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NUMBER 5898

Message From The President IRA's

(Individual Retirement Accounts)

TAX TIME IS HERE – HAVE YOU CONSIDERED?



Andrew M. Rajec

Most of you are familiar with the term IRA, and many of you have them.

They are the Federal (and State) government's way to encourage citizens to save money. Currently most individuals (with some exceptions and limits) can save up to \$5,500 each for 2013 and every year thereafter (\$6,500 for those over age 50) for those who receive compensation (generally limited to wages with a few exceptions, including pensions, interest etc.). The rules are strictly governed by the Internal Revenue Code.

The big advantage is that a contribution to an IRA is not included in taxable income. That means you don't pay income tax on that year's IRA contribution and subsequent interest earnings, and don't have to pay taxes until you start withdrawing the IRA money according to IRS guidelines at age 59 ½ minimum or 70 ½ maximum.

continued on page 3

A Lenten Message from Our National Chaplain

Dear Friends,

The season of Lent is upon us. The time of prayer and penance has begun.

The ashes imposed on our foreheads on Ash Wednesday serve as a reminder of our mortality. "Remember you are dust, and unto dust you will return." It calls to mind that our life on earth will one day come to an end and on that day we will meet our God, whom we have said many times in the Act of Contrition is "all good and deserving of all my love." Coming face to face with our mortality in Lent motivates us to pray. We pray that we mean what we say in the Act of Contrition. We pray for a conversion of heart from temptation and sin. We pray for a stronger commitment to Christ. We pray for all humanity to live the Gospel.

continued on page 3

Time is Running Out!

The deadline for the First Catholic Slovak Union's 2014 Scholarship Program is March 31.

See p 18 for details!



Inside

Editorial/Commentary	2
FCSU Scholarship	4
Bowling Tournament Info	4
National Coloring Contest, Part I 12 - 13	
Branch/District Info	14 - 15
Slovak	20 - 24



During Lent – observed in commemoration of the forty days in which Jesus fasted in the desert and endured temptation by the Devil before beginning His public ministry – many of the faithful commit to fasting or giving up certain types of luxuries as a form of penitence. Devotionals reflecting Christ's carrying the Cross are often carried out, as well.

TAX DAY IS ALMOST HERE? HOW COULD I FORGET!

Watch your **pot of gold** grow with our annuity rates!

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Contact your branch officer or the home office
6611 Rockside Rd, #300, Independence, OH, 44131,
800.533.6682, www.fcsu.com, annuity@fcsu.com

National Coloring Contest Winners, Part I, pp 12 – 13



Insights and Viewpoints



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

March 9, 2014

First Sunday of Lent, Cycle A

Matthew 4: 1-11

Gospel Summary

In this brief passage Matthew captures the essence of the trials Jesus would endure and over which he would triumph throughout his life.

The tempter urges Jesus to turn stones into loaves of bread. Jesus rejects the temptation to reduce his divine mission to satisfying immediate, temporal needs. The tempter then suggests that Jesus prove he is really the Son of God by jumping off the parapet of the temple: God would send his angels to save him. Jesus rejects the temptation to put God to a test. Finally, Jesus rejects the temptation to idolatry, even if that worship would enrich and empower him with all kingdoms of the world.

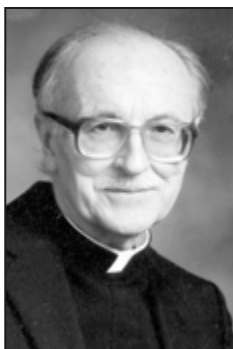
Matthew affirms that Jesus remains faithful to his deepest personal truth, revealed when he came up from the water of baptism and the Spirit of God came upon him: "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased" (Mt3:17).

Life Implications

The Letter to the Hebrews can help us discover a crucial life implication of this gospel: Jesus is truly one of us. "For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who has similarly been tested in every way, yet without sin" (4:15).

Jesus, enduring his trial of faith in the Garden of Gethsemane, knew that the three disciples who were with him would soon be tempted to abandon their trust in God. Jesus, in "sorrow and distress," realized that it was through prayer that he would remain faithful in his trust. That is why, able to sympathize with their weakness and ours, he said to them and says to us now: "Watch and pray that you may not undergo the test" (Mt 26:41).

With gratitude we welcome the good news that we are not alone in our trial of faith, whatever it may be. Because the Holy Spirit also came upon us when we came out of the water of baptism, each of us is truly beloved son or beloved daughter. Through this divine grace we can live in hope of sharing the faithfulness and triumph of Jesus. "For the sake of the joy that lay before him he endured the cross, despising its shame, and has taken his seat at the right of the throne of God" (Heb 12:2).



Campion P. Gavalier,
O.S.B.

LIGHT ONE CANDLE

Tony Rossi, Director of Communications, The Christophers

Why "Star Wars" Reminds Me of Ash Wednesday

In George Lucas' first-ever "Star Wars" film, "Episode IV: A New Hope," there's a compelling scene late in the movie where our heroes, Luke Skywalker and Han Solo, escape from their captors in the Death Star using Han's spaceship, the Millennium Falcon. Their speedy exit is impeded by the evil Empire's enemy ships shooting at them, so Luke and Han rush to the Falcon's gun turrets to fight back.

Luke is a farm boy who's always dreamed of fighting in a war, but this is his first time in battle.

When he shoots down his first ship, he gets excited and yells, "I got him!"

Han, a veteran of space battles, responds, "Great, kid! Don't get cocky."

To me, that line symbolizes the message of Ash Wednesday.

Though some priests use the words "Turn from sin and follow the gospel," when putting ashes on people's foreheads, I was raised when the Scripture cited was Genesis 3:19, "Remember, that you are dust, and unto dust you shall return."

In other words, "Don't get cocky."

It's easy for us to get so wrapped up in ourselves and life in general that we forget about the bigger picture. That bigger picture includes the fact that each person is known, loved and created by God. Not just you, not just me. Everybody. Like it says in Psalm 139:13, "You formed my inmost being; you knit me in my mother's womb."

We're also each given different gifts and talents to play a role in God's plan. Father James Keller, the founder of The Christophers, once wrote, "God wishes you to be His instrument in renewing the face of the earth...Your efforts will bear fruit from now into eternity."

Then someday, we will pass from this life into that aforementioned eternity, hopefully to a place of union with God as opposed to the "wretched hive of scum and villainy" that is the other option (to keep the "Star Wars" analogy going).

Ash Wednesday is the reminder of that last step in the process because we often get detoured in the middle step. Human beings have a tendency to get hung up on power and possessions. That's not just true for politicians, celebrities, business leaders or the super-rich; it's true of us all. Sometimes just a little bit of power or material advantage over others can turn someone to the dark side. We need constant reminders to be humble, and Ash Wednesday fills the bill every winter.

It's also important to remember that the Falcon ultimately gets away from the enemy ships not because of Luke and Han's fighting and flying abilities, but because the chief bad guy, Darth Vader, lets them get away so he can track them to their secret rebel base. So our heroes could potentially be responsible for the destruction of an entire planet full of people. Pretty humbling, no?

As we begin another Lent, keep this in mind. No matter what we accomplish on this earth, no matter how powerful we are, no matter how much cash we have in the bank, our physical bodies will eventually all meet the same end. Therefore, strive to live the best life possible in the knowledge that "God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him might not perish but might have eternal life."

That's great news! But don't get cocky.

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

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

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, MAR 19	MONDAY, MAR 10
WEDNESDAY, APR 2	MONDAY, MAR 24
WEDNESDAY, APR 16	MONDAY, APR 7

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

Send all copy (English AND Slovak) to:
Teresa Ivanec, Editor; fcsulifeeditor@gmail.com
First Catholic Slovak Union, Attention "JEDNOTA"
6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence, OH 44131-2398
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**Check out the First Catholic Slovak Union
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President's Message

continued from page 1

As with any IRS law there are a few exceptions and number of requirements that must be met. We have the expertise at the Home Office to answer your questions. As with any investment you should know the rules.

You have what is called "tax deferral". Hopefully having earned a steady stream of income that will be taxed at a lower rate when you retire.

In Roth IRA's you pay tax now on your IRA investment: for example a young person with low earnings and lower taxes, but pay no tax when you withdraw, per the IRS rules.

The good news is that investments in our FCSU annuities are tax qualified for IRA programs, both traditional and Roth.

Our annuities pay among the highest rates in the business. They provide a market, or above market, return year after year, with no worry about stock market fluctuations.

The FCSU does not offer more complex investment vehicles such as equities, indexed annuities or ETFs. We are knowledgeable in what we do and don't want to expand our offerings in areas not comfortable for our members. We utilize highly competent investment advisors to help us manage our investments.

By state law at least 85% of our investments must be in bonds. They are managed professionally and monitored continually. We currently have about 94% of our assets in bonds and cash. The remainder includes our real estate holdings, equities and miscellaneous.

It is never too early to start saving for retirement by using IRAs, and almost never too late, as long as you are working.

We urge you to take advantage of this IRA savings vehicle and also urge your spouse and children. I also urge you to consider using FCSU annuities to fund your IRA's. I don't think you will be disappointed.

More and more of your fellow Jednota members are using this vehicle thru the FCSU and their invested dollars increase substantially every year.

Give us a call at the home office for more specific information, look at our website (www.fcsu.com) or contact your local Branch officer or Recommender.

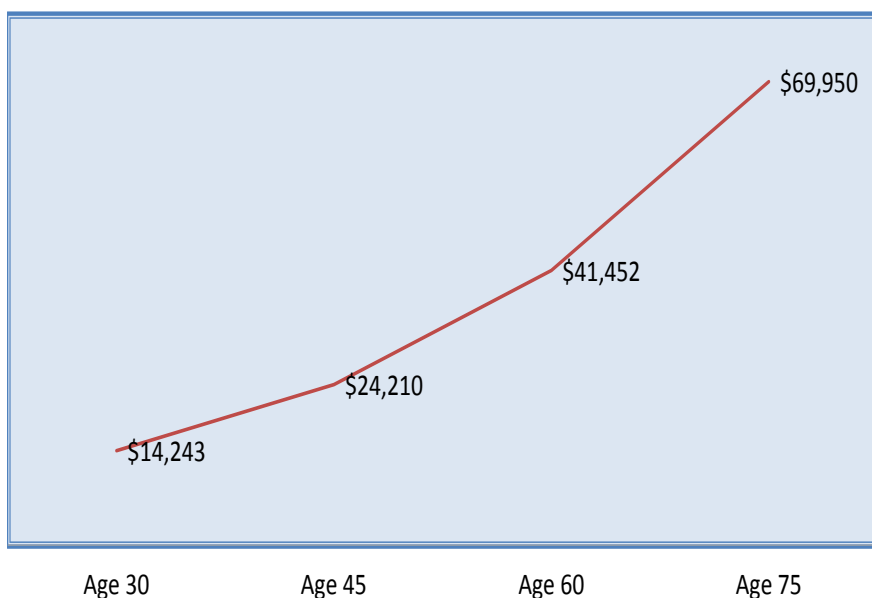
NOTE: In an upcoming issue, we will show why buying life insurance makes sense, not only for family protection, but also as a sometimes overlooked vehicle for retirement savings.

Best wishes and God bless you and your family.

Andrew M. Rajec
President

Watch your money grow

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When you deposit \$10,000 at age 20

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

Message from Our National Chaplain

continued from page 1

Ashes also remind us of our need to do penance, those deeds we perform with the intention to make amends for our sins. A common form of penance for most of us during Lent is to decrease our consumption of food and beverage. The Church, many of us know, has established the minimum requirements of the penance we are to do during Lent. Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59 are seriously bound to eat one main meal and two smaller meals on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Catholics over the age of 14 are seriously bound to refrain from eating meat on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays of Lent.

Of course, we are encouraged to go beyond the minimum. Reducing time spent watching television or on social media, eliminating favorite foods or drinks from our diet, going with another person to a location or event that you have no interest in but he or she does, or persevering in an assigned task that, when given a choice, you would rather not do, are just a small sampling of penances we can perform.

There is one sentence from the Gospel read at Mass each of the two Sundays before Ash Wednesday that can serve as our guide not only during Lent, but also every day of our lives. From the Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Matthew has Jesus say, "Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness." From the Seventh Sunday, Jesus says, "Be perfect, just as your heavenly Father is perfect."

Also on the Seventh Sunday of Ordinary Time, the reading from the Book of Leviticus has the Lord direct Moses to tell the Israelites, "Be holy, for I, the Lord, your God, am holy." Through the prayers and penances we offer during these days of Lent, we rely on the help of God's grace that we will turn away from sin and toward the path that leads to holiness, to perfection, to the kingdom of God.

Faternally,

Fr. Thomas A. Nasta
National Chaplain

Year of Faith: Religious Freedom, Part 1

Dear Friends,

The Declaration on Religious Freedom (Dignitatis Humanae) was one of four documents from the Second Vatican Council promulgated by Pope Paul VI on December 7, 1965.

The Council defines religious freedom as a basic human right that is a person possesses to worship God and live one's faith free from coercion on the part of individuals, social groups, or any human power. Religious freedom means no one is to be forced to act in a manner contrary to one's own beliefs, wither privately or publically, alone or in association with others. This right is to be recognized in the constitutional law whereby society is governed and thus it is to become a civil right.

The exercise of religious freedom involves the moral obligation each of us has as human beings to seek the truth, especially religious truth. This search for truth is to be free and carried on with the aid of teaching or instruction, communication and dialogue. As truth is discovered, we by personal assent are to adhere to it.

The role of one's conscience in the search for truth is explored. By means of our consciences, we come to know and believe in what the council calls the imperatives of divine Law (e.g. do good, avoid evil; 10 Commandments). Humans are bound to follow their consciences in order to come to God, the end and purpose of life. No one is to be forced to act in a manner contrary to one's conscience. Nor is anyone to be restrained from acting in accordance with one's conscience, especially in religious matters.

In this search for truth, Christians are to form their consciences by heeding the sacred and certain doctrine of the Church, for the Church is, by will of Christ, the teacher of the truth. Followers of Christ are bound by a grave obligation to ever more fully to understand the truth received from Him, faithfully to proclaim it, and vigorously to defend it. At the same time, the charity of Christ urges them to love and have prudence and patience in dealing with those who are in error or in ignorance with regard to the faith.

Religious (faith) communities rightfully claim freedom in order they may govern themselves according to their own norms to honor God in public worship. They have right not be hindered, either by legal measures or administrative action by government, in the selection, training, appointment and transferral of their own ministers, in communicating with religious authorities and communities abroad, in erecting buildings for religious purposes and in the acquisition and use of suitable funds or properties. They also have the right not to be hindered in their public teaching and witness to their faith, whether spoken or written. They ought at all times to refrain from any manner of action in spreading their faith which might carry a hint of coercion or persuasion that would be dishonorable or unworthy, especially in dealing with the poor or uneducated.

The summary of this document will conclude in the next issue of the Jednota.

Sincerely,

Fr. Thomas A. Nasta National Chaplain

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.



To request your free copy of the First Catholic Slovak Union Estate Planning Booklet, please call at 1-800-JEDNOTA (533-6682).

Requests - Please circle choice times			
Event	Date	1 st Choice	2 nd 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 3rd 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

Team Name: _____

League: _____

City: _____

Captain Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

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	\$ _____

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.					

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

Friday, April 25
Registration 5:00 PM
Bowlers: 6:00 PM
8:30 PM

Saturday, April 26
Bowlers: Events 8:30 AM
12:30 PM

1st Team Events
2nd Team Events

1st Doubles/Singles
2nd 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

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.

Attention Jednota Bowlers: Crowne Plaza Hotel Awaits



We'll be spending the bowling tournament weekend at the Crowne Plaza Hotel on Fort Couch Road in Pittsburgh, PA. The Crowne Plaza Hotel offers complimentary parking, an outdoor pool, a fitness center, and a business center all at a convenient location, just seven miles from Downtown Pittsburgh. Enjoy shopping in over 130 stores at the South Hills Village mall across the street from the Crowne Plaza Hotel. It's just a short ride from several area attractions including: the Rivers Casino, the Meadows Casino, the Tanger Outlets, and Downtown Pittsburgh.

The group rate is \$104/night (single) and \$114/night (double), plus tax. Call 412-833-5300 to make a hotel reservation and state you are with the United Slovak Fraternal's Bowling Group by April 4, 2014.

Lenten Traditions in Slovakia

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

In Christian faith, the holy season of Lent has always begun with Ash Wednesday, which is known as Popolcová streda in Slovak. The holy day marked the solemn beginning of an extended period of fasting, prayer, and abstinence. The lively celebrations of fašiangy (Carnival - Slovak Mardi Gras) had ended on Fat Tuesday night (Tučný utorok). Ash Wednesday commenced with an extended period of spiritual reflection that remembers Christ's forty days of fasting in the desert.

Originally, ancient Slavic pagans celebrated their New Year around the time that Lent started. Some customs were merged when Slavic peoples adopted and integrated Christian customs with these former practices, which marked the beginning of a new life of faith, and a recognition that they could overcome sin with prayer and fasting, and the help of God.

Ash Wednesday, known in Latin as Dies Cinerum (Day of Ashes), became a regular custom in Christian Europe as early as the 8th century. Even though attendance at Holy Mass was not obligatory, it has become one of the holiest days on the Christian calendar. After the Gospel readings and the sermon, the priest sprinkled the faithful with holy water and purified the congregations with incense. The receiving of ashes recognized that one is a sinner in dire need of Christ's redemptive powers. While the body turned to ashes, the soul lived on.

The faithful in Slovakia flocked in huge numbers to church to receive blessed ashes from the previous year's Palm Sunday (Kvetná Nedeľa). A priest would recite the well-known words, "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return" ("Prach si a na prach sa obrátiš").

