011 o 1:00 hod. odpoludnia vo farskej veľkej hale Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého, 411 East 66th Street, NYC.

Prosíme rodičov, ktorých deti by mohli spestriť naše Mikulášske posedenie s básičkou, spevom, alebo iným vystúpením, nech zavolajú vo večerných hodinách na telefónne číslo (201) 641-8922 pani Henrietu. Vstupné je voľné. Občerstvenie bude zabezpečené.

Slovenská Štedrá večera v Chicago, IL

Farnosť a Slovenská komunita sv. Šimona Apoštola Vás pozýva na Slovenskú Štedrú večeru s vianočnými koledami, v nedeľu 4. decembra 2011 o 2:00 hodine otvorením dverí a večerou o 3:00 hodine popoludní v osadnej hale Kostola sv. Šimona 5135 S. California Avenue, Chicago, IL. Vstupné pre dospelých 15.00 dolárov; deti od 2 -12 rokov 6.00 dolárov. Lístky si musíte zakúpiť v predpredaji na telefónnom čísle (773) 436-1045 Ext. 1.

Štedrá večera v Clevelande, OH

Mnísi z opátstva Sv. Andreja Svorada v Clevelande, OH usporiadajú v nedeľu 4. decembra Štedrú večeru, ktorej bude predchádzať svätá omša o 12:00 hodine naobed. Za tým bude pokračovať v Benedictine High School jedálni Štedrá večera.

V kultúrnom programe sa predstaví folklórny súbor Lučinka z Clevelandu a spevácky súbor Tri slovenské mamičky. Hrať bude Johnny Pastrik Combo. Vstupné za osobu je 20.00 dolárov a vstupenky sa predávajú len v predpredaji. Šeky a Money Orders majú byť vystavené na adresu Saint Andrew Abbey – Vilia, 2900 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, Cleveland, OH 44104. Rezervácie majú byť urobené do 25. novembra. Bližšie informácie na telefónnom čísle: (216) 721-5300, ext. 0, od pondelka do piatku od 8:00 do 3:30 hodiny.

Štedrovečerná večera – Vigília v New York City

Farská rada pri Slovenskom kostole sv. Jána Nepomuckého, NYC a Spolok sv. Štefana č. 716 Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty pozýva slovenskú verejnosť na Štedrovečernú večeru – Vigiliu, ktorá sa bude konáť v nedeľu dňa 11. decembra 2011 o 1:00 hodine odpoludnia v osadnej hale Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého 411 East 66th Street, NYC. Vstupné za osobu je 20.00 dolárov, v čom je započítaná aj večera.

Lístky na toto podujatie si môžete objednať na Farskom úrade Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého, telefón (212) 734-4613; Jozef Bilik: (718) 463-2084; Henrieta Daitová (201) 6412-8922.

Vianočné karty a oblátky u sestričiek sv. Cyrila a Metoda

Slovenské sestričky sv. Cyrila a Metoda z Danville ponúkajú Vianočné karty (pozdravy) k tohtoročným Vianociam. Objednávky začnú od 24. októbra do 16. decembra. Balíček oblátiek (5 kusov) 3 doláre, a Vianočné karty balíček (9 kusov) 6.75 dolárov, plus poštovné a balenie 5.75.

Pre bližšie informácie a objednávky kontaktujte: Sister Catherine Labouré S.S.C.M. na čísle 570-275-5606, alebo píšte na adresu: Jankola Library and Slovak Museum, 580 Railroad St. Villa Sacred Heart, Danville, PA 17821.

20. výročie Múzea Andyho Warhola v Medzilaborciach

Pri príležitosti 20. výročia založenia Múzea moderného umenia Andyho Warhola (MMUAW) v Medzilaborciach sa uskutočnilo 21. októbra v jeho priestoroch medzinárodné sympózium zamerané na život a dielo zakladateľa popartu v procese muzeoedukológie a teórie umenia. Súčasťou populárnejšieho programu bola slávnostná akadémia, odhalenie pamätnej tabule zostávajúcej zakladateľovi a podporovateľovi múzea Johnovi Warholovi, krst knihy Ruda Prekopa a Michala Čihlařa Andy a Československo či vernisáž výstavy na tému 20 rokov MMUAW v dokumentoch, fotografiach a artefaktoch.

