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Volume 120

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2011

NUMBER 5853

From the desk of the Executive Secretary –
Kenneth A. Arendt



**ATTENTION ALL
SCHOLARSHIP
APPLICANTS**



The First Catholic Slovak Union is pleased to announce it is accepting applications for its 2012 Scholarship Program.

Seventy (70) ONE-TIME SCHOLARSHIPS in the amount of \$750.00 each will be awarded to the winners. In addition, a ONE-TIME "Philip Hrobak Scholarship" and "Stephanie Husek Scholarship" in the amount of \$1,000.00 each will be awarded to the highest ranking male and female applicants respectively.

Three additional ONE-TIME SCHOLARSHIPS of \$750.00 each will be given from the "John A. Sabol Nursing Scholarship Fund" to applicants who have been accepted into either an approved three or four year hospital nursing program or a fully-accredited college of their choice.

In addition, **upon proof of college graduation sent to the Home Office**, each recipient will be issued a \$3,000 Single Premium Life Insurance Policy.

The rules and requirements are as follows:

1. Applicants must have a minimum of \$5,000.00 reserve insurance (Ordinary Whole Life, Twenty Pay Whole Life, or Single Premium Whole Life) with F.C.S.U. for at least four years prior to April 1st of the year of graduation from high school; or an applicant must have \$10,000.00 or more of JEP Term Insurance with the F.C.S.U. for at least four years prior to April 1st of the year of graduation from high school. **All scholarship winners must maintain this insurance in force during their college years. Applicants must be insured prior to April 1, 2008 to be eligible under the rules of this period.**

2. Applicants must apply for grants in the Spring of their senior year of high school, between the ages of 17 and 19.

3. Applicants must have applied for the Fall term of 2012 at a qualifying institution. Proof of college admission must be sent to the Home Office with the application.

4. Applicants must submit an official Scholarship application that can be obtained from a branch officer, the scholarship department of the F.C.S.U.; or download an application from www.fcsu.com.

5. Applicants must submit a completed application to: Scholarship Program, First Catholic Slovak Union, 6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence, OH 44131 not later than February 28, 2012.

continued on page 3

Inside

Editorial/Commentary2

Coloring Contest 4 & 5

Branch/District Announcements .14, 15

Slovak21 - 24



The Officers and Members of the Board of Directors of the First Catholic Slovak Union of the United States and Canada extend their most sincere Fraternal Greetings and Best Wishes to all Members as we enter the season of Advent.

Thank you for keeping the tradition alive.

Rev. Thomas A. Nasta.....Chaplain
Andrew M. Rajec.....President
Andrew R. Harcar, Sr.....Vice-President
Kenneth A. Arendt..... Executive Secretary
George F. Matta.....Treasurer

QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION OF THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA

HOME OFFICE (TELECONFERENCE)
6611 ROCKSIDE ROAD, SUITE 300
INDEPENDENCE, OHIO 44131

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

SATURDAY, December 17, 2011

The Quarterly Business Meeting of the Board of Directors of the First Catholic Slovak Union of the United States and Canada will be held on Saturday, December 17, 2011 at 9:00 a.m. (telephonically).

The monthly Executive Committee Meeting will be held on Friday, December 16, 2011.

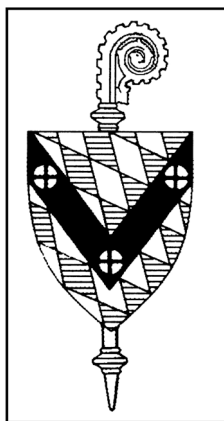
All correspondence relative to the Quarterly Business Meeting of the Board of Directors should be directed to the attention of the Executive Secretary, Kenneth A. Arendt, and should be sent for receipt at the Home Office prior to December 12, 2011.

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

Andrew M. Rajec
President

Kenneth A. Arendt
Executive Secretary

Insights and Viewpoints



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

December 4, 2011
Second Sunday of Advent
Mark 1:1-8

Gospel Summary

At the very outset, Mark declares his gospel to be the "good news." He dares to say this in a world that is broken and weary because this gospel announces the consistent divine initiative to bring about a new creation where peace and harmony will prevail over pride and violence. This new beginning occurs at the coming of Jesus and easily transcends the original creation in scope and significance. If in fact God's dream for a world of peace and justice has not been fulfilled, it is due entirely to the obstacles, which we have placed in its path.

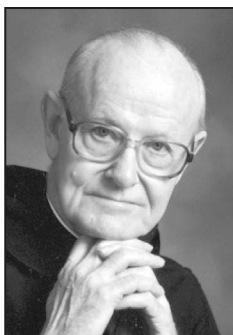
Thus, when Mark tells us that the career of John the Baptist was described already in the words of Isaiah (40,3), he is also telling us that opening the road for the coming of the Lord is still a major problem. The desert is a wild and challenging place, a place that demands attention, for it strips away all that is superfluous in human life. We are still preventing the coming of the Lord by refusing to open ourselves to the radical implications of the message of Jesus.

It is for this reason that the baptism of John is called a baptism of repentance. It represents an expression of regret for having refused to accept fully the implications of the coming of the Lord. On the other hand, it has a positive aspect also which is a declaration of personal readiness to make room in our lives for the Lord, however costly that may be.

Life Implications

One of the major ways in which we prevent the coming of the Lord is our fear that, if we don't focus our attention primarily on our own interests, we will lose control of our lives and be pulled apart by the needs of others. In fact, Jesus means to choose to commit oneself to live as unselfishly as one's freedom permits...which usually means a little more than we think is possible. This doesn't mean that we should become doormats but it does mean that the needs of others must not be the last and least concern in our lives. In other words, it means to put our lives and our futures into the hands of a gracious God as we strive to make the love and gentleness of Jesus present in our world.

All of this may sound like a life of endless self-denial and very little fun or happiness. However, such a conclusion can be reached only by those who have not really tried to live by the



Demetrius R. Dumm
O.S.B.

wisdom of Jesus. The fact is that those who really care about others are the happiest people on earth. In this Sunday's gospel, John the Baptist urges us to remove the roadblocks of fear and self-centeredness in our lives and thus assure a truly joyous Advent celebration.



December 11, 2011

Third Sunday of Advent

John 1:6-8, 19-28

Gospel Summary

The gospel passage tells us about a man named John who was sent by God to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. This is the way the testimony happened. Religious leaders from Jerusalem came to find out who he was. John tells them that he is not the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet. He does say: "I am the voice of one crying out in the desert, make straight the way of the Lord . . ." Then John is asked: "Why do you baptize . . . ?" He answers: "I baptize with water; but there is one among you whom you do not recognize, the one who is coming after me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie."

Life Implications

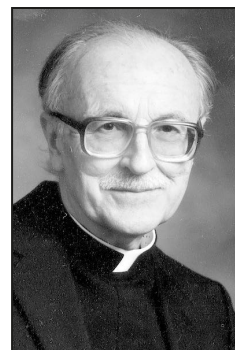
The life implication of this gospel passage is ultimate in its significance: whether or not we recognize God's coming among us in Jesus Christ. The passage is from the prologue of John's gospel (1:1-34) in which are contained the essential doctrinal truths about Jesus. It is better to read the entire prologue for oneself than to read a summary here. What is essential to note is that in the prologue we have the essential truths about Jesus. Only then does John begin his gospel narrative. Jesus himself now appears on the scene, and personally addresses two men who had heard about him and were following him. Jesus asks: "What are you looking for?" They reply: "Where do you dwell?" Jesus says to them: "Come, and you will see."

We, the readers of the gospel, already know from the prologue that Jesus, Son of God and the Word, has dwelt with God and was God "in the beginning." John then in the gospel narrative proceeds to tell us how various people came to recognize the divine reality of Jesus through the gift of faith. Tragically, however, we learn that others, with hardened hearts, failed to recognize him, thus remaining blind in darkness. The gospel tells us about the miracles or signs which occasioned both the recognition and the rejection of Jesus.

At the conclusion of his gospel, John tells us that Jesus did many other signs which he did not write about. But, he adds, these signs are written "that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through this belief you may have life in his name (Jn 20:30-31).

The life implication for us is the same as it was for the people who heard about Jesus during his historical life. How do we cross that infinite space between blindness and sight, between hearing about Jesus and recognizing him as the divine person who desires to dwell in us? (Read Jn 14-17.) As in John's gospel, it is through miracles or signs that the divine presence is revealed. For some, John's gospel can become a sign which occasions the recognition of Jesus as living Lord. For others, it may be reading the words of a saint, receiving an act of kindness, seeing a person in need, experiencing an odd coincidence, seeing the beauty of art, music, or nature. Even a tragic event in one's life can become a miracle or sign which leads to the recognition of the divine presence.

Advent is a special time for open-hearted prayer of hope for the gift of recognizing God's coming among us. If today you should hear his voice, harden not your heart. Lord, I believe, help my unbelief.



Campion P. Gavalier,
O.S.B.

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

NEWSPAPER DEADLINES

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

Issue Date	Copy Date
WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 7	MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28
WEDNESDAY JANUARY 4	TUESDAY DECEMBER 27
WEDNESDAY JANUARY 18	MONDAY, JANUARY 9

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.

Send all copy (English AND Slovak) to:
 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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Right to Life March

Our presence at the 39th Annual Right to Life March on January 23rd, 2012 in Washington, DC is extremely important. The First Catholic Slovak Union, together with the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, support the position of the Pro Life Movement.



The FCSLA and FCSU are once again offering free transportation from the FCSLA Home Office for this very important trip. For the past few years we have filled two buses for this march. Again this year, we will reserve two buses for the march. Our organizations are proud to encourage our members along with the many young students from area Catholic High Schools to participate. It is a very rewarding experience to actively participate and help to relay this very important message of supporting the Right to Life mission.

Will you join us? Please call Sue Ann at the FCSLA Home Office. Her phone number is 1-800-464-4642, EXT. 1051 or email her at sueann@fcsu.org for details or questions and to reserve your seat on the bus before December 30th.

If you would like to attend and are unable to join those leaving from the FCSLA Home Office, please look online for information and transportation from your area. There are many ProLife Groups that offer transportation. If you cannot find information please call or email Sue Ann for assistance.



From the desk of the Executive Secretary

continued from page 1

6. Applications will be accepted only on the proper forms. INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS (THOSE WHICH ARE RECEIVED NOT FULLY COMPLETED OR DO NOT HAVE ALL ATTACHMENTS) WILL BE INVALID AND WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED BY THE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE.

7. Winners will be chosen by the Scholarship Committee (an independent group of educators) according to their individual merit in categories of high school cumulative grade point averages, extracurricular activities, talents, achievements, initiative, communication skills, transcripts and S.A.T. and/or A.C.T. test scores.

8. Final award checks will be made payable to the winners upon submitting a **proof of college enrollment not later than the fall term of the following year** (fall semester of 2013).

Applications must be postmarked by midnight, February 28, 2012. All applications without the above stipulated postmark will be considered invalid.



Ss Cyril & Methodius Celebrates Vilija on December 9

A Slovak Christmas event called "Vilija" (va-LĚĚ-yah) sponsored by Ss. Cyril & Methodius R.C. Christian Mothers is set for Friday, December 9 at 6:00 p.m. The Slovak people call it "šťedry večer" – meaning "bountiful evening." The Vilija, literally "vigil" in Slovakia, is the Christmas Eve Holy Supper. It is a meatless 12-item meal to commemorate Christ's birth (12 items representing the 12 apostles). Admission is \$18.00 per person. (12 and under \$9.00) The number of reservations is limited and are accepted with full payment. Checks payable to Ss. Cyril & Methodius Christian Mothers. The cost includes: dinner and entertainment by Pittsburgh Area Slovak folk ensemble (PÁS). They will perform Slovak dancing, as well as sell Slovak items, including donations from the FCSU such as Branch 367's Audrey Balazik, Branch 313's Katherine Baranek and Region 4 Director James Marmol.

Please call with questions: Jean Thompson at (724) 564-2641, 24 E. Church St., Fairchance, PA 15436 or Karen Reckard at (724) 564-4383. Without a doubt, one of the most awaited and alluring days of the Christmas season is Christmas Eve. Come along and help us celebrate the Slovak heritage and their cherished traditions! This event will be held in the Ss. C & M Church Hall, 50 N. Morgantown Street, Fairchance, PA 15436

LIGHT ONE CANDLE

Jerry Costello for The Christopherss

A Rocker's Sainly Devotion

Well, talk about your unexpected pairings of people...believe me, they don't get more unusual than this.

Take a legendary rock musician, join him to an equally-legendary Italian saint...and you end up with, of all things, a winning combination.

There are surprises galore in this tale, which I read about in a feature story by George P. Matysek Jr. in The Catholic Review of Baltimore. For one thing, the rock musician--saxophonist Ray Herrmann, star performer with Chicago and other contemporary music groups--turns out to be a faithful Catholic who attends Mass every Sunday and gets to daily Mass whenever he can. And the saint--St. Alphonsus Liguori, the 18th-century Neapolitan best known for founding the Redemptorist order of priests--was also a distinguished artist who composed a dazzling array of spiritual music. They "got together" some 250 years apart when Herrmann recorded some of St. Alphonsus' classical compositions as devotional aids to such traditional Catholic practices as saying the rosary and praying the Stations of the Cross. The results are available for listening at www.tinyurl.com/rherm11, and you can order all three CDs at littellambmusic.com. All proceeds go to support Redemptorist missions in South America and Africa.

Herrmann's rock musician credentials are in perfect order. He's been on all the late-night television shows, played on film soundtracks, performed with everyone from Stevie Wonder to LeAnn Rimes, and it's his tenor sax solo you hear on "Jump, Jive and Wail" by Brian Setzer. But doing the CDs of the music by St. Alphonsus--the result of an initiative by the Denver Province of the Redemptorists--brought him closer to God.

"St. Alphonsus wanted to bring home to the common Italian the message of the Gospel," Herrmann told the Review. "We want people who hear these CDs to take action, using them as a prayer aid to gain more insights into the Gospel."

St. Alphonsus Liguori proves to be a many-talented priest, a "man for all seasons" in his time and beyond. He earned a law degree before becoming a priest, and then gained a reputation as an artist--a writer, painter, architect, sculptor, harpsichordist and composer, all in addition to his many priestly accomplishments.

"Listening to St. Alphonsus' music and digging deeper into his lyrics reached my heart immediately," Herrmann said. "Don't get me wrong: Vivaldi's 'Four Seasons' is wonderful, but St. Alphonsus goes deeper and touches your soul."

Of all the things I've ever done the three projects featuring St. Alphonsus' writings and music have been the most satisfying and the most gratifying."

Herrmann spends much of his life on tour, and finds that fellow rock musicians respect him for taking his faith seriously.

"I think it's very easy to be a good human being with the Catholic Church if you follow the magisterium and take the sacraments," he said. "I try to share that with others. I know it works for me and it works for my wife. If I can share that, I'm happy."

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



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 Onnoonnony, 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.



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.

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

THINK ABOUT IT!

FCSU 2011 Christmas Coloring Contest

THE ADORATION OF THE WISE MEN

B

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



A



dailycoloringpages.com

C



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

RULES

- 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
- Enlarged reproductions of picture A, B, or C will be disqualified.
- Pictures are allowed to be reproduced for families with more than one child in a particular age group.
- Children **MUST** be members in good standing of the FCSU in order to be eligible for prizes.
- Your child's completed entry form, colored picture, and a photo of your child must be postmarked by **December 31, 2011**.
- Mail to:
 Susan Ondrejco
 Fraternal Activities Director
 234 Ilion St.
 Pittsburgh, PA 15207

Please submit this form with your child's entry by December 31, 2011

Child's Name: _____ Age: _____
 Certificate Number: _____ Branch Number: _____
 (MUST be filled in)
 Street Address: _____
 City, State, Zip: _____
 Phone Number: _____
 Email Address: _____
 Sweatshirt Size: Youth S M L XL Adult S M L

PRIZES

Winners in each Region and age group will receive the following:

- 1st Place – Jednota Sweatshirt and \$25.00**
2nd Place – Jednota Sweatshirt and \$15.00
3rd Place – Jednota Sweatshirt and \$10.00
Honorable Mention – \$5 Gift Card



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



(L- R) Indiana Fraternal Alliance President Ed Seykowski, Thrivent Financial for Lutherans; Fraternalist of the Year Kimberly Ailes, Royal Neighbors of America, Director; Andrew R. Harcar, Sr., FCSU National Vice President.

