



# Jednota

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## The Slovaks and Valentine's Day, 2014

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

Before the Revolution of 1989, Slovaks generally did not celebrate St. Valentine's Day on February 14th. Rather for the Catholic faith, the date marked the feast of Saints Cyril and Methodius, the Apostles of the Slavs who served as missionaries in bringing Christianity to Slavic peoples. Valentine Day customs associated with romantic love came mainly from England and France, and would later filter down to Slovakia in more recent times.

### Origins

We know few facts about St. Valentine (Valentín, in Slovak); as a result, the Roman Catholic Church actually removed the feast day of Saint Valentine from the General Roman Calendar in its 1969 revision of its Calendar of Saints. Local or national calendars could keep the day if they wished, but the Church could find no evidence to justify St. Valentine's inclusion in its regular calendar of saints' feast days.



Apart from two revered Valentines being buried on the Via Flaminia (Flaminian Way) on February 14, Church scholars could not find incontrovertible evidence about the revered men and their saintly deeds related to romantic love.

In Catholic traditions, several martyrs went by the name of Valentine. In 496 AD, Pope Gelasius I had first established the feast on February 14, but the day had nothing to do with the celebration of romantic love. The day commemorated two early Christians who suffered martyrdom – Valentine of Rome (Valentinus presb. m. Romae) and Valentine of Terni (Valentinus ep. Interamnensis m. Romae). According to known research, the first Valentine of Rome was a martyred priest from the third century (c. 269 AD), and he was entombed along the Via Flaminia, an ancient main road leading northward from the city of Rome to the Adriatic Sea. One may find his relics at the Church of Saint Praxed in Rome and also at the Whitefriar Street Carmelite Church in Dublin, Ireland.

Another saint of the same name, Valentine of Terni (a city in Umbria, Italy, about 65 miles north of Rome), became bishop of Interamna (modern Terni) in 197 AD. He suffered martyrdom during the reign of Emperor Aurelian (ruled 270-275). The second St. Valentine was also buried aside the Via Flaminia, but in a different locale, at the Basilica of Saint Valentine in Terni (Basilica di San Valentino).

Yet another St. Valentine is mentioned in the Catholic Encyclopedia. This third saint and

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Deadline for the First Catholic Slovak Union's 2013 Scholarship Program Has Been Extended to March 31. See p 4 for details!

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## Resolve to Save More for Retirement in this Tax Year

Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary

What were your New Year's resolutions this year? If you are like most people, chances are they revolved around one of three ways to get fit: either physically, financially or both. If you are serious about getting your finances in shape this year, you should look no farther than your own plans for retirement. Our volatile economy – filled with dire headlines, reported bailouts and investment schemes gone wrong – shows no sign of stabilizing any time soon, so it only makes sense to take a serious look at building a safe and solid financial future for yourself and your loved ones. That means opening or making a contribution to an Individual Retirement Account (IRA) before April 15, 2014, so you can save – and take advantage of all the potential tax credits available within the current tax year.



Kenneth Arendt

*continued on page 3*

*You'll Fall in Love with our Rates*

- 8 Year Flexible Premium IRA **3.60%**
- 6 Year Flexible Premium IRA **3.20%**
- 6 Year Fixed Rate IRA **3.10%**

Open or add to your IRA account TODAY!  
Call us at 800.533.6682

Contact your branch officer or the First Catholic Slovak Union Home Office at 800.533.6682 for more info. annuity@fcsu.com, www.fcsu.com



### Inside this edition:

• 2013 National Photo Contest Winners, Part II  
See pages 14-15

# Insights and Viewpoints



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

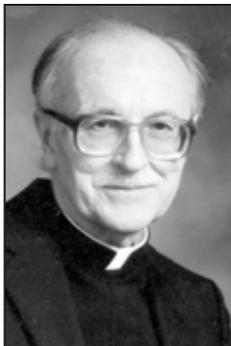
February 23, 2014

Matthew 5:38-48

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle A

### Gospel Summary

This Sunday's gospel reading is taken from the section in Matthew's Gospel that came to be called the Sermon on the Mount (chapters 5-7). Matthew summarizes the teaching of Jesus on a variety of life issues such as anger, adultery, retaliation, almsgiving, prayer,



Campion P. Gavaler,  
O.S.B.

money, judging others, and discipleship. Jesus teaches us how to respond to those who do us evil. He tells us to love them, and to pray for those who persecute us. The radical teaching of Jesus and its actualization in his own life creates a crisis of decision. Each person who hears this gospel must decide whether or not to trust Jesus when he says that an apparently foolish act of love is stronger than any act of evil. If we live in the wisdom of Jesus, we can be certain that we are children of the heavenly Father because love is the nature of divine life. If we only love those who love us in a kind of business deal, that is not to be perfect as the heavenly Father is perfect. There must be a family likeness.

### Life Implications

When we hear the cost of Christian discipleship, our spontaneous reaction probably sounds something like this: "Lord, you're going too far. Asking us to live like that would make people think of us as fools." That kind of reaction means that we have heard Jesus correctly. We tend to ignore the foolishness of Christ's teaching about discipleship. Saint Paul does not: he acknowledges the foolishness of the gospel he preaches, almost as an essential characteristic of its authenticity. In his first letter to the Corinthians Paul writes: "The message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For Jews demand signs and Greeks look for wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to the Gentiles, but to those who are called, Jews and Greeks alike, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God."

Why does Paul say that "Christ crucified" is an obstacle to believers and foolishness to reasonable people? The answer touches upon the essential revelation of the gospel: God, the heavenly Father, is love. Jesus, his only Son, perfect image of the Father, can only be love, even to giving up his life on a cross. This human, free act of giving up his life even for those killing him appears foolish because it is so contrary to our deepest human instinct to preserve our own life by whatever means – more violence, retaliation, possessions, power, money than those who are in hostile competition with us to stay alive. A third-century graffito scratched on a stone wall of a house in Rome ridicules Christians by depicting a figure on a cross with the head of a jackass!

By our own fragile freedom and strength we cannot liberate ourselves from the prison of self-love and the fear of death. It is only through accepting the gift of sharing in the freedom and strength of the Risen Christ that we can live as children of God in love. The Letter to the Hebrews (2:15) neatly summarizes this good news: "The Son of God became blood and flesh to free those who through fear of death had been subject to slavery all their life." Liberated from the fear of death, our deepest instinct to live is fulfilled by receiving the gift of sharing in the eternal life of God.

Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount gives us random examples of what it would mean to love one another simply because we are begotten of God, and God is love. His purpose is to reveal the secret power of love, thus freeing each of us to imagine our own unique ways of love in the particular circumstances of our own life. It is possible to go beyond the reasonable, good boundaries of quid pro quo business relations to experience the miracle of receiving a gift and being a gift for others. This is the grace of the Eucharist that we pray for today: to be like God, to be perfect as our heavenly Father is perfect in love.

## LIGHT ONE CANDLE

Tony Rossi, Director of Communications, The Christophers

### Build a Marriage That Taps Into God's Love

"This is a generation that has a real fear about making marriage work, and they're hungry to figure out how to do it so they don't end up making the same mistakes they see everyone else making and experiencing that agonizing pain."

That "agonizing pain" is divorce, and marriage counselors Dr. Greg and Lisa Popcak have had many couples approach them for help because they want to avoid the devastating break-ups they witnessed among their own parents, family members and friends. To help newlyweds avoid those pitfalls, the Popcaks have written a book called "Just Married: The Catholic Guide to Surviving and Thriving in the First Five Years of Marriage."

During a recent interview on "Christopher Closeup," they discussed their belief that "no newly married couple knows what they are doing when it comes to marriage." And they admitted that held true for them as well!

Lisa said, "There's a culture shock to being married: joining your traditions, working out the everyday ins and outs of life, having to live with somebody during all their moods. The Church knows what it's talking about when it says the vows are 'for better or for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health.' Most people don't realize how quickly you'll go through all those stages, even in the first year of marriage!"

Including God as the third person in your marriage is crucial, say the Popcaks. And one of the best ways to do this is to pray together. Not just go to church together, but actually pray together. Lisa pointed out, "It brings conflict way down. It's no longer 'We're going to battle to see who's the superior one in the relationship.' It's 'Let's pray and ask God what His way is.' So you both put yourself under the headship of God, and then all that tension and conflict begins to melt away."

Ironically, a frequent source of conflict in marriage is compromise. Some people think that by doing things differently than they always have, they're giving up their identity. It's true that each partner needs to take the other into account when making decisions. You can't just do what you want for the weekend or the holidays without considering your spouse. But a little self-denial is good for the soul, and actually increases your sense of identity in the long run.

Greg explained, "Our Catholic faith teaches us that we find ourselves by making a gift of ourselves. And the reason I bring that up is because a lot of couples are afraid of losing themselves to the marriage: 'If I make too many changes, maybe I won't be me anymore.' The reality is, we find ourselves by making those changes, we find ourselves in the generosity and the humility and the genuine love that making those changes really takes."

According to the Popcaks, "God wants to change the world through your marriage." While that goal sounds lofty, Greg noted that it stems from the Church's view of marriage: "When we live out this commitment of marriage and love, we don't have to be perfect at it. We just have to keep striving and keep drawing closer to each other and God. That sends a powerful message to the world that love is possible, that the kind of love we're all aching for really does exist, and that God wants to give it to you."

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

## NEWSPAPER DEADLINES

All copy is due by 4:30 P.M., THE MONDAY OF THE WEEK 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, FEB 19	MONDAY, FEB 10
WEDNESDAY, MAR 5	MONDAY, FEB 24
WEDNESDAY, MAR 19	MONDAY, MAR 10

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](mailto:fcsulifeeditor@gmail.com)  
First Catholic Slovak Union, Attention "JEDNOTA"  
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## Resolve to Save More for Retirement

*continued from page 1*

### IRA Basics

An IRA is a form of retirement plan in the United States that has been designed to offer taxpayers certain advantages for retirement savings – whether as tax deductions while you are earning income or as untaxed money when you withdraw your contributions upon retirement.

IRAs come in several forms. The three main types are:

- A “traditional” IRA that allows contributions that are often tax-deductible and all transactions and earnings within the IRA generally have no tax impact. Withdrawals from a traditional IRA, however, are generally taxed as income.
- A Roth IRA: named for Senator William V. Roth, Jr. and introduced as part of the Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997, this type of IRA allows contributions made with after-tax assets to (generally) have no tax impact, and withdrawals are usually tax-free.
- A SEP IRA that is a provision allowing a self employed person or a small business employer to make retirement plan contributions into a traditional IRA established in the employee's name, instead of to a pension fund in the company's name.

### Maximize Your Savings

The maximum amount you can contribute to an IRA annually has steadily risen over the years – to the current annual amount of \$5,500. Since 2002, those over 50 have been allowed to contribute even more, with the idea that they should be saving as much as possible as they approach retirement with what is called a “Catch-up Contribution.” The Catch-up Contribution for those who are 50+ is up to \$6,500 in the 2013 tax year.

In addition to contributing the maximum amount allowed by law, the other way to ensure you are saving the most possible is to get an IRA that offers the best rate possible. The First Catholic Slovak Union offers several products that may be purchased as IRAs, combining all the benefits of an IRA with excellent rates:

- Eight-Year Flexible Premium IRA, with a current rate of 3.60%
- Six-Year Flexible Premium IRA, with a current rate of 3.20%
- Six-Year Fixed Rate IRA, with a current rate of 3.10%

Saving more for retirement is one of the best ways to fulfill that New Year's resolution to become more financially fit, but you need to get started right away. The longer you wait, the more difficult it will be to save more. If you do not currently have an IRA or have not maxed out your contributions into an existing IRA, then you should act now. You'll be done with one key resolution this year, well within the April 15th deadline.

For more information about First Catholic Slovak Union IRAs, contact your local branch officer or the First Catholic Slovak Union Home Office (by calling 1-800-533-6682 or by visiting [www.fcsu.com](http://www.fcsu.com)) today.

## ALL – NEW TOURS! VISIT SLOVAKIA & THE WORLD



At the First Catholic Slovak Union, we are constantly updating our website to make it more useful, more informative – fresher. We have just added an entirely new list of tours to Slovakia guided by FCSU members under our informational tab called SLOVAKIA & THE WORLD. Here you can also find information on news and views related to our shared heritage – such as the latest video highlighting beautiful Slovakia.

Visit [www.fcsu.com/slovakia-and-the-world](http://www.fcsu.com/slovakia-and-the-world) today.

**Check out the First Catholic Slovak Union  
website at [www.fcsu.com](http://www.fcsu.com)**

## From the Office of the Vice President

### On the Subject of Seminars

Would you like to see your branch increase membership in 2014? If so, it is imperative that your branch, along with every branch in our Society, have recommenders actively selling our insurance and annuity products.

It's not hard to do. The First Catholic Slovak Union offers an excellent insurance and annuity portfolio, and our commissions are just as good. All we need are members who want to be recommenders – that is, those who are willing to sign up their family, friends, neighbors, and church and club members. You have a perfect source for potential sales, as well – your current client file which is also known as your branch membership roster.

And it isn't just about recommending a product; it's about following up from time to time, to ensure that the product you recommended still fits the needs of that member. Right now, for example, the vast majority of branch members who hold an insurance policy with the FCSU have an “orphan” policy – meaning that after the member bought the policy, they never heard from the branch recommender again. Perhaps this is the reason a high percentage of our life insurance policy holders are still among today's many “under insured” – those with not nearly the amount of coverage needed to protect their loved ones from financial hardship after they are gone.

You can help change this. You can offer a valuable service to your fellow members, whose personal circumstances are changing all the time, by making sure their insurance coverage is updated and sufficient to meet their evolving needs.

Of course, the Home Office is always available to provide you with the support you need. If you would like a refresher course on our insurance or annuity products, we would be happy to conduct an informal training session at a day and time convenient for you and your members. Just call the Home Office at 1-800-533-6682 and give Karen your name, branch number, phone number, and best time of day to return your call, and we will set up a seminar.

Remember, too, that the Membership & Marketing Committee conducts six district-level seminars throughout the year. Keep an eye out for when there may be a district seminar conducted in your area, as these events can be perfect venues for recommenders and members from your branch who want to learn more. Specific dates, times, and places of these district seminars will be published in Jednota as they are finalized, and all confirmed seminars also will be posted on our website at [www.fcsu.com](http://www.fcsu.com).

Our Society has high quality, competitive and affordable insurance products as well as attractive rates on our IRA/Annuities. The knowledge you can gain at a seminar conducted by the Membership & Marketing Committee becomes a practical sales tool. The more we know about our products, the more confident and the more effective we'll become as recommenders.

Hope to see you at the next seminar.

Until then,

Good Luck and God Bless,



**Andrew R. Harcar Sr.**

**Andrew R. Harcar, Sr.**  
National Vice President  
Chairman, Membership & Marketing Committee

## Mark Your Calendars:

The following FCSU  
Sales Seminar has been  
finalized...



An FCSU Sales Seminar will be held on Saturday, February 22, 2014, at Allio's Restaurant, 3041 North Mayfair Road, Wausatosa, WI. The sales seminar will start at approximately 2:00PM, directly following the

Branch 89 meeting and luncheon (Editor's note: please see page 14 of this issue for details on the Branch 89 meeting and luncheon).

Other seminars are pending...time and place to be announced. Watch for more information in upcoming issues of *Jednota*.

## Attention: FCSU Mobile Members!



Use your smart phone to download a QR-code reader. Then take a photo of this icon for more information on our Society wherever you are - at home or on the go.

# Deadline for the First Catholic Slovak Union's 2014 Scholarship Program Has Been Extended to March 31st



The First Catholic Slovak Union is still accepting applications for its 2014 Scholarship Program for those qualified members who are graduating from high school this year and entering an accredited college or university. **The deadline to apply has been extended to the end of March. Applications must be postmarked by midnight, March 31, 2014.**

## Scholarships Awarded

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 paid up \$3,000 Single Premium Life Insurance Policy.

## Scholarship Rules & Requirements

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, 2010 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 2014 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/scholarships](http://www.fcsu.com/scholarships).

## Pre-Lenten Fašiangy Celebration on March 1 in Wisconsin

A pre-Lenten celebration, Fašiangy, will be held on Saturday, March 1, 2014, from 6:00PM – 11:00PM, at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 3200 S. 103rd Street (103rd & Oklahoma Ave), in Greenfield, WI.

Delicious Slovak food and bakery will be available from 6:00PM – 10:00PM. The Tatra Slovak Dancers will perform at 7:30PM. Music for dancing and listening pleasure will be provided throughout the evening.

Tickets are \$5.00 per person.

The Slovak League of America Assembly #20 of Milwaukee, sponsors of the event, invites all members of the First Catholic Slovak Union, particularly Branch 89 of Milwaukee, to join in the annual celebration.

For more information, please call Betty at 414-425-6137 or Ellen at 262-893-7483.

## 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.**

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 March 31, 2014.

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 2015).

Applications must be postmarked by **midnight, March 31, 2014**. All applications without the above stipulated postmark will be considered invalid.

# Check List

**PLEASE COMPLETE:**  
(Please follow this check list to prevent mailing us an incomplete application)

- Completed and signed application
- Photo
- Official Transcript
- S.A.T. or A.C.T. test scores
- Proof of college admission
- 3 Letters of recommendation



The 3rd Annual United Slovak Fraternal  
Bowling Tournament  
April 25 – 27, 2014  
Pittsburgh, PA

Would you like to sponsor a lane?

It is only \$50.00 to have a sign placed on a lane and your generosity will go far in making this event an enjoyable weekend for all!

If you are interested in being a lane sponsor, please mail this form in with the wording for your sign printed below and check payable to "FCSU Activities".

Please feel free to contact Susan Ondrejco, Fraternal Activities Director with any questions at 412-421-7967 or [sueo99@yahoo.com](mailto:sueo99@yahoo.com)

The **deadline** for sponsoring a lane is **March 3, 2014**.

### PLEASE PRINT

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Branch # / District: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street City State Zip

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Yes!! We would like to sponsor a lane. Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Wording for Sign:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to: FCSU Activities 234 Ilion St. Pittsburgh, PA 15207**

Thank you in advance for your participation in this fraternal event.

Requests - Please circle choice times			
Event	Date	1 <sup>st</sup> Choice	2 <sup>nd</sup> Choice
TEAM	4/25		
DOUBLES & SINGLES	4/26		

**2014** April 25 - 26, 2014  
 Entries Close  
 March 7, 2014

# BOWLING ENTRY BLANK

Please Read Carefully

## The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual United Slovak Fraternal's Men's and Women's Tenpin Handicap Bowling Tournament

Hosted by First Catholic Slovak Union, Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union,  
 National Slovak Society and First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association  
 A/k/a the United Slovak Fraternal's

**AMF Mt. Lebanon Lanes**  
**1601 Washington Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15228**

*Entry Fees*  
 Prize Fee.....\$7.00  
 Bowling Fee (3games).....\$6.75  
 Tournament Fee.....\$3.25  
**Total Each Event.....\$17.00**

*Optional Events*  
 All Events .....\$3.00  
 Senior Singles Event (60+).....\$5.00

*Banquet Fees*  
 Member .....\$25.00  
 Total Included .....\$\_\_\_\_\_

Team Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Captain Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 League: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail Entry Fee Payable to:  
 FCSU Activities  
 Mail to:  
 Susan Ondrejco  
 234 Ilion St.  
 Pittsburgh, PA 15207

All Events (X)	Attend Banq (X)	CORRECT TEAM LINEUP (Print or Type)	HIGHEST AVERAGE	USBC NO.	ADDRESS	CERT./POLICY NO. <i>MUST BE FILLED IN</i>	BRANCH/ ASSM NO.
		1.					
		2.					
		3.					
		4.					
Singles (X)	Attend Banq (X)	TWO-MAN EVENT (Print or Type Full Names)	HIGHEST AVERAGE	Seniors (X)			
		1.					
		2.					
		1.					
		2.					

**Friday, April 25**  
**Registration** 5:00 PM  
**Bowlers:** 6:00 PM  
 8:30 PM  
 1<sup>st</sup> Team Events  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Team Events  
**Saturday, April 26**  
**Bowlers:**  
 Events 8:30 AM  
 12:30 PM  
 1<sup>st</sup> Doubles/Singles  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Doubles/Singles

*ALL BOWLING AND, ENTRY FEES  
 MUST ACCOMPANY THIS FORM*  
*FORMS MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH  
 COMPLETE INFORMATION*  
*INCOMPLETE FORMS WILL BE  
 RETURNED TO TEAM CAPTAIN AND  
 MUST BE RESUBMITTED*

Substitutes *must* bowl in the position vacated by the original entrant as per USBC.

### The Men's and Women's 3rd Annual United Slovak Fraternal's Tenpin Handicap Bowling Tournament

This event is being sponsored by the First Catholic Slovak Union, the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union, the National Slovak Society, and the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, for the purpose of promoting fraternalism and good sportsmanship, and to generate nationwide interest in the Slovak fraternal organizations. The National Officers of the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, the First Catholic Slovak Union, the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union, and the National Slovak Society, wish to extend to all members a cordial invitation to the Host City, Pittsburgh, PA, in this rapidly growing tournament.

The 3rd Annual United Slovak Fraternal's Handicap Tenpin Bowling Tournament will be held at AMF Mt. Lebanon Lanes, 1601 Washington Rd., Pittsburgh, PA 15228. The tournament will be held the weekend of April 25 - 26, 2014. Opening Ceremonies will be held on Friday, April 25, at 5:45 PM.

**ENTRIES WILL CLOSE MIDNIGHT MARCH 7, 2014.** PLEASE NOTE: ALL FORMS MUST BE FILLED IN COMPLETELY. ENTRY FEES, AS STATED ON THE FRONT OF THIS ENTRY BLANK, MUST ACCOMPANY THIS ENTRY. ALL INCOMPLETE FORMS WILL BE RETURNED TO TEAM CAPTAIN FOR RESUBMISSION.