The Lenten season ranked among the most sacred and holy times in Slovakia. In Slovak and Christian culture, Lent (pôst – pronounced "pwošt") represented a time which commemorated Christ's forty days of fasting and contemplation in the desert. In imitation of Christ's example, Slovaks denied themselves all animal products during Lent, including all meats and any dairy products such as milk, cheese, eggs, etc. Typically, they refrained as well from using any animal fats in cooking. A customary Slovak meal on Ash Wednesday consisted of some type of Lenten soup and some pasta mixed with poppy seeds, known as Valčeky or šúľance, dough formed into truncated cone roll. (See photo.)

Slovaks also abstained from eating any very large meals for the entire period of Lent. Parties, weddings, and loud music were forbidden. Any music played had to be sacred and somber, stressing one's sinfulness and repentance.

In previous centuries, after attending Holy Mass, the people of a village marched in a procession of penance. But that custom has since disappeared. Lent was a time of prayer and self-examination. Denying the body physical pleasures was supposed to liberate the flesh so that people could contemplate the real meaning of life and their relationship with God. Slovak devotions became far more zealous than that of most European peoples, and some historians cite the Counter-Reformation spirit of the 16th and 17th centuries as embedding this very intense religious temperament among the Slovaks.

The Slovak interpretation of Lent was most solemn and very somber. Until Easter arrived, a household remained in virtually a continual state of mourning for their own sins, and for the terrible price Jesus Christ had to pay for redeeming man's sins. As a sign of this grieving, all women dressed only in black for the entire Lenten season. Ash Wednesday marked a prolonged period of mourning for Christ.

Although some of these customs have been modified over the years, Lent remains an intensely spiritual time for practicing Catholics as well as Lutherans throughout Slovakia. When one visits, one has a sense of the sacredness that has diminished in many American parishes since Vatican II.

But there is one very real result of the intense Lenten period sacrifice – the joy of Easter is that much greater.

Sources

Kopanic, Michael, "Lenten Traditions in Slovakia," Jednota, March 3, 2010.

"Popolcová streda," <http://slovenske-zvyky.webnode.sk/kalendar-akcii/zima/popolcova-streda/> (Accessed Feb. 18, 2014).

Tufnell, Blanche O. "Czecho-Slovak Folklore," Folklore, Vol. 35, No. 1 (Mar. 31, 1924), p. 34.



Valčeky or
šúľance –
Slovak pasta
for Ash
Wednesday



Ash
Wednesday
in Slovakia,
or Popolcová
Streda



Kent-Dudince Sister City Association

Eleventh Annual Anniversary Banquet
Sunday, May 18, 2014

Kent Elks Lodge Hall
Elks Lane - State Route 59
(behind Twin Star Bowling Lanes - 2245 State Route 59)

1:00 pm - Social Hour 2:00 pm - Dinner 3:00 pm - Program

Music by Johnny Pastirik during Social Hour and Dinner
Dancing following the program

Pittsburgh Slovaks
Sue and Rudy Ondrejco, Directors

Lucina Slovak Folk Ensemble of Greater Cleveland
Nadia Oros, Choreography Tom Ivanec, Director/Program Coordinator

Tickets - \$20.00 per person
Catered by Tom's Country Place of Avon, Ohio
Advance ticket sales only
Deadline for purchasing tickets: May 9, 2014

Ticket orders with directions will be mailed. Please include names of all guests.
Donation of Baked Goods would be appreciated

Ticket Order Form ---- Kent-Dudince Sister City ---- Anniversary Banquet

Name: _____ Number of Tickets: _____

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

List others attending (if known) _____

Address: _____ City, State, Zip: _____

Ticket orders with directions will be mailed
Make Check payable to: Kent-Dudince Sister City Association
Mail to: Dr. George Wargo, Treasurer,
858 Stonewater Drive, Kent, Ohio 44240 (330-677-9094)

ANNUAL SLOVAK MASS & EASTER CUSTOMS BREAKFAST

Saturday, March 29, 2014



St. Adalbert Church

160 So. 15th 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

For more information call (412) 481-8380

Scenes from St. Clement Society, Branch 40, in Streator, IL

St. Clement Society, Branch 40, held its Annual Meeting at 2PM on Sunday, January 19, 2014. The place was Chippers Grill in Streator, IL. At this meeting, the branch elected officers for 2014 as well as their delegates to the upcoming 50th Quadrennial Convention of the First Catholic Slovak Union in Philadelphia in August 2014. There were refreshments and a buffet after the meeting.



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

Hey Kids.....

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

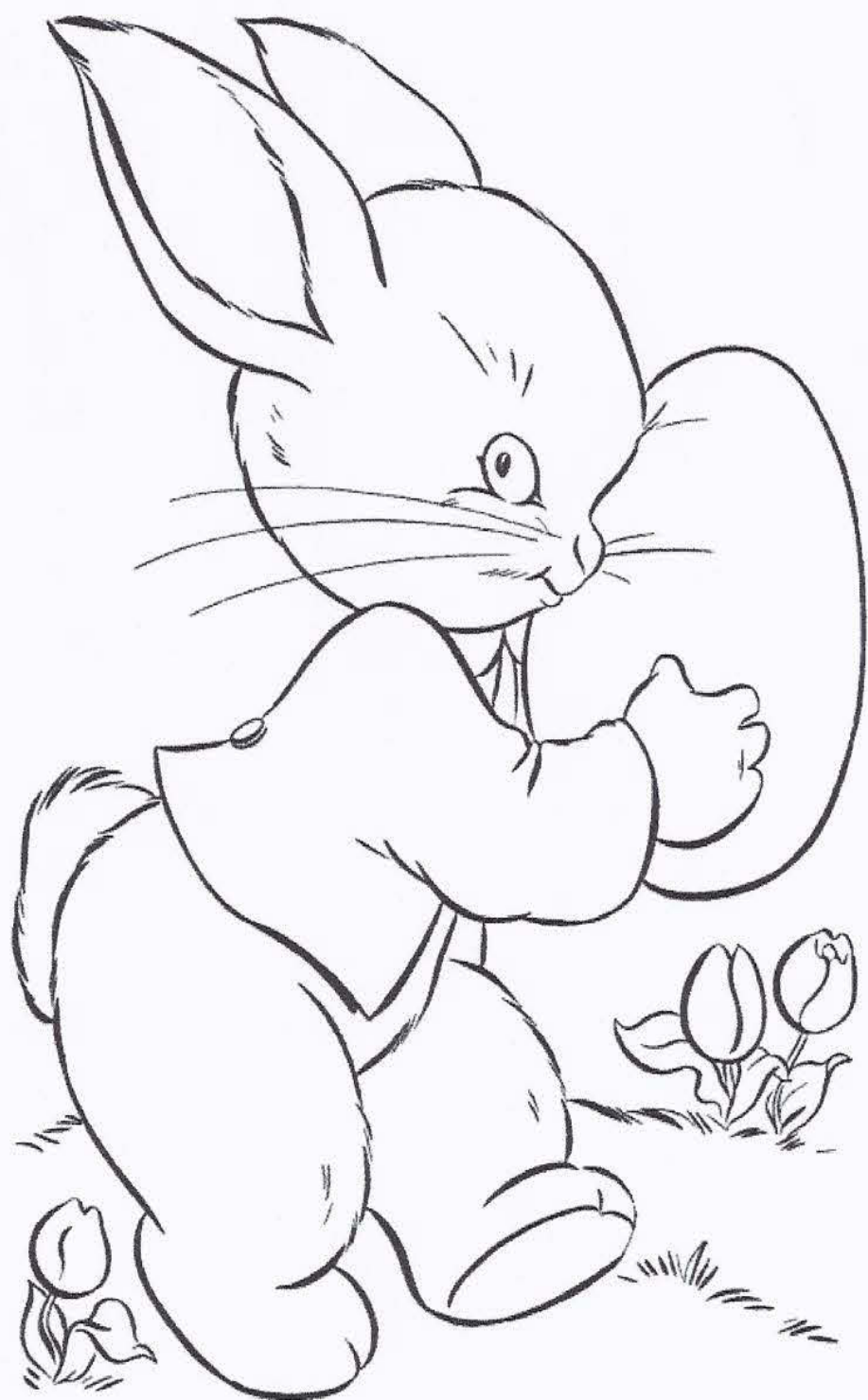
Send in your coloring page and on the back side of the picture please print your name, age, address, Branch Number and include a picture of yourself and return by March 24, 2014. You may make a copy of the picture from the newspaper to color, and if there are other children in family entering the coloring contest.

Pictures of the winners will be printed in the "Jednota" newspaper after Easter. Our lodge members will judge the entries at our District II Meeting on Sunday, March 30, 2014.

Mail your entry to:

Mrs. Barbara Fayta
1544 Rokosz Lane
Dyer IN 46311

GOOD LUCK TO ALL
Barbara Fayta, Chairperson
Easter Coloring Contest



St. Thomas A'Becket 2014 Fish Fry Begins March 7



During the Lenten Season, St. Thomas A'Becket Church at 138 Gill Hall Road, Jefferson Hills, PA, will hold their Fish Fry beginning the First Friday of Lent, March 7, 2014. Following that, the Fish Fry will be scheduled every Friday in Lent. This will be held in the School Building at 139 Gill Hall Road. The hours are 3:30PM – 7:00PM each Friday, including Good Friday. Take outs are available by calling 412-655-9966.

The menu includes: hand-breaded cod, baked cod dinners, fried fish sandwich, shrimp dinner, combo platter (fried) fish and shrimp, tuna melts. Dinners include: 2 sides and a beverage. Children's menu available. Also homemade mac-n-cheese, haluski, soup, fries, pizza. The Special for Good Friday will be pierogies (pirohy).

All are welcome! For more information, call 412-655-2885 or 412-653-4322.

- Submitted by Sister Mary Judith Seman, SCN

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 today.

Youngstown/Spišská Nová Ves 17th 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/Spišská Nová 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 Bojnica, enjoy museums, kolibas, traditional Slovak food, folk groups and attend the Kežmarok fair and watch craftsmen make their wares. These are just a few of the highlights of the tour.

Contact Jim and Kay Bench at jmbench@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/Spišská Nová Ves 17th Annual Heritage Tour Itinerary is now available - including prices and how to register. Go to fcsu.com and click on the Slovakia and the World tab to download the information.

Slovakia Heritage Tour Connects Slovak-Americans And Others with Slovakia

Dan Handzo and Deb Nagle joined the 2013 Slovakia Heritage Tour this past September to travel into the heartland of Slovakia and experience Slovakia life today and in the past.

Like so many Slovak-American families, Dan's family had lost contact with their relatives in Hanušovce Nad Topľou (near Prešov) after his mother died in 1972. From Wilkes Barre, PA, Dan remained close to his Slovak-American culture, but, over the years, he continued to wonder about his Mom's Pivovarnik family, and his Dad's Handzo family in Eastern Slovakia.

When he reconnected with his mother's family on this September's Slovakia Heritage Tour, he was pleased to find that the family in Hanušovce had not forgotten the sister and aunt who left for America so long ago. Dan, with his friend Deb Nagle, was warmly welcomed back to the family. A young cousin had prepared a power point presentation detailing the family tree with pictures of their ancestors as well as branches of younger family members. Dan was surprised to see himself as a teenager with his mother and other photos of himself as a young man. The Slovak family had treasured these photos sent by his mother many years ago.

"It was an opportunity of a lifetime," Dan said upon his return. "My mother would be pleased that I was able to meet her extended family, visit with them in the same house and see the church that my mother grew up in. We exchanged email addresses, and, since the younger generation speaks English, we can correspond as often as we want."

"Our Slovakia Heritage Tour aims to bring people together with their families or family villages, if possible," said tour organizer, Judith Northup-Bennett. "People don't realize until they connect with their families, how much it means to the Slovak family left behind...the family who's told stories and handed down photos through generations about the brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles and cousins who left for America so long ago."

The 10-day 2013 small group tour was blessed with fantastic weather to explore the beautiful Slovak landscape. "We had an adventuresome, active group so we included walks in the Spania Dolina mining area, the Tatry Mountains and the Liptovský Lake region," Northup-Bennett said. The group also enjoyed a wonderful 2 ½ hour rafting excursion along the Polish/Slovak border in the dramatic Pieniny region.

The tour continues to attract non-Slovaks who see it as a way to explore a small Slavic country that doesn't make it on to the larger tour group itineraries of Central Europe. It's a chance to learn about the history of Europe from a different perspective and experience Slovak life today as well as in the past.



2014 Slovakia Tour Will End in Krakow, Poland

"This year we had two women with family roots in Southern Poland just north of the Tatry and Carpathian mountain range," Northup-Bennett explained. "The folk traditions and 19th century village life that

A hands-on cooking class in making potato dumplings for Bryndzove Halusky.



The Slovakia Heritage Tour group prepares for a walk in the Tatry Mountain National Park.

they saw in Slovakia in the outdoor village museums and the other cultural sites, were basically the same throughout the Austro-Hungarian Empire at the time most of our grandparents left, whether it was from Slovakia, Poland or the Ukraine. The national borders were always changing, but the life in the towns and villages remained the same."

After the tour, Joyce Hatch and Mary Lou Reid did a three-day extension tour to Krakow and went on to explore their family villages north of the Tatry Mountains. As a result of their experience, the 2014 Slovakia Heritage Tour will end in Krakow this year. "It just makes sense," said Northup-Bennett "to include this rich medieval city with so many ties and shared culture with Slovakia, especially the Eastern part of Slovakia and the Transcarpathian (Rusyn) region."

Tour participants will be able to fly directly home from Krakow which has excellent air service or continue on with an extension tours either to Prague and the Czech Republic, or to Bratislava and Vienna. Polish-Americans will also be able to extend their visit to family villages and other sites in Poland.

- Submitted by Judith Northup-Bennett

The 2014 Slovakia Heritage Tour will start in Vienna on Thursday, September 4, 2014, and end in Krakow on Sunday, September 14, 2014. For details, go to www.fcsu.com and click on the Slovakia & The World tab or directly contact Judith Northup-Bennett at 978-544-5144, connectionswork4u@hotmail.com or visit our web site: www.slovakia-heritage.com

Andy Mayo tries his hand at traditional raft poling in the Pieniny Region.



FCSU Delegates: Come Aboard Philadelphia's Premier Sighting Tours This August

When the First Catholic Slovak Union (FCSU) holds its 50th Quadrennial Convention in Philadelphia, PA, this summer - August 23 - 27th, 2014 - delegates will have the opportunity to explore the City of Brotherly in style. Philadelphia's Premier Sightseeing Tour Company will be available to show you the sights and tell you the tales of a city that forged a nation, cheered for Rocky, invented the soft pretzel and is home to the Liberty Bell and Independence Hall. City tours also lets you hop on / hop off all day at any of our 21 stops along the tour route to maximize your sightseeing experience.



Big Bus Double Decker Sightseeing Tour Departs Daily from 5th & Market Streets

Experience Philadelphia from the Top.... The Top of an Authentic London Double Decker Bus! See the sights of the city on one of our Open-Top tours that offer spectacular views and entertaining stories from fully-trained Philly friendly guides. Professional Tour Guides bring old and new Philadelphia to life on our

90 minute fully-narrated sightseeing "City Tour".

Philadelphia Sightseeing Trolley Tours Departs Daily from 5th & Market Streets



Experience the History! Enjoy the sites of Philadelphia on board an authentic Victorian Style Trolley. This popular Philadelphia Sightseeing Tour operates in conjunction with the Double Decker Big Bus Tours.



Dan Handzo reconnected with his mother's family Hanušovce Nad Topľou near Prešov.

A walk to an ancient Celtic site on the shores of the Liptovský Lake.



Heritage Tour participants dine and dance with Slovaks from the Sabinov region. (Photo courtesy of extramayo.us)

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

FRIDAY, JANUARY 17, 2014 • HOME OFFICE, INDEPENDENCE, OHIO

OPEN:

President Andrew Rajec called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and asked Vice President Andrew Harcar to lead the prayer.

ROLL CALL:

Members attending: Andrew M. Rajec, President
Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary
Andrew R. Harcar, Sr., Vice President
George F. Matta, Treasurer
Damian Nasta, Regional Director
(rotating Director via telephone)

ACCEPTANCE OF THE DECEMBER MEETING MINUTES:

The Executive Secretary presented the minutes of the December 2013 Executive Committee Meeting. A motion was made by George Matta and seconded by Kenneth Arendt to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

TREASURERS REPORT:

The Treasurer presented a written report and answered all the Executive Committee's questions.

The President stated the Federal Home Loan Bank is in the process of finalizing a plan to accept certain municipal bonds as collateral for advancements.

AQS MANAGEMENT, INC.:

Larry White, representing AQS Management, Inc., gave his extensive Investment Portfolio transaction report via Telephone and WebEx. Each member of the Executive Committee received a copy of the presentation in advance for his review. Following the report, Mr. White answered the Executive Committee's questions.

After extensive review of the current annuity rates, the Executive Committee decided to extend the present rates. These rates will be reviewed at the February meeting.

INVESTMENT UPDATES:

The Executive Secretary submitted a written report to the Executive Committee for its review of the investments and transactions with the Federal Home Loan Bank (FHLB), the Matlin Patterson Fund (MPAM), UBS Fund, and MAI Fund. Following the report, the Executive Secretary answered the Executive Committee's questions.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT:**MORTGAGES AND OVERDUE MORTGAGES**

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

MONTHLY DISBURSEMENTS

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

Disbursements for the month of December 2013:

Death Benefits & Accumulations	\$ 162,747.18
Cash Withdrawals & Accumulations	\$ 33,208.74
Matured Endowments & Accumulations	\$ 0.00
Trust Fund	\$ 0.00

The Executive Secretary also presented the Membership and Annuity Report. The Executive Committee reviewed the remainder of the disbursements and the Executive Secretary answered all questions.

PORTFOLIO REVIEW:

The Executive Secretary updated the Executive Committee on the report from our portfolio custodian, Key Bank, and found everything in order and answered the Committee's questions.

SALES AND MARKETING:

The Vice President summarized the sales production report given to the Board of Directors on the different regions and the report of our independent agents. This report is always mailed to our Regional Directors for their information. The Vice President stated we are still continuing to recruit new agents. Following the report, the Vice President answered the Executive Committee's questions.