Medzinárodné sympózium zastúpené historikmi umenia, muzeoedukolómi, výtvarnými teoretikmi či pedagógmi z Čech, Slovenska a Ukrajiny otvorila riaditeľka MMUAW Valika Maďarová. Tento deň je podľa jej slov zameraný na diskusie o Warholovej tvorbe, ale aj spomienky na začiatky či uplynulé roky fungovania MMUAW. „Vzdávame hold a podákovanie všetkým tým, ktorí sa podieľali na založení nášho múzea, ako aj jeho podpore počas nasledujúcich 20 rokov, počas ktorých sme zažili aj ľahšie obdobia,“ povedala Maďarová. Riaditeľka MMUAW pokračovala, že múzejné priestory v súčasnosti približujú návštevníkom Warholovu tvorbu, ako aj informácie o jeho rodine, ktorej korene siahajú do nedalekej obce Miková. Do trvalej expozície Andyho Warhola pribudli naposlasy jeho diela s názvom Hans Christian Andersen, Fish, In the Bottom of My Garden, ako aj perokresba s názvom Anjeli, ktorej autorom je umelcova matka. Na ich kúpu vyčlenil Prešovský samosprávny kraj (PSK) ako zriaďovateľ múzea zo svojho tohtoročného rozpočtu 194,500 eur.

PSK prevzal do svojej pôsobnosti MMUAW v Medzilaborciach 1. apríla 2002 spolu s ďalšími 27 kultúrnymi inštitúciami. Maďarová konštatovala, že pre ďalšie roky plnohodnotného fungovania MMUAW je dôležité, aby sa tejto kultúrnej inštitúcii dosťaval dostatok podpory v podobe financií, ako aj nových exponátov, ktoré by ďalej lákali na východ Slovenska početnej rady návštevníkov. „V tejto súvislosti je naozaj dôležité stále napĺňať a rozširovať naš zberkový fond,“ poznamenala riaditeľka.

O potrebe tejto kultúrnej inštitúcie pre rozvoj regiónu hovoril aj primátor Medzilaboriec Ivan Solej. „Múzeum má významný prínos k podpore turizmu. Chodi tu dosť zahraničných hostí, mám pocit, že ich je viac ako návštevníkov zo Slovenska,“ podotkol prvý muž samosprávy s tým, že aj napriek tomu vidí v propagácii tejto kultúrnej inštitúcie určité rezervy. „Pevne verím, že sa ho podarí v budúcnosti zviditeľniť ešte trocha viac.“

TASR

Moja nezábudka

(S pietnou spomienkou venované Pavline za 65 rokov prežitych v manželstve.)

Nie je tá, čo rastie v poli na úvrati,
ni tá, čo belasí na úboči bystriny,
ni tá, čo kvitne pod oknom v záhradke,
ale tá, čo mi dala mladú svoju ruku,
kyriť života cestu po mojom boku.

Ďakujem Ti, životadarný vládny Pane,
za ten poklad, čo si mi do vena dal,
i za tie plodné roky čos' nám namerál,
rozuzlené z nyvý pamäti, čo život sial,
a dušu ukrivenú vlažil utajený žiaľ.

Osirelý cliviem samotou – lamentujem:
dokedy v jej prázdrote ešte tu budem?
Už stojím na prahu brány do nenávratna,
čas odísť, spolu v hrobe späť v nermútku,
bo posvätné velebim tú moju nezábudku.

Štefan Hreha
Montréal, QC, november 2011

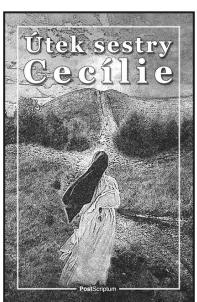
Útek sestry Cecílie

Vzrušujúci príbeh hrdinskej rehoľníčky Podľa rozprávania sestry Cecílie napísal William Brinkley

Skutočný príbeh rehoľnej sestry Cecílie, ktorá v prestrojení unikla desiatke policajtov a niekoľko mesiacov sa skrývala, až sa jej v januári 1952 podarilo ujsť cez rieku Moravu do Rakúska. V roku 1954 sa dostala do USA, kde mala možnosť rozpovedať svoj životný príbeh známemu publicistovi – tak vznikla kniha, ktorá získala veľký úspech a vyšla vo viacerých vydaniach.