In submitting this entry, the captain and the team members agree to forfeit all rights to prize money as well as the total entry fees in the event that any information listed herein should be found to be false. We are not responsible for errors in averages made in filling out this entry form. No refunds of tournament entry fee.

USBC Bowling Rules shall govern in all matters concerning the actual play on the lanes in this Tournament.

**ELIGIBILITY:** This Tournament is open to all First Catholic Slovak Union, the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union, the National Slovak Society, and the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, male and female bonafide MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING. All winners will be checked before any prize money is awarded.

Only members with USBC Membership Cards will be eligible for the USBC special awards in this USBC Certified Tournament. Bowlers without USBC Membership Cards may purchase some from the Tournament Committee at current local fees prior to actual participation in this Tournament.

**CONSENT RULES:** Any unmarried grade or high school student who has not attained the age of eighteen (18) must have written consent of his/her parents or guardian in order to participate in USBC Certified Tournament where cash or merchandise prizes are offered. Said written consent must be on a form approved by United States Bowling Congress and must be on file with Tournament Committee at least one week before the bowler is eligible for tournament competition unless the student is accompanied by his/her parents, in which case the parental consent form may be filed

up to the time the student starts to bowl. USBC Rule No. 13

**AVERAGES:** All entrants will use their highest average of any USBC league of at least 21 games from the 2012-2013 season. Bowlers with no such average from the 2012-2013 season and with at least 21 games in the 2013-2014 season will use their current league average. This must be designated as such on entry form by his name and a league year-to-date statistics sheet must be presented to the Tournament Committee at the Tournament. Non-certified bowlers, with no certified league average, that have bowled in previous FCSU, LPSCU, NSS, or FCSLA tournaments will have their averages calculated from their three most recent tournaments. All male bowlers with no established USBC average will bowl a 175 scratch. All female bowlers with no established USBC will bowl a 150 scratch. Summer league averages will be accepted.

Any contestant whose current average of at least 21 games as of January 1, 2014, is TEN (10) PINS or more above his or her average from previous season, must use his or her current average and will indicate this on the entry form at time of entry.

**AVERAGE CHANGES:** The original averages submitted on the Entry Blank cannot be changed prior to participation by anyone except the Team Captain, who must submit written proof thereof to the Tournament Committee.

It shall be each bowler's responsibility to verify the accuracy of his average in handicap or classified tournaments, whether originally submitted by the bowler, his team captain, or others.

Failure to use the proper average shall disqualify score of submitted average if lower than actual average, thereby resulting in a lower classification or more handicap. Prize winnings shall be based on the submitted average if it is higher than the actual average.

Corrections in averages can be made up to the completion of the first game of a series, or within 48 hours after completion of a series if the tournament manager prior to the completion of the first game of the series has given written consent to the bowler authorizing such extension of time to correct his average.

**TEAMS:** Mixed teams comprising of 2 men and 2 women are allowed. Mixed teams will be grouped with men's teams for prize distribution (see PRIZES), unless at least 21 mixed teams participate. If 21 or more mixed teams enter, a separate mixed prize fund will be established and one prize will be paid for every seven (7) entries.

**DOUBLES:** Mixed doubles are allowed. Mixed doubles will be grouped with men's teams for prize distribution (see PRIZES), unless at least 21 mixed doubles participate. If 21 or more mixed doubles enter, a separate mixed prize fund will be established and one prize will be paid for every seven (7) entries.

**HANDICAPS:** The handicap allowed will be 90% of the difference between 210 and the submitted average. The maximum handicap awarded to any bowler will be 65 pins.

Under no circumstances will handicap be increased after participant has bowled.

**PRIZES: MEN and WOMEN** - One prize will be paid for every seven (7) entries in each event, with the exception of All Events, which will pay one prize for every fifteen (15) entries. No duplicate prizes will be awarded and prize fees will be returned 100 percent.

All prizes will be subject to the approval of the Tournament Committee. Any entrant who has qualified for a prize of \$300 or more in any event of a tournament in the 12-month period prior to entry, must report actual score, position, and amount won to tournament management at time of entry for possible rerating.

**LINE-UP CHANGES:** All participants must bowl according to where they are listed on the submitted entry form. Any replacement of participants originally scheduled to bowl on team or doubles will take same position on team and doubles event.

**ABSENTEES:** To alleviate absentee problems, the Tournament Committee will provide a replacement bowler when notified of the absentee.

**TARDY BOWLERS:** Tardy Bowler will receive zero for each frame missed. USBC Rule 322

**SCORING:** Errors in scoring or calculations must be presented to the Tournament Committee within 48 hours after completion of play. Captains of Teams or Doubles Partners have the option to pick up duplicate score sheets upon completion of play.



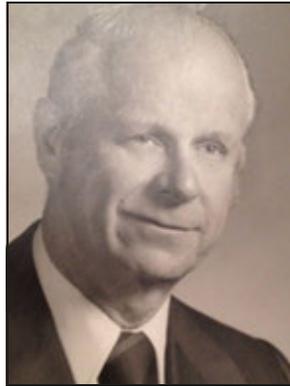
**This Valentine's Day ....**  
 Do Something For Someone You Love  
 Call the Home Office and Check your Beneficiaries Today!  
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# The Best of the Best!

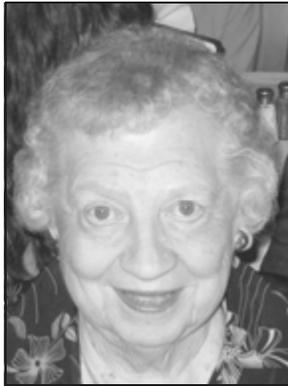
## Top Guns For 2013



**James Robert Marmol**  
First Place



**Henry J. Pochily**  
Second Place



**Dorothy J. Petrus**  
Third Place



**Edward Fibbi**  
First Place



**Frances Tarquinio**  
Second Place



**Andrew R. Harcar**  
Third Place

### TOP PROPOSERS BY AMOUNT OF INSURANCE SOLD

Name	Branch	Insurance
Marmol, James Robert	162	358,423
Pochily, Henry J.	769	305,000
Petrus, Dorothy J.	670	300,000
Sandy, Cluey	322	200,000
Lako, Michael Eugene	2	130,000
Harcar, Andrew R.	40	115,000
Scavina, Joseph T.	682	115,000
Barnes, Karianne R.	628	115,000
Tarquinio, Frances	320	114,201
Balazik, Audrey J.	367	110,000
Sprock, Florence M.	181	110,000
Petrasek, Greg	553	110,000

### TOP PROPOSERS BY TOTAL POINTS

Name	Branch	Points
Fibbi, Edward	587	532
Tarquinio, Frances	320	398
Harcar, Andrew R.	40	360
Marmol, James Robert	162	344
Balazik, Audrey J.	367	328
Schaub, Vicki Lynn	200	286
Arendt, Kenneth Anthony	228	256
Kopco, Robert J.	24	253
Burcham, Bella Ann	181	207
Bobby, Jacquelyn	731	179



**Edward Fibbi**  
First Place



**Andrew R. Harcar**  
Second Place



**Audrey J. Balazik**  
Third Place

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

Name	Branch	Annuities
Fibbi, Edward	587	425,438.63
Harcar, Andrew R.	40	303,809.52
Balazik, Audrey J.	367	214,236.99
Kopco, Robert J.	24	211,559.66
Fedor, William Lawrence		152,620.82
Soltis, Roger T.	410	132,826.14
Matta, Florence	38	130,234.66
Bobby, Jaquelyn	731	130,000.00
Yuricek, George J.	764	118,200.00
Deliman, Rosemary	417	116,699.00

## ANNUAL SLOVAK MASS & EASTER CUSTOMS BREAKFAST



Saturday, March 29, 2014

### St. Adalbert Church

160 So.15<sup>th</sup> Street, South Side

9:45 a.m. -- Recitation of Rosary  
(in Slovak)

10:00 a.m. -- Slovak Mass

### 11:00 a.m. -- SAMPLE SLOVAK EASTER FOODS

sunka (ham) sirek (egg cheese) hrin (beets & horseradish)  
kolbasy (sausage) paska (sweet bread) kolace (baked goods)

at

### Prince of Peace Parish Center

81 South 13th Street, South Side



- \* Homemade Baked Goods
- \* Craft Demonstrations
- \* Cultural Displays
- \* Imported Slovak gifts
- \* Slovak "Auction" /Raffles

Donations Gratefully Accepted

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Or, for questions, email Jednota Editor Teresa Ivanec @ [fcsulifeeditor@gmail.com](mailto:fcsulifeeditor@gmail.com) or call her at the Home Office, 1-800-JEDNOTA, x 123.

# 2013 Štedrý Večer Celebrated by United Slovak Societies in Lorain

Lorainites celebrated their most beloved Slovak traditions by attending the Štedrý Večer held on Saturday December 7, 2013 at the American Slovak Club in Lorain, OH, hosted by United Slovak Societies. The United Slovak Societies encompasses members of the following fraternal lodges in Lorain: FCSU Branch 228, FCCLA Branch 114, SCS v. 111, NSS Assembly 160 and LPSCU Branch 77.

At the 2013 Štedrý Večer guests observed the customs and traditions of their Slovak ancestry by breaking pierohy and enjoying a feast of sauerkraut soup, fish, peas, bobalky, pierohi, poppyseed and nut rolls. The fabulous perch that was prepared by the Ladies Auxiliary of the American Slovak Club was most recently rated the "country's best" by Andrew Zimmern of the Travel Channel series Bizarre Foods with Andrew Zimmern.

Johnny Pastirik, the Slovak Polka King, and his bandmates entertained throughout the evening with beautiful Christmas songs. The cultural presentation was a performance of Slovak hymns sung by Slovenske Mamicky of Cleveland and Slovak and Polish songs sung by choir members of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church of Lorain. Afterwards, guests were paid a special visit from Santa Claus and his helper, Razzle Dazzle the Elf.

A great time was had by all, and all are awaiting next year's gathering.

On behalf of the president and officers of the United Slovak Societies, we hope all had a blessed holiday season, and wish all a happy New Year.

**Michele Mager**  
Secretary-United Slovak Societies,  
Branch 228 Member



(L - R) Daniel Rajec and FCSU National President Andrew M. Rajec



(L - R) Joyce Zilko, Theresa Arendt, and Idka Rajec



Choir members of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church of Lorain



(L - R) George Drop and Mr. Boone



(L - R) Mrs. Zuffa and Judy Hromada



(L - R) Ken Javor and John Pastirik



Mr. and Mrs. George Findish with John Pastirik



(L - R) Bernie Danovich, Marge Thomas, Marge Kurta, and friends



(L - R) Event Organizer Michele Mager and Jerry Collins



(L - R) Milka Anderko, Ken Javor, Maria Cvicela, and Monica Schmid



(L - R) Mae Garn and Mary Mager



(L - R) Mary Ellen Kovacs and Rosemarie Csubak and friend.



FCSU Executive Secretary Ken Arendt addresses the crowd.



Mr. and Mrs. Allen



(L - R) John Pastirik, Jim Riley, Christine Javor, and Len Jacko



President of the American Slovak Club Len Zilko and his wife Joyce

# Daughter of Slovak immigrants, Sister Miriam Teresa Demjanovich, Beatified by Pope Francis

**Daniel F. Tanzone**



On December 17, 2013, Pope Francis, following a meeting with the members of the Congregation for the Causes of Saints, issued a decree declaring one of his favorite Jesuits, Blessed Peter Faber, a saint. In addition, several other saints' causes were advanced, including that of Sister Miriam Teresa Demjanovich, a member of the Sisters of Charity of St. Elizabeth in Convent Station, NJ, who died in 1927. By recognizing a miracle attributed to her intercession, the Pope cleared the way for her beatification which is the final step before canonization.

A native of Bayonne, NJ, Sister Miriam Teresa was born there March 26, 1901, the youngest child of Alexander and Johanna Suchy Demjanovich, Greek Catholics who had emigrated from Bardejov in eastern Slovakia, settling in Bayonne in the early 1890s. It was from her devout parents with daily religious practices that Miriam Teresa first acquired a clear knowledge to want to find in every circumstance the desire of God and to be directed toward a consecrated life. She was Baptized and Chrismated and received her first Holy Communion at St. John the Baptist Byzantine Catholic Church in Bayonne in the Byzantine Catholic Ruthenian rite of her parents. During her formative years, she also worshipped at nearby St. Joseph Slovak Roman Catholic Church in Bayonne. One of Sister Miriam Teresa's siblings, the late Msgr. Charles Demjanovich, was ordained a priest of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Newark. He was a long-time pastor in East Rutherford, NJ, and taught the Slovak language at the former Newark major seminary of the Immaculate Conception in Darlington, NJ. Another sibling, a sister Catherine, was married to the brother of the first Bishop of Paterson, Thomas H. McLaughlin who introduced the cause of Canonization of Sister Miriam Teresa Demjanovich in 1946.

After attending Bayonne public schools, she began studies at the College of St. Elizabeth in Convent Station, graduating with an undergraduate degree in 1923. Two years later, she entered the Sisters of Charity at Convent Station. She wrote a series of spiritual conferences, which were collected and published after her death as a book, "Greater Perfection." She died in 1927 at the age of 26. She was declared venerable by the Vatican in May 2012.

Since beatifications are no longer done in Rome but in the local Church, more than likely the beatification ceremony of Sister Miriam Theresa, the final step before canonization, will take place in the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark. Sacred Heart is the metropolitan cathedral in the state of New Jersey. The official announcement regarding Sister

Miriam Teresa's sainthood advancement came in a document received from Rome sent by Cardinal Angelo Amato, S.D.B., Prefect of the Congregation for the Causes of the Saints.

The promotion of the cause sainthood of Sister Miriam Teresa was inaugurated by Sisters of Charity of St. Elizabeth in 1946 when the Sister Miriam Teresa League of Prayer was established at their Motherhouse in Convent Station, N.J. They felt that she should be considered for sainthood by the Catholic Church because of her saintly life, her striving for perfection in her religious life, her spiritual writings, the mystical privileges accorded her by God during life and the favors received by others after her death through her intercession with God. Sister M. Zita Geis, S.C., a classmate of Sister Miriam Teresa, was appointed the first director of the League of Prayer. As the cause advanced, the body of Sister Miriam Teresa was exhumed from the Motherhouse cemetery and placed in the Chapel of the Holy Family located in Convent Station, N.J. in 1979.

The major step in the cause came on May 10, 2012 when the Congregation of Saints, with the concurrence of the Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI, declared that Sister Miriam Teresa Demjanovich had exercised heroic virtues. Following that announcement, she was accorded the title of "Venerable."

The miracle accepted which had led the Vatican to declare Sister Miriam Teresa "Blessed" is a case in which a young boy who was declared legally blind due to bilateral macular degeneration. Through the intercession of Sister Miriam Teresa, his sight was restored. This case was reviewed and approved by the medical experts, the theologians and the ordinaries (Bishops and Cardinals) of the Congregation for Saints Causes in Rome that there is an unexplainable medical cure and that the cure is attributed to prayers to Sister Miriam Teresa and her intercession.

We rejoice at the announcement of the beatification of Sister Miriam Teresa Demjanovich, an heir of our Cyrilo-Methodian heritage of faith. Coincidentally, her beatification was announced as the Church concluded the great jubilee year of SS. Cyril and Methodius, the 1150th anniversary of the arrival of the brother saints in what is today Slovakia and the beginning the evangelization of the family of Slavic nations.

## Branch 367's Christmas Donation

For the month of December 2013, St. Joseph Branch 367 gave Kathryn Baranek a donation for the homebound of SS Cyril & Methodius Church of Fairchance, PA. Some included members in our branch. The homebound members were very appreciative for their gifts. Kathryn and her elves Shirley Baird and Barb Fabian thanks the branch for their donation.

In addition, St. Joseph Branch 367 gave Patricia Speshock and Kathryn Baranek a donation from the branch's funds for children under 17, and they were most appreciative – as the following thank you indicates:



Dear First Catholic Slovak Union,  
Saint Joseph Branch 367,

Thank you for the beautiful cards and gifts.  
The boys loved them.

Merry Christmas!  
Love,

*The Barnes Family*

## 11th Consular Tour to Slovakia Planned for 2014



Joe Senko, the Slovak Honorary Consul for Pennsylvania, and his wife, Albina – both members of Branch 254 – are planning their 11th tour to Slovakia. It will take place from August 10 – 20, 2014.

The tour will include visits to the three largest cities in Slovakia: Bratislava, the capital city; Kosice, named the EU's 2013 Culture Capital; and Presov, the sister city of Pittsburgh. The tour also will include visits to Vienna, castles, churches, shrines, and two wine tastings. An overnight stay at the famous spa, Trenčianske

Teplice, where you can relax with some health treatments, is included. We also will have meetings with several dignitaries. Our tour is the best dollar value of all the

Slovak tours from the U.S. at \$3,599.

For a detailed daily itinerary and more information, go to [fcsu.com](http://fcsu.com) and click on the Slovakia & The World tab or contact Joe Senko at 412-956-6000 or at [jtsenko@aol.com](mailto:jtsenko@aol.com).

## Branch 670 Accepting Application for its 2014 Scholarship Program



Branch 670 of Donora, PA is excited to announce that it is accepting applications for its 2014 Scholarship Program. The committee will award up to three, onetime \$1000.00 scholarships to the candidates who best satisfy the award criteria. Any individual of Branch 670 that has had any policy for at least 4 years, is current in their premiums, is a high school senior and will attend an Approved Educational Institution is eligible for a Scholarship.

For applications, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to 1 of the following officers, or you may email your request to one of the following addresses:

- Dorothy Petrus, 545 Castner Ave., Donora, PA 15033
- Joe Matinko, 85 Crestline Ave., Charleroi, PA 15022 (email: [matinko305@comcast.net](mailto:matinko305@comcast.net))
- Cheryl Hyatt, 410 Sunset Hills Drive, Freedom, PA 15042 (email: [hyattfamily@comcast.net](mailto:hyattfamily@comcast.net))

ALL APPLICATION REQUESTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY FEBRUARY 28, 2014

# The Slovaks and Valentine's Day, 2014

*continued from page 1*

some of companions were martyred in Africa, but we know little more than this. Thus all three saints were commemorated in ancient martyrologies on February 14.

People continued to identify the Via Flaminia with the Saints Valentine in the Middle Ages. During the early 11th century, people commonly referred to Rome's Flaminian Gate of Rome (now called the Porta del Popolo), as the Gate of St. Valentine. The name also derived from the name of a small nearby Church of St. Valentine.

## Valentine's Day and Love

The identification of the St. Valentine's Day with love did not occur until Medieval writers began writing about legendary saints. Jacobus de Voragine collected a set of hagiographies and published The Golden Legend (Legenda aurea or Legenda sanctorum in Latin). It became an instant best seller, for stories about the saints ignited intense devotion and popular enthusiasm. Legends stated that the Roman Emperor Claudius II (213-70) had persecuted Christians and personally interrogated St. Valentine. Intrigued by his conversations with Valentine, the emperor offered him amnesty if he would convert to paganism. When Valentine refused to abandon his faith, he was sent to the executioner. But supposedly before his death, Valentine miraculously healed his jailer's blind daughter. Some subsequent stories claimed that a love relationship bound Valentine and the blind daughter.

Using a Catholic newspaper article in *Katolícke noviny*, one source offered some additional information. It stated that Valentine was a priest and doctor during the reign of Claudius II, and became embroiled in an affair similar to the above mentioned on the feast of Lupercus, the pagan god of shepherds. Called "Lupercalia," it was an ancient pastoral festival that even pre-dated Roman times. A custom of this time was to engage in a "lottery of love." Single girls would toss a ticket in an urn with their name in the hope of finding an eligible bachelor. Observed from February 13 through 15, the feast was supposed to be a time to ward off evil spirits and result in a purification, which would bring health and fertility.

Despite the above stories, the earliest legends made no mention of romantic love. But later stories embellished the legend by mentioning an unsubstantiated Roman law which commanded young men to stay single so that he could build a larger army. The legend stated that Valentine secretly married young couples, and this accounted for his arrest and ultimate execution. Valentine may have paid with his life for acting as a Christian witness and assisting with clandestine Christian marriages, which were illegal. Valentine was supposedly buried at the second milestone on the Via Flaminia. The saint subsequently became popular as intercessor to combat plague infections, abdominal pains, and epileptic seizures. All of these examples lacked evidence of any romantic motivations.

Since *Legenda Aurea* still provided no connections whatsoever with sentimental love, appropriate lore has been embellished in modern times to portray Valentine as a priest who refused an unattested law attributed to Roman Emperor Claudius II, allegedly ordering that young men remain single. The Emperor supposedly did this to expand his army, believing that married men did not make good soldiers, since their loyalties lay with their families. The priest Valentine, however, secretly performed marriage ceremonies for young men and women. When Claudius found out about this, he had Valentine arrested and thrown in jail. Later traditions claimed that Valentine wrote a card to his jailer's daughter, and so was born the idea of the first Valentine's Day card.

Some of the customs we practice today found their origin in the chivalric love tales of the Middle Ages from England and France. It became popular folklore that February 14th marked the middle of year's second month, when the birds first began to mate. A passage in Chaucer's *Parliament of Foules* added to the lore, when he wrote:

For this was sent on Seynt Valentyne's day  
Whan every foul cometh ther to choose his mate.

The rest is history. People began sending love letters or small tokens to their beloved, and the tradition became embedded in popular culture. By the 19th century, commercial interests seized upon this legend to help sell cards, flowers, and eventually sweets and other gifts for Valentine's Day.

## Valentine's Day in Slovakia

Personally, I have never seen references to Valentine's Day being celebrated in Slovakia in previous eras. When I lived overseas in communist Czechoslovakia doing research in 1982-83, no one in Bratislava was wishing one another *Šťastný Valentínsky deň* (Happy Valentine's Day).