Indiana Fraternal Alliance Fraternalist of the Year

On Friday, September 23, 2011 the 113th Annual Meeting of the Indiana Fraternal Alliance took place in Lafayette, Indiana. Fraternalist Kimberly Ailes received the Fraternalist of the Year award.



Order Christmas Oplatky and Slovak Christmas Cards

Oplatky, the traditional Slovak Christmas wafers and Slovak Christmas cards are available from Jankola Library. Orders will be accepted from October 24 until December 16, 2011.

The Oplatky, five per packet, thermal-sealed and securely packaged can be obtained for a donation of \$3.00. The price for one package of 9 Slovak Christmas cards is \$6.75. In addition, shipping and processing has a minimum cost of \$5.75 and upwards. Customized requests can be packaged to meet your needs.

For more information or to place an order contact

Sister Catherine Labouré, SS.C.M. at 570-275-5606 or
 write to Jankola Library and Slovak Museum
 580 Railroad Street, Villa Sacred Heart, Danville, PA 17821-1698.

The First Catholic Slovak Union is now accepting

VISA, Mastercard and Discover credit cards

as newspaper subscription payments.

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



Book Corner

2011 Edition of the Good Shepherd - Dobry Pastier Offers Great Reading



For those interested in a variety of articles related to our Slovak faith traditions, heritage and cultural life, this year's edition of The Good Shepherd - Dobry Pastier published by the Slovak

Catholic Federation makes for great reading. The Very Rev. Philip A. Altavilla, V.G., national president of the Slovak Catholic Federation, is pleased to announce that the 2011 centennial-year edition is off the press. This year's volume includes an interesting and informative array of articles on a variety of topics, including a history of the Slovak Catholic Federation, the representative body of American Catholics of Slovak ancestry as well as photos from the organization's 100th anniversary celebration held in Scranton, Pa. on May 15, 2011. This year's edition is appropriately dedicated to the memory of founder of the Slovak Catholic Federation, the Rev. Jozef Murgas. It was Father Murgas' invitation to journey to Willkes-Barre, Pa. in 1911 that led to the establishment of the organization which has enjoyed such an important and prominent role in American Slovak life.

This year's 318-page edition, masterfully edited by Sister Bernadette Marie Ondus, SS.C.M. of Danville, Pa. is chock full of articles in English and Slovak from the pen of a number of writers who bring to life so many informative articles related to the Slovak community, both in the United States and Canada as well as in Slovakia. Included in the edition are articles by such well-known personalities as Bishop Joseph V. Adamec, Dr. Mikulas Halko, Sister Jeanne Ambre, SS.C.M., Dr. Michael J. Kopanic, Jr., Sister Maria Theresa Hronec, SS.C.M., Margaret A. Ferri, Rev. George M. Franko, Paul Berish, Sister M. John Vianney Vranak, SS.C.M., Sister Mary Ann Flannery, S.C., Ivan S. Kralik, Dr. Anthony J. Sutherland, Cecilia Novotny Rahl, Joseph J. Hornack, Jerry Jaroslav Krupa and Daniel F. Tanzone among others.

In addition, the volume includes the list of donors to the annual SS. Cyril and Methodius Appeal of the Slovak Catholic Federation which supports the ministry of the Pontifical Slovak College of SS. Cyril and Methodius in Rome and religious communities of men and women in Slovakia. Found in the volume is a directory of American and Canadian parishes of Slovak heritage as well as a list of American and Canadian bishops and priests of Slovak ancestry. The names and addresses of the hierarchy of both the Roman and Byzantine Rites in Slovakia along with the addresses of religious communities of men and women there may be found. The Good Shepherd makes the perfect Christmas gift. Cost of the volume is just \$15.00 plus \$4.00 for postage and handling. Make checks payable to Slovak Catholic Fed-

eration and send same to the national secretary-treasurer, Dolores M. Evanko, 183 Berner Ave., Hazleton, PA 18201. We highly recommend The Good Shepherd to our readers.

After the founding of the Slovak Catholic Federation, the need for a publication was evident. The publication of Dobry Pastier, originally only in Slovak, had its beginnings in 1919 when the Rev. (later Monsignor) Stephen J. Krasula of New York City became its first editor. It remained a monthly for many decades until becoming an annual in 1970. A number of clergy, religious and laity have served as editor over the past 92 years.

Our congratulations once again to the Slovak Catholic Federation and in particular to Sister Bernadette Marie Ondus, SS.C.M., editor, on yet another very interesting and informative edition of The Good Shepherd. It belongs in every American Slovak home!

- Daniel F. Tanzone



Slovak Literature Publisher and FCSU Member Ladislav Bolchazy At US Embassy in Bratislava

The US Ambassador to Slovakia, His Excellency Theodore Sedgwick, met with Ladislav Bolchazy, principal of Bolchazy-Carducci Publishers and member of the FCSU, on October 26, 2011 at the US Embassy in Bratislava, Slovakia. The meeting was arranged by the Slovak Publisher Ivan Reguli. They discussed, among other topics, the book The Night of The Barbarians. These memoirs of Slovak Cardinal Korec, with forewords by Czech President Václav

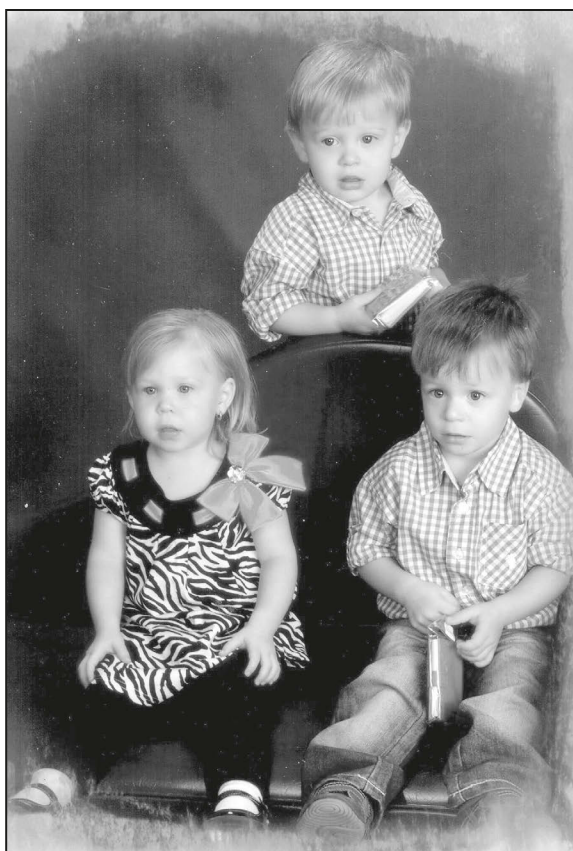


Text and photo: His Excellency Mr. Theodore Sedgwick (in the middle) received Dr. Ladislav Bolchazy (left) and publisher Mgr. Ivan Reguli (right). Photo courtesy of Igor Schneeweis

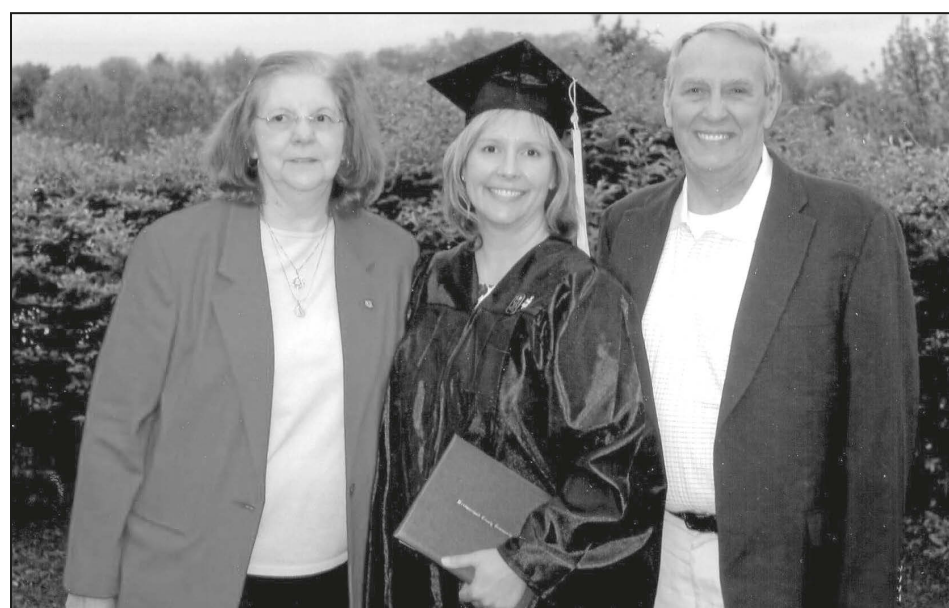
Havel, Pope John Paul and Cardinal McCarrick, was published in English by Bolchazy-Carducci Publishers. The publishing house, which also publishes classical Greek and Latin literature in America, also offers an extensive list of Slovak titles to the English-speaking world, ranging from dictionaries, fairy tales, history books and tourist guides to picture books about Slovak culture. Mr. Reguli noted that, in Slovakia, the books published by Bolchazy-Carducci regularly sell out, although some can be ordered from the US.



FCSU Triplets Celebrate Second Birthday in September



(L – R) The Chuba Triplets - Jessica, John and Jacob – celebrated their second birthday on Sept 25, 2011, with parents Joe and Jana Chuba and grandparents John and Monica Chuba. All the children are members of Branch 450, as are their father and grandfather.



(L – R) Katherine Nowatkoski, Michelle Francowic, and Bernard Nowatkoski

Branch 856 Michelle Francowic Graduates

Michelle Francowic daughter of Bernard and Katherine Nowatkoski of Herndon, VA, graduated from Westmoreland County Community College with a degree in Radiology Technology. She was an honors graduate, and attained the Dean's List. She is a member of Phi Theta Kappa.

Michelle is a member of Branch 856 where her mother is Financial Secretary/Treasurer. Michelle lives in Monessen, PA, with her husband Michael and four children – all of whom are members of Branch 856.

Honoring Helene Cinebeaux:

Excerpts from Slovak Treasures – and American Slovaks

By Lubos Brieda, an excerpt from his 2010 blog on Slovakcooking.com

[Editor's Note: as FCSU member Helene Cincebeaux, celebrates several milestones – the 100th edition of her magazine and planning her 75th tour to Slovakia – it seems appropriate to print this thoughtful article about meeting the indomitable Helene for the first time ...]



The first time I met Helene was in Slovakia, during my two month visit in the winter of 2010. Helene was in Piešťany celebrating her mom's birthday, and invited me to come. I had no idea who this person was or why she was inviting me! But I went anyway, and learned about Helene's love for Slovakia, her adopted "homeland". Some 24 years ago, Helene established the Slovak Heritage & Folklore Society International, which among other things publishes the quarterly Slovakia magazine read by some 1400 families and institutions worldwide. She also created a database of some 29,000 Slovak surnames and villages used for genealogy research. However, Helene's greatest contributions are her annual Treasures Tours. Through these tours, she has introduced almost 2,000 people to Slovak culture, traditions, history, and yes, cuisine.

Helene and her colleagues lead three tours each year, the first one, titled Immersion in Slovak Art & Crafts, Villages & Castles takes visitors from the spa town of Piešťany through my hometown of Banská Bystrica to the national park Slovak Paradise. The stops include meeting artisans skilled in lace making, egg decoration, wood carving, and floral embroidery. The second tour, the Treasures of Slovakia tour, also visits my hometown on its way to the historical Bardejov. There is also rafting in Pieniny, Detva folk festival, visit to the Spiš Castle, and a Rusyn village, before heading back to Bratislava and Vienna. Finally, the Magical Byways of Hungary, Slovakia, Poland, Czech Republic and Austria tour takes visitors to five central-European countries, and explores off-the-beaten path treasures such as the Zakopane region in Poland or Strážnice in Czech Moravia.



(L – R) Ed Bach, BR 581; Fr. Flaraty, Celebrant; Rudy Bernath, Director Region 7; George Kelchak, BR 581; Fr. John Kalicky, Pastor St. John the Baptist; John Jurcenko, President District 2.

Mass at St. JohnThe Baptist In Whiting, IN

FCSU BR 581 began their autumn meeting on October 16, 2011 with Mass at the St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Whiting, IN. Br 581 had the privilege of presenting the gifts during Mass. Before leaving church, members had the opportunity to view the stained glass windows for which the FCSU has provided substantial support over the years.

The meeting was called to order by Region 7 Director Rudy Bernath. BR 581 members Ed Bach and George Kelchak cited statistics which showed the need for Life Insurance. A young man talked about the youth activities at St. John the Baptist Church. BR 581 hopes that some of these activities will increase membership in BR 581. A light lunch was provided by the FCSU after the meeting.

Rudy Bernath, Region 7 Director



Delegates to last year's FCSU Convention will remember the stunning collection of Slovak kroj exhibited by Helene, a Society member and avid collector of Slovak folk art and folk dress. Some of her collection also has been on display in the FCSU Home Office Museum. Here, Helene participates in the Slovak Radio Club's 2011 Great Slovak Festival held in Parma, OH.

The real treasures of her tours are the snippets of traditional daily lives that she collects along the way. These are all listed on the 170 pages of her new book "Slovakia! Traditions Old & New." Inside, you will learn about New Year's Eve and Three Kings Day, Fašiangy and Easter celebrations, raising of the May Pole, weddings and village life, coats of arms, name days, folk dances and dresses, Romani parties, Fall harvest and pig slaughter (zabíjačka), advent and All Souls Day, and about Slovak castles and the beautifully decorated wooden homes. And of course, much info about traditional Slovak cuisine, cooking, and dining.



For more information contact: Helene Cincebeaux, SH&FSI Director & Editor of Slovakia SH&FSI,

151 Colebrook Dr. Rochester NY 14617 Telephone: (585) 342-9383 email: helenezx@aol.com



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.

Reminder...

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

phone at 216/642-9406 or 1/800-533-6682.

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

Focus on Fraternalism

Kollar Legacy of Lifelong FCSU Fraternalism Reflected In Posthumous Dedication to Branch 595 (Tatra Hall)

by Debra Kollar, Branch 595

Many members may recall reading about the December, 2011 passing of Louis (Louie) Kollar in the January 19, 2011 issue of the Jednota. Louie was very involved at both the local branch level and the national level. He began attending national FCSU Conventions beginning in 1949. In fact, when cleaning out the family home, his children even found the souvenir program from the 1949 FCSU 30th Convention held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Along with it was the banquet program and Louie's delegate nametag, which in those days was a badge made of metal and ribbon. He missed two conventions while in the Service. After returning from the Service in 1953, he attended and was a delegate at every FCSU Convention. He was appointed to the By-Laws Committee for one convention and was Secretary of the Election Committee for five conventions. At the FCSU 1994 Chicago convention he was appointed Chairman of the Election Committee, an office he held for the next four conventions. He was again appointed Chairman of the Election Committee for the 2010 convention, but his health prevented him from attending the convention. Louie also enjoyed going to state meetings and national picnics whenever he could.

At the local level, Louie practically grew up at Tatra Hall Branch 595 as his parents Alois and Mary Kollar were longtime members since immigrating to the United States. In fact, the children also found newspaper clippings of the groundbreaking of the branch's new building and in the picture were Louie and his father. An advertisement for the grand opening celebration on December 5, 1959 was along with it. Louie was chairman of the dinner-dance celebration. Over his 82 ½ years as a member of Tatra Hall Branch 595, he served on many committees, was always actively involved in events, and served as an officer beginning in 1949. He was Treasurer for two years before leaving to serve in the Korean War in 1951. Upon his return from the War in 1953, he ran for the office of Financial Secretary and won. He began those duties on January 1, 1954 and continued in that office until his death on December 30, 2011. He served 57 years as Financial Secretary of Tatra Hall Branch 595! His children recall him verbally teaching them about dedication and his actions certainly made him an excellent role-model!