Cecília Kondcová sa narodila r. 1911 v Breštovanoch. Po skončení stredoškolského štúdia u ūršulinok v Trnave sa rozhodla pre zasvätený život a vstúpila do kláštora Dcér Najsvätejšieho Spasiteľa v Bratislavе. Zvolila si rehoľné meno sr. Makária. Zložila opatovateľské a učiteľské skúšky a pôsobila ako učiteľka materskej školy, ktorú spravovala jej rehoľa. Činnosť cirkevných inštitúcií a zariadení bola po roku 1945 postupne obmedzovaná. Dostala sa do kontaktu s aktivistami tajnej cirkvi, pomáhala prenasledovaným knázom a podieľala sa na organizovaní ich útekov za hranice. Táto činnosť nezostala bez povšimnutia polície a štátnej bezpečnosti... Sestra Cecília – vdáka publicite v Amerike sa stala známa pod týmto menom – horlivou a výtrvalo apoštolovala o osude náboženstva, veriacich i Slovákov všeobecne. Zomrela r. 1985, pohrebnú svätú omšu a obrady odslužil biskup Andrej Grutka.

13,5x20,5 cm, 272 strán, brož., 2011, ISBN 978-80-970489-7-6 Kontakt: Vydavateľstvo Post Scriptum, Rajecká 36, 821 07 Bratislava, Tel.: 0903442679 www.postscriptum.sk, info@postscriptum.sk



Krátke správy zo Slovenska

• S najzaujímavejšími miestami Žilinského kraja sa nedávno zoznámili zahraniční touroperátori a zástupcovia médií počas infocesty Objavte Žilinský kraj – klenot Slovenska. V spolupráci so Svetovým združením Slovákov v zahraničí ju pripravil Žilinský samosprávny kraj (ŽSK). Infocesty sa zúčastnili zástupcovia médií a cestovných kancelárií zahraničných Slovákov z Českej republiky, Maďarska, Poľska, Srbska, Švédska, Írska, Kanady či USA. Navštívili kultúrne skvosty, ku ktorým patria na prvom mieste Oravský hrad, Demänovská jaskyňa Slobody, skanzeny v Pribyline, Maticu slovenskú a Národný cintorín v Martine, ale i UNESCO-m chránenú pamiatkovú rezerváciu Ľudovej architektúry – Vlkolíneč.

• **Slovenský** vývoz do Indonézie v roku 2010 dosiahol hodnotu 11 miliónov eur, čo predstavovalo v porovnaní s rokom 2009 nárast o 45 %. Vo vývoze SR do Indonézie v roku 2010 dominovali predovšetkým stroje a prepravné zariadenia (93.8 %), priemyselné výrobky (3.4 %), chemikálie a trhové výrobky (po 1.3 %) a surové materiály (0.2 %).

• **Golfové** ihrisko vo Veľkej Lomnici získalo licenciu PGA (Profesionálna golfová asociácia) Golf Course, ktorá je prvou a najstaršou členskou organizáciou pre golfových profesionálov vo svete. bola založená pre ochranu záujmov profesionálnych hráčov a podporu vývoja hry golfu. Podtatranské ihrisko tak dostalo značku rezortu svetovej triedy, čo môže prispieť k rozvoju regiónu. PGA tak bude podporovať aj slovenské golfové ihrisko Black Stork vo Veľkej Lomnici. Aplikáciu značky PGA bude ihrisko pokračovať vo výchove a rozvoji golfu pre lokálnych hráčov a hostí rezortu.

• **Spoločnosť** Kia Motors Slovakia, s.r.o., nedávno spustila v Tepličke nad Váhom sériovú výrobu modelu Kia Venga. Do úpravy technológií na produkciu nového modelu investovala spoločnosť v roku 2011 viac ako 40 miliónov eur. Kia Venga patrí do kategórie malých viacúčelových automobilov. Do automobilu Kia Venga budú montovať motory vyrobené v tomto závode. Ide o benzínové a dielové motory s objemom 1.4 a 1.6 litra. Zákazník bude mať na výber aj automatickú alebo manuálnu 5 a 6-stupňovú prevodovku podľa typu motora.