That changed after the Velvet Revolution of 1989 swept away communism and brought in the free market and privately owned stores. Valentine's Day customs and commercialism gradually crept into Slovakia from the West, and enterprising businesses seized the opportunity as an excuse to sell cards, flowers, candles, and candies. So today one can see heart-shaped balloons and red roses for sale on the streets of many Slovak towns, and store fronts decorated with Valentine's Day paraphernalia, much like here in the United States. Some of the cards have loving lines, but others have comical themes. Here are a few examples from Slovakia.

"Roses are red, violets are blue, you will be mine cause I love you." Another more comical card features a funny character on page one and reads, "My love for you is as big as elephant." But when one opens the card, one sees a fat girl drowning with the following text written below the picture, "but then, so are you!"

Across Slovakia, young people have more recently adopted Valentine's Day as a growing custom. An increase in outdoor activities occurs on that day, and some people decorate with colorful lights, scented candles, red roses, and other symbols of the day. Some Slovaks use the day as an excuse for social occasions or a party, since it is holy day and a day free from work obligations, because it is the feast of Saints Cyril and Methodius. It also frequently occurs shortly before Lent, so the *fašiangy* (pre-Lenten carnival) spirit can also be present. Some of larger cities stage live concerts to seize on the spirit of the festive mood.

Hotels have used the occasion to lure tourist business during a slow time of the year. The spa town of *Trenčianske Teplice* offered couples special weekend package deals on *Deň zaľúbených* (Lovers's Day). The package includes amenities such as enjoying the spa's healing waters as well as good food and drinks along with music and dancing.

In Bratislava during 2012, a number of programs expanded to celebrate St Valentine's Day, and these were not just for couples in love, but for anyone. At *Kuchajda Lake* in the *Nové Mesto* section north of downtown Bratislava, a musical show was put on, and at dusk, Chinese happiness



The Slovak gingerbread cookie called *Medovnícky* with I Love You in Slovak



Valentine Day heart of balloons in Presov, Slovakia.

lanterns were lit. The event was also used to motivate people to donate blood; anyone who could show a certificate certifying that they had donated blood would receive a free happiness lantern. In *Ružinov* a quarter of eastern Bratislava full of high rise apartments where I had formerly lived in 1982, people all ages were offered free ice skating at the *Areál Radosť* (Arena of Joy). The rink also staged a competition for children in order to attract family interest.

In order to attract donations from adults in Bratislava, the *Želaj Si* (Make-a-wish) non-profit organization staged gimmicks to try to set a record for the number of couples kissing at the same time. About 45 couples participated and paid a one euro registration fee. The foundation also sold pieces of a huge heart-shaped cake and raised 200 euros. Proceeds went to meet the needs of children who were seriously ill.

A new record for couples kissing simultaneously was actually achieved on the main street in *Prešov*, when 332 couples smooched at once. The couples could also have their photos taken under a shining red heart and sample a piece sliced from a big 2-meter wide cake. Young and old alike were kissing one another. A 77 year-old man, *Ján* from *Prešov* who teaches music, said, "I already have a partner, ... but I enjoy young people, so I came here to have fun."

The city of *Košice* in 2012 also hosted an early evening Valentine's Day event called *Valentín ske lásky dokazovačka* (Valentine's proof of love) in front of the city's Lower Gate (*Dolná brána*). Events showed couples demonstrating their love for one another in a variety of ways: professing love to another on a bicycle, putting their girlfriends on a makeshift throne, archery competitions, and other similar events. The town also erected a huge screen which featured videos displaying all sorts of love slogans and sayings.

In keeping with the spirit of loving others, the Slovak Red Cross in *Košice* has decided to use the occasion as an annual appeal for blood donations. The Red Cross has especially aimed its efforts at youth in an attempt to get them accustomed to donating much needed blood supplies.

Gimmicks aside, recently, I have noticed that some Slovak websites are promoting text messaging Valentine's Day greetings to one's lover, ranging from the passionate to the comical. Some Slovaks also have created short videos for their partners which I found with a simple Youtube search. In another search, I noticed that some girls were baking heart-shaped Valentine's Day cookies to give to their favorite young man. So, Slovakia has adopted the Valentine's Day love fever, and is very much in tune with the worldwide technological revolution.

In ending this short column, it seems appropriate to list here a few more traditional Slovak *prislovnia* (proverbs) about love. The first is more traditional, and perhaps, more realistic!

Zaľúbená je, lebo presolila.  
She must be in love, she oversalted the food!

Dnes je sviatok Valentína, milujem Ťa ako pohár vína.  
Today is Valentine's Day, I love you like a glass of wine.

Miláčik, na Valentína chcem Ťi povedať, že až do konca života budem Ťa milovať.  
Honey, on Valentine's Day I want to tell you that I'll love you to the end of my life.

In conclusion, I wish all of you *Šťastný Valentínsky deň*, Happy Valentine's Day.  
S úprimnou láskou našim čitateľom (With sincere love to all our readers),

Dr. Michael Kopanic

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# THE BROTHERS FREISTAK

James M. Bench

Traveling over four thousand miles within a two week period may give most eighty five and ninety year young cause for concern, but not so for Alfred and Richard Freistak while on the 2013 Youngstown/Spišská Nová Ves Sister Cities Tour (*Editor's note: look for Jim Bench's full account of this tour in the next issue of Jednota*). Early on, the resourcefulness and independence of the two became highly evident as they enthusiastically participated in all activities associated with the tour. The walking and other physical demands of the tour were met more than adequately. It was then learned that Alfred, the younger of the two has been a competitive dancer for most of his life, while ninety year old Richard continues as an ardent hunter spending considerable time at his hunting camp. His love of nature and the outdoors has always consumed what leisure time he has had. To say that he thoroughly enjoyed the Tatra Mountains is an understatement. Alfred on the other hand has pursued his passion for dancing, entering various contests including the annual dance challenge in Miami. Al has numerous awards, but his modesty precludes discussing the number of awards he has won. Dances he has mastered include the waltz, tango, rumba, fox trot, cha-cha, bolero, quick step and a host of others. It is little wonder that Alfred was always the first on the dance floor and the last to leave. The young dancers with the folk groups in Tichy Potok and Smizany not only enjoyed dancing with him, but also marveled at his endurance as he danced with many of the females in our group as well. The situation was the same at our social events at the Hotel Uleva and the Modra Dom. When at home, he continues with dancing lessons, demonstrations and competitions.

In view of the above, it is little wonder that the two brothers refused special accommodations offered to them and the group as a whole. They handled the six hundred steps at Bojnice as well as other castle sites visited. Attending Sunday mass in beautiful Spania Dolina required climbing one hundred and fifty steps to the church on the hillside or taking the alternate steep and winding road. Both brothers refused the van which had been arranged choosing the road instead. The only way the brothers could be persuaded to take arranged vans was to indicate they were a time saving device to keep us on schedule. Thus, they did agree to the accommodations at Litmanova and Nitra.

Al and Richard, both devout Catholics are active in their church as well as in the community of New Cumberland, PA. Alfred who has won awards for his paintings, (another talent and passion) annually donates paintings to his church, Saint Theresa, for the Octoberfest. He also donates paintings to the community library and is adamant about not accepting any form of remuneration relative to costs and expenses such as canvas, paint and related.

A very moving and humane story involves their brother George Robert, affectionately called Bobby was born with Down Syndrome. Following medical advice and other recommendations, Bobby was admitted to a facility specializing in caring for those with special needs. During early visitations, the family had concerns relative to his care, and decided to take him home. Richard and Alfred assumed the responsibility for Bobby's care as their father died an early death. Bobby never was able to speak, and required considerable care – feeding, toileting, bathing, dressing as well as most of all functions of daily living. He was able to handle certain snack foods, and was made as comfortable as possible by the loving and devoted brothers. George Robert Freistak died about five years ago at the age of seventy five, which must be close to a record of longevity for a person with Down Syndrome, and quite a testament to his care. To be sure, Bobby was remembered in our prayers when the group recited the rosary at the Holy Site in Litmanova, where the Blessed Mother, had appeared in the mid 1990's.

The brothers, along with nephew Dennis Freistak, were always on time for the entirety of the trip, and a distinctive cause for concern occurred at the Vienna Airport as we awaited boarding the plane for our flight home. The Friestaks were missing and despite inquiries they could not be located. To our relief they arrived in adequate time for the boarding, and Dennis provided an explanation. The three had been stopped by airport security, and detained with little explanation until taken to the security office. It was then revealed that a knife as well as a rifle bullet had been found in Richard's luggage. It took a lot of explaining and convincing before the authorities were satisfied that the ninety year old Richard on his first flight experience was not a threat. In his haste packing for the trip, the ardent outdoorsman and hunter had overlooked the knife and bullet in a small compartment of his luggage, which had remained there from his most recent hunting trip. Although, nephew Dennis was highly concerned, Richard remained unfazed. His explanation was age, and a history of being honest, plus the fact that this was his first international flight. Curiously, the knife and bullet had not been detected on his flight over. Finally the authorities were satisfied with Richard's story, the knife was confiscated and he was given permission to proceed to the boarding gate. However, Richard was not quite through, as he said to the security detail, "If not for people like me, your job would sure be boring." With that parting shot, nephew Dennis whisked Richard out the door before the security force reversed the decision.

The fact that the brothers are honest, independent, modest and compassionate is a well known fact to people who know them. Another example of Alfred's generosity concerns his willingness to share his artistic talents with others. Immediately upon returning home, Al busied himself painting various scenes from Slovakia, and sending the pictures to people from the tour. He thus made good on his promises. The recipients of the paintings were delighted to receive them and marveled at the quality. The gorgeous paintings included two scenes of the Tatra Mountains with one scene of a forester walking along the trees. Others included the Parliament building in Bratislava, Bojnice castle, rafting on the Dunajec River, and a nest of three storks. Al had copies made of the originals at considerable expense sending them with the original painting he had promised to each person. To Jerry Gibel, the most impressive of the paintings were the two pictures of Jerry and his čuvač dog Tancuj. He would accept no money for shipping costs or the costs associated with reproducing all of the originals. There could be no better memory of the tour. One final note: Al was reluctant to



(L – R)  
Alfred,  
Richard,  
and nephew  
Dennis  
Freistak



(L – R) George  
Robert "Bobby"  
Freistak and  
Richard

reveal the many awards he has received for his paintings and dancing, and brother Richard is just as modest relative to his many good deeds. What a pair.

The late Tom Hricik, past president of The First Catholic Slovak Union, personal friend and ultimate Slovak American, delighted in meeting people of accomplishment, and would state, "It is such a pleasure to stand shoulder to shoulder with such quality people." He would have loved the Brothers Freistak.

Note - another interesting fact regarding the brothers: Since their father was employed by The First Catholic Slovak Union at the printery and grounds in Middletown, PA, Richard and Alfred attended school at the orphanage. Although Richard graduated, Alfred only attended the first three years. His family had relocated and the long daily walk was too far and dangerous for young Alfred especially in the winter. Alfred stated his adjustment to the new school was quite easy as the nuns at the orphanage were in his words "very strict."

#### About the author

James M. Bench is a retired professor from Indiana University of Pennsylvania. He also is the president of the Youngstown/ Spišská Nová Ves Sister Cities, and a member of the First Catholic Slovak Union Supreme Court. Both Jim and wife Kay are active members of Branch 181, United, PA. In 2014 they will be hosting their 14th heritage tour of Slovakia (*Editor's note: please see below for details*).

## Youngstown/Spišská Nová Ves 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Heritage Tour

GET READY, GET SET, LET'S GO TO SLOVAKIA!

July 7 - 21, 2014



The time is **NOW** to get ready to go to Slovakia with the Youngstown/ Spisska Nova Ves Sister Cities Heritage tour set for July 7 - 21, 2014. Once again the tour will be hosted by Jim and Kay Bench of Derry, PA.

Start talking with your grandparents or older members of your family to get information on your ancestral home in Slovakia. You will have a wonderful feeling walking the streets of the village of your ancestors.

Enjoy rafting on the Dunajec, visit Litmanova where there were sightings of the Blessed Mother in the 1990's, visit Nitra and the oldest church in Slovakia, the fairy tale castle Bojnice, enjoy museums, kolibas, traditional Slovak food, folk groups and attend the Kezmarok fair and watch craftsmen make their wares. These are just a few of the highlights of the tour.

Contact Jim and Kay Bench at [jimbench@yahoo.com](mailto:jimbench@yahoo.com) or phone 724-858-5843 or 724-771-7900 for further information. Paul Hudak at Adventure International Travel will be making travel arrangements. He can be reached at 216-228-7171 or 800-542-2487 or Fax 216-228-7174.

Also unique to our tour is an informative luncheon meeting with the tour participants regarding tips on currency, dos and don'ts, luggage preparations, clothing and other related tour items.

We fly out of Washington Dulles Airport to Vienna. A Mercedes Benz air-conditioned bus with a rest room awaits us there. Watch for the highlights of our very successful 2013 tour. Hope you will join us.

**Youngstown/Spisska Nova Ves 17th Annual Heritage Tour  
Itinerary is now available - including prices and how to  
register. Go to [fcsu.com](http://fcsu.com) and click on the Slovakia and  
the World tab to download the information.**

## From the Desk of the Executive Secretary - February Holiday Hours



The Home Office and Jednota Estates Office will be closed on Monday, February 17, 2014, in observance of Presidents' Day.

President's Day in the United States is a federal holiday observed on the third Monday of February in honor of George Washington (born on February 22), the first President of the United States. The holiday is popularly recognized as honoring also Abraham Lincoln (born on February 12), and all the U.S. presidents.

## 2014 September Slovakia Heritage Tour to End in Krakow

This September's Slovakia Heritage Tour (September 4-14, 2014) will finish with a day in Krakow, Poland. This small group, 10-day tour will travel the heartland of Slovakia from Bratislava and the Tatra Mountains to Kosice and Bardejov with time to get out into the countryside and cities to meet the people and learn about the history and culture. People will have time to visit their family villages, if they choose. Other positives to ending the tour in Krakow: the city has very good air connections for those returning to the states, and it will be a good launching point for trip extensions to Prague, Warsaw, or other eastern locations.

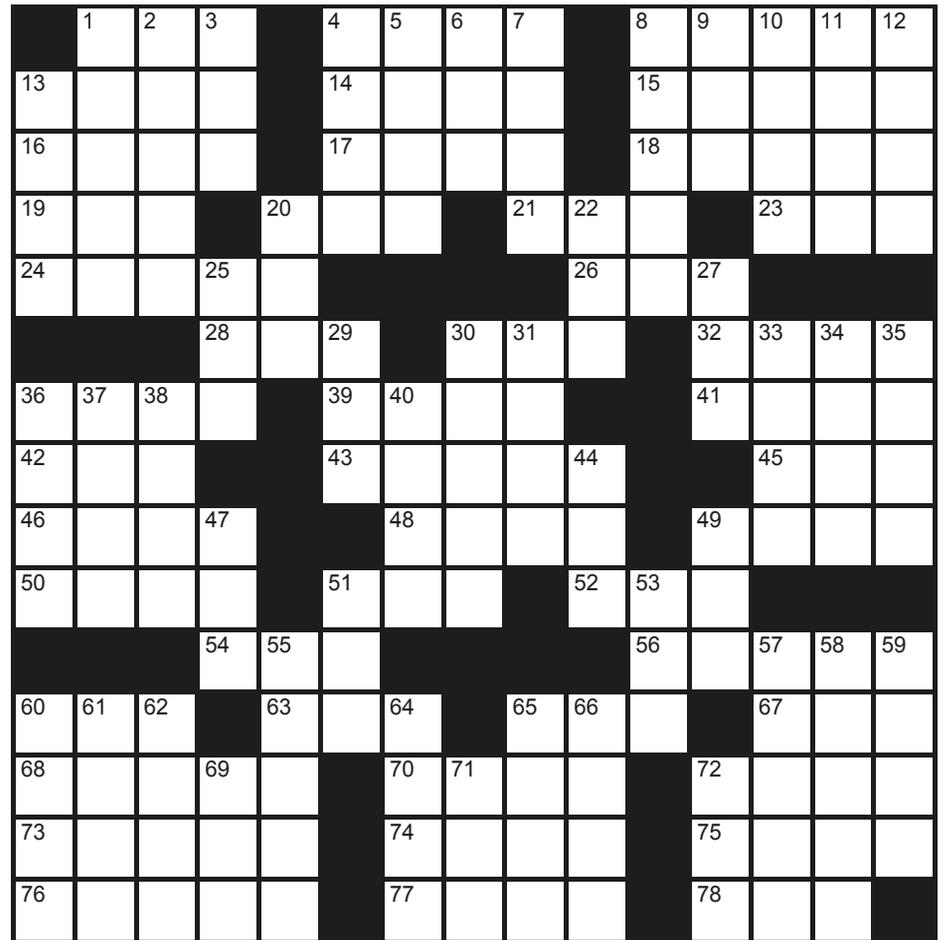
Another plus for devout Catholics, is that it is the spiritual home of Pope John Paul II and there are museums and churches dedicated to his memory.

For more information on the September Slovakia Heritage Tour (Sept 4-14), visit the FCSU website at [www.fcsu.com](http://www.fcsu.com) and click on the Slovakia & The World tab or go directly to the Slovak Heritage Tour website at [www.slovakiaheritage.com](http://www.slovakiaheritage.com) or contact Tour Director Judith Northup-Bennett at 978-544-5144 or [connectionswork4u@hotmail.com](mailto:connectionswork4u@hotmail.com).



The 2013 Slovakia Heritage Group started with a short walk in the Tatra Mountains.

# Jednota Crossword Puzzle



### Across

- 1 Body of water
- 4 Stupefy
- 8 Molds
- 13 Ruptured
- 14 Artificial bait
- 15 Anticipate
- 16 Aims
- 17 Lodges
- 18 Bind
- 19 Sense of self
- 20 Copy
- 21 Go astray
- 23 Tennis court divider
- 24 Mushroom
- 26 Battering device
- 28 Tie the knot
- 30 Bullfight cheer
- 32 Rascals
- 36 Misplace
- 39 Eye amorously
- 41 Hilo feast
- 42 Breed
- 43 Claw
- 45 Cover
- 46 Medley
- 48 Rosé, e.g.
- 49 Writes
- 50 Space org.
- 51 Mamie's man
- 52 Humor
- 54 Groove
- 56 Man's man
- 60 Nile viper
- 63 \_\_\_ Zeppelin
- 65 Canny
- 67 Generation
- 68 Earthquake feature
- 70 Slender reed
- 72 Ticket part
- 73 Knight's attire
- 74 Flower holder
- 75 Wolf's young

### Down

- 1 Drum type
- 2 Passion
- 3 Okay
- 4 Lingerie item
- 5 Ditty
- 6 Ashes holder
- 7 Famed loch
- 8 Animal life
- 9 Control
- 10 Shower
- 11 Tiny arachnid
- 12 Editor's mark
- 13 Abound
- 20 Barley brew
- 22 Indignation
- 25 Member of the flock
- 27 Bag thickness
- 29 Period
- 30 Stan's partner in comedy
- 31 Ponce de \_\_\_
- 33 Stubborn beast
- 34 Anguish
- 35 Lather
- 36 Pride member
- 37 Cantina cooker
- 38 Slaloms
- 40 Rubberneck
- 44 Novel

- 47 Paddle
- 49 School group (Abbr.)
- 51 Resident (Suffix)
- 53 Climbing vine
- 55 Extreme
- 57 Slowdown words
- 58 Explode
- 59 Bar invoices
- 60 At a distance
- 61 Hindu garment
- 62 Mountain lion
- 64 Pigeon
- 65 Mediocre
- 66 Dregs
- 69 Piece of land
- 71 Tavern
- 72 Hot springs

## JEDNOTA

### Publication Schedule for 2014

Issue Date	Deadline
February 19	February 10
March 5	February 24
March 19	March 10
April 2	March 24
April 16	April 7
April 30	April 21
May 7	April 28
May 21	May 12
June 11	June 2
July 2	June 23
July 23	July 14
August 6	July 28
Sept 17	Sept 8
October 15	October 6
November 5	October 27
November 19	November 10
December 3	November 24

# Part II of the 2013

## People



First Place – Rudy Bernath  
Glenview, IL, Branch 153

“Revolutionary War  
Re-enactment”



Second Place – Jim Marmol  
Uniontown, PA, Branch 162

“Wedding in  
Elizabeth, NC”



Third Place – JoAnne Peppe  
Bridgewater, NJ, Branch 290

“Great Stirrup Cay”

## Nature or Environment



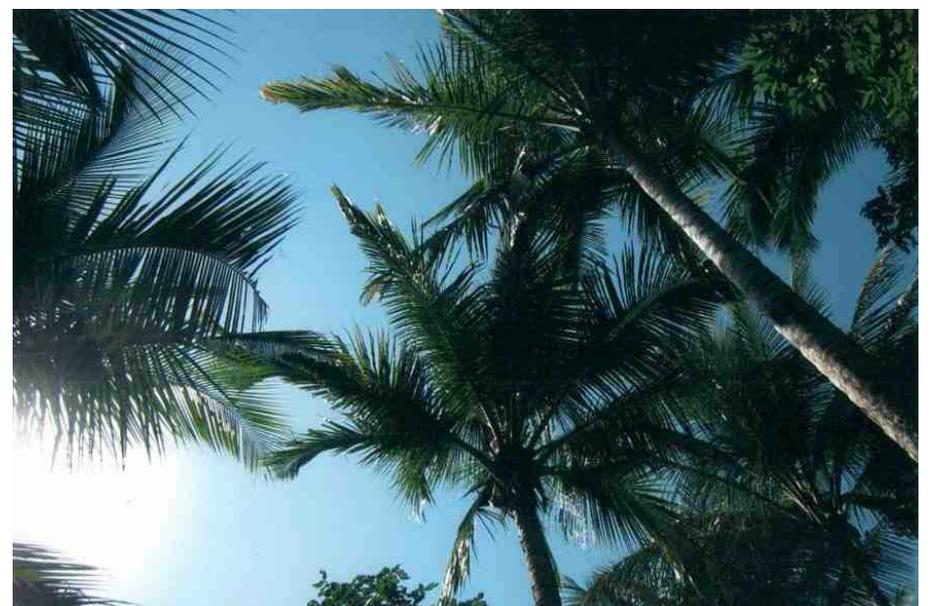
First Place – Jerry Siman  
Toronto, Ontario, Branch 785

“Iguassu Falls”



Second Place – Elizabeth Bernath  
Glenview, IL, Branch 153

“Photo of a Sunflower”



Third Place – Graham Joiner  
Aurora, Ontario, Branch 785

“Palm Trees”

# Photo Contest Results

## Travel or Destinations



First Place – Michele MacMath  
Bridgewater, NJ, Branch 290

“World Trade Center”



Second Place – Maribeth Colbaugh  
Trafford, PA, Branch 35

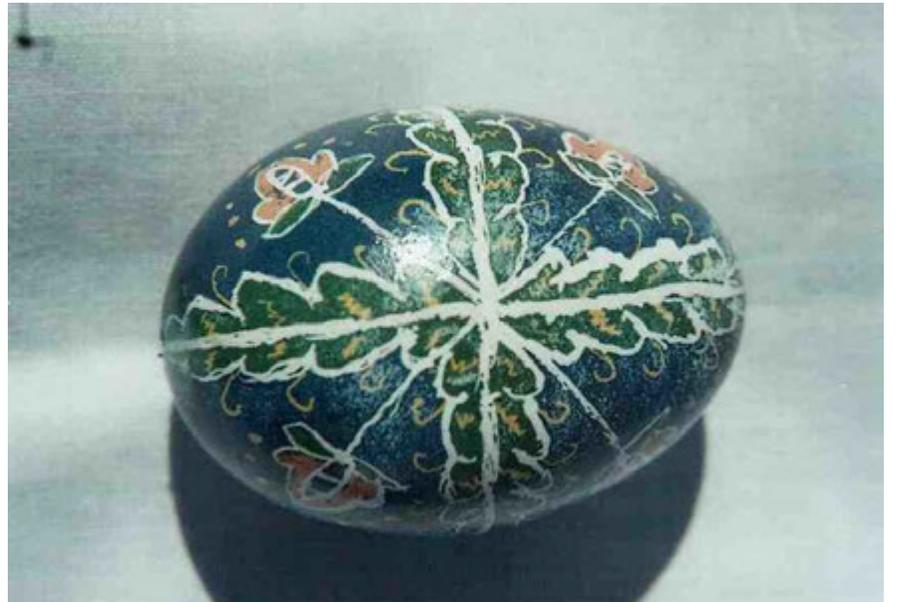
“Underground Metro in  
Washington, D.C.”