Louie's dedication to his local Branch 595 has continued on after his death. As part of their estate, he and his late wife (Doris Kollar) left \$5,000 to Tatra Hall Branch 595. There were instructions that went along with this money. The money was to be used to have a Dinner-Dance for all the members of Tatra Hall Branch 595 and some personal friends Louie and Doris wanted to attend. This came as no surprise to their family and the members. Louie and Doris loved the many Dinner-Dances they attended over the years at Tatra Hall. One was thrown for most every holiday and to celebrate the Branch's anniversary each year. Louie will probably be best remembered for sitting by the door selling tickets for entry to events and for drinks. After all, he was in charge of the money for 57+ years! He became such an icon at his spot at the Dinner-Dances and other events, that many commented at his visitation and funeral that we will all see Louie again when it is our time to enter the Golden Gates of heaven for he will be sitting there, with his beloved Doris at his side, selling tickets!

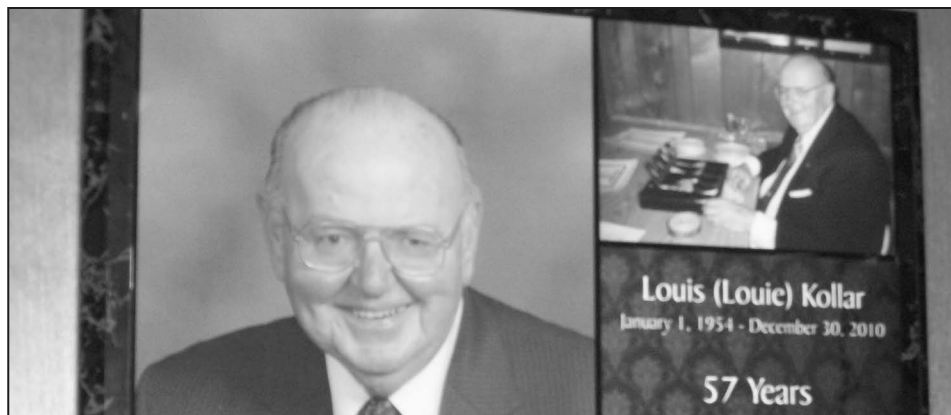
Louie and Doris' wishes were honored and their children held the Dinner-Dance at Tatra Hall on Saturday, July 16, 2011. Over 125 people attended. Dinner was provided, a D.J. supplied music for dancing, and members could help themselves to all the beverages they wanted. Louie and Doris wanted their legacy to live on by showing their gratitude to the members of Tatra Hall Branch 595 and for the many years of fun and fraternalism they had at Tatra Hall. The highlight of the night came when the officers of Branch 595 presented Louie and Doris' five children with a beautiful plaque commemorating the 57 years of service Louie dedicated to Tatra Hall Branch 595 as the Financial Secretary. You can see in the photo of the plaque that it has two pictures of Louie. One is his portrait and the other is of Louie doing none other than . . . selling tickets at an event! This plaque of honor and remembrance now hangs prominently in Tatra Hall.

That was not the end of Louie's legacy though. As outlined in Louie and Doris' wishes, any remaining money after the dinner-dance was to be given to Tatra Hall. On Sunday, September 18, 2011 two of their children attended the Branch's monthly meeting and presented the membership and officers with a check for over \$2,000. Louie and Doris must have been looking down from heaven that day, as a topic of discussion at the meeting was the strapped finances of Tatra Hall. So, even in death Louie and his wife Doris continued to show their dedication and commitment to FCSU Branch 595.

Indeed, in a letter Louie left his children and had written years before his death, he ended with a notation, "Keep an eye on Tatra Hall, FCSU, Branch 595. My parents said it was my second home." No one could argue that it was not his second home. He was a lifelong member of FCSU Branch 595 Tatra Hall. He was born one block away in an upstairs apartment. He and his parents always lived within walking distance to Tatra Hall. Louie attended high school and played football one block away. He took office as Treasurer at the age of twenty-one. At the age of 25 ½ he began his 57 year reign as Financial Secretary, until his death at the age of 82 ½! His dedication never stopped, not even at the time of his death. Yes, he and Doris left money to Tatra Hall. However, Louie also had a stipulation for his funeral procession, which his children often heard over the years and he reminded them in his letter. "Once around Tatra Hall!!", was the request. So, the hearse took him once around FCSU Branch 595 Tatra Hall on his way to St. Mary's Cemetery, Louie's final resting place.



The Officers of FCSU, Branch 595 Tatra Hall (L – R): Doug Zuidema (Financial Secretary), Donna Stone (Recording Secretary), Sandy McCarthy (Hall Manager), Frank McCarthy (President), Cora Garcia (Trustee), Emmett Moore (Trustee), Dave Cooper (Trustee). Not Pictured: Frances Kolenic (Vice-President), Joyce Kelley (Sick Committee), Dawn Goodman (Hall Rental).



A photographic plaque of Louis (Louie) Kollar who was a dedicated Financial Secretary for FCSU Branch 595 for 57 years is displayed prominently in Tatra Hall.

By the way, this is only blocks away from Tatra Hall. How appropriate that Louie's final resting place is not far from his second home!

Yes, Louie Kollar left his legacy with FCSU, nationally and at his local Tatra Hall Branch 595. He will always be remembered for his dedication, commitment, and, most of all, his fraternalism, which is what the FCSU is built on and is all about. Louie Kollar will long live on in all our hearts. I am so very proud to be able to call Louie my Dad and one of my best friends. I attended several FCSU national conventions and picnics with him as a child and then after my mother passed away. I was honored to witness the pride and devotion he had for his Slovak heritage and the friendships he had made with so many FCSU members and national officers across the United States and Canada. A fond memory I will always carry with me is how his eyes lit up with pride and joy when the First Catholic Slovak Union was mentioned, either nationally or in regards to his home branch, Tatra Hall Branch 595. Thanks for the memories, Dad! You and Mom will live on in all of our hearts! God Bless! Until I see you again at the Golden Gates . . .

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

Contact the Home Office for details:

1-800-JEDNOTA or fcsu@aol.com.

Advent and Christmas Program Held in Spa Town of Piešťany, Slovakia



Photo courtesy of Martin Hlauka (Pescan)
The Thermia Palace Hotel.

During December 2011, an Advent Program and Christmas Market will be held in the spa town of Piešťany, Slovakia. Among the scheduled activities at the Thermia Palace: the ceremonial lighting of Advent candles very Saturday of Advent, and a Christmas Market every weekend of Advent which features Christmas punch, mulled wine, and hot chestnuts. Piešťany is located in the western part of the country in the valley of the Váh river, within the Trnava Region of Slovakia and is the district seat. It is the biggest and best known spa town in Slovakia and has around 30,000 inhabitants. Piešťany spa has a capacity of two

thousand beds (as of 2004) and treats over forty thousand patients a year. More than 60% of the clients are foreigners (mostly from Germany, the Czech Republic, Israel, Arab countries, and Austria). The spa specializes in treatment of chronic rheumatic and arthritic diseases and post-accident lesions of joints and bones. The spa has access to several hot springs with temperatures of 67–69 °C (153–156 °F), whose medicinal properties were already popular in the Middle Ages. The spa, the biggest and best known in Slovakia today, attracted many aristocratic visitors throughout history, including Ludwig van Beethoven.

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Slovakia’s Beautiful Countryside Set the Stage for Rediscovery of Our Heritage

By Judith Northup-Bennett

When you go back to your heritage after a couple of generations, you don’t know what you’ll find. Will it be a strange land and culture? Or, will you feel at home in your ancestral land? For everyone on the 2011 Slovakia Heritage small-group tour this September, the answer was a surprising comfort level and feeling at home in Slovakia.

Everyone made contact with family members whether they were newly-discovered cousins, family they had met before, or relatives because the families were krstny(god parents) many years before. For all, the search to piece together the stories of their Slovak family trees and roots will continue.

“In the villages, they’re still living simply and family is very important,” said Dolores Pace of Newtown, CT, who spent an afternoon with her mother’s god parents’ family, and visited the small village of her grandparents. “The language is difficult. I thought I would pick it up better.”

The trip started on September 16 in Bratislava where people were still out enjoying the street cafes and outdoor concerts without the summer tourist crowds. A day-trip to the nearby small Carpathian Mountains brought us into wine country just in time to celebrate the harvest at the lively Pezinok-Modra wine festival. We mixed with Slovak townspeople and vendors eating klobasi at long tables, and sampling the new fresh wine called burciak.

We marveled at the beautiful mild fall weather and the ever-changing countryside which set the stage for our rediscovery of food, language, music, and customs we knew as children. Our past and family histories came alive. A trip to a Levoca market reminded Rudy Popolis of Denver PA and Ben Onofrey of Ford City PA of their youthful pranks taking kohlrabi from farmers’ gardens. They said the farmers always planted extra for the youngsters who ate them raw from the garden on the way home from school. That night our group was treated to an appetizer of sliced raw, salted kohlrabi.

Rudy liked the small group tour which was able to be flexible for everyone’s interests. Taking advantage of a crystal clear day in the High Tatra Mountains, he hiked with Peter Blazicek, our guide with Best Slovakia Tours, while the rest of the group explored the summit from the gondola.

An evening cooking session left us all better appreciating the hard work of our grandmothers to create the Slovak dishes we remembered. Everyone pitched in to cook Bryndzove Halusky from the peeling of the potatoes to the boiling of the dumplings. Our families will enjoy our new cooking skills.

Our travels took us into the Slovak heartland with non-tourist stops for Saris music and dinner in Sabinov, and in Presov where we visited the Saris Museum and met an energetic nun who runs a home for abused and homeless women and their families. Sister Maristella further inspired us by playing the age-old organ and singing at evening mass in the 1347 Church of St. Nicholas.

(If you’d like more information about the work of Sister Maristella and her Magis program contact Judith Northup-Bennett atconnectionswork4u@hotmail.com).

Finishing the trip in Kosice and southern Slovakia, Janny Paul- Onofrey from Ford City, PA summed up her experience, “I had no expectations so everything was a wonderful surprise. There’s the old life and the new life and we saw how they come together. I really liked the generosity of the people and the food.



A language lesson over the first meal in Slovakia



The Slovak Heritage Tour 2011 at the Stara Lubovna castle and skanzen.

I brought food thinking I wouldn’t eat much of the food, but I liked it too much!”

About the Author

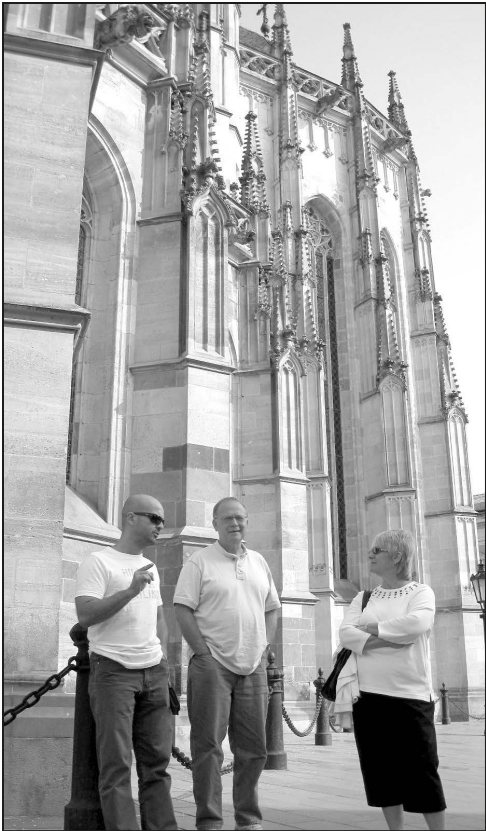
Judith Northup-Bennett leads Slovak Heritage Tours. For more information on the plans for the next small-group, 2012 Slovakia Heritage Tours, you can contact her at 978-544-5144 or connectionswork4u@hotmail.com Details will be available on the group’s website by December 1, <http://slovakiaheritage.wordpress.com>)



Rudz buying kohlarabi/ kalerabi in the Levoca market.



A toast to our good cooking – the “national dish” of Bryndzove halusky.



Peter leads our tour of Kosice Cathedral.



Janny shows her pottery skills in Modra.

Journey of Faith Will Continue As Slovak Parish Closes

Monsignor Joseph Semancik hoped his congregation at Sacred Heart Parish in East Chicago, IL really listed to the first reading from the third chapter of Ecclesiastes – the “appointed time for everything under heaven” passage. To the birthing and dying and weeping and laughing, Msgr. Semancik added two: a time to retire and a time to close the church building.

At age 82, the monsignor is retiring, and, after 85 years, the parish he served for 46 years is closing. Msgr. Semancik celebrated the final two Masses October 9, 2011.

Writing in the final parish bulletin, the monsignor stated, “As we close our church, we close this chapter in the faith-journey of each one of us and we will now be carrying on that journey in another church, perhaps with other brothers and sisters in faith.”

The pastor expressed his gratitude for God’s blessings on the parish and also to those people who have cared for the property over the years. It was built during the Depression, when people did not work full weeks, so members came when they could to assist in construction. Sacred Heart was dedicated in 1941.

“I am edified by the devoted service of Msgr. Semancik over the past 40 years to the people of the parish and impressed with the deep love they have for him,” Bishop Dale J. Melczek said. “I am sure they would love for him to stay longer but I am sure that at 82, they appreciate that Monsignor deserves retirement.”

- *Editor's Note: Monsignor Semancik is a member of the First Catholic Slovak Union. We wish him well in his retirement and thank the Northwest Indiana Catholic newspaper for permission to reprint excerpts from their article published Oct 16, 2011, page 8.*



Upcoming Event 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 for the remainder of 2011.