The Vice President stated he is scheduling seminars for 2014 and ask for the Regional Directors to contact him with available dates.

The President led an extensive discussion on our current commission rates. As more information is obtained, the matter will be discussed further at the February meeting.

ADVERTISING:

The Executive Secretary informed the Committee that we have received excellent response from our members on the personal Estate Planning Booklets. The booklet is a fraternal benefit and is still available to all members upon request.

The Executive Secretary stated we have been advertising the IRA and Roth products in our mailings, on the website, and through email.

MISCELLANEOUS:

The President stated the convention plans are being finalized for the 50th Quadrennial Convention in Philadelphia. The President said the plans are working out well.

The Executive Secretary stated the final letter sent to all branches giving the final delegate count for those branches that qualify based on membership as of February 1, 2014 will be sent the first week in February. As delegate credentials are received at the home office and certified, the delegates will be notified.

The President updated the Executive Committee on the progress of the new roof Centimark Corporation is contracted to do. The President stated he is hoping for a break in the weather to complete the project.

The Executive Secretary gave an extensive preliminary review of the 2013 year end financial. The Executive Secretary stated preliminary numbers look very positive.

The Executive Secretary stated the Annual March Board of the Directors Meeting will be held at the site of the Convention, the Sheraton Downtown Philadelphia Hotel.

The President stated he has been working with Regional Director James Marmol on adjusting the cost for the Middletown Memorial Project. The President discussed the plan of having members or branches sponsor a granite brick as memorials. Construction bids are still being accepted.

REQUESTS FOR ADS AND DONATIONS:

The request for donations and ads were reviewed and acted upon.

ADJOURN:

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

The President asked Vice President Andrew Harcar to close the meeting with prayer.

Andrew M. Rajec
President

Kenneth A. Arendt
Executive Secretary

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; Košice, named the EU's 2013 Culture Capital; and Prešov, 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 and click on the Slovakia & The World tab or contact Joe Senko at 412-956-6000 or at jtsenko@aol.com.

Check out the First Catholic Slovak Union website at www.fcsu.com

Lenten Prayer for
Spiritual Renewal



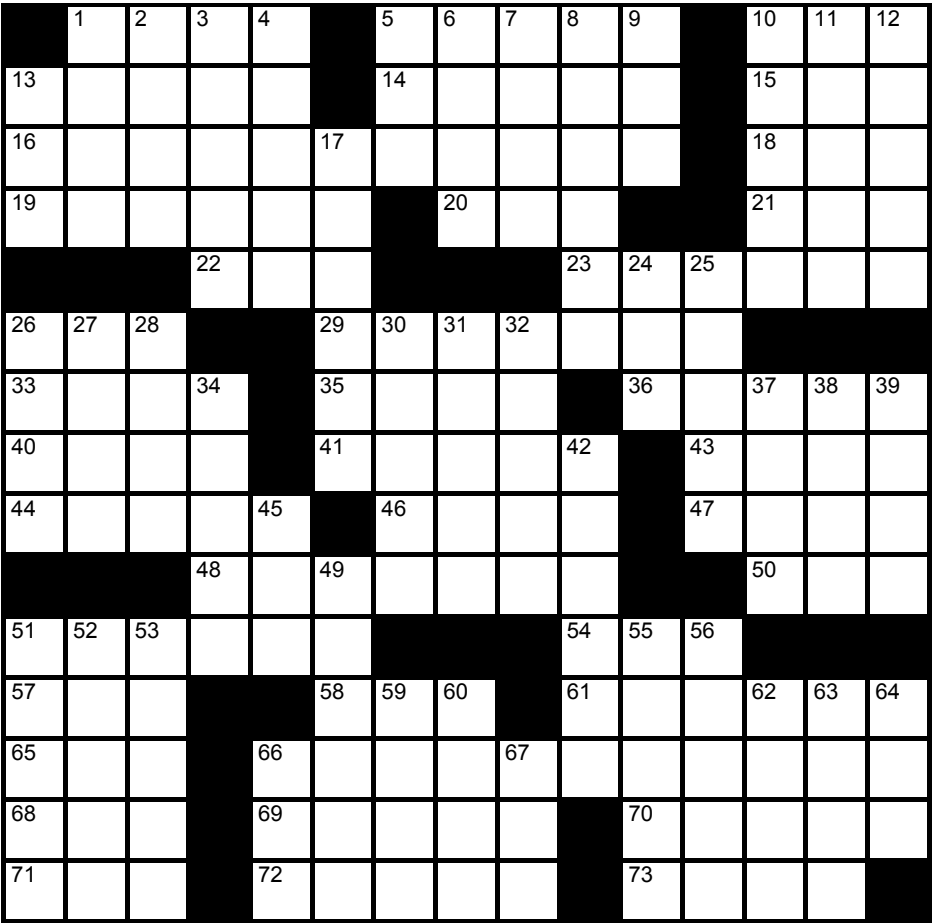
God, heavenly Father,
look upon me and hear my prayer
during this holy Season of Lent.
By the good works You inspire,
help me to discipline my body
and to be renewed in spirit.

Without You I can do nothing.
By Your Spirit help me to know what is right
and to be eager in doing Your will.
Teach me to find new life through penance.
Keep me from sin, and help me live
by Your commandment of love.

God of love, bring me back to You.
Send Your Spirit to make me strong
in faith and active in good works.
May my acts of penance bring me Your forgiveness,
open my heart to Your love,
and prepare me for the coming feast
of the Resurrection of Jesus.

Amen.

Jednota Crossword
Puzzle



Across

- 1 Spare tire
- 5 Loquacious
- 10 Botanist Gray
- 13 True heath
- 14 Cherish
- 15 Printer's widths
- 16 Make-over shop
- 18 Cheer
- 19 WWI artillery unit,
Big ____
- 20 Sprinted
- 21 Anger
- 22 Paranormal ability
- 23 Indian lodges
- 26 Historic period
- 29 Chromatic colors
- 33 Gym sets
- 35 Anon's partner
- 36 Washed-out
- 40 Bread spread
- 41 Supped
- 43 Mandolin relative
- 44 Pancake topper
- 46 On the briny
- 47 ____ Lisa
- 48 Most sunburned
- 50 Dejected
- 51 Author Dumaaurier
- 54 Rascal
- 57 Before, in poetry
- 58 Statehouse VIP
- 61 Rhymes
- 65 Fish catcher
- 66 Pretense
- 68 Actress Claire
- 69 Courtyards
- 70 Plaudits
- 71 Bien's opposite
- 72 Bargains

73 Wiggly fish

Down

- 1 At liberty
- 2 Tall tale teller
- 3 Critical
- 4 Ablutions
- 5 Neon, e.g.
- 6 Jewish month
- 7 Gaucho's weapon
- 8 Jane Eyre author
- 9 Hankering
- 10 Eagle's nest
- 11 Booby trap
- 12 Fire residue
- 13 Wane
- 17 Barked
- 24 Santa's helper
- 25 Sacred hymn
- 26 Love god
- 27 Depend
- 28 Copycat
- 30 Birdlike
- 31 Good judgment
- 32 Divi-divis, e.g.
- 34 Pole position?
- 37 Pairs
- 38 Sicilian peak
- 39 Bushed
- 42 Kind of case
- 45 Skillet
- 49 Nullify
- 51 Tough material
- 52 Field of play
- 53 Flower feature
- 55 Free-for-all
- 56 Cost
- 59 Stew vegetable
- 60 Wedding wear
- 62 Auction off
- 63 Gabor and Bartc
- 64 Gel
- 66 Daft
- 67 ____-relief

JEDNOTA
Publication Schedule for 2014

Issue Date	Deadline
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

See Solution on Page 19

2013 JEDNOTA COLORING C

REGION 1

..... Age Group 4-6 Age Group 7-9 Age Group 10-12



Violet McNamara
First Place
Point Pleasant, NJ



Ashton Lewis
Second Place
Perth Amboy, NJ



Peter Monks
First Place
Trumbull, CT



Owen White
Second Place
Perth Amboy, NJ



Ethan White
First Place
Perth Amboy, NJ



Christina Figura
Second Place
Yonkers, NY



REGION 2

Age Group 10-12 Age Group 4-6 Age Group 7-9



Erich Diehl
First Place
Califon, NJ



Lilyanna Payne
First Place
Philadelphia, PA



Gabriel Fatula
Second Place
Hazelton, PA



David Koval
First Place
New Freedom, PA



Stefanie Hoyt
Second Place
Reynoldsville, PA



Gregory Horinko
Third Place
Hazelton, PA



REGION 2

..... Age Group 10-12



Kaitlyn Estright
First Place
Norristown, PA



Zoe Kemp
Second Place
Fairless Hills, PA



Madison Kemp
Third Place
Fairless Hills, PA



Maggie Pittsman
First Place
Mayfield, PA



Aidan Carone
Second Place
Norfolk, MA



Kayla Pecko
Third Place
Browndale, PA



REGION 3

..... Age Group 7-9 Age Group 10-12



Charles Pafford
First Place
North Royalton, OH



Julia Rudat
Second Place
Greenville, SC



Justin Pecko
Third Place
Browndale, PA



Leah Covalesski
First Place
Elizabethtown, PA



John J. Slovenkai, Jr.
Second Place
Scranton, PA



Becky Pechmann
Third Place
Cullowhee, NC



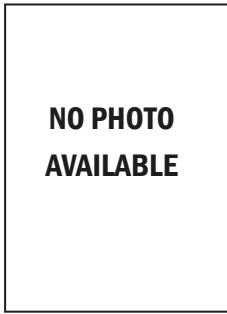
CONTEST RESULTS, PART I

REGION 4

..... Age Group 4-6



Grace Beal
First Place
Mt. Pleasant, PA



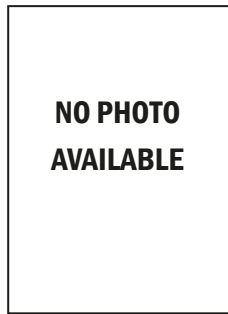
Martin Meyer
Second Place
Torrance, PA



Sophia Rush
Third Place
Oakdale, PA



Francis Baker
First Place
Danville, PA



Emily Davis
Second Place
Ramey, PA



Katrina Mullen
Third Place
Springfield, VA

REGION 4

..... Age Group 10-12



Becca Catherman
First Place
Clearfield, PA



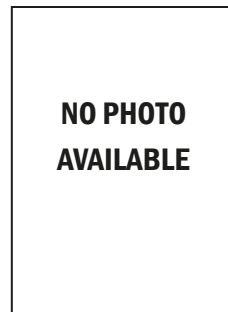
Charles Baker
Second Place
Danville, PA



Casey Elder
Third Place
Latrobe, PA



Annabella Barnes
First Place
Pittsburgh, PA



Mary Hlozek
Second Place
Oxford, GA



Richard Tutich
Third Place
Cranberry Twp, PA

REGION 5

..... Age Group 4-6

REGION 5

..... Age Group 7-9



Janelle Meinert
First Place
Buford, GA



Jane Windsheimer
Second Place
Pittsburgh, PA



Timothy Costel
Third Place
Butler, PA



Jenna Meinert
First Place
Buford, GA



Zachary Hanlon
Second Place
Oakmont, PA



Jamie Meinert
Third Place
Buford, GA

..... Age Group 10-12

Congratulations to all our
Coloring Contest Winners, including
those to be published in
Part II in the next
(March 19th) issue.



BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

BRANCH 1 – CLEVELAND, OHIO

The Saint Joseph Society, Branch 1, will hold its next meeting on Wednesday, April 9, 2014, at 7:00 p.m. in the Sts. Cyril & Methodius School Hall, 12608 Madison Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio. All members are encouraged to attend. If you have any questions please call 216.228.8179.

Cynthia Niznik, Secretary

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 6 – STREATOR, ILLINOIS

The St. Stephen Society Branch 06K will hold its next meeting on Sunday, March 23, 2014, at Chipper's Restaurant, 1733 N Bloomington St, Streator, IL. The meeting will begin promptly at 1PM and be followed with a lunch. Please call Bob at 815-672-1764 by March 22, 2014, if you plan to attend. The agenda will include: the election of delegates for the 50th Quadrennial Convention of the First Catholic Slovak Union to be held in August. We urge all our members to attend and hope to see you.

Paul Chismar, Secretary/Treasurer

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 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 45 – NEW YORK, NEW YORK

The St. Matthew's Evangelist Society, Branch 45, will hold a semi-annual meeting on Sunday, April 6, 2014, at 12:30 PM after the Slovak mass at St. John Nepomucene Church, 66th Street and 1th Avenue, New York City. We urge all members to attend this meeting.

Maria Jurasi, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 75 – SHAMOKIN, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 75KJ will hold a meeting on April 6, 2014, at 10:00AM at the residence of Financial Secretary Ronald M. Anderson, 8 South Shamokin Street, Shamokin, PA, 17872. This will be the branch's annual meeting, held for the election of officers for the 2014 calendar year. On the agenda: election of delegates to the 50th Quadrennial Convention in August. For more information, contact Ronald M. Anderson at the above address or by calling 570-648-7012.

Ronald M. Anderson, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 153 – CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

St. Stephen Branch 153 will hold a meeting at 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, April 5. The agenda will include the election of delegates to the August 2014 convention in Philadelphia, along with other business.

Please call Dorothy Jurcenko at 773 763-0810 for the meeting location and directions.

Dorothy Jurcenko, Financial Secretary

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 166 – BINGHAMTON, CAPITAL AREA, PEEKSKILL, POUGHKEEPSIE, AND SYRACUSE, NEW YORK

The St. Joseph the Guardian Society, Branch 166, will hold its Semi-Annual Meeting and Dinner on Sunday, April 13, 2014, at 1:15 P.M., at Hibachi Grill and Sushi Supreme Buffet, Town Square Mall, 2433 Vestal Parkway East, Vestal, New York. On the agenda will be a discussion of the District Meeting and Branch business. In addition, delegates and alternate delegates from Branch 166 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. All members are encouraged to attend.

Please call Sue Gabriel at 607-729-8034 or Arlo Meeker at 607-775-4896 by April 10, 2014, to make a reservation if you plan to attend. We hope to see you at the meeting.

Arlo Meeker, President

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

Fraternally,

Dorothy A. Ungvasky, President

BRANCH 200 - FORD CITY, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 200 will be holding a special meeting at 7:00PM on April 10, 2014 to reelect delegates to the 50th Quadrennial Convention of the First Catholic Slovak Union which will be held in Philadelphia in August.

The branch also is celebrating its 125th Anniversary in 2015. Date to be decided @ our February meeting. I am asking for volunteers to be on a planning committee. Anyone with any knowledge, information, facts, pictures, etc. regarding the history of our branch would be greatly appreciated. Please contact me at 724-763-9229 or via email @ vschaub123@hotmail.com. We are open to any suggestions from all our members. This is a blessed milestone for our branch and something to be proud of even if you are not currently active in the club, we still want your input. If you have some photos from over the years, I would love to get them copied. Any great stories you have would also be welcomed. Hope to hear from you soon. 2015 may be awhile away but it will be here before we know it. Blessings to all our members for without you this would not be happening.

Fraternally,

Vicki L. Schaub, Fin. Sec./Treas

BRANCH 260 – CAMPBELL, OHIO

Branch 260 will hold a meeting on Sunday, March 23, 2014, at the Bedford Trail Restaurant, Coitsville, OH. On the agenda: election of delegates to the 50th Quadrennial Convention of the First Catholic Slovak Union. The meeting will start at 1:30PM, with a luncheon to follow.

Fraternally,

Paul J. Ritz, President

BRANCH 276 - MCKEESPORT, PENNSYLVANIA

The St John the Baptist Branch # 276 will hold its next meeting on Sunday, March 16, 2014 at St Patrick's church hall on 32nd Street in McKeesport, Pa. at 1:00 P.M. All members are urged to attend.

Nancy Gerdich, Recording Secretary

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 372 - BEVERDALE, PENNSYLVANIA

There will be a special meeting will be held at 2:00PM on Sunday, April 6, 2014, for the election of delegate(s) for the 2014 FCSU Convention in August. The meeting will be held at the residence of President Michael P. Hudak, Sr., located at 829 Cameron Ave., Beaverdale, PA. The only business to be discussed will be the election of delegate(s) to the 2014 Convention.

Respectfully,

Michael P. Hudak, President

BRANCH 380 – CANONSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Ignatius Society, Branch 380 will meet at Kings Restaurant, Canonsburg, PA, at 2:00PM on Sunday, March 23, 2014. On the agenda: the election of delegates to the FCSU's 50th Quadrennial Convention to be held in August in Philadelphia. Mark your calendars for our next, semi-annual meeting to be held at the same time

and place (2:00PM, Kings Restaurant) on Sunday, April 27, 2014.

Fraternally,

Margaret Graytok, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 393 – GREENSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 393, will hold a meeting on Sunday, April 6, 2014, at 2:00PM at New City Buffet, 5142 State Route 30, Suite 175, Greensburg, PA, 15601. On the agenda: election of two delegates to the 50th Quadrennial Convention of the FCSU to be held in Philadelphia in August. All members are invited. For reservations, please call Mary Ann Nalevanko at 1-724-834-6386.

Mary Ann Nalevanko, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 401 – E. VANDERGRIFT, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 401 will hold its semiannual meeting on April 13, 2014, at 1:00pm at the residence of Patrick Froncek, 1223 Wysocki Ave., N. Apollo, PA. The agenda will include the election of delegates to the 2014 Quadrennial Convention of the FCSU. All interested members are encouraged to attend. Any questions please call 724-664-8216.

Fraternally,

Patrick Froncek, Secretary

BRANCH 419 – WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 419 will hold a meeting/luncheon on Sunday, April 27, 2014 at 12:30PM at Norm's on Sherman Street in Wilkes-Barre, PA. General business as well as convention plans will be discussed. Also we will pay tribute to our recent past president, Marie Gryczko.