Third Place – Lt. Paul Tomanek  
Harvey’s Lake, PA, Branch 900

“Boldt Castle”

## FCSU Fraternal Activity



First Place – Marianne Rodacy  
Charleroi, PA, Branch 853

“Easter Egg”



Second Place – Jim Marmol  
Uniontown, PA, Branch 162

“National Picnic”



Third Place – Patrick Sullivan  
Pittsburgh, PA, Branch 35

“FCSU Sales Seminar  
in Pittsburgh”

# BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

## BRANCH 3 – MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

Branch 3 will hold their annual breakfast meeting on Sunday, April 13, 2014. Mass will be offered for our living and deceased members at 9:00AM at Sts. Cyril & Methodius Church, Second Street and 13th Avenue, NE.

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

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

**James T. Genosky, Financial Secretary**

## BRANCH 5P – EXETER, PENNSYLVANIA

The Saint John the Evangelist Society, Branch 05P, will hold a meeting on Sunday, March 9, 2014, at 1:00 pm.

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

The agenda will include the election of delegates to the 2014 Quadrennial Convention to be held in Philadelphia in August 2014.

Please call Marion Rubino if you plan to attend 570-693-0399.

**Marion Rubino, Recording Secretary**

## BRANCH 19 – BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 19, will hold its breakfast meeting on Sunday, March 9, 2014. A Mass in honor of our patron, St. Joseph, will be offered for our members by Msgr. Joseph Pekar at 8:30AM in Sts. Cyril & Methodius Church, 79 Church Street, Bridgeport, CT.

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

The Margaret Evancho Award will be given to the following members who have reached their 16th birthday in 2013:

- Terra Grace Frye
- Hayley Elizabeth MacDonald
- Bridget Magdalen Monks
- Stacie Marie Nolan
- Christine E. Radwill
- Joseph John Wargo, Jr.

This award recognizes the dedication and the many years of service Margaret Evancho gave to Branch 19, especially its youth.

We cordially invite our members to attend our meeting. We also will meet on April 13, 2014, and June 8, 2014.

**Henry Zack, Recording Secretary**

## BRANCH 35 – BRADDOCK, PENNSYLVANIA

The semi-annual meeting of St. Michael's Branch 35 will be held on Saturday February 22, 2014, at 1:00PM at the residence of Joseph Yuros, 1987 Centurion Drive, Forest Hills, PA. Agenda items will include discussion of branch activities at election of delegates to the FCSU 50th Quadrennial Convention to be held in August 2014.

**Janet Sullivan, Recording Secretary**

## BRANCH 38 – DUQUESNE, PENNSYLVANIA

The Holy Trinity Branch 38 will hold its semi-annual meeting on Tuesday, April 1, 2014, at 7:00PM at DI's Kornerstone Diner, 620 Long Run Road, McKeesport, PA. Refreshments will be served.

Discussion on the 50th Quadrennial Convention of the First Catholic Slovak Union to be held at the Sheraton Downtown Hotel in Philadelphia, PA, from August 23 – 27, 2014. All delegates and alternates will be elected at this meeting. Additional discussion will be held concerning branch and society activities during the 2014 year.

**Florence K. Matta, Secretary/Treasurer**

## BRANCH 41 – YONKERS, NEW YORK

The December 27th meeting of the Holy Trinity Society, Branch 41KJ, has been postponed to Saturday, February 15, 2014. It will be held at 40

Dalton Rd, Yonkers, NY at 6:00PM.

At this meeting we will have the election of new officers. We also will be electing delegates for the upcoming 2014 Quadrennial Convention of the First Catholic Slovak Union. Financial reports will be presented and suggested will be discussed, as well. We urge all members to attend. Refreshments will be served.

Fraternally,

**Joanne Fialkovic, Financial Secretary**

## BRANCH 89 – MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

Branch 89 will hold a meeting with a luncheon to follow on Saturday, February 22, 2014. On the agenda: election of branch officers, election of delegates to the 50th Quadrennial Convention of the First Catholic Slovak Union, donations, and 2014 branch activities.

Social time is from 12 noon – 12:30PM. The meeting will be held (approximately) from 12:30pm – 1:00PM, with lunch served directly after, at (approximately) 1:00PM.

The location: Alliotto's Restaurant, 3041 North Mayfair Road, Wausatosa, WI.

Reservations must be made by February 19, 2014 by calling Mike Novak at 414-445-5382. You must make a reservation, as the restaurant requires the number of people attending.

Lunch for members is complimentary. Guest cost is \$20.00. Make checks payable to: Knights of St. Mary & Joseph Br 89. Mail to: Mike Novak, 3237 N. 93rd St, Milwaukee, WI 53222.

Fraternally,

**Michael P. Novak, President**

## BRANCH 132 – WHIPPANY, NEW JERSEY

Branch 132K of Whippany will be holding its next meeting on February 15, 2014 at 1:30PM at the home of President Sue Salko.

We will be discussing our roller skating party planned for April, the annual summer picnic, and also the application process for all seniors graduating in 2014 (please call for scholarship forms).

Our scholarship winner from 2012, Nathaniel, is doing great and hopes to finish his 4-year degree in three. Branch 132K can truly be proud. He is most grateful to the FCSU scholarship program.

Many of us have already received the complimentary Estate Planning Booklet available from the FCSU. If you did not receive a copy or would like another one, just give Sue a call at 973-386-1936.

All members should take a few moments to read President Andrew M. Rajec's message where he discusses IRAs, Annuities, and Insurance. His message is on the front page of the January 15th edition of Jednota.

Our Slovak luncheon will be held at this meeting. Call Sue as to what you will be bringing. The menu is: stuffed cabbage, mashed potatoes, Slovak green beans, pickled beets, mixed fruit, kolach, coffee, pie and ice cream.

**Sue Salko, President**

## BRANCH 162 – UNIONTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Wendelin Society, Branch 162, will hold its quarterly meeting on Sunday, March 16, 2014, at 9:00AM at Denny's Restaurant, 653 Main Street, Uniontown, PA. Branch activities will be discussed and officers' reports will be given. The National Convention is to be held in Philadelphia, PA, in 2014 and the election of delegates and alternatives to the convention will be voted upon. All members of Branch 162 are cordially invited to attend the meeting and vote. Call for directions if needed, and for any address changes or questions to Dolores Marmol at 724-437-4983.

**Dolores Marmol, Secretary**

## BRANCH 173 – GREATER WILKES-BARRE WYOMING VALLEY AREA

The Saint John The Baptist Society, Branch Number 173, located in the greater Wilkes-Barre-Wyoming Valley Area, will hold its annual meeting on March 9, 2014 at Norms, North Sherman Street, Wilkes-Barre, beginning at 12:00 pm.

General Business and activities of Branch 173

will be discussed, and insurance, annuities and fraternal activities of the First Catholic Slovak Union.

In addition delegates and alternate delegates from Branch 173 will be elected to the 50th Quadrennial Convention of the FCSU to be held at the Sheraton Downtown Philadelphia Hotel on August 23-27, 2014.

Please make every effort to attend and notify Dorothy A. Ungvarsky at 570-403-2067, so arrangements can be made.

Fraternally,

**Dorothy A. Ungvarsky, President**

## BRANCH 181 – UNITED, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 181 will hold a meeting on March 1, 2014, immediately following the 5PM Mass at St. Florian's. The meeting will be held at the St. Florian Formation Building, 4261 Rt. 981, P.O. Box 187, United, PA 15689. On the agenda: planning branch activities for 2014 and nomination and election of delegates to attend the 50th Quadrennial Convention in August 2014. All delegates must be present.

For more information, contact Gerry Kovacina, PO Box 24, Mammoth, PA 15664, (412) 216-5527.

Fraternally,

**Gerry Kovacina, Secretary**

## BRANCH 254- PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

The annual meeting of Branch 254 will be held on Sunday, February 9, 2014, at noon at Panera's Restaurant in the Mt. Lebanon Galleria Mall located at the corner of Washington and Gilkeson Roads. Lunch will be provided. For reservations, contact Albina Senko at 412-343-5031.

**Albina Senko, Financial Secretary/Treasurer**

## BRANCH 259 – STRUTHERS, OHIO

The St. Michael the Archangel Society, Branch 259, will hold a meeting on Sunday, February 16, 2014, at 10:00AM at the Church Hall of Christ Our Savior Parish (Holy Trinity). At this meeting, we will have our annual audit and also select a delegate for the upcoming Quadrennial Convention of the First Catholic Slovak Union to be held in August. All members are urged to attend so we can plan our activities for the upcoming year.

We would like to extend our best wishes for a Happy and Healthy New Year to all our members.

**Vivian Sedlacko, Recording Secretary**

## BRANCH 293 – LANSFORD, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 293KJ, will hold a special meeting for the purpose of electing delegates to the 50th Quadrennial Convention of the First Catholic Slovak Union on Monday, February 17, 2014, at 6PM at the home of Financial Secretary Robert J. Lakata, 527 E. Bertsch St., Lansford, PA, 18232. Anyone having questions or needing service or more insurance call the financial secretary at 570-645-4872, and your call will be returned as soon as possible.

Fraternally,

**Robert J. Lakata, Financial Secretary**

## BRANCH 313 – CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Branch 313 will be holding its semi-annual meeting on Saturday, February 15, 2014, at 11:00AM. The meeting will take place at the Mother of Sorrows Convent, 5900 W. 147th Street, Oak Forest, IL. Delegates will be elected at this meeting for the upcoming 50th Quadrennial Convention in Philadelphia, PA in August 2014.

**Joseph Bugel, President**

## BRANCH 367 – FAIRCHANCE, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 367 will hold its next meeting on March 7, 2014 at 5:00 PM at the home of Patty Speshock, 11 Ash Street, Fairchance, PA. The agenda will include the election of delegates to the 2014 Quadrennial Convention of the FCSU along with other business.

Any questions please call President, Audrey

Balazik at 724-438-3887 or Kathryn Baranek, Secretary at 724-569-1006.

Fraternally

**Kathryn Baranek, Secretary**

## BRANCH 382 – SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA

The Saints Cyril and Methodius Society, Branch 382, of Scranton, Pennsylvania, will hold its Annual March Meeting on Sunday, March 2, 2014. Members will gather at noon in the VFW Post 3474, 110 Chestnut Street, Dunmore, Pennsylvania.

Auditing of the books will take place. Copies of the 2013 Annual Report to the Home Office will be available.

On the agenda are the following topics: the 2014 Convention of the FCSU, up-dates from the Home Office, District 17 news, branch donations and spring and summer plans.

Light refreshments will be served. All members are encouraged to attend to learn about your FCSU and to enjoy socializing with fellow members.

Branch 382 officers include Frank M. Slovenkai, Jr., president; Elizabeth M. Slovenkai, vice president; Michael J. Czankner, secretary; John J. Slovenkai, Sr., financial secretary; and Michael J. Slovenkai, Sr., treasurer.

**Elizabeth M. Slovenkai, Vice President**

## BRANCH 425 – BARBERTON, OHIO

St. Mark's Society, Branch 425, Barberton, OH, will hold a meeting on Sunday, February 16, 2014, at 1:00PM at the Slovak Society of Barberton, 887 West Tuscarawas, Barberton, OH. On the agenda: election of delegates to the FCSU 50th Quadrennial Convention being held in Philadelphia, PA, in August 2014. All members are invited to attend.

Fraternally,

**Jeannette Willis, Recording Secretary/Treasurer**

## BRANCH 450 – CLEVELAND, OHIO

Branch 450 will be holding a meeting on Saturday February 15, 2014 at noon at Holy Spirit Byzantine Catholic Church Hall, 5500 West 54th Street, Parma Ohio 44129. (between Snow and Brookpark Roads).

We will be holding elections of delegates to the 50th Quadrennial Convention held August of 2014 in Philadelphia, as well as election of branch officers at this meeting.

**Lori Valencik, Secretary**

## BRANCH 581 – GARY/WHITING, INDIANA

Due to inclement weather, the December 8, 2013 meeting of the St. Michael the Archangel, Branch 581, has been rescheduled to Sunday, March 2, 2014, at the Lake Park Restaurant, 7 East Old Ridge Road, Hobart, IN, at 1:00PM. The agenda will include: Election of officers and the Election of Delegates to the 50th Quadrennial Convention to be held August 23 – 27, 2014, in Philadelphia, PA. Anyone interested in being a delegate should call Ann at 219-947-2793 or George at 219-926-2410, or come to the meeting.

Fraternally,

**Ann Buczek, President**

## BRANCH 716 – NEW YORK, NEW YORK

Stephen the Martyr Society, Branch 716, will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday, March 30, 2014, at 1:00PM in the Parish Hall, St. John Nepomucene Church, 411 East 66th Street, NYC.

Our branch event will begin with a Mass at 11:00AM for all branch members, living and deceased. On the agenda at the following meeting will be a financial report and discussions of plans for the next season. Refreshments will be served after the meeting.

All members are urged to attend.

*continued on page 15*

## DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

### DISTRICT 2 – THE REV. JOHN J. SPITKOVSKY DISTRICT

The Rev. John J. Spitkovsky District for Illinois, Indiana and Wisconsin will hold its Semi-Annual Meeting and Election of FCSU Convention Delegates on Sunday, March 30th, at the Benedictine Convent in Oak Forest, IL. Location: 5900 W. 147th Street in suburban Chicago. Delegates will gather at 1:30 pm for a period of fraternal fellowship and refreshments. The meeting will start promptly at 2:00 pm. Delegates will enjoy a scrumptious dinner. During the meeting, we will elect our one Convention Delegate and one Alternate Delegate. Individual Jednota members who wish to become more involved in District 2 activities are welcome to attend. If you have any questions, call District 2 President John Jurcenko at (773) 763-0810.

District 2 Spiritual Adviser Dorothy Jurcenko has resigned. We thank her for her years of service. District 2 President John Jurcenko has appointed Rev. Joseph Kelchak as the District 2 Chaplain. Father Joe is a member of Branch 581 in Gary, IN. His parents immigrated to Gary from Slovakia almost 100 years ago. He is a retired priest of the Diocese of Superior, WI.

**Robert Tapak Magruder, Recording Secretary**

### DISTRICT 3 - GEORGE ONDA DISTRICT --WESTMORELAND COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

The George Onda District of the First Catholic Slovak Union will hold its Semi-Annual Meeting on Saturday, April 26, 2014 following the 5:00P.M. Mass at St. Florian Roman Catholic Church, United, PA. The meeting will take place in the Formation Room of the Convent. On the agenda will be the election of one delegate and one alternate for the FCSU 2014 Quadrennial Convention in Philadelphia, PA. All branches are encouraged to attend. Refreshments will be served.

**Linda L. Gonta, Secretary**

### DISTRICT 4 - MSGR. JOHN E. RURA DISTRICT

The next semi-annual meeting of the Msgr. Rura District of New Jersey will be held on Sunday, March 16, 2014 at 1:00 PM. Branch 746 will host the meeting at Msgr. Komar Hall of Holy Family Church, 2806 Parkway Avenue, Linden, NJ. Convention delegate will be elected at this meeting. Please call Mary Karch @732-572-2331 if you plan on attending.

**Mary J. Kapitan, Secretary**

### DISTRICT 5 – MICHIGAN DISTRICT

The Michigan District will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday, March 30, 2014, at SS Cyril and Methodius Catholic Church in Bannister, MI.

Our day will begin with Mass at 10:30AM, followed by coffee and fellowship in the parish hall, located on the east side of the church. Dinner will begin at 12:30PM, followed by a business meeting at 1:00PM (plans for the upcoming convention in Philadelphia also will be discussed). The church is located at 517 East Main Street, Bannister, MI 48807.

Branch 721 is hosting this meeting and Julius Remenar should be notified at (989) 862-5150 with the number of delegates attending from your branch by March 17, 2014.

Spring should be here by then, so let's make it a good turnout!!!! Our District President, Robert Kristofik, encourages all branches to send delegates to represent their branch.

Remember, branches must attend these meetings in order to get branch compensation from headquarters.

**Anna Magusin, District Secretary**

### DISTRICT 6 – PITTSBURGH DISTRICT

Branch 38 will host the spring meeting for the Pittsburgh District starting 1PM at the Holy Trinity Parish Hall in West Mifflin, PA. The meeting date is April 6, 2014. The meeting will include officers' reports and discussion of district business. Branch 254 will have the details for the Fathers Day Brunch on June 15.

District activities for the 50th FCSU convention will also be discussed at this meeting. We will elect our District Delegate and Alternate. The district will be scheduling a delegates' meeting in early summer. (The Call for Convention can be found at [www.fcsu.com](http://www.fcsu.com).)

The district notice will be updated following the spring meeting.

While we look forward to seeing everyone at the FCSU district meetings, remember there are many other local Slovak events that also merit your attention:

\*\* WPSCA monthly meetings are held on the 1st Monday of the month at 7 PM at the Mt Lebanon Public Library. Topics are: February 3: Mike Yanchak – Egg Decorating, March 3: Jerry Jumba – Slovak Music, April 7: John Righetti – Slovakia-Who, Why, Where, May 5: Rev Valerian Michlik – Greek Catholic Churches in Slovakia, June 2: Joe Bielicki – The Czechoslovak Room at Pitt.

\*\* Slovak Language Classes will be held Tuesdays starting February 11. Call Joe Senko at 412-956-6000 during office hours for information about reservations and fees.

\*\* A Slovak Lenten food demonstration will be held Saturday, February 15, 2 PM, at the St Gregory Byzantine Catholic Church in Upper St Clair. Admission \$20; limited to 25 participants. Call Joe 412-956-6000 for reservations.

\*\* The Slovak Film Festival restarts on Saturday, March 22, 1 PM, at the Mt Lebanon Public Library. The feature film is "Night Riders."

\*\* A Slovak Wine Tasting will be held Saturday, April 5, 1 PM, at Sonoma Grill in Pittsburgh. Admission \$35 payable in advance; limited to 60 participants. Call Joe at 412-531-2990 for reservations.

\*\* WPSCA is again offering a scholarship to attend the Summer Slovak Language and Culture Program at Comenius University in Bratislava. Completed applications must be received by April 15.

\*\* Pittsburgh Folk Festival – Monroeville Convention Center – Friday, May 9, 2014.

\*\* Slovak Day at Kennywood – Thursday, July 17. Discount tickets will be available at our Fathers Day Brunch on June 15 or email Sue at [smosr@verizon.net](mailto:smosr@verizon.net).

\*\* 11th Consular Tour of Slovakia – August 10-20. The tour features visits to Bratislava, Presov and Kosice. There will be two wine tastings and an overnight stay at a spa. For a detailed itinerary contact Joe at [jtsenko@aol.com](mailto:jtsenko@aol.com).

\*\* The National Slovak Society Museum in McMurray PA is open Monday-Thursday from 9-3. Contact Sue Ondrejco for information and reservations at 412-421-1204 or by email [tosmosr@verizon.net](mailto:tosmosr@verizon.net).

\*\* The 15th Genealogical & Cultural Conference of the CzechoSlovak Genealogical Society International will be held on Oct 21-24, 2015 in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. See [www.cgsl.org](http://www.cgsl.org). Cedar Rapids is the home of the National Czech and Slovak Museum and Library. See [www.ncsml.org](http://www.ncsml.org).