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



NIGHT WITH THE MONSTERS

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

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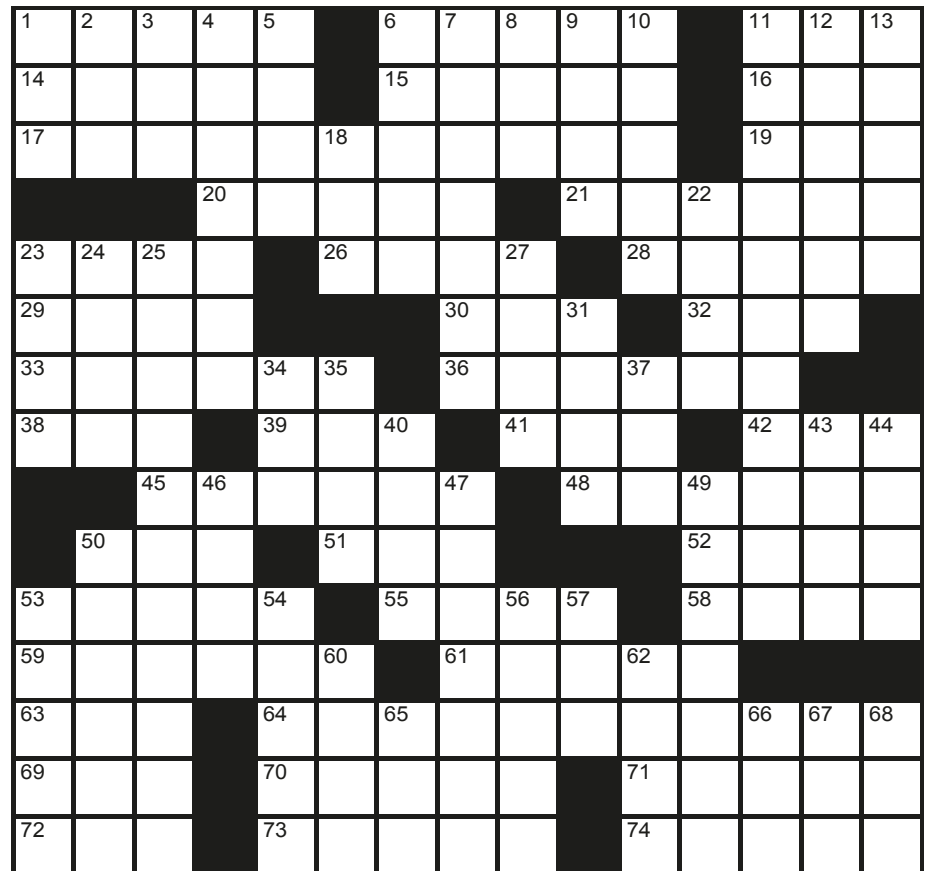
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Jessica Naderer W: 216-420-2402 E: jnaderer@lakeeriemonsters.com

Jednota Crossword Puzzle



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Across

- 1 Stigma
- 6 Vitriols
- 11 Prayer word
- 14 Get up
- 15 Inert gas
- 16 Modern
- 17 Wyoming park
- 19 Compass pt.
- 20 Negatively charged particle
- 21 More spooky
- 23 Sod
- 26 Mosquito
- 28 Wanders
- 29 Retired
- 30 Burst
- 32 Via
- 33 Wrestling hold, hal or full ____
- 36 Wave rider
- 38 Annex
- 39 Actress Ruby or Sandra
- 41 Digit
- 42 Distress call
- 45 Fears
- 48 Pour
- 50 Sp. girl
- 51 Golf item
- 52 Cookie
- 53 Use up
- 55 Scruff
- 58 Russian spy Sobolev
- 59 Adhesives
- 61 Witchcraft trials locale
- 63 Conjunctions
- 64 Some cartoons
- 69 Shoshonean
- 70 Dwelling
- 71 Coral reef

- 72 Small indefinite amount
- 73 Chordophones
- 74 Disreputable

Down

- 1 Utter
- 2 Three (It.)
- 3 Suffer
- 4 Azores, e.g.
- 5 Sign gas
- 6 Incendiarism
- 7 Snoozes
- 8 Vow words
- 9 Finished
- 10 Express contempt
- 11 Special date
- 12 Ornamental coating
- 13 Pitchers
- 18 Puke
- 22 Lasso
- 23 Path
- 24 Garden offspring
- 25 Looking good!
- 27 Tipster
- 31 Goad
- 34 Lyric poem
- 35 Cool!
- 37 Fixed charge
- 40 Promised land
- 43 Ace
- 44 Gr. portico
- 46 Lease
- 47 Type of resort
- 49 Travel back and forth
- 50 Ancient Greek city
- 53 Gush
- 54 Transfer paper
- 56 Strides
- 57 High note
- 60 Jungle boy of film
- 62 Gr. letters
- 65 Decompose
- 66 Fish eggs
- 67 Time of life (Poet.)
- 68 Cunning

See Solution on Page 19



LakeErieMonsters.com

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The Annual Servant Leadership Award Program at the Basilica in Danville

On Sunday, October 23, 2011, the ninth annual Servant Leadership Award program took place in Danville, Pennsylvania, in the Basilica of Saints Cyril and Methodius. Forty-three outstanding high school juniors and seniors who demonstrate servant leadership in their parish, school and community were honored. They are recognized for being "joyful witnesses, compassionate proclaimers and enthusiastic builders of the Kingdom of God."

The program began with a procession of the awardees, the singing of the hymn, "Lead Me, Lord," a Scripture reading and the prayer, "The Basin and the Towel" by Michael Card.

In her reflection Sister Linda Marie, General Superior, stated that from their youth people consider it important to be first. Jesus, however, during his life gave the example of service: healing, bestowing mercy on sinners, washing feet. Speaking to the youth present, Sister said, "Jesus wants you also to continue to act in a truly human way by engaging in works of service."

After the reflection, when Sister Jeanne Ambre called the names of the teens each came forward to receive a towel, a symbol of service. Next they named a mentor, a person who has encouraged them to use their time and talent as a follower of Jesus.

A selection by lot of the Outstanding Teen and the Outstanding Mentor followed. Peter Csernica, Sacred Heart Parish, Lewisburg, was chosen the Saint Cyril Outstanding Teen. The Very Reverend Michael Reid, pastor of Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish, Lebanon, and Our Lady of Fatima Mission, Jonestown, was named Saint Methodius Outstanding Mentor.

The following individuals received the 2011 Father Matthew Jankola Lifetime Commitment to Servant Leadership Award: for Evangelization—Mrs. Mary Herzel; for Education—Sister M. Lydia Benyish, SS.C.M.; for Eldercare—Sister M. Julia Knazik, SS.C.M.; and for Ecumenism—the Reverend Philip Altavilla.

According to Sister M. Suzanne, who nominated Mrs. Herzel, "she knows what



Outstanding high school juniors and seniors who demonstrated servant leadership in their parish, school and community were honored at the Ninth Annual Servant Leadership Award program in Danville, Pennsylvania, in the Basilica of Saints Cyril and Methodius.

evangelization means and gives witness to it with unflinching tenacity." Now in her eighties, Mary's whole life has focused on justice, peace and the common good. She is a founding member of the Harrisburg Chapter of Pax Christi. Mary and her husband Frank live in Harrisburg and are parishioners of St. Margaret Mary Church.

Sister Lydia has taught Grades 2, 3 and 4 in parish schools and religious education programs in Connecticut, Illinois, Pennsylvania and South Carolina. Since 1972, Sister Lydia has taught second grade and prepared countless youngsters for the Sacraments of First Penance and First Communion at St. Colum-

ba Parish in Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania.

For over 50 years Sister Julia ministered to the elderly as a nurse in the congregation's health care facilities. Currently she does Conversational Therapy at Emmanuel Center in Danville.

The Reverend Philip Altavilla, a priest of the Scranton Diocese, and Director of Ecumenism

and Interfaith Affairs, received the Ecumenism award. He is Rector of St. Peter Cathedral in Scranton, Pennsylvania, Vicar General of the diocese and Moderator of the Curia. Father Altavilla is also the national president of the Slovak Catholic Federation and spiritual advisor of the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union.

Three of the recipients of the 2011 Father Matthew Jankola Lifetime Commitment to Servant Leadership Award pose with (left) Sister Susan Pontz, member of the Leadership Team, and Sister Linda Marie, General Superior (right).



(L - R) Sister M. Julia Knazik, SS.C.M.--Eldercare; Sister M. Lydia Benyish, SS.C.M.--Education; and Mrs. Mary Herzel--Evangelization. (Not pictured: Father Philip Altavilla--Ecumenism)

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!



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 - Orechniky/Nut Rolls - Makovniky/Poppyseed Rolls

**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



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 mid-night 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, bobalky with poppyseed, mushroom soup or mačanka, baked fish and peas and potato pirohy. There will also be kolač for desert 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 Ekoniak at (330) 549-3760, or email her at loretta.ekoniak@gmail.com

Veselé Vianocel!

**Annual Slovak Vilija &
Jaslickare Program**



(Authentic Slovak Christmas Eve Dinner
& Traditional Folk Entertainment)

**5:00 p.m., Saturday,
December 17, 2011**

Prince of Peace Parish Center

81 So. 13th Street, South Side – Across from 12th Street Park

- Traditional meatless meal of baked fish, vegetables
- Pirohi, bobalky, mushroom soup
- Homemade nut and poppyseed rolls for sale following program

Featuring the Tri-State's favorite folk ensemble --

The Pittsburgh Slovaks

Performing

Songs and dances depicting winter traditions practiced in the Slovakia of our ancestors

"Jaslickare" re-telling the story of the shepherds at Christ's birth

Donation: \$20 adults / \$10 Children under 12

Advance Tickets Only: 412-431-0168

Handicap Accessible

Doors Open 4 p.m.

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 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 5 – EXETER, PENNSYLVANIA

The Saint John the Evangelist Society, Branch 05P, will hold a meeting to finalize election of officers on Tuesday, December 27th, 2011 at 1:00 pm.

The meeting will be held at the home of Marion Rubino, Vice President, 67 9th St. Wyoming, PA.

Members are encouraged to attend.

Marion Rubino, Vice President

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 Chip-pers 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 annual meeting 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 19 – BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT

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 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 Sunday, 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 55 - BROOMHALL, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Joseph Society, Branch 55, will hold its annual meeting on Friday, December 30, 2011 at 2:00PM at the home of Vice President Steven J. Gerba, 188 DiMarco Drive, Philadelphia, PA, 19154 (telephone: 215-637-6530). Election of officers and other branch activities will be discussed.

Helena T. Gaydos, Presiden

BRANCH 75 - SHAMOKIN, PENNSYLVANIA

The Assumption of the BVM Society, Branch 75, will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sun-

continued on page 15

BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

continued from page 14

day, 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 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 157 – SLATINGTON, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 157 will be holding a meeting beginning at noon on Sunday, December 11, 2011, in the upstairs Jednota hall. On the agenda: election of officers. A Christmas party will be held for children, newborn to 10 years old at 1:30PM. Snow date for the meeting is December 18th.

Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year,

Gregory Haraka, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 162 – UNIONTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Wedelin Society, Branch 162, will hold its quarterly meeting on Sunday, December 18, 2011 at 9:00AM at K2 Engineering Conference Room, 234 Pittsburgh Street, Uniontown, PA. Branch activities will be discussed, officers' reports will be given, and election of officers will take place. All members of Branch 162 are cordially invited to attend the meeting. Those present will be treated to breakfast at a local restaurant. Call for directions if needed. Any inquiries and updating information should be directed to Dolores Marmol at 724-437-4983.

Dolores Marmol, 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. Ungvasky at 570-403-2067 so arrangements can be made.

Fraternally,

Dorothy A. Ungvasky, 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 it 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 meeting 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

BRANCH 266 – HAZLETON, PENNSYLVANIA

The annual meeting of Saint Peter and Paul Society, Branch 266, will be held on Sunday December 11, 2011 at 9:15 am in Saint Joseph's Church cafeteria at 604 North Laurel Street in Hazleton, PA. Officers will be elected for 2012, and suggestions for branch activities for next year will be discussed. Please spread the word so more of our members will attend and become involved in branch activities. Please plan to attend.

Richard Lazar Financial Secretary

BRANCH 292 – WINDBER, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 292, will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, December 18, 2011, 12:30 p.m. at the Slovak Club, 1300 Jackson Avenue, Windber, PA. A Christmas Party will follow the meeting. All members are asked to attend.

We wish all members a Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Edward T. Surkosky, F.I.C., President

BRANCH 293 – LANSFORD, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 293KJ, will hold its annual meeting at the home of Robert Lakata, 527 E. Bertsch Street, Lansford, PA, on Thursday, December 15, 2011, at 6:00PM.

On the agenda: election of officers.

Fraternally,

Robert Lakata, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 313 – CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

The St. John the Baptist Branch 313 will hold an annual meeting on Saturday, January 14, 2012, at 11:15AM. The location is Mother of Sorrows Convent, 5900 West 147th St, Oak Forrest IL. We will have a discussion about insurance products and annuities as well as getting new membership for our Society. We will have election of officers also.

Branch 313 extends good wishes for a Prosperous and Healthy Season.

Thank you,

Joseph M. Bugel, President

BRANCH 320 – BELLE VERNON, PENNSYLVANIA

On Saturday, December 10, 2011, at 1:00PM, Branch 320 will hold its Christmas luncheon and election of officers at Rego's Restaurant, Charleroi, PA. Reservations must be made by calling Frances Tarquinio at (724) 929-9788. All members are encouraged to attend.

Fraternally,

Frances Tarquinio, Secretary

BRANCH 367 - FAIRCHANCE, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Joseph Branch 367 of Fairchance, PA, will hold its annual meeting on Tuesday, December 6, 2011 at 5:00PM at Bogey's Restaurant, Duck Hollow Road, Uniontown, PA.

On the agenda: finalizing activities for the year. Also, election of a new officer for 2012. All members are invited to attend this meeting. Call Kathryn Baranek at 724-569-1006 for further information.

Kathryn Baranek, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 372 - BEAVERDALE, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Joseph's Branch 372 will hold its annual meeting Sunday, December 11, 2011 at 2:00PM. The meeting will be held at 829 Cameron Ave. in Beaverdale, which is the residence of President Michael P. Hudak, Sr. The agenda will include the election of officers for calendar year 2012. All members are urged to attend.

Thank you.

Michael E. Hudak, President

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 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,

continued on page 16

BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

continued from page 15

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 Buczek, 219-947-2793 or George Kelchak, 219-926-2410.

Ann Buczek, President

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 628 - MUNHALL, PENNSYLVANIA

A meeting of Branch 628, St. Michael Archangel, will be held on Sunday, December 18, 2011, at 4:00PM at the Penn Hebron Garden Club, 237 Jefferson Road, Penn Hills, PA (Phone: 412-241-9779).

The agenda will include the election of new officers for 2012 and a summary of events and issues during 2011.

Sylvia J. Vehec, 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 Part 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.

Faternally,

**Rudolph D. Glogovsky,
Financial Secretary**

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 Whitker 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 746 - LINDEN, NEW JERSEY

The St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 746, will hold its next meeting on Sunday, December 18, 2011 at 12:30 PM in the upstairs meeting room of the Msgr. Komar Hall of Holy Family Church in Linden, NJ. The agenda will include election of officers for 2012, as well as discussion of activities for the next year. A holiday get together will follow the meeting. Please call Mary Karch @ 732-572-2331 if you plan on attending. From our branch to yours, best wishes for a blessed Christmas season, and a happy and healthy New Year,

Mary J. Kapitan, 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.

Faternally,

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.

Faternally,

Anne Mitro, Secretary

BRANCH 844 – LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

Branch 844, Los Angeles, CA, will hold its Annual Slovak Christmas Mass on Sunday, December 18, 2011, at St. John Bosco High School located on 13640 Bellflower Blvd., Bellflower, CA, 90706. Mass will begin at 11:00AM. A delicious, authentic Slovak lunch will be served after Mass, along with the presentation of gifts for the children. Come and join us in celebrating the Slovak Spirit of Christmas.

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

We hope to see you all there and would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a very special New Year.

Faternally yours,

Milan Konkol, 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 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.

Faternally,

Damian D Nasta, Recording Secretary

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 vschaub123@gmail.com. The phone is 724-763-9229 (Monday-Friday, between noon and 5PM).

Your assistance is greatly appreciated!

Faternally,

Vicki Schaub, Branch Financial Secretary/Treasurer

Useful Websites

www.skonline.sk

www.travelguide.sk

kosice.region.sk

www.slovakia.org

www.vtaty.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

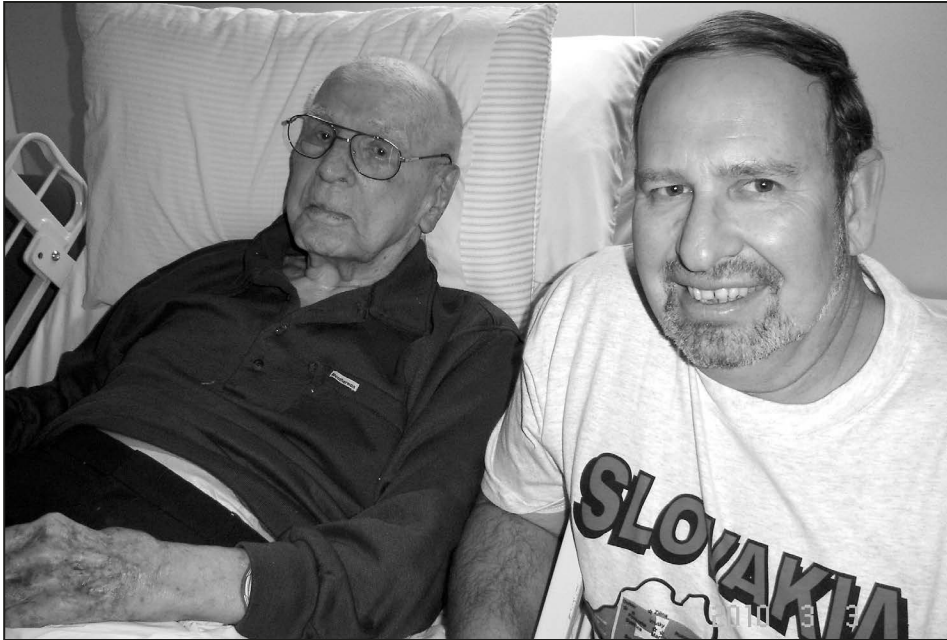
Government of the Slovak Republic

Slovak National Theater

Slovak Television

National Bank of Slovakia

OBITUARIES



The author during a visit with Frank Nivert, Sr.