Francis (Frank) Wassil, President

BRANCH 450 – CLEVELAND, OHIO

Branch 450 will be holding a meeting on Saturday April 26, 2014 at 10 am at Holy Spirit Byzantine Catholic Church Hall, 5500 West 54th Street, Parma Ohio 44129. (between Snow and Brookpark Roads).

Lori Valencik, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 553 – AKRON, OHIO

Due to the inclement weather on Sunday, January 26, 2014 St. John the Baptist Branch 553 had to cancel our lodge meeting that was scheduled to elect delegates and alternates to the upcoming convention. The meeting is being rescheduled for Sunday, March 23, 2014 to be held at the Slovak J Club, 485 Morgan Avenue, Akron, OH 44311 at 2 pm. All members are encouraged to attend this meeting that will include electing delegates and alternates to the convention. Attend the meeting and become active in our branch – learn all the exciting offers available to your through the First Catholic Slovak Union.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda M. Hanko, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 580 – WEST MIFFLIN, PENNSYLVANIA

Sacred Heart Branch 580 will hold a meeting on April 6, 2014, after the 9:30 Mass in the Holy Trinity Social Hall at 529 Grant Ave Ext., West Mifflin, PA 15122. All members are welcome.

Virginia Jasek, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 587 – ALIQUIPPA, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. John the Baptist Society Branch 587 will hold its semi-annual meeting on Wednesday, March 26, 2014, at the home of Albert Valo, 1835 Brodhead Road, Aliquippa, PA 15001, at 2:00PM. All members are invited to attend. Delegates to the FCSU 50th Quadrennial Convention to be held in August 2014 will be elected. Other business will be the discussion of insurance and annuities.

Edith Valo, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 595 - MUSKEGON HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN

Branch 595 will hold its next meeting on March 16, 2014 at 2:00pm , 2526 Sixth Street, Muskegon Heights, MI 49444. On the agenda at the

continued on page 17

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 5:00PM. 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 (election of the Michigan District delegate to the upcoming 50th Quadrennial Convention in Philadelphia will take place and plans for the convention 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.)

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: 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."

** Prince of Peace parish in Pittsburgh will hold a Slovak Mass and Easter Customs Breakfast on Saturday, March 29. Events begin with the recitation of the Rosary in Slovak at 9:45 at St Adelbert, 160 South 15th Street on the South Side. Father Peter Haledaj of St. Aloysius Church in East Liverpool, Ohio, will celebrate Mass, starting 10 AM. After Mass guests are invited to sample a traditional Slovak Easter breakfast at the Prince of Peace Parish Center at 81 South 13th Street. Breakfast features: sunka (ham), sirek (egg cheese), hrin (beets & horseradish), kolbasy (sausage), paska (sweet bread), pysanky (decorated eggs) and kolace (baked goods). There will also be raffles, craft demonstrations, cultural displays and imported Slovak gifts. There is no charge for admission but donations will be gratefully accepted. For more information call (412) 481-8380.

** 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.

** 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.

** The National Slovak Society Museum in McMurray PA is open Monday-Thursday from 9-3. Con-

tact Sue Ondrejco for information and reservations at 412-421-1204 or by email to smosr@verizon.net.

** The 15th Genealogical & Cultural Conference of the Czecho Slovak Genealogical Society International will be held on Oct 21-24, 2015 in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. See www.cgsi.org. Cedar Rapids is the home of the National Czech and Slovak Museum and Library. See 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

** 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/.

** 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

Fraternally,

Margaret A. Nasta, Secretary

DISTRICT 8 - REV. STEPHEN FURDEK DISTRICT- EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA, MARYLAND AND WASHINGTON, D.C.

The Rev. Stephen Furdek District will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday, March 23, 2014 at St. Andrew's Church Hall, 1229 Third St., Catasauqua, Pa. 18032. There will be a Mass at 11:00AM at St. Andrew's Church. Dinner will be served at 12:00 noon.

The meeting as well as a Sales Seminar will be held after dinner. The Sales Seminar will be given by the Membership & Marketing Committee of the First Catholic Slovak Union (FCSU).

We will also hold our election for our district delegate to the FCSU 2014 Quadrennial Convention.

Donation for the lunch is \$15.00 per person. Please make checks payable to Branch 157. All checks and credentials must be returned by Monday, March 17, 2014. PLEASE be prompt!!

Any questions, please call Loretta Dashner at 610.432.8350. Thank You!

Loretta Dashner, Recording 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 13 - JOZEF CARDINAL TOMKO DISTRICT

The Jozef Cardinal Tomko District 13 will hold a semi-annual meeting on Sunday, March 9, 2014, following a complimentary luncheon. The time is 2:00 pm at Cozy Corners in Osceola Mills, PA 16666 (Route 53 South from Philipsburg, PA 16866). Members from District 13 branches are requested to attend. 2014 dues are requested if not paid from each branch. Please call or fax Rosemary Deliman; 814 342 5592 if you are able to be present.

Rosemary Deliman, 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

DISTRICT 15 - PRINCE PRIBINA DISTRICT - LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

Prince Pribina District will hold Meeting on Palm Sunday April 20, 2014. Celebration begins at 12:00 PM with Slovak Holy Mass at St. John Bosco Chapel at St. John Bosco High School, 13640 S. Bellflower Boulevard, BELLFLOWER, CA 90706. Celebrant will be Fr. Pavol Sochulak from Ontario, CA. The Meeting will follow in the cafeteria. After meeting will be a period of fraternal fellowship and Slovak gourmet lunch, dessert and refreshments will be served. Children will enjoy traditional Easter Egg hunt.

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

On the agenda will be: Preparation for 50th Quadrennial Convention in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, consideration of recommended changes to the existing Bylaws of the FCSU, promotion and schedule of District fraternal activities and First Catholic Slovak Union Insurance program information.

Sincerely,

Paul Skuben, President

DISTRICT 16 - MSGR. STEPHEN KRASULA DISTRICT - NEW YORK CITY

The Msgr. Stephen Krasula District, District 16, will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday, June 1, 2014, at 1:00PM in the Rectory of St. John Nepomucene Church, 411 East 66th Street, 1st Avenue, New York, NY 10065.

On the agenda will be a financial report and a discussion of activities and other business.

We urge all district branches to send their representatives to this meeting. All members of the FCSU, not only district representatives, are welcome.

After the meeting, refreshments will be served, courtesy of The St. Matthew Society, Branch 45, NYC.

Fraternally,

Henrieta H. Daitova, Secretary/Treasurer

Address Changes?

Readers are reminded that all address changes for the JEDNOTA newspaper must be done at the Home Office in Independence, Ohio. If you have an address change, cancellation, or wish to receive the paper, write to: First Catholic Slovak Union, FCSU Corporate Center, 6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence, OH 44131-2398; Phone: 1/800-JEDNOTA (1/800-533-6682); Fax: 1-216-642-4310; or E-mail: info@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
004K	Patricia Komorowski	166K	Beverly Irene Tokos	419K	Marie A Gryczko	733K	John G Maruskin
005P	Curt Francis Kenderes	169P	Helen Camut	419K	John J Krulack	733K	Anne V Maslanik
005P	Ross David Kossuth	173K	Edward J Stofko	465K	Stephen Hancharik	735K	Joanne E Illias
005P	Leonard J Zavada	173K	Elizabeth A Vanchure	484K	George Patrick Jr	738K	Robert T Lucas
016P	Anne E Eslary	181K	Lois G Kmetz	553K	Grayce Prats	738K	Tracy R Rinko
023K	Robert Olcheski	199K	Helen A Short	567K	Catherine Sisolak	738K	Joseph A Tkach
023K	Robert F Vandrak	199K	Susan T. Siko	581K	John A Bazar	746K	Elizabeth A Antonietti
024K	Thomas G Petroc	200K	Pauline Renosky	584K	Rosemarie Galecki	754K	John S Nisky
024K	Joan J Spirko	211K	Stanley Krofick	584K	Cecilia Magusin	756K	Helen M Gasparovic
040K	Marilyn Irons	224K	Donald J Severa	636K	Andrew J Badik	784K	John Vanda
060K	Bernard J Estok	238K	Sam Lancia	636K	Edward M. Soviar	784K	Walter Hrycyk
083K	Joseph F Pavnica	254K	George R Martonik	652K	Margaret C Bowers	785K	Joseph Kovalik
085K	Richard B Felczuk	260K	Martha Hassay	670K	Christine Misanik	785K	Mary Tomsco
085K	Sharon M Figmic	278K	Andrew E Welkie	682K	Patricia H Baker	796K	Bernard E Makovsky Jr
086K	Pauline I Baluh	293K	Joseph Shigo	682K	Anne C. Luhmann	823K	Samuel Sternick
086K	Phyllis E Soriano	315K	Edward J Gretz	682K	John M Zabka	855K	Mary R Fasick
090K	John Hlavaty	372K	Michael J. Misencik	638K	Ethel Joanne Kovac	916K	Floyd B. Holocker
156K	Andrew Sikora	380K	Edward Petrosky	701K	Mary Scalzott		
162K	George J Pasternock	393K	Mary J Opsitnick	721K	Theresa Ann Fabus		

*Processed through the month of February 2014

OBITUARIES

**DOLORES A. (KOMISHOCK) HANINCIK
BRANCH 3P –
HAZELTON,
PENNSYLVANIA**



Dolores Ann (Komishock) Hanincik, 77, of Palmyra, PA, passed away peacefully with family by her side on Tuesday, December 10, 2013, at the M.S. Hershey Medical Center. She was born Friday, May 22, 1936, in Elmira, NY, to the late Michael and Anna Rose (Murman) Komishock. She grew up in Lebanon, PA, and raised her family in Hazelton, PA. She is survived by her loving husband of 52 years, Frank Hanincik, Jr.

She was a faithful member of St. Ann Byzantine Catholic Church and enjoyed traveling. Dolores was warm, kind, and generous. She was selfless with a warm sense of hospitality stemming from a heart filled with service for others. Most importantly she was a loving and compassionate wife and mother.

She is survived by a son, Rev. Frank A. Hanincik; a daughter, Ann M. Koshute and husband Keith; and 4 sisters, Elizabeth Heninger, Tina Sviben, Ann Marie Springborn, and Cora Krause.

Office of Christian Burial with Divine Liturgy was celebrated on Monday, December 16, 2013, at 11:00 AM at St. Ann Byzantine Catholic Church, Harrisburg, PA, with Rev. Michael G. Popson and Rev. Frank A Hanincik as celebrants. Burial followed in Hershey Cemetery. Family and friends were invited for viewing on Sunday, December 15, 2013, from 6 to 8 PM with Panachida at 7:30 and on Monday, December 16, 2013, from 9 to 10 AM, both at Rothermel Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Inc., Palmyra.

- Submitted by Frank Hanincik, Jr.

**JOHN STRAPAC
BRANCH 280 –
NATRONA HTS.,
PENNSYLVANIA**



John M. Strapac Jr., 86, of Brackenridge,

PA, passed away peacefully on Friday, Jan. 10, 2014, at the Applewood Personal Care Home, Brackenridge. He was born in Brackenridge and was the son of the late John M. and Caroline (Brenik) Strapac Sr. John retired from PPG Industries, Creighton, PA. He was a proud veteran having served during World War II as a first class seaman with the Navy. He was a member of St. Joseph Roman Catholic Parish, Natrona. He enjoyed all of the Pittsburgh sports teams and animals. He was preceded in death by his parents and his companion, Gabriella Stein. John is survived by his godson, Kenneth (Roxanne) Wloczewski and their family, Jonathan, Jacob and McKenzie. Friends were received from 2 to 6 p.m. on Sunday, January 12, 2014, at the PAUL R. AJAK FUNERAL HOME INC., Natrona, PA, where a parting prayer was held at 9:30 a.m. Monday, January 13, 2014, followed by a Christian Funeral Mass at 10 a.m. in St. Ladislaus Worship Site. Burial followed in Mt. Airy Cemetery, Natrona Heights, PA.

**AGNES K. LIDGETT
BRANCH 333 –
GRASSFLAT,
PENNSYLVANIA**



Agnes K. Lidgett, 74, of Bellefonte, PA, passed away Sunday, January 19, 2014, at Mount Nittany Medical Center. A daughter of the late Joseph and Anna (Terpak) Brnik, she was born on January 22, 1939, in Philipsburg, PA. She was married to Ronald N. Lidgett, who survives at home.

Agnes was a 1957 graduate of Cooper Township High School and a homemaker. She was a member of St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church in Bellefonte.

Along with her husband, Agnes is survived by one daughter, Tanya Packer and her husband Chad, of Bellefonte, one son, Ronald J. Lidgett and his wife Diane, of Bellefonte, one brother, Paul Terpak of Bellefonte, along with four grandchildren; Adam and Ryan Lidgett, and Alyssa and Katelyn Packer, all

of Bellefonte.

A public visitation was held on Wednesday, January 22, 2014, from 6-8 pm, at Wetzel Funeral Service, Inc, Bellefonte, PA, with a Vigil for the Deceased at 7:45 pm. A Funeral Mass was held Thursday, January 23, 2014, at 9:00 am, at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, Bellefonte, PA, with Father George Jakopac officiating. Burial followed in St. John's Catholic Cemetery, Bellefonte.

- Submitted by Ronald J. Lidgett

**THERESA A. SMRECANSKY
BRANCH 731 –
YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO**



A memorial Mass was held on Saturday, Jan. 11, 2014, at 11 a.m. at Our Lady of Sorrows Parish at St. Matthias Church in Youngstown, OH, with Fr. Martin Celuch and Msgr. Peter Polando officiating for Theresa A. Smrecansky, 85, who went to be with the Lord on Dec. 31, 2013, after a very short illness.

Theresa was born May 15, 1928, in Youngstown, OH, a daughter of Stephen and Catherine Dvornitsky Rakocy.

She retired in 1974, from Ohio Bell, where she worked as an operator for 28 years.

She was a member of St. Matthias Church, where she was a part of the Bereavement Committee. She was a past president of the Rev. Joseph L. Kostik District of the First Catholic Slovak Union, former vice-president of Branch 731 of the First Catholic Slovak Union, a member of the Infant Jesus of Prague Guild, Alter and Rosary Society, Holy Name Society, the Lansingville Ladies Political Club, Ladies PA Lodge, and the Catholic Slovak Federation.

She leaves to cherish her memories, her children, Judie (Ron) Vasko of Maple Grove, Minn. and Bob (Shanna) Smrecansky of Sammamish, Wash.; and grandchildren, Stacie Vasko Richter (Mike) and Katelyn and Ben Smrecansky. Theresa also leaves

behind many relatives, godchildren and friends.

Other than her parents, she was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Joseph Smrecansky, whom she married Aug. 28, 1948, and preceded her Sept. 15, 1992; sisters, Ann Stanislaw, Margaret Roberts, Mary Rohovsky and Sr. Mary Delphine; and brothers, Stephen, Joseph, Andrew and Michael Rakocy.

The Smrecansky family has entrusted their loved one to the care of the Kubina-Yuhasz-Wasko Funeral Home, Boardman. The family received friends from 10 to 11 a.m. on Saturday, January 11, 2014, at the church. Private inurnment took place at Calvary Cemetery, Cleveland, OH.

The family wishes to extend its heartfelt thanks to the staff of The Wellstead of Rogers and North Memorial Hospice, who did their utmost to comfort Theresa on her final journey.

**ALBERT P. SOLGA
BRANCH 856 -
WASHINGTON, DC AREA**



Albert P. Solga, 84, of Bethlehem, PA, passed away Tuesday, January 21, 2014. He was the loving husband of the late Ruth Marie (Goetz) Solga. Born in Catasaqua, PA, 1929, he was the son of the late Jan and Maria (Majtan) Solga, who were immigrants from Slovakia. Albert was a 1947 graduate of Central Catholic High. He served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War and was stationed in Germany where he met Ruth, his beloved wife of 52 years. Albert received a Bachelor's degree from Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in 1959. They eventually settled in Bethesda, MD. After working in intelligence, he worked in Export Control at the Department of Commerce for 35 years, retiring in 1993. He and Ruth travelled extensively, visiting family and going on great adventures. They also enjoyed spending

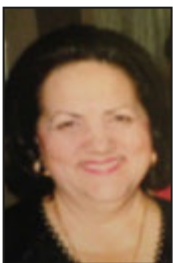
OBITUARIES

continued from page 16

time at their condo in Ocean City, MD. He loved the beach and swimming. They moved to Bethlehem in 2004 to be closer to family. He really enjoyed music and opera, attending many concerts, and even went to the Met in New York City to see operas and went to Musikfest every day. He was a supporter of the Bach Choir of Bethlehem. Al and Ruth were both members of the Little Flower Choir in Bethesda, MD for many years. Albert was a member of St. John the Baptist Slovak Catholic Church and was in the church choir. He also sang in the Cathedral choir of Allentown, PA. He was a member of the MORA Club, the First Catholic Slovak Union (Jednota) and the National Association of Retired Federal Employees. Al had a great life with many accomplishments. He truly enjoyed life and was loved and admired by many family and friends. Survivors include his children Albert Solga, Jr. of Long Creek, SC; Dot, wife of Greg Popovich of Sonoma, CA; and Tom, husband of the late Penny Solga of Kirkland, WA; grandchildren Tallon, Megan, Max, Kelsey, Kylie and Kristine; two great-grandchildren; brother Alex Solga of Allentown; many nieces, nephews and their children. He was predeceased by siblings John, Joe, Anna, Frank, Paul and Seraphine; and nieces Dorothy and Barbara and nephew, Jackie. A calling time was held on Sunday, January 26, 2014, from 3 to 5 p.m. with a Rosary at 4:30 p.m. in Kohut Funeral Home, Inc., Allentown, PA. Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Monday at 11 a.m. in St. John the Baptist Slovak Catholic Church, Allentown. Burial followed in St. Andrew's Catholic Cemetery, Catasauqua.