\*\* Various Slovak programs and courses are available through the University of Pittsburgh Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures. See [www.slavic.pitt.edu](http://www.slavic.pitt.edu)

\*\* If you're interested in study abroad, the University of Presov has a number of interesting programs, including the study of Rusyn Language and Customs. Check out [www.unipo.sk/en/](http://www.unipo.sk/en/).

\*\* Western PA Slovak Radio Hour – 3-4 PM, Sunday's – WPIT-AM 730

Anyone with additional Slovak events in Western Pennsylvania that they wish to be included in our district notice should send information to [manasta@verizon.net](mailto:manasta@verizon.net)

Fraternally,

**Margaret A. Nasta, District Secretary**

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

The Frank T. Holly Jr. District of Uniontown, PA, will hold a meeting on Sunday, March 9, 2014, at 1PM in the meeting room of Denny's Restaurant located at 653 W. Main St. Reservations need to be made by Wednesday, March 5, 2014 by calling President Marmol at 724-437-0892 or Secretary Holly at 724- 437-0892 or Secretary Holly at 724-438-0697. Those attending are asked to contribute \$5.00 toward their meal. There will be election of officers. Plans for the 50th Quadrennial Convention of the FCSU will be discussed.

Fraternally,

**Barbara Holly, Secretary**

### DISTRICT 14 – REV JOSEPH L. KOSTIK DISTRICT

Rev. Kostik District will hold its next meeting, Tuesday, March 18, 2014, 6:00PM at St Matthias Church, located on Shady Run Road Youngstown, Ohio. The agenda will be the up-coming convention. All member branches are urged to attend.

**Carla Peshek, President**

## BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

*continued from page 14*

Fraternally,

**Henrietta H. Daitova, Secretary**

### BRANCH 731 – YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

Saint Joseph Branch 731 elected officers at the annual meeting in December. Officers for 2014 are Grace Kavulic, President; Irene Makovec, Vice-president; James Bobby, Recording Secretary, Jacquelyn Bobby, Financial Secretary, John Kavulic and Edward Walko, Auditors. The first activity of the year is a Mass celebrating our Patron Saint, to be celebrated on March 22, 2014 at Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, Saint Matthias Church 915 Cornell Street, Youngstown, OH. Liturgy will be at 4 pm.

**Jim Bobby, Recording Secretary**

### BRANCH 743 - STERLING HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 743, will celebrate the feast day of St Joseph on Sunday, March 16, 2014, with a Slovak Mass for all living and deceased members at 11:30AM at St. Cyril and Methodius Church, 41233 Ryan Road, Sterling Heights, MI.

Refreshments including coffee and Slovak baked goods will be served in the Social Hall following the liturgy.

All members and their families are invited to attend this annual celebration of St. Joseph's Day and to enjoy fellowship with other members.

A Branch meeting will take place at 1:00 pm. in the Slovak Heritage Room.

Any member who has recently moved or requires Branch services should contact the Branch Secretary Joseph C. Rimarcik, 42909 Sussex Park Dr., Sterling Heights, MI 48314-3087 or phone 586-254-0225.

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

### BRANCH 746 - LINDEN, NEW JERSEY

The St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 746, will hold its next meeting on Sunday, March 16, 2014 at 12:00 PM in the upstairs meeting room of the Msgr. Komar Hall of Holy Family Church in Linden, NJ. The agenda will include election of delegates to the August Convention. Okres meeting will follow at 1:00 PM. Please call Mary Karch @732-572-2331 if you plan on attending.

**Mary J. Kapitan, Secretary**

### BRANCH 764 - WARREN, OHIO

Branch 764 will hold our next meeting on February 12, 2014 at 10:30AM at the Panera, 3641 Elm Rd NE, Warren, OH.

On the agenda will be the review of 2013 events and planning new events for 2014. There will be a meeting on March 12 at 10:30AM at

Panera, 3641 Elm Rd, Warren, OH for the election of delegates for the upcoming 50th Quadrennial Convention of the First Catholic Slovak Union in August 2014.

**Joy Brunetti, Recording Secretary**

### BRANCH 796 - EGYPT, PENNSYLVANIA

The Holy Trinity Society, Branch 796, will hold its semiannual meeting on Sunday February 23, 2014 @ 1pm at Holy Trinity Catholic Church Egypt, PA. Election of delegates for the spring district meeting will take place. All are welcome to attend. God Bless and Happy New Year.

**Jerry Lloyd, Recording Secretary**

### BRANCH 856 – WASHINGTON, D.C. AND AREA

Branch 856-K will hold their first meeting for 2014 on Monday March 24, 2014, at 1:00pm. On the agenda will be discussion of district meeting, financial report and plans for celebrating 49th anniversary of our Slovak Chapel. Also the election of a delegate to the 50th Quadrennial Convention of the F.C.S.U. to be held in Philadelphia, PA. on August 23-27,2014. All members are encouraged to attend this meeting and show support to the organization and your branch. The meeting will be held at the home of Marion Mistrik 4513 Gladwyne Drive Bethesda, MD 20814 Phone for directions at 301-654-5638.

**Katherine Nowatkoski, Financial Secretary**

### BRANCH 888 – WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA

The Holy Trinity Society, Branch 888 will hold its next three (3) meetings on Monday, March 10th, 2014, Friday, March 21st, 2014 & Friday, March 28th, 2014 at 5:30 pm at 4649 Perth Road, West Palm Beach, Florida 33410. Contact David Rafaidus, President at (561) 776-0449 or [jednota888@yahoo.com](mailto:jednota888@yahoo.com) for directions and further information.

On the agenda will be election of delegates to the 2014 Quadrennial Convention of the FCSU along with future Branch activities, nomination/ election of officers, treasurer report & items of mutual interest to the membership. All Branch members are invited to attend.

**David Rafaidus, President**

Check out the First Catholic Slovak Union website at [www.fcsu.com](http://www.fcsu.com)



# Rest in Peace, Our Departed Members



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

Branch	Name	Branch	Name	Branch	Name	Branch	Name
001K	Dennis T Klimko	164K	Patricia Safreed	315K	Peter P Hricisak Jr	628K	Lawrence J Hallas
001K	Mary R Lardomita	166K	George J Charney	319K	Catherine B Knap	667K	Eleanor Yope
001K	Joseph Mark Ordy	173K	Loretta Farris	320K	Julia A Krivacek	670K	William Rank
001K	Katherine Simko	173K	Elizabeth A Vanchure	326K	Mary Louise Clark	701K	Irene M Stancik
002K	Mary Jane Dzacovsky	175K	Donald A Lakatos Sr	353P	Agnes Laputka	702K	Francis D Genczo Sr
005P	Irene Horne	200K	Virginia M Druchniak	367K	Constance A Salvitti	716K	Margaret A Mahoney
006K	Gerald G Novotney	211K	William R Scavnicky	368K	Albert M Draina	731K	Margaret A Cox
016P	Helen Podskoch	224K	John Gavras	373K	Msgr George J Adams	733K	Elizabeth Homziak
023K	Mary Denny	228K	Andrew Zilka	381K	Filippa Vach	746K	Francis R Pilar
023K	Mary Ann M Mayko	240P	Jean A Fogmeg	410K	Sondra D Mcdonough	756K	Helen M Horky
024K	Dorothy A Kavulic	240P	Bernard B Guido	419K	Marie A Gryczko	796K	John Gavura
045K	Method M Balco	240P	Mary Ann Guthrie	425K	Margaret M Seifert	823K	Thomas Lawrence Kerila
055K	Lorraine Hencek	240P	Stephen D Pollack	472K	Andrew J Mika	823K	Frank A Mutnansky Jr
075K	Joseph T Pichola	260K	Michael E Rozum	484K	Paul R Vresilovic	831K	Harold J Samay
085K	Sharon M Figmatic	266K	Beatrice E Olenik	514K	Agnes Ghilino	900K	William J Hunt
090K	Chester J Kryscio	293K	Anthony J Bartal	543K	Frank R Stolar	900K	Joseph James Sandor Jr
096K	Ida M Pecenak	293K	Josephine Kassak	553K	Diane L Gid	900K	Alda A Yurko
098K	Mary Ann Bequillard	293K	David Joseph Rimsky	567K	Joseph Sugra		
162K	John C Baran	308K	Cecelia A Stanko	580K	Mary Catherine Broskovich		
162K	John P Skala	312K	Rose M Lewis	581K	George A Magurany		

\*Processed through the month of January 2014

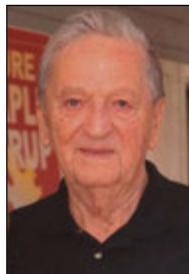
## OBITUARIES

### IRENE R. BRISCAR BRANCH 162 – UNIONTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA



Irene R. Briscar, 79 years of age, passed away Sunday, January 12, 2014 at Akron City Hospital in Akron, OH. Irene was born on October 23, 1934 in Lemont, PA, the 13th child of the late Andy and Kathryn (Paroda) Lucas. She was a graduate of North Union High School in Uniontown, PA, and on May 28, 1956, she married her loving husband Ambrose J. Briscar in St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church in Uniontown. Irene was a member also of the First Catholic Slovak Union (Jednota) Branch 162 in Uniontown. A resident of the Mantua area since 1970, Irene had been employed as a telephone operator for Ohio Bell Telephone, and had worked in the cafeteria for Crestwood School System. As a faithful member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Mantua, Irene contributed her time to assisting in the lunch room, as well as working for many years at the Ox Roast. Irene will always be remembered as a Loving wife, a great mother, and devoted grandma (Baba) to her grandchildren for whom she loved scrapbooking, and a dear sister to her siblings. Survivors include her loving husband Ambrose at home, a son Andrew Briscar of Mantua, a daughter Jean Marie (Keith) Smith of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, her grandchildren Dylan Briscar and Kaitlyn Rose whom she both adored, and her sisters Wilma Hanna of Eastlake, OH and Irma Yandura of Shamrock, PA. She was preceded in death by her siblings Johnny, Edward, John, Albert, Andrew and William Lucas, Pauline Billitter, Ann Pillar, Kathryn Pascute and Margaret Hardy. Calling hours were Wednesday, January 15, 2014, from 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. at the Green Family Funeral Home in Mantua, OH, where prayers were said Thursday at 10:15 a.m. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Thursday January 16, 2014, 11:00 a.m. at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Mantua with Rev. Michael Garvey officiating. Final resting place followed at Westlawn Cemetery in Mantua Township, OH.

### GEORGE JAMES CHARNEY BRANCH 166 – WINDSOR, NEW YORK



George James Charney, husband, dad, grandpa, WW II Navy veteran, scientist, lifelong learner, loyal friend, go-to guy, 89, passed away December 12, 2013, at his home in Johnstown, NY. Born April 5, 1924, in West Wyoming, PA to Rosalie and Stephen Charney, the last of 13 children, he graduated from high school and joined the Navy. A plank owner of the CA-135 heavy cruiser class USS Los Angeles, he served proudly in WW II and moved to Johnstown shortly after the war's end. There he met and married Pauline Tima with whom he built a life and family over the next 65 years. He had a long career with General Electric, working in the Research and Development Center in Niskayuna for more than 35 years, helping to develop technology and products that have changed the way we live and work. Contributing to numerous patents, George's final work focused on developing practical silicon chip circuitry and miniaturization. He retired from GE in 1987. Together with his wife Pauline, who survives, he raised four children, Ronald Charney (Mary) and Karen Riley (Peter) of Johnstown, Janet Williams (Sterling) of Geneva, FL, and Ann Danise (Randy) of Gloversville. He enjoyed fishing trips, swimming, golfing, and travel, preferring sunshine and warm climates. An avid woodworker, his artistry was evident in the home that he built himself, and the gifts he gave to friends and family. As a first generation Slovak-American, his cultural heritage was a cornerstone of his life. He was a member of St. Anthony's Church of Johnstown, serving as a member of the Parish Council, an usher, a member of the Maintenance Committee and as a member of the Men's Club. He also served as a member of the Knights of Columbus. He valued and emphasized education and service, volunteering also for Meals on Wheels. George loved his family, his friends, his work,

gardening, music, dancing, and was a loyal Boston Red Sox fan. He loved his dog, April and spent his final years supporting animal rescue. He doted on his seven grandchildren, James Riley (Mary), Kate Riley, Jennifer Charney Rockwell (Erik), Michael Danise, Andrew Danise, Jolie Thomas and Jordann Thomas and was delighted to welcome two great grandchildren, Kendall and Evan Riley, into his life.

George was predeceased by his parents; and his siblings, John, Gus, Edward, Frank, Sam, Joseph, Ralph, Steven, Irene, Mary, Ethel, and Gertrude.

The family invited friends to call between 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. Saturday, December 21, 2013, at Walrath & Stewart Funeral Home, Gloversville, where a Celebration of Life followed at 11:00 a.m. George was laid to rest at a later date with full military honors at Gerald B. H. Solomon Saratoga National Cemetery.

- Submitted by Pauline Charney

### JOSEPH JANUSEK BRANCH 493 – CHICAGO, ILLINOIS



Joseph Janusek, age 83, President of the Assumption of the BVM Society in Chicago, IL, passed away after an arduous battle with cancer on September 18, 2013. Jozko grew up around the neighborhood near Assumption BVM Slovak Catholic Church at 24th Street and S. California Blvd. in the South Lawndale (Little Village) neighborhood on Chicago's southwest side.

He had married his wife of 58 years Emily (nee Bobot) at St. Joseph Slovak Catholic Church in the Pilsen neighborhood on the southside of Chicago. Jozko is survived by his wife, sisters Beatrice Jurczak, Irene Miksanek, and Rosemary Miksanek; daughters Gail (John) Carr and Cindy (Peter) Chiaporri; grandchildren John, Rebecca, Samantha, and Jerry; and great-grandchildren JJ, Delilah, Joey, and Khloe. He served in the Marines in the Korean War. He was very proud of his Slovak heritage, as was his brother Henry who preceded him in death. His parents Henry and Rose immigrat-

ed to Chicago from Slovakia. Interment was private. A celebration of life was held November 30, 2013, at his daughter's church, First Baptist Church of Channahon, IL. A lunch was held after the celebration.

- Submitted by Robert Tapak Magruder, Branch 493 Financial Secretary

### MARY C. BROSKOVICH BRANCH 580 – WEST MIFFLIN, PENNSYLVANIA



Mary Catherine "Cathy" Broskovich, 63, formerly of North Braddock, PA, passed away on Thursday, December 5, 2013, at home. She was married for 44 years to her loving husband, Mike Broskovich. Born May 23, 1950, in Pittsburgh, PA, she was a daughter of the late George R. "Red" and Marie (Madden) Coles. Cathy was a member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Hanover. She enjoyed reading, traveling, and spending time with her family, especially with her grandson, David. Other memberships include the B.P.O. Elks Lodge #763, Hanover, and the Loyal Order of Moose Lodge #227, Hanover. In addition to her husband, Mike, Cathy is survived by two daughters, Michelle A. Broskovich of Pittsburgh and Marie Broskovich of Hanover; and a grandson, David Rojas of Pittsburgh. She was preceded in death by two siblings, Margaret Weichler and Jack O'Brien. A Mass of Christian Burial was held at 12 noon on Tuesday, December 10, 2013, at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Hanover, with the Rev. Msgr. James M. Lyons serving as celebrant. A time to share memories with the family and an opportunity to view was held on Monday evening, December 9, 2013, from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Wetzal Funeral Home and Crematory, Hanover and on Tuesday, December 10, 2013, from 11:15 to 11:45 a.m. prior to the service at church. Burial was at 1 p.m.

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# OBITUARIES

*continued from page 16*

Wednesday, December 11, 2013, at the National Cemetery of the Alleghenies, Bridgeville, PA, with Father Joseph Grosko of Holy Trinity Catholic Church leading the final committal.

**- Submitted by Virginia Jasek, Branch 580 Secretary**

**PAUL A. NEUPAUER, SR.  
BRANCH 796 –  
WHITEHALL, PENNSYLVANIA**

Paul A. Neupauer, Sr., 87, of Whitehall, died December 19, 2013, at his residence. He was married to Dolores E. "Dolly" (Hutnick) Neupauer for 57 years. Born in Whitehall, he was the son of the late Ignatz Neupauer and the late Susie (Novak) Neupauer Hudock. He was a faithful member of Holy Trinity Catholic Church, Whitehall, and its choir for over 50 years. Paul served his country in the navy during WWII. He was employed as a clerk for Mack Trucks Inc.,

Allentown for 31 years, retiring in 1987. He was a bartender for the former Egypt Hotel and St. Nicholas Home Association, Northampton as well as an employee for the former Two Guys from Harrison, Whitehall.

Survivors: In addition to his wife, he is survived by children, Paul Jr., and his wife Holly of Blandon, Anne Marie wife of Bruce Bachman of Coplay, Michael of Harrisburg, VA, John and his wife Wendy of St. Louis Park, MN, Susan wife of Robert Martucci of Allentown; grandchildren, Christopher, Dana, Emily, Megan, Lauren, Benjamin, Aaron, Lily; brother, Andrew Neupauer; sister, Elizabeth Rock. He was preceded in death by siblings, William Neupauer and Margaret Ziser.

Mass of Christian Burial was held at 11:00 a.m., Monday, December 23, Holy Trinity Catholic Church, Whitehall. Friends and family called earlier, at 9:30-11:00a.m, Monday in the church. Interment followed in Cedar Hill Memorial Park, Allentown.

**-Submitted by Dolores Neupauer**



**ERNEST F. GORALKA  
BRANCH 831 –  
TARENTUM, PENNSYLVANIA**

Ernest Francis Goralka, 85, of Tarentum, PA, departed this life and went to be with the Lord on Friday, June 21, 2013, surrounded by his loving family at Forbes Hospice in Allegheny Valley Hospital, Natrona Heights, PA, after a lingering illness. He was born May 28, 1928, a son of the late George and Julia (Bros) Goralka. He was a lifelong resident of Tarentum, having graduated from Tarentum High School in 1947.

He was an Army veteran of the Korean War, serving as a corporal in the 25th Reconnaissance Co., 25th Infantry Division. He was wounded in action on March 2, 1952, alongside his twin brother Anthony, and received the Purple Heart with numerous other citations.

He was a letter carrier for the US Postal Ser-

vice in Tarentum, retiring in 1987 after 40 years of service. He was a member of Holy Martyrs Church, Tarentum, where he served as an usher, altar server, and past member of the parish council. He was a member of American Legion Post 226 of Brackenridge, PA, and the First Catholic Slovak Union, Branch 831 of Tarentum.

He enjoyed fishing, traveling, trips to the casinos, doing word-search puzzles, watching game shows on TV, and was a huge fan of the Pittsburgh Steelers, Penguins, and Pirates.

He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Kathryn "Kay" (Skok) Goralka; a son, James, of Tarentum; a daughter, Kathy Schreiber, and her husband, Joseph, of Allegheny Township; his twin brother, Anthony, of Tarentum; and two granddaughters. Besides his parents, he was preceded in death by six brothers, including two priests, who served the Diocese of Pittsburgh, Rev. George J. Goralka and Rev. Albert A. Goralka, and two sisters.

Visitation and blessing service took place at the Duster Funeral Home of Tarentum. Mass of Christian Burial was offered on June 25, 2013, in Holy Martyrs Church with his pastor, Father Aaron J. Kriss, presiding. Burial with full military honors took place in Our Lady of Hope Cemetery, Frazer Township, PA.

**- Submitted by James E. Goralka**

## 41st Annual Christmas Vilija in Youngstown

**Loretta A. Ekoniak**



**Here I am with a couple of our younger attendees, Robert and Elizabeth Glagola who came from Cleveland with their parents. It's so nice to see young people there!**

the fish and pirohy. From the beginning oplatky and honey to the finish with kolač and apples we all enjoyed the meal so many of us enjoyed when our parents and grandparents prepared it! This dinner is the ASCA's way of helping to maintain this beloved Slovak tradition. Every year we are especially grateful that a number of the Slovak fraternal organizations make this an annual event to share with us. Besides the great meal we also had entertainment provided by the John Lapinsky Orchestra, which was there throughout the evening playing everything from Slovak Christmas carols to polkas, to Slovak folk songs.

At the dinner we also had a Chinese auction and a Lottery Wreath, which are our main fundraisers for our scholarship fund. This year we were also thrilled to have the FCSLA Senior Branch 161 help with our Chinese Auction as a matching funds activity. The scholarship this year was awarded to Christine Yocum who is studying for her Master's degree in Nursing Education at Kent State University. She expressed her sincere appreciation for this award and her love of her Slovak roots.

We were especially pleased to see that we had young people helping at our event and even younger attendees! We hope that these young people will grow up knowing that their Slovak heritage is an important part of their lives. I would like to thank everyone who helped at our dinner and especially everyone who attended. From the delicious dinner, to the Chinese auction and the great music, the night had something for everyone.

The American Slovak Cultural Association of the Mahoning Valley held our 41st annual Christmas Vilija Dinner on December 8, 2013 at the Father Snock Hall of Our Lady of Sorrows Parish in Youngstown, Ohio. It was a wonderful event enjoyed by 250 people looking to maintain this beloved Slovak custom. We were honored by the presence of Bishop George V. Murry, S.J., head of the Diocese of Youngstown and Monsignor Robert Siffrin, Vicar General of the Diocese. Also in attendance were Monsignor Peter Polando, Rector of St. Columba Cathedral and Fr. Martin Celuch, pastor of Our Lady of Sorrows Parish. Father Martin also brought a special guest who had been visiting from Košice, Slovakia, Father Martin Uhal, who gave a Slovak blessing before our meal and also helped us in singing the Slovak national anthem, Nad Tatrou sa blýska! We hope he took back many good memories of how American Slovaks are working to maintain our Slovak heritage.