Frank J. Nivert, Sr., a Devoted Slovak American

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

On August 5, 2011, Frank Nivert, a longtime friend and fellow Slovak-American devotee, passed away in Tampa, Florida. He was 95 years old.

Frank ranks among the finest men I have ever known, and he religiously read Jednota, and many other Slovak fraternal newspapers, almanacs, and any books about Slovaks which he could get his hands on. He deserves some attention for a life devoted to our people.

Frank was born in California, Pennsylvania to immigrant parents and later lived in the coal mining patch town of Richeyville, 41 miles south of Pittsburgh. While a young man, he worked for a while in the coal mines and quickly experienced the very hard work that so many Slovak immigrants performed. So he determined to make something of himself by obtaining an education. He attended Waynesburg College in southwestern Pennsylvania on a basketball scholarship, studied history, and became a devoted alumnus of the school. Fortunately, after graduation Frank found a job working with the National Archives in Washington, DC. He told me how thrilled he was to have such employment, and he was able to see close-up many priceless documents such as the U.S. Constitution and the Declaration of Independence.

Frank married Mary Edna Fisher and they went on to raise three children—Frank Jr., Edward, and Mary (Taffy). He worked in Washington and moved to Falls Church, Virginia. There Frank played a pivotal role in establishing the region's baseball Little League and served as coach, his favorite pastime. Upon retiring, he and his wife lived in an apartment in Oakton, Virginia. They remained there until she died of cancer in 1996.

Frank was always proud of his children. Frank Jr. became an attorney, and Eddie worked as a



SISTER M. DELOURDES, SS.C.M., 88

Sister M. DeLourdes (Mary Pchola) died at Geisinger Medical Center on Sunday, October 30, 2011. The daughter of Joseph and Mary (Cervenak), she was born in Shamokin, PA, on March 19, 1923.

She attended Lincoln School and St. Mary's School in Shamokin and graduated from Shamokin High School. Sister DeLourdes received a B.S. in Education from Marywood University, Scranton, and an M.A. in Business Education from the Catholic University of America in Washington, DC.

Sister entered the novitiate of the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Danville on February 16, 1948, and was received as a novice on August 11, 1949. Her first profession of vows was on August 9, 1951. Prior to entering religious life she was employed as a secretary at W.C. Hack and Sons in Shamokin.

Sister taught in the elementary grades and junior high in Connecticut, Ohio, New York, Pennsylvania and South Carolina. On the secondary level she taught Business Education in the following schools, Our Lady of Lourdes, Shamokin, Bishop Hafey, Hazleton and St. Cyril Academy, Danville. At Lourdes

she was the coordinator of Distributive Education. She was also chairman of the Business Education Department at Lourdes and also Bishop Hafey.

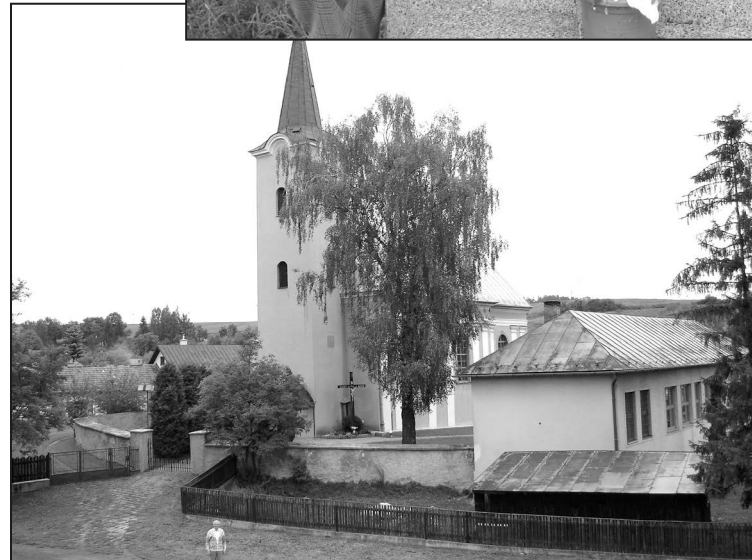
Sister was a community representative in the Sisters Advisory Council in the Diocese of Harrisburg and also served as Treasurer.

From 1992 she spent time in a variety of ministries at Maria Hall and Maria Joseph Manor in Danville.

Sister DeLourdes was preceded in death by her parents and a sister, Sister M. Josita, SS.C.M. She is survived by several cousins.

The transferal rite and recitation of the Rosary took place on Wednesday, November 2, 2011, at 9:30 a.m. at Maria Hall in Danville, and the Wake Service at 11:30 a.m. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at 1:30 p.m. The main celebrant and homilist was the Reverend Gerard Heintzelman. The following were concelebrants: the Reverend Dominic Azagbor, O.P., the Reverend Lawrence Nwabueze, O.P., the Reverend Albert Oldfield and the Reverend Raymond Orloski. The moderator and four members of the Student Council of Our Lady of Lourdes were present at the funeral. Burial was in the Sisters' cemetery in Danville.

The grave of the Neuvirth family in Iľiašovce with Emil Grondžák, who came from the village, standing at the grave.



The church in Frank's Slovak ancestral village of Iľiašovce

computer analyst. His daughter, Mary "Taffy" Danoff Nivert, earned a spotlight in the music world with her work with John Denver and the Starland Vocal Band. Taffy and her former husband, Bill Danoff, produced in 1976 a number one hit song, "Afternoon Delight," which many readers might remember. The song led to four Grammy Award nominations, winning two for Best Arrangement (voices) and Best New Artists. The two also wrote the songs for John Denver, including the popular "Take Me Home, Country Roads," and "I Guess He'd Rather Be in Colorado."

One of saddest times of Frank's life was losing his wife in both of his sons in 2006, Frank Nivert, Jr. and Edward Nivert. After his wife's passing, Frank had moved to Tampa to spend more time with his family living there. It always hurts to see one's children pass away first. They and Frank are all interred at Fairfax Memorial Cemetery. Taffy is now his only surviving child.

Frank regularly kept in contact with me early in my career because he so much enjoyed my articles and publications about the Slovaks. We regularly exchanged letters and phone conversations.

On several occasions while Frank's wife was still living, he invited me to his home while I was doing research in Washington. They served me a delicious meal and we shared some interesting conversations about Slovak genealogy and Slovak history. Frank hired a genealogist to construct an extensive family tree so his descendants might know where they came from.

The Neuvirth family had Spiš German (Zipser Deutschen) origins and hailed from the village of Iľiašovce. I traveled to the village, took extensive photos of the Nivert family home, church, and cemetery. Then I translated and edited a history of the village. In Spišská Nova Ves, I also met one of his cousins, Mária Neuvirthová and Frank always gave me a gift to take here when I regularly traveled to Slovakia.

After Frank moved to Florida, we still regularly kept in contact, and I visited him last when I was in Florida to attend the Pittsburgh Area Slovak Folk Ensemble (PÁS), which performed at Walt Disney World and the Slovak Winter Garden in Winter Park. I detoured my trip to visit Frank in Tampa, where he was staying at the John Knox Medical Center due to a fall. He had previously resided at an assisted living apartment in a complex run by the Franciscans, and three of his cousins are nuns, one of whom is a Franciscan in a convent near Pittsburgh.

I might add here that Frank was generous with his time and donations in helping others, including many Slovak organizations such as PÁS, the Slovak Benedictines, the Franciscans, and many other charities. He served as a member of the Knights of Columbus and belonged to most all Slovak fraternal organizations. All who knew him would concur that it was hard to meet a more personable man, one who loved his God, country, his ethnicity, and people.

Frank will be sadly missed by all who knew him, and in his honor, I am including some photos from his ancestral village in Slovakia, Iľiašovce.

In Memory

It's been sadness since
you have been gone
yet all the memories
of your life live on ...

You're still with us
every day – in fact
you're just a breath away.
Rest in Peace.

- Brother Francis X. Markley, OP

REFLECTIONS ON POPE BENEDICT XVI'S MONTHLY INTENTIONS November 2011

General Intention - Eastern Catholic Churches

That the Eastern Catholic Churches and their venerable traditions may be known and esteemed as a spiritual treasure for the whole Church..



We often think of the Roman Catholic Church as the only Catholic Church, but in fact there are 21 other Churches that are just as Catholic as the Roman Church. Some of them, with their roots in the Holy Land, go back further than the Church of Rome. These are the Eastern Catholic Churches. Their traditional structures and liturgies differ from those of the Roman Catholic Church.

The Second Vatican Council said that all these Catholic Churches are "entrusted to the pastoral government of the Roman Pontiff" and "consequently of equal dignity."

In a 1995 Apostolic Letter entitled "The Light of the East," Blessed John Paul II said that "the venerable and ancient tradition of

the Eastern Churches is an integral part of the heritage of Christ's Church" and that "the first need for Catholics is to be familiar with that tradition." In his Encyclical Mother of the Redeemer, Pope John Paul said that Roman Catholics should experience the riches of Eastern Christianity so that "the Church can begin once more to breathe fully with her 'two lungs,' the East and the West."

Pope Benedict shares his predecessor's deep desire for unity between Catholics and Orthodox Christians who share the rites and traditions of Eastern Christianity. A year ago he encouraged "all the Eastern Churches to preserve their own identity, which is at the same time both Eastern and Catholic." Thus we pray this month that these traditions may be better known and esteemed as a spiritual treasure of the whole Church.

Reflection: What do you know about the Eastern Catholic Churches? Are there particular traditions and practices that you find helpful to you?

Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:1-6 There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit.



Mission Intention - Justice and Reconciliation in Africa

That the African continent may find strength in Christ to pursue justice and reconciliation as set forth by the Second Synod of African Bishops..



The 2009 special Synod of African Bishops meeting in Rome took as its theme: "The Church in Africa in Service to Reconciliation, Justice, and Peace." Pope Benedict asks us to pray this month that the graces of that Synod may spread throughout Africa.

At that Synod, the African Bishops addressed the entire Church: "Science and technology are making giant strides in all aspects of life..., [but in Africa] the tragic situations of refugees, abject poverty, disease and hunger are still killing thousands on a daily basis."

Such suffering may be hard for us to imag-

ine. If thousands of people were dying every day in our own country, we would clamor for our government to do something. Yet the policies of developed nations, including our own, actually lie behind the tragedy of African suffering.

Speaking to the "great powers" of this world, the African Bishops pleaded: "Treat Africa with respect and dignity. Africa has been calling for a change in the world economic order, with unjust structures piled heavily against her. Recent turmoil in the financial world shows the need for a radical change of rules. Many of the conflicts, wars, and poverty of Africa derive mainly from these unjust structures."

Let us hear the pleas of both the African Bishops and Pope Benedict. Let's pray that we, through our prayers and our work for a more just world, may help our African brothers and sisters "find strength in Christ to pursue justice and reconciliation."

Reflection: Can you give an example of our country's policies that may have an adverse effect on the people of Africa? How might you do something to work for a change in those policies?

Reading: 1 Corinthians 12: 12-26 "If one part suffers, all the parts suffer with it..."



Prayer of the Month



O Master, Christ God, King forever, Maker of all things, I thank You for all the favors You granted me, and particularly for having given me your pure and life-giving Mysteries. I pray You, O gracious God and Lover of Mankind: keep me under your protection and under the shadow of your wings; grant that, until my last breath, I may worthily receive your holy Mysteries with a clear conscience, for the remission of my sins and for life everlasting. Amen.

- from the Byzantine Liturgy, Thanksgiving Prayer of St. Basil the Great



Address Changes?

Readers are reminded that all address changes for the JEDNOTA newspaper must be done at the Home Office in Independence, Ohio. If you have an address change, cancellation, or wish to receive the paper, write to: First Catholic Slovak Union, FCSU Corporate Center, 6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence, OH 44131-2398; Phone: 1/800-JEDNOTA (1/800-533-6682); Fax: 1-216-642-4310; or E-mail: FCSU@aol.com.

News-From-Slovakia

EU Commission Less Optimistic vis-a-vis Slovak GDP Growth in 2011-13

Brussels, November 10 (TASR) - The European Commission has significantly cut its prognoses for Slovakia's economic growth in 2011 and 2012, TASR learnt from the Commission's European Economic Forecast for the 2011-13 period drawn up in autumn 2011 and released on this date.

Slovakia's GDP ought to grow by 2.9 percent this year, only to slow down to 1.1 percent in 2012. The Commission was far more optimistic in its spring forecast issued in May, expecting 3.5- and 4.4-percent growth in 2011 and 2012, respectively.

Conversely, a kind of revival is projected for 2013, with the Commission expecting the Slovak economy to gather pace again and grow by 2.9 percent.

According to the report, the expected developments are "chiefly on account of signs of a slowdown in external demand in the second half of the year, the short-term impact of fiscal consolidation and sluggish private consumption recorded in the first half of 2011."

"As the economic outlook for 2012 among the main trading partners has recently significantly worsened, external demand and trade are likely to decelerate markedly. This is expected to put on hold private investment decisions, reducing inflationary pressures and exerting a drag on GDP growth, which in turn is expected to drop to about 1 percent," adds the report.

Meanwhile, inflation is projected to speed up significantly after standing at 0.9 percent in 2009 and 0.7 percent in 2010. The figure for 2011 is predicted to reach 4 percent, although inflation should slow down to 1.7 percent next year.

The public finance deficit should drop from last year's 7.7 percent to 5.8 percent in 2011, well above what the Slovak Government expects - 4.9 percent. Next year's deficit is set to reach 4.9 percent, only to go up slightly to 5 percent in 2013 - again considerably more pessimistic than the drop to below 3 percent in 2013 that the Slovak Government was originally predicting.

Slovakia's public debt is expected to go up - from 41 percent of GDP in 2010 to 44.5 percent this year and 47.5 percent in 2012. The Commission expects the trend to continue in 2013, when the debt should reach 51.1 percent, which is far higher than the debt before the crisis broke out in 2008 - 27.8 percent.

SR Demands Explanation from Ethiopia over Detention of Ambassador

Addis Ababa/Bratislava, November 8 (TASR) - The Foreign Affairs Ministry has demanded an explanation from Ethiopia as to why Ethiopian authorities detained Slovak Ambassador Milan Dubcek, TASR learned from the Foreign Affairs Ministry press department on Tuesday.

Dubcek was detained on Saturday, November 5, without local authorities informing Slovakia or offering any explanation. Slovak diplomacy describes this incident as a violation of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations (1961) and emphatically interceded for his immediate release. The ambassador, son of Slovakia's most famous politician Alexander Dubcek, was freed on Monday.

Foreign Affairs Minister Mikulas Dzurinda sent a letter on Tuesday to his Polish counterpart Radko Sikorsky, in which he thanked the Polish Embassy in Ethiopia for the help it provided in Dubcek's release.

Dzurinda also appreciated the help of the EU Delegation in Ethiopia in a letter sent to High Representative of the EU for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Catherine Ashton. In the letter Dzurinda points to the approach of Ethiopian authorities, which he deems unacceptable and asks Ashton to condemn this action.

Poll: Current Governing Parties Would Be Able to Form Coalition Again

Bratislava, November 2 (TASR) - Less than 50 percent of Slovaks would have gone to the polls had a general election taken place in late October, according to an MVK survey published on this date.

Only 43.9 percent unequivocally said that they would have taken part in a vote roughly four months ahead of the actual election (March 10).