MARTA KULHAN

On January 22, 2014, Marta Kulhan passed away at the age of 88. Marta and her husband, John Kulhan, both of whom were born in Slovakia, had been married for 67 years. In 1950 they came to the United States.



Marta was very active in Slovak organizations. She was a member of the Slovak World Congress and the Slovak Liberation Committee where she served as financial secretary. She was a member of the St. John Nepomucene Church Parish in New York City. Over the years, she served as Mistress of Ceremony for many Slovak affairs in New York City. In Slovakia, Marta had been a member of the Marian Congregation since her youth.

Marta and her family were active in fund raising for the building of Our Lady of the Rosary Church in Praznovce, Slovakia. This church is dedicated to The Divine Mercy and was completed in 2000. Marta and her family were also instrumental in the canonization process of St. Faustina, the 1st Saint of the Millennium. For their work, they received

an Apostolic Blessing from Pope John Paul II on May 1, 2000.

Marta was a published poet and penned the name Marta Orsag. Recently, her husband, John, published his memoir Freedom's Gate which he dedicated to her. Marta and John were also featured in the award-winning short film documentary Freedom's Gate at the 2009 Queens International Film Festival and Beverly Hills Film Festival.

Marta is survived by her husband and is the loving mother of Ann Marie, Jean, Dr. Darline, John, and Sonia Kenney; cherished grandmother of six and great-grandmother of three. Her joy of life, her smile and her goodness will be sadly missed. Memorial donations may be made to: The National Shrine of The Divine Mercy, 2 Prospect Hill Road Stockbridge, Massachusetts 01261.

- Submitted by John Kulhan

SISTER PHYLLIS GEMBAROSKY

A member of the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth, died at the age of 77, on Wednesday, February 5, 2014. Sister was in her 60th year of Religious life.



Sister entered the Vincentian Sisters of Charity on September 8, 1954, from St. Dominic Parish in Donora, PA. Sister Phyllis received a B.S. Ed. with a major in Social Studies from Mt. Mercy College (Carlow) and an M. Ed. in elementary education administration from Duquesne University. Sister was privileged to serve God's children as a teacher and principal in the Dioceses of Pittsburgh and Greensburg in Pennsylvania, Mobile, Alabama, and Cape Gerardeaux, MO. In the 54 years that she spent in education, she touched the lives of hundreds of children and infants and this brought her much joy. Sister Phyllis was a woman of many talents. She was a seamstress and was especially talented as an artist and painter. There are many people who cherish her paintings. She had a keen eye for the beautiful, and would vocally thank God often for creation. Sister was predeceased by her parents, Paul and Anna Drapp Gembarosky; her sisters, Anne, Helen, Pauline, Cecilia, Lucy, and Regina; and her brothers, Edward, Paul, Joseph, and Gabe. Sister is survived by her sisters, Clara McDonough and Martha Gembarosky of Baltimore, Maryland; and many nieces and nephews, as well as numerous grandnieces and nephews. Sister also leaves to celebrate her life, the many members of her religious community. Family and friends were received at St. Louise Convent, Pittsburgh, PA 15237 (formerly the Vincentian Sisters' Convent Motherhouse) on Friday, February 7, 2014, from 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. The Mass of Christian Burial was offered in the Chapel at St. Louise Convent on Saturday, February 8, 2014, at 10:30AM. Burial followed in the Sisters' cemetery on the convent grounds.

BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

continued from page 14

meeting will be a financial report and discussions for the upcoming events for the year 2014. We urge all members to attend.

A wonderful time is had by all at our Polka Dances on the first Sunday of each month.

We continue to have successful breakfasts on the third Sunday of every month.

The first and third Thursdays we have a burrito night.

Please come and enjoy any and all of these great events with your friends!

Fraternally

Cindy Bellefeuil, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 628 - MUNHALL, PENNSYLVANIA

A meeting of Branch 628, St. Michael Archangel will be held on Thursday, April 10, 2014 at 7:00 PM at 141 Bellevue Drive, Penn Hills, PA. The agenda will consist of the election of delegates for the upcoming convention.

Sincerely,

Sylvia J. Velec, Recording Secretary

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.

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 Mattheas Church 915 Cornell Street, Youngstown, OH. Liturgy will be at 4 pm.

Jim Bobby, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 738 - MUNHALL, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Michael's Branch 738 will be holding its semiannual meeting on Tuesday April 8, 2014, at 6:30 pm at the VFW Post on Whitaker Way in Munhall, Pa. All members are encouraged to attend. In addition to the regular business meeting nominations and election of delegates to the National Convention in August 2014 will be held. Come join us and become a more active member of your branch.

Patricia Guidish, Secretary/Treasurer

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 844 - LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

The Los Angeles Branch 844 will hold their Annual Slovak Easter mass on Sunday, April 13, 2014, at St. John Bosco High School located on 13840 Bellflower Blvd, Bellflower, CA, 90706. Mass will begin promptly at 11:00AM. A delicious, authentic Slovak lunch will be served after Mass, along with an Easter egg hunt to for the children. Come and join us in celebrating the Slovak Spirit of Easter.

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

We hope to see you all there, and would like to wish everyone a very special and safe Easter holiday.

Fraternally yours,

Milan Konkol, Secretary

BRANCH 853 - CHARLEROI, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 853 announces the next meeting of members on Saturday, March 8 at 11:00am at McDonald's in Charleroi, PA. Convention information is on the agenda. An allotment for lunch will be given for all branch members attending. We are looking forward to seeing our fellow branch members. Any questions regarding the meeting and agenda could be directed to the branch president at 412-341-1577.

Monica Rodacy Boone, President

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 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

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

Extended Deadline for the First Catholic Slovak Union's 2014 Scholarship Program Is Almost Here - March 31st



ATTENTION ALL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICANTS



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.

Explore Your Heritage This Summer with 2014 Treasure Tours

Treasure 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 Treasure Tours offerings include Bratislava old town, Modra ceramics, Detva Folk Festival, Kežmarok Crafts Fest; two walled towns - Levoča and Bardejov - Prešov, Spiš Castle, staying in a castle overlooking Košice, charming Čičmany and more. July 11 to 20 - \$2,199 per person for the land trip. So new beginning of sentence reads: More information is available by visiting www.fcsu.com and clicking on Slovakia & The World Tab or directly from Treasure Tours, Helene Cincebeaux, 151 Colebrook Dr, Rochester NY 14617, (toll-free) 585 472-5377, 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.

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

Mark Your Calendars:

The following FCSU Sales Seminar has been finalized...



An FCSU Sales Seminar will be held on Sunday, March 23, 2014 at St. Andrew's Church Hall, 1229 Third St., Catasauqua, PA, 18032. The seminar will be conducted by the Membership & Marketing Committee of the First Catholic Slovak Union (FCSU), and will be held directly after the District 8 meeting and luncheon. (Editor's note: please see page 15 of this issue for details on the District 8 event).

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

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.**



Check out the First Catholic Slovak Union website at www.fcsu.com

A great source for the latest information about our Society - and events in the greater Slovak community.

Slovak Catholic Federation Seeks Contributors for 2014 The Good Shepherd Annual

Dobry Pastier (The Good Shepherd), edited by Sister Bernadette Marie Ondus, SS.C.M., and published annually by the Slovak Catholic Federation, is compiled of articles focusing on topics which are of interest to Slovak-American Catholics. The Federation is once again accepting articles for inclusion in its 2014 edition. Potential contributors should note that while the scope of the publication is broad, articles solely political in nature will not be accepted.

The deadline for all articles is **June 1, 2014. Due to the publication schedule, articles received after the deadline will not be included in the annual.** The annual will be available for distribution in the latter part of 2014.

In order to facilitate the editing and printing of *The Good Shepherd*, the following guidelines are established for authors who would like their work to be considered for inclusion in the annual:

GENERAL INFORMATION

All articles must be type-written, double-spaced, in Microsoft WORD format in 12 point, Times New Roman font. For the sake of the editor, please do not capitalize all words (or entire sentences), unnecessarily use exclamation points, etc. The article layout should be similar to articles printed in daily newspapers and magazines.

- It is strongly preferred that **English** articles be e-mailed to Sister Bernadette Marie Ondus, SS.C.M, Editor, at: bondusscm@gmail.com. In this age of modern technology, it is faster and more cost effective to work from a text that is provided digitally instead of having to retype the entire article.
- If it is not possible for an article to be e-mailed, an original "hard copy" may be mailed to Sister Bernadette at Villa Sacred Heart, Danville, PA 17821-1698. "Hard copy" means that articles are either typed or hand-written by the author. **Please do not send photo copies of articles or photos.**
- To be accepted for publication, articles must be between three and ten typewritten pages. Articles fewer than three pages or beyond ten pages will not be accepted.

USE OF PHOTOS

- If using photos within the article, **photos must be included at the same time the article is sent to the Editor.** (If sending photos digitally, save as separate JPGs to accompany the article.) Please indicate where photos are to be placed within the body of the article. Be sure to properly identify the persons, places and/or situations depicted in the photo(s). **If no indication is given as to where, within the article, the photos are to be inserted, the photos will not be used.**
- In the event that an article is e-mailed and photos are not included as attachments, the actual photographs, along with a hard copy of the article, must be mailed to Sister Bernadette Marie for inclusion in the article. (If more convenient, photos can also be saved to a CD which the printer can then link up with the article.) Once again, please be sure that the photos are properly identified and note where, within the article, the photos are to be inserted. Photos must always accompany the article for which they are intended.
- Captions must be included with the photos. This allows readers to better understand the relationship of the photo to the content of the article.

ARTICLES IN SLOVAK

- Slovak articles **can** be e-mailed to Sister Bernadette Marie, but a hard copy (including all accents) must **also** be mailed to her. (Please indicate that the article was both mailed and emailed.) Frequently, accent marks, diacritical characters, and other special characters do not come through properly when articles are e-mailed. Having a hard copy of the article, appropriately marked, will save valuable time and minimize errors.
- As Editor, Sister Bernadette Marie retains the right to correct grammatical errors, delete repetitions, rearrange ideas to make them clearer, etc. Sister Bernadette Marie also retains the right to determine the appropriateness of articles for the publication. However, she will not substantially change the author's ideas without first consulting the author.
- Our sincere thanks to all the faithful contributors to *The Good Shepherd!* Your contributions, year after year, ensure that the Slovak Catholic Federation is able to provide a quality annual which helps celebrate our Catholic faith, preserves our Slovak heritage, and allows our readers to stay in touch with what's happening in the Catholic Church, in Slovakia, and in the Slovak-American community.
- We are looking forward to your contributions again this year.
- Reverend Philip A. Altavilla**
National President
Slovak Catholic Federation

"Holding Hope High—Moving Forward with God"

Sister Barbara Sable, SSCM

On January 31, the Saint Cyril Spiritual Center in Danville offered a retreat designed for those who currently experience unemployment because of downsizing, budget cuts, layoffs and other reasons. The afternoon retreat had the theme of a "Hope-filled Journey" side-by-side with God in the midst of worries, job searches, and concerns. There were spiritual presentations by Sr. Barbara Sable who linked scripture with job resumes and interviews, and by Sr. Jean Marie who shared a personal story of hope in God amidst the trials of job loss.

The afternoon was co-sponsored by "Career Link" and "Central Susquehanna Opportunities, Inc." Staff members from these agencies provided information and material regarding job search and career assistance, and presented schedules for various classes. They answered questions and offered one-to-one consultation with participants. The day also provided time for silent prayer, reflection, and supportive sharing.



The participants remarked that the day gave them both hope, and valuable information.

Saint Cyril Spiritual Center offers retreats and reflection days on a variety of topics. For information on future retreats contact Sister Jean Marie at 570-275-0910.

Sister Jean Marie Holup, SS.C.M.,
Director of Saint Cyril Spiritual Center

Attention Rev. John J. Spitkovsky District II Members

On Sunday, May 18th, 2014 a Brunch and Play is scheduled at the Theatre at the Center, 1040 Ridge Road in Munster, Indiana. Brunch starts at 12:45 pm, with the play to follow at 2:30pm. The play is called "Miracle on South Division Street". Best Comedy of the year. It will keep you laughing from start to Finish. The total price is \$56.50, but District II members will receive a \$25.00 discount if you have attended a brunch and play previously. The cost is then \$31.50. If you have not attended a brunch and play before District II Members will receive a \$20.00 discount. The cost is then \$36.50. Non members pay full price.

For more information please call Art Fayta at 1-219-864-8251. Please make check payable to Rev. John J. Spitkovsky District II and mail to Art Fayta, 1544 Rokosz Lane, Dyer Indiana, 46311. The deadline is April 1st, 2014, Checks will not be honored after this date.

PLEASE MAIL THIS PART OF FORM ONLY

Members attended last year	\$31.50 each	X	=	Total
Members not attended last year	\$36.50 each	X	=	Total
Non Members	\$56.50 each	X	=	Total

Members Name	Branch #
Address	
Phone #	

Please list all names on a separate sheet and mail together to Art with checks.

Arthur Fayta
1544 Rokosz Lane
Dyer, IN 46311
219-864-8251

Answer to Puzzle

Solution to Puzzle from page 11

	F	L	A	B		G	A	B	B	Y		A	S	A
E	R	I	C	A		A	D	O	R	E		E	N	S
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Address Changes?

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

News From Slovakia

Zitnanska Pushes for Audio-taping of Court Proceedings

Bratislava, February 17 (TASR) - All court proceedings of cases in civil-law matters as well as all main proceedings, public sessions and closed sessions concerning criminal-law matters should be audio-taped by law, Independent MP Lucia Zitnanska proposes in her amendment to the code of civil procedure.

The draft, which is to be debated at a parliamentary session due in March, would - if okayed - introduce audio records for court proceedings in addition to the currently used written records. The sound recordings, which would be viewed as a complement to, rather than a substitute for, written records, would then be used both by higher-level courts and parties involved in proceedings plus their legal representatives.

Zitnanska said that she asked Justice Minister Tomas Borec back in April when the ministry would come up with a bill providing for recording court proceedings. She claims that Borec replied that this would happen in September 2013.

TASR Launching English News Video Service

Bratislava, February 17 (TASR) - The Press Agency of the Slovak Republic (TASR) is soon to launch a new English video service Slovakia 24/7 that will offer a weekly monitor of Slovak news on its news-reporting website teraz.sk.

Slovakia 24/7 editor and presenter will be TASR Export Desk's English language news editor Terry Moran, a seasoned journalist with experience from Great Britain and Canada before joining TASR in 1995.

"As a national public institution, TASR covers news that fall into the sphere of public interest, including information about Slovakia provided to foreign countries, our embassies abroad and foreign embassies in Slovakia as well as investors and other people who live in Slovakia but Slovak is not their mother tongue," said TASR General-Director Jaroslav Reznik.

According to Reznik, video-news about Slovakia in English represents a format in line with a current emphasis on the development of video content as part of the 'TASR in the Digital Age' project that Reznik introduced when he successfully vied for his reappointment as general director at the beginning of this year.

At the moment, the early test edition of the video can be found at <http://www.teraz.sk/slovensko/spravy-v-anglictine-slovakia-24-7/74185-clanok.html>. The website is undergoing some fine-tuning at the moment and its structure will undergo an overhaul, with an aim to facilitate navigation in the near future.

The video news service will be updated weekly every Friday. "We intend to continue with this trend," said TASR Director for Strategy Vladimir Puchala. "In the following days, we'll introduce a video service (in Slovak) - Economy: Here and Now - with presenter Richard Kvasnovsky and a discussion with diplomats entitled CD Klub."

Total of 722 People Deprived of Slovak Passports due to Citizenship Act

Bratislava, February 16 (TASR) - For three and a half years with the State Citizenship Act in effect (June 17, 2010-February 4, 2014), it has deprived a total of 722 people of their Slovak citizenship, according to the statistics of the Interior Ministry.

Out of the total, there were 310 men and 412 women. Most of them (289 people) lost their citizenship due to accepting Czech citizenship. Next came people receiving German (143), Austrian (94), British (62), Hungarian (47), U.S. (17), Dutch (13), Norwegian (12), Belgian (7), Irish (6), Italian and Swiss citizenship (both 5), French, Canadian and Australian (all three 4), Icelandic, Chinese and Swedish (all three 2), Ukrainian, Russian, Danish and New Zealand (all 1 person).

The Slovak Citizenship Act was passed by the first government of Robert Fico (2006-10) in response to the controversial Hungarian Dual Citizenship Act, which gave an unprecedented opportunity for Hungarians living in neighbouring countries like Slovakia and Romania to enjoy the benefits of Hungarian citizenship while living abroad. According to the Slovak legislation, all people who become citizens of a foreign country, lose their Slovak citizenship.

In addition, the legislation is being looked into by the Interior Ministry, which has been engaged in drafting a milder version of the law. The revisited amendment to the Act is expected to be submitted for inter-ministerial comments in the first half of this year. Interior Minister Robert Kalinak envisages in this respect that the amendment could grant the people who lost their Slovak citizenship an opportunity to claim it back under certain circumstances.

The Slovak legislation is being looked into by the Constitutional Court. This process was initiated by Gabor Gal (Most-Hid MP), according to whom the law is unconstitutional.

Malatinsky: Slovakia Still Attractive to Foreign Investors

Bratislava, February 14 (TASR) - Slovakia isn't becoming a black hole for foreign investors, said the Economy Ministry in reaction to claims made by former economy minister and now NOVA-affiliated MP Juraj Miskov based on the latest statistics issued by the Slovak central bank (NBS), TASR learnt on this date. Miskov said that Slovakia is becoming unattractive to foreign investors.

According to the ministry, NBS statistics on the inflow of foreign direct investment create only a quantitative picture of investments in Slovakia and don't provide information on the impact of the influx of foreign investments on employment; nor do they focus on the expanding foreign investments of already established companies investing their domestic resources. "These actually represent the key aspect of foreign investments in Slovakia. Slovakia is still attractive to foreign investors. This is also confirmed by reputable analytical institutions. So, the Opposition statement that Slovakia is some sort of black hole is at least misleading," said Economy Minister Tomas Malatinsky.