The wonderful dinner was catered by Carolyn Yurak who always draws raves for her traditional Vilija specialties from the delicious Slovak mushroom soup and bobalky (opekance),

**(L – R) Bishop George Murry and Msgr. Robert Siffrin in front of the John Lapinsky Orchestra**



**Trustee Rick Holzschuh presenting our 2013 scholarship to Christine Yocum**

**Editor's Note: The rates in the Winter Single Premium Special that ran on page 22 of the January 15, 2014 issue were published in error. Jednota apologizes for any confusion this may have caused.**

## FCSU LIFE

### Single Premium Insurance Winter Special!

<p><b>Newborn Male</b> \$5000 for \$410 \$10000 for \$820</p> <p><b>Male - age 5</b> \$5000 for \$475 \$10000 for \$950</p> <p><b>Male - age 10</b> \$5000 for \$565 \$10000 for \$1,130</p> <p><b>Male - age 15</b> \$5000 for \$670 \$10000 for \$1,340</p>	<p><b>Newborn Female</b> \$5000 for \$345 \$10000 for \$690</p> <p><b>Female - age 5</b> \$5000 for \$410 \$10000 for \$820</p> <p><b>Female - age 10</b> \$5000 for \$485 \$10000 for \$970</p> <p><b>Female - age 15</b> \$5000 for \$570 \$10000 for \$1,140</p>
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Purchase Single Premium Whole Life Insurance coverage for your children or grandchildren and receive a

**FREE \$10.00 GIFT CARD**

to present with the certificate!

**Features:**

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



## Remembering my four years in Rome (1963-1967)

*(On the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the Slovak Institute of Sts. Cyril and Methodius)*

**Vladimir Bubrin, Alumnus Institute of Sts. Cyril and Methodius, Rome, Justice of the Peace, Toronto, Ontario**

### Leaving home with new friends

Imagine asking a 13-year-old boy growing up in west-end Toronto in a fairly observant Slovak Catholic family, attending St. Anthony's Catholic school, and an altar boy to boot, if he would like to continue his education in Rome! Such a proposal was put to me one Sunday afternoon in the winter of 1963 when Father Jozef Dragoš, a Slovak priest from Alvinston near Sarnia, Ontario, paid our family a visit with information about the newly opened Slovak Institute of Sts. Cyril and Methodius in Rome. It came with a school for boys, actually a minor seminary. He came with encouragement for me, and assurance to my parents that it was a good and safe school and also affordable. If I recall correctly, tuition fees were based on what the family was able to contribute. I agreed and my parents thought it to be a good choice. I was excited, our Italian neighbors were proud, and my classmates were envious!

In mid-August Father Dragoš returned to accompany us to Rome. He had also "recruited" Eddie Blažo from Toronto and Michael Kolarčík from Surrey (Vancouver, B.C.). On our way to New York (Fr. Dragoš did not like to fly so we crossed the Atlantic by ship), we stopped in Detroit to pick up George Ferkovič and Bobby Miller, and in New York we were joined by John Šefčík from Allentown, Pennsylvania. I am sure that because we were now a group on our way to the same school, the trauma of leaving home was greatly relieved.

### Arrival in Rome

Upon our arrival in Rome, Father Dragoš handed us over to the care of the Slovak Salesian priests who were running the school, and shortly thereafter he returned to Canada. From then on we would see him once a year when he came back to Rome with a new group of students from Canada and the United States.

My first sighting of St. Peter's Basilica was from the back seat of a Vespa motor scooter driven by one of the priests.

He was wearing a full cassock or reverenda and was whipping around St. Peter's Square like there was no tomorrow. And he was not the only Vespa rider in a cassock!

Father Dragoš's two previous recruits from Canada already at the school, Štefan Reistetter and Laddie Silaj, helped with our integration into the new Slovak-Roman environment. Mike Kolarčík and I probably served the same role for the boys who came from Canada a couple of years later, Johnny Silaj from Elliot Lake, Gabriel Manda from Hamilton, and Johnny Hudak from Welland.

### The school

I do not have any specific memories of the beginning of the school year as such, other than that we had to learn Italian rather quickly because the year-end exams were in Italian at an Italian public school as our Slovak institute had not yet been granted an independent school license by the Italian authorities. The other point I remember is that in addition to the regular core subjects and Italian, we studied a number of languages: Slovak, German, Latin (later also classical Greek), French, English. Because we were a Slovak school, Slovak prevailed, but since there were boys from Austria, Germany, France, Canada and the United States, it was easy to practice the other languages as well.

My family had immigrated to Canada from Croatia two years prior to my going to Rome and by then my English was solid. In addition to Croatian I also spoke Slovak, so I had no problem communicating in school and with the "superiors," as we called our teachers. I had another thing going for me: I liked soccer, the game we played most often during free time. Even though I was a scrawny kid, I was apparently good at the game, which made me fit in also with the European boys.

### Cyrrillo-Methodian celebrations and Vatican II

It was exciting to be a Slovak in Rome in September 1963. That was the year the Slavic World and especially the Slovaks commemorated the 1,100th anniversary of the coming of Sts. Cyril and Methodius to Great Moravia, the ancient land of the Slovaks. That was also the official year of the

opening and blessing of the Slovak Institute of Sts. Cyril and Methodius, of which the school for boys became a small but integral part. Throughout the month of September, Slovaks from all over the world flocked to the Eternal City as visitors and pilgrims. Judging from the pictures I kept and from the documents I saw published, the young Slovak boys-seminarians were front-and-centre at the audience with Pope Paul VI and other memorable events.

One of the highlights of the Cyrillo-Methodian jubilee was the Pope's Mass at the Basilica of San Clemente, one of Rome's oldest located near the Colosseum. It is the church where the relics of St. Cyril were originally kept (he died in Rome in 869), then disappeared in the 19th century, only to be discovered at the other end of the Italian peninsula and redeposited in the Basilica in conjunction with the 1100th anniversary celebrations. For me, San Clemente became even more special when Father Michal Lacko, S.J., who was a frequent visitor to our school, explained that the renovated side altar of the basilica featuring a beautiful painting of Sts. Cyril and Methodius was financed in the late 1900s by Bishop Josip Juraj Strossmayer of Djakovo in Croatia, my hometown before we immigrated to Canada.

No sooner had the Cyrillo-Methodian anniversary celebrations ended, we witnessed the beginning of the second session of the Second Vatican Council. This was when we first met three bishops from Slovakia, who apparently had a hard time getting permission from the communist authorities to attend the Council. They came to visit the Institute a few times, but on the quiet for fear of repercussions back home. It was no secret that the communists in Czechoslovakia opposed the establishment of the Slovak Institute in Rome. I remember the kindness shown by Bishop Andrew Grutka of Gary, Indiana. He bought a car to facilitate the transportation of the Slovak bishops to and from the Vatican. When the bishops departed, the Slovak Institute and our school inherited the black Ford Taurus.

*continued on page 19*

## School Day Memories

**Michael Kolarčík, S.J., Alumnus Institute of Sts. Cyril and Methodius in Rome, Regis College, University of Toronto**

The Institute of Sts. Cyril and Methodius in Rome has celebrated its 50th anniversary at the via Cassia site near the small town of La Storta just north of Rome. This has brought back memories for me of the early years of the Institute. I was one of six young fellows ranging in age from 10 to 19 years who were gathered up by Fr. Dragos from Canada and the U.S. in New York to sail to Italy on the ocean-liner, Vulcania, her last cross-Atlantic sail. The time was July, 1963. The Institute was located on the Via Appian Way not far from 'Quo Vadis' the famous little Church where Jesus is said to have appeared to Peter who asked the stranger, "Where are you going?" The new building was not yet finished at the via Cassia site and so the Institute had very humble beginnings in 1961 in a small building belonging to the Italian Salesians at the Catacombs of San Callisto on the Via AppiaAntica.

Interestingly enough, two events from the first few months are very strong in my memory that really have little to do with the school itself. One was the return of the relics of St.

Cyril to the Basilica of St. Clement, November 17, 1963. I was thirteen years old and I remember our whole school (numbering about forty, teachers and students) joining the gathering of so many Slovaks at the Church. There was a solemn procession with Pope Paul VI. I felt from the singing and festive procession that this was a big event for the Slovaks. Only much later would I understand why that day was so important. In fact, some seventeen years later, after I was ordained a priest, I met an Irish Dominican who lived in Rome and was visiting Winnipeg for a scholarly convention. When he told me he worked for the Basilica of St. Clement, I immediately told him proudly that I was in the Basilica in 1963 when they returned the lost relics of St. Cyril. He was silent for twenty seconds and then said, "I am the one who found them." It was none other than Fr. Leonard Boyle, the Medievalist who traced the remains of St. Cyril from their removal during the Napoleonic siege of Rome to a castle on the Adriatic coast. Fr. Boyle himself is now buried in the Basilica on the middle level, where there had been an altar that housed the original urn containing St. Cyril's bones.

Another memory focuses in the old school. It was only four days after the events in San Clemente. It was early evening

in November and we were all doing our homework in the study hall. Fr. Mikus came in and announced that President J.F. Kennedy had been assassinated. We all left the study hall and walked outside somberly to the little chapel and we prayed.

We moved to the brand new building with paint still wet on the via Cassia in the early months of 1964. It was a splendid building with marble floors and all the beds, cupboards, desks and washrooms were so clean. Everything smelled great. The landscaping wasn't finished, however, but we did have a fine soccer field, and a paved basketball and volleyball court outside. By the time I had left in 1968, the grounds flourished with trees, all sorts of plants and flowers and even a grape vine.

But I do in fact have some great memories also of the school itself and of the education that took place within its walls. The first would be the care Fr. Nadasky took that we learn to write. It happened to be Slovak, but those little assignments that we had to do every other week taught me how to think and to write, how to be critical and to clarify,

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# Remembering my four years in Rome (1963-1967)

*continued from page 18*

## Our teachers

Our teachers in Rome were mostly Italian-educated Slovak Salesian priests. Among them were some remarkable individuals who I believe had an impact on my intellectual development. Practically everyone of them escaped from Slovakia in the late 1940s and early 1950s when the persecution of religion was the fiercest and most seminaries and all novitiates and schools of various religious orders were closed.

I especially remember Father Andrej Šandor, a prominent poet who wrote under the pen-name Gorazd Zvonicky, was always available to read our attempts at creative writing and talk about our issues and problems. He would not mind if we lit a cigarette on our walks, even though we were too young to smoke and smoking was not allowed.

The other teacher that I have to mention is Father Augustin Nadasky. He was probably the best qualified as a teacher, a true pedagogue. He would assign topics for weekly compositions in Slovak, which he would correct and improve and then we would rewrite the final version in a special notebook. He selected one of my compositions for publication in the monthly "Hlasy z Rima," which I kept to this day as a memento. Needless to say, my parents were very proud of me and I heard that Msgr. Shuba, the then pastor of the Slovak parish in Toronto, did not hold back his praise as well. With Nadasky's guidance we also started two student literary papers, one was called "Bernolak," named after the late 18th and early 19th century Slovak priest and linguist who first attempted to standardize the Slovak language, and the other was "Štepy" (Grafts – as in grafting young shoots into mature branches). Don Nadasky was hoping for a budding artist or two to surface, no doubt. He was an avid reader of "Kulturny život," a bold public affairs paper in communist Slovakia during the "thaw" of the mid 1960s, which he would

share with us. Other good teachers were Father Andrej Pauliny, a gifted graphic artist, and father Štefan Zachar a musician, though these two were not at the school for very long.

The other education worth mentioning were the regular encounters with some of the most prominent Slovaks abroad at that time. The visitors to the Institute and the resident priests were a veritable "Who's Who" of the Slovak diaspora. While we were declining nouns and conjugating verbs, in another part of the building (the new location on via Cassia) biblical scholars, Msgr. Botek and Msgr. Vrablec, were preparing a modern Slovak translation of the New Testament. Msgr. Štefan Nahalka, the former secretary to the martyred Slovak Bishop Jan Vojtašák, was the Institute's first rector. Professor and historian Milan D'urica from the University of Padua was a frequent visitor, and I remember meeting the poets Rudolf Dilong and Mikulaš Šprinc, the politician Ferdinand D'určanský, the artist Jozef Cincik, among many others. Slovak missionaries would also visit. But what left the most lasting impression, were the encounters with real modern-day heroes: men who were ordained priests secretly in Slovakia and escaped before they were discovered by the communists, priests who unbeknownst to us were bishops but ordained underground in Slovakia to keep the persecuted Church alive. Looking back, I think that I am more impressed with their courage now than I was then.

Although there were low moments, especially when the school was temporarily housed in the old previously abandoned building close to the catacombs outside of the Roman walls on via Appia Antica, when the food got sparse and boring, when the lessons got hard and the restrictions seemingly unreasonable, there was never a shortage of camaraderie, humor and boys' pranks. We reminisce about these with fondness when we get together with our former "Roman" schoolmates here in Canada

and occasionally also in Europe.

## Looking back from Canada

When I returned to Canada in 1967 to continue my education at home, I have to admit that my choice to study languages and literatures was not accidental. I left Rome with a passion for the subjects, including Slovak and comparative literature, and I went on to obtain a doctorate in Slavic Studies at the University of Toronto. It seems that in my case what had been grafted in Rome took root. Similarly, the languages I picked up while at the Institute often made my resume stand out and lead to job interviews I never expected.

After I left Rome in 1967, I returned for a couple of visits to the school as a single man, then with my wife and my parents. On that

visit we met Father Dragoš who had by then taken permanent residence at the Institute caring mostly for the garden and the grapevine canopy that winds around the back part of the Institute grounds. On my last visit in the spring of 2005, this time with my daughter who was studying in Europe at the time, the school had closed down and the Institute was renamed the Pontifical Slovak College of Sts. Cyril and Methodius, still a gathering place for Slovaks visitors to Rome, but now primarily a residence for Slovak priests furthering their education.

In the scheme of things, four years was not a long time, but they were the Institute's and the school's seminal years, whose history merits being remembered and documented.

# DID YOU KNOW?

**February 14th is well known as St. Valentine's Day. But did you know that on February 14th, the Church celebrates the feast of brother Saints Cyril and Methodius as well?**



# School Day Memories

*continued from page 18*

how to be ambiguous when necessary, and how to know your limits. That was teaching at its best. I myself taught English and Religion at a Jesuit school in Winnipeg, and one of the assignments I would never let go of was for every student to compose some type of writing that we were reading about, hand it in on Friday and I would have them all corrected by Monday. Other teachers thought I was crazy to give so many assignments that I would have to correct over the weekend.

We were about forty students at the peak and maybe twenty at the low point. Our classes were small, taught by Salesians. The resources available were very limited, but when I look back today on the curriculum we were presented, I am amazed. In 1967, my last year at the Institute, we had a course on cinematography. The text book was in Italian but explained the latest cinematographic techniques involving camera, lighting, angles and movements. That one course taught me a great deal how to evaluate critically what you see, and it gave me a taste for beauty. Even to this day I cannot watch a film without asking myself at some point, 'what is the camera doing here?' I remember two films we went to see in light of their cinematographic value – The Gospel of St. Matthew by Paolo Pasolini, and the Sound of Music.

Perhaps I can conclude this reminiscing of memories from the Institute by recalling my appointment with the registrar at the University of Guelph in 1969. He wanted to evaluate my diploma from the Slovak Institute in Rome in order to assess my application for undergraduate studies at the University. Apparently he could not believe the broad curriculum which my four year transcripts indicated. Six languages, math/algebra/geometry, physics, chemistry, along with music, religion, history, art, geography. So he wanted to interview me to see if I really had studied all these areas. I was nervous. Well I must have said something right in the interview. I was accepted into the university and managed to complete the Honors B.A. in Guelph, then three years later I went on for a Master of Divinity in Toronto, then ultimately the Licentiate and Doctorate in Sacred Scripture in Rome. I'm glad that interview went well.

# Answer to Puzzle

*Solution to Puzzle from page 11*

	B	A	Y		S	T	U	N		F	O	R	M	S	
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# News From Slovakia

## Slovakia's Car Output Close to One Million in 2013

Bratislava, January 15 (TASR) - Over 980,000 cars were produced in Slovakia in 2013, which represents a rise of 5.8 percent on the year, head of Slovakia's Car Industry Association (ZAP) Jaroslav Holecek said this date, predicting success in Slovakia's automotive production in 2014 as well. This translates into 181 cars per 1,000 inhabitants of Slovakia.

In this connection, there's a need for a qualified workforce, because flexible people with the right education provide a competitive edge when investors are making decisions on new ventures, he said, before asserting that this is the case both for auto-makers and their suppliers.

## Gasparovic Heralds Pro-Europeanness at New Year's Meeting

Bratislava, January 15 (TASR) - President Ivan Gasparovic in his speech at the New Year's reception of the representatives of the diplomatic corps accredited in Slovakia this date, pointed to the European course of Slovakia.

Gasparovic believes that as long as the post-war arrangement of relations in Europe continue to exist and a functional model of coexistence in the EU develops, there is no need to worry about stability and peace on the continent.

Doyen of the diplomatic corps Apostolic Nuncio of the Holy See to Slovakia Mario Giordana, on behalf of the diplomatic community as a whole, thanked Gasparovic and Minister of Foreign and European Affairs Miroslav Lajcak for their active co-operation and for their continued assistance in carrying out the diplomatic missions of ambassadors. He also stressed his appreciation with an open dialogue and respect that the highest constitutional official showed towards their work during his two terms in office.

## Slovakia Sends Another 57 Soldiers to Afghanistan

Bratislava, January 8 (TASR) - Another consignment of 57 Slovak soldiers was sent to Afghanistan as part of ISAF mission in early January, mostly in advisory and consulting roles, according to the Defense Ministry.

At the moment, there are 289 Slovak troopers involved in the ISAF operation. A total of 24 soldiers from the latest batch are to be assigned to Special Operation Advisory Group (SOAG), which carries out advisory tasks and provides support to Afghan special forces and command structures. The remaining 33 troopers will form the Mobile Strike Force Security Forces Advisory Team (MSF SFAT).

Under the August 2013 government resolution, a five-man strong medical team is set to be sent to Afghanistan in January. The soldiers will boost the Czech-Slovak surgeon team operating at field hospital located at international airport in Kabul.

ISAF mission is scheduled to terminate at the end of 2014. NATO, however, is expected to continue running operations in Afghanistan after the ISAF mission is concluded in a support and advisory capacity.

## Slovakia to Receive €13.5 Billion from EU in 2014-20

Bratislava, January 8 (TASR) - Slovakia should receive up to €20.3 billion from EU budget in 2014-20, with the Slovak levies feeding back into EU coffers expected to equal €6.8 billion, according to the report drafted by the Finance Ministry and acknowledged by the Government at its session on this date.

Moreover, Slovakia is set to receive €14.7 billion for cohesion policies in the foreseeable future. "Therefore, the Slovak Republic along with Romania represents the most successful member states in terms of the relative increase of cohesion policies allocations in comparison with the 2007-13 Financial Framework," reads the text.

Slovakia will also be able to draw financial resources in a more flexible manner in the sphere of agriculture. "The approved flexibility tool is to represent a significant boost to the growth and competitiveness of Slovak agriculture in the following years, as it will enable shift of up to 15 percent of financial resources between funds," according to the ministry. Member states in which direct payment hasn't reached 90 percent of EU average will be allowed to shift 25 percent of financial resources from the Rural Development Fund to the Direct Payments Fund. Within the following seven years, Slovakia will be able to draw a total of €4.7 billion from this chapter.

## Gasparovic Bestows Highest State Awards on 16 Public Figures

Bratislava, January 7 (TASR) - Sixteen significant public figures have been decorated with state awards by President Ivan Gasparovic on this date which marked the occasion of the 21st anniversary of the establishing of the sovereign Slovak Republic on January 1, 1993.

The ceremony took place at Bratislava Castle with Government members, legislators, local officials and several diplomats in attendance.

Gasparovic bestowed the Order of White Double Cross of the second class to retired Colonel Imrich Gablech, 98, in recognition of his active participation in the liberation of Slovakia from fascism and his life-long effort in protecting democracy. Gablech served as an RAF pilot during WWII. The Order of the White Double Cross of the third class has been bestowed posthumously on representative of ethnic-Slovaks in Hungary Anna Istvanova for her compatriot activities and representing Slovakia abroad.

In addition, the Ludovit Stur Order of the second class has been awarded to economist and banker Elena Kohutikova in recognition of her contribution toward the development within the banking and financial sector. The same award was given to rheumatologist Dr. Jozef Rovensky and educator Frantisek Trebuna for their efforts in spreading the good name of Slovakia abroad. The Order was also posthumously awarded to linguist and university professor Jozef Mistrik for his research of the Slovak language.

The Ludovit Stur Order of the third class went to engineer and designer Anton Bezak, paralympic athlete Stefan Kopicik and head of a civic association for disabled children and youth Dagmar Kozakova.

Pribina Cross of the first class for special merit within the development of culture in Slovakia was awarded to painters Martin Cinovsky and Rudolf Krivos. Author and commentator Rudolf Dobias was granted Pribina Cross of the second class for his life-long work within the safeguarding of democracy, human rights and religious freedoms. The same award was also presented to writer and playwright Karol Horak, folk singer Anna Hulejova and actor Eva Krizikova.

The Medal of the President of the Slovak Republic was awarded to educator of pupils with special needs Miroslav Kuric in recognition of his significant work in the development of education in Slovakia.

## Christians Celebrate Epiphany

Bratislava, January 6 (TASR) - The Christian festival of Epiphany, or "Three Kings" (Traja králi), as it is known in Slovakia, was celebrated in this and many other countries on Monday, January 6.

The Catholic Church regards this holiday as representing one of the most significant events in human history. In Slovakia, the festival is marked by Holy Masses celebrated throughout the country.

According to the Bible, wise men from the East were led by a star to the infant Jesus in Bethlehem, arriving twelve days after his birth to present gifts of gold (for a king), frankincense (for a priest), and myrrh (as a symbol of suffering).

The pilgrimage of the three kings, by tradition called Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar, their arrival in Bethlehem, and the presentation of gifts are a traditional part of Nativity scenes and plays.