• **Pád** vlády Ivety Radičovej podľa lekárskych odborov nemení nič na ich štyroch požiadavkách a potrebe urgentných krokov na zabezpečenie funkčného systému poskytovania zdravotnej starostlivosti na Slovensku. Lekári sú presvedčení, že súčasná politická situácia nebráni dialógu a hľadaniu konštruktívnych riešení krízového stavu slovenského zdravotníctva. Naopak, považujú ju za ďalší dôvod na to, aby bola zastavená transformácia nemocníc na akciové spoločnosti. „Chceme veriť, že zdravie slovenských občanov je pre kompetentných tohto štátu za každých okolností prioritou a nestane sa obeťou politického boja. Pre nás nie je podstatné, kto je vo vláde. Pre nás je podstatné splnenie našich legítimných požiadaviek a zabezpečenie funkčného systému zdravotníctva pre pacientov, ale aj lekárov a zdravotných pracovníkov,“ uvádzajú sa v stanovisku.

• **Pád** vlády premiérky Ivety Radičovej je negatívnu správou pre rating Slovenska. Zvyšuje totiž neistotu a ohrozuje plnenie cieľov v oblasti konsolidácie verejných finančí, tvrdia analytici agentúry Moody's Investors Service. Moody's upozorňuje na to, že aktuálne prieskumy verejnej mienky favorizujú v predčasných voľbách stranu Smer-SD bývalého premiéra Roberta Fica, ktorá zrejme získa dostať hlasov na to, aby sa vrátila k moci. „Pád vládnej koalície ohrozenie konsolidáčné rozpočtové ciele, ktoré sa Radičovej vláda zaviazala splniť,“ uviedli analytici agentúry Jaime Reusche a Rebecca Karnovitzová. Poznamenali, že Slovensko zaznamenávalo počas predchádzajúcej vlády Roberta Fica vysoké deficit. Strana Smer-SD sa zatiaľ nevyjadriala, či má v úmysle rešpektovať tieto ciele týkajúce sa znižovania rozpočtového deficitu, ak sa opäť dostane k moci. Korekcia nutná na vyrovnanie rozsiahlych fískálnych nerovnováh bude vyžadovať, aby budúca vláda sprísnila fískálnu politiku, a to aj napriek prudko sa zhoršujúcim rastovým výhliadkam z dôvodu dlhovej krízy eurozóny a rizikám ohrozujúcim slovenskú ekonomiku. Informoval o tom Wall Street Journal.

• **Slovenské** strojárstvo, ktorého súčasťou je aj automobilový priemysel, zamestnáva v súčasnosti takmer 110 000 pracovníkov. Automobilový priemysel sa podieľa na tejto zamestnanosti približne 50 000 pracovnými miestami a troma štvrtinami na celkovej produkcií tržieb slovenského strojárstva. Strategickým cieľom z dlhodobého hľadiska je zachovanie konkurencieschopnosti Slovenska. Tento cieľ sa dá dosiahnuť v značnej miere optimalizáciou vzdelávacej sústavy všetkých stupňov, rešpektujúc pritom objektívne potreby slovenského trhu práce. Cesta k zabezpečeniu tohto cieľa viedie cez úzku spoluprácu vedy, škôl a praxe.

• Letiska M. R. Štefánika - Airport Bratislava (BTS) sa bude počas zimnej sezóny lietať do 18 destinácií. Okrem tradičných miest ako Londýn či Miláno sa budú môcť pasažieri dostať do Amsterdamu, Grand Canarie, Moskvy či na letisko Charles de Gaulle do Paríža. Počas sezóny, od 30. októbra tohto roka do 24. marca budúceho roka, budú môcť cestujúci využiť spojenia dopravcov Ryanair, České aerolínie, El Al, Utair Aviation a Danube Wings. Pôjde o linky do Belgicka, na Cyprus, do Francúzska, Holandska, Írska, Izraelu, Ruska, Španielska, Talianska a Veľkej Británie.

• **Císla** o nezamestnanosti v SR na úrovni 13.37 % zo septembra tohto roka sú najvyššie od januára 2005. „Slovenský trh práce sa tak vrátil o rekordných sedem rokov naspäť,“ reagoval na nedávno zverejnené údaje Ústredia práce, sociálnych vecí a rodiny (ÚPS-VaR) SR analytik UniCredit Bank Dávid Dereník. Dôvodom rastu nezamestnanosti, medzimesačne o 0.25 a medziročne o 0.95 percentuálneho bodu, boli podľa analytikov aj absolventi. Práve absolventov bolo v septembri v evidencii úradov práce celkovo 34 025, čo je 8.7 % zo všetkých viac ako 390 000 žiadateľov o zamestnanie.