The ministry added that foreign investors invested more in Slovakia in the first 11 months of 2013 than they did in the whole of 2012. The ministry is therefore persuaded that support for already established companies is also essential for Slovakia as this creates long-term employment opportunities and contributes to regional development and ultimately to state budget revenues. "Last year, the Government supported the expansion of several companies that were already operating in Slovakia. These investments, supported by the Government in 2013, exceeded a value of €300 million and created more than 2,000 new jobs," added Malatinsky.

Fico and Sobotka: We're Not New EU Countries Any Longer

Bratislava, February 13 (TASR) - Prime Ministers of Slovakia and the Czech Republic, Robert Fico and Bohuslav Sobotka, respectively, at the National Convention on EU at the Comenius University in Bratislava on this date stated that the two countries shouldn't be viewed as new EU-member countries anymore after the ten-year membership.

According to Sobotka, it's necessary to replace gradually all old agreements between the EU and old countries containing various exemptions that make their position more advantageous compared to new countries.

Another challenge is to introduce a better co-ordination of budgetary and economic policies, further EU enlargement and maintaining its competitiveness, said Sobotka. He added that the Czech Republic under his leadership wants to begin preparations for adopting the euro.

Fico noted that Slovakia has met all its commitments related to the accession treaty, including the adoption of the euro and the entrance to the Schengen Area.

"We're part of the hard core of the EU," said Fico. He noted that Slovakia's GDP has increased by 25 percent since the country joined the EU in 2004, and at the moment it reaches 75 percent of the EU average. Meanwhile, the Czech economy reaches 80 percent of the EU average. The Slovak premier pointed out that the disparities between the two countries at the time of the partition in 1993 were more significant, however.

At the same time, Fico stressed that Slovakia will receive €13 billion more from the EU budget than it will deduce in the coming programming period.

Nominal Salaries Fell by 11.2 percent Y-o-Y in IT Sector in December

Bratislava, February 11 (TASR) - According to data published by the Statistics Office on this date, average nominal monthly salaries in December 2013 recorded the most significant year-on-year rises in the following sectors: in the sale and maintenance of motor vehicles - 10.1 percent to €890, in wholesale - 3.7 percent to €896, in accommodation - 3.6 percent to €603, and in transport and warehousing - 1.6 percent to €830.

Conversely, average monthly salaries fell in information and communication activities - by 11.2 percent to €1,917, and in construction - 7.7 percent to €639.

Average real salaries in December 2013 rose on yearly terms in the sale and maintenance of motor vehicles - 9.7 percent, in wholesale - 3.3 percent, in accommodation - 3.2 percent, and in transport and warehousing - 1.2 percent.

Meanwhile, average real salaries fell in information and communication activities - 11.6 percent, and in construction - 8.1 percent y-o-y.

When the whole of 2013 is compared to 2012, the average nominal salary rose in the sale and maintenance of motor vehicles - 6.1 percent to €799, in industry - 3.6 percent to €888, and in accommodation - 3.2 percent to €587.

Increases below 2 percent were recorded in restaurants and pubs (1.9 percent), in wholesale, and in selected market services (1.8 percent each), in transport and warehousing (1.7 percent), in retail (1.4 percent) and in information and communication activities (1.1 percent). The average nominal salary in construction remained flat.

Real monthly salaries in 2013 recorded, for example, the following y-o-y increases: in the sale and maintenance of motor vehicles - 4.6 percent, in industry - 2.2 percent, and in accommodation - 1.8 percent. The lowest rates of growth were recorded in construction - 1.4 percent and in information and communication activities - 0.3 percent. The average real monthly salary in retail remained flat throughout 2013.

Check out the First Catholic Slovak Union website at www.fcsu.com

14. marec 1939 jasný a prelomový bod slovenskej histórie

Drahí rodáci, sestry a bratia, sedemdesiatpäť rokov uplynulo od udalosti, ktorá položila Slovensko na mapu Európy a ktorou sa Slováci pripojili k ostatným vyspelým národom sveta ako rovnoprávny a rovnocenný člen. V rokoch, ktoré nás delia do 14. marca 1939, slovenský národ prechádzal vari najpohnutejším obdobím svojej histórie. Zažil chvíle poníženia, aby po ťažkých skúškach a mnohom utrpení dosiahol odmeny, ktorá prichádza tým, čo neprestali dúfať. Keď sa 20. storočie blížilo ku koncu, stredná Európa opäť zmetala v spoločensko-politickej kríze. Počas tejto krízy predstavitelia národa konali tak, ako ich predchodcovia v marci 1939. Nič nie je takým presvedčivým odobrením 14. marca 1939, ako je jeho rehabilitácia 1. januára 1993, keď bola obnovená slovenská samostatnosť. V oboch prípadoch zákonití predstavitelia národa robili iba to, čo im diktovalo svedomie a zmysel pre zodpovednosť. Nie z vôle cudzích, ale z Božej vôle, nie z márnomyseľnosti jednotlivcov, ale z úsilia a túžieb celého národa vznikla samostatná Slovenská republika v marci 1939 a z tých istých pohnútok bola obnovená v januári 1993.

Objektívny historik a vyhodnocovateľ udalostí okolo 14. marca sa nemusí nútiť do prílišnej veľkodušnosti, ani zamlčovať historické skutočnosti, ani okrášľovať jednotlivé podrobnosti, aby mohol vyhlásenie slovenskej štátnej samostatnosti smelo označiť za najvzácnejšiu hodnotu v histórii nášho národa. Ak totiž prijme univerzálne uznávanú zásadu, že samostatnosť je konečným cieľom každého národa, tak potom dosiahnutie tohto cieľa nemožno pokladať za nič menšieho ako vrcholiaci bod vývojovej krivky národného dozrievania. Takto hľadia na svoje dni nezávislosti, osamostatnenie, alebo oslobodenia príslušníci všetkých kultúrnych národov sveta a takto hľadia na 14. marec 1939 všetci sebavedomí synovia a dcéry nášho národa. Dnes už nikomu netreba pripomínať, že národ, ktorý bojuje za slobodu a domáha sa svojho prirodzeného práva na samostatnosť, koná len svoju povinnosť. A kto koná povinnosť voči sebe, nemôže sa odpustiť krivdy voči nikomu. Kto sa v mene spravodlivosti domáha toho, čo mu patrí, nemôže nijako poškodiť záujmy iného. A ako by bolo urážkou zdravého rozumu dokazovať, že samourčovacie právo sa vzťahuje aj na Slovákov a teda, že aj my máme právo na samostatnosť, tak by bolo nemiestne cítiť viny alebo sa dokonca niekomu ospravedlňovať za to, že sme ju 14. marca 1939 získali a chceme si ju zachovať.

Slovenská samostatnosť bola, je a bude v súlade s prirodzeným právom, s platnými zásadami medzinárodného práva, so všetkými deklaráciami ľudských práv a základných ľudských slobôd a s neodcudziteľným právom národa riadiť si svoj vlastný osud.

Bohužiaľ, na tomto nedokonalom svete to býva tak, že ľudské práva a vznešené humanitné princípy je vždy ľahšie vyhlasovať, než ich uskutočňovať. Ba často tí, čo sa najviac ním oháňajú, nie sú vždy ochotní veľkodušne priznať ich aj svojim mladším bratom, chudobnejším susedom, slabým a menej vyvinutým národom. Práve pre tento národný egoizmus nedosiahli všetky európske národy svoju štátnu samostatnosť v tom istom časovom období. Veľké a mocné národy si ju vedeli zaistiť pred storočiami, slabé a menšie národy len v 20. storočí a niektoré národy musia o samostatnosť zápasť ešte aj dnes. Žijeme veru v nedokonalom svete...

Slováci mohli uskutočniť svoje národné túžby až v r. 1918, keď na troskách mnohonárodných monarchií vznikali nové národné štáty. V revolučnom vlnobití, v ktorom sa zmetala celá stredná Európa, Slováci spojili svoje životné osudy s bratským národom českým v spoločnom štáte. Ale toto spoložitie s Čechmi nemohlo byť natrvalo, aj keby bolo bývalo anjelsky dokonalé. Politický vývoj a dospievanie národa sa nemohli zastaviť v r. 1918. Ten revolučný pohyb, ktorý viedol k rozpadu Rakúsko-Uhorska, neskončil vznikom Česko-Slovenska, Juhoslávie a iných nástupníckych štátov. Pokračoval nezadržitelne ďalej a jeho celkom normálnym, prirodzeným výsledkom bol rozpad Česko-Slovenska i Juhoslávie. Umelé pokusy obnoviť existenciu týchto neosvedčených štátnych útvarov po II. svetovej vojne, boli vopred odsúdené k neúspechu. Dnešná Európa je toho najpresvedčivejším dôkazom. Vznik národných štátov, ktorých je dnes v Európe toľko, ako nikdy predtým, bol zákonitým vývojovým procesom a osamostatnenie Slovenska v 1939 bolo teda celkom normálnou výslednicou prirodzeného vývoja. Vo svetle tejto skutočnosti sa 14. marec 1939 javí ako jasný prelomový bod našej histórie. V tento deň poslanci slovenského snemu stáli pred výberom medzi bytím a nebytím, medzi samostatným životom vo vlastnom štáte alebo otrockou existenciou pod nadvládou. Volili samostatný život a ich voľba má v sebe toľko mravnej, národnej i všeľudskej hodnoty, že to prevyšuje a zatienuje aj tie sprievodné javy vzniku a existencie prvej Slovenskej republiky, ktoré neboli dokonalé po každej stránke. Malé národy stredoeurópskeho priestoru sa musia prispôbiť politickému vplyvu, ktorý tam momentálne je. Od r. 1918 to bol mocenský vplyv Francúzska, Nemecka, Sovietskeho zväzu a dnes sú to liberálne kruhy vo Washingtone a v Bruseli. A preto Slovenská republika rokov 1939-1945 bola taká, akou bola Európa, v ktorej existovala. Zaistila však obyvateľom Slovenska slobodnejší, bezpečnejší a plnší život, než mali Česi v Protektoráte, Poliaci v rozdeľnom Poľsku, Slováci na južnom, Maďarmi obsadenom území. Toto je pravá hodnota a trvalý odkaz 14. marca.

Postoj k 14. marcu by nás mal všetkých spájať v myšlienke, že v tom podstatnom a pre život národa prepotrebnom, sme všetci za jedno. Bohužiaľ ani po 75 rokoch nie je on tým zjednocujúcim tmelivom, ktorým by mal byť. Namiesto toho je tým skúšobným kameňom, ktorý oddeľuje silných od slabých, sebavedomých od neistých, bedlivých od neprebudených, živých od živoriaciach, tých čo sem prišli od tých, čo nás budú zajtra v masmédiách ohovárať a sa nám vysmievať.

V neistotách tohto sveta jedno je isté: že triumf ľži a krivdy, čo ako krutý a neúprosný, je vždy len dočasný. A keď v slovách štúrovského básnika, opäť „za stôl zasadne pravda môjho ľudu“, aj 14. marec, tento „diamant, ktorý v hrude nezhnije“, aj keby mal v nej ležať ešte ďalších 75 rokov, sa zaskvie v tej nádhere a bude sa tešiť tej úcte, ktorá mu zasľúžene patrí.

Prof. František Vnuk

NA 14. MARCA

Rudolf Dilong

Keď jaro blížilo sa krokom láskavým, toho dňa ľud sa dožil novej doby

sadli k nám prvé lastovice, a širim krajom prešli veľké povesti,

Boh poslal nám ich, veľký darca, že pravda opustila hroby ...

a my sme srdcom jasavým ... a deti slnku na krk veniec vložili

písali nebu pohľadnice spievali mu piesne jagavé,

s dátumom 14. marca, že slobody sa dožili.

Slnko, ty mravokarca,

Ach, všetky zvony vtedy ráno zazneli, ó, vojdi do nás láskave,

zvony bolesti, do nervov a do tepien, do žily

tento kraj premenil sa v krajšie pastely, dnes 14. marca!

Bojnický oltár sa vrátil späť do zámockej kaplnky

Najcennejšia umelecká pamiatka Bojnického zámku, desať doskových obrazov stredovekého florentského majstra Nardo di Cione, nazývaná tiež Bojnický oltár, sa koncom roka 2013 po ôsmich desaťročiach vrátila späť do zámockej kaplnky. Tak ako si to želal a naplánoval posledný feudálny majiteľ zámku gróf Ján Pálffy (1829 – 1908).

Spokojnosťou žiaril predovšetkým riaditeľ Múzea Bojnice Ján Papco, ktorý urobil všetko preto, aby raz nastala, podľa neho, takáto historická chvíľa. V zámockej kaplnke, v pozlátenom oltári boli doteraz umiestnené iba kópie doskových obrazov. Originály vystavovali v Páňhrannej veži zámku, kde mali vytvorené potrebné klimatické podmienky. V tomto roku však začala rozsiahla rekonštrukcia týchto priestorov a Bojnický oltár v lete inštalovali na veľkej výstave Talianska maľba v Slovenskej národnej galérii. Z nej ich v špeciálnych prepravných drevených kazetách previezli do zámku. Tam ich domáci reštaurátori a ďalší pracovníci múzea opatrne, v bielych rukavičkách, vybalili a postupne osadili do skeletu oltára. V kaplnke ešte predtým vybudovali presklenú lokálnu klimatizačnú jednotku, ktorá patrí medzi najmodernejšie zariadenia svojho druhu v Európe.

“História Bojnického oltára je mimoriadne pohnutá. Polyptych v 14. storočí namaľoval Nardo di Cione pravdepodobne pre kláštor augustiniánov v Pize. Kedy a prečo ich z tamojšej kaplnky odstránili, nie je známe. Je však isté, že ich gróf Pálffy objavil v nejakom antikvariáte v polovici 19. storočia. Bol v Európe známy ako veľký milovník a znalec umenia. Nevedno však, kedy to bolo, ani kde presne ich kúpil. Kvôli nim však dal postaviť kaplnku a inštalovať nový pozlátený vyrezávaný oltár. Skelet oltára sám navrhol. Osadenia obrazov sa už gróf nedožil. Pod kaplnkou si však nechal postaviť kryptu s mramorovým sarkofágom, v ktorom je pochovaný,” informoval riaditeľ múzea.

Pokoj však grófovi nedožičili traja zloději, ktorí v roku 1933 päť najväčších dominantných obrazov ukradli s cieľom speňažiť ich. Pri prehliadke zámku sa ako bežní návštevníci nechali zatvoriť na chóre kaplnky, čo si správca nevšimol. Potom sa po lanách spustili do kaplnky, vybrali obrazy a cez malé okienka ich vyniesli do zámockého parku. Polícia za vypátranie obrazov vypísala odmenu 7500 korún. Viac ako rok sa však neobjavila žiadna stopa. Až neskôr jeden zo zlodějov vo väzení, kde sedel za inú trestnú činnosť, prezradil v snahe zmierniť si trest, že sa podieľal na krádeži. Tak sa podarilo obrazy zachrániť. Našli ich ukryté u jedného kachliara v Zlíne. Boli však čiastočne poškodené, preto ich spolu s ostatnými, ktoré zostali v zámku, previezli do Prahy na reštaurovanie. Odtiaľ ich dlho odmietali vrátiť do Bojníc. Stali sa súčasťou expozície talianskeho umenia pražskej národnej galérie. Niekoľkokrát prišla zo Slovenska požiadavka a vznikla široká mediálna kampaň, aby sa obrazy dostali späť do Bojnického zámku. Uskutočnili sa dokonca demonštrácie, na ktorých ľudia požadovali vrátiť vtedy už samostatnému Slovensku tieto cenné diela. Napokon do sporu museli zasiahnuť vtedajší premiéri oboch krajín. Bojnický oltár z Prahy vrátili výmenou za niektoré, tiež vzácne slovaciká.

Oltár previezli do Bojníc 15. decembra 1995 pri prísnych bezpečnostných opatreniach. Verné kópie obrazov Bojnického oltára, ktoré v 80. rokoch vyrobili v Prahe, aby upokojili vtedajšie požiadavky na ich návrat do Bojníc, zostanú aj teraz v kaplnke.

TASR



Eurovoľby na Slovensku 24.mája 2014

Štyristo miliónov Európanov si o pár mesiacov zvolí nový parlament a novú exekutívu EÚ. Prvé volebné miestnosti sa otvoria o 100 dní. Informovala o tom v polovici februára Soňa Miháliková Mellak z Informačnej kancelárie Európskeho parlamentu (EP) na Slovensku. Slováci si svojich 13 europoslancov zvolia v sobotu 24. mája. Tohtoročné eurovoľby budú podľa Mihálikovej Mellak iné, keďže EP má väčšie právomoci. “Májové voľby umožnia voličom posilniť nastolený kurz alebo zmeniť spôsob, akým Európa rieši hospodársku krízu a ďalšie otázky, ktoré ovplyvňujú každodenný život občanov,” uviedla.

Nových 751 europoslancov rozhodne o šéfovi Európskej komisie (EK). “Podľa nových pravidiel najvyšší vládni predstavitelia členských krajín EÚ, ktorí navrhnu kandidáta na post budúceho predsedu EK, tak budú musieť urobiť na základe výsledkov volieb. EP zvolí nového predsedu komisie väčšinou, teda najmenej polovicou hlasov 751 nových poslancov (376),” opísala Miháliková Mellak. Európske politické strany navrhnu pred eurovoľbami svojich kandidátov na túto funkciu. Politická väčšina, ktorá vzide z eurovolieb, bude počas nasledujúcich piatich rokov vytvárať európsku legislatívu v oblastiach od jednotného trhu až po občianske slobody. Európsky parlament je jediný priamo volený orgán EÚ. Podľa Mihálikovej Mellak má rovnakú váhu ako národné vlády pri právnych predpisoch EÚ. “Volič bude mať väčší vplyv ako kedykoľvek predtým,” tvrdí Miháliková Mellak.