The opposition Smer-SD came first in the survey with 37.5 percent, followed by SDKU-DS - 11.6 percent, Freedom and Solidarity (SaS) - 10.9 percent, the Christian Democrats - 9.5 percent, and Most-Hid - 8.2 percent. No other party would have received more than the 5 percent needed to get into Parliament.

The Slovak National Party (SNS), currently in opposition, wouldn't have gained enough votes. The same goes for Igor Matovic's Ordinary People, Vladimir Meciar's LS-HZDS and the ethnic-Hungarian SMK.

The results indicate that the current four governing parties would have been able to form a government again - backed by 78 MPs in Parliament, while Smer would have secured 72 seats.

Most of Greek Bonds in Slovak Banking Sector Owned by Postova Banka

Bratislava, November 3 (TASR) - Postova Banka owns most of the Greek bonds in the Slovak banking sector, admitted Istrokapital board chairman Mario Hoffmann in an interview for Hospodarske Noviny daily published on this date.

Istrokapital is the majority shareholder of Postova Banka. The J&T financial group announced on Wednesday that it has bought a 9.9-percent stake in the bank.

"The Greek bonds are exclusively my business and the future lies in a strategic partnership with the J&T financial group. That's why we're going to take action in the next few days that will make sure that Postova Banka complies with all the requirements for impairment provisions and those of the auditors," said Hoffmann.

The bank has decided to create reserves and acquire its own resources reaching €250 million. Following the EU summit in Brussels, banks have had to prepare for a 50-percent hair-cut vis-a-vis the Greek debt. Istrokapital, as the owner of Postova Banka, intends to increase the share capital of the bank by €50 million at an extraordinary general meeting in December.

As part of impairment provisions created in case of potential losses linked to the financial crisis, the bank will set aside this year's profits, expected to reach almost €90 million. The bank will also gain €110 million from Istrokapital in the form of collateral. Thanks to the impairment provisions and reserves created, Postova Banka will comply with the required Tier 1 capital adequacy at the 9-percent level set by the eurozone leaders at the summit.

Radicova: Slovak Budget to Fall Short by Another €450 million in 2012

Bratislava, November 3 (TASR) - The shortfall in state incomes should grow by another €450 million due to the expected further deceleration in economic growth in 2012, said Prime Minister Iveta Radicova at a session of the parliamentary committee for EU affairs on this date.

It isn't clear in this situation whether the planned pace of consolidating public finances will be maintained, conceded Radicova.

Radicova recalled that the economic-growth revision presented by the Finance Ministry in September spoke about a fall in state incomes of €240 million. It was added, however, that certain measures could compensate for the loss.

"A certain level of deceleration in the consolidation of public finances may be necessary. [I don't know] whether we'll be able to resolve the €240 million plus the €450 million. This is a huge sum. I'm not going to show off, claiming that yes, we can sustain this," said Radicova.

The Government is prepared to update the draft of the 2012 state budget so that it factors in the lower economic growth predicted by the Finance Ministry, said Radicova after the government session on Wednesday.

The Finance Ministry in September announced that its prognosis of economic growth for 2012 has fallen from 4.4 percent to 3.4 percent. At the same time, it promised to hold to the planned cut in the public finance deficit from 4.9 percent of GDP in 2011 to 3.8 percent in 2012. Finance Minister Ivan Miklos conceded, however, that this plan won't be achievable if economic growth decelerates further.

Answer to Puzzle

Solution to Puzzle from page 11

S	T	A	I	N		A	C	I	D	S		A	V	E
A	R	I	S	E		R	A	D	O	N		N	E	W
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Svätý Mikuláš (6. decembra)

Svätý Mikuláš patrí medzi najobľúbenejších svätcov. Napriek jeho popularite však o jeho skutočnom živote vieme veľmi málo. Narodil sa niekedy okolo roku 270 na južnom pobreží Malej Ázie, pravdepodobne v Patare. Už v mladosti sa stal povestný svojou dobročinnosťou, ktorá ešte vzrástla, keď sa stal biskupom v Myre (dnešná Dembra v južnom Turecku).

Jeho povesť divotvorcu spôsobila, že sa stal viacnásobným patrónom. Za svojho ochrancu ho pokladá Rusko, mnohé mestá nesú tiež jeho meno, napr. St. Nicholas v Anglicku či Liptovský alebo Borský Mikuláš na Slovensku. Svätý Mikuláš bol vďaka legendám aj patrónom, námorníkov, obchodníkov, majiteľov záložní, lekárníkov či voňavkárov. Slobodné dievčatá si ho vybrali za orodovníka na základe najznámejšieho príbehu z jeho života. Hovorí sa, že istý boháč mal tri dcéry. Keď schudobnel a jeho rodina už nemala čo do úst vložiť, rozhodol sa, že z dievčat urobí neviestky. Dozvedel sa o tom svätý Mikuláš, zabalil do kusa látky zlato a vhodil ho do mužovho domu. To zopakoval trikrát, až kým peňazí nebolo toľko, že sa všetky tri dievčatá mohli čestne vydať.

V legendám životopise sv. Mikuláša zohráva významnú úlohu číslo tri. Tri boli boháčove dcéry i vrecká zlata, ktorými ich vykúpil, traja boli aj námorníci, ktorých vyslobodil z búry pri tureckom pobreží, vzkriesil k životu troch zabitých mladíkov a zachránil troch neprávom odsúdených na smrť. Tieto dobré skutky konal pred svojou smrťou a rovnako aj po nej.

Svätý Mikuláš zomrel v pokročilom veku a pochovali ho v myrskom kostole, kde boli jeho telesné pozostatky až do roku 1087. Keď Myru obsadili moslimovia, Mikulášove ostatky boli prenesené do talianskeho prístavného mesta Bari, kde žilo veľa gréckych prisťahovalcov. Tam postavili nový kostol zasvätený Mikulášovi. Z jeho hrobky v Bari vyteká vonná látka nazývaná myrha, čo vysvetľuje jeho patronát nad voňavkami a množstvo pútnikov prichádzajúcich k jeho hrobu. Vďaka tomu sa úcta k tomuto svätcovi rozšírila aj po západnom svete.

Na základe legendy o troch chudobných dievčatách sa zrejme odvodzuje ľudový zvyk v niektorých krajinách obdarúvať sa na sviatok tohto svätca drobnými darčekom. Svätomikulášska tradícia vychádza aj z jeho patrocínia nad deťmi. Zvyk obdarúvať deti vznikol v Holandsku a odtiaľ sa rozšíril do Severnej Ameriky, kde k nemu prisťahovalci pripojili severské ľudové povesti o čarodejníkovi, ktorý zlé deti trestá a dobré odmieňa darčekom. Do červeno-bieleho plášťa ho v rámci predvianočnej reklamnej kampane obliekol koncern Coca-Cola. Postupom času sa Mikuláš (v angličtine Santa Claus) stal viac-menej reklamnou figúrkou, ktorá má so svätcom z Myry iba málo spoločného.

Meno Mikuláš bolo najobľúbenejšie v 12. storočí, používa sa však dodnes. Z neho vznikli odvodeniny ako Colin, Nicolson, Nixon, Nikolaj, Nicola, Nicolette a iné. Mikuláš bol obľúbenou postavou aj v stredovekej dráme a je mu zasvätených mnoho kostolov, najmä Gréckokatolíckej a Pravoslávnej cirkvi.

Katarína Žáková, Katolícke noviny



Seminár na bratislavskom Bôriku

“Činnosť cirkví a náboženských spoločností v krajskom prostredí”

Seminár s názvom „Činnosť cirkví a náboženských spoločností v krajskom prostredí a štátna politika starostlivosti o Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí“ zorganizoval Úrad pre Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí 24. októbra 2011 na bratislavskom Bôriku. Cieľom seminára bola odborná diskusia, výmena poznatkov a skúseností so zástupcami cirkví pôsobiacich v krajskom prostredí za účelom ďalšej spolupráce a spracovania poznatkov do pripravovanej aktualizácie koncepcie štátnej politiky starostlivosti o Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí.

Predseda Úradu pre Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí (ÚŠZZ) Milan Vetrák objasnil hlavné zámery podujatia, pričom zdôraznil veľmi dobré vzťahy s cirkvami a náboženskými spoločnosťami. Poukázal na snahy o konsolidáciu a zlepšenie činnosti ÚŠZZ v starostlivosti o zahraničných Slovákov, pričom zdôraznil, že cirkvi sú dôležité partnerské inštitúcie pre ďalší vývoj a formovanie koncepcie starostlivosti o krajanov. Ďalej stručne charakterizoval dotačný systém a jeho prístupnosť pre cirkevné misie a farnosti pôsobiace v zahraničí. Vyzdvihol dobré skúsenosti pri financovaní tých činností misií, ktoré sa dotýkajú kultúrno-spoločenských aktivít, záujmových a výchovno-vzdelávacích projektov.

Na podnet predsedu ÚŠZZ M. Vetráka sa prítomní zhodli na prijatí spoločného záveru, ktorý zaväzuje ÚŠZZ v spolupráci s Ministerstvom kultúry SR (MK SR), Ministerstvom financií SR a cirkvami rokovať o zabezpečení finančných prostriedkov v štátnom rozpočte prostredníctvom kapitoly MK SR na činnosť misií a farností v zahraničí.

Zástupcovia cirkví vyjadrili návrh, aby sa venovala pozornosť jubilejným oslavám spätých s príchodom sv. Cyrila a Metoda, a aby aj Slováci žijúci v zahraničí mali zabezpečenú dôstojnú účasť a zastúpenie. M. Vetrák zástupcov cirkví ubezpečil, že ÚŠZZ bude v týchto otázkach úzko spolupracovať s cirkvami a so štátnymi orgánmi, aby aj krajanovia mali dôstojné miesto v pripravovaných podujatiach. Je potrebné nájsť konsenzus hlavne medzi dvoma líniami osláv, ktoré prebiehajú na Devíne a oslavami v Nitre, na ktorých – vychádzajúc z neoficiálnych informácií – možno potenciálne očakávať aj účasť Svätého otca Benedikta XVI. Organizácia seminára voľne nadväzuje na úlohu, ktorá vyplýva ÚŠZZ z Koncepcie štátnej politiky starostlivosti o Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí do roku 2015 schválenej vládou. V zmysle koncepcie sa predpokladalo uskutočnenie Stálej konferencie Slovenská republika a Slováci žijúci v zahraničí v roku 2010 práve k problematike pastorácie Slovákov v zahraničí. Bývalé vedenie ÚŠZZ však uvedenú úlohu nespĺnilo a M. Vetrák dal aj v podobe tohto seminára jasne najavo, že na rozdiel od bývalého vedenia ÚŠZZ považuje kontakt s cirkvami a náboženskými spoločnosťami vzhľadom na ich aktivity v slovenskom zahraničí za dôležitý. Informácie poskytol Tomáš Šarluška, hovorca ÚŠZZ.

TASR

Slovenský film” Nickyho rodina” má šancu na Oscara

Premiérka Iveta Radičová začiatkom novembra uskutočnila trojdňovú pracovnú návštevu Británie. Najvýznamnejšími momentmi návštevy boli premiéra slovenského filmu Nickyho rodina v sídle Britskej akadémie filmových a televíznych umení (BAFTA) a piatková prednáška “Obnovenie dôvery” na univerzite v Oxforde. Ako zdôraznila Radičová v rozhovore, film so silným odkazom z produkcie slovenských tvorcov Mateja Mináča a Patrika Pašša pravdepodobne bude ako prvý slovenský film po dlhých rokoch nominovaný na Oscara. Radičová uviedla, že pozvanie na britskú premiéru filmu vnímala ako česť. Nad podujatím prevzala už dávnejšie osobnú záštitu, spolu s predsedníčkou českej poslaneckej snemovne Miroslavou Němcovou.

V Oxforde premiérka absolvovala rozhovory pre Financial Times, Economist, Reuters a Bloomberg. Otázky novinárov smerovali predovšetkým ku kríze v eurozóne a možným východiskám z nej. “Cením si pozvanie na univerzitu v Oxforde, kde bola témou prednášky nielen pozícia Slovenska vo vzťahu k Európe, ale aj otázky suverenity jednotlivých krajín a možnosti nadnárodných riešení,” uviedla.

TASR

Slovenskí letci sa stali členom Medzinárodnej komisie pre záchranu v horách

Spoločnosť Air-Transport Europe (ATE), prevádzkovateľ Vrtuľníkovej záchrannej zdravotnej služby (VZZS), sa stala riadnym členom Medzinárodnej komisie pre záchranu v horách ICAR-CISA. Slovenskí leteckí záchranári sa tak pripojili k 63 záchranným organizáciám z 33 krajín sveta, ktoré sú členmi tohto odborného združenia.

“Je to organizácia, ktorá sa týmto zaoberá už veľmi dlho a tí prevádzkovatelia, ktorí sú členmi, sú vlastne lídri na svetovom trhu. Dá sa od nich veľa čerpať, jednak čo sa týka skúseností, tak aj čo sa týka taktiky a postupov,” povedal na margo členstva šéfpilot VZZS ATE Viliam Krivák.

Významnou výhodou je podľa neho aj možnosť spolupodieľať sa na vytváraní dôležitých pravidiel a noriem. “Aktuálne sa takto pripravuje pripomienkovanie zavádzania jednotlivých postupov a noriem pri postrojoch a lanách, ktoré sa musia používať pod vrtuľníkom a rovnako tak aj na materiál, ktorým sa postroje a laná spájajú,” vysvetlil.

V rokoch 1994 až 2010 vykonala ATE v rámci VZZS 11,587 zásahov a jej vrtuľníky nalietali viac ako 13,500 letových hodín. Od roku 2004 je ATE členom Európskeho výboru VZZS a leteckej záchrany.

TASR

Pracovné zasadnutie Zboru poradcov predsedu ÚŠZZ v Bratislave

Aktualizácia štátnej politiky a manuál pre voľby zahraničných Slovákov

Aktualizácia Koncepcie štátnej politiky starostlivosti o Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí v roku 2012 a vypracovanie manuálu pre voľby zo zahraničia v súčinnosti so štátnymi i neštátnymi organizáciami so zameraním sa na aktiváciu voličského potenciálu Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí, to boli hlavné témy prvého pracovného zasadnutia Zboru poradcov predsedu Úradu pre Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí (ÚŠZZ) Milana Vetráka. Zasadnutie sa uskutočnilo v dňoch 13. a 14. októbra 2011 v Bratislave.

Poradný zbor tvoria významné osobnosti slovenského zahraničia z USA, Českej republiky, Srbska, Kanady, Švédska, Nemecka, Talianska, Libanonu, Maďarska – a najnovšie už aj z Austrálie v podobe novovymenovaného člena tohto zboru Andreja Bučka (redaktor slovenského vysielania na stanici SBS v Austrálii).

Kolégium sa zaoberalo aj ďalšími aktuálnymi témami slovenského zahraničia, medzi ktoré patrí zriadenie múzea a pamätníka slovenského vystaľovalectva na Slovensku, príprava dôstojných osláv 20. výročia prijatia zákona Národnej rady Slovenskej republiky, ktorým sa 5. júl ako „Deň zahraničných Slovákov“ stáva pamätným dňom Slovenskej republiky spojená s prípravou osláv 20. výročia vzniku samostatnej Slovenskej republiky. Takisto 1150. výročím príchodu vierozvestcov sv. Cyrila a sv. Metoda v roku 863, plánovaným na rok 2013. Poradcovia odporučili predsedovi úradu, aby vypracoval návrh projektu - Dni zahraničných Slovákov 2013, ktorého súčasťou bude aj Galavečer s účasťou významných osobností slovenského zahraničia a predložil ho na rokovanie vlády SR v roku 2012. Zbor poradcov odporučil predsedovi úradu zorganizovať v roku 2012 odbornú Stálu konferenciu Slovenská republika a Slováci žijúci v zahraničí. Ďalej mu odporučil vypracovať návrh na zriadenie múzea slovenského vystaľovalectva a kultúry Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí v rámci organizačnej štruktúry Slovenského národného múzea s tým, že ďalšie podmiienky budú predmetom rokovaní s Maticou slovenskou a inými zainteresovanými inštitúciami. Takisto odporučil vypracovať projekt pamätníka slovenského vystaľovalectva.