In Slovak villages, the holiday was once marked by carol singing and other festivities. Priests would go to houses to bless them and sprinkle holy water, while their acolytes swung censers filled with fragrant thyme. Such 12th-night processions are now rare, referred to mainly in songs and hymns pertaining to the festival.

Many customs were associated with Epiphany. Landlords would place three crosses lined with garlic and holy water on the lintel of each door in order to ward off evil spirits. Noodles were cooked in the belief that this would cause the crops to grow well.

People went to church to have their candles, salt, water, and chalk blessed. These were believed to help in healing, preventing natural disasters, and when sowing crops.

## Explore Your Heritage This Summer with 2014 Treasure Tours

Treasures Tours is offering two trips this coming summer that visit Slovakia, continuing our strategy of immersing in the culture, traversing the country from east to west and north to south, and finding long-lost family for our travelers; proud of our 98% success rate! 2014 Treasures Tours offerings include Bratislava old town, Modra ceramics, Detva Folk Festival, Kezmarok Crafts Fest; two walled towns - Levoča and Bardejov - Prešov, Spiš Castle, staying in a castle overlooking Košice, charming Cicmany and more. July 11 to 20 -\$2,199 per person for the land trip. Brochures and day-by-day itineraries are available by visiting

[www.fcsu.com](http://www.fcsu.com) and clicking on Slovakia & The Word Tab or directly from Treasure Tours, Helene Cincebeaux, 151 Colebrook Dr, Rochester NY 14617, (tollfree) 585 472-5377, [helenezx@aol.com](mailto:helenezx@aol.com)



The traditional Slovak greeting of bread and salt was offered to Treasures of Slovakia tour-goer Perre DiCarlo at the beginning of a village wedding party.

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

**THINK ABOUT IT!**

# Putovanie po regiónoch Slovenska

(Pokračovanie)

## Dolné Pohronie

Nachádza sa v Žiarskej doline obklopenej Pohronským Inovcom a Štiavnickými vrchmi.

Strediskom je Štúrovo, kúpeľné mesto, najjužnejšie položené na Slovensku, na sútoku Hrona do Dunaja, na slovensko-maďarskej hranici, ktoré bolo osídlené už v dobe kamennej. V 13. st. sa stalo hlavným stanom kočovných kumánskych kmeňov. Viackrát ho spustošili Turci a v r. 1725 sa zmocnili aj hradu zo 14. st. a zničili ho. Po ich vytlačení tam prišli osadníci z moravského pomedzia. V r. 1835 tam vznikol prvý valcový mlyn v Uhorsku, v r. 1836 veľký vodný mlyn a v r. 1854 aj cukrovar. Mesto je známe svojou toleranciou. Po celé stáročia tu totiž nežijú v úplnej zhode občania rôznych národností a náboženstiev.

V neďalekých Sklených Tepličiach sú kúpele s 12 prameňmi liečivej sadrovej vody (32,3-40°C), kde sa liečia nervové choroby a choroby pohybového ústrojenstva.

Pozoruhodná a zaujímavá je aj obec Hronský Beňadik, ktorá vznikla pri benediktínskom opátstve v 11. storočí. Kostol a kláštor, (národná kult. pamiatka), opevnili v 16. st. na spôsob renesančného hradu.

Pozoruhodné je aj mestečko Nová Baňa, kde Mikovini a Hell použili v r. 1722 prvýkrát na svete parný stroj na čerpanie vody zo šachty ohrozenej bane na zlato. Baníctvo tam zaniklo v r. 1888. V 17. storočí mesto značne utrpel bojovými nájazdmi Turkov.

Za zmienku stojí aj Žiar nad Hronom (predtým Svätý Kríž nad Hronom) v údolí Hrona v Žiarskej doline, V krypte kostola Povýšenia Sv. Kríža z r. 1806 je pochovaný Štefan Moyzes, prvý predseda Matice Slovenskej.

Žarnovica je známa drevárskym priemyslom už od roku 1911. Niektoré obce si privlastnili názov regiónu, napr. Pohronský Bukovec, Pohronský Inovec, Pohronský Ruskov...

Andrej Štelmák, Sliach



Kúpele Sklené Teplice.



Katolícky kostol v Pohronskom Ruskove.



Kláštor v Hronskom Beňadiku.

## Deň sv. Valentína, mučeníka a patróna zamilovaných

Podľa legendy pôvodne pohanský kňaz Valentín, obrátený na kresťanskú vieru, žil v Ríme v 3. storočí n.l. V ríši v tom čase platil dekrét cisára Claudia, zakazujúci rímskym vojakom oženiť sa, pretože manželské radosti by ich odvádzali od plnenia vojenských povinností. Svätý Valentín považoval nariadenie za porušenie Božích zákonov a snúbencov tajne oddával. Za to skončil vo väzení. Keďže Valentín sa viery nevzdal, 14. februára roku 270 ho Rimania popravili. Legenda dodáva, že Valentín stačil pred smrťou napísať lístok žalárnikovej dcére s vyznaním lásky. Práve to sa stalo základom valentínskej tradície.



## Hlavu štátu si Slováci budú voliť štvrtýkrát v histórii samostatného Slovenska

### O Prezidentský palác zabojuje 15 kandidátov

Predseda Národnej rady SR Pavol Paška (Smer-SD) potvrdil kandidatúru všetkým uchádzačom o Prezidentský palác, ktorí odovzdali petičné háčky v stanovenom termíne. Oficiálnych kandidátov je teda 15, čo je najviac v histórii Slovenska. O post hlavy štátu majú záujem najmä muži, v pätnástke je len jedna žena.

Oficiálnymi kandidátmi sú premiér Robert Fico (Smer-SD), podnikateľ a filantrop Andrej Kiska, expredseda KDH Ján Čarnogurský, šéf klubu KDH Pavol Hrušovský (KDH, Most-Híd, SDKÚ-DS), poslanec NR SR za SaS Peter Osuský, Jozef Behýl, expolitik Milan Kňažko, nezaradený poslanec NR SR Radoslav Procházka, nominant SMK Gyula Bárdos, Milan Melník, kardiológ Viliam Fischer, Stanislav Martinčko, kandidát KSS Ján Jurišta, primátor Rimavskej Soboty Jozef Šimko a poslankyňa NR SR Helena Mezenská z OĽaNO.

Pätnásť kandidátov ešte Slovensko nemalo. V roku 1999 ich bolo desať, o päť rokov neskôr (2004) 12 a naposledy v roku 2009 bojovalo o hrad sedem kandidátov. V niektorých prípadoch sa počet uchádzačov ešte na poslednú chvíľu menil. Kandidáti totiž majú právo vzdať sa pred voľbou kandidatúry.

Voľba prezidenta SR je priama a dvojkolová. Hlavu štátu si takto Slováci budú voliť štvrtýkrát v histórii samostatného Slovenska. Prvého prezidenta SR Michala Kováča zvolila Národná rada SR. Priamo si zvolil najvyššieho ústavného činiteľa od roku 1999, kedy sa ním stal Rudolf Schuster. O päť rokov neskôr (2004) ho v paláci vystriedal Ivan Gašparovič, ktorý post obhájil aj v roku 2009. Tretíkrát už podľa zákona kandidovať nemôže. Tento rok si tak zvolia úplne nového prezidenta.

Prvé kolo sa na Slovensku uskutoční v sobotu 15. marca. Pokiaľ v ňom ani jeden kandidát nezíska nadpolovičnú väčšinu platných hlasov oprávnených voličov, v sobotu 29. marca sa uskutoční druhé kolo. V ňom sa stretnú dvaja najúspešnejší kandidáti z prvého kola. Zvolený kandidát sa ujíma funkcie prezidenta SR zložením sľubu. Skladať ho bude 15. júna, kedy sa skončí funkčné obdobie súčasnej hlavy štátu Ivanovi Gašparovičovi.

TASR

## K výročiu príchodu sv. Cyrila a Metoda na Slovensko

1151 rokov uplynulo do mora večnosti,  
kedy slovenský ľud Vás srdečne vítal na Veľkej Morave  
a na našom malom, ale krásnom Slovensku v Nitre, na Zobore,  
keď ste nám priniesli „Vieru Krista“.

Učili ste nás v reči nášho ľudu a kázali Slovo Božie.  
Krstili a sobášili mladých a dávali Božie Požehnanie.  
Ľud slovenský Vám i dnes po 1151 rokoch slávou vďačí,  
Vám Solúnskym bratom a kňazom.  
Verní Kristovej Viere, ostaneme na veky.

Jozef Smák

Dominika Cibulková, historicky prvá slovenská finalistka dvojhry na grandslamovom turnaji tenisov, sa po úspešnom ťažení na Australian Open v pondelok 27. januára vrátila na Slovensko. Cibulková dosiahla na Australian Open životný úspech, na ceste do finále vyradila dve grandslamové šampiónky Talianku Francescu Schiavoneovú i Rusku Mariu Šarapovovú.



FOTO TASR - Martin Baumann

Na snímke slovenská tenistka a finalistka ženskej dvojhry na Australian Open Dominika Cibulková ukazuje novinárom trofej pre porazenú finalistku počas tlačovej konferencie 27. januára 2014 v Bratislave.

**Dominika Cibulkova of Slovakia was a lost finalist at the Australian Open tennis championship. Cibulkova was the first tennis player in history from Slovakia to be a finalist.**

## Oznámenia spolkov a spoločenské podujatia

### Pripravované podujatia Spolku sv. Štefana č. 716 IKSJ

Spolok sv. Štefana č. 716 Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty v New York City Vám oznamuje, že pripravuje pre Vás tieto zaujímavé podujatia:

Dvojdnovú katolícku púť do chrámu Božieho milosrdenstva – **National Shrine of The Divine Mercy Stockbridge, Massachusetts v máji 2014.**

Tradičná slovenská katolícka púť do **Marian Shrine, West Haverstraw, New York** spojená so slovenskou svätou omšou, ružencovou pobožnosťou a obedom v nedeľu dňa **10. augusta 2014.**

Zájazd na divadelné predstavenie s náboženskou tematikou „Mozeš“ do divadla **Sight & Sound Lancaster, Pennsylvania** (pravdepodobne 2-dňový s nocľahom) **jeseň 2014** – presný termín bude oznámený – podľa záujemcov.

Žiadame záujemcov o uvedené podujatia, aby sa prihlásili do konca marca 2014.

Bližšie informácie Vám podajú: Jozef Bilik (718) 463-2084; Henrieta Daitová (201) 641-8922; Mária Božeková (347) 612-1934.

### Polročná členská schôdza Spolku sv. Štefana č. 716 IKSJ

Oznamujeme všetkým členom Spolku sv. Štefana č. 716 Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty, že v nedeľu dňa 30. marca 2014 o 1:00 hodine odpoľudnia sa uskutoční členská schôdza vo farskej hale Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého 411 East 66th Street v New York City. Polročnú schôdzu zahájime sv. omšou o 11:00 hodine doobeda za živých a zosnulých členov nášho spolku. Na schôdzi bude podaná finančná správa a za tým diskusia o návrhoch na ďalšiu činnosť. Vyzývame všetkých členov, aby sa tejto dôležitej schôdzi zúčastnili. Ostávam s kresťanským pozdravom

Henrieta H. Daitová, tajomníčka

### Fašiangová zábava v Milwaukee, Wisconsin

20. Zbor Slovenskej ligy v Milwaukee usporiada Fašiangovú zábavu v **sobotu 1. marca 2014 v Knights of Columbus Hall, 3200 S. 103rd Street v Greenfield, Wisconsin.** Začiatok zábavy bude o 6:00 hodine do 11:00 hodine večer. V kultúrnom programe sa predstaví folklórny súbor Tatra Slovak Dancers o 7:30 večer. Vstupné je \$ 5.00 za osobu. Na predaj budú slovenské jedlá, zákusky a koláče. **O bližšie informácie volajte: Betty Valent tel.: (414) 425-6137 Alebo Ellen Tavela, tel.: (262) 893-7483.**

### Spomienková oslava slovenskej štátnosti

Zbor Slovenskej ligy v New Yorku za spolupráce Slovenskej ligy v Amerike, Spolku sv. Štefana a Spolku sv. Matúša Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty, Slovenského Katolíckeho Sokola a ostatných fraternalistických slovenských spolkov si Vás dovoľuje pozvať na Spomienkovú oslavu slovenskej štátnosti, ktorá sa bude konať v nedeľu **dňa 9. marca 2014 o 1:00 hodine odpoľudnia** v spoločenskej hale Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého na 411 East 66th Street v NYC.

Oslavu zahájime slovenskou svätou omšou o 11:00 hodine doobeda, ktorá bude odslúžená za Msgr. Dr. Jozefa Tisu a obeť slovenského národa. V minulom storočí Slovensko dosiahlo samostatnosť dvakrát: 14. marca 1939 a po dlhom čase boja za slobodu opäť dňa 1. januára 1993. Bolo to historické dianie slovenského národa na jeho ceste k sebaurčeniu a štátnej samostatnosti. Na oslave si pripomenieme aj významné dni v slovenskej histórii a v tejto súvislosti chceme vzdať úctu bojovníkom za samostatnosť slovenského národa. Presný program bude k dispozícii pred oslavou. Po programe bude možnosť zakúpenia slovenského jedla a rôznych nápojov v otvorenom bare. Bližšie informácie: Milan R. Dait (201) 641-8922; Jozef Bilik (718) 463-2084. Vstup je voľný.

### Oslavy slovenskej štátnosti 34.

#### zboru SLvA v Sterling Heights, MI

34. Zbor Slovenskej ligy v Amerike, kráľa Svätopluka v Detrote pod vedením jeho predsedu pána Jozefa Krajčoviča, sa na svojej ročnej schôdzi rozhodol, že tohtoročné oslavy 14. marca budú v nedeľu 16. marca 2014 vo farskej hale kostola sv. Cyrila a Metoda, 4133 Ryan Rd., Sterling Heights, Michigan 48314. Oslavy sa začnú hneď po slovenskej svätej omši. Tunajší Slováci si tento dôležitý medzník v našej histórii pripomínajú už po 66-krát a to od roku 1948 bez akýchkoľvek prestávky. Ešte na jeseň roku 1947 vtedajší pán farár slovenskej osady v Detrote Rev. Jozef Zalibera slúžil zádušnú svätú omšu za nášho mučeníka, pána prezidenta, Dr. Jozefa Tisu, za účasti niekoľko stoviek tunajších Slovákov a Sloveniek. 34. zbor v Detrote pozýva všetkých členov aj nečlenov na toto už tradičné podujatie. Po pripomenutí si významu tejto historickej kapitole našich dejín, deti našich členov Vám pripraví kultúrny program spolu s Detroitskými gavaliermi, ktorí nám budú spievať, tak ako po iné roky. Naše gazdinky nám pripraví dobré pohostenie s občerstvením. Dovidenia v nedeľu 16. marca.

### Prednáška o 1. SR v Chicagu 9. marca

V nedeľu 9. marca t.r. bude mať v Chicagu prednášku Ivan Králik o histórii 1. Slovenskej republiky. Prednášku doplní historickými dokumentami a autentickými zábermi z obdobia 1. Slovenskej republiky. Jeho prednes sa bude konať v starej školskej hale nad kostolom sv. Šimona.

O 10.30 je v kostole sv. omša, po ktorej bude tradičné občerstvenie a o 12:45 sa začne prednáška, na ktorú je pozvaná slovenská verejnosť. Téma prednášky je: Poznajme pravdu o 1. Slovenskej republike.

Adresa kostola sv. Šimona Apoštola je: 5157 SO California Ave Do videnia 1 - Rev. Kristián Libant, CM.-

### Fašiangová zábava v New Yorku

182. zbor a 168. veniec S.K.S. pri farnosti sv. Jána Nepomuckého v New Yorku usporiadajú v sobotu 15. februára o 7.00 hodine večer fašiangovú zábavu spojenú s prvou výstavou poľovníckych a rybárskych trofejí. Bude sa konať v kostolnej hale na rohu 1st Avenue a 67th Street. Na večeru budú podávané slovenské špeciality - slovenský tanier, poľovnícky guláš, pečené kura s ryžou, šišky, káva a čaj. Na predaj bude pivo a alkoholické i nealkoholické nápoje. O hudbu do tanca sa postará DJ Jozef Pavlík. Počas večera bude losovaná tombola. Vstupné je \$30.00, hostia vo veku nad 65 rokov a študenti pod 18 rokov majú vstupné za \$20.00 za vstupenky kúpené vopred. Pri dverách budú vstupenky stát \$40.00 a \$30.00.

Rezervácie vstupeniek: Anna a Jozef Korčák, tel. 201-670-8161 a 845-353-7792, Jozef Bodo, tel. 718-975-4987 a Ladislav Korček, tel.: 845-440-7334.

## Vianočné podujatie Spolku sv. Štefana č. 716 IKSJ

Dňa 28. decembra 2013 sa členovia Spolku sv. Štefana číslo 716 Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty zúčastnili vianočného predstavenia s náboženskou tematikou, ktoré bolo inšpirované svätou Bibliou „Miracle of Christmas“ – Zázrak Vianoc v divadle Sight & Sound, Lancaster, Pennsylvania.



Na snímke takmer plne obsadená sála s kapacitou 2,000 osôb.



V historickom chráme Panny Márie Lancaster, PA po svätej omši zľava: Rev. Leo M. Goodman III v spoločnosti členov Spolku sv. Štefana IKSJ.



Vnútroň vianočná výzdoba chrámu St. Mary's, Lancaster, PA.

Dňa 29. decembra 2013 na sviatok Svätej rodiny sa zúčastnili účastníci zájazdu na slávnostnej svätej omši v historickom chráme Panny Márie – Historic St. Mary's Church tiež v Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Tento chrám, je v poradí štvrtý z najstarších chrámov v bývalých 13. kolóniach, ktoré sa stali po vyhlásení nezávislosti Spojenými štátmi Americkými. Bol to pre prítomných druhý, nádherný, duševný zážitok vianočného času. Návštíviť toto divadlo a chrám vrelo odporúčame všetkým katolíkom.

Henrieta H. Daitová, tajomníčka

## Krajanské múzeum MS žiada o spoluprácu krajanov

### VHS kazety vhodné na digitalizáciu

Vážení krajanovia, milí priatelia, Matica slovenská v dohľadnej dobe pripravuje digitalizáciu video-dokumentov zo života Slovákov v zahraničí. Touto cestou by sme Vás chceli požiadať o spoluprácu. Pokiaľ disponujete nejakou VHS kazetou, ktorá by podľa Vás bola vhodná na digitalizáciu, boli by sme radi, ak by ste nám ju zaslali na adresu: **Matica slovenská, Krajanské múzeum, Mudroňova 1, 036 01 Martin, Slovak Republic.**

Mali by sme záujem o amatérske videá z najrôznejších oblastí Vášho života, také, ktoré nespracoval alebo nenatáčal Slovenský filmový ústav. Ako vďaka za poskytnutý materiál, by sme Vám poslali Vašu VHS kazetu zdigitalizovanú ako DVD. Budeme radi, ak túto informáciu budete šíriť medzi ostatnými krajanmi. PhDr. Zuzana Pavelcová, e-mail: domhronskeho@matica.sk, tel.: 043/ 413 30 67

## Súčasná slovenská divadelná scéna v New Yorku

Štvordňová prehliadka súčasnej slovenskej drámy, tanca a divadla - Slovak Performing Art Scene Showcase sa konala v New Yorku od 10. do 14. januára. Ako informoval Miroslav Švoňava z Divadelného ústavu, ktorý prehliadku pripravil s podporou Ministerstva kultúry SR, konala sa v čase konferencie a veľtrhu performatívneho umenia APAP 2014 a v rámci spoločného projektu divadelných ústavov a múzeí krajín V4 PACE - Performing Arts in Central Europe.

Medzinárodnému publiku sa v newyorskom divadle La MaMa E.T.C. predstavil slovenský tanečník a choreograf Jaro Viňarský s projektom Animalinside. Držiteľ prestížnej ceny The Bessie Award 2013 odohral 12. a 13. januára v tandeme s tanečníkom Marekom Menšíkom fyzické predstavenie na motívy knihy maďarského autora Lászlóa Krasznahorkaia a nemeckého maliara Maxa Neumanna.

Program pokračoval 13. januára v Bohemian National Hall scénickým čítaním súčasnej slovenskej drámy, ktoré režisérsky pripravila scenografka a performerka Anabela Žigová. Na scénickom čítaní hier Rabínka Anny Gruskovej a Holokaust Viliama Klimáčka sa zúčastnili známi newyorskí divadelní herci. Nasledovala inscenácia Slávy Daubnerovej, ktorá predstavila sólový projekt Untitled. Išlo o vizuálnu performanciu inšpirovanú dielom americkej fotografky Francesci Woodman, ktorá minulý rok zožala viaceré ocenenia, medzi inými Dosky 2013 v kategórii najlepšia inscenácia.

Prezentáciu doplnil prednáškový blok na tému V4 Performing Arts Scene (Performatívna scéna krajín V4), na ktorom sa zúčastnili teatrologovia divadelných inštitútov a múzeí krajín V4 (Divadelný ústav Praha, Divadelný ústav Bratislava, Maďarské divadelné múzeum a inštitút a Inštitút Adama Mickiewicza z Varšavy).

## Krátké správy zo Slovenska

Na Slovensku sa vlni vyrobilo 181 áut na 1000 obyvateľov

Bratislava 15. januára (TASR) – Na Slovensku sa v roku 2013 podľa Zväzu automobilového priemyslu (ZAP) SR vyrobilo vyše 980,000 áut. Oproti roku 2012 to predstavuje nárast o 5,8 %. Za minulý rok sa tak v krajine vyprodukovalo 181 áut na 1,000 obyvateľov. Podľa prezidenta zväzu Jaroslava Holečeka je to veľmi dobrá správa. Zároveň očakáva, že pre automobilový priemysel bude úspešný aj rok 2014.