• **Prezident** SR Ivan Gašparovič 25. októbra za prítomnosti predsedu Národnej rady (NR) SR Pavla Hrušovského (KDH) v Prezidentskom paláci odvolał premiérku Ivetu Radičovú (SDKÚ-DS) z funkcie a poveril ju vykonávaním jej pôsobnosti až do vymenovania novej vlády. Umožnila mu to novela Ústavy SR, ktorú minulý týždeň schválil parlament. Kabinet v súčasnom zložení by tak mal dovládnuť až do predčasných volieb, ktoré sa uskutočnia 10. marca 2012. Radičovej vláda nezískala dôveru parlamentu pri neúspešnom hlasovaní o posilnení dočasného eurovalu 11. októbra tohto roka.

• **Metropola** Slovenska prilákala podľa údajov Štatistického úradu v lete takmer 162 328 zahraničných turistov, čo je o takmer 27-tisíc viac ako vlni. Najväčšiu skupinu hostí tvorili tradične Česi a Nemci. Najvýraznejšie stúpol počet hostí z Číny, Rakúska a USA. Vedenie mesta teší veľký nárast turistov v Bratislave za mesiace jún, júl a august, dôvodom je aj koncepcia práce mesta, množstvo kultúrnych podujatí a program, počas letných mesiacov.

TASR a slovenské časopisy

Dóm sv. Alžbety v Košiciach sa zmenil na filmový ateliér



FOTO TASR – František Iván

V Košiciach sa 25. októbra 2011 konala TK k pripravovanému filmu Svet bez konca (World Without End), ktorý sa nakrúca aj v Košiciach. Na snímke zľava producent Howard Ellis a producent za SR Dalibor Vasica pred Dómom sv. Alžbety.

Preparations have begun in Kosice for the making of the film "Svet bez konca" (World Without End). In the photo outside of St. Elizabeth Cathedral in Kosice are the producer Howard Ellis (left) and Slovak producer Dalibor Vasica .

Dvestopäťdesaťčlenný zahraničný štáb, približne 50 ľudí zo Slovenska, viac ako stovka komparzistov, 50 kameramanov techniky, 25 obytných privesov pre hercov a produkciu, týždeň príprav a päť dní nakrúcania. Toto všetko sa zišlo koncom októbra v Košiciach kvôli nakrúteniu približne štvorminútovej sekvencie televíznej mini sérii Svet bez konca.

Projekt troch koprodukčných spoločností - Tandem Communications (Piliere zeme, Prsteň Nibelungov), Scot Free Films (The Good Wife, Numbers) a Take 5 Productions (Tudorovci, Borgiovcov) sa nakrúca s celkovým rozpočtom 44 miliónov dolárov, košická produkcia má rozpočet niekoľko stoviek tisícov dolárov. „Príbeh filmu je situovaný do mesta Kingsbridge v Anglicku v 14. storočí. Ďalho sme hľadali vhodný priestor pre nakrútenie scén, ktoré sa odohrávajú po páde mosta v mestečku, keď zranených prinášajú do kostola. Dóm sv. Alžbety sa ukázal najideálnejší pre túto produkciu, pretože sa zachoval takmer v pôvodnej gotickej podobe,“ vysvetlila prítomnosť filmárov v centre Košíc výkonná producentka filmu Rola Bauer.

Ako potvrdil producent projektu Howard Ellis, všetky ostatné scény sa vyrábajú v Maďarsku, kde filmári dokonca postavili stredoveké mestečko. Slovenskú produkciu v Košiciach zastupuje Dalibor Vasica. „Producentom sme prezentovali niekoľko lokalít, napríklad aj Bojnice, ale jednoznačne zvíťazili Košice,“ uviedol Vasica. Podľa neho ide o najväčšiu televíznu produkciu, aká kedy bola na Slovensku vyrábaná.

„Pre mesto je to ďalšia príležitosť, ako sa ukázať svetu. Aj tento film môže byť jedným z momentov, ako naše mesto zviditeľníme a ako sa oň môžu dozviedieť tí, ktorí možno doteraz o Košiciach nevedeli,“ poznamenal primátor Košíc Richard Raší.