Poradcov zaujímala problematika vzdelávania našich krajanov v zahraničí a jej riešenie v spolupráci s Ministerstvom školstva, vedy, výskumu a športu SR. Zbor poradcov odporučil pokračovať v rokovaní s cieľom komplexne riešiť problematiku žiakov vzdelávacích centier v zahraničí, osobitne tých, ktorí majú kmeňové školy na Slovensku.

Zbor poradcov požiadal predsedu úradu, aby oslovil Ministerstvo zahraničných vecí Slovenskej republiky s cieľom usmernenia zastupiteľských úradov Slovenskej republiky v EÚ z dôvodu lepšej propagácie SOLVIT ako mechanizmu riešenia cezhraničných sporov v rámci EÚ týmito zastupiteľskými úradmi medzi Slovákami žijúcimi v zahraničí. Ďalšia požiadavka poradcovského zboru bola na koordináciu a dôsledne zabezpečovanie dokumentačnej činnosti o Slovákoch žijúcich v zahraničí v rámci štátneho informačného systému, a to aj prostredníctvom tvorby a aktualizácie databáz kontakty. Zbor poradcov odporučil pokračovať v prípravách na vytvorenie platformy osobností – Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí, ktorí majú ekonomický a diplomatický potenciál v krajinách, v ktorých žijú. V spolupráci so zastupiteľskými úradmi Slovenskej republiky v zahraničí a členmi Zboru poradcov predsedu ÚŠZZ následne vypracovať projekt ekonomického fóra podľa vzoru iných štátov a predložiť ho na rokovanie vlády v roku 2012.

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 omši) v osadnej hale Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého na 1st Avenue a 66th Street. Na programe schôdzy 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

Vianočné posedenia a zábavy

Mikulášske odopoludnie s Mikulášskou 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 odopoludnie s Mikulášskou nádielkou, ktoré sa bude konať v nedeľu dňa 4. decembra 2011 o 1:00 hod. odopoludnia 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 básničkou, 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. 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 spevákky súbor Tri slovenské mamičky. Hrať bude Johnny Pastirik 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 hodine.

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 – Vigíliu, ktorá sa bude konať v nedeľu dňa 11. decembra 2011 o 1:00 hodine odopoludnia 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.

Vianočný koncert a večera v Yonkers, NY

Farnosť Najsvätejšej Trojice v Yonkerst, NY usporiada v nedeľu 11. decembra 2011 27. vianočný koncert, po ktorom bude nasledovať večera. Bude sa konať v kostole Najsvätejšej Trojice, 18 Trinity Plaza v Yonkers, NY. Koncert začne o 3.30 hodine. Po koncerte bude v spoločenskej hale tradičná Štedrá večera. Vstupenky na podujatie sú \$ 35 za osobu, za deti do 12 rokov je vstupné \$ 17.50. Vstupenky len na koncert sú \$ 10.00. Bližšie informácie a rezervácie na tel. čísle: (914) 963-0720.

Vianočné karty a oblatky u sestričiek sv. Cyrila a Metoda

Slovenské sestričky sv. Cyrila a Metoda z Danville ponúkajú Vianočné karty (pozdravy) k tohtoročným Vianociam. Objednávky začínú od 24. októbra do 16. decembra. Balíček oblatiek (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 píše na adresu: Jankola Library and Slovak Museum, 580 Railroad St. Villa Sacred Heart, Danville, PA 17821.

Americká diplomacia poďakovala slovenským vojakom v Afganistane

Zástupkyňa námestníka Ministerstva zahraničných vecí Spojených štátov amerických pre Európu a Euroáziu Marie L. Yovanovitchová poďakovala slovenským vojakom v Afganistane. Naši špecialisti na zneškodňovanie výbušných systémov (EOD) sa vyznamenali 27. októbra 2011 počas neúspešného útoku ozbrojencov na spojeneckú základňu v Kandaháre.

Slovenskí vojaci identifikovali a zničili auto naložené výbušnami, ktoré chceli nepriateľské sily použiť pri útoku proti príslušníkom afganských vojsk a medzinárodných jednotiek ISAF. Yovanovitchová v komunikácii so slovenským veľvyslancom v USA Petrom Burianom uviedla, že práca slovenských vojakov pri záchrane životov je ďalším prejavom dobrého americko-slovenského partnerstva a spolupráce v rámci spojeneckej operácie ISAF v Afganistane. TASR informoval Tlačový odbor Ministerstva zahraničných vecí SR.

TASR

„Gay“ manželstvo je pre Cézara, nie pre Katolícku Cirkev

Nedávno štátni zákonodarcovia v Albany, N.Y. schválili gay manželstvo (same sex). To je smutná a rozrušujúca správa pre Katolícku cirkev. Katolícka hierarchia sa obáva, že legislatúra bude definovať občiansky zákon manželstva do takej miery, že dovoľí dvom osobám toho istého pohlavia uzavrieť civilné manželstvo. Prečo sa toho bojíme?

Občiansky zákonodárny zbor nemôže určiť Katolíckej cirkvi čo je sviatosť manželstva a čo je manželstvo. Žiaden zákonodárny zbor nám nemôže určiť s kým uzavrieť manželstvo a s kým nie. Prvý amendment konštitúcie nás chráni.

Takže, ak štát chce povedať, že sa muž môže civilne sobášiť s druhým mužom, alebo že sa žena môže civilne sobášiť s druhou ženou, prečo sa Cirkev o to stará?

Cirkev môže povedať, že štát znehodnocuje prirodzenú jednotu muža so ženou v manželstve. Ale Cirkev sa už dávno vzdala tohto argumentu vzhľadom na mnohé rozvody.

Ovšem, v same-sex manželstve Cirkev sa snaží aby civilný zákon odzrkadľoval cirkevné učenie. Toto mnohým nevyhovuje. Cirkev sa môže brániť a odpovedať, že charakter manželstva nie je len cirkevné učenie, ale je to tiež záležitosť prirodzeného práva. A civilný zákon by mal ustúpiť prirodzenému právu. Toto myslím je silný argument. Ľudský pozitívny zákon mal by odzrkadľovať prirodzený zákon a nie ísť proti nemu. Tento argument tiež neobstojí. Patriarchovia židovskej biblie (scriptures) mali viac žien. Ako potom obstojí prirodzené právo keď jeden muž a jedna žena je definíciou manželstva?

V ideálnom svete ľudský zákon by mal ustúpiť prirodzenému právu. Ale v demokracii to môže platiť len pokiaľ to civilná spoločnosť môže pochopiť alebo interpretovať.

Cirkevnú opozíciu ku „same sex“ manželstvu kritizujú ako aspekt neznášanlivosti. Proti tomuto stanovisku sa Cirkev môže brániť. A to tak, že tí ktorí tlačia „same sex“ manželstvo na druhých, ktorí sú odlišní, sú tiež neznášanliví a sú proti cirkevnému učeniu.

Ale nechajme argumenty stranou. Nie, toto nie je naša porážka. To je nasledovanie Ježišovho učenia keď povedal. „Nemajte strach!“ „Dajte Cézarovi čo je césarovo a Bohu, čo je Božie.“ Civilné manželstvo je pre Cézara. Sviatosť manželstva je Božie. Je platné jedine ak je uzavreté medzi pokrsteným mužom a pokrstenou ženou za prítomnosti dvoch svedkov a riadneho ordinára alebo kňaza. Cezar tu nemá čo povedať.

Cirkev má zákonitú požiadavku. Nemožno legálne žiadať aby Cirkev bola proti svojej viere a bola nútená uznať gay manželstvo. Cirkev nemôže uznať také manželstvo ako posvätné, nemôže otvárať farské miestnosti pre ich oslavy alebo poskytnúť výhody pre zamestnancov „same sex“ manželstva alebo akékoľvek iné výhody, čo by bolo proti našej viere. To je naše civilné právo, ktoré by civilná spoločnosť mala uznať tak ako my uznávame, že civilná spoločnosť má právo definovať civilné manželstvo ako si želá.

Väčší problém pre Katolícku hierarchiu je, aby sa nesnažila presvedčiť civilnú kultúru a jej názory na sviatosť manželstva, aby vynaložila úsilie presvedčiť svojich prívržencov, zvlášť mladých katolíkov skôr ako dospejú. Presvedčiť ich, že byť s katolíckym učением je dobro, ktoré ich bližšie pritiahne ku Kristovi, ku slobode a plnosti života a viery.

Naši kňazi majú príležitosť vysvetľovať „same sex“ manželstvo a jeho následky v kázňach, na duchovných cvičeniach, v médiach a pri iných príležitostiach. Majú tiež možnosť poukázať na mnohé potraty, sexuálne násilnosti a personálnu morálku.

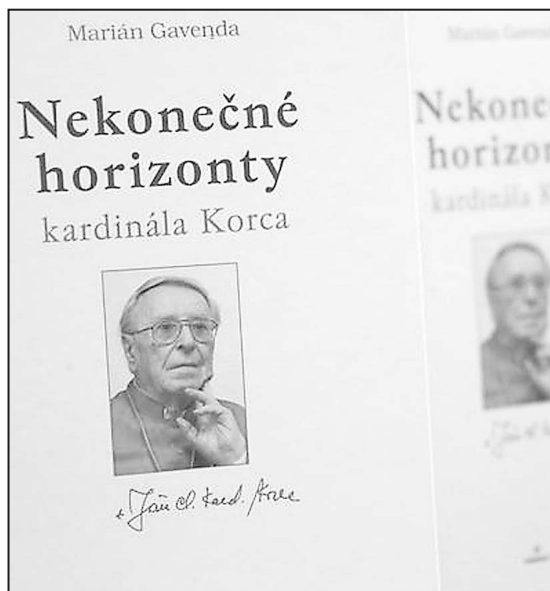
Ak biskupi chcú zákony, ktoré by odzrkadľovali katolícke hodnoty, potrebujú tiež presvedčujúci model zákonodárneho záväzku.

Hlasovanie v newyorskej legislatúre posielalo silný odkaz Katolíckej hierarchii. Nebezpečenstvom nie je samotné hlasovanie. Nebezpečenstvo, ktorému Katolícka Cirkev čelí, zdá sa je hlbšie – autorita upadla a kríza vo vedení.

Neštudoval som teológiu, ale problémy Katolíckej cirkvi sa ma ako katolíka dotýkajú. Preto chcem vysloviť svoj laický názor.

Rudo L. Greguš

V predaji prvý knižný životopis Jána Ch. kardinála Korca



Do kníhkupectiev sa dostal prvý životopis Jána Chryzostoma kardinála Korca. Autorom knihy s názvom *Nekonečné horizonty kardinála Korca* je katolícky kňaz Marián Gavenda. Novú knihu predstavili v sobotu 5. novembra na medzinárodnom knižnom veľtrhu Bibliotéka v Bratislave.

The first biography of Jan Chryzostom Cardinal Korec, written by Marian Gavenda, was presented on November 5 at the international book fair in Bratislava.

FOTO TK KBS /Peter Zimen

Krátké správy zo Slovenska

• **Bankovní analytici** očakávajú, že slovenská ekonomika v budúcom roku porastie o 1.9 %. Oproti predikciám z minulého mesiaca tak klesol priemer očakávaného rastu hrubého domáceho produktu (HDP) od siedmich slovenských bánk o 0.8 %. Odhady analytikov sa pritom nachádzajú v rozpätí od 1.0 do 2.8 %. informovala o tom nedávno Národná banka Slovenska (NBS). Očakávania v rámci rastu slovenského HDP pre tento rok sa naopak zvýšili. Banky predpovedajú, že ekonomika narastie o 3.1 %. Minulý mesiac však odhady hovorili len o 2.9 %. Spolu so znížením výkonu slovenskej ekonomiky očakávajú analytici na budúci rok aj zníženie inflácie. Priemer odhadov na budúci rok hovorí o raste spotrebiteľských cien o 2.7 %. Za tento rok by však mali ceny podľa bánk rásť až o 4.2 %.

• **Príslušníci** slovenskej jednotky sa dostali do poslednej fázy medzinárodného cvičenia „Full spectrum operations“ 173. výsadkovej brigády, čím ukončili svoje mesačné pôsobenie vo výcvikovom priestore v nemeckom Hohenfelse. Viac ako štyristo slovenských vojakov účasťou na operácii PILE DRIVER tak splnilo hlavnú úlohu tohto medzinárodného cvičenia. Operácia sa uskutočnila od 18. do 24. októbra 2011, kedy bol americkým partnerom oficiálne vyhlásený ENDEX pre všetky cvičiace jednotky. Od amerického partnera sa našim vojakom dostalo uznania nielen vo forme poďakovania za vysoko profesionálny výkon počas celého cvičenia, ale aj udelením certifikátov, ktoré im deň pred odchodom na Slovensko na spoločnom nástupe odovzdal veliteľ 1. práporu 4. pešej brigády Armády USA podplukovník Mitchell O. Watkins.

• **Na Slovensku** využívajú internet aktívne, teda aspoň raz za mesiac, tri pätiny (59.2 percenta) ľudí. V porovnaní s minulým rokom nepredstavuje tento podiel žiadny posun v trende využívania internetu. Menej často využívajú internet 2.3 percenta populácie a takmer dve pätiny (38.5 percenta) sa vyjadrili, že zatiaľ nemajú skúsenosti s využívaním internetu. Výplýva to z prieskumu, ktorý v máji tohto roka realizovala agentúra TNS Slovakia na vzorke 1006 respondentov. Vzorka je reprezentatívna pre populáciu Slovenska z hľadiska veku, pohlavia, vzdelania, veľkosti miesta bydliska a kraja. V porovnaní s celoslovenským priemerom využívajú internet skôr ľudia vo veku do 39 rokov, respondenti s vyšším vzdelaním (stredoškolské s maturitou a vysokoškolské) a obyvatelia Bratislavského kraja. Naopak, internet nevyužívajú skôr starší ľudia (50 rokov a starší) a respondenti s nižším vzdelaním.

• **Investíciu** vo výške 90 miliónov eur si vyžiada výstavba lisovne v bratislavskom závode Volkswagen Slovakia (VW SK). Začiatok produkcie výliskov je naplánovaný na koniec roku 2013. Objem produkcie by mal dosiahnuť približne 19,000 dielov za deň. V tomto roku Volkswagen Slovakia oslávil dvadsaťročné pôsobenie na Slovensku. Za toto obdobie vyrobil už viac ako 2.5 milióna vozidiel. Patri k najväčším exportérom, investorm i zamestnávateľom v súkromnom sektore na Slovensku. Zamestnáva viac ako 7,000 ľudí. V závode v Bratislave vyrába Volkswagen Touareg, Audi Q7, Volkswagen up!, Škoda Citigo, karosérie Porsche Cayenne a prevodovky, v Martine komponenty pre podvozky a prevodovky a v Košiciach pripravuje vozidlá na export do Ruska.

• **Zvýšený** pohyb medveďov v zastavanom území Vysokých Tatier je veľmi vážnym problémom. Hlavné príčiny vidí samospráva v aktuálnom stave populácie medveďa hneďho na území mesta, pričom sa stále zvyšuje počet synantropizovaných jedincov. Jednou z ďalších príčin je aj postupná strata prirodzeného biotopu, ku ktorej dochádza od kalamity v roku 2004. Ďalšou vedľajšou príčinou je podľa mesta problematika odpadového hospodárstva, ktorú sa snaží samospráva postupne riešiť. Následkom týchto krokov by podľa primátora mohol byť aj prísne strážený regulovaný odstrel, prípadne presun odchytených jedincov do zahraničia.