Vtedy je podľa neho prirodzený istý pokles výroby, na zamestnanosti sa to však neodráža. Určite ale odhaduje v roku 2014 viac vyrobených áut, ako bolo v roku 2012. Podľa zväzu je pritom v tomto na prvom mieste kvalifikovaná pracovná sila, pretože vzdelaní a flexibilní ľudia môžu byť konkurenčnou výhodou pre rozhodovanie pri vstupe ďalších investorov. A to nielen z radov automobiliek, ale aj ich dodávateľov.

**Extrémizmus a populizmus nesmieme podceňovať už v prvých náznakoch**

Bratislava 15. januára (TASR) - Proeurópskosť Slovenska vyzdvihol vo svojom príhovore prezident Ivan Gašparovič počas novoročného stretnutia s predstaviteľmi diplomatického zboru akreditovanými v SR. Ako však podotkol, treba sa viac venovať problémom občanov, zrozumiteľnejšie a presvedčivejšie im vysvetľovať európske rozhodnutia. Je presvedčený, že pokiaľ funguje povojnový systém usporiadania vzťahov v Európe a bude sa dať nachádzať funkčnejší model spolunazývania v EU, tak sa netreba obávať o stabilitu a pokoj na kontinente.

Apoštolský nuncius Svätej stolice v SR Mario Giordana sa v mene pozvaných hostí poďakoval prezidentovi a ministrom zahraničných vecí Miroslavovi Lajčákovi za ich aktívnu spoluprácu a za ich neustály pomoc pri výkone diplomatickej misie veľvyslancov. Rovnako vyzdvihol otvorený dialóg a úctu, ktorú najvyšší ústavný činiteľ SR preukazoval voči ich práci počas oboch funkčných období.

**Do Afganistanu odišli ďalší slovenskí vojaci**

Bratislava 8. januára (TASR) – Začiatkom januára odišlo do operácie ISAF v Afganistane ďalších 57 slovenských vojakov. Na starosti budú mať najmä poradenské a mentorské úlohy. V súčasnosti pôsobia v operácii ISAF spolu 289 slovenských vojakov.

V poradenskej skupine pre jednotky afganských špeciálnych síl (SOAG – Special Operation Advisory Group), ktorá plní úlohy poradenstva a podpory jednotkám afganských špeciálnych síl a ich veliacim štruktúram, bude pôsobiť 24 vojakov. Zvyšných 33 vojakov bude v poradenskom tíme pre Manévrový praporek rýchlej reakcie (MSF SFAT – Mobile Strike Force Security Forces Advisory Team).

Podľa uznesenia vlády z augusta minulého roka má v januári smerovať do Afganistanu aj zdravotnícky tím, ktorý by mal mať do päť vojakov. Vojaci budú pôsobiť v rámci česko-slovenského chirurgického tímu v poľnej nemocnici na medzinárodnom letisku v Kábule. Ukončenie operácie ISAF je naplánované na koniec roku 2014. NATO by malo v Afganistane pôsobiť aj po tomto termíne v rámci novej podpornej a poradenskej misie.

**Slovensko má z eurorozpočtu dostať v čistom 13,5 mld. eur**

Bratislava 8. januára (TASR) – Slovensko by malo počas rokov 2014 až 2020 dostať z rozpočtu Európskej únie (EÚ) 20,3 miliardy eur, odvody do tohto rozpočtu by mali predstavovať 6,8 miliardy eur. Vyplyva to z informačnej správy z dielne ministerstva financií.

Na politiku súdržnosti by pritom malo Slovensko v najbližších rokoch dostať 14,7 miliardy eur. "Slovenská republika je tak spolu s Rumunskom najúspešnejším členským štátom v relatívnom náraste alokácie politiky súdržnosti v porovnaní s VFR na roky 2007 až 2013," uviedlo v správe MF SR.

Aj v oblasti poľnohospodárskej politiky bude môcť Slovensko pružnejšie čerpať finančné prostriedky. "Významným stimulom rastu a konkurencieschopnosti slovenského poľnohospodárstva by v nasledujúcich rokoch mal byť aj prijatý nástroj flexibility v rámci oboch pilierov spoločnej poľnohospodárskej politiky, ktorý umožní presúvať 15 % finančných prostriedkov medzi oboma piliermi," spresnilo MF SR v správe. Členské štáty, v ktorých priame platby nedosiahli úroveň 90 % priemeru EÚ, budú môcť presunúť 25 % finančných prostriedkov z piliera rozvoja vidieka do piliera priamych platieb. Slovenská republika počas nasledujúcich siedmich rokov bude môcť z tejto kapitoly čerpať celkovo 4,7 miliardy eur.

**Prezident Gašparovič ocenil prácu 16 osobností**

Bratislava 7. januára (TASR) - Prezident SR Ivan Gašparovič udelil pri príležitosti 21. výročia vzniku samostatnej Slovenskej republiky štátne vyznamenania. Ocenil nimi prácu 16 osobností z rôznych sfér spoločenského života.

Rad Bieleho dvojkríža II. triedy – vojenský udelil prezident plukovníkovi vo výslužbe Imrichovi Gablechovi, letcovi a vojnovému veteránovi. Ocenil jeho aktívnu účasť v oslobodzovacom boji proti fašizmu a celoživotné úsilie pri obrane demokracie. In memoriam udelil prezident Rad Bieleho dvojkríža III. triedy zosnulej zástupkyňi slovenskej menšiny v Maďarsku Anne Ištvánovej. Ocenil jej celoživotnú obetavú krajanú činnosť a šírenie dobrého mena Slovenskej republiky v zahraničí.

Rad Ľudovíta Štúra II. triedy udelil prezident ekonómke a bankárke Elene Kohútikovej za mimoriadne zásluhy o rozvoj v oblasti bankovníctva a hospodárstva SR. In memoriam udelil toto ocenenie jazykovedcovi a vysokoškolskému pedagógovi Jozefovi Mistríkovi. Hlava štátu ocenila jeho mimoriadne zásluhy o rozvoj v oblasti slovenskej jazykovedy. Rad Ľudovíta Štúra II. triedy získal aj lekár, reumatológ Jozef Rovenský za jeho mimoriadne zásluhy v oblasti zdravotníctva, školstva, vedy a výskumu a za šírenie dobrého mena SR v zahraničí. Prezident týmto radom ocenil aj Františka Trebuňu a jeho mimoriadne zásluhy o rozvoj v oblasti školstva, vedy a techniky a šírenie dobrého mena SR v zahraničí.

Stavbár a projektant Anton Bezák si za mimoriadne zásluhy o rozvoj v oblasti vedy, techniky a hospodárstva SR vyslúžil od hlavy štátu Rad Ľudovíta Štúra III. triedy. Toto ocenenie získal aj paraolympijský športovec Štefan Kopicík, prezident mu ho udelil za mimoriadne zásluhy o rozvoj paraolympijského športu a za šírenie dobrého mena SR v zahraničí. Riaditeľka občianskeho združenia pre hendikepované deti a mládež Dagmar Kozáková si rad odniesla za mimoriadne zásluhy v oblasti sociálnej práce s mládežou.

Pribinov kríž I. triedy za mimoriadne zásluhy o kultúrny rozvoj SR v oblasti výtvarného umenia dostali akademickí maliari Martin Cínovský a Rudolf Krivoš. Spisovateľ a publicista Rudolf Dobiáš si za mimoriadne celoživotné úsilie pri obrane demokracie, ľudských práv a náboženských slobôd vyslúžil Pribinov kríž II. triedy. Toto isté ocenenie získal aj spisovateľ a dramatik Karol Horák za mimoriadne zásluhy o kultúrny rozvoj SR. Speváčka folklórnych piesní Anna Hulejová si ho odniesla za mimoriadny prínos do slovenskej kultúry v oblasti ľudového umenia. Pribinov kríž II. triedy dostala aj divadelná, televízna a rozhlasová herečka Eva Krížiková. Prezident ocenil jej mimoriadny prínos do slovenskej kultúry v oblasti dramatického umenia. Medailu prezidenta SR si odniesol špeciálny pedagóg Miroslav Kuric. Hlava štátu ocenila jeho celoživotné významné zásluhy o rozvoj školstva.

**Kresťania na Slovensku i vo svete slávil sviatok Zjavenia Pána-Troja kráľi**

Bratislava 6. januára (TASR) - Kresťania na Slovensku i vo svete slávil 6. januára sviatok Zjavenia Pána - Troch kráľov, ktorý patrí k najstarším kresťanským sviatkom. Na Východe sa slávil už od 3. storočia a na Západe sa rozšíril v 4. storočí. Ústrednou témou tohto sviatku je udalosť, keď Boh svetlom hviezd zjavil svojho syna všetkým národom. Veriaci si pripomínajú príchod Troch mudrcov z Východu do Betlehema, kde sa prišli pokloniť malému Ježišovi a priniesli mu dary - zlato, kadidlo a myrhu. V katolíckych kostoloch na Slovensku počas slávnostných omší je zvykom, že kňazi posväcujú trojkráľovú vodu so soľou, kriedu a tymián. V minulosti sa na sviatok Troch kráľov obvykle konala aj tzv. kňazská koleda, pri ktorej kňazi obchádzali domy a požehnávali príbytky. Kropili ich svätenou vodou, okadili kadidlom a dvere označovali iniciálami troch kráľov (Gašpar-Melichar-Baltazar). Na viacerých miestach, najmä na vidieku, sa táto tradícia zachovala dodnes. Vo viacerých kostoloch sa konali aj trojkráľové koncerty alebo Betlehemske hry. Kým v minulosti si veriaci 6. januára pripomínali aj krst Ježiša v rieke Jordán, od reformy cirkevného kalendára v roku 1969 sa táto udalosť slávi osobitne, a to v nedelju po Zjavení Pána. Tento rok pripadol sviatok Krstu Pána na 12. januára. Vianočné obdobie sa nekončí sviatkom Zjavenia Pána - Troch kráľov, ale sviatkom Krstu Pána 12. januára.

## Fašiangy trvajú od Troch kráľov do Popolcovej stredy

Fašiangy každoročne trvajú od Troch kráľov do Popolcovej stredy, ktorá v tomto roku pripadá na 5. marca. Na Slovensku sa od dávnej minulosti spájali s veselosťou, ľudovými zábavami, hrami, karnevalmi a prekáračkami. V ostatných desaťročiach sú však ľudové zvyky na ústupe a väčšiu tradíciu získavajú plesy a bály.

Termín fašiangov je pohyblivý, riadi sa Veľkou nocou, ktorej predchádza 40-dňový pôst. Ten v 4. storočí zaviedla cirkev, aby zabránila pohanským zvykom. Tradícia fašiangových zvykov siaha do dávnej minulosti slovanských pohanských predkov. Zlučuje v sebe mnoho obyčajov, ktoré súviseli pravdepodobne s vyhánaním zimy, smrti a príchodom jari.

Fašiangové radovánky majú v rôznych oblastiach Slovenska iný zvykový charakter. Podstatou sú však veselice, maškarády, tance za dobrú úrodu, nahováračky. Neodmysliteľným doplnkom fašiangov je hojnosť dobrého jedla a nápojov. Tradície sa v domácnostiach ponúka vyprázané pečivo, ako sú šišky či fánky, niekde nazývané i krapne alebo pampúchy.

Súčasťou fašiangových zábav a hier sú sprievody masiek, kôň, koza, medveď a tiež znetvorené postavy mužov a žien.



FOTO TASR

### Strojenie Moreny.

Zlučuje v sebe mnoho obyčajov, ktoré súviseli pravdepodobne s vyhánaním zimy, smrti a príchodom jari.

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**Univerzita Komenského (UK) v Bratislave v utorok 28. januára 2014 udelila čestný titul doctor honoris causa vedcovi, mikrobiológovi, profesorovi Newyorskej univerzity Jánovi Vilčekovi. Výsledky jeho práce priniesli pokrok pri liečbe artritídy a ďalších chronických zápalových ochorení. Jeho vedecké úspechy ocenil aj americký prezident Barack Obama, ktorý mu vlni vo februári odovzdal Národnú medailu za technológiu a inováciu.**

**On January 28, 2014, Comenius University in Bratislava granted Jan Vilcek, Professor of Microbiology at New York University, title of Doctor Honoris Causa in recognition of his research in arthritis and other chronic diseases.**



Na snímke prof. Ján Vilček.

## Cyrlometodská úcta sa z územia Slovenska nikdy nestratila

Pokračovanie zo str. 24

Cyrlilovi a Metodovi," vysvetľuje. "Sú tu patrociniá kostolov, ktoré vznikli pod vplyvom východnej starokresťanskej úcty (napr. sv. Margita Antiochijská) alebo pod vplyvom cyrilometodským (patrociniá sv. Klementa, ktorého ostatky solunski bratia priniesli na Veľkú Moravu a odtiaľ do Ríma). Aj samotná mariánska úcta v podobe úcty k Sedembolestnej je pravdepodobne cyrilometodského pôvodu. Na území Slovenska pôsobili stáročia po cyrilometodskom období rehole východného aj západného rítu," dodáva.

Významným medznikom v dejinách cyrilometodskej úcty bolo podľa nej obdobie humanizmu, reformácie a katolíckej reformy či rekatolizácie, ktoré je poznačené veľmi živou cyrilometodskou úctou. "Jej rukolapným dôkazom je napríklad spevník Benedikta Szöllösiho Cantus catholici s jeho krásnym historickým úvodom, ale aj množstvo iných dokumentov. Zásadnú úlohu v pestovaní cyrilometodskej úcty zohrala Trnavská univerzita, jezuiti a generácie bernolákovcov, ktorí systematicky pestovali veľmi živú cyrilometodskú úctu, ktorú oduševneno prevzali štúrovci," tvrdí Emília Hrabovec. "Čo sa mení v 19. storočí, to nie je znovuoobjavenie niečoho mŕtveho na slovenskej strane. To, čo sa možno v druhej polovici 19. storočia mení a posúva, to je znovuoobjavenie cyrilometodskej úcty na úrovni univerzálnej cirkvi. Pápeži znovuoobjavili cyrilometodskú úctu," podčiarkla.

**Emília Hrabovec, Historička Rímskokatolíckej cyrilometodskej bohosloveckej fakulty Univerzity Komenského**



# Katolícky fraternalistický dvojtýždenník Jednota



O. Štefan Furdek  
Náš zakladateľ

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

Ročník 123

STREDA, 5. FEBRUÁRA 2014

Číslo 5896



FOTO TASR - Henrich Mišovič

Kardinál Ján Chryzostom Korec (vpravo) v stredu 22. januára 2014 oslávil svoje 90. narodeniny. K významnému životnému jubileu mu prišli okrem predstaviteľov cirkvi zablahoželať aj najvýznamnejší zástupcovia politického a spoločenského života v regióne, ale aj prezident SR Ivan Gašparovič (vľavo) a premiér Robert Fico.

Cardinal Jan Chryzostom Korec (right) celebrated his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday on January 22, 2014 in Nitra. Attending were the most important representatives of political and social life in the region as well as President Ivan Gasparovic (left) and Premier Robert Fico.

## Kardinál Korec oslávil významné životné jubileum

Kardinál Ján Chryzostom Korec oslávil 22. januára tohto roka 90 rokov. Pri príležitosti tohto významného životného jubilea sa v nedeľu 19. januára uskutočnila v katedrálom chráme – Bazilike svätého Emeráma v Nitre ďakovná svätá omša. Hlavným celebrantom bol diecézny biskup Viliam Judák. V stredu 22. januára sa v aule Kňazského seminára sv. Gorazda v Nitre uskutočnila slávnostná akadémia k životnému jubileu kardinála Korca, informoval hovorca Nitrianskeho biskupstva Miroslav Lyko. O deň neskôr, vo štvrtok 23. januára, získal kardinál Korec čestný doktorát Univerzity v Liverpoole. „Kardinál Korec sa nemohol na tejto významnej udalosti osobne zúčastniť. Ocenenie za neho prevzal v Metropolitnej Katedrále veľvyslanec Slovenska v Londýne Miroslav Wlachovský,“ uviedol Lyko.

Kardinál Ján Chryzostom Korec sa narodil 22. januára 1924 v Bošanoch v okrese Topoľčany. Základnú školu vychodil v rodnej obci, meštianku v neďalekých Chynoranoch. Dňa 15. septembra 1939 vstúpil v Ružomberku do rehole jezuitov. V roku 1944 maturoval na Gymnáziu v Kláštore pod Znievom, kam chodil ako externý študent. Od roku 1945 študoval na Filozofickom inštitúte Spoločnosti Ježišovej v Brne. Potom odišiel do Trnavy, kde pomáhal v redakcii Posla a študoval štvorročnú teológiu. Po likvidácii reholí a kláštorov v roku 1950 bol spolu s rehoľníkmi spolubratmi internovaný od 14. apríla 1950 v Jasove, potom v Podolínci a od 20. septembra 1950 v Pezinku. Odtiaľ bol donútený odísť do civilného života. V tom istom roku bol tajne vysvätený v Rožňave za kňaza a po uväznení a internovaní takmer všetkých oficiálnych biskupov bol 24. augusta 1951 tajne vysvätený za biskupa biskupom Pavlom Hnilicom.

Biskupskú službu však nemohol vykonávať verejne. Po celý čas pracoval ako robotník. Pre náboženskú činnosť medzi študentami bol 11. marca 1960 zaistený a 21. mája odsúdený ako vlastizradca na 12 rokov väzenia. Z väzenia sa vrátil 24. februára 1968 s podlomeným zdravím. Napriek tomu sa opäť zapojil do obnovy náboženského života. Dňa 8. júla 1969 ho prijal na osobitnej audiencii pápež Pavol VI., ktorý odovzdal biskupovi Korcovi svoje biskupské insígnie. Po návrate do vlasti však nedostal súhlas zo strany štátu k pastorácii, preto pokračoval v práci ako robotník, naposledy ako opravár výťahov v Petržalke.

Zmena spoločenského systému po roku 1989 zasiahla aj do jeho života. Dňa 7. januára 1990 sa stal rektorom Kňazského seminára sv. Cyrila a Metoda v Bratislave. Na výslovnú žiadosť Svätého Otca Jána Pavla II. bol 6. februára 1990 menovaný za nitrianskeho diecézneho biskupa. Kánonicky správu diecézy prevzal 22. februára toho istého roka a spravoval ju do 16. júla 2005. V súčasnosti žije ako emeritný biskup v Nitre. Dňa 28. júna 1991 ho v konzistóriu ustanovil pápež Ján Pavol II. za kardinála.

Pri príležitosti 90. narodenín kardinála Jána Chryzostoma Korca bola vydaná aj príležitostná poštová pečiatka (TU). Autorom pečiatky je Adrian Ferda. Cieľom tohto počinu je pripomenúť si veľkú osobnosť našich dejín, ktorá oslávila vzácné jubileum.

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## Cyrlometodská úcta sa z územia Slovenska nikdy nestratila

Cyrlometodská úcta bola v slovenskom prostredí hlboko zakorenená už od čias misie oboch vierozvestov na Veľkú Moravu a nestratila sa ani počas stáročí, keď naši predkovia nemali žiadnu vlastnú politickú organizáciu. Povedala to historička Rímskokatolíckej cyrlometodskej bohosloveckej fakulty Univerzity Komenského Emília Hrabovec. „Faktom je, že až postupom času spoznávame, ako kontinuálne a hlboko bola cyrlometodská úcta v slovenskom prostredí zakorenená. Tento nedostatok poznania vlastných dejín má celkom jednoznačné historické príčiny,“ konštatuje. „Práve v čase, kedy sa formovala moderná historická veda, vznikali moderné vedecké inštitúcie a systematický historický výskum, začali sa systematicky vydávať zbierky prameňov a formovať zásadné paradigmy historickej interpretácie jednotlivých národných dejín, teda v druhej polovici alebo poslednej tretine 19. storočia, práve vtedy Slováci prežívali najtvrdšie obdobie maďarizácie,“ pripomína. „A najbolestnejšie pociťovali absenciu akejkoľvek politickej a kultúrnej autonómie, ktorá mala za následok, že boli pozbavení aj možnosti organizovať nezávislý a slobodný výskum o vlastných dejinách a formovať svoje historické vedomie,“ dodáva.

Ani dvadsaťte storočie nebolo podľa nej priaznivo naklonené objektívnemu výskumu cyrlometodských tradícií. „Dvadsaťte storočie bolo zase poznačené inými ideologickými tlakmi, od pokusov ‘československej’ historickej vedy instrumentalizovať veľkomoravské dejiny vrátane cyrlometodskej misie ako dôkaz ‘historickosti spoločného štátu’ až po komunistické zneužitie cyrlometodskej úcty ako domnelého dôkazu protirímskej a východnej orientácie Slovanov. Až teraz môžeme postupne odhaľovať, že vôbec nie je pravdivé, že cyrlometodská úcta z našich dejín na stáročia diskontinuálne zmizla,“ podčiarkuje Hrabovec. Dodáva, že existuje množstvo historických zdrojov, ktoré na cyrlometodskú úctu poukazujú. „Odhaľujeme ju napríklad v cirkevno-historickej oblasti. Z 13.- 15. storočia poznáme liturgické knihy, misále, ktoré svedčia o živej, praktizovanej úcte k sv.

Pokračovanie na str.23



FOTO TASR/František Ivan

Sv. Cyril a Metod



V rámci vianočného podujatia Spolku sv. Štefana IKSJ v NYC účastníci zájazdu 28. decembra 2013 pred divadlom Sight & Sound, Lancaster PA prvom rade zľava: Mária Božeková, Helenka Kopčíková, Helenka Vilická, Henrieta H. Daitová, Simonka Lysáková, Anka Bilik, Milka Hlinková, Šimon Turkyňák, Milan R. Dait. Zadný rad zľava: Štefan Vilický, Mária Gaborčíková, Jozef Bilik, Ján Lysák a Eva Lysáková.

(Viac sa dočítate na str. 22)