Režisér filmu Michael Caton – Jones do hlavných úloh obsadil také svetové hviezdy, akými sú Cynthia Nixon, Ben Chaplin, či Miranda Richardson. Jedným z výkonných producentov je aj svetoznámy režisér Ridley Scott. Film by mal mať premiéru v treťom štvrtom roku budúceho roka.

TASR

V pamätný deň Černovskej tragédie otvorili výstavu fotografií

V Ružomberku si 27. októbra 2011 pripomerali pamätný Deň černovskej tragédie. Otvorili ho na Filozofickej fakulte Katolíckej univerzity v Ružomberku výstavou fotografií o Černovej. „Naším cieľom je predstaviť genius noci Černovej a podnetiť zápal mladých študentov, aby Černovú spoznávali a vedeli, čo znamená nielen pre slovenské dejiny, ale i pre súčasnosť,“ povedal Matúš Demko, jeden z autorov výstavy spolu s profesionálnym grafikom Tiborom Záhorcom.

Fotografie pochádzajú zväčša priamo od miestnych obyvateľov Černovej, ktorí ich sprístupnili autorom výstavy na digitalizáciu. Prvýkrát bola výstava sprístupnená už v roku 2007 na sté výročie Černovskej tragédie. Oddnes je expozícia umiestnená na Filozofickej fakulte KU v Ružomberku a jej vystavenej potrvá do konca aktuálneho zimného semestra.

Černovská tragédia sa stala 27. októbra 1907, pri posviatke kostola bolo zastrelených 15 ľudí a ďalšie desiatky boli ľahšie i väznejšie poranení.

TK KBS informoval Matúš Demko

Na Slovensku projekt Sviečka za nenaistené deti 2011

Na Slovensku 2. novembra vyvrcholil projekt s názvom Sviečka za nenaistené deti, ktorý už deväťkrát vytvára priestor na modlitby a pietnú spomienku na deti, ktoré zomreli ešte pred svojím narodením. Iba za minulý rok zomrelo podľa štatistiky Fóra života pri spontánnom potrate 4 636 detí a pri umelom potrate 12 582. „Žijeme v spoločnosti, ktorá sa ich snaží nevidieť počas ich života. My si na nich chceme spomenúť aspoň po ich smrti. Nech sa ich kratčký život aj vďaka našej spomienke stáva veľkým mementom pre všetkých a nech je zdrojom nádeje a sily pre rozhodnutie pre život,“ uviedol Marek Michalčík, výkonný riaditeľ Fóra života.

Spomienku na zomrelé nenaistené deti bolo možné vyjadriť 2. novembra umiestnením horiacej sviecie do okien domov, modlitbou alebo pietným stísením na vhodných miestach (pamätníky nenaistených, symbolické hroby nenaistených, nemocnice, kde sa vykonávajú potraty, chrámy ...) alebo účasťou na modlitbových pochodoch za nenaistené deti.

Fórum života už niekoľko rokov zbiera informácie o pamätníkoch a symbolických hroboch, ktoré sú venované nenaisteným deťom. V súčasnosti na Slovensku eviduje: 24 takýchto miest: „Pamätníky nenaistených sú vhodným miestom pre rodičov, ktorí prišli o svoje dieťaťko pred narodením. Takéto deti totiž zvyčajne nemajú vlastný hrob a tak rodičia majú aspoň na týchto miestach možnosť pomodiť sa za ne a spomenúť si na ne. Druhý význam takýchto miest je celospoločenský. Každý takýto pamätník je mementom pre spoločnosť, ktorá dovoluje nenaistené deti legálne usmríť.“

Projekt Sviečka za nenaistené deti sa realizuje s podporou a požehnaním biskupov Slovenska a s mediálnou podporou Katolíckych novín, Televízie LUX, Rádia Lumen, Duchovného pastiera, mesačníkov Slovo, Slovo medzi nami i časopisu Zrno. Viac informácií o Sviečke za nenaistené deti je možné nájsť na internetovej stránke www.forumzivotu.sk.

TK KBS



Katolícky fraternalistický dvojtýždenník Jednota



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

Ročník 120

STREDA, 9. NOVEMBRA 2011

Číslo 5852



Na Slovensku podákovanie za úrodu vo farnosti Nová Baňa.

The faithful give thanks for their bountiful harvest in the parish church in Nova Bana, Slovakia.