EP má v súčasnosti sedem politických skupín, ktoré reprezentujú viac ako 160 národných strán. Nových europoslancov môžu voliť občania, ktorí majú najmenej 18 rokov, výnimkou je Rakúsko, kde môžu voliť od veku 16 rokov. Hlasovanie je povinné v Belgicku, na Cypre, v Grécku a Luxembursku. Na Slovensku je hlasovanie dobrovoľné. V máji pôjde o historicky tretie eurovoľby na území SR. V posledných, v roku 2009, dosiahla volebná účasť na Slovensku 19.64 percenta, čo bolo najmenej v celej EÚ. Na voľbách sa zúčastnilo 16 politických strán, zvíťazil Smer-SD, ktorý má v EP päť poslancov z celkovo 13 slovenských. Farby Slovenska v EP obhajujú 13 poslanci - Monika Flašíková Beňová, Monika Smolková, Katarína Neveďalová, Boris Zala a Vladimír Maňka (všetci Smer-SD), Eduard Kukan a Peter Šťastný (obidvaja SDKÚ-DS), Anna Záborská a Miroslav Mikolášik (obaja KDH), Edit Bauer a Alajos Mészáros (obidvaja SMK), Jaroslav Paška (SNS) a Sergej Kozlík (ĽS-HZDS).

TASR

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.

Zázazd na divadelné predstavenie s náboženskou tematikou „Mozes“ 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.

Blížišie 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

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

Oznamujeme členom nášho spolku, že sa uskutoční schôdza sv. Matúša č. 45 IKSJ v New Yorku v nedeľu 6. apríla 2014 o 12:30 hodine, po slovenskej svätej omši v osadnej hale Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého na Prvej Avenue a 66. ulici. Láskaovo žiadame našich členov o aktívnu účasť na tejto schôdzi.

Mária Jurášiová, pokladníčka

Polročná členská schôdza Okresu Štefana Krasuľu č. 16 IKSJ

Oznamujeme všetkým členom, že polročná členská schôdza Okresu Štefana Krasuľu Spolok č. 16 sa bude konať v nedeľu dňa 1. júna 2014 o 1:00 hodine odpoľudnia na fare Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého v New York City. Prosíme predsedov všetkých spolkov, ktoré patria do nášho Okresu, aby poslali čo najviac delegátov. Upozorňujeme, že aj nedelegáti sú vítaní. Program schôdze bude podanie finančnej správy a príprava plánu činnosti na budúce obdobie. Po polročnej schôdzi sa bude predávať občerstvenie, ktoré pripravia členovia spolku sv. Matúša č. 45 IKSJ. Ostávam s kresťanským pozdravom

Henrieta H. Daitová, tajomníčka

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. Blížišie informácie: Milan R. Dait (201) 641-8922; Jozef Bilik (718) 463-2084. Vstup je voľný.

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!

Rev. Kristián Libant, CM.

Oslavy slovenskej štátnosti 34. zboru SLvA v Sterling Heights, MI

34. Zbor Slovenskej ligy v Amerike, kráľa Svätopluka v Detroite 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 akejkoľvek prestávky. Ešte na jeseň roku 1947 vtedajší pán farár slovenskej osady v Detroite Rev. Jozef Zálibera slúžil zádušnú svätú omšu za nášho mučenika, pána prezidenta, Dr. Jozefa Tisu, za účasti niekoľko stoviek tunajších Slovákov a Sloveniek. 34. zbor v Detroite 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.

Ping-pongový turnaj v Cliftone, NJ

V nedeľu 16. marca o 2.00 hodine poobede sa uskutoční turnaj v ping-pongu, ktorý organizuje slovenský spolok Domovina pri kostole Sv. Cyrila a Metoda, 235 Ackerman Avenue, Clifton, NJ. Štartovné je \$10.00. V cene je započítané malé občerstvenie.

Zájemcovia sa môžu prihlásiť u Jozefa Ofčanského, tel. č. 862-686-1223, alebo Mareka Holu, tel. č. 862-703-6220, e-mail: zpapresov@aim.com.

Popoludnie slovenskej poézie

Slovensko-americké kultúrne stredisko pozýva milovníkov slovenskej poézie na kultúrne popoludnie v nedeľu 30. marca o 2.00 hodine popoludní na fare Kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého, 411 E 66th Str. v New Yorku. V kruhu priateľov plánujeme stráviť príjemné chvíle čítaním a prednášaním našich obľúbených básní.

Zájemcovia si môžu pripraviť obľúbenú slovenskú poéziu, ktorú budú mať možnosť aj zarecitovať. Podávané bude aj občerstvenie. Blížišie informácie: Zuzana, tel. č.: 973-357-1209.

POZVÁNKA



na celosvetové stretnutie rodákov - Banskobystričanov v dňoch

12.-14. septembra 2014

V tomto termíne sa konajú každoročné Dni mesta Banská Bystrica spolu s vychýreným Radvanským jarmokom, ktorý sa môže popýšiť 357-ročnou tradíciou.

Pre účastníkov celosvetového stretnutia Bystričanov mesto pod Urpínom pripravilo celý rad zaujímavých podujatí vrátane prijatia u primátora mesta, pána P. Gogolu.

Túto prvú informáciu o plánovanom stretnutí krajanov v Banskej Bystrici posielame do krajského sveta už teraz, v dostatočnom časovom predstihu, tak aby si každý mohol včas naplánovať svoju letnú dovolenku a krajanovia z zámoria si mohli zakúpiť letenky za výhodnú cenu.

Radi by sme Vás chceli poprosiť o rozširovanie tejto informácie aj cez sociálne siete (facebook, twitter a pod.) medzi Vám známymi rodákmi z Banskej Bystrice a blízkeho okolia, za čo Vám dopredu pekne ďakujeme.

V prípade záujmu pošlite prosím kontaktný mail, prípadne mailovú adresu Vám známych Bystričanov na:

info@permon.eu

Priebežne Vám budeme posilať ďalšie aktuálne informácie.

Tešíme sa na hojnú účasť pri celosvetovom stretnutí rodákov z Banskej Bystrice na Dňoch mesta / Radvanskom jarmoku 12.-14. septembra 2014.

S úctou a krajským pozdravom

Dušan Klimo



Jubilujúci slovenský kardinál Jozef Tomko

Pokračovanie zo str. 24

mal priam v povahe. Jeho štíhla postava, asketická tvár so živými očami a s miernym úsmevom, dodávali celej oslave, - napriek spontánnemu, pestrému nadšeniu veriacich - posvätný ráz. Rimania nemohli zabudnúť, že po bombardovaní rímskej štvrť a baziliky sv. Vavrinca, Pius XII. sa objavil ako ich biskup medzi ustrašenými ovečkami. Cez vojnu zachraňoval židov, dal príkaz skryť prenasledovaných v kláštoroch. Zaslúžil si názov „defensor Civitatis“ – „obranca Mesta“, to je Ríma. Jeho prejavy na nabitom námestí sv. Petra, ktoré predniesol vždy bez papiera zvonivým hlasom, zapalovali a posmeľovali v dobe, keď na taliansku verejnosť tlačila zvnútra najsilnejšia komunistická strana v Európe a zvonku socialistický blok. Veľa Židov z cudziny aj z Izraela prichádzalo ďakovať mu za pomoc a záchranu. Až ku koncu jeho pontifikátu vyšiel nemecký literát Hochhut s falošnou obžalobou proti Piovi XII. v dráme „Stellvertreter“ (Zástupca), že sa málo zasadil za Židov a že bol celkove necitlivý. Môžem však dosvedčiť z vlastnej skúsenosti, že ľudia odchádzali po krátkom rozhovore s pápežom dojatí, aj so slzami v očiach. Aj k nám bol veľmi milý, keď som viedol k nemu púť amerických Slovákov alebo skupinu kňazov.

Po Piovi XII. bol roku 1958 zvolený už takmer sedemdesiatšesťročný Angelo Roncalli; vybral si meno Ján XXIII. Bol pápežom nie celých päť rokov, mal otcovské srdce, ako to ukázal aj našej skupine kňazov odchovancov Nepomucéna. Rimanov si získal najmä svojím krátkym prejavom večer po návrate z apoštolskej cesty, keď z okna vatikánskeho paláca za svitu mesiaca pozdravil zástup a prosil veriacich, aby odovzdali bozk od pápeža svojim deťom. Prešiel do histórie ako „papa buono“, ale predovšetkým tým, že mal odvahu zvoliť Druhý vatikánsky koncil. Roku 2000 bol blahoslavený a v apríli tohto roku bude kanonizovaný spolu s Jánom Pavlom II.

Po ňom nastúpil v júni 1963 s menom Pavol VI. šesťdesiatšesťročný milánsky arcibiskup Giovanni Battista Montini, ktorý dlhé roky predtým pracoval v ústrednej správe Cirkvi vo Vatikáne. Človek vysokej inteligencie a jemnej povahy, ktorý priviedol k zakončeniu Druhý vatikánsky koncil. Vážili si ho tak vzdelaní ľudia, ako nám to prejavil jeho priateľ filozof Jean Guitton, ale aj jednoduchí veriaci. Jeho prejavy mali vysokú úroveň, ale keď odložil papier, jeho slová získali oheň a zápal pastiera. Mám vzácnu spomienku na jeho slová, ktorými ma prijal ako nového podsekretára Kongregácie pre biskupov.

Usmievať pápež Ján Pavol I., Albino Luciani, bol pred zvolením za pápeža (roku 1978) generálnym vikárom v Bellune, potom biskupom vo Vittorio Veneto a patriarchom v Benátkach. Bol vždy veľmi ľudský. Stretol som ho viackrát v Bellune a pamätám sa, ako v Benátkach očaril celú medzinárodnú ekumenickú komisiu; voľakto to nazval „ekumenizmus srdca“. Zomrel však náhle po necelom mesiaci na stolci sv. Petra.

Hovorí sa, že tento jeho krátky pontifikát otvoril dvere netalianskym kandidátom. 16. októbra 1978 bol zvolený krakovský arcibiskup Karol Wojtyła, ktorý mal iba 58 rokov. Všetci si pamätáme jeho výzvu na ľudstvo pri začiatku pontifikátu: „Nebojte sa Krista!“ Keď krátko po voľbe za hlavu Cirkvi navštívil Kongregáciu pre biskupov, prišiel aj do mojej pracovne. Ja som vyložil na stôl krásnu knihu fotografií Vysokých Tatier zo slovenskej i poľskej strany. Listoval v nej a k jednotlivým končiarom mal svoje poznámky. On po poľsky a ja po východniarsky, pri čom sa okolo stojaci kolegovia len divili. Tie naše spoločné hory nám obom chýbali. Na sviatok Sedembolestnej Panny Márie 15. septembra 1979 ma osobne vysvätil za arcibiskupa v Sixtínskej kaplnke. Jeho ruky stále cítim na svojej hlave. Potom prišlo šesť rokov úzkej spolupráce na sekretariáte biskupskej synody a od roku 1985 na čele svetových misií. Dňa 2. apríla 2005 som bol hádam posledný, keď som krátko po smrti božkal sinavú ruku tohto nášho veľkého priateľa. Naplnil dvadsaťsedem rokov pontifikátu obrovským dielom, tvorbou, cestami a príhovormi. Na jeho pohrebe sa už ukázali v dave ľudí nápisy: „Santo subito!“ (Svätý ihneď!) Túžba sa už plní!

Tak sme vstúpili do doby pápežov – našich súčasníkov. Roku 2005 voľba sedemdesiatosemročného kardinála Josepha Ratzingera, ktorý si vybral meno Benedikt XVI., bola rýchla. Osobne som ho poznal ako mladého, ale už váženého profesora teológie, keď sa tvorila Medzinárodná teologická komisia pri Svätej stolici, aj keď ho Ján Pavol II. menoval za mníchovského arcibiskupa a neskôr za hlavného relátora pre biskupskú synodu o manželstve a rodine, a za prefekta Kongregácie pre učenie viery. Jeho zrieknutie sa vykonávania pápežskej služby prišlo ako hrom z jasného neba, ale chápali sme jeho dôvody i jeho odvahu. Žije v ústraní vo vatikánskych záhradách. Od marca 2013 spravuje Katolícku cirkev pápež František, vlastným menom Jorge Mario Bergoglio, ktorý sa narodil v Argentíne. Duch Svätý i naďalej vedie Kristovu Cirkev.

Kardinál Jozef Tomko
TK KBS, RV

Krátké správy zo Slovenska

NRSR: L. Žitňanská chce zaviesť povinné zvukové záznamy zo súdnych pojednávanií

Bratislava 17. februára (TASR) - Z každého súdneho pojednávania v občianskoprávných veciach a každého hlavného pojednávania, verejného zasadnutia a neverejného zasadnutia v trestnom konaní by sa mal povinne vyhotovovať aj zvukový záznam. V novele Občianskeho súdneho poriadku to navrhuje poslankyňa Národnej rady SR a exministerka spravodlivosti Lucia Žitňanská (nezaradená). Právnou normou sa bude parlament zaoberať na marcovej schôdzi.

Opozíčná poslankyňa tak chce doplniť v súčasnosti platné zaznamenávanie priebehu týchto procesných úkonov súdu formou zápisnice o novú formu, ktorou je zvukový záznam. Ten by sa mal vyhotovovať popri zápisnici, teda nemá byť jej náhradou, ale doplnkom. Zvukový záznam by mal potom slúžiť ako súdu vyššieho stupňa, tak aj účastníkom konania a ich právnym zástupcom.

Žitňanská zároveň navrhuje, aby sa takto vyhotovený záznam považoval za súčasť súdneho spisu bez ohľadu na to, či bude zachytený na hmotnom nosiči alebo bude uložený v informačnom systéme používanom na súdoch. „Týmto spôsobom sa zabezpečí aj prístup účastníkov konania a ich právnych zástupcov, resp. strán v trestnom konaní k tomuto záznamu (vrátane vyhotovenia kópie za úhradu vecných nákladov), ktorý bude podriadený prístupu k súdnemu spisu,“ uvádza v dôvodovej správe.

Žitňanská pripomína, že ešte v apríli 2013 interpelovala ministra spravodlivosti Tomáša Boreca (nominant Smeru-SD). Chcela vedieť, kedy jeho rezort pripraví a predloží do legislatívneho procesu návrhy právnych predpisov, ktoré by nahrádzanie všetkých súdnych pojednávanií umožňovali. Borec podľa Žitňanskej v odpovedi uviedol, že sa tak stane v septembri 2013.

MÉDIA: Správy v angličtine sú tretou videoreláciou na teraz.sk

Bratislava 17. februára (TASR) - Slovakia 24/7 je názov novej videorelácie, ktorú TASR dnes uvádza na spravodajskom webe teraz.sk. Relácia ponúka spravodajský prehľad týždňa na Slovensku v anglickom jazyku. Editorom a moderátorom správ je redaktor exportu TASR, novinár so skúsenosťami z Veľkej Británie i Kanady, Terry Moran.

„TASR ako národná verejnoprávna inštitúcia prináša informácie vo verejnom záujme, ktorými sú aj informácie o Slovensku pre zahraničie, pre naše ambasády v zahraničí či zahraničné ambasády na Slovensku, investorov a ďalších ľudí, ktorí žijú na Slovensku a slovenčina nie je ich prvý jazyk. Reláciu uvidíme aj na webe skolskyservis.sk a ponúkame ju školám na študijné účely,“ povedal generálny riaditeľ TASR Jaroslav Rezník.

Podľa Rezníka sú videoprávy o Slovensku v angličtine formátom, ktorý rešpektuje súčasný trend nástupu videa v zmysle projektu „TASR v digitálnom veku“, ktorým sa v januári uchádzal o post generálneho riaditeľa.

Reláciu s týždennou periodicitou bude teraz.sk uvádzať v piatok popoludní. Po relácii Svet: tu a teraz s Pavlom Demešom a programe Týždeň na webe ide o tretiu videoreláciu na teraz.sk a skolskyservis.sk. „V tomto trende budeme pokračovať,“ povedal riaditeľ stratégie TASR Vladimír Puchala. „V najbližších dňoch uvidíme reláciu Ekonomika: Tu a teraz s moderátorom Richardom Kvasňovským a reláciu s diplomatmi s názvom CD klub.“

MV SR: Zákon o občianstve pripravil doteraz o slovenský pas 722 ľudí

Bratislava 16. februára (TASR) - Zákon o štátnom občianstve pripravil za tri a pol roka (od 17.7.2010 do 14.2.2014) o slovenský pas 722 ľudí, z toho 310 mužov a 412 žien. Najviac z nich (289) stratilo slovenské občianstvo pre prijatie českého. Vyplýva to zo štatistik Ministerstva vnútra SR.

O slovenský pas prišli aj osoby, ktoré prijali občianstvo nemecké (143), rakúske (94), britské (62), maďarské (47), americké (17), holandské (13), nórske (12), belgické (7), írske (6), talianske a švajčiarske (obe po 5), francúzske, kanadské a austrálske (všetky po 4), islandské, čínske a švédske (všetky po 2), ukrajinské, ruské, dánske a novozélandské (všetky po 1).

Slovenský pas strácajú ľudia na základe zákona o štátnom občianstve, ktorý prijala prvá vláda Roberta Fica (Smer-SD). Niekdajší kabinet reagoval právnou normou v roku 2010 na maďarský zákon, ktorý od roku 2011 zjednodušuje udeľovanie dvojakeho občianstva zahraničným Maďarom. Na základe súčasného zákona prichádzajú o slovenský pas tí, ktorí prijali občianstvo iného štátu. Od prijatia zákona sa objavili viaceré pokusy o zjemnenie tejto právnej normy, avšak ani jeden z nich nebol úspešný.