• **Od** polovice minulého roka sa počet pobočiek zahraničných bánk na Slovensku zvýšil o 5 subjektov. Ku júnu 2011 tak na Slovensku pôsobilo 15 zahraničných bánk. Nedávno o tom informovala vo svojom Štatistickom bulletinu Národná banka Slovenska (NBS). Nárast počtu zastúpení zahraničných bánk bol spôsobený príchodom nových subjektov ako AXA-Bank Europe a BKS Bank. Takisto však zmenou právnej formy spoločnosti Komerční banka a Fio, sporiteľné družstvo na pobočky zahraničných bánk. Naopak, počet domácich bánk sa v tomto roku znížil o 1 subjekt na 11. pracovníkov.

• **Súčasťou** občianskeho preukazu by mal byť po novom aj elektronický čip. Doklad by tak mohli doplniť aj údaje, ako je informácia o krvnej skupine či dosiahnutom vzdelaní, ktoré budú dostupné len so súhlasom jeho držiteľa. Výplýva to z návrhu novely zákona o občianskych preukazoch, ktorý schválil vládny kabinet s navrhovanou účinnosťou od 1. júla 2012. „Základným cieľom novely je zavedenie elektronických občianskych preukazov vo forme čipovej karty, ktorá umožňuje jednoznačnú a bezpečnú identifikáciu občanov v elektronických systémoch verejnej správy s využitím mechanizmov zaručeného elektronického podpisu. Vytvoria sa tým základné predpoklady na realizáciu a používanie elektronického podpisu a elektronických služieb v rámci e-Governmentu,“ konštatuje sa v materiáli ministerstva vnútra.

• **V** bratislavskom závode vyrábaný Volkswagen up! má ešte mesiac do uvedenia na svoj prvý trh v Nemecku, už teraz však získava ocenenia a popularitu medzi zákazníkmi. Medzinárodne uznávanú cenu Zlatý volant udelili nemecké noviny Bild am Sonntag a časopis Auto Bild už 36-krát. Na hlasovaní sa zúčastnila porota zložená z novinárov odborných periodík, automobilových pretekárov, vybraných nemeckých prominentov a viac ako 260,000 čitateľov. Volkswagen up! zvíťazil v konkurencii ostatných modelov vo svojej triede. Od 13. septembra zaznamenal up! už 10,000 predbežných objednávok, zdôraznil vedúci vývoja značky Volkswagen Ulrich Hackenberg.

• **Prvý** novembrový deň patrila v albánskej Tirane 48 ženám z celého sveta, ktoré bojovali o titul Miss Globe 2011. Slovenská reprezentantka z Trnavy Michaela Gašparovičová (19) si odniesla titul druhej najkrajšej dámy. Blondínka očarila porotu, a to jej vynieslo okrem striebornej priečky aj titul First runner up Miss Globe 2011. Od celkového prvenstva Slovenku delil jeden hlas. Ôsmy ročník prestížnej súťaže vyhrala Nemka Stephanie Alice. Tretie miesto získala Edna Ferrin z Kolumbie.

• **„Slovensko** patrí medzi najvyspelejšie krajiny sveta!“ informoval denník NOVÝ ČAS, ktorý uverejnil výsledky štúdie inštitútu Legatum. Spomedzi 110 hodnotených krajín sa SR umiestnilo na 32. mieste, minulý rok Slovensko skončilo na 37. mieste. Štúdia hodnotila ekonomiku, vládu, slobodu, vzdelanie či zdravie obyvateľov v krajinách, v ktorých žije 93% svetovej populácie a ktoré zároveň tvoria 97% svetového HDP. Zoznamu prosperujúcich štátov kraľujú Nórsko a Dánsko. Česko sa umiestnilo na 26. mieste. „Slovensko má pevné ekonomické základy a dobré vyhliadky do budúcnosti, avšak spokojnosť verejnosti je nízka. Iba 55% Slovákov je spokojných s ich životným štandardom“, píše sa v správe. „Slovensko má najviac stredoškolsky vzdelaných ľudí zo všetkých testovaných krajín“, zhodnotil inštitút.

TASR a slovenské časopisy

V Košiciach otvorili prvý kláštor bratov augustiánov na Slovensku

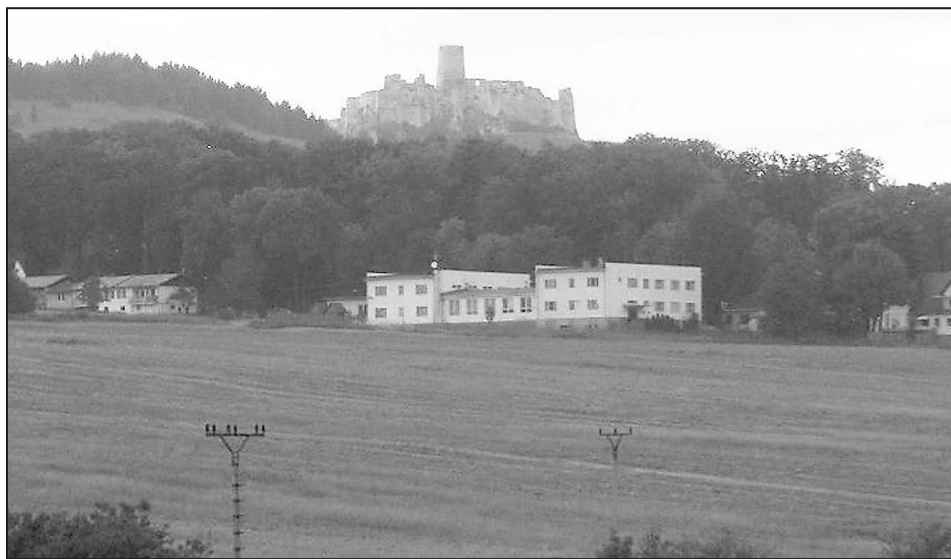
V Košiciach otvorili prvý kláštor bratov augustiánov na Slovensku. Nová história rehole sa začala písať 13. novembra, keď kláštor otvorili pápežský sacristián z Ríma P. Pavol Benedikt, OSA a provinciál talianskej augustiniánskej provincie P. Gianfranco Casagrande, OSA.

Prvý Augustiniánsky kláštor na Slovensku začali stavať vlni na jar pri mestskej časti Košická Nová Ves. Stavba kláštora je podľa internetovej stránky rehole rozdelená do viacerých etáp. V prvej etape sa vybuduje samotný kláštor, v druhej etape je zahrnutá stavba Kostola sv. Rity. V poslednej etape sa vybuduje pastoračné centrum pre mladých, ako aj internátna časť s kapacitou desať izieb. Pri výstavbe sa počíta aj s multifunkčným ihriskom.

Na nedeľnej slávnostnej svätej omši sa zúčastnili stovky veriacich, predstavitelia mesta, mestskej časti a dvadsať kňazov z Peru, Poľska, Talianska a Slovenska. Kazateľom bol provinciál talianskej augustiniánskej provincie. V homílii hovoril o sv. Augustínovi ako o mužovi dnešnej doby, ktorý hľadal lásku, a keď ju našiel, svoj život úplne odovzdal Bohu, uviedol P. Casagrande. Po bohoslužbe sa prítomní zišli na agapé.

Deň pred slávnostným otvorením požehnal kláštor košický arcibiskup a metropolita Mons. Bernard Bober, ktorý zároveň s bratmi augustiniánmi slávil slávnostné vešpery. Kláštor je miestom, kde mladé rodiny i mládež, nielen zo sídliska Furča, nájdu duchovné zázemie, ale aj duchovné vedenie. V decembri bratia pripravujú aj deň otvorených dverí pre záujemcov o ich spiritualitu a ich duchovné akcie.

TK KBS informovala Monika Tóthová



Spišský hrad

Otvorenie spodnej brány Spišského hradu by mestu pomohlo

Prvá písomná zmienka o meste Spišské Podhradie, ktoré sa nachádza v bezprostrednej blízkosti Spišského hradu, je z roku 1249. Najstaršie osídlenia na tomto území pochádzajú z 5. tisícročia pred Kristom, čo potvrdzujú archeologické nálezy z vrcholu kopca s nadmorskou výškou 634 m, najvyššieho bodu Spišského hradu. Spišské Podhradie bolo v 12. storočí predhradím Spišského hradu. V polovici 13. storočia sa už vyvinulo v samostatné, od hradu nezávislé mesto, ktoré celý stredovek prežívalo ako známe a prosperujúce. V súčasnosti tu žije vyše 3,800 obyvateľov a mesto je ako súčasť okolia Spišského hradu zapísané v zozname UNESCO.

Spišský hrad sa teší veľkému záujmu verejnosti. Spodná brána v Spišskom Podhradí vedúca na hrad je však už dlhšie zatvorená. Jej otvorenie by podľa primátora Jozefa Baču turizmu v meste veľmi pomohlo. Z finančných dôvodov ju zatvorili a odvtedy sa nám nepodarilo zabezpečiť, aby turistov púšťali aj cez spodnú bránu. Do Podhradia príde do 10,000 turistov, no Spišský hrad navštívi ročne 180,000 ľudí, to je veľký nepomer. Mesto už oslovilo Ministerstvo kultúry SR aj riaditeľku Slovenského národného múzea - Spišského múzea v Levoči, ktoré je správcom hradu. Odpoveďou bolo, že múzeu i ministerstvu by otvorenie brány prinieslo finančné straty.

“To nie je až taký strašný problém, predtým to fungovalo. My sme skrz tú bránu investovali do vybudovania parkoviska, sociálnych zariadení, išlo tam takmer dva milióny korún na vtedajšie peniaze a tieto peniaze viac menej vyšli nazmar,” zdôraznil Bača. Mesto ponúklo múzeu aj možnosť, že uhradí aj náklady na dvoch zamestnancov, ktorí by tam mali pracovať. Spišské múzeum v Levoči však vidí problém v tom, že by bolo ťažké zabezpečiť štandardný komfort pracovníkov i návštevníkov na dolnej bráne hradu. Prevádzka bola vysoko nákladová a práve preto sa prevádzkovateľ rozhodol bránu v roku 2009 zatvoriť.

Ďalším problémom bol a je prístupový chodník, teda jeho neexistencia. Prístup je sčasti po chodníku, ale veľká časť je po trase, ktorá vedie cez pole, lúku, hlinu a blato, na čo sa návštevníci veľmi sťažovali. Vybudovanie prístupovej cesty nie je v kompetencii správcu hradu. Z druhej strany, od obce Žehra, vedie k hradu asfaltová cesta a je tam pre návštevníkov aj parkovisko. Múzeum preto nevidí dôvod otvárať dolnú bránu zo Spišského Podhradia.

TASR



Spišská Kapitula



Katolícky fraternalistický dvojtyždenník

Jednota



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

Ročník 120

STREDA, 23. NOVEMBRA 2011

Číslo 5853

Slávnostné otvorenie Bratislavského hradu

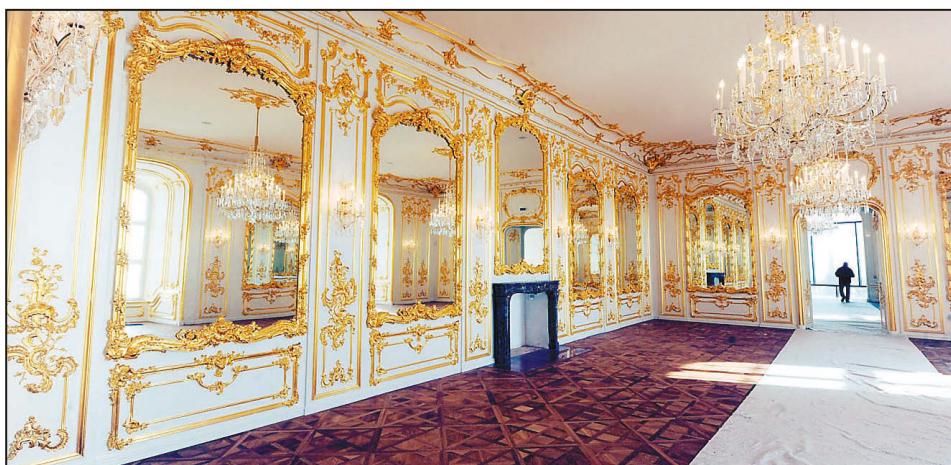


FOTO TASR - Štefan Puškáš

Snímka z nových zrekonštruovaných interiérov a reprezentačných priestorov na Bratislavskom hrade.

The newly renovated interior of the Bratislava Castle.



Koncert slovenskej jazzovej perkusionistky na veľvyslanectve vo Washingtone, DC

Na slovenskom veľvyslanectve vo Washingtone, DC, bol vo štvrtok 27. októbra koncert jazzového kvarteta LSQ mladej slovenskej perkusionistky Ľudmily Štefánikovej. Spolu s Ľudmilou, ktorá hrá na malletkat, čo je elektronická verzia melodických perkusií ako xylofón a vibrafón, kvarteto tvoria gitarista Alex Baboian, kontrabasista Yonatan Maranier a Tom Wandell, ktorý hrá na bicie nástroje.

Na úvod koncertu slovenský veľvyslanec v USA Peter Burian pokrstil debutový album mladej umelkyne pod názvom Be Beautiful (Buď pôvabný/-á), zložený z jej siedmich skladieb v podaní mladých jazzmanov z celého sveta, vrátane Slovenska.

Absolventka bratislavského konzervatória Ľudmila Štefániková v lete tohto roku s vyznamenaním ukončila štúdium hry na perkusie a jazzovej kompozície na prestížnej Berklee College of Music v Bostone v štáte Massachusetts. V súčasnosti pôsobí v Bostone, kde vedie svoje jazzové kvarteto, vyučuje, hrá na malletkate a komponuje.

MZV SR



Petra Tomku znovu zvolili za sudcu do Medzinárodného súdneho dvora v Haagu

New York/Bratislava - Počas 66. zasadnutia Valného zhromaždenia Organizácie Spojených národov v New Yorku 10. novembra vo voľbách sudcov do Medzinárodného súdneho dvora opätovne zvolili jeho súčasného podpredsedu JUDr. Petra Tomku.

Okrem Slovenskej národnej skupiny slovenského kandidáta navrhlo ďalších 20 národných skupín stáleho arbitrážneho dvora. Kandidát Slovenskej republiky získal hneď v prvom kole volieb vo Valnom zhromaždení OSN 149 hlasov prítomných členských krajín OSN, a 13 z 15 hlasov v rámci Bezpečnostnej rady OSN.

Peter Tomka úspešne obhajoval Slovenskú republiku v spore o vodné dielo Gabčíkovo-Nagymaros. Pôsobil ako veľvyslanec Stálej misie Slovenskej republiky pri OSN v New Yorku. Jeho opätovné zvolenie do prestížnej inštitúcie OSN na roky 2012 až 2021 je okrem vysokej odbornosti kandidáta aj ocenením slovenskej diplomatickej služby, uviedol pre TASR Tlačový odbor Ministerstva zahraničných vecí SR. Medzinárodný súdny dvor je hlavným súdnym orgánom OSN.

TASR

Neskorá „Jeseň“

Ku koncu krásnej, teplej jeseni,
aj život na dedine sa akosi premení.
Chotár, akoby si obliekol iné rúcho.
Nepočuť bežný džavot vtáčkov.
Na chotári, ostalo akési čudné ticho.

Na rozcestí stojí osamelý, drevený kríž,
drotár vie, že do dediny má už blíž.
Nie, na poli, nepočuť spev pracujúcej devy.
Chotár vyzerá akoby sa tu stretali hnevy.

Ale, aj tak je ľúbený, lebo je celý náš.
My, hrdí sme naň a modlíme sa zaň
„Otče náš.“

Jozef Smák



Trnavská novéna nesie podtitul Márii čas milosti



Novéna, ktorá býva každoročne slávená od 13. do 21. novembra v Bazilike sv. Mikuláša v Trnave, je príležitosťou na duchovnú obnovu, ale aj pripomenutím si mimoriadnych historických udalostí slzenia obrazu Trnavskej Panny Márie, ktoré siaha až do roku 1663.

The novena, which is celebrated November 13 to 21, in the Basilica of St. Mikulas in Trnava, is an opportunity for spiritual renewal and also recollection of the extraordinary historical events of the Crying Madonna, which took place in the year 1663.

Foto TK KBS/ Michal Hnát