FOTO TK KBS/ Alžbeta Kováčiková

S velvyslancom USA Theodorem Sedgwickom v Bratislave

Z iniciatívy publicistu Mgr. Ivana Regulího sa uskutočnila návštěva na Americkom veľvyslanectve SR v Bratislavě, 26. októbra 2011 počas ktorej veľvyslanec USA, Theodore Sedgwick prijal vo svojej pracovni známeho americkejho vydavateľa Dr. Ladislava Bolchazyho. Americký veľvyslanec v Bratislave, Theodore Sedgwick patrí medzi osobnosti, ktoré podporujú umenie a kultúrne styky. Ladislava Bolchazyho zasa poznáme v Amerike ako vydavateľa, propagátora slovenskej literatúry v anglickom jazyku. Na prijatí, ktoré sa z plánovanej polhodinky pretiahlo na viac než hodinu sa veľvyslanec oboznamil nielen s knižnými dielami z vydavateľstva Bolchazy-Carducci Publishers, ale aj v srdečnom rozhovore vyzdvihol význam slovenských komunit v USA.



FOTO: Igor Schneeweis

Na snímke zľava: americký vydavateľ, Dr. Ladislav Bolchazy; veľvyslanec USA v Bratislave, Theodore Sedgwick a publicista v Bratislave, Mgr. Ivan Reguli.

Jeho Exelenciu, veľvyslancu Sedgwickovi, veľmi zaujal príbeh kardinála Jána Ch. Korca z jeho knihy *The Night of the Barbarians*, osudy internovaných rehoľníkov v päťdesiatych rokoch, ale pozorne si vypočul vydavateľove slová o náročnosti prípravy a vydania knihy *Slovak Songs* vrátane dvoch CD: *Resonantia Tatrae* (27 slovenských piesní v latincine) a *True Love, God, True Love* (27 slovenských piesní v angličtine). Na Slovensku sú takmer všetky knihy z vydavateľstva Bolchazy-Carducci Publishers vypredané, ale v USA sa niektoré ešte dajú objednať.

Ivan Reguli

Zomrel rožňavský emeritný biskup Mons. Eduard Kojnok



Biskup Eduard Kojnok

"Plní kresťanskej nádeje Vám oznamujeme, že 27. októbra 2011, v skorých ranných hodinách, vo veku 78 rokov, si Pán života a smrti povoľal rožňavského emeritného biskupa Mons. Eduarda Kojnoka. Knazskú vysviacku prijal dňa 24. júna 1956, rožňavským diecézny biskupom sa stal 18. marca 1990, 27.12.2008 Sv. Otec Benedikt XVI. prijal jeho zrieknutie sa úradu a stal sa rožňavským emeritným biskupom. Odporúčame ho do Vašich modlitieb," uviedol v správe kancelár Kerul.

Eduard Kojnok sa narodil 14. augusta 1933 vo Veľkej Suchej (Hrnciarska Ves). Ordinovaný za knaza bol 24.06.1956 v Bratislave. Za administrátora rožňavskej diecézy bol Svätým Otcom Jánom Pavlom II. menovaný 14. februára 1990. Úradu sa ujal 18.02.1990 a na biskupa bol konsekravaný 18. marca 1990 v Rožňave J.Em. Jozefom kardinálom Tomkom.

TK KBS



FOTO TASR – Milan Kapusta

Dedinský cintorín v obci Horovce, v okrese Michalovce počas Sviatku všetkých svätých, zdobia väčšinou doma vypestované kvety 1. novembra 2011.

All Saints Day in the village cemetery of Horovce near Michalovce, Slovakia.

NA DUŠIČKY

Slovenský ľud pri hroboch svojich najbližších, skromne kľačí, smútok mu srdce zviera, slza do očí, sa mu tlačí.

Ved tu odpočívajú svoj sen, starí rodičia, otec, matka, sestra, brat, môj spolužiak, učiteľka, pán farár, priateľka a môj, najlepší kamarát. Hrobové ticho, je výrazom úcty, pre tých, ktorí nás predišli na druhý svet.

Kytica kvetov, kytica červených ruží, je viac, ako upletený, zlatý kvet. Tisícky sviečok a kahancov, ožiarili celý cintorín a ústa šepťajú sv. ruženec, a dav ľudu, prosí Všemohúceho o milosť a šťastlivý, na svete koniec. „Odpočinutie večné, daj im Pane a svetlo večné, nech im svieti až na veky, vekov, A M E N“.

Jozef Smák