V súčasnosti sa zmiernením zákona zaoberá ministerstvo vnútra. Do medzirezortného pripomienkového konania by sa mala dostať opravená novela v prvom polroku tohto roka. Minister vnútra Robert Kaliňák avizoval, že podľa novely by ľudia, ktorí stratili slovenské občianstvo prijatím občianstva iného štátu, mohli slovenský pas získať späť.

Súčasná právna norma je momentálne na Ústavnom súde SR. Skupina poslancov Národnej rady SR, ktorú vedie Gábor Gál (Most-Híd), namieta, že ustanovenie zákona hovoriace o strate štátneho občianstva SR tým, že občan prijme štátne občianstvo iného štátu, je v rozpore s Ústavou SR. Ústavný súd SR o tom stále nerozhodol.

T. MALATINSKÝ: Slovensko je pre zahraničných investorov stále atraktívne

Bratislava 14. februára (TASR) - Slovensko nie je pre investorov „čiernou dierou“. Tvrdí to Ministerstvo hospodárstva (MH) SR, ktoré tak odmieta tvrdenia nezaradeného poslanca Národnej rady (NR) SR Juraja Miškova. Ten vyhlásil, že Slovensko sa pre zahraničných investorov stáva neatraktívne. Tieto svoje tvrdenia podložil štatistikami Národnej banky Slovenska (NBS), podľa ktorých Slovensko vlni od januára do novembra vykázalo negatívny prílev zahraničných investícií.

Podľa MH SR každoročná štatistika NBS o príleve zahraničných investícií na Slovensko publikuje kvantitatívny obraz o priamych zahraničných investíciách, avšak neposkytuje informácie o dôsledkoch prílevu zahraničných investícií na zamestnanosť, ani sa nezameriava na rozširovanie zahraničných investícií etablovaných spoločností za použitia domácich zdrojov. „Tieto skutočnosti predstavujú kľúčový aspekt zahraničných investícií na Slovensku. Slovensko je pre zahraničných investorov stále atraktívne. To potvrdzujú aj renomované analytické spoločnosti. Preto tvrdenie opozície o Slovensku, ako o akejsi čiernej diere, je prinajmenšom zavádzajúce,“ uviedol v stanovisku pre médiá minister hospodárstva Tomáš Malatinský (nominant Smeru-SD).

Podľa ministerstva celkovo za prvých 11 mesiacov roku 2013 zahraniční investori investovali na Slovensku o niečo viac ako v celom roku 2012. Rezort je tak presvedčený, že pre krajinu je dôležitá aj podpora etablovaných spoločností, ktoré na Slovensku pôsobia dlhodobo a dlhodobo taktiež podporujú zamestnanosť, rozvoj regiónov a v neposlednom rade aj príjmy štátneho rozpočtu. „Vláda v minulom roku podporila investičnou pomocou rozšírenie viacerých spoločností pôsobiach na Slovensku. Iba tieto investície, podporené vládou, v roku 2013 presiahli hodnotu 300 miliónov eur a vytvorili viac ako 2000 nových pracovných miest,“ dodal Malatinský.

BRATISLAVA: Premiéri SR a ČR upozornili, že už nie sme novými členskými štátmi EÚ

Bratislava 13. februára (TASR) - Premiér Slovenskej republiky Robert Fico (Smer-SD) a Českej republiky Bohuslav Sobotka (ČSSD) na dnešnom spoločnom verejnom vystúpení v rámci Národného konventu o Európskej únii (EÚ) na pôde Univerzity Komenského v Bratislave konštatovali, že po desiatich rokoch členstva už naše republiky nie sú novými členskými štátmi Európskej únie.

Práve preto je podľa Sobotku potrebné postupne prekonať všetky staré dohody dávajúce členom, ktorí vstúpili do EÚ pred rokom 2004, rôzne výnimky. Výzvou je podľa českého premiéra aj lepšia koordinácia rozpočtovej a hospodárskej politiky, ďalšie rozširovanie EÚ a udržanie jej konkurencieschopnosti. Česká republika pod jeho vedením plánuje priblíženie k EÚ, okrem iného sa chce začať pripravovať na prijatie eura. „Radi by sme boli pri tom, keď sa bude diskutovať o európskej budúcnosti,“ povedal Sobotka.

Slovensko podľa Fica splnilo všetky svoje záväzky z prístupovej zmluvy, vrátane prijatia eura a vstupu do schengenského priestoru. „Sme súčasťou najužšieho jadra Európskej únie,“ poznamenal. Pripomenul, že HDP Slovenska sa za desať rokov v EÚ zvýšilo o 25 percent a momentálne dosahuje 75 percent priemeru EÚ, pre porovnanie, česká ekonomika dosahuje až 80 percent európskeho priemeru. Slovenský premiér však upozornil, že rozdiely vo výkonnosti oboch republík boli v čase rozdelenia Československa podstatne väčšie. Zároveň pripomenul, že Slovensko dostane v najbližších rokoch z EÚ o 13 mld. eur viac, ako do nej odvedie.

„Vstup do EÚ viedol k prosperite, umožnil modernizáciu ekonomiky. EÚ je tiež garantom mieru, stability, demokracie a prosperity. Česká republika a Československo boli v minulosti vždy závislé od rozhodnutia veľmoci, niekedy bez toho, že by sa prihládalo na náš názor. To už sa nebude opakovať,“ zhrnul Sobotka výhody členstva EÚ.

150. výročie narodenia Jozefa Murgaša



V pondelok 17. februára si pripomenuli 150. výročie narodenia kňaza, vynálezcu, umelca a národovca Jozefa Murgaša. Pri tejto príležitosti Rádio LUMEN odvysielalo v nedeľu 16. februára reláciu Karmel. Môžete ju nájsť v našom archíve <http://www.lumen.sk/archiv.html>. Štúdio Rádia LUMEN v Bratislave Karlovej Vsi nosí meno Jozefa Murgaša.

Národná banka Slovenska (NBS) vydala 20. januára tohto roka striebornú zberateľskú mincu s tematikou Jozef Murgas – 150. výročie narodenia v nominálnej hodnote 10 eur.

Minca zobrazuje anténový stožiar signálu bezdrôtovej telegrafie vo Wilkes-Barre v Spojených štátoch amerických, ktorú navrhol práve slovenský vynálezca Jozef Murgas a pomocou ktorej uskutočnil prvé úspešné vysielanie. Autorom návrhu je akademický sochár Ivan Rehák. Predajná cena mince v bežnom vyhotovení je 17.60 eur a vo vyhotovení proof (v najvyššej možnej kvalite) 22.10 eur. Predávať ju budú podľa Solčányiovej zmluvní partneri NBS.

Jozef Murgas (1864 až 1929) bol slovenský vedec a vynálezca svetového formátu. Svojimi prácami a vynálezmi významne prispel k rozvoju rádiotelegrafie. Pravdepodobne ako prvý na svete uskutočnil rádiový prenos hovoreného slova.

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❖❖❖ Slovensko pod novou príťažlivou spoločnou značkou

V priebehu budúceho roka by sa Slovensko podľa šéfa rezortu diplomacie Miroslava Lajčáka mohlo svetu predstaviť pod novou príťažlivou spoločnou značkou. „Nebudeme viac štiepiť sily a vysielat protichodné posolstvá,“ uviedol na tlačovej konferencii 16. februára, ktorou sa zároveň symbolicky odštartovala verejná diskusia k príprave brandingu, teda budovania značky, Slovenska.

Po odbornej debate vstúpil projekt branding, ktorý koordinuje MZV, do kľúčovej fázy, teda do oslovenia širokej verejnosti. „Jej reakcie budú dôležitou spätnou väzbou, ktorú budeme rešpektovať,“ deklaroval Lajčák s tým, že po vyhodnotení diskusie sa na budúci rok vyhlási verejné obstarávanie. Jeho víťaz pripraví komplexné budovanie značky SR zahŕňajúce tvorbu loga, sloganov, grafiky či uvádzacích kampaní.

Za dôležité minister považuje to, aby sa Slovensko dokázalo okrem svojej kritiky pozrieť aj na množstvo pozitívnych príbehov a úspechov, ktoré krajina a ľudia dosiahli. „Práve o tom by mal byť branding. Len vtedy nás budú iní vnímať pozitívne, pokiaľ my sami budeme veriť príbehu, ktorý o sebe budeme šíriť. Chcem, aby sme dali o sebe vedieť svetu hlavne v dobrom,“ podčiarkol.

Konzultant pre branding a marketing Marián Timoracký poznamenal, že ide o nekončiaci sa proces, ktorého začiatkom je verejná diskusia. „Z dlhodobého hľadiska je to manažovanie spoločenskej diskusie a národnej identity. Nie je to len o logu,“ upozornil. Podľa Lajčáka význam tejto úlohy stúpa spolu s predsedníctvom Slovenska v EÚ v druhej polovici roku 2016.

TASR

❖❖❖ KBS udelila cenu Fra Angelico dvanástim osobnostiam

Pokračovanie zo str. 24

spisovateľ Anton Hykisch. A za celoživotné dielo in memoriam boli ocenení spisovatelia Janko Silan (vl. menom Ján Ďurka) a Eugen Vesnin (vl. menom Ignác Zelenka). V oblasti výtvarného umenia sa laureátmi stali akademický maliar Juraj Oravec, expert v oblasti stavebníctva Vladimír Kohút a akademickí maliari Iva Jarošová – Štrbová a Pavol Rehák.

Okrem týchto kategórií Rada KBS udelila mimoriadne ocenenia. Konkrétne historikovi Richardovi Marsinovi, publicistovi a historikovi Imrichovi Kružliakovi a in memoriam pápežskému prelátovi Antonovi Botekovi. Jeho životným dielom sa stal preklad Svätého písma z originálnych textov, ktorému zasvätil dvadsať rokov svojho života.

„Cirkev to nie sú len kňazi a biskupi, to sú všetci pokrstení veriaci, ktorí majú rozličné schopnosti a rozličné dary a týmto oceňovaním chceme povzbudiť aj sa poďakovať všetkým tým, ktorí dostali dar umenia a kultúrnej tvorby, za to ako touto tvorbou napomáhajú dobrou vo svojom okolí. Tiež ako rozvíjajú a zviditeľňujú svoju kresťanskú vieru a šíria ju do svojho prostredia,“ uviedol vojenský ordinár biskup František Rábek. Cenu Fra Angelico udeľuje Rada KBS od roku 2002.

TASR



Katolícky fraternalistický dvojtyždenník

Jednota



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

Ročník 123

STREDA, 5. MARCA 2014

Číslo 5898

Jubilujúci slovenský kardinál Jozef Tomko

„Služba za siedmich pápežov“ - je názov príspevku, ktorý pripravil kardinál Jozef Tomko pre Slovenskú redakciu Vatikánskeho rozhlasu. Príspevok prinášame v plnom znení:

Služba za siedmich pápežov

Keď sa s Božou pomocou čochvíľa dožívam veku deväťdesiatich rokov, tak je len prirodzené, že sa pozerám na minulosť. Najviac rokov som strávil v Ríme, - obrazne ale za dlhú dobu aj doslovne - „v tieni svätopeterskej kupoly“, v službe nástupcov sv. Petra na čele Katolíckej cirkvi, rímskych biskupov - pápežov. Od 24. novembra 1945 sa Rím stal mojim stálym domovom, najprv ako študenta na rímskych univerzitách, kde som neskôr aj prednášal ako mimoriadny profesor, potom ako druhého vicerektora v Pápežskom kolégiu sv. Jána Nepomuckého; roku 1961 som nastúpil službu na kongregáciách pre učenie viery a pre biskupov, roku 1979 ma Ján Pavol II. vymenoval za generálneho tajomníka Synody biskupov a vysvätil ma za arcibiskupa, následne v máji 1985 som sa stal prefektom Kongregácie pre evanjelizáciu národov a kardinálom. Už keď som bol od roku 2001 „na penzii“, viedol som malý Pápežský komitát pre medzinárodné eucharistické kongresy a mal som aj niektoré zvláštne poslania.

To všetko spomínam len preto, aby som poukázal, aké udalosti som v Ríme prežíval a aké rôznorodé úlohy som vykonával v službách siedmich pápežov za môjho čoskoro sedemdesiatročného rímskeho pobytu. Za takú dlhú dobu sa nazbieralo v pamäti veľa spomienok, ktoré sa viažu na rímskych biskupov – pápežov. Z nich vyberám len niekoľko.

Mohutným dojmom zapôsobil na mňa ako mladého seminaristu pápež Pius XII., keď ho v slávnostnom sprievode priniesli na stoličke do baziliky sv. Petra za zvuku Gounodovej pápežskej hymny. Eugenio Pacelli pochádzal z rímskej vázenej rodiny a šľachetnosť

Kardinál Jozef Tomko



Pokračovanie na str.22



Slovensko vstupuje do roku výročí

Prvé tohoročné číslo najstaršieho literárneho periodika v Európe Slovenské pohľady prináša v úvodníku z pera predsedu Mariána Tkáča publicisticky sformulovanú koncepciu základných činností Matice slovenskej v tomto roku. Je osnovaná na princípe jubilejných výročí významných osobností a udalostí v našich dejinách, a to „1120. rokom od smrti kráľa Svätopluka, 150. rokom od narodenia Andreja Hlinku, 95. rokom od tragického úmrtia M. R. Štefánika, ale aj 75. rokom od 14. marca 1939 aj od nečakaného prepadu vznikajúceho štátu južnými susedmi, nazývaného Malou vojnou, aj 70. rokom od 29. augusta 1944“.

Štúdiu o doteraz opomínanom národnom a kultúrnom dejateľovi Ladislavovi Zábojskom (1793-1870), rodákovi z Prešova, spišskom diecéznom biskupovi a dlhoročnom pomocníkovi biskupa Štefana Moyses, napísal Pavol Parenička. V rámci publicistických materiálov sa v prvom tohoročnom vydaní nachádza biografický portrét básnika Eugena Vesnina, vlastným menom Ignác Zelenka (1913-1983), rodáka z Mokrého Hája na Záhorí. Po teologickom štúdiu v Taliansku zostal v Ríme a tam žil a tvoril až do smrti. Portrét napísal Peter Cabadaj.

Rozsiahlu jazykovednú štúdiu „Slovenčina dnes“ pripravil významný slovenský jazykovedec Ábel Kráľ. Číslo prináša aj dva rozhovory. Maroš Bančej sa pohovárал s režisérom Gabrielom Hoštajom o živote a tvorbe jeho brata Jána, básnika a aforistu, ktorý tragicky zahynul pri autonehode. Anglickú spisovateľku Hilary Mantelovú (1952) zasa navštívil Miro Procházka. Jej videnie sveta, ale i postrehy na historické diania a literárne udalosti sprostredkoval v rozhovore s názvom Najhroznejšia ženská zbraň - telo.

Filozofujúcu štúdiu Umenie pamäti napísal Ondrej Herec, právnickú štúdiu Transformácia médií na duálny systém v Slovenskej republike Jaroslav Chovanec. Pôvodná literatúra je zastúpená ukážkami z najnovšej básnickej tvorby Dany Podrackej, Etely Farkašovej, Martina Vlada a Mariána Grupača, v žánri prózy poviedkami Eleny Elekovej, Dalimíra Stana a dvoma reportážno-fotografickými príbehmi Slava Kalného. Prekladovú tvorbu reprezentuje výber z poézie súčasnej rakúskej poetky Marion Jerschowovej (1943) v preklade Ľudovíta Petraška. Číslo je vyzdobené reprodukciami sochárskych diel Ondreja Zimku mladšieho.

TASR



FOTO TK KBS/ Peter Zimen

V Bratislave odovzdali 18. februára ocenenie Fra Angelico za rok 2014.

Twelve representatives from the Church, arts and social life were honored on February 18, 2014 in Bratislava on the occasion of the feast day of Fra Angelica, patron of the arts.

KBS udelila cenu Fra Angelico dvanástim osobnostiam

Rada pre vedu, vzdelanie a kultúru pri Konferencii biskupov Slovenska (KBS) 18. februára pri príležitosti sviatku blahoslaveného Fra Angelica, patróna umelcov, udelila osobnostiam ocenenie za prínos kresťanských hodnôt do umenia za rok 2013. Za účasti predstaviteľov cirkevného, duchovného, kultúrneho a spoločenského života odovzdali cenu 12 osobnostiam, z toho trom in-memoriam.

V oblasti hudobného umenia si cenu prevzal operný spevák Miroslav Dvorský, klaviristka a pedagogička Mária Dravecká. V kategórii slovesného umenia cenu Fra Angelico dostal

Pokračovanie na str.23

Slovenská olympijská výprava sa vrátila plná pozitívnych dojmov

Vedúci predstavitelia Slovenského olympijského výboru pozitívne zhodnotili účinkovanie slovenských športovcov na nedávnych zimných olympijských hrách v ruskom Soči. Jednoznačne najväčším úspechom SR je zisk zlata biatlonistky Anastasie Kuzminovej v rýchlostných pretekoch na 7.5 km. Navyše, v Soči pridala šieste miesto v stíhačke a bola členkou miešanej štafety, ktorá obsadila piatu pozíciu. Vysoko pozitívne výsledky dosiahol aj zjazdár Adam Žampa, ktorý skončil v superkombinácii šiesty a v slalome mu patrila piata priečka. Solídny výsledkom sa prezentoval aj bežec na lyžiach Martin Bajčičák, ktorý súťažil už na piatych ZOH a v maratone v záverečný deň skončil na solídnom 14. mieste.



FOTO TASR - Pavel Neubauer

Na snímke slovenskí účastníci XXII. zimných olympijských hier v Soči 2014, zľava bežec na lyžiach Martin Bajčičák, slalomár Adam Žampa a zlatá biatlonistka Anastasia Kuzminová počas tlačovej konferencie Slovenského olympijského výboru v utorok 25. februára 2014 v Bratislave.

Slovak participants at the XXII Olympics in Sochi. L-R are Cross-Country skier Martin Bajčičák (14th place), Gold Medalist in women's biathlon Anastasia Kuzminova, and Men's slalom Adam Žampa (5th place).